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We've already seen one so-called revolution fail. It evaporated into thin air shortly after Kent State, unable to bear the weight of its own rhetoric. So pardon me if I'm skeptical about this latest revolution supposedly being fomented by the personal computer.

At least, the media and self-styled experts on social change are calling it a revolution. If so, it's got to be the happiest one in the history of the world. It sparkles beneath a California sun that shines like a big yellow smile button. It glows brightly from the pages of Newsweek and The New York Times, from quarter-million dollar television commercials, from the zippy pop-computer magazines that hang fat and lazy from the newsstands.

Here is one revolution that promises to do you no harm. Nobody gets hurt, nobody gets agitated. With the exception of a few malcontents, nobody even gets upset.

I can't claim to be an expert on revolutions, since I've never been in one. But it's my understanding that a revolution is aimed at the fundamental concepts upon which a political or social structure is built. Take the Industrial Revolution, for example. It caused social and economic upheaval on a massive scale. It shifted power from the land-owners to the factory owners, from the rural areas to the cities, and completely changed the way people lived and worked.

But the microcomputer revolution is another story. It does nothing to challenge the basic relationship between people and their supporting institutions. It does not change the make-up of the ruling class, nor does it alter our perceptions of that class.

Some people say that microcomputers will give us more control over our lives, that computers will let us access information heretofore available only to the rich and powerful. This may, to some extent, be true; if information is power, greater access to information means greater power. But if the average


> America's happiest revolution

citizen gains a little, the ruling class will gain a good deal more.

Ultimately, computers will serve to reaffirm the social and political hierarchies in this country. The strong will be stronger and the weak weaker, a trend that hardly can be called revolutionary.

Adam Osborne has been one of the micro industry's most caustic critics. So more than a few people chortled when Osborne Computer Corp. collapsed last summer.

In some respects, Osborne comes out looking like a fool. When he introduced the Osborne, he let loose a barrage of criticism at his fellow manufacturers, predicting in the May 1981 issue of Microcomputing that "their unrealistic perspective will trigger disaster with all the tragic ruthlessness that early success had on such companies as Imsai and Processor Technology."

But Osborne's failure was not due to lack of insight. In retrospect, his comments in that article often hit the mark. "Hardware manufacturers must concentrate on driving down the price of hardware," he warned. And further on, he predicted "a new, massive round of hardware price reductions."

Osborne also saw the impact his new
computer would have on the micro market, and predicted "a rapid evolution of new, low-cost portable microcomputers that appeal to individuals and are used with the frequency of typewriters." And, in a forecast fraught with irony, he saw that by 1983 the Osborne would "have a lot of company."
Finally, though IBM had not yet entered the arena, Osborne saw the eventual establishment of industry-standard software and hardware. "Those who stray from industry standards will be forced to leave the microcomputer marketplace," he said.
Osborne's $\sin$ was that he was as lousy a businessman as the early losers he criticized. And apparently, the major manufacturers were not as misguided as he thought they were. Ultimately, they changed their ways, learning to see and respond to shifts in the marketplace.
Osborne was an important stimulus to those changes. He may not have practiced what he preached, but he had a major impact on the industry and the way it sold itself. He should be given appropriate credit.

Last week at the Peterborough Diner, I gave the cashier $\$ 2$ for a $\$ 1.95$ turkey sandwich. The computerized cash register credited me with 9 cents' change. The waitress dutifully gave me a nickel and four pennies.
"Wait a minute," I said, and pointed out that $\$ 2$ minus $\$ 1.95$ was not 9 cents. She puzzled over the problem for a moment, finally saw the light, and took back the surplus change.
This little tale has several morals. First, we must retain our ability to do simple math.
Second, we must not believe everything the computer says, or let it subvert our common sense.
And third, we must be watchful consumers. As long as human beings punch the buttons, the buyer's motto remains "caveat emptor."

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80 formats its program listings to run 64-characters wide, the way they look on your video screen. This accounts for the occasional wrap-around you will notice in our program listings. Don't let it throw you, particularly when entering assembly listings.

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# PROOF NOTES 

Yrou asked for $i t$, though in a roundabout fashion and probably without your knowing it. 80 Micro's readership surveys tell us a lot about your needs. One thing we've noticed is your growing interest in Assembly language. This isn't too surprising since most of you ( 88.5 percent to be exact) use your TRS-80 for home or hobby applications. And we all know what that means: software programming.

Designing and writing software, especially games, is both fun and rewarding. It can also be frustrating. There's nothing worse than programming a fantastic game in Basic only to have it run as slow as molasses uphill. Screen changes take seconds and your rockets never quite seem to reach their targets in time. This is usually when your interest in Assembly language begins to take root and grow. This issue will nurture that growth.

Communicating with your computer in a high-level language like Basic is like talking with someone who speaks a foreign language. When you say goodbye to a Frenchman, he has to use a dictionary to see that you mean au revoir. The computer follows the same process. If you write a Basic instruction in your program, the computer has to translate this instruction to its "native tongue," machine code.

When you use a low-level language like Assembly language, the interpretive process is greatly simplified. The computer operates on Assembly-language instructions much faster because that language is closer to the Z 80 's machine code.

Assembly-language programs execute up to 300 times faster than Basic. They also require less memory: you can run an Assembly-language program in 4 K that normally requires 24 K in Basic. And if you ever had an urge to see how the Z80 processes all of those routines in ROM or TRSDOS, Assembly language lets you do that as well.

# Speaking in hex 

Assembly language can be intimidating at first with its extensive use of binary and hexadecimal data. But be assured that it's no more difficult to learn than when you mastered Basic years ago. To ease your nerves, and to help build your confidence, we've put together a collection of articles that cover the entire spectrum of Assembly language. Whether you're a neophyte testing the waters, or an advanced programmer doing the backstroke, you'll find something to meet your needs between this month's covers.

For example, Hardin Brothers presents his first installment of Assembly Language Made Simple for this issue. In this comprehensive piece he gently introduces you to your first dose of Assembly language. And since everyone loves to learn shortcuts, Bob Bowker continues to share some of his secrets with us. You'll find them in part two of his article, Assembly-Language Shortcuts (p. ). They are especially useful for those of you who've been introduced to the language.

Other articles of interest include David Haan's technique titled Assembly Language Disk I/O, Terry Kepner's feature review, $C P / M$ III Ways, and Joseph Trojak's Finding the Search Solution, a program that lets you search text files quickly. And when the day ends, you can relax in your easy chair and watch one of over 140 TV channels, made available with help from Dan Keen and Dave Dischert's article, Channels of Communication. If you don't want to sit in front of the boob tube all night, there's always the antics of the Gamer's Cafe to keep you smiling. So sit back and enjoy!
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## MaxiStat Now StatPac

John Harrell did an excellent job reviewing MaxiStat (September 1983, p. 50).

Your readers should be aware, however, that we have made important changes relative to MaxiStat since your review appeared.

MaxiStat is no longer published or marketed by The Business Division. Walonick Associates now markets and supports an updated version of the package under its original name of StatPac.

This update contains substantial changes from the version you reviewed, including more statistics, printing options, and machine-language subroutines for speed.

Anyone interested in further information should contact Walonick Associates.

David S. Walonick
President, Walonick Associates 5624 Girard Ave. South Minneapolis, MN 55419


## Printer Fix

The DMP200 printer has one drawback: Its superscripts are low, and the rest of the text after a subscript is noticeably lower than the text preceding the subscript.

To rectify this, change the halfreverse line feed action to a full-reverse line feed followed by a half-forward line feed (see Program Listing 1). This has an insignificant effect on print speed, and it works.
This fix also works on the Radio Shack Line Printer VIII, and with other Radio Shack printers that use the same printer drivers.

To install this modification, define

PATCH DMP400/CTL (ADD $=\mathrm{BCAC}, \mathrm{FIND}=1 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{CHG}=0 \mathrm{~A}$ )
PATCH DMP400/CTL ( $\mathrm{ADD}=\mathrm{BCB} 0, \mathrm{FIND}=\mathrm{C9}, \mathrm{CHG}=00$ )
PATCH DMP400/CTL (ADD $=$ BCB8,FIND $=1 \mathrm{E}, \mathrm{CHG}=1 \mathrm{C}$ )
PATCH DMP400/CTL (ADD = BB4D,FIND $=\mathrm{A} 5, \mathrm{CHG}=\mathrm{B} 1$ )
PATCH DMP400/CTL (ADD = BB50,FIND $=$ B1,CHG $=\mathrm{A} 5$ )
PATCH DMP400/CTL (ADD = BC76,FIND $=\mathrm{B} 1, \mathrm{CHG}=\mathrm{A} 5$ )
PATCH DMP400/CTL ( $\mathrm{ADD}=\mathrm{BC} 82, \mathrm{FIND}=\mathrm{A} 5, \mathrm{CHG}=\mathrm{BI}$ )
OR
PATCH LP8/CTL (ADD = BC9E,FIND $=1 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{CHG}=0 \mathrm{~A}$ )
PATCH LP8/CTL (ADD = BCA2,FIND $=\mathrm{C} 9, \mathrm{CHG}=00$ )
PATCH LP8/CTL (ADD $=\mathrm{BCAA}, \mathrm{FIND}=1 \mathrm{E}, \mathrm{CHG}=1 \mathrm{C})$
PATCH LP8/CTL (ADD $=$ BB4D,FIND $=97, \mathrm{CHG}=$ A3 $)$
PATCH LP8/CTL (ADD = BB50,FIND = A3,CHG = 97)
PATCH LP8/CTL (ADD $=$ BC68,FIND $=97, \mathrm{CHG}=\mathrm{A} 3$ )
PATCH LP8/CTL (ADD = BC74,FIND $=97, \mathrm{CHG}=\mathrm{A} 3$ )
Program Listing 1. Patch for the DMP200 printer.

```
906 BK$ = CHR$(255) +CHR$(255) +CHR$(255)
910 SPS = CHR$(128)+CHR$(128) +CHR$(128)
920 TB$ = CHR$(27)+CHR$(16) +CHR$(0) +CHR$ (48)
10日0 LPRINT CHR$(18);
1010 FOR H = 0 TO 47
1015 LPRINT TB$;
1020 FOR W = O TO 127
1030 IF POINT ( }\textrm{W},\textrm{H})\mathrm{ THEN LPRINT BK$; ELSE LPRINT SP$;
1040 NEXT W
1050 LPRINT **
1060 NEXT H
```

Program Listing 2. LPVIII print adjustment.

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## Errof

In our "Buyer's Guide to Disk Drives and Disks" (June 1983, p. 234), we omitted Micro Design. Micro Design ( 6301 Manchaca Road, Austin, TX 78745, 800-5315002) markets one 40 -track, $51 / 4$-inch disk drive for the Model I, and three systems for the Model III.

Micro Design offers 40 -track, single-sided $51 / 4$-inch disk drives with 250 K storage capacity (first upgrade is $\$ 399$, second internal drive is $\$ 189.95$ ). Also available are $40-$ track, double-sided disk drives with 500 K storage capacity (first drive upgrade is $\$ 474$, second drive is $\$ 274$ ), and 40 -track, $5 \frac{1}{4}$-inch, double-sided drives with 500 K storage capacity (disk drive upgrade is $\$ 495$, additional slim line drive is \$295).

In the September Input column (p. 12), we omitted the program listing for Howard Potvin's letter. Program Listing 6 eliminates the extra alpha column headings in John Corbani's Minicalc program (May 1983, p. 140).

Line 470 contains the code to set an Epson printer to 132 characters per inch, and Potvin changed the reference to the number of columns in line 110 from 14 to 15 . Line 475 sets unidirectional printing and checks for number of columns.

If you have eight or fewer columns, set Q to 1 and drop to line 480. If you have more than eight, set Q to 9 and go to line 476 to print the first eight columns. Then go to line 480 and print the rest. Line 49 keeps the underline length correct.

These changes print the full 16 columns by 26 rows on one sheet of standard sized paper.

Richard Green's review of Power DOT (October 1983, p. 80) contains a minor error. On page 84, the two angles referred to as 150 degrees are actually 15 degrees.
you have to write only one version of the program, and guarantees that you can keep the software if you upgrade from a Model I to a Model III.

I cannot help thinking, however, that this practice is short-changing owners of Model IIIs and modified Model I's. These programs don't let me use my special features at all.

As an example, Radio Shack obviously designed its Series I Editor/Assembler for a Model I. Only the left shift key works, and I must use the low cassette speed. To generate lowercase characters, I have to depress the shift key.

Ideally you should have two versions of the same program, each designed for its own individual machine. An excellent example of this is Frolic, the ma-chine-language monitor contained in the book TRS-80-More Than Basic, by John Froehlich.

Mr. Froehlich wrote two different monitor programs, one for each model, each version using its own model's special features. Why can't major software manufacturers do this as well?

I urge the editors of 80 Micro to encourage machine-specific program submissions. Once you have such programs, you could convert them, much the same as you do in the Take II column.

I have used both the Model I and the Model III, and it isn't difficult to alter existing generic programs to fully utilize each machine's specialties.

Once people stop bunching together the Model I and III as one machine, the owners of both will be better off. However, the trend does not seem to be in that direction.

A serious flaw in Model 4 Basic is the
necessity of separating each Basic key word with a space. Will programs published in the future in magazines and on disk and tape have spaces between each keyword, to make every program compatible with that machine too? I sincerely hope not.

Mark Allen Reed<br>Box 459-A<br>Lyme Center, NH 03769

## AIDS-III Space Saver

Although the AIDS-III packages published in the March and April 1983 issues (p. 136 and p. 168, respectively) of 80 Micro are the most useful to be found, they take up a lot of disk space.
I've come up with a way to save a great deal of disk space and keep several files on one disk.
Make up individual data lists (all starting at line 5000) and save them as ASCII files (use the ,A option). Then make up a menu for the programs you've developed (see Program Listing 3), plug the menu into lines 1-7 of the AIDS package, and you can use the same basic AIDS program to load any number of data files.

After you type in RUN, the program asks if you've loaded a program yet. Answer anything but Y. The program then brings up the menu. By selecting the number of the desired data file, you can merge it with the original AIDS package. At the ready prompt, type RUN, answer Y this time, and press the enter key.

Using this procedure, I'm able to get AIDS-III, MAPS-III, MERGE-III, CALCS-III, and eight data files (saved in ASCII), their descriptor files, and their record files on one disk.

1 CLS:PRINTE596, "HAS A PROGRAM BEEN LOADED YET?": INPUT AS: IF AS="Y" THEN 10 ELSE 3
3 CLS:PRINT@74, "THE FOLLOWING PROGRAMS ARE DEVELOPED:": PRINT@2 02,"1. VIDEO LISTINGS. ${ }^{n}$ : PRINT@ $266,{ }^{n}$ 2. FOOD CABINET INVENTORY. $:$ PRINTE330,"3. FREEZER INVENTORY.": PRINT@394,"4. FRIENDLY PARTIES " ": PRINTE458,"5. HOUSEHOLD INVENTORY."
4 PRINT@522,"6. SUBORDERS.": PRINT@586,"7. UNDEFINED.": PRINTe65
6,"8. EXIT PROGRAM.": PRINT@842,"SELECT CHOICE...": INPUTN: IFN 1ORN $>8$ THEN CLS: GOTO 3 ELSE CLS
5 IFN=1 THENPRINT@596,"MERGING VIDEO PROGRAM": MERGE "VIDEODES/F IL" ELSEIFN=2 THEN PRINTe596, "MERGING FOOD CABINET PROGRAM" : ME RGE "FOODDES/FIL" ELSEIFN=3 THEN PRINTE596, "MERGING FREEZER PRO GRAM": MERGE"FREEZDES/FIL" ELSE6.
6 IF N=4 THENPRINT 9596 ,"MERGING FRIENDLY PROGRAM": MERGE"FRENDDE S/FIL" ELSEIFN=5 THEN PRINTE596, "MERGING INVENTORY PROGRAM": MER GE "HOUSEDES/FIL" ELSEIFN=6 THENPRINTE596,"MERGING SUBORDER PROG RAM": MERGE "SUBSDES/FIL" ELSE7
7 IF $N=8$ THEN STOP: ENDELSEIF N>80RN<8 THENCLS: FORI=1TO100: PRI NT@596,"UNDEFINED...": NEXTI:GOTO3

Program Listing 3. Menu for the AIDS-III program.

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Installation is very simple, no tools, no disassembly, no soldering. Just plug it in, that's all. There is no power supply or messy cable. Newclock- 80 plugs into the rear of the keyboard (3) or side of the Exp Int. (2.) Model III Newclock fits the 50 pin card edge (underneath) (1)

The Software: Newclock-80 is as easy to use as it is to install. "SET", a Basic program, is used only once to set the time and date and select 12 or 24 hour format. -"TIMESTR", also in Basic, patches your computer "TIME\$" function to read Newclock-80. It also adds "TIME\$" to keyboard-only systems, a short routine is simply "poked" into low memory.

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Now if someone can show me a way to get Basic to run after a merge without typing in RUN, I'd really be happy!

James T. Krywalski 80 Lockwood Ave. Buffalo, NY 14220

## AIDS-III Error

An error exists in the lowercase support program modifications that appeared in the August 1983 issue of 80 Micro (p. 12). The modifications support the lowercase characters, but disable the up-arrow (K1) key so it no longer functions to move the cursor to the previous entry lines.

I corrected this by adding and changing the following program lines to the AIDS-III program, in addition to making the changes that appeared in the August 1983 issue.
170 IFIC $=91$ THENIC $=6$
2000 U $\$=\operatorname{CHRS}(91): C C \$=U \$+\operatorname{CHRS}(\mathrm{K} 2)+$
CHRS(K5) $+\mathrm{CHRS}(\mathrm{K} 6)+\mathrm{CHRS}(\mathrm{K} 9)$
3744 DATA $13,6,10,8,9,27,26,24,25,31,3$
I use 123 instead of 6 in lines 170 and 3744 , but suggest the use of 6 . It's shorter and appears to work, although I haven't tested it thoroughly.

Also, line 640 of the August modifications for AIDS-III has a slight error in the last statement. SV $=\mathrm{FV} \$$ should read SV\$ = FV\$ to conform with the original program and the MAPS-III and CALCS-III changes.

Darrell Lee
The Food and Drug Administration c/o Administration Building,

Room 1033
1745 W. 1700 South St. Salt Lake City, UT 84104

## Maze Chase PEEK

The changes in Program Listing 4 are for Leonard Karr's Maze Chase game (August 1983, p. 272). They let you hold one key down and continue to move until you release the key.

> Mike Cessna 610 N. $54 t h$ St. Springfield, OR 97477

## High-Speed POKE

For the Model 4 owner, Model III software operates at the Model 4's higher speed by utilizing the following POKE from Basic:
POKE 16912,104 (to speed up)
POKE 16912,40 (to slow down)
When assembled, the source code in Program Listing 5 permits toggling the
speed-up off and on from the DOS READY command line.
R. L. Stuart 15434 Sherman Way Van Nuys, CA 91406

## More on the Model 4

Regarding the Model 4 review, "Once More, with Feeling'" (August 1983, p. 100), I've found that other commands not supported by Microsoft Basic 5.0 include Set, Reset, and Point, limiting graphics production.

Also, space delimiters required after reserved words in Microsoft Basic 5.0 don't take up additional memory. The program removes these spaces when it converts Basic commands to single-byte tokens, and they are restored at print or list time.

It is true that the conversion utility (CONV) lets you copy files from TRSDOS 1.2 and 1.3 formatted disks to TRSDOS 6.0 formatted disks. However, this conversion is of minimal help in converting Model III Basic to Microsoft Basic 5.0 because mapping Basic commands to single-byte tokens is entirely different in the two Basics.

Finally, my greatest frustration is the unavailability of the Model 4 Technical Reference Manual referred to in the Model 4 Disk System Owner's Manual. Without this manual, it's impossible to interface Assembly language with either the Model 4 hardware, or with TRSDOS 6.0.

Gregory E. Nutt<br>23 Pendleton Lane<br>Londonderry, NH 03053

> $2100 \mathrm{~L}=\operatorname{PEEK}(1440 \theta)$
> 2110 IF L=8ANDPEEK (S+PL-64) ...
> 2120 IF $L=32$ ANDPEEK ( $\mathrm{S}+\mathrm{PL}-3$ ) $\ldots$
> 2130 IF L=16ANDPEEK (S+PL+64) ...
> 2140 IF L=6 4ANDPEEK (S+PL+3) ...
> 3070 PRINT" UP ARROW MOVES YOU UP"
> 3080 PRINT" DOWN ARROW MOVES YOU DOWN"
> 3090 PRINT" LEFT ARROW MOVES YOU LEFT"
> 3100 PRINT" RIGHT ARROW MOVES YOU RIGHT"
> Program Listing 4. PEEK for Maze Chase.

| 00100 | ; |
| :---: | :---: |
| 00110 | ; |
| 00120 | ; |
| 00130 | ; |
| 00140 | ; |
| 00150 | ; |
| 00160 | ; |
| 06170 |  |
| 00180 |  |
| 00190 |  |
| 00200 |  |
| 00210 |  |
| 00220 |  |
| 00230 |  |
| 00240 | LP1 |
| 06250 | LP2 |
| 00260 |  |


| * SPEED/SRC * |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| * Speed Toggling Program |  |  |  |
| * For Model III Software |  |  |  |
| * U | O TRS-80 | * |  |
| **************************** |  |  |  |
| ORG | OFFO日H | ; PROGRAM LOAD | ADDRESS |
| LD | HL, 16912 | ; HL POINTS TO | SPEED ADDRSS |
| LD | A, (16912) | ; A=VALUE IN S | PEED ADDRESS |
| CP | 104 | ; IS IT 104? ( | HIGH) ? |
| JP | 2,LP1 | ; IF HIGH, JUM | P LPI FOR LOW |
| LD | (HL), 104 | ; IF LOW, MAKE | HIGH |
| JP | LP2 | ; AND JUMP LP2 | TO EXIT PGM. |
| LD | (HL), 40 | ; IF HIGH, MAKE | LOW (40) |
| JP | 402 DH | ;JUMP TO DOS | READY |
| END | OFF60H |  |  |

Program Listing 5. Speedup toggling program for the Model 4.

```
470 IFPEEK(14312)<>61THEN PRINT@960, "PRINTER NOT READY";:GOTO 470 
470 IFPEEK(14312)<>61THEN PRINT@960, "PRINTER NOT READY";:GOTO 470 
470 IFPEEK(14312)<>61THEN PRINT@960, "PRINTER NOT READY";:GOTO 470 
470 IFPEEK(14312)<>61THEN PRINT@960, "PRINTER NOT READY";:GOTO 470 
470 IFPEEK(14312)<>61THEN PRINT@960, "PRINTER NOT READY";:GOTO 470 
470 IFPEEK(14312)<>61THEN PRINT@960, "PRINTER NOT READY";:GOTO 470 
470 IFPEEK(14312)<>61THEN PRINT@960, "PRINTER NOT READY";:GOTO 470 
470 IFPEEK(14312)<>61THEN PRINT@960, "PRINTER NOT READY";:GOTO 470 
470 IFPEEK(14312)<>61THEN PRINT@960, "PRINTER NOT READY";:GOTO 470 
470 IFPEEK(14312)<>61THEN PRINT@960, "PRINTER NOT READY";:GOTO 470 
470 IFPEEK(14312)<>61THEN PRINT@960, "PRINTER NOT READY";:GOTO 470 
470 IFPEEK(14312)<>61THEN PRINT@960, "PRINTER NOT READY";:GOTO 470 
470 IFPEEK(14312)<>61THEN PRINT@960, "PRINTER NOT READY";:GOTO 470 
470 IFPEEK(14312)<>61THEN PRINT@960, "PRINTER NOT READY";:GOTO 470 
470 IFPEEK(14312)<>61THEN PRINT@960, "PRINTER NOT READY";:GOTO 470 
470 IFPEEK(14312)<>61THEN PRINT@960, "PRINTER NOT READY";:GOTO 470 
```

Program Listing 6. Adjustment program for Minicalc.

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very easy to use tor example iet srad input channei *4.
 $A=$ INP(0) Puts the result in variable $A \quad$ Volial Spectications ingut range $0.5 \mathrm{~V} \quad 100.500 \mathrm{~V}$ Eact channe: can be set to a difterent scale
Resolution $2 a m V$ (on $5 V$ range) Acculacy 8 bits ( $5 \%$ ) Pon Adcress |umper selectable Plugs into kevooard bus or E/ iscreen printer porti Assembled and tested 90 day wartanty
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TIMEDATE BO: REAL-TIME CLOCK/CALENDAR MODULE Kaeps quartz accurate time tor 3 years on 2 replaceabie WEEK HA MIN SEC and AM/PM Fealuses INTELIGEN CALENDAR and even provides tor Leap Year This compac module smply plugs into reat of Keyboard of site of modute simply plugs into reat of Keyboard of side of
Expansion intetacc (nay be slipped inside E/t includes Expansten sottware tor setting clock and patching to any DOS



## s power relays undee



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Smple 1 NP . commands teac the status of the 8 inguts Simple "INP" cammands read the status of the 8 inputs
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## GREEN SCREEN WARNING

IBM and all the "biggies" are using green screen thonitors Its advantages are now widely advertised We teel that every TRS-80 user should enjoy the benetits it provides But WARNING: all Green Screens are not created equal Here is what we tound.

- Several are just a flat piece of standard colored Lucite. The green tint was not made for this purpose and is judged by many to be too dark Increasing the brightness control will result in a fuzzy display.
- Some are simply a piece of thin plastic fium taped onto a cardboard frame. The color is satistactory but the wobbly film gives it a poor appearance
-One "optical hilter" is in tact plain acrylic sheeting
-False claim A lew pretend to reduce giare" in tact their Hlar-and shuny surfaces (both film and Lucite fype) ADD ther own refliections to the screen
*A lew laughs. One ad claims to "reduce screen contrast Sorry gentleman but it's just the opposite One of the Green Screen's major benetits is to increase the contrast between Screen's major benetits is to
the text and the background
-Drawbacks. Most are using adnesive strips to tasten the screen to the monitor This method makes it awkward to remove for necessary periodical cleaning Alt iexcept ours) are fiat Light pens will not work reliably because of the big gap between the screen and the tube.
Many companies have been manufacturing video hilers for years. We are not the first (some think they are), but we have done our homework and we think we manufacture the best Green Screen. Here is why
-if fits right onto the picture tube like a skin because it is the only CURVED screen MOLDED exactly to the picture fube curvature. It is Cut precisely to cover the exposed area of the picture tube. The fit is such that the static electricity is sufficient to keep it in place' We also include some invisible reusable tape for a more secure fastening.
-The filter material that we use is just right, not too dark nor too light. The resuit is a really eye pleasing display
We are so sure that you will never take your Green screen off that we ofter an unconditional money-back guaraniy tly our Green Screen tor 14 days. If for any reason you are not delighted with it, return it for a prompt refund.
A last word. We think that companies, like ours, who are selling mainly by mail should wist their street address thave a phone number ifor questions and orders eaccept CODS, not every one likes to send checks to a P0 boxtoffer the convenicnce of charging their purchase to major credit cards How come we are the only green screen people doing it? Order your ALPHA GREEN SCREEN today $\$ 12.50$


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## Selecting Records

I'd like to select records in a variables file when merging with the master file in Scripsit. Does anyone know of a program that will accomplish this? It would also be nice if the selection criteria could accommodate more than OR or AND connectives.

## Paulo Guarinello <br> Emiliano Perneta, 837/802 Curitiba, Parana Brazil

## Up and Running

Can someone help me get MicroSoft's Level II Basic Compiler up and running on a Model III?

John S. Letcher Jr. P.O. Box 104<br>Southwest Harbor, ME 04679

## Line-Renumbering Program

I have a Model III cassette operating system. After writing lengthy programs in Basic, I desperately need a line renumbering program. Does anyone know where I can get such a program?

> Robert Leland 737 Knollwood Lane San Dimas, CA 91773

## Sell Me Yours

I can't find Microsoft's Extended


## Searching for answers

muMath for the Model III anywhere. Does anyone know where I can get a copy? If you're willing to sell yours, contact me.

Kenneth Meyer<br>1314 Ault View Ave.<br>Cincinnati, OH 45208

## Needs a Conversion Program

I have been using a Wang 2200 B system for several years, and now that I have a Model II, I have no way to access my engineering programs on the Wang
disks. I'd like to know if there's a reformatter/conversion program available that can exchange data files from Wang to TRSDOS and vice versa.

Julio E. Sosa
P.O. Box $6-473$

Panama City
Republic of Panama

## A Call from Nature

I'm a teacher at a natural resource college, and I'd like to hear from others on how they use their TRS-80s in the natural resource fields. Also, I'd like to know how to get double-width characters in Assembly language.

## Robert Johnson

274 Grey St.
Brantford, Ontario N3S 4W8 Canada

## Footnotes ${ }^{1}$

I'm looking for a Model I footnote program integrated with Scripsit that features pagination, formatting, and numbering. Can anyone help me?
Also, has anyone figured out how to save either a Basic or ASCII file onto tape from the Atari 400 and then read that tape into a Model I?
E. Judson Jennings

299 Ridgewood Ave.
Glen Ridge, NJ 07028


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## DEBUg

## Now You Can Talk

There is an error in Program Listing 5 of Douglas Payne's article, "Talk to the Big Guys" (September 1983, p. 230). In the program UTS, lines 1490, 1510, $1580,1630,1650,1700,1720$ have been incorrectly printed as DEFB $"$. You must change them to read DEFB ' 27 H ' for the program to work correct-ly.-Eds.

## Blackjack

The last part of line 1230 and all of line 1240 is missing in Program Listing 4 of my "Model II Casino" article (August 1983, p. 148). These lines should read:


## Flaws and fixes

1230 PRINTCHR\$(2);:PRINT@L," " :PRINT@L+80," ":PRINT@L+160," " :PRINTCHRS(1);:RETURN 1240 PRINTCHR $\$(2)$;:L = 683:GOSUB1230 :RX = R6:GOSUB1160:T\$ = M (R6) :GOSUB1200:PRINTCHRS(1);:RETURN

IRAND: PUSH HL
CALL RANDOM ;reinitialize random numbers
POP HL
LD A,(HL) ;and so on

Figure 1. Calling Random.

Also, in the "Black Friday" conversion program (Take II, July 1983, p. 342), the last equals sign in line 510 should be an asterisk.

Byron Lott
913 Inverness Way
Sunnyvale, CA 94087

## A Random Breakout?

There is a minor problem with J.B. Harrell's "Fortran Breakout" article (July 1983, p. 186). The IRAND function in USRLIB/MAC isn't very random after the first two or three calls (to be sure, I checked the routine with TASMON). It does have an easy fix, however. Just call RANDOM every time (see Fig. 1).

In addition, three bytes can be saved for each of the one-command calls (CLS, RANDOM, GETCH) by simply setting the entry equal to the address (ex. CLS EQU 01C9H).

Mary Jo Kostya Oppenheimer Str. 17 D-6000 Frankfurt 70<br>Federal Republic of Germany

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Last month, I explained a simple utildity that displayed all current variables in a running Basic program. This month, as promised, I'll explain how to add a new feature to that utility: the ability to display the current value of any current variable.

After the program displays each screen of active variables, you'll be able to either press the enter key to go on to the next page or type in a variable name. If you enter a variable name, its value appears on the screen until you press a key; then you again face the choice of pressing the enter key or typing in another variable name.

Much of Program Listing 1 is identical to last month's program. Realizing you probably won't want to type in the same program again, I've marked all new or modified lines with an asterisk at the beginning of the comment column. Some line numbers have changed, but if a program block doesn't have any marked lines, you won't need to change anything in the source code. You will, however, have to delete lines 2550 and


> Displaying the values of variables

2610-2670 from last month's program. After you've added the new lines, type N100,10 and be sure you end up with the same last line as the listing.

The first major change in the program, aside from some new EQU statements and a new ORG address, occurs in lines $960-1040$, where I've added a

| Address | Description |
| :---: | :---: |
| RST 18 hex | Compares the values in the DE and HL register pairs. Sets flags to show results: |
|  | Carry HL<DE |
|  | No Carry HL> = DE |
|  | Zero $\quad \mathrm{HL}=\mathrm{DE}$ |
|  | Not Zero HL<>DE |
| 0049 hex | Waits for single keyboard input-returns ASCII value of input key in A register. Uses AF and DE registers. |
| $01 \mathrm{C9}$ hex | Clears screen, resets cursor to top of screen, sets 64 -character mode, and turns off cassette port (Basic's CLS routine). |
| 033A hex | Displays character in A on screen at next print position. Uses AF. |
| 05D9 hex | Inputs line from keyboard. On entry, HL points to buffer to hold input, B holds maximum number of characters to input. You terminate input by pressing the enter or break key. On output, HL points to start of text, B equals actual input length (except terminator), C holds original value of $\mathrm{B}, \mathrm{A}$ holds ASCII value of terminating character, C flag is set only if input is terminated with the break key. |
| 0A9A hex | Current value in HL is loaded into Basic's workspace/accumulator, and the variable type flag is set to 02 (integer). |
| 0ACC hex | Value in workspace/accumulator changed from integer to single precision. |
| OFDB hex | Converts value in work workspace/accumulator into display form, and returns address of resulting string in HL. |
| 2540 hex | Loads value of variable into workspace/accumulator. On entry, HL points to first character of variable name. On exit, HL points to first character following variable name. |
| 2B75 hex | Output a string to current output device. On entry, HL points to first character of string, which must end with a zero byte. |

Figure. ROM routines used in the variable display programs.
month's modification. After correctly positioning the print cursor, the program prints a CHR\$(1F hex) on the screen. That control character clears the screen from the present print position to the end of the screen. This is necessary to erase any characters left from a previous variable and value display.

Then, after the program displays the prompt message, line 2830 points HL at an input buffer and sets $B$ to the buffer's length in preparation for accepting a typed-in variable name. Since both DOS and Basic have input buffers, you may wonder why they weren't used instead of dedicating space to a third buffer. I didn't use the DOS buffer because there is no guarantee it will be in the same position with different DOS systems, or with different versions of the same DOS. I left the Basic buffer alone because you might want to call up the variable display while writing or editing a line of Basic and not wish to return to a line filled with garbage.

After you set up HL and B, the program calls the ROM routine LINEIN. This routine accepts keyboard input of a string up to the maximum length set in register B. With each keystroke, the character appears on the screen and is stored in the buffer to which HL points. The routine reacts normally to backspacing and other control characters. On return, the B register contains the number of characters actually entered except for the terminating character (enter or break). If you press the break key, the program sets the carry flag.

If you press the break key during variable input and set the carry flag, the program loops back to the prompt and again awaits operator input. If B equals zero, you pressed the enter key without any additional characters, so the screen clears and control returns to the display routines.

If you input any additional characters, the program assumes it has a variable name in the buffer. First, the program establishes a new cursor position. Then it prints the variable name followed by an equal sign. The program points HL at the variable name again and calls the ROM routine VALACU.

VALACU ( 2540 hex) is a complex routine that takes the variable name at which HL points, evaluates that variable, transfers its value to the low memory accumulator, and sets a flag to indicate the variable type (integer, string,

Program Listing 1. Current variable display.


| Listing I continued |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| BAD8 3AFF3B | 01080 | NOKEY5 | LD | A, (3BFFh) | ;*CHECK for any key |
| BADB B7 | 01090 |  | OR | A | ;*SET FLAGS |
| BADC 20FA | 01100 |  | JR | N2,NOKEY5 | ;*LOOP UNTIL ALL KEYS UP |
| BADE 1cFs | 01110 |  | DJN2 | NOKEY5 | ;*LOOP FOR KEY BOUNCE |
|  | C1120 |  |  |  |  |
| BAld 11FDBB | 01130 | Save | LD | de, Scrbuf | ;DE==> SCREEN BUFFER |
| BA13 21003C | 01140 |  | LD | HL, VIdEO | ; HL= $=$ > SCREEN |
| BA16 012004 | 01150 |  | LD | BC, 400 | ; BC = SCREEN LENGTH |
| BA19 EDBO | 01160 |  | LDIR |  | ; MOVE SCREEN |
| BAlB 2 A2840 | 01170 |  | LD | HL, (CURSAD) | ;GET CURRENT CURSOR ADDR. |
| BAlE 22FDBF | 01180 |  | LD | (CRSBUF), HL | ; And save it also |
| BA21 CDC981 | 01190 |  | call | CLS | ; Clear the screen |
| BA24 21883F | 01200 |  | LD | HL, PRTPOS | ;GET PRINT POSITION |
| BA27 222048 | 01210 |  | LD | (CURSAD), HL | ; MOVE CURSOR AWAY |
|  | 01220 | ; |  |  |  |
|  | 01230 | ; Now get list of simple (not array) variables and print |  |  |  |
|  | $01248$ |  |  |  |  |
| BA2A DD2AF940 | 01260 |  | LD | IX, (SVT) | ; IX ==>VARIABLE LIST |
| BA2E 210e3C | 01270 |  | LD | HL, VIDEO | ; $\mathrm{HL=}=>$ SCREEN |
| BA31 FD21E2BB | c1280 |  | LD | IY,TYPES | ;IY==> VAR. TYPE TABLE |
| BA35 E5 | 01290 | Varie | PUSH | HL | ;SAVE SCREEN PTR. |
| BA36 DDE5 | 01308 |  | PUSH | IX | ;MOVE VAR. LIST PTR |
| BA38 El | 21312 |  | POP | HL | ; TO HL |
| BA39 ED5bFb40 | 01320 |  | LD | DE, (AVT) | ; GEt end of var. table |
| BA3D DF | 81338 |  | RST | 18\% | ; CP HL:DE |
| ba3e El | 01348 |  | POP | HL | ;RECOVER SCREEN PTR. |
| ba3F 303E | $\begin{aligned} & 01350 \\ & 01360 \end{aligned}$ | ; | JR | NC, ARRAY | ;GO If NO MORE VARIABLES |
| BA41 DD4600 | 01370 |  | LD | B, (IX) | ; GET VARIABLE TYPE |
| BA44 DD7E02 | 01380 |  | LD | A, (IX +2 ) | ; 1 ST Letter of Var. Name |
| BA47 77 | 01398 |  | LD | ( HL ) , A | ;PRINT IT |
| BA48 23 | 01438 |  | INC | HL | ; BUMP POINTER |
| BA49 DD7E01 | 01410 |  | LD | A, (IX +1 ) | ; 2ND LETTER Of VAR. NAME |
| BA4C 87 | 01428 |  | OR |  | ; SET FLAGS |
| BA4D 2802 | 01430 |  | JR | 2,VAR28 | ; GO If zero |
| BA4F 77 | 81440 |  | LD | (HL) , A | ; ELSE PRINT IT |
| Bas0 23 | 01450 |  | INC | HL | ;AND BUMP POINTER |
| BA51 78 | 01460 | VAR20 | LD | A, B | ;GET VARIABLE TYPE |
| BA52 30 | 01478 |  | DEC | A | ; DECREASE by Two to |
| BAS3 3D | 01480 |  | DEC | A | ; ALIGN WITH table |
| BA54 3259BA | 01490 |  | LD | (IYPTR+2), A | ;USE FOR OFFSET |
| BA57 FD7E00 | 01500 | IYPTR | LD | A, (IY+0) | ;GET TYPE SYMBOL |
| BA5A 77 | 01510 |  | LD | (HL) , A | ;PUT ON SCREEN |
| BA5B 23 | 01520 |  | INC | HL. | ; EUMP POINTER |
| BA5C 23 | $\begin{aligned} & 91530 \\ & 91540 \end{aligned}$ | ; | INC | HL | ; AND again for space |
| BA5D DD23 | 01550 |  | INC | Ix | ;GET PASt header |
| BA5F DD23 | 01560 |  | INC | IX | ; With three |
| BA61 DD23 | 01570 |  | INC | IX | ; INCREMENTS |
| BA65 18FC | 01580 | VAR30 | INC | IX | ; MOVE PAST VAR. INFO |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & 01590 \\ & 01600 \end{aligned}$ |  | DJN2 | VAR30 | ; DEPEMDING ON VAR. TYPE ; IX==> NEXT VARIABLE |
|  | 01610 | ; Check | screen |  |  |
| BA67 117B3F | 01620 |  | LD | DE, ENDDS | ; LAST PRINT POS. |
| BA6A DF | 01630 |  | RST | 18 H | ; CP HL:DE |
| BA6B D437BB | 81640 |  | Call | NC, ENDSCR | ; GC if Screen full |
| BA6E 7D | 01650 |  | LD | A, 1 | ; GET LSE Of SCREEN PTR. |
| BA6F E63F | 01660 |  | AND | 3FH | ; HASK BITS 6 \& 7 |
| BA71 FE3C | 01670 |  | CP | 3C1: | ; END OF LINE? |
| EA73 38C0 | 01680 |  | JR | C, VARId | ;RETURN IF NOT |
| BA75 114000 | 01690 |  | LD | DE, 40 H | ; LINE OffSET |
| BA78 19 | 81780 |  | ADD | HL, DE | ; HLa $=$ N NEXT LINE |
| BA79 70 | 01710 |  | LD | A, L | ; GET LSB |
| ba7a E6C0 | 01720 |  | AMD | OCOH | ;MASK OUT EITS 0-5 |
| BA7C 6F | 01730 |  | LD | L, A | ;HL= ${ }^{\text {S }}$ START OF NEXT LINE |
| BA7D 18B6 | $\begin{aligned} & 01740 \\ & 01750 \end{aligned}$ |  | JR | VAR10 | ; GEt amother variable |
|  | 01760 | ;Now st | how arr |  |  |
|  | 01778 |  | , |  |  |
| BA7F CD37BB | 01780 | Array | Call | ENDSCR | ; NEW SCREEN FOR ARRAYS |
| BA82 DD2AFB40 | 01790 |  | L.D | IX, (AVT) | ; IX $=$ = ARRAY TABLE |
| BA86 DDE5 | 01800 | ARRIS | PUSH | IX | ; TRALSFER PTR TO |
| BA88 El | 01810 |  | POP | HL | ; TO HL |
| BA89 EDSbFD40 | 01820 |  | LD | DE, (FREE) | ;DE= = ${ }^{\text {ERND }}$ Of ARRAYS |
| BA8D DF | 01830 |  | RST | 18 H | ; CP HL:DE |
| BA8E 3075 | $\begin{aligned} & 01848 \\ & 01850 \end{aligned}$ | ; | JR | NC, DONE | ; Go if end of table |
| BA90 DD4620 | 01860 |  | LD | B, (1x+0) | ; GET VARIABLE TYPE |
| BA93 DD7E02 | 01878 |  | LD | A, $(1 X+2)$ | ; 1ST LETTER OF VAR. NAME |
| BA96 CD3A03 | 01880 |  | CALL | PRINT1 | ; PRINT A |
| BA99 DD7Eel | 01898 |  | LD | A, (IX +1 ) | ; 2ND Letter of VAr. Name |
| BA9C B7 | 01908 |  | OR | A | ; SET Flags |
| BA9D 2803 | 01910 |  | JR | Z,ARR20 | ; GC IF O |
| ba9\% CD3A03 | 01920 |  | CALL | PRINT1 | ; ELSE PRINT IT |
| BAA2 78 | 01930 | ARR20 | LD | A, B | ;GET VAR. TYPE value |
| baA3 3D | 01948 |  | DEC | A | ; Subtract Two To |
| BAA4 3D | 01953 |  | DEC | A | ; ALIGN WITH TABLE |
| BAAS 32AABA | 01968 |  | LD | (IYPTR2+2), A | ; Address table |
| BAAE FD7E0 | 01978 | IYPTR2 | LD | A, (IY+0) | ;GET TYPE SYABOL |
| BAAB CD 3 A0 3 | 01988 |  | CALL | ${ }_{\text {PRI }}$ (NT1 | ; AND PRINT IT |
| babe cd3ag3 | 01990 02000 |  | $\stackrel{\text { LD }}{\text { Call }}$ | A, ' ${ }^{\text {Pr }}$ ' ${ }^{\text {PRINT1 }}$ | ; PAREN. CHAR. |
|  | 02018 | ; |  | PRINT1 | ; And print it |
| BAB3 DD4Ee5 | 02220 |  | LD | C. ( $1 \mathrm{X}+5$ ) | ; GET \% OF DIMENSIONS |
| BAB6 DD5E03 | 02038 |  | LD | E, (IX +3 ) | ; DE Will have offset |
| BAB9 DD5604 | 02040 |  | LD | D, (IX +4 ) | ; TO NEXT ARRAY |
| BABC DDE5 | 02850 |  | PUSH | IX | ;TRANSFER IX VALUE TO |
| babe El | 02068 |  | POP | HL | ; HL PEGISTER |
| BABF 19 | 02070 |  | ADD | HL, DE | ;ADD OfFSET |

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| Listing I continued |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| BAC0 | 110500 | 02080 |  | LD | DE, 5 | ; OffSET FOR HEADER |
| BAC3 | 19 | 02090 |  | ADD | HL, DE | ; HL= = NEXT ARRAY |
| BAC4 | E5 | 02100 |  | PUSH | HL | ;SAVE ADDRESS |
|  |  | 02110 | ; |  |  |  |
| BACS | 0606 | 02128 |  | LD | B, 6 | ; BUMP IX 6 TIMES |
| BAC7 | DD23 | 02130 | ARR30 | INC | IX | ; SO IX=\# SILE OF |
| BAC9 | 10 FC | $02140$ $02150$ | ; | DJNZ | ARR30 | ; IST DIMENSION |
| BACB | 41 | 02160 |  | LD | B, C | ;GET \# OF DIM. |
| BACC | CB20 | 02170 |  | SLA | B | ;MULTIPLY BY TWO |
| BACE | DD23 | 02180 | ARR40 | INC | IX | ; BUMP POINTER |
| bado | 10FC | $\begin{aligned} & 82190 \\ & 02200 \end{aligned}$ | ; | DJN2 | ARR40 | ; UNTIL PAST DIM SIzES |
| BAD2 | 41 | 02210 |  | LD | B, C | ; GET \# OF DIM. AGAIN |
| BAD3 | DD2B | 02220 | ARR50 | DEC | IX | ; DROP IX UNTIL IT |
| BAD5 | DD2B | 02230 |  | DEC | IX | ; POINTS TO NEXT DIM. |
| BAD7 | DD6E00 | 02248 |  | LD | L, ( IX + ) | ; GEt LSB OF DIM SIzE |
| BADA | DD6601 | 02250 |  | LD | $\mathrm{H},(\mathrm{IX}+1)$ | ; AND NISB |
| BADD | 2B | 02260 |  | DEC | HL | ; CORRECT FOR 0 ELEMENT |
| bade | CDB2BB | $\begin{aligned} & 92270 \\ & 92280 \end{aligned}$ | ; | CALL | ASCPRT | ; PRINT AS ASCII |
| baEl | 3E2C | 02290 |  | LD | A, ', ' | ; GEt comma char. |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { BAE3 } \\ & \text { BAE6 } \end{aligned}$ | CD3A03 | 02300 |  | CALL | PRINT1 | ;AND PRINT IT |
|  | 10EB | $\begin{aligned} & 82310 \\ & 82320 \end{aligned}$ | ; | DJNZ | ARR50 | ; REPEAT FOR ALL DIM.S |
| BAE8 | 212040 | 02330 |  | LD | hl, CURSAD | ; HL==>CURSOR POS'N |
| baEb | 35 | 02348 |  | DEC | (HL) | ; MOVE BACK OVER LAST "," |
| BAEC | 3 E29 | 02350 |  | LD | A, ')' | ; GET Close paren. |
|  | CD3A63 | 02360 |  | CALL | PRINTI | ;AND PRINT IT |
| BAEE bAF1 | 3 E 20 | 02378 |  | LD | A, ${ }^{\text {, }}$ | ; NOW AN ASCII SPACE |
| BAF1 | CD3A63 | 02380 |  | CALL | PRINT1 | ; AND PRINT IT |
| BAF6 | 2A2040 | 82390 |  | LD | HL, (CURSAD) | ;GET CURSOR POS'N |
|  | $117 \mathrm{B3F}$ | 02400 |  | LD | DE, ENDDS | ; END OF PRINT AREA |
| BAFC <br> BAFD | DF | 02410 |  | RST | 18 H | ; CP HL: DE |
|  | D437BB | $\begin{aligned} & 02420 \\ & 02436 \end{aligned}$ | ; | CALL | NC, ENDSCR | ; GO If SCREEN full |
| $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{BB} 98 \\ & \text { BBE2 } \end{aligned}$ | DDE1 | 02440 |  | POP | IX | ; IX = = ${ }^{\text {NEXT }}$ ARRAY |
|  | C386BA | $02450$ $02460$ |  | JP | ARR16 | ; GO TO WORK ON IT |
| BB65 | CD37BB | 02470 | DONE | Call | ENDSCR | ;ASK FOR ENTER |
| B808 | 21FDBB | 02489 |  | LD | HL, SCRBUF | ; HL==>SCREEN BUFFER |
|  | 11003C | 02490 |  | LD | DE,VIDEO | ;DE==>SCREEN |
| B89B | 010004 | 82508 |  | LD | BC, 480\% | ; BC = SCREEN LENGTH |
| B811 | EDB0 | 02510 |  | LDIR |  | ; MOVE TO SCREEN |
| BB13 | 2AFDBF | 02520 |  | LD | HL, (CRSBUF) | ;GET OLD CURS. POS'N |
| B816 | 222040 | 02530 |  | LD | (CURSAD), HL | ; AND RESTORE IT |
|  | 3EFF | 02540 |  | LD | A, 0fFH | ;*VALUE FOR RECUR. FLAG |
| BB18 | 32 FFBF | 02550 |  | LD | (FLAG) , A | ;*RESET RECURS. FLAG |
|  | CD2EBB | 02560 |  | CALL | POPAL | ;RESTORE REGISTERS |
|  | AF | 02570 |  | XOR | A | ;A \& Z-FLAG SHOW 0 |
| BB22 | C3EFB9 | $92580$ |  | JP | RETURN | ;RETURN TO BASIC |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { BB25 } \\ & \text { BB26 } \end{aligned}$ | E3 | 02680 | PUSHAL | EX | (SP) , BL | ; HL ON STACK, SAVE RET |
|  | C5 | 02610 |  | PUSH | BC | ; SAVE all regs |
| BB27 | D5 | 02620 |  | PUSH | DE |  |
| BB28 | DDE5 | 02630 |  | PUSH | IX |  |
| BB2ABB2C | FDE5 | 02640 |  | PUSH | IY |  |
|  | E5 | 02650 |  | PUSH | HL | ;ORIG. RET ADDR.TO STACK |
| BB2D |  | $\begin{aligned} & 02660 \\ & 02670 \end{aligned}$ |  | RET |  |  |
| BB2E | E1 | 02680 | POPAL | POP | HL | ;GET RET. ADDR. |
|  | FDE1 | 02698 |  | POP | IY | ;RESTORE ALL REGS. |
| B831 | DDE1 | 02700 |  | POP | IX |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { BB33 } \\ & \text { BB34 } \end{aligned}$ | D1 | 02710 |  | POP | DE |  |
|  | C1 | 02720 |  | POP | BC |  |
| B835 | E3 | 02730 |  | EX | (SP) , HL | ;GET ORIG. HL |
| BB36 |  | $\begin{aligned} & 02740 \\ & 02750 \end{aligned}$ |  | RET |  |  |
| BB37 | CD25BB | 02760 | ENDSCR | Call | PUSHAL | ; SAVE REGISTERS |
| BB3A | 21883F | 02770 | END10 | LD | HL, PRTPOS | ;*HL==>PRINT POSITION |
|  | 222040 | 02780 |  | LD | (CURSAD), HL | ;SET CURSOR ADDRESS |
| BB49 | 3E1F | 02790 |  | LD | A, 1 FH | ;*1F=CLEAR TO END OF FRAME |
| B842 | CD3A03 | 02800 |  | CALL | PRINT1 | ;*PRINT IT |
| BB45 | 21C8BB | 02810 |  | LD | HL, MSG | ;HL= $=>$ PROMPT MESSAGE |
|  | CD752B | 02826 |  | CALL | PRINT | ; PRINT IT |
| BB48 BB4B | 21E9BB | 02830 |  | LD | hl, Varbuf | ;*HL==>INPUT BUFFER |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { BB4E } \\ & \text { BB5 } \end{aligned}$ | 0614 | 02840 |  | LD | B,20D | ;*B=MAX. INPUT LENGTH |
|  | CDD905 | $\begin{aligned} & 92850 \\ & 02860 \end{aligned}$ | ; | CALL | linein | ;*GET Keyboard input |
| BB53 | 38 ES | 02870 |  | JR | c, ENDIo | ;*GO If <BREAK〉 HIT |
| BB55 | 78 | 02880 |  | LD | A, B | ;*GET INPUT LENGTH |
|  |  | 02890 |  | OR | A | ;*SET FLAGS |
| BB56 BB57 | 200A | 02960 |  | JR | NZ, END20 | ;*GO If VARIABLE REQUESTED |
| BB59 | CDC901 | 02910 |  | CALL | CLS | ; ElSe Clear screen |
| BB5CBB5F | CD2EBB | 02920 |  | CALL | POPAL | ; RESTORE REGISTERS |
|  | 21003C | 02930 |  | LD | HL, VIDEO | ;HL==>SCREEN TOP |
| BB62 |  | $\begin{aligned} & 62940 \\ & 02950 \end{aligned}$ |  | RET |  | ;AND RETURN |
| BB63 | C5 | 02960 | END20 | pUSH | BC | ;*SAVE Variable length |
| BB64 | 0608 | 02970 |  | LD | B, 8 | ;*FOR 8 SPACES |
| BB66 | 3E20 | 82988 |  | LD | A, ' ' | ;*A=ASCII SPACE |
| BB68 | CD3A03 | 82998 | END30 | CALL | PRINT1 | ; PRINT |
|  | 10FB | 03000 |  | DJNZ | END30 | ;* 8 SPACES |
| BB6D | Cl | 03018 |  | POP | BC | ;*RECOVER LENGTH COUNT |
| BB6E | 21 EgBB | 03020 |  | LD | hl, Varbup | ;*HL==>BEGINNING OF VAR. |
|  | E5 | 03030 |  | PUSH | HL | ;*AND SAVE IT |
| BB71 B872 | CDA7BB | 03048 |  | Call | PRTSTR | ;*PRINT VAR NAME AS STRING |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { BB75 } \\ & \text { BB77 } \\ & \text { BB7A } \end{aligned}$ | 3E20 | 03050 |  | LD | A, ' ' | ;*A=ASCII SPACE |
|  | CD3A03 | 03060 |  | CALL | PRINT1 | ;*AND PRINT IT |
|  | 3E3D | 03070 |  | LD | A, ' = ' | ;*A $=$ EQUAL SIGN |

Listing I continued

LOAD, and so on). The execution address for each of these new verbs already exists in ROM, but the operation code does not-DOS must supply it. When you boot up a tape system, each Disk Basic command patch point is filled with the L3 error's address.

The second type of patch point to DOS is completely different. Several ROM routines, including many of the output routines, include a call to a lowmemory address. When you use a tape system, a return instruction ( 0 C 9 hex) is loaded into each of those addresses; when you load Disk Basic, either a return, or a jump to a special Disk Basic routine is loaded into each address. However, when you first boot up DOS, no values are specifically loaded to those patch points and any program that calls them will probably find itself wandering off into oblivion.

The purpose of the second set of patch points is to let DOS writers add new, more powerful features to Basic. But if you are writing Assembly-language programs meant to be compatible with disk systems and run under DOS, and you want to use ROM routines, you should close any patch points your program might come across with a 0 C9 hex byte before the ROM routines are called. The patch points are at addresses 41AC hex, 41AF hex, 41B2 hex, and so on up to 41E2 hex, on both the Models I and III.

## Defining Variables

Besides showing the current active variables, this month's program can help you improve your Basic programming. Your programs store all simple variables in memory below all array variables. If your program uses arrays, they have to be moved every time you define or use a new simple variable. If one of your first program lines dimensions all arrays, it will slow down your program considerably by the pauses necessary to shift the arrays up in memory whenever you use a new simple variable. Your program will run faster if you define all simple variables before you dimension arrays.

There are two ways to define simple variables at the beginning of the program. The first, and more structured, is to give each a pre-set value (such as $\mathrm{A}=0, \mathrm{~B}=2$, and $\mathrm{C}=.479$ ). However, if you're going to set many of the variables to zero, or if the program will set
them as it uses them, you can define simple variables the same way you define arrays: with the DIM command. DIM A,B,C defines, and sets up space for, the three variables listed.

Therefore, a sensible order of commands at the beginning of a program would be:

## - Clear sufficient string space;

$\bullet$ Define or Dimension simple variables;

- Dimension array variables.

The second lesson to be gained from variables displays is that the order of variables in memory makes a difference. Whenever Basic has to deal with any variable, it searches the appropriate table from the beginning. If it finds the variable, it continues to process the current command. If it can't find the variable, it (usually) must make room for it and add it to the table.
If your most frequently used variables are at the bottom of the table, they will be found faster and your program will run more quickly. To place them at the bottom of the table, be sure to define them first.
One interesting side note-if you ask Basic for the value of a simple variable that you have not previously defined, it searches the SVT and, failing to find the variable, answers zero for a numeric variable or "" for a string variable. However, it will not add the variable to the SVT.
If you ask Basic for the value of an element in an array that you haven't previously defined, Basic first creates the array in the AVT, using the default value of 10 for the maximum of each index, and then reports that the value of the array element is zero or " ". Be careful when you use arrays; they can fill up memory quickly. The innocuous looking statement:

## DIM A.f(7,8,8,8)

requires 46,666 bytes, and uses up almost all available memory in a 48 K tape-based Model III.

## Random Numbers

In my own programming and in questions from readers, the subject of random numbers has come up several times. There seems to be a misunderstanding about what a random number is and how random numbers are generated internally in Basic.


LOOP

| LD | A,(3BFFH) |
| :--- | :--- |
| OR | A |
| JR | Z,LOOP |
| LD | A,R |
| AND | 7FH |

;LOOK FOR KEYSTROKE
;SET FLAGS
;LOOP UNTIL STROKE FOUND
;ELSE GET R VALUE
;MASK OUT BIT 7
;A HAS RANDOM NUMBER

Program Listing 2. Trigger routine for reading the $R$ register.

First, generating a random number is simple on a Z 80 -based machine. The Z80 uses the R register internally to signal memory refresh cycles. During the decoding and execution of every machine-language instruction, Z 80 increments the R register, places it on the address bus, and generates a memory
refresh signal. Since this occurs while the Z 80 is processing a program instruction, it takes no extra execution time and is generally transparent to the running program.
If, at an unpredictable time, the $\mathbf{Z 8 0}$ reads the R register, its current value is a random number. For the read's time to
be truly unpredictable, some event must trigger it, that, even if repeated frequently, would take much longer than several machine cycles to occur. One such triggering event might be a key pressed by the computer operator.

Try the following experiment to see how the computer generates random numbers. Take a digital watch that has a stopwatch function and can record hundredths of a second. Start the watch, wait a moment, and then press stop. Record the digit in the hundredths column. Now try to repeat the experiment and stop the watch with the same value in the hundredths column. Slow human reflexes combined with the stopwatch button's resistance make the digital stopwatch a reasonable random number generator for numbers between zero and 9 in the hundredth's column. No one could purposely stop the watch with the same digit showing each time.

The Z80 updates the $\mathbf{R}$ register much more frequently than the relatively slow hundredths of a second display on a

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digital watch. Because bit 7 of the R register never changes (you can set that bit by loading a value into $R$ ), reading the $\mathbf{R}$ register at random times produces a truly random number between zero and
> '‘The Z80 updates the $R$ register much more frequently than the. . . display on a digital watch."

127. By pressing a key, you can trigger a read, and the code would look something like Program Listing 2.

When you execute the Basic command Random, it also uses the $R$ register, but in a different manner. The entire code for RANDOM is:

| LD | A,R | ;GET CURRENT R |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  | VALUE |
| LD | (40ABH),A | ;SAVE IT |
| RET |  | ;END OF ROUTINE |

The exact instant when Random is executed is certainly unpredictable: It depends on your loading a program that contains the Random command, typing RUN, and pressing the enter key. The only mystery in those three lines of code is why the value is stored in 40 AB hex.

The RND function in Basic produces pseudo-random numbers. The values produced seem random, but you could easily predict the next random number if you knew the present state of the computer. Pseudo-random numbers are generated by taking a "seed" value and performing a specific series of arithmetic operations on that value. The new seed value becomes the new pseudo-random number.

The computer stores the random number seed in both the Models I and III at memory locations 40AA hex, 40 AB hex, and 40AC hex. The specific algorithm used to generate each successive seed is unimportant here; what is important is that if you know the current seed value and the algorithm, you can accurately predict the next pseudorandom number. In some types of modeling, it's important to be able to use the same set of random numbers repeatedly
in a program to test various hypotheses. To see how such a program might operate, run the following:
10 FOR I $=1$ TO 5
$20 \quad$ POKE 16554,1
$30 \quad$ POKE 16555,2
$40 \quad$ POKE 16556,3
$50 \quad$ FOR J = 1 TO 8
$60 \quad$ PRINT RND $(100)$,
$70 \quad$ NEXT J
$80 \quad$ PRINT
90 NEXT I
100 GOTO 100

Lines 20,30 , and 40 establish the current seed value, thus determining the series of pseudo-random numbers generated.

It should be clear now how the Random command operates. It takes a truly random value-the current value in R and uses it to re-seed the pseudo-random number generator. The software pseudo-random number generator always generates the same series of values; the computer uses the Random command to start that series at a random spot on the list. The total list of pseudo-random numbers is long enough that you will probably never have a program that will notice a repetition of values.

If you wish to generate your own pseudo-random numbers in machine language, you'll need to do some research about different pseudo-random algorithms. You will find a great deal of disagreement among the experts about which algorithm is best, and what constitutes a truly random pseudo-random number (if such a beast exists). The ideas are interesting, but the mechanics soon become extremely complex.

## Authors' Forum

As I mentioned last month, readers who subscribe to CompuServe may take part in open discussions of topics covered by "The Next Step." GO PCS-117 to the Software and Authors Special Interest Group (SASIG) and leave your questions or comments addressed to me on the message board. Feel free to join in any discussions started by other readers.

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I've got good news and bad news. The bad news is that this will be the last edition of The Color Key; the good news is that next month, I'll be taking over the Re:FLEX column in HOT CoCo and expanding its coverage to include both FLEX and OS-9 software.
While most of the previous action in the area of alternative operating systems centered on FLEX, every indication is that the long-delayed OS-9 software will have a broad range of supporting applications programs for the serious user.
I recently spent an afternoon with Sue and Paul Searby of Computerware, discussing some of their plans for new products. It comes as no surprise that they will market a rather complete line of OS-9 business software, and you can bet that other suppliers will do the same.

Since that's where much of my interest lies, I'm looking forward to working with and writing about the new system. I expect to be in the thick of it by the time you read this column.

And by the way, the fact that Radio Shack is advertising Basic09 for the Color Computer is the best news to come out of Fort Worth in a while. I can hardly wait.

## Unfinished Business

Some bugs are subtle and some are just plain dumb, and one of the latter kind has surfaced in my Expgraph program (September 1983, p. 30). Let's see if I can make amends.

You might recall that Expgraph creates a high-resolution graph of expenditures as a function of time for periods of up to a year. The program automatically scales the dollar axis to maximize the resolution of the graph, while restricting the major interval to an integral multiple of $\$ 2, \$ 5$, or $\$ 10$ times some power of 10 . It also extrapolates the rate at which you spend money, so the user can compare the prediction for year's end with a budget target.

The bug appears in the routine that converts the value used for the expendi-ture-axis interval to a string in preparation for drawing it on the high-res screen. As I learned when working with one particular set of project cost figures, I should have included code to force this interval to be an integer.


## Final words on the CoCo

As things stand, the program is capable of arriving at an interval of, say, $\$ 50000.01$. This in turn would appear on the graph, sans decimal point, as a scale factor: $\$ 5000001$. Very sloppy, to say nothing of downright wrong.
The solution is simple enough. Change the first half of Expgraph line 1140 from

$$
\mathrm{C} \$=\mathrm{STR}(\mathrm{C})
$$

to

$$
\mathrm{CS}=\operatorname{STRS}(\operatorname{INT}(\mathrm{C}))
$$

to enjoy classy displays.
Sorry about that.

## What Do You Really Use?

A number of people have written with similar questions: How can I possibly use all the software I review? Why does anyone need 15 data file managers, half a dozen word processors, and three or four spreadsheets? In fact, do I use the stuff at all, or do I give it a quick once-over before consigning it to the wastebasket?

Fair enough. I confess that until I began to get some reader feedback, it never occurred to me that people would think everything I reviewed favorably I'd automatically add to my own collection of everyday tools. I should be flattered, I guess.

Actually, my correspondents are quite right; limits exist to what anyone really needs, and limits to what anyone can
profitably use. It makes little sense to spend all your time learning new command sequences so you can have the latest wrinkle in a particular type of program-unless you need that wrinkle. Therefore, my standard software library changes fairly slowly.

At the same time, I think it's incumbent on me to thoroughly wring out the products I review. I try to spend enough time with each program to explore all its major features.

That takes a fair amount of time, and occasionally it isn't possible to exercise every option of a complex product. Naturally, when reviewing software I only report on the features and commands that I have actually used.
I rely on a fairly standardized set of procedures to test the major types of programs: word processors, file or data-base managers, spreadsheets, and so forth. For example, I test spreadsheets with some dummy research and development (R\&D) project budgets, departmental salary plans, and IRS forms. These simulate my principal real-world applications, and give me an opportunity to see how each new review subject handles a typical set of operations.

I often have to depart from my routine to explore novel features of a program, though, and such explorations sometimes convince me to add a product to my stable.

That's how I decided to start using Derringer Software's Pro-Color-File (P.O. Box 5300, Florence, SC 29502) for my heavy-duty data file management. Its particular capabilities for computation and report generation address some of my special needs, so I thought it worth converting many of my files to Pro-Color-File format.

This involves a fair amount of effort, and I certainly wouldn't recommend that everyone start from scratch whenever a new program shows up. My point is that in trying to keep my reviews honest, I have the opportunity to be tempted to buy more software than the typical user. As a result, I probably get involved in more file modification and rewriting than a sane person would tolerate.

I don't always change every file over to accommodate a new product, since I


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SOFTRENDS


I've also been experimenting with several math and business graphics packages and expect to become a steady user of one or more, but it's early to declare my allegiance. My reviews have been appearing here and in HOT CoCo on a fairly regular basis; look for more on graphics over the next two or three months.

## Odds and Ends

I'd like to return to the question of the Color Computer versus other serious 8 -bit machines. The CoCo programs I use (and many of their major competitors) are the equals of the bet-ter-known applications programs for other computers. I use CP/M software almost daily, but that doesn't mean it overwhelms me.

Both Elite Calc and Dynacalc are better in some respects than early versions of Supercalc, which is itself arguably better than VisiCalc. It has taken the newer Supercalc 2 to incorporate some features of the CoCo programs: the ability to sort a spreadsheet by row or column data, for example.

Telewriter-64 is far easier to use than WordStar, and does a perfectly satisfactory job on anything but the most specialized text processing. For that matter, Super Color Writer (Nelson Software Systems, 9072 Lyndale Ave. South, Minneapolis, MN 55420) can take on WordStar, too.

As for file and data-base managers, I haven't done enough work with CP/M material to form a definite opinion. I know that dBase II is very powerful but quite complex-more complex than Pro-Color-File, Homebase, or several other top CoCo file managers. The CP/M program might do all kinds of exotic tricks, but for the moment I feel that CoCo users have some competitive software at their command.

What troubles me, though, is that it's a real chore to use the output of one program as the input to another. Life would be a lot simpler if I could pop an Elite Calc data file into Radio Shack's Disk Graphics to produce a bar chart, or if I could get such a chart into a Telewriter report.

Of course it's possible to write a conversion program for almost any specific application, but wouldn't it be nice if CoCo programs talked to one another with less fuss?

Some CP/M software does better: You can use WordStar with auxiliary

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programs to prepare indices and footnotes, for example. I don't think this desire for well-integrated software is a fetish of mine alone. The best feature of Apple's Lisa is its elaborate suite of business programs, and integrated packages like 1-2-3 promise to be huge sellers in the IBM PC community.

Clearly, someone else cares about this problem. The existence of a standardized operating system helps, and maybe the official blessing of OS-9 will result in better-integrated software for Color Computers.

## Super CoCo

The 64 K Color Computer and the Color Computer 2 are now appearing in Radio Shack catalogs, and the first samples of the Dragon 32 are out. The former and the latter have some appealing features, but neither is perfect.

Therefore, I'd like to share a few fantasies with you and set down some of my thoughts for a dream machine. This isn't a truly radical proposal, just some ideas I'd like to see incorporated into a next-generation Color Computer.

I'll start with a baseline machine having 64 K of RAM and the best of the full-travel keyboards. Now, how about adding an official clock speedup to 1.8 MHz . Maybe the operating system would have to shift in and out of high gear for I/O, but this shouldn't concern the user. Add an internal muffin fan if necessary to preserve IC lifetimes.

The machine needs a few user-definable keys like the ones on the Model 100 and some of today's add-on keyboards. I hope software vendors would prepare patch areas so you could add customized definitions for such keys to their programs. One of the things WordStar does right is allow control/digit key to represent a series of keystrokes, making it much easier to enter frequently used command sequences.

> 'I'd like to share...my thoughts for a dream machine."

A baseband video output for use with a monitor could be a monochrome signal, and would be used primarily for word processing and an 80 -column spreadsheet. The Dragon 32 has baseband and RF outputs already.

I'd like better A/D converters. Eightbit resolution would be nice, to increase today's 64 resolvable analog input levels to 256. An integral Centronics parallel port should go along with the RS-232. Let's get serious about printing, and do away with the external boxes and PC boards.

I want gold-plated cable connectors everywhere. Weak links like the CoCo's disk controller connectors aren't charming idiosyncrasies; they're embarrassing flaws.

Dedicate a second 6809, with perhaps another 64 K of its own RAM, to control the display. I'm not kidding; at least one such machine already exists in Japan. It would be great to have this kind of power for graphics of all kinds. Consider the possibilities of 40 PMODE 4 pages, for starters.

One of the nicest things about designing dream machines is that you don't have to worry about cost.

## The End

It's the end of the road, ladies and gentlemen. I've enjoyed writing The Color Key, and I hope that many of you will find something of interest in the new FLEX/OS-9 applications column.

I don't intend to abandon the rest of the CoCo world. One of my major current projects is a book in which I'll treat applications software in more detail than the column/review format permits.

With any luck at all, the book will be out in the autumn of 1984. The publisher is Scott, Foresman.

In the meanwhile, I'll see you in HOT CoCo.

Contact Scott Norman c/o The Color Key, 80 Micro, 80 Pine St., Peterborough, NH 03458.

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Perhaps the most powerful asset of any 16 -bit microcomputer is its ability to become an office or interoffice hub that other terminals can access. Its multi-user and multi-tasking capabilities blur the fine line that separates minicomputers from microcomputers.

Terminals, commonly referred to as work stations, are typically less expensive than complete computer units. Using several terminals to tie into one host computer allows many people to take advantage of the main computer simultaneously.

The host computer, in its standard configuration, has a hard disk drive connected to it. All of the terminals can access information stored on the same hard disk.

Currently, Radio Shack offers two ways to add external remote work stations to the Model 16. These networking systems are called Arcnet and Xenix.

## Arcnet

Arcnet, an acronym for attached resource computer network, lets you connect up to 255 computers to the Model 16.

The terminals can use all of the peripherals connected to the host machine. These include both floppy and hard disk drives and printers. You cannot use the host machine, called a file processor, as a terminal. Its keyboard and video display aren't available to the operator.

Arcnet also runs on the Models II and 12. It doesn't require the MC68000


## Arcnet and Xenix hubbub

board, but every computer in the system must have an Arcnet circuit board installed. Have your local Computer Center do this.

Hubs, similar in function to a TV antenna splitter, join the work stations and the host machine together. One cable connects to a hub's input and provides several outputs to feed other work stations. Passive hubs let you connect together four units up to 200 feet from the hub.

Active hubs boost the data signals with internal circuitry so you can place terminals as far away as 2,000 feet from the hub. Combining many active and passive hubs together yields a maximum distance of four miles between the farthest work station and the host computer.

Obviously, Arcnet is a good choice for multi-user applications where work stations are located in different buildings (such as a college campus).

The owner of multi-user work sta-
tions must run the necessary cable wires through the buildings. Radio Shack computer technicians help with the installation of their computers in an Arcnet system but you must get an electrician to prepare the necessary wiring.
We haven't had the opportunity to work with an Arcnet system and welcome comments from readers who use one. Our understanding is that it operates at a speed of 2.5 million bits per second. With that kind of speed you feel as if you are the only user on the host computer.

## Xenix

The second multi-user system currently available is TRS-Xenix, or simply Xenix. In contrast to Arcnet, which is a hardware configuration, Xenix is software based and requires no special circuit modifications on any of the system's microcomputers. Since it uses the MC68000 microprocessor, you need a Model 16, 16B, II/16, or $12 / 16$ to run it.
Unlike Arcnet, the host computer's video and keyboard are available as a work station. However, you can connect only three terminals (including the host) at one time. The other one or two terminals interface by way of the two RS-232 jacks on the back of the host computer. A null modem adaptor does the job along with RS-232 cables.
Under Arcnet, each work station is a complete computer, not just a data terminal. Xenix requires that only the host machine be an independent computer.
As of this writing, you need a hard disk drive to run the system, but a floppy

## Assembly-Language Corner

Prior to displaying any information on a video screen, it's usually necessary to clear the screen and position the cursor at a point where you want to begin printing. This month we take a look at some of the supervisor routines available to perform these screen formatting functions.

The video character generator circuit in the Model 16 is identical to that of the Models II and 12. Therefore, all graphics characters and ASCII codes are compatible.

Normally the screen format of these computers gives us 80 character positions horizontally and 24 vertically.

The video generator is capable of printing characters in a larger mode. While the vertical count remains 24 , you can double the width of each letter. Thus, in the large character mode, a maximum of 40 letters fits on a horizontal line.
Also at our disposal is an inverse
version is in the works. Naturally such a version is limited due to less disk space on a floppy.

Xenix's basic structure builds around Western Electric's popular and established Unix operating system. Xenix comes from a thoroughly tested program in the field for 10 years.

Since more than one person can work on the same disk file at the same time, imagine the disaster if two people try to write the same record to a file simultaneously. Fortunately, Xenix designers
took this into consideration. The program doesn't allow two users to write information to the same record and accidentally lose data.

Xenix divides the computer's RAM into separate sections for each user. In this way, each of the two or three users can run programs independently. One can run payroll while another works on accounts receivable, for instance. Xenix runs with a minimum amount of 256 K RAM. However, certain combinations of programs run simultaneously may
require 384 K or even 512 K .
Both Arcnet and Xenix have their pros and cons. Your choice depends on your business's particular needs. Xenix doesn't require you to make any hardware modifications to existing computers; Arcnet does. But Arcnet handles up to 255 computers; Xenix accommodates only three. With Xenix, the remote work stations need only be data terminals such as Radio Shack's Model DT-1. Under Arcnet, each work station must be a computer.

A-L Corner continued from previous page
video option. Normally the background of the screen is unlit or black and the letters light up (green or white, depending on your machine). You can reverse this to cause the background surrounding a letter to light up and the letter itself to appear as a darkened area within the block.

Built within the disk operating system is a routine (referred to as a supervisor call) that you can use to establish the size of the letters and the nor$\mathrm{mal} /$ inverse printing font.

Placing a zero into byte-offsets 6 and 7 of the SVC block (a buffer area you set up to pass values to the DOS routine) switches the video size to the 40-character-per-line mode. A value of 1 placed there produces 80 -character lines. In byte-offsets 8 and 9, a zero indicates inverse video and a 1 indicates normal printing.

The supervisor number that identifies this routine from other supervisor calls is 7. Always place the identifying supervisor number in byte-offset zero of the buffer. The set-up to call this routine looks something like this:

| LDA | .A0,SVC BLOCK |
| :--- | :--- |
| MOVW | @A0,\#7 |
| MOVW | 6@A0,\#1 |
| MOVW | $\mathbf{8 @ A 0 , \# 1}$ |
| BRK | M0 |
| RET |  |
| SVC BLOCK |  |
| RDATAB | 32,0 |

Use the move-a-word (movw) command to load the necessary values into the buffer area. This is an indirect addressing mode where register A0 stores the address pointing to the location of the SVC block buffer.

With the values you use in the example, prepare a normal screen for-mat- 80 characters per line and no inverse video.

Supervisor call 7 automatically performs two other functions. It clears the screen (similar to the Basic CLS command) and it homes the cursormoving it to the top leftmost position on the screen.

You can use another supervisor routine to clear the screen. This is call number 8 which sends a character to the video display. Examine the machine's ASCII code chart in the owner's manual and note that the decimal number 30 is a control code for clearing the screen. By sending this ASCII code to the routine that prints a character on the display, you can clear the screen. However, unlike the last routine, this doesn't set up the inverse/normal and $80 / 40$ screen formats.

| LDA | .A0,SVC BLOCK |
| :---: | :---: |
| MOVW | @A0,H8 |
| MOVW | 6@A0,430 |
| BRK | 40 |
| RET |  |
| SVC BLOCK |  |
| RDATAB | 32,0 |

## Positioning the Cursor

Before printing any letters or graphics characters on the video display, you may want to position the cursor at a specific point to start printing. Supervisor call number 10 lets you place the cursor at any printable location on the screen.

You must move values for the horizontal $(x)$ and vertical $(y)$ coordinates into the SVC buffer area to instruct the computer as to the row and col-
umn on which you desire to place the cursor.

Place the value for the row position in byte-offsets 6 and 7. The row position refers to the number of lines down from the top of the screen. Offsets 8 and 9 store the column position. This is the number of character positions from the left-hand side of the screen.
Since there are 24 lines down the screen and 80 positions across, halving these values to 12 and 40 places the cursor in the center of the screen.

| LDA | .A0,SVC BLOCK |
| :--- | :--- |
| MOVW | @A0,\#10 |
| MOVW | $\mathbf{6 @ A 0 , \# 1 2}$ |
| MOVW | $\mathbf{8 @ A 0 , \# 4 0}$ |
| BRK | $\mathbf{\# 0}$ |
| RET |  |
| SVC BLOCK |  |
| RDATAB | $\mathbf{3 2 , 0}$ |

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Figure 1. Monty and Eric play Scrabble.


Monty Plays Scrabble
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One Tandy Center
Fort Worth, TX 76102
Model III, 32K
One disk drive
Back-up limited
$\mathbf{\$ 3 4 . 9 5}$
by Eric Maloney
80 Micro staff

Monty Plays Scrabble isn't going to win any tournaments. But it's good enough to give the average player a run for his money, and challenging enough to give the experienced player a stimulating practice partner.

To play Monty, you need a Scrabble board and a good dictionary. Either you or the game can pick the tiles. The program provides a board on the screen, showing you where it placed its word and letting you indicate where you want yours.

Among other features (see Table 1), Monty gives you four skill levels, keeps track of the score, and lets you save a game in progress. A game takes about one hour and 40 minutes to play.

But enough detail. What kind of Scrabble does Monty play?

At first, I was disappointed. I won my first game by the depressing score of

468 to 288 , and took the next five as well. The average tally was 431 to 302 . This, I thought, is no way for a computer with a 54,000 -word vocabulary to perform.
But Monty surprised me in game seven, reeling off three seven-letter words en route to a 440-383 win. And while it hasn't beaten me since, it has occasionally given me a game worthy of a capable human partner.

## A Typical Game

The best way to demonstrate Monty's abilities is to recount an actual game. This one is our eighth, and is fairly typical. We play at the highest (Scholar) level, and Monty goes first. Figure 1 shows the final board.

1. My letters: FTAODRT. Monty starts off with CAY, whatever that is. I counter with FART. (So who says Scrabble has to be polite?) "Good play!" Monty responds. He says that a lot, even for words like IT. Score after one turn: 16-26, my lead.
2. Letters: *IINODT. Some good possibilities here-DICTION comes immediately to mind. I wait patiently while Monty thinks; it takes him about three minutes of disk I/O to make a move.

After much grinding and gnashing, he plays MOAN, MAY, OR, and AT for 22 points. Not too bad. Since I have no place to put DICTION, I play

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Our reviewers use a five-star rating system. One star represents the low end of this spectrum, while five stars represent the spectacular and high end of the spectrum.

DICTATION instead for a quick 65. "Very great word!" Monty exudes. Monty might have an elephantine memory, but he has yet to learn how to use adverbs well. Score: 38-91.
3. Letters: ETEEOID. Monty's revenge. I need to get rid of some of these E's. Too bad EDICTATION isn't a word. What's taking Monty so long? I could spin off a game of Galaxy Invasion in the time he needs to think.
"Aha!" he exclaims. That must mean he's done. He lays down GAP, $A D$, and PI for 19 , and opens up the triple word score. Unfortunately, I can't use it for anything. I play DECEIT and GAPE for 23. Score: 57-114.
4. Letters: RHQPOOE. Stuck with the Q -and with no U in sight. "I'll be ready soon," says Monty. I've heard that line before. Think I'll go change my oil. He finally plays BUM, BO, and UN. Wait a minute-UN??? Monty's played some weird words, but this one's a bit too much. Seeing, however, as I don't have an official Scrabble dictionary, I let it go.

Figuring that two can play the weird word game, I put down HOOPER, HUN, and OM. But wait-Monty challenges OM! Is it a word? he asks. I look it up in my Webster's, and sure enough, there it is. "Monty regrets his error," he says. Score: 76-160.
5. Letters: IEARGDQ. Monty loses his turn for an unsuccessful challenge.

# REVIEWS 

Taking full advantage, I play AGED, BOA, and HUNG for 25 . Score: 76-185.
6. Letters: IEARGLQ. This rack looks suspiciously familiar. Monty starts thinking. I go out for dinner and a drink. I return to find that Monty has played BUNG. Isn't he a character in The Wizard of Id? I play GLARE. Score: 97-207.
7. Letters: OKSVXQI. Talk about a constipated rack. Monty plays TOWEL for 26 . I counter with XI, XI, and IT for 31. XI is one of my favorite Scrabble words, and I'm delighted to be able to play it twice on one move. Score: 123-238.
8. Letters: OKSVTQC. It's getting worse. Monty plays IDS and XIS for 18. I put down LOCK for 30. Vowels! I need vowels! Score: 141-268.
9. Letters: ERSVTQE. That damned Q ! Monty plays RUIN for 15 , I can't take it any more and exchange my Q , getting an A in return. With my luck, I'll pick up the Q again later. Score: 156-268.
10. Letters: ERSVTAE. Monty plays YARNS for 24. Getting rid of the Q pays off-I play AVERTERS for 62. Score: 180-330.
11. Letters: OLIIEQW. There it is

```
* * * *1/2
The Statistician
Quant Systems
P.O. Box 628
Charleston, SC 29402
Models I, II, and III
\$125
```


## by John Dunkelberg

The Statistician is an excellent statistical and forecasting system that contains a wide variety of simple and sophisticated statistical analyses. The program is especially useful for business forecasting and complex statistical analysis. The Statistician is also an excellent tool for an instructor in an elementary or advanced statistics course.

The Statistician is completely menu driven so it's easy to use, even for a microcomputer novice. Thirty minutes after reading the documentation, I was running my first regression.

## Multiple Regression

One of my principal reasons for ac-
quiring The Statistician was the multiple regression package. The Statistician contains five different regression procedures including Stepwise, Ridge, Backward Elimination, and All Subsets regressions. I haven't seen Ridge, Backward Elimination, or All Subsets procedures in any other statistical package for micros.

You can create large models with up to about 50 independent variables. This is enormous, especially when compared to the Radio Shack statistical analysis program that only allows five independent variables.

The output (see Table 1) closely resembles that of mainframe packages and includes $t$ values for the individual coefficients as well as their standard errors. Also, the program includes the Durbin Watson statistic, which is useful in residual analysis and is found on few other statistical programs for microcomputers.

You can list or print the variance/ covariance and sums of squares matrix as well as the correlation matrix of the estimates. Residual analysis is also

Final score: 280-383.

## Final Comments

Clearly, a huge vocabulary doth not a Scrabble player make. You need to be a good strategist, too. Monty is not; it is apparently programmed to go for the highest possible point total, whether that means throwing away an S, breaking up a potential seven-letter word, or opening a triple-word score for its opponent.

Monty wins an occasional game, but it is through brute force rather than cunning.

Still, you don't need a great opponent to exercise your own Scrabble skills. Monty gives you enough of a challenge to keep you from getting bored. And it sends you to your dictionary enough times to increase your own vocabulary. In recent games, it has spun off such words as indium, llano, uta, rabbet, vug, aff, eme, and dommir.

One final note: Monty Plays Scrabble allows you only one back-up. This is a serious problem with a program that accesses the disk some 200 times per game. Monty could have a short life if you don't figure out a way to break the protection scheme and give yourself a full supply of copies.
again. Monty plays JEE for 26 . I play WILIER for 18. Score: 206-348.
12. Letters: VIZNOOQ. I shout at the Q to stop torturing me. Monty dives into the well of contemplation; I go reshingle the house. He finally puts down HATSFUL for 26. He picks up the remaining tiles, thus sticking me with the Q for all eternity. I play AZO for 32. Score: 232-380.
13. Letters: NVIOQ. Monty plays EASE, ETA, DOS, and WE. DOS! This is too much. I play VIOL for 14. Score: 257-394.
14. Letters: QN . The end is near. Monty goes through his usual gastrointestinal tremors and lays down VI*A for 12 points. That, as they say, is that.
good. You plot residuals or list them with the actual and predicted values on the screen or printer.

Another feature I like is that the program saves the predicted values to disk. This lets you estimate simultaneous equations models. In addition, the Sort utility ranks the residuals by actual or predicted values of the independent variable.
I tested The Statistician's accuracy on the Longley data, a benchmark for testing statistical accuracy. I found The Statistician superior to the mainframe programs tested by Longley in 1967. The program's accuracy was amazing.

## Data

The Statistician provides an easy data entry and editing system. You specify the number of variables, then the program displays the appropriate number of fields on the display. By pushing the appropriate arrow keys, you move around the fields or up and down through the rows of data.

All files that the editor writes out


TRS-80 1, 2, 3, 4, 12, 16 CPM XENIX

| - Multuple Regression | - Survey Research |
| :--- | :--- |
| Stepwise | - Nonparametrics |
| Ridge | - X.Y Plots |
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REVIEWS
become part of your data base and any of the programs in the package can use them. The edit program contains a good data report formatting system that automatically centers titles and headings and aligns data.

One of the most important components of the package is the data transformation function. It takes some time to become accustomed to this particular program, but it's worth it. Using any of the 24 transformations, you modify data or create new variables as functions of existing variables.
The transformation capability is essential for non-linear multiple regression and many techniques in exploratory data analysis. Using this feature, you can easily create the necessary variables for a polynomial or interaction regression model.

Some of the data transforms are quite unusual but occasionally useful: for example, the additive and multiplicative accumulators. These accumulators calculate the cumulative sum and product of a vector.

Some of the transformations are designed for time series modeling. In particular, the $n$th order lag lets you create lagged data of any specified order.

## Other Features

The descriptive statistics component computes the following numerical descriptive measures: mean, median, geometric mean, harmonic mean, variance, standard deviation, maximum and minimum values, mean absolute deviation, and range. In addition, the program produces excellent frequency histograms (see Fig. 1).
-Dennis Kitsz, 80 Microcomputing: 12/82

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The program also permits several types of hypothesis testing, including tests on a single mean, single variance, and difference in means (paired and unpaired). The paired difference test uses the differencing functions in the transform package, then performs a test of a single mean on the differences. Oneway ANOVA measures the difference in unpaired means.

The ANOVA provides one- and twoway analysis of variance; however, the program doesn't support multiple observations per cell in the two-way analysis.

The nonparametric component contains six commonly used nonparametric tests: Median, Mann-Whitney, Wilcoxon, Kruskal-Wallis, Spearman's Rho, and the Runs Test.

The forecasting program is one of the strongest available. It performs no less than eight different time series models, including moving averages, single and double exponential smoothing, sinusoidal models, Holt's two-parameter linear exponential smoothing, Winter's exponential smoothing model, and adaptive filtering.

It calculates the mean squared error and the mean absolute deviation of the forecast. The Statistician also produces tables and plots of the predicted, actual,
and forecasted values on the screen or printer.

The program generates random variables from seven different types of distributions: Normal, Gamma, Exponential, Uniform, Poisson, Binomial, and Geometric.

Another component that particularly applies to teachers and students of statistics is the sampling program. You can get sampling distributions from any data set. The program obtains all random samples of a given size if you have sufficient disk space on your system.

The documentation is well-written and tutorial in nature. Since the system is menu-driven, it's more than adequate. I quickly obtained answers to my few questions with a telephone call.

## Conclusion

A second version of The Statistician with enhancements is due for release in September. The new version will cost $\$ 295$, and a regression subset will be available for $\$ 145$.
The Statistician is an excellent program for anyone interested in performing statistical analysis. Moreover, if you've already purchased statistical software, you certainly should consider acquiring The Statistician; it contains many features that just aren't available in any other package.
$\star \star \star \star$
Newbasic 2.1
Modular Software Associates
209 18th St.
Huntington Beach, CA 92684
Models I, III, and 4 (in Model III mode) $\$ 39.95$

## by Richard Green

Newbasic 2.1 is an enhancement to Disk Basic for the TRS-80 Models I, III, and 4. Newbasic includes 49 new Basic commands. You can add any or all of them to Basic at your discretion.

The program comes on a 35 -track, single-density Model I disk. This disk contains programs for both Model I and Model III users. Model III users have to run the Convert utility before they can make a working copy of Newbasic. The disk also includes four sample programs written in Newbasic
that display its capabilities.
The distribution disk does not contain a Newbasic program. It has two programs, Creator I and Creator III, each of which builds a Newbasic program for the appropriate computer. When you run the Creator program, it presents you with each Newbasic command, a brief description of that command, and the opportunity to include or discard that command for the Newbasic disk you're making.
Once you make all the choices, the program tells you the total size of the Newbasic program you've made. You must then specify a file name under which to save the Newbasic program.
Newbasic executes exactly as Disk Basic does. You must boot the system, answer the options required by the operating system you're using, then specify Newbasic instead of Basic. From here on, Newbasic operates identically with Disk Basic, but with the inclusion
of the commands you have chosen.

## Program Description

Newbasic's commands fall into three general areas: graphics commands, program development aids, and command enhancements.
Fully half of Newbasic's commands are for graphics and sound generation. Additionally, several of the enhancements and program development aids lend themselves to rapid and easy handling of screen graphics. The graphics handling abilities of Newbasic are quite impressive.
You can draw circles, ellipses, and arcs by using a single command. You can even construct figures larger than the video display, although you can display only a portion of such a figure at any one time.
The command you use is Circle. You can modify Circle with up to seven parameters, specifying the center point, radius, rotation angle, and, in the case of ellipses, the radius along each of the X and Y coordinates.

The Draw command draws straight lines. You can state 15 different parameters to modify this command. These parameters let you draw lines vertically, horizontally, or at angles that bisect the $\mathrm{X}, \mathrm{Y}$ coordinate.

You can draw straight lines at any other angle by specifying the starting and ending points of the desired line. If you like, you can define the starting and ending points as points off the screen.
In effect, you can draw on a grid measuring 255 by 255 . The upper left corner of the video screen is 0,0 and the lower right corner of the screen is 15,63 . One of the nice effects of this is that you can make graphics rotate around this universe of 255 by 255 , but they are in view only when the figure is in the portion represented by the screen.
Draw is not limited to producing single straight line segments. By using several parameters with the command, you can specify complicated figures with a single Draw.
The most interesting parameter for Draw is the X parameter that lets you define a figure as a string expression. For example, you can draw a simple rectangle with the command DRAW "R20,D20,L20,U20" (which means draw a line right 20 graphics blocks, down 20 graphics blocks, and so on). Alternately, you can define the rec-


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- Built in audio
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- Assembly manual


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## Additional Options

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- 4164 RAMs
- Monitor
- Color Graphics (available 12/83)
- Light Pen (available 10/83)
- Hard disk host adapter (available 10/83)
- Factory assembled units (available soon)
tangle as a string: $\mathrm{BOX} \$=$ " R 20 , D20,L20,U20'". Then you can reproduce the rectangle anywhere in the program with the command DRAW "XBOX\$".

You can do a little more magic by specifying scale, which can cause the box to be larger or smaller by factors of $1 / 4$, with a maximum range from 1 to 255. In other words, the normal size rectangle (scale defaults to 4) could be up to 63 times as large by setting the scale to 255 with the command DRAW " $\mathrm{S} 255, \mathrm{XBOX}$ ".

Over 20 other graphics commands exist, including GSAVE to save a graphics memory into a disk file and GLOAD to place the graphic file back into memory. PGET saves a specific graphic into a memory array, PPUT restores the array back into the video memory, and Paint fills in a specified video area, making it all white or all black.

These and the other graphics commands make possible the fastest graphics you can get in a Basic program. Combine the fast graphics animation with the five-octave range (from D below middle C to E three octaves above middle C ) of the sound commands and you can achieve truly spectacular games effects.

The program development aids in Newbasic include 12 new commands. One of these, QUICKEY, enables single-key entry of 39 different Basic commands. For example, when you use QUICKEY, holding the clear key while pressing the 4 key causes CHR\$( to appear immediately on the screen.

Holding the clear key while pressing the 5 key displays INKEY\$, and pressing C displays CMD". It takes a while to become accustomed to QUICKEY, but once you gain familiarity with it, you'll find it a real time saver.

Another nice feature, the DEFKEY, lets you use any 10 keys to call an entire string of characters. One key can call a maximum string length of 127 characters. All 10 keys can call a total of 221 characters.

NTRON is a program tracing routine that lets you set a specific range of program lines you want traced. Additionally, you can specify any expression that you wish traced, and NTRON returns the value of that expression each time the program encounters it.

Yet another tracing function is

SPOOLON used in conjunction with the PON command. PON sends everything displayed on the screen to the printer. Preceding PON with SPOOLON sends everything from the screen to a disk file. You can then redisplay the disk file on the screen or send it to a printer. This way, you can make a permanent copy of the working of a program.

The handiest program development command is LOC.. LOC. followed with a string you want found searches a Basic program for that string. For example, if you want to find and change $\mathrm{X} \$$ to $\mathrm{Z} \$$ in a program, you could find $\mathrm{X} \$$ with the command LOC."X\$".

Newbasic searches for the first occurrence of $\mathrm{X} \$$ in the program with which you are working. You can change $\mathrm{X} \$$ to $\mathrm{Z} \$$, then look for the next occurrence of $\mathrm{X} \$$ with the command LOC.. If you want, you can do this for the entire program.

Among the Basic enhancements are the commands Call, DPEEK, DPOKE, and Do...Until. You use Call to call a machine-language subroutine. With this command it isn't necessary to use DEFUSR to identify the subroutine. You can locate the routine in high memory at will.

You can follow Call with the exact memory location of the routine in either hexadecimal (hex) or decimal form. Alternately, you can follow Call with an expression that corresponds to the routine's location. You can use any number of routines with this command.

Think of DPEEK and DPOKE as double PEEK and POKE. These commands return and insert 2 bytes into memory at the specified location and at that location plus one. The number returned is in the most significant byte, least significant byte form.

Do...Until lets you loop a routine that continues as long as the test following Until isn't met. The Until test can be any logic or arithmetic expression that you want tested. You can nest up to 10 of these loops (one Do...Until expression inside another).

The manual for Newbasic is a spiralbound book showing each command. It includes an explanation of the command and one or more specific examples of its use.

The explanations are reasonably simple, but you'll need some knowledge of Basic and of programming to understand
them. This isn't a serious flaw, as few neophyte programmers have any use for a set of enhancements like Newbasic.
The manual's best feature is its installation instructions. These step-bystep instructions tell you how to install the program, with specific instructions for TRSDOS, LDOS, DOSPLUS, and NEWDOS80.

## Conclusions

Newbasic seems to be a reliable program. Try as I might, I couldn't get it to crash. Nor was I successful in finding any bugs in the time I was able to use Newbasic.
The program development tools I discussed are fairly valuable. The trace functions could have saved me hours of debugging time if I'd had them in the past.

The spooler functions are much easier to use with a Basic program than the spooler that comes with NEWDOS80. And once you've become familiar with the use of QUICKEY, it saves hours of typing when you are keying in a Basic program.

If you're writing a program that requires any amount of screen graphics, Newbasic greatly simplifies your task. However, the graphics commands take some practice to use easily. Most have several optional parameters, and the results of the parameters can be surprising.

Circle is initially confusing. It begins drawing each circle from the three o'clock position on the screen. For the last 23 years, in flying and in reading blueprints, I've used the 12 o'clock position (top of the screen) as zero degrees for circles and arcs. It took quite a while for me to consistently get the results I expected from the Circle command.
Once you become accustomed to the commands, they are fairly easy to use. You'll probably need to keep the manual handy if you're attempting complicated graphics, but straight lines are a snap. With a little practice, you'll find that setting up formatted screens for user input is actually easy with Newbasic.
The program's greatest value, however, is as a game development tool. The rapid graphics and sound generator make near-arcade results easily achieved.



## by William J. Schauert

Instant Assembler, a complete As-sembly-language development system, provides many enhancements to the Radio Shack Editor/Assembler. It's a good system for beginning Assemblylanguage programmers, and an adequate system for advanced programmers.

Instant Assembler is unique from other editor/assemblers in that it assembles code as you type it in, line by line. This way, you catch mistakes without the tedium involved in re-editing to correct errors that occur on assembly and later debugging the program for logic errors.

Instant Assembler contains an editor to create your source files, a built-in symbolic debugger, and a linking program that lets you create separate modules and link them together into a single program.
I tested the program under TRSDOS 1.3 on the Model III, and under LDOS 5.1 .3 on my MAX-80. The manual states that the program runs under most popular DOSes for the Model III.
This package includes a program disk and a 65 -page user's manual. The program disk is a TRSDOS data disk. For those of you with a single drive system, the disk self boots into a special pro-
gram that transfers the programs to your system disk.

The programs include the Instant Assembler program, three versions of the linking loader, a stand alone version of the debugger program, and a program to restart the assembler with the source file in place (if you have to reset during a debugging session). The main program, DSKIAS, contains the editor/assembler and a built-in debugger.

In the traditional method of creating an Assembly-language program, you enter your source code with an editor, then run the assembler. The assembler checks the syntax of each source statement, and generates machine code or an error message. You then re-edit the source file to eliminate errors and try the assembler again.

Once you have an error-free source file, the assembler generates object code, the machine code for execution. Since neither the editor nor the assembler checks for logic errors, you must debug the object code. Most operating systems include a debug program.

The author of the Instant Assembler takes a different approach to Assemblylanguage programming. This program assembles the source line when you hit the enter key while in the edit mode.

It checks for proper Z 80 syntax of the opcode and operand data, and it looks for any duplicate use of the label. It also checks the range of relative jumps. If you have any errors in the line, the system reports the error and places you in the line edit mode with the cursor at the first character in the offending field.

After you finish your source file, you can assemble it directly into memory and debug your program with the builtin debugger. Since the source file is still in memory, you can also debug using the symbol names in your program.

If you discover an error, you can return to the editor mode, correct the bug, and try again. Having all these programs in memory at one time helps speed up the process of developing an Assembly-language program.

## The Assembler

The assembler portion of the program is actually both editor and assembler. The editor accepts text from the keyboard and places it in the proper fields for the assembler. The input data is in the form of Z 80 mnemonics and comments.

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|  | Duration (secs) |  | Improvement (x lastror) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| / strings | ROM | The Collector |  |
| 250 | 12.1 | 0.7 | 17.3 |
| 500 | 46.3 | 1.6 | 28.9 |
| 1000 | 180.6 | 3.6 | 50.2 |
| 2000 | 713.3 | 7.8 | 91.4 |
| (Typical garbage colloction deays.) |  |  |  |

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The manual covers each of the 37 editor commands in enough detail to let even a beginner operate the program. If you're familiar with the TRSDOS Basic line editor, you already know how to use most of the line editing commands.

The assembler expects the input line to follow a fixed format. You can enter an optional six-character label as the first field. If the first character of the label is the ampersand, other program modules can use this label. In Z80 talk, this label is global or public. If the label doesn't have an ampersand, it's known only to the current program module.

The next field is a four-character opcode field that can contain any known Z80 opcode. It can also contain two undocumented Z80 opcodes that let you access the upper and lower halves of the index registers separately.

The last field, the operand field, can contain up to 45 characters and include any type of operand data or comments. If you want a comment, enter a semicolon followed by your comment. However, you don't need to align your comments; the editor does this automatically.

The editor/assembler works quickly and efficiently to help you produce Assembly-language source code. On a global level, the editor has commands to insert code, delete lines, and move blocks of code from one area to another.

It's possible to list your source code to the display or the line printer. When you send code to the printer, the program paginates it, but doesn't add a title to your list. You can also save code to the disk or tape. You can save source code in the Instant Assembler compressed format (a semi-assembled code) or in standard Radio Shack EDTASM format.

If you choose the latter, the program saves the source in ASCII format with line numbers. You can then edit this code with Radio Shack's EDTASM.

You can also include other sections of source code in your current program by using the Merge command, which appends one Instant Assembler file on disk to one in memory. As the program adds the source code, it checks for Z80 syntax errors, just as if you entered the code from the keyboard.

Other assembler commands let you read the disk directory, delete a file from the disk, and find instructions in the code that reference a certain label.

Another command lets you assemble your code directly to memory so you can debug it as soon as you finish without saving and then reloading it with a debugger program. You can also save your object code to disk or tape when you have a finished product.

The assembler allows only a few pseudo-ops, including the Z80 types of DEFM for messages, DEFB for byte data, DEFW for word data, DEFS for storage allocation, and EQU for symbolic equates. These have some surprising limitations.

You cannot use the EQU pseudo-op to define byte data. A statement like:

LINEFEED EQU 10
LD A, LINEFEED
is not allowed in this assembler. You can assign only word length (16-bit) equates.

You can postfix symbols with an expression, but the range is limited to -31 to +287 . This means that LD HL,(BEGIN +31 ) is allowed, but an expression like LD HL,(THEEND BEGIN) isn't allowed.

The storage allocation is limited to 4,095 bytes in a single DEFS statement, but you can use multiple statements to obtain greater allocation areas. The last limitation is that a DEFM statement can only define a string of 43 characters due to the length of the operand field.

You can break your message string up into several statements of 43 or fewer characters. The assembler also does not recognize any ORG, End, or DEFL pseudo-ops. The assembler automatically supplies ORG and End when you list the program.

## The Debugger

After you assemble your program into memory, you can switch to the built-in debugger program called MicroMind. This program is also furnished in a stand-alone version. MicroMind has over 21 commands. As with the assembler, the manual explains each in detail.

The main routine used in the debugging process is the Step command. This mode lets you step through your program in half steps, each step broken up into a Fetch and then an Execute cycle. You can step through any area of the program including sections that might be in ROM.

When you enter the step mode, the program asks you for the first address. After you enter a valid address, the program fetches the Z80 opcode at that address. The CRT displays the machine instruction, the disassembled code, and the contents of all registers and most flags.

When you hit the enter key, the program executes the instruction. The display keeps the old information and shows the new register information. This lets you compare the before and after effects of the instruction as the program executes it. Some commands let you fast step up to 99 steps, and execute through a call that has already been tested.

MicroMind also supports traditional breakpoint debugging. This lets you set a break location in your code, then run the program until you reach the break location. The display then shows the current state of the registers. The breakpoint is not restored when you reach it; restoring a breakpoint requires a separate command.

Two blocks of memory appear on the display at all times. These blocks are 19 bytes long and you can set them to start anywhere in memory. This is handy if you want to keep an eye on a buffer in which you're changing data.

MicroMind also lets you display a block of memory in ASCII so you can detect string information. The display is 50 characters long (five lines of 10 each), and you can move it forward or backward with the up- and down-arrow keys. Other commands let you modify memory and the processor registers.

Instant Assembler includes some utility routines in the debugger program. The Find Number routine lets you search memory for any 1 - or 2-byte sequence.

The Disassemble command shows you the Z80 mnemonic code starting at any first address and incrementing by one instruction each time you press the enter key. The program sends this information to the screen or to your printer. The debugger also has Hex-to-Decimal and Decimal-to-Hex number conversion routines.

The MicroMind program is easy to use and a good debugging tool. It's much better than Radio Shack T-Bug and good competition for the diskbased debug program included with TRSDOS. The disassembler feature is

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nice because you can see your code as you write it in source as well as in machine code.

The only objectionable item in the debugger is that the $\mathbf{Z 8 0}$ prime registers aren't included in any of the displays. To view these, you must execute an exchange opcode and display the registers again.

## The Linking Loader

An old computer saying states: "A program expands to fill available memory." Well, in case it does, the Instant Assembler package has a program to help you manage large programs.

With the Linking Loader, you can break your source files up into related sections, define entry labels by prefixing the ampersand to them, and combine the entire program at the end to create your final object code.

The Instant Assembler contains several versions of the linker to create programs that start at the top of memory and work their way down, or start in low RAM and work toward the top of memory. All the linkers use the Instant Assembler source as their input file. You must save your modules in compressed format to use this feature.

As you load each module, the program checks it again for proper Z 80 syntax, for ranges of relative jumps, and for duplicate labels. At the end of
the loading session, you receive a summary of error count and a list of undefined labels.

You can also search for the location of any symbol with the Symbol command. This lets you find the absolute address of any global symbol. If you like, the linker sends a list of all global symbols and their addresses to the printer. After you have all your source modules linked, you can save the resultant object code on tape or disk.

## Conclusion

The unique feature of this assembler is the instant assembly of your source code as you enter it. This is a good feature for a new Assembly-language programmer, because it immediately eliminates simple syntax errors from your source code.
The editor lets you save your source code in the Instant Assembler compressed format or in Radio Shack EDTASM format. If you choose to save your programs in compressed format, you can save about two and a half times the number of bytes of the EDTASM format on your tape or disk.
The only serious problems with the assembler are the limitations on the range of expressions and the restriction to 16 -bit equates. These problems become severe for commercial applications, but might not affect the average
home user or beginner.
The MicroMind debugger is easy to use and rivals almost any other debugger available for the Model III. The source code linker lets you break up the program into smaller sections, and later combines them into a single object program for execution.
The documentation includes a complete description of each command and examples of how to use each one. The manual uses a sample program as an example of all other portions of the development system, including the debugger and the Linking Loader.
Because of some compatibility limitations between this assembler and the Radio Shack EDTASM assembler, the manual devotes a chapter to adapting your programs to EDTASM. It would be more helpful if the author of the program corrected these limitations rather than discussing how to program around them.

In general, the Instant Assembler is a good Assembly-language development system. It provides many enhancements to the Radio Shack EDTASM system.

It also works quickly and improves user efficiency by having the editor/assembler and debugger in memory along with your program. This is a good starter system for beginning Assembly-language programmers, and a usable system for advanced programmers.
$\rightarrow 1 / 2$

## Model 100 Games \#1 <br> SilverWare <br> P.O. Box 21101 <br> Santa Barbara, CA 93121 <br> 24K Model 100 <br> $\$ 24.95$ cassette

by Eric Grevstad
80 Micro staff
If you've been waiting for highquality, fast, machine-language games for your Model 100, keep waiting. In the meantime, SilverWare (a spinoff of CLOAD and Chromasette magazines) has converted a quartet of simple Basic programs for the portable-one or two of which are modestly entertaining if you have modest expectations.

The cassette includes two copies each of two adventures and two graphics-
oriented games. All loaded easily on the first try; the documentation includes a handy table showing their locations on a Radio Shack CCR-81 recorder's tape counter, as well as the memory requirements for each.

The games, Blockade and Reversi, can share RAM with other programs on the menu, but each of the adventures, Alexis and Frankenstein, fills most of a 24 K machine.

By that criterion, Alexis $(18,500$ bytes) wins the Not Worth Killing Everything But ADRS.DO Award. The plot is interesting: As the imprisoned son of the late king, you must escape the usurping General Tarkaan, sail to each of four neighboring islands to collect an army, and then return to battle Tarkaan, surviving in effect four adventures and a combat strategy game.

But Alexis combines this sophisticated premise with the clumsy syntax and
limited range of an antique (1980, perhaps) Basic adventure. Given the 100's 40 -column screen, even terse twoword commands are too long to fit on the same line as the windy "What is your command, Alexis?" prompt.

Other nagging lines-'YYou can't go that way, Alexis"; "You have boarded the boat, Alexis"-make the name begin to sound like fingernails on a blackboard.

Alexis has annoying random elements, too: Sometimes Pluto gives you the Crystal Sphere of Hades if you bring him the giant pearl, but sometimes he's cranky and demands something else.

While sailing from island to island, you have to keep an eye on the weather and type WAIT if it looks stormy. Even if you do, the program occasionally kills you off, saying "You should have waited."

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puzzles will be sorely disappointed. Alexis begins his odyssey in a jail cell, where the guards put him without removing the skeleton key he carries.

On the first island, I worried about natives or monsters but found only stuttering strings: "Alexis, you are on the shores of the island of Skiros on the island of Skiros."

By contrast, while no one would call Frankenstein a great adventure-simple two-word commands ("Unlight candle"), slow Basic that lets you type in a command before the display's processed your previous one-it's a pleasant few hours' exercise.

Frankenstein ( 15,000 bytes) is relatively easy, but has a couple of clues or items that form a good introduction to adventuring logic. I can't recommend it for children, though, because it involves digging up and hacking at corpses. As the last surviving relative of Victor Frankenstein, you must finish his work and activate the monster, who's short a few parts.

But once you get into it-scurrying between the mansion, the graveyard, and the old mill; trying to get at and open the safe; and dodging quicksand, werewolves, and finally the awakened monster-Frankenstein is ghoulish fun.
Like Alexis, however, it might tempt portable players to cheat. For people used to Model I/III disk adventuring, it's all too easy to hop into Basic for a simple LIST. (That's how I learned the trick of getting past the wolf; I'd never have been gruesome enough to think of it myself.)
Both Frankenstein and Alexis have one wonderful feature, the best thing about Model 100 adventuring-you can save a game in progress to RAM (your position is stored as a bunch of numbers in a 350-byte do-file), replacing disk or cassette I/O with "Save game" or "Load game" and a tap of the enter key.
Key work isn't so easy in Blockade ( 6,500 bytes), a semi-Centipede game in which you steer a snake around the screen, trying to reach targets and grow-
ing longer as you do so. The targets appear and disappear randomly, sometimes for no longer than an LCD flicker; each is worth a random one to nine points.
Hit the wall or your tail, or your opponent in two-person games, and you lose five points. Blockade then displays your current score and restarts with new snakes.
The word that springs to mind, especially after the opening instructions take eight seconds to appear, is "slow"; only the fastest of three speeds is at all interesting, and sluggish response makes maneuvering difficult. Rather than the Model 100's arrow keys, the Esc, tab, /, and shift keys steer single players up, down, left, and right respectively.

Two-player games are awkward. Not only is the 100 's screen hard for two people to see at once, but the second player has to use the apostrophe, slash, comma, and period keys to steer, reversing the order (left hand up/down, right hand left/right) of the other arrangements

or the Model III arrow keys.
As if that weren't enough, the game drags on until someone reaches 100 or -100 points, or until a player leads his opponent by 100 points. This can take some time. The playing options and default values (one player, sound, medium speed) are nice touches, but Blockade remains basically a dull game.

Reversi, on the other hand, is the same old Othello that's been on micros for years, but the Model 100 version is a first-rate use of 5,250 bytes. The documentation is poor-I'd never played Reversi before and learned by trial and error-but the game is neat, simple, and fiendishly challenging.

On a Model I or III, Reversi was interesting. Scaled to fit in your lap, it's an ideal armchair or plane-ride diversion.

While two can play, Reversi is best as a solitaire duel against the 100 . A \# sign, steered around an 8 -by- 8 grid with the arrow keys, lets you enter your move,
capturing enemy pieces between two of yours. Then the 100 takes its turn, moving the \# sign around the board as if considering moves before making its choice and capturing even more pieces.

Games become grim, vicious fights for the crucial edge and corner spaces; toward the end, the lead swings wildly back and forth until a musical salute announces the victor. I've managed several wins and a tie, but I'm by no means through playing. Of the four SilverWare games, Reversi is the only one I'm keeping in my Model 100.

I can recommend Reversi because it takes new life in a lap-sized version, but the other Model 100 games have no real attraction except portability. Probably soon there'll be adventures with plots as elegant as the save-to-RAM feature, or arcade games that aren't anchored by plodding Basic. The Model 100 will be a great game computer. It just isn't one quite yet.

The microspooler is small: 6.3 inches high by 2.6 inches wide by 8.3 inches deep. It's a white box with black edges that weighs two pounds, 15 ounces and stands vertically to save space.

A two-digit numeric display on the front is the status readout that tells you how much data is in the spooler or how many copies are left to run. On the front you'll also find the copy/pause button and the reset button.
> ''The microspooler stores data until the printer is done, letting you continue your work."

The back has two ports, one for input and one for output. The on/off switch is also on the back. Connectors for parallel ports are 36 -pin Centronics compatible; the input port is the receptacle and the output port is the plug. For serial ports, the input port is the DB-25S receptacle and the output port is the

DB-25P plug.

## Using the Microspooler

The microspooler hooks up to most standard printers, but lack of standardization in the printer industry might give you problems in getting the right kind of cable for your printer. Consolink is helpful if you need advice or help in building your own cable.

It's simple to hook up a parallel printer and microspooler. With the serial microspooler or printer, you have to set a few switches. The serial ports also have selectable baud rates. The manual is easy to follow and tells you exactly what to do.

When you first turn on the microspooler, you can perform a self-test. Press and release the reset button while holding in the copy/pause button. This is a software test of ROM (read-only memory).

If this test is successful, your printer tells you ROM is OK and how much memory is available. Now you can start filling your buffer.

The minute you start sending data from your computer to the printer, the microspooler fills up and control returns to the computer. The printer starts printing simultaneously. The status readout changes from 00 to $01(1 \mathrm{~K})$ and so on as you send data.

When you stop filling the buffer, the readout decreases until it reaches 0 when the printer finishes printing. Reset the buffer to 00 if you don't want an extra copy. While the printer is running, you can press the copy/pause button if you need to change the paper or make adjustments.

When printing is complete, press the copy/pause button for one more copy of whatever is in the microspooler's memory. It's also possible to preset the number of copies (up to 99) you want before you start printing. Press the copy/pause button until the desired amount of copies appears on the readout.

You also have the option of pausing after every copy. The microspooler also has a pause on form feed function.

I found the microspooler simple to install and easy to use. It's a helpful tool if you have a lot of printing to do. The microspooler frees you and your computer to do other things while the printer works. All in all, the microspooler is a good buy.

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REVIEWS
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Using Scripsit<br>William J. Haga<br>Wadsworth Electronic Publishing Co.<br>10 Davis Drive<br>Belmont, CA 94002<br>Softcover, 250 pp .<br>$\$ 21.95$

## by S.F. Tomajczyk <br> 80 Micro staff

It's said that you can't teach an old dog new tricks. It seemed true until I began reading Using Scripsit by William Haga. That's when I realized that, although I've actively used Scripsit for the past year, I haven't really been using it.

Using Scripsit is truly user-friendly. It represents what a reference book should be: comprehensive and informative concerning the subject matter, readily accessible for locating specific information, and most importantly, communicative in an understandable fashion.

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The book discloses everything you ever wanted to know about using Scripsit's capabilities on your Model I or III. The information applies only to Scripsit versions 3.2 and 1.0 , so if you have Scripsit on a Model II the book won't be of any use to you.

Using Scripsit employs a hands-on approach to learning to get the most out of Scripsit. You should read it with your computer in front of you. William Haga presents each procedure in numbered steps that tell you what to do, what your video display looks like when you do it, and how the printed result looks on paper.

You'll never feel lost or confused. And to make certain that you won't, Haga includes exercises to test your growing skills in using Scripsit.

At the end of each chapter, a Common Mistakes section lists the problems and solutions you're most likely to encounter. Also, the left margins are filled with comments that clarify the text, provide helpful and humorous tidbits, and direct you to other sections of the book for further information.

## At a Glance

The first section of Using Scripsit is an introduction aimed at the first-time user. In Chapters 1-7, Haga methodically takes the reader through the fundamentals of disk use, writing and formatting the video screen, saving and retrieving Scripsit files, basic editing commands, and formatting and printing a document.
The second part of the book deals with more complex applications for the experienced user. Chapters 8-15 include valuable information and explanations of Scripsit that you'll refer to time and time again. They cover block moves, search and replace routines, creative formatting, and chain loading.

They also clarify the forbidding headers, footers, and page numbering system, as well as clearly explain the Hot Zone of Scripsit's hyphenation function, and how to save a half-ruined printout without reprinting the entire document.
The best is yet to come: In the remaining three chapters, Haga shows you how to merge VisiCalc with Scripsit, create personalized form letters, use Scripsit to write computer programs in Basic, and print documents in special formats.

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## Continued from p. 56

He explains, step by step, how to send Scripsit files by phone across town or across the globe, and how to manipulate your operating system's password protection system to protect your Scripsit files from prying eyes.

When I reached the end of Chapter 18, I was convinced that William Haga had a sadistic streak in him. Why else would he continue to throw so much valuable information at me in his appendixes?

One appendix provides the symptom, cause, and solution to errors you frequently encounter. It covers everything from Scripsit error messages to printer difficulties, and from drive unit problems to DOS troubles.

Another appendix lists reference sources that include computer magazines, books and manuals, and independent sources of equipment and software. And yet another appendix functions as a glossary for Scripsit users! The author had done the impossible: I actually learned some new tricks.

What exactly did I learn? Well, did you know that Scripsit has a widow sup-
pressor? That you can change the screen width to up to 132 characters? That with the Search command you can find several variations of a word for spelling errors? That Scripsit can hyphenate wrapped-around words with its hyphenation block?
That you can create a paragraph pantry to easily and quickly customize form letters? Or that you can chain files together in order to print and number an entire document? I didn't until Using Scripsit told me. Now 80 Micro's technical editors ask me for advice on Scripsit.
With the information in this 250 -page book, I've found Scripsit to be much more powerful than I thought. Now I use it to finish office paperwork more quickly, write and edit chapters in my book, create and print form letters and memos, and write Basic computer programs.
For the skeptics out there, Using Scripsit does have its drawbacks, but they are trivial. For instance, I feel that the chapters concerned with screen edit-
ing should have been introduced earlier in the book.

This would let you go from booting up Scripsit, writing and formatting the video display, to screen editing, saving the file, and formatting and printing the document. Trivial, but it would make for a more useful chronological reference.
The only legitimate complaint I have deals with the omission of an easy reference sheet that lists in abbreviated form all the Scripsit commands and functions so you don't have to browse through the entire book for an obscure command.
Such a sheet would save a lot of anguish and time. Haga does, however, include an incomplete facsimile that lists only the screen format defaults. Useful, but not what I was looking for.

Using Scripsit is comprehensive, wellwritten, and useful. Every Model I/III owner with Scripsit, whether a first-time user or an old dog, can benefit and learn from this book.

It belongs next to your computer and its operating manual. Using Scripsit will soon become your most valuable guide.

CP/M 2.2, MBasic 80
on the Mapper I ( $\mathbf{4 8 K}$ )/III ( $\mathbf{6 4 K}$ )
Omikron Systems
1127 Hearst St.
Berkeley, CA 94702
Models I and III, 48K
One disk drive
Model I, $\mathbf{\$ 1 3 9}$
Model III, \$199

## by John B. Harrell III

0mikron Systems distributes hardware and software for TRS-80 computers that allow full implementation of the CP/M operating systemnot another attempt to work around the TRS-80 internal memory structure. I used the Mapper and its software almost daily for three months. The system performed flawlessly-no glitches, surprises, or snags.

Because the hardware used in this modification is part of another review (see "CP/M III Ways," p. 122), I'll consider only the CP/M 2.2 operating system and the MBasic 80 interpreter
distributed with the hardware modification as the starter system.

## CP/M Operating System

CP/M isn't just another disk operating system; it's the most widely distributed operating system for the $8080 \mathrm{mi}-$ croprocessor. CP/M derivatives now exist for the 8086 family and the 68000 family of 16 -bit computers. Radio Shack's introduction of the Model 4 with CP/M reinforces the fact that CP/M has become the de facto industry standard in operating systems.

The CP/M operating system is a monitor and control program for microcomputer systems that use floppy or hard disks for back-up storage. It is estimated to be in use in over half a million microcomputer systems throughout the world.
The system distributed with the Omikron Mapper I/III modification is CP/M 2.2. CP/M is logically divided into four parts: the Basic input/output system (BIOS), the Basic disk operating system (BDOS), the console command processor (CCP), and the transient program area (TPA).

These component parts provide features found in many other systems available for TRS-80s. For example, the BIOS provides system-dependent primitive operations necessary to access the disk drives and to interface with the standard system peripherals, BDOS is the disk management part of $\mathrm{CP} / \mathrm{M}$, and the CCP provides the interface between the operator and the system.

CP/M commands break down into three categories: built-in commands, transient commands, and user-implemented commands. See Table 1 for the commands in the first two groups (standard on CP/M system disks. The latter group are those commands programmed by the user in Assembly language and executed from the disk (similar to CMD files).

In addition to the standard Digital Research software and documentation, Omikron provides many specialized features particular to the TRS-80 implementation. This documentation is provided in The Omikron Mapper Owner's Manual. This contains all the instructions on the Mapper's installation and the documentation for the many special
features required for TRS-80 systems.
One example of the customization Omikron provides is a sophisticated keyboard driver that maximizes the capabilities of the $\mathrm{CP} / \mathrm{M}$ software interfaced with the TRS-80. Features include full keyboard debounce, a single-key control key, upper-/lowercase support with caps lock, and production of the full 128 characters in the ASCII set.

Several of the keys have control functions for single-key ease.

Omikron provides serial and parallel printer drivers to support all printer installations. The default printer driver is parallel, supporting the majority of Radio Shack hardware configurations. The routine Serial.COM (provided by Omikron) establishes the serial driver and initializes the RS-232 interface to

## Built-In Commands

## Command Description

ERA Remove the specified file(s) from currently logged-in or specified disk.
DIR List the names of all files in the specified directory on the console device.
REN Rename the specified file to the designated name.
Save Save the specified number of pages ( 256 -byte blocks) to the file designated. Pages are taken from the Transient Program Area beginning at 100 hexadecimal (hex).
Type Type (display) the contents of the specified ASCII file to the console device.
User Allow specification of different user numbers for maintenance of separate files in the same directory.

Transient Commands
Command Description
ASM Load the CP/M assembler and assemble the specified program. The Assembly source code is assumed to be in Intel source mnemonics and the assembler produces 8080 machine language in the Intel hex format.
DDT Allow dynamic interactive testing of programs while operating within the CP/M environment (DDT includes a limited disassembler).
Dump Dump the contents of the specified file to the system console in hex form (displays the file's contents, representing each byte with ASCII letters for the hex codes).
ED Allow the creation and editing/correction of ASCII character files in the $\mathrm{CP} / \mathrm{M}$ environment.
Load Load the assembled program in the Intel hex format and convert it to an executable machine code file. MOVCPM Allow reconfiguration of the CP/M system for any memory size.
PIP Allow movement of files from one form of storage to another. You can specify many powerful parameters to control file movement.
STAT Provide status and general purpose access to pertinent system and disk parameters from the CP/M command level.
Submit Allow the submission of CP/M commands in a batch manner. This is similar to the TRSDOS Do command. Parameter substitution is allowed within Submit files. The compiled Submit file is executed after Submit completes. You can chain Submit commands.
SYSGEN Allow the generation of a system disk by properly initializing the CP/M operating system on the disk.
XSUB Extend the power of Submit to allow input to user programs as well as to the Console Command Processor.

Table 1. CP/M Version 2.2 Commands.
the default conditions established with the sense switches.

The video driver emulates a Soroc IQ120 video terminal on the TRS-80. It provides full upper-/lowercase support and maintains full graphics capabilities. Also, the video driver provides a routine that allows cursor addressing (positioning the cursor to a specific location on the screen).

Omikron provides two versions of SYSGEN and Format on the distribution disk. The manufacturer specially tailors a version of each utility to the $51 / 4$ - and 8 -inch disks normally used with CP/M on the TRS-80s.

OMCOPY.COM is a disk copy routine provided by Omikron to allow more rapid back-ups. The standard routine, Peripheral Interchange Program (PIP), provides a method to copy all files from one disk to another. The operation is similar to the "back-up by class" LDOS uses or the "copy by file" NEWDOS80 uses.

To circumvent the delay inherent in this method, OMCOPY provides a track-by-track back-up of one disk to another. Options allow copying only user files, only system information, or the entire disk.

MEMTEST.COM and DSKTEST .COM evaluate your system's performance. The functions of each are obvious.

Setup.COM lets you customize the Omikron software according to your personal preferences and as certain software applications require. You can store the options changed by Setup permanently on the system disk.

TRSCPM.COM provides a mechanism to transfer files from TRSDOS formatted single-density disks to CP/M formatted disks. Both systems use a soft-sector disk; however, both sector lengths and directory structure differ. This program moves data from the TRSDOS-format system to the CP/M system.

This feature also allows moving Basic programs from one system to the other as long as you save the TRSDOS program to the disk in ASCII format. The program transfers the files sector by sector, copying extraneous information in some cases (the bytes past the TRSDOS end-of-file location, for instance).

In addition to the many utilities included on the system disk, you can see from Table 1 that the standard $\mathrm{CP} / \mathrm{M}$ system disk includes a powerful context
editor (ED), an Intel-compatible 8080 assembler (including the ability to perform conditional assembly), and a dynamic system debugging monitor (DDT).

## Microsoft Basic $\mathbf{8 0}$

CP/M does not come with a Basic interpreter. On many systems, you have to add this feature by purchasing an interpreter compatible with the operating system. Owners of TRS-80s have been spoiled by having a high-quality Basic interpreter available at the flick of a switch.

The Omikron Mapper package comes with the industry-standard Microsoft interpreter in two versions for 8080/ 8085/Z80 microprocessors and CP/M, MBasic.COM 5.2, and OBasic.COM 4.51. OBasic is for those users who have software compatible with this interpreter and who don't wish to change to MBasic.

MBasic 5.2 is the most extensive and powerful Basic interpreter available for microprocessors. It meets the requirements for the Basic ANSI standard and supports many features not normally found in other Basic interpreters, such as complex string manipulation routines.

MBasic is similar in almost all respects to the Basic interpreter implemented on the Model 4. In many respects, this is the same Basic currently on the Models I and III.

The most significant difference from Model I/III Basic is in variable naming conventions. MBasic allows variables names to be of any character string (letters, numbers, and decimal point) up to 40 characters, whereas Model I/III Basic recognizes variables names with a maximum of two characters; the remainder of the variables name is insignificant.

In MBasic, you can't use reserved words as variables names but a variables name can contain a reserved word within it. This generally leads to a program error of some type in Model I/III Basic.

This feature causes most of the incompatibility between MBasic and Model I/III Basic. In MBasic, you must surround each reserved word with spaces or delimit it in some other manner. The internal structure of the tokenized programs is different.

In order to transfer Basic code from the Model I/III to the CP/M system, you must first write or edit the program
so the interpreter can clearly identify the reserved words (contrary to the programming hints that obtain maximal speed from these Basic programs) and you must store the programs on the TRSDOS disk in ASCII format. This requires a significant programming conversion for those programs written without spaces in the lines.
"New" features of MBasic include the while/wend structure for program control, the ability to call a subroutine written in another language and pass arguments to it, chaining programs while preserving variables, erasing array variables under program control, renumbering program lines, and swapping variables in a single statement. These features are new to those who have used Model I/III Basic exclusively.

One significant feature implemented in MBasic is the Call subroutine. MBasic provides a linkage to external subroutines via a Call statement.

This subroutine linkage allows preparation of segments of code using an assembler or other language translator and calls it from MBasic with a sophisticated argument list. The calling linkage is compatible with the Microsoft compilers (Fortran, Cobol, and Basic), letting you compile complex routines for speed and use them directly from MBasic.

## Conclusion

As anyone experienced with the CP/M system knows, its heart is the BIOS implementation of systemspecific functions. Omikron has outdone itself with a superb BIOS module.

When I ran some benchmark tests on the MBasic interpreter, I was astounded to find that this interpreter outperforms its relative in the Model I TRS-80 mode. Operating the interpreter in a Model I with no speed-up, I obtained execution times indicating a significant increase in speed for equivalent routines (MBasic compared to NEWDOS80 Disk Basic).

When you consider that MBasic allows 40-character names and requires that reserved words have some type of delimiter around them, this is even more surprising.

As with any product, the Mapper software has some negative aspects. The distribution medium is the standard $51 / 4$-inch disk. The CP/M software is written on this disk in 35-track format with 18 sectors ( 128 bytes) per track.

Due to the CP/M format, these disks

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LIST / Using function key 5 you can print add-
ress labels, list records or selected fields of records in columns or other configurations. You can even pause, and reset left margins.
MERGE / Function key 6 lets you merge. You can automatically print any fields of any records into forms or letters, wherever you designate. With all four of these functions you have full search and selection capability.

With LIST and MERGE DATA+ remembers your favorite formats, quickly defaulting to them by simply pressing the ENTER key. The added feature BUILD lets you build and print a file of unrelated records that could not be selected either alphabetically or numerically.

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CENTER / Center on / center off controlled with function keys.
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You can sort a file in place with SORT2+. It consumes only 1 k free memory, while sorting file in RAM you entered with PUT+ or DATAt. Our original SORT+ allows you to sort from cassette, but requires more memory while sorting. SORT2+ is for those times when memory or cassette sorting is a problem. SORT2+ also has upper case fold, and true numeric field sort. On cassette with excellent, easy to understand manual.

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Financial functions available at the touch of a key include IRR, MIRR, and NPV on up to 120 cash flows, plus any of its six annuity variables ( $\mathrm{n}, \mathrm{PV}, \mathrm{FV}, \mathrm{PM}$, i). Function key F2 gives a printed amortization schedule, and businessmen will love the breakeven analysis they can receive simply by pressing function key F1.

Portable Computer Support Group is pleased to offer these program additions. We endeavor to continue as The Leaders in Software for the Model 100.

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## REVIEWS

suffer a reduction of 10 percent capacity over the TRSDOS single-density format. After creating a 40 -track system disk, working user storage is 81 K ( 82,944 bytes out of 92,160 bytes due to system overhead). Compare this to the 102,400 bytes available on a 40 -track, single-density TRSDOS disk.
Because of the limited storage available with the $51 / 4$-inch disk, Omikron has to delete some of the standard files resident on CP/M system disks in order to include their specialized programs. These deleted routines are available to you at a nominal fee of $\$ 25$ from Omikron and include items such as the Assembly source code to the BIOS and the Boot loader, MOVCPM.COM (relocates CP/M system BDOS and CCP for different memory configurations), and DEBLOCK.ASM (the source code for a CP/M disk deblocking algorithm).
Unlike Level II Basic, the manual súp-
plied with MBasic doesn't offer the beginner an easy understanding of the language. Since this is not the sole source of Basic for your computer, this should be no problem.

Omikron now has a new software/ hardware package available that further increases the TRS-80's power. At additional cost, they will provide TURBODOS and a replacement PROM chip for their Mapper installations.

Consider the wealth of software you obtain in addition to the hardware modification. CP/M 2.2 generally retails for approximately $\$ 150$ and you must install the system (this usually means rewriting parts of the BIOS to add functions or change existing onesno easy task for a beginner). MBasic usually retails for approximately $\$ 249$. I cannot imagine where else you can get a bargain like this.


Businesspak +
Portable Computer Support Group
11035 Harry Hines Blvd. \#207
Dallas, TX 75229
589.95

SORT2+
$\$ 29.95$
Model 100
24 K required
32K recommended

## by Carl Oppedahl

Businesspak + is a nice collection of six programs for the Model 100. It augments the existing ROM-based word processing, telecommunications,
and Basic routines that come as standard equipment with the Model 100.

Businesspak + contains Write + , a word processing program; EXPNS + , a simple spreadsheet program; Put + , a text entry program; Sort +, a routine that sorts records entered through Put + ; Telex +, a package that lets you use Action Telex, a commercial telex service; and Graph +, a program that graphs data entered to EXPNS + on the Radio Shack DMP-100 printer.

Each program runs in Basic and relies occasionally on a machine-language routine hidden in memory. In addition, each relies on a corresponding do-file containing various operating parameters. You can change the do-file, often called a SPEC file in the documenta-

Continued on p. 69

MEDIC


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80 Micro, December 1983


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The RX Series replaces the MX, \& offers 100 cps print speeds, but nothing more remarkable.
RX-80.
MX-80 F/T
MX-100
FX-80
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## Prowriter


C. Itoh's venerable Prowritor has speed ( 120 cps ), a buffer ( 1.5 K ), 10 $12,816 \mathrm{cpi}$ (plus a proportional font with correspondance quality) and dot graphics ( $160 \times 144 \mathrm{dpi})$. The Prowriter 2 is the 136 column version.
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Prowriter 2
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SCALL

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## OKIDATA

## Microline Series



The Microline $92(80 \mathrm{col}) \& 93$ ( 132 col ) are ideal for word processing. They offer a 160 cps draft mode, a 40 cps correspondance mode, $10,12 \& 17 \mathrm{cpi}(\mathrm{w} /$ doublewidth), pin/friction feed (tractor is optional on the 92) \& dot-addressable graphics ( $120 \times 1444$ ). Centronics parallel interface is standard. The Microline 84 ( 132 col) is the Step 2 version, featuring 200 cps at 10, 12, 817 cpi (w/double-width), all with a correspondance mode \& dot addressable graphics. Parallel interface are standard issue.
The Microline 82A is a data cruncher, with $120 \mathrm{cps}, 10 \& 17 \mathrm{cpi}$, double-width, friction/pin feed on 80 columns. The Microline 83A is the 136 column version. Dot-addressable graphics are optional.
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tion, to modify the behavior of the Basic program.

Write + is a delightful program that lets you print out files created through Text. You can arrange to skip perforations, pause between pages for printing on single sheets, and print multiple copies, double- or triple-spaced output, and page headers and footers with the time and date.

The two types of word processors in the world are those that display on the screen exactly what will appear on the printed page, and those that display raw text on the screen and format the text for printing after you complete all your editing. Write + is the latter type.

For instance, text that is doublespaced on paper appears single-spaced on the screen. Given that the Model 100 screen is much smaller than most CRTs, that is the best choice.

The Model 100 input and output routines are largely device-independent. Any of several devices with appropriate file names can be the object of Open and Close statements. These include RAM, LCD, CAS, MDM, LPT, and COM.

Write + takes advantage of this. You can take the output that would usually go to the printer and route it to RAM for later editing or to COM for printing on a serial printer. Similarly, though you usually use Write + to print files put in RAM by means of Text, it can take its input from any other device, such as a file on cassette.

Write + is easy to use. You can easily print out text files created long ago with Text, skipping perforations, within 20 minutes of opening the Businesspak + package.

Write + uses simulated form feeds. When the time comes to skip forward to the top of the next page, the program uses individual line feed commands with an ASCII value of 10 . Many printers, however, are capable of responding to a form feed character with an ASCII value of 12 .

This accomplishes motion to the top of the next page much more quickly and quietly than a series of line feeds. It would have been nice if $W+$ SPEC let the user select simulated or actual form feeds.

I have, however, determined a way to modify Write + so that form feeds accomplish the perforation skip and blank page skips. The new lines appear in Program Listing 1.

EXPNS + is an aid to travelers who must keep an expense record. Though it's described as a spreadsheet program, it is quite limited in capability. The program sets up an array of numbers, drawing up totals for up to 18 rows and 12 columns.

It does not let the user define relationships between and among different locations in the array, but merely adds up each row and column. Thus EXPNS + is far less versatile than programs like VisiCalc.
> 'EXPNS + is an aid to travelers who must keep an expense record."

You can store the numerical values in the array in RAM, then transfer them to and from other devices, such as a cassette. You can use the RAM file as input for the Graph + program or merge it into a word processing file using Text.

Put + is a simple data entry program. Given a user-defined P + SPEC file, the program accepts user keyboard entries and assembles uniform-length ASCII records composed of fields of user-determined fixed lengths. The program defines the fields within records in a SPEC file that the user creates. When you run the Put + program again later, the program adds new records to the end of the existing file.

During keyboard entry of data, you go from one field to the next by means of the down-arrow key, and store the record by pushing the enter key. I found that to be awkward, and often pressed the enter key at the end of a line when the software expects the down-arrow key.

Also, when filling in, for example, a three-character field with a three-digit entry, I often found that Put + jumped ahead to the next record when it should have simply accepted text for the next field in the same record. PCSG has since corrected both of these awkward situations in Put + .

Given the SPEC file and assuming you have fewer than 256 records, the Sort + program then sorts the records as discussed below. You can also easily search the records using SCHEDL and ADDRSS (or even Text).

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| :---: | :---: |
| Model 100, 24k ram | S 850 |
| Model 12, 2-drive | \$3250 |
| Model 4, 64k, 2-drive | S1650 |
| 5 meg hard drive | \$1658 |
| DMP-2100 printer | \$1599 |
| DMP-200 printer | S 599 |
| All Radio Shack So Call for |  |

LOW, LOW RS prices not listed.

## Miscellaneous

All Eagles list come with "Spellbinder",
"Ultracalc", CP/M \& CBasic.
Eagle IIE, 2-drive w/390k per drive $\mathbf{S 1 9 9 5}$ Eagle IIIE, 2-drive w/780k per drive $\mathbf{\$ 2 9 9 9}$ Eagle IVE, 780k floppy, 10 meg hard $\mathbf{\$ 3 9 9 9}$ Complete line of Eagle - Call for others -
DaisyWriter w/48k buffer \& cable $\mathbf{\$ 1 2 9 5}$
ProWriter 8510 printer …… \$ 399
ProWriter 1550 printer ....... \$ 675
Okidata ML-92P printer ........ 5525
Okidata ML-80P printer ........ \$ 350
Okidata ML-82PS printer ...... \$ 450
Box 10 Verbatim $51 / 4^{\prime \prime}$ diskettes (SS,DD)
\$ 29
Box 10 Verbatim 8" diskettes (SS,DD)

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$51 / 4^{\prime \prime}$ flip-pak, hoids 10 ....... S 5
8" flip-pak, holds 10 ......... S 6
Disk drive head cleaner kit (Verbatim)

S 5
$91 / 2^{\prime \prime} \times 11^{\prime \prime}$ paper, 1250 shts,
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However, when you display the file on the screen or print it on the printer, it tends to look irregular. This occurs because the program runs adjacent fields together without spaces to separate them, and because both the screen display and print routines wraparound entire words at the end of the line rather than cut them off. According to PCSG, a new program called Data $+(\$ 59.95)$ is available that allows variable-format displays and listings.

The Sort + program allows sorting of up to 255 uniform-length ASCII records according to any selected constantlength field in the records. It's easiest to use Sort + with records created through Put + , but you can use Sort + on other files too, as long as the records and fields within records are of uniform length. Simply create a Put + specification file to match the fields in the file you want sorted.

Also, when Sort + reads in the file it will sort, it puts any lines of nonstandard length at the beginning of the output file. This is handy for two reasons: You can leave explanatory material, such as a heading or verbal summary, at the beginning of the file and it isn't disrupted by the sorting process.

| Program | $\mathbf{K}$ to load | Free $\mathbf{K}$ to run |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Write + | $\mathbf{4 . 4}$ | 2 |
| EXPNS + | 7.0 | 5 |
| Put + | 2.8 | 1 |
| Sort + | 2.6 | $4+$ |
| Telex + | 3.9 | 1 |
| Graph + | 6.0 | 7 |

Table 1. Program sizes.

If you mistakenly include a line of inconsistent length in the file, it appears at the beginning as well. This brings the line to your attention so you can correct it.

The sort is a simple sort in ASCII order. The documentation claims that you can sort 255 records in 15 to 20 seconds. One file I sorted actually required just over two minutes. I attribute this to the fact that Sort + swaps entire records whenever a comparison so indicates.

This isn't really a drawback, but a consequence of the Model 100's limited memory. On a larger machine, it would be possible to sort more efficiently by extracting and sorting key fields, and by swapping the entire records only when the key fields are in order.

PCSG has also released another program, Sort2 + , that does a few things Sort + cannot. For example, it sorts true numeric data so that 6 comes out above 10 in order.

Or you can set Sort2+ to sort with the uppercase flag bit suppressed: The result is that the program treats upperand lowercase letters equally in the sorting process. Finally, it performs the sort directly on the RAM file, rather than by reading the file into the Basic program area. Sort2 + needs less free RAM than Sort +

Telex + helps you send telexes, mailgrams, and the like from text files you've previously typed in and saved. To use Telex + , you must open an account with Action Telex, a company based in Dallas that accepts messages through a modem over phone lines and sends them out via the Western Union telex network.

This requires payment of a $\$ 150$ annual registration fee and a moderate us-

For Version 1.3:
1400 IF FF \% $<>0$ THEN PRINT\#2,MID\$(LFS, $1,2^{*}($ BM $\%+$ LC $\%)$ );: HF\% $=2$ :GOSUB 1550 1405 PRINT\#2,CHRS(12);:IF BL\% - PP\% $>0$ AND PG\% 0 PPE\% THEN 1490
1410 IF CN\%<NC\% THEN CLOSE:BL\% $=160:$ PP $\%=0:$ GOSUB 1450:GOTO 130 ELSE PRINT/2,CHRS(12);

[^4]Program Listing 1. Form feed modifications for Write + .
age charge. The advertisements I've seen for Businesspak + don't make this point very clear. The Businesspak + documentation describes a free trial arrangement whereby you can send three free telexes or mailgrams.

I tried this by calling the phone number in the manual and supplying the requested information. I was told that Action Telex would contact me with an identification code for the free trial. Three weeks and three more phone calls passed before I finally got a code.

When I tried it out, the program indicated that Action Telex had accepted my mailgram and two telexes for delivery, but none of them reached their destination. When the local office finally called with another code, I had better luck. The mailgram got through all right, but the telex was delayed eight hours.

Though the documentation said nothing on the matter, I found I had to precede the destination telex number with a zero. After that I had no trouble with Action Telex.

I also had some problems with the Telex + program itself. The Model 100 has a built-in modem with provisions for acoustic coupling and direct-connect autodial operation. However, one constant feature of the program is that it tries to dial the phone number for access to the Action Telex computer whenever you run it.
If you are using the acoustic coupler, this doesn't hurt anything, just wastes time. But if you are trying to dial the access number manually for MCI access or to get through a Touch-Tone-only switchboard, the dialing routine frustrates your efforts by hanging up the phone for a second before listening for the carrier tone.

It would be helpful if PCSG modified Telex + to allow the equivalent of the Term key in TELCOM, and thus bypassed the autodialing routine. One remedy is to use a duplex jack instead of the silver phone cord. Plug in both the phone and beige cable. Do not hang up the phone until the Model 100 detects the carrier.

Graph + lets you prepare graphs based on numerical and text information typed in using the EXPNS + program. The graphs can be pie, bar, and line charts.

Since Graph + takes its input only from EXPNS + , and since EXPNS +

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 puter controlled. The computer plays by all the rules, and makes a worthy opponent in single-player games.

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handles only up to 18 columns, that's the largest number of points you can graph. Thus any line graph is, of necessity, quite bumpy.

The Businesspak + software comes on cassette, all of which you can back up. I found the cassettes themselves to be of high quality and well recorded; I had no load errors after dozens of loads. You must load each program from cassette before use, which takes as long as four minutes.

## Documentation and Support

The documentation, totaling some 108 pages, is written under the assumption that the user is already familiar with the connections to the Model 100, has mastered the built-in program Text, and has at least passing familiarity with the other built-in software.

The documentation has no general index, but you don't need one since index tabs for each program allow easy reference to explanatory material. In addition, Write + , perhaps the most complex program, has its own index in the most recently received documentation.

The PCSG telephone number appears prominently on the manuals and instructions. I called several times at various times of the day and night, and always reached cheerful people. Though I had difficulty getting signed up with Action Telex, the frustration was outweighed by the many other times that my questions were answered immediately and correctly.

Each time I called, PCSG asked for the serial number of my software package. I consider this a perfectly reasonable request as it helps protect against
software pirates, but the drawback was that I was immediately identified as a reviewer. Nonetheless, I sense that all purchasers can expect good customer support.

## User-Friendliness

The programs are well error-trapped, although occasionally I tripped them up with unusual inputs. For example, each program depends on one or more SPEC files containing file formats, field names, and so on. If the SPEC file is not set up properly, the program using it can go astray. I had particular prob-
> " usinesspak+ provides a good package of routines for the Model 100 owner. They are easy to learn and use."

lems coming up with a P + SPEC file suitable for use with Put + .
One problem anyone faces who writes text-handling programs for the Model 100 is that RAM files can have arbitrarily long records. A Line Input or Input that goes to a string variable can cause an OS (out of string space) error that's hard to protect against.
To alleviate this problem, Microsoft provided the INPUT\$ function, which gets a specified number of characters from an input device regardless of line
terminators. Even that function generates errors; for example, if three characters are requested, and if only two characters are left in the device you'll get an end-of-file error.

The writers of Businesspak + use a machine-code routine of about 166 bytes called from Basic. This routine goes to the input device and gets the next printable line of characters up to the next carriage return or space.
One drawback of the machine-code routine is that if no space occurs within the next 160 characters, the routine only returns a single character. I discovered this when I attempted to list a Basic program with all the spaces removed. Some of the long lines in the file printed out in a column, one character at a time. I had to go back to the Basic program and insert spaces to make listing through Write + possible.
The programs are written in Basic rather than machine code. The advantage of Basic is that the user can easily modify the code, perhaps to customize it for a different printer or add a feature. The disadvantage is that machine code can be faster and more compact. For most of the programs, such as Write + and Put + , the execution, printing, and keyboard delays are not even perceptible.
Even if you have the maximum RAM available to the Model $100,32 \mathrm{~K}$, you don't have enough room to leave all the Businesspak + programs in RAM all the time. The instruction book suggests that you purge the programs when you are done and reload them later from tape. Personally, I find Write + so handy that I have left it in RAM continuously since first loading it.
The advertising and the manual I initially received are silent on the required RAM. Most of the routines fit in less than 4 K , leaving a little work space for an 8 K user (see Table 1). No serious user should consider less than 24 K , and I recommend getting a full 32 K .
Businesspak + provides a good package of routines for the Model 100 owner. They are easy to learn and use. The graphing program works only on the Radio Shack DMP-100, and the telex program involves a further expenditure of $\$ 150$ per year. But the word processing, sorting, text entry, and simple spreadsheet programs are general in their scope and utility. I recommend them.


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# Assembly Language Made Simple-Part I 

by Hardin Brothers

Assembly-language programming is like swimming: If you've never done it before and plunge in without any instruction, chances are you'll end up over your head. However, with the proper lessons and step-by-step guidelines, you'll learn the skill smoothly and without trauma. This article is the first in a consecutive three-part series that describes Assembly-language programming from start to finish.

Like Basic and all other computer languages, Assembly language is a variation on the computer's only true language, machine code. Machine-language programs, comprising only 1's and zeros, are difficult to write and prone to typing errors. Consequently, programmers developed other languages that use mnemonic code to replace machine code. Although easier to work with, the further removed from machine code these languages are, the slower they execute and the less powerful they are.

Assembly language provides a happy medium. It combines the advantages of simple code with the power of a language that closely resembles machine code. As a result, an Assembly-language program runs faster and provides more computational power than, say, a Basic program.

Before you begin to write in Assembly language, you need the proper tools. Most important is a program called an editor/assembler. If you don't own one, the Radio Shack Series 1 Editor/Assembler is a good choice to get you started. It's powerful for the price ( $\$ 30$ to $\$ 35$ ), comes with excellent documentation, and while it doesn't completely satisfy an experienced programmer, it's powerful enough to satisfy all your needs until you become an expert. NEWDOS80 includes Apparat's EDTASM module, also an excellent first assembler.

Several other beginner programming tools are helpful in addition to the editor/assembler, but they're not mandatory. Most useful is a good monitor program. Monitors let you single-step through a program and watch the execution of each instruction. Radio Shack's T-Bug and

# Here's your first lesson in Assembly-language programming. This article describes how the Z80 chip processes Assembly instructions. 

Debug, as well as any DOS Debug, can start you off, but more powerful monitors are available.
Other useful tools are a disassembler program, Nanos Systems Corp.'s Z80 reference card, a printer for listings (invaluable for complex debugging), several reference books, and a disk system to simplify loading, saving, and assembling programs. These are all extras that make As-sembly-language programming easier; at first, all you need is an editor/assembler.

## The Z80

The heart of your Model I, II, III, or 4 is a Z80 microprocessor chip (or Z80A, the same thing but faster). Though this is one of the most advanced 8 -bit microprocessors made, with 22 registers and a strong instruction set, it still has a very limited repertoire of capabilities.

The Z 80 can get a value from memory, put a value into memory, move values around in between its internal registers, add and subtract two values, perform simple logical manipulations (AND, OR, and Exclusive-Or), report some information about the results of its operations, keep track of where to find its next instruction, and manipulate a simple data structure called a stack. It can't multiply or divide, directly print to the screen or printer, or do most of the things your computer does in Basic.

Your job as an Assembly-language programmer is to utilize the simple abilities of the Z80 chip to develop a complex program, usually complete with input from keyboard, tape, or disk and output to tape, disk, screen, or printer. To do so, learn to think in terms of the Z80's capabilities, which means you have to break each operation into specific, small steps. If you can train yourself to analyze and build programs in these small steps, you're well on your way to becoming an Assembly-language programmer.

## Assembly and Machine Language

The only instructions the Z80 understands are sequences of 5 -volt and zero-volt electrical impulses. Generally we refer to those impulses as 1's and zeros.

For example, the sequence of impulses represented as 1100101100100111 makes the Z80 copy a specific single bit from one place inside itself to another. Because se-
quences of 1 's and zeros look like a binary number, programmers often think of them as such, and translate them into hexadecimal or, rarely, decimal numbers. The above instruction would thus appear as CBH 47 H in hexadecimal notation, 203071 in decimal. When you write programs by loading such values directly into memory, either with POKEs or by using a monitor program, you program in the Z 80 native tongue, machine language.

However, the Z80 recognizes almost 700 such instructions. Except in unusual circumstances, it's a waste of time for a programmer to look up each instruction in a table and enter its special sequence directly into memory. That's why the first computer language ever developed was "Assembler." Using an assembler, you can write instructions using mnemonic (memory aids), 2- to 4 -letter abbreviations of program instructions. You can write the binary instruction above as BIT $0, \mathrm{~A}$ which, while still far removed from English, is much easier to remember and understand.

The assembler changes the mnemonic into the appropriate bit sequence by looking it up in a table. The list of mnemonic instructions, which you write, is called a source code; the list of machine instructions, which the assembler writes from the source code, is the object code. The Z80 chip cannot act directly on source code instructions, so the translation into bit sequences is necessary before you can run your program.

Unlike Basic, assemblers are not interactive. You must write the source code, assemble it into machine language (which you save on either tape or disk), then load the object code back into the computer to run it. If a bug occurs in the program (and one almost always does), you must then reload the assembler program, reload your source code, correct the source code, save your source code back to tape or disk, assemble the program again on tape or disk, load the new object code back into memory, and run it again.

Virtually all assemblers come with an editor, a separate but related program that helps you write and correct source code. The editor is a simple, line-oriented text processor that includes the ability to number lines of source code and to find lines by reference to their numbers.


Whenever you use an editor/assembler package to write a program, you must go through a four-step process:

- Use the editor to write the source code.
- Save the source code to tape or disk.
- Assemble the source code into object code and save the object code to tape or disk.
- Leave the editor/assembler program, return to either Level II Basic or DOS, load in the object code form of the program, and run it.

The finished program probably loads as a SYSTEM program, if it's on tape, or as a /CMD program if it's on disk.

## Memory and Registers

Your computer provides several different types of memory. Basic resides in ROM, the keyboard and screen each have specially dedicated random-access memory (RAM), and programs and data use between 16 K and 48 K (on the Models I and III) of general-purpose RAM. Each byte of memory has a unique address which the Z 80 uses to find stored values and to place values in the correct locations.

Like program instructions, memory addresses are nothing but unique sequences of electronic impulses, but it is easier to think of them in terms of hexadecimal or decimal numbers. You can remember memory addresses more easily in hexadecimal once you become familiar with that numbering system.

In Models I and III, ROM occupies addresses from 0000 hexadecimal (hex)
to 37FF hex, the keyboard from 3800 hex to 3BFF hex, the video screen from 3 C 00 hex to 3FFF hex, and general memory from 4000 hex to 7FFF hex, BFFF hex, or FFFF hex depending on the amount of RAM in your system. All of the programs I include with this article run with any size RAM (except 4 K ) for a Model I, III, or 4 (in the Model III mode).

You may notice that memory holds both program instructions and data, and wonder how the Z 80 distinguishes the two. It doesn't. As far as the Z80 is concerned, no difference exists between the two; you and your program decide which parts of memory hold instructions and which hold data. However, if you make a mistake and allow the Z80 to operate on data as if it were instructions, you face the infamous "silent death"-either a locked up computer
or a spontaneous reboot.
The Z 80 contains 208 bits of memory organized into registers (see Fig. 1). Each register is either 8 or 16 bits wide-that is, each holds either 8 or 16 bits of information. As a programmer, you manipulate the values held in these registers, and copy information from the registers to RAM and vice versa.

The A register, which holds 8 bits, is the accumulator. It's a general pipeline for moving data into and out of the Z80 chip, and also aids in almost all of the arithmetic and logical operations the Z80 performs.
The individual bits of a second register, called the F or flag register, holds information about the results of various internal operations. The Z80 uses these flags to perform conditional branches (similar to the Basic If...Then command).
$\mathrm{B}, \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{D}, \mathrm{E}, \mathrm{H}$, and L are all generalpurpose 8-bit registers that hold temporary data and operands for arithmetic and logical operations. You can also use these registers in pairs: BC, DE, and HL. Each pair holds 16 bits and can hold data addresses in memory, or large values used in some arithmetic functions.

The HL register pair also has a special function. Whenever the Z80 performs 16 -bit arithmetic operations, the HL register pair becomes an accumulator and holds the results of the calculations. Using any register pair as two 8 -bit or one 16 -bit register is entirely up to you, and you can change their function at any time.

Two 16-bit index registers exist, IX and IY. They almost always hold addresses of data tables in memory, and make accessing that much easier.
SP, the stack pointer, is a specialpurpose register that holds the address of (points to) a data table called the stack. Stack operations let the Z 80 return to the appropriate location after


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## Omniterm

it completes a subroutine, simplify saving data from registers temporarily, and allow transfer of 16 bits of information from one register pair to another.

The program counter, register PC, always holds the address of the next program instruction. The Z80 uses the PC register to keep its place in the program while it carries out an instruction.
$A^{\prime}, F^{\prime}, B^{\prime}, C^{\prime}, D^{\prime}, E^{\prime}, H^{\prime}$, and L' (the prime set) are a second set of generalpurpose registers. If you give the correct instructions to the Z80, it saves the regular general registers (A to L ) and the prime set becomes active. A later exchange instruction switches the first set of registers back into active service. It's up to the program (and programmer) to keep track of which set is in use at any given time-the Z80 considers the inactive set the prime set.

Finally, there are two 8 -bit registers, I and R , that programmers rarely use. The R register holds the address of the next bank of memory that needs refreshing (a kind of electronic tickling to stay awake). The Z80 handles the memory refresh chores automatically. The I register is useful for some interrupt processing, but the Models I and III don't include the hardware necessary to use it.

## A First Program

The best way to understand Assem-bly-language programming is to start programming. Because every editor/ assembler package includes its own unique editor instructions, I will not give explicit instructions on using the editor portion of your editor/assembler. Load the program and run it, then use the documentation to experiment with the editor until you are comfortable with its commands. You probably use a command like I to start entering text on numbered lines, a Break to return to the function prompt, a P to list what you have written, and so on.

Your first Basic program was probably something like

10 PRINT "HI"
so I'll start you with a similar Assemblylanguage program (see Program Listing 1). Even though this is a simple, short program, there is much to learn from it. The first nine lines, $100-180$, are all remarks and the assembler ignores them. In most assembler formats, a semicolon precedes all remarks.

It is wise to liberally include remark statements in your source code pro-grams-the remarks don't take up memory space in your completed ma-chine-language program and they help
you understand program logic several weeks later.
After the remark lines, everything in the program falls into four neat columns. The first column, or field, contains a five-digit line number as supplied by the editor. As I explained earlier, these numbers are used only by the editor and ignored by the assembler. They help you find the correct line to edit and the right place to insert new lines. Just as in Basic, it is normal in Assembly language to increment lines by 10 so you can insert lines later. Also, your editor probably includes a simple renumbering facility.
The second column contains labels,
each of which can contain one to six alphanumeric characters. Labels can represent either values (as I show in the next program) or the addresses. The labels in this program, Start and Loop, represent the addresses of the instructions that follow them.
The third column contains either the mnemonics for the machine-code instructions or pseudo-ops-direct instructions to the assembler program that don't get translated into machine instructions. Simple assemblers provide only a handful of pseudo-ops that are easy to understand and use.

The fourth column contains the operands for each instruction. Each mne-

# Making Sense of Those Crazy Numbers 

by Amee Eisenberg 80 Micro Technical Editor

## The Decimal System

For those of us with 10 fingers, a decimal number system (based on units of 10) has always made intrinsic sense. You start at your thumb and keep counting until you run out of fingers. Then you make a mark to signify one group of 10 and start at your thumb again. Things are counted in groups of 10 s plus any leftover 1's.

We write numbers using a place value system, placing units, or l's, furthest to the right in a number. The next place holds the 10 s, and the next the 10 times 10 s , or 100 s . Reading from right to left, the value of the place increases by a multiple of the base. Thus, 1,10 , and 100 signify one unit, 10 units, and 10 times 10 , or 100 , units respectively. You can represent this as follows:

| Y Y Y | $\left({ }^{*}\right.$ ( 1$)$ |
| :--- | :--- |
|  | $\left({ }^{*} 10\right)$ |
|  | $\left({ }^{*} 100\right)$ |

## The Binary System

Your computer is based on a binary numbering system; that is, it uses a two-unit counting system. It counts with electrical impulses that are either off or on, which we represent numerically as 0 and 1. It also uses a place value system to keep
track of larger numbers.
In a binary, or base 2 , numbering system, the places hold multiples of 2. So the first place represents units, the next 2's, the next 4's. Thus, 1,10 , and 100 signify 1 unit, 2 units, and 2 times 2 , or 4 , units respectively. This is represented as:

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\text { Y Y Y } & \left({ }^{*}\right. \text { 1) } \\
& \text { (* 2) } \\
& \left({ }^{*}\right)
\end{array}
$$

Binary becomes ungainly for humans as the numbers get larger. For instance, the number 136 decimal is written 10001000 in binary. That is, there are no 1's, no 2's, no 4's, one 8 , no 16 s , no 32 s , no 64 s , and one 128 . Adding the one 8 and the one 128 results in the decimal equivalent, 136, as below:

```
10001000 0 (0* 1)
    0 (0* 2)
    0(0* 4)
    8(1* 8)
    0 (0* 16)
    (0*32)
    0 (0*64)
    128 (1*128)
    1 3 6 ~ d e c i m a l ~
```

Since humans count in decimal and computers in binary, a compromise counting system is necessary to make conversations between humans and computers a little simpler.
monic requires that zero, one, or two operands follow it. In most cases, the number of operands is obvious-you can't ask the Z80 to load (LD) a value unless it knows where the value is coming from and where it is going. So, two operands always follow the Load command.
Finally, Assembly code reserves the last column of each line for remarks. You can quickly learn to write cogent remarks that fit on the same screen line as the rest of the instructions and produce clean, easy-to-read source code.
Refer back to Listing 1. Lines 100-180 are remarks ignored by the assembler. Line 190 starts with the
pseudo-op ORG, which defines the starting address of the program so the assembler can calculate addresses of each of the instructions.

Notice that the program's address, 7000 H , is a hexadecimal number followed by the letter H . The same address, in decimal, is 28672 . Unless a suffix of H or B follows a number, the assembler assumes that number is in decimal format. However, the assembler accepts a suffix of $\mathbf{D}$ to indicate a decimal number. Get into the habit of adding a base suffix to the end of every number you use in a source code, regardless of its base; it makes debugging much easier.

Enter the base 16, or hexadecimal, numbering system.

## The Hexadecimal System

Hexadecimal (usually abbreviated hex), is just like decimal if you have 16 fingers. To count in hex, you say $\mathbf{0 , 1 , 2 , 3 , 4 , 5 , 6 , 7 , 8 , 9 , A , B , C , D , E , F . ~ A ~}$ is equivalent to 10 decimal, B to 11 decimal, C to $12, \mathrm{D}$ to $13, \mathrm{E}$ to 14 , and $F$ to 15 . Ten hex is equal to 16 decimal because, just like decimal and binary, hex uses a place value system to represent numbers. Ten hex means that there are no units and one 16:

## Y Y ( ${ }^{\boldsymbol{*}} \mathbf{1}$ )

$$
{ }^{(* 16)}
$$

When you write a hexadecimal number, we append the uppercase letter H to it to avoid confusing it with binary or decimal. Additionally, we write the numbers $A$ through F as $\mathbf{0 A H}, 0 \mathrm{BH}, 0 \mathrm{CH}$, etc., the zero eliminating confusing the numeral with a letter.

To understand why hex is convenient for the computer, you need to think about how the computer stores information. The Z80 microprocessor uses 8 -bit logic. A bit is an electronic signal that's either on or off (binary, remember?).

A group of 8 bits of information clustered together is called a byte. A single hex numeral can represent half-bytes, or nibbles, consisting of 4 bits because the greatest value a fourdigit binary number represents is 16 decimal. Remember, 1000 in binary is 10 in hex and 16 in decimal. So two hexadecimal digits can represent any 8 -bit value (a byte).

It's easy to convert a binary byte to a hexadecimal byte. Take the number 10001000 binary again. The first step is to break the byte into its component nibbles, 1000 and 1000. Then convert each nibble to hex:

$$
\begin{array}{llllll}
1000 & 0 & \left(0^{*} 1\right) & 1000 & 0 & \left(0^{*} 1\right) \\
& 0 & \left(0^{*} 2\right) & & 0 & \left(0^{*} 2\right) \\
& 0 & \left(0^{*} 4\right) & & 0 & \left(0^{*} 4\right) \\
& 8 & \left(1^{*} 8\right) & & 8 & \left(1^{*} 8\right) \\
& 8 \mathrm{H} & & & - \\
& 8 \mathrm{H}=88 \mathrm{H}
\end{array}
$$

Therefore, 10001000 binary is 88 hex. Check this by converting both binary and hex values back to decimal. Earlier I said that 10001000 binary is 136 decimal. 88 H means 8 units plus 8 sixteens (or 128) which equals 136 decimal.

Try another binary-to-hex conversion, this time with 10011110 . Break it into two nibbles: 1001 and 1110. Convert each nibble:

$$
\begin{array}{llllllll}
1001 & 1 & \left(1^{*} 1\right) & 111 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \left(0^{*} 1\right) \\
& 0 & \left(0^{*} 2\right) & & & & 2 & \left(1^{*} 2\right) \\
& 0 & \left(0^{*} 4\right) & & & & 4 & \left(1^{*} 4\right) \\
& 8 & \left(1^{*} 8\right) & & & & 8 & \left(1^{*} 8\right) \\
& & & & & & \\
& & & & & \text { E } & (14 \text { decimal) } \\
& & & & & & & \\
& & & & & & &
\end{array}
$$

So, 10011110 is 9E hex. If you check this by converting to decimal you find 10011110 equals ( $128+$ $16+8+4+2$ ) or 158 , and 9 EH equals $(9 \times 16+14)$, also 158 .

Working with binary and hex becomes easier as you do more of it. And learning these other number bases is necessary if you want to speak in your computer's native tongue.

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Cordially,



Program Listing 2. Assembly-Language Lesson 2.

Line 210 is the first line of actual instruction. It has the label Start, which the assembler sets equal to the address of the instruction ( 7000 hex). This instruction tells the computer to load (LD) the A register with 48 hex, the ASCII value of the character H .

Line 220 instructs the $\mathbf{Z} 80$ to take the current value in the A register, and place it in memory at address 3C00 hex. Remember that the screen memory occupies addresses from 3000 hex to 3FFF hex. Therefore, this instruction causes the Z 80 to place the value 48 hex in the first location of screen memory. The computer's screen electronics then print an H in the upper left-hand corner of the screen.

Four things in line 220 require special attention. First, notice the parentheses placed around the screen address. They are necessary to indicate to the assembler that 3000 hex is an address, not a value you want manipulated. The instruction is best read as "Load the contents of register A into the memory location represented by the value 3C00 hex."

Second, notice that getting the H to the screen requires two instructions. The first instruction reads the H from memory and the second stores it to a different place in memory. In general, the $\mathbf{Z} 80$ cannot simply move data from one memory location to another. It only moves data to or from the registers in the chip. (Some instructions avoid this restriction, however.)

Third, it is important to realize that this instruction doesn't change the contents of register A. It copies the contents to location 3000 hex, but A is not empty. An LD instruction never changes the
value that it moves; it only transfers that value to a new place.

Fourth, notice the order of the two operands of each LD instruction. The first operand receives the value transferred from the second. If you read line 220 as "Load 3C00H from A" you can remember the correct order of operands.

Lines 230 and 240 are now clear. They load the A register with the ASCII value of I and place that value at the next screen location. When the computer executes the instruction in line 240 , it prints HI in the top comer of the screen.

Line 250 introduces a new instruction, the Jump (JP) instruction. It tells the Z80 to take its next instruction from a new place in memory (like Basic's GOTO). Notice that the line gives the symbol LOOP, and the instruction says "Jump to LOOP." This instruction produces a tight, endless loop similar to the Basic instruction "50 GOTO 50." The computer seems to lock up and there's no way to regain control except by pushing the reset button. This instruction is necessary to stop the Z 80 from wandering off and trying to execute whatever it finds scattered through memory. Every program must come to some specific end, either with a loop or a return to Basic or DOS.

The last line of Listing 1 uses the pseudo-op END for two purposes. First, the assembler needs to know the end point of the program. Every source code must have END in its last line. Second, if the address of the beginning of the program follows END, the assembler includes that information on disk or tape so the program runs automatically. Start is the label for the be-
ginning of this short program and, because it already equals 7000 hex, it tells the assembler that the program starts at that address.

Before you read further, try to enter and assemble the program in Listing 1. Use the Insert command to get automatic line numbering, and copy the program exactly (you may leave out the remarks if you wish), using the right-arrow key to tab between columns on the screen. Then return to the prompt.

When you're ready to assemble the program, first try a test assembly by assembling the program with no output. The command you give to the assembler is probably A ,NO, or $\mathrm{A} / \mathrm{NO}$ which asks it to assemble without output. If you enter the program correctly, the assembler displays 00000 Errors. That is the assembler's method of saying that each line has correct syntax; obviously, the assembler doesn't know whether your program does what you want it to.

Save the source code to either tape or disk. (If you make a logic error in your program, you want to correct the source code, not write it all over.) Assemble the program to tape or disk. In both cases, give the program a name-on tape the names can be anything you wish; on disk, write the source code with a /SRC or /ASM extension and the program with a /CMD extension to make it run directly. Finally, use SYSTEM or DOS to load and run your program. "HI" should appear in the upper left corner of the screen. Your computer is in an endless loop, so press the Reset button to regain control.
If all goes well, reload the editor/ assembler and the source code and try to modify it-perhaps have the program print your name on the screen. Experiment with different messages and different screen locations-it is the only way to learn Assembly language.

## Modifying a Program

I know Listing 1 isn't an exciting program, but your first Basic program probably wasn't much fun either. Here I add a few bells and whistles, as well as some new concepts.
Program Listing 2 fills the entire screen with the letters HI. It also introduces several new programming techniques, the first of which is in line 180. The EQU pseudo-op sets the label Video equal to the value 3 C 00 hex; instead of having to remember a value each time you use it in a program, you can give it an easy-to-remember label.

Line 200 looks familiar. Line 220 tells the computer to load the value of Video into the HL register pair. In this pro-


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gram, HL points to, or holds, the address of the current video position in order to simplify the program.

Line 230 loads the BC register pair with the value 400 hex (which equals 1,024 ). This program uses BC as a byte counter; 400 hex equals the length of the screen, and when BC is zero, the screen is full. Using a byte counter is similar to using a For. . .Next loop in Basic.

Line 240 loads the A register with the ASCII value for H . By placing the H inside a set of single quotation marks, you tell the assembler to translate the letter into its ASCII equivalent-you don't have to look it up in a table. Line 250 loads the value in the A register into the memory location to which HL points. Notice that parentheses enclose the HL

## '‘The screen should fill with the word HI."

just like the addresses in the last program, which tells the Z80 to treat the current HL value as a memory address.

Line 260 increments (increases by 1) HL so it points at the next memory location and line 270 decrements (decreases by 1) BC so it holds the number of screen positions remaining. Lines 280-310 repeat the whole process for the letter I.

Lines 320 and 330 test the value in BC to see if it is zero yet, which means the screen is full. First, the program copies the value in the B register into the A register. Then it ORs the value in C with the current value in A . If both B and C are zero, the result of the OR is zero, and the program sets the zero flag in the F register. Otherwise, the result is some other value and the F register flag indicates Not Zero.

Line 340 uses the results of the OR to decide whether or not to repeat loop 1 . It tells the Z 80 to jump only if the F register shows Not Zero. If the flag indicates a zero result of the OR in the previous instruction, the program ignores the Jump command. The jump continues until the BC register pair decrements to zero. Then line 350 performs an end-less-loop jump.

Notice that the instructions from lines 240-340 do not depend on any particular values in HL or BC . Whatever its current value, HL points to the current address on the screen. The program in-


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Program Listing 3. Assembly-Language Lesson 3.
crements it after each character prints. BC's current value decrements after the program prints each character. The program continues until BC indicates a full screen. The entire routine depends on the Z80's ability to make a conditional jump in line 340, based on the current status of the zero flag.

Enter, assemble, and run Program Listing 2. Again, you must use the reset button to exit from the program because of the endless loop in line 350. The screen should fill with the word HI. See if you can modify this program be-
ing careful that you don't let the program print off the end of the screen.

## More Bells and Whistles

This next program lets you fill the screen with any message you wish. It also allows you to hit any key to clear the screen and print the message again.

Lines 190-270 in Program Listing 3 need no explanation. Notice that the instruction in line 280 loads á character (here, an ASCII space) directly into the memory location to which HL points. This instruction avoids first loading the


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character into the A register and then back into a new location in memory.
Lines $290-330$ are similar to the last program. They increment HL, decrement BC , and test to see if BC equals zero. The entire block of code from lines $260-330$ clears the screen by filling it with spaces.
The second block of the program, lines $370-430$, prints a message repeatedly until it fills the screen. HL again points to the screen location. Now, however, DE points to the message in line 810. These lines load 1 byte of the
> 'Keep experimenting and you will soon find that Assembly language is as easy as any other computer language."

message into the A register in line 390, then put that character into screen memory in line 400.
Lines 410 and 420 introduce a new mnemonic, Call. This instruction is similar to Basic's GOSUB command in that it runs a subroutine. The Z80 saves the address of the next instruction before it runs a subroutine in order to know where to return when it completes the subroutine. Then it jumps to the subroutine and performs those instructions.
The label INCMSG, which stands for "Increment Message Pointer," defines the first subroutine. The subroutine starts at line 640. This line increments DE, which points to the message. Once incremented, line 650 loads the new character to which it points into A. The command CP zero in line 660 means "Compare the value in A with zero. If the two values are identical, set the flag to Z to indicate a true compare; otherwise set the flag to NZ."
The RET command in line 670 means "Return from this subroutine." Because NZ follows it, it is a conditional return-the computer executes the return only if the flag in the F register indicates Not Zero. Otherwise, in line 680, the program points DE to the beginning of the message again, and then an unconditional return in line 690 sends the Z 80 back to the instruction in line 420 . The entire subroutine INCMSG depends on a zero byte at the end

## Beginner's Guide to AssemblyLanguage Terminology

## Simple Glossary

This short glossary should help you learn the most common As-sembly-language terms. It's arranged in logical, rather than alphabetical, order.
bit (binary digit)-Though sometimes defined in terms of electronic signals, for present purposes a bit is the smallest amount of information on which the computer acts. It is a single 1 or zero digit and the building block for all computer notation.
byte-A sequence of 8 bits. A byte is generally thought of in terms of its total value. With 8 bits you can express any value between 00000000 B and 11111111B. In normal decimal notation that's any value between 0 and 255 ; in hexadecimal it's any value from 00 hex to 0 FF hex.
word-In computer jargon, a word comprises 2 consecutive bytes, or 16 bits, and the computer handles it as a single value. The value of a word can vary from 0 to 65535 (decimal), from 0000 hex to FFFF hex, from 0000000000000000 B to 11111111 11111111B in binary.
address-A one-word (2-byte) value that denotes any byte of memory. Every byte of memory has a unique address, allowing you to find it easily , and find and manipulate its value.

LSB and MSB (least significant byte and most significant byte)Since every word and every address is composed of 2 bytes, it is useful to have a name for each. The most significant byte is the high-order byte-the one that normally comes first. The other is the least significant byte. For example, in the hexadecimal word 3C42 hex, 3C hex is the most significant byte and 42 hex is the least significant byte. Because of the way the internal Z80 circuitry works, it usually stores 2-byte values in memory backwards, with the LSB before the MSB.

ASCII code-Every possible video character, all video control characters, all graphics characters, and all special (Model III) characters have a unique 1-byte code that the video circuitry uses. The codes for letters and numbers are standard between various computers, but graphics and special characters are not. The ASCII code for the character 1 is 49 or 31 hex or 00110001 B (rather than the seemingly obvious value of 1, a complicating fact of life for ma-chine-language programmers).
register and register pair-Registers are special memory inside the Z80 chip. Each is either 1 or 2 bytes in length ( 8 or 16 bits). A register pair is two 8 -bit registers that can work together as a single 16 -bit register. There are $\mathbf{2 2}$ registers inside the Z80 that your programs can manipulate directly.

ROM (read-only memory)-ROM is unalterable, unchangeable memory inside the computer that holds the resident Level I or Level II Basic inside the Models I and III. This memory doesn't change even when you shut off the computer's power, so your computer never "forgets" its knowledge of Basic.

RAM (random-access memory)Sometimes called read-and-write memory, or program memory, this memory is changeable. The computer uses it to store both programs and data. Unfortunately, it loses all of the information stored in it if the power to your computer is turned off. Unless you did some unusual home-brew modifications, your computer has $4 \mathrm{~K}, 16 \mathrm{~K}, 32 \mathrm{~K}$, or 48 K bytes of RAM. (K stands for 1000, but in computer usage usually means 1024. 16K, therefore, means 16384 bytes of RAM.)

## Status Flags

The F, or flag, register contains 4 commonly used status bits, each of which can direct conditional jumps, calls, and returns.
$\mathbf{Z}$ and $\mathbf{N Z}$-The zero flag is the most common. This bit indicates whether the result of a previous operation was zero or some other value. For example, if the result of a subtract or compare operation is zero, the flag shows zero. In source code, the condition Z means zero and NZ means not zero. The zero

Continued on p. 86

of the message to mark its conclusion.
Line 420 sends the $\mathbf{Z 8 0}$ out to another subroutine, INCVID (Increment the Video Pointer), and passes control to the instructions starting in line 730. First line 730 increments HL. Remember that the video memory is in address from $3 C 00$ hex to 3 FFF hex. If HL equals any value in that range, it points at the screen and everything is okay. But when HL equals 4000 hex, it points to the first memory address past the screen. Then H holds the value 40 hex and L holds the value 00 hex.
Line 740 loads the new value in the HL register into the A register for testing. Line 750 compares that value to 40 hex in order to set the F register flags. You might expect the next instruction to be a conditional jump or return, but it isn't. Instead, the subroutine ends with an unconditional return (RET) command. However, the return command doesn't affect the F register, and so the flags remain the same when the $\mathbf{Z 8 0}$ returns to the instruction in line 430 , which does contain a conditional instruction. Very often in Assembly language, programs set the condition flags with one instruction but don't use them until several instructions later. Be sure that the instruc-
tions between don't change any of the flags.

Line 430 repeats the print block until the screen fills. Then the program continues with the KEY block starting with line 470 . Here, the value in memory location 3BFF hex loads into the A register, which is part of the keyboard memory. This location holds a zero if you're not pressing any key; if it holds any other value, you're holding down at least one key.

Unfortunately, loading a value into the A register doesn't set the condition flags. Therefore, line 480 ORs register A with itself. The value in A doesn't change, but the flags are set to indicate whether its current value is zero. If it is, the conditional jump in line 490 sends the Z80 back to KEY to wait for you to press a key.

After you do so, the program enters the final block of the program, NOKEY. Another loop waits for you to release the key. Then, and only then, the program loops back to the Clear routine at the beginning, clears the screen, and starts all over.

Lines 810 and 820 demonstrate two new pseudo-ops. In line 810, DEFM means "Store the text between the

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single quotation marks in memory here." It loads whatever you type in into memory and sets the label MESSAG equal to the address of the first character.
Finally, in line 820 , DEFB means "store 1 byte of this value into memory." This instruction stores a byte

## Continued from p. 85

flag generally checks the results of arithmetic and logical operations, and tests whether a single register decrement (DEC) results in zero.

C and NC -The carry flag indicates whether a carry or borrow occurred that gives an arithmetically inaccurate answer. For example, if a program adds two 8 -bit numbers and produces a 9-bit result, the carry flag holds the 9th bit. Also, rotate and shift instructions use the carry flag extensively.
$\mathbf{P}$ and $\mathbf{M}$-The normal arithmetic convention for working with signed numbers uses the highest-order bit to indicate the sign. Therefore 1 indicates a negative number and zero indicates a positive number. The sign flag shows whether the result of a signed arithmetic operation is plus (P) or minus (M). This flag is also of use with compare operations.

PE and PO-The last testable flag has two functions. As a parity flag, it indicates whether a byte has an even or odd number of bits equal to 1 . PE then means even parity and PO means odd parity. The same set of flags can also indicate whether there is an overflow from an 8-bit or 16 -bit addition or subtraction, in which case PO means no overflow and PE indicates that an overflow has occurred.
$\mathbf{N}$ and $\mathbf{H}$-There are two final flags in the $\mathrm{Z} 80, \mathrm{~N}$ and H , which you cannot test directly by a program. The computer uses them in a special type of arithmetic called "binarycoded decimal" and generally accesses them by the special DAA instruction.

## Logical Operations

The Z80 performs three kinds of logical operations: OR, AND, and XOR. Each has specific uses in As-sembly-language programs.

Each logical command works on a single bit position at a time. For ex-
of zero into memory to mark the end of the message. This is the zero byte that the subroutine INCMSG tests for. Never assume that any memory location holds some specific value. If your program looks for a byte of zero at the end of a message, you must put that byte there.
ample, when the Z 80 uses OR to combine two values, first it ORs their highest bits, then their next highest bits, and so on. Logical operations have no concern with the total values of the operands; bit patterns are the only concern.
AND-When the Z80 ANDs, the result bit is a 1 only if both of the operand bits are l's.

10010011
AND 10100110
10000010
Use AND to mask out unwanted bits. For example, if you want to isolate just the 4 lowest bits of an 8 -bit byte, you can AND that byte with 00001111 . The result copies the 4 lowest bits of the original byte into the result and sets the 4 highest bits to zero.

OR-The result bit of 2 ORed bits is a 1 if either or both of the operand bits are l's.

> 10010011 OR $\frac{101000110}{10110111}$

OR merges two values together and forms bit records in which each bit in a byte has an individual meaning.
XOR (Exclusive OR)-The result bit of 2 XORed bits is a 1 if either, but not both, of the operand bits is a 1 .

> 10010011
> XOR 10100110
> 00110101

Programs use XOR less often than OR and AND. Its major use is in clearing the A register and flags with the command XOR A.

An interesting fact about the XOR operation is that it is cyclic. For example, if you XOR A and B, and then XOR the result by B again, the second result is the original $\mathbf{A}$ value.

Be sure to try a test assembly of Listing 3 before you save the source code and assemble the program. With a program of this length, you can easily make a typing mistake that you must correct before the program runs correctly.

Once you get this program running, it demonstrates the speed of machine language. When you press and release a key, you see a very brief blink on the screen. In that time, it prints a space in every screen location and prints the message again until the screen is full. Even though it must print 2,028 characters, it all happens in a flicker of the screen.

## Learning More

No one can learn any computer language from one article. So far you can use only a few mnemonics and a few of the many types of program logic. You are on your way, but still have much to learn.

You can do many things to develop your Assembly-language programming skills. First, read Assembly-language programs in magazines carefully and try to follow the logic of each. Most magazine programs have a lot of remarks to help you understand what they do.

Second, read through the list of Z80 mnemonics (there is an excellent list with complete explanations in the Series 1 manual) and try to imagine how you can use each variation of each instruction. Also, you might read one of the books available on beginning Assem-bly-language programming. William Barden's TRS-80 Assembly-Language Programming, available from Radio Shack, is one of the easiest to read.
Third, if you have some short ma-chine-language programs available in your library, try to disassemble one and understand what it does without the benefit of remarks. Don't try to disassemble something as long as Scripsit or VisiCalc; such complexity will completely overwhelm you.
Most important, write your own As-sembly-language programs. The more you write, the easier it becomes. Keep trying, keep writing, keep experimenting and you will soon find that Assembly language is as easy as any other computer language.

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# Assembly-Language Disk I/O 

by David G. Haan

## W ith a knowledge of Assembly-language disk input/output, you can make your programs run more efficiently and solve most I/O problems.

Assembly-language disk input/output (I/O) is a complicated and advanced technique, but understanding it allows you more creativity in programming and more knowledge in troubleshooting and repairing disk I/O problems.

This article deals with the use of the Model III TRSDOS disk I/O and explains the subroutines used in reading and writing disk files. Included is a demonstration program, TESTFILE/ TST, that chains these ROM routines and shows how they manipulate disk files.

Within the text, I explain how to use
each of the routines and what you can expect on entry and exit. I also point out some errors in Radio Shack's explanation of these routines. You should have a copy of the Disk System Owner's Manual for reference.
In order to see the results of each routine, I provide a non-destructive exit routine so you can examine the areas in memory that are affected. I list the routines alphabetically in the first section of EQUs.
I don't intend here to teach coding practice, but merely to demonstrate steps necessary to use each of the rou-

| Storage <br> Areas | Bytes <br> Used | Description |
| :---: | :---: | :--- |
| BUFFER | 256 | Operating system uses this as a data storage area during a disk read or <br> Urite. It must be 256 bytes long since all reads and writes are done one <br> sector at a time. |
| DREC | less <br> than | A user buffer that locates all the data you want to write to or read <br> from disk. The system moves data between UREC and Buffer if the <br> logical record length is less than 256 bytes. |
| KBLNBF | 64 | Data control block contains information used by the system to read or <br> write data from or to the disk. For a layout of the DCB, see Table 3 or <br> the Disk System Owner's Manual. |
| DIRBUF | 24 | Buffer used to hold data entered via keyboard. Used in conjunction <br> with system routine KBLINE. <br> This is where RAMDIR places a single directory entry. The format of <br> this buffer is shown in Table 4 or under RAMDIR in the Disk System <br> Owner's Manual. |
| Table I. Storage areas and buffers. |  |  |

tines. At the end of this article, you should have sufficient knowledge to write Assembly-language disk I/O routines.
I will use the Program Listing (TESTFILE/TST) as a demonstration program throughout this article. If a file by the name of TESTFILE/TST exists on the disk you want to use, you should rename it.

Table 1 lists the major storage areas and buffers TESTFILE uses for system routines and their functions.

The program sets up registers before each call to a system routine. This is not always necessary since some of the registers used remain unchanged when returning from a previous routine. It is done, however, to indicate the information required prior to calling a system routine.

Following along with the Listing helps you see what registers the routines need, and what they need to contain prior to executing the routines. Table 2 shows the condition of the registers prior to and after each routine's execution.

## Program Operation

The demonstration program starts by saving the HL register (see the Listing). The HL register contains the address of the first non-blank character following the last command you entered under

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TRSDOS READY. Keep this fact in mind for later reference.
Then the program checks to see if this is your initial entry into this program. It does so by looking at a storage location called Entry that contains the address of the location at which you reenter the program (if you have reentered it).

If the reentry address is between 8000 hexadecimal (hex) and 8 FFF hex, Entry uses it as the reentry address. The program places the contents of Entry there with a routine called Look. Look is the non-destructive exit routine the program calls each time you execute a system program and provides a place in memory where you can look to see the effects of the routine's execution.
When you run this program for the first time, it clears the storage areas from Buffer to LKBUF. This makes it easier to see what data the system routines put into memory. Also, the program puts dummy data into the area called UREC. The program then writes this data to disk. Following this, a message indicates the start of the program.

The program then prompts you for the name of a file to which you want to write data. This is where you type in the filespec you want used in the disk's data control block (DCB). The code that asks for the filespec starts at the label GETSPC. With the B register set to 15 , and the HL register set to the keyboard input buffer (KBLNBF), the system routine KBLINE lets you enter up to 15 characters for a file name.

Once you do so and hit the enter key, the system's Syntax routine checks to see if your filespec has the correct syntax. If it does, the subroutine duplicates the filespec in the DCB. Syntax uses the HL register, which points to the filespec in the keyboard input buffer (KBLNBF), and the DE register, which points to the DCB.

On return, Syntax sets or clears the zero flag, depending on whether or not the filespec syntax was good. If it is, the subroutine sets the zero flag. If not, it resets the zero flag and the program prompts you for the filespec again.

To check this system, enter any file name preceded by a blank such as BADSPEC. Press the enter key. Since this enters a bad filespec (the first character is a blank), the program displays a message asking for a filespec again.

You might think that since the file name must begin with an alpha character and have eight or fewer characters, Syntax would check this. It doesn't. It does check to see that the filespec starts with a blank, but Syntax allows the file name to start with a number and simply
truncates it to eight characters.
Also, if you use an extension and password, Syntax truncates the extension to three characters, the password to eight characters, and doesn't return an error. If you need to check for the accuracy of your filespec, better do your own checking rather than rely on the Syntax routine.

Now enter TESTFILE as a file name and press the enter key. Since this file name has the correct syntax, the subroutine copies it to the DCB and the local routine Look displays a message asking you if you want to look at the results. If you answer with anything other than Y , the program continues execution, so answer with a Y. This brings you into Debug.

You can go directly to Debug from the demonstration program by using the system routine called COMDOS. COMDOS executes any command you can execute while in TRSDOS READY from a user program. The HL register must point to the address which has the command you wish to execute. The program then executes a jump to COMDOS.

The Look routine points the HL register to the label EXECUT in the message area of the listing, which contains the program name Debug followed by a carriage return. Once in Debug, you can use the command D to look at both KBLNBF and the DCB.

To view KBLNBF, enter its address
found in the section of equates at the beginning of the program under Storage Locations. In KBLNBF, note the file name TESTFILE followed by 0DH, a carriage return. Now look at the DCB. You can find this address listed in the section of equates also.
Notice that the file names in KBLNBF, which is now below the DCB, and the DCB are the same except for one thing. The file name TESTFILE in KBLNBF is followed by ODH while the file name in the DCB is followed by 03H. The TRSDOS Disk System Owner's Manual says the file name in the DCB is followed by ODH. As you can see, this isn't true if you use the Syntax routine.
To return to the demonstration program, press the Q key to exit Debug and type in the name under which you assembled the demonstration program. This returns you to where you left off. The program displays a message on the screen indicating the location at which you reentered the program. In fact, each time you reenter the program, a message indicates the reentry point.
You should reenter the demonstration program at the label Extend. You can now enter a three-character extension that the program adds to your file name in the DCB via the PUTEXT routine. Of course, you could have added the extension to the file name when you originally entered the filespec, but the

|  | Registers |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Routine | AF | BC | DE | HL | IX | IY |
| BKSPC | Yes | No | No | No | No | No |
| CLOSE | Yes | No | No | No | No | No |
| CMDDOS | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| CMDTXT | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| COMDOS | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| DIVIDE | Yes | No | No | Yes | No | No |
| DSPDIR | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | No | No |
| ERRDSP | Yes* | No | No | No | No | No |
| FILPTR | Yes | Yes | No | No | No | No |
| INIT | Yes | No | No | No | No | No |
| JP2DOS | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| KILL | No | No | No | No | No | No |
| OPEN | Yes | No | No | No | No | No |
| POSEOF | Yes | No | No | No | No | No |
| POSN | Yes | No | No | No | No | No |
| PUTEXT | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | No | No |
| RAMDIR | No | No | No | No | Yes | No |
| READ | Yes | No | No | No | No | No |
| REWIND | Yes | No | No | No | No | No |
| SYNTAX | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | No | No |
| VERF | Yes | No | No | No | No | No |
| WRITE | Yes | No | No | No | No | No |
| Yes $=$ registers have changed. $\mathrm{No}=$ registers have not changed. $\mathrm{N} / \mathrm{A}=$ not applicable. Only the primary registers change; the demonstration program doesn't use the alternate set. <br> * Only the flag register changes. <br> Table 2. Register conditions after routine execution. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |



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extension is being requested here to demonstrate the routine. Enter TST as the extension.
To work properly, PUTEXT requires that the HL register point to the location of the extension and the DE register point to the DCB. The demo program then calls PUTEXT. There are no exit conditions to check for, so the program calls Look so you can again check the results in KBLNBF and the DCB. In the DCB, the filename now appears as TESTFILE/TST followed by 03 H . Now return to the demonstration program.

You should have reentered at the label OPNFIL. Here the program attempts to open the file using the filename TESTFILE/TST. If the file had already existed, it would simply have been opened, but since the file doesn't exist, the program displays the message File Not Found. You can look at the DCB and see that nothing happened.

Before going on, look at the local routine ERPROC which contains the system routine called ERRDSP. You can find this in the Listing under the banner Error Display Processor. ERRDSP is a system routine that displays an error code or expanded error message on the CRT. It then either returns to the user program, or to TRSDOS READY. Setting bit 6 masks the error code that is in the A register. The
routine spells out the full error message.
If bit 7 is set, control returns to the user program. How you process an error is up to you. You can abort the program, try again, skip processing, or whatever you feel is appropriate. Now return to the demonstration program.
You should reenter the program at label NEWFIL. This initializes a new file and you can again look at the DCB. The parameters that the HL, BC, and DE registers pass are the same whether you open or initialize a file.
In this case, the HL register contains the address of a 256 -byte buffer called Buffer where the operating system does the actual writing to and reading from the disk. The DE register must point to the DCB, and the B register must contain the logical record length.
A physical record is 256 bytes long or one disk sector. You can subdivide the physical record into smaller segments called logical records. A logical record is a record of from 1 to 256 bytes long. In the EQUs, I define the logical record length (LRL) as 128 bytes long.
If you define a logical record as 64 bytes long, four logical records comprise one physical record $(4 \times 64=256)$. However, if a logical record does not evenly divide into a 256 -byte physical record (such as a logical record of 50 bytes), the system spans physical records to keep your logical records intact.

```
Byte Contents
    0-2 Reserved for system use.
    3-4 Address of system I/O buffer. (BUFFER)
        5 Offset into the current physical record of the end of the last logical record read or
        written.
        6 Drive number on which the file exists.
        7 Reserved for system use.
        8 End Of File offset to the end of the last logical record.
        g Logical record length.
10-11 The next physical record where a read or write will take place.
12-13 The last physical record in the file.
14-63 Reserved for system use.
```

Table 3. Data control block layout.

## Byte Contents

0-14 File name/ext:d left justified and padded with spaces.
15 Protection level of file. 0 to 6.
16 End Of File offset to the end of the last logical record in the last physical record.
17 The logical record length.
18-19 The last physical record number in the file. LSB is in byte 18 and the MSB is in byte 19 .
20-21 The number of granules allocated to the file. LSB is in byte 20 and the MSB is in byte 21.
22-23 Two plus marks indicating the end of the directory.
Table 4. Directory layout in RAM.

It's possible to have a logical record equal in size to the physical record ( 256 bytes), but this requires additional programming. I'll discuss how the data moves to and from disk and the special requirements for 256 -byte logical records later.

For now, answer Y to the question on the screen and take a look at the DCB. Notice that the program file name in the DCB no longer appears. Instead, the DCB's layout is as shown in Table 3. Bytes 3 and 4 of the DCB point to the 256-byte buffer called Buffer. Remember, the low order byte appears first, the high order byte second.

Byte 5 represents the offset to the delimiter at the end of the current physical record. Byte 6 indicates the drive number on which the file resides. Byte 8 is the end-of-file offset of the last delimiter in the last physical record. Byte 9 shows the logical record length, and bytes 10 and 11 display the next physical record number with bytes 12 and 13 giving the ending physical record of the file.
Figures 1 and 2 show examples of how to interpret the contents of bytes 5 , 8,10 , and 11 of the DCB. Figure 1 shows two physical records, or sectors, of 256 bytes each, comprising four 128-byte logical records.

Suppose you just read the first logical record (record zero) of physical record zero. Byte 5 of the DCB now contains 80 hex and bytes 10 and 11 of the DCB contain 0000 hex. The DCB now points to the first byte of the next logical record.

Logical record zero goes from bytes 0 hex to 7 F hex, and logical record 1 goes from bytes 80 hex to 0 FF hex. Byte 5 of the DCB actually contains the first byte following the end of the last logical record read or, for that matter, the last one written.

Figure 2 is similar to Fig. 1 (now in the second logical record of physical record zero). Here, byte 5 of the DCB contains 0 hex, and bytes 10 and 11 of the DCB contain 0001 hex. The DCB now points to the first byte of logical record 2 , the first logical record of physical record 1 .

Byte 8 of the DCB is similar to byte 5 of the DCB, but only applies to the last physical record in the file. It points to the first byte following the last logical record in the last physical record.

In Fig. 2, if the last logical record in the file is logical record 2 , byte 8 of the DCB contains 80 hex. This is actually the first byte of the next logical record, if it existed. You should note that the value in byte 8 need not always point to

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the beginning of the next logical record. It can point anywhere within your last logical record. It is meant to point to the first byte following the actual end of data.
To make sure you put the correct end-of-file (EOF) offset in the DCB, you must calculate and put the actual EOF offset into byte 8 of the DCB. One way you can experiment with this is to use this program with different logical record lengths and modify the end-offile offset in byte 8 of the DCB just before closing the file. To keep it simple, don't do it here. Now return to the demonstration program.

## Write Operation

Once you return from looking at the DCB, execute the code at the WRTFIL label. The system needs two pieces of data to write a record to disk. The HL register must point to the buffer that contains the data you want to save, and the DE register must point to the DCB. The program sets the HL register to point to UREC, which contains some sample data, while the DE register points to the DCB.
When the program invokes the Write subroutine, it moves 128 bytes (the logical record length) from UREC to the area called Buffer. If the write is successful, it sets the zero flag. If an error occurs, the subroutine resets the zero flag and returns an error code in the A register for display via ERPROC.
As long as the logical record length is fewer than 256 bytes long, the system
moves data from the user buffer UREC to the I/O buffer called Buffer and vice versa.

If you set the logical record length to 256 by opening a file with the $B$ register equal to zero, you must move the data between UREC and Buffer yourself. This means that for each Write command, you must move the 256 bytes of data you want written to Buffer before the program calls the Write routine. Also, after each read, you must move the 256 bytes from Buffer to wherever you want it to go as its final destination. When the logical record length is 256 bytes, Read and Write commands ignore the HL register.

Once you complete the first write of the logical record of 128 bytes, answer Y to the question on the screen and look at Buffer and the DCB. If you look at the DCB, you see that the next physical record number at bytes 10 and 11 is zero. Also, the offset to the delimiter at the end of the current physical record at byte 5 is 80 hex, indicating that the program successfully completed one write. Records start at number zero with two 80 hex logical records per physical record. Looking at Buffer, you can see the dummy data.
Return to the demonstration program to continue with the next write at label WRT002. The program now initiates a second disk write, but here the HL register points one logical record length (1 LRL) into UREC. This occurs so the system can pick up the next block of data.


Figure 2. Byte interprets.

Make sure the HL register points to the right area of memory for the data you want transferred. If the write is successful, the program transfers a sector of data, or 2 LRLs, from Buffer to the disk. Again, you can look at the DCB and buffer areas for verification.

Now the DCB shows that the next physical record number at bytes 10 and 11 is 1 and the ending physical record at bytes 12 and 13 is also 1 . The offset to the end of the current record at byte 5 is zero, indicating that the program has written two logical records.

After returning to the demonstration program at label WRT003, the program completes a third write, after which you may look at the DCB. Notice that the last half of the buffer contains junk. The program clears out Buffer after it writes a sector and loads it with data of its own choosing from somewhere in the system.

Now, return to the demonstration program at label WRT004 for a fourth disk write. Following this, at label WRT005, the program makes a fifth write. After each of these writes you may look at the DCB.
Since the fifth write is only half of a new third sector, the DCB shows that the next physical record is 2 (the third physical record), the ending physical record is 2 , and the offset is 80 hex at byte 5 , for a total of five 80 hex-byte logical records.

In the Disk System Owner's Manual the explanation of the next record number (NRN) as well as those of Read and Write operations, say that after each Read or Write the NRN increments by one. This is true only if the logical record length is 256 bytes long. If the logical record length is 128 bytes as in this case, the NRN increments only after two reads or writes.
You should now return to the program to close the file. You enter at label CLOSFL. To close a file, you need to pass only one parameter to the routine called Close. This is the address of the DCB in the DE register. When you close the file, the program makes a final write to the disk, keeps track of the end of the last logical record, and updates the DCB and the disk directory.

If you close the file successfully, the program sets the zero flag. If not, you need to process the error. Get into De bug and look at the DCB. As you can see, the file name, including the number of the disk drive where the file is located, again appears at the beginning of the DCB. If you call the directory, notice that the file has an LRL of 128 bytes, five logical records, three physi-

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cal records (one granule), and an EOF of 128 bytes.
If you want to quit and take a break, go ahead, but if you turn off your computer or run some other program, make sure you reenter the program at the correct point. To do this, use the M command under Debug and modify the location Entry so that it points to GTSPC1 in the demonstration program.

Remember, the low order byte of the address of GTSPC1 goes into the low order byte of Entry, and the high order byte of the address of GTSPC1 goes into the high order byte of Entry. Now you can exit Debug and continue with the rest of this article.

## Read Operation

Now I'll show you how to read the disk file you generated. You will read

Program Listing. Demonstration program.

| 06010 | ; |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 00020 | ;******************************************************** |  |  |  |
| 00630 | , | FUNDAMENTAL ASSEMBLY LANGUAGE DISK I/O |  |  |
| 08040 | POR MES |  |  |  |
| 06050 | ;******************************************************** |  |  |  |
| 00060 | ; |  |  |  |
| 06070 |  | ORG | 8000 H |  |
| 00080 | BKSPC | EQU | 4445H | ; BACKSPACE 1 LOGICAL REC |
| 00090 | CLOSE | EQU | 4428H | ; CLOSE FILE ROUTINE |
| 00106 | CMDDOS | EQU | 429 CH | ; EXEC TRSDOS COMMAND |
| 00110 | CMDTXT | EQU | 4225H | ; HAS LAST TRSDOS COMMAND |
| 00120 | COMDOS | EQU | 4299H | ; EXEC TRSDOS COMMAND |
| 00130 | DIVIDE | EQU | 4451H | ;DIVIDE ROUTINE |
| 00140 | DSPDIR | EQU | 4419H | ; DISPLAY DIRECTORY |
| 00150 | ERRDSP | EQU | 4409H | ; DISPLAY ERROR MESSAGE |
| 00160 | FILPTR | EQU | 428DH | ;FINDS FILE AND DRIVE |
| 00170 | INIT | EQU | 4420H | ; INITIALIZE DISK FILE |
| 00180 | JP2DOS | EQU | 462DH | ; ENTRY TO TRSDOS |
| 00190 | KILL | EQU | 442 CH | ; KILLS FILE |
| 08200 | OPEN | EQU | 4424H | ;OPEN FILE ROUTINE |
| 08210 | POSEOF | EQU | 4448H | ; GO TO END OF FILE |
| 06228 | POSN | EQU | 4442H | ; POSITION TO LOGICAL REC. |
| 00230 | PUTEXT | EQU | 444BH | ; PUT EXTENSION IN DCB |
| 00240 | RAMDIR | EQU | 4290H | ; RAM DIRECTORY ROUTINE |
| 00250 | READ | EQU | 4436H | ;DISK READ ROUTINE |
| 00260 | REWIND | EQU | 443FH | ;REWIND FILE ROUTINE |
| 00270 | SYNTAX | EQU | 441 CH | ; CHECK FILESPEC SYNTAX |
| 00280 | VERF | EQU | 443CH | ; WRITE AND VERIFY |
| 00290 | WRITE | EQU | 4439H | ;DISK WRITE ROUTINE |
| 00300 | ; ********************************************************* |  |  |  |
| 06310 |  |  |  |  |
| 00320 | $\begin{aligned} & \text {; MISCELLANEOUS ROUTINES AND DEFINITIONS } \\ & ; * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |
| 00330 |  |  |  |  |
| 00340 | ; |  |  |  |
| 00350 | KBLINE | EQU | 40H | ; SCAN KEYBOARD FOR LINE |
| 00360 | KBWAIT | EQU | 49H | ; WAIT FOR KEYBOARD INPUT |
| 00370 | LRL | EQU | 128 | ; LOGICAL RECORD LENGTH |
| 00380 | LRL2 | EQU | 256 | ; LOGICAL RECORD X2 |
| 00398 | VDCLS | EQU | 1-9H | ;CLEAR SCREEN ROUTINE |
| 00400 | VDLINE | EQU | 21BH | ; DISPLAY LINE ROUTINE |
| 00410 | ; ******************************************************** |  |  |  |
| 00420 |  |  |  |  |
| 00430 | ;******************************************************** |  |  |  |
| 00440 |  |  |  |  |
| 00450 | ; |  |  |  |
| 09460 | ADRBUF | EQU | \$ | ; ADDRESS OF 'BUFFER' |
| 00470 | BUPFER | DEFS | 256 | ;DISK I/O BUFFER |
| 00480 | AUREC | EQU | \$ | ;ADDRESS OF 'UREC' |
| 00490 | UREC | DEFS | 646 | ; USER BUFPER |
| 00506 | ADRDCB | EQU | \$ | ; ADDRESS OF 'DCB' |
| 00516 | DCB | DEFS | 64 | ; DATA CONTROL BLOCK |
| 00520 | AKBBUF | EQU | \$ | ; ADDRESS OF 'KBLNBF' |
| 00530 | KBLNBF | DEFS | 16 | ; KEYBOARD INPUT BUFFER |
| 00540 | ADRDIR | EQU | \$ | ;ADDRESS OF 'DIRBUF' |
| 00550 | DIRBUF | DEFS | 24 | ; DIRECTORY BUFFER |
| 00560 | LENGTH | EQU | \$-BUFFER |  |
| 00570 | DRVNUM | DEFS | 1 | ;ASCII CODED DRIVE NUMBER |
| 00580 | LKBUF | DEFS | 2 |  |
| 00590 | AENTRY | EQU | \$ | ; ADDRESS OF RE-ENTRY BUF |
| 00600 | ENTRY | DEFS | 2 | ; RE-ENTRY ADDRESS BUFFER |
| 00610 | PARAM | DEFS | 2 | ; PARAMETER ADDRESS BUPFER |
| 00620 | ; ******************************************************** |  |  |  |
| 00630 |  |  |  |  |
| 00640 |  |  |  |  |
| 00656 |  |  |  |  |
| 00660 | ${ }^{\prime}$ START |  |  |  |
| 00670 |  | LD | (PARAM), HL | ; SAVE PARAMETER POINTER |
| 00680 |  | CALL | VDCLS | ; CLEAR SCREEN |
| 00690 |  | LD | HL, (ENTRY) | ;GET RE-ENTRY ADDRESS |
| 09760 |  | LD | A, H |  |
| 00710 |  | AND | OFOH |  |
| 00720 |  | CP | 80 H | ; IS THIS FIRST TIME THRU? |
| 00730 |  | JR | N2,START1 | ; YES |
| 60740 |  | JP | (HL) | ; NO. ENTER WHERE LEFT OFF |
| 00750 | START1 | CALL | CLRBUF | ; CLEAR OUT BUPFERS |
| 06760 |  | CALL | MOVDAT | ; FILL USER BUPFER W/DATA |
| 00770 |  | LD | HL, SIGNON | ; SIGNON MESSAGE |
| 00780 |  | CALL | VDLINE | ; DISPLAY MESSAGE |
| 00790 | GETSPC | LD | HL, SPCMSG | ;FILESPEC MESSAGE |
| 00800 |  | CALL | VDLINE | ; DISPLAY MESSAGE |
| 00810 |  | LD | HL, KBLNBF | ; KEYBOARD INPUT BUFFER |
| 00820 |  | LD | B,15 | ; MAX OF CHARS. ALLOWED |
| 00830 |  | CALL | KBLINE | ; GET PILESPEC |
| 00840 |  | LD | HL, KBLNBF | ;FILESPEC ADDRESS |

Listing continued
four records, the first, then the third, then back to the first, and finally the fifth logical record.

By typing in the name of the demonstration program, reenter the program. Do this, but with one additional entry, the name of the data file (TESTFILE/TST) following the name of the demonstration program.

For example, if the name of the demonstration program is DISKIO, type DISKIO TESTFILE/TST. You must include a single space between the program name DISKIO and the data file name. Every time you type in a command at TRSDOS READY, the HL register contains the address of the first non-blank character following the last command. The Disk System Owner's Manual describes this in detail under CMDTXT.
Once you type in the demonstration program name followed by the data file name, the program automatically saves the HL register in the location labeled PARAM. This brings you to the read section of the program at label

> "If you close the file successfully, the program sets the zero flag."

GTSPC1, with an accompanying message. Then the program loads the HL register with the address contained in the location PARAM. The Read routine checks this address to see if it includes a carriage return, indicating the end of a command, and the absence of parameters to pass. If no paramèters exist, the program asks you to enter the filespec just as when you initially ran the program.

If you typed in the parameter TESTFILE/TST, the program uses this as the filespec to open the file. If you type an illegal parameter, an error occurs and you must enter a new filespec.

If everything goes right, the program opens the TESTFILE/TST file, ready to read. Before the program reads the file, it executes the FILPTR routine starting at label OPENOK. This routine requires that the DE register contain the DCB address. On return from FILPTR the B register contains the drive number on which the file resides, with the logical file number in the C register.

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If FILPTR finds the appropriate information, it sets the zero flag. Otherwise, it resets the flag and the program skips down to the label READ01.

On successful completion of FILPTR, the routine RAMDIR uses the BC register, returned by FILPTR, to get the directory information of TESTFILE/ TST and places it in memory.

RAMDIR requires that the BC register contain the drive number in the B register, the file number in the C register, and the address of a 24 -byte buffer in the HL register. The 24-byte buffer in this case is DIRBUF. The Disk System Owner's Manual states that the buffer must be 22 bytes long for data, plus 1 byte for the plus symbol, which indicates the end of the directory. In fact, there are two plus marks at the end of the directory, thereby requiring 24 bytes in the buffer. If RAMDIR is successful, it sets the zero flag.

Following the execution of RAMDIR, the program converts the drive number and file number of TESTFILE/TST contained in the BC register to ASCII and places them in two separate messages. In addition, it saves the ASCII coded drive number in a location labeled DRVNUM for later use



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[^5]| 01920 |  | LD | （DRVBUF），A | ；PUT IN MESSAGE |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 01938 |  | LD | L， C | ，SET UP HL REGISTER TO |
| 01948 |  | LD | H，8 | 1 make pile number an |
| 01950 |  | LD | A， 10 | ASCII STRING． |
| 91968 |  | CALL | DIVIDE |  |
| 81978 |  | ADD | A， 3 日月 | ，MAKE REMAINDER ASCII |
| 01988 |  | LD | （FILNUM +1 ），${ }^{\text {a }}$ | ，SAVE IN message |
| 81998 |  | LD | A， L | ，GET REST OF FILE NUMBER |
| 92098 |  | ADD | A，38 ${ }^{\text {H }}$ | ，MAKE IT ASCII |
| 82818 |  | LD | （FILNUM）， A | ；PUT IN MESSAGE |
| 82820 |  | LD | HL，DRVMSG | ，DRIVE NUMBER MESSAGE |
| 02830 |  | Call | VDLINE | jDISPLAY MESSAGE |
| 02846 |  | LD | HL，FILMSG | ；FILE NUMBER MESSAGE |
| 02858 |  | call | VDLINE | ，DISPLAY REST OF MESSAGE |
| ¢2068 |  | CALL | LOKK | ，EXAMINE DIRECTORY ？ |
| 82878 | READE1 | Call | MSG911 | ，DISPLAY ENTRY MESSAGES |
| 02888 |  | LD | HL，UREC | ，USER DATA BUFPER |
| 02998 |  | LD | DE，DCB | ，DATA CONTROL BLOCK |
| 62180 |  | CALL | READ $\quad 1$ | ，READ A LOGICAL RECORD |
| 02110 |  | JR | 2，READOK | ；RECORD READ OK |
| 82120 |  | call | ERPROC | ，DISPLAY ERROR MESSAGE |
| 02138 | readok | call | LOK | ，EXAMINE BUPPERS ？ |
| 02148 | POSENT | Call | MSG012 | jDISPLAY ENTRY MESSAGES |
| 62159 |  | LD | DE，DCB | ，DATA CONTROL BLOCK |
| 22150 |  | LD | BC， 2 | ，LRL TO GO TO |
| 82178 |  | Call | POSN | ，GO TO 3RD LOGICAL RECORD |
| 62188 |  | JR | 2，POSNOK | ，POSITIONED OR |
| －2198 |  | call | ERPROC | ，DISPLAY ERROR MESSAGE |
| 82208 | POSNOK | call | LOOK | ，EXAMINE DCB ？ |
| 62210 | READ82 | Call | MSGE13 | ；DISPLAY ENTRY MESSAGES |
| 02228 |  | LD | HL，UREC＋LRL | ，OFPSET INTO BUFPER 1 LRL |
| 62238 |  | LD | DE，DCB | ，DATA CONTROL BLOCK |
| 92248 |  | Call | read | ；READ NEXT LOGICAL RECORD |
| 82258 |  | JR | 2，RDOK | ，NEXT RECORD READ OK |
| 82268 |  | CALL | ERPROC | jDISPLAY ERROR MESSAGE |
| 82278 | RDOX | CALL | LOOK | ，EXAMINE BUPPERS ？ |
| 62288 | REWENT | call | MSGE14 | ；DISPLAY ENTRY MESSAGES |
| 62296 |  | LD | DE，DCB | ；data control block |
| 02388 |  | Call | REWIND | jGO TO BEGINNING OF FILE |
| 82319 |  | JR | 2，REWOK | ；REWIND COMPLETE |
| 82328 |  | Call | ERPROC | ；PROCESS ERROR MESSAGE |
| 02330 | REWOK | CALL | LORR | ，EXAMINE BUFPERS ？ |
| 62348 | READ33 | CALL | MSGE15 | ，DISPLAY ENTRY MESSAGES |
| 02358 |  | LD | HL，UREC＋LRL2 | INEXT LOGICAL RECORD |
| 82360 |  | LD | DE，DCB | ，DATA CONTROL BLOCK |
| 02378 |  | Call | READ | ，READ PIRST LOGICAL REC |
| 82388 |  | JR | 2，RDOK1 | ，PIRST LOG REC READ OK |
| 02398 |  | Call | ERPROC | ；PROCESS ERROR MESSAGE |
| 82488 | RDOK1 | CALL | LOOR | ；EXAMINE BUFPERS ？ |
| 12418 | EOPENT | Call | MSG016 | ；DISPLAY ENTRY MESSAGES |
| 62426 |  | LD | DE，DCB | ，DATA CONTROL BLOCK |
| 02436 |  | CALL | POSEOP | ；GO TO END OF FILE |
| 62448 |  | JR | z，EOPOK | ；POSITIONED TO EOF OK |
| 02450 |  | Call | ERPROC | ；PROCESS ERROR MESSAGE |
| 02468 | goror | Call | LOKK | ，EXAMINE BUPFERS ？ |
| 02478 | BKENT | Call | MSGE17 | jDISPLAY ENTRY MESSAGES |
| 82488 |  | LD | DE，DCB | ，DATA CONTROL BLOCK |
| 82498 |  | CALL | BKSPC | ；BACK UP 1 LOGICAL RECORD |
| 02588 |  | JR | 2，BKSPOK | ；BACKSPACE 1 LRL OK |
| 82510 |  | Call | ERPROC | ；PROCESS ERROR MESSAGE |
| 82520 | BKSPOR | Call | LOOR | ，EXAMINE BUFFERS ？ |
| 82538 | READE4 | call | MSGE18 | ，DISPLAY ENTRY MESSAGES |
| 82548 |  | LD | HL，UREC＋LRL2＋LRL | ，USER BUPFER |
| 82550 |  | LD | DE，DCB | ，DATA CONTROL BLOCK |
| 02568 |  | Call | READ | 1 READ LOGICAL RECORD |
| 82570 |  | JR | 2，RDOR2 | jREAD SUCCESSFUL |
| 82589 |  | Call | ERPROC | ；PROCESS ERROR MESSAGE |
| 82598 | RDOR2 | CALL | LOKK | t EXAMINE BUPFERS ？ |
| 02600 | CLSENT | CALL | MSGE19 | ，DISPLAY ENTRY MESSAGES |
| 82618 |  | LD | DE，DCB | ，DATA CONTROL BLOCK |
| 82628 |  | CALL | CLOSE | ，CLOSE PILE |
| 62638 |  | JR | 2，KILPIL | ，CLOSE OF FILE OR |
| 82648 |  | CALL | ERPROC | ；PROCESS ERROR MESSAGE |
| 82650 | KILPIL | LD | HL，KILMSG | ，KILLING PILE MESSAGE |
| 02668 |  | CALL | VDLINE | ；DISPLAY MESSAGE |
| 02678 |  | LD | DE，DCB | ，DATA CONTROL BLOCK |
| 62688 |  | Call | KILL | ，KILL PILE |
| 82698 |  | JR | 2，KILIOR | ；KILL SUCCESSFUL |
| 82708 |  | Call | ERPROC | ；PROCESS ERROR |
| 92718 | Killok | LD | A，（DRVNUM） | ；GET DRIVE NUMBER |
| 82720 |  | LD | （4271日），A | PPUT IN SYSTEM AREA |
| 82738 |  | Call | DSPDIR | ；DISPLAY DIRECTORY |
| 02748 |  | LD | HL，ENDMSG | ，END Of DEMO MESSAGE |
| 82758 |  | CALL | VDLINE | tDISPLAY MESSAGE |
| 02760 |  | Call | kBWAIT | ；WAIT FOR EEYBOARD ENTRY |
| 82770 |  | JP | JP2DOS | ，GO TO TRSDOS READY |
| 82780 |  |  |  |  |
| 82798 | j＊＊＊＊＊ | ＊＊＊＊＊ | ＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊ | ＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊ |
| 62868 |  |  | ERROR DISPLAY | PROCESSOR |
| 02818 | ）＊＊＊＊＊ | ＊＊＊＊＊ |  | ＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊ |
| 62828 |  |  |  |  |
| 02838 | ERPROC | OR | ${ }_{8} 8$ Cer | ，DISPLAY MODE POR ERRDSP |
| 82848 |  | CALL | ERRDSP | ；DISPLAY ERROR MESSAGE |
| 02858 |  | RET |  |  |
| 02868 |  |  |  |  |
| 82878 | ；＊＊＊＊ | ＊＊＊ | ＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊ | ＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊ |
| 02888 |  |  | EXAMINE DATA P | PROCESSOR |
| 02898 | 1 | ＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊） | ＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊ | ＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊） |
| 02988 |  |  |  |  |
| 02918 | LOM | POP | 日L | ，GET RETURN ADDRESS |
| 02928 |  | PUSH | 昛 | ，RESTORE IT |
| 82938 |  | LD | （ENTRY）， HL | ，SAVE RETURN ADDRESSS |
| 82948 | LOOR1 | LD | HL，LKMSG | fLOOR？RESSAGE |
| 02958 |  | Call | VDLINE | IDISPLAY MESSAGE |
| 62968 82976 |  | LD | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{HL}, \mathrm{LKBUF} \\ & \mathrm{~B}, \mathrm{I} \end{aligned}$ | ｜ANSWER BUFPER <br> IALLOW 1 CHAR TO RTN |

the user buffer UREC. The program next loads the DE register with the DCB address and executes a Read command. On successful completion, a call to Look lets you examine UREC and the DCB.
Now return to the demonstration program at label REWENT where it executes a Rewind routine. This routine requires that the program load only the DE register with the address of the DCB. Once the program executes Rewind, the DCB points to the beginning of the file, record zero. Again, a successful execution sets the zero flag and you can look at the DCB via Look.
Returning to the demonstration program should place you at the label READ03. Here the program reads the first logical record. The HL register points one more logical record length into UREC, and the DE register contains the DCB address. The call to Read reads the first logical record into UREC. Following a successful read, you can look at UREC to verify that it now contains the first, third, and first logical records of TESTFILE/TST.
You can do one of two things in order to read the last logical record. You can use the POSN routine to go to logical record 5 , or you can go to the end of the file and backspace one logical record. Here I do the latter.

Return to the demonstration program at label EOFENT. The DE register contains the address of the DCB and the program calls POSEOF. If successful, it sets the zero flag and the DCB points to the beginning of the next logical record beyond the last logical record.
For a write operation, you can extend the file here. But since you're reading and you want to look at the last logical record, you must backspace one record. If you looked at the DCB after the program executes POSEOF, return to the demonstration program at label BKENT.

With the DE register pointing to the DCB address, a call to BKSPC repositions the pointer in the DCB to the last logical record. To allow examination of the DCB, the program calls the Look routine. Considering bytes 10 and 11, the next physical record is 2 and the offset to delimiter at end of current record at byte 5 is zero. This verifies that the DCB is pointing to the fifth logical record.

Continuing with the demonstration program at label READ04, it loads the HL register with the address of the next logical record position into UREC and places the address of the DCB in the DE

Listing continue
82980
82998 02998
03998 03818 03810 03828 63939 83040
83080 63640
03050
63960
93979
03078
03089
63698
03190
83180
03118
83118
3312
3313
$\underset{8315}{8314}$
33150
33168
33178
83178
63189
83180
83190
03190
03200
93210
03228
03230
03240
0324
0325
0326
0327
03270
03280
03298
03389
03390
03310
93320
03330
63348
93359
os
83368
OBB
We
电
83

| 8343 |
| :--- |
| 834 |


| 83448 |
| :--- |
| 0345 |
| 0 |

63469
63478
63489
63489
63499
93598
03598
N

Listing continued


84798 ;
84799 ;

64819
94829
04829
04830
84850
84860
84869
84879
84878
64880
94899

| movdat | $\begin{aligned} & \text { LD } \\ & \text { LD } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { DE, UREC } \\ & \text { A, } 8 \end{aligned}$ | ;ADDRESS OF USER BUFFER ;LOOP COUNTER |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| MOVLP1 | LD | HL, LRL001 | ; DATA TO BE MOVED |
|  | LD | BC, 16 | ; NUMBER OF BYTES TO MOVE |
|  | LDIR |  | ; MOVE THEM |
|  | DEC | A | ; REDUCE LOOP COUNTER |
|  | JR | NZ, MOVLP1 | ; FINISH DATA MOVE |
|  | LD | A, 8 | ; LOOP COUNTER |
| MOVLP2 | LD | HL, LRLe92 | ; DATA TO BE MOVED |
|  | LD | BC, 16 | ; NUMBER OF BYTES TO MOVE |
|  | LDIR |  | ; MOVE THEM |
|  | DEC | A | ; REDUCE LOOP COUNTER |
|  | JR | N2, MOVLP2 | ; PINISH DATA MOVE |
|  | LD | A, 8 | ; LOOP COUNTER |
| MOVLP3 | LD | HL, LRLe93 | ; DATA TO BE MOVED |
|  | LD | BC, 16 | ; NUMBER OF BYTES TO MOVE |
|  | LDIR |  | ; MOVE THEM |
|  | DEC | A | ; REDUCE LOOP COUNTER |
|  | JR | N2, MOVLP3 | ; FINISR DATA MOVE |
|  | LD | A, 8 | ; LOOP COUNTER |
| MOVLP4 | LD | HL, LRL0g4 | ; DATA TO BE MOVED |
|  | LD | BC, 16 | ; NUMBER OF BYTES TO MOVE |
|  | LDIR |  | ¢MOVE THEM |
|  | DEC | A | ; REDUCE LOOP COUNTER |
|  | JR | NZ, MOVLP4 | ; PINISH DATA MOVE |
|  | LD | A, 8 | ; LOOP COUNTER |
| MOVLP5 | LD | HL, LRL905 | ; DATA TO BE MOVED |
|  | LD | BC, 16 | ; NUMBER OF BYTES TO MOVE |
|  | LDIR |  | ; MOVE THEM |

register. The call to Read puts the fifth logical record into the user buffer UREC. A call to Look lets you view the new data in UREC.

With the reading of all the records complete, you can now reenter the program at label CLSENT, where a number of things happen in succession. You first want to close the file. Do so in the same manner in which you built the file, with the DE register pointing to the DCB and by executing a call to Close.

Since you no longer have any use for this file, you can also kill it. The only parameter you need to kill the file is to point the DE register to the DCB and make a call to the Kill routine. A successful kill operation returns the zero flag set.
To verify this, look at the disk directory to see that the directory no longer lists the file name. The subroutine KILL now sets the first 16 bytes of the DCB to zero.

The DSPDIR routine displays the disk directory. It needs only the drive number of the disk from which you want a directory, coded as an ASCII number in location 4271 hex. If you remember, you put the drive number in the location DRVNUM. Picking it up here and moving it to 4271 hex, followed by a call to DSPDIR, verifies that you killed TESTFILE/TST. The directory listing is abbreviated, showing only file names.

Now return to the demonstration program. Here, two messages indicate that you've closed and killed the file. Immediately following this, the program clears the screen and displays the directory.

Enter any character following the directory display to terminate the demonstration program with a jump to the TRSDOS entry point JP2DOS.

Two routines not covered in this program are VERF and CMDDOS. VERF is the same as Write except that after each write to disk, VERF reads the data to verify a proper write.

CMDDOS is similar to COMDOS except CMDDOS returns to the user's program after completing the routine. Of course, if you execute one of your programs from another program using this command, you must execute a final return to ensure that you make it possible to return. All the routines just covered are limited to accessing user generated files only. No system files are accessible.

Write to David G. Haan at 4361 S. Estes St., Littleton, CO 80123.


The

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A. Copelle, Northbrook, Illinois.

## HOW DO I LEARN TO USE THE PRODUCER

In each TRS-80 version, we have provided a systematic guided tour of The PRODUCER program generator process. For the Model I and III, an audio cassette tape tutorial is part of your package. One of your fellow PRODUCER owners talks to you as you go through the step-by-step lessons. The tapes not only teach you the operating process, they enable you to actually create a program of your own design while you learn.

We have provided over 200 pages of thorough documentation in The PRODUCER Reference Manual, but we encourage you not to read the manual until after you have completed the tutorial. We've had many rave reviews from our users, like this one from S.R. Foster of Pensacola, Florida:

The tutorial was an excellent starter. It enabled me to get on with it without days and days of reading. Very helpful.

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## HOW THE PRODUCER WORKS

We think you will be impressed with the ease of operation and the amazing versatility of features you get with the PRODUCER. Here is a step by step overview of the program writing process. The screen shown is an unretouched photo of the Master Menu from which each of these steps is selected.

## ㅁ Planning Your Program

The PRODUCER provides a helpful planning form you can print on your own printer. It helps you organize your thoughts to create a tailor made program to meet your needs.

## $\square \quad$ Creating The Screen

Visible on your monitor will be the screen where information will be entered, edited and displayed. There are six simple steps to follow in creating your screen.

## 1. Draw Your Screen

Using the arrow keys construct the screen in any configuration you desire. With single keystrokes, enter large graphic letters and borders. Edit at will until you are satisfied.

## 2. Define Message Areas

Select an area of your screen where The PRODUCER messages to you will appear.

## 3. Define Input Fields

The PRODUCER will ask you questions about the areas where you will enter the data. You specify the length of each area or field, as well as acceptable characters in each field.

## 4. Define Display Fields

Locate the display fields anywhere you want on your screen. These show the results of the calculations you want made on your data.

## 5. Define Custom Prompts

You select an area where help messages to yourself can be displayed.

## 6. Save Your Results

Assign a working name for your program and save it to disk.


## Editing Basic Data

1. Edit any part of The PRODUCER program you have created -- screen field names, lengths, prompt areas, etc.
2. Type in any help message you want as a custom prompt to help you operate the program.
3. Easily create calculations for your program using actual field names. You can use the contents of any numeric field and all math operations including logical operators.

## - Making Basic Code

Press a key, sit back and watch The PRODUCER do all the work of creating BASIC code for your program. You can see the program lines appear on your screen. Complete error checking is done for you.

## $\square$ Building Reports

Virtually any report is available to you thru our NEW free form report generator. It works with any size paper. You are allowed up to 100 calculations within the report. You can specify exact position of any text information to any position on your paper (even preprinted forms, checks, etc.). An amazingly versatile tool.

## $\square$ Building The Program

Put the finishing touches on your program by selecting cursor type, size, flashing speed, auto messages, custom logos. etc. After your selections have been made, press a key and your entire finished program is created in less than 5 minutes. That's all there is to this remarkably simple program generation process.

## TECHNICAL INFORMATION

The PRODUCER provides many advanced features which allow you to do "magic" with the programs you create.

## The SCREEN GENERATOR

- Use the full screen (all lines and column positions)
- Create a professional well organized screen with graphics
- Save up to 9 separate screens in memory at one time and get instant access to each
- Move the cursor to any location on the screen
- Replicate bars/lines/graphics to define certain screen areas
- Access an instantly available Help Menu of all Screen

Editor commands

- Insert and delete any character with a single keystroke
- Clear or erase selected areas of any screen
- Insert and delete whole lines on the screen
- Center any text on the screen
- Move any rectangular block of text anywhere on the screen (block move)
- Create titles with a single keystroke large graphic letter alphabet - Move portions of screens between different screens (cut and paste)
- Save any number of screens to disk at any time
- Recall any screen from disk any time
- Create BASIC lines to re-create any screen


## FILE and RECORD HANDLING

- Rapidly access records with BTREE File structure
- Search for a record with only the first few letters of the name or key (partial key) (Example locate PRODUCER by typing PR)
- Recall and edit duplicate and multiple keys (Example: Several last names may be the same on a file and you can find and edit them individually
- Fully edit any part of a previously entered record
- Recover unused space automatically upon deletion of a record - Enter data very fast with the special batch mode
- Recall immediately any record after it's been entered. eliminating time consuming sorting and indexing
- Rapidly access any record anytime (2-4 seconds average) - Globally search and replace data in certain fields in selected record range
- Automatically rebuild any file to meet new specifications. No need to re-enter data when a file needs to be restructured.
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- Recover from power failure and easily rebuild files that have been damaged. Avoid laborious re-entry of long data files


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escape from data entry mode. Allows partial information to be entered for each record without the annoying. time
consuming need to press ENTER for each blank field not used at the time of entry
- Duplicate field information from a previous record with one keystroke No need to re-enter duplicate information. addresses. etc on consecutive records
- View a custom prompt. your own custom reminder or help message for each field with 1 keystroke
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We continue to receive testimonials from satisfied users almost every day. Here's a sampling of the feedback we are receiving:

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S. Tornatore. Canastota, New York

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J. D. Konkler, Columbus, Ohio

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J. Crespi, Sherman Oaks, California

The PRODUCER Reference Manual is professionally written to provide ready acess to easily understood answers to questions which arise during use of the PRODUCER.
R. A. Copella. Northbrook, Illinois

The Reference Manual is supreme and superior to anything I have worked with.
R. A. Neuman, Okemos, Michigan

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## QUALITY

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# Finding the Search Solution 

by Joseph E. Trojak

## T These two Assembly-language programs use signature screening techniques that help you easily maintain and search large text files.


#### Abstract

If you have large text files that require efficient indexing and searching methods, Mindex and Search can help. Potential applications for these programs include indexing personal literature collections, client or patient records, mailing lists, card catalogs, and so on.

Most information retrieval programs for microcomputers use sequential searching techniques that are exceedingly slow, or use indexing systems that require laborious coding of key words. Mindex and Search use a method that quickly searches large files of text and avoids the problem of coding key words: signature screening.

The first part of this article reviews file searching techniques and explains the signature screening method. The second part describes how to apply the signature screening method to 8 -bit microcomputers, and lists the Assemblylanguage source code for Mindex and Search.

Both programs run on the Models II,


## The Key Box

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12,16 , and III with 48 K RAM and one or more disk drives.
First, a few basic definitions. A key is that part of a record that identifies the record during a search. Primary keys uniquely specify a record. For example, when each record in a file contains the name, address, age, and social security number of a client, the social security number is a primary key for each record. It lets you call up a single, unique record.
Neither the name, address, nor age is sufficient to uniquely specify a record, so each is termed a secondary key or attribute. To avoid confusion I'll use the term search key to refer to the item you're searching for, and the term record key to denote the part of the record you're searching.

## File Searching Techniques

## Sequential Search

This is the simplest search technique. You start at the beginning of a file and compare every record key in the file with the search key until you find a match or the end of the file.
An example of this searching technique is that employed by a slow-witted detective who has a telephone number and needs to find the name and address of the person who leases the telephone line. The detective gets a telephone book, starts at page one, and compares every telephone number with the one he is searching for until he finds the exact number.

If the detective is lucky, the name begins with A; if he is very unlucky, it begins with Z. Most detectives would just dial the number and ask questions.

## Binary Attribute Search

In this search technique, each record has a number of attributes (secondary keys), each of which has only two possible values: yes or no (true or false). Given a set of attributes, you can find all the records with these attributes by
$\left.\begin{array}{|rr|}\hline \text { Suspect: Bugsy Moran } & 0 \\ & \begin{array}{r}\text { Criminal Record } \\ \text { Military Service } \\ \text { College Education } \\ \text { IRS audit }\end{array} \\ \text { Alibi }\end{array}\right\}$

Figure 1. Edge-notched card for suspect Bugsy Moran.
comparing corresponding true and false values.

Our detective has a list of 200 suspects in a case on which he is working, and has the following information on each suspect: criminal record, military service, college education, IRS audit, alibi at time of crime, United States citizen, relative of victim, history of alcohol abuse, and motive for the crime. He wants to find all suspects who have a criminal record, no alibi, and a motive.

He goes to his local stationery store, purchases edge-notched cards, and codes them as shown in Fig. 1. Each attribute has a hole at the edge of the card. If an attribute is true, a notch is cut out of the card next to the attribute; otherwise the hole is left intact.

In Fig. 1, you can see that Bugsy Moran has a criminal record, no alibi, and a motive. Our detective makes his search in the following way: He arranges all 200 cards in a deck and puts a needle through the holes for the alibi attribute, then lifts the deck by raising the needle. All records of suspects with alibis fall out of the deck and he can exclude them.

|  |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| Automobile Model | Notch Code |
| Buick | 9921 |
| Cadillac | 5483 |
| Chevrolet | 4178 |
| Chrysler | 0731 |
| DeSoto | 6781 |
| Dodge | 4615 |
| Edsel | 6610 |
| Ford | 7309 |
| Hudson | 3277 |
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| Mercury | 1288 |
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| Volkswagen | 5739 |
| Automobile Color | Notch Code |
| Black | 4074 |
| Blue | 0277 |
| Brown | 0414 |
| Chartreuse | 1580 |
| Gray | 6952 |
| Green | 2394 |
| Maroon | 2944 |
| Red | 3915 |
| White | 7096 |
| Yellow | 5920 |
| Table l. Superimposed | notch codes for |
| automobile model and color. |  |
|  |  |

The detective takes the cards that didn't fall out and puts needles into the holes for the criminal history and motive attributes. When he lifts the needles, all records of suspects with a criminal past, no alibi, and a motive for the crime fall out. This amounts to 10 cards; he has narrowed his search to 10 out of 200 suspects.

You can consider the holes and notches in the edge-notched card as a string of bits. For any attribute, the bit is either zero (the hole is intact) or 1 (the card has a notch). The attribute bit string of each record is called the record's signature and is an index of the
record's attributes.

## Binary Attribute Search of <br> Superimposed Codes

This technique is similar to the simple binary attribute search except that the signature has more attributes than bits. The principle is to map a set of $m$ binary attributes from a record into a set of $n$ codes, then superimpose the codes for each attribute onto an n-bit signature.
Our detective is so enamored with his success in pruning his suspect list, he decides to use edge-notched cards for another purpose. In his state, automobile license numbers comprise three two-
Studebaker code
Color blue code

| $\bigcirc 00$ | 1954 Studebaker | 50 o |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 801 | Color: blue | 510 |  |
| >02 | Lic\#: 23-56-46 | 52 - |  |
| - 03 | Owner: John Doe | 530 |  |
| - 04 | 5 Waterfront | 54 - |  |
| - 05 |  | 550 |  |
| - 06 |  | $56<$ | License no. |
| - 07 |  | 57 |  |
| - 08 |  | 58 o |  |
| - 09 |  | 59 - |  |
| - 10 |  | 60 - |  |
| - 11 |  | 61 o |  |
| - 12 |  | 62 - |  |
| - 13 |  | 63 o |  |
| - 14 |  | 64 o |  |
| - 15 |  | 65 - |  |
| - 16 |  | 66 - |  |
| - 17 |  | 67 - |  |
| - 18 |  | 68 - |  |
| - 19 |  | 69 - |  |
| - 20 |  | 70 - |  |
| - 21 |  | 71 o |  |
| - 22 |  | 72 - |  |
| >23 |  | 73 - |  |
| - 24 |  | 74 - |  |
| - 25 |  | 75 o |  |
| - 26 |  | 76 |  |
| - 27 |  | $77<$ | Blue code |
| - 28 |  | 78 0 |  |
| - 29 |  | 79 |  |
| - 30 |  | 80 - |  |
| - 31 |  | 81 - |  |
| - 32 |  | 82 o |  |
| - 33 |  | 83 o |  |
| - 34 |  | 84 - |  |
| - 35 |  | 85 - |  |
| - 36 |  | 86 o |  |
| - 37 |  | 87 - |  |
| - 38 |  | 88 - |  |
| - 39 |  | 89 - |  |
| - 40 |  | 90 - |  |
| - 41 |  | $91 \quad 0$ |  |
| 042 |  | 920 |  |
| $\bigcirc 43$ |  | 930 |  |
| - 44 |  | $94<$ | Studebaker code |
| 045 |  | 950 |  |
| >46 |  | 96 |  |
| 047 |  | 97 - |  |
| - 48 |  | 98 - |  |
| - 49 |  | 990 |  |

Figure 2. Edge-notched card for a blue Studebaker with license number 23-56-46.
digit numbers (72-54-81). There are one million possible license numbers.

Often, a witness to a crime remembers only one or two of the pairs of digits, so our detective devises a method that lets him quickly determine the owner of a vehicle when he knows only part of a license number.
He buys cards with 100 holes and uses the following coding technique: He numbers the holes in the card zero to 99. For each pair of digits in the license number, he makes a notch corresponding to the number in the appropriate card hole (Fig. 2). Additionally, he codes 20 models and 10 car colors as
shown in Table 1.
The detective obtains a registration list from the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) and starts to code all the information about 200,000 automobiles in his city onto cards. One year later, just as he finishes his task, he gets a call from a client whose TRS-80 was stolen.
The client saw the get-away car (a blue Studebaker) drive off, but could read only the first and last pairs of digits from the license plate. The DMV computer is broken so the police can't search the motor vehicle registry data base until tomorrow, but the client needs his computer today.


Figure 3. Edge-notched card for a green Dodge with license number 77-01-02.

The detective takes his cards, puts them in a neat deck, then places very long needles through the holes corresponding to the digit pairs 46 and 23 , the color blue, and the automobile model Studebaker. Three cards fall out of a deck of 200,000 cards. The detective sequentially searches the three cards and finds that only two are Studebakers. He has narrowed his search from 200,000 to two.
Both Studebakers are blue: one with license number 46-79-23 and the other 23-46-42. The model and color codes are the same and the detective specified only two of the three possible two-digit numbers from the license ( 23 and 46 ), so the signatures of both automobile records fit the search.

But why did the third car, a green Dodge, also fall out? The code for the color green is 2394 and the code for the model Dodge is 4615 . The green Dodge that fits the search key had license number 77-01-02. The notches in the card ( $23,94,46,15,01,02,77$ ) corresponded to every needle placed in the deck (Fig. 3), so the card fell out along with the two Studebaker cards.

The detective used a primitive coding scheme. Elaborate methods have been developed for both edge-notch cards and bit-string computer searches. Signature screening, which you'll use to search text files, is a variation on the method the detective employed.

## Tree Search

In tree searching techniques, records are arranged in some order (numerical, alphabetical, and so on). Either the records within the data file are ordered, or a separate index file contains ordered information (keys) that points to the appropriate records in a file.

You start searching anywhere in the file. If your search key doesn't match a record key, you move your search closer to the beginning or end of the file depending on whether the search key is greater or less than the key of the record just searched.

As an example of this searching technique, consider the slow-witted detective. This time he has a suspect's name (John Smith) and wants to know where the suspect lives. Since names in the telephone book are ordered (sorted alphabetically), the detective uses the following search algorithm.

He opens the telephone book to the middle and finds names beginning with the letter K . He knows that the letter S is between $K$ and $Z$, so he divides the remaining pages in half and finds names beginning with $R$. One more division


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and search, and he finds names beginning with T .

He continues his search in the opposite direction, and after five more di-vide-and-search sequences he locates 25 John Smiths. The detective could have made his search more efficient if he had used information he already possessed: his knowledge that names beginning with S are closer to the back of the telephone book than to the front.

The many different tree searching techniques include binary searches, indexed sequential access methods, and so on. All require that the information you're searching for have some order so that comparisons between a search key and a record key determine in which direction the search branches (toward the beginning or end of a file).

## Hash Search

In hash searching techniques, you can store the source file records in any order. The hash searching program performs a sequence of mathematical operations (hash functions) on the search key, and produces a value that points to the appropriate record.

The detective has decided that he must use high technology to keep up with the competition. He buys a Model 12 and a 12 -megabyte hard disk drive, has a data-entry clerk type all the infor-
mation from the telephone directory into one large file, then hires a high school student to write a data retrieval program that quickly searches the file by name, number, or address.
The student realizes that sequential search techniques are too slow and that Microsoft Basic doesn't support ISAM files. She writes a program to convert every name into a code that indicates where the program stores the record in the file.
The hash function is simple: The ASCII values of the characters comprising an individual's name are multiplied together, then divided by 200,001 . The remainder of the division is the record number at which the program stores the name, address, and telephone number. Formally,

$$
\stackrel{n}{h(k)=\left(\pi a_{j}\right) \bmod 200,001}
$$

where h is the hash function, k is the key

Because the program listings in this article are so long, we had to print them at a size smaller than usual. We apologize for any inconvenience this causes.

To buy these programs on disk, see the ordering instructions on $p$. 204.-Eds.
(in this case the person's name), n is the number of letters in the person's name, and $a_{i}$ is the ASCII value of the ith character in the person's name. $\pi$ is the product $a_{1} \cdot a_{2} \cdots a_{n}$ and mod is the modulus of the quantity in parentheses (the remainder after the number in parentheses is divided by 200,001 ).

The student finishes her task and goes away for summer vacation. The detective needs to find the address of James Joyce. He sits down at his computer and types in the search key, "James Joyce". Instantly a name, telephone number, and address appear on the video display. Unfortunately, the name is Joyce James, not James Joyce. Our detective has experienced a collision-two distinct record keys hashed to the same number.

The detective is disappointed and afraid that he'll have to use the telephone book. Then he notices a message at the bottom of the screen: "Press N for next record". He presses N. The computer pauses for a brief moment and displays the name James Joyce. The student incorporated a collisionhandling routine into her program.

## Signature Screening

Tree and hash searching methods are appropriate for records that contain specific fields (name, address, tele-


| String <br> Triplets <br> Hash value | He r ran 181 | an dow dow 185 | $n$ the own 101 | lane <br> the <br> 191 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { lan } \\ & 83 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { ane } \\ & 108 \end{aligned}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| String | Jill walks up the lane |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Triplets | jil | ill | wal | alk | lks | the | lan |
| Hash value | 212 | 142 | 177 | 94 | 188 | 191 | 83 |
| String | The goat ran up the lane |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Triplets | The | goa | oat | ran | the | lan | ane |
| Hash value | 191 | 212 | 138 | 181 | 191 | 83 | 108 |

Table 2. Three strings, their corresponding triplets, and hash values.
phone number, and so on). Text, however, does not lend itself readily to such indexing, and many text searching programs still employ sequential search techniques.
In 1971, M.C. Harrison proposed a method to speed up searching large text files ("Implementation of the Substring Test by Hashing." Comm. Assoc. Computing Machinery. 14:777-779, 1971). The idea is simple: Before searching a string of text for a particular key, perform a quick screening test to determine whether the key is not present or possibly present.

If the test determines that the key isn't present in a string, you don't need to search that string. If the test is positive (the string might be present), a sequential search determines if the key is actually present in the string. I refer to this method as signature screening.
The following method is an extension of that which Harrison proposed. It's designed for use on 8 -bit machines that read 256 -byte disk sectors. Each record consists of a string of ASCII characters.
The search program considers every three sequential characters (triplet) of a string as attributes of the string. The program ignores triplets containing one or more spaces. For example, the string "Jack ran up the hill" has the following attributes: "Jac", "ack", "ran", "the", "hil", and "ill".
Considering only letters of the alphabet, you can have $26^{3}$ or 17,576 possible attributes for any triplet of letters A through Z. The 17,576 possible attributes (triplets) are mapped onto a 251 -bit string. A hashing function reduces the 17,576 attributes to 251 values (zero to 250 ).
The hash function, $h$, for any triplet is:

$$
h\left(c_{1}, c_{2}, c_{3}\right)=\left(100 a\left(c_{1}\right)+10 a\left(c_{2}\right)+a\left(c_{3}\right)\right) \bmod 251
$$

where $c_{1}, c_{2}$, and $c_{3}$ represent the first,
second, and third characters of the triplet respectively, and a represents the ASCII value of any character. Any uppercase letter is assigned the same value as the corresponding lowercase letter. The mod is the modulus of the quantity in parentheses (the remainder) after the number in parentheses is divided by 251. If any triplet has one or more blank characters in it, it has no hash value.
The word "hill" has two triplets. You want to find the hash value of the first triplet, "hil". The ASCII values of " h ", " i ", and " l " are 104, 105, and 108, respectively.

First multiply 104 by 100,105 by 10 , and 108 by 1 . Then add the three numbers $(11,558)$ and finally divide 11,558 by 251 . The remainder, 12 , is the value of the hash function for the triplet hil.

The hash function has several features that are important when indexing text. The order in which letters are arranged in a triplet determines the hash value. Triplets such as "tab" and "bat" do not hash to the same value.

Spaces, which often consume a considerable portion of text, aren't included so the program indexes only words of three or more characters. This avoids indexing many meaningless triplets. In the string "boy and girl", the program hashes and indexes only the triplets "boy", "and", "gir", and "irl". The triplets "oy ", "y a", "nd ", "d g", and " gi" aren't included. Last, the computation of the hash value is simple and quick.

The signature of a string consists of 251 bits initialized to zero. If a triplet of the string hashes to a value $i$, the search program sets the ith bit ( $\mathrm{b}_{\mathrm{i}}$ ) of the signature to 1 (equivalent to cutting a notch in the ith hole of a notched-edge card). Signatures of file records are called record signatures while those of search keys are called key signatures.

It's easy to find a single key in a large
text file. First, the search program loads the record signatures of the text file into memory (or as much as will fit at one time). Second, the program determines the signature of the key. Then it sequentially compares each record signature to the key signature.

If for every $\mathrm{b}_{\mathrm{i}}$ equal to 1 in the key signature, a corresponding $b_{i}$ is equal to 1 in the record signature, the screening test is positive, and the program brings the record into memory and searches for the key. If for any $i, b_{i}$ equals 1 in the key signature and $b_{i}$ doesn't equal 1 in the record signature, the key isn't present and you don't need to search the record.

This is the same as putting needles through holes in edge-notched cards. Cards that don't fall out when you lift the needles lack at least one of the attributes you're searching for and you can bypass them.

As a concrete example, take a text file with only three strings: "He ran down the lane", "Jill walks up the lane", and "The goat ran up the lane". See Table 2 for all triplets and the corresponding hash values for the three strings.

Suppose you want to search the file for all strings that contain the name "Jill". The key signature for the name "Jill" (Fig. 4) has bits 212 and 142 set to 1 ; all the other bits are zero.

Comparing the signature of the string "He ran down the lane" bit for bit with the key signature, you see that $b_{212}$ of the key signature equals 1 while $b_{212}$ of the record signature equals zero. The screening test is negative and you don't need to search the actual string.

Comparing the signature of the string "Jill walks up the lane" with that of the key signature, you see that every bit equal to 1 in the key signature is also equal to 1 in the record signature. Read the record from the disk, search it sequentially, and you find the name "Jill" present.

Comparing the signature of the string "The goat ran up the lane" with that of the key signature, you again find that every bit equal to 1 in the key signature also equals 1 in the record signature. You read the corresponding record from the file, search it sequentially, and determine that the key isn't present (a collision has occurred). If you had more records in the file, you could continue the search in the same manner.

Searching for a string that contains two or more keys is simple. The program logically ORs the key signatures

# Assembly Language Shortcuts-Part II 

by Bob Bowker

## $\square$ his month's shortcuts emphasize efficient use of the stack and include a reassuring perspective on the mysteries of algorithms.

| CONDITION 1 | CONDITION 2 | CONDITION 20 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| LD BC,0123H | LD BC,0254H |  |
| LD (BUF),BC | LD (BUF),BC |  |
| CALL ROUTINE | CALL ROUTINE | LD BC,2017H |
| RET | RET | $========\Rightarrow \gg$ LD (BUF),BC |
| CALL ROUTINE |  |  |

ROUTINE LD HL,(BUF)

RET
Program Listing 1. Stack value pass.

| CONDITION 1 | CONDITION 2 | CONDITION 20 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| POP HL | POP HL | POP HL |
| CALL ROUTINE | CALL ROUTINE $===========\Rightarrow \gg$ | CALL ROUTINE |
| DEFB 32H | DEFB 54H | DEFB 17H |
| DEFB 01 H | DEFB 02H | DEFB 20H |

ROUTINE EX (SP),HL

RET
Program Listing 2. Byte-efficient Stack value pass.

In my last article on Assembly language programming ( 80 Micro, June 1983, p. 173), I discussed some techniques on reducing memory requirements. This month, I'll consider the stack, a last in/first out storage area used by the Z 80 to save both addresses and values as it jumps around in a program. The stack is available to the user, too; you can store addresses and values on the stack with the Push command, and reclaim them with Pop.

When you call a subroutine, the computer automatically stores the return address on the stack, so that when it encounters a return instruction, the last address on the stack tells the program where to return to.

If your subroutine has left an extra address on the stack, when it encounters the return, the program returns to the extra address, not to the proper place. Similarly, if too many addresses are popped off the stack, the address to which the program returns will be wrong.

## What's Wrong is Right

Sometimes you can misuse the stack to advantage. Suppose that you have a program with 20 possible situations,

The Key Box
Model I and III
16K RAM
Editor/Assembler
each of which must pass a unique value to a common Write routine. One possibility is Program Listing 1. There is a way to use the stack to pass the value, and, in this example, save many bytes. See Program Listing 2. In each of the $\mathbf{2 0}$ cases here, the POP HL instruction puts the main return address into the HL register pair, and the call routine puts the address of the first DEFB onto the stack, even though we have no intention of returning here. At routine, the 1-byte instruction EX (SP), HL puts the main return address on the stack, and the HL register pair points to byte 1 of the value to be passed. When the program encounters the return instruction at the end of routine, it goes back to the original code that called the condition and not to one of the DEFB lines.

## How to Call Yourself

Shortcuts are often needed when the number of bytes available for the task is limited; if you have to fit a program in a 1 K EPROM, that byte 1,025 has got to go.

I am also motivated by laziness: I don't like to type in the same code twice if I can help it. Duplicating several lines of code is a waste of both typing time and assembler space, so I came up with the subroutine in Program Listing 3 to convert a hex digit into 2 ASCII bytes to be displayed. This routine uses one return instruction to handle both passes through its code. Line 160 calls the subroutine; when the program encounters the return in line 240, it branches back to line 170 to the address on the stack and continues on until it hits line 240 again. This time, the return forces a branch back to the main calling code since that address is now on the stack.

There's no practical limit to the number of layers you can create using the one return instruction. This next example uses up to three passes through the same section of code, at various times, according to two switches. You could use it to allow for differences in how long you must wait for a disk drive motor to get up to speed. The first flag can indicate whether your speed-up modification is on, and the second flag can indicate that a full second is required for that drive to get to 300 revolutions per minute (rpm), as opposed to the half second required by newer drives. The original version is in Program Listing 4. The routine checks two flags and calls wait once for each flag that's on; then it calls a single wait regardless of the flags. Compare it to the version in Program Listing 5. The program uses a single subroutine and its re-

| 00100 | 57 | CONV | LD D,A | ;Store for now |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 00100 | E6F0 |  | AND OFOH | ;Dump bot 4 bits |
| 00120 | OF |  | RRCA | ;Do the rotate trick |
| 00130 | OF |  | RRCA |  |
| 00140 | OF |  | RRCA |  |
| 00150 | OF |  | RRCA |  |
| 00160 | CDxocx |  | CALL SUB | ;Call the subroutine |
| 00170 | 57 |  | LDA,D | ;Recall the number |
| 00180 | E60F |  | AND OFH | ;Dump top 4 bits |
| 00190 | C630 | SUB | ADD A, 30H | ;Make it ASCII |
| 00200 | FE3A |  | CP 3AH | ;Allow for HEX digits |
| 00210 | 3802 |  | JR C,ONE | ;A thru F |
| 00220 | C607 |  | ADD A,07H |  |
| 00230 | CDxxox | ONE | CALL 003BH | ;Output the byte |
| 00240 | C9 |  | RET |  |
| Program Listing 3. ASCII converter. |  |  |  |  |


| 00100 | 01FFFF | DELAY | LD BC,0FFFFH |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 00110 | 3Axxxx | LDelay length |  |
| 00120 | F5 | PUSH AF | ;Save the flag |
| 00130 | CB47 | BIT 0,A | ;Check bit 0 |
| 00140 | C46000 | CALL NZ,60H | ;Wait if it's on |
| 00150 | F1 | POP AF | ;Restore orig (FLAG) |
| 00160 | F5 | PUSH AF | ;...and store again |
| 00170 | $01 F F F F$ | LD BC,0FFFFH | ;Delay length |
| 00180 | BB4F | BIT 1,A | ;Check bit 1 |
| 00190 | C46000 | CALL NZ,60H | ;Wait if it's on |
| 00200 | F1 | POP AF | ;Restore orig (FLAG) |
| 00210 | $01 F F F F$ | LD BC,0FFFFH | ;Delay length |
| 00220 | CD6000 | CALL 60H | ;Standard wait |
| 00230 | C9 | RET | ;Job's done |

Program Listing 4. Three-pass routine.

turn several times. Each time the return is encountered, the program branches to the last address on the stack. If bit 0 of (FLAG) is on, the return forces a return to line 140 , and to line 160 if bit 1 is on. If neither is on, the return branches back to the code that called the delay.

The program initially sets BC register pair to 0000 hexadecimal (hex) instead of OFFFF hex since the wait routine 0060 hex returns it to 0000 hex every time it's called; thus BC is set up for the
next pass. That one extra count in the delay is only 14.65 microseconds, which in most cases won't hurt. The bonus in using the second routine is that 8 bytes are saved-over 25 percent!

## End of the Line

The word algorithm is not only ugly, it's scary. That concept has probably kept more people away from Assemblylanguage programming than T-Bug ever did. An algorithm is nothing more than a way to do something.

| 00100 | 3Axxxx | LINE | LD A,(4020H) |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 00110 | CB67 |  | BIT 4,A |
| 00120 | C 0 | RET NZ CSRPOS LSB |  |
| 00130 | CB6F | Bit 4 on? |  |
| 00140 | C 0 | BIT 5,A | ;Go back if yes |
| 00160 | CDxxxx | CALL NULINE | ;Bit 5 on? |
| 00170 | C9 9 | RET | ;No new line |

Program Listing 6. Algorithm check.

For example, once I needed a way to tell if the cursor was positioned at the start of a line on the screen. At one point I considered making a table of the 16 start-of-line addresses and doing 16 compares every time.

Then I found a blank page of Radio Shack's $\$ 1.95$ Video Display Worksheet paper left over from Level I days, and wrote the 16 addresses in a column down the left side. I converted the addresses to binary and wrote them down, too. In every case both bit 4 and bit 5 were off; that turned out to be an absolute test. If either bit 4 or bit 5 of the least significant byte (LSB) of the address of the cursor were on, the cursor was not at the start of a line on the screen. I had an algorithm (see Program Listing 6). This routine checks bits 4
> '‘Don’t be frightened off by jargon like algorithm; if what you're looking for, or what you've found, is a shortcut, call it that."

and 5 ; if either is on, the cursor is not at the start of a line, so it returns. If both are off, the program calls the subroutine Nuline to do whatever, followed by the main return.

Don't be frightened off by jargon like algorithm; if what you're looking for,
or what you've found, is a shortcut, call it that.

## To Vector or Not to Vector

Lowercase modifications on the Model I are pretty common now, but not all users have them. This poses a problem if you're going to sell, or otherwise distribute, a program to others; you have to make allowances for the unmodified computers. Also, if your program uses the printer in any way, you should allow for those who don't have one. There are few things more frustrating than to accidentally hit the P key, and sit helplessly as the computer locks up in a ROM loop looking for a printer that isn't there.

Vector is more jargon; it means jump, so let's call it a jump. That's also an easy way out of the problem: Place a jump or two at the start of your program, that can be changed by any user to allow for printers and lowercase.

For example, I wrote a program that calls a conversion subroutine just before printing every character on the screen; if the character were lowercase, it would be converted to uppercase. Before displaying the character in A on the screen, I would call LC2UC.

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My program also jumped through a subroutine on its way to the line printer; to print the character in A, I would call print.

00100 C3xxxx LC2UC JP CONV ;Go convert LC to UC
00110 C3xoxx PRINT JP LPR ;Go print out
These were the first two lines of the program, which loaded at 5200 hex. I included instructions to zap a return into line 100 (a C9 at 5200 hex) if the user had a lowercase mod; then, every time LC2UC was called, the program found a return before it could convert anything. Similarly, the program could zap a return into line 110 (a C9 at 5202 hex) if the user had no printer; this effectively disables the print command in the program.

## Was That a I or a III?

When it first came out, the Model III was advertised as able to run all Model I software. As it turns out, that just isn't so; the culprits are the new ROMs in the III, which are different from the I's.

For most people, this is not important. However, if you want to sell a program that works on both, you have a decision to make: Should you sell sepa-
rate versions, or try to write one version that works on both models? If you choose to do the latter, you've still got problems. You must either make sure the program uses only those routines which are common to both models, or you must somehow have your program modify itself based on the host model.

The last choice is not difficult. You can tell whether the computer running
> 'Should you sell separate versions, or try to write one version that works on both models?'"

your program is a III or a I by looking at the byte at 0054 hex in the ROM; if it's a 01 hex, you're on a Model I, and if it's an EB hex you're on a III. There are probably other addresses you can use, although this is the only reliable one I know.

Start your program after the jumps with a check of 0054 hex, and deal with the result accordingly. For instance, if you find that your computer is a III, you may want to disable your own LC vector right away by putting a return there, and store a 00 hex at 4019 hex to default the III to lowercase. If any of the DOS calls you intend to use are different in Model III versions of the operating system, you can alter them now. For example, assume that a DOS call in Model I is at 4290 hex, and in the Model III is at 442B hex.

## 01320 CD9042 HERE CALL 4290H ;Model I CALL

If your check finds that you're on a III, include the following lines before starting the main program:

65000 212B44 LD HL,442BH ;Model III address 65010 22xxxx LD (HERE + 1),HL

When line 1320 is encountered, the proper Model III address will be called.

Robert Bowker is a free-lance television director. He can be reached at 11360 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90049.

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# CP/M III Ways 

by Terry Kepner

## 匹f you're looking for $\mathbf{C P} / \mathrm{M}$ compatibility on your Model III, choose one of these boards and get access to hundreds of great programs.

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$\star \star \star \star$
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$\$ 279$
$\star \star \star \star$
Shuffleboard III
Memory Merchant
14666 Doolittle Drive
San Leandro, CA 94577
$\$ 299$

CP/M, Control Program for Microprocessors, was the first comprehensive in-memory disk operating system for 8080 and Z80 based microcomputers. And now it's available to those who own Model IIIs.

The three Model III CP/M conversion boards included in this review are the Mapper III from Omikron, the VID-80 from Holmes Engineering, and
the Shuffleboard III from Memory Merchant.

All three boards offer useful modifications, but their features do differ. Shuffleboard is the only one that lets you perform single-drive file copies, while Mapper III alone lets you transfer files and programs from TRSDOS disks to $\mathrm{CP} / \mathrm{M}$ disks.

The Holmes board stands apart in that it modifies your Model III's ROM to use an 80 -character by 24 -line display in standard TRSDOS environments as well as the CP/M environment.

While all three boards provide CP/M capability, you should consider their features and choose the board best suited for you.

Each modification is similar in concept: You remove the Z 80 CPU and put it on the CP/M board, then plug the $\mathrm{CP} / \mathrm{M}$ board into the Z 80 socket. The computer now operates as either a standard Model III or a $\mathrm{Z} 80 \mathrm{CP} / \mathrm{M}$ computer.

## Mapper III

Omikron sells several modification boards for the Models I and III, including four versions of the CP/M board (a 48 K and a 64 K RAM version for each computer), 8 -inch drive support for the Models I and III, and a 24 -line by 80 -character video display modification for the Model III.

I'll describe the Model III $64 \mathrm{~K} \mathrm{CP/M}$ board, without the 8 -inch drive board or the 80 by 24 display modification. The Mapper III is quite small, measuring 4 inches by 6 inches (see Photo 1 ). Centered on the right side of the board are the socket for your computer's Z80 chip and the pins for plugging the board into your computer.

The six pages of typeset installation instructions are clear, with many pictures to clarify the procedure. The guide is a professionally prepared pamphlet, the best hardware installation guide I've ever seen.

The installation instructions are easy to follow. You unplug the computer, then locate and remove the case screws. Lift off the cover, locate and remove the Radio Frequency Interference (RFI) shield screws, then remove the RFI shield.

Remove the Z80 chip (be very care-ful-bent pins aren't a total disaster, but make the installation difficult), plug it into the CP/M board (observe correct orientation of the chip in the socket), and plug the board into the computer Z80 socket. Finally, reassemble the computer. The entire installation takes about half an hour of continuous work.

Now I must fault the documentation. After reading the installation guide, I looked for instructions on turning on the system and testing the board's performance, but there aren't any.

The owner's manual ( 15 photocopied pages of mixed typesetting and printing) details the CP/M system, describing video, keyboard, RS-232, and printer drivers, plus other important information about the Omikron version of CP/M. But it doesn't contain instructions on turning on the system in TRSDOS, CP/M, or Level II Basic.

I've since discovered that Omikron is still writing the user's manual. By the time you read this review, the guide will be finished and included with the other manuals.

When I turned my system on, strange characters filled the screen; I got no drive response and other peculiar reactions. I took my computer apart, removed the CP/M board, then replaced it and reassembled the computer. This time everything worked the way it should and the drive light came on.

The video screen displays the Omikron sign-on message, with two operation choices listed, C and T. Pressing the C key causes the Model III to boot up the CP/M disk in drive zero. Pressing $T$ boots a TRSDOS disk. If you
want Level III Basic, press T and the break key. TRSDOS operation remains unchanged.

Omikron designed the video driver to emulate the Soroc IQ120 terminal, so any CP/M programs compatible with


Photo I. Mapper III.


Photo 2. VID-80.


Photo 3. Shuffleboard III.

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the Soroc terminal should work without alteration. The cursor addressing routine is the same system used by the Osborne accounting packages, WordStar, and Wordmaster.

If you have 8 -inch disk drive capability, Omikron's version of CP/M automatically supports it, assuming that drives A and B are $51 / 4-\mathrm{inch}$, and C and D are 8 -inch. Since much software is sold on 8 -inch disks, Omikron provides an option that lets you use control/C to warm-boot the system and make the 8 -inch drives (physically located at positions C and D ) the logical drives A and $B$.

If you have a special drive configuration, you can use the Options utility to preset the system to match your needs. The Options program controls other factors, including video graphics enable, blinking cursor, printer line counter and line feeds, RS-232 and keyboard swapping (lets you use a remote termi-
nal to control the system), and interrupt disable.
At the moment Omikron CP/M supports only $51 / 4$-inch single- and doubledensity disk drives. As soon as they complete their 8 -inch double-density board, it will support 8 -inch single- and double-density disk drives. In the mean-
> ". . . Omikron includes a Microsoft Basic disk with their CP/M system. . ."

time, Omikron CP/M reads 17 disk formats, including Osborne, IBM PC, Cromemco, Xerox, DEC, and Superbrain.

To aid the prospective programmer, Omikron includes a special utility program that lets you read Model III TRSDOS disks, and copy files and pro-
grams from TRSDOS to CP/M. These programs might or might not work un$\operatorname{der} \mathrm{CP} / \mathrm{M}$.

Machine-language programs that use their own input/output (I/O) routines won't work under CP/M, since the peripherals have all been remapped to new locations. Basic programs should work with MBasic, unless they have machinelanguage PEEKs and POKEs.

To help the Basic programmer, Omikron includes a Microsoft Basic (MBasic) disk with their CP/M system, so you can immediately begin using your system to create standard Basic programs (most Model III Basic commands are used in MBasic). This is important since CP/M doesn't include a Basic programming system, although some versions of $\mathrm{CP} / \mathrm{M}$ include a public domain version of Basic called EBasic.

Finally, Omikron supplies a set of new CP/M and MBasic manuals that are truly superior to any l've seen on

## The CP/M Story

The birth of CP/M resulted from a need for a microcomputer disk operating system back when micros were only the toys of computer hobbyists and professionals. A few pioneers in the industry had managed to build computer systems that included a CPU, had the capability of running a video display, and would let you input data and instructions from a keyboard.

Someone had even figured out how to connect disk drives to the machine and transfer data between the two. One programmer, at the request of a business friend, took one such system and wrote a program that supervised the operation of the computer, monitor, keyboard, printer, and disk drives. This original DOS design was for an 8080 Altair.

The program was so successful at controlling the computer without lots of work and attention from the user that other people began asking for copies. Finally, Digital Research Inc. began selling the DOS and it rapidly spread across the country.

It was so popular because it was designed to be device independent. The CP/M system used set addresses for sending and receiving information to and from the various peripherals. A new computer merely had to honor those addresses to be compati-
ble with $\mathrm{CP} / \mathrm{M}$ and $\mathrm{CP} / \mathrm{M}$ programs.
Of course, each model computer had different peripherals, some with wider displays or better keyboards, requiring different driver machinecode instructions, but CP/M doesn't care what the actual driver code looks like, only that the driver responds to the proper CP/M data address.
This means that a program written on a CP/M computer, as long as it honors the CP/M I/O calls, runs on almost any other CP/M computer. If your computer is from a new company, or even if you designed and built it yourself, you still have many CP/M programs available for it. Owners of non-CP/M computers have to wait for programmers to buy the computers and start writing programs for them.
As the oldest available DOS, CP/M has the most programs written for it. In many cases these programs are public domain, free for you to use and change. This public software is often of very high quality.

Other computer companies marketed their own DOSes for their computers, but CP/M had already become a standard. And people didn't want to buy a computer without software support.
When Tandy released the original Model I, they didn't design it to be a disk-based computer so they ignored

CP/M. When Level II came out, it too ignored the possibility of CP/M because $\mathrm{CP} / \mathrm{M}$ requires the use of low memory for its driver addresses and high memory for its own code. The Radio Shack uses all low memory addresses for itself and high memory for programs.

To allow for both TRS-80 Basic and future CP/M expansion would have required that Tandy abandon their Level I customers or replace the entire CPU Level I board when they upgraded the machines to Level II. They would have to switch RAM and ROM, requiring a new circuit board layout. The mechanical problems of redesigning the computer and replacing the units in the field were too costly.

CP/M requires using the low addresses of RAM as its tie points to the peripherals. The Models I and III use the low addresses for other purposes, making them fundamentally incompatible.

For a while, a doctored version of CP/M was available for the Models I and III, but it experienced compatibility problems with much of the CP/M software. The software expected the peripheral connection addresses to be in low memory.

Now several companies have begun marketing boards that let Model I and III owners convert to CP/M operation while still maintaining compatibility with TRSDOS.
$\mathrm{CP} / \mathrm{M}$. The CP/M manual is 250 pages long in 8 - by 11 -inch format.

The MBasic manual was written in 5 by 7 -inch format, but has been reproduced on 8 - by 11 -inch paper, with two 5 - by 7 -inch pages on one 8 - by 11 -inch piece of paper. It's a little confusing at first, but usable. Both manuals are typeset and punched for insertion in a three-ring binder.

## VID-80

The Holmes CP/M system is a much larger board than the Mapper III, measuring 8 inches by 11 inches (see Photo 2). As with the Omikron board, you remove the Z80 CPU from the Model III and plug it into the Holmes board. However, you also remove the character generator ROM, the power supply connector, and the video connector from the old CPU board, and plug them into the Holmes board.

Then you attach two wires from the VID-80 to the Model III with small clamps, and plug the Holmes video controller into the slot on the old CPU board. These modifications make it possible for the Model III to run $\mathrm{CP} / \mathrm{M}$, and alter the video to use 80
characters by 24 lines as the standard display.

In fact, if you are only interested in an 80 by 24 display, you can buy the VID-80 board alone, and forget CP/M. CP/M is not required for the 80 by 24 display, and you can purchase it separately for $\$ 120$ extra.

This new display size has an important implication for CP/M operation: Some software on the market requires an 80 by 24 display. A display size other than that can cause problems when you try to use software designed for the larger display. Fortunately, much of the CP/M software doesn't have a display size requirement, so you can use a standard 64 by 16 screen display.
The documentation is a 34-page $81 / 2$ - by 11 -inch booklet that clearly explains every step for dismantling your computer, installing the Holmes board, and putting everything back together. It's not as slickly produced as the Omikron instructions, but is adequate to the task.

The instructions on $\mathrm{CP} / \mathrm{M}$ are divided into two distinct sections. The first is part of the installation manual, and provides technical information
about the $\mathrm{CP} / \mathrm{M}$ board and the Holmes CP/M Basic Input/Output System (BIOS) information. It also includes brief instructions on turning on and using your Holmes modified computer and an introduction to the CP/M operating system.
The second part of the CP/M instructions is in the form of the Sybex book about CP/M by Rodnay Zaks, The $C P / M$ Handbook with $M P / M$. Rather than plowing through the CP/M 2.2 Digital Research manuals, which tend to be confusing and hard to read, you can study a well-written tutorial on the CP/M system, with indexes and appendixes to help guide you through it.
The theory of operation for the Holmes board is simple: When you turn on the computer or press reset, the Holmes board bootstrap ROM checks to see if you're holding down the 6 key. If you are, the bootstrap ROM relinquishes control to the Model III ROM and your computer acts as though it's unmodified.

If you're not holding down the 6 key, the bootstrap ROM copies the Model III ROM to a 16 K bank of RAM on the Holmes board, then patches the Model


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III ROM in RAM to use the new 80 by 24 display. Every point where the ROM would normally jump to the Radio Shack video driver changes to use the Holmes video driver.
The locations normally assigned to the video RAM ( 3000 to 3FFF hexadecimal (hex)) aren't used for video; the system ignores them. The new video RAM location is the uppermost 2 K of RAM in your computer (F800 to FFFF hex).

Normally this means that you wouldn't have a full 64 K of user RAM, but the Holmes board uses a bankswitching technique to flip the video RAM into place when the computer wants to access it, and to flip normal RAM in place the rest of the time. Thus your high memory Model III drivers are preserved for your use without alteration.

This method works because the Z80 can do only one thing at a time: When it's working on video RAM it can't use the high memory drivers or information, and vice versa. This is an interesting and efficient method of handling the video memory problem.

Unfortunately, by moving the video RAM to a new location, any programs
that bypass the video's device control blocks by going directly to video locations in the range 3000 to 3FFF hex won't work in the 80 by 24 display mode, so you have to remember to set the display to 64 by 16 when using those programs.
When you first install the Holmes board, you have to adjust the video dis-

## 'The CP/M mode is quite transparent...

play circuit board in the Model III to get all 24 lines on the screen. This takes only a few moments, and it's kind of fun watching the letters on the display scrunch down and new lines appear from the bottom.

The new 80 by 24 display requires that the individual characters be smaller, in order for all of them to fit on the screen. That's a small price to pay for almost doubling (from 1,024 to 1,920 ) the amount of information on your screen-an 80 percent increase.

Another disadvantage is the appearance of snow on the video whenever you update the display, much like the snow
on a normal Model III during highspeed display access (usually apparent during machine-language games). Fortunately, Holmes Engineering has a modification that makes the display clear and precise. Newer boards come with the modification.
This approach, moving ROM to RAM and modifying it to use the 80 by 24 display, lets you use almost any Model III DOS with the 80 by 24 display. For example, TRSDOS works quite well in the 80 by 24 mode, with only the DIR command requiring a patch [PATCH *6 (ADD $=5 \mathrm{AFA}$, FIND $=$ $3 \mathrm{~F}, \mathrm{CHG}=\mathrm{OF}$ )] to operate correctly in both display modes. Similarly DOSPLUS 3.4, 3.5, and 4.x, NEWDOS80, LDOS, and MULTIDOS work with little or no alterations in both modes. They require no special software drivers.
One other feature, reverse video, is accessible from either Model III mode or CP/M mode.

The CP/M mode is quite transparent to the operator. Memory management on the Model III in CP/M mode gives you $\mathbf{6 2 K}$ of RAM (the other 2 K is for disk I/O buffers and other miscellaneous data involved with the disk drives).


The Micro-Design TRS-80 upgrade includes Micro-Design's exceptional MDX-6 disk controller board, one 40 Track Disk Drive, necessary installation cables and hardware. WIII also control external 8" Disk Drive Systems.

The Holmes board uses a 4 K EPROM for keyboard, video, and printer I/O. This EPROM is bank switched in and out of position in low memory as needed by the BIOS.

The Holmes board lets you read and write to disks formatted by the IBM PC, Kaypro II, Xerox 820, Xerox 820-II, Osborne-I, Zenith Z-100, Freedom Technology (Model III CP/M system), Memory Merchant Shuffleboard III (Model III CP/M), Omikron (Model I CP/M), and Morrow Micro-Decision.
If your computer has 8 -inch disk drive capability, Holmes CP/M lets you use the 8 -inch drives without patching. Eight-inch drive support includes the ability to read and write to disks formatted in IBM 3740 single density, Xerox 820 single density, and Xerox $820-\mathrm{II}$ double density.
The Holmes board is available in two versions. The first, and cheaper, version has a 16 K bank of RAM and uses the Model III's 48 K RAM for the rest of the RAM it needs. The other version comes with 64 K of on-board RAM and doesn't use the Model III RAM except as a RAM disk accessible from CP/M
for extremely fast data storage and retrieval.

When I wrote this review, no known incompatibilities existed between Holmes CP/M and other CP/M software. You can even run UCSD Pascal with the Holmes board.

## Shuffleboard III

The Shuffleboard III (see Photo 3), a $64 \mathrm{~K} \mathrm{CP} / \mathrm{M} 2.2$ system, is as easy as the others to install. The only difference is that you remove one of the Model III memory chips, U25, and replace it with a 16 -pin plug attached to the Shuffleboard unit. After installing the board, you put your TRSDOS disk or your CP/M disk in drive zero and press reset. Level II Basic is still available, of course.
Like Omikron, Memory Merchant has provided MBasic for Basic programmers. You can also purchase an 80 by 24 video board separately for $\$ 275$.

Actually, you have several hardware options with the Shuffleboard: If you want to, you can move a jumper on the board from its "Automatic boot from drive zero" position to another. This clears the screen and asks you which
drive contains the system disk (press zero for drive zero, one for drive 1, and so on).
Another board option lets you select operation of either a 2716 ROM, or 2732 or 2764 ROMs. The manual doesn't discuss this option, so it's probably being reserved for future developments and enhancements.
A unique feature of Shuffleboard is the ability to switch between CP/M and TRSDOS using the appropriate command. If you're in TRSDOS and want to go to CP/M, enter the DOS command CPM. From the CP/M prompt, enter DOS. These are memory erasing changes: Anything in memory is zeroed out, so you can't transfer between the two operating systems and maintain inmemory data integrity.
In its present form, Shuffleboard CP/M is compatible with $35-$, 40 , $77-$ and 80 -track $51 / 4$-inch disk drives. With the addition of the Memory Merchant disk controller, you can use 8 -inch disk drives.
As with the Omikron board, you can use your Model III as a slave to a remote terminal, using the remote terminal for input instead of the keyboard.

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And unlike the other two CP/M systems, Shuffleboard includes the Auto command as a valid command, which operates just like the TRSDOS Auto command. The length of the command is limited to one screen line ( 64 characters).

Memory Merchant $\mathrm{CP} / \mathrm{M}$ is configured to expect the CP/M drive A to be the physical drive zero, drive $\mathbf{B}$ to be drive 1, drive C to be drive 2, drive D to be drive 3, and drive E to be nonexistent. Drive E invokes a special Memory Merchant CP/M utility called a virtual drive. You also have drives F-I available as single-density drives.

The first two logical drives (A and B) are $51 / 4$-inch, 40 -track, double-density drives. The third drive is configured as an 8 -inch, 77 -track, double-density drive. You can reorganize the CP/M drive map to match any setup you have, including using physical drive 4 as the boot-up drive, logical drive A. You do all this by using a disk drive map that lets you match any of the logical drive parameters to the physical drives.

Now for the virtual drive. Memory Merchant has altered CP/M so you can logically change a disk drive assignment while running $\mathrm{CP} / \mathrm{M}$, a procedure not allowed with the other CP/M systems. This virtual drive capability means that you can make single-drive copies.
If you have two $51 / 4$-inch drives and one 8 -inch drive, you can use the virtual drive assignment to copy a file from one 8 -inch disk to another. Otherwise, you'd have to copy the file to a $51 / 4$-inch disk, change disks in the 8 -inch drive, invoke a warm-boot on that drive, then
copy the file from the $51 / 4$-inch drive to the new 8 -inch disk.

This virtual assignment capability is reflected in the use of logical drives F-I. Physical drives 1-3 are given two logical drive numbers, B-D and F-H. Drive 1 is both logical drive B and logical drive F . The difference is that drive B is a double-density drive and drive F is a sin-gle-density drive.
You can copy files from or to a sin-gle-density disk without going to the disk drive assignment table and changing one of the drives to be logically sin-

> "All three boards are easy to install."
gle-density. To let you copy files between single density and double density on the same drive, logical drive I is used, just as logical drive E is used for singledrive, double-density file copying.

Speaking of copying, the Shuffleboard can read and write to Osborne I, Xerox 820, and IBM PC formatted disks.
Three manuals come with the Shuffleboard III. The user's manual is a 7 -page, 8 - by 11 -inch printed booklet that covers all phases of board installation and $C P / M$ use. The second manual is a bound edition of the new Digital Research documentation on CP/M.

The last manual is the Microsoft MBasic instruction book. Unlike the previous DRI manuals, these books are well written and easy to understand.

Both books top 250 pages in length.

## Summary

All three boards are easy to install with only screwdrivers and a nail file. If you follow the instructions carefully, you should have no problems with the installation.
One disadvantage shared by all three boards is that they make it difficult for the CPU RFI shield to fit properly. The clearance between the RFI shield and the CPU board is almost, but not quite, enough room for the new piggy-back boards. On my Model III, I could only get the screws on the left side (looking at the CPU board from the rear of the computer) to go into place.
Putting the top and right side screws in place put a good deal of stress on the two boards, and actually forced the RFI shield to bulge. However, the three screws I used easily keep the shield in place, and should maintain the cage design of the Model III.
At present, the Holmes board has the largest base of CP/M disk formats that it can read and write, but the others are rapidly catching up. And all three companies offer excellent customer support, with customer hotline phone numbers.

As you can see, the final decision on which board is best depends on your needs. As a purely personal response, the Holmes Engineering board is my favorite; it seems to offer the most for my needs.

Contact Terry Kepner c/o 80 Micro, 80 Pine St., Peterborough, NH 03458.


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# Protected Tape Programs 

by Dan Robinson

This pair of short routines safeguards your cassette programs against predators.

ProteK (with a K; see Program Listing 1) makes your system tape autostart so spies can't jump into a monitor program. It adds a leader to your tape which befuddles copy programs like the RSM series or LMOFFSET by sending a false checksum. A double delay loop foils other copy cats that swallow programs until they think they've devoured the last byte.

The program includes pitfalls for

## $\mathbf{P}$ rotect your tape programs from predators with these two routines that prohibit copying.

those who load a monitor first and count on getting to your programs following a reboot: The entry points for TBUG, DEBUG, and RSM2 16K, 32K,

and 48 K will take them back to the MEMORY SIZE? prompt.
ProteC (with a C; see Program Listing 2) converts your Basic program into a system tape with an auto-start feature and the same booby traps as its companion program. Furthermore, the program turns the trace off (TROFF) and disables the break key so that no one can list your program to the screen or a printer.

## Instructions

To safeguard a Basic program, you can load ProteC either before or after your Basic file. As it completes its load, ProteC displays detailed instructions on the screen. The program then returns to the Basic READY prompt, and you're set to go.

ProteK does not list the instructions to the screen; you load it in series after the system program you wish to encode. When you load ProteK, it automatically boots up, asking for the name of the new system tape and the hexadecimal start/end/transfer address. The program prompts you to prepare the tape recorder, and then writes your encoded program.

Both ProteC and ProteK change some pointers and addresses, so once you've encoded your program it's wise to reset your TRS-80.

Contact Dan Robinson at 1625 Higgins Way, Pacifica, CA 94044.

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| :--- |
| Model I |
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Listing I continued

| 7557 | DD7E80 | 01648 | PUN1 | LD | A, (IX) |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 7F5A | CD6 402 | 01650 |  | CALL | $3264{ }^{\text {A }}$ |  |
| 7F5D | 23 | 01660 |  | INC | HL |  |
| 7F5E | DD23 | 01678 |  | INC | IX |  |
| 7F60 | 81 | 01680 |  | ADD | A, C |  |
| $7 \mathrm{F61}$ | 4 F | 01698 |  | LD | C, A |  |
| $7 F 62$ | 1093 | 01700 |  | DJN2 | PUN1 |  |
| $7 \mathrm{F64}$ | CD6482 | 01716 |  | CALL | 0264H | ; OUTPUT CHECKSUM |
| $7 \mathrm{F67}$ | CD2C82 | 01728 |  | CALL | 622 CH | ; BLINK STAR |
| 7F6A | C9 | 81730 |  | RET |  |  |
| $7 \mathrm{F6B}$ | 76 | 81748 | RESET | DEFB | 76H | ; HALT CODE |
| 7F6C | E9 | 01750 | LIST | DEFB | 0E9H |  |
| 7F6D | 28 | 01768 | NAME | DEFB | 20H |  |
| $7 \mathrm{F6E}$ | 28 | 81770 |  | DEFB | 20H |  |
| $7 \mathrm{F6F}$ | 20 | 01780 |  | DEFB | 20H |  |
| $7 \mathrm{F78}$ | 20 | 81798 |  | DEFB | 20H |  |
| $7 \mathrm{F71}$ | 20 | 01808 |  | DEPB | 26H |  |
| 7 F 72 | 20 | 01810 |  | DEFB | - 20H |  |
| 0002 |  | 01820 | STADR | DEPS | 2 | ; STORE START ADDRESS |
| 0002 |  | 01838 | ENDADR | DEFS | 2 | ; STORE END ADDRESS |
| 0002 |  | 81840 | TRFADR | DEFS | 2 | ;STORE ENTRY ADDRESS |
| 7 7 79 | 45 | 01850 | MSG1 | DEFM | 'ENTER |  |
| ESSES' |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 4 E 54 | 455220 | 5052 | 4F |  |  |
|  | 4752 | 41 4D 20 | 4 E 41 | 4D |  |  |
|  | 45 2F | 535441 | 5254 | 2F |  |  |
|  | 454 E | 44 2F 45 | 4E 54 | 52 |  |  |
|  | 5928 | 484558 | 2041 | 44 |  |  |
|  | 4452 | 455353 | 4553 |  |  |  |
| 7FA9 | 88 | 01860 |  | DEFB | 0 |  |
| 7 FAA | 28 | 01878 | MSG2 | DEFM | , | PREPARE RECORDER AND PRESS RECORD \& PL |
| AY <ENTER>' ${ }^{\text {a }}$ ( ${ }^{\text {a }}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 2820 | 202058 | 5245 | 50 |  |  |
|  | 4152 | 452052 | 4543 | 4 F |  |  |
|  | 5244 | 455220 | 41 4E | 44 |  |  |
|  | 2050 | 524553 | 5320 | 52 |  |  |
|  | 4543 | 4F 5244 | 2826 | 20 |  |  |
|  | 50 4C | 415920 | 3C 45 | 4E |  |  |
|  | 5445 | 52 3E |  |  |  |  |
| 7FDF | 80 | 01880 |  | DEFB | 0 |  |
| 7 FE | 2A | 01898 | STAR | DEFB | 2 AH |  |
| 098日g TOTAL |  | 01980 |  | END | START |  |
|  |  | ERRORS |  |  |  |  |

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Program Listing 2. ProteC routine.




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Listing 2 continued
$\begin{array}{llllllll}41 & 4 D & 45 & 20 & 55 & 4 E & 44 & 45\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{llllllll}52 & 20 & 57 & 48 & 49 & 43 & 48 & 20\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{llll}54 & 48 & 45\end{array}$
DF3 20 0200
DEFM ' PROGRAM WASENCODED <ENTER>. YOUR ENCODED
PROGRAM WILL LOAD
,
$\begin{array}{llllllll}20 & 50 & 52 & 4 F & 47 & 52 & 41 & 4 D\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{lllllllll}20 & 57 & 41 & 53 & 45 & 4 E & 43 & 4 F\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{llllllll}44 & 45 & 44 & 20 & 3 C & 45 & 4 E & 54\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{llllllll}45 & 52 & 3 \mathrm{E} & 2 \mathrm{E} & 20 & 20 & 59 & 4 \mathrm{~F}\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{llllllll}55 & 52 & 20 & 45 & 4 E & 43 & 4 F & 44\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{llllllll}45 & 44 & 20 & 50 & 52 & 4 F & 47 & 52\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{llllllll}41 & 4 D & 20 & 57 & 49 & 4 C & 4 C & 20\end{array}$
4C $4 \mathrm{~F} \quad 41 \quad 44$
$3 E 302002010$
RS WILL BE UNABLE TO'
$\begin{array}{lllllllll}41 & 4 E & 44 & 20 & 41 & 55 & 54 & 4 \mathrm{~F}\end{array}$
4D 41
$4 \mathrm{C} \quad 4 \mathrm{C}$
$\begin{array}{llllllll}4 \mathrm{C} & 4 \mathrm{C} & 59 & 26 & 42 & 45 & 47 & 49 \\ 4 \mathrm{E} & 20 & 54 & 4 \mathrm{~F} & 2 \mathrm{~g} & 4 \mathrm{~F} & 59 & 45\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{llllllll}4 \mathrm{E} & 20 & 54 & 4 \mathrm{~F} & 20 & 4 \mathrm{~F} & 50 & 45 \\ 52 & 41 & 54 & 45 & 2 \mathrm{E} & 2 \mathrm{~g} & 20 & 55\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{llllllll}52 & 41 & 54 & 45 & 2 \mathrm{E} & 20 & 20 & 55 \\ 53 & 45 & 52 & 53 & 20 & 57 & 49 & 4 \mathrm{C}\end{array}$

$424 \mathrm{C} \quad 45 \quad 20 \quad 54 \quad 4 \mathrm{~F}$
$3 \mathrm{E} 6 \mathrm{~F} 20 \mathrm{O} \quad 02020$
DEFM - LIST, LLIST OR USE THE BREAK KEY. POPULA
R MONITORS SUCH AS
$\begin{array}{llllllll}20 & 4 C & 49 & 53 & 54 & 2 \mathrm{C} & 20 & 4 \mathrm{C}\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{lllllllll}4 C & 49 & 53 & 54 & 20 & 4 F & 52 & 28\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{llllllll}55 & 53 & 45 & 28 & 54 & 48 & 45 & 20\end{array}$
$42 \begin{array}{llllllll}42 & 45 & 41 & 4 B & 20 & 4 B & 45\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{llllllll}59 & 2 \mathrm{E} & 20 & 20 & 50 & 4 F & 50 & 55\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{llllllll}59 & 2 E & 20 & 20 & 50 & 4 F & 50 & 55 \\ 4 \mathrm{C} & 41 & 52 & 20 & 4 D & 4 \mathrm{~F} & 4 \mathrm{E} & 49\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{llllllll}4 \mathrm{C} & 4 \mathrm{~F} & 52 & 20 & 4 \mathrm{D} & 4 \mathrm{~F} & 4 \mathrm{E} & 49 \\ 54 & 4 \mathrm{~F} & 52 & 53 & 20 & 53 & 55 & 43\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{llllllll}54 & 4 F & 52 & 53 & 20 & 53 & 55 & 43\end{array}$
3 EAC 20
LL BE DISABLED 2030
$\begin{array}{llllllll}54 & 48 & 45 & 20 & 52 & 53 & 4 D & 32 \\ 20 & 53 & 45 & 52 & 49 & 45 & 53 & 2 C \\ 20 & 2 \theta & 20 & 53 & 59 & 53 & 54 & 45 \\ 4 D & 2 \theta & 43 & 4 F & 50 & 59 & 20 & 41 \\ 4 E & 44 & 20 & 54 & 42 & 55 & 47 & 20 \\ 57 & 49 & 4 C & 4 C & 20 & 42 & 45 & 20 \\ 44 & 49 & 53 & 41 & 42 & 4 C & 45 & 44 \\ 2 C & 20 & 41 & 53 & 20 & 57 & & \end{array}$
3EEB 49 02040
CLOAD YOUR BASIC PR'
$\begin{array}{llllllll}4 \mathrm{C} & 4 \mathrm{C} & 20 & 54 & 48 & 45 & 20 & 54\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{llllllll}52 & 41 & 43 & 45 & 29 & 20 & 20 & 20\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{llllllll}52 & 41 & 43 & 45 & 20 & 20 & 20 & 20\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{llllllll}20 & 20 & 20 & 20 & 46 & 55 & 4 E & 43\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{llllllll}54 & 49 & 4 F & 4 E & 2 E & 20 & 20 & 59\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{llllllll}4 F & 55 & 20 & 4 D & 41 & 59 & 20 & 4 E \\ 4 F & 57 & 20 & 43 & 4 C & 4 F & 41 & 44\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{llllllll}4 \mathrm{~F} & 57 & 20 & 43 & 4 \mathrm{C} & 4 \mathrm{~F} & 41 & 44 \\ 20 & 59 & 4 \mathrm{~F} & 55 & 52 & 20 & 42 & 41\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{lllllllll}20 & 59 & 4 F & 55 & 52 & 20 & 42 & 41 \\ 53 & 49 & 43 & 20 & 50 & 52 & & \end{array}$ 2A $\begin{array}{lllll}53 & 49 & 43 & 20 & 50 \\ 48 & 52\end{array}$
3F2A 4 F 02056

DEFM ' THE RSM2 SERIES, SYSTEM COPY AND TBUG WI 41


DEFM ' AND AUTOMATIC- ALLY BEGIN TO OPERATE. USE




## $\begin{array}{llllllll}47 & 52 & 41 & 4 D & 20 & 49 & 46 & 20\end{array}$


$\begin{array}{lllllll}4 F & 54 & 20 & 20 & 20 & 41 & 4 C \\ 52\end{array}$ $\begin{array}{llllllll}41 & 44 & 59 & 20 & 42 & 45 & 45\end{array}$ $\begin{array}{lllllllll}E & 20 & 4 C & 4 F & 41 & 44 & 45 & 44\end{array}$ $\begin{array}{lllllll}20 & 20 & 2 \theta & 2 \theta & 20 & 20 & 20\end{array}$ $\begin{array}{llllllll}20 & 20 & 20 & 2 \theta & 2 \theta & 20 & 2 \theta & 2 \theta\end{array}$ 20

| 4020 |  | 02960 | ORG | 4020H |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 4820 | 883F | 02070 | DEFW | 3F80H |  |
| 1 A19 |  | 02888 | END | 1A198 | ;BASIC RE-ENTRY |

DEFI
DEFM 'ILL THE TRACE FUNCTION. YOU MAY NOW
$\qquad$


#### Abstract

$\qquad$


$\square$

$\square$ 'OG

000日日 TOTAL ERRORS


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# Channels of Communication 

by Dan Keen and Dave Dischert

> Home satellite receiving dishes can bring you more than $\mathbf{1 4 0}$ cable stations free. This article explains dish technology and positioning.

You're sitting at home on a Friday night, looking for something entertaining to watch on television. But all that's on are reruns of The Dukes of Hazzard, a show on how to train your dog, and the Miss Teen U.S.A. pageant.

You do have an alternative-more than 140 TV and movie stations, each of which comes into your home free. All you need is a satellite receiver and a

Model I or III.
In this article we discuss how satellite receivers work, how to get one, the costs and time involved, and how to use your Model I or III to position your receiving dish to pull in signals from different satellites.

## Satelite Receiver Boom

Home satellite receivers are gaining in


Figure 1. The basic components of a satellite TV system.
popularity. Currently, more than 100,000 U.S. homes have receivers. As more dishes are set up and newer, less expensive technology becomes available, dish receivers will drop in price and come within reach of almost everyone. As it is, satellite receiver systems are significantly less expensive today than they were five years ago. You can get a complete system now for as little as \$2,500.

## The Technology

Cable program signals travel around the United States via satellite (see Fig. 1). The transmitting station that generates the microwave signal beams it up to an orbiting satellite.

The satellite receives the signal, cleans it up, and rebroadcasts it to receiving stations scattered across the United States. These receiving stations then send the signal, via ground-based cables, to homes.

Home receiving dishes work just like their commercial counterparts. They, too, pick up signals from satellites, but instead of sending them out over commercial cables, they shunt the signal to your home television set.

Communications satellites orbit directly over the equator in a geostationary orbit at an altitude of 22,300 miles. Satellites occur in the North American continent in an equatorial arc of from roughly 83 to 135 degrees longitude, with a spread of about four degrees.

The Key Box

Model I and III 16K RAM Cassette Basic 32K RAM Disk Basic

## Television Stations

Typically, satellites have either 12 or 24 channels, called transponders. Several communications satellites carry a full load ( 24 channels) devoted to television programming.

Some programs are free religious or commercial stations, such as Satellite News Channel and Music Television. Other channels may be illegal to receive, such as Home Box Office and Showtime, but comprehensive laws governing this medium are still being debated.

Satcom F3R, the most widely accessed satellite, is one of the few that dedicates all 24 transponders to television programming. It carries Nickelodeon, The Movie Channel, ESPN (entertainment sports), MTV (Music Television), Cable News Network, the Christian Broadcast Network, and superstations WGN and WTBS. The Program Listing contains all the stations available through Satcom F3R.
U.S. companies launch more satellites each year, providing a larger selection of programming services from which to choose.

## Getting the Signal

Communications satellites send out polarized microwave beams in either a horizontal or vertical format. For example, RCA's Satcom F3R satellite has horizontal polarization on even transponders and vertical polarization on odd transponders. The Westar 3 satel-


Figure 2. The feed assembly, consisting of the (a) antenna, (b) low-noise amplifier, and (c) downconverter.
lite polarizes all its signals horizontally.
Even though all communications satellites (about 12 currentiy in operation) broadcast on the same frequencies, there is no interference between them because the receiving antennas are highly directional.

To pick up these signals, you need to rotate your dish antenna. You can equip your antenna with a remote control motor to rotate the dish from inside your house. Other satellite systems provide electronic switches that correctly position the antenna.

Earth transmitters send TV signals to satellites at 1,000 watts. This is called the


Photo. One of the authors' microwave antennas.
uplink of the transmission. The satellite receives the signal, usually at around 6 gigahertz in frequency, cleans it up, and retransmits it back over the United States (see the schematic in Fig. 1).
The return signal arrives at between 3.7 and 4.2 gigahertz and at a power of 5 watts. Because the signal is so weak, you need a large receiving dish to gather and concentrate the signal (see the Photo). For most of North America, a 10 -foot dish is the minimum required for a good picture. The dish gathers and concentrates the signal, and bounces it back into the feed assembly, a combination receiver/amplifier suspended opposite the center of the dish (see Fig. 2). The feed assembly directs signals into the receiving amplifier, called a lownoise amplifier, or LNA.

The LNA amplifies the signal and sends it to the downconverter, also part of the feed assembly. The downconverter changes the high-frequency microwave signal to a lower, more manageable signal of about 70 MHz . It then sends the signal along a standard TV cable wire (Radio Shack part number RG-59U) into your home.
Finally, the signal travels indoors to the receiver, letting you select a channel from 1 to 24 . You receive the signal through a radio frequency signal (usually on channels 2,3 , or 4 ) connected to the antenna input of any television. Direct video/audio outputs are included for connection to a video tape recorder or a large-screen projection TV.

## Broadcast Scrambling

Potential satellite owners need not worry about spending money for a receiving system that only picks up scrambled signals. As of this writing, scrambling

## Program Listing. Satellite guide and site survey program.

10 CLS:PRINTE512, "ENTER YOUR CHOICE <S>ITE SURVEY <P>ROGRAM GUIDE

26 CLEAR1000:DIM A\$(24),S(75):GOSUB586
30 DATA Nickelodeon/Arts, PTL,WGN,Spotlight, The Movie Channel, WTBS,
E.S.P.N. Entertainment \& Sports Programming Net, A.E.T.N./Christian Broadcasting Network, USA Cable Network/C-Span, Showtime,MTV (Music Television), Showtime
40 DATAHome Box Office, Cable News Network, Cable News Network Headl ine News
56 DATA HTN Plus/ASCN/National Jewish Television,Cable Health Netw ork,Reuters Monitor Service/Eternal Word Television,C-Span,Cinemax , The Weather Channel,Modern Satellite Network/Daytime/HBO/USA Net. ,Cinemax, HBO
60 FORZ=1TO24:READAS(Z):NEXT:CLS

90 PRINT $148, \operatorname{CHR} \$(184)$; $\operatorname{CHR} \$(190) ; \operatorname{STRING} \$(15,191) ; \operatorname{CHR} \$(189) ; \operatorname{CHR} \$(18$
0) : CHRS (144)

100 PRINTe210,CHRS(184);STRING\$(21,191);CHR\$(189);CHR\$(144)
110 PRINTe273, CHR\$(186); STRING\$(24,191);CHR\$(144)
120 PRINTe337, STRING $(25,191)$; CHRS $(149)$
130 PRINTe401, CHRS(138); STRING $\$(24,191)$
 29)

150 PRINTe532,CHR\$(131);CHR\$(143);STRING\$(15,191);CHR\$(143);CHR\$(1)
35) ; CHR\$(129)

160 PRINTE599, CHR $\$(136)$; $\operatorname{CHR} \$(131) ; \operatorname{CHR}(131) ; \operatorname{STRING}(7,143) ; \operatorname{CHR} \$(13$

1) ; $\mathrm{CHR} \$(131)$; $\mathrm{CHR} \$(129)$

176 PRINTE365,"Earth";
180 REM PLOT SATELLITES
196 SET $(8,24):$ PRINTE513, "Satcom $3^{\prime \prime} ;: \operatorname{SET}(2,28):$ PRINTe578, "Comstar D
4";
$200 \operatorname{SET}(5,33):$ PRINT@707,"Westar 5";:SET(11,38):PRINT@774,"Satcom 2
'
$210 \operatorname{SET}(18,41):$ PRINTe842,"Anik A3/A2"; : SET (28,44):PRINTe976, "Anik D1",
226 SET (47,46):PRINT 9911, "Anik B";
230 SET 64,46 ): PRINT@993, "Westar $4^{\circ}$; : SET $(78,43)$ : PRINTe937, "Comstar
D1/D2"
 $1{ }^{\circ}$
241 SET(0,18) : PRINTe385, "Satcom F5"; : SET(96,37) : PRINTe817, "Comstar
D3";:REM F5 \& D3
242 SET(101, 34): PRINTe756,"Satcom F4"; : SET(165,31):PRINT@694, "West
ar 1/2"; :REM F4 \& WEST 1/2
250 S=1:REM STAR TWINKLING
260 GOSUB550: $\mathrm{X}=0$
279 FORA=1TO75: $\mathrm{B}=\mathrm{RND}$ (1024): $\mathrm{S}=15359+\mathrm{B}: \mathrm{C}=$ PEEK ( S ) : IFC>32THENNEXTELSEP OKES, 46: $S(X)=S: X=X+1$ : NEXT
280 TW=RND (X) : POKES (TW) , 32: FORDE=1TO2日: IFINKEY $\$={ }^{*}{ }^{\text {n }}$ THENNEXT: POKES (T W), 46: GOTO280

296 REM SATELLITE DATA VIDEO PAGE
300 CLS: GOSUB55
316 PRINTE128,"SATELLITE", "POSITION", "COUNTRY*
320 PRINT
330 PRINT"Satcom F3R", "131 degrees", "U.S.A."
348 PRINT"Comstar D1","127 degrees", "U.S.A."
350 PRINT"Westar 5", "123 degrees", "U.S.A."
360 PRINT"Satcom F2","119 degrees", "U.S.A.*
370 PRINT"Anik 3","114 degrees", "Canada"
388 PRINT"Anik B" " $^{\prime \prime} 109$ degrees", "Canada"
390 PRINT"Westar $4^{\circ}{ }^{\circ}{ }^{\prime \prime} 99$ degrees", "U.S.A."
400 PRINT"Comstar D2"," 95 degrees", "U.S.A."
410 PRINT"Westar $3^{\circ}$ " " 91 degrees", "U.S.A."
426 PRINT"Comstar D3": " 87 degrees" "U.S.A."
430 PRINT"Satcom F4"," 83 degrees","U.S.A."
440 GOSUB610
450 REM SATCOM DATA VIDEO PAGE
460 CLS: GOSUB550
470 PRINT: PRINT" Satcom F3R Programming Services For Transponders
1 Through 12"
$480 \mathrm{X}=194$ : $\mathrm{FORP}=1 \mathrm{TO} 12$ : PRINTEX,P,AS(P):X=X+64:NEXT
490 GOSUB666:GOSUB610
500 CLS:GOSUB550
510 PRINT: PRINT" Satcom F3R Programming Services For Transponders
13 Through $24^{\circ}$
$520 \mathrm{X}=194$ : $\mathrm{FORP}=13$ TO24: PRINTEX,P,AS(P):X=X+64:NEXT
536 GOSUB689:GOSUB610
540 RUN
550 PRINT®7, "SATELLITE GUIDE - Hit any key for more information";
560 RETURN
580 REM
MAKE BORDER
590 A $\$=\operatorname{STRING} \$(63,131)+\operatorname{CHR} \$(191):$ FORA=1TO12:A $\$=A \$+\operatorname{CHR} \$(26)+C H R \$(8)$ +CHR $\$(191)$ : NEXT: PORA=1TO13:B $\$=\mathrm{B} \$+\mathrm{CHR} \$(191)+\mathrm{CHR} \$(26)+\mathrm{CHR} \$(8):$ NEXT : B \$=B\$+CHR\$(191) +STRING\$(62,176):RETURN

Listing continued
is almost nonexistent in the satellite industry. Only Home Box Office has threatened to modify their signal in the future.
Some programming on Canada's Anik satellite is scrambled, but it has technological problems that are so significant that subscribing cable companies have appealed to them to discontinue this practice.

## The Latest Developments

Satellites launched since 1982 have more power than previous units. Consequently, picture quality remains high with less efficient (and less expensive) receiving systems.

Because of these advances, great differences exist between equipment performance and cost. You can find dish antennas for around $\$ 1,200$ that give
> 'Satellites launched since 1982 have more power than previous units. Consequently, picture quality remains high with less efficient (and less expensive) receiving systems."

the same performance as those costing in excess of $\$ 10,000$. You can install complete systems today for about $\$ 2,000$ to $\$ 3,000$.

The latest line of receivers on the market are more attractively packaged than those of a few years ago. They also provide new features and innovations.

Richly furnished cabinets, illuminated meters, and digital channel readouts enhance front panel appearance. Several companies even offer handheld, infrared remote control.

## The Program

Our program contains a satellite guide option and a site survey option. The satellite guide option lists all satellites and their position relative to earth, and prints a graphics display. It also lists the 24 TV channels on the Satcom F3R satellite.

The site survey option prompts you for your location and tells you if you


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```
Listing continued
    600 PRINTE128,AS; :PRINTQ128,B\$;:PORE16383,191:RETURN
    610 GOSUB550:FORX=1TO200:IFINKEY\$=" THENNEXTELSERETURN
    620 PRINTE25," ";:FORX=1TO50:IFINKEY\$=" \({ }^{\circ}\) THENNEXT
    630 GOTO610
    640 IK \(\$=\) INKEY \(\$\) : IPIK \(\$={ }^{*}{ }^{*}\) THENGOTO640ELSERETURN
    1060 CLEAR106:DEFDBL A-Z
    \(1010 \mathrm{PI}=3.141592\)
    \(1020 \mathrm{R}=3963\)
    \(1030 \mathrm{H}=22300\)
    1040 CLS:PRINTE18,"SATELLITE SITE SURVEY PROGRAM":PRINTSTRING\$(64,
    "-")
    1050 PRINT"ENTER THE LONGITUDE OF THE SATELLITE. HOW MANY DEGREES
    ";
    1060 INPUT SD: INPUT"HOW MANY MINUTES ";SM
    1070 INPUT"IS IT WEST OR EAST LONGITUDE (ENTER W OR E) "; SB\$
```



```
    1090 INPUT"ENTER DISH (ANTENNA SITE) LONGITUDE. HOW MANY DEGREES
    *;DD
    1100 INPUT"HOW MANY MINUTES ";DM
    1110 INPUT"IS IT WEST OR EAST LONGITUDE (ENTER W OR E) ";DBS
    \(1120 \mathrm{DA}=\mathrm{DD}+\mathrm{DM} / 60: I F \quad \mathrm{DB} \$=^{\text {" }} \mathrm{E}^{\prime \prime}\) THEN \(\mathrm{DA}=-\mathrm{DA}\)
    1130 INPUT"ENTER DISH LATITUDE. HOW MANY DEGREES ";TD
    1140 INPUT"HOW MANY MINUTES ";TM
    \(1150 \mathrm{TA}=\mathrm{TD}+\mathrm{TM} / 60: T A=90-\mathrm{TA}\)
    \(1160 \mathrm{~A}=\mathrm{ABS}((\mathrm{SA}-\mathrm{DA}) * \mathrm{PI} / 180\) )
    1170 C=TA*PI/180
    \(1180 \mathrm{CA}=\operatorname{SIN}(\mathrm{C}) * \operatorname{COS}(\mathrm{~A}): \operatorname{TA}=\operatorname{SQR}(1 /(C A * C A)-1)\)
    1190 AA=ATN (TA)
    1200 BS=SIN(A)/SIN(AA)
    \(1210 \mathrm{~TB}=1 / \mathrm{SQR}(1 /(\mathrm{BS} * \mathrm{BS})-1)\)
    \(1220 \mathrm{BB}=\mathrm{ATN}(\mathrm{TB}): \mathrm{BB}=\mathrm{BB} * 180 / \mathrm{PI}\)
    1230 IF SA>DA THEN TR \(=180+\mathrm{BB}\) ELSE TR \(=180-\mathrm{BB}\)
    1240 PRINT"THE TRUE BEARING (ANTENNA HEADING) IS ";
```



```
    \(1260 \mathrm{X}=\operatorname{SQR}(\mathrm{R} * \mathrm{R}+(\mathrm{R}+\mathrm{H}) *(\mathrm{R}+\mathrm{H})-2 * \mathrm{R} *(\mathrm{R}+\mathrm{H}) * \operatorname{COS}(\mathrm{AA}))\)
    \(1270 \mathrm{SE}=(\mathrm{R}+\mathrm{H})\) *SIN(AA)/X
    \(1289 \mathrm{TE}=1 / \mathrm{SOR}(1 /(\mathrm{SE}\) *SE) -1\(): \mathrm{EL}=\mathrm{ATN}\) (TE)
    1290 EL=EL*180/PI
    1300 EL=90-EL
    1310 PRINT"THE ANGLE OF ELEVATION IS ";
    1320 PRINTUSING"***.**"; EL; :PRINT" DEGREES"
    1330 PRINT:INPUT"HOW MANY DEGREES IS THE MAGNETIC DEVIATION OF YOU
    R AREA "; MD
    1340 INPUT"IS THAT WEST OR EAST (ENTER W OR E) ";AS
    1350 IFAS \({ }^{*}{ }^{*}{ }^{*}\) THEN MD=MD+TR ELSE MD=TR-MD
    1360 PRINT"YOUR COMPASS HEADING SHOULD ";USING"ifitif";MD;:PRINT"
    DEGREES*
    1370 INPUT"HIT <ENTER> FOR MENU ";OL\$:RUN
```

can place a satellite receiving station on your property by calculating the heading and elevation of a dish for any given satellite.

The program first prompts you with a menu containing the two options. Hit the $S$ key to perform a site survey or the $\mathbf{P}$ key for a satellite programming guide.

The satellite guide section presents a visual picture of the earth, with current satellites in their respective positions. The program displays information about the various satellites, including their longitude (true position) and their country of origin.

There must be an unobstructed line from your dish to the satellite. In the winter, trees have no effect on microwaves, but the addition of water in foliage in the spring and summer wipes out reception.

The mathematics used in the program involve spherical trigonometry and is beyond the scope of this article.

## Data Input

It's easy to accurately determine the
latitude and longitude of your house by checking a map or referring to the deed to your house. You must also input the magnetic deviation (the difference between true north and magnetic north) in your area. You can get this information from your local airport or, if you live along the coast, from the local Coast Guard base.
Enter the longitude of the satellite you wish to find by copying the information from the satellite guide section in the program. Enter fractional degrees using either a decimal point or by answering the prompt for the number of minutes of arc. For example, if your latitude is 74 degrees, 50 minutes, you can enter this into the program in two ways:

ENTER DISH (ANTENNA) LONGITUDE
HOW MANY DEGREES? 74.8
HOW MANY MINUTES? 0
or

ENTER DISH (ANTENNA) LONGITUDE
HOW MANY DEGREES? 74
HOW MANY MINUTES? 50

## Installing It Yourself

If you're interested in purchasing your own satellite receiver, we suggest you talk to your local satellite dealer. Unless you're mechanically inclined, a site inspection for reception quality, and siting the antenna should be done by a professional.
With a distance of $\mathbf{2 2 , 3 0 0}$ miles from satellite to the equator, an antenna situated off by 1 degree will miss its intended satellite by 1,000 miles. A preliminary inspection will save you a lot of wasted effort in an area of poor reception.
By running your own cable, pouring the concrete, and assembling the equipment yourself, however, you can save hundreds of dollars.
We purchased a Wilson Microwave system. The Wilson system is not a turnkey system; that is, the manufacturer does not supply all the material necessary to put the system into operation, but only a few connectors and some wire aren't included.
The wire is standard multiconductor cable. It runs the power supplied by the indoor receiver out to the low-noise amplifier and downconverter. You also need an RG-59U wire to bring the TV signal from the downconverter into the house. You can purchase both types of wire at Radio Shack.

One person cannot install this system alone. Laying the concrete foundation for the dish and assembling its panels are two-man operations.

An 11-foot dish has a surface area of 95 square feet. On a 100 -square-foot area, an 80 mph wind exerts a $21 / 2$ ton force. This kind of stress makes a secure base essential.

## Conclusion

In retrospect, the expense we incurred to construct a working earth satellite receiver system was higher than originally estimated. Several nuts and bolts, two special microwave connectors (available from a satellite system dealer), and wire and cables all were additional expenses.

The system is fairly easy to operate, although you have to adjust the fine tuning every time you change stations.

During heavy rain, we pick up some snow on the picture, but other than that, picture quality is good.

What's on TV tonight? Everything!

Dan Keen and Dave Dischert can be reached at Soft Horizons Computer Software, RD1 Box 432, State Highway 83, Cape May Court House, NJ 08210.

# DOES YOUR COMPUTER WA\$TE MONEY? It Does If Your Software Wastes Valuable Time 



Our programs and systems are the result of experience gained working with custom systems. They were developed for the general user with the user's needs in mind at all times. Every effort has been made to make the very best possible use of the hardware in terms of speed, capacity, and efficiency.

All versions of mailing list and data bank are programmed in compiler basic using 'ISAM' files to eliminate the need for time consuming, inefficient, and expensive sorting. Through the use of 'ISAM' files, the maximum number of records that can be handled by the computer is only limited by the availability of disk space and not by the amount of computer memory needed for sorting and the complete file is accessible at any time.

The use of 'ISAM' files is not the only time saver, as compiler basic programs run considerably faster than ordinary basic programs. For example: the loan amortization system was programmed in compiler basic just to speed up the time it takes to calculate the loan payments and produce the amortization report.

Both versions of our inventory system are programmed in interpreter basic, utilizing both direct access and variable length records to maximize access speed and the use of available disk space.

The dedication, ability, and years of experience of both the system analyst and the programmer combine to make these programs and systems among the finest that you have had the opportunity to use and certainly one of the best values on the market.

## DATA BANK SYSTEM

Builds and maintains user defined data file(s) with up to 16 ( 12 for model III) user defined data fields. The user specifies file name, control field data, data field names, and data field size. The system adds records, changes records, deletes records, displays individual records, prints all records in user defined format with user's choice of fields and order, and prints records by user defined search as to field and value in user defined format with user's choice of fields and order.

## MAILING LIST SYSTEM (Alpha Sequence)

Builds and maintains mailing list in alpha sequence by entire name. The system adds records and checks for duplicates, changes records, deletes records, displays individual records, prints all records, prints records by user specified zip code search, prints all mailing labels, prints individual labels (as many as requested), prints labels by user specified zip code search, \& prints telephone directory. The data file created by this system can be used as input for the mailing list (zip code sequence) system.
$\begin{array}{cc}\text { Model 2, } 12 \ldots . . & \mathbf{\$ 2 0 0 . 0 0} \\ \text { Model III } \ldots . . . & \$ 175.00\end{array}$
MAILING LIST SYSTEM (Zip Code Sequence) Builds and maintains mailing list in alpha sequence within zip code sequence. This system adds records and checks for duplicates, changes records, deletes records, displays individual records, prints all records in alpha sequence within zip code, prints records by user specified zip code, prints all mailing labels in alpha sequence within zip code, prints individual labels (as many as requested). prints labels for user specified individual zip codes, prints telephone directory in alpha sequence within zip code, and reads in file(s) created by mailing list (alpha sequence).

| Model 2, $12 \ldots \ldots$ | $\mathbf{\$ 2 5 0 . 0 0}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Model III $\ldots \ldots$. | $\mathbf{\$ 2 2 5 . 0 0}$ |

For Additional Information Send for User Documentation - \$15.00 per copy.
Minimum Hardware Requirements
Model III . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 48k 1 Disk
Model 2, 12
64k 1 Disk

| For Additional Information Send for User Documentation - \$15.00 per copy. |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Minimum Hardware Requirements |  | - Shipping Costs Included on Pre Paid Orders. |
| Model III | 48k 1 Disk | N.C. Residents Add $41 / 2 \%$ Sales Tax. |
| Model 2, 12 | 64k 1 Disk | Personal Checks Allow 3 weeks. |

## LOAN AMORTIZATION

Calculates personalized loan payments and interest. User specifies loan amount, interest rate, and length of loan. Displays monthly payment, displays monthly analysis, displays totals, prints monthly payments, prints monthly analysis, and allows user to enter over ride of monthly payments and recalculate totals and print or display monthly analysis. Model 2, $12 \ldots .$. . $\mathbf{\$ 1 2 5 . 0 0}$ Model III $\$ 115.00$

## INVENTORY CONTROL SYSTEM

## (Retail, Wholesale, Manufacturer)

Builds and maintains records on all in stock items. Records contain user's part number, manufacturer's part number, on order quantity, in stock quantity, reorder point, wholesale price, retail price, sales history for preceeding month, year, same month last year, this year to date, last year to date. Displays individual item record, prints complete record for all items, and prints suggested purchase order. The add routine checks for duplicates.

| Model 2, $12 \ldots .$. | $\mathbf{\$ 2 7 5 . 0 0}$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| Model III . . . . . . | $\mathbf{\$ 2 2 5 . 0 0}$ |

## DESK CALENDAR

Each month prints on $14 \% \times 11$ paper. Each day is blocked to allow appointments entry. User specifies beginning month and number of months and number of calendars to be printed. 4 lines of user information may be printed on each month which makes it useful as an advertising media.

Model 2, 12
$\$ 49.95$
Model III
$\$ 49.95$

## WALL CALENDAR

Each year prints on $81 / 2 \times 11$ paper. User specifies beginning month and number of calendars to be printed. 4 lines of user information may be printed on each month which makes it useful as an advertising media. Model 2, 12 ...... \$49.95 Model III . . . . . . . . $\$ 49.95$ (919) 468-2113

# A Modem Sampler 

by R.A. Langevin

## $\star \star \star$

## J-Cat

\$149
$\star \star \star \star$

## 103/212 Smart Cat

Novation Inc.
18664 Oxnard St.
Tarzana, CA 91356
$\$ 595$
$\star \star \star 1 / 2$

212A/D Direct Connect Modem<br>Universal Data Systems<br>5000 Bradford Drive<br>Huntsville, AL 35605<br>$\$ 745$

These three direct-connect modems offer attractive alternatives to meet the

> CThoose one of these modems and get the right communication ability for your applications.

need to transmit information from your computer over telephone lines. They differ significantly in price and capabilities, but one of them is likely to suit your needs.

Each of the three modems works well and does all that it's supposed to. If you can get along with a 300 baud modem, the J-Cat is hard to beat in terms of price and performance. It's small, works perfectly, and is about as inexpensive a modem as you can buy.

If you need a 1,200 baud modem, in

| Feature | J-CAT | $\begin{gathered} 103 / 212 \\ \text { Smart CAT } \end{gathered}$ | UDS 212A/D |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Size (Inches) | $5.0 \times 1.9 \times 1.3$ | $10.0 \times 4.7 \times 1.2$ | $10.85 \times 9.76 \times 2.42$ |
| Baud Rates | 300 | 300/1200 | 300/1200 |
| Auto Dial | See Text | Yes | Yes |
| Manual Answer | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Auto Answer | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Keyboard Dial | No | Yes | Yes |
| Manual Redial | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Auto Redial | No | Yes | Yes |
| Dial Modes | See Text | Pulse/MFTD | Pulse/MFTD |
| Memory | None | Last | 5 's + Last |
| Asynchronous | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Synchronous | No | No | Yes |
| Resettable Defaults | No | Yes | No |
| Self Test | No | Yes | Yes |
| Ana log Loopback | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Local Digital Loopback | No | Yes | Yes |
| Remote Digital Loopback | No | Yes | Yes |
| Phone Jack(s) | RJ11C | RJIIC | RJ11C/RJ45S |
| Power (Watts) | 8.0 | 13.5 | 7.0 |
| Power Supply | Wall XFMR | Wall XFMR | Internal |
| Power Switch | No | No | Yes |
| Status Response | LED | DISPLAY | DISPLAY |
| Phone Service | 1* | 1* | 1, 2, 3* |
| Cables Provided Price | $\begin{gathered} A 11 \\ 145.00 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Phone Line } \\ 595.00 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Phone Line } \\ 745.00 \end{gathered}$ |

[^7]Table 1. Summary of modem characteristics.
addition to or instead of 300 baud operation, the Smart Cat offers a near-perfect alternative. It's remarkably small, offers all the features you're likely to need, and is competitively priced.

Alternatively, if you want a modem that can handle any 300 or 1,200 baud operation you might encounter, the UDS 212A/D is an excellent choice. It offers all the flexibility you're likely to need, is easy to operate, and includes diagnostic capabilities to isolate communications problems on the line, in the modem, or in the terminal equipment. All in all, it's a good product for commercial or industrial applications.

Table 1 summarizes major features. Which modem you choose depends on your finances and applications.

The three modems differ radically in size. The Novation J-Cat is scarcely larger than a pack of cigarettes. Its more capable companion, the 103/212 Smart Cat, resembles a tall paperback book. The UDC 212A/D, clearly intended for commercial use, has a footprint that is almost $3 / 4$ of a square foot!

The J-Cat and UDC units are housed in plastic cases and the Smart Cat comes in a nonmagnetic metal case. All the units should retain their physical integrity in any ordinary use.

A conventional plug-in wall transformer powers the two Novation modems. The UDC unit has an integral alternating current (ac) power supply.

Neither of the Novation units has an on/off power switch, an unfortunate omission. The power requirements of these modems are nominal, however, ranging from 7-13.5 watts, so it's feasible to leave them turned on all the time.

## J-Cat

The J-Cat is a simple, full duplex, 300 baud modem that has surprising capa-
bility in spite of its tiny size. You operate it with two push buttons; it has two LEDs that indicate its status. One push button puts the modem on line; the second disconnects it. Pressing the two buttons simultaneously puts the modem in analog loopback mode, so that its output connects to its input-an invaluable test to verify its operation.

You select auto answer or manual answer modes with a slide switch on the back of the unit. The two LEDs indicate when the modem is off-hook and ready for operation.

Although the J-Cat is not directly usable in auto-dial mode, you can implement auto pulse dialing with dial tone detect if 1 input and 1 output bit are available from another port. The operations manual provides a simple program to implement directory dialing and automatic redial using these bits. The program is written in Applesoft Basic but you can readily adapt it to Microsoft Basic.

The J -Cat is relatively unique among modems in providing automatic mode selection. When on line, the modem alternates between originate mode for two seconds and answer mode for four. As soon as it detects a carrier, the modem locks in its current mode. This relieves the user of any concern for selecting the modem's operating mode-a very useful feature.

The J-Cat comes with all the required cables, including one terminated with a female RS-232C D-connector that plugs into the output of your serial interface. A Y cable is also provided; one end of it plugs into the phone line via an RJ11C plug. The other leg of the Y terminates in a socket that accepts the RJ11C plug on the telephone.

You don't need to buy anything else. Simply hook up the modem according to the clear directions in the operations manual, load your terminal program, and you're ready to communicate.

The J-Cat's operating manual is a $41 / 4$ - by $91 / 2$-inch booklet of 21 pages that is clearly written and provides all the necessary information to install and operate the modem. A schematic is included, with detailed pin-outs for the connectors on the back of the unit.

## 103/212 Smart Cat

The 103/212 Smart Cat is the J-Cat's big brother. In addition to operation at both 300 and 1,200 baud, the user-programmable Smart Cat provides numerous operating conveniences.

In normal operation this modem has no visible controls. You select all operating modes by entering commands
from the terminal or computer keyboard. As a consequence, you can tuck the modem away from the operating position in the most convenient location. You can even place it inside a piece of equipment if the thermal environment isn't severe.

The Smart Cat has five option switches located behind its front panel. These are readily accessible if you pry the panel off with a small screwdriver. Once you set them, these switches will not normally need resetting.

Switch 1 sets the command mode. It determines the character you must send from the terminal to indicate to the modem that a command follows. Normally, the percent sign is the command indicator. By using the option switch, you can select any other character, including a control character, and substitute it for the percent sign. You terminate all commands with a carriage return.

Switch 2 sets the response mode and gives the user the option of receiving modem responses on the terminal screen in full English words or in the terse mode as single characters.

Switch 3 sets the data rate to which the modem is automatically set when you turn on the system. Naturally, you can change the rate afterward from the terminal keyboard.

Switch 4 enables or disables the auto answer mode. You cannot subsequently reset this switch selection from the keyboard.

Switch 5 determines whether the modem senses the Data Set Ready (DSR) and Clear To Send (CTS) lines all the time or only after detection of a carrier on the phone line.

You maintain normal control of the Smart Cat with 21 commands that you can enter directly from the terminal or computer keyboard. Depending on the type of command, some have arguments and/or default values.

Initialize puts the modem in its normal working state, while Hangup disables the modem, waits three seconds, and hangs up the phone. You cannot receive data during the three-second wait.

Dial, followed by a string of up to 32 characters, takes the phone line off hook and dials in accord with the character string contents. Allowable characters comprise 0-9, \#, *, I, P, and W. I indicates that the modem generates telephone pulses rather than tones until the next $P$ or $W$.

P forces a wait for a dial tone; if no dial tone occurs in five seconds, the modem hangs up and gives a No Dial
response. W forces a five-second wait before the modem begins dialing.

You can use another dialing command, Count, followed by an integer, to determine how many rings the modem waits for before aborting a call. Redial dials the last number at intervals of 40 seconds until you reach the number or you've dialed it 10 times.

Voice puts the modem in voice mode, and Modem puts it in data mode. Pickup puts the phone line off hook, and also puts the modem in voice mode. Answer and Originate put the Smart Cat in answer or originate mode, respectively; they both take the phone line off hook. You must follow the last mode command, Giveback, with zero or 1 to put the modem in full or half duplex mode 1 , respectively.
Speed, followed by 1 or 2 , sets the

## MODEL I UPGRADE TO 96K RAM

- 4BK keyboard memory on power-up - plus access to 32K E/I memory - and 2. 7K RAM above ROM.
- Run CP/M 2.2 or your Model 1 DOS
$\$ 169$ BIGMEM kit or $\$ 199$ installed. $\$ 20$ Utility soltware $s 119$ CP/M 2.2, 834 VisiCalc patch for 55K storage. Send SASE for flyer with details.


## XHAS SPECIAL - DEDUCT 10X


visicmle ta visicaep, eisaca th arceomatch. CP/a th orsithe erscaecn iac.

modem speed to 300 or 1,200 baud. In answer mode, the modem automatically sets itself to the incoming data's speed, irrespective of speed selection.

Follow New with a single ASCII character to substitute that character for the current command character. Use Echo followed by zero or 1 (with a default of zero) to enable (zero) or disable (1) the echo of commands back to the terminal. The modem does not echo data.

Query forces the modem to return a single character that describes its status. Long, followed by zero or 1 , causes the modem to provide full English (zero) or single-character (1) responses. Break, followed by an integer $n$, sends a space on the phone line. The length of the space is n times 250 milliseconds.
With the modem in voice mode, XMIT followed by a phone number transmits the DTMF tone pairs corresponding to the given number.

Follow Unlisten with a one- to fourcharacter hexadecimal (hex) argument to transmit the number of bytes given by the hex argument as data. This permits transmission of data that the modem would otherwise interpret as command strings.

Format followed by a single-character argument establishes the number of data and stop bits, and the parity of data transmitted over the phone line. The allowable arguments and their interpretations are shown in Table 2.

Test, followed by an integer from zero to 3 , selects, respectively, hardware integrity, analog loopback, remote digital loopback, or local digital loopback test modes. The hardware integrity test also occurs automatically when you turn on the machine. It verifies the modem's operation and correct connection of the RS-232C cable.
The responses the Smart Cat provides are clear and easy to understand. Ring

|  | Stop <br> Bits | Data <br> Bits | Parity |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :--- |
| 0 | 1 | 7 | Mark |
| 1 | 1 | 7 | Space |
| 2 | 1 | 7 | Odd |
| 3 | 1 | 7 | Even |
| 4 | 1 | 8 | None |
| 8 | 2 | 7 | Mark |
| 9 | 2 | 7 | Space |
| A | 2 | 7 | Odd |
| B | 2 | 7 | Even |
| C | 2 | 8 | None |
|  |  |  |  |

Table 2. Format allowable arguments and interpretations for the Smart Cat.
indicates that the modem detects a ringback tone, and Busy indicates a busy signal. No Dial, CONN Lost, and No ANS are self-explanatory, although the No ANS occurs only after the specified number of rings.

UNSUCC means that for some unspecified reason the modem cannot complete the call. Ready means that carrier is acquired and communication established. Ring In tells you the modem detects an incoming ring. Finally, OK tells you that your last command is complete and the modem is ready for another.
While this description sounds complicated at first reading, operating the Smart Cat becomes second nature with a little use. The operations manual, identical in size to that of the J-Cat, is only slightly longer, yet it provides a fully adequate description of all the modem's operational and test features.
The Smart Cat package includes the wall mount power transformer and a cable to connect the modem to an RJIIC phone jack. An RJIIC socket on the back of the modem lets you plug the telephone directly into the unit.

The manufacturer provides no RS232C cable, so you have to make one up yourself or buy one ready-made. The manual describes the necessary pin-out details at the cable's modem end. You have to determine the corresponding pin-outs at the serial connector on your terminal or computer.

## UDS 212A/D

The UDS 212A/D includes most of the features available in the Smart Cat as well as a number of others that make it a natural selection for system houses that want to carry only a single modem that can be configured to meet most communications needs.

Additional features available in the 212A/D include selectable permissive or programmable transmit levels, operation with private phone lines, optional synchronous operation at 1,200 baud, bat-tery-backed memory for five 30 -character dial strings, and capability to wait for a second dial tone. The modem also displays and edits stored dial strings, and has a Help command to display and describe commands.

The 212A/D is built on two circuit boards. The top board contains the modem circuitry, and the bottom the automatic calling unit (ACU) and the power supply. DIP (dual in-line package) switches on the top board permit setting a variety of options.
These include forced answer, forced
originate modes, and private line operation. You can disconnect on long receive or transmit space, loss of Data Terminal Ready (DTR), or loss of carrier. The 212A/D also has auto answer always or only when DTR is enabled, synchronous or asynchronous operation, and 9-, 10-, or 11-bit characters (including stop bits).

Strapping options on the board permit grounding or ungrounding the modem chassis; selecting internal, external, or slave transmit clock options; and selecting permissive or programmable transmit levels. A DIP switch on the lower board enables or disables the automatic calling unit.

In operation, you should think of these option selections as permanent, since you must remove the modem cover to change them-not something you care to do often.

The 212A/D starts up in initialization mode. It expects to receive an uppercase, two-character string, EN, from the terminal or computer. The modem uses this input to establish the operational character rate and data format. After it receives EN, the modem responds with:
(CR) (LF)
UDS 212 DIALER
(CR) (LF)
The colon is the prompt from the ACU and indicates that the unit is ready to receive commands. Eleven commands, input as single, uppercase letters, are available to control the operation of the ACU.
H , the Help command, displays a brief summary of the available commands on the terminal or computer screen.

D lets you dial a telephone number directly from the keyboard. You can specify a number of up to 30 characters long containing both digits and operators. Five operators are available: W, D, E, A\#, and space. W in the dial string causes the ACU to wait for a second dial tone. This important feature permits use of the modem with alternative carriers such as MCI, Sprint, and so on.

D in the dial string introduces a pause of $1.5,3.0$, or 4.5 seconds in the dialing operation. You select the length of the pause. E at the end of the dial string immediately terminates the calling sequence and connects the telephone to the phone line for voice communication.

A\#, after all other digit entries and where \# is a digit from 1 to 5 , takes the dial string from the memory register
identified by \# to complete the original dial string. The space character is purely a cosmetic operator to improve the string's readability.

ACU command L, followed by a digit from 1 to 5 , loads any of the five memory registers with a dial string. The ACU repeats the loaded string back to the CRT and returns to command mode with the display of the : prompt. P, the Print command, displays the contents of all loaded memory registers on the screen.

C , followed by a digit from 1 to 5 , clears the contents of the correspondingly numbered memory register. If C is followed by the character L rather than a digit, all memory registers clear. Where \# is a digit from 1 to 5 , \# causes the ACU to dial the dial string in the memory register identified by \#.
$\mathbf{R}$ redials the last number dialed, and X redials the last used dial string continually until the modem detects an Answer Back Tone.

Q, the Quit command, aborts any ACU operation. B takes the phone line off hook, and N cancels the B command and returns the phone line to on hook status.

A primitive, although entirely adequate, editing capability lets you correct mistakes made when you enter dial strings from the keyboard. Enter the character (a) to delete the last character entered. If you enter several © characters, the program deletes the corresponding number of previous keyboard entries.

The 212A/D provides simple English responses to the terminal or computer screen to indicate the status and disposition of ACU actions. These are self-explanatory and include such responses as Off Hook when you initiate dialing, No D.T if the modem detects no dial tone, echo of the number dialed, No ABT if the modem receives no Answer Back Tone, and Busy, Complete, or Abort to indicate call disposition.

In addition to the options you set on the modem board itself, you can set six more options from the keyboard. OA\#, where \# is zero or 1 , requires dial tone detection before dialing (zero) or waits four seconds and then dials (1) even though no dial tone is present. Zero is the default.

OB\# provides pulse dialing, the default, where \# is zero and multifrequency tone dialing where \# is 1 . OC\# provides DSR active if \#is zero, the default, or inactive if \# is 1 .

OD\# sets the wait time before an unsuccessful dialing attempt aborts. Values of \# from zero to 4 give wait times from 15 to 75 seconds. The de-
fault is 30 seconds. OE\# sets the delay produced by the $\mathbf{D}$ command in a dial string. Values of \# from zero to 2 give delays of 1.5 to 4.5 seconds. Three seconds is the default.

OF\# lets you turn on or off the echo of commands back to the screen. A value of zero for \# turns off the echo and 1 turns it on. Echo On is the default. OGO reinitializes the modem to its start-up condition and requires entry of the initialization sequence EN to enable the automatic calling unit.

While it is convenient to set some of the modem parameters with the OA-OF commands, whatever settings you've established are lost if you turn off the modem or reinitialize it by using OG0.

Finally, six buttons on the modem's front panel provide the last remaining elements of control. Four of these activate a modem self-test or the three loopback test modes. A fifth forces the modem into 1,200 baud mode, and the sixth puts the telephone set on or off line.

## Overview

All the modems are covered by a one year warranty on parts and labor. None of them is readily repairable by the user, nor is this recommended.
You must return the two Novation modems to the factory for repair. You can have the UDS modem repaired at the factory or at a number of authorized service locations. Since none required service as I prepared the review, I don't have information on the turnaround time for repair.

Reliability of the Novation units should be very good since they use a high degree of integration-the J-Cat has four integrated circuits and the Smart Cat has only a few more.

The UDS 212A/D might be very reliable as well, but the extraordinary parts count is a potential source of worry-the modem board alone has 83 integrated circuits!

None of the three modems comes with communications software. I operated all of them for test purposes with the Lobo Max-80 using both the COMM/CMD terminal program that is integral with LDOS and SMODEM, a recent version of the widely available, public domain MODEM7, operating under CP/M 2.2.

I accessed CompuServe and several local bulletin board systems at both 300 and 1,200 baud (only 300 baud for the J-Cat) to verify the modems' operational features. Each performed exactly as represented in the respective manuals,
and I encountered no problems of any kind.
Most of my complaints are minor. The J-Cat's remarkably small size makes you wish you could tuck it inside a terminal or a computer case. Unfortunately, you must use the unit's push buttons to put it on line and back off line. It's also aesthetically annoying that the label on the face of the modem is printed upside down.
The Smart Cat leaves little room for complaint. It does what it's supposed to do and does it well, although it would be nice to have a power switch.
The UDC modem has some problems. As I mentioned, you must take the cover off to set the character size. This is a minor annoyance that becomes a major one when you remove the cover and the front panel falls off. It turns out to be devilishly difficult to get back in place.

A more serious problem exists with the telephone set. Although you can plug the phone into the back of the modem and activate it with the talk switch on the front panel, you can't use the phone at all unless the modem is turned on.
It is also unfortunate that, although you can reset a number of modem parameters from the keyboard, you can't reset the defaults for these parameters and you are returned to the built-in defaults whenever you turn off or reinitialize the modem.
The UDS manual deserves special mention. Unlike the manuals for the Novation units, the UDS manual tells you both too much and too little. It is full of acronyms, usually defined long after they are first introduced if they are defined at all.

It tersely describes the bewildering array of available options that you can set or strap on the modem board, but you get no guidance as to what options you should select in what circumstances. An entire chapter is devoted to "theory of operation," but after reading it you know nothing useful about the modem.

Last, although the battery-backed memory for dial strings is a convenience and works perfectly, I can't understand why, with the low price of CMOS memory, storage is provided for only five numbers. Except in dedicated service, five numbers don't seem to be enough.

Contact R.A. Langevin at 7621 Fontaine St., Potomac, MD 20854.

## AGGESS UNLIMITFD

## Merry Christmas $\star$ Radio Shack" Users!!!!! <br> . <br> PERCOM DATA ${ }^{\text {TM }}$ DISK DRIVE HOLIDAY SPECIALS:

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| AFD42-1 | 40 track flippy add-on | \$269.00 |

## $\star$ MODEL III ${ }^{\text {TM }}$

| TFD340M1 | Single sid | \$359.00 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
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| ADD340X1 | Single sided/double density external | \$229.00 |
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# Real World Control—Part II 

by David L. Engelhardt

## Use your Model III to control a burglar alarm, sprinkler system, or other household device. These programs work with the hardware in Part I.

This is the second of a two-part article for advanced builders to utilize a real-world interface and clock to operate a burglar alarm and sprinkler system with room for other real-world applications.

The four Assembly-language programs in this article let you implement home control devices through your Model III, a real-time clock, and the input/output (I/O) board described in Part I (November 1983, p. 216).

After you build and test your I/O board, you're ready to program your computer to take over some mundane household chores.

## Clock Program

Program Listing 1 is almost identical to the one in "Real World, It's About Time" ( 80 Micro, March 1983, p. 342). I made a few slight changes to allow a relationship with the sprinkler and bur-

glar alarm programs. The principal addition is the patch in lines $1270-1320$. If activated, the sprinkler and burglar alarm programs patch themselves here.

These patches contain a jump address to the scan sections of the appropriate program. The clock's one-second interrupts trigger one-second scans of each program. If either or both of the programs become deactivated, they disengage themselves from the clock's patch region.

## Burglar Alarm Program

Program Listing 2 is heavily commented. When executed, the program prompts you with specific questions regarding system status and locations where the alarm system is activated. I'll describe some of its basic functions below.

When you run the program, it indicates its status and asks for the code word allowing it to swap its state. The code word I used is Mom, but you can change it. The program shows each location where the alarm is on. This lets you decide which point to deactivate when you turn off the system.
An alarm system must allow time for you to exit and enter the building before the siren sounds. In this case there is a two-minute exit delay and a 30 -second entrance delay. Two minutes after you leave, the system activates itself and starts scanning all of the activated alarm points. Upon entering, you must deactivate the system within 30 seconds or the

The Key Box<br>Model III<br>16K RAM Cassette Basic<br>32K RAM Disk Basic<br>Assembly Language Editor/Assembler

siren sounds.
Upon re-entry to the program, you must enter the code word to deactivate the system. It allows three attempts to enter the code word correctly. In case of a code entry error, the program jumps back to Basic. I label user-changable parameters in the listings. Just remember to keep the time delay parameters in units of seconds.

Also, in regard to the time delays, note that I allow two points in Port 2 for entry time delays. I label these in the listing under the individual alarms. If you need more points, double up some of them so that one point covers two doors.

In case of an illegal entry, the program sounds a buzzer attatched to Port 1, bit 16. This buzzer turns on and off for 30 seconds prior to activation of the main siren. The siren stays on for two minutes then shuts off. After a $30-\mathrm{sec}-$ ond wait, the program checks its status again and recycles if an alarm condition still exists.

There are also provisions in the program to make sure the relays shut off when they should. If the relay isn't off or fails to turn off the first time, there is one last attempt to shut it off. The system turns on the buzzer and prints an error message to attract your attention.

This is usually the result of a hardware problem. The relay may actually shut off but the indication read back is in error. An asterisk blinks once a second in the upper right-hand corner indicating the system is active.

I designed this system to be simple to use, fairlyburglar proof, and adaptable to your needs. It is not a guarantee of protection but only part of a home protection plan.

## Sprinkler System Program

In Program Listing 3, I designate four sprinkler zones. It starts with a menu offering four options: Auto, Manual, Go, and Exit. This program is self-explanatory, but I'll briefly describe each mode.

The Auto mode patches the scan section of this program into the clock program. Once this is done, the program checks the time of day ( $\mathrm{am} / \mathrm{pm}$ ), day code, and time to start. You can change this to suit your needs. When this mode starts, each zone runs for 15 minutes for a total of two cycles. The Go mode is the same as the Auto mode except that it starts on your request.

The Manual mode lets you turn on any zone for up to a maximum of 39 minutes. The program checks for illegal

Listing I continued


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| 01480 | TR | DEPW | THR |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 01498 | FR | DEFW | PRI |
| 01500 | SA | DEFW | SAT |
| 01510 | \% |  |  |
| 01520 | ; |  |  |
| 81530 | DIGIT | DEFB | 89 |
| 01540 | TEMP1 | DEFB | g |
| 01558 | TEMP2 | DEPB | 8 |
| 81568 | BUPFER | DEFS | 28 |

;USED FOR SPRINK DAY CODE
; LSB STMRAGE POR DAY
; MSB STORAGE FOR DAY TTIME INPORUATION BUFPER

TABLE OF DAY MESSAGES
1598 O1kBE SUN 16 MON 1628 TUE 61630 WED 1649 THR 01650 FRI 01668 SA 1678 1689
$01699^{\prime}$
1768 G
1718
01730
01738
01748
01759
1768
1778
01788 ;
01796
1869 ;
01816 FILI.
ROUTINE TO PUT SPACES BETWEEN TIME INPO

61820
1848
91858
01868 ,
01878

| LD | (HL),20H | ;ASCII SPACE CODE |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| INC | HT. | ;INC NEXT SPACE |
| LD | (HL),20H | ;PUT IN NEXT SPACE |
| INC | HI. | ;INC BUPPER PTR. |
| RRT |  | ;DONE |
|  |  |  |

; ASCII SPACE CODE
, INC NEXT SPACE
;PUT IN NEXT SPACE
; INC BUPPER PTR.
;DONE

| DEFM | 'SUN' |
| :--- | :--- |
| DEPM | 'MON' |
| DEFM | 'TUE' |
| DEFM | 'WED' |
| DEFM | 'THR' |
| DEFM | 'PRI', |
| DEFM | 'SAT' |

SUBROUTINE TO READ THE CLOCK'S COUNTERS

| OUT | (C) B | ;SET UP ADNRSS POR READ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| OUT | (C);B | ;DO AGAIN FOR TIME DELAY |
| IN | A,(INPUTA) | ;READ TIME |
| ADN | A,3日H | ;OBTAIN ASCII VALUE |
| LD | (HL) ;A | ;PUT VALUE TO BUPPER |
| INC | HI. | ;INC TO NEXT BUPPER PTR |
| DEC | B | ;DEC B FOR NEXT COUNTER |
| RET |  | ;FINISHEDI |

Program Listing 2. Burglar Alarm.
g9910; BURGLER ALARM PROGRAM

geg5 ; COMHAND 'ALARM', WITH USE OP -CMDTBL- PROGRAM,
0906 :



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Listing 2 continued

| 88618 |  | DI |  | ; DISABLE INTERRUPTS |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 8828 |  | LD | (BURG) .A | ; CLEAR OUT JUMP |
| 08630 |  | LD | (BURG1) , A | FROM CLK TO |
| 08648 |  | LD | (BURG2) ,A | ALARM PROGRA |
| 09650 |  | LD | (ALMFLG) , A | ;CLEAR SYSTEM Flags |
| 08660 |  | LD | (BYPASS) , ${ }^{\text {A }}$ | ; Clear time delay plags |
| 88678 |  | LD | (ALSTAT), A | ; CLEAR SWAP flag |
| 83688 |  | EI |  | ; ENABLE INTRRRUPTS |
| 09696 |  | JP | BASIC | ; JUMP TO BASIC |
| 08788 | ;* | *** | ********* |  |
| 09718 | ) ENAB | A | PROGRAM |  |
| 09728 | ;****** |  | ***** |  |
| 09738 | actalm | XOR | A | , CLR A Reg |
| 00740 |  | LD | (SHFCTR), A | ;CLR POR ALARM MESSAGES |
| 80750 |  | LD | (MASK1), A | ; CLR PORT 2 MASK |
| 09768 |  | LD | (MASK2) , A | ; CLR PORT 3 MASK |
| 09778 | ;** |  |  |  |
| 89789 | ; SCAN | LARM | SELECTIVE | TtVATION |
| 06790 | ;**** |  |  |  |
| 6380a | UPDATE | CALL | SECT1 | ; SET-UP FOR PORT 2 ALRMS |
| 00810 |  | CALL | CHECK | , PRINT PORT 2 alarms |
| 00820 |  | CALL | SECT2 | ; SET-UP FOR PORT 3 ALRMS |
| 9083a |  | Call | CHECR | ; PRINT PORT 3 alarms |
| 08840 | D1 | CALL | 49 H | ; SCAN KEYBD |
| 08858 |  | CP | 'R' | ;RE-SCAN 6 DISPLAY ALARMS |
| 08860 |  | JR | 2.actalm | ; GO BACK AND RR-SCAN |
| 00878 |  | CP | 'C' | ; CONTINUE WITH PROGRAM |
| 98883 |  | JR | NZ.D1 | ; GO BACK TO KEYBD SCAN |
| 88898 |  | LD | HL, MESS6 | ; PRINT ALARMS DEACT MESS |
| 09980 |  | Call | 21 BH | ; PRINT Above deact mess |
| 98918 |  | LD | A, 5 H | ;SET FOR TMLOOP |
| 68920 | TMLOPP | PUSH | ${ }_{\text {ar }}$ | ; SAVE A CTR FOR TTME DLY |
| 60936 |  | CALL | 608 | ; Call time delay routine |
| 89948 |  | POP | AF | ; GET A BACK AND |
| 0958 |  | DEC | A | ; DEC LOMP CTR |
| 08968 |  | CP | 0 | ; IS A zero yet? |
| 06978 |  | JP | N2. TMLOnP | ; GO BACK IF NOT DONE |
| 09986 |  | CALL | CLEAR | ; CLS |
| 88998 |  | LD | Hr., MESS 7 | ; PRINT DO YOU WANT TTME |
| 01080 |  | Call | 21 BH | ; delay mess? |
| 01818 | QTD | CALL | ${ }^{49 \mathrm{H}}$ | ; QUESTION FOR TTME DELAY |
| 01028 |  | CD | 'Y' | ; If NO -- CONTINUE |
| 01038 |  | JR | 2. DLYARM | ; DO TTME DELAY |
| 01049 |  | CP | 'N' | ; Continue if no |
| 01050 |  | JR | NZ.OTD | ; RE-SCAN KEYBD |
| 01060 | ARM | LD | HT, ${ }^{\text {BYPASS }}$ | ;GET TIME dLy CONTRL BYTE |
| 61076 |  | SET | 0 , (HL) | ; SET TO BYPASS ENTR DELAY |
| 01080 |  | JR | ARMIT | ; SKIP TIME delay setup |
| 01698 | DLYARM | LD | HI, BYPASS | ; GET TTME dLY CONTRL BYTE |
| 01100 |  | SET | 1, (HL) | ; SET FOR ENTRANCE dELAY |
| 01110 |  | LD | Hi, TIMER | ; GEt exit delay value |
| 01120 |  | LD | (HL) , DORDLY | ; 2 MIN DOOR EXIT dELAY |
| 01138 | ; |  |  | AND 39 SEC ENTR delay |
| 01140 | ;***** | *** | ********** |  |
| 01150 | ; PATCH | ALARM | Rngram to cli |  |
| 01160 | ;***** | **** | ********** |  |
| 01170 | ARMTT | LD | A,0C3H | ; PATCH JUMP INSTR TO CLK |
| 01180 |  | DI |  | ; DISABLE INTRRRUPTS |
| 01190 |  | LD | (BURG) , A | ; IST PART OF JUMP INSTR. |
| 01208 |  | LD | HT., CONECT | ;GET JUMP ADDRESS IN ALRM |
| 01210 |  | LD | (BURG1) , HL | ; LOAD TO CLK ALARM JUMP |
| 01220 |  | XOR |  | ; A M THE |
| 01238 |  | ${ }^{\text {LD }}$ | (ALMFLG) , A | ; BURGLERSYS |
| 91248 |  | CALL | BUSON | ; TURN ON INTERNAL BUS |
| 81250 |  | IN | $\mathrm{A},(2 \mathrm{H})$ | ; GET AND STORE |
| 01260 |  | LD | (MASK1), A | ; PORT 2 MASK |
| 01278 |  | IN | A, (3H) | ; GET AND STORE |
| 01280 |  | LD | (MASK2), A | ; PORT 3 MASK |
| 81290 |  | Call | buSOPF | , TURN OFF INTRRNAL Bus |
| 01388 |  | CALL | CLEAR | ; CLR SCREEN |
| 81310 |  | LD | Hr., MESS3 | ;PRINT SYSTEM |
| 81328 |  | CALL | 21 BH | ; activated message |
| 01338 01348 |  | EI |  | ; ENABLE INTERRUPTS |
| 81346 01350 |  | JP | BASIC | ; JUMP TO BASIC |
| 01350 | ;***** | - | *** |  |
| 81368 01378 | ;***** | ON SCA | ED BY CLK ONC | SECOND |
| 01378 | ;***** |  | *********** | ******* |
| 91389 | CONECT | LD | $\mathrm{Hr}^{\text {, }} 3 \mathrm{3C3FH}$ | ; GET SCREEN LOC FOR '*' |
| 01398 |  | ${ }_{\text {LD }} \mathrm{LD}$ | A, (SWITCH) | ; GET SWAP CONTROL BYTE |
| 91498 |  | ${ }_{\text {CPL }}$ |  | ; COMPLIMENT VALUE |
| 81418 |  | LD | (SWITCH), A | ; STRRE VALUE BACK |
| 81420 |  | CP | 8 | IIS IT 2ERO? |
| 01438 |  | JR | 2.ASTRIR | ; SKIP IF ZERO |
| 01448 |  | LD | ( HL ) , ' ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | ; PUT blank to screen |
| 81458 |  | JR | ASTRIK+2 | ;SKID |
| 81468 | ASTRIK | LD | (HL) , '*' | ;PUT '*' TO SCREEN |
| 81478 81489 |  | LD | HT., BYPASS | ; GET TTME DELAY BYTE |
| 81489 |  | BIT | $1,(\mathrm{HL})$ | ; IS IT SET FOR DELAY? |
| 81498 |  | JP | Nz -thenut | ; GO TO COUNTDWN ROUTINE |
| 81500 |  | LD | HI, , almplg | ;GET ALARM CONTROL WORD |
| 01518 |  | BIT | 5, (HL) | ;SET FOR SIREN? |
| ${ }^{01528}$ |  | JR | N2. TMEOUT | ; ${ }^{\text {DO }} 38$ SEC OFF INTRRVAL |
| 81548 |  | ${ }_{\text {Br }}^{\text {JIT }}$ | 6, (HL) | ; IS MAIN SIREN ON? |
| 01558 |  | BIT | 4.(HL) | ;GO AND COUNT DWN ON TIME <br> ;SET TO ALTERNATE SONA |
| 01568 |  | JR | NZ, T3 esec | ; BEEP SONA FOR 30 SEC |
| 81578 |  | BIT | 3, (HL) | ; SET TO BYPASS ALARM SCAN |
| 01588 |  | JR | N2.SKIP | ; UNTTL SIREN CYCLE DONE |
| 01598 |  | Call | ACTSCN | ; SCAN PORT 2 for alarms |
| 01608 |  | Call | CHECK | ; ARE THERE ANY ALARMS? |
| 01610 |  | Call | SECT2 | ; SCAN PORT 3 FOR ALARMS |
| 01620 81630 |  | $\underset{\text { CALL }}{\text { LD }}$ | ${ }_{\text {HT, }}^{\text {CHECK }}$ ALMFLG | ;ARE THERE ANY ALARMS? <br> ;GET ALARM CONTROL BYTR |



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zone and time entries. When it completes this mode, the program patches the Auto mode back in for a continued time scan. The Exit command leaves the program and jumps back to Basic.

This program also checks for relay failures and uses Port 4, bit 2 to sound a buzzer if a failure occurs. Upon entry to the program, it indicates the status of the system and the zone that is currently running if applicable. It displays a message giving you the option to deactivate the system or exit back to Basic. There is a $11 / 2$-minute delay between each zone that allows time for water pressure to stabilize.

## CMDTABL Program

Program Listing 4 lets you patch custom commands to the Basic command table. Presently, I include only two commands-Sprink and Alarm. When you enter either of these two commands under Basic, the specified program runs. If you add more commands to the table, insert them in order but keep them between the ENDTBL label. This label automatically computes the length of the command table for scanning purposes.

Execute this program with a $/ 29024$. The set-up section patches the main body of this program to the Basic command table. Upon execution, two more commands are added to the system. This program runs anywhere in memory by changing the ORG statement.

## Conclusion

You should now have a Port I/O board with relays to control the real world, and hopefully an understanding of how to control the port board and its functions. You should have enough information to expand in regard to port I/O control. The sprinkler and burglar alarm systems provide a couple of good applications to real-world control.

The amount of control applications available are virtually unlimited. CMDTBL opens a door to custom users for designing your own Basic commands and applications. You should learn a lot about your Model III and computers in general by putting together this system, as interfacing and controlling real world applications involve many aspects of your micro.

## For a 16K System

As shown, the burglar alarm and sprinkler system don't assemble on a 16K RAM system since they include so many comments and banners. I made

the listings easy to follow so you can assemble them on a 16 K RAM system without the comments and banners.

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| ite | Black | White | k |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1. e2-e4 | c7-c5 | 17. d4-02 | d7-e5 |
| 2. g1-f3 | d7-d6 | 18. d3-c2 | e5-c4 |
| 3. d2-d4 | c5-d4 | 19. e3-f2 | b5-b4 |
| 4. f1-b5+ | c8-d7 | 20. c2-b3 | a6-a5 |
| 5. b5-d7+ | d8-d7 | 21. d1-d4! | b7-b5 |
| 6. f3-d4 | g8-f6 | 22. c3-b4 | a5-b4 |
| 7. b1-c3 | g7-g6 | 23. a1-c1! | c4-b6 |
| 8. e1-g1 | f8-g7 | 24. $\mathrm{c} 1-\mathrm{c8}+$ | b6-c8 |
| 9. c1-e3 | e8-g8 | 25. b3-c4 | b5-d7 |
| 10. d1-d3 | a7-a6 | 26. c4-b4 | c8-a7 |
| 11. c3-d5 | b7-b5? | 27. b4-b8+ | f6-e8 |
| 12. d5-b6 | d7-b7 | 28. d4-c4 | a7-c6 |
| 13. b6-a8 | b7-a8 | 29. b8-a8 | c6-e5 |
| 14. f2-f3 | b8-d7 | 30. $\mathrm{C4}-\mathrm{c} 8$ | g8-18 |
| 15. f1-d1 | f8-c8 | 31. a2-a4 | e.5-d3 |
| 16. c2-c3 | a8-b7 | 32. c8-d8! | resigns |



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Program Listing 3．Sprinkler System．

| $\begin{aligned} & \operatorname{gge} 90 \\ & \lg 20 \end{aligned}$ | ，SPRINKLED SYSTEM PROGRAM POR A 4 ZONE SYSTRM <br> ；WRITTEN BY DAVE ENGELHARDT 19／82 |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 09338 | ， |  |  |  |
| 98948 | EXECUTR WITH A／29152 ．．．．ORR JSE |  |  |  |
| 0955 |  |  |  |  |
| gefer ； |  |  |  |  |
| 98978 | Mpm | ORG | 71 EaH | －． |
| 04989 |  | EQU | 7FDOH | ；WORD POR AM／PM CODE |
| 06998 | 3asic | EQU | 1A19H | ，JUMP TO BASIC |
| 00168 | Clzar | EQU | 1－9H | ；CLEAR SCREEN |
| 0118 | digit | EOU | $7 \mathrm{PB4H}$ | ；dAY CODE FROM CLK PROGRM |
| 69129 | DLYTTEE | EOS | 90 | ，TIME BETWEEN ZONES |
| 0138 | HOURS | EOU | 7PC6H | ；Hours obtained prom clx |
| 06148 | MINUTS | EOU |  | ，MIN OBTAINED FROM CLK |
| 46156 |  | EOU | 998 | ；The time zones are on |
| 0168 | mater | gou | 7P96日 | ；PATCH SPRINK SYS TO CLK |
| 66176 | WATERI | EOU | 7F97日 | ；PATCH TO CLK |
| 08180 |  | sOO | 7 7988 | ；PATCH TO CLK |
| 09198 |  |  |  |  |
| 03208 |  |  |  |  |
| 83218 | PRRGRAM STARTS HERE |  |  |  |
| 09220 |  |  |  |  |
| 08230 | Sprink | CALL | Clear | ；Clear screen |
| 03248 |  | LD | A，（SPRFLG） | JGET CONTROL BYTR |
| 83258 |  | ${ }^{\text {P }}$ |  | IS SYSTRM ENABLED |
| 88268 |  | JR | $2.3 J$ | ；GO TN SYSTEM Startup |
| 0878 | ）＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊ |  |  |  |
| 98288 | CHECR IF SYSTEM IS RUNNING |  |  |  |
| 4298 | autche |  |  |  |
| 09368 |  | BIT | 7，A | ；1S RUNNING ACT BIT SETT |
| 03318 |  | JR | 2．MANCHK | sSKIP TO CHECK MAN OPER |
| 03320 |  | LD | hit．gnesse |  |
| 09330 |  | CALL | 218H | ；PRINT AUTO ACT MESSAGE |
| 98340 |  | JP | ADYACT | ；JUKP to status section |
| 68350 | ，＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊ |  |  |  |
| 49368 | CHECR IP SYSTEM IS MANUEL |  |  |  |
| ¢9388 | manchi | ＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊IS MANOEL mODE BIT |  |  |
| 06396 |  | JR | 2．AUTMMD | ；SKIP TO AUTO MODE SECT |
| 89480 |  | LD | HT，MESS 4 |  |
| 98410 |  | CALL | 21BH | ；PRINT MAN MODE ACT MESS |
| 08428 |  | LD | HL．，MESSI4 |  |
| 9430 |  | Call | 21B | ；PRINT ZONE RUNNING |
| 88449 |  | LD | Hr，MESSSA |  |
| 81458 |  | Call | 21BH | ；PRINT STOP SYSTEM MESS |
| 68460 |  | JP | PP | ；JUMP TO SCAN KEYBD |
| 98478，＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊ |  |  |  |  |
| 09488 | 1 AUTV MODE SECTTON j＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊ |  |  |  |
| － |  |  |  |  |
| 09508 | aummid | LD | H1．，MESS 15 |  |
| 08518 |  | CALL | 218B | ；PRINT AUTO MODE ACT mess |
| 06528 |  | LD | HI．，MESS9A |  |
|  |  | Call | 218B | ；PRINT STOP SYSTEM MESS |
| 06548 |  | JP | PP | ；JUMP TO SCAN KEYBD |
| 08550 | ，＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊ |  |  |  |
| 9956\％ | SYSTEM INITIALIZATION SECTTON |  |  |  |
| 08579 |  |  |  |  |
| 88589 | JJ | CALL | BUSON | ，TURN ON INTERNAL BUS |
| 88598 |  | IN | A，（1H） | ；READ SPRINKLER RELAYS |
| 09688 |  | CPL |  | ；COMPLIMENT VALUE |
| 98610 |  | AND | Oft | ；MASK FOR SPRINK RELAYS |
| 96620 |  | CP |  | ；ARE THEY OFF？ |
| 09630 |  | JR | $2 . T \mathrm{~T}$ | ；SKIP IF YES |
| 88640 |  | OUT | （1H），A | ；TURN OFF RELAYS |
| 08659 |  | Call | DLY | ；ALLOW RELAYS TV LATCH |
| 08668 |  | JR | 2．TT | ；SKIP If relays are off |
| 80678 |  | LD | Hr．，MESS13 |  |
| 80688 |  | CALL | 21 BH | ；PRINT RELY STILL ON ERR |
| B0698 |  | JP | BASIC | ；JUMP TO BASIC |
| 08700 | TT | call | BUSOFF | ；TURN OFF Internal bus |
| 89710 |  | LD | A， $\mathrm{BDH}^{\text {d }}$ |  |
| 9072a |  | Call | 37 H | ；DO CARriage rfturn |


| 08736 | AA | LD | hl，MESSI |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 88748 |  | call | 218 H | ；PRINT MENU |
| 6075a |  | call | 49H | ；SCAN KEYbd for selection |
| 88760 |  | CP | ＇M＇ |  |
| 68778 |  | JR | 2．MAN | ；go to manuel mode |
| 08788 |  | CD | ＇A＇ |  |
| 68798 |  | JR | 2. AUTO | ；GO to auto mode |
| вяввй |  | CP | ＇G＇ |  |
| 00810 |  | JR | $2 . \mathrm{KICK}$ | ；GO Start auto on demand |
| 00828 |  | CP | ＇E＇ |  |
| 80830 |  | JP | BASIC | ，JUMP TO BASIC |
| 02840 |  | JR | $\mathrm{A}^{\text {a }}$ | ；RE－SCAN KEYBD |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 68860 |  |  |  |  |
| 68878 ；＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊ |  |  |  |  |
| 00880 | ${ }_{\text {RR }}{ }_{\text {RUM }}$ | Call | aUPATC | ；PATCH SYS FOR AUTO mode |
| 08898 |  | CALL | SOUND | ；BEEP SONA TC ACKNOW ACT |
| 08989 |  | Call | CLear | ；Clear screen |
| 6391a |  | LD | HF．，MESS8 |  |
| g9928 |  | Call | 218 ${ }^{\text {1 }}$ | ；PRINT AUTO mode activat |
| 09930 |  | JP | BASIC | ；Jump back to basic |
| 88948 | ＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊ |  |  |  |
| B6958 | ；ROUTINE T M START AUTV ON DEMAND |  |  |  |
| 88960 |  |  |  |  |
| 00970 | kICK | ＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊ |  | ；PATCH Auto mode to clk <br> ；GET CONTROL WORD <br> ；SET SYSTEM RUNNING BIT |
| 60989 |  | LD | HT，SPRPLG |  |
| 60998 |  | SET | 7，（HL） |  |
| 01806 |  | JR | RR | ；Make sound \＆Print mess |
| 81810 | ，＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊ |  |  |  |
| 01826 | ；ACTIVATE MANUEL MODE SECTTON |  |  |  |
| 01830 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 61848 | MAN | $\begin{aligned} & \text { LD } \\ & \mathbf{S E T} \end{aligned}$ |  | ；GET CONTROL WORD <br> ；SET MANUEL MODE ACT BIT <br> ；CLEAR SCREEN |
| 01850 |  |  |  |  |
| 01868 |  | Call | CLEAR |  |
| 91078 |  | LD | Hr．，MESS2 | ；PRINT MANUEL MODE |
| 91888 | cc | CALL | 2184 |  |
| 01698 |  | LD | HL．，MESS3 | ；PRINT ZONE MENU |
| 01108 |  | Call | 218H |  |
| 81110 | BB |  | 49 B | ；SCAN KEYBD FOR ZONE |
| 61120 |  | CALL | 33H |  |
| 91138 |  | LD | （MZONE），A | ，STMRE VALUE TO MESS 14 |
| 01148 |  | sub | 3日月 | ；STRIP OFF ASCIT VALUE |
| 81150 |  | CD | 8 | ；Correct value？ |
| 61160 |  | JR | Z．ZINERR | ISRIP TO ILLEGAL RONE |
| 01170 |  | LD | （2HOLD），A | ；SAVE ZONE |
| 01180 |  | Sus | 5 | ifs zone less then |
| 01190 |  | JP | M，DD | IIF NOT．．．SKIP TO DD |
| 01288 | ；＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊＊ |  |  |  |
| 01218 | 2ONE INPUT ERROR SECTION |  |  |  |
| 01220 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 91238 | ZINER | CALL | CLEAR <br> HI，MESS6 <br> 218H | ；Clbar screen |
| 81248 |  | LD |  |  |
| 01250 |  | CALL |  | ；PRINT ZONE ERROR MESS |
| 01260 |  | JP | cr | ，GO AND RR－ENTER ZONE |
| 01278 |  |  |  |  |
| 91280 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 01298 | IIF ENTERED ZONE VALUE IS OK－－ENTRR MTNUTES INTO BUFPER |  |  |  |
| 01380 | DD | LD | Hr．，MESS5 | ；gET READY TO PRINT MESS |
| 01310 |  | LD |  |  |
| 01328 |  | CALL | 338 | ；DO CARRIAGE CONTROL |
| 11336 |  | CALL | 33H | ；DO Carriage Control |
| 01340 |  | Call | 218 | ；PRINT ZONE TTME MESS |
| 91358 |  | CALL | 498 | ；SCAN KEYBD POR 1ST VALUE |
| 01368 |  | CALL | 33H | ；PRINT VALUE TO SCREEN |
| 81378 |  | SUB | 38H | ；STRIP ASCII VALUE |
| 81389 |  | LD | （TENS），A | ；SAVE TENS OF MTNUNS |
| 01390 |  | SUB | 4 | ；MUST BE LESS THAN 48 MIN |
| 01488 |  | JP | M，PF | ，CONTINUE IF LESS THEN 40 |
| 01418 |  | Call | CLEar | ；Clear screen |
| 81428 |  | LD | HT，MESS8 |  |
| 81430 |  | Call | 21 BH | ；PRINT TIME ERROR MESS |
| 81446 |  | JR | Dn | ；GO AND REDUE TTME ENTRY |
| 01456 | FF | CALL | 49H | ；SCAN Keybd for time |

Listing 3 contimued on p． 164

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| Listing 3 contimued |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 01468 |  | Call | 33日 | ; Print value to screen |
| 01478 |  | Sub | 3 ar | ;StRIP ASCII VALUE |
| 01488 |  | LD | (UNITS), A | ; SAVE UNITS OF MTNUTES |
| 01498 |  | LD | HT, MESS 7 | ; READY mess for print |
| 01588 |  | LD | A,8DH |  |
| 01518 |  | CALL | 33H | , DO Carriage control |
| 01528 |  | Call | 33H | ;DO CARRIAGE CONTROL |
| 01538 |  | Call | 218日 | ;PRINT ARE YOU SATISFIED |
| 01548 |  | Call | $4{ }^{48}$ | ; SCAN KEYbd por answer |
| 01550 |  | CP | 'c' | ; $\mathrm{C}=$ TO CONTINUE PROGRAM |
| 01568 |  | JR | 2.EE | ; SKID IF C |
| 01578 |  | CALL | CLEAR | ; Clear screen |
| 01588 | ,* | ${ }_{*}^{\text {JR }}$ | CC | ${ }^{\text {GO }}$ G REDUE 2ONE ${ }^{\text {a }}$, TIME |
| 01698 | ; ROU | INE TO | HANGE KYBD EI | TO HEX EQUIVALENT |
| 01610 | ;*** | **** | ********** | ***************** |
| 01620 | EE | LD | A, (TENS) | ; GET TENS Of minutes |
| 01638 |  | SLA | A | ; Shipt value left |
| 01648 |  | PUSH | AF | ; SAVE CONTENTS |
| 01650 |  | SLA | A | ; Shipt left again |
| 01668 |  | SLA | A | ; SHIPT LEFT |
| 01678 |  | POP | BC | ; TRANSPER AF TO BC |
| 01689 |  | ADD | A, B | IADD VALUES TOGETHER |
| 01698 |  | LD | ${ }^{\text {B,A }}$ A | ; STIRE VALUE TO A REG |
| 01708 |  | LD | A, (UNITS) | ; GET UNITS OP TTME |
| 01718 01728 |  | ${ }_{* * * * * * ~}^{\text {ADn }}$ | A, ${ }^{\text {B }}$ | ;ADN UNITS Tn TENS/MIN |
| 01729 ;******************************************* |  |  |  |  |
| 01759 |  |  | ** | ************************) |
|  |  | LD | (UNITS), A | ; STORE HEX TTME VALUE |
| 81760 |  | LD | L, A | ; PUT HEX VALUE TO L Reg |
| 01778 |  | XOR | ${ }^{\text {A }}$ | ; CLEAR A RFg |
| 01780 |  | LD | ${ }_{\text {H,A }}$ | ; CLEAR H REG |
| 01798 01809 |  | SLA | L | ; SHIPT LEFT |
| 91819 |  | PUSH | HI. | ; SAVE Shifted value |
| 01820 |  | SLA | L | ; SHIPT LEPT |
| 01838 |  | SLA | L | ; SHIFT LEFT |
| 91848 |  | call | HSHIPT | ; SHIFT H ACCORDING TO L |
| 01858 |  | SLA | ${ }^{\text {H }}$ | ; SHIFT LEFT |
| 91878 |  | CALL | HSHIPT | ; SHIFT H ACCORDING TO L |
| 01886 |  | SLA | , | ; SHIPT LEFT |
| 01898 |  | SLA | 1 | ; SHIFT LEPT |
| 81988 |  | CALL | HSHIFT | ; SHIFT H ACCORDING Tn L |
| 01919 |  | POP |  | ; PUT hl Value to bc Reg |
| 01928 |  | XOR | A | ;RESET Carry flag |
|  |  | SBC | Hr., BC | ; Calculate final value |
| O1939 |  | ${ }_{* * * * * ~}^{\text {LD }}$ | (TENS) , HL | ; SAVE TIME IN SECONDS |
| 01968 ; ROUTTNE TI PATCH MANUAL MODE TI Clock |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 1988 SETUP |  | Call | PORTKY | ; GET MANUEL ACT BIT |
|  |  | LD | (MNPORT) , A | ; SAVE VALUE POR RELAY |
|  | 01998 | DI | A, 0C3H | ;DISABLE INTRRRUPTS |
| ¢2018 |  | LD | (WATER), A | ; SYSTEM TO THE |
| 92038 |  | LD | HT., MANRT | ; Clock |
| 82848 |  | LD | (WATERI), HL | ; PROGRAM |
| 82858 |  | EI |  | ; ENABLE INTERRUPTS |
| 92060 |  | CALL | SOUND | ; BEEP SONA |
| 82878 |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { CALL } \\ & \text { LD } \end{aligned}$ | ${ }_{\text {CLI, MESS }}$ | ; CLEAR SCREEN |
|  |  | call | 21 BH | ; PRINT ACtive zone mess |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 02128 ; ROUTINE TN SHIFT H WITH L |  |  |  |  |
| 02148 HSHIFT |  | JR | C, ADDBIT | ; CARRY bit set via shift? |
| 02148 H218 |  | JR | NOTSET | ; SKIP IF NOT SET |
| $02160$ | Adnbit | SET | $0, \mathrm{H}$ | ; SET BIT ${ }^{\text {Cl }}$ |
| 62178 | NOTSET | XER | A | ; CLEAR CARRY Bit |
| 82198 | ;*** | ***** | ********** | ******* |





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# Chameleon Code 

by Bradley Murray

The mixture of Basic programs with Assembly-code subroutines is powerful, taking advantage of the simplicity of one and the speed of the other.

Sometimes the Assembly-code routines are loaded in Basic; other times it is better to POKE the decimal equivalents of the routine's object code into memory. It is a nuisance, though, to convert the object code to decimal, check the values and type the data lines.

I wrote a program that interprets an object file produced by an editor/assembler, converts the object code to decimal values, and writes these values to an ASCII file of data lines. These are later merged into the Basic program that POKEs the values into memory.

The program gives the starting and ending POKE locations, the memory size required to protect the POKEd program, and the hexadecimal (hex) address needed for a DEFUSRn = statement.

## How It Works

Program Listing 1 requests the name of the file to be converted, the name of the ASCII data file (the output file), the starting line number of the data file, and the line number increment.

The program is listed one statement per line to increase its intelligibility, but when entering the program ignore all comment lines and compress statements into single lines. The following line numbers are branch points-you must preserve $1100,1260,1360,1630,1800$, 1870, 1940, 2000, 2090, and 2240.

The program begins with an error trap: The object file first opens as an I-file, closes and then reopens as an R-file. If the file does not exist, a random file with no data is created and read, giving unpredictable, incorrect output. If the file is first opened as " I ", the file-not-found error can be trapped.
> $T$ Tired of converting Assembly code into Basic data statements by hand? This speeds it up.

Reading the file as an Input (I) file, with an INPUT \#2, AS would be simpler, but has one problem. A byte containing 00 , valid in the object code, would be bypassed. The code D0A7 00 FF would be incorrectly read into the string as D0A7FF. This does not happen when the File is read with a GET1,r (see line 1240).

Line 1090 sets HX\$ to contain all the hex codes, from which values will be extracted in line 2070 to make a decimal-to-hex conversion.

Line 1180 fields the input file buffer as two variables of 128 bytes each. No single string variable can contain the full 256 bytes. If your older version of Basic has not been modified, the second half of the buffer field contains only 127 bytes. This leads to problems if your object program occupies a full disk sector or more ( 256 bytes).

The first byte of an editor/assembler object file is either 01 (if created by the EDTASM in the NEWDOS package), or 05 (if created by Radio Shack's Editor/Assembler). In either case the first byte of interest to this program contains 01 -the command to load.

Line 1260 extracts a byte from the string $\mathbf{A} \$(1)$. The first time through, it extracts the first byte and converts it to decimal. If it is not 01 , the second byte
will contain a certain number of bytes to be bypassed before loading program code. Line 1310 increases the pointer by this amount, to skip over the required bytes. If the following byte is 01, it's a loading instruction.

The byte following the loading instruction gives the number of bytes to be loaded, including 2 extra bytes containing the loading address. Lines 1380-1390 decode the number of program bytes NB to be extracted from the string. Zero is interpreted as 256 , and 2 is subtracted from NB to take care of the loading-address bytes.

The loading address is used to calculate the first location into which Basic will POKE the program, as well as the memory size needed to protect the program.

Line 1400 moves the pointer to the least significant bit (LSB) of the loading address and blanks the hex value string (ST\$) for this address. The program calls subroutine 2000 to get the decimal value of the byte, find the quotient and remainder (modulo-16), and convert each to one of the hex characters in HX\$. Upon return, it assigns ST the decimal value of LSB.

The pointer moves to the next byte, the most-significant bit (MSB) of the starting address. With a call to 2000, this is converted to decimal and to hex. The hex code is put before the LSB and linked with it to give the starting address in hex (ST\$).

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Upon return from line 2000, the program multiples the decimal value of this byte by 256 and adds it to the LSB to give the starting address in decimal (ST). If the decimal value is greater than 32767 , line 1520 sets the sign bit so the location to POKE will be negative. Line 1510 saves the positive value in MM as the memory size value. EN in line 1570 is the ending POKE address.

N points to the byte within the string $\mathrm{A} \boldsymbol{S}(\mathrm{K})$. The subscript K is either 1 or 2 ; each record is split into two sub-records (see line 1180). K starts with a value of 1 in line 1620, increased when 128 bytes are decoded (lines 1730-1740). If K equals 3,256 bytes have been decoded and the next record is read from the disk (1770-1780).

NB is the number of program bytes to be converted to decimal and put on the data line. KB is the number of bytes actually converted and added. Line 1800 compares NB and KB.

NN keeps track of the number of values on a single data line. As long as this value does not exceed 14, a comma is appended to the data line 1850 . When there are 14 items, the routine writes a carriage return/line feed to the file (CHR\$(13)), increases the line number, and generates a new data line (lines 1870-1890).

The decimal value of the code is not written directly to the data line, since spaces appear before and after the number. Lines 1630-1670 convert it to string format, trim it, and write it as a string.

When line 1800 determines that the
number of bytes decoded and written (KB) equals the number of bytes required (NB), the program calls subroutine 2090, the ending routine. If the next byte is 01 , more program bytes must be added to the data. NB is calculated as before, but the loading address is not needed.
If the next byte is not 01 , the entire program has been loaded. Ordinarily this byte and the next would be 0202, followed by the program entry address (not always the loading address). In this conversion I assumed the starting address and the loading address were the same. If not, adjust them with a JP or JR to the starting address.

You can modify the program to handle a different starting address. If the next byte is not 01 (line 2180), check whether it and the next byte have a value of 02 . If so, the 2 bytes following 0202 contain the entry address. Convert ST\$ to this, using the technique above. ST (the start of loading) and MM (the memory size) remain unchanged.

If the byte is not 01 the loading is finished. The program branches to produce the hex value used for the address of a USRn call, the starting and ending loop index values for the POKE, and the memory size used in Basic when running the program.

Program Listing 2 POKEs the As-sembly-code routine into memory and runs it.

Contact Bradley Murray, S.J., at Loyola College, Baltimore, MD 21210.

Program Listing 1. The Converter program.


```
Listing I continued
1390
IF NB=0 THEN NB=254
400 N=N+1
420 ST$=**
140 GOSUB 2600
1440 ' ST WILL BE LSB OP STARTING ADDRESS
1450 ST=K
1460 N=N+1
478 GOSUB 2080
148g ST WILL BE DECIMAL VA\LUE OF STARTING ADDR
1493 ST=ST + K*256
1508, SAVE ST IN MM (MEMORY SI2E
1510 MM=ST
1520 IF ST>32767 THEN ST=ST-65536
1530; EN = ENDING ADDRESS
1548: KB=NUMBER OF PRGRAM BYTES READ FOR THIS
1550: SERIES OF LOADS (UP TO NEXT 11 CODE)
1578 EN=ST-
1580 KB=8
16ee N=N+1 NN = NUMBER OF VALUES ON A "DATA* LINE
1610 NN=0
1630 C=ASC(MIDS(AS(K),N,1))
1630 C=ASC(MIDS
1640 CS=STRS(C) REMOVE LEADING BLANK FROM NUMBER
1660 C$=RIGHTS(C$,LEN(C$)-1)
1670 PRINT $2,C$;
1680 N=N+1
169g KB=KB+
1690 KB=KB+1
1718: HAVE 128 BYTES BEEN READ? IF SO
1720 START ON 2ND 128 BYTES OF RECORD
1730 IF N<129 THEN 1800
    ELSE N=1
1740 K=K+1
1750: IF 2ND 128 BYTES HAVE BEEN READ,
1760 IF K=2 THENT NEXT RECORD
1778 IF K=2 THEN 1880
    ELSE GET 1
1780 K=1
1799 HAVE ALL BYTES BEEN READ?
1800 IF KB>=NB THEN GOSUB 2090
1818 NN=NN+1 ARE THFRE 14 NUMBER ON "DATA" LINE?
M820, ARE THFRE 14 NUMBER ON "DATA" LIN
1850 IF NN=14 THEN 187%
ELSE PRINT 12,*,*;
1868 GOTO 1630
1879 NN-G
1898 PRINT 12,CHRS(13),LN; *DATA * 
1980 GOTO 1630
1926 - ERROR: OBJECT FILE NOT FOUND
1930, ERR<>196 THEN ON ERROR GOTO O
1959 CR PR PRIE6 THEN ON ERRONGOT
195% CLS : PRINT
1970 CLOSE
lig
1990: CONVERT 2-BYTE NUMBER TO HEX
2010, GET DECIMAL VALUE FROM STRING
2020 K=ASC(MID (AS(1),N,1))
2030 ' QUOTIENT & REMAINDER, MOD-16
2049 Q=INT(K/16)
2058 R=K-Q*16
2068 R=K-Q*16 SELECT HEX VALUE FROM STRING HX$
2076 STS=MIDS(HX $,Q+1,1) +MIDS(HX $,R+1,1)+ST$
2080 RETURN
CHECX WHETHER THERE ARE MORE BYTES TO
CHECK WHETHER THERE ARE MORE BYTES
IF SO, GET NUMBER OF BYTES, AND SKIP
LOADING ADDRESS--I.E. ASSUME IT POLLOWS
SEQUENTIALLLY, IF NO MORE BYTESS, THEN
ENDING ROUTINE: PRINT CRITICAL VALUES
2170 C=ASC(MIDS(AS(K),N,1)
2180 IF C<>1 THEN 2240
2180 IF C<>1 THEN 224
2190 NB=ASC(MIDS(AS(K),N,1))
208 IF NB=9 THEN NB=254
        ELSE NB=NB-2
2210 KB=0
2220 N=N+3
2230 RETURN
2 2 4 8 \text { CLOSE}
2258 CLS
2260 PRINT*FOR USR FUNCTION: DEPUSRN = 6H*;ST$
270 PRINT CHR$(13);"POXE VALUES FROM ";ST;"TO ",EN
2280 PRINT CHRS(13);"MEMORY SI2E:";MM
290 PRINT CHR$(13);"MERGE";CHR$ (34) ;F$; CHR$(34);CHR$(13)
2300 END
```

```
1898
** THE PORE PROGRAM **
1818
1830 INPUT* A-2 198S ORAY? <ENTER> OR BREAK*:OS
1040 INPUT*START AND END ADDRESSES*;S,E
1058 FOR I=S TO E
1060 READ N : POKE I,N
1870 NEXT I
108g DEFUSRI=
169g X=USR1 (E)
1108 END
```

Program Listing 2. The POKE program.

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# Basic, Faster and Readable—Part IV 

by John Corbani

(The first three parts of this series appeared in June, p. 104, July, p. 200, and November, p. 228.-Eds.)
The intelligent use of variables in your programs is essential to both program speed and readability. The type and number of variables and their sequence affects execution time. Creating mnemonic variables that are easy to read, remember, and understand is essential to good programming.

In this article I look at the Model I/III version of Microsoft Basic and describe how Basic puts variables into memory and how to use variables so your computer reads them faster.
A variable name represents either a number (numeric variable) or a sequence of printable, or control, characters (string variables). Basic uses variables in program statements to represent different values. The concept is the same as that used in algebra.
The formula for adding three quantities illustrates the use of variables. $\mathrm{A}+\mathrm{B}+\mathrm{C}=\mathrm{D}$ uses $\mathrm{A}, \mathrm{B}$, and C to represent values you want added together, and specifies $D$ to represent the answer.
If you assign $A$ the value $2, B$ the value 3 , and $C$ the value 5 , then $D$ equals 10 in the above formula. If $\mathrm{A}=$ " B " and $B=$ " $O$ " and $C=$ " $Y$ " then $D$ equals "BOY". You can change the number or characters represented by these variables, run the variables through a formula, and obtain general solutions to problems.

## Numeric Variables

Three types of numeric variables exist: integer, single-precision, and dou-ble-precision. Integer variables describe whole numbers between - 32768 and +32767 . Basic processes these variables very quickly.

> Using variables in a Basic program can affect execution speed. Make sure you use them efficiently.

Single-precision variables consist of any six digits and can contain a decimal point. They take longer to process than integer variables.

Double-precision variables use 16 digits with a floating decimal point and take the longest time to process, so use them only when necessary.

A numeric variable's name consists of one or two alphanumeric characters, with only two restrictions: the first character must be a letter, and you cannot use Basic reserved key words (If, To, Or, and so on).

Basic converts lowercase characters to uppercase. This allows for 26 single letter variables (A-Z), 260 alphanumeric (A0-Z9), and about 650 alpha/ alpha combinations (AA-ZZ).

This total of 936 variables applies to each of the three types, bringing the total possible numeric variables to 2,808.

You have the choice of defining groups of variables as a specific numeric type, or adding an identifier (suffix) to the variable name every time you use it. If you do not specify a numeric type, Basic assumes a single-precision variable.

Use the DEFINT, DEFSNG, and DEFDBL commands to predefine groups of numeric variables as integer, single-, or double-precision.

The punctuation characters $\%$ (integer), ! (single-precision), and \# (double-precision) are suffixes that you can add to variables to define their type. The listing below illustrates the use of these definitions and suffixes.

```
10 DEFINT A-C: DEFDBL X
\(20 \mathrm{~A}=-3\) : \(\mathrm{B}!=30\) : \(\mathrm{BA}=10: \mathrm{X}=1 / 3: \mathrm{XI}=1\) :
    X2 = 3: X3 \(=\mathrm{X} 1 / \mathrm{X} 2\) : PRINT A; B!; BA:
    PRINT X; X3
\(30 \mathrm{D}=1.666 \mathrm{E} 3: \mathrm{X} 3=1.7563421 \mathrm{D}-2\) : PRINT
    D; X3
```

Line 10 defines all simple variables (those without a suffix) starting with the letters A, B, and C as integer variables. All simple variables starting with X are double-precision. All other simple variables are, by default, single-precision.

Line 20 assigns values to four variables. It sets A to -3 , an integer, and single-precision variable $B$ to 30.0000. It also sets BA to the integer 10 , and $X$ to the double-precision value of .3333333432674408 .

The computer divides constants in single-precision and converts them to double-precision or integers. If you want $1 / 3$ to equal . 3333333333333333 , you have to type it in yourself or make your computer do the division with double-precision numbers.
Line 30 illustrates a shorthand method to enter data that comes in scientific notation. When you assign values to single-precision variables, you can type the number, an E , and the exponent.
In double-precision you use a D before the exponent. Basic sets the variable D to 1666.00 and the variable X3 to .017563421.

## String Variables

String variables represent characters or sequences of characters. They can
represent from zero to 255 characters.
The rules for naming string variables are the same as those for numeric variables. Names can be either letters, an alphanumeric combination, or two letters that aren't reserved words.
Reserve groups of names for string variables by using the DEFSTR function (see the listing below). You can also identify a string variable by placing a $\$$ (read "string," not "dollar") after a variable name. Basic provides 936 string variables, bringing the total number of variables to 3,744 .

```
40 DEFSTR F-H: G = "Good bye."
    : H= "Hello"
50 YS = "you all.": F=CHRS(191)+" "
60 PRINT F+H+YS+G
```

Line 40 defines all variables starting with the letters $\mathrm{F}-\mathrm{H}$ as string variables, and assigns sequences of characters to G\$ and H\$.
Line 50 assigns a string to Y and assigns character number 191 (a full white block) and two spaces to FS. Line 60 uses the strings to print a block cursor and two sentences.

## Arrays

Use numeric and string variables to identify arrays, or lists of values. The 3,744 possible arrays are in addition to the individual variables. Each array has as many as 255 dimensions, and 65,535 elements per dimension.
You don't need to define arrays with fewer than 11 elements per dimension. You must dimension arrays with any element number above 10 before referencing the high element.
If you define a variable as a certain type, you must dimension the variable array after that point as the same type unless otherwise specified by a suffix.

70 DIM A(20,2): DIM G(26)
80 FOR A = 1 TO 20: FOR B=1 TO 2: A(A,B) $=\mathrm{A}$ B: NEXT B,A
90 FOR $A=1$ TO 26: $G(A)=\operatorname{CHRS}(A+64)$ : NEXT

Line 70 dimensions two arrays. $A(20,2)$ is a two-dimensional integer numeric array. $G(20)$ is a single-dimensional string array. Remember, line 10 defines $A$ as an integer and line 40 defines $G$ as a string variable.

Line 80 fills the numeric array with the numbers from 1-20 in one dimension and the square of the numbers in the other dimension. Line 90 fills the string array with the code for the capital letters from A-Z

Basic stores in memory all the variables
and arrays specified in a program, along with the information they represent. Basic stores numeric variables just after the program that defines them. The storage process occurs as the program uses each variable.
The program stores variables in memory in the order in which it encounters them. Each name takes 3 bytes: 1 for the variable type, and 2 for the name. The value assigned to numeric variables immediately follows.

Basic stores integer values in the next 2 bytes, single-precision in the next 4 bytes, and double-precision in the next 8 bytes. The length of the string in 1 byte and the address of the first character of the string in the 2 bytes follows the string variable's type and name. The program stores the data itself in high memory.
Basic stores arrays in a list following the simple variables. Three bytes identify the type of variable and the array name. Two bytes identify the total number of elements, and 1 byte identifies the number of dimensions. Basic also allocates 2 bytes for each dimension to give the number of elements allowed per dimension. The program stores the data, one element at a time, starting with the first dimension.

You can also use long names for the variables. Basic looks at the last character to determine type, and ignores all characters after the first two unless they are reserved (key) words. Microsoft gives more variables than most programs can use.
Why all the confusion about variables? Don't blame Basic, blame Fortran and the misinterpretation of books written by and for Fortran programmers. Fortran begat Basic, and contained only a few integer variables, starting at I .
Fortran had no strings, and virtually no organized structure. It was one of the first high-level languages, and is still the language of choice in most state-of-the-art scientific applications.
Basic is an interpreter that uses much of Fortran's source code. It has greatly expanded the role and power of variables. It also includes Basic-added numeric and string types, and many of the old restrictions are gone. The literature could not keep up. Many of the current problems are due to human factors that have seldom been addressed.

Be careful not to use letters in situations that could cause confusion. Electronic connector manufacturers have noticed that people misread the letters $\mathrm{G}, \mathrm{I}, \mathrm{O}$, and $\mathrm{Q} . \mathrm{G}, \mathrm{O}$, and Q turn up as zero. I is a 1 , and vice versa. Connector


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[^9]| Memory |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Address | Velue | Description |
| $V-10$ | 2 | Integer variable |
| $V-9$ | 0 | Name |
| $V-8$ | 65 | Name |
| $V-7$ | 71 | Number of elements |
| $V-6$ | 0 | Number of elements |
| $V-5$ | 2 | Number of dimensions |
| $V-4$ | 3 | Depth of dimension 2 |
| $V-3$ | 0 | Depth of dimension 2 |
| $V-2$ | 11 | Depth of dimension 1 |
| $V-1$ | 0 | Depth of dimension 1 |
| $V$ | 1 | First element $A(0,0)$ |
| $V+1$ | 0 | First element $A(0,0) \ldots$ |
| $V+22$ | 21 | Element $A(0,1)$ |
| $V+23$ | 0 | Element $A(0,1) \ldots$ |
| $V+44$ | 41 | Element $A(0,2)$ |
| $V+45$ | 0 | Element $A(0,2)$ |

Table 2. A two-dimensional integer array and associated values.
manufacturers use a 22 -letter alphabet. That's the reason for the standard 44 -pin connector.
I was the first of the few integers in Fortran, and since integers ran fast, they were used in most programming books as preferred variables. Everyone used them, and everyone had problems.

G is not too bad on screen or on fully formed character printers, but if you have a dot matrix printer, watch out. O is a disaster when used alone, and it's even worse when used as the second letter of a variable name.
Don't even consider Q unless the program context makes it unmistakable. QS for queen of spades in a poker program makes good sense, for instance.
I is just as bad. It makes a bad second letter, and can cause confusion when used alone. IN is a handy name for input data, and if the context is clear, $I$ is a reasonable first letter.
The logical selection of variable names depends on the purpose of the program. Pick letters and combinations that form mnemonics recognizable to anyone familiar with the general subject area. $\mathbf{X}$ and $\mathbf{Y}$ are good names for variables that describe the $X$ and $Y$ plotting positions in a graphics package.
D or T makes sense for loop variables used for time delays. NM\$ is great for the name string in a mailing list program.

Whatever you do, keep a variables list in alphabetical order as you write a program, and put arrays in a separate list. You need to know what the variables are, what they represent, and how they're used. Never use the same name for two types of numerical variables.

Use the fewest number of variables possible to do the job. Nothing is wrong with specifying some variables as utility variables and using them repeatedly. Initialize them every time you use them and you'll never have a problem.

Variables can change function as a program executes. Just list all functions in the variables list. Variables and arrays take up valuable memory, whether used once or 1,000 times, so their efficiency is important. Remember, you can never recover memory during program execution.

Fewer variables mean higher speed. Basic interprets programs character by character. When it encounters a variable, the interpreter goes to the top of the variables list and starts searching for the name.

Variables used frequently or in time sensitive routines should be at the top of the list. If the variable is number 100 on the list, the program reads 99 variable names, compares them to the desired name, and discards them every time you reference that variable. Moving the variable up to 50 on the list doubles the speed of obtaining the quantity represented by that variable.

Assign critical values right at the start of the program. Remember to store string and numeric variables in different lists. Store string and numeric arrays in a separate list, and assign values accordingly.

Sometimes you'll want to know the location of a variable in memory. The POKE command can change the contents of strings, for example, or a ma-chine-language routine might need access to some data in memory.

VARPTR(X) can get you to the right spot, but it's a tricky function to use. VARPTR(X) returns an error message if $\mathbf{X}$ is undefined in the program. If the program has not yet encountered $X$ during the execution, VARPTR returns the memory location of the variable as part of the source code. This information is useless for determining type of value of the variable.

If all simple variables have values, and you use VARPTR to find an array, any answer you get is subject to change and may be wrong.
Assigning memory space to simple variables after arrays have been defined requires moving the array to make room for the simple variable. Table 1 shows how Basic stores an integer and a string. Table 2 shows a two-dimensional integer array.

Floating point numbers start with the least significant byte at location V . The number representation when playing with binary floating point numbers is too complex to go into here. Zilog and Intel have programming guides that can help, for those who are interested. Radio Shack information to date is superficial at best.

That's enough on variables. In my next installment, I will take a look at Basic commands that let you get right into the hardware of your computer.

John Corbani's hobbies include programming, radio controlled model aircraft, sailing, railroading, skiing, and windsurfing. You can reach him at 2455 Calle Linares, Santa Barbara, CA 93109.

# Take It Off 

by David Engelhardt

Model 4 owners may need or want more space on their TRSDOS 6.0 system disks. Killing infrequently used system utilities yields the extra space, but TRSDOS 6.0 protects these utilities with a password. Before you can rearrange your disks, you must circumvent this protection. I'll show you how.

Figure 1 shows the directory listing of an unaltered 6.0 disk. The letter $P$ in the attribute (Attr) column identifies protected files.

## The Concept

Debug on TRSDOS 6.0 is more powerful than the Model III version. It

> You can gain extra space on TRSDOS 6.0 disks by killing protected utility files. Here's how.

includes a new set of features, including a disk Read/Write utility. By taking advantage of this utility in 6.0 's revised Debug, you bring the system directory into memory, remove the password, and write the modified directory back to the disk.


Figure 1. TRSDOS 6.0 directory listing.


Figure 2. Debug display.

Your TRSDOS 6.0 manual discusses this utility on pages 1-75. When you invoke a disk utility command, you must specify six parameters relevant to the operation that tell 6.0 how to proceed. You need to indicate the number of the disk drive, the cylinder number, the starting sector, the type of operation you want to perform, the memory address, and the number of sectors.

The Read/Write utility allows a possibility of four disk drives, 0-3.

TRSDOS 6.0's name for tracks is cylinders, and you must cite cylinder values in hexadecimal (hex) units. Therefore, the range of possible cylinders on a 40-track disk is 0-27 hex.

The starting sector indicates where you want to begin reading from the disk.

The Read/Write utility performs three operations: it writes to a disk (the W command), reads from a disk (R), and writes to the directory (*).

The address value tells the system where in memory to load the information read from the disk. Again, this value must be hexadecimal.

You control how much of a disk the system reads by specifying a number of sectors. If you don't specify, the program reads a whole cylinder ( 18 sectors). Since sectors are numbered $0-17$, selecting a sector number greater than 17 tells the software to continue reading onto the next cylinder.

## Removing the Protection

Begin the unprotecting process with a little insurance. Instead of altering your original disk, make a back-up copy and use that. If anything goes wrong while you're tampering with the disk directory, you won't be able to recover the working disk.

Place the back-up in drive zero. Type the command FREE :0 to determine which cylinder holds the directory. The
directory location is labelled DDD, and is usually at cylinder 20 .

At the TRSDOS Ready prompt, type DEBUG (ON,EXT) and press the enter key. The Debug monitor loads, then control passes back to the Ready prompt. Press the break key to enter the Debug monitor and a three-quarters screen display of the $\mathbf{Z 8 0}$ register values appears.
Type $\mathrm{F} 6000,7800,00$ and press the enter key. This clears the memory you want to use.
Load the disk's directory into memory using the Disk Read/Write utility command: $0,14,0, R, 6000,17$ and press the enter key. The software reads disk cylinder 14 hex and places the information in memory beginning at 6000 hex. Then the utility displays the contents of memory, starting at 6000 hex-this is the disk's directory.

Pressing the semicolon key increments the display 256 bytes of memory at a time; the hyphen key decrements the display by 256 bytes. Step through memory until the starting address of 6200 hex appears on the screen.

In the far right column, the file names appear in ASCII format. As you step through memory, the names of all
the disk's files show up. Notice that some of these names don't appear when you take a directory of the disk. See your manual's explanation of the DIR command for more about these "invisible" files.

Figure 2 shows the Debug display of memory beginning at 6200 hex. This includes the directory information for the utilities Memdisk, Repair, Com, Tape100, and Log. The line on which the ASCII file name appears represents the beginning of each directory entry.

Looking at the first byte in the first line of each utility, notice Memdisk begins with a 15; Repair, Com, Tape100 , and Log begin with 16 . This byte tells the system the program's protection level. Changing this changes the program's protection. If the value is 10 hex, the program is completely accessible.

Try unprotecting Memdisk for practice. Type E6240 and press the space bar to set Debug's pointer to Memdisk's first line. Notice that the current byte value appears at the lower left of the screen.

Type 10 and press the enter key. The display reflects the change you made. The first byte of Memdisk is 10 , mean-
ing that Memdisk is now unprotected.
Type E6260 and press the space bar. The pointer moves to the beginning of the Repair utility. Change its initial byte to 10 . Continue making these changes until you alter all the utility programs. Remember: You've made these changes in memory only, not on the disk.

To replace the disk's directory with your modified directory, use another disk Read/Write utility command. It's almost the same as the one that puts the directory in memory. Just change the operator from $\mathbf{R}$ to an asterisk. Type $0,14,0,{ }^{*}, 6000,17$ and press the enter key. Type the letter O and press the enter key to return to TRSDOS Ready. Turn off Debug using the command DEBUG (OFF).

Call the directory using the DIR command and you see that the programs you changed no longer have the $P$ attribute. You are free to copy or kill them at your discretion.

Use this technique to customize your 6.0 disks to suit your needs.
(For related information, see the sidebar on the next page.-Eds.)

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## The Password Is...

by David Lantis

At one time or another, you've probably run across a Model 4 disk file you wanted to list but couldn't because it was password-protected. One way to gain access is to remove the password protection, but that leaves the files open to anyone.

A better solution is to use this Basic program and the Memdisk utility to uncover the password. This leaves your files protected against accidents, while still giving you complete freedom.

## Program Operation

PASSCRCK/BAS (see the Program Listing) searches for the password of a protected file on the disk in drive zero. The program systematically tries every possible combination of letters and numbers until it hits upon the successful one.

The On Error and Resume statements in lines 10 and 5000 , respectively, are PASSCRCK/BAS's key. They keep the program running as long as it makes errors, i.e., as long as it generates an incorrect password.

Lines $30-160$ loop around, testing every possible alphanumeric value for each of seven possible password characters (stored in variables C2C8). Line 170, the loop that tests the value of the first character ( $\mathbf{C 1}$ ), is different from those in the previous lines because TRSDOS 6.0 requires that a letter begin a password.

Lines $180-200$ tally the values of the individual characters (C1-C8) into $\mathrm{P} \$$, the variable that holds the password possibility currently being tested. Line 210 is optional; it prints P\$ on the screen. While it's helpful to know how far along the program is, this line does slow execution.

Line 220 sets the variable FILE\$ equal to the command that lists your selected program, LIST FILE NAME/ EXTENSION PASSWORD, where password is the possibility the program tests.

Line 230 goes out to the system to test the password. If the program is successful, then the program listing appears on the screen. Finally, the software prints the line LIST FILE NAME/EXTENSION PASSWORD at the top of the screen. Get a pencil and write down the password.

Unfortunately, this program is slow. It tests tens of thousands of possible combinations of letters and numbers. In addition to the time it takes to test the password, the disk drives wait one second between the time they start spinning and the time they begin reading the disk. Multiply this second across the number of password possibilities tested and we're talking about hours, maybe days.

## Speeding Things Up

Memdisk, a TRSDOS 6.0 utility, helps speed things by creating a pseudo-disk in memory. This circumvents the physical disk I/O that takes so much time. Your TRSDOS 6.0 manual documents the Memdisk utility on page A-116.

To run PASSCRCK/BAS with Memdisk, move the system files, Basic's error reporting overlay BASIC/OV1, and the program you want to crack into memory on Memdisk. (If BASIC/OV1 is protected on your disk, remove the protection using the method described above.)

Type SYSTEM (DRIVE $=2$, DRIVER = "MEMDISK") and press the enter key. The Memdisk utility menu appears. Choose option D, specify a double-density Memdisk (type D again), and respond Y to the format request. If you ask for a directory (DIR), you see that drive 2 now contains Memdisk.

Type in BACKUP \$/SYS:0 :2 (SYS) to tell the computer to copy all system files onto disk 2 , the disk in memory.

Typing in BACKUP BASIC/ OV1:0:2 moves the Basic overlay program onto Memdisk. This circumvents the physical disk I/O involved when PASSCRCK/BAS fails and BASIC/OV1 reports, "Access denied due to password protection."

Type in BACKUP file/ext:0 :2 (where file is the name of the program you're cracking) to move the program onto Memdisk.

Typing in SYSTEM (SYSTEM = 2) installs Memdisk as drive zero. Requesting a directory now shows physical drive zero as drive 2 and Memdisk as drive zero.

Type in BASIC/CMD:2 to run Basic. Then, from Basic's READY prompt, load and run PASSCRCK/BAS. When the program asks "File you wish to list?" enter the name of the program you want to crack.

With the Memdisk method implemented, PASSCRCK/BAS tests about 100 passwords per minute. Carried to its ultimate end, the program reaches its final possibility (password ZZZZZZZZ) in approximately 1,041 years. But the chances are that the software will encounter the correct password well before then.

```
10 ON ERROR GOTO 5990
20 INPUT"What file to list -- must be on disk g";P$
30 FOR C8=32 TO 98
48 IF (C8>32 AND C8<48) OR. (C8>57 AND C8<65) THEN 320
58 POR C7=32 TO 98
60 IF (C7>32 AND C7<48) OR (C7>57 AND C7<65) THEN 310
70 FOR C6=32 TO 90
80 IF (C6>32 AND C6<48) OR (C6>57 AND C6>65) THEN 300
88 IF (C6>32 AND C6< 
100 IP (C5>32 AND C5<48) OR (C5>57 AND C5<68) THEN 290
18g IF (C5>32 AND C
```



```
130 FOR C3=32 TO 90
lug FOR C3=32 TO 98 C3<48) OR (C3>57 AND C3<68)THEN 278
140 1F FOR C2=32 TO 9g
160 IF (C2>32 AND C2<48) OR (C2>57 AND C2<68) THEN 268
179 FOR Cl=65 TO 98
188 P1$=CHR$(C1) +CHR$(C2) +CHR$(C3) +CHR$ (C4)
190 P2$=CHR$ (C5) +CHR$ (C6) +CHR$ (C7) +CHR$ (C8)
200 PS=P1$+P2$
218 PRINT PS
22| PILE$=*'list *+P$+*.*+P$
239 SYSTEM FILES
248 PRINT FILE$: END
258 NEXT C1
26g NEXT C2
278 NEXT C3
280 NEXT C4
299 NEXT C5
390 NEXT C6
316 NEXT C7
32s NEXT C8
330 PRINT "Couldn't find the password, I guess you'11 have to fi
re me": END
50g8 RESUME 258
268 NEXT C2
```


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[^10]
## Finding the Search Solution

## Continued from p. 115

of the two keys and uses the composite key signature for the search. For example, to search for the record containing the keys "lane" and "walk", the program logically ORs the key signatures of "lane" and "walk" to produce a composite key signature (Fig. 4).
You then compare each record signature with the composite key signature. Only the record signature of the string "Jill walks up the lane" matches (for every $b_{i}$ equal to 1 in the composite key signature, a $b_{i}$ equals 1 in the record signature).
The program identifies the string even though the search key "walk" is only a substring of the word "walks". This is an important feature of the signature screening method. You need to specify only three or more letters of a word to find it. The substring can be from any position in the word.

## Signature Screening <br> on an 8-Bit Machine

The detective who helped us earlier has gone home to watch reruns of Perry Mason, and it's time to get to work. First, I'll describe the general aspects of implementing signature screening on 8 -bit machines. I'll follow this with an explanation and complete Assemblylanguage listings of two signature screening programs (Mindex and Search) for the Models II, 12, 16, III, and 4.
Finally I'll give instructions on usingthe programs, suggest potential applications, and venture a prediction on how personal computers will store and retrieve textual information in the future.

## Source and Index File Structure

Start with a simple case in which each text record is 255 or fewer bytes and is
followed by an end-of-record indicator (ASCII 13). The program stores only one record per disk sector. Figure 5 shows a 10 -sector source file, the records in each sector, and the corresponding index file.

The index file has the same name and password as the source file, but the extension MAP. The first sector of the index file, called the header, contains the name and version of the indexing program (Mindex 1.2) and the source file's file specification. The source file's drive number isn't included since the user might wish to switch drives.

The remainder of the index file sectors are called signature sectors. Each signature sector contains eight record signatures stored in parallel. Think of it as eight 251 -bit strings stacked one on top of another. The record signature of the nth source file record is located in the (INT(n/8) +1 )th sector of the index file and comprises the $(\mathrm{n} \bmod 8)$ th bit of bytes zero to 250 .
Neither Mindex nor Search uses the 5 bytes $(251$ to 255$)$ at the end of each signature sector. In Fig. 5, you can find the signature of the first source record (sector zero) by reading the first bit (bit


0 Mindex1.2 $\quad$ FILE1/TXT


Figure 5. Source file (FILE1/TXT) and its index file (FILEI/MAP).

| Signature |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | String |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 8 | 9 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 |  |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 0 | 1 |  |
|  |  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |  |
| 0001000000000000000010000010000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000010001000001000000000000000000000 He ran dovn the lane |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 000100000000010000000000001000000000000000000000000000000010000000000000000000000000000000100100000000001001000000000000000000001 Jill valks up the lane |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 000100000000000000000000000100000000000000000000000000001000000000000000000000000000000000000000001000000000100000000000000000001 The goat ran up the lane |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 00000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000001000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000001 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 00010000000001000000000000100000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000000001000000000100000000000000000000000 valks + 1a |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Figure 4. Record signatures of the three strings in Table 2 and key signatures of the search keys "Jill" and "walks + lane". |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |



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zero) of each of the bytes in the first signature sector.

## Indexing

I'll index the file in Fig. 5. First, the program reserves a 256 -byte buffer in memory for the signature sector. After it opens the source and index files and writes the index file header sector, the program starts indexing.

The program sets all the bytes in the signature sector buffer to zero. The program reads the first source file record into memory. It then hashes each triplet in the source record to a number between zero and 250, and sets bit zero of the corresponding byte in the signature sector buffer to 1 . In the first source record the triplets "bir"' and "ird"' hash to 171 and 194, respectively, so the program sets the first bits of bytes 171 and 194 of the signature sector to 1 .

After the program processes the first record, it reads the second record (sector 1) into memory. Again, the program hashes each triplet in the record, but this time the program sets bit 1 of the corresponding byte equal to 1 . The triplet "cat"' hashes to 193 so the program sets bit 1 of byte 193 of the signature sector
to 1 .
The program repeats this procedure until it indexes eight of the records. It then stores the signature sector buffer in the index file (sector 1). The program processes the next eight sectors of the source file in the same manner, and sequentially stores the signature sector in the index file. Indexing continues until the end of the source file, then the program writes the last signature sector to the index file and closes both files.

## Searching

Remember that in its simplest form the search algorithm is: Match the signature of the first record to the key signature. If, for every $b_{i}$ equal to 1 in the key signature, you have a corresponding $b_{i}$ equal to 1 in the record signature, the screening test is positive and the program brings the record into memory and searches it for the key. Continue screening record signatures until you reach the end of the index file.

An ideal way to compare the key signature to a record signature is to have a machine with 251 -bit registers and accumulators. You could compare the key and record signatures in one operation.

| Search key | Jill |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Triplets | jil | ill |
| Hash values | 212 | 142 |
|  |  |  |
| Key hash buffer | 21 <br> 14 <br> 22 |  |

Figure 6. Search key "Jill'' for search of the source file in Fig. 5.

It would be a form of parallel process-ing-the same as putting multiple needles in edge-notched cards and selecting only those cards that fall out.

Eight-bit machines, however, necessitate the use of serial processing. Although a program can sequentially compare all 251 bits of the key and record signatures, it would be wasteful because the majority of bits in the key signature are set to zero and can be ignored.

Instead, the program stores the hash values of all triplets in the search key in a separate buffer called the key hash buffer (Fig. 6). If, for each hash value in the key hash buffer, the corresponding

| Listing 3 continued |  |  |  |  | 00139 | ноне | PUSH |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ${ }_{\text {enemb }}^{90865}$ |  |  |  |  | ${ }^{09148}$ | номе 5 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { PoUH } \\ & \text { LD } \\ & \text { spo } \\ & \text { pop } \end{aligned}$ |  | ; r1:c1 <br> ,pos cursor |
| 90664 |  |  |  | ;-------------------- | 90142 |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | ${ }_{\substack{\text { Public } \\ \text { PUBLIC }}}$ | Access | jaccess mode of open routine | ${ }_{0}^{08143}$ |  |  |  |  |
| enep67 |  | ${ }^{\text {PUBLIIC }}$ | ${ }_{\text {a }}^{\text {INDCB }}$ | IINput (source) fille pci | 00145 |  |  |  |  |
| (80868 ${ }_{\text {86969 }}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {PUBLIC }}^{\text {PUBLIC }}$ | ${ }_{\text {IDCBCR }}^{\text {IDCBL }}$ |  | ${ }_{90147} 0146$ | воттом | ${ }_{\text {LS }}^{\text {PUSH }}$ | ${ }_{8 \mathrm{BC}, 23 \times 256+0}$ |  |
| 98978 |  | PUBLIC | IDCBLR | Input ilie dce last Record | 90148 |  |  | HOMES |  |
| 80871 |  | PUBLIC | ${ }^{\text {INLLLR }}$ | ; true last record of source flle | 20149 |  |  |  |  |
| 96873 |  | ${ }_{\text {PUBLIC }}^{\text {Public }}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  | NENL |
| ${ }_{\text {cex }}^{\text {ene87 }}$ |  | $\xrightarrow{\text { PUBLIC }}$ | ${ }_{\text {MDCBCR }}^{\text {M }}$ | ; Map file DCA Record Length | ${ }^{60152}$ |  |  |  | roils screen and positions |
| ${ }^{689776}$ |  | ${ }^{\text {PUBLIC }}$ | MDCBCR | , Map file dCB Current Record |  |  |  |  | ;cursor to next to last rine |
| 98877 |  | PUBLIC | maplir | ,true last record of index file | 80155 |  |  |  | ; current (or last) record displayed |
| ¢08979 |  | ${ }_{\text {PUBLIC }}$ | MDCBOS | ; Map file DCB $\times \times \times \times \times \times \times x$ d | ${ }^{09156}$ | NEWLN |  |  | ;reg altered: A |
| 9日e8e |  | ${ }^{\text {PUBLLIC }}$ | - | irecord buffer (1 byte) for output file | ${ }^{615}$ | NEMLN | ${ }^{\text {PUSSH }}$ | ${ }^{\mathrm{DE}}$ |  |
| ${ }_{80882}$ |  | ${ }^{\text {PUSLIC }}$ | ${ }_{\text {ORTBUP }}^{\text {OUTOB }}$ |  | 08159 80168 |  | PUSH | ${ }_{\text {HL }}^{\text {Botrom }}$ | ; pos to bottom line |
|  |  | PUBLIC | SorLs | istart of record line no. | ${ }^{09161}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {Lo }}$ | ${ }^{\text {A, } \text {, DH }}$ |  |
| ${ }^{\text {geng }}$ |  |  |  | (iof SEARCH program) | ${ }_{80163}^{00162}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { CALL } \\ & \mathrm{LD} \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | VDCHAR $\mathrm{BC}, 22 \cdot 256+0$ | ;roll screen by dsp EOR on bottom line ; 23 :c1 |
| 88887 |  |  |  | Monil 1/0 parm | ${ }_{80165}^{08164}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {cold }}^{\text {cald }}$ |  |  |
| 80888 |  |  |  | ------ | ${ }_{00166}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {CP }}$ | , | ;has first line reached top of screen? |
| 808998 |  | ${ }_{\text {Public }}^{\text {Public }}$ | ARrowd | jarrow down jarrow left | ${ }_{00168}^{08167}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {LS }}^{\text {JR }}$ |  | iff it has do not dec (SORLN) |
| ${ }_{\text {¢08992 }}$ |  | ${ }^{\text {Public }}$ | ARrowr | ;arrow right | ${ }^{916169}$ |  | DEC |  | ; dee (SORLN) |
| ${ }_{\text {ge993 }}$ |  | ${ }^{\text {Public }}$ | (erkow | ${ }_{\text {l }}^{\text {jorrow }}$, ${ }^{\text {break }}$ key | 00178 00171 | newlms | $\stackrel{\text { pop }}{\text { LD }}$ | ${ }_{\text {HL }}^{\text {(SORLA }}$ ), A |  |
| ${ }_{\text {8e¢日99 }}$ |  | PUBLIC | BSPREY | back space key | ${ }^{06172}$ |  | pop | OE |  |
| 8e996 |  | ${ }^{\text {PUBLIC }}$ | ${ }_{\text {CLLKEY }}^{\text {CPYPOS }}$ |  | ${ }^{86173}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {PET }}^{\text {Pop }}$ | BC |  |
| 88997 |  | public | DFTrs | fdefaut file size | 90175 | ;---- |  |  |  |
| \%ea99 |  | ${ }^{\text {PUBLIC }}$ | (SEYTE | $\cdots$ insert key byte in 255 byte rec |  |  |  |  | ; CURPOS |
| 80108 |  | PUBLIC | PENULN | , ipenulitimate ine ine (next to bottom) | ${ }^{\text {cil }}$ |  |  |  | , get cursor position |
| ${ }_{80182} 8181818$ |  |  | swit | iscreen width minus 1 | ${ }^{\text {and }}$ 9179 |  |  |  | ivariou, cecolumn |
| ${ }^{801183}$ |  | PUBLIC | TOPL | , top line of editor screen | ${ }^{08181}$ |  |  |  | ;reg aitered: Af,D |
| 88185 |  |  |  |  | ${ }^{06183}$ |  | svc | 11 | ;get cursor pos |
| ${ }^{801186}$ |  |  |  | , referenced by modil | 98184 |  | RET |  |  |
| 00108 |  | ExTERN | answer | ,general purpose 1 byte buffer | ${ }^{\text {ce1 } 186}$ |  |  |  | ; Poscur |
| ${ }^{80118}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {EXTERN }}^{\text {ExTERN }}$ | EATNBNK |  | ${ }_{60188} 61878$ |  |  |  |  |
| ${ }_{20111}^{20112}$ |  |  |  | ; Model II equates | ${ }^{0018189}$ |  |  |  | ; Brex cow cocolumn |
| ${ }_{60114}^{20113}$ | ARROWD |  |  | fartow down | ${ }^{98191}$ | POSCUR | ${ }_{\text {LV }} \mathrm{LD}$ | 0,8 |  |
| 00115 | ARrowl | EOU | 1 CH | ;arrow left | ${ }_{80193}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {RET }}$ |  | ipos cursor |
| ${ }_{\text {O017 }}^{00116}$ | ARROWR ${ }_{\text {AROM }}^{\text {AR }}$ | ${ }_{\text {EOU }}$ | 10\% | ${ }^{\text {jarrow right }}$ jartow up | ${ }^{08194}$ |  |  |  |  |
| ${ }^{60118}$ | brkex | EOU | 3 | ;oreak key | 88196 |  |  |  | ; |
| ${ }_{80120} 0119$ | ${ }_{\text {SWM1 }}$ | ${ }_{\text {EOU }}^{\text {EOU }}$ | ${ }_{79}^{88}$ |  | ${ }^{80} 8197$ | kbinit | ${ }_{\text {RET }}^{\text {SVC }}$ | 1 | ; initilize keyboard |
| ${ }_{00121} 0121$ | TOPLN | sou | 19 | ,top 1 ine of edit text | -6199 |  |  |  |  |
| ${ }_{80123} 0122$ | LSEPTTE | E0U | 14 | ;penultimate ${ }^{\text {colum }}$ of last byte in 255 byte |  |  |  |  | ; KBCHAR |
| ${ }_{0}^{80124}$ | Dprprs | EOU | ${ }^{808}$ | ; default file size for 3by | ${ }^{80292}$ |  |  |  | ,get char from keyboard |
| ${ }_{80126} 0121$ | INSKEY | EOU | 1 | insert key (F1) | ${ }_{80204} 0268$ |  |  |  | ; ivalue of pressed key returne |
| ${ }_{\text {en }}^{\text {ge128 }}$ | ¢SPREY | EQU | ${ }_{52}^{8}$ | (backspace key ${ }_{\text {cole }}^{\text {copyright }}$ notice position | ${ }^{82205}$ | kbChar |  |  | in $A$ reg. If no key pressed, A=0 |
| 98129 |  |  |  | ropytge hotice position | ${ }_{80287}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {LD }}{ }^{\text {PSH }}$ |  |  |
| 60138 |  |  |  | ; Home | ${ }^{022088}$ |  | LD |  |  |
| ${ }_{60132}$ |  |  |  | ;pos cursor to rlicl | 88218 |  | svc |  | ; Model 11 kBCHAR |
| ${ }_{\text {gel }}{ }_{80134}$ |  |  |  | ;reg altered: $A P$, ${ }^{\text {d }}$ | ${ }_{80212}^{80211}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {cp }}^{\text {cp }}$ | ${ }_{i}^{\text {a }}$ ( (BREAK) |  |
|  |  |  |  | ; воттом | ${ }^{80213}$ |  | JR | 2, кВСН6 |  |
|  |  |  |  | ipos cursor to restel | -96214 |  | ${ }_{\text {Pop }}$ |  | ;move entered char to a reg |
|  |  |  |  |  | ${ }^{6216}$ |  | RET |  | Listing 3 continued |



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record signature bit equals 1 , the screening test is positive, and the program searches the source record for the key. Since it inn't efficient to compare 1 bit at a time on an 8-bit machine, the program processes eight record signatures at once.

To search the file in Fig. 5, you must first open the index file, then the source file specified in the index file header. The search begins when you enter a key (e.g., the name "Jill").

The program hashes each triplet of the key and stores the hash value sequentially in the key hash buffer (Fig. 6). In the example, it stores the hash values 212 (h(jii)) and 142 (h(ili)) respectively in the first and second bytes of the key hash buffer.

Then the program reads the first signature sector of the index file into the signature sector buffer in memory. It sets the accumulator (A) to 255 (1111 1111 binary). The program ANDs byte 212 (hash value of the triplet "jil') of the signature sector with $\mathbf{A}$.

If A equals zero, the triplet " jil " isn't present in the first eight sectors of text and you can process the next signature sector. If A doesn't equal zero, the triplet "jil" might be present, so the program continues to process the current signature sector.

The program ANDs byte 142 (hash value of the triplet "ill") of the signature sector with A. Skip to the next signature sector if A equals zero; otherwise continue as follows. For each bit in A equal to 1 it's possible (but not certain) that the corresponding record contains the triplets "jil" and "ill".

In the example, A equals 72 ( 0100 1000 binary), indicating that sectors 3 and 6 might contain the key you're looking for. The program reads record 3 into memory and searches sequentially for the string "Jill". It finds the key and displays the record.

Then the program reads record 6 into memory, but the key "Jill" isn't present so it bypasses the record. The reason for the collision is simple-the triplet "goa" hashes to the same value as "jil" and the triplet "ill" appears in both records.

The program sequentially reads the index file a sector at a time and processes each signature sector similarly. After it screens the entire index file and searches the appropriate source records, you can enter another key to restart the searching process.
Searching for the joint occurrence of two or more keys is merely an extension of the above procedure (search the file for the names "Jack" and "Jill"). The
> "The program processes eight record signatures at once."

program stores the hash values $(123,4$, 212, and 142) of the triplets " jac ", "ack", "jil", and "iil" in the key hash buffer.

The program reads the first signature sector into memory and sets the accumulator to 255 . It ANDs byte 123 of the signature sector with A. Similarly, it ANDs bytes 4, 212, and 142 of the signature sector with $A$.

If at any time A equals zero, none of the eight source records contains both strings, and the search skips to the next signature sector. In the example, only bit 5 equals 1 , so it's the only source record searched. The program finds the names "Jack" and "Jill" and displays the record.
In these simple examples only one record is present per sector. When two or more records completely fit into one sector, the program indexes the entire sector as one record. When the program searches the sector, however, it examines each record separately for the search key(s). If a record spans a sector boundary (starts in one sector and ends in another), it is considered as logically in the first sector in which it begins.

You increase the speed of searching by storing as many signature sectors as possible in memory (reducing the number of disk reads during index screening).

## TRS-80 Signature Screening

Mindex and Search are Assemblylanguage programs that use signature screening to search text files. Mindex indexes the source file and stores the index on disk. Search uses the index created by Mindex to search large text files quickly.

These programs were written with the Radio Shack Assembly Language Development System (ALDS) on a Model II. Each program consists of several modules. The two input/output (I/O) modules include MODII/SRC for the Model II and MODIII/SRC for the Model III.

The ALDS editor, assembler, and linker work only on the Model II. If you have a Model III and want to use these programs exactly as written, you must first write, assemble, and link them on a Model II and then, using the ALTRAN


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programs supplied in the ALDS package, transfer them to the Model III.

Alternatively, you can write and assemble the programs using a simple editor/assembler such as Radio Shack's Series I Editor/Assembler (EDTASM). EDTASM does not contain a linker so it's necessary to combine the modules into one program for Mindex and Search.

I first developed Mindex and Search (version 1.1) on a Model III using EDTASM. However, the editor's memory was limited and the program comments were restricted.

When I switched to the Model II, I started using ALDS. Much to my chagrin, the operating systems of the two machines are quite different. For exam-
ple, to display a character on the Model III, you load the character into the accumulator and make a call to location 33 hexadecimal (hex). The routine alters the contents of the DE register pair.
On the Model II, you load the character into register B, load the supervisor call code 8 into the accumulator, and execute an RST 8 operation. The DE register pair isn't altered.

Rather than rewrite the program for the Model II, I developed separate I/O routines for the Models II and III. Since I wrote the original programs for the Model III, the parameters pass to the I/O routines in Model III format.

For example, the program stores the character you want displayed on the screen in the accumulator. A few of the

Model II routines (SVCs) aren't present in Model III TRSDOS so I added them (such as routines to position the cursor at coordinates stored in the BC register pair).

If you're using Radio Shack's ALDS, type in the program modules in Program Listings 1-3 and 7-12 for the Model II, and Listings 4-12 for the Model III. After the ALDS writes each module, you must assemble them to relocatable code by using ALASM, the ALDS assembler.

After ALASM assembles all modules, you're ready to link them. For the Model II, type ALLINK MINDEX2 MINDEX $\$=4000$ to link the Mindex program and ALLINK SEARCH2 SEARCH $\$=4000$ to link the Search


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Enter name of file to be indexed, or ? for help

Figure 7. The Mindex screen.
program. Do the same for the Model III, but use the file names MINDEX3 and SEARCH3 and set $\$=5200$ (the program's starting location).
To transfer the programs from the Model II to a Model III, you must use the ALTRAN transfer programs supplied with ALDS. On the Model III, Mindex and Search must have the ex-
tension CMD; on the Model II, no extension is necessary.

## Using Mindex and Search

After you assemble and link both programs, you're ready to begin indexing and searching. The first requirement is an ASCII text file. You can create the text with Scripsit and convert it to

ASCII file format by using the Scripsit convert utility.

If you don't have Scripsit or some other word processor/text editor, you can create text files by using the editor that comes with Basic. Instead of typing in a line of code, type in a record. You must save text files created with the Basic editor in ASCII format.

Mindex indexes text or data source files. It stores the index in the separate MAP index file. The program segments records longer than 255 characters into blocks of 255 characters and indexes them until it finds a block of characters less than 255 characters long terminating in an end-of-record (EOR) message. The index file that Mindex creates has the same name as your source file (unless you specify otherwise) and the extension MAP.

To run Mindex, type MINDEX and press the enter key. Mindex displays the screen in Fig. 7 and waits for you to enter the file specifications of the source and index files. The syntax is: SOURCE


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[^11]File Name:

Enter file names, or ? for help
Figure 8. Initial Search screen.

## FILE,INDEX FILE;OPTIONS

You can also enter the file specifications and options on the TRSDOS command line (MINDEX REF:0,:1;P). Only the source file specification is necessary; the program assigns the index file the same name, password, and disk drive as the source file unless you specify otherwise.

For example, typing REF/TXT.SECRET:1 and pressing the enter key opens the source file "REF/TXT.SECRET:1" and creates the index file "REF/MAP.SECRET:1", while typing REF/TXT.SECRET:1,.CODEWORD: 2 and pressing the enter key opens the source file "FILE1/TXT.SECRET:1" and creates the index file "FILE1/MAP.CODEWORD:2".

In this case the index file has a different password from the source file and is on drive 2 rather than drive 1. You don't need to specify the disk drive for your source file unless you have two files with the same specification on two separate drives. The program places the index file on the same disk as the source file unless you specify another drive.

Indicate the paragraph format option by appending a semicolon and the letter $\mathbf{P}$ to the file specifications. In the paragraph format, the program treats each sentence as a string. You should use the paragraph format for text files composed of sentences arranged in paragraphs and that don't have an EOR at the end of each line or sentence.

MAP uses the period as a pseudo EOR and treats each sentence as a record. If you don't specify the indexing format, the program defaults to the record format. Typing TEXTFILE,:1; $;$ and pressing the enter key opens the source file TEXTFILE from whatever drive it's on, creates the index file TEXTFILE/MAP on drive 1, and indexes the source file in paragraph format.
Mindex displays the name, extension, password, and drive of the source and
data files, indicates that it's opened each file successfully (or gives a self-explanatory error message), and begins indexing. The program displays the number of the source file sector it indexes.
When the program finishes indexing, it saves the index file on disk and returns you to TRSDOS. You don't need to reindex the source file unless you modify the file or you delete the index file from the disk.
To run Search, type SEARCH and press the enter key. The screen in Fig. 8 appears. Type in the name of the file you want to search. Alternatively, you can enter the file specifications on the TRSDOS command line (SEARCH REF:1). The complete syntax is SOURCE FILE, INDEX FILE, OUTPUT FILE.
It's only necessary to type in the name of the source file. The program assigns the same specification to the index file (except for the extension MAP) and output file (except for the extension OUT) unless you specify otherwise.
For example, typing TESTFILE/ TXT assigns the specification TESTFILE/MAP to the index file and TESTFILE/OUT to the output file. The MAP index file contains the source file name, extension, and password so you don't have to type in that information.
The appropriate files will open, the index will load into memory, and you can begin your search. If an error occurs in opening the files, the program informs you of the type of error so you can correct it.
After Search opens the MAP index file and its associated source file, the name of the source file appears at the top of the screen. The blinking cursor on the second line under the letter E is a prompt for you to enter the key or keys you want to locate. Type the key(s) you're searching for and tap the enter key.
Each key must be three or more char-


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## Name

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acters long, and no key or combination of keys can be longer than 60 characters. Search ignores capitalized letters and lets you search for partial keys. For example, the key "cdonal" locates records containing the names McDonald and MacDonald.

You can search for combinations of keys within records or sentences. You find combinations by using the logical operators AND or OR. AND is represented by the + symbol (hold the shift key and press + ). OR is represented by the ; symbol (hold the control key and press zero on the Model II; hold the shift key and press @ on the Model III).

On the Model II the operators + and ; appear in inverse video to distinguish them from characters in a key. On the Model III a small, solid white rectangle appears under the operator to indicate that it inn't a character in a key. For example, the search key Jack + Jill'Jack +

## 'You can search for combinations of keys within records or sentences."

nimble finds records that contain the names Jack and Jill or records containing the name Jack and the word nimble.
On the Model II, enter the + character as part of a key by pressing F1 and enter the ; character as part of a key by pressing F2. On the Model III the @ key enters special characters from the keyboard.
If the key you're searching for has the symbol + or ${ }_{1}$, you can enter it in the following manner: press the @ key (unshifted) and the cursor becomes larger. Then enter either + or . You enter
the © character into a key in the same manner.
After you enter a valid key, the program starts its search and the message "Searching" appears in the upper left corner of the screen. The number of each sector searched appears next to the word Searching.

When the program locates the first record in the file with the appropriate key (or keys), it displays the record at the bottom of the screen. One record appears at a time and the program waits for your instructions to continue the search, abort the search, or display text around the located record.

To continue the search, press the down-arrow key after each line of text appears. Pressing and holding the down-arrow key (and the repeat key on the Model II) lets you continuously scroll through records as the program finds them. When the program has

| Listing 3 continued |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { eqg96 } \\ \text { geg97 } \end{gathered}$ | nocscr | DEFP DEFE | ; | ,eurrent record |
| 208999 | nocblr | Dera | ! | , 1ast record |
| 0.9991 | ndcbos | DEFB | , |  |
| ${ }^{20962}$ | mapler | DEFs | 50 | ,true last enctor |
| -99945 | OUTDCB | DEFs | 64 | ,output flle DCB |
|  | sorla | derb | - | jstart of record line number <br> for each line of rec displayed <br> i(SORLN) is decremented |
| ${ }_{\substack{\text { and } \\ 09911 \\ 09912}}$ | Stup | DEFB | - |  |



Program Listing 4. Assembly-language listing of Mindex3/SRC.


Program Listing 5. Assembly-language listing of Search3/SRC:1.

Program Listing 6. Assembly-language listing of MODIII/SRC.


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(C)hange File, (M)AP, (O)ptions or (T)RSDOS

## x000000x Format

Inset from Left Margin: $\quad x$
Search Display Mode: (C/R/L) x
Print Mode: (C/M) x
Output File Name: xxcox00/OUT
Output File Status: (C/R/A) x
Output Mode: (C/M) x

Figure 9. Search options screen.
searched the entire file, the message
"Enter Key" appears again. You can now search for another key or combination of keys.

## Search Options and Commands

While the "Enter Key" message is present and the cursor is in column 1,
you can jump to the Search minimenu by pressing the break key. The following message appears on the top line: "(C)hange File, (M)AP, (O)ptions or (T)RSDOS".

Typing $\mathbf{O}$ gives you the Options screen shown in Fig. 9. You can bypass any question in the options menu by
pressing the enter key. The program displays the meaning of abbreviations used in the current prompt at the bottom of the screen.

The first line informs you of the format used to index the file and you can't change it while searching a file.

The inset number ( X ) ranges from zero to 9. Insetting is similar to indenting except that the first line of a record is flush with the left margin, and subsequent lines are inset from the left margin. The number displayed across from the word inset is the value currently used to inset records. You can change it by typing any number from zero to nine and then pressing the enter key. The default inset is two.

While searching for a key or combination of keys, you can display the information continuously, or a record or line at a time. Type $C$ and press the enter key to have records continuously displayed as the program finds them. Type $R$ and press the enter key for


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| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\xrightarrow{89265}$ | opea | COLL | dopes | jexit: A=TRSDOS error code | $\begin{aligned} & \text { e9335 } \\ & \text { eap33 } \\ & \text { gea337 } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  | iposition to rec in tile pentry: DE-3DCB <br> BCotec no. |
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| ¢98282 |  |  |  | , OPINIT | ${ }^{68353}$ |  |  |  | direct |
|  |  |  |  | Open file if present, else init file | - ${ }_{\text {eas3 }}$ |  |  |  | lentry, |
| (18285 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Iexit: $A$-TRSDOs eiror mag |
| (18287 | opinit | pusk |  | fexit: $A=T R S D 0$ errot code | ${ }^{893588}$ |  | call | DPOSM | , position to rec ac |
| -98289 |  | PUSY | ${ }^{\text {DE }}$ |  | 93368 |  | CALL | ${ }_{\text {DREAD }}$ | ${ }^{\text {jo }}$ dipect read |
| ${ }_{\text {ata }}$ |  | Call | Dopen | , try to open the flisat | ${ }_{\text {ea362 }}{ }^{20361}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {POSP }}^{\text {POP }}$ |  |  |
|  |  | JP | 2,0pI74 | 1keeps present record no. | ${ }_{\text {a }}^{20363}$ |  | CALL | DPOSN | freposition to rec=BC |
| ${ }^{\text {per }}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {pop }}$ |  |  | ${ }^{29365}$ |  | pop | ${ }_{\text {ar }}$ |  |
| -80296 |  | ${ }_{\text {cop }}^{\text {POP }}$ | ${ }_{\text {DINIT }}^{\text {BC }}$ | fsets last rec no. - | - 19365 | RDDRS | Pog | BC |  |
|  |  | ${ }_{\text {RET }}$ |  |  | ¢936968 |  | Rer |  |  |
| ${ }^{\text {engenge }}$ | OPIT4 | pop | ${ }_{\text {di }}^{\text {dit }}$ | ;open attempt successful | ${ }^{29378}$ |  |  |  | ,RENDNX |
|  |  | ${ }_{\text {RET }}^{\text {POP }}$ | BC |  | ${ }^{09372}$ |  |  |  | fresd next record |
| ¢e3e3 | OUTCHR | DEFP | - | poutput record buffer for Mod II | ${ }^{\text {a3374 }}$ |  |  |  | jexit: |
| ${ }^{29365}$ |  |  |  | , CLOSE | -3376 | neanni | RET | DREAD |  |
| ${ }^{863989}$ |  |  |  |  | 29378 |  |  |  | TMRITE |
| ${ }^{\text {e83 }} 83989$ | close | Call | dCLLOSE |  | 29389 |  |  |  |  |
| ${ }^{0.1819}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {RET }}$ |  |  | ${ }^{\text {e939381 }}$ |  |  |  | jentry: DE->DCB |
| ${ }^{06312}$ |  |  |  | SETALR | ${ }^{\text {20383 }}$ | wRITE | pusi | BC |  |
| ${ }_{80}^{90314}$ | SETTL |  |  | tset MAPLLR to true last rec | ${ }^{26385}$ |  | CALL | ${ }_{\text {dposs }}$ | tposition to record |
|  | setmbl | ${ }_{\text {DEC }}^{\text {Li }}$ | ${ }_{\text {HL }}^{\text {HL, (MDCBLR }}$ | ,moolil adjustment |  |  | ${ }_{\text {posh }}$ |  |  |
| ${ }_{\text {amasig }}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {ReT }}$ |  |  | - ${ }_{\text {a33 }}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {chep }}^{\text {catl }}$ | ${ }_{\text {de }}^{\text {DWate }}$ | ,write |
|  |  |  |  | , SETILR | ${ }^{2039391}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {cope }}^{\text {coll }}$ | ${ }_{\text {PROSK }}$ | freposition to BC |
| ${ }_{80323}$ | 18 |  |  | iset incla to true last record | ${ }^{203393}$ |  |  |  |  |
| ${ }_{\substack{10324 \\ 03325}}$ | setulk | ${ }_{\sim}^{0}$ |  |  | ${ }^{203959}$ |  |  |  | , warmax |
|  |  | ${ }_{3 P}{ }^{\text {P }}$ |  |  | ${ }_{\text {¢8397 }}$ |  |  |  | , sequential veite |
|  |  | DRC |  | iftie ends at end of sector itherefore on Mod III , must dec (IDCBLR) | ${ }^{\text {ana }}$ | wirtax |  | DWRITE | rexit: ${ }^{\text {c-TRSDOS }}$ etror code |
|  | serti | ${ }_{\text {keT }}$ | (INLLR) , HL |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ${ }_{\text {ene }}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | ,wpkamt |
| ${ }_{86334} 86334$ |  |  |  |  | eeseat |  |  |  | word processing kexirit routine eursor alternates vith character |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Listing 6 continued |

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record scroll.
As it locates and displays each record containing the keys, the program waits for your instruction to continue, abort the search, print the record, or output the record to another disk file. Type $L$ and press the enter key for line scroll to have Search pause after displaying each line. The default search display mode is record scroll.
You can print records found during a search continuously or manually. Type C and press the enter key to have each line printed as it appears on the screen. Type $\mathbf{M}$ and press the enter key to let you selectively print records or lines of text as they appear on the screen. The Search Display Mode determines whether a line or the entire record is printed. The default print mode is manual.
The output file name is the name of the file to which you want to transfer records. Enter the file name using standard TRSDOS notation to designate the name, extension, disk drive, and password. If you don't specify an output file name, the output file has the same specifications as the source file except for the extension OUT.
You can close, reset, or open the out-
put file. Type $C$ and press the enter key to close an output file. Type $R$ and press the enter key to reset the output file to the first sector. If the file is closed, this opens the file and sets it to the first sector.
Type $\mathbf{A}$ and press the enter key to append additional records to a file. The program retains previously written records. If the program finds the file closed, it opens it and sets the file pointer to the end-of-file marker. Using append on a newly created file is equivalent to resetting the file. The default output file status is closed.

You can write records found during a search to the output file continuously or manually. Type $C$ and press the enter key to have each record written to the file as it's found. Type $M$ and press the enter key to manually select records to be written to the output file. The default output file mode is manual.
While searching you might wish to display the text around a particular record. Tap $L$ to call the list routine. A dotted line indicates that you changed from the search to the list mode. The message on the top line reads "Listing XXXXX", where XXXXX is the sector number. In the list mode, the program
sets the inset to zero while word wraparound remains in effect.

Press the down-arrow key to display a line at a time. If you hold the downarrow key (and the repeat key on the Model II), the file scrolls forward.

To backspace through the source file, press the up-arrow key and the text jumps back three sectors. The message "*Backspace Three Sectors*" appears. You can backspace to the beginning of the file in this manner.

While listing, you can continue your search where you left off by pressing the $S$ key. A dotted line indicates that you've changed from listing to searching the source file. The message on the top line of the screen reads "Searching XXXXX".

You can write records found during searching or listing to a separate output file. Three of the options deal with the output file.
The default output file specification is the same as the index file but has the extension OUT. If you don't want to change the name, tap the enter key in response to the Output File Name prompt.

Typing $\mathbf{R}$ and pressing the enter key opens the output file and sets the output

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file pointer to the first record. Typing $A$ and pressing the enter key opens the output file and sets the file pointer to the end of the file so that you can append records to the file.

To close an open file, type $C$ and press the enter key in response to the prompt. If the file is already closed, the program ignores the command. To bypass the output file status prompt, press the enter key and the status won't change.

You can write records to the output file as they appear by typing $C$ and
pressing the enter key in response to the output mode prompt. Alternatively, you can select which records you want to copy to the output file by typing $M$ and pressing the enter key in response to the output mode prompt.

As each record appears, you can copy it to the output file by pressing $O$ before going on to the next record. Records are written to the output file in the same format they have in the source file.

With MAP, you can edit or index and search the output file. At the end of the search, either close the file (using the
options menu) or exit from the search program (the output file is closed whenever you exit Search).

You can print the entire contents of the screen by pressing $\mathbf{W}$ any time the program searches or lists lines of the source file on the screen. If the Search Display mode is set for record display, you can print the last record displayed any time while searching by pressing $P$.

If the Search Display mode is set for line display, you can print the display's bottom line at any time while searching by pressing the $P$ key. If you do so and


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the printer isn't ready, the program pauses until you press the break key.

You can exit from the Search program by pressing the break key while it lists or searches text, or by pressing the break key in response to the "Enter Key" message. The minimenu appears again on the top line. Press T to return to TRSDOS.

## Possible Applications

Entering reference collections in disk files and searching with Search eliminates extensive cross-indexed card files
or specially coded computer files. You can enter titles, authors, or journal names in any order. You can also add key words to the record.
Search's output option is helpful when composing the reference section of any research or technical paper. Search your reference files for the appropriate references and copy them to an output file. You can incorporate the output file into a manuscript or edit it as an independent file.
You can keep information about clients or club members in text format
and retrieve it rapidly with Search. A realtor could keep a record of each client, type of property required, geographic location, and price range. When a new property becomes available, he could search for the appropriate keys and locate the clients who might be interested. He could also use the program to select properties a new client might want to purchase.

You can search parts listings rapidly. Each record of a file could store information on automobile parts, and contain a description of part, stock num-


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## Limitations

The Mindex and Search programs have several limitations. First, you must reindex the source file whenever you modify it, and you can't modify the source file directly from the search program.
The major limitation on modifying a record-compressed text file is that if the modified record is longer than the original, you can't modify it in place. You can overcome this problem by deleting the old record (overwriting it with O's or some other character) and appending the modification to the end of the file.

One disadvantage of this method is that with extensive use the file size quickly becomes too large and you must use a reformatting utility to reorganize the file (eliminating the deleted records). A minor disadvantage is that the position of a record within a file changes every time you modify it.

My solution to this problem (a program called 3bys) is to assign one record per sector. Although this method doesn't optimize disk space, it's simple to implement and doesn't require pe-
riodic file maintenance with a reformatting utility.
Another problem with Mindex and Search is that they are designed for systems with disk drives. Random access is slow on disk drives, and Search bypasses this problem by storing as much of the index file in RAM as possible. Large hard disk files can have indexes one or two orders of magnitude greater than available memory.
The solution is simple: 251 random access records are set aside for the index file. The $\mathrm{n}^{\text {th }}$ bits of all the signature strings are stored in the $\mathrm{n}^{\text {th }}$ logical record of the file. Only the index records corresponding to the hash values of the search key are read from the disk. You don't need to sequentially read the entire index file.
This file access method, however, requires multiple, nonsequential disk reads from the index file, and a floppy disk based system is too slow. I am in the process of modifying Mindex and Search for TRSDOS, TRS-XENIX, and LDOS hard-disk systems.

## Future of Text Storage

Several publishing companies have plans to distribute textual material on laser video discs. These discs hold large amounts of information (text, numerical, program, and pictorial), can be interfaced to microcomputers, and can be mass produced.
The tremendous amount of information stored on the video disc creates a
problem. How can you rapidly search large text files (reference works such as encyclopedias, thesauruses, and so on)? Sequential access methods are too slow for these huge files. Tree-searching algorithms aren't appropriate for text.
Signature screening is a partial answer to this problem. You must make substantial modifications to apply this method to extremely large files stored on machines with relatively slow direct access times. The goal is to devise hashing algorithms that maximize the specificity of the screening test (reduce collisions).
The application of signature screening isn't limited to text files. With modification, you can apply it to records with fixed fields. Indexed sequential and signature screening methods can access a data file. You can extend the concept of signature screening in Mindex and Search to include many sophisticated applications.

Joseph E. Trojak is the president of Softshell Corporation, P.O. Box 18522, Baltimore, MD 21237. Softshell sells 3by5, an enhanced information retrieval system that incorporates Mindex and Search.
Mindex and Search are available from the author at $\$ 12.50$ for a TRSDOS 1.3 Model III/4 disk and \$14 for a TRSDOS 2.A Model II/12/16 disk. Specify source code or the assembled version. The price includes U.S. postage; Maryland residents must add 5 percent sales tax.


Program Listing 7. Assembly-language listing of S30PT/SRC:1.


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Continued on page 211


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This section allows the child to control the menu-man, moving shapes from the left hand of the screen to the right hand of the screen. The first level allows the child to pick up shapes using the spacebar. The second level, in addition allows the chiled to control the menu-man with the arrow keys. The third level puts a small 'Bee' on the screen which the child must avoid while manipulating the menu-man and shapes.

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| Listing I/ continued |  |  |  |  | 98248 | Liss52 | CALLCDLLCALLCALLCPOPORCPJP | NEWLN <br> HL,MSGEOF <br> VDLINE EBWAIT <br> BRKKEY <br> 2,215978 | ; break> |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 90e97 |  |  | sxxwip | ,hist3 <br> ;.......................................... <br> iget next next word <br> get next word | ${ }^{2824249}$ |  |  |  |  |
| ${ }^{208998}$ |  |  | 88251 |  |  |  |  |  |
| ${ }^{2018108}$ | L1st3 | ${ }_{\text {cold }}^{\text {cold }}$ |  |  | ${ }^{8825253}$ |  |  |  |  |
| ${ }^{\text {ande2 }}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {L0 }}^{\text {Lio }}$ |  | (spmord , A | ;working with word sgave 日L |  |  | ${ }^{8025254}$ |  |  |
| ${ }^{20123}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {pus }}^{\text {Pusu }}$ | $\stackrel{\text { HL, }}{\text { Hi, meupu }}$ | ¢8256 |  |  |  |  |  |
| ${ }^{29185}$ |  | xor |  | gave HL t bDR byte after INBUFE | (e8257 |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | ${ }_{\text {Pop }}^{\text {SPC }}$ |  | $\underset{\substack{\text { frestore } \\ \text { fget next mec }}}{\text { en }}$ | 03259 | '............ |  |  | ;iiszii |
| ${ }^{20188}$ |  | ${ }^{\text {JP }}$ | 2,L1s748 |  | ${ }^{882688}$ |  |  | $N$ N |  |
| ${ }^{201189}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {cP }}^{\text {LD }}$ | ${ }_{\mathrm{c}}^{\text {c }}$, ${ }^{\text {e }}$ |  | ${ }_{88262}$ | LIst7 | poss |  | save a statue |
| ${ }^{20111}$ |  | ${ }_{38}^{\text {caut }}$ |  |  | ${ }_{\text {888264 }} 88263$ |  | ${ }_{10}^{10}$ |  | ;reatore inset |
| ${ }^{60117}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {cpal }}$ |  |  | ${ }^{182655}$ |  | ${ }^{20}$ | A, ${ }_{\text {cope , , }}$ | ,reatore to not |
| ${ }^{20114}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {cp }}{ }_{\text {JP }}$ |  |  |  |  | $\underset{\substack{\text { cop }}}{\text { cop }}$ | $\stackrel{\sim}{*}$ | \%reatore to not EOP |
| ${ }^{2011}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {cp }}{ }_{\text {PP }}$ |  | jend, then search ${ }^{\text {Was }}$ ( uparrou preesed? (backspace) | ${ }^{692689}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {crem }}$ | ${ }_{3}$ | ,return if coreak) |
| ${ }^{26118}$ |  | ${ }^{\text {JP }}$ | ${ }_{2,15157}$ |  | 90279 |  | ${ }_{\text {cast }}$ |  |  |
| ${ }_{\text {80120 }}^{80119}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {cp }}^{\text {LD }}$ |  |  | ${ }_{\text {a }}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {RET }}^{\text {Li }}$ |  |  |
| ${ }^{081} 121$ | listuc | ${ }_{\text {cast }}^{\text {JP }}$ | ${ }_{\substack{\text { 2, } \\ \text { space }}}^{\text {chists }}$ | iget next apace or set of spaces | 88273 |  |  |  |  |
| ${ }_{\text {ener }}^{\substack{06122}}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {LD }}^{\text {call }}$ |  |  | ${ }^{90274}$ | LISTM1 |  | $3^{\text {Listing }}$ |  |
| ${ }_{80125}^{08124}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {push }}^{\text {Lid }}$ | (spword), A | ;space-word = (s) pace | ${ }^{80276}$ |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | ${ }_{\text {cose }}$ | ${ }_{\text {HL }}^{\text {HL }}$ ingupu |  | ${ }_{86277}^{8827}$ |  |  |  | , DSP |
| ${ }^{6128}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {SBC }}$ | ${ }_{\text {AL, }}^{\text {A }}$ ¢ |  | ¢efers |  |  |  | display record found while searching record is in RECBup <br> ;B reg used for count of char remaining |
| ${ }^{801298139}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {Pr }}^{\text {pop }}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | ${ }_{\text {cale }}^{\text {cald }}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ${ }_{\text {and }}^{06132}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {cP }}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  | , exitt $A$ - cmd from Uppown routine |
| ${ }^{20134}$ |  | ${ }_{3 P}$ |  |  | ¢8285 | Dsp | ${ }^{\text {L }}$ | A, (CONOES) | ,coils: NXTWPD, DSPWRD, SPACE, DSPSP |
| ${ }^{20136}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {cP }}$ | ${ }_{\text {SR }}$ |  | ${ }^{888287}$ |  |  |  |  |
| ${ }^{20137}$ | LIST4 | $\stackrel{\text { Jp }}{\text { Li }}$ |  |  | ${ }^{102689}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {cpal }}$ | 2,ourabc | ${ }_{\text {il }}^{\text {il }}$ is so, output record |
| ${ }^{20139}$ |  | ${ }_{3 P}$ | ${ }_{\text {N2,LIST3 }}$ |  | ${ }^{\text {aperad }}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {Lic }}$ | a, pemula |  |
| ${ }_{00142}^{00142}$ |  |  |  |  | e8e293 |  |  | (sorsm) , A | record is displayed istart of record on penultimate line |
| ${ }^{26143}$ |  |  |  |  | ${ }^{90294}$ |  | ${ }^{\text {L }}$ | A, (SDMODE) |  |
| ${ }_{20145}^{20144}$ | LISTS |  | DE, ingupe |  | ${ }^{20296}$ |  | ${ }_{3}$ | $\xrightarrow{2}$, DSpre |  |
| ${ }^{2018146}$ |  | ${ }^{\text {PuSH }}$ |  |  | ${ }^{0929297}$ |  | ${ }_{3 P}$ | 2,DSpac | ${ }^{\text {d }}$, dispentiay entire |
| ${ }^{20148}$ |  | ${ }_{\substack{\text { SBC }}}^{\text {POP }}$ | HL, DE |  | 8e3989 |  |  |  | , DSPLA |
| ${ }^{86158}$ |  | ${ }_{38}$ | ${ }_{z, \text { LIST2 }}$ |  | ${ }^{\text {ama }}$ |  |  |  |  |
| ${ }_{\text {enels }}^{20151}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {cpe }}^{\text {call }}$ |  |  | ${ }_{\text {ama }}^{\text {amb }}$ |  |  |  |  |
| ${ }^{06153}$ |  | ${ }^{\text {JP }}$ | 2, LIST7 | jexit and get next search key | ${ }^{20394}$ | DSPLs | ${ }^{20}$ |  | , do (\$) ot bypass upDown routine |
| ${ }^{80154}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {cp }}^{\text {JP }}$ |  | ;bup arve, so start 11 sting again | ${ }^{\text {epe3s }}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {JR }}$ |  | ;00 (N) ot bypass updoms routine |
|  |  | ${ }_{\text {cP }}^{\text {cP }}$ |  |  | 893987 |  |  |  | , DSPRPC |
| ${ }^{26158}$ |  | ¢ |  | ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | eama |  |  |  |  |
| ${ }_{80168} 8159$ |  | ${ }_{\text {cp }}^{\text {cp }}$ | ${ }_{2, \text { List9 }}$ | tnew line? | ${ }^{\text {apen }}$ |  |  |  |  |
| ${ }_{86162}^{80161}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {cal }}^{\text {cal }}$ |  |  | ${ }^{60312312}$ | DSPrac | ${ }_{\text {L }}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \lambda_{\text {(BYuPDN }}, \mathrm{A} \end{aligned}$ | ;do ( $\mathbf{Y}$ )es bypass UPDOWN routine |
|  | List9 |  | ${ }_{\text {Hist3 }}$ |  | ${ }_{96315}^{90314}$ |  |  |  |  |
| ${ }^{810165}$ | Listis |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { A, 's' } \\ & \text { Ascra } \end{aligned}$ | ${ }_{\text {roill }}^{\text {mereen }}$ | ee316 |  |  |  |  |
| ¢ |  | ${ }_{\text {JP }}$ |  |  | ${ }^{69318}$ | ospl | ${ }^{\text {L }}$ |  |  |
| ${ }^{\text {gitab }}$ |  |  |  | ;iisisizi......................... | ${ }^{20329}$ |  |  |  |  |
| ${ }_{\text {a }}^{\substack{08179 \\ 80171}}$ |  |  |  | ',ํ.......................... | ${ }_{86322}^{90321}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {L0 }}^{\text {L0 }}$ |  | ${ }_{1}^{1}=0$ |
| ${ }_{\text {and }}$ | ${ }^{\text {LIST2 }}$ |  | upoows | , ITBup buffer) (record extends past | ${ }_{\text {cosen }}^{\text {ge324 }}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {apthe }}^{\text {cath }}$ | B,SWIDTHDSP4 |  |
| 29174 |  | $\mathrm{CP}^{\text {centi }}$ |  | ,<break>? | ${ }^{80325}$ | ${ }^{\text {DSP3 }}$ |  |  | , ighecks foxt word |
| 820176 |  | ${ }_{C P}^{3 P}$ | ${ }_{\substack{\text { 2, } \\ \text { ARROWV }}}^{\text {LIST7 }}$ | ;exit and get new search key | ${ }^{18327}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {CP }}$ | ${ }_{\text {BRXKEY }}^{\text {Disme }}$ | ${ }_{\substack{\text { d }}}^{\substack{\text { dispplay } \\ \text { Soreat }}}$ |
| ${ }_{\text {2017 }}^{20177}$ |  | cr | 2,Liste | , bopksp, so start list again | 98329 ${ }_{\text {and }}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {cP }}^{\text {3P }}$ | ${ }_{1}^{2}$. | , exit if break |
| ${ }^{\text {pen }}$ 9179 |  |  | ${ }_{\text {2, }}^{\text {, Lisstis }}$ | ifsearch cma? | ${ }^{\text {ama339 }}$ |  | ${ }^{\text {JP }}$ | 2 2,0sp | jexit if switec in mode |
| ${ }^{218181}$ |  | ${ }_{C P}$ | ${ }^{\text {B }}$ | nex 1ine? | ${ }^{\text {ama32 }}$ |  | 3P | 2,DSP12 |  |
| ${ }_{80183}^{20182}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {cash }}$ |  | toll screen | ${ }^{263334}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {cp }}$ |  |  |
| ${ }_{80185} 8184$ | ${ }_{\text {List23 }}$ | ${ }^{20}$ | 3, SWIDTH |  | ${ }_{883336} 8935$ |  | ${ }_{\text {cath }}^{\text {JP }}$ | 2, | texit if mor |
| ${ }^{2018186}$ |  | $\stackrel{20}{20}$ |  |  | ${ }^{20337}$ |  | Call | ${ }_{\text {DSPSP }}$ | disaplay spaces |
| ${ }^{2018188}$ |  | $\substack { \text { LD } \\ \begin{subarray}{c}{\text { LP }{ \text { LD } \\ \begin{subarray} { c } { \text { LP } } } \end{subarray}$ |  |  | ${ }^{203399}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {CP }}$ |  | icbreak)? |
| ${ }^{20189}$ |  |  |  | .......................... | ${ }_{88341}$ | DSP4 |  | 2 ,osps |  |
| ${ }_{80192}^{80191}$ |  |  |  | ;Lisfie | ${ }^{203342}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {cp }}^{\text {cp }}$ |  | ${ }^{\text {joxit }}$ iget next chat in in mecord |
| ${ }^{2019193}$ |  |  |  | woriol or spaces cross sec tshift word/sp to stmaue | ${ }_{80344} 89345$ |  | ${ }_{3 P}$ |  | ; 1000 if not EOR |
| ${ }^{201995}$ | LIST40 | LD | A, (EOF) | 俍 |  |  |  |  | ;Dsp5 |
| 819197 |  | ${ }_{3 P}$ | ${ }_{\text {2, LISTSe }}$ |  | \%348 | DSP5 | ${ }_{\text {Lo }}$ |  |  |
| 30198 |  | ${ }_{20}^{20}$ |  | ; \%ansfer reminder of InBup to simbur | 98349 |  |  | ${ }_{\text {A }}^{\text {A }}$ ( (SDMODE $)$ | ; get search display mode |
|  |  | ${ }_{\substack{\text { DEC } \\ \text { push }}}^{\text {cen }}$ | ${ }_{8 \mathrm{BC}}^{\mathrm{DE}}$ |  | eens |  | ${ }_{\text {LD }}$ | (ex | ; JP DSPSA if continuous |
|  |  | ${ }_{\text {LD }}^{\text {LD }}$ | ${ }^{\text {BC, }}$ |  | ${ }^{\text {gea3s }}$ | DSP5A | ${ }_{\text {LD }}^{\text {LD }}$ |  | do not bypass uppown |
|  |  | ${ }_{3}{ }_{3}$ |  |  | ${ }_{\text {ena356 }}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {Pusi }}^{\text {Pusi }}$ | ${ }_{\text {AEPL }}^{\text {NewL }}$ |  |
|  |  | ${ }_{\text {PR }}$ |  |  | e98357 | DSP6 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Pop } \\ & \text { RET } \end{aligned}$ |  | $\underset{\substack{\text { \%roll } \\ \text { restore } \\ \text { A }}}{\text { and }}$ |
|  | ${ }^{\text {LIST4 }}$ | ${ }_{\text {LTOR }}$ |  |  | ${ }_{803689}{ }^{\text {ga3 }}$ |  |  |  |  |
| ${ }^{20} 8218$ |  | INC | ${ }_{\text {HL }}^{\text {HL }}$ | ;adjust for inc of BC | ${ }^{\text {geab }}$ e362 |  |  |  | .............................. |
| ${ }_{\substack{08212}}^{80213}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {IVOSH }}^{\text {IVC }}$ | ${ }^{\text {DE }}$ |  | ene | DSp8 | call | NEMLN | ;svitch from search to list mode |
|  |  | ${ }_{\text {Push }}$ | ${ }_{\text {HL }}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {a }}^{\text {aje365 }}$ |  | RET |  | ;return with A - 1 ' for list mode |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | \%ospiz |
| ${ }^{20218}$ | List4 | เv | A, (EOP) | ; \%as E0f reachedr | ${ }^{203659}$ | DSP12 | ${ }_{\text {cp }}^{\text {LP }}$ | A, (somode) |  |
| ${ }^{\text {and }}$ |  | ${ }_{3 P}$ | 2,LISTS |  | ${ }^{\text {ee3 }}$ 2037 |  | ${ }_{3 P}$ | 2,DSP14 |  |
| ${ }^{20221}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {pusi }}^{\text {pusi }}$ |  |  |  |  | ${ }_{\text {L0 }}^{10}$ | ${ }_{\text {a }}{ }_{\text {(axupms }}$ |  |
| ${ }^{282223}$ |  | $\stackrel{\text { Lid }}{\text { Li }}$ |  |  | ${ }^{\text {ap3 }}$ 2374 |  | ${ }_{\text {call }}^{\text {cas }}$ | upbows | , chat on th, cur at 1 |
|  |  |  | ${ }_{\text {BCom }}$ |  |  |  | ${ }_{\text {cost }}$ | nemin |  |
| ${ }^{30227}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {pop }}$ | DE | ;read next record | ${ }^{20379}$ |  |  |  |  |
| ${ }^{20229}$ | LTsT67 | ${ }_{\text {Pop }}^{\text {Pop }}$ | ${ }_{\text {BL }}$ | :HL-> Imaurs-c | ${ }^{203389}$ |  |  |  | ; ${ }_{\text {pspia }}$ |
| ${ }^{822381}$ |  | ¢ ${ }_{\text {ex }}$ | ${ }_{\text {de }}^{\text {DE, }}$, HL |  | ${ }_{\text {820362 }}$ |  |  |  | fexit: doun arrou pressed |
| ${ }_{88233}{ }^{20232}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {cop }}^{\text {Pop }}$ |  |  |  | DSP14 | $\underset{\text { colb }}{\text { calb }}$ |  | ;exit: down arrow pressed |
| ${ }^{20234}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {cto }}^{\text {LP }}$ | ${ }_{1 \cdot \mathrm{~s}}^{1}$ (SPWORD) |  | ${ }^{20} 838385$ |  | RET |  |  |
|  |  | ${ }_{3 P}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  | , nxamb |
| ${ }^{\text {ge23 } 238}$ | LIst4 | nop |  |  | 96399 |  |  |  | ,get next word |
| ${ }_{802989}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {push }}^{\text {LD }}$ |  |  | ${ }^{\text {ene3998 }}$ |  |  |  | dentry: |
| ${ }^{882242}$ |  | ${ }_{\text {PuSh }}^{\text {PUSH }}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  | pentry mL M- start of word |
|  | LIST59 | ¢ | ${ }_{\text {LIST4 }}$ |  | \%e394 |  |  |  | ;exiti ${ }^{\text {He }}$ DE-> char after word |
|  |  | ${ }_{\text {Pop }}^{\text {pop }}$ | ${ }_{\text {HL }}^{\text {R }}$ | for reached | 083969 |  |  |  |  |
| ${ }_{86247}$ |  | Pop | ${ }_{\text {BC }}$ |  |  |  |  |  | $A$ - chor after word |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Listing 11 continued |



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## Inside the Model 100

## by David P. Sumner

To help you write sophisticated programs on your Model 100 , I'm providing a fairly extensive memory map, some relevant documentation, and a list of the tokens for the Basic keywords.

One word of caution: It's possible that some versions of the Model 100 have a ROM slightly different from the one in my machine. You should also be aware that some locations have multiple uses, some of which may not be documented here.

## Running a Machine-Language Program

You will find the addresses of several routines provided in the memory map useful (see Table 1) primarily for machinelanguage programs, but it's important to know how to access them from Basic. The secret is in the Basic command Call. To run a machine-language program that resides at location 30306 (the Model 100's sound routine), type in the Basic statement CALL 30306 and you'll hear a beep. Not all Calls are so direct. Often you'll need to pass data to the routine that you're calling. The Model 100 provides nicely for this. A statement of the form

## CALL address,X,Y

initiates the execution of the machine code stored at the given address, but first it assigns the value in X to the accumulator, and the value in Y to the register pair HL. Thus, the value of X can only be between zero and 255 (so that it can fit into the 8 -bit accumulator), and the value of Y can be any 16 -bit integer from zero to 65535 .

For example, a Call to location 32 prints the contents of the accumulator (considered an ASCII character) on the display. If you simply type CALL 32, nothing happens since the accumulator contains zero. However, if you type CALL 32,65 you'll see the letter A appear on the screen. You've put 65, the ASCII code for an A, into the accumulator prior to the Call. The effect of CALL $32, \mathrm{X}$ is the same as printing CHR\$(X). In fact, since PRINT CHR\$(7) produces a beep, CALL 32,7 also results in a beep. Another example: The routine located at 10161 displays the message located at the address pointed to by the register pair HL. If you look at the memory map, you'll see that the 100 stores many messages throughout the ROM. For example, try typing CALL $10161,0,3442$. The computer displays the message "extra ignored." Type CALL

## The Key Box

The programs in "Blackjack" and "Program Length" will run in 8K RAM.

Table 1. The memory map.
NOTE: Material in single quotes represents ASCII text.
A ${ }^{n+n}$ after a location indicates
a 2-byte pointer.
(RST Ø) JMP 32051
'Menu'
(RST 1) Test for special character and fall into RST2.
(RST2) Set pointer to next character of BASIC text. (JMP 2136)
(RST3) Compare registers HL, DE directly
(RST 4) PRINT ASCII contents of accumulator.
(TRAP) Handles power-down. User interface at 62978.
(RST 5) JMP 4201 Checks variable type.
(RST 5.5) JMP 62969
(RST 6) Returns sign of FACl. (JMP 13276)
(RST 6.5) JMP 28076 ( 62972 RAM vector interface)
(RST 7) Executes routine indicated by next byte. (JMP 32767)
(RST 7.5) Updates timer, adjusts power-down values etc. (JMP 6962, user can interface at 62975).

BASIC function addresses.
BASIC Keywords with high bit set in the first character of each word.
BASIC command addresses.
Table of BASIC addresses.
2-Byte error codes.
Initial values for pointers 62960 -63103.
'Error'
'in'
'ok'
'Break'
Syntax error. Other entry points at 1100,1103 .. 1115 for other errors.
Error message based on contents
of E register.
PRINTs error messages (accumulator holds a value from 28 to 58).
Builds BASIC line pointers.
Enter with DE containing a line number. Exit with BC containing
$10161,0,32676$, and the TRS-80 logo will appear on the display.

## PEEK, POKE, and Pointers

There is more of interest here than just the addresses of particular routines. Basic uses many locations to store data such as the values of variables, the text of Basic programs, and pointers that determine how the computer behaves. The PEEK command accesses the values in these locations, and the POKE command can change them.

For instance, the location 63368 contains the horizontal position of the cursor. If you let $X=\operatorname{PEEK}(63368)$ in a Basic program, the effect is the same as if you had used the expression $\mathrm{X}=\mathrm{POS}(0)$. Try the following short program as an illustration. (Don't overlook the semicolon in line 20.)

```
10 FOR I = 1TO100
20 PRINT PEEK(63368);
30 NEXT I
40 END
```

If the number stored in location 64173 is zero, then you cannot use the label line. With a POKE command you can put a zero into this location. Try the following experiment. First enter Basic from the main menu and then press the label key.

You'll see the key menu displayed on the label line. Now clear the label line by pressing the label key again. Finally, type POKE 64173,0 and press the enter key. Pressing the label key now has no effect. If you type

POKE 64173,255
things return to normal.
Many of the pointers point to addresses, line numbers, and other 16 -bit integers. The Model 100 stores such addresses with the low byte of the integer followed by the high byte. For instance, the computer stores the line number where a break occurred in locations 64426-64427. To determine the line number just type PRINT PEEK (64426) + 256*PEEK(64427).

To determine the starting location of the currently active program, type PRINT PEEK(63100) $+256 *$ PEEK(63101).

## Floating Point Operations

In order to use the floating point routines, you must first place the proper values in the floating point accumulators. For instance, to find the square root of 2 using a call to location 12378, you must place 2 in the primary floating point accumulator FAC1 prior to the call. After the call, the value of the square root of 2 resides in FACl , and you must move it to the proper variable.


| Tabel 1 contined |  |
| :---: | :---: |
|  | character of input, and restores registers. |
| 4848 | PASTE. |
| 5029 | Toggles the label line. |
| 5138 | Break routine. |
| 5145 | POWER |
| 5169 | Power off /Returns to program on power-up. |
| 5201 | Power of f |
| 5299 | POWER CONT |
| 5225 | Sets power-down values. |
| 5288 | Preliminary tape I/O routine. |
| 5290 | Called at the end of tape 1/0. |
| 5296 | Returns byte from tape in accumulator. |
| 5313 | Sends byte in accumulator to tape. |
| 6281 | EOF |
| 6464 | TIME\$ |
| 6436 | DATES |
| 6485 | DAY\$ |
| 6526 | ASCII of days stored here. |
| 6553 | Converts byte pointed to by DE to an ASCII digit. Result placed in M. |
| 6571 | TIMES (as command/assignment). |
| 6589 | DATES (as command/assignment). |
| 6641 | DAY\$ (as command/assignment). |
| 6547 | MAX RAM |
| 6776 | IPL |
| 6814 | COM , MDM |
| 6851 | KEY ON/OFF/STOP |
| 6927 | ON TIMES |
| 7096 | KEY (general) |
| 7161 | KEY LIST |
| 7136 | PRINTS B PRINTable-characters starting at address in HL. |
| 7182 | Defines function key. HL points to string, accumulator holds key number minus one. |
| 7255 | PSET |
| 7270 | PRESET |
| 7277 | Line drawing routine. |
| 7519 | Subroutine for PRINT 0 |
| 7568 | CSRLIN |
| 7579 | MAX (general). |
| 7602 | MAX FILES |
| 7609 | HIMEM |
| 7619 | WIDTH |
| 7621 | SOUND (general) |
| 7653 | SOUND OFF |
| 7654 | SOUND ON |
| 7660 | MOTOR |
| 7667 | Turns motor on. |
| 7669 | Turns motor off. |
| 7674 | CALL |
| 7714 | SCREEN |
| 7774 | LCOPY |
| 7994 | FILES |
| 8981 | KILL |
| 8247 | NAME |
| 8446 | NEW |
| 8832 | CSAVE (general) |
| 8856 | CSAVEs current BASIC program. |
| 8889 | Sends the DE bytes starting at location in HL to tape. |
| 8908 | SAVEM |
| 8925 | CSAVEM |
| 9079 | CLOAD (general) |
|  | Table 1 continued |

The routines that you need for these actions all appear in the map. You can use the machine code below to find the square root of the variable pointed to by the HL register pair.

| PUSH H | ; We will need this address later. |
| :--- | :--- |
| CALL 12740 | ; Put the variable into FAC1. |
| CALL 12378 | ; Take the square root. |
| POP H | ; I told you we needed that address. |
| CALL 12746 | ; Replace the value by its square root. |
| RET | ; That's all. |

Access the program above from Basic by using the next program, being sure to protect it first by the command CLEAR 256,61999 . This prevents Basic from destroying the machine code starting at location 62000 .

```
    5 GOSUB 100
10 INPUT"X ";X
20 A = VARPTR(X)+65536
30 CALL 62000,0,A
4 0 ~ P R I N T ~ X ~
SO END
100 FOR I=0 TO 11
110 READ V
120 POKE 62000+I,V
1 3 0 \text { NEXT I}
140 RETURN
150 DATA 229,205,196,49,205,90,48,225,205,202,49,201
```

This program assumes that you've placed the machine-language routine at location 62000 . Line 20 determines the memory location of the variable $\mathbf{X}$, and line 30 passes this address to the register pair HL before executing the routine at 62000 .

Lines 100-150 POKE the machine code described earlier into memory.

Now run the program, and you'll see that the value of the variable X is replaced by its square root.

Some of the other floating point functions seem to require the setting of the variable type flag prior to a Call.

## Interrupts and the RST Instructions

Like the 8080, the Model 100's 8085 chip contains eight restart instructions that are effectively 1 -byte Call instructions. (See Table 1.)

Unlike the 8080, the 8085 has several interrupt routines known by the mnemonics RST 5.5, RST 6.5, RST 7.5, and TRAP. The addresses of each of these resides in the low bytes of ROM. However, the Model 100 allows a user to intercept these routines by placing a Jump instruction in a particular location in RAM. These interface vectors are documented in the map.

## The Basic Commands

The memory map contains the addresses of most of the Basic commands and functions. The important thing to realize is that most Basic commands expect the accumulator to contain the next byte of Basic text upon entry to the routine. Some commands, such as Beep and End, aren't modified by additional text. A simple call to the addresses of these routines has the desired effect. On the other hand, the actions of some commands depend upon the text that follows them. For example, consider the Key command. When this statement appears in a Basic program or in immediate mode, several things may

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## C-Notes

follow it. For instance, KEY ON, KEY OFF, KEY LIST, or KEY 5, "PRINT"' are all possible. At the time the program executes the command, the computer has already tokenized the keywords, and the Key routine expects to find the appropriate token or text in the accumulator. The token for ON is 151 , and so typing CALL 7096,151 produces the effect of KEY ON. Similarly, since the token for LIST is 165 , CALL 7096,165 will result in the same action as if you had entered KEY LIST. Unfortunately, you'll find that not all calls to Basic command locations respond as expected. So be cautious when experimenting with these addresses.

## Using the Memory Map

The examples given earlier should help you take advantage of much of this information. You cannot use all of the routines in the ROM directly, however. Many of them, like the floating point operations, require setting up special conditions prior to the call. And, although I would strongly urge you to experiment with your computer, be sure you have saved any important data or programs on tape first. An inappropriate call or POKE can easily garble a program or cause the computer to hang. Of course, you will not damage the computer by such a crash, but you may be unable to restart the computer without using the memory kill button on the bottom of the computer.

## About the Map

Notice that items enclosed in single quotes represent actual ASCII text. For instance, the word 'Error' is stored in memory starting at location 1003. The letters H,L,D,E,B,C, and A refer to registers in the 8085.

David P. Sumner can be reached at 1009 Walters Lane, Columbia, SC 29209.

```
Table I connmued
    9235 Gets DE bytes from tape and
        stores them at the location
        pointed to by HL.
    9302
    9345
    9361
    9383
    9538
    9587
    9685
    9697
    9982
    9989
    10042
    10161 PRINTs message pointed to by HL.
        Message ends in quote or 0-byte
    10444 String addition.
    10508 Moves L bytes from address in BC
        to address in DE (increasing).
    10563 LEN
    10575 ASC
    10597 CHR$
    10605 STRING$
    10638 SPACES
```


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| Table I contimued |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| 10667 | LEFT\$ |
| 10716 | RIGHT\$ |
| 10726 | MIDS |
| 10759 | VAL |
| 10807 | INSTR |
| 11084 | FRE |
| 11113 | FACl <-- FACl-FAC2. |
| 11128 | FACl <-- FACl+FAC2. |
| 11519 | FACl <-- FACl*FAC2. |
| 11719 | FACl <-- FACl/FAC2. |
| 12006 | Moves C bytes starting from address in HL to address in DE in a decreasing manner. |
| 12015 | $\cos$ |
| 12041 | SIN |
| 12120 | TAN |
| 12145 | ATN |
| 12239 | LOG |
| 12378 | SQR |
| 12452 | EXP |
| 12606 | RND |
| 12686 | MOVE FACl to 64633-64640. |
| 12692 | Adds memory to FACl. |
| 12698 | Subtracts memory from FACl. |
| 12704 | FACl <-- FACl*FACl (squares FACl) |
| 12767 | Multiplies memory and FACl. |
| 12725 | Moves FACl to FAC2. |
| 12728 | Moves number at address HL to FAC2. |
| 12737 | Moves FAC2 to FACl. |
| 12746 | Moves number at address HL to |

FACl.

12746
12852
12892
12942
12974
12990
13015
13203
13298
13309
13319
13417

13426

13569
13610
13754
13893
13908
14804
16288
16306
16313
16393

Moves FACl to address in HL.
Saves FACl on the stack.
Floating point constants.
.25
pi/2
Square root of 3 .
1
2*pi.
ABS
Negate FACl.
SGN
Moves B bytes of memory from address in DE to address in HL in an increasing manner.
Moves $B$ bytes of memory from address in DE to adress in HL in a decreasing manner.
CINT
CSNG
CDBL
FIX
INT
PRINTs the l6-bit integer stored in the register pair HL. TIMES ON
TIMES OFF
TIME S STOP
Clears COM and TIME Clears KEY definitions and sets 63060 to 0



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| Table I continued |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| 22423 | MENU |
| 22574 | PRINTs number of free bytes. |
| 22580 | PRINTs 'Select:' and responds appropriately to input. |
| 23128 | PRINTs starting at address in HL until a zero byte is reached. |
| 23164 | Sets up function keys. |
| 23273 | Months stored in ASCII. |
| 23312 | 'Microsoft' |
| 23332 | 'Select:' |
| 23366 | Original key definitions stored here. FILES LOAD" SAVE " RUN LIST MENU |
| 23400 | ADDRSS (program) |
| 23407 | SCHEDL (program) |
| 23450 | PRINTs 'Not found press space bar for menu" |
| 23758 | ADMRS.DO |
| 23767 | 'Not found' |
| 23852 | 'Call' |
| 23926 | PRINTs date and time at top of screen and updates it until a key is pressed. |
| 24046 | TEXT (program) |
| 24051 | Requests a file to edit. |
| 24085 | 'File to edit' |
| 24106 | 'find load save copy cut sel MENU' |
| 24145 | EDIT (program) |
| 24367 | Waits for a space keypress and then returns. |
| 24376 | 'Text ill-formed' |
| 24395 | 'Press space bar for TEXT' |
| 24753 | 'Memory full |
| 26051 | Moves memory starting at address in HL to address in DE until a 0 byte is reached. |
| 26062 | 'No Match' |
| 26071 | 'String' |
| 26380 | 'Width' |
| 26421 | 'Save to:' |
| 26579 | 'Load from:' |

27611
27636
27721
27795
27804
29156
29250

29381
29772
29773
30326
30306
30481
31729
32951
32231
32422
32428
32523
32664
32676

63012 Code

32676 TRS-80 logo stored in ASCII.
-62959 User RAM in 24 K machine.
$62964+$ HIMEM value.
62966 Code called at 32145 and 32197.
62969 RAM vector for RST 5.5.
62972 RAM vector for RST 6.5.
62975 RAM vector for RST 7.5.
62978 JMP 5169
62981 Code called at 32108 and 32292.
62991 Code called at 896.
63024 8-bytes KEY ON/OFF flags; ON=1
Moves BC bytes from address in HL to address in DE increasing.
'BASIC TEXT TELCOM ADDRSS SCHEDL Suzuki Hayashi'
BASIC (as called from MENU)
Temporarily saves the function keys.
Restores the function keys.
Adds a character to the keyboard buffer.
Returns ASCII of keypress in the accumulator; does not wait-returns 0 if no keypress.
SOUND routine. DE contains pitch, and $B$ contains duration.
Turns on the pixel ( $x, y$ ) where $D$ contains $x$ and $E$ contains $y$.
Turns off the pixel ( $x, y$ ) where $D$ contains $x$ and $E$ contains $y$.
Togales the speaker.
Equivalent to BEEP.
Character set 5-bytes each.
Keyboard matrix
Initialization
Initialize pointers (cold start)
PRINTs TRS- 80 logo.
PRINTs number of free bytes.
MAX FILES=
' bytes free'

Table 1 continued

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# C-Notes 

| Table I continued 0 PF $=9$ |  |
| :---: | :---: |
|  |  |
| 63033 | Vertical Print position |
| 63034 | Next horizontal print position 039. |
| 63035 | Number of active lines 0-8 |
| 63036 | Number of active columns 0-40. |
| 63037 | Label line flag; $\theta=$ unused, $255=$ used. |
| 63038 | Inhibits return to first line if not zero. |
| 63040 | Cursor line. |
| 63041 | Horizontal print position. |
| 63048 | Reverse video if not zero. |
| 63054 | x-pixel set. |
| 63655 | y-pixel set. |
| 63063 | Power-down value (constant |
| 63070 | Code (to 63978) |
| 63079 | OUT/INP self-modifying code. |
| 63090 | Error code |
| 63092 | Value of LPOS |
| 63093 | Output flag; $\boldsymbol{\theta}=$ display, l=printer. |
| $63096+$ | Top of available RAM. |
| $63098+$ | Current BASIC line number; 65535 stored here if no program is running. |
| $63100+$ | Start of current BASIC program text. |
| 63104 | End of statement marker (: OR 0) |
| 63105 | Multi-purpose buffer area. Tokenized text starts at 63105. Input buffer starts at 63109 and extends to 63362. |
| 63368 | Value of POS |
| 63369 | ```Function key definitions currently active. (extends to 63497)``` |
| 63498 | Function key defintions used by BASIC. (extends to 63626) |
| $\begin{aligned} & 63628+ \\ & 63639 \end{aligned}$ | Pointer to start of PASTE text. Start of work area. |
| 63785 | Day of the month low digit here, high digit in 63786 . |
| 63787 | Current day of the week $\text { (e.g. } 3 \text { =wed.) }$ |
| 63788 | Current month - decimal 1 to 12. |
| 63789 | Current year stored with low decimal value here and the high decimal value in 63790 |
| 63791 | Timer; decreases from 125 to 0. |
| 63792 | Timer decreases from 12 to 0. |
| 63793 | Power-down countdown value (varies). |
| 63795 | The computer stores the current time starting here with the low digit of the number of seconds. A numerical value - not ASCII. |
| 63796 | The high digit of number of seconds. |
| 63797 | Low digit of number of minutes. |
| 63798 | Time and date continues here with one decimal value per location. |
| 63805 | 6-byte value of TIMES for ON TIMES statement (in reverse order). |
| 63812 | COM ON/OFF flag. |
| 63813+ | Address of COM ON routine. |
| 63815 | TIMES ON/OFF flag. |
| $63816+$ | Address of TIMES ON routine. |
| 63818 | ON/OFF flag |

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```
Table I continued
    of function keys; 3 bytes per
    key. (extends to 63841)
    63842 Files in the format: address, 6-
        character name, 2-byte extension
    63898+ Address of BASIC program that has
        not been saved to RAM. (Suzuki)
    63909+ Address of Hayashi, points to the
        end of documents.
    64173 Label line enable flag; enabled
        if not zero.
    64175 Name of IPL program.
    64190+ Used for temporary storage of
        stack pointer.
    64208+ Length of CLOADed/CSAVEd program
    64357 BASIC variable type.
    64404+ Line number of active DATA
        statement.
    64409+ Location of BASIC variable for
        assignment statement.
    64411+ Start of current BASIC statement
    64413+ 2 less than value in 63096-63097
    64415+ Llne where error occured.
    64417+ Most recently entered/listed line
    64419+ Location of statement where error
        occured.
    64421+ Location of ON ERROR GOTO line.
    64423 Error status flag.
    64424+ End of BASIC expression.
    64426+ Line where Break occured.
    64428+ Location after error (contains 0
        or 58).
    64430+ Start of documents.
    64434+ Start of variables.
    The region from 64536 to 64646 is
    used for floating point computations.
    64536 FACl (floating point accumulator)
        8-bytes.
    64617 FAC2 (floating point accumulator)
        8-bytes.
    64642 Maxfiles.
    64659 Name of current BASIC program; 6-
        bytes.
    64668 Name of program loaded from tape;
        6-bytes.
    64904 Start of date and time stored in
        ASCII. Used for Menu display.
        Not used for TIME$.
    65024 Start of screen memory.
    65348 Sound flag; on=0, off=175.
    65349 Cassette on/off flag.
    65424 Holds the value 2 as long as a
        noncontrol key is held down.
    65429 Devoted to the number keys. Also
        uses location 65430
    65431 Bits are set here according to
        which of the following keys are
        pressed: SPACE,DEL,TAB,ESC,
        PASTE,LABEL,PRINT,ENTER.
    65432 Pressing a function key sets the
        corresponding bit in this
        location.
    65441 Behaves like 65432.
    65442 The following keys set bits in
        this location: SHIFT,CTRL,GRPH,
        CODE,NUM,CAPS LOCK.
```

65446 Code (not ASCII) for most recently pressed key.
65450 Number of characters in keyboard buffer.
65451 Keyboard buffer ( 32 byte maximum) Odd bytes contain ASCII values. A 255 in an even byte indicates a function key.
65515 Used to store 5-byte character code.

| Token | Keyword | Token | Keyword | Token | Keyword |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 128 | END | 171 | DATE\$ | 213 | AND |
| 129 | FOR | 172 | DAYS | 214 | OR |
| 130 | NEXT | 173 | COM | 215 | XOR |
| 131 | DATA | 174 | MDM | 216 | EQV |
| 132 | INPUT | 175 | KEY | 217 | IMP |
| 133 | DIM | 176 | CLS | 218 | MOD |
| 134 | READ | 177 | BEEP | 219 | 1 |
| 135 | LET | 178 | SOUND | 220 | > |
| 136 | GOTO | 179 | LCOPY | 221 | $=$ |
| 137 | RUN | 180 | PSET | 222 | < |
| 138 | IF | 181 | PRESET | 223 | SGN |
| 139 | RESTORE | 182 | MOTOR | 224 | INT |
| 140 | GOSUB | 183 | MAX | 225 | ABS |
| 141 | RETURN | 184 | POWER | 226 | FRE |
| 142 | REM | 185 | CALL | 227 | INP |
| 143 | STOP | 186 | MENU | 228 | LPOS |
| 144 | WIDTH | 187 | IPL | 229 | POS |
| 145 | ELSE* | 188 | NAME | 230 | SQR |
| 146 | LINE | 189 | KILL | 231 | RND |
| 147 | EDIT | 190 | SCREEN | 232 | LOG |
| 148 | ERROR | 191 | NEW | 233 | EXP |
| 149 | RESUME | 192 | TAB | 234 | COS |
| 150 | OUT | 193 | TO | 235 | SIN |
| 151 | ON | 194 | USING | 236 | TAN |
| 152 | DSKOS | 195 | VARPTR | 237 | ATN |
| 153 | OPEN | 196 | ERL | 238 | PEEK |
| 154 | Close | 197 | ERR | 239 | EOF |
| 155 | LOAD | 198 | STRINGS | 240 | LOC |
| 156 | MERGE | 199 | INSTR | 241 | LOF |
| 157 | FILES | 200 | DSKIS | 242 | CINT |
| 158 | SAVE | 201 | INKEYS | 243 | CSNG |
| 159 | LFILES | 202 | CSRLIN | 244 | CDBL |
| 160 | LPRINT | 203 | OFF | 245 | FIX |
| 161 | DEF | 204 | HIMEM | 246 | LEN |
| 162 | POKE | 205 | THEN | 247 | STRS |
| 163 | PRINT | 206 | NOT | 248 | VAL |
| 164 | CONT | 207 | STEP | 249 | ASC |
| 165 | LIST | 208 | $+$ | 250 | CHR\$ |
| 166 | LLIST | 209 | - | 251 | SPACES |
| 167 | CLEAR | 210 | * | 252 | LEFTS |
| 168 | CLOAD | 211 | / | 253 | RIGHTS |
| 169 | CSAVE | 212 | $\wedge$ | 254 | MIDS |
| 170 | TIMES |  |  |  |  |

Table 2. Basic keywords and tokens.

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## _Make Your Own Modem Cable

## by Carl Oppedahl

While the Radio Shack modem cable for the Model 100 comes with one free hour each of CompuServe and Dow Jones services, this may be of little use to you if you already subscribe, or if you need more than one modem cable. For these reasons I built my own.

The circuit diagram for the Radio Shack cable appears in Table 3. One end is an exotic 8 -pin DIN plug (see Photo 1) whose spacings are slightly different from those of the 8 -pin cassette DIN plug. Look closely at the top panel of the Model 100: The difference lies in the placement of pins 6,7 , and 8 . In the phone jack pins 7 and 8 sit directly below 1 and 3 , while in the cassette jack pins 6, 7, and 8 are somewhat closer together.

Extending from the 8 -pin plug are two conventional-looking modular telephone line cords. You would connect the beige cord to the local phone company dial tone, as with a wall jack, and the silver cord to a conventional telephone if you were using the computer as an automatic dialer for voice calls.

Unplug the modem cable from the Model 100, and the telephone connected to the silver cord will go dead. So Radio Shack provides a shorting connector to mate with the 8 -pin plug in place of the Model 100. It connects pins 1 and 7, temporarily making the modem cable into a rather expensive telephone extension cord.

But with a bit of drilling and soldering, you can make your own cable at a cost of only a few dollars. Even if you buy all the parts new from Radio Shack and want to duplicate all the functions, including autodialing for voice telephone calls, you'll spend only $\$ 10.88$. (See Table 4.)
Since you need only pins 1,3 , and 7 (and you can omit pin 1 if you don't need the silver cord) you can pry loose one of pins

| DIN pin | Modular plug |
| ---: | :--- |
| 1 | grey cable, green wire |
| 2 | NC |
| 3 | grey cable, red wire, |
|  | and beige cable, red |
|  | wire |
| 4 | NC |
| 5 | NC |
| 6 | NC |
| 7 | beige cable, green wire |
| 8 | NC |

Table 3. Connections in Radio Shack Model 100 modem cable.

| Part Description | Current Price |
| :--- | :---: |
| Two 5-pin DIN plugs, part number 274-003 | $\$ 1.49$ |
| Telephone line cord, part number 279-374 | $\$ 4.95$ |
| Inline coupler, part number 279-358 | $\$ 2.95$ |

Table 4. Parts list for homemade modern cable.

2, 4, or 5 to be used in position 7. However, it's difficult to remove pins from the black plastic. I ended up buying an extra 5 -pin DIN plug, and simply cracked apart the plastic to get a spare pin to mount into a newly-drilled hole in the other.
After you extract an extra pin from a DIN plug, drill a hole in the 5 -pin plug so that you can insert the new pin and glue it in place. This requires a $5 / 64$-inch drill bit and a steady hand. Before drilling, slip off the plastic sleeve of the DIN plug by lifting the tab above pin 2 . Then separate the two halves of the metal barrel inside. This exposes the black plastic carrier containing the five pins, which requires a hole for the new pin 7. The important thing is to drill the hole directly below pin 1 , so that the new pin 7 fits into the matching hole in the Model 100 phone jack.
Then, mix up some epoxy glue. (I used a brand that sets in 10 minutes with satisfactory results.) Grasp the extra pin with a tweezer or needlenose pliers, apply glue to it with a toothpick, and insert it carefully into the hole. (See Photo 2.) Hold it parallel to the other pins until the glue has hardened somewhat. Then let it set for the period recommended in the glue instructions.

Next take the modular phone cord and cut it in half. Taking one half, carefully remove about an inch of the outer jacket. Inside you'll find green, red, and probably black and yellow wires. Clip the yellow and black wires (if any) short and strip the red and green wires, which carry what the telephone com-


Photo 1. Radio Shack 8-pin DIN phig.


Photo 2. 5-pin DIN plug with new pin 7.



Photo 3. The red wire goes to pin 3, while the green wire goes to pin 7.


Photo 4. Completed modem cable.
pany calls "ring" and "tip" signals, respectively.
Thread the DIN plastic sleeve onto the phone cord so that later you can slip it onto the DIN plug. Then solder the cord to the plug, connecting the red wire to pin 3 and the green wire to pin 7. Reassemble the metal barrel. (See Photo 3.) Slide the sleeve back on, and the cable should be ready to test. (See Photo 4.)

Testing the cable is easy. If you have access to an ohmmeter, use it to check that none of the DIN pins is shorted to any other, and that none of the modular plug pins is shorted to any other. Then check for continuity along the modem cable-the red wire at the modular plug should connect with pin 3 at the DIN plug, while the green wire should go to pin 7. Then plug the modem cable into the computer and the telephone line.

Call your local Radio Shack store to get the telephone number for Tymnet or Telenet. With the computer in TELCOM dial that number on an extension phone, and when you heal the high-pitched carrier tone, push F4. Words and letter: should appear on the screen. Then push F8, the Bye key, anc type Y. The tone should stop.

Carl Oppedahl can be reached at 99 Park Ave., New York, NY 10016.

## Program Length

## by Ronald F. Balonis

Length.BA, an 8 K RAM utility program, provides a method to compute program length in order to manage memory space on the Model 100. (See Program Listing 1.)

All memory references are in decimal notation. The user menu directory is located in RAM memory from 63930 to 64139, with each entry using 11 bytes. The first byte of each entry denotes the type of file: 0 is for a killed/empty file, 128 is for Basic program (.BA) files, and 192 for text (.DO) files. The next 2 bytes are the start address of the file in RAM memory, and the remaining 8 bytes are the file name and extension. Disassembly of the file area indicated that 26 is the end of file (EOF) indicator of a text file, and the standard string of three zeros is EOF for a .BA file.

The program conducts a sequential search of the directory for a file match, and then a sequential search of the file for the EOF byte, using PEEKs to read the memory. The menu directory search, while slow, proved acceptable, but the EOF search of the file had a tiresome wait with long files. This was an application in need of some machine language, and so I made my first attempt at a machine-language subroutine on the Model 100.

Borrowing on early Model I techniques, I fashioned a simple machine-language sequential search routine for the EOF search. The program loads it into the Model 100 with data statements, and the Basic PEEK and POKE statements pass the variables to and from the routine. A word or two of warning about my experience with machine language on the Model 100 is in order: Errors, at least of the types I made, cause the computer to do a cold restart, erasing all of the user programs.

## Program Operation

Line 15 clears string space and reserves 50 bytes (from MAXRAM to HIMEM 63960 to 63910 ) for the machine-language subroutine. Lines $30-50$ POKE the machine-language program (see Program Listing 2) into this memory space.

Lines $100-180$ prompt for a file name, test that it has a valid formation, then construct a menu directory match string of it. The program stores the file names in the menu directory without the period before the extension, with the name leftjustified and the extension right-justified, and with spaces filling the middle if necessary. Lines $200-260$ do the sequential search of the menu directory using the PEEK function to create a match string. Line 205 tests for a killed/empty file, and line 225 tests for a match of file names. If a match is found, then lines 230-235 get its address. Line 310 passes this address to the machine-language program for the EOF search called in line 320 or 330 . Lines $400-430$ compute and display the results.
The utility program is simple to use. Just enter a valid file name and in two to three seconds the program displays its length for logging. Press the space bar for another program or to exit.

Write to Ronald F. Balonis at 118 Rice St., Trucksville, PA 18708.


|  | Memory Address | Source | Statement | Object Code |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| L. Addr | 62911 |  |  | 0 |
| H Addr | 62912 |  |  | 0 |
| DO Entry | 62913 | Push | HL | 229 |
|  | 62914 | LD HL, | 62911 | 42,191,245 |
|  | 62917 | Dec | HL | 43 |
|  | -62918 | Inc | HL | 35 |
|  | 62919 | LD A, | (HL) | 126 |
|  | 62920 | Cp | 26 | 254,26 |
|  | 62922 | JNZ | 62918 | 194,198,245 |
|  | 62925 | JP | 62954 | 195,234,245 |
| BA Entry | 62928 | Push | HL | 229 |
|  | 62929 | LD HL, | 62911 | 42,191,245 |
|  | 62932 | Dec | HL | 43 |
|  | P-62933 | Inc | HL | 35 |
|  | [ 62934 | L. A , | (HL) | 126 |
|  | 62935 | Cp | 0 | 254,0 |
|  | 62937 | JNZ | 62933 | 194,213,245 |
|  | 62940 | Inc | HL | 35 |
|  | 62941 | LD A, | (HL) | 126 |
|  | 62942 | Cp | 0 | 254,0 |
|  | 62944 | JNZ | 62933-4 | 194,213,245 |
|  | 62947 | Inc | HL | 35 |
|  | 62948 | LD A, | (HL) | 126 |
|  | 62949 | Cp | 0 | 254,0 |
|  | 62951 | JNZ | 62933 | 194,213,245 |
|  | $\rightarrow 62954$ | LD 62911 | HL | 34,191,245 |
|  | 62957 | Pop | HL | 225 |
|  | 62958 | Return |  | 201 |
| Program Listing 2. Length.BA-machine language. |  |  |  |  |

## Blackjack

## by Paul Serotta

Blackjack isn't a mere conversion: This program uses the Model 100's unique features-graphics, sound, and interruptcontrolled function keys-to simulate the popular casino card game also known as 21. Like the Vegas version, the game program pits a single player against the house's dealer (the Model 100). The object of the game is to accumulate a hand worth 21 points, or as close to 21 as possible, without going over. The house wins if you draw over 21, or if the dealer's hand is closer to 21 than yours is.

The 8 K program starts by asking you to type in your name and press the enter key. From now on, it addresses you personally. The program gives you a stake of $\$ 1,000$ and asks you to enter your bet. Should you decide to wager the entire amount on the first hand, the buzzer sounds and the program applauds your bravado with an encouraging "Go for it!"

## C－Notes

Conversely，a low bet（under \＄100）merits the program＇s dis－ dainful＂You are cheap！＂
After you＇ve entered your bet（in full－dollar amounts only）， four boxes appear on the screen．The two upper boxes repre－ sent your first two cards；a typical deal might be a king of clubs and a six of hearts．In the lower right－hand box the pro－ gram displays the dealer＇s first card，for example，a six of spades．You then have the following options，selected with the 100＇s function keys：hit，double，stay，and quit．Press the F1 key if you want another card，the F2 key if you want to be dealt another card and double your original bet，the F3 key to play a two－card hand against the dealer，or the F4 key to stop the game altogether．

When you stay，you＇re electing to play your current hand against whatever the house turns up for itself．The program then keeps dealing itself more cards until it has reached 21－an automatic win，beaten your hand，or gone over．If you lose， the program tells you＂You are busted．＂If you win，it admits ＂I＇m busted－you win！＂Should the dealer＇s hand match your own，the program declares the deal a draw or＂push＂ and no one wins or loses．

The program keeps a running tally of your stakes；after each deal it reminds you of how much money you have avail－ able and asks you to enter another bet．

It＇s impossible to cheat at this Blackjack，by the way．Try wagering more money than you have in your purse or dou－ bling at the wrong time，and the program calls you on it．
When you decide to bail out，press the F4 key and the pro－ gram totals your winnings－or your losses．

There＇s one born every minute．
Contact Paul Serotta at 131 Penrose Drive，Pittsburgh，PA 15208.

Program Listing 3．Blackjack．


```
20 REM BLACKJACK
30 REM
40 REM PAUL SEROTTA
45 REM 131 PENROSE DR.
50 REM PITTSBURGH, PA 15208
55 REM
60 REM *********************************
80 REM
9 9 ~ R E M ~ D I M E N S I O N ~ C A R D ~ A R R A Y , ~ S E T ~
PLAYER'S AMOUNT OF MONEY
100 DIMC(52):PM=1000
105 REM CLEAR FUNCTION KEYS (Fl-F4)
110 FORLL=63369TO63432:POKELL, 0:NEXTLL
112 REM TITLE PAGE
115 CLS:LINE (70,24)-(115,52),1,B:LINE(
120,24)-(165,52),1,B:PRINT@173, "ACE
";:PRINT@181,"JACK ";
125 GOSUB900\emptyset:CLS: PRINT@121,"PLEASE
TYPE YOUR NAME AND PRESS 'ENTER'"
140 PRINT:LINE INPUTN$:GOSUB9000
145 KEY OFF: IFPM<=0THENGOTO30\emptyset\emptyset
147 REM INITIALIZE LOGIC VARIABLES & ASK
```

[^15]
## Listing 3 continued

```
: NH=1:RETURN
1999 REM COMPUTER'S LOGIC
2000 KEY OFF
2005 PRINTe289,SPACE (38) ;
2010 PP=ø:PRINT@CP, \(\mathrm{HC} \$: \mathrm{CP}=\mathrm{CP}+16\)
2020 WC=94: IFCT>16THEN2200
2050 CS=CS+1:
IFCS=6THENGOTO2206:ELSELINE (WC, 32) - (WC +
\(48,53), 1, B: G O S U B 95 \emptyset 0\)
2060 WC=WC+47:CT=CT+CV:PRINT@CP,C\$;CHR\$(
156+SU): : \(\mathrm{CP}=\mathrm{CP}+8\)
2070 IFCT>21 AND CA>0 THENCA=CA-1:CT=CT-
16
2075 IFCS=6ANDCT<22THENGOTO2206
2080 IFCT \(<=16\) THEN2050
2199 REM WHAT HAPPENED?
\(220 \emptyset\) IFCT>21THENPRINT@280,"I'M BUSTED --
- YOU WIN
1!"; : SOUND14000, 20:SOUND100日6, 26: SOUND5 0
00,20:SOUND3500,20: 2 : 2 PM+BET: GOTO2500
2206 IFCS \(>=5\) THENPRINT 2280 , "I 'VE GOT A 5
CARD CHARLIE -- YOU LOSE": PM=PM-
BET: SOUND7500,20:SOUND5060,15:SOUND10600
    ,20:GOTO2500
    2216
    IFCT=PTTHENPRINT@280, "PUSH..............
    "; :FORDL=70ø日TO100日øSTEP10日0:SOUNDDL, 8:N
```

EXTDL：GOTO250 0
2220 IFCT＞PTTHENPRINT＠280，＂I WIN
\＄\＄\＄\＄\＄\＄\＄\＄＂；：SOUND160日0，25：PM＝PM－
BET：GOTO250 0
2230 IFCT $\angle P T T H E N P R I N T E 280, " Y O U$ WON

000，20：PM＝PM＋BET
250ן FORDL＝1TO1250：NEXTDL：IFCO
25THENGOSUB9100
$2505 \mathrm{NH}=1$ ：RETURN
2999 REM QUIT
3009 CLS：PRINT＠80，＂BYE＂；N\＄：IFPM＞
＝1006THENPRINT＠200，＂YOU WON \＄＂；PM－
1000：END：ELSE
3010 PRINT＠200，＂YOU LOST $\$$＂；ABS（PM－1000） ：END
3999 REM PLAYER DOUBLES
4066 IFCR＞2THENPRINT＠280，＂YOU CAN＇T
DOUBLE NOW－－－DUMMY
1！＂；SOUND7506，20：SOUND130日6，20：FORDL＝1T O1090：NEXTDL：PRINT＠286，SPACES（38）
；：RETURN
4062 IFBET＊2＞PMTHENPRINT＠280，＂YOU DON＇T HAVE ENOUGH MONEY＊＊＊＊
＂；：SOUND3600，10：SOUND15000，10：SOUND8000， 10：FORDL＝1TO1000：NEXTDL：PRINT＠280，SPACE\＄ （35）；：RETURN

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## Listing 3 continued

$4005 \mathrm{PP}=1: \mathrm{CR}=\mathrm{CR}+1: \operatorname{LINE}(94,9)-(142,30)$
,1,B:GOSUB9500
4010 PRINT@PC,C\$;CHRS(156+SU): PT=PT+
CV:BET=BET* 2
4020 IFPT>21ANDPA $=0$ THENGOTO1060
4030 IFPT>21ANDPA>0THENPT=PT-10
4050 GOTO2000
8999 REM PRINT WELCOME
9006 FORLL=1TO5: PRINTE50, "WELCOME TO
"; CHR (27) ;"p";"BLACKJACK"; CHRS(27) ;"q"
9010 FORDL=1TO60: NEXTDL: BEEP:
PRINTe50, SPACE $\$(20)$
;:FORDL=1TO60: NEXTDL, LL: RETURN
9015 REM PRINT NAME OF GAME ON FIRST
LINE
9020 CLS: LINE $(0,0)-(239,7)$
,1,BF:PRINTE15," BLACKJACK ": LINE (0,7)-(
239,7): RETURN
9030 REM ANY CHEATING ??????
9050 PRINT®280, "NO CHEATING IN THIS GAME
!"; SOUND4000,10:SOUND10000,10:SOUND1600
0,10
9660
FORDL=1TO750: NEXTDL: PRINT@223,SPACE $\$(96)$
;:RETURN
9099 REM SHUFFLE THE CARDS
9100 CO=0: FORLL=1TO52:C(LL)

```
=1:NEXTLL:RETURN
9105 REM DRAW THE INITIAL 4 CARDS
9110 LINE (0,9)-(48,30),1,B:LINE (47,9)-(
95,30),1,B:LINE (0,32)-(48,53),1,B:LINE
47,32)-(95,53),1,B
9115 RETURN
9499 REM PICK A CARD
9500 SEC=VAL(RIGHT$(TIME$,2))
:FORI=1TOSEC:DUM=RND (1) :NEXTI : RN=INT (RND
(1)*53)
9510 IFC(RN)=0THEN9500
9520 CO=CO+1:C(RN)=0:SU=RNMOD4:
9536 IFRN>4THENGOTO9535: ELSEC$="ACE
":CV=11
9532 IFPP=1 THENPA=PA+1 : ELSECA=CA+1
9 5 3 3 \text { GOTO9600}
9535 IFRN>40THENGOTO9540:ELSEC$=STR$(INT
(RN/4))+" ":CV=INT(RN/4)
9537 IFRNMOD4<>6THENC$=STR$(INT(RN/4) +1)
+" ":CV=INT(RN/4) +1
9538 GOTO9600
9546 IFRN<45THENC$="JACK
":CV=10:GOTO9600
9545 IFRN<
49THENC$="QUEEN": CV=10:GOTO9600
9550 C$="KING ":CV=10
9 6 0 0 ~ R E T U R N
```


## STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION

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#### Abstract

None. 9. For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at special rates (Section 411.3 DMM). The purpose, function and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for Federal income tax purposes (Check one) Not applicable. 10. Extent and nature of circulation. $\propto$ Average No. copies each issue during preceding 12 months. (M) Actual No. copies of single issue published nearest to filing date. A. Total No. of copies printed $(X)$ 148,667 $M$ 164,029 B. Paid circulation 1. Sales through dealers and camiers, street vendors and counter sales $\propto 48,160(M 73,415$ 2. Mall subscription $\propto 7$ 76,634 M $76,179 \mathrm{C}$. Total paid circulation $(\varnothing) 124,794(M) 149,594 \mathrm{D}$. Free distribution by mall, carrier or other means, samples, complimentary, and other free copies $\propto 807$ M 837 E. Total distribution $\varnothing$ ) 125,601 (M) 150,431 F. Copies not distributed 1. Office use, left over, unac counted, spolled after printing $(\varnothing) 7,980(M) 13,5962$ Returns from news agents $\varnothing$ 15,086 $M$ 0 G. Total $\propto$ 148,667 (M) 164,029.


## Monitor 100 Changes

I found the "Monitor 100" program (August 1983, p. 17i) particularly interesting, but to make it work I had to make tw ) changes to the printed version.
First, statement 58 is redundant and should be deleter. Also, in line 200, MID $(0 \$, 3,4$ ) should be MID $\$(0 \$, 2,4)$.
The Model 100 is an excellent complement to my big con puter (a Kaypro II set up as an RCPM/RBBS). I can prepare draft documents on the go, then capture the incoming text file to disk.

A Basic program on the Kaypro (ADDLF.BAS) adds a lin 2 feed at each carriage retum (required by CP/M and many non-TRS-80 computers). You can then print the resulting fila as is, or process it further on your home computer. You ca 1 upload Model 100 Basic programs in a similar manner if yo 1 save them in ASCII format.
I use an Epson MX-80 printer. Its ability to skip over pelforations by either software command or hardware switch let; you paginate documents created on the Model 100 without th : intermediate step of uploading to a more powerful computer
Anyone buying a printer for the Model 100 should look fothis feature, as well as the capability to add line feeds (a hard ware switch option on the MX-80).
The usefulness of the Model 100 is enhanced by the series o: features initiated in your July issue. Although it is not $m$, primary use of this computer, methods of installing machine language code would be a good subject for a future article.

Phil Wheele -
5539 Towers St
Torrance, CA 9050

## Foxfighter Glitch

I just bought my first copy of 80 Micro, and I'm delightes to find the $\mathrm{C} \cdot \mathrm{Notes}$ section dedicated to the Model 100. I an satisfied with my Model 100, but until recently thought that nc one was writing software for it.
I enjoyed the Foxfighter program (August 1983, p. 200) but I did find a couple of glitches in it.
The program always presents one of seven predefined screer displays for the air mines. This becomes routine after a littl while and encourages high scoring.
The changes shown in lines 10 and $25-34$ in Progran Listing 1 display the air mines in random patterns instead. Oc casionally this results in an invisible air mine or two, adding to the challenge of the game.
Line 10 sets the RND function to one of 60 different starting points based on the Model 100's built-in clock. Lines $25-3$ use the RND function to display the air mines in various screens instead of the seven predefined screens used in the original listing.
Also, line 150 of Foxfighter is supposed to provide an additional fighter plane when the score reaches $500,1,000$, anc 2,000 . Actually, it only increments the number of fighters displayed by 1 at these three points. Lines $150-158$ in Listing 1 change the number of fighters as well as the display.

Harold Shavel<br>509 Mulberry \#s<br>Suisun, CA 94585

```
10 DIMX(6),A(42):V=3:SCR=0:
CLS : PRINTe92,"<<FOXFIGHTER>>" :
PRINT:PRINT:FORT=1TOVAL(RIGHT$(TIMES,2))
:SEC=RND (1) :NEXT : INPUT"DO YOU NEED
INSTRUCTIONS (Y OR N)" ;AS:IFAS="Y"
THEN 390 ELSE 20
25 FORI=1 TO 42:READA(I): NEXT
30 FORM=1 TO 6
32 Y=INT(41*RND (1)) +1:FORI=1 TO
6:IFX(I) =A(Y) THEN32
34 X(M)=A(Y) :NEXTM
150 IFSCR=500 AND
BN=0THENV=V+1:BN=1:GOTO155ELSEIFSCR=1000
    AND BN=0THENV=V+1:BN=1:GOTO155ELSE IF
SCR=20@0 AND BN=0THENV=V+1:BN=1:GOTO
155
155 IF SCR<> 500 AND SCR <>1000 AND SCR
< 2000 THEN BN=0
158 PRINT@O,V
```

Program Listing 1. Adjustments for Brad Dixon's "Foxfighter" program.

## Calculator Program

The short calculator program in Program Listing 2 is one of the first programs I wrote on my Model 100.
To run the program, input a value and press the enter key. Then input either a plus ( P ), multiplication (.), subtraction ( - ), or division (/) sign.

Type in your next number and press the enter key. Now press the equals key to get an answer, or key in another function and continue calculating. Once you have an answer, you can start over, stop, or carry your balance forward.

By using P for addition and a period for multiplication, you don't need to use the shift lever.

Mark Fox
774 Hazelwood Drive
North Wales, PA 19454

```
5 CLS
6 \mp@code { P R I N T " C A L C U L A T O R ~ P R O G R A M " }
10 INPUT Y
11 CLS
15 PRINTY
20 Y$=INKEY$:IF Y = = "THEN GOTO20
21 IF Y $="="THEN100
25 PRINTY$
30 INPUT X
31 IF Y S="P"THEN Y=Y+X:GOTO20
32 IF Y$="-"THEN Y=Y-X:GOTO20
33 IF Y$="."THEN Y=Y*X:GOTO20
34 IF YS="/"THEN Y=Y/X:GOTO20
100 PRINT"------"
200 PRINTY;" IS YOUR ANSWER"
210 PRINT
226 PRINT"ANOTHER EQUATION? OR BAL
FWD(Y,N,B)"
223 Z$=INKEY$
230 IF Z $=""GOTO 223
230 IF 2 $="Y"THEN5
240 IF 2$="Y"THEN5
250 IFZ$="B"THEN15
260 END
```

Program Listing 2. Model 100 Calculator program.

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# NEWS THIS month <br>  <br> 14,000 miles with a Model 100 

## Steve Roberts' bicycle odyssey.

Anyone who's bought a TRS-80 Model 100 will tell you that the portable lets you work without being chained to a desk, but one owner is taking Tandy's "Micro Executive Work Station" idea far beyond an armchair or plane ride. Steve Roberts, a Columbus, OH , freelance writer, plans to conduct a year's business with his Model 100, without stepping into his office once.

In fact, most of the time he'll be lying down-on a custom-designed recumbent bicycle, festooned with generators and solar cells, which he'll pedal 14,000 miles across America.

On the road, Roberts will record his various writing projects using a helmetmounted microphone and a portable tape recorder. After setting up camp, he'll transcribe his prose onto his 32 K Model 100 and upload it via telephone to his main computer, a Micromax System 1000, in Columbus. Kacy Branstetter, Roberts' manager and editor, will be standing by to receive copy, forward phone calls, and serve as what Roberts calls his "interface with the universe."

Roberts' .DO files, he says, will make a pit stop between bike and Branstetter: The trip's primary sponsor, CompuServe Information Service, is supplying "essentially unlimited time and filespace" for uploading. CIS members are encouraged to chat with the rolling writer (his user ID number is 70007,362 ), and his saga will be available as a regularly updated data base: "I think you'll be able to just type GO SKR and it'll be there as a display file," Roberts predicted.

An on-line travelogue isn't Roberts' first high-tech writing assignment. A former software and systems consul-


Foberts: "Fil exist in a totally asynchronous fashion."
tant, the 31-year- ld author turned to Words'worth Inc., a business communfreelancing in the lite 1970s. As head of ications firm, he alternates magazine ar-


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ticles and books (Prentice-Hall's Creative Design with Microcomputers and Complete Guide to Micrasystem Management) with corporate technical writing assignments. The former, he told CompuServe's Today magazine editor Carole Gerber, offer "fame and glory," while the latter "[provide] steady income."

His bicycle trip is a shot at both. Interviewed two weeks before his scheduled Sept. 28 departure, Roberts told 80 Micro he planned a 700 -mile "shakedown cruise" around Indianapolis, IN, and Louisville, KY. Then, in early November, he'll begin his journey with a turn south from Washington, DC, toward Florida to start a clockwise loop of the U.S.
"I'm anticipating [the trip's taking] about a year, finishing up around the idea, of course, is to take advantage of as much good weather as possible."

In preparation for the voyage, Roberts said, he was wringing out both his Model 100 and his legs: "I'm basically living off the Model 100 now for everything. Between the Model 100 and CompuServe, my office is very light."
As for physical preparation, "The obscene part of all this is that I've been riding around central Ohio, which is very flat and [where it's] very easy to get cocky about your ability to go long distances. [But] unless there are physical problems I don't see any trouble. I may bust a knee and jettison all this hightech equipment."

He's already jettisoned an item that would have spared him frequent visits to phone booths. Technical problems and the unit's weight aborted his plans to carry a second computer, a homemade CMOS CP/M system with $31 / 2$ inch microfloppies for mass storage; that leaves him the stock Model 100, no storage except RAM, and obligatory stops to upload every 15 pages or so.
"I'm hoping to get something that'll be useful for [bulk storage] fairly soon," Roberts admitted. "I've looked at wafertape drives, and I'm interested in what people are doing with $31 / 2$-inch floppies. If all else fails I have cassette, though I'm not crazy about it.
"If anyone comes up with more memory, I'm ready. I've talked a little to Holmes Engineering about the 256 K bubble memory and it sounds like it's not quite ready, but that would be a worthwhile purchase if it comes out
sometime during the trip."
Meanwhile, he estimates that his cycle, camping gear, and electronics equipment total about 110 pounds, some taken up by a high-tech way to save batteries: "A couple of solar panels that were donated by Solarex provide 15 volts in full sun," he said, and another sponsor has contributed rechargeable Ni-Cad cells.

Besides relying on them, plus an ac line when available, Roberts has a generator similar to those that run bicycle headlights: "If I've got a good tailwind or I'm flying downhill, it's a simple matter to pop [the generator] against the wheel and get power."
There's one item he doesn't expect to use-a CB radio, carried in case of emergency. 'I've stripped it down almost to just a PC board," Roberts said. "It's not even near me when I'm doing my regular writing, but if I'm crashed in a ditch somewhere I'd like to be able to call for help."

While the trip will challenge not only Roberts' stamina but the Model 100's"how well it will do in the sun and vibration and dirt and everything else"Radio Shack is keeping its distance from the project. "They know about it but seem kind of unresponsive," Roberts said when asked about any contact with Tandy. "I encountered such a huge, faceless organization when I [approached them] for a sponsorship that I went back to CompuServe."
That may be because Radio Shack is unwilling to share other people's publicity stunts. Roberts seems sincere and enthusiastic about the trip and eager to discuss it as an affirmation of new technologies' ability to liberate deskbound workers, but the enterprise is not exactly free of Madison Avenue-style merchandising.

In addition to his CompuServe updates, there's the matter of what Roberts will write during his year on the road. Besides freelance magazine articles and material for corporate clients, he plans two books. One will be either a "boring but easy to write" text about on-line communications and engineering, or a computer science text which Roberts calls "potentially a huge mon-ey-maker but a lot of work."

Roberts' second and more important effort will be a book tentatively titled Computing Across America: A Bicycle Odyssey, for which his agent is currently negotiating with several publishers.

Suspicion of Roberts' making the trip in order to write about it, rather than making it and then writing about it, lessens the credibility of his words to Today's Gerber: "The whole trip offers an opportunity to test the viability of the information society. I want to see if I can maintain a heavily interactive, information-oriented professional practice involving a lot of clients [with] complete freedom from the confines of an office. I'll exist in a totally asynchronous fashion."

Also, Roberts' point is to be free from desks and papers, yet he'll be carrying generators and solar cells. Is that practical? "I think it is practical," he told 80 Micro, "and I've been doing it on a very small scale recently as I've been practicing.
"I find I get a lot more done when I'm out on a beach or something with a Model 100. This moming, in fact, I wrote most of an article at a Wendy's restaurant while having breakfast. When I'm out of the office, there are fewer distractions and I can get more done."
This makes sense, but sounds more like most users' appreciation of the 100 as a handy notepad than a defense of a full-time career with one. Also, of course, Roberts' job fits his thesis better than most other professions would; the freelance writer is the most insecure financially, but the least place- and equip-ment-bound, worker there is.
Nevertheless, Roberts insists, his trip goes beyond both commercial aspects and his point about the open office. "If I wasn't writing for a living and had lots of money I'd be doing it anyway," he said. "The fact that I'm not independently wealthy forces me to work while I'm on the road, and [the 100 's] a convenient way to do that.
"I don't think it is [a publicity stunt]. I've thought about it a lot and wondered if it was, and it doesn't feel that way. It's something I do privately as well as publicly."

And, anyway, Roberts' tour is an adventure. Computing Across America is unlikely to rival de Tocqueville's Democracy in America or William Least Heat Moon's Blue Highways, but Roberts' combination of gee-whiz Woodstock spirit and "Real People" PR might produce a bestseller.

How about Zen and the Art of Model 100 Maintenance?
$-E . G$.

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# ROM is copyright 

## Apple wins; Franklin to appeal.

Diving into a hazy maze of 0 's and 1's, a federal appeals court in Philadelphia has issued a ruling that makes the question of software copyright one step clearer, even as it blurs the distinction between software and hardware.
On August 30, a three-judge panel upheld Apple Computer Inc.'s lawsuit against Franklin Computer Corp., allowing Apple to seek an injunction against sales of Franklin's Apple-compatible Ace 1000. The key decision: computer manufacturers can copyright operating systems and programs in ROM, as well as applications programs.
Writing that "the medium is not the message," Circuit Court Judge Darcy Sloviter overturned a lower court's denial of Apple's suit. Franklin admitted copying 14 operating system programs before the lower court, but argued that such programs embodied in chips are essential parts of the machine-hard-ware-and, as such, ineligible for copyright.
The presiding federal district judge agreed, finding that firmware was not written "in a language of description" and refusing to issue a temporary restraining order against Franklin. The appeals court's decision lets Apple return to district court and seek the injunction, even as Franklin's lawyer, James Shestack, announced plans to ask for a rehearing-round 3 of the batthe, so to speak-before the entire Court of Appeals. Round 4 might take place in the U.S. Supreme Court.

In upsetting Franklin's claim that the programs were an uncopyrightable "process, system, or method of operation," Sloviter and his colleagues said that that approach "mistakenly focuses on the physical characteristics of the instruction," like paying attention to a book's ink and paper rather than its contents. "Apple," the panel declared, "does not seek to copyright the method which instructs the computer to perform its operating functions but only the instructions themselves.
"Franklin's attack on operating sys-
tem programs as 'methods' or 'processes' seems inconsistent with its concession that application programs are an appropriate subject of copyright," the court continued. "Both types of programs instruct the computer to do something.
"The statutory definition of a computer program....makes no distinction between application programs and operating programs. We reaffirm that a computer program in object code embedded in a ROM chip is an appropriate subject of copyright."
The decision makes an important distinction between the two legal means by which people protect their ideas-copyright and patent. As the New York Times' David E. Sanger wrote, "Under U.S. law, copyrights protect the expression of an idea, such as a literary work. Ideas themselves, in the form of novel inventions, are protected by patents."
In Franklin's view, Apple's operating programs were unpatented hardware, and therefore free for copying. Computer makers, Sanger pointed out, "have shied away from using the patent system to protect their programs," because patents take a long time to obtain and because "it is not clear whether most computer programs are sufficient-
ly novel and distinct from one another to merit patent protection."
For example, Scripsit and Newscript, both TRS-80 word processors, are alike in many ways-generally, they're both written in 1 's and 0 's; more specifically, they use similar routines to perform similar tasks such as opening and closing files. Like two novels written with the same words, they are not different enough to be patented. They are, however, copyrighted by Radio Shack and Prosoft respectively.

As for Apple, the Cupertino, CA, firm's vice president and general counsel, Albert Eisentat, was naturally pleased with the ruling, telling Computerworld, "I think it's one of the most definitive statements of the law that's been done yet."

Whatever the odds, however, Franklin vowed to continue the fight. The Cherry Hill, NJ, company's executive vice president and chief operating officer, Avram Miller, told reporters, "Our plans right now are to go back to the court for redress. We believe we'll prevail and the injunction will be denied."

Added attorney Shestack, "We still contend that Apple was abusing the copyright laws to gain a monopoly on

As this issue went to press, Osborne Computer Corp. stopped production of its portable computers, laid off 300 of its 400 remaining workers, and filed for protection from creditors under Chapter 11 federal bankruptcy laws.

The Hayward, CA, firm employed 1,000 people before closing its New Jersey plant and beginning California layoffs last summer, plagued by more powerful and less expensive competitors to its Osborne 1 and delays in shipping its successor, the Osborne Executive.

On Sept. 12, two San Jose component suppliers filed a lawsuit claiming Osborne owed them more than $\$ 4.5$ million for circuit boards, disk drives, and other parts. The portable pioneer filed for Chapter 11 protection in U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Oakland on Sept. 13.

James Lopes, attorney for Osborne, told the Associated Press that three banks had agreed to loan the company $\$ 600,000$ while Osborne sought possible buyers or investors.


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equipment compatible with its machine." Ekos Inc., a Franklin distributor, issued a press release affirming its support of the Ace manufacturer. Ekos President Steven R. Gerbsman declared, "There are other alternatives not yet explored, including royalty payments, that cause us to believe we'll be marketing Franklin computers for some time to come."

The mention of royalty payments indicates a possible direction for settlement, though no one's talking at pres-
ent; all Miller would tell ISO World was, "We have contingency plans if we fail."

One of Franklin's contingency plans is probably its IBM PC-compatible micro, being prepared under the direction of engineer William Sydnes, who designed the original PC and reportedly was working on IBM's Peanut when he moved to Franklin in April.

The Philadelphia ruling does not affect makers of IBM clones, because IBM's "open architecture" policy
makes details of its PC system readily available.
Nevertheless, the Apple/Franklin decision means that computer companies can protect all software-whether on a disk, a listing, or a chip, and in source or object code-by copyright. Manufacturers continue to worry about small-scale piracy and product backups, but system pirates have apparently been sunk.
-E.G.

## BUSINESS

## Waiting for Santa

The micro industry looks to the Christmas market.

After a summer of rollercoaster stock prices and grim predictions for TI and Atari, the microcomputer industry tried to pull itself into shape for the Christmas buying season. By September, some companies had asserted themselves as movers and shakers, some were on the move, and others were merely shaking.
Taking the latter first, Texas Instruments moved swiftly to reduce towering TI 99/4A inventories. A price cut to $\$ 99$ helped move the overstocked machine, and a peripheral package consisting of a disk drive and controller, 32K RAM expansion, and rack mount, was slashed from $\$ 1,200$ to $\$ 550$. In addition, stores received a free $\$ 100$ software package for every system ordered.

According to Electronic News, dealers immediately started selling the expansion package and software for as little as $\$ 449$, with industry observers predicting $\$ 399$ before long. Such a price, bringing a 48 K disk system to around $\$ 500$, would be competitive, though other questions remained unanswered: whether buyers would be attracted to the software-scarce micro, and whether TI could survive at such a low (perhaps negative) profit margin.
Turning the knife in TI's wound, Montgomery Ward issued its 1983 Christmas catalog on September 9-and bumped the 99/4A to give space to Coleco's Adam.
Timex dealers had even less to smile about. Ken Coach, marketing and sales
director of Softsync, told InfoWorld, "The Timex-Sinclair 1000 has petered right out." Coach hoped that the forthcoming TS 2068, the U.S. version of the Sinclair Spectrum color machine, might share the under- $\$ 200$ market with Commodore, but saw no prospects for the black-and-white TS 1500: "I'm not putting any hopes on it at all."

Following TI's lead, meanwhile, Atari cut prices for most of its lineup, from the 2600 VCS game console (effectively trimmed to $\$ 59$ after a rebate) to the new 600 XL and 800 XL home computers, given wholesale tags of $\$ 140$ and $\$ 240$ respectively. Even so, Atari's retail prices were some $\$ 60$ above the competition's-the 600 XL versus the 99/4A in the 16 K arena, and the 800 XL versus the Commodore 64. Just as TI disappeared from Montgomery Ward shelves, the 203 -store Target chain added Coleco and dropped Atari.

The Warner Communications subsidiary seemed to be pinning its hopes on its AtariSoft line of programs for non-Atari micros, announcing 12 games for the 99/4A and eight for Commodore, IBM, and Apple. In addition to computer versions (expected to retail for $\$ 38$ to $\$ 50$ apiece), Atari launched several titles for rival Intellivision and ColecoVision game machines.

While VIC-20 sales slowed to a crawl, Commodore 64's were jumping off the shelves. While $\$ 199$ prices gave only a \$5 margin over wholesale cost, vendors relied on peripherals and software for
profit. For instance, 90 percent of C64 buyers also choose the 1541 disk drive-supplies of which nearly ran out in late summer, obliging Commodore to schedule an emergency airlift from Japan.
Spinnaker Software President Bill Bowman echoed the industry consensus when he told InfoWorld, "If the low end is going to have a savior, it will be the Commodore 64." The only machine that seemed competitive was Radio Shack's white-cased 64 K Color Computer, which debuted at $\$ 399.95$-well under the C64's original $\$ 595$, but twice Commodore's current price. (The compact new Color Computer 2 with 64 K RAM and Extended Basic lists for $\$ 468.95$, plus upgrade installation.)

How low will Commodore go? In its July 25 issue, ISO World claimed that building a C64 costs Commodore less than $\$ 60$ and that the firm could "apparently sell the 64 for $\$ 99$ wholesale and still make a profit."
While no one seemed ready to tackle Commodore in the trenches, many manufacturers were comfortable in the higher levels of the market. Kaypro was making about 12,000 machines a month, while Apple and IBM each produced perhaps 70,000 IIe's and PC's respectively. Compaq predicted $\$ 100$ million in revenues for its first year, selling 50,000 copies of its portable PC clone.

There were rumors of more middlerange micros to compete with Adam
and Peanut-a $\$ 500,16$-bit, 256 K Commodore; an under-\$1,000 TI with concurrent CP/M in ROM. Steve Wozniak told the San Jose Mercury News that Apple's McIntosh, due in November or December for $\$ 1,200$ or so, would "just [boggle] everyone. It's just totally unbelievable and unexpected, not just a better version of something that is already around."
Coleco rebounded from pessimists' gossip to show production units of Adam (though a press release said "less than $\$ 700^{\prime \prime}$ instead of the usual $\$ 600$ cost figure), and Child World, Markline, and Diners Club joined Wards and Target in placing orders for fall delivery. In mid-September, though, the press reported that Adam's FCC approval would be a month behind
schedule.
Coleco also joined AT\&T in plans for "an interactive game and entertainment service," bringing Zaxxon and company to anyone with a home computer or game console. The service will use standard phone lines and an AT\&T/ Coleco modem; subscribers will pay a monthly charge plus user fees to play a game. The announcement upstaged Mattel, which developed the Playcable service now offered by 20 cable TV companies.
And IBM prepared to upstage everybody, with 100,000 Peanuts sold by Christmas. There was talk of still other news from Big Blue-a portable PC by year's end, a $\$ 10,000,32$-bit challenger to Lisa by spring 1984-but IBM's home computer continued to rule the

## gossip world.

Analysts couldn't agree on specifications, Datamation reported, but they agreed on one thing: Whether it cost $\$ 700$ or $\$ 900$, had 64 K or 90 K , and used a tape drive or a standard $51 / 4$-inch disk or IBM's orphan 3.9 -inch disk or CP/M or MS-DOS on a ROM chip, Peanut would use the IBM name to become the dominant force in home computing.

In the words of Peter Cunningham, president of Input, a Mountain View, CA, research firm: "Coleco's Adam might be state of the art for the home market and have the lowest retail price, but it will probably be IBM that makes all the money.'
$-E . G$.

## 

## Magic/L challenges Basic

Loki, in Norse mythology, is a malevolent, mischievous god, always making trouble around the gods' home of Asgard and (in Marvel Comics' version) trying to defeat the mighty Thor. If Basic is the Thor of microcomputer languages, Loki Engineering of Cambridge, MA, is hoping to raise a little mischief of its own with a syntax called Magic/L.

According to Mass High Tech, Magic/L is "a Forth equivalent with simpler syntax and a high level of interactivity with the user." Its authors, Loki's Jeff Epstein and Arnold Morris, compare it to C and Pascal in terms of structure, but claim it's more powerful and more interactive.
"Magic/L is much faster than Basic, and can be learned in hours," Morris said.


WorkSlate: Designed to do one thing well.
"[It's] the ultimate in user friendly, and once you get good, it allows you to do things like access Assembly language directly."
While working on satellite data display systems at the Smithsonian Astrophysical Laboratory, Epstein recalled,
he and Morris became "frustrated because [Forth] was so hard to read. Forth is what some people call a write-only language." In other words, what looks fine to a Forth programmer might prove baffling to someone who wants to modify the program
later.
In addition, Epstein claims, Forth and other languages "have their roots in prehistory. Basic, for heaven's sake, was written on an IBM 1130, much less of a machine than an Apple."
To overcome these short-
comings, the two programmers developed Magic/L, working on a Data General Nova in Epstein's basement in early 1981. Today, Mass High Tech says, Loki "is betting its future that Magic/L will become a standard language of the 1980 s-perhaps even competing head-to-head with Basic in the personal computer market."
After selling it as a development tool for minicomputers, Marketing Manager Barry Unger said, Loki planned to launch CP/M-86 and MSDOS versions of the new language at Boston's CP/M East show in October, and hoped to make Magic/L a household word before long.
"New languages are usually developed by large teams at universities," Unger said,
"but we believe we have something that is way ahead of anything else, and we see a tremendous growth potential."

Who knows? If Magic/L proves a threat to Microsoft and Digital Research, Loki Engineering may incur the wrath of the gods.

## Non-programmable portable

While Tandy's Model 100 and its rivals are lap-sized workstations suitable for almost any computing task, Convergent Technologies Inc., of Santa Clara, CA, has taken a different approach. Its WorkSlate is designed for
specific applications, giving executives a spreadsheet, calculator, terminal, and telephone in an $81 / 2$ - by 11 -inch package.
The $31 / 2$-pound portable, introduced in ComputerLand and Businessland stores and in the American Express catalog, has a 16 -line, 46 character LCD display, an 8 bit CMOS 6800 CPU, a $300-$ baud modem, and a built-in microcassette recorder. Its 16K RAM is expandable to 32 K , but its strength is its 64 K ROM-which includes an advanced spreadsheet and windowing capabilities.
For instance, users can put a spreadsheet at the top of the display and a financial calculator at the bottom, moving data back and forth between the windows.

WorkSlate's audio recorder lets it serve as a speakerphone and phone-answering machine; spreadsheet templates, called Taskware, are available on special data/ voice tapes. Its maker, Convergent's new Advanced Information Systems division, claims users can use the tape recorder to make vocal annotations to spreadsheets, up to 10 of which can be stored on a microcassette.
The firm plans communications, financial-modeling, and memo-writing softwarenot full-featured programs, but patches or templates to WorkSlate's spreadsheet environment. There may also be different machines for writers and students; Convergent marketing manager Karen Toland admits Work-

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Slate's circular keys discourage typing, but says, "Executives don't type. They do word processing with their mouths.
"WorkSlate is designed to replace the calculator, pencil, paper, and eraser," Toland told InfoWorld's John Markoff and David Needle. "It will not compete directly with the Tandy Model 100. ."

The unit costs $\$ 895$, with Taskware tapes selling for $\$ 19.95$ to $\$ 49.95$ and a printer for $\$ 250$.

## Small is profitable

Most office automation firms such as DEC, Wang, and IBM hope to place their products with the prestigious Fortune 1,000 companies, whose business totals over $\$ 1.8$ trillion in annual revenues. However, according to Focus Research Systems of West Hartford, CT, there's an even bigger market among small businesses. U.S. companies with annual sales of under $\$ 25$ million apiece combine for over $\$ 2$ trillion a year-and the advent of office micros has made them prime candidates for automation.
American business, Focus points out, consists "of a handful of large companies and a gigantic number of small businesses': of an estimated 3.56 million nonagricultural companies, 3.55 million-99.7 percent-have under 500 employees. Perhaps 3.1 million, or 88 percent of all U.S. businesses, have fewer than 20 people on their payrolls.
Except for a copier (most firms with eight or more employees have a copy machine), these offices stayed unautomated while mainframe and mini salesmen
made their rounds. "A small company with $\$ 200,000$ in annual sales may allocate $\$ 4,000$ annually for automation, and such a sum hardly warrants a major sales effort by any vendor," Focus' survey, "Small Business Automation," admits.

The microcomputer era changed that. From 1979 to 1982, Focus' survey states, 254,000 small firms bought computers. Of those buyers, 80 percent had 1-19 employees; while only 78,000 firms that size had a computer in 1979, over 278,000 had one three years later.

Looking ahead, Focus predicts over 900,000 small businesses will buy their first computer within the next three years. By 1984-85, the researchers claim, the computer market among companies with under 450 workers will total $\$ 8$ billion, with more than half of that coming from firms with under 20.
"Computer vendors with low-cost products and distribution systems capable of selling in volume are well positioned to reap the benefits of this massive market," Focus concludes.

## Say it with paper

In a recent "Side Tracks" column (November 1983, p. 6, 80 Micro's editor-in-chief Eric Maloney remarked that the magazine prefers submissions and queries on paper to messages on CompuServe. The market researchers at International Resource Development Inc. see broader implications, describing an anti-videotex backlash that illustrates Hegelian philosophy.
Proclaiming, "The 'Paperless' Home? According to Hegel, No Way!", IRD
claims that the telecommunications boom will actually increase the consumption of certain kinds of paper-that, with "uniformity, mechanization, and depersonalization" as the thesis, people will long for its antithesis.
"People don't need paper just for business reasons," says IRD researcher Ken Bosomworth. "They need paper for personal reasons, too. A letter written on personalized stationery will be far more meaningful than the same words appearing on a CRTand, for that matter, more meaningful than the same words printed out on computer paper."

Thus, the Norwalk, CT, analysts predict, the future will bring not one big happy Network Nation but "a resurgence in demand for" high-quality stationery, business forms, and greeting cards, as people seek more sincere correspondence. "And the Hegelian synthesis," IRD concludes, "shall be a world in which the old and new media are each appreciated for the respective strengths they bring to communications."

While rejecting the idea of videotex Valentines, Bosomworth admits that telecommunications will prevail over printed catalogs, directories, and Yellow Pages. "The syn-thesis-antithesis concept only applies in situations where deeply felt human needs are involved," he says. "If it's a question of efficiencies on the one hand and no emotional need on the other, the efficiencies will win out every time."

## CRT users see pink

It seems the debate over possible health effects of

CRT displays will never end. A National Academy of Sciences panel concluded in July that terminal use has no adverse effects on operators' vision, but the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) vowed to continue research on health-related CRT problems, including a study focusing on CRTs and pregnancy (see 80 Micro, October 1983, p. 294).

Now three IBM PC users have discovered that gazing into a computer monitor does indeed have an effect on vision, if not exactly an adverse one. Look at a CRT long enough, and white figures on a black background turn pink.

Susan Greenwald, an Evanston, IL, architect, noticed the color distortion after a session of PC word processing. Greenwald's husband Mark, an ophthalmologist, contacted Randolph Blake, a Northwestern University psychologist who specializes in visual perception. Blake took one look at the CRT and gave a rosy diagnosis: the McCollough effect, a minor optic maladjustment that can last from several minutes to several weeks.
"I routinely explain the McCollough effect in my lecture courses," Blake told Computerworld. "The conditions under which the effect is produced have to be fairly constrained. But it just so happens that the green letters on the black terminal generate just this aftereffect.
"The most interesting thing is that the pattern of the color distortion conforms to the pattern and contour of the letters on the screen. That is, if you stare for a long time at a CRT, then see white letters on a black background that are of similar size and shape, you'll get the pinkish tint."

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While the effect is physiologically harmless, Blake told CW's Katherine Hafner, physicians should be aware of it in case computer-owning
patients call, worrying that they've suddenly been struck color-blind.

To former typists or scriveners, the McCollough
effect may be a small price to pay for the convenience of word processing ("There aren't really a lot of instances where we read white letters
on black," Blake admitted). If you'd rather see straight, time away from the CRT and keyboard will restore normal color perception.

## Uncle Sam goes micro

- News flash: The FEDERAL GOVERNMENT has discovered that microcomputers are powerful tools, if people
 know how to use them. Halfway through a six-month study designed to develop policies and plans for federal micro use, the General Services Administration told Computerworld that employees find micros help them make decisions faster and complete their work more quickly and accurately.
"In-depth, hands-on training and ongoing availability of technical assistance are essential," the GSA's preliminary findings declare. "Also, formal instruction in software selection and application are essential in managing the successful transition to microcomputer use."
- Radio Shack, continuing its new policy of COOPERATION with outside software marketers, has swapped conversion rights with CBS Inc. Tandy earns worldwide rights to market TRS-80 versions of selected CBS programs, while CBS will sell some Radio Shack software for non-Radio Shack micros. The agreement marks the first time Tandy has allowed its software to be converted to other formats.
- As reported in October's End Bytes (p. 300), Tano Corp. of New Orleans, LA, has brought the DRAGON to the U.S., one year after its debut in the U.K.-where it's ceased to impress the British magazine Computer Dealer. "The Dragon is beginning to look distinctly archaic," writes $C D$ 's Peter Craig. "Sales figures prove the value of good marketing and distribution over a good product."
Assessing the low-end micro market in Britain, Craig comments that Apple's IIe "still suffers from having the decimal point in its price in the wrong place" and that its "specification is also beginning to look a bit dated," while "the soon-to-be-released Atari models are disappointing evolutions of the old models." Commodore, Craig concludes, is "arrogant in knowing that the 64 is a world beater. The machine is so cheap to manufacture and so superior in performance that Commodore could quite easily zap their competition from a vast altitude."
- From distributing printers and disk boxes, LEADING EDGE PRODUCTS has moved into the IBM PC market. The Canton, MA, firm has followed its much-ballyhooed PC word processor with its own MS-DOS micro, an 8088based system said to run 70 percent faster than the PC and cost 40 percent less. The 128 K machine, assembled by a num-
ber of overseas contractors, will be the first hardware product marketed under the Leading Edge name.
- 1983 was the year that computer prices fell through the floor; 1984 may be the year that SOFTWARE PRICES follow. Microsoft Vice-President Jim Spillars told ISO World in July, "I think you are going to see products in the $\$ 100$ to $\$ 150$ range by Christmas that have been selling in the $\$ 250$ to $\$ 350$ price range."

By September, Spillars' prediction seemed on target, with Commodore cutting some C64 software prices 50 percent. Silicon Valley Systems of Belmont, CA, slashed its popular Apple word processor, Word Handler, from $\$ 199$ to $\$ 59.95$, and offered a package of Word Handler and List Handler, formerly $\$ 298$, for $\$ 89.95$. It's clear that buyers of the new sub- $\$ 1,000$ micros are unwilling to pay $\$ 250$ apiece for programs.

- Despite extra courses and upgraded facilities, The Wall Street Journal reports, America's COLLEGES are falling behind the demand for computer classes. Georgia Tech has had to impose quotas on computer science majors, and the University of Wisconsin at Madison turns away 1,000 would-be computer science students a semester. Those who get in may have to use a terminal located in a hallway outside a crowded classroom, with terminal time available only after midnight.
- The Model 100 is only the beginning: The market researchers at International Resource Development Inc. see PORTABLES as accounting for one-quarter of all personal business computers and office workstations by 1987. More and more portables will have integrated voice/data functions like Convergent Technologies' WorkSlate's, that can answer the phone and digitize users' spoken notes as addenda to files or programs; by the late 1980 s, "pocket consultants" with optical-card memory should replace "whole shelves of medical or law books" for professionals in those fields.
- The Boston-based analysts of the Yankee Group, meanwhile, see TELECOMMUNICATIONS as achieving "mass market status in the fourth quarter of 1985 ." By then, a Yankee study predicts, 20 percent of home computers and up to 12 percent of video game consoles will have modems, and an additional 1.5 million telephones will sport terminal capabilities and built-in displays.
- And, if all those on-line homes grow tired of talking to each other, they can turn to The Source and do CROSSWORD PUZZLES. The McLean, VA, data base now offers a weekly British-style (cryptic clues) puzzle, created by New York attomey J. Baxter Newgate. Besides having "instant access to the answers" and being able to challenge or compliment the author, Source puzzlers will soon have the option of choosing different levels of difficulty.


# Learn to Program Like a Professiona!! THE COMPLETE BOOK OF RANDOM ACCESS \& DATA FILE PROGRAMMING 



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## Notes from New England

(Editor's note: With regret and some embarrassment, we must report that the Gamer's Cafe did not submit a column this month. We're not exactly sure why, since Rodney and Mad Max were right here in New Hampshire under our watchful eye. They disappeared mysteriously one day without even a goodbye, leaving behind only a photo of some guy smashing a computer and a disk marked "Misc." That disk contained, among the clutter of halffinished programs and bizarre bits of prose signed "T. DeQuincey" (we suspect that Max wrote them, owing to the many references to the Woodstock Nation and Studebakers), a Scripsit file entitled "Notes," which we suspect comprised the core of the December

column. Those scrawls (and it's not easy to scrawl in Scripsit) are presented here, minus, of course, the many spelling errors and coffee stains.)

Whine, whine, whine! It seems like everybody is accusing everybody else of cheating on Big Board games. We're going to need the Magnificent Seven to
clean up the mess. "It's no fun reading the Big Board mail anymore," says Max.

For starters, Scott Trent challenges Jer McLanahan's 261 in Space Warp. "If you have ever played that game one of the first things you will notice is that the highest possible score is 255 ," he claims. "The other thing is that it is very

## The Big Board

Apple Panic
Arex
Assault
Astroball
Attack Force
Bable Terror
Barricade
Caterpillar
Centipedes
Chicken
Clash
Convoy
Cosmic Fighter
Crazy Painter
Cyborg
Danger in Orbit
Defense Command
Demise/Defend
Demon Seed
Desert Peril
Devil's Tower
Dungeon Escape
Flying Saucers
Fortress
Frogger
Galactic Empire Galaxy Invasion Plus Gauntlet
Ghost Hunter
Insect Frenzy Invaders from Space
Jovian

287,620
138.780
97.457

317,240
1,732,820
8,857
17,520
362,883
94,836
12,035
174,300
34,770
806,280
1,087,000
317,000
69,640
128,230
165,000
103,160
84,400
25,700
6,531
2,186
515,925
400,900
1,850
1,600,058
58,360
41,190
691,156
655,360
148,300

Mary Phinney, Stockbridge, MI Rob Mitchell, Peterborough, NH Zagros Sadjadi, Petaluma, CA Stefan Kunze, Moers, W. Germany Dave Smith, Raleigh, NC Mad Max
Troy Scrapchansky, Uncasville, CT Alvah Werner, New Albany, OH Belinda Chron, Tempe, AZ Noble Chowchuvech, Demarest, NJ Zagros Sadjadi, Petaluma, CA Rick Sayre, Stockton, CA Robert Newman, Stoney Creek, Ont Mike Beebe, Sacramento, CA Robert Cavin, Laredo, TX Steve Sustacek, Danube, MN Bette Dufraine, Bolton, CT David Russell, Ardrossan, Scotland Markus Blum, Ludwigshafen, W. Germany Jay McLain, Clatskanie, OR Rick Sayre, Stockton, CA Donald Tindall, Littleton, CO Stuart Lory, Victoria, B.C. Greg Samson, Loudonville, NY Shawn Roberts, Oklahoma City, OK David Russell, Ardrossan, Scotland Shawn Lipman, Nelspruit, S. Africa David Schwartz, San Jose, CA John Kane, Nelson, N.Z.
Tommy Seniuk, Vegreville, Alta. Darren Cotter, Oceanside, CA
Greg Samson, Loudonville, NY

Jungle Boy
Killer Gorilla
Laserball
1,900
28,312
72,530
Laser Defense
Leaper
Lunar Lander
Mad Mines
Martian Patrol
Meteor Mission 2
Missile Attack
Monster Invaders
Olympic Decathlon
Outhouse
Panik
Penetrator
Planetoids
Rear Guard
Robot Attack
Sea Dragon
Sky Sweep
Space Castle
Space Intruders
Space Warp (Level 8)
Stellar Escort
Super Nova
Swamp Wars
Temple of Apshai
Time Runner
Venture
Voyager 1
Weerd
Wild West

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Alex Poon, Baton Rouge, LA
Neil Matson, Panama City, FL
Greg Samson, Loudonville, NY
Tommy Seniuk, Vegreville, Alta.
15,100 Brent Lewis, Long Valley, NJ
10,220 Gorman Miller, Titusville, FL
30,496 David Schwartz, San Jose, CA
119,750 Bob Brown, Dallas, TX
44,000 Raimo Hansen, Mesa, AZ
32,620 Troy Scrapchansky, Uncasville, CT
10,278 Adrie van Geffen, Rotterdam, Netheriands
$1,000,000$ Kyle Hoyt, Titusville, FL
85,075 Mark Owens, Houston, TX
585,460 David Schwartz, San Jose, CA
56,450 Carl Pflanzer, Gillette, NJ
195,240 John Hope, Kingston, Ont.
143,250 Mark Fertig, Northville, MI
610,180* Robert Fitzwilliam, Houston, TX
1,000,540 Tommy Seniuk, Vegreville, Atta.
69,750 Rick Sayre, Stockton, CA
14,030 Ron Johnston, Emporia, KS
261 Jer McLanahan, New Canaan, CT
625,000 Kevin Josephson, Chilliwack, B.C.
2,138,710 Mark Fertig. Northville, MI
59,130 Farhad Abrishami, Silver Spring, MD
390 Carl Pflanzer, Gillette, NJ
89,479 Mad Max
58,550 Darren Cotter, Oceanside, CA
833 Farhad Abrishami, Silver Spring, MD
61,180 Tommy Seniuk, Vegreville, Alta.
15,400 Gorman Miller, Titusville, FL
-Expert mode: 339,080 (David Smith, Kingwood, TX).

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2 NNINGI
3 DATE
4 DAYYEAR
4 DAMEAR
5 LEASEMT
6 BREAKEVN
7 DEPRSL
8 DEPRSY
9 DEPRDB
10 DEPRDDB
11 TAXDEP
12 CHECK2
13 CHECK2
14 MORTGAGE/A
15 MULTMON
16 SALVAGE
17 RRVARAN
18 RRCONST
19 EFFECT
20 FVAL
21 PVAL
22 LONNPAY
23 REGWTH
24 SIMPDISK
25 DATEVAL
26 AMTUDEF
27 MARKUP
28 SINKFUND
29 BONDVAL
30 DEPLETE
31 BLACKSH
32 STOCVNLI
33 WARVAL
34 BONDVAL2
35 EPSEST
36 BETMLPH
37 SHARPEI
38 OPTWRTE
39 RTVAL
40 EXPVAL
41 BAYES 42 VALPRINF 43 VALADINF
44 UTIUTY
45 SIMPLEX
46 TRNNS
47 EOQ
48 QUEUEI
49 CV 50 CONDPROF
51 OPTLOSS
52 FQUOQ
53 FQEOWSH
54 FOEOOPB
55 QUEUECB
56 NCFANAL
57 PPOFIND
58 CNPI

DESCRIPTION
Interest Apportionment by Rule of the 78's Annuity computation program
Tirne between dates
Day of year a particular date falls on
Interest rate on loase
Breakeven analysis
Straightine depreciation
Surn of the digits depreciation
Declining balance depreciation
Double declining balance depreciation
Cash flow vs. depreciation tables
Prints NEBS checks along with daily register
Checldook maintenance program
Mortgage amortization table
Computes time needed for money to double. triple. etc
Determines salvage value of an irvestment
Rate of retum on investrnent with variable inflows
Rate of return on irvestment with constant inflows Effective interest rate of a loan
Future value of an investment (compound interest) Present value of a future arnount
Amount of payment on a loan
Equal withdrawals from investrment to leave 0 over Simple discount analysis
Equivalent E nonequivalent dated values for oblig.
Present value of deferred annuities
\% Markup analysis for iterns
Sinioing fund arnortization program
Value of a bond-
Depletion analysis
Black Scholes options analysis
Expected return on stock via discourts dividends
Value of a warran
Value of a bond
Estimate of huture earnings per share for company
Computes alpha and beta variables for stock
Poiffolio selection modeli.e. what stocks to hold
Option writing computations
Valuę of a right
Expected value analysis
Bayesian decisions
Value of perfect information
Volve of additional information
Derives utility function
Linear programming solution by simplex method Transportation method for linear programming Economic order quantity inventory model Single server queueing (waiting line) model Cost-volume-proft analysis
Conditional profit tables
Opportunity loss tables
Fixed quantity economic order quantity model As above but with shortages perrnitted
As above but with quantity price breaks Costbenefit waiting line analysis
Net cash-flow analysis for simple investment Profitability index of a project
Cap. Asset Pr. Model analysis of project

Weighted average cost of capital
True rate on loan with compensating bal. required
True rate on discounted loan
Merger analysis computations
Financial ratios for a firm
Net present value of project Laspeyres price inder Pansche price index
Constructs seasonal quantity indices for company
Time series analysis linear trend
Time series analysis moving average trend
Future price estimation with inflation
Mailing list system
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Sorts list of names
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DOME business booldkeeping system
Computes weeks total hours from timeclock info. In mernory accounts payable system-storage permitted Generate invoice on screen and print on printer In memory inventory control system
Computerized telephone directory
Tirne use analysis
Use of assignment algonthm for optimal job assign.
In mernory accounts receivable systern-storage ok
Compares 3 methods of repayment of loans
Computes gross pay required for given net
Computes selling price for given after tax arnount
Abltrage computations
Siniding fund depreciation
Finds UPS zones from zip code
Types envelope including retum address
Automobile expense analysis
Insurance policy file
In mernory payroll system
Dilution analysis
Loan amount a borrower can afford
Purchase price for rental property
Sale-leaseback analysis
Investor's rate of return on convertable bond
Stock market portolio storage-valuation program

hard to play Space Warp if you have other games." Maybe that's why 261 has stood for so long.

Then there's this cranky letter from Greg Samson of Loudonville, NY. He doesn't trust anybody, including the high-score holders for Martian Patrol, Cosmic Fighter, and Robot Attack. And he openly accuses Venture king Darren Cotter's 58,550 of being phony, charging that you can't get any more than 57,500 . That Samson is going to be a real popular guy; I hope he can keep. his kneecaps intact.

Max says all this cynicism concerning high scores is because of the 1968 Democratic Convention. He walks around the 80 Micro offices shouting, "The whole world is watching! The whole world is watching!"
I was hoping this vacation would do him some good, but I don't know.

The one-line games keep trickling in. Most of them come from Australia,
where the magazine seems to arrive three to five years late. I think I could swim there with a copy in my teeth and beat the overseas mail.

The van finally broke. We've got it down at Roland's Exxon for a tune-up. Max wanted to replace the plugs with pennies, but I think that only works in fuse boxes.

I tore Max away from Convoy long enough to get his opinion on dropping some more scores from the Big Board.
"PURGE," he grunted.
"Dig Out (Y/N/Q)," I said. "Y.," "Paddle Pinball (Y/N/Q)." "Y." "Scarfman (Y/N/Q)." "Y."
You have to know how to speak Max's language if you want to get through to him.



Confessions of an Honest Gamer: Jack Martin of Somis, CA, sent in a score of 999,970 in Scarfman with the comment, "I feel honor bound to mention that there is a weird mode in Scarfman which enables one to obtain an unlimited number of additional men and that is the way in which these high scores are obtained. Playing with the customary number of men, the highest score obtainable is probably less than 400,000."

Confessions of a Sneaky Kind of Guy: James Griffith of Searcy, AR, reports 910,980 and says, "This score was achieved by a secondary methodology which I prefer not to disclose yet."
"Well, nah-nah to you, too," Max commented snidely.

Today, I found a blueberry on Mount Monadnock the size of a volleyball.

Max is nuts about Computer Shack's Convoy. He particularly likes the suicidal paratroopers. They run backwards into your truck and then explode.
"This is almost as good as a George Romero movie," he keeps saying.

Maybe we should retire Lunar Lander, too.
"In the [September] Gamer's Cafe you stated that the final disgrace will be in the cheating of Lunar Lander," writes Seth Eliot of Brooklyn, NY. Then he proceeds to give instructions on refueling:

On the Model I, exit the game by pressing Break and Reset, hit Enter at the memory size prompt, type in SYSTEM, and then type in $/ 33767$.
"It seems that this memory location refuels you without any damage to the game," writes Seth. "Sorry, Max."
"Not half as sorry as I am," Max grunted.
"It's obvious to me that you have a severe problem with very high scores in the Gamer's Cafe," writes Mark Schmidt. "Why don't you print the scores players get by just using one man?"

I thought it was an interesting suggestion, but Max was less than excited.
"Sure," he said. "Credibility? Verification? No problems."

Shawn Lipman's father called Peterborough twice in one day to report Shawn's Galaxy Invasion Plus score. We don't take high scores over the phone too often (partly because the van doesn't have a phone), but the Lipmans live in Nelspruit, South Africa. Wonder how long it takes the mail to get there?

Max is depressed. First it was the Big Board mail. Then Mary Schmidt of Stockbridge, MI, wrote, "Tell Mad Max to watch out; I'm within a few points of knocking him off his Bable Terror perch."
"Oh, yeah?" Max shouted. "Oh, yeah?'"

Finally, to end the week, we were
about to post Max's high score in Convoy when Rick Sayre of Stockton, CA, blew him out with 34,770.
"Oh, yeah?" Max mumbled meekly as he slumped over the keyboard.

The guys at Wally's Hardware in Spencer, MA, sure know how to have a good time.
"These people are strange," Max marveled as he looked at a photo of some fellow smashing a Model III with a large hammer.
"When it comes to serious gaming, we employees at Wally's Hardware are real hard-core players," said Bob Noonan in the accompanying letter. "We wring out every point we can get, until the computer screams for mercy."

If they're not playing games, Bob and Dave (the goofy stockboy) are reformatting all of Wally's disks or copying Galaxy Invasion on top of his accounts receivable program.
"Don't tell Wally that Dave cut the cord off the plotter to fix Mrs. Archambeault's lamp, 'cause he didn't feel like wiring in a new cord cap from stock," Bob added, "or that I chopped up his IBM/360 Assembly language textbook to show a customer how a gasolinepowered Weed-Wholloper worked."
"These people are really strange," Max repeated.

Max is restless. He wants to hit the road again. I've suggested that we go down to Boston to visit Mercedes while she works on her top-secret project at MIT.

The van is fixed. The guy at Roland's called it a miracle. He suggested that we change the oil at least once every 50,000 miles.

I don't know if I'm going to have time to write the December column. Oh, well-I'm sure the people at 80 Micro will figure something out.


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The units presently on the market use a write precompensation circuit that is very "sloppy". Board to board tolerance is extremely wide - in the order of $\pm 100 \mathrm{~ns}$. The "DDC" is accurate to within $\pm 20 \mathrm{~ns}$.
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The test consisted of formatting 40 tracks on the diskette and writing a $6 \mathrm{DB6}$ data pattern on all tracks. The 6DB6 pattern was chosen because it is recommended as a "worst case" test by manufacturers of drives and diskettes. An attempt was then made to read each sector on the disk once - no retrys. Operating system was Newdos/80, version 1.0, with Double Zap, Version 2.0. Unreadable sectors were totalled and recorded. The test was run ten times with each double density controller and the data averaged. Test results are shown in the table.

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| :--- | :---: |
| AEROCOMP "DDC" | 0 |
| PERCOM "DOUBLER II" | 18 |
| PERCOM "DOUBLER A" | 250 |
| LNW "LNDOUBLER" | 202 |

Note: test results avallable upon written request. All tests conducted prior to 8-25-81
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| :---: | :---: |
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The best Christmas pageant I ever saw was in the third grade. Icky Vannoy played Santa Claus. A serious actor, he insisted on filling his pillow case sack with real toys. He could hardly lift it.

All he had to do was come
running out when the kids on stage yelled, "Santa is here!" Out he ran from stage left, and the weight of his sack propelled him straight ahead for a quick exit off stage right. He kept going.

Icky went home and didn't

```
100 REM * YULE GREETING * TRS-80 LEVEL II BASIC
110 REM * FUN HOUSE * DEC. ' }83\mathrm{ * RICHARD RAMELLA
120 CLS
130 A=RND (1022)
140 IF A>133 AND A<138 OR A=142 OR A=143 OR A=198 OR A=199 OR A=20
1 OR A=202 OR A=206 OR A=207 OR A=262 OR A=263 GOTO 130
150 IF A=266 OR A=267 OR A=278 OR A=271 OR A>273 AND A<284 OR A=32
6 OR A=327 OR A=331 OR A=332 OR A=334 OR A=335 GOTO 130
160 IF A=338 OR A=339 OR A=346 OR A=347 OR A=390 OR A=391 OR A>395
    AND A<40| OR A=402 OR A=403 OR A=410 OR A=411 GOTO 130
170 IF A>413 AND A<424 OR A=466 OR A=467 OR A=474 OR A=475 OR A=47
8 OR A=479 OR A>529 AND A<540 OR A>541 AND A<548 GOTO 130
180 IF A=554 OR A=555 OR A=606 OR A=607 OR A=618 OR A=619 OR A>669
AND A<680 OR A=682 OR A=683 OR A=746 OR A=747 OR A>869 AND A<820
GOTO 130
190 PRINT @ A,CHR$(191);
200 GOTO 130
210 END
```

Yule Greeting-Level II.

```
100 REM * YULE GREETING * TRS-80 COLOR BASIC 4K
110 REM * FUN HOUSE * DEC. '83 * RICHARD RAMELLA
120 CLS(0)
123 GOTO 130
125 PRINT & A,CHRS(143+48);
130 A=RND(518)
140 IF }A=67\mathrm{ OR }A=68\mathrm{ OR }A=72\mathrm{ OR }A=99\mathrm{ OR }A=101\mathrm{ OR }A=104\mathrm{ OR }A=131
R A=134 OR A=136 OR A>137 AND A<144 GOTO 125
150 IF A=163 OR A=167 OR A=168 OR A=170 OR A=175 OR A=195 OR A=2
00 OR A=202 OR A=207 OR A>208 AND A<215 GOTO 125
160 IF A=234 OR A=239 OR A=241 OR A>265 AND A<272 OR A>272 AND A
<276 OR A=280 OR A=365 OR A=312 GOTO 125
170 IF A>336 AND A<343 OR A=344 OR A=376 OR A>407 AND A<414 GOTO
    1 2 5
180 PRINT & A,CHR$(207);
190 GOTO 136
200 END
```

come back to school. Ever. I think he moved to another state during Christmas vacation.

But you're not here to listen to old third grade stories. You want to be in the Fun House Christmas Pageant.

This month I have a secret Yule Greeting program and A Talk with Santa, each with separate Level II and Color listings.

I also have something else. Like Santa, I've been getting letters. Some Fun House visitors don't believe I know how to program in Extended Color Basic. Well, it's not true. I learned how last night and I wrote St. Nick Portrait to prove it.

So far, I've tried to make as many Fun House programs as possible available for as many TRS-80 models as possible. With the introductions of the Model 100 and the Micro Color

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Model I and III Color Computer 4K RAM
Level II Basic Color Basic Extended Basic

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```

100 REM * A TALK WITH SANTA * TRS-80 LEVEL II BASIC
110 REM * FUN HOUSE * DEC. ' }83\mathrm{ * RICHARD RAMELLA
120 CLS
130 CLEAR 1000
140 N=0
150 FOR A=1 TO 3
160 PRINT "R"
170 FOR B=1 TO RND(30)
180 PRINT " -I";
190 NEXT B
200 PRINT "NG"
210 FOR T=1 TO RND(1000)
220 NEXT T
230 NEXT A
240 PRINT STRING$(60,"**)
250 PRINT "HELLO... THIS IS THE NORTH POLE: LEON THE ELF HERE..."*
260 PRINT
270 INPUT "TO WHOM DO YOU WISH TO SPEAK";AS
280 IF LEFT$(A\$,5) ="SANTA" GOTO 380
290 N=N+1
300 IF N=5 GOTO 350
310 PRINT AS" IS NOT HERE":
320 IF N>1 THEN PRINT " EITHER," ELSE PRINT "."
330 INPUT "ANYONE ELSE YOU MIGHT WANT";AS
340 GOTO 280
350 INPUT "THERE'S A GUY NAMED SANTA CLAUS HERE. WANT TO TALR TO H
IM";AS
360 IF LEFTS(AS,1)="Y" GOTO 380
370 PRINT "THEN YOU MUST HAVE A WRONG NUMBER. TOO BAD... IT'S SO N
EAR"+STRINGS(6," ") +"CHRISTMAS...": END
386 CLS.
390 PRINT "HANG ON. I'LL GO GET HIM."
4 0 0 ~ G O S U B ~ 8 1 0 ~ 0
4 1 0 ~ C L S ,
420 PRINT \& 480,"HEY SANTA, IT'S FOR YOU."

```

```

440 CLS
450 PRINT "HE WILL BE RIGHT HERE."
460 GOSUB 810
4 7 0 ~ C L S ~
480 GOSUB 810.
490 PRINT "HELLO -- HO-HO-HO -- THIS IS SANTA CLAUS SPEAKING."
500 INPUT "WHO IS CALLING ME";AS
510 CLS
520 PRINT "GOOD TO HEAR FRÖM YOU, "AS". WHERE DO YOU LIVE?"
530 INPUT BS
548 CLS
550 PRINT "MÝ MY! CALLING ALL THE WAY FROM "BS"!"
560 PRINT
570 PRINT AS;", HOW OLD ARE YOU?"
580 INPUT Z
599 IF 2>12 THEN PRINT "AND YOU... ER... STILL BELIEVE IN ME: I'M
HAPPY TO HEAR THAT."
600 PRINT "I SUPPOSE YOU WANT TO TELL ME WHAT YOU WANT FOR CHRISTM
AS."
610 PRINT
620 N=1
630 INPUT "WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE*;C$(N)
640 D=RND (5)
650 IF D=1 PRINT "HMMM... "; ELSE IF D=2 PRINT "I SEE..." ELSE IF
D=3 PRINT "SO..."; ELSE IF D=4 PRINT "INTERESTING..."; ELSE PRI
NT "WELL WELL..." %
6 6 0 \text { PRINT C\$(N)}
6 7 0 ~ P R I N T
60 N=N+1
699 IF N<6 THEN PRINT "AND NOW:.. ": GOTO 630
700 CLS
710 PRINT "I MUST GET BACK TO WORK NOW, BUT LET ME RECORD YOUR LIS
T.
720 GOSUUB 810
730 PRINT
746 FOR X=1 TO N-1
750 PRINT C$(X)
760 NEXT
70 PRINT
780 PRINT "SANTA CLAUS CANNOT EVER PROMISE, BUT I WILL SEE WHAT I
CAN DO. GOODBYE TO YOU, "AS."."
790 PRINT "AND VERY HAPPY HOLIDAYSI"
800 END
810 FOR T=1 TO 1000
820 NEXT T
830 RETURN
840 END

```

\author{
A Talk with Santa-Level II.
}

Computer (MC-10), I see it's a losing battle.

As 80 Micro phases out coverage of the Color Computer, I must do the same. And as 80 Micro invites CoCo owners to make the switch to sister publication HOT CoCo, I'm happy to do the same. For HOT CoCo I write a column called Elmer's Arcade, and its arcade games are a mix of Extended Color Basic, Color Basic, and Micro Color Basic.

Now let's go to the auditorium for the Christmas pageant.

\section*{Yule Greeting}

This greeting has separate listings for Level II and Color Basic. What is the Yule Greeting? It's one word, and that's all I'm saying.

The only instructions for this program are to type RUN and tap the enter key. Then you watch. The secret greeting forms slowly.
If you want to trim the tree while you wait, you have plenty of time. If you want to make this into a game, a group of people can watch. The winner is the first to recognize the greeting.

In Level II Basic, the word is black on a white background. In Color Basic, it's red on a white background.

\section*{A Talk with Santa}

Again, I have separate Level II and Color Basic listings. Look closely at line 100 to make sure you're entering the one for your computer.
In both versions, the program starts with a ringing telephone. In Color Basic you

\section*{A Talk with Santa-Color Basic.}

160 REM * A TALK WITH SANTA * TRS-80 COLOR BASIC 4K
110 REM * FUN HOUSE * DEC. '83* RICHARD RAMELLA
\(120 \operatorname{CLS}(\theta)\)
130 CLEAR 250
140 DIM B(22)
150 DATA \(193,3,193,3,193,6,193,3,193,3,193,6,193,3,204,3,176,3,1\)
85,2,193,10
160 FOR \(A=1\) TO 22
170 READ \(\mathrm{B}(\mathrm{A})\)
180 NEXT A
\(190 \mathrm{~N}=0\)
200 FOR A=1 TO 3
210 FOR \(B=1\) TO RND (15) +10
220 SOUND 215,1
236 NEXT B
240 FOR T=1 TO RND (1006)
250 NEXT T
260 NEXT A
270 CLS
280 PRINT "HELLO, THIS IS THE NORTH POLE. LEON THE ELF HERE.*
290 PRINT
300 PRINT "TO WHOM DO YOU WISH TO SPEAK?*
310 INPUT AS
320 IF \(A \$=\) "SANTA" OR A \(\$=\) "SANTA CLAUS" THEN 440
\(330 \mathrm{~N}=\mathrm{N}+1\)
346 IF \(\mathrm{N}=5\) GOTO 460
350 PRINT AS" IS NOT HERE";
360 IF N \(>1\) THEN PRINT \({ }^{\prime 2}\) EITHER." ELSE PRINT "."
370 PRINT "ANYONE ELSE YOU MIGHT WANT?"
380 INPUT AS
390 GOTO 320
40ø PRINT "THERE'S A GUY NAMED SANTA CLAUS HERE. WANT TO TALR TO HIM?"
416 INPUT AS
420 IF LEFT \(\$(A \$, 1)=" Y\) " GOTO 440
430 PRINT "THEN YOU MUST HAVE A WRONG NUMBER. TOO BAD... IT
'S SO NEAR CHRISTMAS...": END
440 CLS
450 PRINT "HANG ON. I'LL GO GET HIM:"
460 GOSUB 920
470 CLS
480 PRINT \& 480 , "HEY SANTA, IT'S FOR YOU!";
490 GOSUB 920
500 CLS
510 PRINT "HE WILL BE RIGHT HERE."
520 GOSUB 920
530 FOR \(A=1\) TO 21 STEP 2
540 SOUND \(B(A), B(A+1)\)
550 NEXT A
560 CLS
570 GOSUB 920
580 PRINT "HELLO -- HO-HO-HO -- THIS IS SANTA CLAUS SPEAKING.
590 INPUT "WHO IS CALLING ME";A\$
600 CLS
610 PRINT "GOOD TO HEAR FROM YOU,"
620 PRINT AS". WHERE DO YOU LIVE?"
630 INPUT B\$
640 CLS
650 PRINT "MY MY! CALLING ALL THE WAY"
660 PRINT "FROM \({ }^{\prime \prime}\);B
670 PRINT
680 PRINT AS", HOW OLD ARE YOU?"
690 INPUT Z
706 IF Z \(>16\) THEN PRINT "AND YOU... ER... STILL BELIEVE IN ME. I
'M VERY HAPPY TO HEAR THAT."
710 PRINT "I SUPPOSE YOU WANT TO TELL ME WHAT YOU WISH FOR CHR
ISTMAS."
720 PRINT
\(730 \mathrm{~N}=1\)
740 INPUT "WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE";C\$(N)
\(750 \mathrm{D}=\mathrm{RND}\) (5)
760 IF \(D=1\) THEN PRINT "HMMM "; ELSE IF D=2 THEN PRINT "I SEE...
"; ELSE IF D=3 THEN PRINT "SO..."; ELSE IF D=4 THEN PRINT "INTE
RESTING... " ELSE IF \(D=5\) THEN PRINT \#WELL... ";
770 PRINT C\$(N)
780 PRINT
\(790 \mathrm{~N}=\mathrm{N}+1\)
800 IF N \(<6\) THEN PRINT "AND NOW... *: GOTO 740
810 CLS
820 PRINT - I MUST GET BACK TO WORK NOW, BUT LET ME RECORD YOUR L IST."
830 GOSUB 920
Listing continued

hear the ring, but in Level II Basic you see the word R-I-I-IING! a few times. Then an elf named Leon answers the phone at the North Pole and asks you to whom you wish to speak.

If you don't know who to ask for after spending all that money on a long-distance call to the North Pole at Christmas time, I'm afraid this program ends.

If you reach the right North Pole personality ( \(\mathrm{S}^{* * *} \mathrm{C}^{* * *}\) ), you get to tell him your Christmas wish list.

\section*{St. Nick Portrait}

This part of the big yule show is only for people with Extended Color Basic machines. It draws a picture of Santa Claus. It's a fairly good likeness, although I can't draw hands.

And there's more. You see Santa drawn on the screen and you have a few moments to admire his pudgy form. Then a green text screen appears that asks you to wait a moment.
Behold, on comes a picture of Leon, who had a brief speaking part in A Talk with Santa. In this program he gets a nice closeup but has no lines to speak.
```

Listing contimued
840 PRINT
850 FOR X=1 TO N-1
860 PRINT CS(X)
870 NEXT
880 PRINT
890 PRINT "SANTA CANNOT EVER PROMISE, BUT IWILL SEE WHAT I CAN D
O. GOODBYE TO YOU, "AS"."
900 PRINT "AND VERY HAPPY HOLIDAYS!"
916 END
926 FOR T=1 TO 1000
930 NEXT T
940 RETURN
950 END

```
```

100 REM * ST. NICK PORTRAIT * TRS-8@ EXTENDED COLOR BASIC
110 REM * FUN HOUSE * DEC. '83 * RICHARD RAMELLA
120 PCLS
130 PMODE1,1
140 SCREEN 2,1
150 CIRCLE (128,96),40, ,1.5
160 CIRCLE (141,155),15,,1.5
170 Criclef(116, 155), i5,,1.5
180 CIRCLE (160,60),30,,.4
190 CIRCLE (100,60),30,,.4
2g0 LINE (116,134)-(135,164),PRESET
210 LINE (135,164)-(135,10日),PRESET
220 LINE (80,60)-(166,60),PPRESET
230 PAINT (129,96),4,4
240 CIRCLE (129,60), 20,3,2
250 PAINT(128,60),1,3
260 FOR Y=20 TO 48
270 LINE (1112,Y)-(146,Y),PRESET
280 NEXT Y
290 CIRCLE (128,35), 25,3,.8
30日 FOR X=112 TO 145 STEP 4
310 LINE (X,40)-(X,60), PRESET
328 Nexr x
330 CIRCLE (128,56),6,6,.5,.00,.5
340 LINE (126,40)-(130,46),PSET,BF
350 LINE (110, 22)-(150, 27),PSET
360 LINE (160,0) - (110, 22), PSET
370 LINE (160,0)-(150, 27),PSET
380 PAINT(125,20),4,4
390 CIRCLE (122,34),6,,.6,.5,1
400 FOR X=122 TO 124
410 PSET (X,36,3)
420 PSET (X+11,36,3)
4 3 0 ~ N E X T ~ X ~
446 CIRCLE (135,34),6,,.6,5,5,1
4 5 0 CIRCLE (72,60),8,3
4 6 0 CIRCLE (188,60) ,8,3
470 PAINT (74,6日),5,3
480 PAINT (188,60),5,3
490 FOR Y=108 TO 116
500 CIRCLE (128,Y),40,3,.5,1,.5
510 NEXT Y
520 FOR Y=111 TO 115.
530 CIRCLE (128;Y) ,38,5,.5,1,.5
540 NEXT
550 FOR Y=170 TO 190
560 CIRCLE (114,Y),8,3
570 CIRCLE (142,Y),8,3
580 NEXT
590 FOR X=95 TO 112
600 CIRCLE (X,190),7,3
610 CIRCLE (X+48,Y),7,3
620 NEXT X
630 CIRCLE (163,3),4,3
640 FOR T=1 TO 5000
650 NEXT T
668 cLs
678 PMODE 4,1
6ge print whatr just a monemp more and you wilL ser onE or samta
is Elves... LEoN.*
690 LINE (0,96)-(255,191), PSET, BF
700 FOR T=1 TO 1000
710 NEXT T
728 SCREEN1,1
730 Gото 730
7 4 8 END

```

\section*{St．Nick Portrait．}

Send any questions or problems dealing with any area of TRS-80 microcomputing to Feedback Loop, 80 Micro, 80 Pine St., Peterborough, NH 03458.

\(T\)The July 1983 column had three letters concerning problems with the Smith-Corona TPI and SuperScript. I, too, have a TP1 printer, as well as a DMP-2100.
I tried the DW2 driver and had the same difficulties as the other people. Using your ideas, I located the place in the DW2 driver program where initialization occurs, address BEOF hexadecimal (hex).
Instead of using an editor/assembler to change the code, I used the F function (file patch utility) of Debug on my Model III disk system. The procedure is: Enter Debug at the TRSDOS READY prompt, press the \(F\) key, enter DW2/CTL for the file specification, page through the file until line number \(3 F 00\) appears on the screen, press the \(M\) key, place the cursor over the byte at \(3 F 03\) (19), enter 00 and press the enter key, and exit Debug.
I enjoy 80 Micro very much. I am a relative newcomer to computing and appreciate the hints and advice in your column.
W.C.

Tampa, FL
Thanks for the modification instructions and your kind comments. For a "relative newcomer" you sound as if you're doing pretty well.

\footnotetext{
First, I would like to add CP/M to my 48 K single-disk Model I. Where can I get the hardware and software to do this, and how hard is it to do?
Second, I want to add a modem to my computer. Since I don't have an RS-232 board, where can I get one? Or should I buy a modem with a built-in RS-232? And could I use the RS-232 for other purposes if I did this? Is there a local CompuServe number in the Champaign/Urbana, IL area?
}


And finally, what have you heard about the new Banana printer from Leading Edge Products? At \(\$ 249.95\) it sounds like a good buy.
T.D.

Mascoutah, IL
Several dealers sell CP/M upgrades for the Model I computer. For a list of them, see last month's column. All are fairly simple to install.

If you want a Radio Shack RS-232 board for your computer, you can still buy one from Radio Shack. If your local R/S doesn't have any in stock, you can buy one from Rider Radio in Peterborough, NH 03458. The problem with the Radio Shack unit is that it tends to make poor contact with the expansion interface (EI) main circuit board and is prone to glitching while in use. Several weeks ago mine started having problems and ended up getting me thrown off the CompuServe network three times in 15 minutes. The only real solution to the poor contact problem is to solder the RS-232 to the EI connection (not a job for amateurs).

Getting a combination RS-232/modem unit for your computer would make it easier to use and would eliminate most of the contact problems (especially if you use Gold-Plug 80s on the EI extension port). The disadvantage is that the RS-232 ends up being dedicated to the purpose, although at least one manufacturer gives you an extra edge connection for the RS-232.
Your final choice is to buy an external RS-232 board that plugs into the expansion port of the RS-232. This is the most common approach used by people unwilling to put up with the Radio Shack RS-232.

Both of the last two choices have one problem; they don't use the same address ports as the R/S board and this causes some difficulties finding software. If you decide to buy an outside

RS-232 board, check with the manufacturer about which software will or won't work with their board.

I've heard nothing about Leading Edge's Banana printer except that it's available. The September 80 Micro has some information in the New Products section (p. 349).

What jumper changes are required when upgrading a Model III or 4 with 64 K to 128 K ?

> T.K.
> Julian, \(C A\)

You don't need any jumpers. You must replace the DIP (dual inline package) shunt in socket U72 with a Programmable Logic Array (PLA). The ones used by Radio Shack are made by Monolithic Memories Inc., and are called PALs (a registered trademark).

The PLA used with the Model 4 comes with the 128 K upgrade kit. I have no information on the serial number or specifications of Radio Shack's PAL.

We just purchased a new Model 4, and I want to know if anyone has written any drivers to use the 80-column screen and 4 MHz clock speed with Model III programs? I currently have DOSPLUS 3.5 for the Model III but am unaware of any drivers or patches to use the Model 4 features.

Second, I'm going to be writing some estimating programs on the Model 4 requiring continuous calculations and comparisons with large indexed numeric data files. I want to know what languages you feel best suit my needs. I'm using Basic, but it's time-consuming and the file handling is too complex.
J.R.F.

Huntington Beach, CA

No one has as yet written a driver to use the Model 4 features in the Model III mode, but it won't be long before the DOS manufacturers have fixed their DOSes to optionally use those features.

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USER REOUDES PIE

\section*{USER REQUIREMENTS}

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- TRSDOS 1.3 .2 .3
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DEALER INQUIRIES WELCOME

I know it's possible because Holmes Engineering has several DOSes patched to use their 80 -column board upgrade for the Model III. Once the DOSes are ready, the Basic programs can easily use the features and software will be developed that takes advantage of the Model 4 options in the Model III mode.

Languages are always a problem. Cobol was designed for business, and is used to manipulate large numeric arrays as in inventories and data bases, but its I/O routines are as weak as Basic's. Fortran was designed as a scientific language for extremely fast and accurate numeric calculations. Basic was intended as a good beginner's language, with good string handling capabilities (Cobol and Fortran's weak points), moderate calculation accuracy, and easy-to-program I/O routines (which become complex as they get larger).
If you want a fast calculating language and I/O routines that you can customize and optimize for speed, I suggest you investigate Forth. Forth is a bit unusual in that it is totally flexible. As a Forth programmer you can define new Forth commands to do whatever you want done, much like defining a new Basic command in Basic. For example, you could define a command to clear the screen, load the next record into memory, and display it on the video by assigning a name to the sequence of Forth commands that do the same action.
Forth uses a syntax that's radically different from all other languages, but it's highly efficient. This syntax difference is the most difficult part of learning Forth. A page of Forth commands (defined as one display screen) looks like a scrambled-code message. One common complaint is that a few days or weeks after writing Forth code, not even the programmer can figure out exactly what he did.
Once you learn Forth, you'll love it for its programming ease. If the command isn't there, just define your own new command. In fact, asking a Forth aficionado how to do something (such as writing a custom disk I/O routine) can be frustrating because he'll usually tell you to just write it. Currently, the best Forth available for the TRS-80 computer is from Miller Microcomputer Services ( 61 Lake Shore Road, Natick, MA 01760, 617-653-6136, \$129.95).

I have a Model I with an LNW Expansion Interface and a Teac disk drive. On power-up, the disk comes on for about three seconds and then shuts off. Reset doesn't do anything differently. After the drive shuts off, the keyboard goes dead and I get no response.

I checked all the connectors, solder joints, proper parts in sockets, etc., and everything seems in order. Now what?
K.T.

Salem, NH
I need more information. Does the unit work as a 16 K Level II machine? Does the unit work as a Level II machine with the interface attached and turned on? Does the interface have memory? If it does, can you get it in Level II mode (does it power-up as a 32 K or 48 K machine)? If there's no memory in the interface, are you sure your DOS will operate in only 16 K ? Some DOSes require a minimum of 32 K to work right. What DOS are you using? Have you called or written the LNW trouble desk for help? Is your interface a kit you built, or did you buy it?

If you get full memory from the interface and the computer works fine as a Level II machine, something is wrong with the disk drive controller circuitry or with the disk drive itself. Find someone who has a working Model I disk system and use your keyboard on it. If it works, your keyboard unit is OK. Have your friend use your drive on his system. If it works, the problem is not with the drive. If the keyboard unit and the disk drive test out OK , the trouble is with the interface.

As you know, the PRINT \#1 instruction on the Model III is very slow because it always writes the header first. I would like to know if there's a buffer I can fill before writing to cassette. I know the Color Computer PRINT \#1 works like that.
I also want to upgrade my system to 32K. I bought one 4116 chip and inserted it in my computer as you described in your column. It didn't work; I still get 15314 as the memory available. Does the computer read blocks of 16 K , or is the chip bad?

I need a good memory map of my computer, can you recommend a good book?
J.P.

Berchem, Belgium

The design of the cassette I/O routines of the Model III and Color Computers are totally different. The only way you'll get the Model III to buffer cassette I/O in the manner of the Color Computer is to write your own ma-chine-language cassette routines.

You upgrade the memory of all the microcomputers made by Radio Shack (except their pocket computers) in blocks of 16 K . The computers address each chip in the 8 -chip block as 16 K by 1 bit. Installing only one chip activates only 1 bit of the 8 -bit words in the 16 K block. To upgrade, you must use all eight chips.

Soft Sector Marketing sells the book Model III ROM Disassembled, which includes a memory map of the machine.

I read D.J. 's question concerning the installation of new characters in the Model I character generator (August 1983, p. 316). Enclosed with this letter is some literature on a character generator ROM that I manufacture. Note that besides having true lowercase descenders, you can also program the ROM to contain a second character set custom designed by the user.
T.W.

Bainbridge Is., WA
Now that's an interesting development. According to the literature, the EC-1 is a pin-for-pin replacement ROM for the MC M6670 used by the Model I as a character generator. In addition to replacing the TRS-80 character set with one containing true descenders, the EC-1 has room for a complete alternate character set. The characters are 5 by 8 matrices, so you can custom design any character you want.

If you want to use the alternate character set and the normal set, you can install a toggle switch to let you pick the one you want. Or you can fix the ROM to use only one of the two sets available. The EC-1 is also inexpensive, retailing at \(\$ 11\). If you want a custom character set, the EC-1 costs \(\$ 19\).

Of course, to use the upper-/lowercase generator, you'll have to have modified the video RAM so that it displays the additional characters. You can do this easily by soldering a 2102 RAM on top of the video RAM chip, as explained in the April 1981 issue of 80 Micro.
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I ran the MEMTEST program that came with TRSDOS on my computer. The checksums for the A and B ROMs were OK, but the ROM C checksum was different from the ones listed for it. My Model III ROM C has a checksum of 2 F84. Is there a reason for concern about the difference? My computer has worked flawlessly since I bought it.

> L.L.

Bronx, NY
Worry not, the latest ROM C has the checksum you have. It's just that the program is an older version and doesn't have all the correct checksums for the ROM C versions available. Happy computing.

I'm confused about the sound routines for the Model III computer. I would like some information about the way people work with them. I've tried to put their routines on the end of my programs and all I get is a Cass? prompt.

I tried to modify the Memory Size?, PEEK, and POKE. I also tried four different kinds of sound routines; they all work as long as the routine is by itself. Does it have anything to do with POKE 16526, \(n\) and POKE 16527,n?

\author{
T.R.W. \\ Southern Pines, NC
}

There are several things that could be wrong. First, where are these sound routines going in memory? If they're located at a particular place in memory, moving them around will make them malfunction. If the routines reside at the top of memory, only one can be there at a time without fouling up the others.

If a given routine is located at the top of memory, you have to use the Memory Size? prompt to protect the routine from being stepped on by Basic when it tries to run your program. You also have to tell Basic that there is a ma-chine-language routine located at the top of memory, and that you want to use the routine. This is done with the two POKEs you mention. These place the address of your sound routine in a location reserved by Basic for the USR function, which passes control from a

Basic program to a machine-language program and back.

So, if you want to use the sound routines in your programs, you first have to determine where the routines are located. If more than one routine is located there, you have to make sure that the routines don't overlap, or you'll ruin one or all of them. Similarly, cas-sette-based systems support only one USR function at a time, so if you have several routines, you'll have to develop a method to switch between the routines when you call the USR routine (perhaps use a GOSUB, before the USR command, to jump to lines that POKE the starting address of the particular routine you want into the USR address location).

Start with a routine that you know works; modify the program to do what you want. If it no longer works, you'll have to contact the author for more information on what the routine does and how to modify it. If it does work, start on the next routine.

I have a 48 K Model I with three disk drives and a Model 33 teletype for a printer. I have also acquired another Model I, which is a 16 K Level I computer. I intend to upgrade it to Level II, and have it as a spare CPU for the first computer.

Can I hook up the two units so that I can control the main unit with the spare? I'd like to have the spare keyboard and monitor upstairs in the livingroom so I can write code, letters, or whatever. I'd also like to be able to load programs into the main unit, alter them, and then save the results on disk. I have an interface that lets me turn the printer on and off without commands.

As I see it, the new keyboard will control the old computer, printer, and drives, and the new monitor will report what's happening. I have no need for the paths to be reversed.

> J.C.
> Wayne, \(N J\)

In other words, you want to be able to make the older computer a slave to the new one.

The only method I know of for such an application requires the use of RS232 boards. You load a host terminal program that treats all RS-232 incoming data as if it were typed on the
computer's keyboard. All video display is simultaneously echoed out the RS-232. The other computer would have a terminal program loaded in memory that simply sends every keystroke to the RS-232 and takes incoming data and places it on the video display. Nothing is stored or kept in the remote computer's memory, except the program itself.

This method works the way you want. The disadvantage to this system is that you'd have to load the terminal program into the remote machine by cassette tape, and load the host program from disk. Every time you wanted to use the entire system, you'd have to make sure the host computer has the host program in memory and runs correctly before loading and using the remote computer.

If you wanted to get fancy, you could buy BBS software for your disk computer and leave the computer permanently turned on. Whenever you wanted to use the system, just call it up with the remote program (go on-line with the RS-232 terminal program) and start using your computer. Or leave the BBS on drive zero with Auto engaged to load and execute the BBS program. Then you would just have to turn the computer on when you want to use it.

The disadvantage to this system is that you have to buy the additional hardware for the two RS- 232 boards, and run an RS-232 cable between the two machines (maximum length without an intermediate amplifier is about 25 feet). For your remote computer, you would have to buy a non-Tandy RS-232 board that lets you attach directly to the keyboard unit without an expansion interface. The disk-based computer would likewise require a non-Tandy board (if you want reliable operation for long periods of time).

I have a strange problem that I hope you can help me with. I have a 48 K , du-al-disk Model I computer that randomly reboots when in Disk Basic. The computer works fine in DOS, Level II Basic, and when running machine-language programs. I have cleaned all the connectors and resoldered everything that looked flakey. I'm using NEWDOS80, but I'm sure that isn't the problem.
G.S.

Danbury, CT

You didn't mention the age of your computer. If you have one of the older expansion interfaces, you may need to have it modified for increased reliability. The first step is to use the buffered cable; the EI-to-CPU cable has a black box in the middle of it. This helps stabilize the data line and makes it more resistant to electrical noise. If the problem persists, you have to direct-wire the RAS, CAS, and MUX lines inside the keyboard and EI units, from the origination points to the edgecard connections.

If you still have problems, you have to make the pregnant cable (MUX) modification. The three previously mentioned bus lines are cut from the EI-CPU cable and placed in a separate, twisted wire pairs, DIN cable. This cable has a male and female six-pin DIN connector in the middle to let you unplug the CPU unit from the EI unit (hence the bulging, pregnant look to the cable).

These modifications are required on most old model expansion interfaces, which were poorly designed. If you already have these modifications, remove the two power supplies from the EI case; the fluctuations of the magnetic fields induce interference with your EI RAM chips. If you're still having problems, check the FDC chip for poor connection to the circuit board.

I would like to learn Assembly language, but all I know is that it's faster than Basic. I have the book Inside Level II, but I don't understand it. Please tell me the best way I can learn about Model I Level II Assembly language, without having to spend lots of money.
T.K.K.

Chico, CA

First, the Model I computer is a \(\mathbf{Z 8 0}\) CPU-based computer, so any book teaching the theory of Z80 programming will help you. However, I suggest that you get either TRS-80 AssemblyLanguage Programming (Radio Shack \#62-2006, \$3.95) by William Barden, or TRS-80 Assembly Language' (PrenticeHall, Englewood Cliffs, NJ 07632, \(\$ 9.95\) ) by Hubert S. Howe Jr. Both books deal specifically with the Model I. Howe's book is easier to understand, while Barden's book gives instructions
on using Radio Shack's T-Bug and Editor/Assembler.

A year ago, I purchased a Microtek Bytewriter-1 and their interface board for my Model I. Everything worked fine until I added the chips for 48 K operation. Level II recognizes the full 48 K when first powered up, but after a variable time the computer reboots to the Memory Size? prompt, or some other apparently random spot.

I thought the problem was interference until I discovered that responding to Memory Size? with 32767 or less prevents the problem while still allowing machine code to run in high RAM. What's up?

> K.H.
> Livermore, \(C A\)

Basic stores program variables, arrays, and program operation tables starting at the top of RAM and working down. You use the top 2 bytes constantly. Since the dividing address between the keyboard unit and the expansion memory is 32767 , your difficulty is with the high 32 K RAM bank.

First, make sure that the connection between the keyboard unit and the expansion box is clean and solid (use isopropyl alcohol and cotton swabs to clean off the dirt, and a pink rubber eraser to remove any tarnish off of the cable contact; the connectors should fit tightly).

If the problem persists, try swapping the top 16 K bank with the memory in the keyboard. Next, check to see if the R/S black box power súpplies are too close to the memory or the interconnecting cable. And finally, is the RAM and printer circuitry being driven by the keyboard's power supply? If so, the interconnecting cable could be interfering with itself, although that's not too likely. What's more likely, if the expansion unit uses the keyboard power supply, is that the added memory is overtaxing the power supply and causing your trouble. In this case you'll have to get a separate power supply for the expansion box.

If the problem still doesn't go away, contact the manufacturer of your expansion box and ask for help.

I have a 48 K , three-drive Model I with the Radio Shack doubler installed.

My problem is with TRSDOS 2.7DD. When attempting to copy from singledensity to double-density, TRSDOS 2.7DD won't read anything above track 35 on the single-density disk.
It appears that this problem could be corrected by a very simple patch, but Fort Worth won't say when or if the patch will be available, nor will they release the file specification, password, sector location, or any other data on how to access TRSDOS 2.7DD.
Do you know of a patch for this problem, or must I start looking for a new double-density DOS?
R.K.

Clovis, NM

You'd better start looking, because I don't have that patch in my bag of tricks. Can anyone else help?

My 48K, single-disk Model I has several problems: spontaneous disk reboots, inability to reboot a disk using the keyboard reset button, DOS message CANNOT BOOT or something similar while the disk spins in the drive, and occasional screwy behavior while using VisiCalc (i.e., the left arrow key moves the cursor down one line).
Just recently I had to replace the key-board-CPU cable to get the computer to function as a 16 K computer.

I can feel a slight wiggling of the connector at the EI-perhaps the original Radio Shack plug is getting old (I tried replacing the keyboard-CPU cable, but got no improvement). Right now, I haven't had a reboot since I started this letter. Apparently if I get the cable connectors just right, proper contact is made and no rebooting occurs.
I'm thinking of soldering the EI and CPU together with a 40-conductor cable, but feel I might regret it later on. Now what should I do?

> S.D.
> East Lyme, \(C T\)

Things are never simple. First, the keyboard-CPU cable is a vary weak point in the system. When you get strange results after typing on the keyboard, this cable connection is almost always the problem. This cable can also cause spontaneous system reboots, and prevent proper disk-booting action.


Check it carefully for lifted traces on the edgecard, cold solder joints, or intermittent solder bridges.
Next, check the power connectors where your power supplies attach to the circuit boards; they may be loose and causing reboots. Also, check and clean the contacts on the FDC chip in the EI (that's right, clean the FDC chip pins).

The disk booting problem has several possible sources: The edgecard connection to the disk drives may need cleaning, the disk drive logic card's edge connector may need cleaning, the head may need a slight realignment and cleaning, or the motor speed may need adjusting.

Start with the easiest: clean the edgecard connectors, thèn use a disk drive cleaner for the head (or alcohol and long cotton swabs).

The reset button sounds as if it's broken. As a Level II machine, does Reset work? It may also be suffering from cold solder joints, lifted traces, and other mechanical problems. Let me know if you're successful in correcting the problem.

I have a problem with my Model I speed-up kit. My system comprises: Model I (board \#1700069D, Satellite ROMs, \(16 K\) RAM from Exatron, Cerdat's The Patch, Programma 80-Grafix board, and Exatron Speedup Kit); Radio Shack Expansion Interface (board \#1700077D, 32K RAM from Exatron, Percom Doubler II); Aerocomp's 80-track disk drive (MPI 91); Exatron Stringy Floppy; Epson MX-80 printer; and DBLDOS from Percom.

I bought the keyboard in 1978 as a Level I machine. When Level II was released, I ordered it the next day. The same goes for the expansion interface, which works fine without a buffered cable or other reliability modifications.

Everything worked fine until I increased memory to 32 K (the speed-up kit supports 50 and 100 percent speed increases, both of which function fine in a 16 K system). When I try to use the system with 48 K , the 50 percent mode works for everything except machinelanguage programs; the 100 percent mode locks up everything.

Is there a way to have the expansion interface support the high speed operation? Exatron suggested replacing the CPU with a Z80A, and said I might have slow memory. I removed the memory from the expansion interface and tried it in the keyboard. Everything
worked fine, so slow memory can't be the problem.

I borrowed a copy of Tandy's Dynamic Memory Test program from a friend and ran it at normal speed with no problems. At the 50 percent speed increase, everything checked out until the \(16 K / 32 K\) boundary, when the system crashed. The 100 percent speed increase immediately locked up the computer.

> P.L.

Lawrence, KS
Yes, you can make the expansion interface operate at high speed. You have several points where problems could foul up your high-speed modification. First is the memory. The expansion interface is much more critical of timing constraints than the keyboard unit. Remember, the expansion interface is farther away from the CPU than the keyboard RAM.

Electrons in metal move at about \(3 \times 10^{10}\) centimeters per second. There are \(1 \times 10^{9}\) nanoseconds (ns) in a second. So in one nanosecond, the electrons move about 30 centimeters (almost 12 inches). This may not seem like much, but if you're using RAM rated at 250 ns (time required to respond to a signal from the address bus and put the addressed byte's data on the bus) in the EI, the added distance may be just enough to cause problems.

In other words, RAM that performs flawlessly in the keyboard can fail in the expansion interface. You can see the same problem occur at normal speed by using 400 ns memory in the EI instead of the standard Radio Shack 300 ns memory.

Furthermore, at 3.54 MHz , each clock pulse defines a 282 ns window. If you slow down the signal too much by the address-decoding integrated circuits (ICs) and support chips, the RAM won't get the information on the data bus until it's too late.

The best solution is to use the fastest memory possible; 150 ns is great, 100 ns is the best (but very hard to find, and expensive). That takes care of memory.

Remember that the Model I was an experiment, designed for the tinkerer. It wasn't designed for clock speeds of over 1.77 MHz . This means that the digital components weren't designed for faster speeds either. That is, the units can't respond to the orders from the CPU fast enough to deliver or process the re-
quired information within the amount of time allocated by the clock frequency. Result: system lockups.

Some of the components are capable of operating at 5 MHz , but many begin to fall behind the CPU at that speed. Even some Z80 CPUs can't operate at the higher speed and have to be replaced. And for the EI, the greater distance to the EI, plus the additional memory-decoding ICs, can make the difference between high speed operation or a locked up computer.

Also, you say you don't have any of the EI reliability modifications. Well, Radio Shack didn't come up with those modifications for the fun of it. They were developed as a solution to the common complaint of Model I owners about EI memory problems. The reason you've never had to make the modifications is that you didn't have the memory in the EI to cause the problems. All the modifications were made to correct memory problems. If I were you, I would seriously consider having those modifications made.

If you want better explanations about speed-up problems, and instructions on what you can do to correct them, call Holmes Ëngineering.

Terry Kepner is a freelance writer and programmer, and the vice president of Interpro. He's been writing about microcomputers since 1979.

Frequently Needed Numbers
Radio Shack, National Parts Division, 900 East Northside Drive, Fort Worth, TX 76102, 817-870\(5662, \mathrm{M} / \mathrm{C}\) and Visa accepted, each order has \(\$ 1.50\) handling charge. IJG Inc., 1260 West Foothill Blvd., Upland, CA 91786, 714-946-5805. Publisher of FRS-80 Disk and Other Mysteries (\$22.95), Microsoft Basic Decoded and Other Mysteries (\$29.95), The Custom TRS-80 and Other 'Mysteries (\$29.95), Basic Faster and Better (\$29.95), Marhine-language Disk IIO and Other Mysteries (\$29.95), TRSDOS 2.3 Decoded and Other Mysteries (Model I) (\$29.95), How to do it on the TRS-80 (\$29.95), and the Electric Pencil Word Processor (\$89.95).


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With every turn of its drives, your computer's floppy disk controller (FDC) is on the lookout for errors. The Cyclic Redundancy Check (CRC) safeguards the accuracy of your data by performing a quick calculation on a full sector of data. The CRC byte, the expected solution to the CRC calculation, is just one kind of information encoded on your disk by the disk drive.

To help you better understand how this works, I'll explain disk drive and disk technology. Demystifying the disk operating system's cosmos may make your computing life a little happier.

\section*{The Disk Drive}

A disk drive does three things: it spins a disk, positions a read/write mechanism, and communicates with the floppy disk controller (FDC) chip. When these processes happen correctly, your computer reads from or writes to your disk. It's something we take for granted until an error message appears on the screen.

Your stomach turns, you pound the reset button praying that it isn't so, and you begin to wonder just what HIT the table or where that sector could have gone. The real question is just what is the drive doing wrong?

Spinning the disk is technology with which everyone who owns a record player is familiar-a motor turns a platter on which you place a disk. Your disk drive spins at 300 rotations per minute ( rpm ), a speed that could make The Beatles sound like mosquitos. Just as a speed variation on your turntable makes your records sound bad, a speed variation on your drive means bad disk input/output (I/O).

While most manuals suggest that a speed deviation of plus or minus 5 percent is permissible, I get nervous at anything greater than plus or minus 1.5 percent. By the time you've got a 5 percent deviation, you'll also notice plenty of disk I/O problems. Many programs are available that measure the drive's spin speed. Owning one is vital for diagnostic purposes, although actually adjusting the speed requires the derring-do to try open heart surgery on your computer (thus voiding your warranty) and infinite patience. I suggest you let a professional do it.

A stepper motor (stepper motors move discrete distances one step at a

\title{
The heartbreak of CRC errors
}
time) positions the read/write head. Locating and relocating the tracks on your disk depends on the accuracy with which the stepper motor moves the read/write head. Like the tone arm on your turntable, the stepper motor can position the read/write head to 'play' any track; unlike a record player, the read/write head, as the name implies, also records data onto the disk.

If your disk I/O problems are unpredictable, that is they come and go, watch for a pattern. Does the computer read and write fine when you turn it on but become undependable after it's been working awhile? Suspect your head alignment. A head that's marginally aligned may read fine when you first turn on the computer, but as the machine heats up, the alignment shifts. Again, the easiest solution is taking it to a professional.

Information exists on a disk in the form of magnetic pulses. The head reads more magnetically positive bits as logical ones, the less positive bits as logical zeros. The read/write head picks up

TRSDOS Model I
5 sectors \(=1\) gran

2 grans \(=1\) track
0 sectors \(=1\) track
TRSDOS Model III
3 sectors \(=1\) gran
6 grans \(=1\) track
18 sectors \(=1\) track
\begin{tabular}{rlrl} 
& \multicolumn{3}{c}{ DOSPLUS Model III } \\
6 & sectors & \(=\) & 1
\end{tabular} gran \(\quad\) gran

LDOS Model III
\begin{tabular}{rlll}
6 & sectors & \(=\) & gran \\
3 & grans & \(=1\) & track
\end{tabular}

Table. Some examples of different track allocations.
these bits in a series, that is, one after another. The Z80 microprocessor at the heart of your TRS-80 computer reads information 8 bits at a time, a method known as parallel. One of the FDC's jobs is collecting the serial input and sending it to the Z80 in parallel.

The FDC navigates the disk by first using the index hole and then using markers written on the disk by the disk operating system (DOS). The FDC looks for two kinds of markers, sector headers and clock bits. Both are written when you format a disk.

\section*{The Disk}

When you look at a disk, a few things are apparent. First, a floppy disk is made of two parts, one sandwiched inside the other. The inside is a shiny, metal-oxide-coated, circular piece of mylar plastic (the disk) that slides freely inside the square piece of plastic (the shell) that envelops it. Six asymetrical holes are cut into the disk's shell.

The large hole in the center gives the disk drive a place to grab the disk. To spin the disk in its shell, stick two fingers through the center hole, spread them to apply pressure to the inside rim of the disk, and turn. Do not touch the disk's surface! A small hole in the disk will appear in the round window to the right of the center hole. This is the index hole, which the FDC uses as the absolute landmark of its location on the disk.

The two small half circles punched in the bottom of the disk are alignment notches. They help insure that the disk is set securely in the drive. The square notch cut into the side of the disk is the write-protect notch. If this notch is filled in (by taping a lable over it), the FDC will not let the read/write head write on that disk. To get your computer to write on a write-protected disk, remove the label.

The oval window cut at the bottom of the disk's shell is the place where your drive reads the disk. When you see how small this head access window is, you appreciate how finely tuned the disk drive is. It adjusts the read/write head to find between 35-40 (and on some drives 80 ) separate positions (tracks) in an area less than \(11 / 2\) inches long!

The disks you're familiar with are soft-sectored, which means that the

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space on their surfaces is partitioned by the DOS software, rather than through a "hard," or permanent, manufacturing process. Because the sectors aren't created in the manufacturing process, DOS designers can divide the disk space arbitrarily.

\section*{The DOS}

The smallest unit of information a DOS reads or writes is called a sector. Sectors are clumped together as granules or grans, and grans are gathered into tracks. Different DOSes use different patterns of space allocation; some divide a track into two grans with 10 sectors per gran, another uses three grans of six sectors per track. This is why some DOSes can't read disks written by other DOSes. (See the Table for some examples of common DOS allocations.)

Information contained in a sector is of two types, the information you write (data) and the information the DOS writes (sector header). System information includes an identifying address mark (a sort of flag saying "Here's some location information"), the track number, the sector number, the sector length, and the CRC bytes. Combined, this information creates a heading for your data that lets the computer retrieve it when you need it.

In addition to these sector headers, the DOS writes another kind of marker on the disk. Called clock bits because they're written by the FDC's 1 MHz
clock, they create spaces between them that hold data. They are, in a sense, the carton; your pieces of data are the eggs.

Using the index hole on the disk, the FDC finds the beginning of a track. Using the clock bits, the FDC locates the spaces where the data resides. When it reads an I.D. address mark (the number FE hexadecimal coming after a gap), the FDC knows it has found a sector. Reading the sector header tells it what track and sector it has found. A lot of space on your disk is taken up just defining and identifying the space you wish to use.

Every time it reads a sector, the FDC comes across 2 bytes of information that are directly related to the accuracy of its last write. These are the CRC bytes. Their value, as mentioned earlier, is determined by a calculation performed on the value of all the other sector bytes. When the FDC reads a sector, it performs this calculation on the data it has just read.

If the value matches the value of the CRC byte on the disk, all's well. If the values don't match, the computer prints an error message on the screen and quits. Depending on the software controlling the disk I/O, the error message says either "CRC error" or "parity error." Either way, it's bad news.

Utilities are available that might straighten out a problem disk: Debug on TRSDOS, SuperZap on NEWDOS80, and Super Utility Plus, to name a few. But honestly, the best medicine
for any disk problem is preventive.

\section*{Preventive Medicine for Your Disks}

Make a back-up copy of every important disk! At 80 Micro, we use only third-generation copies of our DOSes. The original sat in the disk drive long enough to make a copy of itself, our working master. The working master comes out of its envelope only to create a back-up, the copy we actually use. This policy sounds neurotic-until somebody does one of those ten thousand things that trash disks. But, when that happens, we don't get stuck sitting around waiting for the manufacturer to replace our disk.

The same holds true for data disks; unless you love typing, keep up-to-date back-ups on your data files. It takes time, but ten minutes a week now may save you hours trying to reconstruct a blown disk later.

The rule to remember is, if it doesn't have a back-up, it will develop an error. Back up your disks!

The second great preventive measure is to keep your drives well maintained. Invest in a diagnostic disk and test your drives once a month. If the disk speed varies more than 5 rpm in either direction (faster or slower), get it fixed before it causes problems.

Buy a disk drive cleaning kit and use it. Dirt on your read/write head acts like sandpaper on your disk, an undesirable condition.

Finally, a reminder of stuff you already know. Open and close your disk drive's door gently. If you slam it around day in and day out, it will break. Since the door is part of the mechanism that holds your disk in place, a loose or crooked door will result in disk I/O errors. In a worst-case scenario, a door off its hinges renders the drive inoperable.

Store your disks in their envelopes, away from dust and magnets. Remember, the telephone and the speaker in your cassette recorder have magnets. Keep your disks away from them. The top of your video display screen is also a bad place for disks. It generates enough radio frequency interference to garble your disks.

Your disk drive, disks, and DOS work together in a complex system designed to guard against errors, but, as with any sophisticated technology, it requires care on your part to keep it working.

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The transmitter mode features five programmable buffers (200 characters total), a type-ahead (working buffer), and user-selectable sending speeds up to 70 words per minute.

Comp-Code 1.0 costs just \(\$ 26.95\) from Gary Woodall Software, P.O. Box 284,

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Minuteman is a new uninterruptible power supply from Para Systems (2409 D Ave. J, Arlington, TX 76011, 817-640-0837). It is designed to protect your microcomputer from power failures, brown-outs, and voltage surges. When a power fluctuation does occur, Minuteman immediately switches from A/C power to its own emergency battery power for up to 15 minutes. This gives you time to save your data and shut down your system without losing valuable input and programming hours. The unit automatically switches back to \(A / C\) when power is restored.

Minuteman also features voltage regulation and surge protection as well. The unit provides standby power for microcomputers and word processors with a power rating of 200 watts or less. It sells for \(\$ 395\).

Reader Service \(\boldsymbol{\sim} 563\)

\section*{Bringing It All Together}

The Micro Matrix II is a line-controlled central exchange for up to eight RS232C, current loop, and TTL (transistor-transistor logic) devices. It features a patented circuitry that lets you transfer data anywhere in your network as long as the devices are under software control.

Providing 64 memorymapped connection points, set-up is simplified by firmware that includes prompts, a command menu, connection displays, and ports handled
by user name. The Micro Matrix II uses 1 K RAM of non-volatile storage for 16 different switching arrangements. All 64 connection changes occur within 7 mi croseconds with no switching glitches or transmission interruptions.

Priced at \(\$ 795\) for the single-board configuration and \(\$ 995\) for the complete enclosure, the Micro Matrix II is sold by Digital Laboratories Inc., 600 Pleasant St., Watertown, MA 02172, 617-924-1680.

Reader Service - 565

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The slipcase package contains a spiral-bound 236 -page manual with the sealed disk affixed to the inside front cover, and a command reference card. The Model III version has a suggested retail price of \(\$ 59.95\). It is sold by Little, Brown and Company, 200 West St., Waltham, MA 02154, 800-343-9204, 617-\(890-0250\).
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Reader Service \(\boldsymbol{\sim} 56\)

\section*{How to}

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Reader Service r 573

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Reader Service \(\boldsymbol{\sim} 578\)

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Model 16 that lets you operate up to three terminals simultaneously with the same accounting program. The available programs (Accounts Receivable, Accounts Payable, General Ledger, Payroll, and Order Entry/Inventory Control) all operate under the RM/COS multi-user operating system. This lets you print from remote terminals.

The programs have full record-locking capability. If a second operator requests a record that is being processed by someone else, it's flagged to say, "Wait, somebody's looking at the record."

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For additional information, contact Ball Technical Services, 211 North First St., Mt. Vernon, WA 98273, 800 426-2070, 800-545-6244 (WA), 206-336-6605 (Canada).

Reader Service \(\sim 576\)

\section*{Yo, Ho, Ho and a Bottle of Rum}

Dancing Sailors is the dual-pen version of the DMP-40 plotter from Houston Instruments. It enables you to generate two-color plots or plots using different line widths without having to intervene. A simple command directs the plotter to place the alternate pen in plotting position. Since both pens are carriage mounted, pen changes are fast and easy.

The DMP-40-2 plotter costs \(\$ 895\) from Houston Instruments, 8500 Cameron Road, Austin, TX 78753, 512-835-0900, 800-531-5479. Both RS-232 and Centronics
parallel versions are available.
\[
\text { Reader Service } \sim 581
\]

\section*{Let's Draw}

Creative-Art is an advanced utility to design graphics on your Model III. The program has over 25 commands to let you draw circles, lines between points, rectangles, frames, and a sin-gle-key screen invert. Other commands include filling in and erasing parts of the screen, storing the screen in one of five pages of memory and displaying them later.

The program also handles text. An alphanumeric mode lets you place text anywhere on the screen. This is helpful when you generate reports and graphs. You can store screens on either cassette or disk. The package includes a sample program to retrieve the screen from disk or cassette for use with your own program.

Creative-Art is available for the Model III for 16 K , 32 K , and 48 K cassette systems, and for 32 K and 48 K disk systems. Both the 32 K and 48 K versions store more pages and handle more points. All versions cost \(\$ 30\) for cassette and \(\$ 40\) for disk. Contact Creative Software Enterprises, Route 1, Box 222-A, Ana, IL 62906, 618-8337797. All registered owners receive free updates for one year.
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\text { Reader Service } \sim 577
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The Dancing Sailors Plotter gives you two-color plots.


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Some potential applications for Brainstormer include increasing flexible thinking, discovering new products, targeting new markets, and exploring organizational problems. Brainstormer is available for Models I, III, and 4. It costs \(\$ 50\) for a single machine, \(\$ 100\) for 2-10 machines used by a single organization. For information, contact Soft Path Systems, c/o Cheshire House, 105 North Adams, Eugene, OR 97402, 503-342-3439.
Reader Service - 567

\section*{Video Upgrade}

Expand the video display on your Model III to 24 lines by 80 characters with Holmes VID-80 video upgrade. It is a plug-in printed circuit board that not only expands your display to 24 by 80 but that also lets you use the CP/M 2.2 operating system.

VID-80 features include 56 K of user memory ( 64 K RAM), the ability to read and write numerous disk formats, 8-inch drive support, CP/M compatibility, and UCSD \(\mathbf{P}\)-system compatibility.
The VID-80 board retails for \(\$ 279.50\), and the \(\mathrm{CP} / \mathrm{M}\) 2.2 operating system sells for an additional \(\$ 120\). Other op-
tions, such as an additional 64 K of memory ( 112 K total) and the CP/M 3.0 operating system are also available. The board requires no trace cuts or soldering for installation. For further information, contact Holmes Engineering at 5175 Green Pine Drive, Murray, UT 84107, 801-261-5652.

Reader Service - 552

\section*{New Vision}

Get rid of your screen's glare and see what you're programming or writing with Panelgraphic's Video Filters. Treated with an anti-glare coating, the filters make a dramatic improvement in the readability of your computer screen. Characters boldly stand out on a professionallooking dark background without reflection.

The filters are easy to install with self-adhering tabs. They cost \(\$ 19.85\) each from Panelgraphic Corp., 10 Henderson Drive, West Caldwell, NJ 07006, 800-222-0617, 201-227-1500. Major credit cards are accepted for large orders.

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\section*{Terminal Emulator Program}

All you Models II, 12, and 16 owners can now communicate with Digital Equipment Corporation (DEC) host mainframes over asynchronous (dial-up) lines with the VT52 Terminal Emulator program. The emulator supports all VT52 features and permits the use of any program requiring full-screen cursor control.

Common applications include interactive full-screen text editing, electronic mail, and the more sophisticated games. The emulator functions as a normal dumb terminal when communicating with non-DEC hosts.

The VT52 Emulator costs \$175, including a User's Manual and a keypad editing


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Measuring approximately 3 cubic inches, the SL Protector plugs directly into any standard 110 -volt outlet and accepts all standard, threeprong plugs. It automatically cleans incoming electrical power lines of overvoltage transients and spikes, protecting your computer's sol-id-state components from damage. The unit responds to a transient in five billionths of a second, and features an instant reset to provide continuous protection.

The SL plug is UL listed, sells for \(\$ 99\), and comes with a 90 -day replacement warranty.

Reader Service -553

\section*{Computer Carrying Case}

There's no need to be afraid to take your computer with you on your next business trip as long as it is safely packed away in one of the computer carrying cases from

Cases Inc. They offer two hardware cases, the Flight Form and the C-Series case.

The Flight Form case is made of high-impact ABS plastic laminated to plywood. The outer panels of the case are slotted to lock into extruded aluminum tracking, forming a protective cage around your computer. The corners are finished with riveted steel for maximum strength. This case is designed to withstand the most rigorous handling. It could probably survive the famous baggage gorilla.
The C-Series case is designed for easy handling and convenience. It's made of Philippine mahogany covered with a tough vinyl outer lining. It provides your computer with protection in less demanding traveling or shipping environments.

Both cases feature formfitted foam lined interiors and track mounts to hold equipment securely in place. They also accommodate books, papers, and software for your computer and you can specify custom interior configurations.

The C-Series is available in either black or brown. Prices start at \(\$ 120\). The Flight Line cases come in white, black, and royal blue. It costs \(\$ 284\) for the Model III, \(\$ 318\) for the Model II, and \(\$ 331\) for the Model 12. Accessories include special clasps, strapping, and even custom print-

Continued on p. 316


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Continued from p. 312
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Reader Service - 566

\section*{Computer Talk}

Modems have been placed on a diet at Universal Data Systems! Their new LP modem series is entirely powered by your telephone line, eliminating the need for bulky, heat-producing power supplies or plug-in power modules. This results in a functional and attractive low-profile design that provides full modem features in a sleek, under-telephone package.
The five modems in this line each measure about 1 by 6 by \(91 / 2\) inches, and use a standard RS-232 connector. They are designed for easy operation: A mode switch invokes answer or originate operation, and a talk/data switch simplifies transfer of a telephone call to the computer, allowing you to switch
from voice to data communications.

Prices for the LP modem series range from \(\$ 145\) for the 0-300 baud modem to \(\$ 445\) for the 1200 bits per second model. All are available from Universal Data Systems Inc., 5000 Bradford Drive, Huntsville, AL 35805, 205-8378100.

Reader Service - 578

\section*{More Memory}

RAMPAK is a 64 K RAM upgrade for the Model 4. It is available in two different versions: RAMPAK-I to upgrade a 16 K to a 64 K , and the RAMPAK-II to upgrade from 64 K to 128 K . The latter allows programs like MEMDISK to take advantage of the Model 4's bank switching mode throughout the entire 128 K . They cost \(\$ 96\) and \(\$ 110\) respectively.

For those of you who want to upgrade from 64 K to 128 K using your own 64 K RAM chips, RAMPAK-PAL, a programmed array logic chip, is available separately. It costs \(\$ 34.95\).


The LP modem series from Universal Data Systems.

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Both Options-80 and Op-tions-80A are available for Models I, III, and 4 with disk drives. They cost \(\$ 125\) and \(\$ 170\) respectively plus \(\$ 5\) for post and packaging. Send your orders to Options-80, 15 Stow St., Concord, MA 01742.

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The program, 12 hi-res pictures, and manual cost \(\$ 39.95\) from Micro-Labs Inc., 902 Pinecrest St., Richardson, TX

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This well-rounded wordprocessing system is available for the Models II, 12, and 16 operating under CP/M. It requires 64 K of RAM and costs just \(\$ 69.95\) before Christmas, \(\$ 99.95\) afterwards. For more information, contact Harris Micro Computers Inc., 2560 North 560 East St., Provo, UT 84604, 801-373-1605.

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An example of what Surface Plot from Micro-Labs Inc. can do for you.


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[^3]:    From BIRKHAUSER BOSTON, Inc. - BOOKS TO MAKE YOU COMPUTER-FRIENDLY

[^4]:    For Version 2.1:
    32 IFFF $<>$ THENPRINT\#2,LEFTS (LFS, $2^{*}($ BM + LC) );:HF $=2:$ GOSUB43
    33 PRINT\#2,CHRS(12);:IFBL - PP>0ANDPG<PETHEN39
    34 IFCN $<$ NCTHENCLOSE: $\mathrm{BL}=160: \mathrm{PP}=0$ :GOSUB37:GOTO6
    ELSEIFFDTHENPRINT\#2,CHRS(12);

[^5]:    VISICALC IS A TRADEMARK OF PERSONEL SOFTWARE INC. LAZY WRITER IS A TRADEMARK OF ALPHA BIT COMMUNICATION SCRIPSIT, SUPERSCRIPSIT, PROFILE III PLUS AND TRSDOS ARE TRADEMARKS OF TANDY CORP LDOS IS A TRADEMARK OF LOGICAL SYSTEMS INC NEWDOSBO IS A TRADEMARK OF APPARAT INC DOS PLUS IS A TRADEMARK OF MICRO-SYSTEMS SOFTWARE INC. MULTIDOS IS A TRADEMARK OF COSMOPOLITAN INC. VIC 20 AND COMMODORE 64 ARE TRADEMARKS OF COMMODORE BUSINESS MACHINES. INC.

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[^7]:    *Phone Service: 1 - Permissive, 2 - Programmable, 3 - Private Line

[^8]:    Model I, Model III and Model 4 systems: Accounts Payable, Accounts Receivable, General Ledger, Inventory Control, Invoicing. Payroll.
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[^9]:    10 DEFINT $A, B, V ; B=1 * 0: V=1 * 0$ : DIM $A(10,2)$
    20 FOR $A=0$ TO $10: A(A, 0)=A+1: A(A, 1)=A+21: A(A, 2)=A+41:$ NEXT
    $30 \mathrm{~V}=\operatorname{VARPTR}(\mathbf{A}(0,0))$
    40 FOR B = - 10 TO 50: LPRINT PEEK(V + B):NEXT

[^10]:    *Use the order card in this magazine or itemize your order on a separate piece of paper and mail to: 80 Micro Book Department e Peterborough NH 03458 . Be sure to include check or detailed credit card information. No C O.D. orders accepted $\$ 1.50$ tor the first book, $\$ 1.00$ each additional book for U. S. delivery and foreign surface. For foreign airmail $\$ 10.00$ per book. Please allow $4-6$ weeks for delivery Questions regarding your order? Please write to Customer Service at the above address.

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[^12]:    TRS-80/Z80 Assembly Language Library is a Wayne Green publication
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[^13]:    *Disks do not contain a disk operating system: two disk drives or a disk copy utility are required to transfer the files.

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[^15]:    FOR BET
    $150 \mathrm{PP}=1: \mathrm{CS}=2: \mathrm{PA}=0: \mathrm{CA}=0: \mathrm{PT}=0: \mathrm{CT}=0: \mathrm{CR}=2$ ： PC＝81：CP＝201：GOSUB9020：PRINT：PRINTN\＄：＂， YOU HAVE $\$^{n} ; P M$
    160 PRINT＠200，＂n；：INPUT＂PLEASE ENTER
    YOUR BET＂；BET：BET＝INT（BET）
    170 IF BET＞PM THEN GOSUB9050：GOTO160
    180 IFSGN（BET）$=-10$ RSGN（BET）
    ＝0THENGOSUB9050：GOTO160
    190 IFBET＝PMTHENPRINTe293，CHR\＄（27）；＂p＂；＂ GO FOR IT ！！＂；CHRS（27）
    ；＂q＂；：SOUND4000，15：SOUND30日0，10：SOUND200 $0,8:$ PORDL $=1$ TO50 0 ：NEXTDL
    195 IFBET＜1 ØØANDPM＞500THENPRINT＠291，CHRS （27）；＂p＂；YOU ARE CHEAP ！！${ }^{n}$ ；CHRS（27） ；＂q＂；SOUND4000，30：SOUND12000，30：FORDL＝1 TO500：NEXTDL
    200
    GOSUB9020：GOSUB9100：GOSUB9110：PP＝1：GOSUB
    9500 ：ONKEYGOSUB1000，4000，2000，3000
    202 PRINT＠100，CHRS（155）；＂
    YOU＂；：PRINT＠220，CHRS（155）；＂
    DEALER＂；：FORDL＝1TO30 0 ：NEXTDL：PRINT＠100，S
    PACE（6）；：PRINT＠220，SPACE\＄（9）；
    210 PRINT＠PC，C\＄；CHR\＄（156＋SU）；：PC＝PC＋
    8：PT＝PT＋CV：GOSUB950日：PT＝PT＋
    CV：PRINT＠PC，C\＄；CHRS（156＋SU）；：PC＝PC＋8
    215 IFPA＝2THENPA＝1：PT＝PT－1 $\emptyset$
    220 PP＝0：GOSUB9500：HCS＝C\＄＋CHRS（156＋SU）
    $: \mathrm{CT}=\mathrm{CT}+\mathrm{CV}: \mathrm{CP}=\mathrm{CP}+8: \mathrm{GOSUB} 9500: \mathrm{CT}=\mathrm{CT}+$
    CV：PRINT＠CP，C\＄；CHR $\$(156+S U) ;: C P=C P-8$
    225 IFCA＝2THENCA＝1：CT＝CT－10
    230 IFPT $=21$ ANDCT $\langle>$
    21THENPRINT＠CP，HC\＄；：PRINT＠280，＂BLACKJACK
    ！\＄ 1 \＄$\$ 1 \$!\$!\$!$
    ＂；：PM＝PM＋BET＋INT
    （BET／2）
    ：FORDL＝1TO5：SOUND4000，10：SOUND8000，10：NE
    XTDL：GOTO145
    240 IFCT＝21ANDPT〈＞
    21THENPRINT＠CP，HC\＄；：PRINT＠280，＂I HAVE BLACKJACK $\$ \$!!-$ YOU LOSE＂；PM＝PM－ BET：SOUND14000，15：SOUND16000， $20:$ FORDL $=1 T$ O1000：NEXTDL：GOTO145 250
    IFCT＝21ANDPT＝21THENPRINT＠CP ，HC\＄；：GOTO221 0

    260 KEY ON
    270 PRINTe280，＂HIT DBL STAY
    QUIT＂；：FORWW＝1TO200：NEXTWW：PRINT＠280，SPA
    CES（39）；：FORWW＝1TO200：NEXTWW
    280 IFNH＝1THENNH $=0$ ：GOTO145：ELSEGOTO27 0
    999 REM PLAYER HITS
    $1000 \quad C R=C R+1$
    $1010 \operatorname{IFCR}=3$ THENLINE $(94,9)-(142,30)$
    ，1，B：GOTO1650
    1020 IFCR＝4THENLINE $(141,9)-(189,30)$
    ，1，B：GOTO1050
    $1030 \operatorname{IFCR}=5 \operatorname{THENLINE}(188,9)-(236,30), 1, B$
    1050 PP＝1：GOSUB9500：PRINT＠PC，C\＄；CHR\＄（
    $156+\mathrm{SU}): \mathrm{PC}=\mathrm{PC}+8: \mathrm{PT}=\mathrm{PT}+\mathrm{CV}$
    1060 IFPT＞21ANDPA＜＝$\quad$ THENPRINT＠280，N\＄；＂， YOU ARE BUSTED
    ＂；：FORDL＝1TO10：SOUND120日0，DL：NEXTDL：PM＝P
    M－BET：FORDL＝1TO500：NEXTDL：NH＝1：RETURN
    1070 IFPT $>21$ ANDPA $>0$ THENPA $=P A-1: P T=P T-10$ 1100 IFCR＜＞5THEN RETURN
    1200 PRINT＠280，＂5 CARD CHARLIE－YOU WIN
    ！！＂；：FORDL＝1TO8：SOUND5000，DL：SOUND15000， DL：NEXTDL：PM＝PM＋BET＋INT（BET／2）

