

Title: From NIICHAVO to Maxwell House: Scientific Institutions in Soviet Sci-Fi

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My paper will analyse the representation (often polemic or ironic) of scientific research institutes by Soviet authors in the post-Stalin period. As the title suggests, the primary foci of my paper will be the institutes satirized in the Strugatskii brothers' 1964 novel *Ponedel'nik nachinaetsia v subbotu* (a recent translation of which was advertised by its publishers as a 'Russian Harry Potter') and in Anatolii Dneprov's short story 'Uravneniia Maksvella' (1960), in which a mathematician accidentally discovers an institute whose members are forced to work as human computational engines. My paper will explore the conclusions we can draw from these and similar works about the public perception of Soviet science.

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