

Homework 4, Math 250-07
due Wednesday, September 26, 2012

This home covers material from Sections 3.2, 3.3, and 3.4. Refer there for more practice and help. I urge you to do as many problems in the textbook as possible in addition to this assignment.

1. Section 3.2 of our textbook, problem 5. *Answer: The Wronskian $W = -e^{2t}$.*
2. Section 3.2 of our textbook, problem 9. *Answer: If we start at $t = 3$, as given, then we can build a solution to any $t \in (0, 4)$.*
3. Section 3.2 of our textbook, problem 25. *Answer: The Wronskian $W = e^{2t}$, so this is a fundamental solution set.*
4. Find the general form of the Wronskian W of the solution set $\{e^{rt} \cos(wt), e^{rt} \sin(wt)\}$, and determine for which values of r and w this is in-fact a fundamental solution set (It's a fundamental solution set when $W \neq 0$). *Answer: If we let $x_1(t) = e^{rt} \cos(wt)$ and $x_2(t) = e^{rt} \sin(wt)$, then*

$$W = x_1 \dot{x}_2 - x_2 \dot{x}_1 = we^{2rt}.$$

$W \neq 0$ if and only if $w \neq 0$. The value of r does not matter.

5. Consider the differential equation

$$365x(t) + 38\frac{\partial}{\partial t}x(t) + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial^2 t}x(t) = 0.$$

- (a) Find the characteristic equation. *Answer:*

$$r^2 + 38r + 365 = 0$$

- (b) Find a fundamental solution set. *Answer:*

$$\{e^{-19t} \cos(2t), e^{-19t} \sin(2t)\}$$

- (c) Calculate the Wronskian and show that it is non-zero. *Answer:*

$$W = (-19e^{-19t} \sin(2t) + 2e^{-19t} \cos(2t))e^{-19t} \cos(2t) - (-2e^{-19t} \sin(2t) - 19e^{-19t} \cos(2t))e^{-19t} \sin(2t)$$

$$W = 2e^{-38t}$$

- (d) Construct the general solution. *Answer:*

$$x(t) = C_1 e^{-19t} \cos(2t) + C_2 e^{-19t} \sin(2t)$$

6. Consider the differential equation

$$234x(t) + 30\frac{\partial}{\partial t}x(t) + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial^2 t}x(t) = 0.$$

- (a) Find the characteristic equation. *Answer:*

$$r^2 + 30r + 234 = 0$$

- (b) Find a fundamental solution set. *Answer:*

$$\{e^{-15t} \cos(3t), e^{-15t} \sin(3t)\}$$

- (c) Calculate the Wronskian and show that it is non-zero. *Answer:*

$$W = (-15e^{-15t} \sin(3t) + 3e^{-15t} \cos(3t))e^{-15t} \cos(3t) - (-3e^{-15t} \sin(3t) - 15e^{-15t} \cos(3t))e^{-15t} \sin(3t)$$

$$W = 3e^{-30t}$$

(d) Construct the general solution. **Answer:**

$$x(t) = C_1 e^{-15t} \cos(3t) + C_2 e^{-15t} \sin(3t)$$

(e) Find the specific solution satisfying initial conditions $x(0) = -3$, $\dot{x}(0) = 42$. **Answer:**

$$x(t) = (-3)e^{-15t} \cos(3t) + (-1)e^{-15t} \sin(3t)$$

7. Consider the differential equation

$$4x(t) + 4\frac{\partial}{\partial t}x(t) + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2}x(t) = 0.$$

(a) Find the characteristic equation. **Answer:**

$$r^2 + 4r + 4 = 0$$

(b) Find a fundamental solution set. **Answer:**

$$\{e^{-2t}, te^{-2t}\}$$

(c) Calculate the Wronskian and show that it is non-zero. **Answer:**

$$W = 2te^{-4t} + (-2te^{-2t} + e^{-2t})e^{-2t}$$

$$W = e^{-4t}$$

(d) Construct the general solution. **Answer:**

$$x(t) = C_1 e^{-2t} + C_2 t e^{-2t}$$

8. Consider the second-order homogeneous equation with variable coefficients

$$(3x - 1) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} y(x) + (18x^2 - 5) \frac{\partial}{\partial x} y(x) + (36x^2 - 12x - 6) y(x) = 0.$$

(a) Use direct substitution to find the value of r for which e^{rx} is a solution to this equation. (Note: The factorization may require persistence.) **Answer:**

$$r^2(3x - 1)e^{rx} + r(18x^2 - 5)e^{rx} + (36x^2 - 12x - 6)e^{rx} = 0$$

$$(r + 2)(3rx - r + 18x^2 - 6x - 3)e^{rx} = 0$$

$$r = -2$$

(b) Use reduction-of-order to construct the general solution of this equation. **Answer:**

$$y(x) = Z(x)e^{-2x}$$

$$18x^2 e^{-2x} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} Z(x) - 12x e^{-2x} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} Z(x) + 3x e^{-2x} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} Z(x) - e^{-2x} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} Z(x) - e^{-2x} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} Z(x)$$

$$(3x e^{-2x} - e^{-2x}) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} Z(x) + (18x^2 e^{-2x} - 12x e^{-2x} - e^{-2x}) \frac{\partial}{\partial x} Z(x)$$

$$Y(x) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} Z(x)$$

$$(3x e^{-2x} - e^{-2x}) \frac{\partial}{\partial x} Y(x) + (18x^2 e^{-2x} - 12x e^{-2x} - e^{-2x}) Y(x)$$

$$Y(x) = C_2 \left(x - \frac{1}{3}\right) e^{x(-3x+2)}$$

$$C_2 \left(x - \frac{1}{3}\right) e^{x(-3x+2)} - \frac{\partial}{\partial x} Z(x)$$

$$Z(x) = C_1 + C_2 e^{x(-3x+2)}$$

$$y(x) = C_1 e^{-2x} + C_2 e^{-3x^2}$$