

Table of Laplace Transforms

Remember that we consider all functions (signals) as defined only on $t \geq 0$.

General

| | |
|---|---|
| $f(t)$ | $F(s) = \int_0^\infty f(t)e^{-st} dt$ |
| $f + g$ | $F + G$ |
| αf ($\alpha \in \mathbf{R}$) | αF |
| $\frac{df}{dt}$ | $sF(s) - f(0)$ |
| $\frac{d^k f}{dt^k}$ | $s^k F(s) - s^{k-1}f(0) - s^{k-2}\frac{df}{dt}(0) - \dots - \frac{d^{k-1}f}{dt^{k-1}}(0)$ |
| $g(t) = \int_0^t f(\tau) d\tau$ | $G(s) = \frac{F(s)}{s}$ |
| $f(\alpha t)$, $\alpha > 0$ | $\frac{1}{\alpha}F(s/\alpha)$ |
| $e^{at}f(t)$ | $F(s - a)$ |
| $tf(t)$ | $-\frac{dF}{ds}$ |
| $t^k f(t)$ | $(-1)^k \frac{d^k F(s)}{ds^k}$ |
| $\frac{f(t)}{t}$ | $\int_s^\infty F(s) ds$ |
| $g(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & 0 \leq t < T \\ f(t - T) & t \geq T \end{cases}$, $T \geq 0$ | $G(s) = e^{-sT}F(s)$ |

Specific

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| 1 | $\frac{1}{s}$ |
| δ | 1 |
| $\delta^{(k)}$ | s^k |
| t | $\frac{1}{s^2}$ |
| $\frac{t^k}{k!}, k \geq 0$ | $\frac{1}{s^{k+1}}$ |
| e^{at} | $\frac{1}{s-a}$ |
| $\cos \omega t$ | $\frac{s}{s^2 + \omega^2} = \frac{1/2}{s - j\omega} + \frac{1/2}{s + j\omega}$ |
| $\sin \omega t$ | $\frac{\omega}{s^2 + \omega^2} = \frac{1/2j}{s - j\omega} - \frac{1/2j}{s + j\omega}$ |
| $\cos(\omega t + \phi)$ | $\frac{s \cos \phi - \omega \sin \phi}{s^2 + \omega^2}$ |
| $e^{-at} \cos \omega t$ | $\frac{s + a}{(s + a)^2 + \omega^2}$ |
| $e^{-at} \sin \omega t$ | $\frac{\omega}{(s + a)^2 + \omega^2}$ |

Notes on the derivative formula at $t = 0$

The formula $\mathcal{L}(f') = sF(s) - f(0_-)$ must be interpreted very carefully when f has a discontinuity at $t = 0$. We'll give two examples of the correct interpretation.

First, suppose that f is the constant 1, and has no discontinuity at $t = 0$. In other words, f is the constant function with value 1. Then we have $f' = 0$, and $f(0_-) = 1$ (since there is no jump in f at $t = 0$). Now let's apply the derivative formula above. We have $F(s) = 1/s$, so the formula reads

$$\mathcal{L}(f') = 0 = sF(s) - 1$$

which is correct.

Now, let's suppose that g is a unit step function, *i.e.*, $g(t) = 1$ for $t > 0$, and $g(0) = 0$. In contrast to f above, g has a jump at $t = 0$. In this case, $g' = \delta$, and $g(0_-) = 0$. Now let's apply the derivative formula above. We have $G(s) = 1/s$ (exactly the same as F !), so the formula reads

$$\mathcal{L}(g') = 1 = sG(s) - 0$$

which again is correct.

In these two examples the functions f and g are the same except at $t = 0$, so they have the same Laplace transform. In the first case, f has no jump at $t = 0$, while in the second case g does. As a result, f' has no impulsive term at $t = 0$, whereas g does. As long as you keep track of whether your function has, or doesn't have, a jump at $t = 0$, and apply the formula consistently, everything will work out.