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Mathematics: The Undergraduate Curriculum

I will provide my thoughts on the structure of the undergraduate curriculum in mathematics from the point of view of the tension between secular and sacred mathematics. Recent revolutions in life sciences mean that sophisticated mathematics plays much more of a role in the advancement of areas such as genetics, neuroscience, and ecology. Exponentially increasing computational power brings deep algorithms for encryption and signal processing literally into the hands of any individual using a Blackberry.

As an administrator for seven years, I have seen opportunities missed in all of the sciences because of a mismatch between what mathematics is needed and what we teach.