

10. [8 points] Consider the family of functions  $g(x) = e^x - kx$ , where  $k$  is a positive constant.
- a. [2 points] Show that the point  $(\ln(k), k - k \ln(k))$  is the only critical point of  $g(x)$  for all positive  $k$ . Show all your work to receive full credit.

*Solution:*  $g'(x) = e^x - k$ , then  $g'(x) = 0$  if  $e^x = k$  or  $x = \ln(k)$ . There are no other critical points since  $g'(x)$  is defined for all values of  $x$ .  
The  $y$ -coordinate of the critical points is given by  $g(\ln(k)) = e^{\ln(k)} - k \ln(k) = k - k \ln(k)$ .

- b. [2 points] Show that  $g(x)$  has a global minimum on  $(-\infty, \infty)$  at  $x = \ln(k)$ . Use calculus to justify your answer.

*Solution:* Since  $e^x - kx \rightarrow \infty$  as  $x \rightarrow \infty$  and  $e^x - kx \rightarrow \infty$  as  $x \rightarrow -\infty$  and  $x = \ln(k)$  is the only critical point, then it is a global minimum.

- c. [4 points] Find all values of  $0.5 \leq k \leq 2$  that maximize the  $y$ -value of the global minimum of  $g(x)$  on  $(-\infty, \infty)$ . Use calculus to justify your answer. Write NONE if no such value exists.

*Solution:* Let  $h(k) = k - k \ln(k)$  defined on  $0.5 \leq k \leq 2$ . To find critical points, we find where  $h'(k) = -\ln(k) = 0$ . This occurs at  $k = 1$ . Looking at the table of values

$k$	0.5	1	2
$h(k)$	$0.5(1 - \ln(0.5)) \approx 0.84$	1	$2(1 - \ln(2)) \approx 0.61$

Then the value of  $k$  that maximizes the value of the global minimum of  $g(x)$  is  $k = 1$ .

Answer:  $k = 1$ .