

Laplace transform

Syllabus:-

Definition, transform of elementary functions, inverse transforms, transform of derivations, differentiation and integration of transforms, solution of differential equations. Difference between Laplace and Fourier transform.

Laplace transform:-

If $f(t)$ be the real valued function of ' t '. Then Laplace transform of $f(t)$ denoted by $L\{f(t)\}$ or $F(s)$ is defined by,

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

Where s may be real or complex number.

Here $f(t)$ can be given by

$$f(t) = L^{-1}\{F(s)\}$$

Then $f(t)$ is called as inverse Laplace transform of $F(s)$.

Basic properties of Laplace transform

- 1) Laplace transform of the sum or difference of time function is equal to the sum or difference of Laplace transform of the individual time functions.

$$\begin{aligned} L\{f_1(t) + f_2(t) + \dots + f_n(t)\} \\ = F_1(s) + F_2(s) + \dots + F_n(s) \end{aligned}$$

- 2) Laplace transform of product of constant and time function is equal to product of constant and the Laplace transform of the time function.

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

- 3) Linear property : If $F_1(s)$ and $F_2(s)$ be the Laplace transform of $f_1(t)$ and $f_2(t)$ respectively. Then

$$L\{a_1 f_1(t) + a_2 f_2(t)\} = a_1 F_1(s) + a_2 F_2(s)$$

Where a_1 and a_2 are constants.

- 4) First shifting property : $L\{e^{at} f(t)\} = F(s - a)$

- 5) Change of scaling property : $L\{f(at)\} = \frac{1}{a} F\left(\frac{s}{a}\right)$

Laplace transform of elementary functions

1) $L\{a\} = \frac{a}{s}$; where a is constant

Solⁿ :-

$$\begin{aligned} L\{a\} &= \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} a \, dt = -a \left[\frac{e^{-st}}{s} \right]_0^{\infty} = -\frac{a}{s} [e^{-s \times \infty} - e^{-s \times 0}] \\ &= -\frac{a}{s} [0 - 1] = \frac{a}{s} \end{aligned}$$

2) $L\{e^{at}\} = \frac{1}{s-a}$; where a is constant

Solⁿ :-

$$\begin{aligned} L\{e^{at}\} &= \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} e^{at} \, dt = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-(s-a)t} \, dt = -\left[\frac{e^{-(s-a)t}}{(s-a)} \right]_0^{\infty} \\ &= -\frac{1}{(s-a)} [e^{-(s-a)\infty} - e^{-(s-a) \times 0}] = -\frac{1}{(s-a)} [0 - 1] \\ &= \frac{1}{(s-a)} \end{aligned}$$

3) $L\{1\} = \frac{1}{s}$

Solⁿ :-

$$\begin{aligned} L\{1\} &= \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} 1 \, dt = -\left[\frac{e^{-st}}{s} \right]_0^{\infty} = -\frac{1}{s} [e^{-s \times \infty} - e^{-s \times 0}] \\ &= -\frac{1}{s} [0 - 1] = \frac{1}{s} \end{aligned}$$

4) $L\{t\} = \frac{1}{s^2}$

Solⁿ :-

$$\begin{aligned} L\{t\} &= \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} t \, dt = -\frac{t}{s} [e^{-st}]_0^{\infty} + \frac{1}{s} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} \, dt \\ &= -\frac{t}{s} [e^{-s \times \infty} - e^{-s \times 0}] - \frac{1}{s^2} [e^{-st}]_0^{\infty} \\ &= -\frac{t}{s} [0 - 1] - \frac{1}{s^2} [0 - 1] \\ &= \frac{t}{s} + \frac{1}{s^2} \end{aligned}$$

5) $L\{t^n\} = \frac{n!}{s^{n+1}}$

Solⁿ :-

$$L\{t^n\} = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} t^n \, dt = -\frac{1}{s} [t^n e^{-st}]_0^{\infty} + \frac{n}{s} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} t^{n-1} \, dt$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= 0 + \frac{n}{s} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} t^{n-1} dt \\
&= + \frac{n}{s} \left[-\frac{1}{s} [t^{n-1} e^{-st}]_0^{\infty} + \frac{(n-1)}{s} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} t^{n-2} dt \right] \\
&= \frac{n}{s} \left[0 + \frac{(n-1)}{s} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} t^{n-2} dt \right] \\
&= \frac{n(n-1)}{s} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} t^{n-2} dt \\
&\dots\dots\dots \\
&\dots\dots\dots \\
&= \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)\dots\dots 1}{s^n} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} dt \\
&= \frac{n!}{s^n} \frac{1}{s} = \frac{n!}{s^{n+1}}
\end{aligned}$$

Other method

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

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } r, dt &= \frac{dr}{s} \\ &= \int_0^{\infty} e^{-r} \left(\frac{r}{s}\right)^n \frac{dr}{s} \\ &= \frac{1}{s^{n+1}} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-r} r^n dr = \frac{n!}{s^{n+1}} \quad \therefore \int_0^{\infty} e^{-r} r^n dr = n! \end{aligned}$$

$$6) \quad L\{\sin at\} = \frac{a}{s^2 + a^2}$$

$$L\{\sin at\} = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} \sin at \, dt = \frac{a}{s^2 + a^2}$$

$\int_0^\infty e^{-st} \sin at \, dt$ can be found by substituting $\sin at = \frac{e^{iat} - e^{-iat}}{2i}$

$$7) \quad L\{\cos at\} = \frac{s}{s^2 + a^2}$$

$$L\{\sin at\} = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} \cos at \, dt = \frac{s}{s^2 + a^2}$$

$\int_0^\infty e^{-st} \sin at \, dt$ can be found by substituting $\cos at = \frac{e^{iat} + e^{-iat}}{2}$

Laplace transform of few other functions

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

$$2) L\{e^{at} \sin bt\} = \frac{b}{(s-a)^2 + b^2}$$

$$3) L\{e^{at} \cos bt\} = \frac{(s-a)}{(s-a)^2 + b^2}$$

$$4) L\{e^{at} \sinh bt\} = \frac{b}{(s-a)^2 - b^2}$$

$$5) L\{e^{at} \cosh bt\} = \frac{(s-a)}{(s-a)^2 - b^2}$$

Inverse Laplace transform

If $L\{f(t)\}$ or $F(s)$ is Laplace transform of $f(t)$, then $L^{-1}\{f(t)\} = F(s)$. Here L^{-1} is called inverse Laplace transform.

Basics Laplace inverse transforms

$$1) L^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s}\right\} = 1$$

$$2) L^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{(s-a)}\right\} = e^{at}$$

$$3) L^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s^n}\right\} = \frac{t^{n-1}}{(n-1)!}$$

$$5) L^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s^2+a^2}\right\} = \frac{1}{a} \sin at$$

$$7) L^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s^2-a^2}\right\} = \frac{1}{a} \sinh at$$

$$9) L^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{(s-a)^2+b^2}\right\} = \frac{1}{b} e^{at} \sin bt$$

$$11) L^{-1}\left\{\frac{s}{(s^2+a^2)^2}\right\} = \frac{1}{2a} t \sin at$$

$$4) L^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{(s-a)^n}\right\} = \frac{e^{at} t^{n-1}}{(n-1)!}$$

$$6) L^{-1}\left\{\frac{s}{s^2+a^2}\right\} = \cos at$$

$$8) L^{-1}\left\{\frac{s}{s^2-a^2}\right\} = \cosh at$$

$$10) L^{-1}\left\{\frac{s-a}{(s-a)^2+b^2}\right\} = e^{at} \cos bt$$

$$12) L^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{(s^2+a^2)^2}\right\} = \frac{1}{2a^3} (\sin at - at \cos at)$$

Complicated inverse Laplace transforms can be found by partial fraction method.

Laplace transform of a derivative

Let $f'(t)$ be the first derivative of $f(t)$. Then

$$L\{f'(t)\} = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} f'(t) dt = [e^{-st} f(t)]_0^{\infty} + s \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} f(t) dt$$

$$= [e^{-s \times \infty} f(\infty) - e^{-s \times 0} f(0)] + sF(s)$$

$$= -f(0) + sF(s)$$

$$= s F(s) - f(0)$$

In general for n^{th} derivative is given by

$$L\{f^n(t)\} = s^n F(s) - s^{n-1} f(0) - s^{n-2} f'(0) \dots \dots \dots f^n(0)$$

Derivative of Laplace transform

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

Differentiating on both side wrt s , we get

$$F'(s) = \frac{d}{ds} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} f(t) dt = \int_0^{\infty} f(t) \frac{d}{ds} (e^{-st}) dt$$

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

$$F'(s) = L\{-t f(t)\}$$

Differentiating on both side wrt s , we get

$$F''(s) = -\frac{d}{ds} \int_0^{\infty} f(t) t e^{-st} dt$$

$$= - \int_0^{\infty} f(t) t \frac{d}{ds} e^{-st} dt = \int_0^{\infty} f(t) t^2 e^{-st} dt = L\{(-t)^2 f(t)\}$$

In general n^{th} derivative of $F(s)$ is

$$F^n(s) = L\{(-t)^n f(t)\}$$

Integration of Laplace transform

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

Integrating both side, we get

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

$$= \int_0^{\infty} \left(\int_s^{\infty} e^{-st} ds \right) f(t) dt = - \int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{t} [e^{-st}]_s^{\infty} f(t) dt$$

$$= \int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{t} e^{-st} f(t) dt = L\left\{\frac{f(t)}{t}\right\}$$

$$\int_s^{\infty} F(s) ds = L\left\{\frac{f(t)}{t}\right\}$$

Solution of differential equation

Consider the second order differential equation

$$\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + a \frac{dy}{dt} + by = r(t)$$

Using Laplace transform,

$$L\{f^n(t)\} = s^n F(s) - s^{n-1} f(0) - s^{n-2} f'(0) \dots \dots \dots f^n(0)$$

We get,

$$s^2 y(s) - s y(0) - y'(0) + a[s y(s) - y(0)] + by(s) = R(s)$$

$$(s^2 + as + b) y(s) - (s + a)y(0) - y'(0) = R(s)$$

$$(s^2 + as + b) y(s) = (s + a)y(0) + y'(0) + R(s)$$

$$y(s) = \frac{(s + a)y(0) + y'(0)}{(s^2 + as + b)} + \frac{R(s)}{(s^2 + as + b)}$$

$$L(y) = \frac{(s + a)y(0) + y'(0)}{(s^2 + as + b)} + \frac{R(s)}{(s^2 + as + b)}$$

$$y = L^{-1} \left[\frac{(s + a)y(0) + y'(0)}{(s^2 + as + b)} + \frac{R(s)}{(s^2 + as + b)} \right]$$

Relation between Fourier and Laplace transform

$$F\{f(t)\} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} L\left\{\frac{f(t)}{e^{-st}}\right\}$$

Difference between Fourier and Laplace transform

Sl. No.	Fourier transform	Laplace transform
1	$F(\omega) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-i\omega t} f(t) dt$	$F(s) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st} f(t) dt$
2	Fourier transform needs Dirichlet conditions.	Laplace transform doesn't need any conditions.
3	Fourier transform does a complex transform on real data.	Laplace transform does a real transform on complex data.
4	Fourier transform converts time varying function in the frequency domain.	Laplace converts time varying function in the integral domain.
5	In Fourier transform, function can have finite number discontinuities in each period	In Laplace transform, function should have definite value over the range.
6	Fourier transform is used in communication system	Laplace transform is used in control system.