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## COMPUTER $\mathrm{C}_{\text {alishenais }}$ \& $\mathrm{O}_{\text {rtiodontion }}$

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Let us know what exciting new software and systems you are working on. We'll tell everyone else (if you wish). Maybe someone is also working on the same thing. You can work together and get results twice as fast. Or, may be someone else has already done it; no reason for everyone to reinvent the wheel.

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## 



DATE'M-Please include your name, address, and daté on all tidbits you send to us.

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PROGRAM LISTINGS-We will accept hand-written programs only as a very last resort. Too often, they tend to say something that the computer would find indigestible. On the other hand, if the computer typed it, the computer would probably accept it-particularly if it is a listing pass from an assembler or other translator.

It is significantly helpful for program listings to be on continuous paper; either white, or very light blue, roll paper, or fan-folded paper. Since we reduce the copy in size, submitting it on individual pages forces us to do a significant amount of extra cutting and pasting. For the same reason, we prefer that you exclude pagination or page headings from any listings.

Please, please, please put a new ribbon on your printer before you run off a listing for publication.

In any natural language documentation accompanying a program listing, please refer to portions of code by their address or line number or label, rather than by page number.

DRAWINGS \& SCHEMATICS-Please draw them significantly larger than the size you expect them to be when they are published. Take your time and make them as neat as possible. We do not have the staff to retouch or re-draw illustrations. Use a black-ink pen on white paper.

LETTERS FOR PUBLICATION-We are always interestod in hearing your praise, complaints, opinions, daydreams, etc. In letters of opinion for publication, however, please back up any opinions that you present with as much factual information as possible.

We are quite interested in publishing well-founded, responsible evaluations and critiques of anything concerning hobbyist hardware or software, home computers, or computers and people.

We may withhold your name from a published letter if you so request. We will not publish correspondence, however, which is sent to us anonymously.

We reserve the right to edit letters for purposes of clarity and brevity.

ADVERTISING-Advertising from manufacturers and vendors may be accepted by us. However, we reserve the right to refuse any advertising from companies which we feel fall short of our rather picky standards for ethical behavior and responsiveness to consumers. Also, any such commercial advertiser is herewith informed that we will not hesitate to publish harsh criticisms of their products or services, if we feel such criticisms are valid.

## History repeats itself . . . I hope

Last December, I had the very good fortune to attend a lecture on the history of the electronic digital computer given by Professor Henry S. Tropp. Not too long ago, Dr. Tropp spent several years directing a research project for the Smithsonian Institute concerning the history of computers in the period, 1935 to 1955. Much of his work consisted of traveling around interviewing many of the "old Timers" in the fastmoving world of digital computers. Because the field is as new as it is-the first "real" computer was invented in the 1940 's-many of the original researchers in computer science and technology are still alive. Dr. Tropp often spent several days talking with them.

His December lecture was a rambling collage of fascinating anecdotes and facts about the people and the technology, and insights into the intellectual character of the times. Some of his observations come to my mind, repeatedly, as I interact with computer hobbyists:

Dr. Tropp noted that, in those first years, there was a tremendous amount of intellectual and technical ferment in the area of computers. A number of prodigious steps were taken in a relatively short time, outlining and developing the majority of the concepts, theories, and principles that remain the cornerstones of computer science and computer engineering. A number of intellectual giants were involved: John Von Neumann, Alan Turing, George Stibitz, Howard Aiken, John Mauchly, and many others. As often as not, however, it appears that they had little idea of where they were going, and almost stumbled upon their great discoveries. The research community involved in these efforts was relatively small; most of the researchers knew one another, and there was often close communication among them. It seems like each new discovery by any one person quickly triggered renewed excitement and activity on the part of many others, even though they were scattered all over the northeastern United States, and some were in England. Each new discovery or development was quickly shared, and often served as a foundation element for someone else's discovery. This continued until the early 1950's. Then, this great rush of creation and advancement seemed to slow to a crawl. Some of the researchers went off to work for industry. A number of them moved to the West Coast to apply their research to the aircraft industry. Computers came out of the experimental labs, and became a profitable area of activity for business and industry. Particularly important: It appears that the easy communication and exchange of ideas that was so evident in the ' 40 's was greatly curtailed in the '50's.

I see several parallels between what happened in those early days, and what is now occuring in the hobbyist community:

I see a great deal of excitement and obvious pleasure in the hobbyists, as they learn about these funny machines and discover their phenomenal capabilities. It seems to me that those early researchers must have felt much of the same excitement and intellectual stimulation, for computers were as new and novel to them, then, as they now are to many of the hobbyists.

I hear of hobbyists who are spending most of their time in a great flurry of activity and experimentation. In the same way, those first computer scientists often worked night and day on their research, sometimes moving bunks into their labs to facilitate their continuous efforts.

I note the extensive development of very inexpensive hardware within the hobbyist community, often developed in a basement shop. Similarly, the computer researchers of the ' 40 's often worked on a shoestring budget in antiquated facilities.

Perhaps most significantly, I note the great willingness to share ideas, developments, facilities, and solutions to problems among the hobbyists. This obviously compares with the easy and open communication that was perhaps invaluable to those early researchers.

It is this open sharing that particularly delights me, and with which I am particularly concerned. I hope that it continues. We must all do whatever we can to encourage it. The sharing of ideas is useful in that it allows us to stand on one another's shoulders, instead of standing on one another's feet. But, there is something else being shared that is of at least equal value: the enthusiasm and intellectual excitement. There is no doubt in my mind that the sharing of such enthusiasm, as well as information, was a significant factor in the prodigious creativity of those original researchers. When one of them was frustrated and "down," probably someone came flying through the door, "wired" over some new discovery, and ricocheting off the walls . . . and the depressed co-worker wasn't "down" for very long. I believe the same holds true for the computer hobbyists. So . . . continue to share your ideas, and continue to share your excitement.
--Jim C. Warren, Jr., Editor

# SCANNING THE INDUSTRY PERIODICALS 

FROM THE MAY 24TH ISSUE OF ELECTRONIC NEWS (Fairchild Publications, Inc., 7 E 12 St., NYC 10003; (212) 741-4230)

## DROP IN DEC ORDERS CAUSES LSI/11CHIPMAKER MAJOR FINANCIAL PROBLEMS

Western Digital Corp., based in Newport Beach, Cal., manufactures the 16 -bit microprocessor that is the basis for Digital Equipment Corporation's LSI/11. Western's attorney recently told its creditors that the company had a "cash flow position where it could not operate," due to drops in DEC orders (e.g., from $\$ 400 \mathrm{~K}$ in March to less than $\$ 100 \mathrm{~K}$ in April. A vice-president from DEC indicated that, although their LSI/11 sales had been going as expected, they could not afford to continue to buy in the same quantities they had in the past. Evidently, DEC had been purchasing more than they were using; they indicated that their inventory was filled to capacity. The creditors' committee recommended giving Western 30 days to rectify its financial position.

Editor's Note: If I remember correctly, Western agreed to sell their chip only to DEC. If DEC really wants to keep Western affloat, as appears to be the case, then DEC could try releasing Western from that exclusive sales agreement. My suspicion is that, if Western were free to peddle their PDP-11 look-alike microprocessor to everyone who wished to buy it, they could cure their financial problems rather quickly.

## NATIONAL'S SC/MP KIT FOR \$99

National Semiconductor has a microprocessor kit available for $\$ 99$. This includes their SC/MP m-p ( 46 instruction types, single- and double-byte instructions, built-in serial I/O ports, bi-directional 8 -bit bus, parallel data port, and latched, 12 -bit address port), a preprogrammed 512 -byte KITBUG ROM (monitor and debugger), 256 bytes of RAM, TTY interface (including buffer and driver for 20 mA current-loop), voltage regulator, data buffer crystal ( 1.0 MHz ), complete literature and schematics, and all the passive components and a PC board required to build a wee microcomputer. Contact Semiconductor Concepts: 145 Oser Ave., Hauppauge NY 11787, or 21201 Oxnard St., Woodland Hills CA 91364.

Any computer stores carrying SC/MP kit?

## SEMICONDUCTOR SHIPMENTS EXPECTED TO NEAR \$5 BILLION MARK, THIS YEAR

Western Electronics Manufacturers' Association (WEMA), has projected that worldwide semiconductor shipments will hit $\$ 4.98$ billion in 1976 . This is $24 \%$ above the $\$ 4.02$ billion shipped in 1975. This report was a joint effort of all the major semiconductor manufacturers except Texas Instruments.

Other preductions contained in this report included: MOS circuits will byte into the bipolar circuit market, ECL fami-
lies will see a slowing growth, and 1 -squared- L will see, at best, a questionable growth. P- and N-channel MOS is expected to increase from $\$ 728$ million (in 1975) to $\$ 959$ million. C/MOS is projected to jump from $\$ 96$ million (1975) to $\$ 153$ million.

## MOTOROLA \& AMD AGREE <br> \section*{ON 2901 SECOND-SOURCE}

Motorola Semiconductor and Advanced Micro Devices recently signed a licensing agreement for Motorola to secondsource the bipolar, bit-sliced, 2901 microprocessor family developed by AMD. This makes Motorola the third secondsource for 2901's. Others include Ratheon Semiconductor, and the Sescosem Division of the Paris-based Thomason-CSF.

## FLOATING POINT SOFTWARE

## IN P/ROM's FOR 8080's

Recognition Systems in Van Nuys, Cal., is offering a floating point package in P/ROM's for $\$ 495$. A number of routines are included: floating point multiply, divide, add, subtract, fixed-point to floating-point conversion, square root, and floating-point to binary-coded decimal conversion.

## MONOLITHIC MEMORIES OFFERS MICROPROCESSOR-BASED NOVA COMPETITOR

Monolithic Memories, Inc. of Sunnyvale, Cal., recently announced a 16 -bit microcomputer that is said to be both software and I/O compatible with Data General's NOVA 2 and 3 . MMI expects to be producing about 50 /month by midJuly. The systems will be priced at $\$ 2500$ in quantities of 50 or more, including 32 K words of memory. The systems use four of MMI's 6701 four-bit bipolar microprocessors. The 32 K word memories use of 128 of MMI's 2180 4K RAM's.

There is also a rumor of a NOVA-on-a-chip in the foreseeable future.

## 8K PDP-8/E MEMORY FOR \$650

WE Computer Extension Systems of Houston has announced a plug-in memory board for the PDP-8 Omnibus. The memory uses NMOS RAM's. A 4 K version costs $\$ 400$; the 8 K version is $\$ 650$. The company states that they come with an unconditional one-year warranty.

## PASCAL COMPILER FOR PDP:11

EXTENDED FOR REAL-TIME FUNCTIONS
A compiler for PASCAL on the PDP-11 is being offered by Electro Scientific Industries of Portland, Ore., for $\$ 1500$. PASCAL is an excellent, cleanly-designed, block-structured, high-level language, created about five years ago by Niklaus Wirth. ESI has extended the language to include the necessary constructs for real-time data acquisition and process control. The system runs under DEC's RT-11 operating system and requires 16 K words.

# First word on a floppy-disc operating system 

## Command language \& facilities similar to DECSYSTEM-10

by Jim C. Warren, Jr., Editor, Dr. Dobb's Journal

Floppy-disc drives
\$550-\$650

We have the first tidbits of information on the floppy-disc operating system to which we have alluded in past issues:

The system, called "CP/M," runs on an 8080. It is available from Digital Research, Box 579, Pacific Grove CA 93950; (408) 373-3403. Its user interface is patterned after that of the DECSYSTEM-10. The file commands include RENAME, TYPE, ERASE, DIRECTORY, LOAD, and auto-load/execute facility (type the name of an object file; it will be loaded and begin execution). File-names follow the DEC standard of a 1-8 character name with a 1-3 character suffix. An Editor is included that has somewhat the flavor of TECO. There is a PIP facility that allows easy transfer of files to and from any available device, e.g., terminal, paper-tape I/O, cassettes, floppy discs on any drive, etc.. Note: PIP is DECeze for Peripheral /nterchange Program. Other systems software is likely to be included.

Internally, the system allows for dynamic file allocation of files ranging from 0 to 250 K bytes in length. It is initially set up to allow up to 63 different user-defined file-names (CP/M system files do not impinge on this file-name space), and can be simply modified to allow up to 255 such file-names. The system is written in PL/M. At an absolute and rather undesirable minimum, it will run on 8080's with only 8K bytes of memory. To be really usable, it requires 12 K or, preferably, 16 K bytes. The system includes an automatic bootstrap facility via a RESET of the controller, or allows a software bootstrap, if the controller doesn't have the RESET facility. The system is sufficiently modular that its designer feels he can easily modify it to operate on most floppy-disc drives and with most floppy-disc controllers.

This system already exists and has been in use for over a year. It was originally designed and implemented by Dr. Gary Kildall, a Computer Science Professor at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, and a well-known, independent consultant in the area of mocroprocessor systems software. Gary is also the designer and implementor of PL/M, the "industry standard" highlevel language for microprocessors. PL/M was produced for Intel for their 8000-family micros. Gary recently completed PLuS, a language for the Signetics 2650 microprocessor that is upwardscompatible with PL/M. Incidentally, since CP/M is written in PL/M, and PLuS is--for the most part--a superset of PL/M, Gary feels that it will be relatively simple for him to make this operating system also available for 2650 -based systems.

It is expected that Digital Research will offer all of the parts for an inexpensive floppy-disc system, ready to build (kit), and/or plug-in (assembled) to an IMSAI or Altair microcomputer. These "parts" consist of: CP/M, the operating system; a floppy-disc controller; and floppy-disc drive(s). Pricing is still tentative, however these are the conservative estimates:

CP/M User's Manual + Editor User's Manual + CP/M Interface Manual . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . \$15
Extensive systems documentation package . . . . . . . . \$35
Formatted, verified, "loaded" disc . . . . . . . . . . . . . . \$20
Note: a "raw" disc costs about \$8
Floppy-disc controller \$100-\$350

We expect to carry more information, including firm prices, and one or several articles by Dr. Kildall in near-future issues.

From our experience, this is the hottest deal going! It's cheap, as far as floppy-disc systems for micros go. The software is well-designed, based on a well-known and easy-to-use operating system that has been around for a DECade. Additionally-major points worth considering-it has been in use for some time, it has been used by a number of people, and it is fairly completely debugged. We know Gary personally, know "where his head's at," and know that he backs his products and is responsive to his customers. Incidentally, he has an excellent and ongoing working relationship with Digital Research.

You should very seriously consider obtaining a floppy disc subsystem-hardware and software- for your home computer (either Gary's or someone else's). A short-access mass-storage facility increases your capabilities by several orders of magnitude, particularly when it is backed by comprehensive, well-designed, debugged systems software. Note that the IBM 650 (the Model T of computers, and the one that moved computers out of the laboratory and into mass production and widespread usage) had a main memory that was a 2000 -word rotating drum with access measured in milliseconds.
[The Dragon sez we should tell you that the 650 had 2000 ten-digit words. Think of it as about 10,000 bytes.]

## 

## A PLEA FOR EXPLICIT DIRECTIONS

Dear Jim Warren Jr., 4-27-76
My problem is interfacing (hooking all the components together so they work as a system). For instance, I can find no where instructions on exactly how to hook my SWTC keyboard and TVT-II up to my Altair through my $3 P+S$ and $22^{\prime \prime}$ video monitor. I don't mean a few general instructions. I mean a wiring diagram showing exactly which lines go where so all the strobes, waits, readys, etc. work together. The same is true of my suding cassette interface. Then, if I order a tape from John Arnold what do I have to do to get it to work. I have no trouble building the parts and getting them to work, but nobody will furnish me with comprehensive instructions on putting them together into a system.

Sincerely, John Greiner, Jr.

20002 S 57th Temple TX 76501

## SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA STORE: COMPUTERS \& STUFF of San Lorenzo

Computers \& Stuff, a new retail computer outlet, has opened at 664 Via Alamo, San Lorenzo CA 94580; (415) 278-4720. Its hours are: Wed. - Fri., 4-8 p.m.

$$
\text { Sat. - Sun., } 1-7 \text { p.m. }
$$

# Hardware \& software for speech synthesis 

by Lloyd Rice Computalker Consultants
821 Pacific St., No. 4 Santa Monica CA 90405
The process of generating voice output with a computer can be broken down into several steps. We will examine the operations at each step to determine the flow of information into and out of the step. This examination will give us the background needed to decide which parts of the overall process should be wired into a hardware device, and which parts should be kept as software to retain flexibility and control over the process. Perhaps the easiest way to carry out such an examination is by following an example phrase thru the system as it is transformed into a speech signal and sent to the


Figure 1 shows a flowchart of the speech output system to be described. We will see that the kinds of external information needed for the first 2 steps is quite difficult to obtain and can require large amounts of processing, whereas the information needed in the third step is easily determined, and in most applications can be set as constants in the system. Finally, the acoustic parameters contain all the information necessary to control the last step, the actual synthesizer, to produce audio output. As a result of these observations, we will see that is most cases, one should specify the material to be synthesized in the form of marked phonetic text rather than raw English text. In order to present a more complete description, however, we will begin with the first step shown in Figure 1, input of English text.

Beginning with the sample text, "This is computer speech.", we first consult a phonetic dictionary, which performs a direct translation to phonetic text. A phonetic coding scheme suitable for this purpose which is compatible with the ASCII character set and Teletype output was developed by the Advanced Research Projects Agency (ARPA) as a part of a recent speech recognition study. That phonetic code, known as ARPABET, is listed in Table 1. The output of the phonetic dictionary in our example would be, "DHIHS/IHZ/KAHMPYUWTER/SPIYCH.\#'".

The main problem which arises at this stage is due to homographs, words that are spelled the same but pronounced differently. Two different types of homographs, however, present quite different problems. The first type consists mainly of short words such as "'bow," pronounced either as in "tied a bow" and "bow and arrow," or as in "off the starboard bow." In these cases, the pronounciation can usually be resolved by examining the surrounding context. The other type of ambiguity is a lesser noticed but very widespread phenomenon in English: the situation where a word has a different stress pattern depending on whether it is used as a noun or a verb. As an example of this, notice the difference in
"It was a dull subject," and "They were going to subject him to cruel punishment." It is not evident from the spelling which usage is intended, and requires that a fairly complete grammatical analysis be carried out to make that decision. One advantage at this point is that good use can be made of the recovered grammatical structure in the next step, where a more elaborate assignment of stress is performed.

The second step in the synthesis process deals with the assignment of sentence stress levels to the phonetic text string. To clarify that operation we will first have a closer look at the nature of the linguistic feature known as stress. The strass will be coded as a numerical value attached to a vowel in the phonetic string. That value will be realized later by the synthesizer in three different ways: as an increase in the pitch frequency, as a lengthening of the vowel duration, and to some extent as an increase in amplitude. The primary or highest level of stress is marked as a " 1 " following the vowel symbol. Secondary stress, marked with a " 2, ," has less extreme acoustic effects than primary stress. As many as 3 or 4 distinct levels of stress may be marked in a sentence.

With regard to its communicative value, stress serves two quite distinct functions. The sentence stress pattern, together with timing and intonation, serves to communicate the grammatical structure to the listener. One can think of the grammatical structure as being transformed into a stress and intonation pattern by the speaker which is then decoded back into the phrase structure by the listener. Using the term "grammar," I am here including several kinds of information about words, such as the noun-verb distinction discussed above as well as syntactic information about the phrase and clause structure. The second function of the stress pattern is to indicate which item or items in a sentence are to be given special emphasis. The meaning of a sentence can be shifted around by emphasizing different items. The sources of information needed for marking these two components of the stress pattern are quite different and must be considered separately. Our example, with the stress pattern marked, would be something like, "DHIH3S/IHZ/KAHMPYUW1TER/ SPIY2CH.\#". Notice also that the word and utterance boundary markers have been kept explicitly in the text string.

The purpose of the portion of the system described thus far is imply to generate strings of phonetic text with marked stress patterns which are to be synthesized by the 2 steps in the bottom row of Figure 1. Marked phonetic text strings can be obtained in other ways, of course. In the case of predetermined phrases, marked phonetic strings can be stored instead of raw English text, making the synthesis task much simpler. On the other hand, consider synthesis of speech from an information network of some kind. The arammatical information could come from a phrase struc , re grammar which is being driven by relationships in the network. Items in the network, would be coded as phonetic strings, or in essence, references to the phonetic dictionary described above. There are many significant problems remaining with this approach, but it is perhaps one of the more exciting applications of synthetic speech. The third box in the flowchart in Figure 1 is the acoustic rules section. In order to describe what the acoustic rules are and what they do, we must first look at the acoustic structure of speech. The speech code must be broken down into components so it can be synthesized by controlling, in real time, a limited number of parameter values. To a good
approximation, speech can be represented by the model shown in Figure 2.

This model requires 9 parameter control values consisting of 5 frequency controls and 4 amplitude controls. The box labeled "pulse source" is a controllable frequency oscillator which is adjusted dynamically to determine the voice
pitch. The boxes labeled "resonator" are tunable, single-pole, bandpass resonators which determine the frequency or spectral shape of the speech signal in different ways. The data bus symbol used to represent the control inputs indicates that each parameter can be controlled by at most 8 bits from the computer's output bus. The data rates needed to control the

parameters are quite low, the highest rate needed for any parameter being less than 100 new settings per second.

I will not go into detail here describing the actual parameter values needed to represent particular speech sounds. An article to appear in the August, 1976 issue of Byte Magazine goes into some detail on the nature of the different kinds of speech sounds and how they can be generated by controlling the parameter values in such a model. Sucn information would, of course, be necessary to write a software implementation of the acoustic rules. For our present purposes, we consider the 9 control values as outlined above to represent an acoustic parameter model of speech. We can now turn to a discussion of the acoustic rules and the tasks they must perform to generate controls for this model.

Each phoneme, as encoded in the phonetic text string, is a symbol representing one or more acoustic speech segments, each such segment being produced by a particular pattern of values on the control parameters. Each pattern, or configuration of control values, must be held for a specific length of time before changing to the next pattern. As a first approximation then, the rules would consist of a series of table lookups to convert each phoneme into a sequence of parameter patterns, along with the duration each pattern is to be held.

Now comes the catch! This first approximation makes rather poor speech. The problem is that the transitions between parameter values are often more important than the actual values at any given time. The flow of parameter values must be more carefully orchestrated. Actually, the only tough problem here is that correct transitions between phonemes are just as important as having the correct temporal structure within a phoneme. This means that phonemes cannot be coded as independent sets of parameter time functions which are merely joined together sequentially, but that some interaction must take place between phoneme patterns before they are sent out to the synthesizer module. Briefly, the different phonemes of a language can be classified according to the effects of boundary interactions. The transition of each parameter value across a given phoneme boundary can then be determined from the boundary characteristics of each of the neighborhing phonemes. Such boundary behavior information can be stored in phoneme look-up tables.

In addition to assigning initial parameter values and mapping the transitions across boundaries, the acoustic rules must also assign and modify durations. For example, a stressed vowel is given a longer duration than the same vowel in an unstressed position.

A third function the acoustic rules must perform-probably the most important for natural sounding speech-is to assign the time pattern of values to the pitch frequency parameter. First, an archetypal intonation pattern is chosen on the basis of punctuation (retained in the phonetic text just for this purpose). A period selects a falling pitch, a comma signals a level pause, and a question mark indicates a rising pattern. Other diacritical marks could be defined in the phonetic string to generate more complex pitch patterns such as singing. The selected archetypal pitch pattern is then modified locally by specific phonemes. Such local modification of the pitch pattern is one of the effects of a stress level marked on a vowel. Also, some consonants affect the pitch value slightly.

To complete the synthesis process, the acoustic parameters generated by the acoustic rules are output, in real time, to a synthesizer module such as sketched in Figure 2 and

described in the forthcoming Byte article. The synthesizer constructs an audio frequency signal as specified by the control parameters. The audio signal is then sent to a loudspeaker as the speech output.

It would be impractical to consider simulating the synthesizer module in software because of the speed needed to generate speech in real time. That task is much more appropriately handled by analog hardware. Such a hardware synthesizer module is currently being developed by Computalker, 821 Pacific St., No. 4, Santa Monica CA 90405. The Computalker synthesizer module would be driven by the microcomputer output data bus as described above. The software interface consists either of a direct, manually-controlled parameter pattern generator or an implementation of the acoustic rules. Software for the acoustic rules will also be developed by Computalker as the hardware becomes available.

I believe it is important to consider at this point some of the trade-offs involved in implementing the acoustic rules in software rather than hardware. A synthesizer system such as the Votrax VS-6 contains a hardware implementation of the basic acoustic rules. As a result, the language available for coding the phonetic text is fixed and cannot be extended. In addition, the phoneme table values are fixed so that each phoneme has a set phonetic quality. By implementing these rules in software you could retain the flexibility over pitch patterns and speech rate and also have control over the phonetic qualities which determine the language and dialect. The acoustic rules determine a number of qualities in the resulting speech which are characteristic of a particular speaker, such as the sex and age, and other qualities which vary from occasion to occasion, such as voice quality, speaking rate, distinctness of articulation, etc. Because of time constraints, a software version of the acoustic rules may not have time to handle all these possibilities as on-line variables. Of course, it is cheaper to produce a synthesizer module if a hardware acoustic rules system is not included.

How could speech output from a microcomputer be used? Several applications come to mind for the hobbyist environment, such as responses in games, voice readout of measurement data, system status warnings, etc., etc. Other applications might include telephone answering and intrusion warnings. What about generating audio tape labels automatically? Each of these applications makes its own demands for quality, naturalness and range of vocabulary needed. I would very much like to hear of your interest in computer speech output. What applications do you have in mind? What problems do you foresee? A note to the above address will assure that you receive further information as it becomes available.

# MINOL—Tiny BASIC with Strings in 1.75K Bytes <br> AN OUTSTANDING JOB <br> DONE BY A HIGH SCHOOL JUNIOR <br> PR 

Dear Mr. Warren:
May 1, 1976
I have a Tiny BASIC program running on my Altair that I think you might be interested in. \| call it MINOL (mine-aill). lt fits in 1.75 K memory. Unlike the other Tiny BASIC's, MINOL has a string-handling capability, but only single-byte, integer arithmetic and left-to-right expression evaluation.

Additions to TB include CALL machine-language subroutines, multiple statements on a line (like $T B X$ ), and optional "LET" in variable assignments. Memory locations of the form ( $H, L$ ) can be used interchangably with variables, permitting DIM-like operations.

Sincerely,
Erik T. Mueller

## 36 Homestead Lane Roosevelt $N J 08555$

MINOL is an abbreviated form of BASIC with additional features. It has twelve statements: LET, PR, IN, GOTO, IF, CALL, END, NEW, RUN, CLEAR, LIST, and OS.

Variables: A letter from $A$ to $Z$, or a memory location of the form ( $H, L$ ), where $H$ is the high address (decimal), and $L$ is the low address. $H$ and $L$ may be expressions.

Number: An integer from 0 to 255.
Expression: A series of terms separated by arithmetic operators.

Terms: Numbers, variables, schars, random.
Schar: A single character enclosed in single quotes. Gives the ASCII value of the character.

Random: "!" (exclamation point) gives a random number between 0 and 255. (Subroutine by Jim Parker.)

Arithmetic Operators: + _ * /
Relational Operators (not permitted in expressions):
= * < ("less than")
Arithmetic Evaluation: All expressions are evaluated from left to right (no precedence of operations).

Statements: A statement consists of one or more substatements separated by ":" (colon), and terminated by CR. Lines up to 72 characters. Line numbers from 1 to 254 . All statements may be used with or without a line number. Statements without a line number are executed immediately. Statements with line numbers are edited into the existing program.

Substatements: [LET $\mid \phi$ ]<yar> = <expr> Assigns the value of a variable. The "LET" can be left out if desired.
Ex: LET S = 0
$\operatorname{LET}(24,0)=P-59$
$A=B+C$ * $J-198$
$(25,5)=A * 7 / B$
PR < var-list> [; $\mid \phi]$
<var-list> : Literals, strings, or expressions separated by commas.

Literal: Characters to be printed enclosed in double quotes.

Strings: $\$(H, L)$ : A series of memory locations starting at $H, L$ which contain characters previously entered.

Expressions: Simple variable or expression.
Ex: PR'"YOU SAY YOUR NAME $I S^{\prime \prime}$, $\$(10,0)$
PRA,B,(6,0),

A semicolon at the end of a PR suppresses CRLF. A blank PR produces a CRLF.

PR Format: Numerical values are printed with one leading and trailing space and with all leading zeros suppressed. All strings and literals are printed without leading and trailing spaces. No zone spacing.

## GOTO < expr>

Transfers control to the specified statement. GOTO 0 transfers control to beginning of unnumbered statement.
Ex: GOTO A*10
GOTO 78
\|F <expr> < relop> <expr>: <statement>
Executes the statement following the ";" (semi-colon) if the specified relation is true. If it is untrue, control is transferred to the next statement on the line (if present).
Ex: IF $X=5$; GOTO 20
IF $A={ }^{\prime} Y^{\prime}$;PR'"SURE, WHY NOT?"
IF $A+B * C$ \# ! ;GOTO 20 : PRA+B*C
IF $Y$ \# 6; $S=1$
$\mathbb{N}[<\operatorname{var}>\mid<\operatorname{str}>][,[<\operatorname{var}>\mid<\operatorname{str}>]] *$
This statement permits two types of data to be entered from the terminal: a) Numeric data; and
b) Alphanumeric data; either a single
letter, or a string of $n$ characters.
Using a <var>: The input data is tested. If it is numeric, the number is deposited into the variable. If the data is not a number, the ASCII value of the first character typed is deposited.

Using a <str>: (of the form $\$(H, L)$ The inputted characters are deposited into memory sequentially starting at location H,L. 255 is placed in memory after the last character before CR. All spaces inputted are ignored unless enclosed by quotes. Note that ( $H, L$ ) refers to a single location, but
$\$(H, L)$ refers to a series of locations beginning at $H, L .(H, L)$ can be used in expressions as a variable, but $\$(H, L)$ can only be used in I/O statements (IN, PR).

## CALL ( $\mathrm{H}, \mathrm{L}$ )

Calls users subroutine starting at location H,L decimal.
END: Terminates program.
NEW: Deletes all lines of a program.
CLEAR: Sets all variables ( $A-Z$ ) equal to zero.
RUN: Starts execution of program at lowest numbered statement.
LIST: Lists program in memory.
OS: Transfers control to user's operating system.
Line editing and correction:
Typing $X^{\text {s }}$ deletes the last character typed.
$x^{L}$ deletes an entire line.
$X^{C}$ stops executing program.
Prints: BREAK AT LL (LL is the line that was to be executed before the interrupt occurred.)
To delete a line, type the line number followed by CR.
To change a line, type in the line with changes. The new line will replace the old one.
ERROR MESSAGES !ERR L AT XX

1. Label does not exist
altered.
2. Unrecognizable statement type. Must CALL, INT

315
363
002 ,
5. Syntax error.
6. Out of memory.

EM MINOL 2.1 SYNTAX Apr. 1976

| $\begin{aligned} & \text { <line> } \\ & \text { <statement> } \end{aligned}$ | $::=$ <number> <statement> cr \|<statement>cr $::=<$ substatement>* $:$ <substatement> |
| :---: | :---: |
| <substatement> | $\begin{aligned} ::= & {[\text { LET } \mid \phi]<\text { var }>=\text { <expr }>} \\ & P R<\text { expr-list }>[; \mid \phi] \end{aligned}$ |
|  | IN < var-str-list> |
|  | IF <expr><relop><expr> ; <statement> GOTO <expr> |
|  | CALL <memloc> |
|  | END |
|  | RUN |
|  | LIST Exe |
|  | NEW To |
|  | CLEAR To |
|  | OS |
| ¢umber> | ::=<digit>*2 < digit> |
| <digit> | $::=0\|1\|$. $\|8\| 9$ |
| <var> | ::=A $\mathrm{B}\|\ldots\| \mathrm{Y}\|\mathrm{Z}\|<$ memloc> |
| <relop> | :: =\# $=1<$ |
| <expr-list> | $\begin{gathered} ::=[\text { diteral }>\mid<\text { expr }>\mid<\text { str }>][\text {, }[<j \text { jiteral }>\mid \\ <\text { expr }>\mid<\operatorname{str}>]]^{*} \end{gathered}$ |
| < var-str-list> | $::=[<\operatorname{var}>\mid<\operatorname{str}>][;[<\operatorname{var}>\mid<\operatorname{str}>]]^{*}$ |
| <expr> | ::=[<term><aroper>] * <term> |
| <term> | $::=<$ var>\|<number>\| '<schar>' \|! |
| <literal> | ::="*<char>*' |
| <schar> | ::=<char> |
| <str> | ::=\$ < memloc> |
| <memloc> | ::=(<highadr>,<lowadr>) |
| <highadr> | ::=<number> |
| <lowadr> | ::=<number> |
| <char> | ::=any character except " and cr |

Notes: <>encloses an element of MINOL
$\phi$ is the empty set
*2 repeat from 0 to 2 times
MINOL
Memory Allocation:
(All locations are split octal)
000 000-000 115 I/O Routines, etc. System Reset: 000000061 LXI SP 001377
002017
003
004
005
006
CRLF: 010
INPUT: 020

OUTPUT:
040 Outputs character in the A register. Parity equals 1. No registers may be

## Britton House

 Roosevelt NJ 08555Additions/changes since the May 1st letter:
Spaces are ignored: a. During line/statement entry unless enclosed by quotes.
b. When inputting variables.
c. When inputting strings if the $L$ address is zero.
Spaces are accepted: a. When inputting strings if the $L$ address is non-zero.
b. When enclosed by quotes.

Instead of GOSUB/RET statements, use the following substitute statements to perform the same function:

First initialize the GOSUB stack pointer $Y, Z$ :
$2 Y=14: Z=255(Y$ and $Z$ are the $H, L$ address of some free space in memory.)

Instead of a GOSUB statement, substitute the
following：LET（Y，Z）＝＜Return label $>: Z=Z-1: G O T O$ ＜subroutine label＞
Instead of a RET，substitute：$Z=Z+1$ ：GOTO $(Y, Z)$
Free space is left for very short user＇s strings from 006366 to 006377.

On a directly－executed IN statement，although the data will be correctly stored，an error message may appear after its execution．

The monitor gives a＂］＂as a prompt．The IN statement gives a＂？＂unless a sense switch is up．

Three programs in MINOL：

```
JLIST
1\varnothing PR"GIVE ME A SENTENCE":IN$(14,1)
2\emptyset PR"STRING TO SEARCH FOR?":IN$(14,101)
21 A=\varnothing
22A=A+1:IF(14,A)#255;GOTO22
23 B=\varnothing
24 B=B+1:IF(14,100+B)#255;GOTO24
3\varnothingC=1:D=1:S=\varnothing
4\emptysetIF(14,D+1\varnothing\varnothing)非(14,C);GOTO7\emptyset
5\emptyset D=D+1:C=C+1:IFD《B;GOTO4\varnothing
6\varnothing LETS=S+1
65 C=C-1
70 LETD=1
8\emptysetC=C+1:IFC《A;GOTO4\emptyset
9\emptyset PR"'";$(14.101);"' OCCURS";S;
96 IFS=1;GOTOI \varnothing\varnothing
97 PR"TIMES IN "":S(14.1);""":END
100 PR"TIME IN "";$(14,1);"'":END
1 RUN
GIVE ME A SENTENCE
? TIIE BLUE BIRD IN THE BLUE SKY
STRING TO SEARCH FOR?
3 BLUE
BLUE' OCCURS 2 TIMES IN 'THE BLUE BIRD IN THE BLUE SKY'
```


JLIST
$1 \varnothing 1 * * * N U M B E R-A$ NUMBER GUESSING GAME (NUMø5)
$2 \emptyset$ PR:PR"WIAAT IS YOUR NAME"::INS(14.1)
$3 \emptyset \mathrm{X}=\mathrm{l}: \mathrm{S}=\varnothing: \mathrm{PR} \mathrm{H}^{\prime} \mathrm{HI}, " ; \$(14,1) ; "$ WELCOME TO THE GAME OF NUMBER"
$4 \emptyset$ PR"I'M THINKING OF A NUMBER FROM $\varnothing$ TO 255"
$5 \emptyset$ PR"GUESS MY NUMBER!d"
$6 \emptyset$ PR:PR"YOUR GUESS": :ING:S=S+1
65 IFG=X; GOTO9O
$7 \emptyset$ IFG<X;PR"TOO SMALL。TRY A BIGGER NUMBER。"
$8 \emptyset$ IFX\&G;PR"TOO BIG。TRY A SMALLER NUMBER."
85 GOTO6 $\varnothing$
$9 \varnothing$ PR"THAT"S RIGHT,":\$(14, I);"!\& YOU GOT IT IN";S:"GUESSES"
$1 \emptyset \varnothing$ PR"PLAY AGAIN": :INA:IFA= ${ }^{\circ} Y^{\prime} ;$ GOTO $9 \varnothing$
$11 \varnothing$ PR"OK.....HOPE YOU HAD FUN.":END
1ø PR"NAME";:INS(14,I)
$2 \not \varnothing^{\prime} \operatorname{IF}(14,1)={ }^{\prime} J^{\prime} ; \operatorname{IF}(14,2)={ }^{\circ} I^{\prime} ; \operatorname{IF}(14,3)={ }^{\circ} M^{\prime} ; \mathrm{PR}^{\prime \prime} \operatorname{IT}{ }^{\prime} S$ JIMd"

g RUN
NAME ? ERIK
IT'S NOT JIM。
NAME?JIM
IT'S JIM\&
NAME? ${ }^{C}$
BREAK AT 18
$J$
Relocate file leaving space for
new line. Retrieve pointer
Point to first non-numeric
character. Put line no. in A
 Go back to monitor section
Delete line
Delete a line If deleting line that does not
exist, return






 no. at LNE



CALL Statement




| ○ | 응 | $\stackrel{\circ}{\circ}$ | $\begin{aligned} & n \circ \\ & \text { 응 } \\ & 00 \end{aligned}$ | 응 | 응 | $\circ$ |  | 응 |  |  | -1 | N | -7 | -1 | -1 | N | NÖ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\underset{\sim}{\mathrm{m}}$ | $\stackrel{N}{N}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{O} \\ & \mathrm{~N} \end{aligned}$ |  | $\stackrel{\sim}{n} \underset{m}{m}$ | $\underset{\sim}{-1}$ | $\begin{aligned} & n \\ & \sim \\ & \sim \end{aligned}$ | $\underset{\sim}{\mathrm{N}}$ | $\begin{aligned} & n \\ & \stackrel{\sim}{0} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { H- } \\ & \text { HOO } \end{aligned}$ | $\underset{N}{N}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} \underset{m}{0} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\stackrel{N}{N} \underset{\sim}{N}$ | $\stackrel{O}{N}$ |  | $\underset{\sim}{-1} \underset{\sim}{\sim} \underset{\sim}{\sim}$ | ion |





|  | NHR |
| :---: | :---: |
| COMMENTS |  |
| Output prompt | NET |
|  | STR |
| Get input line | IFD |
| Point to input text with HL |  |
|  |  |
| If no label, go execute command |  |
| Point to first non-numeric character | NTAT |
| Convert ASCII label to binary |  |
| This section edits (inserts, deletes, changes) lines of the program |  |
|  | EKIL |
| Look at line number | KILLINE |
|  | BBL |
| Point to line number greater than or equal to entered label |  |
| If label alone, delete line | ARK |
| Count length of line and add 2 |  |
| If line entered already exists, first delete the old one, DIRECT then insert the new one |  |
| Delete old line RuN |  |
| HL points to first location LPUB where new line will be placed |  |
|  |  |
| Save position in stack |  |
| ```Continue until DE points to BIB end of file Length of new line in A``` |  |
|  | EXEC |
| xrox $=$ Low address: limit of program memory |  |
| xxx $=$ High address:memory limit Out of memory error |  |
| Increment until DE points to new end-of-file position, and IIL points to where file updating begins $B C$ points to end of file |  |
|  |  |

MINOL 2.1 Erik T. Mueller May 1976


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| 242 | 002 | CPI＇${ }^{\prime \prime}$ | Check for literal |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| O22 |  | JNZ，VAR | If not，go on |
|  |  | INX HL | Print text until＂found |
|  |  | MOV A．M |  |
| 342 |  | CPI＇＂＇ |  |
| 366 | 001 | Jz，mReno |  |
| 217 | 005 | CAL，T＇erm | If terminator before closing |
|  | 004 | JC，ERR5 | quotes，print error |
| 345 | 001 | RSTP OUT |  |
|  |  | INX ${ }^{\text {HL }}$ |  |
|  |  | MOV A，M |  |
| 043 | 005 | CALL，TERM | If end of statement without |
| 016 | 002 | JC，DCR | semicolon＂：＂．go do CR |
| 273 |  | CPI＂：＂ |  |
|  | 004 | JNZ，ERR5 |  |
|  |  | INX HL |  |
|  |  | mov A，M |  |
| 043 | 005 | CAL，TERM | If term after semicolon do not |
| 017 | 002 | JC，NCR | print CR |
| 340 | 001 | JMP，NXTE | Get next thing to print |
|  |  | RST CRLF |  |
| 013 | 001 | JMP，LPUB |  |
| 244 |  | CPI＂\＄＂ |  |
| 076 | 002 | JZ，STR | Check if string |
| $\begin{aligned} & 151 \\ & 240 \end{aligned}$ | 006 | LXI DE：EXP |  |
|  |  | MVI A＂Sp＂ | Output leading space |
|  |  | RST OUT |  |
|  |  | MOV A，M | Transfer expression text from |
|  |  | Stax de | nrogram text to expression |
|  |  | INX HL | buffer |
| 043 | 005 | INX DE |  |
| 054 | 002 | JC， HR |  |
| 274 |  | CPI＂；＂ |  |
| 035 | 002 | JNZ，ER |  |
|  |  | DCX HL |  |
|  |  | DCX DE |  |
| 215 |  | MVI A＂CR＂ |  |
|  |  | Stax de |  |
| 162 | 003 | CAL，EXPR |  |
|  |  | MOV B，${ }^{\text {c }}$ |  |
| 240 | 005 | CAL，PBINBCD | Print expression＇s value |
|  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { MVI A "SP" } \\ & \text { RST OUT } \end{aligned}$ |  |
| 367 | 001 | JMP，MRENO＋1 |  |
| 062 |  | INX HL |  |
|  | 006 | CAL，VAL | Get start address of string |
|  |  | LDAX BC | in BC．Print string |
|  |  | CPI |  |
|  |  | 377 |  |
|  |  | InX BC |  |
| 102 | 002 | JNZ，MRE |  |
|  |  | INX HL |  |
| 367 | 001 | JMP，MREN |  |
|  |  | INX HL | Input statement |
|  |  | CPI | If sense switches down，print＂3＂ |
|  |  | 000 |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & 134 \\ & 277 \end{aligned}$ | 002 | JNZ，EAHR |  |
|  |  | MVIA＂？ |  |
|  |  | RST OUT |  |
| 240 |  | MVIA＂SP＂ |  |
|  |  | RST OUT |  |
|  |  | MOV A，M |  |
| 371 | 004 | CAL，Checklet | Check for variable |
| 164 | 002 | JC，LVB |  |
| 244 | 002 | CPI＂S＂ | Check for input string |
| 250 |  | CPI＂（＂） | Check for single memory |


 －
Check for＂E＂as in END．
Check for＂indicating
REM statement NRTE






This subroutine checks for
$X^{\text {C }}$ from keyboard
 Current line no．storage
 If two expressions are not
equal，execute statement
（Part of IF statement exe－
cutor to follow）



|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { N } \\ & \text { O } \end{aligned}$ | M iti | $\stackrel{\circ}{\circ}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { n } \\ & \hline 0 \end{aligned}$ | mio | miñ |  | $\stackrel{M}{\circ}$ | ষ | M-응 | $\underset{\sim}{\underset{\sim}{2}}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { in } \\ & \text { O} \end{aligned}$ | $\stackrel{\circ}{\circ}$ | $\stackrel{m}{8}$ | -1-10 |
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| $\underset{\mathrm{m}}{\mathrm{~N}}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { mon } \\ -1 \\ \text { ON } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { NOO } \\ \text { HOM } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { H } \\ & \text { H } \end{aligned}$ | $\stackrel{m}{0}$ |  | 응엉ㅇㅇㅇ | $\stackrel{\sim}{N}$ | $\underset{\sim}{n}$ | $\stackrel{\wedge}{\mathrm{N}}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { mNin on } \\ & \text { ñon } \end{aligned}$ | - | $\underset{\sim}{\sim} \underset{\sim}{\mathrm{N}}$ | No | $\underset{\sim}{\sim}$ |  |

 へ⿹弋工凡 No





| ホin | No | ஷi | d | $\stackrel{\circ}{\circ}$ | N~ N | $\begin{aligned} & \text { niv } \\ & 000 \\ & 0 \end{aligned}$ | H | Niñ | $\begin{aligned} & \circ \\ & \hline 8 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \circ \\ & \hline 8 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \circ \\ & \hline 8 \\ & \hline 8 \end{aligned}$ | $\stackrel{\sim}{\circ}$ | $\stackrel{\ominus}{\circ}$ | Nin | $\stackrel{N}{\mathrm{~N}} \mathrm{O}$ | 응 | N | へ－ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{aligned} & N O \\ & N \sim \\ & N \end{aligned}$ | $\stackrel{\circ}{\underset{\sim}{\circ}}$ | $\underset{\sim}{\underset{\sim}{m}}$ | $\stackrel{\mathrm{N}}{\mathrm{~N}}$ | - | $\stackrel{N}{\circ} \underset{\sim}{\underset{\sim}{N}}$ | No | $\stackrel{0}{N}$ |  | N | O | O- | $\stackrel{\sim}{\sim} \stackrel{0}{N}$ | NiN | $\stackrel{\oplus}{N}$ | N゙NOM | $\underset{O}{\circ}$ | $\underset{\sim}{M}$ | 응 |





曷

Input a line of 72 characters
Do not accept space if outside
quotes
If $x^{L}$ redo line
If $x^{s}$ go back a character
Low top address







$a_{0}$
0
0
0
屋 茄


 －1 N－

April， 1976 Dr．Dobb＇s Journal of Computer Calisthenics \＆Orthodontia，Box 310，Menlo Park CA 94025
Check if a character is a
letter
Variable storage
Check for statement terminator
（CR or ：）
Print Binary number
List Command
BCD to BIN subroutine







| 品 睍 0 |  |  | ๗ | 号 臭 | 芸范 |  | U | 学 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 䛼兄 } \\ & \text { Hin } \end{aligned}$ | 8 | 鸸 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Q } \\ & \text { 邑 } \\ & \text { M } \\ & \text { م } \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

If over 72 characters，report
error

正


| ¢ | N్ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { N } \\ & \text { é } \\ & \text { Num } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { N } \\ & \text { 呙 } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \stackrel{\rightharpoonup}{*} \\ & \stackrel{\rightharpoonup}{\mathbf{a}} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { N. } \\ & \text { 㓣 } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 号号 } \\ & \text { ch } \end{aligned}$ | 宏 | 㤐 总 | $\begin{aligned} & 0 \\ & 0 \\ & \text { H } \end{aligned}$ | 鿬 | M | 总究 |  |
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# System monitor for 8080 <br> <br> based microcomputers 

 <br> <br> based microcomputers}

by Charlie Pack, 25470 Elana Rd., Los Altos Hills CA 94022

After developing an 82-byte octal loader using nothing but the switch panel on my Altair 8800, I concluded that a system monitor was needed to provide better communications between myself and my machine. The required functions were: (1) display the contents of one byte or any segment of memory in octal, (2) display the contents of all registers, (3) enter programs in octal from a keyboard, (4) load and store programs or data, and (5) jump to a program. The I/O WRItTEN by Charlie pack, 25470 elena road, los altos hills, ca. 94022 tape reader and punch. The Monitor described in this article meets these requirements.

Since the Monitor has several hundred statements, and the memory in my computer is limited, I needed a crossassembler that would run on the computers and with the software to which I had access. So, I wrote one-would you be-lieve-in COBOL?!! The program listing for the Monitor was printed musing my COBOL cross-assembler. Since COBOL is rather inefficient at non-structured string handling and subscripting, I made the source format fixed and eliminated punctuation. Register operands were made a part of the instruction code, for example MOV AM moves a byte from memory to accumulator. Otherwise, the microprocessor instructions are normal. The only pseudo-instructions used are ORG, DB, and DW. ORG sets the location counter; DB defines a single byte, and DW defines a doubleword (two bytes). Since it is difficult to do octal arithmetic in COBOL, the bells and whistles were left out of the cross-assembler.

A paper tape of this system is being delivered to the Program Repository at the Community Computer Center, 1919 Menalto, Menlo Park CA 94025.



共
G) JUMP TO A USER-SUPPLIED PROGRAM AT ANY ADDRESS.
00.04. SUBROUTINE LIGRARY.
01.00. HARDWARE REQUIREYENTS $A N D$ IMPLEMENTATION.
$01.01 . ~ H A R D W A R E ~ R E Q U I R E Y E N T S . ~$
THE MONITOR RERUIRES AN $8 O R O-R A S E D ~ M I C R O P R O C E S S O R ~$
A TELETYPE MACHINE OR OTHER SERIAL DISPLAY WITH A REV 1) SERIAL INTERFACE BOARDS.
02.00. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS.
02.01. LOADING THE MONITOR.
NULL CHARALICTS.
$\propto$ DYNAMIC RAM, A PROCESSOR TECHNOLOGY $3 P+S$ I ELETYPE ONISก dV甘1SLOOG 3H1 OVO7

| F 3 30x <br>  <br>  <br>  chat <br> （H）yヨロ४ロา าช <br>  <br>  $\qquad$ $\qquad$ <br>  <br> Iow sexad |
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|  |  |
|  |  |

THE ADDRESS RANGE MUST BE IN EXISTING MEMORY, BUT NO PART OF IT CAN BE WITHIN THE MONITOR

FOR EXAMPLE, MOO 0000003000 FOLLOWED BY A CR WILL DISPLAY (REFER TO PROGRAM LISTING): 000000 OSO \&O\&: OOO 000
02.03 .07 . SAVE BINARY DATA (S).


 TYPE a TO RETURN TO COMMAND MODE).


THERE IS NO CHECKSUM ROUTINE BUT THE OUTPUT WILL BE
ЭdA1 07nOM yasn 3H1 q00 LSO 1 H


THE BYTE THAT CONTAINS 003.
 SPECIAL CHARACTERS WILL PERFORM THEIR NORMAL FUNCTIONS ON THE OUTPUT DEVICE BEING USED.
A CR IS ISSUED, FOLLOWED BY A LF (LINE FEED).
$\triangle$ SP (SPACE) IS ISSUED.

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ROUTINE RETURNS TO COMMAND MODE IF THE $H=L$ RETURN IF OK
D>H E ERROR
E:L COMPARE $\triangle D D R E S S$ WITHIN PAGE

4 RETURN IF OK.
$\rightarrow a \leq N B a$ OE UK ADCOMP

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[^2]



[^3]

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1 - originality

2 - general user appeal
3 - clarity of documentation

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[^0]:    - ROUTINE TO EXAMINE ONE BYTE

    EXAMIN CALL ADDRIN GEY ADDRESS IN H=L

[^1]:    $\infty 0$ I
    $\begin{array}{lll}a & a & a \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & a & a\end{array}$
    
    
    
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