

## 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,

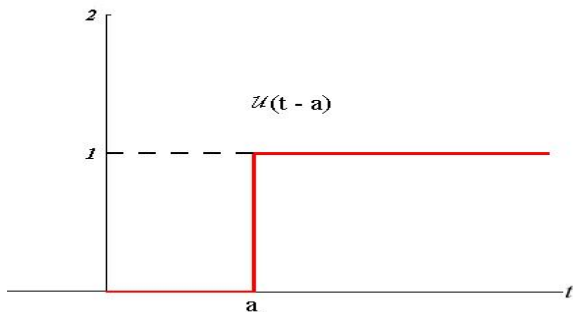
$$\mathcal{L}\{t^n\} = \frac{n!}{s^{n+1}} \implies \mathcal{L}\{e^{at}t^n\} = \frac{n!}{(s - a)^{n+1}}.$$

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

## The Unit Step Function

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

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

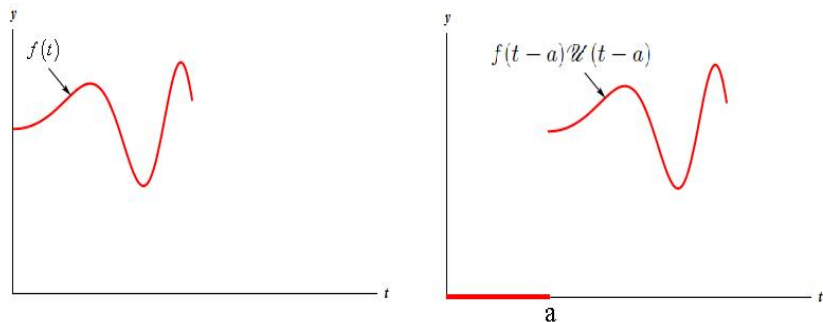


**Figure:** We can use the unit step function to provide convenient expressions for piecewise defined functions.

## 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  $s=0$

Use substitution

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

$$t = \tau + a$$

when  $t = a$ ,  $\tau = a - a = 0$

as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $\tau \rightarrow \infty$

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

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

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

$$= e^{-as} \mathcal{L}\{1\} = \frac{e^{-as}}{s}$$

## 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.

$$h(t) = 1 - 1u(t-1) + tu(t-1)$$

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

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

Note if  $f(t) = t$  then  $f(t-1) = t-1$

So

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

for  $f(t) = t$ .



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

$$\begin{aligned} \cos(t + \frac{\pi}{2}) &= \cos t \cos \frac{\pi}{2} - \sin t \sin \frac{\pi}{2} \\ &= -\sin t \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{\cos t \mathcal{U}(t - \frac{\pi}{2})\} = e^{-\frac{\pi}{2}s} \mathcal{L}\{-\sin t\}$$

$$= -e^{-\frac{\pi}{2}s} \left( \frac{1}{s^2 + 1} \right)$$

$$= \frac{-e^{-\frac{\pi}{2}s}}{s^2 + 1}$$

## A Couple of Useful Results

The inverse form of this translation theorem is

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

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

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

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{s(s+1)} &= \frac{A}{s} + \frac{B}{s+1} \Rightarrow 1 = A(s+1) + Bs \\ &= \frac{1}{s} - \frac{1}{s+1} \end{aligned} \quad \begin{aligned} \text{Set } s=0, \quad A &= 1 \\ s=-1, \quad B &= -1 \end{aligned}$$

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

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

## 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  $c$ .)

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

Int. by parts

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

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

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

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

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

## 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

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}\{f''(t)\} &= s \mathcal{L}\{f'(t)\} - f'(0) \\ &= s \left( s \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} - f(0) \right) - f'(0) \\ &= s^2 \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} - s f(0) - f'(0) \\ &= s^2 F(s) - s f(0) - f'(0)\end{aligned}$$

## 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

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

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

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

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

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

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

$$as^2 Y(s) - say_0 - ay_1 + bs Y(s) - by_0 + c Y(s) = G(s)$$

$$(as^2 + bs + c) Y(s) - say_0 - ay_1 - by_0 = G(s)$$

$$(as^2 + bs + c) Y(s) = ay_0 s + ay_1 + by_0 + G(s)$$

$$\text{Let } Q(s) = ay_0 s + ay_1 + by_0 \quad \text{and}$$

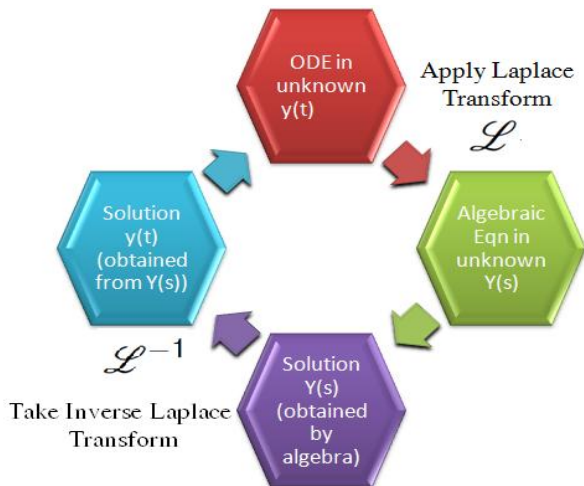
$$P(s) = as^2 + bs + c$$

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

It should be that the solution

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

# 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**.