

Digital Computer Laboratory
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge 39, Massachusetts

October 25, 1954

Dear Sir:

A rate structure has been established for the WWI computer to become effective on November 15, 1954. From that day on, each user of the WWI computer will be required to provide either a purchase order or a credit allowance from Professor Morse's Committee on Machine Computation to cover the WWI machine time used.

Requests are now being accepted from DIC, DDL, or MIT department-sponsored projects for guaranteed machine time on the Whirlwind I computer. Not more than 50% of the total available computer time will be committed on this guaranteed basis. The remaining time will be set aside for research in coding techniques, thesis work, class exercises, demonstrations, and other faculty-sponsored educational projects for which there is no financial support.

Requests for guaranteed WWI time should be accompanied by purchase orders specifying the amount of machine time desired each week. Any reasonable amount of guaranteed time per week may be requested over a one-year period with a minimum of 15 minutes/week. The charge for a guaranteed weekly 15 minute period will be \$2500 per year increasing proportionally with the time requested. Moderate time adjustments (accumulating or borrowing) from week to week will be permitted wherever possible, but the possibility can not be guaranteed. There will be no refunds for unused time. Biweekly statements will be issued reporting the amount of machine time used by each problem.

Since many of the potential subscribers to this plan will prefer to have the year of their subscription coincide with the fiscal year, the annual rate will be reduced proportionally for the remainder of the present fiscal year.

In addition to this plan, short-term commitments of time will be made, when available, to DIC, DDL, or Department-sponsored research projects at a rate of \$250/hour.

Credit allowances will, in general, be granted only for faculty-sponsored research or educational projects for which there is inadequate financial support. Anyone requiring a credit allowance should submit to this office (by November 1, 1954 is possible) an estimate specifying the amount of machine time to be used for the remainder of the present fiscal year (that is, until June 30, 1955) together with a declaration of how much of the machine time can be paid for and a justification of why the problem should be given any further time. An endorsement by an MIT faculty member of the importance of the research and of the inadequacy of financial support should be presented. Also information should be included describing whether the project involved will become self-supporting, when this will occur, or why it will not.

The final decision as to whether all or part of a problem falls in the educational (no charge) category will rest with Professor Morse's Committee on Machine Computation. When the free time (credit allowance) allotted to a problem has been consumed, it will be necessary that a new request be approved before additional machine time can be used.

It is realized that in many cases it will be difficult to estimate the amount of machine time to be used over a given period of time. For such cases, revised estimates will be accepted. However, new requests can only be satisfied if the machine time is available.

Sincerely,


Jack D. Porter

JDP:mm