**The IBM 407 Accounting Machine (1949).**

**This was the last and best of the all-electro­mechan­ical IBM accounting machines (previously known as**[**tabulators**](http://www.columbia.edu/cu/computinghistory/tabulator.html)**).**

The 407 reads a deck of punched cards on its integrated card reader (left), accumulates totals, subtotals, or other simple statistics in counters made of gears, and prints the results on its integrated 120-column line printer (center). Speed: 100 to 150 cards per minute. The 407 replaced the earlier typebar printing technology (used, e.g., in the [405](http://www.columbia.edu/cu/computinghistory/405.html) with a much faster print wheel mechanism.

**As with all IBM punch-card equip­ment** except the key punch and sorter, **a *control panel* is wired to specify the details of operation: what card columns to read and what to do with them, how to format the report**.

**Although the 407 is really just a big adding machine, creative use could be made of the control program; for example**, as described by Roger L. Boyell in Programmed Multiplication on the IBM 407, Journal of the ACM, Volume 4, Number 4, October, 1957, pp.442-449. In 1955, **the**[**407 was adapted to act as an input/output device**](http://www-1.ibm.com/ibm/history/exhibits/650/650_tr1.html)**for the**[**IBM 650**](http://www.columbia.edu/cu/computinghistory/650.html)**computer, and would later perform similar roles for other IBM calculators (such as the**[**CPC-II**](http://www.columbia.edu/cu/computinghistory/cpc.html)**) and computers (**[**7090**](http://www.columbia.edu/cu/computinghistory/7090.html)**);** reportedly, a [407 even served as the "system clock" for Columbia's 7094](http://www.columbia.edu/cu/computinghistory/1965.html).