

6.1.6 Tell whether each of these formulas defines an inner product on the subspace of bounded functions in the space $C(0, \infty)$. (Explain your answers briefly.) The scalars in this problem are real, not complex. The boundedness condition should help you decide whether the integrals converge.

$$(a) \langle f, g \rangle = \int_0^{\infty} f(t)g(t) \frac{1}{t^2 + 1} dt$$

$$(b) \langle f, g \rangle = \int_0^{\infty} f(t)g(t)t^2 + 1 dt$$

$$(c) \langle f, g \rangle = \int_0^2 f(t)g(t) dt$$

We can note that all inner products must converge and meet the following conditions:

$$RI1. \quad \vec{x} \cdot \vec{x} > 0 \text{ -- except that } \vec{0} \cdot \vec{0} = 0$$

$$RI2. \quad \vec{x} \cdot \vec{y} = \vec{y} \cdot \vec{x}$$

$$RI3. \quad (r\vec{x} + \vec{y}) \cdot \vec{z} = r(\vec{x} \cdot \vec{z}) + \vec{y} \cdot \vec{z}$$

We can see that all three functions meet RI1, RI2, and RI3, therefore in order for these formulas to be inner products they must converge.

$$(a) \langle f, g \rangle = \int_0^{\infty} f(t)g(t) \frac{1}{t^2 + 1} dt$$

We can note that this interval goes from zero to infinity and f and g are bounded functions therefore we can say

$$\int_0^{\infty} f(t)g(t) \frac{1}{t^2 + 1} dt < \int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{t^2 + 1} dt$$

Where $\int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{t^2 + 1} dt = \tan^{-1}(t)$ which converges; therefore the left integral

converges and (a) is an inner product.

$$(b) \langle f, g \rangle = \int_0^{\infty} f(t)g(t)t^2 + 1 dt$$

Similarly to part (a)

$$\int_0^{\infty} f(t)g(t)t^2 + 1 dt < \int_0^{\infty} t^2 + 1 dt$$

However, in this case $\int_0^{\infty} t^2 + 1 dt$ does not converge; therefore, (b) is not an inner product.

$$(c) \langle f, g \rangle = \int_0^2 f(t)g(t)dt$$

Since (c) is bounded to a region of $C(0,2)$ we can see that this function will converge; therefore (c) is an inner product.