# POPULAR WEEKLY

35p

3-9 March 1983 Vol 2 No 9

# This Week

# Hobbit competition

Who will be first to complete The Hobbit? If you have stumbled through Elvan Halls, met Gollum and battled with bloodthirsty trolls, you should enter our new competition on page 31.

# Spectrum software

Tony Bridge looks at a large selection of the latest Spectrum software. See page 12.

# Inside Atari

David Kelly talks to Graham Daubney of Atari on page 11.

# **BBC** and Education

Calvin Woodings explains the intricacies of Students 'T' significance test. See page 35.

Romeo and Juliet on 16K ZX81 by David Hanson. See page 8.

.GAME\*

# News Desk

# Spectrum rival the TX8000

THE TEXET TX8000 is a new computer offering similar capabilities to the Sinclair Spectrum machine.

With 8K Ram the 6502 machine runs Microsoft Basic and has eight colours and a Beep command. Although it has a moving key rubber keyboard, it will cost only £98.

It has 16 predefined graphics characters and a single-keyword entry facility. Display is: text, 32 x 16 charac-

ters; text/graphics, 64 x 32 pixels; and high-resolution, 128 x 64 pixels. A cassette interface, memory expansion bus, peripheral port and tv output are provided. A memory expansion pack, giving 64K, will cost £52.

The machine, manufactured in Hong Kong by Video Technology, will be distributed in the UK by Cheadle Hulme based Texet, beginning in April.

# **New micronet** database

MICRONET 800, the Prestelbased telephone software service, has been officially launched.

As a special offer the first 10,000 subscribers will be able to connect up to the database for only £55. A quarterly subscription will also be charged.

Micronet will offer free games and educational programs, computer news and ac-

Continued on page 5

# Spectrum power packs faulty

SINCLAIR is recalling some of its Spectrum power packs as they, are faulty and could be dangerous.

Anyone who has bought a Spectrum since January 1, 1983, should check their power pack immediately. If the lead between the power pack and the Spectrum is black with a white stripe, the power pack should be returned to Sinclair (for further details see Letters, page 7).



# Classified

# Classified

# Classified

# Classified

# Computer Swap 01-930 3266

Free readers entries to buy or sell a computer. Ring 01-930 3266 and give us the details.

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ATARI VIDEO GAME, 7 of the best cassettes including Basic program with key pads £130. Tel: 01-394 0458.

CBM 16K Ram pack for sale £45 ono, Microl Rabbit software to swap with any other. Tel: St Helens 52889 (6 pm).

SPECTRUM OWNERS Why wait for weeks? HIGH SPEED hire service for all the software you could want. Just £10 life membership, plus £1,25 per tape (inc. P&P). Now you can TRY the best programs BEFORE you buy.

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13 Charlecote Road, Poynton Stockport, Cheshire SK12 1DJ or send SAE for details

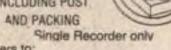
INTELLIVISION VIDEO, 5 cartridges, 3 months old, £150 or swap for Spectrum. Tel: Sheffield 886185.

JUPITER ACE, as new, all leads, manual, etc, cost £90, offers around £70. Tel: Waltham Cross 7730.

Continued on page 42

TI 99/4A CASSETTE LEADS

£4.95 INCLUDING POST



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#### NATIONAL INDEPENDENT DRAGON **USER GROUP**

Due to the delay in the formation of the Dragon Data Club we have formed the Dragons Den.

Discounts, newsletter and much, much more. For membership details telephone 0582 570125 after 4.30 pm or weekends



# VOLCANIC DUNGEON CHAMPIONSHIP



# WIN A FABULOUS WINGS HOLIDAY FOR 2 TO FLORIDA.

# **VISIT THE AMAZING NEW EPCOT CENTRE**

Volcanic Dungeon, the addictive adventure. People have been known to venture into its maze of caverns to rescue the Princess Edora again and again. If you are one of them, or wish to be, then you could find yourself lying on a sundrenched beach in Miami for a week. Followed by a further week at Orlando, visiting Disney World and Epcot. So what do you have to do for all this? Just be the best Volcanic Dungeon player in the UK, that's all! Ten finalists will battle it out in the championship at the London. Computer Fair, Earl's Court, in June 1983, But first you must prove you are worthy.

Volcanic Dungeon is available on the 16K ZX-81, 48K Spectrum and Dragon 32. An entry form is supplied with every game. (Anyone who already owns the original ZX version can enter by sending a SAE for an entry form.) Order your copy NOW from CARNELL SOFTWARE, 4 Staunton Road, Slough, Berks. Only £5.00 including P&P. Also available from good microcomputer stores.

The 'Judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. All business associates of Carnell Software. and their relatives, are disqualified from entry. A copy of the rules of the Volcanic Dungeon championship will be supplied with the entry form.



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How to submit articles

Articles which are submitted for publication should not be more than 3,000 words long. The articles, and any accompanying programs, should be original. It is breaking the law of copyright to copy programs out of other magazines and submit them here - so please do not be tempted.

All submissions should be typed and a double space should be left between each line. Please leave wide margins.

Programs should, whenever possible, be computer printed.

We cannot guarantee to return every submitted article or program, so please keep a copy. If you want to have your program returned you must include a stamped, addressed envelope.

Popular Computing Weekly cannot accept any responsibility for any errors in programs we publish, although we will always try our best to make sure programs work.

# This Week

of Atari.

Reviews

Open Forum

Competitions

Puzzle, Top 10, Ziggurat, Losers.

Six pages of your programs.

News Micronet 800 launch. Letters 7 Faulty Spectrum power packs. Romeo and Juliet A mathematical adventure game for 16K ZX81 by David Hanson. Street Life 11 David Kelly talks to Graham Daubney

Tony Bridge looks at some of the latest Spectrum software.



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# **Editorial**

The sixth ZX microfair, held at London's New Horticultural Hall last Saturday, was adjudged a great success by all concerned.

Sinclair sold all its Spectrum stocks on display and Kempston also ran out of supplies of its Spectrum joysticks. Queues for the entrance to the hall ran around the block, while inside people were standing four or five deep in front of some of the stalls. Software companies were besieged by customers eager to see the latest releases for the Spectrum.

Microfairs are a peculiarly British institution, and very much the brainchild of organiser Mike Johnston. The first ZX microfair was held at the Central Hall, Westminster, in November 1981 and attracted well over 5000 enthusiasts. The combination of software houses, hardware manufacturers and magazine publishers, has proved irresistible to many, though there have been a few complaints of overcrowding and lack of facilities.

A host of computer shows have been launched in the wake of the microfairs, from the giant Computer Fair in Earls Court to Argus's travelling road-show. But none of these later offerings has quite the charm or friendliness of the original.

# **Next Thursday**

Can you defend your moisture farm from the hordes of thirst-crazed Womp Rats? Find out next week in Derek Spring's new game for the Spectrum.

Also next week, Keith Brain looks at Telewriter — a word processor for the Dragon 32.

# Subscribe to **Popular Computing Weekly**

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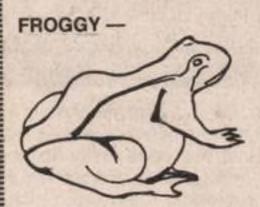
# The Samurai\* home computer is coming...

\*Samurai is a trademark of Samurai Worldwide Ltd

# **BBC SOFTWARE**

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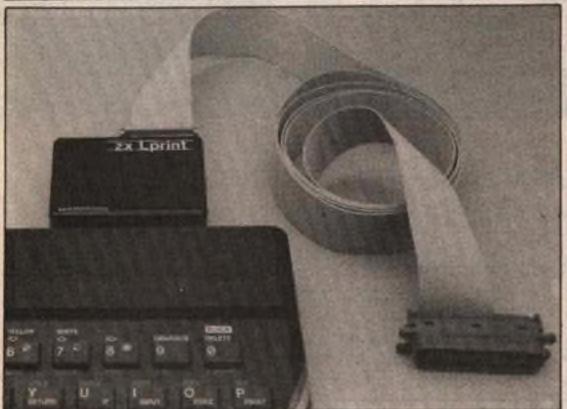
News Desk 01-930 3271

# Atari (US) axes 1700 in manufacturing move

ATARI (US) has axed 1,700 jobs at its California head-quarters following the announcement of disastrous financial results for the last quarter of 1983 (see Popular Computing Weekly, February 24).

The redundancies result from the company's decision to move manufacture of its home computers away from the US. Production of the Home Computer and Consumer Products Divisions is now to be consolidated in Hong Kong and Taiwan. Output from Atari's smaller plants in El Paso, Texas, and Puerto Rico is also to be stepped up.

The 1,700 jobs lost represent nearly a quarter of Atari's employees at its Santa Clara base.



Centronics interface from EuroElectronics.

# Spectrum serial parallel interfaces

BOTH RS232 and Centronics interfaces are now available for the ZX Spectrum.

Cobra Technology is offering an RS232 communications interface for £30. This includes both the hardware and the software needed to drive it. The interface allows the Spectrum to communicate with other computers either directly, or by telephone link using a modem.

The Menu-driven software

# **Micronet 800**

Continued from page 1

cess to Prestel's existing pages.

More advanced home and
business software will be available at a cost 'far less than
over-the-counter-prices'.

"A complete new world of information and entertainment has been developed for microcomputer users," said Micronet's managing director, Richard Hease. He hopes to attract over 100,000 subscribers within three years.

will allow either half- or fullduplex and a data transfer rate variable between 75 and 1200 baud. An RS232 for the ZX81 is also available.

EuroElectronics has developed a Centronics interface for the Spectrum. The ZX Lprint unit — which will cost around £30 — enables almost any dot-matrix or daisy-wheel printer to be run from the computer. Any number of characters per line can be configured from the Spectrum using the interface.

For more information contact Cobra Technology, 378
Caledonian Road, Islington,
London N1 and EuroElectronics, Zlin House, Oakfield
Street, Cheltenham.

# Sord and Aquarius get distribution

BOTH the Sord M5 and Matell Aquarius home computers will find their way into the high street shops following the conclusion of distribution agreements.

Computer Games Ltd is to handle the Sord machine. The computer should be available from the middle of March at a price now fixed at £189.95. Rom cartridges will cost £19.95. Computer Games Chairman Paul Balcombe said "Sord wished to concentrate its efforts on promoting its business computer range and we were on the look-out for a home computer to distribute. Hopefully we will sell the M5

dealings with Dixons, Smiths and Boots."

Micro Marketing has been appointed to distribute the Mattel Aquarius machine. The retail price has been fixed at £119.95 and the machine should make an appearance in the shops in June. Rom-based software has been priced at £21.95 and £25.95 for 4K and 8K cartridges, respectively, the thermal printer will be £129.95 and the data cassette recorder will be £59.95.

Michael Scott of Micromarketing said: "Mattel plan a promotional budget in excess of £1m and we believe the machine will have a big impact."

# More of you than you thought

TWENTY percent of the British population are potential computer 'freaks' and wish they owned a computer.

machine through most major outlets — we already have

This startling fact is just one finding of a new consumer poll, carried out by market researchers, Mintel.

Over one in thirty people already do own a micro and Mintel estimates that last year 470,000 under-£500 micro-computers were bought — more than three times the number for 1981. In money terms this represents sales of almost £100m.

Mintel's figures indicate that 40 percent of these sales, by value, went to Sinclair's ZX81 and Spectrum machines. Commodore took an 18 percent share with the Vic20 and Acorn's BBC came third with 9 percent.

The Dragon 32 came fifth—quite an achievement considering that the machine was only launched towards the end of the period from which the figures were drawn.

Those with home computers tend to spend between £30 and £120 per year on software those with the more expensive machines spend nearer the upper end of this range.

The Market Intelligence Report on Home Computers is available from Mintel Publications, 7 Arundel Street, London WC2.



# Young marketeer

SEVENTEEN-year-old Derek Bartle has been appointed to set up and operate a UK distribution network for Mikrogen.

In the last 18 months the company has expanded to produce both hardware and software for a variety of machines and has negotiated marketing deals with a number of established software houses, including Rabbit, Hilderbay and Saturn Developments.

Mikrogen is currently poised to launch the first independent software for the Oric – two 16K adventure games Return to Earth and Mines of Saturn, both priced at £5.95 plus 40p postage and packing. The company has also recently begun to sell a joystick unit and controller for the Spectrum.

# VCS 2600 grows up

A KEYBOARD add-on for the Atari 2600 VCS games machine giving the system computing power was announced in America last month.

As well as providing a

keyboard the unit will include an additional 8K Ram. It will go on sale in the US in the summer, priced around £60.

At present there are no plans for Atari (UK) to launch the product.

# To all owners of Sinclair ZX Spectrum computers URGENT

If you bought, or received as a replacement, a Sinclair ZX Spectrum computer since 1 January 1983, check your power supply (mains adaptor) now.

We believe that a batch of adaptors from one of our suppliers is faulty, and in certain circumstances might conceivably prove dangerous.

So...if, and only if, the lead between your power supply and your computer is black and white and you received it since January 1st:

1. Switch off at the mains, disconnect your system,

and take off the plug.

 Pack your power supply and post it to us at the address below with your name and address enclosed.
 Please do not return your computer, which is perfectly safe.

3. We will replace the power supply as soon as possible.

Please accept our apologies in advance for any inconvenience.

Send your power supply to:

Sinclair Research Ltd, Unit F, Broad Lane, Cottenham, Cambs., CB4 4SW.



# Airing on copyright

We have just read your magazine's article by Gail Counsell on copyright and computer software (Popular Computing Weekly, February 3-9). First let us say that we are very pleased to see that the topic is at last being aired in the press. It was a pity that Miss Counsell came out in favour, or so it seemed to us, of software libraries for we must voice our support of Bug-Byte and Silversoft in condemning these organisations. Lending software in itself is possibly commendable, but the almost inevitable copying of tapes can only damage the software industry, and in turn lead to higher prices (aren't they high enough already?) to compensate for lost revenue.

Our major concern though was over Gail Counsell's comments about compilers. The article showed that she has a complete ignorance of them as witnessed by her statement that the object code they produce is 'very like machinecode'! It is machine-code, Miss Counsell. It was also very misleading of her to mention compilers and assemblers in the same breath as if they do a rather similar job. They do not. An assembler is very much like a tool in that it literally translates the programmer's input. However, the story is very different for Basic compilers.

There is naturally a great danger that your readers will take Miss Counsell's word as gospel, and for this reason we hope you will allow us to make the (admittedly confused) situation clearer. You can think of a compiler as two programs in one: the compiler itself and a series of 'run-time routines'. The compiler itself does the actual 'translation' and it uses the run-time routines to attain much of the resulting code (by calling these routines at appropriate times).

It could be argued that the translation is in a sense "intelligent' - at least in stark contrast to the literal decoding an assembler undertakes. But we would acknowledge that it would be a lengthy court case that would sort out whether this translation constitutes a part ownership of the copyright of the final translated program.

What is less in dispute is the copyright of the actual game - the logic of it, the ideas that went into devising it, and so on. These we think are best considered the property of the writer, not of the company which supplied the compiler which did the translation. Once again, though, a court will one day have to decide this in a test case.

What we feel is clearest in this whole affair though — and it is this point we wish to make most strongly to your readers is that every program compiled with a compiler will contain within it the run-time routines which are quite definitely the property of the person or company which holds the copyright of the compiler itself. And no program can be compiled without these run-time routines being present in the final code. The final code would not run if they were removed in whole or part.

It is thus on this basis that we feel quite certain that a program compiled with a compiler, such as ours for the 48K ZX Spectrum, is not wholly the copyright of the writer who used the compiler. We also feel that it is more than fair and correct that the company producing the compiler should ask some nominal fee or royalty as we (amongst others) do.

Finally, to put the matter in some perspective, writing a program in Basic is notoriously quicker for the vast majority of programmers than writing a 'similar' program in machine code. But with a compiler, someone writing in Basic can produce a program almost indistinguishable from one in customised machine code (which has taken a good m/c programmer many weeks to devise) in an evening or two. Surely that advantage more than offsets any nominal royalty a compiler producer might ask?

Tim Langdell Softek 329 Croxted Road London SE24 9DB

In your enthusiasm to defend the charging of royalties on compiled programs, you failed to note the point of the article. Gail Counsell's argument was that the work of the compiler would not be regarded as original in each case. So, on the present interpretation of the copyright law, the author of the compiler would not be able to claim any copyright on a compiled program.

On your other point - about software lending libraries - if you read the article more carefully, you will see that Gail Counsell did not 'come out in favour' of them. She simply explained that it is a difficult area of law.

# And then It won't record

In December I purchased a Dragon 32. I am experiencing problems in recording programs. As we all know, it takes hours copying a program and usually even more hours debugging it. At the end of this you can imagine how I feel when I find that I cannot record it.

I purchased a new Sanyo cassette recorder and was told by the dealer that it would work. I have fiddled with the volume control (it has no tone control), and I can assure you that it is a very hit and miss affair.

Through your excellent magazine may I ask your readers if they have experienced similar problems, or better still, can they help?

> PA Low 52 Janes Lane Burgess Hill West Sussex RH15 0OR

# Yet another Basic quirk

May I add my morsel to the growing pile of Spectrum Basic quirks. If you Run the following routine it will wait for about four seconds before printing '1' (the delay being provided by line 10), then a further four seconds later (line 30), it will print '2'. And, if you press a key after the '1' has been printed it will terminate the Pause, and '2' will be printed immediately. So far so good.

But now try Running it and pressing a key before the '1' has been printed, ie while it is executing line 10. You will find that the Pause statement in line 30 lasts for no time at all!

10 FOR A=1 TO 500 : NEXT A 20 PRINT 1 300 PAUSE 200 40 PRINT 2

It seems that a Pause command looks to see if a key is being or has been pressed. If this 'bug' is likely to be a problem you can get round it by adding a second (short) Pause; try changing line 30 above to:

30 PAUSE 1 : PAUSE 200

Mike Lord Timedata Ltd 16 Hemmells High Road Laindon Basildon Essex SS15 6ED

# Spectrum power pack problems

Te need urgently to concustomers who have purch- search Ltd, Unit F. Broad ased, or received as a replace- Lane, Cottenham, Cambs. ment, a Sinclair ZX Spectrum CB4 4SW. computer, since January 1, The computer itself is per-1983.

Anyone in this category returned. should immediately check their power supply/mains power supply as soon as possiadaptor. We believe that a ble, and would like to apolobatch from one of our sup- gise to any of our customers pliers is faulty and, in certain affected for the inconvenience circumstances, might conceiv- caused. ably prove dangerous. The batch is limited in number and our customers that the probeasily recognised.

between the power supply and affects none of our other prothe Spectrum is black with a ducts. white stripe, then:

(1) Switch off at the mains, disconnect the system, and remove the plug from the power supply.

(2) Pack the power supply VV tact a number of our and post it to Sinclair Re-

fectly safe and should not be

We will be replacing the

Finally, could I reassure all lem is restricted to a limited If, and only if, the lead number of Spectrums and

> Nigel Searle Managing Director Sinclair Research Ltd 25 Willis Road Cambridge CB1 2AQ

# Romeo and Juliet

A new game for the 16K ZX81 by David Hanson

Romeo and Juliet is a mathematical adventure game for the 16K ZX81. When run, the program displays a graphic representation of the balcony scene from the play. The user is then requested to answer some mathematical questions —

the level of difficulty can be adjusted to cater for seven- to 16-year-olds, or older, if required.

If the user answers enough questions correctly, then the scene changes. First, Juliet moves to the edge of the balcony. Next, she speaks to Romeo. Romeo then walks into the garden from beneath a tree. Juliet throws a flower which Romeo catches and an owl flies across the sky to perch in the tree.

Each player is given a maximum of 40 questions. As soon as a player answers 35 questions correctly, Romeo climbs up the balcony and embraces Juliet. If a player fails to answer 35 questions correctly, Romeo is shot in the back by an arrow.

A record of the number of questions, and the number of correct answers, appears in the tower beneath the balcony.





```
1250 IF X=I THEN GOSUB 4000
1260 GOSUB 4500
1300 PRINT AT 20,0; G$; AT 21,0; G$
1310 PRINT AT 20,0; "UHAT IS "; M;
1320 INPUT X
1330 IF X</br>
1340 IF X=B THEN PRINT AT 21,0; "INDICATE THE ANSUER IS "; B
1340 IF X=B THEN GOSUB 4000
1360 GOSUB 4500
1400 PRINT AT 20,0; G$; AT 21,0; G$
1410 PRINT AT 20,0; "UHAT IS "; A;
1420 INPUT X
1430 IF X</br>
1420 INPUT X
1430 IF X</br>
1440 PRINT AT 20,0; "UHAT IS "; A;
1450 IF X=O THEN PRINT AT 21,0; "INDICATE THE ANSUER IS "; O
1440 IF X=O THEN PRINT AT 21,0; "INDICATE THE ANSUER IS "; O
1450 GOSUB 4500
1500 GOTO 1000
                        1500 GOTO 1000

4000 REM MESSAGE STATE

4010 IF N(=5 THEN GOSUB 5000

4020 IF N=6 THEN GOSUB 5500

4030 IF N>5 AND N(11 THEN GOSUB
5000
4040 IF N=11 THEN GOSUB 7000
4050 IF N=20 THEN GOSUB 7000
4050 IF N=29 AND N(34 THEN GOSUB
5000
4050 IF N=34 THEN GOTO 8000
4050 IF TOT=40 THEN GOTO 8500
4500 PEM F500 THEN GOTO 8500
4530 PRINT RT 17,5;TOT
4540 RETURN
                      4530 PRINT RT 17,5;TOT
4540 RETURN
5000 REM 3000 JULIEU
5010 PRINT RT K,J;"0";AT K+1,J;
"6(";AT K+2,J;"0";AT K+1,J;
"5020 IF J=5 THEN GOSUB 5500
5030 LET J=J+1
5040 RETURN
5500 REM 3000 JULIEU
5510 LET J*="1"
5520 PRINT AT 6,10; "ROMEO, ROMEO"
5520 PRINT AT 6,10; "ROMEO, ROMEO"
7 ART 7,10; "UMEREFORE ";AT 8,10;"
7 ART THOU ";AT 9,10; "ROMEO ?
                      5530 PAUSE 400

5540 PRINT AT 6, 10; Z$; AT 7, 10; Z$

; AT 8, 10; Z$; AT 9, 10; Z$

5550 AETURN

6000 REM BANGA PAUSE

6010 LET R=R-1

6020 PRINT AT 5, R; "O"; AT 5+1, R;

"A"; AT 5+2, R; "E"

6030 RETURN

5500 PEM
                                                                        6510
                          6520
6530
6540
                           6550
6570
                           5580
                          7000
                                                                       PRINT AT 6,0; " AT 6,0;
                           7010 FOR DE
                            7048 PRINT AT 6,27;" ";AT 5,29
                      7500 REM FOR THE TOTAL T
                             7050 RETURN
                             8020 PRINT AT 11,6;" " "; AT 10,9;
```

```
8150 LET J=J-1

5160 PRINT PT K.J. "@#"; AT K+1,J.

8170 IF J=G THEN GOTO 8200

8190 GOTO 8150

6200 PRINT PT 7.5; "BG"; AT 8,8; "$

8210 PRUSE 100

8220 PRINT PT 7.9; "#"; AT 8,9; "G"

8210 PRUSE 100

8220 PRINT PT 7.9; "#"; AT 8,9; "G"

8240 PRINT PT 10,9; "#"; AT 9,9; "B"

8250 PRINT PT 11,8; "#"; AT 9,9; "B"

8250 PRINT PT 11,8; "#"; AT 10,9; "B"

8250 PRINT PT 11,8; "#"; AT 10,9; "B"
            8260 PAUSE 100
8270 PRINT FT 10,9;"8"; AT 11,8;"
 8280 FOR 8=11 TO 15

5290 PCINT FT 5.8; "AT 5+1.8; "

8"; RT 5+2.8; ", RT 5+3.8; "

8330 NEXT 5

8320 PRINT RT 16.R; "AT 16+1.

8320 PRINT RT 16.R; "AT 16+1.

8330 NEXT R

8330 NEXT R

8330 NEXT R

8330 PCINT RT 10; 0$

8350 PCINT RT 10; 0$

8350 PCINT RT 6.10; UELL DONE

8360 PCINT RT 6.10; " UELL DONE

8370 NEXT E RT 6.10; " UELL DONE

8380 PCINT RT 6.10; " TRY
            8390 INPUT 25 THEN GOTO 100
8400 IF Z5 "Z" THEN GOTO 100
8410 STOP
8500 REM DISTORT DE STORT 
          8500 REM DISC

8510 LET D=25

8520 PRINT AT S+1,D; """,AT S+1,D

8530 LET D=D-1

8540 IF D=R THEN GOTO 8600

8650 GOTO 6520

8600 PRINT AT S-1,R; ";AT S,R

";AT S+2,R;"

8500 TF S=15 THEN GOTO 8700
                8528 IF 5=15 THEN GOTO 8700
             8630 LET 5:5+1
8640 GOTO 3610
     3850 INPUT Z$ THEN GOTO 100 8050 IF Z$="Z" THEN GOTO 100 9000 REM PLENT U 5 9020 NEXT U
         9030 RETURN
9500 STOP
```

9

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# **Talking of Atari**

David Kelly talks to Graham Daubney, Atari (UK)'s product manager

When Atari's 400 and 800 machines were launched in the US, back in 1979, they were among the first home computers to be seen in the US.

In the four years since then, the Atari machines have become extraordinarily successful in America. But this success has not been repeated in Britain, largely due to their high price compared with other micros.

To try to shake things up a bit, Atari formed a UK company last April. It's first employee was Graham Daubney.

"One of the problems over the last year," he says

"has been that in some ways the name of Atari is not associated with computers. Because of our success with the coin-operated games and the VCS games machine, people have tended to think that the Atari home computers are games machines. Perhaps our biggest problem has been to explain that with all that graphic power and speed — to produce the best games — you have to have an awful lot of computing power. Those people who have bought the Atari system have found that out — even we have been surprised at the number of disc drives we have been able to sell in Britain.

"There is a lot of marketing hype going on at the moment — Atari doesn't want to get involved in that. We are very happy with the start we have made in the UK.

"Rather than playing at numbers, we would prefer to play at quality and service," says Daubney. "It is nice to sell a lot of boxes but, equally, it is important to sell them in the right way — with 100 service centres up and down the country. It is good to know there are guys downstairs answering end-user enquiries."

It is ironic that many of Atari's problems of image have been caused by its success in the video games field. The Atari name is synonymous with the best in games software. Even now, 10 years after Atari produced the first arcade video game, Pong, the company has a strong leaning towards entertainment software.

Each of the company's three divisions — Coin Operated Games, VCS Games and Home Computers — has its own software development team. Over the years this has resulted in the development of many of the most successful arcade games: Asteroids, Centipede and, recently, Tempest.

Part of the reason Atari (UK) came into being was to provide a British software development facility. Atari is particularly keen to produce material for the British educational market.

"The main aim is to translate existing material, where appropriate," says Daubney. "Most of the entertainment software is directly applicable. The same things go down well both in the States and here.

"We are also signing contracts with third parties to produce software for the UK and Europe. If we decide we want a particular piece of software on the Atari, we provide the programmer with whatever hardware



Graham Daubney, Product Manager of Atari (UK).

and software tools are necessary and a technical assistant who will see the project through to the end. In short, the programmer will be actively supported by us. Alternatively, if a software house develops something that is new, we may negotiate for a licence — but our standards are rather high.

"In fact, on the entertainment side, there is not a lot that we would want to contract out — we wouldn't want to buy back Pac-Man, version twelve.

"We are actively developing educational software. Even though Atari is not one of the recommended micros in schools, we are hoping for great things — if the Computer Studies room has a computer that is not ours, I will be quite happy with the rest of the school: the music room, the art room, the geography room!"

Atari in the US has just concluded licensing agreements with Disney and United Feature Syndicate to use the Disney and Peanuts cartoon characters. Atari machines are well-suited for cartoon animation. Instead of having to flip pages to get animation it is possible to change character sets. The cartoon figure is defined in different positions using the same alpha-numeric symbol in different character sets. This incidentally, is the technique Atari uses in its version of Space Invaders.

"On the hardware side, there is now the new 1200XL machine. You will definitely see that in this country, though probably not until the Autumn. In line with Atari's philosophy, it is software-compatible with both the 400 and 800 machines. There are also new peripherals — a new plain-paper, four-colour, printer and a new cassette deck.

"Also, as of the back end of last year, Atari has its own semiconductor division in Sunnyvale, California — so now we are in a position to design our own custom chips and reduce development times. We are also one of the few companies investing money in long-term software development.

"On our home computers we have some of the best games available — Space Invaders, Galaxians, Missile Command, Asteroids, Pac-Man and Centipede. Some are our own. But we are prepared to go to other coin-op companies and buy licences. We pay a lot of money for such licences and operate in a proper business-like manner."

For this reason Atari has begun to take action in the UK and in America to protect its interests — its copyright and its licences.

"Instead of people looking at our action as Atari playing the big bad Daddy, people should be asking themselves: where is software development going to go if everyone keeps ripping off the same programs? Software must go forward — people have to sit down and come up with their own games.

"The situation is changing though. Licensing agreements are becoming accepted. Take Frogger — one of last year's biggest arcade games. We don't have the rights to produce a Frogger game — and so we haven't. Parker got the licence for the home video game and Sierra On-Line got the licence for home computer games.

"A problem is that there isn't much point in spending a lot of money on a licence if you haven't got the hardware to do the game justice. This is why Atari has such a depth of software — we are one of the very few companies around that has hardware capable of producing an acceptable version of an arcade game. There would be no point in Sinclair spending a lot of money on a licence to make a ZX81 version of some fantastic vector-plotted arcade game!

"But the major companies are beginning to see the light. For the smaller software houses it is now a question of how close to the wind they can sail.

"It seems inevitable that you will have clones of the best programs — the only consolation is that it is an indication that you are doing it right! But it seems strange. Something truly original *must* be more profitable at the end of the game.

"In the States we are now having a remarkable amount of success with clear cases of passing-off. In the UK we have been very successful out of court — many software houses have been sensible.

"This isn't Atari waving the big stick. It has made people aware that a system is beginning to develop within the industry and that these programs are not public domain.

"Anybody who puts out a program tomorrow based around one of the Disney characters would expect some action against them. Whey should they think they can do the same sort of thing to Atari?"

# Sinclair's little mascot

Tony Bridge trips the light fantastic in search of Spectrum software.

Much of the success of the Sinclair machines, apart from sheer value for money, has been due to the wide range of software available. Any of the machines now snapping at Sinclair's heels will have to do battle with software catalogues as their main weapon. With the knowledge gained from the ZX80/81, programmers have seized the Spectrum by the throat, and taken full advantage of its colour, graphic and sound capabilities to produce programs that were undreamt of a few months ago.

Many of these programs are updates of ZX81 software, with some authors taking full advantage of the colours available, the high-resolution graphics and the huge extra memory of the 48K version. ICL's tapes, marketed by Sinclair themselves, take advantage of none of these, and are as abysmal as the same programs were for the ZX81. Other software manufacturers working under the Sinclair banner are, thankfully, more ambitious.

Psion has retained its position, and my vote, as one of the best software houses around, with several new tapes for the Spectrum. Flight Simulation, which was my favourite program for the ZX81, now receives a much-welcomed update for the 48K Spectrum.

For those of you who did not see the earlier version, the program's scenario has you in the Captain's seat of a single-engined light plane, with a limited amount of fuel, and the job of landing the plane properly. Using 40K of memory, the new version is even more stunning than the old. Now there are two airports to land at, Main and Club — rather than the single one of the ZX81 version — and lakes and hills are dotted around the countryside.

On loading, you are presented with the choice of three modes — starting in level flight, on final approach, or about to take off. You may also elect to have wind effects. An instrument panel is presented to you, containing all the dials you will need for your flight — fuel and power gauges, flap and landing gear indicators and instrument landing system.

As you approach your finals, the instrument landing system will show your plane's position relative to the correct glide-path. It you dip below the central line, you will have to put the aircraft's nose down to steepen your angle, and so on.

A large central dial is dedicated to the navigation system, and shows your position in regard to the beacons set at strategic points around the flying area. At any time you may call up a map, and you will see your position, shown by a little flashing plane. The beacons and the landmarks are also shown. The lakes and hills will appear in full perspective, as will the runway when you finally reach it.

Words, however, cannot do justice to this program, which apparently took some eight thousand man-hours to complete! The feeling of actually flying a plane is very strong — after some practice I eventually managed to land the ZX81 version fairly regularly, but I have not got close to a successful completion in the Spectrum Flyer. Flight Simulation is surely the best of its type, and is unreservedly recommended (not least for the quote from my previous review of the ZX version which appears on the present version's artwork)!

As a direct contrast, let's leave Psion/ Sinclair for a moment and look at another flight simulation program. Again, this is an updated version of a ZX81 program. Nightflite, from Hewson Consultants, is written for the 16K Spectrum, and the restrictions placed upon the programmer by the smaller memory are painfully obvious when compared with the Psion tape.

An instrument panel is presented to the player, but consists of digital readouts of speed, height and so on. There is also a square artificial horizon and instrument landing system, together with a circular automatic direction finder. No view is offered from the cockpit window until the final approach, when the lights of a runway and a neighbouring village may be seen.



This view moves unrealistically at one "frame" a second, unlike Psion's smooth 3D movement.

The keyboard is read only once every two seconds, and only one direction movement is made at a time, thus making it impossible to bank and dive at the same time. While the "feel" of flying is absent from this program, the navigation aspect is emphasised, making it more of an academic exercise than Psion's thrilling "seat-of-the-pants" simulation. The provision of a map, at the end of your flight, is also a feature which Nightflite provides and which is absent from the Psion program: this, though a nice touch, is not



Tony Bridge.

enough to sway me from the Psion tape.

To return now to Sinclair's own updated programs, we come next to Reversi, by MOI (Mine Of Information). What was a generally well-received version for the ZX81 has become a very sophisticated program for the 16K Spectrum. Also known at Othello, this an an absorbing board game of territorial possession, played on a battlefield of squares like chess. The computer plays a good game, or you may choose to play against a human opponent. There is a useful option to review all the moves of a game, and you may also take over and continue play from any point.

Other companies, too, apart from Sinclair, have been busy translating ZX81 programs to the Spectrum. One of these is Microgame Simulations, with Battle of Britain for the 48K model. This program puts you in command of the few Allied fighters against the mean and many German bombers at the start of World War 2.

In the ZX81 version, information scrolled up the screen, and the movements of the opposing squadrons were worked out by the player on a separate map. With the Spectrum's extra memory and hi-res graphics, it is now possible to show the map (of South-East England) on-screen. Sound may be requested by the player, which takes the form of Morse code transmissions, but this slows down the action so much as to become a little-used option for most people.

Battle is joined when squadrons of fighters are within one square of a wing of bombers. I found if hard to tell just where the bombers were heading for, and which targets I should be protecting. It was also a little disconcerting to see the enemy, which had been slowly approaching the coast at Eastbourne, suddenly disappear and reappear over a target at Gravesend, which of course was then obliterated. My poor squadron, which had been lying in ambush, was left wandering about 100 miles away! However, on talking to Microgame I understand that this is a deliberate

feature of the game. You are shown the enemy's last known position, not their current whereabouts.

If you enjoy strategic board wargames of the Avalon Hill variety, you will certainly enjoy this one — let's hope that Microgame Simulations gives us more programs of this type, for which there is surely a great demand.

Artic's Adventures (A to D) have sent many thousands of ZX81 owners to the edge of insanity with their nearimpenetrable puzzles. Now the same Adventures appear under the Sinclair name, in the latest catalogue. While the other three Adventures have been written for the 48K model, thus pointing to more locations, Adventure A, or Planet of Death, is for 16K only. As far as I have progressed (the little slimy Green Man), the program seems to follow the same scenario as the ZX81 version. If you are an Adventure fan, then I urge you to look at Artic's offerings which, I guarantee, will have you screaming within half an hour!

Video Software, from that well-known metropolis, Kinver, has always been highly-regarded for its excellent Sinclair programs. Superview allows you to design and show your own Prestel-like information. Written for the 48K Spectrum the program gives you the choice of either 21 pages in full colour, or 42 pages in two colours.

Designing the pages at the computer takes a long time, so Video Software thoughtfully provides a pad of worksheets to ease the task. The full range of Spectrum-attributes, Flash, Bright, Inverse and

give you a totally flexible package.

The uses to which you can put the Prestel-style display are obvious — school fetes, exhibitions and so on. Superdraw, written for the 16K machine, will only hold one page at a time in Ram, but using the Screen\$ function will load a new page from cassette at a given interval, thus giving an illusion of a slideshow, albeit not as smooth and impressive as with Superview.

Tasimeq is from Tasman, makers of the well-known word-processor Tasword, for the ZX81. Tasimeq is an educational tool that originally appeared for the ZX81, and is designed to help students come to grips with simultaneous equations. Nothing much has changed from the original, except for the use of colour. Still an excellent program, however, and one of the few educational tapes for the Sinclair machines that actually does promote understanding. Recommended.

Jack Gibbons, with his Personal Banking System for the ZX81, had an enormous and deserved success. This was due not only to the program itself, which was extremely comprehensive, but also to the backup service that he provides to all purchasers. He has now released a version for the Spectrum which is equally good. A manual accompanies each tape to help you through all the features. The only detail I miss from the earlier version is the fast-loading of data which was managed by a machine-code routine courtesy of Picturesque. However, if there is only one home finance program you intend to buy, this should be it.

Sincle Systeman Assessment PLANET OF DEATH VU-3D

so on are available, plus an instant Large Alphabet. Superview will not support high-resolution, except any graphics that you may have designed before loading the main program — and these will have to be re-defined each time you wish to re-use that particular set of pages. However, even without the use of high-resolution, some impressive displays may be designed.

The sister program, Superdraw, will, as its name suggests, allow you to include high-resolution graphics, as the drawing cursor operates in pixel mode as well as the larger character mode. The same Large Alphabet is included, though this time there is provision for redesigning it to your own taste. You can then load this new alphabet into your Superview program. So, if you have the larger memory, I would recommend you obtain both programs to

That rounds off our look at programs that have been re-written for the Spectrum — now let's turn to completely new programs, and look again at the Sinclair catalogue. Psion has really been burning the midnight oil and come up with several new tapes, some of which, *Planetoids* and *Hungry Horace*, have been reviewed in these pages in previous weeks. *Hungry Horace* looks like becoming Sinclair's little mascot, with the release of another *HH* game, *Hungry Horace Goes Skiing*. This program was written in collaboration with Melbourne House, which is rapidly gaining a reputation for imaginative software.

This time our little hero has to cross a busy 6-lane highway (where have you heard that before?), in order to reach a little ski shop where he can purchase skis, for the second part of the game. He starts

with \$40 (why not £s?) and will need \$10 to buy the skis. In crossing the road, Horace will probably, under your guidance, get run down, in which case an ambulance will rush out and pick him up — asking for a fee of \$10! Should this make you bankrupt, you cannot go on to the second part, which is a downhill ski race.

Points are scored for doing the right things at the right time and, of course, it is not as easy as it looks! Like the original Hungry Horace, this is an amusing twist on a, by now, rather long-toothed original (or rather, two LTOs), and will certainly tone up your reactions. I think we can look forward to more Hungry Horace games.

To the VU series (VU-Calc and VU-File), Psion/Sinclair has now added VU-3D. This is a "very impressive three-dimensional modelling program", to quote from Sinclair's catalogue, and that says it in a nutshell. The user can design an object, and then view it in perspective and from all angles, and zoom in and out. The object may be displayed in "wire-frame" or as a solid, and shaded as required.

The drawing-board is fairly comprehensive, although a little practice is required to make full use of its capabilities. The finished model may be Saved for later amendment, and hard copies taken. The program makes excellent use of the Spectrum's resolution, which, admittedly, is not of the highest, and would be extremely useful on an engineer's desk — stunning value at the price!

David Miller, of Gwent, sent in three tapes for review (he has released another five, with a new machine code game on the way). Plane Attack is yet another re-working of the Bomber program (an LTO if ever I saw one!), in which a plane is, for some selfish reason, attempting to raze a city of skyscrapers so that it may land. This version has a couple of new features — you may move the plane up and down in a limited way, and the city fires back. But, on our copy, the user-defined graphics refused to load properly.

Patience and Bio-Rhythms are fairly self-explanatory and hold no surprises. As part of a larger compendium of games these three might be worth looking at, but on their own they are simply not good value for money. Better to save your money for . . .

Arcadia, from Imagine Software. As you may have guessed, this is a Liverpool-based company, formed by three ex-Bug-Byte colleagues. The promise of the eye-catching artwork is fully realised in the program. The avowed aim of this new company is to bring you only totally original arcade games. Arcadia is of the Space Zap variety, in which you control a space ship protecting your planet from marauding hordes of invaders. However, the stunning graphics lift this game into a class of its own.

You have five lives, and you will need all of them as wave upon infinite wave of amazing aliens descend upon you, most of them dropping bombs as they do so. In the first level, the aliens are standard space vessels, and you get one point for each alien destroyed (in successive waves, you get more points). A counter at top left ticks down from 99 to 0, at which point the aliens give up with the puny first wave, and launch the second wave, which consists of giant bomb-dropping, multi-coloured but-terflies, would you believe?

Successive waves consist of Nasty Nails, 'Orrible Octupuses and — well, find out for yourself! Suffice to say that some of the higher levels are so deadly that they don't even need to drop bombs! There are a lot of surprises — for instance, somewhere in the higher levels is a mini-Centipede game. Luckily, Imagine provided a special review copy, written just for arthritic-fingered old reviewers (OK, just like me!), giving the player 99 lives — on the first playing I have to admit that I ran out of all of them before the 12th level!

The stunning graphics have no equal in the Spectrum field, and are as good as any Atari game, and that is the highest praise that I can give. Imagine Software has, with this program, certainly emulated the genius of their namesake's composer. Eugene Evans of Imagine tells me that Schizoids, the latest Spectrum game from his company, is twice as good as Arcadia—just imagine...!

Staying with the arcade games, we come to *Gnasher*, from R&R Software. This is a version of *Pacman*. The graphics are faithful to the original, down to the fruit at the bottom run of the maze, which have to be devoured for extra points. They also appear beneath the maze, to remind you which level you are currently negotiating.

The ghosts will chase you relentlessly, and the game is very addictive as you try desperately to outrun them and beat the high score. A Hold feature is included so you can take a breather, and you can also Save your high score for posterity. This program proved to be a favourite with all the neighbourhood arcade-gamers, and is well worth the asking-price.

We shall take a breather now, and slow things down a little with ZXTrek, from Cleva. The game of Startrek, or Klingon-bashing, has been around since the earliest days of the big mainframes, and was one of the first games available for micro-computers. Peter Lovett, the author of this latest, but surely not last, version has taken full advantage of the larger memory of the Spectrum to produce a more detailed game than usual. The Battle Manual (documentation) alone runs to nine pages, and is very L-O-G-I-C-A-L!

The display on the screen is devoted to long-, short-, and Galaxy-scanners, and an awful lot of information about the state of the Enterprise (and Life and the Universe) is shown to the player. As you will know, the aim is to rid the Universe of the Klingons — here they are aided by the dreaded Romulans, which appear without warning to wreak havoc. A typically slow trudge of a game, but if, like me, you enjoy Startrek programs, you'll find this one

more interesting than most.

Haven Hardware offers Patience and Fruit Machine. The latter is fairly ordinary, being an unsurprising simulation of a one-armed bandit, which is very similar to those found in many books for the Spectrum. Patience is a much more interesting program, which shows off the Spectrum's graphics. Cards are laid out in several descending rows, containing one to seven cards. The remaining cards are held in a pack which is turned over, three cards at a time.

Cards may be placed on any of the rows, as long as they are of a different colour and one rank lower than the immediately preceding card. Aces are placed on one side. As in real Patience, your game depends on luck, in the early stages — in the later stages, on laying the right card on the right pile. When you feel like passing a quiet couple of hours, load Patience in and settle back.

Case Computer Systems of London has added a couple more programs to its range of management simulations. The first, Dallas, continues in the tradition.

As you might expect, this one deals with the vagaries of the oil business in Texas. This is more of a board game than the other games in the series, Autochef, Airline and Print Shop, and is a direct descendant of those well-loved property acquisition games. A fine balance must be sought between prospecting for more, black gold, and developing the fields already struck. All the while the Ewing family is sneakily building up their re-

sources, and your aim is to eventually become worth more than JR (lovely thought!).

CCS's other new release is a departure from its usual games programs, though it still involves the world of high finance. Financial Modeller X comes in both 16K and 48K versions. A hefty manual explains how to use the programs. Designed mainly for management trainees, or indeed any manager wishing to make forecasts about his business, the program allows several models to be designed.

Data is input by the user, about advertising expenditure, sales force, production
capacities and so on. The computer will
then act upon the data, make forecasts
concerning the profitability of each model,
and compare one with another. Hard
copies may be taken, thus building up a
comprehensive profile of financial options.
Good value for money.

Richard Shepherd Software, of deepest Maidenhead, has had an extensive catalogue of Sinclair software for some time, and has now released several programs for the Spectrum, mostly Adventure games. In Shaken not Stirred (48K), you are cast as James Bond, and your task is to seek out the island of the dreaded Dr Death, who is threatening London with extinction unless his ransom demand is met. You may choose three weapons with which to fight the many foes you will meet on your journey around the world.

Transylvanian Tower is set in Dracula's castle and is a graphic maze-cum-Adventure game. There are several levels

Firm	Program	Cost
Psion	Flight Simulation	27.95
2 Huntsworth Mews'	VU-3D	29.95
Gloucester Place		32333
*London NW1		SECTION A
Psion/Melbourne House	Hungry Horace Goes Skiing	£5.95
2 Huntsworth Mews		430000
Gloucester Place		STATE AND A STATE OF
London NW1		25.50
Imagine Software	Arcadia	€5.50
Masons Buildings		555
Exchange Street East		176-1745 (
Liverpool L2 3PN		05.05
Microgame Simulations	Battle of Britain	£5.95
73 The Broadway		THE PERSON NAMED IN
Grantchester		130000
Cambridge CB3 9NQ		£5.00
Video Software	Superdraw	15,00
Stone Lane	Superview	2575 HIE
Kinver		ESCOURS
Stourbridge		SECTION.
West Midlands DY7 6EQ	Gnasher	€4.95
R & R Software	Gnasner	24.30
34 Bourton Road		Pallessa
Tuffley		STATE OF THE PARTY.
Gloucester GL4 0LE	Shaken not Stirred	€6.50
Richard Shepherd Software	Transylvanian Tower	26.50
22 Green Leys Maidenhead	Hansylvanian rower	20.00
Berkshire SL6 7EZ		100012-000
CCS Software	Dallas	£5.00
14 Langton Way	Financial Modeller X	28.00
London SE3 7TL	Thansa Mooner 2	
Calpac	Junior Education	£5.50
108 Hermitage Woods Crescent	Daniel Education	AL PROPERTY.
St Johns		SECTION 2013
Woking		80/3984
Surrey GU21 1UF		S200
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of 100 rooms. As you explore the castle, each room is presented to you in 3D graphics. You must work your way through the complicated structure, picking up treasure and fighting off the weird animal life.

The battle sequences with the fauna are arcade-like, rather than relying on the traditional hit-point system. Three objects may be carried by you, and it is up to you to decide which will be most useful in your quest. Occasionally, you are allowed a short glimpse of a plan of the level you are currently on, but this option is a luxury, and not to be used lightly. An enthralling and addictive program.

Several books are now available for the Spectrum programmer, and some of these also offer tapes to save tired fingers the drudgery of typing. The Spectrum Pocket Book, by Trevor Toms and published by Phipps Associates, is one such book, and is the latest in a series of extremely good volumes for the whole Sinclair range and the Atom. The first part of the latest book concentrates on games, the listings of which are fully annotated. Thus you can apply the techniques used in the programs to you own efforts.

The second part of the book introduces you, very gently, to machine code programming. Tapes are available for both sections, one containing the games (Great Fire of London, Castle Walls, Reversi and so on), and the other all the Machine Code routines — Assembler; Disassembler, Monitor and Screen Tool Kit. The games are all original, and good fun to play. The machine code section itself is worth the



price of the book.

If you are prepared to type in the lengthy programs yourself, you need never buy another expensive piece of software to help you program in machine code, but Phipps's own tape is extremely good value, and highly recommended to anyone at all interested in this branch of programming. A word of warning, however: instructions for using the tapes are contained within the text of the book, so you will need to invest in both tape and book to gain the full advantage.

The second educational tape in this current survey comes from Calpac. Junior Education contains eight programs for the

8 to 11 age group. Subjects covered include mathematics (Tables), spelling (Homophones), and history (Romans). All are supported by charming animated graphics, and good colours and sound. Just what kids like, in fact, but here they are not talked down to. A varied and worthwhile selection of programs, recommended for home education.

Finally, a tape that I have to admit I cannot approach objectively — Popular Computing Weekly's own collection of favourite programs from its pages. There are four games here, two for the ZX81, and two for the 16K Spectrum — Laser Chase and Kong's Revenge. The former is a rarity, a two-player game — a sort of surround with bombs — which should appeal to the sadists among you. The object, of course, is to fence in your opponent.

Kong's Revenge is, as you may have guessed, a version of the arcade game in which you have to guide your little man up the ladders, while Kong throws barrels down at you (why he doesn't jump down and give you a friendly little squeeze is not explained!). Along the way you may pick up parasols conveniently dotted around, thus gaining more points. The first level is hard, and subsequent levels are near impossible for me to negotiate. The game is extremely addictive, and a great favourite with the kids, who seem to play with their eyes shut!

#### Summary

It is obvious that the software writers have grown up along with the Spectrum — it is no longer enough to simply shove out another Space Invader program. While the old favourites still have their place, companies like Imagine are showing us that there are now arcade games to become addicted to, and of a higher quality than ever before. On the "serious" side, too, the Spectrum has a lot to offer, and is being well served by most of the companies in this survey.

Firm	Program	Cost
Hewson Consultants	Night Flight	25.95
60A St Mary's Street		
Wallingford		
Oxon OK10 0EL		
Hilton Computer Services	Personal Banking System	£10.00
14 Avalon Road		
Orpington		
Kent BR6 9AX		
Artic	Planet of Death	£6.95
396 James Reckitt Avenue		
Hull		
North Humberside HU8 0JA		
Mine of Information	Reversi	£7.95
1 Francis Avenue		
St Albans		
Herts AL3 6BL	the transfer of the transfer o	SANSON LES
Phipps Associates 99 East Street	Machine code tools	25,00
Epsom		
Surrey KT17 1EA		
Cleva Computer Ware	ZXTrek	
34 The Avenue	ZATION	
Loughton		
Essex		
Haven Hardware	Fruit Machine	£4.95
4 Asby Road	Patience	£5.95
Asby		20,50
Workington		
Cumbria		
Tasman Software	Tasimeq	£3.30
17 Hartley Crescent		20.00
Leeds LS6 2LL		
DPM Software	Biorhythms	
641 Morrow Way	Plane Attack	
Bettws, Newport	Solitaire	
		CARLON MANAGEMENT OF THE PARTY

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# FIII

# on Spectrum

This routine is a useful utility, which enables any Spectrum owner to fill the screen with a solid block of colour. All you need to do to get a shape on the screen is Poke the stated addresses with the required data and then LET L = USR 32000. The screen will be filled (or part of it).

An example is given in the listing which will produce a green block starting at 100, 100 and ending at 150, 150.

The program is very simple, as all it does is call the Rom plot routine (at 8933) repeatedly, until the specified dimensions are encountered, whereby it returns to Basic.

Alternatively, the routine can be called from a machine code program. The data will be directly Poked, instead of using the loop. The colour requirements are fed into the machine using Rst 16 (in the first 6 bytes).

51	Fill routine
	Poke: 32004, n = the ink colour of the shape.
	Poke 32007, n = the x co-ordinate of the bottom of the shape.
i	Poke 32008, n = the y co-ordinate of the bottom of the shape.
	Poke 32010, n = the x co-ordinate of the top of the shape.
1	Poke 32011, n = the y co-ordinate of the top of the
	shape E.G.
	For a green shape with bottom co-ordinates at 100, 100, and top co-ordinates at 150, 150;
	Poke: 32004, 4
	32007, 100
1	32008, 100
	32010, 150
•	32011, 150
t	Then LET L = USR 32000, and th
1	shape will appear.
	The machine code is:
'	

The ma	achine coc	ie is.		
Address	Number			
32000	62	1		
32001	16			-
32002	215		PER VIEW	
32003	62			
32004	4		7×	
32005	215			
32006	1			
32007	100			
32008	100			

The machine code can be loaded using: 10 FOR a=32000 TO 32038; INPUT x: POKE a,x: PRINT a,x;Next a

by M Skinner

# **Assembler**

on BBC Micro

This program for the BBC Micro Model A or B assembles a short machine code routine into &D00 to &D34 which retrieves as much as possible of your Basic program after a "Bad program" error caused by accidentally Poking into the Basic program area or by a program which has not loaded correctly. Retrieve works wherever the program is in memory by looking at the value of Page.

So that Retrieve is ready for use when required type in the program as shown, Run it and then save a machine code version by \*SAVE "Retrieve" D00 D35. When you wish to use it type \*RUN and

play the tape. To use Retrieve to correct a program not saved on cassette correctly use the \*OPT 2,0 command (see new User Guide, p. 398) which loads the program complete with errors and then \*RUN Retrieve. In this way the greater part of a program which has block 0 missing due to the fault in the cassette filing system can be retrieved.

**Program notes** 

Allows two passes of the assembler which is needed for forward branches

Sets start of machine code to &D00 60-90 Copies the value of Page into &70,&71

100-110 Load Page with &0D for start of line 120-160 Returns to Basic if end of Basic program found

170-230 Finds the length of the current Basic line

240-260 Adds end of program marker

270-280 Returns to Basic

290-320 Puts length of line in correct location

330-380 Sets &70,&71 to start of next line

10	REM	****	Retreive	*****
----	-----	------	----------	-------

Neil Odell 1983 \*\*\* REM \*\*\* (C)

30 FOR PASS=0 TO 3 STEP 3

40 F%=8000 50 COPT PASS 60 LDA818 70 STA871 80 LDY#0

90 STY870 100 LDA#&D

110 STA(870),Y

120 .LOOP1 130 LDY#1

140 LDA(870),Y

150 CMP#8FF 160 BEQ FINISH

170 LDY#4 180 .LOOP2

200 CMF#8D

190 LDA(870),Y

210 BEQ PUTBYTE

220 INY

230 BNE LOOP2

240 LDA#&FF

250 INY

260 STA(870),Y

270 .FINISH

280 RTS

. FUTBYTE 290

300 TYA

310 LDY#3

320 STA(870),Y

330 CLC

340 ADC 870

350 STA&70

360 BCC LOOP1

370 INC871

380 BCS LOOP1

390 ]

400 NEXT

Assembler by Neil Odell

# **Peeks and Pokes**

on Dragon

#### **PROGRAM 1**

**AUTOREPEAT KEYS** 

I think this may be the answer Peter Chase was looking for (ref. page 25, vol. 1, no. 36). Line 20 indicates if a key is pressed, whilst line 30 prints the character pressed. It is line 40 which allows the second repeating key to function before the first is released. The reason for this becomes clear in program 2.

#### **PROGRAM 2**

PEEK (337) to PEEK (345)

In order to fully explore these Peeks it is best to take them one by one modifying line 30 each time. Run the program and

make a table of the Peeked values for each key. You will find for example that when Peek (337) = Peek (339) the 'A' key is pressed.

#### **PROGRAM 3**

SCREEN POKES

It is possible by Poking direct to the text screen memory to obtain inverted characters not available by printing Chr\$ codes or direct from the keyboard. Run program 3 and the top half of the screen will be the Chr\$ characters whilst the bottom half will be the Poked characters. Notice the extra line in the bottom half? Make a note of the Poke codes as some of these differ from the Chr\$ codes.

#### PROGRAM 1

10 CLS

20 IF PEEK (337) = 255 THEN 20

30 PRINT CHR\$ (PEEK (135)):

40 POKE 337, 191

50 GOTO 20

#### **PROGRAM 2**

10 CLS

20 K\$ = INKEYS: IF K\$ = "" THEN 20

30 PRINT KS; PEEK (337).

40 GOTO 20

#### **PROGRAM 3**

10 CLS

20 FOR N = 0 TO 255

30 PRINT CHR\$(N);: NEXT

40 C = 0: FOR P = 1280 TO 1536

50 POKE P. C

60 C = C + 1: IF C > 255 THEN C = 0

70 NEXT

80 GOTO 80

by Brian Beesley

# **Earth Attack**

on Vic 20

The controls are:

CRSR UP which moves the base to the

CRSR RIGHT which moves the base to the right.

The space bar is used to fire.

20 to 30 Read data characters

92 to 94 Print Mother Ship

140 to 200 Define the Invaders

210 to 220 Position of Invaders

260 to 280 Check for movement of base

Check for missile

310 to 311 Draw missile and check for hit

330 to 350 Check if Invaders land

510 to 520 Destroy Invader 600 to 730 Winning display

800 to 880 Title set-up

1000 to - Losing display

T G0T0800

5 POKE 36878,15

10 PRINT"3";

20 A=7168: B=7175: FORT=1T06

30 FORAA=ATOB: READS: POKEAA, S: NEXT: A=A+8: B=B+8: NEXT

40 DATA129,66,60,126,219,255,126,129

50 DATA16, 16, 56, 124, 124, 254, 254, 254

60 DATA16, 16, 16, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0

70 DATA146,84,0,198,0,84,146,0

80 DATAO, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0

85 DATA255, 255, 255, 255, 255, 255, 255

90 PCKE36869,255

92 PRINT"EEEEEEE

93 PRINT"#

94 PRINT"

EEEEEEEE";

1 11:

100 S=30720

110 D=8174

120 Y=7780

139 Z=0

140 FORI=1T03:X(I)=0:NEXT

200 W=0:P=0

210 FORI=1T03

220 POKEY+W-1,4:POKEY+W,X(I):POKEY+W+8,5:W=W+14:NEXT 710 FORY=15T00STEP-1:POKE36877,220:POKE

222 POKE36874,128

230 4=4+1

260 GETAS

270 IFA\$="00"THEND=D-1:POKED+1:4

280 IFA = "N" THEND=D+1: POKED-1,4

285 POKE36874,0

290 POKED, 1: POKED+S, 0

300 IFZ=0ANDA\$=" "THENPOKE36876,140: R=D-22:Z=1:POKE36876,0

310 IFZ=1THENPOKER+22,4:POKER,2:POKER+8,2

311 FORI=1TO3: IFZ=1ANDR-2'=Y+PTHENGOSUB500

312 P=P+14

313 NEXT

319 R=R-22

320 IFZ=1ANDR<=7746THENPOKER+22,4:Z=0

330 IFX(1)=0ANDY)8185THEN1000

340 IFX(2)=0ANDY+14>8185THEN1000

350 IFX(3)=0ANDY+28)8185THEN1000

400 GOTO200

500 IFX(I)=4THENRETURN

510 POKE36877,222: POKER-22,3: POKE36877,0 POKER-22,4:X(I)=4

515 IFX(1)=4ANDX(2)=4ANDX(3)=4THEN600

520 RETURN

600 FORY=140T0222:FORT=1T012:POKE36875,

Y+T:NEXT:NEXT 36878, Y: FORT=1T0200: NEXT

720 PRINT" 388

730 NEXT

800 POKE36869,240: PRINT""

805 POKE36877,0:POKE36875,0

810 PRINT" # SOCOGRADA EARTH ATTACK"

820 PRINT"XXX CRSR UP-LEFT"

830 PRINT"XXX CRSR LEFT-RIGHT" 840 PRINT"XXX SPACE BAR TO FIRE"

850 PRINT"MM MHIT A KEY"

860 GETA\$: IFA\$=""THEN860

870 FORT=220T0140STEP-1:POKE36874,T:

FOKE36876, T: NEXT 880 POKE36876.0: POKE36874.0: RESTORE: GOTO5

1000 FORY=1T05 1010 FORR=240T0140STEP-1:POKE36874,R:NEXT

NEXT: POKE36874, 0: GOT0800

READY.

Earth Attack by Emile Wakefield

# Bounce

# on Vic 20

The object of the game is to get the ball to the bottom right-hand corner, rebounding off bricks, bats etc., watching out for the stars which will make the ball appear in a different place. The best time achieved is 8 seconds - try to beat it. The game uses the Vic sound and colour capabilities well.

#### Variables

BB

AC

For next loops Z Peek (197) HS High Score NAS Name Position of ball B Movement of ball AA **Bat Position** 

VAL (TI\$)

**Bat Movement** 

Star Position

```
8 PRINTCHR$(8):POKE36878,15:NR$="NOBODY"
```

```
15 REM#
28 REMM
        BOUNCE
25 REMW
38 REMM
35 REM#
48 REM# STEVEN
45 REM#
50 REM# CRANSHAW #
55 REM#
60 REM##########
65 GOSUB440
70 HS=99
```

10 REM申申申申申申申申申申申

75 POKE36879,25:PRINT"" 80 FORX=7680T07701

85 POKEX+30720,2 98 POKEX, 168 95 POKEX+484+30720,2

100 POKEX+484,160 105 NEXT

110 FORX=7680T08185STEP22 115 POKEX+30720,2 128 POKEX, 168

125 POKEX+38741,2 138 POKEX+21,168 135 NEXT X

140 FORX=1T0120 145 B=RND(-TI): B=INT(RND(1)#506)+7680: IFPEEK (B)=160THEN145

150 POKEB+30720,0 155 POKEB, 160 160 NEXTX

165 FORX=7703T07706

170 POKEX, 32 175 POKEX+22,32 180 POKEX+44,32 185 NEXTX

198 FORX=8159T08162 195 POKEX, 32 200 POKEX-22,32

285 POKEX-44,32:NEXT

210 FORX=8094T08096 215 POKEX+30720,0

228 POKEX, 168 225 NEXT

230 POKEB162, B7: POKE38882, 6

235 A=7783:B=1:TI\$="888888":AA=8116:BB=22 248 PRINT MARM TIME"; VAL(TI\$); TRB(18) "MBEST TIME"HS

250 IFPEEK(A+B)>1280RPEEK(A+B)=92THENB=-B: POKE36876,220:POKE36876,0

255 IFPEEK(A+B)=42THENGOSUB635

260 IFPEEK(A+B) C) 160THENA=A+B: IFPEEK(A-B)=81 THENPOKEA-B, 32

265 IFPEEK(A+B)>1280RPEEK(A+B)=92THENB=-B: POKE36876, 220: POKE36876, 8

270 POKER+30720,3

275 POKEA, 81

280 Z=PEEK(197): IFZ=64THEN305

285 IFZ=39ANDPEEK(A-22)C)160THENB=-22:00TD310

290 IFZ=47ANDPEEK(A-1) ()160THENB=-1:G0T0310

295 IFZ=63ANDPEEK(A+23)<>168THENB=23

```
PROGRAM OF THE WEEK
380 IFZ=558NDPEEK(R-21)()160THENB=-21
```

385 IFINT(RND(1)\*100)=C5RNDF(2THENF=F+1:

GOSUB615 310 IFR=8162THENGOT0345

315 IFPEEK(AA-BB)()160THENPOKERA-BB, 32

328 POKERR+30720,4 325 POKERA, 92

330 IFPEEK(AA+BB)=160THENBB=-BB

335 AA=AA+BB

340 GOT0240

345 T=VAL(TI\$):FORX=1T012

350 READB, C

355 POKE36876, B 360 FORD=1TOC

365 NEXTD 370 POKE36876, 8

375 NEXTX

380 DATA214,70,209,70,193,170,193,170,193, 78,288,78,286,78,289,78

385 DATA214,178,214,178,214,228,206,278

398 PRINTCHR\$(14): POKE198,0 395 PRINT" IME: ";T:PRINT 400 IFHS)TTHENHS=T:00SUB590 405 PRINT"#|EST TIME: "; HS: PRINT

410 PRINT" AME: "; NAS: PRINT 415 PRINT"就ERUN 湖道 厂 温度

420 GETAS

425 IFAs="Y"THENRESTORE:PRINTCHR\$(142) POKE36878,15:60T075

430 IFA\$="N"THENPOKE37154,255:PRINT": POKE 36879,27:PRINTCHR\$(142):END

435 GOT0428

440 REM INSTRUSTIONS

445 POKE36879,8:PRINT"JMINSTRUCTIONS"

450 GETA\$ :- IFA\$="N"THEN70 455 IFA\$="Y"THEN465

468 GOTO458

465 PRINT"3";: POKE36879,59:A\$(1)="

STROUNCE ## 478 A\$(2)="+ F1:UP"

475 A\$(3)=" + F3:RIGHT"

488 A\$(4)=" + F5: DIAGONAL DOWN"

485 A\$(5)="+ F7: DIAGONAL UP"

490 A\$(6)="MOTHE OBJECT IS TO REACH THE CIRCLE IN THE"

495 As(7)=" TLEAST TIME POSSIBLE. " 500 R#(8)="TREBOUNDING OFF BLOCKS TETC.

WATCH OUT FOR THE" 505 A\$(9)="1STARS (BLACK HOLES)"

510 FORX=1T09

515 FORXX=1TOLEN(A\$(X))

528 IFMID\$(A\$(X),XX,1)="f"THENPRINT:XX=XX+1 525 IFMID\*(A\*(X), XX+1,1)=" "THENGOT0535

530 POKE36876, 220: POKE36876, 8 535 PRINTMID\$(A\$(X), XX, 1); 540 FORN=1T050: NEXTH

545 NEXTXX 550 PRINT: NEXTX

560 GETB#: IFB#=" "THEN585

565 FORX=1T0200: NEXTX

SPACE"; 575 FORX=1T0200: NEXTX

588 BOTOSSS

585 PRINT"" RETURN

1 IME NPUT HOUR ANE

595 GETNAS: IFNAS=""THEN595

600 INPUTNA\$ 605 PRINT 610 RETURN

615 AB=INT(RND(1)\*478)+7688 620 IFPEEK(AB)=160THEN615

625 POKEAB, 42: POKEAB+38728, 5: POKEE36876, 228: POKE36876.8

630 RETURN

- 635 AC=INT(RND(1)#450)+7680 648 IFPEEK(AC)>128THEN635

645 POKER+B, 32: POKER, 32: A=AC: F=0: B=-B 650 POKE36875,240: POKE36875,0

655 RETURN

READY.

Bounce

by Stephen Cranshaw

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20

# Screen-copying

on Spectrum

The Spectrum manual states that you can't Peek or Poke the screen. Well, you can and this short demonstration program shows this, by copying the top third of the screen to the middle third. Whilst not very inspiring in itself, this should give you enough of a clue to a routine that will Peek any Print position and return the true character value, which of course, Screen& will not do.

Enter the short program and put anything you like in the Print line 10. Run will copy the top third to the middle and erase the top as it does so. You will see that the screen is built in the same manner as loading the screen area (when a screen save has been made). This should provide enough clues also as to which bytes to

Replace\$

on ZX81

Replace\$ is a machine code routine which can be very useful in games programs. Every time the character stored at address 16526 is found in the Display File it is replaced by the character stored at address 16530. This routine may be adopted when one wishes to obtain such special effects as making a pacman ghost or an alien space ship flicker from inverse to normal without affecting the rest of the Display File, or on any occasion when specific characters in the Display File need to be changed.

To use this routine, enter and run program 1. Now delete all except line 1 and enter program 2 (which is a subroutine

Address Hex code Instruction

Peek or Poke. An example would be to copy anything on a given line to another, or to build the true Screen value of a graphic character. Another example might be mirror-imaging of lines or individual. characters.

Screen Copying by Paul Newman

ING THE DISPLAY FILE. 2 REM 10 PRINT "This is of pretty writing. We are g to copy this to the middle thir d of the screen. This illustrates that you can POKE the screen, wi th care." 50 FOR J=2048 TO 4096 60 POKE (16384+j), PEEK (16384+ (j-2048))65 POKE (16384+(j-2048)),0 80 PRINT AT 20,10; "OK"

to run the machine code).

The variable A should contain the character code of the characters to be replaced. The variable B should contain the replacement character.

Program 1

- 1 REM (23 M's)
- 10 LET P=16514
- 20 LET A\$="06182A0C40237EBF762809BF002-0F63E007718F110EFC9"
- 30 POKE P, 16 CODE AS+CODE AS(2)-476
- 40 LET P=P+1
- 50 LET AS=AS(3 TO)
- 60 IF AS=""THEN STOP
- 70 GOTO 30

Program 2

9000 POKE 16526,A 9010 POKE 16530.B 9020 RAND USR 16514

9030 RETURN

A contains character code of characters to be replaced B contains character code of replacement character

**Asterolds** 

on ZX81

The object of this game is to travel as far as you can in your space ship dodging the asteroids as much as you can. You have laser cannons to help you.

You also have the option of hyperspacing twice, but this loses you 50 points. You can also travel at the speed of the asteroids for as long as you like but your score will go down rapidly.

When you finally crash the computer will tell you how well you did. There is a high score table.

The controls are:

4 fast left

5 slow left

8 slow right

9 fast right

f fire

h hyperspace

Program notes

Set up variables 6-8 Ask if instructions are needed 10-30 Set up variables Print asteroids 40-50 60-80 Check screen and add up score 90-140 Check if key pressed

150-160 Slow up routine 170 Goto 40

9000-9120 Crash routine and comments 9200-9300 Hyperspace routine

9500-9550 Firing routine 9600-9800 Instructions 9820-9830 Save routine

The program must have been run before the Save routine can be used or the variable undefined error code will appear on reloading.

1010070	LET HI=0 LET U\$="" LET G=0 PRINT "INSTRUCTIONS?" INPUT A\$ IF A\$(1)="Y" THEN GOSUB 960
10 11 15 20 30 40	
K 15: 65 70 80	IF PEEK (PEEK 16398+256*PEE 399) =23 THEN GOTO 9888 PRINT RT X,Y; A\$ LET Z=Z+1 SCROLL IF INKEY\$="H" THEN GOTO 928
	LET Y=Y-(INKEYs="5")+(INKEY")  IF INKEYs="4" THEN LET Y=Y-  Turn to page 23

Address	Hex code	Instruction	Dasic
16514	0618	LD B,24	LET B=24
			(number of lines of screen)
16516	2A0C40	LD HL,(16396)	LET HL=PEEK 16396
			(HL=start of DISPLAY FILE)
16519	23	INC HL	LET HL=HL+1
		350000000000000000000000000000000000000	(first character in DISPLAY FILE)
16520	7E	LD A,(HL)	LET A=PEEK HL
			(A=character code stored at HL)
16521	BF76	CP A,118	LET A=A-118 (answer not stored anywhere
			and value of A is not affected)
16523	2809	JRZ 09	IF (value calculated by last instruction)=0
		Maria and Art	THEN GOTO 16534
16525	BF00	CP A.00	LET A=A-00 (answer not stored anywhere
			and value of A is not affected)
			Address 16526 contains the character code
			of the character to be replaced
16527	20F6	JRNZ-10	IF (value calculated by last instruction)<>0
			THEN GOTO 16519 (goto next character if not
	The state of the s		character to be replaced)
16529	3E00	LD A,00	LET A=0
			(LET A=replacement character)
			Address 16530 contains the character code
			of replacement character
16531	77	LD (HL),A	POKE HL,A
		15. 15	(replace character)
16532	18F1	JR-15	GOTO 16519
	4000	5 W 7 47	(goto next character)
16534	10EF	DJNZ-17	IF B<>0 THEN LET B=B-1 and goto 16519
			(if not at end of DISPLAY FILE then let
10000	00	DET	lines=lines-1 and goto next character)
16536	C9	RET	RETURN

by John Hodgson

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- Audio commentary on reverse of cassette

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The Dragon Dungeon Club monthly newsletter, Dragons Teeth, is packed with news, reviews and information for the dedicated Dragon-basher. We still need your tips, discoveries, reviews and "beefs" and will send out guidelines and payment rates to those of you who feel up to full-scale articles.

The March issue of *Dragon's Teeth*, due out late February, includes both hardware and software offers and Club Members registering before March 31 will be eligible to purchase Dragon badges and sweatshirt at very special prices.

Annual membership, including *Dragon's Teeth*, £6 (six-month trial subscription £3.25).

THE DRAGON DUNGEON

PO BOX 4, ASHBOURNE, DERBYSHIRE DE6 1AQ. TEL: ASHBOURNE 44626

#### 9062 IF Z=HI THEN INPUT U\$ 9070 IF Z;HI THEN PRINT "YOU HAU E BEATEN THE HIGH SCORE PLEASE INPUT YOUR NAME" 9072 IF Z;HI THEN INPUT D\$ 9073 IF Z;HI THEN LET U\$="" 9074 IF Z;HI THEN LET HI=Z 9075 PRINT D\$;HI 9076 IF U\$="" THEN GOTO 9079 9077 PRINT U\$;HI 9079 PRINT U\$;HI 9080 INPUT 5\$ 9080 INPUT 5\$ 9080 INPUT 5\$ 9080 INPUT 5\$ 9100 LIST 9660 9110 PRINT AT 21,0;" 9120 STOP From page 21 "YOU HAV "YOU ARE A NAVIGATOR ON THE" 9640 PRINT """SCOUT AIR SHIP"" F OR HER" 9650 PRINT " MAJESTIES ARMY" 9670 PRINT 120 IF INKEY \$= "9" THEN LET Y=Y+ IF INKEY = "7" THEN GOTO 150 140 GOTO 170 150 LET Z=Z-1 160 GOTO 130 170 GOTO 40 9000 CL5 9010 IF Z;1 THEN PRINT "YOU TRAU ELED ";Z;" LIGHT YEARS" 9011 IF Z(1 THEN PRINT "YOU TRAU ELED BACKUARD ";-Z;" LIGHT YEARS "YOUR CONTROLS ARE: -" PRINT ""5" FAST LEFT" SLOW LEFT" SLOW UP" PRINT " (AT SPEED OF ASDERO 9740 IDS) 9750 9750 PRINT """6"" SLOU RIGHT" 9760 PRINT """9"" FRST RIGHT" 9770 PRINT """F"" FIRE" 9760 PRINT """H" HYPERSPACE" 9790 PRINT "N/L TO START" 9600 IF INKEY\$(>CHR\$ 118 THEN GO 9505 CL5 9810 RETURN 9820 SAUE "SPACE WARS" 9012 IF Z=1 OR Z=-1 THEN PRINT " YOU TRAVELED ";Z;" LIGHT YEAR" 9020 IF Z:=50 THEN PRINT "TRKE A NOTHER DRIVING TEST" 9030 IF Z:>50 RND Z:=100 THEN PRI NT "NOT BAD BUT STILL A LEANER" 9040 IF Z:>100 AND Z:=500 THEN PR INT "OUTE GOOD" 9050 IF Z:>500 AND Z:=1000 THEN P RINT "UERY GOOD" 9050 IF Z:>1000 THEN PRINT "DO YO U UANT JOB?" 9061 IF Z=HI THEN PRINT "YOU ARE EQUAL TO THE HIGH SCORE PLEASE INPUT YOUR NAME" STOP IF H=2 THEN GOTO 100 9200 IF H=2 THEN GOTO 100 9205 CLS 9210 PRINT "HYPERSPACE" 9220 PAUSE 10 9230 LET M=H+1 9250 LET Z=Z-50 9300 GOTO 100 9500 LET G=G+1 9510 IF G>=5 THEN RETURN 9520 FOR L=1 TO 5 9530 PRINT AT L,Y;"." 9540 NEXT L 9550 RETURN 9600 PRINT " Asteroids by Stephen Erhardt SPACE"

# Merlin

#### on BBC Micro

Merlin for the BBC Model B Microcomputer is similar to the MB game Simon where the player repeats the tune that the computer sends out. In my game the player enters the number of notes that he/she is going to try to repeat. The player repeats the notes by pressing the appropriate cursor control key which corresponds to the squares on the screen. When the player presses a wrong key the computer sounds an angry note. When the player completes the

sequence the computer plays a jolly tune. The program uses colour, sound envelopes and the *Vdu*19, X, X, 0, 0, 0 command to instantly light up the colours.

## **Program notes**

Defines sound envelope
Switches off the cursor
Switches off all the colours used
Defines graphics window for move number
Allows cursor keys to be used
Switches off key repeat
Stores all the notes away
Routine to print which move you are on

PROCboard
PROCbox
PROCplayermove
PROClight

PROCanger PROCamputermove PROCend

PROCinstructions PROCtune PROCdone

PROCagain

**PROCtitle** 

Goodbye and end routine Draws out the board Draws lights invisibly Takes in your turn Switches on light and sounds colour Sounds an angry chord Plays the tune Tells you how many sequences you completed Writes 'Merlin' on the screen in giant letters Tells you how to play 'Merlin' Plays the jolly tune Tells you that you have finished Asks you if you want another

```
>>>L.10,600
                                                       478
                                                            MOVE 592, 912: DRAW 592, 240: MOVE 748, 240
    10
                                                       480
                                                            DRAW 748,912
 20
                 MERLIN
                                                       490
                                                            DATA 1,224,896,576,640
 30
                   By
                                                            DATA 2,224,512,576,256
 40
     REM*
               James Morle
                                                            DATA 3,764,896,1116,640
                                                       510
 50
                03/01/83
                                                       520
                                                            DATA 4,764,512,1116,256
 60
                                                       530
 70
     ON ERROR GOTO 330
                                                       540
     ENVELOPE1, 3, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 121, -10, 0, -5, 120, 120
 80
                                                            DEF PROCEOX (COLX, AX, BX, CX, DX)
                                                       550
 90
    MODE 7
                                                            BCOL 0, COL%
    VDU23;8202;6;0;0;
100
                                                            MOVE AX, BX: MOVE CX, BX
                                                       570
110
    PROCtitle
                                                            PLOT 85,C%,D%
                                                       580
120
    MODE 7: PROCinstructions
                                                       590
                                                            MOVE AX, B%
130
                                                       600
                                                            PLOT 85, A%, D%
140
    VDU23;8202;0;0;0;
                                                      XL.610,1200
150
    FOR colour=1 TO4: VDU19, colour, 0, 0, 0, 0; NEXT
                                                            ENDPROC
160
    PROCboard
                                                       620 ********************
170 VDU 24,600;540;740;616;
                                                       630 DEF PRUCPI ayermove
180 #FX4,1
                                                       640 PRINTTAB(0,0); SPC(19); TAB(5,0); "YOUR MOVE"
190 *FX11.0
                                                       650 A=GET-&87
                                                       660 IF A=1 PROClight(1)
200 DIMR% (64): 6%=0: T%=0: Z%=0: end=FALSE
210 FOR S%=0 TO 63:R%(S%)=RND(4):NEXT S%
                                                       670 IF A=4 PROClight(2)
220 CLG: MOVE 610, 590: VDU5: PRINT; T%+1: VDU4
                                                       680 IF A=2 PROClight (3)
                                                       690 IF A=3 PROClight (4)
230 PROCcomputermove
240
    6%=0: T%=T%+1
                                                       700 IF A<>R%(Z%) PROCanger
250
   FOR WX=0 TO TX-1
                                                       710 ENDPROC
260
      PROCplayermove
                                                       720 **************
      IF end=TRUE MODE1:PROCend:ELSE Z%=Z%+1:NEXT
278
                                                       730 DEF PROClight (COLOR%)
                                                       740 VDU 19, COLOR%, COLOR%, 0, 0, 0
280
   IFT%=M% THEN PROCtune: MODE1: PROCdone
290
    Z%=0
                                                       750 SOUND 1,1,COLOR%*25,3
                                                       760 NOW=TIME: REPEAT UNTIL TIME=NOW+20
    PRINTTAB(3,0); "COMPUTER'S MOVE"
                                                       770 FOR colour=1 TO 4: VDU19, colour, 0, 0, 0, 0: NEXT
    NOW=TIME: REPEAT UNTIL TIME=NOW+100
320
    GOTO 220
                                                       780 ENDPROC
     #FX4,0
                                                       790 ******************
330
340
     *FX12,0
                                                       800 DEF PROCanger
                                                       810 SOUND1, -15, 25, 30: SOUND2, -15, 50, 30: SOUND3, -15, 75, 30
    MODE 2: PRINTTAB (6, 16); "Boodbye"
350
360
                                                       830 ENDPROC
370
380 ****************
                                                       840 ***********
                                                       850 DEF PROCcomputermove
390
   DEF PROCboard
400 FOR IX=1 TO 4
                                                       860 FOR DX=0 TO T%
410
      READ COL%, A%, B%, C%, D%
                                                       870
                                                              IF RX(6X)=1 THEN PROClight(1)
                                                       889
420
                                                             IF R%(G%)=2 THEN PROClight(3)
      PROCbox (COL%, A%, B%, C%, D%)
                                                       890
430
      NEXT IX: GCOL0,7
                                                              IF R%(G%)=4 THEN PROClight(2)
440 MOVE 208, 240: DRAW 1132, 240: DRAW 1132, 912
                                                       900
                                                             IF R%(G%)=3 THEN PROClight(4)
450 DRAW 208, 912: DRAW 208, 240: MOVE 208, 528
                                                       910
                                                              GX=GX+1: IF AX=63 THEN ERROR
                                                       920
                                                              FOR J=1 TO 300: NEXT
460
    DRAW 1132,528: MOVE 1132,624: DRAW 208,624
```

Turn to page 29

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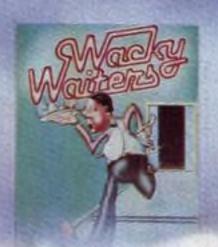
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# **OPEN FORUM**

From page 23	1050 VDU 31.0.11.147.1	54, 235, 255, 100, 184, 255, 55, 160, 235, 255, 96, 243, 96, 165, 34
		, 125, 32, 107, 255, 33, 32, 32, 34, 255, 55, 32, 107, 255, 116, 32, 107
		22, 134, 91, 32, 66, 249, 32, 74, 46, 77, 111, 114, 108, 101, 32, 221
		54, 106, 255, 32, 32, 255, 53, 32, 106, 255, 96, 47, 32, 48, 32, 255, 55
		106, 255, 32, 32, 48, 32, 255, 181, 32, 106, 255, 34, 109, 122, 255
		7, 154, 96, 96, 33, 34, 96, 96, 32, 96, 96, 96, 96, 96, 33, 34, 96, 96, 32
		6, 96, 96, 33, 34, 96, 96, 32, 96, 96, 33, 32, 96, 96, 33, 10
		R\$147: PRINTTAB (0, 3)   CHR\$147
		NTTAB(L, 3); CHR\$240: PRINTTAB(L, 20); CHR\$96: NEXT
		PIPRINTTAB (0, YELL)   CHR\$147  CHR\$255; SPC (37)   CHR\$255: NEXT
		RINTTAB (0, YELL); CHR\$147; CHR\$255; SPC (37); CHR\$255; NEXT
	1160 WAIT=INKEY (500)	
	1170 ENDPROC	
	.1180 *************	***********
	1190 DEF PROCinstructi	ons
	1200 FOR TITLE=1 TO 2:	PRINTTAB (12, TITLE)   CHR\$ (157)   CHR\$ (129)   CHR\$ (141)   "MERLIN
	"; CHR\$ (156) : NEXT	
≥L.1210,		
1210 PRINTTAB(0,5);	This is a mimple little	129, 10, 101, 5, 117, 5, 129, 5, 165, 5, 1
game"		57,10
	ne computer plays a series"	1430 ENDPROC
	and you the player has to"	1440 ******************
	em up. As the game progresses"	1450 DEF PROCdone
The state of the s	outer builds up the tune to a"	1460 VDU19,0,4,0,0,0
1260 PRINT "maximum		1470 PRINTTAB(12,10); "CONGRATULATIONS!"  1480 PRINTTAB(2,16); "You have completed your
	notes are displayed as "	1480 PRINTTAB(2,16); "You have completed your sequence"
	squares on the screen which"	
	inged in a square which" and to the cursor keys."	
	The state of the s	1500 PROCagain 1510 ENDPROC
	"How many notes will you	1520 ******************
try ? "!	now many notes will you	1530 DEF PROCagain
	); SPC (40) TAB (12, 16); "Enter 1	1540 PRINTTAB(6,25); "Another Game (Y/N) ?";
to 64 ";: INPUT M		1550 B*=GET*: IF B*="Y" THEN CLEAR: GOTO 130
M%>64 THEN 1320		1560 PRINTTAB(3,27); "Do you want to start a new
1340 ENDPROC		game"
	***********	. 1570 PRINTTAB(3,28); "or do you want to finish
1740 BEE DECCHIO		(C/E/2 " - TVA-DETA

1580

# 3-D Mountain

DEF PROCtune

RESTORE 1420

FOR TUNE=1 TO 12

READ pitch%, length%

SOUND &0001, -15, pitch%, length%

1360

1370

1380

1390

1400

1410

# on Dragon

3-Dee Mountain is a short listing but the result is a graphic picture as seen on big computers.

It runs on either the TRS-80 Color Computer or the Dragon 32.

If your computer can handle it then Poke 65494,0 before using printer or cassette.

#### Program notes

CREDITS SETS THE SCREEN FOR USE 20-30 PSET'ING VALUES

PLOTS POINTS 50 FREEZE

\* 2 111 3-DEE MOUNTAIN 3 1 11 JEREMY HUGHES 4 7 \*\* 5 '\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* 10 PMODE4, 1:SCREENI, 1:PCLS:PCLEAR4 20 A#=STR#(RND(100)):Z=UAL(A#):Z=Z+69:W= 2+24:D=(2/2)-24:G=F1X(W/5)-9:XX=128-((W+ D)/2):YY=179-(D):P1=3,1415926 38 FOR Y=8TO D STEP2:FORX=8TO W STEP3:P\* SIN(Y/D\*2\*PI-PI/2)+1:T=SIN(X/W\*2\*PI-PI/2 40 H=F1x(H):XA=X+Y+XX:YA=Y+YY:PSET(XA,YA -H, 11:NEXTX, Y 58 GOTO58

> 3-D Mountain by Jeremy Hughes

# by James Morle DATA 129, 5, 101, 5, 117, 5, 129, 5, 149, 5, 137, 5,

**ENDPROC** 

(S/F) 7 ";: ZX == BET\$

IF ZX\$="S" CLEAR; RLIN; ELSE GOTO 330

Merlin

First there was Space Invaders, then there was Pacman - now there is Cruising. This allaction, machine code, arcade type game, will 65495,0 to speed up the plotting, but stest your powers of co-ordination to the limit. remember to slow it down with Poke Never before has a game asked you to think so equickly, or move so fast.

> Achieving a high score on Cruising takes considerable skill, and not a little practice. Getting through the first four levels is not easy. and that's just the beginning.

Now you can make that skill work for you. Popular Computing Weekly is offering £10 each month to the player with the highest score on Cruising. All you have to do to enter this month's competition is send a print-out of your highest score, together with your name and address. to: Popular Computing Weekly

Cruising Challenge Hobhouse Court

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Each month we will publish the name of the 5) winner and the new Cruising high score. Are 6) you good enough to accept the Cruising Challenge?

3382 from Stephen Salmon of 8 Peterhouse Close, Mildenh Suffolk, If you have a higher score, you still win this month's £10 - but hurry, entries close on March 31.



CRUISING

- 1). Each entry must consist of a ZX printout and your name and address.
- 2) Closing date for this month's Cruising Challenge entries is March 31.
- The highest score each month will receive £10.
- 4) High scores cannot be transferred from one month to another.
- The judges' decision is final.
- No employees of Sunshine Publications Ltd, or their families, will be eligible to enter the Cruising Challenge
- The highest score sent in so far this month is 7) Cruising (on Broadway) for the 16K and 48K ZX Spectrum is available through W H Smith and leading computer stores for just £4,95. It is also available mail-order from Sunshine Books Ltd. Hobhouse Court, 19 Whitcomb Street, London WC2 7HF

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# **Tony Bridge's Adventure Corner**



# Journey to Middle Earth

Ah, Adventuring! The clang of your broadsword against Orcbone, the relief when a high-level spell works, the dread-filled wait while the dungeon door creaks open to reveal...

After the Space Zap games, Adventures must be the most popular programs for home computers. This week we are starting a regular look at the world of Computer Adventures. We will have reviews of new programs, as well as retrospectives of old favourites.

The main purpose of this column will, I hope, become the exchange of views, ideas and general comment from you, the readers, on Computer Adventuring. One of the advantages of this Forum will be the sharing of *Hints 'n' Tips*. How many times have you wished that someone would give you the smallest clue to enable you to get

past a troll, or get out of that pesky maze? The computer, on your plea for "Help", usually just says "You're on your own," buddy!".

So, if you are stuck at any point in an Adventure let us know. If we do not know the answer to your problem, we will ask other readers for their suggestions.

Finally, let us know of a favourite monster, treasure, or location that you have created for your own Adventure. We will publish the most interesting ones in this column. Later in the year, we hope to put together our own *Popular Computing Weekly Adventure*, containing as many of your ideas as possible.

#### The Hobbit

Can there be anyone who goes on Adventures, and has not read Tolkien's *The Hobbit?* I will always remember reading it for the first time, and the sense of loss when I had finished. *The Lord of the Rings* was, of course, a much vaster undertaking, both by author and reader, and, while it alleviated, somewhat, that sense of loss, it nevertheless had also lost that air of innocence, or naïvety that pervaded *The Hobbit*.

So, Melbourne House's *The Hobbit* (for 48K Spectrum), is very welcome, and is, I believe (tell me if I am wrong!), unique in at least one regard. Not only do you, as *Bilbo Baggins*, react with all the other characters (especially Thorin), but while you are off doing battle or hunting for the Smaug gold, all the other creatures of Middle Earth are getting on with their own lives. Thus, you may come back to a location, having left it in a certain state, and find a new situation developing. Nothing is certain in this Adventure, but uncertainty!

Add to this the brilliant graphics that are used to describe many of the locations (although not, surprisingly, Rivendell), and the almost novel-like running commentary from the computer (this will be Printed on command), and we have an Adventure that is going to become a classic for the Spectrum. As the program was originally developed for the TRS-80, we may expect to see it for other machines soon. The price of £15 puts it into the luxury bracket, but for this you get a large box, which contains cassette and 16-page instruction book. This, I am glad to say, includes a dictionary of permissable words (in combination, over 500), very welcome if, like me, you always get stuck on how to communicate with the computer! Last, but not least, a paperback copy of The Hobbit is also included in the package.

I hope to keep you up-to-date with my progress through Melbourne's Middle Earth; at the moment I have not gone too far — I am either stuck in the Lonelands or in the Goblins dungeon, trying to get out (and any small clue would be much appreciated!).

Next week, I will be looking at another Adventure. In the meantime, remember: you are never alone with a Balrog!

This is the first in a series of articles designed for novice and experienced Adventurers alike. Each week Tony Bridge will be looking at different Adventures and advising you on some of the problems and pitfalls you can expect to encounter. So, if you have an Adventure you want reviewed, or if you are stuck in an Adventure and cannot progress any further, write to: Tony Bridge, Adventure Corner, Popular Computing Weekly, Hobhouse Court, 19 Whitcomb Street, London WC2 7HF.

Who will be

# **Hobbit Competition**

Anyone who has ever read *The Hobbit* will be familiar with Tolkien's world of Middle Earth. Elves, dwarfs, hobbits and men rub shoulders with wizards, trolls, orcs and dragons in a land of make-believe.

The Hobbit has recently been turned into a graphics adventure for the 48K Spectrum by Melbourne House (Popular Computing Weekly, December 30). In this adventure, you take on the character of Bilbo Baggins and attempt to find your way through to the Dragon's Lair and bring back his treasure. You are assisted, and sometimes hindered, in your quest by Thorin the dwarf and Gandalf the wizard.

Both the characters and the locations are taken from the original book, which provides many clues for the budding adventurer. Where The Hobbit differs from most other adventures, apart from the use of graphics, is in Artificial Intelligence. The other characters in the game have independent lives and are quite capable of acting on their own.

The end result is an adventure that is both enjoyable to play but extremely difficult to solve. So, Popular Computing Weekly, in conjunction with Melbourne House, is offering a star prize to the first person to complete The Hobbit.



If you succeed in solving 100 percent of The Hobbit, you will find a short message appears on the screen. All you have to do to win this 3) competition is send a copy of this message, 4) together with your name and address, to:

Popular Computing Weekly

Hobbit Competition Hobbouse Court 19 Whitcomb Street London WC2 7HF We would also like to discover who has progressed furthest in *The Hobbit* so far. Tony Bridge has completed 35 percent — if you have completed more of *The Hobbit*, please write in and let us know. We will publish the leading scores each month, until someone succeeds in solving 100 percent of the game.

#### Notes

 Each entry must consist of two sentences, which you will discover at the end of The Hobbit, together with your name and address.

2) The first person to complete 100 percent of The Hobbit will win six books (Understanding Your Spectrum, Spectrum Machine Language For The Absolute Beginner, Over The Spectrum, The Complete Spectrum Rom Disassembly, Spectrum Hardware Manual and The Working Spectrum), and a copy of Cruising on Broadway, a fast action, m/c game.

3) The judges' decision is final.

 No employees of Sunshine Publications Ltd, Melbourne House Publishers, Sinclair Resarch Ltd, and associated companies, or their families, will be eligible to enter The Hobbit Competition.

The Hobbit package — 48K Spectrum cassette, full colour instruction manual and Hobbit book (£14.95) — is available from Melbourne House Publishers, 131 Trafalgar Road, Greenwich, London SE10.

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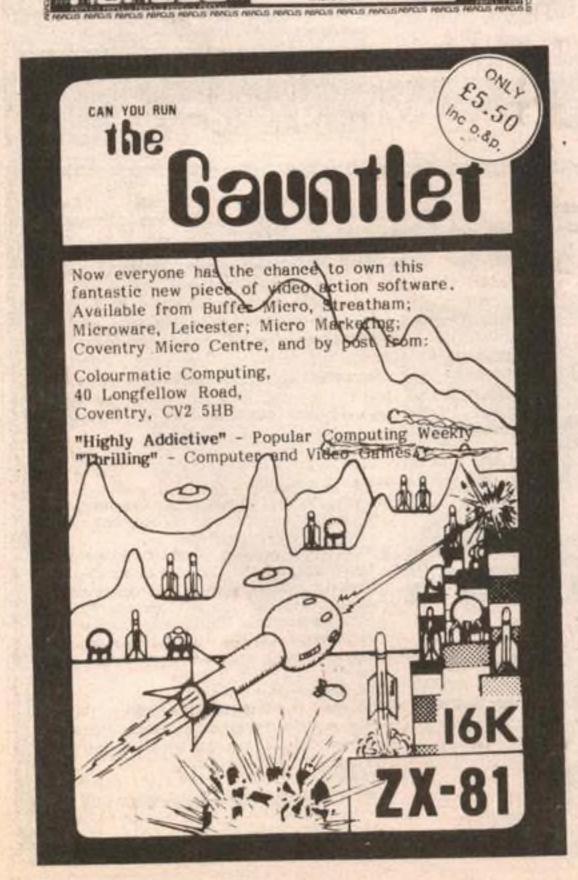
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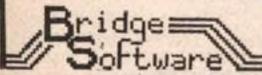
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# Degrees of freedom

Calvin Woodings presents a program for the BBC A and B to calculate Student's "T".

When using measuring instruments, it is often necessary to decide whether or not the difference found between the averages of two small sets of data is due to a real difference between the sets, or due to some measurement inaccuracy. Earlier this century, W S Gosset — working under the pen name of Student — developed a theory to deal with such situations. The resulting significance test was thus called Student's 'T' test.

This program calculates Student's 'T' along with the averages and standard deviations of the data, displaying them all in a table. In addition, it calculates the right-tail value of the 'T' distribution curve for the data in question and uses this to tell you the reliability of the difference in averages. This saves the time taken in looking up confidence levels in tables of 'T'.

Four applications of the test are given: Option 1 allows you to compare the average of a set of results with any value which you choose. If you already know the real result, you can use it to check the accuracy of a new measuring device such as a weighing machine.

Option 2 enables you to compare two sets of data from the same population, eg. from two sets of measurements using the same instrument. In this case all the results are pooled to estimate the standard deviation of the instrument errors.

Option 3 is used when it would be incorrect to calculate the standard deviation from the combined data: for instance, if two different measuring instruments had been used, one for each set of data, Under these circumstances, a separate standard deviation is calculated for each instrument.

Option 4 is used when the data can be treated as pairs. For example, if you were trying to see whether there was a real difference between two weighing machines, you might weigh several different weights on each machine and then compare the difference between the results with zero. If the analysis showed that there was no significant difference between zero and the weight differences, you could conclude that the two machines weighed equally.

The final result is in the form: "You can be X% confident that the difference between the means is real." If X is greater than 90, there will be less than one chance in 10 of concluding that the difference is real when it had been caused by a measurement error.

The program is reasonably easy to understand, with the possible exception of the function at line 380. This routine

calculates the right-tail value of the 'T' distribution using the following formula:

 $\frac{1}{4}(1 + a1x + a2x^2 + a3x^3 + a4x^4)^{-4} + e(x)$ where 1e (x)1<2.5.10<sup>-4</sup>

> a1 = 0.196854 a2 = 0.115194 a3 = 0.000344 a4 = 0.019527

and where x is given by the following equation:

 $(t^{2/3}(1-2/9_d)-7/9)(2/9+t^{4/3}.2/9_d)^{-1/2}$ 

The values of 't' and 'd' are calculated from your data and are Student's 'T' and the Degrees of Freedom respectively.

```
10 REM STUDENTS t / SIGNIFICANCE TEST
 20 REM (C) C.R. WOODINGS
 30 REM VERSION 1,1 / FEB83
 40 REM RUNS ON BBC MODEL A OR B
 50
 60 MODE7
 70 FOR I=3 TO 4: PRINTTAB(13, I) CHR#141; "STUDENTS t."
 80 NEXT
 90 PRINTTAB(17,6) "Menu"
100 PRINTTAB (17,7) "~~~"
110 PRINTTAB(2,9)"1. Compare data with expected mean value."
120 PRINTTAB(2,12)"2. Compare 2 means from same population."
130 PRINTTAB(2, 15) "3. Compare 2 means from different popula
    tions."
140 PRINTTAB(2,18)"4. Paired results. Is difference real?"
150 INPUTTAB(4,23) "ENTER NUMBER OF TEST REQUIRED. "option
160 IF option(1 OR option)4 THEN 150
170 CLS
180 DN aption GOTO 200, 300, 300, 200
190
200 PRINTTAB(15,2) "OPTION "; option
210 cols=1
220 IF option=4 PRINT'"
                             Enter the pairs separated by a
    minus sign. Th
    e computer will find the difference and compare it with
    whatever mean
    value you choose."
230 INPUT' " Enter mean for comparison. "mean2
240 PROCINPUT(cols)
250 PROCCOMPUTE (option)
260 MODE4
270 PROCDISPLAY (option)
280 END
290
300 PRINTTAB(15, 2) "OPTION "; option
310 cols=2
320 PROCINPUT(cols)
330 PROCCOMPUTE(option)
340 MDDE4
350 PROCDISPLAY (option)
360 END
370
380 DEF FNchances
390 LOCALJ, K, L, R, S, T, X, Y, Z
400 X=1:Y=1:T=t~2
410 IF T<1 THEN 430
420 S=Y:R=dof:Z=T:GOTO440
430 S=dof:R=Y:Z=1/T
440 J=2/9/5
450 K=2/9/R
460 L=ABS((1-K)*Z^(1/3)-1+J)/SQR(K*Z^(2/3)+J)
470 IF R<4 THEN 510
480 X=.25/(1+L*(.196854+L*(.115194+L*(.000344+L*.019527))))~4
490 X=INT(X*10000+.5)/10000
500 G0T0530
510 L=L*(1+.08*L~4/R~3)
520 GOT0480
530 IF T>=1 THEN 550
540 X=1-X
550 X=INT(X*10000)/100
560 =X
570
```

Continued on page 37

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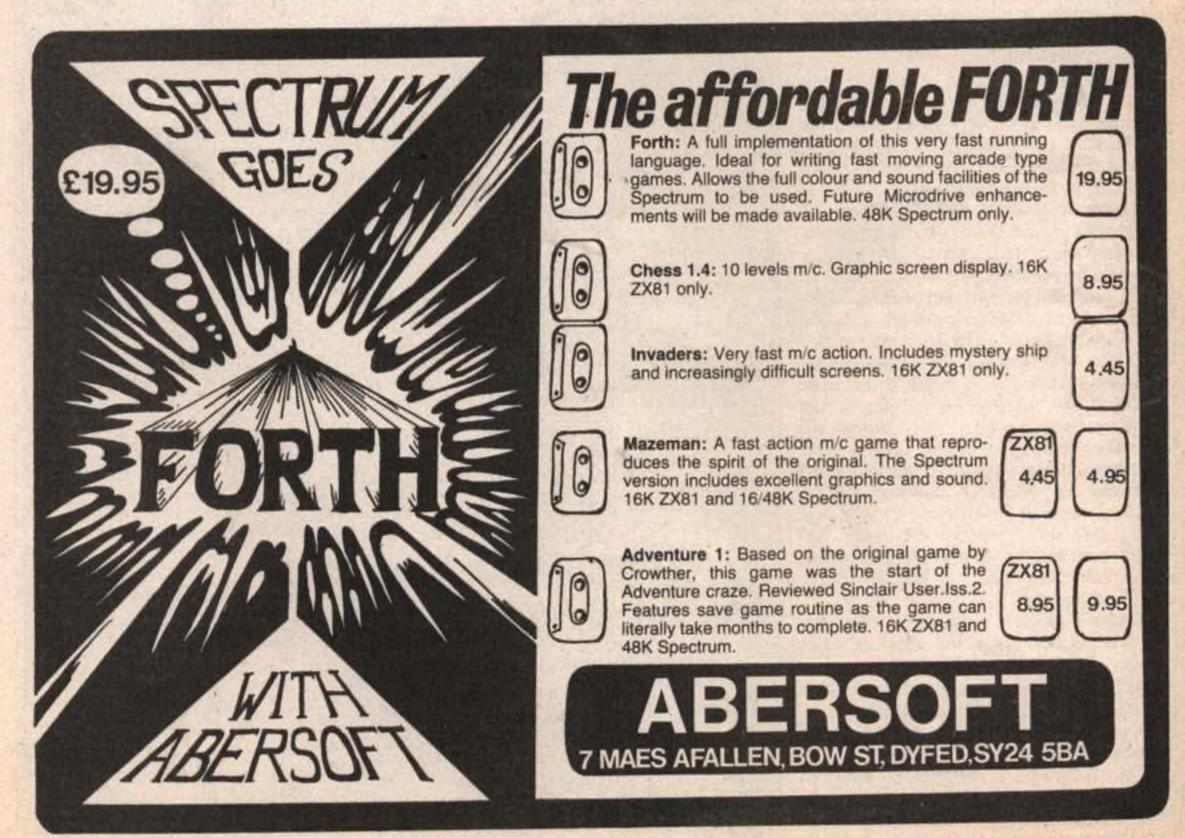
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#### Continued from page 35 580 DEFPROCINPUT(C) 590 DIMR(C-1) 600 C=C-1 610 IF option=4 THEN 630 620 FDR N=0 TO C:PRINI" Enter no. of items in sample ";N+1;" = "::GOTO640 630 FOR N=0 TO C:PRINT'" Enter no. of pairs "; 640 INPUTR(N) 650 NEXT 660 IF R(0) >= R(C) THEN R=R(0)-1 ELSE R=R(C)-1 670 DIM data(C,R), sum(C), sos(C), mean(C), var(C) 680 FOR N=0 TO C 690 IF option=4 THEN PRINT: GUID710 700 PRINT" Enter results for sample ":N+1;" now:"' 710 sum(N)=0:sos(N)=0 720 FDR M=0 TO R(N)-1 730 IFoption=4 PRINT" Pair. ":M+1:" = "4:GOTO750 740 PRINT" Result ":M+1:" = ": 750 INPUTAs: data(N, M)=EVAL(As) 760 sum(N)=sum(N)+data(N, M) 770 sos(N)=sos(N)+data(N,M) 2 790 mean(N) = sum(N)/R(N)800 var (N)=(sos(N)-sum(N) 2/R(N))/(R(N)-1) BIO NEXTN 820 ENDPROC 830 840 DEFPROCCOMPUTE (D) 850 ON D GOTO 860,890,930,860 860 t=(mean(0)-mean2) \$50R(R(0)/var(0)) 870 dof=R(0)-1 980 ENDPROC 890 t=(mean(0)-mean(1))/SQR(1/R(0)+1/R(1)) 900 dof=R(0)+R(1)-2 910 t=t/SOR(((R(0)-1) \*var(0)+(R(1)-1) \*var(1))/dof) 930 t=(mean(0)-mean(1))/SQR(var(0)/R(0)+var(1)/R(1)) 940 dof=(var(0)/R(0)+var(1)/R(1)) 2 950 dof=dof/((var(0)/R(0)) 2/(R(0)+1)+(var(1)/R(1)) 2/ 960 dof=INT (do++.5) 970 ENDPROC 9B0 990 DEFPROCDISPLAY(0) 1000 CLS: PRINT" THE RESULTS ARE AS FOLLOWS: -"' 1010 ON 0 GOTO 1020, 1150, 1150, 1020 1020 PRINTTAB(9) "No."; TAB(16) "Sample 1" 1030 PRINTSTRING# (39, "=") 1040 FOR N=0 TO R 1050 PRINTN+1, data(0, N) 1060 NEXT 1070 PRINTSTRING\$ (39, "=") 1080 PRINT"TOTAL =", sum(0) 1090 PRINT"AVERAGE =", INT (mean (0) \$100) /100 1100 PRINT"STD. DEV. = ", INT (SQR (var (0)) \$100) /100 1110 PRINT "Mean for comparison = ":mean2 1120 IF mean (0) = mean2 PRINT' "Means are equal.": ENDPROC 1130 PROCE 1140 ENDPROC 1150 PRINTTAB(9) "No."; TAB(16) "Sample 1"; TAB(26); "Sample 2" 1160 PRINTSTRING\$ (39, "=") 1170 FOR N=0 TO R 1180 PRINTN+1, data(0, N), data(1, N) 1190 NEXT 1200 PRINTSTRING\$ (39, "=") 1210 PRINT"TOTAL =", sum(0), sum(1) 1220 PRINT"AVERAGE =", INT (mean (0) \$100) /100, INT (mean (1) \$100) / 1230 PRINT"STD. DEV. = ", INT (SQR(var(0)) #100) /100, INT (SQR(var (1)) \$100) / 100 1240 Irmean(0)=mean(1) PRINT' "The means are equal. ": ENDPROC 1250 PROCt 1260 ENDPROC 1270 1280 DEFPROCE

1290 PRINT' "Students t = ";ABS(INT(t\*100)/100)

1310 ENDPROC

difference in means is real."

1300 PRINT' "You can be ";100-FNchances; "% confident that the

3-9 MARCH 1983





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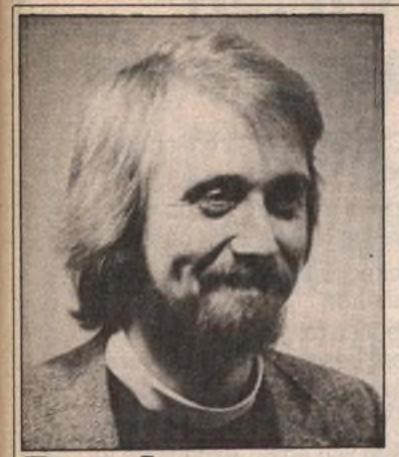
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# **SPECTRUM**



the overall design being created and the borders of the area to which the screen points are stored in the variables TOP, BOTTOM, LEFT and RIGHT. If BOTTOM is set to 500 and LEFT to 500, the screen will set to display any pixels which fall between 500 and 755 horizontally and 500 and 667 vertically. The purpose of this program line is to disqualify from consideration any line in the design which both starts and finishes above, below or to one side of the area of the design covered by the screen.

Lines 1320-1330. If a line starts above or below the area covered by the screen, these two lines reset the variable EDGE to coincide with the top or bottom of the screen.

Line 1340. For lines which begin above or below the screen, this line calculates the

1000 REM \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

horizontal position at which the line will pass the top or bottom edge. The formula in the first half of the line says nothing more complex than that if, for instance, the line in question passes through the top edge of the screen halfway through its vertical component, it will also be halfway through its horizontal component. Clearly this will only hold true for straight lines.

Lines 1350-1430. The same procedure is carried out in relation to the co-ordinates Y1, X2 and Y2.

Line 1440. Since it is possible for a line not to lie entirely above, below or to one side of the screen and still not cross the screen itself, this program line checks that the co-ordinates calculated do in fact lie on the screen. If they do, then the first set of co-ordinates is plotted and a line is drawn to the second.

1280 REM \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

# Designer

This is an extract from Designer, one of the programs in the chapter on graphics in The Working Spectrum, a book by David Lawrence, published by Sunshine Books Ltd, Hobhouse Court, 19 Whitcomb Street, London WC2 7HF: £5.95, 228pp.

3.5 Designer

I have a special fondness for this program because the ideas on which it is based were not my own: they were taken from an excellent book, "The Principles of Interactive Computer Graphics" by William M Newman and Robert F Sproull. The reason I say fondness is that the program serves as a reminder to me of how much there is always to learn about the principles of programming and how many fields lie waiting to be opened up for no more cost than the price of a few books.

Based on two simple procedures taken from the book, this program allows you to define a design of up to 65536\*65536 pixels across, to add and to delete, to examine the design at various scales and to rotate all or part of it on the screen. Once its use is mastered it is capable of being used in a variety of applications where it is desirable to be able to change and manipulate designs quickly and easily.

Module 3.5.1
This is a standard menu module.

Module 3.5.2

The functions and variables defined here will be discussed during the course of the commentary on the program.

Module 3.5.3

The function of this module is to take two sets of co-ordinates, X1/Y1 and X2/Y2, and to decide whether any part of a line drawn between the two points so defined will pass across the screen. If any part of the line does fall on the screen, it is drawn, other parts of the line are rejected.

Commentary

Line 1310. The screen forms a window on

#### **Module 3.5.1**

1818 REM MENU 1020 REM \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* 1838 INK 8 PAPER 6 CLS PRINT PAPER 2) INK 7/AT 1/10 "DESIGNE 1848 PRINT ""COMMANDS AVAILABLE 1)INITIIALISE DI 1050 PRINT " SPLAY" 1868 PRINT " 2)ADD MEW LINES" 1978 PRINT " 3 XSCALEZROTATE" 1888 PRINT " 4 DELETE LINES" 1090 PRINT " 509TOP" 1100 INPUT Z# CLS 1110 IF 20="1" THEN GO SUB 1190 1120 IF Z##"2" THEN GO SUB 1530 1130 IF Z#="3" THEN LET SEARCH=0 GO SUB 1780 1140 IF Z#="4" THEN LET SEARCH=1 GO SUB 1780 1150 IF Z#="5" THEN GO TO 1170 1160 CLS : GO TO 1000 1170 INPUT "DO YOU WISH TO SAVE THIS DESIGN? " GS IF QS="Y" THE N SAVE "DESIGNER" PRINT "REWIND THEN ANY KEY TO VERIFY" PAUSE 8 VERIFY "DESIGNER" PRINT "VER IFIED" 1188 STOP

#### Module 3,5.2

1190 REM \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* 1200 REM INITIALISE 1210 REM \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* 1220 LET LEFT=0 LET BOTTOM=0 L ET TOP=167: LET RIGHT=255 1230 LET AS="" 1240 DEF FN A( )=256\*CODE (A#(I1) )+CODE AS(11+1) 1250 DEF FN ABC HECHRS INT (TX1/2 560+CHR# (TX1-256\*INT (TX1/256)) +CHR INT (TY1-256)+CHR\$ (TY1-25 6#INT (TY1/256)) 1268 DEF FN B\$( )=CHR\$ INT (TX2/2 56)+CHR# (TX2-256\*INT (TX2/256)) +CHR\$ INT (TY2/256)+CHR\$ (TY2-25 6#INT (TY2/256)) 1270 LET AS=" " RETURN

#### Module 3.5.3

1450 RETURN

1290 REM DRAN LINES

1300 REM \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

1910 IF (XIXLEFT AND X2KLEFT) OR (X1) RIGHT AND Y2) RIGHT) OR (Y1) TOP AND Y2>TOP) OR (Y1(BOTTOM AN D Y2(BOTTOM) THEN LET OUT=1 RET 1320 IF Y1>TOP THEN LET EDGE=TOP 1338 IF YI BOTTOM THEN LET EDGE= 1348 IF YI (BOTTOM OR YI)TOR THEN LET X1=X1+(X2-X1)\*(EDGE+Y1)/(Y2 -Y1) LET Y1=EDGE 1350 IF Y2>TOP THEN LET EDGE=TOP 1360 IF Y2(BOTTOM THEN LET EDGE= 1378 IF YECBOTTOM OF YEXTOP THEN LET X2=X2+(X1-X2)\*(EDGE-Y2)/(Y1 -Y20 LET Y2=EDGE 1380 IF X1>RIGHT THEN LET EDGE=R 1390 IF XICLEFT THEN LET EDGE=LE 1488 IF MICLEFT OR MIDRIGHT THEN LET Y1=Y1+(Y2-Y1)\*(EDGE-X1)/(X2 -X1) LET X1=EDGE 1410 IF X2) RIGHT THEN LET EDGE=R IGHT 1420 IF X2 LEFT THEN LET EDGE=LE 1438 IF X2(LEFT OR X2)RIGHT THEN LET Y2=Y2+(Y1-Y2)\*(EDGE-X2)/(X1 -X2) LET X2=EDGE 1440 IF XI-LEFT>=0 AND X2-LEFT>= 8 AND X1-LEFT = 255 AND X2-LEFT = 255 AND Y1-BOTTOM>=8 AND Y1-BOTT OMX =167 AND YZ-BOTTOM)=0 AND YZ-BOTTOMX=167 THEN PLOT X1-LEFT.Y1 -BOTTOM+8 DRAW INT (X2-X1), INT (Y2-Y1)



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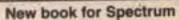
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MOON Prodlander, for Vic20, £3. Tel: Cambridge 871564.

16K CARTRIDGE and machine code monitor cartridge for Vic20 £55 and £25. Tel: 01-202 3624 (evenings).

keyboard, integral input cassette, + memory cassette, checked by Commodore. Bill available. Lots of books and games, £250. Tel: Chalfont St Giles (02407) 2436.

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#### For sale

KEMPSTON joysticks for sale, £20 (not used often). Tel: 01-723 9947 after 4.30 pm (not Thursdays).

VK101, 8K, £90. Tel: 021-421 4925.

DRAGON 32 plus joysticks, two adventure cassettes, Grand Prix cassette and Beserk cartridge, cost £240 will sell for £160. Reason for sale getting bigger business system. Tel: Manchester 061-724 8105.

MENTA 280 development system, PSU + manuals £75 ono. Tel: 061-428 7312.

DRAGON 32, new, boxed, manual, working Dragon 32, £170 ono. Tel: 01-651 3863 after 4 pm.

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DRAGON 32, new, Tandy Basic book £170 ono, Tel: Horwich 692933.

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PHILIPS TV GAMES COMPUTER £45 including one games cartridge, extra cartridges £8.50. Tel: Hereford (0432) 265172.

REALISTIC OX160 communications receiver to swap with ZX printer (receiver worth £120 new). Tel: Jerry 01-553 7094 (daytime, weekday).

SHARP MZ80K, 50K. 4mhz, Quantum high res graphics, green screen, Basic, fortran, fourth, assemblers, many programs, games, books plus newsletters, £360 ono. Tel: 01-316 1692.

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SHARP MZ80K (48K), green screen, dustcover, manuals, books, magazines and relevant like, 3 basics, Forth for Tran, Pascal + 200 games + applications. Upgrading to MZ80B, £450. Tel: Watford 46955.

SWAP your unwanted Mystery Fun House or other Scot Adams Adventures, for my Solved Pyramid Doom Adventure for TRS80. Tel: 061-962 7295 after 6 pm.

SWAP Intelligent Chess Computer, as new, cost £279, swap for 48K Spectrum of Dragon or other. Tel: 01-556 6142, Mr Nicholis.

ATOM, 12K Ram, PSU, £20 software, one year subscription to Software Club, £150 ono. Tel: Hornchurch 73458.

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SWAP VIC Asteroids, Sea Wolf, Breakout, Vic Trap, Amok, Fruit Machine for Panic, Golf, Defender or other. Tel: 051-489 2545.

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VIDEO CONSUL, ICL swap for colour TV or sell for £70. Tel: (0227) 782516.

UK 101, 9K Ram, cased with invaders + other software, £80. Telephone Crayford 53761.

NEW BRAIN. One month old + books + one cassette, cost £240 sell £200 ono. Tel: 0799 22640.

UK 101, 8K Ram + plastic case, leads + programs, bargain at £89. Tel: 0795 22219.

48K, SHARP MZ80K, with high res Brd, 4tron, Pascal, Pilot, Forth, M/C, and 9 Basics, inc XTAL Basic complete with £700 software, manuals, documentation, original packing and delivery anywhere, £395. Telephone (05438) 5265.

TI TEXAS 99/4A, including 3 plug-in modules + music maker, speach editor + hassler + joysticks + several cassette programs, £270, Telephone 01-607 5260. Will sell separately.

mattel inlettevision, + 3 games, £120 ono. Telephone 01-254 3229 (5 pm-7 pm evenings).

DRAGON 32 in box, as new, 2 months old with cassette recorder and six cassettes and one cartridge and one joystick and one book £250. Tel: 051-488 1496

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WILL SWAP or part exchange PC 1211 computer with cassette interface CE121 and printer CE122 and EA11E, A/c adaptor and manuals. All for £70. Luton (0582) 593 088.

MATTEL INTELEVISION + 8 cartridges. £99. Tel: Cumbernauld 6731153 Wednesday evenings.

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SUBERBOARD II, new basic 1, 3, 4, 5 and X, Segmon X, screen enhancement kit, toolkit 2, hi-speed cassette interface, cased, power supply, documentation and tapes, £100. Tel: 01-560 0793.

DRAGON 32, boxed as new, £180 ono. Tel: 0292 89223 after 6 pm.

NASCOM 1 + power supply, keyboard, etc., £80 + Ohio super board Mark II + power supply, £70. Tel: 01-735 1862, Mr Bridge.

ACE, manuals, leads, recorder, games: Asteroids, two maze games, Night Rider, £90 ono. Tel: Lincoln (0522) 681592 (5 pm).

DRAGON 32, as new + leads + manual £170. Tel: 0277 215552.

SWAP Rowpron TV game + cartridge, including Space Invaders for ZX printer. Tel: 0691 830072.

GALAXIANS for sale, for BBC Model B, £10 each. Tel: Belfast 221868.

SHARP PC 3201, with VDU + printer + disc drive, worth £2,700, will accept £1,590 ono. Telephone 01-952 4836.

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TRS 80, LEVEL 1, 4K, cassette recorder, games: Space Invaders, Logic, Adventure, 2 manuals, leads etc, £160 ono. Wood. Tel: 01-854 0478.

SHARP MZ 80K, seven months old, with assorted cassettes, as new, £350 ono. Tel: Farnborough, Kent 51863, evenings after 6 pm.

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SEMCOSHA PRINTER G.B.80. £150 ono. Tel: 01-340 2318.

TANDY TRS80. Model 1, level II, line printer, tape recorder, £560 of soft-ware, bargain £495. Langley Mill 4875.

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SHARP MZ 80K, 48K, Still guaranteed, over 40 programs, including Sharp machine code, three basics, adventures, two data bases, chess, Invaders + others, £299. Tel: 021-458 4582.

ACETRONIC 1000 + 6 cartridges, 12 months old (boxed), £120. Tel: 051 920 9117 (after 6 pm).

ZX SPECTRUM PRINTER, hardly used + one cassette of machine code arcade games, £50. Tel: Harpenden 69152.

ZX PRINTER plus 10 rolls of paper. In excellent condition, hardly used. Offer please to Avnish Goyal. Tel: Basildon 288271, 6 pm to 9 pm only.

SWAP SPECTRUM SPECTRES, Speakeasy, Space Intruders for other Spectrum tapes. All tapes originals. Tel: Harpenden 69152 for details.

SHARP BARGAIN, PC 1500, pocket computer + CE 150 4-colour printer + 8K Ram, module + software, all £350 ono. Tel: 06667 548.

ZX PRINTER PAPER, four rolls, £5 the lot. Bridgwater 56292.

APPLE II 48K, Europlus, brand new, under guarantee; Vise-calc, basic computer, Apple Rider II (30 games, £500), many more, £700. Tel: 01-402 5061 late evenings.

DRAGON 32, 6 months old, £160, + joystick £10. Tel: Ruislip 36215.

DRAGON 32, + joysticks, + £40 software, £150. Also ZX81 + 16K Ram, £50. Tel: 01-690 3926 (evenings).

#### Wanted

8 OR 16K RAM PACK for Vic20, Tel: Lincoln (0522) 702644.

WANTED URGENTLY. BBC micro 32K, A or B. Tel: Middleton-on-Sea

wanteb. 48K SPECTRUM + manual, leads + printer, paper, books and games or any other accessories. Must be in good condition. Prefer London area. Tel: 01-904 5025 evenings only.

FOUR SPECTRUM BOOKS worth £21.80 at £10. Machine code test tool as new £6; QS Space Intruders £2; PSS compiler £5; QS Speakeasy £2. All originals. Tel: (05827) 69152.

SPECTRUM 32K upgrade for issue one. Details and price. Tel: 0792 792729.

BBC MODEL B. Tel: Chester 570878.

# WANTED URGENTLY

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# SOLUTION IS A FREE COMMAND

J J Morgan of St Edwin Gardens, Heath, Cardiff, Wales, writes:

Q I was reading a letter from F Charlton in one of your issues. He has the same problem as I, but I own an Atari 400. I have searched through the manuals, but there is nothing on how to find out how much memory you have left in your program, or how much you are using. Can you help?

A You should not have this problem on an Atari as it has a Free command. Just enter this, and it will return the amount of memory left to the user as a number of bytes.

# BREAK OUT ON THE ORIC

David Donald of Birmingham writes:

Q Like other people, I am trying to decide whether to buy an Oric-1 or a Spectrum. I wonder if you could answer some questions about the two machines to help me make up my mind.

Does the Oric have Print At and Screen like the Spectrum, or does it have equivalents? In the same way, does it have In/Out commands and Read/Data. Can joysticks be used and how easy will it be to use a proper printer? I have heard that it will be easier to interface other add-ons to the Oric than to the Spectrum. Is this true? How easy will it be to convert ZX programs to the Oric?

A Suddenly everyone wants to know about the Oric. the Oric does not have Print At or Screens, but it does have Curmov and Curset. These will move the cursor to any point on the screen and print a pixel at that point, which then can be moved. It is

also possible to print characters at a particular point using these commands.

There is a short one line program to save a screen picture, but there are no In/Out commands. Both Read and Data are available. There are no joysticks for the Oric yet, though I would expect some to come on to the market sooner rather than later.

The Oric has an advantage over the Spectrum in that it has a Centronics port, which will make it easy to interface with many printers. The Oric can also be used with most normal cassette players.

The Oric uses a 6502 chip and Microsoft Basic, so there will be several small differences between the two machines. Spectrum string handling uses 'From . . . To' to split strings, whereas the Oric uses Left\$, Mid\$ and Rights. The variable names can only be two characters long, though the sound commands are different by virtue of the fact that the sound facilities of the Oric are far more comprehensive than on the Spectrum. The Oric also features an emergency button to break out of closed loops and other user-induced crashes.

As long as no serious hardware problems develop, and the new manual is good, then I can see the Oric soon putting increasing pressure on the Spectrum market.

# STUDYING CRIME AT 'O' LEVEL

D W Williams of Oxford Street, Blaenau Festiniog, Wales, writes:

Q For my 'O'-level in computer studies I am putting together a project on the subject of computer crime. I was wondering if you could put me on to any accounts of notable computer fraud? Also, do you have any information on the types of programs and measures that are used to combat both active and passive fraud.

A By its very nature, this is not the sort of subject that lends itself to easy answers. Big companies are extremely touchy about their security measures, and are unlikely to divulge them. If such information were printed, it would make the work of a

thief much easier.

The only obvious sign of increased security is the need for identification that most companies now demand in their computing areas. The days are long gone when you could walk in with a fake appointment, ask the way to the toilet, get lost and 'find' the computer room.

Your only hope is to write to the various national newspapers and ask them to supply you with information. You can write to the major computer companies, but do not expect any real answers — this is a security measure in itself.

# VOICE DETECTION CYCLES

Julian Miller of Ryash, Maidstone, Kent, writes:

Q I am the owner of a 48K Spectrum. I wonder if you could tell me how the In and Out commands work. How can they be used to detect a signal coming in on the 'EAR' socket. The manual does not go into enough detail. Also, could a voice recognition program be made out of the detection of such a signal?

A This is the sort of question that needs an article to answer it properly. You want to look at address 254. In 254 is not sufficient, as we are dealing with a 2 byte address. The first byte of this deals with the keyboard, and the ports D0 to D4. All the bits in this byte need to be set to one. Also, because the second byte deals with ports D5 to D7, and the EAR socket is D6, a base has to be found for no signal at the ear socket.

PRINT IN (255 + 256) +254

This will return a value 'n' which is the value of D5 to D7 without a signal. The line returns the value of 1 to all bits in the first byte. If there was a signal coming through the EAR socket this would return the value of 'n' + 64.

The only thing that remains is to read the value of the

signal, 'n' is no tone, and n + 64 is a tone. Unfortunately Basic can only handle about 50 or 60 instructions a second, but the human voice can be two or three thousand cycles per second. The only possible way of interpreting this number of cycles is in a machine code routine. As far as I know there is not yet one generally available.

# GIVING THEM A PLUG

T C Choy, Peel Road, South Woodford, London, writes:

I have a 16K Spectrum and would like to expand it to the full 48K. My Spectrum has the new pcb with 12 IC sockets, two of which are 14 pin and the rest 16 pin. According to your issue number 25, East London Robotics can supply these at £25, but I have been unable to contact the firm. Can you tell me which chips I need? If they are the normal 2114s, then I can easily obtain them from an electronics retailer. I would rather not send my Spectrum back to Sinclair, wait three months and pay more money.

A East London Robotics is in the process of moving, so there are some understandable temporary upsets. I also believe there has been some trouble in getting the correct Ram chips for the Spectrum. Sinclair is using chips that are accessed at 150 nanoseconds.

There is an alternative to East London Robotics -Fountain is doing a complete set of chips for £24.50. This includes the same 4523s that Sinclair uses and the two necessary decoding chips (the two 14 pin sockets). The price is inclusive of postage and packing and VAT. Fountain will also include free details of how to adjust the colour on the Spectrum if you buy the chips. The address is: Fountain Computers Ltd, Darville Road, Alresford, Hants SO24 OBW.

Is there anything about your computer you don't understand, and which everyone else seems to take for granted? Whatever your problem *Peek* it to lan Beardsmore and every week he will *Poke* back as many answers as he can. The address is *Peek* & *Poke*, *PCW*, Hobhouse Court, 19 Whitcomb Street, London WC2 7HF.

# Ziggurat



Right is wrong

If there is to be artificial intelligence, we surely need to know what "intelligence" is in the case of humans.

There are many theories about the nature of intelligence, and the ways in which it might be measured, but much of the work carried out in this direction seems to be rather inconclusive.

Pascal (the philosopher, not the programming language) made the astute observation in his Pensées: "The greater intellect one has, the more originality one finds in men. Ordinary persons find no difference between men." The truly intelligent person is the person who sees implications and differences in what others consider to be one problem. (As I have noted before: divergent thinking, rather than convergent thinking.)

Traditional intelligence tests are predicated on the convergent mode of thinking: there is only one correct answer to a question. This is the style of thought encouraged by the use of only one language, and one method of programming. There is — again — the notion that there is only one correct way to write a program. As an example of the inadequacies of traditional approaches to intelligence, consider this question from a personality test (the Cattell 16PF Form C): "Which is the odd one out?: run, see or touch".

Think carefully about your answer. Before I give the correct answer, consider how you would answer this question, "What is the next in the series 1, 3, 5, 7, ... ?" In both cases you are being asked to find a rule, and it is possible to see that a computer might do quite well at intelligence tests (assuming that it had a large enough base of information on which to call). Perhaps computers might be intelligent in this sense, or potentially so - but is this really what we mean (intuitively) by "intelligence"?

The answer to the odd-one-out question provided by the producer of the attitude test was run. This is obviously wrong. The correct answer is that all the words can be considered. legitimately, to be different from the other two (eg touch does not have three letters). A better answer (and the answer which would be truly indicative of intelligence), would be "All of them for the following reasons". Intelligence tests should be designed to give most marks to those who could find most answers to a question, marking in terms of the quality of the reasons: impossible to do, but at least trying to appear relevant.

To the question of the series of numbers there are two immediately obvious answers, 9 (the next odd number) or 11 (the next prime number) or, not so obvious, 2 (it has been missed out). We should measure intelligence by the ability to construct rules, rather than the ability to guess the rule that the constructor of the test wanted. It is the human ability to find rules that makes us different.

These two lines are fairly clear in operation: 1000 IF X=Y THEN GOTO 2000 1010 PRINT "Different"

As we are able to put successive lines together by use of colons in many Basics, then this should be permissible:

1000 IF X=Y THEN GOTO 2000 : PRINT "Different"

In many Basic versions it is not as you would expect, however. Try it and see. It is not an illegal line, rather, the meaning is not selfevident, and rather ad hoc extra rules have to be supplied. Rules are important.

I will continue this next week, but I leave you with this line of Pascal (the language this time), to work out what it should mean:

IF X=Y THEN IF A=B THEN C:=0 ELSE D:=0;

If you know the answer, why is it so?

**Boris Allan** 

# Puzzle

# Two-step division

Puzzie No 45

(4)(8)(5)(1)

Ten discs, each bearing a digit from 0 to 9. As you see, they are divided into two groups such that 3048516 is a perfect square (17462) and 729 is a perfect cube (93).

Can you divide the discs to form two numbers that are the square and cube of the same number?

(Inverting the 6 or 9 is not allowed!)

#### Solution to Puzzle No 40

We know that A must be larger than 35, since (A 4)2 has four digits (clue 3 down), and A is less than 90 (clue 4 across). Similarly, B is greater than 9 (clue 2 across) and must be less than 64 (clue 4 across).

10 FOR A = 36 to 89. 20 FOR B = 10 to 64. 30 LET A\$ = STR\$ A. 40 LET B\$ = STR\$ B. 50 LET C = A + B. 60 LET C\$ = STR\$ C. 70 LET D = A \* A + B \* B. 80 IF D > 9999 THEN GOTO 220. 90 LET D\$ = STR\$ D. 100 IF D\$(1)<>B\$(1) OR D\$(2)<>C\$(1) THEN GOTO 210. 110 LET E\$ = STR\$ (A + 7). 120 IF E\$ (1)<>D\$(3) THEN GOTO 210. 130 LET F\$ = STR\$ (A + A). 140 IF F\$(3)<>D\$(4) THEN GOTO 210. 150 LET G\$ = STR\$ ((A - 4) \* (A - 4)). 160 IF G\$(1)<>B\$(2) OR G\$(2)<>C\$(2) OR G\$(3)<>E\$(2) OR G\$(4)<>F\$(4) THEN GOTO 210. 170 LET H\$ = STR\$ (A \* A - A \* B). 180 IF H\$(4)<>F\$(1) THEN GOTO 210. 190 PRINT A, B. 200 STOP. 210 NEXT B. 220 NEXT A.

This gives the result A=47 and B=21.

#### Winner of Puzzle No 40

The winner is: M A Regan, Burnby Close, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, who receives £10.

# Top 10

# Spectrum

1 ( 1) Penetrator (Melbourne House)\* The Hobbit (Melbourne House) 3 (4) Horace Goes Skiing (Psion/Melbourne House)

3) Time Gate (Quicksilva) 6) 3D Tanx (DK'Tronics) Centipede (DK'Tronics) Flight Simulation (Psion) 9) Football Manager (Addictive Games) 7) Spectrum Micro Chess (Artic)

(Imagine) \*Requires 48K. (Figures compiled by Buffer Micro Shop, London 01-769 2887)

10 ( 5) Arcadia

10 (2) 3D Defender

1) Flight Simulation (Psion) (DJL Software) Frogger Kong/Dracula (Tony Barber) Football Manager (Addictive Games) Mazogs (Bug-Byte) (Campbell Systems) Gulp II The Fast One (Campbell Systems) (Panda) Sea War 10) Pimania (Automata)

(JK Greye) \*All 16K (Figures compiled by Buffer Micro Shop, London 01-769 2887) 1 (4) Abductor

Frog Andes Attack Traxx Gorf 2)

Alien Attack Arcadia Grid Runner 8) Skramble

10 (-) Krazy Kong "Cartridge, †Required 8K or 16K.

(Figures compiled by Vic Centre, London 01-

1 (10) Sea Dragon (Adventure International) 2 (2) Miner 2049er (Big Five)\* Proppie (Adventure International) Scot Adams Graphical Adventure 1 (Adventure International) Snooker and Billiards (Thom EMI) Star Raiders (Atan) Floyd of the Jungle (Microprose)‡ Galaxians (Atari) (Adventure International) Stratos 10 (-) Astro Chase (First Star)†

\*Cartridge. †32K cassette. ±32K disc. §48K (Figures compiled by Calisto Computers, Birm-ingham 021-632 6458)

Books

Assembly Language Programming for the BBC Micro, Birnbaum The Working Dragon 32, Lawrence Computet's First Book of Vic, various authors

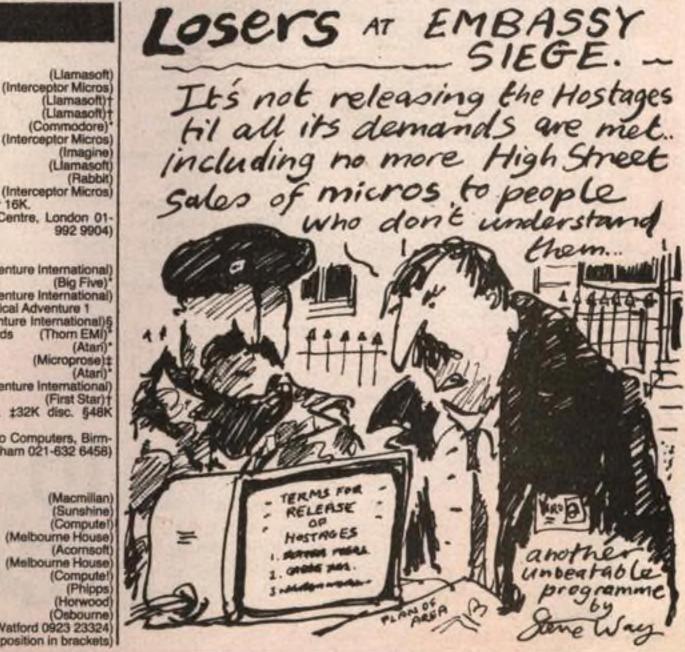
Spectrum Machine Language for the Absolute Beginner, Tang Creative Graphics on the BBC Micro, Cownie Understanding Your Spectrum, Logan

Computel's Second Book of Atari, various authors Load and Go With Your Dragon, Phipps Mastering the Vic20 Jones

Z80 Assembly Language Programming, Leventhal
(Figures compiled by Watford Technical Books, Watford 0923 23324)

(Sunshine) (Compute) (Melbourne House) (Acomsoft) (Melbourne House) (Computet) (Phipps) (Horwood)

(Last week's position in brackets)



# 100 FREE PROGRAMS



ATARI PRICES REDUCEDI

We at Silica Shop are pleased to announce some fantastic reductions in the prices of the Atari 400/800 personal computers. We believe that the Atari at its new price will become the U.K.'s most popular personal computer and have therefore set up the Silica Atari Users Club. This club already has a library of over 500 programs and with your purchase of a 400 or 800 computer we will give you the first 100 free of charge. There are also over 350 professionally written games and utility programs, some are listed below. Complete the reply coupon and we'll send you full details. Alternatively give us a ring on 01-301 1111 or 01-309 1111.

ATARI 400 with 16K

ATARI 400 with 32K

ATARI 800 with 16K

# 400/800 SOFTWARE & PERIPHER

Don't buy a T.V. game! Buy an Atari 400 personal computer and a game cartridge and that's all you'll need. Later on you can buy the Basic Programming cartridge (£35) and try your hand at programming using the easy to learn BASIC language. Or if you are interested in business applications, you can buy the Atari 800 + Disk Drive + Printer together with a selection of business packages.

Silica Shop have put together a full catalogue and price list giving details of all the peripherals as well as the extensive range of software that is now available for the Atari 400/800. The Atari is now one of the best supported personal computers. Send NOW for Silica Shop's catalogue and price list as well as details on our users club

## THE FOLLOWING IS JUST A SMALL SELECTION FROM THE RANGE OF ITEMS AVAILABLE:

ACCESSORIES Cables Cassettes Joysticks Le Stick - Joystick Misc Supplies

ADVENTURE INT Scott Adams Adv No.1 AdventureInd Pirate Adv No 3 Mission Imp Vondee Cast No.5 The Count No 6 Strange Ddy No 7 Mystery Fun No 9. Ghost Town No 10 Say Island 1

No 8 Pyramid of D No 11 Say Island 2 No 12 Golden Voy Deflections Galactic Empire Galactic Trader Lunar Lander

Mountain Shoot Rearquard Sunday Golf

AUTOMATED SIMULATIONS Crush Crumble Cmp Datestones of Flyn Dragons Eye Invasion Orion Rescue at Rigel Star Warrior Temple of Apshall Upper Reaches Aps

BOOKS Basic Ref Manual Compute Atari DOS Compute Bk Atari Compute Magazine De Re Atari DOS Utilities List DOS2 Manual Misc Atari Books Op System Listing Wiley Manual

BUSINESS Calculato Database Managemit Decision Maker Graph-It

Librarian Mort & Loan Anal Nominal Ledger Payroll Personal Fini Mymt Purchase Ladger Stutistics ! Stock Control Telelink 1 Visicalo Weekly Planner

Beneath The Pyran Fantasyland 2041 Galactic Quest House Of Usher Sands Of Mars. Waterloo World War III

Word Processor

DYNACOMP Chompelo Crystals. Forest Fire Intruder Alert Monarch

Moving Mare Nominoes Jigsaw Rings of The Emp Space Trep Stud Poker Triple Blockade EDUCATION

from APX Atlas of Canada Cubby holes Elementary Biology Frogmaster Hickory Dickory Inst Comptg Dem Lemonade Letterman Mapware

Metha-Tac-Trie Metric & Prob Solve Mugwump Music Terms/Nutstn EMI SOFTWARE Musical Computer My First Alphabet

Number Blast Presidents Of U.S. Quiz Master Stanware Stereo 3D Graphics Three R Math Sys Video Math Flash Wordmaker

EDUCATION from ATABI Conv French Conv German Conv Spanish Energy Czar European C & Caps Invit To Prog 1/2/3 Kingdom Music Composer

States & Capitals Touch Typing

Cartie

Cribbage/Dominoes European Scene Jig Hickory Dickory **Humpty Dumpty** Jumbo Jet Lander Snooker & Billlards Submarine Commits Super Cubes & Titt Tournament Pool

ENTERTAINMENT

Alien Egg Anthili Attenk Avalanche Babel Blackjeck Casino Block Buster Block 'Em Bumper Pool

Sleazy Adventure Solitaire Space Chase Centurion Checker King Chinese Puzzle Space Trek Suitens Palace Tect Trek Cartecracker Comedy Diskette

Dice Poker Terry Wizards Gold Dog Daze Wizards Revenge Downhill ENTERTAINMENT Eastern Front Gelehad & Holy Gri from ATARI Graphics/Sound Astiroids Baskettrell Jax-O Blackjack Jukebox Looksheed

747 Landing Simul

Seven Card Stud

Centipede Chess Memory Match Mides Touch Entertainment Kit Missile Command Pac Man Outlaw/Howitzer Space Invaders Preschool Games Star Raiders Pushover Super Breakput Video Easel Rabbotz Reversi II Salmon Flun

ON LINE GYSTEMS

Javybreaker Mission Asteroid Mouskattack Threshold Ulysses/Golden PI Wizant & Princess

PERIPHERALS Disk Drive Epsom Printers Program Recorder R5232 Interface Thermal Printer 16K Memory RAM 32K Memory RAM

PERSONAL INT from APX Adv Music System Benner Generator Blackjack Tutor Going To The Dogs Keyboard Organ Morse Code Tutor Personal Fitness Pro Player Pisno Sketchoad

PROGRAMMING AIDS from Atari Dsembler (APX) Microsoft Basic Pascal (APX) Pilot (Consumer) Pilot (Educator) Programming Kit.

SANTA CRUZ Bobs Business Display Lists Graphics Machine Kids 1 & 2 Horizontal Scrollin Master Memory Map Mini Word Processor Page Flipping Player Missile Gr Player Plano Sounds Vertical Scrolling

SILICA CLUB Over 500 programs write for datalls

#### FREE LITERATURE

am interested in purchasing an Atari 400/800 computer and would like to receive copies of your brochures and test reports as well as your price list covering all of the available Hardware and Software:

Name .....

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