NAG Fortran Library Routine Document

S14BAF

Note: before using this routine, please read the Users' Note for your implementation to check the interpretation of ***bold italicised*** terms and other implementation-dependent details.

1 Purpose

S14BAF computes values for the incomplete gamma functions $P(a,x)$ and $Q(a,x)$.

2 Specification

```
SUBROUTINE S14BAF(A, X, TOL, P, Q, IFAIL)
INTEGER            IFAIL
real               A, X, TOL, P, Q
```

3 Description

This subroutine evaluates the incomplete gamma functions in the normalised form

$$P(a,x) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(a)} \int_0^x t^{a-1} e^{-t}\, dt,$$

$$Q(a,x) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(a)} \int_x^\infty t^{a-1} e^{-t}\, dt,$$

with $x \geq 0$ and $a > 0$, to a user-specified accuracy. With this normalisation, $P(a,x) + Q(a,x) = 1$.

Several methods are used to evaluate the functions depending on the arguments a and x, the methods including Taylor expansion for $P(a,x)$, Legendre's continued fraction for $Q(a,x)$, and power series for $Q(a,x)$. When both a and x are large, and $a \simeq x$, the uniform asymptotic expansion of Temme (1987) is employed for greater efficiency – specifically, this expansion is used when $a \geq 20$ and $0.7a \leq x \leq 1.4a$.

Once either P or Q is computed, the other is obtained by subtraction from 1. In order to avoid loss of relative precision in this subtraction, the smaller of P and Q is computed first.

This routine is derived from subroutine GAM in Gautschi (1979).

4 References

Gautschi W (1979) A computational procedure for incomplete gamma functions *ACM Trans. Math. Software* **5** 466–481

Gautschi W (1979) Algorithm 542: Incomplete gamma functions *ACM Trans. Math. Software* **5** 482–489

Temme N M (1987) On the computation of the incomplete gamma functions for large values of the parameters *Algorithms for Approximation* (ed J C Mason and M G Cox) Oxford University Press

5 Parameters

1: A – ***real*** *Input*

On entry: the argument a of the functions.

Constraint: A > 0.0.

2: X – ***real*** *Input*

On entry: the argument x of the functions.

Constraint: X ≥ 0.0.

3: TOL – ***real*** *Input*

On entry: the relative accuracy required by the user in the results. If S14BAF is entered with TOL greater than 1.0 or less than ***machine precision***, then the value of ***machine precision*** is used instead.

4: P – ***real*** *Output*

5: Q – ***real*** *Output*

On exit: the values of the functions $P(a,x)$ and $Q(a,x)$ respectively.

6: IFAIL – INTEGER *Input/Output*

On entry: IFAIL must be set to 0, -1 or 1. Users who are unfamiliar with this parameter should refer to Chapter P01 for details.

On exit: IFAIL $= 0$ unless the routine detects an error (see Section 6).

For environments where it might be inappropriate to halt program execution when an error is detected, the value -1 or 1 is recommended. If the output of error messages is undesirable, then the value 1 is recommended. Otherwise, for users not familiar with this parameter the recommended value is 0. **When the value -1 or 1 is used it is essential to test the value of IFAIL on exit.**

6 Error Indicators and Warnings

If on entry IFAIL $= 0$ or -1, explanatory error messages are output on the current error message unit (as defined by X04AAF).

Errors or warnings detected by the routine:

IFAIL $= 1$

On entry, A ≤ 0.0.

IFAIL $= 2$

On entry, X < 0.0.

IFAIL $= 3$

Convergence of the Taylor series or Legendre continued fraction fails within 600 iterations. This error is extremely unlikely to occur; if it does, contact NAG.

7 Accuracy

There are rare occasions when the relative accuracy attained is somewhat less than that specified by parameter TOL. However, the error should never exceed more than one or two decimal places. Note also that there is a limit of 18 decimal places on the achievable accuracy, because constants in the routine are given to this precision.

8 Further Comments

The time taken for a call of S14BAF depends on the precision requested through TOL, and also varies slightly with the input arguments a and x.

9 Example

The example program reads values of the argument a and x from a file, evaluates the function and prints the results.

9.1 Program Text

Note: the listing of the example program presented below uses ***bold italicised*** terms to denote precision-dependent details. Please read the Users' Note for your implementation to check the interpretation of these terms. As explained in the Essential Introduction to this manual, the results produced may not be identical for all implementations.

```
*     S14BAF Example Program Text
*     Mark 14 Release.  NAG Copyright 1989
*     .. Parameters ..
      INTEGER          NIN, NOUT
      PARAMETER        (NIN=5,NOUT=6)
*     .. Local Scalars ..
      real             A, P, Q, TOL, X
      INTEGER          IFAIL
*     .. External Functions ..
      real             X02AJF
      EXTERNAL         X02AJF
*     .. External Subroutines ..
      EXTERNAL         S14BAF
*     .. Executable Statements ..
      WRITE (NOUT,*) 'S14BAF Example Program Results'
*     Skip heading in data file
      READ (NIN,*)
      TOL = X02AJF()
      WRITE (NOUT,*)
      WRITE (NOUT,*) '        A           X           P           Q'
   20 READ (NIN,*,END=40) A, X
      IFAIL = 0
*
      CALL S14BAF(A,X,TOL,P,Q,IFAIL)
*
      WRITE (NOUT,99999) A, X, P, Q
      GO TO 20
   40 STOP
*
99999 FORMAT (1X,4F12.4)
      END
```

9.2 Program Data

```
S14BAF Example Program Data
  2.0   3.0
  7.0   1.0
  0.5  99.0
 20.0  21.0
 21.0  20.0
```

9.3 Program Results

```
 S14BAF Example Program Results

         A           X           P           Q
      2.0000      3.0000      0.8009      0.1991
      7.0000      1.0000      0.0001      0.9999
      0.5000     99.0000      1.0000      0.0000
     20.0000     21.0000      0.6157      0.3843
     21.0000     20.0000      0.4409      0.5591
```