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Problems and Methodologies in Mathematical Software Production

International Seminar Held at Sorrento, Italy, November 3–8, 1980

Edited by P.C. Messina and A. Murli



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Preface

In November, 1980 a week-long International Seminar on Problems and Methodologies in Mathematical Software Production was held in Sorrento, Italy.

The Seminar was organized and supported by the National Committee for the Mathematical Sciences and the National Group for Mathematical Informatics, both of which are part of Italy's National Council for Research.

Additional Sponsors for the seminar were Università di Napoli, AICA, Informatica Campania (Italsiel).

The Seminar was intended for university and industrial researchers with the following aims: to provide an opportunity for discussions among researchers and some of the well-known experts in the field of Mathematical Software; and to stimulate cooperation between industry and mathematical research.

The principal topics in the seminar were:

- fundamental concepts of computational software and the influence of computer architecture on the design of software;
- operational aspects of establishing, developing and maintaining mathematical software libraries;
- o portability, transportability and software tools for numerical software;
- methods for evaluating numerical software;
- o machine arithmetic and program correctness criteria.

Their presentations are collected in this book.

On the last day of the Seminar the speakers took part in a panel discussion. The discussion concentrated on current research directions in Mathematical Software; prospects for the future; and evolutionary trends now discernible, including the probable effects of new computer hardware architecture and technology.

A written version of the panel discussion appears at page 254.

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