

In the next set of lectures we will discuss yet another way of solving linear equations with constant coefficients, but this will require additional background.

We introduce a function of functions defined via the following formula:

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

for those functions of  $t$  for which this integral converges (i.e., it is finite).

Note that you plug in a function  $f(t)$  as an input and integrate in  $t$  assuming that  $s$  is a constant. Then the value of the integral depends on  $s$ ; we denote the resulting function  $F(s)$ .

We thus defined what is called the

# Laplace Transform

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

- input function of  $t$  and get a function of  $s$  as the output.

Note: Because we integrate from 0 to  $\infty$ , only the part of  $f$  defined over  $t > 0$  is important here.

Ex 1:

Suppose  $f(t) = e^t \Rightarrow$

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

$s$  is constant  $\Rightarrow$

$$\int_0^{\infty} e^{(1-s)t} dt = \lim_{P \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^P e^{(1-s)t} dt$$

$$= \lim_{P \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{e^{(1-s)t}}{1-s} \Big|_0^P \right) = \lim_{P \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{e^{(1-s)P}}{1-s} - \frac{1}{1-s} \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{1-s} \left( \lim_{P \rightarrow \infty} e^{(1-s)P} \right) - \frac{1}{1-s}$$

$$\lim_{P \rightarrow \infty} e^{(1-s)P} = \begin{cases} 0, & s > 1 \\ \infty, & s < 1 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \text{the integral converges only if } s > 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{L}\{e^t\} = 0 - \frac{1}{1-s} = \frac{1}{s-1} \quad \text{if } s > 1$$

Ex. 2: Now, let's try the general case

$f(t) = e^{at}$ , where  $a$  is a constant

then:

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

$s$  is constant

$$= \int_0^{\infty} e^{(a-s)t} dt = \lim_{P \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^P e^{(a-s)t} dt$$

$$= \lim_{P \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{e^{(a-s)t}}{a-s} \Big|_0^P \right) = \lim_{P \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{e^{(a-s)P}}{a-s} - \frac{1}{a-s} \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{a-s} \left( \lim_{P \rightarrow \infty} e^{(a-s)P} \right) - \frac{1}{a-s}$$

$$\lim_{P \rightarrow \infty} e^{(a-s)P} = \begin{cases} 0, & s > a \\ \infty, & s < a \end{cases} \Rightarrow \text{the integral converges only if } s > a$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{L}\{e^{at}\} = 0 - \frac{1}{a-s} = \frac{1}{s-a} \quad \text{if } s > a.$$

Ex. 3:  $\mathcal{L}\{1\} = \int_0^{\infty} 1 \cdot e^{-st} dt = \lim_{P \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^P e^{-st} dt$

$$= \lim_{P \rightarrow \infty} \left( -\frac{1}{s} e^{-st} \Big|_0^P \right) = \lim_{P \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{1}{s} - \frac{1}{s} e^{-sP} \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{s} - \frac{1}{s} \lim_{P \rightarrow \infty} e^{-sP} = \frac{1}{s} - \frac{1}{s} \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } s > 0 \\ \infty, & \text{if } s < 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{L}\{1\} = \frac{1}{s} \quad \text{if } s > 0$$

$$\text{Ex. 4: } \mathcal{L}\{t^n\} = \int_0^{\infty} t^n e^{-st} dt$$

$$= \lim_{P \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^P t^n e^{-st} dt$$

Need to evaluate  $\int_0^P t^n e^{-st} dt$ , use parts:

$$\int_0^P t^n e^{-st} dt = \left| \begin{array}{l} u = t^n \quad du = nt^{n-1} dt \\ dv = e^{-st} dt \quad v = -\frac{1}{s} e^{-st} \end{array} \right|$$

$$= -\frac{t^n}{s} e^{-st} \Big|_0^P + \frac{n}{s} \int_0^P t^{n-1} e^{-st} dt$$

$$= -\frac{P^n}{s} e^{-sP} + \frac{n}{s} \int_0^P t^{n-1} e^{-st} dt$$

Substituting this back into the limit:

$$\mathcal{L}\{t^n\} = \lim_{P \rightarrow \infty} \left( -\frac{P^n}{s} e^{-sP} + \frac{n}{s} \int_0^P t^{n-1} e^{-st} dt \right)$$

$$= -\frac{1}{s} \lim_{P \rightarrow \infty} P^n e^{-sP} + \frac{n}{s} \lim_{P \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^P t^{n-1} e^{-st} dt$$

$$= -\frac{1}{s} \lim_{p \rightarrow \infty} p^h e^{-sp} + \frac{h}{s} \int_0^{\infty} t^{h-1} e^{-st} dt$$

$\swarrow$   $\downarrow s > 0$   $\underbrace{\int_0^{\infty} t^{h-1} e^{-st} dt}_{\mathcal{L}\{t^{h-1}\}}$   
 $\infty$  if  $s < 0$   $\lim_{p \rightarrow \infty} \frac{p^h}{e^{sp}} \stackrel{\text{L.H.}}{=} \lim_{p \rightarrow \infty} \frac{np^{h-1}}{se^{sp}} \stackrel{\text{repeat } n \text{ times}}{=} \lim_{p \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\text{const}}{e^{sp}} = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{L}\{t^h\} = \frac{h}{s} \mathcal{L}\{t^{h-1}\} \text{ for any } h \text{ and } s > 0$$

$$\text{Then: } \mathcal{L}\{t\} \stackrel{h=1}{=} \frac{1}{s} \mathcal{L}\{t^0\} = \frac{1}{s} \mathcal{L}\{1\} = \frac{1}{s} \cdot \frac{1}{s} = \frac{1}{s^2}$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{t^2\} \stackrel{h=2}{=} \frac{2}{s} \mathcal{L}\{t\} = \frac{2}{s} \cdot \frac{1}{s^2} = \frac{2 \cdot 1}{s^3}$$

$$\mathcal{L}\{t^3\} \stackrel{h=3}{=} \frac{3}{s} \mathcal{L}\{t^2\} = \frac{3}{s} \cdot \frac{2 \cdot 1}{s^3} = \frac{1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3}{s^4}$$

$\Downarrow$

$$\mathcal{L}\{t^h\} = \frac{1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot \dots \cdot (h-1) \cdot h}{s^{h+1}} = \frac{h!}{s^{h+1}} \text{ if } s > 0$$

Some additional properties:

$$(1) \mathcal{L}\{cf(t)\} = \int_0^{\infty} cf(t)e^{-st} dt = c \int_0^{\infty} f(t)e^{-st} dt = c \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}$$

$$(2) \mathcal{L}\{f(t)+g(t)\} = \int_0^{\infty} (f(t)+g(t))e^{-st} dt$$

$$= \int_0^{\infty} (f(t)e^{-st} + g(t)e^{-st}) dt = \int_0^{\infty} f(t)e^{-st} dt$$

$$+ \int_0^{\infty} g(t)e^{-st} dt = \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} + \mathcal{L}\{g(t)\}$$

We conclude that Laplace Transform is linear.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Ex: } \mathcal{L}\{ze^{-t} + t^4\} &= z\mathcal{L}\{e^{-t}\} + \mathcal{L}\{t^4\} \\ &= z \cdot \frac{1}{s-(-1)} + \frac{4!}{s^5} = \frac{z}{s+1} + \frac{4!}{s^5}\end{aligned}$$

Additional transforms:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}\{\cos at\} &= \mathcal{L}\left\{\frac{e^{iat} + e^{-iat}}{2}\right\} \\ &= \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{L}\{e^{iat}\} + \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{L}\{e^{-iat}\} \\ &= \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{1}{s-ia} + \frac{1}{s+ia}\right) = \frac{1}{2} \frac{s+ia + s-ia}{(s-ia)(s+ia)} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \frac{2s}{s^2 - (ia)^2} = \frac{s}{s^2 - i^2 a^2} = \frac{s}{s^2 + a^2}\end{aligned}$$

Likewise:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}\{\sin at\} &= \mathcal{L}\left\{\frac{e^{iat} - e^{-iat}}{2i}\right\} \\ &= \frac{1}{2i}\mathcal{L}\{e^{iat}\} - \frac{1}{2i}\mathcal{L}\{e^{-iat}\} \\ &= \frac{1}{2i}\left(\frac{1}{s-ia} - \frac{1}{s+ia}\right) = \frac{1}{2i} \frac{s+ia - s+ia}{(s-ia)(s+ia)} \\ &= \frac{1}{2i} \frac{2ia}{s^2 - (ia)^2} = \frac{a}{s^2 - i^2 a^2} = \frac{a}{s^2 + a^2}\end{aligned}$$

Next:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}\{\cosh at\} &= \mathcal{L}\left\{\frac{e^{at} + e^{-at}}{2}\right\} \\ &= \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{L}\{e^{at}\} + \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{L}\{e^{-at}\} \\ &= \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{1}{s-a} + \frac{1}{s+a}\right) = \frac{1}{2}\frac{\cancel{s+a} + \cancel{s-a}}{(s-a)(s+a)} \\ &= \frac{1}{2}\frac{2s}{s^2 - a^2} = \frac{s}{s^2 - a^2}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}\{\sinh at\} &= \mathcal{L}\left\{\frac{e^{at} - e^{-at}}{2}\right\} \\ &= \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{L}\{e^{at}\} - \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{L}\{e^{-at}\} \\ &= \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{1}{s-a} - \frac{1}{s+a}\right) = \frac{1}{2}\frac{\cancel{s+a} - \cancel{s-a}}{(s-a)(s+a)} \\ &= \frac{1}{2}\frac{2a}{s^2 - a^2} = \frac{a}{s^2 - a^2}.\end{aligned}$$

Ex:

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

for any value of  $s$ : as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $t^2 - st \rightarrow \infty$   
for any  $s \Rightarrow e^{t^2 - st} \rightarrow \infty$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$  for any

$s \Rightarrow \int_0^{\infty} e^{t^2-st} dt \rightarrow \infty \quad \therefore$  Laplace

transform of  $e^{t^2}$  is undefined  $\Rightarrow$

$f(t)$  should not grow "too fast" as  $t \rightarrow \infty$

for the Laplace transform of  $f(t)$

to make sense.

We have the following table of Laplace Transforms we have computed so far:

| $f(t)$                | $F(s)$                |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| $e^{at}$              | $\frac{1}{s-a}$       |
| $t^n$                 | $\frac{n!}{s^{n+1}}$  |
| $\cos at$             | $\frac{s}{s^2+a^2}$   |
| $\sin at$             | $\frac{a}{s^2+a^2}$   |
| $\sinh at$            | $\frac{a}{s^2-a^2}$   |
| $\cosh at$            | $\frac{s}{s^2-a^2}$   |
| $c_1 g(t) + c_2 h(t)$ | $c_1 G(s) + c_2 H(s)$ |



Ex.  $\mathcal{L}\{t^3 + 4(t+1)^2 + 2e^{-t} + 4\cos 3t\}$

Use the table:

$$= \mathcal{L}\{t^3\} + 4\mathcal{L}\{(t+1)^2\} + 2\mathcal{L}\{e^{-t}\} + 4\mathcal{L}\{\cos t\}$$

$$= \frac{3!}{s^4} + 4\mathcal{L}\{t^2 + 2t + 1\} + 2e\mathcal{L}\{e^{-t}\} + \frac{4s}{s^2+9}$$

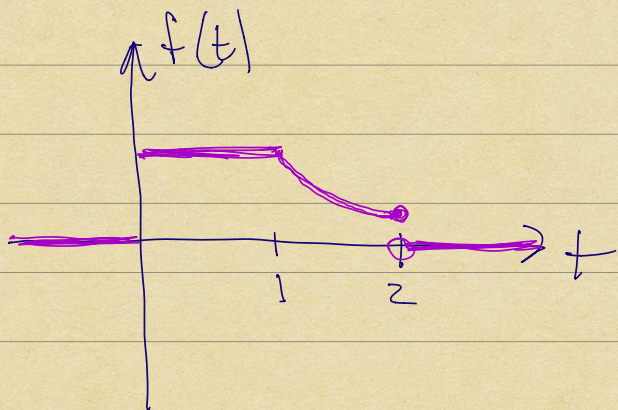
$$= \frac{3!}{s^4} + \frac{2e}{s+1} + \frac{4s}{s^2+9} + 4\mathcal{L}\{t^2\} + 8\mathcal{L}\{t\} + 4\mathcal{L}\{1\}$$

$$= \frac{3!}{s^4} + \frac{2e}{s+1} + \frac{4s}{s^2+9} + \frac{4 \cdot 2!}{s^3} + \frac{8}{s^2} + \frac{4}{s}$$

Ex! Find  $\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}$  where

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} 0, & t < 0 \\ 1, & t \in [0, 1] \\ e^{-t}, & t \in [1, 2] \\ 0, & t > 2 \end{cases}$$

The function is piecewise-defined — cannot use the table, need to use the definition of L.T. instead.



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

$$= \int_0^1 1 \cdot e^{-st} dt + \int_1^2 e^{1-t} e^{-st} dt$$

$$= \int_0^1 e^{-st} dt + \int_1^2 e^{-(s+1)t} dt = \int_0^1 e^{-st} dt$$

$$+ e \int_1^2 e^{-(s+1)t} dt = \left(-\frac{1}{s} e^{-st}\right) \Big|_0^1 + \left(-\frac{e}{s+1} e^{-(s+1)t}\right) \Big|_1^2$$

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

Note:  $\lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} F(s) = \lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}$

$$= \lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^{\infty} f(t) e^{-st} dt$$

$$= \int_0^{\infty} f(t) \left(\lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} e^{-st}\right) dt = \int_0^{\infty} f(t) \cdot 0 dt = 0$$

$\therefore$  all transformed functions  $\rightarrow 0$  as  $s \rightarrow \infty$

Inverse Transform: It turns out that L.T. is invertible, that is, if  $F(s) = \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}$ , then there is no other function of  $t$ , say  $g(t)$  such that  $\mathcal{L}\{g(t)\} = F(s)$ . It follows that we can define the inverse transform via  $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\{F(s)\} = f(t)$  if  $\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = F(s)$

Appealing to the table of Laplace transforms above, we can immediately construct the table of inverse transforms:

| $F(s)$              | $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\{F(s)\} = f(t)$ |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| $\frac{1}{s-a}$     | $e^{at}$                          |
| $\frac{1}{s^n}$     | $\frac{t^{n-1}}{(n-1)!}$          |
| $\frac{s}{s^2+a^2}$ | $\cos at$                         |
| $\frac{a}{s^2+a^2}$ | $\sin at$                         |

$$\frac{s}{s^2 - a^2}$$

$$\frac{a}{s^2 - a^2}$$

$$c_1 G(s) + c_2 H(s)$$

cosh at

sinh at

$$c_1 g(t) + c_2 h(t)$$

How to obtain the second line in the table?

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s^n} \right\} = f(t), \text{ such that}$$

$$\mathcal{L} \{ f(t) \} = \frac{1}{s^n} - \text{this looks similar to}$$

the RMS on the second line in the table of forward transforms:

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

$$\mathcal{L} \{ t^{n-1} \} = \frac{(n-1)!}{s^n} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{(n-1)!} \mathcal{L} \{ t^{n-1} \} = \frac{1}{s^n}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{L} \left\{ \frac{t^{n-1}}{(n-1)!} \right\} = \frac{1}{s^n} \Rightarrow \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s^n} \right\} = \frac{t^{n-1}}{(n-1)!}$$

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

$$\text{Ex: } \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{3}{s-4} \right\} = 3 \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s-4} \right\} = 3e^{4t}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Ex: } \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s^2+4} \right\} &= \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \frac{2}{s^2+4} \right\} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{2}{s^2+4} \right\} = \frac{1}{2} \sin 2t \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Ex: } \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{6s+4}{s^2+9} \right\} &= \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{6s+4}{s^2+9} \right\} \\ &= 6 \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{s}{s^2+9} \right\} + 4 \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{3} \frac{3}{s^2+9} \right\} \\ &= 6 \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{s}{s^2+9} \right\} + \frac{4}{3} \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{3}{s^2+9} \right\} = 6 \cos 3t + \frac{4}{3} \sin 3t \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Ex: } \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s^2+3s+2} \right\} &= \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{(s+1)(s+2)} \right\} \\ &= \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{A}{s+1} + \frac{B}{s+2} \right\} = A \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s+1} \right\} + B \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s+2} \right\} \\ &= Ae^{-t} + Be^{-2t} \end{aligned}$$

Using partial fractions to find A and B:

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

$$A(s+2) + B(s+1) = 1 \quad : \quad s = -2 \Rightarrow B(-1) = 1 \Rightarrow B = -1$$

$$s = -1 \Rightarrow A \cdot 1 = 1 \Rightarrow A = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s^2 + 3s + 2} \right\} = e^{-t} - e^{-2t}$$

$$\text{ex: } \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{3}{s^2(s-1)} \right\} = \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{A+Bs}{s^2} + \frac{C}{s-1} \right\}$$

$$= A \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s^2} \right\} + B \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s} \right\} + C \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s-1} \right\}$$

$$= A \frac{t^{2-1}}{(2-1)!} + B \frac{t^{1-1}}{(1-1)!} + C e^t = At + B + C e^{-t}$$

$$\text{Partial fractions: } \frac{A+Bs}{s^2} + \frac{C}{s-1} = \frac{3}{s^2(s-1)}$$

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

$$\Rightarrow Bs^2 + As - Bs - A + Cs^2 = 3 \text{ for all } s$$

$$\Rightarrow (B+C)s^2 + (A-B)s - A = 3 \text{ for all } s$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} B+C=0 \\ A-B=0 \\ -A=3 \end{cases} \Rightarrow A=-3, B=-3, C=3$$

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