



Exact Solutions > Ordinary Differential Equations > Second-Order Linear Ordinary Differential Equations > Modified Bessel Equation

**14.**  $x^2 y''_{xx} + xy'_x - (x^2 + \nu^2)y = 0.$

**Modified Bessel equation.** It can be reduced to the [Bessel equation](#) by means of the substitution  $x = i\bar{x}$ , where  $i^2 = -1$ .

Solution:

$$y = C_1 I_\nu(x) + C_2 K_\nu(x),$$

where  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  are arbitrary constants,  $I_\nu(x)$  and  $K_\nu(x)$  are the modified Bessel functions of the first and second kind:

$$I_\nu(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(x/2)^{2k+\nu}}{k! \Gamma(\nu + k + 1)}, \quad K_\nu(x) = \frac{\pi}{2} \frac{I_{-\nu}(x) - I_\nu(x)}{\sin \pi \nu}.$$

### References

**Bateman, H. and Erdélyi, A.,** *Higher Transcendental Functions*, Vol. 2, McGraw-Hill, New York, 1953.

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