

**TM11**  
**DECmagtape system**

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# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 INTRODUCTION

The TM11 DECmagtape System (see Figure 1-1) is a magnetic tape handling system designed to interface with the PDP-11 family of processors and peripherals to provide storage for large amounts of digital information. This system is ideally suited for writing, reading, and storing large volumes of data and programs in a serial manner. Transfer of information can be made between the PDP-11 and other computer systems, because the TM11 System reads and writes in industry-compatible formats.

The basic TM11 DECmagtape System consists of three distinct components:

|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| <b>TU10 Tape Transport</b> | <p>A magnetic tape handling device that reads and/or writes information on magnetic tape in either a 7-channel or 9-channel format. Includes automatic parity checking and file protection.</p> <p>Up to eight TU10 transports may be used in one TM11 System in any combination of 7- or 9-channel versions. One transport always functions as a master for the other system transports.</p>   |
| <b>TM11 Controller</b>     | <p>An interface between the tape units and the PDP-11 Unibus. Controls information transfers between the transport and other devices in a PDP-11 System. One controller services up to eight TU10 transports.</p> <p>Also referred to as "control unit", "interface", or "magtape control unit (MTC)".</p>  |
| <b>Magnetic Tape</b>       | <p>The recording medium used for data storage. Reel-mounted magnetic tape that is formatted in either 7-channel or 9-channel industry-compatible format.</p> <p>Includes end-of-tape (EOT) and beginning-of-tape (BOT) reflective markers, record gaps, lateral and longitudinal parity characters, and file marks. In addition, the 9-channel format includes a cyclic redundancy check character.</p> <p>Tape is 1/2-in. wide with bit packing densities of 200, 556, and 800 bpi for 7-channel; 800 bpi for 9-channel.</p> |

### 1.2 SCOPE

This manual provides the user with the information necessary to operate the TM11 DECmagtape System and provides the theory of operation and logic diagrams necessary to understand and maintain the TM11 Controller.

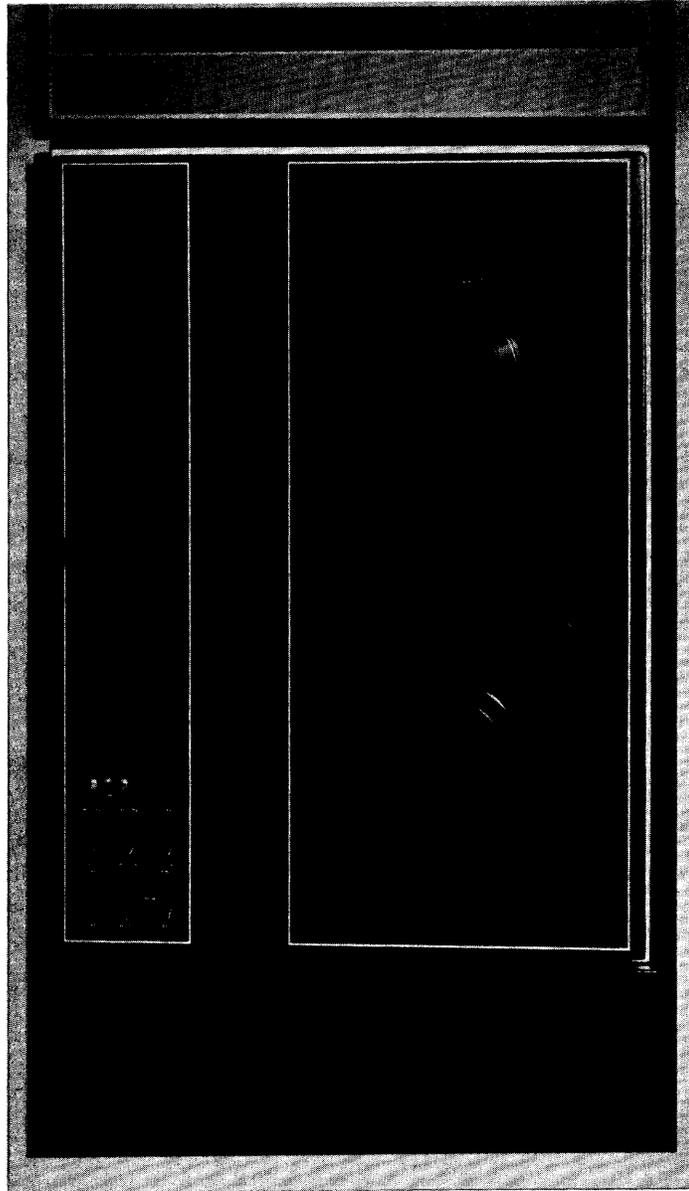


Figure 1-1 TM11 DECmagtape System

This manual and the *TU10 DECmagtape Manual* (DEC-00-TU10-DA) must be used together for a complete understanding of the entire TM11 System. The prime subject matter of this manual is the TM11 Controller; the prime subject matter of the TU10 manual is the tape transport and the magnetic tape. In addition, this manual serves as an overall system operating guide.

Table 1-1 indicates the coverage in the two manuals, and Table 1-2 lists related PDP-11 documents that are applicable to the TM11 DECmagtape System.

**Table 1-1  
TM11 System Manuals**

| <b>Title</b>                                | <b>Number</b>  | <b>Coverage</b>   |
|---|----------------|---|
| <i>TM11 DECmagtape System Manual</i>        | DEC-11-HTMA-D  | <b>Overall System</b> – description, installation, operation, programming.<br><br><b>TM11 Controller</b> – detailed theory of operation supported by logic diagrams in a second volume. |
| <i>TU10 DECmagtape Transport Manual</i>     | DEC-00-TU10-DA | <b>Tape Transport</b> – description and installation; detailed theory of operation; logic diagrams; maintenance.<br><br><b>Magnetic Tape</b> – detailed description of tape format.     |
| <i>TU10 DECmagtape Master System Manual</i> | DEC-00-TU10M-D | <b>Master Tape Transport</b> – description, interface and control, and theory of operation.   |

**Table 1-2  
Applicable Documents**

| <b>Title</b>                                | <b>Number</b>  | <b>Coverage</b>  |
|---|----------------|--|
| <i>TU10 DECmagtape</i>                      | DEC-00-TU10-DA | Provides detailed theory, operation, maintenance, and logic diagrams for the tape transport.   |
| <i>PDP-11 Processor and Systems Manuals</i> | *              | A series of maintenance and theory manuals that provide a detailed description of the basic PDP-11 System.   |
| <i>PDP-11 Processor Handbook</i>            | **             | A general handbook that discusses system architecture, addressing modes, the instruction set, programming techniques, and software.  |
| <i>PDP-11 Peripherals Handbook</i>          | 112-00973-2908 | A handbook devoted to a discussion of the various peripherals used with PDP-11 systems. It also provides detailed theory, flow, and logic descriptions of the Unibus and external device logic; methods of interface construction; and examples of typical interfaces. |

\*Applicable manuals are furnished with the system at time of installation. The document number depends upon the specific PDP-11 family processor.

\*\*Use the processor handbook unique to the actual CPU.

**Table 1-2 (Cont)**  
**Applicable Documents**

| Title   | Number        | Coverage  |
|---|---------------|---|
| <i>Logic Handbook</i>                           | DEC, 1971     | Presents functions and specifications of the M-Series logic modules, accessories, and connectors used in the TM11 Controller and the TU10 Tape Transport. Includes other types of logic produced by DEC but not used with PDP-11 devices. |
| <i>Paper-Tape Software Programming Handbook</i> | DEC-11-GGPB-D | Provides a detailed discussion of the PDP-11 software system used to load, dump, edit, assemble, and debug PDP-11 programs; input/output programming; and the floating-point and math package.  |

### 1.3 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The TM11 DECmagtape System is a magnetic tape storage facility consisting of a TM11 Controller and up to eight TU10 DECmagtape transports. The system reads or records digital data, in parallel, on magnetic tape in either a 7- or 9-channel industry-compatible format. Transfer rates as high as 36,000 characters per second can be achieved.

One tape transport is referred to as the master and contains all of the magnetic tape electronics. Additional transports are referred to as slaves and share the electronics in the master. This is possible because only one transport can communicate with the processor at any given time. Any combination of 7- and 9-channel transports (up to a total of eight) may be used with one TM11 Controller.

The TM11 DECmagtape System has a number of features that improve its reliability and make it exceptionally useful as a storage device. A read-after-write head automatically checks parity character-by-character; a longitudinal parity check (LPC) is automatically performed on all units; and a cyclic redundancy check (CRC) is automatically performed on 9-channel units.

Compatibility with industry standards provides efficient transfer of data between the PDP-11 and other computer systems. The tape format for both 7- and 9-channel transports is compatible with all industry standards.

The three major functional components of a TM11 DECmagtape System are: the TU10 DECmagtape Transport, the TM11 Controller, and the magnetic tape. Each of these functional components is briefly described in subsequent paragraphs.

#### 1.3.1 TU10 DECmagtape Transport

The TU10 DECmagtape Transport is a solid-state, magnetic tape handling device that controls tape motion and reads or records digital information on magnetic tape in industry-compatible formats.



The controller has three main functions: handling data transfers, issuing control commands, and monitoring operation of the system.

During data transfer functions, the controller assembles the data word from the magnetic tape and places it on the bus (read operation), or assembles it from the bus and loads it into the tape transport read/write heads (write operation) for recording on magnetic tape. The commands necessary to perform the specified operation are generated by the controller under program control.

Normal data word transfers are performed by direct memory access transactions at the NPR level. If the controller is ready to begin a new function or if an error condition exists, it issues an interrupt request so that it can be serviced by the program.

In addition to the commands required for data transfers, the controller may issue other commands governing tape unit selection, direction of tape travel, rewind, space forward, space reverse, write end-of-file mark, etc. The controller also monitors various functions and provides an indication of error conditions. The status of the monitored functions is stored in one of the controller registers.

A controller maintenance panel permits clearing of the TM11 System and includes 28 indicator lights to represent error conditions and the status of selected functions.

### 1.3.3 Magnetic Tape

The magnetic tape is the recording medium used with the TM11 DECmagtape System. The tape is 1/2-in. oxide-coated Mylar <sup>TM</sup>. The tape includes reflective end-of-tape (EOT) and beginning-of-tape (BOT) markers and is stored on 2400-ft reels.

Data is recorded in an industry-standard format. The 7-channel format consists of six data channels (1, 2, 4, 8, A, and B) and a parity channel (C). Each PDP-11 word is divided into two 6-bit characters. Data is stored in variable-length records separated by interrecord gaps of 3/4 in. A longitudinally parity check (LPC) character is written at the end of each record. Standard format marks (tape mark, group mark, segment mark, etc.) may also be written in a record along with the data. The 7-channel format may be written in densities of 200, 556, or 800 bpi.

The 9-channel format consists of eight data channels in the following order: 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, and 1. Channel 4 is used for parity. In addition, a cyclic redundancy check (CRC) character is written before the LPC character. Data is stored in variable length records separated by interrecord gaps of one-half inch. Each PDP-11 word consists of two 8-bit characters. The 9-channel format always has a bit packing density of 800 bpi.

Both formats are written by means of the non-return-to-zero (NRZI) recording method. Although the tape has two basic states of magnetization, the state does not determine the value of the bit. A logical 1 is represented by a change of magnetization in either direction. A logical 0 is represented by a constant state of magnetization.

## 1.4 SPECIFICATIONS

Operating and physical specifications for the TM11 Controller, the TU10 DECmagtape Transport, and the magnetic tape are given in Table 1-4.

## 1.5 ENGINEERING DRAWINGS

A complete set of reduced engineering drawings and module circuit schematics are provided in a companion volume to this manual, which is entitled, *TM11 DECmagtape System, Engineering Drawings*. A list of individual modules is included in Chapter 6 of this manual. The general logic symbols used on these drawings are described in the *DEC Logic Handbook, 1971*.

---

<sup>TM</sup> Mylar is a trademark of DuPont Corporation.

**Table 1-4**  
**TM11 DECmagtape System Specifications**

**Tape Characteristics**

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| Capacity:        | 2400 ft of 1/2-in., industry standard, 1-mil Mylar tape.   |
| Reel Diameter:   | 10-1/2 in. standard reels  |
| Tape Handling:   | Direct-drive reel motors; servo-controlled single capstan; vacuum tape buffer chambers with constant tape winding tension. |
| Tape Speed:      | 45 in. per second, reading and writing   |
| Rewind Speed:    | 150 in. per second (approximately 3-minute rewind time for 2400-ft reel)   |
| Packing Density: | 7-channel – 200, 556, and 800 bpi, selectable under program control<br>9-channel – 800 bpi                                 |

**Data Recording and Transfer**

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| Recording Mode:     | NRZI, industry-compatible  |
| Magnetic Head:      | Dual gap, read-after-write   |
| Data Transfers:     | Direct memory access (non-processor request)   |
| Transfer Rate:      | 36,000 characters per second, maximum  |
| BOT, EOT Detection: | Photoelectric sensing of reflective strip, industry-compatible.  |
| Write Protection:   | Write-protect ring sensing   |
| Data Checking:      | Read-after-write parity checking; longitudinal redundancy check; cyclic redundancy check (9-channel only).             |
| Interrecord Gap:    | Reads tape with gap of 0.48 in. or more; writes tape with gap of 0.52 in. or more (compatible with industry standard). |

**Programmable Commands Accepted by TU10**

- Rewind and go off-line
- Read
- Write
- Write end-of-file (EOF) character
- Space forward
- Space reverse
- Write with extended interrecord gap (IRG)
- Rewind to beginning of tape (BOT)

**Controller Register Addresses**

|                              |        |             |
|------------------------------|--------|-------------|
| Status Register (MTS):       | 772520 | (read only) |
| Command Register (MTC):      | 772522 |             |
| Byte Record Counter (MTBRC): | 772524 |             |

**Table 1-4 (Cont)**  
**TM11 DECmagtape System Specifications**

---

**Controller Register Addresses (Cont)**

|  |        |             |
|--|--------|-------------|
| Current Memory Address Register (MTCMA): | 772526 |             |
| Data Buffer Register (MTD):              | 772530 |             |
| TU10 Read Lines (MTRD):                  | 772532 | (read only) |

**Interrupt**

|                 |     |
|-----------------|-----|
| Priority Level: | BR5 |
| Vector Address: | 224 |

**Local Transport Controls**

|                  |                                  |
|------------------|----------------------------------|
| PWR ON/PWR OFF   | power control switch             |
| ON-LINE/OFF-LINE | local or programmed operation    |
| START/STOP       | tape motion control              |
| LOAD/BR REL      | releases tape for loading        |
| UNIT SELECT      | selects unit for program control |
| FWD/REW/REV      | tape direction control           |

**TU10 DECmagtape Transport**

|           |                                       |
|-----------|---------------------------------------|
| Mounting: | Mounts in standard H960C-A cabinet.   |
| Size:     | 26 in. high, 19 in. wide, 25 in. deep |
| Cooling:  | Internally-mounted fans               |
| Controls: | Front panel mounted                   |

**TM11 Controller**

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Mounting: | Mounts in standard 19-in. rack; normally mounted in cabinet containing master tape transport.  |
| Size:     | 10-1/2 in. high, 19 in. wide   |
| Controls: | On separate maintenance panel card that plugs into controller; includes CLEAR switch and 28 indicators displaying status of selected system functions. |

**Environmental Conditions**

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| Temperature: | 40°F to 110°F for system<br>60°F to 80°F for magnetic tape                         |
| Humidity:    | 20% to 95% (non-condensation) for system<br>40% to 60% (non-condensation) for tape |

---

**Table 1-4 (Cont)**  
**TM11 DECmagtape System Specifications**

---

|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| <b>Power Input Requirements</b> |   |
| Controller:                     | either 115 Vac, 50/60 Hz at 6.25A (A model)<br>or 230 Vac, 50/60 Hz at 6.25A (B model)  |
| TU10-EA, EE, FA, FE             | 115 Vac, 60 Hz  |
| TU10-EC, EH, FC, FH             | 115 Vac, 50 Hz  |
| TU10-EB, EF, FB, FF             | 230 Vac, 60 Hz  |
| TU10-ED, EJ, FD, FJ             | 230 Vac, 50 Hz  |
| <b>Power and Cabling</b>        |   |
| TM11 Power:                     | System power supplied by one H720 Power Supply mounted at back of master cabinet. Provides +5V at 16A and -15V at 10A for use by TM11 and up to eight TU10s.                        |
| TU10 Power:                     | Tape transport power (reel motors and fans) provided by internal power supply in each transport.  |
| Cabling:                        | BC11-A cable to connect controller to Unibus and to connect command signals between controller and master TU10.<br><br>M908 ribbon connector to connect master TU10 to slave TU10s. |

---

## 1.6 MAINTENANCE

The basic maintenance philosophy of the TM11 DECmagtape System is to present the user with the information necessary to understand normal operation of the system. The user can utilize this information when analyzing trouble symptoms to determine necessary corrective action. It is beyond the scope of this manual to present detailed troubleshooting information.

Detailed maintenance and troubleshooting information of the TU10 DECmagtape Transport is given in the *TU10 DECmagtape Manual*, DEC-00-TU10-DA.

# CHAPTER 2

## INSTALLATION

### 2.1 SCOPE

This chapter covers general information on installation of the TM11 DECmagtape System. Detailed information on installation of the TU10 Tape Transport is presented in the *TU10 DECmagtape Transport Manual*, DEC-00-TU10-DA. Information on various mounting cabinets is presented in the *H720 Power Supply and Mounting Box Manual*, DEC-11-HR5B-D.

### 2.2 CONFIGURATION

Installation procedures vary greatly, depending on the system configuration. For example, if the user has ordered a complete PDP-11 System, the TM11 DECmagtape System is shipped already installed in its appropriate rack together with the required cables. If the complete system is shipped, the interconnecting cables are already installed.

However, if only a part of the system is shipped because the user already has a basic PDP-11 System, then the TM11 DECmagtape System is shipped separately together with the appropriate cables. Installation procedures may vary, depending on whether the unit is mounted in a DEC- or customer-supplied cabinet, the number of tape transports in the system, and other variable factors.

### 2.3 UNPACKING

The equipment should be unpacked as follows:

| Step | Procedure  |
|------|--|
| 1    | Place the equipment package within the installation site near its final location. Cut the shipping straps and carefully remove all packing material.           |
| 2    | Remove the machine screws that hold the cabinet to the shipping pallet. Slide the cabinet off the pallet and move it to its final location.                    |
| 3    | Remove any tape holding the modules in place within the mounting panels and any tape holding the power and interconnecting cables to the floor of the cabinet. |

### 2.4 INSPECTION

Inspect all of the equipment before installing it, checking each piece against the parts list. Any damage must be reported immediately to the shipper and to the DEC representative.

## 2.5 SPACE REQUIREMENTS

No special site preparation is required for installation of the TM11 DECmagtape System. However, when installing the system, make certain that the front and rear of the cabinets are accessible to maintenance personnel. If the cabinets are separated by long distances, consideration should be given to overhead trenching ducts or floor ducts for the cabling.

## 2.6 POWER AND CABLE REQUIREMENTS

The TM11 Controller and associated TU10 transports operate from a line voltage of either 115 Vac or 230 Vac at a frequency of either 50 or 60 Hz, depending on the model ordered by the customer. The maximum current required is 6.25A for the controller. The TM11 Controller contains its own power supply, and each TU10 transport has its own power supply. Power supply specifications are listed in Table 1-4. The interconnecting cables are listed in Table 2-1.

**Table 2-1**  
**Interconnecting Cables**

| Cable                  | Function   |
|------------------------|--|
| BC11-A Cable           | Connects TM11 Controller to PDP-11 Unibus and to TU10 master transport.            |
| M908 Ribbon Connector* | Connects command and analog signals between master transport and slave transports. |

\*Number of cables supplied dependent on number of transports in system.

## 2.7 INSTALLATION

If the TM11 DECmagtape System is shipped separately, there are only three components that must be installed: the TM11 Controller, the TU10 DECmagtape Transport (or transports), and the H720 Power Supply. The TM11 Controller is 19 in. wide and 10-1/2 in. high; therefore, it can be mounted in any standard 19-in. rack or cabinet. Installation of the power supply and tape transport are covered in the appropriate manuals referenced in Paragraph 2.1.

## 2.8 FINAL CHECKOUT

After the system is installed and all cables connected, a final checkout should be performed. The first step is to apply power and check all manual controls of the transports, power clear operation, etc. The second step is to run the diagnostics supplied with the system.

# CHAPTER 3 OPERATION

## 3.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter provides the information necessary to operate the TM11 DECmagtape System. The description is divided into two major parts: controls and indicators, and operating procedures.

The description of the controls and indicators (refer to Paragraph 3.2) is in tabular form and provides the user with the type and function of each operating switch and indicator on the TU10 DECmagtape Transport and the TM11 Controller maintenance panel.

Step-by-step operating procedures for both on-line and off-line system operation are given in Paragraph 3.3. Complete maintenance-type procedures and adjustments for the TU10 are beyond the scope of this manual and are covered in the *TU10 DECmagtape Manual*.

## 3.2 CONTROLS AND INDICATORS

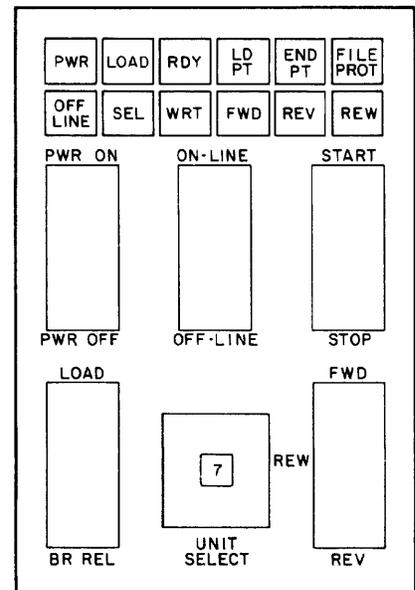
The controls and indicators used to operate the TM11 DECmagtape System are detailed in the following paragraphs. These paragraphs describe the TU10 DECmagtape Transport control panel and the TM11 Controller maintenance panel.

### 3.2.1 TU10 DECmagtape Control Panel

The TM11 DECmagtape System is controlled by switches mounted on the control panel of the TU10 transport. These switches can be used for off-line (manual or local) operation of the transport or can be used to enable the TM11 Controller for on-line (or remote) operation under program control.

The TU10 tape transport control panel (see Figure 3-1) is the small control panel located at the lower left of the TU10 front panel. Table 3-1 lists all tape transport controls and includes the type and function of each. Table 3-2 lists the tape transport indicators.

The controls shown in Figure 3-1 are those used during normal system operation. Additional controls, such as the adjustments to vary tape speed, control capstan acceleration and deceleration times, and reduce mechanical and electrical skew, are tape transport maintenance adjustments and are beyond the scope of this manual.



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Figure 3-1 TU10 Control Panel

**Table 3-1**  
**TU10 DECmagtape Transport Controls**

| Control                     | Type                        | Function  |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| PWR ON/PWR OFF switch       | 2-position butterfly switch | <p>Applies primary power to the TU10 tape transport.</p> <p>Primary power must be turned on at each individual tape transport; not remotely controlled from the system.</p> <p><b>PWR ON position</b> – applies ac power to primary power supply transformer T1 and illuminates PWR indicator light.</p> <p><b>PWR OFF position</b> – deactivates ac power, thereby removing all power from the transport.</p>  |
| ON-LINE/<br>OFF-LINE switch | 2-position butterfly switch | <p>Controls local (off-line) and remote (on-line) operation of the tape transport.</p> <p><b>ON-LINE position</b> – allows on-line system operation under program control.</p> <p>Read/write heads are not connected to the TM11 Controller until the program selects the tape transport.</p> <p>Tape transport is not completely on-line until the transport has been selected by the program (SEL bits in command register).</p> <p>Unit is completely on-line when SEL and RDY indicators are lit.</p> <p><b>OFF-LINE position</b> – disconnects the transport from the TM11 Controller to allow manual off-line operation.</p> <p>Tape motion is controlled by the FWD/REW/REV and START/STOP switches when in off-line mode.</p> <p>Tape unit cannot be remotely selected when switch is in OFF-LINE position.</p> |
| START/STOP switch           | 2-position butterfly switch | <p>Controls starting and stopping of tape.</p> <p><b>START position</b> – if transport is off-line, initiates tape motion in the direction determined by setting of the FWD/REW/REV switch.</p> <p>This position has no effect on tape motion if transport is in on-line (remote) mode.</p> <p><b>STOP position</b> – stops all tape motion in off-line mode except rewind.</p> <p>Does <i>not</i> stop transport during rewind mode of operation.</p>  |

**Table 3-1 (Cont)**  
**TU10 DECmagtape Transport Controls**

| Control            | Type   | Function   |
|--------------------|--|--|
| LOAD/BR REL switch | 3-position butterfly switch  | <p><b>LOAD position</b> – energizes the vacuum system to place the transport in a ready status to accept either on-line or off-line commands. Tape is drawn into the buffer columns forming a tape loop between the vacuum switches.</p> <p>Switch must always be in LOAD position when operating the transport either locally (off-line) or remotely (on-line).</p> <p>Lights LOAD indicator.</p> <p><b>BR REL position</b> – deenergizes the vacuum system and removes the tape reel motor braking action. The tape reels can be manually rotated, because there is no vacuum tension on the tape.</p> <p>Used primarily for loading and removing tape from transport.</p> <p><b>Center position</b> – the vacuum system is deenergized and the brakes are locked.</p> |
| UNIT SELECT switch | 8-position thumbwheel switch<br><br>Each position has corresponding indicator number. These are numbers 0 through 7. | <p>Permits remote selection of a tape transport by the program.</p> <p>The tape transport is selected for use when the TM11 Controller's selection code (SEL bits in the command register) corresponds to the numeral on the UNIT SELECT switch.</p> <p>When a tape transport is selected by the controller and the ON-LINE/OFF-LINE switch is set to ON-LINE, the ON-LINE and SEL indicators light to indicate that the tape unit is fully on-line.</p> <p>When using more than one tape transport, make certain that each transport is dialed to a different number.</p>   |
| FWD/REW/REV switch | 3-position butterfly switch  | <p>Moves tape in selected direction, depending on activation of the START/STOP switch. Used during off-line (local) operation of the transport.</p> <p>If the tape is moving in one direction, moving this switch to a different setting has no effect unless the tape is first stopped by START/STOP switch. The required sequence is given in Paragraph 3.3.2.</p> <p><b>FWD position</b> – tape is moved in the forward direction until the EOT (end-of-tape) marker is sensed, at which time tape motion stops.</p> <p>Causes FWD indicator to light.</p>  |

**Table 3-1 (Cont)**  
**TU10 DECmagtape Transport Controls**

| Control                   | Type | Function   |
|---------------------------|------|--|
| FWD/REW/REV switch (cont) |      | <p><b>REW position</b> – tape is moved in the reverse direction, rewinding it onto the feed reel until the BOT (beginning-of-tape) marker is sensed, at which time tape motion stops.</p> <p>After the BOT marker has been reached, depressing the switch again causes the tape to continue to rewind until it is completely rewound onto the feed reel or until the switch is deactivated.</p> <p>Causes REW indicator to light. During this mode, tape moves at a much faster speed than during the REV mode.</p> <p>Tape rewinds to a point well beyond the BOT marker, then stops, moves forward until the BOT marker is again sensed, then comes to a complete stop.</p> <p><b>REV position</b> – tape is moved in the reverse direction until the BOT marker is sensed, at which time tape motion stops.</p> <p>Causes REV indicator to light.</p> |

**Table 3-2**  
**TU10 DECmagtape Transport Indicators**

| Indicator                    | Type         | Function   |
|------------------------------|--------------|--|
| PWR indicator                | single light | <p>When lit, indicates that primary power has been applied to the TU10 transport.</p> <p>Controlled by PWR ON/PWR OFF switch.</p>  |
| LOAD indicator               | single light | <p>When lit, indicates that the vacuum system has been enabled, tape has been drawn into the buffer columns forming the required tape loop, and the transport is ready to accept either on-line or off-line commands.</p> <p>Controlled by LOAD/BR REL switch.</p>   |
| RDY indicator                | single light | <p>When lit, indicates that all read/write circuits and input/output lines are enabled; thus, the transport can accept processor commands provided the SEL indicator is also lit.</p>  |
| LD PT (load point) indicator | single light | <p>When lit, indicates that the beginning-of-tape (BOT) marker has been sensed, and the transport is ready for operation.</p> <p>Tape motion stops when the BOT marker has been sensed.</p> <p>When LD PT is lit, the transport does not accept a rewind (REW) command but does accept forward (FWD) and reverse (REV) commands.</p> |

**Table 3-2 (Cont)**  
**TU10 DECmagtape Transport Indicators**

| Indicator                          | Type         | Function   |
|------------------------------------|--------------|--|
| END PT (end point) indicator       | single light | <p>When lit, indicates that the end-of-tape (EOT) marker has been sensed. When this marker is sensed, all tape motion stops to prevent tape from winding off the reel.</p> <p>When the END PT indicator is lit, the transport does not accept a forward (FWD) command but does accept a reverse (REV) or rewind (REW) command.</p>   |
| FILE PROT (file protect) indicator | single light | <p>When lit, indicates that writing on the magnetic tape is inhibited.</p> <p>This indicator lights if no file reel is mounted on the feed reel hub or if a file reel is mounted that does not have a write-enable ring installed.</p> <p>When the FILE PROT indicator lights, the master tape unit sends a WRL (write lock) signal to the TM11 Controller. This signal sets the WRL bit in the status register and prevents the controller from performing a write operation.</p> |
| OFF-LINE indicator                 | single light | <p>When lit, indicates that the transport can be operated manually by using the switches on the transport control panel.</p> <p>Transport cannot be operated under program control when this light is lit.</p>   |
| SEL (select) indicator             | single light | <p>When lit, indicates that the transport has been properly selected by the controller and is completely on-line. The transport can now receive data from the controller and write it on the magnetic tape, or read data from the tape and transmit it to the controller for storage in memory.</p> <p>The SEL indicator lights when the number represented by the SEL bits in the command register corresponds to the number dialed on the transport UNIT SELECT switch.</p>      |
| WRT (write) indicator              | single light | <p>When lit, indicates that the write-enable ring has been installed on the feed reel, and the transport can write on the magnetic tape.</p>   |
| FWD (forward) indicator            | single light | <p>When lit, indicates tape is moving in the forward direction.</p> <p>Controlled by FWD position of FWD/REW/REV switch.</p>   |
| REV (reverse) indicator            | single light | <p>When lit, indicates that tape is moving in the reverse direction.</p> <p>Controlled by REV position of FWD/REW/REV switch.</p>  |
| REW (rewind) indicator             | single light | <p>When lit, indicates that tape is being rewound. Tape continues rewinding until BOT marker is sensed or until START/STOP switch is set to STOP.</p> <p>Controlled by REW position of FWD/REW/REV switch.</p>   |

### 3.2.2 TM11 Controller Maintenance Panel

The TM11 Controller maintenance panel is a small plug-in card containing switches and indicators that are used primarily for monitoring system functions during maintenance operations. Figure 3-2 illustrates the panel itself, and Figure 3-3 indicates how the panel is plugged into the system when it is to be used.

|      |      |     |     |           |           |           |  |  |
|------|------|-----|-----|-----------|-----------|-----------|--|--|
| SDWN | WRL  | RWS | TUR | FCTN BIT2 | FCTN BIT1 | FCTN BIT0 |  |  |
| NXM  | SELR | BOT | 7CH | PEVN      | CU RDY    | INT ENB   |  |  |
| BGL  | EOT  | RLE | BTE | UNIT SEL2 | UNIT SEL1 | UNIT SELO |  |  |
| ILC  | EOF  | CRE | PAE | ERR       | DENB      | DEN5      |  |  |

a. Maintenance Panel Indicators

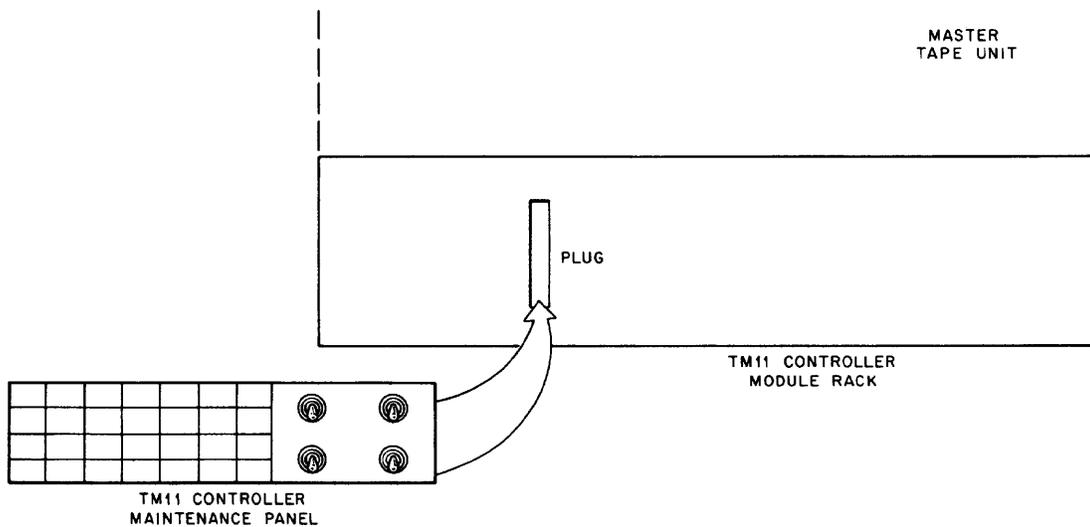
| STATUS REGISTER (MTS) BITS * |    |    |    | COMMAND REGISTER (MTC) BITS * |    |    |  |  |  |  |
|------------------------------|----|----|----|-------------------------------|----|----|--|--|--|--|
| 03                           | 02 | 01 | 00 | 03                            | 02 | 01 |  |  |  |  |
| 07                           | 06 | 05 | 04 | 11                            | 07 | 06 |  |  |  |  |
| 11                           | 10 | 09 | 08 | 10                            | 09 | 08 |  |  |  |  |
| 15                           | 14 | 13 | 12 | 15                            | 14 | 13 |  |  |  |  |

\* When an indicator is lit, it indicates that the associated register bit is set.

11-0390

b. Bits Monitored by Indicators

Figure 3-2 TM11 Controller Maintenance Panel



11-0393

Figure 3-3 Using TM11 Maintenance Panel

Although there are four toggle switches on the panel, only the CLEAR switch is used in the TM11 System. When actuated, this switch clears the TM11 Controller, the master tape transport, and all slave tape transports. It does not, however, clear any other system components such as the processor.

The 28 indicator lights on the panel monitor bits from the controller status register (MTS) and command register (MTC). The bits that are monitored are shown in Figure 3-2b and listed in Table 3-3. A brief description of each indicator function is presented in Chapter 4, which describes each bit position of all controller registers. A more detailed description is presented in Chapter 5.

**Table 3-3**  
**Maintenance Panel Indicators**

| Indicator | Name                            | Register | Bit |
|-----------|---------------------------------|----------|-----|
| SDWN      | Settle Down                     | MTS      | 03  |
| NXM       | Non-Existent Memory             | MTS      | 07  |
| BGL       | Bus Grant Late                  | MTS      | 11  |
| ILC       | Illegal Command                 | MTS      | 15  |
| WRL       | Write Lock                      | MTS      | 02  |
| SELR      | Select Remote                   | MTS      | 06  |
| EOT       | End-of-Tape                     | MTS      | 10  |
| EOF       | End-of-File                     | MTS      | 14  |
| RWS       | Rewind Status                   | MTS      | 01  |
| BOT       | Beginning-of-Tape               | MTS      | 05  |
| RLE       | Record Length Error             | MTS      | 09  |
| PAE       | Parity Error                    | MTS      | 12  |
| TUR       | Tape Unit Ready                 | MTS      | 00  |
| 7CH       | 7 Channel                       | MTS      | 04  |
| BTE       | Bad Tape Error                  | MTS      | 08  |
| CRE       | Cyclical Redundancy Error       | MTS      | 13  |
| FCTN BIT2 | Function Bit 2                  | MTC      | 03  |
| PEVN      | Parity Even                     | MTC      | 11  |
| UNIT SEL2 | Unit Select Bit 2               | MTC      | 10  |
| ERR       | Error                           | MTC      | 15  |
| FCTN BIT1 | Function Bit 1                  | MTC      | 02  |
| CU RDY    | Control Unit (controller) Ready | MTC      | 07  |
| UNIT SEL1 | Unit Select Bit 1               | MTC      | 09  |
| DEN 8     | Density 8 Bit                   | MTC      | 14  |
| FCTN BIT0 | Function Bit 0                  | MTC      | 01  |
| INT ENB   | Interrupt Enable                | MTC      | 06  |
| UNIT SEL0 | Unit Select Bit 0               | MTC      | 08  |
| DEN 5     | Density 5 Bit                   | MTC      | 13  |

### 3.3 OPERATING PROCEDURE

The TM11 DEC magtape System can be used in either an on-line or off-line operating mode. The off-line mode (also referred to as local or manual mode) is controlled by switches on the front panel of the master tape unit cabinet and the controls on the individual slave tape units. The on-line mode (also referred to as remote or program-controlled mode) is controlled by programmed commands from the PDP-11 System.

The following paragraphs present procedures for operating the TM11 DECmagtape System. Both on-line and off-line procedures are discussed. Although procedures are included for setting up on-line operation, it is beyond the scope of this chapter to present any detailed programming information. Programming information, along with references to other programming aids, is included in Chapter 4.

Whenever handling magnetic tapes and reels, it is important to observe certain precautions to prevent loss of data and/or damage to tape handling equipment. These precautions are:

- a. Always handle a tape reel by the hub hole; squeezing the reel flanges can cause damage to the tape edges when winding or unwinding tape.
- b. Never touch the portion of tape between the BOT and EOT markers. Oils from fingers attract dust and dirt. Do not allow the end of the tape to drag on the floor.
- c. Never use a contaminated reel of tape; this spreads dirt to clean tape reels and can affect tape transport operation.
- d. Always store tape reels inside their containers. Keep empty containers closed so dust and dirt cannot get inside.
- e. Inspect tapes, reels, and containers for dust and dirt. Replace take-up reels that are old or damaged.
- f. Do not smoke near the transport or tape storage area. Tobacco smoke and ash are especially damaging to tape.
- g. Do not place the DECmagtape transport near a line printer or other device that produces paper dust.
- h. Clean the tape path frequently.

### 3.3.1 Mounting Tape

Before using the TM11 DECmagtape System in either mode, it is necessary to make certain that magnetic tape is properly loaded and threaded in the TU10 Tape Transport. The following procedure is used for mounting tape:

| Step | Procedure   |
|------|---|
| 1    | Apply power to the transport by depressing the PWR ON switch.   |
| 2    | Ensure that the LOAD/BR REL switch is in the center position (this applies the brakes).   |
| 3    | Place a write-enable ring (see Figure 3-4) in the groove on the file reel if data is to be written on the tape.<br>If writing or erasing <i>is not</i> required, make certain there is no ring in the groove. |
| 4    | Mount the file reel onto the lower hub with the groove facing towards the back. Ensure that the reel is firmly seated against the flange of the hub.  |
| 5    | Install the take-up (top) reel in the same manner as described in Step 4 above.   |
| 6    | Place LOAD/BR REL switch to the BR REL position.  |
| 7    | Unwind tape from the file reel and thread the tape over the tape guides and head assembly as shown in Figure 3-5.   |
| 8    | Wind about five turns of tape onto the take-up reel.  |

| Step | Procedure  |
|------|--|
| 9    | Set the LOAD/BR REL switch to the LOAD position to draw tape into the vacuum columns.  |
| 10   | Select FWD and depress the START switch to advance the tape to the load point. When the BOT marker is sensed, tape motion stops, the FWD indicator goes out, and the LOAD PT indicator comes on. |

**NOTE**

If tape motion continues for more than 10 seconds, depress STOP, select REV (reverse), and then depress START. The tape should advance to the BOT marker (load point) before stopping.

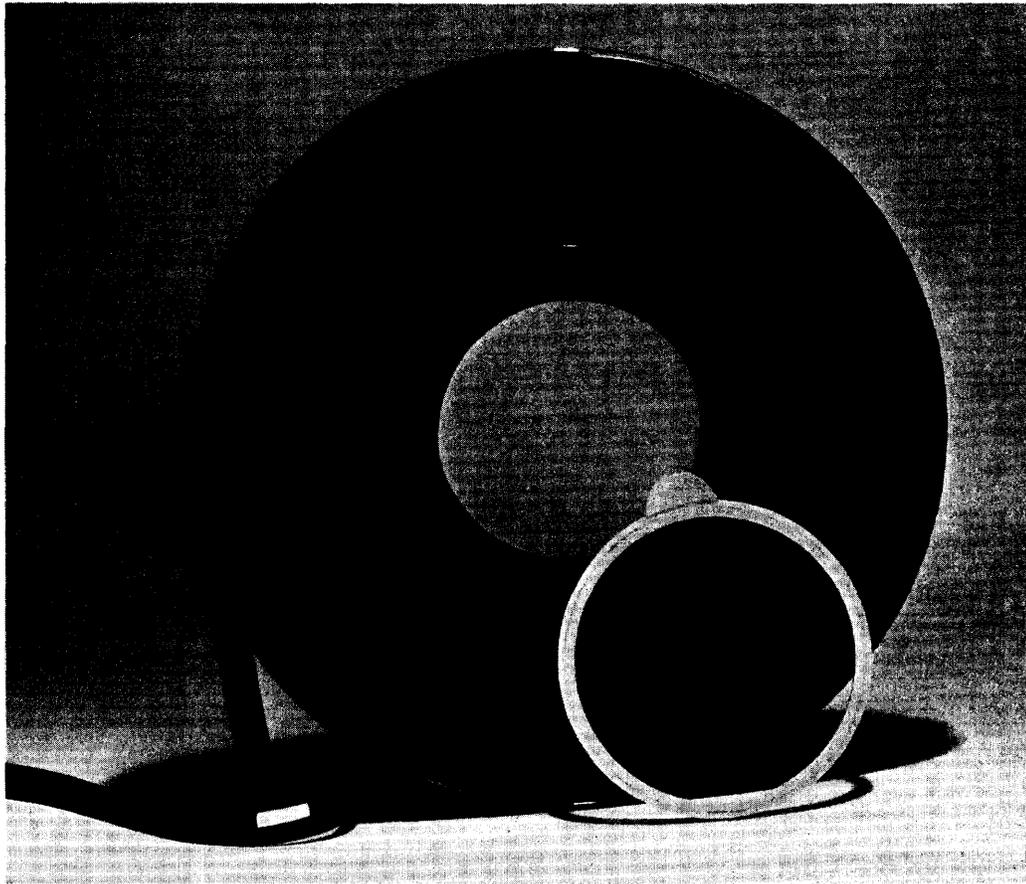


Figure 3-4 Write-Enable Ring

**3.3.2 Off-Line Operation**

Off-line operation of the TU10 Tape Transport is used primarily for loading and unloading magnetic tape, for positioning magnetic tape prior to on-line operation, and for controlling tape motion during maintenance. During off-line operation, tape motion is controlled by the switches on the TU10 control panel.

Although there are no specific operating procedures for off-line operation (other than that the ON-LINE/OFF-LINE switch must be in OFF-LINE), the following switch restrictions should be noted:

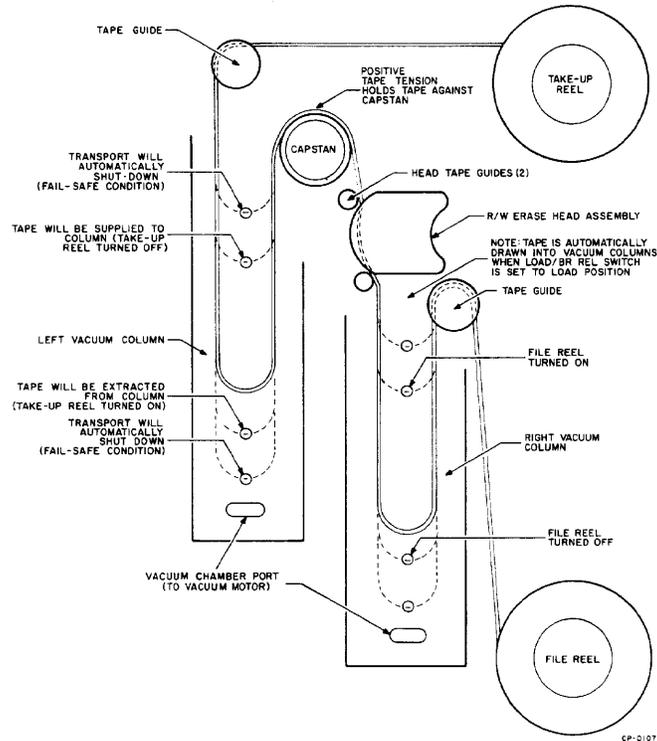


Figure 3-5 Tape Threading

- a. When the tape is traveling in any direction, resetting the FWD/REW/REV switch to any other position has no effect on tape travel. The START/STOP switch must first be set to STOP, the FWD/REW/REV switch reset, and then the START/STOP switch set to START.
- b. When the tape load point (BOT marker) is reached, the transport does not accept a rewind (REW) command.
- c. When the tape end point (EOT marker) is reached, the transport does not accept a forward (FWD) command.

### 3.3.3 On-Line Operation

On-line operation of the TU10 Tape Transport is used when the tape transport is under program control. Setting the ON-LINE/OFF-LINE switch to ON-LINE allows the transport to accept commands from the controller when the transport is selected by the program. Thus, the transport is not fully on-line until the transport RDY and SEL indicators are lit.

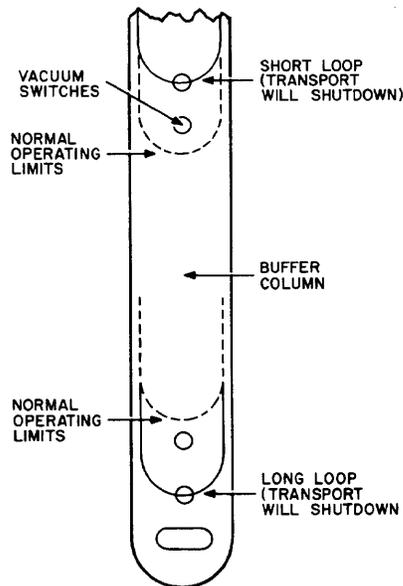
### 3.3.4 Restart After Power Failure

In the event of a power failure, the DECmagtape transport automatically shuts down, and tape motion stops without damage to the tape. Return of power is indicated when the PWR indicator lights. At this time, the transport can be restarted as follows:

| Step | Procedure   |
|------|---|
| 1    | Set LOAD/BR REL switch to BR REL position to release the brakes.                  |
| 2    | Manually wind the reels to take up any tape slack.                                |
| 3    | Set the LOAD/BR REL switch to LOAD position to draw tape into the vacuum columns. |
| 4    | Set ON-LINE/OFF-LINE switch to desired position and resume desired operation.     |

### 3.3.5 Restart After Fail-Safe

If the tape loop in either buffer column exceeds the limits shown in Figure 3-6, the vacuum system automatically shuts down, and tape motion stops without damage to the tape. When this fail-safe condition occurs, the tape transport does not respond to either on-line or off-line commands. To restart the transport after fail-safe, perform the same procedures as for restarting after power failure (refer to Paragraph 3.3.4).



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Figure 3-6 Tape Loop Limits

### 3.3.6 Removing Tape

The following procedure describes the method for removing tape from the TU10 Tape Transport.

| Step | Procedure  |
|------|--|
| 1    | Make certain that ON-LINE/OFF-LINE switch is set to the OFF-LINE position.                       |
| 2    | Set START/STOP switch to STOP position.  |
| 3    | Set FWD/REW/REV switch to REW position.  |
| 4    | Set START/STOP switch to START position. The tape should rewind until the BOT marker is reached. |

**Step****Procedure**

- 5 Set LOAD/BR REL switch to BR REL position to release the brakes.
- 6 Gently hand wind the file reel in a counterclockwise direction until all of the tape is wound onto the reel.

**CAUTION**

**When hand winding the tape, do not jerk the reel. This may stretch or compress the tape, which can cause irreparable damage.**

- 7 Remove the file reel from the hub assembly.

# CHAPTER 4

## PROGRAMMING INFORMATION

### 4.1 SCOPE

This chapter presents general programming information for software control of the TM11 DECmagtape System. Although a typical program example is included in this chapter, it is beyond the scope of this manual to provide detailed programs. For more detailed information on programming in general, refer to the *Paper-Tape Software Programming Handbook*, DEC-11-GGPB-D.

This chapter of the manual is divided into four major portions: device registers, interrupts, programming note, and program example.

### 4.2 DEVICE REGISTERS

All software control of the TM11 DECmagtape System is performed by means of six device registers within the controller. These registers have been assigned bus addresses and can be read or loaded using any PDP-11 instruction that refers to their address. The six device registers and associated addresses are listed in Table 4-1. Note that these addresses can be changed by altering the jumpers on the M105 Address Selector Module. However, any DEC programs that refer to these addresses must also be modified accordingly if the jumpers are changed.

Figures 4-1 through 4-6 show the bit assignments within the six device registers. Except in the case of the data buffer register, the "unused" and "load only" bits are always read as 0s. Loading "unused" or "read only" bits has no effect on the bit position.

The mnemonic INIT refers to the initialization signal issued by the processor. Initialization is caused by one of the following: issuing a programmed RESET instruction; depressing the START switch on the processor console; or occurrence of a power-up or power-down condition of either the processor power supply or the controller power supply.

The INIT signal clears the entire system; however, the INIT signal produced by a RESET instruction does not clear the processor. Clearing only the TM11 Controller and the TU10 tape units can be accomplished by either using the CLEAR switch on the TM11 Maintenance Panel or by loading a 1 into bit 12 (POWER CLEAR) of the command register (MTC).

#### NOTE

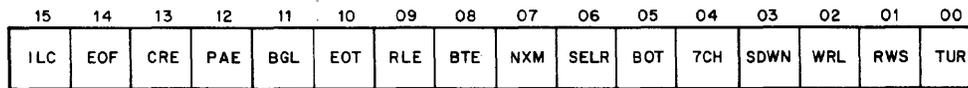
INIT and POWER CLEAR deselect the current tape unit and select tape unit 0. Also, a rewind operation in progress continues to the load point.

**Table 4-1  
Standard Device Register Assignments**

| Register                        | Mnemonic* | Address |
|---------------------------------|-----------|---------|
| Status Register                 | MTS       | 772520  |
| Command Register                | MTC       | 772522  |
| Byte Record Counter             | MTBRC     | 772524  |
| Current Memory Address Register | MTCMA     | 772526  |
| Data Buffer Register            | MTD       | 772530  |
| TU10 Read Lines                 | MTRD      | 772532  |

\*First two letters of mnemonic (MT) refer to magnetic tape control; the remaining letters represent the mnemonic of a specific register.

#### 4.2.1 Status Register (MTS)



II-0430

Figure 4-1 Status Register (MTS) Bit Assignments

#### Bit

#### Meaning and Operation

15

**ILC** – illegal command bit. Indicates an illegal command. This bit is set whenever one of the following illegal commands occur:

- a. Any DATO or DATOB transfer to the command register (MTC) during tape operation (CU RDY bit clear). The register cannot accept a new command while in the process of executing another command.
- b. A write, write end-of-file, or write with extended interrecord gap (command register functions 2, 3, and 6, respectively), when the WRL (write lock) bit is set. Writing is inhibited with WRL set, and write commands are illegal.
- c. Any command to a tape unit that has its SELR bit clear is illegal, because SELR clear indicates that the unit is not on-line.
- d. Any time the SELR bit becomes 0 during any operation except off-line, it sets the ILC bit, because no command can be issued to a unit that is not on-line.

If any of the illegal commands listed in *a.* through *c.* above occur, the command is loaded into the command register.

In all of the above cases, the ILC bit and the ERR bit (bit 15 in the command register) are set simultaneously.

Cleared by INIT or by the GO pulse to the tape unit.

| Bit | Meaning and Operation  |
|-----|--|
| 14  | <p><b>EOF</b> – end-of-file bit, used to indicate that the tape has reached the end of the file. An end-of-file (EOF) character is detected during a read, space forward, or space reverse operation. During the read or space forward operation, the EOF bit is set when the LPC character following the EOF character is read.</p> <p>During a space reverse operation, the EOF bit is set when the EOF character following its LPC character is read. The ERR bit (bit 15 in the command register) is set when the LPC character following the EOF character is detected. It is also set by a WRITE EOF command.</p> <p>The EOF bit is set only by the TU10 logic; it is cleared by INIT or by the GO pulse to the tape unit.</p> <p>The EOF character is loaded into memory during read operations.</p>  |
| 13  | <p><b>CRE</b> – cyclic redundancy error bit. A cyclic redundancy error can be detected during either a read or write operation. This check compares the CRC character, written on a 9-channel tape during a write or a write-with-extended-IRG operation, with the CRC character generated during a read operation.</p> <p>If the two CRC characters are not the same, the CRCE from the tape unit becomes a 1, forcing the CRE bit to a 1. The ERR bit in the command register, however, is not set until the LPC character is detected.</p> <p>Cleared by INIT or by the GO pulse to the tape unit.</p>  |
| 12  | <p><b>PAE</b> – parity error bit. When set, this bit indicates that a parity error exists. The PAE bit is the logical OR of both lateral and longitudinal parity errors.</p> <p>A lateral parity error is indicated on any character in a record; a longitudinal parity error occurs only after the LPC is detected.</p> <p>A lateral parity error does not affect the transfer of data. In other words, the entire record is transferred to the tape during a write operation or transferred into memory during a read operation.</p> <p>Both lateral and longitudinal parity errors are detected during read, write, and write-with-extended-IRG operations. The entire record is checked, including the CRC and LPC characters.</p> <p>Longitudinal parity occurs when an odd number of 1s is detected on any channel in the record. Lateral parity error occurs when an even number of 1s is detected on any character, provided the PEVN bit (bit 11 in the command register) is clear, or if an odd number of 1s is detected when the PEVN bit is set.</p> <p>When a parity error occurs, PAE is set, and the ERR bit (bit 15 in the command register) is set after the LPC character has been detected.</p> <p>Cleared by INIT or by the GO pulse to the tape unit.</p> |
| 11  | <p><b>BGL</b> – bus grant late bit. If the controller issues a request for the bus and does not receive a bus grant before it must issue another bus request for the following tape character, a bus grant late error occurs.</p> <p>This error condition is tested only for NPRs (non-processor requests). The BGL bit is set if an NPR bus request is not honored before the controller receives a WRS pulse for a write operation or an RDS pulse for a read operation.</p>   |

| <b>Bit</b> | <b>Meaning and Operation</b>  |
|------------|---|
| 11 (cont)  | <p>The BGL bit and the ERR bit (bit 15 in the MTC) are set simultaneously, halting the operation.</p> <p>If the BGL error occurred during a write or write-with-extended-IRG operation, the controller does not send the WDR signal to the master tape unit to allow the master tape unit to write the CRC and LPC characters on the tape.</p> <p>Cleared by INIT or by the GO pulse to the tape unit.</p>  |
| 10         | <p><b>EOT</b> – end-of-tape bit. The EOT bit is set as soon as the EOT marker is detected, when the tape is moving in the forward direction. It is cleared as soon as the EOT marker is detected, when the tape is moving in the reverse direction.</p> <p>The EOT is an error condition if the tape is moving forward. Therefore, when EOT is set, ERR bit is also set when the LPC character is read.</p> <p>Cleared by tape transport head passing over EOT marker when tape is moving in the reverse direction.</p>   |
| 09         | <p><b>RLE</b> – record length error bit. The record length error is tested only during read operations. An error is indicated as soon as the byte record counter (MTBRC) attempts to increment beyond 0.</p> <p>When a record length error occurs, the RLE bit is set, incrementation of the MTBRC and the current memory address register (MTCMA) ceases, and the ERR bit is set when the LPC character is read.</p> <p>The CU RDY (bit 07 of the command register) remains cleared until the LPC character is read at which time CU RDY is set.</p> <p>Cleared by INIT or by the GO pulse to the tape unit.</p> <p>If the exact record length is desired following the occurrence of a record length error, it can be found by setting the MTBRC to a value so large as not to generate an RLE and re-reading the record. Record length can be derived by subtracting the current value of the MTBRC from its initial setting.</p>  |
| 08         | <p><b>BTE</b> – bad tape error bit. A bad tape error occurs when a character is detected (RDS pulse) during the gap shutdown or settle down period for any tape function except rewind.</p> <p>During write, write EOF, or write-with-extended-IRG operations, a bad tape error sets both the BTE and ERR bits immediately on detecting the error.</p> <p>During both read and space forward or space reverse operations, the BTE bit is set immediately on detection of bad tape.</p> <p>During a read operation, the MTBRC increments continuously, and words are read into memory until the MTBRC overflows. During a space operation, the MTBRC stops incrementing as soon as BTE occurs. When BTE is discovered, the tape unit stops, regardless of the state of the MTBRC.</p> <p>Because it is not possible to artificially generate bad tape, bad tape may be indicated by setting the CU RDY bit prematurely, thereby producing the gap shutdown period while the data is still being read. The CU RDY bit is set by loading a 1 into bit 13 of the MTRD. If bit 13 of the MTRD is set during a record for either a read or write operation, a bad tape error indication occurs.</p> <p>Cleared by INIT or GO.</p> |

| Bit | Meaning and Operation  |
|-----|--|
| 07  | <p><b>NXM</b> – non-existent memory bit. This error condition occurs when the controller is bus master during NPR transfers and does not receive an SSYN response within 10 <math>\mu</math>s after asserting MSYN.</p> <p>The NXM bit and the ERR bit are set simultaneously, halting the operation.</p> <p>Cleared by INIT or by the GO pulse to the tape unit.</p>  |
| 06  | <p><b>SELR</b> – select remote bit. The SELR bit is set when the tape unit has been properly selected. The SELR bit is 0 if the tape unit that is addressed does not exist (UNIT SELECT setting does not correspond to SEL bits), if the selected tape unit is off-line (ON-LINE/OFF-LINE switch set to OFF-LINE), or if the tape unit power is off.</p>   |
| 05  | <p><b>BOT</b> – beginning-of-tape bit. The BOT bit is set as soon as the BOT marker is detected. When BOT is set, it has no effect on the ERR bit. The BOT bit remains cleared whenever the BOT marker is not being read.</p> <p>This bit is set and cleared only by the TU10.</p>   |
| 04  | <p><b>7CH</b> – 7-channel bit. This bit is cleared or set by the TU10 to indicate whether a 7-channel or 9-channel tape is being used.</p> <p>When 7CH bit is set, it indicates a 7-channel tape; when it is clear, it indicates a 9-channel tape.</p> <p>The 7CH bit is also used in conjunction with the DEN 8 and DEN 5 bits in the command register to cause the core dump mode of operation. When the 7CH, DEN 8, and DEN 5 bits are all set, the core dump mode of operation is used.</p>  |
| 03  | <p><b>SDWN</b> – settle down bit. The settling down period is provided to allow the tape to fully stop prior to starting a new operation. This settling down period sets the SDWN bit. When the tape unit stops, SDWN is cleared, and the tape unit ready (TUR) bit is set.</p> <p>During a tape reverse operation (this does not include rewind operations), the gap shutdown period begins immediately after the first gap encountered after spacing over a record.</p> <p>When the controller receives a command during the gap shutdown period, it executes the command at the start of the settling down period unless the new command is for the tape unit issuing the SDWN period, and the new command is opposite to the current direction of tape motion. If both of these conditions occur, the controller accepts the new command only if SDWN is cleared.</p> <p>The controller accepts all commands received while the CU RDY bit is set, including commands received during the tape settling down period. Thus, commands received during the settling down period are buffered and transmitted to the master tape transport at the end of the settling down period.</p> |
| 02  | <p><b>WRL</b> – write lock bit. The write lock bit is under control of the master tape transport. When set, it prevents the controller from writing information on the tape.</p>   |

| Bit | Meaning and Operation  |
|-----|--|
| 01  | <b>RWS</b> – rewind status bit. This bit is under control of the master tape unit. It is set at the start of a rewind operation and clears as soon as the rewind sequence is complete.   |
| 00  | <b>TUR</b> – tape unit ready bit. This bit is under control of the master tape transport. Whenever the selected tape unit is being used (such as rewind), this bit is cleared. When the tape unit is stopped and ready to receive a new command, the master tape transport sets the TUR bit. |

**NOTE**

Status register bits 00 – 05 are cleared or set by the master tape transport, not the controller.

**4.2.2 Command Register (MTC)**

|     |       |       |         |      |       |       |       |        |         |             |             |            |            |            |    |
|-----|-------|-------|---------|------|-------|-------|-------|--------|---------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|----|
| 15  | 14    | 13    | 12      | 11   | 10    | 09    | 08    | 07     | 06      | 05          | 04          | 03         | 02         | 01         | 00 |
| ERR | DEN 8 | DEN 5 | PWR CLR | PEVN | SEL 2 | SEL 1 | SEL 0 | CU RDY | INT ENB | ADRS BIT 17 | ADRS BIT 16 | FCTN BIT 2 | FCTN BIT 1 | FCTN BIT 0 | GO |

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Figure 4-2 Command Register (MTC) Bit Assignments

| Bit | Meaning and Operation  |
|-----|--|
| 15  | <b>ERR</b> – indicates an error condition that is the inclusive OR of all error conditions (bits 15 – 07 in the Status Register, MTS). Causes an interrupt if enabled (see bit 06). The ERR bit is not set for some errors until the longitudinal parity check (LPC) character is read, in order to allow the current operation to be completed. Specific error conditions are described in the Status Register bit assignments (see Figure 4-1).<br><br>When ERR is set, it sets bit 07 (CU RDY). Cleared by INIT or by the next GO command (bit 00). |
| 14  | <b>DEN 8</b> – this bit, in conjunction with bit 13, selects the bit packing density of the tape. These combinations are shown below. Note that this bit, in conjunction with DEN 5 and 7CH in the MTS, can be used to select the core dump mode (refer to Paragraph 5.8.2.2) for 7-channel tape.  |

| Bit 14<br>(DEN 8) | Bit 13<br>(DEN 5) | Density<br>(bits/inch) |                  |
|-------------------|-------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| 0                 | 0                 | 200                    | } 7-channel tape |
| 0                 | 1                 | 556                    |                  |
| 1                 | 0                 | 800                    |                  |
| 1                 | 1                 | 800                    | } 9-channel tape |

| Bit   | Meaning and Operation   |
|-------|---|
| 13    | <b>DEN 5</b> – this bit, in conjunction with bit 14, selects the bit packing density of the tape. See bit 14 above for combinations.  |
| 12    | <b>PWR CLR</b> – when a 1 is loaded into this bit position, it clears the controller logic and all tape units. This bit becomes a 1 for 1 $\mu$ s during a processor DATO cycle, provided the corresponding bit on the bus is a 1. Always read by processor as a 0.   |
| 11    | <b>PEVN</b> – this is the even parity bit. This bit is set whenever the selected tape unit is to write or read even lateral parity on or from the tape. The bit is 0 whenever the selected tape unit is to write or read odd lateral parity on or from the tape.<br><br>A search for parity error is made whenever the tape moves. The controller ignores parity errors during space forward, space reverse, or rewind operations.<br><br>Cleared by INIT or by loading with a 0.                       |
| 10–08 | <b>SEL</b> – these three unit select bits specify the number of the tape unit that is to function as the unit under program control. These three bits (SEL 2, SEL 1, and SEL 0) are set or cleared to represent an octal code that corresponds to the unit number of the tape unit to be used. The tape unit number is selected by the UNIT SELECT thumbwheel switch on the tape transport.<br><br>Cleared by INIT; cleared by loading with a 0.  |
| 07    | <b>CU RDY</b> – when set, indicates that the TM11 Controller is ready to receive a new command. This bit is set at the end of a tape operation (indicating that a new operation can be started) and is cleared at the beginning of a tape operation (indicating that the controller is not ready for new commands). Refer to Paragraph 4.4.1 for CU RDY operation during a rewind sequence.<br><br>This bit is also set (indicating CU RDY) whenever ERR (bit 15) is set or whenever INIT is generated. |
| 06    | <b>INT ENB</b> – interrupt enable bit. This bit, when set, allows an interrupt to occur, provided either CU RDY (bit 07) or ERR (bit 15) is set. With INT ENB set, a REWIND command can cause two interrupts – one at initiation and one at completion.<br><br>An interrupt also occurs whenever an instruction sets the INT ENB bit but does not set the GO bit (bit 00). Interrupts are described in Paragraph 4.3.<br><br>Cleared by INIT; cleared by loading with a 0.                              |
| 05    | <b>ADRS BIT 17</b> – extended bus address bit 17. Used to specify address line 17 in direct memory transfers. Increments with the Current Memory Address Register (MTCMA). Cleared by INIT.   |
| 04    | <b>ADRS BIT 16</b> – extended bus address bit 16. Function is the same as ADRS BIT 17 (bit 05 above).   |

**Bit****Meaning and Operation**

03-01

**FUNCTION** – these bits specify a command to be performed by the selected tape unit. These functions are:

| Octal No. | Function Bits |    |    | Function                |
|-----------|---------------|----|----|-------------------------|
|           | 03            | 02 | 01 |                         |
| 0         | 0             | 0  | 0  | Off-line                |
| 1         | 0             | 0  | 1  | Read                    |
| 2         | 0             | 1  | 0  | Write                   |
| 3         | 0             | 1  | 1  | Write end of file       |
| 4         | 1             | 0  | 0  | Space forward           |
| 5         | 1             | 0  | 1  | Space reverse           |
| 6         | 1             | 1  | 0  | Write with extended IRG |
| 7         | 1             | 1  | 1  | Rewind                  |

All function bits cleared by INIT. Table 5-1 describes each function.

00

**GO** – loaded with a 1 from the bus to initiate the function selected. Clears CU RDY bit.

Cleared when GO pulse is sent to tape transport. Normal time duration of bit is 1  $\mu$ s, but this time may extend to as long as 10 ms if the bit is set during the gap shutdown or settling down period. The time could be several minutes in the case where the bit is loaded for a tape unit, i.e., in the process of rewinding.

Also cleared by INIT or cleared whenever ILC in the status register is set.

#### 4.2.3 Byte Record Counter (MTBRC)

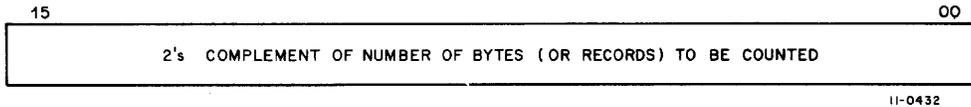


Figure 4-3 Byte Record Counter (MTBRC) Bit Assignments

**Bit****Meaning and Operation**

15-00

Contains the 2's complement of the number of bytes or records to be transferred. The desired value is loaded by the program on a processor DATO. Cleared by INIT. Increments by 1 after each memory access.

The byte record counter (MTBRC) is a 16-bit binary counter used to count bytes in a read or write operation and used to count records in space forward or reverse operations.

When used in a write or write-with-extended-IRG operation, this register is set by the program to the 2's complement of the number of bytes to be written on the tape. After the last byte of the record has been strobed from memory, the MTBRC becomes 0. Thus, when the next write strobe signal is received from the master tape transport, the controller lowers the write data ready line to indicate to the master transport that there are no more data characters in the record.

**Bit**

**Meaning and Operation**

15-00 (cont) When used in a read operation, the MTBRC is set to a number equal to or greater than the 2's complement of the number of words to be loaded into memory. A record length error, which occurs for long records only, occurs whenever a read pulse is generated after the MTBRC is at 0. Neither the CRC or LPC character is loaded into memory during a read operation, although both characters are checked for parity errors.

When used in a space forward or space reverse operation, the MTBRC is loaded with the 2's complement of the number of records to be spaced. The counter is incremented by 1 at LPC time, regardless of tape direction.

**4.2.4 Current Memory Address Register (MTCMA)**

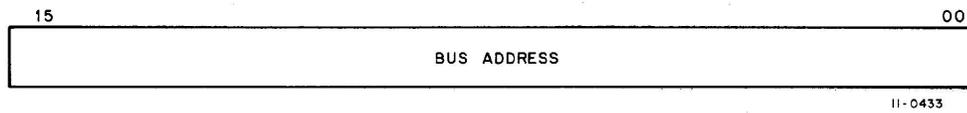


Figure 4-4 Current Memory Address Register (MTCMA) Bit Assignments

**Bit**

**Meaning and Operation**

15-01 These bits specify the bus or memory address to or from which data is to be transferred during write or read operations. Only bits 01-15 of the MTCMA are accessible by the program, although bits 00-15 participate in NPR Transfers. Bit 00 always starts in the cleared or even byte state because all NPR transfers access even boundaries for a starting byte address. Therefore, MTCMA must be initially loaded with an even address. The MTCMA contains 16 of the possible 18 memory address bits. The remaining two bits (16 and 17) are part of the command register.

Before issuing a command, the program loads the MTCMA with the memory address that is to receive the first byte of data (read operation) or with the memory address from which the first byte is to be taken (write operation). After each memory access (read or write), the MTCMA is immediately incremented by 1 (the next byte boundary). Therefore, at any given time, the MTCMA points to the next memory byte address that is to be accessed. On completion of the record transfer, the MTCMA points to the address plus 1 of the last character in the record.

If a bus grant late (BGL) or non-existent memory (NXM) error occurs, the MTCMA contains the address of the location in which the failure occurred.

If an 18-bit memory address is required, the program loads the appropriate address into bits 01-15 of the MTCMA and into extended address bits 16 and 17 of the command register. The extended address bits are a logical extension to the MTCMA register and participate in any required incrementation.

**4.2.5 Data Buffer Register (MTD)**

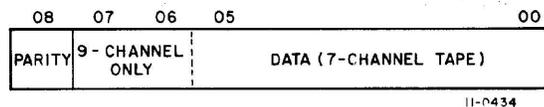


Figure 4-5 Data Buffer Register (MTD) Bit Assignments

| Bit                  | Meaning and Operation  |
|----------------------|--|
| 15-09<br>(not shown) | Correspond to bits 07-01 respectively on a processor DATI cycle.<br>Example: Bit 15 = bit 7, bit 14 = bit 6, etc.  |
| 08                   | Correspond to the parity bit on the magnetic tape. During a processor read operation, this bit is stored in memory; during NPR operations, this bit is read by the controller but not loaded into memory. During operation of a 9-channel tape unit, this bit is valid only after the CRC character has been read, provided bit 14 of the MTRD is a 1. |

**NOTE**

The parity bit is generated by the TU10 master tape transport, it is not generated by the controller. However, the polarity of the parity bit (odd or even) is determined by the PEVN bit in the command register.

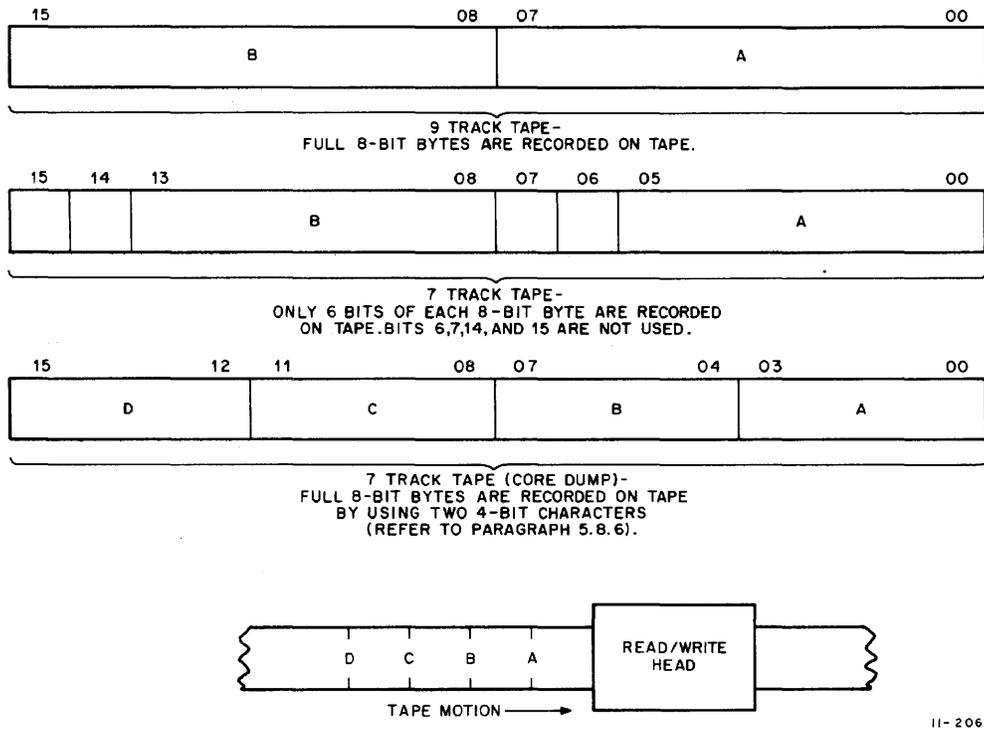


Figure 4-6 Relationship Between Tape Characters and Memory Byte Characters

|       |   |
|-------|---|
| 07-00 | <p>During read operations, these bits are used for temporary storage of characters read from tape prior to loading into memory. During write operations, these bits are used for temporary storage of data from memory before writing on tape.</p> <p>During read operations, the LPC character enters the data buffer when bit 14 of the address location for the TU10 read lines is a 1; the LPC character is prevented from entering the data buffer when bit 14 is a 0. Thus, after reading a 9-channel tape, the data buffer contains an LPC character (if bit 14 is a 1) or a</p> |
|-------|---|

**Bit** **Meaning and Operation**

07–00 (cont) CRC character (if bit 14 is a 0). After reading a 7-channel tape, the data buffer contains either the LPC character (if bit 14 is a 1) or the last data character (if bit 14 is a 0). After reading an EOF character, the data buffer contains either all 0s (bit 14 is a 1) or the EOF character (bit 14 is a 0).

The data buffer can store only bytes; therefore, two bus cycles are required to transfer a word. During NPR operation the data bits are written into or read from alternate low and high byte positions. The relationship between tape characters and high and low memory byte characters is shown in Figure 4-6.

**4.2.6 TU10 Read Lines (MTRD)**

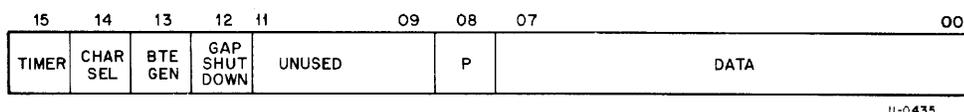


Figure 4-7 TU10 Read Line (MTRD) Bit Assignments

**Bit** **Meaning and Operation**

15 **TIMER** – the timer bit is used for diagnostic purposes by measuring the time duration of the tape operations. The timer signal is a 100  $\mu$ s signal with a 50% duty cycle and is generated by the controller. It is read as bit 15 in the memory location reserved for the TU10 read data lines. Read only bit.

14 **CHAR. SEL.** – this bit is used to select the last character of a record that is to be loaded into the data buffer. Read/write bit. Selection is as follows:

|       | 7-channel           | 9-channel     |
|-------|---------------------|---------------|
| set   | LPC character       | LPC character |
| clear | last data character | CRC character |

13 **BTE GEN.** – bad tape error generator bit. Actually, bad tape cannot be artificially generated. When set, this bit sets the CU RDY bit. With CU RDY set, a premature gap shutdown is generated, which produces a bad tape error indication when data is read during this period. Write only bit.

12 **GAP SHUTDOWN** – read only bit. When set, indicates a gap shutdown period.

11–09 Unused.

08 **PARITY** – corresponds to the parity bit read from the tape by the master tape transport. Used in conjunction with bits 07–00 to indicate a longitudinal parity error. After a read or write operation, bits 08–00 should all be 0. If one or more of these bits remains a 1 after the operation is complete, it indicates a longitudinal parity error. The bit position containing the 1 indicates the tape channel containing the error. Read only bit.

07–00 **DATA** – these bit positions contain information read from the magnetic tape transport. After these positions are read by the processor, all bit positions clear unless a parity error exists.

Bits 07–00 in the read lines correspond to tape channels 00–07, respectively. Read only bits.

## 4.3 INTERRUPTS

The TM11 Controller uses NPR or BR interrupts to gain control of the bus in order to perform data transfers or to cause a vectored interrupt, thereby causing a branch to a handling routine. The NPR requests are used for direct memory access, whenever it is desired to transfer data between memory and the data buffer register without processor intervention. The BR requests are made when processor servicing is required for completed operations or error conditions.

### 4.3.1 NPR Requests

The TM11 Controller issues an NPR request whenever it is necessary to transfer data between memory and the data buffer register. During a read operation, the direction of transfer is from the data buffer to the core memory. The RDS pulse (read strobe, from master tape transport to controller), which is used to strobe data from the tape transport into the data buffer register, generates the NPR request. When the request is granted, the TM11 Controller performs a DATOB bus cycle and transfers information from the data buffer into memory.

During a write (or write-with-extended-IRG) operation, the NPR request is generated by the write strobe (WRS) pulse from the processor. When the request is granted, the controller performs a DATI bus cycle and transfers a byte from core memory into the data buffer register.

During both read and write operations, the address in memory that data is read from or loaded into is determined by the value in the current memory address register (MTCMA).

### 4.3.2 BR Requests

A BR interrupt can occur only if the interrupt enable (INT ENB) bit in the command register is set. With INT ENB set, setting either the CU RDY or ERR bit in the command register, or completing a rewind operation initiates an interrupt request.

When CU RDY is set, it indicates that the controller is ready to perform another command.

When ERR is set, it indicates that some type of error condition exists. In this case, an interrupt is used to cause the program to branch to an error handling routine.

If a function command is issued with the GO bit cleared and INT ENB set, an interrupt is initiated.

If the selected tape unit (as indicated by the SEL bits in the command register) completes the rewind operation before a new command to that unit is received and INT ENB is set, an interrupt is initiated.

If the interrupt is enabled (INT ENB set) and selection of the tape unit is not changed (as indicated by the SEL bits), then a rewind command causes two interrupts: an interrupt when the rewind function begins, and an interrupt when the tape unit completes the rewind function. If, however, the tape unit is already at the BOT marker when rewind is issued, only one interrupt occurs.

The interrupt priority level is BR5, and the interrupt vector address is 224. Note that the priority level can be changed by the priority chip on the G736 Module, and the vector address can be changed by jumpers on the M7821 Interrupt Control. However, any DEC programs or other software referring to the standard level or address must also be changed if the jumpers are changed.

## 4.4 PROGRAMMING NOTES

In normal programming practice no attempt should be made to modify one record in the middle of a file. This practice could result in overwriting the boundary of the record and destroying part of the next record. Also, a read operation should never directly follow a write operation without at least one intervening tape move operation. This prevents running off the reel if the previous operation involved the last record on the tape. If it is

desired to read a record that was just written, a space reverse command should be issued before the read command. New commands are issued only when CU RDY is set, which is true after interrupts.

Because of a TM11 logic restriction, all software READ/WRITE buffer areas used by TM11 NPR transfers must start on even byte boundaries.

Attempting to write an all zero character with even parity on a 7-track or 9-track tape unit causes the zero character to be converted to a tape character of twenty (20). When reading this character from tape a twenty (20) is read instead of a zero.

When changing unit numbers in multi-transport software, the status bits (such as WRITE LOCK) are not switched from the old transport to the newly selected one at the time the command is loaded. The status bits are those of the old transport until the interrecord gap of the previous command has been written. Therefore, valid status bits from the new transport are not present until SDWN is a 1 (asserted). Because SDWN does not cause an interrupt, the software must wait in a loop for approximately two milliseconds or exit the routine and re-enter as a function of a time clock.

The standard reel capacity for industry compatible magtape units is 2400 feet, marker to marker. However, less tape may be used, such as in the mini-magtape reels. ASCII standards provide for a 25 foot trailer following the end-of-tape marker. This allows approximately 10 feet of writing space after passing EOT. Care should be taken when attempting to write past the EOT marker if the operator is not familiar with the tape that he is working with, because after a tape has been used, the reflective markers are often changed, possibly decreasing the length of the standard 25 foot trailer.

Because the physical displacement of the heads differ between 7-channel and 9-channel drives, records written on one cannot be read by the other. However, a tape that is recorded on one can be re-recorded by the other, providing you begin at the load point.

TU10's and TU16's can be used on the same system; however, due to the fact that the TU10 is a Unibus device and the TU16 is a Massbus device, they may not be used on the same controller.

If two drives are sharing one controller, care should be taken not to allow both drives to have the same unit number selected on the thumbwheels. If they are both set to the same number and a command is issued, they will both attempt to respond and data transfers will become totally confused.

The industry standard packing density for 9-channel drives is 800 bpi, however, 9-channel drives may be recorded at 200, 556 or 800 bpi, providing the data is read back at the same rate.

A backspace or REWIND command issued while the tape is at the load point will cause an immediate interrupt.

#### **4.4.1 Rewind Operation**

Assume drive 0 is to be rewind. The command to rewind drive 0 is issued to the controller. At this time the master tape unit asserts bit 1 (RWS) in the status register. If bit 6 (INT ENB) in the command register was set at the start of the rewind operation, an interrupt occurs from the TM11 controller as soon as bit 7 (CU RDY) of the command register has been set by RWS. This informs the program that the controller is ready to accept a new command. By testing bit 1 (RWS) in the status register, the program can determine if this interrupt was issued as a result of drive 0 completing its rewind operation or just beginning it.

When the reflective marker, signifying BOT, is sensed, bit 5 (BOT) is asserted in the status register only for the duration of time that the reflective marker is being read. Tape motion does not stop at this time.

Drive 0, still moving in the reverse direction, passes over the reflective marker, reverses its direction, and proceeds in the forward direction back to the load point. Upon sensing the reflective marker while proceeding in the forward direction, drive 0 halts tape motion, asserts bit 3 (SDWN) allowing the tape to fully deskew, and then sets bit 0 (TUR) in the status register.

An interrupt is issued coincident with bit 0 (TUR) being asserted in the status register, providing the following conditions have been met.

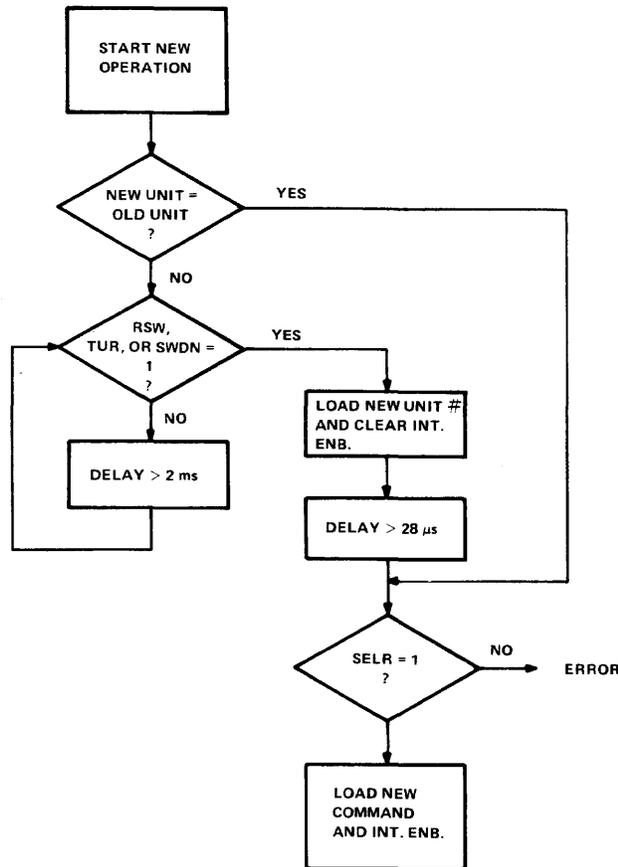
1. Bit 6 (INT ENB) in the command register is set,
2. The drive has not been deselected by changing the status of bits 10–8 in the command register since issuing the REWIND command, and
3. No new commands are stored in the controller awaiting execution. If a new command is being stored, the next interrupt will be after that command's completion and no rewind complete interrupt will occur.

If multiple transports are used, it is not necessary to wait for a REWIND command to be completed on one transport before switching to another. After a REWIND is issued, another transport can be switched to as soon as RWS is set.

When operations on the second transport have been completed, a switch to the rewinding transport can be made as soon as SDWN or TUR is true on the second transport (so the status bits will be from the rewinding unit). Only the unit select bits in the command register have to be changed to the unit that is rewinding to get its status. If the rewind is complete when the unit is selected, TUR is set in the status register. If the RWS bit is still set, the software can either work on another transport or load the next command to be executed in bits 1–3 of the command register where it is buffered until the rewind is completed. If INT ENB is set at this time, the completion of the buffered command causes an interrupt to occur. A REWIND command may take from 3 to 5 minutes to complete.

## 4.4.2 New Drive Selection

Figure 4-8 is a flow chart for new drive selection.



11-2512

Figure 4-8 New Drive Selection Flowchart

## 4.4.3 Error Handling

### 4.4.3.1 Write Operations

#### 1. ILC – Illegal Command

- If SELR (bit 6 of MTS) is not set to a 1, or WRL (bit 2 of MTS) is set to a 1, then operator intervention is required to ensure that the drive to be used is properly selected and is not write locked.
- If SELR (bit 6 of MTS) is set to a 1 and WRL (bit 2 of MTS) is not set to a 1, then a command has been issued while CU RDY (bit 7 of MTC) was cleared. Try the operation again, ensuring first that CU RDY is set before issuing a new command.

2. EOF – End of File            N/A
3. CRE – Cyclic Redundancy error  
Backspace and try operation again with extended IRG.
4. PAE – Parity error  
Backspace and try operation again with extended IRG.
5. BGL – Bus grant late  
Backspace and try operation N times.
6. EOT – End of tape  
The reflective marker signifying the end of tape has been passed. Operations past this point are not illegal, however, they are not recommended unless the programmer is familiar with the tape being used and is knowledgeable about the length of tape existing past the EOT marker. Conducting any write operations past the EOT marker leaves the programmer open to the possibility of running the tape off of the reel.
7. RLE – Record length error        N/A
8. BTE – Bad tape error  
Regain a known tape position and try the operation again with extended IRG.

**NOTE**

A known tape position refers to BOT, header records,  
or EOF marks.

9. NXM – Non-existent memory  
Resolve the memory discrepancy and try the operation again.

#### 4.4.3.2 Read Operations

1. ILC – Illegal Command
  - If SELR (bit 6 of MTS) is not set, then operator intervention is required to ensure that the drive to be used is properly selected.
  - If SELR (bit 6 of MTS) is set, then a command has been issued while CU RDY (bit 7 of MTC) was cleared. Try the operation again ensuring that CU RDY is set prior to issuing the new command.
2. EOF – End of file  
The characters signifying the end of a file have been read.
3. CRE – Cyclic Redundancy error  
Backspace and try the operation N times.
4. PAE – Parity error  
Backspace and try the operation N times.
5. BGL – Bus grant late  
Backspace and try the operation N times.

6. EOT – End of tape  
The reflective marker signifying the end of tape has been passed. Continue only if it is certain that an EOF mark exists after the EOT marker, or the tape will run off of the reel.
7. RLE – Record length error  
Reset the MTBRC to a value that is equal to or greater than the number of bytes in the record, backspace, and try the operation again.
8. BTE – Bad tape error  
Regain a known tape position and try the operation again. If, after doing so, the condition still persists, the data from the failing point to the next known tape position is lost.
9. NXM – Non-existent memory  
Resolve the memory location discrepancy and try the operation again.

#### 4.4.3.3 Write End of File Operation

##### All Errors

This operation should have a software timer because it either performs its function correctly or it enters a run-away condition and runs the tape off the reel. If this condition is sensed after a few seconds, recovery is as follows:

- Issue a POWER CLEAR to stop tape motion.
- Regain a known tape position and try the operation again.

#### 4.4.3.4 Spacing Operations

1. ILC – Illegal command  
Same as read operation.
2. EOF – End of file  
The characters signifying the end of a file have been read. Detection of the EOF marks stops a spacing operation even if the MTBRC is not equal to zero.
3. EOT – End of tape  
Same as read operation.
4. BTE – Bad tape error  
Regain a known tape position and try N times.

#### 4.4.3.5 Write With Extended IRG Operation

Same as write operation.

#### 4.4.3.6 Rewind Operation

Once a rewind operation is started, it continues until complete, regardless of errors or unit deselection.

### 4.5 PROGRAM EXAMPLE

The following program example is used to write a 1000-byte record, backspace, read the record, and compare data.

172520  
172522  
172524  
172526

MTS=172520  
MTC=172522  
MTBRC=172524  
MTCMA=172526

!STATUS REGISTER  
!COMMAND REGISTER  
!BYTE RECORD COUNTER  
!CURRENT MEMORY ADDRESS REGISTER

001000

,=1000

!WRITE RECORD

001000 005067 171516  
001004 105767 171512  
001010 100375  
001012 006067 171502  
001016 103375  
001020 012767 001150 171500  
001026 012767 176030 171470  
001034 012767 060005 171460  
001042 105767 171454  
001046 100375

CLR MTC  
TSTB MTC  
BPL ,=4  
ROR MTS  
BCC ,=4  
MOV #WBUF,MTCMA  
MOV #=1000,,MTBRC  
MOV #60005,MTC  
TSTB MTC  
BPL ,=4

!CLEAR COMMAND REGISTER, ALSO SELECTS UNIT #0  
!IS CONTROL UNIT READY?  
!NO, WAIT  
!IS TAPE UNIT READY?  
!NO, WAIT  
!INITIALIZE MTCMA WITH BUFFER AREA TO BE WRITTEN  
!INITIALIZE BYTE COUNT  
!SELECT UNIT #0, 800 BPI, WRITE, ISSUE GO  
!IS CONTROL UNIT READY, INDICATING COMPLETION OF WRITE?  
!NO, WAIT

!RECORD WRITTEN, NOW BACKSPACE

001050 012767 177777 171446  
001056 012767 060013 171436  
001064 105767 171432  
001070 100375

MOV #=1,MTBRC  
MOV #60013,MTC  
TSTB MTC  
BPL ,=4

!INITIALIZE BYTE COUNT TO BACKSPACE 1 RECORD  
!ISSUE BACKSPACE COMMAND  
!IS CONTROL UNIT READY, INDICATING COMPLETION OF BACKSPACE?  
!NO, WAIT

!NOW READ RECORD

001072 012767 003120 171426  
001100 012767 176030 171416  
001106 012767 060003 171406  
001114 105767 171402  
001120 100375

MOV #RBUF,MTCMA  
MOV #=1000,,MTBRC  
MOV #60003,MTC  
TSTB MTC  
BPL ,=4

!INITIALIZE MTCMA WITH BUFFER AREA TO BE READ INTO  
!INITIALIZE BYTE COUNT  
!SELECT UNIT #0, 800 BPI, READ, ISSUE GO  
!IS CONTROL UNIT READY, INDICATING COMPLETION OF READ?  
!NO, WAIT

!COMPARE DATA READ WITH DATA WRITTEN

001122 012700 001150  
001126 012701 003120  
001132 022021  
001134 001401  
001136 000000  
001140 020027 003120  
001144 002772  
001146 000000  
001150 000000

MOV #WBUF,%0  
MOV #RBUF,%1  
C1: CMP (0)+,(1)+  
REQ ,+4  
HALT  
CMP %0,#WBUF+1000,  
BLT C1  
HALT

!USE REGISTERS 0,1 AS BUFFER POINTERS FOR COMPARISON

!IS DATA WRITTEN = DATA READ?  
!YES  
!NO, HAVE DATA ERROR  
!FINISHED COMPARISON OF BUFFER?  
!NO  
!YES, EXAMPLE COMPLETED  
!WRITE BUFFER BEGINS HERE

WBUF: 0  
      ,=WBUF+1000,  
RBUF: 0

!READ BUFFER BEGINS HERE

,END

# CHAPTER 5

## THEORY OF OPERATION

### 5.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter provides a detailed description of the TM11 Controller and consists of three major parts: functional description of overall controller operation, block diagram description of major components, and detailed description covering controller logic circuits. The discussions in this chapter are supported by a complete set of engineering drawings located in a companion volume entitled, *TM11 DECmagtape System, Engineering Drawings*.

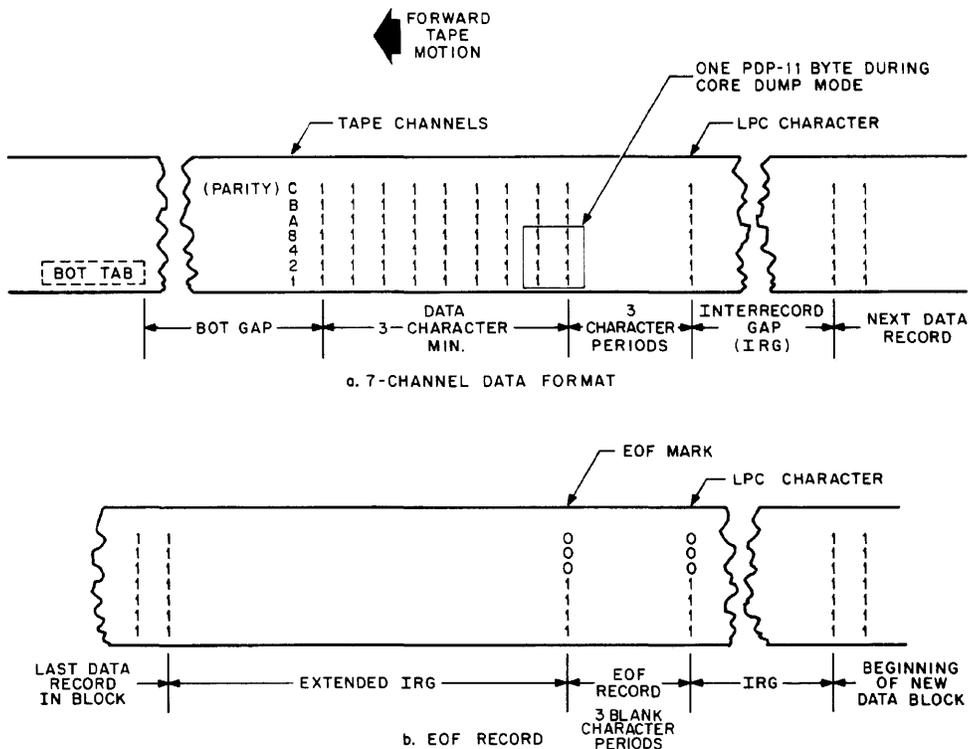
The TM11 Controller may be divided into seven functional areas: selection logic, bus control logic, register logic, tape control logic, read/write logic, error logic, and control panel logic. Parity logic is part of the Master Tape Transport and is, therefore, only covered in general in subsequent discussions. The purpose of each of the controller functional units is as follows:

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| <b>Selection Logic</b>     | Determines if the controller has been selected as a bus slave device, and what type of operation (read or write) has been selected. Permits selection of one of six internal registers for use and determines if the register is to perform an input or output operation.  |
| <b>Bus Control Logic</b>   | Permits the controller to gain bus control either by means of an NPR for transferring data or by means of a programmed interrupt to request service by the program because an error condition exists, because the controller is ready to perform a new operation, or because the controller is ready to make a direct memory access transfer (NPR transfer). |
| <b>Register Logic</b>      | Six internal registers, addressable by the program, provide data transfer functions, command and control functions, and status monitoring functions for the TM11 Controller.   |
| <b>Tape Control Logic</b>  | Controls selection of tape unit, direction of tape travel (forward, reverse), and function to be performed such as rewind, write, read, space forward, and space reverse.  |
| <b>Read/Write Logic</b>    | Controls assembly, disassembly, and transfer of data between the magnetic tape and the Unibus. Counts number of words in transfer and keeps track of current bus address.  |
| <b>Error Logic</b>         | Monitors controller operation and provides an indication of any error condition that arises. Stops the operation and issues an interrupt request for most error conditions.  |
| <b>Control Panel Logic</b> | Provides signals that light indicators on the controller maintenance panel; controls operation of the CLEAR switch.  |

## 5.2 TAPE FORMAT

The tape format used in the TM11 DECmagtape System is identical to industry standard 7- and 9-channel tape formats. It is assumed that the reader is familiar with standard magnetic tape formats. If not, a more thorough explanation is presented in Chapter 1 of the *TU10 DECmagtape Manual*, DEC-00-TU10M-D.

Each character frame in a 7-channel tape (see Figure 5-1) consists of six character bits (B, A, 8, 4, 2, 1) in descending order of significance. The parity bit, or check bit (C), is the seventh bit and is set or cleared by the transport write head. One byte of a PDP-11 word corresponds to one tape character. However, because one byte contains eight bits and a tape character contains only six data bits, two bits within each byte are not used. During a read operation, the extra bits are forced to 0; during a write operation, the bits remained unchanged. During the core dump mode of operation, one PDP-11 byte corresponds to two tape characters. Thus, all bits within the byte are used; however, the two most significant bits on the tape are not used.



11-0391

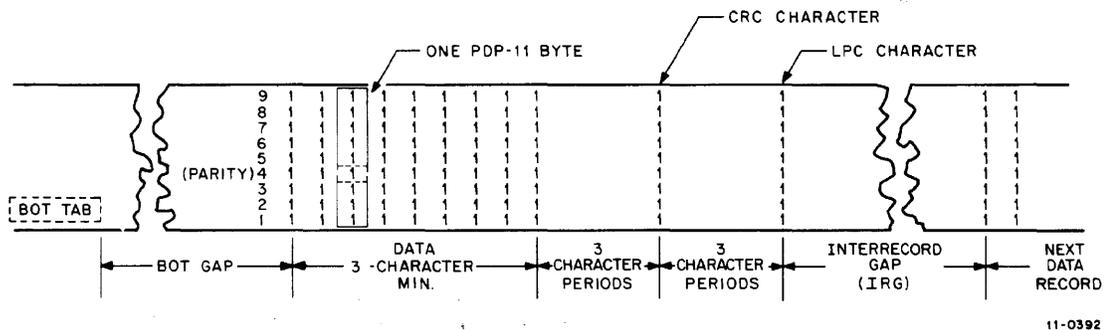
Figure 5-1 7-Channel Tape Format

The magnetic tape is divided into data records, each record separated by an interrecord gap (IRG). A record may be any length from a minimum of 16 characters to a maximum of 4008 characters. In a block format, a number of records are written together with an IRG before the first record and after the last record. In either case, the IRG is an unused portion of tape preceding and following the record or the block.

The longitudinal parity check (LPC) character is written after the data and is separated from the data by three character spaces. Each bit in the LPC is such that the total number of bits in any specific channel is even.

The end of a block of records is indicated by an end-of-file mark character. The end-of-file (EOF) mark is separated from the data by an extended IRG. The extended IRG is a 3-in. strip of blank tape compared to the standard 3/4-in. IRG for 7-channel tape and the 1/2-in. IRG for 9-channel tape. The EOF mark and associated LPC character are considered to be one complete record.

The 9-channel tape format (see Figure 5-2) is similar to the 7-channel format; however, because each character consists of eight data bits and one parity bit, a PDP-11 byte corresponds to a tape character. Therefore, there is no need for a core dump mode, because information can be transferred from the system to the tape on a one-to-one ratio. In addition, the 9-channel format includes a cyclic redundancy check (CRC) character. Data is followed by three character periods, the CRC character, three more blank character periods, and the LPC character. The LPC character is followed by an IRG as before.



11-0392

Figure 5-2 9-Channel Tape Format

### 5.3 FUNCTIONAL DESCRIPTION

The prime function of the TM11 Controller is to control transfers of information so that digital data can either be taken from the bus and recorded on magnetic tape (write operation) or read from the magnetic tape and transferred to the bus for use by another device such as memory (read operation). In addition, the controller performs tape transport selection, tape positioning, tape formatting, and system monitoring functions.

The controller contains a command register, which allows the program to specify desired operations by loading control data (transport selection, packing density, function, etc.) into the register. System status information (end-of-tape, errors, tape unit ready, etc.) is loaded into a status register, which can be read from the bus.

The TM11 Controller controls up to eight magnetic tape transports. Although any number of tape units may be simultaneously rewinding, data transfers may take place with only one transport at any given time. The basic functions performed by the controller are: off-line, read, write, write EOF, space forward, space reverse, write-with-extended-IRG, and rewind. Each of these functions is briefly described in Table 5-1.

**Table 5-1  
Controller Functions**

| Number | Function                | Description   |
|--------|-------------------------|---|
| 0      | Off-Line                | <p>The off-line function is used when it is desired to return control to the tape transport so that tape can be rewound, reels changed, etc. without using processor time.</p> <p>The off-line function places the selected tape transport in the off-line (local) mode and causes it to begin a rewind operation.</p> <p>The TM11 Controller cannot write on or read from the magnetic tape when the off-line function is used.</p>  |
| 1      | Read                    | <p>This function permits reading from the magnetic tape. During the read operation, the data portion of the record is loaded into the controller data buffer for transfer to the memory. The LPC and CRC characters are read but not transferred into memory.</p>   |
| 2      | Write                   | <p>This function permits writing on the magnetic tape. During the write operation, data from the bus is loaded into the controller data buffer register. The controller then transfers the data to the tape transport write heads. The necessary LPC and CRC characters are generated by the master transport and written on the tape following the data. The write function advances the tape forward one record.</p>  |
| 3      | Write EOF               | <p>This function writes an end-of-file (EOF) mark on the tape. When selected, this function erases a 3-in. segment of tape prior to writing the first character. The EOF mark and the associated LPC character are considered one record.</p>   |
| 4      | Space Forward           | <p>This function is used to skip over a number of records to find a specific record on the tape. When selected, the space forward function causes the tape transport to advance forward a specified number of records. The number of records is determined by the value in the byte record counter. This value is loaded into the byte record counter by the program.</p> <p>Space forward is used for tape positioning only and, therefore, does not affect information stored on the tape or in memory.</p> |
| 5      | Space Reverse           | <p>This function is identical to the space forward function except the tape moves in the reverse rather than in the forward direction.</p>  |
| 6      | Write-with-Extended-IRG | <p>This function is identical to the write function except that a 3-in. segment of tape is erased before writing the first character.</p>   |

**Table 5-1 (Cont)**  
**Controller Functions**

| Number | Function | Description  |
|--------|----------|--|
| 7      | Rewind   | <p>This function is used for rewinding the tape on the feed reel so that the tape can either be unloaded from the transport or operation can start at the beginning of the tape. When this function is used, the tape moves in the reverse direction, at a much higher speed (150 ips) than for other functions, until the beginning-of-tape (BOT) marker is detected.</p> <p>Rewind is used for tape positioning only and has no effect on information stored on the tape or in the memory.</p> |

Data transfers are controlled by a byte record counter (MTBRC) and a current memory address register (MTCMA). The program loads the byte record counter with the 2's complement of the desired number of data transfers. The counter is incremented before each transfer; therefore, the byte transfer that causes the byte count overflow (MTBRC becomes zero) is the last transfer to take place. The byte counter is also used to count the number of records during space forward and space reverse operations.

The current memory address register is also incremented before each transfer and, therefore, always points to the next higher address than the one most recently accessed. Thus, when the entire record is transferred, the register contains the address plus 1 of the last character in the record. For certain error conditions, the register contains the address of the location in which the failure occurred.

During read operations, the controller assembles bytes from successive characters read from the tape channels. When reading a 7-channel tape, the six data bits are assembled in a data buffer register for temporary storage. The parity bit is read but not loaded into memory. Because the PDP-11 uses 8-bit bytes, the remaining two bits in the buffer are forced to 0. When the byte is assembled, it is placed on the bus for transfer to memory. If an NPR transfer is used, bytes from the data buffer are alternately stored into the low and high byte portions of memory.

When reading 9-channel tape, operation is identical except that eight data bits are assembled. It is not necessary to force any bits to 0, because the eight data bits constitute a complete PDP-11 byte. In the case of both 7-channel and 9-channel tapes, the parity bit is loaded into the data buffer but is not loaded into memory.

When reading 9-channel tapes, either the CRC character of the LPC character at the end of a record is stored in the data buffer, depending on the state of bit 14 in the MTRD. If this bit is 0, the CRC character is loaded into the data buffer and can be used for error detection. If the bit is 1, then the data buffer contains the LPC character at the end of the record. When reading a 7-channel tape, bit 14 in the MTRD operates in a similar manner. If bit 14 is set, the LPC character is present, and when bit 14 is cleared, the last data character is present in the data buffer.

During write operations, the controller disassembles 8-bit bytes from the bus and distributes the bits so that they can be recorded on successive frames of the tape. The controller selects one of three recording densities (200, 556, or 800 bpi) for 7-channel tapes. All 9-channel tapes are written at a density of 800 bpi. There are three possible write functions: write, write-with-extended-IRG, and write end-of-file (EOF) mark.

When a write function is selected, the program loads the byte record counter with the 2's complement of number of bytes to be written in the record. Although the parity bit, which is also loaded into the buffer, is generated by the TU10 Master Tape Transport, the polarity of the bit is determined by the controller so that either

odd binary or even BCD parity can be selected. When parity is generated and the buffer is loaded, the controller transmits the byte to the master tape transport, which places the byte on the read/write heads of the selected slave transport so that data can be written on the magnetic tape.

The write-with-extended-IRG function is identical to the write function except that a 3-in. gap, rather than the normal gap is used between records. When this function is selected, a 3-in. segment of tape is erased before writing begins.

The write end-of-file (EOF) function is used to indicate that a block of records is complete. When this function is selected, a special EOF character is written on the tape followed by an LPC character. These two characters constitute a complete record. This command causes a 3-in. gap to be placed before the EOF mark. The XIRG command must be absent to have this gap written.

System monitoring functions are performed by the controller status register. The 16 bits in this register retain error and tape status information. Some status data is combined, such as lateral and longitudinal parity errors, or has a combined meaning, such as illegal command, for optimum use of the available bits. The status register only monitors the tape transport selected by the command register; therefore, other units that may be rewinding, do not interrupt the system when ready for data.

The following paragraphs discuss parity, gap shutdown, and function commands.

### 5.3.1 Parity

All parity characters are generated and read by the logic in the master tape transport rather than the controller. However, a brief description of parity is included in this chapter, because an understanding of the parity function is necessary for proper understanding of controller operation.

Whenever any command is issued that moves the tape forward, the master tape transport transmits an LPC strobe (LPCS) pulse at the end of each record of a 7-channel tape or a CRC strobe (CRCS) pulse and LPCS at the end of each record of a 9-channel tape.

During any write operation, the controller sends a write data ready (WDR) level to the master tape unit for each character in the record to indicate that the controller is ready to transmit data to the transport. The master tape transport then issues a write strobe (WRS) pulse that strobes the character from the controller data buffer register into the tape unit for writing on the tape.

When the last WRS pulse causes the BYTE RECORD COUNTER register to overflow, the controller lowers the WDR level and the master tape transport writes the CRC character (9-channel only) and then the LRC character on the tape.

Whenever a slave tape transport is handling the magnetic tape being read or written, the control signals are still generated by the master tape transport, and the necessary characters transferred from the master to the slave at the appropriate time.

The parity bit tape character in 7-channel format and in 9-channel format can be written in even or odd parity. If the master tape transport is writing even parity, then the parity bit is set or cleared so that the total number of ones in the character is even. If odd parity is used, then the parity bit is set or cleared so that the total number of ones in a character is odd. The type of parity to be used (odd or even) is determined by the PEVN bit in the controller command register.

A longitudinal parity check (LPC) is also performed on both tape formats. The master tape transport writes an LPC character at the end of each data record. The bits in this character may be either 1s or 0s. The character is written in such a manner that the total number of bits in a channel (including the LPC character) is even.

In addition to lateral and longitudinal parity checks, the 9-channel tape format includes a cyclic redundancy check (CRC), which checks the total number of data characters within a record or block. The lateral parity of the CRC character is odd if the number of data characters within the block is even and is even if the number of data characters is odd.

The CRC character is generated by a 9-bit register in the master tape transport. All bits in a data character are exclusive ORed into this register, which shifts one position between each character transfer. If shifting causes a 1 in the register bit corresponding to tape channel P, then the bits representing tape channels 2, 3, 4, and 5 are inverted. After the last data character is read, the register shifts a final time. At this point, all bit positions except those representing tape channels 2 and 4 are inverted. The register now contains the CRC character, which is written on the tape.

The values described above are related to the physical location of the read/write heads as shown below.

| Value of CRC Register Bit | P | Most Significant Bit |   |   |   |   | Least Significant Bit |   |   |
|---------------------------|---|----------------------|---|---|---|---|-----------------------|---|---|
|                           |   | 0                    | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5                     | 6 | 7 |
| Track No.                 | 4 | 7                    | 6 | 5 | 3 | 9 | 1                     | 8 | 2 |

### 5.3.2 Gap Shutdown

The master tape transport employs a gap shutdown period to ensure a 3/4-in. blank gap of tape between records. As soon as the master transport reads the LPC character, it times through the gap shutdown period and then sends a stop command to the selected slave transport.

On receiving a stop command, the slave transport enters a settling down (SDWN) period, which is the time between the stop command and the actual stopping of the tape. When the slave transport stops, it enters an idle period at which time the tape unit ready (TUR) bit is set to indicate that the slave transport is now ready to accept a function command.

The master tape transport can accept and execute any new command during the settling period of the slave transport unless the new command is to the same slave transport and the new command causes the tape to move in a different direction than before. In this case, the master transport does not accept the new command until the slave transport has stopped, as indicated by a 0 in the SDWN bit and a 1 in the TUR bit (these two bits are part of the controller status register).

When a tape transport is given a stop command, a new command can be executed by another transport while the first transport is coming to a stop.

### 5.3.3 Function Commands

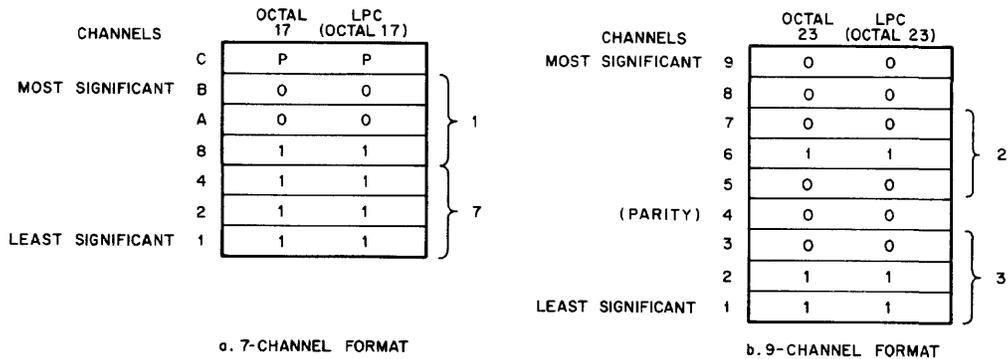
The program selects the specific function to be performed by setting or clearing appropriate function bits in the command register. When the program sets the GO bit in the command register, the operation defined by the selected function occurs, and both the control unit ready (CU RDY) and tape unit ready (TUR) bits are cleared to indicate that the controller and selected tape transport are currently engaged in an operation and cannot accept a new command until the current operation is completed.

When the off-line function is selected, the tape unit goes off-line and then rewinds to the beginning-of-tape (BOT) marker. As soon as the off-line command is given, both the CU RDY and TUR bits are cleared, thereby preventing the controller and transport from accepting a new command. The master tape transport then clears the select remote (SELR) bit in the status register, indicating to the program that the slave transport is now off-line.

When a tape reverse operation (not rewind) is selected, the master tape transport enters the gap shutdown period immediately after reading the first data character.

During a write function (write, write EOF, and write-with-extended-IRG), the CU RDY bit is set when the first LPC character is read from the tape. For write EOF and write-with-extended-IRG functions, a 3-in. gap is erased prior to writing the required data characters.

A write end-of-file (EOF) function causes a character to be written on the tape that indicates a block of data is complete. This function writes an EOF character followed by an LPC character. These two characters constitute one record. In an EOF record (see Figure 5-3), the EOF character and the LPC character are identical. Octal 17 is the EOF character for 7-channel tapes; octal 23 is the EOF character for 9-channel tapes.



11-0427

Figure 5-3 EOF Record

## 5.4 SYSTEM RELATIONSHIP

Figure 5-4 is a simplified block diagram of the TM11 DECmagtape System, showing the relationship of the TM11 Controller to the TU10 DECmagtape Transports and to PDP-11 System components. Note that all communication between the controller and the transports is handled by the master tape transport. Communication between the controller and other PDP-11 devices is by means of the Unibus.

## 5.5 ADDRESS SELECTION

The TM11 Controller selection logic decodes the address on the bus lines to determine if the controller has been selected for use. Unique addresses are assigned to each of the six registers in the controller and manipulation of these registers determines whether information is to be written on or read from the tape, or if some other control function is to be performed.

The TM11 Controller consists basically of six registers (or bus addresses). In addition to decoding the incoming address, the selection logic controls the information flow between the Unibus and the controller registers. The logic produces SELECT line and gating IN or OUT signals, which determine the register to be used and whether it is to perform an input or output function.

The selection logic consists of an M105 Address Selector Module and register select logic (M797 Module).

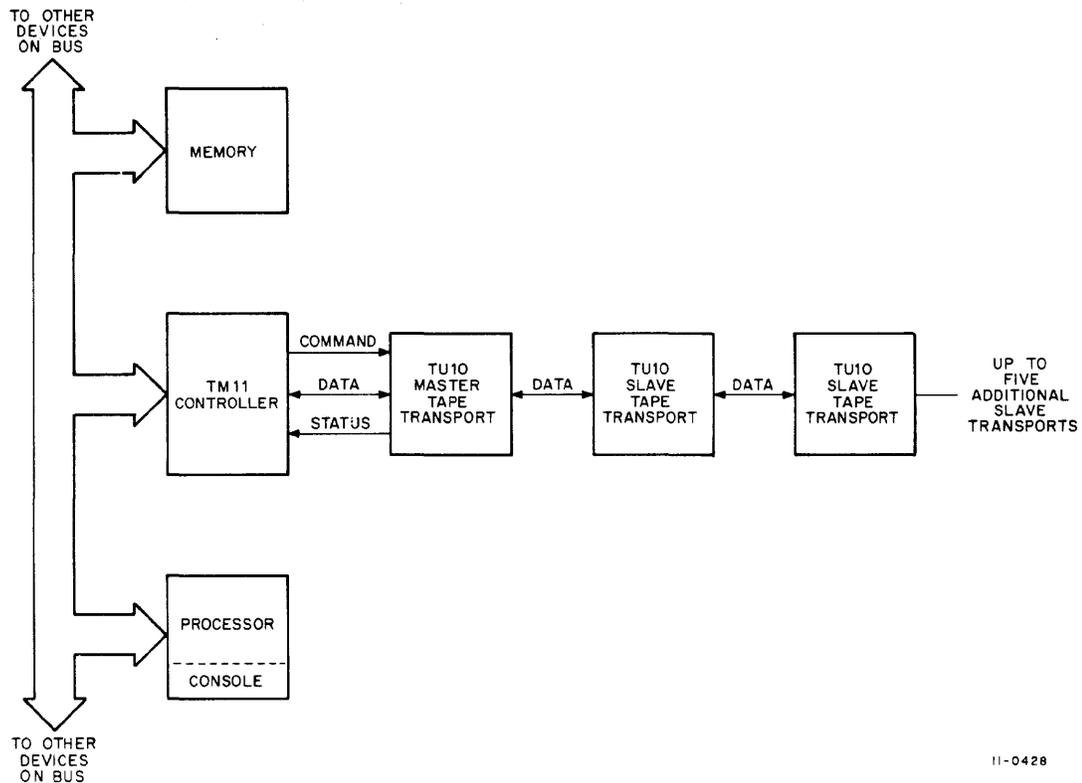


Figure 5-4 TM11 System – Simplified Block Diagram

### 5.5.1 Address Selector Module

The M105 Address Selector Module (Drawing TM11-0-21) decodes the address information from the bus to provide the gating and select line signals that activate appropriate TM11 Controller logic circuits for the selected register. The M105 Module jumpers are arranged so that the module responds only to the standard device register addresses 772520 through 772532. Although these addresses have been selected by DEC as the standard assignments for the TM11 Controller, the user may change the jumpers to any address desired. However, any MainDEC program (or other software) that references the TM11 standard address assignments must be modified if other than the standard assignments are used.

A standard M105 Module provides only four select line signals and, therefore, can reference only four registers. Because the TM11 Controller contains six registers, the M105 is used in conjunction with register select logic (M797 Module) to provide the six required select lines. This necessitates wiring the M105 in a somewhat different than normal manner.

Rather than decode the entire incoming address, as is the normal method, the M105 in the TM11 Controller decodes all but the four least significant bits. These bits are then decoded by the register select module (M797 Module), provided the other bits are part of a valid address.

Address line A00, which is the least significant bit of the address, is decoded by the M105 to determine if a byte or word operation is required. Address lines A01, A02, and A03 are grounded and are the only address bits that cannot be decoded by the M105. Thus, the M105 decodes all but the four least significant bits of the incoming

address as shown in Figure 5-5. If the first portion of the address is valid (77252 or 77253), then the address selector generates an ADRS DEC MSYN L (address decoded, master sync valid) signal that clears the decoders in the register select logic (refer to Paragraph 5.5.2).

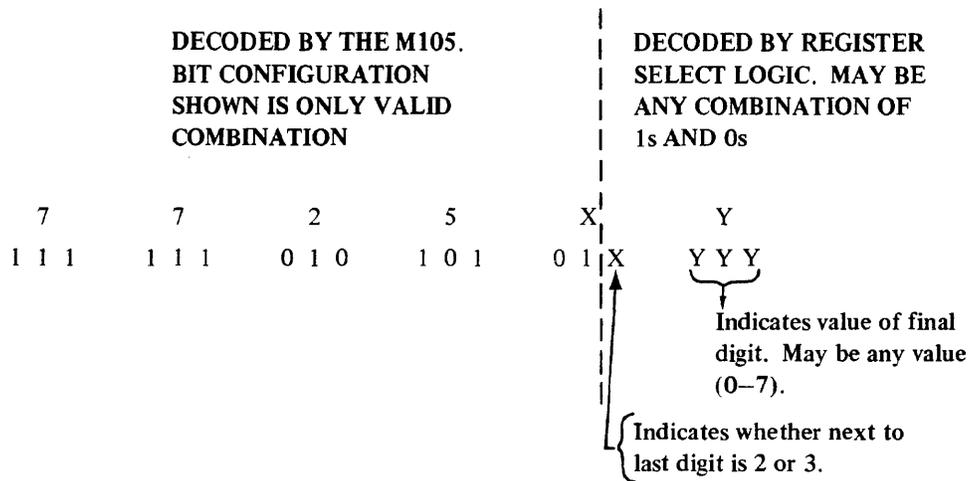


Figure 5-5 M105 Address Decoding

The M105 Address Selector also decodes the bus C01 and C00 mode control signals to generate the IN, OUT LOW, and OUT HIGH signals that determine whether the selected register is reading or writing (performing an input or output function).

It is beyond the scope of this discussion to cover operation of the M105 Address Selector, detailed descriptions of this module are covered in the *1971 DEC Logic Handbook* and in the *Unibus Interface Manual, Second Edition* (DEC-11-HIAB-D).

There are only two prime differences between normal use of the M105 and the use in the TM11 Controller. Pin L2 is normally a test point, but in the TM11 it is used to provide the ADRS DEC MSYN L signal for the register select. Address lines A01, A02, and A03 are normally decoded by the M105, but in the TM11 they are decoded by the register select logic (M797 Module).

### 5.5.2 Register Select Logic

The gating signal lines from the M105 Address Selector and address lines A01, A02, and A03 from the bus are connected to the M797 Register Select Module (Drawing TM11-0-22). This module decodes the address lines and provides the pulses that select the appropriate register and determine whether the register is to be read or loaded.

The ADRS DEC MSYN L signal from the M105 Module is applied to the register select module when valid addresses up to the least significant octal digit have been decoded. The ADRS DEC MSYN L signal gates the appropriate gating signal (IN, OUT LO, OUT HI) to enable one of three decoders. If the M105 has provided an IN gating signal, then the first decoder (E2) is enabled, and one of the six outputs is selected by address lines A01, A02, and A03. The IN gate indicates that data is being transferred into the bus master device, and the decoder output selects the register from which the data is to be taken. Note that the decoder is actually enabled by the absence of the two OUT signals rather than the presence of the IN signal (refer to Table 5-2).

**Table 5-2**  
**M797 Decoder Selection**

| Input Signal                            | Function Selected | Decoder Enabled | Output Signals | Remarks                                       |
|---|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|---|
| IN ( $\sim$ OUT LO)<br>( $\sim$ OUT HI) | Load              | E2              | 6              | One for each register.                        |
| OUT LO                                  | Load even byte    | E6              | 4              | Only four of the six registers can be loaded. |
| OUT HI                                  | Load odd byte     | E9              | 4              |   |

If the OUT LO signal is supplied by the M105, the second decoder (E6) in the M797 Module is enabled, and the address lines select one of five decoder outputs. The OUT signal indicates a load operation (data from bus to master device). The first four outputs are used for the four registers that can be loaded from the bus. Note that OUT LO loads only the low-order (even) byte in these registers. The fifth output is used to load bits 13 and 14 in the TU10 read lines.

If the OUT HI signal is received from the M105, the third decoder (E9) is enabled, and the address lines select one of four decoder outputs to load the high-order (odd) byte of the selected register.

Table 5-3 indicates the functions selected by the various select line and gating signal combinations.

**Table 5-3**  
**Gating and Select Line Signals**

| Select Line | Gating Signal | Function                                 | Register | Bus Cycle     |
|-------------|---------------|--|----------|---------------|
| Status      | IN            | Status to bus                            | MTS      | DATI or DATIP |
| 1           | IN            | Command to bus                           | MTC      | DATI or DATIP |
| 2           | IN            | Byte record count to bus                 | MTBRC    | DATI or DATIP |
| 3           | IN            | Current memory address to bus            | MTCMA    | DATI or DATIP |
| 4           | IN            | Data buffer to bus                       | MTD      | DATI or DATIP |
| 5           | IN            | TU10 read lines to bus                   | MTRD     | DATI or DATIP |
| 1           | OUT           | Bus to command register                  | MTC      | DATO or DATOB |
| 2           | OUT           | Bus to byte record counter               | MTBRC    | DATO or DATOB |
| 3           | OUT           | Bus to current memory address register   | MTCMA    | DATO or DATOB |
| 4           | OUT           | Bus to data buffer register              | MTD      | DATO or DATOB |
| 5           | OUT           | Bus to bits 13 and 14 of TU10 read lines | MTRD     | DATO or DATOB |

**NOTES:** 1. IN and OUT refer to information transfer with relation to the bus master device.

2. Status register and TU10 read lines can be read by the processor but cannot be loaded by the processor except for bit 14 of the TU10 read lines, which is the CRC/LPC character selector bit, and bit 13 which is the BTE generator bit.

3. The OUT gating signal actually can be OUT LO or OUT HI. OUT LO loads the low-order (even) byte; OUT HI loads the high-order (odd) byte.

4. The IN gating signal is actually ( $\sim$ OUT LO $\cdot\sim$ OUT HI).

## 5.6 BUS CONTROL

The TM11 Controller is interfaced to all other components of a PDP-11 System by means of the Unibus. All control instructions and data transfers that take place between the TM11 Controller and PDP-11 components, such as the processor and memory, must pass through this bus.

The bus control logic performs three main functions: NPR transfers, interrupts, and slave response. Each of these functions is briefly explained in Table 5-4 and discussed in detail in the following paragraphs.

**Table 5-4**  
**Bus Control Functions**

| Function          | Controller Status | Bus Cycle                      | Description   |
|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| NPR Transfer      | Bus Master        | DATOB                          | The bus control logic requests control of the bus for NPR data transfers whenever the controller is ready to <i>send</i> data from the data buffer through the bus to memory (read function). Transfers one byte at a time.   |
|                   |                   | DATI                           | The bus control logic requests control of the bus for NPR data transfers whenever the controller is ready to <i>receive</i> data from the memory (write function). Transfers one byte at a time.  |
| Interrupt Request | Bus Master        | INTR                           | The bus control logic issues an interrupt request if the controller requires servicing by the program, because it is ready to transfer data, it is ready to begin a new operation, it is awaiting a command, or because an error condition exists. INT ENB in the command register must be set. |
| Slave Response    | Bus Slave         | DATO<br>DATOB<br>DATI<br>DATIP | Whenever the TM11 Controller is selected for use, it must respond with SSYN in order for the command instructions to be supplied by the processor or other bus master. This logic provides the proper slave response.   |

### 5.6.1 NPR Transfers

The NPR control logic circuits are shown on Drawing TM11-0-21. The main portion of the control logic consists of an M796 NPR Control Module. This module is used to control transfers of data to and from any slave device on the bus when the controller is functioning as bus master. The transfers are performed independently of processor control and are often referred to as "direct memory access".

The logic necessary to gain control of the bus is provided by the M7821 Interrupt Control Module (Drawing TM11-0-21), which generates the non-processor request (NPR). When the proper responses are received from the processor, the M7821 asserts BUS BBSY to indicate bus control. On becoming bus master, the controller is free to conduct a data transfer. A DATI cycle is performed if the controller needs data from a bus address; a DATO or DATOB cycle is performed if the controller transmits data to memory or some other device. Basically, a DATI is used during write operations, a DATO or DATOB is used during read operations.

The bit that controls selection of a DATI or DATO is function bit 02 (Drawing TM11-0-09). This bit is always clear for a read operation (octal number 01) and is always set for write operations (octal numbers 02, 03, and 06). Therefore, by using this bit for bus cycle selection, the proper cycle is used for the selected function (read=DATO, write=DATI). The resultant read and write signals are applied to the NPR input logic (Drawing TM11-0-13).

Whenever a read strobe (RDS) or write strobe (WRS) pulse from the master tape transport is sent to the controller or whenever the WRITE DATA ENB and GO STROBE pulses are present in the controller, a series of gates is qualified to produce a signal that sets the NPR enable flip-flop, provided there is no non-existent memory, bus grant late, overflow error condition present, or no CRCS or LPCS strobe pulse present. This flip-flop produces the NPR ENB H level, which initiates the NPR sequence.

The NPR ENB H level activates the Master Control A portion of the M7821 Interrupt Control Module (Drawing TM11-0-21), which generates a request on the BUS NPR line. When the processor has completed its current bus cycle and all higher priority device requests have been satisfied, the processor issues a grant on BUS NPG IN. The M7821 Module responds with BUS SACK and, when BUS SSYN, BUS BBSY, and BUS NPG are negated (indicating that the bus is free), the M7821 claims bus control by asserting BUS BBSY.

At this time, the M7821 Interrupt Control Module produces an NPR MASTER signal, which activates the M796 NPR Control Module (Drawing TM11-0-21). This NPR MASTER signal produces an internal start signal in the M796. Detailed descriptions of both the M7821 Interrupt Control and the M796 NPR Control Modules are provided in the *Unibus Interface Manual, Second Edition*, DEC-11-HIAB-D. Note, however, that in the Interface Manual, the M796 is referred to as the Unibus Master Control Module.

Regardless of the bus cycle selected, a bus address must be used to indicate where the controller is to send or receive data. The M796 Module produces the ADRS → BUS L signal, which enables the address line drivers in the current memory address register (MTCMA) so that the data transfer is made with the location specified by the MTCMA.

When a read operation is performed, the controller receives data read from the tape by the transport, assembles the data in the data buffer register (MTC) and, when the data is properly assembled, sends the data to the bus. This is a DATOB operation, because only one character is read from the tape at a time and the character corresponds to a PDP-11 byte.

When a DATOB bus cycle is selected by the M796 Module, the module produces the DATA → BUS signal which, together with a flip-flop and AND gates, produces alternate HI DATA BYTE L and LO DATA BYTE L signals (Drawing TM11-0-17) that enable data buffer output gating logic (Drawing TM11-0-16); thus, the information stored in the data buffer register is gated onto the bus for storage in alternate memory byte locations. After the necessary Unibus time delays, BUS MSYN is asserted and, thus, a slave device is selected. When the slave device responds with SSYN, MSYN is dropped, and the bus cycle is complete.

When a write operation is to be performed, the controller receives the data from the Unibus, holds it temporarily in the data buffer, and then transmits it through the read/write lines to the master tape transport electronics for writing on the magnetic tape.

When a DATI is selected by the M796 Module, the module first produces the ADRS → BUS signal as usual but, rather than produce a DATA → BUS signal, the M796 waits for the slave to respond and then produces two sequential pulses: DATA STB 1 and DATA STB 2. The DATA STB 1 pulse allows time for the data on the Unibus to deskew and settle. The pulse is also used internally (Drawing TM11-0-22) to produce DATA BFR STB 1 and DATA BFR STB 2, which clear the data buffer register (MTD).

The trailing edge of DATA STB 2 is tied back into the M796 Module to produce an internal signal, indicating that the data has been accepted. As a result of this signal, MSYN is dropped, and the bus cycle is complete.

On completion of either a DATI or DATOB bus cycle, the NPR CLR BBSY signal is generated. This signal is used to increment the current memory address register (MTCMA). The NPR CLR BBSY signal also produces the CLK 2 pulse (Drawing TM11-0-07), which increments the byte record counter (MTBRC). The trailing edge of NPR CLR BBSY direct clears the request bus flip-flop (Drawing TM11-0-13), which drops at the input to the M7821 Interrupt Control which, in turn, drops BUS BBSY.

A time-out flip-flop, referred to as NXM (non-existent memory), in the M796 Module is set if a SSYN response from the slave device does not occur within 10  $\mu$ s after BUS MSYN is asserted by the controller. When this flip-flop is set, the bus cycle is not performed, and the NXM error bit in the status register is set by the error logic circuits. In this case, the current memory address register is not incremented and, therefore, the register contains the address of the erroneous location.

### 5.6.2 Interrupt Request

An interrupt request is generated when the controller is ready to send or receive data to or from the bus, or whenever an error condition exists. Interrupt requests are controlled by the BR (bus request) input logic (Drawing TM11-0-13) and by the M7821 Interrupt Control Module.

The BR interrupt flip-flop is used to generate the BR INT pulse, which activates the M7821 Interrupt Control. Note that this flip-flop can be set only if the INT ENB bit is set.

When the ERR bit is set, it indicates that some type of error condition exists. In this case, the ERR pulse produces the SET CUR L pulse (Drawing TM11-0-08), which sets the BR flip-flop.

When both the controller and tape transport are ready to perform a data transfer, an interrupt service routine is used to perform the required bus cycle. In this case, the CU RDY signal and the TUR signal qualify an AND gate that produces an output, which sets the BR flip-flop.

If a function command is issued but the GO bit remains cleared, INT ENB is set, and an interrupt initiated. If the selected tape transport (as indicated by the SEL bits in the command register) completes the rewind operation before a new command to that unit is received, then an interrupt is initiated. This logic is covered in Paragraph 5.9.

The M7821 Module provides the logic necessary to make bus requests and gain control of the bus (become bus master). The module also includes the circuits necessary for generating an interrupt. The module contains two completely independent request and grant acknowledge circuits (channels A and B) for establishing bus control. The following paragraphs provide a brief description of both channels. A detailed description of the M7821 Module, including circuit schematics, is contained in the *Unibus Interface Manual, Second Edition*, DEC-11-HIAB-D.

Channel A (master control A) is used only for NPR requests and is activated when the bus request flip-flop is set, as described in Paragraph 5.6.1. The BR MASTER L signal from channel A activates the NPR control logic so that an NPR DATI or DATOB bus cycle can be performed. No vector address is used with this channel.

Channel B (master control B) is used to generate interrupts (Drawing TM11-0-24). This channel is activated by the BR INT pulse described previously.

The jumpers on the M7821 Module are wired for a standard vector address of 224 and a bus request level of BR5. Note that the priority level can be changed by the priority chip on the G736 Module, and the vector address can be changed by jumpers on the M7821 Interrupt Control. However, any programs referring to that level or vector address must also be changed if the jumpers are changed. All DEC software references the above standard jumpers.

### 5.6.3 Slave Response

When the TM11 Controller is to participate in a data transfer as a bus slave device, the slave response logic provides the necessary acknowledgement signals required by the bus master. This slave response logic is part of the M105 Address Selector and the M797 Register Select Modules.

For a DATO, the master device places the address of the TM11 Controller on the bus A lines, data to be transferred on the bus D lines, and signals on the bus C lines to select the appropriate register and function to be performed.

The master device waits 150 ns (75 ns to allow for worst case signal skew and 75 ns for address decoding) and then asserts BUS MSYN, provided the bus is clear (SSYN is clear).

When the controller decodes the address, it produces the ADRS DEC MSYN L signal at the time MSYN is received. The BUS MSYN L signal is gated through the M105 to produce the BUS SSYN response. There is a 300-ns time delay between MSYN and generation of SSYN.

The master device receives SSYN, clears MSYN (which clears ADRS DEC MSYN L). Clearing ADRS DEC MSYN L negates BUS SSYN to signify the end of the bus transaction.

## 5.7 BUS DRIVERS AND RECEIVERS

The bus drivers and receivers provide the signal levels required for compatibility with the Unibus. The M798 Transmitter Module contains bus drivers for interfacing controller outputs to the bus. The M784 Receiver Module contains inverting circuits that provide buffered bus signal outputs, which are used as inputs to the controller. The M785 Transceiver Module contains both drivers and receivers that are used for bidirectional interfacing to the bus.

The bus receivers are used primarily on the input lines to the various controller registers; the bus transmitters are used on the output lines. The transceivers are used on the current memory address register lines for bits 01, 02, 03, 16, and 17.

The M784, M785, and M798 Modules are described in the *Unibus Interface Manual, Second Edition*, DEC-11-HIAB-D.

## 5.8 REGISTERS

All software control of the TM11 Controller is performed by means of six device registers. These registers are assigned Unibus addresses and can be read or loaded with any PDP-11 instruction that refers to their address. Note, however, that the status register and the TU10 read lines (with the exception of bits 13 and 14 in the read lines) can be read but cannot be loaded from the bus. Bits 13 and 14 of the read lines can be loaded from the bus. In addition, bit 13 is always read as a 0. Table 5-5 lists the six registers and the function of each.

The register select logic provides the pulses that activate a specific register for use. This selection is described in Paragraph 5.5.2.

Paragraph 5.8.1 describes the initialize (INIT) logic, which is common to all registers. Subsequent paragraphs discuss each of the registers from a hardware standpoint. A discussion of the registers from a programming standpoint is presented in Chapter 4.

**Table 5-5  
Device Register Functions**

| Register                        | Mnemonic | Function   |
|---------------------------------|----------|--|
| Status Register                 | MTS      | Provides detailed information on the status of the TM11 Controller. Such information includes error indications and tape unit status indications.  |
| Command Register                | MTC      | This is the main control register in the TM11 Controller. Specifies the operation to be performed on the tape unit, selects the tape bit packing density, and selects the tape unit to be used.<br><br>Indicates when TM11 Controller is ready, when an error condition exists, and when the controller is cleared.<br><br>Provides the two extended address bits for bus addresses.   |
| Byte Record Counter             | MTBRC    | Counts the number of bytes in any write operation, the number of records in a space forward or space reverse operation, and the number of bytes in a read operation. Desired byte count is preset by the program. When the register counts the number of specified bytes, it prevents further transfers.   |
| Current Memory Address Register | MTCMA    | Specifies the bus or memory address to or from which data is transferred during read and write operations. After each transfer is completed, the register is automatically incremented by 1 (next byte location).<br><br>When BGL or NXM errors occur, the register contains the address of the location in which the failure occurred.<br><br>Note that this register is incremented by 1 and, therefore, accesses byte, rather than word, locations.   |
| Data Buffer Register            | MTD      | Contains the information read from or written on the tape. Serves as a buffer between the tape unit and the memory.  |
| TU10 Read Lines                 | MTRD     | Permits storage of data read from the tape transport. A parity bit indicates the occurrence of a parity error and the channel containing the error.<br><br>A character selector bit is used to select the last character of a record that is to be loaded into the data buffer register.<br><br>A timer bit is used for diagnostic purposes by measuring the time duration of the tape operations.<br><br>A BTE bit is used to set CU RDY prematurely in order to provide a bad tape error indication. |

### 5.8.1 Initialize Logic

The TM11 Controller logic can be initialized by one of the following methods:

- a. Depressing the CLEAR switch on the maintenance panel.
- b. Loading a 1 into bit 12 (POWER CLEAR) of the command register.
- c. Issuing a programmed RESET instruction.
- d. Depressing the START switch on the PDP-11 processor console.
- e. Occurrence of a power fail by either the processor power supply or the controller power supply.

The controller initialization logic is shown on Drawing TM11-0-19. When the maintenance panel CLEAR switch is activated, it produces the MAN CLR L pulse, which passes through a series of gates to produce the INIT H and INIT L signals which clear all logic in the controller and in the master tape transport.

When a 1 is loaded into bit 12 of the command register, an AND gate is qualified by D12 H and SEL 1 OUT HIGH H. When the AND gate is qualified, the INIT H and INIT L signals are produced as before.

The remaining three methods of initialization (programmed RESET, processor START, power fail) all use external logic to provide a BUS INIT signal input to the controller. This signal becomes INIT REC H and produces the INIT H and INIT L signals as before.

## 5.8.2 Command Register (MTC)

The command register is the main control register in the system and specifies the operation to be performed. Each of the bits is discussed separately below, beginning with the most significant bit.

**5.8.2.1 Error Bit (15) –** The ERROR bit (bit 15) in the command register is the inclusive OR of all error conditions in the status register. Thus, if any error bit in the status register is set, it sets the ERROR bit in the command register. When any error condition occurs, it sets the appropriate flip-flop in the status register. The appropriate level from the flip-flop passes through a series of OR gates (Drawing TM11-0-20) and sets the command register error flip-flop, which produces the ERR H signal. The ERR H signal is then applied through a series of AND gates (Drawing TM11-0-15) so that the bit can be read from the bus.

Because of the gating shown on Drawing TM11-0-20, the ERR flip-flop may or may not be set simultaneously with the detection of an error condition. In the case of BGL (bus grant late), NXM (non-existent memory), ILC (illegal command), and BTE (bad tape error) errors, the resultant error signal passes through OR gates and sets the error flip-flop simultaneously with detection of the error.

If RLE (record length error), CRE (cyclical redundancy error), PAE (parity error), or EOF (end-of-file) occurs, the appropriate status register flip-flop is set, and the resultant error signal is ANDed with the LRCS D signal, which occurs only when the LPC character is detected. Thus, the command register error flip-flop is not set until the LPC character has been read, in order to give the controller time to complete the current operation.

When the EOT (end-of-tape) marker is detected, it represents an error condition only if the tape is moving in the forward direction. The EOT signal is ANDed with SPACE REV L, REWIND L, and LRCS D. This AND gate, therefore, is qualified only if: the end-of-tape marker has been detected (EOT), the tape is not moving in the reverse direction (SPACE REV L), the tape is not being rewound (REWIND L), and the LPC character has been detected (LRCS D). If these conditions are met, the gate is qualified, and the resultant output sets the error flip-flop in the command register.

When the ERROR bit is set, it sets the CU RDY bit (bit 07), as shown on Drawing TM11-0-08. The ERR L signal from the error flip-flop passes through 2 pulses and two OR gates to produce the SET CUR L signal that direct sets the control unit ready (CU RDY) flip-flop.

The output of the interrupt flip-flop (BR INT H) is applied to the MASTER CONTROL B section of the M7821 Interrupt Control Module, and the TM11 Controller initiates an interrupt routine. Thus, an error condition causes an interrupt, provided the INT ENB bit is set.

A selection error is an illegal command and, therefore, also causes an error condition.

The error conditions can be cleared by INIT (refer to Paragraph 5.8.1) or by the next GO command.

**5.8.2.2 Density Bits (14 and 13)** – The DEN 8 and DEN 5 bits are used together to determine the bit packing density of the tape. Densities of 200, 556, and 800 bpi may be selected for the 7-channel tape, but only 800 bpi can be used for the 9-channel tape. The program selects the density by loading the appropriate value into these bit positions, according to the following table:

| DEN 8<br>(Bit 14) | DEN 5<br>(Bit 13) | Selected bpi |                  |
|-------------------|-------------------|--------------|------------------|
| 0                 | 0                 | 200          | } 7-channel tape |
| 0                 | 1                 | 556          |                  |
| 1                 | 0                 | 800          |                  |
| 1                 | 1                 | 800          | 9-channel        |

These values are applied to the master tape transport by the controller. The master tape transport contains the actual density selection logic for the tape. The controller logic is used primarily to feed appropriate bits to the master tape transport and to select the core dump mode of operation. Controller logic is shown on Drawing **TM11-0-10**.

When a 1 is loaded into bit 13 (DEN 5), it is applied to the D-input of a flip-flop. The clock input is the SEL 1 OUT HI H signal that indicates the bus is loading the command register. These two inputs set the flip-flop. The low side of the flip-flop qualifies an AND gate, provided the core dump mode is not being used. The output of the AND gate is the DEN 5 signal (representing binary 1) that is applied through the BC11A interconnecting cable to master tape transport.

If a 0 is loaded into this bit position, the flip-flop is not set, the AND gate is disqualified, and the AND gate output is a low level representing binary 0.

The DEN 8 (bit 14) signal is produced in an identical manner to the DEN 5 signal.

The core dump mode is used with 7-channel tapes when it is desired to use all bits within a memory byte. Normally, the two most significant bits in a byte are not used. During core dump mode, all bits are used, but the two most significant channels on the tape are not used. In effect, two tape characters are used to represent one byte as shown in Table 5-6.

The core dump mode is enabled whenever the program sets both DEN 5 and DEN 8 to a 1 while the 7-channel (7CH) signal from the master tape transport is a 1, indicating that a 7-channel tape is being used. When both the DEN 5 and DEN 8 flip-flops are set, the DEN 5 H and DEN 8 H signals are applied to an AND gate that is qualified by the 7CH H signal from the master transport. A signal produced from this AND gate is CORE DUMP H, which disqualifies the AND gate from the low side of the DEN 5 flip-flop so that the DEN 5 signal to the master

transport is a 0. This is necessary because both DEN signals had been 1s in order to select the core dump mode, but a 10 code must be applied to the master transport in order for the actual transfer to take place at 800 bpi.

The core dump mode is used for reading and writing on tape. It is important to note that the TU10 tape channels are numbered in the reverse order of the data buffer bits. Thus, for example, data buffer bits 0, 1, 2, and 3 correspond to tape channels 7, 6, 5, and 4, respectively.

After the core dump mode has been properly selected, the resultant CORE DUMP L and 7CH L pulses disqualify the four AND gates connected to tape channels 3, 2, 1, and 0 (Drawing TM11-0-11). Channels 1 and 0 are disqualified by 7CH, because they are used only during 9-channel operation; tape channels 3 and 2 are disqualified by CORE DUMP L, because they are not used during the core dump mode of operation.

When transferring data from the data buffer register to the master tape transport during the core dump mode, one 8-bit PDP-11 byte is written as two 4-bit tape characters. This is accomplished by the gating shown on Drawing TM11-0-11 and is in the form shown in Table 5-6.

**Table 5-6**  
**Core Dump Mode**

| First Tape Character | Second Tape Character | Corresponding TU10 Write Lines |
|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| 0                    | 4                     | WD7                            |
| 1                    | 5                     | WD6                            |
| 2                    | 6                     | WD5                            |
| 3                    | 7                     | WD4                            |

**NOTE:** These two characters represent one byte with 0–7 bits.

**5.8.2.3 Power Clear Bit (12)** – When the program loads a 1 into this bit position, an initialize signal is provided to clear the TM11 Controller, the master tape transport, and the slave transports. This initialize signal does not clear the processor or any other device on the bus. The initialize signal is generated by the controller logic as described in Paragraph 5.8.1. The INIT signal passes through a gate and becomes the CINIT signal, which is applied to the master tape transport logic to clear all transports.

**5.8.2.4 Parity Bit (11)** – The parity bit (bit 11) specifies whether odd or even lateral parity is to be read from or written on the magnetic tape. Although parity is generated by the master tape transport, the parity bit in the controller command register is used to select the polarity. The parity bit is referred to as the PEVN (parity even) bit, because it denotes even parity when set.

The parity flip-flop is shown on Drawing TM11-0-10. The flip-flop is set by SEL 1 OUT HI H (indicating that the command register has been selected for loading from the bus) and by D11 H (indicating that a 1 has been loaded into bit 11 of the command register). With the flip-flop set, the low side passes through a gate and becomes the PEVN signal, which is applied to the master tape unit to indicate that even parity is to be used.

The parity flip-flop is cleared by loading a 0 into bit 11 (the D11 H input becomes low) or by an INIT signal, which directly clears the flip-flop. When the flip-flop is clear, the resultant PEVN signal is low, indicating to the master tape transport that odd parity is to be used.

**5.8.2.5 Unit Select Bits (10, 09, 08)** – The three unit select bits (bits 10 through 08) specify the tape transport that is to be used for a particular operation. The states of these three bits represent an octal code corresponding to the number of the transport, as set by the UNIT SELECT switch on the individual transport.

The three unit select bits are shown on Drawing TM11-0-12. These three bits (UNIT SEL BIT 2, UNIT SEL BIT 1, and UNIT SEL BIT 0) are set or cleared by loading 1s or 0s from bus lines 10, 09, and 08, respectively. The UNIT SEL BIT signals are applied to one side of a flip-flop. The other side of the flip-flop receives the CLK UNIT SEL L signal. Therefore, these flip-flops are set or cleared, depending on the UNIT SEL BIT signal. This results in SEL 2, SEL 1, and SEL 0 signals (representing the appropriate octal code loaded from the bus), which are applied to the master tape transport logic. The CLK UNIT SEL L signal is produced, provided the following conditions exist: the command register is being loaded from the bus (SEL 1 OUT L), the master tape transport is off-line (SEL R), is rewinding, or is not in either the tape operation time (CU RDY is 0) or gap shut-down time.

The three SEL signals are applied to a binary-to-octal decoder within the master tape transport. Depending on which signals are high, one of the eight tape units is selected for use.

It is possible that the desired tape unit may not be properly selected. For example, there may be no tape transport UNIT SELECT switch that is set to the number loaded by the program. Another instance of improper selection would be selecting a tape transport that is off-line. In either case, improper selection is an illegal command (ILC) error, which, in turn, causes an ERR indication.

The unit select logic also produces UNIT SEL BIT TM H and L signals, which are used by the tape motion control logic described in Paragraph 5.9.

**5.8.2.6 Control Unit Ready Bit (07)** – The control unit ready bit (bit 07) indicates that the controller is ready to receive a new command. It is set (indicating ready) whenever the previous command operation is completed, an initialize signal is given, or an error condition exists. It is cleared at the beginning of a tape operation when the GO command (bit 00) is issued.

The control unit ready flip-flop is shown on Drawing TM11-0-08. A series of gates is connected to the direct-set input of the flip-flop. If the INIT signal goes high (indicating initialize) or the ERR signal is present (indicating some type of error condition exists), the output of the OR gate goes low and direct sets the control unit ready flip-flop, producing CU RDY H.

The gating also direct sets the CU RDY bit when: the byte record counter overflows with space forward or space reverse operations; when the first LPC character is read in a tape forward command which is not a SPACE FORWARD; when a rewind operation has started; when the unit goes off-line during an operation; and when the BOT is sensed during a rewind or SPACE REV operation.

The control unit ready flip-flop is cleared by the GO BIT H signal, which occurs whenever the GO bit is loaded from the bus.

**5.8.2.7 Interrupt Enable Bit (06)** – The interrupt enable (INT ENB) bit, when set, allows an interrupt to occur provided either CU RDY (bit 07) or ERR (bit 15) becomes set. It also permits an interrupt whenever a tape unit in the rewind mode reaches the BOT marker at the time CU RDY is a 1, or whenever an instruction sets the INT ENB bit but does not set the GO bit (Bit 00).

The interrupt enable flip-flop is shown on Drawing TM11-0-10. It is set by SEL 1 OUT LO H (bus loading command register) and D06 H (a 1 in the bit position). The high output of the flip-flop (INT ENB H) qualifies one side of an AND gate, tied to the input of the bus request flip-flop (Drawing TM11-0-13). The other input to the AND gate is produced by a series of gates corresponding to the conditions mentioned above. Thus, when the ERR bit is set (indicated by SET BR L pulse); or when a tape unit has completed its rewind operation (indicated by RWS H and BOT H); or when an instruction sets the INT ENB bit but does not set the GO bit (indicated by INT ENB L, D00 L, and SEL 1 OUT LO H), the AND gate is qualified, thereby setting the BR INT flip-flop.

The INT ENB bit is direct cleared by the INIT L signal or is cleared by loading with a 0 (input D06 H becomes low).

**5.8.2.8 Extended Bus Address Bits (05 and 04)** – The extended bus address bits 05 and 04 represent bus address bits A17 and A16, respectively. These bits are used to specify 18-bit addresses when required, because the current memory address register (MTCMA) is only 16 bits long. Although functionally part of the MTCMA, these bits are loaded by a SEL 1 OUT LO H signal, which indicates that the command register has been selected for use. The current memory address register is incremented after each data transfer, and this incrementation also affects the two extended address bits. These bits are cleared by INIT, as shown on Drawing TM11-0-22.

**5.8.2.9 Function Bits (03, 02, 01)** – The three function bits are set or cleared to provide an octal code that selects any one of eight commands that control operation of the tape system. These commands are used for reading data from or writing data on the tape and for controlling tape motion.

The three function bits are shown on Drawing TM11-0-09. The appropriate 1 or 0 on the associated bus data line (D03, D02, and D01) is loaded into the associated function flip-flop by means of a load pulse, which is SEL 1 OUT LO H (command register selected for loading from the bus).

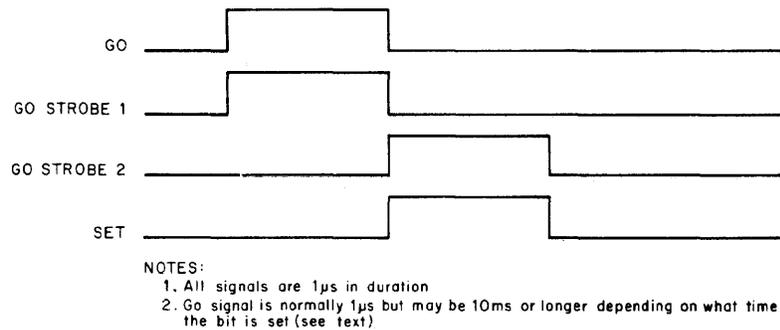
The FUNCTION BIT H line from each of the three flip-flops is tied to the input of an M163 Binary-to-Octal decoder, which decodes the state of the three bits and provides the selected function output signal. The selected function signal is then applied to other controller logic to institute the function. Other logic that uses the function signals include: ready control logic, motion control logic, start control logic, error logic, and tape interface logic.

**5.8.2.10 Go Bit (00)** – The GO bit is set by loading with a 1 from the bus and is used to initiate operation of the function selected by the function bits.

The GO flip-flop (TM11-0-06) is set by the SEL 1 OUT LO L signal (command register selected to receive data from bus) and the D00 H signal (1 loaded into bus data line 00). Note that the output of the flip-flop, when set, passes through a series of gates to produce three derivatives of the GO signal. These derivatives (shown in Figure 5-6) are: GO STROBE 1, GO STROBE 2, and SET. The SET signal is effectively the GO pulse to the master tape transport and must be present before any tape operation can be initiated.

The GO flip-flop is cleared by INIT or cleared by the GO STROBE 2 pulse. GO STROBE 2 is simultaneously applied to an OR gate, the output of which direct clears the GO flip-flop, and to an AND gate which, when qualified, asserts the SET pulse (Go command to transport).

During normal operation, the GO pulse is 1  $\mu$ s in duration. However, in some instances this duration may be considerably longer, depending on the status of the selected tape transport.



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Figure 5-6 Derivatives of GO Signal

As mentioned previously, the GO pulse cannot go low until the GO STROBE 2 pulse is generated. Before GO STROBE 2 can be generated, a 4-input AND gate must be qualified. The four conditions needed to qualify this AND gate are: GO BIT H (GO flip-flop is set), GSD L (Transport not in gap shutdown period), unit has completed a rewind instruction, and the logic has determined that a GO can be sent to the transport during the SDWN time. If any one of these four conditions is not true, the GO pulse remains high until the required condition becomes true.

If the transport is in a gap shutdown or settling down period, the GO bit duration could be as long as 10 ms, depending on what point in the period the GO bit was set. If the selected tape unit is not ready (note that this condition also exists during rewind, because RWS direct sets the flip-flop, providing one of the AND gate inputs), the GO bit duration could be as long as several minutes as would be the case when the selected tape unit is in the process of rewinding.

The GO BIT H signal is also applied to the control unit ready (CU RDY) flip-flop (Drawing TM11-0-08) to clear the CU RDY bit. This is necessary because whenever the GO bit is present, it indicates the controller is performing an operation and is not ready to accept a new command.

### 5.8.3 Status Register (MTS)

The status register is used primarily to provide indications of error conditions. It also indicates the status of certain system functions such as write lock, settling down period, tape unit ready, and beginning of tape.

The status register error logic is shown on Drawing TM11-0-20. Whenever one of the specific error signals is present, it passes through an OR gate, which is the inclusive OR of all error conditions. The resultant flip-flop output signal (ERR L) passes through a pulser and two OR gates in the ready control logic (Drawing TM11-0-08) and direct sets the control unit ready (CU RDY) flip-flop. This allows the controller to issue an interrupt request whenever an error exists (refer to Paragraph 5.6.2).

All error bits (15 through 06) in the status register are read-only bits. They can be read (tested) by the program to determine if a specific error exists or not, but they cannot be loaded by the program. All error bits are cleared by INIT or by the GO (GO STROBE 1) pulse to the tape unit.

The remaining bits (05 through 00) indicate system status and are set or cleared by the master tape transport. These bits can also be read by the program.

Each individual bit in the status register is discussed separately in the following paragraphs.

**5.8.3.1 Illegal Command (15)** – The illegal command (ILC) error is bit 15 of the status register and indicates a conflict in commands. The ILC error logic (Drawing TM11-0-19) consists of a series of gates and a flip-flop.

The first series of gates is used to direct set the ILC flip-flop. Any time that a DATO or DATOB transfer is made to the command register (SEL 1 OUT LO H or SEL 1 OUT HI H) during a current tape operation (CUR DEL L), gating is qualified to set the ILC flip-flop, because the command register cannot accept a new command while in the process of executing another command.

When the SELR bit becomes 0 (SELR H) during any operation (CUR DEL L) except an off line command, gating is qualified to direct set the ILC flip-flop, because no command can be issued to a tape transport that is not on-line.

The remaining gates in the ILC error logic are used to produce SET ILC H, which sets the ILC flip-flop when the GO pulse is present (GO STROBE 2 L). There are two illegal commands that can produce SET ILC H.

The first command is any command to a tape transport that has its SELR bit clear (SELR H), because when SELR is clear it indicates the transport is off-line.

The second illegal command is any write, write end-of-file, or write-with-extended-IRG command (WRITE ENB H) that is issued when the write lock bit is set (WRL H). Writing is inhibited with WRL set, and all write commands are, therefore, illegal.

When an illegal command produces the ILC H pulse, the pulse is applied to the gating logic for the error flip-flop in the command register (Drawing TM11-0-20); thus, the command register ERR bit is set simultaneously with the status register ILC bit.

The ILC error bit is cleared by INIT or by occurrence of the GO pulse. When the GO pulse occurs, the GO STROBE 1 pulse occurs immediately preceding the GO STROBE 2 pulse and is used to direct clear the ILC flip-flop.

**5.8.3.2 End-of-File Bit (14)** – Bit 14 in the status register is the end-of-file (EOF) bit that is used to indicate that the tape has reached the end of the file. The EOF flip-flop (Drawing TM11-0-20) is set by the master tape transport and cleared by INIT or GO pulse. The input to the flip-flop is the FMK (file mark) signal from the master tape transport. This signal, when present, indicates that the transport has detected the end-of-file mark on the tape. The signal sets the EOF flip-flop to produce the EOFF H signal.

It is beyond the scope of this manual to describe the logic used by the master tape transport to detect the end-of-file mark. The transport logic is covered in the *TU10 DECmagtape Manual*. A brief description of the EOF bit is presented in Figure 4-1 of this manual.

**5.8.3.3 Cyclic Redundancy Error Bit (13)** – The cyclic redundancy error (CRE) bit in the status register indicates that the cyclic redundancy check for a 9-channel tape has detected a parity error. This check compares the CRC character written during a write or write-with-extended-IRG operation with the CRC character generated during a read operation.

The comparison of the two CRC characters is performed by logic within the master tape transport. If the two characters are not identical, then the CRCE from the tape unit becomes a 1 and is applied to gating logic in the controller error circuits (Drawing TM11-0-20). The gating logic sets the CRE flip-flop to produce CRE H.

The CRE output of the flip-flop is applied to gating logic associated with the command register ERR flip-flop. Note, however, that the AND gate is not qualified until both CRE and LRCS D H are present. The latter signal indicates that the LPC character has been detected. Thus, when a CRC error is detected, the CRE bit in the status register is set immediately, but the ERR bit in the command register is not set until the LPC is detected. This gives the controller time to complete the current operation before branching to an error routine by means of the interrupt.

**5.8.3.4 Parity Error Bit (12)** – The parity error (PAE) bit in the status register indicates that a parity error exists in the data. The error may be in either lateral (vertical) or longitudinal parity. A lateral parity error is indicated for any character in a record; a longitudinal parity error indicates an error in a specific channel.

The parity error circuits are shown on Drawing TM11-0-20. An AND gate output is used to set the PAE flip-flop; this AND gate is qualified by three inputs. The first input is RDS H from the master tape transport, which is used to sample parity. The second input is either WRITE ENB or READ, because parity is checked during both read and write operations. The third input is either the VPE (vertical parity error) or LRCE (longitudinal parity error) signal from the transport. Thus, both lateral (vertical) and longitudinally parity errors are detected during read, write, write EOF, and write-with-extended-IRG operations. The entire record is checked, including the CRC and LPC characters.

Note that longitudinal parity occurs when an odd number of 1s is present in any channel in the record; lateral parity errors may be even or odd, depending on the setting of the PEVN bit in the command register.

The PAE output of the parity error flip-flop is applied to command register gating logic in the same manner as the CRE output, as explained previously. In the case of PAE, the PAE bit in the status register is set immediately, but the command register ERR flip-flop is not set until detection of the LPC character.

**5.8.3.5 Bus Grant Late Error Bit (11)** – The bus grant late (BGL) error flip-flop is bit 11 of the status register. During normal operation, the controller makes an NPR request to gain control of the bus and initiate a data transfer (either a read or a write). If the controller is still engaged in the NPR transfer when another NPR request is initiated, a BGL error condition occurs.

The BGL flip-flop is shown on Drawing TM11-0-20. It is set (indicating an error) when both the NPR ENB and NPR SET inputs are high. These inputs are received from the NPR input logic (Drawing TM11-0-13).

If the controller receives either a WRS or RDS pulse from the master tape transport, the NPR logic circuits produce the NPR SET H pulse. This pulse is gated through an AND gate and sets the NPR request flip-flop on its trailing edge.

If, however, the NPR transfer is still occurring when the next NPR SET H pulse occurs, the BGL flip-flop is set to indicate an error. The NPR request flip-flop is cleared at the end of an NPR transaction by the NPR CLEAR BBSY H signal.

The BGL error signal disqualifies the AND gate on the input of the NPR request flip-flop, thereby preventing any further NPR requests until the error condition is corrected. In addition, the BGL signal is applied through gates in the error logic (Drawing TM11-0-20) to set the ERR flip-flop in the command register.

**5.8.3.6 End-of-Tape Bit (10)** – The end-of-tape (EOT) bit is bit 10 in the status register. This bit is set when the EOT marker is detected when the tape is moving in the forward direction; it is cleared by the trailing edge of the EOT marker when the tape is moving in the reverse direction. Note that the EOT bit is an error condition only when the tape is moving forward.

The EOT bit is controlled by the master tape transport. The transport logic detects the EOT and sends the appropriate signal to the status register to set or clear the bit. When the EOT marker is detected by the transport, the EOT H signal is applied to error logic in the controller (Drawing TM11-0-20). An AND gate is qualified if EOT is high, and both SPACE REV L and REWIND L are true (indicating the tape is not moving in the reverse direction). The output of the AND gate is ANDed with the LRCSD H signal (indicating that the LPC character has been detected) and used to set the ERR flip-flop in the command register.

Thus, the EOT bit in the status register is set or cleared as soon as the EOT marker is detected, but the ERR bit in the command register is not set until the LPC character has been read in order to allow completion of the current operation prior to initiating an interrupt.

**5.8.3.7 Record Length Error Bit (09)** – During read operations, the record length error (RLE) bit is set if the master tape transport attempts to load another character into the controller after the number of bytes specified by the byte record counter has already been transferred to memory. This error bit is used for long records only and is set as soon as the byte record counter increments beyond 0.

The byte record counter (MTBRC) is used to keep track of the number of data bytes loaded into memory from a tape record. Initially, the MTBRC is loaded with the 2's complement of the number of bytes to be loaded. Each time the master tape transport reads a character, it loads it into the data buffer register. After a byte is transferred to memory, the MTBRC is incremented by 1. When the last byte is transferred to memory, incrementing the MTBRC by 1 sets it to 0.

As soon as the byte record counter goes to 0, it produces a CARRY OUT 2 L signal, which sets the OVERFLOW flip-flop (Drawing TM11-0-20). This flip-flop had been reset because of the INIT or GO L signal. Therefore, it is now set and produces an OVERFLOW H pulse.

This overflow pulse is applied to one leg of a 3-input AND gate. Because the RLE error can only occur during a read operation, the AND gate is not qualified unless a read operation is being performed as indicated by a read strobe signal (READ STB H) and the absence of a CRCS or LRCS pulse (CRCS L or LRCS L). When the AND gate is qualified, its output changes the state of the RLE flip-flop, thereby setting it to provide an indication of record length error in status register bit position 09.

When the RLE flip-flop is set, the RLE L output qualifies an OR gate in the error logic circuits. The signal from the OR gate qualifies an AND gate when the LPC character is read (LRCSD H), thereby setting the ERR flip-flop. Thus, when a record length error occurs, the RLE bit is immediately set, and the ERR bit in the command register is set after the current operation is completed.

**5.8.3.8 Bad Tape Error Bit (08)** – A bad tape error occurs when a character is detected (RDS pulse) during the gap shutdown or settling down period for all tape functions except rewind and off line.

The bad tape error flip-flop (Drawing TM11-0-19) is normally in the clear state. It is set by the output of a 4-input NAND gate. One input of this NAND gate is the RDS H pulse, which indicates that a character has been detected. The second input to the NAND gate comes from a series of gates that are qualified if the tape unit is in either the gap shutdown (GSD L) or settling down (SDWN L) period. The third input is in the INH BTE signal (BGL, NXM, or ILC is true). Issuing a new GO command or an INIT pulse causes the bad tape error flip-flop to clear so that it can be ready for another bad tape error.

When the bad tape error flip-flop is set, it also qualifies one leg of an OR gate shown on Drawing TM11-0-20. The output of this gate sets the ERR flip-flop as soon as the error occurs.

**5.8.3.9 Non-Existent Memory Bit (07)** – The non-existent memory (NXM) error flip-flop is bit 07 of the status register. When set, this bit indicates that the controller was bus master during NPR operations but did not receive a SSYN response from the slave device within 10  $\mu$ s after the controller issued the MSYN signal. The ERR bit is set simultaneously with the NXM bit, thus terminating all operation. If the NXM error occurs during a write or write-with-extended-IRG operation, the controller does not send the WDR signal to the master tape transport; however, the master transport writes the CRC character (if required) and the LPC character onto the tape.

The NXM error flip-flop is part of the NPR control circuits on the M796 Module and is described in Paragraph 5.6.1.

**5.8.3.10 Select Remote Bit (06)** – The select remote (SELR) bit is bit 06 of the status register and, when set, indicates that the selected transport has been selected and is on-line. When this bit is 0, it indicates that the tape transport addressed does not exist (no transport UNIT SELECT switch set to the number specified by the program), is off-line (transport ON-LINE/OFF-LINE switch set to OFF-LINE), or that the selected transport has its power turned off.

The select remote logic is within the master tape transport, which supplies the appropriate signal to the status register for monitoring.

**5.8.3.11 Beginning-of-Tape Bit (05)** – The beginning-of-tape (BOT) bit in the status register indicates when the BOT marker on the magnetic tape is read. As long as this bit remains 0, it indicates that the BOT marker has not been sensed. When the bit is a 1, it indicates that the marker has been sensed, and the beginning of the tape has been reached. The ERR bit is not set when the BOT bit is sensed, because sensing of the BOT marker does not indicate an error condition.

The beginning-of-tape logic is within the master tape transport, which supplies the appropriate signal to the status register to set or clear the BOT bit.

**5.8.3.12 7-Channel Bit (04)** – This bit is set or cleared by the master tape transport to indicate whether a 7-channel or 9-channel tape is being used. When the bit is set, it indicates a 7-channel tape; when it is clear, it indicates a 9-channel tape.

The 7-channel bit is also used in conjunction with the DEN 8 and DEN 5 bits in the command register to cause the core dump mode of operation. When these three bits are all set, the core dump mode is used, and all bits within each byte in a memory location are transferred to the tape. A detailed discussion of the core dump mode is presented in Paragraph 5.8.2.2.

**5.8.3.13 Settle Down Bit (03)** – A settling down period is provided to allow the tape to fully deskew prior to stopping or starting a new operation. This settling down period sets the SDWN bit in the status register. When the tape unit stops, SDWN is cleared, and the tape unit ready bit is set.

The settle down logic is within the master tape transport, which supplies the appropriate signal to set or clear the SDWN bit in the status register. A description of the SDWN bit is contained in Paragraph 4-2 of this manual.

**5.8.3.14 Write Lock Bit (02)** – The write lock (WRL) bit is under control of the master tape transport. When set, it prevents the controller from writing information on the magnetic tape. If the write lock signal is supplied from the master tape transport (WRL H) and the controller attempts to write on the tape (WRITE ENB H), then an AND gate is qualified (Drawing TM11-0-19) that sets the illegal command (ILC) flip-flop, thereby setting the ERR flip-flop and preventing the write operation from being executed.

**5.8.3.15 Rewind Status Bit (01)** – The rewind status (RWS) bit is under control of the master tape transport, which supplies the signal to set or clear the RWS bit in the status register. The RWS bit is set at the start of a rewind operation, and becomes a 0 as soon as the BOT marker is detected while the tape is moving in the forward direction. Thus, when the bit is set, it indicates the tape is rewinding; when it is clear, it indicates the rewind operation is complete. The RWS signal from the master tape transport is also used in the tape control ready logic described in Paragraph 5.9.3.

**5.8.3.16 Tape Unit Ready Bit (00)** – The tape unit ready (TUR) bit is under control of the master tape unit, which supplies the signal to set or clear the TUR bit in the status register. Whenever the selected tape unit is being used (such as rewind), this bit is cleared. When the tape unit is stopped and ready to receive a new command, this bit is set. The TUR signal from the master tape transport is used in the tape start control logic described in Paragraph 5.9.4.

#### **5.8.4 Byte Record Counter (MTBRC)**

The byte record counter (MTBRC) is a 16-bit binary counter used to count bytes in a read or write operation and used to count records in space forward and space reverse operations. This register and the current memory address register constitute the M795 Module shown on Drawing TM11-0-21. A detailed schematic and associated description of this module is presented in the *Unibus Interface Manual, Second Edition*, DEC-11-HIAB-D.

When used in a write or write-with-extended-IRG operation, the register is set by the program to the 2's complement of the number of bytes to be written on the tape. Each time a write operation is performed, the register increments by 1. After the last byte has been strobed from memory, the register increments to 0 and produces a CARRY OUT 2 signal. This signal sets the OVERFLOW flip-flop (Drawing TM11-0-20), which produces the OVERFLOW signal. When the next write strobe (WRS) signal occurs, the OVERFLOW signal clears the write data ready (WDR) line (Drawing TM11-0-09); thus, the controller lowers the write data ready line to indicate to the master tape transport that there are no more data characters in the record.

When used in a read operation, the byte record counter is set to a number equal to or greater than the 2's complement of the number of tape characters to be loaded into memory. A record length error (RLE), which occurs for long records only, occurs whenever a read pulse is generated after the MTBRC is at 0. The RLE error is shown on Drawing TM11-0-20. The RLE flip-flop is set by the output of an AND gate that is qualified if the MTBRC has incremented to 0 (OVERFLOW H), a read pulse is generated (READ STB H), and there is no CRCS or LRCS pulse ( $\sim$ CRCS + LRCS).

When the MTBRC is used in a space forward or space reverse operation, it is set to the 2's complement of the number of *records* to be spaced. The counter is incremented by 1 at LPC time, regardless of direction of tape motion. A new GO pulse is sent to the tape unit during the SDWN time if the MTBRC is not yet at 0. This logic is shown on Drawing TM11-0-06. Either direction (SPACE FWD or SPACE REV) qualifies an OR gate to produce SPACE H, which is one leg of an AND gate. The other leg of the gate is qualified if the MTBRC is not at 0 (OVERFLOW L), and there is no end-of-file mark (EOF F L). The output of this AND gate qualifies another AND gate, provided settle down is present (SDWN H). When this gate is qualified, it triggers the logic that produces the GO pulse.

When the last record is reached, the byte record counter increments to 0 and produces the CARRY OUT 2 pulse. This pulse is ANDed with SPACE H (Drawing TM11-0-08), passes through two OR gates, and direct sets the CU RDY flip-flop. When this flip-flop is set, it indicates that the controller is ready to receive a new command, because the space operation is now complete.

### 5.8.5 Current Memory Address Register (MTCMA)

The current memory address register specifies the bus or memory address to or from which data is to be transferred during write or read operations. The current memory address register (MTCMA) and the byte record counter (MTBRC) constitute the M795 Module shown on Drawing TM11-0-21. A detailed schematic and associated description of this module is presented in the *Unibus Interface Manual, Second Edition, DEC-11-HIAB-D*.

Before issuing a command, the program loads the MTCMA with the memory address that is to receive the first byte of data (read operation) or the memory address from which the first byte is to be taken (write operation). After each memory access (read or write), the MTCMA is immediately incremented by 1. This incrementation is caused by the NPR CLR BBSY signal, which indicates the bus transfer is completed.

The logic shown on Drawing TM11-0-22 is used to carry the bus address register incrementation to extended address bits 16 and 17 in the status register. When incrementation of the MTCMA causes the register to contain all 1s, the next clock pulse sets the current memory address register to all 0s and produces a CARRY OUT 3 pulse, which sets extended address bit 16. The MTCMA then continues incrementing until another CARRY OUT 3 pulse is produced, which sets extended address bit 17.

The logic shown on Drawing TM11-0-17 is used to select the low- or high-order byte of the data register. This is necessary because the MTCMA increments by 1 (byte addresses). Each time a byte transfer is completed, the flip-flop is clocked by the NPR CLEAR BBSY signal. Initially, this flip-flop is cleared and produces the LO DATA BYTE output. After the first transaction, it is clocked and becomes set, thereby producing the HI DATA BYTE output. The next transaction clocks it to the clear state. This process continues so that the flip-flop produces alternate LO DATA BYTE and HI DATA BYTE signals to the data register until the desired data transfer function is complete. When the function is complete, the controller CU RDY bit indicates that the controller is ready to accept a new command. The CU RDY L signal direct clears the flip-flop; thus, any future data transfers begin on even byte addresses.

### 5.8.6 Data Buffer Register (MTD)

The data buffer register is used as a temporary storage device during read and write operations. During read operations, it stores characters from the tape prior to loading them into memory; during write operations, it stores data prior to writing on the magnetic tape. A functional description of the data buffer register is given in **Paragraph 4.2**.

The inputs to the data buffer are shown on Drawing TM11-0-18. If a read operation is being performed, data is loaded into the buffer from the tape transport data channels. Each channel is connected to one leg of an AND/OR gate. The other leg to the gate is controlled by a flip-flop. The read operation (indicated by READ STB L) sets this flip-flop. The high (1) side of the flip-flop qualifies four of the AND/OR gates to produce the DATA BFR IN BIT H signals for bits 0 through 3. The low (0) side of the flip-flop produces the signals for bits 4 through 7. Thus, during a read operation, the data from the tape channels is gated through to the input of the buffer register and strobed into the register by the DATA BFR STB signals. As shown on the data buffer drawing (TM11-0-22), the first four bits are strobed in by the DATA BFR STB 1 signal; the second four bits are strobed in by the DATA BFR STB 2 H signal.

During write operations, data from the bus is strobed into the data buffer register. The low byte is applied to one series of gates, the high byte to another series of gates (Drawing TM11-0-18). Each bus line is applied to one input of a 2-input AND/OR gate. The other leg is qualified only if the appropriate byte has been selected. This selection is determined by two AND gates. One is qualified if the current memory address is even (CMA 00 L), which indicates a low byte. The other is qualified if the current memory address is odd (CMA 00 H), which indicates a high byte. The data from the bus lines is then strobed into the register in the same manner as before.

The data buffer output logic is shown on Drawings TM11-0-16 and TM11-0-11. The logic shown on Drawing TM11-0-16 is used when the output of the data buffer is to be applied to the bus. Each output of the data buffer is applied to one leg of a 2-input AND gate. The other leg is qualified by either the HI DATA BYTE L or LO DATA BYTE L signal, depending on which byte has been selected.

The logic shown on Drawing TM11-0-11 is used when the output of the data buffer is to be applied to the tape unit for writing. When the core dump mode *is not* used, one byte in memory corresponds to *one* tape character. In this instance, the output of the data buffer is gated through to the tape transport write lines. Data buffer bits 7 through 0 correspond to lines WD0 through WD7, respectively.

When the core dump mode *is used*, one byte in memory corresponds to *two* tape characters. When the write strobe (WRS) is issued, it sets the even character flip-flop (Drawing TM11-0-13). This produces an EVEN CHAR H pulse, which gates data buffer bits 0 through 3 to write lines WD7 through WD4 (Drawing TM11-0-11). The flip-flop then clears, and the  $\sim$  EVEN CHAR H gates bits 4 through 7 to lines WD7 through WD4, respectively.

During normal read operations, all six tape data channels are read and gated through the data buffer input logic for loading into the data buffer register. When the core dump mode is used, however, the logic operates in a different manner because one byte consists of two 4-bit characters. It is therefore necessary to read tape channels 0–3 twice, loading the first tape character into the low part of the buffer register and the second tape character into the high part of the buffer. This is accomplished by the logic shown on drawing TM11-0-18.

When the first tape character is read, the AND/NOR gates having channels 0–7 as inputs are all qualified by the output of the READ STB flip-flop, and the data from the tape is gated through to become DATA BFR IN BITS 0–7. These bits are strobed into the data buffer register by DATA BFR STB 1 and 2 as shown on drawing TM11-0-22. Up to this time, data has been read from the tape in a normal manner.

When the next tape character is read, the first set of AND/NOR gates is still qualified and produces DATA BFR IN BITS 0–3. However, these bits are not loaded into the buffer register, because the required strobe signal is no longer present. The low part of the buffer, thus, contains data read from channels 0–3 of the previous tape character.

The second series of AND/NOR gates, which normally receives inputs from tape channels 4–7, are now inhibited due to the CORE DUMP L signal. The other AND inputs to these gates, which receive data from tape channels 0–3, are now qualified by an enabling AND gate having CORE DUMP L as an input. As a result, this series of gates causes the data from tape channels 0–3 to become DATA BFR IN BITS 4–7. These bits are strobed into the high part of the buffer and override the data previously stored in this part of the buffer. Thus, the two 4-bit characters are now in the buffer as a single 8-bit byte.

### 5.8.7 TU10 Read Lines (MTRD)

The TU10 read lines are assigned a standard bus address and are activated by the address select logic. When these lines are selected for use, data from the lines is gated to appropriate data bits on the bus, as shown on drawing TM11-0-16. The 16 bits that constitute the read lines are read-only bits with the exception of the character select (CHAR SEL) and bad tape error generator (BTE GEN) bits (bits 14 and 13, respectively). Bits 15 through 13 are described below; bits 11 through 09 are unused; and the remaining bits are described in Paragraph 4.2.

Bit 15 is the timer bit, which is used for diagnostic purposes by measuring the time duration of the tape operations. The timer logic is shown on drawing TM11-0-07. This logic produces the timer signal (TIMER H), which is a 100- $\mu$ s signal with a 50-percent duty cycle.

Bit 14 is the character select bit, which is used to select the last character of a record that is to be loaded into the data buffer. When this bit is loaded with a 1, the last character loaded into the buffer is the LPC character for both 7-channel and 9-channel tapes. When this bit is loaded with a 0, the last character loaded in the buffer is the last data character for 7-channel tapes or the CRC character for 9-channel tapes.

Bit 13 is the bad tape error generator, which is used to check the bad tape error logic. When loaded with a 1, this bit sets the CU READY flip-flop, thereby causing a premature gap shutdown period. When this portion of the tape is then read, it produces a bad tape error indication.

Bit 12 is the gap shutdown bit. It is a read-only bit and indicates a gap shutdown period when it is a 1.

Data on the TU10 read lines is gated to the bus by the logic shown on drawing TM11-0-16. When the read lines are selected for use (SEL 5 IN L), an inverter output qualifies one leg of a series of gates. The other leg of each gate is connected to one of the channels in the tape transport. The output of these gates are then fed through drivers to the bus.

## **5.9 TAPE CONTROL**

The TM11 Controller provides various tape control functions. These functions are: unit selection, function control, ready control, start control, and tape motion control. Each of these functions is described in detail in subsequent paragraphs.

### **5.9.1 Unit Select**

The unit select logic determines the tape unit to be used for the selected function. Up to eight individual tape units may be used with a single TM11 Controller; however, only one tape unit may be selected for program control at any given time.

The number of the tape unit (0 through 7) to be selected is represented by a 3-bit number, generated by three flip-flops (bits 10 through 08) in the command register as shown on drawing TM11-0-12.

The number of the desired tape unit is loaded into the command register from bus data lines D10, D09, and D08. If the command register has been selected for use (SEL 1 OUT HI), then the three unit flip-flops are set or cleared, dependent on the bus input data. The flip-flop outputs are then applied to a decoder in the master tape transport and to the register read lines.

The outputs of the three flip-flops are also applied to three additional flip-flops that provide signals for the motion control logic (refer to Paragraph 5.9.5).

### **5.9.2 Function Control**

The function control logic specifies the command to be performed by the selected tape unit. Any one of eight functions can be selected for a given tape unit. A detailed description of each of these functions is given in Table 5-1.

The number of the function (0 through 7) to be selected is represented by a 3-bit number, generated by three flip-flops (bits 03 through 01) in the command register as shown on drawing TM11-0-09.

The number of the desired function is loaded into the command register from bus data lines D03, D02, and D01. If the command register has been selected for use (SEL 1 OUT LO), then the three function flip-flops are set or cleared, dependent on the bus input data. The outputs of these flip-flops are applied to a binary-to-octal decoder to provide the necessary function signal.

### 5.9.3 Ready and Start Control

The TM11 ready and start control circuits basically consist of the logic associated with two bits in the command register. The ready logic is controlled by the CU READY bit (bit 07) and is described in detail in Paragraph 5.8.2.6. The start control logic is the GO bit (bit 00) and is described in Paragraph 5.8.2.10.

### 5.9.4 Tape Unit Motion Control

The master tape transport can accept and execute any command during the settle down (SDWN) period, unless the command is to the same tape unit issuing the SDWN period and is in a direction opposite to the present direction of tape travel. If these two conditions exist, the SDWN period must be over and all tape motion stopped before the command can be executed. These two restrictions are handled by the tape unit motion control logic (drawing TM11-0-07).

The key gate in this logic is the OR gate that produces the ENB SDWN GO L pulse. Whenever this pulse is produced, it is used by the start tape control logic (drawing TM11-0-06) to produce the signals needed for execution of the command. One leg of the OR gate is true if the same tape unit has not been selected; the other leg is true if the direction implied in the new command is not different from the present direction. Therefore, the only time that this gate is completely inhibited and the command cannot be executed until the end of SDWN time is when both of the restrictions are present.

The tape motion control logic compares the unit select bit signals with the new unit select bits loaded into the command register. If these bits are identical (indicating that the same tape unit is being selected), input gating to the SAME TU flip-flop is not qualified, and the flip-flop is set to produce the SAME TU H signal. The 0 side of the flip-flop is low and inhibits one leg of the output OR gate.

If, however, the comparison of the unit select bits indicates that a different tape unit has been selected, the OR gates are qualified, the flip-flop remains cleared, and the ENB SDWN GO L signal is produced by the output OR gate regardless of the level of the other leg.

If the new command implies that the tape is moving in the same direction, then the DIF DIR flip-flop remains cleared, and the ENB SDWN GO L signal is sent to the start logic so that the command can be executed. If, however, the command implies a different direction, then the flip-flop is set and produces the DIF DIR H pulse. The 0 side of the flip-flop goes low and inhibits one leg of the output OR gate. If the other leg of the OR gate has been inhibited by the SAME TU flip-flop, then the command cannot be executed until SDWN is complete.

As an example of the direction logic, assume that a tape space reverse command has been executed, thereby making the SPACE REV L signal true. This causes the associated flip-flop to be set, qualifying one leg of an AND/NOR gate. If the new command is a reverse or rewind function, both bits D01 H and D03 H are true and the other input to the AND/NOR gate is *not* qualified. Therefore, the DIF DIR flip-flop remains cleared, because the new command is in the same direction as the previous command.

If, however, the new function command indicates a different direction (such as a write command which implies forward direction), either D01 H or D03 H is false, the other leg of the AND/NOR gate is now qualified, and the DIF DIR flip-flop is set. The 0 side of the flip-flop goes low, thereby inhibiting one leg of the output OR gate. Note that the only time both D01 H and D03 H are true is when a space reverse (octal 5) or rewind (octal 7) command is issued.

### 5.10 TIMING DIAGRAMS

Timing diagrams of various tape operations are shown in Figures 5-7 through 5-14. These diagrams portray specific tape operations such as reading a record of three data characters, reading a record of two tape characters in the core dump mode, etc. The purpose of these diagrams is to illustrate overall TM11 operation as described in previous paragraphs.

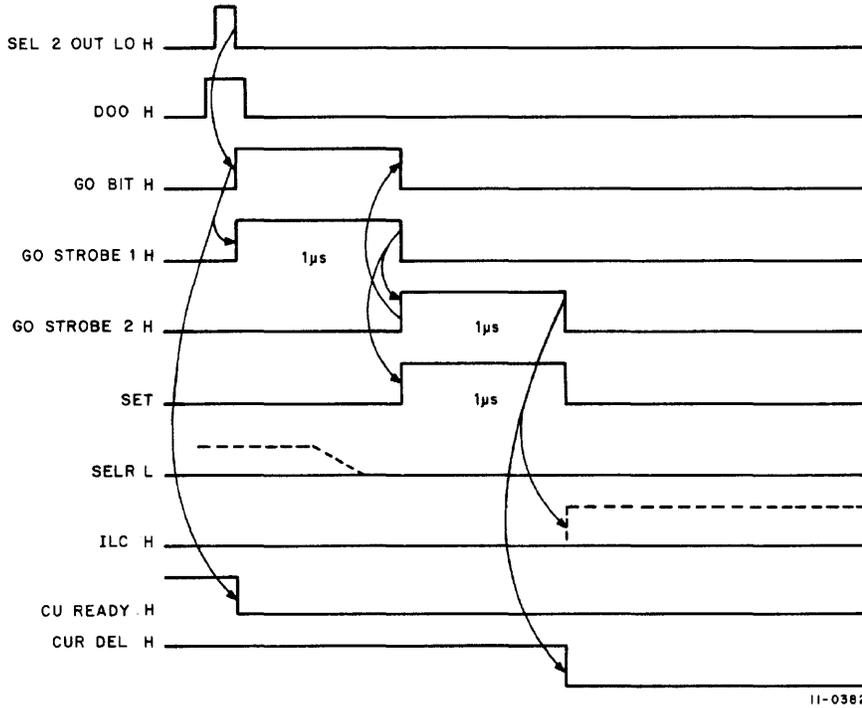


Figure 5-7 Start of Tape Operation

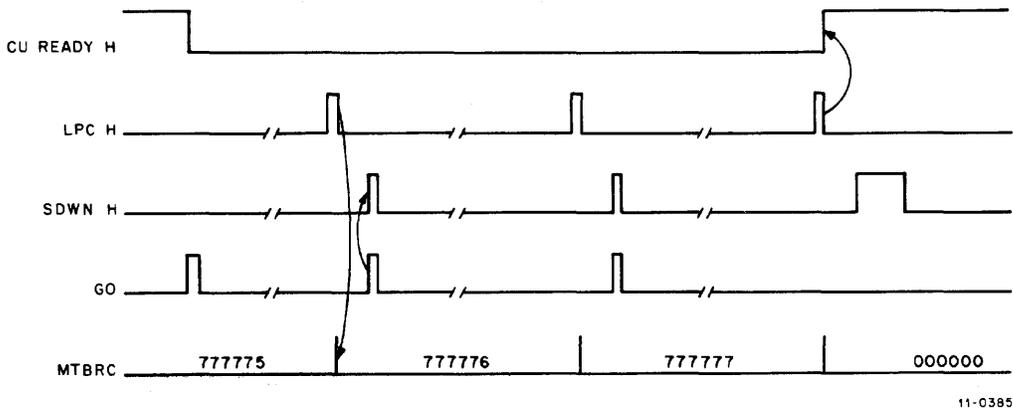
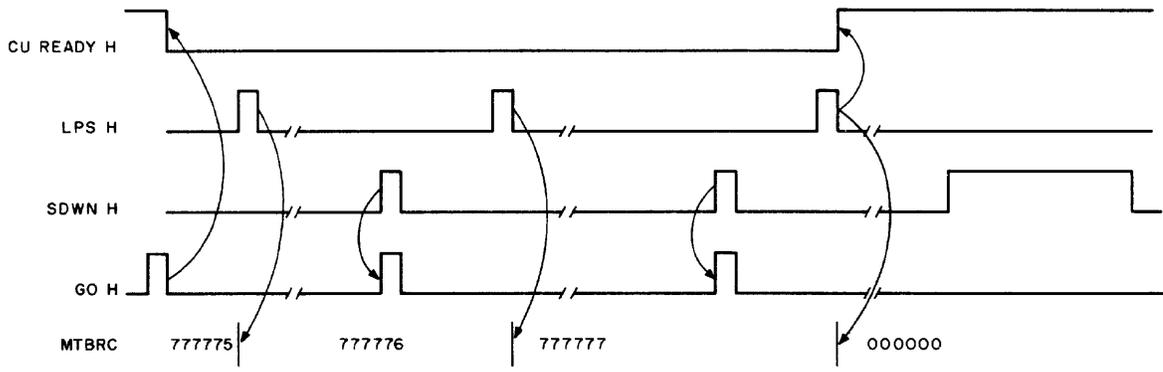
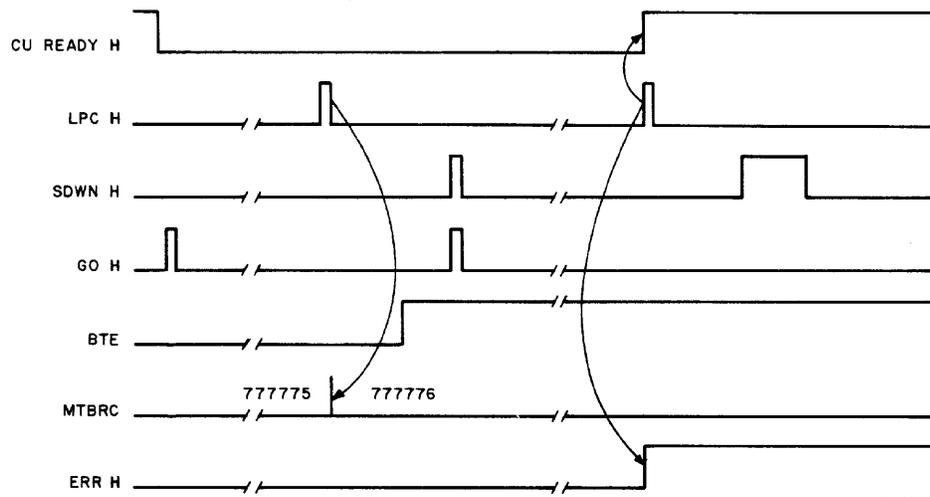


Figure 5-8 Spacing Forward Three Records



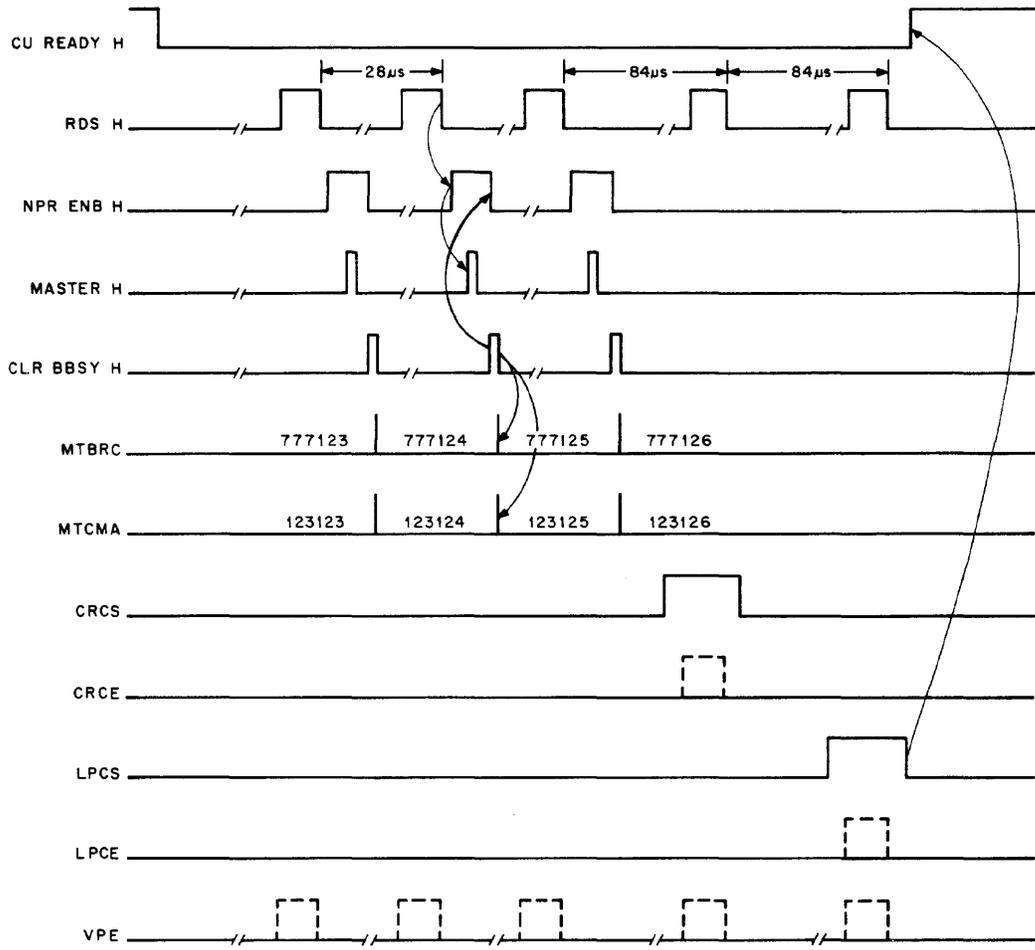
11-0387

Figure 5-9 Spacing Reverse Three Records



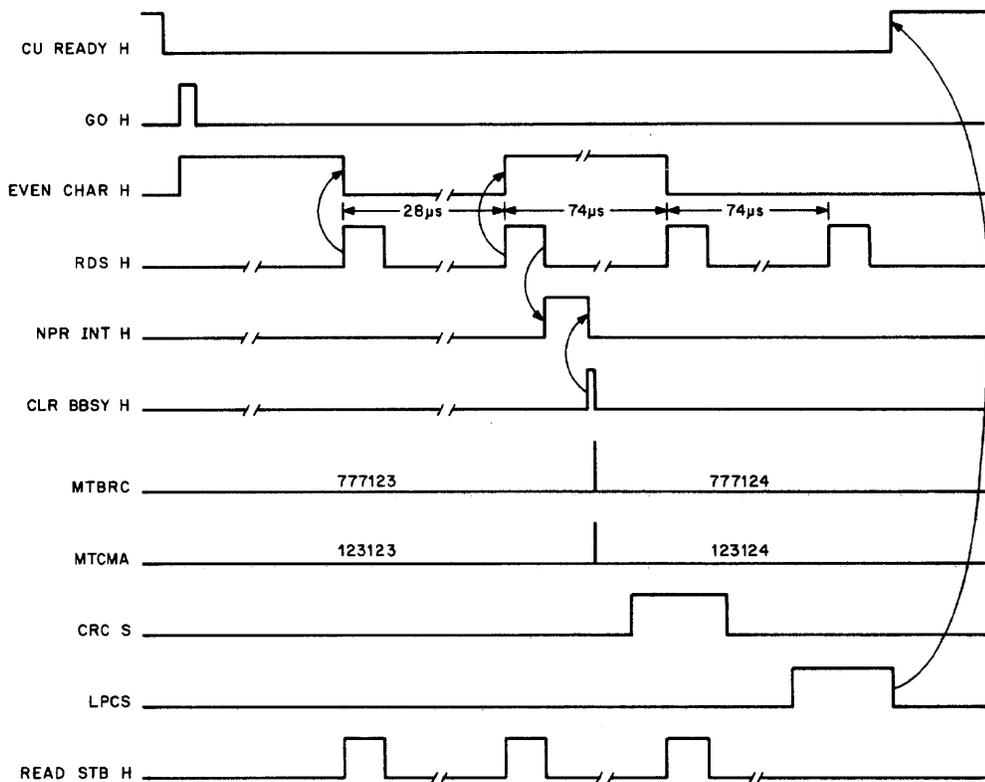
11-0386

Figure 5-10 Spacing Forward Three Records, Bad Tape Error  
Appearing in First Record



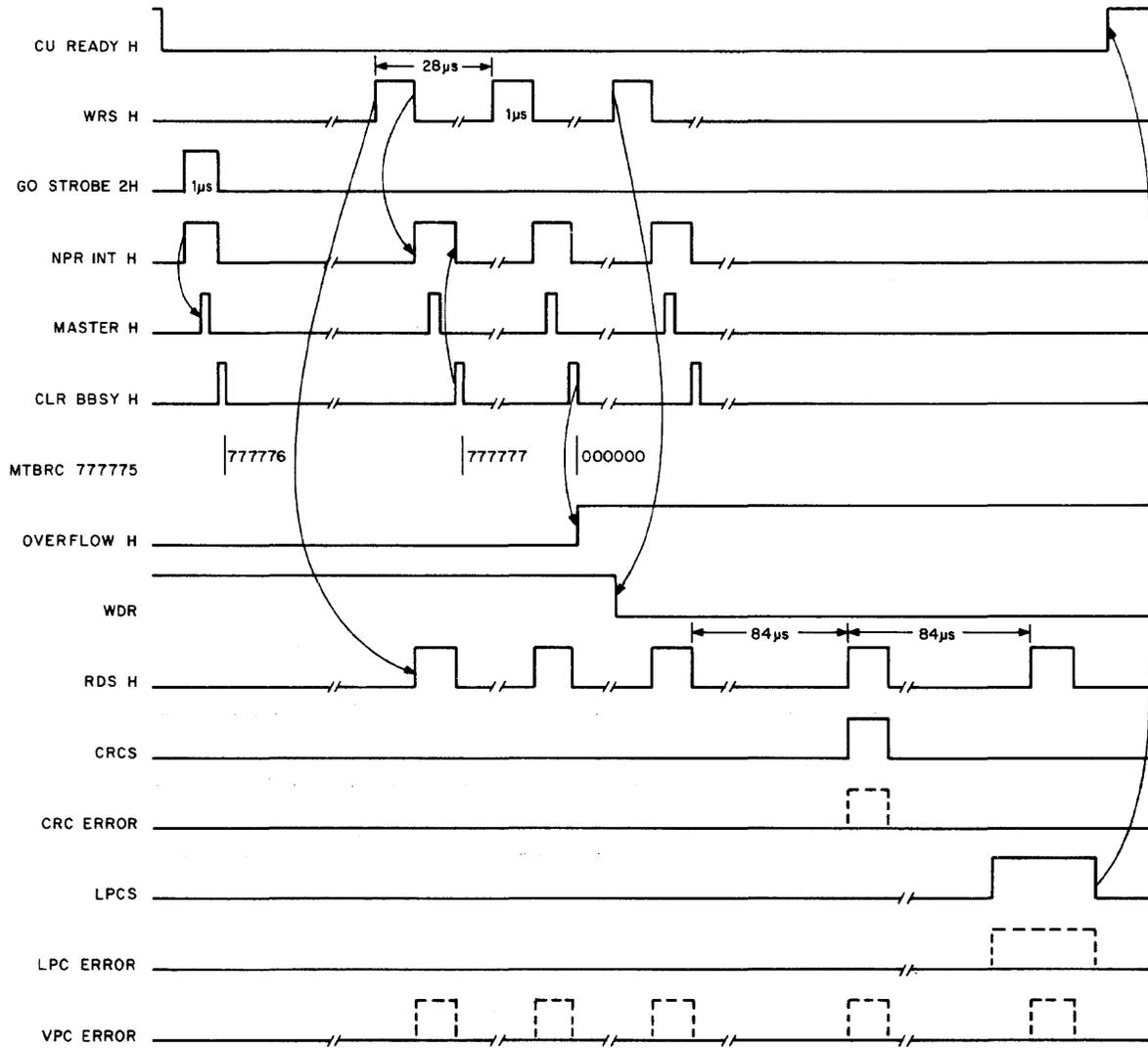
11-0383

Figure 5-11 Reading Record of Three Data Characters



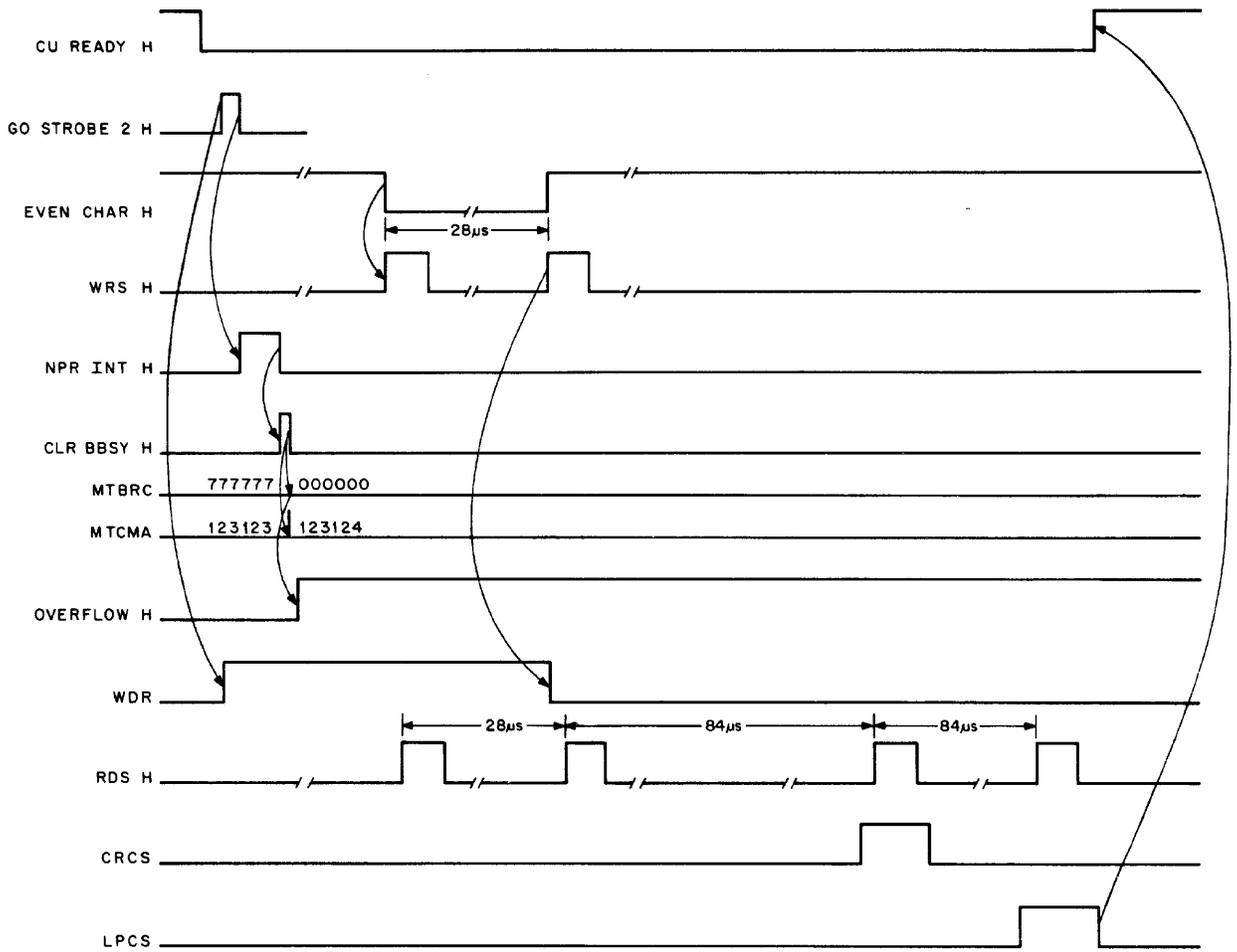
11-0300

Figure 5-12 Reading Record of Two Tape Characters  
in Core Dump Mode



11-0384

Figure 5-13 Writing Record of Three Data Characters



11-0389

Figure 5-14 Writing Record of Two Tape Characters in Core Dump Mode

# CHAPTER 6

## MODULE DESCRIPTION

### 6.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter provides information on the logic modules used in the TM11 DECmagtape Controller. The position of the modules within the mounting box is shown on Drawing TM11-0-02.

A list of all TM11 Controller modules is presented in Table 6-1. This table lists the modules in numerical order, the quantity of each type used in the system, and the name of the module. The last column indicates the DEC document containing the detailed description of that particular module.

Note that it is beyond the scope of this manual to provide information on any of the modules used in the Master Tape Transport logic.

### 6.2 DEC LOGIC

Except for cable and jumper modules, all of the modules used in the TM11 Controller are M-Series logic modules. The M-Series are high-speed, monolithic integrated circuit modules, employing TTL logic (transistor-transistor logic). These circuits provide high speed, high fanout, large capacitance drive capability, and excellent noise margins.

A general description of DEC logic and detailed circuit descriptions of TTL logic gates is provided in the *1971 DEC Logic Handbook*. The symbology used with all PDP-11 logic drawings is shown and explained in the *PDP-11 Conventions Manual*, DEC-11-HR6B-D.

### 6.3 MEASUREMENT DEFINITIONS

Timing is measured with the input driven by a gated pulse amplifier of the series under test and with the output loaded with gates of the same series. Percentages are assigned as follows: 0 percent is the initial steady-state level, 100 percent is the final steady-state level, regardless of the direction of change.

Input/output delay is the time difference between input change and output change, measured from 50 percent input change to 50 percent output change. Rise and fall delays for the same module are usually specified separately. Rise time and fall time is measured from 10 percent to 90 percent of waveform change, rising or falling.

### 6.4 LOADING

Input loading and output driving are specified in *unit loads*, where one unit load is 1.6 mA by definition. The inputs to low-speed gates usually draw one unit load. High-speed gates draw 1-1/4 unit loads, or 2 mA.

**Table 6-1**  
**Module Utilization**

| Module Number | Quantity Used | Title                               | Reference |
|---------------|---------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| M105          | 1             | Address Selector                    | 1         |
| M111          | 6             | Inverter                            | 2         |
| M112          | 3             | NOR Gate                            | 2         |
| M113          | 6             | Ten 2-input NAND Gates              | 2         |
| M115          | 2             | Eight 3-input NAND Gates            | 2         |
| M117          | 1             | Six 4-input NAND Gates              | 2         |
| M121          | 2             | AND/NOR Gate                        | 2         |
| M127          | 3             | 2-2-2-3 AND/NOR Gate                | —         |
| M149          | 4             | 9x2 NAND Wired OR Matrix            | —         |
| M163          | 1             | Dual Binary-to-Octal Decoder        | —         |
| M203          | 1             | Eight Reset/Set Flip-Flops          | 2         |
| M205          | 2             | Five 'D' Flip-Flops                 | —         |
| M216          | 5             | Six Flip-Flops                      | —         |
| M239          | 1             | Three 4-bit Counter Registers       | —         |
| M304          | 2             | Four One-Shot Delays                | —         |
| M307          | 1             | Integrating One-Shot                | —         |
| M627          | 3             | NAND Power Amplifier                | 2         |
| G736          | 1             | Jumper Module                       | 1         |
| M7821         | 1             | Interrupt Control                   | 1         |
| M784          | 1             | Unibus Receiver                     | 1         |
| M785          | 1             | Unibus Transceiver                  | 1         |
| M795          | 2             | Word Count and Bus Address Register | 1         |
| M796          | 1             | Unibus Master Control               | 1         |
| M797          | 1             | Register Selection                  | 1         |
| M798          | 1             | Unibus Drivers                      | 1         |

**REFERENCES**

1. Chapter 3 of *Unibus Interface Manual, Second Edition*, DEC-11-HIAB-D.
2. *DEC Logic Handbook*, 1971 Edition.

# APPENDIX A

## MASTER TAPE TRANSPORT SIGNALS

### A.1 SIGNALS FROM MASTER TO TM11 CONTROLLER

| Mnemonic  | Name   |
|-----------|--|
| RD0 – RD7 | Read data signals  |
| RDP       | Read parity bit  |
| SDWN      | Tape settle down. This is the time between a stop command and the time when the unit actually stops. |
| TUR       | Tape unit ready. This signal is true when the selected tape unit is stopped, and SELR is true.       |
| SELR      | Select remote. This is true when unit is selected and is on-line.                                    |
| RWS       | Rewind status. This is true when selected unit is rewinding.   |
| 7CH       | 7-channel. True during 7-channel operation.  |
| WRL       | Write lock. Prevents writing on tape.  |
| BOT       | Beginning of tape  |
| EOT       | End of tape  |
| WRS       | Write strobe. Requests a character for writing.  |
| RDS       | Read strobe. Present for both read and write operations.   |
| FMK       | File mark  |
| CRCS      | CRC strobe. Appears with CRC character.  |
| LRCS      | LRC strobe. Appears with LPC character.  |
| VPE       | Vertical parity check error. Sampled with RDS.   |
| LRCE      | Longitudinal parity check error. Sampled with LPCS.  |

## A.2 SIGNALS FROM TM11 CONTROLLER TO MASTER

| Mnemonic                | Name   |
|-------------------------|--|
| WD0 – WD7               | Write data lines   |
| SET                     | Required to start any tape operation (derivative of GO command).   |
| FWD                     | Tape forward   |
| REV                     | Tape reverse   |
| RWD                     | Tape rewind  |
| WRE                     | Write enable   |
| PEVN                    | Even parity  |
| DEN 8                   | Density bit – true for 800 bpi, 7-channel<br>true for 800 bpi, 9-channel<br>false for 200 bpi, 7-channel<br>false for 556 bpi, 7-channel |
| DEN 5                   | Density bit – true for 556 bpi, 7-channel<br>true for 800 bpi, 9-channel<br>false for 200 bpi, 7-channel<br>false for 800 bpi, 7-channel |
| WFMK                    | Write file mark  |
| WXG                     | Write-extended-IRG gap. True for both write-extended-IRG and WFMK functions.   |
| SEL 0<br>SEL 1<br>SEL 2 | Tape unit select   |
| WDR                     | Write data ready   |
| CINIT                   | Initialize   |

**READER'S COMMENTS**

**TM11 DECMAGTAPE SYSTEM  
DEC-11-HTMAA-D-D**

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