Dietzgen Catalog Matrix
Bruce Babcock, Ph.D.

This matrix of Dietzgen slide rules, catalogs and price lists was compiled from a pool of 38 separate documents to provide a quick and simple reference regarding Dietzgen slide rules from 1887 to 1972. As you can see from the list, 154 different model numbers and variations were identified. A close look at the list will show that there are actually less than 154 different model numbers because some numbers were reused. For example No. 1764 was assigned to the five inch Mack Improved Slide rule from 1902 to 1911 and was assigned again to the ten inch Maniplex Mannheim rule from 1949 to 1952.

Some rules such as the first listing for number 1772A do not include a description because the rule was only located in a price list and not in a catalog. It was assumed that the description of the 1772A which appeared from 1919 to 1928 certainly did not apply to the rule offered in 1972.

In some instances model numbers continued to appear in price lists for several years after they last appeared in a catalog. Example of this are numbers 1768, 1768L, 1769 and 1770 all of which were listed in a catalog for the last time in 1921. However they continued to be listed in the price lists for ten more years.

In many of the catalogs a slide rule would be given a suffix after the model number when it was supplied with a leather case. This matrix does not include these numbers. There is some room for confusion here. In many catalogs the letter L was used when the rule was supplied with a case. However, in the example of the 1768 and 1768L mentioned above the 1768 is a five inch rule and the 1768L is a eight inch rule, both of which are supplied in leather cases. When the information for the matrix was taken from a price list with no description available, as was the case with some of the rules in the 1972 price list it was difficult to know whether or not a new number indicated a new rule or a rule with a case or other accessory.

The information for 1905 did not come from a catalog but from an advertisement in the back of the book, *Mannheim and Multiplex Slide Rules* by L. W. Rosenthal. This book was copyrighted by Eugene Dietzgen Co. in 1905.

The Dietzgen company issued some spe-

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No.	MODEL NO.	LENGTH	DESCRIPTION	INDICATOR	NO. OF LISTINGS
1	B1725L				1
2	N1725	10	VECTOR TYPE LOG LOG	FRAMED FULL VIS	5
3	N1725	10	VECTOR TYPE LOG LOG MICROGLIDE		1
4	1731	10	MANIPHASE LOG LOG TRIG	FULL VISION	7
5	N1731	10	MANIPHASE TRIG TYPE LOG LOG	FRAMED FULL VIS	5
6	1732	10	MANIPHASE DEC LOG LOG TRIG	FULL VISION	7
7	N1732	10	MANIPHASE DECIMAL TRIG LOG LOG	FRAMED FULL VIS	5
8	N1733	10	DECIMAL TRIG TYPE LOG LOG	FRAMED FULL VIS	6
9	1734	10	DECIMAL TRIG LOG LOG MICROGLIDE		1
10	B1734L				1
11	1735	10	MANIPHASE LOG LOG VECTOR	FULL VISION	7
12	1736	10	MULTILOG MULTIPLEX DEC TRIG LOG LOG	FRAMED FULL VIS	1
13	1737				1
14	1738	10	DECIMAL TRIG TYPE LOG LOG (METAL)	"FULL VISION"	6
15	1738P	8	PHILLIPS	FRAMELESS	6
16	1739L	10	CLEAR-SCALE LOG LOG (PLASTIC)		3
17	1740P	10	PHILLIPS	FRAMELESS	8
18	1741				1
19	1742	10	MANIPHASE MULTIPLEX DEC TRIG		9
20	1742P	20	PHILLIPS	FRAMELESS	8
21	1743	10	MANIPHASE-MANNHEIM TRIG	FULL VISION	12
22	1744	10	POLYMATH		4
23	1744	10	MANIPHASE MUTIPLEX DECIMAL TRIG	FULL VISION	9
24	1745	10	MANIPHASE (DUPLEX)		0
25	1746	10	MANIPHASE MULTIPLEX	FULL VISION	7
26	1748P	8	MANIPHASE	FRAMELESS	8
27	1749	10	MANIPHASE DEC. TRIG TYPE (METAL)	FULL VISION	6
28	1750P	10	MANIPHASE		10
29	1751	10	INDUSTRIAL	FULL VISION	8
30	1751	10	INDUSTRIAL	FRAMELESS	4
31	1752P	20	MANIPHASE	FRAMELESS	8
32	1755P	5	MANNHEIM	FRAMELESS	7
33	1756	10	COMMERCE		2
34	1756-20	20	COMMERCE DESK MODEL		2
35	1757	10	PRIMA-TRIG (PLASTIC)		5
36	1758P	8	MANNHEIM	FRAMELESS	8
37	1759A	8	PHILLIPS	FRAMELESS	8
38	1759B	10	PHILLIPS	FRAMELESS	8
39	1759C	20	PHILLIPS	FRAMELESS	8
40	1760A	5	MULTIPLEX W/ DIETZGEN ADJUSTMENT	GLASS	7
41	1760AL	8	MULTIPLEX W/ DIETZGEN ADJUSTMENT	GLASS	2
42	1760B	10	MULTIPLEX W/ DIETZGEN ADJUSTMENT	GLASS	7
43	1760BL	16	MULTIPLEX W/ DIETZGEN ADJUSTMENT	GLASS	2
44	1760C	20	MULTIPLEX W/ DIETZGEN ADJUSTS	GLASS	2
45	1760P	10	MANNHEIM	FRAMELESS	10
46	1761	10	MANIPHASE MANNHEIM	FRAMELESS	7
47	1761-20	20	MANIPHASE MANNHEIM	FRAMELESS	6
48	1761A	5	MULTIPLEX (NO CUBE SCALE)	GLASS	2
49	1761AL	8	MULTIPLEX (NO CUBE SCALE)	GLASS	2
50	1761B	10	MULTIPLEX (NO CUBE SCALE)	GLASS	7
51	1761BL	16	MULTIPLEX (NO CUBE SCALE)	GLASS	2
52	1761C	20	MULTIPLEX (NO CUBE SCALE)	GLASS	2
53	1762A	5	MULTIPLEX W/ MACK ADJUSTMENT	GLASS	4
54	1762AL	8	MULTIPLEX W/ MACK ADJUSTMENT	GLASS	3
55	1762B	10	MULTIPLEX W/ MACK ADJUSTMENT	GLASS	4
56	1762BL	16	MULTIPLEX W/ MACK ADJUSTMENT	GLASS	3
57	1762C	20	MULTIPLEX W/ MACK ADJUSTMENT	GLASS	4
58	1762P	20	MANNHEIM	GLASS	8
59	1763A	5	MULTIPLEX W/ RECIPROCAL SCALE	GLASS	4
60	1763AL	8	MULTIPLEX W/ RECIPROCAL SCALE	GLASS	3
61	1763B	10	MULTIPLEX W/ RECIPROCAL SCALE	GLASS	4
62	1763BL	16	MULTIPLEX W/ RECIPROCAL SCALE	GLASS	3
63	1763C	20	MULTIPLEX W/ RECIPROCAL SCALE	GLASS	4
64	1763P	10	MONARCH	FRAMELESS	3
65	1764	5	MACK IMPROVED	GLASS	6
66	1764	10	MANIPLEX MANNHEIM		2
67	1764A	5	POCKET SLIDE RULE, METAL	FRAMELESS	1
68	1764L	8	MACK IMPROVED	GLASS	3
69	1764M	5	POCKET SLIDE RULE, METAL	UNBREAKABLE	2
70	1765	10	MACK IMPROVED	GLASS	6
71	1765F	5	POCKET SLIDE RULE, CELLULOID		10
72	1765L	16	MACK IMPROVED	GLASS	3
73	1765P	5	POCKET SLIDE RULE, BOXWOOD		4
74	1765P	10	BASIK (PLASTIC)		7
75	1766	10	SCHOLAR		1
76	1766P	10	MANNHEIM		0
77	1766PN	10	BEGINNERS'	FRAMELESS	2

MODEL NO	LENGTH	DESCRIPTION	INDICATOR	NO. OF LISTINGS
78 1766PN	10	SCHOLAR, WHITE WOOD	FRAMELESS	1
79 1767	10	NATIONAL (PLASTIC)		5
80 1767	20	MACK IMPROVED	GLASS	6
81 1767H	10	APPRENTICE		1
82 1767P	10	NATIONAL	NONBREAKABLE	6
83 N1767				1
84 1768	5	MANNHEIM	FRAMELESS	10
85 1768	5	DIETZGEN IMPROVED	GLASS	2
86 1768L	5	MANNHEIM	FRAMELESS	10
87 1768L	8	DIETZGEN IMPROVED	GLASS	2
88 1768P	10	RELIANCE	NONBREAKABLE	5
89 1769	10	MANNHEIM	FRAMELESS	10
90 1769	10	DIETZGEN IMPROVED	GLASS	2
91 1769L	16	DIETZGEN IMPROVED	GLASS	2
92 1769P	10	FEDERAL (CELLULOID ON CHERRY)	NONBREAKABLE	3
93 1770	20	MANNHEIM	FRAMELESS	10
94 1770	5	STANDARD ADJUSTABLE	GLASS	2
95 1770	20	DIETZGEN IMPROVED	GLASS	2
96 1770P	10	UNION	FRAMELESS	5
97 1770T	10	LANGSNER INDUSTRIAL	FRAMELESS	2
98 1771	10	STANDARD ADJUSTABLE	GLASS	2
99 1771	5	REDIRULE (PLASTIC)		2
100 1771	5	REDI-RULE (PLASTIC)	PLASTIC	14
101 1771A	10	ECONOMY (IVORINE)	GLASS	2
102 1771B	10	ECONOMY (HARDWOOD)	GLASS	2
103 1772	20	STANDARD ADJUSTABLE	GLASS	2
104 1772A				1
105 1772A	5	UNION POCKET	FRAMELESS	9
106 1772A	5	UNION	GLASS	2
107 1772B	10	UNION POCKET	FRAMELESS	10
108 1772B	10	UNION	GLASS	2
109 1772P	10	PHILLIPS	FRAMELESS	2
110 1773	5	LOG-LOG (PLASTIC)	UNBREAKABLE	8
111 1773A	5	SCHOLAR (CARDBOARD)	METAL	4
112 1773B	10	SCHOLAR (CARDBOARD)	METAL	4
113 1774F	6	CELLULOID POCKET SLIDE RULE		1
114 1774M		LT METAL POCKET RULE		1
115 1775P		SCHOLAR (CARDBOARD)	METAL	2
116 1776	5	REDIRULE (PLASTIC)		2
117 1776	5	UNION	GLASS	4
118 1777	10	UNION	GLASS	4
119 1778	5	REDILOG (PLASTIC)		2
120 1778	10	COLLEGE (PAPER SCALES)	AMBRO	2
121 1778A	10	HAZEN-WILLIAMS	GLASS	2
122 1778B	10	UNIVERSAL	GLASS	2
123 1779	5	POCKET LOG (MAGNESIUM)		7
124 1779	5	FABER	GLASS	2
125 1780	10	FABER	GLASS	3
126 1780P	10	SCHOLAR (CARDBOARD)	METAL	2
127 1781	10	FABER SELF ADJUSTING	GLASS	3
128 1782	10	FABER W/O LATERAL LINES	GLASS	3
129 1783	10	FABER W/ DIGIT INDICATOR	GLASS	3
130 1783A	10	FABER ELECTRICAL & MECHANICAL	GLASS	2
131 1784	20	FABER W/ DIGIT INDICATOR	GLASS	3
132 1785	10	COLLEGE	GLASS	1
133 1786A	7 DIA	SEXTON'S OMNIMETER		3
134 1786B	7 DIA	SEXTON'S OMNIMETER		3
135 1786C	7 DIA	SEXTON'S OMNIMETER		3
136 1786D	6 DIA	SEXTON'S OMNIMETER		3
137 1787	24	ENGINEER'S	NONE	15
138 1792	24	ENGINEER'S SLIDE RULE	NONE	5
139 1793	10	MACK IMPROVED	GLASS	1
140 1793K		OTIS KING		2
141 1793L		OTIS KING		2
142 1794	20	MACK IMPROVED	GLASS	1
143 1794		FULLER		21
144 1795	10	COLLEGE	GLASS	3
145 1795A	2 3/8 D	HALDEN CALCULEX		20
146 1795B	3 DIA	ROTORULE		4
147 1796		THATCHER		1
148 1796	2 3/8	CHARPENTIER CALCULATOR		16
149 1797	2 DIA	BOUCHER (CARDBOARD DIALS)		18
150 1797 1/2	2 DIA	BOUCHER (SILVERED METAL DIALS)		17
151 1797A	8.25 D	ATLAS		10
152 1797B	8 DIA	BINARY		13
153 1797M	4 DIA	MIDGET		16
154 1798	5 DIA	ROTA-RULE		10

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NUMBER OF RULES IN EACH CATALOG: 3 | 0 | 9 | 14 | 17 | 32 | 55 | 55 | 18 | 17 | 17 | 18 | 17 | 17 | 17 | 17 | 31 | 22 | 3 | 16 | 23 | 18 | 21 | 20 | 6 | 24 | 17 | 17 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 19 | 20 | 20 | 19 | 18 | 18 | 3 | 16 | 16 | 15

cial catalogs that included only a few slide rules. Examples of this include the catalog 39A which was an *Essential Drawing Instruments and Materials* catalog published in 1939, catalog 30A which was a *Drawing Instruments and Materials* catalog published in 1930 and the *Surveying Equipment Catalog 77S* that was published in 1959. Consequently, the breaks in the lines of some rules at 1930, 1939 and 1959 do not necessarily mean that those slide rules were not offered that year.

The numbers across the bottom of the matrix indicate the number of slide rules in each catalog. These totals clearly show that the volume of rules in each catalog reached an all-time high in the years 1910 to 1912 and then abruptly dropped to only a third of that number and never reached even half of that volume again except in the 1928 price list which included 30 slide rules.

The numbers on the right hand side indicate how many listings were found for each model number. These numbers show that number 1794, the Fuller cylindrical slide rule had the most listings at 20 and that approximately 20 slide rules, or variations of slide rules, appeared in only one listing.

This list is not complete. The following are some of the omissions of which we are aware:

- We have not seen a copy of the third edition of the catalog which may or may not include slide rules.

- We were unable to locate a copy of the fifth edition of the Dietzgen catalog that was published sometime between 1898 and 1902.

- At least one slide rule was located in a collection that was not found in the catalogs that were available. This is a 1742 Maniphase Multiplex Style M Decimal Trig rule.

This matrix is the result of a joint effort on the part of Roger Shepherd and me. We received valuable assistance from Henry Aldinger, William Bell, Bobby Feazel, Melvin Larson, Bob Otnes and Bruce Reichelt.

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This is the discussion appearing on the right hand side of the matrix.

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