

INTERIM

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- THE WOFFORD CONNECTION -

Wofford College Computer Center

Spartanburg, South Carolina

Interim Activity

During the 1971 Interim three projects under the direction of Dr. Richard Robinson studied the applications of the computer in mathematics.

The first group of students had no background in computer programming. It was composed of math majors whose intention was to learn to program in the BASIC language. The students converted progressively more difficult math problems into computer programs as they progressed in their study. For a final project all students constructed a program which approximated all the real roots of a polynomial equation.

The second contingent of students were economics majors. All participants had learned basic programming from previous courses at Wofford. Their study centered around computer applications in matrix theory and linear programming. They completed their study by creating a program that implemented the simplex algorithm.

The last section consisted of advanced students in mathematics who were also well grounded in computer programming. These students studied numerical methods relating to the solution of polynomial equations, simultaneous linear equations, and definite integrals.