

## To the Editor:

The Data and Program Library Service for the Social Sciences at the University of Wisconsin announces the availability of a collection of computer program abstracts pertaining to software of utility to social science researchers. This effort is sponsored by the National Science Foundation as part of a project entitled "A National Program Library and Central Program Inventory Service for the Social Sciences (NPL/CPIS)" which was initiated in the latter part of 1969. The information contained in each of these brief abstracts is sufficient to enable a user to make a tentative judgment whether or not a program contained in the collection will satisfy his individual computing and hardware requirements, and therefore justify the acquisition of the program source code for his own local use.

Each abstract contains descriptive information about the computer program's function, usage, source language, hardware configuration and distribution source. The collection consists of programs primarily of a data management and statistical analysis nature, but other computing capabilities are also represented in the collection. The distribution source cited in each abstract has indicated a willingness to avail the source code and requisite documentation for the indicated program to researchers on a non-profit basis, but since administrative policies vary so greatly among the different program sources no single distribution policy can be applied to all programs listed in the collection. The bulk of the program distribution sources represented in the abstract collection are comprised of University and other research computing installations.

Two forms of the NPL/CPIS abstract collection are available, and both were generated using computer-assisted techniques to create index and cross reference accesses to the abstracts in the collection. One form is a rather bulky, but perhaps more user oriented, version which is intended for "reference room" use while the other version is more compact and is intended for "individual office" use. It is anticipated that some one thousand abstracts will be contained in the collection at the time of the publication of this article. The current collection is by no means exhaustive nor complete, but it is hoped that this announcement of the availability of the collection will stimulate additions to the collection as well as aid researchers in locating specific types of

computer programs. In this context, periodic update releases of the NPL/CPIS abstract collection are anticipated as the collection dynamically evolves.

For more detailed information about acquiring the current release of the NPL/CPIS abstract collection or including additional program abstracts in subsequent releases of the NPL/CPIS abstract collection please contact: NPL/CPIS, Social Science Building, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin 53706.

**Jack Dennis**

University of Wisconsin

## To the Editor:

Results from the 1970 Census of Population and Housing have been flowing from the Census Bureau in a steady stream for several months. As of the end of the year essentially all the printed reports and computer tapes solely concerned with data collected from the entire population (such as age, race, and sex) and about all housing (such as rent or value, kitchen facilities, and plumbing) will be available for purchase. The reports and tapes containing sample data (education, occupation, income, heating equipment, source of water, etc.) are now beginning to come out. The statistics are reported for a great variety of areas, ranging from city blocks to the Nation as a whole.

Most of the data in reports and on tapes is summary data, that is, tabulations or counts of individuals, families, and housing units in specified areas according to various characteristics (e.g., count of persons by age and sex, count of families by income categories, count of housing units with complete plumbing facilities). However, there are also samples of individual and housing unit records, with names and addresses removed, which permit the user to perform his own cross-tabulations for large areas, such as groups of States. These "public use samples" can be obtained for a 1 out of 100, 1 out of 1,000 or 1 out of 10,000 sample of the population.

There are several possible approaches to obtaining needed census data. Data users interested in a few statistics for a limited number of areas will probably find the printed reports a satisfactory resource. There are several report series, and reports within a series generally come out on a State-by-State or city-by-city basis. Most libraries are obtaining some or all printed reports, and

often they will have comparable 1960 reports on hand. Also, copies of reports may be purchased from the U.S. Superintendent of Documents or the Department of Commerce field offices in some 42 cities.

If large quantities of data or greater detail are needed, the use of summary census data on computer tape should be considered. Census summary tapes present much more data for a greater number of geographic areas than it is feasible to include in printed reports. In addition, the public use samples, discussed above, are available on computer tape. The tapes may be purchased from the Census Bureau, or the user may prefer to turn to one of the many organizations around the country which have purchased tapes and are providing computer services. The Census Bureau maintains a list of these organizations, called summary tape processing centers, but it does not exercise any control over their services or fees.

Persons who are interested only in obtaining census printed reports may request order forms from the Publications Distribution Section, Bureau of the Census, Washington, D.C. 20233. To obtain both report order forms and additional information on computer tapes and other Bureau products and services, write to the Data Access and Use Laboratory, Bureau of the Census, Washington, D.C. 20233.

**Robert B. Voight**

Acting Chief  
Data User Services Division  
Bureau of the Census

## To the Editor:

The Research Project on Communism, Revisionism, and Revolution of M.I.T.'s Center for International Studies is acquiring a large volume of Soviet *samizdat* materials (unpublished documents originating in the USSR) from Radio Liberty's Information Division. These materials currently number over 500 items and over 5000 pages. Additional items are being received on a regular basis. Our purpose is to make all these materials available to the scholarly community, both through use of the materials at M.I.T.'s Center for International Studies archive, and via reproduction, elsewhere.

The following procedure for the reproduction and distribution of *samizdat* materials has been established. Scholars interested in information about these *samizdat* materials can receive upon request copies of the Radio Liberty *Register of Samizdat* (Reference Handbook no. 76, February 1971), at cost. As specified in the foreword to this manual, the *Register* chronologically references and briefly abstracts "558 major, politically significant *samizdat* documents, in addition to several hundred literary works," received by Radio Liberty since 1968. Additionally, "various western sources in which the referenced *samizdat* items have been published are cited. The *Register*, 93 pages in length, and/or the Radio Liberty bibliography by themes, *Five Years of Samizdat* (Radio Liberty Handbook, no. 77, April 1971) will be reproduced for interested scholars at a cost, including labor, of \$0.10 per page for xeroxing and \$0.08 per page for microfilm, plus mailing costs. We are regularly receiving new Radio Liberty *samizdat* material and maintaining an updated list of new acquisitions, which are also available upon request, at the same rates.

Finally, the Project has available certain other documents, notably eleven copies of the *Politicheskii Dnevnik*. A list of these other documents is also available and will be updated regularly.

All requests for copies of specific *samizdat* documents themselves must be accompanied by specific references to the numbers and brief titles of desired items as listed in the *Register*, in *Five Years of Samizdat*, or in the list of additional materials. Such copies will be forwarded to interested persons at the rates noted above. Checked items in the *Register* denote those now available; more are becoming available regularly.

Documents searches for specific titles, authors, or subject areas without reference to the *Register*, *Five Years of Samizdat*, or the list of additional documents are not possible, due to staff limitations. However, the files are open to all scholars and students desiring to use these materials at the M.I.T. Center for International Studies.

Materials received since the *Register*'s publication in February 1971 will be listed separately. These items will be cited in supplemental information bulletins issued by us to scholars requesting such references. Procedures and costs for documentation acquisition are described above

(citation of item numbers and brief titles). New reference handbooks, to be published subsequently by Radio Liberty, will be made available to interested persons as we receive them.

Copies of *samizdat* reference and documentary materials in the possession of the Research Project on Communism, Revisionism, and Revolution may be obtained by writing to:  
Professor William E. Griffith, E53-460  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139.

**William E. Griffith**  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

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