$\Delta\chi^2$ as a Function of Confidence Level and Degrees of Freedom						
	ν					
p	1	2	3	4	5	6
68.3%	1.00	2.30	3.53	4.72	5.89	7.04
90%	2.71	4.61	6.25	7.78	9.24	10.6
95.4%	4.00	6.17	8.02	9.70	11.3	12.8
99%	6.63	9.21	11.3	13.3	15.1	16.8
99.73%	9.00	11.8	14.2	16.3	18.2	20.1
99.99%	15.1	18.4	21.1	23.5	25.7	27.8

These considerations hold not just for the individual parameters a_i, but also for any linear combination of them: If

$$b \equiv \sum_{k=1}^{M} c_i a_i = \mathbf{c} \cdot \mathbf{a} \tag{15.6.5}$$

then the 68 percent confidence interval on b is

$$\delta b = \pm\sqrt{\mathbf{c} \cdot [C] \cdot \mathbf{c}} \tag{15.6.6}$$

However, these simple, normal-sounding numerical relationships do *not* hold in the case $\nu > 1$ [3]. In particular, $\Delta\chi^2 = 1$ is not the boundary, nor does it project onto the boundary, of a 68.3 percent confidence region when $\nu > 1$. If you want to calculate not confidence intervals in one parameter, but confidence ellipses in two parameters jointly, or ellipsoids in three, or higher, then you must follow the following prescription for implementing Theorems C and D above:

- Let ν be the number of fitted parameters whose joint confidence region you wish to display, $\nu \leq M$. Call these parameters the "parameters of interest."
- Let p be the confidence limit desired, e.g., $p = 0.68$ or $p = 0.95$.
- Find Δ (i.e., $\Delta\chi^2$) such that the probability of a chi-square variable with ν degrees of freedom being less than Δ is p. For some useful values of p and ν, Δ is given in the table. For other values, you can use the routine `gammq` and a simple root-finding routine (e.g., bisection) to find Δ such that `gammq`$(\nu/2, \Delta/2) = 1 - p$.
- Take the $M \times M$ covariance matrix $[C] = [\alpha]^{-1}$ of the chi-square fit. Copy the intersection of the ν rows and columns corresponding to the parameters of interest into a $\nu \times \nu$ matrix denoted $[C_{\text{proj}}]$.
- Invert the matrix $[C_{\text{proj}}]$. (In the one-dimensional case this was just taking the reciprocal of the element C_{11}.)
- The equation for the elliptical boundary of your desired confidence region in the ν-dimensional subspace of interest is

$$\Delta = \delta\mathbf{a}' \cdot [C_{\text{proj}}]^{-1} \cdot \delta\mathbf{a}' \tag{15.6.7}$$

where $\delta\mathbf{a}'$ is the ν-dimensional vector of parameters of interest.