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TECHNICAL NOTE

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FOR INTERNAL USE

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SUBJECT Data Processing and Harmonic Analysis
with a Digital Computer

This note is intended to record the data processing procedure being used with the periodic heat flow test cell results, and is for internal use only. This application of a digital computer may suggest other situations where a computer could be used in conjunction with the experimental work of the Division.

The availability of an automatic digital computer permits a new approach to the processing of experimental results. More than that, it permits a new approach to many problems because with it, methods requiring the analysis of large numbers of results are feasible, while without a computer such an approach would be impractical. The processing of results can be completely automatic if the apparatus used to record the results of an experiment produces a record on punched cards or punched paper tape. The results can then be processed by a computer without any transcription. This eliminates the possibility of an error in the transcribing and also reduces the time needed to handle the results. Furthermore, a fully automatic system can be operated by a non-professional person whereas most methods not using a computer require an expert to do the work.

These points are illustrated by the following particular problem. The periodic heat flow test cell apparatus requires the recording of periodically varying temperatures and the analysis of these records to find the amplitude and phase angle of a particular frequency component. The technique of Fourier analysis requires evaluation of the integrals.

$$\int_0^{2\pi} T(x) \cdot \sin x \cdot dx$$

and

$$\int_0^{2\pi} T(x) \cdot \cos x \cdot dx$$

When the function $T(x)$ is known at N equally spaced values of x in the interval 0 to 2π , the integrals can be approximated by the sums

$$\frac{2\pi}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N T_n \cdot \sin \left(\frac{2\pi n}{N} \right)$$

and

$$\frac{2\pi}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N T_n \cdot \cos \left(\frac{2\pi n}{N} \right)$$

The problem is to convert the emf of a thermocouple to temperature, to calculate the sine and cosine for increments of $\frac{2\pi}{N}$ of the angle, and to form the sums

$$\sum_{n=1}^N T_n, \quad \sum_{n=1}^N T_n \cdot \sin \left(\frac{2\pi n}{N} \right) \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{n=1}^N T_n \cdot \cos \left(\frac{2\pi n}{N} \right)$$

These operations can be performed by the simplest of automatic computers. The following program is the one used with the ElectroData El01 machine at the Division of Radio and Electrical Engineering.

This machine uses external pinboards for the program. When the same program is to be used many times, templates can be prepared which greatly simplify the setting up of the program boards. Figure 1 is a copy of the template for pinboard one of this program.

Figure 2 is a sample of the computer result sheet. The sums for 125 steps are given in the final print out. The calculation of the complex ratio of the fundamental components of the two temperatures is given in the appendix.

This system is not now fully automatic since the experimental results are recorded on a strip chart by a 16-point millivolt recorder. This record has to be read and a table of results prepared and these numbers then put on a punched paper tape with a teletype machine. Finally, this tape is used to supply the data to the computer. The information can be entered manually from a key board on the computer but doing it this way has two serious disadvantages:

- (i) The computer is not used at its maximum speed since it can operate faster than numbers can be entered.
- (ii) If a wrong number is entered the cumulative sums will be wrong and it is troublesome to make the correction.

With the tape input the figures can be checked on the tape so there will be no mistake when using the computer.

Equipment is now on order which when added to the millivolt recorder will produce a punched tape record directly. The processing of results then will be a routine operation of setting up the computer program and starting the data tape into the reader. This will be done by one laboratory assistant.

Conclusions

The use of a digital computer for analysis of experimental results greatly reduces the time and effort needed to perform the simple repetitive operations that are involved. A fully automatic data-processing system has the additional advantages of reduced chance for errors and better economy of computer and staff time.

PB # 1

0	T		12
1	A	1	7
2	B		
3	X	4	1
4	+	4	0
5	W	4	2
6	X	4	2
7	B		
8	U	0	9 *
9	+	0	1
10	W	0	1
11	X	1	0
12	+	1	1
13	W	1	1
14	U	2	0
15			

PB # 2

0	X	2	0
1	+	2	1
2	W	2	1
3	U	0	4 *
4	T		12
5	A	1	7
6	B		
7	X	4	1
8	+	4	0
9	W	4	2
10	X	4	2
11	B		
12	U	0	13 *
13	+	0	2
14	W	0	2
15	U	3	0

PB# 3

0	U	0	1 *
1	X	1	0
2	+	1	2
3	W	1	2
4	U	0	5
5	X	2	0
6	+	2	2
7	W	2	2
8	U	4	1
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			

PB # 4 Sine Cosine Sub
Routine

0			
1	R	5	1
2	B		
3	X	5	3
4	W	5	4
5	X	5	0
6	W	5	5
7	R	5	2
8	B		
9	X	5	0
10	+	5	4
11	W	5	0
12	X	5	3
13	-	5	5
14	W	5	3
15	U	5	0

PB # 5

0	W	2	0
1	R	5	0
2	W	1	0
3	R	3	2
4	-	3	1
5	W	3	2
6	C	0	10
7	U	1	0
8			
9			
10	R	3	0
11	W	3	2
12	U	6	0
13			
14			
15			

PB # 6 Partial Print Out

0	H	0	0
1	H	1	0
2	R	E	F
3	P		
4	S	1	2
5	U	0	2
6	P	1	0
7	S	0	2
8	U	0	1
9	P	3	0
10	U	1	0
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			

PB # 7 Loading

0	H	0	0
1	H	1	0
2	T		12
3	W	E	F
4	S	1	2
5	U	0	2
6	S	0	4
7	U	0	1
8	H	1	0
9	T		12
10	W	E	F
11	S	1	3
12	U	0	9
13	U	8	0
14			
15			

PB # 8 Full Print Out

0	H	0	0
1	H	1	0
2	R	E	F
3	P		
4	S	1	2
5	U	0	2
6	P	1	0
7	S	0	4
8	U	0	1
9	H	1	0
10	R	E	F
11	P		
12	S	1	3
13	U	0	10
14	P	1	0
15	A		*

* These steps can be replaced by print instructions

Burroughs E 101

[illegible]

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	a	b	c							
0	One	$\sum_{n=1}^N T_n$	$\sum_{n=1}^N T_n'$							
	d	e	f							
1	$\sin\left(\frac{2\pi n}{N}\right)$	$\sum_{n=1}^N T_n \sin\left(\frac{2\pi n}{N}\right)$	$\sum_{n=1}^N T_n' \sin\left(\frac{2\pi n}{N}\right)$							
	g	h	i							
2	$\cos\left(\frac{2\pi n}{N}\right)$	$\sum_{n=1}^N T_n \cos\left(\frac{2\pi n}{N}\right)$	$\sum_{n=1}^N T_n' \cos\left(\frac{2\pi n}{N}\right)$							
	j	k	l							
3	----- 19	----- /	←-----	These constants govern the frequency of the partial print out of memory						
	m	n	o							
E	4	K ₁	K ₂	←-----	Constants for emf to temperature conversion $T = K_1 e + K_2 e^2$					
a										
	p	q	r	s						
5	$\sin\left(\frac{2\pi n}{N}\right)$	$\sin\left(\frac{2\pi n}{N}\right)$	$\cos\left(\frac{2\pi n}{N}\right)$	$\cos\left(\frac{2\pi n}{N}\right)$						
X										
6										
7										
8										
9										

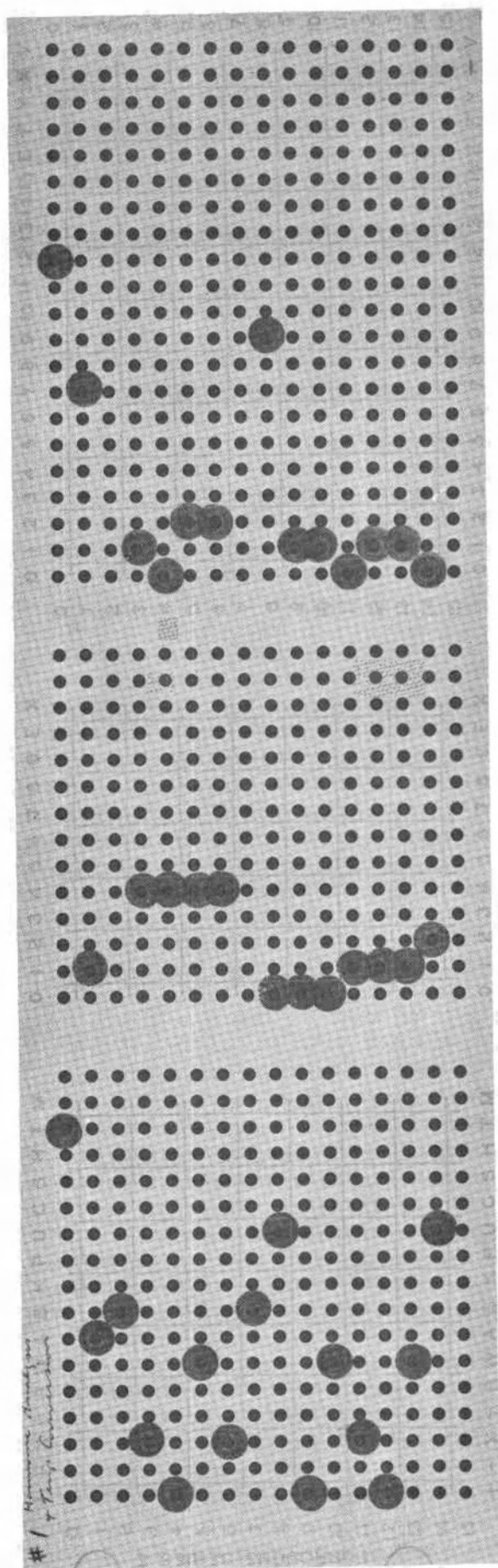


Figure 1 A copy of the template for pinboard #1

n	0 999 999 999 99	0 000 000 000 00	0 000 000 000 00	
	0 000 000 000 00	0 000 000 000 00	0 000 000 000 00	
0	0 999 999 999 99	0 000 000 000 00	0 000 000 000 00	
	0 000 000 000 19	0 000 000 000 01	0 000 000 000 00	
	0 004 414 700 00	0 001 324 000 00 -	0 000 000 000 00	
	0 000 000 000 00	0 050 244 318 17	0 998 736 955 99	0 999 999 999 99
	0 999 999 999 99	0 000 132 733 82 -	0 000 036 111 51	
1	0 050 244 318 16	0 000 000 000 00	0 000 000 000 00	
	0 998 736 955 98	0 000 132 733 81 -	0 000 036 111 50	
	0 999 999 999 99	0 000 938 054 60	0 001 112 876 32	
21	0 870 183 743 47	0 001 141 505 03	0 000 625 838 60	
	0 492 727 334 91	0 000 404 160 16	0 000 856 923 68	
	0 999 999 999 99	0 006 253 272 42	0 004 441 649 38	
41	0 882 291 203 71	0 006 239 945 30	0 003 822 774 81	
	0 470 703 920 67 -	0 000 476 729 40	0 000 821 265 24	
	0 999 999 999 99	0 012 465 904 78	0 009 002 670 59	
61	0 075 326 801 79	0 009 584 463 02	0 006 257 099 03	
	0 997 158 862 51 -	0 004 451 541 05 -	0 002 811 695 25 -	
	0 999 999 999 99	0 016 173 912 23	0 013 748 494 56	
81	0 801 566 945 23 -	0 008 817 387 38	0 004 537 084 86	
	0 597 904 952 04 -	0 007 997 280 62 -	0 007 031 195 84 -	
	0 999 999 999 99	0 014 955 652 30	0 016 378 082 92	
101	0 934 328 883 30 -	0 009 997 480 82	0 002 082 069 79	
	0 356 411 857 74	0 007 956 321 02 -	0 007 619 632 22 -	
	0 999 999 999 99	0 012 626 762 96	0 017 558 452 68	
121	0 199 709 963 74 -	0 011 448 662 17	0 001 278 585 74	
	0 979 854 979 07	0 009 654 518 52 -	0 006 821 895 97 -	
	0 999 999 999 99	0 012 106 160 70	0 017 716 952 29	
	0 000 000 001 87	0 011 513 505 71	0 001 258 445 83	
125	0 999 999 922 31	0 010 170 237 95 -	0 006 664 935 31 -	
	0 000 000 000 19	0 000 000 000 01	0 000 000 000 15	
	0 004 414 700 00	0 001 324 000 00 -	0 004 403 181 20	
	0 000 000 001 87	0 050 244 318 17	0 998 736 955 99	0 999 999 922 31

Figure 2 Sample of computer result sheet

Appendix

Calculation of T/T' from Computer Results

Any periodic function with a fundamental frequency of $w/2\pi$ can be represented by

$$T(wt) = T_0 + A \sin(wt + \delta_1) + B \sin(2wt + \delta_2) + \dots$$

where
$$T_0 = \frac{1}{2\pi} \cdot \int_0^{2\pi} T(wt) \cdot d(wt)$$

$$\tan \delta_1 = \frac{\int_0^{2\pi} T(wt) \cdot \cos(wt) \cdot d(wt)}{\int_0^{2\pi} T(wt) \cdot \sin(wt) \cdot d(wt)}$$

$$A = \frac{\sec \delta_1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} T(wt) \cdot \sin(wt) \cdot d(wt)$$

and
$$\tan \delta_2 = \frac{\int_0^{4\pi} T(wt) \cdot \cos(2wt) \cdot d(2wt)}{\int_0^{4\pi} T(wt) \cdot \sin(2wt) \cdot d(2wt)}$$

$$B = \frac{\sec \delta_2}{2\pi} \int_0^{4\pi} T(wt) \cdot \sin(2wt) \cdot d(2wt)$$

When the integrals are approximated by sums these expressions become

$$T_0 = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N T_n$$

A - 2

$$\tan \delta_1 = \frac{\sum_{n=1}^N T_n \cdot \cos \left(\frac{2 \tilde{u} n}{N} \right)}{\sum_{n=1}^N T_n \cdot \sin \left(\frac{2 \tilde{u} n}{N} \right)}$$

$$A = \frac{2 \sec \delta_1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N T_n \cdot \sin \left(\frac{2 \tilde{u} n}{N} \right)$$

$$\tan \delta_2 = \frac{\sum_{n=1}^N T_n \cdot \cos \left(\frac{4 \tilde{u} n}{N} \right)}{\sum_{n=1}^N T_n \cdot \sin \left(\frac{4 \tilde{u} n}{N} \right)}$$

$$B = \frac{2 \sec \delta_2}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N T_n \cdot \sin \left(\frac{4 \tilde{u} n}{N} \right)$$

The final results ($n = 125$) shown in Fig. 2 give:

(1) Input Temperature T

$$\tan \delta_1 = - \frac{1017.02}{1151.35} = - 0.883328$$

$$\delta_1 = - 41.46^\circ$$

$$\sec \delta_1 = 1.334369$$

$$A = \frac{2 \times 1.334369}{125} \times 1151.35 = 24.581$$

(2) Output Temperature T'

$$\tan \delta_1' = - \frac{666.494}{125.845} = - 5.29615$$

$$\delta_1' = - 79.31^\circ$$

$$\sec \delta_1' = 5.39098$$

$$A' = \frac{2 \times 5.39098}{125} \times 125.845 = 10.855$$

$$\text{Thus, } \left(\frac{T}{T'} \right)_{\text{fundamental}} = \frac{24.581}{10.855} \quad \left| \quad - 41.46^\circ - (-79.31^\circ) - 0.72^\circ \right.$$

$$= 2.2645 \quad \left| \quad 37.13^\circ \right.$$

The 0.72° is the angle difference between the starting points of T and T' . For the machine analysis it was assumed that the values of the two functions were measured simultaneously, whereas all the values of T' were measured 0.008 hours before the corresponding values of T . This time interval equals 0.72° which should be subtracted from δ_1' or added to δ_1 .