

Ex: Find the Laplace transforms of the following waveform:

$$t \sin(t-\tau) u(t-\tau) \quad \text{where } \tau > 0$$

SOL'N: The $u(t-\tau)$ delays the turn-on of the signal, meaning we will use the delay (or shift) identity:

$$\mathcal{L}\{f(t-a)u(t-a)\} = e^{-as} F(s), \quad a > 0$$

Here, $a = \tau$, and we identify $f(t-\tau)$ as

$$t \sin(t-\tau) = f(t-\tau)$$

To find $f(t)$ for $F(s) = \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}$ we replace each $t-\tau$ term in $f(t-\tau)$ with t . The problem is that we have t instead of $t-\tau$ in front of the sine function. The solution to this problem is to treat t as $(t-\tau) + \tau$. Thus, we have the following equivalent statement of the problem:

$$\text{Find } \mathcal{L}\{(t-\tau) + \tau\} \sin(t-\tau) u(t-\tau)$$

Applying the delay identity, we have

$$f(t-\tau) = [(t-\tau) + \tau] \sin(t-\tau)$$

$$\therefore f(t) = (t + \tau) \sin(t)$$

Note: A shortcut for finding $f(t)$ is to replace each occurrence of t with $t + \tau$.

By the identity, our answer will be $e^{-\tau s} \mathcal{L}\{(t + \tau) \sin(t)\}$.

or, if we split the transform into two,

$$e^{-\tau s} [\mathcal{L} \{t \sin t\} + \mathcal{L} \{\tau \sin t\}]$$

Moving the τ outside of the second transform, since τ is a constant, yields

$$\mathcal{L} \{\tau \sin t\} = \tau \mathcal{L} \{\sin t\} = \tau \cdot \frac{1}{s^2 + 1^2}$$

For the first transform, we use the identity for multiplication by t :

$$\mathcal{L} \{t f(t)\} = -\frac{d}{ds} F(s)$$

$$\text{In this case, } F(s) = \mathcal{L} \{\sin t\} = \frac{1}{s^2 + 1^2}.$$

$$\text{Thus, } \mathcal{L} \{t \sin t\} = -\frac{d}{ds} \frac{1}{s^2 + 1} = \frac{-2s}{(s^2 + 1)^2}.$$

Our final result:

$$\mathcal{L} \{t \sin(t - \tau) u(t - \tau)\} = \frac{2s}{(s^2 + 1)^2} + \frac{\tau}{s^2 + 1}$$