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Environmental Research Laboratories

SCINTDR – A Program for Controlling the Fremouw Scintillation Model

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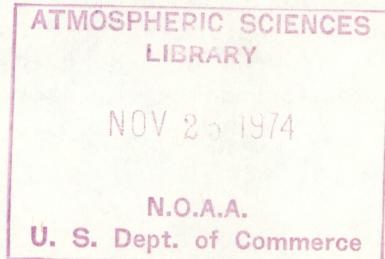
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"SCINTIDR-A PROGRAM FOR CONTROLLING
THE FREMOUW SCINTILLATION MODEL

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SCINTDR -- A PROGRAM FOR CONTROLLING THE FREMOUW
SCINTILLATION MODEL

T. A. Burrows
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ABSTRACT

A description of a program that computes the ionospheric scintillation index as a function of a number of input variables, such as transmitter frequency, sunspot number, time, and other parameters relating to transmitter-receiver geometry, is presented. The program, obtained from Stanford Research Institute, has been modified at NOAA for operation with the NOAA computational facility and for ease in inputting various parameters.

I. INTRODUCTION

A new program for controlling the Fremouw scintillation subroutine has been developed (for use on the CDC 3800). The printed output is not as flexible as that obtained from the original driver program, but the new program allows more control over the manner in which the input parameters are incremented and also allows the semiautomatic production of punched output that may be directly submitted to the contour-plotting program.

The only data set that the user must present to the program is a small control program written in the control language described in section III. The control program directs the way in which the input parameters to the scintillation subroutine are set and incremented; it also regulates the printing and punching of output. One may scan a grid by nesting parameter-incrementing loops.

The time required for executing the program is approximately $10+n/40$ seconds where n is the number of scintillation computations required.

II. INPUT AND OUTPUT VARIABLES

The 10 input parameters and their units are as follows:

<u>Parameter</u>	<u>Unit</u>
transmitter frequency	megahertz
sunspot number	dimensionless
day	1.0 to 365.0
time of day (at receiver)	0.0 to 24.0
receiver latitude	degrees
receiver longitude	degrees
receiver height	meters (always zero in the current version)
transmitter longitude	degrees
transmitter latitude	degrees
transmitter height	meters

All are in a floating point format. The following output parameters contain the results of a scintillation computation:

S3 (S4) (scintillation index)
PHI (rms phase-shift)
rms delta-N
azimuth
elevation
time at ionospheric penetration point
geomagnetic latitude of penetration point
BIGPHI (S3 is huge and therefore invalid)
BELOW (transmitter is below the horizon; S3 and PHI will
be set to zero).

All of the above mentioned input and output variables are automatically printed each time a scintillation computation takes place (all on one line), except that the current

version does not allow the receiver height to be printed because it is not changed during program execution. All of the other nine input variables must be explicitly set in the control program before a scintillation computation is performed. The variable S3 is printed, not S4 ($S3 = .73*S4$); and BIGPHI and BELOW are logical variables which print as 0 or 1. On the column heading, \dagger means BIGPHI and \ddagger means BELOW.

III. THE CONTROL LANGUAGE

The control language has a format resembling that of an assembly language. Each statement (instruction) goes on a separate card and has four fields:

<u>Columns</u>	<u>Designation</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	K	Control field containing an operation code which specifies one of the six instructions: blank, +, D, C, P, S. (See below for definition of these instructions.)
2-6	OP	If K=D, C, or S, OP is blank. If K=blank or +, OP is the three- or four-letter name of one of the input parameters: FREQ, SSN, DAY, TIME, RLAT, RLON, TLAT, TLON, THT. If K=P, then OP = BEGIN or END.
7-10	Unused	The contents of this field must be <u>left</u> justified.
11-20	Z ₁	If K= blank or +, Z ₁ contains a real number in the Fortran F10.0 format; otherwise, this field is blank.

21-30

Z₂

This field contains a real number K=+.

31-80

Unused

After the control program has been loaded, instructions are executed sequentially beginning with the first. Column headings are printed before the control program is started. The only branching that takes place is in the D-C (DO-CONTINUE) loops. Normal termination takes place when the interpreter runs off the end of the program (i.e., the end-of-file card acts like a STOP command).

The six instructions are described below:

DO (K=D)

Use this instruction, whose address is recorded on top of a stack, to transfer control to the instruction immediately following this DO statement when the matching CONTINUE statement is encountered.

CONTINUE (K=C)

Continue program execution at the instruction immediately following the DO statement that matches the CONTINUE statement. (The address of the DO is on top of the stack.) The CONTINUE acts like a GO TO statement; incrementing and testing of the indexing variables takes place not in the DO or CONTINUE statements, but in the + instructions.

SET PARAMETER (K=blank)

Set the variable whose name appears in the OP field to the value in the Z₁ field.

INCREMENT PARAMETER (K=+)

Increment the variable whose name appears in the OP field by the value in the Z₁ field ($Z_1 > 0.0$). If the result is $\leq Z_2$, continue on to the next instruction; otherwise, exit at the current D-C loop by transferring control to the instruction after the CONTINUE statement.

COMPUTE SCINTILLATION (K=S)

Execute the Fremouw scintillation subroutine by using the current values of the input parameters. Set S3 and PHI to zero if the transmitter is below the horizon; then print the results on a single line. Put 53 into the punch buffer if the punch is on. (Punch the buffer if it is off.)

PUNCH CONTROL (K=P)

Use this instruction for controlling the punched output and for printing markers between different sets of data generated during a single run. The OP field may contain the word BEGIN or END. Details are in the next section.

IV. PUNCHED OUTPUT

All values of S3 (scintillation index) that are computed may be saved on punched cards by turning the punch on before doing the computations. Initially, the punch is off; it may be turned on with a P BEGIN instruction. This statement may be executed more than once, even though the punch cannot be stopped once it is turned on. In addition to turning the punch on (if it is not already on), P BEGIN causes a page ejection, the printing of column heading, and three cards with asterisks in the first five columns to be punched. This instruction is useful for separating different sets of output that are all produced during one run.

Once the punch has been turned on, a value of S3 will be saved in the punch buffer each time the S command is executed. Whenever this buffer becomes full (it holds 16 numbers), the value of S3 that is held by the buffer is punched onto a card in 16F5.3 format; the buffer is thus cleared.

The PEND command will cause anything in the buffer to be sent to the punch. This command is usually given just after an innermost loop is finished; for example:

```
•  
•  
•  
P BEGIN  
•  
•  
•  
D  
S  
+RLON      2.5      95.  
C  
PEND  
•  
•  
•  
C  
•  
•  
•
```

Thus, one Fortran READ may be used to pick up each set of data that was generated by an innermost loop.

In addition to flushing the buffer, the PEND command causes a line of dashes to be printed. This is a lower level of separation than column headings. PEND may be used for this purpose even though the punch is off.

When scanning a grid on the earth's surface, increment the longitude in the innermost loop. This is necessary to make the punched output compatible with the contour-plotting program.

V. ERROR MESSAGES

Several user errors can be detected by this program; one at the time the control program is loaded, and others when their execution is attempted:

CONTROL PROGRAM TOO LONG

The limit is 50 instructions (detected at load time).

UNRECOGNIZABLE COMMAND

Column 1 is not D, C, S, P, blank, or +. User probably meant to use the SET PARAMETER instruction, but has forgotten the blank in the K field, thus putting the first letter of the parameter name in that column (detected at run time).

DO WITHOUT MATCHING CONTINUE

In any program, the number of DO's must equal the number of CONTINUES. One CONTINUE will not terminate more than one DO loop (detected at run time).

UNRECOGNIZABLE VARIABLE NAME

User probably meant to use the SET PARAMETER instruction, but has forgotten the blank in the K field, so that only the last letters of the parameter name went in the OP field (detected at run time).

VI. EXAMPLE

Suppose the problem is the following:

frequency = 40 MHz

sunspot number = 100

day = 81, and 172

time = midnight at 0° long

receiver longitude = 80°W to 80°E in steps of 5°

receiver latitude = 40°S to 40°N in steps of 5°

transmitter geostationary at 0° lat, 10°E (Height = 35.8 E6 meters).

Two grids are called for, each having a different DAY number.

Notice that as the receiver longitude is stepped, the time must also be stepped.

The control program to solve this problem appears on page 9. The deck shown would be inserted between the RUN card and the end-of-file card. Notice that the TIME must be initialized at 80°W to 18.6667 since the time at 0° is 24.00.

The printed output of the example is shown in Appendix A; the control program is listed, column headings are printed, and several pages of the output are shown. Notice that breaks occur when the latitude is incremented and when the DAY changes. Also, in the innermost loop, the +RLON instruction will be the one that determines when the loop is satisfied; therefore, in the +TIME instruction, the Z₂ field is almost irrelevant and may be set to a very large number. This method of termination is easier than computing the final value beforehand.

The flow chart for the SCINTDR program is shown in Appendix B.

CONTROL PROGRAM EXAMPLE

C	DAY	91.	172.
C	HRLAT	5.	40.
D	PEND	100.	
C	HTIME	5.	-80.
D	HRON	18.6667	
D	SD TIME	333333	
D	SD TIME	5.	
D	HRON	-80.	
D	DRLAT	35.826	
D	DRON	10.	
D	PBEGIN	15.618901045.	
D	DAY	35.0	
D	DAY	0.0	
D	TLON	0.0	
D	TLAT	0.0	
D	SSN	40.	
FREQ			

1938

1938

1938

1938

1938

1938

APPENDIX A. PRINTED OUTPUT OF THE EXAMPLE

CONTROL PROGRAM:

```

↓ ↓
      FREQ   4.00000+001
      SSN    1.00000+002
      TLAT   0.00000+000
      TLON   1.00000+001
      THT    3.58000+007
      DAY    8.10000+001
      D
      P BEGIN
      RLAT  -4.00000+001
      -D
      RLON  -8.00000+001
      TIME  1.86667+001
      -D
      S
      + RLON 5.00000+000
      -C
      + TIME 3.33330-001
      -C
      P END
      + RLAT  -0.00000+000
      + DAY   9.10000+001
      -C
      K
      ↑ ↑
      OP
      ↑
      z1
      ↑
      z2

```

Blank fields are
printed as -0.

APPENDIX B. FLOW CHART OF SCINTDR

