National Center for Atmospheric Research
Scientific Computing Division

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Description

The Scientific Computing Division (SCD) of the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) provides supercomputing resources and services that support research in the atmospheric, oceanographic, and related sciences. We emphasize facilities for the development and execution of large models and for the archival and manipulation of large datasets.

- Cray X-MP/48 supercomputer running the Cray Operating System (COS) with 256 megawords of solid-state storage.
- Dicomed graphical film processors capable of producing high-volume black-and-white microfiche as well as black-and-white or color 16-mm and 35-mm film.
- Mass Storage System (MSS) using the IBM 3480 cartridge system associated with a disk farm that provides over 100 gigabytes of disk storage. Currently, over 10 terabytes of information are archived on the MSS.
- Xerox 4050 laser printers for text and graphical output.
- A Cray X-MP/18 running the UNICOS operating system. (Available to users in 1989)

The Internet Remote Job Entry (IRJE) and the MASnet/Internet Gateway Server (MIGS) are SCD-developed facilities that allow the user to access SCD's computer resources while using their own local mainframe, workstation, or personal computer as a front-end. The above systems are also accessible directly via SCD's IBM 4381 front end computer.

SCD offers:

- Consulting expertise on the SCD computing facilities via the Consulting Office.
- A user area for visiting scientists.
- Documentation, reference materials, and the SCD Computing News monthly newsletter.
- Training for users new to SCD's computing environment.
- Extensive software libraries for use on the Cray computers, such as IMSL, NAG, FISHPAK, SLATEC, ODEPACK, FITPACK, NCAR Graphics, and others.

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Network Access

NCAR has access to several national networks using the TCP/IP protocol, including NSFNET (backbone node) and NASA's Science Network. NCAR also operates and manages the TCP/IP-based University Satellite Network (USAN), which provides NCAR with high-performance direct links to user sites. NCAR has a gateway to Bitnet and SPAN.

Who Can Use The Center

SCD's computing resources are available to scientists and researchers with NSF projects in the atmospheric, oceanographic, and related sciences. Accounts must be approved through SCD. Once approved, resources are allocated. Time on the X-MP/18 will be available to government agencies on a cost-recovery basis. Users with NSF grants should contact John Adams, NCAR/SCD, P.O. Box 3000, Boulder CO 90303, for an application form.