STEP Project Year 2017 Paper 3

2017.3 Question 4

1. Notice that $a = e^{\ln a}$ and hence $a^x = e^{x \ln a}$, $a^{\frac{x}{\ln a}} = e^x$ we have

$$\begin{split} F(y) &= \exp\left(\frac{1}{y} \int_0^y \ln f(x) \, \mathrm{d}x\right) \\ &= a^{\frac{1}{y \ln a} \cdot \int_0^y \ln f(x) \, \mathrm{d}x} \\ &= a^{\frac{1}{y} \cdot \int_0^y \frac{\ln f(x)}{\ln a} \, \mathrm{d}x} \\ &= a^{\frac{1}{y} \cdot \int_0^y \log_a f(x) \, \mathrm{d}x} \end{split}$$

as desired.

2. We have

$$H(y) = \exp\left(\frac{1}{y} \int_0^y \ln f(x)g(x) \, dx\right)$$

$$= \exp\left[\frac{1}{y} \int_0^y (\ln f(x) + \ln g(x)) \, dx\right]$$

$$= \exp\left[\frac{1}{y} \left(\int_0^y \ln f(x) \, dx + \int_0^y \ln g(x) \, dx\right)\right]$$

$$= \exp\left(\frac{1}{y} \int_0^y \ln f(x) \, dx\right) \cdot \exp\left(\frac{1}{y} \int_0^y \ln g(x) \, dx\right)$$

$$= F(y) \cdot G(y).$$

3. Let $f(x) = b^x$.

$$F(y) = \exp\left(\frac{1}{y} \int_0^y \ln f(x) \, \mathrm{d}x\right)$$

$$= b^{\frac{1}{y}} \int_0^y \log_b f(x) \, \mathrm{d}x$$

$$= b^{\frac{1}{y}} \int_0^y \log_b b^x \, \mathrm{d}x$$

$$= b^{\frac{1}{y}} \int_0^y x \, \mathrm{d}x$$

$$= b^{\frac{1}{y}} \int_0^y x \, \mathrm{d}x$$

$$= b^{\frac{1}{y} \cdot \frac{y^2}{2}}$$

$$= b^{\frac{y}{2}}$$

$$= \sqrt{b^y}.$$

4. Since $F(y) = \sqrt{f(y)}$, we notice that $f(y) = F(y)^2 = \exp\left(\frac{2}{y}\int_0^y \ln f(x) \, \mathrm{d}x\right)$, and therefore $\ln f(y) = \frac{2}{y}\int_0^y \ln f(x) \, \mathrm{d}x$.

We substitute $g(y) = \ln f(y)$, and therefore

$$yg(y) = 2\int_0^y g(y) \, \mathrm{d}x.$$

Therefore, differentiating both sides with respect to y gives us

$$yg'(y) + g(y) = 2g(y),$$

and therefore

$$-g(y) + yg'(y) = 0.$$

Multiplying y^{-2} on both sides gives us

$$-y^{-2}g(y) + y^{-1}g'(y) = 0,$$

and therefore

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}y} \frac{g(y)}{y} = 0,$$

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and therefore

$$\frac{g(y)}{y} = C \implies g(y) = Cy.$$

Therefore, we have

$$f(y) = \exp g(y)$$
$$= \exp(Cy)$$
$$- b^{y}$$

if we substitute $b = \exp(C) > 0$, and therefore $f(x) = b^y$ as desired.

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