

Section 15: Shift Theorems

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,

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

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

The Unit Step Function

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

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

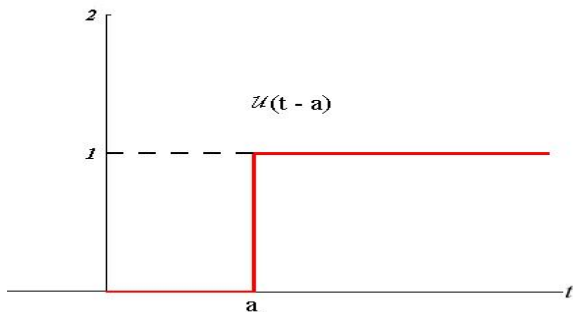


Figure: We can use the unit step function to provide convenient expressions for piecewise defined functions.

Translation in t

Given a function $f(t)$ for $t \geq 0$, and a number $a > 0$

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

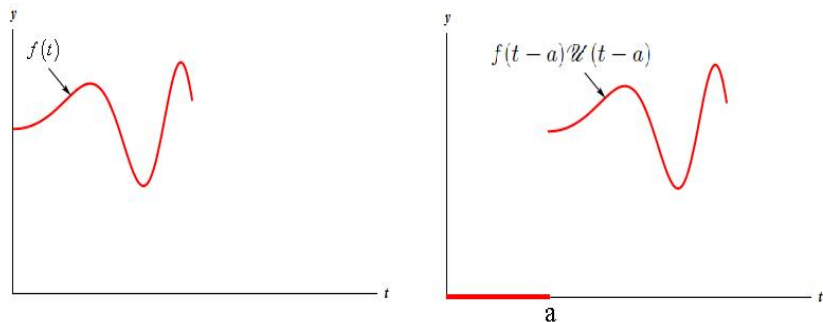


Figure: The function $f(t-a)\mathcal{U}(t-a)$ has the graph of f shifted a units to the right with value of zero for t to the left of a .

Theorem (translation in t)

If $F(s) = \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}$ and $a > 0$, then

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

In particular,

$$\mathcal{L}\{\mathcal{U}(t-a)\} = \frac{e^{-as}}{s}.$$

As another example,

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

Find $\mathcal{L}\{u(t-a)\}$

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

By definition

$$\mathcal{L}\{u(t-a)\} = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} u(t-a) dt$$

$$= \int_0^a e^{-st} \cdot 0 dt + \int_a^{\infty} e^{-st} \cdot 1 dt$$

$$= \int_a^{\infty} e^{-st} dt$$

$$= \int_0^{\infty} e^{-s(\tau+a)} d\tau$$

diverges if $s=0$

Substitute

$$\tau = t - a, \quad d\tau = dt$$

$$t = \tau + a$$

$$\text{when } t = a, \quad \tau = a - a = 0$$

$$\text{as } t \rightarrow \infty, \quad \tau \rightarrow \infty$$

Note $e^{-s(\tau+a)} = e^{-s\tau-sa} = e^{-s\tau} \cdot e^{-sa}$

$$= \int_0^{\infty} e^{-sa} e^{-s\tau} d\tau$$

$$= e^{-sa} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-s\tau} d\tau$$

$$= e^{-sa} \mathcal{L}\{1\} = e^{-s\tau} \cdot \frac{1}{s} = \frac{e^{-sa}}{s}$$

Example

Find the Laplace transform $\mathcal{L}\{h(t)\}$ where

$$h(t) = \begin{cases} 1, & 0 \leq t < 1 \\ t, & t \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

(a) First write h in terms of unit step functions.

$$h(t) = 1 - 1\mathcal{U}(t-1) + t\mathcal{U}(t-1)$$

$$= 1 + \mathcal{U}(t-1)(-1+t)$$

$$= 1 + (t-1)\mathcal{U}(t-1)$$

Note that if $f(t) = t$, then

$$f(t-1) = t-1 \quad \text{so}$$

$$f(t-1)u(t-1) = (t-1)u(t-1)$$

Example Continued...

(b) Now use the fact that $h(t) = 1 + (t - 1)\mathcal{U}(t - 1)$ to find $\mathcal{L}\{h\}$.

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}\{h(t)\} &= \mathcal{L}\{1 + (t-1)\mathcal{U}(t-1)\} \\ &= \mathcal{L}\{1\} + \mathcal{L}\{(t-1)\mathcal{U}(t-1)\} \\ &= \frac{1}{s} + \frac{e^{-s}}{s^2}\end{aligned}$$

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

A Couple of Useful Results

Another formulation of this translation theorem is

$$(1) \quad \mathcal{L}\{g(t)\mathcal{U}(t-a)\} = e^{-as}\mathcal{L}\{g(t+a)\}.$$

Note $g(t) = g((t+a)-a)$

Example: Find $\mathcal{L}\{\cos t \mathcal{U}(t - \frac{\pi}{2})\} = e^{-\frac{\pi}{2}s} \mathcal{L}\{\cos(t + \frac{\pi}{2})\}$

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

$$\cos\left(t + \frac{\pi}{2}\right) = \cos t \cos \frac{\pi}{2} - \sin t \sin \frac{\pi}{2} = -\sin t$$

A Couple of Useful Results

The inverse form of this translation theorem is

$$(2) \quad \mathcal{L}^{-1}\{e^{-as}F(s)\} = f(t-a)\mathcal{U}(t-a). \quad \text{Here } f(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\{F(s)\}$$

Example: Find $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{e^{-2s}}{s(s+1)}\right\}$

we need $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s(s+1)}\right\}$

Use partial frac.

$$\frac{1}{s(s+1)} = \frac{A}{s} + \frac{B}{s+1} \Rightarrow 1 = A(s+1) + Bs$$

$$\text{set } s=0 \quad A=1$$

$$s=-1 \quad B=-1$$

$$= \frac{1}{s} - \frac{1}{s+1}$$

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

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

Section 16: Laplace Transforms of Derivatives and IVPs

Suppose f has a Laplace transform and that f is differentiable on $[0, \infty)$. Obtain an expression for the Laplace transform of $f'(t)$. (Assume f is of exponential order c for some c .)

$$\mathcal{L}\{f'(t)\} = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} f'(t) dt$$

Let's int. by parts

$$u = e^{-st} \quad du = -s e^{-st} dt$$

$$v = f(t) \quad dv = f'(t) dt$$

$$= f(t) e^{-st} \Big|_0^{\infty} + s \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} f(t) dt$$

decon as $t \rightarrow \infty$

$$= 0 - f(0) e^0 + s \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}$$

$$= s \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} - f(0)$$

Transforms of Derivatives

If $\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = F(s)$, we have $\mathcal{L}\{f'(t)\} = sF(s) - f(0)$. We can use this relationship recursively to obtain Laplace transforms for higher derivatives of f .

For example

$$\mathcal{L}\{f''(t)\} = s \mathcal{L}\{f'(t)\} - f'(0)$$

$$= s \left(s \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} - f(0) \right) - f'(0)$$

$$= s^2 \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} - s f(0) - f'(0)$$

$$= s^2 F(s) - s f(0) - f'(0)$$

Transforms of Derivatives

For $y = y(t)$ defined on $[0, \infty)$ having derivatives y' , y'' and so forth, if

$$\mathcal{L}\{y(t)\} = Y(s),$$

then

$$\mathcal{L}\left\{\frac{dy}{dt}\right\} = sY(s) - y(0),$$

$$\mathcal{L}\left\{\frac{d^2y}{dt^2}\right\} = s^2Y(s) - sy(0) - y'(0),$$

\vdots

$$\mathcal{L}\left\{\frac{d^ny}{dt^n}\right\} = s^nY(s) - s^{n-1}y(0) - s^{n-2}y'(0) - \dots - y^{(n-1)}(0).$$

Differential Equation

For constants a , b , and c , take the Laplace transform of both sides of the equation

$$ay'' + by' + cy = g(t), \quad y(0) = y_0, \quad y'(0) = y_1$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{ay'' + by' + cy\} = \mathcal{L}\{g(t)\}$$

$$a\mathcal{L}\{y''\} + b\mathcal{L}\{y'\} + c\mathcal{L}\{y\} = \mathcal{L}\{g\}$$

Let

$$\mathcal{L}\{y\} = Y(s)$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{g\} = G(s)$$

$$a(s^2Y(s) - sy(0) - y'(0)) + b(sY(s) - y(0)) + cY(s) = G(s)$$

$$as^2Y(s) - asy(0) - ay'(0) + bsY(s) - by(0) + cY(s) = G(s)$$

$$(as^2 + bs + c)Y(s) - ay_0s - ay_1 - by_0 = G(s)$$

$$(as^2 + bs + c)Y(s) = ay_0s + ay_1 + by_0 + G(s)$$

$$Y(s) = \frac{ay_0s + ay_1 + by_0}{as^2 + bs + c} + \frac{G(s)}{as^2 + bs + c}$$

Letting

$$Q(s) = ay_0s + ay_1 + by_0$$

and

$$P(s) = as^2 + bs + c$$

$$y(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1} \{ Y(s) \}$$

$$= \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{Q(s)}{P(s)} + \frac{G(s)}{P(s)} \right\}$$

Solving IVPs

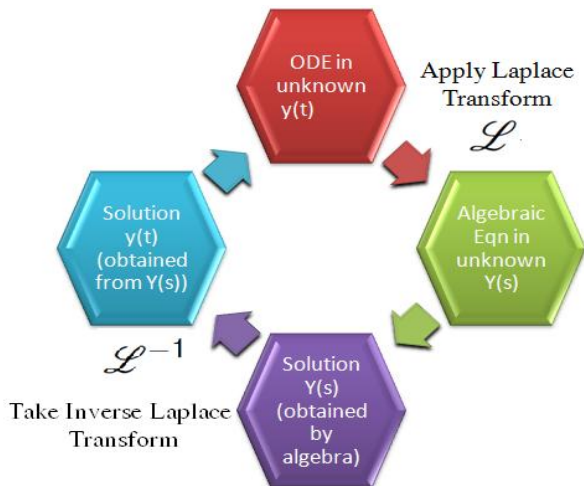


Figure: We use the Laplace transform to turn our DE into an algebraic equation. Solve this transformed equation, and then transform back.

General Form

We get

$$Y(s) = \frac{Q(s)}{P(s)} + \frac{G(s)}{P(s)}$$

where Q is a polynomial with coefficients determined by the initial conditions, G is the Laplace transform of $g(t)$ and P is the **characteristic polynomial** of the original equation.

$\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{Q(s)}{P(s)} \right\}$ is called the **zero input response**,

and

$\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{G(s)}{P(s)} \right\}$ is called the **zero state response**.