

J. S. can be something of a knockout if his themes get hold of you. And his influence on what followed was (you may say) substantial.

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Computational analysis with the HP 25 pocket calculator, by Peter Henrici, John Wiley, New York, 1977, 280 pp.

Compact numerical methods for computers: linear algebra and function minimization, by J. C. Nash, John Wiley & Sons, New York, 1979, x + 227 pp., \$27.50.

LINPACK: User's guide, by J. J. Dongarra, J. R. Bunch, C. B. Moler, and G. W. Stewart, Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics, Philadelphia, 1979 368 pp., \$14.00 list, \$11.20 SIAM members.

For sometime beginning in the 1930's, Mathematics and Electrical Engineering had a fruitful liaison. From this liaison a new discipline, sometimes called Information Processing but more often Computer Science, was born. The infant discipline grew rapidly in strength and knowledge, and before long decided to set up its own establishment. Computer Science continued to prosper in this office-home which is today a model of industry and affluence. In it may be found many tools adapted from instruments invented by its parent disciplines, the ardor of whose liaison has meanwhile cooled.

The mathematical tools of Computer Science include a new concept of *real arithmetic*. The set of 'real numbers' in a computer is finite, and disjoint from