

## Chapter 4 Laplace Transforms

**4-1 Laplace Transform  $F(s)=L[f(t)] = \int_0^\infty e^{-st} \cdot f(t) dt$**

**Eg. Evaluate  $L[\cos(at)]$  and  $L[\sin(at)]$ .**

(Sol.)  $e^{iat} = \cos(at) + i \sin(at)$

$$\begin{aligned} L[e^{iat}] &= \int_0^\infty e^{-st} \cdot e^{iat} dt = \int_0^\infty e^{-(s-ia)t} dt = \frac{-1}{s-ia} \cdot e^{-(s-ia)t} \Big|_0^\infty = \frac{1}{s-ia} \\ &= \frac{s}{s^2 + a^2} + i \frac{a}{s^2 + a^2} = L[\cos(at)] + iL[\sin(at)] \\ \therefore L[\cos(at)] &= \frac{s}{s^2 + a^2} \quad \text{and} \quad L[\sin(at)] = \frac{a}{s^2 + a^2} \end{aligned}$$

**Eg Find**  $\int_0^\infty e^{-ax} \cdot \cos(bx) dx$ , with  $a>0$ . [2005 台大電研] (Ans.)  $a/(a^2+b^2)$

**Basic theorems of Laplace transforms  $F(s)=L[f(t)]$  and  $G(s)=L[g(t)]$ :**

**1.**  $L[c_1f(t)+c_2g(t)] = c_1F(s)+c_2G(s)$

**2.**  $L[f'(t)] = sF(s)-f(0)$ ,  $L[f''(t)] = s^2F(s)-sf(0)-f'(0)$ ,  $L[f'''(t)] = s^3F(s)-s^2f(0)-sf'(0)-f''(0)$ , and  $L[f^{(n)}(t)] = s^nF(s)-s^{n-1}f(0)-s^{n-2}f'(0)-s^{n-3}f''(0)-\dots-sf^{(n-2)}(0)-f^{(n-1)}(0)$

$$\begin{aligned} (\text{Proof}) L[f'(t)] &= \int_0^\infty e^{-st} \cdot f'(t) dt = \int_0^\infty e^{-st} df(t) = e^{-st} f(t) \Big|_0^\infty - \int_0^\infty (-s)e^{-st} \cdot f(t) dt \\ &= -f(0) + s \int_0^\infty e^{-st} \cdot f(t) dt = sF(s) - f(0) \end{aligned}$$

Similarly,  $L[f''(t)] = s^2F(s)-sf(0)-f'(0)$ , and by mathematical induction, we have  
 $L[f^{(n)}(t)] = s^nF(s)-s^{n-1}f(0)-s^{n-2}f'(0)-s^{n-3}f''(0)-\dots-sf^{(n-2)}(0)-f^{(n-1)}(0)$

**3.**  $L\left[\int_0^t f(u) du\right] = \frac{F(s)}{s}$

$$\begin{aligned} (\text{Proof}) L\left[\int_0^t f(u) du\right] &= \int_0^\infty e^{-st} \int_0^t f(u) du dt = \int_0^\infty \int_0^t e^{-st} f(u) du dt = \int_0^\infty \int_u^\infty e^{-st} f(u) dt du \\ &= \int_0^\infty f(u) du \int_u^\infty e^{-st} dt = -\frac{1}{s} \int_0^\infty f(u) [0 - e^{-su}] du = \frac{1}{s} \int_0^\infty f(u) e^{-su} du = \frac{F(s)}{s} \end{aligned}$$

**4.**  $L[t^n f(t)] = (-1)^n F^{(n)}(s)$

$$(\text{Proof}) L[tf(t)] = \int_0^\infty e^{-st} \cdot tf(t) dt = \int_0^\infty -\frac{de^{-st}}{ds} \cdot f(t) dt = -\frac{d}{ds} \int_0^\infty e^{-st} \cdot f(t) dt = -F'(s)$$

By mathematical induction, we have  $L[t^n f(t)] = (-1)^n F^{(n)}(s)$

**5.**  $L\left[\frac{f(t)}{t}\right] = \int_s^\infty F(u) du$

### 6. $L[f(at)] = [F(s/a)]/a$ and $L[f(t/a)] = aF(as)$ , $a > 0$

(Proof) For  $a > 0$ , let  $at=u$

$$L[f(at)] = \int_0^\infty e^{-st} \cdot f(at) dt = \frac{1}{a} \int_0^\infty e^{-\frac{s}{a}at} \cdot f(at) d(at) = \frac{1}{a} \int_0^\infty e^{-\frac{s}{a}u} \cdot f(u) du = \frac{1}{a} F\left(\frac{s}{a}\right)$$

$$\text{Let } b = \frac{1}{a} \Rightarrow L[f\left(\frac{t}{a}\right)] = L[f(bt)] = \frac{1}{b} F\left(\frac{s}{b}\right) = aF(as) \text{ and then } L^{-1}[F(as)] = \frac{1}{a} [f\left(\frac{t}{a}\right)]$$

$$7. L[f(t)] = \frac{1}{1-e^{-sT}} \cdot \int_0^T e^{-st} \cdot f(t) dt \quad \text{if } f(t+T) = f(t)$$

(Proof) Let  $t+T=u$ ,  $t+2T=v, \dots$

$$\begin{aligned} L[f(t)] &= \int_0^\infty e^{-st} \cdot f(t) dt = \int_0^T e^{-st} \cdot f(t) dt + \int_T^{2T} e^{-st} \cdot f(t) dt + \int_{2T}^{3T} e^{-st} \cdot f(t) dt + \dots \\ &= \int_0^T e^{-st} \cdot f(t) dt + \int_T^{2T} e^{-st} \cdot f(t+T) dt + \int_{2T}^{3T} e^{-st} \cdot f(t+2T) dt + \dots \\ &= \int_0^T e^{-st} \cdot f(t) dt + e^{-sT} \int_T^{2T} e^{-s(t+T)} \cdot f(t+T) dt + e^{-2sT} \int_{2T}^{3T} e^{-s(t+2T)} \cdot f(t+2T) dt + \dots \\ &= \int_0^T e^{-st} \cdot f(t) dt + e^{-sT} \int_0^T e^{-su} \cdot f(u) du + e^{-2sT} \int_0^T e^{-sv} \cdot f(v) dv + \dots \\ &= (1 + e^{-sT} + e^{-2sT} + \dots) \int_0^T e^{-st} \cdot f(t) dt = \frac{1}{1-e^{-sT}} \cdot \int_0^T e^{-st} \cdot f(t) dt \end{aligned}$$

### 8. $L[f(t-a)u(t-a)] = e^{-as}F(s)$

(Proof) For  $t > a$ , let  $t-a=u$

$$\begin{aligned} L[f(t-a)u(t-a)] &= \int_0^\infty e^{-st} \cdot f(t-a)u(t-a) dt = \int_a^\infty e^{-st} \cdot f(t-a) d(t-a) \\ &= e^{-as} \int_a^\infty e^{-s(t-a)} \cdot f(t-a) d(t-a) = e^{-as} \int_0^\infty e^{-su} \cdot f(u) du = e^{-as}F(s), \text{ and then} \\ &\text{we have } L^{-1}[F(s)e^{-as}] = f(t-a)u(t-a) \end{aligned}$$

### 9. $L[f(t)e^{at}] = F(s-a)$ , $s > a$

(Proof) For  $s > a$ ,  $L[f(t)e^{at}] = \int_0^\infty e^{-st} \cdot f(t)e^{at} dt = \int_0^\infty e^{-(s-a)t} \cdot f(t) dt = F(s-a)$ , and then  $L^{-1}[F(s+a)] = f(t)e^{at}$

$$10. \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} f(t) = \lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} sF(s)$$

$$11. \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} f(t) = \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} sF(s)$$

### Eg. Find $L[t^n]$ .

(Sol.) According to  $L[t^n f(t)] = (-1)^n \frac{d^n}{ds^n} F(s)$  and  $L[1] = \int_0^\infty e^{-st} dt = \frac{1}{s}$

$$L[t^n] = L[t^n \cdot 1] = (-1)^n \frac{d^n}{ds^n} (s^{-1}) = \frac{n!}{s^{n+1}} = \frac{\Gamma(n+1)}{s^{n+1}}$$

**Eg. Find  $L[e^{at}\cos(kt)]$ ,  $L[e^{at}\sin(kt)]$  and  $L[e^{at}]$ .**

$$(\text{Sol.}) \quad L[\cos(kt)] = \frac{s}{s^2 + k^2} \quad \text{and} \quad L[\sin(kt)] = \frac{k}{s^2 + k^2}$$

$$\text{According to } L[f(t) \cdot e^{at}] = F(s-a) \quad \text{and} \quad L[1] = \int_0^\infty e^{-st} dt = \frac{1}{s},$$

$$\therefore L[e^{at} \cdot \cos(kt)] = \frac{s-a}{(s-a)^2 + k^2}, \quad L[e^{at} \cdot \sin(kt)] = \frac{k}{(s-a)^2 + k^2}, \text{ and } L[e^{at}] = \frac{1}{s-a}$$

**Eg. Find  $L[3t-5\sin(2t)]$ . [2001台大電研]**

$$(\text{Sol.}) \quad L[3t-5\sin(2t)] = 3L[t] - 5L[\sin(2t)] = \frac{3}{s^2} - \frac{10}{s^2 + 4}$$

**Eg. Find  $L[e^{-t}f(3t)]$  in case of  $L[f(t)] = e^{-1/s}$ .**

$$(\text{Sol.}) \quad 1. \quad L[f(3t)] = \frac{1}{3}e^{-1/(s/3)} = \frac{1}{3}e^{-3/s}, \quad L[e^{-t} \cdot f(3t)] = \frac{1}{3}e^{\frac{-3}{s+1}}. \text{ The result is correct!}$$

$$2. \quad L[e^{-t} \cdot f(t)] = e^{\frac{-1}{s+1}}, \quad L[e^{-t} \cdot f(3t)] = \frac{1}{3}e^{\frac{-1}{(s/3)+1}} = \frac{1}{3}e^{\frac{-3}{s+3}}. \text{ The result is wrong!}$$

$$\text{Another method: } L[e^{-t} \cdot f(3t)] = \int_0^\infty e^{-st} \cdot e^{-t} \cdot f(3t) dt = \int_0^\infty e^{-(s+1)t} \cdot f(3t) dt$$

$$= \frac{1}{3} \int_0^\infty e^{-\left(\frac{s+1}{3}\right)(3t)} f(3t) d(3t) = \frac{1}{3} \int_0^\infty e^{-\left(\frac{s+1}{3}\right)u} f(u) du$$

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

**Eg. Find  $L[f(t)]$  if  $f(t+2)=f(t)$  and  $f(t)=\begin{cases} 1, & 0 < t \leq 1 \\ -1, & 1 < t \leq 2 \end{cases}$ .**

$$(\text{Sol.}) \quad \text{According to } L[f(t)] = \frac{1}{1-e^{-sT}} \cdot \int_0^T e^{-st} \cdot f(t) dt \quad \text{if } f(t+T) = f(t) \text{ and } T=2,$$

$$\begin{aligned} L[f(t)] &= \frac{1}{1-e^{-2s}} \cdot \left[ \int_0^1 e^{-st} dt + \int_1^2 (-1)e^{-st} dt \right] = \frac{1}{1-e^{-2s}} \cdot \left[ \frac{e^{-st}}{-s} \Big|_0^1 + \frac{e^{-st}}{s} \Big|_1^2 \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{1-e^{-2s}} \cdot \left[ \frac{1-e^{-s} + e^{-2s} - e^{-s}}{s} \right] = \frac{1}{s} \cdot \frac{(1-e^{-s})^2}{(1+e^{-s})(1-e^{-s})} = \frac{1}{s} \cdot \frac{1-e^{-s}}{1+e^{-s}} \end{aligned}$$

**Eg. Find  $\int_0^\infty \frac{\sin(x)}{x} dx$ . [2003 中央光電所、1993 交大應數研]**

$$(\text{Sol.}) \quad L\left[\frac{\sin(t)}{t}\right] = \int_0^\infty e^{-st} \cdot \frac{\sin(t)}{t} dt = \int_s^\infty L[\sin(t)] ds = \int_s^\infty \frac{1}{s^2+1} ds = \tan^{-1}(s) \Big|_s^\infty = \frac{\pi}{2} - \tan^{-1}(s)$$

$$\text{Set } s=0, \quad \int_0^\infty \frac{\sin(x)}{x} dx = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

## 4-2 Inverse Laplace Transform $L^{-1}[F(s)] = f(t)$

**Basic theorems of the inverse Laplace Transforms:**

$$1. L^{-1}[F(s+a)] = f(t)e^{-at}$$

$$2. L^{-1}[F(s) \cdot e^{-as}] = f(t-a) \cdot u(t-a) = \begin{cases} f(t-a), & t \geq a \\ 0, & t < a \end{cases}$$

$$3. L^{-1}[F(as)] = [f(t/a)]/a$$

$$4. L^{-1}[F^{(n)}(s)] = (-1)^n t^n f(t)$$

$$5. L^{-1}\left[\int_s^\infty F(u)du\right] = \frac{f(t)}{t}$$

$$6. L^{-1}[sF(s)] = f'(t) + f(0)\delta(t)$$

$$7. L^{-1}\left[\frac{F(s)}{s}\right] = \int_0^t f(u)du$$

$$8. L^{-1}[1/s^n] = t^{n-1}/(n-1)! = t^{n-1}/\Gamma(n)$$

$$9. L^{-1}[c_1 F(s) + c_2 G(s)] = c_1 f(t) + c_2 g(t)$$

$$\text{Eg. Find } L^{-1}\left[\frac{1}{s}\right], L^{-1}\left[\frac{1}{s^2}\right], L^{-1}\left[\frac{1}{s^3}\right], L^{-1}\left[\frac{1}{s^4}\right], \text{ and } L^{-1}[1].$$

$$(\text{Sol.}) L^{-1}[1/s^n] = t^{n-1}/(n-1)!, \quad L^{-1}\left[\frac{1}{s}\right] = \frac{t^0}{0!} = 1, \quad L^{-1}\left[\frac{1}{s^2}\right] = \frac{t}{1!} = t, \quad L^{-1}\left[\frac{1}{s^3}\right] = \frac{t^2}{2!} = \frac{t^2}{2},$$

$$L^{-1}\left[\frac{1}{s^4}\right] = \frac{t^3}{3!} = \frac{t^3}{6}. \quad \text{By } L^{-1}[sF(s)] = f'(t) + f(0)\delta(t), \quad L^{-1}[1] = L^{-1}\left[s \cdot \frac{1}{s}\right] = 0 + 1 \cdot \delta(t) = \delta(t).$$

$$\text{Eg. Find } L^{-1}\left[\frac{1}{(s-2)^3}\right]. \quad [\text{2013 成大電研}]$$

$$(\text{Sol.}) L^{-1}[1/s^n] = t^{n-1}/(n-1)!, \quad L^{-1}\left[\frac{1}{s^3}\right] = \frac{t^2}{2!} = \frac{t^2}{2}, \text{ and } L^{-1}[F(s+a)] = f(t)e^{-at},$$

$$\therefore L^{-1}\left[\frac{1}{(s-2)^3}\right] = \frac{t^2 e^{2t}}{2}$$

$$\text{Eg. Find } L^{-1}\left[\frac{e^{-2s}}{(s-2)^4}\right]. \quad [\text{1993 中山電研}]$$

$$(\text{Sol.}) \text{ According to } L^{-1}[F(s) \cdot e^{-as}] = f(t-a) \cdot u(t-a), \quad L^{-1}\left[\frac{1}{(s-2)^4}\right] = \frac{e^{2t} \cdot t^3}{3!}$$

$$L^{-1}\left[\frac{e^{-2s}}{(s-2)^4}\right] = \frac{e^{2(t-2)} \cdot (t-2)^3}{3!} \cdot u(t-2)$$

**Heaviside's formula:**

$$\begin{aligned} L^{-1}\left[\frac{A_1}{(s-a)} + \dots + \frac{A_m}{(s-a)^m} + \frac{B}{s-b} + \dots + \frac{\alpha(s-r)}{(s-r)^2 + \omega^2} + \frac{\beta\omega}{(s-r)^2 + \omega^2}\right] \\ = A_1 e^{at} + A_2 t e^{at} + \dots + \frac{A_m t^{m-1} e^{at}}{(m-1)!} + B e^{bt} + \dots + \alpha \cos(\omega t) \cdot e^{rt} + \beta \sin(\omega t) \cdot e^{rt} \end{aligned}$$

**Eg. Find**  $L^{-1}\left[\frac{2s-1}{s(s-1)}\right]$ .

$$(\text{Sol.}) \frac{2s-1}{s(s-1)} = \frac{A}{s} + \frac{B}{s-1} \Rightarrow A(s-1) + Bs = 2s - 1 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} A+B=2 \\ -A=-1 \end{cases} \text{ or } \begin{cases} s=1 \Rightarrow B=1 \\ s=0 \Rightarrow -A=-1 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow A=1, B=1 \Rightarrow L^{-1}\left[\frac{2s-1}{s(s-1)}\right] = L^{-1}\left[\frac{1}{s}\right] + L^{-1}\left[\frac{1}{s-1}\right] = 1 + e^t$$

**Eg. Find**  $L^{-1}\left[\frac{2s^2-9s+19}{(s-1)^2(s+3)}\right]$ .

$$(\text{Sol.}) \frac{2s^2-9s+19}{(s-1)^2(s+3)} = \frac{A_1}{(s-1)} + \frac{A_2}{(s-1)^2} + \frac{B}{s+3}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} A_1+B=2 \\ 2A_1+A_2-2B=-9 \\ -3A_1+3A_2+B=19 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} A_1=-2 \\ A_2=3 \\ B=4 \end{cases}, L^{-1}\left[\frac{2s^2-9s+19}{(s-1)^2(s+3)}\right] = -2e^t + 3te^t + 4e^{-3t}$$

**Eg. Find**  $L^{-1}\left[\ln\left(\frac{s+2}{s+1}\right)\right]$ . [2005 北科大電研]

$$(\text{Sol.}) \text{ According to } L^{-1}\left[\int_s^\infty F(u)du\right] = \frac{f(t)}{t} \text{ and } L^{-1}[F(s+a)] = e^{-at} \cdot f(t)$$

$$L^{-1}\left[\ln\left(\frac{s+2}{s+1}\right)\right] = L^{-1}\left[\int_s^\infty \left(\frac{1}{s+1} - \frac{1}{s+2}\right)ds\right] = \frac{1}{t} \cdot [e^{-t} - e^{-2t}]$$

**Eg. Find**  $L^{-1}\left[\frac{s+1}{(s^2+2s+2)^2}\right]$ .

$$(\text{Sol.}) \text{ According to } L^{-1}[F(s+a)] = e^{-at} \cdot f(t) \text{ and } L^{-1}[F^{(n)}(s)] = (-1)^n t^n f(t)$$

$$L^{-1}\left[\frac{s+1}{[(s+1)^2+1]^2}\right] = e^{-t} \cdot L^{-1}\left[\frac{s}{(s^2+1)^2}\right] = e^{-t} \cdot L^{-1}\left[\frac{1}{2} \cdot (-1) \cdot \frac{d}{ds}\left(\frac{1}{s^2+1}\right)\right] = \frac{e^{-t}}{2} \cdot t \cdot \sin(t)$$

**Eg. Find**  $L^{-1}\left[\frac{s^2}{s^2-2s+3}\right]$ . [2015 台大電研]

$$(\text{Sol.}) \text{ According to } L^{-1}[F(s-a)] = e^{at} \cdot f(t) \text{ and } L^{-1}[1] = \delta(t)$$

$$L^{-1}\left[\frac{s^2}{s^2-2s+3}\right] = L^{-1}\left[1 + \frac{2s-3}{s^2-2s+3}\right] = L^{-1}\left[1 + \frac{2(s-1)}{(s-1)^2+2} - \frac{1}{(s-1)^2+2}\right]$$

$$= L^{-1}\left[1 + \frac{2(s-1)}{(s-1)^2+(\sqrt{2})^2} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{2}}{(s-1)^2+(\sqrt{2})^2}\right] = \delta(t) + 2\cos(\sqrt{2}t)e^t - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\sin(\sqrt{2}t)e^t.$$

**Eg. Solve  $y' + y + \int_0^t y(u)du = 1$ ,  $y(0) = 0$ . [2011中正電研]**

$$(\text{Sol.}) sY(s) - y(0) + Y(s) + \frac{Y(s)}{s} = \frac{1}{s},$$

$$Y(s) = \frac{1}{s^2 + s + 1} = \frac{1}{(s + \frac{1}{2})^2 + (\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2})^2} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} \cdot \frac{\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}}{(s + \frac{1}{2})^2 + (\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2})^2} \Rightarrow y(t) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} \sin(\frac{\sqrt{3}t}{2}) e^{-\frac{t}{2}}$$

**Eg. Solve  $y' + 2y + \int_0^t y(u)du = u(t-1)$ ,  $y(0) = 0$ . [2013台聯大系統電機類聯招]**

$$(\text{Sol.}) Y(s) = \frac{e^{-s}}{(s+1)^2}, L^{-1}[\frac{1}{(s+1)^2}] = te^{-t} \text{ and } L^{-1}[F(s)e^{-as}] = f(t-a)u(t-a),$$

$$\therefore y(t) = (t-1)e^{-(t-1)} \cdot u(t-1)$$

#### 4-3 Laplace Transform Solutions of Differential Equations with Polynomial Coefficients

**Eg. Solve  $xy'' - xy' - y = 0$ ,  $y(0) = 0$  and  $y'(0) = 3$ . [1991 成大電研]**

$$(\text{Sol.}) L[y(x)] = \int_0^\infty y(x)e^{-sx}dx = Y(s), L[x^n y(x)] = (-1)^n \frac{d^n}{ds^n} Y(s), \text{ and}$$

$$L[y^{(n)}(x)] = s^n Y(s) - s^{n-1} \cdot y(0) - s^{n-2} \cdot y'(0) - \dots - s \cdot y^{(n-2)}(0) - y^{(n-1)}(0)$$

$$-\frac{d}{ds}[s^2 Y(s) - sy(0) - y'(0)] - (-\frac{d}{ds})[sY(s) - y(0)] - Y(s) = 0$$

$$-2sY(s) - s^2 Y'(s) + Y(s) + sY'(s) - Y(s) = 0$$

$$(-s^2 + s)Y'(s) - 2sY(s) = 0, Y'(s) + \frac{2}{s-1}Y(s) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow Y(s) = \frac{A}{(s-1)^2} \Rightarrow y(x) = Axe^x, y'(0) = 3 \Rightarrow A = 3, \therefore y(x) = 3xe^x$$

**Eg. Solve  $2y'' + ty' - 2y = 10$ ,  $y(0) = y'(0) = 0$ . [2011台大電子所甲組]**

$$(\text{Sol.}) L[2y'' + ty' - 2y] = L(10) = \frac{10}{s},$$

$$2[s^2 Y(s) - sy(0) - y'(0)] + (-1)\frac{d}{ds}[sY(s) - y(0)] - 2Y(s) = \frac{10}{s},$$

$$-sY'(s) + (2s^2 - 3)Y(s) = \frac{10}{s}, Y'(s) + (-2s + \frac{3}{s})Y(s) = -\frac{10}{s^2}, \int (-2s + \frac{3}{s})ds = -s^2 + 3\ln(s),$$

$$\exp[-s^2 + 3\ln(s)] = s^3 e^{-s^2}, s^3 e^{-s^2} Y'(s) + [-2s^4 e^{-s^2} + 3s^2 e^{-s^2}]Y(s) = -10s e^{-s^2},$$

$$[s^3 e^{-s^2} Y(s)]' = -10s e^{-s^2}, s^3 e^{-s^2} Y(s) = 5e^{-s^2} + C, Y(s) = \frac{5}{s^3} + C s^{-3} e^{-s^2},$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} y(t) = \lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} sY(s) = 0 \Rightarrow y(t) = \frac{5}{2}t^2$$

#### 4-4 Convolution and Dirac Delta Function

**Convolution in Laplace transform:**  $f(t)*g(t) = \int_0^t f(t-\alpha)g(\alpha)d\alpha$

**Theorem**  $L[f(t)*g(t)] = L[\int_0^t f(t-\alpha)g(\alpha)d\alpha] = F(s)G(s)$

**Eg. Solve**  $y'' + y - 4 \int_0^t y(\tau) \sin(t-\tau)d\tau = e^{-2t}$ ,  $y(0)=1$  and  $y'(0)=0$ . [1990 交大電信所]

$$(\text{Sol.}) \quad s^2 Y(s) - sy(0) - y'(0) + Y(s) - 4Y(s) \frac{1}{s^2 + 1} = \frac{1}{s+2}$$

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

$$(s^2 + 1)(s + 1) = A(s + 2)(s^2 + 3) + B(s - 1)(s^2 + 3) + (Cs + D)(s - 1)(s + 2)$$

$$\text{Let } s=1 \Rightarrow 4=A \cdot 3 \cdot 4 \Rightarrow A=\frac{1}{3}. \text{ Let } s=-2 \Rightarrow -5=B(-3) \cdot 7 \Rightarrow B=\frac{5}{21}. \text{ Let } s=0 \Rightarrow 1=2-\frac{5}{7}-2D$$

$$\Rightarrow D=\frac{1}{7}. \text{ Let } s=-1 \Rightarrow 0=\frac{1}{3} \cdot 1 \cdot 4 + \frac{5}{21} \cdot (-2) \cdot 4 + (-C+\frac{1}{7})(-1)(2) \Rightarrow C=\frac{3}{7}$$

$$\Rightarrow Y(s) = \frac{1}{s-1} + \frac{5}{21} \frac{1}{s+2} + \frac{3s}{s^2+3} + \frac{1}{7\sqrt{3}} \frac{\sqrt{3}}{s^2+3}$$

$$\Rightarrow y(t) = \frac{1}{3}e^t + \frac{5}{21}e^{-2t} + \frac{3}{7}\cos(\sqrt{3}t) + \frac{1}{7\sqrt{3}}\sin(\sqrt{3}t)$$

**Eg. Solve**  $\int_0^t f(\tau) f(t-\tau)d\tau = 6t^3$ . [2006 台大電研]

$$(\text{Sol.}) \quad \text{According to } L[t^n] = \frac{\Gamma(n+1)}{s^{n+1}} \quad \text{and} \quad L^{-1}[1/s^n] = t^{n-1}/\Gamma(n), \quad [F(s)]^2 = 6L[t^3] = \frac{36}{s^4},$$

$$F(s) = \frac{6}{s^2} \Rightarrow f(t) = 6t$$

**Eg. Solve**  $f(t) = 3t^2 - e^{-t} - \int_0^t f(\rho) e^{t-\rho} d\rho$ . [2011 台大電研]

$$(\text{Sol.}) \quad F(s) = \frac{6}{s^3} - \frac{1}{s+1} - \frac{1}{s-1} \cdot F(s), \quad \frac{s}{s-1} \cdot F(s) = \frac{6}{s^3} - \frac{1}{s+1}, \quad F(s) = \frac{6}{s^3} - \frac{6}{s^4} + \frac{1}{s} - \frac{2}{s+1}, \\ \Rightarrow f(t) = 3t^2 - t^3 + 1 - 2e^{-t}$$

**Eg. Solve**  $f(t) = e^{-t} + 2 \int_0^t e^{-3\alpha} f(t-\alpha)d\alpha$ .

$$(\text{Sol.}) \quad F(s) = \frac{1}{s+1} + \frac{2}{s+3} \cdot F(s)$$

$$F(s) = \frac{s+3}{(s+1)^2} = \frac{1}{s+1} + \frac{2}{(s+1)^2} \Rightarrow f(t) = e^{-t} + 2te^{-t}.$$

**Eg. Solve**  $\int_0^t x(u) \sin(t-u) du = x(t) + \sin(t) - \cos(t)$ . 【1991 交大電信所】

**Eg. Solve**  $y(t) = \sin(2t) + \int_0^t y(\tau) \sin[2(t-\tau)] d\tau$ . 【1991 淡江機研】

**Dirac delta function:**

$$\delta(t-a) = \delta_a(t) = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\varepsilon} [u(t-a) - u(t-a-\varepsilon)] = \begin{cases} \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\varepsilon}, & a \leq t \leq a+\varepsilon \\ 0, & \text{elsewhere} \end{cases}$$

**Kronecker delta:**  $\delta_{ab} = \begin{cases} 1, & a=b \\ 0, & a \neq b \end{cases}$

**Characteristics of Dirac's delta function:**

1.  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(t-a) dt = 1$
2.  $L[\delta(t-a)] = e^{-as}$
3.  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) \delta(t-a) dt = f(a)$
4.  $f(t) * \delta(t) = \int_0^t f(x) \delta(t-x) dx = f(t)$
5.  $f(t) \delta(t-a) = f(a) \delta(t-a)$

**Eg. Solve**  $y^{(4)} = \delta(x-a)$ ,  $y(0) = y''(0) = y(1) = 0$ ,  $y^{(3)}(0) = 1$ ,  $0 < a < 1$ . 【1990 交大電子所】

$$(\text{Sol.}) \quad L(y^{(4)}) = s^4 Y(s) - s^3 y(0) - s^2 y'(0) - s y''(0) - y^{(3)}(0) = s^4 Y(s) - s^2 c - 1$$

$$L[\delta(x-a)] = e^{-as} \Rightarrow Y(s) = \frac{e^{-as}}{s^4} + \frac{c}{s^2} + \frac{1}{s^4} \Rightarrow y(x) = \frac{(x-a)^3}{6} \cdot u(x-a) + cx + \frac{x^3}{6}$$

$$y(1) = 0 = \frac{(1-a)^3}{6} + c + \frac{1}{6} \Rightarrow c = \frac{-(1-a)^3}{6} - \frac{1}{6}$$

$$\therefore y(x) = \frac{(x-a)^3}{6} \cdot u(x-a) - \left[ \frac{(1-a)^3}{6} + \frac{1}{6} \right] \cdot x + \frac{x^3}{6}$$

$$= \begin{cases} - \left[ \frac{(1-a)^3}{6} + \frac{1}{6} \right] \cdot x + \frac{x^3}{6}, & 0 \leq x \leq a \\ \frac{(x-a)^3}{6} - \left[ \frac{(1-a)^3}{6} + \frac{1}{6} \right] \cdot x + \frac{x^3}{6}, & a < x \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

**Eg. Solve**  $y''+5y'+4y=3+2\delta(t)$ . 【北科大土木所】