

### Section 3.3

1. Suppose that  $\alpha f(t) + \beta g(t) = 0$ , that is,  $\alpha(t^2 + 5t) + \beta(t^2 - 5t) = 0$  on some interval  $I$ . Then  $(\alpha + \beta)t^2 + 5(\alpha - \beta)t = 0, \forall t \in I$ . Since a quadratic has at most two roots, we must have  $\alpha + \beta = 0$  and  $\alpha - \beta = 0$ . The only solution is  $\alpha = \beta = 0$ . Hence the two functions are linearly *independent*.
3. Suppose that  $e^{\lambda t} \cos \mu t = A e^{\lambda t} \sin \mu t$ , for some  $A \neq 0$ , on an interval  $I$ . Since the function  $\sin \mu t \neq 0$  on some subinterval  $I_0 \subset I$ , we conclude that  $\tan \mu t = A$  on  $I_0$ . This is clearly a contradiction, hence the functions are linearly *independent*.
4. Obviously,  $f(x) = e g(x)$  for all real numbers  $x$ . Hence the functions are linearly *dependent*.
5. Here  $f(x) = 3g(x)$  for all real numbers. Hence the functions are linearly *dependent*.
8. Note that  $f(x) = g(x)$  for  $x \in [0, \infty)$ , and  $f(x) = -g(x)$  for  $x \in (-\infty, 0]$ . It follows that the functions are linearly *dependent* on  $\mathbb{R}^+$  and  $\mathbb{R}^-$ . Nevertheless, they are linearly *independent* on any open interval containing zero.
9. Since  $W(t) = t \sin^2 t$  has only *isolated* zeros,  $W(t)$  cannot identically vanish on any open interval. Hence the functions are linearly *independent*.
10. Same argument as in Prob. 9.
11. By linearity of the differential operator,  $c_1 y_1$  and  $c_2 y_2$  are also solutions. Calculating the Wronskian,  $W(c_1 y_1, c_2 y_2) = (c_1 y_1)(c_2 y_2)' - (c_1 y_1)'(c_2 y_2) = c_1 c_2 W(y_1, y_2)$ . Since  $W(y_1, y_2)$  is not *identically zero*, neither is  $W(c_1 y_1, c_2 y_2)$ .
13. Direct calculation results in
 
$$\begin{aligned} W(a_1 y_1 + a_2 y_2, b_1 y_1 + b_2 y_2) &= a_1 b_2 W(y_1, y_2) - b_1 a_2 W(y_1, y_2) \\ &= (a_1 b_2 - a_2 b_1) W(y_1, y_2). \end{aligned}$$
 Hence the combinations are also linearly independent as long as  $a_1 b_2 - a_2 b_1 \neq 0$ .
14. Let  $\alpha(\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j}) + \beta(\mathbf{i} - \mathbf{j}) = 0\mathbf{i} + 0\mathbf{j}$ . Then  $\alpha + \beta = 0$  and  $\alpha - \beta = 0$ . The only solution is  $\alpha = \beta = 0$ . Hence the given vectors are linearly independent. Furthermore, any vector  $a_1 \mathbf{i} + a_2 \mathbf{j} = (\frac{a_1}{2} + \frac{a_2}{2})(\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j}) + (\frac{a_1}{2} - \frac{a_2}{2})(\mathbf{i} - \mathbf{j})$ .
16. Writing the equation in standard form, we find that  $P(t) = \sin t / \cos t$ . Hence the Wronskian is  $W(t) = b \exp(-\int \frac{\sin t}{\cos t} dt) = b \exp(\ln |\cos t|) = b \cos t$ , in which  $b$  is some constant.

17. After writing the equation in standard form, we have  $P(x) = 1/x$ . The Wronskian is  $W(t) = c \exp\left(-\int \frac{1}{x} dx\right) = c \exp(-\ln|x|) = c/|x|$ , in which  $c$  is some constant.

18. Writing the equation in standard form, we find that  $P(x) = -2x/(1-x^2)$ . The Wronskian is  $W(t) = c \exp\left(-\int \frac{-2x}{1-x^2} dx\right) = c \exp(-\ln|1-x^2|) = c|1-x^2|^{-1}$ , in which  $c$  is some constant.

19. Rewrite the equation as  $p(t)y'' + p'(t)y' + q(t)y = 0$ . After writing the equation in standard form, we have  $P(t) = p'(t)/p(t)$ . Hence the Wronskian is

$$W(t) = c \exp\left(-\int \frac{p'(t)}{p(t)} dt\right) = c \exp(-\ln p(t)) = c/p(t).$$

21. The Wronskian associated with the solutions of the differential equation is given by  $W(t) = c \exp\left(-\int \frac{-2}{t^2} dt\right) = c \exp(-2/t)$ . Since  $W(2) = 3$ , it follows that for the hypothesized set of solutions,  $c = 3e$ . Hence  $W(4) = 3\sqrt{e}$ .

22. For the given differential equation, the Wronskian satisfies the first order differential equation  $W' + p(t)W = 0$ . Given that  $W$  is *constant*, it is necessary that  $p(t) \equiv 0$ .

23. Direct calculation shows that

$$\begin{aligned} W(fg, fh) &= (fg)(fh)' - (fg)'(fh) \\ &= (fg)(f'h + fh') - (f'g + fg')(fh) \\ &= f^2 W(g, h). \end{aligned}$$

25. Since  $y_1$  and  $y_2$  are solutions, they are differentiable. The hypothesis can thus be restated as  $y_1'(t_0) = y_2'(t_0) = 0$  at some point  $t_0$  in the interval of definition. This implies that  $W(y_1, y_2)(t_0) = 0$ . But  $W(y_1, y_2)(t_0) = c \exp\left(-\int p(t) dt\right)$ , which *cannot* be equal to zero, unless  $c = 0$ . Hence  $W(y_1, y_2) \equiv 0$ , which is ruled out for a fundamental set of solutions.