

# computing today

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60p

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24-JUL-79 TAKE A RING FROM C 0 0 0 TRANSFER TO A
1-OCT-79 TRANSFER TO A 0 0 0 TAKE A RING FROM B
*;* INPUT B TAKE A RING FROM PIC 1 0 0 TRANSFER TO C
E TOWER OF BRAHMA* 0 0 0 5 0 0 C
/THIS(WITH 5 RINGS) :-* 0 0 0 6 3 2 A
A B IF J$<A* 0 0 0
1A1 B IF J$>C* 0 0 0
22A22 B V=ASC(J$)C* *****
333A333 B FOR Y=C* TAKE A RING FROM C
444A4444 B C*TRANSFER TO C TAKE A RING FROM B
5555A55555 B C*TRANSFER TO C TAKE A RING FROM B
A 300 PRINT #B:RPT(40,42) NO TRANSFER TO C
320 PRINT #B:NLN(1) TAKE A RING FROM B
P* 400 PRINT #B:"THE OBJECT OF THE GAME IS TO TAKE A RING FROM B
420 PRINT #B:"PILLAR 'A' TO PILLAR 'C' ONE AT A TIME"
440 PRINT #B:"TIME CAN A LARGER RING BE ON TOP OF A SMALLER RING?"
460 PRINT #B:
480 PRINT #B:"YOU MAY REQUEST A PICTURE AT ANY TIME BY TYPING 'P'."
500 PRINT #B:"'PICTURE' AS THE NEXT COMMAND."
520 PRINT #B:
540 PRINT #B:"TO TERMINATE TYPE 'S'."
560 PRINT #B:
580 PRINT #B:"HOW MANY RINGS WOULD YOU LIKE(5-9)?"
600 IF A(U,Y)>0 THEN T=A(U,Y) \ A(U,Y)=0 \ GO TO 840
620 PRINT #B:"NO RING ON THAT PILLAR."
640 GO TO 840
660 PRINT #B:"TRANSFER TO PILLAR 'A'."
680 INPUT #B:K$
700 IF A(U,W)=0 THEN IF W=Z THEN A(U,W)=T \ GO TO 800
720 IF A(U,W)=0 THEN IF W<Z THEN IF A(U,W+1)<T THEN A(U,W+1)=T
740 IF A(U,W)=0 THEN A(U,W)=T \ GO TO 1700
760 NEXT W
780 PRINT #B:"RING ON THAT PILLAR IS SMALLER."
800 GO TO 800
820 FOR Y=1 TO Z
840 IF A(3,Y)<>Y THEN 800 PRINT #B:
860 NEXT Y
880 PRINT #B:"CONGRATS, YOU'VE DONE IT."
900 PRINT #B:"TOOK YOU *;* MINUTES."
920 PRINT #B:
940 PRINT #B:"TRY AGAIN?"
960 INPUT #B:J$
980 IF J$="P" THEN 2200
990 IF J$="S" THEN 2220
1000 IF J$="A" THEN 1000
1010 IF J$="C" THEN 1010
1020 IF J$="B" THEN 1020
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1080 IF J$="I" THEN 1080
1090 IF J$="J" THEN 1090
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1110 IF J$="L" THEN 1110
1120 IF J$="M" THEN 1120
1130 IF J$="N" THEN 1130
1140 IF J$="O" THEN 1140
1150 IF J$="P" THEN 1150
1160 IF J$="Q" THEN 1160
1170 IF J$="R" THEN 1170
1180 IF J$="S" THEN 1180
1190 IF J$="T" THEN 1190
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7060 IF J$="@" THEN 7060
7070 IF J$="#" THEN 7070
7080 IF J$="$" THEN 7080
7090 IF J$="% " THEN 7090
7100 IF J$="&" THEN 7100
7110 IF J$="'" THEN 7110
7120 IF J$="(" THEN 7120
7130 IF J$=")" THEN 7130
7140 IF J$="[" THEN 7140
7150 IF J$="]" THEN 7150
7160 IF J$="{ " THEN 7160
7170 IF J$="}" THEN 7170
7180 IF J$="|" THEN 7180
7190 IF J$="\" THEN 7190
7200 IF J$="^" THEN 7200
7210 IF J$="_" THEN 7210
7220 IF J$="`" THEN 7220
7230 IF J$="~" THEN 7230
7240 IF J$=" " THEN 7240
7250 IF J$="." THEN 7250
7260 IF J$="," THEN 7260
7270 IF J$=";" THEN 7270
7280 IF J$=":" THEN 7280
7290 IF J$="@" THEN 7290
7300 IF J$="#" THEN 7300
7310 IF J$="$" THEN 7310
7320 IF J$="% " THEN 7320
7330 IF J$="&" THEN 7330
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7550 IF J$="% " THEN 7550
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7650 IF J$="\" THEN 7650
7660 IF J$="^" THEN 7660
7670 IF J$="_" THEN 7670
7680 IF J$="`" THEN 7680
7690 IF J$="~" THEN 7690
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7950 IF J$="," THEN 7950
7960 IF J$=";" THEN 7960
7970 IF J$=":" THEN 7970
7980 IF J$="@" THEN 7980
7990 IF J$="#" THEN 7990
8000 IF J$="$" THEN 8000
8010 IF J$="% " THEN 8010
8020 IF J$="&" THEN 8020
8030 IF J$="'" THEN 8
```



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5K RAM, 3K ROM or 4K RAM, 4K ROM (link selectable). Kit supplied with 3K RAM, 3K ROM. System expandable for up to 32K memory.

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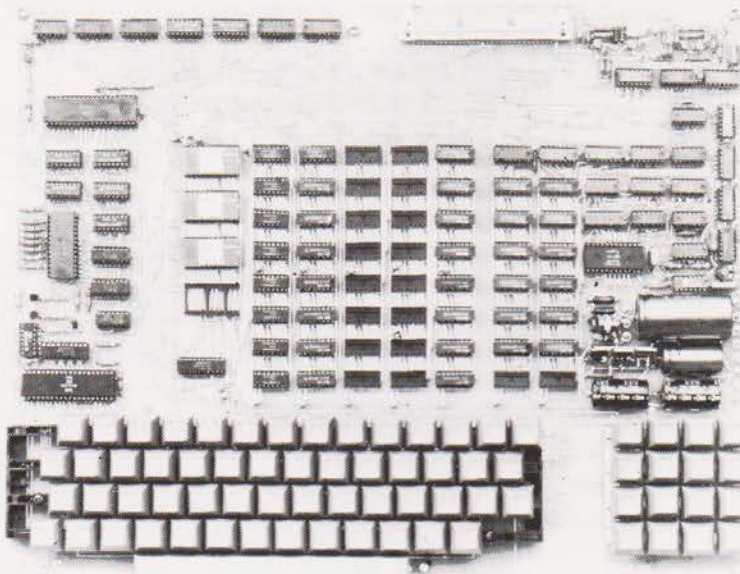
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|                            |  |               |
|----------------------------|--|---------------|
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# computing today

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```

110 INPUT M
120 PRINT
130 PRINT "WHAT IS THE INTEREST RATE"
140 INPUT R
150 PRINT
160 DIM N%(31)
170 Z=(R*R)/(E*100)
180 IF (Z+R)/E >= M THEN 230
190 GOTO 280
200 LET T=0
210 LET X=0
220 FOR N=1 TO 37
230 LET I=B*R/1200
240 LET I=INT(100*I+.5)/100
250 LET R=B+I-M
260 LET T=T+I
270 LET X=X+I
280 PRINT X*M+I*M-I*INT(R*100+.5)/100
290 IF B <= M THEN 430
300 NEXT N
310 LET N=N+1
320 LET F=R
330 LET I=B*R/1200
340 LET I=INT(100*I+.5)/100
350 LET T=T+I
360 LET X=X+I
370 PRINT
380 PRINT "DO YOU HAVE ANOTHER CASE"
390 INPUT N$
400 PRINT
410 IF N$(1,2)="NO" THEN 640
420 GOTO 30
430 PRINT

```

|   |    |
|---|----|
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| Pins             | Solder | W/W   | Ithaca Intersystems Products:  |        |
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| 81LS97           | 1.54   |       | DIN 41612 Eurconnectors 64 way: Female                               | 3.24   |
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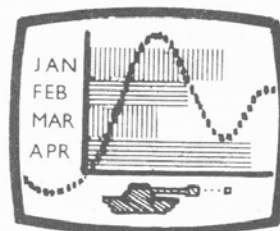
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with  
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| 4118              | 12.75 |
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- Z80A which will run at 4MHz but is selectable between 1/2/4 MHz.

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|---|------|
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|---|--------|
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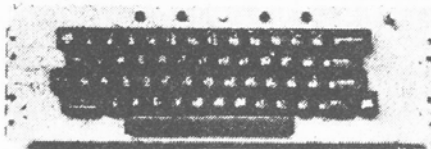
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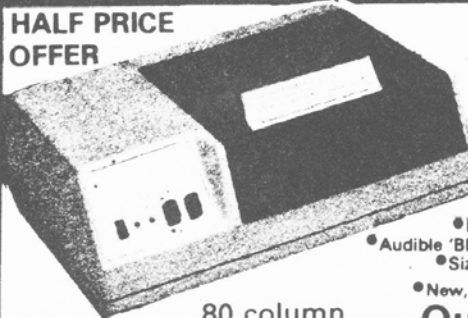
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## APPLE CROP

As each month goes by we seem to find more and more bits being made for Apples, a veritable glut of goodies must exist by now. The latest offerings to be added to the mountain are both from Microsense, the main dealers. The first is an ALF Music Synthesiser card which allows you to write your own magnum opus on the screen with a paddle control. You can play about with the pitch, envelope, decay, sustain and volume within the full piano range of eight octaves and then send the completed work to the outside world through your

HiFi. Each card can produce three voices and you can have up to three cards. The unit costs £180. The second — and far more important — offering is the new Prestel capability. Owl Computers, in conjunction with the PO and Microsense have modified a standard Apple communications card to handle the Prestel transmissions. The unit has provisional approval and is expected to cost around £600 but this does not include the modem which you will have to rent from the PO. For more details on the Prestel card contacts Mike Gardner of Owl Computers on 0279-52682 or for general Apple info contact Microsense at Finway Road, Hemel Hempstead, Herts.



## PETSOFT ACT

Cries of "more choice" have now been answered by Petsofts introduction of a FORTH Compiler/Interpreter package for the PET. The implementation consists of a 200 word 'dictionary' where each word is equivalent to a subroutine in BASIC. This allows the user to tailor programs easily and also allows structured programming thus making for more flexible software. The package also includes an assembler and text editor, the cost is a mere £30 + VAT. The parent company, ACT, have further cemented their relationship with the American firm Computhink by jointly producing the new 800 Series machine. At an exceptionally well oiled press reception the august members of the computer press were allowed to play with the system before the dealers had their show. I suspect that this practice will be discontinued owing to the erasing of

vital programs on disc. Still the system is very flexible, the 8" floppies give it a very useable one and a bit megabytes and it looks and feels like a GT version of the PET. Perhaps Commodore will think twice about the introduction of their new system into this country? The main benefit that this small business system can offer is its compatibility with all the existing software produced by ACT for the PET — a figure of 80% is quoted. Technical details are: — 2 MHz 6502, 46K user RAM, 12" VDU (64 by 30), 122880 addressable graphics points and standard PET graphics, full editing, three programmable fonts, standard parallel printer port, RS232 serial port, disc port for up to four 8" floppies, Extended DOS, Microsoft BASIC with machine code monitor and Tiny Assembler, full ASCII keyboard in upper/lower case and numeric pad. The price for a basic system is quoted at £3,950 with 800K mass storage. For details contact ACT at 5-6 Vicarage Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 3ES.

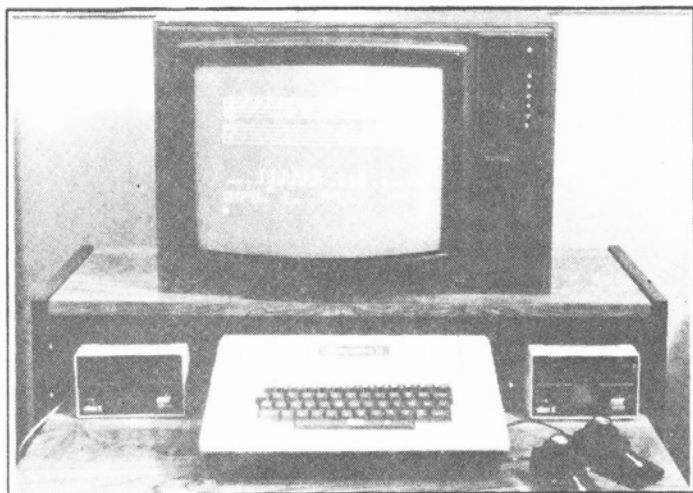


## SHOP TALK

First out of the bag this month is the news that the Byte Shop, who were taken into receivership a month or so back, has been sold off to Comart. Comart are better known for their comprehensive stocks of Cromemco kit among small business users. The chain of existing shops is still trading under the name Byte Shop 1980 and it looks as though the future plans for expansion will go ahead, but maybe not so fast. Second item to crawl out of the mailbag is news that Adda, the West London store, are to open a central London office in Hanover Street. The new address is 1-2 Hanover St., London W1 and the phone is 01-408 1611. The main aim behind the expansion is to offer a better, faster software

service to businessmen in the central London area. Midwich, the Nanocomputer people had sprouted a new organisation to handle its small business machines and Apples. The new company is called Siafield and is looked after by Phil Everton at the same address as Midwich, namely 209b High Street, Waltham Cross, Herts EN8 7AY, phone Waltham Cross (97) 29310. Midwich are now dealing solely with the SGS-Ates range of product, including the highly successful Nanocomputer. And last but not least comes news of expansion by Newbear, in the guise of Newbear Books. They have opened a new store in Birmingham, at the Tivoli Centre, Yardley and there is good access and lots of free parking. Shop hours are 9-5 Monday to Friday and you can phone on 021-707 7170 for a booklist or further details.





## SINCLAIR HOMES IN

Clive Sinclair, the man who brought you the Mk 14 and the Microvision, among other things, has announced his latest offering to the world. Called the ZX80 it is a Z80A based system with a touch keyboard and built in BASIC. The whole thing is about the size of a small desktop calculator — you can hold it in your hand quite easily. Special items abound because of a radical new design idea, you get single key operation for common BASIC commands, syntax error checking on entry and a full alphanumeric keyboard. However with the

price at just under £100 ready built, or £77.95 for the kit, you do have to accept restrictions on the flexibility of the machine. The Z80A is run at 3.25 MHz instead of the usual 4 MHz as this is a convenient multiple of the TV scan frequency, yes the CPU has to look after the TV as well, and the system is not as fast as one would expect. The BASIC has been squashed down from 4K Integer style by using a look-up table system for the command words and by having the character set built in with the monitor. One is not informed how much ROM is used but there is 1K of RAM — equivalent in Sinclair terms to 4K of usual RAM. The design includes the drivers for the VDU, a normal B/W TV but black on white, and a cassette interface for mass storage, at some non-standard rate, but the bus capability is very limited owing to a lack of buffering.

You can add up to 16K of RAM onto the system, it comes in 3K chunks which cost £12 for the board and £16 per K. Because of the architecture it would not be advisable, although possible, to hang exotic peripherals onto the system as the CPU would spend more time looking after them than it would servicing the program. However, at the price it represents a definite opening into computing for schools and colleges — especially in kit form — and as a very high class executive mind stretcher. The kit version is available as from February and the ready built system is promised for March. We have naturally asked for a review sample and will let you know in the near future how the system measures up under test. Sinclair Research can be reached at 6 Kings Parade, Cambridge CB2 1SN and their phone is 0223-312919.

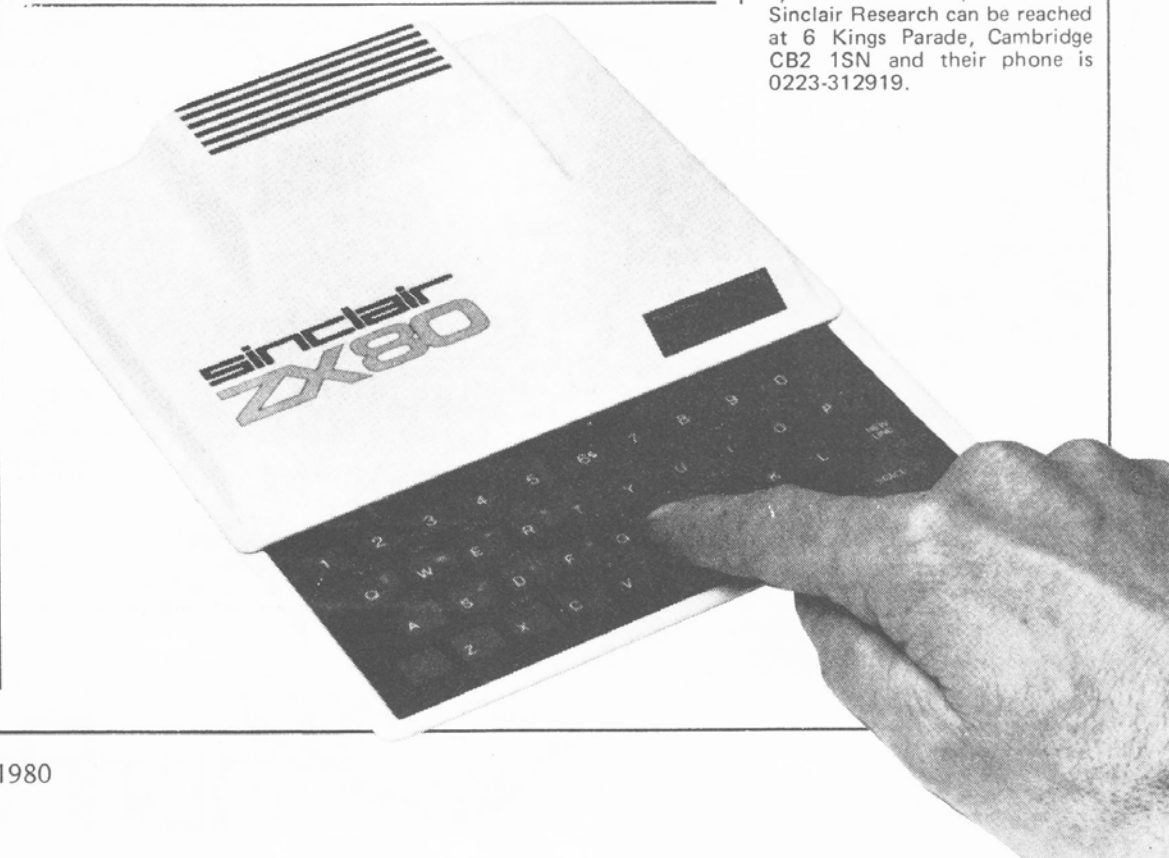
## CLUB CALL

I think that our last club survey has produced the highest ever response, we have had over 90% of our forms back now so if you are still holding onto one, send it in. First in the column this month come the additions to the list. The PET education group is run by Dr Chris Smith of the Department of Physiology, Queen Elizabeth College, Campden Hill Road, London W8 7AH. They have about 20 members, membership is free and they have a special interest in CAL, that's Computer Aided Learning according to my dictionary. Changes to the published list are starting to come in as clubs have their AGMs, from the top. . . Southgate Computer Club have a new primary contact, Mr Panos Koumi of 33 Chandos Avenue, Southgate, London N14 7ES. The telephone is 01-882 2983 and they meet on Wednesday and Thursdays fortnightly, membership is £1. The Gwent Amateur Computer Club has got itself a new meeting place, namely 10 Park Place in Newport where they meet each Wednesday night. They now own a couple of systems and as a result the club fees are now £3 or £1.50 for students with a meeting charge of 20p. Their new primary contact is Ian Hazell at 50 Ringwood Hill, Newport, Gwent NPT 9EB and the phone is Newport (0633) 277711 during office hours. SELMIC are now holding regular meetings at the Thames Poly, Churchill House, Greens End, Woolwich on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month. A door charge of 75p is made for non-members, their primary contact remains unchanged. The North London Hobby Computer Club is moving well, recent talks have included Speech Synthesis and

Recognition and Security And Fraud. Future evenings include Artificial Intelligence and Robots on April 9th, CAL on May 7th and the House Computer on June 4th. Meetings are held in the Students Common Room and they start at 7pm. Further details of the club activities can be found in their excellent magazine GIGO. Contact details are unchanged from the survey entry. And whilst on the subject of mags we are now getting Printout, Richard Pawsons new PET extravaganza. Excellent value for money and it can't be too popular with Commodore as he keeps breaking their secrets! Printout costs £9.50 for ten issues and is a far better bet than the official user group who haven't produced a

single mag since Richard left to do his own thing — if they have done one I'd love to see it because it hasn't crossed my desk yet.

And finally on the Club scene . . . The Merseyside Micro-computer Group have asked us to point out that they have a vast array of sub-groups as well as the parent body. Full details are given in their regular newsletter but the main ones are Research Machines 380Z (run by Alan Pope), Education Group (run by Mr M Trotter), Apple Special Interest Group, the SC/MP group (run by Bob Perrigo) and the PET special interest group. Contact any of these through the main organisation at the University of Liverpool.





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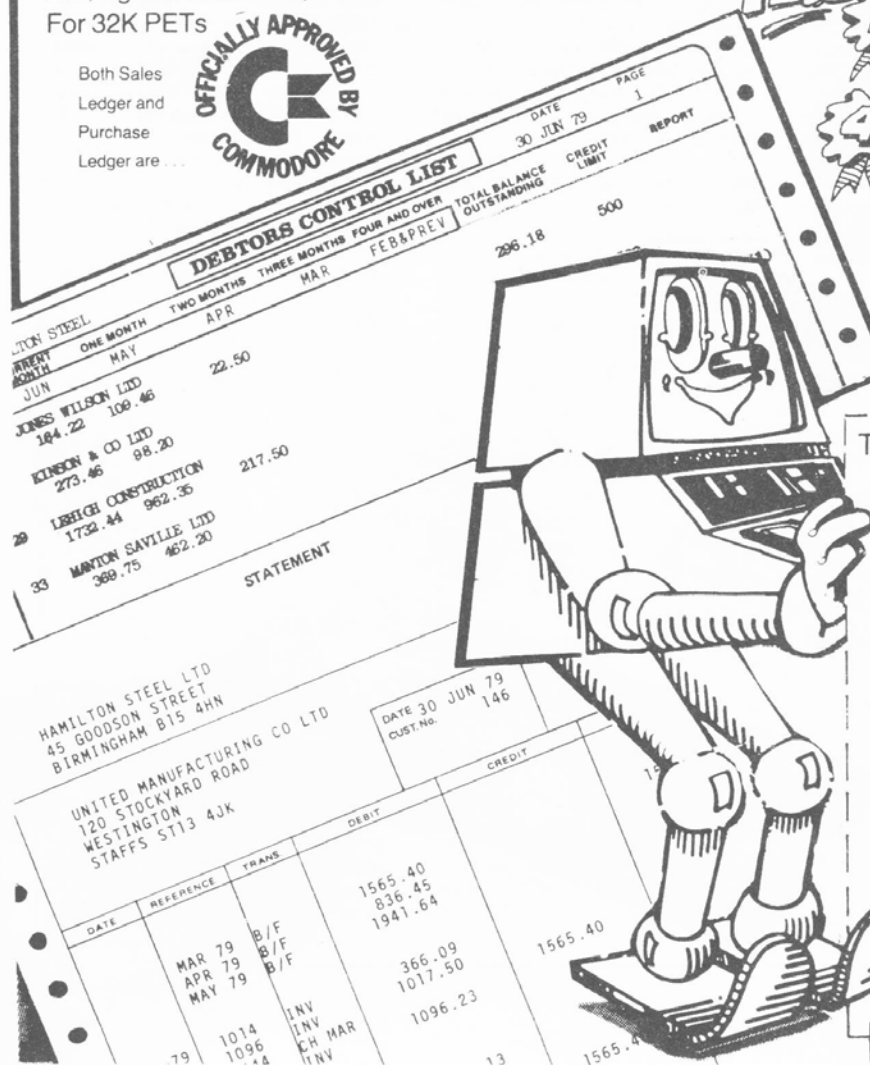
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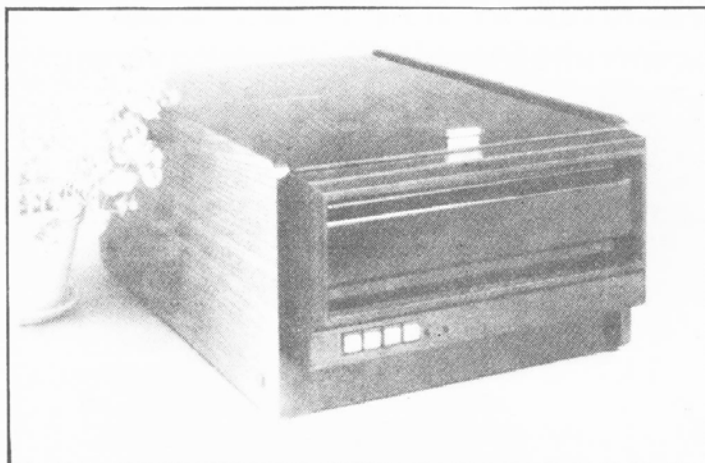
## TAPING IT

Home computer users have now been given more choice in the cassette tape market with the introduction of a new Scotch digital tape from 3M. Designated the 830 it comes in a neat little box and is available in two sizes, C10 and C30. The new style packaging of the tape has also spread to the whole range of 3Ms data recording media and the silver and black design is easily spotted. We have had a sample of the new C30 in the office and it seems to perform excellently, we have not managed to get any LOAD ERRORS on the PET! For details on the whole range of 3M products contact them at 3M House, PO Box 1, Bracknell, Berkshire.



## OF COURSE

Portsmouth Poly are running a series of courses in the near future. Included in the list are "First Steps" a three day course for engineers on July 2-4, "Second Steps" which is a follow up on 7-9th July, Microprocessor System Design which is a four day course on 17-18th July and a course on Sixteen Bit Micros which runs for two days on 17-18 July. Full details of all these can be obtained from Mrs A P Sizer at the Dept of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Portsmouth Polytechnic, Anglesea Road, Portsmouth PO1 3DJ. Manchester Poly are also running a seminar on the 28th May in the All Saints Building of the Poly. Called Microcomputing in Research and Higher Education it is aimed at people involved in those areas. Further details are obtainable from Dr G J Boris Allan on 061-228 6171 ext 2457 or direct from him at the poly, Dept of Social Science, Aytoun Street, Manchester M1 3GH. Finally on the topic of conferences COMPSTAT 80 is here. This will be held at the University of Edinburgh between 18 and 22 August and over 300 people have registered so if you want to go you'd better hurry. The main topic of interest is that of computational statistics so if that's your particular scene you can obtain details from the Director, Program Library Unit, University of Edinburgh, 18 Buccleugh Place, Edinburgh EH8 9LN.



## \$100 IN A SPIN?

A new disc system for the S100 bus has been announced by Equinox and is claimed to be exceptionally reliable. The unit is the KB10 with 5 MB of fixed and 5 MB of removable storage which is about ten times faster than a floppy. Software currently supportable includes CP/M2, MP/M, FAMOS and OMNIX. The unit can also cope with up to four tape systems along with "unlimited" disc storage, the only limit will be the fact that the unit costs £4950 a go. Details are available from Equinox at Kleeman House, 16 Anning Street, New Inn Yard, London EC2.

## TOUCHY STUFF

This must be the month for touch sensitive keyboards, two offerings at once, you can't say that we don't bring you the goodies! The first is the Mk 3 touch keyboard from Star Devices that we have on offer in our competition. It is a great improvement on the original Mk 1 that we reviewed back in April last year — not that there was anything wrong with that — and includes some fantastic options. Among the list of possible configurations we find single five volt supply, odd or even parity, repeat key, electronic shift lock, etc and those are just the start. User definable

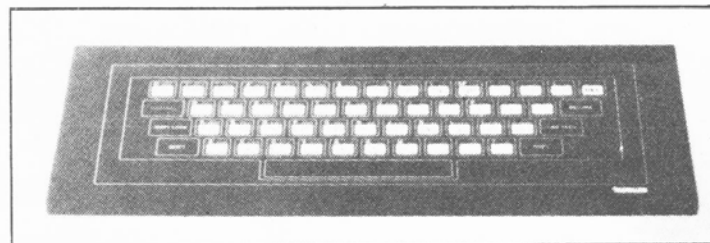
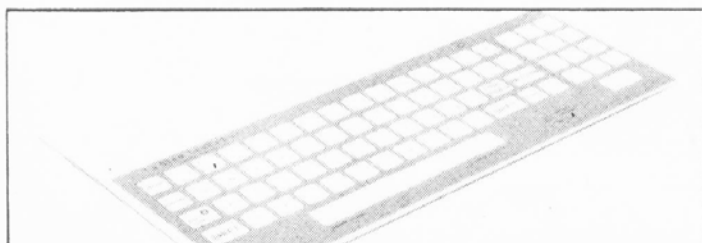
options include RS232 output, fourteen baud rates, on-board  $\pm 12$  V option for the RS232, TTY character set only, tri-state outputs plus many more. Each key is expected to last for at least five million strikes so it's unlikely that you'll wear it out and the touch surface is wipe clean and fully sealed so you can pour coffee all over it. At the bargain price of £48.50 for the basic unit plus your chosen options will you be able to resist it?

The second touch keyboard unit is of American origin and is called TASA. The whole thing is a mere .325 inches in depth and is being stocked by Interface Components of Amersham

at a price of £49.50. The unit features a full 128 key ASCII keyboard with electronic shift lock and rollover and the output is supplied in parallel ASCII with strobe to CMOS levels or TT1 with a pull down load for open collector logic. The options are fixed on this unit because it is totally sealed in a lump of plastic but this does mean that it can be used in sterile or hostile environments. Star Devices may be contacted at Unit One, Mill Lane, Newbury, Berks or ring on 0635-40405. Interface components can be reached at Oakfield Corner, Sycamore Road, Amersham Bucks or telephone 02403-5076.

## CONFESSION TIME

A couple of slight problems have come to light. In our Feb issue location 0D52 of Malcolm Bell's Logic Emulator should read 0A not A0. The message text for MESS 2 and 3 should also be ignored and re-entered from scratch as corruption occurred. With regard to our Competition the closing date is the end of March so if you haven't sent it in yet get a move on! Several people have also rung up about the number of letters in the 12th clue down, it should be 4 not 5 but most people have worked that out for themselves!

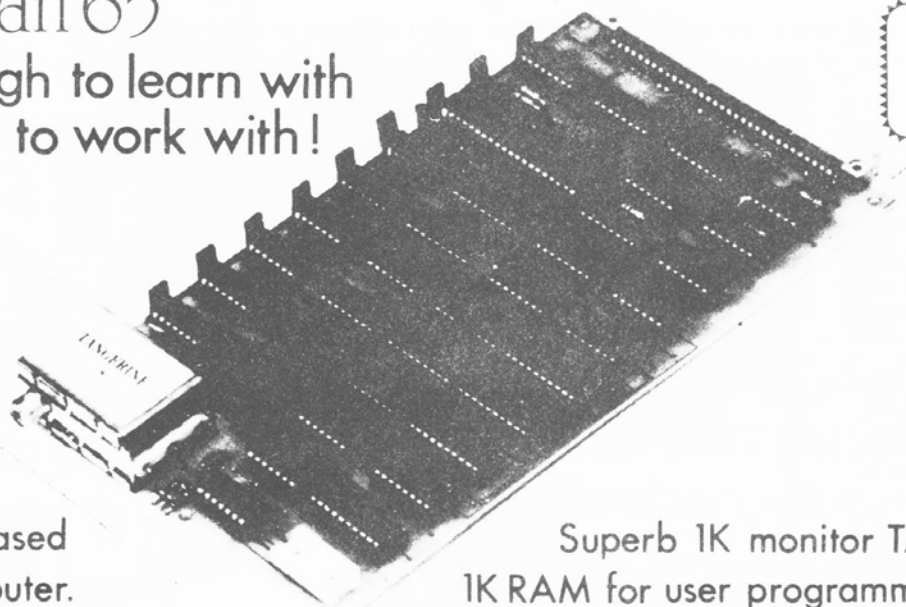




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TANBUG is probably the most powerful 1K monitor available. Apart from bringing the hardware alive it really does serve the purpose of programme debugging. TANBUG offers memory and register examine, modify and list, block moves, single instruction, multiple non-destructive breakpoints with ability for multiple passes, address offset calculation and many other useful features. MICROTAN 65- More power for your money!

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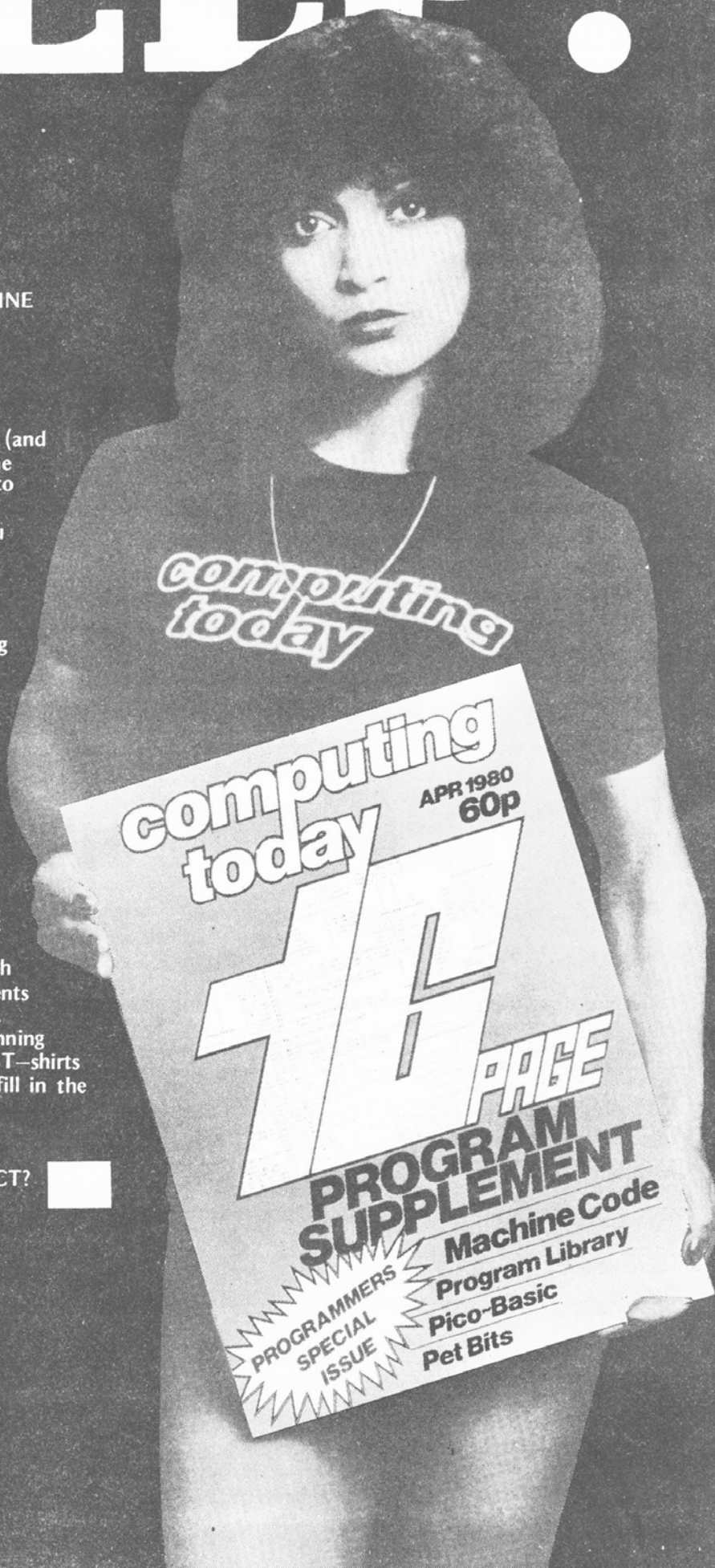
PLEASE DESTROY THIS MAGAZINE

If you do we'll send you a new one (and you'll be helping us!) CT needs some feedback and to get it we must go to you, our readers. In order to go on producing the kind of magazine you want to buy we would like you to tell what you want to see. Every single answer we get is read and considered (honest!) and helps to form the future issues of Computing Today. Why the replacement magazine offer? Well, that is because we know most of you keep your issues in pristine condition and dislike cutting them up — even for a cause as worthy as this. After some head scratching we decided the simplest way to ensure that enough people returned us forms was to provide a new copy in return for the questionnaire. Out and out bribery really.

Please tick below if you wish a new copy and enclose the contents page from this one with your letter.

As a further bribe we are running a draw for 50 of our magnificent T-shirts which you can't enter unless you fill in the form overleaf.

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| PROBLEM PAGE       |       |          |
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Please asterisk the single best feature in your estimation.

2. How does this issue of CT compare to the last? Please indicate:

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3. If you have been a reader since our birth how does this issue compare to our early days?

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|-------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------|------------|
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4. Do you intend to run any of our software from this issue? If yes, which?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

5. Which computer system do you own or use at work?

Name ..... Home use/Work use

6. Which of these topics would you like to see CT cover more in future?

|                           | Need More | About Right Now | Need Less | Should Ignore |
|---------------------------|-----------|-----------------|-----------|---------------|
| Software For Home Systems |           |                 |           |               |
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Thank you very much for your assistance. Please do not forget to indicate on the previous page if you'd like a replacement issue. In addition if you enter your name and address below we will know where to send your tee shirt if you're one of the 50 drawn.

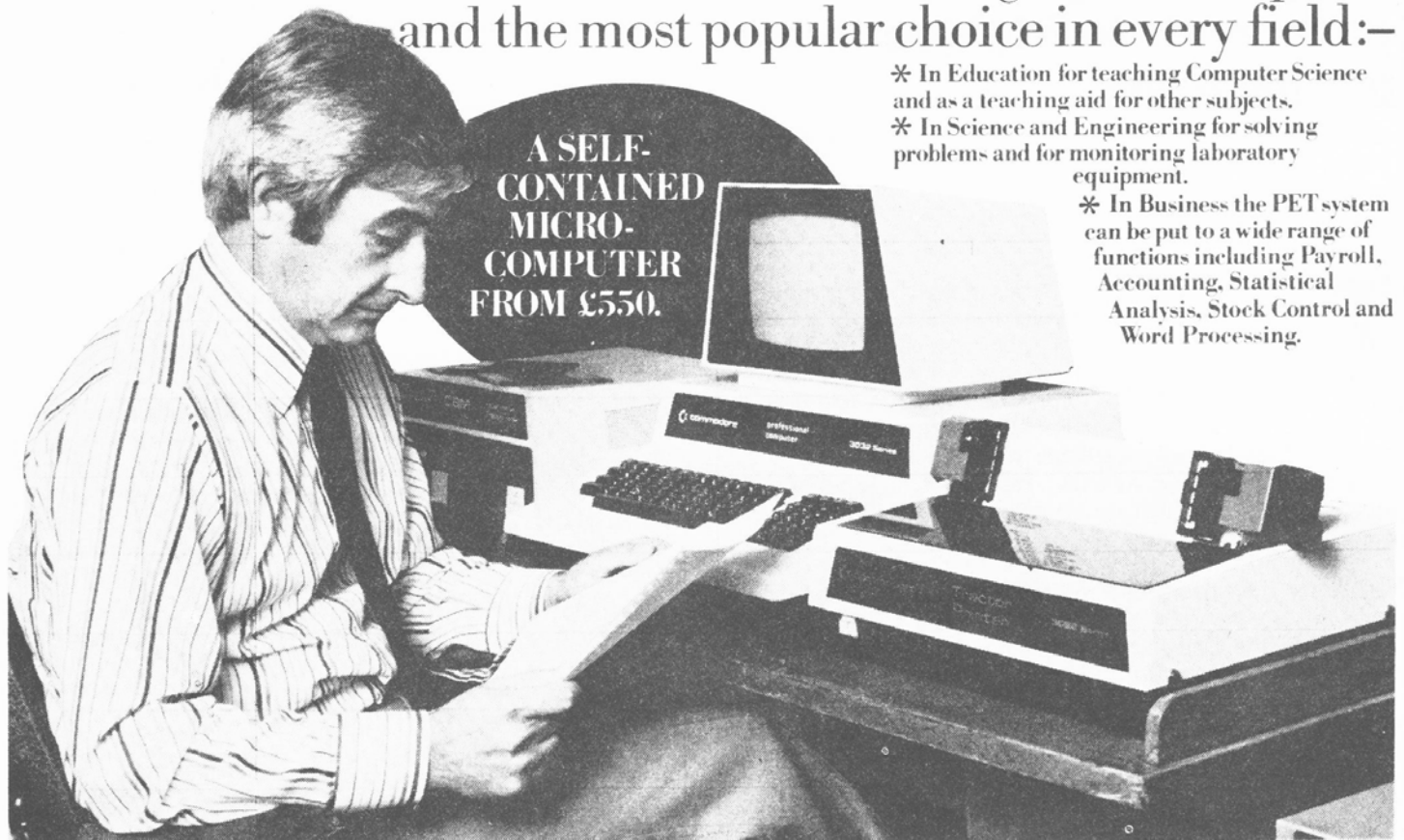
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## Programming in machine code tends to frighten many people away.

This is the first part of a series of articles in response to the demand by novice micro-enthusiasts for advice in programming at a level they can easily understand. Having spent large sums of money on home computers, many are finding it harder to pick up than they had been led to believe by glossy advertisements and, whilst there are many self-teach books available for high level language systems such as BASIC, ALGOL, Pascal and FORTRAN, it is much harder to find instruction in Machine Code programming.

In this first part the Central Processing Unit (CPU) is put under the microscope to gain some insight into how the heart of any micro-system functions. The second part will investigate the 'language of machine code' and ponder on how a mere human can understand its logic. Later parts will be devoted to program writing from first principles, through flowcharting and structuring, to the final documentation stage. This will be illustrated by putting together a program to calculate any monthly calendar from the year 1756 to 9999.

It is hoped that this series will be informative, not only to those who have no alternative to machine code but also to those that have higher order systems that permit user subroutines to be written in code.

### The Central Processing Unit (CPU)

The silicon chip, immortalised by political hysteria, is here to stay, and the sooner society is educated to understand its potential and its limitations the better it will be for all concerned. It is no more than a tool in the hands of craftsmen and when properly used will be a tremendous advantage to mankind, but like all complex tools its principle of operation must be understood by the user and from this fundamental will grow experience and innovation.

A CPU is a large scale integrated device (LSI) comprising many thousands of logic gates and 'flip-flop' type memories constructed by advanced techniques onto a single chip of silicon, which is encapsulated in a plastic or ceramic housing. Access to the silicon chip is by way of two rows of 'pins' that are internally connected to the silicon device. Needless to say, in the event of failure repair is impossible.

The CPU's main function is to process data by shifting it in binary form from one set of registers to another set in a manner pre-programmed for each coded operation. Fig.1 shows the architectural principles of any 8 data-bit wide CPU with a 16 bit address capability. (A 16 data-bit wide CPU is very similar with the data bus expanded to twice the size. The principle of operation is identical.)

There are 3 main information paths which are used for control and data transfer to external hardware.

1. CPU and system CONTROL signals
2. 16 bit address bus
3. 8 bit data bus.

All these leads are connected to external hardware that is responsible for the control and storage within the system.

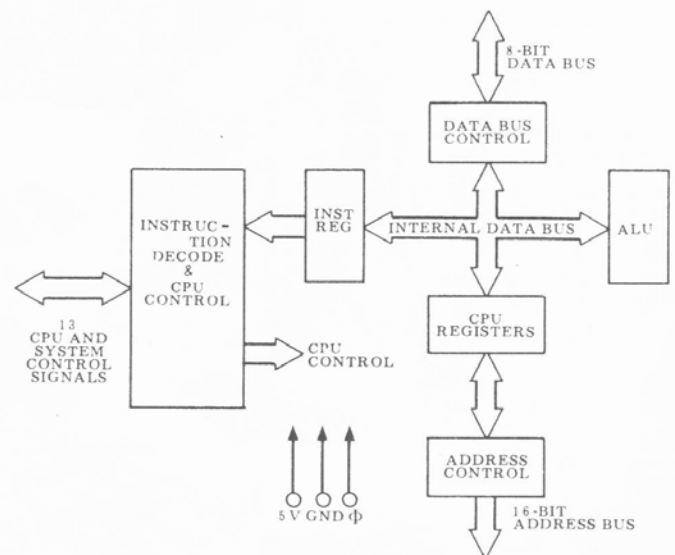


Fig.1. A typical 8 bit CPU's architecture. Each of the main areas is discussed in the text.

One of the important design factors to be remembered if designing or expanding a system is that these leads have a very low power handling capability and great care must be taken to 'buffer' all interconnections.

### CPU And System Control Signals

This group of interface connections is used to input such system controls as the 'clock', the Read/Write logic, Single Step logic, Dynamic Refresh etc and the supply voltages. It is not within the scope of this series to pay too much attention to this group as they are more relevant to system design, but further attention will be paid to the 'clock' and the 'dynamic refresh' later on this part.

### The Address Bus

The address bus has 16 three-state (tristate) outputs which can be wired to external memory devices within the system. Output from the CPU on these leads is the binary address of the memory location that is to be interrogated either for the purpose of reading data from, or writing data to, that part of the memory. The maximum binary output from the 16 leads is 1111111111111111 or FFFF for short. In decimal terms this number is 65,536, and so this is the maximum number of memory locations possible. In computing terms this is confused still further by calling it 64K memory locations. This apparent anomaly is caused by the internal construction of memory chips which conforms to a matrix format suitable for binary decoding. For instance, a 1K memory contains 1024 cells which are arranged as 32 rows of 32 cells. Not all of these 64K address locations need be used for user program storage, in fact most systems have large areas reserved for the

# MACHINE CODE COURSE

system monitor and other 'firmware' such as BASIC interpreters. A particular address may even be allocated to control some external machinery, like a modem or random number generator, or additionally it might be the address used for an Input/Output port.

## Data Bus

The data bus has 8 tristate connections which can serve as both outputs or inputs as the CPU dictates. These leads transfer data to and from memory devices under the control of the system clock. The maximum size of the binary data ranges from 00000000 to 11111111 which is FF or in decimal terms 256. Any number of memory devices and/or external ports can be connected to the data bus provided it has been adequately buffered as described earlier.

## How It Functions

All digital computers work in an orderly manner, and to ensure that data is manipulated only when the sending and receiving hardware is ready a very stable clock pulse is required. It is possible to work a CPU in a 'step-by-step' mode but this is usually confined to the single stepping of instructions rather than clock pulses. A clock pulse can be derived internally in the CPU as with the ROCKWELL 6502, or externally as with the Z80 & 8080. In both cases a crystal at about 16 MHz is used and this is divided down to the normal operating speed of 1, 2 or 4 MHz for most systems. The CPU uses the clock pulses in the manner shown below:—

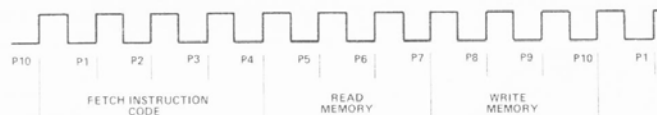


Fig.2. How your CPU gets clocked! This is the vital heart of any system and care must be taken.

The typical timing chart shown in Fig.2 has 10 clock pulses to a complete instruction cycle. The first four pulses are used to decide which operation is required to be carried out, for example a 'shift data', 'arithmetic operation' etc. This is decided in the Instruction Decode & CPU Control area and the Instruction Register shown in Fig.1. During the next three clock pulses data is moved from the specified memory location into the CPU, acted upon, and the final result is written back into memory during the last three clock pulses.

It is not generally necessary for the programmer to have any more detailed knowledge of the CPU timing sequence, but it is essential that the total number of cycles (known as Machine Cycles) is known for each instruction. This information is given in the various manufactures applications documentation for each CPU. Together with the known system operation speed it is possible to calculate the execution time of each instruction.

eg INSTRUCTION; Move the contents of register A to register B  
 No. of clock pulses; 4  
 SPEED of SYSTEM OPERATION; 2 MHz ie 0.5  $\mu$ S per clock pulse  
 TIME TAKEN;  $4 \times 0.5 \mu\text{S} = 2 \mu\text{S}$

For most home programs the length of time taken to run a routine is not important, but where a timing circuit like a clock or delay element is incorporated the instruction timings become a critical part of the program design. Another application of this is interworking with peripheral equip-

ment such as modems (modulators/demodulators), printers and floppy disc units.

## The CPU Internal Registers

The number and form of internal CPU registers vary from one device to another, but typical configurations are shown using the Zilog Z80 and the Motorola 6800 CPU devices, as examples.

| Main Registers |       | Alternative Registers |       |
|----------------|-------|-----------------------|-------|
| Accumulator    | Flags | Accumulator           | Flags |
| A              | F     | A'                    | F'    |
| B              | C     | B'                    | C'    |
| D              | E     | D'                    | E'    |
| H              | L     | H'                    | L'    |

general purpose registers

| Interrupt Vector I | Memory Refresh R |
|--------------------|------------------|
| INDEX REGISTER     | IX               |
| INDEX REGISTER     | IY               |
| STACK POINTER      | SP               |
| PROGRAM COUNTER    | PC               |

special purpose registers

Fig.3. The Z80's array of registers. You don't often need them all.

For those users of the 8080 device they can consider just the MAIN REGISTERS and the SPECIAL PURPOSE REGISTERS of the Z80 as the alternative set and the I and R registers are not provided. The Z80 registers B, C, D, E, H and L are each 8 bit wide and can be used for data storage. Additionally they can be combined into REGISTER PAIRS as BC, DE and HL for storage of 16 bit wide data such as 16 bit memory addresses or arithmetic arguments. The INDEX REGISTERS, PROGRAM COUNTERS and STACK POINTERS are also 16 bit wide and are used for holding memory addresses. The use of INDEX registers will be covered fully in Part 2 of this series. The PROGRAM COUNTER holds the address of the current instruction that is being executed and is either incremented at the end of the machine cycle, or updated as the program dictates.

The Stack Pointer is used to hold the address of the bottom of a Last In First Out (LIFO) file which is situated in a reserved area of the user memory. This file is required by the CPU to keep track of the return addresses when sub-routine calls are made, and can be used to great advantage for the temporary storage of data using the PUSH and POP instructions. Again, this will also be explained in detail when the machine code instructions are investigated in Part 2. The configuration of the Motorola 6800 shown in Fig.4 gives some idea of how much different designs vary. The Program Counter, Stack Pointer and Index Registers are much the same but there are no general purpose registers provided internally. It is necessary to use addresses within the user memory area for any short term storage of data. The 6800 is, however, provided with dual Accumulators compared to the single one on the Z80, and this makes up for some of the deficiency of registers. The Accumulator is the most important of all the internal registers and will be looked at in more detail.

## The Accumulator

The accumulator, or 'register A' as it is known in Z80 and 8080 jargon, is the most used of all the 8 bit registers. It forms the base for all instructions except those that transfer



# MACHINE CODE COURSE

data between other registers. For example data to be output or input from a port is frequently stored temporarily in the accumulator. It is also the register used for arithmetic or logic operations, and in all cases the result of one of these operations is returned to the accumulator for the next operation. It will be seen when we discuss the system monitors in Part 3 that it is usual to store in this register any data that will primarily be acted upon in a monitor subroutine such as Delay, String, Input or Output.

## The Flag Registers

The Flag register or Condition Code Register as it is known in the 6800 world is different from all other registers in that it cannot be written into by a user. It is used to indicate certain conditions that may have occurred during the execution of the previous instruction, like the result being zero or less than zero. It can indicate if the result of a comparison is true or not true and furthermore it can indicate vital information required for arithmetic operations such as half carry and overflow. Acting on the information from these flags a program can make decisions as to which subsequent program path it is to follow, thus giving great flexibility to program writing.

A list of the functions of these flags is given below, although it must be remembered that some may not be included in your system.

**CARRY** — This flag is set if, as a result of an add, subtract or compare instruction the result causes the accumulator value to pass through zero either from 1 down to FF or from FF up to 1. This flag is also used as a temporary store in the shift and rotate instructions.

**ZERO** — As its name suggests this flag is set *only* when the result of an instruction is zero.

**SIGN** — In order to determine if a number is negative or positive the CPU looks at the most significant bit of the accumulator. If it is positive the most significant bit is '0', if negative the bit is '1'. The sign bit is a reflection of the most significant accumulator bit and therefore indicates the sign of a number.

**PARITY/OVERFLOW** — Parity checking of numbers of inputs is frequently carried out if there is any possibility of corruption, if for example the input is from magnetic tape where 'drop-out' can corrupt data. The parity/overflow bit is used to indicate if the result of an arithmetic or logical operation is odd or even. This flag is also used to indicate an overflow as a result of 'two's complement arithmetic' operation.

**HALF CARRY & ADD/SUB** — These two flags are of academic interest only as they cannot be used by a programmer. The CPU interrogates them when carrying out a decimal adjust operation. This will be described in Part 2.

## Interrupt Register

Before looking at the interrupt register a few words on what an interrupt is. If a system is being used to control a number of external circuits it is possible that at any time one or more of those circuits will require the system to service it. When this is detected by the system it is required to jump to the correct part of the program to deal with that circuit. Its normal operation is interrupted. The interrupt register is used to carry the last 8 bits of an interrupt address vector. The system port will carry the other 8 bits thereby specifying a memory address in the program.

## Memory Refresh Register (Z80)

A very useful register provided more for the system designer

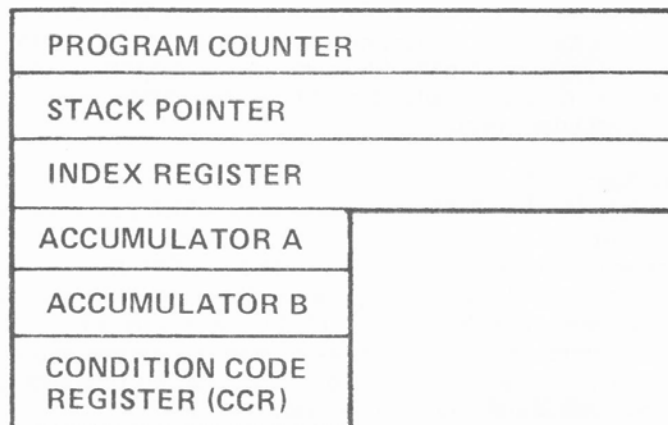


Fig.4. The 6800's selection, less than the Z80 but still enough for most purposes.

| BIT | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2   | 1 | 0 |
|-----|---|---|---|---|---|-----|---|---|
|     | S | Z | X | H | X | P/V | N | C |

WHERE S = SIGN FLAG  
H = HALF CARRY FLAG  
N = ADD/SUBTRACT FLAG  
Z = ZERO FLAG  
P/V = PARITY/OVERFLOW FLAG  
X = UNUSED BITS

Fig.5. The status word exposed. Understanding of its function is vital.

than the programmer. External memory has often been mentioned without explanation but there it must be considered more fully. As has been seen a CPU has a very limited capacity of memory that can be accessed by the program. It is therefore a prime requirement that a large external field of memory is available to store both data and the precise order of program instructions. This memory field can comprise of two types of memory; Read Only Memory and Random Access Memory (or Read/Write memory). The first is pre-programmed and contains things like system monitors or high level language programs, whilst the second can be used by the programmer for data. Of this second type, usually referred to as RAM there are two types; the static RAM and the dynamic RAM.

Without going into too much detail because memory devices are a subject in their own right, a static RAM will hold its data secure as long as the supply voltage is maintained. A dynamic RAM will lose its data very rapidly unless it is constantly *refreshed* by having its data continually updated. It is to facilitate this constant memory refreshing that the Z80 provides the Memory Refresh Register. Where it is not provided on other systems a separate circuit element must be used if dynamic memory is required.

## Arithmetic And Logic Unit (ALU)

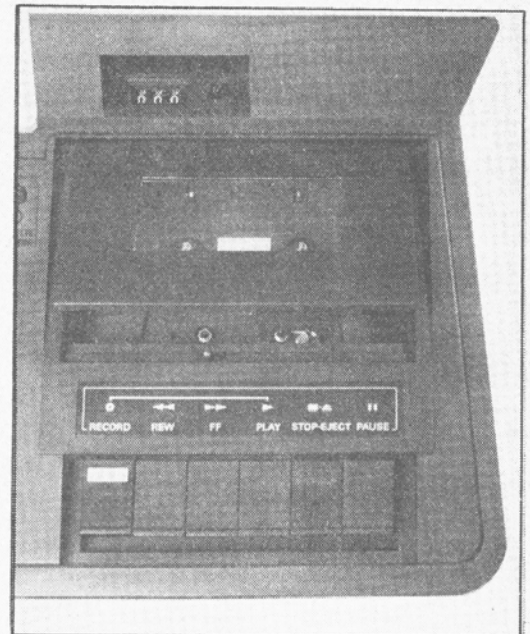
This is the last of our building blocks to examine and is the one that handles the arithmetic and logic capability of a CPU. It is a serial device and works very much like a pocket calculator taking in data from a store (accumulator) carrying out the function, and then outputting the answer. In this case back into the accumulator. ALU's to date perform only the most simple functions of arithmetic but newer devices on the market are beginning to include multiplication and division, and there is little doubt that in the future this is one area of development that will see a great deal of change.

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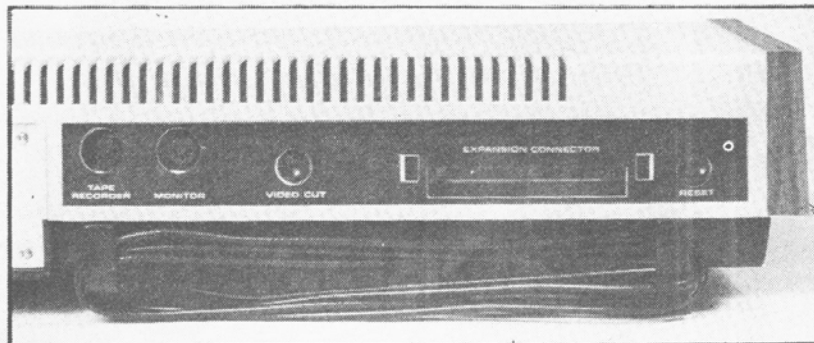


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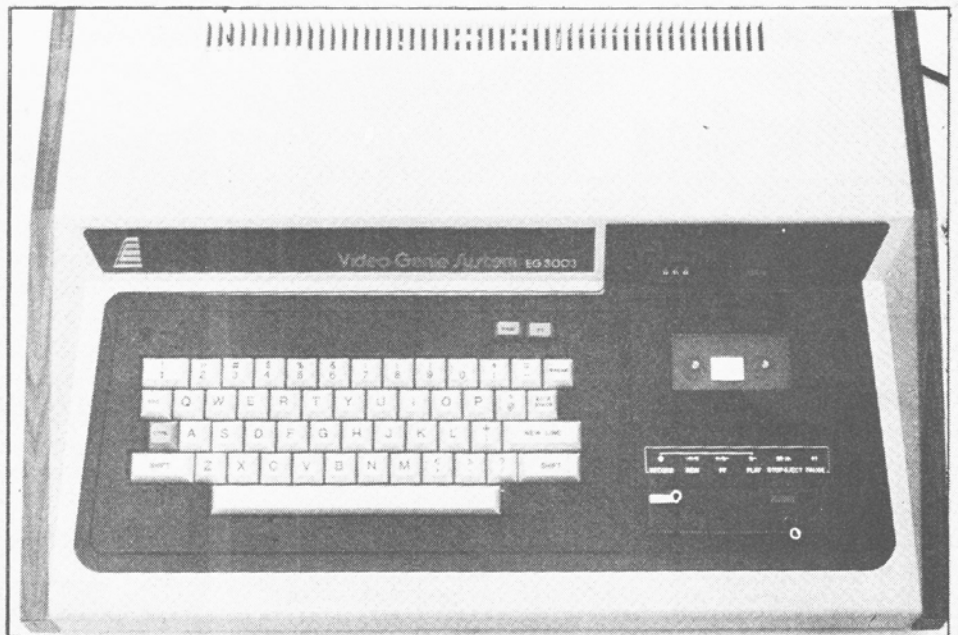


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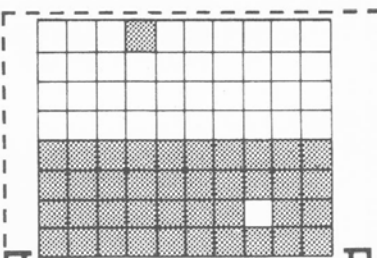
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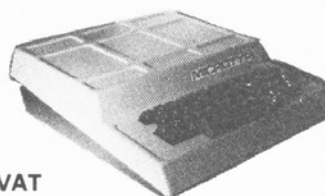
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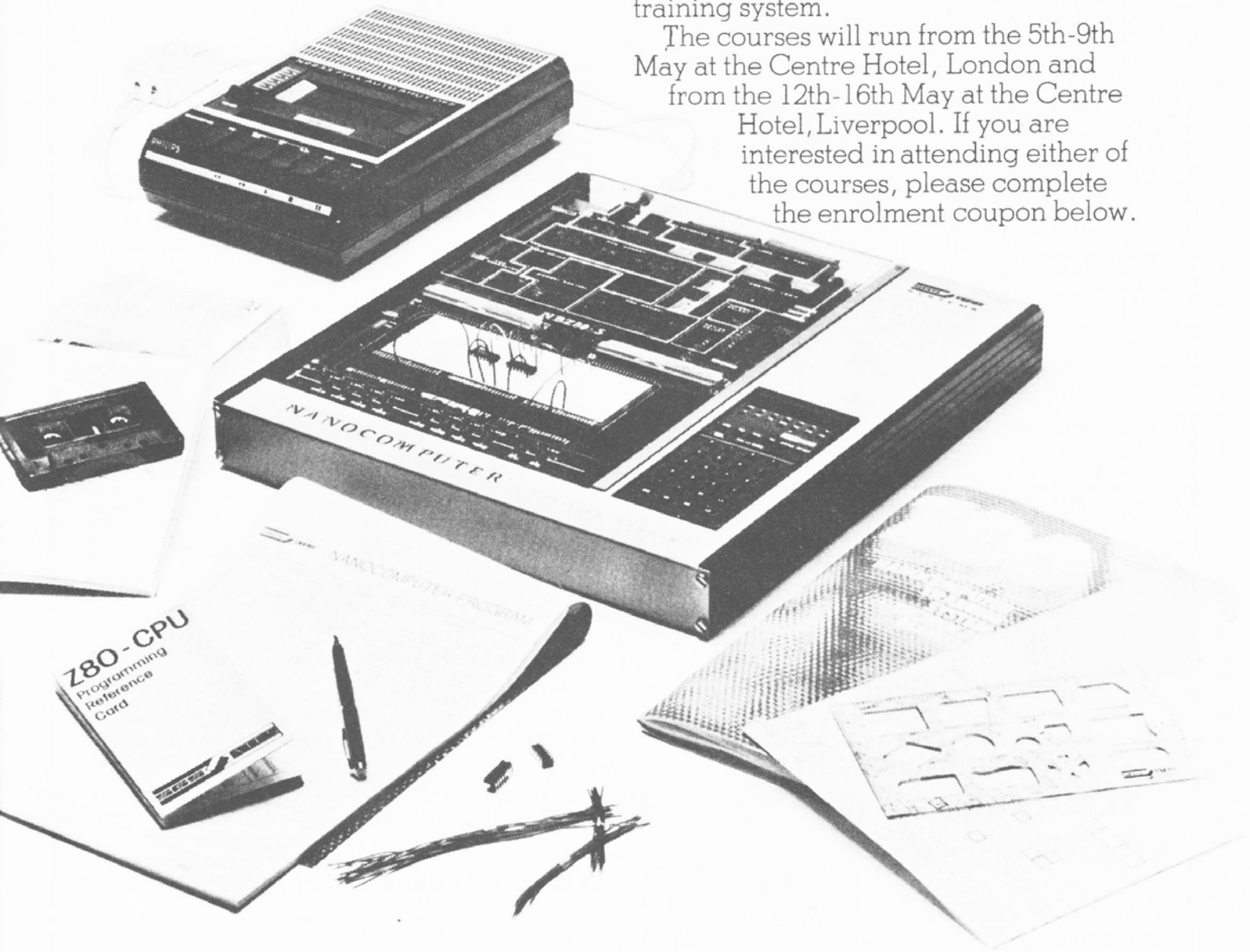
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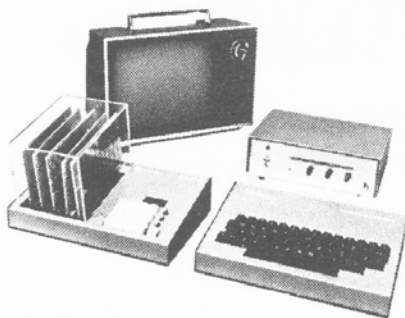


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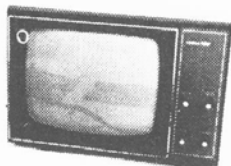
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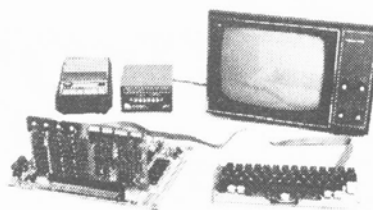


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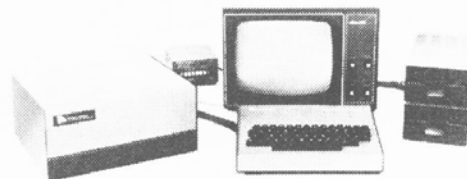
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If you depend on your car and can't account for the money you spend, load up and discover where its all going to. Rumour has it that Panther De Ville owners with that optional PET may be buying all copies so get to the newsagents early.

## DRIVEN TO DESPAIR?

## TRITON REVISITED

ETIs own computer system is over a year old now, and changes have been made since its conception that make it rather more than a single board computer.

In our continuing series of owners reports on popular machines John Hiscott takes his system through the stages of development and lays his observations open to the public eye.

No, that's not the art of making connections, but a glossary of the "hundred most used terms" in home and hobby computing. Many of our enquiries start out with, 'I can't tell the difference between RAM and ROM' so we decided to reveal all.

As an aid to simulating conversation this pull out extra should not be missed, you might even learn the elusive art of confusion!

## TERMINOLOGY



## A collection of ideas from PET owners.

### FIRST BIT

R. Cason

**A**s any PET user knows the most annoying part of loading from Cassette is waiting for the FOUND'— — — — —' message. This is mainly due to the lack of a tape counter, but even with a counter you would not know if the PET had passed the Program Header. You can sometimes miss the header — wait several minutes — only to find you are on blank tape.

#### A Solution

My method is as follows:— Connect a Soundbox to the user Port Pin 6 (Cassette No. 1 Read) The Soundbox connection is Pin M (CB2 Line)

On both SAVE and LOAD you can then hear the following:

- The Header Tone
- The Header Token
- The Header 'Title'
- The Program DATA
- The 'Half Way Point'
- Second copy of DATA
- The end of file Token

By using the F. FWD, PLAY and REW keys you can then locate the header on a multi-program tape — Press Play — and wait. If you do not get the message FOUND '— — — — —'

at the Header Title stage, rewind slightly and try again. Using this method you can CUE the tape to the right position.

Other advantages are that you can also hear:

- DROPOUTS
  - CROSSTALK
  - NOISE
  - VARIATION in PITCH due to tight Cassettes.
  - The difference between DATA and PROGRAM tapes.
- This is an invaluable aid, and is best implemented by fitting a small toggle switch to the cover of the user port connector.

i.e. Position 1 SOUND (Pin M)  
Position 2 OFF (No Connection)  
Position 3 CASSETTE (Pin 6)  
With Pin N being the 'earth'.

#### Spare Tape

For those who like to keep a 'Working Copy' of their programs in addition to the 'MASTER' a separate cassette is an advantage. I use an Hitachi TRQ 299 which has an automatic level control (ALC) and a Cue and Review facility. In my case the ALC gives perfect results on the PET recordings every time. The Cue and Review facility allows you to fast wind using Cue to find the 'nth' program on the tape.

Position the header using Review and transfer the tape to your PET Cassette. Perhaps somebody will devise a method to convert the PET Cassette to 'Cue and Review'.

Incidentally can anybody suggest a method of recovering data from a Program tape, on which the header and part of the first copy of DATA has been erased? (Caused by pushing RECORD instead of PLAY).

### SECOND BIT

Jim Cocallis

**T**he following routine allows a user to display PET memory from address 0000 to address 65536. It has been written in machine code for speed reasons: BASIC is adequate but it is rather slow.

The routine used is a good example of simple machine code programming and because I am sure many of you are playing with the idea of starting to investigate machine code I will itemise the program step by step. First the whole routines:—

| Location | Mnemonic     | Location | Mnemonic   |
|----------|--------------|----------|------------|
| 033A     | LDA #00      | 0366     | LDX #01    |
| 033C     | STA \$DA     | 0368     | LDY #00    |
| 033E     | STA \$DB     | 036A     | LDA (DA),Y |
| 0340     | LDA #78      | 036C     | STA (DC),Y |
| 0342     | STA \$DC     | 036E     | INY        |
| 0344     | LDA #0E      | 036F     | CPY #00    |
| 0346     | STA \$E84C   | 0371     | BNE \$036A |
| 0349     | LDA #93      | 0373     | CPX #00    |
| 034B     | JSR \$FFD2   | 0375     | BEQ \$037E |
| 034E     | LDA #80      | 0377     | DEX        |
| 0350     | STA \$DD     | 0378     | INC \$DB   |
| 0352     | LDX #00      | 037A     | INC \$DD   |
| 0354     | LDA \$038A,X | 037C     | BNE \$0368 |
| 0357     | JSR \$FFD2   | 037E     | JSR \$FFE4 |
| 035A     | INX          | 0381     | BEQ \$037E |
| 035B     | CPX #0F      | 0383     | INC \$DB   |
| 035D     | BNE \$0354   | 0385     | CMP #20    |
| 035F     | LDX \$DA     | 0387     | BNE \$0349 |
| 0361     | LDA \$DB     | 0389     | RTS        |

0363 JSR \$DC9F 038A to 0399 = Symbol Table

\$ = Hex. address # = Hex. numbers

#### Explained Away

Frightening isn't it? Let's make it understandable by giving it some meaning. The first column (headed location) shows the address at which the first part of the next column's content is held in memory e.g. 033A holds the 8 bit code representing the mnemonic LDA 033B holds the 8 bit code for 00 and so on. The second column shows the mnemonics used by the assembler programmer to assemble his program. The mnemonic is used as an easy way to recall the binary code which the micro understands, viz LDA is A9 in hex and 10101001 in binary. It can be seen that it would be very difficult to remember the binary code, a little less difficult to recall the hex code and considerably easier to recollect LDA. The disadvantage is that a special program is needed to convert the mnemonics into the binary code.

Now that the layout is clear we can get on with the hard part; devising and coding a program. I needed to see how BASIC stored a program and naturally I wrote a program using that language to display the contents of RAM. A problem arose; Microsoft BASIC in PET is PEEK protected and I was not able to look at the way in which it is stored. A secondary problem was the time taken to print 1000 bytes onto the screen, BASIC tends to be slow if it is PEEKing a location and then printing the contents of the variable onto the screen. The routine devised was not good enough to satisfy my need so I decided to look for a quicker way and eventually the only good solution was to write a program using machine code (MC). Before I could do so I needed to know what routines were available to me using the ROMs in the PET. It is not much use writing a small program to output results to the screen if a routine is already

available. There are numerous sources of information available, IPUG, PET User Groups, books and magazines etc., and after consulting many of them I was able to sit down and write the first version. It did not work!! After some corrections were made it worked and it is this final version which is shown in this article.

## Using Your ROM

The main ROM routines used are as follows:

- \$FFD2** This routine prints out the contents of the Accumulator.
- \$FFE4** Get a character and place it in the Accumulator, if no character then place 0 in the Accumulator.
- \$DC94** Take the contents of the X register plus the contents of the Accumulator and convert them into a decimal number then print the number onto the screen.

Locations **\$DA** to **\$DD** are not used by BASIC and can safely be used for MC programs to store variables or constants.

To business; (I will use the line address as a reference)

- 033A** Loads the Accumulator (LDA) with the hex. number 00
- 033C and 033E** Store the contents of the Accumulator in addresses **\$DA** and **\$DB**. This is the start address 0000.
- 0340** LDA with the low order byte of the screen location which will hold the first character to be output.
- 0342** STA in a location which can be accessed later.
- 0344 and 0346** Set mode to lower case graphics: hex 0E = 14 and hex E84C = 59468.
- 0349** LDA with a hex code representing a character.
- 034B** Jump to a subroutine which converts the contents of the Accumulator and prints it on the screen — 93 is the code for 'Clear screen'.
- 034E** LDA with the high order byte of the screen start address e.g. hex 8078 = 32888.
- 0350** STA high order byte for later use. This routine prints "Starting byte = " onto the screen. It does so by adding the value of the X register to the address specified (**\$038A**) and fetching the contents of that address which is printed on the screen. The counter X is incremented by one and tested for equality to 15. If it does not equal 15 then the next character is fetched. Check the number of characters in the output above.
- 0352 to 035D** Takes the value held in locations **\$DA** and **\$DB** and prints it after completing the routine above. LDX with the count value (do it twice). LDY with 00 (count the spaces). This instruction takes the value held in Y and adds it to the address held in **\$DA** plus the next address **\$DB** viz **\$DA** contains 00, **\$DB** contains 00. The address held in these two locations is 0000 and Y has the value 00. The address to be accessed is therefore 0000 + 00 = 0000. If Y held 19 then the figures would be 0000 + 19 = 0019. This method allows us to access 256 locations before resetting.
- 036C** This routine stores using the same indirect instruction used above. It stores 256 bytes starting at **\$807F** (prints onto screen).
- 036E** Increase the counter by one.
- 036F** This comparison makes use of the fact that incrementing an 8 bit register which contains 11111111 causes it to reset to 00000000. The

test for zero ensures that a full 256 cycles is done.

**0371** If the Y register is not equal to 00 then go back and do the whole thing again.

**0373** This line compares the X register to zero.

**0375** If X = 0 then branch to another routine.

**0377** If X = 0 then Decrement X and thereby reduce it to zero. The effect of this is to ensure that the whole routine is only completed twice and only displays 512 bytes of memory. Try changing the value of X in **\$0366** and see what happens.

**0378** If you refer back to the explanation of line 036A you will see that the instruction uses the next location to the one shown, **\$DA** uses **\$DB**. We must increment the values in the low order byte location if we want to progress through memory. This line does this once for every 256 loops.

**037A** This line increments the screen address as above

**037C** If Accumulator is greater than zero do it again

**037E** Get a character

**0381** If no key pressed go back and test again

**0383** Increment the value in **\$DB** (high byte start address)

**0385** Was the key pressed a 'space'

**0387** If not a space then start routine again, displays the next 512 bytes.

**0389** Return to BASIC

**038A to 0399** These addresses contain the codes of the letters needed to print out the message.

That's the whole thing and I am sure that you will understand it a lot better the next time you read this article. I show below the hex dump relating to this routine. To convert it for input via BASIC convert all the codes into decimal form and poke each one into successive locations using a For-Next loop.

## Note

One last thing, this routine is not the best possible routine and I am sure that it could be improved upon, however, it does the job it was intended to. If you do improve it please let me know.

|      |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 033A | A9 | 00 | 85 | DA | 85 | DA | A9 | 78 |
| 0342 | 85 | DC | A9 | 0E | 8D | 4C | E8 | A9 |
| 034A | 93 | 20 | D2 | FF | A9 | 80 | 85 | DD |
| 0352 | A2 | 00 | BD | 8A | 03 | 20 | D2 | FF |
| 035A | E8 | E0 | 0F | D0 | F5 | A6 | DA | A5 |
| 0362 | DB | 20 | 9F | DC | A2 | 01 | A0 | 00 |
| 036A | B1 | DA | 91 | DC | C8 | C0 | 00 | D0 |
| 0372 | F7 | E0 | 00 | F0 | 07 | CA | E6 | DB |
| 037A | E6 | DD | D0 | EA | 20 | E4 | FF | F0 |
| 0382 | FB | E6 | DB | C9 | 20 | D0 | C0 | 60 |
| 038A | 53 | 54 | 41 | 52 | 54 | 49 | 4E | 47 |
| 0392 | 20 | 42 | 59 | 54 | 45 | 20 | 3D | 20 |



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## After the first mad programming spree with your machine you may like to build yourself a library of useful programs.

**T**he first few weeks after the purchase of a home computing installation may justifiably be defined as the "infatuation" stage. The power of the machine to generate data at apparently phenomenal speed is fascinating, even exciting to those new to the computer keyboard. Scores of little programs are lovingly saved on cassette tapes most of them centred around the FOR/NEXT loop. Typical programs include printing out "HELLO" 47 times, filling the screen with nine-digit columns of  $\sin(x)$  and  $-\cos(x)$  or meaningless equations chosen primarily for their complexity. As many of these little morsels as possible are crammed on both sides of C60 (or in some cases even C120!) tapes. Frantic trips to purchase new supplies of blank cassettes are frequently made or, if the shops are shut, a previously loved recording of Beethoven's ninth is irreverently erased in order to make room for a program which generates the first 2000 primes (I often wonder what you do with primes after you generate them but they seem to offer solace to many).

### Naming Names

But all things come to an end at some time or another. It gradually dawns on most people that their "collection" is in reality nothing more than a heap of rubbish. Most of what they have saved is useless, and the few that have some merit are buried between dozens of unwanted remnants.

### Organisation, The Key?

Any attempt to organise your computing life must begin with a simple rule. . . one program on a tape with a copy on the reverse side. Superficially, this appears to be a shocking waste of tape because, on the average, most of the tape will remain unused but in spite of this the rule is sound in human terms. It is better to waste a few feet of relatively inexpensive tape in return for the following benefits: no infuriating searches for programs "in the middle"; no need to name programs and therefore no need to memorise what you have named them; if you have to amend a program, there is no danger of the extra few bytes extending into and obliterating the beginning of the next program; if the tape is accidentally dropped into a plate of soup (or similar household hazard degrades its performance) only one program is lost; if you lend a tape to a friend for copying purposes and it is returned a corrupted length of jargon, there is less danger of physical violence breaking out if only one program is spoiled. Finally, we cannot entirely discard a psychological factor. Weeks, perhaps even months of programming work condensed onto one tape fails to impress the casual acquaintance. Spread out into twenty or so, neatly labelled cases with the whole resting in a partitioned "cabinet" will enhance your local reputation as an egghead. There is one nagging doubt which must remain to PET owners . . . why did Commodore take such pains to provide a truly magnificent tape handling, program-naming facility if the foregoing advice is taken? Perhaps they just failed to appreciate how easily the normal human being loses patience. Those, lucky enough to afford

a floppy disc system will of course have no need for this advice; the facility to name programs on a disc is as essential as it is unessential on tape. One final word on this matter. . . buy only C12 tapes, or less than C12 if you can get them.

### Worthwhile Programs

"Worthwhile" in this sense means "is it worth saving on tape?". Consider the following as a reasonable set of criteria from which to start:

- 1) Has the program been tested for every conceivable input combination. For example, what happens if you input a "0" or a negative number or a number with umpteen digits in it? Nothing is more humiliating to a proud demonstrator than one of those sarcastic error messages which leap up from the bowels of the BASIC interpreter whenever it suffers the slightest confusion. Particularly if you are trying to impress.
- 2) Will the program check for ridiculous input? Remember that an input can be mathematically acceptable and free from syntax error but can still lack realism. For example, let us assume a program, which assists in the design of a signal amplifier, asks for the supply rail voltage. If the operator mistakenly keys in 2.6E4 instead of 2.6E-4 will the stupid machine accept this. . . or what is more to the point. . . will the stupid program accept it and go on to compute a recommended output current in the order of kiloamps? In short, does the program include full data input validation routines?
- 3) Is the program reasonably crash proof. This calls for considerable effort and it is not always possible to achieve a 100% confidence factor.
- 4) Is the program completely self-explanatory to the operator? Are there for instance, full instructions on the VDU screen or does it mean searching for some scrap of paper somewhere which contains the gory details on the button-pressing routines? No accompanying document of any kind should be necessary because the VDU screen can tell all. There should also be a title page which defines clearly the purpose of the program. Remember that at the time of writing, the purpose is all too clear but after a few weeks or months the memory fades.
- 5) Is the textual material on the VDU easy to understand and pleasantly arranged? There is no excuse for sloppy presentation and curt chunks of computer jargonese interspersed with abbreviations. Just because the computer has no soul or manners this is no excuse for omitting the pretence. A little care taken in presentation will give the pleasant illusion that lurking behind the cold rectangular sheet of glass is a "being" with a heart of gold . . . kindly and paternal when the occasion warrants it and yet no hesitating to deliver streams of pure vitriol if its human operator enters silly figures or presses wrong buttons. In other words, give your computer a personality. Space out the text in a readable manner. Nothing is more tiresome than a page full of



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closely spaced reading matter, particularly if it is composed entirely of capitals. If your computer has no lower case letters, make up for it by spreading out the material with line feeds between. There is no need to stuff everything on one VDU page but never allow the pages to scroll. Text creeping up from the bottom and disappearing at the top should never be tolerated; it is unpleasant to read and amateurish. The most cardinal sin of all is to allow words to be bisected, the second half wrapping around onto the next line. A final piece of advice concerns erasing the screen frequently. Never allow bits and pieces to hang about such as relics from the operating commands. When for example you type the command RUN, ensure it is wiped off by a "clear-screen" statement immediately. It is a horrible mess to see past records of fumbling operating scattered about the screen and polluting the program text. The message "PRESS PLAY AND RECORD" is ideal in its proper place but once you have pressed the buttons it has about as much relevance as last week's football results. Rub it off.

- 6) Is the program planned with the idea of future expansion or improvement in mind? No program can ever be perfect and equally true, no program can ever be absolutely complete. There will always be the nagging doubt, particularly when it is re-run a few weeks later, that some extra facility or twist should have been added. In many cases however, this can be a difficult or even impossible task. In the first case, the program may be utterly incomprehensible when LISTed if several weeks have elapsed since it was written. Juggling with obstinate statements, temper, frustration and the other multitude of ills popular during program construction eventually leads to a transient state of euphoria when the beast finally decides to work. There is a mad rush to "get it on to tape" and indulge in a satisfying bout of self-congratulation. It takes a little while to appreciate the value of the REM statement because at the time, it seems unnecessary. In fact some of us deliberately leave out remarks in order to prevent other people understanding how our masterpiece works. This attitude can be self-destructive because the writer of the program may eventually become the victim. Another obstacle to future amendment is a poorly structured original and close-packed line numbers. Never start a program with line number less than 100 in case some extra stuff may have to be squeezed in at the head. Be methodical in the choice of subroutine line numbers. Stick them all together well down the bottom, say at line 10,000 onwards. In this way, you will avoid the ugly embarrassment of having to leap frog over them with a wasted GOTO statement when the lines start to creep down further than the original estimate allowed. The term "program structure" of course means a lot more than the mere organisation of line numbers. It means laying out a program in neat little modules, each capable of being individually tested in its own right. In fact there is a specific programming philosophy with many little rules and regulations resting beneath the blanket title of "STRUCTURED PROGRAMMING". This is worth detailed study if only to know when to break some of the rules.

## Programs To Write

Advice on what programs to write is about as difficult as advising on the best length for a piece of string. An overall

piece of advice is simply to walk before you run. Don't attempt to write wildly ambitious programs unless you are quite certain you understand the full implications of the task ahead. Unfortunately, it takes some experience to know in advance whether or not a certain programming task is likely to be easy or horribly difficult; computers are odd things. For example, if someone came and asked me to write a program to print out a table of the singular solutions of a second order differential equation I would take the money in advance and probably deliver the goods (suitably tarted up in accordance with the previous advice) the next day. This is not because maths and physics is my strong point (I might pass O-Level maths with difficulty) but because the actual maths details must reside in some text book equation somewhere or other. It would just be a case of letting the faithful old BASIC interpreter handle the sordid details once the correct sequence of brackets and operators have been entered from the text book to the VDU. Such programs are elementary number crunching exercises, impressive but routine. On the other hand, a request for "a little program to sort and classify my butterfly collection" could turn out to be a nightmare. The following is a crude attempt to group the classes of programs which can be written and appropriate remarks on their respective difficulty factors.

**Numbercrunching.** These follow a relatively simple pattern; inputting the required parameters, fitting them into the "equation line" and displaying the results in a clear manner.

Two subroutines should be considered almost indispensable to number-crunching activities, one to round off numerical results to a desirable number of decimal places and the other to line up the decimal points. Answers like 34.5689302 inches or £67.24578945 lack realism and the sight of a VDU screen full of figure groups zigzagging from top to bottom is not only difficult to read, it is quite revolting in appearance. Always use TAB(n) to position columns, the semicolon as a delimiter encourages zigzagging. I find it curious that the BASIC software writers decided to invoke the exponent form of print out for numbers smaller than 0.01; it seems far too "early", because we are used to seeing numbers this small in every day life and smaller still in science.

**Keyboard quizzes.** Many sophisticated programs have been written under the general title of Computer-Aided-Teaching or Computer-Aided-Learning. Less ambitious but surprisingly useful programs are relatively easy to write (and certainly worth saving) based on questions and answers. The set of questions and answers can be in a group of DATA statements, and called up under two READ statements. The first will call up the question and the keyboard response is checked for correct match with the second, which is the "answer".

An extra twist is to incorporate random selection of the pairs to stop the operator using a sequence. There is however, an element of danger in this type of program. It tends to breed quiz addicts. Tape after tape is saved on all possible subjects until the entire household takes on the appearance of a Bamber Gascoigne Show.

**Games.** This area is undoubtedly popular and it cannot be denied that senior programmers in the professional classes devote many hours to thinking up new games or introducing new twists to existing ones. Unfortunately, a game program, unless particularly novel and interspersed with exciting animation takes a disproportionate time to program in relation to the subsequent playing time. As programming exercises they are superb. Whether many of them are really



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worth the tape storage is debatable. Consider for example the class of games which could be covered by the classification "Moon Landing". They all follow the same well-worn path . . . you are in some dangerous James Kirk situation . . . too much throttle and you run out of something or other . . . too little and you crack the surface of the moon or Mars or whatever particular member of the galactic regions happens to fit the title. They will all contain a couple of equations from the Newtonian tables, suitably embellished to fit the game. The most awkward thing to get right in programming such a game is the difficulty-factor. Too hard and the player is frustrated; too easy and the game is described as boring.

The behaviour pattern of the players, however much care is taken with the programming details, is distressingly familiar. Great enthusiasm at first but declining exponentially towards complete apathy. For those who have a genuine love for game programming the following little tips may be found useful:

Explain the rules concisely in the title page.

Display as much animation as your skills in programming allow.

Don't allow the computer to respond "too instantaneously". An apparently immediate response does not impress the player.

Choose your GO-BACK-TO destinations carefully. It is pleasant for the ego when the computer asks for your name and instantly promotes you to "CAPTAIN. . . ." but it soon becomes an irritating chore if this ritual has to be repeated on each replay.

Take particular care to make programs crash-proof. There are some who, finding themselves in an irretrievable position, would crash the program rather than suffer the humiliation of being beaten by "some damned machine".

Try and add a few original twists. For example, allow a few loop holes for cheating but make the computer respond with something like,

"We noticed your pathetic attempt at subterfuge three lines ago but in view of your obvious immaturity, we decided to overlook the matter. Should it occur again you will be disqualified."

Note the use of the royal "WE" above . . . very useful little dodge to create an air of omnipotence, although don't overdo it by using phrases like "My RAMS and I . . . . .".

**Dynamic Art.** Providing the word "art" is not taken too literally, some quite astonishing moving patterns can be generated on most of the home computers. They are however far more impressive if you are fortunate enough to own an APPLE or other model which includes colour combined with high-resolution graphics. The PET, despite the great play made of its "graphics facility" is not really suited to the job. It certainly has very useful graphic "keys" but the resolution in general is pathetic; equivalent to painting a portrait with a ten inch ceiling brush.

**Sorting, organising and retrieval of DATA.** It is this area that the computer is truly at home. Every home computing enthusiast should take "data processing" seriously. Strange how so many writers attempting to teach this subject use examples like milk bills to start off with. Milk of course is a delightful source of health giving energy but the compilation of milk bills is not likely to cause a flutter of excitement, followed by a mad rush to write the program. My wife would look at me in sheer astonishment if I suggested she used my PET each month. She would probably write it out on the back of an envelope in ten seconds flat, certainly before I would have time to fumble round the back for the ON/OFF switch. It is appreciated of course that such simple examples are typical weapons of the educationalists, based on the principle "teach from the known to the unknown", "use homely analogies" etc etc.

There is a danger however of de-glamourising a subject and underestimating the public mood and intelligence. Why not substitute plutonium imports for milk bills? The program would be just as easy to write and marginally more exciting.

**Tape books.** Sales brochures often draw attention to advantages of storing useful day to day information on home computers, recipes etc. General purpose reference "books" can certainly be very useful on tape, providing there is a title selection page or pages. Once the tape is loaded (the most annoying stage), it is quicker to get at a given page by pressing a number key than turning the pages of a paper book. The floppy disc is naturally the ace peripheral in this field but, alas, still a little pricey for the likes of us.

### Programming

It is difficult to say anything original on this subject. Literally hundreds of books have been written on the BASIC language alone, besides the thousands written on programming principles in general. However good the manuals supplied are it is almost essential to dip into the pocket again and buy at least one book on BASIC. Which one? For what it is worth, I have been impressed (and educated) by "BASIC AND THE PERSONAL COMPUTER" by Thomas A. Dwyer and Margot Critchfield but there are probably dozens of others equally as useful. The following little snippets of wisdom (?) may be of some assistance to those who, like myself, have no *natural* abilities in the art of programming.

- 1) Buy a good book on BASIC and carry out *EVERY* example in it. It's not a bit of use just "reading" a book on this subject.
- 2) Buy as many magazines on computing as you can afford, in addition to this one of course.
- 3) Keep a notebook, or preferably a card index system, and copy down every little programming "module" or dodge which has general purpose use. In this way you gradually

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acquire a background in fundamental techniques and you can slip them in your programs whenever the need arises. Is this cheating? Depends on how you define cheating. There is little point in re-inventing the wheel on every possible occasion. Isaac Newton, not renowned for his modesty, once replied to a remark by an admirer, "If I have seen a little further than most, it is because I have stood on the shoulders of giants". To copy down a complete program and pass it off as one of your own is of course a different matter. Ethics apart (not particularly fashionable nowadays anyway) some one else might have read the same magazine and bang goes your reputation! The sort of modules worth saving for future and continuous use include, lining up decimal points, rounding to n significant digits, sorting numbers into ascending or descending order, sorting names into alphabetic order, etc etc. A word of warning regarding program modules or indeed full programs printed in magazines. Some of them don't work! The usual cause is a misprint somewhere along the line and readers, to judge from the rather acidic tone of their letters, express surprise that "the Editor doesn't proof read them before printing". Proof reading costs time and money for normal kinds of text but to proof read computer programs to guarantee 100% error free would probably treble the cost of a magazine. In any case, if they don't work then make them work . . . it's good practice anyway and the mistake is often the trivial omission or incorrect insertion of a comma or quote or perhaps unmatched parenthesis.

- 4) Produce a tape of useful subroutines based on the previous suggestions and load in this tape as a matter of habit *before you start on any program*. Make sure that every subroutine has an explanatory REMark which defines the parameter variables. As an example,
- ```
10000 REM***ROUND N8 TO D8 DECIMAL PLACES***
10010 N8=INT(10^D8*N8+0.5)/10^D8
10020 RETURN
```

Why choose such a strange variable (N8)? Precisely because it is strange and therefore unlikely to have been used in the main program. A question arises after the subroutine tape has been loaded. . . suppose all of them are not used? It doesn't really matter because an unused subroutine can do no harm. If memory space becomes critical then naturally erase the unwanted residue.

- 5) Join a local computer club. They tend to be friendly gatherings all anxious to learn from each other and refreshingly free from professional snobbery of any kind. The home computer addict tends to be thought of as slightly weird by "normal" people, a kind of mutation. It is comforting to spend a few hours in the evening with other mutants. The great thing is to join soon while the hobby is still young. As the numbers of these clubs grow and the membership expands to excessive limits, the character may change. It could reach a state like that which exists in the so-called "exclusive" golf clubs, questionnaires on various aspects of the applicants background. Perhaps, God forbid, they may even require that supreme emblem of respectability, the club tie!

## The Final Words

In conclusion, it is worth examining some advice given in the manuals concerning the art of programming. Apparently, it is a cardinal sin to compose at the keyboard . . . it is called "winging it". We are instructed by the tribe elders to write the complete program on paper before approaching the key-

board; at least every separate module. This discipline came into being because of two non-related influences. Firstly, the influence of the academic purists who insist on a carefully thought out logical approach on paper first. The second influence was that of practical necessity. Prior to the micro-processor and high density integration of semiconductor memory, computing was very expensive, VDUs were non-existent or rare, every response was spewed out on reams of expensive paper and, above all, the cost per minute precluded the luxury of idle doodling.

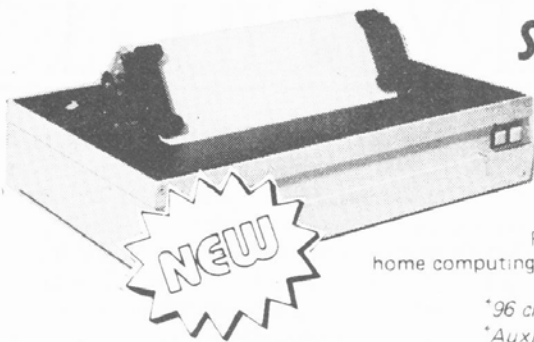
The position with the home computer is different. Very few of us can afford printers anyway. . . at least not in the first year of ownership. The VDU wastes nothing. It is a perfect doodling pad and unlike paper, can be used over and over again. It is, however, a good idea to draw out a rough plan of campaign in the form of an outline flowchart, prior to operating the keys.

Another discipline carried over from the past is an obsession with memory economy. It seems pointless to prune a program (that works) down to the last byte unless there is a real danger of running out of memory. If you have say, an 8K memory and your unpruned program takes 6K why fiddle about with it. Tricks like multiple statements per line to save a line-return byte are admirable when the necessity arises but the subsequent readability is poor. To increase execution speed just for the sake of it is another pointless operation. If your program works and it is reasonably "tidy" leave it alone and get on with another. In this way your tape library will grow much quicker and be just as useful as those of your fusspot colleagues.



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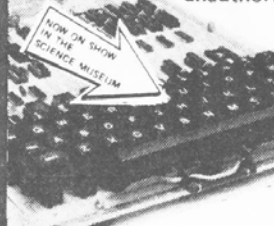
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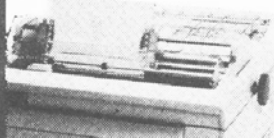
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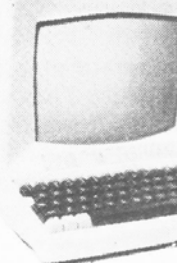
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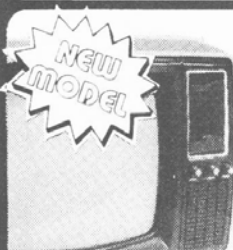
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**At last a 'real' computer, from the people who brought you the first scientific calculators. This preview will shortly be followed by an indepth review.**

**U**nder normal circumstances the person who is reviewing a system for the magazine has about a fortnight to play around with the machine and discover its weak points. I say under normal circumstances because in this case that rule does not apply. Reviewing the HP 85 was almost a nostalgia trip for me as I have used their desktop minis in the past and there is a large degree of similarity. However this is a personal microcomputer, a very different collection of chips to your average "home computer" not only because it costs around £2000 but because it has been designed as a professional tool for research and development, laboratory and educational establishments. Why have we reviewed a system that is probably outside most people's financial resources? The obvious answer is that of general interest, the better answer is that this system shows how much can be done by a micro — basically it makes most "home computers" look like overgrown video games and I'm not putting them down either.

#### The Total Specification

The HP 85 is based around a custom built chip set. The eight bit CPU, the dynamic RAM controller and the I/O controllers are all designed for the job by Hewlett Packard and as

a result the whole CPU board contains only sixteen ICs. The system is built into a smart Apple-like console but is about 8" high to include the five inch VDU, the cartridge tape drive and the thermal printer mechanisms.

The first section that makes an impression on you is the keyboard. Not only have you a full ASCII set and a numeric pad but there are full editing keys; including HOME, cursor controls, insert/replace, line delete, character delete and more besides. In the top left corner under the VDU is another row of mysterious keys, these are user programmable under BASIC to perform specific functions within the program. I shall discuss the BASIC at a later stage in this review, it really deserves a separate article. Also available on the keyboard as direct command keys are functions such as LOAD, STORE, COPY LIST, PLIST, RUN, PAUSE, STEP etc etc that you use instead of having to type in the normal BASIC command.

The VDU is a five inch monitor, rock steady, with an independent memory of four screens full that can be re-accessed by a ROLL key. The format is 32 characters by 16 lines, a program "line" can be up to 95 characters (3 lines minus 1) long. The graphics capability of this screen is very impressive, as the photos hopefully show, and you have program access to 256 by 192 dots or a total of 49,152 to save you working it out in your head. The graphics capability is so powerful that we are going to cover it in a future article!

Mass storage is dealt with by a tape cartridge, *not* a cassette, that is specifically designed to do digital data storage. Unfortunately the system is not completely compatible with the desk-top minis even though the same physical format is used. However it is a damn sight better than any cassette system and it is much faster. The speed improvement is achieved by making the thing emulate a soft sector floppy, it reads a directory, finds the location of the program

and then spools off to load it. Commands are simply LOAD "FRED" where LOAD is a single key anyway, STORE "FRED" where once again STORE is a single key, and a couple of other commands for securing programs or data and conditioning the tape. There is a special tape file called "Autost" which is automatically loaded and run if there is a tape in the transport at power on. On both of our sample tapes, one of which — the Standard Pac — is supplied with the machine, this program was a little graphics routine. However it is a simple matter to install a program that actually does something useful and this is where the HP comes into its own as an instrumentation controller.

A BASIC program using just some of the 85s extra commands.

```

10 REM #MULTIPLICATION PROG
20 REM #THIS PROGRAM WILL PRODU
CE
30 REM #MULTIPLICATION TABLES F
OR
40 REM #ANY INPUT NUMBER, N
50 REM #UP TO AN INPUT LIMIT, M
55 REM #INTEGERS ONLY!!
60 REM #OPTIONAL PRINTER OUTPUT
70 CLEAR
80 DISP "INPUT YOUR REQUIRED NU
MBER (0<N>100)"
90 INPUT N#
100 IF VAL(N#)<=0 OR VAL(N#)>100
THEN CLEAR @ GOTO 80
110 N=INT(VAL(N#))
120 CLEAR
130 DISP "INPUT YOUR MAX VALUE (
0<M>100)"
140 INPUT M#
150 IF VAL(M#)<=0 OR VAL(M#)>100
THEN CLEAR @ GOTO 130
160 M=INT(VAL(M#))
170 CLEAR
180 DISP "PRINTER OR DISPLAY P/D
? (DEFAULT TO SCREEN!)"
190 INPUT R#
200 IF R#="P" THEN 270 ELSE 205
205 PRINT TAB(5);"* THE ";N;" TI
MES TABLE *" @ PRINT @ PRINT
210 FOR L=1 TO M
220 PRINT USING 320 ; N,L,N*L
230 NEXT L
240 PRINT @ PRINT @ PRINT
250 CLEAR
260 GOTO 10
270 CLEAR @ C=0 @ REM SET UP SCR
EEN COUNT
271 FOR L=1 TO M
275 IF C#15 THEN 280 ELSE C=0
276 WAIT 5000 @ CLEAR
280 DISP USING 320 ; N,L,N*L
286 C=C+1
290 NEXT L
300 WAIT 10000
310 GOTO 10
320 IMAGE 3D,2X,"TIMES",2X,3D,2X
,"=",7D

```

| NAME   | TYPE | BYTES | RECS | FILE |
|--------|------|-------|------|------|
| MOVING | PROG | 256   | 48   | 1    |
| AMORT  | PROG | 256   | 17   | 2    |
| POLY   | PROG | 256   | 29   | 3    |
| SIMUL  | PROG | 256   | 47   | 4    |
| ROOTS  | PROG | 256   | 19   | 5    |
| CURVE  | PROG | 256   | 55   | 6    |
| FPLOT  | PROG | 256   | 22   | 7    |
| DPLOT  | PROG | 256   | 43   | 8    |
| HISTO  | PROG | 256   | 36   | 9    |
| TEACH  | PROG | 256   | 27   | 10   |
| CALEND | PROG | 256   | 22   | 11   |
| BIORHY | PROG | 256   | 21   | 12   |
| TIMER  | PROG | 256   | 30   | 13   |
| COMPZR | PROG | 256   | 56   | 14   |
| SKI    | PROG | 256   | 20   | 15   |
| MUSIC  | DATA | 256   | 44   | 16   |
| TUNER  | PROG | 256   | 2    | 17   |
| Autost | PROG | 256   | 1    | 18   |
| CRYPTO | PROG | 256   | 11   | 19   |
| BASE   | PROG | 256   | 13   | 20   |
| HANGMN | PROG | 256   | 14   | 21   |
| MULTI  | PROG | 256   | 3    | 22   |

Special function keys abound. Also shown is an example of the thermal printer output.

The thermal printer is a 32 character-per-line, bi-directional device which can handle all the HP graphics and characters. A hard copy can be generated *at any time* by the command key COPY or this can be executed as a program statement. Under normal circumstances the VDU is the default device but the BASIC command PRINT refers to the PRINTER so in the sample programs you will see DISP for VDU access. This status can be reversed by a command or you can tell the system to PRINT ALL — which it promptly does. The paper supply is generous to a fault, I started off with less than a full roll and in three weeks of printing everything possible I still haven't got down to the end. The machine always prints graphics displays the wrong way round, this is done so you can have endless strip charts — you can even print a musical score. Talking of music there is a programmable bleeper that renders an acceptable version of "William Tell" but has a more functional use as a warning device.

#### The Language Barrier

The HP 85 has built in BASIC, but here again the similarity with other systems ends. The language and the operating system are built into 32Ks worth of ROM with the bottom 8K being stackable. The language exceeds all current ANSI standards and even a glance at the sample programs will reveal that it is more than a little different to the usual Microsoft versions. A few of the more unusual commands and functions are given in the programs but we are going to devote a section of the follow-up article to the language. The capabilities of a programmer used to a simple BASIC such as Integer, or even Extended, will not even be touched by this

```

# THE 12 TIMES TABLE #
12 TIMES 1 = 12
12 TIMES 2 = 24
12 TIMES 3 = 36
12 TIMES 4 = 48
12 TIMES 5 = 60
12 TIMES 6 = 72
12 TIMES 7 = 84
12 TIMES 8 = 96
12 TIMES 9 = 108
12 TIMES 10 = 120
12 TIMES 11 = 132
12 TIMES 12 = 144

```

HPs cryptography program, good fun!



implementation. Your frustrations at not being able to solve that problem on your home system disappear at a stroke with this machine. Although machine code is not yet available for the 85 the only reason you are ever likely to want it is because of the speed factor. Not that I'm inferring that the BASIC is slow — it isn't — but rather that you can do so much with it, it would be nice to pass the routine sections to machine code. Perhaps I'm being just a little too much of a purist, I certainly never found the need in my investigations.

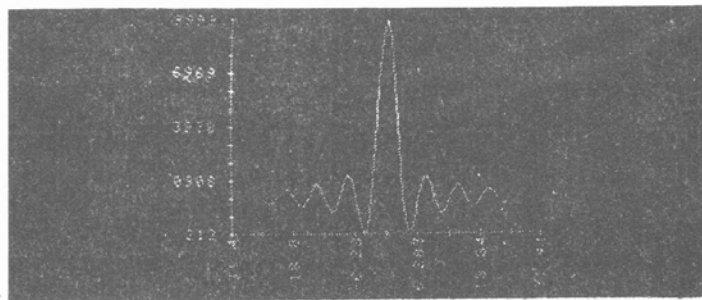
Another superb set of facilities that come under the heading of "Utilities" are built into the machine. These include automatic line numbering, re-numbering and a whole bunch of diagnostics and debuggers. As a measure of the thought that has gone into the system the re-number command checks to see if the standard — or your quoted — start and displacement values will cause an overflow. If this is the case it starts at line 1 and works on in steps of 1 — automatically!

The debugging tools include single step, tracing of all, or specified, sections, full error code display with descriptions and more besides.

```

10 DIM I$(32),F$(1),M$(2000)
11 CLEAR
20 DISP "CODE OR DECODE: C OR D"
30 INPUT F$
40 IF F$="C" THEN L=1 ELSE L=2
50 DISP "CODE NUMBER PLEASE"
60 INPUT S
70 RANDOMIZE S
80 M$=""
90 DISP "TYPE MESSAGE ONE WORD
AT A TIME. TYPE '*' TO END
MESSAGE"
100 DISP "GIVE ME YOUR MESSAGE"
110 INPUT I$
120 IF I$="*" THEN 160
130 ON L GOSUB 1000,2000
140 M$=M$&C$&" "
150 GOTO 110
160 PRINT M$
161 DISP "CONTINUE ?"
162 INPUT A$
163 IF A$="Y" THEN 10 ELSE 170
170 END
1000 REM *ENCODING ROUTINE
1010 C$=""
1020 FOR I=1 TO LEN(I$)
1030 C$=C$&CHR$(65+(NUM(I$(I,I))
+INT(26*RND)) MOD 26)
1040 NEXT I
1050 RETURN
2000 REM *DECODING ROUTINE
2010 C$=""
2020 FOR I=1 TO LEN(I$)
2030 C$=C$&CHR$(65+(NUM(I$(I,I))
-INT(26*RND)) MOD 26)
2040 NEXT I
2050 RETURN

```



A small example of the graphics capability on the 85.

## Additional Firmware And Expansion

As I mentioned earlier the bottom 8K of ROM can be stacked. This means that firmware packages of up to 8K in size can be nested over this section of memory and run instead. This is in addition to any firmware that you may wish to locate in the spare 16K of memory. If you wish to use the expansion for RAM then this is achieved by plugging a special drawer into the bus slots at the back of the case with an extra eight RAM chips and a controller chip. The bus is called Capricorn, but there are adapters for RS232 and the HP/IB or IEEE-488 bus currently under development. This means that the 85 will, just like its bigger brothers, hook into all the fantastic range of instrumentation and peripherals that are available: plotter, line printers, atomic clocks etc etc.

Discs are not yet available but are under development, after all they are only slightly different to the existing minicomputer discs. About the end of the year is an expected date.

## Philosophy

Just what is the 85 capable of, and why produce a micro when there are already minis available to do the same job? Well the simple answer is that the 85 is a cheaper system than the minis, it can do the same job but it's a bit slower. I suspect that many people will try to use it for a small business machine, or a general purpose system but, while this is not wrong, it is rather an underuse of a computing machine.

The price is definitely a subject for controversy, after all the US price works out to around £1200 and that is suspected of being too high. The simple fact is that the price is artificially high, the reason being that HP probably can't make enough of them. It is strongly rumoured that the entire year's production was sold within a matter of days of the launch, bad news for people who want one after reading this review!

## In Conclusion

The HP 85 represents what is almost certainly the first of a new generation of micro computers that compute. The age of overgrown video games and simple systems has been surpassed, at very little increase in price, by a design that is unashamed to be a computer. I suspect that within a year the price will have fallen to around the £1200 mark and it will become a widely available machine. However if this had occurred at the launch, just a few weeks ago, the market in personal computers would have been sewed up overnight by HP.

Whilst the system represents superb design, engineering and support the price is simply too high for the home user at the moment, unless he or she is well off. The quality of the documentation, and the supplied software is of HP's usual excellent quality, although not aimed at the novice, and it even has one games program!

# interface components



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The incredibly low-price Nascom IMP is now available off the shelf at Interface Components. It plugs into any microcomputer system with a serial RS 232 Interface, including the popular Nascom 1 & 2.

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CT/4/80

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J.F.Kendall.

## TI59 ROUTINES

**A**nyone who is in the position of programming a microprocessor in machine code will have surely found calculating in hexadecimal rather tedious, to put it mildly, especially in the case of negative displacements for relative jumps where the two's complement has to be found. Hence this program was written to make hex. working much easier.

It incorporates the following features :—

- (1) Converts hex. to decimal and vice versa.
- (2) Finds two's complement of a hex. number.
- (3) Input any two hex. addresses and it will output the signed hex. displacement index for a relative jump from the first to the second.
- (4) Input an address followed by the displacement index and it will output the address to which a relative jump will be made.
- (5) Performs addition, subtraction, multiplication and division on hex. numbers.

### Using The Program

The program was written for a TI59 programmable calculator, but it will fit into a TI58 if the memory is repartitioned. The number of data registers used will depend upon the size of the hex. number processed, but for the average micro. using four digit addresses up to ten registers are used. Access to a print/security cradle is not required and, as it stands, the program contains no print commands.

To use the program it must first be initialized by the key sequence RST, CMS, R/S. The display will now show 0 and the TI59 is ready to receive its first number. The entry and readout of decimal numbers follows normal calculator practice. Hexadecimal numbers are a little different; firstly the six numerals A to F are represented by their decimal equivalents ie A=10 . . . . . F=15; secondly multidigit numbers are entered one digit at a time, starting at the most significant, separated by R/S, thus C50 is entered by the key sequence 12, R/S, 5, R/S, 0, R/S. The output of a hex. number takes place in a similar fashion. After a hex. calculation the most significant figure is in the display and operation of R/S brings each successive digit into the display unit a "flashing 1" indicates that all the information has been taken out. After the display has been cleared the calculator is ready for the next calculation.

When using the arithmetic routine it is necessary to enter the following codes for the arithmetic functions :—

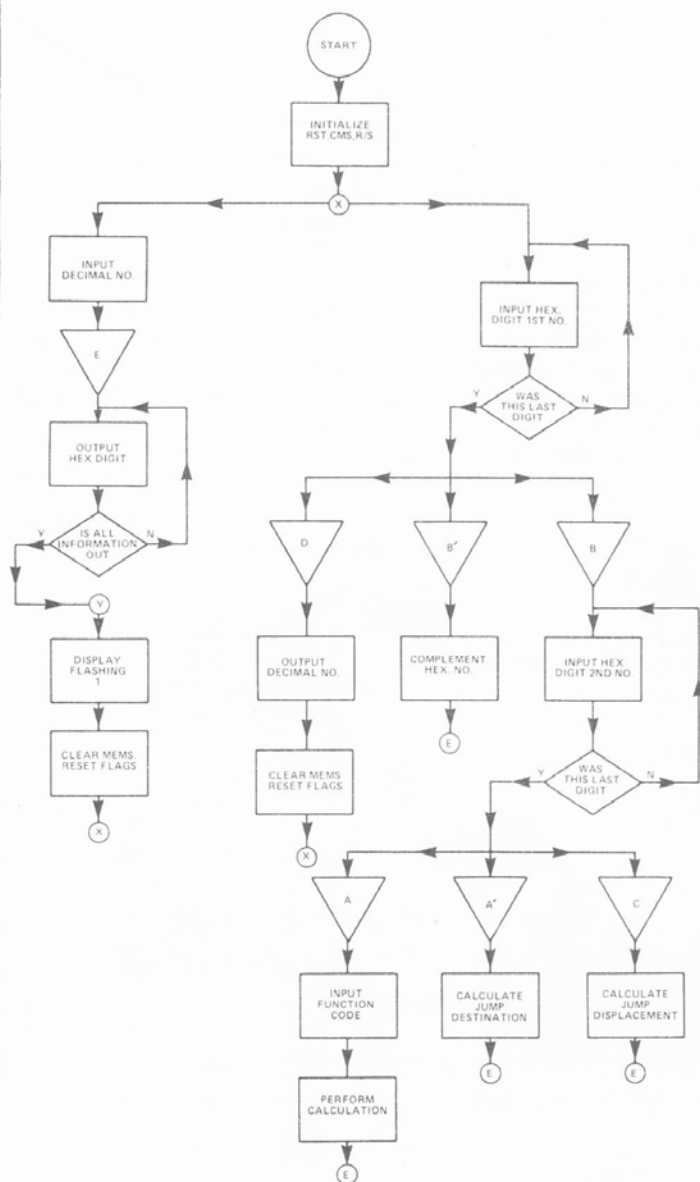
addition = 0  
subtraction = 1  
multiplication = 2  
division = 3

All other functions are obtained by the use of the user Labels and their use should be clear from the accompanying flow chart.

### Sample Runs

|    | Keys Pressed                                                                                                                     | Display      |
|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
|    | Program entered from magnetic cards.                                                                                             |              |
|    | RST, CMS, R/S                                                                                                                    | 0            |
| 1) | 15 R/S                                                                                                                           | 15           |
|    | 5 R/S                                                                                                                            | 5            |
|    | 0 R/S                                                                                                                            | 0            |
|    | B                                                                                                                                | 0            |
|    | 15 R/S                                                                                                                           | 15           |
|    | 4 R/S                                                                                                                            | 4            |
|    | A                                                                                                                                | 0            |
|    | R/S                                                                                                                              | 15           |
|    | R/S                                                                                                                              | 4            |
|    | R/S                                                                                                                              | 6            |
|    | R/S                                                                                                                              | 1 (Flashing) |
|    | Thus a relative jump command with displacement of F4 (eg Z80 op.code 18 F4) located at 0F50 would cause a jump to location 0F46. |              |
|    | CLR                                                                                                                              | 0            |
| 2) | 2 R/S                                                                                                                            | 2            |
|    | 11 R/S                                                                                                                           | 11           |
|    | D                                                                                                                                | 43           |
| 3) | CLR                                                                                                                              | 0            |
|    | 13 R/S                                                                                                                           | 13           |
|    | 0 R/S                                                                                                                            | 0            |
|    | 11 R/S                                                                                                                           | 11           |
|    | B                                                                                                                                | 11           |
|    | 3 R/S                                                                                                                            | 3            |
|    | 10 R/S                                                                                                                           | 10           |
|    | A                                                                                                                                | 10           |
|    | 0 R/S                                                                                                                            | 0            |
|    | R/S                                                                                                                              | 13           |
|    | R/S                                                                                                                              | 4            |
|    | R/S                                                                                                                              | 5            |
|    | R/S                                                                                                                              | 1 (Flashing) |
|    | CLR                                                                                                                              | 0            |
|    | Thus DOB + 3A = D45                                                                                                              |              |





## PROGRAM LISTING

|     |    |     |     |    |     |
|-----|----|-----|-----|----|-----|
| 000 | 91 | R/S | 014 | 61 | GTO |
| 001 | 42 | STD | 015 | 00 | 00  |
| 002 | 00 | 00  | 016 | 00 | 00  |
| 003 | 87 | IFF | 017 | 76 | LBL |
| 004 | 00 | 00  | 018 | 65 | X   |
| 005 | 65 | X   | 019 | 01 | 1   |
| 006 | 01 | 1   | 020 | 06 | 6   |
| 007 | 06 | 6   | 021 | 49 | PRD |
| 008 | 49 | PRD | 022 | 02 | 02  |
| 009 | 01 | 01  | 023 | 43 | RCL |
| 010 | 43 | RCL | 024 | 00 | 00  |
| 011 | 00 | 00  | 025 | 44 | SUM |
| 012 | 44 | SUM | 026 | 02 | 02  |
| 013 | 01 | 01  | 027 | 61 | GTO |

|     |    |     |     |    |     |
|-----|----|-----|-----|----|-----|
| 028 | 00 | 00  | 081 | 04 | 04  |
| 029 | 00 | 00  | 082 | 86 | STF |
| 030 | 76 | LBL | 083 | 01 | 01  |
| 031 | 13 | C   | 084 | 76 | LBL |
| 032 | 01 | 1   | 085 | 43 | RCL |
| 033 | 94 | +/- | 086 | 07 | 7   |
| 034 | 32 | X/T | 087 | 42 | STD |
| 035 | 43 | RCL | 088 | 06 | 06  |
| 036 | 02 | 02  | 089 | 01 | 1   |
| 037 | 75 | -   | 090 | 42 | STD |
| 038 | 43 | RCL | 091 | 05 | 05  |
| 039 | 01 | 01  | 092 | 25 | CLR |
| 040 | 95 | =   | 093 | 32 | X/T |
| 041 | 42 | STD | 094 | 76 | LBL |
| 042 | 03 | 03  | 095 | 42 | STD |
| 043 | 69 | DP  | 096 | 43 | RCL |
| 044 | 10 | E*  | 097 | 04 | 4   |
| 045 | 67 | EQ  | 098 | 55 | ÷   |
| 046 | 75 | -   | 099 | 01 | 1   |
| 047 | 01 | 1   | 100 | 06 | 6   |
| 048 | 03 | 3   | 101 | 95 | =   |
| 049 | 00 | 0   | 102 | 42 | STD |
| 050 | 32 | X/T | 103 | 03 | 03  |
| 051 | 43 | RCL | 104 | 59 | INT |
| 052 | 03 | 03  | 105 | 42 | STD |
| 053 | 77 | GE  | 106 | 04 | 04  |
| 054 | 24 | CE  | 107 | 43 | RCL |
| 055 | 75 | -   | 108 | 03 | 03  |
| 056 | 02 | 2   | 109 | 22 | INV |
| 057 | 95 | =   | 110 | 59 | INT |
| 058 | 76 | LBL | 111 | 65 | X   |
| 059 | 15 | E   | 112 | 01 | 1   |
| 060 | 42 | STD | 113 | 06 | 6   |
| 061 | 04 | 04  | 114 | 95 | =   |
| 062 | 61 | GTO | 115 | 72 | ST* |
| 063 | 43 | RCL | 116 | 06 | 06  |
| 064 | 76 | LBL | 117 | 69 | DP  |
| 065 | 75 | -   | 118 | 26 | 26  |
| 066 | 01 | 1   | 119 | 69 | DP  |
| 067 | 02 | 2   | 120 | 25 | 25  |
| 068 | 06 | 6   | 121 | 43 | RCL |
| 069 | 94 | +/- | 122 | 04 | 04  |
| 070 | 32 | X/T | 123 | 22 | INV |
| 071 | 43 | RCL | 124 | 67 | EQ  |
| 072 | 03 | 03  | 125 | 42 | STD |
| 073 | 22 | INV | 126 | 22 | INV |
| 074 | 77 | GE  | 127 | 87 | IFF |
| 075 | 24 | CE  | 128 | 01 | 01  |
| 076 | 75 | -   | 129 | 60 | DEG |
| 077 | 02 | 2   | 130 | 43 | RCL |
| 078 | 95 | =   | 131 | 05 | 05  |
| 079 | 50 | I×I | 132 | 42 | STD |
| 080 | 42 | STD | 133 | 03 | 03  |

# SOFTSPOT SPECIAL

|     |    |     |     |    |     |     |    |     |     |    |     |
|-----|----|-----|-----|----|-----|-----|----|-----|-----|----|-----|
| 134 | 43 | RCL | 187 | 43 | RCL | 240 | 47 | CMS | 293 | 16 | A*  |
| 135 | 06 | 06  | 188 | 15 | 15  | 241 | 81 | RST | 294 | 22 | INV |
| 136 | 42 | STD | 189 | 95 | =   | 242 | 76 | LBL | 295 | 87 | IFF |
| 137 | 04 | 04  | 190 | 77 | GE  | 243 | 17 | B*  | 296 | 00 | 00  |
| 138 | 01 | 1   | 191 | 52 | EE  | 244 | 43 | RCL | 297 | 24 | CE  |
| 139 | 06 | 6   | 192 | 72 | ST* | 245 | 01 | 01  | 298 | 01 | 1   |
| 140 | 32 | X:T | 193 | 04 | 04  | 246 | 42 | STD | 299 | 02 | 2   |
| 141 | 76 | LBL | 194 | 25 | CLR | 247 | 04 | 04  | 300 | 08 | 8   |
| 142 | 35 | 1/X | 195 | 42 | STD | 248 | 86 | STF | 301 | 32 | X:T |
| 143 | 01 | 1   | 196 | 15 | 15  | 249 | 01 | 01  | 302 | 43 | RCL |
| 144 | 05 | 5   | 197 | 61 | GTO | 250 | 61 | GTO | 303 | 02 | 02  |
| 145 | 75 | -   | 198 | 58 | FIX | 251 | 43 | RCL | 304 | 22 | INV |
| 146 | 73 | RC* | 199 | 76 | LBL | 252 | 76 | LBL | 305 | 77 | GE  |
| 147 | 04 | 04  | 200 | 52 | EE  | 253 | 11 | A   | 306 | 70 | RAD |
| 148 | 95 | =   | 201 | 25 | CLR | 254 | 22 | INV | 307 | 75 | -   |
| 149 | 72 | ST* | 202 | 72 | ST* | 255 | 87 | IFF | 308 | 02 | 2   |
| 150 | 04 | 4   | 203 | 04 | 04  | 256 | 00 | 00  | 309 | 05 | 5   |
| 151 | 69 | DP  | 204 | 76 | LBL | 257 | 24 | CE  | 310 | 04 | 4   |
| 152 | 34 | 34  | 205 | 58 | FIX | 258 | 91 | R/S | 311 | 85 | +   |
| 153 | 97 | DSZ | 206 | 69 | DP  | 259 | 65 | x   | 312 | 43 | RCL |
| 154 | 03 | 03  | 207 | 24 | 24  | 260 | 05 | 5   | 313 | 01 | 01  |
| 155 | 35 | 1/X | 208 | 97 | DSZ | 261 | 85 | +   | 314 | 95 | =   |
| 156 | 69 | DP  | 209 | 03 | 03  | 262 | 02 | 2   | 315 | 15 | E   |
| 157 | 24 | 24  | 210 | 48 | EXC | 263 | 07 | 7   | 316 | 76 | LBL |
| 158 | 43 | RCL | 211 | 76 | LBL | 264 | 02 | 2   | 317 | 70 | RAD |
| 159 | 05 | 05  | 212 | 60 | DEG | 265 | 95 | =   | 318 | 85 | +   |
| 160 | 42 | STD | 213 | 73 | RC* | 266 | 42 | STD | 319 | 02 | 2   |
| 161 | 03 | 03  | 214 | 06 | 06  | 267 | 00 | 00  | 320 | 85 | +   |
| 162 | 73 | RC* | 215 | 91 | R/S | 268 | 43 | RCL | 321 | 43 | RCL |
| 163 | 04 | 04  | 216 | 69 | DP  | 269 | 01 | 01  | 322 | 01 | 01  |
| 164 | 85 | +   | 217 | 36 | 36  | 270 | 83 | GD* | 323 | 95 | =   |
| 165 | 01 | 1   | 218 | 97 | DSZ | 271 | 00 | 00  | 324 | 15 | E   |
| 166 | 95 | =   | 219 | 05 | 05  | 272 | 85 | +   | 325 | 00 | 0   |
| 167 | 22 | INV | 220 | 60 | DEG | 273 | 43 | RCL | 326 | 00 | 0   |
| 168 | 77 | GE  | 221 | 76 | LBL | 274 | 02 | 02  | 018 | 65 | x   |
| 169 | 49 | PRD | 222 | 24 | CE  | 275 | 95 | =   | 031 | 13 | C   |
| 170 | 01 | 1   | 223 | 25 | CLR | 276 | 15 | E   | 059 | 15 | E   |
| 171 | 42 | STD | 224 | 55 | ÷   | 277 | 75 | -   | 065 | 75 | -   |
| 172 | 15 | 15  | 225 | 00 | 0   | 278 | 43 | RCL | 085 | 43 | RCL |
| 173 | 25 | CLR | 226 | 95 | =   | 279 | 02 | 02  | 095 | 42 | STD |
| 174 | 76 | LBL | 227 | 47 | CMS | 280 | 95 | =   | 142 | 35 | 1/X |
| 175 | 49 | PRD | 228 | 81 | RST | 281 | 15 | E   | 175 | 49 | PRD |
| 176 | 72 | ST* | 229 | 76 | LBL | 282 | 65 | x   | 183 | 48 | EXC |
| 177 | 04 | 04  | 230 | 12 | B   | 283 | 43 | RCL | 200 | 52 | EE  |
| 178 | 69 | DP  | 231 | 86 | STF | 284 | 02 | 02  | 205 | 58 | FIX |
| 179 | 24 | 24  | 232 | 00 | 00  | 285 | 95 | =   | 212 | 60 | DEG |
| 180 | 69 | DP  | 233 | 61 | GTO | 286 | 15 | E   | 222 | 24 | CE  |
| 181 | 33 | 33  | 234 | 00 | 00  | 287 | 55 | ÷   | 230 | 12 | B   |
| 182 | 76 | LBL | 235 | 00 | 00  | 288 | 43 | RCL | 237 | 14 | D   |
| 183 | 48 | EXC | 236 | 76 | LBL | 289 | 02 | 02  | 243 | 17 | B*  |
| 184 | 73 | RC* | 237 | 14 | D   | 290 | 95 | =   | 253 | 11 | A   |
| 185 | 04 | 04  | 238 | 43 | RCL | 291 | 15 | E   | 293 | 16 | A*  |
| 186 | 85 | +   | 239 | 01 | 01  | 292 | 76 | LBL | 317 | 70 | RAD |

Stephen Draper.

# BASIC PONTOON

The program given here will play pontoon against one opponent, the computer being banker. It is written in standard BASIC and uses no graphics; it should therefore be a fairly simple task to convert it to run on any BASIC using computer.

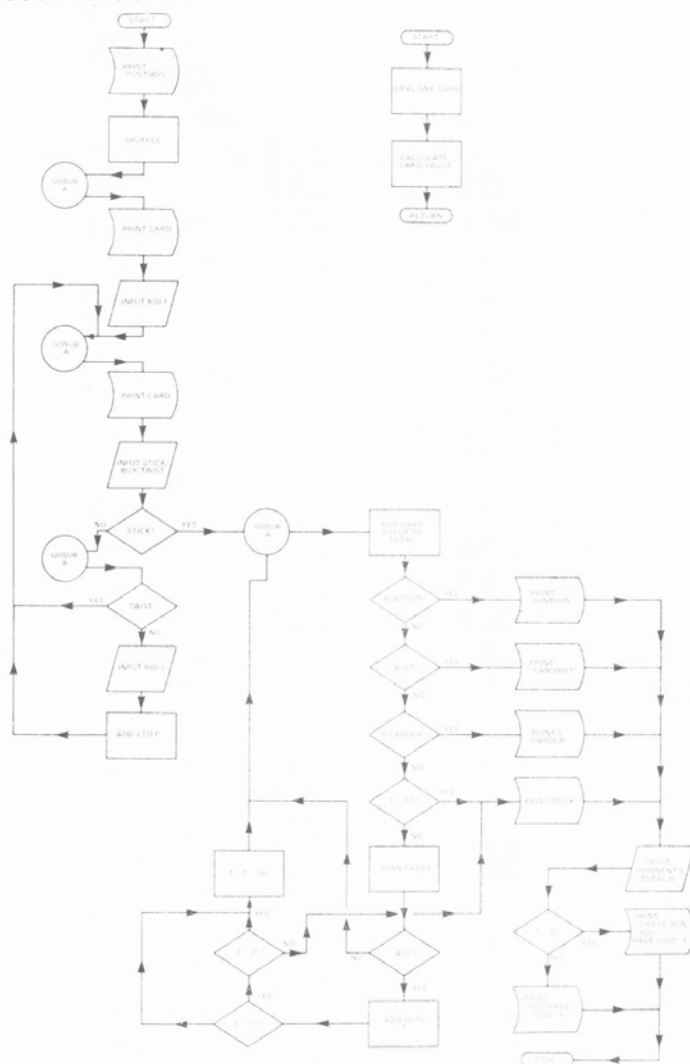
## Program Notes

There are however a few points to note about playing the game :

- 1) If the computer's opponent has a pontoon he should tell the computer that his points value is 23.
- 2) Similarly if he has a five carder he should tell the computer that his points value is 22; for all other hands the points value is that of all the cards added together.
- 3) If the player is bust a value of 0 should be entered.

```
0 DIM A(52)
5 PRINT "PONTOON"
10 LET A=1,B=1,C=1,N=0,T=0,Y=1
15 INPUT "DO YOU WANT TO PLAY? Y OR N" E
20 IF E=0 THEN 230
25 LET A(A)=A
30 IF A=52 THEN 45
35 LET A=A+1
40 GOTO 25
45 R=RND(52)
50 LET X=A(R),Z=A(B)
55 LET A(R)=Z,A(B)=X
60 IF B=52 THEN 75
65 LET B=B+1
70 GOTO 55
75 GOSUB 300
80 PRINT "YOUR CARD IS. . ." V
85 INPUT "YOUR BID PLEASE" F
90 GOSUB 300
95 PRINT "YOUR CARD IS. . ." V
100 INPUT "STICK(1),TWIST(2),OR BUY(3),1,2 OR 3" H
105 IF H=1 THEN 140
110 GOSUB 300
115 IF H=2 THEN 90
125 INPUT "YOUR BID PLEASE" J
130 LET F=F+J
135 GOTO 90
140 LET Z=C
145 GOSUB 300
150 LET T=T+V
155 LET N=N+1
160 IF (T=21) AND (N=2) THEN 250
165 IF T > 21 THEN 210
170 IF N=5 THEN 235
175 IF T > 16 THEN 270
180 FOR X=Z TO C
185 IF A(X)=1 THEN 200
190 NEXT X
195 GOTO 145
200 IF (T+10) > 16 THEN 262
205 GOTO 145
210 PRINT "I AM BUST. . ."
```

```
215 PRINT "YOU HAVE WON" F "CREDITS"
220 INPUT "DO YOU WISH TO CONTINUE? Y OR N" W
225 IF W=1 THEN 10
230 STOP
235 PRINT "I HAVE A FIVE CARDER!"
240 LET T=22
245 GOTO 285
250 PRINT "PONTOON!!!. . ."
255 PRINT "...YOU HAVE LOST" F "CREDITS"
260 GOTO 220
262 IF (T+10) > 21 THEN 145
265 LET T=T+10
267 GOTO 160
270 PRINT "STICK. . . I HAVE. . . WAIT FOR IT. . ."
275 FOR P=1 TO 30;NEXT P
280 PRINT "...T"
285 INPUT "WHAT DO YOU HAVE" Q
290 IF Q > T THEN 215
295 GOTO 255
300 IF A(C) < 14 THEN 315
305 LET A(C)=A(C)-13
310 GOTO 300
315 IF A(C) > 10 THEN A(C)=10
320 LET V=A(C)
325 LET C=C+1
330 RETURN
```





S.Hueber.

## PINBALL

**T**his program will emulate a pinball machine on a 4 or 8K PET. It should be noted that the 'Q' and 'S' characters in lines 193, 367 and 513 are cursor control symbols, cursor down and home respectively.

### Program Notes

#### Line Nos.

9 Player starts off with one game.  
10 - 100 Instructions.  
110 - 196 Set up pin-table.  
197 - 205 Give ball initial position and direction.  
Reset drop targets.  
210 - 215 Put ball into play.  
220 - 300 Process selected depending upon contents of next location in ball's path.  
320 - 330 Bat control.  
340 - 360 Calculates next location and tests for ball out of play.  
362 Same ball again if no points scored.  
363 - 365 Tests for final ball.  
367 - 370 End of game messages.  
449 - 530 Subroutines.  
449 & 459 Limits of bat movement.  
500 Prevents ball standing still!  
511 - 512 Counts drop targets hit. If all hit extra ball awarded.  
513 - 519 Prints score, tests for replays, prints replays.

```

9 CR=1
10 PRINT"DO YOU WANT INSTRUCTIONS?(Y OR N)"
20 GOSUB 520
30 IF A$="N" THEN 110
35 PRINT:PRINT
40 PRINT"3 BALLS PER GAME. PRESSING '1'
MOVES"
50 PRINT"BAT 1 SPACE TO LEFT, '2' MOVES IT TO"
60 PRINT"RIGHT. BAT DETERMINES NEW
DIRECTION OF"
70 PRINT"BALL ACCORDING TO WHERE ON BAT
BALL"
80 PRINT"LANDS."
81 PRINT"COMPLETING DROP TARGETS SCORES"
82 PRINT"EXTRA BALL. MAXIMUM 1 EXTRA BALL"
83 PRINT"PER BALL IN PLAY."
84 PRINT" 1 REPLAY AWARDED WHEN 50 POINTS"
85 PRINT"SCORED. 1 REPLAY FOR EACH"
86 PRINT"ADDITIONAL SCORE OF 20 POINTS."
87 PRINT"TO GET EACH BALL INTO PLAY PRESS"
90 PRINT"ANY KEY."
100 PRINT:PRINT:PRINT"PRESS ANY KEY TO
CONTINUE"
105 GOSUB 520
110 CR=CR-1
120 PRINT" ";FORN=32810TO32820:POKEN,100:
NEXT:POKE32849,78:POKE32861,77
130 FORN=32888TO33408STEP40:POKEN,103:NEXT
140 FORN=32902TO33422STEP40:POKEN,101:NEXT
150 B=33415:POKEB-1,233:POKEB,160:POKEB+1,223

```

```

160 N=32809:POKEN,78:POKEN+39,78:POKEN+12,77:
POKEN+53,77
170 X=33135
175 POKEB-123,15:POKEB-117,15
180 POKEB-2,15:POKEB+2,15
185 POKEB+78,15:POKEB+82,15
190 PRINTTAB(20);"BALL IN PLAY 0"
193 PRINT"Q";TAB(20);"CREDIT"
194 GOSUB518
195 S=0
196 N=1
197 IY=-1:IX=2:GOSUB490
198 P=32855:X1=7+IX:Y1=21
199 T=32895+IX
200 POKE32801,N+48
201 X=32852:FORY=XTOX+2
202 POKEY,90:NEXT:FORY=X+4TOX+6
203 POKEY,90:NEXT
204 E=0
205 S1=S
210 GOSUB520
215 POKEP,81
220 Q=PEEK(T)
230 IFQ=32ORG=96THENPOKEP,32:P=T:POKEP,81:
X=X1:Y=Y1
235 IFQ=90THENGOSUB511
240 IFQ=103ORQ=101THENIX=-IX:IY=IY+IY
250 IFQ=100THENIY=-IY
260 IFQ=15THENGOSUB513:GOSUB470
270 IFQ=77ORQ=78THENIX=-IX:IY=-IY
280 IFQ=233THENIX=-1:IY=1
290 IFQ=160THENIX=0:IY=1
300 IFQ=223THENIX=1:IY=1
310 FORD=1TO50:NEXT
320 GETD
330 ONDGO50SUB449,459
340 X1=X+IX:Y1=Y+IY:T=33728+X1-40*Y1
350 IFT < 33768THEN220
360 POKEP,32
362 IFS1=STHENN=N-1
363 N=N+1
365 IFN < 4THEN197
367 PRINT"QQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQ"
368 IFCR=0THEN533
370 PRINT"PRESS 'R' FOR NEXT GAME"
380 GOSUB520
390 IF A$="R"THEN110
440 STOP
449 IFB=33411THENRETURN
450 POKEB+1,32:POKEB,223:POKEB-1,160:POKEB-2,
223:B=B-1
452 RETURN
459 IFB=33419THENRETURN
460 POKEB-1,32:POKEB,233:POKEB+1,160:POKEB+2,
223:B=B+1
463 RETURN
470 D=INT(RND(1)*3-1):IFD=IYTHEN470
480 IY=D
490 D=INT(RND(1)*3-1):IFD=IXTHEN490
500 IX=D:IFIX=0ANDIY=0THEN490

```

```

518 IF CR < 10 THEN POKE 32876, CR + 48 : RETURN
519 D = INT(CR / 10) : POKE 32875, D + 48 : POKE 32876,
    CR - D * 10 + 48 : RETURN
520 GET A$: IF A$ = "" THEN 520
530 RETURN
533 PRINT "FOR ANOTHER GAME INSERT 10¢ COIN"
534 PRINT "(OR RUN THE PROGRAM AGAIN)"
540 END

```

## VARIABLE SAVER

[illegible]

```

8 REM SOME DUMMY VARIABLES CAN BE
  INSERTED
9 REM IF THE READ STATEMENT WILL BE
10 REM ENCOUNTERED BEFORE THE STORAGE
11 REM SUBROUTINE
12 REM
13 REM
14 REM MAIN PROGRAM CAN BE HERE
15 REM
16 REM
17 REM P IS THE POKE ADDRESS OF THE
18 REM START OF THE DATA STATEMENT
19 REM N IS THE VALUE OF THE VARIABLE
20 REM TO BE STORED
21 REM N AND P ARE PROVIDED BY THE
22 REM CALLING PROGRAM
700 REM-----
710 REM IN PROGRAM STORAGE ROUTINE
720 N$=STR$(N)
730 L=LEN(N$)
740 FOR P1=1 TO L
750 N1$=MID$(N$,P1,1)
755 IF N1$=' ' THEN 770
760 POKE(P1+P),ASC(N1$)
770 NEXT P1
780 POKE(P1+P),44
785 P=P1+P
790 RETURN

```

## 24 HOUR CLOCK

```
(0F00)
> MF00
0F00 > CD 0C 0F 3E 03 D3 06
0F07 > D3 07 C3 86 02 ED 4D
>
```

The program holds time in micro-secs, milli-secs, secs., minutes and hours, using a 24-hour system. The first two of these quantities is held in binary form as a number between 0 and (999). The other three are held in BCD (Binary Coded Decimal) form, using one 8-bit byte for each quantity.

## Program Use

To instal the program, use the sequence :—

> MC72

0C72>10 10 4 20 0F

>

The NASCOM monitor can be used almost normally at the same time as this program. The only command which should not be used is the Single-Step command. To set the time, locations 0FAA, 0FAB, 0FAC can be preset with the correct time in seconds, minutes and hours respectively. There is no need to stop the clock to make the change. Thus, the time can be set 09:29 and 30 seconds by using :—

> MOFAA

0FAA>30 29 09

>

The clock accuracy can be adjusted by putting 16-bit numbers into locations (0F24, 0F25) and (0F3C, 0F3D). The first locations define the number of whole micro-secs. which elapse between entries of the program, millisecs. elapsed. For example, if the time between program activations is 262,144 micro-secs., this is interpreted as 262 millisecs. plus 144 microsecs. Thus the above locations as set as shown in the program coding.

"24—HOUR CLOCK DISPLAY PROGRAM  
"USE WITH NASCOM SCHEDULER.

```

0F20 2A 4C 0F      MOV HL, (MICSEC)
0F23 11 90 00      MOV DE, 144
                   "DE IS NO. OF MIC--SECS.
0F26 01 01 00      MOV BC, 1
0F29 19            ADD HL, DE
0F2A 11 E8 03      MOV DE, 1000
0F2D AF ED 52      XOR A; SUB,C HL,DE
                   "CHECK IF MORE THAN 1000
0F30 30 02        JR,NC L1
0F32 4F 19        MOV C,A; ADD HL,DE
0F34 22 4C 0F      L1 : MOV (MICSEC),HL
0F37 2A 4E 0F      MOV HL, (MILSEC)
0F3A 09            ADD HL,BC
0F3B 11 06 01      MOV DE, 262
                   "DE IS NO. OF MILLI--SECS.
0F3E 19            ADD HL,DE
0F3F 11 E8 03      MOV DE, 1000

```

```

0F42 A7 ED 52      AND A; SUB,C HL,DE
0F45 30 09        JR,NC L2
0F47 19            ADD HL,DE
0F48 22 4E 0F      MOV (MILSEC),HL
0F4B C9            RET
"DEFINE SOME DATA AREAS
0F4C 00 00        MICSEC : AD 0
0F4E 00 00        MILSEC : AD 0
"CONTINUE PROGRAM CODE
0F50 22 4E 0F      L2 : MOV (MILSEC),HL
0F53 21 AA 0F      MOV HL,TSEC
0F56 7E A7        MOV A, (HL); AND A
0F58 C6 01 27      ADD 1;ADJ
0F5B 77            MOV (HL),A
0F5C FE 60 28 12   CP 96; JR,Z X1
0F60 21 AC 0F      X3 : MOV HL,THRS
0F63 11 F0 0B      MOV DE, *5760
                   "DE IS TV ADDRESS
0F66 CD 92 0F      CALL DISP
0F69 2B            DEC HL
0F6A CD 92 0F      CALL DISP
0F6D 2B            DEC HL
0F6E CD 92 0F      CALL DISP
0F71 C9            RET
0F72 36 00 23      X1 : MOV (HL),0; INC HL
0F75 7E A7        MOV A, (HL); AND A
0F77 C6 01 27      ADD 1;ADJ
0F7A 77            MOV (HL),A
0F7B FE 60 28 02   CP 96; JR,Z X2
0F7F 18 DF        JR X3
0F81 36 00 23      X2 : MOV (HL),0; INC HL
0F84 7E A7        MOV A, (HL); AND A
0F86 C6 01 27      ADD 1;ADJ
0F89 77            MOV (HL), A
0F8A FE 24 20 D2   CP 36; JR,NZ X3
0F8E 36 00        MOV (HL), 0
0F90 18 CE        JR X3
0F92 7E            MOV A,(HL)
                   "DISPLAY TIME ROUTINE
0F93 E6 F0        AND *360
0F95 CB 07 CB 07   SHFT,LCER A!&
0F99 CB 07 CB 07   SHFT,LCER A!&
0F9D C6 30 12      ADD 48; MOV (DE),A
0FA0 13 7E        INC DE; MOV A,(HL)
0FA2 E6 0F C6 30   AND 15; ADD 48
0FA6 12 13 13 C9   MOV (DE),A;INC DE!&; RET
0FAA 00            TSEC : DT 0 "SECONDS
0FAB 00            DT 0 "MINUTES
0FAC 00            THRS : DT 0 "HOURS
0FAD              END

```

R.E.C. White.

## NUMBER GAME

**T**he program is written for Triton in V5.1 BASIC. The game is a simple idea, but one which is quite challenging to do. The computer prints a sequence of seven numbers which stay on the screen for a short while then disappear, then you have to type in the sequence of numbers that was displayed.

The computer will print a maximum of ten sequences of numbers providing you get each one correct, but it will print them on the screen for a shorter time so that when it gets to the tenth sequence the numbers are on the screen for a very short time. If you answer incorrectly the computer prints the correct answer followed by your score, then a new game is invited.

### Program Modification

If the user has level 4.1 BASIC the following lines to be changed:—

```

35 VDU 0, 12 FOR I = 1 TO 250; NEXT I
130 VDU 0, 12 FOR I = 1 TO 250; NEXT I
275 VDU 0, 12 FOR I = 1 TO 250; NEXT I

```

The game runs in 2K of memory.

```

1 PRINT "NUMBER GAME"
2 PRINT "-----"
3 PRINT "THIS IS A GAME WHERE THE COMPUTER PRINTS"
4 PRINT "A ROW OF SEVEN NUMBERS : THEN AFTER A"
5 PRINT "SHORT WHILE THE NUMBERS DISAPPEAR AND"
6 PRINT "YOU HAVE TO TYPE IN THE SEQUENCE THAT WAS"
7 PRINT "DISPLAYED. THE AMOUNT OF TIME THE NUMBERS"
8 PRINT "ARE ON THE SCREEN GETS SHORTER AS YOU ANSWER"
9 PRINT "CORRECTLY. THE MAXIMUM SCORE IS 10"
10 FOR I=1 TO 6000; NEXT I
11 LET R=1
20 LET Z=0
30 LET S=7000
35 CALL 8
40 FOR I=1 TO 7
50 LET A=RND (9)
60 LET @(I)=A
70 NEXT I
90 PRINT "SEQUENCE NUMBER",R
100 PRINT
110 PRINT #2, @(1), @(2), @(3), @(4), @(5), @(6), @(7)

```



```

120 FOR I=1 TO 5; NEXT I
130 CALL 8
140 PRINT "NOW ENTER YOUR ANSWER ONE NUMBER AT A"
150 PRINT "TIME PRESSING RETURN AFTER EACH ONE"
160 PRINT
170 INPUT "1ST NUMBER" A; IF A#(1) GOTO 275
180 INPUT "2ND NUMBER" B; IF B#(2) GOTO 275
190 INPUT "3RD NUMBER" C; IF C#(3) GOTO 275
200 INPUT "4TH NUMBER" D; IF D#(4) GOTO 275
210 INPUT "5TH NUMBER" E; IF E#(5) GOTO 275
220 INPUT "6TH NUMBER" F; IF F#(6) GOTO 275
230 INPUT "7TH NUMBER" G; IF G#(7) GOTO 275
240 PRINT
250 PRINT "CORRECT SEQUENCE"; LET Z=Z+1, R=R+1
253 FOR I=1 TO 1000; NEXT I
255 IF R > 10 GOTO 310
260 LET S=S-500
270 GOTO 35
275 CALL 8
280 PRINT "INCORRECT NUMBER. THE SEQUENCE WAS:"
290 PRINT #2, @(1), @(2), @(3), @(4), @(5), @(6), @(7)
300 PRINT
310 PRINT "YOUR TOTAL WAS", Z
315 LET Y=1, N=0
320 INPUT "ANOTHER GAME & Y OR N)?" X
330 IF X=1 GOTO 11
340 STOP

```

Mark Williams.

## MK14 AMBUSH

**T**his program was written for the MK14 and is a space ambush program based on the Ambush project in the April issue of the ETI. The attacks come from two directions, either from the left or the right of the display. Your ship is at the centre of the display and you must press 1 or 3 to ward off the attacks. You have to press 1 if the attack is from the left and 3 if the attack is from the right. You will be attacked by twenty 'Yappanies' space ships and if you can successfully destroy them all you will have survived. (This number can easily be changed.)

You have limited energy, so you must keep the keys pressed for as short a time as possible. If you run out of energy, it will be indicated by the shape of your ship changing to three horizontal lines, and you will then be destroyed by the next attack.

The delay between each attack is random, as is the direction. The amount of energy and the speed of each attack can easily be changed to suit the user.

To play again, press 0. The program does not use the monitor so could be used with any SC/MP machine.

|      |             |      |               |
|------|-------------|------|---------------|
| 0F12 | DIRECTION   | 0F15 | ENERGY        |
| 0F13 | DELAY       | 0F16 | DISPLAY SHAPE |
| 0F14 | NUMBER LEFT | 0F17 | COUNT         |

|               |                |                 |                  |
|---------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 0F12 01       | DIRECTION:     |                 |                  |
| 0F13 25       | DELAY:         |                 |                  |
| 0F14 14       | NO. LEFT:      |                 |                  |
| 0F15 25       | ENERGY:        |                 |                  |
| 0F16 3F       | DISPLAY SHAPE: |                 |                  |
| 0F17 00       | COUNT:         |                 |                  |
| 0F18 C4 0F 36 | BEGIN:         | LDI X'0F XPAH 2 | :POINTER 2 0F00  |
| 0F1B C4 00 32 |                | LDI X'00 XPAL 2 |                  |
| 0F1E C4 0D 35 |                | LDI X'0D XPAH 1 | :POINTER 1 0D00  |
| 0F21 C4 00 31 |                | LDI X'00 XPAH 1 | :DISPLAY ADDRESS |
| 0F24 BA 13    |                | DLD X'13 2      | :DELAY UP?       |
| 0F26 9A 4D    |                | J2 CONT         | :IF SO, ATTACK   |
| 0F28 C2 16    |                | LD X'16 2       | :DISPLAY SHAPE   |
| 0F2A C9 04    |                | ST X'04 1       | :OF YOUR SHIP    |
| 0F2C 8F 50    |                | DLY             | :WAIT            |
| 0F2E C4 00    |                | LDI X'00        |                  |
| 0F30 C9 01    |                | ST X'01 1       |                  |
| 0F32 C9 03    |                | ST X'03 1       |                  |
| 0F34 C1 01    |                | LD X'01 1       | :KEY 1 PRESSED?  |
| 0F36 E4 FF    |                | XRI X'FF        | :IF SO DECREMENT |
| 0F38 9C 06    |                | JNZ X'06        | :FUEL            |
| 0F3A C1 03    |                | LD X'03 1       | :KEY 3 PRESSED?  |

|            |            |                                 |
|------------|------------|---------------------------------|
| 0F3C E4 FF | XRI X'FF   | :IF SO DECREMENT                |
| 0F3E 98 0C | JZ X'0C    | :FUEL                           |
| 0F40 C2 15 | LD X'15 2  |                                 |
| 0F42 98 04 | JZ X'04    | :FUEL GONE?                     |
| 0F44 BA 15 | DLD X'15 2 | :IF SO STORE                    |
| 0F46 90 04 | JMP X'04   | :DIFFERENT SHAPE                |
| 0F48 C4 49 | LDI X'49   | :AT CENTRE OF                   |
| 0F4A CA 16 | ST X'16 2  | :DISPLAY                        |
| 0F4C 92 17 | JMP BEGIN  | :GO TO START                    |
| 0F4E C2 12 | LD X'12 2  | :DETERMINE ATTACK               |
| 0F50 9C 09 | JNZ X'09   | :DIRECTION                      |
| 0F52 C4 01 | LDI X'01   |                                 |
| 0F54 CA 17 | ST X'17 2  |                                 |
| 0F56 C4 00 | LDI X'00   |                                 |
| 0F58 01    | XAE        |                                 |
| 0F59 90 07 | JMP X'07   |                                 |
| 0F8B C4 FF | LDI X'CC   |                                 |
| 0F50 CA 17 | ST X'17 2  |                                 |
| 0F5F C4 09 | LDI X'09   |                                 |
| 0F61 01    | XAE        |                                 |
| 0F62 C4 40 | LDI X'40   | :DISPLAY YOUR SHIP              |
| 0F64 CA 12 | ST X'12 2  |                                 |
| 0F66 C2 16 | LD X'16 2  |                                 |
| 0F68 C9 04 | ST X'04 1  |                                 |
| 0F6A 8F 01 | DLY        |                                 |
| 0F6C C4 41 | LDI X'41   | :DISPLAY ATTACKER               |
| 0F6E C9 80 | ST E (1)   |                                 |
| 0F70 8F 01 | DLY        |                                 |
| 0F12 C4 00 | LDI X'00   |                                 |
| 0F74 C9 01 | ST X'01 1  |                                 |
| 0F76 C9 03 | ST X'03 1  |                                 |
| 0F28 C2 17 | LD X'17 2  | :WHICH KEY SHOULD BE PRESSED    |
| 0F7A E4 FF | XRI X'FF   |                                 |
| 0F7C 9C 08 | JNZ X'08   |                                 |
| 0F7E C1 01 | LD X'01 1  | :KEY PRESSED (1)                |
| 0F80 E4 FF | XRI X'FF   |                                 |
| 0F82 9C 1B | JNZ X'1B   | :IF SO TO 'HIT' PART OF PROGRAM |
| 0F84 90 06 | JMP X'06   |                                 |
| 0F86 C1 03 | LD X'03 1  | :KEY PRESSED (3)                |
| 0F88 E4 FF | XRI X'FF   |                                 |
| 0F8A 9C 13 | JNZ X'13   | :IF SO TO 'HIT' PART OF PROGRAM |
| 0F8C BA12  | DLD X'12 2 |                                 |
| 0F8E 9E 65 | JNZ X'65 2 | :DELAY UP?                      |
| 0F90 C2 17 | LD X'17 2  | :IF SO BRING ATTACKER           |
| 0F92 02    | CCL        | :CLOSER TO CENTRE               |
| 0F93 70    | CAE        |                                 |
| 0F94 01    | XAE        |                                 |
| 0F95 40    | LDE        |                                 |
| 0F96 E4 04 | XRI X'04   | :HIT YOUR SHIP?                 |
| 0F98 9E 61 | JNZ X'61 2 | :IF NOT KEEP GOING              |
| 0F9A C4 E4 | LDI X'E4   |                                 |
| 0F9C 32    | XPAL 2     | :IF SO DISPLAY "HIT"            |
| 0F9D 90 1A | JMP X'1A   |                                 |
| 0F9F C2 15 | LD X'15 2  | :ENERGY LEFT?                   |
| 0FA1 98 E9 | JZ X'E9    | :IF SO WORK OUT DELAY           |
| 0FA3 C2 12 | LD X'12 2  | :AND DIRECTION FROM             |
| 0FA5 D4 3F | ANI X'3F   | :RANDOM NUMBER                  |
| 0FA7 02    | CCL        | :AND GO TO START                |
| 0FA8 F4 0F | ADI X'0F   |                                 |
| 0FAA CA 13 | ST X'13 2  |                                 |
| 0FAC C2 12 | LD X'12 2  |                                 |
| 0FAE D4 01 | ANI X'01   |                                 |
| 0FB0 CA 12 | ST X'12 2  |                                 |
| 0FB2 BA 14 | DLD X'14 2 | :ANY ATTACKERS LEFT             |
| 0FB4 9E 17 | JNZ X'17 2 | :IF SO START                    |
| 0FB6 C4 ED | LDI X'E0   | :IF NOT DISPLAY SURVIVED        |
| 0FB8 32    | XPAL 2     |                                 |
| 0FB9 C4 09 | LDI X'09   |                                 |
| 0FBB 01    | XAE        |                                 |
| 0FBC C2 80 | LD E (2)   | :DISPLAY MESSAGE                |
| 0FBE C9 80 | ST E (1)   |                                 |
| 0FC0 8F 01 | DLY        |                                 |
| 0FC2 40    | LDE        |                                 |
| 0FC3 98 06 | JZ M'06    |                                 |
| 0FC5 C4 FF | LDI X'FF   |                                 |
| 0FC7 02    | CCL        |                                 |
| 0FC8 70    | CAE        |                                 |
| 0FC9 90 F0 | JMP X'F0   |                                 |
| 0FCB A9 00 | ILD X'00 1 | :0 PRESSED?                     |
| 0FCD 98 EA | JZ X'EA    | :IF SO, NEW GAME                |
| 0FCF C4 00 | LDI X'00   |                                 |
| 0FD1 32    | XPAL 2     |                                 |
| 0FD3 C4 25 | LDI X'25   |                                 |
| 0FD4 CA 13 | ST X'13 2  |                                 |
| 0FD6 CA 12 | ST X'12 2  |                                 |
| 0FD8 CA 15 | ST X'15 2  |                                 |
| 0FDA C4 14 | LDI X'14   |                                 |
| 0FDC CA 14 | ST X'14 2  |                                 |
| 0FDE C4 3F | LDI X'3F   |                                 |
| 0FE0 CA 16 | ST X'16 2  |                                 |
| 0FE2 92 17 | JMP X'17   |                                 |
| 00 00      | END        |                                 |

|      |                                     |              |
|------|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| DATA |                                     |              |
| 0FE4 | 000,000,000,070,006,076,000,000,000 | = "HIT"      |
| 0FE  | 05E,079,03E,006,03E,031,03E,060,000 | = "SURVIVED" |

NOTE : TO INCREASE ENERGY, INCREASE BYTE AT 0FD3  
(ALSO INCREASES DELAY OF FIRST ATTACK)  
TO INCREASE NUMBER OF ATTACKERS, INCREASE BYTE AT 0FDB

Andrew Lack

## TRITON CASSETTE CHECK

**T**he 4.1 and 5.1 monitors on Triton do not provide any error checking facilities for the cassette interface. However, the UART (AY-5-1013) does provide error checking in-hardware, and the error flags can be accessed via port 01. The program below is intended to be loaded by hand into Triton's low RAM (1500 for example). The user can then verify any recording by using the program. The program is best used by checking recordings *before* switching off and losing the contents of the RAM!

### Program Listing:

```
CD      START:  CALL TAPON      ;START CASSETTE DRIVE
DB 01   LOOP 1:  IN 01          ;READ STATUS BYTE
47      MOV B,A    ;TEMPORARY STORE IN B
E6 01   ANI 01      ;BIT 0 SET (DAV) ?
CA      J2 LOOP    ;JMP IF NO
```

```
DB 04   IN 04          ;RESET DAV FLAG
78      MOV A,B      ;RESTORE A
E6 02   ANI 02      ;BIT 1 SET (PE) ?
CA      J2 CONT 1    ;JMP IF NO
11      LXI D, STRING 1 ;STRING START ADDR.
CD 2B 00 CALL PSTRING ;PRINT STRING
78      MOV A,B      ;RESTORE A
E6 04   ANI 04      ;BIT 2 SET (FE) ?
CA      J2 CONT 2    ;JMP IF NO
11      LXI D, STRING 2 ;STRING START ADDR.
CD 2B 00 CALL PSTRING ;PRINT STRING
78      MOV A,B      ;RESTORE A
E6 08   ANI 08      ;BIT 3 SET (OR) ?
CA      J2 LOOP 1    ;JMP IF NO
11      LXI D, STRING 3 ;STRING START ADDR.
CD 2B 00 CALL PSTRING ;PRINT STRING
C3      JMP LOOP 1    ;NEXT BYTE
50 45 04 STRING1: "PE" EOT ;PARITY ERROR
46 45 04 STRING2: "FE" EOT ;FRAMING ERROR
4F 52 04 STRING3: "OR" EOT ;OVER RUN
```

END OF LISTING.

### Notes :

1) The address of TAPON is :

4.1 : 0327  
5.1 : 03F6

2) No addresses are given so that individual users may locate the routine where they wish.

D.C. Mower.

## INTAB MOD

**T**his program is intended as an extension to the excellent Intelligent Tabulator program published earlier in CT. The modification allows the start point to be entered from the keyboard without having to use the M command. This makes for a more flexible method when checking through programs in a random fashion.

```
0D20 EF 53 54      RST 40  S  T  PRINT
23 41 52 54      A  R  T
26 20 41 44      A  D  START ADDRESS ?
29 44 52 45      D  R  E  USING RST 40
```

```
2C 53 53 20      S  S  E.O.T.
2F 3F 20 00      ?  ?  0C52
32 21 52 0C      LD  HL  POINT TO HI ADDRESS STORE
35 CD 3E 0D      CALL INCH CALL INPUT FOR HI BYTE
38 CD 3E 0D      CALL INCH CALL INPUT FOR LO BYTE
3B C3 50 0C      JP 0C50
3E 06 02         LD  B  02H  DIGIT COUNT FOR INPUT
40 CD 69 00      CALL KBD  SCAN KDB FOR INPUT
43 30 FB         JR  NC  KEY  LOOP UNTIL INPUT
45 CD 3B 01      CALL CRT  DISPLAY INPUT
48 FE 39         CP  39H  TEST FOR ASCII NUMBER/LETTER
4A 38 02         JR  C  NUMB JUMP IF NUMBER,DON'T IF LETTER
4C D6 07         SUB 07  REMOVE 37 IF LETTER
4E D6 30         SUB 30  REMOVE 30 IF NUMBER
50 ED 6F         RLD  STORE IN 4 LSB OF (HL)
52 10 EC         DJNZ KEY LOOP IF FIRST DIGIT
54 2B           DEC  HL  POINT TO LO ADDRESS BYTE
55 C9           RET  RETURN
```

NOTE : THE MODIFICATION ADDS 33H BYTES MAKING A TOTAL OF 105H BYTES EXECUTE FROM 0D20 H.

Nigel Scales.

## SPACE SHIP

**S**pace Ship is a game written for the PET computer and is a dogfight simulation. The object of the game is to destroy your opponent (the computer) in the shortest time. There are ten targets and the score value of each decreases as time elapses. It should be noted that your controls work as though your craft is moving hence your target will appear to move in the opposite direction.

```
1  ? "[CLS] WOULD YOU LIKE THE INSTRUCTIONS"
2  INPUT A$: IF A$ = "y" GOTO 5000
10 ? "[CLS] SPACE SHIP"
20 FOR X=1 TO 9999 :NEXT: ? "[CLS]"
25 TI$ = "000000"
30 R=INT (RND(TI)*1000)+ 32768
40 GOSUB 2000
50 GET A$:IF A$ = " " GOTO 100
```

```
70 IF A$ = "M" GOTO 1000
75 IF A$ = "F" GOTO 500
80 A = VAL (A$)
90 ON A GOTO 150,200,300,400,100,600,700,800,900
100 D=RND(TI)
101 IF TI$ >= "000030" THEN TI$ = "000029"
102 L=30-VAL (RIGHT$(TI$,2))
103 ? "KILL RATIO"; "[HOME] [SPACE] [SPACE]
[HOME]";L
105 GOSUB 3105
110 IF D < .125 THEN R=R+40
112 IF D > .125 AND D < .25 THEN R=R-39
114 IF D > .25 AND D < .375 THEN R=R-41
116 IF D > .375 AND D < .5 THEN R=R+1
118 IF D > .5 AND D < .625 THEN R=R+39
120 IF D > .625 AND D < .75 THEN R=R+41
122 IF D > .75 AND D < .875 THEN R=R-40
124 IF D > .875 THEN R=R-1
125 IF R > 33768 THEN R=R-40
126 IF R < 32768 THEN R=R+40
128 GOSUB 2000
```

```

130 GOTO 50
150 GOSUB 3105
200 GOSUB 3105
300 GOSUB 3105
400 GOSUB 3105
500 LA=33736 : LB=33760
510 FOR X=1 TO 12
515 POKE LA,78:POKE LB,77
520 LA=LA-39 : LB=LB-41
525 NEXT X
527 Z=33268
530 IF R=Z GOTO 560
540 FOR X=1 TO 13
541 POKE LA,32 : POKE LB,32
543 LA=LA+39 : LB=LB+41
545 NEXT X
550 GOTO 50
560 POKE Z,42:POKE Z-41,85:POKE Z-39,73:POKE
    Z+39,74: POKE Z+41,75
565 V=V+L:"HOME";SPC(14);V;"POINTS OUT OF"
567 P=P+1
568 ? SPC(14);P;"SHIPS"
569 IF P < 10 GOTO 20
570 ?"[CLS] TOTAL KILL RATIO";V:GOTO 1000
600 GOSUB 3105:R=R-1:GOSUB 2000:GOTO 50

```

```

700 GOSUB 3105:R=R+41:GOSUB 2000:GOTO 50
800 GOSUB 3105:R=R+40:GOSUB 2000:GOTO 50
900 GOSUB 3105:R=R+39:GOSUB 2000:GOTO 50
1000 ?"WOULD YOU LIKE ANOTHER GAME?"
1010 GET A$: IF A$= " " GOTO 1010
1015 IF A$= "N" THEN END
1020 RUN 20
2000 POKE R,209:POKE R-41,77:POKE R+39,78:POKE
    R-39,78: POKE R+41,77
2100 RETURN
3105 POKE R,32:POKE R-41,32:POKE R+39,32:POKE
    R-39,32
3110 RETURN
5000 ?"YOU ARE AT THE HELM OF THE TERRAN"
5010 ?"SPACE FIGHTER XJFT 3202 ON THE TAIL OF
    AN ENEMY"
5020 ?"CRAFT WHICH YOU MUST TRY TO DESTROY"
5030 ?"YOU MAY ALTER YOUR COURSE,
    IN ORDER TO"
5040 ?"HOME IN ON YOUR QUARRY, USING KEYS 1
    TO 9 (NOT 5)"
5050 ?"PRESS THE 'F' KEY TO FIRE"
5060 ?"PRESS 'M' TO START AND STOP"
5070 GET A$: IF A$=" " OR A$ <> "M" GOTO 5070
5080 RUN 20

```

Gary Hawkins.

## STOPWATCH

**F**or those of you who need a stop watch this program for the Nascom, or any Z80 based system, may suit your requirements. The program must be loaded into memory 0C50-0DAF as call and jump codes are within this area. Execution is from 0C50, pressing H allows the hours to be set with each depression of the key adding 1 to the counter. Minutes can be set in the same way using M. To reset the clock key R will reset and stop, S will start the counting again.

### Display Format

Hours, minutes, seconds and hundredths are displayed in the centre of the screen.

```

0C50 3E 1E CD 3B 01 LD A, 1E CALL 'CRT'
0C55 21 9B 09 LD HL, 9B09
0C58 36 30 23 (HL), 30 INC HL
0C5B 36 30 23 " " " "
0C5E 36 3A 23 (HL), 3A INC HL
0C61 36 30 23 (HL), 30 INC HL
0C64 36 30 23 " " " "
0C67 36 3A 23 (HL), 3A INC HL
0C6A 36 30 23 (HL), 30 INC HL
0C6D 36 30 23 " " " "
0C70 36 3A 23 (HL), 3A INC HL
0C73 36 30 23 (HL), 30 INC HL
0C76 36 30 (HL), 30
0C78 0E 14 LD C, 20H
0C7A 06 32 00 LD B, 50H NOP
0C7D 10 FD 0D DJNZ -1 DEC C
0C80 20 F8 JRNZ -6
0C82 CD 69 00 CALL KB SKAN
0C85 FE 40 CP=@
0C87 CA EF 0C JRZ OCEF

```

```

0C8A FE 52 CP=R
0C8C CA 0B 0D JRZ 0D0B
0C8F 34 7E INC (HL) A,(HL)
0C91 FE 3A CP=
0C93 28 03 JRZ +3
0C95 C3 78 0C JR 0C78
0C98 2B 34 7E DEC HL (HL) A,(HL)
0C9B FE 3A CP=
0C9D 28 03 JRZ +3
0C9F C3 75 0C JR 0C75
0CA2 2B 2B DEC HL DEC HL
0CA4 34 7E (HL) A,(HL)
0CA6 FE 3A CP=
0CA8 28 03 JRZ +3
0CAA C3 6F 0C JR 0C6F
0CAD 2B 34 7E DEC HL (HL) A,(HL)
0CB0 FE 36 CP=6
0CB2 28 03 JRZ +3
0CB4 C3 6C 0C JR 0C6C
0CB7 2B 2B DEC HL DEC HL
0CB9 34 7E (HL) A,(HL)
0CBB FE 3A CP=
0CBD 28 03 JRZ +3
0CBF C3 66 0C JR 0C66
0CC2 2B 34 7E DEC HL (HL) A, (HL)
0CC5 FE 36 CP=6
0CC7 28 03 JRZ +3
0CC9 C3 63 0C JR 0C63
0CCC 2B 2B DEC HL DEC HL
0CCE 34 7E (HL) A,(HL)
0CD0 FE 3A CP=
0CD2 20 05 JRNZ +5
0CD4 36 30 (HL),30
0CD6 2B 34 DEC HL (HL)
0CD8 23 2B INC HL DEC HL
0CDA 7E A,(HL)
0CDB FE 32 CP=2
0CDD 20 09 JRNZ +9
0CDF 23 7E INC HL A,(HL)
0CE1 FE 34 CP=4

```



# SOFTSPOT SPECIAL

|      |    |    |                 |
|------|----|----|-----------------|
| 0CE3 | 20 | 04 | JRNZ +4         |
| 0CE5 | C3 | 50 | JR 0C50         |
| 0CE8 | 23 |    | INC HL          |
| 0CE9 | C3 | 5D | JR 0C5D         |
| 0CEC | 00 | 00 | NOPS (PADDING)  |
| 0CEF | CD | 69 | CALL KB SKAN    |
| 0CF2 | FE | 53 | CP=S            |
| 0CF4 | CA | 78 | JRZ 0C78        |
| 0CF7 | FE | 52 | CP=R            |
| 0CF9 | CA | 0B | JRZ 0D0B        |
| 0CFC | FE | 48 | CP=H            |
| 0CFE | CA | 36 | JRZ 0D36        |
| 0D01 | FE | 4D | CP=M            |
| 0D03 | CA | 76 | JRZ 0D76        |
| 0D06 | 18 | E7 | JR -23H         |
| 0D08 | 00 | 00 | NOPS            |
| 0D0B | 21 | 9B | LD HL, 9B09     |
| 0D0E | 06 | 04 | LD B, 04H       |
| 0D10 | 36 | 30 | (HL), 30 INC HL |
| 0D13 | 36 | 30 | " " " "         |
| 0D16 | 36 | 3A | (HL), 3A INC HL |
| 0D19 | 10 | F5 | DJNZ -9H        |
| 0D1B | 2B | 36 | DEC HL (HL), 20 |
| 0D1E | 2B |    | DEC HL          |
| 0D1F | CD | 69 | CALL KB SKAN    |
| 0D22 | FE | 53 | CP=S            |
| 0D24 | CA | 78 | JRZ 0C78        |
| 0D27 | FE | 48 | CP=H            |
| 0D29 | CA | 36 | JRZ 0D36        |
| 0D2C | FE | 4D | CP=M            |
| 0D2E | CA | 76 | JRZ 0D76        |
| 0D31 | 18 | EC | JR -18H         |
| 0D33 | 00 | 00 | NOPS            |
| 0D36 | 21 | 9C | LD HL, 9C09     |
| 0D39 | 34 | 7E | (HL) A,(HL)     |
| 0D3B | FE | 3A | CP=:            |
| 0D3D | 20 | 05 | JRNZ +5         |
| 0D3F | 36 | 30 | (HL),30         |
| 0D41 | 2B | 34 | DEC HL (HL)     |
| 0D43 | 23 | 2B | INC HL DEC HL   |
| 0D45 | 7E |    | A,(HL)          |
| 0D46 | FE | 32 | CP=2            |
| 0D48 | 20 | 0B | JRNZ +11H       |
| 0D4A | 23 | 7E | INC HL A,(HL)   |
| 0D4C | FE | 34 | CP=4            |
| 0D4E | 20 | 06 | JRNZ +6         |
| 0D50 | 36 | 30 | (HL),30         |
| 0D52 | 2B | 36 | DEC HL (HL),30  |
| 0D55 | 23 |    | INC HL          |
| 0D56 | CD | 69 | CALL KB SKAN    |
| 0D59 | FE | 48 | CP=H            |
| 0D5B | 28 | DC | JRZ -34H        |
| 0D5D | FE | 53 | CP=S            |
| 0D5F | 20 | 06 | JRNZ +6         |
| 0D61 | 21 | A5 | LD HL, A509     |
| 0D64 | C3 | 78 | JR 0C78         |
| 0D67 | FE | 4D | CP=M            |
| 0D69 | CA | 76 | JRZ 0D76        |
| 0D6C | FE | 52 | CP=R            |
| 0D6E | CA | 0B | JRZ 0D0B        |
| 0D71 | 18 | E3 | JR -27H         |
| 0D73 | 00 | 00 | NOPS            |
| 0D76 | 21 | 9F | LD HL, 9F09     |
| 0D79 | 34 | 7E | (HL) A,(HL)     |
| 0D7B | FE | 3A | CP=:            |
| 0D7D | 20 | 10 | JRNZ +16H       |

|      |    |    |                    |
|------|----|----|--------------------|
| 0D7F | 36 | 30 | (HL),30            |
| 0D81 | 2B | 34 | DEC HL (HL) A,(HL) |
| 0D84 | FE | 36 | CP=6               |
| 0D86 | 20 | 06 | JRNZ +6            |
| 0D88 | 36 | 30 | (HL),30 INC HL     |
| 0D8B | 36 | 30 | (HL),30 DEC HL     |
| 0D8E | 23 |    | INC HL             |
| 0D8F | CD | 69 | CALL KB SKAN       |
| 0D92 | FE | 4D | CP=M               |
| 0D94 | 28 | E3 | JRZ -27H           |
| 0D96 | FE | 53 | CP=S               |
| 0D98 | 20 | 06 | JRNZ +6            |
| 0D9A | 21 | A5 | LD HL, A509        |
| 0D9D | C3 | 78 | JR 0C78            |
| 0DA0 | FE | 48 | CP=H               |
| 0DA2 | CA | 36 | JRZ 0D36           |
| 0DA5 | FE | 52 | CP=R               |
| 0DA7 | CA | 0B | JRZ 0D0B           |
| 0DAA | 18 | E3 | JR -27H            |
| 0DAC | 00 | 00 | NOPS               |

A.M. Scott.

## SC/MP DICE

**M**any games require two dice to be thrown so this program was developed to display two independant dice throws on an MK14. The program starts at 0F20 but one location is used as a temporary store at 0F1F for die 1 while die 2 is held in the extension register. Go is pressed to roll the dice and Term throws them and displays the result.

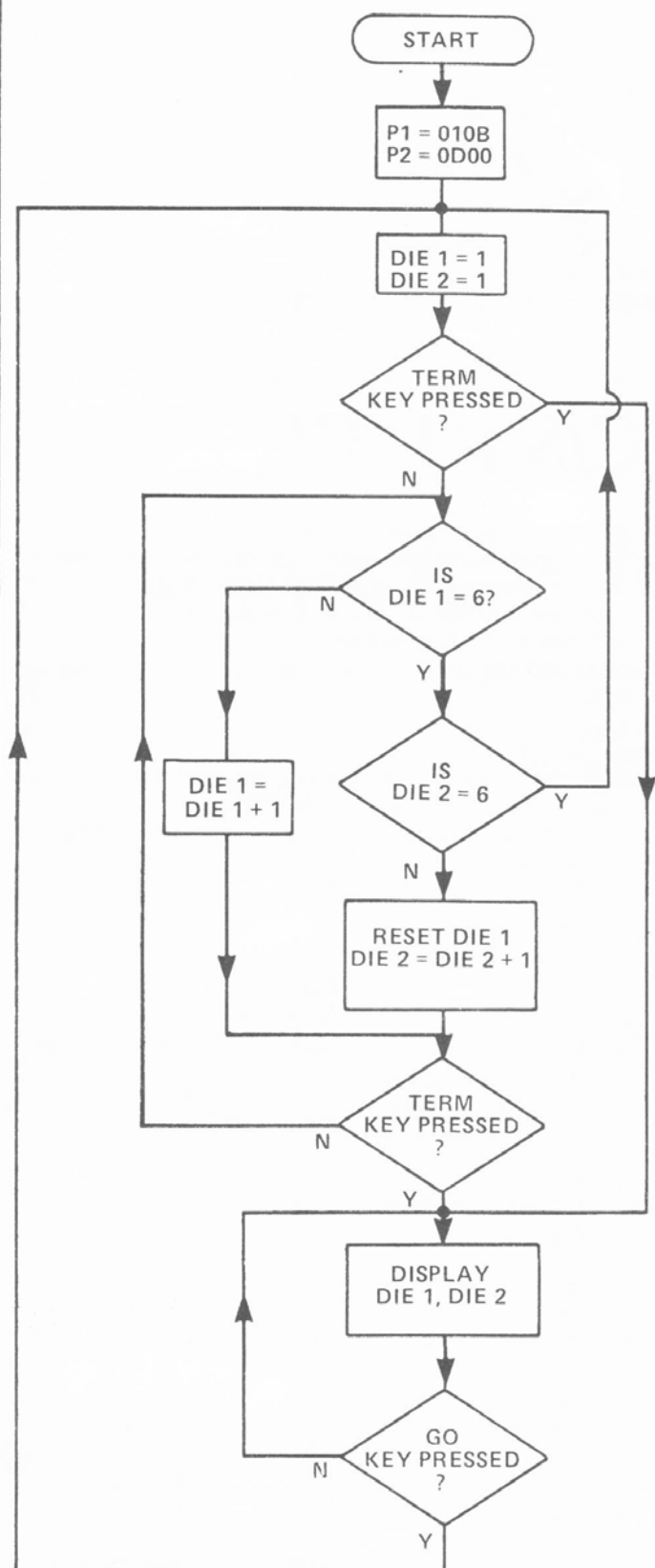
### Notes

Although the program was written on an MK14 it could easily be modified to use any SC/MP based system. For people wishing to modify, P1 holds the address of the seven segment display codes and P2 is used to set the display address and to access the keyboard.

|      |    |       |          |               |
|------|----|-------|----------|---------------|
| 0F1F |    | DIE 1 | ., +1    |               |
| 20   | C4 | 01    | LDI      |               |
| 22   | 35 |       | XPAH (1) | P1 set to     |
| 23   | C4 | 0B    | LDI      | segment codes |
| 25   | 31 |       | XPAL (1) |               |
| 26   | C4 | 0D    | LDI      | P2 set to     |
| 28   | 36 |       | XPAH (2) | display       |
| 29   | C4 | 00    | LDI      | address       |
| 2B   | 32 |       | XPAL (2) |               |
| 2C   | C4 | 01    | REPEAT   | LDI           |
| 2E   | C8 | F0    | ST       | Start         |
| 30   | 01 |       | XAE      | Store DIE 1   |
| 31   | AA | 07    | ILD (2)  | Store DIE 2   |
| 33   | 9C | 19    | JNZ      | Term Pressed  |
| 35   | C0 | E9    | LD       | If so, show   |
| 37   | E4 | 06    | XRI      | DIE 1 = ?     |
| 39   | 9C | 0D    | JNZ      | "             |
| 3B   | E4 | 06    | LDE      | 1 per         |
| 3C   | E4 | 06    | XRI      | DIE 2 = ?     |
| 3E   | 98 | EC    | JZ       | "             |
| 40   | C4 | 01    | LDI      | Repeat        |
| 42   | C8 | DC    | ST       | Reset DIE 1   |
| 44   | 70 |       | ADE      | "             |
|      |    |       |          | Increment     |

|      |       |       |         |                |
|------|-------|-------|---------|----------------|
| 45   | 01    |       | XAE     | DIE 2          |
| 46   | 90 02 |       | JMP     | Press          |
| 48   | A8 D6 | INCR  | ILD     | Incr. DIE 1    |
| 0F4A | AA 07 | PRESS | ILD (2) | Term Pressed   |
| 4C   | 98 E7 |       | JZ      | If not, Test   |
| 4E   | C0 D0 | SHOW  | LD      | DIE 1          |
| 50   | C8 02 |       | ST      |                |
| 52   | C1 00 | AGAIN | LD (1)  | Fetch Segments |

|    |       |         |                |
|----|-------|---------|----------------|
| 54 | CA 02 | ST (2)  | Show DIE 1     |
| 56 | C1 80 | LD (1)  | Fetch Segments |
| 58 | CA 05 | ST (2)  | Show DIE 2     |
| 5A | C4 00 | LDI     | Clear          |
| 5C | CA 05 | ST (2)  | Display        |
| 5E | AA 02 | ILD (2) | Go pressed     |
| 60 | 9C CA | JNZ     | If so, repeat  |
| 62 | 90 EE | JMP     | Again          |



M.G. Foster.

## NASFORTE

**T**his program uses the lower two rows of keys on the Nascom keyboard to simulate an electronic piano. The tone output is produced from pin 14 of SKT 1 (the keyboard socket) via a 100 nF capacitor to a suitable audio amplifier or high impedance headphones.

### Which Key, What Note?

In an attempt to make the key locations similar to a conventional piano key 'C' is 'C' above middle 'C' and the range from Ab through one complete octave to C# is available, keys 'D', 'H' and '1/3' being unused.

Although the note length varies with pitch this has been found to be of no real disadvantage, the mean length of the note can be altered by modifying the values in DE register (0C64-65). The pitch value can be calculated from the formula

$$\text{Pitch Value (decimal)} = \frac{\text{Freq Clock (CPU)}}{\text{Freq Note 27}}$$

This gets you in the right 'ballpark' and slight adjustment should be made for optimum pitch, raising the value will lower the note.

One must convert the calculated decimal value to Hex and modify the appropriate location in the Note Table. The values published give the International scale, A=440 Hz, for a 2 MHz CPU clock.

### Program Modifications

In order to dump your tunes onto tape the following changes are needed:—

|      |          |            |             |
|------|----------|------------|-------------|
| 0C63 | 7B       | LDA E      | Recover key |
| 64   | CD 5D 00 |            | Call SRLOUT |
| 67   | 11 6F 01 | LD DE 016F |             |

etc.,

0C7C 18 D2

You can now start the tape transport and play the tune directly onto the tape. Note that when using the T4 monitor SRLOUT will also produce a screen listing.

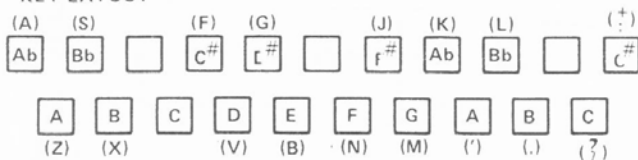
Playing the Nasforte is somewhat different to a piano in that notes cannot be sustained, however runs can be achieved by pressing the next note key whilst still holding the previous one. It will certainly make a change from the cacophony of the children's stylophone!

### Nas SYS Modifications

To run the program under Nas SYS monitors the following changes must be made:—

Relocate the program to 0C80, relocate the Note Tables to 0CB0, use R/START 'CF' in place of CHIN, location 0C83 becomes CF 00 00. Relative jumps can be left alone as the previous mods take care of this.

## KEY LAYOUT



## FREQUENCIES OF NOTES

|     |           |
|-----|-----------|
| Ab  | 415.3 Hz  |
| A   | 440 Hz    |
| Bb  | 466.2 Hz  |
| B   | 493.9 Hz  |
| C   | 523.2 Hz  |
| C # | 554.4 Hz  |
| D   | 586.6 Hz  |
| D # | 622.2 Hz  |
| E   | 659.2 Hz  |
| F   | 698.4 Hz  |
| F # | 740.0 Hz  |
| G   | 784.0 Hz  |
| Ab  | 830.6 Hz  |
| A   | 880.0 Hz  |
| Bb  | 932.4 Hz  |
| B   | 987.8 Hz  |
| C   | 1046.4 Hz |
| C # | 1109 Hz   |

|                    |    |    |    |          |               |                              |
|--------------------|----|----|----|----------|---------------|------------------------------|
| 0C50               | 21 | 80 | 0C | 'NEXNOT' | LD HL NOTETAB | HL HAS START OF NOTE TABLE   |
| 53                 | CD | 3E | 00 |          | CALL CHIN     | KEY PRESSED?                 |
| 56                 | 5F |    |    |          | LDE A         | SAVE KEY                     |
| 57                 | 7E |    |    | 'FIND'   | LD A (HL)     | GET KEY CODE                 |
| 58                 | 23 |    |    |          | INC HL        | HL POINTS TO NOTE VALUE      |
| 59                 | B7 |    |    |          | OR A          | TEST FOR END OF TABLE        |
| 5A                 | 28 | F4 |    |          | JRZ 'NEXNOT'  | JUMP IF END (NOT FOUND)      |
| 5C                 | BB |    |    |          | CPE           | DOES TABLE VALUE = KEY?      |
| 5D                 | 28 | 03 |    |          | JRZ 'NOTE'    | IF IT DOES 'PLAY IT'. IF NOT |
| 5F                 | 23 |    |    |          | INC HL        | TRY NEXT                     |
| 0C60               | 18 | F5 |    |          | JR 'FIND'     |                              |
| 62                 | 4E |    |    | 'NOTE'   | LD C (HL)     | GET NOTE VALUE               |
| 63                 | 11 | 6F | 01 |          | LD DE 016F    | DE SET TO NOTE LENGTH        |
| 66                 | 41 |    |    | 'PITCH'  | LD B C        | PASS NOTE TO PLAY            |
| 67                 | 3E | 20 |    |          | LD A 20H      | SET UP MASK FOR O/P PORT     |
| 69                 | D3 | 00 |    |          | OUT 0 A       | SET BIT 5 PORT '0'           |
| 6B                 | 10 | FE |    |          | DJNZ HERE     | DELAY 1                      |
| 6D                 | 41 |    |    |          | LD B C        |                              |
| 6E                 | AF |    |    |          | XOR A         | REMOVE MASK                  |
| 6F                 | D3 | 00 |    |          | OUT 0 A       | RESET BIT 5 PORT '0'         |
| 71                 | 10 | FE |    |          | DJNZ HERE     | DELAY 2                      |
| 73                 | 1B |    |    |          | DEC DE        | NOTE LENGTH COUNT -1         |
| 74                 | 7A |    |    |          | LD A D        | TEST FOR END OF              |
| 75                 | B7 |    |    |          | OR A          | NOTE IF NOT                  |
| 76                 | 20 | EE |    |          | JRNZ 'PITCH'  | LOOP UNTIL END               |
| 0C78               | 18 | D6 |    |          | JR 'NEXNOT'   | GET NEXT NOTE                |
| NOTE - TABLE DEF B |    |    |    |          |               |                              |
| 0C80               | 41 | B6 | 5A | AC       | Ab A          |                              |
| 84                 | 53 | A2 | 58 | 99       | Bb B          |                              |
| 88                 | 43 | 90 | 46 | 88       | C C#          |                              |
| 8C                 | 56 | 81 | 47 | 79       | D D#          |                              |
| 90                 | 42 | 72 | 4E | 6C       | E F           |                              |
| 94                 | 4A | 66 | 4D | 60       | F# G          |                              |
| 98                 | 4B | 5A | 2C | 55       | Ab A          |                              |
| 9C                 | 4C | 50 | 2E | 4B       | Bb B          |                              |
| A0                 | 2F | 47 | 3A | 42       | C C#          |                              |
| 0CA4               | 00 | 00 | 00 | 00       |               | 4 X NOPS                     |

to its entry point is marked with a white pawn, as is one which enters a square directly adjacent to an atom. A ray which enters and leaves the box at different points has these points marked with a pair of pawns of the same colour. Some typical ray patterns are shown in the second diagram.

## The Simulation Program

This program was written on the Ohio Superboard and uses about 3½K of RAM. It should be easy to adapt for any other system using Microsoft BASIC but screen locations and graphics will probably have to be altered. If it is loaded on the Superboard and you wish to save it you will have to set the line width to 71, as you would have to for any program with lines greater than 24 characters. There is a sample run given after the program listing showing how the computer takes the place of the first player and a flowchart to assist in conversion to other languages.

```

1 ?"BLACK BOX":?
4 INPUT "INPUT SEED";S
7 ??:?:?:?:?:?
10 DIM B(6),D(6),M(4),N(4),C(32)
11 DIM W(10,10)
30 DATA 0,1,-1,0,0,-1,1,0
40 DATA 2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,10,10,10,10,10,10
50 DATA 10,9,8,7,6,5,4,3,2,1,1,1,1,1,1,1
80 FOR X=1 TO 4
90 READ M(X),N(X):NEXT
100 FOR X=1 TO 32
120 READ C(X):NEXT
140 INPUT "HOW MANY ATOMS";R
150 K=0
160 IF R<>4 AND R<>5 AND R<>6 THEN 140
170 FOR X=1 TO R
180 I=INT(RND(S)*8+2)
190 J=INT(RND(S)*8+2)
200 IF X=1 THEN 240
210 FOR Y=1 TO (X-1)
220 IF B(Y)=I AND D(Y)=J THEN 180
230 NEXT Y
240 B(X)=I:D(X)=J
250 NEXT X
270 FOR X=1 TO 10
280 FOR Y=1 TO 10
290 W(X,Y)=0
300 NEXT Y:NEXT X
320 FOR X=1 TO R
325 W(B(X),D(X))=1
330 NEXT
335 ?"TYPE 101 TO SEE ANSWER"
337 ??:?
340 INPUT "RAY ENTERS WHERE":P
345 Z=0
360 IF P=101 THEN 970
370 IF INT(ABS(P))<>P THEN 340
380 IF P<1 OR P>32 THEN 340
390 F=M(INT((P+7)/8))
400 G=N(INT((P+7)/8))
410 U=C(P)
420 IF P>24>32 THEN Q=P-8:GOTO 440
430 Q=P+24
440 V=C(Q)
450 A=U+F:B=V+G
460 E=0
470 IF W(A,B)=1 THEN 910
480 IF F=0 THEN 540
490 B=B+1
500 IF W(A,B)=1 THEN E=1
505 B=B-2
510 IF W(A,B)=1 OR E=1 THEN 580
530 GOTO 760
540 A=A+1
550 IF W(A,B)=1 THEN E=1
560 A=A-2
570 IF W(A,B)=0 AND E<>1 THEN 760
580 IF Z=0 THEN 930
590 IF F=0 THEN 620
600 IF W(A,B)*W(A,B+2)=1 THEN 930
610 GOTO 630
620 IF W(A,B)*W(A+2,B)=1 THEN 930
630 A=F+U:B=V+G
650 IF F=0 THEN 710
660 IF W(A,B+1)=1 THEN 690
670 F=0:G=1
680 GOTO 760
690 F=0:G=-1
700 GOTO 760
710 IF W(A+1,B)=1 THEN 740
720 F=1:G=0: GOTO 760

```

S.A. Bigg.

## BLACK BOX

The "Black Box" game, which this program emulates, is a little like the old favourite "Mastermind". One player sets up a code which is broken by the second player but rather than using numbers or colours a large grid is used. Each square on the eight by eight grid has a number assigned to it and in the board version of the game one player marks where he is placing his 'atoms', there are either four or five by agreement. The object of the game is for the other player to discover where these are by deduction. To achieve this he sends in 'rays' at one of the thirty-two input locations. These rays may be absorbed by atoms in their direct path or reflected by atoms adjacent to their path, or a mixture of these two possibilities. The player who is attempting to break the code marks the information he receives from each attempt on a duplicate grid using coloured markers.

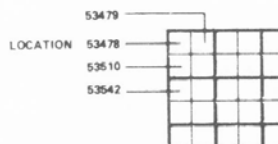
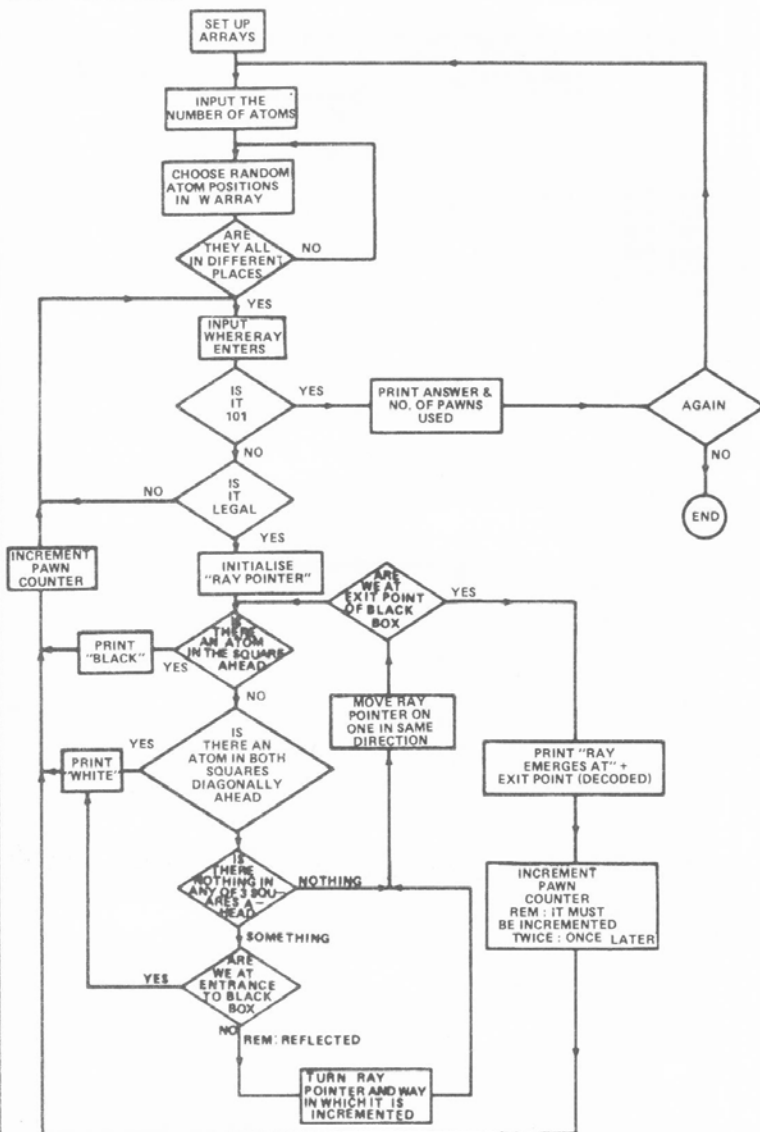
An absorbed ray is marked by a black pawn, a ray returning



```

740 F=-1:G=0
760 U=U+F:V=V+G
770 IF U=1 OR U=10 OR V=1 OR V=10 THEN 820
780 Z=Z+1:GOTO 450
820 FOR X=1 TO 32
830 IF U<>C(X) THEN 870
840 IF X>8 THEN Q=X-8:GOTO 860
850 Q=X+24
860 IF V=C(Q) THEN 880
870 NEXT
880 ?"RAY RE-EMERGES AT";X
890 K=K+1:GOTO 940
910 ?"BLACK":GOTO 940
930 ?"WHITE"
940 K=K+1
950 GOTO 337
970 ?"THIS IS THE RIGHT ANSWER:"?
980 FOR X=1 TO 18:?:NEXT
990 FOR X=53478 TO 53926 STEP 64
994 FOR Y=0 TO 14 STEP 2
997 POKE Y+X,210:POKE Y+X+1,135
1003 NEXT Y
1004 POKE X+16,136
1005 FOR Y=32 TO 48 STEP 2
1007 POKE Y+X,136:NEXT Y:NEXT X
1013 FOR X=53990 TO 54005
1015 POKE X,135:NEXT X
1019 POKE 53476,49
1012 FOR X=2 TO 9
1023 FOR Y=2 TO 9
1024 IF W(X,Y)=0 THEN 1037
1025 T=(X-2)*64+(Y-2)*2+53478
1029 POKE T,161:POKE T+1,161:POKE T+32,161:POKE T+33,161
1037 NEXT Y: NEXT X
1080 ?"YOU USED ";K;"PAWNS"
1110 INPUT"AGAIN ?";AS
1111 IF LEFT$(AS,1)="Y" THEN 140
1119 IF LEFT$(AS,1)="N" THEN END
2000 GOTO 1110

```



GRAPHICS USED : 210 ☐  
136 ☐  
136 ☐  
161 ☒  
48 ☒

#### SAMPLE RUN

BLACK BOX

INPUT SEED ? 23.1

HOW MANY ATOMS ? -5.3  
HOW MANY ATOMS ? 4  
TYPE 101 TO SEE ANSWER

RAY ENTERS WHERE? 19  
BLACK

RAY ENTERS WHERE ? 25  
RAY RE-EMERGES AT 26

RAY ENTERS WHERE ? 28  
RAY RE-EMERGES AT 13

RAY ENTERS WHERE ? 7  
WHITE

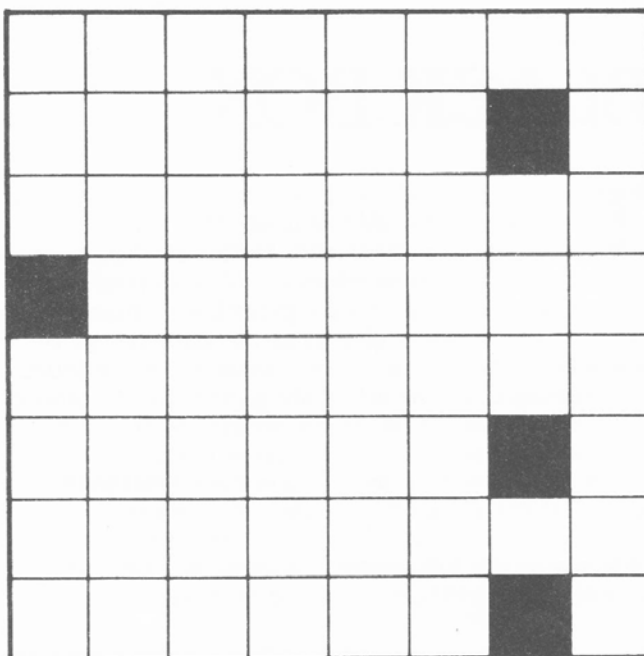
RAY ENTERS WHERE ? 3  
WHITE

RAY ENTERS WHERE ? 101  
THIS IS THE RIGHT ANSWER:

YOU USED 7 PAWNS  
AGAIN ? NO

OK

Below : a typical graphic display.



J. Allin.

## TEXT EDIT

**T**his text editing program is designed for an unexpanded Nascom 1. It is versatile and contains a number of useful features. 'Shift' function is provided by pressing the '@' key then the required character. The control characters used are:

- '@' followed by '<' moves cursor up one line
- '@' followed by '>' moves cursor down one line
- '@' followed by 'New Line' scrolls whole text down one line
- '@' followed by 'Back Space' clears screen

In addition,

- '@' followed by 'Space' and,
- '@' followed by '@'

can be used to jump into further subroutines (eg, dump text onto teletype).

### Text Alteration

Moving the cursor up or down does not erase the text (only 'BS' and 'Space' keys will), making it simpler to correct errors in the middle of a page.

The program will also enable text to be written into the unscrolled top line (by moving the cursor down).

To execute, key ED00, followed by 'NL'

|                    |            |                    |                                          |
|--------------------|------------|--------------------|------------------------------------------|
| D00                | 3E 1E      | LD A, 1E           | Clear screen                             |
| D02                | CD 3B 01   | CALL CRT           |                                          |
| D05                | 16 20      | LD D, 20           | load 'space' (for scroll down S.R.)      |
| D07                | CD 69 00   | CALL KBD           | scans keyboard                           |
| D0A                | 30 FB      | JR NC -3           |                                          |
| D0C                | FE 40      | CP 40              | look for '@'                             |
| D0E                | CA 27 0D   | JP Z D27           | jump 'shift. S.R. if '@'                 |
| D11                | 00 00 00   | NOP                |                                          |
| D14                | 00 00      |                    |                                          |
| D16                | FE 3F      | CP 3F              | look for '?'                             |
| D18                | F2 20 0D   | JP P D20           | jump if greater than '?'                 |
| D1B                | C3 64 0D   | JP D64             | jump CRT S.R.                            |
| D1E                | 00 00      | NOP                |                                          |
| D20                | C6 20      | ADD 20             | shift characters 41 to 4A                |
| D22                | C3 64 0D   | JP D64             |                                          |
| D25                | 00 00      | NOP                |                                          |
| D27                | CD 69 00   | CALL KBD           |                                          |
| D2A                | 30 FB      | JR NC -3           | looks for character to be shifted        |
| D2C                | FE 2C      | CP 2C              | look for '<'                             |
| D2E                | CA 90 0D   | JP Z D90           | jump if '<' to cursor S.R.               |
| D31                | FE 2E      | CP 2E              | look for '>'                             |
| D33                | CA 90 0D   | JP Z D90           |                                          |
| D36                | FE 2D      | CP 2D              | look for '—'                             |
| D38                | CA 43 0D   | JP Z D43           |                                          |
| D3B                | FE 2F      | CP 2F              | look for '/'                             |
| D3D                | CA 43 0D   | JP Z D43           |                                          |
| D40                | C3 48 0D   | JP D48             |                                          |
| D43                | C6 10      | ADD 10             | shift characters '—' & '/'               |
| D45                | C3 64 0D   | JP D64             |                                          |
| D48                | FE 3C      | CP 3C              | look for '<'                             |
| D4A                | F2 54 0D   | JP P D54           |                                          |
| D4D                | D6 10      | SUB 10             | shift characters 30 to 38                |
| D4F                | FE 10      | CP 10              | look for '8' ie, '@' followed by 'space' |
| D51                | CA 07* 0D* | JP Z D07           |                                          |
| D54                | FE 40      | CP 40              | look for '@'                             |
| D56                | CA 07* 0D* | JP Z D07           |                                          |
| D59                | FE 0F      | CP 0F              | look for 'NL'                            |
| D5B                | CA 6A 0D   | JP Z D6A           | jump SCROLL DOWN S.R.                    |
| D5E                | FE 0D      | CP 0D              | look for 'back space'                    |
| D60                | CA 00 0D   | JP Z D00           | clear screen                             |
| D63                | 00         | NOP                |                                          |
| D64                | CD 3B 01   | CALL CRT           | print character                          |
| D67                | C3 05 0D   | JP D05             | return to beginning of program           |
| Scroll Down S.R.:- |            |                    |                                          |
| D6A                | 3E 20      | LD A, 20           |                                          |
| D6C                | 2A 18 0C   | LD HL, (0C18 0C19) | remove '—' from screen                   |

|                         |          |               |                                     |
|-------------------------|----------|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| D6F                     | 77       | LD (HL), A    |                                     |
| D70                     | 00       | NOP           |                                     |
| D71                     | 21 8A 0B | LD HL, 0B8A   |                                     |
| D74                     | 22 18 0C | LD 0C18, HL   | place cursor bottom left            |
| D77                     | 21 79 0B | LD HL, 0B79   |                                     |
| D7A                     | 11 B9 0B | LD DE, 0BB9   |                                     |
| D7D                     | 01 80 03 | LD BC, 380    | scroll down                         |
| D80                     | ED B8    | LDDR          |                                     |
| D82                     | 06 30    | LD B, 30      |                                     |
| D84                     | 21 0A 08 | LD HL, 080A   |                                     |
| D87                     | 77       | LD (HL), A    | eliminate top line of screen        |
| D88                     | 23       | INC HL        |                                     |
| D89                     | 10 FC    | DJNZ          |                                     |
| D8B                     | C3 05 0D | JP D05        | return to beginning                 |
| D8E                     | 00 00    | NOP           |                                     |
| Cursor 'up/down' S.R.:- |          |               |                                     |
| D90                     | 2A 18 0C | LD HL, (0C18) |                                     |
| D93                     | 01 40 00 | LD BC, 0040   |                                     |
| D96                     | 72       | LD (HL), D    |                                     |
| D97                     | FE 2C    | CP 2C         | look for '<'                        |
| D99                     | 28 04    | JR Z +6       |                                     |
| D9B                     | ED 4A    | ADD HL, BC    |                                     |
| D9D                     | ED 4A    | ADD HL, BC    | move cursor up or down one line     |
| D9F                     | ED 42    | SUB HL, BC    |                                     |
| DA1                     | 56       | LD D, (HL)    | store character 'covered' by cursor |
| DA2                     | 1E 5F    | LD E, 5F      | load '—'                            |
| DA4                     | 73       | LD (HL), E    | place '—' on screen                 |
| DA5                     | 22 18 0C | LD (0C18), HL | return new address of cursor        |
| DA8                     | C3 07 0D | JP D07        | return to beginning                 |

Note : \* can be changed to jump into alternative subroutines.

Christopher Oddy.

## OPCODE DISPLAY

**F**or Acorn users, this program will display machine codes in much the same way as the Intelligent Tabulator program does for the Nascom. On inspection of the Acorn manual it can be seen that there are areas of 1, 2 and 3 byte opcodes which can be easily separated by checking the two digits and subsequently testing for oddities like JSR.

### Display Format

The program displays the least significant address byte (you only have 8 digits to play with) followed by the opcode and any operands. To make the display more legible dots are put on every other digit, thus splitting up the pairs of hex digits. The disassembler table can be broken down as follows :-

- Single byte, 2nd digit = 8 or A or,  
" " = 0 and 1st digit < 8 and even.
- Double byte, 2nd digit = 1 to 6 or,  
" " = 9 and 1st digit > 8 and odd.
- Treble byte, 2nd digit = C to E or,  
" " = 9 and 1st digit is odd.

### Program Location

The program location is within the 128 bytes of RAM from 0E80 which is associated with the Port, but is completely relocatable.

|      |          |       |             |                                         |
|------|----------|-------|-------------|-----------------------------------------|
| 0E80 | A2 07    | START | LDX #07     | First Clear Display                     |
| 0E82 | 94 10    | CLEAR | STY X,10    |                                         |
| 0E84 | CA       |       | DEX         |                                         |
| 0E85 | D0 FB    |       | BNE CLEAR   |                                         |
| 0E87 | A5 00    |       | LDA Z,MAP   | Get Opcode Address                      |
| 0E89 | 20 6F FE |       | JSR DHEXTD  | Display least significant byte on left  |
| 0E8C | A1 00    |       | LDA (MAP,X) | Get the Opcode                          |
| 0E8E | A0 02    |       | LDY #02     |                                         |
| 0E90 | 20 6F FE |       | JSR DHEXTD  | Display this on next pair of digits     |
| 0E93 | A1 00    |       | LDA (MAP,X) | Get it back and carry out disassembling |
| 0E95 | 29 0F    |       | AND #0F     | Remove first 1st digit                  |

# SOFTSPOT SPECIAL

|      |       |             |                                                                |      |       |        |             |                                                              |
|------|-------|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|------|-------|--------|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| 0E97 | F0 2C | BEQ CHECK   | if second digit = 0 check for 3 bytes                          | 0EC5 | A1 00 | CHECK  | LDA (MAP,X) | Check for complicating opcodes—get opcode again JSR?         |
| 0E99 | C9 08 | CMP #08     |                                                                | 0EC7 | C9 20 |        | CMP #20     |                                                              |
| 0E9B | 90 0E | BCC 2B      | if second digit < 8 we have a 2 byte                           | 0EC9 | F0 E2 |        | BEQ 3B      |                                                              |
|      |       |             |                                                                | 0ECB | 29 F0 |        | AND #F0     | Remove second digit — leaving first! greater than 8 — 2 Byte |
| 0E9D | F0 36 | BEQ 1B      | if second digit = 8 we have a 1 byte                           | 0ECD | C9 80 |        | CMP #80     |                                                              |
| 0E9F | C9 0A | CMP #0A     |                                                                | 0ECF | B0 DA |        | BCS 2B      | check if odd or even                                         |
| 0EA1 | F0 32 | BEQ 1B      | if second digit = A we have a 1 byte                           | 0ED1 | 29 10 |        | AND #10     | Odd—2 byte—otherwise—                                        |
| 0EA3 | B0 08 | BCS 3B      | if second digit > A we have a 3 byte                           | 0ED3 | D0 D6 |        | BNE 2B      | 1 BYTE opcode—already finished!!                             |
| 0EA5 | A1 00 | LDA (MAP,X) | Get it back again! —                                           | 0ED5 | A2 01 | 1B     | LDX #01     | increment MAP,X times — to move to next opcode               |
| 0EA7 | 29 10 | AND #10     | —we are left with 9's                                          | 0ED7 | E6 00 | FINISH | INC Z,MAP,X |                                                              |
| 0EA9 | D0 02 | BNE 3B      | if first digit odd we have a 3 byte                            | 0ED9 | D0 02 |        | BNE NO INC  |                                                              |
|      |       |             |                                                                | 0EDB | E6 01 |        | INC Z,MAP,X |                                                              |
| 0EAB | A2 02 | 2B          | 2 BYTE opcode (remember in X)                                  | 0EDD | CA    | NOINC  | DEX         | increment again                                              |
| 0EAD | 88    | 3B          | 3 BYTE opcode                                                  | 0EDE | D0 F7 |        | BNE FINISH  | Now put dots on every other digit to make it more readable   |
| 0EAE | B1 00 | DEY         | get second byte                                                | 0EE0 | A2 05 |        | LDX #05     |                                                              |
| 0EB0 | A0 04 | LDA (MAP,Y) |                                                                | 0EE2 | A9 80 | DOT    | LDA #DOT    |                                                              |
| 0EB2 | 20 6F | FE          | JSR DHEXTD                                                     | 0EE4 | 15 10 |        | ORA Z,X,—10 |                                                              |
| 0EB5 | 8A    |             | TXA                                                            | 0EE6 | 95 10 |        | STA Z,X,—10 |                                                              |
| 0EB6 | D0 1F | BNE FINISH  | Display it if X=0 we have a 3 byte —otherwise we have a 2 byte | 0EE8 | CA    |        | DEX         |                                                              |
|      |       |             |                                                                | 0EE9 | CA    |        | DEX         |                                                              |
| 0EB8 | A0 02 | LDY #02     |                                                                | 0EEA | 10 F6 |        | BPL DOT     |                                                              |
| 0EBA | B1 00 | LDA (MAP,Y) | get third byte                                                 | 0EEC | 20 0C | FE     | JSR DISPLAY | Display disassembled opcode was UP (A) key pressed           |
| 0EBC | A0 06 | LDY #06     |                                                                | 0EEF | C9 16 |        | CMP #UP     | Yes — carry on                                               |
| 0EBE | 20 6F | FE          | JSR DHEXTD                                                     | 0EF1 | F0 8D |        | BEQ START   | No—jump back to monitor                                      |
| 0EC1 | A2 03 | LDX #03     | display it                                                     | 0EF3 | 4C 09 | FF     | JMP SEARCH  |                                                              |
| 0EC3 | D0 12 | BNE FINISH  | 3 byte opcode finished                                         | 0EF6 |       |        |             |                                                              |

1ST DIGIT

2ND DIGIT

|   | 0         | 1         | 2         | 3 | 4        | 5        | 6        | 7 | 8   | 9         | A    | B | C       | D       | E       | F |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|---|----------|----------|----------|---|-----|-----------|------|---|---------|---------|---------|---|
| 0 | BRK       | ORD (I,X) |           |   |          | ORA ZERO | ASL ZERO |   | PHP | ORA IMMED | ASLA |   |         | ORA ABS | ASL ABS |   |
| 1 | BPL       | ORD (I),Y |           |   |          | ORD Z,X  | ASL Z,X  |   | CLC | ORA A,Y   |      |   |         | ORA A,X | ASL A,X |   |
| 2 | JSR       | AND (I,X) |           |   | BIT ZERO | AND ZERO | ROL ZERO |   | PLP | AND IMMED | ROLA |   | BIT ABS | AND ABS | ROL ABS |   |
| 3 | BMI       | AND (I),Y |           |   |          | AND Z,X  | ROL Z,X  |   | SEC | AND A,Y   |      |   |         | AND A,X | ROL A,X |   |
| 4 | RTI       | EOR (I,X) |           |   |          | EOR ZERO | LSR ZERO |   | PHA | EOR IMMED | LSRA |   | JMP ABS | EOR ABS | LSR ABS |   |
| 5 | BVC       | EOR (I),Y |           |   |          | EOR Z,X  | LSR Z,X  |   | CLI | EOR A,Y   |      |   |         | EOR A,X | LSR A,X |   |
| 6 | RTS       | ADC (I,X) |           |   |          | ADC ZERO | FOR ZERO |   | PLA | ADC IMMED | RORA |   | JMP IND | ADC ABS | ROR ABS |   |
| 7 | BVS       | ADC (I),Y |           |   |          | ADC Z,X  | ROR Z,X  |   |     | ADC A,Y   |      |   |         | ADC A,X | ROR A,X |   |
| 8 |           | STA (I,X) |           |   | STY ZERO | STA ZERO | STX ZERO |   | DEY |           | TXA  |   | STY ABS | STA ABS | STX ABS |   |
| 9 | BCC       | STA (I),Y |           |   | STY Z,X  | STA Z,X  | STX Z,Y  |   | TYA | STA A,Y   | TXS  |   |         | STA A,X |         |   |
| A | LDY IMMED | LDA (I,X) | LDX IMMED |   | LDY ZERO | LDA ZERO | LDX ZERO |   |     | LDA IMMED | TAX  |   | LDY ABS | LDA ABS | LDX ABS |   |
| B | BCS       | LDA (I),Y |           |   | LDY Z,X  | LDA Z,X  | LDX Z,Y  |   | CLV | LDA A,Y   | TSX  |   | LDY A,X | LDA A,X | LDX A,Y |   |
| C | CPY IMMED | CMP (I,X) |           |   | CPY ZERO | CMP ZERO | DEC ZERO |   | INY | CMP IMMED | DEX  |   | CPY ABS | CMP ABS | DEC ABS |   |
| D | BNE       | CMP (I),Y |           |   |          | CMP Z,X  | DEC Z,X  |   | CLD | CMP A,Y   |      |   |         | CMP A,X | DEC A,X |   |
| E | CPX IMMED | SBC (I,X) |           |   | CPX ZERO | SBC ZERO | INC ZERO |   | INX | SBC IMMED | NOP  |   | CPX ABS | SBC ABS | INC ABS |   |
| F | BEQ       | SBC (I),Y |           |   |          | SBC Z,X  | INC Z,X  |   | SED | SBC A,Y   |      |   |         | SBC A,X | INC A,X |   |



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THE NEXT FEW DAYS, - THIS IS  
A SICK NOTE!"

## Our regular problems continue with solutions to last month's pot pourri

In the problems I set I try, if possible, to highlight the limitations as well as the capabilities of the computer. The problems last month showed how an apparently small increase in complexity can lead to a radical rethink of method.

### Square And Add — 1

Well I did promise some short problems and you can't get one much shorter than this, can you? The reason for this problem's relative ease is the fact that only 9000 numbers need to be tested and all the results fit nicely within the range of a single real variable. Of course if you only have limited precision integer BASIC it's more difficult, but then, once you have solved this problem the next is only an extension. Figure 1 gives the program and solutions. I leave it to you to work out the details of this short program but I will comment that the solutions come in pairs — — can you see how?

```

10 REM *****
20 REM *
30 REM * PROGRAM --- SQUARE & ADD -1 *
40 REM *
50 REM * PROGRAMMED IN (PET) BASIC *
60 REM *
70 REM * TREVOR L LUSTY 30/12/1979 *
80 REM *
90 REM *****
110 FOR N = 1000 TO 9999
120 LET S = N*N
130 LET F = INT( S/10000 )
140 LET L = INT( S - 10000*F + .5 )
150 IF N = F+L THEN PRINT N/S
160 NEXT N
170 END
READY.

```

|      |          |
|------|----------|
| 2223 | 4941729  |
| 2728 | 7441984  |
| 4950 | 24502500 |
| 5050 | 25502500 |
| 7272 | 52881984 |
| 7777 | 60481729 |
| 9999 | 99980001 |

Fig.1. Square and Add the easy way.

### Square And Add — 2

I had a problem myself when I set this one! Did I set a problem with which even those using extended BASIC would have difficulty, or did I settle for a more reasonable level of difficulty. Having already received a letter accusing me of being a sadist I decided to chicken out.

What makes this problem more difficult? Well firstly there is the question of representation, the square of a six digit number is just too big to fit into a single variable. (If you have extended BASIC just extend the problem.) We just have to find another way of storing the number, but fortunately a little simple algebra helps a lot. Now we all remember (said he sadistically) that

$$(a + b)(a + b) = axa + 2ab + bxb$$

and the important thing to realise as far as this problem is concerned is that if  $a$  is a number ending with 3 zeros then  $axa$  is a number ending with 6 zeros.

To solve the problem we don't actually want the complete square, all we need is the first six digits and the last six digits. The first six are the most significant digits in the square and may be found by the usual method, as shown in line 130 of figure 2. It is the second set of digits which will not be represented accurately and we use an algebraic trick to calculate these. The number under test is made up of two parts  $N1$  and  $N2$ , where  $N = N1 + N2$ .  $N1$  always ends with 3 zeros and therefore the square does not affect the values of the last six digits.

example :-

$$\begin{aligned}
 &148149 \times 148149 \\
 &= 148000 \times 148000 + 2 \times 148000 \times 149 + 149 \times 149 \\
 &= 21904000000 + 44104000 + 22201 \\
 &= 21948126201
 \end{aligned}$$

```

10 REM *****
20 REM *
30 REM * PROGRAM --- SQUARE AND ADD *
40 REM *
50 REM * PROGRAMMED IN (PET) BASIC *
60 REM *
70 REM * TREVOR L LUSTY 30/12/79 *
80 REM *
90 REM *****
100 FOR N1 = 100000 TO 999999 STEP 1000
110 FOR N2 = 0 TO 999
115 LET N = N1 + N2
120 LET S = N * N
130 LET F = INT( S/1000000 )
160 LET N3 = 2 * N1 * N2
170 LET L = INT( N3 - 1000000*INT( N3/1000000 ) + .5 )
190 LET L = L + N2 * N2
200 LET L = INT( L - 1000000*INT( L/1000000 ) + .5 )
210 IF N = F+L THEN PRINT N/F,L
220 NEXT N2
230 NEXT N1
240 END
READY.

```

|        |        |        |
|--------|--------|--------|
| 142857 | 20400  | 122449 |
| 148149 | 21948  | 126201 |
| 181819 | 33058  | 148761 |
| 187110 | 35010  | 152100 |
| 208495 | 43470  | 165025 |
| 318682 | 101558 | 217124 |
| 329967 | 108878 | 221089 |
| 351352 | 123448 | 227904 |
| 356643 | 127194 | 229449 |
| 390313 | 152344 | 237969 |
| 461539 | 213018 | 248521 |
| 466830 | 217930 | 248900 |
| 499500 | 249500 | 250000 |
| 500500 | 250500 | 250000 |
| 533170 | 284270 | 248900 |
| 538461 | 289940 | 248521 |
| 609687 | 371718 | 237969 |
| 643357 | 413908 | 229449 |
| 648648 | 420744 | 227904 |
| 670033 | 448944 | 221089 |
| 681318 | 464194 | 217124 |
| 791505 | 626480 | 165025 |
| 812890 | 660790 | 152100 |
| 818181 | 669420 | 148761 |
| 851851 | 725650 | 126201 |
| 857143 | 734694 | 122449 |
| 999999 | 999998 | 1      |

Fig.2. Solution to the more difficult problem.

# PROBLEM PAGE

and we see that the digits 126201 come from the sum of the last two numbers only. Lines 160 – 200 of the program form these digits without reference to N1 squared. The flowchart (figure 3) helps to clarify the procedure.

The second factor which makes this problem different from the previous one is the time it takes. The 9000 numbers in the previous problem can be tested in 10 minutes or so. With 100 times that number to test this problem turns a coffee break into something approaching a weekend! If you used a less efficient algorithm you have my sympathy, if you saw the difficulty and used machine code then well done.

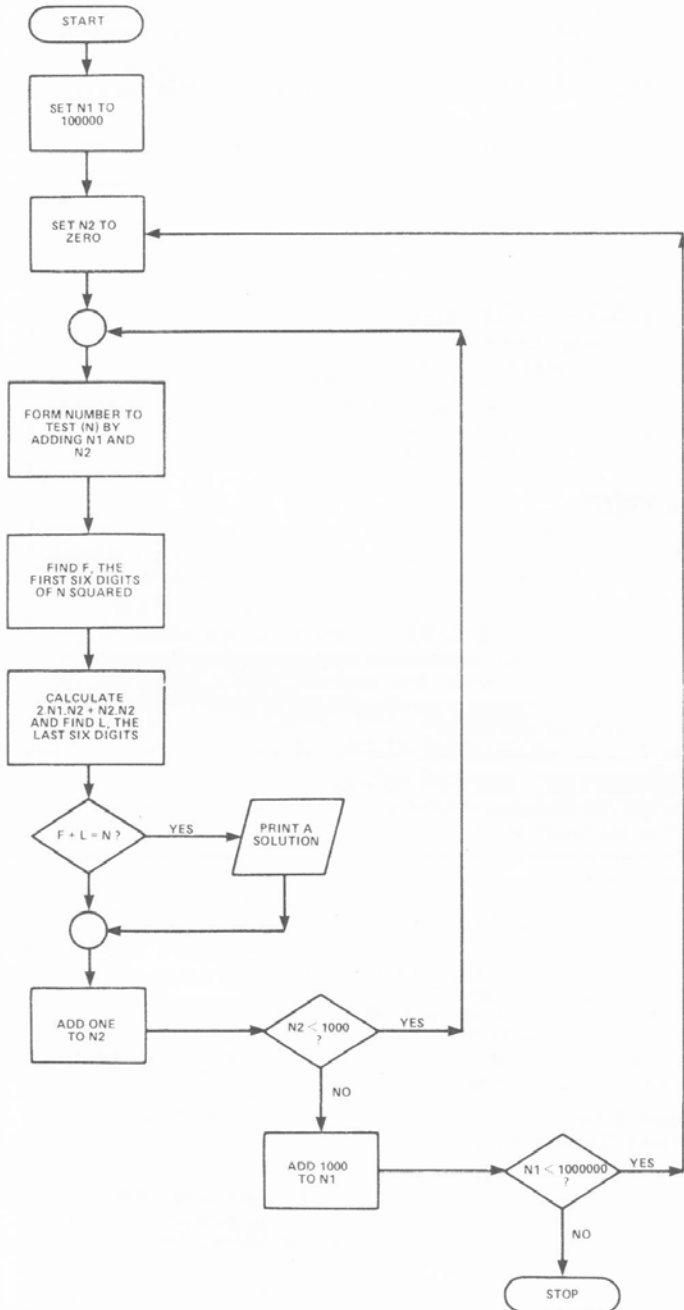


Fig.3. Flowchart for square and Add.

## Powerful Digits

This was a simple example of nesting loops. The listing and run of the five digit problem is given in figure 4, I have not included the three digit listing as the program is so similar. However the answers are 153, 370, 371 and 407.

## Problem Of The Month

Thank you for all your letters, I was amazed how far afield Computing Today is read and what a varied bunch you all are. Like most problem setters I enjoy a good problem myself and Fr. Curtis in Roscrea set me a beauty. He was using the Division Unlimited program to examine recurring decimals and could not find a fraction which recurred after 17 digits. He asked me to find a factor of 11,111,111,111, 111,111. Well I think that one's prime — — — of course, if you know different . . . . .

Still, it made me think about finding the factors of fairly big numbers so :—

## Hunt The Prime

Can you find the prime factors of the number :—

385,640,866,350,419 ?

and for all those whose letters started — — — 'with reference to Trevor Lusty's balls' I offer :—

## Coconut Shy?

In a jungle clearing was a pile of coconuts in the form of a triangular pyramid. When the pyramid was dismantled it was found that the number of nuts formed an exact square. How many nuts were there in the pyramid?

```

10 REM *****
20 REM *
30 REM * PROGRAM, --- POWERFUL DIGITS *
40 REM *
50 REM * PROGRAMMED IN 'PET' BASIC *
60 REM *
70 REM * TREVOR L LUSTY 30/12/79 *
80 REM *
90 REM *****
110 FOR A=1 TO 9
115 FOR B=0 TO 9
120 FOR C=0 TO 9
125 FOR D=0 TO 9
130 FOR E=0 TO 9
140 LET N= 10000*A + 1000*B + 100*C + 10*D + E
150 LET S = A*A*A*A*A + B*B*B*B*B + C*C*C*C*C
      + D*D*D*D*D + E*E*E*E*E
160 IF N <> S THEN 190
170 PRINT N;"EQUALS THE SUM OF ITS DIGITS"
175 PRINT "RAISED TO THE FIFTH POWER"
180 PRINT
190 NEXT E
195 NEXT D
200 NEXT C
205 NEXT B
210 NEXT A
220 END
READY.
  
```

54748 EQUALS THE SUM OF ITS DIGITS  
RAISED TO THE FIFTH POWER

92727 EQUALS THE SUM OF ITS DIGITS  
RAISED TO THE FIFTH POWER

93084 EQUALS THE SUM OF ITS DIGITS  
RAISED TO THE FIFTH POWER

Fig.4. An example of nested loops.



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- Book 3** Positive ECL; De Morgans Laws; designing logic circuits using NOR gates; dual-input gates.
- Book 4** Introduction to pulse driven circuits; R-S and J-K flip flops; binary counters; shift registers; half-adders.

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## Flow Charts and Algorithms

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## BASIC on an Mk14, you must be joking! Well here it is in all its glory to show you the way.

I bought an Mk14 kit at the beginning of 1979. After assembly it worked first time, and I went on to spend many happy hours familiarising myself with the programming code. I am a teacher, and it rapidly became clear to me that here was a machine that had great possibilities as an aid to the teaching of computing, in its early stages, but that there were three major problems which would have to be overcome.

- The keyboard was very inefficient. Time and again addresses or data were misread.
- The display was much too small, especially as I wished to be able to demonstrate what was happening to groups of pupils. However, I did not want to go to the expense of a VDU display system.
- The available RAM was inadequate for something which it seemed to me would make the computer even more useful — the implementation of a simple high level number processing language.

As a first step towards overcoming these problems I replaced the keyboard with a set of small push switches (Maplin Ref. FF87U), the pins of which fitted exactly the holes in the PCB. However, I still got double bounce errors, and only overcame these finally when I removed from each switch the snap washer which gave it its 'click effect'.

Next, I replaced the miniature LED display strip with a display made up on a piece of Veroboard from eight 0.3 inch LED digits. This gave a readout which is easily viewed by several people at once.

Finally, I installed 1½K of additional RAM, addressed as indicated in the Mk14 instructions. The voltage regulator on the Mk14 proved able to supply this extra RAM, and also a tape interface module, but required a heatsink.

### Language Development

I then turned my attention to the development of the high level language. None of the existing forms of BASIC would go into the memory I had available. This consisted of a total of 2K, but some of this was dedicated to the Mk14 monitor, and I wanted some for a data store. From what was left I had to find working space, program storage space, and space for the interpreter. It was clear that a compromise between all these demands was going to be difficult to work out.

I decided to attempt to devise a very simple subset of BASIC, and to call this micro-micro subset PICO BASIC. In this language the four basic arithmetic rules, + - x ÷, would be essential. The four BASIC instructions which seemed to me to be most necessary were INPUT, PRINT, GOTO, and an IF. And I wanted to be able to store and read data. It was clear that with a hexadecimal keyboard I would have to use single keys for each instruction, and would have to implement some form of upper and lower case system.

I decided from the beginning to aim at an integer arithmetic, and had hoped to cater for both negative and positive numbers. But as the system developed this had to go, and PICO now operates four-digit positive integer arithmetic, (mod 10,000). However, it is surprising how much useful computing can in fact be done within this limitation.

### Descript Of The Language

The Mk14 keyboard is used as indicated in the table. Some of the keys are relabelled for convenience in use.

The PICO interpreter is entered from tape and stored as shown in the memory maps.

#### Overall Memory Map

|      |        |           |
|------|--------|-----------|
| 0F00 | — 0FFF | RAM       |
| 0E00 | — 0EFF | (RAM I/O) |
| 0D00 | — 0DFF | DISPLAY   |
| 0C00 | — 0CFF | (RAM I/O) |
| 0B00 | — 0BFF | RAM       |
| 0A00 | — 0AFF | (RAM I/O) |
| 0900 | — 09FF | DISPLAY   |
| 0800 | — 08FF | (RAM I/O) |
| 0200 | — 07FF | RAM       |
| 0000 | — 01FF | MONITOR   |

#### Map of Available RAM

|      |        |                    |
|------|--------|--------------------|
| 0FF7 | — 0FFF | Monitor variables  |
| 0FAA | — 0FF6 | Serial data file   |
| 0F50 | — 0FA9 | Interpreter part C |
| 0F12 | — 0F4F | PICO variables     |
| 0F00 | — 0F11 | Monitor variables  |
| 0B00 | — 0BFF | Interpreter part B |
| 0600 | — 07FF | PICO program store |
| 0200 | — 05FF | Interpreter part A |

The 512 bytes of PICO program store allow the running of programs of up to 56 lines. The serial data file will hold 77 2-digit numbers, or, with a small change in the interpreter, 38 4-digit numbers.

### General Form Of PICO Statements

n n x x x x x x x x

- Line number nn in the range 01 to 99, two digits essential. Lines may be entered in any order, but will be executed in line number order.
- Instruction x . . x, up to 8 characters. If more than 8 characters are entered, the line aborts and must be re-entered, starting with the line number.

### Entering PICO Programs

- Address 021E.
- Press RUN — display is ? followed by 7 blanks, indicating readiness to accept program line.
- Enter program line. If an error is made, press RUN and start line again.
- Press LINE — display indicates readiness for next line.
- After entering last program line press END — display is RUN, indicating readiness to run. To run program press RUN.

### Execution Of Programs

Statements are executed in the order of their line numbers, regardless of the order in which they were entered. If two or more lines have the same line number, only the last entered

is executed. A line can thus in effect be overwritten, and it may in effect be deleted by entering the line number on its own.

### Error Detection And Correction

Error detection is written into the interpreter. When the computer attempts to execute at run time a line containing an error in syntax, the run halts and ? is displayed. The number of the line which caused the halt can be discovered by the following procedure.

- a) Return to monitor — press X.
- b) Address 0E1A — the two most right digits show the required line number.

To see what is in that line, carry out the following.

- c) Address 0F1D and enter the line number at that address.
- d) Address 0339 and press RUN — display is RUN plus a set of symbols (related to the segment code for the line number).
- e) Press RUN. The required line is displayed.

To alter the line, proceed as follows. (If no alteration is required, jump to step j below.

- f) Press RUN — display is ?
- g) Enter revised line, including line number.
- h) Press LINE.
- i) Press END — display is RUN plus the symbols, which serve to remind of the necessity to reset 0F1D to zero.
- j) Press X.
- k) Address 0F1D and enter zero (or return to step c above to see another line).
- l) Address 0339.
- m) Press RUN.

If it is desired to alter a line without the necessity of seeing it first, follow these steps.

- n) Address 0339 and press RUN.
- o) Press INPUT.
- p) Proceed as from c) in the section 'Entering PICO programs'.

### PICO Statements

INPUT eg 01Inv4

To enter this press 01  $\Delta$  INPUT  $\Delta$  4

At run time this statement produces the display v4=?, and the run halts to await entry of a number. If more than 4 digits are entered, only the last 4 are retained.

After the number has been entered, press RUN to resume execution of the program. The number will be stored in variable v4, one of ten available variables which are designated v0 to v9.

PRINT eg 02Prv5

At run time this statement produces the display v5=xxxx, the number stored in v5. Leading zeroes are suppressed.

Press RUN to continue execution.

GOTO eg G006

This causes the program to jump immediately to line 06. If the destination line number does not exist in the program, execution will jump to the first existing one above it, or, failing that, to the start of the program.

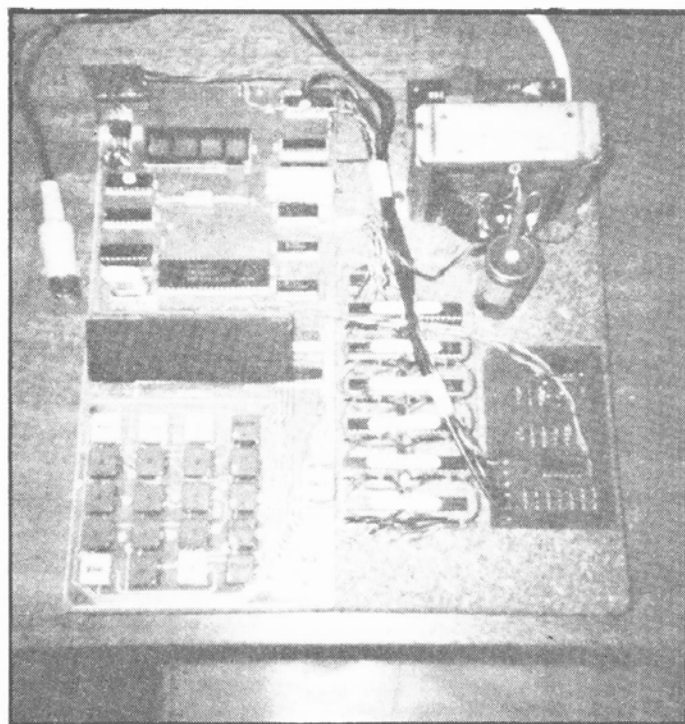
IF eg (04)IFv5v608

As the last two characters are entered, the line number disappears off the left of the display.

This statement is equivalent to the normal BASIC statement.

04 IF v5  $\geq$  v6 THEN 08

It causes execution to move immediately to line 08 if the number in v5 is greater than or equal to the number in v6. If



The author's Mk14. The power supply unit is at top right, the tape interface module at lower right, and the additional RAM between that and the main PCB. On the PCB can be seen the heat sink (top left), the new display board, and the re-labelled keyboard. The tape interface LEDs have been included on the display board.

v5 is less than v6 execution continues at the next higher line number above 04.

By reversing the positions of v5 and v6 the effect  $v5 \leq v6$  is obtained. This is the most useful single conditional jump statement.

ASSIGN CONSTANT eg 05v7=xxxx

This causes the number xxxx to be stored in v7.

ASSIGN VARIABLE eg 06v8=v7

This causes the contents of v7 to be stored also at v8.

### Calculate

The four functions add, subtract, multiply and divide may be invoked, but unlike conventional BASICs only one calculation may take place per program line.

In the example below f stands for any one of the four functions.

(07)v1=afb

This is the general form, and a,b stand for numbers or variables. A maximum of 5 display digits is available for afb. When both a and b are variables these are fully used.

eg (07)v1=v1+v2

When a or b is a variable and the other is a number, the number may not have more than 2 digits.

eg (07)v1=v2-23

When both a and b are numbers, the total number of their digits may not exceed 4. When it is desired to use larger numbers they must first be assigned to variables.

### Notes on the calculations

- a) Answers are given mod 10,000. Thus 11,340 would be shown as 1,340, and -2 as 9,998.
- b) Multiplication is effected by repeated addition without shifts, and 27x932 takes longer than 932x27.
- c) The answer to a division gives the integer part of the quotient — the answer is truncated, not rounded.



## Input & Load Data

A serial data file for up to 77 2-digit numbers is available. A modification of the interpreter (given in the listing) will change this to 38 4-digit numbers if required.

During each program run the numbers are normally accessed in order from the beginning of the file using these statements.

eg 08ldv9  
09Ldv6

The first statement causes the two right hand digits of the number in v9 (the whole number if the 4-digit file is in use) to be stored at the next file location. The second causes the contents of the next file location to be stored at v6.

The number of the file location to be next accessed is held in v0 in hexadecimal. It is incremented by 1 after each access. By storing a decimal number from 00 to 49 in v0, 50 of the file locations can be directly accessed at any point of a program. By treating the two figures of this number as array subscripts it is possible to implement a 5x10 array.

Data may be entered during one program run and retrieved at a later date by a different program, providing that the computer has not been switched off. It can also, of course, be transferred to tape for permanent storage.

## Notes On Programming

- When the program linefile is full (contains 56 lines) any attempt to enter a further line produces the display F.
- The 56 includes any lines which have been repeated to correct errors or to vary the program.
- A routine to display any number of decimal places resulting from a division is included among the sample programs.
- There are 10 variables denoted v0 to v9. v0 doubles as data file address store.
- At the start of every run these variables are zeroed.

## Sample Programs

### MULTIPLES

This simple program displays successive multiples of a chosen number.

```
01 In v1      Note the closed loop with the PRINT
02 v0=v0+v1   statement in it. In conventional BASIC
03 Pr v0       this would produce an endless succe-
04 GO 02       sion of multiples which could only be
                halted by breaking into the program
                run. In PICO the run halts each time the
                PRINT statement is reached, to be
                resumed by pressing RUN. But as in
                normal BASIC the only way to get out
                of the loop is by returning to the mon-
                itor.
```

### DATA INPUT


This loop is used to enter data into the serial data file.

```
05 In v1
10 Id v1
15 GO 05
```

### MEAN OF NUMBERS IN DATA FILE

The program includes the use of a stop value (rogue value) at the end of the data to get out of the load loop.

```
01 v1=99      Stop value = 99
02 Ld v2
03 IF v2 v1 07
04 v3=v3+1
05 v4=v4+v2
```

| KEY                                       | LOWER CASE |                                                                                     | UPPER CASE                  |         |
|-------------------------------------------|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------|
| 0-9<br>A<br>B<br>C<br>D<br>E<br>F         | LABEL      | DISPLAY                                                                             | LABEL                       | DISPLAY |
|                                           | 0-9        | 0-9                                                                                 | 0-9                         | v0-v9   |
|                                           | +          | -/                                                                                  | GOTO                        | GO      |
|                                           | -          | -                                                                                   | IF                          | IF      |
|                                           | *          | .                                                                                   |                             | Ld      |
|                                           | /          |  | PRINT                       | Pr      |
|                                           | =          | =                                                                                   | INPUT                       | In      |
|                                           | ^          | v                                                                                   |                             | Id      |
|                                           | TERM       | END                                                                                 | End of program, prepare run |         |
| MEM                                       | LINE       | End of line, store in program                                                       |                             |         |
| GO                                        | RUN        |                                                                                     |                             |         |
| ABORT                                     | X          | Return to monitor                                                                   |                             |         |
| Notes :                                   |            |                                                                                     |                             |         |
| a C upper case is for LOAD (READ) DATA    |            |                                                                                     |                             |         |
| b F lower case is for shift to upper case |            |                                                                                     |                             |         |
| c F upper case is for INPUT (WRITE) DATA  |            |                                                                                     |                             |         |

Key designations for PICO BASIC on the Mk 14 keyboard.

```
06 GO 02
07 v5+v4/v3
08 Pr v4      Displays total of numbers
09 Pr v3      Displays number of numbers
10 Pr v5      Displays mean of numbers
```

## DIVISION WITH DECIMAL PLACES

The first run produces the integer part of the answer. Each successive press of RUN produces one decimal place of the answer.

```
01 In v1
02 In v2
03 v3=v1/v2
04 Pr v3
05 v4=v3xv2
06 v5=v1-v4
07 v1=v5x10
08 GO 03
```

## SQUARE ROOT

The integer part of the square root of a given number is produced by the usual iterative method.

```
01 v0=10
02 v1=10
03 v4=0
04 In v2      Enter number whose root is required
05 v3=v2/v1
06 v3=v3+v1
07 v1=v3/2
08 v4=v4+1
09 IF v0 v4 05
10 Pr v1
11 GO 02
```

## Interpreter Listing

There follows a listing of the interpreter. It is highly probable that by careful consideration of each section of the interpreter it will be possible to prune it and thus release extra memory for the inclusion of desirable refinements such as a simplified way of displaying any line of the program in store.

| 0200 | Conversion codes | Display |
|------|------------------|---------|
| 00   | 3F               | 0       |
| 01   | 06               | 1       |
| 02   | 5B               | 2       |
| 03   | 4F               | 3       |
| 04   | 66               | 4       |
| 05   | 6D               | 5       |
| 06   | 7D               | 6       |
| 07   | 07               | 7       |
| 08   | 7F               | 8       |
| 09   | 67               | 9       |
| 0A   | 46               | + +     |
| 0B   | 40               | -       |
| 0C   | 80               | x       |
| 0D   | 52               | ÷       |
| 0E   | 48               | =       |
| 0F   | 3D               | g       |
| 10   | 06               | I       |
| 11   | 38               | L       |
| 12   | 73               | P       |
| 13   | 06               | I       |
| 14   | 06               | I       |
| 15   | 3F               | 0       |
| 16   | 71               | F       |
| 17   | 5E               | d       |
| 18   | 50               | r       |
| 19   | 54               | n       |
| 1A   | 5E               | d       |
| 1B   | 00               | BLANK   |
| 1C   | 1C               | v       |
| 1D   | 53               | ?       |

| 021E | Set P2, clear all stores 0F13-4F, set PAK H to 06 New program entry |
|------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1E   | C4 0F                                                               |
| 20   | 36                                                                  |
| 21   | C4 00                                                               |
| 23   | 32                                                                  |
| 24   | C4 2D                                                               |
| 26   | CA 12                                                               |
| 28   | 02                                                                  |
| 29   | F4 12                                                               |
| 2B   | 01                                                                  |
| 2C   | C4 00                                                               |
| 2E   | CA 80                                                               |
| 30   | BA 12                                                               |
| 32   | 9C F5                                                               |
| 34   | C4 06                                                               |
| 36   | CA 1C                                                               |

| 0238 | Set LSK to A, set LINE to BLANK, clear UCF, ELF, set L7 to ? New line entry |
|------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 38   | C4 0A                                                                       |
| 3A   | CA 16                                                                       |
| 3C   | CA 12                                                                       |
| 3E   | 02                                                                          |
| 3F   | F4 1F                                                                       |
| 41   | 01                                                                          |
| 42   | C4 1B                                                                       |
| 44   | CA 80                                                                       |
| 46   | BA 12                                                                       |
| 48   | 9C F5                                                                       |
| 4A   | C4 00                                                                       |
| 4C   | CA 14                                                                       |
| 4E   | CA 15                                                                       |
| 50   | C4 1D                                                                       |
| 52   | CA 27                                                                       |

| 0254 | Convert LINE to SEG and DISPLAY New character entry |
|------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| 54   | C4 02                                               |
| 56   | 35                                                  |
| 57   | C4 00                                               |
| 59   | 31                                                  |
| 5A   | C4 0F                                               |
| 5C   | 37                                                  |
| 5D   | C4 00                                               |
| 5F   | 33                                                  |
| 60   | C4 08                                               |
| 62   | CB 12                                               |
| 64   | C2 27                                               |
| 66   | 01                                                  |
| 67   | C1 80                                               |
| 69   | CA 07                                               |
| 6B   | C6 FF                                               |
| 6D   | BB 12                                               |
| 6F   | 9C F3                                               |
| 71   | C6 08                                               |
| 73   | 02                                                  |
| 74   | C4 01                                               |
| 76   | 37                                                  |
| 77   | C4 84                                               |
| 79   | 33                                                  |

| 7A   | 3F    | DISPLAY                                           |
|------|-------|---------------------------------------------------|
| 027B |       | Return, divert COMM, shift LINE left, process N,L |
| 7B   | 90 60 | JMP 02DD with COMM                                |
| 7D   | C4 0F | (N,L in E)                                        |
| 7F   | 37    |                                                   |
| 80   | C4 00 |                                                   |
| 82   | 33    | P3 set 0F00                                       |
| 83   | C4 09 |                                                   |
| 85   | CB 12 | K=9                                               |
| 87   | C2 28 | LOOP 4 LD L8-L0                                   |
| 89   | CA 29 | ST L9-L1                                          |
| 8B   | C6 FF | @-1 P2                                            |
| 8D   | BB 12 | DLD K                                             |
| 8F   | 9C F6 | JNZ LOOP 4                                        |
| 91   | C6 09 | @+9 P2                                            |
| 93   | BA 16 | DLD LSK - neg if more than 8 shifts               |
| 95   | 94 02 | JP 0299                                           |
| 97   | 90 9F | JMP 0238 New line entry, line abort               |
| 99   | 40    |                                                   |
| 9A   | E4 0F | E=F?                                              |
| 9C   | 9C 0C | JNZ 02AA                                          |
| 9E   | C4 1C |                                                   |
| A0   | CA 20 | L0=v                                              |
| A2   | AA 14 | ILD UCF                                           |
| A4   | E4 02 | UCF=2?                                            |
| A6   | 98 29 | JZ 02D1                                           |
| A8   | 90 AA | JMP 0254 New character entry                      |
| AA   | C2 14 | ILD UCF                                           |
| AC   | E4 01 | UCF=1?                                            |
| AE   | 98 10 | JZ UCS at 02C0                                    |
| B0   | 40    | LD E (N,L)                                        |
| B1   | CA 20 | L0=N,L                                            |
| B3   | C2 15 | LD ELF (1 if line END)                            |
| B5   | 98 9D | JZ 0254 New character entry C                     |
| B7   | C2 16 | LD LSK (0 if line left-justified)                 |
| B9   | 98 32 | JZ 02ED Store line in program                     |
| BB   | C4 1B |                                                   |
| BD   | 01    | E=BLANK                                           |
| BE   | 90 BD | JMP 027D to complete left justify                 |

| 02C0 | UCS - store upper case symbols |
|------|--------------------------------|
| C0   | CA 14                          |
| C2   | 40                             |
| C3   | 02                             |
| C4   | F4 F6                          |
| C6   | 94 09                          |
| C8   | C4 1C                          |
| CA   | CA 21                          |
| CC   | 40                             |
| CD   | CA 20                          |
| CF   | 90 83                          |
| D1   | 40                             |
| D2   | 02                             |
| D3   | F4 05                          |
| D5   | CA 21                          |
| D7   | F4 06                          |
| D9   | CA 20                          |
| DB   | 90 F2                          |

| 02DD | Process COMM |
|------|--------------|
| DD   | 40           |
| DE   | E4 22        |
| E0   | 98 B5        |
| E2   | 40           |
| E3   | E4 27        |
| E5   | 98 52        |
| E7   | AA 15        |
| E9   | 90 C8        |

| 02EB | Jump point                           |
|------|--------------------------------------|
| EB   | 90 AA                                |
| 02ED | JMP 0297 for new line and line abort |
| ED   | C2 29                                |
| EF   | E4 1B                                |
| F1   | 98 A4                                |
| F3   | C4 0F                                |
| F5   | 35                                   |
| F6   | C4 20                                |
| F8   | 31                                   |
| F9   | C2 1C                                |
| FB   | 37                                   |
| FC   | C2 1B                                |
| FE   | 33                                   |
| FF   | C2 1B                                |
| 0301 | LD PAK L                             |
| 02   | F4 09                                |
| 04   | CA 1B                                |
| 06   | C2 1C                                |
| 08   | F4 00                                |
| 0A   | CA 1C                                |
| 0C   | E4 08                                |
| 0E   | 98 23                                |
| 10   | CA 08                                |
| 12   | CA 12                                |

| 0314 | C5 01 | LOOP 5 LD L0-L7, @+1 P1     |
|------|-------|-----------------------------|
| 16   | CF 01 | ST @+1 P3                   |
| 18   | BA 12 | DLD K                       |
| 1A   | 9C F8 | JNZ LOOP 5                  |
| 1C   | C2 29 | LD L9                       |
| 1E   | 1E 1E | SL4                         |
| 20   | 1E 1E |                             |
| 22   | 02    |                             |
| 23   | F2 28 | ADD L8 - LINO in ACC        |
| 25   | CF 01 | ST @+1 P3                   |
| 27   | 02    |                             |
| 28   | FA 13 | CAD MLN                     |
| 2A   | 06    |                             |
| 2B   | 94 04 | JP 0331                     |
| 2D   | C3 FF | LD LINO                     |
| 2F   | CA 13 | ST MLN                      |
| 31   | 90 B8 | JMP 02EB for new line entry |
| 33   | C4 16 |                             |
| 35   | CA 27 | L7=F                        |
| 37   | 90 96 | JMP C                       |

| 0339 | RUNSET |
|------|--------|
| 39   | C4 0F  |
| 3B   | 36     |
| 3C   | C4 00  |
| 3E   | 32     |
| 3F   | C4 50  |
| 41   | CA 07  |
| 43   | C4 1C  |
| 45   | CA 06  |
| 47   | C4 54  |
| 49   | CA 05  |
| 4B   | C2 1D  |
| 4D   | CA 04  |
| 4F   | CA 03  |
| 51   | CA 02  |
| 53   | CA 01  |
| 55   | CA 00  |
| 57   | CA 1A  |
| 59   | C4 20  |
| 5B   | CA 12  |
| 5D   | 02     |
| 5E   | F4 2F  |
| 60   | 01     |
| 61   | C4 00  |
| 63   | CA 80  |
| 65   | BA 12  |
| 67   | 9C F5  |
| 69   | 02     |
| 6A   | C4 01  |
| 6C   | 37     |
| 6D   | C4 84  |
| 6F   | 33     |
| 70   | 3F     |

| 0371 | 90 02 | JMP 0375                         |
|------|-------|----------------------------------|
| 73   | 90 BC | JMP 0331 for new line entry      |
| 0375 |       | SCAN PICO file for required line |
| 75   | C2 1C |                                  |
| 77   | 37    |                                  |
| 78   | C2 1B |                                  |
| 7A   | 33    | P3 set PAK                       |
| 7B   | C3 FF | LOOP 7 LD LINO                   |
| 7D   | E2 1A | LINO=PLI?                        |
| 7F   | 98 1E | JZ 03A5 - EXECUTE                |
| 81   | 33    | P3 in ACC                        |
| 82   | 01    | P3 in E                          |
| 83   | 40    | P3 in ACC                        |
| 84   | E4 09 | P3=9?                            |
| 86   | 98 06 | JZ 038E to re-SCAN               |
| 88   | 40    |                                  |
| 89   | 33    |                                  |
| 8A   | C7 F7 | @-9 P3                           |
| 8C   | 90 ED | JMP LOOP 7                       |
| 8E   | C2 1A | LD PLI                           |
| 90   | E2 13 | PLI=MLN?                         |
| 92   | 98 A5 | JZ 0339 RUNSET                   |
| 94   | C2 1A | LD PLI                           |
| 96   | 02    |                                  |
| 97   | EC 01 | DAI 1                            |
| 99   | CA 1A | ST PLI                           |
| 9B   | 90 D8 | JMP 0375 SCAN (a)                |

| 039D | 90 92 | Jump point                                                |
|------|-------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| 9D   |       | JMP 0331 for new line entry                               |
| 039F |       | EXECUTE - Transfer PICO line to LINE. Identify statement. |
| 9F   | C4 0F |                                                           |
| A1   | 35    |                                                           |
| A2   | C4 29 |                                                           |
| A4   | 31    | P1 set L9 (P3 set LINO+1)                                 |
| A5   | C4 09 |                                                           |
| A7   | CA 12 | K=9                                                       |
| A9   | C7 FF | LOOP 8 @-1 P3 LD PICO line                                |
| AB   | CD FF | @-1 P1 ST L8-L0                                           |
| AD   | BA 12 | DLD K                                                     |

```

AF 9C F8 JNZ LOOP 8
B1 C2 1D LD DAK
B3 9C 82 JNZ 0337 for C
B5 00 00 Spare
B7 C2 27 LD L7
B9 02
BA F4 E4 ADI E4 (-1C)
BC 94 6A JP 0428 for ASSIGN
BE F4 01
C0 94 CC JP 03BE for SCAN (b) (Blank line)
C2 F4 07
C4 94 6A JP 0430 for INPUT (WRITE) DATA
C6 F4 01
C8 94 60 JP 042A for INPUT
CA F4 01
CC 94 5E JP 042C for PRINT
CE F4 01
D0 94 5C JP 042E for LOAD (READ) DATA
D2 F4 01
D4 94 15 JP 03EB for IF
D6 F4 01
D8 94 02 JP 03DC for GOTO
DA 90 C1 JMP 039D for new line entry

```

```

03DC GOTO
DC C2 25 LD L5
DE 1E 1E SL4
E0 1E 1E
E2 02
E3 F2 24 ST PL1
E5 CA 1A
E7 90 8C JMP 0375 for SCAN (a)

```

```

03E9 Jump point
E9 90 A3 JMP 038E SCAN (b)

```

```

03EB IF
EB C4 0F
ED 37
EE C4 00
F0 33 P3 set 0F00
F1 C4 02
F3 CA 12 K=2
F5 C2 22 LOOP 9 LD L2
F7 02
F8 F4 40 ADI 40
FA 01
FB C3 80 LD var 2 H,L
FD CA 17 ST TS1
FF C2 24 LD L4
0401 02
02 F4 40
04 01
05 C3 80 LD var 1 H,L
07 03
08 FA 17 CAD var 2 H,L
0A 9C 08 JNZ 0414
0C C7 F0 @-10 P3
0E BA 12 DLD K
10 9C E3 JNZ LOOP 9
12 90 03 JMP 0417
14 06
15 94 0D JP 0424
17 C2 21 LD L1
19 1E 1E SL4
1B 1E 1E
1D 02
1E F2 20 ADD L0
20 CA 1A ST PL1
22 90 C3 JMP 03E7 for SCAN (a)
24 90 C3 JMP 03E9 for SCAN (b)

```

```

0426 Jump points
26 90 B2 JMP 03DA for new line entry
28 90 60 JMP 048A for ASSIGN
2A 90 62 JMP 048E INPUT
2C 90 5E JMP 048C for PRINT
2E 90 2C JMP 045C LOAD (READ) DATA

```

```

0430 INPUT (WRITE) DATA
30 C2 25 LD L5
32 E4 1C L5=v?
34 9C A4 JNZ 03DA for new line entry
36 C4 0F
38 35
39 CA A9
3B 31 P1 set 0FA9 (Start of data file at 0FAA)
3C C2 24 LD L4
3E 02
3F F4 30 ADI 30
41 01
42 C2 80 LD var L
44 01 var L in E
45 AA 30 ILD DAK
47 01 DAK in E, var L in ACC
48 C9 80 ST var L at DAK
4A 90 0E JMP 045A for SCAN (b)

```

```

4C 80 LD var H
4D 01 var H in E
4E AA 30 ILD DAK
50 01 DAK in E, var H in ACC
51 C9 80 ST var H at DAK
53 AA 30 ILD DAK
55 01 DAK in E
56 C2 17 LD TS1 - var L
58 C9 80 ST var L at DAK
5A 90 8D JMP 03E9 for SCAN (b)

```

044C to 0459 not used, as data is set for 2-figure numbers. To change to 4-figure numbers alter 0442 to 044B as shown in appendix.

```

045C LOAD (READ) DATA
5C C2 25 LD L5
5E E4 1C L5=v?
60 9C A4 JNZ 0426 for new line entry
62 C4 0F
64 35
65 CA A9
67 31 P1 set 0FA9 (Start of data file at 0FAA)
68 AA 30 ILD DAK
6A 01
6B C1 80
6D 01
6E C2 24 LD L4
70 02
71 F4 30 ADI 30
73 01
74 CA 80 ST data at var L
76 90 0E JMP 0486 for SCAN (b)
78 F4 30 ADI 30
7A 01
7B CA 80
7D 01
7E 02
7F F4 10
81 01
82 C2 17
84 CA 80
86 90 9C JMP 0424 for SCAN (b)

```

0478 to 0485 not used, as data is set for 2-figure numbers. To change to 4-figure numbers alter 046B to 0477 as shown in appendix.

```

0488 Jump points
88 90 9C JMP 0426 for new line entry
8A 90 6E JMP 04FA for ASSIGN
8C 90 6E JMP 04FC for PRINT

```

```

048E INPUT
8E C2 25 LD L5
90 E4 1C L5=v?
92 9C 92 JNZ 0426 for new line entry
94 C4 1C
96 CA 27 L7=v
98 C2 24 LD L4
9A CA 26 L6=L4
9C C4 0E
9E CA 25 L5=
A0 C4 1D
A2 CA 24 L4=?
A4 C4 1B
A6 CA 23 L3=BLANK
A8 CA 22 L2=
AA CA 21 L1=
AC CA 20 L0=
AE C4 0F
B0 37
B1 C4 00
B3 33 P3 set 0F00
B4 C4 02
B6 35
B7 C4 00
B9 31 P1 set 0200
BA C4 08
BC CB 12 K=8
BE C2 27 LOOP 10 LD L7-L0
C0 01
C1 C1 80 LD SEG CODE
C3 CA 07 ST " "
C5 C6 FF @-1 P2
C7 BB 12 DLD K
C9 9C F3 JNZ LOOP 10
CB C6 08 @+8 P2
CD 02
CE C4 01
D0 37
D1 C4 84
D3 33
D4 3F DISPLAY

```

```

04D5 90 27 JMP 04FE COMM
D7 C4 0F
D9 37
DA C4 00

```

```

DC 33 P3 set 0F00
DD C4 1B
DF CA 24 L4=BLANK
04E1 C4 03
E3 CB 12 K=3
E5 C2 22 LOOP 11 LD L2-L0
E7 CA 23 ST L3-L1
E9 C6 FF @-1 P2
EB BB 12 DLD K
ED 9C F6 JNZ LOOP 11
EF C6 03 @+3 P2
F1 40 LD E (N,L)
F2 CA 20 ST L0
F4 90 BE JMP 04B4 for C

```

```

04F6 Jump points
F6 90 8E JMP 0486 for SCAN (b)
F8 90 8E JMP 0488 for new line entry
FA 90 45 JMP 0541 for ASSIGN
FC 90 45 JMP 0543 PRINT

```

```

04FE C4 0F COMM
0500 37
01 C4 00
03 33 P3 set 0F00
04 C4 0F
06 35
07 C4 00
09 31 P1 set 0F00
0A C2 26 LD L6
0C 02
0D F4 40 ADI 40
0F 01
10 C4 04
12 CB 12 K=4
14 C2 23 LOOP 12 LD L3-L0
16 E4 1B L3-L0=BLANK
18 9C 02 JNZ 051C
1A CA 23 L3-L0=0
1C C6 FF @-1 P2
1E BB 12 DLD K
20 9C F2 JNZ LOOP 12
22 C6 04 @+4 P2
24 C4 02
26 CB 12 K=2
28 C2 23 LOOP 13 LD L3,L1
2A 1E 1E SL4
2C 1E 1E
2E 02
2F F2 22 ADD L2,L0
31 C9 80 ST var H,L
33 C6 FE @-2 P2
35 C5 F0 @-10 P1
37 BB 12 DLD K
39 9C ED JNZ LOOP 13
3B C6 04 @+4 P2 set 0F00
3D 90 B7 JMP 04F6 for SCAN (b)

```

```

053F Jump points
3F 90 B7 JMP 04F8 for new line entry
41 90 7A JMP 05BD for ASSIGN

```

```

0543 PRINT
43 C2 25 LD L5
45 E4 1C L5=v?
47 9C AF JNZ 04F8 for new line entry
49 C4 1C
4B CA 27 L7=v
4D C2 24 LD L4
4F CA 26 L6=L5
51 C4 0E
53 CA 25 L5=
55 C4 1B
57 CA 24 L4=BLANK
59 C4 0F
5B 37
5C C4 00
5E 33 P3 set 0F00
5F C4 0F
61 35
62 C4 00
64 31 P1 set 0F00
65 C2 26 LD L6
67 02
68 F4 40 ADI 40
6A 01
6B C4 02
6D CB 12 K=2
6F C1 80 LOOP 14 LD var H,L
71 D4 0F Select right digit
73 CA 22 ST L2,L0
75 C1 80 LD var H,L
77 1C 1C SR4
79 1C 1C
7B CA 23 ST L3,L1
7D C6 FE @-2 P2
7F C5 F0 @-10 P1
81 BB 12 DLD K
83 9C EA JNZ LOOP 14

```



```

85 C6 04 @+4 P2
87 C4 02
89 35
8A C4 00
8C CA 19 LZF=0
8E 31 P1 set 0200
8F C4 08
91 CB 12 K=8
93 C3 12 LOOP 15 LD K
95 E4 01 K=1?
97 98 11 JZ 05AA
99 C3 12
9B 02
9C F4 FB ADI FB (-5)
9E 94 0A JP 05AA
A0 C3 19 LD LZF
A2 F2 27 ADD L3
A4 CB 19 ST LZF
A6 9C 02 JNZ 05AA
A8 90 05 JMP 05AF
AA C2 27 LD L7
AC 01
AD C1 80
AF CA 07
B1 C6 FF @-1 P2
B3 BB 12 DLD K
B5 9C DC JNZ LOOP 15
B7 90 06 JMP 05BF
=====
05B9 90 82 Jump points
BB 90 82 JMP 053D for SCAN (b)
BD 90 0E JMP 05CD ASSIGN
=====
05BF C6 08 @+8
C1 02
C2 C4 01
C4 37
C5 C4 84
C7 33
C8 3F DISPLAY
=====
C9 90 00
CB 90 EC JMP 05B9 for SCAN (b)
=====
05CD C2 25 ASSIGN
CF E4 0E LD L5
D1 9C E8 L5=?
D3 C4 0F JNZ 05BB for new line entry
D5 35
D6 C4 20
D8 31 P1 set 0F20 - LINE
D9 C2 24 LD L4
DB E4 1C L4=v? var (or const)?
DD 9C 07 JNZ 05E6 if const
DF C4 0B
E1 37
E2 C4 47
E4 33
E5 3F JMP 0B48 if var
E6 C4 04
E8 CA 12 K=4
EA 01 LOOP 16 K in E
EB C1 80 LD L(K)
ED 02
EE F4 F6 ADI F6 (-A) L(K)=m?
F0 94 06 JP 0B00 if 1(K) not n
F2 BA 12 DLD K
F4 94 F4 JP LOOP 16
F6 90 C3 JMP 05BB for new line entry if 5 figs
F8 C4 0A
FA 37
FB C4 FF
FD 33 3F JMP 0B00
FF 00 Spare
=====
0B00 C2 12 LD K
02 CA 17 ST TS1, K for FUNC
04 E4 04 K=4 still?
06 9C 07 JNZ 0B0F to continue
08 C4 02
0A 37
0B C4 96
0D 33
0E 3F JMP 0297 for new line entry
0F C4 0F
11 37
12 C4 00
14 CA 4A
16 33 P3 set 0F00
17 C4 02
19 CA 18 K1(TS2)=2
1B AA 12 LOOP 17 ILD K
1D E4 04 K=4?
1F 9C 09 JNZ 0B2A
21 C2 12 LD K
23 01 K in E
24 C1 80 LD L(K)

```

```

26 CB 3A ST var AL,AH (1,3 figs)
28 90 34 JMP 0B5E
2A AA 12 ILD K
2C 01
2D C1 80 LD L(K)
2F 1E 1E
31 1E 1E SL4
33 01 n in E
34 BA 12 DLD K
36 01 K in E, n in ACC
37 02
38 F1 80 ADD L(K)
3A CB 3A ST var AL,AH (2,4 figs)
3C AA 12 ILD K
3E E4 04 K=4?
40 98 1C JZ 0B5E
42 C7 10 @+10 P3
44 BA 18 DLD K1
46 9C D3 JNZ LOOP 17
48 C2 23 LD L3
4A 02
4B F4 30
4D 01
4E C2 80 LD var L
50 CA 3A ST var AL
52 01
53 F4 10
55 01
56 C2 80 LD var H
58 CA 4A ST var AH
5A C4 02
5C CA 17 ST TS1 - K for function
5E C2 1E LD ASF
60 E4 01 ASF=1?
62 98 50 JZ 0BB4, SELECT
64 C4 01
66 CA 1E ASF=1
68 C2 17 LD K(FUNC)
6A 01 K(FUNC) in E
6B C1 80 LD FUNC
6D CA 1F ST FS
6F E4 1B FUNC=Blank?
71 9C 1D JNZ 0B90
73 C4 00
0B75 CA 1E ASF=0
77 C2 26 LD L6
79 02
7A F4 30
7C 01
7D C2 3A LD var L
7F CA 80 ST var L
81 01
82 F4 10
84 01
85 C2 4A LD var H
87 CA 80 ST var H
89 C4 03
8B 37
8C C4 8D
8E 33
8F 3F JMP 038D SCAN (b)
90 C2 3A
92 CA 3B
94 C2 4A
96 CA 4B
98 C2 17 LD K(FUNC)
9A CA 12 K=K(FUNC)
9C BA 12 DLD K
9E 01 K in E
9F C1 80 LOOP 18 LD L(K)
A1 C9 04 ST L4
A3 C4 1B
A5 C9 03 ST Blank L3
A7 C5 FF @-1 P1
A9 BA 12 DLD K
AB 94 F2 JP LOOP 18
AD C4 05
AF 37
B0 CA D2
B2 33
B3 3F JMP 05D3 to repeat (1),(2)
=====
0BB4 B4 C2 1F SELECT
B6 01 LD FS
B7 40 FS in E
B8 E4 0D FUNC is divide?
BA 98 3C JZ 0BF8 for divide
BC 40
BD E4 0C FUNC is multiply?
BF 9C 30 JNZ 0BF1 for +---
C1 C2 3A
C3 CA 3C
C5 C2 4A
C7 CA 4C
C9 CA 00
CB CA 3A
CD CA 4A
CF C2 3A LOOP 19
D1 02

```

```

D2 EA 3B
D4 CA 3A
D6 C2 4A
D8 EA 4B
DA CA 4A
DC C2 3C
DE 02
DF EC 99
E1 CA 3C
E3 C2 4C
E5 EC 99
E7 CA 4C
E9 9C E4 JNZ LOOP 19
EB C2 3C JNZ LOOP 19
ED 9C E0 JMP 0B73
EF 90 82
F1 C4 0F
F3 37
F4 C4 4F
F6 33
F7 3F JMP 0F50
F8 C4 0F
FA 37
FB C4 75
FD 33
FE 3F JMP 0F76
FF 00 Spare
=====
0F50 40
51 E4 0A FUNC is+?
53 98 0D JZ 0F62
55 C4 9B
57 02
58 FA 3A
5A CA 3A
5C C4 99
5E FA 4A
60 CA 4A
62 C2 3A
64 02
65 EA 3B
0F67 CA 3A
69 C2 4A
6B EA 4B
6D CA 4A
6F C4 0B
71 37
72 C4 72
74 33
75 3F JMP 0B73
76 C4 9B
78 02
79 FA 3A
7B CA 3C
7D C4 99
7F FA 4A
81 CA 4C
83 C4 00
85 CA 3A
87 CA 4A
89 C2 3C LOOP 20
8B 02
8C EA 3B
8E CA 3B
90 C2 4C
92 EA 4B
94 CA 4B
96 06
97 94 0F JP if result neg
99 C2 3A
9B 02
9C EC 01
9E CA 3A
A0 C2 4A
A2 EC 00
A4 CA 4A
A6 90 E1 JMP LOOP 20
A8 90 C5 JMP 0F6F

```

## APPENDIX

Insert the following blocks to convert datafile from 2-figure to 4-figure numbers.

```

0442 C2 80 LD var L
44 CA 17 ST TS1
46 40
47 02
48 F4 10
4A 01
4B C2 80
=====
046B C1 80 LD data H
6D CA 17 ST TS1
6F AA 1D ILD DAK
71 01
72 C1 80 LD data L
74 01
75 C2 24
77 02

```

# ETI MAY 1980

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## THE BLACK HOLE

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We proudly present the latest offering from Tim Orr, the prolific producer of music machines — the Black Hole Chorus Machine. It's capable of processing the output of both natural instruments and synthesisers.

In addition to the chorus effect you can also choose genuine vibrato. That's not all — you can select a 'double' chorus option. The speed of both effects can be controlled manually. If you're not into knob-twiddling or you don't have a free hand or two, the Black Hole can be controlled by footswitch. Keep up with what's happening in music machines and much, much more in the next audio special issue of ETI.

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## KIT SURVEY

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Across the length and breadth of this sceptred isle, there are companies producing kits of everything from power supplies and pin ball games to amplifiers and ignition systems. Want to buy a kit? How do you know who the supplier is, where he is, how reliable his product is and how much it costs? You could search through a dozen or so electronics magazines and spend a small fortune on postage to collect a library of catalogues.

Why don't you do it the easy way? Let ETI's fingers do the walking for you. Next month we get it all together — kits, suppliers, prices, quality — in an easy to compare format.

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## IMAGE CO-ORDINATOR

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How to throw your voice without straining your vitals — build the ETI Image Co-ordinator. The clever co-ordinator takes your single vocal (or guitar, etc.) input and splits it in two. What can you do with two half voices? You can recreate a single sound image and make it move around, suggesting a few interesting stage and studio effects. The Image Co-ordinator uses two of the 1537A VCA chips introduced by Keith Brindley in March.

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## LED VU

---

Banish the bearings from your VU meters. Change over to a stylish LED display. Our LED VU meter is based on the LM3915, a chip which gives you VU or peak programme (PPM) options with bar or dot display. Look in next month to see the VU from ETI.

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## SERVO TESTER

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Last month's Radio Control Fail-Safe stops your plane or boat disappearing into the sunset if you lose control of a channel, for whatever reason. When you get your plane or boat back onto dry land, a thorough systems check is number one on the list of things to do. A servo fails to operate. Is it the servo or the receiver? You can eliminate the servo by using our servo tester — an unusual and useful little piece of test gear.

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## SYNTHESISER

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The Project 80 Modular Synthesiser returns with designs for the four filters most widely used in music synthesis — low pass, high pass, band pass and phase shift. They are four pole filters with one volt per octave control of their cut-off, or centre, frequency. Voltage control of signal regeneration is also included.

## In our new course we take a look at the guts of your MPU before expounding its capabilities.

**T**he message program in last month's piece was just the start of the vast range of 'data processing' uses, as distinct from arithmetic, which we can carry out using the MPU. We're going to carry on in that vein for some way yet, because these are the real nitty-gritty of what an MPU is designed to do. The first subject this week is Pattern Recognition, and the program is shown in Fig.1.

```
0F13  C5  LD@P1
0F14  01  01
0F15  E4  XRI
0F16  0A  Byte
0F17  9C  JNZ
0F18  FA  to 0F13 again
0F19  3F  return to monitor.
```

To set up: ABORT : 0FF9 ; Term ; 0F ; MEM ; 1A ; ABORT ; 0F13 ; GO

To read answer: ABORT ; 0FFA gives lower byte of address +1

Example: if 0FFA shows 30, the byte we're looking for is in 0F30 - 1 = 0F2F.

Fig.1. The pattern recognition program. This one searches memory for a byte which it has to recognise. The program stops when the byte is found.

### Bit Search

The basic idea is very simple. When you switch on the Mk14, the RAM will store a 'rubbish' byte at every address. Some of these seem to turn up more than others, but in general they seem to be at random. The program examines each bit, starting at 0F1A, and stops when a particular byte is found. The byte we are looking for has to be entered into the program at 0F16 - in Fig.1 we've selected 0A. If there isn't an 0A stored anywhere between 0F1A and 0FF8, then the program will stop and show the address 0F17, because the program has been right round, and the first 0A it has found is in itself! If there is an 0A in memory, the program stops at one step beyond it. For example, if there's 0A at 0F2F, then the program will stop at 0F30 - you can abort and address 0F2F to make sure!

What does the program do? To start off with, pointer P1 has to be loaded up with the starting address, which in this case is 0F1A. The first instruction of the program is an indexed load relative to P1, so that the byte from 0F1A is placed in the accumulator. The next step is X-OR'd with itself, the result is always zero, Fig.2, so that if the byte 2A existed at address 0F1A, then the result of the X-OR step would be zero. The step at 0F17, 18 is a jump-if-not-zero, so that if the byte 0A has been found, the program goes to 0F19, which is return-to-monitor, 3F. If, however, the byte fetched in from 0F1A was not 2A, then the accumulator is not at zero after the X-OR step, and the jump takes place. The jump is back to 0F13, the start of the program. Because of the auto indexing of the step at 0F13, the next byte which is fetched will be from 0F1B, and the comparison is made again.

### X-OR LAWS

⊕ indicates X-OR

$$\begin{array}{rcl} \bigcirc & \oplus & \bigcirc = \bigcirc \\ 1 & \oplus & \bigcirc = 1 \\ 1 & \oplus & 1 = \bigcirc \end{array}$$

Fig.2. The X-OR action - a reminder.

### Chunky Stuff?

Another useful chunk of program which follows directly from the work we did in Part 9 is a memory block shift. The aim here is to take a number of bytes from one place in memory and copy them to some other place. It's the same sort of action as the 'message' program, and is detailed in Fig.3. The program starts at 0F1F, which is used to store the number of bytes which are to be shifted. Pointer P1 is then set up with the starting address of the memory block which is to be shifted, and P2 is loaded with the starting address of the new block. The example shows ten bytes (0A at 0F1F) shifted from a starting address at 0F30 to a new starting address at 0F50. These addresses have to be loaded into the pointer registers in the usual way, placing 0F at 0FF0, 0FFB, 30 at 0FFA and 50 at 0FFC.

The program uses the auto indexed load (relative to P1) to place a byte from 0F30 into the accumulator, and then the auto-indexed store (relative to P2) places that byte into 0F50. The number-of-bytes figure stored at 0F1F is then decremented and loaded into the accumulator, and followed by a jump-if-not-zero instruction. The jump is back to the load instruction, which because of the auto indexing is from 0F31 and is followed by a store to 0F51. This continues until the figure in 0F1F is 01. When this is decremented and loaded, the result in the accumulator is 00, so that there is no jump and the program finishes with a return to the monitor.

Use of registers: P1 - start of old block ; P2 start of new block.

```
0F1F  0A  Number of bytes to shift (NOBT)
0F20  C5  LD@P1 OLD
0F21  01  01
0F22  CE  ST@P2 NEW
0F23  01  01
0F24  B8  DLD NOBT
0F25  FA  NOBT
0F26  9C  JNZ
0F27  F8  OLD
0F28  3F  Return to monitor.
```

To set up: 0FF9 ; Term ; 0F ; Mem ; 30 ; Mem ; 0F ; Mem ; 50 ; ABORT ; 0F20 ; GO

At end of run: ABORT ; 0F30 - note data bytes for ten bytes on and then ABORT ; 0F50 - note bytes from here on; they should be identical with the bytes shifted from 0F30 on.

Fig.3. The Memory-block shift program. Pointer registers P1 and P2 are used to contain the starting addresses of the two memory blocks.



# MPU's BY EXPERIMENT

## By The Left. . .

Now for something which incorporates last month's work with what we've done so far. It's not a simple program by any means, and what makes it interesting at this stage is that the S of C manual achieves the same effect by a rather different method. The idea is to make a moving message — writing a message on the LED's and shifting all the letters one place to the left at intervals.

|     |      |    |
|-----|------|----|
| LED | 0F1D | 00 |
| DLY | 0F1E | FF |
| OPT | 0F1F | 00 |
|     | 0F20 | C4 |
|     | 0F21 | 08 |
|     | 0F22 | C8 |
|     | 0F23 | FC |
|     | 0F24 | C6 |
|     | 0F25 | 01 |
|     | 0F26 | CD |
|     | 0F27 | 01 |
|     | 0F28 | B8 |
|     | 0F29 | F6 |
|     | 0F2A | 9C |
|     | 0F2B | F8 |
|     | 0F2C | C0 |
|     | 0F2D | F0 |
|     | 0F2E | 31 |
|     | 0F2F | C4 |
|     | 0F30 | 50 |
|     | 0F31 | 32 |
|     | 0F32 | B8 |
|     | 0F33 | EB |
|     | 0F34 | 9C |
|     | 0F35 | EA |
|     | 0F36 | C4 |
|     | 0F37 | FF |
|     | 0F38 | C8 |
|     | 0F39 | EA |
|     | 0F3A | A8 |
|     | 0F3B | E2 |
|     | 0F3C | E4 |
|     | 0F3D | 08 |
|     | 0F3E | 9C |
|     | 0F3F | E0 |
|     | 0F40 | C4 |
|     | 0F41 | 00 |
|     | 0F42 | C8 |
|     | 0F43 | DA |
|     | 0F44 | 90 |
|     | 0F45 | DA |
|     | 0F50 | 33 |
|     | 0F51 | 30 |
|     | 0F52 | 5F |
|     | 0F53 | 38 |
|     | 0F54 | 39 |
|     | 0F55 | 37 |
|     | 0F56 | 30 |
|     | 0F57 | 6D |

## Setting 'up :

|      |    |
|------|----|
| 0FF9 | 0D |
| 0FFA | 00 |
| 0FFB | 0F |
| 0FFC | 50 |

Fig.4. Moving message program. This one is a logical development of the static message program used earlier.

The method uses the same basic message program as we developed in Part 9, but with several important changes. In the simple message program, a byte was loaded, using auto indexing relative to P2 and stored auto indexed relative to P1. After a count of eight LED's, the original addresses were restored in the pointers so that the same messages could be run again.

This time we don't want the message go start at the same LED address (0D00) each time. We want to run one lot starting at 0D00, keep it going for a time, then start from 0D01 (the next LED along), keep this one on for a time, then start at 0D02 and so on until the message has disappeared off the end of the display — then we want to start from scratch again.

The program is shown in Fig.4. Because it's fairly long, extra care is needed to check it, because if it crashes, you'll probably find corruption — the contents of the RAM will have been written over so that parts of the program have been changed into gibberish. In part 12 we'll deal with debugging and how to cope with such difficulties when you're writing your own programs. For the moment, let's go through this one and see what it does.

The program has various numbers stored at 0F1D, 0F1E, 0F1F. At 0F1E we've stored FF. This is a delay byte which affects how quickly or slowly the message moves, and you can experiment with changing this value once you have the program running.

The action starts at 0F20, 21 where 08 is loaded. This is just the LED count which we used before, it ensures that we switch on the eight LED's we are going to use in turn. We then store this number back at address 0F1F by using the C8FC steps. Remember that the number stored in 0F1F will be decremented on each run, and we need to be able to re-load it; this lot so far is the re-load part of the program.

The steps 0F24 to 0F27 should now be familiar — C601 takes a byte from a place in RAM auto indexed by P2 and then CD01 stores it auto indexed to P1. P2 is set to start at the point in RAM where our message begins, and P1 is set to point to 0D00, the first LED on the right hand side. Because auto indexing is used, each of these addresses will increment on each run.

Having dispatched one pattern to one LED, we have to attend to the next one and the next four instructions B8 F6 9C F8 do just that, decrementing the count (stored at 0F1F) and jumping back to address 0F24 to load up another byte and display it.

So far, I've been reminding you of established steps, but from now on we're plunging into the unknown, so fasten your belts. The next two steps at 0F2C, 0F2D, load in the number from address 0F1D. This happens only when the message has been displayed for one run around the LED, because it follows the jump-if-not-zero instruction at 0F2A. In the message program of Part 9, we used a load immediate here — it serves to return pointer P1 low byte to its starting address. For a static message, the starting address is always 0D00, but for a moving message program in the manual, and it is, I hope, a bit easier to follow.

Having got this byte, which will be 00 for starters, we slap it into pointer P1 by using the 31 instruction. So far, so good. Next step (starting at 0F2F) is to load immediate 50 and exchange with the low byte of P2. That restores the 0F50 address in P2 so that we can start again with the data; pretty much the same as the static message program.

# MPU's BY EXPERIMENT

## A Quick Flash

So far, the steps of the program will flash a message up, but not long enough to see. We need a bit of time to look at what is displayed, and so the next step provides a bit of delay by making the program from 0F24 to 0F33 loop round. At 0F32 we have B8, decrement and load, followed by E8, which fetches from address 0F1E. Now we started with a fairly large number stored in 0F1E, so that there will be that many loops around this first part of the program. Why didn't we use the DLY instruction, do I hear you ask? Well, it would provide a delay all right, but when you put DLY in, the program sticks there, and the display goes blank! Not what we want at all, so we must use the loop method — the delay is quite long enough without doing anything fancy like running two delay steps in series. At 0F34, the 9C instruction is a jump-if-not-zero and 0F35 ensures that the jump is to the start at 0F20, so that a complete sweep of the LED's is done on each loop, giving us a static message for the duration of the loop while the number in 0F1E is counted down. At the end of the loop, there's no jump back and we're into new territory at 0F36.

What we want to do now is to shift the starting point of the message and run it again for the same time. Obviously we'll need to reload the delay figure in 0F1E, so the next set of steps, 0F36 to 0F39, does just that. A load immediate is used, and FF ensures the maximum delay. If you want to change the delay, then this is the byte to play with — try 80 or even less if your eyes can follow the speed of movement. The C8 EA bytes then load FF into address 0F1E ready for the next run.

Now we want to have our next run with the beginning of the message on the second LED from the right. Remember that messages are entered from the right so 'beginning' in this sense means the first byte from memory as far as reading the message is concerned, it's actually the end!

At 0F3A, then we have an *increment and load* instruction A8, referred to address 0F1D. This, you may remember, is the address we use for loading the low byte into pointer P1 for starting the display, so this is the important step for causing the message to move. We can't leave it at that, though, because address 0F1D will be incremented until the cows come home unless we do something to stop it. Since we don't have more than 8 or 9 LED's operating, and we need only 8 for this message, we'll stop it at eight, a spot of pattern recognition then follows, using XR1 8 (address 0F3C, 0F3D) to see if the LED start address has got to 8. If it hasn't, the result of the XOR will leave a byte in the accumulator. We're not interested in the size of the byte, just that it isn't zero until the LED number is 8, so we can use a JNZ at 0F3E.

Now where does this take us? Well, if we haven't reached LED 8 (counting from the right hand side), we jumped back to address 0F20 to start another complete display run. That way we're going to display our message starting at each LED in turn from the first on the right hand side, showing each one long enough to see, then jumping to the next. At the end of this carry on, of course, there's only one LED left carrying the message! The rest of the message is being delivered to addresses which don't exist unless you've tacked on another display. At this point, the count in 0F1D reaches 8, the XR1 step results in a zero at step 0F3D, and the JNZ lets the program step onto 0F40.

We've now done a sweep of moving message, and it only remains to reset everything and start again in an endless loop to keep it all going. At 0F40 we load immediate 00 to

## New Table :

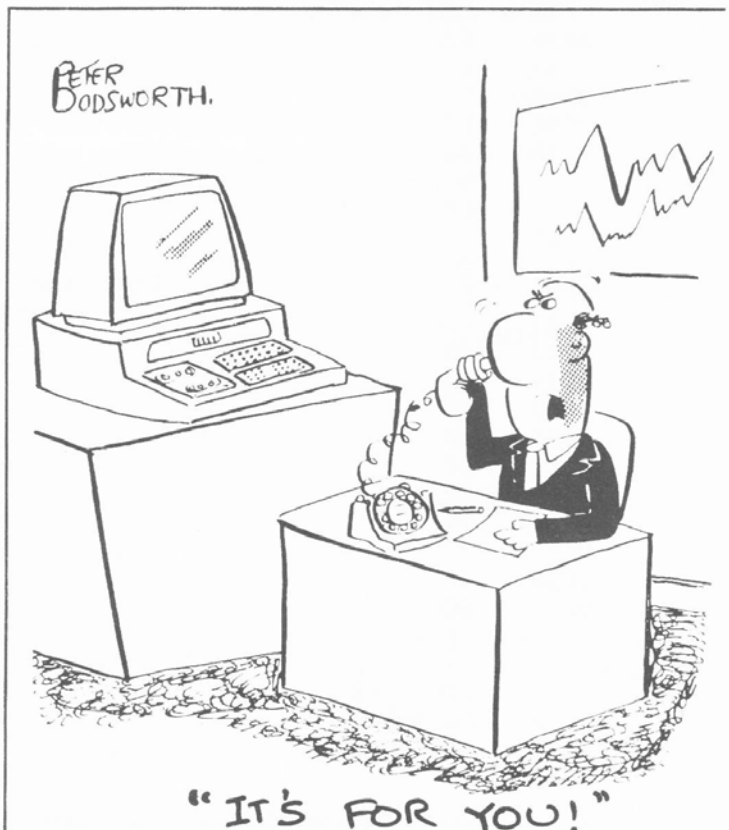
|      |    |
|------|----|
| 0F50 | 33 |
| 0F51 | 30 |
| 0F52 | 5F |
| 0F53 | 38 |
| 0F54 | 39 |
| 0F55 | 37 |
| 0F56 | 30 |
| 0F57 | 6D |
| 0F58 | 30 |
| 0F59 | 5F |
| 0F5A | 38 |
| 0F5B | 39 |
| 0F5C | 37 |
| 0F5D | 30 |
| 0F5E | 6D |

Fig.5. Extended table for the moving message program. The rest of the program can remain unchanged.

restore the P1 pointer by storing this byte back into 0F1D (step 0F42, 0F43). We then jump back into the endless loop with the 90, DA bytes at 0F44,45 which take us back to the starting address of 0F20.

The message has to be loaded into 0F50 to 0F57 as before, last letter first. The pointers have to be set up by selecting 0FF9 and loading in 0D then stepping them to load 00, 0F, 50. Only then can we abort (NOT reset — that'll put all the pointers back to zero), address 0F20 and GO.

All very well, I hear you say, but it's not a *real* moving message. It's a message and it moves, that's all. If that's all you want, no problem. Just use the data table shown in Fig.5, and change the number at 0F21 to 10 (decimal sixteen). Now run it, and see the difference. You can spend the rest of the month thinking about that one!





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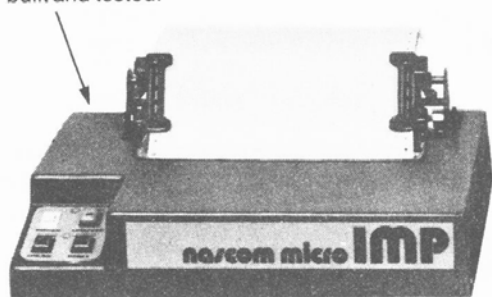
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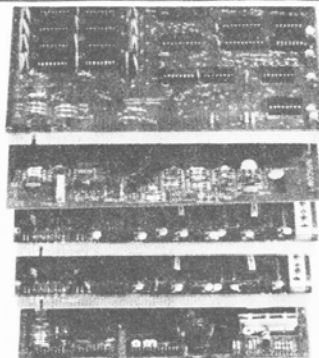
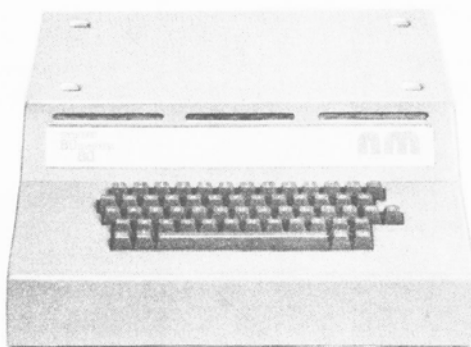
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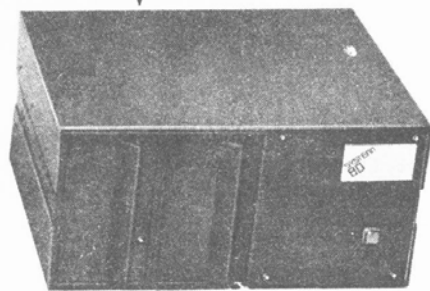
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Dear Sir,

The program given on page 36 of the January issue, for the binary search of an ordered list has one fundamental fault. It does not detect that an item *T* is not in the list, except by not responding in a finite time. This is due to the action of the *INT* function in line 130, as mentioned in the text, a result of which is that *L* and *U* can never be equal. The simplest change is to amend line 150 thus:—

150 IF *L=U-1* THEN 210

However an alternative approach is possible which removes the special case of *T=A(U)* in line 120. When *T* is not at the current position *S*, then the position *S* need not be in the new range of the list which includes *T* (if there). Thus the new values of *U* and *L* can be *U=S-1* and *L=S+1* depending on the half range rejected. It is now possible for *L* and *U* to cross necessitating a change to 150. In this case the changes to the program are:—

- i) delete lines 120,230
  - ii) rewrite the following lines as shown
- 150 IF *L >=U* THEN 210  
170 *U=S-1*  
190 *L=S+1*

Yours etc.,  
C. Hayward.

North Cheshire College,  
Fearnhead,  
Warrington WA2 0DB.

Dear Sir,

There doesn't seem to be any other Social Worker around who is actually using a Micro in his daily work. It seems rather surprisingly thin ground, in view of the multifarious applications I find for mine — from writing rude memo's to the Town Hall, through doing the Unit accounts, to beginning to look at some very 'micro' research.

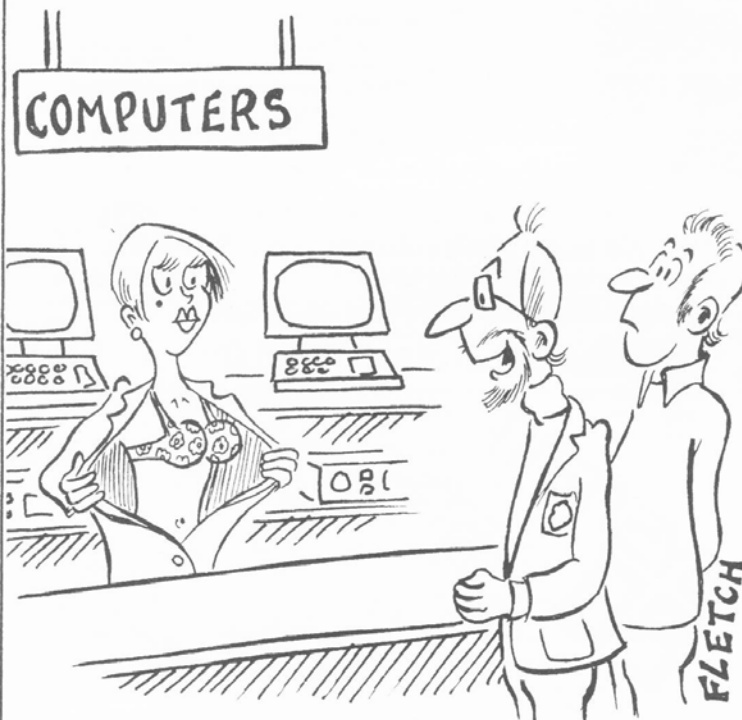
Is there anyone else out there?

Incidentally, this letter is written on a TRS-80 using a modified 'Electric Pencil', typed on the DTN mod of the S/H IBM Golfball, and filed on disk. Beats using my clerical officer hollow (though please don't tell her that!).

Yours, etc.,  
John Wallbridge.

17 Granville Road,  
London N.4.

P.S. My specialised program for psuedo — randomly swearing at Local Government Departments (in Extra-Basic), together with an on-going social-work and psychological jargon generator is available to anyone in need of this special therapy!



"I JUST ASKED IF SHE COULD  
SHOW ME ANY SOFTWARE..."

Dear Sir,

I would like to point out, with reference to the mention of the TRS-80's keyboard bounce in Ian Sinclair's article, page 20 in the February issue, that the keyboard is easily "de-bounced".

To do this, first remove the keyboard fascia, by prising it up with a screwdriver blade, and then pull off the plastic key cap, starting with the shift keys and working inward but do not try to remove the SPACE key (Some of the keys may need quite a strong pull but by working it off slowly you should be able to remove all of them.) Then clean each of the contacts by inserting a piece of stiff paper between the contacts, pressing down the key, and pulling out the paper while the contacts are still pinching it. If you want to do a really thorough job you can get some contact cleaner (Tandy sell it for about a pound) and spray it into the contact. You then replace the keys (In the right order!) and put the fascia back on. Having done this there should be no more trouble with keyboard bounce.

Yours sincerely,  
Tim Adye.

The Abbey Old House,  
Cowl Lane, Winchcombe,  
Glos. GL54 5RA.

P.S. Although keys cannot be removed individually, Mr. Sinclair will find that he can get them off and clean the contacts of his TRS-80 by the above procedure.



Dear Mr. Lusty,

I hope you do not mind correspondence on your column in *Computing Today*. I was interested in the square triangle problem you set, so felt duty bound to write to you about it.

Did you intend to send people off in the wrong direction when you asked them to ensure that their square root routines worked correctly? I do not believe it is necessary to use square roots in this problem and suggest an alternative which should surely work quicker.

I await your rebuttal.

My TRITON Tiny Basic solution as follows :

```
10  X=1; Y=1; D=0
20  PRINT X, Y; GOSUB 30; GOTO 20
30  D=D+Y+Y+1; Y=Y+1
40  IF D > 0 X=X+1; D=D-X; GOTO 40
50  IF D=0 RETURN
60  GOTO 30
```

On the TRITON of course this will not give all the values up to 1,000,000 but it will on any machine capable of working with them.

There is no need for the code in lines 30 thru 60 to be a subroutine it just made it slightly more easy to replace these lines by a machine code subroutine. This little exercise showed up the great disparity in times taken between the Tiny BASIC interpreter and the raw code.

I leave it to you to unravel the reasoning in the above program.

Yours sincerely,  
John Senior,

20, Great Ley,  
Welwyn Garden City,  
Hertfordshire.

Trevor Lusty replies :—

No, Mr. Senior, I had not intended to send you in the wrong direction. I felt that many people would attempt to solve the problem using the square root function and that they should first check its accuracy. I chose to solve the problem in this way to highlight and explain the potential difficulties.

That said, may I congratulate you on an excellent solution. Don't underestimate it — as you work with the sides of the triangles and squares the number of balls exceed 1,000,000 as soon as Y exceeds 1000.

For anyone who finds Mr. Senior's solution difficult to follow, here is a guide. The solution depends on two mathematical facts :—

1) The  $n$ th square number is the sum of the first  $n$  odd numbers.

eg.  $6^2 = 1 + 3 + 5 + 7 + 9 + 11$

2) The  $n$ th triangle number is the sum of the first  $n$  integers.

eg. 8th triangle number =  $1+2+3+4+5+6+7+8$

Mr. Senior's solution is particularly clever in the way in which store D is used to hold the difference between the partial sums of these two series. The following program uses the same method as Mr. Senior but keeps the sums of the series in different locations, the squares in store S and the triangle numbers in store T, and this, I believe, makes it easier to understand the method.

Dear Sir,

N2 Review — February Issue CT

As an owner of the above machine I read your review with great interest — it is always interesting to read about one's own equipment. My only argument with the article would be with the benchmark test figures quoted. In fact the N2 BASIC chip will not work at 4 MHz without the wait state — the notes supplied by Henry's Radio confirm that it is not just my machine. I therefore assume you were given a 'souped up' machine or else were supplied with the figures and didn't check.

Further the BASIC commands SET, RESET and POINT will only work properly if one has the extra graphics ROM, but it is well worth it. Another worthwhile extra is the Port Probe sold by Bits and PCs (18 Rye Garth, Wetherby, West Yorks), I have found it an excellent device for learning how to use the PIO and it gives the INP, OUT and WAIT commands something to do.

Yours faithfully,  
Dr. C.V. Nowikow.

144 East Park,  
Harlow,  
Essex, CM17 0SA.

Dear Editor,

There is a catastrophic misprint in the Logic Emulator in your February issue, which prevents the program from working at all : location D52 should read 0A not A0.

There is also a misprint in Message 2 : location E24 should read 4F not 45.

Yours sincerely,  
T.P. Goldingham.

Wyndham,  
11 Furze Platt Road,  
Maidenhead,  
Berkshire. SL6 7ND.

```
10  LET X=1: LET Y=1: LET S=1: LET T=1
20  IF S < T THEN Y=Y+2: S=S+Y: GOTO 20
30  IF S > T THEN X=X+1: T=T+X: GOTO 30
40  IF S <> T THEN 20
50  PRINT "TRI";X,"SQR";SQR(S),"TOTAL";S
60  LET Y=Y+2: S=S+Y: GOTO 30
```

| TRI | 1    | SQR | 1    | TOTAL | 1       |
|-----|------|-----|------|-------|---------|
| TRI | 8    | SQR | 6    | TOTAL | 36      |
| TRI | 49   | SQR | 35   | TOTAL | 1225    |
| TRI | 288  | SQR | 204  | TOTAL | 41616   |
| TRI | 1681 | SQR | 1189 | TOTAL | 1413721 |

As Mr. Senior is impressed by the machine code version of his program, he might like to compare it to the following BASIC program. It is the fastest solution I have found to the Square Triangles problem — I shall return the compliment and let Mr. Senior unravel the reasoning.

```
10  REM *** SQUARE TRIANGLES ***
20  REM *** FAST SOLUTION ***
30  LET S1=0 : S=1 : T1=0 : T=1
40  PRINT : PRINT
50  PRINT "SIDE OF TRIANGLE IS" : T
60  PRINT "SIDE OF SQUARE IS" : S
70  PRINT "TOTAL NO. OF BALLS IS" : S*S
80  LET T2=T : S2=S : T=6*T-T1+2
90  LET S=6*S-S1 : T1=T2 : S1=S2
100 IF T < 2000 THEN 40
110 END
```



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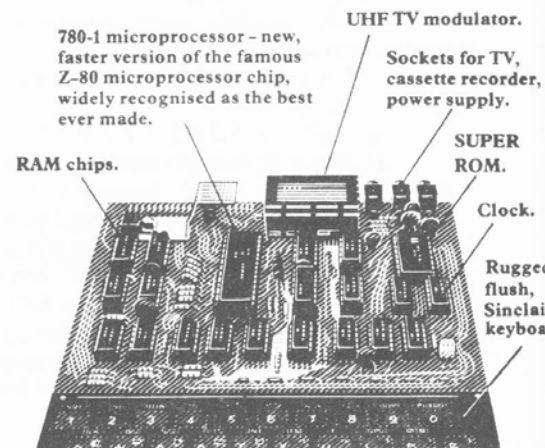
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## Dr Marshall, author of 'Principles of Data Communication' reveals the facts on the most popular choices.

In his book 'Programming Languages: history and fundamentals', Jean Sammett mentions well over a hundred languages, all of which were in use in the USA at the time. Since the publication of the book, in 1969, even more languages have been invented, particularly for applications such as real-time control and automatic testing. Clearly, to attempt to review *all* programming languages is a daunting task. To review the most popular, or widely used, ones is considerably easier, for many a language has never been used by anyone except its inventor and his immediate circle.

The first really popular high-level language for scientific applications was FORTRAN, which emerged from IBM in 1957. Among languages of the same type, its main competitors have been ALGOL 60 and BASIC. The latter has gained considerably in popularity of late as a result of its wide availability on microcomputers. For commercial data processing, COBOL is even more popular than FORTRAN in its field, having overwhelmed practically all competition.

An increasing awareness of the shortcomings of these languages lead to the development of the 'super languages' ALGOL 68 and PL/1. These languages were designed, in their contrasting ways, to be suitable for both scientific and commercial programming. Additionally, both provide the facilities necessary for structured programming, since they possess the control features necessary to write large programs in a modular fashion. This simplifies the writing of large programs and also the task of maintaining them.

However, the 'super languages' proved difficult to implement satisfactorily, and the available implementations occupy large amounts of store. The desire to retain the features of these languages, but in more compact implementations, has led to the development of new languages that seem likely to be the real popular successors of the first scientific and business languages. Thus, ALGOL 68 has spawned Pascal, and PL/1 has led to PLM and a group of similar languages. These new languages are well suited for use with microcomputers.

Outside this main stream of development, many languages have been developed for specialised applications. Among the most popular special purpose languages are LISP, for list processing, SNOBOL, for string handling, and PILOT, a small language for text processing. Languages for real-time applications include CORAL 66, while ATLAS is a language for automatic testing.

### The Survey

A selection of the most popular programming languages is surveyed by describing the major features of each in a way that illustrates its capabilities. By and large, a programming language should possess, at the least, facilities for computing and storing values, input and output, conditional execution of instructions, repetition, sub-programs and data structures. It is useful to have a set of test problems to illustrate the different methods of solution that are permitted by, or imposed by, different languages. The following test problems are used:

Problem 1. Program the formula  $x = a + \frac{2b}{c}$

Problem 2. Program the formula  $x = \sqrt{\log_e \sin(a)}$

Problem 3. Print out the integers from 10 to 20

Problem 4. Accept and store a set of numbers, find the largest and print it out.

Problem 5. Store a set of English words and the corresponding French words. Then accept an English word and print out its French equivalent, thus appearing to translate.

These problems are mainly numerical, reflecting the bias in the language selection. However, Problem 5 gives some idea of the suitability of a language for data processing, requiring as it does the structuring of data and a search procedure.

## FORTRAN

FORTRAN owes its supremacy over the early high-level scientific programming languages to its support from IBM. Once established as the language that most scientific programmers knew and in which most scientific software was written, it was naturally difficult to dislodge. Although there are many dialects of FORTRAN, the definitive version is ANSI standard FORTRAN IV.

The way in which arithmetic computation and the storage of values is achieved in FORTRAN is illustrated by the following instruction which solves Problem 1:

$$X = A + 2.0*B/C$$

The effect of this instruction is to cause the expression to the right of the equals sign to be evaluated, and to assign the resulting value to the variable X. In the expression, the multiplication must be indicated explicitly (by the star). Since the variables A, B and C are, by implication, real valued, the two is written as the real number 2.0 rather than as the integer 2 to avoid mixed-mode arithmetic. FORTRAN automatically performs arithmetic operations in the correct order, so that, for instance, multiplications are performed before additions. Brackets can be used to change this order in exactly the same way as in algebraic formulae. Thus the effect of the program segment

```
A = 6.0
B = 5.0
C = 4.0
X = A + 2.0*B/C
```

is that the value 8.5 is assigned to X.

# LANGUAGE SURVEY

Problem 2 is solved quite simply in FORTRAN which possesses a range of standard functions broadly comparable to that of a scientific calculator. The solution is

```
X = SQRT (ALOG (SIN (A)))
```

The value of A is treated as a number of radians by the sine function.

Input and output are achieved with READ and WRITE instructions, thus a program segment to read a number from an input device and to write it to an output device immediately is :

```
      READ (1, 100) A
100  FORMAT (F10.3)
      WRITE (2,101) A
101  FORMAT (F11.3)
```

In each READ or WRITE instruction, the key word is followed by a pair of numbers in brackets. The first number is a device number, so that in this example 1 is the number of an input device — a card reader, say — and 2 is an output device number — of a line printer, perhaps. The second number gives the label of the associated format statement which every input/output instruction must have. The necessity of formats can be aggravating, but it gives the programmers complete control over the layout of his input and output. In the example, the value of A is specified as a floating point value (F), punched in the first 10 columns of a card and having 3 figures after the decimal point. The output format similarly specifies the way in which the line printer should print the value of A.

Conditional instructions have the form :

```
IF (condition) instruction
```

The condition involves the comparison of two values, and the following instruction is executed only if the condition is true. Otherwise control passes to the next instruction. A typical conditional instruction is

```
IF (A.EQ.6.5) X = A + B
```

and when this instruction is executed the sum of A and B is assigned to X only if the most recent value assigned to A is 6.5.

Repetition is achieved with a DO loop. This facility gives the automatic repetition of all the instructions between a DO and its matching CONTINUE statement as often as indicated. Thus Problem 3 is solved by

```
DO 50 I = 1,11
  J = I + 9
  WRITE (2,100) J
100  FORMAT (I3)
50  CONTINUE
```

The number following DO is the label of the matching CONTINUE. The variable I is the loop counter. It counts the repetitions, and here repetition starts with I set to one and continues while I increases by one until it reaches 11.

FORTAN supports both functions and subroutines. The function sub-program computes a single value and returns it to the main program. A subroutine can return multiple values besides being executed for its side effects.

The only data structure available in FORTRAN is the array. The declaration statement

```
DIMENSION A(50)
```

reserves storage space for a one dimensional array, A, with

elements A(1) to A(50), each of which can be manipulated in exactly the same way as an ordinary variable. A program for Problem 4 that deals with a set of 10 numbers is :

```
      DIMENSION A(10)
      READ (1,100) A(1)
100  FORMAT (F10.2)
      AMAX = A(1)
      DO 15 I = 1,9
        J = I + 1
        READ (1,100) A(J)
        IF (A(J).GT.AMAX) AMAX = A(J)
15  CONTINUE
      WRITE (2,101) AMAX
101  FORMAT (F11.2)
```

After execution of this segment the 10 numbers are stored in the array, A, and AMAX has been assigned the value of the largest.

The handling of strings and characters in FORTRAN is somewhat limited, so a solution to Problem 5 is not presented. However, some dialects permit a solution similar to the one presented in the section on BASIC.

## BASIC

BASIC was devised at Dartmouth College in the USA as a high-level language that would be easy to learn and to teach. Its recent rapid increase in popularity has stemmed from the speed with which it can be learnt and from its ready availability on microcomputers. It is the language that is available on the Commodore PET and the APPLE. Although there is a standard version of BASIC, so many variations and extensions are currently available, including extensions for text processing or real-time applications, that the standard has little meaning.

Instructions for computation and storage are almost identical to those in FORTRAN. The BASIC for Problem 1 is

```
LET X = A + 2*B/C
```

The LET is usually dropped. The instruction for Problem 2 is

```
X = SQR(LOG (SIN (A)))
```

A number can be input and immediately output by

```
10 INPUT A
20 PRINT A
```

The input instruction is interactive, and when executed causes the machine to wait until an input is entered from the keyboard. In BASIC programs, every instruction has a line number. Before executing a program BASIC uses the line numbers to sort the instructions into order. There is also a READ instruction that reads from DATA statements included in the same program.

Conditional instructions have the form

```
IF condition THEN instruction
```

for example

```
IF A > 6.5 THEN X = A + B
```

Their execution is similar to that of conditionals in FORTRAN.

For repetition, the key words to start and end a loop are FOR and NEXT. A program for Problem 3 is



```

10 FOR I = 10 TO 20
20 PRINT I
30 NEXT I

```

Arrays are supported by BASIC, although the declaration  
 DIM A(20)  
 reserves space for the one-dimensional array with elements  
 A(0) to A(20). A program for Problem 4 that deals with a  
 set of 10 numbers is :

```

10 DIM A(10)
20 INPUT A(1)
30 AM = A(1)
40 FOR I = 2 TO 10
50 INPUT A(I)
60 IF A(I) > AM THEN AM = A(I)
70 NEXT I
80 PRINT AM

```

BASIC provides facilities for handling strings. A variable  
 whose name ends in \$ can have a character string assigned  
 to it. This transparent, but not very efficient, program  
 provides a solution to Problem 5 for a vocabulary of 21  
 words :

```

10 DIM E$(20), F$(20)
20 E$(0) = "HOUSE"
30 F$(0) = "MAISON"
40 E$(1) = "CHAIR"
50 F$(1) = "CHAISE"
  etc.
200 INPUT "ENTER ENGLISH WORD", A$
210 B = 0
220 FOR I = 0 TO 20
230 IF A$ = E$(I) THEN PRINT F$(I)
240 IF A$ = E$(I) THEN B = 1
250 NEXT I
260 IF B = 0 THEN PRINT A$; "NOT IN
  VOCABULARY"
270 GOTO 200

```

## ALGOL

ALGOL 60 is formally defined in a report dated 1960, and  
 although it is a more rational language than FORTRAN, it  
 has never managed to dent the popularity of the latter to any  
 marked degree.

Its computation and assignment instructions are  
 typified by the instruction

$x := a + 2.0 * b / c$

The avoidance of a simple equals sign reminds the program-  
 mer of the assignment required by this instruction.

Input/output is the one language feature not defined  
 in the ALGOL 60 report, so that it varies from implement-  
 ation to implementation. A value is read and printed out in  
 ICL ALGOL 60 by

$a := \text{read} ; \text{print}(a, 3, 2)$

The semicolon acts as an instruction separator. The print  
 statement delivers the value of a with three places before the  
 decimal point and two after it.

A typical conditional instruction is  
 if  $a > 6.5$  then  $x := a + b$  else  $x := a - b$

The repetition facilities can be illustrated by the following  
 program for Problem 3.

```

for i:= 10 step 1 until 20 do
begin print (i, 2, 0) end

```

Both conditional and repetition instructions are quite expli-  
 cit.

Arrays are supported, and their use is illustrated by  
 the following program for Problem 4.

```

real array a(1:10) ; real amax;
a(1) := read ; amax := a(1);
for i:= 2 step 1 until 10 do
begin a(i) := read; if a(i) > amax then amax:= a(i) end;
print (amax, 3, 3)

```

All variables must be declared before they are used in  
 ALGOL programs.

The sub-program in ALGOL in the procedure.  
 Unlike FORTRAN and BASIC, ALGOL supports recursion,  
 that is, sub-programs may call themselves.

## COBOL

The pre-eminence of COBOL for business data processing  
 stems from the US Government policy that required the  
 provision of a COBOL compiler with any computer bought  
 using their funding. As a commercial language, COBOL  
 emphasises the handling of alphanumeric data and files,  
 so that tasks such as reading and updating file records and  
 automatic form filling can be accomplished.

The language is intended to be readable, having  
 instructions such as

MOVE X TO Y

that cause single values or complete structures to be moved.  
 Only simple arithmetic facilities are required; a typical  
 instruction is

ADD BALANCE TO OLDTOTAL GIVING NEWTOTAL.

Problem 1 can be solved by

```

DIVIDE C INTO B.
MULTIPLY 2 BY B.
ADD B TO A GIVING X.

```

Here, the programmer must order the arithmetic operations.  
 An alternative solution is

COMPUTE X = A + 2 \* B / C

COBOL does not possess, or need, facilities to solve problems  
 like Problem 2. It has READ and WRITE instructions for  
 input and output, and conditional instructions such as

IF ORDER IS GREATER THAN 100  
 MULTIPLY DISCOUNT BY PRICE.

COBOL programs contain separate data divisions and proce-  
 dure divisions. A file called CARDS with records called REC  
 each of which consists of a single number, QUANTITY, of  
 up to four digits can be declared in the data division by

# LANGUAGE SURVEY

```
FD  CARDS
   DATA RECORD IS REC.
01  REC.
   02 QUANTITY PICTURE 9999.
```

Thus, each record in the file contains a single number. The largest number in the file can be found, in the procedure division, in this way :

```
      MOVE ZEROS TO A.
READ-IN
      READ CARDS AT END GO TO LABEL.
      IF QUANTITY IS GREATER THAN A
        MOVE QUANTITY TO A.
      GO TO READ-IN.
LABEL.
      WRITE A
```

COBOL can support very rich data structures. A file suitable for Problem 5, called WORDS, with records, TRANS, that have sub-fields called ENGLISH and FRENCH each consisting of is alphabetic characters is established by

```
FD  WORDS
   DATA RECORD IS TRANS.
01  TRANS.
   02 ENGLISH PICTURE A(15).
   02 FRENCH PICTURE A(15).
```

A translation program then has the form

```
START.
  READ WORDS AT END GO TO FINISH.
  IF ENGLISH IS EQUAL TO "CHAIR"
    WRITE FRENCH.
  GO TO START.
FINISH.
```

## PL1

The facilities possessed by PL/1 include a combination of those of FORTRAN and COBOL. As a general purpose language it is very complicated, and has not achieved its expected popularity. The slowness of its early implementations was a factor contributing to this. ALGOL 68, also a general purpose language, was adopted as a teaching language by many Computer Science departments because of the attractiveness of unified design based on a small number of independent concepts. However, PASCAL has tended to supersede it. The language itself is extensible in the sense that new features, such as operators and variable types can be defined and declared to suit the programmer. Implementation of the language in an entirely satisfactory manner has proved difficult.

## Pascal

Pascal is descended from the ALGOLs. It was designed as a teaching language to demonstrate programming as a systematic discipline. It was also intended that it should be possible to implement the language compactly and efficiently. PASCAL appears likely to take over from BASIC as the most popular high-level language for microcomputers.

The computation and assignment instructions are similar to those of ALGOL 60. Repetition and output are illustrated by this solution to Problem 3 :

```
var n : integer ; n:= 10;
while n < 21 do
begin writeln (n); n:= n + 1 end
```

This solution to Problem 4 finds the largest of a set of positive numbers, the end of which is indicated by a negative number :

```
var a, b : real ; read (b) ; a:= b;
repeat
if b > a then a:= b ; read (b)
until b < 0 ;
writein (a)
```



(CHESS MACHINE CONGRESS)

# LANGUAGE SURVEY

Pascal provides all the control features necessary for structured programming. Arrays and complex data structures are also supported. A data structure suitable for Problem 5 can be declared in this way :

```
type wordpair = record
    english, french : packed array [1..15] of char
end;

var first : wordpair ;
first.english := "chair" ;
first.french := "chaise"
```

An array of variables of type wordpair can be declared, and then a solution to Problem 5 is straightforward.

## LISP

LISP is a list processing language. The list is a useful representation in a variety of applications. For example, character strings may be regarded as lists of characters, and text as lists of the obstacles to its movement, it can determine whether a move it proposes to make is obstructed by scanning this list.

LISP is a functional language. Every instruction consists of a function and its arguments, and is executed by evaluating the arguments, applying the function to them and returning the resulting function value. Assignment is achieved by

```
(SETQ A 5)
```

which sets A to 5. Then

```
(PLUS A 6)
```

returns the value 11, because the arguments of PLUS are evaluated to 5 and 6, and applying the function PLUS to them gives 11. It should be noted that LISP programs are lists — the previous one is the list of the three elements PLUS, A and 6. Since programs and data have the same structure (both are lists) it is possible to write programs that compute other programs.

Problem 1 is solved in LISP by

```
(PLUS A (QUOTIENT (TIMES 2 B) C))
```

The programmer must put the arithmetic operations in the correct order.

More important than the arithmetic functions are the LISP functions for processing lists. These include CAR and CDR. After the assignment

```
(SETQ L '(A B C))
```

which assigns the three-element list (A B C) to L, the instruction

```
(CAR L)
```

returns A, the first element of the list, while

```
(CDR L)
```

returns (B C), the list with its first element deleted.

A suitable data structure for Problem 5 is the list

```
((CHAIR CHAISE) (HOUSE MAISON) (HORSE CHEVAL))
```

if this list is assigned to L, then translation is achieved, essentially, by printing (CDR (CAR L)) when a match is found to (CAR (CAR L)).

### Summary

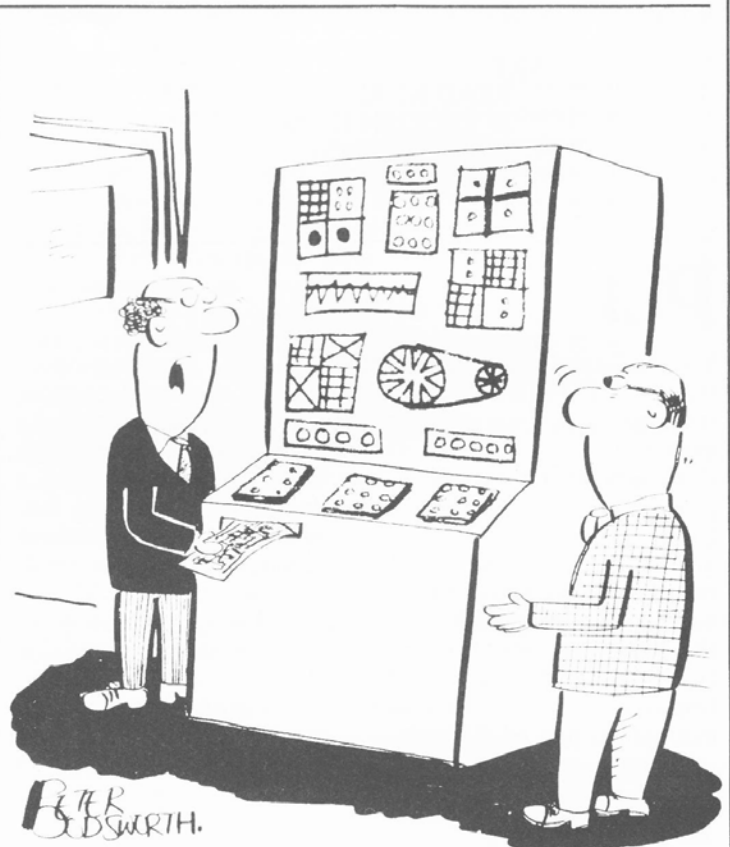
Descriptions of a number of programming languages have been provided in this article. Even if your favourite language is not covered, it is undeniable that the languages mentioned here are popular. Merely to cover FORTRAN and COBOL would ensure that the languages in which the majority of programs are written are covered. As to the future, it is certain that new languages will be designed. Perhaps an ideal language that is all things to all men will emerge — could it be ADA?

### Further Reading

Two books on programming languages each of which includes further references to individual languages are :

'An introduction to the study of programming languages', D.W. Barron, Cambridge University Press, 1977.

'A comparative study of programming languages', B. Higman, Macdonald and Jane's, 1967.



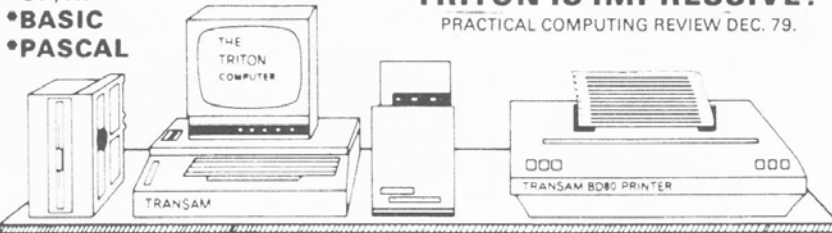
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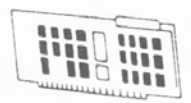
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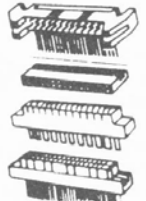
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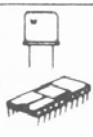


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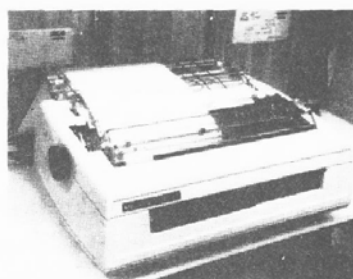
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### INTERFACE

**Keyboard** New expanded 57 key Licon solid state keyboard especially built for Nascom. Uses standard Nascom monitor controlled, decoding.

**T.V.** The tv peak to peak video signal can drive a monitor directly and is also fed to the on-board modulator to drive the domestic T.V.

**I.O.** On-board UART (Int 6402) which provides serial handling for the on-board cassette interface or the RS232/20mA teletype interface.

The cassette interface is Kansas City standard at either 300 or 1200 baud. This is a link option on the NASCOM-2. The RS232 and 20mA loop connector will interface directly into any standard teletype.

The input and output sides of the UART are independently switchable between any of the options - i.e. it is possible to house input on the cassette and output on the printer.

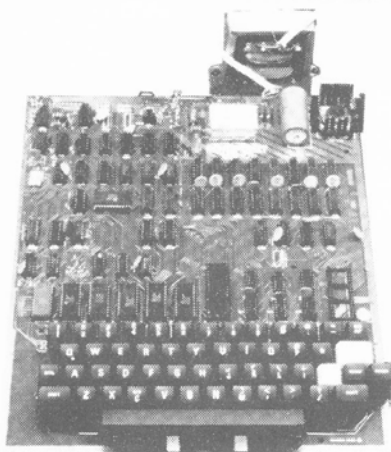
**PIO** There is also a totally uncommitted Parallel I/O (IM3881) giving 16, programmable, I/O lines. These are addressable as 2 x 8 bit ports with complete handshake controls.

**Documentation** Full construction article is provided for those who buy a kit and an extensive software manual is provided for the monitor and Basic.

**Basic** The Nascom 2 contains a full 8K Microsoft Basic in one ROM chip with additional features like DEEK, DOKE, SET, RESET for simple programming. With free 16K RAM board.

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