



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Bureau of Standards
Washington, D.C. 20234

November 21, 1972

Dr. Kristo Ivanov
R. Almstroemsgatan 3 - 5 tr
113 36 Stockholm, SWEDEN

Dear Dr. Ivanov:


When your great opus on QUALITY-CONTROL OF INFORMATION ... reached me early in August of this year, after glancing through it myself and showing portions of it, particularly several of the appendices, to various colleagues in the NBS Statistical Engineering Laboratory, I passed the volume along to my friend David Rosenblatt, who is especially concerned with "accuracy of information in data banks and in management information systems". He still has it. Consequently, when your letter of November 8 arrived inquiring regarding any comments that I might have on your work, especially about your "loose speculation on page 5.35 about the possibility of statistical formalization of my proposal on pp. 4.33 to 4.51", I telephoned Dave and said that under the circumstances I would have to count on him for a reply. A few days later he replied as follows:

Ivanov's dissertation is a brilliant piece of work and very courageous too. His proposal is feasible. The formalization can be done in a number of ways. One easy way is to use parts of present theories of discrete stochastic automata and the interactions of such automata.

And he suggested that for a brief discussion of a related study with a quite different objective you might wish to look at his comments on pages 83-84 of Robert Machol, Editor, Information and Decision Processes (New York: McGraw-Hill, 1960). Incidentally, Rosenblatt is so enthusiastic about your opus that he showed it to Edgar S. Dunn, Jr., of Resources for the Future, Inc., who was very stimulated by it too and has written, or is planning to write to you for a copy.

For the moment the foregoing seem to be all the comments that I can muster. I hope that they will be of some utility. Good luck in your forthcoming "debate".

Sincerely,


Churchill Eisenhart
Senior Research Fellow