

May 19, 1939

Dear C.G.,

A young mathematician in my department, W.L.Stevens, has invented, and wants to construct, a machine for fitting straight regression lines where there is a weighting factor which changes with the expected value given by the line. We have had to do a great many of these in the department during the last year or two, and he thinks a great deal of time can be saved. The type of problem is also rather a wide-spread one, and methods of all levels of crudeness are, I suppose, applied in different places.

My question is whether the N.P.L. could help him to get a model made. There are, indeed, a good many departments of the N.P.L. itself where such a thing should be useful, so perhaps you could think of someone who, if he is satisfied with the design, might be glad to help him forward with it.

I enclose a brief description of the machine.

Yours sincerely,