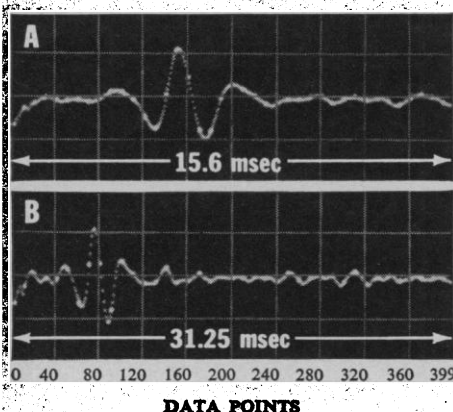


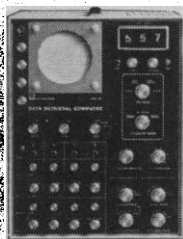
Our signal averager uses all its data points for better resolution.



More usable data points. In a signal averager, resolution is a function of the number of data points that can be placed within a region of interest. Resolution can, therefore, be a problem in any signal averager with a minimum dwell-time per data point of longer than the 39 μ sec. of our Model 7100 Data Retrieval Computer (15.6 msec. for 400 data points, display A, above). Many other signal averagers have a minimum dwell-time per data point as long as 78 μ sec. (31.25 msec. for 400 data points, display B, above). Our signal averager, the DRC, uses *all* of its data points for signals that occur within as little as 15.6 msec. Result: the DRC gives you *better* resolution.

Pre- and post-analysis interval control. Another way to improve resolution is to average only *meaningful* signals. The DRC provides wide-range control of both pre- and post-analysis delay intervals. No data points are wasted on signals occurring between stimulus and response or during recovery after response.

Performance plus versatility. The DRC also has an input sensitivity of 20 millivolts—requiring no pre-amplification for many applications. Besides transient-averaging, the DRC will perform time- and interval-histogram analysis, *without* add-on modules. Now, all of the DRC's performance and versatility is available at a new, lower price:



**The Model 7100
Data Retrieval Computer.**

*For more information
on the DRC and its
exciting new price,
consult your local
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If the examiner asks only questions jotted down in advance and allows the candidate to talk himself out in reply, then the exam might better have been written. Should the candidate either flounder or quickly demonstrate mastery, it may be best to probe elsewhere by politely interrupting with a different question. If one long struggle uses up most of the time allotted to a field, then, to compensate, short answers can be requested to a series of short questions. It is important, particularly with a marginal performance, that enough questions be asked to provide adequate sampling. If one examiner explores methods, or history, or relevant literature, another can turn to a different approach. Let us take advantage of the adaptability of the oral examination for making the most of time, achieving balance, finding strength and weakness, and assuring validity of the final judgment.

Some examiners allow candidates to pad answers against the chill of fresh questions. Some permit near answers to count as hits. Some feed answers or ask questions that can hardly be missed. ("What have you read lately? Tell us about it.") Some can be counted on to ask certain questions well known to the underground. Others require only an acquaintance with notes of their own courses. A difficult candidate for all examiners is the one who thinks and speaks slowly; he may require a second sitting to cover the material adequately. Let us maintain reasonable control of the pace, precision, and uniqueness of each examination, refusing to let gamesmanship substitute for scholarship.

Most examiners pass the test, many with distinction, yet low marks are too frequent to ignore. Let us make the effort to do our best.

MILTON HILDEBRAND

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Shrouds Around LSD

After my summer of one-way correspondence and long-distance calls, Dahlberg's letter (30 Sept.) regarding continued research with LSD was encouraging. Unfortunately, I have not been so lucky (for luck it must be, the logic eludes me), in obtaining LSD for research purposes. Last spring I designed an experiment to measure objective behavioral and performance

changes under the influence of LSD-25. With LSD fantasies running rampant, it seemed that a few facts would be useful. I hired a research assistant (on nonfederal funds) and we were about to start the project. Then came the send-it(LSD)-all-back-to-Sandoz letter. I objected, they commiserated, I sent it back. With the LSD went my approval to use the drug since this had been filed previously by Sandoz. They indicated that I should write to NIMH. Delayed but not discouraged, since I had formerly received an NIMH grant for LSD research from which resulted a book and several papers, I sent the proposal to them. I asked for approval and a small supply of the drug but *not* for funds. (Was this my error?) No reply for 1 month so I phoned—of course a committee had to meet, a stupid oversight on my part. It met and approved the proposal if I would change one step. Gladly, for it was a wise recommendation. Another month went by, no letter, no drug, so I phoned again. The committee had to meet again. (Will I never learn?) Eventually, upon phoning again, I learned that I did have the NIMH Committee's approval but I had to have someone in the Food and Drug Administration approve the distribution of the drug. I had spoken to only four different individuals at NIMH, but after speaking to five at the Food and Drug Administration, I despaired and hoped that my correspondence would eventually filter through to the appropriate person. The summer passed, the research assistant worked on his thesis, and I ran up a phone bill.

Contrary to Dahlberg's experience, the small amount of LSD research that we have undertaken in this research center has not gained me the reputation of being a "kook" but I have never been too sensitive to the criticisms of others whose pursuit of a quiet life is an excuse for being ineffectual. I have had the encouragement of the director of this institute and the chairman of the department of psychiatry, notwithstanding the obvious jeopardy of research with such a controversial agent as this.

I wish I could end this letter with the same phrase that Dahlberg used—that the work on LSD is proceeding as planned. Here it is not.

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