

12. EVALUATION OF THE LAGUERRE POLYNOMIAL  $L_n(X)$ 

BY RECURSION

G. M. GALLER

National Bureau of Standards, Washington 25 D. C.

**comment** This procedure computes the Laguerre polynomial  
 $L_n(X) = e^X \times (d^n/dX^n(X^n \times e^{-X}))$  for any given real argument, X, and any order, n, by the recursion formula below;

**real procedure** La(n, X) ;  
**integer** n ; **real** X ;  
**begin real** a, b, c ; **integer** i ;  
    a := 1 ; b := 1 - X ;  
    **if** n = 0 **then** c := a **else if** n = 1 **then**  
        c := b **else for** i = 1 **step** 1 **until** n-1 **do**  
        **begin** c := (1 + 2 × i - X) × b - (i ↑ 2) × a ;  
            a := b ; b := c  
        **end**  
    La := c  
**end**