

Problem 51

A second order linear equation $P(x)y'' + Q(x)y' + R(x)y = 0$ is said to be self-adjoint if its adjoint is the same as the original equation. Show that a necessary condition for this equation to be self-adjoint is that $P'(x) = Q(x)$. Determine whether each of the equations in Problems 47 through 49 is self-adjoint.