

1. Find the Laplace transform of the following functions by using a table of Laplace transforms

(a)  $f(t) = -2$

(b)  $f(t) = e^{-2t}$

(c)  $f(t) = \sin 3t$

(d)  $f(t) = te^{-3t}$

(e)  $f(t) = e^{2t} \cos 2t$

2. Transform the given initial value problem into an algebraic equation involving  $Y(s) := \mathcal{L}(y)$ , and solve for  $Y(s)$ .

(a)  $y'' + y = \sin 4t$ ,  $y(0) = 0$ ,  $y'(0) = 1$

(b)  $y'' + y' + 2y = \cos 2t + \sin 3t$ ,  $y(0) = -1$ ,  $y'(0) = 1$

(c)  $y' + y = e^{-t} \sin 3t$ ,  $y(0) = 0$

3. Find the inverse Laplace transform of the following functions.

(a)  $Y(s) = \frac{2}{3 - 5s}$

(b)  $Y(s) = \frac{1}{s^2 + 4}$

(c)  $Y(s) = \frac{5s}{s^2 + 9}$

(d)  $Y(s) = \frac{3}{s^2}$

(e)  $Y(s) = \frac{3s + 2}{s^2 + 25}$

(f)  $Y(s) = \frac{2 - 5s}{s^2 + 9}$

(g)  $Y(s) = \frac{s}{(s + 2)^2 + 4}$

(h)  $Y(s) = \frac{3s + 2}{s^2 + 4s + 29}$

(i)  $Y(s) = \frac{2s - 2}{(s - 4)(s + 2)}$

(j)  $Y(s) = \frac{3s^2 + s + 1}{(s - 2)(s^2 + 1)}$

4. Use the Laplace transform to solve the following initial value problems.

(a)  $y' - 4y = e^{-2t}t^2$ ,  $y(0) = 1$

(b)  $y'' - 9y = -2e^t$ ,  $y(0) = 0$ ,  $y'(0) = 1$

5. Find the Laplace transform of the given functions.

(a)  $3H(t - 2)$

(b)  $(t - 2)H(t - 2)$

(c)  $e^{2(t-1)}H(t - 1)$

(d)  $H(t - \pi/4) \sin 3(t - \pi/4)$

(e)  $t^2H(t - 1)$

(f)  $e^{-t}H(t - 2)$

6. In this exercise, you will examine the effect of shifts in the time domain on the Laplace transform (graphically).

(a) Sketch the graph of  $f(t) = \sin t$  in the time domain. Find the Laplace transform  $F(s) = \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}(s)$ . Sketch the graph of  $F$  in the  $s$ -domain on the interval  $[0, 2]$ .

(b) Sketch the graph of  $g(t) = H(t - 1) \sin(t - 1)$  in the time domain. Find the Laplace transform  $G(s) = \mathcal{L}\{g(t)\}(s)$ . Sketch the graph of  $G$  in the  $s$ -domain on the interval  $[0, 2]$  on the same axes used to sketch the graph of  $F$ .

(c) Repeat the directions in part (b) for  $g(t) = H(t - 2) \sin(t - 2)$ . Explain why engineers like to say that “a shift in the time domain leads to an attenuation (scaling) in the  $s$ -domain.”

7. Use the Heaviside function to concisely write each piecewise function.

(a)  $f(t) = \begin{cases} 5 & 2 \leq t < 4; \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

(b)  $f(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & t < 0; \\ t & 0 \leq t < 3 \\ 4 & t \geq 3 \end{cases}$

(c)  $f(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & t < 0; \\ t^2 & 0 \leq t < 2 \\ 4 & t \geq 2 \end{cases}$

8. Find the inverse Laplace transform of each function. Create a piecewise definition for your solution that doesn't use the Heaviside function.

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

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

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

9. For each initial value problem, sketch the forcing term, and then solve for  $y(t)$ . Write your solution as a piecewise function (i.e., not using the Heaviside function). Recall that the function  $H_{ab}(t) = H(t - a) - H(t - b)$  is the interval function.

(a)  $y'' + 4y = H_{01}(t), \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y'(0) = 0$

(b)  $y'' + 4y = t H_{01}(t), \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y'(0) = 0$

10. Define the function

$$\delta_p^\epsilon(t) = \frac{1}{\epsilon} (H_p(t) - H_{p+\epsilon}(t)) .$$

(a) Show that the Laplace transform of  $\delta_p^\epsilon(t)$  is given by

$$\mathcal{L} \{ \delta_p^\epsilon(t) \} = e^{-sp} \frac{1 - e^{-s\epsilon}}{s\epsilon} .$$

(b) Use l'Hôpital's rule to take the limit of the result in part (a) as  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ . How does this result agree with the fact that  $\mathcal{L} \{ \delta_p(t) \} = e^{-sp}$ ?

11. Use a Laplace transform to solve the following initial value problem:

$$y' = \delta_p(t), \quad y(0) = 0$$

How does your answer support what engineers like to say, that the “derivative of a unit step is a unit impulse”?

12. Define the function

$$H_p^\epsilon(t) = \begin{cases} 0, & 0 \leq t < p \\ \frac{1}{\epsilon}(t - p), & p \leq t < p + \epsilon \\ 1, & t \geq p + \epsilon \end{cases}$$

(a) Sketch the graph of  $H_p^\epsilon(t)$ .(b) Without being too precise about things, we could argue that  $H_p^\epsilon(t) \rightarrow H_p(t)$  as  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ , where  $H_p(t) = H(t - p)$ . Sketch the graph of the derivative of  $H_p^\epsilon(t)$ .(c) Compare your result in (b) with the graph of  $\delta_p^\epsilon(t)$ . Argue that  $H_p^\epsilon(t) = \delta_p(t)$ .

13. Solve the following initial value problems.

(a)  $y'' + 4y = \delta(t), \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y'(0) = 0$

(b)  $y'' - 4y' - 5y = \delta(t), \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y'(0) = 0$