

## Problem Set 9 Solution Set

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1. *End of Chapter 6, Exercise 5.* Calculate the Jacobians of the following functions:

(a)  $f(x, y) = \sin(x^2 + y^3)$ . We have

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = \cos(x^2 + y^3) \cdot 2x \text{ and } \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = \cos(x^2 + y^3) \cdot 3y^2$$

Thus by Theorem 6.2.2, the Jacobian matrix is

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc} 2x \cos(x^2 + y^3) & 3y^2 \cos(x^2 + y^3) \end{array} \right).$$

□

(f)  $f(x, y) = x^{y+z}$ . We have

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = (y+z)x^{y+z-1} \text{ and } \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = (\log x)x^{y+z} \text{ and } \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} = (\log x)x^{y+z}$$

Thus by Theorem 6.2.2, the Jacobian matrix is

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc} (y+z)x^{y+z-1} & (\log x)x^{y+z} & (\log x)x^{y+z} \end{array} \right).$$

□

2. *End of Chapter 6, Exercise 7.* Find the critical points of the following functions and determine whether they are local minima, maxima, or saddle points.

(a)  $f(x, y) = x^3 + 6x^2 + 3y^2 - 12xy + 9x$ .

*Solution.* The critical points are those points  $(x, y)$  for which

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = 3x^2 + 12x - 12y + 9 = 0 \text{ and } \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = 6y - 12x = 0.$$

Therefore  $y = 2x$ , which implies  $3(x^2 - 4x + 3) = 0$ , and so  $x = 1$  or  $x = 3$ . Therefore the critical points of  $f$  are  $(3, 6)$  and  $(1, 2)$ . The matrix of the Hessian at  $(x, y)$  is

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc} 6x + 12 & -12 \\ -12 & 6 \end{array} \right).$$

At  $(3, 6)$  the matrix of the Hessian evaluates to

$$\begin{pmatrix} 30 & -12 \\ -12 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

and  $\Delta_1 = 30$ ,  $\Delta_2 = 36$ . Hence,  $f$  has a local minimum at  $(3, 6)$ .

At  $(1, 2)$  the matrix of the Hessian evaluates to

$$\begin{pmatrix} 18 & -12 \\ -12 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

and  $\Delta_1 = 18$ ,  $\Delta_2 = -36$ . Hence,  $f$  has a saddle point at  $(1, 2)$ . □

(c)  $f(x, y) = \cos 2x \cdot \sin y + z^2$ .

*Solution.* The critical points are those points  $(x, y)$  for which

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = -2 \sin 2x \cdot \sin y = 0, \quad \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = \cos 2x \cos y = 0, \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} = 2z = 0$$

Clearly, it is always true that  $z = 0$ . From  $\partial f / \partial x = 0$ , either  $\sin 2x = 0$ , which implies  $x = n\pi/2$ , or  $\sin y = 0$ , which implies  $y = m\pi$ . From  $\partial f / \partial y = 0$ , when  $x = n\pi/2$  we have  $\cos y = 0$ , which implies  $y = (2k + 1)\pi/2$ , and when  $y = m\pi$  we have  $\cos 2x = 0$ , which implies  $x = (2j + 1)\pi/4$ . Therefore the critical points of  $f$  are  $\left(\frac{n\pi}{2}, \frac{(2k + 1)\pi}{2}, 0\right)$  and  $\left(\frac{(2j + 1)\pi}{4}, m\pi, 0\right)$ , where  $k, j, m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . The matrix of the Hessian at  $(x, y)$  is

$$\begin{pmatrix} -4 \cos 2x \sin y & -2 \sin 2x \cos y & 0 \\ -2 \sin 2x \cos y & -\cos 2x \sin y & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

At  $\left(\frac{n\pi}{2}, \frac{(2k + 1)\pi}{2}, 0\right)$ , the matrix of the Hessian is

$$\begin{pmatrix} -4 \cos n\pi \sin((2k + 1)\pi/2) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -\cos n\pi \sin((2k + 1)\pi/2) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

It follows that  $\Delta_1 = \begin{cases} -4 & \text{if } n + k \text{ even} \\ 4 & \text{if } n + k \text{ odd} \end{cases}$ ,  $\Delta_2 = 4$ , and  $\Delta_3 = 8$ . Hence  $f$  has local minima at  $\left(\frac{n\pi}{2}, \frac{(2k + 1)\pi}{2}, 0\right)$  if  $n + k$  odd. If  $n + k$  even, then  $\Delta_3 > 0$  implies  $f$  cannot have a minimum value at  $\left(\frac{n\pi}{2}, \frac{(2k + 1)\pi}{2}, 0\right)$ , and  $\Delta_1 < 0$  implies  $f$  cannot have a maximum value at  $\left(\frac{n\pi}{2}, \frac{(2k + 1)\pi}{2}, 0\right)$ . But since  $\left(\frac{n\pi}{2}, \frac{(2k + 1)\pi}{2}, 0\right)$  are critical points, they are saddle points.

At  $\left(\frac{(2j+1)\pi}{4}, m\pi, 0\right)$ , the matrix of the Hessian is

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -2 \sin((2j+1)\pi/2) \cos m\pi & 0 \\ -2 \sin((2j+1)\pi/2) \cos m\pi & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

It follows that  $\Delta_1 = 0$ ,  $\Delta_2 = -4$ , and  $\Delta_3 = -8$ . Hence  $f$  has saddle points at  $\left(\frac{(2j+1)\pi}{4}, m\pi, 0\right)$  since  $\Delta_2 < 0$ .  $\square$

3. *End of Chapter 6, Exercise 8.* Show that if  $f : A \in \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  has a critical point  $x_0 \in A$  and we let

$$\Delta = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1 \partial x_1} \cdot \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_2 \partial x_2} - \left(\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2}\right)^2$$

be evaluated at  $x_0$ , then

- (a)  $\Delta > 0$  and  $\partial^2 f / \partial x_1 \partial x_1 > 0$  imply  $f$  has a local minimum at  $x_0$ .

*Solution.* From Theorem 6.9.4,  $f$  has a local minimum at  $x_0$  if  $x_0$  is a critical point of  $f$  such that  $H_{x_0}(f)$  is positive definite. Thus we need only show that  $H_{x_0}(f)$  is positive definite if  $\Delta > 0$  and  $\partial^2 f / \partial x_1 \partial x_1 > 0$ . To be sure, we prove the following lemma:

*Lemma:* Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ b & c \end{pmatrix}$  be a symmetric  $2 \times 2$  matrix, where  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then  $A$  is positive definite if  $a > 0$  and  $ac - b^2 > 0$ .  $A$  is negative definite if  $a < 0$  and  $ac - b^2 > 0$ .

*Proof.* Let  $v = (x, y)^\top$  be an arbitrary non-zero vector. Then

$$\begin{aligned} v^\top A v &= \begin{pmatrix} x & y \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ b & c \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = ax^2 + 2bxy + cy^2 \\ &= ax^2 + 2bxy + \frac{b^2 y^2}{a} - \frac{b^2 y^2}{a} + cy^2 \\ &= a \left(x + \frac{by}{a}\right)^2 + \left(c - \frac{b^2}{a}\right) y^2 \end{aligned}$$

If  $A$  is to be positive definite, then  $v^\top A v > 0$  for all  $v$ . In particular, for  $y = 0$ , we must have  $ax^2 > 0$ , which implies  $a > 0$ . Also, when  $x = -(b/a)y$ ,  $(c - b^2/a)y^2 > 0$  implies  $ac - b^2 > 0$ . If  $A$  is to be negative definite, then  $v^\top A v < 0$  for all  $v$ . In particular, for  $y = 0$ , we must have  $ax^2 < 0$ , which implies  $a < 0$ . Also, when  $x = -(b/a)y$ ,  $(c - b^2/a)y^2 < 0$  implies  $a(c - b^2/a) > 0$ , which yields  $ac - b^2 > 0$ .  $\square$

Since the matrix of the Hessian clearly satisfies the conditions of this lemma, it follows that  $H_{x_0}(f)$  is positive definite if  $\Delta = ac - b^2 > 0$  and  $\partial^2 f / \partial x_1 \partial x_1 = a > 0$ .  $\square$

- (b)  $\Delta > 0$  and  $\partial^2 f / \partial x_1 \partial x_1 < 0$  imply  $f$  has a local maximum at  $x_0$ .

*Solution.* Since the matrix of the Hessian clearly satisfies the conditions of the lemma, it follows that  $H_{x_0}(f)$  is negative definite if  $\Delta = ac - b^2 > 0$  and  $\partial^2 f / \partial x_1 \partial x_1 = a < 0$ .  $\square$

(c)  $\Delta < 0$  implies  $x_0$  is a saddle point of  $f$ .

*Solution.* If  $x_0$  is not a local max or min, then it must be a saddle point. Similarly, if it is not the case that  $\Delta > 0$  and  $\partial^2 f / \partial x_1 \partial x_1 > 0$  or  $\Delta > 0$  and  $\partial^2 f / \partial x_1 \partial x_1 < 0$ , then it must be true that  $\Delta < 0$ . Therefore,  $\Delta < 0$  implies  $x_0$  is a saddle point of  $f$ .  $\square$

4. *End of Chapter 6, Exercise 12.* A function  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is called homogenous of degree  $m$  if  $f(tx) = t^m f(x)$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ . If  $f$  is differentiable, show that for  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,

$$\mathbf{D}f(x)x = mf(x), \text{ that is, } \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} = mf(x).$$

Show that maps multilinear in  $k$  variables give rise to homogenous functions of degree  $k$ . Give other examples.

*Solution.* By definition of the directional derivative,

$$\mathbf{D}f(x)x = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+hx) - f(x)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f((1+h)x) - f(x)}{h}$$

Using the fact that  $f$  is homogeneous of degree  $m$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{D}f(x)x &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(1+h)^m f(x) - f(x)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{(1+h)^m - 1}{h} \right) f(x) \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{1^m + \binom{m}{1}h + \binom{m}{2}h^2 + \dots + \binom{m}{m}h^m - 1}{h} \right) f(x) \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left( m + \binom{m}{2}h + \dots + \binom{m}{m}h^{m-1} \right) f(x) = mf(x). \end{aligned}$$

as desired.

$k$ -linear maps are characterized by the property

$$\begin{aligned} &L(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, \alpha u + \beta w, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n) \\ &= \alpha L(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, u, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n) + \beta L(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, w, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n) \end{aligned}$$

If we define  $g(x) = L(\underbrace{x, \dots, x}_{k \text{ times}})$ , then it follows that

$$g(tx) = L(tx, \dots, tx) = t^k L(x, \dots, x) = t^k g(x).$$

Therefore, maps multilinear in  $k$  variables give rise to homogenous functions of degree  $k$ .

An example of a non-linear homogenous function is  $f(x, y) = x^2 + y^2$ . This is homogeneous of degree 2 since  $f(kx, ky) = k^2(x^2 + y^2) = k^2 f(x, y)$ .  $\square$

5. *End of Chapter 6, Exercise 13.* Use the chain rule to find derivatives of the following, where  $f(x, y, z) = x^2 + yz$ ,  $g(x, y) = y^3 + xy$ , and  $h(x) = \sin x$ :

(a)  $F(x, y, z) = f(h(x), g(x, y), z)$ .

*Solution.* Here  $f(h, g, z) = h^2 + gz$ . The chain rule gives

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial F}{\partial x} &= \frac{\partial f}{\partial h} \frac{\partial h}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial g} \frac{\partial g}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = 2 \sin x \cos x + zy + 0 \\ \frac{\partial F}{\partial y} &= \frac{\partial f}{\partial h} \frac{\partial h}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial g} \frac{\partial g}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} = 0 + z(3y^2 + x) + 0 \\ \frac{\partial F}{\partial z} &= \frac{\partial f}{\partial h} \frac{\partial h}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial g} \frac{\partial g}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \frac{\partial z}{\partial z} = 0 + 0 + (y^3 + xy)\end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $\mathbf{DF}(x, y, z) = (\sin 2x + yz \quad xz + 3y^2z \quad y^3 + xy)$ .

Alternatively, we can use Jacobean matrices:  $\mathbf{DF}(x, y, z) = \mathbf{DF}(f(x)) \circ \mathbf{Df}(\mathbf{x})$ . In this case

$$\mathbf{DF}(x, y, z) = (2h \quad z \quad g) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \cos x & 0 & 0 \\ y & 3y^2 + x & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

and we get the same answer as before. □

6. *End of Chapter 6, Exercise 15.* Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be differentiable. Assume there is no  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $f$  and  $f'$  both vanish at  $x$ . Show that  $S = \{x \mid 0 \leq x \leq 1, f(x) = 0\}$  is finite.

*Solution.* Assume that  $S$  is infinite. Then by the Bolzano-Weierstrass theorem,  $S$  has an accumulation point  $c \in [0, 1]$ . So there are  $x_n$  in  $S$  with  $x_n \rightarrow c$ . Since  $f$  is differentiable, it is continuous, which implies that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n) = f(c) = 0$ . Then using the definition of the derivative,

$$f'(c) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x_n) - f(c)}{x_n - c} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{0 - 0}{x_n - c} = 0$$

This last equality follows because  $x_n \in S$ . But this contradicts the assumption that there is no  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $f$  and  $f'$  both vanish at  $x$ . Thus  $S$  must be finite. □

7. *End of Chapter 6, Exercise 18.* Prove that the equation  $x^3 + bx + c = 0$  where  $b > 0$  has exactly one solution  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

*Solution.* Let  $f(x) = x^3 + bx + c$ , where  $b > 0$ . From the Intermediate Value Theorem, we know that  $f$  must have at least one root since it is an odd polynomial. Since  $f'(x) = 3x^2 + b > 0$ ,  $f$  is an increasing function for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ . We now claim that  $f(x) = 0$  only once. For if there are  $x_1, x_2$  such that  $f(x_1) = f(x_2) = 0$ , then by Rolle's Theorem, there exists  $\xi \in (x_1, x_2)$  such that  $f'(\xi) = 0$ , which contradicts the fact that  $f'(x) > 0$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ . □

8. *End of Chapter 6, Exercise 20.* Let  $L : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  be a linear map. Define  $\|L\| = \inf \{M \mid \|Lx\| \leq M\|x\| \text{ for all } x\}$ . Show that  $\|\cdot\|$  is a norm on the space of linear maps of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  to  $\mathbb{R}^m$ .

*Solution.* Let  $\mathcal{L}(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^m)$  denote the space of linear maps from  $\mathbb{R}^n$  to  $\mathbb{R}^m$ . We first show that  $\|L_1\| \geq 0$  for  $L_1 \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^m)$ . We have

$$\|L_1\| = \inf \{M \mid \|L_1x\| \leq M\|x\|\} = \inf \{M \mid \|y\| \leq M\|x\|\}$$

if we let  $L_1x = y \in \mathbb{R}^m$ . From properties of the vector norm,  $\|y\| \geq 0$  and  $\|x\| \geq 0$ , so it follows that  $M \geq 0$  and thus  $\inf M \geq 0$ .

Secondly, we show that  $\|L_1\| = 0$  if and only if  $L_1 = 0$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} \|L_1\| &= 0 \iff \inf \{M \mid \|L_1x\| \leq M\|x\|\} = 0 \\ &\iff \|L_1x\| \leq 0 \text{ for all } x \in \mathbb{R}^n \\ &\iff \|L_1x\| = 0 \text{ for all } x \in \mathbb{R}^n \iff L_1 = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Thirdly, we show that for  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ , we have  $\|\alpha L_1\| = |\alpha|\|L_1\|$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} \|\alpha L_1\| &= \inf \{M \mid \|\alpha L_1x\| \leq M\|x\|\} = \inf \{M \mid \|\alpha y\| \leq M\|x\|\} \\ &= \inf \left\{ M \mid \|y\| \leq \frac{M}{|\alpha|}\|x\| \right\} = \inf \{|\alpha|N \mid \|\alpha y\| \leq N\|x\|\} \\ &= |\alpha| \inf \{N \mid \|\alpha y\| \leq N\|x\|\} = |\alpha|\|L_1\|. \end{aligned}$$

Finally for  $L_1, L_2 \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^m)$ , we show that  $\|L_1 + L_2\| \leq \|L_1\| + \|L_2\|$ . Let  $\|L_1\| = \inf \{M_1 \mid \|L_1x\| \leq M_1\|x\|\}$ ,  $\|L_2\| = \inf \{M_2 \mid \|L_2x\| \leq M_2\|x\|\}$ , and  $\|L_1 + L_2\| = \inf \{M \mid \|(L_1 + L_2)x\| \leq M\|x\|\}$ . Note that

$$\begin{aligned} \|(L_1 + L_2)x\| &= \|L_1x + L_2x\| \\ &\leq \|L_1x\| + \|L_2x\| \leq M_1\|x\| + M_2\|x\| \end{aligned}$$

For all  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  for which the above inequalities  $\|L_1x\| \leq M_1\|x\|$  and  $\|L_2x\| \leq M_2\|x\|$  hold, they must be valid for  $\inf M_1$  and  $\inf M_2$ . So we get

$$\begin{aligned} \|(L_1 + L_2)x\| &\leq \inf \{M_1 \mid \|L_1x\| \leq M_1\|x\|\} + \inf \{M_2 \mid \|L_2x\| \leq M_2\|x\|\} \\ &= \|L_1\| + \|L_2\| \end{aligned}$$

It is now convenient to redefine  $\|L\| = \sup \{M \mid \|Lx\| \geq M\|x\| \text{ for all } x \in \mathbb{R}^n\}$ . Then  $\|L_1 + L_2\| = \sup \{M \mid \|(L_1 + L_2)x\| \geq M\|x\|\}$ . So we now have

$$M\|x\| \leq \|(L_1 + L_2)x\| \leq \|L_1\| + \|L_2\|$$

For all  $M$  for which the above inequality holds, it must hold for  $\sup M$ . Thus we have

$$\sup \{M \mid \|(L_1 + L_2)x\| \geq M\|x\|\} \leq \|L_1\| + \|L_2\|$$

which implies

$$\|L_1 + L_2\| \leq \|L_1\| + \|L_2\|$$

as desired. □

9. *End of Chapter 6, Exercise 29.* Let  $f_n(x) = xe^{-nx}$ ,  $x \in [0, \infty)$ ,  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

- (a) Show that  $f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f_n(x)$  exists. Compute  $f$  explicitly.

*Solution.*  $f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x e^{-nx} = x \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (e^{-x})^n$ . For  $x > 0$ ,  $|e^{-x}| < 1$ , so we have a convergent geometric series which sums to  $1/(1 - e^{-x}) = e^x/(e^x - 1)$ . Therefore  $f(x) = x e^x/(e^x - 1)$  for  $x > 0$ . At  $x = 0$ ,  $f(0) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f_n(0) = 0$ .  $\square$

- (b) Is  $f$  continuous?

*Solution.* No,  $f$  is not continuous because

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x) - f(0)}{x - 0} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^x}{e^x - 1} = 1$$

using l'Hôpital's Rule. Therefore  $f(x) \not\rightarrow f(0)$  as  $x \rightarrow 0$  and so  $f$  is not continuous.  $\square$

- (c) Find a suitable set on which the convergence is uniform.

*Solution.* Consider the interval  $[a, b]$ , where  $0 < a < b$ . Clearly  $x \leq b$  and  $e^{-x} \leq e^{-a}$ . Therefore  $f_n(x) = x e^{-nx} \leq b e^{-an}$ . If we let  $M_n = b e^{-an}$ , then  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} M_n = b \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (e^{-a})^n$  is a convergent geometric series since  $a > 0$  implies  $e^{-a} < 1$ . By the Weierstrass  $M$  test, we have uniform convergence on the interval  $[a, b]$ . But since  $a$  and  $b$  are arbitrary positive numbers, we have shown uniform convergence on  $[a, \infty)$ ,  $a > 0$ .  $\square$

- (d) May we differentiate term by term?

*Solution.* The  $f_n$  are clearly differentiable for  $x \in (0, \infty)$ , with  $f'_n(x) = (1 - nx) e^{-nx}$ . From this, we see that the  $f'_n$  are continuous for  $x \in (0, \infty)$ . We have already showed that  $\sum f_n$  converges uniformly (hence pointwise) on  $(0, \infty)$ .

We will now show that  $\sum f'_n$  converges uniformly on  $(0, \infty)$ . Consider the interval  $[a, b]$ , where  $0 < a < b$ . We have  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f'_n(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} e^{-nx} - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n x e^{-nx}$ . For  $x \in [a, b]$ ,  $e^{-nx} < 1$ , and so  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} e^{-nx}$  is a convergent geometric series. In Example 5.1.9, this was shown to imply uniform convergence on  $[a, b]$ . For the series  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n x e^{-nx}$ , take  $M_n = n b e^{-an}$ , similar to part (c). Then  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} M_n = b \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n e^{-an}$  is seen to be convergent in  $[a, b]$  by an easy application of the ratio test. So by the Weierstrass  $M$  test,  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n x e^{-nx}$  converges uniformly on  $[a, b]$ . Thus, since  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f'_n(x)$  is the difference between two uniformly convergent series, it is also uniformly convergent on  $[a, b]$ . But since  $a$  and  $b$  are arbitrary positive numbers, we have shown uniform convergence on  $(0, \infty)$ .  $\square$

Therefore, we conclude that term-by-term differentiation is valid.

10. *End of Chapter 6, Exercise 35.* Let  $f : (a, b) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be twice differentiable. Suppose  $f$  vanishes at three distinct points. Prove that there is a  $c \in (a, b)$  such that  $f''(c) = 0$ .

*Solution.* Suppose  $f(x_1) = f(x_2) = f(x_3) = 0$ . WLOG, let  $x_1 < x_2 < x_3$ . Then by Rolle's Theorem, there exists  $c_1 \in (x_1, x_2)$  and  $c_2 \in (x_2, x_3)$  such that  $f'(c_1) = f'(c_2) = 0$ . Using Rolle's Theorem again, there exists  $c \in (c_1, c_2)$  such that  $f''(c) = 0$ .  $\square$