

W2L5 - REDUCTION OF ORDER

Given that $y_1 = x$ is a solution of

$$x^2 y'' + 5xy' - 5y = 0$$

Find a second solution and the general solution.

$$y = v \cdot y_1 = \sqrt{x}$$

\uparrow unknown function of x

$$x^2(vx)'' + 5x(vx)' - 5(vx) = 0$$

$$x^2(v''x + 2v') + 5x(v'x + v) - 5vx = 0$$
$$x^3 v'' + 2x^2 v' + 5x^2 v' + 5xv - 5xv = 0$$

$$(vx)'' = v''x + v' + v'$$
$$(v'x + v(1))' = v''x + v' + v'$$
$$= v''x + 2v'$$

$$x^3 v'' + 7x^2 v' = 0$$

$$\text{Let } w = v'$$
$$w' = v''$$

$$x^3 \cdot w' + 7x^2 w = 0$$

Solve by separation!

$$x^3 \frac{dw}{dx} + 7x^2 w = 0$$

$$x^3 \frac{dw}{dx} = -7x^2 w$$

$$\int \frac{1}{w} dw = \int \frac{-7}{x} dx$$

$$\ln|w| = -7 \ln|x| + C_0$$

$$w = (e^{\ln|x|})^{-7} + e^{C_0}$$

$$C_1 = e^{C_0}$$

$$w = C_1 x^{-7}$$

$$v' = C_1 x^{-7}$$

anti differentiate

$$v = \frac{C_1 x^{-6}}{-6} + C_2$$

$$\tilde{C}_1 = \frac{C_1}{-6}$$

$$v = \tilde{C}_1 x^{-6} + C_2$$

$$y = v y_1 = v \cdot x$$

$$y = (\tilde{C}_1 x^{-6} + C_2) x$$

$$= \tilde{C}_1 x^{-5} + C_2 x$$

← General Solution

$$\text{Second solution: } x^{-5}$$