

## We defined The Laplace Transform

**Definition:** Let  $f(t)$  be defined on  $[0, \infty)$ . The Laplace transform of  $f$  is denoted and defined by

$$\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} f(t) dt = F(s).$$

The domain of the transformation  $F(s)$  is the set of all  $s$  such that the integral is convergent.

# The Laplace Transform is a Linear Transformation

Some basic results include:

$$\blacktriangleright \mathcal{L}\{\alpha f(t) + \beta g(t)\} = \alpha F(s) + \beta G(s)$$

$$\blacktriangleright \mathcal{L}\{1\} = \frac{1}{s}, \quad s > 0$$

$$\blacktriangleright \mathcal{L}\{t^n\} = \frac{n!}{s^{n+1}}, \quad s > 0 \text{ for } n = 1, 2, \dots$$

$$\blacktriangleright \mathcal{L}\{e^{at}\} = \frac{1}{s-a}, \quad s > a$$

$$\blacktriangleright \mathcal{L}\{\cos kt\} = \frac{s}{s^2+k^2}, \quad s > 0$$

$$\blacktriangleright \mathcal{L}\{\sin kt\} = \frac{k}{s^2+k^2}, \quad s > 0$$

## Section 14: Inverse Laplace Transforms

Given  $F(s)$ ,  $f(t)$  an inverse Laplace transform of  $F(s)$ ,

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}\{F(s)\} = f(t), \quad \text{provided} \quad \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = F(s).$$

In general, we'll use one table to find Laplace transforms and inverse transforms.

## A Table of Inverse Laplace Transforms

- ▶  $\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s} \right\} = 1$
- ▶  $\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{n!}{s^{n+1}} \right\} = t^n$ , for  $n = 1, 2, \dots$
- ▶  $\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s-a} \right\} = e^{at}$
- ▶  $\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{s}{s^2+k^2} \right\} = \cos kt$
- ▶  $\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{k}{s^2+k^2} \right\} = \sin kt$

The inverse Laplace transform is also linear so that

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1} \{ \alpha F(s) + \beta G(s) \} = \alpha f(t) + \beta g(t)$$

## Example: Evaluate

$$(c) \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{s-8}{s^2-2s} \right\}$$

Will use a partial fraction  
decomp.

$$\frac{s-8}{s^2-2s} = \frac{s-8}{s(s-2)} = \frac{A}{s} + \frac{B}{s-2} \quad \text{Clear fractions}$$

$$s-8 = A(s-2) + Bs$$

$$s-8 = (A+B)s - 2A$$

$$B = 1 - A = 1 - 4 = -3$$

matching  
coefficients  $\Rightarrow$

$$A+B=1$$

$$-2A = -8 \Rightarrow A = 4$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{s-8}{s^2-2s}\right\} &= \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{4}{s} - \frac{3}{s-2}\right\} \\ &= 4 \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s}\right\} - 3 \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s-2}\right\} \\ &= 4(1) - 3e^{2t} \\ &= 4 - 3e^{2t}\end{aligned}$$

## Section 15: Shift Theorems

Suppose we wish to evaluate  $\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{2}{(s-1)^3} \right\}$ . Does it help to know that  $\mathcal{L} \{t^2\} = \frac{2}{s^3}$ ?

By definition  $\mathcal{L} \{e^t t^2\} = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} e^t t^2 dt$

Note  
 $e^{-st} \cdot e^t = e^{-st+t}$

$$= e^{-(s-1)t}$$

this is  
F(w) if  
 $F(s) = \mathcal{L}\{e^t t^2\}$   
→

$$= \int_0^{\infty} e^{-(s-1)t} t^2 dt$$
$$= \int_0^{\infty} e^{-wt} t^2 dt \quad \text{if } w = s-1$$

Observe that this is simply the Laplace transform of  $f(t) = t^2$  evaluated at  $s-1$ . Letting  $F(s) = \mathcal{L} \{t^2\}$ , we have

$$F(s-1) = \frac{2}{(s-1)^3}.$$

## Theorem (translation in $s$ )

Suppose  $\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = F(s)$ . Then for any real number  $a$

$$\mathcal{L}\{e^{at}f(t)\} = F(s - a).$$

For example,

$$\mathcal{L}\{t^n\} = \frac{n!}{s^{n+1}} \implies \mathcal{L}\{e^{at}t^n\} = \frac{n!}{(s-a)^{n+1}}.$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{\cos(kt)\} = \frac{s}{s^2 + k^2} \implies \mathcal{L}\{e^{at}\cos(kt)\} = \frac{s-a}{(s-a)^2 + k^2}.$$



# Inverse Laplace Transforms (completing the square)

(a)  $\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{s}{s^2 + 2s + 2} \right\}$   $s^2 + 2s + 2$  doesn't factor, it's irreducible.

Complete the square

$$s^2 + 2s + 2 = s^2 + 2s + 1 + 1 = (s+1)^2 + 1$$

$$\frac{s}{s^2 + 2s + 1} = \frac{s}{(s+1)^2 + 1}$$

$$= \frac{s+1-1}{(s+1)^2 + 1}$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{\cos(kt)\} = \frac{s}{s^2 + k^2}$$

we need all  $s$  terms to be  $s+1$

$$\mathcal{L}\{\sin(kt)\} = \frac{k}{s^2 + k^2}$$

$$= \frac{s+1}{(s+1)^2+1} - \frac{1}{(s+1)^2+1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So } \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{s}{s^2+2s+1} \right\} &= \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{s+1}{(s+1)^2+1} - \frac{1}{(s+1)^2+1} \right\} \\ &= \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{s+1}{(s+1)^2+1} \right\} - \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{(s+1)^2+1} \right\} \\ &= e^{-t} \cos t - e^{-t} \sin t \end{aligned}$$

## Inverse Laplace Transforms (repeat linear factors)

$$(b) \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1+3s-s^2}{s(s-1)^2} \right\}$$

The denominator is factored, so we'll do a partial fraction decomp.

$$\frac{1+3s-s^2}{s(s-1)^2} = \frac{A}{s} + \frac{B}{s-1} + \frac{C}{(s-1)^2}$$

Clear fractions  
 $s(s-1)^2$

$$1+3s-s^2 = A(s-1)^2 + Bs(s-1) + Cs$$

$$= A(s^2-2s+1) + B(s^2-s) + Cs$$

$$\underline{1} + \underline{3s} - \underline{s^2} = \underline{(A+B)}s^2 + \underline{(-2A-B+C)}s + \underline{A}$$

$$1 = A$$

$$3 = -2A - B + C \quad C = 3 + 2A + B = 3 + 2(1) - 2 = 3$$

$$-1 = A + B \quad \Rightarrow B = -1 - A = -1 - 1 = -2$$

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1+3s-s^2}{s(s-1)^2}\right\} = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s} - \frac{2}{s-1} + \frac{3}{(s-1)^2}\right\}$$

$$= \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s}\right\} - 2\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s-1}\right\} + 3\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{(s-1)^2}\right\}$$

$$= 1 - 2e^t + 3e^t t$$

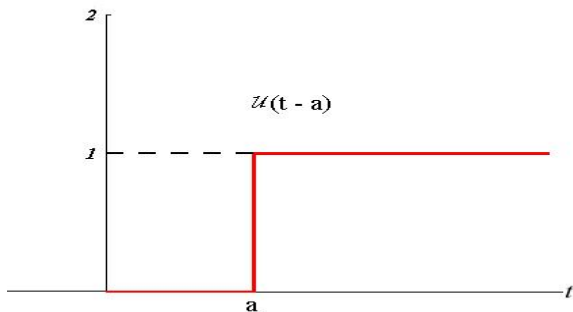
↑  
looks like  
 $\frac{1}{s^2}$   
shifted

$$* \mathcal{L}\{t^n\} = \frac{n!}{s^{n+1}} = \frac{1}{s^2}$$

## The Unit Step Function

Let  $a \geq 0$ . The unit step function  $\mathcal{U}(t - a)$  is defined by

$$\mathcal{U}(t - a) = \begin{cases} 0, & 0 \leq t < a \\ 1, & t \geq a \end{cases}$$



**Figure:** We can use the unit step function to provide convenient expressions for piecewise defined functions.

# Piecewise Defined Functions

Verify that

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} g(t), & 0 \leq t < a \\ h(t), & t \geq a \end{cases} = g(t) - g(t)\mathcal{U}(t-a) + h(t)\mathcal{U}(t-a)$$

For  $0 \leq t < a$ ,  $\mathcal{U}(t-a) = 0$ . The right side is

$$g(t) - g(t) \cdot 0 + h(t) \cdot 0 = g(t)$$

For  $t \geq a$ ,  $\mathcal{U}(t-a) = 1$ . The right side is

$$g(t) - g(t) \cdot 1 + h(t) \cdot 1 = h(t)$$

## Piecewise Defined Functions in Terms of $\mathcal{U}$

Write  $f$  on one line in terms of  $\mathcal{U}$  as needed

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} e^t, & 0 \leq t < 2 \\ t^2, & 2 \leq t < 5 \\ 2t & t \geq 5 \end{cases}$$

$$f(t) = e^t - e^t \mathcal{U}(t-2) + t^2 \mathcal{U}(t-2) - t^2 \mathcal{U}(t-5) + 2t \mathcal{U}(t-5)$$

Verify:  $0 \leq t < 2$ ,  $\mathcal{U}(t-2) = 0$  and  $\mathcal{U}(t-5) = 0$   
 $t < 2 \Rightarrow t < 5$

$$f(t) = e^t - e^t \cdot 0 + t^2 \cdot 0 - t^2 \cdot 0 + 2t \cdot 0 = e^t$$

For  $2 \leq t < 5$ ,  $u(t-2) = 1$        $u(t-5) = 0$

$$f(t) = e^t - e^t \cdot 1 + t^2 \cdot 1 - t^2 \cdot 0 + 2t \cdot 0 = t^2$$

For  $t \geq 5$        $u(t-2) = 1$        $u(t-5) = 1$   
 $t \geq 5 \Rightarrow t \geq 2$

$$f(t) = e^t - e^t \cdot 1 + t^2 \cdot 1 - t^2 \cdot 1 + 2t \cdot 1 = 2t$$