



## REMARK ON ALGORITHM 299

Chi-Squared Integral [I. D. Hill and M. C. Pike, *Commun. ACM* 10, 4 (Apr. 1967), 243–244.]

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This algorithm included a **Boolean** parameter *bigx* to be set to **true** if the value of *x* is too big for  $\exp(-0.5 \times x)$  to be accurately represented by the machine, or **false** otherwise. The aim was to avoid overflow and underflow problems, but these can still arise in some cases.

The following changes are therefore recommended:

- (1) Change **real** *x*; to **real** *x*, *bigx*;
- (2) Delete **Boolean** *bigx*;
- (3) After **Boolean** *even*; insert  
**real procedure** *ex*(*x*);  
**value** *x*; **real** *x*;  
*ex* := **if** *x* < - *bigx* **then** 0.0 **else** *exp*(*x*);
- (4) Change  
**if** *even*  $\vee f > 2 \wedge \neg bigx$  **then** *y* := *exp*(-*a*)  
to  
**if** *f* > 1 **then** *y* := *ex*(-*a*)
- (5) Change **if** *bigx* **then** to **if** *a* > *bigx* **then**
- (6) Change *s* := *exp*(*c* × *z* - *a* - *e*) + *s*  
to  
*s* := *ex*(*c* × *z* - *a* - *e*) + *s*
- (7) Change *e* := *e* × *a* / *z*; to *e* := *e* × (*a* / *z*);
- (8) Change the introductory comment to say,  
“The parameter *bigx* should be set to such a value that *exp* (-*bigx*) will just not underflow. This will normally be a constant for any given model of computer and could be set as an internal constant instead of being passed each time as a parameter, if desired.”