

Homework on Laplace Transforms

1. Find Laplace transforms of the following functions (Note: you should use Laplace transforms table, no integration required!):

(a) $f(t) = \sin(t) \exp(2t)$

(b) $f(t) = \sin(t - a)$

(c) $f(t) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } t < 1 \\ t - 1, & \text{if } 1 < t < 2 \\ 1, & \text{if } t > 2 \end{cases}$

2. (a) Suppose that $F(s) = \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}$. Using the definition of Laplace's Transform, show that $F'(s) = -\mathcal{L}\{tf(t)\}$.

(b) Use part (a) to easily find $\mathcal{L}\{t \sin t\}$ using the fact that $\mathcal{L}\{\sin t\} = 1/(s^2 + 1)$.

(c) Find $F(s) = \mathcal{L}\{\frac{\sin t}{t}\}$. Hint: first compute $F'(s)$

3. Find inverse Laplace transforms of the following functions.

(a) $F(s) = \frac{2}{3s + 5}$

(b) $F(s) = \frac{5s - 6}{s^2 - 3s}$

(c) $F(s) = \frac{e^{-3s}}{s(s^2 + 1)}$

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

(e) $F(s) = \frac{s^3}{s^4 + 4}$ (Hint: $s^4 + 4 = (s^2 - 2s + 2)(s^2 + 2s + 2)$)

(f) $F(s) = \ln \frac{s + a}{s - a}$ (Hint: take derivative...)

4. Use Laplace transform to solve the following,

(a) $x'' - x' - 2x = 0, \quad x(0) = 0, \quad x'(0) = 2$

(b) $x' = x + 2y, \quad y' = x + e^{-t}, \quad x(0) = 0 = y(0)$

5. (a) Write the function $f(t) = \begin{cases} \pi, & t < \pi \\ 2\pi - t, & \pi < t < 2\pi \\ 0, & t > 2\pi. \end{cases}$ in terms of appropriate step functions.

(b) Find $\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}$.

(c) Solve the initial value problem

$$x'' + x = f(t), \quad x(0) = 0, \quad x'(0) = 0.$$

(d) You should verify that $x(\pi) = 2\pi, \quad x(2\pi) = -\pi, \quad x(3\pi) = \pi$. Sketch the solution.