

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

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

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

2. Find the inverse Laplace transform of each function. Create a piecewise definition for your solution that does not use the Heaviside function.

$$(a) F(s) = \frac{e^{-2s}}{s+3} \quad (b) F(s) = \frac{1-e^{-s}}{s^2} \quad (c) F(s) = \frac{e^{-s}}{s^2+4}$$

3. 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.

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

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

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

- (a) Sketch $\delta_p^\epsilon(t)$, and show that its Laplace $\delta_p^\epsilon(t)$ is

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

- (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 $\mathcal{L}\{\delta_p(t)\} = e^{-sp}$?

5. Engineers like to say that the “derivative of a unit step is a unit impulse”. In this problem you will further explore this idea. 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 the graph of $\delta_p^\epsilon(t)$ to Part (b). Argue (graphically) that $H_p'(t) = \delta_p(t)$.
- (d) Use a Laplace transform to solve the following initial value problem:

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

Why does this also suggest (but this time, algebraically) that $H_p'(t) = \delta_p(t)$?

6. Solve the following initial value problems.

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

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

7. Compute the following convolutions.

(a) $e^{at} * e^{bt}$, $a \neq b$

(b) $e^{at} * e^{at}$,

(c) $t * e^t$.

8. Compute the following inverse Laplace transforms *without* using partial fraction decomposition. Use convolutions for Parts (b)–(d) instead.

(a) $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left(\frac{3s-5}{s-1}\right)$

(c) $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left(\frac{s}{(s-1)(s^2+1)}\right)$

(b) $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{s(s+1)}\right)$

(d) $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left(\frac{s^2}{(s^2+9)^2}\right)$.

9. Find the Fourier series of the following functions *without* computing any integrals.

(a) $f(x) = 2 - 3\sin 4x + 5\cos 6x$,

(b) $f(x) = \sin^2 x$ [*Hint*: Use a standard trig identity.]

10. The function

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & -\pi \leq x < -\pi/2 \\ 1 & -\pi/2 \leq x < \pi/2 \\ 0 & \pi/2 \leq x \leq \pi \end{cases}$$

can be extended to be periodic of period 2π . Sketch the graph of the resulting function on $[-5\pi, 5\pi]$ and compute its Fourier series.

11. The function

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & -\pi \leq x < 0 \\ x & 0 \leq x \leq \pi \end{cases}$$

can be extended to be periodic of period 2π . Sketch the graph of the resulting function on $[-5\pi, 5\pi]$ and compute its Fourier series.