

Statistical analysis indicated that only 822 of the same articles were covered by BIOSIS, CAS, and Ei, and it was determined that this did not constitute a large enough overlap to warrant additional effort. In the two-way article overlap, the overlap between BIOSIS and CAS is approximately 43,000 and between CAS and Ei approximately 17,500 journal articles. The methodology used to determine the overlap at the journal article level and detailed tabular data have been published in Part 1;³ Part 2 will be published soon.⁴

Cost figures for abstracting and indexing an individual article vary so widely that no true figure can be quoted at this time, but it is obvious that we are considering an overlap of some 50,000 journal articles which is substantial enough to warrant further bilateral investigation.

The three services are continuing the study to obtain the information they need for future cooperation to make their publications and services more useful to the information community.

Each of the three services has agreed to arrange to finance its contribution to the study. If it becomes neces-

sary, the duration of the study will be extended so as not to place an undue financial burden on any of the participants.

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A Cooperative Information Storage and Retrieval System for the Petroleum Industry*

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The *Petroleum Abstracts* bulletin was first published in January 1961, as a cooperative information storage and retrieval service for the exploration, development, and production segment of the petroleum industry. Information retrieval from retrospective files was first accomplished by an inverted subject card file. In 1965, this system was replaced by controlled-vocabulary, subject indexing. Currently under development is the PASS direct-access computer system (Petroleum Abstracts Search System) which allows real-time intercommunication with the disk-pack stored data base, through a telephone-linked portable teletype console. This system is designed to operate on a Xerox Sigma 6 computer.

The *Petroleum Abstracts* bulletin and associated Information Storage and Retrieval Services were initiated in January 1961 by a group of petroleum producing companies. Prior to this time, many of these companies had been monitoring the technical literature and abstracting articles and patents pertinent to their specific interests. Such operations were conducted by internal information services departments, usually in close association with the companies' technical libraries. Recognizing that this practice represented considerable duplication of effort, a group of these companies delegated The University of Tulsa to administer a cooperative abstracting service for the benefit of the exploration and production segment of the petroleum industry. The cost of conducting this service was divided among the various participating companies, each individual contribution being proportional to the company's capitalization. The operation of the abstracting service was guided by a Subscriber Advisory Board, consist-

ing of representatives from each of the participants. The purpose of this group was to provide user feedback and to help establish policies and operational guidelines.

As a result of this cooperative venture, each company was able to obtain much greater coverage at much lower cost than had proved possible with their previous individual abstracting efforts. A similar abstracting and retrieval service, administered by the American Petroleum Institute, provides parallel coverage for the refining and petrochemical segments of the petroleum industry.

The cooperative information services provided by The University of Tulsa have greatly expanded and diversified since 1961.¹ The *Petroleum Abstracts* bulletin itself has expanded from 10,488 abstracts in 1961 to 16,924 abstracts in 1971. Much of this increase may be attributed to expanding technological developments and diversified new fields of interest—such as offshore exploitation methods, environmental pollution, etc. More sophisticated retrieval techniques also have been developed to provide faster, more comprehensive searching of the rapidly growing data base.

*Presented before the Division of Chemical Literature, 164th Meeting, ACS, New York, N. Y., Aug. 27, 1972.

INFORMATION SERVICES

The *Petroleum Abstracts* bulletin contains summaries of significant technical articles, patents, theses, reports, etc., in the field of petroleum exploration and exploitation. The original documents, received and later stored in the University's Sidney Born Technical Library, are reviewed daily and selections of significant technical items made for abstracting. Items of a purely news or promotional nature are usually omitted. The documents are then summarized by competent abstractors and, after suitable editing, are assembled in bulletin form under the following broad categories: geology, geochemistry, geophysics, drilling, logging, well completion, production, engineering, and transportation.

Petroleum Abstracts bulletin is issued weekly, and contains from 150 to 300 abstracts per issue. In format, it is printed four abstracts to a page (each abstract $4 \times 5\frac{1}{2}$ inches in size) and additional copies are printed on card stock for those who wish to maintain a card file. A typical abstract page is shown in Figure 1. Each abstract title is designed to contain all essential retrieval data, including title, author, affiliation, bibliographic reference, and language (if other than English). The abstract (approximately 150 words in length) follows, together with a small diagram, in the case of patents. All abstracts are numbered sequentially in the upper right-hand corner, providing unique identification for each document during later retrieval procedures.

During the last two years, a supplementary bulletin has been published monthly, entitled *Selected Petroleum Ab-*

stracts. This bulletin is a condensed edition of the *Petroleum Abstracts* bulletin, containing only abstracts of English-language articles and reports. Patents, foreign-language articles, and abstracts taken from secondary sources (appearing in *Petroleum Abstracts*) are omitted from this "streamlined" edition, which has proved extremely popular for current awareness browsing among field and office personnel.

RETRIEVAL SERVICES

The retrieval aspects of the *Petroleum Abstracts* service originally consisted of assigning appropriate code numbers (up to a maximum of seven) from a classification system, especially devised to cover the subject area of the abstract comprehensively. At the end of each year, a computer-generated subject index was prepared from these classifications, together with author and patent number indexes.

It was thought, however, that the retrieval capabilities of this system were too limited and a committee of industrial representatives cooperatively developed a specialized *Exploration and Production Thesaurus*, hierarchically structured, and carefully screened to avoid synonyms and ambiguities.² This controlled vocabulary of descriptors or keywords was then used to index all abstracts, starting in January 1965. From 10 to 90 descriptors were assigned, delineating the subject matter of the document, individually, or in combination for coordinate searching. Additional specific, but seldom-used, terms (such as chemicals, company names, and geographic place names) were also

GAS PROCESSING

138, 179

THE CONTROL OF THE DEW POINT OF A HYDROCARBONS FROM GASES WITH CONDENSATE-- O. Ungureanu, Tr. Mantulescu and Fr. Amann; *PETROL GAZE* v. 21, No. 8, pp 465-467, Aug. 1970 (In Romanian)

In a gas condensate field in Romania, separation of the gaseous and liquid phases is accomplished at a central separator station. It was impossible, however, to assure single-phase conditions in the gathering lines because, as calculations show, the heptanes-plus content causes a liquid phase to separate even at a very modest decrease in temperature, since at the wellhead, an equilibrium between the 2 phases exists. The absence of hydrogen sulfide in the produced fluid has made it possible to design and build an adsorption type dew-point reducing installation which removes essentially only part of the C_7+ component, sufficient to reduce the dew-point, so that no liquid phase is formed in the gathering lines. The installation also serves to dehydrate the gas. The installation has functioned reliably for 5 mo., and can be used also as the first stage in a process for depropanizing and debutanizing the gas at low temperature.

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MASS TRANSFER

138, 181

QUASI-STEADY STATE ASSUMPTION FOR MASS TRANSFER TO SPHERICAL BINARY BUBBLES OR DROPS-- V. D. Dang, E. Ruckenstein and W. N. Gill (Clarkson Coll Technol); *CHEM. ENG. (LONDON)* No. 241, pp CE248-CE251, CE259, Sept. 1970

Exact solutions of the convective diffusion equation for mass transfer from binary dispersed spherical bubbles or drops have been obtained for continuous phase-controlled systems with high Schmidt number. The analytical results are valid for most values of the parameters of practical interest for gas-liquid absorption systems. However, for liquid-liquid systems, the assumption of continuous phase control is restricted to the transfer of components that are relatively insoluble in the continuous phase. The quasi-steady state approach is used almost exclusively for design purposes and, therefore, the validity of this assumption is examined. It is found to be accurate at high Reynolds numbers, but is restricted to the transfer of relatively insoluble components for low Reynolds number systems. (12 refs.)

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GAS SEPARATOR

138, 180

INSTALLATION FOR SEPARATING GASEOUS MIXTURES-- Fr. 2, 025, 204, c. 9/4/70, f. 12/3/69 (pr. U.S. 12/4/68, Appl. 781,201); J. J. Schauls, asr.; (Trane Co); *Abstr., BULL. OFFIC. PROPRIETE IND. (FR.)* v. 11, No. 41, Pt. 2 (No. 32), p 19874, 10/9/70 (In French)

This gas-separation installation uses reversible heat exchangers, with a reheating stream to facilitate temperature control and cleaning of the heat exchangers. At least 2 filters are provided in the exit gas stream from the heat exchangers, so that cleaning by a portion of the reheating stream takes place automatically without creating disturbing differential pressures in the gas during the separation stage. (Abstract only - original not available)



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OFFSHORE PRODUCING

138, 182

HUMBLE OIL'S BIG PLANS FOR DEEPWATER GIANT IN CHANNEL-- *OIL GAS J.* v. 68, No. 49, pp 30-32, 12/7/70

Humble Oil & Refining Co. has developed some surprising new techniques to produce oil safely in 200- to 2,000-ft waters of Santa Barbara Channel. Beyond the fact that the platforms will stand in water nearly twice as deep as the industry has penetrated so far, the most significant feature of the program is the submerged production system (SPS). SPS calls for groups of 5 to 40 wells which will be drilled from floating vessels, completed on the ocean bottom (or possibly on submerged platforms in the deeper waters), and maintained through flow-line pumpdown tools capable of performing all workover functions. These include perforating, cementing, acidizing, and paraffin removal. In addition, a robot-type manipulator, equipped with television cameras, will be lowered to the well-completion structures and moved around a track to perform such duties as replacing valves and testing them--all by remote control from the surface. Humble has been working on deepwater platform design for 6 yr and could build a platform in 1,000 ft of water. This may be done eventually--but the first one will be in 700 ft of water and stand 775 ft from the ocean floor to the top deck. It will cost \$15 to \$25 million, weigh 20,000 tons, and accommodate 3 drilling rigs.

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Figure 1. Typical page from *Petroleum Abstracts Bulletin*

After the abstracts have been indexed, the descriptors are keypunched and computer processed to form a data base from which the various search tools (indexes, magnetic tapes, etc.) can be generated.³

The most popular manual retrieving tool is the *Alphabetic Subject Index*, originally issued monthly, now published on a bimonthly basis. As the name indicates, this reference contains a tabulation of document titles, cross-indexed in multiple listings under the principal assigned descriptors. A sample page is shown in Figure 2. Some of the abstract titles (those listed under what the indexer

WESTERN EUROPE

NEUTRON LOGGING* SOME FEATURES OF DUAL-SPACED NEUTRON POROSITY LOGGING	161.413	CLAY HYDROFLUORIC ACID SOLUBILITY	COMPUTER PROGRAMMING SILICA	
NEUTRON SOURCE* HIGH VOLTAGE CONNECTOR FOR A NEUTRON GENERATOR COMPRISING A PLASTIC INSULATOR	161.416	CHROMIC ACID INJECTION FOR WELL STIMULATION		159.673
NUCLEAR LOGGING* RADIOACTIVITY LOGGING APPARATUS HAVING SHIELDED WALL CONTACTING SOURCE AND DETECTOR	159.656	*HYDROCARBON COMPOUND	*RELATIVE PERMEABILITY	
		*SAND GRAIN	*WETTING AGENT	
		*CHROMIC ACID	*INJECTION WELL	
		*INJECTIVITY	*WATERFLOODING	
VELOCITY LOGGING* CORRELATION OF ELASTIC MODULI DYNAMICALLY MEASURED BY IN-SITU AND LABORATORY TECHNIQUES	161.430	INCREASING THE INJECTIVITY INDEX AND PRODUCTIVITY INDEX OF WELLS		159.672
WELL PERFORMANCE		*COLLOIDAL DISPERSION	*INJECTIVITY	
ARTIFICIAL LIFT* PREDICTING PLUNGER LIFT PERFORMANCE	160.834	*PRODUCTIVITY INDEX	*SOLUBLE OIL	
GAS WELL TESTING* USE OF THE METHOD OF SUPERPOSITION FOR TESTING NATURAL GAS SOUNDS	159.682	BUFFER (CHEMICAL)	CHEMICAL INJECTION	
OIL SATURATION* DETERMINATION OF RESIDUAL OIL SATURATION AFTER WATERFLOODING	159.705	DISPLACEMENT	*MICELLE	
WELL SAMPLING* TOOL TO DETERMINE QUANTITY OF OIL	160.333	MOBILITY RATIO		159.674
WELL STIMULATION* STIMULATING PRODUCING WELLS WITH CHROMIC ACID	159.674	STIMULATING PRODUCING WELLS WITH CHROMIC ACID		
WELL TESTING* BACK-PRESSURE TESTING OF GAS WELLS	161.258	*WELL CAPACITY	*WELL PERFORMANCE	
WELL PLUGGING		ACIDIZING	CHROMIC ACID	
SELECTIVE PLUGGING* SELECTIVE PLUGGING METHOD	161.454	*HYDROCARBON COMPOUND	OIL WETTABILITY	
WELL PRESSURE		POROSITY (ROCK)		
BEAM PUMPING* DESIGNED BEAM PUMPING	160.838	FERRIC ION CORROSION* SYNERGISTIC INHIBITION OF FERRIC ION CORROSION DURING CHEMICAL CLEANING OF METAL SURFACES		160.338
BLOWOUT PREVENTER* WELL BLOWOUT PREVENTER CONTROL PRESSURE MODULATOR	160.790	FRACTURE EXTENSION* FRACTURING AND SCAVENGING FORMATIONS WITH FLUIDS CONTAINING LIQUEFIABLE GASES AND ACIDIZING AGENTS		159.663
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GEAR CARE AND FEEDING OF GEARS	160.635	NUCLEAR BLAST* RIO BLANCO GAS STIMULATION PROJECT, RIO BLANCO COUNTY, COLORADO		159.912
GYPSUM SCALING* SOLUBILITY OF CALCIUM SULFATE DIHYDRATE AND ASSOCIATION EQUILIBRIA IN SEVERAL AQUEOUS MIXED ELECTROLYTE SALT SYSTEMS AT 25 DEGREES C	160.362	NUCLEAR BLAST* WAGON WHEEL GAS STIMULATION PROJECT, SUBLETTE COUNTY, WYOMING		159.913
WELL PUMPING UNIT* PUMPING JACK	160.381	WELL SHOOTING* EXPLOSIVE WELL STIMULATION		161.228
WELL PUMPING		WELL SURVEY EQUIPMENT		
PUMPING WELL ANALYSIS	161.257	INCLINOMETER* A NEW BORE-HOLE INCLINOMETER		159.904
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*DATA ANALYSIS		*GEOTHERMAL GRADIENT	*HEAT TRANSFER	
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FREE AND PARAMETRIC OSCILLATIONS IN A PUMPING		*BACK PRESSURE	*GAS WELL	
*INSTALLATION WITH COUNTERWEIGHT	161.475	*GAS WELL CAPACITY	*WELL PERFORMANCE	
*COUNTERBALANCING		DATA RECORDING	DELIVERABILITY	
*ROD PUMP		GAS PRODUCING	RECOVERY FACTOR	
CALCULATING		RESERVOIR CHARACTERISTIC		160.353
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PUMP		PUMPDOWN TOOL* JAR STROKE ACCELERATOR FOR PUMPDOWN		159.666
BEAM PUMPING* DESIGNED BEAM PUMPING	160.838	WELL TOOL		160.347
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*ACIDIZING		*NORTH SEA AREA	*OIL AND GAS ENTRAPMENT	
*PENETRATION DEPTH		BASIN	PERMEABILITY (ROCK)	
*FIELD DATA		POROSITY (ROCK)	ROTLIEGENDE SERIES	
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Figure 2. Typical page from *Alphabetic Subject Index*

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AHMED, S S	160,256
AHN, W S	160,872
ALDRICH, T C	160,277
ALEXANDER, C V	160,190
ALEXANDER, D D	160,836
ALGER, R P	161,415
ALIZADE, A A A G	160,055
ALIEV, E S	160,055
ALIEVA, G A	160,776
ALLAN, T A	161,249
ALLARD, P J M T	160,079
ALLARY, A	161,536
ALLAUD, L	160,332
ALLEN, A A	161,681
ALLEN, J C	160,966
ALLEN, L S	161,413
ALLEN, R J	160,454
ALLIQUANDER, O	159,930
ALONSO, J R F	161,624
ALTERMANN, J	161,200
ALTSHUL, E A	159,626
ALVAREZ, W	160,230
AMBROSE, J R	160,898
AMEY, H B JR	161,608
AMOS, A J	159,819
ANDERS, E	161,559
ANDERSON, C E	161,020
ANDERSON, F R	161,004
ANDERSON, G W	160,799
ANDERSON, O L	161,186
ANDERSON, R A	161,007
ANDERSON, R A	160,190

PATENT INDEX

UNITED STATES	
RE 27,316	160,150
RE 27,330	160,882
RE 27,340	161,088
3,543,848	160,361
3,559,163	160,329
3,571,595	160,328
3,593,788	160,368
3,605,674	160,782
3,612,608	161,062
3,612,877	160,325
3,615,794	160,348
3,630,283	160,361
3,638,177	159,625
3,639,233	160,301
3,640,344	159,663
3,640,826	159,630
3,641,819	159,954
3,642,065	160,625
3,642,069	159,666
3,642,078	160,123
3,642,448	159,927
3,643,736	160,124
3,644,194	160,394
3,644,882	159,628
3,648,434	160,125
3,648,463	159,742
3,648,468	159,736
3,648,513	159,740
3,648,515	159,656
3,648,517	159,734
3,648,518	159,732
3,648,638	159,632
3,648,642	160,126
3,648,713	159,739
3,648,719	159,932
3,648,769	159,670
3,648,770	159,730
3,648,771	159,717
3,648,772	159,698
3,648,773	159,699
3,648,774	159,672
3,648,775	159,673
3,648,776	159,674
3,648,777	159,661
3,648,783	159,652
3,648,785	159,664
3,648,786	160,587
3,648,787	160,588
3,648,788	159,635
3,648,858	159,637
3,649,190	159,928
3,649,201	159,599
3,649,316	159,665
3,649,317	159,660

Figure 3. Excerpts from appendices in *Alphabetic Subject Index*

COOPERATIVE INFORMATION SYSTEM FOR PETROLEUM INDUSTRY

considered the primary, or most important, descriptor) are followed by a listing of secondary descriptors. This serves as an additional indication to the searcher of the document's contents. Secondary listings of this particular abstract (appearing elsewhere in the index under the secondary descriptors) do not carry this descriptor listing but instead, the title is preceded by the primary descriptor under which this listing may be found. Further information on items of interest can be obtained by referring to the abstract or to the original document itself.

Bibliographic information, names of authors and inventors, and patent numbers by country are also tabulated in separate sections of the *Alphabetic Subject Index*, as shown in Figure 3. The December issue of this index is a cumulative issue, containing all of the information ap-

appearing in the previous bimonthly issues. This annual issue serves as an index for the entire year, making it unnecessary to check through all of the individual bimonthly issues when performing a search.

The *Alphabetic Subject Index* is generated entirely by computer, the output of which is in page form, ready for offset printing. This past year, in place of the usual computer printout, the *Alphabetic Subject Index* pages have been photocomposed directly from CRT images, the availability of bold-face and italic characters greatly improving the readability of the printed index.

Another manual search tool is the *Dual Dictionary Coordinate Index*. This is an inverted index in which each descriptor is followed by a tabulation of the abstract numbers to which the descriptor is pertinent, as shown in Fig-

OIL SOLUBILITY (8)	146,890	.	.	145,053	.	.	146,826	145,937	145,928	145,929
	.	.	.	146,953	.	.	.	146,217	.	.
OIL STATES RUBBER CO	.	.	.	.	144,134	.	.	.	.	.
OIL TREATING (FIELD) (39)	141,690	140,061	141,682	141,683	141,094	138,785	139,566	139,047	139,048	138,569
	143,170	140,731	144,192	145,613	146,874	140,443	140,436	140,047	.	141,689
	144,990	141,441	144,972	146,193	.	144,646	141,096	142,047	.	145,629
	145,630	143,471	.	146,953	.	145,255	142,386	145,617	.	146,189
	145,910	.	.	.	.	145,645	145,616	.	.	.
	.	.	.	.	.	146,195	146,876	.	.	.
OIL WASTE (163)	139,650	139,331	138,892	138,643	138,644	139,625	138,646	138,647	138,888	139,649
	139,660	139,611	139,342	139,613	139,624	140,445	139,336	139,287	139,648	140,179
	140,110	139,651	139,652	139,623	139,644	140,785	139,626	142,137	140,138	140,199
	141,440	139,661	140,192	140,023	141,164	142,925	140,526	140,147	140,528	140,529
	142,120	140,501	141,162	140,823	141,794	144,365	141,466	141,787	141,148	141,479
	142,790	141,161	141,172	141,163	141,804	144,375	142,446	141,797	141,418	142,919
	142,910	141,171	142,922	141,793	142,474	145,295	142,476	142,137	142,768	142,929
	142,920	142,841	143,102	141,803	142,914	145,315	142,266	142,787	142,908	143,249
	142,930	142,921	143,272	142,483	142,924	145,585	143,546	142,917	142,918	144,039
	143,560	142,931	144,352	142,893	144,764	145,735	144,366	143,267	144,368	144,049
	144,340	143,561	144,377	142,913	144,374	145,995	144,376	144,367	144,378	144,369
	144,370	143,571	144,382	144,353	145,314	146,255	146,256	144,377	144,388	144,379
	144,380	144,271	145,312	144,363	145,734	146,265	146,266	144,387	144,618	144,729
	145,070	144,291	.	144,373	146,254	146,555	146,976	144,267	144,728	145,069
	146,270	144,351	.	144,723	146,244	.	.	146,967	145,068	145,309
	.	144,371	.	145,313	146,554	.	.	146,977	145,308	145,729
	.	144,381	.	145,733	146,974	.	.	.	146,268	146,739
	.	146,551	.	146,263	.	.	.	.	146,978	146,999
	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	146,269
	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	146,529
OIL WATER CONTACT (19)	.	.	139,662	.	145,664	142,945	138,756	143,517	142,938	139,099
	.	.	141,522	.	.	143,195	146,096	.	143,438	145,594
	.	.	143,102	.	.	146,215	.	.	143,468	146,084
	.	.	143,202	.	.	.	.	.	146,738	146,739
OIL WATER SEPARATION (103)	140,110	139,331	139,342	138,643	138,644	138,785	139,566	138,647	138,798	139,579

Figure 4. Typical page from *Dual Dictionary Coordinate Index*

```

ENTER FIRST DESCRIPTOR
: COMPUTER
FND= 385
ENTER CONN. + DESCIP.
:OR DATA PROCESSING
FND= 786 GRP= 958 1
ENTER CONN. + DESCIP.
:*
ENTER FIRST DESCRIPTOR
: GEOLOGY
FND=3230
ENTER CONN. + DESCIP.
:NOT STRATIGRAPHY
FND=1923 GRP=1319 2
ENTER CONN. + DESCIP.
:END
99 DOCUMENTS FOUND
COMMAND:PR
ENTER NO. TO PRINT:0020
122245 122343 122452 124370 124439
124662 124720 125219 125359 125580
125601 125696 125880 125982 125986
126010 126389 126417 126488 126521

COMMAND:PT
ENTER NO. TO PRINT:0005
ENTER MODE:2
122452
OSTRACODES AS QUATERNARY PALEOECOLOGICAL INDICATORS
CAN J EARTH SCI V 6 NO 6 PP 1471-1476 DEC 1969

124370
PRELIMINARY EVALUATION OF A CORE SCINTILLATION
COUNTER FOR BULK DENSITY MEASUREMENTS IN
MARINE SEDIMENT CORES
J SEDIMENT PETROLOGY V 39 NO 4 PP 1509-1519 DEC
1969

124439
CARBOHYDRATES IN BOTTOM SEDIMENTS OF THE KURIL-
KAMCHATKA TRENCH
OCEANOLOGY ACAD SCI USSR ENGL ED V 9 NO 2 PP
203-207 1969

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Figure 5. Typical computer search printout

ure 4. This includes listings under appropriate broader terms, autoposted by the computer. The *Dual Dictionary* is issued twice a year, in microfilm form, the December issue being cumulative for the year. This index can be searched by standard coordination techniques, using two or more appropriate descriptors and cross-checking to find abstract numbers common to each of the descriptors. In this manner, greater specificity of searching can be achieved.

COMPUTER SEARCHING

In addition to the manual searching indexes, a *Master Record* magnetic tape is prepared periodically for computer searching. This tape contains titles, authors, bibliographic data, and pertinent descriptors for each abstract, including company affiliations, category (general subject classification), aspect (article, patent, reports, etc.), and language. This tape is issued in several different formats to match the operating requirements of the users' specific computers.

Under current development is the PASS (Petroleum Abstracts Search System) which is an interactive search routine that greatly facilitates computer searching. As the search progresses, the questioner is kept informed of the number of pertinent references in the file, singly and in combination, and can modify his search question immediately if he is not obtaining the information he desires.

In conducting a search, the user first translates his search question into suitable descriptors, chosen from the

Exploration and Production Thesaurus, and the Supplemental List. These are combined in logical relationship, to form a search question. Three types of association are possible:

AND—multiple descriptors, all of which must be present to satisfy search requirements

OR —alternate descriptors or groups of descriptors, any one of which is acceptable

NOT—the presence of such descriptors eliminates the abstract from consideration

Once the question has been framed, it is entered into the computer via a keyboard console, one descriptor at a time. The first term is searched and the numerical result is reported. The second term is then entered and reported. The total number of abstracts pertinent to the combination is also reported. The figure increases or decreases with each new descriptor, depending upon the relationship of the descriptors, as indicated above. The searcher can obtain printouts of individual groups of abstract numbers at any time without interrupting the search. When all descriptors are entered, the search is terminated and the final tabulation of responsive references printed out. Normally, this consists of a list of abstract numbers, but other information available on the *Master Record* tape (titles, bibliographic information) may also be called for.

A typical search, to retrieve all articles published in 1970 concerning the use of computers in geology (excluding stratigraphy), is shown in Figure 5. The question is first converted into descriptors, as follows:

(COMPUTER or DATA PROCESSING) plus
(GEOLOGY not STRATIGRAPHY)

At each step of the search, the number of citations in the file is given, singly and in combination. At the end, 99 references are cited as fulfilling the search conditions. In the example shown, 20 of these are printed out as abstract number citations, and 3 as complete title and bibliographic citations.

This search system has been developed using a Xerox Sigma-6 computer, with FORTRAN IV language.⁴ Another convenience has been the portable remote terminal, which can be tied into the main computer by simple telephone connection. At the present time, this system is still restricted in operation, owing to limitations in computer storage capacity (48K). As a result, each year's data file must be searched separately. The entire data file (1965 to present) will require approximately one complete disk-pack for storage, and as soon as it becomes available, the PASS facility will be made available to participating companies.

CONCLUSIONS

The *Petroleum Abstracts* system has provided prompt, thorough coverage of technological developments in the fields of petroleum exploration, development and production, to members of the petroleum industry.⁵ Replacing multiple individual, overlapping company systems has made possible more comprehensive coverage of the technical literature, at a greatly reduced cost to each of the participants. The petroleum industry has greatly benefitted by its access to required technical information, made available by this cooperative information storage and retrieval system.

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Public/Private Cooperation in Planning and Developing Reference Data Programs*

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The National Standard Reference Data System relies heavily on the advice of experts in special subject-areas of science and technology to plan and develop programs for compilation and evaluation of quantitative data. Advisory panels provide a means of bringing together generators and evaluators of data to define needs, recommend specific projects, determine priorities, and coordinate new activities with those already in process. Such advisory panels are the natural basis for the development of cooperative programs, not only for data compilation and evaluation, but also for improvement in the quality of original experimental work, standardization of techniques, and agreement on formats for the presentation of, e.g., spectroscopic data. While such panels are sponsored by the Federal Government, the panel membership includes people from universities, private industry, professional societies, and consultant organizations. The cooperative nature of the undertakings fosters attention to user needs and public benefits.

In a symposium concerned with cooperative efforts, it is highly appropriate to give some consideration to those kinds of cooperation which cross the interface between the public and the private sectors. In so many of the relationships between Government agencies and private individuals or groups, there exists a one-way-only action. For example, Government may take things (via taxes, the draft, etc), or provide them (roads, flood relief); it may buy (through contracts or cash purchase); or sell (books from the Government Printing Office). In more sophisticated relationships, Government agencies call upon individuals or groups to give advice which the agency may then unilaterally follow or modify. But this also is a one-way-at-a-time activity—the advice is requested, then it is given, and then follow-up action may be taken.

What I intend to describe is a truly two-way relationship in which public and private parties work together actively toward a commonly defined set of goals. This type of relationship can, and does, lead to situations in which everyone benefits.

BACKGROUND

To provide a background for this discussion of cooperative activities, it may be worthwhile to spend a few minutes describing the National Standard Reference Data System (NSRDS), its mission, its scope, and its organiza-

tional approaches. This description will be brief, since details have been presented at an earlier symposium sponsored by this Division¹⁻³ and written descriptions are readily available in many publications.^{4,5} The primary mission of the NSRDS is the provision of reliable, critically evaluated, numerical data in the physical sciences, in a convenient and accessible form for the use of the scientific and technical community. The technical scope of the program is restricted to well-defined physical and chemical properties of substances and systems which are well characterized. The organizational approach utilized in seeking the goals of the NSRDS is a decentralized activity comprising many projects, with coordination furnished by a program office (the Office of Standard Reference Data, OSRD) in the National Bureau of Standards.

The scope of the NSRDS, encompassing all of the physical sciences, is too broad to permit any small group of people to be knowledgeable and expert in either operating all of the projects or in managing the program as a whole. Moreover, the program is both government-wide in that it includes many agencies of the Federal government, and national in the sense that it seeks to improve the capabilities of *all* segments of the country's science and technology to perform their defined tasks effectively. Not only is the technical scope too broad to permit expert operation by any small group, but also the diverse uses and needs for standard reference data are too varied and wide ranging for full appreciation by the central program office alone.

Accordingly, it is essential that the OSRD obtain a great deal of advice of many different kinds.

* Presented before the Division of Chemical Literature, 164th Meeting, ACS, New York, N. Y., Aug. 27, 1972.