

ALGORITHM 19

BINOMIAL COEFFICIENTS

RICHARD R. KENYON

Computing Laboratory, Purdue University, Lafayette,
Indiana

comment This procedure computes binomial coefficients $C_m^n = n!/m!(n-m)!$ by the recursion formula $C_{i+1}^n = (n-i)C_i^n/(i+1)$ starting from $C_0^n = 1$;

integer procedure C(m, n) ;

integer m, n ;

begin **integer** i, a, b ;
 $a := 1$;
if $2 \times m > n$ **then** $b := n - m$ **else**
 $b := m$;
for $i := 0$ **step 1 until** b **do**
begin $a := (n - i) \times a \div (i + 1)$ **end**
 $C := a$

end Binomial Coefficients

*should be***for** $i := 0$ **step 1 until** $b-1$ **do**

(3) The sequence

end $C := a$ **end***should be***end;** $C := a$ **end**

REMARK ON ALGORITHM 19

BINOMIAL COEFFICIENTS (Richard R. Kenyon,
Comm. ACM, Oct. 1960)

RICHARD STECK

Armour Research Foundation, Chicago 16, Ill.

The **for** clause of Algorithm 19 should read:**for** $i := 0$ **step 1 until** $b-1$ **do**With this correction the algorithm was certified on the Armour
Research Foundation UNIVAC 1105.The recursion formula stated in the **comment** should read:

$$C_{i+1}^n = (n-i) C_i^n / (i+1).$$

CERTIFICATION OF ALGORITHM 19

BINOMIAL COEFFICIENTS [Richard R. Kenyon,
Comm. ACM Oct., 1960]

RICHARD GEORGE*

Particle Accelerator Div., Argonne National Lab., Ar-
gonne, Ill.

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This procedure was tested on the LGP-30, using the compiler
ALGOL-30 from Dartmouth College Computation Center. The fol-
lowing changes were found necessary:(1) Within the **comment**, the line

$$C_{i+1}^n = (n-1)C_i^n / (i+1)$$

should be

$$C_{i+1}^n = (n-i)C_i^n / (i+1)$$

(2) The line defining the iteration loop

for $i := 0$ **step 1 until** b **do**