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On the positive definiteness of $n \mapsto e^{pn^{\alpha}}$

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The proof of Theorem 2 in [1] contains two errors which, however, do not make the theorem false. Firstly, in (6) the factor 20 should have been 5/4, so (6) should have read as follows:

$$\frac{5}{4}\alpha^{2}(\alpha-1)(\log 2)\left[\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^{\alpha-2}+1-2\left(\frac{5}{4}\right)^{\alpha-2}\right] \ge 1,$$

which makes the condition harder to satisfy. Secondly, the sentence following (6) is nonsense. However, the factor [...] has a positive derivative (with respect to α) as soon as

$$\alpha > 2 + \frac{\log \frac{2\log \frac{5}{4}}{\log \frac{3}{2}}}{\log \frac{6}{5}} = 2.52614\dots$$

Moreover, the corrected inequality (6) certainly holds for $\alpha \geq 4$, so the proof is saved.

References

1. T. M. Bisgaard, On the positive definiteness of $n \mapsto e^{pn^{\alpha}}$, Collect. Math. **51** (2000), 111–130.