SPREADSHEETING ON THE TRS-80® COLOR COMPUTER
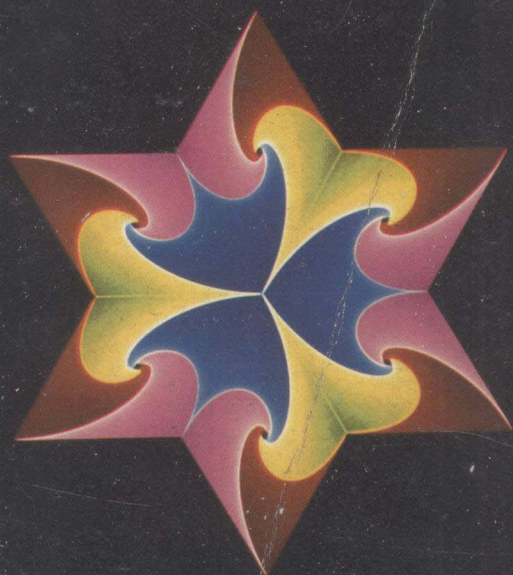
HARRY ANBARLIAN

SPREADSHEETING ON THE TRS-80® COLOR COMPUTER

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THIS BOOK IS DEDICATED TO
MY VERY LOVELY AND
EXTRAORDINARILY TALENTED
WIFE, MARINA ...

WHO NOT ONLY CREATED THE
FORMAT FOR THIS BOOK,
BUT
TYPED IT AND PROVIDED THE
ENTHUSIASTIC LOVE AND SUPPORT
TO MAKE IT ALL POSSIBLE ...

PREFACE

- This book is designed to help you "plug" into the Computer Age by providing you with hands-on experience in creating <u>your own low cost reusable electronic worksheet matrixes</u>.

- This book is primarily for Radio Shack TRS-80 Color Computer users who by using the <u>Spectaculator</u> (electronic worksheet) Software Program at their own pace will be able to create and display, in simple English, <u>problem-solving matrixes</u>.

- This book is for those of you who know a great deal about what you want a micro-computer to do automatically for you, but <u>know very little about programming</u> or microcomputers.

- This book is for those of you, whether in business, school, government or at home, who want a tool (matrixing) to solve real world problems quickly and easily and want to be able to <u>show results quickly, without programming knowledge</u>, without programmers and without fuss.

Although this book is primarily for Radio
Shack TRS-80 Color Computer users, crea-
ting and using the Spectaculator matrixes
illustrated in this book will give you ex-
perience in using electronic worksheets,
also known as electronic spreadsheets and
Financial Planning Packages. There are
many electronic worksheet programs cur-
rently available for microcomputers as
well as big computers and minicomputers;
and there is little doubt that use of
microcomputers has significantly increased
because of them.

However, you definitely need the Radio
Shack TRS-80 Color Computer and the Spec-
taculator Software Program to learn elec-
tronic worksheet matrixing as explained
in this book. Those of you who may be a
little afraid of using computers or
looking foolish or inadequate in an office
environment can learn in your own home and
at very little cost, since the Color Com-
puter and the Spectaculator Software Pro-
gram are modestly priced.

This book will give you the ability to use
an electronic worksheet to create matrixes
(also known as Templates and Models) for
your own needs and specifications. Crea-
ting matrixes with the Spectaculator Soft-
ware Program is almost like having a phono-
graph record with an orchestra on it that
you can direct to create your own music.

This book will give you, through hands-on
experience, the ability to direct your
home computer to productive use almost
immediately, without having to learn any
complex programming languages. You will
learn to create automated programs (mat-
rixes) at your own pace and control.

We intend that after you complete the step-
by-step matrixes, which are designed to in-
crease in complexity, you will be able to
create matrixes tailored to fit your own
individual business, government, home or
educational needs. You certainly will
have a better understanding of the wide
range of uses for electronic worksheet
matrixes after completing this book, and
some of you may even want to save the ma-
trixes you create on a tape recorder and
create a library of matrixes common to
varying tasks for others to use.

All of the matrixes in this book are simply
presented and the step-by-step process lea-
ves little to your imagination. Further,
we are very much aware that a book of this
kind requires that the matrixes work and
are defect free. To that end, my wife,
Marina, who has little knowledge of com-
puters or programming, tested each matrix
and her acute observations ensured that
this book was simple and free of any ex-
planations or matrixes that a layperson
would not understand.

We have offered a wide variety of sample
matrixes, such as Electric Bill for home
or business use, charts and graphs for
school or business presentations and Zero
Base Budgets for government, business and
home use. We have even included a Three-
Dimensional Bar Graph matrix if you really
want to get fancy.

We hope this book will help you unleash
your creative powers not only in the use
of microcomputers but in the use of elec-
tronic worksheets where you can proceed
to develop matrixes for applications we
have not dreamed of.

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C O N T E N T S

C O N T E N T S

S E C T I O N   I I ...   SPECTACULATOR

                            MATRIXING EXERCISES

CONTENTS

C O N T E N T S

S E C T I O N   I I I ...   THE POLISHED

MATRIX

SECTION I ...   SPREADSHEETING WITH
                                    THE SPECTACULATOR
                                  ELECTRONIC WORKSHEET

● INTRODUCTION ...

● CHAPTER 1 ...

THE SPECTACULATOR
BLACKBOARD

INTRODUCTION

SPREADSHEETING WITH

THE SPECTACULATOR

ELECTRONIC WORKSHEET

● **WHAT IS SPECTACULATOR ELECTRONIC WORKSHEET MATRIXING?**

The dictionary defines matrix as "that which forms or determines".

An electronic worksheet such as Spectaculator can be defined as a multi-purpose, problem-solving software package that utilizes the microcomputer's powerful memory in performing calculations.

Combine the two definitions and Spectaculator electronic worksheet matrixing is creating reusable, saveable electronic worksheet forms, which through software such as Spectaculator utilizes the microcomputer's powerful memory in performing calculations designed for your own specific applications.

● **WHY THIS BOOK IS WRITTEN IN THREE SECTIONS**

This book is written in three sections, Sections I, II and III. Section I is to

introduce you to Spectaculator (electronic
worksheet) matrixing. Section II is writ-
ten to provide you with the actual steps
in creating matrixes by using the Specta-
culator software program on the Radio
Shack Color Computer. And Section III is
devoted to how to create polished matrixes
for reports and presentations.

● HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

The most important chapters in this book
contain exercises that will give you hands-
on experience in creating Spectaculator
electronic worksheet matrixes. The exer-
cises are Simple, Moderately Complex and
Complex. Although some of the matrixes
can be very useful to your own specific
applications, they are designed to cover
a wide spectrum of uses. You will see the
countless ways matrixes can be used, limi-
ted only to your own creative imagination.
If you follow the simple steps in the hands-
on exercises, you will not only create use-
ful matrixes, but you will also learn step
by step how each matrix is created, so you
can create original matrixes of your own.

● HOW TO USE THE EXERCISES

Each exercise is designed to help you to
gain the hands-on experience to create
Spectaculator matrixes that will solve
specific problems through a systematic
step-by-step process.

Each exercise contains the following:

a. OBJECTIVE

The objective explains the purpose for creating the matrix. It simply states the problem to be solved. As you read the objective of each exercise, you may want to list other similar objectives that occur to you, so that at the end of the exercise you may tailor the matrix to meet your own individual applications.

b. DOING IT BY HAND

The purpose of this part in each exercise is to simply state how you would solve the problem if you did not have a microcomputer. Just keep in mind that the steps as described generally compute one item at a time, whereas the microcomputer will calculate all of the items in a fraction of the time - with no errors. This part also contains all formulas that are required to solve the problems the matrixes are created to automatically calculate.

c. ACTUAL STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS FOR CREATING A BLANK MATRIX

This part contains the actual steps you will type to create the matrixes. Each exercise will be in the following format: