

UNIVERSITY COMPUTER CENTER

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Volume 3, Number 8
June, 1969

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

The University Computer Center is pleased to report that, during the months of April and May, (unlike the month of March), the CDC 6600 as well as its peripheral equipments have performed admirably. We have had almost 100% up time, and we hope our service has improved by a corresponding factor.

We also wish to announce that a new operating system will be implemented sometime in July. We will be testing this system on Sunday, June 15th, and will run programs with a 5 minute time limit that are submitted on the 15th at the Lauderdale site only. There will be no charge for these runs.

TO ALL PROBLEM SPONSORS

All persons who are using the CDC 6600 computer and plan to continue use after July 1st should please note the following:

- 1) All funded projects will carry over into the new fiscal year if there has been machine use since January 1st, 1969. If there has been no time used since January 1st, the problem will be closed.
- 2) All subsidies will revert on July 1st. Any user wishing to continue into the new fiscal year must re-submit an application for a grant.
- 3) Classroom problems:

Since the CDC 1604 will soon be unavailable for use, faculty members using this machine for classroom instruction should consider applying for use of the CDC 6600 computer following the usual procedure. Instructors now utilizing the 6600 must re-apply for grants to support their classroom usage.

MAGNETIC TAPES

The University Computer Center has limited amounts of magnetic tapes available for purchase. The prices are:

2400 foot reel - \$ 15
1200 foot reel - \$ 12
600 foot reel - \$ 8

We recommend that you use the 600 foot reel for mailing purposes.

SUMMER SHORT COURSES

The University Computer Center will offer the following short courses this summer. No registration is necessary and no credit is given. The indicated manuals are (or will be) in the Engineering Bookstore in Main Engineering. Course lengths may be extended or shortened as lectures and class response permit. Where no background is assumed, preliminary reading will be helpful.

JULY 7 - JULY 11

SNOBOL, a string and character manipulation language

Manuals : SNOBOL4 Programming Language, Griswold, Poage, & Polansky
(Prentice-Hall, 1969)

Background : None

Place : Mechanical Engineering 302

Time : 1 - 4 PM

Instructor : R. Hotchkiss

JULY 21 - JULY 25

SIMSCRIPT, a simulation language

Manuals : CDC SIMSCRIPT Reference Manual
SIMSCRIPT, Markowitz, Hausner, Karr (Prentice-Hall)

Background : Fortran

Place : Mechanical Engineering 302

Time : 1 - 4 PM

Instructor : R. Hotchkiss

JULY 21 - JULY 25

CDC 6600 Computer and Compass Assembly Language

Manuals : CDC 6600 Computer System Reference Manual
CDC 6600 SCOPE Reference Manual
CDC 6600 COMPASS Reference Manual

Background : Prior computer experience, preferably some machine language

Place : Experimental Engineering 193

Time : 1 - 4 PM

Instructor : S. Legenhausen

JULY 28 - AUGUST 8

FORTTRAN, 1st week: introduction & intermediate
2nd week: intermediate & advanced

Manuals : Fortran IV by McCracken or Introduction to Fortran by Stein
and Munro
CDC 6600 FORTRAN Reference Manual

Background : none

Place : Mechanical Engineering 302

Time : 1 - 4 PM

Instructor : R. Franta

JULY 28

File management, Information Retrieval, Sort-Merge Packages

Manuals : handout materials

Background : some previous computer orientation

Place : Experimental Engineering 193

Time : 1 - 4 PM

Instructor : D. Lienke

AUGUST 4 & 5

SCOPE and UOFM Utility Routines, tape handling, UPDATE, memory map, microfilm facilities

Manuals : CDC 6600 SCOPE Manual
Background : Prior computer experience
Place : Main Engineering 203
Time : 1 - 4 PM
Instructor : M. Frisch

AUGUST 4 - AUGUST 8

COBOL (may be one or two weeks)

Manuals : Guide to COBOL by McCracken
 CDC 6600 COBOL Reference Manual
Background : none
Place : Experimental Engineering 193
Time : 1 - 4 PM
Instructor : M. Rebmann

INFORMATION RETRIEVAL SYSTEM

An Information Retrieval System has been purchased and implemented on the 6600 computer by the Agricultural Extension Service (MAPS division) on the St. Paul Campus. This *Quick Query System* is a standard program package available from Consolidated Analysis Centers Inc. of Santa Monica, California. It is essentially the same package used by the Economic Development Association in Washington and other computer installations.

Quick Query is a user oriented system. With only a few instructions, vast amounts of data can be retrieved. The average user can learn to do simple retrievals in an hour.

Quick Query is a very powerful system. Data can be retrieved from binary or BCD tapes and the data may be in any format. The user then provides a dictionary and a read routine to the *Quick Query System*. During the retrieval phase the user supplies his selection and sorting criteria to the full data set. (He may transform variables and/or generate new ones.) Retrieval information may then be displayed on the printer or may be sent to another file for further analysis and examination. *Quick Query* will usually format the output, but simple *Quick Query* commands can be used to provide a custom layout. Summary information such as means, standard deviations, minimums and maximums can also be opted.

If information is to be retrieved repeatedly it may be formatted in a standard *Quick Query* mode. Under these circumstances no dictionary or read routine need be supplied. A file called COUNTY-MERGE already exists in this form at the 6600 site. From it, 1300 different attributes may be retrieved about any of the counties in the 9th Federal Reserve District. This tape was (and others will be) obtained directly from the Economic Development Association.

Any person interested in learning more about the *Quick Query System* should contact Dr. David M. Nelson on the St. Paul Campus or Mr. William Craig on the West Bank.

LIBRARY PROGRAMS

Corrections have made on the following library programs as of May 20, 1969:

UMST500 UMST560
UMST510 UMST610
UMST520