UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

Computer Centre

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

date   : week ended 28 September 1972
authorization : Director of the Computer Centre

I   OPERATIONS

1.1   PDP-10 System

Monday   25 September   central teletype inaccessiblie, monitor
                             reloaded after clearing users, no logins
                             1302-1320.

Tuesday   26 September   system maintenance until 0925, system
                             setup until 0950
                             teletype controller unit offline until
                             1005
                             system not responding to commands
                             requiring core images, restart failed,
                             monitor reloaded, offline 1345-1350
                             file I/O problems 1830, central teletype
                             and line printer eventually
                             inaccessible, users logged out
                             system maintenance, 2135-2225.

Wednesday   27 September   accounting check failed, tested
                             accounting files 0930-1022
                             system setup 1022-1026.

Thursday   28 September   system failure, 1145, continued system
                             1153.

schedule for forthcoming week: maintenance 0700-0900
                                  operations 0930-2400.

1.2   GE-225 System

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

2   EXTENSION OF HOURS OF OPERATION

Commencing 2 October 1972, the Computer Centre will introduce a limited third shift operation. This shift will handle low priority and excess normal priority batch processing, dedicated mode work and normal end of day accounting and file backup procedures. With the introduction of the third shift, timesharing services will be extended to midnight. The Centre will be closed for all normal services at midnight.

On Monday 9 October the Centre will introduce extended hours of timesharing operation on a temporary basis until Christmas.

The new schedule of operations will be as follows

    0600-0800   :   system maintenance

    0800-midnight :   timesharing services

    midnight-0600 :   third shift batch work, dedicated mode,
                         end of day accounting and file backup.
                         (The Centre will be closed during this
                         shift).

This extension has been made possible by the Centre staff volunteering to work earlier hours during the summer months. During this period a revised schedule of operations for 1973 will be announced.

3   CARD CABINETS

As a result of the general movement of the work load from the GE-225 to the PDP-10 over the last few years, the Centre has three card storage cabinets which it no longer requires.

It is felt that these cabinets may be of use to departments or other clients for storage of original or backup card decks, infrequently used programs or handling of student work. Hence the Centre is offering these for sale. Details are as follows:

dimensions :   approximately 2' deep, 4' high, 3' wide

capacity   :   each cabinet has 32 removable drawers each holding
                3000 cards; giving a total capacity of 96,000
                cards per cabinet.

price   : $120 each

Enquiries should be directed to Mr Anderson at the Centre.

4   LINEAR

Linear, a linear programming program, has been placed on the OR directory. At present, limited copies of a writeup are available from the Centre upon request but this material will shortly be generally available on microfiche. The writeup does contain an error; the command to initiate the program should be 'OR.LINEAR' and not just 'LINEAR'.

5   DEC PLOTTER ROUTINES

When the CalComp plotter routines were released it was stated that the DEC routines would be removed from the Fortran library. This will be done on Monday 9 October. From that time it will be obligatory when using the DEC plotting routines to include PLOT.DEC(LIB) in the Run or Load command.

6   PROPOSED CHANGE TO FORTRAN, COBOL, ALGOL & MACRO COMMANDS

If a user wants a listing of his program, the default file used is the job output device, i.e. $TTY for terminal users or $LPT for batch.

Normally terminal users would prefer to have their output on a disk file so that they can TYPE or LIST it later.

The proposal is to change the default list file so that the command

        F4(LIST) SOURCE

(i)   for a terminal user the file will go to disk, with the name

        SOURCE/LST

(ii)   for a batch user the file will go to $LPT.

If you have any comments please write to the Centre as soon as possible.