

PEEK (65)

The Unofficial OSI Users Journal

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Column One

Once again, the rumor machine has been working overtime with all sorts of bad news about OSI. We like to think that we have heard most of them and have also secured some pretty reliable information from those who ought to know.

Here are the facts, as we understand them:

In September, a sizeable note from OSI to the Bank of America came due;

OSI had pledged their assets to repay the note;

On August 29, the bank moved in to "protect their assets";

The first step was to stop everything to take an inventory;

Employees were laid off, but expect to be called back;

The Bank of America now controls OSI assets, but sales from inventory are continuing;

Negotiations for substantial additional venture financing, which were already under way when the bank stepped in, are continuing;

Long range plans are still being made;

Something concrete should happen (resumption of business, perhaps with a new direction, or...) by about mid-October.

So, what does all of this mean to PEEKers? Who knows? We

have seen OSI come through too many changes to write them off... yet. They may be back stronger than ever.

On the other hand, with Osborne and others going belly up recently, they may not make it. So then what?

Suppose you own an OSI computer, and the company drops out of sight? Who will fix it? Who will support it? Who will sell you parts and software?

OK, now everybody who has depended on the factory for all those things, raise your hand. Hmm, OK, you can put your hands down now, both of you. The rest of us will keep on getting our support and parts and software from the same independent sources where we have been getting them all along.

Naturally, we believe the primary source of such support and software and parts is PEEK(65), meaning you, our readers and advertisers.

If anybody doubts that, have a look at the issue you hold in your trembling hands. You will find articles and ads and listings for everything from a new (old) text editor for small machines to entire business hard-disk systems, including a new and better data base manager which runs multi-user on a hard disk machine, an azimuth calculator for amateur astronomers and a whole new DOS.

In case you were thinking maybe your business application could use the new DBMS, but would require a hard disk, have a look at the Denver Board ad -- seems we OSIers are among the first to be able to use the new removable-media hard disk units for backup.

And last but certainly far from least, we begin in this issue our software listing. You will find everything from a snake-eating game to complete systems to run banks and clothing stores -- and much more. We plan to continue these listings as long as we have items to list, so if you still haven't sent us a description of your gem, get it in the mail!

We have received requests that the "Casette Corner" feature be reinstated. We agree that this was a valuable feature, and would love to resume it. What we need is an author. All you cassette hotshots out there, get with it. Anyone who would like to share experiences with non-disk machines, consider taking over the job. It pays magnificently (at least \$10/month) and the only requirement is to send us a sample column...

Another reader wonders about a SII users' club. Who knows of one?

al

TEC65 REVIEW

By: David A. Jones
9226 N.W. 17 Street
Coral Springs, FL 33065

TEC65

6502 Program Exchange
2920 West Moana, Reno NV 89509
\$35.00 C1P W/HEXDOS 4.0
\$45.00 C1P W/OS65D 3.2
\$45.00 C1P/C4P W/OS65D 3.3

TECO is a text editing language by Digital Equipment Corp, the minicomputer manufacturer. Notice that I said a text editing language, not just an editor or a word processor.

You can actually write programs (called macros) in TECO that will open one or more files, edit, combine, format, extract excerpts of, or almost anything else you would want to do with a text or data file and then write the output to one or more new files. The most common application though is as an interactive text editor. As such, it is one of the most powerful editors available today. Because TECO is very versatile, it is necessarily complex and many of its features go unused even among experienced users.

TEC65 is a subset of the most frequently used commands of TECO. To quote from the 6502 Program Exchange catalog, it can:

Change the third occurrence of the word "apple" to "orange,"

Change the first seven occurrences of the word "men" to "women,"

Make the second paragraph of a text into the fourth paragraph,

Print every line that contains the word "cycle,"

Search for a string "stoXe" where "X" is a wildcard character. Thus "stoXe" would match with "stone", "store", or "stove,"

Print 40 copies of a form letter without interruption"

.....and more.

Several commands in TEC65 vary from TECO, all apparently to make life easier. Among these; A is replaced with EA, PW becomes EW, and EO serves both as the ER and EW commands. A single escape character does a -T and a line feed does an LT. Control G is equivalent to V or OTT. None of this is really objectionable, but it does slow down those of us who type mechanically. I use TECO all daily at work and have to reprogram myself when I come home. Being so used to typing on different keyboards, I wonder why I should complain about this. I did, however, change the function of the line feed to work as an escape character when the shift lock is not down. This facilitates search and replace commands when in lower case.

TEC65 is all machine code and requires 5K of memory. Implemented on a 32K system under HEXDOS 24K of text buffer is available. With a stock system no special patches or hooks are required.

Since my system is not stock, I had to make several overlays to HEXDOS and one to TEC65. My input and output routines are customized in EPROM to support my video and parallel ports modifications. Overlaying the HEXDOS input routines at \$08B3 and output routine at \$0992 with patches accomplishes this task. Changing the input/output vectors at \$0218 and \$021A is not the proper way to do this as the disk file management code is part of HEXDOS's input/output. CEGMON support is also located here as are the HEXDOS definitions of the control keys. Also, for HEXDOS users who want to disable the control C function of the repeat key, overlay NOP's on the 14 bytes starting at \$0454. This area should currently start with \$A9. Many cassette games use the repeat key as a fire control.

Another item of interest is the start address of TEC65 at \$0F00. It's not given in the documentation but is necessary to make work or backup copies.

Use:

SAVE#3,3838;SAVE#4,3838+2048;SAVE#5,3838+4096 to put it on tracks 3, 4 and 5. It took me quite a while to glean the necessary information to this out of the HEXDOS manual.

TEC65 is called into memory via the BASIC command LOAD \$TEC65:USR(-5)4096. I have a short BASIC program that does this and also POKES in the patches to HEXDOS and sets the default parameters for text justification. This is a clean way to do it and it allows both HEXDOS and TEC65 to remain at their original version levels. A word of warning is in order here. HEXDOS BASIC programs start at \$0B00 and TEC65 starts at \$0F00 so the calling program is limited to less than 1K. Another caution: TEC65's initialization table is located at \$2008. Once initialized, the table is no longer required and it is overwritten as it lies within the text buffer. When you want to make a backup or work copy, don't enter text to see if it works before you save it to disk. I lost a lot of sleep until these 2 facts dawned on me. The initial justification parameters are also stored here. See table 1.

To save text to a file, you must have created one beforehand large enough to receive the text. Too bad we can't create one dynamically from within TEC65 that would be just the right size. Should you enter more text into the buffer than your output file will handle, all is not lost. Just put the excess into one of the Q registers and save the rest as file nr. 1. Clear the buffer and recall the excess from the Q register and save that as file nr. 2. Assuming you have file nr.1 and file nr. 2 available. Anytime you're interested in the length of the file in the buffer, you can use the commands ZL\$=\$\$ and the character count will be displayed.

All in all, - I really like TEC65. It is character rather than line oriented and you can move the cursor to any point in the text almost instantly by using the search command. You don't have to worry about reformatting when you insert or delete text in the middle of a line, and carriage returns are only necessary for paragraphing and lines that you don't want justified, columns of numbers or data for example. Screen editors are nice sometimes, I use mine for program editing, but I feel

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the character editors are more efficient for document preparation. This program has been available since 1978 on other 6502 based machines and appears to be bug free. I would expect the OS65D version to be as good. In fact, when it becomes compatible with OS65D version 5.1 just released from OSIO maybe new files could be created from within the editor.

Although not originally part of TECO, a justification routine has been added to TEC65. The justification works erratically sometimes unless you reboot TEC65 and load the file anew before printing. I have informed the exchange of this anomaly and have hopes of them providing a fix. Since this is a freebie included with the package, I won't downgrade TEC65 on this point alone.

A second freebie included is a set of 10 macro commands on one disk file. Not only are they useful, but they are educational in the use of TECO commands as well.

A clearly written 22 page manual supplemented with OSI specific information is included. A very nice program at a reasonable price.

TABLE 1

\$200D JUSTIFICATION FLAG,00=ON
 \$200E PAGE FLAG 80=ON
 \$200F PAGE NUMBER FLAG,80=ON
 \$2010 PAUSE FLAG 80=ON
 \$2012 LINE LENGTH,VALUE+2
 \$2015 PAGE LENGTH,VALUE
 \$2016 PAGE NUMBER, STARTING NUMBER
 \$2017 LINE SPACING,0=SINGLE, 1=DOUBLE, 2=TRIPLE
 \$201E TAB SPACING,VALUE
 \$204B DELETE CHAR,5F=SHIFT O, 7F=RUBOUT



AZIMUTH READING

By: Steve McGinnis
 505 Smith Street
 Ridgway, PA 15853

I finally started feeling guilty about not supporting PEEK so I am enclosing an OSI program I wrote after reading the April, 1982 issue of Astronomy (published by AstroMedia Corp., Milwaukee, WI).

The program will give an azimuth reading (any good compass with degree markings is close) and an altitude reading (90 degrees is up!) of any object in the sky. All

ARCTURAS

ALTITUDE= 62.9525 DEGREES
 AZIMUTH = 221.225 DEGREES
 TIME: 8 : 15 DATE: 7 / 29

OBJECT: ARCTURAS
 RT.ASC: 14.2404
 DEC. : 19.3721
 TIME: 8 : 15 DATE: 7 / 29

```

1  REM ADAPTED FROM APRIL 1982 ASTRONOMY ARTICLE WRITTEN
  BY P. BURKE
5  REM ADAPTED FOR OSI C1PII BY S. MCGINNIS
10  FOR CL=1 TO 25:PRINT:NEXT CL
20  PRINT"ALT-AZIMUTH SETTING CIRCLES"
30  PRINT:PRINT
35  INPUT"OBJECT";O$
40  REM DAY NUMBER*****
50  PRINT"INPUT THE CURRENT MONTH # (1-12)"
60  INPUT MO
70  PRINT"INPUT THE DAY NUMBER (1-31)"
75  INPUT DAY
80  DN=INT(275*MO/9)-(2*INT((MO+9)/12))+DAY-30
90  PRINT"DAY NUMBER = ";DN
100  REM MEAN SIDEREAL TIME*****
110  REM1983:K=6.60649392,1984:K=6.59057904,ETC.REF ASTRONOMY
  APR 1982
120  GMST=6.60649392+(0.0657098232*DN)
130  REM SIDEREAL TIME AT CURRENT TIME*****
140  PRINT"INPUT CURRENT TIME IN HOURS"
150  INPUT HR
155  TI=HR
160  PRINT"NOW INPUT # OF MINUTES AFTER THE HOUR"
170  INPUT MIN
180  HR=HR+MIN/60
185  SI=MIN
190  REM CONVERT TO 24 HOUR CLOCK
200  PRINT"INPUT '1' IF EVENING HOURS, '0' IF MORNING HOURS"
210  INPUT CODE
220  IF CODE=1 THEN HR=HR+12
230  REM ADD TO GET UT(GMT)*****
240  UT=HR+4
250  GMST=GMST+(1.0027379093*UT)
260  PRINT"GMST= ";GMST
265  REM GO GET LONGITUDE*****
270  GOSUB 1270
360  REM LOCAL SIDEREAL TIME*****
370  LST=GMST-LGT
380  IF LST>24 THEN LST=LST-24
390  IF LST>24 GOTO 380
400  REM LST TO DEGREES*****
410  LST=LST*15
420  PRINT"LST= ";LST
422  INPUT"1=SETTING CIRCLES,2=FIND R.A.";X
425  IF X=2 THEN 690
430  PRINT"INPUT RIGHT ASCENSION AS HOURS,MINUTES"
440  INPUTHR,MIN
460  MIN=MIN/60
470  RA=HR+MIN
472  REM RA TO DEGREES*****
475  RA=RA*15
480  REM HOUR ANGLE*****
490  HA=LST-RA
500  PRINT"HOUR ANGLE= ";HA
510  PRINT"INPUT THE DECLINATION AS DEGREES,MINUTES"
520  INPUTDGS,MIN
540  MIN=MIN/60
550  DGS=DGS+MIN
560  REM D=DECLINATION*****
570  D=DGS
572  REM GO GET LATITUDE*****
575  GOSUB 1570
622  REM RADIANS*****
623  C=.0174532925
625  D=D*C:L=L*C:HA=HA*C
630  A=(SIN(D)*SIN(L))+(COS(D)*COS(L)*COS(HA))
635  AS=ATN(A/SQR(-A*A+1))
650  AZ=(SIN(D)-(SIN(L)*SIN(AS)))/(COS(L)*COS(AS))
655  AC=-ATN(AZ/SQR(-AZ*AZ+1))+1.5708
660  AZ=AC/C
665  IF SIN(HA)>0 THEN AZ=360-AZ

```

Listing continued

```

666 POKE517,255
667 PRINTOS
668 PRINT"ALTIUTDE= ";AS/C;" DEGREES"
670 PRINT "AZIMUTH= ";AZ;" DEGREES"
672 PRINT"TIME: ";TI;" : ";SI;" DATE: ";MO;" / ";DAY:PRINT:PRINT
675 POKE517,0
680 INPUT"CONT (Y/N)";XS:IF XS="Y" THEN 35
685 END
690 REM R.A. & DEC.*****
700 REM L=LATITUDE, A=ALTITUDE, AZ=AZIMUTH
710 INPUT"INPUT ALTITUDE IN DEGREES";A
720 INPUT"INPUT AZIMUTH IN DEGREES";AZ
721 FLAG=0
722 IF AZ>180 THEN AZ=360-AZ:FLAG=1
725 REM RADIANS*****
730 C=.0174532925
745 REM GO GET LATITUDE*****
750 GOSUB 1570
760 L=L*C:A=A*C:AZ=AZ*C
770 SD=(SIN(A)*SIN(L))+(COS(A)*COS(L)*COS(AZ))
775 D=ATN(SD/SQR(-SD*SD+1))
780 CHA=(SIN(A)-(SIN(L)*SD))/(COS(L)*COS(D))
785 HA=-ATN(CHA/SQR(-CHA*CHA+1))+1.5708
790 D=D/C:HA=HA/C
795 IF FLAG=1 THEN 810
800 IF SIN(HA)>=0 THEN HA=360-HA
810 HA=HA/15
820 RA=LST/15-HA
825 IF RA<0 THEN RA=RA+24:GOTO 825
830 POKE 517,255
835 PRINT"OBJECT: ";O$
840 PRINT"RT.ASC: ";RA
850 PRINT"DEC. : ";D
860 PRINT"TIME: ";TI;" : ";SI;"DATE: ";MO;" / ";DAY:PRINT:PRINT
865 POKE 517,0
870 INPUT"CONT (Y/N)";XS:IF XS="Y" THEN 35
900 END
1200 REM SUBROUTINES*****
1270 REM LONGITUDE*****
1290 DGS=78:MIN=44:SEC=30
1300 SEC=SEC/3600
1310 MIN=MIN/60
1320 DGS=DGS+MIN+SEC
1330 REM DECIMAL HOURS*****
1350 LGT=DGS/15
1360 RETURN
1570 REM LATITUDE*****
1590 DGS=41:MIN=19:SEC=0
1600 SEC=SEC/3600
1610 MIN=MIN/60
1620 L=DGS+MIN+SEC
1625 RETURN
1630 END

```

that is needed is the right ascension (R.A.) and the declination (DEC.) of the object in question. These numbers can be found in any good astronomy handbook. Line number 422 gives the option of 1) finding the azimuth and altitude from the celestial coordinates or 2) finding the celestial coordinates from the azimuth and altitude. (Enclosed is an output for the star Arcturas, as an example.)

The only changes that have to be made to the program are as follows:

NO. COMMENT

240 The adjustment from local

time is entered here. Pennsylvania is four hrs. behind Universal Time (UT).

1290 Your longitude in Degrees (DGS), Minutes (MIN), and Seconds (SEC).

1590 Your latitude in Degrees (DGS), Minutes (MIN), and Seconds (SEC).

There was a recent issue of Astronomy that gave a computer version of the April, 1982 article, but I still prefer this program. Since the mathematics is well documented in the Astronomy article, I will not repeat it here.

OSI-FORTH

OSI-FORTH 3.0 is a full implementation of the FORTH Interest Group FORTH, for disk-based OSI systems (C1, C2, C3, C4, C8) Running under OS65D3, it includes a resident text editor and 6502 assembler. Over 150 pages of documentation and a handy reference card are provided. Requires 24K (20K C1P). Eight-inch or mini disk \$79.95. Manual only, \$9.95. "OSI-FORTH Letters" software support newsletter \$4.00/year.

Other Software for
Ohio Scientific Computers:

VIDEO EDITOR

Video Editor is a powerful full screen editor for disk-based C2, C4, C8 systems with the polled keyboard and color video boards (b&w monitor ok). Allows full cursor-control with insertion, deletion and duplication of source for BASIC or OSI's Assembler/Editor. Unlike versions written in BASIC, this machine-code editor is co-resident with BASIC (or the Assembler), autoloading into the highest three pages of RAM upon boot. Video Editor also provides single-keystroke control of sound, screen format, color and background color. Eight-inch or mini disk: \$14.95. Specify amount of RAM.

SOFT FRONT PANEL

Soft Front Panel is a software single-stepper, slow-stepper and debugger-emulator that permits easy development of 6502 machine code. SFP is a fantastic monitor, simultaneously displaying all registers, flags, the stack and more. Address traps, opcode traps, traps on memory content and on port and stack activity are all supported. This is for disk systems with polled keyboard and color (b&w monitor ok). Uses sound and color capabilities of OSI C2/C4/C8 systems (not for C1P). Eight-inch or mini disk \$24.95. Specify amount of RAM. Manual only, \$4.95 (May be later credited toward software purchase). Six page brochure available free upon request.

TERMINAL CONTROL PROGRAM

OSI-TCP is a sophisticated Terminal Control Program for editing OS-65D3 files, and for uploading and downloading these files to other computers through the CPU board's serial port on OSI C2, C4, and C8 disk-based systems with polled keyboards. Thirteen editor commands allow full editing of files, including commands for sending any text out the terminal port and saving whatever text comes back. INDUTL utility included for converting between BASIC source and TCP file text. Eight-inch or mini disk \$39.95. Manual only, \$2.95.

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OS-65U SMART TERMINAL PROGRAM

TRM65U

by: Rick Trethewey
8 Duran Court
Pacifica, CA 94044

As promised, this month we will address and list the machine code program TRM65U.

The next step is to create a file on an OS-65D diskette of at least 9 tracks. This time, the name doesn't matter. Serial systems will have to change the source code at lines 260 and 270 to reflect the address of their modem port, and line 390 to properly configure the ACIA. Using the OSI Assembler/Editor (or similar utility), enter the source for the machine code. Note that the origin address for this code is \$B000, so make sure that you protect high memory before assembling this program. On the OSI Assembler, enter "HAFFF" to do this. Now, assemble the code to memory. If all has gone well to this point, hit <BREAK>. Now take out the OS-65D diskette and boot up on the OS-65U diskette with the TRM65U files on it. After BEXEC* has run its course, run DISK.

The first thing DISK asks for is the disk address for the operation. This entry must be made in decimal, but you should have that information written down from when you created the files and then ran DIR. Next, DISK asks how many bytes are to be read or written. In our case, we need to write about 6 pages of RAM, so respond with "5600", the hexadecimal value. When DISK asks for the RAM address, enter "\$B000". Lastly, DISK asks if you want to read or write. Enter "W" for "write". DISK will now do the rest for you.

Alright, you've captured the data on disk, now how do you get at it? That's where the program "PRINT" comes in. PRINT will dump the contents of a TRM65U file to either the console or printer. The file selection routine is the same one as contained in the TRM65U executive. Also, by making the appropriate POKES to 11661 and 11662 and by using "4" as the output device number, it is possible to use PRINT to transfer programs captured in text form to the indirect file in memory.

Good luck.

```

10 ; SMART TERMINAL PROGRAM FOR OS-65U V1.2
20 ;
30 CTRLB =$02
40 CTRLC =$03
50 CTRLD =$04
60 BS =$08
70 CTRLI =$09
80 LF =$0A
90 CR =$0D
100 CTRL0 =$0F
110 CTRLQ =$11
120 CTRLS =$13
130 POSCNT=$16
140 SP =$20
150 SKIP2 =$2C
160 RUBOUT=$7F
170 FACHI =$AF
180 FACMHI=$B0
190 FACMLO=$B1
200 FACLO =$B2
210 STACK =$0100
220 KEYLST=8960
230 BUFFER=$A000
240 KYBD =$DF00
250 MDCTRL=$F7D3
260 STATUS=$FC00 <- CHANGE ON SERIAL SYSTEMS
270 MODEM =$FC01 <- CHANGE ON SERIAL SYSTEMS
280 OUTDO =$0AEE
290 FLOAT =$1B44
300 ASCII =$1CEC
310 OUFLAG=11686
320;
330      *=$B000
340;
350 START LDA #$34      GET UART INIZ FOR A-15
360      STA MDCTRL    SET TO MODEM PORT
370      LDA #$03      LOAD CLEAR COMMAND
380 S1   STA STATUS    INIZ ACIA
390      LDA #$16      <- CHANGE ON SERIAL SYSTEMS
400 S2   STA STATUS    CONFIGURE MODEM PORT
410      LDX OUFLAG    GET CONSOLE DEVICE NUMBER
420      LDA INTBL-1,X  FETCH LSB OF INPUT CODE
430      STA CNSLIN+1  SAVE IN CNSLIN
440      LDA INTBH-1,X  GET MSB
450      STA CNSLIN+2  SAVE IT TOO
460      JSR GETVAR    COMPUTE COMMAND FROM BASIC
470      TSX           GET CURRENT STACK POINTER
480      STX STKPTR    SAVE IT
490      LDA FACLO     GET COMMAND NUMBER
500      BEQ P0        INITIAL ENTRY? => P0
510      AND #$0F      NO, MASK TO LOW NIBBLE
520      CMP #$01      TGLON?
530      BNE S3        NO => S3
540      JMP TGLON1    YES! RE-ENTER CODE
550 S3   CMP #$02      TGLOFF?
560      BNE S4        NO => S4
570      JMP TGLOF1    YES! RE-ENTER CODE
580 S4   CMP #$03      SAVE/WRITE OUT BUFFER ?
590      BNE S5        NO => S5
600      JMP SAVE8     YES! RE-ENTER CODE
610 S5   CMP #$04      RETURN FROM FILE OPEN?
620      BNE S6        NO => S6
630      JMP SEND1    YES! ==> SEND1
640 S6   CMP #$05      RETURN FROM TRACK FETCH?
650      BNE S7        NO => S7
660      JMP SENDX    YES! => SENDX
670 S7   JMP P0        UNRECOGNIZED COMMAND => P0
680;
690 INTBL .BYTE TTYIN,KB POLL
700 INTBH .BYTE TTYIN/256,KB POLL/256
710;
720 TGLDUP LDA P7
730      EOR #$0C
740      STA P7
750;
760 P0   JSR XIN        CHECK MODEM FOR INCOMING
770      BCC P1        NOTHING? => P1
780      AND #$7F      CHAR. REC'D! MASK PARITY BIT
790      JSR CNSLOU    SEND TO CONSOLE

```

REVIEW

SYSTEMS GENERATOR VERSION 83.1

by:
PEEK(65)
Tom Hill

Three weeks ago I was asked by the folks here at Peek(65) to make a review of Comptrol Systems' SYSTEMS GENERATOR. Anyone who has had the opportunity to test any new software knows the feeling of apprehension when I opened the box delivered to us by Comptrol and found twelve diskettes and a manual.

As with any new software package, the first thing I did was to read the manual from cover to cover. This manual being quite thick (about an inch and a half), took about three hours to digest. It is well organized and written totally with the end user in mind. It was easy to read and appeared to be quite informative, but as we all know, if all of the software packages that we owned performed as well as the manuals claimed they would, we could probably run the entire U.S. government from our desk tops. The manual put aside, it was time to get to work.

I wondered, how long is this monster going to take to set up, and once I do manage to get it set up, will it work at all?

I must say that it was a pleasant surprise. Following the easy to understand instructions, I was able to get the system up and running in about an hour.

As the manual states, the system requires OSU V1.43 or later, so the first thing I did was to install the new OSU. This upgraded version of the operating system has plenty of enhancements over the earlier versions, and we hope to do a review of it at a later date. Using the "Install" program provided with OSU, the floppies were easily uploaded to our CD-74 hard disk. The only modification to the Systems Generator disks was to change the name of the BEXEC* program. This was done because SYSGEN was loaded into an existing subsystem on our hard disk. An easy to read, step by step procedure for this change is listed in the manual.

If you are going to use the system on a floppy disk ma-

chine the only thing that you have to do, after making your initial backup of the master disks, is to run them. The reason that there are so many floppies, is that in order to prevent the hassles of constantly moving disks around, many of the most frequently used programs are repeated on all of the disks. For those of you who have Denver Boards in your machines, there is even a section in the manual on configuring the system for them.

The next step was to see how hard it would be to actually run the system.

SURPRISE! SURPRISE!

The main menu came up, and all of the utilities worked just fine.

The Systems Generator is a powerful data base manager designed for the end user, using end user terms. It incorporates OSI's record locking making the system fully configured for timesharing. Master files are called "MAIN STORAGE AREAS" and key files are "INDEX STORAGE AREAS". I must admit that this took some time to get use to, but for the end user these terms should be easy to understand. When designing a main storage area, the operator has the ability to define the rows and columns on the screen for inputting information, determine if the field is to contain alpha or numeric characters, and whether it is to be checked for "DATE YYMMDD", "decimal 00.00" or no checking at all. There is also a facility to conditional check the data for as many as two conditions (=,<>, <,>,<,>+) as well as checking for duplicate information in the same field.

One of the most powerful features of the system is the use of INDEX STORAGE (key files) areas. The index storage areas are designed to be used in conjunction with the main storage areas, in that, if properly used, they are continually updated. Whenever an addition or change is made to a field in the main storage area that has a corresponding index storage area, that index is also updated. The greatest advantage to this is that if the field in the main storage area is one that the user has designated as one that is to be checked for duplicates, instead of the system taking up valuable time searching the main storage area, it checks the index area. Because the

index area is continually updated, there is no need to recreate or update the index file before printing a report. All the user has to do is sort the area or index with the fast sort supplied then print his report.

From adding and editing information, the next logical procedure is to update and perform statistical information on our data. The Systems Generator will do just about anything that the user wants. It allows the operator to globally replace the information within a field, move information to another field, and perform calculations on fields of information (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division) and then store the results in yet another field. All of these functions can be done either conditionally or unconditionally. The user also has the ability to perform the above functions on multiple storage areas. The results can then be stored in one of the storage areas that the user is working with or a completely separate storage area.

The basic reports are also quite versatile. The user can generate reports on MAIN STORAGE AREAS or INDEX STORAGE AREAS. These reports can be in the form of an area dump or in indexed order and have the ability to report the main storage file record number (something that was not available on OS-DMS). The reports can be printed on screen or printer, and because the Systems Generator uses PRTMAP the user is no longer stuck with using the device 5 printer only. He now has his choice between device 3, 5, or 8. The reports can be printed in the old fashioned DMS way (ie. horizontal or vertical) or they can be printed on paper exactly the way the input screen was designed.

Think you've heard it all? The best is yet to come!!

There are three more features available with the Systems Generator that really make it shine. They are: design single or multiple storage area updates, design custom reports, and design user menus. In designing updates and reports, the user now has the opportunity not only to perform very sophisticated updates and print reports that once took laborious time and effort in trial and error to get the proper layout, he now can store all of these para-

eters. There is even a routine that allows the user to define and store the length of a form and place information virtually any place on the paper he wishes. This is extremely important and takes all of the hassle out of hardcoding a program to fill in a preprinted form. The next time the user needs this information, all he has to do is to call the reports or the updates from their respective menus and the system will act automatically, even to the point of accessing the correct main storage areas and index storage areas.

The "Design A User Menu" portion of the Systems Generator is the most impressive portion of the system. It allows the user to define his own sub menu inserting only those options that are needed for the particular data base he is working with. When this is done, he does not have to know the names of any of the storage areas that he is going to work with, all he has to do is select his menu and password and the system opens all the storage areas pertaining to that menu. It also opens all the index files and performs automatic updates, thus allowing even the most computer illiterate person to

become quickly conversant with his data base.

Now that you have read the meat of this review, you are probably saying to yourself, "sounds good for someone who is going to start a new data base, but I don't want to spend the time to convert or rekey all the information from my current OS-DMS files to the Systems Generator." Never fear, Comptrol Systems comes through again! They have provided a nice little routine for converting OS-DMS files to the System Generator files. All the user has to do is create a MAIN STORAGE area with the Systems Generator with fields the same size as the fields in the DMS files and run the "Convert an OSI-DMS file to a SYSGEN 83.1 Main Storage Area" routine and all the work is done by the machine. This may take a while, but I would much rather have the computer do the work while I relax with my coffee.

For those of you who like to do their own custom programming, the manual supplied with the SYSTEMS GENERATOR provides plenty of help. It lists all the error codes that you may encounter, complete storage area layouts, and listings of the storage area variables,

and special variables inherent in the system.

What about bugs and fixes? Comptrol Systems has sent us a couple fixes for bugs that they have discovered. One was minor and only required changing a few lines of code. The other was quite lengthy, but to show that they are more than willing to support their system, the letter that came with the changes states, "if you want, you may send us your original diskettes for the SYSTEMS GENERATOR - VERSION 83.1 and we will refresh them AT NO COST TO YOU other than postage to us." Who could ask for more.

If you are still not sure if the SYSTEMS GENERATOR is the right data base for you, then read the Comptrol Systems ad. Call them with your questions. We have found them easy to get hold of and quite helpful with all of our questions. After you have talked to them, if you are still not sure about their system, then take them up on their FREE 30 days trial. We are sure that once you have had hands on experience with the SYSTEMS GENERATOR you won't want to give it up.



The BEST Just Got BETTER!

SYSTEMS GENERATOR Version 83.1

Comptrol Systems is pleased to announce the latest release of its SYSTEMS GENERATOR. We have reworked this powerful data base manager to be even more flexible and user-friendly than before.

Check these features against any other data base manager:

Totally Screen-Driven Formatting (CRTSET)
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User-Defined Menus

And MUCH MORE!

This is a FIELD-PROVEN enhancement of our previous release — Version 82.2.

Over 50 businesses/programmers are using the SYSTEMS GENERATOR.

Isn't it time you quit "tinkering" with other "data base managers," just to get them to work as they were designed? Move Up to the most powerful data base manager available for OSI hardware.

(Requires OS-65U — Version 1.43 or later)

Manual Only (Credited Toward Purchase)	\$ 50.00
SYSTEMS GENERATOR — Version 83.1	\$499.00
Upgrade From Version 82.2	\$150.00

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Try the SYSTEMS GENERATOR for 30 days. If you don't feel it does the job for you, return it to us and we'll refund your money — IN FULL — no questions asked.

COMPTROL SYSTEMS 8386 Needlegrass Court Parker, CO 80134 (303) 699-0124

```

800 P1 JSR CNSLIN CHECK CONSOLE FOR KEYPRESS
810 BEQ P0 NOTHING? => P0
820 CMP #CTRLD KEYPRESS! <CTRL>'D'?
830 BEQ TGLDUP YES! TOGGLE DUPLEX
840 CMP #CTRLB <CTRL>'B'?
850 BNE P2 NO => P2
860 JMP B1 YES! EXIT =>B1
870 P2 CMP #CTRLI <CTRL>'I'
880 BNE P3 NO => P3
890 JMP TGLSAV YES! TOGGLE SAVE ON/OFF
900 P3 CMP #RUBOUT LC <RUBOUT> ?
910 BNE P4 NO => P4
920 SBC #$20 YES! CHANGE TO UPPER (C=1)
930 P4 CMP #RUBOUT-$20 <RUBOUT>?
940 BNE P8 NO => P8
950 LDA #BS YES! FIRST LOAD BACKSPACE
960 JSR OUTDO PRINT IT
970 LDA #SP THEN LOAD A SPACE
980 JSR OUTDO PRINT IT TOO
990 P5 LDA #BS GET BACKSPACE AGAIN
1000 P6 JSR XMIT SEND CHARACTER TO HOST
1010 P7 BIT CNSLOU ECHO TO CONSOLE IF FULL DUPLEX
1020 JMP P0 AND LOOP
1030 P8 CMP #CTRL0 <CTRL>'O'?
1040 BNE P6 NO => P6
1050 JMP SEND
1060;
1070 B1 LDA SAVFLG CHECK IF SAVE IS ON
1080 BEQ BACK NO ==> BACK
1090 LDA #$04 YES! SHOW BUFFER DIRTY
1100 STA CMDFLG SAVE IN COMMAND FLAG
1110;
1120 BACK LDA #$00 INIZ MSB TO 0
1130 LDY CMDFLG LOAD CMDFLG AS LSB
1140 STA CMDFLG CLEAR CMDFLG
1150 LDX STKPTR GET PROPER STACK POINTER
1160 TXS MAKE IT CURRENT
1170 JMP ($0008) GIVE CMD. TO BASIC & GO BACK
1180;
1190 TGLSAV LDA SAVFLG IS SAVE ON ?
1200 BNE TGLOFF YES! TURN IT OFF
1210 LDA #$01 NO, SET UP FOR TGLON
1220 STA CMDFLG GIVE TO COMMAND FLAG
1230 JMP BACK GO BACK TO BASIC FOR NOW
1240 TGLON LDA FACLO GET RESULT OF ATTEMPT
1250 AND #$F0 CHECK ERROR STATUS
1260 BEQ TGLON1 O.K. TURN SAVE ON
1270 JMP P0 PROBLEM! RE-ENTER MAIN LOOP
1280 TGLON1 LDA #$01 INIZ
1290 STA SAVFLG SHOW SAVE IS ON
1300 LDA #BUFFER RESET BUFFER POINTER
1310 STA SAVD+1 GIVE IT TO SAVE
1320 LDA #BUFFER/256
1330 STA SAVD+2 DON'T FORGET MSB
1340 STA SAVC+2 ALSO SET EOF MARKING PTR
1350 LDA #$00 INIZ
1360 STA INDEX SET SAVE BUFFER POINTER
1370 JMP P0 RE-ENTER MAIN LOOP
1380 TGLOFF LDA #$00 INIZ
1390 STA SAVFLG TURN SAVE OFF
1400 LDA #$02 SHOW RETURN TO TGLOF1
1410 STA CMDFLG GIVE TO COMMAND FLAG
1420 JMP BACK GO BACK SHOWING TURN SAVE OFF
1430 TGLOF1 JMP P0 RE-ENTER MAIN LOOP ON RETURN
1440;
1450 SAVE LDY SAVFLG SEE IF SAVE IS ON
1460 BNE SAVE1 YES! HANDLE IT => SAVE1
1470 RTS NO! QUIT
1480 SAVE1 LDY INDEX FETCH SAVE BUFFER POINTER
1490 SAVD STA BUFFER,Y SAVE CHARACTER IN BUFFER
1500 INY BUMP INDEX
1510 BNE SAVE3 WATCH OFR PAGING
1520 INC SAVD+2 BUMP MSB ON PAGE CROSS
1530 INC SAVC+2 BUMP EOF MARKER MSB TOO
1540 LDA SAVD+2 CHECK MSB
1550 CMP #BUFFER/256+14
1560 BEQ SAVE4 BUFFER FULL! SAVE TO DISK!
1570 SAVE3 STY INDEX SAVE BUFFER POINTER
1580 LDA #$FF GET EOF MARKER
1590 SAVC STA BUFFER,Y SAVE IT IN BUFFER
1600 RTS AND QUIT

```

Listing continued

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```

1610;
1620 SAVE4 LDY #\$00      INIZ OVERFLOW POINTER
1630      LDA #CTRLS     FETCH <CTRL>'S'
1640      JSR XMIT       TELL HOST TO STOP
1650 SAVE5 LDX #\$40      INIZ DELAY COUNTER LSB
1660      STX COUNT      INIZ DELAY COUNTER MSB
1670 SAVE6 JSR XIN       CHECK HOST FOR INCOMING
1680      BCC SAVE7      NOTHING=> DECREMENT TIMER
1690      AND #\$7F       MASK OFF PARITY BIT
1700      STA INBUF,Y    CHAR. REC'D, SAVE IT
1710      INY            BUMP POINTER
1720      BNE SAVE5      RESET TIMER AND LOOP
1730 SAVE7 DEX           DECREMENT TIMER LSB
1740      BNE SAVE6      LOOP 'TIL 0
1750      DEC COUNT      DECREMENT TIMER MSB
1760      BNE SAVE6      LOOP 'TIL TIME OUT
1770      STY FWDPT      SAVE OVERFLOW POINTER
1780      LDA #\$03      GET COMMAND BYTE
1790      STA CMDFLG     SHOW RETURN TO SAVES
1800      JMP BACK      RETURN TO BASIC
1810;
1820 SAVE8 LDY FWDPT     ANY OVERFLOW ?
1830      BEQ SAVE10    NOTHING? => SAVE10
1840      LDY #\$00      INIZ
1850 SAVE9 LDA INBUF,Y  FETCH CHAR. FROM OVERFLOW
1860      STA BUFFER,Y  SAVE IN BUFFER
1870      STY COUNT     SAVE OVERFLOW POINTER
1880      JSR OUTDO     PRINT CHARACTER
1890      LDY COUNT     RETRIEVE POINTER
1900      INY            BUMP POINTER
1910      CPY FWDPT     ARE WE DONE ?
1920      BNE SAVE9     NO! LOOP!
1930      LDY FWDPT     FETCH OVERFLOW POINTER
1940 SAVE10 STY INDEX    SAVE AS BUFFER POINTER
1950      LDA #\$FF      LOAD EOF CHARACTER
1960      STA BUFFER,Y  SAVE IT AT END OF OVERFLOW
1970      LDA #BUFFER/256
1980      STA SAVD+2    RESET BUFFER ADDRESS
1990      STA SAVC+2    AND EOF MARKING PTR
2000      LDA FACLO     REFETCH RESULT BYTE
2010      AND #\$F0     MASK TO ERROR FLAG
2020      BNE SAVE12    ERROR! ==> SAVE12
2030 SAVE11 LDA #CTRLQ  LOAD <CTRL>'Q'
2040      JSR XMIT       TELL HOST TO CONTINUE
2050      LDX STKPTR    GET STACK POINTER
2060      TXS           MAKE IT CURRENT
2070      JMP P0        RE-ENTER MAIN LOOP
2080;
2090 SAVE12 LDA #\$00    INIZ
2100      STA SAVFLG   TURN SAVE OFF
2110      BEQ SAVE11   AND CONTINUE
2120;
2130; ROUTINE TO SEND CHARACTER OUT MODEM PORT
2140;
2150 XMIT  PHA          SAVE CHAR. ON STACK
2160 X1   LDA STATUS   CHECK ACIA
2170      LSR A
2180      LSR A
2190      BCC X1       WAIT FOR CLEAR TO SEND
2200      PLA          RETRIEVE CHARACTER
2210 X2   STA MODEM    SEND IT
2220      RTS         QUIT
2230;
2240 CNSLIN JMP \$FFFF   CONSOLE INPUT ROUTINE
2250;
2260 CNSLOU STA CNSLO1+1 SAVE DATA
2270      JSR OUTDO    PRINT CHARACTER
2280      LDX #\$00    INIZ
2290      STX POSCNT   CLEAR BASIC'S LINE POINTER
2300 CNSLO1 LDA #\$FF  RETRIEVE CHARACTER
2310      JMP SAVE     DO ANY SAVES AND QUIT
2320 ;
2330; SERIAL CONSOLE INPUT ROUTINE
2340;
2350 TTYIN LDA \$FC00    CHECK ACIA
2360      LSR A
2370      BCC TTYIN2   NOTHING THERE? => TTYIN2
2380 TTYIN1 LDA \$FC01  YES! FETCH CHAR. FROM CONSO
2390      AND #\$7F    MASK OFF PARITY
2400      RTS         NO, GO BACK WITH CHARACTER
2410 TTYIN2 LDA #\$00   SHOW NOTHING REC'D

```

cont. page 16

COMPUTER REPAIRS
C1P - C2P - C4P

Have your personal computer serviced by a qualified technician familiar with OSI hardware. We will evaluate your computer and notify you of what should be done and how much it will cost. Any repairs will be made only by your approval. Please include a description of the problem if it is intermittent. Minimum charge is \$20 whether repairs are made or not.

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Currently available for 48K 8-inch systems. Call or write about availability for other configurations. Cost: \$85

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SOFTWARE FOR OSI**EXPLANATION OF LISTING CODES**

BASIC Version No./
Minimum computer/
1=SB,SBII,C1P,C2/4P 4=C4P
8=C8P
O=C2/3OEM
D=C2/3-D
2=C200,C3A/B
3=C300

Minimum Storage required/
C=Cassette
5=5 1/4" MF
8=8"FD
7=CD-7
2=CD-23/28/36/74
digit following indicates
number of devices required

Systems Supported/
S=Single User
M=Multi-User
H=Hard Disk
R=Record Locking
record lock assumes multi-
user. Two may be specified.

Software Support by/
D=Dealer
P=Phone
M=Modem
N=None
O=Other

Sold by/
A=Author
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No. divided by 10, ie.
1=Less than 11
11=100-110

Price/
Dollars only, no cents,
tax, shipping, etc.

OS65-D*BUSINESS*VIDEO

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Author:
STEVE DONACHIE
MIAMI, FL 33143
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System of five programs allows
entry of data from invoices,
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Single 5 in. drive version
holds 176 accounts. Dual
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OS65-D*GAME*SERIAL & VIDEO

WARTS
1.0/1/C/S/N/A/0/ \$10
Author:
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PITTSBURGH, PA 15221

Seller: SAME

Move toad across road without
getting hit by car. to island,
without getting eaten by
snake, then hop on logs and
turtles across river without
falling in water and drowning.
All machine language.

OS65-D*GAME*VIDEO

LUNAR LANDER
2.0/1/C/S/P/A/1/ \$20
Author:
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A new version of the classic
'Lunar Lander'. Lots of extra
features, and is well for-
matted for the C1P display.

SNAKE FIGHT
/1/C/S/N/M/1/ \$6
Author:
HENRY KUSKA
AKRON, OH 44313
Seller:
STEVE KUSKA
SAME

Two player game using key-
board. Each snake tries to
bite off the other snake's
tail, one unit at a time.
until one is completely
eaten.

OS65-D*OTHER*SERIAL & VIDEO

SIGAVG
3.2/8/8/S/P/M/1/ \$30
Author:
R. T. KINTZ
ROCHESTER, NY 14610
Seller: SAME

SIGAVG extracts time varying
signals which are buried in
noise. Samples signal at
rates of 10-5000 Hz. Can be
used as digital storage scope.
Requires A/D, D/A on 430
board, and 6522 on 500, 510
board. BASIC exec. with
calls to machine code.

OS65-D*OTHER*SERIAL

ANOVA
3.2/O/8/S/P/M/1/ \$25
Author:
ROBERT T. KINTZ
ROCHESTER, NY 14610
Seller: SAME

ANOVA is a general purpose
analysis of variance program.
It can analyze any design with
combination of within and be-
tween variables, as long as
CELLS <32, #SCORES/S<33 and
total factors is <10. Also,
contains a LOAD program to
enter data.

DECISION MAKING
3.2/O/8/S/P/M/1/ \$25
Author:
R. T. KINTZ
ROCHESTER, NY 14610
Seller: SAME

Decision making is a set of
two programs to provide com-
puter assisted decision analy-
sis. DECMARK is based on a
linear model of weighted mean
ranks and provides sensitivity
analysis options. FDM is a
similar program based on fuzzy
set theory. Many options in
each.

MULREG
3.2/O/8/S/P/M/1/ \$25
Author:
ROBERT T. KINTZ
ROCHESTER, NY 14610
Seller: SAME

MULREG performs multiple
linear regression for data
files stored on disk. Com-
putes Regression Equation.
Var-Covar Matrix, Coef.
Estimates. Residual Plots.
Residual Listing. Program
LOAD permits loading data
on disk.

OPTICAL
3.2/O/8/S/P/M/1/ \$40
Author:
R. T. KINTZ
ROCHESTER, NY 14610
Seller: SAME

OPTICAL is an optimization
program which solves for Y as
a function of up to 4 input
variables which can be ex-
pressed as linear, squared or
interaction terms. Ranges
for the 4 X-vars. can be
specified. Designed to be
used with good multiple
regression program.

PRCOMP
3.2/O/8/S/P/M/1/ \$150
Author:
ROBERT T. KINTZ
ROCHESTER, NY 14610
Seller: SAME

PRCOMP is a series of 18
compatible programs for ac-
quiring and analyzing paired-
comparison data. Includes
interactive data gathering
using a sort algorithm. If
you know what this means,
you know this is a real
buy!

PRINCP
3.2/O/8/SH/P/M/1/ \$20
Author:
R. T. KINTZ
ROCHESTER, NY 14610
Seller: SAME

PRINCP performs principal
components analysis of data
previously stored on disk.
Data Matrix size limited

only by memory. Program extracts up to 5 components or roots.

OS65-D*OTHER*VIDEO

CASH FLOW

HEXD/1/Cl/S/P/A/1/ \$20

Author:

JOHN T. ROECKER

MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55410

Seller: SAME

A household cash flow/budget program which categorizes checks into budget categories. Monthly and yearly totals are reported. Checks may be sorted by number, budget category, or amount. Disk or tape files are maintained for each month. Also available in 5 1/4" MF format.

CHECKWRITER

3.3/4/51/S/P/A/1/ \$19

Author:

RUDY POLACEK

WOODSIDE, CA 94062

Seller: SAME

User-defined one letter code, and amount to print a complete check. Allows for input of checks that are written away from the home. Uses NEBS check forms and has your code letters and balance always visible on the screen. Accumulates year to date total for taxes and budget.

LONG DIVISION WITH REMAINDER

1.43/1/C/S/N/M/1/ \$6.

Author:

HENRY KUSKA

AKRON, OH 44313

Seller:

STEVE KUSKA

SAME

Division drill using split screen. Student does problem on one side, computer then does the problem on the other side.

QUICKTEXT

1.0/1/C/S/P/A// \$30

Author:

ARTHUR F. ROSS

SEATTLE, WA 98188

Seller: SAME

A bargain basement text editor. Line oriented, uses simple commands for altering and formatting text, and includes a variety of print options and storage capabilities using cassettes.

SCHOOL PROGRAMS

HEXD/1/Cl/S/P/A/1/ \$15

Author:

JOHN T. ROECKER

MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55410

Seller: SAME

Two programs, spelling list

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OS65-D*UTILITY*SERIAL & VIDEO

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/4/51/S/P/A/1/ \$20

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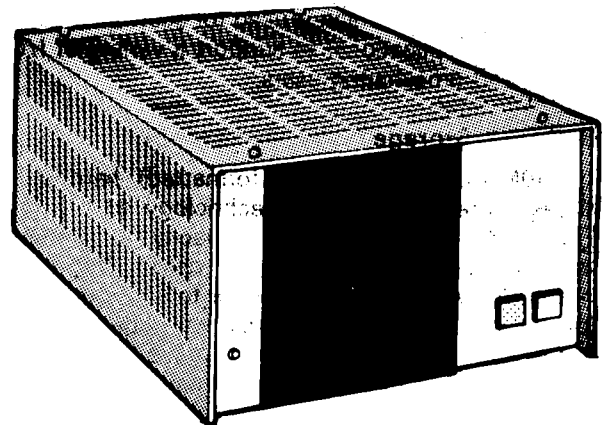
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2430;			2960	STY	LSTKEY
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2450;			2980	STY	KBDAT
2460	XIN	LDA STATUS	2990	PLA	
2470		LSR A	3000	JMP	KBP11
2480		BCC X4	3010	KBP6	PLA
2490	X3	LDA MODEM	3020	STY	LSTKEY
2500	X4	RTS	3030	CPY	#CR
2510;		QUIT (CARRY SHOWS CHAR. REC'	3040	BEQ	KBP11
2520	GETVAR	JMP (\$0006)	3050	CPY	#SP
2530;		GET VALUE OF (CM)	3060	BEQ	KBP11
2540	KBPOLL	LDX	3070	CPY	#\$00
2550		JSR	3080	BEQ	KBP11
2560		PHA	3090	PHA	
2570		INX	3100	AND	#\$07
2580		LDY	3110	LDX	#\$20
2590	KBP1	JSR	3120	CPY	#\$00
2600		BNE	3130	BPL	KBP7
2610		DEY	3140	AND	#\$06
2620		TXA	3150	LDX	#\$10
2630		ASL	3160	KBP7	LSR
2640		TAX	3170		BCC
2650		BCC	3180		BEQ
2660		TAY	3190		LDX
2670		BCS	3200		.BYTE
2680	KBP2	PHA	3210	KBP8	BEQ
2690		TYA	3220	KBP9	TXA
2700		ASL	3230		EOR
2710		ASL	3240		TAY
2720		ASL	3250	KBP10	PLA
2730		STA	3260		AND
2740		PLA	3270		BEQ
2750		LDX	3280		TYA
2760	KBP3	INX	3290		AND
2770		ASL	3300		TAY
2780		BCC	3310	KBP11	LDX
2790		TXA	3320	KBP12	DEC
2800		ADC	3330		BNE
2810		TAX	3340		DEX
2820		LDY	3350		BNE
2830	KBP4	TYA	3360		TYA
2840		BEQ	3370		AND
2850		PLA	3380		STA
2860		BMI	3390		RTS
2870		CPY	3400		;
2880		BNE	3410	POLL	TXA
2890		LDY	3420		EOR
2900		BEQ	3430		STA
2910	KBP5	PHA	3440		STA
2920		AND	3450		LDA
2930		BEQ	3460		EOR
2940		CPX	3470		RTS
			3480		;

Listing cont. page 17

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OPTIMIZING OSI BASIC
PROGRAMS - PART II

By: Dave Rich
Courtesy of Osmosus News

The last installment included several suggestions for speeding up your programs. Some of you may have recognized the loop example as a REPEAT.. UNTIL loop, not a WHILE loop. The WHILE loop would be coded:

```
IF T>25 THEN jump around loop
FOR X=0TO-1STEP-1
.
.
.
X=(T>25):REM WHILE T<=25
NEXT
FOR-loops
```

One very basic means of speeding up programs is to carefully examine the code within FOR loops for any statements which can be placed outside of the loops. This is a technique used by all optimizing compilers and one you can use.

Check each assignment statement. If none of the variables on the right side of the statement are redefined within the loop, or in sub-routines called from within the loop, place the statement before the FOR statement. If all items on the right side of the statement are numeric or string constants, the statement can probably be placed ahead of the FOR statement.

Be sure to check program logic to make sure that the candidate statement can really be moved. Statements which reinitialize variables must remain in the loop.

STRING CONCATENATION
(or. how to avoid
the collector)

The garbage collector is very important to speed but is hard to explain in a few words. You are referred to articles on how Microsoft BASIC handles strings and garbage collection.

'Garbage collection' is a process used by BASIC to clean up, or compact, variable storage when it becomes cluttered with no-longer-needed strings. Every string concatenation (A\$=B\$+C\$+D\$) leaves garbage. Constant concatenation causes frequent garbage collection, the most time-consuming process in BASIC.

Programs which build destination strings from source strings, such as command par-

```
3490 TABLE .BYTE $B1,$B2,$B3,$B4,$B5,$B6,$B7,$00
3500 .BYTE $B8,$B9,$B0,$BA,$AD,$7F,$00,$00
3510 .BYTE $AE,$6C,$6F,$8A,$0D,$00,$00,$00
3520 .BYTE $77,$65,$72,$74,$79,$75,$69,$00
3530 .BYTE $73,$64,$66,$67,$68,$6A,$6B,$00
3540 .BYTE $78,$63,$76,$62,$6E,$6D,$AC,$00
3550 .BYTE $71,$61,$7A,$20,$AF,$BB,$70,$00
3560 KBDAT .BYTE $00
3570 LSTKEY .BYTE $00
3580 CMDFLG .BYTE $00
3590 SAVFLG .BYTE $00
3600 INDEX .BYTE $00
3610 FWDPT .BYTE $00
3620 COUNT .BYTE $00
3630 INBUF .BYTE $00,$00,$00,$00,$00,$00,$00,$00
3640 STKPTR .BYTE $00
3650 TMP .BYTE $00          TEMPORARY STORAGE
3660 KEYNUM .BYTE $00      BASIC TOKEN STORAGE
3670 REG1 .BYTE $00,$00,$00 MATH REGISTER #1
3680 REG2 .BYTE $00,$00,$00 MATH REGISTER #2
3690 RESLO .BYTE $00       RESULT LSB
3700 RESHI .BYTE $00       RESULT MLSB
3710 FIFTH .BYTE $00       RESULT MSB
3720 POWER .BYTE $00       NUMBER CONVERSION EXP.
3730 NUMBER .BYTE $00,$00,$00,$00,$00,$00,$00,$00
3740 TOTAL .BYTE $00,$00,$00,$00
3750 TBL1 .BYTE $01,$16,$56,$96,$36,$76
3760 TBL2 .BYTE $00,$00,$02,$40,$55,$85
3770 TBL3 .BYTE $00,$00,$00,$00,$06,$04
3780 TBL4 .BYTE $00,$00,$00,$00,$00,$01
3790;
3800HEXADD PHA          SAVE ORIGINAL BYTE
3810 JSR SHIFT         SHIFT 4 BITS
3820 JSR HADD          ADD FOR THIS #
3830 PLA              RETRIEVE ORIGINAL BYTE
3840 AND #$0F          MASK TO LOW NYBBLE
3850 DEC POWER        ADJUST INDEX
3860 JSR HADD          ADD FOR THIS #
3870 DEC POWER        ADJUST INDEX
3880 RTS              QUIT
3890 HADD LDY POWER    GET INDEX TO TABLE
3900 TAX              SET COUNTER
3910 BEQ HADD2        IF 0, NO ACTION NEEDED
3920 HADD1 SED
3930 CLC
3940 LDA TBL1,Y
3950 ADC TOTAL
3960 STA TOTAL
3970 LDA TBL2,Y
3980 ADC TOTAL+1
3990 STA TOTAL+1
4000 LDA TBL3,Y
4010 ADC TOTAL+2
4020 STA TOTAL+2
4030 LDA TBL4,Y
4040 ADC TOTAL+3
4050 STA TOTAL+3
4060 CLD
4070 DEX
4080 BNE HADD1        LOOP 'TIL COUNTER ZEROES
4090 HADD2 RTS        QUIT
4100;
4110HEXDEC LDA #$00    ROUTINE TO CONVERT HEX NUMBER
4120 TAY              IN RESULT REGISTER TO
4130 HEXD1 STA POWER,Y DECIMAL ASCII
4140 INY
4150 CPY #$C
4160 BNE HEXD1
4170 LDA #$05
4180 STA POWER
4190 LDA FIFTH
4200 JSR HEXADD
4210 LDA RESHI
4220 JSR HEXADD
4230 LDA RESLO
4240 JSR HEXADD
4250 LDX #$03
4260 LDY #$00
4270 HEXD2 LDA TOTAL,X
4280 PHA
4290 JSR SHIFT
```

Listing cont. page 18

```

4300 STA NUMBER,Y
4310 INY
4320 PLA
4330 AND #$0F
4340 STA NUMBER,Y
4350 INY
4360 DEX
4370 BPL HEXD2
4380 RTS STOP! NO PRINT!
4390 ;
4400 SHIFT LSR A
4410 LSR A
4420 LSR A
4430 LSR A
4440 RTS
4450 ;
4460; BASIC FILE TRANSLATE & SEND ROUTINE
4470;
4480 SEND LDA SAVFLG CHECK IF SAVE IS ON
4490 BEQ SEND0 NO, O.K. ==> SEND0
4500 JMP P0 YES! IGNORE COMMAND
4510 SEND0 LDA #$05 INIZ
4520 STA CMDFLG SAVE FILE OPEN COMMAND
4530 JMP BACK AND GO BACK TO BASIC
4540 ;
4550 SEND1 LDA FACLO GET REQUEST RESULT
4560 AND #$10 CHECK FOR ERROR
4570 BEQ SEND2 O.K. ==> SEND2
4580 JMP P0 ERROR! QUIT
4590 SEND2 LDA #BUFFER+21 SKIP EMBEDDED HEADER
4600 STA TXTPTR
4610 LDA #BUFFER/256
4620 STA TXTPTR+1
4630 JSR CHRGET SKIP ADDRESS BYTES
4640 BAS1 JSR ASMLIN FETCH & PRINT LINE #'S
4650 BAS2 JSR CHRGET FETCH CHARACTER
4660 BMI BAS4 KEYWORD TOKEN? => BAS4
4670 BEQ BAS3 E.O.L.? => BAS3
4680 JSR BAS11 IT'S JUST TEXT, PRINT IT
4690 JMP BAS2 AND LOOP TO GET NEXT CHARAC
4700 BAS3 JSR SCRLF
4710 JSR CHRGET GET LSB NEXT LINE
4720 STA TMP SAVE IT
4730 JSR CHRGET GET MSB NEXT LINE
4740 BNE BAS5 NOT 0 => BAS5
4750 LDA TMP GET LSB AGAIN
4760 BEQ BAS13 IT WAS 0 TOO! QUIT
4770 BAS5 JMP BAS1 START NEW LINE
4780 ;
4790 BAS4 JSR TOKOUT PRINT KEYWORD
4800 JMP BAS2 AND LOOP
4810 BAS11 JSR CNSLOU PRINT TO CONSOLE
4820 JSR XMIT SEND TO MODEM
4830 JSR CKRDY SEE IF HOST SENT <CTRL>'S'
4840 JSR CNSLIN CHECK KEYBOARD
4850 BEQ BAS12 NO KEYPRESS? => BAS12
4860 CMP #CTRLC YES, BUT WAS IT <CTRL>'C' ?
4870 BEQ BAS13 YES! QUIT RIGHT NOW!
4880 BAS12 RTS NO, GO BACK
4890 BAS13 LDX STKPTR
4900 TXS
4910 JSR SCRLF
4920 LDA #$00
4930 STA CMDFLG CLEAR COMMAND FLAG
4940 JMP P0
4950 ;
4960; TRANSLATE TOKEN TO ASCII
4970;
4980 TOKOUT AND #$7F STRIP TOKEN OFFSET
4990 STA KEYNUM SAVE AS KEYWORD NUMBER
5000 LDY #$00 INIZ Y
5010 LDX #$00 INIZ X
5020 TOK1 CPX KEYNUM AT KEYWORD YET ?
5030 BEQ TOK5 YES! => TOK5
5040 TOK2 LDA KEYLST,Y NO, GET NEXT KEYWORD CHAR.
5050 BMI TOK3 END OF KEYWORD => TOK3
5060 INY NO, BUMP INDEX TO KEYWORD LI
5070 BNE TOK2 AND LOOP
5080 TOK3 INX BUMP KEYWORD COUNTER
5090 INY BUMP INDEX
5100 BNE TOK1 AND LOOP!

```

Listing continued

sers, often accomplish this by concatenating characters to the destination string one at a time. Use of pointers cuts down on the number of string concatenations and, therefore, garbage collections.

If strings to be concatenated can be placed in several variables and then concatenated in one assignment statement, this can cut down the number of garbage strings.

If you only need to test the first letter of a string, use the ASC() function and test the ASCII value, rather than something like the following:

```

INPUT "COMMAND";A$
A$=LEFT$(A$,1)
IF A$="S"THEN10235

```

Instead, use the following:

```

INPUT"COMMAND";A$:A=ASC(A$)
IF A=83 THEN 10235
VARIABLES
(or, first things first)

```

Whenever a variable is referenced, BASIC has to search from the beginning of its variable table for the entry of that variable. To speed execution, variables which are frequently referenced and FOR-loop variables should be placed at the beginning of the table.

To do this, reference these variables at the beginning of execution. For example, if X and Y are used frequently as temporaries and loop variables, the first executed line of your program could contain

```
X=0: Y=0
```

to force them into the beginning of the variable table.

I hope these suggestions are of use to you.



CLEANING UP THE CLOCK

By: Steven P. Hendrix
Route 8, Box 81E
New Braunfels, TX 78130

Having had some intermittent memory bugs on my trusty ClP, I was relieved to discover the problem during some unrelated troubleshooting on a recent project. This problem exists, as far as I know, on every ClP and probably on other models in the Challenger line. It is negligible when operating with a 1 MHz (megahertz) clock, but can be the source of persistent and elusive bugs on a

Continued on page 20

5110 TOK5	LDA KEYLST,Y	GET CHARACTER FROM LIST	5530	CMP #BUFFER/256+\$D
5120	AND #\$7F	STRIP OFF BIT 7	5540	BEQ FETCH
5130	PHA	SAVE ON STACK	5550	INC TXTPTR+1
5140	STY TMP	SAVE Y	5560	TXTPTR=#+1
5150	JSR BAS11	PRINT AND TRANSMIT	5570	CHRGOT LDA \$FFFF
5160	PLA	RETRIEVE ORIGINAL CHARACTER	5580	RTS
5170	LDY TMP	RETRIEVE Y	5590 ;	
5180	CMP KEYLST,Y	SEE IF AT END OF WORD	5600	FETCH PLA
5190	BNE TOK6	YES! QUIT!	5610	STA SENDX2+1
5200	INY	BUMP INDEX	5620	PLA
5210	BNE TOK5	AND RE-ENTER OUTPUT LOOP	5630	STA SENDX1+1
5220 TOK6	RTS		5640	LDA #\$06
5230 ;			5650	STA CMDFLG
5240 ASMLIN	JSR CHRGET		5660	JMP BACK
5250	STA RESLO		5670 ;	
5260	JSR CHRGET		5680	SENDX LDA FACLO
5270	STA RESHI		5690	AND #\$10
5280 ;			5700	BEQ SENDX1
5290 ;	OUTPUT CURRENT LINE NUMBER		5710	JMP P0
5300 ;			5720	SENDX1 LDA #\$FF
5310 BLNOUT	JSR HEXDEC		5730	PHA
5320	LDX #\$FF		5740	SENDX2 LDA #\$FF
5330 BLN1	INX		5750	PHA
5340	LDA NUMBER,X		5760	LDA #BUFFER
5350	BNE BLN2	SUPRESS LEADING ZEROES	5770	STA TXTPTR
5360	CPX #\$07		5780	LDA #BUFFER/256
5370	BNE BLN1		5790	STA TXTPTR+1
5380 BLN2	LDA NUMBER,X		5800	JMP CHRGOT
5390	ORA #'0		5810 ;	
5400	STX RESLO		5820	SCRFL LDA #CR
5410	JSR BAS11		5830	JSR XMIT
5420	LDX RESLO		5840	JSR CNSLOU
5430	CPX #\$07		5850	LDA #LF
5440	BEQ BLN3		5860	JMP CNSLOU
5450	INX		5870 ;	
5460	BNE BLN2		5880	CKRDY JSR XIN
5470 BLN3	LDA #'		5890	BCC CKRD2
5480	JMP BAS11		5900	CMP #CTRLS
5490 ;			5910	BNE CKRD2
5500	CHRGET INC TXTPTR			
5510	BNE CHRGOT			
5520	LDA TXTPTR+1			

Listing continued

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For Further Information Contact:

[†] ALPHA 10[†] AND IOMEGA ARE TRADEMARKS OF IOMEGA CORP.
^{††} OSI AND OS-65U ARE TRADEMARKS OF OHIO SCIENTIFIC, INC.

DBi

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denver, co 80207
(303) 364-6987

Dealer Inquires Invited

5920 CKRD1 JSR XIN
 5930 BCC CKRD1
 5940 CMP #CTRLQ
 5950 BNE CKRD1
 5960 CKRD2 RTS
 5970 ;
 5980 .END TRM65U



Continued from page 18

system which has been upgraded to 2 MHz. The fix is very simple, if you're willing to cut a few traces on the processor board.

The 6502 microprocessor specifications permit each output pin to drive one standard TTL (transistor-transistor logic) load plus 130 pF (picofarads). The design on the 600 board has the phase 2 clock output driving upwards of 10 other devices with no buffering. I had not noticed this in looking at the schematics, so I was very surprised when I put an oscilloscope on the phase 2 clock during troubleshooting of my project. The supposed square wave looks more like a 50% duty cycle sawtooth:



None of the various circuits driven by this signal is particularly fussy about the rise time of the clock, and it does not drive the RAMS directly. However, since the threshold level where the circuits treat a voltage as a logic "1" is somewhat variable, this can lead to inconsistent results. Of more concern in my case, however, is the fact that the clock signal as seen by the rest of the board is delayed by about 80 nS (nanoseconds). That may seem like a very small delay, but remember that we're talking about a signal that is already only high for 250 nS (2 MHz clock). If a particular memory chip is already a bit marginal at 2 MHz, this slight delay makes the difference between working and not working.

The trick, then, is to find an unused gate on the 600 board to be used as a buffer for the clock. Alas, every unused gate that I could find inverts the output signal with respect to the input signal. Aha!! U21 already inverts the signal for some uses, so by a little rearranging, we can use an inverting buffer. While there

are several unused gates on the board, I chose to use the section of U18 on pins 8 & 9. This produces an inverted clock signal for use in the applications presently driven by U21 pin 4, and the now unneeded section of U21 can re-invert the signal for use by the circuits which were driven directly by the processor. This does introduce a slight lag of its own into the clock signal. Each 74LS04 has a typical delay of 9 nS, so the new clock signal lags the true clock by 18 nS.

This still beats the irregular 80 nS lag, however.

All right, time to get serious. Get out your soldering iron, wire cutters, etc. Remove the case, if any, and the 610 board if you have one. You'll need access to both sides of the board. Fortunately, none of the traces involved go underneath the integrated circuits, however. On the top side of the 600 board (component side), cut the trace going to pin 39 of U8 (the 6502) and the traces going to pins 3 & 4 of U21. Turn the board over and you will find another trace tied to each of pins 3 & 4 of U21. Cut these also. In each case, cut the traces close to the

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"Interest Conversions" lets you key in any nominal rate and reports the true effective rate for compounding semi-annually, quarterly, monthly, daily, and continuously, and allows the print out of interest tables (your choice of rate and increments). It also includes a simple calculator, which can be used without disturbing other problems displayed, and which contains three separate user addressable memories.

Finally, to aid planning, the Menu program will generate a calendar for any month/year between 1901 and 2399, and accurately accounts for leap years!

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pins so that you don't miss a branch which would stay connected.

To add the new connections, I prefer #30 insulated wire-wrap wire soldered to the appropriate points. You may find a slightly larger size such as #22 easier to work with. Tie pin 39 of U8 to pin 9 of U18, and pin 8 of U18 to pin 3 of U21. You now have the phase 2 clock available at pins 3 (inverted) and 4 (non-inverted) of U21. Tie pin 3 of U21 to the two traces which you cut loose from pin 4, and pin 4 of U21 to the two traces which you cut loose from pin 3. This completes the patch.

If you previously found that your system would not work or was unreliable at 2 MHz, test it again after making this patch. You may also find that some memory chips which were marginal at the faster speed are now quite solid. In my case, several troublesome chips suddenly decided to behave. If you have an oscilloscope available, it will be instructive to look at the clock signal on the expansion connector before and after the modification. Maybe it will even help you resist the temptation to cut corners on buffering in your next project!



READER PROFILE

ED:

In the June 1983 issue of PEEK(65) you asked readers to let you know what kind of hardware and software they had and what they were using their systems for. Here it is the middle of August, and I am just getting around to responding to your request. I trust this information is not too late for you to use.

Hardware
C2-OEM (48K)
ADDS-25 terminal
Okidata Microline 92 printer

Software
OS65U versions 1.2 and 1.43
OS-DMS (1979 level)
WP-3.2 Word Processor

The system is used almost exclusively in support of organizations and activities in which my wife, our four children and I are involved. All members of the family use the word processor. It has been a life-saver in meeting tight schedules for high school term papers, book reports, etc. It has also been used by my wife to prepare the minutes of

meetings for organizations of which she has been secretary. I could go on and on about the uses which we have put the word processor.

The primary applications for which our home computer system is used are competitive swimming and fund raising for our high school band parents' organization. Preparing for a swim meet entails a large amount of clerical and manual work. The larger the meet, the greater the amount of work and the challenges for the meet director. We have used our computer for everything from keeping track of entries, to producing lane cards, to generating heat sheets, to assisting with the preparation of awards. Again, I could go on and on about the automated assists we have added to swim meet management. My wife says that the use of the computer has made her job as meet director simpler by freeing her from most of the clerical and manual work (actually saving hundreds of hours each year), and permitting her to devote more attention to people-related matters.

The largest application run on the system is used to support the semi-annual citrus fruit sales which our high school band parents' organization conducts to raise money. Two years ago the position of "Data Processing Chairman" was established after I suggested to the Board of Directors that it might be feasible to use a home computer system in conjunction with the fruit sale.

In five years my last child will graduate from high school, which means I still have five years to serve as Data Processing Chairman.

To give you some idea of the size of the application, the software is contained on three eight-inch diskettes, the master files require two diskettes. The system is used for such things as order entry, sales reporting, sales contest reporting, customer follow up and printing receipts for customers to use for income tax reporting. It is a system which seems to keep on growing. There is always a new feature or function being added. This is a system which has saved people hundreds of hours in clerical time during the past two years. The organization it has brought to conducting our fund raising events has resulted in our receiving many compliments from customers as to the effi-

ciency with which our sales are done. We honestly believe that the manner in which the computer has been employed has actually accounted for higher sales and profits than would have been possible without it. If everything goes according to plan, I will be making this application system available to OSI users in the second quarter of 1984.

We have had our home computer system for three years now. We believe it to be one of the best investments we have ever made.

David A. Weigle
Morton, IL 61550

* * * * *

ED:

So you want us to embarrass ourselves by describing the various ways we write bad BASIC in our efforts to come up with good programs? Okay.

Machines:
Superboard II/ClP (16K)
Sylvania 12" portable b/w TV for monitor
IBM Selectric, a.k.a. COPE 1030 Terminal
Portable Cassette Recorder

Operating System:
OS65V version 3.2 as modified by Progressive Computing (64 ch. video & edit functions)
BASIC-IN-ROM (microsoft original)

Use:
Business (invoice & letters), games

I daresay many of us have tried the Polish or Aggie

```

*****
%
% THE BROWSE SYSTEM "
%
% Announced in the August '83 issue
% of Peek(65), CSS offers a high
% quality, reasonably priced set of
% nine programs effectively inte-
% grated thru menu control assist-
% ing the OS-65U user. The BROWSE
% SYSTEM " provides an efficient
% FULL-SCREEN ORIENTED approach to:
%
% --Disk and RAM data examination
% and modification (superzap)
%
% --6502 disassembly with dynamic
% pathing and user defined
% labels and data tables
%
% --CRT code testing, and more!
%
% Details: requires 65U with 48K &
% serial CRT. Includes 8" diskette,
% start-up notes, and on-line docu-
% mentation. To order, please send
% $49.95 [COD or foreign add $3.00]
% to:
%
% CSS
% 2402 Freetown Drive
% Reston, Va 22091
%
%*****

```

(Texas A & M) method:

- 1) turn on computer;
- 2) enter first line number followed by a space;
- 3) try to figure out what comes next.

Now let me share with you a more enlightened approach. I learned this method from no less prestigious an institution than IBM. At the time (1974) I was employed as an accountant by a firm that was about to acquire its first computer - and IBM system 3 (a honey!). So the company sent me to a one-week introductory course at one of IBM's schools. Here's what I remember of that course:

Step 1. Define the output. What data do you want, where, and how should it appear?

Step 2. Examine the input. How and when will it appear? Is it sufficient for the task?

Step 3. Develop the operations necessary to get from input to output.

This is not to say I always follow this method. Often times I start with the operations phase. I'll work through the steps which (I hope) will lead me to the desired output. Along the way, I see what kind of input is required. This technique is most useful when you're not sure of the exact form of the output. Lastly, I put in the "bells and whistles" - menu or user instructions. The only documentation I use is a hard copy of the finished program.

My brother is a programmer for a well known wine company in California. The programming technique he described to me sounds like one of the best. After his boss tells him the objectives of the program, my brother goes into his office and shuts the door. For the next several hours, he sits with his feet upon his desk and thinks of all the wrong ways to write the program. Then he sits up and writes the correct program.

Bruce Showalter
Abilene, TX 79601

LETTERS

ED:

In the March 1983 issue of Byte, on pages 389 thru 415 is a good solid public domain CBASIC program, which I chose to pump in and use. The article "Keywords in a Fuzzy

Context" by Thomas A. Smith of Camarillo, CA., accompanies 8 related programs which make up a data base for bibliographic search along the lines of so called "Fuzzy Theory", developed by Ronald Yager (see: "A Logical On-Line Bibliographic Searcher: An Application of Fuzzy Sets" IEEE Transactions on Systems, Man and Cybernetics, vol. SMC-10, no. 1, Jan. 1980, p. 51).

As the article explains, an item either belongs or doesn't belong. What the "Fuzzy theory" does is define the degree of belonging. For example, suppose I were posting to this data base a paper or article about OSI DMS software. Via assignment of keywords, I could say for instance that on a scale of 1 to 10 (or 0.0 to 1.0 as is programmed), I would rate the degree of belonging as 1.0 for OSI BUSS; 0.9 for DATA BASE; 0.7 FOR OS65U; 0.2 for TREE STRUCTURE. Now let's suppose that some time later, (after a couple of hundred articles were listed in the data base), I needed all the information I could find on Tree-Structured Data bases - then I would merely insert the various pertinent keywords with their selection rating in the 'sense of belonging' to the research project I am doing, and a listing of only those articles would appear on the list device. That's the principle of 'fuzzy theory'.

After reading the aforementioned article in BYTE, that idea looked mighty good to me, so the next thing was to punch in the program. I have CBASIC 2.06 compiler but I had never used it. I found it to be simplicity itself. Using my OSI C3, I loaded CP/M v2.24a onto a disk with the following two CBASIC 2.06 system utilities on it, viz. CBAS2 and CRUN2 (total 17K). Then I loaded also the ED program. After that, I invoked ED (actually ED FILENAM.BAS) and after receiving the ED prompt (*), I typed 'I' for insert. That's akin to typing NEW under OSU. Then I got the words 'NEW FILE' which means that the name of the file, FILENAM.BAS is placed in the directory. The next prompt is l: (meaning program line 1) and you type in your program, being very careful to indent in the proper places for LOOPS, FN-FEND and WHILE WENDs. When you make an error, you can go back by typing control Z (gets you back into ED without clearing RAM) and doing whatever is necessary

according to standard ED conventions. 'I' gets you back into the programming mode. When you are all done, you can look the program over by typing B#T which lists the whole program out. If that's OK so far, you type 'E' - that does two things, it EXITS you out of ED and it SAVES FILENAM.BAS. Finally, you must compile the program. You do that by typing CBAS2 FILENAM (no extension) and if you did a Control P first, it will do so on the printer. It will print errors under the line where they occur with the position (column) number where the error occurred so debugging is not all too complicated. To debug, you go back to ED FILENAM.BAS (the previously saved program then becomes FILENAM.BAK) which you should erase (ERA *.BAK) after all is well and done to conserve disk space. After you are reasonably sure that you've debugged successfully, you again compile (do that as often as is necessary until the words 'NO ERRORS DETECTED' appear under the program (the following information also prints out: Constant Area, Code Size, Data Stmt Area, and, Variable Area). You are now ready to run the program using the command CRUN2 FILENAM (no extension). From the above, you realize that the only way to change the compiled programs is via the ED program and the programs with .BAS extension, so you keep a disk (plus backup) of that disk. On the disk where you actually use the programs, it is not necessary to keep those files. Just keep the compiled versions with the .INT extensions.

The purpose of this short review is to acquaint you with entering programs using C-BASIC-2 under OSI CP/M. C-BASIC is at first complicated but if you are proficient with OSI's (Microsoft) Basic, C-BASIC will soon fall into place. I think it's a great and very powerful language to use! By all means buy the following two Osborne-McGraw-Hill books: "Osborne CP/M User Guide" by Thom Hogan, and "CBASIC User Guide" by Adam Osborne, Gordon Eubanks, Jr., and Martin McNiff. These two books have become my 'bible' in using CP/M and CBASIC respectively and were the best investments I have made.

Fred S. Schaeffer
Kew Gardens, NY 11415

* * * * *

ED:

I have just purchased a new DOS called DOS/65 which is a CP/M type system for the 6502 cpu. DOS/65 provides the same kind of file compatibility between 6502 based computers as CP/M does for Z80/8080/8086/8088 based systems.

It follows very closely the CP/M structure, in fact, anyone using a CP/M manual or guide can apply most every command to DOS/65. DOS/65 will allow reading/writing of standard CP/M files also. It is made available for most 6502 based machines and could become a great DOS if we can get enough people interested in it. Its basic is Basic/E which is very much like Micro-Soft's basic.

I own an OSI C4PMF system running now with DOS/65 and it's great. I would like to ask your 6502 system members if anyone has DOS/65 and also if anyone has available any Basic/E software? There are four of us in the Detroit OSI SIG running DOS/65 and would like very much to see this DOS promoted in order to open the door to compatible software.

Don Emmons
Novi, MI 48050

Don:

DOS/65 is currently under negotiations for a review. With a little luck it will be ready for the next issue. In the meantime, let's hear from your friends.

Peek Staff

ED:

I recently purchased a used OSI C24P MF. To my amazement I then discovered that OSI doesn't make a personal computer anymore and I have been unable to find compatible software for it.

I am particularly interested in a "Wall Street Analyser" or software that would help me analyse stock options. Do you have any software that might suffice, or could you direct me to someone who might?

I have had no computer background and find the OS65D V3.0 manual very "unfriendly". I do have OS65D V3.2 software and a 1980 manual for OS65D V3.3, but no software! I am

up a stump so to speak.

Charles Huff
Staples, MN 56479

Charles:

We don't know of such a package ready to go, but something like Technical Products' Terminal Control Program (see ad this issue) to give you access to Dow Jones through The Source and others and OSI's Planner Plus will allow you to build whatever algorithms you wish or need.

Al.

ED:

I would like to hear from someone who has, or can copy the schematic from Electronic Systems Modem Kit #109A. It originally sold for \$29.95. The company was based in San Jose, CA and is now out of business.

Bruce Showalter
Abilene, TX 79601

CALENDAR ITEM

FIFTH ANNUAL NORTHEAST
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The Fifth Annual Northeast Computer Show and Software Exposition will be held Thursday - Saturday, November 17 - 19, 1983, at Boston's Hynes Auditorium. The Show Hours are 10:30 AM to 5:30 PM daily. This is the largest annual end-user computer event in the East and features nearly 500 displays and exhibits of microcomputers, accessories, peripherals, and software. Admission is \$7.00 for adults. For more information call or write Northeast Expositions, 822 Boylston Street, Chestnut Hill, MA 02167. Telephone: 800-841-7000 or 617-739-2000 (within Massachusetts).

AD\$

32K C1P Series 2 Single Disk Drive System OS-65D3.3 with extended monitor / assembler. Excellent condition. Full documentation, Sams Manual, best offer. AIS, 3517 Dunedin Dr. #204, Chesapeake, VA 23321. 804-484-8856.

WANTED: OSI 65D3.3 disk set & WP-2 word processor disk for a C2-4PMF or C4PMF. Also, need a late version 542 Polled key-

board, 505 board, and a A15 board for a C4P MF. B. Wilson, 8416 Lenore, Houston, TX 77017

FOR SALE: OSI C3-A, 56K with dual 8" SSSD drives. CP/M package, printer interface and cable. Lifeboat XBASIC, COBOL, FORTRAN. OS-65D 3.0. OS-65U 1.1, OS-DMS Nucleus, OS-65D extended editor. Wordstar 3.0. All associated disks and documentation. \$1800. FOB Wilton. Wm. E. Ritchie, RD 2, Wilton, NH 03086. (603) 654-6157.

C8P-DF for sale. Polled keyboard, dual Siemens 8" drives, 48K, RS232, 65D3.2, 65D3.2HC, and 65D3.3 OS w/ tutorial, MDMS. MDMS Aux1, Mini-Pros WP, ED2, BD2 and other programs, some games, extra disks, extra documentation, hints, machine code primer, excellent condition. \$1650. Dennis Gillis, Pomeroy School District, Pomeroy, WA 99347, (509) 843-3393.

VOTRAX CA-14A Board with manuals, 8" disks. Demonstrator (only 1) Special.....\$150. Warehouse Radio, Columbus, IN (812) 376-7770.

OSI C2D system, 10 m byte Winchester hard disk drive, OS 65U 1.43 operating system. Contact MCD Corporation, 4600 Bellevue Ave. Detroit, MI 48207. (313) 924-1020.

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