

# Properties of Laplace transform

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Let  $f$  be a function satisfying  $|f(t)| \leq Ce^{At}$  for some positive  $C, A$ . We denote by  $F = L[f]$  the Laplace transform:

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

Then  $F$  is defined on the ray  $s > A$  and has the following properties (we denote by  $G$  the Laplace transform of some other similar function  $g$ , and define

$$u_a(t) = u(t-a) = \begin{cases} 0, & t < a, \\ 1, & t \geq a. \end{cases}$$

the Heaviside function).

1. Linearity:  $L[c_1 f + c_2 g] = c_1 F + c_2 G$ .
2.  $L[e^{ct} f(t)] = F(s-c)$ , and for  $a > 0$

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

3. For  $a > 0$ ,  $L[f(at)] = a^{-1} F(a^{-1}s)$ .
4.  $L[f'] = sF(s) - f(0)$ , and by applying this several times

$$L[f^{(n)}] = s^n F(s) - s^{n-1} f(0) - \dots - f^{(n-1)}(0).$$

5.  $L\left[\int_0^t f(\tau) d\tau\right] = s^{-1} F(s)$ .
6.  $L[tf(t)] = -F'(s)$ .
7.  $L[t^{-1} f(t)] = \int_s^\infty F(x) dx$ .

8.  $L[f \star g] = FG.$

There are several inversion formulas for Laplace transform, but we only need to know that the function  $f$  is uniquely determined by its Laplace transform, which follows from the existence of an inversion formula. One of these inversion formulas is

$$f(t) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(-1)^{n-1}}{(n-1)!} \left(\frac{n}{t}\right)^n F^{(n-1)}\left(\frac{n}{t}\right).$$