

Providing Open Access to Government Information Federal Technical Reports



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- **What are Federal Technical Reports?**
 - The Value of Technical Reports
 - How to find content digitized by TRAIL
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 - Marketing Materials
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Introduction

Mission

Workflow Overview



TRAIL

- Began as a Greater Western Library Alliance (GWLA) collaborative project with the Center for Research Libraries
- Developed into a Center for Research Libraries (CRL) Global Resources Network Initiative



Mission

**TO ENSURE PRESERVATION, DISCOVERABILITY, AND
PERSISTENT OPEN ACCESS TO GOVERNMENT TECHNICAL
PUBLICATIONS REGARDLESS OF FORM OR FORMAT**

Fulfilling the Mission

- **IDENTIFY, ACQUIRE, CATALOG, AND DIGITIZE U.S. GOVERNMENT TECHNICAL REPORTS**
- **PROVIDE UNRESTRICTED ACCESS TO THESE DIGITIZED TECHNICAL REPORTS THROUGH THE TRAIL SEARCH INTERFACE AND INTERNET SEARCH ENGINES**
- **IDENTIFY & INVESTIGATE THE LONG-TERM PRESERVATION POSSIBILITIES OF THIS UNIQUE BODY OF LITERATURE**



Technical Reports are identified at institutions across the country before being sent to the University of Arizona.

The University of Arizona is the central processing site and is routinely referred to as “Central” by TRAIL members.



“Central” or The University of Arizona

- receives shipments, assembles collections, and creates Google spreadsheet processing inventories
- creates catalog records for each technical report
- ships processed technical reports to either the University of Michigan or the University of North Texas for digitization





The mission of TRAIL is to ensure preservation, discoverability, and persistent open access to government technical publications regardless of form or format.

TRAIL website @ CRL / TRAILGuides / Series / About this guide

Series

Use this guide to access the processing inventory for each series.

About this guide
Army Corps of Engineering
Atomic Energy Commission
Bureau of Mines
Coast Guard
Department of Commerce
Department of Energy
Environmental Protection Agency
Fish & Wildlife Service
Geological Survey
National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics
National Bureau of Standards
National Earthquake Information Center
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Saline Waters
About TRAIL

About TRAIL Series Processing Inventories

Series listed are linked to spreadsheets which are the **TRAIL series processing inventories**.

These inventories, which may be downloaded, list individual report titles that have been processed by TRAIL for digitization and provide a link to the digital copy as it becomes available.

If you know of a report that is missing or would like to supply a needed report, please contact the [Coordinator of the Collections Working Group](#).

Note: A digitized report may not be viewable for many reasons due to the original item format, the time it takes to process/ship/digitize, and to copyright issues that preclude public access of the image.

Guide Status

This inventory guide will always be under construction! It is the nature of federal technical reports to cause confusion and wonder. TRAIL strives to provide accurate information about which report series we are digitizing or harvesting and the status of each project.

TRAIL Working Group Member Librarians

Email:
TRAIL@crl.edu

Sinai Wood

Email TRAIL



What are Federal Technical Reports?

The Value of Technical Reports
How to find content digitized by TRAIL



Value of Technical Report Literature

A technical report is a document that describes the process, progress, or results of technical or scientific research or the state of a technical or scientific research problem. It might also include recommendations and conclusions of the research.

- **The U.S. government publishes technical reports to communicate progress in government research in technology and science**
- **They deliver information for technical development to industry and research institutions contributing to the continued growth of science and technology**
- **They contain valuable information serving specialized audiences of researchers**

Common Problems associated with Technical Report Literature

- Inconsistent or differing dissemination practices
- Limited bibliographic access and control
- Multi-format collections; across multiple physical locations
- No title level cataloging – series level records with no holdings
- Most not available electronically; challenging to ILL

The Search Interface

Use the TRAIL Search Interface to help researchers with their TRAIL content questions



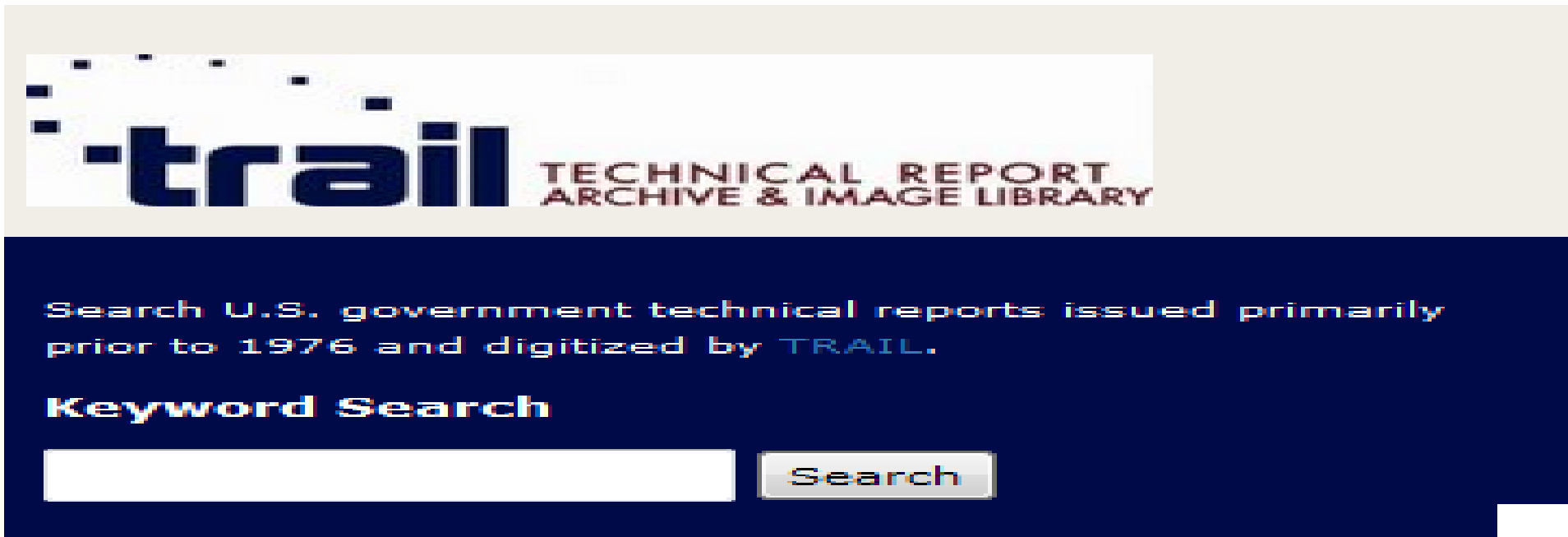
The screenshot shows the TRAIL search interface. At the top left is the TRAIL logo with the text 'TECHNICAL REPORT ARCHIVE & IMAGE LIBRARY'. To the right are social media icons for Facebook and Twitter. Below the logo is a dark blue search bar with the text 'Search U.S. government technical reports digitized or harvested by TRAIL.' Inside the search bar, there is a 'KEYWORD SEARCH' section with the prompt 'Enter your search term(s):', a text input field, a 'Search' button, and a link to '[advanced search]'. Below the search bar, there are links for 'Browse TRAIL Inventories', 'About TRAIL | FAQ | Join TRAIL | Contact Us', and 'Search developed and maintained by the University of Washington Libraries Copyright 2010'. At the bottom right is the CRL logo and the text 'Center for Research Libraries GLOBAL RESOURCES NETWORK'. A red arrow points from the search bar to a list of search criteria: Title, Author, Report Number, Document Type, Publication Year, and Issuing Agency.

<http://www.technicalreports.org>

LibGuide Widget and Code @ TRAILGuides

<https://www.crl.edu/grn/trail/about-trail/trail-tools>

TRAIL Search Widget



The screenshot shows the TRAIL Search Widget interface. At the top, the TRAIL logo is displayed in a large, bold, blue font, with the text "TECHNICAL REPORT ARCHIVE & IMAGE LIBRARY" in a smaller, black font to its right. Below the logo, a dark blue background contains the text "Search U.S. government technical reports issued primarily prior to 1976 and digitized by TRAIL." in white. Underneath this text, the words "Keyword Search" are written in a bold, white font. A white search input field is positioned to the left of a grey "Search" button.

The TRAIL Search Widget is available for use on guides or webpages.

(Acknowledgement: Thank you Norma J Dowell, Iowa State University)



NBS Metric Kit : Official Metric Information

More Sizes Lower Lights Page: 7329_38

All You Will Need to Know About Metric (For Your Everyday Life)

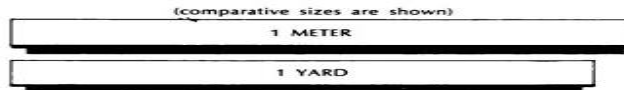
10

Metric is based on Decimal system

The metric system is simple to learn. For use in your everyday life you will need to know only ten units. You will also need to get used to a few new temperatures. Of course, there are other units which most persons will not need to learn. There are even some metric units with which you are already familiar: those for time and electricity are the same as you use now.

BASIC UNITS

- METER:** a little longer than a yard (about 1.1 yards)
- LITER:** a little larger than a quart (about 1.06 quarts)
- GRAM:** a little more than the weight of a paper clip



25 DEGREES FAHRENHEIT

COMMON PREFIXES (to be used with basic units)

- milli:** one-thousandth (0.001)
 - centi:** one-hundredth (0.01)
 - kilo:** one-thousand times (1000)
- For example:**
 1000 millimeters = 1 meter
 100 centimeters = 1 meter
 1000 meters = 1 kilometer

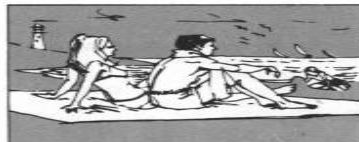


OTHER COMMONLY USED UNITS

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| millimeter: 0.001 meter | diameter of paper clip wire |
| centimeter: 0.01 meter | a little more than the width of a paper clip (about 0.4 inch) |
| kilometer: 1000 meters | somewhat further than 1/2 mile (about 0.6 mile) |
| kilogram: 1000 grams | a little more than 2 pounds (about 2.2 pounds) |
| milliliter: 0.001 liter | five of them make a teaspoon |

OTHER USEFUL UNITS

- hectare:** about 2 1/2 acres
- metric ton:** about one ton



Search Inside Search

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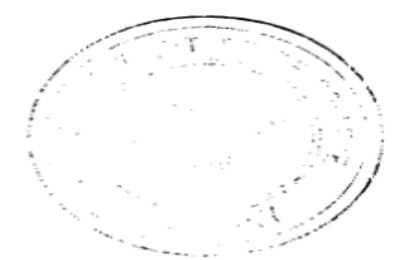


Permanent link to this book

R. I. 3040

OCTOBER, 1930

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE UNITED STATES BUREAU OF MINES SCOTT TURNER, DIRECTOR



REPORT OF INVESTIGATIONS

THE RESPONSE OF JAPANESE WALTZING MICE AND CANARIES TO CARBON MONOXIDE AND TO ATMOSPHERES DEFICIENT IN OXYGEN





Currently Limited To

Collection: TRAIL
Microcard Collection

Type: Report

Clear All Filters

Available Filters

Serial/Series Titles 121

World Regions 2

Countries 3

U.S. States 17

Counties 19

Decades 4

Years 26

Months 12

Days 31

TRAIL Microcard Collection - 2,744 Matching Results

Your Search Terms:

Other Search Options

Look In: Full Text

Search

Results: 1 - 24 of 2,744 next



Sort Options



6.70 EV Resonance in U²³⁸

"Using the Brookhaven fast chopper, transmission curves were obtained for the 6.70 +/- .06 ev resonance in U²³⁸ using four different thicknesses of natural uranium metal." The measurements for the transmission curves are summarized in the table provided.

DATE: November 9, 1953

CREATOR: Levin, Jules S.

PARTNER: UNT Libraries Government Documents Department



9-Zoom : A One-Dimensional, Multigroup, Neutron Diffusion Theory Reactor Code for the IBM 709

The following document describes the usage and purpose of the neutron diffusion theory reactor program 9-Zoom, a memory-contained program that takes advantage of 709 features such as, for example, preferential order of multiply by zero, and for small



TRAIL Accomplishments

Microcard Pilot Project
Marketing Materials



Microcard Digitization Project

- 33,000 reports (50,000 microcards) from University of Arizona Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) Collection
 - AEC Depository Program separate from the FDLP
- University of North Texas (UNT) managing the digitization through a commercial vendor
- UNT takes digital file of entire card and divides into report pages
- TRAIL Processing Group will create catalog records
- Digital files will be available through [UNT TRAIL Microcard Collection](https://digital.library.unt.edu/explore/collections/TRAMC/)
<https://digital.library.unt.edu/explore/collections/TRAMC/>



Microcard Project Status

- Delivery of microcards to vendor from November 2020 to May 2021
- 100% of microcards digitized
- UNT post-processing remaining 13 boxes
- 2% have been uploaded to UNT TRAIL Microcard Collection

Let your STEM librarians know about this project too!

You may make them so happy they will give you cookies!



Marketing Materials

Media Kit Page <https://www.crl.edu/trail-media-kit>

- Infographics
- Social media graphics and text
- TRAIL logos

Newsletters - We now have a quarterly newsletter too!

TRAILTalk listserv - email to join at TRAIL@crl.edu to learn more



Join us!

Institutional Membership
Personal Membership



TRAIL Members

Institutions

Los Alamos National Laboratory
Arizona State University
University of Arizona
University of Arkansas
Baylor University
California Institute of Technology
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, Riverside
University of California, San Diego
University of Cincinnati
Colorado School of Mines
University of Colorado
Georgia Institute of Technology
U.S. Government Publishing Office
Harvard University
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Indiana University
Iowa State University
University of Iowa
Johns Hopkins University
Kansas State University
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
University of Massachusetts Amherst
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University of New Mexico
University of North Texas
Northwestern University
University of Notre Dame
Ohio State University
Oklahoma State University
Oregon State University
Pennsylvania State University
University of Pennsylvania
Princeton University
Purdue University
Rice University
Stanford University
Syracuse University
Texas A & M University
Texas Tech University
University of Texas at Austin
University of Texas at San Antonio
Utah State University
Virginia Tech
Washington State University
University of Washington
University of Wisconsin-Madison
University of Wyoming
Yale University

Personal Members

Carol Brach
Heather Christenson
Scott Curtis
Josh Finnell
Robert Heyer-Gray
Luis Interiano
John Napp
Daureen Neddill
Stephen Pomes
Paige Shank
Michael White



How to Join TRAIL

<https://www.crl.edu/grn/trail/about-trail/how-join-trail>

Institutions wishing to participate in TRAIL should fill out the TRAIL Participant Agreement. As of FY22, TRAIL members pay an annual membership fee of \$3,000.

Individuals who work at institutions that are not institutional members may join TRAIL by filling out the Individual Participant Agreement. There is **no membership fee** for Individual Members of TRAIL.



Contribute to TRAIL

TRAIL is a smaller community and volunteers have the chance to be active and have impact.

- Steering Committee
- Collections Working Group
- Communications Working Group
- Membership Working Group
- Metrics Working Group
- Processing Working Group



TRAIL is looking for additional partners to participate in the project. Institutions, whether large or small, can participate in many ways, including:

- If you are weeding, we'd like your documents!
 - Visit the TRAIL Guide to see our needs
 - We post on FDLP eXchange to fill gaps in our series
 - We encourage you to post technical report discards on FDLP eXchange
 - We will begin posting needs lists on GovDoc-L soon

Future Directions

- Explore possible partnering opportunities (content, discovery, funding, etc.)
- Distributed Cataloging Project
- Improve the workflows of TRAIL and its partners
- Involve new personal members in the project
- Work to add more members, including government agencies in addition to the Government Publishing Office, which joined in 2015 and Los Alamos National Laboratory in 2020.





Check out our TRAIL Video Celebration
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=715ZYaWdkyg>



