

EECE 301  
Signals & Systems  
Prof. Mark Fowler

**Note Set #33**

- C-T Systems: Laplace Transform... “Power Tool” for system analysis

# Laplace Transform & C-T Systems

Like the Z Transform for the DT case... The Laplace Transform is a powerful tool for the analysis and design of CT LTI Systems

L-T is used to

Solve differential equations with non-zero initial conditions

We'll do this later

Characterize systems using the "Transfer Function"

Our initial focus is here

## Laplace Transform Definition

Given a C-T signal  $x(t)$   $-\infty < t < \infty$  we've already seen how to use the CTFT:

$$CTFT : X(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(t)e^{-j\omega t} dt$$

Unfortunately the CTFT doesn't "converge" for some signals... the LT mitigates this problem by including decay in the transform:

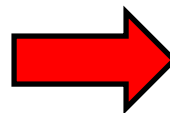
$$e^{-j\omega t} \text{ vs. } e^{-st} = e^{-(\sigma+j\omega)t} = e^{-\sigma t} e^{-j\omega t}$$

Controls decay of integrand

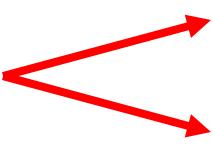
For the Laplace Transform we use:  $s = \sigma + j\omega$ . So...  $s$  is just a complex variable that we almost always view in rectangular form

Recall that for ZT we kept  $z$  in polar form!

$$CTFT : X(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(t)e^{-j\omega t} dt$$



$$LT : X(s) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(t)e^{-st} dt$$


There are 2 types of LT:  Two-sided (bilateral)  
One-sided (unilateral)

### Two-Sided LT

$$X(s) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(t)e^{-st} dt \quad \text{with } s = \underbrace{\sigma + j\omega}_{\text{complex variable}}$$

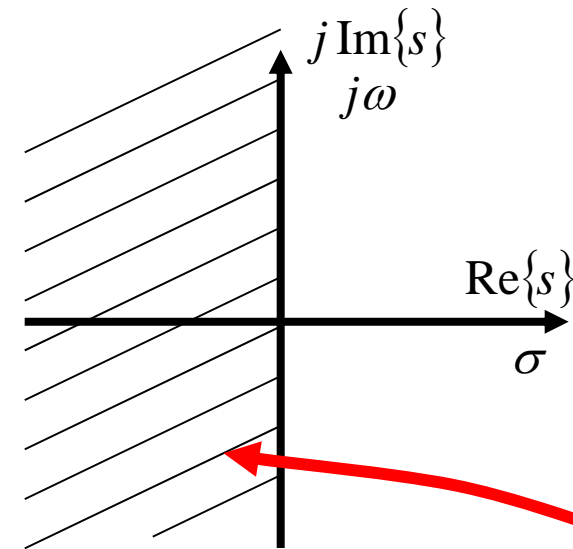
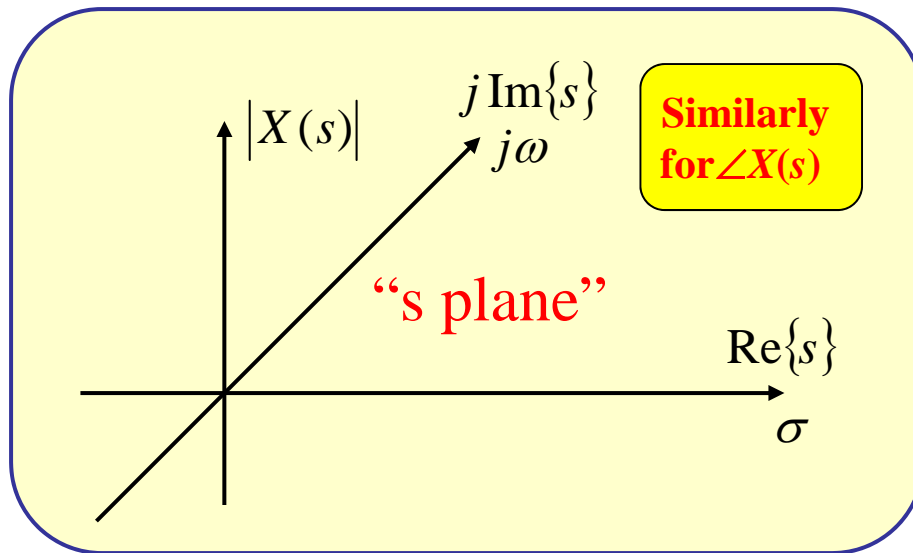
### One-Sided LT

$$X(s) = \int_0^{\infty} x(t)e^{-st} dt \quad \text{with } s = \underbrace{\sigma + j\omega}_{\text{complex variable}}$$

 One-sided LT defined this way  $\rightarrow$  even if  $x(t) \neq 0, t < 0$

Note that  $X(s)$  is:  $\begin{cases} \text{a complex valued function} \\ \text{of a complex variable } s = \sigma + j\omega \end{cases}$

Must plot on a plane...  
the "s-plane"



Recall that for the ZT we often needed to keep track if  $z$  values were inside the UC... so polar form of  $z$  was convenient. Inside UC when  $|z| < 1$ .

For the LT we will often need to keep track if  $s$  values are in the Left Half Plane (LHP)... so rectangular form of  $s$  is convenient. In LHP if  $\text{Re}\{s\} < 0$ .

### Region of Convergence (ROC)

Set of all  $s$  values for which the integral in the LT definition converges.

Each signal has its own region of convergence.

## Example of Finding a LT

Consider the signal  $x(t) = e^{-bt}u(t)$   $b \in \mathfrak{R}$

Back when we studied the FT we had to limit  $b$  to being  $b > 0$ ... with the LT we don't need to restrict that!!!

This is a causal signal.

By definition of the LT:

$$X(s) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-bt} e^{-st} dt = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-(s+b)t} dt$$

This is an easy integral to do!!

The limit is here by the definition of the integral

$$X(s) = \frac{-1}{s+b} \left[ e^{-(s+b)t} \right]_{t=0}^{t=\infty} = \frac{-1}{s+b} \left[ \underbrace{\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} e^{-(s+b)t}}_{\text{look at this}} - 1 \right]$$

**look at this**

**If this limit does not converge... then we say that the integral “does not exist”**

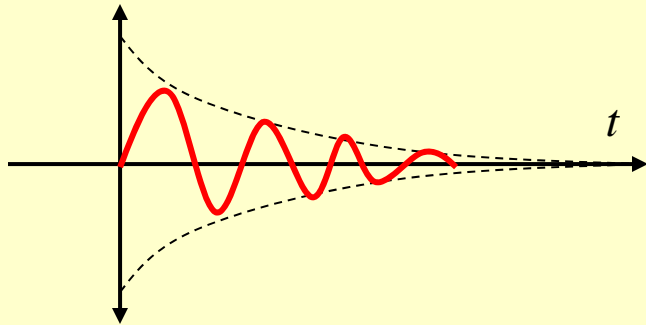
**So... we need to find out under what conditions this integral exists.**

**So... let's look at the function inside this limit...**



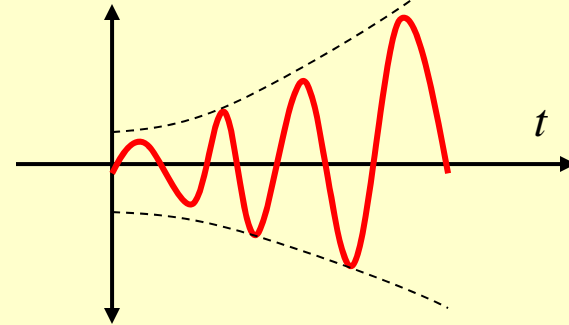
$$e^{-(s+b)t} = e^{-[(\sigma+b)+j\omega]t}$$

if  $\sigma + b > 0 \Rightarrow \sigma > -b$



**Has Two  
Main  
Behaviors**

if  $\sigma + b < 0 \Rightarrow \sigma < -b$



Thus,  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} e^{-(s+b)t}$  "exists" only for  $\sigma > -b$

So, we can't "find" this  $X(s)$  for values of  $s$  such that  $\text{Re}\{s\} \leq -b$

**But for  $s$  with  $\text{Re}\{s\} > -b$  we have no trouble.** This set of  $s$  is ROC for this transform.

Don't worry too much about ROC... at this level it kind of takes care of itself

So for  $x(t) = e^{-bt}u(t)$  We have

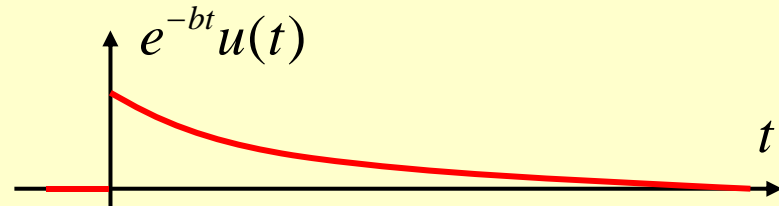
$$X(s) = \frac{1}{s+b} \quad \text{Re}\{s\} > -b$$

**This result... and many others... is on the Table of Laplace Transforms**

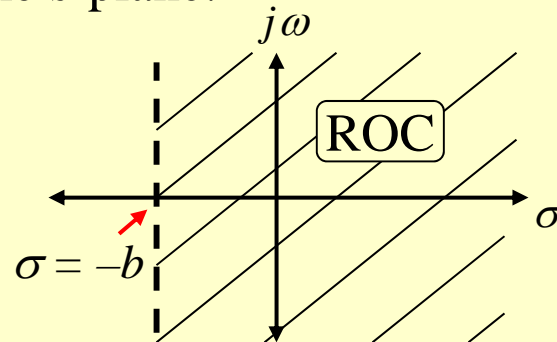


**If  $b > 0$**  then  $x(t)$  itself decays:

For  $b > 0$ ,  $-b$  is negative



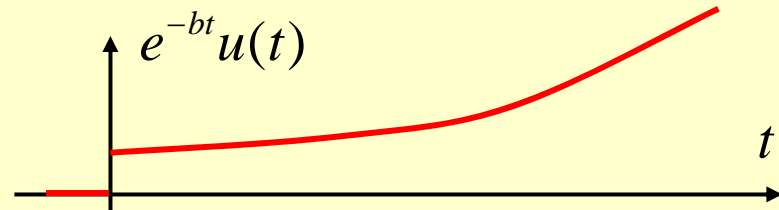
And we have on the s-plane:



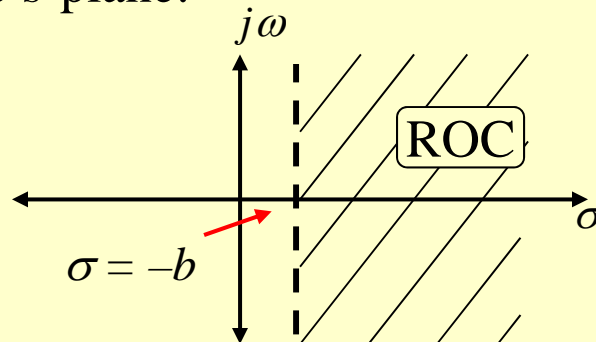
**This case can be handled by the FT... and can also be handled by the LT**

**If  $b < 0$**  then  $x(t)$  itself “explodes”:

For  $b < 0$ ,  $-b$  is positive



And we have on the s-plane:



**This case can't be handled by the FT... but by restricting our focus to values of  $s$  in the ROC, the LT can handle it!!!**



## Connection between CTFT & LT

$$\text{CTFT: } X(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(t)e^{-j\omega t} dt$$

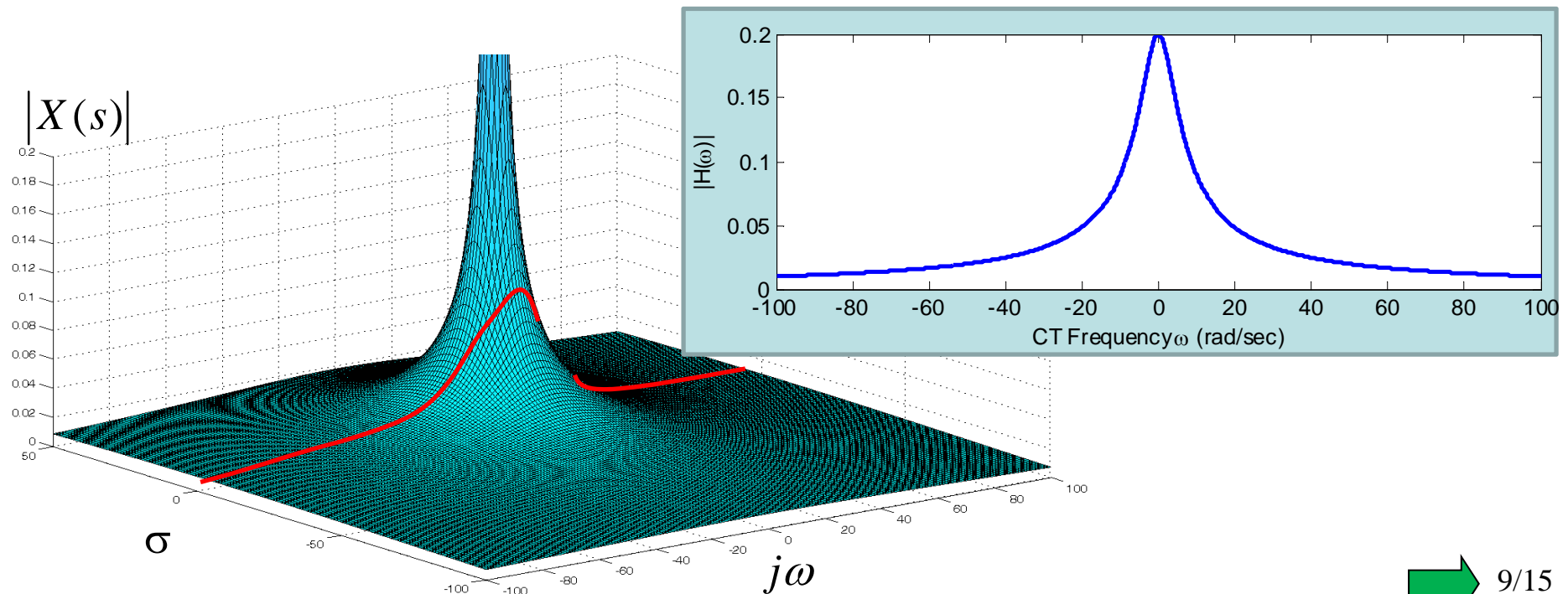
$$\text{LT: } X(\sigma + j\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x(t)e^{-(\sigma + j\omega)t} dt$$

It appears that letting  $\sigma = 0$  gives  $\text{LT} = \text{FT} \dots$

But this is only true if ROC includes the “ $j\omega$  axis”!!!

If ROC includes “ $j\omega$  axis” Then the FT is “embedded” in the LT

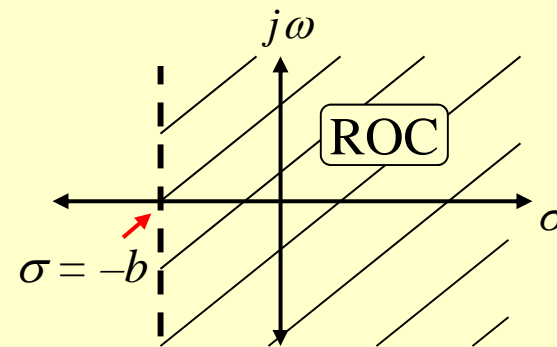
Get the FT by taking the LT and evaluating it only on the  $j\omega$  axis...  
i.e., take a “slice” of the LT on the  $j\omega$  axis (where  $\sigma = 0$ ).



Let's Revisit the Example Above

$$x(t) = e^{-bt} u(t) \leftrightarrow X(s) = \frac{1}{s+b} \quad \text{Re}\{s\} > -b$$

If  $b > 0$ , then ROC includes the " $j\omega$  axis":



$$\Rightarrow X(s)|_{s=j\omega} = \left[ \frac{1}{s+b} \right]_{s=j\omega} = \underbrace{\left[ \frac{1}{j\omega+b} \right]}$$

Same as on  
FT table

## Inverse LT

Like the FT...once you know  $X(s)$  you can use the inverse LT to get  $x(t)$

The definition of the inverse LT is:

$$x(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi j} \int_{c-j\infty}^{c+j\infty} X(s)e^{st} ds$$

with  $c$  chosen such that  $s = c + j\omega$  is in ROC

This is a “complex line integral” in complex s-plane...

**HARD TO DO!!**

But...if 
$$X(s) = \frac{b_M s^M + b_{M-1} s^{M-1} + \dots + b_1 s + b_0}{a_N s^N + a_{N-1} s^{N-1} + \dots + a_1 s + a_0}$$

Ratio of polynomials in  $s$   
“Rational Function”

Then its easy to find  $x(t)$  using partial fraction expansion and a table of LT pairs

**Done EXACTLY like for ZT...  
BUT you don't “divide by s”**

Do PFE and find ILT of this:

$$Y(s) = \frac{s + 1}{s^3 + \frac{3}{4}s^2 + \frac{1}{8}s}$$

Then use matlab's residue to do a partial fraction expansion on  $Y(s)$

```
[r,p,k]=residue([1 1],[1 0.75 0.125 0])  
r =  
  4  
 -12  
  8  
p =  
 -0.5000  
 -0.2500  
  0  
k = []
```

For each term:

$$\frac{r}{s - p}$$

→  $Y(s) = \frac{4}{s + \frac{1}{2}} + \frac{-12}{s + \frac{1}{4}} + \frac{8}{s}$  →  $Y(s) = \frac{4}{s + \frac{1}{2}} - \frac{12}{s + \frac{1}{4}} + \frac{8}{s}$

Now... each of these terms is on the LT table!!!

→  $y[n] = 4e^{-0.5t}u(t) - 12e^{-0.25t}u(t) + 8u(t)$

# A Few Properties of Bilateral LT

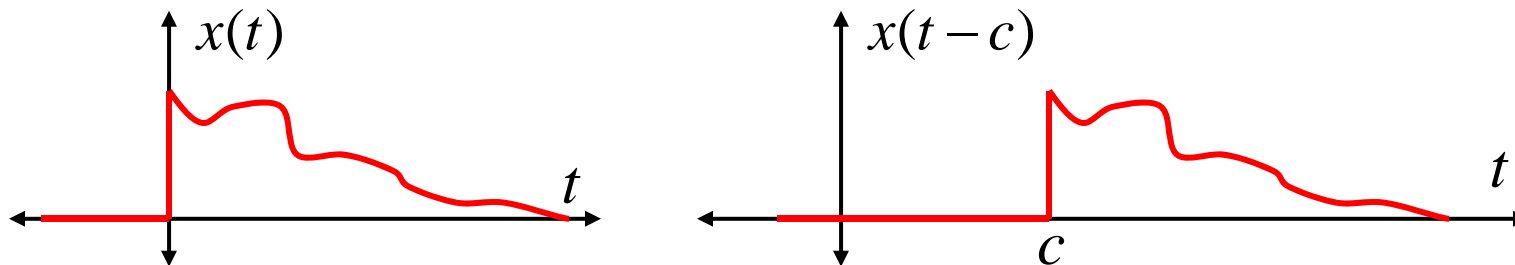
Because of the connection between FT & LT we expect these to be similar to the FT properties we already know!

There are several other properties... they are listed on the Table of Laplace Transform Properties.

Linearity:  $ax(t) + by(t) \leftrightarrow aX(s) + bY(s)$

## Time Shift :

Figures here for show causal signal (but result is general case)



$$x(t - c) \leftrightarrow e^{-cs} X(s)$$

Compare to time shift for FT:  $e^{-j\omega c}$  vs.  $e^{-cs}$

Recall:  $s = \sigma + j\omega$

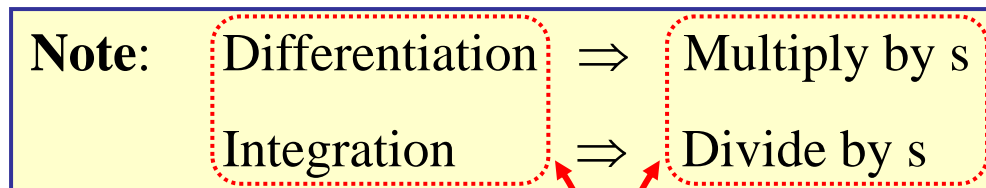
**Time Differentiation:**

$$\dot{x}(t) \leftrightarrow sX(s)$$

**Integration:**

$$\int_{-\infty}^t x(\lambda) d\lambda \leftrightarrow \frac{1}{s} X(s)$$

These two properties have a nice “opposite” relationship:



“opposites”

“opposites”

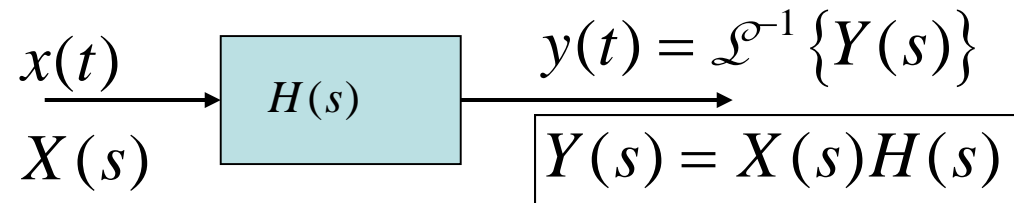
These two properties are crucial for linking the LT to the solution of Diff. Eq.

They are also crucial for thinking about “system block diagrams”

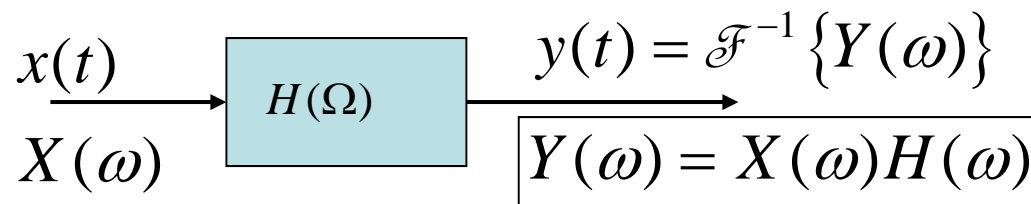
## System Property

The output of a LTI CT system has LT  $Y(s)$  given by  $Y(s) = X(s)H(s)$

So we have:



Note how similar this is to what we saw for CTFT:



## Terminology

- Frequency Response:  $H(\omega)$
- Transfer Function:  $H(s)$