UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

Computer Centre

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

date   : week ended 11 May 1972
authorization : Director of the Computer Centre

1. OPERATIONS

1.1 PDP-10 System

Friday	5 May	end of day accounting which aborted previous night, 0930-0955 card reader maintenance, 0955-1030, no batch processed.
Monday	8 May	card reader maintenance, 1030-1430, 1845-2020, 2115-2220, no batch processed power failure 1925, monitor restarted 1927 system failure, offline 2040-2052.
Tuesday	9 May	system failure, offline 1030-1050 batch test only, 1050-1100 system failure, offline 1106-1117 batch test only, 1120-1130 disk maintenance, 1137-1345 disk pack maintenance, 1443-1500 batch test only, 1500-1600.
Wednesday	10 May	end of day accounting which aborted previous night, 0930-0950 system failure, offline 1444-1500, 1738-1745, 2055-2100.

schedule for forthcoming week: maintenance 0700-0900
operations 0930-2300.

1.2 GE-225 System

schedule for forthcoming week: maintenance 0700-0830, 2000-2130
operations 0900-2000, 2130-2400.

2. RECEIPT/DISPATCH WINDOW

The present system of inputting card decks into the card trays and collecting work from the output shelves is shortly to be changed. The foyer of the Computer Centre will be temporarily reorganized during the week commencing 15 May. Both the input trays and output shelves will be placed inside the machine room. Users and clients will hand in their work and collect the results from the window marked 'RECEIPT/DISPATCH'.

Operational and administrative enquiries should still be directed to Mr Jauncey at the ENQUIRIES window.

3. STUDENT ACCOUNTING SYSTEM

Project administrators running student jobs under the student accounting system should check the deck setups to ensure that the last student job is terminated by a file separator card and a QUIT command card. If an EOJ card is encountered and the last student job has not been completed, it will not be properly accounted for and the SADAT file will not be updated.

4. PDP-10 COBOL

4.1 Program Recompilation

Users are advised to recompile any COBOL programs with the new version of the COBOL compiler. This is recommended even if old programs appear to be running successfully under the new system.

4.2   Reserved Words

The COBOL manual, MNT-13, lists as appendix A reserved words that are reserved in PDP-10 COBOL and other COBOL compilers.

Words marked with a single asterisk are not reserved in PDP-10 COBOL but should be reserved for compatibility with other compilers. The only one-asterisk words left are as follows:

ALPHANUMERIC
APPLY
CLOCK-UNITS
HOLD
PROCESS
REVERSED
SA
SIGN

Words marked by a double asterisk are of special significance to PD P-10 COBOL only. Several new words are reserved and these are as follows:

ASCII
BINARY
EBCDIC
EVEN
FORTRAN-IV
ODD
RECORDING
REWRITE
SYMBOLIC
USER-NUMBER

5.   PDP-10 FORTRAN ERRORS

On output of real numbers under F type format, the least significant digit in the output field is rounded.

example:
     If A has the value 3.07 then the sequence
             PRINT 5, A
     5   FORMAT (F5.1)
     will produce the result 3.1.

However, if the value to be output is such that no significant digits will be output unless rounding occurs, the value is output as zero.

example:
        If A has the value 0.07 the sequence
                PRINT 5, A
        5   FORMAT (F5.1)
    will produce the result 0.0.

This error will be corrected as quickly as possible.

6.   SYSTEM USER'S GUIDE REVISION 2

The second revision to the System User's Guide is available
from the Computer Centre.

7.   MATINV

The subroutine MATINV is now available on disk. Users on
the PDP-10 may use it directly rather than obtaining a card
deck as was necessary before.

To run a program using MATINV users can say

        RUN program-name $MATRIX.MATINV