

DATA BASES, SMALL SYSTEMS

There were two Small Data Base sessions, both chaired by Carl Youngmann of the University of Washington. In the first session, Youngmann demonstrated his CAC/APPLE system. (Paper not included in proceedings.) His system consists of a set of computer-assisted cartography programs for the APPLE II computer. Although the resolution of the APPLE system is not particularly high, Youngmann considers it good enough to use for demos and community groups. The APPLE also has three basic advantages: speed of computation, ease of use, and interactive capabilities. Youngmann has implemented a statistical graphics package and discontinuous mapping procedures for choropleth maps on the APPLE. He also intends to implement simple continuous mapping procedures and interactive geographic entry.

In the latter part of the first session Richard Phillips of the University of Michigan described an emulator which he is running on the APPLE II computer. This emulator emulates Tektronix type vector graphics on the raster style APPLE. Output which normally would appear on a Tektronix can thus be shown on the APPLE by feeding it through the emulator. He indicated the basic limitation of the APPLE for this purpose is its low resolution. However, the distinct advantages of the APPLE are: fast area filling capabilities, color, and the ability to connect a plotter to get hard copy output.

Marvin White and Patricia E. Griffin presented a paper entitled "Coordinate Free Cartography". In this paper it is demonstrated that by using coordinate free cartography, one can test a network for topological correctives without attaching x and y coordinate values.

Paul M. Wilson and Donald A. Olmstead presented a paper entitled "The Data Structure of BASIS". BASIS is a grid cell system containing data about the San Francisco Bay region. Wilson and Olmstead discuss some of the efficient coding strategies used to implement this large data base on a mini computer.