

Use **variation of parameters** to solve the differential equation

$$y'' + 2y' + y = \frac{e^{-x}}{x}$$

subject to the **boundary** conditions:  $y(1) = 0$   $y(2) = 0$

**Solution:**

First, solve the corresponding homogeneous differential equation

$$y'' + 2y' + y = 0$$

The auxiliary equation  $m^2 + 2m + 1 = 0$  has a repeated root  $m_1 = m_2 = -1$

Therefore  $y_c = c_1 e^{-x} + c_2 x e^{-x}$ . ✓

Next, find a particular solution of the nonhomogeneous equation of the form

$$y_p = u_1 e^{-x} + u_2 x e^{-x}$$

where

$$u_1 = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} 0 & x e^{-x} \\ e^{-x}/x & e^{-x} - x e^{-x} \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} e^{-x} & x e^{-x} \\ -e^{-x} & e^{-x} - x e^{-x} \end{vmatrix}} = \frac{-e^{-2x}}{e^{-2x}} = -1, \quad u_1 = -x$$

and

$$u_2 = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} e^{-x} & 0 \\ -e^{-x} & e^{-x}/x \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} e^{-x} & x e^{-x} \\ -e^{-x} & e^{-x} - x e^{-x} \end{vmatrix}} = \frac{e^{-2x}/x}{e^{-2x}} = \frac{1}{x}, \quad u_2 = \ln x$$

○ **General Solution:**

$$y = c_1 e^{-x} + c_2 x e^{-x} + x e^{-x} \ln x = e^{-x} (c_1 + c_2 x + x \ln x)$$

○ **Boundary Conditions**

$$0 = c_1 + c_2$$

$$0 = c_1 + 2c_2 + 2 \ln 2$$

**Answer:**

$$y = e^{-x} (2 \ln 2 - 2x \ln 2 + x \ln x)$$