

(*) **Exercise 4** (Test function II).

In this exercise, we want to show that the function

$$g: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, t \mapsto \begin{cases} e^{-t^{-1}} & \text{for } t > 0 \\ 0 & \text{for } t \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

is indeed in $C^\infty(\mathbb{R})$.

a) As a composition of functions from $C^\infty((0, \infty))$, the restricted function

$$\tilde{g}: (0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, t \mapsto e^{-t^{-1}}$$

is also in $C^\infty((0, \infty))$. Show that we can write the n -th derivative of \tilde{g} as

$$\tilde{g}^{(n)}(t) = P_n(-t^{-1}) \cdot e^{-t^{-1}} \quad \text{for } t \in (0, \infty),$$

where P_n is a polynomial with $\deg(P_n) = 2n$ for each $n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$.

P_n is of the form

$$P_n(x) = a_0 + a_1 x + a_2 x^2 + \dots + a_n x^n \quad \text{for } a_0, \dots, a_n \in \mathbb{R}$$

calculating derivatives of $\tilde{g}(t)$

$$\begin{aligned} n=1 \quad \tilde{g}'(t) &= t^{-2} e^{-t^{-1}} \\ &= (-t^{-1})^2 e^{-t^{-1}} = P_1(-t^{-1}) e^{-t^{-1}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\deg(P_1) = 2(1) = 2 \quad \checkmark$$

$$\begin{aligned} n=2 \quad \tilde{g}''(t) &= t^{-2} (t^{-2} e^{-t^{-1}}) + (-2t^{-3} e^{-t^{-1}}) \\ &= ((-t^{-1})^4 + 2(-t^{-1})^3) e^{-t^{-1}} \\ &= P_2(-t^{-1}) e^{-t^{-1}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\deg(P_2) = 2(2) = 4 \quad \checkmark$$

$$n=3 \quad \tilde{g}'''(t) = (t^{-4} - 2t^{-3})(t^{-2} e^{-t^{-1}}) + (-4t^{-5} - 6t^{-4}) e^{-t^{-1}}$$

$$= (1-t^{-1})^6 + 6(1-t^{-1})^5 - 6(1-t^{-1})^4) e^{-t^{-1}}$$

$$= P_3(1-t^{-1}) e^{-t^{-1}}$$

$$\deg(P_3) = 2(3) = 6 \quad \checkmark$$

$n=4$

$$\tilde{g}^{(4)}(t) = (t^{-6} - 6t^{-5} - 6t^{-4})(t^{-2} e^{-t^{-1}}) +$$

$$(-6t^{-5} + 30t^{-4} + 24t^{-3}) e^{-t^{-1}}$$

$$= (1-t^{-1})^8 + \dots + 24(1-t^{-1})^3) e^{-t^{-1}}$$

$$= P_4(1-t^{-1})$$

$$\deg(P_4) = 2(4) = 8 \quad \checkmark$$

$\Rightarrow \tilde{g}^{(n)}(t)$ can always be written in the form

$$\tilde{g}^{(n)}(t) = P_n(1-t^{-1}) e^{-t^{-1}}$$

since the derivative of $e^{-t^{-1}}$

$$e^{-t^{-1}} = t^{-2} e^{-t^{-1}} = (-t^{-1})^2 e^{-t^{-1}}$$

$$\deg(P_{n+1}) = \deg(P_n) + 2$$

$$= 2n + 2 = 2(n+1)$$

\Rightarrow the degree of P_n increases by
2 each time n increases

$$\therefore \deg(P_n) = 2n \quad \text{for } n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$$

□