Algorithms

J. H. WEGSTEIN, Editor

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ALGORITHM 74
CURVE FITTING WITH CONSTRAINTS
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procedure Curve fitting (k,a,b,m,x,y,w,n,alpha,beta,s,sgmsq.x0,
  gamma.c.z,r);
comment This procedure finds, by the method of least squares,
  the polynomial of degree n, k \le n < k+m, whose graph con-
  tains (a_1\,,\;b_1),\,\cdots\,,\;(a_kb_k) and approximates (x_1\,,\;y_1),\,\cdots\,,
  (x_m, y_m), where w_i is the weight attached to the point (x_i, y_i).
  The details will be found in the reference cited below, where a
  similar notation is used. A nonlocal label "error" is assumed;
  value a, x, y, w; integer k, m, n, r; real x0, gamma; array
    a, b, x, y, w, alpha, beta, s, sgmsq, c, z;
  begin integer i, j; array w1[1:k]; real p, f, lambda;
  comment. We shall first define several procedures to be used
    in the main program, which begins at the label START;
procedure Evalue (x, nu);
comment This procedure evaluates f = s_0p_0 + s_1p_1 + \cdots +
  s_{\nu}p_{\nu} , where p_{-i}(x)=0,\ p_{\theta}(x)=1,\ \beta_{\theta}=0 and p_{i+i}(x)
  = (x - \alpha_i)p_i(x) - \beta_ip_{i-1}(x), i = 0, 1, \dots, \nu-1. The value of
  p_r(x) remains in p;
  real x; integer nu;
  \mathbf{begin\,real}\;p\theta,\,temp\,;\quad\mathbf{integer}\;i;\quad p0:=0;\quad p:=1;\quad f:=s[0];
for i := 0 step 1 until nu-1 do
  begin temp := p;
  p := (x-alpha[i]) \times p-beta[i] \times p0;
  p0 := temp; f := f + p \times s[i+1] end i
end Evalue:
procedure Coda (n, c);
comment This procedure finds the c's when c_0 + c_1x + \cdots + c_nx + \cdots + \cdots + \cdots
  e_n x^n = s_n p_n(x) + \cdots + s_n p_n(x);
  integer n; array e;
  begin integer i,r; real t1,t2; array pm,p[0:n];
for r := 1 step 1 until n do
  e[r] := pm[r] := p[r] := 0;
pm[0] := 0; \ p[0] := 1; \ c[0] := s[0];
for i := 0 step 1 until n-1 do
  begin t^2 := 0;
  for r := 0 step 1 until i+1 do
    \textbf{begin} \ t1 := (t2 - alpha[i] \times p[r] - beta[i] \times pm[r]) / lambda;
    t2 := pm[r] := p[r]; p[r] := t1;
    e[r] := e[r] + t1 \times s[i+1]end r
  end i
end Coda;
procedure GEFYT (n,n0,x,y,w,m);
comment This is the heart of the main program. It computes
  the \alpha_i, \beta_i, s_i, \sigma^2, using the method of orthogonal polynomials, as
  described in the reference;
  integer n,n0,m; array x,y,w;
  begin real dsq,wpp,wpp0,wxpp,wyp,temp;
integer i,j,freedom; array p,p0[1:m]; boolean exact;
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if $n-n0 > m \ \lor n < n0$ then go to error;

for j := 1 step 1 until m do

 $beta[n0] := dsq := wpp := 0; exact := n-n0 \ge m-1;$

if \neg exact then $dsq := dsq + w[j] \times y[j] \times y[j]$ end initialise;

begin p[j] := 1; p0[j] := 0; wpp := wpp + w[j];

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for i := n0 step 1 until n do
  begin freedom := m-1-(i-n0); wyp := wxpp := 0;
  for j := 1 step 1 until m do
    begin temp := w[j] \times p[j];
    if i < n then wxpp := wxpp + temp \times x[j] \times p[j];
    if freedom \geq 0 then wyp := wyp + temp \times y[j] end j;
  if freedom \geq 0 then s[i] := wyp/wpp;
  if \neg exact then begin dsq := dsq - s[i] \times s[i] \times wpp;
  sgmsq[i] := dsq/freedom end if;
  if i < n then begin alpha[i] := wxpp/wpp; wpp0 := wpp;</pre>
  wpp := 0;
  for j := 1 step 1 until m do
    begin temp := (x[j]-alpha[i]) \times p[j] - beta[i] \times p0[j];
    wpp := wpp + w[j] \times temp \times temp;
    p0[j] := p[j]; p[j] := temp end j;
  beta[i+1] := wpp/wpp0 end if
  end i
end GEFYT;
    START: for j := 1 step 1 until k do
begin w1[j] := 1; a[j] = (a[j]-x0)/gamma end j;
GEFYT (k,0,a,b,w1,k);
comment This finds the polynomial of degree k-1 whose graph
  contains (a_1,b_1), \dots, (a_k,b_k) supplying the \alpha_i,\beta_i,s_i, 0 \le i \le k;
  begin real rho; rho := 0;
for j := 1 step 1 until m do
  begin rho := rho + w[j];
  x[j] := (x[j] - x0)/gamma end j; rho := m/rho;
comment The factor \rho is used to normalize the weights. We shall
  now put s_k = 0 in order to evaluate p_k(x) and the polynomial of
  degree k-1 simultaneously;
s[k] := 0;
for j := 1 step 1 until m do
  begin Evalue (x[j],k);
  if p = 0 then go to error;
  y[j] := (y[j] - f)/p;
  w[j] := w[j] \times p \times p \times \text{rho end } j
end rho;
comment We have now normalized the weights and adjusted
  the weights and ordinates ready for the least squares approxi-
GEFYT (n,k,x,y,w,m);
 \mbox{ comment } \mbox{ The coefficients } \alpha_i, \beta_i, \ 0 \leq i < n, \mbox{ and } s_i, \ 0 \leq i \leq n 
  are now ready. The polynomial may be evaluated for x = z_1, z_2,
  ..., z, but the variable must be adjusted first. Note that we
  may evaluate the best polynomial of lower degree by decreas-
  ing n;
  begin real x;
for j := 1 step l until r do
  begin x := (z[j]-x0)/gamma;
  Evalue (x,n); comment the values of z; and f should now be
    printed; end j;
comment We may now adjust the coefficients for scale and then
  find the coefficients of the power series c_0 + c_1 x + \cdots + c_n x^n
  s_0p_0(x) + \cdots + s_np_n(x);
for i := 0 step 1 until n-1 do
  begin alpha[i] := alpha[i] \times gamma + x0;
  beta[i] := beta[i] \times gamma \ end \ i; \ lambda := gamma;
Coda (n.c);
comment We may now re-evaluate the polynomial from the
  power series;
for j := 1 step 1 until r do
  begin x := z[j]; f := c[n];
  for i := n-1 step -1 until 0 do
    f := f \times x + e[i];
  comment the values of x and f should now be printed; end j
  end x
end Curve fitting
   REFERENCE: PECK, J. E. L. Polynomial curve fitting with
constraint, Soc. Indust. Appl. Math. Rev. (1961).
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procedure factors (n,a,u,v,r,c);
comment This procedure finds all the rational linear factors of
 the polynomial a_0x^n + a_1x^{n-1} + \cdots + a_{n-1}x + a_n, with integral
 coefficients. An absolute value procedure abs is assumed;
value n,a; integer r,n,c; integer array a,u,v;
```

begin comment We find whether p divides a_0 , $1 \le p \le |a_0|$ and q divides $a_n, \ 0 \leq q \leq |a_n|.$ If this is the case we try $(px \pm q)$; integer p,q,a0,an;

r := 0; c := 1; comment r will be the number of linear factors and e the common constant factor;

TRY AGAIN: a0 := a[0]; an := a[n]; for p := 1 step 1 until abs(a0) do begin if $(a0 \div p) \times p = a0$ then begin comment p divides a₀; for q := 0 step 1 until abs(an) do begin if $q = 0 \lor (an \div q) \times q = an$ then

begin comment q divides a_n (or q = 0). If p = q we may have a common constant factor, therefore; if q $> 1 \wedge p = 1$ then begin integer j;

for j := 1 step 1 until n-1 do

if $(a[j] \div q) \times q \neq a[j]$ then go to NO CONSTANT; for j := 0 step 1 until n do a[j] := a[j]/q;

 $c := c \times q$; go to TRY AGAIN end the search for a common constant factor; NO CONSTANT:

begin comment try (px - q) as a factor; integer f,g,i; f := a0; g := 1; comment we try x = q/p; for i := 1 step 1 until n do begin $g := g \times p$; $f := f \times q + a[i] \times g$ end evaluation;

if f = 0 then **begin comment** we have found the factor (px - q); r := r + 1; u[r] := p; v[r] := q;

comment there are now r linear factors; **begin comment** we divide by (px - q); integer i,t; t := 0; for i := 0 step 1 until n do

begin $a[i] := t := (a[i] + t)/p; t := t \times q$ end i; n := n - 1

end reduction of polynomial. Therefore; go to if n = 0 then REDUCED else TRY AGAIN end discovery of px - q as a factor. But if we got this far it was not a factor so try px + q; q := -q; if q < 0 then go to NO CONSTANT

end trial of px $\pm q$, end q divides an and end of q loop.

end p divides a₀, also end p loop, which means;

REDUCED: if n = 0 then

begin $e := e \times a0$; a0 := 1end if n = 0

end factors procedure. There are now r (r > 0) rational linear factors $(u_i x - v_i)$, 1 < i < r, and the reduced polynomial of reduced degree n replaces the original. The common constant factor is c. Acknowledgments to Clay Perry.

comment The following Algor 60 algorithms are procedures for the sorting of records stored within the memory of the computer. These procedures are described in detail, flow-charted, compared, and contrasted in "Analysis of Internal Computer Sorting" by Ivan Flores [J. ACM 8 (Jan. 1961)]. Although sorting is usually a business computer application, it can be described completely in Algol if we stretch our imagination a little. Sorting is ordering with respect to a key contained within the record. If the key is the active record, the sorting is trivial. A means is required to extract the key from the record. This is essentially string manipulation, for which no provision, as yet, has been made in Algor. We circumambulate this difficulty by defining an integer procedure K(I) which "creates" a key from the record, I. ALGOL does provide for machine language code substitutions, which is one way to think of K(I). This could be more accurately represented by using the string notation proposed by Julien Green ["Remarks on ALGOL and Symbol Manipulation," Comm. ACM 2 (Sept. 1959), 25-27]. The function sub (\$,i,g) represents the procedure, K(I). \$ corresponds to the record I, i corresponds to the starting position of the key and g corresponds to the length of the key. Both i and g are values which must be specified when the sort procedure is called for as a statement instead of a declaration.

Another factor, which might vex some, is that the key might be alphabetic instead of numeric. Then, of course, K(I) would not be integer. It would, however, be string when such is defined eventually. Note, also, that keys are frequently compared. This is done using the ordering relations ">" for "greater than," etc. These are not really defined in the ALGOL statement [NAUR, PETER, ET AL. "Report on the Algorithmic Language ALGOL" 60". Comm. ACM 3 (May 1960), 294-314]. They can simply be defined so that $Z > Y > \cdots > A > 9 > \cdots > 1 > 0$. Also the assignment X[i] := z should be interpreted as "Assign the key 'z' which is larger than any other key." For any sort procedure (I,N,S), "I" is the set of unsorted records, "N" is their number, and "S" the sorted set of records.

Caution, these algorithms were developed purely for the love of it: No one was available with the combined knowledge of sorting and ALGOL to check this work. Hence each algorithm should be carefully checked before use. I will be glad to answer any questions which may arise;

```
Sort insert (I,N,S); value N; array I[1:N], S[1:N];
  integer procedure K(I); integer N;
  begin integer i, j, k;
    S[1] := I[1];
    for i := 2 step 1 until N do begin
      for j := i - 1, j - 1 while K(I[i]) > K(S[j]) do
      for k := i \text{ step } - 1 \text{ until } j + 1 \text{ do}
        S[k] := S[K - 1];
      S[j+1] := I[i] end end
Sort count (I,N,S); value N; array I[1:N], S[1:N];
  integer procedure K(I); integer N;
  begin integer array C[1:N]; integer i,j;
    for i := 1 step 1 until N do C[i] := 0;
    for i := 2 step 1 until N do
      for j := 1 step 1 until i - 1 do
        if K(I[i]) > K(I[j]) then C[i] := C[i] + 1
        else C[j] := C[j] + 1;
    for i := 1 step 1 until N do
      S[C[i]] := I[i] end
```

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Fill up inputs: I[j,k] := z; k := k + 1;
Sort select (I,N,S); value N; array I[1:N], S[1:N];
                                                                                            if k > M then begin k := 1; j := j+1 end
  integer \ procedure \ K(I); \ \ integer \ N;
                                                                                            if j \leq M then go to Fill up inputs;
  begin integer i,j,A,h;
                                                                           Set controls:
                                                                                             for j := 1 step 1 until M do begin
    for i := 1 step 1 until N do begin
                                                                                             C[j] := K(I[j, 1]); D[j] := 1;
    h := K(I[1]);
                                                                                             for k = 2 step 1 until M do
    for j := 2 step 1 until N do
    if \ h > K(I[j]) \ then \ begin \ h := K(I[j]); \quad A := j \ end;
                                                                                               if C[j] > K(I[j,k]) then begin
                                                                                               C[j] := K(I[j,k]); D[j] := k \text{ end end};
    S[i] := I[A];
    I[A] := z \text{ end end}
                                                                                             {\rm C} \, := \, {\rm C}[1]; \  \, {\rm D} \, := \, {\rm D}[1]; \  \, {\rm J} \, := \, 1;
                                                                           Find least:
Sort select exchange (I,N); value N; array I[1:N];
                                                                                             for i := 2 step 1 until M do
  integer procedure K(I); integer N;
                                                                                               if C > C[j] then begin C := C[j];
  begin integer h,i,j,H; real T;
                                                                                                  D := D[j]; J := j \text{ end};
    for i := 1 step 1 until N do begin
                                                                                             S[i] \, := \, I[J,D]; \quad i \, := \, i \, + \, 1\,; \quad I[J,D] \, := \, z\,;
                                                                           Fill file:
       H := K(I[i]); h := i;
                                                                                             if i = N + 1 go to STOP;
       for j := i + 1 step 1 until N do
                                                                           Reset controls: for j := J do begin
         if K(I[j]) < H then begin
                                                                                              C[i] := K(I[i, 1]); D[i] := 1;
         H := K(I[j]); h := j end
                                                                                             for k := 2 step 1 until M do
       T \; := \; I[i]; \quad I[i] \; := \; I[h]; \quad I[A] \; := \; T \; \, \mathbf{end}
                                                                                                if C[j] > K(I[j,k]) then begin C[j] :=
  end
                                                                                                  K(I[j,k]; D[j] := k \text{ end end};
Sort binary insert (I,N,S); value N; array I[1:N], S[1:N];
                                                                                             go to Find least;
  integer procedure K(I); integer N;
                                                                           STOP:
                                                                                             end
  begin integer i,k,j,l;
                                                                         Presort quadratic selection (I,N,S); value N;
    if K(I[1]) < K(I[2]) then begin
                                                                            array I[1:N], S[1:N]; integer procedure K(I); integer N;
       S[1] := I[1]; S[2] := I[2] end
                                                                                           begin integer i,j,k,C,J,M;
       else begin S[1] := I[2]; S[2] := I[1] end;
                                                                                                integer array C[1:M], D[1:M];
                 i := 3 step 1 until N do begin
  start: for
                                                                                                  array I[1:M,1:M];
                 j := (i + 1) \div 2;
                                                                           Divide inputs: M := \text{entier } (\text{sqrt}(N)) + 1; \quad j := k := 1;
                 for k := (i + 1) \div 2, (k + 1) \div 2 while k > 1 do
  find spot:
                                                                                              for i := 1 step 1 until N do begin
                   if K(I[i]) < K(S[j]) then j := j - k
                                                                                                I[j,k] := I[i]; k := k + 1;
                   else j := j + k;
                                                                                                if k > M then begin k := 1;
                 if K(I[i]) \ge K(S[j]) then j := j - l;
                                                                                                  j := j + 1 end end
   move items: for 1 := i \text{ step } - 1 \text{ until } j \text{ do}
                                                                                             I[j,k] := z; k := k + 1;
                                                                            Fill up inputs:
                    S[1 + 1] := S[1];
                                                                                              if k > M then begin k := 1; j = j + 1 end
   enter this
                                                                                              if j \leq M then go to Fill up inputs;
                 S[j] := I[i] end end
   one:
                                                                                              for i := 1 step 1 until M do
                                                                            First sort:
 Sort address calculation (I,N,S,F); value N;
                                                                                              sort select exchange (I[j,k],M);
   array S[1:M], I[1:N]; integer procedure F(K), K(I);
                                                                                              \mathbf{for}\ j\ :=\ 1\ \mathbf{step}\ 1\ \mathbf{until}\ M\ \mathbf{do}\ \mathbf{begin}
                                                                            Set controls:
   integer N,M;
                                                                                                C[j]:=K(I[j,\!1])\,;\quad D[j]\,:=\,1\text{ end }
              begin integer i,j,G,H,F,M;
                                                                                              i := 1;
                M := entier(2.5 \times N)
                                                                                              C := C[1]; J := 1;
                                                                            Find least:
                for i := 1 step 1 until M do S[i] = 0;
                                                                                              for j := 1 step 1 until M do
                for i := 1 step 1 until N do begin
 Address:
                                                                                                if C > C[j] then begin C := C[j];
                F := F(K(I[i]));
                                                                                                  J := j \text{ end};
                if S[F] = 0 then begin S[F] := I[i];
                                                                                              S[i] := I[J,D[J]]; i := i + 1;
                                                                            Fill file:
                  go to NEXT end
                                                                                              if i = N + 1 go to STOP
                else if K(S[F]) > K(I[i]) then go to SMALLER;
                                                                                              for j := J do begin
                                                                            Reset control:
                for H\,:=\,F,\,H+1 while K(S[H])\,<\,K(I[i]) do
 LARGER:
                                                                                                D[j] := D[j] + 1;
                for G := H, G + 1 while K(S[G]) \neq 0 do
                                                                                                if D[j] > M then C[j] := z else C[j] :=
                for i := G \text{ step } -1 \text{ until } H + 1 \text{ do}
                                                                                                  K(I[j, D[j]]) end
                  S[j] := S[j-1];
                                                                                              go to Find least;
                S[H] := I[i]; go to NEXT;
                                                                            STOP:
                                                                                              end
 SMALLER: for H := F, H - 1 while K(S[H]) > K(I[i]) do
                for G := H, G - 1 while K(S[G]) \neq 0 do
                                                                          Sort binary merge (I,N,S); value N; array I[1:N];
                for j := G step 1 until H - 1 do
                                                                            \mathbf{integer} \ \mathbf{procedure} \ K(I); \ \mathbf{integer} \ N;
                  S[j] = S[j+1];
                                                                            begin real array S[1:N];
                                                                            \mathbf{integer\ array}\ A[0:1,\ 0:J[a]],\ B[0:1,\ 0:K[b]],\ Aloc[0:1,\ 0:J[a]],
                S[H] := I[i];
                                                                               Bloc[0:1, 0:K[b]], J[0:1], K[0:1], j[0:1], k[0:1];
              end end
 NEXT:
                                                                              integer a,b,i,j,k;
 Sort quadratic select (I,N,S); value N; array I[1:N], S[1:N];
                                                                            distribute:
                                                                                                a := b := j[0] := j[1] := 1;
   integer procedure K(I); integer N;
                                                                                                for i := 1 step 1 until N do begin
                   begin integer i,j,k,C,D,J,M;
                                                                                                   if K(I[i]) < K(I[i-1] then
                        integer array C[1:M], D[1:M];
                                                                                                     if a = 1 then a := 0 else a := 1;
                        array I[1:M, 1:M];
                                                                                                   A[a, j[a]] := K(I[i]); Aloc[a, j[a]] := i;
   Divide inputs: M := \text{entier (sqrt (N))} + 1; j := k := 1;
                                                                                                     j[a] := j[a] + 1 \text{ end};
                     for i := 1 step 1 until N do begin
                                                                                                 J[0] := j[0]; J[1] := j[1];
                        I[j,k] := I[i]; k := k + 1;
                                                                                                begin a := b := j[0] := j[1] := k[0] :=
                                                                            next sort:
                       if k > M then begin k := 1;
                                                                                                   k[1] := 1;
                          j := j + 1 end end
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if A[1, j[1]] \le A[0, j[0]] then a := 1 else
... two inputs:
                        a := 0;
                      B[b, k[b]] := A[a, j[a]];
                        Bloe[b, k[b]] := Aloe[a, j[a]];
                      j[a] := j[a] + 1; k[b] := k[b] + 1;
                      if A[a, j[a]] \ge A[a, j[a] - 1] then go to two
                        inputs else
                      if a = 1 then a := 0 else a := 1;
   single step:
                      B[b, k[b]] := A[a, j[a]];
                         Bloc[b, k[b]] := Aloc[a, j[a]];
                       j[a] := j[a] +1; k[b] := k[b] + 1;
                       if A[a, j[a]] \ge A[a, j[a] - 1] then go to
                        single step;
   switch file:
                       if b = 1 then b := 0 else b := 1;
   check rollout:
                       for a := 0, 1 do
                         if j[a] = J[a] then go to rollout;
                       go to two inputs;
   rollout:
                       B[b, k[b]] := A[a, j[a]];
                         Bloc[b, k[b]] := Aloc [a, j[a]];
                       k[b] := k[b] + 1; j[a] := j[a] + 1;
                       if j[a] = J[a] then go to interchange files;
                       if A[a, j[a]] < A[a, j[a] - 1] then
                         if b = 1 then b := 0 else b := 1;
                       go to rollout;
                       K[0] := k[0]; K[1] := k[1];
   interchange files:
                       if K[0] = 1 then go to output end
                       for b := 1, 0 do begin
                         for k[b] := 1 step 1 until K[b] do begin
                           A[b, k[b]] := B[b, k[b]];
                             Aloc[b, k[b]] := Bloc[b, k[b]];
                           J[b] := K[b] end end
                       go to next sort;
   output:
                       for i := 1 step 1 until N do
                           S[i] := I[Bloc[0, i]];
                       end
```

CERTIFICATION OF ALGORITHM 30

NUMERICAL SOLUTION OF THE POLYNOMIAL EQUATION [K. W. Ellenberger, Comm. ACM 3 (Dec. 1960), as corrected in the previous Certification by William J. Alexander, Comm. ACM 4 (May 1961)] KALMAN J. COHEN

Graduate School of Industrial Administration, Carnegie Institute of Technology, Pittsburgh, Pa.

The ROOTPOL procedure originally published by Ellenberger as corrected and modified by Alexander was coded for the Bendix G20 in 20-GATE. Some serious errors were found in the third and fourth lines above the statement labelled "REVERSE" in Ellenberger's Algorithm which were not mentioned in Alexander's Certification. First, the function "log" is not a standard function in ALGOL 60; it is clear from the context, however, that Ellenberger intends this to be the logarithm function to the base 10. Second, Ellenberger's Algorithm failed to divide the accumulated sum of the logarithms by n+1 before taking the antilogarithm.

The correct, and slightly simplified, manner in which the third and fourth lines above the statement labelled "REVERSE" should read is:

if
$$h_i \neq 0$$
 then $s := \ln(abs(h_i))$
end; $s := s/(n+1)$; $s := exp(s)$;

With these corrections, the numerical results obtained essentially agree with those reported by Alexander.

Contributions to this department must be in the form stated in the Algorithms Department policy statement (Communications, February, 1960) except that ALGOL 60 notation should be used (see Communications, May 1960). Contributions should be sent in duplicate to J. H. Wegstein, Computation Laboratory, National Bureau of Standards, Washington

CERTIFICATION OF ALGORITHM 50
INVERSE OF A FINITE SEGMENT OF THE HILBERT MATRIX [J. R. Herndon, Comm. ACM 4
(Apr. 1961)]

B. Randell

Atomic Power Division, The English Electric Co., Whetstone, England

INVHILBERT was translated using the Deuce Algol compiler and the following corrections being needed.

1.
$$S[1, 1] = n \times n$$
, replaced by $S[1, 1] := n \times n$;
2. $S[j, i] := S(j, 1]/(i + j - 1)$
replaced by $S[j, i] := S[j, i]/(i + j - 1)$

The compiled program, which used a 20 bit mantissa floating point notation then produced the following 4×4 segment

16.0	-120.0	240.0002	-140.0
-120.0	1200.0	-2700.0	1680.0019
240.0	-2700.0	6480.0	-4200.0
-140.0	1680.0019	-4200.0	2800.0039

CERTIFICATION OF ALGORITHM 66

INVRS (J. Caffrey, Comm. ACM. July 1961)

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INVRS was translated using the Deuce Algol Compiler, and needed the following correction.

The repeat of the line,

begin pivot := 1.0/t[1, 1];

was deleted.

The compiled program, which used a 20 bit mantissa floating point notation, was tested using Wilson's matrix

5	7	6	5
5 7	10	8	7
6	8	10	9
5	7	9	10

and gave results

67.9982	-40.9991	-16.9995	9.9997
-40.9991	24.9995	9.9997	-5.9998
-16.9995	9.9997	4.9998	-2.9999
9.9997	-5.9998	-2.9999	1.9999

(The output routine completed the symmetric matrix)

INVRS will in fact invert non-positive symmetric matrices, the only restriction appearing to be that the leading minors of the matrix must be non-zero. The variable T[1, 1] takes as its successive values ratios of the (r + 1)th to the r th leading minors of the matrix, and if it becomes zero the variable 'pivot' cannot be computed.

The following matrix, for which the successive values of T[1,1] were +2, -2, -1, -0.6, +5 gave results correct to one unit in the fifth significant figure.

2	-3	1	1	4
-3	2	-4	3	2
1	-4	-3	2	4
-1	3	2	-2	-3
4	-2	4	-3	2

25, D. C. Algorithms should be in the Publication form of ALGOL 60 and written in a style patterned after the most recent algorithms appearing in this department. For the convenience of the printer, please underline words that are delimiters to appear in boldface type.