

ALGORITHM 70  
INTERPOLATION BY AITKEN

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```

procedure AITKEN (x, f, n, X, F); real array x, f;
           integer n; real X, F;
comment If given  $x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n$ ,  $n+1$  abscissas and also given
            $f(x_0), f(x_1), \dots, f(x_n)$ ,  $n+1$  functional values, this procedure
           generates a Lagrange polynomial,  $F(X)$  of the  $n$ th degree so that
            $F(x_i) = f(x_i)$ . Hence, for any given value  $X$ , a functional value
            $F(X)$  is generated. The procedure is good for either equal or
           unequal intervals of the  $x_i$ . Aitken's interative scheme is used
           in the generation of  $F(X)$ . Since the  $f$  array is used for tem-
           porary storage, as the calculation proceeds its original values
           are destroyed;
begin integer i, j, t;
  for j := 0 step 1 until n-1 do
    begin t := j+1
      for i := t step 1 until n do
         $f[i] := ((X-x[j]) \times f[i] - (X-x[i]) \times f[j]) /$ 
           $(x[i] - x[j])$  end
        F := f [n]
    end
  end

```

CERTIFICATION OF ALGORITHM 70  
INTERPOLATION BY AITKEN [C. J. Mifsud, *Comm.*  
*ACM* 4 (Nov. 1961)]

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Algorithm 70 was translated using the DEUCE ALGOL compiler  
and gave satisfactory results after semicolons had been added to

$t := j+1$  to make it  $t := j+1$ ;

and  $(x[i]-x[j])$  **end** to make it  $(x[i]-x[j])$  **end**;

The identifier  $t$  can be eliminated and the algorithm shortened  
by the following changes:

Replace **begin integer** i, j, t;    *by* **begin integer** i, j;  
 Replace  $t := j+1$ ;                *by* **for** i := j+1 **step** 1 **until**  
       **for** i := t **step** 1 **until**        **n do**  
           **n do**