The ATARI Resource

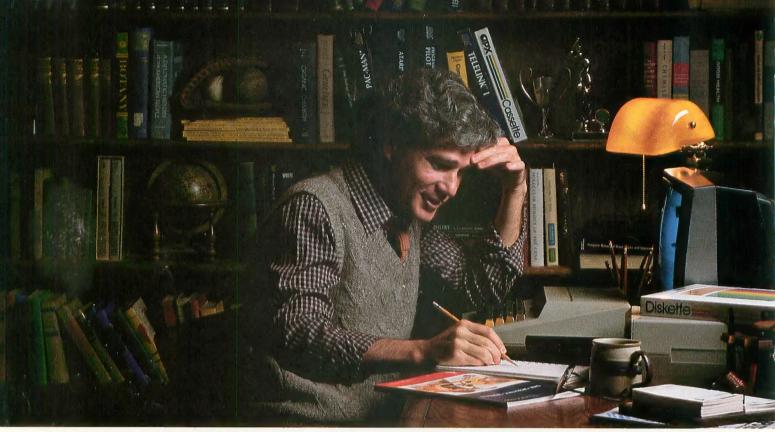
SOUND &

MUSIC

October/November Vol. I, No. 4 \$2.50

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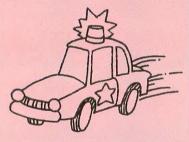
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I/O BOARD

TOP-OF-FORM

In the chart accompanying the survey of printers (ANTIC Issue #3) you show the Atari 825 as having "top of form" capability. I don't think it does. It doesn't respond to the standard "control +L" form feed, nor does it have a manual form feed control.

This deficiency would cause us to choose a different printer, perhaps the Epson or the NEC, which do look competent.

> Harold Barton, Engineer Ford Aerospace & Communications Newport Beach, CA

You are correct. There is no top-ofform command. We also should point out that the NEC 8203A-C will not work with the Atari Word Processor program without altering that program, a task not easily accomplished by an amateur. The version of DataSoft's Text Wizard that will work with the NEC should be available by October, 1982.—ANTIC ED

TRACE RACE

I want a "trace" routine for my ATARI. I understand that **Basic** A + has one, but right now that product is more than I need.

Would you put this in I/O Board to see if any of your readers can come up with one? I'd like to have features like "list branch commands only," and "show loops once, with times looped."

Walter Varner Palo Alto, CA

Our first contest! Send all entries to TRACE RACE, care of ANTIC. Winner gets a free copy of Basic A +, courtesy of Optimised Systems Software. All entries must be in no later than January 31, 1983.—ANTIC ED

LET'S GET IT RIGHT

De Re ATARI is an excellent book, but the authors should have consulted a Latin teacher. "De re" means "of the thing," as in De Re Metallica by Agricola, which translates "of the metallic thing." "Re" is in the ablative case (singular, feminine). "Metallica" is an adjective, so ATARI should be adjectivized, as "De Re ATARICA" (feminine), or better, "De Rerum ATARII (masculine, plural), which translates as "of the things about ATARIes."

D. Grau Forest Hills, N.Y.

MUSIC WHILE YOU WAIT

How can I record music, or other audio, on a cassette so that it plays when the cassette is loading? PDI does it, for example, on Pumpkin Stand.

I already know how to POKE 53018 on and off. This works great *after* the program is loaded, because the audio is recorded on a section of tape where no data is found. I am under the impression that the audio with data must be recorded after the data because a CSAVE erases all channels on the tape. I also believe that normally recorded audio signals interefere with the computer's ability to receive a CLOAD.

I notice that PDI's music-whileloading plays on the left speaker of a stereo system. How do they record on only one channel?

> Robert Cash Pekin, IL

John Victor, President of PDI, explains in this issue. Also note our Tape Topics section in this and future issues, for related information.—ANTIC ED

LOOSENING LINES

While typing in your games, I've noticed several lines got so long they wouldn't fit. Line 672 of **Deathstar** has 119 characters, and line 745 has 117, exceeding the limit of ATARI's logical line. **Pac Invaders** also has that problem at lines 370, 390 and 430. It's not always clear where to break a line without affecting the program. Please advise.

> Donald Harrier Tallmadge, OH

Sorry about that. We will try to avoid tight lines in the future, but you can also correct by moving the margin two spaces left with a POKE 82,0 in immediate mode. Also, using any legal abbreviations (F. for FOR, N. for NEXT) and eliminating spaces will save space. BASIC will expand abbreviations for you when it interprets the line. In fact, that's usually why the listed line is longer than allowed. —ANTIC ED

LICKIN' CHICKEN

Space Invaders invades my space. I lose at Asteroids too. I never get far in Caverns of Mars And Star Raiders makes me blue. I made the third screen of Apple Panic When the "cores" finally did me in. I guess I should give up computer games And go back to games like Gin. But I then found a game that I can win; Yes, a game that I can beat! I can get that Chicken across the road And I don't even have to cheat. So, I guess there's a game for each of us; A game for our way and style. You go ahead and smash the Galaxians. I'll just dodge cars for a while.

> Guy Hurt Lansing, MI

MORE CHICKEN

I think I made an improvement to Stan Ocker's **Chicken** game (ANTIC #1). I found during play that if the chicken gets hit by the bottom part of a car, the chicken is moved up, but not clear of the car. So the chicken gets hit again by the same car.

I thought this was unfair and frustrating, so I altered the program as follows:

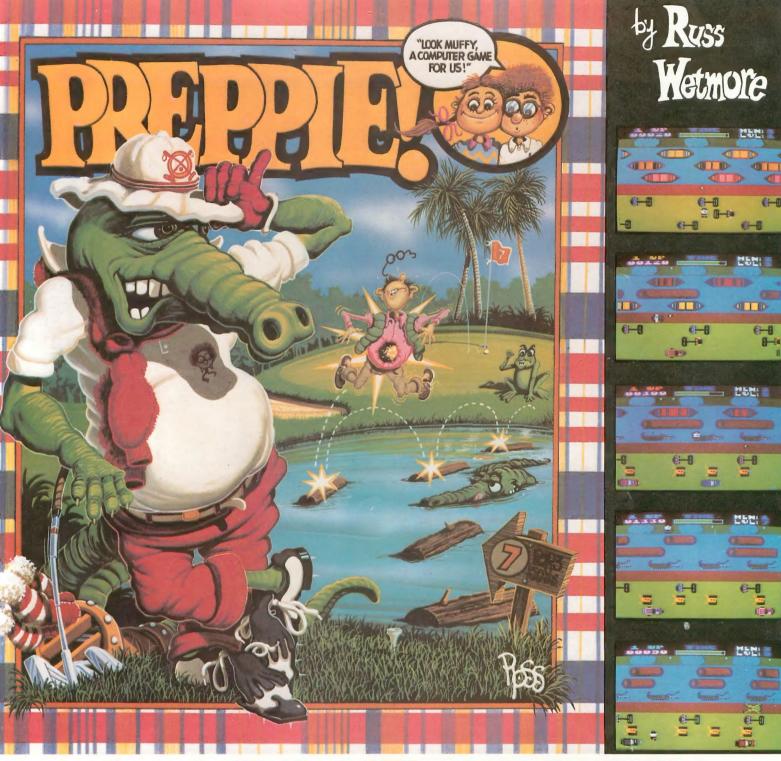
535 POKE 1560, PEEK(1560)-33:

A = USR(LD,0,PM): IF DIF > 1 THEN DIF = DIF-1

This shares means and

This change moves you up a full lane, clearing you of the car you hit.

> Mike Colvin Sacramento, CA



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-Theodore Boston III

"I haven't had this much fun since Buffy and I went to Princeton for the weekend." —Martha Vineyard

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ANTIC The ATARI Resource (ISSN applied for, is published six times per year for \$15.00 by ANTIC Publishing Co., 297 Missouri St., San Francisco, Ca. 94107. Second Class Postage pending at San Francisco, Ca. and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address change to ANTIC 297 Missouri St. San Francisco, Ca. Copyright© 1982 by ANTIC Publishing. All Rights Reserved. Printed in USA. With our fourth issue now history and the long wait for subscription fulfillment accomplished, I thought it would be appropriate to tell you something of our goals and editorial direction.

Since our first issue was released back in April, we've tripled the number of copies printed and doubled the number of pages. Obviously, ANTIC is rapidly establishing it's place at the side of your computers. Our paid circulation suggests we are the most widely read independent magazine for the ATARI owner, and we thank you for your confidence and support. We have had the opportunity to discuss ATARI with users world wide. Your dedication and enthusiasm reinforces the notion that we are active participants in a discovery that rivals the appearance of fire or the wheel.

Active participants need information, accurate and up-to-date. Being long-time residents of the "silicon valley" area has provided us important professional and personal contacts which help bring you this information. Atari corporate headquarters is right down the road, and of course we try to bring you a look inside whenever possible.

Most of our writers are well-qualified old hands at the ATARI. Some are authors of significant pieces of commercial software, like Jerry White. Jerry will now be serving as our Technical Consultant, expect listings to improve and bugs to diminish. Carl Evans, president of Vervan Software, will be bringing you a new department, Tape Topics. You can expect more articles for the beginner. Watch for a new series by Bob Albrecht, starting next issue. Linda Schreiber will continue to provide excellent examples of teaching games. We also expect to print excerpts from her new graphics book published by Tab Books. I should also mention the excellent quality of work we are getting from our new users. For those of you who would like to write for ANTIC, but don't know where to begin, send for our new Author's Guide.

We continue looking for new ideas and encourage your participation in our magazine. I/O Board is very important in this regard. We appreciate your criticisms, and while your favorite ideas may not see print, I assure you we give serious consideration to all. Expect continued improvement in our design and art and perhaps some surprises here too. We encourage any artists or cartoonists to consider ANTIC.

The ATARI community is growing fast. ATARI is the number-oneselling home computer, and sales show no sign of slacking. I predict there will be half a million ATARI computers in homes by the end of 1983. I would like to think that each ATARI owner can benefit from ANTIC, we are The ATARI Resource. In fact my attitude is if you own an ATARI then you should be reading ANTIC. Spread the word — see you next issue.

> Jim Capparell Editor / Publisher ANTIC — The ATARI Resource

STARTING LINE

Many new users have not realized the tremendous potential for music and sound hidden in their ATARI computers. After all, a computer that can produce phaser noise or let you hear Indianapolis cars race down the straightaway, by altering a few simple commands, should be capable of more.

The following applies to both the 400 and 800 and is completely memory independent.

Sound on the ATARI is really made possible by the same technology that brought you hand-held calculators. I'm talking about the integrated circuit. In this case a special integrated circuit was designed and named POKEY (Pots and Keys). Every ATARI built has this special chip and therefore can play music and generate interesting sounds.

You might think of POKEY as a barber shop quartet, since there are four voices available. Each voice can be turned up loud or so low it can barely be heard. Each barber (voice) can "sing" or sound 255 different notes or pitches. Some of these are so similar your ear can't distinguish the differences. Among them are several that correspond to the musical scale (see Table 1). Each voice can be made to sound a pure tone — as if you were to whistle the note — or distort the tone. Distortion is one way of taking a familiar note and making it sound like a growl, hiss or rumble.

Let's put this in the context of the standard ATARI BASIC statements.

SOUND A,B,C,D is the general format to generate sound, where:

A = Voice, one of the four barbers. A can equal any value from 0 to 3.

B = Pitch or note. This can equal any number from 1 to 255. The higher the value the lower the note.

C = Distortion. Any even number from 0 to 14. Ten gives the purest tone with least distortion.

D = Volume. Any number from 1 to 15 is legal. A zero turns sound off.

That seems pretty easy, and so it is. Try this! SOUND 0,121,10,8 [press return]. This will cause the first barber (his number is zero) to sing middle C with as little distortion as possible. Now vary the volume; try a 4 and then a 14. Eight is a good volume value when more than one barber is singing. Experiment with Distortion; change the 10 to a 4, then a 14. Restore the sound statement as it is above. Now, add a second barber.

SOUND 1,72,10,8	This voice sings the note A above C.	7	TABLE 1	
SOUND 2,45,10,8	This voice sings the note F.	E 193 F 182	C 121 Middle C D 108	
SOUND 3,193,10,8	This sings E below middle C.	G 162 A 144	E 96 F 91	
ff and harbor's voice h	w making the componenting values 0	B 128		

Turn off each barber's voice by making the corresponding volume 0. To turn off all voices, type END.

The legal abbreviation for the SOUND command is SO.; try it and save typing.

The following sounds should be experimented with. They are presented to get the wheels turning. I'm sure you can all do much better.

Our first sound is an explosion. Change the value of DUR in line 30. Experiment with volume changes in line 90.

```
10 REM EXPLOSION
20 REM DUR=LENGTH OF EFFECT, 1-10
30 DUR=6
40 PITCH=20:GOSUB 80
50 SOUND 1,0,0,0;SOUND 2,0,0,0
60 GOTO 30
70 REM *** SUBROUTINE ***
80 SOUND 2,75,8,15
90 ICR=0.79+DUR/100
100 V1=15:V2=15:V3=15:REM VOLUME
110 SOUND 0, FITCH, 8, V1
120 SOUND 2, FITCH+20,8,V2
130 SOUND 2, FITCH+50,8,V3
140 V1=V1*ICR
150 V2=V2*(ICR+0.05)
160 V3=V3*(ICR+0.08)
170 IF V3>1 THEN 110
180 SOUND 0,0,0,0;RETURN
```

Sound number two is a familiar siren. Change the DUR value in line 30. Try varying the step size in line 60.

```
10 REM SIREN

20 REM DUR=TIME IN SECONDS

30 DUR=10

40 L0=50:HI=35:STP=-1

50 FOR TIME=1 TO DUR

60 FOR PITCH=LO TO HI STEP STP

70 SOUND 0,FITCH,10,14

80 FOR WAIT=1 TO 15:NEXT WAIT

90 NEXT FITCH

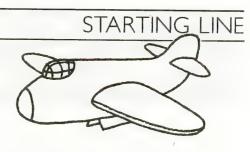
100 XX=L0:L0=HI:HI=XX:STP=-STP

110 NEXT TIME

120 SOUND 0,0,0,0:GOTO 30
```

Sound number three is a European variation of the siren. Run it, you'll hear the difference. Experiment with the LO and HI values in line 40.

```
10 REM EUROPEAN SIREN
20 REM DUR=SECONDS RUN
30 DUR=5
40 L0=57:HI=45:FITCH=HI
50 FOR TIME=0 TO DUR*2
60 SOUND 0,FITCH,10,14
70 FOR WAIT=1 TO 180:NEXT WAIT
80 PITCH=L0:L0=HI:HI=PITCH
90 NEXT TIME
100 SOUND 0,0,0,0;GOTO 30
```



Sound four is the whistle and explosion of a falling bomb. Try to determine what makes the whistle sound and what part of the program makes the explosion sound.

```
10 REM WHISTLE & BOMB
20 REM DUR=LENGTH OF EFFECT
30 DUR=5
40 V1=4:FOR PITCH=30 TO 75
50 SOUND 0, PITCH, 10, V1
60 SOUND 1, PITCH+3, 10, V1*0.7
70 FOR WAIT=1 TO DUR*3:NEXT WAIT
80 V1=V1×1.03:NEXT PITCH
90 SOUND 2,35,8,12
100 V1=15:V2=15:V3=15
110 PITCH=DUR+5:ICR=0.79+DUR/100
120 SOUND 0, PITCH, 8, V1
130 SOUND 1, PITCH+20,8, V2
140 SOUND 2, PITCH+50, 8, V3
150
   V1=V1*ICR
160 V2=V2*(ICR+0.05)
170 V3=V3*(ICR+0.08)
180 IF V3>1 THEN 120
190 SOUND 0,0,0,0;SOUND 1,0,0,0
200 SOUND 2,0,0;GOTO 30
```

Sawing wood is sound five. Try changing the pitch and volume. Also eliminate the wait in line 180.

```
20 REM SAWING WOOD
30 REM DURESECONDS RUN
40 DUR=8
50 FOR TIME=1 TO DUR
60 ST=6:VL=12:GOSUB 90
70 ST=8:VL=8:GOSUE 90
80 NEXT TIME:RETURN
90 FOR PITCH=ST+5 TO ST STEP -1
100 GOSUB 160:NEXT FITCH
110 FOR PITCH=ST TO ST+5
120 GOSUB 170:NEXT FITCH
   SOUND 0,0,0,0;SOUND 1,0,0,0
130
1.40
   FOR WAIT=1 TO 25:NEXT WAIT
150 GOTO 40
160
   SOUND 0, PITCH, 2, VL
170
   SOUND 1, PITCH, 8, VL×0.7
180 WAIT=(WAIT/5)*5:RETURN
```

There are many opportunities for the experimenter using the sound command. Perhaps a program using the joystick to vary pitch or distortion would make your experimentation easier. Random notes and harmonies can be very interesting. Look up and use the Random command in your BASIC Reference Manual. If you should write something interesting let us know, ANTIC is always looking for new, interesting and helpful material.

11



by DAVE PLOTKIN

The SOUND statement in Atari BASIC is very powerful. Its ability to modify tone, distortion, and volume for each of four voices has been put to good use elsewhere in this issue. One of the problems with the SOUND statement is that using it extensively slows down program execution. While this is true of BASIC statements in general, with the SOUND statement there is an easy alternative — SOUND registers. SOUND registers are memory locations which control properties (tone, distortion and volume) of the ATARI's sound.

Memory Location	Function
53760	Tone of Voice 1 (SOUND 0)
53761	Distortion and Volume of Voice 1
53762	Tone of Voice 2 (SOUND 1)
53763	Distortion and Volume of Voice 2
53764	Tone of Voice 3 (SOUND 2)
53765	Distortion and Volume of Voice 3
53766	Tone of Voice 4 (SOUND 3)
53767	Distortion and Volume of Voice 4
53768	Tone "clock" control

The even-numbered memory locations (53760, 62, 64, 66) control the TONE; or which *note* the ATARI will play. This is identical to the second number in a SOUND statement. For example, to get the same tone as SOUND 0, 100, 10, 8 you would POKE 53760, 100. This specifies Voice 0, note 100. But what about distortion and volume? The odd-numbered memory locations (53761, 63, 65, 67) take care of these two characteristics for each voice via the following relation:

16*DISTORTION + VOLUME

where DISTORTION is the third number in the SOUND statement (10 in our example) and VOLUME is the fourth number (8 in our example).

The equivalent POKE in our example is $16^*(10) + 8 = 168$, and you would specify POKE 53761, 168. Try it. Type in: POKE 53760, 100:POKE 53761, 168 [RET]. The other pairs of registers work the same way. You can turn off the note by specifying zero in either TONE or DISTORTION-and-VOLUME registers.

Memory location 53768 is an interesting one. The ATARI maintains two internal "clocks" which it uses to measure the frequency of the sound wave it generates. The two clocks run at different speeds. Switching clocks changes the frequency (and thus the tone) of the sound. Bit 1 of memory location 53768 controls which "clock" the ATARI uses to produce its sound. Normally Bit 1 is off, and the ATARI's sounds correspond to the tables in the reference manual. Turning Bit 1 on (POKE 53768, 1) selects the

slower clock, and alters the tone produced upward. Toggling Bit 1 off and on will switch all four voices up and down for a pretty good "alarm" effect. Note that the loop:

FOR N = 0 TO 255: POKE 53768, N: NEXT N turns the Bit 1 off and on very nicely without having to worry about setting and resetting the bit. The reason this works is that the values jump back and forth from odd to even, turning the Bit 1 on and off.)

How much faster is POKE than SOUND? Well, let's try an example. The following program downloads the ROM character set into RAM so it can be modified. With no sound (leave out the SOUND statements in line 30), this process takes 15.7 seconds. There are much faster ways to do this, but you can use this method until you feel confident. Fifteen seconds is a long time to sit looking at a computer doing nothing visible. Most people start getting nervous and wondering if "Atari Lockup" has struck again. Let's add some sound to assure the user that something is happening.

- 10 POKE 106, PEEK(106)-4: POKE 53761, 168: POKE 53763, 168: GRAPHICS 0
- 20 CHBASE = PEEK(106):OLDCH = 57344:NWCH = CHBASE*256
- 30 FOR X = 0 TO 1024:C = PEEK (OLDCH + X):POKE NWCH + X,C:SOUND 0,C,10,4:SOUND 1,X,10,4
 40 NEXT X

Downloading the character set now takes some 25 seconds. If we try the following instead, substituting POKEs, the character set loads in about 20 seconds.

- 10 POKE 106, PEEK(106)-4: POKE 53761, 168: POKE 53763, 168: GRAPHICS 0
- 20 CHBASE = PEEK(106):OLDCH = 57344:NWCH = CHBASE*256
- 30 FOR X = 0 to 1024:C = PEEK(OLDCH + X):POKE NWCH + X,C:POKE 53760,C:POKE 53762,140
 40 NEXT X

Note that X, which varies from 0 to 1024, can be used as an input to the SOUND statement — each time it rolls over a multiple of 255, it starts over at 0 (thus 256 is 0, as is 513 and 769). This is *not* true of the POKE statement, so a constant was used. Doing a calculation to keep everything in range (such as POKE 53762, X/4) slows things down still further (about 28 seconds) and isn't a good idea.

Finally, various sources give the equations that relate tone to the internal clocks and note frequency. While these equations are beyond the scope of this article, they can be useful to music computer enthusiasts.

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INSIDE ATARI

ATARI INSTITUTE TEACHES MUSIC

"We'll begin this morning's session with a fishing report. The lake has all kinds of fish in it. I did pretty well using artificial lures, but there were a couple of fellows using worms and they were doing even better."

In this relaxed fashion, Dr. Fred T. Hoffstetter, Director of the University of Delaware's Office of Computer-Based Instruction, addressed the students at the "Computer Applications to Music" seminar sponsored by the Atari Institute for Educational Action Research. He was telling them about another of the many activities available to them during their two-week stay this summer at Clear Water Estate in the Catskill Mountains of New York.

Fred finds himself in the unusual position, for a teacher, of trying to intice his students away from their class work for volley ball games, canoe rides, etc. But then, these were hardly typical students. Most of the participants in this workshop are teachers themselves. To be precise, they are mostly music educators at the high school and college level. Many of them were taking this class for credit through the University of Delaware, and most of them wanted to take as much advantage as possible of the equipment available to them in the lab.

Herb Moore is a musician, teacher, and co-author of "ATARI Sound and Graphics" (with Judy Lower and Bob Albrecht), published by John Wiley & Sons.

The lab provided an ATARI system for each student, consisting of an 800 computer, a Disk Drive, and a CRT. There were also several printers available so students could print listings of their programs. Or, if they wanted to use the University of Delaware's PLATO computer system, there was a terminal with which to do so. With this system, students are able to experiment with an ear training program called GUIDO which was developed by Dr. Hoffstetter. Also available in the lab, was a Synclaviar digital synthesizer with which students could create and store their own instrument sounds, and play them back using an organ style keyboard.

So there is ample inspiration for class projects. And these projects are what seem to be keeping the students from volley ball and fishing. A look at, and listen to, some of these projects makes it difficult to believe that, less than two weeks previous, most of these students had never used a computer, let alone programmed one to create sound and graphics.

One student program has the computer randomly generate a chord of up to four notes. The user then tries to identify the chord by entering it's name. If the answer is correct, another chord is generated. If the answer is incorrect, the player gets another try. If missed three times in a row the chord is played again and its name is displayed on the screen.

Another student program gives a

screen display of two sine waves slightly out of phase with each other, and generates two slightly different tones to demonstrate the beat frequencies that occur in the sound. The user then tries to match the tones by moving a joystick. Yet another program gives a screen display of guitar chords with their correct fingerings.

One of the few nonprofessionals in the class happened to be a high school student from Old Greenwich, Connecticut. He designed a program that allows you to generate a note sequence which is continually played while you vary pitch, speed, and loudness with a joystick.

There are two or three programs being worked on by members of the class which are intended to help students become familiar with the positioning of notes on the staff. There were also projects showing where the notes are on the piano keyboard, and a colorful display of *Solfegio*, the "Do, Re, Mi" method of teaching notes. Another unusual project showed different positions for dance choreography on the screen.

Although most of these projects are not the kind of refined products you would expect to buy in a computer store, they clearly demonstrate just how quickly a motivated person can learn to program the ATARI computer. The chief language used in the course was BASIC, but other languages, such as Atari PILOT and a version of LOGO were also demonstrated.

INSIDE ATARI

One interlude, which saved a few braincells by temporarily diverting students, was a day spent with Tim Gallwey, the author of *The Inner Game* of *Tennis*. Since the students were mostly music teachers, the group worked on applying the "inner game" techniques to the teaching of music. Many insights into one's own music were discovered.

This was the first event sponsored by the Atari Institute for Educational Action Research that focused completely on music. Judging from the reactions of the participants, the seminar was a success. According to Ted M. Kahn, Executive Director of the Atari Institute, its goals are to support through grants of equipment and minor funding projects engaged in *action research*. Action research is defined as having an orientation towards:

- social action as integral part of the research project
- improvement in learning and teaching techniques
- significant impact on social equity
- the promotion of lifelong learning

Dr. Kahn feels that the outcome of projects supported by the Institute should help advance the state-of-the-art of educational technology.

The "Computer Applications to Music" course clearly revealed a number of unique ways in which the ATARI computer can be integrated into the music teaching process. Many of the participants in the class will undoubtedly continue to refine their projects, and all of them will surely play a more active part in the development of computer-based music teaching.

UPGRADES

The ATARI Home Computer Division currently offers four upgrades on the Home Computer product line. Each of these upgrades is explained below.

GTIA Upgrade

The GTIA (General Television Interface Adaptor) chip offers enhanced graphics capabilities over the CTIA chip, which was the original graphics chip used in the 400 and 800 computers. The GTIA offers 12 different graphics modes, 16 colors, and 16 intensities. The GTIA is fully compatible with software written for the CTIA since it has a superset of the CTIA's capabilities. The CTIA was the standard chip with all 400 and 800 computers manufactured prior to November, 1981.

Atari's Regional Service Centers will perform this upgrade on out-ofwarranty-units for \$62.52 (\$22.52 in parts, \$40.00 labor).

810 ROM C

An 810 drive with ROM C and DOS 2.0 will offer improved performance in read and write operations between the

810 and the 400 or 800. ROM C causes diskettes to be formatted with an improved sector layout which is more efficient than that used by earlier 810 control ROM's.

ROM C is automatically included in drives manufactured after October, 1981. Atari's Regional Service Centers will perform the upgrade on out-ofwarranty units for \$53.56 (\$8.56 in parts, \$45.00 in labor). 810 units still in the 90-day warranty period will be upgraded free of charge, on request.

Operating System Version B

The OS ROM's in the 400 and 800 are available in a revision B form, which provide a higher level of system performance by improving the operating system peripheral I/O control routines. OS version B eliminates annoying pauses in disk and printer operations that sometimes occurred with OS version A. OS version B is compatible with DOS 2.

OS version B ROM's have been automatically included in 400 and 800 computers manufactured since November, 1981. Atari's Regional Service Centers will perform the upgrade on out-ofwarranty units for \$49.78 (\$30.00 in labor, \$19.78 in parts). 400's and 800's still in the warranty period will be upgraded free of charge.

810 Data Separator Board

The Data Separator Board for the 810 improves the drive's ability to distinguish between data pulses and clock pulses on the disk. This is necessary in part because of the variations in the characteristics of different diskettes. The data separator lowers the chance of a misread from the disk.

Data separator boards have been a standard part of all drives produced since October, 1981. Older drives that are out-of-warranty may be upgraded at an Atari Regional Service Center for a charge of \$135.61 (\$40.00 labor, \$95.61 parts).

The HCD Factory Authorized Service Centers will also perform these upgrades on request, although their prices may differ from the RSC's. Any 810 still in the warranty period will be upgraded free of charge.

BENCHMARKING THE

FASTCHIP

by CLYDE SPENCER

The FASTCHIP, from Newell Industries, replaces the existing math package chip in the Operating System (OS) card. This chip substantially decreases the execution time of arithmetic operations. To determine how much faster our ATARI is with the new chip installed we need to talk a little about benchmarks.

Benchmarks are simple programs that compare specific operations in a computer. They may be designed to test a particular ability, such as the time required to perform an addition or multiplication, or they may be designed to test all operations. Probably the most usable benchmarks are those which attempt to simulate average operating conditions.

There is no general agreement as to what constitutes average conditions, let alone what is a standard benchmark. Here are two benchmarks, with similar running times, that I have some familiarity with.

The first benchmark was originally suggested by Greg Dolkus, formerly of the Homebrew Computer Club. This short program exercises your Central Processing Unit (CPU) by calculating the first prime number larger than one million:

10 FOR I = 1000001 TO 1000003 STEP 2 20 FOR D = 3 to SQR (I) STEP 2 30 IF I/D = INT(I/D) THEN 60 40 NEXT D 50 PRINT I 60 NEXT I

The correct answer is 1000003; not all computers offer enough precision to give the correct answer. The ATARI does. Greg had reported the following times for various machines:

Apple II	5 seconds
Commodore Pet	6 seconds
OSI	6 seconds
TRS-80	12 seconds

A significant increase in speed can be accomplished with the ATARI by turning the ANTIC chip off. This can be done by POKEing a 0 in decimal location 559. The ANTIC chip can be reactivated with a 34 POKEd into 559. Because of the different speed options available in the ATARI, I will list several benchmark times.

Atari 400/800	(ANTIC ON, with original OS)	15 seconds
Atari 400/800	(ANTIC OFF, with original OS)	11 seconds
Atari 400/800	(ANTIC ON, with FASTCHIP)	9.5 seconds
Atari 400/800	(ANTIC OFF, with FASTCHIP)	6.5 seconds

BASIC A + by Otpimized Systems Software appeared to run about ¹/₄ second faster in all cases. Microsfot BASIC was unavailable for comparison.

I recently received a different benchmark by R. Broucke, from the University of Texas at Austin. This program compares both the speed AND precision of most of the major microcomputers by computing the sum of a thousand squares:

Because of the repeated additions of floating point numbers of the same sign, this program does a good job of testing error propagation. The correct answers are:

$$S = 503.543802149$$
 $X = 1.23$

Broucke states that those computers, such as the ATARI, that use a four byte mantissa for representing floating point numbers, can be expected to run about 25% slower than those that use a three byte mantissa, such as the IBM personal computer. The following abridged table lists some of the more popular computers along with times and answers:

Computer	Time	S	Х
TRS color Computer	37	503.543832	1.2300004
Commodore Pet	- 30	503.543832	1.23000004
Commodore Vic-20	27	503.543832	1.23000004
Apple II	26	503.543832	1.23000004
TRS-80 model II	23	503.545	1.23
Apple III	20	503.545	1.23
Sinclair ZX-81	13.5	503.54383	1.23
Osborne I (MBASIC)	8	503.545	1.23
IBM Personal Computer	7.5	503.545	1.230001
Atari 400/800 (ANTIC ON)	15.5	503.543594	1.23
Atari 400/800 (ANTIC OFF)	10.5	503.543594	1.23
Atari 400/800 (ANTIC ON, with FASTCHIP)	11.5	503.543594	1.23
Atari 400/800 (ANTIC OFF, with FASTCHIP)	8	503.543595	1.23

As you see, I left the best till last. The ATARI tests were done with the 8K cartridge BASIC. BASIC A + was about ¹/₄ second faster; Microsoft BASIC was unavailable for comparison. With the FASTCHIP installed and ANTIC turned off, the Atari is as fast as (and more precise than) the other two fastest machines.

Based on these particular benchmarks, one can expect a 23–41% increase in speed with FASTCHIP, the average being a little over 30%.

DATA PERFECT FOR THE ATARI 400 AND 800 COMPUTERS YOU MAKE THE COMPARISON

GENERAL INFORMATION	D.P.	MANAGER ''800''		D.P.	MANAG
Cost of Program	\$99.95		REPORT GENERATOR Design Report To User Specifications	YES	10 CL 84 100
lost of Utilities Program	\$00.00	×	Level Breaks Allowed At Users Option	YES	
(Included In Program)			(Up To 4 Level Breaks Per Report)	1 LU	
ost of Reports Program	\$00.00		Designate Font To Be Used In Report	YES	1
Included In Program)	-		Boldfacing Allowed In A Report	YES	A CONTRACTOR OF A CONTRACTOR A
ompatible With Letter Perfect (tm)	YES		(With Dot Matrix Printer)		
lord Processing			Mathematical Formulas Allowed In Report	YES	2 Carlos Parist
enu Driven	YES	· · · ·	(Example, Field 'x' + Field 'y' = Field 'z')		
Very User Friendly)	1150		Auto Page Number Allowed In Report	YES	1
omplete Documentation	YES		Auto Date Entering Allowed In Report	YES	
Manual Tabbed And Indexed) ngle Load Program	YES		Repeating Characters Allowed	YES	
Nge Load Program Na Swapping Of Program Diskettej	TEO		Optional Level Breaks and Page	YES	-
achine Language	YES		Breaks When Sort Values Change		R. C. wiells
Extremely Fast Operation)	120		Up To 7 Lines Allowed For Header on Each Report	YES	
in Use Single Disk Drive	YES	-	Up To 2 Lines Allowed For Detail	YES	· · · ·
n Us Multiple Disk Drives	YES		Information On A Report	TES	1
ility To Design Screen Mask	YES		Variable Spacing Allowed Between Data	YES	and a manufacture
User Designs Arrangement Of Datal			On Items In A Report	TLO	-
Il Keyboard Editing Available	YES		Multiple Fields Allowed In A Report	YES	24-381
Delete/Insert A Character; Go To End/Beg.			(Number, Date, Alpha, Formula)		
of Line; Fine 'n', TAB, ETC.)	VER		Search Criterian Allowed On Report	YES	der effer an
mpatible With Bit 3 80-Column Board	YES		(Same Criteria As In Editor)		
40-Column and 80-Column Version Available)	VEC		Ability To Have "Literal" Data	YES	an er en
orks With Any Parallel Printer Supports Atari 850 Interface)	YES		Printed In A Report		· · · ·
tals Of Numeric Field	YES		Ability To Have "Conditional" Data	YES	
Return Total And Average Value/Field)	120		Printed In A Report		
il Safes Provided For Data Protection	YES		Use A Default Date Field	YES	
ror Messages Displayed	YES	2	Designate Default Value For Specific Fields	YES	
atus Lines For Ease of Use	YES	· · · ·			
Options Always Available For Reference)			LABELS REPORT GENERATOR		
EARCHES AND EDITING			Mailing Labels Allowed	YES	
ultiple Searches Allowed On Same Record	YES		(Specifically Designed For Labels)	1 2 1000 -	and a weak
(Search On 9 Criteria Per Record)	11.0		User Designs Data Placement On Label	YES	
earch On Two Criteria In Same Field	YES		(One Across Label Design)	VED	AND 18 10 10 10 10 10 10
(Up To 4 Fields In Single Record)	100		Multiple Fields Allowed On Label	YES	
Id Card Searches	YES		(Date, Alpha, Numeric, Formula)	YES	
IAnd/Or, Include, Character, Or Block/			Repeating Characters Allowed	YES	102 (201) David (2019)
arch On Basis Of Record Number	YES		Front Designation Allowed Print Labels On A Conditional Basis	YES	
(Search For An Individual Record)			Search Criteria Valid On Label	YES	
arch On Range Of Data Desired	YES		(Same Search Criteria As Editing)		
(Dates, Numbers, Values, Greater Or Less Than, Equal To, etc.)			Tourie boaron unturia no caising	1. 162	
iting Of Records Individually	YES		MATHEMATICAL ABILITIES		
iting Records Globally	YES		Basic Math Calculation	YES	1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1
Verification Allowed)	VED		Addition, Substraction, Multiplication, Division	1	
elete Records Individually	YES		Built In Calculator (Automatic)	YES	
(Verification Allowed)	YES	10	(Use In Editing, Or Adding Data)		
leting Records Globally	TES		Find the Integer Value Of A	YES	
(Verification Allowed)			Numeric Expression	- warden -	2 se a madeit
TILITIES SECTION	1		Find The Log Base 'e' Of 'x'	YES	and the second second
d Fields To Existing Data Base	YES		Find The Log Base '10' Of 'x'	YES	
elete Fields From Existing Data Base	YES		Find The Absolute Value Of 'n'	YES	
eformat A Data Base	YES		Exponentential Notation Used	YES	
(Copy Format Of Existing Data Base)	VED		Find The Square Root Of 'n'	YES	
ake Additional Copies Of Data Base	YES		Formulas Allowed Between Fields	YES	
(Create Data Base For Extended Records)	VED		$[Field \times /+ - *// Field y = Field z]$		
ort on Multiple Criteria	YES		$[Field \times /+ - *// N = Field Y]$		
(Sort On Basis Of 4 Fields In A Sort)	YES			1. A 100 -	. Norman Street
orts On Multiple Criteria (Assending Or Descending)	TLO		SPECIFICS Maximum Number Of Fields Day Desped	32	AN STREAM
epth Of Sort Can Be Changed	YES		Maximum Number Of Fields Per Record Maximum Number Of Formulas In A File	16	
(Designate Number Of Charters Deep To Sort)	11.0		Maximum Length Of A Field	127	and the second
erge Information From Other Data Bases	YES		Maximum Record Length	511	
(Merge Standard Text Files)	120		Maximum Number Of Level Breaks	4	State and the second
dd Or Delete Fields From Data Base	YES		Records Per Diskette	VAR.	energeneration (1978)
erge Previous Entered Data From Existing File	YES		(Depends On Length And Number Of Fields)		
ack Up A Data Base	YES		Data Bases Allowed On Each Diskette	ONE	2.72 - 1.440
(Make A Back Up Of Current Source Data)	it.d		(Can Be Expanded To Additional Diskettes)	a state and	The start of the
ack A Data Base	YES	1	Form Letter Capability	YES	AND THE MILLION
Remove Deleted Records From Disk Storage	1.0		(Compatible With Letter Perfect)		

LJK ENTERPRIES, INC. ST. LOUIS, MO. 63129 [314] 846-6124 Atari - A Trademark of Atari Inc., Full View 80 a Trade Mark of Bit 3 Computers, Fill Manager 800 A Trademark of Synapse Software, Letter Perfect, Data Perfect A Trademark of LJK Enterpries, Inc.

ASSEMBLY LANGUAGE



This is a handy Sort Utility intended to be called from Basic and allows you to sort almost anything that can fit in your computer's memory. The flexibility of the Sort should cover many applications. Records may be any size up to 256 bytes. The sort fields may be any size up to the length of the record. You can sort on as many different fields as you need, and each field can be independently sorted in ascending or descending sequence.

The sorting technique is the traditional Bubble Sort which works by looking through a file of records in memory, and comparing the sort field of each record to the one following it. If any two adjacent records are not in sequence, the sort will exchange the positions of those two records. The sort continues to scan the file until there are no more records to exchange. In this way, records with the higher sort fields get pushed towards the end of the file, and records with the lower sort fields get pushed towards the beginning of the file. All of this takes place in memory so that it appears that the records BUBBLE into place.

The Sort only requires 182 bytes and the machine language is relocatable, therefore you can load and execute this sort anywhere in memory. Although you can put the Sort in any program you like, your file size is going to be limited by available memory. For large files, it is best to write a small Basic program that contains only this Sort, a String large enough to hold your file, and whatever Basic statements it takes to load a file, call the Sort and write out the new sequenced file.

Although the Sort works very fast, its speed can be improved by about 30% by turning Antic off. Just before calling the sort, save the value at PEEK(559) then POKE in a zero. All this does is shut down the screen display, but in so doing, it makes about 30% more CPU cycles available to the Sort. After the sort, POKE the saved valued back into 559 and the screen display will turn back on.

All sort parameters are passed to the Sort in the Basic USR call in the following sequence: 1. Address of the String containing the file. 2. Length of the records. 3. Number of records to be sorted. The next parameters specify the fields to be sorted by; 4.1. Position of the first byte of the field. 4.2. Length of the field. 4.3. '0' for ascending sequence, or '1' for descending sequence. Sort Fields are specified in Major to Minor order. That is, if you want to sort on State, and Zip Code within State, then State is the Major order and should be the first set of Sort Field parameters. The only limitation on the number of sort fields is the number of parameters that fit in the Basic statement calling the Sort.

The program in Listing 2 loads the machine language code for the Sort in Lines 1 to 9. The rest of the program demonstrates one of many techniques that can be used to read an unsequenced file, sort and rewrite a sequenced file.

Type and run the program and, at the prompt, enter the first and last names of about 9 friends. The first names will be sorted ascending, the last names will be sorted descending and then displayed on the screen.

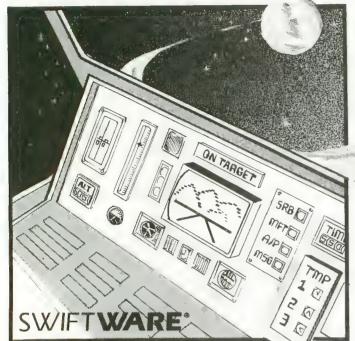
- 10 REM SORT UTILITY DEMONS TRATION
- 20 DATA 216,104,56,233,3,1 33,217,104,133,204,104, 133,203,104,133,215,104 ,133,214,104,133,210,10 4,133,209,162,0
- 30 DATA 104,104,157,0,1,23 2,228,217,208,246,56,16 5,209,233,2,133,209,165 ,210,233,0,133,210,48,1 08,165,209,133,211
- 40 DATA 165,210,133,212,16
 5,204,133,206,133,208,1
 65,203,133,205,24,101,2
 14,133,207,165,208,101,
 215,133,208,160
- 50 DATA 0,185,0,1,190,2,1, 134,218,190,1,1,200,200 ,200,132,216,168,136,17 7,205,209,207,240,12,16 5,218,208,4,144
- 60 DATA 16,176,46,144,44,1
 76,10,200,202,208,234,1
 64,216,196,217,208,210,
 198,211,169,255,197,211
 ,208,6,166,212,240
- 70 DATA 11,198,212,165,208
 ,133,206,165,207,24,144
 ,172,165,213,240,4,134,
 213,208,148,96,134,213,
 160,0,177,205,170
- 80 DATA 177,207,145,205,13 8,145,207,200,196,214,2 08,241,240,203
- 90 DIM SORT\$(182):FOR I=1
 TO 182

ASSEMBLY LANGUAGE

100	READ A:SORT\$(I,I)=CHR\$($\begin{array}{c} 0100\\ 0105\end{array}$			LED FROM BASIC
110	A):NEXT I REM	0110	FNTRY PA	RAMETERS:	
110	KEP	0115		·····	
120	REM INPUT A FILE TO BE		•	E ADDRESS	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	SORTED	0125	: 2. REC		<=256 BYTES
130	DIM FILE\$(270),NAME\$(15	0130			ORDS TO SORT
	>	0135			FIELDS TO SORT IN
140	FILE\$=" ":FILE\$(270)=FI			OR TO MINOR	
	L.E.\$	0145	* 4	AL FIELD PO	OSITION
150	FILE\$(2)=FILE\$	0150	1 4	L2 ETELD LI	DSITION ENGTH DING 1=DESCENDING
160	GRAPHICS 0	0155	: 4	L3 DEASCENI	OTNG 1=DESCENDING
170	? "ENTER THE NAMES OF 9	0160	*		and and the second s
	FRIENDS"		0F	C \$0400	
180	FOR I=0 TO 8:LE=I*30+1		FILE =	203	FTLE START ADDRESS
190	? I+1;" FIRST NAME ";:I		FNTR1 =	205	;FILE START ADDRESS ;POINTERS TO TWO
200	NPUT NAME\$ FILE\$(LE,LE+14)=NAME\$	0120	PNTR2 =	207	ADJACENT RECORDS.
210	? I+1;" LAST NAME ";:IN	0105	RECNER =	209	NUMBER OF RECORDS
210	FUT NAMES		SCOUNT =	211	;RECORD COUNTER
		0105	BUBLE =	213	OUT OF SEQUENCE
220	FILE\$(LE+15,LE+29)=NAME		RECSIZ =	214	;OUT OF SEQUENCE ;SIZE OF RECORD
	\$		FLDNDX =	216	SORT FIELD COUNTER
230	NEXT I REM	0200	FLOCNT	217	NUMBER OF SORT FIELDS
240		0215	SORTAD =	210	;ASCENDING/DESCENDING
25.0	CEN DOTNT UNCODTED ETLE	0220	CTACK	20 I CO	SAVE SORT FIELDS HERE
250	REM PRINT UNSORTED FILE GRAPHICS 0:? "UNSORTED NAME LIST"	0225	- 0 1 PFUTV	200	JOHAE OOKI LIEEDO HEKE
260	GRAPHICS UPP "UNSURTED	0220	 <i>y</i> 		ETELNC TO CODT
	FOR I=0 TO 8:LE=I*30+1				FIELDS TO SORT
	? FILE\$(LE,LE+29)		CL		
000	Sherver m				ALL BUT THE FIRST
200	REM	0245	SE		THREE PARAMETERS
300	E V has I I	0250	SE	C #3 A FLDCNT	;ARE FIELDS TO
310	REM SORT AND PRINT THE			A FLDUNT	JSURI
	FILE	0260			no oliv teo teo 'ser
320	ANTIC=PEEK(559):POKE 55			SORT PARAMI	
	9,0	0270			FILE START
330	X=USR(ADR(SORT\$),ADR(FI	0275 0280	SI		ADDRESS
	LE\$),30,9,16,15,1,1,15,	0280	FL		·
	0)	0285	FL S1	A FILE	A concernences and processing and the second states of the
340	POKE 559,ANTIC	0290	P*1.		RECORD LENGTH
	? :? "SORTED NAME LIST"	0295	51	FA RECSIZ+1	\$ *
	FOR I=0 TO 8:LE=I×30+1		F1.	A RECSIZ	*
	? FILE\$(LE,LE+29)	0305			NUMBER OF RECORDS
	NEXT I	0310	PL	A RECNBR+1	+ HUMBER OF RECORDS
370	END	0315	PL PL		*
		0320		A RECNBR	*
		0325		IA KEUNEK	9
		0330		FIELDS TO S	ener
		0340)X #0	BUKT
	Herichle sheets - 470077		PICKFIELD		
	Variable checksum = 170377	0350	PL		GET ALL THE SORT
		0355	FL		FIELD PARAMETERS FOR
	Line num range Code Length	0360		TA STACK,X	;POSITION, LENGTH
	10 - 60 SC 578	0365	IN		;AND DIRECTION.
	70 - 180 AM 463	0370		X FLDCNT	ANY MORE
	190 - 300 FB 331	0375			DS ;GO GET THEM
	310 - 390 QT 269	0380			
	010 070 GI 207			UMBER OF RI	ECORDS TO SORT
			y and a start of		listing continued on p

listing continued on page 21

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SPACE SHUTTLE

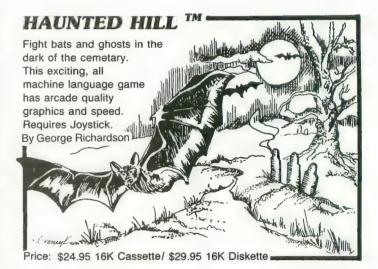
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ASSEMBLY LANGUAGE

listing continued on next page

0390		SEC		AVUOT DE AT LEACT
0395		LDA	RECNER	;MUST BE AT LEAST ;TWO RECORDS TO
0400				TIMU RECORDS TO
0405				SORT
0410		LDA	RECNER+1	*
0415		SBC		;
0420		STA	RECNBR+1	\$
0425		BMI	ENDSORT	ELSE GET OUT
0430	*			
0435	;MAIN L	INE	SORT LOOP	
0440				
0445	SORT	LDA	RECNBR	RESET NUMBER OF
0450		STA	SCOUNT	;RECORDS TO SORT
0455		LDA	RECNBR+1	RECORDS TO SORT
0460		STA	SCOUNT+1	;
0465		L.DA	FILE+1	SET UP POINTERS
0470		STA	PNTR1+1	FOR THE FIRST
0475			PNTR2+1	; AND
0480				SECOND RECORDS.
0485	BUMPREC			
0490			PNTR1	;PUT PNTR2
0495				AHEAD
0500		ADC		;OF
0505				FNTR1
0510		I DA	PNTR2+1	1BY
0515			RECSIZ+1	
0520		STA	PNTR2+1	:RECORD.
0525		CITT	T TYTTYAL TA	
	SEDIEN	ICE (HECK RECORD	30
0330	SEQUEN	ICE (CHECK RECORD)5
0535	*			
0535 0540	*	LDY	# 0	RESET STACK INDEX
0535 0540 0545	NEXTFIE	LDY	# 0	RESET STACK INDEX
0535 0540 0545 0550	NEXTFIE	LDY	# 0	RESET STACK INDEX
0535 0540 0545 0550 0555	; NEXTFIE	LDY LD LDA LDX	#0 STACK,Y STACK+2,Y	;RESET STACK INDEX ;FIELD POSITION. ;SORT DIRECTION
0535 0540 0545 0550 0555 0555	; NEXTFIE	LDY LDA LDA LDX STX	#0 STACK,Y STACK+2,Y SORTAD	;RESET STACK INDEX ;FIELD POSITION. ;SORT DIRECTION ;SAVE IT.
0535 0540 0545 0550 0555 0560 0565	; NEXTFIE	LDY LDA LDA STX LDX	<pre>#0 STACK,Y STACK+2,Y SORTAD STACK+1,Y</pre>	;RESET STACK INDEX ;FIELD POSITION. ;SORT DIRECTION ;SAVE IT. ;FIELD LENGTH.
0535 0540 0545 0550 0555 0560 0565 0560	; NEXTFIE	LDY LDA LDA STX LDX	<pre>#0 STACK,Y STACK+2,Y SORTAD STACK+1,Y</pre>	;RESET STACK INDEX ;FIELD POSITION. ;SORT DIRECTION ;SAVE IT. ;FIELD LENGTH. ;BUMP
0535 0540 0545 0550 0555 0560 0565 0570 0575	; NEXTFIE	LDY LDA LDA STX LDX	<pre>#0 STACK,Y STACK+2,Y SORTAD STACK+1,Y</pre>	;RESET STACK INDEX ;FIELD POSITION. ;SORT DIRECTION ;SAVE IT. ;FIELD LENGTH. ;BUMP ;STACK
0535 0540 0545 0550 0555 0560 0545 0570 0575 0580	; NEXTFIE	LDY LDA LDX STX LDX INY INY	#0 STACK,Y STACK+2,Y SORTAD STACK+1,Y	;RESET STACK INDEX ;FIELD POSITION. ;SORT DIRECTION ;SAVE IT. ;FIELD LENGTH. ;BUMP ;STACK ;INDEX
0535 0540 0545 0550 0555 0560 0565 0570 0575 0580 0585	; NEXTFIE	LDY LDA LDA STX LDX INY INY STY	<pre>#0 STACK,Y STACK+2,Y SORTAD STACK+1,Y FLDNDX</pre>	<pre>;RESET STACK INDEX ;FIELD POSITION. ;SORT DIRECTION ;SAVE IT. ;FIELD LENGTH. ;BUMP ;STACK ;INDEX ;AND SAVE IT.</pre>
0535 0540 0545 0550 0555 0560 0560 0570 0575 0580 0585 0590	; NEXTFIE	LDY LDA LDX STX LDX INY INY STY TAY	<pre>#0 STACK,Y STACK+2,Y SORTAD STACK+1,Y FLDNDX</pre>	<pre>;RESET STACK INDEX ;FIELD POSITION. ;SORT DIRECTION ;SAVE IT. ;FIELD LENGTH. ;BUMP ;STACK ;INDEX ;AND SAVE IT. ;FIELD POSITION TO Y</pre>
0535 0540 0545 0550 0555 0560 0565 0570 0575 0580 0585 0590 0595	; NEXTFIE	LDY LDA LDX STX LDX INY INY STY TAY DEY	<pre>#0 STACK,Y STACK+2,Y SORTAD STACK+1,Y FLDNDX</pre>	<pre>;RESET STACK INDEX ;FIELD POSITION. ;SORT DIRECTION ;SAVE IT. ;FIELD LENGTH. ;BUMP ;STACK ;INDEX ;AND SAVE IT.</pre>
0535 0540 0545 0550 0555 0560 0575 0570 0575 0580 0585 0590 0595 0600	; NEXTFIE	LDY LDA LDX STX LDX INY INY STY TAY DEY	<pre>#0 STACK,Y STACK+2,Y SORTAD STACK+1,Y FLDNDX</pre>	<pre>;RESET STACK INDEX ;FIELD POSITION. ;SORT DIRECTION ;SAVE IT. ;FIELD LENGTH. ;BUMP ;STACK ;INDEX ;AND SAVE IT. ;FIELD POSITION TO Y ;MAKE RELATIVE TO ZERO</pre>
0535 0540 0550 0555 0560 0565 0570 0575 0580 0585 0590 0595 0400 0405	; NEXTFIE	LDY LDA LDX STX LDX INY INY STY TAY DEY CK LDA	<pre>#0 STACK,Y STACK+2,Y SORTAD STACK+1,Y FLDNDX (PNTR1),Y</pre>	<pre>;RESET STACK INDEX ;FIELD POSITION. ;SORT DIRECTION ;SAVE IT. ;FIELD LENGTH. ;BUMP ;STACK ;INDEX ;AND SAVE IT. ;FIELD POSITION TO Y ;MAKE RELATIVE TO ZERO ;COMPARE ADJACENT</pre>
0535 0540 0545 0550 0555 0560 0575 0570 0580 0585 0590 0595 0400 0405 0410	; NEXTFIE	LDY LDA LDX STX LDX INY INY STY TAY DEY CK LDA CMP	<pre>#0 STACK,Y STACK+2,Y SORTAD STACK+1,Y FLDNDX (PNTR1),Y (PNTR2),Y</pre>	<pre>;RESET STACK INDEX ;FIELD POSITION. ;SORT DIRECTION ;SAVE IT. ;FIELD LENGTH. ;BUMP ;STACK ;INDEX ;AND SAVE IT. ;FIELD POSITION TO Y ;MAKE RELATIVE TO ZERO ;COMPARE ADJACENT ;RECORDS</pre>
0535 0540 0545 0550 0555 0560 0570 0575 0580 0590 0595 0400 0605 0615	; NEXTFIE	LDY LDA LDX STX LDX INY STY TAY DEY CK LDA BEQ	<pre>#0 STACK,Y STACK+2,Y SORTAD STACK+1,Y FLDNDX (PNTR1),Y (PNTR2),Y SEQNDX</pre>	<pre>;RESET STACK INDEX ;FIELD POSITION. ;SORT DIRECTION ;SAVE IT. ;FIELD LENGTH. ;BUMP ;STACK ;INDEX ;AND SAVE IT. ;FIELD POSITION TO Y ;MAKE RELATIVE TO ZERO ;COMPARE ADJACENT ;RECORDS ;= KEEP ON LOOKING</pre>
0535 0540 0550 0555 0560 0565 0570 0575 0580 0590 0595 0400 0605 0615 0620	; NEXTFIE SEQCHED	LDY LDA LDX STX LDX INY STY TAY DEY LDA CMP BEQ LDA	<pre>#0 STACK,Y STACK+2,Y SORTAD STACK+1,Y FLDNDX (PNTR1),Y (PNTR2),Y SEQNDX SORTAD</pre>	<pre>;RESET STACK INDEX ;FIELD POSITION. ;SORT DIRECTION ;SAVE IT. ;FIELD LENGTH. ;BUMP ;STACK ;INDEX ;AND SAVE IT. ;FIELD POSITION TO Y ;MAKE RELATIVE TO ZERO ;COMPARE ADJACENT ;RECORDS ;= KEEP ON LOOKING ;GET SORT DIRECTION</pre>
0535 0540 0545 0550 0555 0560 0570 0575 0580 0585 0590 0595 0600 0605 0610 0615 0620 0625	; NEXTFIE SEQCHED	LDY LDA LDX STX LDX INY STY TAY DEY LDA CMP BEQ LDA	<pre>#0 STACK,Y STACK+2,Y SORTAD STACK+1,Y FLDNDX (PNTR1),Y (PNTR2),Y SEQNDX</pre>	<pre>;RESET STACK INDEX ;FIELD POSITION. ;SORT DIRECTION ;SAVE IT. ;FIELD LENGTH. ;BUMP ;STACK ;INDEX ;AND SAVE IT. ;FIELD POSITION TO Y ;MAKE RELATIVE TO ZERO ;COMPARE ADJACENT ;RECORDS ;= KEEP ON LOOKING</pre>
0535 0540 0545 0550 0555 0560 0575 0570 0585 0590 0595 0600 0605 0615 0620 0625 0630	; NEXTFIE SEQCHED	LDY LDA LDX STX LDX INY STY TAY DEY LDA CMP BEQ LDA BNE	<pre>#0 STACK,Y STACK+2,Y SORTAD STACK+1,Y FLDNDX (PNTR1),Y (PNTR2),Y SEQNDX SORTAD DSNDG</pre>	<pre>;RESET STACK INDEX ;FIELD POSITION. ;SORT DIRECTION ;SAVE IT. ;FIELD LENGTH. ;BUMP ;STACK ;INDEX ;AND SAVE IT. ;FIELD POSITION TO Y ;MAKE RELATIVE TO ZERO ;COMPARE ADJACENT ;RECORDS ;= KEEP ON LOOKING ;GET SORT DIRECTION ;GO TO DESCENDING</pre>
0535 0540 0545 0550 0555 0560 0570 0575 0580 0590 0595 0400 0605 0615 0625 0625 0630 0635	; NEXTFIE SEQCHEC ; ; SOR	LDY LDA LDX STX LDX INY STY TAY DEY LDA CMP BEQ LDA BNE	<pre>#0 STACK,Y STACK+2,Y SORTAD STACK+1,Y FLDNDX (PNTR1),Y (PNTR2),Y SEQNDX SORTAD</pre>	<pre>;RESET STACK INDEX ;FIELD POSITION. ;SORT DIRECTION ;SAVE IT. ;FIELD LENGTH. ;BUMP ;STACK ;INDEX ;AND SAVE IT. ;FIELD POSITION TO Y ;MAKE RELATIVE TO ZERO ;COMPARE ADJACENT ;RECORDS ;= KEEP ON LOOKING ;GET SORT DIRECTION ;GO TO DESCENDING</pre>
0535 0540 0550 0555 0560 0570 0575 0580 0590 0595 0600 0615 0620 0625 0630 0635 0640	; NEXTFIE SEQCHEC ; ; SOR	LDY LDA LDX STX LDX INY STY TAY DEY LDA CMP BEQ LDA BNE T IN	<pre>#0 STACK,Y STACK+2,Y SORTAD STACK+1,Y FLDNDX (PNTR1),Y (PNTR2),Y SEQNDX SORTAD DSNDG ASCENDING</pre>	<pre>;RESET STACK INDEX ;FIELD POSITION. ;SORT DIRECTION ;SAVE IT. ;FIELD LENGTH. ;BUMP ;STACK ;INDEX ;AND SAVE IT. ;FIELD POSITION TO Y ;MAKE RELATIVE TO ZERO ;COMPARE ADJACENT ;RECORDS ;= KEEP ON LOOKING ;GET SORT DIRECTION ;GO TO DESCENDING SEQUENCE</pre>
0535 0540 0545 0550 0555 0560 0570 0575 0580 0590 0595 0600 0605 0615 0625 0630 0635 0630 0635 0640 0645 0640 0645 065	; NEXTFIE SEQCHEO ; ; SORT	LDY LDA LDX STX LDX INY STY DEY CK LDA CMP BEQ LDA BNE IN BCC	<pre>#0 STACK,Y STACK+2,Y SORTAD STACK+1,Y FLDNDX (PNTR1),Y (PNTR2),Y SEQNDX SORTAD DSNDG ASCENDING BUMPINDEX</pre>	<pre>;RESET STACK INDEX ;FIELD POSITION. ;SORT DIRECTION ;SAVE IT. ;FIELD LENGTH. ;BUMP ;STACK ;INDEX ;AND SAVE IT. ;FIELD POSITION TO Y ;MAKE RELATIVE TO ZERO ;COMPARE ADJACENT ;RECORDS ;= KEEP ON LOOKING ;GET SORT DIRECTION ;GO TO DESCENDING SEQUENCE ;< BUMP NEXT RECORD</pre>
0535 0540 0545 0550 0555 0560 0575 0570 0585 0590 0595 0600 0615 0620 0625 0630 0635 0640 0645 065	; NEXTFIE SEQCHEO ; ; SORT	LDY LDA LDX STX LDX INY STY DEY CK LDA CMP BEQ LDA BNE IN BCC	<pre>#0 STACK,Y STACK+2,Y SORTAD STACK+1,Y FLDNDX (PNTR1),Y (PNTR2),Y SEQNDX SORTAD DSNDG ASCENDING</pre>	<pre>;RESET STACK INDEX ;FIELD POSITION. ;SORT DIRECTION ;SAVE IT. ;FIELD LENGTH. ;BUMP ;STACK ;INDEX ;AND SAVE IT. ;FIELD POSITION TO Y ;MAKE RELATIVE TO ZERO ;COMPARE ADJACENT ;RECORDS ;= KEEP ON LOOKING ;GET SORT DIRECTION ;GO TO DESCENDING SEQUENCE</pre>
0535 0540 0545 0550 0555 0560 0570 0575 0580 0590 0595 0600 0605 0615 0625 0630 0635 0630 0635 0640 0645 0640 0645 065	; NEXTFIE SEQCHEC ; ; SORT ;	LDY LDA LDX STX LDX INY STY DEY LDA CMP BEQ LDA BNE IN BCC BCS	<pre>#0 STACK,Y STACK+2,Y SORTAD STACK+1,Y FLDNDX (PNTR1),Y (PNTR2),Y SEQNDX SORTAD DSNDG ASCENDING BUMPINDEX</pre>	<pre>;RESET STACK INDEX ;FIELD POSITION. ;SORT DIRECTION ;SAVE IT. ;FIELD LENGTH. ;BUMP ;STACK ;INDEX ;AND SAVE IT. ;FIELD POSITION TO Y ;MAKE RELATIVE TO ZERO ;COMPARE ADJACENT ;RECORDS ;= KEEP ON LOOKING ;GET SORT DIRECTION ;GO TO DESCENDING SEQUENCE ;< BUMP NEXT RECORD ;> SWAP POSITIONS</pre>



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			/ \3	SETTER EXTREME
0665	;			
	DSNDG	BCC	SWAP	<pre>\$< SWAP POSITIONS</pre>
0675		BCS	BUMPINDEX	\$> BUMP NEXT RECORD
0880				
	SEQNDX			CHECK THE LENGTH OF
0690		DEX		THE SORT FIELD AND
0695				KEEP SEQUENCE CHECKING.
0700				ANY MORE FIELDS
0705		CPY	FLDCNT	FILE SUKI
0710		BNE	NEXTETED	;YES, GO TO IT
0715				
		THR	DUGH THE SO	() FILE
0725				
	BUMPIN		CONTRACT	toousin nousi program
0735 0740		DEU	SCUUNI	COUNT DOWN RECORDS
		LDA	#255	AND CHECK FOR
0745		UMP	SCOUNT	END OF FILE.
0750		ENE.	NOTEOF	
0755		LUX	SCOUNT+1	;
0760		DEC	CKSWAP SCOUNT+1	*
0765				
0//0	NUIEUF			BUMP PNTR2 AND
0775		SIA	PNIR1+1	FNTR1 TO THE
0780 0785				;NEXT RECORDS.
		CLC		
0790		だしし	BUMPRECORD	
0795		n or	Entry Inc. Column and	A SWAP WAS MADE
0805	* FEI E.IVI	u ur	LTTE OFF T	H SWHE WHS HEDE
	* CKCUAE		DI IDI ID	JIF NO RECORDS SWAPPED
0815	CROWHE	DEO	ENDCODT	THEN IS END OF SORT,
.0820				; THEN IS END OF SURT, ;ELSE SEQUENCE CHECK
0825			SORT	THE FILE AGAIN.
	ENDSOR		JUNI	+ FIE FILE HUHLIN+
0835		RTS		
0840		r(1.5		BACK TO BASIC
		neo		
		NE.UUI	RDS IF OUT (Jr SEWUENUE
0850		OTV	DUDU E	TOTTLE OUT OF OFOUTNOT
	SWAP			STILL OUT OF SEQUENCE
	CHADLOI		+∎ U	
	SWAF'L.OI		(DALTED 4 N. M.	TUTO DOUTTNE
0870		LDA		;THIS ROUTINE
0875		TAX		;EXCHANGES THE
0880			(PNTR2),Y	; POSITIONS OF TWO
0885		STA	(FNTR1),Y	OUT OF SEQUENCE
0890		TXA		ADJACENT RECORDS
0895		STA		
0900		INY		• 12 mmm, 1, mmm, material means
0905		CPY		;KEEP LOOPING FOR
0910				;THE LENGTH OF RECORD.
0915	-		BUMPINDEX	GO GET NEXT RECORD
0920	(TMZ)	+EN		A A Marine A
	· ···		0	E (Q2.
	0 0 0 0	0 9	0	
	e _	o c	Alla a	
	0	8		

ASSEMBLY LANGUAGE

SYSTEMS GUIDE



ost enlightened users know the ATARI computers have a crystal-controlled clock that reports to the CPU with an interrupt each time a vertical TV scan begins. The scan rate is a constant sixty times per second, so this looks like an ideal basis for an accurate time-of-day clock.

But anyone who has tried this will have stumbled across a few obstacles. For a start, crystal-controlled accuracy isn't that good. Run your program for an hour or so and you will find that it's about five seconds slow. Also, an accurate clock should keep running independently of other computer activities. It is not very helpful if, when the program stops, so does the clock. It would be even more disastrous if the clock module code was erased.

What is wrong with our "precise" 60 Hz scan rate? It is not, as you might think, simply sloppy engineering! In fact the frequency is a tightly maintained 59.92 Hz. The reason for this odd value goes back in electronic history.

A twisty tale of time

In the days before color TV, the vertical scan rate was indeed exactly 60 Hz. Color meant that a lot more information now had to be packed into the space originally allocated for black and white transmission, without upsetting older receivers tuned to the same signal. A color frequency with its own set of harmonics and sidebands would, given a chance, insinuate themselves onto the other signals, causing "herringbone" patterns in the picture. These effects were minimized by careful juggling of the various frequencies involved.

Unfortunately, the ATARI gets a little more complicated. Unlike a standard color TV transmission, where the color signal is carefully kept unrelated to the line frequency, the Atari wants an exact number of color clocks per line, so that it can generate colors digitally. The color clock itself must adhere to the standard pretty closely, because this is critical for proper color, but now all the other frequencies are divided down from this, ending up with that vertical scan frequency of 59.92 a second (compared with a broadcast TV rate of 59.94).

We have a simple cure for this tardiness. Every time we compute that our time-keeping has slipped one "tick" (i.e. one vertical scan period) out of step, just add an extra one into the count. The proper interval between corrections is almost thirteen seconds. With this correction we get well within the accuracy of the crystal, and should keep time within a couple of seconds per day.

Hanging on to the reins

What about keeping the clock running and on time, independent of other activities? The main hangup is that most processing related to the vertical-scan interrupt is inhibited when urgent tasks - like servicing the disk - have to be done. Normally our clock must be treated in the same way. There is a

by PETE GOODEVE

critical path for the clock interrupt which is not blocked at these critical times, but if we did all our timekeeping there we would quickly run into serious trouble, by interfering with all our peripheral communications.

The solution is to split our processing, doing only the essential counting of seconds in the unblockable path, and all the rest in the non-critical way. If the main process finds that it has missed some seconds while it was blocked, it just does some extra cycles to catch up. (By the way, if you knowledgeable readers know that the ATARI operating system already has several clocks and timers based on the same interrupt, and are wondering why we don't just use one of them, the reason is that they are all either used for something else, or are cleared by "RESET"; so constructing one of our own is a necessity.)

The ability to postpone updating our clock, that we have gained with this split-processing approach, turns out to be useful in another way. The time that is so diligently kept by our clock has to be read at some point --- usually by a BASIC program. The trouble is that more than one number is involved (hours, minutes and seconds). At the speed with which we can do things in BASIC there is a good possibility that by the time the last number is read, the first is no longer valid! To correct this problem we simply add a flag that, when set, freezes the clock. We set this before picking up the time values and

continued on page 65

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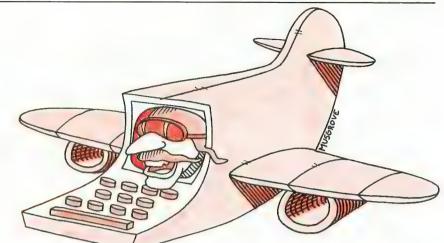
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PILOT YOUR ATARI





This article will open the door to string parsing, a powerful way to analyze PILOT strings. Along the way, we'll read and write on the disk/cassette, do some Boolean algebra, change data types and reveal a beautiful PILOT bug. And, oh yes, we'll play four-voice music.

As always, we'll be way "beyond the book." Since it will be getting pretty deep, I'll give page references to Atari's PILOT Primer.

A string is a combination of letters, numbers, symbols, words, etc., "strung together." In PILOT, a "string variable" is made by giving it a name (always beginning with "\$") in an A:ccept or C:ompute instruction (pp. 69–76). The book tells how to concatenate ("grow") strings. We'll discuss how to parse ("cut") strings so you can analyze each part of a string. This could be useful for analyzing sentences, riddles, or in this case, for storing data for a program's use (PILOT lacks a "Data" statement).

String parsing relies on the Match String command which produces three pre-named variables, \$Left, \$Match, and \$Right (pp. 41–44, 81–82). Parsing programs work as follows (refer to the Pilot Player listing):

1. Place the string into the "accept buffer" (line 1270). 2. Match on the "separator." In this case, I used the blank as a separator. In line 1280, we skip over the initial blank, which the A:ccept instruction inserts in each string, and M:atch on the second blank. (Note the right arrow in the instruction which doesn't print in front of the "__").

3. Check for the end of string (the JN: in line 1290).

4. Store the remainder of the string (found in \$Right) in a safe place (line 1300).

5. Use \$LEFT as the parsed word, letter, etc. (lines 1310–1370).

6. Jump back to step 1.

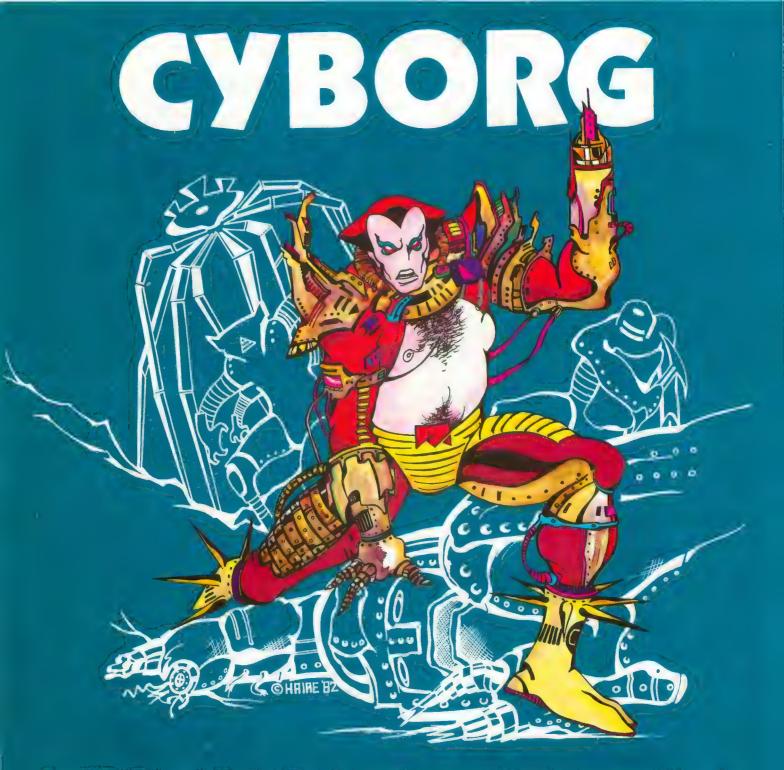
Although this may seem complicated, it's conceptually as easy as BASIC.

To play a C,D,E,F chord for a sixteenth, the Pilot Composer produces a string looking like this: "1 3 5 6 16 !". The first four values are the usual notes (pp. 106–107) for each of the ATARI's four voices. The "16" is the inverse duration of the note (1/16 of a note). The "!" is a "terminator" to tell us that we're out of notes. Our problem: parse it and play it. The *Loop2 routine (lines 1250–1390) cuts the string and sets up variables for each voice and for the PAUSE command. After each Match String, the variables look this way (the underlines represent blanks):

	\$PLAYVALUES BEFORE MATCH			\$RIGHT	\$LEFT USED FOR
	_1_3_5_6_16_		NULL	NULL	
1	_1_3_5_6_16_	_1_		35616	#A
2	_3_5_6_16_	3		5616	#B
3	5_616	5		616	#C
4	616	6		16	#D
5	16	16			#L
6		_16_			NO MATCH

Simply put, each value marches to the left into the \$LEFT bucket and then gets used. Notice that the "no match" in pass six did not change any of the special string variables.

The Pilot Composer parses strings in a similar fashion but on each letter. In this case, the match parsing instruction (line 1200) skips two spaces (the leading blank and the first letter) and M:atches on the next character to put all remaining characters in \$MATCH (the comma does that). Once the string is split, a simple \$LEFT inspection finds the character and then restores the balance of the string. The *TRANSLATE module (lines 1400-1690) performs a similar M:atch to find good notes and durations in \$GOODNOTES and \$GOODDURATION, and then to translate them into note and duration values. The translation lookup in \$NOTEABLE is "fail safe" - it first M:atches on the note followed by "/" and then M:atches on the subsequent ".". This forces the value (a 5, say) into LEFT. This was required, since at M:atch for 1 or 8 without the "." would have found the value of notes C and continued on page 27



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PILOT YOUR ATARI

G. Of course, I could have designed the string in reverse order — that's an improvement for you.

Let's digress to the music before going on with the programming. The Pilot Music "System" now has two simple programs. Pilot Composer accepts four-note chords composed of the eight basic notes (no sharps or flats), followed by a duration (a whole note, half note, etc.). It checks these data, catches most errors, and rings a "bell" when it's ready for another chord. It won't find short chords, so make sure you enter four notes and a duration, or change the *TRANSLATE module between lines 1670 and 1680. Chords are written to the disk or cassette every 10 chords. This is required since the maximum length of an accept buffer is 254 characters.

The Pilot Player asks for a tempo (how fast to play) and a file of music. It then opens that file and plays the notes stored there.

Back to the Pilot Composer program. Under PILOT (pp. 73), strings are concatenated by naming two strings in a C:ompute (or A:ccept) instruction (e.g.: C:\$ONE = \$ONE \$TWO). If, however, one of the strings is "undefined" because it has never been used before, it has the value of a text literal rather than the value of a string. In the example, if \$TWO had the value JOHN but \$ONE was undefined, the new value of \$ONE would be \$ONEJOHN — hardly what we wanted! I avoid this by initializing strings used in this way (see lines 130 & 140).

PILOT input and output (I/O) is handled with READ:, WRITE: and CLOSE: instructions. Each instruction requires a "device name" (a "C:" for cassette or a "D:" for disk) and, for disk, a file name. These are separated from following data by a comma. The data can be text literals, numeric or string variables. In a single file, READ: must be separated from WRITE: by a CLOSE:. You can try this in immediate mode or in a program:

DISK

WRITE:D:TEST,ABCD CLOSE:D:TEST READ:D:TEST,\$STRING T:\$STRING

CASSETTE

WRITE:C:,ABCD CLOSE:C: READ:C:,\$STRING T:\$STRING

We'll have more on I/O in a future article to discuss a hidden glitch. For now, just do as line 430 does and put all device specifications in a single string.

Keeping a clean screen in a program often requires erasing a line on the screen. It's not so simple in PILOT since the "blank line" string automatically defaults to one character. Lines 750 and 1230 show an easy way; just print a series of blanks followed by a non-printing character such as an arrow. Line 750, for instance, prints the #A followed by a blank and a left arrow. When the line is printed, the right-most character is blanked out, and the left arrow holds the space, but doesn't show. You can type an arrow by hitting the ESC key then holding down the CTRL key while hitting the desired arrow key. Repeat all three strokes for each arrow.

Although the Primer tells us that variables come in two flavors — strings (pp. 69–81) and numerics (pp. 85–92), we never find out how to change one into the other. It's simple but tricky. String variables can be made from numeric variables by C:omputing or A:ccepting them:

A string variable can be turned into a numeric variable ONLY by A:ccepting it:

A:#A =SONE

After this instruction, #A will have the numeric value from \$ONE; non-numeric data will be disregarded (see the Player program, lines 1310–1350).

Line 1140 in the Player program presents a powerful way to combine "relational operators" to make "conditional statements" (pp. 89–90). Linking conditions with "+" signs creates "logical ors". For instance, line 1140 would be read, "if #T = 256 OR if #T = 128 OR if #T = 64 then J:ump . . .". In other words, if #T equaled any one of the three numbers, the program would find a "true" and J:ump. Neat! But, you can't do it the other way, with a JN: instruction to execute on a "false," because the "N" looks at the M:atch register, not at the conditionals.

You can get "logical ands" by multiplying the conditionals:

$$\Gamma(\#T = 100)^*(\#U = 200)^*(\#V = 50)$$
:ALL THREE

This statement would be read: "if #T = 100 AND if #U = 200 AND if #V = 50 then T:ype ALL THREE".

At last, the BUG. (A friend says that micros are too small to have bugs. She claims that they have fleas!) Right there on page 31 the Primer tells us that the computer "ignores" remarks. Although that may be accurate in the linguistic sense, it's not so in the operative sense. In line 1150 in the Composer program the remark set off by a "[" MUST be typed without spaces. It seems that the [turns any intervening spaces into significant space and, therefore, part of the accept buffer. Ditto for other commands. I don't know if it's a bug or a flea — I know it's a bear to figure out! (Atari's internal manuals even have it wrong!) Be safe, don't use brackets when in doubt.

listing on page 68

AUDIO WHILE YOU CLOAD

by JOHN VICTOR

"Your mission, Jim, if you choose to accept it . . ."

There is no question that the microcomputer community dislikes computer cassettes — and with good reason. In the early days of computing when hobbyists had no other storage medium, hours of frustration were spent trying to save or load programs from cassettes. When disk storage became available, most hobbyists gladly junked their cassettes. Many manufacturers have quietly stopped supporting their cassette systems.

Unfortunately, this has prejudiced software developers against the use of the Atari cassette system. However, I consider this component one of Atari's strongest points. The Atari system, unlike most others, uses a cassette player made specifically to run on the ATARI. This makes cassette recording and playback much more reliable.

But the strongest point is this: the Atari cassette is recorded in stereo. The digital information for programs is stored on the right track. Sound recorded on the left track is played back through the user's TV set. The existence of the leftside sound track means that recorded voice or music can be played at any time while the computer is on — either during the running of a program or during the loading of a program.

One technique that we use at PDI is to put voice instructions on the left sound track to play while a cassette is loading. This means that we do not have to put instructions for using for using the program in the program itself, reducing the memory requirements. At least half of the Atari market consists of 16K ATARI 400 computers. By keeping memory requirements within 16K (and providing programs in cassette format) a software publisher will reach a greater percentage of the Atari market.

The existence of a voice track gives the program user something to do in the time it takes to load the program. This can set the mood for the game itself. In MOONBASE I0 we use the voice to give the player a "recorded message" from Earthbase control as to the nature of the mission (just like MISSION IMPOSSIBLE). Most of the four and a half minutes it takes to load the program is spent doing something related to playing the game.

To create and use the voice track during the cassette load, several things have to be done. First, the sound that the

John Victor is President of Program Design, Inc., a software manufacturer whose products for the ATARI computers include MOONBASE IO and Pumpkin Stand, both of which use the techniques described in this article. computer makes during a cassette load has to be turned off. This is done with a POKE 65,0. This can be put in a loader program placed first on the cassette. This loader program will contain a visual display, the POKE 65,0, and a CRUN routine that will automatically load and run the main program.

The following is the CRUN routine. POKE 764,32 will automatically produce a carriage RETURN so that the next program will begin loading. The ASCII values in the REM statement are those for the machine language CRUN routine found in the USR routine. (USR routines are used to run machine language from BASIC.)

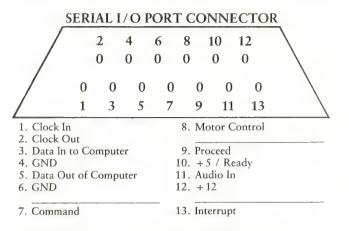
> 1000 REM ROUTINE TO CRUN NEX T PROGRAM 1005 FOKE 65,0 1010 FOKE 764,32 1020 X=USR(ADR(""))7H)TH) 6;)A")) 1030 REM ASC VALUES FOR ABOV E STRING 1040 REM 162,253,154,169,183 ,72,169,84,72,169,4,32, 182,187,169,255,76,4,18 7

After the first program is loaded and run, instructions will be put on the screen and the next program load started. Any recorded sound in the left channel will now be heard clearly in the TV set. Positioning of the recording is important.

Atari programs have a two-second string of zeros recorded at the end of each cassette program. The programs stop loading two seconds before the recorded program ends. This means that the recorded voice or music can begin just before the first program ends, but must end two seconds before the main program's record track. Otherwise the computer is going to turn off the voice track before it finishes.

The Atari 410 Program Recorder can play back voice and music but cannot be used to record it. This must be done on a stereo tape deck or a reel-to-reel recorder. For the sake of quality, master tapes from which cassettes are going to be manufactured should be made on reel-to-reel recorders ONLY! Cassette recorders do not produce good enough SOUND to be copied. There is just too much speed variation and lack of separation between the two stereo tracks on cassette masters. If the user only wants a few copies, then a stereo tape deck is okay, but this is not acceptable for commercial software producers.

The first step in making the master tape is to record the programs. The ATARI computer makes no provision to connect the ATARI to a stereo recorder, so the programmer will have to rig up something. This is not very difficult. The "data out" and the "ground" pins in the peripheral connector are the ones that send the program signal to the recorder.



These can be connected to the recorder with a cable that has alligator clips on one side and an RCA connector on the other. A local Radio Shack or audio dealer may have this, or an audio technician can make one. The alligator clips are then connected to the ATARI pins 5 and 6, and the RCA is plugged into the right recording jack of the stereo unit. It's not a bad idea to put tape over the alligator clips to keep them from touching the wrong points.

Before recording, start the computer outputting and set the VU meter on the recorder at between 7 and 5. Also note the reading on the tape counter.

Record the loader program. The computer will lay down 18 seconds of pilot tone before the program is recorded. However, after the program is loaded, the computer will continue to output pilot tone. Listen to the computer for an indication of when the program stops, and immediately shut off the recorder. Next, record the main program. Using the tape counter, keep track of where on the tape the second program is.

The voice (or music) can now be recorded. To record voice, connect a microphone to the left-side "mic" jack. The recorder must be one that will not erase the right track while the left one is being recorded. This can be determined quite simply — there must be a separate record button for each track.

Using the tape counter as a guide, rewind the tape. Then begin recording voice instructions and / or music on the left track. This must be finished 2 seconds before reaching the end of the recorded program (because that is where the computer is going to stop when the program is loading).

It will also help to have an appropriate graphic on the screen while the main program is being loaded. If directions are being given, the directions might also appear on the screen at the same time.

This technique can enhance a program and make it more interesting. It also adds a "professional" touch to cassettes.

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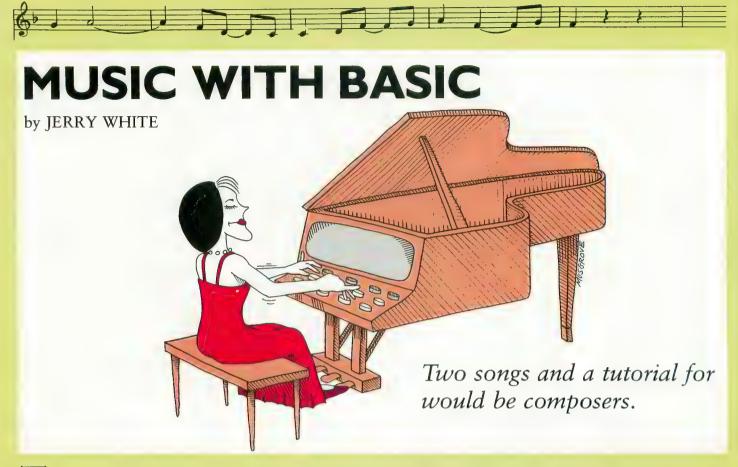
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This tutorial and example program demonstrate one of the many ways of playing music using ATARI BASIC. Those of you with no knowledge of music may simply type in the program and follow the instructions on the screen. If you have some knowledge of music, and you'd like further information on how this program works, read on.

The program begins with a GOTO 370. This bypasses the main program loop, subroutines, and song DATA, and brings us to our setup and screen display. Here we specify GRAPHICS 0, set the background color at random, turn off the cursor, set the left margin at 5, set the print tab width at 7, and NP = 0. The numeric variable NP will be used to count the Notes Played. Lines 380-420 display our program description, author name, and user options. POKE 764,255 tells the computer to ignore the last key pressed.

The routine beginning at line 430 and ending at line 460 waits for the user to press a normal video 1, 2, or 3. Nothing will happen until one of these keys is pressed. The checking is done by peeking at location 764 until it contains a 31, 30, or 26. These are the internal keycodes for 1, 2, and 3. By checking the last key pressed, we eliminate the need to press the RETURN key.

Once we have a valid key, we position the cursor at the appropriate option number on the screen, and print that number using inverse video. The numeric variable PLAY is used to store the number of notes we are about to play.

If option one was selected, we do not have to use a RESTORE command since the DATA for this song preceeds any other DATA. If either of the other options has been chosen, we use the RESTORE command to point to the line number where the appropriate DATA begins.

If the number 3 key was pressed, we also must set a flag to indicate a special condition. Since this program reruns itself when a song is over, we set the variable EXIT = 1 in line 450 before GOTO 120 instruction.

Look at line 120. In English, it says that if the number of Notes Played is equal to the number of notes we wanted to PLAY, then go to line 470. Line 470 begins with "IF EXIT". This is the same as saying "IF EXIT <> 0". So IF EXIT = 0, the program falls through to line 480 where we have a RUN command. If EXIT <> 0 then we reset the left margin, turn the cursor back on, tell the user that BASIC has control, and END the program.

Now that we know how the program starts and how it ends, let's see what happens in between. Let's assume you have chosen option number 3. As you pressed the number 3 key, an ASCII 26 was automatically stored in location 764. At line 450 we hit a true condition and highlight the number 3 on the screen, set PLAY = 10, RESTORE 360, set EXIT = 1, and GOTO 120.

The routine from line 120 through 150 is called the main program loop. We haven't played any notes yet so NP = 0 and we fall through to line 130. Here we read two bytes of DATA. This will result in the variable PITCH being set to 91 and DUR being set to 12. Remember, we are reading the DATA that begins in line 360. Also in line 130 we add 1 to NP.

In line 140, we see if PITCH = 0, and if it is, we GOTO our REST routine which begins at line 170. PITCH = 91



so we GOTO our SOUND routine at line 200.

We will POKE the value of DUR into a countdown timer at RAM location 540. Countdown timers count backwards at the rate of 60 per second until zero is reached. In other words, when we POKE 540,DUR, since DUR = 12, exactly 12/60 of a second later, the countdown timer will reach zero. In that same line we calculate the pitches we will use in SOUND registers 1 and 2, and store the value of PITCH + 1 in P1 and PITCH-1 in P2.

At line 210 we turn the tables and set DUR = PEEK(540), and check to see if it is equal to zero. At this point it isn't zero yet, so we continue on to line 220 and see if $DUR \ge 6$. Six will be our maximum volume of each of three SOUND commands. In any case, we continue on to execute three SOUND commands, then go back to line 210 and check the value in our countdown timer again. We stay in this loop until we find that our countdown timer has reached zero.

When PEEK(540) = 0, we GOTO line 240 where all sounds are turned off, and we can finally go back to where this whole thing started, line 120.

Remember line 120? That's the main program loop. We have played one note and have nine to go. But what if the PITCH is a 0? When we want no sound for a period of time (a REST), we enter a zero as the pitch, and use the routine beginning at line 170 to rest for the period of time specified by DUR. By the way, 60ths of a second are also known as "jiffies."

By using DUR as the volume value in the SOUND commands, we get a slight decay or decreasing volume at the end of each note. By using two additional SOUND channels, and setting their frequency levels slightly higher and lower than the desired pitch, we achieve a richer, fuller sound.

This program demonstrates only one method of playing music on your computer. BASIC can be used to play true four-part harmony and even display the lyrics of your songs on the screen at the same time. This is demonstrated by Swifty Software's Singalong Sound & Music Tutorial package.

ATARI's Music Composer provides another way to play music and displays musical notes on your screen. Unfortunately, you can't put the Music Composer Cartridge and BASIC in at the same time. But I found a way around that problem too.

P.D.I.'s Music Box will convert your Music Composer files and play them for you using Vertical Blank Assembler Subroutine. This is done while the BASIC cartridge is installed. The best part is that once the music begins, BASIC is at your disposal. You can even write a BASIC program while the music continues to play.

The possibilities provided by your computer's audio channels are almost limitless. Take advantage of this and let us know what you come up with.

- 10 REM ATARI BASIC MUSIC b y Jerry White 5/4/82 20 GOTO 310
- 30 REM MAIN PROGRAM LOOP
- 40 IF NP=PLAY THEN 420
- 50 READ PITCH, DUR:NP=NP+1
- 60 IF PITCH=0 THEN 90
- 70 GOTO 130
- BO REM REST TIME DELAY SUB ROUTINE
- 90 POKE 540,DUR
- 100 IF PEEK(540)<>0 THEN 10 0
- 110 GOTO 40
- 120 REM PLAY NOTE SUBROUTIN
- 130 POKE 540,DUR:P1=PITCH+1 :P2=PITCH-1
- 140 DUR=PEEK(540):IF DUR=0 THEN 170
- 150 IF DUR>6 THEN DUR=6
- 160 SOUND 0,FITCH,10,DUR:SO UND 1,P1,10,DUR:SOUND 2 ,F2,10,DUR:GOTO 140
- 170 SOUND 0,0,0,0:SOUND 1,0 ,0,0:SOUND 2,0,0,0:GOTO 40
- 180 REM DATA FOR POP GOES T HE WEASEL
- 190 DATA 121,6,91,6,0,6,91, 6,81,6,0,6,81,6,72,6,60 ,6,72,6,91,6,0,6
- 200 DATA 121,6,91,6,0,6,91, 6,81,6,0,6,81,6,72,18,0 ,6,91,6,0,6
- 210 DATA 121,6,91,6,0,6,91, 6,81,6,0,6,81,6,72,6,60 ,6,72,6,91,6,0,18
- 220 DATA 53,12,0,12,81,12,0
- ,6,68,6,72,18,0,6,91,12
- 230 REM DATA FOR TEN LITTLE

INDIANS

- 240 DATA 121,18,121,6,121,6 ,121,18,121,6,121,6,96, 18,81,6,81,6,96,6,96,6, 121,18
- 250 DATA 108,18,108,6,108,6 ,108,18,108,6,108,6,128 ,18,108,6,108,6,128,6,1 28,6,162,18
- 260 DATA 121,6,121,6,121,6, 121,6,121,18,121,6,121, 6,96,18,81,6,81,6,96,6, 96,6,121,18
- 270 DATA 108,18,108,6,108,6 ,162,6,162,6,162,18,121 ,48
- 280 REM DATA FOR EXIT ROUTI NE
- 290 DATA 91,12,0,6,121,6,12 8,6,121,6,108,24,121,24 ,0,24,96,24,91,24
- 300 REM SETUP/DISPLAY/OPTIO NS
- 310 GRAPHICS 0:SETCOLOR 2,R ND(0)*16,0:POKE 752,1:P OKE 82,5:POKE 201,7:NP= 0
- 320 ? :? :? ,"ATARI BASIC M USIC"
- 330 ? :? ," by Jerry White" :? :?
- 340 ? :? "Type 1 for POP GO ES THE WEASEL"
- 350 ? :? "Type 2 for TEN LI TTLE INDIANS"
- 360 ? :? "Type 3 for PROGRA M EXIT";:POKE 764,255
- 370 IF FEEK(764)=31 THEN PO SITION 10,8:? "1";:POKE 764,255:FLAY=43:GOTO 4 0
- 380 IF PEEK(764)=30 THEN PO SITION 10,10:? "2";:PLA Y=44:RESTORE 240:GOTO 4 0
- 390 IF PEEK(764)=26 THEN PO SITION 10,12:? "3";;POK E 764,255:PLAY=10:RESTO RE 290:EXIT=1:GOTO 40
- 400 GOTO 370 410 REM EXIT/RERUN
- 420 IF EXIT THEN POKE 82,2: POKE 752,0:? :? :? "BAS IC":? "IS";:END

430 RUN

Variable checksum = 153160

Line	NUM	range	Code	Length
10	-	120	ர	275
130	-	210	NH	521
220	-	310	GO	602
320	-	410	DS	509
420	-	430	RE	76

ZOUNDS! by ED ROTBERG

Since this issue of ANTIC delves into the mysteries of computer-generated sound, I will share with you some of the inner workings of a major project of mine, the Rotberg Synthesizer. I will have to assume a reasonably high level of programming competency on your part.

The Synthesizer does a pretty good job of shaping POKEY sounds into approximations of real musical instruments. It works much better, in my opinion, than the Atari Music Composer cartridge. The most important reason why is that it can provide "envelopes" for the frequencies, and an amplitude for each note.

The term "envelope" refers to the temporal variation of some aspect of a sound. In this case, the aspects to be varied are frequency and amplitude. The code "ADSR" is the standard way of specifying an amplitude envelope, and the code stands for "Attack, Decay, Sustain and Release."

Figure 1 will give an idea of what these terms mean in the case of a harpsicord-like amplitude envelope. The rest of the article will present an approach to creating such envelopes in a music generating program like the Rotberg Synthesizer.

The whole project started as a gag while I was working at the Atari Coin-Op Division. One of our colleagues, a

Ed Rotberg is an Electrical Engineer with many years of computer programming experience. He was with Atari, Inc. from 1979 to 1981 as a software developer and consultant on the ATARI 800 project. Among his programs are the Rotberg Scrolling Marquee and the Rotberg Synthesizer. He helped create sound effects, using the ATARI, for the movie TRON, and is a partner in Videa, Inc., a new electronic entertainment firm in Sunnyvale, CA. disco freak, was compounding his bad judgment by getting married. Such was the birth of the Synthesizer, which was used to compose our congratulatory lament, the Disco Dirge, written by Dan Pliskin, another ex-Atarian.

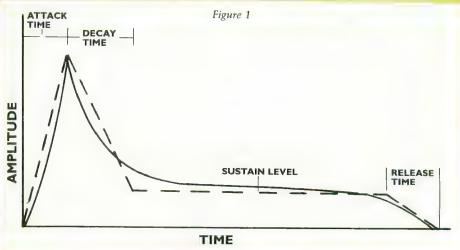
Some stubborness prevents me from just listing the program for you. I guess I'd rather lead you to an understanding of how to do it for yourself. I will be referring to various registers in the POKEY chip, and certain functions of the POKEY, but I will in no way describe that chip. Also, I will not be relating any of this to BASIC techniques, which are hopelessly slow for this kind of work. Nor will I discuss any sound editing techniques, but only the means of generating the musical sounds.

There are basically two major classes of sound generation used: static and dynamic. The first consists of nothing more than storing a few values to the various POKEY registers, and sitting back and listening. The capabilities of this approach are quickly exhausted. More useful, and far more interesting, are the dynamic sounds, in which the values stored to the POKEY are constantly changed during the duration of the sound. Three approaches to dynamic sound generation are:

- 1) Algorithmic. A short routine calculates the values to be stored. The possibilities are limited only by the imagination of the programmer.
- 2) Table driven. A short program keeps an index into a lookup table to determine what values are to be stored into POKEY during that time interval. New sounds can be generated very quickly by slopping some new values into the tables.
- 3) Interpretive. A small interpreter program reads instructions and data from a command stream, causing the sounds to be generated by a few preset rules. This method keeps the data tables short, compared to a pure table-driven approach.

Let's go over just what the Synthesizer is capable of. It has the ability to produce sound on all 4 channels of the POKEY simultaneously. The basic unit of sound is called a NOTE, since this program was intended to be primarily a *music* synthesizer, though it is capable of generating a wide variety of sounds. The frequency of the NOTE is specified

continued on page 37



The adventures of PROFESSOR VON CHIP & ORBIE





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by 8 bits which may either be a pointer into a table of frequencies, or the actual frequency itself. This is an implementation decision, and each method has its merits and drawbacks. If the actual frequency is stored, the NOTE must also specify the "noise content or distortion" value to be stored in the control register along with the "sustain" volume for each channel. Each NOTE can specify a 4-bit value for its sustain volume, and can have a duration specified by 16 bits.

This duration is relative to the current TEMPO. The TEMPO is specified by an 8-bit value, which is used as a delay loop counter. The TEMPO can only be changed relative to its current value by a 2's complement add of any 8-bit value. Note that in versions of the Synthesizer that run during the vertical blanking interval, such as the Atari POP Demo program, the TEMPO feature is not implemented, as the timing interval is fixed at 60 hertz. Each channel can specify it's own current ENVELOPE table which controls the attack/decay of either amplitude, frequency, or both. Attack and decay are not specified as rates or times, but rather as a table of digitized amplitudes during the attack/decay period. This period can cover a span of a few milliseconds to a few seconds.

Care must be taken not to wrap either of these values, unless of course that is the intended result. At the present time, "Release" is not implemented. The Synthesizer has the ability to REPEAT a section of music up to 100 (hex) times. These REPEATS may be nested without any restriction except that the total number of REPEATS in a piece of music must not exceed 100 (hex). The Synthesizer can also play PHRASES. I have chosen not to implement the four separately tracking stacks necessary to allow for nesting of PHRASES, although this is certainly simple enough to do. Each PHRASE must specify its own RETURN. In addition, any channel's instruction stream can cause AUDCTL to be changed on the fly. That's about it.

In its current form, THE ROTBERG SYNTHESIZER supports 7 instructions:

- 1) Repeat
- 2) Set / change Envelope
- 3) Set / change AUDCTL Register
- 4) Play Phrase
- 5) Return from Phrase
- 6) Change Tempo
- 7) Play 1 note

The Synthesizer processes 4 sets of these instructions simultaneously, one for each channel in POKEY. Each instruction stream is made up entirely of these instructions, in addition to a STOP directive that is only valid when encountered in channel 1's instruction stream.

The data structure format for each instruction follows, where each cell represents one byte. All value/ranges are given in hexadecimal.

REPEAT: op-code = FF

FF	-
nn	-
11	-
hh	-
ii	-

- FF = REPEAT op-code
- nn = repeat count (0 = 100, 1 = NOP,count indicates number of times section is to be played)
- || = low byte of address of 1st instruction of section

hh = hi byte of address

= index into ram table for this secii tion's repeat counter

This instruction has the effect of conditionally repeating a section of the instruction stream a specified number of times. Because each REPEAT instruction has its own loop counter in a RAM table 100 (hex) bytes long, any amount of nesting of these REPEAT instructions is allowed, as long as the total number of REPEATS in any composition is 100 or fewer. Each REPEAT can play its section up to 100 times. This instruction appears at the end of the section to be repeated, and refers to the first instruction of that section in its operand field.

SET ENVELOPE: op-code = FE

FE	
11	
hh	

FE = SET ENVELOPE op-code11 = low byte of address of envelope table

hh = hi byte of address

This instruction sets the pointer to the current ENVELOPE table for that channel. A SET ENVELOPE instruction MUST precede the first note instruction on any channel. ENVE-LOPES may be changed at any time.

CHANGE AUDCTL: op-code = FD

]	FD	
	сс	

FD = CHANGE AUDCTL op-code cc = new audctl value

This instruction is used to change AUDCTL on the fly. This represents powerful, dynamic control of the POKEY. It may be used from any channel, but in practice, it is best only altered from one channel within a piece, as AUDCTL can affect ALL channels.

CALL PHRASE: op-code = FC

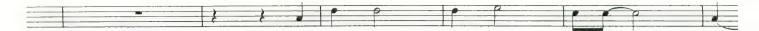
F	FC
(cc
ł	nh

FC = CALL PHRASE op-code

ll = low byte of address of 1st instruction of phrase

hh = hi byte of address

This instruction will transfer control to a PHRASE which can be "called" any number of times. In the current implementation, there is NO nesting of PHRASE calls (i.e. only 1 level of calling a PHRASE). PHRASES themselves, may therefore use any instructions other than CALL PHRASE, and must terminate with a RETURN instruction. Note, that while possible, it is dangerous to have 2 channels use the same PHRASE, especially if that PHRASE continued on next page



contains REPEAT instructions.

RETURN FROM PHRASE: op-code = FB

$FB = RETURN \ op-code$

This instruction is used to return from a PHRASE.

CHANGE TEMPO

FA = CHANGE TEMPO op-code

tt = 2's complement delta change to TEMPO

This instruction is used to change the current TEMPO by a 2's complement delta value. This instruction can appear in any channel, and obviously affects all channels.

NOTE: op-code = < FA

	_
са	
ff	-
dd	-
ee	_

- c = control nibble (upper nibble of volume)
- a = sustain volume
- ff = sustain frequency or pointer to freq. table
- dd = low byte of 16 bit duration
- ee = hi byte of 16 bit duration Duration is relative to TEMPO. For convenience, a value of 100 (hex) is usually used to represent a whole note. This means that for long durations, the high byte (ee) of the duration represents a measure count in 4/4 time.

All instructions not having an opcode for FA or greater are NOTE instructions. ENVELOPES will be applied to all NOTE instructions with one exception! If the first two bytes (ca,ff) are zero, then the NOTE is considered a rest, and no envelope is applied. Note that in processing the instruction stream for each channel, all non-NOTE instructions are processed immediately, until a NOTE instruction is encountered. In other words, all non-NOTE instructions take up NO duration time, and a NOTE instruction MUST be processed for each channel every cycle through the interpreter. Also, when a rest (NOTE ca,ff = 0) of duration zero is encountered in channel 1, it is evaluated as a global STOP instruction, and the piece is over.

Various data structures are used by the interpreter for processing the instruction streams. A brief description of each follows.

PNTR - 8 bytes

Two bytes per channel. This table maintains the current "program counter" for each channel.

NRPT - 8 bytes

Two bytes per channel. This structure contains the duration remaining on the current NOTE of each channel.

RPTBLK - 100 (hex) bytes

There is a one-to-one correspondence between each REPEAT instruction and a unique byte in this table. These bytes contain the counts remaining in each repeat section. When a REPEAT instruction is encountered, this byte is checked. If it is zero, it is then initialized to the value specified in the REPEAT instruction and decremented immediately. If it is non-zero, then it is merely decremented. The interpreter will then execute the REPEAT only if the decrement does not bring the value to zero. Thus, a 1 for a repeat count is an effective NOP, and the repeat count represents the number of times a section is actually played. Obviously, this entire table MUST be erased prior to starting to play a piece.

TREG - 8 bytes

Two bytes per channel. This is a staging area for the values to be stored to all 8 frequency and control registers for the four POKEY voices. Since the processing time for each of the 4 channels in a single interpreter cycle may vary, the POKEY values generated are saved in a holding register until all are calculated, and can be stored to POKEY with a single move loop.

ENVL - 8 bytes

Two bytes per channel. This table maintains the pointer to the current ENVELOPE table.

EINDX - 4 bytes

One byte per channel. This is the current index into the ENVELOPE table. It counts up by 2 from an initial value of 2. The reason for this will become evident in the discussion of the ENVE-LOPE table itself. EINDX is reset to 2 by the start of each new note.

RTNADR - 8 bytes

Two bytes per channel. This table contains the return address to a main instruction stream from a PHRASE. It is zero when in the main instruction stream so that RETURNS and CALL PHRASES can check for validity. Because these return addresses are not stacked, there is no nesting of PHRASE calls allowed.

ENVELOPE tables - 4 to 100 (hex) bytes

The first byte has the table length, a maximum of FE (hex). The EINDX value is compared against this first byte to determine whether the NOTE value is to be modified by the ENVELOPE, or whether the duration has exceeded the attack/decay period and the sustain values for frequency and amplitude are to be used. Each 2 bytes in the table represent both frequency and amplitude modifiers for one duration count. Since a maximum EINDX of FE is allowed, this means that durations longer than 7F cannot be modified by an envelope past that point. The hi byte of each 2 byte value modifies the amplitude (low nibble only), and the low byte modifies the frequency, both by 2's complement addition.

The remaining data structures used are the instruction streams themselves. There must be one per channel, even if the channel is dormant.

There it is, in the proverbial nutshell. This should be enough to get the more adventuresome of you started.



of The Hundreds of Reasons You Ought To Be A **COMPUTE!** Magazine Subscriber:

From "The Editor's Feedback" Card, a monthly part of our continuing dialogue with readers of **COMPUTE!**. These are responses to the question,

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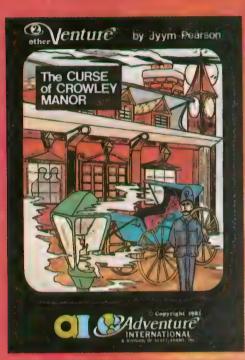
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OTHER WORLDS. OTHER REALITIES.

(FOR EXPERIENCED ADVENTURERS ONLY!)



Venture

THE CURSE OF CROWLEY MANOR

by Jyym Pearson

You've sensed it before: nameless, unreasoning fear. Fear of the unseen of things that sourry and scrabble through the shadows when the lights have been put out. How then will you fare when you face the Ultimate Evil, how will you possibly survive — THE CURSE OF CROWLEY MANOR?

Jyym Pearson, author of ESCAPE FROM TRAAM and many other fine programs, explores a new dimension in fright with a macabre tale of things that go bump in the night. THE CURSE OF CROWLEY MANOR is an excursion into mindwrenching terror as you enter the dreaded Crowley Estate in search of answers to some pretty grisly questions. Fear fans take note: This is the stuff that nightmares are made of, so think twice before you approach...

THE CURSE OF CROWLEY MANOR features Adventuring the way YOU like it, with plenty of clever plot twists, and a scenario that'll roll your socks up and down your legs! If Adventuring has become a bit tame for you lately, this is one sure-fire cure! THE CURSE OF CROWLEY MANOR will run on any ATARI 400 or 800 with ample memory. We supply the software; you supply the atmosphere. (A well-lit room is optional, but recommended!)

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ESCAPE FROM TRAAM

by Jyym Pearson

As soon as your small space cruiser began losing altitude, you knew you were in for serious trouble. You somehow walked away from a flery landing that would've spelled certain death for a less fortunate man, but as one may quickly learn, there are fates far worse than a rapid death...

You've managed to walk away intact from the awesome Curse of Crowley Manor. So far, so good. But will even your finely tuned Adventuring skills give you the necessary edge to ... ESCAPE FROM TRAAM?

ESCAPE FROM TRAAM is a detailed Adventure for the ATARI 400 or 800 computer that defies the player to successfully search a bizarre alien world for a means of escape. The perils are many and the opportunities for survival are few. But for the clever Adventurer, a single opportunity is all that might be needed for a speedy exit from this hellish world. Are you up to the challenge?

All of the traditional Adventure elements are in ESCAPE FROM TRAAM, including two-world command input, game save feature, and an extensive vocabulary. Add to this the impact of a dynamic storyline that'll give even the most experienced Adventurer a real workout! ESCAPE FROM TRAAM — a fine addition to any Adventure collection.

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by Jyym Pearson

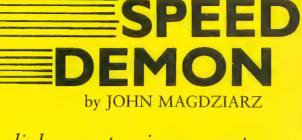




IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN

SPEED &

PLAYER #1



A slick way to circumvent player/missile programming.

SPEED DEMON! is a one-player car-racing game using a joystick in Port One. You are given a high-performance stock car which leaks oil every now and then. At the start your car is warming up at the gate waiting for the count down. In the text window you see a prompt for the skill level you wish. There are two levels, and pressing '1' starts you at the beginners level. Pressing '2' starts you at the pro level, in which your car has a severe oil leak. Once the count reaches zero, "Yer Off!". Your objective is to lap the entire course three times in as little time as possible.

A

13

Avoid hitting the bales of hay that line the entire course, or the oil slicks, left behind by your car. These cause your car to spin out. You can only resume driving when your car has regained traction.

To restart the game, press [START] and get ready to burn rubber!!

- 90 REM SPEED DEMON BY JOHN MAGDZIARZ 1982
- 100 GRAPHICS 1+16
- 110 POSITION 3,8:? #6;"JOHN MAGDZIARZ"
- 120 POSITION 6,10:? #6;"pre sents"
- 130 POSITION 4,12:? #6;"spe ed demon!"
- 140 FOR LOOP=1 TO 1000:NEXT LOOF
- 150 FOSITION 3,16:? #6;"ple ase wait...";FOR T=1 TO 600:NEXT T
- 160 GOTO 180
- 170 FOR LOOP=1 TO 10:NEXT L OOP:RETURN
- 180 GRAPHICS 0:POKE 559,0:R

APOLOGY

The game PAC-INVADERS, published in this department in Issue #3, was the original work of Sheldon Leemon and not Vince Scott as we indicated. Mr. Leemon's version, titled, Outer Space Attack, appeared in Softside Magazine, March 1982.

Mr. Leemon is the author of INSTEDIT, a character editor program from APEX, as well as an upcoming GTIA tutorial from Educational Software.

Softside is a monthly magazine featuring information and programs for users of Apple, TRS-80 and ATARI computers.

We apologize to all concerned for any misrepresentation or confusion.

- EM SHUT OFF SCREEN TEMP ORARILY
- 190 OPEN #1,4,0,"K:":REM OP EN KEYBOARD FOR DIRECT INPUT
- 200 A=PEEK(106):POKE 106,A-5:REM ROOM FOR NEW CHAR ACTER SET
- 210 CP=PEEK(106)+1:POKE 756 ,CP:REM GIVE NEW LOCATI ON OF CHARACTER SET
- 220 CHAR=CP*256
- 230 FOR M=0 TO 1023
- 240 POKE CHAR+M,PEEK(57344+ M):REM COPY CHARACTER S ET FROM ROM TO RAM
- 250 NEXT M
- 260 FOR NC=1 TO 9:READ OLD
- 270 DIF=(0LD+4+64)*8
- 280 FOR M=0 TO 7:READ LINE: REM POKE DATA FOR ALTER ED CHARACTERS SET
- 290 POKE CHAR+DIF+M,LINE:NE XT M
- 300 NEXT NC:REM DATA FOR NE W CHARATERS
- 310 DATA 1,136,136,255,255, 255,255,136,136
- 320 DATA 2,60,60,190,190,60 ,60,190,190
- 330 DATA 3,34,34,191,191,19 1,191,34,34
- 340 DATA 4,190,190,60,60,19 0,190,60,60
- 350 DATA 9,0,0,20,20,20,20, 0,0
- 360 DATA 10,204,204,51,51,2

04,204,51,51

- 370 DATA 11,255,85,255,170, 60,20,60,0
- 380 DATA 12,0,60,20,60,170, 255,85,255
- 390 DATA 13,8,42,168,42,170 ,170,168,40
- 400 GRAPHICS 0:POKE 756,CP: POKE 559,0
- 410 DL=PEEK(560)+PEEK(561)*
 256:REM ALTER DISLPLAY
 LIST
- 420 POKE DL+3,68
- 430 FOR I=6 TO 23:FOKE DL+I ,4:NEXT I
- 440 POKE DL+28,4
- 450 FOR I=0 TO 4:READ COL:R EM SET SCREEN COLORS, R EGISTERS 0-4
- 460 POKE 708+I,COL:NEXT I
- 470 DATA 26,0,198,72,5
- 480 ? ">":DIM HOR\$(40),VERT \$(30):DIM CR1\$(4)
- 490 POKE 559,0:? ">":RESTOR E 550:S1=7
- 500 FOR I2=1 TO 39:HOR\$(I2, I2)=CHR\$(13):NEXT I2
- 510 FOR I=1 TO 30 STEP 3:VE RT\$(I,I)=CHR\$(13):VERT\$ (I+1,I+1)=CHR\$(29):VERT \$(I+2,I+2)=CHR\$(30):NEX T I
- 520 POKE 82,0
- 530 REM DRAW PLAYFIELD
- 540 FOR LOOP=1 TO 8:READ I,

IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN

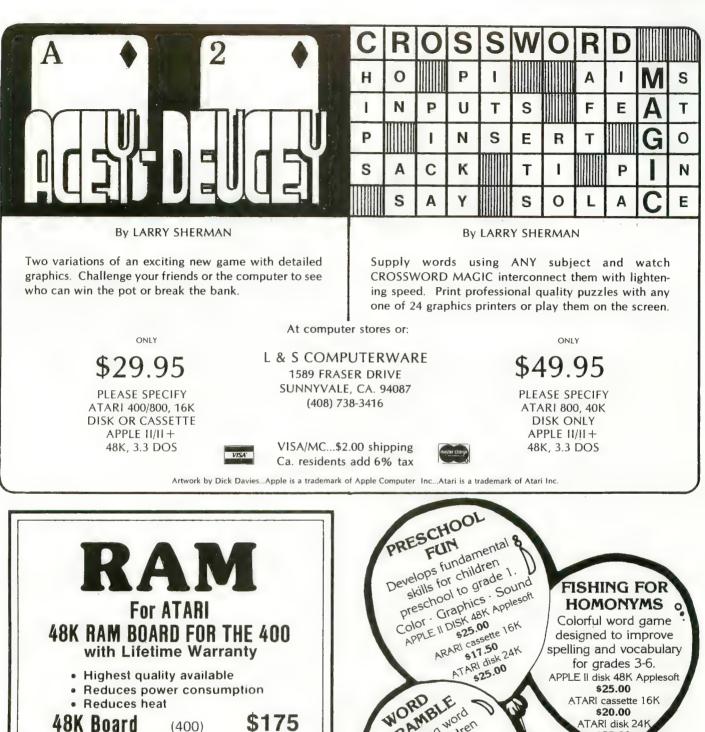
J,K,L:POSITION I,J:? HO R\$(K,L):NEXT LOOP

- 550 DATA 0,0,1,39,28,3,1,9, 3,6,1,20,25,6,1,8,0,9,1 ,19,3,12,1,13,15,15,1,2 2,0,18,1,39
- 560 FOR LOOP=1 TO 27:READ I ,J,K,L:POSITION I,J:? V ERT\$(K,L):NEXT LOOP
- 570 REM DATA FOR PLAYFIELD
- 580 DATA 0,0,1,30,0,10,1,22 ,3,1,1,1,3,3,1,12,6,3,1 ,9,9,1,1,9
- 590 DATA 13,3,1,9,17,1,1,12 ,21,3,1,9,25,1,1,28,25, 11,1,6,29,9,1,18
- 600 DATA 32,7,1,18,36,4,1,6 ,35,6,1,21,36,13,1,6,38 ,1,1,30
- 610 DATA 38,11,1,24,19,10,1 ,6,15,13,1,6,12,14,1,12 ,9,13,1,9
- 620 DATA 6,14,1,12,3,13,1,9 ,22,7,1,6,21,9,1,12,22, 13,1,6
- 630 POSITION 3,19:? "| DRIV ER |TIME|LAP|"
- 640 POSITION 3,20:? "
- 650 POSITION 3,21:? "|PLAYE R #1| 0 | 0 |" 660 POSITION 3,22:? "
- BOD FOSTILOR STEEL
- 670 FOSITION 24,19:? CHR\$(1
 24);CHR\$(29);CHR\$(30);C
 HR\$(124);CHR\$(29);CHR\$(
 30);CHR\$(124);CHR\$(29);
 CHR\$(30);CHR\$(124)
- 680 POSITION 26,20:? CHR\$(1
 4);" SPEED ";CHR\$(14)
- 690 FOSITION 26,21:? CHR\$(2);" DEMON ";CHR\$(22) 700 FOSITION 24,15:? CHR\$(1
- 5):FOSITION 24,18:? CHR \$(16)
- 710 FOR I=1 TO 4:CR1\$(I,I)= CHR\$(I+132):NEXT I:LAP1 =-1:OK=0:AG=0:TIME1=0:L F=1
- 720 FOSITION 23,16:? CR1\$(1 ,1):X1=23:Y1=16
- 730 FOKE 559,34:FOKE 752,1: FOKE 53279,0
- 740 SOUND 0,170,4,4
- 750 FOSITION 26,19:? "WHAT LEVEL?";:GET #1,LEV
- 760 IF LEV=49 THEN SC=45:G0 TO 790
- 770 SC=10
- 780 IF LEV<>1 AND LEV<>50 T HEN 750 790 FOSITION 26,19:? "
- B COTTON TOTAL

- 800 REM
- 810 GOSUB 1280
- 820 FOR G=5 TO 1 STEP -1:PO SITION 23,21:? G:SOUND 0,40,10,4:FOR T=1 TO 10 0:NEXT T:SOUND 0,0,0; GOSUE 170:NEXT G
- 830 POSITION 23,21:? " "
- 840 SOUND 0,85,6,5
- 850 FOKE 20,0:POKE 19,0:REM RESET REAL TIME CLOCK 860 REM START OF GAME ROUTI
- NE
- 870 POSITION 15,21:? PEEK(1 9):IF PEEK(19)>98 THEN 480
- 880 IF PEEK(53279)=6 THEN 4 90
- 890 IF OK1=1 THEN 870
- 900 IF AG=1 THEN 1200
- 910 S=STICK(0):IF S=15 OR S =10 OR S=6 OR S=5 OR S= 9 THEN S=S1
- 920 S1=S
- 930 REM READ JOYSTICK
- 940 ON S-4 GOTO 960,970,980 ,0,990,1000,1010,0,1030 ,1040 950 GOTO 910
- 960 GOTO 870
- 970 GOTO 870
- 980 X1L=X1+1:Y1L=Y1:F1=1:G0 TO 1070
- 990 GOTO 870
- 1000 GOTO 870
- 1010 X1L=X1-1:Y1L=Y1:F1=3:IF (X1=24 OR X1=25) AND (Y1=16 OR Y1=17) THEN 87 0 1020 GOTO 1070
- 1030 X1L=X1:Y1L=Y1+1:P1=4:GO TO 1050
- 1040 X1L=X1:Y1L=Y1-1:F1=2 1050 IF (S=14 OR S=13) AND ((X1=24) AND (Y1=16 OR Y
- =17)) THEN S=7:GOTO 940 1060 REM CHECK COLLISIONS
- 1070 LOCATE X1L,Y1L,Z1:POSIT ION X1L,Y1L:PUT #6,Z1:L X=X1:LY=Y1
- 1080 IF Z1=17 THEN FOSITION X1,Y1:? " ":X1=X1L:Y1=Y 1L
- 1090 IF Z1<>32 THEN 1170
- 1100 REM MOVE CAR
- 1110 POSITION X1,Y1:? " ":PO SITION X1L,Y1L:? CR1\$(P 1,P1):IF P1<>LP THEN GO SUB 1350 1120 LP=P1:X1=X1L:Y1=Y1L
- 1130 IF X1=24 AND (Y1=16 OR
 - Y1=17) THEN LAP1=LAP1+1 SOUND 2,50,12,10:GOSUB

- 170: POSITION 20,21:? L AP1 1140 SOUND 2,0,0,0 1150 IF LAP1=3 THEN POSITION X1, Y1:? " ":SOUND 0,0, 0,0:GOSUB 1290:GOTO 640 1160 GOSUE 1230:GOTO 870 1170 K=INT(RND(0)*3+1) 1180 FOR I=14 TO 0 STEP -2:S OUND 1,100,0,I:GOSUB 17 0:NEXT I 1190 FOR G=1 TO K:FOR I=1 TO 4: POSITION X1, Y1:? CR1 \$(I,I):AG=1:GOTO 870 1200 NEXT I:NEXT G:AG=0:POSI TION X1, Y1:? CR1\$(P1, P1) 1210 GOTO 910 1220 REM OIL SLICK PLACEMENT ROUTINE 1230 I=INT(RND(0)*SC+1) 1240 IF I=7 THEN GOSUB 1260 1250 RETURN 1260 LOCATE LX, LY, Z:IF Z=32 THEN POSITION LX, LY:? C HR\$(17):RETURN 1270 POSITION LX, LY: PUT #6,Z **TRETURN** 1280 RETURN 1290 POSITION 26,20:? "GAME OVER!":POSITION 25,21:? 1300 POKE 53279,0 1310 S2=PEEK(53279):IF S2<>6 THEN 1310 1320 GOTO 490 **1330 RETURN** 1340 REM CAR TURNING SOUND 1350 SOUND 2,5,0,8:SOUND 3,2 0,10,8:FOR X=1 TO 10:NE XT X:SOUND 2,0,0;SOUN D 3,0,0,0
- 1360 RETURN

Variable checksum = 1029818					
Line 90 210 330 450 560 670 740 860 980		range 200 320 440 550 660 730 850 970 1090		Code TE KN MV OX RE PS AF MO BQ	Length 539 432 425 545 543 543 543 516 406 464
1100 1200 1320		1190 1310 1360		pl Fo Hz	524 353 211



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BOTHIS CATTIN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN

by STAN OCKERS Lick up the blinking bugs.

You may be a Prince at heart, but in this game you are only a hungry Frog, sitting in the middle of a Dismal Swamp. Swarms of blinking bugs fly by. Use the joystick and firebutton to stick out your tongue and catch them. But don't let them sting you, their bite is fatal! Your score is related to *6 *6 *3 *9875 *****

the number of bugs you eat before getting stung.

There are two levels of difficulty in this game, and paddle controllers will work instead of the joystick. There are several special touches too, including a Vertical Blank Interrupt routine that makes the bugs blink on and off.

- 20 REM ** FROG **
- 30 REM ** STAN OCKERS **
- 40 REM ** 6/82 **
- 49 REM VBI AND DLI ROUTINE
- 50 FOR I=1536 TO 1613:READ A:POKE I,A:NEXT I:POKE 206,4:POKE 207,4:A=USR (1536)
- 60 DATA 104,160,10,162,6,1 69,7,76,92,228,173,199, 2,205,200,2,240,16,198, 207,208,25,169,5,133,20
- 70 DATA 173,200,2,141,199, 2,208,13,198,206,208,9, 169,10,133,207,165,208, 141,199,2,169,0,133,209, 76,98,228
- 80 DATA 72,138,72,166,209, 189,75,6,141,10,212,141 ,26,208,232,134,209,104 ,170,104,64,155,152,24
- 89 REM CHANGE CHARACTER SE
- 90 GOSUE 3000
- 99 REM STRINGS HOLDING PRI NT POS.
- 100 DIM C\$(7),X\$(7),Y\$(7),X 5\$(7),Y5\$(7),X7\$(7),Y7\$ (7),X6\$(7),Y6\$(7),X14\$(7),Y14\$(7),X10\$(7),Y10\$ (7)
- 105 DIM X11\$(7),Y11\$(7),X9\$ (7),Y9\$(7),BX(7),BY(7)

- 110 FOR I=1 TO 7:X5\$(I)=CHR \$(8+I):Y5\$(I)=CHR\$(8+I) :X7\$(I)=CHR\$(8+I):Y7\$(I)=CHR\$(9):X6\$(I)=CHR\$(8 +I)
- 115 Y6\$(I)=CHR\$(10-I):X14\$(I)=CHR\$(9):Y14\$(I)=CHR\$ (10-I):X10\$(I)=CHR\$(10-I):Y10\$(I)=CHR\$(10-I)
- 120 X11\$(I)=CHR\$(10-I):Y11\$ (I)=CHR\$(9):X9\$(I)=CHR\$ (10-I):Y9\$(I)=CHR\$(8+I)
- 129 REM CHOOSE INPUT DEVICE
- 130 GRAPHICS 18:POKE 756,ST ART/256:NEXT I:POSITION 6,3:? #6;"choose":POSI TION 4,5:? #6;"1 paddle
- 131 REM 'paddle' & 'joystic k' IN INVERSE CHAR.
- 135 POSITION 8,6:? #6;"or": POSITION 4,7:? #6;"2 jo ystick":OPEN #1,4,0,"K"
- 140 GET #1,A:IF A<49 OR A>5 0 THEN 140
- 150 FOSITION 9,9:? #6;CHR\$(A):INDEV=A-48
- 199 REM PROGRAM INITIALIZAT
- 200 DIM F(7),ST\$(10),BF\$(4) :BF\$="burp":MAXWAIT=6:M AXBUG=30
- 210 RESTORE 220:FOR I=1 TO 10:READ A:ST\$(I)=CHR\$(A):NEXT I
- 220 DATA 7,5,6,0,1,3,2,0,0,

- 280 POKE 208,37:S=1:REM 208 IS BUG COLOR
- 285 REM INITIAL DIFFICULTY SELECTION
- 286 GRAPHICS 1:POKE 708,229 :POKE 712,155:GOSUB 700 :GOSUB 400
- 289 REM RESTART GAME
- 290 FOR I=1 TO 7:F(I)=0:NEX T I:SCORE=0:NUMBUG=0:B0 NUS=50
- 300 GRAPHICS 1:POKE 756,STA RT/256:GOSUB 700:X\$=X5\$:Y\$=Y5\$:POKE 708,229:PO KE 709,54:POKE 710,227: POKE 712,155
- 305 REM DRAW FROG
- 306 GOSUB 2000:POSITION 8,5 :GOSUB 905
- 308 REM MAIN LOOP
- 309 IF INDEV=2 THEN GOSUB 5 00:GOTO 320
- 310 S=INT((PADDLE(0)-45)/20):IF S>7 THEN S=7
- 312 IF S<1 THEN S=1
- 314 S=8-S
- 320 POSITION 8,5:GOSUB 900+ S
- 325 IF INDEV=2 AND STRIG(0)
- =0 THEN GOSUB 1000
- 330 IF INDEV=1 AND PTRIG(0) =0 THEN GOSUB 1000
- 339 I=0:IF WAIT>1 THEN WAIT =WAIT-1:GOTO 350



#6;CHR\$(129):IF BX(I)>5

41

AND BX(I)<13 AND BY(I) >5 AND BY(I)<11 THEN 37 0

348 POSITION EX(I), BY(I);?

:BY(I)=BY(I)+DY

349 GOTO 341

340 WAIT=MAXWAIT

341 I=I+1:IF I=8 THEN 350

346 RESTORE 800+I:READ DX.D

347 RESTORE 800+I:READ DX,D

Y, BX, BY: POSITION BX, BY:

? #6;CHR\$(129);F(I)=2;B

X(I) = BX = BY = BY = GOTO 3

Y: POSITION BX(I), BY(I):

? #6;" ":BX(I)=BX(I)+DX

342 IF F(I)=0 THEN 341 345 IF F(I)=2 THEN 347

- 350 IF BUG>1 THEN BUG=BUG-1 :GOTO 360
- 352 BUG=MAXBUG:IF NUMBUG=7 THEN 360
- 354 I=INT(RND(0)*7)+1:IF F(I)>0 THEN 354
- 356 F(I)=1:NUMBUG=NUMBUG+1
- 360 GOTO 309
- 369 REM BUG GOT TO FROG 370 POSITION 8,5:? #6;". ." :FOR I=1 TO 6:POKE 708, 38:SOUND 0,100,12,10:FO R J=1 TO 50:NEXT J
- 375 POKE 708,36:SOUND 0,150 ,12,10:FOR J=1 TO 10:NE XT J:NEXT I:SOUND 0,0,0 ,0
- 398 GOSUE 400:GOTO 290
- 399 REM PROMPT FOR NEW GAME
- 400 FOSITION 4,13:? #6;"FRE SS start":FOSITION 6,14 :? #6;"TO PLAY":REM USE IN INVERSE CHAR. IN TH ESE TWO LINES
- 401 POSITION 4,16:? #6;"PRE
 SS select":POSITION 3,1
 7:? #6;"FOR DIFFICULTY"
- 402 POKE 53279,8:K=PEEK(532 79):IF K=6 THEN 420
- 404 IF K=5 THEN MAXWAIT=MAX WAIT-1:MAXBUG=MAXBUG-5: IF MAXBUG<5 THEN MAXBUG =30:MAXWAIT=6
- 406 FOKE 656,0:POKE 657,3:? 7-MAXWAIT
- 408 FOR I=1 TO 100:NEXT I 410 GOTO 402
- 420 POSITION 5,16:? #6;" ":POSITION 3,17:
- ? #6;" " 430 IF SCORE>MAXSCORE THEN
- MAXSCORE=SCORE

- 440 RETURN
- 499 REM JOYSTICK SUBROUTINE 500 S0=STICK(0): IF S0=15 OR
- S0=13 THEN RETURN
- 510 S=ASC(ST\$(S0-4)):RETURN
- 599 REM BURP SUBROUTINE
- 600 FOKE 77,0:X=1:Y=0:FOR K =1 TO 4:X=X+1:Y=Y+1:FOS ITION X,Y:? #6;EF\$(K,K) :NEXT K
- 620 FOR K=250 TO 150 STEP -3:SOUND 0.K.2.10:NEXT K
- 630 X=1:Y=0:FOR K=1 TO 4:X= X+1:Y=Y+1:FOSITION X,Y: ? #6:" ":NEXT K:RETURN
- 699 REM CHANGE DISPLAY LIST
- 700 A=PEEK(560)+256*PEEK(56 1):POKE A+3,198:POKE A+ 15,134:POKE A+24,134
- 710 IF PEEK(A)<>66 THEN A=A +1:GOTO 710
- 720 POKE A,71:POKE A+3,7:PO KE A+4,65:POKE A+5,PEEK (A+7):POKE A+6,PEEK(A+8
- 722 POKE 512,54:POKE 513,6: POKE 54286,192
- 730 POKE 656,0:POKE 657,3:? 7-MAXWAIT:POKE 656,0:P OKE 657,15:? MAXSCORE
- 740 POSITION 2,19:? #6;"dif score high":RETURN
- 800 REM X-Y INCREMENTS & ST ARTING POS.
- 801 DATA 1,-1,0,18
- 802 DATA 1,0,0,9
- 803 DATA 1,1,0,0
- 804 DATA 0,1,9,0
- 805 DATA -1,1,18,0
- 806 DATA -1,0,18,9
- 807 DATA -1,-1,18,18
- 900 REM PRINT EYES ON FROG 901 X\$=X9\$:Y\$=Y9\$:? #6;"))
- ":RETURN 902 X\$=X11\$:Y\$=Y11\$:? #6;"((":RETURN
- 903 X\$=X10\$:Y\$=Y10\$:? #6;"# #":RETURN
- 904 X\$=X14\$:Y\$=Y14\$:? #6;"\$; \$":RETURN
- 905 X\$=X6\$:Y\$=Y6\$:? #6;"% %
- ":RETURN 906 X\$=X7\$:Y\$=Y7\$:? #6;"& &
- ":RETURN 907 X\$=X5\$:Y\$=Y5\$:? #6;"' '
- ":RETURN 999 REM TONGUE ROUTINE 1000 I=0
- 1001 I=I+1:IF I=8 THEN 1010
- 1002 POSITION ASC(X\$(I)),ASC (Y\$(I)):GET #6,A:C\$(I,I
 -)=CHR\$(A)

- 1004 POSITION ASC(X\$(I)),ASC (Y\$(I)):? #6;CHR\$(13):S
- OUND 0,7-I,8,8:IF A=129 THEN GOTO 1050 1005 GOTO 1001
- 1010 I=I-1:IF I=0 THEN 1020
- 1012 POSITION ASC(X\$(I)),ASC
 - (Y\$(I)):? #6;C\$(I,I):S0 UND 0,7-I,8,8:GOTO 1010
- 1020 IF BURP=1 THEN GOSUB 60 0:BURP=0
- 3:SOUND 0,K,2,10:NEXT K 1022 SOUND 0,0,0;RETURN
 - 1049 REM GOT A BUG
 - 1050 F(S) = 0
 - 1060 SCORE=SCORE+10*(7-MAXWA IT):POKE 656,0:POKE 657 ,8:? SCORE;" ":NUMBUG= NUMBUG-1
 - 1070 IF SCORE>BONUS THEN MAX WAIT=MAXWAIT-1:MAXBUG=M AXBUG-5:BONUS=BONUS+100 *(7-MAXWAIT):BURP=1
 - 1072 IF MAXBUG<5 THEN MAXBUG =5:MAXWAIT=1
 - 1080 POKE 656,0:POKE 657,3:? 7-MAXWAIT
 - 1090 C\$(I,I)=" ":I=I+1:GOTO 1010
 - 1999 REM PRINT FROG SUBROUTI NE
 - 2000 FOSITION 6,6:? #6;"+*--+*":FOSITION 6,7:? #6; "+*---+*":FOSITION 6,8: ? #6;"+----*"
 - 2010 FOSITION 6,9:? #6;"--* +--":FOSITION 5,10:? #6 :"+-+--**"
 - 2020 POSITION 5,11:? #6;"--------":RETURN :REM INV ERSE CHAR. IN THIS LINE
 - 2999 REM CHANGE CHAR. SET SU
 - 3000 DIM ZZ\$(32):RESTORE 301 0:FOR I=1 TO 32:READ A: ZZ\$(I)=CHR\$(A):NEXT I
 - 3010 DATA 104,104,133,204,10 4,133,203,104,133,206,1 04,133,205,162,4,160,0
 - 3020 DATA 177,203,145,205,13 6,208,249,230,204,230,2 06,202,208,240,96
 - 3030 FOKE 106,PEEK(106)-5:GR APHICS 0:START=(PEEK(10 6)+1)*256:POKE 756,STAR T/256:POKE 752,1:? "INI TIALIZING"
 - 3040 A=USR(ADR(ZZ\$),57344,ST ART):RESTORE 3100:FOR I =START+8 TO START+119:R EAD A:POKE I,A:NEXT I

continued on next page

BONUS GAME

BONUS GAME

- 3050 RETURN
- 3100 DATA 0,34,85,62,54,85,3 4,0,0,102,102,102,0,0,0 ,0,255,241,241,241,129, 129,255,255
- 3110 DATA 255,189,189,189,12 9,129,255,255,255,143,1 43,143,129,129,255,255, 255,129,143,143,143,129 ,255,255
- 3120 DATA 255,129,129,143,14 3,143,255,255,255,129,2 41,241,241,129,255,255, 255,129,129,241,241,241 ,255,255
- 3130 DATA 240,240,240,240,240,24 0,240,240,240,15,15,15, 15,15,15,15,15,0,0,0,0, 0,24,24,48
- 3140 DATA 255,255,255,255,25 5,255,255,255,255,145,1 45,255,145,145,255,255

Variable checksum = 1738191

Line	num	range	Code	Length
20	-	90	PQ	511
99	-	120	XE	554
129	-	210	MM	545
220	-	309	PL.	509
310	-	346	ZC	473
347	-	370	ZX	516
375	-	404	PR	520
406	-	620	RH	502
630		730	JL	520
740	-	902	AD	285
903	-	1010	SR	446
1012		1999	TI	515
2000	-	3020	LK	506
3030		3130	LW	577
3140	-	3140	FM	69



FROG was first published in the A.C.E. newsletter of Eugene, Oregon. We would like to thank Stan Ockers for an excellent program and Mike Dunn, editor of the A.C.E. newsletter for permission to re-print.

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\$49.95 (See the many reviews.)

programmers aid for 800 users. Plugs into right slot and works with ATARI BASIC. Adds 9 new direct mode commands including auto line numbering, delete lines, change margins, memory test, renumber BASIC, hex/dec conversion, cursor exchange, and machine language monitor.

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EDUCATION

by LINDA M. SCHREIBER

NINIY

There's something about music that fascinates kids. Give them a small piano, drums, harmonica, and they will sit for hours creating their own melodies. A few years ago there was a toy piano on the market that contained a tape recorder. This was a big hit with my daughter. Now, she could not only make her own music, but listen to it afterward.

TUNING YOUR ATARI uses this idea. It is a musical game for children. Type it in and run it, and you will see a simple menu. Choice #3 demonstrates the program. Choice #1 allows you to compose a tune, and Choice #2 will play it back. The tones appear to be made by little figures jumping on a bellows.

Above each figure is the letter name of the tone which that bellows will produce. To operate the bellows, press 1, then press any number from 1–8 on the keyboard. Key one corresponds to the low C; eight to high C. When a number is pressed, the character will jump down on the bellows, flapping his arms as the bellows is compressed. Once the tone is played, he bounces back up to his original position. The program can hold up to 100 notes. If your melody is less than 100 notes, press the escape key and the menu will reappear on the screen. Press #2 to hear your melody.

Young children will enjoy this program just to see the characters jump up and down while they are playing the tunes. Slightly older children will enjoy listening to the tunes that they have created. The letters above the characters do not attract attention, but are a subtle reminder of the names of the notes. After a while, children will begin to associate the letters with the tones of the character. Don't be surprised if you hear your child singing 'A-G-F-G-A-A-A'!

Once again, in this program, we will move the character set out of ROM and into RAM so that we can change some of the characters. In line 70, P1\$ should equal h, reverse quotation marks, control D, reverse space, control comma, reverse 1, reverse M, reverse control Q. The characters from K to r are all in reverse. The last character in the string is control period. This string is the machine language subroutine that moves the characters.

	VARIABLES USED
P1\$	-machine language subroutine
M\$	-string holds the melody played
Α	—location of the new character set. This value is POKEd into 756 to change to the new character set.
TONE	—line number that starts the tone for the key pressed.
WAIT	—line number for the timing routine.
Q	-no function
CHBS	-first decimal location of the new character set.
Х	-no function - used in FOR NEXT loops.
С	 used in READ for new character set, used for value of key pressed, and for position of character.
К	counter for the note being entered or played.
Т	-value of the tone to be played.
TL	-value used in timing loop.
ROUTINE	E — the line number that the program goes to when entering the melody, or playing one back.

EDUCATION

- **10 REM TUNING YOUR ATARI**
- 20 REM BY L.M.SCHREIBER
- 30 REM FOR ANTIC OCTOBER 1 982
- 40 DIM M\$(101),F1\$(20)
- 50 GRAPHICS 18:POKE 711,PE EK(710):POKE 710,100
- 60 A=PEEK(106)-8:POKE 204, A:POKE 206,224:REM STOR E THE BEGINNING OF NEW & OLD CHARACTER SETS
- 70 P1\$="h" 1MKHPgfNfLJP r`";TONE=430;WAIT=500;R EM P1\$ IS A MACHINE LAN GUAGE SUBROUTINE TO MOV E THE CHARACTER SET
- 80 Q=USR(ADR(F1\$)):CHBS=A* 256:POKE 756,A:REM CHAN GE TO THE NEW CHARACTER SET
- 90 FOR X=CHBS+8 TO CHBS+71 :READ C:POKE X,C:NEXT X :REM CHANGE THE CHARACT ERS FROM ! TO \$
- 100 DATA 0,254,124,254,124, 254,124,254,108,0,254,2 54,124,254,124,254,40,1 08,0,254,254,254,124,25 4
- 110 DATA 186,40,108,0,254,2 54,254,254,56,108,56,16 ,254,56,40,108,0,56,108 ,56,146,124,56,40
- 120 DATA 0,0,56,108,56,16,2 54,56,0,0,0,56,108,56,1 6,124
- 130 OPEN #2,4,0,"K:":REM OP EN THE KEYBOARD FOR REA D
- 150 POSITION 2,6:? #6;"c d e f g a b c":REM PLACE THE TONE NAMES

- 160 K=0:FOKE 710,100:REM RE STORE THE MENU
- 170 POSITION 2,0:? #6;"1. P LAY KEYBOARD"
- 180 POSITION 2,2;? #6;"2. R EPEAT MELODY"
- 190 POSITION 2,4:? #6;"3. P LAY EXAMPLE"
- 200 GET #2,C:POKE 710,0:REM GET THE KEY PRESSED-RE MOVE THE MENU
- 210 IF C>127 THEN C=C-128:P OKE 694,0:REM INVERSE F LAG IS ON RESET IT TO N ORMAL
- 220 IF C<49 OR C>52 THEN 16 0:REM NOT A NUMBER FROM 1 TO 4
- 230 C=C-48:REM GET THEN NUM BER
- 240 ON C GOTO 250,540,520,5 60
- 250 M\$="":REM REMOVE CONTEN TS OF THE STRING
- 260 ROUTINE=260:K=K+1:IF K= 101 THEN 160:REM ONLY A CCEPT 100 NOTES
- 280 GET #2,C:REM GET THE KE Y PRESSED-RETURN TO MEN U ON ESCAPE KEY
- 290 IF C>127 THEN C=C-128:P OKE 694,0:REM INVERSE F LAG IS ON RESET IT TO N ORMAL
- 300 IF C<49 OR C>56 THEN 16 0:REM NOT A NUMBER FROM 1 TO 8
- 310 C=C-48:M\$(K,K)=STR\$(C): REM GET THEN NUMBER-PUT IT IN THE STRING
- 320 C=C*2:REM OFFSET IT FOR THE PROPER POSITION
- 330 ON C/2 GOSUB 350,360,37 0,380,390,400,410,420
- 340 GOTO ROUTINE
- 350 T=121:GOTO TONE:REM 'C'
- 360 T=108:GOTO TONE:REM 'D'

- 370 T=96:GOTO TONE:REM 'E' 380 T=91:GOTO TONE:REM 'F'
- 390 T=81:GOTO TONE:REM 'G'
- 400 T=72:GOTO TONE:REM 'A'
- 410 T=64:GOTO TONE:REM 'B'
- 420 T=60:REM 'C'
- 425 REM LINES 430-450 MAKE THE CHARACTER APPEAR TO FUSH DOWN ON THE BELLO W AND MAKE THE TONE
- 430 TL=10:POSITION C,8:? #6 ;CHR\$(134):POSITION C,9 :? #6;CHR\$(130):SOUND 0 ,T,10,6:GOSUB WAIT
- 440 POSITION C,8:? #6;CHR\$(135):FOSITION C,9:? #6; CHR\$(131):SOUND 0,T,10, B:GOSUB WAIT
- 450 FOSITION C,8:? #6;CHR\$(136):FOSITION C,9:? #6; CHR\$(132):GOSUB WAIT
- 460 SOUND 0,T,10,10
- 470 POSITION C,8:? #6;CHR\$(135):POSITION C,9:? #6; CHR\$(131):SOUND 0,T,10, 8:GOSUE WAIT
- 475 REM LINES 470-490 RETUR N THE CHARACTER AND BEL LOW TO THE CORRECT POSI TION
- 480 FOSITION C,8:? #6;CHR\$(
 134):FOSITION C,9:? #6;
 CHR\$(162):SOUND 0,T,10,
 6:GOSUS WAIT
- 490 POSITION C,8:? #6;"%":P OSITION C,9:? #6;"!":SO UND 0,0,0;0:RETURN
- 500 FOR X=1 TO TL:NEXT X:RE TURN :REM TIMING LOOP
- 510 REM FLAY A SAMPLE TUNE
- 520 M\$="11556654433221" 530 REM ROUTINE TO PLAY BAC
- K THE MELODY ENTERED 540 ROUTINE=540:K=K+1:IF K< =LEN(M\$) THEN C=VAL(M\$(K,K)):GOTO 320:REM KEEP PLAYING UNTIL THE END OF THE STRING
- 550 M\$(K,K)="0":C=VAL(M\$(K,
 - K)):M\$=M\$(1,K-1):GOTO 1 60

560 CLOSE #2:END

Variable checksum = 225145

Line	num	range	Code	Length
10	****	90	QA	529
100		150	SI	504
160		250	L.D	539
260		350	YQ	521
360		450	SJ	554
460		530	TI	537
540		560	QP	187

S.A.M.

Don't Ask Computer Software 2265 Westwood Blvd., #B-150 Los Angeles, CA 90064 (213) 397-8811 \$59.95 diskette; 32K Reviewed by Jerry White

Computer speech synthesis has just been revolutionized by a product called SAM, the Software Automatic Mouth. Unlike all the other systems, SAM requires no special hardware. That's right, SAM provides the highest-quality computerized speech currently available for ATARI computers, and does it with software only. All you need is an ATARI 400 or 800 with at least 32K RAM and one disk drive.

Also unlike all the others, SAM is inexpensive. The SAM software on diskette including demonstration programs and a well-written 38 page manual, costs only \$59.95. That's a small fraction of the cost of most hardware speech systems currently available.

SAM, when combined with the companion program RECITER, will pronounce nearly 90% of the English language properly. Using RECITER, speech from BASIC is as easy as placing your text into a string called SAM\$, and issuing the command A = USR(8199).

If you don't use the RECITER program, you save 6K of RAM, and you can still make SAM pronounce all words properly by using the phonetics system. You can tell SAM to use any of eight different stress factors on each syllable, no more monotone monotony. You are also in control of the pitch of SAM's voice, as well as the rate of speed at which he speaks.

Of course it takes a bit more work to master the phonetic systems, but the manual provides about 1500 example words in normal and phonetic spellings. If you're having any problems, DON'T ASK support is only a telephone call away.

The only drawback other than the RAM requirements is that SAM will blank the screen when he speaks. You can use SAM with the screen left on, but this will cause distortion in SAM's voice. Since computer speech is generally used for short phrases, the blank screen is a small price to pay in most cases.

Adventure type games and educational software are obvious applications for computer speech. I put SAM to work answering my telephone when I'm not available. In order to provide the highest quality speech for my 20 second recording, I used phonetics. The numbers you see in the phonetically spelled words in my sample program, indicate the stress factor. The number 1 would indicate a very emotional stress on the preceeding syllable, while 8 would indicate an extreme pitch-dropping stress. Most punctuation is used to insert a pause. The period will also cause the pitch to fall while the question mark will cause the pitch to rise.

VOICE BOX

The Alien Group 27 West 23rd Street New York, N.Y. 10010 \$169.00 includes diskette *Reviewed by Benton J. Elkins*

"ATARI says its the first word," the ad from the Alien Group began. That hooked me enough to read that the VOICE BOX is a speech synthesizer that plugs into the serial port of the ATARI and routes all speech sounds to the television speaker. Synthesis is accomplished with phoneme analysis. I called for information, but Bob Ezzard, an Alien, convinced me to accept COD shipment on 10 day approval.

In a few weeks the VOICE BOX arrived. The disk loaded without problem, and the program instructed me to connect the unit. Immediately a voice came out of the TV, "Please teach me to speak." A backup message of the words was printed on the screen. I was amazed that it worked the first time I tried it!

I entered some words on the keyboard, pressed return, and was amused at the literalness of the pronunciation. I tried some phonetic variations, by changing the spelling of the words. The screen displays the controls used for examining the vowels, consonants and defined words in the program's dictionary files. Everything I tried worked. All that was missing was syllable emphasis.

The VOICE BOX disk contains three dictionaries, 16K and 32K versions of the programs in BASIC, a stripped down list version of the program to be used in adding vocal capability to other programs, and an object code of the phoneme pronouncer.

The BASIC program incorporates a random sentence recitation program using a standard sentence vocabulary, or it invites on input another learned vocabulary which may be saved later. New words or portions may be learned by typing the spelling variation and the phonetic spelling, then connecting the two with an = sign.

The 32K version has a "talking head" whose lips are synchronized to the pronounced syllables. The drawing is sketchy but the effect is impressive. There may be some potential for developing lip reading skills, if the graphics are improved.

There are two pronunciation and one spelling dictionaries. The first dictionary is to be used with the 16K version and the others with the larger version. The spelling dictionary spells out the input strings. Dictionaries contain strings of symbols that translate hexadecimal phoneme equivalent codes to the VOICE BOX itself. The source for the assembly level code is not included on the disk.

continued on page 52

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Using the VOICE BOX

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Now you can make your Atari® 400/800 games and other programs come alive with the VOICE BOXTM by the Alien Group —the first low-cost, smart speech synthesizer with unlimited vocabulary.

Add jokes to your programs. Insults. Compliments. Help messages. Stories. Alien voices. Animal roars. Have your computer talk to the fire department or police in emergencies. To kids. Or blind people. Teach touch typing with immediate spoken feedback. Or just about any other subject — the fun way. Or help a speech-impaired friend communicate ... the possibilities are limitless.

The VOICE BOX plugs into your Atari's serial port. And talks directly through your TV set. No speaker, amplifier, power supply, special interfaces, or cables needed.

Just select from its simple screen menu. A dictionary with thousands of common words (on diskette or cassette) automatically translates your text into speech. It's that easy.

But don't let its friendliness fool you. The VOICE BOX has all 64 phonemes (basic sounds, like "ah") built in. So you can precisely create any word or sound you can imagine. And store it all on diskette or tape. Names or foreign language words, for example. Or wierd non-human languages. The VOICE BOX is creative too. It will crack you and your friends up with non-stop random, grammatically correct sentences, using words you specify. It also has an amusing talking face with lip-sync animation — a real crowd-stopper. Best of all, you can call the VOICE BOX from any BASIC program and make your program really hum — literally!

Don't confuse the VOICE BOX with "dumb" speech synthesizers that can't learn new words. Or software-based ones with lower speech quality — and an annoying tendency to blank out the display when they talk. The VOICE BOX is a true breakthrough in speech synthesis. Small wonder thousands of Atari owners have already bought the VOICE BOX.

The VOICE BOX is available now at leading computer stores throughout the world. Or direct from the Alien Group, with 10-day money back guarantee if you're not completely satisfied.

VOICE BOX For Atari, \$169.00 16K and 32K versions included (Specify diskette or cassette).

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PRODUCT REVIEWS

The verbal quality and understandability of the VOICE BOX is not the greatest thing about it, it definitely will not be mistaken for a human voice. "Intelligible" is the operative word to use when describing the characteristics of the VOICE BOX.

The box itself is a $3'' \ge 4'' \ge 1\frac{1}{2}''$ box with a large knob on the side and a cable and serial port connector attached. It must attach last in the daisy chain, where the cassette recorder is usually connected. Because of this, all programs from a cassette must be read in before the VOICE BOX is hooked up. The knob control changes both the frequency and speed of utterances. No additional external power is needed.

Here are three program ideas for using the VOICE BOX. They are enhancements to already existing programs that will add a new dimension to them.

1. Talking Menu Program

This program will read the disk and announce the programs on it, then accept input to select one for loading, and indicate any loading errors and recycling if this is the case.

2. Error Diagnostic Program

The program will trap to a verbal indication of what the error was and which sentence, rather than stopping with an error number at the encounter point.

3. Program List Speller using

Dictionary 2

This program will accept another program as list input and spell it out for aid in checking & debugging input. It can also be used as an aid by handicapped individuals.

There is also a great potential for teaching children to spell and for an added dimension to games. Overall, I believe, the VOICE BOX is well worth the price tag.

NAUTILUS

Synapse Software 5237 Jacuzzi St., Suite 1 Richmond, CA 94804 \$29.95 diskette and cassette *Reviewed by Gordon Miles*

Nautilus is a strategy game with an arcade feel. The Nautilus is a submarine that scores points by destroying underwater cities to steal their energy cores. Meanwhile, it must avoid depth charges and other hazards. The Collosus, a surface ship, is the opponent, directed either by the computer or another player.

The graphics in Nautilus are excellent. The submarine has a little propeller at the stern. The oceanscape, with its underwater cities and subterranean passages, is also well done. The realistic tumbling of the depth charges, the predatory helicopter that patrols the surface, the fish and the tenacious limpet mines all make this a visually rich game.

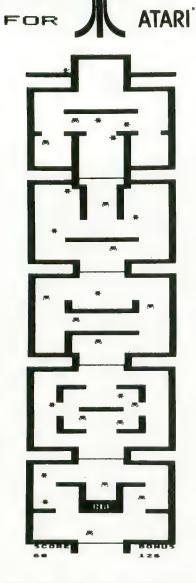
The most innovative graphics feature is the use of a split-screen to depict the two commanders' views. A scoreboard is positioned just above mid-screen. Above the board is the Collosus commander's view on the ocean's surface; below the board is the sub commander's view. Both views scroll independently of one another. The sub commander can be to the far right of the ocean (and deep down); and the Collosus commander can be on the surface to the far left. When the two ships are in the same part of the ocean, they are both realistically shown in both views. The split-screen's main asset is an illusion of quasi-hidden movement which is so essential in a sub / destroyer type of game.

Play begins after choosing the number of players, the time limit, and the playing difficulty. Joysticks allow rapid movement and quick responses especially needed at the higher difficulty

Fight your way down through the Top-Secret underground laboratory to save the runaway nuclear reactor, then try to save yourself before the Androids get you!

16K cassette, 32K disk (SPECIFY!)

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PRODUCT REVIEWS

levels where the depth charges and homing mines move much faster.

Nautilus is more a strategy game than an arcade game. Destroying and rebuilding of underwater cities is the sole scoring criterion in the game. No sort of hunter/killer scoring is done. This is unfortunate since an arcade game could readily develop at the higher levels where the action is fast. While the sub commander has plenty to do, the Collosus commander just goes from right to left picking up and delivering city repair crews, every once in a while dodging the helicopter, and occasionally, dropping depth charges in its haste from one shore to the other. This can get tedious in a short time. Most decisions stem from whether to continue dealing (repair / destroy) with the cities or where and when to delay your opponent — the difficulty is found in striking the right balance between these options.

Nautilus is an excellent graphics showpiece, well worth the price. Mike Potter, the programmer, conceived it as a strategy game, and as such it is a fair one — however, with a revision in the scoring, it could easily be a very exciting arcade game.

KRAZY ANTIKS K-BYTE 1755 Austin Road Troy, MI 48009 \$49.95 cartridge Reviewed by Jerry White

K-BYTE has released three new games on ROM cartridges for ATARI 400/800 computers called K-STAR PATROL, K-RAZY KRITTERS, and K-RAZY ANTIKS. All three are the high quality arcade-type games you'd expect from K-BYTE. Although they are a bit expensive, it's certainly a pleasure to just pop in a cartridge and not have to wait for a program to load.

Of these three new releases, my favorite is K-RAZY ANTIKS. The object of this one-player game is to guide your white ant through a maze of tunnels while avoiding hostile enemy ants, an anteater, and torrential rain floods. You have six mazes from which to choose, and each has 99 levels of play. I seriously doubt that anyone will see level 99 in this decade.

Using a joystick, you guide your ant around the maze laying eggs along the way, and picking up enemy eggs. When an enemy ant is hot on your trail, you can drop an egg that explodes the enemy.

While all this is going on, an anteater will occasionally stick it's long tongue into the top of the maze. If you can position your white ant just ahead of the tongue, you can lure enemy ants into the danger area.

When it rains, the bottom of the maze fills with water, drowning all ants in the lower levels. Floods can be used to your advantage if you can lead the enemy ants toward the bottom as the rain begins, then retreat to the safety of higher levels.

I am not what you'd call an "arcader". I did however find this game to be addictive as well as challenging.



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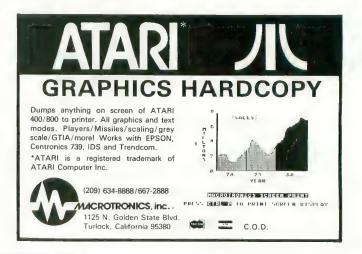
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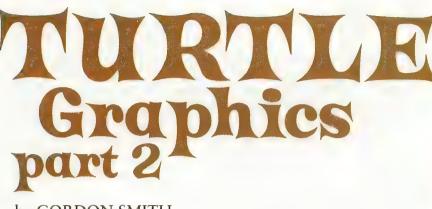


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by GORDON SMITH

This is the second of two articles on implementing a Turtle Graphics system in Forth. The first one appeared in ANTIC issue #3. It discussed Turtle Graphics in general, explained why Forth is a particularly hospitable environment for a Turtle Graphics system, and gave nine screens worth of "foundation" words.

With this artcle are 17 more screens of pns-Forth source code which complete the system. I'll give an overview of the system's features; a glossary of Turtle commands, and give a few suggestions on using the system.

THE INHABITANTS AND LANGUAGE OF TURTLELAND

Four independent turtles live in Turtleland. Multiple turtles open up interesting possibilities, like having turtles chase each other. With four turtles, each can draw in a different color (there are only four colors possible at one time). If you want a different number, you can change the value of the constant #TURTLES on screen 2 before loading. One turtle at a time can be designated the "active turtle" with the SET ACTIVE command. She is the one who will respond when we type a command like "10 DRAW."

Each turtle carries a pen. The active turtle's pen can be lowered with the PENDOWN command, leaving a trail when she moves, or raised with the PENUP command. The more general SET PEN command can be used to do either.

The SET INK command fills the active turtle's pen wtih various colors of ink, depending on the Graphics Mode used. (Modes 3 through 8 can be selected with the SET MODE command.) In all modes, ink of type 0 is erasing ink. It is black, the same color as the background, except in Mode 8 when it is light blue. The command, ERASING, is the same as 0 SET INK. Both choose erasing ink. In Modes 3, 5, and 7, there is also ink of type 1 (gold), type 2 (light green), and type 3 (dark blue). In Modes 4, 6, and 8, types 2 and 3 are not available. The number of ink types is determined by the color video capabilities of the CTIA or GTIA chip. The colors are established by the Operating System when it opens the screen. You can use pns-Forth SET-COLOR word to change them.

Each turtle has a position and a heading. The heading is the number of degrees clockwise from the vertical that she is facing. The active turtle's heading can be changed directly to any value with SET HEADING, also known as TURNTO, or it can be changed incrementally by the commands RIGHT (or TURN) and LEFT.

The system keeps track of each turtle's position with X and Y coordinates. These are *not* the same as the screen column and row numbers. The SET MODE command arranges these coordinates so that the turtle's home at X = 0 and Y = 0 is the center of the screen, and so that there are one hundred X or Y units per pixel. This means that if a turtle is at X = 1000 and Y = 500 she will appear ten pixels to the right and five pixels up from the center. You can arrange the coordinates differently if you wish.

The active turtle's coordinates can be individually or jointly set with the commands SET X, SET Y, or SET POSI-TION (also known as GOTO). They cause the turtle to leave a track only if her pen is down. MOVETO can be used to temporarily raise the pen, or DRAWTO to lower it, before changing position. The pen is restored to its original state after the change.

The most interesting way to move the active turtle is with FORWARD, BACKWARD, DRAW, and MOVE commands. These move her a specified number of steps in whatever direction she is currently heading. FORWARD and BACKWARD draw a line only if the pen is down; DRAW always draws; MOVE never does. Each step normally moves the turtle one pixel, a distance of 100 units in XY coordinates, unless you use the SET SIZE command to alter the step size. By changing the step size you can use the same word to draw the same shape in different sizes.

A turtle's heading and her XY coordinates are always integers. The maximum range for X and Y is from -32768 to 32767. If you drive a turtle

beyond this range you may see unwanted tracks as she "jumps" to the other edge of Turtleland.

Usually you can't see all of Turtleland on the screen. For example: in Mode 7 the screen displays only the part of Turtleland from X = 15900 to X = 15800 and from Y = -7900 to Y = 7800. You can select your own "window" into Turtleland with SET WINDOW command. Any tracks beyond the edges of the window won't be visible. Changing the window will affect the number of X or Y units per pixel. An alternate way to set the window (and the step size) is with the PER-PIXEL command.

The reason that the system defaults to 100 units per pixel is to let the turtle sit "between" pixels. If we used a coordinate system as coarse as the screen pixels, then every time we moved a turtle at some angle, her new position would get "rounded" to the nearest pixel. We wouldn't be able to do a series of moves without errors accumulating. Using one hundred XY units per pixel gives us increased precision.

The SET MODE command establishes the whole screen as the "viewport". This means that the view of Turtleland visible through the window will be projected onto all of the screen. You can select any rectangular piece of the screen to be the viewport with the SET VIEWPORT command. When you experiment with this, use the FRAME or NEW commands to draw a frame around the new viewport so you can see where it is.

So far, four commands — MODE, SIZE, WINDOW, and VIEWPORT relate to Turtleland as a whole, and seven of them — ACTIVE, PEN, INK, HEADING, X, Y, and POSITION relate to the turtles. It is also possible for you to determine the current value of any of these parameters, by leaving out the word SET or by changing it to SHOW. For example, the command X by itself (i.e., not preceded by SET) leaves the active turtle's current X coordinate on the stack, where it can be used by any word for any purpose. So, the command SHOW X will display some message like "Turtle #1 is at X = 300".

The system also has miscellaneous commands like CLEAR for clearing the screen, FRAME for drawing a frame around your picture, and HOME, START, and NEW for starting over. The command BYE leaves Turtleland and returns to pns-Forth.

Of course, all the usual Forth words are still available while you're in Turtleland, in case you need to do arithmetic, comparisons, branching, looping, or whatever. You can use the more compact loop syntax (\ldots) and $(\ldots +)$ in place of the structures 0 DO \ldots LOOP and 0 DO $\ldots +$ LOOP.

The important command DEFINE ... AS ... END allows you to add new words to the turtle's vocabulary. This makes it very easy to change any of my command names that you don't like.

As an interesting example, you might want to

DEFINE HILDA AS 1 SET ACTIVE END DEFINE GILDA AS 2 SET ACTIVE END DEFINE MATILDA AS 3 SET ACTIVE END

so that you can talk to a turtle simply by invoking her name.

USING THE SYSTEM

To start turtle-ing, just use the SET MODE command. If you want to have Turtleland displayed in Graphics Mode 7, for example, type 7 SET MODE. After this you can immediately move the turtles around with 10 DRAW, 45 TURN, etc. SET MODE initializes the system as follows:

- All four turtles are home at X = 0and Y = 0, with heading 0 degrees.
- They all have their pens down.
- Their pens are filled with various ink types as described under the START command in the glossary.
- Turtle #1 is active.
- The window is such that X = 0,

Y = 0 is in the center of the screen and there are 100 X or Y units per pixel.

— The viewport is the whole screen.

After you get acquainted with the various commands, you'll want to start extending the system by defining your own. Here is an example of a new command:

VALUE STEPS VALUE INCREMENT VALUE ANGLE DEFINE POLYSPI AS TO ANGLE TO INCREMENT 0 TO STEPS BEGIN STEPS INCREMENT + TO STEPS STEPS FORWARD ANGLE TURN AGAIN END

POLYSPI can make all sorts of interesting polygonal spirals. It expects to find two numbers on the stack. It stores the top one in ANGLE; this will be how many degrees the turtle will turn between each move. The one below gets stored in INCREMENT; this will be how many more steps the turtle will take each time compared to the previous time. Next STEPS is initialized to 0 and we enter a Forth BEGIN ... AGAIN loop. The words between BEGIN and AGAIN will be executed indefinitely. (You must press a yellow console button to stop POLYSPI.) Each time through the loop, STEPS is incremented by INCREMENT, and the turtle takes the number of steps in STEPS and turns the number of degrees in ANGLE. Thus POLYSPI is just an automated sequence of FORWARDs and TURNs. For example, 2 90 POLYSPI is really the same as

2 FORWARD 90 TURN 4 FORWARD 90 TURN 6 FORWARD 90 TURN

and so on.

The three VALUE words POLYSPI uses make it easy to see what's going

on. However, another definition of POLYSPI is possible which uses no variables at all:

DEFINE POLYSPI AS 0 BEGIN 3 PICK + DUP FORWARD OVER TURN AGAIN END

This version keeps everything on the stack, using the Forth words PICK, DUP, and OVER for stack manipulation. You can make a variety of patterns with this one command by changing its two parameters.

Pressing a yellow console button will break out of an indefinite loop of turtle moves. In fact, every time a turtle changes position, the system checks the console buttons and returns to command level if one is depressed. This makes it easy to regain control.

As mentioned in Part I, ten of the words used in my screens are pns-Forth words which won't be available (at least not with the same meanings) in other Forth systems. Two of these, 1– and TABLE, are common Forth extensions whose high-level definitions are

: 1- 1-; and : TABLE <BUILDS DOES>OVER + + @:

The others are highly systemspecific. Four of them - SETUP S, CLOSE S, SPLIT-SCREEN, and GR. - were used in the word GRAPHICS in Part I. Their definitions are quite complex, as these words are part of pns-Forth's interface to the CIO routines in the Operating System. Their joint effect in the word GRAPHICS. however, is guite simple. Any Forth system sold for the ATARI will probably have words for opening the screen for graphics. Simply use whatever your system provides to define your own GRAPHICS, which takes one number from the stack and opens the screen in that mode, with a text window at the bottom.

The last four words specific to pns-Forth are CL#, COLOR, PLOT, and DRAWTO. These are used by LINE (in Part I), FRAME, and POSITION. The first two are simple to define; just use

0 VARIABLE CL#

and

: COLOR DUP CL# ! PAD C! ;

CL# is a variable which is used to keep track of the color data used to plot a pixel. COLOR takes a number from the stack and stores it both in CL# and at PAD, for later use by PLOT and DRAWTO. The definitions of PLOT and DRAWTO are complicated because these words result in calls to CIO. Again, however, their functions are simple and your system probably provides similar words. Define a PLOT which takes a column and a row number from the stack, moves the screen cursor to that position, and plots a pixel there using whatever byte is at PAD as the color data. Similarly, define a DRAWTO which takes a column and a row number from the stack, and draws a line from the current position of the screen cursor to this specified position, using the byte at PAD as color data.

I believe that all the other words I've used in this system are either standard fig-Forth words or new words that I've defined.



MODE Commands

SET MODE [mode ---] Opens the screen in the Graphics Mode specified by mode , which should be 3-8. Sets up a default viewport, window, and step size by executing WHOLE-SCREEN SET VIEWPORT and 100 PER-PIXEL. Draws a frame around the viewport with ink of type 1. Initializes the turtles by executing START.

MODE [--- mode] Leaves the number of the current Graphics Mode on the stack. SHOW MODE [---] Displays a message indicating the current Graphics Mode.

ACTIVE Commands SET ACTIVE

[turtle# ---] Makes the turtle whose number is turtle# the active turtle. Future commands will be directed to her.

ACTIVE [--- turtle#] Leaves the number of the active turtle on the stack. SHOW ACTIVE [---] Displays a message indicating the currently active turtle.

PEN Commands

SET PEN [state ---] Lowers the active turtle's pen if state is nonzero and raises it if state is zero. PEN [--- state] Leaves 1 on the stack if the active turtle's pen is down and 0 if it is up. SHOW PEN [---] Displays a message indicating whether the active turtle's pen is up or down.

INK Commands

SET INK [ink#] Fills the active turtle's pen with ink of type ink# . Type 0 ink is erasing ink. Types 1, 2, and 3 are colored. Types 2 and 3 are not available in modes 4, 6, or 8.

INK [--- ink#] Leaves on the stack the type of ink in the active turtle's pen.

SHOW INK [---] Displays a message indicating the type of ink in the active turtle's pen.

HEADING Commands SET HEADING

[degrees ---] Makes the active turtle head in the direction specified by degrees . Directions are measured clockwise from the vertical.

HEADING

[--- degrees] Leaves the active turtle's heading on the stack. SHOW HEADING [---] Displays a message indicating the active turtle's heading.

X Commands

SET X [x ---] Changes the active turtle's X coordinate to x . Draws a line if her pen is down. X [--- x] Leaves the active turtle's X coordinate on the stack. SHOW X [---] Displays a message indicating the active turtle's X coordinate.

POSITION Commands SET POSITION

[x y ---]Changes the active turtle's coordinates to X = x and Y = y. Draws a line if her pen is down. **POSITION** [---x y]Leaves the active turtle's X and Y coordinates on the

stack. **SHOW POSITION** [---] Displays a message indicating the active turtle's X and Y coordinates.

SIZE Commands SET SIZE

[distance steps ---] Sets the step size so that the number of steps given by steps will cover a distance in XY coordinates given by distance .

SIZE

[--- distance steps] Leaves the current size parameters on the steack. SHOW SIZE [---] Displays a message indicat-

Displays a message indicating the current step size.

WINDOW Commands SET WINDOW

[xmin xmax ymin ymax ---] Sets the window to be the region from X = xmin to X = xmax and from Y = ymin to Y = ymax . WINDOW [--- xmin xmax ymin ymax] Leaves the current window parameters on the stack. SHOW WINDOW [---] Displays a message indicating the current window.

VIEWPORT Commands

SET VIEWPORT [left right top bottom ---] Sets the viewport to extend from screen column left to screen column right and from screen row top to screen row bottom . WHOLE-SCREEN SET VIEWPORT [---] Sets the viewport to extend from column 1 to the next to the last column and from row 1 to the next to the last row.

VIEWPORT [--- left right top bottom] Leaves the current viewport parameters on the stack. SHOW VIEWPORT [---] Displays a message indicating the current viewport.

Y Commands

Similar to X Commands

Other Commands

CLEAR [---] Clears the graphics screen without affecting the turtles. FRAME [ink# ---] Draw a frame around the viewport, using ink of type ink#. HOME [---] Moves the active turtle to X = 0 and Y = 0 with heading 0, without drawing a line, and then lowers her pen. START [---]

HOMEs all the turtles first.

Then fills their pens with ink. (In mode 3, 5, or 7, the Nth turtle's pen is filled with ink of type N. In mode 2, 4, or 6, turtle's 0's pen is filled with type 0 ink while the pens of turtles 1, 2, and 3 are filled with type 1 ink, the only colored ink available in these modes.) Finally, makes turtle 1 the active turtle. NEW [---]

Clears the screen, draws a frame with type 1 ink, and initializes the turtles by executing START. PER-PIXEL

distance ----]

Sets the window so that the point X = 0, Y = 0 is the center of the viewport, and so that the distance in XY coordinates given by distance will be the size of one pixel. Also, sets the step size so that each step is distance units long.

FORWARD [steps ---] Moves the active turtle forward the number of steps specified by steps . The movement is in the direction she is currently heading if steps is positive and in the opposite direction if steps is negative. The turtle's heading is unaffected. A line is drawn if her pen is down. BACKWARD [steps Like FORWARD except in the opposite direction. DRAW [steps ---] Lowers the active turtle's pen so that a line will definitely be drawn as she moves forward the number of steps given by steps . Then her pen is returned to its previous state.

MOVE [steps ---] Raises the active turtle's pen so that a line will definitely not be drawn as she moves forward the number of steps given by steps . Then her pen is returned to its previous state.

RIGHT [degrees ---] Turns the active turtle the specifiefd number of degrees, to the right if degrees is positive and to the left if negative.

FORTH FACTORY

LEFT [degrees ----] Like RIGHT except in the opposite direction. TURN [degrees ---] The same as RIGHT. GOTO [x y ---] The same as SET POSITION. DRAWTO [x y ---] Lowers the active turtle's pen so that a line will definitely be drawn as she moves to X = x and Y = y. Then her pen is returned to its previous state. MOVETO [x y ---] Raises the active turtle's pen so that a line will definitely not be drawn as she moves to X = x and Y = y.

Then her pen is returned to its previous state. TURNTO [degrees ---] The same as SET

HEADING. **PENDOWN** [----] Lowers the active turtle's pen. This is the same as 1 SET PENSTATE.

PENUP [---] Raises the active turtle's pen. This is the same as 0 SET PENSTATE.

PENDOWN? [--- flag] Leaves a 1 on the stack if the active turtle's pen is down and a 0 if it is up. This is the same as PEN.

PENUP? [---- flag] Leaves a 1 on the stack if the active turtle's pen is up and a 0 if it is down. This is the opposite of PEN.

ERASING [---] Fills the active turtle's pen with type 0 ink (the erasing type.) This is the same as 0 SET INK.

(...) [#loops ---] Executes the words between the left parenthesis and the right parenthesis the number of times given by #loops . DEFINE ... AS ... END Defines the word between DEFINE and AS to be a new turtle command which will execute the words between AS and END.

BYE [---] Leaves Turtleland and returns to pns-Forth.

(Tortle Graphics II, screen 1 DECIMAL : VALUES <BUILDS 0 00

)

0 , LOOP DOES> DVER + + TO-FLAG @ IF 0 TO-FLAG ! ! ELSE @ THEN ; VALUE PREFIX ; SET (---) 2 TO PREFIX ; ; SHOW (---) 4 TO PREFIX ; ; ROOT: (---) <BUILDS SHUDGE 1 DOES> PREFIX + @ EXECUTE 0 TO PREFIX ; -->

.

(Turtle Graphics II, screen 2
4 CONSTANT #TURTLES
VALUE WHICH
(The number of the active turtle)

- : ACTIVE: (n ---) TO WHICH :
- : .HHICH (----)
- ." Turtle #" WHICH . ;
- : ACTIVE? (----)

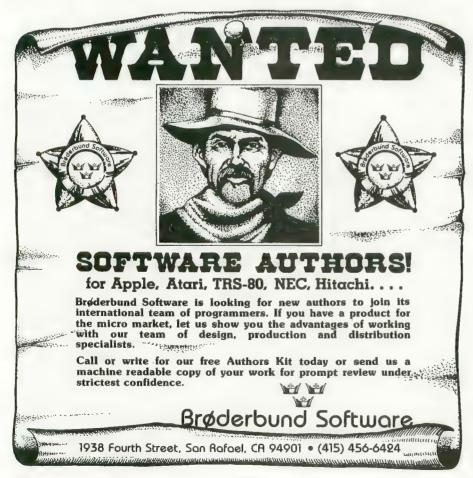
.WHICH ." is active " CR ;
RODT: ACTIVE WHICH ACTIVE! ACTIVE? ;
-->

)

)

Turtle Graphics II, screen 3 1 : MODE@ (--- n) 87 C@ : : MODE? (----) " This is graphics mode " MODER . CR : TABLE MAX COL# (n1 ---- n2) 39, 19, 19, 39, 79, 79, 159 , 159 , 319 , TABLE MAX ROWH (n1 --- n2) 19, 19, 9, 19, 39, 39, 79 , 79 , 159 , : WHOLE-SCREEN (--- n1 n2 n3 n4) 1 HODEP HAX COL# 1-1 MODE@ MAX_ROW# 1- ; _--->

(44 Turtle Graphics II, screen 4
: VIEWPORT@ (--- n1 n2 n3 n4)
CLIPPING LEFT RIGHT TOP BOTTOM ;
: VIEWPORT? (---) CLIPPING



." The viewport is from column "
 LEFT . ." to " CR ." column "
 RIGHT . ." and from row " TOP .
 ." to row " BOTTOM . CR ;
VALUE XMIN VALUE YMIN
VALUE XMAX VALUE YMAX
; WINDOW? (--- n1 n2 n3 n4)
 XMIN XMAX YMIN YMAX ;
; WINDOW? (---)
 ." The window is from X=" XMIN .
 ." to X=" XMAX . CR ." and from Y="
 YMIN . ." to Y=" YMAX . CR ;
-->

Turtle Graphics II. screen 5 VALUE OCOL VALUE OROW ORIGIN! (----) CLIPPING XMIN MINUS RIGHT LEFT -XMAX XHIN - X/ LEFT + TO OCOL MAX MINUS TOP BOTTOM -YMAX YMIN - */ TOP + TO OROW : : VIEWPORT! (n1 n2 n3 n4 ----) CLIPPING HODER MAX_ROW! HIN TO BOTTOM O MAX TO TOP MODE? MAX_COL # MIN TO RIGHT 0 MAX TO LEFT ORIGIN! : : WINDOW! (n1 n2 n3 n4 ---) TO YMAX TO YMIN TO XMAX TO XMIN ORIGIN! :

1

)

```
Turtle Graphics II, screen 6
{
ROOT: VIENFORT
 VIEWPORTO VIEWPORT! VIEWPORT? :
ROOT: WINDOW
 HINDON® WINDOW! WINDOW? :
: LEFT- ( ---- n )
  CLIFFING LEFT 1- 0 MAX :
: TOP- ( ---- r<sub>1</sub> )
 CLIFFING TOP 1- 0 MAX :
: RIGHT+ ( --- n ) CLIFPING
  RIGHT 1+ MODER MAX_COL! MIN ;
: BOTTOM+ ( --- n ) CLIPPING
  EDITOH 1+ HODER MAX_ROME MIN ;
: FRAME ( n ---- )
                       COLOR
       LEFT- TOP-
                        PLOT
       RIGHT+ TOP-
                      DRAHTO
       RIGHT+ BOTTOM+ DRAWTO
       LEFT- BOTTON+ DRANTO
      LEFT- TOP-
                      DRANTO ;
```

```
( Turtle Graphics II, screen 7
#TURTLES VALUES PENC)
; PEN@ ( --- flag ) WHICH PEN() ;
: PENDOWN? ( --- flag ) PENP ;
: PENUP? ( --- flag ) PENE 0= ;
: PEN! ( flag ---- )
 0= 0= WHICH TO PEN() ;
: PENDOWN ( ---- ) 1 PEN! ;
: PENUP ( ---- ) 0 PEN! :
: PEN? ( ---- )
                • HHICH
 " has her pen " PEN@ IF
           " down " ELSE
              " UP " THEN
                       CR :
ROOT: PEN PENP PEN! PEN? :
--->
( Turtle Graphics II, screen 8
                                  )
#TURTLES VALUES INK()
```

)

)

)

```
: INK@ ( --- n ) WHICH INK() :
: INK! ( n --- ) WHICH TO INK() ;
: ERASING ( ---- ) 0 INK! ;
: INK? ( --- )
.WHICH ." is using ink #" INK@ . CR :
RODT: INK INK? INK? :
-->
```

```
( Turtle Graphics II, screen 9
#TURTLES VALUES HEADING()
: HEADING® ( --- n )
 WHICH HEADING() ;
: HEADING? ( ---- )
                       • HHICH
 ," has heading " HEADINGE . CR ;
: HEADING' ( ri ---- )
 360 MOD WHICH TO HEADING() ;
: TURNTO ( ri --- ) HEADING! ;
ROOT: HEADING
 HEADING? HEADING! HEADING? ;
: TURN ( n ---- )
 HEADING + HEADING! ;
: RIGHT ( n --- ) TURN ;
: LEFT ( n --- ) MINUS TURN :
-->
( Turtle Graphics II, screen 10
#TURTLES VALUES X()
#TURTLES VALUES Y()
: X@ ( ---- n ) WHICH X() ;
: Y@ ( --- r ) WHETCH Y() ;
: X? (----)
 .WHICH ." is at X=" X0 . CR ;
: Y? ( ---- )
  .WHICH ." is at Y=" Y0 . CR ;
: POSITION@ ( --- n1 n2 ) X@ Y@ ;
```

: POSITION? (---) .HHICH

." is at X=" X0 . ." and Y=" Y0 . CR ;

(Turtle Graphics II, screen 11) : X->COL (n1 --- n2) CLIPPING RIGHT LEFT - XMAX XMIN - X/ OCOL + : : Y->ROW (n1 --- n2) CLIPPING TOP BOTTOM - YMAX YMIN - #/ ORDH + ; : SCALE (n1 n2 --- n3 n4) SHAP X->COL SHAP Y->RON : : ?CONSOLE (--- flag) 53279 CP 7 = NOT : : POSITION! (n1 n2 ---) ?CONSOLE IF SP! CR ." ok." QUIT THEN PENP IF INKE COLOR OVER OVER SCALE POSITION® SCALE LINE THEN WHICH TO Y() WHICH TO X() ; --> (Turtle Graphics II, screen 12) : GOTO (n1 n2 ---) POSITION! ; ROOT: POSITION POSITION® POSITION! POSITION? ; : X! (n ---) Ye POSITION! ; : Y! (r ---) X@ SHAP POSITION! ; ROOT: X X0 X1 X2 : ROOT: Y Ye Y! Y? ; : MOVETO (n1 n2 ----) PEN® ROT ROT PENUP POSITION! PEN! ; : DRAWTO (n1 n2 ----) PEN® ROT ROT PENDOWN POSITION! PEN! ; --> (Turtle Graphics II, screen 13) VALUE SIZE_N VALUE SIZE_D : SIZEP (--- n1 n2) SIZE_N SIZE_D ; : SIZE (n1 --- n2) SIZE */ : : SIZE! (n1 n2 ---) TO SIZE_D TO SIZE_N ; : SIZE? (----) SIZE D DUP . 1 = IF " step is " ELSE " steps are " THEN " a distance of " SIZE_N . CR ; ROOT: SIZE SIZE? SIZE? ; --> (Turtle Graphics II, screen 14) : VECTOR (n --- n1 n2) DUF HEADINGE SINX XE + SWAP HEADING@ COSx Y@ + ; FORWARD (ri ----) SIZE VECTOR POSITION! ; : BACKWARD (r ---) HINUS FORWARD ; : HOVE (n ----)

FORTH FACTORY

```
PEN@ SHAP PENUP FORMARD PEN! 1
: DRAH ( n ---- )
PENO SHAP FENDOWN FORWARD PEN! ;
-->
( Turtle Graphics II, screen 15)
                                    )
; PER-FIXEL ( n ---- )
                CLIPPING >R
           RIGHT LEFT - 2 /
 DUP MINUS R * SWAP 1+ R *
           BOTTOM TOP - 2 /
 DUP MINUS R * SHAP 1+ R *
  SET WINDOW R> 1 SET SIZE ;
(Make SURE you typed the >R and R>)
( in this correctly. )
SCREEN-DEFAULTS ( ---- )
  WHOLE-SCREEN SET VIEWPORT
             100 PER-PIXEL :
TABLE GR.BYTES ( n1 --- n2 )
  960, 400, 200, 200, 400,
  800 , 1600 , 3200 , 6400 ,
: CLEAR ( --- )
 88 @ MODE@ GR.BYTES ERASE ;
--->
( Turtle Graphics II. screen 16
                                    )
: HOME ( ---- )
  8 8 MOVETO 8 TURNTO PENDOWN :
: START ( --- )
          #TURTLES 0 DO
    I SET ACTIVE HOME
        HODER 2 HOD IF
  I ELSE I 0= 0= THEN
          SET INK LOOP
          1 SET ACTIVE :
: MODE! ( n --- )
  GRAPHICS SCREEN-DEFAULTS
            1 FRAME START :
ROOT: MODE MODE! MODE! MODE? ;
: NEW ( ---- ) CLEAR 1 FRAME START ;
: BYE ( --- ) 0 GRAPHICS
        0 710 C! 68 712 C! ;
\sim
( Turtle Graphics II, screen 17 )
: DEFINE [COMPTLE] : ; INMEDIATE
: AS ; INMEDIATE
: END [COMPILE] ; ; INNEDIATE
: \ ( ignores rest of line )
 IN @ C/L / 1+ C/L # IN ! ; INHEDIATE
: (
  COMPILE 0 ECOMPILED DO ; INNEDIATE
: ) ECOMPILES LOOP : INNEDIATE
: +) [COMPILE] +LOOP ; INMEDIATE
;S
```

TAPE TOPICS

A MESSAGE ON THE MEDIUM

by CARL EVANS

The ATARI 410 Program Recorder, sometimes called the cassette drive, has a mixed reputation. Many users have had exasperating problems with it that have driven some of them straight to diskettes. Still, the 410 is a popular device, especially among ATARI users with tight budgets. The 410 can be more efficient and reliable if you learn something about its quirks.

The kind and quality of tape used with the 410 are important factors contributing to successful use. You might assume that the best quality, highest priced tapes, perhaps the so-called "computer" tapes, are what you should use, but that is not necessarily so. A good brand of music tape is usually sufficient.

You should avoid really cheap tapes, or tapes with strange brand names, and also avoid the "chromium dioxide" tapes, and "digital data recording" tapes advertised for use with some computers. Short tapes are often better than long ones, and there are some cassettes out now with as little as three minutes of tape on them. Really long tapes, like the C-90 and C-120, are unnecessary and have special problems that disqualify them for computer use.

Cassette tape is made of a tough, flexible plastic, coated with a magnetic material, usually ferrous oxide. When you record a program on a tape, the recorder generates a magnetic field that leaves a magnetic trace at a certain spot on the coating. The tape is pulled past the recorder at a constant speed, leaving a series of magnetized traces. The strength of the traces depends on many things, but the nature of the coating, its formulation and the evenness of its distribution are important.

In general, the price and quality of a tape will reflect these factors. Very expensive tapes will have highly responsive coatings securely bonded to the plastic in very carefully controlled thicknesses. Medium priced tapes, like music tapes, sacrifice some of this quality. Cheap tapes have inferior coatings and quality control, and are really suitable only for non-critical purposes.

The ATARI computers record data on the tape using a method known as frequency shift keying, or FSK. This means that the computer actually generates sound frequencies and sends them to the recorder. The frequencies generated by the ATARI are very precise at 3995 Hz (for zero) and 5327 Hz (for one). The 410 recieves these signals from the computer and leaves the appropriate magnetic traces on tape. This means that the trace on the tape is approximately the same as generated by the computer, but not quite. Variation within components of the 410 may throw the frequency off, or the speed of the capstan motor may vary enough to change the frequency of the trace. The amount of electrical energy to the recording heads may fluctuate too, so the traces written by the 410 may stray somewhat from their intended values.

Although the ATARI computer

writes sound frequencies to the tape, it does not respond to these frequencies when reading from tape. The 410 actually listens to the tape, interprets the frequencies as either low or high, and passes a voltage to the computer. Zero voltage equals zero, and approximately 5 volts equals one. The computer does not hear the frequencies, it reads voltage changes coming from the 410. This is the crux of the problem. If the 410 does not properly interpret the frequencies and pass the right voltage, the computer gets bad data.

Tape can be responsible for these errors. Look at Figure 1. In this normalized figure we find 3995 Hz and 5327 Hz as they might appear on an oscilliscope. Pretend that they represent two bits of data on tape. The amplitude (height) of each is equal, indicating the traces have equal signal strength. Tapes prepared by the ATARI Program Exchange (APEX) come close to this ideal. Tapes recorded by other vendors, or by the 410 itself most often do not. They look more like the waveforms in Figure 2, where the higher frequency has less amplitude, or signal strength. This loss of strength for higher frequencies is called attenuation and is a normal condition.

If attenuation causes the higher frequency to be recorded at a strength lower than the threshold for recognition by the 410, or the components of the 410 are not operating up to their specifications, the 410 will fail to recognize a one, and "drop" a bit. The com-

TAPE TOPICS

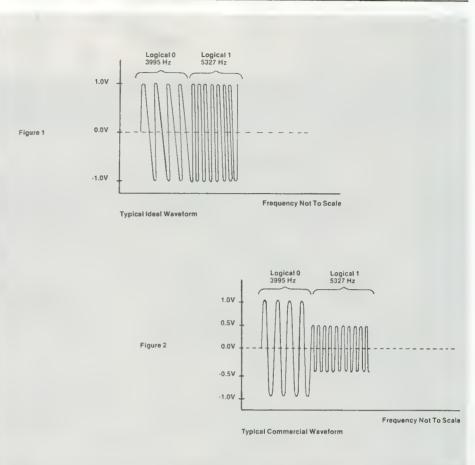
puter is monitoring the load, and if it senses an improper sequence it will issue a loading error message. But the bad bit(s) may be in data statements about which the computer cannot judge, and so some problems won't show up till later.

Highly responsive computer tape might seem a solution to this problem, but in fact it catches us going the other way. Being highly responsive, it does not attenuate certain non-signals, like the switching current that makes a "spike" every time the recorder is started. Spikes are often interpreted by the 410 as signals, so a one is passed to the computer when none is supposed to be there. This, of course, gives a bad load. If you have this problem, you can get around it by positioning your tape on CLOADS so you start just past the point where the leader tone begins. Other intermittant electrical noises can creep onto high grade tape in a low grade recorder, and that's why medium grade tapes are better with the 410. They will tend to attenuate spurious signals to strengths below threshold.

The problem with chromium dioxide tape is that it is very abrasive to recording heads and the 410 is not built to take it. Beware of companies offering software for the ATARI recorded on chrome tape. Head wear is another cause for distortion and loss of signal.

Other things that can cause the 410 to misread a signal include "fade out" and distortion. Fade out is the loss of strength of a trace on tape due to thin spots, perhaps caused by loss of coating from repeated playing. Music buffs claim they can hear this loss after about fifty plays. That is about the point at which fade out begins to affect data too. After about fifty reads, medium grade tape may lose enough coating to lower the trace strength below threshold for higher frequencies. Running tape on Fast Forward or Reverse does not damage the coating since the heads are not engaged.

Sometimes distortion results from the physical stretching of tape. If a tape



is stretched, a high frequency signal will become lower, and may not be recognized by the circuitry as a high signal. Stretching takes place most often near the beginning and end of tapes, near the hubs. Allow plenty of leader to reduce this problem. Thin tape stretches easier than thick tape, and thin tape is used with long tapes, so avoid any tape longer than 30 minutes per side.

Good practice suggests using short tapes of good quality from a manufacturer whose products give satisfaction. I usually put only one program on a tape and repeat the save a couple of times on that tape. I might also save it with other programs on a longer tape for archival purposes. Keep your tapes away from magnetic forces and environmental hazards.

This covers the main points of the tape medium as they pertain to the

ATARI system. Next month we will look at the 410 machine itself. Your comments and questions are invited. Please send them to ANTIC for my attention.

Carl Evans is an electronics engineer who earned both BSEE and MSEE at Georgia Institute of Technology. He now works at Aerojet Electronics Systems, and was formerly with General Dynamics. In 1979 he bought a TRS-80 and used only tape for mass storage. When lured to the ATARI 800 in 1980 he continued to use tape with the 410 Program Recorder. He has written many programs for the ATARI, including several tape utilities, and has formed a new company, VERVAN Software, to market some of them. ANTIC readers should be pleased to learn that Carl will be coordinating this department of the magazine.

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SYSTEMS GUIDE

ON HAVING A GOOD TIME continued from page 23

clear it again afterwards, getting a nice uncorrupted reading.

The timekeeping routine needs to be inserted in the interrupt service chain, and we also have to ensure that it is not erased. A number of countermeasures are necessary, including, a harmless patch to DOS.

Puting the pieces together

I have placed the module in the cassette buffer. If you don't run the cassette, this area is unused. Two points of caution about its present location: although the cassette buffer extends from 3FD hex to 4FF, "SYSTEM RESET" clears all of pages two and three so our code can't actually begin below 400; also the module slightly overflows the top end of the buffer into locations used by BASIC. Fortunately the initilization code — which only runs when the module is first loaded — can be put there, so there is no great problem.

We can partition the code as follows. The user communication area [TIMLOK, SECS...DAYS] is placed at the very beginning, so that it can be easily referenced. Then, after some local storage, comes the code to handle the RESET button, followed by the interrupt handler itself [CLOCK]. At the end — and extending into BASIC's space — is the initialization code [WINDIT]. Notice the start-address is location 2E2 (not 2E0).

Now, I'll define some of the terminology. First of all, clock "ticks" are actually VBLANK interrupts. When a VBLANK interrupt occurs, the operating system jumps to the service routine through the "immediate VBLANK vector" location VVBLKI. The service routine is normally within the operating system [SYSVBV], but we can change the contents of the vector to point to our own routine.

The vector is a two-byte address, and there would be a reasonable possibility of an interrupt happening just after one byte of the two had been changed, with disastrous results. To circumvent this hazard, the operating system provides a special routine SETVBV that should always be used to alter this. The particular vector to change is selected by the value passed in the accumulator (6 in this case). The operating system will always restore the vector to its original value on RESET, so we in turn must immediately re-fix it.

The reset code in the module is executed after the operating system's reset sequence has been initiated. This sequence occurs whenever the system has been bootstrapped (not simply loaded) from cassette. This CASINI vector points to the code that performs the reset sequence, and may be used for our own purposes. If the CASINI vector does happen to be already in use, the startup-time code [WINDIT] will store the current value as part of a JSR instruction [INITON] in the reset code so that it is still executed. The operating system is informed that CASINI is enabled by setting bit 1 of the flag BOOTE

Caution! don't try to load the module more than once without a coldstart! If you do so it will find its own address in CASINI and go into an infinite loop at the next RESET.

Once the VBLANK vector is set up, our interrupt service routine [CLOCK] will go into action at each clock tick. There is little more than needs to be said about this section, except to note how the CRITIC flag is used. This flag is set non-zero by the system to inhibit deferred VBLANK processing, and we too must bypass most of the normal sequence at such times. We actually combine the CRITIC flag with our our own TIMLOK, freezing the clock if either is non-zero, so that we can avoid reading a running clock. Don't leave TIMLOK set for more than ten minutes, though. If the number of 13-second adjustments needed become greater than 60, the count-down timer [CNT60] will overflow and take several seconds to get back in step. TIMLOK is set initially to 255, as a signal to the user that the clock has never been run. But the user program, when setting the time of day, should always initialize the seconds-counter CSECS to zero and the count-down timer CNT60 to sixty immediately before releasing TIMLOK, thus ensuring that the clock starts in sync.

Doing it to DOS

That about covers the code itself. Now all we have to do is make the DOS patch. Under DOS 2, when you return to a cartridge program from DUP.SYS with the "B" command, the VBLANK interrupt vectors will be reset to their original system values. I have never fathomed the intention behind this. In any case, suppressing the action has absolutely no detrimental effect on normal usage.

The patch is trivial, a jump to avoid that section of code, but a little messy to install, because DUP.SYS usually goes away when not in use. It seems best to present it as a recipe; the one that follows is probably the shortest reasonable path.

1. Install the Assembler / Editor cartridge and boot up with DOS-2

2. Insert the disk you intend to patch. It should have DUP.SYS on it — and I suggest it be a scratch disk!
3. Use the editor to generate the patch:

10 * = \$272A 20 JMP \$1912

30 .END

4. Assemble it to a disk file with: ASM,,#D:DOSPATCH.OBJ

5. Got to the DOS menu.

6. Give the "C" command, and in response to the file-spec query enter: DOSPATCH.OBJ,DUP.SYS/A

At this point the patch has been tagged on to the end of the save file, making it one sector longer.

7. Use the "B" command to return to the editor, and then go back to DOS. This brings in the modified system.

8. Re-install the new system on your disk drive with the "H" command. DUP.SYS will return to its original length.

You should, of course, copy the modified system onto any disk you are going to use while the clock module is continued next page

SYSTEMS GUIDE

running. (In fact I never use anything but the patched version.) For this you can use either the "H" command to install a complete DOS, or "C" or "O" to update DUP.SYS alone.

10 "ACCURATE" CLOCK MODULE 20 ;Copyright Pete Goodeve, 1982 30 teasseseseseseseseseses 40 : 50 joccupies cassette buffer 60.1 70 ;Atari OS references: 80 SETVBV=\$E45C set-vector entry 90 SYSVBV=\$E45F OS VBLANK service 0100 VVBLKI=\$222 immed. VBLANK vector 0110 CRITIC=\$42 critical section flag 0120 CASINI=\$2 "cassette" init vector 0130 BOOTF=9 boot mode flag for init 0140 : 0150 : 0160 *=\$400 cass. buffer(1024 dec) 0170; 0180 TIMLOK .EYTE \$FF 0190 SECS .BYTE 0 0200 MIN .BYTE 0 0210 HRS .BYTE 0 0220 DAYS .BYTE 0 0230 : 0240 CNT60 BYTE 60 VBLANK ticks 0250 CSECS .BYTE 0 contin. count 0260 ASECS .BYTE 13 adjustment count 0270 ; ; 0280; 0290 INITON=*+1 0300 Comes this way on RESET Button 0310 ;via "Cassette Init" vector: 0320 RESET 0330 JSR NUTHIN -- filled before use 0340 SETINT

- 0350 LDX #CLOCK/256 0360 LDY #CLOCK&\$FF 0370 LDA #6 "immediate VBLANK" code 0380 JSR SETVBV set up interr, vect,
- 0390 NUTHIN 0400 RTS 0410;
- 10 GRAPHICS 2
- 20 REM set up mnemonics fo r module locations:
- 30 TIMLOK=1024:SECS=1025:M IN=1026
- 40 HRS=1027:CNT60=1029:CSE CS=1030
- 50 REM
- 60 REM if clock not set, g o do it:
- 70 IF PEEK(TIMLOK)>1 THEN GOSUB 210
- 80 FOKE TIMLOK,0:REM just in case...
- 90 REM

Where we came in

If you've stuck with me this far, you probably don't need to ask "What can I use it for?". You must have desperate

need for it. However, as an example of how to couple the module to BASIC, a simple digital clock is given in listing 2. Take it and go from there.

0420: 0430 Immed VBLANK interrupt service 0440 ;comes through here first: 0450: 0460 CLOCK 0470 DEC CNT60 count 60 ticks 0480 BNE XIT before doing anything 0490 INC CSECS keep track of seconds 0500 LDX #60 (kept around for later) 0510 STX CNT60 reset count 0520 LDA CRITIC check if critical 0530 ORA TIMLOK or if locked by user 0540 BNE XIT gotta stop here 0550 ; continue on if not critical 0560 ; or locked...; 0570 ; repeats if seconds were missed 0580 CLKLP 0590 DEC ASECS 13 second count down 0600 BNE TICK 0610 LDA #13 0620 STA ASECS reset 13-sec count 0630 DEC CNT60 and skip one tick 0640 TICK 0650 INC SECS user's time 0660 CPX SECS, reached 60 yet? 0670 BNE TOK nope 0680 LDY #0 0690 STY SECS reset seconds 0700 INC MIN and bump minutes 0710 CPX MIN over the hour? 0720 BNE TOK not yet 0730 STY MIN and so on ... 0740 INC HRS 0750 LDA #24 0760 CMP HRS 0770 BNE TOK 0780 STY HRS 0790 INC DAYS 0800 ;...etc. if needed 0310 TOK 0820 DEC CSECS were any missed?

100 REM *** main time displ ay 100p: 110 IF PEEK(SECS)=OLDSECS T **HEN 110** 120 POKE TIMLOK,1 130 VHRS=PEEK(HRS):VMIN=PEE K(MIN):VSECS=PEEK(SECS) 140 OLDSECS=VSECS 150 POKE TIMLOK,0 160 POSITION 3,5 170 ? #6;"time:";VHRS;":";V MIN;":";VSECS;" 11 180 GOTO 110 190 REM 200 REM *** subroutine to s et time:

0830 BNE CLKLP round again if so 0840 VVON=*+1 0850 [continue with VBLANK chain] 0860 XIT 0870 JMP SYSVBV altered at setup 0880: 0890 0900 : 0910 ;*** INITIAL ENTRY HERE 0920 gets overwritten by BASIC 0930 WINDIT 0940 LDX CASINI+1 Cassette Init vect 0950 BEQ NOINI zero if not used 0960 LDY CASINI rest of current vect 0970 SETON 0980 STX INITON+1 set up JSR address 0990 STY INITON so stuff gets done 1000 LDA #RESET/256 plug in our own 1010 STA CASINI+1 reset sequence 1020 LDA #RESET&\$FF 1030 STA CASINI 1040 LDA VVBLKI current immed VBLANK 1050 STA VVON will be done after us 1060 LDA VVBLKI+1 1070 STA VVON+1 1080 LDA BOOTF bootstrap mode flag 1090 ORA #2 must include "cassette" 1100 STA BOOTF 1110 JMP SETINT go set VBLANK vector 1120 : **1130 NOINI** 1140 LDY #NUTHIN& FF dummy for JSR 1150 LDX #NUTHIN/256 1160 BNE SETON 1170: 1180: 1190 ;Autostart addr. 1200 *=\$2E2 "init" vector 1210 .WORD WINDIT 1220; 1230 .END 210 ? "ENTER HRS, MIN, SEC:";

210 ? "ENTER HRS,MIN,SEC:"; 220 INPUT VHRS,VMIN,VSECS 230 POKE TIMLOK,255:REM so it can be called from e lsewhere 240 POKE HRS,VHRS 250 POKE MIN,VMIN 260 POKE SECS,VSECS 270 REM reset module's inte rnal timers: 280 POKE CNT60,60 290 POKE CSECS,0 300 POKE TIMLOK,0 310 RETURN

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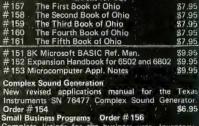
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PILOT continued from page 27

50 R:PILOT COMPOSER 60 R:ANTIC, VOL 1 # 4 70 R: 100 R: INIT 110 **#INIT** 120 R: 130 C: \$NOTEVALUES= 140 C: \$PLAYVALUES= 150 C: \$END=! 155 R: REMEMBER THE SPACE BETWEEN EACH S ET OF CHARACTERS 160 C: \$GOODNOTES=C D E F G A B O 170 C:\$GOODDURATION=1 2 4 8 5 0 180 C: \$NOTETABLE=C. 1/ D. 3/ E. 5/ F. 6/ G. 8/ A. 10/ B. 12/ O. 0/ 1. 1/ 2. 2/ 4 . 4/ 8. 8/ 5. 16/ 300 R: FILE 310 ***FILE** 320 R: 330 T:ENTER DEVICE TO SAVE MUSIC ON 340 T:D=DISK, C=CASSETTE 350 A:\$D 360 R:NEXT, CHECK TO SEE IF CASSETTE 370 M: C 380 CY: \$FILESPEC=C: 390 JY: *FILEDONE LIF CASS JUMP OUT 400 M: D 410 TY:ENTER FILE NAME 420 AY: \$FILE [GET FILE NAME 430 CY: \$FILESPEC=\$D: \$FILE 440 TN:I DON'T KNOW THAT DEVICE 450 JN: *FILE 460 ***FILEDONE** 470 T: } [ESC-CTRL-CLEAR .. CLEARS SCREEN 500 R: INSTRUCTIONS 510 **#INSTRUCTIONS** 520 R: 530 T: 540 T:NOTES ARE: C D E F G A B 550 T: AND 0 FOR OFF 560 T: 570 T: DURATIONS ARE: 580 T: 1=WHOLE 2=HALF 590 T: 4=QUARTER 8=EIGHTH 600 T: S=SIXTEENTH O=NONE 610 T: 620 T:ENTER & TO QUIT 630 T: 700 R: ENTER 710 **#ENTER** 720 R: 730 C:#A=#A+1 740 POS:1,12 750 T:ENTER 4 NOTES + DURATION FOR CHORD #A ISPACE, ESC-CTRL-LEFT 760 PDS:17,15 770 A: \$NDTES 780 M:& 790 JY: *ENDER

800 EY: 810 U: *CHECKNOTES 820 SO:20 [BEEP ON COMPLETION 830 PA:7 840 50:0 850 WRITE(#A=10): \$FILESPEC, \$PLAYVALUES 860 C(#A=10):#A=0 870 J: *ENTER 900 R: ENDER 910 ***ENDER** 920 R: 930 C: \$PLAYVALUES=\$PLAYVALUES! 940 WRITE: \$FILESPEC, \$PLAYVALUES 950 CLOSE: \$FILESPEC 960 T: 970 T: SAVED IN FILE \$FILESPEC 980 T: 990 T: SESSION ENDED 1000 E: 1100 R: CHECKNOTES 1110 *CHECKNOTES 1120 R: 1130 A:=\$NOTES [MOVE \$N. TO ACCEPT 1140 MS:, EMATCH ON 1ST BLANK 1150 A:=\$RIGHT!/[ADD/, MOVE TO ACCEPT 1160 C:#C=0 [SETS NOTE COUNTER TO O 1170 C: \$NOTEVALUES= 1180 C:#G=0 1190 *LOOP 1195 R: TWO RIGHT ARROWS AND COMMA 1200 MS: . **ISKIP 2 SPACES TYPE ESC-CTR** L-R. ARROW 1210 CN(#G=0): \$PLAYVALUES= \$PLAYVALUES \$ND TEVALUES 1220 POSN(#G=0):2,22 1225 R: 38 BLANKS UP ARROW NEXT LINE 1230 TN(#G=0): [ESC-CTRL-UP 1240 EN: 1250 MS: \$RIGHTEMATCH W/O 1ST LETTER 1260 C: \$SAVE=\$MATCH [SAVE ALL 1270 A:=\$LEFT [\$L. HAS BLANK+LETTER 1275 R: RIGHT ARROW & UNDERLINE NEXT LIN Ε 1280 MS:_ **ESKIP BLANK & LETTER** 1290 R: \$LEFT HAS THE LETTER WE NEED 1300 C: \$NOTE=\$LEFT 1310 U: *TRANSLATE 1320 A:=\$SAVE [PUT ALL IN BUFFER 1330 J:*LOOP 1400 R: TRANSLATE 1410 ***TRANSLATE** 1420 R: 1430 C:#C=#C+1 1440 E(#C=7): 1450 A(#C<5):=\$GOODNOTES 1460 A(#C=5):=\$GOODDURATION 1470 M: \$NOTE 1480 POSN: 2, 22 1490 TN:ERROR IN THIS VALUE: \$NOTE

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```
1370 M:!
1380 EY:
1390 J(#N<5):*LOOP2
1400 SO: #A#B#C#D
1410 PA:#T/#L
1420 J:*LOOP1
1500 R:SET G FLAG FOR BAD NOTE
1510 CN:#G=1
1520 EN:
1530 A(#C=6):=$NOTE
1540 M(#C=6):!
1550 EY(#C=6);
1560 POSN(#C=6):2,22
1570 TN(#C=6): TOD MANY VALUES: $NOTE
1580 CN(#C=6):#G=1
1590 EN(#C=6):
1600 POS(#C>6):2,22
1610 T(#C>6):TOO MANY VALUES: $NOTE
1620 C(#C>6):#G=1
1630 E(#C>6):
1640 A: = $NOTETABLE
1650 MS: $NOTE.
1660 A:=$RIGHT
1670 MS:/
1680 C: $NOTEVALUES=$NOTEVALUES$LEFT
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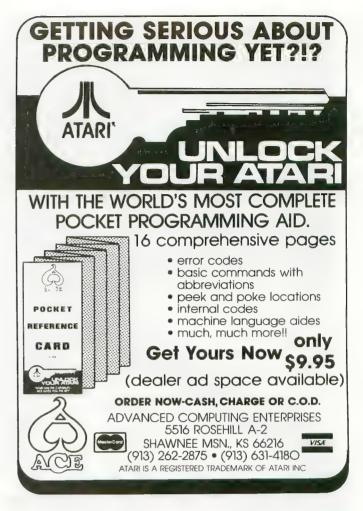
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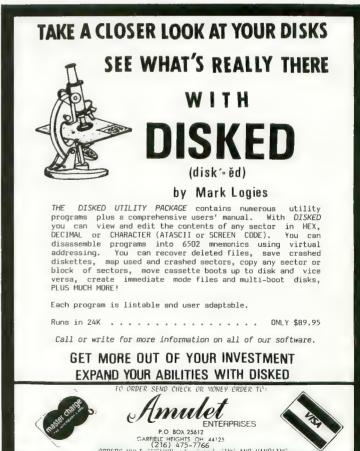
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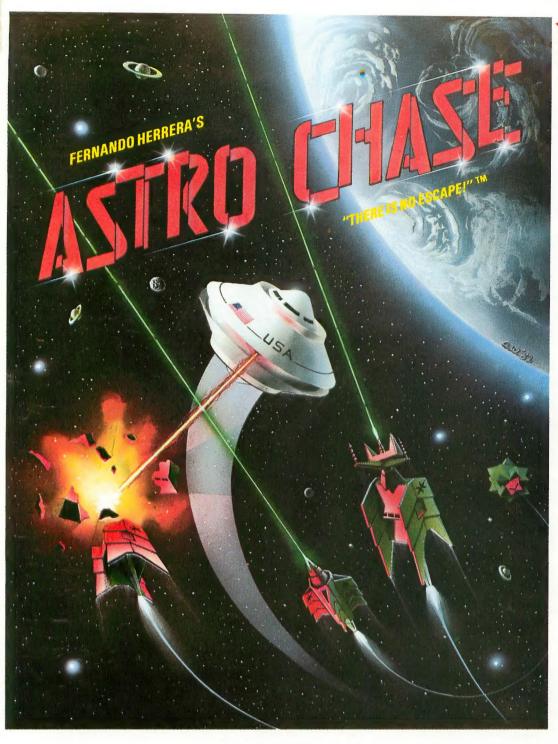
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