
ECE 2C, notes set 1a: LaPlace Transforms

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Goals of this note set:

Understand what a Laplace transform* is*.

....and where it comes from.

Remember how to use them to find circuit transient response.

What is a LaPlace Transform ?

You have already seen LaPlace Transforms in ECE2B.

You will have much more practice with them later in
ECE137A/B, 130A/B, ECE2

...and you will use them throughout your career.

Goal here : what * are * LaPlace Transforms ?

* LaPlace Tranforms are slightly modified Fourier Transforms.*

The LaPlace Transform

Start with the Fourier transform

$$F(j\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(t) e^{-j\omega t} dt$$

$$f(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} F(j\omega) e^{j\omega t} d\omega$$

The LaPlace Transform

Now - restrict ourselves to signals which are zero for $t < 0$ ← strict inequality!

$$\left[F(j\omega) = \int_{0^-}^{+\infty} f(t) e^{-j\omega t} dt \right]$$

limit of "0⁻" means that a δ -function occurring at exactly $t=0$ is included in the integral.

Multiply our Function with an Decaying Exponential:

Now consider $g(t) = f(t) e^{-\sigma t}$

$$G(j\omega) = \int_{0^-}^{\infty} g(t) e^{-j\omega t} dt$$

$$= \int_{0^-}^{+\infty} f(t) e^{-\sigma t} e^{-j\omega t} dt$$

$$\Rightarrow G(j\omega) = F(\sigma + j\omega)$$

Multiply our Function with an Decaying Exponential:

$$\text{Also: } \mathcal{F}(t) e^{-\sigma t} = g(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} G(j\omega) e^{-j\omega t} d\omega$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} F(\sigma + j\omega) e^{-j\omega t} d\omega$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{F}(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} F(\sigma + j\omega) e^{\sigma t} e^{-j\omega t} d\omega$$

Fourier Transform of $G(t) = F(t) * \exp(-\sigma t)$

So:

$$F(\sigma + j\omega) = \int_{0^-}^{+\infty} [f(t)e^{-\sigma t}] e^{-j\omega t} dt$$

$$f(t) = \frac{e^{\sigma t}}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} F(\sigma + j\omega) e^{-j\omega t} d\omega$$

Fourier
transform
of
 $f(t)e^{-\sigma t}$

LaPlace Transform = Fourier Transform of $G(t) = F(t) * \exp(-\sigma t)$

If we write $s = \sigma + j\omega$

$$F(s) = \int_{0^+}^{+\infty} f(t) e^{-st} dt$$

The Laplace
transform

$$f(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi j} \int_{\sigma - j\infty}^{\sigma + j\infty} F(s) e^{st} ds$$

Please note that a Laplace transform

represents a sum of sine waves of different

frequencies $e^{j\omega t}$ all multiplied by a decaying

exponential $e^{-\sigma t}$ of one fixed decay rate σ

Who Gets Credit ?

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying `en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Laplace_transform#History`. The page content includes a sidebar with language options (Português, Română, Русский, Simple English, Slovenščina, Српски / srpski, Basa Sunda, Suomi, Svenska, ไทย, Türkçe) and a main section titled "History".

History [edit]

The Laplace transform is named after mathematician and astronomer [Pierre-Simon Laplace](#), who used a similar transform (now called [z transform](#)) in his work on [probability theory](#). The current widespread use of the transform came about soon after World War II although it had been used in the 19th century by [Abel](#), [Lerch](#), [Heaviside](#) and [Bromwich](#). The older history of similar transforms is as follows. From 1744, [Leonhard Euler](#) investigated integrals of the form

$$z = \int X(x)e^{ax} dx \quad \text{and} \quad z = \int X(x)x^A dx$$

as solutions of differential equations but did not pursue the matter very far.^[2] [Joseph Louis Lagrange](#) was an admirer of Euler and, in his work on integrating [probability density functions](#), investigated expressions of the form

Why use the LaPlace Transform ?

Motivations:

1) Convergence: Fourier transforms don't always work

$f(t) = e^{\alpha t} u(t)$ has a Fourier integral which blows up
for $\alpha > 0$

Its Laplace transform integral is ok if we pick $\sigma > \alpha$

2) Main reason: allows ready examination of

circuit responses to inputs of the form $e^{-\sigma t} e^{j\omega t}$,

a natural and common signal

Transforms of Derivative and Integrals

Transforms of derivatives

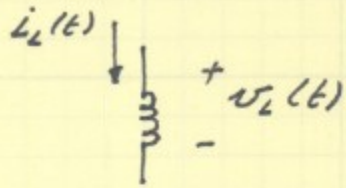
$$\mathcal{L}\left[\left(\frac{d}{dt}\right)f(t)\right] = sF(s) - f(0^-)$$

$f(t=0^-)$ = value just before $t=0$

Transforms of integrals

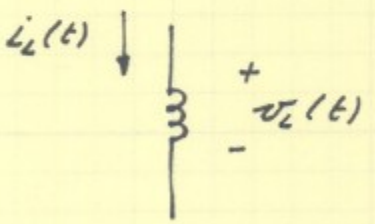
$$\mathcal{L}\left[\int_{0^-}^t f(\tau) d\tau\right] = F(s)/s$$

Applications to Circuit Elements: Inductor

$i_L(t)$

 $v_L(t) = L \cdot \frac{\partial i_L(t)}{\partial t}$

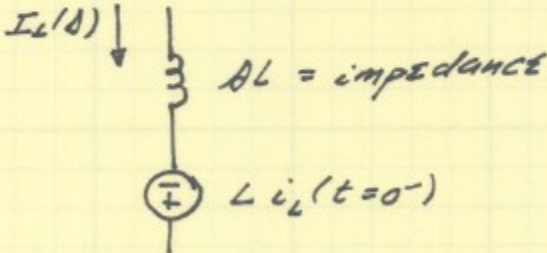
$\Rightarrow V_L(s) = sL I_L(s) - L i_L(t=0^-)$

t.me domain
 circuit model

$i_L(t)$


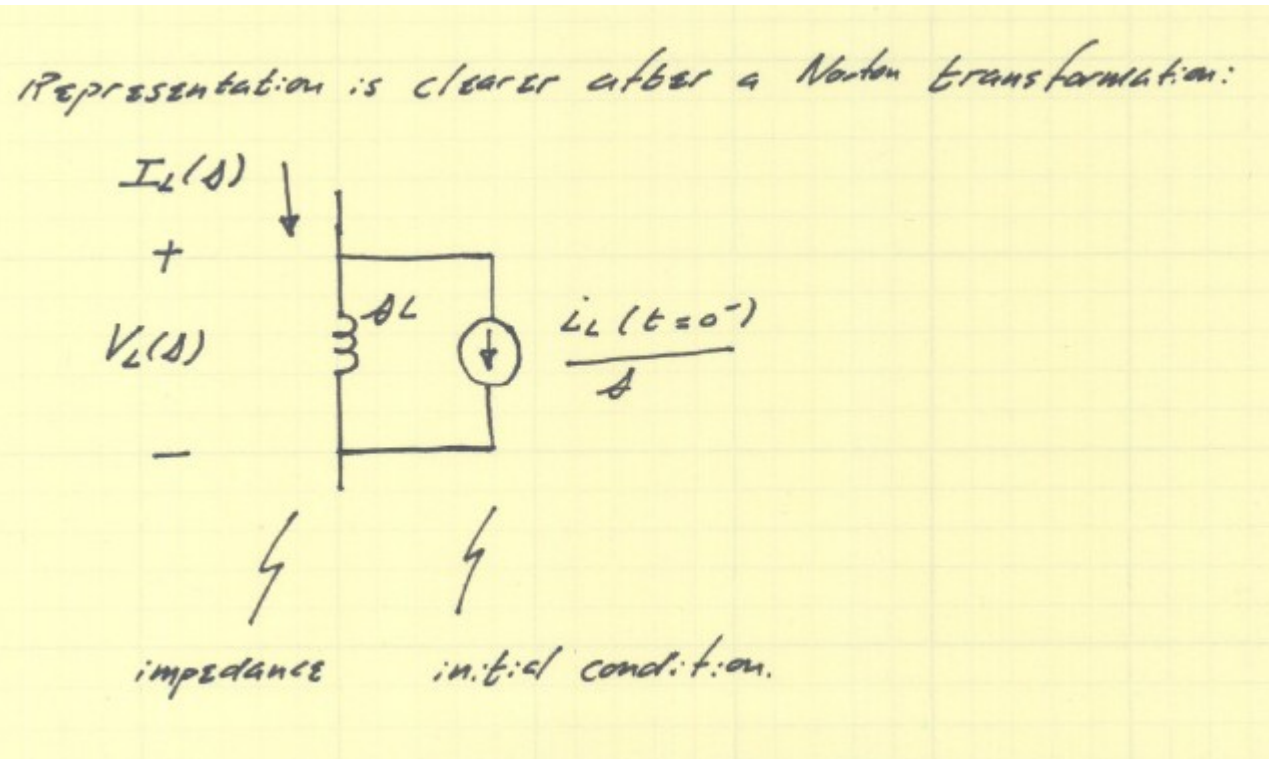
 $i_L(t=0^-)$ given

Laplace domain
 circuit model

$I_L(s)$


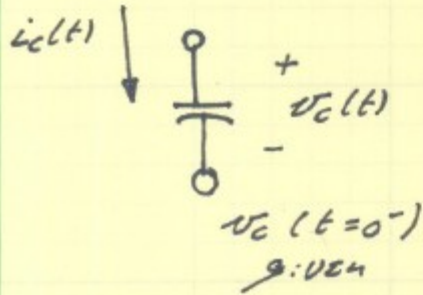
 $sL = \text{impedance}$
 $L i_L(t=0^-)$

Applications to Circuit Elements: Inductor



Applications to Circuit Elements: Capacitor

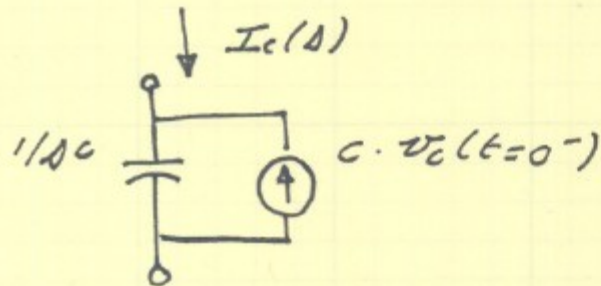
Capacitor in Laplace domain:



$$i_c(t) = C \frac{\partial v_c(t)}{\partial t}$$

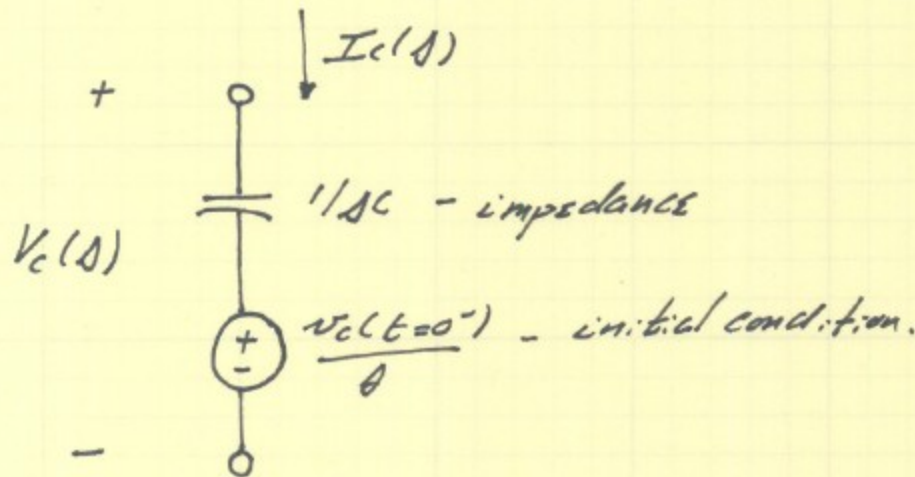
$$I_c(s) = sC V_c(s) - C v_c(t=0^-)$$

Laplace-domain circuit model:



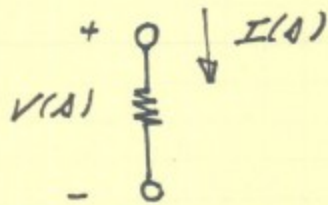
Applications to Circuit Elements: Capacitor

Again, this becomes clearer after a Thevenin transformation:



Applications to Circuit Elements: Resistors

resistors:



$$v(t) = R \cdot i(t)$$

$$V(s) = \mathcal{L}[v(t)] = \mathcal{L}[R \cdot i(t)] = R \cdot I(s)$$

this is trivial...

Applications to Circuit Elements: Independent Sources

independent sources:



time domain

$$\mathcal{L}[v_0] = \int_0^{+\infty} v_0 e^{-st} dt$$

$$= v_0/s \quad (!)$$



Laplace domain

similarly:



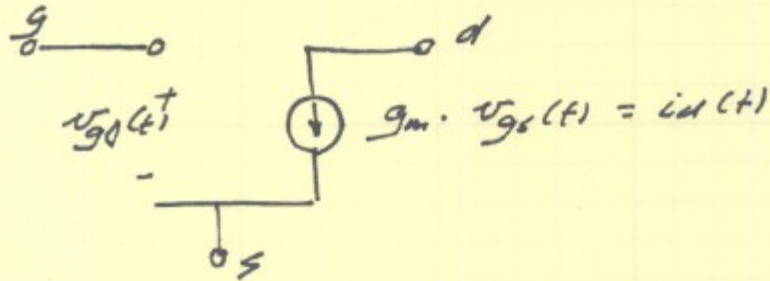
time domain



Laplace domain.

Applications to Circuit Elements: *De*pendent Sources

but, don't make a common (and silly) mistake with controlled (dependent) generators:



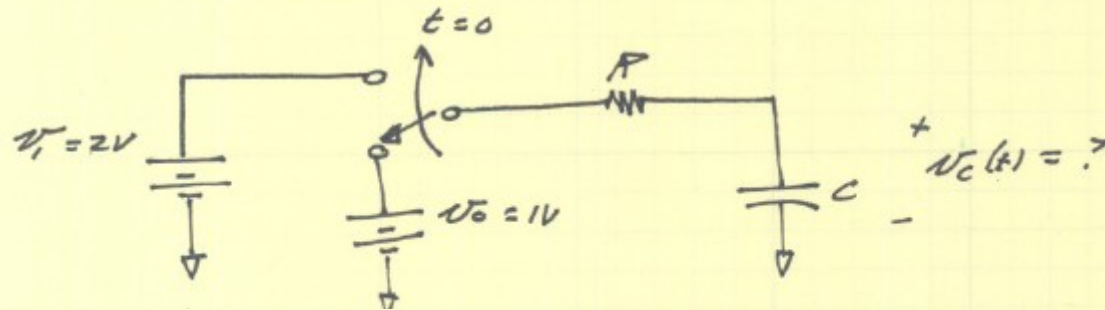
$$I_d(s) = \mathcal{L} [g_m \cdot v_{gs}(t)] = g_m \cdot \mathcal{L} [v_{gs}(t)]$$

$$= g_m \cdot V_{gs}(s)$$

$$\frac{I_d(s) = g_m \cdot V_{gs}(s) \quad \text{correct}}{g_m \frac{V_{gs}(s)}{s} \quad \text{: incorrect}}$$

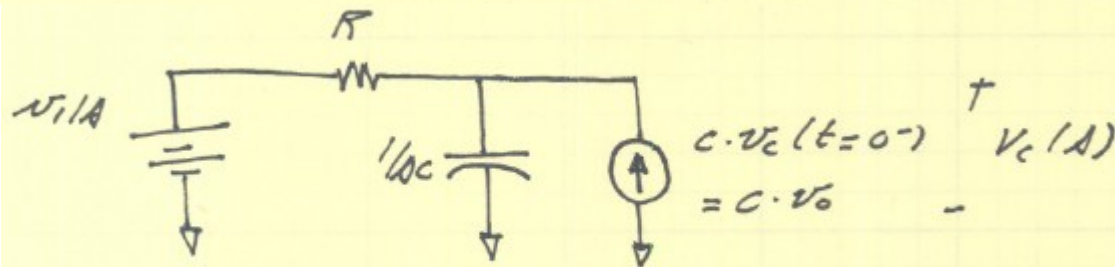
Example Problem---with Initial Conditions

Apply our Laplace domain Models
to an initial condition problem:



First: note that $v_C(t=0^-) = v_0$

Laplace-domain circuit for $t > 0$ is then:



Example Problem---with Initial Conditions

Solve by Superposition

$$V_C(s) = \frac{v_1}{s} \cdot \frac{1/RC}{s + 1/RC} + C \cdot v_C(0^-) \left(\frac{1}{s} \parallel R \right)$$

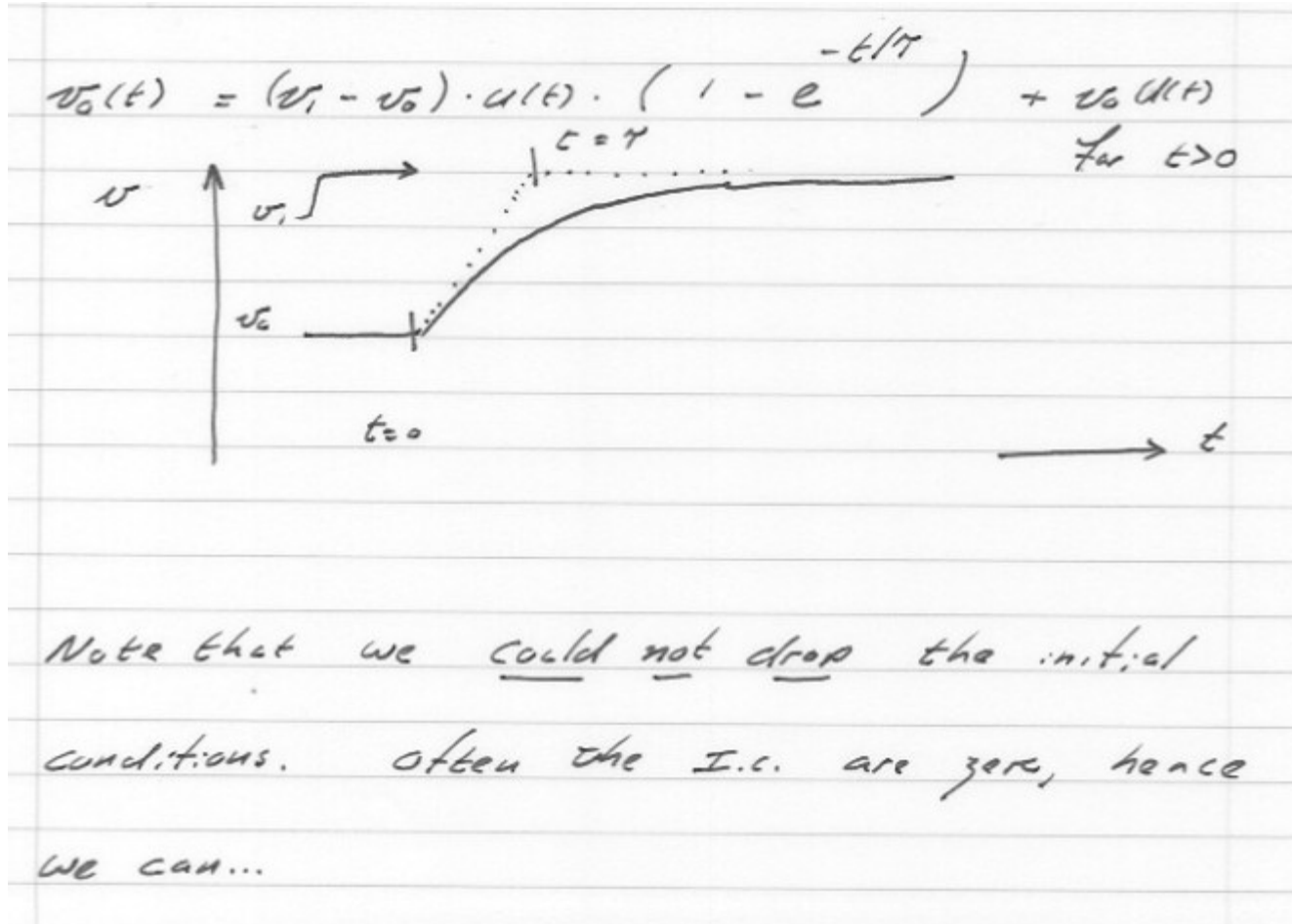
$$\text{but } v_C(0^-) = v_0$$

$$V_C(s) = \frac{v_1 - v_0}{s} \left(\frac{1}{1 + sRC} \right) + \frac{v_0}{s}$$

$$= \frac{(v_1 - v_0)}{s} \left[\frac{1}{s} - \frac{\tau}{1 + s\tau} \right] + \frac{v_0}{s}$$

$$\tau = RC$$

Example Problem---with Initial Conditions



For Reference: LaPlace Transform Pairs

Linearity

$$\mathcal{L}[a f(t) + b g(t)] = a F(s) + b G(s)$$

Exponential Function

$$\mathcal{L}[u(t) e^{at}] = \int_0^{\infty} e^{at} e^{-st} dt = \frac{1}{s-a}$$

Since $s = \sigma + j\omega$, integral converges only
for $\sigma > a$

Writing a decaying exponential differently:

$$\mathcal{L}\left[u(t) \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{1+\gamma^2}}\right) e^{-t/\tau}\right] = \frac{1}{1 + s\tau}$$

For Reference: LaPlace Transform Pairs

Complex Sinusoid

$$\mathcal{L}[u(t) e^{j\omega_0 t}] = \frac{1}{s - j\omega_0}$$


$$\mathcal{L}[u(t) e^{-\alpha t} e^{j\omega_0 t}] = \frac{1}{s + \alpha - j\omega_0}$$

For Reference: LaPlace Transform Pairs

Sine waves starting at $t=0$

using $\mathcal{L}[u(t) e^{j\omega_0 t}] = \dots$ and


$$\sin \omega_0 t = \frac{e^{-j\omega_0 t} - e^{j\omega_0 t}}{2j}$$

$$\mathcal{L}[u(t) \sin \omega_0 t] = \frac{\omega_0}{s^2 + \omega_0^2}$$


For Reference: LaPlace Transform Pairs

Cosine waves starting at $t=0$

$$\cos \omega_0 t = \frac{e^{j\omega_0 t} + e^{-j\omega_0 t}}{2}$$

$$\mathcal{L}[u(t) \cos \omega_0 t] = \frac{A}{\omega_0^2 + s^2}$$


For Reference: LaPlace Transform Pairs

Function times an exponential

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}[e^{-\alpha t} f(t)] &= \int_{0^-}^{\infty} e^{-\alpha t} f(t) e^{-st} dt \\ &= \int_{0^-}^{\infty} f(t) e^{-(s+\alpha)t} dt\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{but } F(s) = \int_{0^-}^{\infty} f(t) e^{-st} dt$$

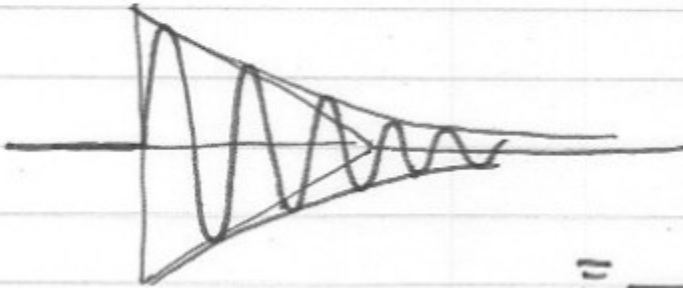
$$\text{so } \mathcal{L}[e^{-\alpha t} f(t)] = F(s + \alpha)$$

For Reference: LaPlace Transform Pairs

Function times an exponential

using the above ...

$$\mathcal{L}[e^{-\alpha t} \sin \omega_0 t u(t)] = \frac{\omega_0}{(s + \alpha)^2 + \omega_0^2}$$

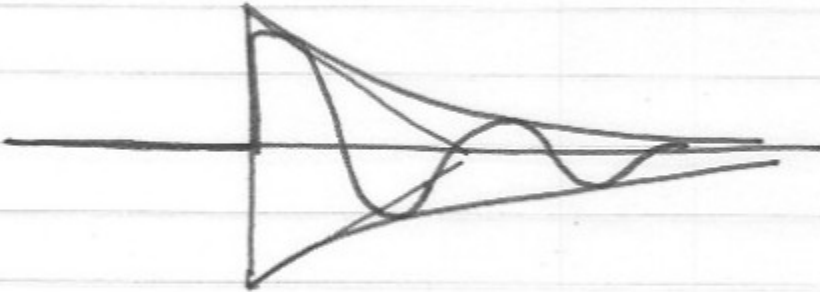


$$= \frac{\omega_0}{(s + \alpha + j\omega_0)(s + \alpha - j\omega_0)}$$

For Reference: LaPlace Transform Pairs

Function times an exponential

$$\mathcal{L}[e^{-\alpha t} \cos \omega_0 t u(t)] = \frac{s + \alpha}{(s + \alpha)^2 + \omega_0^2}$$



$$= \frac{s + \alpha}{(s + \alpha + j\omega_0)(s + \alpha - j\omega_0)}$$

For Reference: LaPlace Transform Pairs

Step function

$$\mathcal{L}[u(t)] = 1/s$$

...and finally...

what about

$$\mathcal{L}[te^{-\alpha t}] ?$$

$$\text{well } \mathcal{L}[t] = \int_{0^+}^{\infty} t e^{st} dt = 1/s^2$$

so

$$\mathcal{L}[te^{-\alpha t}] = \frac{1}{(s+\alpha)^2}$$