

An Ingenious Instantaneous Way
To Invent Interesting Functions
Is To Integrate & Invert

#5 of Gottschalk's Gestalts

A Series Illustrating Innovative Forms
of the Organization & Exposition
of Mathematics
by Walter Gottschalk

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□ to define new functions by integrating & inverting:
the pattern

• $f(x) \rightarrow F(x) \text{ \& } G(x)$

(the arrow \rightarrow may be read
'produces by integration and inversion'
or simply 'produces';
only real functions considered)

(1) integrate $f(x)$

to define $y = F(x) = \int_a^x f(t) dt$

(2) then invert $y = F(x)$

to obtain $y = G(x)$

where $x, y, t \in \text{real vars}$

note: this process will determine any
continuously differentiable function $G(x)$ with nonzero derivative;
to obtain $f(x)$, just differentiate the inverse of $G(x)$

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□ a note on inverting a function

- to invert the function $y = f(x)$,
think of solving for x in terms of y ,
and then interchange x and y
to make x the independent variable
and y the dependent variable;
in symbols

$$y = f(x) \Leftrightarrow x = f^{-1}(y)$$

$$x = f(y) \Leftrightarrow y = f^{-1}(x)$$

thus writing

$$y = f^{-1}(x) \text{ read ' } y \text{ equals the inverse of } x \text{'}$$

as the inverse function of

$$y = f(x) \text{ read ' } y \text{ equals } f \text{ of } x \text{'}$$

□ the basic transcendental functions of calculus

are obtainable

by integrating very simple algebraic functions

& then inverting;

various examples are given below

□ E1. $\frac{1}{x} \rightarrow \log x$ & $\exp x = e^x$

(1) integrate $\frac{1}{x}$

to define $y = \log x = \int_1^x \frac{1}{t} dt$

(2) then invert $y = \log x$

to obtain $y = \exp x = e^x$

□ E2. $\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} \rightarrow \sin^{-1} x$ & $\sin x$

(1) integrate $\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}$

to define $y = \sin^{-1} x = \int_0^x \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-t^2}} dt$

(2) then invert $y = \sin^{-1} x$

to obtain $y = \sin x$

□ E3. $\frac{1}{1+x^2} \rightarrow \tan^{-1} x$ & $\tan x$

(1) integrate $\frac{1}{1+x^2}$

to define $y = \tan^{-1} x = \int_0^x \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx$

(2) then invert $y = \tan^{-1} x$
to obtain $y = \tan x$

□ E4. $\frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 + 1}} \rightarrow \sinh^{-1} x$ & $\sinh x$

(1) integrate $\frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 + 1}}$

to define $y = \sinh^{-1} x = \int_0^x \frac{1}{\sqrt{t^2 + 1}} dt$

(2) then invert $y = \sinh^{-1} x$

to obtain $y = \sinh x$

□ E5. $\frac{1}{1-x^2} \rightarrow \tanh^{-1} x$ & $\tanh x$

(1) integrate $\frac{1}{1-x^2}$

to define $y = \tanh^{-1} x = \int_0^x \frac{1}{1-t^2} dt$

(2) then invert $y = \tanh^{-1} x$
to obtain $y = \tanh x$

□ a list of transcendental functions
defined by indefinite integrals
with simple algebraic integrands

- log fcn

$$\log x = \int_1^x \frac{1}{t} dt$$

- inv trig fcns

$$\sin^{-1} x = \int_0^x \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-t^2}} dt$$

$$\cos^{-1} x = \int_x^1 \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-t^2}} dt$$

$$\tan^{-1} x = \int_0^x \frac{1}{1+t^2} dt$$

$$\cot^{-1} x = \int_x^\infty \frac{1}{1+t^2} dt$$

$$\sec^{-1} x = \int_1^x \frac{1}{t\sqrt{t^2-1}} dt$$

$$\csc^{-1} x = \int_x^\infty \frac{1}{t\sqrt{t^2-1}} dt$$

- inv hyp fcns

$$\sinh^{-1} x = \int_0^x \frac{1}{\sqrt{t^2 + 1}} dt$$

$$\cosh^{-1} x = \int_1^x \frac{1}{\sqrt{t^2 - 1}} dt$$

$$\tanh^{-1} x = \int_0^x \frac{1}{1 - t^2} dt$$

$$\coth^{-1} x = \int_x^\infty \frac{1}{1 - t^2} dt$$

$$\operatorname{sech}^{-1} x = \int_x^1 \frac{1}{t\sqrt{1 - t^2}} dt$$

$$\operatorname{csch}^{-1} x = \int_x^\infty \frac{1}{|t|\sqrt{1 - t^2}} dt$$

- elliptic integrals of the first kind

$$\int_0^x \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-t^2} \sqrt{1-k^2 t^2}} dt$$

- elliptic integrals of the second kind

$$\int_0^x \frac{\sqrt{1-k^2 t^2}}{\sqrt{1-t^2}} dt$$

- elliptic integrals of the third kind

$$\int_0^x \frac{1}{(1-nt^2)\sqrt{1-t^2} \sqrt{1-k^2 t^2}} dt$$

note: elliptic functions are
the inverse functions of elliptic integrals

□ the gudermannian & its inverse
as indefinite integrals

$$\text{gd } x = \int_0^x \text{sech } t \, dt = \tan^{-1} \sinh x$$

$$\text{gd}^{-1} x = \int_0^x \sec t \, dt = \sinh^{-1} \tan x = \ln(\sec x + \tan x)$$

□ a list of transcendental functions
defined by indefinite integrals
with transcendental integrands

- the exponential integral

$$\text{Ei } x = \int_{-\infty}^x \frac{\exp t}{t} dt$$

- the logarithmic integral

$$\text{Li } x = \int_0^x \frac{1}{\log t} dt$$

- the sine integral

$$\text{Si } x = \int_0^x \frac{\sin t}{t} dt$$

- the cosine integral

$$\text{Ci } x = -\int_x^{\infty} \frac{\cos t}{t} dt$$

- the hyperbolic sine integral $\text{Shi } x = \int_0^x \frac{\sinh t}{t} dt$

- the hyperbolic cosine integral

$$\text{Chi } x = \int_0^x \frac{\cosh t - 1}{t} dt + \log x + \gamma$$

wh $\gamma = \text{Euler's constant} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (H_n - \log n) = 0.5772156649 +$

wh $H_n =$ the n th partial sum of the harmonic series

wh $n \in \text{pos int var}$

- the Fresnel sine integral $S(x) = \int_0^x \sin \frac{\pi}{2} t^2 dt$

- the Fresnel cosine integral $C(x) = \int_0^x \cos \frac{\pi}{2} t^2 dt$

- the error function $\text{erf } x = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^x e^{-t^2} dt$