

2017.2 Question 4

1. If $f(x) = 1$, this gives

$$\left(\int_a^b g(x) \, dx \right)^2 \leq (b-a) \left(\int_a^b g(x)^2 \, dx \right).$$

Let $g(x) = e^x$, $a = 0$ and $b = t$, and we have

$$\text{LHS} = \left(\int_0^t e^x \, dx \right)^2 = (e^t - 1)^2,$$

and

$$\text{RHS} = t \int_0^t e^{2x} \, dx = \frac{t}{2} (e^{2t} - 1) = \frac{t}{2} (e^t - 1) (e^t + 1).$$

Since $\text{LHS} \leq \text{RHS}$, we have

$$(e^t - 1)^2 \leq \frac{t}{2} (e^t - 1) (e^t + 1),$$

and hence

$$\frac{e^t - 1}{e^t + 1} \leq \frac{t}{2},$$

since $e^t + 1 > 0$.

2. If $f(x) = x$, and $a = 0$, $b = 1$, the Schwarz inequality gives

$$\left(\int_0^1 xg(x) \, dx \right)^2 \leq \int_0^1 x^2 \, dx \int_0^1 g(x)^2 \, dx.$$

Since

$$\int_0^1 x^2 \, dx = \frac{1}{3} [x^3]_0^1 = \frac{1}{3},$$

we therefore have

$$3 \left(\int_0^1 xg(x) \, dx \right)^2 \leq \int_0^1 g(x)^2 \, dx.$$

Consider $g(x) = \exp(-\frac{1}{4}x^2)$. Notice that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 xg(x) \, dx &= \int_0^1 x \exp\left(-\frac{1}{4}x^2\right) \, dx \\ &= -2 \left[\exp\left(-\frac{1}{4}x^2\right) \right]_0^1 \\ &= -2 \left[\exp\left(-\frac{1}{4}\right) - \exp(0) \right] \\ &= 2 \left(1 - \exp\left(-\frac{1}{4}\right) \right), \end{aligned}$$

and hence

$$3 \cdot \left[2 \left(1 - \exp\left(-\frac{1}{4}\right) \right) \right]^2 \leq \int_0^1 \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}x^2\right) \, dx,$$

which is equivalent to

$$\int_0^1 \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}x^2\right) \, dx \geq 12 \left(1 - \exp\left(-\frac{1}{4}\right) \right)^2,$$

as desired.

3. For the right-half of the inequality, let $f(x) = 1$, and let the bounds be $a = 0, b = \frac{1}{2}\pi$, we have

$$\left(\int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} g(x) \, dx \right)^2 \leq \frac{\pi}{2} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} g(x)^2 \, dx.$$

Let $g(x) = \sqrt{\sin x}$, and hence

$$\left(\int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sqrt{\sin x} \, dx \right)^2 \leq \frac{\pi}{2} \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin x \, dx = \frac{\pi}{2} [-\cos x]_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} = \frac{\pi}{2}.$$

Since the integrand $\sqrt{\sin x} \geq 0$ for all $x \in [0, \frac{\pi}{2}]$, the integral over this interval must be non-negative, and hence

$$\int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sqrt{\sin x} \, dx \leq \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2}}.$$

For the left-half of the inequality, consider $g(x) = \sqrt[4]{\sin x}$, and $f(x) = \cos x$ (with the same bounds, $a = 0, b = \frac{1}{2}\pi$). We notice that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_a^b f(x)g(x) \, dx &= \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \cos x \sqrt[4]{\sin x} \, dx \\ &= \frac{4}{5} \left[(\sin x)^{\frac{5}{4}} \right]_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \\ &= \frac{4}{5} \left[1^{\frac{5}{4}} - 0^{\frac{5}{4}} \right] \\ &= \frac{4}{5}, \end{aligned}$$

and that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_a^b f(x)^2 \, dx &= \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \cos^2 x \, dx \\ &= \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \frac{1 + \cos 2x}{2} \, dx \\ &= \left[\frac{1}{2}x + \frac{1}{4} \sin 2x \right]_0^{\frac{1}{2}\pi} \\ &= \left[\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2}\pi + \frac{1}{4} \sin \pi \right] - \left[\frac{1}{2} \cdot 0 + \frac{1}{4} \sin 0 \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{4}\pi. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, by the Schwarz inequality, we have

$$\frac{16}{25} \leq \frac{1}{4}\pi \cdot \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sqrt{\sin x} \, dx,$$

and hence

$$\int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sqrt{\sin x} \, dx \geq \frac{64}{25\pi}.$$

Combining both sides of the equality, we hence have

$$\frac{64}{25\pi} \leq \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sqrt{\sin x} \, dx \leq \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2}},$$

as desired.