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## Canned thoughts

SOFTWARE AUTHORS' stock in trade is, or should be, canned thought. Yet, too often, what they wish on their unfortunate victims is a can of worms.
What are the symptoms of brain damage induced by software? We all know the archetypal programmer - the withdrawn antisocial being, silent or wildly enthusiastic by turns, sullen, argumentative, pedantic and incapable of rational conversation or interest in anyone else's ideas. The worms have burrowed deep into the heads of these unfortunates.
William Blake wrote on this subject, and was of the opinion:
Oh head, thou art sick
The invisible worm
That flies in the night
In the howling storm
Has found out thy bed
Of crimson joy
And his dark secret bag
Does thy life destroy
The discriminating observer has to admit that Blake understands the symptoms. But where do these worms come from?
The fundamental problem is, as so often in human affairs, no-one's fault. The things that computers can do are so much more complicated than the things people can do that the user needs a complete outfit of new concepts to handle them. These concepts are much harder to grasp than say, the concept "tree" because there is nothing to see. A recent editorial recalled the horrors of first trying to come to grips with computing. For weeks "files", "bytes", "floating-point arithmetic", "vectors", "indexes" "string pointers" and a whole host of ill-digested intellectual phantasms s"wirl about in your poor head. Only after a good deal of experience does some substrate of reality emerge, on to which to tack these words.
The worms hatch out of the conflict between the ideas already comfortably installed in one's head and the new ones that have to be forcibly constructed out of such unpromising, invisible materials. The conflict makes the worms. If you are not all that keen on worms, the question to ask is, "Could we reduce the conflict?" This is a hard one to answer because it depends on so many things.
Think, for instance, of the steps you have to go through as a newcomer to develop an idea of a disc file. You might start with a paper file in a filing cabinet. You have to make it invisible and continuous. You have to get away from pages of paper and move over to ... well, there are pages, but they are not quite the same. You have to spread this invisible, continuous file over a piece of black plastic that you are not allowed to touch and then get to grips with the idea that parts of it are in RAM and parts are not, and that if it is not closed at the end of everything there is nothing there next time you look.
The whole process is an agonising business of making something out of nothing. It is not unlike trying to plaster a ceiling. You get a good solid lump of concept on your trowel, slap it up, and wait for it to fall on your head. If it stays up you have to get some more up beside it quick before it dries out and then, nine times out of ten, they will both fall off.
The difficulty of the whole business is compounded by language. Practically all the words used in computing have perfectly good meanings already: sector, record, memory, processor, bus. In relearning them you have to throw away hundredweights of perfectly good associations.
It improves matters a little if the concepts are well explained, but in the end, explanations of computing are about as much practical use as explanations of bicycling. You have to get on the thing and wobble into the ditch. So how could we
improve the mental ergonomics, spread pesticide on the worms, and help the naive user?
The problem is largely historical. Computing started with operations on bits. The complexities of bytes, files, languages, output were grafted on to the central concept of the processor. They arose in ways that made sense to the engineers who built the machines and the systems programmers who made them go. We, obedient users, 40 years down the road, docilely assume that we have to learn all these tough ideas too, even though they correspond only vaguely to the ideas we want to manipulate.
Let's start with the idea of screen and file in the context of word processing. You might expect the letter corresponding to the key you hit to appear on the screen as it would on paper. You then expect the document you have created to be "in the computer's memory banks". This is not at all unreasonable. Yet how many word-processing packages start out with exotic questions about the number of disc sectors to allocate? How many more, which avoid that difficulty, expect the user to manage the business of writing RAM to disc and paging in new buffers full of text for editing? Most of us have met the word processor that leaves the files empty if you do not go through some absurd rigmarole of closing them? Even those that spare us these troubles are quite capable of allowing a text to be edited that cannot, in the end, fit on to the disc.
Even though the user must, by virtue of the power word processing gives you, understand and manipulate more ideas than you need simply to type on paper, there are no word processors that restrict their concepts to those the user actually needs. Of course, if every software package requires the user to make decisions about disc files, it is hard to realise that the user need not necessarily know or care about them. A great American aircraft builder used to advise his designers to "simplicate and add more lightness". This is no bad advice for the software author too; the difficulty is that simplification is very much harder work than complication. Yet this is work that urgently needs doing at this stage of the game.
One easy way of simplifying things is to go through the manual of whatever software is to get the treatment, and look for the word "must". "If there is not enough disc space you must erase ..."; "To open a file you must ...". Whenever something "must" be done the computer ought to do it. The user ought only to be asked when choices are to be made and the choices should be presented in understandable terms. "Do you want to keep your back-up version of this text, or erase it"? Ideally, anything in memory should also be on disc and the user should be unaware that RAM exists. When hard discs become commonplace it may be unnecessary for the user to know explicitly about either RAM or files: it might be better to present some in-between concept - just as the idea of a CP/M file conceals the ideas of sector directories and random access.
Ultimately, this all comes down to marketing. You do not sell computers or software: you sell power, speed, convenience, prestige - in the customer's terms. If the customer cannot understand what it is you're trying to sell, then you will never sell it. You have to offer concepts that are already properly understood. You certainly cannot assume that the intellectual scrap-heap we have come to accept is already there.
The time is ripe for some powerful, simplifying ideas that start with the user rather than the machine. Let us ask what concepts are actually needed to manipulate the kind of information that people want to put on micros. Then we ask how they can be made to work using the available hardware and software. If only one-tenth of the passion that goes into the language debate could be focused on this much more important problem, we would make startling progress.

## TURBOCHARGED PERFORMANCE: when you need speed without crashing



# Our Feedback columns offer readers the opportunity of bringing their computing experience and problems to the attention of others, as well as to seek our advice or to make suggestions, which we are always happy to receive. Make sure you use Feedback-it is your chance to keep in touch. 

## Improved graphics

like r J greenhill, Feedback, January 1982, I found the Portable Graphics series by Wynford and Jane James most useful and certainly the best published games for some time. However, Greenhill's random-movement selector does not eliminate all the difficulties of Wallball.
I find that the computer tends to find itself in dead ends of its own making relatively quickly, so my improvements may be of interest.

I have incorporated a speed-up arrangement in line 350 . This line is simply a time delay from which 5 is subtracted at each pass. It is reasonably simple to replace the 5 with a variable which is changed by the setting of the skill level entered in line 1060. So, at skill level 1 , a larger number is subtracted than at lower skill levels. This causes the movement of the trails to accelerate, and before long you will find you need plenty of skill to avoid a crash.

In addition, I have incorporated a scoring system. This is a simple counter which increments at each move made by the computer. When one game ends, line 360 , the score is added to a running total if the player wins, and subtracted from the running total if the computer wins.
The final score is printed after the final run, in line 440 . The increments can be fixed or made variable in the skill-level line - higher increments for more skill.

The effect of these two improvements is that the player tries a high skill level for a higher score and lets the computer run for as long as possible before trapping it so as to build up the score. By this time, however, the acceleration has built up so that it is much more difficult to control the player's trail.

In addition to these changes to Wallball, perhaps I might point out two errors in other programs of the same series which readers may not have found. In Head on Crash, November 1981, I found that after clearing the board the first time the score continues, but subsequent clearings will not reset the board and the score. This is quickly remedied as follows.
Eliminate $\mathrm{NH}=0$ in line 85 and re-insert it as Line $81 \mathrm{NH}=0$.

In Alien Maze, December 1981, line 650 has a misprint and should start with:
650 If $C B=0$ then Poke, etc
not $650 \mathrm{ECB}=0$ then Poke, etc
B L Hensman,
Keighley,
West Yorkshire.

## Maze corrections

I successfully used the maze-making program on "Portable Graphics" Practical Computing December 1981 - on my UK 101. There appears to be an error in line 650 , which should read:
650 IF CB $=0$ THEN POKE P1, W3: POKE P2, W3: POKE P3, W3
A repetitive division-by-zero error tended to occur in line 105, which I prevented by inserting a new line:
104 IF LD $=0$ THEN LD $=2$
Other UK 101 users may be interested in this amendment to line 950, for which experiments were recommended in the article:
$950 \mathrm{TL}=53332: \quad \mathrm{BL}=54164: T R=53357$ : $B R=54189: L L=64: D W=2: C D=3$

Simon Talbot,<br>Garston,<br>Hertfordshire.

## Authors reply

R J Greenhill's letter in January 1982 Feedback was a constructive criticism of our portable graphic series which started in the October 1981 issue. It was clear from several letters we received that we should have clarified the keyboardcontrol command used by the Superboard. We feel that Greenhill's own explanation should resolve these problems for readers.

Regarding Rem statements within programs, it is sometimes difficult to include these when only 4 K RAM is available. We concede that on shorter programs we should not omit Rems - a bad habit.

We had already begun to incorporate the keyboard-control commands into subroutines in later programs and - as Greenhill said - this should aid portability.

We are currently working on a collection of portable programs which we hope to have published in 1982. If any reader feels that features in the previous programs made transfer to their own micro a problem, we would be pleased to hear from them. Any other suggestions for improving portability would also be welcomed.

## Wynford and Jane James, <br> Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

## Family tree

the Article "Climbing the Family Tree" in the November 1981 issue is a reminder that family records represent an
almost ideal database which is more easily handled by computer than manually. Yet few serious genealogists will be satisfied with no more than 30 direct ancestors. So often it is the collaterals which provide the clues to extend the main line further back.

There must be many people tackling these wider problems for themselves and thereby reinventing the appropriate wheels for organising the data about relatives or indexing the names in public records.

The time is ripe for them to meet and share their experiences. The Society of Genealogists plans to organise in June this year a seminar to provide an opportunity for that exchange. The director of the Society, A J Camp, would like to hear from anyone wishing to attend or contribute to such a meeting. Write to him at the Society, 37 Harrington Gardens, London SW7 4JX, mentioning any special interest or progress you have made. The detailed program will depend on the response and will be sent to you in due course.

Similarly, the Society is considering a newsletter on the applications of computers to records of genealogical interest. If you would like to subscribe or contribute to it, please let the director know.

A Sandison,

## Chairman, Computer Committee, Society of Genealogists, <br> London SW7.

## DNA twist

we very much enjoyed the article 'DNA the First Machine Code' by John Leach, in the January 82 issue. However, we feel that we must attempt to rectify certain slight misconceptions expressed by Leach, in aspects of the genetic code as it is understood today. Also, we wish to point out certain program errors and modifications.

Firstly, and most importantly, what Leach says about messenger RNA is misleading. He implies that mRNA is made by attaching itself to the start codon, and is copied along the DNA from that. This is not so.

A simplified explanation of what generally happens is this: mRNA is made by an enzyme RNA polymerase which binds to a reconision site on the DNA before the coding part of the gene - or program - called the 'promotor'. The enzyme moves down the DNA, making an exact complementary copy of that strand of DNA, except that it makes the copy in
(continued on page 45)

(continued from page 43)
RNA, which contains the base uridine instead of thymine.

This mRNA contains a good deal of material additional to the coding part of the gene, including the start and stop codons. It also contains an area recognised by the ribosome. The ribosome attaches to this site, but starts to translate the message into protein from the start codon.

The best comparison of this with the way a computer program works that we can think of is that the promotor region acts as the name of a program. The program is called up by its name, from whatever form of storage, disc, tape or chromosome, to a short-lived copy - the program loaded into the computer's RAM or the mRNA. The start codon acts as the first line number, anything else is not read. The program is run from that copy and not the original.

Whilst on the subject of anology, the computer mimics genetics in other ways. Perhaps the most interesting is the use of library routines. A kind of library is used by certain specialised genes, such as the immunoglobulin genes. These code for the proteins protecting us from infections caused by bacteria, viruses, and other foreign bodies. These genes are bizarre in that each gene is constructed by a combination of several pieces of DNA from various sets. In other words, there is a series of programs, any of which may be selected, and which may use a combination of two library routines, one from each set.

This leads to an enormous variety of related proteins coded for by a relatively small amount of DNA: Every time man thinks he has been clever, life has beaten him to it.

Other niggles with Leach's article are that; transfer RNA is not a hairpin structure. It has a clover leaf appearance, with the anti-codon on the second leaf. This consists of the triplet of bases which complement exactly, and therefore pair with the codon.

Leach is correct when he states that three-dimensional structures play an important role, since shape defines function in proteins. However, he implies that if just any one of the amino acids in haemoglobin is changed, sickle-cell anaemia results. The change causing sickle-cell anaemia is a very specific one. The glutamine in position 6 in the $B$ chain is replaced by a valine.

Other amino acid changes in haemoglobin may have profound effects on its function, but will not necessarily result in sickle-cell anaemia. Altogether, about 150 kinds of mutent haemoglobin have been found in humans. Nearly all are the results of a single amino acid change.

Here are one or two points about the program listing. a) In line 330 the Goto 340 statement is not required. b) In line 2520 the first $D \$$ should be $E \$$.

Add 2625 IF EP $=0$ AND DP $=0$ THEN PRINT "Enzyme and DNA not selected":
GOSUB 2860: GOTO 2200
and in line 2320 alter 2630 to 2625. Alter line 2.590 to read:

2590 GOSUB 1740: FOR $1=1$ TO 12: PRINT :NEXT I :GOSUB 2800: GOTO 2200 David and Linda Priestley, Henton, Oxfordshire.

## Micros in schools

the article by Tony West in the January 1982 edition on the use of microcomputing in primary schools gave a reasonable description of a program which he obviously finds helpful and stimulating for the children in his charge. However, the article, although an adequate description of one particular program, never attempted to answer the one question which teachers who have had no experience of computers ask: why use a computer?

To moderate the rush of teachers who read this article to the micro shops, I feel I must give some reasons why the micro should not be used for this particular job, at least not in this form.

If this program were guaranteed to meet the aims and objectives which the teacher had set out to achieve, how could 35 children in one class make use of it? The only answer for this program would be for each child to have access to the machine.

We have two microcomputers in the school where I teach, and we have great difficulty in coaxing the children into using them. It is not that they do not want to; we have not the time to let them. Some advice on how to overcome this problem would be more useful than a fairly technical description of a program.

Tony West says: "Numerical accuracy in adding the digits is ignored and the child can correct any such mistakes". I hope I have not taken this quotation out of context, but what a statement for a teacher to make. Supposing the child did not realise he had made a mistake?

The second quotation I would like to draw attention to is: "Should he make a mistake when entering these digits, the computer waits until the correct digit is pressed". If the child knows the correct digit then the program is wasted on him; if he does not then ignoring his attempts does not help him.

The rest of the article describes the programming tricks which make the program run. They are the trivial parts. What is much more important is how they allow the child to learn. In a program which is a test where wrong answers are not allowed, there seems to be little scope for learning.

Before we make computing attractive to primary schools, we must make it right. The process which Tony West is trying to teach with the program under question is only one part of the complete addition
algorithm which primary schools traditionally teach. The whole process must undergo much greater analysis before we decide if the use of a micro is justified.

There is no doubt in my mind that the microcomputer offers a challenge to primary education. I think it has enormous potential which we are only just beginning to appreciate. However, there is a great deal of hard work to be done to realise that potential, and programming is only a very small part of that work.

Colin Watkins,
Primary Computing Co-ordinator, Birmingham Educational Computing

Centre,
Birmingham.

## Comal again

HAS ANYONE a Data-statement generating program for the TRS-80 level III? I need it for machine code and assembly language programming. Also, I would be very interested in corresponding with anyone trying to implement Comal on a TRS-80. Since receiving a copy of the Pet 6502 version, I have been very impressed with its simplicity and structured approach.

When defending Basic many claim that it is easy to learn; but what they do not mention is that it is easy to learn badly. Comal is easy to learn but it forces the user to analyse problems and to write programs in a more disciplined manner.

By adopting a hotch-potch of the two for its otherwise sophisticated machine, the $B B C$ is doing present and future computer users a great disservice. Why is there no 'While Do' facility for example?

In today's modern businesses the keyword for efficiency is 'structure'. It is sad that the BBC educates the population in computer programming with little emphasis on this vital approach. How long will it take to re-teach all these people to reach the level of the rest of Europe where Comal and structured programming is already so widely taught from schools upwards.

> C J Brady,
> Shoreham,
> West Sussex.

## Unix group

I have been asked by the American commercial Unix organisation user group to form a similar group in the United Kingdom. Since the Computer Retailers' Association also has an interest in Unix, we will hold a session for all interested parties in commercial Unix. All parties wishing to attend should write to: Dr Keen, Chairman of Technical Group, Computer Retailers Association, Owles Hall, Buntingford, Hertfordshire. SG9 9PL.

> Tim Keen,
> Buntingford,
> Hertfordshire. ${ }^{\square}$

## Universal appeal of CBM＇s new micros

COMMODORE Business Machines is about to upset the microcomputer applecart with the introduction of a＂univer－ sal microcomputer＂．The new machine will be capable of running software originally written for rival machines．In addition there will be two new personal computers，and a video game which will double as a microcomputer will also be released．

The universal microcom－ puter will initially be able to emulate the Apple，Tandy and IBM microcomputers，thus opening up the machine to a
large sector of the microcom－ puter software market．It will feature as an option on the Commodore 64，using plug－in modules．The beauty of the move is that it means Commo－ dore users will now be able to implement packages developed by rivals，after they incurred the expensive development costs．The target price of this machine will be under $\$ 1,000$ ，grossly under－ cutting the opposition．

The new computers are all aimed at the lower end of the personal micro market．It appears that Commodore is

CBM founder Jack Tramiel－plans in the pipeline．


Cheaper RAM for ZX－81
BYG BYTE is an alternative 16K RAM pack for the ZX－81 microcomputer．Costing only two－thirds the price of the Sinclair memory add－on，the Byg Byte is fully compatible with the ZX－81．Each pack is fully assembled and tested before leaving the factory，and it is cased to avoid handling problems．

At only $£ 34.95$ including VAT，postage and packing， together with the maker＇s full guarantee，the Byg Byte must represent considerable value． Delivery time is currently within 28 days．Byg Byte is available from Computer Aided Printing Services， 56 Trafalgar Avenue，Brox－ bourne，Hertfordshire EN10 7DL．

Noise pollution is the price we have to pay for microcomputers and word processors．The rasp of the dot－matrix printer is as common as the tap of the typewriter these days，but often it is much louder．To remove these unpleasant noises Ventguard has developed a range of printer covers．They are available for the Commodore 4022 and 3022 tractor printers，as well as a number of the popular word－processor printers－ Qume，Nec and Diablo among others．All functions of the printer remain accessible with the cover in place．Contact Ventguard，Unit 12，High View Avenue，Keyworth， Nottinghamshire． Telephone（06077）5856．$⿴ 囗 十$
making an attempt to produce a range that is both cheaper and more accessible than any other．One of the＂fun＂per－ sonal computers will be little more than an intelligent music synthesiser，though it will not be on sale in Europe until later in the year．

The move by Commodore into emulators is unpre－ cedented in the world of microcomputers but is a well－ established part of the main－ frame computer business． There are a host of companies offering IBM plug－compatible products，allowing them to ride on the back of the larger company＇s success and market penetration．

There are a couple of side－ effects of this trend．Firstly the price of hardware tends to drop significantly－because of the intense competition， manufacturers try to recoup profits by software and sys－ tems sales．Secondly there is a tendency for the manufactur－ ers to attempt to protect them－ selves by inventing ever more complex protocols．All this goes very much against the traditions of the microcompu－ ter industry，so it will be inter－ esting to see what the response to Commodore＇s move will be． $\boldsymbol{\square}$

## Building up knowledge

ARCHITECTS involved in com－ puting will be able to build on their knowledge at the RIBA computer conference and exhibition．The exhibition will cover those aspects of comput－ ing that are relevant to the architect and other building－ industry professionals．

The conference will take place on each of the three days，but each day＇s session will be self－contained，allow－ ing delegates to attend only the parts that are relevant to them．

Day one of the conference will deal with how to choose and use a computer for your office．The speakers will deal with the packages available and cover topics in general terms，allowing a more detailed treatment on days two and three．The second day will concentrate on the practical application of the technology， with papers being presented that are based on users＇ experience of various com－ puter applications．The third and final day will take the topic of computer－aided design and drafting a stage further．The conference will cost around $£ 45$ per day．It runs from April 20 to 22 at the Bloomsbury Crest Hotel， Coram Street，London WC1． The organisers can be con－ tacted on 01－637 8991．



The new ZX-81 desk console unit from Traffic Technology should prove to be a neat answer to the "Where-did-l-putthat"' question. Moulded in a heavy-gauge, black, grained ABS plastic the console arrives fully assembled and ready to plug in. There are recesses to accept the ZX-81 microcomputer, the 16K RAM pack, the printer, power unit, a cassette recorder and assorted cassettes and pencils. Underneath is a detachable base cover with non-slip feet. At the rear of the console is a switch panel with a threeposition slide switch for Save/Run-List/Load which earths the unused inputs to the cassette recorder and the computer. There is also a switch for the 9 V power supply. The console measures 19.25 in . by 13.5 in . by 3 in . and weighs just over three pounds. It costs $£ 33.33$ from Traffic Technology, P.O. Box 2, Warminster, Wiltshire BA12 7QX.

## SimpliCalc answers 'what if?' questions

SIMPLICALC is a 134 -line Basic program which performs a host of "what if?" projections and other routines. The powerful program will run on an 8 K or larger Pet. It was developed by Mark Turner of the Cronite Group, whose major problem was compressing of the program into a small enough memory that, once loaded, there would still be sufficient RAM left for the complicated and numerous calculations.

The program is not a Basic version of machine-code VisiCalc but a new program which recognises that in small computers, program and data fight for memory space. With SimpliCalc you can get a lot more data in than you could using more traditional calculating routines, without the need for a costly disc drive.

The designer believes that
among the many people who will find the program useful will be accountants with their own Pets who, it is envisaged, will find SimpliCalc an efficient way of working out such problems as when to advise clients to seek separate tax elections for husband and wife.

The program was originally written for the Pet, but is now being prepared for the Vic-70 and the Apple microcomputers. Versions for the Sinclair and the BBC Micro are under way.

SimpliCalc is available either on cassette at $£ 29.90$ or on disc at $£ 39.80$ including VAT and postage and an instruction manual. For further information contact Mark Turner, The Cronite Group Limited, Montgomery Street, Birmingham B11 1DT. Telephone 021-773 8281. ■

## Champion's winning ways ITT 3030 <br> AMONG commerciallyavailable chess computers, the world champion is the Chess Champion Mark V. The

 machine has been proving its worth and pitting its "brains" against those of the human champions Karpov and Korchnoi. When key positions in the recent world championship match were fed into the Mark V, the computer came up with a few surprises.Chess commentator Raymond Keene - who was Korchnoi's second in the two Russians' previous clash commented: "The Mark V's results were remarkable. On several occasions the machine was able to improve on the play in the match and once it succeeded in seeing more than the commentators. Naturally if the Mark $V$ had to face Karpov now it would be slaughtered, but it is still a remarkable machine".

The Mark V also recently uncovered two alternative solutions to a set problem said to have only one answer.

Contact SciSys of Suite 8, 266 Fulham Road, London, SW 10 9EL.
 3030 can be upgraded into a much more powerful system simply by changing the plug-in printed-circuit boards in the central processor cabinet.

Manufactured in West Germany, where it was developed, the 3030 is of totally European conception and has been designed for the small and medium-sized business. The basic machine includes the $\mathrm{CP} / \mathrm{M}$ operating system - which means it will have a wide base of available user software. In addition, the U.K. division of ITT Consumer Products has reached an agreement with a software house, MPSL, to develop a range of software using the machine's own operating system BOS.

The price and specification of the 3030 indicate that it is a machine destined for the more serious application. The manufacturer claims that it will be able to begin work within hours of delivery. For the basic end-user price of $£ 2,500$ the purchaser receives the central processor, 64 K of RAM, twin mini-floppy drives, a separate keyboard that has been specially extended for word processing, the $\mathrm{CP} / \mathrm{M}$ operating system, the BOS operating system, the Autowriter wordprocessing package, and the Autoindex database package.

The 3030 can be upgraded to a 16 -bit machine simply by removing the CPU board and replacing it with another con-
taining the Intel 8086. In a similar way the memory can be expanded from 64 K to 256 K . Other upgrades include doubling the density of the minifloppy disc, and the addition of hard discs which can offer a total of 10 Mbyte on-line.

A multiple RS-232 interface card allows the ITT 3030 to become a multi-access, multi-programming computer, both these functions are supported by the BOS operating system. Up to four users can access files or undertake processing at the same time.

The BOS operating system uses the MicroCobol language, and a UCSD Pascalsupporting operating system is also available. Among the packages already prepared for the machine are the usual ledgers, a payroll program, stock control, and a program generator. For more details about the ITT microcomputer contact ITT Consumer Products (U.K.), Chester Hall Lane, Basildon, Essex.

The new Transdata Cx 502-S SUPERSPEED Microcomputer offers CP/M performance up to 5 times faster than conventional floppy disc systems. The unique high speed master processor and intelligent disc controller combine to give unrivaled processing power; superior to many Winchester disc based systems:

High Speed Master Processor
'The 280 B 6Mz Master Processor gives a $50 \%$ increase in throughput over more conventional Z80A systems.

Intelligent Floppy Disc Controller The C $\times 502$-S exploits the full power of the FLEXIBUS multiprocessor architecture common to all members of the Cx 500 family of Microcomputers. The Z80 based floppy disc controller features a 10 Kb full track cache buffer, advanced DMA and automatic error recovery. The twin 8 " double-sided double-density disc drives provide 2 Mb of storage with software selectable single density for IBM compatlbility.

## $C P / M \times 5=C \times 502$

Load 20Kb in 1 Second
The C $\times 502$. S programme load performance outstrips many Winchester Disc competitors and response times for disc I/O bound applications are dramatically reduced.

MP/M on Floppies?
By applying the sophisticated and proven technology of the advanced Cx 500 hard disc systems, the new Cx502-S offers viable multi-user capabilities. For those applications where large on-line storage is not required and cost per user is an important consideration the answer is the Cx502-S.
A True Member of the Growing Cx 500 Family Transdata's Cx 500 Family of Business and Scientific Microcomputers features upgrade potential from single-user floppy disc based systems to multi-user hard disc systems with cartridge tape back-up. Experienced End Users, Computer professionals and Distributors will value the quality, reliability and after sales support offered with these advanced U.K. manufactured Microcomputers.

OEM Discounts available Dealer and Distribution enquiries welcome

Cx500 Microcomputers esiablished through success



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# The speed to rival Winchester systems 

THE NEW Z-80B processor chip which runs at a fast 6 MHz gives the Superspeed microcomputer its name. The CP/M performance of this machine is up to five times that of other floppy-disc-based systems and can provide more power than many of the Winchester hard-disc systems. The 6 MHz operation of the processor provides a 50 percent increase in throughput over conventional Z-80A systems, loading a 20 K program in one second.

The CP/M operating system gives the user a wide base of applications software to choose from, but if this is rot
enough the user can add MP/M together with Winchester hard discs to provide a multi-user system. The floppy-disc controller features a 10 K buffer, advanced direct memory access and automatic error recovery. The twin 8 in . double-sided, double-density disc drives provide 2 Mbyte of storage with software selectable single-density for IBM compatibility.

The one-off price of the system is $£ 3,500$, that is for the minimum configuration which also features 160 K of RAM and four $1 / 0$ ports. The machine is part of Transdata's

## Stitch in time for clothing industry

CLOTHMAN is an integrated system developed for use by the clothing industry. It has been developed by Taunton Electronics, a microcomputer systems house that specialises in providing computer systems for the clothing and allied trades.

There are five areas in which the Clothman system can improve or simplify tedious bookwork. These are: providing piece-work calculations which can be extended to year-end reports; production of work-in-progress reports with up to 10 process points; order processing, enquiry and status reporting; work-ticket printing on special copythrough tickets; and style rate book reporting and printing.

The system has been produced with the co-operation of a clothing manufacturer and is already fully operational in a number of factories, varying in size from 55 to 250 em ployees. Clothman runs on an Apple II computer or can put on the Nestar system with up to 64 Apples connected to a large disc back-up.

Clothman has been developed and conceived so that the system can be used by non-specialists, though the price of the package includes a

Cx500 family of CP/M-based microcomputer systems.

Languages available includè Basic, Fortran, Cobol; PL/1 and APL. Also available is a fully-comprehensive, on-site maintenance contract employing Transdata's own fieldservice engineers. Transdata is at 87-89 Tooley Street, London, SE1 2RA. Telephone 01-403 5115.

## Typewriter solution

OLIVETTI daisywheel typewriters make excellent microcomputer printers - the only problem is interfacing them. The $£ 250$ Discom interface is approved by Olivetti and will allow a typewriter to interface all the common buses - RS 232, IEEE and Centronics.

Details can be obtained from Discom, Old Manor Farm, Ashton-under-Hill, Worcestershire. Telephone Evesham (0386) 8819, extension 62.

## Fast Episode fits the desk-top bill

THE EPISODE is a microcomputer with "micro" dimensions - it occupies about as much desk space as a sheet of foolscap paper. Even so it is a powerful stand-alone system based on the Z -80A processor running at 4 MHz . The Episode is capable of running $\mathbf{C P} / \mathbf{M}$ packages markedly faster than other systems.

The Episode will work with virtually any VDU and printer and can be used as a station in a network linked to other equipment. It is an extremely

Equipped with the standard RS-232 serial output, this analogue/digital/analogue board enables almost all microcomputers to interface with the analogue signals of the real world. Featuring eight-bit resolution of any signal in the range $0-2.5 \mathrm{~V}$, the board can handle both DC and AC currents. Output can also be in the 0-2.5 range, with a load driving capability of 25 mA . The baud rate can be any one of 15 standard rates between 50 and 19,200. The kit version costs £39.50 and the built version £49 from Ambit International, 200 North Service Road, Brentwood, Essex.


mobile computer: weighing only 15 pounds it can be carried easily to the place where you want to use it. The other dimensions of the Episode are the 7.5 inches height, 9.5 inches width and the 14.5 inches depth.

The mass integral storage is provided by twin mini-floppy disc drives of either single, double or quad density. A maximum of 1.6 Mbyte of online storage is thus available. Other features of the system are two RS-232C serial interfaces, a Centronics compatible parallel interface, a batteryoperated calendar clock, and 64 K of RAM.

Episode is available from Equinox Computers, who will market the machine with a number of applications packages. Software includes word processing; invoicing stock control; sales, purchase and nominal ledgers; and a salesmanagement package.

The Episode microcomputer costs $£ 1,995$ plus VAT. For further details contact Equinox Computers, 16 Anning Street, New Inn Yard, London EC2 3HB. Telephone 01-739 2387/9.

## Next One hits Composing oneself routine tasks <br> THE NEXT ONE is a program with Music Maker

 generator that costs only $£ 100$ plus VAT. Written for the Apple II microcomputer the program will also run on the ITT 2020 and there is a CP/M version too.The Next One writes to a disc file the program statements which make up the created program. It is really a tool to take all the drudgery out of programming by writing the tedious input/output subroutines between the keyboard and the disc, and the disc and the memory. It is not intended to replace programmers.

Target programs generated by the Next One are written in a structured form, which is ready for use within a few minutes of creation. There are many diagnostic features built in to the program and its structured nature makes it easy to read and understand. The Next One is available from Logical Computing, 26 Wide Lane, Swaythling, Southampton. Telephone Southampton (0703) 583857.
the plug-in Music Maker module for the Texas Instruments TI-99/4A computer allows music to be composed, edited and played. It assists the creation of musical compositions by serious musicians and beginners alike.

Notes can be entered, one measure at a time, into the microcomputer's memory. Music can then be replayed at the touch of a key.

Serious musicians will be attracted by the system's method of composing, placing notes on the traditional treble and bass staves. Novices can compose using sound graphs. Either method allows the user access to three voices.

There is a flexible choice of key- and time-signatures, and a total of 30 different speeds at which the music can be played. Any note can be accepted, provided that it is in the three-octave range from the second $A$ below middle $C$ to the second $A$ above middle $C$.

There is a facility for repeating passages of music, and if a
printer is added to the system, the music can be printed. Computer owners who consider themselves to be in the musical avant-garde will find the system capable of many interesting sound effects. The Music Maker module costs $£ 34.95$ and is available from Texas dealers. For details ring Texas Instruments. on 0234-67466.

TERMINAL is a product which allows the Tandy TRS-80 range of microcomputers to act as remote terminals to larger mini- or mainframe computers. The emulator runs under the standard Tandy DOS operating system, but a CP/M version is planned.

Under Terminal, the baud rate used will be softwareselectable between 110 and 9,600baud. Also softwareselectable are the word length,

## Economy of Cintcode

BCPL CINTCODE is a new implementation of an established systems programming language, BCPL. It permits larger and more complicated systems to be built and maintained on microcomputers.

It adds a number of extra features and only uses onethird of the space used by fully compiled systems such as Pascal. Telephone RCP, Blewbury (0235) 850218 .

## How to make Tandy run as terminal

## Zilog chip makes huge power savings

THE Z-80L is the latest version of the well-proven Z - 80 microprocessor. The new chip is still an eight-bit device, but it consumes only 10 percent of the power of the standard Z-80.

The $\mathrm{Z}-80 \mathrm{~L}$ is available for operation at three speeds: $1 \mathrm{MHz}, 1 \cdot 5 \mathrm{MHz}$ or $2 \cdot 5 \mathrm{MHz}$ in the L1, L2, L3 versions. The low power consumption of the Z-80L family - 75 mW means that they are ideally suited for use in hand-held or portable battery-powered products. On the other hand, the low power consumption allows battery back-up to be implemented easily in systems where the data being processed is of a critical nature or where the application relies on continuous processing.

In other respects the chip is fully compatible with the stan-

dard Z-80, allowing it to be replaced directly in circuit boards without any redesigning. Additionally the device is fully supported by Z-80 development systems and incircuit emulators, allowing products to be developed, tested and debugged quickly.

The Z-80L can be used in conjunction with all the
eight-bit peripheral devices currently offered by Zilog. Low-power versions of the peripheral chips will be available in the future. The Z-80L is produced in both ceramic or plastic packages. For further details contact Zilog, Babbage House, King Street, Maidenhead, Berkshire. Telephone Maidenhead (0628) 36131. $\boldsymbol{\square}$
the number of stop-bits and the parity. There are input and output translation tables for total control over all transmitted and received data, and screen-print facilities. Echoing, flashing cursor, lower case, and error checking are all provided for, and so are programmable break sequences.
Translation tables are provided for IBM, Univac, ICL 2900 and ICL 1900. Terminal costs $£ 45$ for TRS- 80 models I and III, and $£ 55$ for model II. The CP/M version will be available soon. Contact MTW Computer Services, 4 Wyvern, Tamworth, Staffordshire, B77 2RL. Telephone Tamworth (0827) 61320.

## Source of TRS-80 facts

TANDY TRS-80 microcomputer users will find the TRS-80 software sourcebook. an invaluable aid. The first volume of the sourcebook lists the details and sources of over 500 applications programs, written in the U.K. for the TRS- 80 models I, II, III, the Tandy Colour Computer and the Pocket Computer.

Entries are indexed by a series of seven categories: Business, Inventory Control, Education, Games, HomePersonal, Statistics-Maths, and specific industrial-professional programs. The book also contains an entry form for those who wish to submit their own software packages. The book costs $£ 3.95$ and is available at Tandy stores.


Sharp bring you the MZ80B. A machine that offers you functions previously.only associated with more powerful, more expensive computers; that gives you versatility to handle a huge range of software and hardware applications in scientific, business and personal use.

The MZ80B opens up a new world of graphic display potential, more flexible data storage and retrieval, and ease of operation.

Here is the computer from the future Available today.

## Stunning Graphic Display.

Seeing is believing. The large-screen, high-focus, green-face display incorporated in the MZ80B gives you highresolution graphics of $320 \times 200$ dots.

An additional graphic RAM can be added which allows another $320 \times 200$ dot resolution pattern to be displayed.

This dual high-resolution graphic ability is especially useful for simulating and displaying a dynamic picture. It can display 40 characters $\times 25$ lines or 80 characters $\times 25$ lines via software switching.

In addition there are facilities for full, on-screen editing, reverse video, partial scrolling and a full range of graphic symbols.

## Character and Graphic Printer:

This fast, quiet printer will reproduce your graphic displays and, of course, print out upper and lower case letters and symbols. A tractor/friction feed version is also available.

## Data Storage/retrieual.

The MZ80B has a remarkable memory. 64 K of RAM. And that constitutes all the memory area, giving flexible storage of any computer language and its software. The cassette deck is electromagneticallycontrolled, with a data transfer speed of $1800 \mathrm{bits} / \mathrm{sec}$ combined with a unique
programme search facility to make data storage and retrieval super-fast.


A typewriter-style keyboard incorporates characters and symbols plus a numeric key-pad and ten user-definable keys for fast and simple operation.

BASIC is, of course, provided with Z-80 Assembler Packages, PASCAL and a BASIC compiler.

## Floppy Disk Drive.

A twin Floppy Disk Drive unit can be added which will give you 560 bytes of storage on double-sided, double-density disks.


## Comprehensive Dacumentation.

Each MZ80B comes complete with a full set of documentation including an owners' manual giving full circuit diagrams, a monitor reference manual and programming manuals.

## Interfuces

RS-232C and IEEE Interfaces are available from January 1982 allowing the MZ80B to communicate with scientific instruments and other peripherals.

## CP/m²2

CP/M* is also available making a wide range of packages immediately available including wordprocessing, financial modelling, data base management to mention but a few. $\mathrm{CP} / \mathrm{M}^{*}$ also increases the disk capacity to 680 K .
(CP/M* is a Trade Mark of Digital Research Ltd).

## SHARP First, and foremost <br> SHARP ELECTRONICS (UK) LTD., COMPUTER DIVISION

 SHARP HOUSE, THORP RD, NEWTON HEATH MANCHESTER M109BE TELEPHONE: 061-205 2333

To: Sharp Electronics (UK) Ltd., Computer Division,
Sharp House, Thorp Road, Newton Heath,
Manchester M1098E. Telephone 061 -205 2333.

## "Giveme

## one good reason why I should choose aVIC 20 home computer:'

1. VIC is outstanding value for money. No other colour home computer can give so much for under $£ 200$.
2. Total standard memory 25 K made up of 20 K ROM and 5K RAM.
3. Fully expandable to 32 K of user RAM.
4. Microsoft Basic interpreter as standard.
5. Accessible machine language as standard.
6. Connects direct to monitor orstandard television.
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9. All colours directly controllable from the keyboard.
10. 62 predefined graphic characters direct from the keyboard.
11. Full set of upper and lower case characters.
12. 512displayable characters direct from the keyboard.
13. High resolution graphics capability built into the machine.
14. Programmable function keys.
15. Automatic repeat on cursor function keys.
16. User-definable input/ output port.
17. Machine bus port for memory expansion and ROM software.
18. Standard interfaces for hardware peripherals.
19. VIC 20 is truly expandable into a highly sophisticated computer system with a comprehensive list of accessories (see panel below).
20. Full range of software for home, education, business and entertainment ondisk,cassette and cartridge.
[^1]- Plug-in conversion box for a full 32 K , 40 -column x 25 lines VIC including Prestel compatability.
- Prestel/Tantel interface package.
- RS 232C communication cartridge
- Memory expansion board
- IEEE/488 interface cartridge.
- Joysticks, light pens, paddles and motor controllers.

21. Books,manuals and learning aids from Teach Yourself Basic to the VIC programmers' reference guide (a must for advanced programmers).
22. Full support forVICowners - their own magazine 'VIC Computing'aswell as a national network of VIC user groups.
23. National dealer network providing full service and support to VIC owners.
24. Expertise and experience - Commodore are world leaders in microcomputer and silicon chip technology.
25. Commodore is theleading supplier of micro-computers in the UK to business, schools, industry and the home.
26. VIC 20 is the best-selling colour home computer in the UK.

How many reasons was it you wanted?

## The 1982 Computer Fair, being held at London's Earls Court exhibition centre on April 23-25, provides a showcase for the whole gamut of small business systems and home computers. We look ahead to the highlights of the Fair.

Computer Fair preview

THE COMPUTER Fair will be the biggest show of its kind ever held in the U.K. The Fair will be concentrating on the microcomputers that are becoming a part of our everyday lives, and to avoid confusion, it will be divided into two areas, one for the business microcomputer user and a fun section for the more frivolous home user.

In the business section, the main exhibitors will be displaying a variety of microcomputers aimed at the serious computer user. A number of leading companies will be displaying their pro-


The IBM micro can be seen at the Fair.
ducts to the public for the first time. One of the more interesting products to be shown at the fair will be the IBM personal computer which is on sale in Britain through Microcomputerland.

The IBM personal computer represents an important trend in microcomputing. In the past, the industry has been dominated by smaller companies with rapid growth. Now the larger, more established equipment manufacturers are moving in, bringing with them new standards in hardware and software, as well as reliability and support.

## Industrial charm

These advances have been made at the expense of some of the charm of the industry, but are well worth the price. If you would like an opportunity to see the IBM personal computer at first hand, then call in at the Microcomputerland stand, number 407.

Tangerine expects to be launching the new Tigress microcomputer at the Computer Fair. The Tigress is a major new British microcomputer that will compete on far from equal terms with the betterknown imported machines. The micro is aimed at the businessman and the top-of-the range hobbyist. One of the most
attractive features of the Tigress is the built-in Prestel unit and its telephone answering facility. This enables the computer to connect directly with Prestel and down-load pages. All current or projected Prestel standards are catered for.

## Tigress processors

In addition each Tigress will be able to act in a telephone-answering mode, accepting messages from other terminals or computers over the telephone network. It will be possible to connect the machines using the integral Econet communications network.

The Tigress employs three processors - the main CPU is the $\mathrm{Z}-80$ which runs CP/M. A 6809 will be in control of all the input, output and communications functions of the machine, while a separate dedicated chip will control the real-time high-resolution graphics. The target price of the basic Tigress system will be around the $£ 600$ to $£ 700$ mark; discs will be extra.
In addition to this exciting new machine, Tangerine is showing a range of software. Marketed under the Tansoft label, this software is designed to run on the new Tangerine disc units and will include a disc-operating system. There is also some utilities software covering such functions as reformatting. The focal point of interest will no doubt be the Tangerine Forth package.

## The ZX Village

Home and hobby computer users will find much to their taste at the show, with the finals of the U.K. Micromouse competition and the ZX Village. Ever mindful that this just might be the time and the place for the launch of the $\mathrm{ZX}-82$, the Fair's organisers have allocated a whole section of the show for the Village which will be, to all intents and purposes just like a space-age market.

The ZX Village will be an ideal place for users to bring themselves up to date with the latest developments on the Sinclair scene. Sinclair Research is exhibiting at the Computer Fair and in the past Sinclair has produced a few surprises. In this area of the show user groups and clubs will be able to use stands free of charge.

If the ZX Village combines the excitement of the eastern bazaar with the technology of the space age then the Micromouse competition combines the same technology with the flavour of a Roman circus. As tiny robotic mice endeavour to find their way through labyrinths of

Minotaurian proportions, baying crowds of supporters will cheer on the heros and offer a "thumbs down" to the vanquished in the time-honoured tradition of the amphitheatre.

If it all sounds a little too light-hearted for you, the techniques and technology used in building and running these Micromice are some of the most sophisticated around. The competition is not really about mice at all, but about building ever-better robots, to specification. The strength of such a competition is represented in the interest shown in it by top engineering concerns. To find out more about the Practical Computing Micromouse finals, you can read the rules of the competition on page 143 of this issue of Practical Computing.

## Package deal

The Computer Fair is to be held at the giant Earls Court exhibition centre in the heart of the nation's capital. It is the first time a major computer show of this size has been held at that venue. If you are intending to stay over night in London for the Fair, you might be interested to know that Pharoah Hughes Associates Ltd is offering a special package deal.
In the best tradition of business package deals the offer can include both


Home computers are amply catered for.
reasonably-priced accommodation in twin-bedded hotel rooms and reducedrate rail travel. There is a choice of either two-star or three-star hotel accommodation, and both include continental breakfast and admission to the show. Two-star accommodation costs $£ 13.80$ per person and three-star $£ 15.30$. For more details telephone Pharoah Hughes Associates on 01-995 8995.

The Computer Fair is being organised by IPC Exhibitions Ltd, in conjunction with Practical Computing and Your Computer. For more details telephone 01-643 8040.


## Plotting to put HP-83 graphics on to paper

> Exploded pie segments and clustered bar charts are child's play for the Hewlett-Packard graphics plotting package. David Watt reviews this tablet and plotter which turn statistical data into shaded and coloured hard copy for permanent display.

HEWLETT-PACKARD is renowned for producing equipment of very high quality, which is particularly respected by members of the scientific and engineering community. The equipment for this review was provided by Microdigital now a subsidiary of Laskys, the hi-fi chain - and consisted of an HP-83 computer, a 9111A graphics tablet, a 7225A plotter, dual mini-floppy disc drives, VisiCalc Plus, and graphics demonstration software. The system also included a 16 K add-on memory module, HP-IB interface and cables, mass-storage ROM, and plotter/printer ROM.

The equipment was connected using the HP-IB interface bus, invented by Hewlett-Packard and since adopted as the IEEE-488-1978 standard. The HP-IB interface allows several devices to be connected on a common bus. Each device has a unique address which may be set by adjusting switches at the back. Up to 15 devices may be connected on one bus. The IEEE-488 interface is also used by the Commodore Pet.

All the equipment worked well, with the exception of an apparent fault on the plotter. The pen did not always lift clear of the paper when being moved between plots, and therefore drew faint traces on the paper.

## Attractively styled

The equipment looks extremely well made, and is styled attractively in matching light-grey plastic cabinets, with dark-grey front panels. The HP-83 computer is the same as the HP-85, but without the integral tape cassette drive and printer. It is very pleasant to use: the keyboard design, in particular, is excellent with a number of useful special functions keys. The 5 in . display screen is easy to read, despite its small size, though it is only possible to display 16 lines of 32 characters. The HP-83 has a larger display memory, a total of 64 lines, which can be displayed by scrolling up or down.

The graphics tablet has a large, white ceramic platen, a stylus attached by a thin cable, and four lights marked Digitise, Menu, Error and Line. The platen is marked out with a large rectangular plotting area, measuring 11.9 by 9.36 in. and 16 square "softkeys" grouped in fours above the plotting area. In the bottom, right-hand corner of the plotting area is a small dot called the self-test dot, used for testing the platen and stylus circuits:

When the tablet is switched on, all the lights flash on and off and a sequence of notes is sounded on the tablet's tone generator. The tone generator may be programmed to give an auditory acknowledgement when an operation is performed - when a softkey is selected, for example - or if an error occurs.

At the rear of the tablet there is a row of switches used for setting the device address on the HP-IB interface. The tablet may also be connected to a nonintelligent device for data logging, in which case the switches may be set to "talk-only". One of the switches is used to initiate the graphics tablet self-test, which makes all the lights flash and start-up tones play. If the stylus is touched on the self-test dot, the start-up sequence will be played again.

## Tracing lines

The stylus contains a ball-point pen cartridge which may be either inked or inkless and has a spring-loaded microswitch which operates when the pen is pressed on the platen. It can be used in two ways. For single-point digitising the $\mathrm{X}, \mathrm{Y}$ co-ordinates of the pen are transmitted when the pen is pressed on the platen and the switch cluses. The altomitive mode, continuous digitising, is useful for tracing lines. In switch-normal mode, a line is started by pressing the pen once and points are taken continuously until the pen is pressed again. In switch-follow mode, points are taken only while the pen is kept pressed down, on the tablet.
The Digitise light indicates when the graphics tablet is ready to receive a location. The Menu light comes on when one of the softkeys is to be selected. As the name suggests the softkeys can be used to select options from a menu; they are used by many of the programs in the graphics demonstration software.
The plotter has several push-buttons along the front, which are used for setting it up. The Chart Load switch causes the pen to move up to the top-right corner, and releases the electrostatic hold-down on the plotter so that a sheet of paper or mylar may be placed on the platen. The electrostatic hold-down feature makes sure the paper lies flat and does not move about.

## Pen movements

The pen may be moved about the platen and raised or lowered using $\leftarrow$, $\rightarrow, \uparrow, \downarrow$, and Pen Up or Pen Down. There is also a button marked Fast to move the pen more quickly. The lower-left and upper-right limits of the plotting area can be set, if you do not want to use the default values, by moving the pen to the required positions and pressing Enter, followed by the buttons marked Lower Left or Upper Right. The button at the rear of the plotter marked Confidence Test generates a test plot.
The pen can be moved in increments of


The tablet and plotter can deftly transform statistics into graphical form.
0.032 mm . which the plotter will take charts up to 210 by 297 mm . A 4 -sized paper. The pen velocity can be varied between 10 and $250 \mathrm{~mm} / \mathrm{s}$. and labels can be printed at up to three characters per second. Five character sets are available. Two use the $£$ sign instead of "\#", and one has the symbols $\boldsymbol{\Phi}, \boldsymbol{E}, \phi_{,}, \mathfrak{x}$.

The printer/plotter and input/output ROMs provide a number of extensions to Basic for use both with the graphics tablet and the plotter. Amongst these are Limit, Scale. Digitise and Cursor, Printer Is and Plotter Is from the Printer/Plotter ROM; and Output and Enter instructions provided by the input/output ROM. The I/O ROM was not supplied for review, but all the software provided worked perfectly

| Figure 1. Plotter/printer | ROM statements |
| :--- | :--- |
| AXES | LINETYPE |
| BLINIC | LOCATE |
| BPLOT | LORG |
| BREAD | MOVE |
| CLIP | MSCALE |
| CRT IS | NOBLINIC |
| CSIZE | PDIR |
| CURSOR | PEN |
| DIGITISE | PENUP |
| DRAW | PLOT |
| EPROM | PLOTTERIS |
| ERASE | PRINTERIS |
| FRAME | RATIO |
| GCLEAR | RPLOT |
| GRAPHICS | SCALE |
| GRID | SETGU |
| IDRAW | SET I/O |
| IMOVE | SETUU |
| IPLOT | SHOW |
| LABEL | TRANSLATE |
| LABLE USING | UNCLIP |
| LAXES | WHERE |
| LDIR | XAXIS |
| LGRID | YAXIS |
| LIMIT |  |

without it and so does not depend on it. HP-85 Basic has a powerful set of graphics commands. Graph switches the screen to the graphics-display area, GClear clears the screen below a specified line, and Frame draws a line round the edge of the screen.

## Scale command

The Scale command sets the horizontal and vertical, $X$ and $Y$, units. The default values for scale are zero 0 to 100 in both directions. The ranges for X and Y can be set independently, and can range over any values; they do not have to start at zero.

The screen has a resolution of 256 dots horizontally by 192 dots vertically, so when using the default scale, the $y$ units are shorter than the x units. However, setting the scale so that the number of Y units is three-quarters the number of $X$ units gives equal-sized units, which make it easier to draw regular shapes like circles or polygons.

Points are plotted according to the current scale, and mapped automatically on to the graphics display, so it is easy to expand or contract a display.

The X-Axis, Y-Axis statements may be used to draw axes specifying where to position ticks; Plot is used to set a point on the display; Move moves the pen without drawing a line; Draw is used to draw a line. IMove and IDraw are the same as Move and Draw except that they move the pen a number of units relative to the last pen position.
Labels may be written anywhere on the display using the Label command, and
(continued on next page)
(continued from previous page)
can be written vertically or horizontally by specifying the label direction with LDir. Another powerful feature of HP-85 Basic is the ability to create your own characters using BPlot.

These features are considerably enhanced by the use of the plotter/printer ROM. A list of all the commands it provides the plotter/printer ROM is shown in figure 1 .

The Plotter Is and Printer Is commands are used to direct output to specified devices: 1 is the address of the HP-83 CRT; 705 is the default address of the graphics tablet, and 706 the default address of the plotter on the HP-IB interface. A plot can first be displayed on the CRT and if it is satisfactory it can then be output on the plotter.

The Limit, Scale, Show, Locate and MScale commands allow considerable flexibility in defining the plotting limits. The Limit statement allows a program to set the physical plotting area for the HP-7225A plotter, as an alternative to setting them using the buttons on the front panel. The Show statement allows the ranges for X and Y units to be defined, and scales the plotting area automatically so that $X$ and $Y$ units are the same size. MScale sets the user units to millimeters, so that precisely-scaled objects can be drawn or measured. You can specify windows in the plotting area using the Locate statement: for example, you can define a part of the plotting area to contain your main plot while another portion is reserved for labels.

## Dots and dashes

Lines can be plotted using varying combinations of dots and dashes with the Linetype statement. Eight combinations are available, and the length of the repetitive pattern can be specified.

The plotter/printer ROM provides several new commands for drawing axes and labels. The Axes statement allows both the $X$-axis and $Y$-axis to be specified, together with major and minor tick marks. Thus it combines all the features of the XAxis and YAxis statements in one. The Grid command allows a grid to be drawn instead of the axes alone. In addition to the standard Label statement the plotter/printer ROM has a Label Using statement which operates in a similar fashion to Print Using; a format mask is defined which governs the position and print format of the data specified in the rest of the statement.

For labelling it is possible to specify the character size, the ratio of character height to width, and the slant of characters, all using the CSize statement. When using the plotter, labels can be drawn in any direction - not just horizontally and vertically - with the LDir statement.

For digitising, Digitise, Cursor and Where are statements that interrogate the plotter or graphics tablet to find the

| The review system |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| HP-83 computer | £1,486.35 |
| 16K memory module | £194.88 |
| ROM drawer | £29.73 |
| Mass-storage ROM | $£ 98.19$ |
| Plotter/printer ROM | $£ 98.19$ |
| Input/output ROM | £199.77 |
| HP-IB interface | £260.94 |
| 7225A plotter with personality module for HP-IB interface | £2,115.00 |
| 9111A graphics tablet | £1,355.00 |
| Dual mini-floppy disc drive | £1,693.00 |
| TOTAL | £7,351.05 |
| HP-85 computer | £2,146.95 |
| HP-85, 16K memory module, ROM drawer, plotter/printer ROM, I/O ROM, HP-IB, plotter and graphics tablet | £6,400.66 |
| Software |  |
| Graphics presentation | £135.44 |
| VisiCalc Plus | £135.44 |

X, Y co-ordinates of the pen or cursor. The plotter/printer ROM provides some additional facilities for use with the CRT graphics. BPlot has been improved so that your characters can be as large as you like, filling the whole screen if you wish, and BRead allows a character created on the screen to be stored for re-display by BPlot.
Both the plotter and the graphics tablet have internal microprocessors, and will čxecute commands given in Hewlett-Packard's graphic language, HPGL. This enables you to use features not available through the plotter/printer ROM, such as changing the speed of the pen or using a different character set on the plotter, and obtaining information on the status of the graphics tablet. To use many of these functions it is necessary to have the input/output ROM.

## Practical value

The Graphics Presentation software and VisiCalc Plus was provided to test the system. The Graphics Presentation package consists of six programs: a drawing program; an area- and distance-measuring program; a continuous line-drawing program; a graphic data-entry program; a music-demonstration program which plays "Daisy Bell" using the sound generators of both the HP-83 and the 9111 A ; and an asteroid game. They were great fun to use, and effectively demonstrated the facilities of the graphics tablet. The first four programs have a practical value as well.

The programs all display help instructions, the HP-83's CRT to tell you how to use the softkeys, but they tended to scroll off the screen too quickly. You have to be ready with your finger on the Pause key to be able to read the information.

VisiCalc Plus is the ubiquitous VisiCalc program with the addition of some very useful programs which take data stored
by VisiCalc and generate line graphs, bar charts, pie charts or fit regression curves. It showed up well in the example described in the VisiCalc manual which produced the various charts on the plotter. The bar and pie charts could be shaded in various ways, stacked or clustered bar charts could be drawn, and exploded pie segments could be drawn to emphasise a particular sector.

The review system was supplied with special paper for plotting, four different coloured pens and mylar for producing overhead-projection slides. One obvious application for the plotter is in preparing material for presentations, lectures or reports.

The detailed documentation supplied with the system was of very high quality: diagrams and examples were provided in abundance. The sheer quantity of documentation was daunting at first, but you should soon learn to find your way around it.

You may be amused by the following item from the introduction to the Plotter/Printer ROM Manual: "By the time you get the plotter/printer ROM and the manual, you will have accumulated a stack of literature at least 1.8 m . tall. And you are wondering where to dig in". It clearly caters for every level of user from the absolute beginner to the experienced programmer.

## Conclusions

- All the Hewlett-Packard equipment is made to a very high standard. It looks good and feels good to use. The documentation is also extremely good.
The plotter has many very useful features and it was possible to produce excellent graphs with it. It is even possible to digitise information by positioning the pen - a special digitising sight is available and pressing the Enter button.
- The strength of the graphics tablet is the ease with which it can be used to enter data from charts or graphs. It can also be used as a design tool for creating drawings.
- Hewlett-Packard has an extensive service network and a good reputation for reliability.
- The VisiCalc Plus programs provide powerful extensions to VisiCalc, and the graphics demonstration software would be useful for digitising drawings and graphs, and possibly as design tools. The source code was supplied for the VisiCalc Plus programs - not VisiCalc itself and the graphics demonstration programs, so they could be easily enhanced. The packages are reasonably priced.
- The hardware is rather expensive by normal standards, and seems to be aimed primarily at scientific, engineering and business users demanding high-quality equipment and service.
- The system is particularly suited for use in business graphics, statistics, medicine, numerical control, surveys and design.


## Colour me Prism

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## Teleprinter Equipment Limited -



## Equipped with an unusually

 high level of sophisticated hardware, this integrated microcomputer system is clearly designed to appeal to a wide range of business and technical users. John Dawson finds out whether its practical performance matches up to the advanced specification.THE OKI IF-800 Model 20 personal computer is an eight-bit machine intended as a small business computer, for scientific purposes, and for diverse applications such as instrument control and running business colour-graphics software. It uses a $\mathrm{Z}-80 \mathrm{~A}$ CPU running at 4 MHz , backed up by 64 K of dynamic RAM for program store and 16 K for the monochrome display, or 48 K if you have the colour monitor. There is a 2 K bootstrap ROM.

The IF-800 has a built-in printer which uses a five-by-seven-dot matrix, and consequently produces no lower-case descenders. The printer provides for both tractor and friction paper feed. The other input/output facilities for the computer are listed in table 1.
Two 5in. double-sided, double-density
mini-floppy disc drives are built into the computer. Each drive has a capacity of 280 K , giving a total on-line storage capability of 560 K . With four floppy-disc drives in place, the machine can access 1.12Mbyte. A brochure accompanying the computer, dated November 1981, offers a 5.25 in . hard-disc drive with a capacity of five or ten megabytes.

The computer is delivered as two units: the first incorporates the keyboard, printer and CPU/memory. The second unit contains the VDU and the two floppydisc drives mounted on a plinth to raise them above the keyboard. Power and data connections are brought neatly down the inside of one leg of the plinth to plug into the back of the computer/ keyboard unit.

## Eight-colour image

The computer is supplied with a mains lead wired directly to the machine and a continental three-pin plug at the far end of the lead. Despite this, the IF-800 contains a 240 -volt power supply and the first job you will have to undertake after unpacking the computer is to cut off the plug to substitute a standard U.K. plug.
An eight-colour image is available on the IF-800 with a high-resolution display - 640 horizontal by 200 vertical pixels.

Alternatively the machine can be supplied with a green monochrome display with the same resolution.

The story, however, does not end there. The colour mask in the colour cathode-ray tube is perceptible to an operator using the computer, and the effect of this is to lower the apparent resolution. When this is combined with the absence of lower-case descenders in the VDU type fount, the result is to make the machine unsuitable for use over extended periods by, for example, a word-processor operator.
Any computer should have an easilylegible character set that will not cause fatigue when used for a number of hours at a stretch - nothing less is acceptable, certainly not in the prestige, up-market product range to which the $1 F-800$ aspires. The poor quality of the 80 character IF-800 alpha-numeric display is a serious shortcoming.
In addition to the normal typewriter. keys on the IF-800 keyboard, there are 10 user-programmable "soft keys" and 32 special-function keys, including a numeric keypad. Three keys are dedi-

Review
cated to printer functions: to print the current contents of the VDU on the printer; eject a "form" length of paper from the printer; and echo whatever is typed in at the keyboard to the printer.

The soft keys are repeated along the bottom edge of the VDU screen, and some of the CRT control options allow a label field to be displayed across the bottom of the VDU indicating the function of the 10 programmable soft keys. The keys along the bottom edge of the VDU are particularly useful when a menu of commands is provided for a user to choose from. The first three characters of the command are displayed when the CRT display is in 40-character mode, and the first seven characters of a maximum of 15 are displayed when the VDU is in the 80 -character mode.

A reset switch and a key to break into the operation of a Basic program are located on the left-hand edge of the computer. A diverse and comprehensive set of sockets scattered round the computer will allow you to plug in additional peripheral devices such as a light-pen, an acoustic coupler or British Telecom Modem, laboratory instruments, a printer with a Centronics interface, or the two additional floppy-disc drives.

## Hard information

Two manuals are supplied with the computer. The Operation Manual contains 200 pages packed with hard information about the system and example Basic programs. The second manual is the Basic Reference Manual which

## IF-800

Two built-in mini-floppy double-sided, double-density disc drives -280 K per disc. An extra two disc units can be connected.

Loudspeaker: Can switch a tone on and off with a frequency range from 65 Hz to $1,976 \mathrm{~Hz}$.

Calendar clock: A hardware clock is fitted, powered by a NiCad battery. It displays the year, month, day, hour, minute, second and day of the week on request.

ROM cartridge: Holds 20K, the interface is said to be addressable to 1 Mbyte .

RS-232C interlace: From 110 to 9,600 baud under software control.

External I/O interface: Three slots for optional cards to give a Centronics-type parallel interface, an IEEE-488 interface, and a two-channel, 12-bit D-to-A board or an eight-channel, 12 -bit A-to-D board.

Audio cassette I/O: Uses non-standard BMC protocol; cassette recorder motor control by Basic instruction.

Printer: Five-by-seven-dot matrix; tractor/friction feed; paper up to 9.5 in. wide; no lower-case descenders.

Dimensions: width 20 in . ( 51 cm .); depth 26.7 in . ( 68 cm .); height 19.9 in . ( 50 cm .). Weight: 77 lb . ( 35 kg .) with monochrome display; colour display weighs an extra 11 lb . $(5 \mathrm{~kg}$.).

Table 1. Dimensions and input/output channel specifications.
devotes about 30 pages to a general explanation of the Oki Basic interpreter, and a further 100 or so to a more detailed description of the use of each command and intrinsic function.

The IF-800 is likely to be marketed into offices, scientific and hospital laboratories, and possibly executive conference rooms. Many of the machine's users will be intelligent and capable people who are quite ignorant about computers. The documentation supplied with the machine is crucially important, particularly where small detail is concerned, because this group of users is unlikely to have the accumulated wisdom that will allow them to disregard red lights and to cope with unexpected error messages when following programs in the Operation Manual.

For example, there is a caution that you should not attempt to remove a disc from the disc drive when the drive-select

light is on. Yet the red light remains on the whole time on drive 1, presumably to indicate that the drive is selected rather than that the head is in contact with the disc, reading or writing material. Even if it were possible to select the second drive manually this is an incredibly clumsy way of removing a disc. There is no crossreference in the manual to tell you how to overcome the problem.

## Additional boards

The Operation Manual does improve when it reaches the technical description of the various additional boards that can be attached to the basic system. There is plenty of information, well set out, on the pin connections, voltage levels and timing patterns that are expected by the D-A and A-D boards, the IEEE-488 interface and so on. A technician in a polytechnic or university laboratory should be able to interface the IF-800 to other equipment without difficulty after consulting these sections of the manual.
There are, however, numerous other small discrepancies in the Operation Manual and generally too little attention has been given to a user approaching the computer for the first time. The poor introduction to the documentation has been overcome to some extent by an impressive training program supplied on disc. The program demonstrates some of the Graphics Macro Language commands, described later, and many of the other Basic commands concerned with drawing on to the screen. The screen photographs were taken while this program was running and you should be able to see the command in the lower portion of the screen, with explanatory comments and the effect of the command in the upper half. Training by the company supplying the machine is still necessary for other aspects of the computer's operation.
The IF-800 is supplied with an extended Basic interpreter based on Basic-80 developed by Microsoft. The version of the language supplied allows various screen formats with either abrupt or (continued on next page)
(continued from previous page)
smooth scrolling, and a Basic command which will access a Graphic Macro Language. Circle, for example, will draw a circle or arc on the screen, given coordinates for the centre, the radius of the circle and the colour of the line.

A further parameter allows you to set the elongation of the vertical axis of the circle, and the ratio of the vertical to the horizontal axes can be set between zero and one. Zero will make the computer draw a straight line while, a ratio of one will draw an ellipse. In the same way, the angle of arc that is to be drawn can be set, where zero represents 90 degrees, 0.25 represents 180 degrees, and 0.5 starts or stops an arc at 270 degrees.

Another basic command, DEF CHR\$, allows you to redefine the graphics characters held in the machine. The eight-by-eight screen matrix can be controlled by a character string consisting of eight bytes expressed in hexadecimal notation, concatenated into a string.

The Basic interpreter contains many commands peculiar to the machine. Although the machine runs $C P / M$ and has a vast quantity of software available through Lifeboat Associates, it is unlikely that WordStar, Fortran-80, Pascal, muSimp/muMath or the Peachtree financial packages will make adequate use of the special hardware and software features available on the IF-800.

For example, the Pen commands in Oki Basic will return the horizontal and vertical position of the light-pen on the screen to a resolution of one pixel. It should be possible to use the light-pen for editing purposes in a word-processor program, selecting first a command at the top of the screen such as Delete, and then selecting the character or word to be deleted anywhere on the screen.

In the same way, it should be possible to scroll the screen in any direction merely by placing the light-pen on the appropriate boundary. Obviously WordStar does not have this facility in the form

in which it is implemented on a Superbrain or Cromemco. In the absence of software designed specifically for the IF-800 it is constrained into the mould of a straightforward business computer with a colour display.

The Oki Basic interpreter has two commands for storing and retrieving machine-code programs from disc, and has both Call and USR commands which transfer program execution to a user machine-code subroutine. There are no details in the manual to tell you how to return to the Basic program at the end of the machine-code subroutines.

VARPTR returns the address of the first byte of data identified with a variable name. VARPTR can be used to obtain the address of the variable array so that it can be passed to an assembly-language subroutine. For example the instruction VARPTR (A (ZERO) )
identifies the lowest element of the array.

## Conclusions

- The IF-800 costs $£ 4,300$, including VDU, printer and double disc drive.

- The comprehensive input/output facilities on the IF-800 will be attractive to scientists wishing to gather and display complex information in graphic form. Business executives may find the colour display a useful presentation device for their colleagues.
- The tidy appearance of the computer must be set against the fixed relationship between the keyboard and the VDU which is poor ergonomic design.
- Operation of the machine is quite separate from programming it, and the confusion over details such as the orientation of the label on a floppy disc and the driveselect light on the floppy disc units is an unnecessary burden on a small business looking for a robust system for the first time.
- The 80-character display is not backed up by a sufficiently high-resolution display on the colour VDU to make it acceptable for prolonged use as a word processor or for other applications which demand reading or correcting text.
- Dot-matrix print is acceptable for memoranda and papers that will be used within an office, but the lack of lower-case descenders on the IF - 800 printer makes documents tiring and annoying to read.
- Despite its length, the documentation supplied is inadequate to allow anyone unfamiliar with microcomputers to operate the machine successfully.
- A wide choice of C/PM software should be available, but this is unlikely to take advantage of the sophisticated hardware features of the IF-800. Software that is specific to the machine will take longer to emerge, but when available will provide a powerful and versatile system.
- The IF-800 appears to be strongly made and should be reliable in operation.
- If the price/performance ratio is attractive to you, and if you have the facilities to write appropriate software without needing too much support from the system manuals, the IF-800 is worth considering.


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In these days of recession and tight monetary controls, many companies look to micros to improve efficiency and profitability. Peter Wood tests Hornet, a package designed to appeal to any firm aiming at effective project planning.
ONE APPLICATION of particular interest to manufacturing and building industries, and also to any company involved in project planning, is Precedence Network Analysis. Traditionally available on mainframes, Claremont Controls has brought this application to the Pet.

Hornet is a precedence-network analysis program written for the Commodore 8032 computer, 8050 disc unit and any suitably-interfaced printer, preferably with 132 -column print width. Using Hornet, complex sequences of activities can be analysed to determine how much delay, if any, may be tolerated in each activity. This information can help with the assignment of priorities on a project, and lead to better use of resources. An up-to-date record of work completed may be kept, so that future events and activities are simultaneously rescheduled.
The program is available in four levels

## Hornet takes the critical path to completion

top-left and top-right compartments show the earliest possible start and finish dates, while the bottom-left and bottomright compartments show the latest allowable start and finish dates. Any activity which has the same early and late start and finish dates cannot be delayed without extending the network completion time. Such activities are termed critical. In figure 1, A, B and C are all critical, but D has a "float" of 2 days.
As well as analysing simple networks, Hornet contains several special facilities to allow large and complicated networks to be analysed. Apart from the normal "end of precedent/start of successor" link - known as link type - used in figure 1, four other link types may be used:
Link type 1 is a "lead link", where the start of a
successor is tied to the start of the precedent, usually with a delay period built-in. It

| Program level | $\mathbf{1}$ | $\mathbf{2}$ | $\mathbf{3}$ | 4 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Number of activities | 256 | 512 | 1024 | 1024 |
| Bar chart | no | yes | yes | yes |
| Printer width | 80 | $80 / 132$ | $80 / 132$ | $80 / 132$ |
| Actual starts/finishes | no | yes | yes | yes |
| Target starts/finishes | no | no | yes | yes |
| Real run date | no | no | yes | yes |
| Shutdowns | no | no | yes | yes |
| Time-base options | no | no | yes | yes |
| User-defined sorts | no | no | yes | yes |
| Table 1 | nosources | no | no | yes |

of sophistication - Hornet 1,2,3 and4 - which differ only in the number of facilities offered - see table 1 . It is possible to use Hornet without being familiar with basic precedence-network theory, but understanding the principles involved will probably allow more efficient use of the program and lead to more satisfactory results.

All projects are made up of sequences of distinct activities or tasks, each of which is dependent on other activties. There will, therefore, be a particular sequence in which the various activities must be completed. In figure 1 there are four activities A, B, C and D. Activity C cannot possibly start until A and B have both been completed. It is also dependent on D , which is shorter than the total length of $A$ and $B$, and can be carried out at the same time as $A$ and $B$.

The boxes are divided into six compartments. The top-centre indicates the activity reference and the bottom-centre shows the duration of the activity. The
may be used where a shared resource is necessary to start each activity, and avoids the need to split the precedent into two actlvities.
Link types 2 and 3 are "premature start" links, allowing a successor to start before the precedent is complete, so that an activity could start before transfer of a shared resource. These two links are essentially similar, but the delay is measured on the precedent for type 2, and on the successor for type 3.
Link type 4, the "lag" link, specifies that the finish of a precedent must precede the finish of the successor by a specified period.
Often the lead and lag links will be used together to represent a series of activities which follow each other but are in part concurrent.

Frequently the periods during which activities can take place are prescribed by external constraints. The package allows the specification of such conditional start and/or finish dates, known as "target" dates, for individual activities. A target £onstraint will not override the analysis
logic. If it is impossible to achieve a target, it will be ignored and reported to the output. Target dates can be used to move individual events within their period of float to optimise available resources, which is particulaly powerful when used in conjunction with the resources module in Hornet 4.
Nearly all projects are subject to shutdown periods, such as holidays or temporary suspensions in work. The program allows up to 32 such shutdowns to take care of lost days in calculating start and finish dates and precedence delays. Since not all activities a re subject to shutdowns, each activity can be specified as insensitive, as required.

The analysis of a network is initially concerned with the prediction of when each activity must be carried out in order to achieve the required completion date. As the project progresses true start and finish dates become known and may be substituted for the estimated or predicted dates. When these actual dates are entered, all other considerations for the particular activity are overruled, and succeeding activies are calculated from the known date references.

The program provides a "real run date" facility. Whenever the calculation mode is selected, a current or analysis date may be entered and any activities not yet started are automatically delayed until the current date. Activities with both an actual start and finish date are labelled "historic", while activities with only an actual start date are labelled "working". At any stage in the project a report may be produced on past performance, future schedules, and the status of activities which are under way.

## The 40-day week

Activities of zero duration are accepted by Hornet and handled in the same way as normal activities. They may be used as milestones within the network and are useful in defining individual sub-projects within a large network. They may also be used to extend the number of precedents on any one activity beyond the five allowed on the screen display.

The program will run under any of three time scales, called Units, Weeks and Calendar. The Unit scale starts from 1 and runs through to project completion. The scale may be taken as hours, weeks or even years. The Weeks scale offers a weeks/days division, where the number of

## Software review

days in a week may be defined by the user, up to a maximum of 40 days. The Calendar time scale works on real dates, with a maximum of seven working days in a week; true calendar dates are given on all reports. A clever piece of programming allows the user to switch between any of the time scales at any time without having to re-enter data or re-calculate. It is therefore possible to plan a network on a Weeks timescale, then convert it to real dates when the start date is known.

Three types of report may be generated: Time Analysis, Bar Chart and List of the Activity data. Each type may be printed with the activities arranged in a number of ways, e.g., activities with no float first, or arranged in order of start date, or normal numeric sequence. It is also possible to print a range of activity numbers - 100 to 299 , for instance - or to include only those active over a defined period. Any combination of these sort facilities may be used simultaneously.

## Main menu options

Each activity is referenced by a 25 character description as well as an activity number. Within this description, a "search string" may be defined, for selective report printing. This character string may be of any length and positioned anywhere within the description field. Whenever a report is specified it is possible to select activities on a full or partial match with this search string, which could be very useful if a number of individual jobs or orders make up the complete network.

If a simple coding is used, it is possible to select all activities concerned with a particular job, or a summary of all jobs, or individual activities associated with a particular task across all jobs. This may be of specific interest to factory production or office management where several distinct jobs are active at the same time, each at a different stage of development.

Hornet uses the same type of screen display for all data entry. Fields are defined within triangular brackets into which the user may key the data. This type of screen handling, probably originated on the Pet by Anagram Systems, enables simple, fast data entry with a minimum of mistakes.

As usual with Pet-based business software, the program disc is inserted in drive

zero and the data disc in drive one, and the program is loaded and run with one keystroke. While the program performs its initialisation routines it displays a rather pretty windmill, followed by the standard copyright information. The main menu is then displayed, with nine options:

- Add Activities
- Update Activities
- Delete Activitles
- View Activities
- Resource Module Menu - on Hornet 4 only
- Calculate Network
- Print Network Report
- System Status
- Format Network Report

The top line of the screen shows, in reverse video, the job name of the network currently under analysis and the name of the task currently being performed. The bottom line, also in reverse, gives the current status - either what the program is doing or what it expects you to do, together with two reference numbers

showing the number of activities entered into the network and the last activity number that was modified.

The cursor is positioned to the left of the first menu option, and may be moved down the screen by pressing any key. When it is next to the required option, this option is selected by pressing shiftreturn. This method of selection is consistent throughout the package, and insures against any unintentional selections that would otherwise waste time. Hornet 4 allows the user to interrupt any of the calculation or printing functions by means of the shift key, after which the process may be continued or aborted.
Each full screen of data is entered by the operator field by field, and checked for validity by the system when shiftreturn is pressed. If any data is incorrect the offending entry is highlighted, and the user is invited to correct it before continuing. If a search string has been defined, then those character positions within the description field are underlined for ease of identification.

Pressing Escape followed by a letter will perform certain special functions for instance, $A$ for add mode, U for update - which makes for very fast data entry. Both entry of new and updating of existing activities is very straightforward, thanks to the well thought-out screen design and data-entry routines. Deletions are also possible, but are protected against accidental erasure by the requirement to press Escape followed by D before any deletions can take place.

In several places throughout the package, a "progress bar" is displayed. It looks rather like a horizontal thermometer which indicates how far the machine has progressed through a certain procedure, and reassures the user that the computer has not "died" during a long calculation routine.

## Error reports

The Calculate Network or Report Printing options will recalculate the network if the activity data has been updated. The reports follow the format set up by the user with the Format Network Report option. If the network has already been analysed, the user is invited to alter the real run date if required.

The calculations are made up of four distinct parts, each performed automatically. The first stage, Data Checking, works through the activities locating the relevant precedent. Any activities not found generate a detailed error message on the printer and a note on the screen. The second stage finds the order in which the activities are to be calculated and checks for logic errors in the precedence. If a logic loop is detected, a list of all activities that cannot be printed is produced on the printer and a note appears on the screen. The sequence of actual dates is also checked at this stage: if an
(continued on next page)
(coniinued from previous page)
activity has been given an actual date the preceding activities must also have actual dates. Errors are reported on printer and screen.

The analysis proper then begins. It is made up of both a forward and a backward pass, to give both the early and late start and finish dates. Once the forward pass has been completed, the projectcompletion time is displayed on the screen. When the analysis is complete the results are stored on disc. If report printing has been selected, the reports are then produced.

Formatting of reports is simple, and the user may set up these parameters:
Printout Title to be printed in the heading of the report, up to 35 characters long.
Output required. The three types of report possible are time analysis, bar chart, and activity data-listings. They are specified for printing by Y for yes or N for no.
Printout Sequence. This sets the priority of the sort crlteria available - Numeric, State date, Critical and Float - such that the first selection is the main sort criterion. Any activities with equal priority are sorted on the second criterion, and so on.
Printout Range allows the user to define a range of activity numbers to be printed from the entire network.
String Search. If a string search has been set up in the System Status, then activities may be selected for printing on the basis of a full or partial match within the defined area of the activity description.

Auto Paging is a simple yes/no selection tor page headings. If auto paging is selected, the reports take care of perforations and reprint the headings on each page, assuming a 66 -line page.
The System Status option from the main menu permits the user to specify any one of the following system-level parameters:
Password. If a password is provided at this stage by the user then the suite cannot be run unless the correct password is entered.
Printer Width sets the maximum print width to either 80 or 132 columns.
Shutdown Periods allows up to 32 shutdown periods to be defined.
Timescale sets the timescale to be used to Units, Weeks or Calendar.
Week Length. If either Weeks or Calendar have been selected, this parameter sets the number of working days per week.
Commencement Date. If Calendar timescale has been selected this will be entered as the first working day of the project.
Activity Search String. This defines the position and length of the search string within the activity description field. When the search string option is used, the program allows "wild card" or "pattern matching" to be used in the same way as the Pet DOS: "?" can be used to represent any individual character, and "*" may be used to represent the remainder of any string.
The bar chart uses the symbols shown in table 2, with one character representing one period unit. The activity data printout lists all details on network activities. The data printed is

- Activity number
- Activity description

Duration

- Non-shutdown status
- Actual dates
- Remaining duration
- Target start

Scheduled delay

- Preceding activities with link type and delay


## Conclusions

- The program does its job very efficiently and is very easy to use.
- The data-entry routines and screen layouts are excellent.
- Most business users will probably buy the Hornet 3 or Hornet 4 program, as they give the range of facilities required for the majority of applications.
- Hornet 1 and 2 will most likely suit educational users, especially technical colleges, polytechnics and universities.
- A resources module is available but was not reviewed.
- The program was a pleasure to use.

The manual is well-written and accurate.

- Hornet provides yet another marketplace for the business microcomputer as a cost-effective alternative to larger machines.
- Hornet 3 is priced at $£ 990$, Hornet 4 at $£ 1,500$, and is available from Commodore Key Dealers. Details from Roy Stephenson at Claremont Controls. Telephone 066921081.



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## Computer-aided design techniques are already well established as tools for Computer methods are now poised to move out of the drawing office to taks

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { THERE IS MORE to computer-aided design } \\
& \text { than meets the eye. This dynamic, } \\
& \text { fastest-growing sector of the computer } \\
& \text { industry heralds a total change for the } \\
& \text { industrial world. Senior management in } \\
& \text { every company that manufactures some- } \\
& \text { thing had better take notice of CAD: } \\
& \text { ignore it will be akin to having jonored }
\end{aligned}
$$

ignore it will be akin to having ignored the Industrial Revolution of the last century.

CAD is not simply an aid in the relatively simple task of producing an engineering or architectural drawing. It is an electronic medium in its own right which is fast, intelligent and interactive. Blueprints - diagrams on paper - are a medium which belongs to an earlier age.

## Uncomfortable transition

For the moment, we are stuck in the uncomfortable period of transition. Manufacturers are still geared to basing their product on familiar and reassuring "working diagrams". They lie around the office or factory, constant and visible proof that work is in progress.

Even when the new oil refinery is on stream or when that neat little extension to the clubhouse is completed, then the builder makes yet another set of drawings — what the Americans call "as-builts" to act as a guide for repairs and maintenance. Drawings have been around in one form or another for 20,000 years, but now, suddenly, they are not at all essential.

The most far-sighted people in the computer-graphics industry are aware that the present craze for hard-copy devices - printers and plotters - is but a passing phase along the road to total automation. The destination is the completely integrated factory in which the process of design and manufacturing is a single task. Karl Marx and his concept of the division of labour - an accurate analysis in its time - will be finally discredited as computers and robots team up to create all the necessary products of the future.

This vision is not mere science fiction. In the United States they already have a

## by John Lewell

name and an acronym for it: computerintegrated manufacturing or CIM. It is the next step beyond CAD/CAM -computer-aided design and manufacturing. Just as we are getting used to the idea of CAD/CAM, at least to the extent of understanding what the initials stand for, along comes CIM. You can be sure that it

## CAD systems must be able to handle all the relevant design information.


is coming because it is market forces which provide the motivation for the change.

The keys to economic survival are efficiency, competitiveness and productivity. The world's population is expected to double and treble before it finally stabilises, and the emphasis will be placed on the most efficient uses of energy and materials. Our present use of resources is so wasteful because industry is not organised on a rational basis. Under the influence of those same market forces it has evolved like a Gothic cathedral, each generation tacking on its own contribution.

Now the time has arrived when industry has to increase its efficiency and productivity. It can do it only by the complete integration of computers into the industrial process. Piecemeal computerisation will not work in the long run. If you streamline one part of the operation, then you tend to create a bottleneck somewhere else. To get rid of the bottleneck you have to use a computer.

Everyone who has used a computer for even a simple task realises the importance of understanding the process which is being computerised. When a system has been analysed rationally, you may find that you do not need a computer at all. Yet no individual can keep in mind every one of the millions of operations that go on in a factory and so the best, simplest, the most rational manufacturing solution can never be achieved. What is needed is integration, and this will be the keyword to the future.

## Agent provocateur

Why is CAD proving to be the agent provocateur in this leap towards the future? After all, industry has been using computers for years. So far, word processing, payroll accounting and even numerical control have not provoked a total rethink of how to run an entire manufacturing process.

The reason is simply that design is an "upstream" operation, whereas those parts of a business which are often the first to be computer-assisted are mainly "downstream" operations. Word processing is downstream of management

# design engineers, yet they are still far from having reached their full potential. charge of the average factory's entire design and manufacturing process. 

instructions. Invoicing is done after you have made and delivered the product. Payroll is the most downstream operation of all: everyone is paid in arrears. But this downstream computerisation does not have a knock-on effect. It does not necessarily force us to make other changes. CAD, by contrast, does.

Frank Lloyd Wright was one of America's greatest architects, yet some of his greatest buildings were designed on the back of an envelope. He and his
sophisticated, so the number of visual representations increases. For instance, with a model of the human body a display might one day be able to show the skeleton, or perhaps the nervous system, or the blood circulation, or the familiar skin-covered figure itself. More easily displayed with current technologies are engineering designs which involve structural, electrical. piping or instrumentation models. All these models are related to each other. You cannot change


A typical stand-alone system is based on a minicomputer with VDU and plotter.
assistants would fill in the details later on, in the conventional way. The design took shape in Frank Lloyd Wright's head. It was a synthesis of experience, of knowledge of materials, of the environment and of architectural forms. More than that, it also contained the vital element of originality. A Frank Lloyd Wright building had all the elements of good design.

Being an exceptional sort of man, Wright did not spend much time developing his concepts diagrammatically. The model was in his head. The secret of design is in conceiving the model, and not at all in making a representation of the model on, for instance, a piece of paper.

The essence of CAD is in the creation of the model. If computers are going to be really useful in assisting us with designs then they have to assume the role of Frank Lloyd Wright's head.

The computer has to contain the model. Where else could you put it? On paper? That would be far too complex. In our own heads? We are not all Frank Lloyd Wright, and the designcapability of even his brain would not be sufficient for a hightechnology product, such as a car or a space shuttle. The machine has tobe programmed with all the relevant information about the properties of materials, about the environment in whicha product will be used, with appropriate marketing information - not to mention a whole library of existing designs.

Graphics are one of the windows into the model. They are a communications link which provides a visual representation of it. As graphics displays become more
one without changing the others. The great advantage of CAD is that the computer can be programmed to make many of the changes automatically, and to warn you if something is not possible. The truth of my opening statement should now be apparent. There is, literally, more to CAD than meets the eye.

## Graphics displays

Nevertheless, for the time being, CAD is mainly concerned with producing diagrams. Early graphics displays could show only the outlines of objects, conveniently echoing the tradition of engineering drawings. This does not necessarily mean that vector displays, or even drawings themselves, will be with us forever. In the last two years, raster displays have made great strides, bringing with them all the benefits of full colour and fullyshaded surfaces. They point us in a new direction: the computer model itself need not be related to "wire-frame" drawings at all.

Much of what passes for computeraided design would be better described as compuier-aided drafting. By the time the operator sits down at the terminal most of the work has already been done. A decision has been made to build a particular product, the shape and function of which is largely known. The CAD system is used to tidy up the details, put in all the symbols, put lettering in the right places, and then to print out sets of isometric and orthographic drawings.

Operators can, of course, refine and modify the designs. With a stroke of the
pen you can magnify, rotate or move the image - or any part of it - and make additions and improvements. Using the keyboard you can type in facts and figures, descriptions and dimensions. You can ask the system to automatically retrieve the previous drawings, and there is always an instant library of symbols at your command, ready to be pasted into any position on the screen.

Even when it is being used as a highclass drafting aid or as an expensive "ideas pad" the average CAD system is an effective and impressive tool. Shortly after it is installed, senior company men will murmur approvingly about high productivity ratios - that is to say: how much more work is being done as a.result of using the new toy. It is not unusual to find that the work is completed in a fraction of the time. A piping diagram may have a $2: 1$ ratio, a mechanical diagram $4: 1$, an instrument diagram $5: 1$, and others may be even higher.

## The bottleneck

What used to take a week to design on paper may take only a couple of hours with a little help from your friendly computer. Suddenly, the rest of the manufacturing process seems to be abysmally lethargic. The whole factory has become one long bottleneck. At this point, CAD has to be extended to CAD/CAM. A design is created with computer assistance, then the computer automatically instructs the machine-tools to start turning out the new product.

Those companies that have already made a heavy investment in CAD/CAM are beginning to reap the rewards: indeed, many of them could not survive without it. In the United States particularly, there is such a shortage of fullytrained design staff that it would be impossible to handle a large defence contract without CAD. Automated manufacturing carries the process one stage further as components are produced with only a fraction of the highly-paid workforce which was previously needed. The time between design and production shrinks dramatically, while last-minute changes can be made without escalating cost.

## Best answer

CAD/CAM is seen in the United States as being the best answer to the Japanese lead in manufacturing techniques. At present still in its early stages, CAD/ CAM usually means that the computer design station has been linked up to some numerical-control machinery. The machine-tools are placed under the control of punched tape which comes directly from the designers. Though this is a leap
(continued on next page)
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forward, it is still a long way from the goal of CIM, where all the operations of the factory are plugged into a common database.

CAD/CAM not only provides increased productivity, there is often an outstanding increase in product quality as well. Machine-tool paths are generated more quickly and more accurately. The numerical-control programmer no longer has the task of making hundreds of error-prone calculations in specifying tool path motions, and is provided with a visual feedback guide at each stage.

## Product testing

Other benefits include the ability to test a product before it has been manufactured. CAD deals with a model rather than an image, and models can simulate processes. This is particularly useful when physical tests might be dangerous or impractical. Much has been learned from flight-simulation techniques - which are now so advanced that in some countries an airline pilot can theoretically qualify for a licence without setting foot in a real plane. Trucks and cars can be tested in simulated bad weather conditions while many design variants are tried out in order to find the best solution.

Introducing CAD into a company usually implies a long-term commitment to CAD/CAM. A good example is the Hughes Tool company which manufactures equipment for the drilling indusiry. CAD has already helped to give Hughes Tool a competitive edge by halving the time needed to designi a new product. A single designer, using a CAD system, can now produce a design for a new rockdrilling bit in under two weeks. It is an industry in which speed is essential, because drilling bits are often custommade to cope with a specific problem which a drilling team has just encountered on site. Work is held up until the new bit arrives. Using an Applicon special-purpose graphics computer, Hughes Tool's designers in Houston, Texas maintained their lead in the market. Once the CAD system was working successfully the company was able to extend the program to include design analysis and structural analysis. - the next steps along the road to CIM.

## First steps

A company's first step in CAD might be to use a service bureau to produce some of the routine drawings. Royal Graphics of San Francisco and Houston is one such bureau. and has grown dramatically since introducing computer graphics in 1970. Most of its clients are architects. Using a Calma system, with standard software and specially-written subroutines, Royal Graphics produces more than 1.000 drawings a month.

Over the years a vast library of symbols
has been created which can be slotted into the design. Architects can be provided with data such as the gross area or the gross volume of a building. Instant tile-count or brick-count can also save the client time and effort. With an 80 percent annual growth rate - and no CAD sales force - Royal Graphics proves that the bureau service is in demand.

After using a bureau and becoming familiar with the new techniques, a company may want to buy a CAD system to use in-house. The simplest approach is to buy a turnkey system from a manufacturer such as Computervision, Calma, Auto-trol, Applicon or Summagraphics. These companies, and others like them, will specify and deliver a complete, packaged system to meet your needs. Full training for the operators is supplied along with the equipment and software; no previous experience of computers is necessary.
A typical CAD system is modular, allowing you to add to it as your needs change. A stand-alone system would include a minicomputer and mass storage with its system software. The work station consists of a digitiser. a graphics tablet, a function keyboard, an alphanumeric keyboard, and a VDU. An appropriate hard-copy device such as a flatbed plotter will be linked to the system. Larger systems may have extra output devices such as a film recorder or an electrostatic plotter. Several additional work stations can often be supported by one central-processing facility. Individual users can create their own design databases on a single system while each person works on a different project.

## Interesting art-form

The design of CAD work stations is an interesting art-form in itself. Operators have to spend many hours at a time at the work stations and it is very important that it should be as comfortable as possible. Once they have tried it, most designers prefer using a computer to working with passive instruments. The constant interaction usually increases concentration.

There has been a steady stream of innovations in work-station design. For example,, Calma Corporation was the first manufacturer to introduce a voicecontrol unit. The operator wears a headset with a lightweight microphone attachment, which provides up to 50 functions under voice control. These can include commands such as Zoom, Pan, Multiple View, or Composite Image all achieved without a keyboard, pen or menu. Calma claims a 99.8 percent accuracy rate for the input commands, and the technique reduces eye movements and achieves a faster operational speed.

A nother graphics company, Genisco. has produced a three-dimensional display called Spacegraph. On this system you
can actually see the model suspended in space, so that it looks like a real object rather than an image; for this threedimensional effect you do not even have to wear special spectacles.

Once it has been decided to use CAD, one of the first questions to ask is whether you need a customised system or a general-purpose system. The fastestgrowing segment of the CAD industry is in providing general-purpose systems, though purpose-built systems may still be the best buy for some users, particularly for firms with printed-circuit designers on the staff.

Building your own CAD system to cope with exacting specialised work such as printed-circuit board design can give you an increased throughput of work. Britain has many small system houses which could design a purposebuilt CAD system.

## Industry boom

Outside consultants can frequently be helpfui. In the computer-graphics world there are two sorts of consultant: generalists and specialists. A good generalist who knows the industry can save a client a considerable sum of money. New products come on to the market almost daily - this is a booming industry. Your consultant should establish a broad picture of what you are trying to achieve, and point you towards specialists or to appropriate manufacturers. Since CAD demonstrations tend to be somewhat lengthy, and manufacturers are scattered round the country, "shopping around" can be time-consuming and expensive.

A complete, self-contained turnkey system for professional designers costs between $£ 20,000$ and $£ 500,000$ and there are some signs that the minimum price will come down this year. In 1981, Ramtek, the market leader in raster displays, launched a desk-top terminal in the U.S. at just under $\$ 6,000$.

## The micro future

It will be a few years before microcomputers have the speed and memory capacity to cope with the millions of calculations needed in a useful graphics display. Personal computers can produce interesting and colourful presentation graphics, but they are not yet serious contenders in the professional design market. Theyare, however. idealtraining tools, since many of the techniques used in the large rsystems can be performed by a micro - but without the speed and resolution which are necessary in most desigri tasks.
Computer-aided design is not a panacea for all the problems of ailing manufacturing industries. What the planned introduction of CAD can do is to help many engineering and architectural firms to increase their productivity and reduce their costs. All companies in these areas should at least take a look at CAD and evaluate its usefulness.


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# Data mamipulation for 3D displays 

THE PROCESSES of defining, storing, manipulating, interrogating and finally outputting pictorial information are the essence of computer graphics. The graphics operation is essentially passive, and the observer has no direct control over the picture being presented. Interactive graphics also use the computer to prepare and present pictorial information, while allowing the user to influence the picture as it is being prepared.

From the user's point of view, computer graphics can be divided into the following areas:

- Representing pictures to be presented.
- Preparing pictures for representation.
- Presenting previously prepared pictures.
- Interacting with the picture.

The word "picture" is used in its broadest sense to mean any collection of lines, points, text, etc., to be displayed on a graphics device. It may be anything from a line to a fully-scaled representation of an aircraft, ship, or building.

## Textual material

Pictures represented in computer graphics can be considered as a collection of lines, points, and textual material. A line can be represented by the coordinates of its end points $X_{1}, Y_{1}, Z_{1}$ and $\mathrm{X}_{2}, \mathrm{Y}_{2}, \mathrm{Z}_{2}$, a point by a single co-ordinate triplet $\mathrm{X}_{1}, \mathrm{Y}_{1}, \mathrm{Z}_{1}$, and textual material by collections of lines or points.

A series of points, each of which is a position vector relative to a local co-ordinate system, may be stored in a computer as a matrix of numbers. The position of these points can be controlled by manipulating the matrix which defines the points. Appropriate computer hardware or software can be used to generate lines, curves or pictures as output.

Pictures ultimately consist of points whose co-ordinates are stored in a file an array - prior to being used to present the picture. This file is called a database. Very complex pictures require correspondingly complex databases and a complex program to access them. These databases may involve ring structures, tree structures, etc., and may contain points, substructures, and other nongraphic data.
Figure 1. Windowing techniques.


## Interactive displays are available through arithmetic operations on the graphics database. R S Khaira provides the transformations on which to base your graphics <br> algorithms.

Points are the basic building blocks of a graphic database. There are three basic methods or instructions for treating a point as a graphic geometric entity:

- Move the beam, pen, cursor, plotting head to the point.
- Draw a line to that point.
- Draw a dot at that point.

The best way to specify the position of a point is to use homogeneous coordinates in which an N-dimensional space is represented by $\mathrm{N}+1$ dimensions. If the position of a point in three dimensions is given by the triplet $\mathrm{X}, \mathrm{Y}, \mathrm{Z}$, it is represented by four co-ordinates $\mathrm{hX}, \mathrm{hY}$, $h \mathrm{Z}, \mathrm{h}$, where h is an arbitrary number.

A database used to prepare the picture for representation is hardly ever the same as the display file used to present the picture. The database represents the total picture, while the display file represents only some position, view, or part of the picture. The display file is created by transforming the database.
The picture contained in the database may be resized, rotated, translated, partially removed, or viewed from a particular point to obtain necessary perspective before being displayed. Many of these operations can be accomplished by using simple linear transformations involving matrix multiplications. Among these are rotation, translation, scaling, perspective and stereoscopic views. Homogeneous co-ordinates are very convenient for accomplishing these transformations.

A four-by-four matrix can be used to perform any of these individual transformations on points represented as a matrix in homogeneous co-ordinates. When a sequence of transformations is desired, each individual transformation can be sequentially applied to the points to achieve the desired result. If, however? the number of points is large, this is inefficient and time-consuming.

An alternative method is to multiply together the individual matrices representing each required transformation and then to finally multiply the matrix of points by the resulting four-by-four transformation matrix. This matrix operation
is called concatenation and saves a significant amount of time when performing compound matrix operations on sets of data points.

In some graphics applications the complete database is displayed, but frequently only portions of the database are needed. This process of displaying only a part of the complete picture database is called "windowing". It is not easy to achieve, particularly if the picture database has been transformed.

In general there are two types of windowing - clipping and scissoring. Clipping involves determining which lines or portions of lines in the picture lie outside the window - see figure 1 . Those lines or portions of lines are then discarded and not displayed. In the scissoring technique, which is not used here, the display device has a larger physical drawing space than is required.

In two dimensions, a window is specified by values for the left, right, top and bottom edges of a rectangle. Clipping is easiest if the edges of the rectangle are parallel to the co-ordinate axes. When this is not the case, the rotation of the window can be compensated for by rotating the database in the opposite direction.

## The final step

As a final step in the picture presentation process it is necessary to convert from the co-ordinates used in the picture database, called user coordinates, to those used by the display device, called display co-ordinates. In particular, it is necessary to convert coordinate data which passes the windowing process into display co-ordinates such that the picture appears in some specified area on the display, called a viewport.

The viewport can be specified by giving its left, right, top and bottom edges if two-dimensional, and if threedimensional by specifying a near and far boundary too. In the most general case, conversion to display co-ordinates within a specified three-dimensional viewport requires a linear mapping from a sixsided frustum of vision to a six-sided viewport.

To interact with the picture you need some type of interactive device to communicate with the program while it is running. In effect this interrupts the program so that new or different information can be used to accomplish the task. The simplest is, of course, the alpha-numeric keyboard. More sophisticated devices
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include light pens, joysticks, and so on.
The ability to represent or display a three-dimensional object is fundamental to the understanding of the shape of that object. Furthermore, the ability to rotate, translate, and project views of that object is also, in many cases, fundamental to the understanding of its shape.

This is easily demonstrated by picking up a relatively complex, unfamiliar object. You naturally rotate it, hold it at arm's length, stand back from it, etc., in order to obtain an understanding of its shape.

To do this with a computer we must introduce an analysis of the shape in three dimensions, and we immediately introduce homogeneous co-ordinates. Hence a point in three-dimensional space [ $\left.\begin{array}{lll}x & y & z\end{array}\right]$ is represented by a fourdimensional position vector [ x y $\mathrm{z} I$ ] or [X Y Z H]. Again the transformation from homogeneous co-ordinates to ordinary co-ordinates is given by
$[X Y Z H]=[x y z l] * \top$
and $\left[x^{\prime} y^{\prime} z^{\prime} \mid\right]=\left[\frac{X}{H} \frac{Y}{H} \frac{Z}{H}\right]$
where $T$ is some transformation matrix and $x^{1}, y^{1}$, and $z^{1}$ are the transformed co-ordinates.

The generalised four-by-four transformation matrix for three-dimensional homogeneous co-ordinates is

$$
T=\left[\begin{array}{cccc}
a & b & c & p \\
d & e & f & q \\
h & i & j & r \\
i & m & n & s
\end{array}\right]
$$

It can be partitioned into four separate sections:

$$
\left[\begin{array}{c:c} 
& \\
3 \times 3 & 3 \times 1 \\
\hdashline 1 \times 3 & 1 \times 1
\end{array}\right]
$$

The three-by-three matrix produces a linear transformation in the form of scaling, shearing, and rotation. A linear transformation is one which transforms an initial linear combination of vectors into the same linear combination of transformed vectors. The one-by-three row matrix produces translation and the three-by-one column matrix produces perspective transformation. The final
Figure 3. Three-dimensional rotation.



Figure 2. Rescaling a parallelepiped.
single-element matrix produces overall scaling.

The total transformation obtained by operating on a position vector with the four-by-four matrix and normalising the transformed vector is called a bilinear transformation. It gives a combination of

- shearing
- local scaling
- overall scaling
- rotation
- reflection
- translation
- perspective

The diagonal terms of the general four-by-four transformation matrix produce local and overall scaling. The product
$\left[\begin{array}{llll}x y & z & 1\end{array}\right] \times\left[\begin{array}{lll}a & 0 & 0\end{array}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{llll}a x & \text { ey jz } & 1\end{array}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{lll}x^{\prime} & y^{\prime} & z^{\prime}\end{array}\right]$ $\left[\begin{array}{llll}0 & e & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & j & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1\end{array}\right]$
which shows the local scaling effect. Figure 2a shows a parallelepiped rescaled as a unit cube. Overall scaling is obtained by using the fourth diagonal element, i.e.,

$$
\begin{aligned}
{\left[\begin{array}{lll}
x y y & z & 1
\end{array}\right] \times\left[\begin{array}{llll}
1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & s
\end{array}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{lll}
x & y & z \\
\hline
\end{array}\right] } & =\left[\begin{array}{lll}
x^{\prime} & y^{\prime} & z^{\prime} \\
x & \frac{y}{5} & 1 \\
\frac{5}{s} & \frac{1}{s}
\end{array}\right]
\end{aligned}
$$

This effect is shown in figure $2 b$.
If the determinant of the three-bythree component matrix is +1 , then it produces a pure rotation about the origin. Before considering the general case of three-dimensional rotation about an arbitrary axis, consider several special cases.
In a right-handed co-ordinate system, a point may be rotated clockwise by degrees around the x axis by

$$
\begin{aligned}
& x^{\prime}=x \\
& y^{\prime}=y \cos \theta+z \sin \theta \\
& z^{\prime}=z \cos \theta-y \sin \theta
\end{aligned}
$$

i.e., the $x$-dimensions do not change. Thus the transformation matrix will have zeros in the first row and first column, except for unity on the main diagonal. The transformation matrix for rotation around the x -axis is

$$
\top=\left[\begin{array}{cccc}
1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & \cos \theta & \sin \theta & 0 \\
0 & -\sin \theta & \cos \theta & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 1
\end{array}\right]
$$

Rotation is assumed to be positive in a right-hand sense as you look from the origin outward along the axis of rotation. Figure 3a shows a $-90^{\circ}$ rotation about the x -axis.
Rotation about the $y$-axis is carried out by

$$
\begin{aligned}
& x^{\prime}=x \cos \theta-z \sin \theta \\
& y^{\prime}=y \\
& z^{\prime}=z \cos \theta+x \sin \theta
\end{aligned}
$$

In this case zeros appear in the second row and second column of the transformation matrix, except for unity on the main diagonal. The complete matrix is

$$
\mathbf{T}=\left[\begin{array}{cccc}
\cos \theta & 0 & -\sin \theta & 0 \\
0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
\sin \theta & 0 & \cos \theta & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 1
\end{array}\right]
$$

Figure 3 b shows a rotation about the $y$-axis.

Rotation about the z -axis is carried out by

$$
\begin{aligned}
& x^{\prime}=x \cos \theta+y \sin \theta \\
& y^{\prime}=y \cos \theta-x \sin \theta \\
& z^{\prime}=z
\end{aligned}
$$

The complete transformation matrix is

$$
T=\left[\begin{array}{cccc}
\cos \theta & \sin \theta & 0 & 0 \\
-\sin \theta & \cos \theta & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 1
\end{array}\right]
$$

Some orientations of a threedimensional object require reflections. In three dimensions the simplest reflections occur through a plane. For a rigid body the determinant of the reflection transformation will be -1 .

In a reflection through the $x y$-plane, only the z -co-ordinate values of the position vectors of the object will be changed: in fact they will be reversed in sign. Thus the transformation matrix for a reflection through the xy-plane is

$$
T=\left[\begin{array}{cccc}
1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0
\end{array}\right]
$$

The reflection of a unit cube through the xy-plane is shown in figure 4.

For a reflection through the yz-plane

$$
T=\left[\begin{array}{cccc}
-1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 1
\end{array}\right]
$$

and for a reflection through the xz-plane

$$
T=\left[\begin{array}{cccc}
1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 1
\end{array}\right]
$$

Three-dimensional translation is obtained by writing

$$
\left[\begin{array}{l}
X Y Z
\end{array}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{lll}
x y z & 1
\end{array}\right]\left[\begin{array}{llll}
1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\
1 & m & n & 1
\end{array}\right]
$$

When expanded this yields
$[X Y Z H]=[(n+I)(y+m)(z+n) 1]$


Figure 4. Three-dimensional reflection.
It follows that

$$
\begin{aligned}
& x^{\prime}=\frac{x}{H}=x+1 \\
& y^{\prime}=\frac{y}{H}=y+m \\
& z^{\prime}=\frac{Z}{H}=z+n
\end{aligned}
$$

The procedure for rotations about an abritary axis is to translate the object and the desired axis of rotation so that the rotation is made about an axis passing through the origin of the co-ordinate system. The method involves a threedimensional translation, a rotation about the origin, and a translation back to the
initial position. If the axis about which rotation is desired passes through the point

$$
A=\left[\begin{array}{lll}
1 m & n & 1
\end{array}\right]
$$

then the form of the transformation matrix is

$$
\left.\left.\begin{array}{rl}
{[X Y Y} & Z
\end{array}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{lll}
x & y & z
\end{array}\right] \times\left[\begin{array}{cccc}
1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\
-1 & -m & -n & 1
\end{array}\right]\right]\left[R\left[\begin{array}{llll}
1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\
1 & m & n & 1
\end{array}\right]\right.
$$

where the elements in the four $\times$ four rotation matrix R are, in general, given by matrix A . The generalised threedimensional rotation is a very important capability. A derivation for determining the elements of the rotation matrix R is given by Rogers and Adams in chapter 3 of their book.

Non-zero elements in the first three rows of the last column of the four-byfour transformation matrix yield a perspective transformation. A perspective projection is obtained by concatenation of a perspective transformation followed by a projection on to a two-dimensional viewing plane. A perspective projection is given by the transformation

$$
\left[\begin{array}{lll}
X & Y & Z
\end{array}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{lll}
x & y & z
\end{array} 1\right]\left[\begin{array}{llll}
1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 2 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 1
\end{array}\right]
$$

$$
=[x y \circ 0(r z+1)]
$$

(continued on next page)

(continued from previous page)
The ordinary transformed co-ordinates are then

$$
\begin{aligned}
& x^{\prime}=\frac{X}{H}=\frac{x}{r Z+1} \\
& y^{\prime}=\frac{Y}{H}=\frac{y}{r z+1} \\
& z^{\prime}=\frac{Z}{H}=\frac{0}{r z+1}
\end{aligned}
$$

The geometrical effect of this transformation can be indicated with the aid of Figure 5.

The non-transformed point $P$ is transformed to $\mathrm{P}^{1}$ by the above operation with $\mathbf{r}=1 / \mathrm{k}$. In figure 5 the centre of projection is located at $[00-K]$ and the plane of projection is $z=0$. Since this operation produces no translation, the origin is unchanged and the $x y$ - and $x^{\prime} y^{\prime}-$ co-ordinates share the same origin. By using the similar triangles shown in figure 5 it follows that

$$
\frac{x^{\prime}}{k}=\frac{x}{(z+k)} \text { or } x^{\prime}=x /\left(\frac{z}{k}+1\right)
$$

Considering the $y z$-plane in a similar manner gives

$$
y^{\prime}=y /\left(\frac{z}{k}+1\right)
$$

These are the transformed co-ordinates produced by the matrix operation with $r$ $=1 / \mathrm{k}$. This operation produces a perspective projection on the $z=0$ plane from a centre of projection located at $z=-k$.

Perspective can help distinguish the ambiguous interpretations of a wireframe drawing. In some cases it helps to exaggerate the perspective, equivalent to distorting the objects, though the distortion may have undesirable sideeffects.

Once an object has been transformed to a desired position, many techniques can be used to display it. Shading, colouring, etc., are frequently devicedependent, while other methods such as hidden-line removal and clipping can be accomplished in either software or hardware.
Stereo pairs can be used to create an illusion of depth in place of hidden-line removal. In a stereographic projection, a


Figure 6. Stereographic perspective.
Rotation matrix R.


Figure 5. Perspective transformation.
separate perspective view must be created for each eye. A stereo viewer is then used to view the apparent single three-dimensional object. For a human with average eyesight, the strongest stereo effect occurs at a distance of about 50 cm . in front of the eyes. Thus for an eye separation of 5 cm , the stereo angle is

$$
\epsilon=\tan ^{-1}(5 / 50)=5.71^{\circ}
$$

For a stereo viewer, let $d$ be the scaled separation distance between the eyes see figure 6. If the viewer has a focal length of $k$ units, then the value of $d$ is fixed by the requirement

$$
\tan ^{-1}(d / k)=5.71^{\circ}
$$

so $d$ must equal $k / 10$ to maintain the correct stereo angle $\epsilon$.

To obtain this scaled eye-separation distance from a single view of the object, $a+d / 2=+k / 20$ horizontal translation is performed before creating the right-eye view. To create a stereo pair, the matrix containing the new position vectors is transformed by use of the two matrices:
$\left[\begin{array}{cccc}c & \text { left eye } \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 / k \\ \mathbf{k} / 20 & 0 & 0 & 1\end{array}\right] \quad\left[\begin{array}{cccc}1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 / k \\ -k / 20 & 0 & 0 & 0\end{array}\right]$
which create two separate perspective views, one for the left eye and one for the right eye.

At this intermediate step the left-eye view is to the right of the origin, and the right-eye view is to the left, as shown in figure 7. The last operation is to separate the two perspective views by the proper distance along the $x$-axis in order to place each view directly in front of the proper eye.
$R=\left[\begin{array}{llll|}n_{1}{ }^{2}+\left(1-n_{1}{ }^{2}\right) \cos \theta & n_{1} n_{2}(1-\cos \theta)+n_{3} \sin \theta & n_{1} n_{3}(1-\cos \theta)-n_{2} \sin \theta & 0 \\ n_{1} n_{2}(1-\cos \theta)-n_{3} \sin \theta & n_{2}{ }^{2}+\left(1-n_{2}{ }^{2}\right) \cos \theta & n_{2} n_{3}(1-\cos \theta)+n_{1} \sin \theta & 0 \\ n_{1} n_{3}(1-\cos \theta)+n_{2} \sin \theta & n_{2} n_{3}(1-\cos \theta)-n_{1} \sin \theta & n_{3}{ }^{2}+\left(1-n_{3}{ }^{2}\right) \cos \theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1\end{array}\right]$

In figure $7,(\dot{x})_{R}$ is the average value between the largest and smallest value of $x^{\prime}{ }_{R} ;\left(\bar{x}^{\prime}\right)_{L}$ is the average value between the largest and smallest value of $\mathrm{x}_{\mathrm{L}}^{\prime}$. If $\mathrm{D}=$ $\left(\bar{x}^{\prime}\right)_{L}-\left(\bar{x}^{\prime}\right)_{R}$, then the value of $D$ must be calculated by searching the normalised $x^{\prime}$-values of each perspective view. A final horizontal translation in the $x$-direction of

$$
L=D+(E-D) / 2
$$

for the right-eye view, and $-L$ for the left-eye view places the stereo pair in the proper position.
The value of E is the actual eyeseparation distance for the human observer, measured in the scale of the output device. For example, if the final points for the left-eye view fall between

$$
-4 \leqslant x_{L}^{\prime} \leqslant-2
$$

and the final points for the right-eye view fall between

$$
2 \leqslant x_{R}^{\prime} \leqslant 4
$$

then you might choose to plot these two views on a standard sheet of paper, using a 10 -unit scale between $-5 \leqslant x^{\prime} \leqslant 5$. Then $\dot{E}$, the actual 5 cm . distance between human eyes, measured on this scale would be about $2 \cdot 5$.

The two programs are written for the Research Machines $380-\mathrm{Z}$, and exemplify how the matrix transformations can be manipulated using Basic. The transformation algorithms assume that the


Figure 7. Intermediate stereo position.
database is presented in ordinary coordinates. They then develop the necessary homogeneous co-ordinate representation, perform the transformation, and return to ordinary co-ordinates.

To implement the transformations you should fully understand the mathematical theory presented, as well as the graphical capabilities e.g., the co-ordinate system, of your computer system. Highresolution graphics are necessary for satisfactory results. Satisfactory displays were achieved on a Tektronix-4010 VDU with a resolution of 1,024 by 780 .

## References

Interactive Computer Graphics by B S Walker, J R Gurd and E A Drawneek, published by Edward Arnold, 1976. Principles of Interactive Computer Graphics by W M Newman and R Sproull, second edition published by McGraw-Hill Kogakusha, 1978.
Mathematical Elements for Computer Graphics by D F Rogers and J A Adams, published by McGraw-Hill, 1976.



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THE PROGRAM generates a random number of horses from three to eight, calculates the odds against each horse, accepts bets to win on all races, and also each-way and place bets if six or more horses are in the race. There is the opportunity to amend or cancel a bet before the
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Any number of horses can be backed, but you must stay within your credit. Each-way bets cost, double the amount keyed in. A financial statement is pre-
sented after each race showing how much you have won or lost. Each race is a unique combination of horses and odds, and you require both judgement and luck to be successful.
(continued on next page)


## （continued from previous page）

A perfectly fair set of odds against a win is one in which

$$
\Sigma(\text { prob })=1
$$

that is，the sum of all the probabilities is unity，where the probability for any horse is given by

$$
\text { Prob }=1 /(\text { Odds }+1)
$$

The first problem when writing this program therefore was to devise a simple way of generating random odds for the horses，but such that the

$$
\Sigma(\text { prob }) \simeq 1
$$

condition was satisfied to give a reason－ ably fair game．This was neatly solved by generating random numbers in the range 0 to 1 ，then dividing each by their sum to obtain the relative probability for each horse．The odds are then calculated using the equation：

## Ơơds＂ $\operatorname{INT}$（1／prob）－ 1

The truncation effect of the INT func－ tion gives a slight advantage to the Pet on some bets to win．In a real race，the bookie lowers his odds such that

$$
\Sigma(\text { prob })>1
$$

to give him sufficient advantage to enable him to make a living．The equations could be amended along the same lines to make the game tougher if required．Maximum odds are limited to $30: 1$ for outsiders， while low odds are catered for by strings ＂2：1 ON＂and＂EVENS＂，as appropri－ ate．

The next problem is form．If all races ran to form the favourite would win every time and the rank outsider would always come in last．In the real world this obvi－ ously does not happen，and musi be allowed for in the program．

## Form weighting

A random＂form＂weighting parame－ ter in line 370 determines the extent to which the horses will run to form in any particular race．The punter is，of course， unaware in advance of how well his choices will run，adding the excitement to the game．This tantalising effect is achieved by the conditional part of line 410：

IF $X<(.5+Z / 10+.5 *$ FM＊$P(J) / T P)$ THEN
which determines the progress of each horse on a partly random，partly form basis．The first .5 is a fixed element， which $\mathbb{Z} / 10$ encourages a close and there－ fore more exciting finish，FM is the form weight for that race，while the remainder is the form for each horse．These factors were found by trial and error to give a satisfactory compromise between pre－ dictable and random results，but they could easily be altered to give different racing conditions．

The next aspect of the program con－
cerns the finishing order．Arrays $G(J)$ and $F(Z)$ capture each horse as it reaches the post and stores its identity．Lines 470 to 520 compute the win，each－way and place winnings and return the stake money for successful bets，a place bet pays at one－quarter odds．The last part of the program prints out the account．

Substantial use of For－Next loops， strings for Printing and Gosub limits the amount of memory needed to 3 K ，per－ mitting a quick load from cassette or allowing the game to be one of several on a menu．

## Checking the stakes

The stake Input function is reasonably well－protected against invalid entries． Note that lines 120 and 530 are the only ones with the reverse－heart clear－screen symbol，which can easily be confused with the cursor－up symbol found else－ where in the program．Although written for the 32 K Pet，the program could be adapted for other machines by changing the Peek and Poke values，etc．

The game runs as follows：
－Type Run and－Return to begin．You start with $£ 10,000$ credit．The screen then dis－ plays the horses and their odds．
－Type the letter of the horse of your choice．

The horse identity then changes into reverse field to indicate that you have chosen it．If there are five or fewer horses in the race then，WIN will be displayed auto－ matlcally．
－If there are six or more horses，＇press W to bet to win，$\dot{E}$ for each－way，or $P$ for place as required．
－Type in the amount of your stake，then press Return．You must stay within your current credit．Larger or illegal entries will not be accepted．
－To cancel a bet，type the appropriate horse letter and press Return．

Extra bets or changes can be made by repeating the last four steps as necessary．
－Press key＇X＇to start the race．You can keep an eye on the horses that you backed because they are in reverse field．When the race is over，the screen displays the first three horses，their odds and your winnings， if any，the profit or loss on the race and the updated credit figure．

Races can be run indefinitely，but you drop out of the game if your credit falls below $\mathbf{£ 1}$ ．

Although the game is designed for one player，a group of people could hold a competition，each person taking his turn on the machine，until he is either bank－ rupt or wins a $£ 1,000,000$ ．

[^2]

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\hline Dos 3.3 Upgrade \& 3900 \& 5.85 \& \& Games/Aids \& \& \& <br>
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## In these pages Brian Reffin Smith keeps you up to date with computerbased art and design and lays the foundations for graphics routines to use on your own micro.

## The direct route

THE BBC's computer-literacy series The Computer Programme is already well under way, and you may already have seen programme 6 on graphics and sound, with which I was involved as a technical consultant. It will be shown again on BBC-1 at 11.35 pm on Monday April 26.

## Convincing proof

The programme should provide a convincing demonstration for any doubters you may know who still believe that computers are confined to numbercrunching and text. After all, simple graphics are a much simpler route from the machine into the human brain - and the possibilities of sound have hardly been explored yet. This month's competition may encourage you to change that lamentable state of affairs.

For now, let us merely celebrate the fact that the high-resolution graphics on
the BBC Microcomputer go up to 640 by 256 points in two colours. You need maximum memory to handle it, and a monitor rather than a TV for a proper display, but at least we do have something which begins to live up to the description "high-resolution".

It is absurd to call a display of around 100 units square "high-resolution", as some manufacturers do, and those nasty little graphics characters are no help cither. To anyone seriously interested in computer graphics, a display of less than 256 by 256 is low. You really need 512 by 512 , and a monitor to display it on.

For storage, laser videodiscs may seem rather exotic, but they will eliminate videotape recorders quite soon. At present, you can only play them, not record, but for less than $£ 1,000$ you can get your uwn disc made up from film, videotape, colour slides or photos which you supply. Pressings then cost about $£ 3$ each.


BEGINNING GRAPHICS Round in circles

SO FAR we have looked, in quite simple terms, at the way in which images are stored and manipulated in the computer. We have seen that images are related to an internal symbolic representation which is held inside the machine and can be manipulated there, thus changing the image that is the resulting output.

This month, for a change, we look at how a simple routine for drawing circles can be expanded into a more general program. You will see that there is a metaphor here: you can quite often get a routine from a magazine like this, or a
book. or from a friend, and adapt it to do something that seems to go way beyond (continued on next page)


A popular disc player is not available in the U.S for less than $£ 500$. As for the U.K. market, if I were cyincal, I would think the manufacturers were trying to sell us all videotape machines before introducing discs. On each side of a mundane disc, you can store 54,000 colour images - heaven knows how many megabytes of data. A project at the Royal College of Art connects a disc machine up to a computer, able to call up or run any sequences from an art and design visual database of thousands of images.

## Canada exhibition

Finally, an invitation. I have organised a show of Canadian artists and musicians who use computers, at the Canada House Gallery, Trafalgar Square, London. Opening on March 24, it continues daily, except Saturday, for about a month. There will be the work of several artists, including graphics, paintings, robots and video, all done by, with or in spite of computers.

## Competition

THIS MONTH'S competition - the one with fame and a fiver as the exhilarating spurs to excellence - is about sound. I know that many computers do not make sounds, and that those that do use a wide variety of commands to control them. But that does not matter because we only want a short description - an algorithm in words - of how to do something.

Think about how to use sound instead of, or as well as, graphics to present information to a user. The sort of information could be trends, quantities, qualities - the kind of thing a business person or manager might need. You can choose any context, from education to ICI, from a small business to a hospital.

In less than 200 words, explain how a computer could use sound to replace or to enhance other information. The address is Art, Practical Computing, Room L306, Quadrant House, The Quadrant, Sutton, Surrey, SM2 5AS. As usual, do not send anything you want back; and no tapes, please.

```
100 REM***POLYGON DRAWING WITH CONE FORMATION - B.R.SMITII }198
110 CALL"RESOLUTION",0,2: REM*** SET UP GRAPHICS
120 PUT12: REM***CLEAR SCREEN
130 INPUT"CENTRE X,Y";HS,VS
140 INPUT"RADII A,B (MAKE EQUAL FOR REGULAR SHAPE)";A,B
150 INPUT"NUMBER OF SIDES (120 FOR CIRCLE)";N
160 INPUT" CONE GENERATION (Y/N)";ZC$:IFZC$="N"THEN180
170 INPUT"POINT OF CONE X,Y";PX,PY
180 ANGLE =2*3.142/N
190 C=COS (ANGLE):S=SIN (ANGLE)
200 XA=1:YA=1
210 FORI=1TON+1
220 X=XA*C-YA*S
230 Y=XA*S+YA*C
240 XA=X:YA=Y
250 IF I>1 THEN P$="LINE" ELSE P$="PLOT"
260 CALL P$,A*XA+HS,B*YA+VS,3
270 IF ZC$="N" THEN 290
20 CALL"LINE", PX,PY., 1: CALL" PLOT",A*XA+HS,B*YA+VS, 16
290 NEXT I
```

(continued from previous page) the original intention. It is the way many graphics programs and routines emerge.

The whole story is in the program listing. A simple circle routine at lines 180 to 290 has been expanded first to draw ellipses, then to draw polygons of any number of sides, then to draw cones: The circle routine was, itself, first developed from a polygon-drawing routine.

Lines 220 and 230 simply generate each new point from the last one, using a few sines and cosines. Line 260 adds on HS and VS, the horizontal and vertical shift, give the centre of the figure, having multiplied the X and Y points by A and B to give the two radii of the ellipse. Make them equal, and you get a circle - or a regular polygon, if using less than about 120 sides, entered at line 150.

The program was written on the Research Machines $380-\mathrm{Z}$ - which has a screen of about 300 by 200 pixels, with the origin at bottom left. If you operate another computer you need only plot points and lines, with any resolution. Line 260 plots a point when $I$ is 1 ; otherwise it draws a line to the new point from where you were before. The third parameter to the plot commands - 3,1 or $16-$ merely give the colour; 16 means no line.

## Mustering courage

If you answer " $Y$ " to the question at line 160 - you do want cones - then line 280 draws from each point on the "rim" of the circle or polygon to a fixed point, entered at 170 , which becomes the tip of the cone. The second half of line 280 moves back to the rim, but without drawing a line, and is thus ready to connect up the next part of the rim.

If you are feeling courageous, try writing a program that will draw two polygons, each with the same number of sides, and will connect each point on the first to the corresponding point on the second. In other words, if you use foursided, regular polygons - otherwise knowns as squares - you end up with a box. Beware of jumping in and out of loops.


# ANALOGY BOX 

Conceptual art, in its heyday in the 1960s, was "art about art", which often consisted of words and diagrams or descriptions. One masterpiece was a framed message, black on white, reading "This is not a Work of Art", another consisted of a radio wave - invisible, of course - beamed through a gallery at a certain time on a certain day, or so they said. What is the computergraphic equivalent of this sort of art?

WHEN PEOPLE ask for advice on books about computers and art, or just computer graphics, I have to tell them that there are very, very few books on either topic which are any good at all. Most of them are expensive too. You are likely to gain at least as much knowledge from the pages of computer periodicals as from many books. However, there are a few which are worth having, and if the cost seems prohibitive, you could ask your library if Mrs Thatcher has left them any money for a book that is, after all, related to her Information Technology Year.

Strictly in the library class, or at least a group purchase, is Visual Art, Mathematics and Computers, edited by Frank J Malina and published by Pergamon Press, Oxford in 1979. It is big, wideranging, and costs, believe it or not, $£ 31$. It consists of reprints, over several years, from the journal about art, science and technology called Leonardo. I cannot think of any existing book that is more likely to stimulate the imagination. Though short on techniques as such, it is long on ideas and has plenty of pictures.

Then there is an excellent book edited by David Clark, who works in the audiovisual centre at London University. Called Computers for Imagemaking, it is, for the most part, simply presented. Yet if
you digest it thoroughly, you will know as much as most people about the area it covers. It deals with technical, practical, theoretical and psychological aspects of computer graphics. The paperback edition costs $£ 6.50$. It was published in 1981 by Pergamon Press.

Mathematical Elements of Computer Graphics by D F Rogers and J A Adams is a superb book crammed with routines, and with an appendix of Basic listings. However, it does become very advanced, and assumes that your Basic can manipulate matrices; certainly a book to aspire to. It is an import from the United States, published by McGraw-Hill at $£ 12.95$.

## Expensive items

I realise that all these titles are quite expensive items, but there is really no point messing around with anything inferior. You might get together with some liriends to share a copy - something which we do not do enough.

Finally, for the purists, there is Newman and Sproull's computer-graphics bible, Principles of Interactive Computer Graphics. Personally I find it hard going, though many people swear by it. The second edition, published in 1978 by McGraw-Hill Kogakusha, costs $£ 9.95$ in paperback.

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# THE PERFECT MACHINE 

Garbage in, garbage out", muttered Amadeus. Above him the main frame of the rotating Analyser trembled slightly, and he watched as one green ball dropped in a gentle arc, popped like a heavy pea from its churning mechanical pod, to land on and crack the stone flags near his feet. It rolled a short distance and stopped. A second ball did the same.

The great wooden machine did not stop, however, but began in its insistent way to pull one of its bearings from the massive wall. Amadeus looked up sadly as the bearing wobbled and a tiny trickle of dust fell twenty feet to the floor.

Fifty feet above him a stone gallery spanned the great hall, clearing the moving wooden structure by inches. Sullivan was up there, his signalling arms silhouetted against the roof lights, his mouth open but his words lost in the roar from the rotating machine.

Amadeus pulled the stop lever and the great contraption began to slow as Sullivan clanged down his long iron ladder. They stood for a moment in the shadows cast by the tilting beams and watched as the machine came to a standstill. Sullivan broke the silence.
"The same bearing as before, Doctor"?
"Yes, the same".

Sullivan nodded to the few overalled workmen standing by and the offending section was dismantled. Long bolts clanged to the ground, timbers were noisily disassembled, and a hammering began that echoed around the hall.

At the same time Bishop Widred and his entourage entered down the main stone staircase. The entourage sniffed at the dust and the noise. The bishop adjusted his crimson cloak and looked displeased. "Another bearing problem, my Lord", called Amadeus, half turning but more interested in the work than the bishop's presence. The entourage managed to project a communal stare of disapproval across the hall while the bishop spoke.
"We must have results, Amadeus, and we must have them soon. I am under considerable pressure from the rest of the College. They are talking of withdrawing funds. You know it goes against the grain with them to investigate such matters. Your experiments have aroused great controversy". The bishop stared into the dark shadows of the Analyser. The workmen's hammering continued to echo. After a pause he spoke again.
"Perhaps the others are right after all. Perhaps this is heresy".
Amadeus interrupted.
"It is not heresy, my Lord, and it will work. I know it will".
"Yes. Yes. I understand your enthusiasm but -". The entourage behind him looked sufficiently sceptical.

Bishop Widred walked slowly towards the workmen, who hammered less loudly in deference to his presence but did not look up.
"Tell me again, Amadeus", he called without turning, "Tell me what it is that you seek".

Amadeus spread his arms towards the Analyser and explained.
"The main frame. This large outer one.

## by David Haynes

It spins on axes that are fixed in the structure of the building. The angles of rotation are adjustable. Within this we have other frames which become progressively smaller like a nest of dolls. These inner frames vary in shape according to calculations made by me, and they are linked by adjustable axles one to another. They turn easily on their bearings. The angle of pivot and the gearing of one frame to another are calculated and fixed before each run. That is a skilled adjustment which Sullivan takes care of".
The bishop nodded and asked him to continue.
"Well, my Lord, within the whole structure run channels, tubes and hatchways which we can preset as well. The machine is turned by a steam engine under the floor, and once the correct speed of rotation is reached, Sullivan inserts the spheres at the top. After a while, if we are lucky, the spheres eventually drop into this cage here", he pointed, "where the numbered troughs indicate the answer".
"Yes, yes. The answer. But what is the question, Amadeus"?

There are numbers which we use every day, my Lord. Numbers of this world such as $1,2,3,7,9$, and so on. They account for real things. We assume that they go on for ever. There are also negative numbers. We use these often in calculations".

Amadeus bent down and lifted the green ball from the floor. It was the size of a baby's head.
"We colour the spheres to represent
individual numbers. Some green, some red. Many, many colours and combinations of colours. You can see some of these lying around on the floor. They are definite numbers. What we seek are numbers that seem somehow more real than these and yet continue to remain unknown. They must have a precise value and yet they remain imprecise within our numbering system. They slip through the nets fashioned by our minds, and yet within nature they are basic. As though our way of counting things is based on the wrong system to start with. This great machine has been designed to find such numbers".
" Sive me an example, Amadeus".
"The most needed number is that relating to the truths regarding circles and spheres".
"Religious truths"?
"I believe that truths will always lead to God, certainly".
"But you will never find God in that way, Amadeus". The bishop looked hard at him.
"I can try, my Lord."
"You believe that you can measure Him with numbers"? the bishop asked. "In any case we know the number that you seek. It has been established as a standard by the Church for many years".
"But the standard is not exact. There is more to learn of this number's nature. Men should know such things. We must make the attempt".
"If you would pin God down to a number, then that is heresy, Amadeus".
"I seek only the truth about the world. Let me continue to try - just one more attempt my Lord".

The workmen had reassembled the frames. The bishop stared for a while at the dark oil stains that they had left on the floor. Without looking up he nodded.

SUullivan climbed to his crow's nest and began to assemble the coloured balls in their delivery hopper, while Amadeus pulled a lever to start the steam engine. The floor rumbled as the drive spindle turned. A second lever was pulled and the main frame began to turn. The noise grew louder. Dark shadows from the massive timbers of the outer structure moved jaggedly around the walls, and the light from the roof scattered and broke into shards as the smaller frames and cages spun and tumbled within it. Sullivan released the cascade of coloured balls which rolled and banged, clattering through the ever-changing wooden maze

as it turned, strained bearings whining. At last one ball fell into the counting troughs, then another, and another. With great excitement Amadeus crouched to note the results. More balls fell, heavily and noisily, and still others - and then no more.

Amadeus stood slowly and handed the paper to the bishop. The paper trembled in each man's fingers.
The bishop read aloud:
" 3 and 14159265358979328 ".

Both men began to laugh as Amadeus pulled the stop lever.
" ou've done it, my boy? Is this 1 it"?
Amadeus nodded, still smiling.
"You will need to run checks of course, but - this is wonderful news".
He beckoned to the entourage.
"We have done it! We have done it! I shall get an Archbishop's chair for this! Amadeus you're a genius".

But Amadeus had his eyes closed and was no longer listening. If we can apply these results, he was thinking, to improve the accuracy of the machine's bearings and rotating parts then we can achieve an even more accurate result. Then we can continue until we have a machine that is almost perfect. His smile broadened as he dared the thought that he could not utter. Why not a machine that is perfect? A machine that is never wrong?
Never wrong about anything?

ONE OF THE most inimical environments imaginable for the microcomputer is on the farm: mud, moisture, unsympathetic use by horny-handed sons of toil to whom a tractor printer is likelier to evoke wheeled machinery than electronic. Nowhere would this seem to be truer than in the cowshed.

To the expected problems of human heavy-handedness are added those of bovine indifference. In a milking parlour, all machinery must be built to withstand regular washing-down with high-pressure hoses, frozen winter and scorching summer alike.

Nevertheless, dairy management is one of the biggest growth areas in on-farm computing, which itself is no mean performer in the systems-sales stakes. Where a year ago there were only six firms supplying agricultural systems and soft-
apastures new'
for micros

> Martin Hayman, never afraid to get his boots dirty, visited ADAS's experimental farm to inspect its micro-based system, which actively monitors the health and performance of a large dairy herd.


Agricultural officer Chris Laycock keys in a cow indentity. The 40-character display reads out information from the management system.
ware, now there are more than 20 and their number is growing.

Dairying seems to have been one of the first areas of farming to receive concerted attention from computer people. Reading University's mainframe has had its Daisy herd-management program running for nearly 10 years, but it's not particularly useful to a farmer who essentially wants to eliminate some of the guesswork from his everyday business and has been told that this is the kind of task to which a computer is ideally adapted. A dairy herd of about 300 cows, can be said to be substantial. This is approximately the number of records that a medium-sized micro can manage comfortably, given that the information the farmer wishes to have about each beast is as follows:

- the quantity of milk dellvered at each milking, hence
- the appropriate weight of feed it needs;
- its weight on leaving the milking parlour;
- details of pedigree, where it was purchased, veterinary records.

The first three items can be considered as monitoring programs, and will ideally be used on-line; the last is more of a database system and can be expanded according to the way the farmer wishes to manage his herd.
In human terms, the problem of implementing such a system, which from a purely computing point of view seems not so difficult, is input of data. How do you identify an individual cow, measure its milk yield, mete out the right quantity of feed into its manger, and weigh it as it exits from the milking parlour, and at the same time enter all that data into the micro?
It is impracticable to have cowmen in their white aprons - the only people who become intimate enough with each cow to read the freeze-brand number on its rump - dashing in and out of the messy work area to key details into a keyboard It's clearly a case for automatic data collection, and this is where the work at the Agricultural Development and

Advisory Service's Bridgets Experimental Husbandry Farm, near Winchester, Hampshire, is directed.
Borrowing some techniques from industrial process control, the National Institute of Agricultural Engineers, in collaboration with Ellesmere Electronics, has developed a system known as Automated Farm Management System for the 1980s (AFMS-80) to identify automatically each cow on its arrival in the milking stall, record its milk yield, deliver a pre-programmed quantity of feed into the manger, and to weigh the cow on its exit. These operations are managed by three dedicated microprocessors and a purpose-built micro based on a 54 K Motorola 6800 processor with software developed by NIAE's Dr Allen Burgess:
The interfacing hardware between the cow and the micro is interesting. It was an important consideration that any system implemented should not require substantial modification of existing work practices based on the so-called "herringbone" milking parlour, not least because Ellesmere Electronics is a division of the milking-equipment manufacturer Fullwood and Bland which builds them.

The first obvious sign that this is no ordinary dairy operation is when the cows arrive for milking. Slung around their necks on a bright-yellow, plasticised ribbon is a blue box about the size of a large bar of chocolate. This is the cow's electronic identity card.
Each of these transponders, as they are known, can be programmed with one of 65,000 identities - enough for any conceivable herd, or aggregation of herds, since the system is eventually intended for distributed control of several farms via Modem-landline links

The transponder is energised by a coil on the front of each manger and transmits its identity as a radio signal to the cowidentification processor and the milkyield processor, alerting the latter to record the yield against the cow's identity number, and the former to deliver the appropriate predetermined quantity of feed for her. But how to persuade the cow to lower her head and eat and thus energise the whole system? Elementary - a small quantity of feed is delivered to the manger as a "carrot"
The milk is weighed on a strain gauge and the figures for each individual cow's yield are recorded against its identity in the main farm-management system,

Applications

which is a conventional-looking micro away from the dairy parlour. Here the data can be printed out at the time of milking, and averaged to give a weekly mean. This part of the system is now working, with a 99 percent success rate in identity capture, says agricultural officer Chris Laycock.
Concurrently with the milk-weighing operation, the cow-identification processor signals the required balance of feed required by each cow to the gravimetric feeding hoppers and the rest of its dinner cascades down over its nose. In productivity terms, this is the single most important operation of AFMS-80.
Layout of the farm office.


The traditional skill of the dairyman is to judge how much feed to give to a cow during its lactation period in order to obtain the best margin of return. A cow's milk yield grows and declines over a 10 -month period, with two months drying-off, when it does not produce milk.

When Tess of the D'Urbervilles was a milkmaid, this was all done by the skill born of observation and experience. Now the farmer has immediately at his disposal the exact figures of each of the twice-daily milkings, and of the weekly mean. Further, any significant shortfall can help detect disease in the individual cow, or to assess the quality of feeds.

Chris Laycock showed me a weekly printout which indicated that average yields, for the week in which I visited, were down by around 15 percent for a substantial proportion of the herd. This was attributable, he says, to a change to a different feed silo with a rather poorer grade of silage. In an experimental farm such as Bridgets this is useful for test purposes; for the average dairyman, it represents an important step in improving his management judgement by putting more precise and useful information at his fingertips, and detecting illness as early is possible.

By contrast the weighing operation, which is undertaken as the cows leave the milking parlour, has attained only a 60 to 70 percent success rate. The processor is programmed, however, to reflect a figure with a variance in weight, after positive identification on the weighbridge, of greater than 30 kg . Cows are not by nature unruly beasts but they cannot be trained to step up in an orderly human fashion, one by one, on to the weighbridge. Nevertheless, over the course of a week, the success rate attains 93 percent.

The farm's director, Edwin Mundy, enters the usual caveat with respect to micros used in a traditional field of activity: "It is reasonable to expect that if used intelligently, AFMS-80 should make parlour operation easier, but one could foresee difficulties if it is viewed with suspicion by any operator who is called on to work with it".

This is to say no more than that any computer-based system needs expert human skill. To this end there is a monitor in the dairy parlour itself, giving a 40 -character, single-line display of prompts such as "Cow number y Dump Milk (mastitis)" and "Feeder number 4 failed". System fault conditions can then be rectified, either by hand, or by punching in data on the two keypads.

It also permits data to be entered or retrieved by hand. If, for example, the system fails to capture an identity, the dairyman would then enter by hand the freeze-brand number, which is twinned with the transponder's identity.

The most ambitious part of the AFMS- 80 is the microcomputer station, which is in an office overlooking the dairy parlour at Bridgets, but might well be elsewhere, connected to a telephone line. Data gathered from both the automatic parlour equipment and the parlourcontrol equipment is stored on 8 in. flop' pies, and further specific data may also be entered via the keyboard.

Obviously the database work has to be typed in manually - details of where the stock came from, of its pedigree, its medical history. Once at this point, herd data may be manipulated and processed in the conventional way.

One neat touch is the automatic digital clock which switches on the whole system ready to run - along with a memory test - at 4.30am. One of the interactive programs which should shortly be running is the Daily Events and Action List, which will highlight, via the parlour unit, those cows which need veterinary attention, cows due on heat, due to be served and due to calve.

AFMS-80 is still in its development, although many farmers have expressed a strong interest - the farm receives more than 5,000 visitors a year. With the increasing size of dairy herds and the cost of skilled hands, it is not surprising that automation has its attractions for forward-thinking farmers.


Topology

## Jonathan Bowen strikes out beyond our familiar, solid world with a program to generate projections of cubes of four, five and more dimensions.



HYPERCUBE

EVER SINCE the concept of a threedimensional, physical world has been understood there has been a fascination with the possibility that there might be fourth, and further, dimensions. Henry More (1614-1687) considered that spirits have four dimensions. In The Time Machine, H G Wells suggested that the fourth dimension is time, which can be misleading since time is somewhat different from the other three, spatial dimensions we know

Abbott's Flatland is probably nearer the mark, Abbott considers the life of a two-dimensional square which suddenly has the chance to travel in three dimensions. This gives the square the ability to see inside objects in its two-dimensional world, something it previously thought was impossible. Using this analogy from three to four dimensions, we would be able to see inside solid objects if we were able to break out of our own threedimensional world into the fourth dimension.

Taking the analogy further, when a three-dimensional object crosses a twodimensional world, its inhabitants simply see an object appear from nowhere, grow in size, changing its shape in a rather odd
manner if the object is irregular, and then decrease in size until it disappears again. In our world this would be the equivalent of an object suddenly appearing somewhere, growing in size, shrinking and then disappearing without trace. If this sounds disturbing it is because we do not fully understand the fourth dimension.

We may define a dimension as being a direction which is at right angles to any other dimension. In our world we simply run out of directions after we have defined three dimensions - length, width and height, for example.

## Added dimension

There is no reason why there should be anything special about three dimensions, apart from the fact that we live in a three-dimensional world. Thinking in terms of three dimensions is simply of the most practical use to us. We are quite willing to project three-dimensional objects into two dimensions when we draw or photograph them - again, this is because it is useful to us.

There is no reason why we may not project objects of more than three dimensions. Note that in this case we also have the choice of projecting them into
three dimensions if we wish. Probably the simplest and most interesting objects to consider for projection are "polytopes", which are geometrical figures bounded by portions of lines, planes or hyperplanes, for polytopes of two, three, and four or more dimensions respectively.

In two dimensions the polytope is known as a polygon and in three dimensions it is known as a polyhedron. For simplicity we shall restrict ourselves to regular polytopes in which all the vertices, edges, faces, etc. are the same. In two dimensions they are the equilateral triangle, square, regular pentagon etc. there are an infinite number of them.

In three dimensions there are only five regular solids, known as the Platonic polyhedra: they are the tetrahedron, cube, octahedron, dodecahedron and icosahedron. A complete description of these and many other polyhedra may be found in Mathematical Models by H M Cundy and A P Rollett.

## Regular polytopes

In four dimensions there are six regular polytopes, five of which may be considered as the four-dimensional equivalents of the Platonic polyhedra. They are described in H S M Coxter's Regular Polytopes. It turns out that the tetrahedron, cube and octahedron have similar equivalents in any number of dimensions.

A simple algorithm may be used to generate the polytope for the next dimension up in each case, and they may be projected in two dimensions. The cube was choosen here since it produces more interesting projections, with square rather than triangular sides. For those interested in investigating more complicated polytopes, Coxeter's Regular Complex Polytopes is recommended.

A cube of $\mathbf{N}$ dimensions may be generated from a cube of $\mathrm{N}-1$ dimensions in the following manner. Take the $(\mathrm{N}-1)$ dimensional cube and redraw it, displaced by a distance equal to length of one of its sides along a new dimension. Join the corresponding vertices of each of the old cubes to form the new cube.

You can demonstrate the process by starting with a "cube" of zero dimensions. It consists of a single point, as does any zero-dimensional object. Displace the point along any dimension by a given distance - say a distance $L$ from the origin along the X -axis, see figure 2 . You now have a line of length $L$ or a onedimensional cube.

Next, displace the line a distance $L$ along a new dimension - say the Y-axis - and join the corresponding ends as in figure 3. You have now formed a square, which is a two-dimensional cube.

Now expand along the Z-axis, join the (continued on next page)
(continued from previous page)
corresponding corners, and form the standard three-dimensional cube - see figure 4.

By displacing the cube along a new axis - say the W-axis - and joining the corresponding vertices, you form what is generally known as a hypercube or fourdimensional cube - see figure 5. You may continue this process as many times as you wish to form a multidimensional cube of any given number of dimensions.

The listed program draws $\mathbf{N}$-dimensional cubes. It was written for a Research Machines 380-Z microcomputer with high-resolution graphics, but could be adapted to run on any computer with Basic and a line-plotting facility of some sort. The number of dimensions that can be plotted is limited by the resolution of the plotting device. Above about eight dimensions the cube becomes too complex to be viewed on the $380-Z$ screen.

Other systems may be able to plot more or fewer dimensions than this. Below three dimensions the figure is no longer a true cube. The program draws the cubes symmetrically, so that above about four dimensions some very pretty and interesting patterns are produced see figures 1 and 6 .

The program works as follows. First the desired number of dimensions is read in to the variable N in line 170 . Lines 260 to 400 initialise the arrays XM and YM which contain the co-ordinate offsets necessary to plot each possible direction of the cube's sides. Lines 410 to 520 calculate the origin co-ordinates $\mathrm{X} 0, \mathrm{Y} 0$ and the size factor $F$. Line 530 positions the origin.

The For loop from lines 540 to 830 calculates the start and finish positions of each side of the cube and draws a line


Figure 2. Generating a line.


Figure 4. Generating a cube.
between them. Arrays JA and JB contain flags - with values of 0 or 1 - which are used to indicate which co-ordinate offsets are to be used for the beginning and end co-ordinates of each side plotted. Lines 610 to 660 calculate the starting position, and line 670 positions the current coordinates at that position. Lines 680 to 730 calculate the end position and line 740 draws a line to that position. Finally the program loops back to line 90 , displays the number of dimensions of the cube - line 140 - and prompts the user for a new value of $\mathbf{N}$. The program may then be rerun if desired or terminated by

## N -dimensional cube-drawing program.

10 REM N-dimensional eube program
10 REM N-dimensional eube program
lo REM N-dimensional cube Mrogram
lo REM N-dimensional cube Mrogram
48 REM Written by Jonathan Braphics
48 REM Written by Jonathan Braphics
48 REM Written, byjorimathan Boweritsw 2AZ.
48 REM Written, byjorimathan Boweritsw 2AZ.
SO
SO
90 CRAPH 1
90 CRAPH 1
O GOTO 140
O GOTO 140
NT "N-dimensional cube program"
NT "N-dimensional cube program"
"Enter no of fimensions (2-10)";N
"Enter no of fimensions (2-10)";N
RESOL 250
RESOL 250
PRINT
PRINT
MRNNT "End of cube program"
MRNNT "End of cube program"
END N>10 GOTO 170
END N>10 GOTO 170
P=3.14159/N
P=3.14159/N
OR J=1 TO N STEP 2
OR J=1 TO N STEP 2
=1 =1 +1 \
=1 =1 +1 \
(J)=\operatorname{cos(C)}
(J)=\operatorname{cos(C)}
I=N J=2
I=N J=2
I=I-1
I=I-1
M,
M,
RESNENTION*,O,1
RESNENTION*,O,1
(J)=\operatorname{cos}(c)
(J)=\operatorname{cos}(c)
A30 F=F,Y=1 TO N
A30 F=F,Y=1 TO N
430 F=F+Y1(J)
430 F=F+Y1(J)


Figure 3. Generating a square.


Figure 5. Generating a hypercube.
typing a carriage-return on a blank line. The following lines contain special calls and commands to control graphics on the Research Machines 380-Z, and must be changed for other systems:
Line 90 puts the $380-Z$ into graphics mode in which only the last four lines are used to display text while the rest of the screen is used for plotting.
Line 180 sets the resolution and clears the screen.
Line 230 resets the screen to normal mode. Line 530 sets the position of the origin on the screen. For other systems the values of X0, YO and F - the co-ordinates of the new origin, and the size factor - will probably need to be adjusted. Change lines 410 to 520 as necessary.
Line 670 moves the current position to the co-ordinates $\mathrm{X}, \mathrm{Y}$. It also draws a point at that position, but this is not necessary for the program to work.
Line 740 draws a line from the current position to a new position at co-ordinates $\mathrm{X}, \mathrm{Y}$.
In line 260 the value of $\pi$ is specified as
3.14159. It may be given to more or fewer decimal places, depending on the accuracy of your Basic. Alternatively, it may be calculated using the expression
$4.0 *$ ATN(1.0).
The program is written in a standard Basic, and there should be few problems transferring the program to another computer with the necessary hardware and software graphics capabilities.
Flatland by E A Abbott, sixth edition, Blackwell, 1950.
Mathematical Models by H M Cundy and A P Rollett, second edition, Oxford University Press, 1961.
Regular Polytopes by H S M Coxeter, second edition, Macmillan, 1963.
Regular Complex Polytopes by H S M Coxeter, Cambridge University Press, 1974.


Figure 6. Projections of cubes in five, six and seven dimensions.


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# Reading matters 

SPECIFIC DIFFICULTIES in acquiring reading skills can be a cause of distress to parents, exasperation to teachers and downright misery to the student. The problem often does not lie with the amount of effort the student is making but with the lack of some specific skill. Children, or for that matter adults, experiencing difficulty with acquiring reading skills will often not know why they are failing to make progress.

Research has shown that reading difficulties are often associated with an inability to recognise shapes and patterns, since reading depends fundamentally on the ability to recognise letter shapes. Although recognition problems can be easy to appreciate in young children and those with severe difficulties, they can be overlooked once a reader has achieved some proficiency. Where these difficulties persist they can lead to "hiccups" in the flow of reading causing loss of contextual cues and leading to further confusion. For example, a student reading "dent" in place of "bent" can be thrown into confusion over the rest of the sentence.

Slowness in recognising letters also affects reading speed. It is generally acknowledged that slow reading speeds are not only inefficient but also disrupt comprehension.

Remedial techniques such as teaching specific rules or approaches - e.g., magic e or word division - can themselves be hindered by poor letter recognition. The magic e rule relies specifically on knowledge of the names and sounds of the vowels. Difficulties with either of these, even if confined to just one letter, mean the student's use of the rule will be ineffective and frustrating.

## Difficulties masked

As a reader acquires skill, it becomes more difficult to detect specific problems. Often this is because the speed of reading can mask minor difficulties or because the student uses a reading technique which ensures that any problems are kept as private as possible.

The conventional way of diagnosing problems in letter recognition is to use flash cards. Flash cards are like a pack of large playing-cards. On each one, a single letter is printed in large print. The teacher holds up one card at a time and the pupil is asked to identify it. This method can be used to see if any gross difficulty is being experienced. Its major drawback is that it will not detect the child who requires only slightly longer than average to recognise the letter; the speed and timing of presentation cannot be sufficiently quick or accurate. To overcome these limitations the profes-

Turn your micro into a tachistoscope - a device which displays letters or figures on the screen at a given rate to help children or adults over reading difficulties. Mike and Wendy Cook show you how to make the software transformation.
sional research worker turns to a tachistoscope.
A tachistoscope is a machine much used by research workers in the field of psychology. It is a device for presenting a series of letters or figures on a screen with an accurately-controlled display time and display rate. These devices were designed before the advent of interactive computers and have tended to be expensive and

## PROGRAM FUNCTIONS

100-160 Sets up initial variables and turn on real-time clock.
180-200. Reads in the prepared groups; there may be up to 20 groups as defined by Data statements in lines 1280-1340.
210-330 Tittles and the inputting of the number of characters required for display.
340-410 Selecting the type of letter group required.
380 Defines full alphabet.
420-600 Enters keyboard-defined letter group.
610-750 Picks letter group from your defined set.
760-780 Converts letter group to lower case if necessary.
790-860 Tests whether letter group has more than one type of letter in it: with only one type of letter this would crash the program at lines 1020-1030.
870-1000 Enters the display time and gap time.
1010-1040 Makes up random letters from chosen group for display. Consecutive letters are tested to ensure that they are not the same.
1050-1140 Draws box on display for the characters as a guide to where the letters will appear.
1140-1240 Runs tachistoscope.
1250-1260 Pauses until a key is pressed and loop for another run.
1280-1340 Data statements for prepared groups. Those shown are the ones that have been found to be useful. They may be altered or added to by putting extra Data statements in front of line 1340. For clarity, use one data statement per group and always end the group with the number zero:
only used by professionals. Careful use of this instrument has helped to diagnose specific reading difficulties, and to devise a course of treatment to help overcome them.

The tachistoscope enables letters to be presented for a very short length of time, much shorter than would be possible manually. The rate of presentation can be accurately controlled, whereas with manual presentation there is always a tendency to pause until the pupil has made an attempt. A tachistoscope can show each letter for such a short time that recognition has to be almost subliminal; the delay between each letter can be long enough for the brain to process the information and for the student to respond.

Our program enables a computer to act as a tachistoscope, and as such it is much more flexible than many conventional tachistoscopes. It is written for a TRS-80 disc-based system or Level-II Basic, though no disc commands are used. A real-time clock is used to control display times; it can be replaced by timing loops as shown with only a small loss in accuracy.

## For non-specialists

For best use of the program, the lower-case modification should be installed, but it will run perfectly on upper-case-only machines. The ideas it embodies can easily be adapted to any personal computer - there are no essential special graphics or commands. The program is written to be used by nonspecialist and is particularly difficult to crash so it is slightly longer than a "bare bones" program. Though the menu system is often considered to make a program easy to use, the binary tree question-and-answer system was chosen for this program. It was found that it forced the user to think about changing parameters which might have been overlooked, and for testing, this was considered to be a more suitable form of operation for the program.
The program asks for each parameter that is to be used: the display times; the letter set required; the number of letters in the run; and the timing required. The program then draws a box in the centre of the screen, and the letters are flashed within it. The student has to say the letter name, or the letter sound - depending upon the exercise - at sufficient speed as to keep up with the display.

At the end of the predetermined number of characters, any or all of the parameters may be changed. Any parameter can be left unaltered simply by pressing Enter.

The practical operation of the program
consists of diagnosis and training phases． In the diagnosis phase，the program allows letters to be presented at realistic rates so that difficulties can be detected． The rate can be altered to suit the needs of individual students．Two components determine the overall speed of presenta－ tion：
－the length of time for which the letters are presented，
－the delay between presentation of succes－ sive letters．
both of which can be individually control－ led using options provided in the pro－ gram．

The computer program can be used to detect slowness in letter recognition，or to pin－point specific difficulties such as $b / d$ ， $\mathrm{j} / \mathrm{g}$ confusion，or problems naming vowels，etc．Alternatively it can be used to make a detailed analysis of patterns of difficulties with the aim of discovering specific areas of weakness．For example， $\mathrm{n}, \mathrm{u}, \mathrm{m}, \mathrm{w}$ confusion would indicate visual difficulties；confusing a，e，i，o indicates auditory difficulties；confusing b，d，p，q indicates confusion over orientation，and so on．On the basis of such analysis， appropriate remedial techniques can be implemented．

For training，the computer program can be used to increase a student＇s speed in recognising letters，or to aid discrimi－ nation of specific letters．Overall slow－ ness can be improved by practising the full alphabet－option $F$ in the program －at increasing speeds．In such cases， where there are no discrimination prob－ lems，we recommend fast presentation times of 0.05 to 0.1 s ．，and gradually－

## Glossary

Magic e：The rule which states that an e at the end of the word makes the previous vowel say its name rather than its sound， for example hat／hate or cod／code． Word division：The word is split into its component parts，each of which is read separately before the whole word is attempted．For example，＂preliminary＂ becomes PRE＋LIM＋IN＋ARY．
decreasing delay times beginning 1.5 s ． and working towards 0.3 s．

Where there are specific difficulties， the prepared－group－option P in the program－is useful．A problem group can be pre－programmed so that the stu－ dent is given practice in discrimination． Slower presentation times in the range 0.3 to 0.7 s ．are necessary，but the delay times can be shorter at 0.2 to 0.6 s ．
Diagnosis of problems obviously requires the parent or teacher to be pres－ ent，but for training purposes the pro－ gram can be used by students working alone．Only a brief explanation of the program should be necessary．

It has been found that 30 is the best number of characters for a run if the full alphabet is being used，while 15 seems sufficient for smaller groups．

There are three choices．for the type of character group：

F，the full alphabet is useful for diagnosis and general speed training．
P，prepared groups，are used when emphasis is to be placed on a subset of letters．They are stored in Data statements at the end of the program and can be added to or changed by altering these statements．This mode is useful for training on specific difficulties．
D，defined groups，allows the operator to define a set of characters from the keyboard．This is useful in experimenting with groups for subsequent inclusion in the prepared group list．The frequency of occurrence of any particular letter is gov－ erned by the number of times it appears in
the group．As the letters are picked out of the group at random－with the constraint that the letter picked must not be the same as the last letter－it is usual to have at least three different letters in the group．The program will prevent you from putting only one letter in a group．Note the back－space arrow still works，and so it is possible to delete an entry．
$\mathrm{U} / \mathrm{L}$ allows the characters to be pre－－ sented in either upper or lower case．The lower－case hardware modification has to be installed for this to work，but no software driver is needed．Upper case can be more readable，but lower case occurs more frequently in rea ing and so is preferable．More difficulties show up （continued on next page）

```
100 'TACHISTOSCOPE BY M.K. COOK 1982
110 CLEAR 1000
120. DIM RS(101), G\$ (20)
130 CLS : RANDOM
140 CMD"R"
\(150 \mathrm{~N}=10\) : \(\mathrm{DT}=.3\), GT= 1.5
\(160 \mathrm{NM}=1\)
170 READ As
180 IF A\$ < > "O" THEN G\$ (NM) \(=G\) (NM) \(+A\) : GOTO 170
190 READ A
200 IF \(A\) \& \(\rangle\) "O" THEN NM=NM+1 : GOTO 180
210 PRINT"RANDOM LET'TER TACHISTOSCOPE - PRESS ENTER AFTER EACH ANSWER"
220 PRINT
220 PRIN
230 T1 \(=0\)
230 IF D \({ }^{2}={ }^{4}="\) THEN 280
250 INPUT"SAME AGAIN OR CHANGE SOMETHING ( S/C ) ":A\$
250 INPUT"SAME AGAIN OR
260 IF A\&="S" THEN 1010
260 IF \(A \&=" S "\) THEN 1010
270 IF A \(\rangle\) "C" THEN PRINT "PLEASE ANSWER ONE LETTER \(S\) OR \(C\) " : GOTO 250
270 IF A" < "C" THEN PRINT "PLEASE ANSWER ON
280 PRINT"LAST RUN YOU HAD "N;" CMARACTERS"
280 PRINT"LAST RUN YOU HAD "N:" CMARACTERS"
290 INPUT"ENTER NEW FIGUR
300 IF T1 \(\rangle 0\) THEN N=T1
300 IF \(T 1\rangle 0\) THEN N=T1
310 IF \(N\rangle 100\) THEN PRINT" 100 IS THE MAXIMUM" : GOTO 290
320 IF \(\mathrm{N}<1\) THEN PRINT "STDP MESSING ABDUT" : GOTO 290
330 IF D\$="" THEN 370
340 INPUT"DO YOU WANT THE SAME GROUP OF LETTERS \((Y / N)\) ";A
350 IF \(A \neq " Y "\) THEN 760
360 IF \(A \$<>\) "N" THEN PRINT"PLEASE ANSWER ONE LETTER ( \(Y\) OR N) ": GOTO 340
370 INPUT "FULL ALPHABET / PREPARED GROUP / DEFINE GROUP (F/P/D) ";
380 IF R \(\$=" F "\) THEN D \(\$=" A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z ": ~ G O T O ~ 760 ~\)
390 IF R\$="P" THEN 610
400 IF R\$ 〈> "D" THEN PRINT"PLEASE ANSWER ONE LETTER (F,P OR D )":GOTO 370
410 IF DF \(\$="\) " THEN GOTO 470
420 IF DF \(\$\rangle\) "" THEN PRINT : PRINT"CURRENT LETTERS ARE - " DF \(\$\)
430 INPUT"DO YOU WISH TO ADD LETTERS OR INPUT A NEW SET ( A/N )":A
440 IF \(A \$=" N\) " THEN DF \(\$="\) " : GOTO 460
450 IF As <> "A" THEN PRINT"PLEASE ANSWER ONE LETTER ( A OR N)":GOTO 430
460 PRINT
470 PRINT"PLEASE ENTER LETTERS - PRESS ENTER TO FINIEH"
480 IF DF \(\$=" "\) THEN 520
480 TH THEN S20
```



```
510 NEXT
520 A \(\$=I\) NKEY : IF \(A \$="\) " THEN 520
\(530 \mathrm{~T}=\mathrm{ASC}(\mathrm{A} \mid)\)
\(530 \mathrm{~T}=\mathrm{ASC}(A B)\)
540 IF \(T>90\) THEN 520
550 IF \(T=B\) AND LEN \((D F\})>0\) THEN PRINT A\$; A\$; : DF\$=LEFT\$(DF \(\$, \operatorname{LEN}(D F \$)-1)\); GU
TO 520
560 IF \(T \cdot=8\) THEN 520
```



```
590 IF LEN(DF \(\$\) ) \(>2^{* T}\) Tt N PRINT"MAXIMUM NUMBER OF LETTERS REACHED" ELSE GOTO 52
0
600 GOTO 760
S10 PRINT"YOU HAVE HEF. ED ";NM:" GROUPS"
620 INPUT"PRESS R ill E.. EW YOUR GROUPS OR THE GROUP REQUIRED "; A
\(6 \leq 1\) IF LEN \((A \$)>2\) RINT"PLEASE TYPE JUST R DR GROUP NUMBER" 3 GOTO 620
640 IF A\$ 《> "R" THII VAL (A\$): GOTO 730
640 IF A\$ 《 650 FOR \(A=1\) TO NM \({ }^{\top}\)
660 PRINT"GROUP "; \(A ;{ }^{\prime} 15\)-"
670 FOR \(A 1=1\) TO LEN (G ( \(1(A)\) )
680 PRINTMID\$(G* (A), A1, 1):""
690 NEXT
690 NEXT
700 PRINT
720 GOTO 620
730 IF NG \(>\) NM THEN PRINT"THIS IS OUTSIDE THE RA :GE OF YOUR PF PARED GROUPS ":GO
730 IF N
740 IF NG=0 THEN \(A \$=A \$+^{*} x \times x\) " : GOTO 630
750 D \(\$=\mathrm{G} \$\) (NG)
760 INPUT"UPPER OR LOWER CASE ( U/L ) "IC末
770 IF C \(\$=" U "\) OR \(C \$=" L "\) THEN 780 ELSE \(760^{\circ}\)
780 IF C \(\$=\) "U" THEN \(\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{w}}=\mathrm{D} \%\) : GOTO E.30
790 T\$="!
800 FOR \(A=1\) TO LEN(D\$)
\(810 T \$=T \$+C H R \phi(\operatorname{ASC}(M \operatorname{ID} \$(D \$, A, 1))+J 2)\)
820 NEXT
日30 IF LEN(T\$) < 2 THEN PRINT"THIS GROUP IS TOO SHORT ": GOTO 370
\(840 \mathrm{~A}=2\)
日50 IF LEFT \((\uparrow+1)\) 〈〉MID\$(T\$, \(A, 1)\) THEN 870
(listing continued on next page)
```


## （listing continued from previous page）

860 IF $A$＜LEN（T＊）THEN $A=A+1$ ：GOTO 850 ELSE PRINT＂THIS GROUP OF LETTERS IS ALL THE SAME＂：GOTO 370
870 PRINT＂CURRENT DISPLAY TIME IS＂；DT；＂SECONDS＂
$880 \mathrm{~T}_{1}=0$
990 INPUT＂INPUT NEW TIME OR PRESS ENTER TO KEEP CURRENT TIME＂IT1
900 IF $\mathrm{T} 1\langle>0$ THEN DT＝T1
910 TD＝INT＇（DT＊40）
920 IF TD＞ 252 THEN PRINT＂DISPLAY TIME TOO LONG＂ 1 GOTO 890
930 IF TD＜ 2 THEN PRINT＂DISPLAY TIME TOO SHORT＂
940 PRINT＂TIME BETWEEN DISPLAYS IS CURRENTLY＂；GT，＂SECONDS＂
$950 \mathrm{~T}_{1}=0$
960 INPUT＂INPUT NEW TIME OR PRESS ENTER TO KEEP CURRENT TIME＂』T1
970 IF T 1 〈〉 0 THEN GT＝T1
$980 \mathrm{TG}=\mathrm{INT}(\mathrm{GT}$＊ 40 ）
990 IF TG $>252$ THEN PRINT＂TIME GAP TOO LONG＂ ．GOTO 960
1000 IF TG＜ 2 THEN PRINT＂TIME GAP TOO SHORT＂：GOTO 960
1010 FOR $A=1$ TO N
$1020 \operatorname{RS}(A)=$ ASC（MID\＆（T\＃，RND（LEN（TB））， 11$)$
1030 IF RS $(A)=\operatorname{RS}(A-1) \operatorname{THEN} 1020$
1040 NEXT
1050 CLS
1060 PRINTCHR\＆（23），
$1070 \times 1=36: \times 2=73: Y 1=20: Y 2=29$
1080 FOR $A=X_{1}$ TO X2
1090 SET（A，Y1）：SET（A，Y2）
1100 NEXT
1110 FOR $A=Y 1$ TO $Y 2$
$1120 \operatorname{SET}\left(X_{1}, A\right): \operatorname{SET}(X 2, A)$
1130 NEXT
1140 FOR A＝1 TO 日00：NEXT
1150 TS＝16448 ，TICK STORE
$1160 \mathrm{CP}=538+15360$
1160 CP＝538＋15300
1170 POKE（CP），RS（A）
1190 POKE（TS），0
1200 IF PEEK（TS）
1200 IF PEEK（TS）＜TD THEN 1200
1210 POKE（CP）， 32
1220 POKE（TS）， 0
1230 IF PEEK（TS）＜TG THEN 1230
1240 NEXT
1250 PRINTO 960，＂PRESS ANY KEY FOR ANOTHEF RUN＂；
1260 IF INKEY\＆＝＂＂THEN 1260 ELSE CLS ：GOTO 210
1270 ＇DATA STATEMENTS FOR GROUPS EACH GROUP TO END WITH ZERO
1280 DATA A，E，I，O，U，O
1290 DATA B，D，B，D，A，C，O
1300 DATA Z，$X, Z, X, T, K, 0$
1310 DATA J，G，J，G，S，R，O
1320 DATA $U, Y, U, Y, Y, T, 0$
1330 DATA $Q, Y, \omega, Q, \cup, o$
1340 DATA O＂

## （continued from previous page）

when using lower case；for example，b／d confusion is common but $B / D$ confusion is rare．The quality of the display can be improved by carefully adjusting the brightness control of the monitor．

This program has been found to be very helpful in both diagnosis and train－ ing．When using a new teaching method there is always some doubt whether the student is responding to the method or the novelty of the situation，but whatever the reason，this program works．It is intended as a tool for remedial teaching， to help teachers or parents to diagnose and teach，though it is not a teaching machine which will diagnose and over－ come letter－recognition difficulties by itself．

The program listing is for disc Basic using the real－time clock．For Level II Basic，remove line 140 and replace the following two lines：
1200 FOR A1 $=1$ TO $10 *$ TD ：NEXT
1230 FOR A1 $=1$ TO $10 *$ TG ：NEXT
Lines 920 and 990 may then be removed to allow a longer time to be specified．

Any educational establishment which would like a machine－readable copy of this program should write on headed note－paper，enclosing a cassette tape or formatted disc with return postage to M K Cook，Department of PMC，John Dal－ ton Building，Manchester Polytechnic， Oxford Road，Manchester．

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## A large part of any business package's working life is spent sorting information. Cliff Stanford shows how even the common bubble sort can be streamlined for efficiency.

THE MOST COMMON sort routine is the bubble sort. In this method, adjacent pairs of strings in an array are compared with one another and, if necessary, exchanged. This is tedious since in each pass of the array, a particular string may only move one place upwards. Conversely, one string only will move - or bubble - to the end of the array on each pass.

An example of the bubble sort is given in the program listing, starting at line 9000. In this particular implementation - which was written for Commodore microcomputers - rather then using two For-Next loops, b is used to indicate the bottom of the part of the array which has not yet been sorted. This prevents the time-wasting sorting of elements which are already known to be in the correct order.

## Batcher's method

However, to create a sort algorithm whose running time is notably faster than the bubble sort, non-adjacent elements of the array must be selected for comparison. This means that strings may move in both directions more quickly than the single step at a time possible with the bubble-sort algorithms. Such an algorithm was devised by K E Batcher in 1964. Not surprisingly it has become known as the Batcher sort.

Batcher's method involves setting various pointers into the array and comparing the elements pointed to. The main pointer in the implementation shown is $p$ which starts as the largest exact power of two which is less than the number of elements to sort. For example, with 100 elements to sort, p would start at 64. other pointers are $\mathrm{q}, \mathrm{r}$ and d which take various values as the sort progresses.

The algorithm specifies precisely which two strings are to be compared and, if necessary, exchanged. If follows therefore, that as many comparisons are necessary to sort an array which is already in order as for one which is random.

## Six main stages

The code for the Batcher sort starts at line 10000 in the program listing. You will note that six steps are highlighted:

- Step 1: T is set to the least integer, such that $2^{t}$ is greater than or equal to $n$, where $n$ is the number of elements to be sorted. The value of $t$ is used to set $p$ to the largest exact power of 2 , less than $n$.
- Step 2: 0 is initialised at the largest exact power of 2 , less than $n$. $R$ is set to zero and $d$ is set to $p$. At this stage, $q, d$ and $p$ are all equal but it will soon be apparent than this situation does not remain.

```
REM**************************************************************************
REM**
REM**
REM** IMPETUS COMPUTER SYSTEMS
REM** CLASSIC OFFICES, HENDON CENTRAL **
REM** LONDON NW4 3NN DATED: 7 JULY 1981 **
REM***********************************************************************
REM
INPUTN:DEFFNRU(I)=INT(I) - (I<>INT(I)):DIMA$(N),B$(N)
DEFFNRD(I)=INT(RND(1)*I +1)
GOT06\emptyset\emptyset\emptyset\emptyset
B=N
T=\emptyset:FORJ=1TOB-1:IFB$(J)>B$(J+1)THENT$=B$(J):B$(J)=B$(J+1):B$(J+1)=T$:T=J
NEXT:IFTTHENB=T:GOTO9\emptyset1\emptyset
RETURN
T=FNRIJ(LOG(N)/LOG(2)):P=2^(T-1) :REM STEP 1
Q=2\uparrow(T-1):R=\emptyset:D=P :REM STEP 2
S=P\cap'RR:G=N-D-1:FORK=RTOGSTEPS*2:H=K+S-1:IFG<HTHENH=G :REM STEP 3
FORI=KTOH:J=I+1
IFA$(J)>A$(J+D)THENT$=A$(J):A$(J)=A$(J+D):A$(J+D)=T$ :REM STEP }
NEXT
NEXTK
IFO<>PTHEND=0-P:Q=\dot{Q}/2:R=P:GOTO1\emptyset\emptyset O\emptyset :REM STEP 5
P=INT(P/2):IFPTHEN1\emptyset\emptyset2\emptyset :REM STEP 6
RETURN
REM BENCH TEST
FORI=1TON:A$="":FORJ=1TOFNRD(4)+2:A$=A$+CHR$(FNRD(26)+64):NEXT
A$(I)=A$:B$(I)=A$:PRINTA$:NEXT:PRINT
PRINT"BATCHER",:TI$="\emptyset\emptyset\emptyset\emptyset\emptyset\emptyset":GOSUB1\emptyset\emptyset\emptyset\emptyset:X$=TI$
PRINT"BUBBLE",:TI$="\emptyset\emptyset\emptyset\emptyset\emptyset\emptyset":GOSUB 9\emptyset\emptyset\emptyset:Y$=TI$
X=\emptyset:FORI=1TON:IFA$(I)<A$(I-1)THENX=1
NEXT:FORI=1TON:IFB$(I)<B$(I-1)ORAS(I)<>B$(I)THENX=1
NEXT:IFX=\emptysetTHENPRINT"ARRAYS SORTED CORRECTLY":GOTO6\emptyset1\emptyset\emptyset
PRINT"ERROR DISCOVERED IN CHECKING ARRAYS":STOP
PRINT"BATCHER SORT TOOK: "X$:PRINT"BUBBLE SORT TOOK: "Y$
```

- Step 3: The algorithm should read at this point: for $1=0$ to $n-d-1$ : if $(i$ and $p)=r$ then do step 4. This is however wasteful as it means that, each time through the loop, i must be incremented at all stages between 0 and $\mathrm{n}-\mathrm{d}-1$. It becomes clear on studying the operation of this algorithm that ifollows a set pattern. It is, possible, therefore, to obviate the need to test $i$ at all. We set s equal to $p$ or $r$, and $g$ equal to the top limit of $\mathrm{n}-\mathrm{d}-1$. K then becomes the various starting points for the $i$ loop and $h$ is the end of each small loop. The only test necessary is to check before entering the loop that $h$ is not greater than g. Lines 10030 and 10040, although longer than the line above, operate very much faster. Jis simply i +1 to avoid 1 being added in six times on line 10050.
- Step 4: This is the straightforward test and exchange using the elements pointed to by j and $j+d$. It is possible to use $i$ instead of $j$ in this line but I had decided that I did not wish the zero element of the array to be included in the sort.
- Step 5.0 is now tested against p. If they are not yet equal, then d becomes the difference between $q$ and $p, q$ is halved and $r$ is set to p . We must then return to step 3 for the new values of $q$, $d$ and $r$.
- Step 6. When $q$ and $p$ become equal, we halve $p$ and return to step 2. The reason for the integer function is that it forces $p$ to end at 0 giving us a clean exit.

The program lines from 60000 onwards compare the Batcher sort with the speeded-up version of the bubble sort. When the program is run, the user is prompted for a value of $n$. Line 60010 then generates $n$ random strings of length between 2 and 6 . These are put into $\mathrm{a} \$(\mathrm{i})$ and $b \$(i)$. The Batcher method then sorts the $\mathrm{a} \$$ array and the bubble sort the $\mathrm{b} \$$ array. The time taken to sort each array is recorded in $x \$$ and $y \$$ respectively.

## Time trials

Line 60060 checks that the $\mathrm{a} \$$ array is correctly sorted. Similarly, line 60070 checks that the b\$ array is correctly sorted and that the two arrays still contain identical data. If any discrepancy is discovered then an appropriate message is printed. Otherwise, the message Arrays sorted correctly
is printed and the timings for the two sorts are listed.

If the program is run for values up to about 25 elements, it will be seen that the bubble sort is indeed quicker. This is. simply because the Batcher spends a good deal of time setting pointers and initialising variables. However, from about 25 elements onwards, the Batcher
sort moves into its own. When sorting 40 strings, the bubble sort takes about twice as long as the Batcher: for 100 strings the time saving becomes something like 70 percent and for 1,000 strings, the Batcher takes about 10 minutes as opposed to marginally less than three hours for the bubble sort. These timings were made under Basic 4.0.

Under Basic 2.0 the times saved would be substantially greater because of the garbage-collection problems in moving the strings so many times. Interestingly, for large arrays a Batcher sort written in Basic may even out-perform a bubble sort written in assembler. On the other hand, the machine-code version of the Batcher sort which I have developed will sort an array of 1,000 elements in less than 10 seconds.

The Batcher sort is a most efficient algorithm for sorting volumes of data in situ. If anyone would like a copy of the assembler sort, send a cheque for $£ 15$ plus VAT - $£ 17.25$ - and I will send him a disc with both the source code and absolute code. Please state the disc format - 3040, 4040 or 8050 . Basic 2.0 and Basic 4.0 versions will be included on the disc.

# How shell method orders strings 

## Eric Dale scrutinises the shell algorithm as a solution for faster sorting.

TO ORDER a list alphabetically is an everyday requirement in data processing. For efficient use of computing time, the ordering routine should be very fast in its response. Certain string-sorting techniques require data to be moved about in memory until it is positioned correctly. Such an upheaval can be compared to moving house, lock stock and kitchen sink.
For example, a street of five homes, which house families C, A, D, B, and E, has been selected for reorganisation in such a way that family $A$ will live at number 1, family B at number 2 and so on. Imagine the uproar and chaos such a move would causé.

A simple solution to the problem is that the door numbers should be altered so that the new street numbers appear as $3,1,4,2$ and 5 . This answer is sometimes used in string sorting, especially where long strings. are involved. At first data must be compared letter by letter, but then on completion of the comparison only the addresses need by changed.
Having decided on the method of mobilising data, it is important to choose an algorithm or set of rules for selecting the pieces of data for comparison and when this will take place. The sorting algorithm I have chosen is a shell sort.

In brief, the idea is to start with a coarse adjustment to the list and as rapidly as possible make finer and more detailed movements until the sort is completed. In a list of 20 elements the sort
starts by comparing entries displaced by 10 positions and ordering them. Having completed the cycle through the list, the displacement is halved and the sort begins again. The whole operation is repeated until the order is alphabetic.

If two strings are out of order, the exchange is treated as an interrupt. and the current position in the list is stored a case of "Mind my place in the queue while I am away". The addresses of the strings are exchanged and a reversedirection comparison begins, allowing the misplaced element to bubble up the list.
The servicing of the interrupt is terminated when the element has achieved its rightful position, and the proceedings can continue as before - "I have returned to claim my place in the queue"

To time any program sort is very difficult, since it depends so much on the original data. You can, however, use the times taken to complete the sorting with the original data in the following orders:

## - Alphabetic - already sorted

- Riandom order
- Reverse order

The test data should be of the worse possible type. It should have two properties:

- strings all the same length
- only the last letter is different


## For example,

> aaaaaaaaaaaaah
> aaaaaaaaaaaaab
> aaaaaaaaaaaaaaa
would take longer to sort into order than h
aaaaaaaaaaaaaaab aaaaaaaaaa

The program should be stored in the top of memory at $32000-7 \mathrm{D} 00$ hexadecimal - and appropriate protection should be given to it by changing locations 49,51 and 53 to 124 (7C). Entry is made by a Sys call. The string array to be ordered is stored with the title $A \$$, but this can be altered by changing the contents of locations H and $\mathrm{H}+1$.

The program begins by finding the location of the start-of-string storage and searches for the required string-array name - A\$ in this case. Failure to find the array returns the user to Basic. If the name $\mathrm{A} \$$ is encountered, the data concerning the number of members is stored and used to compute the first offset for comparing the members. Each member of the array called $A \$$ has its details stored in three bytes,

- The first byte contains the string length.
- The second byte contains the low-byte address of the start of the string
- The third byte contains the high-order byte.

Two members are compared letter by letter. Some strings will be longer than others and in such a case the number of letters in the shorter string will be the maximum number of comparisons to be considered. For example,
gggg
will require three comparison operations when considered against

999
The outcome will be
gg9
gggg
Very fast times for sorting have been recorded with this program and there may be scope for its use with floatingpoint numbers.

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| 0642 | アロ48 | 45 | 66 | 70 |  | IMP RETR | ；RETLIFiN |
| 0 el 43 | $7 \mathrm{Cl4B}$ | 13 |  |  | L2 | CLE． | ：LOOK．FLIPTHER OH |
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| 0045 | アD4F | E5 | 57 |  |  | ADIC LO |  |
| 0046 | 7D51 | 85 | 57 |  |  | STA LO |  |
| 01047 | 7D53 | AD | 83 | 7F |  | LDA RDI 3 |  |
| 10748 | 7 T 56 | 65 | 58 |  |  | ADC． HI |  |
| 01247 | $7 \mathrm{DE8}$ | 85 | 58 |  |  | STA HI | ：SET LIP HEL SEARCH AREA |
| 0650 | 705A | 18 |  |  |  | CLC |  |
| 0651 | PD58 | A8： | Bat |  |  | L［1\％\＃\＃ |  |
| 1205 | $7 \mathrm{CL5}$ | A5 | $2 F$ |  |  | LDA | ：CHECK IF GONE TOU FAR |
| 0815 | 7 DEF | 69 | E11 |  |  | ADC \＃1 |  |
| De54 | P［161 | C5 | 58 |  |  | CMF HI |  |
| 2055 | 7 D 63 | 18 | AB |  |  | EPL L1 | ： $\mathrm{ACC}-\mathrm{HI}$ SHOULD EE＋ |
| 012c | $7[165$ |  |  |  |  |  | ；IF MOT STOP |
| 01057 | 7065 | 68 |  |  | RET | RTS |  |
| 1058 | 7066 |  |  |  | ；RETR | IEVAL SER |  |
| 0105 | 7LIE6 | 18 |  |  | RETR | CLC | ：START TO PROLILICE $\mathrm{S}=(\mathrm{N}+1) / 2$ |
| E1060 | 7067 |  |  |  | BUT | 1 ST SEE IF A （ 6 （6） | EXISTS |
| 01061 | $7 \mathrm{DC6}$ | AD | 82 | 7F |  | LDA LODLIP |  |
| 01662 | 7D6A | 69 | 2？ |  |  | HDC \＃？ |  |
| 8063 | 7060 | 85 | 57 |  |  | STA LO |  |
| 0064 | PDGE | A9 | 00 |  |  | LDA \＃${ }^{\text {a }}$ |  |
| 8065 | 7ロ7e | 60 | 83 | PF |  | HDC HIDUP |  |
| 0965 | 7 Cl 3 | 85 | 58 |  |  | STA HI |  |
| 0967 | 7075 | 18 |  |  |  | CLC |  |
| 0668 | 7 D 76 | H0 | 08 |  |  | LD＇\＃n |  |
| 1069 | 7078 | E1 | 57 |  |  | LロA（LO），＇r＇ |  |
| 6ara | アロアค | F61 | 05 |  |  | EEQ LIG | ：NO A米（Q）LIOES HOT EXIST |
| 0071 | アロ7C | A9 | 07 |  |  | LロA \＃？ | ：＇HES IT DOES |
| 0072 | アロ7E | 8 D | AD | $7 \square$ |  | STA L21＋1 | ；MOD PROG ACCORDIHGL＇r＇ |
| 1073 | $7 \mathrm{DB1}$ | AD | 74 | 7F | L19 | LDA HL | ； $15 T$ TIME THRU |
| 0 Q 74 | 7084 | ED | 76 | ？F |  | STA SL | ？${ }^{\text {a }}$ |
| 0875 | $7 \mathrm{DB7}$ | AD | 75 | PF |  | LIA HH | － |
| 017 ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 7D8A | 3 B | 77 | PF |  | STA SH |  |
| 107\％ | 708D | 4 C | H1 | $7 \square$ |  | JMP LS |  |
| 10173 | 7090 | 18 |  |  | L10 | CLC | ；OTHEF THAH 1ST TIME |
| 0077 | 7091 | AD | 76 | 7F |  | LOA SL |  |
| 0838 | 7 C 94 | E－ | 21 |  |  | ADC \＃ 1 |  |
| 0681 | 7096 | 8 D | 76 | 7F |  | ETH SL |  |
| G6e2 | 7099 | A－ | 1207 |  |  | LロA \＃0 |  |
| 1083 | 7098 | 6 L | 77 | 7F |  | RDC SH |  |
| 1084 | 709E | BD | 77 | 7F |  | STA SH |  |
| 0685 | アDA1 | 18 |  |  | LS | CLC |  |
| 8486 | PDA2 | 4 E | 77 | PF |  | LSR SH | PDIVIDE S HI EY 2 |
| 0087 | アロAS | EE | 76 | 7F |  | ROR SL | \％＂LO |
| 01888 | ア0A8 | 18 |  |  | L4 | CLC | （continued on next page） |
| 0089 | PDAP | AD | 82 | 7F |  | LIA LODUP | ：SET PRIMRR＇r POIHTER $=15 T$ |
| ［1930 | アロRC | 69 | 明 |  | L21 | ALIC \＃10 | ；OFFSET DEFENDS ON THE EXISTHULE |

## 

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(continued from previous page)




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# Open File 

This new section of Practical Computing will be appearing in the magazine each month, incorporating Tandy Forum, ZX-80/81 Line-up and the other software interchange pages.

Open File is the part of the magazine written by you, the readers. All aspects of microcomputing are covered, from games to serious business and technical software, and we welcome contributions on CP/M, BBC Basic, Microsoft Basic, Apple Pascal and so on, as well as the established categories.

Each month the best contribution will be awarded £20; others receive £6. Send contributions to: Open File, Practical Computing, Quadrant House, The Quadrant, Sutton, Surrey SM2 5AS.


## Cassette files

I ENCOUNTERED recently an interesting bug in the way the Pet opens cassette files, writes David Haslam of Stockport, Greater Manchester. One program I was

Pet Corner: Cassette files bug; Screen Print for 4000 series;
Going down for the lower-case descenders; Othello; Kaleidescope117
Z-80 Zodiac: Solving polynomials on Nascom ..... 120
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ZX-80/81 Line-up: Bar-chart plotter; Line-drawingroutine; Print At program suite; Card shuffle; Think quick; Flightof fancy; Read data routine; The money program; Hex loader 135


## Guidelines for contributors

Programs should be accompanied by documentation which explains to other readers what your program does and, if possible, how it does it. It helps if documentation is typed or printed with double-line spacing - cramped or handwritten material is liable to delay and error.
Program listings should, if at all possible, be printed out. Use a new ribbon in your
working on stored as lines of text as a Basic file. I wrote the following subroutine to read the line numbers into L3 and the line of text into LS.

As I was not interested in using the link bytes, line 50 merely skips those in passing, they are in LA\$,LB\$ if needed. Lines 60 and 70 are needed because the Get statement interprets a zero as a null string. I use this property to terminate line 90 on the end of line zero byte of the Basic text.

This routine worked satisfactorily on all subsequent lines, except for the first line of text in the stored file. The file in F\$ had been opened for read by the command Open $1,1,0, \mathrm{~F} \$$.
printer, please, so that we can print directly from a photograph of the listing and avoid typesetting errors. If all you can provide is a typed or handwritten listing, please make it clear and unambiguous; graphics characters, in particular, should be explained.
We can accept material for the Pet, Vic and Sharp MZ-80K on cassette, and material for the larger machines can be sent on IBM-format 8in. floppy discs.

Here is the bug. The first line would read correctly if I deleted LAS from line 50, thus indicating that the first cassette buffer pointer is one byte too high immediately after the Open command. So the solution which worked was to have this on the same line as the Open command.

```
POKE 187, PEEKK(187) -1
```

Finally, for those who might wonder why I did not use Input \# instead of Get \# on line 90 , the reason is simply that although it would be satisfactory on lines of text with no embedded quotation marks - it would terminate on the zero byte - problems arise when the line of
(continued on next page)

[^4]
## （continued from previous page）

text contains，say，just one embedded quotation，in which case there is a con－ tinued read until usually a file data error occurs．

## Screen print

MAY I offer a small contribution to the excellent screen printer program by J Dick and M Valentine which appeared in Pet Corner last June，writes D A Harris of Surbiton，Surrey．Altering a few lines allows the program to be used with a series 4000 Pet and 4022 printer．The listing shows the lines which need to be altered．
 23 ［IATH E2，F2，H5，35，B5， $02,60, E H$
 37 DATH $65, H 3,11,24,46, \mathrm{BE}, 13, \mathrm{~B} 1$ 46 DATH $59,46,85,0 \mathrm{~F}, \mathrm{HS}, 92,20,46$ $4 \overrightarrow{7}$［IHTA EE， $4 \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{ED}, \mathrm{XB}_{\mathrm{K}}, \mathrm{BE}, \mathrm{BF}, \mathrm{FA}, 12$ 4 EIATA ट®， $46, \mathrm{EE}, \mathrm{AF}, \mathrm{OF}, \mathrm{CQ}, 46, \mathrm{~EB}$ 50 DATA $\mathrm{DG}, 9 \mathrm{C}, 20, \mathrm{DF}, \mathrm{BA}, \mathrm{H} 2,0 \mathrm{G}, \mathrm{A5}$ 53 ［IATA $\mathrm{HE}, \mathrm{F} 2,60, \mathrm{A5},[12, \mathrm{~A} 6,[13, \mathrm{HE}$ 5E DATA EЗ，F5，H6，D2， $20, F E, F 7,66$

## Going down

THE DOT－MATRIX printers supplied by Commodore for use with the Pet，though robust and reliable，are in some ways annoying and quixotic，writes A D Maude at Aberystwyth，Dyfed．One of their shortcomings is the inability to print cha－ racters with tails which go below the line， known as＂descenders＂，such as $q, g$ or $p$ ．

Some models，such as the 3022，have the facility to move the paper on by a fraction of a line separation，and to print special characters designated by software． This program uses these facilities to pro－ duce descenders at the cost of a slower rate of printing．

As the main line and descenders are printed on separate sweeps of the printer head，paper in a traction－feed printer must be under a slight tension．Otherwise， it may not move on by quite the correct

## Going down

1 REM PRINTING WITH DESCENDERS
15 CLR：GOSUB 50.0
20 DIM X（？

40 FRINT\＃4：FFINTH4：PRINT\＃4

60 CLOSE 4：CLOSE 5：CLOSE 6：STOF
40日G REM
4016 REM＊＊SUBROUTINE FOR FRINTIHS A＊＊＊


4046 IF C $\$==?$＂THEN CP $=1$
4059 IF $C=$＂
4060 IF CP $=1$ THEN 4996

4080 IF C C $=$＝＂J＂THEN $C=$＝$=$ CHR $\ddagger(254)$ ：REM THE IUT FOR：A J
4690 B $=$ Bま＋C $\ddagger$ ：NEXT $N$
4160 FRINT\＃5．D13（0）：PRIHT\＃6．CHR（5）：FRINT\＃4．E
4110 REM FRINT IESCEHILERE
$4120 \mathrm{CP}=1$
4130 FOF $J=1$ TO 5：FOR $N=1$ TO LEN（Ft）：C

4150 IF C $\mathrm{C}=" \mathrm{M}$＂THEN $\mathrm{CP}=\mathrm{g}:$ GOTO 4189
4160 IF $C=C 1 \$(J)$ FHD $C P=0$ THEN $D \$=C H F s(254$ ；
4175 PRIHT\＃4，D $\ddagger$ ；
4180 NEXT N

4201 FRINT\＃E，CHR $\$$（12）：PRIHT\＃ 4 ：RETLIRN
5000 REF
5010 REM＊＊＊SET UP SPECIRL CHARFCTEFS AHII PFEFRRE PRINTER＊＊＊
5620 DIM D1年（5），C1家（5）
5039 DPEN 4，4：OPEN 5，4，5：OPEN 6，4，6 RESTORE
5040 FOR J＝0 TO 5：D19（J）＝＂＂


5100 REM
5110 REM SFECIAL CHRRACTER DFTA
5130 DATA $0,0,6,64,0,0, ": "$
5130 DATM 2，1，1，126，0，0，J
5140 DHTA $127,40,68,68,56,0$ ，＂F＂＂
5150 DATA $56,68,68,40,127,0$ ，＂
5169 IATA $113,9,5,9,126,0, " Y$
5170 DRTA $56,69,69,69,62,0, " G "$
5209 REM
5210 REM TEKT TO BE FRINTEII
520 DATA＂COHHODORE FRINTING WITH DEECENDERS＂
5230 DATA

5 ESG DHTA＂TMHE DOT MATRIM PRINTERS SUFPLIEI E＇t TMINIUOTORE FOR USE MITH＂
5260 DATA＂MTHE PETN ARE FOBIET AND RELIAELE，EUT IN SUME WFI＇S ARE JUST A＂
5270 DATA＂RLITTLE FHNOYIHG AHD QUIMOTIC．JWHE OF THEIR SHORTCOMIHGS IS THEIR＂ 5250 DATA＂WINABILITY TO PRINT CHARACTERS WITH TAILS WHICH GO BELON THE LINE．＂
distance，and so the descenders may be slightly displaced．

## Othello

TWO PEOPLE can play Othello on the pro－ gram from Stephen Cronk of Litlington， near Royston，Hertfordshire．The program checks for legal moves and scores and
outputs suitable verbal remarks and instructions at various points during the game via the wideband Speakeasy speech synthesiser．

If you do not have the Speakeasy unit， delete line 60010．The $£$ sign in line 80 is the graphic character＂－＂and the \％in the following lines is the character＂I＂．

```
```

301 C=871C1=81:R=0

```
```

301 C=871C1=81:R=0

```
```

301 C=871C1=81:R=0
301 C=871C1=日1:R=0
301 C=871C1=日1:R=0
301 C=871C1=日1:R=0
305 IFP1=1THENC=
305 IFP1=1THENC=
305 IFP1=1THENC=
310 XT=X
310 XT=X
310 XT=X
315 R=0
315 R=0
315 R=0
320 W=0:z=0:GOSUB7000
320 W=0:z=0:GOSUB7000
320 W=0:z=0:GOSUB7000
320 W=0: 2=0:GOSUB7
320 W=0: 2=0:GOSUB7
320 W=0: 2=0:GOSUB7
340 Z=-1; 60su97000
340 Z=-1; 60su97000
340 Z=-1; 60su97000
340 z=-1:G05U97000
340 z=-1:G05U97000
340 z=-1:G05U97000
370 z=-1:GOSU87000
370 z=-1:GOSU87000
370 z=-1:GOSU87000
330 z=-1:GOSU87000
330 z=-1:GOSU87000
330 z=-1:GOSU87000
380 w=-1:z=0:G0SUB7
380 w=-1:z=0:G0SUB7
380 w=-1:z=0:G0SUB7
400 z=1:GOSUB7000
400 z=1:GOSUB7000
400 z=1:GOSUB7000
410 IFR=OTHEN300
410 IFR=OTHEN300
410 IFR=OTHEN300
420 R1=R1+1: GGSUB5000
420 R1=R1+1: GGSUB5000
420 R1=R1+1: GGSUB5000
SOO IFR1=6OTHEN9500
SOO IFR1=6OTHEN9500
SOO IFR1=6OTHEN9500
520 IFP1=2THEN270
520 IFP1=2THEN270
520 IFP1=2THEN270
520 IFP1=2THEN270
520 IFP1=2THEN270
520 IFP1=2THEN270
S30 PRINT.";SPC(10);
S30 PRINT.";SPC(10);
S30 PRINT.";SPC(10);
S30 PRINT"M,SPC(10);
S30 PRINT"M,SPC(10);
S30 PRINT"M,SPC(10);
S40 PRINT"ELACK WON EY";BT-NT
S40 PRINT"ELACK WON EY";BT-NT
S40 PRINT"ELACK WON EY";BT-NT
550 GOTOS70
550 GOTOS70
550 GOTOS70
580 PRINT"WHITEE WON BY";WT-BT
580 PRINT"WHITEE WON BY";WT-BT
580 PRINT"WHITEE WON BY";WT-BT
565 GOSURIO300
565 GOSURIO300
565 GOSURIO300
570 END
570 END
570 END
5000 FORX=1 TOB; FORY=1 TOG
5000 FORX=1 TOB; FORY=1 TOG
5000 FORX=1 TOB; FORY=1 TOG
5000 FORX=1TO8; FORY=1 TO\&
5000 FORX=1TO8; FORY=1 TO\&
5000 FORX=1TO8; FORY=1 TO\&
5020 NEXT:NEXT:RETURN
5020 NEXT:NEXT:RETURN
5020 NEXT:NEXT:RETURN
6000 IFPI=1THENPOKEP,49
6000 IFPI=1THENPOKEP,49
6000 IFPI=1THENPOKEP,49
6001 G=OIGOSUR1
6001 G=OIGOSUR1
6001 G=OIGOSUR1
6009 POKEY1,32
6009 POKEY1,32
6009 POKEY1,32
6020 POKEX1, 32:GETA䐆IFA1<<""THENG040
6020 POKEX1, 32:GETA䐆IFA1<<""THENG040
6020 POKEX1, 32:GETA䐆IFA1<<""THENG040
6030 POKEX1,102:G0TO6020
6030 POKEX1,102:G0TO6020
6030 POKEX1,102:G0TO6020
6040 IFA\&="N"THENG=1:RETURN
6040 IFA\&="N"THENG=1:RETURN
6040 IFA\&="N"THENG=1:RETURN
6040 IFAS="N"THENG=1:RETURN
6040 IFAS="N"THENG=1:RETURN
6040 IFAS="N"THENG=1:RETURN
6050 POKEX1, पAL (As)+4EıXM=VAL (As)
6050 POKEX1, पAL (As)+4EıXM=VAL (As)
6050 POKEX1, पAL (As)+4EıXM=VAL (As)
6080 POKEY1,32:GETA\&; IFA$<>" "TMENG0日O
6080 POKEY1,32:GETA&; IFA$<>" "TMENG0日O
6080 POKEY1,32:GETA\&; IFA\$<>" "TMENG0日O
6070 POKEYY, 102:GO""H"THENGOGO

```
6070 POKEYY, 102:GO""H"THENGOGO
```

6070 POKEYY, 102:GO""H"THENGOGO

```
```

360 z=1:GOSUB7000

```
360 z=1:GOSUB7000
```

360 z=1:GOSUB7000
400 2=1:GOSUB7000
400 2=1:GOSUB7000
400 2=1:GOSUB7000
S10 IFP1=1 THEN275

```
S10 IFP1=1 THEN275
```

S10 IFP1=1 THEN275

```
- POKE59459, 255: POKE59469, 205
\(1 \mathrm{P}=33005: \times 1=33085: \vee 1=33125: \mathrm{W} 1=35205: \mathrm{B}=33295: \mathrm{P} 1=2: \mathrm{BT}=2: \mathrm{WT}=2\)
2 gosubeoco
PRINT"': DIME (9,9,2)
10 REM OTHELLO: NOT BY SHAKESPEARE
REMARKARLY CUMMITED BY S.CRONK \(15 / 5 / 1981\)
    REM--IF YOU DARE: ! : SPEAKEASY SPEEECH UNIT
    REM--IF YOU DARE! !
    PRINTSPC (16):"OTMELCO"

    PRINTSPC(12); "BY STEVE CRONK"
60 PRINT
TO PRINTSPC(11):"1 234547 g PLAYER"
90 PRINTSPC(10);"OEEEEECEEEEEEEEE ELEEEEEEEE"
90 PRINTSPC(9); "A\%";SPC(23) "X"
110 PRINTSPC ( 9 ); "B\%"
120 PRINTSPC 10 ) ".
120 PRINTSPC \((10)\); "\%"
130 PRINTSPC (9) "C "."
140 PRINTSPC \((10)\), "\%"


180 DATA \(33020,33100,33180,33260,33340\)
190 DATA33420,33500, 33550
195 RESTORE
210 READA: \(A=A+39\) IFORK \(=A T O(A+15)\) STEP 2: \(\mathrm{L}=\mathrm{L}+1\)

230 NEXTK: \(L=0\) : NEXTJ
240 GOSUE15000 \(B(4,4,2)=87: B(5,4,2)=81: B(4,5,2)=81: B(5,5,2)=87\)
260 GOSUESOOO
\(270 \quad \mathrm{P}_{1}=1=\) : 0 T027
275 P1m2
280 GOSUB6000: IF G=1 THEN 510
OO \(\mathrm{B}(\mathrm{XM}, \mathrm{YM}, 2)=4\) GTHEN3O 1
300 GOSUE 10200 : POKE \(33078,133:\) FORJ \(=1\) TO500: NEXT : POKE 33079,32 : GOTO280
```

(continued from previous page)
6090 POKEY1, ASC (A$)-64, YM=ASC (A$)-64
GION RETURN
7000 XT=XM: YT=YM:F=0
7010 XT=XT WZ:YTTYYT=W
7025 IFYT< IORYT\&ORXT< IORXT\QTHEN7500
7030 XT=XT*Z:YT=YT+W
7050 IFXT>日ORXT<1ORYT>EORYT<1THEN7OTO
7080 GOTO7030
7070 IFF=0THEN7500
7080 XT=XMIYT=YM1B(XM,YM, 2)=C
7090 XT=XT+Z;YT=VT+W
700 IFB(XT,YT,2)=CTHENTEOO
120 B(XT,YT,2)=L:R=R+1
7500 RETURN
8000 PRINT""1SPC(13);"INSTRUCTIONS"
8005 GOSUEIOOMO
8010 PRINTSPC (12);"£EE£EE££E£EEE£"
B020 PRINT
BO30 PRINT"THE PLAYER MUST PLACE A CDUNTER IN A"
BO40 PRINT"FREE SQUARE ADJACENT TO AN OCCUPIED"
GOGO PRINT"OF THE OPPONENT'S COUNTERS LIES BETWEEN"
8070 PRINT"THE CURRENT COUNTER AND ANOTHER OF HIS"
BOBO PRINT"OWN COUNTERS IN STRAIGMT LINE"
3090 PRINT"ALL THE OPPONENTS COUNTERS SO
8100 PRINT"SANDWICHED BECOME CAPTURED
B110 PRINT:PRINT" PLAYER 1=Q"
G120 PRINT:PRINT" PLAYER 2=W", FRESS ANY KEY TO START
8140 GETA*:JFA\$=""THENB140
B150 RETURN
9000 EOTO9000
9500 PRINT" GAME OVER":FDRK=1TDG:FORY=1 TOE
9510 IF B(x,y,2)=81THENWT=WT+1
9520 IF B(X,Y,2)=87THEN

```

\section*{Kaleidoscope}
this game has been devised on the Pet 4032 by Ian Payton of Winnersh，Berk－ shire．Kaleidoscope is fully portable and requires no special graphics or cursor controls．All that needs to be changed are the variables：

10000 RESTIRE
10010 READ AS：IFAEK \(>230\) THEN 10010
10020 READAS：IFAS＜－1 THENRETURTV
10030 GOSUB60000
10040 GOTO10020
10100 RESTORE
10110 IFP1＝2THEN 10160
10120 READAS：IFAS＜ 2 AOTHEN1 120
10130 READA5：IFASK－1THEN1015
10140 GOSUBGOOOO：GOTO1O130
10160 READA5：IFASK \(>250\) THEN10160
10170 READAS：TFAS＜－1THEN1OLEO
10175 GOSUE60000：60T010170
10180 READAS：IFAS -1 THENFETURN
10190 GOSUR60000：GOTE10180
10200 RESTORE
10210 READAS：IFASK \(>270\) TMEN 10210
10220 READAS：IFAS－-1 THENRETURN
10230 GOSUB6COOO：GDTOIO220
10300 RESTORE
10310 READA5：IFASK 3290 THEN 10310
10320 READAS：IFAEK－1 THENRETURN
10330 AS＝AS＋64：GOSUQ60000：GOTO 10320
10400 RESTORE
10420 READA5：IFAS \(>300\) THEN 10410
10430 GOSUB60000：GOTOIO420
60000 POKES9457，A5：POKE59468，237：POKEE9468， 205
60010 IF PEEK（59469）／4＝1NT（PEEK（59469）／4）THEN60010
60020 RETURN
61000 DATA230， \(52,57,59,24,38,63,14,21,0,41,63,31,42,44,15,2,13,63\)
61010 DATA25， \(25,23,61,13,25,27,63,-3\)
61020 DATA－3，250，14，24，47，0，25，\(-3,42,54,55,55,63,12,55,55\)
61040 DATA270，50，2，0，42，31，63，16，44，42，10，20， \(63,-3\)
61050 DATA \(90,25,50,13,27,92,67,111,94,26,35,152,134,33,17,35,13,18,63,63\) 610 GO DATA－3
61090 DATAZ300， \(56,39,31,63,139,137,146,63,29,50,49,13,63,-3\)
READY．

TL－top－left of VDU，SD－screen depth，SL －screen length，RW－reverse blank，BD－ half－density block， OB －ordinary blanks．

You are asked first whether you would like a negative or positive kaleidoscope effect．If you choose＇Negative＇the screen is filled with reverse blanks，if not，it is simply cleared．

A border is then drawn around the screen in half－density blocks and the arrays are set up．

The program then goes through a routine which plots reverse blanks on the screen，or ordinary blanks if the space is already occupied．After you press the space key，it waits for another key．

FEADY．
\(100 \mathrm{REM} * * * * * * * * \mathrm{KALEIDOSCOFE} * * * * * * * *\)
\(110 \mathrm{TL}=5276 \$\)
\(120 \quad \mathrm{SD}=24\)
\(1305 L=40\)
\(140 \quad \mathrm{TR}=7{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{L}+(\mathrm{SL}-1)\)
\(150 \mathrm{EL}=7 \mathrm{LL}+((\mathrm{SD}-1) * S L)\)
\(160 \mathrm{BR}=\mathrm{BL}+(\mathrm{SL}-1)\)
\(170 \mathrm{RW}=160\)
\(180 \mathrm{BD}=102\)
\(190 \mathrm{OE}=32\)
\(200 \mathrm{FORX}=1\) TOSD \(/ 2\)
210 FFINT
220 NEXTX
230 PRINTTAE（ \((S L-12) / 2)\)＂KALEIDISCOFE＂
240 PRINT
250 PRINT
260 PFIINTTAE（（SL－12）／2－1）＂BY T．F．FGYTON＂
270 FロRX \(=1\) TOSD／2
280 FFSINT
290 NEXTX
उ00 FDFX＝1T01500
310 NEXTX
З20 PRINT＂DO VOU WANT A NEGATIVE OR POSITIVE＂
उJO PFINT
玉40 FFFINT＂K゙ALETDOSCOFE EFFECT（N／P）？＂
350 FORX \(=1\) TOSD \(/ 2\)
360 FRINT
370 NEXTX
380 GETNFक
390 IFNP \(5=" N " T H E N 420\)
400 IFNF束＝＂P＂THENGOSUE900）GOTO460
410 GCTOSBO
420 GO5UR900
430 FGRNL \(=\) TL TGER
440 POKENL，RW
450 NEXTNL
460 FORPL \(=7\) TLOTF
470 PCKKEPL， BD
480 NEXTPL
490 FGRPL \(=\) TL TOELSTEFCSL
500 POKEPL，EDD
510 PロKKEPL＋（SL－1）， 80
520 NEXTPL
530 FORPL＝EL TOER
```

540 POKEFL,GD
55 NEXTPL
560 LC (1)=TL
570 LC(2)=TR
580 LC(3)=EL
590 LC (4) =ER
600 D1 (1)=1
610 D1 (2)=-1
620 D1(3)=1
630 D1(4)==1
640 D2(1)=SL
650 D2(2)=SL
6,50 D2(3)=-SL
\&70 D2(4)=-SL
680 x X=INT((SL-N)/2)
690 YY=INT((SD-1)/2)
700 FORX=1 TO4
70 L2(x)=LC}(x
720 MEXTX
730 X=INT (XX*RND (1)+1)
740 Y=INT (YY*RND (1) +1)
750 FORZ=1T04
760 L2(Z)=L2(Z)+((X*D1(Z))+(Y*D2(Z)))
70 NEXTZ
780 IFPEEK\{2(1))<,OQTHENCF=OE:GOTOGOO
790 CR=RW
800}\cdot\textrm{FORZ}=1\mathrm{ TO4
810 POKEL2(Z),CR
820 NEXTZ
8ड0 GETGG㐁
840 IFGGक<`" "THEN890
850 GETGG*
860 IFGG\$=" "THENSOG
970 IFGG =="S"THENGOSUB940:END
980 G0TO850
890 GOTO700
900 FOFX=1 TGSD/?
9 1 0 ~ F R I N T ~
9 2 0 ~ N E X T X ~
930 RETURN
940 FORX=1TOSD
950 PRINT
960 NEXTX
770 FIETURN
FEADY.

```


\section*{Solving polynomials}

THE SCIENTIFIC use of a computer usually concerns Numerical Analysis, writes Daniel Zlatnik of Mozkin, Israel. Most commercial systems software contains Numerical Methods as an important part of their library.

I am using my Nascom 2 microcomputer to run numerical methods with much success. This short program calculates the roots of a given polynomial. The simplest example is the linear equation of the form:
\[
a x+b=0
\]
where a and b are known constants and \(a \neq 0\).
The root of the equation will be xo, the value of \(x\) that will satisfy the equation. For this equation \(x_{0}=-b / a\).

Another simple standard equation is the quadratic equation:

Figure 2.

\(a x^{2}+b x+c=0\)
where \(a \neq 0\), and \(b\) and \(c\) are given constants. For this second order equation we have two roots:
\[
\begin{aligned}
& x_{1}=\frac{-b+\sqrt{b^{2}-4 a c}}{2 a} \\
& x_{2}=\frac{-b-\sqrt{b^{2}-4 a c}}{2 a}
\end{aligned}
\]

These roots will be identical when
\[
b^{2}-4 a c=0
\]
or
\[
b^{2}=4 a c
\]

For \(b^{2}<4 a c\) there are two other roots called-complex roots.

Two more complex examples are the trignometric equation
\(x^{2}+x \sin x=\cos x\)
and the polynomial equation in the common form:
\(\begin{aligned} & P_{n}(X)=a^{\prime} X^{\mu}+a_{1} X^{\mu-1}+\ldots+a_{\mu-1} X+ \\ & a_{\mu}=0^{\circ}\end{aligned}\) \(a_{\mu}=0^{\circ}\)
This program for the Nascom 2 computer is based on a method that is good for any sort of one-variable equation as well as for polynomial equations, which is defined in line 350. Any other equation


Figure 1.
can be defined in this statement, using the algebraic functions provided by the computer. The initialised printing formats will have to be changed as well, according to the equation structure and constants.

Figure 1 shows a graph of a function \(F(x)\) which crosses the \(x\)-azis at \(x=-3, x\) \(=-1, x=2\), and \(x=3\). These values are roots of this function for starting to search for the first root of this function. The program asks for an \(\mathrm{X}_{\mathrm{L}}\) defined as the left limit of \(x . X_{R}\), the right limit of \(X\) is equal to \(-\mathrm{X}_{\mathrm{L}}\), If for example you take


Figure 4.
\(X_{L}=-6\), the program, will search for roots which are between \(X_{L}=-6\) and \(X_{R}\) \(=+6\).

The program starts by putting \(\mathbf{X}_{\mathrm{L} 1}=\) \(\mathrm{X}_{\mathrm{L}}, \mathrm{X}_{\mathrm{R} 1}=\mathrm{X}_{\mathrm{L} 1}+1\), it calculates the values of \(F\left(X_{L 1}\right)\) and \(F\left(X_{R_{1}}\right)\) and then it checks the three possible cases. First, if \(\mathrm{F}\left(\mathrm{X}_{\mathrm{L}}\right)\) \(* F\left(X_{R 1}\right)=0\), then \(X_{\mathrm{L} 1}\) or \(\mathrm{X}_{\mathrm{R} 1}\) is an exact roots of the function, the root is printed and the search to the right is carried on.

Secondly, if \(\mathrm{F}\left(\mathrm{X}_{\mathrm{L} 1}\right) * \mathrm{~F}\left(\mathrm{X}_{\mathrm{R}_{1}}\right)>0\), then there is no root between \(X_{L 1}\) and \(X_{R 1}\) because they are both positive, and the search to the right is carried on - see figure 3. If \(\mathrm{F}\left(\mathrm{X}_{\mathrm{L} 1}\right) * \mathrm{~F}\left(\mathrm{X}_{\mathrm{R} 1}\right)<0\), then there is a root between these limits \(\left(\mathrm{X}_{\mathrm{L} 1}\right.\), \(\mathrm{X}_{\mathrm{R} 1}\) ) so the program starts a loop successively approximates to the root.

Each step of the loop halves the interval between \(\mathrm{X}_{\mathbf{L}}\) and \(\mathbf{X}_{\mathbf{R}}\). The loop ends when the statement
\[
x_{R}-x_{L}<E P S
\]
is true.
Figure 3.

\(\xrightarrow{\text { RE }}\)

PRIMT" URITEM BY D. ZLATHIK."
70 PRIMT" THIS PROGRAM FINIS THE RDOIS OF A-*
80 PRINT" GIUEN POLINOM WITH THE FOLLOWING"
90 PRINT" FORM:"
100 PRINT: \({ }^{5} 4^{4} 3^{3}{ }^{2}{ }^{1} 0^{\prime \prime}\)
10 PRINT"P \((X)=A X+B X+C X+D X+E X+F X^{*}\)
10 PRINT
30 PRINT" DATA REQUESTED IS:A, B,C,D,E,F*
140 PRINT" AS REAL OR IMTEGER CONSTANTS, AND"
150 PRINT" EPS (REAL NUMBER LESS THAN: ITTHE"
160 PRIMT" DEGREE OF ACCURACY(ERROR LIMIT)'
170 REM *** INPUT DATA 觔
180 PRIMT" ENTER DATA: \(A=" ;\) :INPUT \(A\)
190 PRIMT" \(\quad \mathrm{B}=\boldsymbol{\prime}\);IMPUT B
200 PRIMT" \(\quad \mathrm{C}={ }^{\circ} ;:\) :IMPUT C
210 PRIMT" \(D=" ;: I M P U T D\)
220 PRIMT" \(E=*:\) :IMPUT E
230 PRIMT" \(\quad \mathrm{F}=\boldsymbol{\circ} \boldsymbol{\prime}: I \mathrm{INPUT} F\)
240 PRIMT
260 PRIMT" EPS=*;:IMPUT EPS
```

270 PRIMT ( FOR FIMDING THE ROOTS ENTER"
\$90 PRIN" FOR FIMDING THE ROOTS ENTER" 520
290 PRINT" XL (XL<O) FOR THE LEFT LIMIT OF -X."
300 PRINT* XR (THE RIGHT LIMIT) IS TAKEN AS:"
310 PRINT" XR=-XL. THE ROOT IS SUPPOSED TO*
320}\mathrm{ PRINT" BE FOUND BETUEEN THESE IIMITS"
330 PRINT* XL=";:INPUT XL
340 REM क*: HAIN PROGRAH :***

```

```

360 CLS
370 X1=ABS(XL)
380 YL=FNP(XL)
390. XR=XL+1
400 YR=FIMP(XR)
\$10 If YL:YR=0 THEN 6010 \$40
410 IF YL\#YR=0 THEN 6010 640
430 XS=xR
440 }X=(XL+XR)/
450 Y=FNP(Y)
460 IF YL*Y=0 THEN GOTO 520
470 IF YL*Y>O THEN GOTO \$50
480 XR=X
490 IR=Y (HR XL EPS THEM GOTO 520
500 1F XR-XLSEPS THEN GOTO 520
510 GOTO 440

```
```

PRIMT" ROOT [S BETUEEN:XL=";XL,"AND:XR=";XR
XL=x5
6070 580
XL=X
YL=Y
GOTO 500
IF XL>=X1 THEN GDTO }71
GOTO 380
1F XR = =1 THEN GOTO }71
XL=XR
YL=YR
GOTO }39
IF YL=0 THEN GOTO }69
PRINT" ROO† IS: XR="; XR
IF XR>=XI THEN GOTO }71
XL=XR+1
gOTO 380
PRINT" ROOT 1S: YL=";XL
GOTO 600
PRINT" LIMITS EXCEEDED. IF MORE ROOTS ARE"
PRINT" TO BE FOUND, ENIER: RERUN WITH*
PRINTP LARGER LIMITS. IF NOT PRINT END."
IMPUT AS
740 INPUT AS
750 IF As="RERUM" THEN 60TO 330
760 END

```

\section*{\(2 \times 8\) PERSONAL COMPUTER}


\title{
Sinclair ZX81 Personal
the heart of a system that grows with you.
}

1980 saw a genuine breakthrough the Sinclair ZX80, world's first complete personal computer for under \(£ 100\). Not surprisingly, over 50,000 were sold.

In March 1981, the Sinclair lead increased dramatically. For just \(£ 69.95\) the Sinclair ZX81 offers even more advanced facilities at an even lower price. Initially, even we were surprised by the demand - over 50,000 in the first 3 months!

Today, the Sinclair ZX81 is the heart of a computer system. You can add 16-times more memory with the ZX RAM pack. The ZX Printer offers an unbeatable combination of performance and price. And the ZX Software library is growing every day.
Lower price: higher capability With the ZX81, it's still very simple to teach yourself computing, but the ZX81 packs even greater working capability than the ZX80.

It uses the same micro-processor, but incorporates a new, more powerful 8 K BASIC ROM - the 'trained intelligence' of the computer. This chip works in decimals, handles logs and trig, allows you to plot graphs, and builds up animated displays.

And the ZX81 incorporates other operation refinements - the facility to load and save named programs on cassette, for example, and to drive the new ZX Printer.


Every \(7 \times 81\) comes with a comprehensive specially-written manual - a complete course in BASIC programming, from first principles to complex programs

\section*{Kit: C.10, 95}

\section*{Higher specification, lower price how's it done?}

Quite simply, by design. The ZX80 reduced the chips in a working computer from 40 or so, to 21 . The ZX81 reduces the 21 to 4 !

The secret lies in a totally new master chip. Designed by Sinclair and custom-built in Britain, this unique chip replaces 18 chips from the ZX80!
New, improved specification Z80A micro-processor - new faster version of the famous \(\mathbf{Z 8 0}\) chip, widely recognised as the best ever made.
- Unique 'one-touch' key word entry: the ZX81 eliminates a great deal of tiresome typing. Key words (RUN, LIST, PRINT, etc.) have their own single-key entry.
- Unique syntax-check and report codes identify programming errors immediately.
Full range of mathematical and scientific functions accurate to eight decimal places.
- Graph-drawing and animateddisplay facilities.
- Multi-dimensional string and numerical arrays.
- Up to 26 FOR/NEXT loops. - Randomise function - useful for games as well as serious applications. - Cassette LOAD and SAVE with named programs.
- 1K-byte RAM expandable to 16K bytes with Sinclair RAM pack. - Able to drive the new Sinclair printer.
Advanced 4-chip design: microprocessor, ROM, RAM, plus master chip - unique, custom-built chip replacing 18 ZX80 chips.

\title{
Built: \\ £69.95
}

\section*{Kit or built - it's up to you!}

You'll be surprised how easy the ZX81 kit is to build: just four chips to assemble (plus, of course the other discrete components) - a few hours' work with a fine-tipped soldering iron. And you may already have a suitable mains adaptor -600 mA at 9 V DC nominal unregulated (supplied with built version).

Kit and built versions come complete with all leads to connect to your TV (colour or black and white) and cassette recorder.


\section*{ter-}

\title{
How the \(\mathbf{X X 8 1}\) compares with other personal computers
}
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|}
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{SYSTEM IDENTIFICATION} & 2X81 & ZX80 & \[
\begin{aligned}
& \text { ACORN } \\
& \text { ATOM }
\end{aligned}
\] & APPLEII PLUS & \[
\begin{aligned}
& \text { PET } \\
& 2001
\end{aligned}
\] & TRS 80 LEVELI & TRS 80 LEVELII \\
\hline \multirow[t]{2}{*}{\[
\frac{\text { ROM }}{\text { GUIDE PRICE }}
\]} & & 8K & 4K & 8K & 8K & 14K & 4K & 12K \\
\hline & Basic unit - inc. VAT Unit plus 16KRAM (*12K RAM) & \[
\begin{aligned}
& £ 70 \\
& £ 120
\end{aligned}
\] & \[
\begin{aligned}
& £ 100 \\
& £ 150
\end{aligned}
\] & \[
\begin{aligned}
& £ 175 \\
& £ 285^{*}
\end{aligned}
\] & \[
\begin{aligned}
& £ 630 \\
& £ 630
\end{aligned}
\] & \[
\begin{aligned}
& £ 435 \\
& £ 530
\end{aligned}
\] & \[
\begin{aligned}
& £ 290 \\
& £ 360
\end{aligned}
\] & \[
\begin{aligned}
& £ 375 \\
& £ 375
\end{aligned}
\] \\
\hline COMMANDS & LIST, LOAD, NEW, RUN, SAVE & - & - & - & \(\bullet\) & - & - & - \\
\hline \multirow[t]{3}{*}{STATEMENTS} & \begin{tabular}{l}
PRINT, INPUT, LET, GOTO, \\
GOSUB/RETURN, FOR/NEXTIF/THEN
\end{tabular} & - & - & - & - & - & - & - \\
\hline & STEP & - & & - & - & - & - & - \\
\hline & TAB & - & & & - & - & - & - \\
\hline ARITHMETIC & ABS, RND & - & - & - & - & - & - & - \\
\hline \multirow[t]{3}{*}{FUNCTIONS} & INT & - & & & - & - & - & - \\
\hline & ATN, COS, EXP, LOG, SGN, SIN, SQR, TAN & - & & & - & - & & - \\
\hline & ARCSIN, ARCOS & - & & & & & & \\
\hline STRING & CHR' \({ }^{\text {d }}\) & - & - & & - & - & & - \\
\hline \multirow[t]{2}{*}{FUNCTIONS} & LEN & - & & - & - & - & & - \\
\hline & ASC(CODE), STR§, VAL, INKEY\$' & - & & & & - & & - \\
\hline \multirow[t]{2}{*}{NUMBERS} & FLOATING PT \(\pm 10 \pm 38\) & - & & & - & - & - & - \\
\hline & INTEGERS & & - & - & - & - & & - \\
\hline \multirow[t]{3}{*}{NUMERIC VARIABLES} & A-Z & & & - & & & - & \\
\hline & AA-Z \(\varnothing\) & & & & - & - & & - \\
\hline & An-Zn, \(\mathrm{n}=\) any alphanumeric string & - & - & & & & & \\
\hline \multirow[t]{3}{*}{STRING VARIABLES} & \(A S^{\prime} \& B \$\) & & & & & & - & \\
\hline & AS' to Z\%' & - & - & - & & & & \\
\hline & Ans to \(\mathrm{Zn} \mathbf{S}^{\prime} \mathrm{n}=\) any alphanumeric character & & & & - & - & & - \\
\hline \multirow[t]{2}{*}{NUMERIC ARRAYS} & SINGLE DIMENSIONAL & & - & - & & & - & \\
\hline & MULTI DIMENSIONAL & - & & & - & - & & - \\
\hline \multirow[t]{4}{*}{DISPLAY} & ROWS & 24 & 24 & 16 & 24 & 25 & 16 & 16 \\
\hline & COLUMNS & 32 & 32 & 32 & 40 & 40 & 64 & 64 \\
\hline & LOW RES GRAPHICS (<7000 pixels) & - & - & - & - & - & \(\bullet\) & - \\
\hline & HI RES GRAPHICS ( \(>40000\) pixels) & & & - & - & & & \\
\hline \multirow[t]{2}{*}{SPECIAL FEATURES} & USR (CALL, LINK) & - & - & - & - & - & & - \\
\hline & PEEK, POKE (OREQUIV) & - & - & - & - & - & & - \\
\hline
\end{tabular}

\section*{Sinclair software on cassette.}


The unprecedented popularity of the ZX Series of Sinclair Personal Computers has generated a large volume of programs written by users. Sinclair has undertaken to publish the most elegant of these on pre-recorded cassettes. Each program is carefully vetted for interest and quality, and then grouped with others to form single-subject cassettes.

Software currently available includes games, junior education, and business/household management systems. You'll receive a Sinclair ZX Software catalogue with your ZX81 - or see our separate advertisement in this magazine.

\title{
The ultimate course in ZX81 BASIC programming.
}


Some people prefer to learn their programming from books. For them, the ZX81 BASIC manual is ideal.

But many have expressed a preference to learn on the machine, through the machine. Hence the new cassette-based ZX81 Learning Lab.

The package comprises a \(160-\) page manual and 8 cassettes. 20 programs, each demonstrating a particular aspect of ZX81 programming, are spread over 6 of the cassettes. The other two are blank practice cassettes.

Full details with your Sinclair ZX81.

\section*{If you own a Sinclair ZX80...}


The new 8K BASIC ROM used in the Sinclair ZX81 is available to ZX80 owners as a drop-in replacement chip. (Complete with new keyboard template and operating manual.)

With the exception of animated graphics, all the advanced features of the ZX81 are now available on your ZX80 - including the ability to drive the Sinclair ZX Printer.


6 Kings Parade, Cambridge, Cambs., CB2 1SN. Tel: (0276) 66104 \& 21282.


\section*{Menu drive}
when you want a menu for your new program，says F Williams of Llangol－ len，Clwyd，you should be able to go back to that rather successful routine you used last time，and with your renumber utility patch parts of the old program into your new one．After a few changes it ought to work well and－more important－it is free from bugs．Program I is a skeleton for a typical menu routine．

All this is fine as far as it goes，but it is not realiy as easy as all that．In reusing an old routine you will still have to make a number of alterations especially if you want a tidy layout．Because you have skimped on planning the bugs come swarming in．

Program 2 is therefore the next stage． It provides a standard routine that you can patch straight into any program：all you need do then is write the required words into the Data lines．The program first reads strings from the Data state－ ments in lines 1340 onwards．The main title is read first，as M\＄（0），followed by the words of＂each＂choice＂line．The string＂－＂terminates this operation． The Read operation takes Data in the order it occurs anywhere in the program， so if you have more than one Read operation in the program you may find it reading the wrong list of data．

While reading the strings，the length of the longest one is measured in line 1110. The program jumps out of the Read loop when it reads a string as＂－＂，and the variable \(X\) is adjusted to become the number of lines． \(\mathbf{S}\) is used to denote the number of unused lines on the screen－ line 1140 －and then to denote the size of the three free spaces in the layout．

H is the size of left－hand margin，calcu－ lated to put first the title，then the longest string，symmetrically on the screen．Then the title is printed，followed finally by each line of the menu in a loop in lines 1240 to 1290.

Lines 1310 and 1320 input the number of your choice，and verify it．This is carried back to the main program because the action to be taken will vary from program to program．It could be covered in a simple ON I GOSUB－
statement or could be much more complex．
General－purpose routines like this one can be used to build into a library of useful subroutines．You can even put the whole library in，the first few thousand lines of every program you write．

Routines to read and write random－ access files are particularly useful，though certain standardisation of the file－record structure is necessary．The disadvantages are that your finished program is unnecessarily long and complex and some routines may not even be called by every
program．These snags can be reduced if the program is＂crunched＂．
The best alternative is to write a program－writing program．Using the Apple＇s Exec command，such a program will write the simple subroutine itself，and splice just the simple subroutine－not the general－purpose one－into your program．This sort of program－writing can be recommended for steadying the nerves．

Though no other micro will do it，the Apple accepts direct commands from a
（continued on next page）
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|}
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{Program 1.} \\
\hline 10 k & FIEM EXAMPLE PROGRiAn \\
\hline 16 & rem menu sukroutine \\
\hline \(11 /{ }^{\text {1／}}\) & home ：UTAE 3：htak 11：Filnt＂－－－－MENU NO．1－－－＂ \\
\hline 120 & HTAE 11：FOR \(Y=1\) TO 17：PRINT＂－＂；：NEXI ：PRENT \\
\hline 130 & VTAB ह̈ \\
\hline 148 & htak b：frint＂1．Your firist alithinative． \\
\hline 15. & FRIMT \\
\hline 160 & htak 6：Frint＂2．anuther al．terinative．＂ \\
\hline 178 & PFint \\
\hline 189 & HTAB 6：FRINT＂3．OR THIS GNE．＂ \\
\hline 199 & Frint \\
\hline 265 & htak 6：frint＂4．Or try again．＂ \\
\hline 216 & FFINT \\
\hline 22.6 & HIAB 6：FRINT＂5．ENİ．＂ \\
\hline 23 & FRINT \\
\hline 245 & FFINT ：htak 20：Infut＂Enteli item no．＂；aE \\
\hline \[
2501
\] & I\％＝VAL（AE）：IF I\％＜ 1 OR I\％＞ 5 THEN VTAB PEEK（37）－ 2：6070 24 \\
\hline 260 & RETURN \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{Program 2.} \\
\hline 1890 & REM MENU SUBROUTINE NO．？ \\
\hline 1018 & REf Genekal furpose rioutine \\
\hline 1020 & REM \\
\hline 1836 & dim Mif（20） \\
\hline 1946 & REM liEail Link woritng \\
\hline \(1{ }^{1650}\) & HOME ：RESTOFE ： \(\mathrm{J}=\mathrm{D}\) \\
\hline 1069 & REAII Me（ \(\mathrm{O}_{\text {c }}\) \\
\hline 1878 & FOR \(X=1\) TO 20 \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{188日：REALI ME \((X)\)} \\
\hline \[
1996:
\] & ：IF Mf \((X)=10-1\) THEN GOTO 1130 \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{\begin{tabular}{l}
11酸：IF LEN（ME \((\mathrm{X})\) ）＞ 35 THEN PRINT CHR\＆（ク）；＂IINE＂；X：＂IS TOO LONG \\
－hà IS 35 Chris＂：Stop
\end{tabular}} \\
\hline 1110： &  \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{1120 NEXT} \\
\hline \(1130 \times\) & \(x=x-1\) \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{1140 \(5=20-x\) IF \(x<8\) THEN \(5:=20-(2 * x)\)} \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{1150 S＝INT（S／3）：FOR Y＝ 1 TO S：PRINT ：NEXT ：REM SFACE} \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{ GIN WIITH} \\
\hline 1178 & HTAE H：FOF L＝ 1 T0 LEN（ME（G））：FliINT＂－＂；：NEXT \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{1215 FOR Y＝ 1 T0 S：Prict ：NEXT} \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{122日 \(\mathrm{H}=18-(\mathrm{J} / 2)\)} \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{1230 FEM PEINT MENU LINES} \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{1240 FOR \(Y=1\) T0 \(X\)} \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{\(125 \bar{y}\) ：HTAE H：PRINT Y；＂．＂；} \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{1268：IF Y＜ 10 THEN PREINT＂＂；} \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{1270：FRINT ME（Y）} \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{1280：IF \(X\)＜ 8 THEN PRINT} \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{129 NEXT} \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{130 C F＇RINT ：Print} \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{1310 VTAE 22：HTAE \((22+J / 2):\) INFUT＂＂；AE} \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{1320 I＝VAL（AE）：IF \(1<1 \mathrm{OK} 1 \times \times\) THEN GOTO 1310} \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{1336 RETURN} \\
\hline 1346 & fiata menu no．z \\
\hline 1356 & diata first choice． \\
\hline 1366 & liata or this． \\
\hline 1370 & data do ado moke yourselaf！ \\
\hline 1380 & diata \\
\hline
\end{tabular}
(continued from previous page)
text file, instead of from the keyboard, and in exactly the same way. To write a program from the text file, it must contain all the same key strokes you would make if you were writing the program yourself. When you sit down at your keyboard to write a new subroutine into the program you are working on your type:

\section*{LOAD XXXXXX \\ 1500 REM MENU ROUTINE 1510 PRINT}
and so on, and that, letter for letter, is what must be Printed into the text file. Because you cannot write text files directly from the keyboard, the next job is to write a program that will write that file.
To summarise:
- Your program works everything out and then writes the text file
- The text file commands the Apple; and keys in the routine.
- The routine is, at that stage, in Apple's memory. Save it to disc before running it.
The first part of the program 3 is a straight forward Input section. It Inputs from the keyboard the menu title and the words to go on each line, and also Inputs the name of the main program you want to add your routine to, and the line at which you want to add it.

It is followed by a short section that calculates the line spacings and margin settings, as in program 2. Text-file handling is done in lines 340,350 and 570 just as in any other file writing. Note the D\$ in the commands, and do not confuse these lines with the lines that actually write the text into the file.
For the other lines, think exactly what you do when you key in a new program, and make your program Print those key strokes into the text file. Include the commands you would use to, insert this new routine into your main program.
You can use variables in this program, and the Apple will substitute values for them when it Prints to the file. Just include the variables among the strings in the Print statements, with the usual use of the quote marks and semicolons between them.
Because the quote marks are used to mark the beginning and end of strings, the Apple cannot also accept them as part of a string - it obeys them instead of Printing them. However, you must enter quote marks into your file somehow, so that it can output them later. The Apple will accept them if they are called by CHR\$(34). To avoid typing CHR\$ (34) every time, you can call it © \(\$\).

L is the variable used for the line number, and is incremented by 10 each time it is used. S and H are the same as in Program 2, and M\$(0...) are the strings of words.
From Iine 360 to line 560 , all the initial Prints are instructions to write the line to the text file, and all the remainder of the
line is interpreted by the computer and then written to the file

When run, this program writes the text file. It then commands EXEC TEXT FILE and the Apple abandons your program so be sure to save it first - and looks to the text file for all its input instructions.

It accepts these as direct commands, and loads your main program, writes the new lines as dictated by the text file, and even tidies up by deleting the text file itself. It renames your program "Original ..." in case anything has gone wrong, and saves the completed program
```

Program
10 KEM MENU EXAMPLE 3
20 IIM LE(20)
KEM PROGRAM TO WKITE A MENU FRIDGRAM
40 KEM
50 KEM FIRST INPUT STRINGS
O HOME : UTAB 6: HTAB ID: PRINT "URITE A NENU SUBROUTINE"
70 HTAB b: PKINT "-.....................................
80 UTAB 9: FRINT "ENTER THE NAME OF YOUR PROGRAM:-'
9 UTAB 12: PRINT "INSERT MENU ROUTINE AT UHICH LINE?"
100 UTAB 15: PRINT "ENTER:- MENU HEAIING:"
116 UTAB 10: HTAB 20: INPUT "";NĖ: REM PROGRAM
120 IF LEN (NE) > 33 THEN PRINT CHRE ( 7 );"TOO LONG. MAX LENGTH IS 33
CHKS.": GOTO 110
130 VTAB 13: HTAB 20: INPUT "";AE:I = VAl (AE): IF $L<1$ OR $\mathrm{L}>65999$ G0T0
130: REM LINE
148 UTAB 16: HTAB 20: JNPUT "":ME(6): KEM HEADING
150 UTAB 22: HTAE 10: PRINT "(ENTER *- TÛ STOF.)"
160 POKE 35,21: UTAE 18
170 FOK $X=11020$
80 : PEINT "LINE "; X;" WOLIUING: ";: INPUT "";ME(X)
190 : IF HE $(X)="-$ " THEN GOTO 230
200 : IF LEN (ME(X)) > 33 THEN PRINT CHRE ( $)$;"TGO LONG. MAX LENGTH IS
33 CHRS.": GOTO 180
21. : IF LEN (HE $(x))$ ) J THEN J = LEN (Má $(x)$ )
220 NEXT
$230 X=X-1:$ POKE 35,24: CALL - 958
240 PRINT : HTAB 10: INPUT "ARE: AILL ENTRIES CORRECT? ";Af: IF LEFTE (AE
.1) < > "Y" GOTO 69
250 REM
260 REM NEXT CALCULATE VARIABLES
$270 S=20-X:$ IF $X<8$ THEN $S=20-(X+2)$
$2845=1 N T(5 / 3)$
2990 $H=$ INT ((46 - LEN (hit (0))) / 2)
3 36 IIE $=$ CHRE (4):CE $=$ CHRE (34): REM CTRL-II ${ }^{\circ}$
314 FEFM
320 REK FINALLY WRITE THE TEXT FIIE
330 FEEM ENTER LINE HOME' \& FRKINT UE;"MON I,C,O"" HERE IF YOU WANT 70
SEE THE ACTION
34 PRINT DE:"OFEN TEXT FILE"
350 FRINT DE;"WRITE TEXT FILE"
355 REM PRINT TO TEXT FILE
368 FRINT "NEW"
376 PRINT "LOAII ";NE

```

```

398 FRINT L;" HONE:VTAB ";S;":HTAB ":H;":FRINT ":CE;ME(g);CE:L = L + 10

```

```

    ;": :NEXT:PRINT":L = L. 18
    418 FRINT L;"UTAB "; (S * 2) + 2:L $=L+10$
$420 \mathrm{H}=$ INT $((35-\mathrm{J}) / 2)$
430 FOR $Y=1$ TO X
440 : PRINT L;" HTAE ";H;":";
450 : FRINT "FRINT ";CE;Y;".";
460 : FRINT ME(Y);CE
$478: L=L+10$
480 : IF X $<8$ THEN FRINT L;" PRINT":L $:=10$
496 NEXT
5気 PRINT L;" FRINT: HTAB 20: INPUT ";CE;"ENTER LTEM NO. ";CE;";AE":L =
$L+10$

```

```

    2: GOTO "; L - 10:L = L + 10
    E20 FRINT L;" RETURN"
530 REM NOW IIO HOUSEKEEPING
546 FRINT "RENAME ";NE;",ORIGINAL ";NE
550 PRINT "SAUE ";NE
56 FRINT "IELETE TEXT FILE"
565 REM TEXT FILE WRITTEN
570 FRINT OE;"CLOSE TEXT FILE"
580 STOF : REM REMOUE THIS LINE ANII SAUE FROGRAM ON IISK BEFORE RUNNING
IT
59g FFINT IE;"EXEC TEXT FILE"
For "£" read "\$" throughout this listing.

```


\section*{Tape catalogue}

THIS PROGRAM was written to run a mail-order catalogue, writes Gavin Smith of Farnham, Surrey, and greatly eased the number of sheets of paper which were scattered across the table wheneyer it was time to send in the collected money. It can be used for other purposes with very little modification.

On running the program you are given ten options:
- Load file from tape.
- Save file on to tape.
- List of all the customers in memory.
- Examine a file from the customer's name.
- Examine a file from the account number.
- Alter a customer's file.
- Create a file.
- Clear all files from memory.
- Delete a single file. - End program.

The first two options are routines to load to and from tape, and are machinedependent. Anyone modifying these sections for their machines will have to change the command Input\#-1 to their equivalent command to load a variable from tape; the command Print\#-1 is used to load a variable on to tape.

The third routine lists the names of all the customers which are currently stored in the computer. If more than ten names are stored the computer will stop after every ten names and wait for you to read the names and then press Enter before continuing to the next ten names.
The fourth and fifth routines are similar, except that the program first asks for the name of the customer. It then scans through the names until what was typed in corresponds with the first part of the customers name. So if you have a customer named John and you want to find his file, you could type Joh: it would find it unless there was a second file, which was before John's, and also started with the letters Joh. The fifth option asks you to type in the customer's account number. It then scans through all the account numbers in memory until a match is found. When a match is found in either this routine or the routine which
uses the name of the customer, the program displays all the information which is stored for that customer.

The sixth option first asks you for the customer's name whose file you wish to alter. It then displays all the information on that person, and asks you which item you wish to change and how you wish to change it.
The seventh option asks you to input all the information about the customer to the list of other customers, but will not clear the other customers which are stored in memory.
The eighth option is used when you wish to delete all the files in memory so that you can start afresh. Before deleting the files, the program asks you to confirm that you want it to destroy the files. If you type "Y" it will destroy the files; any other input will return you to the menu.

The ninth option is used to delete a file for which you have no more use. If at anytime you type 10 for your option before saving the files on to tape, you should type Goto 30 rather than Run if you wish to retrieve them.

\section*{Input functions}

THIS SUBROUTINE for the TRS-80 lets you input a function to the program that you are running, writes R J Broughton of Grantham, Lincolnshire. The function is converted to the code by which the com-
(continued on next page)

```

FOR ZZ=1 TO 2000:NEXT
10 D1'1 NAS(50), AN(50), ADS(50),TES(50), AO(50), WI (50), DAE(50)
S0 AF=0
PRINT"---MENU
40 PRINT"1-LOAD FILES FROM THPE",
S0 PRINT""-SAUE FILES FROMTAPE",
TOPINT"4-EXAHINE A FILE FROM A CUSTOMERS N
80 PRIN"S-EXAMINE A FILE FROM AN CUSTOMERS NAME"
90 PRINT"G-ALTER A CUSTOMERS FILE"
100 PRINT"?-ADD ANOTHER FILE"
110 PRIMT"8-CLEAR ALL FILES FFOMTMEMOR
130 PRINT"10-END PROGRAM"
149 INPUT"TYPE IN THE NUMEER OF YOUR CHOICE"SCH
160 IF CH<1 OR CH/29 THEN 30
180 1NPUT "HIT ENTER TO CONTINUE"; AA\&
190 GOTO 30
\#-1,NF
lol
1030 NEXT
1040 RETURN

```

```

2030 NEXT
3000 FOR X=1 TO NF
3010 PRINTNA\$(X)
3036 NEXT
3050 INPUT"HIT ENTER TO CONTINUE":\&A:*
5010 INPUT"UHAT IS THE NGME OF THE FILE YOU HUANT TO SEE";H%
S010 FOR X=1 TO NF (N), LEN(N%))=NE THEN 5aE.0
5026 IF LEFTS (NAS(X), LEN(N)
5656 RETUFN "FILE FOUND"
5660 PRINT"FILE FOUND"
5080 PRINTAD* (X)
5100 PRINT"ARICNHT OWING N"\#\#\#OU(Y)
SIGG PRINT"AMCHHT OWING *";AO(X)

```

```

SI30 RETURH S LAST NOL
G000 INPUT"UHAT IS THE ACCOUNT NUMRER OF THE CUSTOHEF";N
66020 IF AN(X)=N THEN G0E@
69130 NEXT "FILE NOT FOUND
6040 PRINT"FILE NOT FOUN
G060 PRIIT"FILE FOUND"
G060 PRINT"FILE FOUND"*
6096 PRINT"TELEFHONE NHMMER ";TE\&(X)
6180 PRINT"AMOLNT OWING F";NO(X)
6120 PRINTMTHEKLY INSTALLIENTS \$";(W)(x)
G130 RETURN

```
```

700G INFUU"UHAT'S THE NAME OF THE FILE YOU WANT TO ALTER";N\$
70010 FOR X=1 TO NF
020 IF LEFTS(NA*(X),LEN
040 PRINT"FILE NOT FOUND"

```

```

OGO PRINT"THE FILE EEFORE ALTERATION:"
FO70 PRINT"THE FILE EEFORE ALTERATION:"
7080 PRINTNAS(y);
106 PRINT"TELEPHUNE NUMEER ":TES(X)
710 FRINT"AMOUNT UUING ";\&O(X)
7130 PRINT"THE LAST PANMENT WAS MAGE ON ":DAE(X)
7130 PRINT"THE LAST PAYHENT LAS MAOE OH "BDA\&(X)
I=NAME, 2=ACCOUNT NO, , J=GDDRESS, 4=TEL. NGNG, S=AMOUNT DUING,
6=WEEKLY INSTALLMENTS,? =LAST PAMIMENT DATE":CH
\150 CH=INT (CH): IF CHK1 OR CH>7 THEN 7070
/170 ONHPU GOTO 7170,7100,7210,7230,7250
7186 GOTO 7300
INPUT"UHAT IS THE NEU ACCOUNT NUHEER":GNEX)
GOTO 7300
GOTO 7300
INPUT"MHGGT IS THE NEL ADDRESS"IAC\& (X)
GOTO 7300 IS THE NEL\ TELEPHONE NUMBER";TEE(X)
INOT 7300 IS THE NEW AMOUNT OUING":MO(X)
GOTO 7309 IS THE NEW WEEKLY INSTALLHEHTS",
INFUT"UHAT IS THE NEW WEEKLY INSTALLMENTS";UI(X)
INFLTT"GHEN WAS THE LAST'OATE A PAYMENT WAS MHDE"SOAS(X)
INFUT"\LANT TO CHANGE ANYTHING ELSE(Y/N)"; AAS
M29 RETURN
NF=NF+1
INPUT"UHAT IS THE ACCOUNT NUMRER"; AHS(NF)
INFUT"WHAT IS THE ADDRESS";AD\&(NF)
INFUT"HOU MUCH DO THEY OLE"; AN(NF)\ TE\&\NF\
O INPUT"LHHAT ARE THE WEEKLY IMSTALLMENTS";HI (NF)
070 INPUT"WHEN WAS THE LAST FAYMENT MOOE"; CO\$( (NF)
900% INPUT"ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT ALL THE FILES DELETED(Y/N)";AH*
9010 IF AN\#<>"Y" THEN RETURN
9010 IF AN*<<"Y" THEN RETURN
BMGQ| INFUT"IHGT IS THE NEME OF THE FILE YOU WANT DELETED";NS

```

```

10010 FOR X=1 TO NF (HE,LEN(N\#))=N\$ THEN 10060
10020 IF LEFT\(NH$(X),LEN<N
1004E PR1NT "FILE NOT FOUHD"
10050 RETURNNILE NOT FOUND"
10050 RETURN "FILE BEING DELETED"
10GGS IF X=HF THEN NF=NF-1:GOTO 101601
10080 FOR Y=X+1 TO NF
10680 Nat(Y-1)=NA$(Y)
10
10110 TEs(Y-1)=TEs(Y)
lol20 AO(Y !)=AO(Y)

```

```

19150 MEXT:NF=NF-1
10170 RETURN

```
（continued from previous page）
puter stores program lines，and placed in line 40 of the subroutine．

You access the function by a Gosub command further down the program． You enter the function in the form that you want it，e．g．，
\[
\begin{gathered}
Y=\operatorname{SIN}(X) \\
T=U^{*} V+W 93
\end{gathered}
\]
or you can even enter sequential steps．
\[
S+{ }^{*} \operatorname{SiN}(X): A=(S+4) / 2.5
\]

The subroutine can be repeated as often as is necessary as each new function will overwrite the previous one，and a new colon and Rem is placed at the end of that new function．

The TRS－80 Basic remembers its arith－ metic functions in specific codes，so it is necessary to search the inputted string for these functions．Line 110 performs this task，with the arithmetic functions stored in array \(\mathrm{F} 2 \$(\mathrm{n})\) ．If one such function is found，the respective code is stored in the array \(\mathrm{F} 3(\mathrm{n})\) ．This loop then repeats for the next letter in the inputted string．

If an arithmetic function is not found， the program moves on to the next line 120 ，and compares the character with the arithmetic operator codes in the array \(\mathrm{F} 1 \$(\mathrm{n})\) ．If there is a match，the specific code is stored in array \(F 3(n)\) and the program moves on to the next character in the string \(\mathrm{F} \$\) ．

If the operator is not found，the pro－ gram moves on to line 130 and checks the ASCII value of the character．If it lies in the valid range，the value is stored in the array \(\mathrm{F} 3(\mathrm{n})\) ．

The program takes the next character in the inputted string and repeats the process until the entire string has been coded．The program now moves on to line 150 and Pokes the array \(F 3\)（ \(n\) ）values into the space left in line 40 ，beginning at address 17241．A colon and Rem are Poked in immediately afterward to make all the remaining dots valid．

There are 55 dots in line 40 after the Rem．If you anticipate entering a function with more than 55 characters，put more dots in line 40 ．Poking out the five－byte code for the line number is fatal．

If you run line 170 ，it will show the contents of line 40 as stored by the com－ puter， 10 lines at a time．When using the subroutine as part of a program，the pro－ gram can be placed from line 160 onwards．If you miss out the Rem state－ ments in lines 10 and 30 you must change the Poke address numbers in line 150 to suit the new placing of line 40 in the memory．

The following variables and arrays are used：
\(1 \%\) ：integer counter for \(F \$\) ，data，\＆Poke routines，
11\％：integer couriter for F1\＄array，
12\％：integer couinter for F2\＄array，
13\％：integer counter for F3 array，
F1：array for arithmetic operator codes，
F2：array for arithmetic function codes，
F3：array of F\＄codes to be Poked into
```

10 REIA *** SURROUTINE TO INPUT LINE INTO THE PROGRAM ****
29 ᄃロT060
36 REM *** FUNCTIDN WILL BE FUT INTO LINE 49
49 REM...
EG RETURN
69 REM *** SUEROUTINE TO IMPIIT FUNCTION

```

```

90 DATA $=, 213,+, 295,-, 296, *, 297, /, 298,[, 299,5 G N, 215, I N T, 216$, AB5, 217, SQR, 221, RND.
222, LOG, 223, EXP, 224, COS, 225, SIN, 226, TAN, 227, ATH, 229, RND, 222, FIY, 242

```

```

NEXT I\%
109 IHFUT"ENTER FUNCTION REDUIRED "; F $⿻ 肀 二 .13 \%=1$

```

```

2 ( $12 \%$ ) $13 \%-13 \%+1 \cdot 1 \%=1 \%+2$ - NEXT I $\%$, ELSE NEXT $12 \%$

```

```

120 FLSEMEMT1 $1 \%$

```

```

149 NEXTI\%

```

```

7
160 REM *** STAFT DF MAIN PPDGRAM

```


```

In the listing $\uparrow$ is represented by 【(line 80)

```

F\＄：inputted function to be Poked into line 40 ，
F1\＄：array of arithmetic operators，
F2\＄：array of arithmetic functions．

\section*{Binary clock}

THE IDEA for this binary clock program first occurred to Killian McCourt of Avoca Lawns，Warrenpoint，County Down，while he was working on a base． converter．

The decimal－binary converter is con－ tained in the subroutine from line 5000 onwards．It works by dividing the integer part of the variable \(T\) by 2 ．If the result is．a whole number， 0 is added to T ，otherwise

1 is added．After several loops when \(T\) is less than one，\(T\) contains the binary equi－ valent of the initial decimal value of \(T\) ．

Lines 290 to 340 contain the routine which formats the display，using strings to make the time display neater．The clock part of the program is in lines 360 to 420 ， where the hours，minutes and seconds are calculated and added up．

The program is intended as a novelty only．The For－Next loop in line 350 gives approximately a one－second delay after all the conversions and calculations have been done in the other parts of the pro－ gram．The speed of the program depends on the length of the strings．

\footnotetext{

2G REM ：24－HOIJR EINARY CLOCK＊
3 REM：VERSIDH 4 C． 4 K
40 REM＊COPYRIGHT 〈C〉
50 REM ；KILLIAN MC COIJRT
56 REM ：K 16－E－1981

86 CLERR 150
90 CLS ，PRINT CHR数 23 ）；PRIMTE151，＂24－HOUR＂：PRINTE21G，＂EIMFRY CLUCK＂：PRIHT CHR数 2 ）；
109 FOR I＝ 1 TO 1000 ：HEXT
110 FRIHTES 13 ，＂ENTER THE CORRECT TIME IM THE FQRM OF HUURS，MIMUTES \＆SECONDS＂
110 FRI
：FRIWT
1EG IHFUT＂THE HOUR（IM DECIMFL）IS＂；OH
\(130 \mathrm{OH}=\mathrm{INT}(\mathrm{OH})\) I IF OH〈Q OR OH 2 E O THEN 120
140 INPUT＂THE MIHUTES（IN DECIMRL）RRE＂：DM

160 INFUT＂THE SECOMDS（IN DECIMFL）RRE＂；OS
170 OS：INT（OS）：IF OS《E OR CIS＞59 THEN 160
1 Fg FOR \(I=1\) TO 3
190 OH I GOTD 20日， 210,229

\(210 T=0 M: G O S U B 5060\) ：\(\|=T\) ： \(50 T 0230\)
220 T＝0 ，GOSUES060 \(\mathrm{S}=\mathrm{T}:\) GUTO 30
\(220 \mathrm{~T}=\mathrm{S}\)
230 HEGT


250 REM＊：START QF CLGCK ROUTINE＊
260 REM \(⿻ 丷 木 斤\) STRINGS ARE USED
269 REM ：STRINGS RRE USED
27 REM＊TO FDRNAT DISFLFH






340 CLS •PRINTC49え，Ht＋＂，＂＋M＋＂：＂＋54．
356 FIDRI＝1 TU 2゙Eg＋NEXT＊＊＊＊RFF． 1 SECURD CUUNT
350 IF \(\mathrm{S}=111911\) THEN 330

380 IF \(11=111011\) THEN 460

\(390 \quad 5=0: C S=0 \quad\) OM \(=0 M+1\)
400 IF \(H=10111 \quad\) THEN
40 IF \(H=10111\) THEN 42 B

\(420 H=g: O H=0: S=0: O S=0, ~ M=0: O H=0: C O T O 290\)

5 SIE REM＊DECIMFL TO BINFRY CONWERSION RDUTINE＊

5030 T \(==\cdots\)

5050 IF T＜1 THEN 50 TO ELSE 5060
\(5060 \mathrm{~T}=\mathrm{INT}(\mathrm{T})\)＇TOTO5046
\(5070 \mathrm{~T}=\mathrm{V}\)／LL（T＊）：RETIJRH
}


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\section*{Extending Basic}
to Allow my UK 101 to control a TRS-80 Line Printer VII I wrote this program by using added Basic com-
mands, writes R A Shackleford of Hamilton. It also illustrates a method of extending Basic by adding user commands to it.

The TRS-80 Line Printer VII is a dot-matrix Printer similar to the Seikosha GR-80. In addition to the Centronics interface it has a 600 baud serial interface as standard. By providing switching between 300 and 600 baud on a UK 101 or Superboard, and adding some circuitry to indicate to the UART, through the CTS line, when the Printer is busy, control of the Printer can be effected through the use of the Save flag. Printer-mode selection, head positioning and other control functions can be controlled by turning on the Save flag by a Poke 517,0 and then using PrintChr\$(X) statements where X is the required control code for printing.

A better way to control the printer would be to create Basic commands which could be embedded as statements

(listing continued on next page)
in any Basic program. One method of doing this without excessively slowing the execution of Basic is by attaching a command Parser to the Control-C check routine to check each statement for the presence of added commands. Adding a machine-code routine of about 240 bytes allows the addition of eight commands to Basic to control printer output.

The program uses two bytes of pagezero memory \(\$ E E\) and \(\$ E F\) for temporary storage. It only requires changes to two bytes to relocate it to another area in memory. To use the routine
- Press Reset.
- Press C. answer memory size with 7900. - Press Reset.
- Press \(M\) then key in program from "1F00".
- Enter "021C/0B, Carriage-return then 1 F ".
- Enter "0000G to return to Basic via the Warmstart routine".

The additional commands are then available in Basic. After any Reset, re-enter the monitor and execute the last two steps to point the Control-C vector back to the new routine.

The program operates by intercepting the jump to the routine for the Control-C key check which is stored at locations \(21 \mathrm{C} / \mathrm{D}\). It first tests to see if the computer is in immediate mode. If it is, it skips the additional command routines. To speed up the routine, a check is made only if a colon is found, since the beginning of a new line is a special case which would require much more code to implement and would, in consequence, run more slowly. This also means that if an added command is to be used at the beginning of a line of code it is necessary to precede it by a colon.

The routine then looks at the first character following the colon to see if it is the letter P which is used to precede all the added commands. Otherwise the statement is re-scanned by the normal interpreter for execution.

If a \(P\) is found, the program checks for one of a series of command tokens to decide what action is required. These tokens are those generated by the interpreter from the normal Basic keywords to speed up program execution. If no valid token is found, an error is indicated.

The program uses a number of routines in the Basic interpreter as well as some entry points in the monitor. Users of monitors other than the Synmon and MonUK01 may have to change some of the monitor entry points.

The following are added:
PON. All subsequent output goes to the printer and not the screen.
PSTOP. All subsequent output goes to the screen and not the printer.
PPRINT. Prints contents of the printer buffer and performs carriage return without line feed.
PDEF S. Sets printer to single-width print mode.
(continued on next page)
(continued from previous page)
PDEF D. Sets double-width print mode on the printer.
PDEF G. Sets printer graphic mode.
PPOS ( \(X\) ). Positions print head to character position defined by variable \(X\).
PPOKE ( \(X\) ). Positions head to dot \(X\).

\section*{Double vision}

WHILE EXAMINING the charactergenerator chip of my UK 101 I found that joining pins 23 and 24 together gives a permanent lowér case, writes Chris Thompson of Orpington, Kent. Characters 65 to 90 appear in lower case, as do characters 97 to 122 . Other characters, including the cursor, also changed position.

Joining pins 1,2 , and 3 of IC 70 create inverse video reminiscent of the ZX- 80 screen, without the flicker. If pins 2 and 3 are joined, about 80 percent of the screen appears normal, while the remainder contains a repeated image of the last line and half of the top section.

\section*{Random Poking}

WHEN I WAS asked to write a graphical program for the UK 101, writes Jonathon Sunderland of Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire, I came up with a program that generates four random characters and Pokes them so that the first character is repeated to fill a quarter of the screen. The next character fills the next quarter and so on.

Once the process is complete it starts over again using four more random characters.
\(20 \mathrm{~A}=1 \mathrm{NT}(\operatorname{RND}(130) * 254+1)\)
\(30 \mathrm{~B}=\mathrm{INT}(\) RND \((130) * 254+1)\)
\(40 \mathrm{C}=\operatorname{INT}(\operatorname{RND}(130) * 254+1)\)
\(50 \mathrm{D}=\mathrm{INT}(\) RND \((130) * 254+1)\)
EO IFA \(=B O R A=C O R A=\) DTHEN 20
70 IFB \(=A O R B=C O R B=D T H E N 30\) 80 IFC=AORC \(=\) BORC \(=\) DTHEN4O 90 IFD \(=A O R D=B O R D=C\) THEN50
100 FORU \(=53259 T 053282\) : POKEU, A: NEXTU 110 FORU \(=53323\) TO5 334G: POKEU, A: NEXTU 120 FORU \(=53367\) TO5 3410:POKEU, A: NEXTU 130 FORU=53451 TO53474: POKEU, A: NEXTU 140 FORU \(=53515\) TO53538: POKEU, A: NEXTU 150 FORU \(=53579\) TO53602:POKEU,A:NEXTU 160 FORU \(=53 G 43 T 0536 G 6\) : POKEU, A: NEXTU 170 FORU \(=53707\) TO53730: POKEU, A:NEXTU 180 FORU \(=53771\) TO53794: POKEU, C:NEXTU 190 FORU \(=53835\) TO53858: POKEL, C:NEXTU 200 FORU \(=53899 T 053922\) : POKEU, C: NEXTU 210 FORU \(=53963\) TO539日E: POKEU, C:NEXTU 220 FORU \(=54027\) TO54050: POKEU, C : NE \(\because\) TU 230 FORU \(=54091\) T054114: POKEU, C : NEXTU 240 FORU \(=54155\) TO54i78:POKEU,C:NEXTU 250 FORU \(=54219 T 054242\) : POKEU,C:NEXTU 2GO FORU \(=532\) B3TO53306: POKEU,D : NEXTU 270 FORU \(=53347\) TQ53370: POKEU,D:NEXTU 280 FORU \(=53411\) TO53434:POKFU, D:NEXTU 290 FORU \(=53475\) T05349B:POKEU,D:NEXTU 300 FQRU \(=53539\) T053562: POKEU, D: NEXTU 310 FQRU \(=53603 T Q 5362 \mathrm{G}\) : POKEU, D: NEXTU 320 FORU \(=53\) GG7TO53G90:POKEU,D:NEXTU 330 FORL \(=53731\) TO53754: POKEU,D:NEXTU 340 FQRU \(=53795\) TO53B18:POKEU,B:NEKTU 350 FORU=53859TO53日82: POKEU,B: NEXTL 360 FORU-53923TO53546:POKEU.B:NEXTU 370 FORU \(=53987\) TO5 4010 : POKEU, B: NEXTU 380 FORU \(=54051\) TO5 4074 : POKEU, B:NEXTL 350 FORL \(=54115\) TO54138: POKEU, B:NEXTU 400 FORL \(=54175 T\) IS4202: POKEU, B: NEXTL 410 FDRU \(=54243\) T054270: POKEU,B:NEXTL 420 GOTO20

\section*{(listing continued from previous page)}



\section*{Bar chart}

THE HISTOGRAM PLOTTER program from Darren Moseby of Clay Cross，Derby－ shire，fits into the ZX－81＇s rather limited memory．When Run，the program comes up with the prompt＂No columns＂，and a number between 0 and 11 should be entered．The prompt＂Input No．n columns＂comes up，where n is a number between 1 and a specified column number．A number between 0 and 20 should be entered in response

When all the column values have been entered there is a short pause and the screen clears．The graph is then plotted， using two different graphics characters for the alternating columns．

The program can easily be expanded if more memory is available，and can be implemented on other micros that have a Print At X，Y command．

\section*{Line draw}
a Straight line from a point with co－ ordinates X1，Y1 to a second point X2， Y 2 is constructed by the program from M Saiepour of Nottingham．It also deter－ mines whether a third point X3，Y3 lies on the line．The \(\mathrm{ZX}-81\) must be fitted with the 16 K RAM．
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|}
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{Bar chart} \\
\hline 19 & REM＊EAR－CHFRT \({ }^{\text {＊}}\) \\
\hline 20 & SCROLL \\
\hline 36 & FFINT＂RO．COLIMNS ？＂ \\
\hline 4.1 & INFUIT H \\
\hline 56 & ScFOL \\
\hline  & FRINT TAE E； \\
\hline 79 & ［1M でA \\
\hline E4 & FOR \(\mathrm{E}=1 \mathrm{TO} \mathrm{H}\) \\
\hline 90 & SCROLL \\
\hline 16.4 & FRINT＂IHPUT NO． \\
\hline 116 & INFUT Z（E） \\
\hline 120 & FREINT Z¢E， \\
\hline 139 & HEXT E \\
\hline 146 & Pflise 50 \\
\hline 156 & CLS \\
\hline 164 & FOR E＝6 TU 29 \\
\hline 176 & FRINT AT E， 1 ；20－E \\
\hline 180 & NEXT E \\
\hline 199 & FITR \(\mathrm{C}=1\) T0 B－1 \\
\hline 264 & \\
\hline 210 & LET F ＊＝＂＂ \\
\hline 220 & IF C－2米INT（C／2）＝6．THEN LET स寺＝＂srashic H＂ \\
\hline 2361 &  \\
\hline 246 & NEEMT II \\
\hline 256 & HEWT C \\
\hline
\end{tabular}
```

Line draw

```

```

10 IHFUIT %1
2G IHFUIT T'I
301HF|IT %
40 IHFFIT Tこ
50% LET %=%-%1
EW LET ''='TE-'1
7E LET Z=HEG 又
GOT IF HES 'TGZ THEN LET }2=FES 'T
96 LET [i=6
1EE LET H=6
110 FOFE F=1 TG Z
120 FLOT [+%1,H+'1
16@ LET G=\square+%
140 LET H=H+'T'Z
150 FEET F
1EE IFF'IT O
17E INFOIT Y'G
106 IF (TG-T1) (%-%1)=(TE-41), (%-81)THEH [OTD 1S5
18S GOT0 196

```

```

    18E
    1B6 GOTE 19G

```

```

    214
    190 FEIHT HT E.0日:" H0"
206 GOTG 16G
210 FFEIHT HT E, E; "rES"
2gG GOTO 16G

```

If the gradient of the line is equal to the gradient of the line from \(\mathrm{X} 1, \mathrm{Y} 1\) to X 3 ， Y3，and X3 lies between X1 and X2，and Y3 lies between Y1 and Y2，then the point X3，Y3 lies on the line．For values of X and Y which are off the screen，the plot statement must be removed from line 120.

\section*{Print At programs}

A SUITE of programs demonstrating the use of the Print At statement comes from D Stocqueler of Exeter．The programs were originally written for an 8 K －Rom ZX－80 and can be converted for use on a ZX－81 by slight alterations to the Pause statements．
An adequate explanation of the Print At statement is given in the Sinclair manual，it does away with calculating the address of the shifting display RAM and then having to Poke characters into this area．
The Etch－a Sketch program simulates the simple，children＇s drawing toy．A line
```

l
l
l
l
l
l
l
l
l
l
l
l
l
l
Fuld

```
```

Skier
1区 LET S=星
26 LET B=11

```

```

4E SROLL
IG E2 THEN LET E=B-1
60 IF E<3 THEH LET E=EF+4
FE IF INKE嗦="E"
THEN LET E=E+2
801 IF E`2G THEN LET E=F-4
G6 FFIINT HT 1G,E".."
001 FRUSE 10
11目 LET S=S+1
120 IF HOT FEEK
FEEK 15398+2E:%FEK
16399%=62 THEN EOTO 30
130 FOF: F=1 TO ?
14G FRIINT HT P, "EFH:EH"
154 FHIIGE 5
100 ELS
170 HENT F
1EQ FRIHT "'OUIF GCOFE IS ";E
190 F'RUSE 16%
20|E FI|N

```
is drawn in the direction of the arrows on keys \(5,6,7\) and 8 every time one of these keys is pressed．Pressing key 0 clears the screen and key 1 stops the flicker on the ZX－80 for long enough for you to exam－ ine what you have drawn．Do not draw lines to the very top，sides and bottom of the screen as weird thing begin to happen if you try
The object of Skier is to manoeuvre yourself down a ski slope without collid－ ing with any trees．As with most arcade games，there is no way of beating the machine；the object is to beat your own high score．
（continued on next page）

\section*{（continued from previous page）}

The game auto－starts itself to save con－ tinually pressing Run，Newline etc．The skier automatically travels to the left and only moves to the right if B is pressed．The skill level can be changed by altering the value in line 100 ．Beware of trying to avoid the trees by moving to the edge of the screen as the program counters this tactic．
The short routine in Sliding Letters pro－ duces a most interesting display．The computer accepts a string input，prints it on the screen at different places and then scrolls．It will work on an 8 K ZX－80 as long as

\section*{45 PAUSE 10}
is added．For an effective display the inputted string should consist of inverse－ video characters．
```

Sliding letters
1E IHFUIT H㑭
2G FOF F=1 TG 2G
FET FRIHT FT F. FHII
3日目曺
405FOLL
5G NEYT F
6E GOTG 20

```

\section*{Card shuffle}
the following routine，entitled Card Shuffle will be usefuil to those intending to write their own card－game programs． writes Gary Nugent of Dublin，Ireland： The routine shuffles suited cards，which are required in Poker，for example．

Line 10 should be the first line of the program．Lines 11 to 20 can be placed anywhere within the main card－game program．

The cards and their suits can be read by Peeking locations 16427 to \(16530 ; 16427\) is the address of the first character after the Rem keyword．

The numerical values of the cards are found by Peeking the odd－numbered locations，and the suits are found by Peeking the even－numbered locations， starting at 16428.

Since ten is the only number in the deck which has two digits，it is represented by T ，since this simplifies the routine．The suits are represented by their initial let－ ters．

\section*{Card shuffle}
```

10 FEN FLECGL4CSCSCPCSCSCTCTCN

```

```

    AG235455SESTS8S5GTETSUSKSMH2
    HSH4HSHGHFHSHSHTH.IHOHKH
    11 LET Z=1642?
12 FOfR I=0 T0 51
13 LET J=FWND(52)-1
14 LET
15 LET %T=FEEK(2+2㐘J+1)
IE FOME Z+2*J.FEEK(Z+2*I)

```

```

|G
19 FOUE Z+2糸I+1. T
20. NENT I

```

\section*{Think quick}
the game of Vitesse tests the partici－ pant＇s ability to think quickly，writes Douglas Fyffe of Exeter，Devon．When the program is run，an asterisk appears in one of 10 positions along the screen．

The first asterisk remains on the screen for one second and，in that time you must find the correct firing key and press it． The firing keys are
\(\begin{array}{llllllllll}1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 0\end{array}\)
If you have chosen the right key，the asterisk explodes and the game speeds up． If you are wrong the game slows down．

After 15 asterisks have appeared，the game finishes and you are told how many you destroyed．
\begin{tabular}{|c|}
\hline ```
Vitesse
1 LET T=50
2 LET \(H=0\)
3 FOF \(\mathrm{E}=1\) TO 15
4 FRINT AT B3:F*3-1;"象"
6 FHISE T
7 FIIKE 16.437.255
8 LET C. \(=1 \mathrm{H} \cdot \mathrm{K} \mathrm{E}^{\prime} \mathrm{T}^{\prime}\)
3 IF C \(=\) = 可" THEN LET E
10 IF C\&=ETF年 F THENGOTO 16
11 LET T=T⿻木一1.1
12 CLS
1 HERT E
14 FRINT "TOIII GOTT ": H
15 STOP
1E FFEINT FT B.F*-1;"inu*inu"
```



```
1 LET \(\quad \mathrm{H}=\mathrm{N}+1\)
19 GOTO 12
``` \\
\hline
\end{tabular}

\section*{Flight of fancy}
spitfire puts you into the cockpit．of a Second World War fighter．Ahead you see a squadron of hostile aircraft：By carefully manoeuvring your plane，you must line your targets up with the cross－
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|}
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{Spitfire} \\
\hline 1 & LET \(\mathrm{H}=10 \mathrm{~L}\) \\
\hline 2 & LET \(\mathrm{S}=0\) \\
\hline 3 & LET \({ }^{\prime}=1 \mathrm{NWT}\)（FiHIL 2 ） \\
\hline 4 & LET \(X=\) INT（RNI：30）+1 \\
\hline E & CLS \\
\hline 7 &  \\
\hline 8 &  \\
\hline 9 &  \\
\hline 16 & FRIHT AT 9．16；＂simerihTarsarh＂ \\
\hline 11 & FRINT AT 11，14；＂9r－abhTist avan＂ \\
\hline 12 & PRINT AT 11，16；＂speysht smanh＂ \\
\hline 15 & FRINT H \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{16 IF HK1 THEN GOTO 35} \\
\hline 17 & FRINT AT＇ r ＇， \(\mathrm{X}-1\) ； \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|r|}{} \\
\hline 20 & LETR \(=1\) HKE Y \(^{\text {S }}\) \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{} \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{} \\
\hline 23 &  \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{24 IF H＊＝＂8＂THEN LET \(\mathrm{X}=\mathrm{X}-\mathrm{S}\)} \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{\begin{tabular}{l}
25 IF INT（FNHD＊：6）\(+1=1\) THEN LET \\
\(\mathrm{H}=\mathrm{H}-\mathrm{INT}\)（ FH H （15） 15
\end{tabular}} \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{\multirow[t]{2}{*}{}} \\
\hline & \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{28 IF \(\dot{x}=15\) FNI \(\mathrm{Y}^{\prime}=16 \mathrm{THEN}\) GUTO 30} \\
\hline 29 & GOTO 5 \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{36 FRINT AT 10，14；＂inu＊＊\({ }^{\text {a }}\) inv} \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{31 LET E＝5＋1} \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{32 FHUSE 516} \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{33 FOHE 16．437，255} \\
\hline 34 & BUTO 3 \\
\hline & PRIMT＂YOU GOT＂； \\
\hline
\end{tabular}
hairs on the canopy and blast it with your guns．

The aim is to shoot down as many enemy craft as possible before you are finally destroyed yourself．You should control your craft，not the enemy．
If you lose sight of the enemy squadron， you are forced to return to base．
The controls are
1 －Fire
5 －Left
6 －Down
7 －Up
8 －Right
The length of the game can be altered by changing the value of H in line 1 ，or changing the 6 in line 25 ．

\section*{Read data}
stephen carson－rowland＇s Read Data routine for the ZX－81－ZX－80／81 line－ up，December 1981 －is yery pretty but it is not really necessary，explains J Arotsky of St Helens，Merseyside．The Sinclair instruction book gives a hint of how to do it．There are two relevant points to con－ sider：
－The ZX－81 allows a string of any length．The only limfitition is the amount of memory available．
－Sinclair Basic has superb string handling． These two factors can be used to pro－ vide a very acceptable substitute for Read Data．For example，the program shown here is a machine－code load routine，with all the appropriate Poke values accom－ modated in a string．A full－stop is used as a data separator as it is easier to type than a comma．Obviously you can use any separator that you wish．
The program is an adaptation of Chris－ topher Clarke＇s program from the December ZX－80／81 line－up．When it has run，remove all the lines except line 10 and proceed as described in the article． The same method can also be used with strings．For example，the program in list－ ing 2 still leaves 500 bytes free．

If you want to edit line 10 ，then step－ ping along it is extremely tedious．Does anyone know how to use machine code to
（coritinued on page 141）
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|}
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{Read data－listing 1.} \\
\hline 16 & FEM 123456789123456789 \\
\hline 20 & LET \(\mathrm{B}=1\) \\
\hline 36 & LET C＝16514 \\
\hline 49 & LET \(\mathrm{A}==237115.54 .64 .42 .54 .64\). \\
\hline 237. & 75．28．64．237．66．68．68．77． 77. \\
\hline & \\
\hline 501 & FOR \(A=1\) TO \\
\hline 66 & IF H （ \((\mathrm{A})=\)＂．＂THEN GOSUB 200 \\
\hline 71 & NEXT A \\
\hline 80 & STOP \\
\hline 20］ & FOKE C，VRL（A\＄（E TO \(\mathrm{H}-1\) ） \\
\hline 219 & LET \(\mathrm{E}=\mathrm{A}+1\) \\
\hline 220 & LET C＝C +1 \\
\hline 230 & RETURN \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{Read data－listing 2.} \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{\multirow[t]{3}{*}{1］LET F \(==\) JJINUARY ．FEBUARY ，MRRCH －APRIL ．MFY ．JUNE JULY ．FLGUST ．SEPTEMBER ．OCTOBER ．NOVEMBER ．IECEMBER}} \\
\hline & \\
\hline & \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{\multirow[t]{2}{*}{29 LET \(\mathrm{E}=1\)}} \\
\hline & \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{30 FOR \(\mathrm{H}=1\) TO LEN \(\mathrm{H} \$\)} \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{461 IF A\＄\((\mathrm{A})=\)＂．＂THEN G0SUF 260} \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{54 NEXT A} \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{64 STOP} \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{2604 FRINT At（E）TO A－1）} \\
\hline \multicolumn{2}{|l|}{216 LET B \(=\mathrm{A}+1\)} \\
\hline 220 & RETURN \\
\hline
\end{tabular}


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FEATURES COMPETITORS
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|}
\hline & \[
\begin{aligned}
& \text { DIABLO } \\
& 630
\end{aligned}
\] & \begin{tabular}{l}
QUME \\
SPRINT 5
\end{tabular} & SPIN. WRITER & \[
\begin{aligned}
& \text { RICOH } \\
& \text { RP. } 1600 \\
& \text { (10 DATA) }
\end{aligned}
\] & \[
\begin{aligned}
& \text { RICOH } \\
& \text { RP. } 1600 \mathrm{~S}
\end{aligned}
\] \\
\hline PRINT SPEED (CPS) & 40 & 45/55 & 55 & 60 & 60 \\
\hline PRINT ELEMENT & \begin{tabular}{l}
DAISY- \\
WHEEL
\end{tabular} & \begin{tabular}{l}
DAISY- \\
WHEEL
\end{tabular} & THIMBLE & \begin{tabular}{l}
DOUBLE \\
DAISY- \\
WHEEL
\end{tabular} & \[
\begin{aligned}
& \text { DOUBLE } \\
& \text { DAISY- } \\
& \text { WHEEI }
\end{aligned}
\] \\
\hline AUTO BIDIRECTIONAL & Yes & No & No & No & Yes \\
\hline AUTOLOGIC SEEKING & Yes & No & Yes & No & Yes \\
\hline \[
\begin{aligned}
& \text { PROPORTIONAL } \\
& \text { PRINT } \\
& \text { CAPABIIITY }
\end{aligned}
\] & Yes & Yes & Yes & No & Yes \\
\hline EXTENDED CHARACTER SET & No & No & Yes & Yes & Yes \\
\hline LETTER QUALITY PRINT & Yes & Yes & Yes & Yes & Yes \\
\hline CUSTOM INTERFACE OPTION & No & No & No & No & Yes \\
\hline
\end{tabular}
\begin{tabular}{llllll}
\hline PRICE & £ 1675 & £1950 & £1950 & £1450 & \(£ 1450\) \\
\hline
\end{tabular}

The above information was gathered from distributors and abstracted from their current literature. Prices shown are those advertised at the present time

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\section*{Read data－listing 3.}
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|}
\hline 10 & LET H 末 \(=1\) \\
\hline 29 & IHFUT Fis \\
\hline S 8 & IF EF＝＂EHII＂THEH \\
\hline & GOTO 160 \\
\hline 45 &  \\
\hline 50 & GOTO 2 O \\
\hline 169 & FFEINT HF \\
\hline
\end{tabular}

\section*{（continued from page 136）．}

Poke an alteration in the line？This is easy enough if you wish merely to alter a character，but if you want to alter the length of A\＄．This is a particular problem if you want to use the string as a data base，storing the words and clues for Hangman for example
One way round this problem is to cre－ ate the string not a a program line－see listing 3，which produces an \(\mathbf{A} \$\) which can readily be altered though，Run destroys all your words and clues for Hangman．

\section*{The money program}

A RECENT Apple－Pet item gave a routine for printing sums of money in conven－ tional £．p form so that columns line up， notes W E Thomson．A ZX－8I cannot use the same method because of its different string－handling procedures，but these． plus the ZX－81＇s logical functions，pro－ vide a neat solution to this problem．
In this test program，the four lines 100 to 130 constitute the line－up procedure． The routine has two operands：\(D\) ，the column in which the decimal point has to appear；and \(\dot{F}\) ，a positive sum of money expressed in pounds and fractions of a pound that do not necessarily correspond to whole numbers of pence．Line 100 converts \(F\) to pence，rounded off to the nearest integer．

Lines 30 to 60 allow the input，and printing in the form in which it is input，of an expression such as
\[
69.95 / 1.15
\]
the basic cost of an item whose cost including VAT is \(£ 69.95\) ．It is followed by its value in pounds and fractions of a pound，and its value in pounds and pence correctly lined up．

The routine always prints at least one pound figure： 50 p becomes 0.50 ； 5 p becomes \(0.05,0 \mathrm{p}\) becomes 0.00 ．If the forms \(.50, .05, .00\) are preferred，delete
```

("0" AND F < 100) +

```
in line 110.

\section*{Hex loader}
in RESPONSE to G J Langford＇s letter－ Feedback，January 82 －J Chalmers of East Grinstead，West Sussex has written a hex loader program for the ZX－81

The program was written using 3 K of RAM，but can be converted to fit into 1 K by reducing the amount of information displayed at any one time．This is achieved by making the display file a maximum of one line long just before every scroll is executed．Poking the sys

\section*{Money program}
```

10 FFIHT HT 1, ES:"事, F""
20 LET II=ご
3G IFFIUT E\$
40 FFIINT EF
LET F=NHL E韦
FF:INT F:
G5 FEN STHFT OF LINE-UF FIOUTINE
160 LET F=IHT {1ED*F+G,5)

```

```

12g LET L=LEH F\&-こ

```

```

135,FEN EHII DF LIHE-LF FOUITINE
206 BITG 30

```
tem variable DF－SZ（16418）with 23 performs this task．
Operation of the program is simple． After Run，a string－input prompt is dis－ played along with a decimal address and the present contents of that address．If you wish to change the byte，enter the new byte in hex and press Newline； otherwise just press Newline．To stop the programming mode press \(S\) and a mes－ sage will appear inviting you to check the program．Pressing L will set the counter to the start of your program and it can be stepped through and be inspected byte by byte．It can also be altered if necessary．
A special feature of the program is the inbuilt decimal to hex converter．During machine－code programming，entering H will access this routine．On access you simply enter a decimal number smaller
than 65535 ，and it will be automatically printed along with its hex equivalent．

When your machine code has been perfected，the hex loader program can be deleted，leaving only line 1 which con－ tains the code．To run machine code you must use the USR function．If the state－ ment

\section*{LET L＝USR X}
is executed，where \(\mathbf{X}\) is the starting address of your machine code，the code will be executed until a return is found indicating a return to Basic．A full set of machine－code instructions can be found in appendix A of the Sinclair manual，and an appropriate return－e．g．C9h－can be selected from there．On return to Basic in this example the variable L will contain a value corresponding to the con－ tents of the bc register pair．


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Micromouse maze enthusiasts all over the U.K. are counting down to this year's Euromicro Euromouse Contest. The lucky winners will be sponsored to compete in the European Finals at Haifa, Israel in September. John Billingsley reports.
the mice will battle it out at the Computer Fair in London's Earls Court from April 23 to 25, 1982, after "limbering up" a week earlier at the London Computer Club's own Computer Fair in the theatre of the Polytechnic of North London.

The contest was originally modelled on the Micromouse Maze Contest, first devised by IEEE Spectrum, in which mice entered the maze at one corner and left by another. Simple-minded wall followers could find their way through.

The Euromicro Contest demanded more intelligence from the mice by setting the target at the middle of the maze so that a cunning arrangement of passageways would have the wall followers running in circles.

\section*{The heat is on}

The maze consists of 16 by 16 squares and each mouse starts in the bottom left corner so that the location of the centre target is well defined. The 1980 maze was built to accommodate American micromice in the hope of tempting one or two of them across the Atlantic. Although a few registered for the contest, none arrived to compete.
In the 1980 maze the walls were sup ported between pegs inserted into holes in the base. Unfortunately the manufacturer bonded hardboard to the bottom of the chipboard, causing the whole base to warp slightly, which was enough to baffle one or two particularly fastidious mice.

\section*{Honourable bunch}

Mouse builders are on the whole an honourable bunch, and the judges have a relatively easy time. Nevertheless, there have been one or two points of contention in the past. When a mouse has a dazzling array of control buttons it is always possible that the handlers are pul-

\section*{eUROMOUSE Maze Contest - British Heat, Earls Court, April 23 to 25 1982. Rules of competition.}

\section*{1.Dimensions}

The maze consists of 16 by 16 squares The squares are based on a \(7 \mathrm{in} . / 18 \mathrm{~cm}\). matrix. The walls of the maze are \(0.5 \mathrm{in} / 12 \mathrm{~mm}\). thick, and the passageways are thus \(6.5 \mathrm{in} . / 16.5 \mathrm{~cm}\). wide. The walls are \(2 \mathrm{in} . / 5 \mathrm{~cm}\). high, painted white with red tops. The target post at the centre, \(1 \mathrm{in} . / 2.5 \mathrm{~cm}\). square, is \(8 \mathrm{in} . / 20 \mathrm{~cm}\). high, and can be removed if desired. The starting square is at the 'bottom left' corner of the maze, and the mouse is initially orientated so that the target is diagonally to its right. The running surface is chipboard, sprayed with black paint.

\section*{2. Tolerances}

Dimensions should not be assumed to be more accurate than five percent: the maze may be made up to metric or imperial dimensions, and quoted figures may be approximations (to five percent). Joins in the maze base will not involve steps of greater than 0.5 mm . - possibly covered with tape. However, warping of the maze base during transport or storage may result in a change in gradient at a join of as much as \(4^{\circ}\).

\section*{3.Contest rules}
(a) Each mouse is allowed a maximum total of 15 minutes to perform. The judges have the discretion to request a mouse to retire early if by its lack of progress it has become boring, or if by erratic behaviour it is endangering the state of the maze.
(b) If the mouse can succeed in finding its way from the start to the maze centre, the time is noted. The handlers can then restart the mouse, so that it can profit from any learning ability in making a second run. Within the 15 -minute limitation any
number of runs can be made, and the mouse is credited with the shortest time of a successful run.
(c) If a mouse "gets into trouble", the handlers can ask the judges for permission to abandon the run and restart the mouse at the beginning. If any other handling occurs, the judges may impose an appropriate time penalty, and a mouse which has been so handled will be beaten by any other mouse which has reached the centre without handling. A mouse may not be restarted merely because it has taken a wrong turning - the judges decision is final. The judges may add a time penalty for a restart.
(d) Within reason, and at the judges' discretion, battery changes and minor repairs may be made - however the 15 -minute timer must continue running.
(e) If no successful run has been made, the judges will make a qualitative assessment of the mouse's performance, based on distance achieved,
"purposefulness" versus random behaviour and quality of control.
(f) If a mouse elects to retire before three minutes have elapsed, the judges may at their discretion permit it to perform again, with a 10 -minute limit, later in the contest.
(g) The judges will use their discretion to award the prizes, which in addition to the major prize may include prizes for specific classes of mouse - perhaps lowest cost, most ingenious, best presented, etc.
(h) Before the maze is unveiled the mice must be accepted and caged by the contest officiais. The handlers will place the mice at the start under the officials' instructions.
ling a fast one by choosing a bias towards left or right-handedness, or by signalling "that last route wasn't bad, go flat out and don't try to improve it".

The starting procedure must therefore be written down before the beginning of the contest so that matters of strategy are left to the mouse, not to the handler.

Although it is not mentioned in the rules, the judges' job will be made much easier if a mouse announces its arrival at the centre either audibly or by simply flashing an LED. The mouse must not pollute or damage the maze - one or two mice have a reputation for hurling themselves against the maze walls, and this practice will be strongly discouraged.


Sample competition maze.
(i) Although the superstructure of the mice may "bulge" above the top of the maze walls, mice must be subject to the following size constraints - width 25 cm ., length 25 cm . There is no height limit but beware of toppling! Mice must be completely self-contained and must receive no outside assistance. The method of wall sensing is at the discretion of the builder, however, the mouse must not exert a force on any wall likely to cause damage. The method of propulsion is at the discretion of the builder provided that the power source is non-polluting - internal-combustion engines would probably be disqualified on this count. If the judges consider that a mouse has a high risk of damaging or sullying the maze they will not permit it to run. Nothing may be deposited in the maze. The mouse must negotiate the maze; it must not step over or otherwise illegally cross any maze wall. The means of locomotion of the mouse is again at the discretion of the designer.

\section*{4. Virtuoso Display}

Mice have 10 minutes to display their abillties. Their dimensions must be such that they could run in the maze. Their performance must be limited in travelling range to be accommodated either within the maze, or on an eight foot ( 2.4 metre) square surface of hardboard. Handling will be discouraged.
The Micromouse Maze Contest was first held in the U.S. by IEEE Spectrum.

\section*{Crossing the \(40<0\) (0) \\ Clues \\ Up 4}

Across \(\rightarrow\)
1. Square.
3. Cube.
4. See 7U
5. Square.
6. Twenty more than the sum of all the three-figure numbers, 5 U and 2 D .

5. Same digits as 2D but in a different order.
6. See note below
7. Sum of three times the total of all two-digit numbers, the total of all the three-digit numbers, \(3 \mathrm{D}, 4 \mathrm{~A}\), and half 9 U
8. Cube.
9. Square.

Down \(\downarrow\)
1. See note
2. See 5 U
3. See 7U
4. Cube
5. Square.

Notes
2-digit numbers are consecutive squares.
3-digit numbers are consecutive cubes.
5-digit numbers are each made up of digits sharing a common total.

Solution to February puzzle
Remember the numerical bees? They managed to fill that honeycomb after all - even without the hive's new Bee Bee Cee computer, which really is due for delivery any day now


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The unprecedented popularity of the ZX Series of Sinclair Personal Computers has generated a large volume of programs written byusers.

Sinclair has undertaken to publish the most elegant of these on pre-recorded cassettes. Each program is carefully vetted for interest and quality, and then grouped with other programs to form a single-subject cassette.

Each cassette costs \(\{3.95\) (including VAT and p\&p) and comes complete with full instructions.

Although primarily designed for the Sinclair ZX81, many of the cassettes are suitable for running on a Sinclair ZX80-if fitted with a replacement 8 K BASIC ROM.

Some of the more elaborate programs can be run only on a Sinclair ZX Personal Computer augmented by a 16 K -byte add-on RAM pack.

This RAM pack and the replacement ROM are described below. And the description of each cassette makes it clear what hardware is required.

\section*{8K BASIC ROM}

The 8K BASIC ROM used in the ZX81 is available to \(\mathrm{ZX80}\) owners as a drop-in replacement chip. With the exception of animated graphics, all the advanced features of the ZX81 are now available on a ZX80-including the ability to run much of the Sinclair ZX Software.

The ROM chip comes with a new keyboard template, which can be overlaid on the existing keyboard in minutes, and a new operating manual.
16K-BYIE RAM pack The 16 K -byte RAM pack provides 16-times more memory in one complete module. Compatible with the ZX81 and the ZX80, it can be used for program storage or as a database.

The RAM pack simply plugs into the existing expansion port on the rear of a Sinclair ZX Personal Computer.


\section*{Cassette 1-Games}

For ZX81 (and ZX80 with 8K BASIC ROM)

ORBIT - your space craft's mission is to pick up a very valuable cargo that's in orbit around a star.

SNIPER - you're surrounded by 40 of the enemy. How quickly can you spot and shoot them when they appear?

METEORS - your starship is cruising through space when you meet a meteor storm. How long can you dodge the deadly danger?

LIFE-J.H.Conway's 'Game of Life' has achieved tremendous popularity in the computing world. Study the life, death and evolution patterns of cells.

WOLFPACK - your naval destroyer is on a submarine hunt. The depth charges are armed, but must be fired with precision.

GOLF-what's your handicap? It's a tricky course but you control the strength of your shots.

\section*{Cassette 2-Junior}

Education: 7-11-year-olds For ZX81 with 16 K RAM pack

CRASH - simple addition-with the added attraction of a car crash if you get it wrong.

MULTIPLY-long multiplication with five levels of difficulty. If the answer's wrong the solution is explained.

TRAIN-multiplication tests against the computer. The winner's train reaches the station first.

FRACTIONS - fractions explained at three levels of difficulty. A ten-question test completes the program.

ADDSUB-addition and subtraction with three levels of difficulty. Again, wrong answers are followed by an explanation.

DIVISION - with five levels of difficulty. Mistakes are explained graphically, and a running score is displayed.

SPELLING - up to 500 words over five levels of difficulty. You can even change the words yourself.
Cassette 3-Business and Household
For ZX81 (and ZX80 with \(8 K\) BASIC ROM) with 16 K RAM pack

TELEPHONE-set up yourown computerised telephone directory and address book. Changes, additions and deletions of up to 50 entries are easy.

NOTE PAD-a powerful, easy-to-run system for storing and

retrieving everyday information. Use it as a diary, a catalogue, a reminder system, or a directory.

BANK ACCOUNT - a sophisticated financial recording system with comprehensive documentation. Use it at home to keep track of 'where the money goes,' and at work for expenses, departmental budgets, etc.

\section*{Cassette 4-Games}

For ZX81 (and ZX80 with 8 K BASIC ROM) and 16 K RAM pack LUNAR LANDING-bring the lunar module down from orbit to a soft landing. You control attitude and orbital direction-but watch the fuel gauge! The screen displays your flight status-digitally and graphically.

TWENTYONE-a dice version of Blackjack.

COMBAT - you're on a suicide space mission. You have only 12 missiles but the aliens have unlimited strength. Can you take 12 of them with you?

SUBSTRIKE-on patrol, your frigate detects a pack of 10 enemy subs. Can you depth-charge them before they torpedo you?

CODEBREAKER - the computer thinks of a 4-digit number which you have to guess in up to 10 tries. The logical approach is best!

MAYDAY - in answer to a distress call, you'ye narrowed down the search area to 343 cubic kilometers of deep space. Can you find the astronaut before his life-support system fails in 10 hours time?

Cassette 5-Junior
Education: 9-11-year-olds For ZX81 (and ZX80 with \(8 K\) BASIC ROM)

MATHS-tests arithmetic with three levels of difficulty, and gives your score out of 10 .

BAI ANCE-tests understanding of levers/fulcrum theory with a series of graphic examples.

VOLUMES - 'yes' or 'no' answers from the computer to a series of cube volume calculations.

AVERAGES - what's the average height of your class? The average shoe size of your family? The average pocket money of your friends? The computer plots a bar chart, and distinguishes MEAN fromMEDIAN.

BASES - convert from decimal (base 10) to other bases of your choice in the range 2 to 9 .

TEMP-Volumes, temperatures -and their combinations.

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\hline
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\end{tabular}

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\section*{TRS-80 COLOR COMPUTER "C.C. WRITER" A WORK PROCESSOR \\ FOR YOU}
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\section*{Pet holds the purse-strings}

The idea of writing your own business software should not necessarily fill you with trepidation. Roger Valentine and John Hartopp turned their hands to the task and created a complete payroll suite, which they present here. in a Choice likened by many to reinventing the wheel, we decided at the outset that we would write all our own business software. As a bureau offering professional services, we needed a program which could handle a large number of clients with diverse problems. More importantly, we were not at all impressed by the programs available on cassette from software suppliers.

\section*{The rest is free}

After much shopping around and budget-stretching we had decided to buy a 32 K Pet, a Commodore printer and a cassette unit. With the advent of inexpensive micros such as the Vic, it becomes increasingly likely that many more small, low-budget companies will consider taking a tentative step towards computerisation.

Cheap and effective business software is therefore a must. If you buy a computer just to run this program, you can produce a year's payroll for under \(£ 20\) a week, which is about what we would charge our clients. The advantage of doing it yourself is that you have the computer for other jobs too and subsequent payrolls cost you nothing.

Anyone opting to write their own A sample pay-slip.
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|}
\hline \multicolumn{3}{|l|}{} \\
\hline \multirow[t]{9}{*}{\[
\begin{aligned}
& \text { WEEK } \\
& \text { WनE }
\end{aligned}
\]} & Ho. 05.12 .31 & \\
\hline & PAY' - HORMAL TIME DVERTIME (1) OVERTIME (2) SICK PF' HOLIDFY PFY BONUS/AIJUSTMENT & \[
\begin{gathered}
30.06 \\
1.88 \\
20.001 \\
10.09 \\
10.09 \\
25.09
\end{gathered}
\] \\
\hline & GFOSS F'F' & 96.85 \\
\hline & Tfix. & 16.36 \\
\hline & 4. 1. & 7.509 \\
\hline & CIJJUSTMENT & . 30 \\
\hline & TOTFL DEDUCTIGNS & 26. 36 \\
\hline & HET PA'HELE & 79.18 \\
\hline & GROSS FPHY TO IIATE THX TO IATE & \[
\begin{array}{r}
1236.88 \\
33.60
\end{array}
\] \\
\hline
\end{tabular}

payroll program from scratch should start by obtaining the specifications laid down by the Inland Revenue and the Department of Health and Social Security for computerised pay roll routines. They are extremely complex, but you must follow them to the letter.

It is simple to write a program which is technically more accurate than the manual tax and national-insurance tables, but unfortunately this is not what is required. The manual tables incorporate a number of roundings and approximations designed to make life simple for the non-computer user, so a computer routine must use the same approximations as would a manual system.

Although the variety of tax codes that you are actually likely to encounter in practice is rather limited, there are three different types of code, all of which must be catered for:
Numeric codes with suffix are by far the most common, and many employers could probably manage with a program which covers these alone. They present no real problem, except that, because manual tables only go up to code 360 , a special routine must be included to cover higher codes; otherwise the computer's results will be "too accurate".
Numeric codes with prefix are rather rare, D and \(F\) prefixes do sometimes occur, and each requires a separate routine.
The non-numeric codes are NT, BR, and OT, NT means no tax is deducted and usually but not always - that no tax should be refunded. BR means that the whole of the pay is taxed at the basic rate, and is not the same as OT, which means that the whole of the pay is taxed, but at whichever rate is normally applicable. Note that though OT is really a normal suffix code, it may be read as "OT", so it is safer if your program accepts it as a valid non-numeric code.
All the above code types may be either Week 1 or cumulative. Anyone who operates a payroll, or who has ever paid
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|}
\hline \multicolumn{6}{|l|}{} \\
\hline NATNE & BROS & TAX & \begin{tabular}{l}
N.I. \\
(EE)
\end{tabular} & \[
\begin{aligned}
& H_{\text {I }} \mathrm{I} \\
& (E R ;
\end{aligned}
\] & \[
\begin{gathered}
\mathrm{H.I} \\
\text { (TOT) }
\end{gathered}
\] \\
\hline W. CLAEK & 169.04 & 2.10 & 7.77 & 13.73 & 21.59 \\
\hline II. EROWM & 96.88 & 18.30 & 7.54 & 13.25 & 20.75 \\
\hline MS.J. EROW & - 80 & - 90 & . 64 & . 610 & . 614 \\
\hline TOTHL & 196.85 & 21.80 & 15.27 & 26.98 & 42.25 \\
\hline
\end{tabular}

The tabulated printout of an employee's pay summary.
too much tax, will be familiar with what this means. \(D\) codes are never cumulative; F codes may very rarely be. Fortunately, special Week-1 tables, W1, are no longer in use, so Week 1 codes can be treated exactly the same as the others, but on a non-cumulative basis. There are six different NI rates, a to \(f\). but since this program is designed only for not-contracted-out employers, it uses only rates \(a, b\), and \(c\).

The program requires about 22 K , most of which is taken up by the employee arrays. A 32 K machine will hold data for more than the 100 employees, but we have chosen that number to allow ample room for modifications to the program.

The screen display is for a 40 -column Pet. The 3 cursor right; *; 3 cursor left routine which appears first in line 210 is a standard Pet trick to avoid crashing the program with Return. There are no Peeks, Pokes or other machinedependent features, but you must be able to use massive two-dimensional arrays which may be difficult on old-ROM Pets. In the program all arrays have been dimensioned even though this is not essential on a Pet. Val should return zero for a non-numeric string otherwise some of the validification routines must be modified.

\section*{Special formats}

The printer formatting should be adjusted for your particular printer. Most of the formatting - subroutine 7500 in program 1;9500 in program \(2-\) is conventional, but for the weekly summary in lines 12000 to 14300 of program 2 we have cheated by using the Pet printer's own formatting facilities. These involve using a template, defined by the row of 9 s and As in lines 13060 and 14070.

The Pet defines device number 3 as the screen, and 4 as the printer. We have used this to copy information directly from screen to printer, but you may have a Copy facility to do this even more simply.

Variables used in the program are listed in table 1, and the arrays are listed at the end of program 1. This is more than just a service to the user: the Pet's chaining facility is dependent on the second program being shorter than the first. Rather than adjust the various pointers at addresses 44 to 49 to make program 1 artificially long, we have simply extended the listing. For that reason, Pet users should not omit the Rems or lines 12000
on words, unless they are adding a routine of equivalent length.

The most interesting feature of program 1 is subroutine 6000 which searches for an employee by name, or by part of a name. For example, "Smith" will find A Smith, Smith A., B. Smithson, etc. If all names have initials with at least one full stop, "." will find them all. Otherwise program 1 is a standard database routine.

Program 2 opens with a long list of tax and NI parameters, most of which should be instantly recognisable to payroll users. All the data which is likely to be amended in successive budgets is held here, so up-dating is easy. Line 6180 relates to the old WI tables. It has been pushed out of the way with a Rem statement, rather than deleted, just in case it is needed again. GPTR, short for GPoin-
(continued on next page)
Table 1.
All arrays used are listed at the end of program one.
\(T, Q, T \$, Q \$, A N D T()\) are local variables which occur throughout the programs.
N\$ Week number \(-->\) W
D\$ Date of run
DA\$ Date temporary
CL\$ Company name
NE\$ Number of employees -->NE
Q1\$ Formatting string
Q2\$ Formatting string
T\$ Standard input to questionnalre (numeric)
Q\$ Standard input to questionnaire (alphabetic)
H\$ Standard input to payroll
GP (also called GPTR) GPointer
\(X \quad\) Number of bandwidths
Z Number of pay-slips to be printed set to 1
W Week number of run
N Week number (temporary)
NN Week number for tax
NE Number of employees
EN Employee number
NI Employee's NI
ER Employer's NI
G Gross pay
G1 Gross pay for tax
GN Gross pay for NI
B Band
F Free pay
TP Taxable pay
TA Tax
DV Logical device number
O ' Obligatory print flag
\(\mathrm{K}, \mathrm{L}\) and M are loop-control variables
\(J\) is the main loop-control variable, which usually defines the employee being processed
Sample printouts
Listings

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\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|}
\hline \multicolumn{4}{|r|}{SEARCHING FOR 'BEST PRICE' FOUND 'BEST PRICE'} \\
\hline \multirow[t]{2}{*}{PET
4016
4032} & & RRP & OUR PRICE \\
\hline & \({ }_{32 \mathrm{~K}}^{16 \mathrm{~K}}\) & \({ }_{\text {E6955 }}^{\text {E.550 }}\) & \({ }_{\text {E490 }}\) \\
\hline 8032
8096 & 32 K & £895 & c760 \\
\hline \multicolumn{4}{|l|}{OISK DRIVES} \\
\hline & 170K & \({ }^{\text {f395 }}\) & \({ }_{\text {E }} 535\) \\
\hline & \({ }_{\text {1M }}^{34}\) & \({ }_{\text {¢ } 695}\) & \({ }_{\text {¢ }}\) ¢5960 \\
\hline \multicolumn{4}{|l|}{} \\
\hline \multirow[t]{2}{*}{\[
\begin{aligned}
& 4020 \\
& 8023 \\
& 8020
\end{aligned}
\]} & \({ }^{80 C O L}\) & ¢395 & \\
\hline & \({ }_{\text {che }}^{136 C O L}\) & & \\
\hline & \multicolumn{3}{|l|}{} \\
\hline \multicolumn{4}{|c|}{Carriage - \(£ 5\) per item} \\
\hline \multicolumn{4}{|r|}{y you know what you want why wail} \\
\hline
\end{tabular}

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F. TONE:
H.H. UTHEF:
\begin{tabular}{|c|}
\hline \multirow[t]{9}{*}{\[
\begin{array}{r}
16.98 \\
28.85 \\
97.50 \\
434.16 \\
429.86 \\
4519.5 \\
214.45 \\
171.57
\end{array}
\]} \\
\hline \\
\hline \\
\hline \\
\hline \\
\hline \\
\hline \\
\hline \\
\hline \\
\hline
\end{tabular}
14.45 217.15
2.7. 9
27.85
46. 66
37.04
417.36
14.76
23.10

TUTHL
2134.99
169.25

Company tax and National Insurance details.
(continued from previous page)
ter, is a parameter used for BR and D codes. \(X\) is the number of bandwidths.

The heart of the program is in lines 5000 to 6320 and subroutine 8000 where the tax and Nl calculations are performed. Line 6700 starts the routine for \(D\) codes, 6800 to 6850 for \(F\) codes. Subroutine 7000 is a tedious way of dealing with codes above 360 , using one of the spare arrays. T() has been dimensioned to 10 - line 10 in program 1 and line 500 in program 2 - so will hold codes up to 3600 . If you ever have to handle a code greater than this, simply re-dimension \(T\) ().

\section*{Copies required}

Subroutine 8000 advances the week, e.g., for holiday pay in advance, and 8400 requests a date for such pay-slips. Only the current pay date is actually stored. Lines 9000 to 9260 print the pay-slips, first to the screen and then to the printer, using variable DV to decide which. Lines 10000 to 10140 update the employee data, and lines 10200 to 10205 update the weekly summary. Note that the period summary is not updated untii lines 11500 to 11540 .

Business programs should be able to make countless copies of everything. The routine at lines 16150 to 17000 in program 2 and option 7 in program 1 allow security copies of the data tape to be made at will. Similarly, all printouts can be duplicated. Only the number of payslips printed is not under the user's control; it is pre-defined by variable Z in line 900 of program 2, and we have set this to 1 so that you can race through the payroll in no time at all. If you do not use carbonised stationery you may set this to whatever you like.

Formatting is for either individual or continuous A5 pay-slips. They need not be pre-printed, but you will probably adjust the formatting to suit your own stationery. Note that the variable \(O\) is the obligatory print flag. Only the obligatory lines, for which \(O=1\) will be printed unless there is actually an amount to print that, for example, those employees who are not paid overtime, holiday pay, etc.
need never know that they exist. On the other hand, if you have pre-printed stationery, or simply want all pay-slips to have the same format, set O permanently to 1

Program I sets up and amends payroll data, and when you first start you will use option 1. All other options lead to the dead-end of asking for a data tape; though option 7 at least has the courtesy of returning you to the menu. Option 1 leads to a question-and-answer routine, where you are asked for two pages of data for each employee. At the end of each page you have the option of correcting that page or continuing.

There are three distinct classes of user:
- New companies setting up a payroll for the first time.
- Existing companies bringing in the computer payroll from Week 1 of a tax year.
- Existing companies bringing in the computer payroll at any other time in a tax year.
If you are in the first two catagories, page two of the data questionnaire is easy. Users in the third category must be sure to transfer all their existing manual records on to the computer including data for employees who have already left, otherwise the program will not provide accurate end-of-year information.
The "paid to week" question is to prevent the inadvertent double-payment of employees who, for example, have already received holiday pay in advance. If therefore refers to the week number for which you have paid each employee. For new starters, enter 0 , not the week shown on their P45, as double-payment by different employers is quite normal.

At the end of the questionnaire - as at the end of all options which allow you to change data - you may record a data tape, or return to the menu. Do not forget to record the tape later, of course, using Option 7.

Option 2 uses the same routine to add new employees. Option 3 deletes employees by reference to either their name or number. Note that "deleting" an employee does not involve destroying any data; the employee is merely flagged as having left, and is omitted from future payroll runs. Data for ex-employees can
be examined as easily as that for current employees．

Option 4 allows any employee＇s data to be examined，amended，or printed out， again by reference to name or number． You may amend any one of the 16 fields of data per employee．Any change to pay， tax，or NI，details will not be incorpo－ rated into the current－period summary， so fraudulent alterations will show up as unexplained imbalance at the period end． Key in 17 to exit from this mode or to examine next employee．
Option 5 prints out an up－to－date P35 listing．This is not just a year－end facility， but may be used at any time to check payroll controls you may be keeping．

Option 6 is used only rarely．It enables you to change certain suffix tax codes en masse，which will be necessary only on instructions from the tax office．Only codes L，H，P，and V may be changed in this way，as they are the only codes which will be covered by such a blanket instruc－ tion．Instructions of this kind are fre－ quently issued after a budget．

\section*{Play it safe}

Option 7 allows you to record a data tape．Option 8 loads and runs the payroll program itself．You can use both pro－ grams without this option，but you will often find it necessary to make some last－ minute data amendments just before the payroll run．You can run straight into option 8 without first recording any amendments－whether or not you do so is up to you．In general it is safer not to do this in case a major disaster in the payroll run forces you to start over again．

Program 2 asks first for the tax week and current pay date．It must be eight characters long so use DD．MM．YY If it has not been run from program 1 it will request your data tape．

Each current employee will then be
displayed in turn，together with a full menu if the employee has not yet been paid，or a very much abbreviated menu otherwise．Option 1 enables you to run quickly through the payroll in all simple cases．It will pay the employee the normal gross wage，and print a pay－slip immedi－ ately．Options 2 to 8 allow you to compile a pay－slip in the normal way，and Option 9 prints out the compiled pay－slip．

The pay－slip is first displayed on the screen．You may either key \(C\) to cancel it and return to make adjustments；or key P to print it out．Alternatively press R to record the pay details while skipping the printing，should you ever need to do this．

\section*{Cassettes available}

The other two options on the full menu，and the only two on the abbrevi－ ated menu，are W to advance the week－ e．g．，to pay holiday pay in advance－or X to skip to the next employee．On a full menu，use of option 9 on its own will result in the employee receiving no pay but possibly a tax refund．Option \(\mathbf{X}\) will simply leave an employee off the current week＇s payroll，and he will receive any tax rebate which may be due when he is next paid．

At the end of the payroll run，print out the weekly summaries，period summary if required－it will be zeroed after print－ ing，otherwise carried forward－and lastly record the data tape．The average run time for 100 employees is 45 minutes，or 25 minutes if Option 1 is applicable．

Copies of these programs are available on cassette for \(£ 5\) for the two programs from：R G Valentine，c／o V\＆H Accoun－ tancy Services，182c Kingston Road， Staines，Middlesex．Anyone using the programs，can receive free up－dates whenever tax or NI changes occur by sending a stamped，addressed envelope to the same address．

\section*{Program 1.}

```

    4 G0T010
    S PRINT"NFEESS SPHCE LUHEN READ'"
    E QS="":GETQS: IFOS=""THEHE
    ? RETURH
    10 I!1+4E(106,14), E$(109,3),P(6),T䋆(4),T(10)
    2G X=5:GPTK=1:REM: SEE LINE S325 & FROG %
    ```

```

    101 PRINT"NPN - SET UP NEW PH'TFOLL
    110 PRINT"MA 1: SET UP NEW P
    120 PRINT"g 2: HDD EMPLOYEE 
    130 FRIHT"M
    140 FRINT"R 4 FHNMEND/INSFEC
    142.PRINT"M 6: "BLFHNKET' TAK CODE CHAHUES
    143 PRIHT"M 7: SNECOFD CHFHGESE
    144 F'RINT"**) 3: RUHY PR''ROLL
    145 TOSUBE
    150 IFQ&<"1"ORQ变〉"8"THEN145
    160 ONVFL(0$)GOT0200,10190,2004,3000, 7600, 5090, 3900,10000
    ```


```

    215 IFCL复="目"THEN210
    ```


```

    225 IFNE柰="実"THENPRINT"TI"": GOTO220
    ```

```

    235 EH=1:GOSUE240:GOSIEO350:GOTO100
    240. PRINT"TIRENTTER IETAILS IF ALL CURRENT EMFLO'EES
    ```

```

    250 FRIHT"
    255 FRINT"MSUFRENT TR'% 'r'ERR. N":GOEUES
    260 FOFJ=EHTDHE
    270 FRIHT" OEEMFLU゙TEE HUMBER量 ";J
    ```

```

        (continued on next page)
    ```

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－STEP－single step execution．
FIND－any string of chars in program．
VAR－list variables．
LVAR－print variabies．
AUTO \(X, Y\)－automatic line numbering
RENUMBER \(X, Y\)－any start，any step．
DELETE \(X\) to \(Y\)－any range of line nos．
HEX－HEX \＆ASCII dump
IHEX－HEX dump in instruction format．
\({ }^{*}\) VIA chip required）．
PLUS Additlonal BASIC statements
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KEY X－scans keyboard－input to variable． INKEY SX－scans keyboard－input to string WHILE ．．．ENDWHILE
CURSOR X，Y－position cursor as required
ON ERROR
BEEP \(X, Y\)－sound any duration，any pitch．
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\section*{（continued from previous page）}

285 IFE \((J, 1)=\)＂＊＂THEFAFRINT＂．TI］＂：GUTO2SE



31 E EN＝J：GOSUB636
32あ IFQ全＝＂当＂THEHPRINT＂：II］＂：00T0300
335 E （ \(\mathrm{J}, 3\) ）\(=\) Q

350 IFQ寺玉＂Y＂THENE（J，4）\(=1\) ：GOTO370
360 IFQ\＆＝＂N＂THENS70
365 PRINT＂MI＂：GOTO1340

375 IFT殔二＂系＂THEMPRIHT＂TI］＂：GOTO370


365 IFT \(=\)＂事＂THEMPRIHT＂IIT＂：GOTO380
387 E（J，5）＝VHL（T 5 ）



419 IFQ \(=\)＂\([\)＂THENE \(\mathrm{J}, 3\) ）\(=3:\) GUT042G
415 FEINT＂IT\}": GOT0394
420 PRINT＂MRFRESS C TO CFINCEL ：SFHCE TO COHTIHUE＂：GOSUB6
421 IFQ＝＂C＂THEM270

426 IFT \(\$=\)＂＊＂THEN425
427 E（J，7）＝WML（Tお）

435 IFT \(=\)＝＂来＂THEMPRIUT＂．TI］＂：GOT0436
\(436 \mathrm{E}(\mathrm{J}, 8)=\mathrm{WL}(\mathrm{T} \$)\)

445 IFT \(=\)＝＂央＂THEMPRINT＂TIJ＂：GOTO44日
\(446 \mathrm{E}(\mathrm{J}, 11)=\mathrm{WRL}\)（T）
450 INPUT＂質FX－．．
455 IFT \({ }^{\text {P }}="\)＂THEHPRINT＂TT］＂：GOTO456
456 E（J，12）\(=V M L\)（T \(\$\)

465 IFT \(=\)＝＂＂THENPFIMT＂TII＂：GOTO46
\(466 \mathrm{E}(\mathrm{J}, 13)=4 \mathrm{HR}\)（T

475 IFTs＝＂央＂THENPRINT＂T1＂：GOTO47日
\(476 \mathrm{E}(\mathrm{J}, 9)=\boldsymbol{T} \mathrm{HL}\)（T）

481 IFT＝＂w＂THENFRINT＂TI＂：GOTO480
\(482 \mathrm{E}(\mathrm{J}, 161)=\mathrm{VAL}\)（T表）




495 IF \(05=" Y " \operatorname{THEHE}(J, 6)=6:\) GOTO50 9
436 IF \(0:=" N " T H E N E(J, 6)=1: G U T 0506\)
497 PRINT＂TT＂：GOT0430
560 PRINT＂MAFRESS C TO CANCEL ：SFHCE TO CUHTINUE＂：GOSUBG
5011 IFG：\(=\)＂C＂THEN42S
519 HEXTJ
515 FETURN
1000 IFCL \(\$="\)＂THENEOUSUB5001
\(10101 \mathrm{HE}=\mathrm{NE}+1\) ：IFHE \(>16 \mathrm{~T}\) THENNE \(=100:\) GUTO100
1015 EN＝NE：GOSUB260
1020 PRINT＂TMEDRXHHY MORE？＂
163 GUSUBE

1050 IFQs＝＂N＂THEH1070
1060 GOT01030
1076 GOSUB3950：GOTO100
2005 IFCL \(=\)＂＂THENEUSUB50000
2005 FRINT＂INSIREX＂

202 5 IFT \(=\)＂＂＂THENPRINT＂T＂
2030 IFT客 \(=\)＂ 1 ＂THENGOSUB6009

\(2050 \mathrm{E}(E N, 6)=6\)

2076 GOSUBE
20E0 IFQt＝＂\(\uparrow\)＂THEN2010
2090 IFS事＝＂H＂THEN1970
2110 GOTO2470
3009 IFCL \(=\)＂＂THENGOSUB5006
3005 FRINT＂TMNDINR＂
3016 INFUT＂EMFLOU＇EE NUMBER（H＝HスK）

3630 IFT等＝＂N＂THENGOSUB60日g

3050 GOSUEも0日G
3060 FRINT＂TIRTINTANY MURE？
3070 G0SUB6
3080 IFQ\＄＝＂ヶ＂THEN3010

3110 GOTO 3670
3006 IFCL

HD DRTA TO FECORD＂：FORM＝1TUSDO：HEXTM：GOTO106
3316 GOSUB4E00：GOTO190
3950 FRINT＂IMMMMPRESS \(F\) TO RECORD
3960 FRINT＂MOR II TO RETIFW TO MEHU
3970 GOSUBE
39 SQ IFQ\＄＝＂M＂THFNFFTIIEN


4010 GOSUB5
4910 OFSN1，1，1

```

4040 PRINT\#1,CL\$
40516 FRINT\#1, NE
4055 FORJ=1TOS:FR
4066 FORJ=1TOHE
4070 PRINT\#1,E\&(J,1)
4090 PRINT\#1, E悉(J,3)
4100 NEXTJ
4110 FOFJ=1TONE
4115 FOFK=1T014
412G PRINT\#1,E(J,K)
4:25 NEXTK
4130 NEXTJ
4140 CLOSE1
4150 RETURN

```

```

50101 GOSUBS
5020 OFEH1, 1,0
5630 IHFUT\#1,CL\$
50146 FFINT"\#2NEDNMBFEADIHG ";CL*
5050 INFUT\# 1,NE
5055 FORJ=1 TOG: INFUT\#1, F.(J) : NEXTJ
5060 FORJ = 1 TONE
5070 IHPUT\#1,E\$(J,1)
5080 IHPUT\#1,E系(J,2)
5095 IHPUT\#1,E*(J,3)
5100 HEKTJ
5110 FORJ = 1 TONE
5115 FOFK=1TO14
5120 IHPUT\#1,E(J,K)
5120 ITFPTK
5125 FEXTK
5149 CLOSE1
5150 RETUFPN
606G FF INT""INTMUM"

```

```

6020 IFT ==":"THENPFINT".\":G0T06010
6030 FORJ=1 TONE
6040 FORK=1TOLEH\E*(J, 1))-LEN(T\$) +1

```

```

6055 IFT=1 THENE100
6060 NEXTK
600% HEXTNT"TMEMAHFNE HOT FOUND":GOTOG010
6080 PFINT"\#MDM,MF+1E HOT
6100 T*=STR\&(J):RETURH4
70GG FRINT"TMWRJRFOIND:";E悉吕,
7030 GOSUB6
7049 IFRS="け"THENT=1: FEETUR\&N
705G IFQF="N"THENFEETURN
?060 G0T07030
7506 IFQ< \E<EH, 1)THENQ= INT<Q*:1001+.5)/106
7505 Q1%=STR直(Q)
7515 FORK=1TOLEH(Q1 %): IFMIDF(Q1%,k,1)="."THEN7540
7520 HEXTK
7530 01$=01%+",0g":G0T0P560
7530 21%=G1*+":00,
l
7550 IFK=1 THENQ1 ==01禾+"6"
7560 IFO=1T
7570 FETURHH "THENGOSUB5G00
7609 IFCLS=""THENGOSUB5G00 
7604 OFEH4,4
7605 FFINT#4,CHRS(1)CL$
7606 PRINT\#4
TEOS PRINT\#4,".NFIME IH.I. TRX""
7609 FFINT\#4
T609 FRINT\#4

```

```

7625 GOSUE7506
7625 GOSUE7566
7640 GUSNTJ?
7 6 4 9 ~ H E X T J ~

```

```

l:
TE50 CLOSE4
7669 G0T0100
7705 IFLEH(Q4)<25THEHQ\&=0%+" ":00T07700
7710 IFLEN(Q1t)<1QTHENQ1$=" "+Q1&:GOTO7710
7720 IFLEH(Q25)<10THEHQ2s=" "+Q2%:GOTOP720
7730 PRINT#4,LEFT悉(Q*,20); Q1*;THE(40-(20+LEN(Q1%))); Q2*
7740 RETURH
3060 DV=3:0=1 : FRINT"W";
8005 OFENN4, IW:CH1I4
8010 PRINT" =EMFLO'TEE MUMBER星:";EN
8015 PRINT" 1:NHME ",EF(EN,1)
S62G PPINT" 2:H.I.MO : ";E%(EN,2)
8030 PRINT" 3:TAX CODE : ":E&(EN,3)
S040 PRIMT" 4:|NK,!
3041 IFE(EN, 4)=1THENT糸="'ES
3045 FRIHTT*
3950 W&=" 5:PHY/HOUR: :":Q=E(EN,1):GOUSUBP50G
3960 0: =" E:FAY/LNEEK :": =E(EN,5):GOSUEP500
8070 PRINT" 7:NI FRTE
8080 IFE (EH|,3)=1 THENT = = "R"
8081 IFE(E|, З)=2THENT金="B"
8082 IFE(ET, 3)=3THENT$="B
8085 IFESEH,
8085 FRINTT T
8090 Q*=" S:GF TO DATE :":Q=E(EN,7):GLGUE7500
8109 Q*=" 9:TAX TO DRTE :":0=E(EN,8):GOSUB750@

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## （continued from previous page）


8120 Q $\mathrm{Q}=\mathrm{F} 11$ ：TRX（PREV）
8130 PRINT＂12：PAII TO WEEK
8150 Q Q $^{2}=13$ ： 1 I（A）TO DATE：
$8160 \mathrm{Q} t=114$ ：NI（E）TO DATE：
 ＝E（E1，12）：003 1615 ＝E（EN，12）：GOSUE7500 ＂ E （EM，13）

813G PRINT＂ 16 ：CURRENT／LEFT ＝E EN，9）：G0SUET50M
：$Q=E(E N, 14)$ ：GOSUB7540
8190 Ts＝＂CURRENT＂：IFE（EN，6）＝GTHENT $\$=$＂LEFT＂
S200 PRINTT
8202 PRINT\＃4：CLOSE4：IFD $\%=4$ THEN8 8 OMG
8205 FRIMT＂ 717 ：EMORRECTE
$320 \sigma^{\circ}$ PRINT＂（ENTER F TO COFY TD PRIHTER） 0


8225 IFT\＆＝＂P＂THENDV＝4：GOTOSUQS

82461 IF $=16$ THEME（EN，6）$=-1$（ $(E(E N, 6)=0):$ GOTOS 000
$8245 \operatorname{IFT}=4 \operatorname{THENE}(E N, 4)=-1 *(E(E N, 4)=0): \operatorname{COTOSOEG}$
8250 IFT $=1$ TTHENO $=0$ ：RETURN



8295 GOTO8350

8305 IFQ $=$＝ $\mathrm{BR}^{2}$＂THENE（EN， 2 ）$=0$ ：GOT198340

S315 IFQ $=$＝＂NT＂THENE（EN，2）$=2606$

8325 IFE（EN，2）＋GP）XANDT $==" D " T H E N Q\}=" \$ "$

8340 FETURH

8366 IFTく）7THENS401
3365 Q\＄＝＂＊＂：GOT108200
8370 1FQ $=$＂A＂THENE（EN，3）$=1$
8371 IFQw＝＂B＂THEME（E 4,3$)=2$
8409 IFQ $=$＂C ${ }^{\circ}$ THENE $=130 R T=14$ ） THEHQ $=T-4$
3410 IF（T） 9 ANDT（13）THEN $\mathrm{A}=\mathrm{T}+1$
420 IF（《T）5A NDT（10）OF（T＝15）THENQ $=T$
420 IF（ $(T)$ SANDT＜10） 0
343E E（EN，Q）＝WRL（Q）
$844 \overline{6}$ GTOBG日E
$960 \mathrm{IFCL}="$ THENGOSUS5000
9005 PRINT＂IUSE THIS SECTIOH UNLLY ON RECEIPT OF
9006 PRINT＂
3010 PRINT＂P7X RUTHORITY＇FROM THX OFFICE
9020 PRINT＂RLMMEEUFFI\％ADD TO CODE
9021 FRINT＂
9025 PRINTTAB（15）；＂（TD REIUCE CODE＂
9026 PRINTTAB（15）；＂目JEE LEADIHG MINUS）＂

3035 FORM＝1 104


9066 PRINT＂目＂
9070 MEXTM
308G PRINT＂PRESS C TO CANCEL：SPACE TO CONTINUE＂：SOSUB6
9690 IFQ土＝＂C＂THEN9005

3150 FOF $J=1$ TOHE



9149 IFRIGHT＊$(E t(J, 3), 1)=" খ " T H E H E(J, 2)=E(J, 2)+T(4): E(J, 3)=S T R \pm(E(J, 2))+" 乡+"$
9150 NESTJ
3160 GUTOLEE
10000 IFCL $=="$＂THENGUSUB5000
10005 PRINT＂：IDIRIMEFRESS SFRCE TO LORD PAYROLL
1010 GOSUB6
10020 LORD＂PAYROLL＂
12060
12010 ：THIS SECTION IS FOR IMFORMATION ONL $\psi$ ．
12020 IT IS NEVER CALLED：HEHCE RPSENCE OF REM
12030 ：E\＄（J，1）＝EMPLOYEE $H$ MME
$12040: E(J, 2)=N$ ．I ．HUMEER
12054 ：E $(J, 3)=$ TRX CODE
12060
2070 ： $\mathrm{E}(\mathrm{J}, 1)=\mathrm{PQ} \uparrow$ HOUL
$120 \varepsilon$ E ：E（J，2）＝TRX CUDE（NU\＃EFIC）
$12990: E(J, 3)=14$ ．I．RRTE
121 G0 ：E（J，4）$=$ WK 1 FLAG
12110 ：E（J，5）＝MORMAL WEEK＇S PA＇
12120 ：E（J，G）＝CURREMT EHPLOMEE FLAG
12130 ：E（J，ア）$=$ GROSS FAY TO URTE
12140 ：E（J， E$)=$ TRX TO DATE
$12150: E(J, 9)=H$. I．（R）TO DHTE
12160 ：E（J，1Q）＝H．I．（B）TO DATE
12170 ：E（J，11）＝FREV EHFLO MMENT：－15．？
12180 ：E（J，12）＝FRE＇V EMFLOMENT ：－TAX
12190 ：E（J，13）＝FRID TO WEEK NO．
12200
12210
12220 ：
12250
（J，2）＝TRX THIS WEEK
12250 （J，3）＝H．1．（A）THIS WEEK
12260 ： $5(J, 5)=$ N．I．（EMPR．）THIS WEEK
12276
12286 ：
（1）
12290 ：F（2）＝TRX FIJR FERIOD

```
12300:F(3)=TOTHL H. 1. FOR FERTON
12310 :F (4)=ENPEE. N. I. FOR FEFION
12320 :P(5)=EMF.F. N.I. FOF FERIOD
123:30 :F(6)=TOTAL N.I. & TH.% FOF FEFIOI
12348
12350 : FRFA'r'S C,K,R,N FOR TAX,N:I. IRTH
12330 C()=CUMULETIUE BHHDWIOTHS
12380 :R():=TAX RATES
12380:R()=THX RATES G
12396:K()=CUMULATIVE GHUURL TROKES
12400 -N(1)=H. I. FATE H
12410: (H(2)=N. I.RHTE E
12420}:N(S)=N.I.RATE C
12430 :H(4)=N.I.RATE (EMPLDHER)
12440
12450 : HRRRUE TF,T,G FOR TEMPOFGF'T' STORMGE
REFD'T.
Program }2
4 BUT01D6
5 \mp@code { P K I N T " B F F E S S ~ B F R R E ~ W H E N ~ R E R D ' T " }
6 纬="":GET路:IFR音=""THENE
7 FETIEN
1WIG REM: I.F.. & D.H.S.S. IRTA
110 }<=
115 DIMC(X),F(X+1),K(X),H(4)
12GC(1)=1125以
121 [(2)=13254
12% C(3)=1E゙56
123 C(4)=22256
124 C(5) =27759
130 R(1)=.
131 R(2)=.4
132 R(3)=.45
133 R(4)=.5
134 F(5)=.55
135 R(5)=.6
140 k(1)=3375
141 K(2)=4175
142 K(5) =5750
143 K(4) = 8506
144K(5)=11525
150 GFTR=1
170 +4(1)=.6775
171 म(2)=.0275
17% N(3)=0
17%H(4)=.137
150 NU=206
1E1 HL=27
490 DIME(100,5),G(7)
45 IFEL&<S""THEN9E06
```






```
1015 FUSUESEm0
1010 D:= DFます
1020 FFINT"NN"
```



```
1030 IFN麦="束"THEN1025
1635 W="HL{愔):IFW<10FW\54THEN惊="束": GOTO1025
10%7 IFCL$&""THEN1116
1040 FRINT"刕"
1045 PRINT"LDHD FF'rROLL TRFE":GOSIUBE
1056 UFEEH1,1,0
1055 IHTP\T#1,CL车
```



```
1065 INPUT#1.fNE
1066 FORJ=1 TDE: INFUT#1,F(J):NEWTJ
1070 FOF:J=1 TONE
1@75 FOF K=1TH
1080 INFUT#1,E㐁(J,K)
1080 INFUT#1,E&\J
1066 FOFJ=1 TDNE
16B7 FOFK=1TO14
16Э0 IHPUT#1,E(J,k)
1695 NEXTK
1106 NEKTJ
110.5 CLOSE1
1115 FORJ=1 TOHE
1111 IFE(J,G)=0
1115 FORK=1 TOF:G(K)=00:HEXT
1116 t. = | |
1120 FRINT"m";E产(J,: );
1121 FRINTTABC3G);"䀠EK昔";N
1122 IFE (J, 13)>=NTHEHFRINT"目EFRID TO WEEKE";E(J,13):G0TO1165
1125 PRINT"N1: *F'R'% AS NORIMFL"
1130 FRIHT"ME: HOHRS HOFKEI"
1%S PRINT"MS: OVERTIME AT TIME ANII A HFLLF"
1140 FRINT"&44: OVERTIME GT DOLELE TIME"
1145 FRINT"棌: SICK: FR't'(HDUR'S)
1156 FRINT"NS: HOLIDA'' F'H'r' (HOURS)
```


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（continued from previous page）

1160 PRIHT＂NS：FOST－THY HIJUSTMEHTS
1162 PFINT＂NE：NUT MUFE EHTEIES

1167 PEIHT＂N14：CHFNEE WEEK
1170 GOSUBE： $\mathrm{G}=\mathrm{FAL}(25)+1$
1171 IFW\＄＝＂夕＂THEN110E19


$1206 \mathrm{G}(1)=E \backsim J, 5): G 0 T O 5 G 19$


1225 IFH年＝＂事＂THEN1220

1240 GiTU1120


126日 IFH：＝＂事＂THEN1255

1275 GUTO1 120


1310 IFH：＝＂車＂THEH13丘

1すこ5 GUTO112G


1360 IFH\＄＝＂中＂THEN1355

1375 GUTO1126


1410 IFH条＝＂害＂THEN1405

1425 BOTO1125


1460 IFH $=$＝＂承＂THEN1455
1476 に05UB1700
$14756(6)=T$
1450 GOTO1125


15ES FFIHT＂MKUSE LEADIHE MIHUS SIGN FOF FUIITIUN）＂


1560 GUSUE1760
1585 G（7）＝T
16.96 GOTO1120

1706FURK＝1TOLEH（HF）
1710IFHID事（H＋，K゙，1）＝＂。＂THEN1730
172区 HENTK：GOTU174E

1746 T＝UHL（Hक）：FETURN
$201614=1+1$ ：I FN 54 THE $+1=1$
2010 GUT01120
$5660 \mathrm{G}=\mathrm{G}(1)+\mathrm{G}(2)+6(3)+6(4)+6(5)+6(6)$
5616 G＝IfT（G果16
$6 \mathrm{mbl}+I=0: E F=0$
6610 IFGCHL THENE1010
$6 \mathrm{E} 2 \mathrm{G} \quad \mathrm{N}=\mathrm{HU}$
EOSG IFG《NITHENGN＝INT（G＋2） $2+.25$
6040 IF $=1$ NL THEMGH＝NL



610\％IFLEFT专（E $⿻=$
$6105 \mathrm{~T}=\mathrm{E}(\mathrm{J}, 2)$ ：IFT 36 THENGOSUEPGED：GOTU6 120
6110 COSLBBO
612 G $G 1=[G+E(J, 7): I F E(J, 4)=1$ THEMG1＝$G$

－1 4 I IFF $=61$ THENTH $=0$ ：GOTOE 310


6170 TH＝INT《TF）半R（1）

6196 GOT10656区
62も0 B＝1 ：FOKK＝2TBx

6226 NE：TK

624E TF＝THKR（E +1 ）

650 TH＝INT（TH2日（20
$63 \mathrm{IFE}(I, 4)=1$ THENE SE

E560 FRINT＂M＂：GOTUJロME

$680 \mathrm{TF}=\mathrm{G}$
GSig IFE $(J, 4)=6$ THENTF $=G+E(T, 7)$

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？ 0 06 $\mathrm{L}=\mathrm{INT}(T / 366)+1$
2016 $T(1)=$ INT（ $T$ ，$L$ ）：$T(0)=\overline{6}$
$72 \mathrm{FORK}=1 \mathrm{TOL}: T(K)=T(1): T(0)=T(0)+T(K): N E X T K$
7636 IFT（ 6 ）＝TTHEN 71 10
7046 FORK＝1TOL
$7050 \mathrm{~T}(\mathrm{~K})=T(k)+1: T(0)=T(0)+1:$ IFT $(0)=T T H E N \vec{\gamma} 100$
76EG HEMTK
7676 GOTOF040
7106 T（9）＝0 ：FORH＝1TOL
$7110 \mathrm{~T}=\mathrm{T}(\mathrm{F})$ ：GUSUBE日G $: T(0)=T(0)+F: N E \times T M$
7120 $F=T(0): R E T U F N$


8010 IFTく1THE $4 F=0$
6020 RETURH



8520 IFLEN（THF）○STHEHIH：＝＂＊＂：GOT08510
8530 RETUFN

9601 FORM＝1TOZ＋1

9065 OFEN4，IU：IFIU： 3 THENGESA
GC19 PRINTH4，CHEJC12CL
9020 PFIINT\＃4

9035 IFD！$=3$ THEN 9090
ge37 FRIHT\＃4，＂F＇H＇t＇．NO．
9046 FRINT株4，＂INS．NO．
＂；I
295 F F＇THT 4 ＂TGX CODE
9055 FRINT\＃4
9060 FRINT\＃4，＂WEEK HO．＂；N
9070 PRINTH4，＂W，＂；DA
90.75 FRIHT\＃4

96 EE PRINT\＃4


91161 日＝＂OVEFTIME（2）＂： $\mathrm{G}=\mathrm{G}(3):$ COSUB9500



9145 FFINT\＃4
$91500=1: 04=" G R 0 S S$ FH＇t＂： $0=6: G 03 U E 956$
9160 FRIINT\＃4
9170 Q



9205 FRINT\＃4

9215 FRINTH4
9226 Qt＝＂GROSS FH＇T TO IRTE＂： $\mathrm{Q}=\mathrm{E}(\mathrm{J}, 7 \mathrm{7})+\mathrm{G}:$ GUEUF9500

3250 CLOSE4
926日 IFI！$=4$ THENG30日

9280 PRIHT＂SFEESS R TD RECORD WITHOUT FRIHTING＂
9285 GUSUEE
9287 IFQ事＝＂C＂THEH1115
920．1F日寺＝＂F＂THEN9304
9296 IF $04=$＂K＂THEN16040
9295 GOTO9285
5306 HERTM
9356 GOTO10日Bの
95016 IT
G510 Q1＝＝STRま（Q）

9521 NEKTK

$9525 \mathrm{~K}=\mathrm{LEN}$（1013）－K


9546 PRIHT\＃4，SFC（5）Q
9550 RETUET
$10060 \mathrm{E}(\mathrm{J}, 7)=E(\mathrm{~J}, 7)+G$
$10005 \mathrm{E}(\mathrm{J}, \mathrm{B})=\mathrm{E}(\mathrm{J}, \mathrm{B})+\mathrm{TH}$
10010 IFE $(J, 3)=3$ THER 1 ［日G 30
$10026 E(J, E(J, 3)+B)=E(J, E(J, 3)+B)+N I$
$10634 E(J, 14)=E(J, 14)+E R$
$10040 \mathrm{E}=(\mathrm{J}, 13)=14$
$10160 \mathrm{E}(6,7)=E(6,7)+G$
$10110 \mathrm{E}(\mathrm{B}, \mathrm{B})=E(\mathrm{~B}, 8)+\mathrm{TA}$
$10115 E(日, 1)=E(0,1)+G(7)$
10120 IFE $(J, 3)=3$ THEN10140
$10130 \mathrm{E}(\mathrm{y}, 9)=\mathrm{E}(0,3)+\mathrm{NI}$
$10140 \mathrm{E}(0,14)=\mathrm{E}(0,14)+E F$
$16200 S(J, 1)=G+S(J, 1): S(J, 2)=T F+E(J, 2): S(J, 3)=N I+S(J, 3)$
（continued on next page）


RS232C INTERFACE
The interface，which has full handshak－ ing，is supplied complete with an EPROM containing the necessary utilities for use in one of the spare ROM sockets in the PET．It is housed in a single unit which attaches to the user port and progammes for terminal emu－ lation etc．are provided on disk or cas－ sette for 3000 or 4000 PETs．（Please


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```
(continued from previous page)
10205 S(J,4)=ER+S(J,4):S(J,5)=NI+ER+S(J,5)
    10500 PRINT"TMOUMESUMEFRESS S FOR SAME EMFLOYEE"
    10510 PRINT"MJR SPRCE FOF NEXT EMPLÖYEE"
    10520 G05UB6
    10530 IFQ = "S"THEN1115
    10540 IFQ4<>" "THEN10520
    11000 HEMTJ
    1140日 FORJ=1 TONE:FORK =1TO5:S(0, K)=S(0,K)+S(J,K):NEXTK,J
    115010 P(1)=P(1)+E(0,7)
    11510 P(2)=P(2)+E(0.8)
    11520 P(3) =F(3)+E(0,14)+E(0,9)
    11530 P(4) =P (4)+E(0,9)
    11535 P(5)=P(5)+E(0,14)
    11549 P(6)=P(2)+P(3)
    12000 PRINT"TIUNDNONFFESS SPACE FOR FINAL SUMMARY"
    12010 G0SUB6
    12020 PRTNT"7"
    130G0 OPEN4,4:OPEN3,4,2:OPEN2,4,1
    13010 PRINT#4,CHR$(1)CL$
    13010 PRINT:4
    13030 PRINT#4,"WEEKLY SUIMIRR'Y - WEEK NO."W" W/E "DE
    13540 PRINT#4
    13050 PRINT#4
    13960 PRINTH3, "RAGAFRRARARARARAGRRRARAR 99999.99-
    13070 PRIHTH2, "GROSS PA't'THIS WEEK"CHR$(29),E(0,7)
    13080 PRINT#2, "TRX PAID THIS WEEK"CHR士(29),E(0,8)
    13090 PRINT#2, "H.I.-EMPLD'EE"CHRS(29),E(0,g)
    13095 PRINT#2,"(ADJ.)"CHR$(29),E(0,1)
    13100 FRINT#2
13105 T=IHT<(E<0,7)-E(0, 3)-5(0,1)-E(0.8)+.0001)*100)>/100
13115 PRINT#2,"H.I. -EMPLOYER"CHR年(29),E(0,14)
13120 FRINT#2, "N.I COMBINED"CHR*(29),E(D,9)+E(0,14)
13130 PRINT#2
13135 PRINT#2,"NET PAYABLE"CHR\(29),T
13140 FORJ=1TO10:PRIHT#2:NEXTJ
14000 PRINT#4, "EMPLOYEE PA't SUMMRRY - WEEK NO."W" W/E "DA
14010 PRINT#4
14020 PRINT#4,"
14030 FRINT#4,"N. I.
loc. N.1." G.1. GROSS TRX
14050 PRINT#4,"(EE)
14066 FRINT#4
14070 FRINT#3, "RAHRRRARARAARARRHARRRARARA 99999.99- 99999.93-";
14080 FRINT#3,"9999.93- 9939.99- 9999.99"
14090 FORJ=1 TOHE
14095 1FE (J,6)=0THEN14110
14100 PRINT#2,E}(J,1)CHR$(29) S(J,1) S(J,2) S(J,3) S(J,4) S(J,5)
1 4 1 1 0 ~ N E X T J ~
14115- PRINT#4
14120 PRINT#2,"TOTRL"CHR&(29) S(0,1) S(0,2) S(0,3) S(0,4) S(0,5)
14300 CLOSE2:CLOSE3:CLOSE4
14400 PRINT"INDRJNEFESS R TO REFEAT SUHMARY
14410 FRINT"INOU OR SPACE TO CONTINUE
14420 gOSUB6
14420 GOSUB6
14440 IFQ$=" "THEN14460
```



```
14450 GOTO14420
14460 PRINT""DNWMathFRESS P TO PRIN
14480 GOSUBG
14490 IFQ$="P"THEN14520
14500 IFQ&="" "THEN15060
14510 GOTO14580
14520 DV=4:OPEN4, IV
14530 PRINT#4;"PERIOD SUlMMREY"
14540 PRINT#4
14550 O=1:O#="GROSS FRY FOR. PEFIOD":G=F(1):G0SUB950日
14560 Q4="P,A.Y.E. TOTAL"\Q Q F(2):GOSUB9500
14570 Q Q ="N.I. TOTRL":Q=P(3):GOSUB9500
14580 PFINT#4
14590 Q:F="N.1. (EIMPLOYEE)": Q=F(4) : O05UB9500
14600 U = ="N. 1. (EMPLONER)": Q=P(5):G0SUE9500
14605 PRINT#4
14610 Q{="TOTAL TAX AND N.I.":Q=P(6):G0SUB95B6
14670 CLOSE4
14700 FORJ=1TO6:P(J)=0: NEXTJ
14700 FORJ=1TO6:P(J)=0. NEXTJ HEW DRTQ TRFEW"
```



```
15076 GOSUE5
16009 OPEN1,1,1 
16010 PRINT"#NMUNM
16820 PRINT#1,CLき
16035 FORJ=1 TO6:PRINT#1,P(J) :HEXTJ
16040 FORJ=1 TDNE
1G@50 PRINT#1, E{(J,1)
16060 PRINT#1, E¥ (J,2)
16070 PRINT#1, E$(J,3)
16080 NEKTJ
16890 FORJ=1 TONE
16100 FORK=1 T014
16110 PRINT#1,E(J,K)
16128 NEXTK
16130 HEXTJ
16140 CLOSE1
16140 CLOSE1.WMWMWRESS R FOR SECURITY COFY
16160'PRINT":NJR SPRCE TO FINISH
16165 GOSUE6
16165 GOSUE6
16179 IFQ{="R"THEN160日0
16180 IFQ =" "THEN17000
16190 GOTO16165
16190 GOTO16165
17000 PRINT":2" : END
READ'.
```


# BUUERS' 



The Buyers' Guide to microcomputers is a summary of low-cost computers available in the U.K. It appears every third month; we add new computers and amend existing information, as required, to keep it up-to-date. Systems are listed by manufacturer.

## Microcomputers

## $\bar{A}$ CORN COMPUTERS

Systems 1, 2, 3, 4, 5: 6502-based. 1-32K RAM COS or DOS. Hex or full keyboard. Personal, scientific business or educational use. Disc module, CMOS RAM Card, 80 -by- 25 character VDU interface, 8 K static memory, analogue interface, daisywheel printer interface, cassette interface, VDU, laboratory interface, in-circuit emulator, universal interface, PROM program, Econet interface, switched-mode PSU. Software includes, Pascal, Lisp, Forth, float-ing-point extension, ONLI extension. System 1-3 Reviewed September 1979.
'Atom: 6502, 2-12K RAM, up to 40 K external memory, full keyboard, Basic in ROM, high-resolution graphics, cassette and TV interface, parallel port, I/O lines. Should eventually be able to link into a ring, Acorn Computers Ltd., 4a Market Hill, Cambridge CB2 3NJ (0223) 312772. Reviewed November 1980.

BBC Micro: 6502A or $\mathrm{Z}-80,2 \mathrm{MHz}$, second-processor option with up to 96 K RAM, 32 K in normal operation, full keyboard, cassette and disc interfaces, Centronics type interface, A-D interface, integral loudspeaker and sound generator. Options include: clock, voice synthesiser, Econet, teletext adapter and a 16 -bit processor. VDU; eight modes including text and colour. Reviewed January 1982.

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## ALAN PEARMAN LTD

Maple: Z-80A, 16-64K RAM, S-100 bus, CP/M, 8in. discs, RS232 serial and parallel. Sold mainly as Micro-APL system. Alan Pearman Ltd., Maple House, Mortlake Crescent, Chester CH3 5UR. (0244) 46024

## ALPHA MICRO

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Apple II Plus: 6502, $16-48 \mathrm{~K}$ RAM, 8 K ROM, colour graphics, $51 / 4 \mathrm{in}$.
discs, general use. Own bus. Reviewed October 1979
Apple III: 6502A with supporting chips, giving it a superset of 6502 instruction set. $96-128 \mathrm{~K}$ RAM, colour graphics, integral $5 \frac{1}{4} \mathrm{in}$., RS232, four 50-pin expansion slots. Apple Computer (U.K.) Ltd., Finway House, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire HP2 7PS. (0442) 48151.

## ATTACHE

Attache: $8080,64 \mathrm{~K}$ RAM, S-100, parallel port, 8 in . discs, business system. Colt Computer Systems, Fairfield Works, Fairfields Road, Hounslow, Middlesex. (01) 5772686

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## BILLINGS

BMS: Z-80A, 64K RAM, 8in. 200MB hard discs, business system.
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BEM: Single-board processor with 6502 and no RAM. Data Preci- From £133 sion Equipment, 81 Goldsworth Road, Woking, Surrey GU21 lLJ. (04862) 67420.

## BYTRONIX MICROCOMPUTERS

Megamicro: 8080/2-80, 64K RAM, 8in. discs, CP/M. Business and University use. Bytronix, 83 West Street, Farnham, Surrey GU9 7EN. (0252) 726814

## CANON BUSINESS MACHINES

Canon BX-1/BX-1d: 6800, 64 K RAM, $5 \frac{1}{4}$ in. integral, RS232, V24 ports, business use. Canon Business Machines, Wadden House, Stafford Road, Croydon, Surrey. (01) 6807700.

## COMART

Communicator range: Z-80A, 64K RAM, S-100 bus, scientific, educational, research and business use. CP100/200; twin 5.25 in. drives, CP-500; single 5.25 in . and mini-Winchester hard disc giving 4.8byte CP/M, MP/M-II. Reviewed June 1981

## COMMODORE BUSINESS MACHINES

Pet: 6502, 8-32K RAM, IEEE ports, integral 9in. screen, personal
From £460 and general use. Reviewed August 1979.

8000 Series - SuperPet: Upgrade of original Pet. 12in. screen, 5\%in. discs, business and general use. Reviewed October 1980.

Vic 20: 6502, 5K RAM, 16K ROM, keyboard, personal and game use, IEEE interface, uses special cassette $£ 35$, disc and printer soon, RS-232, Modem use, low-resolution colour graphics. Commodore Business Machines, 818 Leigh Road, Slough Industrial Estate, Slough, Berkshire. (75) 74111

## COMPSHOP

UK101: 6502, 4-8K RAM, TV interface, RS232, full keyboard, single-board, personal use, similar to Ohio Superboard. Compshop, 14 Station Road, New Barnet, Hertfordshire EN5 1QW. (01) 441 2922. Reviewed May 1980

## COMPUCOLOR

Compucolor II: Z-80, 8-32K RAM, 51/4in. integral discs, 13in colour VDU, RS232. General use. Dyad Developments, The Priory, Great Milton, Oxfordshire OX9 7PB. (08446) 729. Reviewed June 1979

Copernicolor II: 8080A, 8-32K RAM, 51/4in., 8in. and Winchesters available, VDU, RS232 bus, standard ASCII keyboard with optional keyboards available, graphics 128 by 128, Basic, assembler, Fortran. Based on Compucolor II, wide range of software. General use. Copernicus Ltd., 7 Wey Hill, Haslemere, Surrey. (0428) 52888.

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Computermart 2000 range: $\mathrm{Z}-80 \mathrm{~A}$, single/multiple, $16-256 \mathrm{~K}, \mathrm{CP} /$
From £6,000 M, S-100 bus, graphics, 8in. single-density double-sided 180 MB hard disc, general/business use. Computermart, 60 St. Faiths Lane, Norwich, Norfolk. Norwich 615089.

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and industrial use.
Z2: Z-80, 31A power supply, motherboard, 21 sockets, serious
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Z2-H: Z-80A, 64-512K RAM, S-100 bus, CDOS, IOMB formatted fixed disc, two $51 / 4 \mathrm{in}$. discs, hard discs up to 70 MB .

System 1: Z-80A, 64K RAM, S-100 bus, model CS-1; 790K storage, model CS-1H; 5.5Mbyte storage, CDOS and Cromix

System 2: Z-80A, 64-512K RAM, S-100 21 slots, CP/M, VDU, two $51 / 4 \mathrm{in}$. discs, hard discs up to 70 MB . Multi-channel interface available. General/business use.

System 3: Z-80A, 64-512K RAM, S-100, CP/M, two or four 8in discs, hard discs up to 70 MB , general/business use. Datron Microcentre, 2 Abbeydale Road, Sheffield S7 IFD. (0742) 585490 Microcentre, 30 Dundas Street, Edinburgh EH3 GIN (031) 5567354 Comart, P.O. Box 2, St. Neots, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire PE 19 4NY. (0480) 215005.

## DATA APPLICATIONS

DAI Personal Computer: 8080 , 48 K RAM, colour graphics, 20 Eurocard industrial interface modules, RS232, industrial use. Data Applications, 168 Dyer Street, Cirencester, Gloucestershire GL7 2PF. (0285) 2588. Reviewed February 1981

## DIGITAL DATA ELECTRONICS

SPC/1: 8085, 32-48K RAM, own OS, COMAL, Assembler and
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## DIGITAL MICROSYSTEMS

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Hex-29: AMD 2900, 16-bit, 64K-1,024K RAM, Hex bus, 8in discs, hard discs up to 28 MB . Eight to 32 Ports, RS232. Modata, 30 St . Johns Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN4 9NT. (0892) 41555. Extel, 73/5 Scrutton Street, London EC2A 4TA. (01) 7392041

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F85: 8085, 64K RAM, own bus and OS, graphics, four RS232 ports, integral 9 in. VDU, $9 \times 9$ printer, keyboard and two $51 / 4 \mathrm{in}$. disc drives. General use. Comp Ancillaries, 64 High Street, Egham, Surrey. (07843) 6455

## DYLE HOUSE

System 2000: Z-80, 64K RAM, dual 8in discs, own OS, business
use. Dyle House, 36 Abbot Way, Wellingborough, Northamptonshire. (0933) 79135.

## DYNABYTE

Dynabyte 5000: Z-80, 32-64K RAM, S-100, CP/M, MP/M, CP/Net RS232, $51 / 4$ or 8 in . discs, hard discs up to 96 MB , expands to multitask/user system. Business use. Microtech Ltd., Waterloo 'Road, Uxbridge, Middlesex UB8 2YW. (0895) 58111

## EACA

Video Genie EG3003: Z-80, 16-48K RAM, S-100, CP/M, 51/4in. discs, RS232, personal and general use. Lowe Electronics, Bentley Bridge, Chesterfield Road, Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 SLE. (0629) 4995. Reviewed February 1980.

## ECS MCROSYSTEMS INC

Aristocrat: Z-80A, 32-180K RAM, 12K PROM, dual 5½in. drives, 964 K . Three RS232 and one parallel port, CP/M, wide range of protocols, business and general use. Telecomputing Systems Ltd Seacourt Tower, Westway, Oxford. (0865) 723621.

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## GNAT

Sy stem 10:2-80, 65K RAM, own bus, CP/M, graphics, $5^{1 / 4} / \mathrm{in}$. discs, RS232, RS449, 12in. VDU, full keyboard, optical IEEE. Business use. Millbank Computers, 98 Lower Richmond Road, London SWl6. (01) 788 1083. Reviewed December 1980.

## HAYWOOD

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## ITHACA INTERSYSTEMS

Pascal Micro DPSI: Z-80, 64K-1MB RAM, full IEEE S- 100 bus, CP/ M version 2.2, graphics, 8in. and hard discs, RS232, four parallel and two serial ports per S-100 board. Ithaca Intersystems, 58 Crouch Hall Road, London N8 8HG. (01) 3412447.

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## MICROMATION

Z-Plus: Z-80, 64K RAM, S-100 bus, CP/M, MP/M two serial and six parallel ports, business use. Rostronics, 115-117 Wandsworth High Street, London SW 18 4HY. (01) 874 1171. Reviewed May 1980.

## MICRONEX

MX-100:Z-80A, 64K RAM, S-100 bus, RS232, CP/M, Pixel graphics display system, twin 8in. drives. Micronex, Harford Square, Bristol BS18 8RA. (027) 5893042.

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Nascom 2: Z-80, 1K RAM expandable to 256 with Nascom System 80 case. Nasbus, 8 K Basic, 2 K monitor and 2 K character generator, low/high resolution graphics and colour. 51/4in. single or twin floppy discs, RS232, parallel port, Kansas City cassette port. Lucas Logic Limited, Warwick, CV34 5PZ.

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Pegasus: Z-80, 48K RAM, S-100 bus, $5 \frac{1}{4}$ in., 8in. drives, CP/M,
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Explorer 85: 8085, 4-64K RAM, S-100 bus, RS232, VDU interface, P.O.A. CP/M, TV and cassette interface, personal and full business system. Newtronics, 255 Archway Road, London N6. (01) 3483325.

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Horizon: Z-80A, 16-56K RAM, 51/1in. twin drives, S-100 bus, own OS, business, educational or scientific use. Comart, PO Box 2, St Neots, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire PE19 4NY. (0480) 215005. Equinox, Kleeman House, 16 Anning Street, New Inn Yard, London EC2A 3HB. (01) 729 4460. Reviewed April 1979.

## OHIO SCIENTIFIC

Ohio Superboard and Challenger 1: $6502,8 \mathrm{~K}$ Basic in ROM, 2 K monitor, 4 K RAM, full keyboard and VDU interface. Hobbyist use. Reviewed June 1979

Challenger 2: 6502, 48K RAM, dual 8in. drives, serial port, lowcost business use.

Challenger 3: 6502, Z-80 and 6800, 48-56K RAM, OSI 48-pin bus, serial port for VDU, CP/M, expands to eight users, 10,20 and 75MB hard disc, business use.

Challenger 4: Similar to Challenger l but 64 by 32 display, colour and sound option. U-Microcomputers, Winstanley Industrial Estate, Long Lane, Warrington, Cheshire WA2 8PR. (0925) 54117/8. CTS (0706) 79332. Millbank, 98 Lower Richmond Road, London SW16. (O1) 788 1083. Reviewed September 1979. Mutek, Quarry Hill, Bath, Wiltshire. (0225) 743289.

## PANASONIC

Panasonic: 8085, 56K RAM, full keyboard, integral 24 by 80 VDU, integral twin $51 / 4$ or 8 in . floppy drives. Three RS232, business use. Panasonic Business Systems, 9 Connaught Street, London W2. (01) 261 3121. Reviewed June 1979.

## RAIR

Black Box: 8085A, 64-512K RAM, mini-floppy discs, up to sixteen RS232C serial ports, 5 MB and 10 MB hard discs, IEEE 488 interface, $C P / M$ and $M P / M$, general and business use. Rair, Wellington House, 6-9 Upper St. Martins Lane, London WC2H 9EQ. (01) 836 6921. Reviewed November 1979 and August 1980

## RCA

Cosmac: 1802 micro with Hex pad and TV interface. Machine-code From $£ 79$ for programming with Tiny Basic option. HL 'Audio, 255 Archway Road, kit London N6 5BS. (01) 3483325.

## RESEARCH MACHINES

380-Z: Z-80, 4-56K RAM, RS232, CP/M, twin 51/4 or 8in. discs, high- From £830 to resolution graphics. Sold principally to higher and secondary $£ 3,500$ education. Reviewed December 1978

From £2,750

From £995 to
£2,500

From $£ 160$

From £1,500

From £2,300

From £450

## ROCKWELL

Aim-65: 6502, 1-4K RAM, full keyboard, RS232, discs, hobby use.
From £250
Portable Microsystems, Forby House, 18 Market Place, Brackley, Northamptonshire NN13 5SF. (0280) 702017. Reviewed July 1979.

## SALMON ELECTRONICS

Archives: Z-80 at 4MHz, CP/M, S-100, serial and parallel I/O, 12 in .
£3,400
display, $5 \frac{1}{4} \mathrm{in}$. , 8in. or 19MB hard disc or 8 in . Winchester, 104 keys including 23 configured for Wordstar. Salmon Electronics, PO Box 26, Croft-on-Tees, Darlington. (0325) 721368.

## SATTCO

Databoard 4680: 2-80, 16-64K RAM, own bus, full-colour gra-
P.O.A. phics, $51 / 4 \mathrm{in}$, 8 in . and hard discs up to $10 \mathrm{MB}, 64$ interface units. General use. Microsystems Technology, PO Box 5, Knutsford, Cheshire WA 16 9DU. (0565) 52911

## SD SYSTEMS

SBC-100: Z-80, 1-48K, S-100 bus, Basic in 8 K ROM, four ROM sockets, optional $5^{1 / 4} \mathrm{in}$. drives, RS232 serial and parallel, singleboard. Reviewed January 1981.

SD-100/200: Z-80, 64-265K RAM, 8K PROM, S-100 bus, RS232, CP/ M, 12in. VDU, twin 8in. drives, business, industrial and general use, Barcellos, Kimberley House, Vaughan Way, Leicester. (0533) 26584

## SEN ELECTRONICS

Organiser: Intel 8085, 64K RAM, multi-user Basic, 8in. drives or From $£ 7,500$ 20MB hard discs, three RS232, business use. SEN, 5 London Street, Chertsey, Surrey KT16 8AP. (09328) 66744.

## SGS-ATES

Nanocomputer: 2-80, 6-64K RAM, Gamma bus, 2K NC-2 monitor From £350 in ROM, Basic as option, RS232, cassette interface, Hex keypad. Midwich, Hewitt House, Northgate Street, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 IHQ. Reviewed October 1979.

## SHARP ELECTRONICS

MZ-80K: 2-80, 16-48K RAM, 10in. integral VDU, integral cassette; From £480 loudspeaker, $54 /$ in. disc optional, general use.

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writing, 20 p per word, minimum charge $£ 2$. Please make cheques payabie to Practical Computing and send to Room L310, Quadrant House, The Quadrant, Sutton, Surrey SM2 5AS.

ZX 81 (16K) SOFTWARE. CHAMPIONS QUIZ - it's fun for all ages. Four quiz programs on one cassette. All questions use RND function. £4.50. ROSE CASSETTES, 148 Widney Lane, Solihull, West Midlands B91 3LH.

PET 3032 with BASIC 4 ROMs. Complete with Command-O, separate cassette, \& manuals £625. Also CommWordPro 3 disk and Invader £55. Woking 61082 or 01-839 2401 (evenings only).

VIDEO GENIE 16K. 6 months old, virtually unused, excellent condition. Selling because upgrading. £275. Day 01-568 1185. Night 099042698.

MZ-8QK BUSINESS SOFTWARE, Cassette based. Invoicing \& Statements, S.A.E. for full details. M. Bellwood, 6 Barlow Road, Sheffield S6 5HR.

NASCOM SOFTWARE. 2K position independent, relocatable disassembler. Requires NAS-SYS. Tape £8.00. I. R. Lowman, 6 Victoria Avenue, Hull HU5 3DR.

ACORN ATOM ... 12kRam, 14KROM, 3AMP PSU, MANUALS ETC. 20 Plus programs inc Acorn Disassembler, Soft VDU. £220 TEWKESBURY 296494. Evenings.

SOL 8080A-based complete working system, with 4 16K S100 memory boards, NorthStar disk controller board, 2 mini-floppy drives, screen, 50 diskettes, So-Star, NorthStar BASIC, CP/M. Cost £3,955. £950 ono, might split. 01-602 2446.

VIEWDATAPRESTEL add-on adaptors for your microcomputer or any television. Only £185.95. Also Teletext adaptors. Bristol (0272) 502008.

PC-1211: Pocket computer. Programmable in Basic with cassette
From $£ 85$
interface. Sharp Electronics, Sharp House, Thorp Road, Newton Heath, Manchester M10 9BE. (061) 205 2333. Reviewed July 1980.

PC-3200: Z-80, attractive package for business use with separate keyboard and computer unit, printer, display and twin $5 \frac{114}{4}$ in. drives. Software now available on-line and conversion for CP/M being developed.

## SINCLAIR RESEARCH

ZX-80: Z-80A, l-16K RAM, 4K Basic in ROM, cassette and TV interface, touch-sensitive keyboard, educational use, 22 graphics. Sinclair Research, 6 Kings Parade, Cambridge CB2 ISN Reviewed July 1980.

ZX-81: Z-80A, 1-16K RAM, 8 K Basic in ROM, cassette and TV interface, thermal printer at $£ 49$, touch-sensitive keyboard, education and games use. Animated-display facility. Two modes, fast with screen blinking, slow without. Reviewed June 1981

## SINTROM ELECTRONICS

Perlfex 630/48: Z-80A, 32-48K RAM, S-100, CP/M, twin Micropolis $5 \frac{1}{4} \mathrm{in}$. discs, two serial and three parallel ports.

Perlfex 1024/64: Z-80, 64K, S-100, CP/M, dual 8in. discs, two serial and three parallel. Sintrom Electronics, Arkwright Road, Reading, Berkshire RG2 OLS. (0734) 85464.

## SIRTON COMPUTERS

Midas Range: Z-80, from 8K RAM, S-100 or IEEE bus, CP/M, MP/ M, graphics, up to four $5 \frac{1}{4}$ in. or 8in. drives, hard disc, RS232, 8-bit parallel, IEEE 488. Sirton Computers, Unit 14, 29 Willow Lane, Mitcham, Surrey CR4 4NA. (01) 6406931.

## SMOKE SIGNAL

Chieftain 511-821: 6800/6809, 32-64K RAM, S-50 bus, Flex DOS68/
From $£ 1,807$ $68 \mathrm{~d} / 69$ dual $5 \frac{1}{4}$ in., 8in., dual RS232, video board, wide range of options, general use. Windrush Micro Designs, Gaymers Way, North Walsham, Norfolk. (069) 245189.

## SOLID STATE TECHNOLOGY

Athena: 8085, integral dual mini-floppies and mini-cassette, and matrix printer, can be expanded with 10 micros beyond CPU Memory to 1.2GB. Claims performance similar to DEC PDP-11/34 Butel-Comco, Unit 10, Garrick Industrial, Centre, Garrick Road, London, NW9 6AQ. 01-202 0262.

## SORD COMPUTER SYSTEMS

M200 Range: Z-80A, 64K RAM; S-100 bus, Sord OS, graphics, $51 / 4 \mathrm{in} ., 8 \mathrm{in}$. or hard discs, two RS232, integral $80 \times 24$ VDU. Business

From $£ 1,850$ to £6,950

From £79 for kit

From $£ 49$ for kit

From £1,995

From £2,750 sex. (0903) 814523.

## SOUTHWEST TECHNICAL PRODUCTS

C/09: 6800, 56K RAM, Flex OS, $51 / 4 \mathrm{in}$., 8 in . or 15 MB hard discs, business, educational and scientific packages.

S/09: 6800, 128K RAM - 380K RAM, Uniflex, OS, support up to 16 users in foreground and background mode. Southwest Technical Products, 38 Dover Street, London WIX 3RB. (01) 4917507

## TANDBERG DATA

TDV Series: 8080A, 32-64K RAM, Intel bus, 4 K Basic disc system in ROM, one plus three 8 in . discs, or 2.5 MB disc cartridge, eight ports, semi-graphics, CP/M version available, educational use. Tandberg Data, 81 Kirkstall Road, Leeds, LS3 IHR. (0532) 35111.

## TANDY

Model 1: Z-80, 4-48K RAM, RS232, Level I and Level II Basic in ROM, separate keyboard and 12in. VDU, small business and personal use. Reviewed November 1978.

Model 2: Z-80, 64K RAM, integral 8in. disc, integral 12in. VDU, detachable keyboard, CP/M serial and parallel ports, Level III Basic, business use. Tandy, TRS-80 Division, Bilston Road, Wednesbury, West Midlands WS10 7JN. (021) 556 6101. Reviewed March 1980.

Model 3: Z-80, 4-48K RAM, 12in. display, integral unit with slots for two $51 / 4 \mathrm{in}$. drives, $65-\mathrm{key}$ keyboard, 12 -key data pad, printer interface, compatible with Model I software.

## TANGERINE COMPUTER SYSTEMS

Microtan 65: 6502, l-48K RAM, Tanbus, IEEE 488, Tanbug in ROM. (1K), Pixel graphics, $5 \frac{1}{4} \mathrm{in}$. discs, 32 I/O lines and three serial ports, from single-board upwards. Tangerine Computer Systems, Forehill, Ely, Cambridgeshire. (0353) 3633.

## TECHNALOGICS

TECS: 6800, 56K RAM, Basic and Prestel terminal software, RS232, two cassette ports, two parallel ports, $51 / 4 \mathrm{in}$. discs. Technalogics. Windmill Works, Station Road, Swinton, Manchester M27 2BU (061) 7936323 . Reviewed November 1979

## TERODEC MICROCOMPUTER SYSTEMS

TMZ-80: Z-80, 64K RAM, CP/M, MP/M, CP/Net, twin 8in., up to 32 MB hard discs, multi-user business use. Terodec, Unit 58 , Suttons Park Avenue, Earley, Reading, Berkshire, RG6 1AZ. (0734) 664343/6.

## TEXAS INSTRUMENTS

TI-99/4: 990 16-bit, 16K RAM, Basic in 26K ROM, high-resolution, colour graphics, up to three $5 \frac{1}{4} \mathrm{in}$. discs, joystick, cassette and other ports, RS232, personal usé. Texas Instruments Ltd., Manton Lane, Bedford MK41 7PU. (0234) 67466. Reviewed August 1980.

From $£ 3,000$ to £ 10,000

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PET 16K, large keyboard, 100 programs, manuals, cassette, sound. £425. Gerrards Cross 83175.

ACORN ATOM 12k. In/out chip. v.g.c. P.S.U. Creed teletype + paper. Book + Invaders. £195. Ashford (Middx) 58992.

ZX81, 16K, rebuilt in stylish case with proper keyboard. Books on games and machine code: Programs (including defender). Worth around $£ 200$, only $£ 130$. 67, Boileau Road, Eating. 9976967.

CROMEMCO SYSTEM THREE. Dual disk drives, single side single density Hazeltine 1500 V.D.U. Centronics 779 Printer. £2,500. Phone: (049481) 5950 (evenings).

KIM 1 single board micro computer wanted. Non runner considered. Tel: 01-995 6470.

Anadex DP-8000 LINE PRINTER. Pet Interface. V. good condition, £275. 01-985 7061 (N. K. Gibbs).

WANTED. Apple dual disc drive(s) and daisy wheel printer. 060435217 office hours; 9-3 Saturdays.

HP41C. Calculator with many accessories. Phone for details (01) 5563150.

TRS-80 MACHINE CODE GAMES cassette featuring "BREAKOUT", "INVADERS" \& "SUBMARINE BATTLE" - 55 inclusive. Money with-order, delivery by return. A. Moseley, 59 Plymstock Road, Plymstock, Plymouth, Devon PL9 7NX.

TELETYPE 43 Printer with keyboard. RS232 interface. £250 including a full box of paper. David Pike, Rivendell, Birch Way, Storrington. Tel: Storrington 2663.

SHARP MZ80K Educational Software. Calorimetry £5, Galvonometers £5, Gas Laws £5, German Vocabulary Test (2 volumes) $£ 7.50$ per volume. Send for full details to Quality Software, 21 Dunes Drive, Formby, Merseyside L37 1PE.

TANGERINE BASIC ACCELERATOR. Pseudo-compiler and interpreter make floating point programs 2 to 4 times faster. $£ 30$ for tape plus instructions or send SAE for details B. Przybyla, 15 Brixham Ave., Swindon SN3 1E.
"ATOM" TOUCH TYPING TUTOR £4.50. "NASCOM 2" TOUCH TYPING TUTOR £5.50. Both progs on cassette with instructions P\&P free: from Lloyd's, 35 Magheraboy Road, Portrush, Co. Antrim BT56 8NX. (0265) 823101:

TRS 80 Mod 1 Expansion Interface (OK). Brand new and warranted. Surplus to requirements. Tel 041-639 3822.

DOCTOR DARK'S SMOOTHWARE. Programs for Nascom/Gemini G805 with CP/M. Chris Blackmore, 31 Herne Rise, Ilminster, Somerset TA19 OHH for details.

## TRANSAM COMPONENTS

Triton: 8080, 32K RAM, CP/M, 1K TBIOS in ROM, up to three $54 / 4 \mathrm{in}$.
From £296
discs, or four 8in., serial and parallel ports. Reviewed December 1979.

Tuscan: Z-80, 8-64K RAM, S-100 bus, CP/M, RS232, TV and cassette interface, from single-board, personal use to full business system. Transam, 59 Theobalds Road, London WCl. (01) 4055240.

From £150 raid simulation 3 skill levels $£ 5$. M. A. Morling, The Mount, Hatfield Heath, Essex CM22 7DR.

APPLE II PLUS 48K. 1 year old $£ 500$. Cramlington (near Newcastle) 0670712952.

ITT 2020 DISC DRIVE. Used only a few times as second drive. £175. Phone South Benfleet 52147.

FOR SALE. 64K, disk, TRS-80, expansion interface with all manuals, system disk and green screen monitor £900. Tel. (0443) 690174 night or (0685) 74397 day.

5 VIC PROGRAMS. Killer Park, Life, Starseed, Gobbler, Vic Musik: all for $£ 6.50$ on cassette or sae for details and free game to: Soft Toys, 14 Lockharton Avenue, Edinburgh.

ACORN ATOM $12 K+12 K$, PSU, MANUAL, BOOK, SOFTWARE. $£ 280$ ono. Tel: 0573 24516. After 5.00.

ATOM (8KROM + 1KTEXT) SOFTWARE. O's \& X's, Battleships, Mathstest, 4 off household accounts. £4 for cassette. Cheques payable to Charles Towns 27 West Avenue, Gosforth, Newcastle NE3 4ES.

UK101 AND SUPERBOARD PROGRAM BOOK. 17 high quality utilities and games in assembler and basic. $£ 2.50$ inc. p\&p, or S.A.E. for details. Dr Mike Whittle, 1 Old Croft Close, Kingston Blount, Oxford.

VIC20 NIGHT DRIVER 5K. Listing £1. Cassette £2. 21 Pict Lane, Princes Risborough, Bucks.

FOR SALE ZX80. New 8K ROM, both manuals, leads + programs. Good condition £60 ono. Phone 01-551 0621 after 5pm.

MICRCOTAN 65. Expanded to 24 k with TANRAM/BASIC/XBUG/TANBUG. V2.3 BASIC TOOLKIT, Games and Forth on tape. £325 ono. Tel: Uxbridge 51166 ext 228 (office hours) or St. Albans 60432 (evenings), Denis Field.

UK101, 8K, cased, sound, new monitor, software, tape recorder. $£ 175$ ono Hatfield, Hertfordshire 64826.

ATOM SUPER SOUND SYNTHSISER. 9 tone channels, 3 noise channels, 6 parallel ports, amp and speaker. Envelope, volume, pitch all under Software control, plugs into ATOM expansion socket £79.95. 8 WAY Joystick

VIC-20 PROGRAMS!!! Six Great programs on one cassette (including Bandit \& Apollo Disaster). For instant despatch send cheque/P.O. for £4.95. To "Titan Programs" at 83 Ashwood Road, Rudloe, Corsham, Wiltshire SN13 OLG.

SMALL BUSINESS SYSTEM. Intelligent terminal. 56K. memory. Twin $8^{\prime \prime}$ floppy discs. Centronics 702 Printer ( 165 cps - upper and lower). Operator's table and cabinet for printer. Various software. Offers around $£ 2,800$. For details phone Frinton-on-Sea 4554.

## TRANSDATA LIMITED

Cx502: Z-80A, 64K RAM, CP/M, MicroCobol, 8in. floppy discs, From £3,495 four V24/RS232 interfaces, "flexibus" multi processor architecture. Professional business and scientific use. Communications software available.

Cx503: Z-80A, 64K-208K RAM, CP/M, MP/M, MicroCobol 20MB From £6,490 Winchester disc, 8in. floppy disc for back-up, four V24 serial interfaces. Business and general use.

Cx504: Z-80A, 64 K-208K RAM, CP/M, MP/M, MicroCobol 20MB From £7,990 Winchester disc, cartridge tape back-up, 8in. floppy disc, four RS232 interfaces. Business and general use. Transdata Limited Battlebridge House, 87-95 Tooley Street, London SE1. (01) 403 5115.

## ULBRICH AUTOMATION

Powerhouse II: Z-80, 16-32K RAM, RS232, 5in. internal VDU, From $£ 1,200$ integral mini-cassette, 2 K monitor, IEEE, 14 K Basic DOS, OEM users. Powerhouse Microprocessors, 5 Alexander Road, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire HP2 5BS. (0442) 42002.

## VECTOR GRAPHIC

MZ: Z-80, 48K-64K RAM, CP/M, 51/4in. discs, optional graphics, From £2, 300 serial and parallel ports. Business and general use. Almarc Data Systems, 906 Woodborough Road, Nottingham (0602) 52657. Reviewed October 1980.

## WESTERN DIGITAL

Pascal Microengine: MCP1600, executes P-code directly, 64K From £2,295 RAM, own bus, $5 \mathrm{~h} / \mathrm{in}$., 8 in. or hard discs up to 18 MB , two RS232, two parallel ports. Pronto Electronics Systems, 466-478 Cranbrook Road, Gants Hill, Ilford, Essex IG2 6LE. (01) 5546222.

## ZENTEC

ZMS-70:8080A-1, 32-64K RAM, up to 12 K ROM, dual integral 51/ in. From $£ 4,000$ discs, 600 MB , RS232, integral 15in. VDU, 16 function keys. Zigal Dynamics Ltd., Bank Chambers, 13 High Street, Chesham, Buckinghamshire. (02405) 75681.

## ZILOG

MCZ Series: Z-80, 64K RAM, RIO OS, Zilog bus, optional graphics, From £3,000
8in. discs, and hard discs, four RS232, one parallel, stand-alone or networking. Zilog (U.K.) Ltd., Babbage House, King. Street, Maidenhead, Berkshire. (0628) 36131 .

ZX81 Listings (16K). Nightmare Park $£ 2.00$, Rat Trap £1.00. SAE for catalogue and free program. Andrew Rushton, 194 Shay Lane, Walton, Wakefield WF2 6NW.

Nascome 2 16K, cased, graphics, toolkit, zeap, nas-dis, xtal Basic. Much software £325. Tel: 032357572

VIC 20!! Games/educational programs in full colour/sound. Also programs/instructions for user characters/high resolution graphics. All for 3.5K RAM. Phone 0634814118 for full details.

Sharp MZ-80K, 48K, extended Basic, many games, 1 year old (as new), £330. Telephone 062522649

S100 boards, SD-sales 3 card set, CPU, FDC, RAM also other assorted S100 boards. ASR-33 TTY etc. delivery possible. Phone 0294 822634, 7-9pm.

Apple II Europlus 48 K with one disk drive, controller, manuals, software £875. Tel: Rickmansworth 78335 after 6 pm.

Sharp MZ80K. Now available, a program which allows single stepping through a machine code program, whether in RAM or ROM. After each step the status of the registers, the flags and the stack are displayed. Also the last step and the next step are disassembled and displayed. Registers modifiable between steps. Other options include Disassemble, Modify Memory, Find, Save, Load, Goto, Continue and Breakpoints with loop counter. Ideal for debugging or learning machine code. $£ 17.50$. Also, excellent high resolution chess board display (and associated software) for use with MZ80Ks with high resolution modification. $£ 12.50$. Easy to use but quite comprehensive word processor, includes repeat key. £12.00. Tel: 026826703 for details.

Acorn Atom, extra floating point ROM, colour board, PSU, manual, £175. Halifax 62124.

16K ZX81, PSU, leads, manual, books, Sinclair tapes, other software tapes, £95. Tel: 01-455 1652 evenings.

TRS-80 m/c program, fast 3-D representation Rubik's cube, £3.50. (0270) 584493

Pet 32K. Toolkit, arrow etc plus extensive software and books. Includes cassette deck. £650 ono. Tel: 044653684

Apple II plus ( 48 K ) and games and support, £550. Martin Stamp 01-251 $1577 \times 54$

8K Pet old ROM small keyboard, $£ 240$. Bristol 292685.

VIC20 games, superb Splat and Cybernauts, colour and sound $£ 2.50$ each or both for $£ 4$ P\&P and cassette included. Arthur 0204 655393.

Pet (8K) Pelmanism, Roadsweeper, Space Shuttle simulation on same cassette $£ 5$. S. Kearon, 17 Northend Lane, Sunningdale SL5 0EB.

Superior Yahtzee by professional programmer for 16 K VG/TRS-80 including sound and graphics. Hours of family fun for only $£ 3.50$. Cheques/PO to If... Then...Software, 28 Whitecastle, Swindon.

TRS-80 Model 116 K Level II complète: CPU, tapedeck, monitor, manuals, instruction tapes, £325. Phone Ross Bunnet, Windsor 60283.

Wanted. Computer with disc drives under £1,000. Chris Laycock, 10 Linden Grove, Telford TF1 1QS. Telford 55041.

Nascom 2 RAM 'B' board 32K, graphics ROM, tool kit ROM, case for keyboard/power supply, TV. cassette, $£ 400$. Berkhamsted 74182.

8 K Superboard, metal cased, $48 \times 32$ display 2 -speed cassette interface, Cegmon, OSI/UK newsletters, manuals, 5 program cassettes, vgc. £120. Phone 041-881 1342

TRS-80/Video Genie, 16K. Double precision mathematic and trigonometric subroutines. Twenty one functions. Cassette, listing, instruction, £8 plus 38 p P\&P. Enquiries welcome. Snell, 45 Chiltern Gardens, Stanley, Co. Durham DH9 6QS.

Tandy CTR80A cassette recorder - brand new and boxed, completely unused. Green screen 9" monitor, superior metal cased type - six months old. Both items for £95. Phone 0202873442.

Pet 3032 upgraded to Basic 4+ using Disk-0-Pro, 4022 printer, 2031 disk drive, Visicalc, space-saver board, SW32 word-processor, 12 floppies and numerous books. $£ 1,550$ o.n.0. Tel: Reading (0734) 791770 after 5.30 pm and w/ends.

As new Aculab floppy tape with extended Basic and tapes for TRS-80 Level II. Cost $£ 200$ will accept $£ 125$. Tel: 03596498.

TRS80 and Video Genie quality software at a fraction of the usual prices. Send s.a.e. for comprehensive lists. P. Wilson, 9 Cotswold Terrace, Chipping Norton, Oxon

Disk drive for your PET. 800K Computhink disk drive complete. First offer of $£ 250+$ secures buyer to collect. Call Welwyn Garden City (07073) 31983.

TRS-80. 48K, Level II with Hitachi 12" VDU, cassette, manuals, etc. $£ 499$ ono or will split. High Wycombe (0494) 444612.

VIC-20 games, full sound and colour. Special introduction offer - 5 original action games on one cassette - $£ 7.50$ will run on Standard machine. C.W.O. or S.A.E. for details to R Titley, 18 Huntingdon Gardens, Fairmile, Christchurch, Dorset.

Video Genie: Games/educational programs SAE for details. T. Smith, 26 Wesley Grove, Portsmouth, Hants PO3 5ER.

ZX81 Toppix. Detailed DIY graphics update, £2. $16 \mathrm{~K} \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{c}$ easyloaders, load REMS without spaces anywhere in listing. Hex and decimal $£ 4$ or $£ 2.50$ each. All plus SAE. N. J. Petry, 3 Lester Drive, Worle, W-s-M BS22 ONG.

For sale: printers Creed 7E ex telex, £120 ono, IBM Selectric 725 Golfball $£ 140$ o.n.o Both for conversion for use with micros Richard 052733272.

Controller plugs into one of the Synthesiser ports $£ 14.95$. 5 V5A power supply $£ 44.95$. All built and cased. All prices fully inc. For more details send SAE to: R. Shillito, 5 Ingarfield Road, Holland, Clacton, Essex.

8K PET, integral cassette, manuals, TIS Basic Workbooks, as new, £300 ono. Tel: 021-706 2601.

TRS-80 MODEL 1, 16K, Green screen and numeric keypad. Cassette Recorder and various software. £250. Tel: 042482417.

CENTRONICS 737-2 PRINTER. £300. Sprinter 20 high speed thermal printer/plotter $£ 110$. Phone: Bedford (0234) 85942 any time.

PET ADVENTURES - CAVERN 1/2/3 very complex sequence of underground adventures, each 16K, complex labyrinth, many commands. Treasures, monsters, magic! Decisions are yours! 1-£5, 1/2-£8, 1/2/3-£10. . Gray, 175 Pershore Road, Evesham, Worcs.

ZX81 1K Munchie-Man M/c version with two monster chasing you. Displays score. Speed variable. £3.50. V. C. Vinyard, 53 Bloomfield St., Ipswich, Suffolk IP4 5JH.

NOT JUST A RANDOM MAZE. Nor just a mini adventure. But both and more. "Warrior" for the ZX81 16K. Also improved "Startrek" terrific. $£ 4.00$ each or $£ 7.00$ for both. J.W.V. 139 Allington Drive, Strood, Kent.

VIDEO GENIE. 16K, V.V. meter and extra keys second cassette included Crofton video monitor. Sound joysticks $Z 80$ assembler arcade games, chess + other s/w many books all in excellent condition $£ 500$. Tel: 0234 741169.

Casio FX-501P/FX-502P software: excellent quality, original software available for both calculators!! Mathematical/games/educationa! etc. Listings for cassettes. SAE for details. Also interested in contacting good calculator programmers. SAE: Jonathan Gerson, 2 Princes Crescent, Hove, Sussex BN3 4GS.

TRS-80 Model I Level II 48K, VDU, tape, lower case, RS232C, books, games. Six months old, original boxes, $£ 650$. Cumana (Teac) twin discs, TRSDOS, LDOS, Scripsit, $£ 500$. Wilmslow (0625) 524596.

Cassette 1: 10 games includes: Blackjack, Bomber, UFO and Artist. Cassette 2: Graphictext put any character anywhere. Save data on cassette. Both for 1 K ZX81. Each cassette $£ 2.99$, both $£ 5.00$. Send cheque to A. Southall, Withymore Cottage, Bliss Gate Road, Rock, Kidderminster, Worcs.

TRS-80 MODEL 264 K with dual $8^{\prime \prime}$ expansion drive unit. Software includes CP/M, Wordstar 3.0, Mailmerge \& Spellstar. $£ 2,750$.

VISTA 300 DAISYWHEEL PRINTER, Interface cables for TRS-80 Mod 1 or 2. £900. All equipment complete with cables, etc and as new, virtually un-used. Tel: 042482417.

APPLE 11 PLUS 48K, with $9^{\prime \prime}$ Hitachi Bew monitor, 6 months old $£ 720$ ono. Tel: 01-367 5164.

## LEEDS COMPUTER CENTRE



| 48K | E675 + VAT |
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| Disk with controller | £360 + VAT |
| Disk without controller | £275 + VAT |
| Monitors $\mathrm{b} / \mathrm{w}$ or green. <br> Full range of Peripherals, Epson and Paper Tiger printers all discounted, Post \& Packino £4. |  |
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 manipulate. Subsequent microcomputer Adventures owe a great deal to it.

Unfortunately, Zork itself - which has now been condensed to fit on to discbased micro systems - suffers by comparison with more recent Adventures. They have improved on features originally devised by the Zork programming team, and they incorporate flashier graphic effects which make the games more visually appealing although, inevitably, less complex and rewarding. Only so much can be crammed into a given amount of memory, and an Adventure programmer never has enough.

## Unfair to Trolls

Zork is a 48 K game marketed on floppy disc for the Apple II and other computers. It is a classic machine-code Adventure type game and leans heavily on the original. I have never had the pleasure of playing Adventure on a mainframe, so I cannot compare Zork with it. I can only say that it is the best of the class I have come across.

It is an open-ended Adventure without any in-built time limit, though there are the normal internal time limitations. It is a game of points for objects and actions, which is rather a pity. I would have preferred a more substantial goal.
The game is supplied in a plastic ziplock bag containing the disc and a wellprinted explanatory booklet. There is an evil Troll-like entity on the cover which 1
assume is the one 1 keep killing near the beginning of the game. He is being intimidated by a sword-carrying Hero type. It is a pity that no-one has started a "Save the Trolls" campaign. At the rate Adventure players go through them, the population must be dropping very rapidly since the advent of micros.
The disc loaded without problems, giving a standard description/action screen display. The booklet explains the context and aims for the uninitiated and the grammar for inputting commands to the puppet in the Adventure world. As movement occurs in the world, the computer updates from the disc, but not so often or so much as to upset the flow of the game.

## Conclusions

Zork is an enjoyable Adventure game, though it is not very original apart from its presentation.

- As a puzzle it is good but it would have been improved by a few new ideas.
- After playing Zork for three months there were still some areas of the game which remained unsolved.


## - Ratings:

| Physical quality | Very good |
| :--- | ---: |
| Perceived complexity | Very good |
| Subject complexity | Fair |
| Realism | Fair |
| Play balance | Very good |
| Overall | Good |

ZORK

The puppet is manipulated as one has come to expect in this type of game. Commands such as "Go west", "W", "tie rope" and "take skull" can be inputted and obeyed. It is pleasing that the grammar is sophisticated enough to allow more complex orders to be inputted in what approximates to English, for example, "Go west and take rope"; "Tie rope to railings and climb down".

A sequence of orders can be inputted and obeyed although each action counts as a time unit. Handling is tremendously improved. The vocabulary is very large too, compared to many other Adventure games, and there is little searching for the correct word as in some games. Active response from the puppet is limited.

There is no bartering for equipment at the beginning of the game. This is unfortunate since this useful part of the game could easily be chained in.

## Sufficiently complex

The surface environment is quite large and well-described and laid out. It does not seem like rooms, which can sometimes happen in other games which use the surface. It is bounded by the usual impenetrable woods and mountains, and contains a river, a dam with power station, a lake, a falls and other atmospheric touches. This is a complete contrast to other games where you are forced to crawl round dank tunnels all the time, without a sight of sunlight. The underground part of the game which, thanks to the foresight of the programmer, sometimes comes to the surface, is large enough, complex enough and varied enough for many hours of pleasure.

Magic plays some part in the game and not always in context, which could be annoying. Magic should be logical and not arbitary if it is to exist. There is a Troll quite near the beginning of the game but little else in the way of dangerous beings.

The only other mobile danger is that other well-tried character, the thief. He is quite lethal if attacked, and steals a little too often and at times illogically. Can you really believe that he could take away your only light without you noticing or attempting to stop him? He is also very difficult to kill,

There are no major bugs, though I would suggest that you avoid inserting elements out of context. They seem to hang around in the background even when they have disappeared for the purposes of the game.

The War Machine is published monthly by Emjay, 17 Langbank Ave, Rise Park, Nottingham, NG5 5BU. fl.25 an issue, £l3 for an annual subscription, postage and packing included.

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\section*{Mail Order Software} THE MORE YOU TAKE THE MORE YOU CAN FROM COMPUING

MILESTONE: \(£ 210\).
Manual alone: \(£ 20\).
"Critical path" network analysis program for scheduling manpower, dollars and time to maximise productivity. NEW IMPROVED. Interactive project management pro-
gram that runs under CP/M. MILESTONE can be used to gram that runs under CPM. MILESTONE can be used to track paper ilow, build a computer, check a department's
pefformance, or build a bridge. MLEETONE can be used by executives, engineers, managers, and small businessmen.
- Produce PERT chart in minutes.
- Find critical tasks that can't be delayed.
- Investigate tradeoffs between manpower, dollars
and time.
schedule to others using a printed project
- Chedule.
- Change details and immediately see the results On screen.
- Balance time, manpower and costs.

Requires 56 K RAM and CP/M. Specily Z80 or 8080. Also available for Apple Pascal, UCSD Pascal or CP/M-86 operating systems. (Milestone-86 version 290 1).
mats: 8 , NS. MP, SB, TRS2, OB-1, XX, IPC, IDW.
ACCESS/80
A report generator and cross-tabulator, Virtually any report that can be described on paper can be generated in minutes that would take hours to orogram in BASIC. - LevelI - Report Generator and Cross-Tabulator -E210.-
Read ASCII files and create sorted reports with subtotalling capability. Provides mult//dimensional cross tabulation and computation. Inctudes operating system commands.
- Level II - Output and Logic Processor - £354. Everything in Level I plus, wnte out new files in any sorted order (including subtotalling). Load arrays from files. Performs binary search on sorled arrays in memory. Includes control language extensions for complex applications. Roquire SB, TRS2, APPL.

\section*{DATEBOOK II: £210-}

Manual alone \(£ 18\).
Schedules appoimments for up to 27 different
- File structure allows for appointments up to one
year in advance
- Searches for ooenings that fit time of day, day of
week and/or day of year constraints.
- Appointments made, modified or cancelled easily. quickly. Requires 56 K RAM and CP/M. Specity Z Z80 or 8080 . Also available for Apple Pascal, UCSD Pascal or CP/M-86 peraing : B NS MP
Formats: \(8, ~ N S, ~ M P, ~ S B, ~ A P P L, ~ T R S 2, ~ O B-1, ~ X X, ~ 1-5, ~\)

\section*{PERSONAL DATEBOOK - 110. Manual alone} 20
Time
Time management and appointment scheduling calendar tor an individual or small office with up to nine staff members. Displays one appointment schedule on screen at a time. Cancellations can be put into hold file for easy rescheduling at your convenience. Menu driven comal to manual.
Requires CP/M \(2 . x\) and 56 k RAM. Specity \(Z 80\) or 8080 . 86 operating systems. Formats: 8, NS, MP, SB, APPL TRS2, XX, IPC, IDW.
WHATSIT?
A data base/querry/retrieval system that communicates controversationally, accepting questions and updates in simple sentences. Store, index and retneve information jects. Information is stote of related or unrelated subject" and "tag" headings, which can be added to, changed
or deleted at any time. 116 page manual assumes no or deleted at any time. 116 page manual assumes no programming knowledge. Requires CP/M, CBASIC2 ANO.
THE FIELD COMPANION £210.
Manual alone \(£ 20\).-
Manual alone \(£ 20\).Created for the needs of the travelling Salesman or
Protessional. Allows you to track the time spent with your clients, each client having up to four user-defined subclients, expense accounting is provided and is itemised in a detailed iournal for budgeting and tax reporting purposes. Maintains appointments and current customer list including shipping and billing addresses, year-to-date sales and person to contact for follow-up. Invoicing fealures retrieves required data from both customer and product lists. Special instructions and discounts are supported. Invoice copies may be output to a primter or sent to The home office via modem, permitting electronic transier CP/M 12 MAM. FO CP/M-86 and 128k RAM. Formats: 8 , NS, MP APPL XX, IPC, IDW.
FOOTNOTE £125--
Automatically numbers and formats footnote calls, footnotes and text, placing footnotes on the bottom of the correct page. At he users option, 1 e removed from the lexi singly or in groups, in the Fooinotes can be entered singly or in groups, in the NOTE the user can re-dit the text add or delete notes and run FOOTNOTE again to re-number and re-format. Price includes PAIF, a companion program that checks hat underline and BOLDFACE commands are properly lerminated. Requires CP/M, WordStar, 48k RAM. Formats: 8 , NS, MP, SB, APPL, OB-1, XX.
CBASIC/86: £230.-

\section*{Manual alone £20.}

Industry standard intermediate code basic compiler with untime interoreter for \(\mathrm{CB} / \mathrm{M}-86\). Features include chaining, integer and external precision arithmetic, random and sequential records of any length (not limiled to 256 bytes). Requires CP/M-86. Formats: \(8,1-5\).
Personal PEARL: £210.-
- User friendly application software generator, A fourth generation language, automatically creates completely new programs in CBASIC. Excellent documentation makes it easy to create "personal" software such as checking and financial programs, name, address and lelephone lists, etc.
Requires CP/M. CBASIC2 and 48K RAM. Formats: 8 , SB TRS2, APPL, OB-1, MP

\section*{SPELLBINDER: \(£ 354\)}

\section*{Manual alone \(£ 35\)}

Full feature word processing system with Office Management capabilities. Its special features include ease-of-use by office personnel, fliexible print formatting \& tures to be added for the unique requirements of each ser- Mail list macro is included for mall merge with form etters. \(C\), M \& 32K RAM. Formats: 8, NS, MP, CDOS, Requires CP/M \& 32K RAM. Formats: 8 , NS, MP, CDOS, SB, APPL, XX
ACT:
New text and prices:
CP/M compatible macro assembler family supporting all bilfies, comprehensive fatures include full macro capacross reterence map and algobraic expression proces. sor. Requires 32 k RAM and CPIM.

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Prices quoted do not include dealer installation and training. Prices and availability subject to change without notice.

\section*{PASCAL/M: £280.}
\(\mathrm{CP} / \mathrm{M}\) compatible language for \(8080 / \mathrm{Z} 80 \mathrm{CPUs}\), supports full Jensen \& Wirth plus 45 extensions to Standard Pascal including Random access files,, 40 segment procedures \& 16 bit BCD real type. Also includes symbolic debugger which features trapping on stores, examining and changing variables and tracing of program execution. Requires CP/M 2.2 \& 56 K RAM. Formats: 8, NS, APPL TRS2.

\section*{PASCAL/M for 8086/88: £350.-}

Manual alone £15.-
All the features of PASCAL/M for the 8086 and 8088 processors running under CP/M-86. Requires CP/M-86 and K RAM. Formats: 8, 1-5.
PASCAL: Sort - £140.-
Manual alone £14.-
Fully commented source code into which the user simply places the particular file description and sequence requirements to obtain the desired sort. Can run standalone or as a overlayed segment onarger program. Uses (Fibonacci) merge on disk, full sector buffering and shor(Fibonaccl) merge on disk. ful sector butfering and shorlester Pcode interpretation. Requires CP/M2.x and 56k RAM and CP/M-86 and 128k RAM. Pascal? MUCSD Pascal or Pascal /MT. Formats: \(8, N S\), APPL, XXX, MP, TRS2, IPC IDW.

\section*{SUPERCALC: \(£ 210\).}

Allows a layman to manlpulate business data in a variety of forecasting and accounting applicatlons. Combines the interactive nature of an electronic spreadsheel with ine Video display can be scrolled over entire worksheet using cursor controls. Symbolic vector reverrences eliminate repetitive low level data manipulation commands. Easy to use menu driven "Help" commands. Requires CP/M and 48 K RAM. Formats: 8, NS, MP, SB, APPL. TRS2. Call for terminal formats.

\section*{SUPERDOS: 1100.}

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Rhake modes, 4 new utirites, and 4 fixes

\section*{TRANS 86 - £104.-}

Manual alone 1 15.- - 8086 isting \(8080 / Z 80\) programs. New source code is easily edited and assembled using ACT II to produce hex code which is executed by \(8086 / 88 \mathrm{CPU}\). Emphasizes the extenslons and features available in the 8086/88.
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A fast and easy to use malling list program. Address labels can get printed in any desired order including alphabetically. Data can be selected. APPL.
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[^0]:    Microcosm Research Ltd. specialises in operating systems, communication software, utilities and other systems software. "NEW"- MP/M li is here. We can configure it for your hardware and help you design your multi-user business system.to make full use of it.

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    - Cassette tape unit
    - Single drive $5 \frac{7}{4}$ " floppy disk unit $(170 \mathrm{~K}$ bytes capacity).
    - 80 -column dot matrix printer
    - $3 \mathrm{~K}, 8 \mathrm{~K}$ and 16 K RAM expansion cartridges.
    - Programming aid packs; machine code monitor cartridge,programmers'aid cartridge,high resolution graphics cartridge.

[^2]:    （listing continued from previous page）
    
    270 GOTO230
    
    290 PRINTDF＂WIN＂J $\ddagger$ ： $\mathrm{B}(M)=67$
    
    $310 \mathrm{~L}(M)=V A L(L)$
    320 IFL（M）く＝GORINT（L（M））
    350 TS＝0：FORJ＝ 1 TON：TS＝TS＋L（J）：IFB（J）＝ESTHENTS＝TS＋L（T）
    
    350 GITO190
    
    
    
    390 FOR $J=1$ TOH：$I=F E E K(H(J)): \chi=R H D(1): I F H(1)=52972 T H E F F F: I N T " J " K \$ T \$$
    401 IFH（J）$)=32927+80 \%$ JTHEN44日
    
    420 HEXT ：IF $Z<=$ NTHEN 390
    436 G0T0460
    $446 \mathrm{IFG}(\mathrm{J})=$ GTHEX $\cdot \vec{F}(Z)=\mathrm{J}: \mathrm{G}(\mathrm{J})=1: \dot{己}=2+1$
    450 GOTCI420
    
    $470 \quad U=F(1): V=F(2): H=F(3): I F H C E T H E H 520$
    
    
    
    $516 \mathrm{IFB}(\omega)=690 \mathrm{FB}(\omega)=89 \mathrm{THEN} \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{L}(W)$ 米 $(0(W) / 4+1)$
    520 IFE（U）$=87$ THENA $=$ L（U）${ }^{(1)}(\square(U)+1)$
    
    546 PRINT＂MNM HORSE ODIS STAKE BET WINNINGG：＂
    
    
    
    586 GUSUB7日G：FRINTTAB（3G） $\mathrm{F}+\mathrm{FH}+\mathrm{C}$ ：FRINTTAB（ C ）＂LESS TOTAL STAKES＂：TS
    590 GOSUETEM：FRINTTAB（G）＂MFRRIFIT／LOSS THIS FEHCE＂； $\mathrm{A}+\mathrm{E}+\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{TS}$
    
    E10 IFCR $=1$ EGTHENP 20
    620 IFCRく1THENT30
    
    6．46 GETF
    650 FIETURN
    
    670 IFO（J）$=1$ THENU $=$＝
    680 IFZ＝1THENRETURN
    
    7001 PRINTTAE（30）＂
    710 PRINTCき＂EXCEEIG CREIIT＂CR＂CHANGE EETE＂：GOTO190
    720 FORJ＝1TO2 ：FRINT＂FOHGRATULATIOHS－MILLIOHAFIRE ！＂：NEXT：EFDD
    70 FOR $J=1$ TO20日G ：NEXT：$F O R J=1$ TOE
    749 PRINTF ${ }^{2}$＂

[^3]:    $=$

[^4]:     60 IF LL $==$ ""THEN LL $=$ =CHR
    
    
    95 RETURN: REN LINE OF TEXT= L

[^5]:    1 enclose a cheque for $£$
    payable to
    Computabits Ltd.P.O. Box 13. Yeovil, Somerset.

[^6]:    Note: All goods in stock at time of going to press. We will not be beaten on prices,
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[^7]:    AGENTS THADUGHOUJT THF I JK ANL.) (TVF RSE. AS.S

