

Exercise 21

In Exercises 17–24, find the unknown if the solution of each equation is given:

$$\text{If } u(x) = e^x \text{ is a solution of } u(x) = f(x) + \int_0^x (2u^2(t) + u(t)) dt, \text{ find } f(x)$$

Solution

Substitute the solution into both sides of the equation.

$$\begin{aligned} e^x &= f(x) + \int_0^x (2e^{2t} + e^t) dt \\ &= f(x) + \left(\int_0^x 2e^{2t} dt + \int_0^x e^t dt \right) \\ &= f(x) + e^{2t} \Big|_0^x + e^t \Big|_0^x \\ &= f(x) + e^{2x} - e^0 + e^x - e^0 \\ &= f(x) + e^{2x} + e^x - 2 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$f(x) = 2 - e^{2x}.$$