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Our library just acquired the following, which, since it has been out a couple of years, may be familiar to some of you:

Perepisnaia kniga goroda Tveri 1709 goda (Tver': Izd-vo GERS, 2007).
ISBN 978-5-88942-072-9.

As the editors, E. N. Efremova and N. V. Sereda, note in their introduction, such material is increasingly of interest where some scholars are analyzing the data with computers. I am curious, can anyone on this list tell me more about such projects?

The census in question is a very detailed one, in response to a Petrine decree of 1705. It has substantial information on households, all their inhabitants, employment, sources of revenue, size of the house lots, etc. The publication here is supplied with extensive indexes.

As I think you know, there was quite a lot of publication of these *perepisnye knigi* beginning in the late 19th century. I have been through the Khlynov/Viatka ones, which, I suspect, are typical in that the farther back one goes in the 17th century, the thinner the data recorded. It is only when you get to the early 18th century that the amount of detail they contain is substantial. In the case of the Khlynov ones, I know one can do interesting diachronic analysis, which you might visualize three-dimensionally as a kind of layering of the data, which can be laid out in space (horizontally) and then compared over time (vertically). One can then see, for example, whether people lived in the same houses, who their neighbors were, how the neighborhoods may have changed, etc. Even though the information on women is not full for the 17th century, it is possible to determine family marriage connections, etc., so that I would think we might be able to come up with rather extensive genealogical charts of many urban families. I think that one justification for focussing on this particular body of source material is that it could give us some new insights into the supposed "Petrine divide."

To do all this manually is possible, but, nowadays, it seems to me, not a very sensible option. The right kind of digitization of the data could be remarkably productive for a set of questions we might want to ask the database, but it would be important to code the material in a way that would preserve the spatial dimension of the data and not just the human and economic data.

So, I would be interested to know who may in fact be doing such analysis and whether we might expect any time in the future to see all the *perepisnye knigi* entered into a searchable database for particular towns (and eventually for all for which the censuses have been preserved). One could start, of course, by scanning the ones already published.