Part II Problems

Problem 1: [Laplace transform] (a) Suppose that F(s) is the Laplace transform of f(t), and let a > 0. Find a formula for the Laplace transform of g(t) = f(at) in terms of F(s), by using the integral definition and making a change of variable. Verify your formula by using formulas and rules to compute both $\mathcal{L}(f(t))$ and $\mathcal{L}(f(at))$ with $f(t) = t^n$.

(b) Use your calculus skills: Show that if h(t) = f(t) * g(t) then H(s) = F(s)G(s). Do this by writing $F(s) = \int_0^\infty f(x)e^{-sx} dx$ and $G(s) = \int_0^\infty g(y)e^{-sy} dy$; expressing the product as a double integral; and changing coordinates using $x = t - \tau$, $y = \tau$.

(c) Use the integral definition to find the Laplace transform of the function f(t) with f(t) = 1 for 0 < t < 1 and f(t) = 0 for t > 0. What is the region of convergence of the integral?

MIT OpenCourseWare http://ocw.mit.edu

18.03SC Differential Equations Fall 2011

For information about citing these materials or our Terms of Use, visit: http://ocw.mit.edu/terms.