Exercise 23

Differentiate.

$$f(x) = \frac{x^2 e^x}{x^2 + e^x}$$

Solution

Use the quotient rule and the product rule to differentiate f(x).

$$f'(x) = \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{x^2 e^x}{x^2 + e^x} \right)$$

$$= \frac{\left[\frac{d}{dx} (x^2 e^x) \right] (x^2 + e^x) - \left[\frac{d}{dx} (x^2 + e^x) \right] (x^2 e^x)}{(x^2 + e^x)^2}$$

$$= \frac{\left\{ \left[\frac{d}{dx} (x^2) \right] e^x + x^2 \left[\frac{d}{dx} (e^x) \right] \right\} (x^2 + e^x) - (2x + e^x) (x^2 e^x)}{(x^2 + e^x)^2}$$

$$= \frac{\left[(2x) e^x + x^2 (e^x) \right] (x^2 + e^x) - (2x + e^x) (x^2 e^x)}{(x^2 + e^x)^2}$$

$$= \frac{2x e^{2x} + x^4 e^x}{(x^2 + e^x)^2}$$

$$= \frac{x e^x (2e^x + x^3)}{(x^2 + e^x)^2}$$