

UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

Computer Centre

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

date : week ended 13 April 1972
authorization : Director of the Computer Centre

1. OPERATIONS

1.1 PDP-10 System

Friday	7 April	system failure, offline 1311-1317.
Monday	10 April	system maintenance, 0930-1415, correction of faults that occurred over the weekend.
Tuesday	11 April	plotter maintenance, 2200-2300.
Wednesday	12 April	several system failures, 0930-1020 system maintenance, 1021-1230 card reader maintenance, batch offline 2126-2255.
Thursday	13 April	system maintenance, 0930-1015.

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

1.2 GE-225 System

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

2. PUBLIC REMOTE TERMINAL

The Centre has recently installed an ASR model 33 teletype terminal in the clients' room at the Centre. This terminal, which provides both key board and paper tape facilities, will be available to all clients. The terminal will be available from Monday 17 April.

2.1 Authority to Use Terminal

No special authority is required to use this terminal. Before a user can login on the terminal he must have an initial password entered into the system's administrative files. This is done by completing the second part of the form 'AUTHORITY TO USE REMOTE TERMINAL' (available at the Centre) and returning the form to the Centre's Administrative Officer.

2.2 File Space

Because of the physical limitations of the available file space in the system, the logged out file limits for projects running via the public terminal will be the same as for batch projects, currently 12.5 K words. This limit will be reviewed with the introduction of a file management system providing archival file storage.

2.3 Conditions of Use

Initially the Centre will not place any conditions on the use of the public terminal. Users are requested to continue running as much work as possible via batch, and to restrict use of the terminal to that work for which it is best suited (e.g. program debugging). It is hoped that the user of the terminal will show consideration for others who are waiting, and finish his work in the minimum possible time.

Should this mode of operation prove unsatisfactory, some more formal arrangements will be introduced to control use of the terminal.

2.4 Charges

With the exception of the connect time charge, standard charges will apply to work processed from the public terminal. In order to cover the costs of provision and maintenance of this terminal connect time charges will be levied at twice the standard rate.

3. NEW PLOTTER SOFTWARE AND MANUAL

The new plotter manual (MNT-11) price \$2.80, is now available from the Centre. This manual details new basic plotter subroutines for the PDP-10 (which have some differences from those already in use) as well as an extensive suite of functional subroutines and some plotting programs. All these routines are now available on the PLOT directory. Instructions on the use of these routines and how to access them are given on pages 2-28, 3-75 and 4-31 of the plotting manual. However, until the library directories on the PDP-10 system are reorganized, users will have to access library files on the PLOT directory by '\$PLOT.filename' rather than 'PLOT.filename' as specified in the manual. For instance, in the example on page 3-75, the user must say

```
.RUN MAINP/REL $PLOT.CALCMP(LIB)<cr>
```

This is only a temporary change and will be removed in due course.

As the new basic plotter routines have expanded capabilities, users wishing to use the new routines in any of their existing plotting programs may have to modify some of the subroutine calling sequences. The old plotter routines have been part of LIB40, the FORTRAN library, and so were automatically loaded with a user's plotting program by the command

```
RUN program-name
```

As part of the library reorganization these old routines are now available in the file DEC/REL on the PLOT directory. Users who do not wish to change their programs can continue using the old routines simply by changing their run command to

```
RUN program-name $PLOT.DEC(LIB)
```

To provide a change over period, the old plotter routines will remain in LIB40 until 1 July.

At present the old basic subroutines receive type 1 support. With the release of the new plotter software, the new basic subroutines will be given type 1 support; the old basic subroutines and the new functional routines and programs will attract type 3 support.

4. MAIL

The MAIL facility on the PDP-10 allows for the interchange of short messages between users. The mail facility is now

operational and a detailed write up is available in the March Bulletin, B5-3. However, a small modification has to be made to Login before it will tell users that mail is available for them. Users may quickly see for themselves if there is any mail by using the BOX option.

5. FORTRAN COURSE - DATE CORRECTION

Due to an error, the dates of the next FORTRAN course were incorrectly published in the last newsletter and the April Bulletin as 29 April to 2 May. The correct dates for the course are 29 May to 2 June. The Centre apologizes for any inconvenience caused to its clients by this error.

6. GLOB

A new version of GLOB will be implemented on 20 April 1972.