

THE ZX81 COMPANION

Bob Maunder

If you have a Sinclair ZX81 and want to use it to its full potential then, as the experts have all agreed, this is the book for you. It contains detailed guidelines and documented programs in the areas of gaming, information retrieval and education, as well as a unique listing of the UK ROM for machine code applications.

'Far and away the best... once again Linsac has produced the book for the serious end of the market'. — *Your Computer*, November 1981.

'The ZX81 Companion is a most professional product... with many good illustrative programs, tips and warnings'. — *Education Equipment*, October 1981.

Bob Maunder's attempt to show meaningful uses of the machine is brilliantly successful... thoughtfully written, detailed and illustrated with meaningful programs... To conclude — the book is definitely an outstandingly useful second step for the ZX81 user. — *Educational ZX80/81 Users' Group Newsletter*, September 1981.

Bob Maunder has been involved in the ZX series of microcomputers since he acquired the first ZX80 kit in March 1980, and he is co-author of Linsac's *The ZX80 Companion*. He holds a MSc in Computer Science from Birmingham University and is Head of Computing at Hartlepool College, where he pioneered the use of the ZX80 in education.

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**by
Bob Maunder**

PREFACE

The Sinclair ZX81 microcomputer has been widely acclaimed as a tremendous breakthrough in personal computing, even surpassing its predecessor the ZX80. Certainly no other computer has been bought in such quantities by such a wide range of people in such a short space of time since its launch in February 1981. The ZX81 advertising campaign has sought to attract the general public to the concept of using a computer in the home.

"The ZX81 Companion" has been written to assist ZX81 owners in using their computer in the specific areas of information retrieval, education, and games. The Sinclair ZX81 Manual, while being an excellent introduction to ZX81 BASIC, does not discuss any real uses for the machine. However in the **Companion**, readers will find documented programs that can be used immediately to utilise the ZX81 to its full potential, as well as detailed guidelines on the design and development of their own programs. The book is therefore aimed at those familiar with the concepts of ZX81 BASIC but keen to get the ZX81 moving onto higher things. The fourth chapter is aimed at more advanced users who are interested in the workings of the ZX81 Monitor and methods of displaying and using Monitor routines.

It is the opinion of the author that for any serious applications the ZX81 definitely requires the addition of a 16K RAM pack. However many programs in the book can be run on 1K machines, the main exception being Chapter Two which develops a sophisticated information retrieval package for which 16K is naturally vital.

The author has been involved in the ZX series of microcomputers since he acquired the first ZX80 kit in March 1980, and he is co-author of Linsac's 'The ZX80 Companion'. He holds an MSc in Computer Science from Birmingham University and is Head of Computing at Hartlepool College, where he pioneered the use of the ZX80 in education.

Thanks are due to Sinclair Research for permission to reprint the ZX81 keyboard layout (but not the Monitor listing!), to Joe Foster for contributing the Appendix on program development and to Ian Logan for the section on Monitor routines and entry points.

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INTRODUCTION AND NOTATION

Readers who own 16K ZX81's will be able to get the most out of this book, but those with 1K ZX81's or updated ZX80's will also benefit. Memory requirements for programs are clearly marked, and in many of the routines in Chapter One in particular, 1K and 16K alternatives are given. It is the author's opinion that owners of 8K ROM ZX80's are certainly at a disadvantage with regard to the main benefit of the ZX81 — animated displays. Such users will be well advised to consider the purchase of a conversion kit, currently available in the UK from Compshop Ltd., to provide the SLOW compute and display facility. However ZX80 owners without this conversion will still be able to use most of the programs herein, in some cases with the addition of suitable PAUSE statements to simulate SLOW mode.

Material in the four chapters is developed from a simple starting point, and in the first three chapters exercises are used to give the reader practice in the techniques discussed. Solutions are found at the end of the book.

A technique known as logical assignment is used in many of the programs to save on program space: a necessity for 1K machines. This technique combines several conditions and values in a single LET statement, and may not be familiar to some readers: study of the Sinclair Manual is recommended to clarify the use of the technique.

The notation used in the program listings is designed to be as unambiguous as possible. Since spaces in printed text can be important in some circumstances, many of the listings specify a space by the letter b (for blank). Confusion between the letter l and the number 1, or the letter O and the number zero can occur so the following conventions are used:

l	=	letter
1	=	number one
O	=	letter
0	=	number zero

Graphics and inverse characters can also be difficult to represent. If text is to be represented in inverse form then this is indicated by the word "inverse" in brackets at the end of the PRINT statement. Graphics characters are generally drawn in and sometimes also identified by their key, e.g. 500 PRINT "■" (inverse space)

CHAPTER ONE

GRAPHICS AND REALTIME TECHNIQUES

1.1 INTRODUCTION

We consider in this chapter the use of ZX81 statements to produce diagrams, pictures and moving displays. Graphics is the art of drawing items on the ZX81 screen by means of addressing different parts of the display as you might fill in squares on a piece of graph paper. **Realtime** methods involve getting the ZX81 to respond to you *immediately*: although all ZX81 programs work in a conversational mode with the user entering information (in response to JNPQT statements) and the computer replying with a display, programs can be written which will react immediately the user presses a key, whether or not the computer was doing something else at the time.

These two techniques can be immensely useful. On the serious side, information can often be more clearly presented and understood if it is in the form of diagrams, such as graphs or histograms; simple maps or room layouts can also be shown. On the lighter side, games have much more realism and challenge if they involve pictures, and if the pictures move and the player has to respond quickly to this movement, so much the better.

It will be helpful if the reader has looked over Chapters 17, 18 and 19 of the 'ZX81 BASIC Programming' manual first. The statements covered in the theory and practical exercises below are PLOT, UNPLOT and PRINT AT (graphics) and INKEY\$ and PAUSE (realtime). Do not be deterred by the initial emphasis on theory: in order to produce good graphics you need to have a good grasp of what is often titled 'coordinate geometry'. At the end of this chapter you will be programming your own arcade-type games so stick with it!

1.2 AXES AND COORDINATES

In using the graphics features of the ZX81 we think of the TV screen as a piece of graph paper split into squares. We can black-in a square using PLOT and rub out a blacked-in square using UNPLOT. However to pick out a blacked-in square we must have some way of identifying squares to the ZX81, and this is done by considering the screen as having two

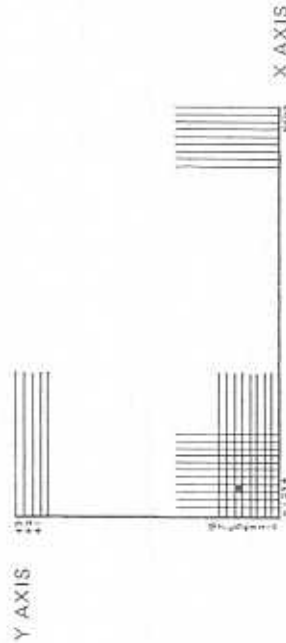
lines of reference or axes, at right angles to each other at the left and bottom of the screen.



The vertical axis at the left of the screen is known as the y axis, and the horizontal axis at the bottom is called the x axis. The point at which they intersect is called the origin.

Coordinates

The number of 'squares' on the ZX81 screen is fixed at 64 x 44, i.e. there are 64 divisions along the x axis and 44 divisions along the y axis. To complicate the issue the divisions are numbered from 0 to 63 and from 0 to 43, as shown below.



To identify a particular square on the graph we specify how far along the x axis it is, and then how far along the y axis. For example the blacked-in square in the diagram above is at position 3 on the x axis and position 5 on the y axis and we say its position on the graph is therefore (3,5). This pair of numbers in brackets is known as the coordinates of

the square. Note that the Sinclair Manual calls these squares "pixels". The PLOT statement uses the coordinates to identify a square's position and black it in (however brackets are omitted). Try this:

PLOT 3, 5

A black square appears towards the bottom left hand corner of the screen, or at position (3,5).

Any square in the 64 x 44 graph can be identified using coordinate pairs, from the origin at (0,0) to the top right at (63,43). RUN the following program to get the four corners of the screen display

```
10 PLOT 0,0
20 PLOT 0,43
30 PLOT 63,0
40 PLOT 63,43
```

The next section shows how squares may be drawn in groups to form lines.

1.3 STRAIGHT LINES

Equations of X and Y Axes

A straight line may be drawn on the screen by drawing in several squares together. The squares which form a line all have something in common and we can form an equation for a line using this fact. As an example, consider squares along the x axis:

(0, 0), (1, 0), (2, 0) and so on up to (63, 0)

All of these squares have something in common — they have their y position equalling zero. Therefore we say that the x axis has the equation

$$y = 0$$

Similarly all squares along the y axis have their x coordinate equalling zero so the equation of the y axis is

$$x = 0$$

Therefore in order to draw in the y axis on the screen, all we need to do is PLOT every square where $x = 0$. Thus

```
10 FOR Y = 0 TO 43
20 PLOT 0,Y
30 NEXT Y
```

Add the following lines and we produce a set of x and y axes on the screen.

```
40 FOR X = 0 TO 63
50 PLOT X,0
60 NEXT X
```

In fact any vertical line will have an equation

$$x = \text{a number}$$

while any horizontal line will have an equation,

$$y = \text{a number}$$

Drawing a Rectangle

You can get some interesting visual effects using just these simple concepts. The following program draws the edges of the screen 'graph':

```
10 FOR X = 0 TO 63
20 PLOT X,0
30 PLOT X,43
40 NEXT X
50 FOR Y = 0 TO 43
60 PLOT 0,Y
70 PLOT 63,Y
80 NEXT Y
```

Notice how the vertical lines and horizontal lines are plotted in pairs through use of a pair of PLOT statements in each of the two loops. For 1K ZX81's, substitute 37 for 43 in lines 30 and 50 for a complete rectangle.

Another example shows how the entire screen may be blacked in from

the left

```
10 FOR X = 0 TO 63 : ... (Use 61 for 1K ZX81's)
20 FOR Y = 0 TO 43
30 PLOT X,Y
40 NEXT Y
50 NEXT X
```

Try reversing the order of the loops and see the effect.

Exercise 1 (a): Produce an entirely black screen display by drawing vertical lines from right to left, going down the screen.

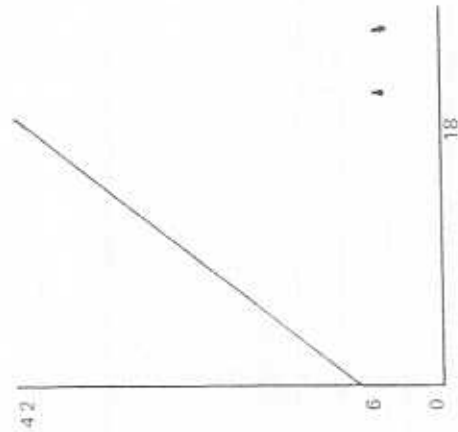
1 (b): Draw a black square with its bottom left corner at position (10,5), sized 20 x 20 squares.

(Solutions on page 115)

Equations of General Lines

Most lines that we will need to draw on the ZX81 will not be vertical or horizontal, but diagonal. We now discuss how we can work out the common features or equations of such lines, and thus how they can be plotted on the screen.

The diagram below shows a line drawn between points (0,6) and (18,42).



If this line were drawn on graph paper we would see that it also passes through a sequence of positions starting

(1,8) (2,10) (3,12) (4,14) (5,16) ...

The common factor about all the positions through which the line passes is that the y coordinate is twice the x coordinate plus six. We can therefore say that the line has the following equation

$$y = 2x + 6$$

and we can therefore draw it on the ZX81 screen thus

```
10 FOR X = 0 TO 63
20 PLOT X, 2*X + 6
30 NEXT X
```

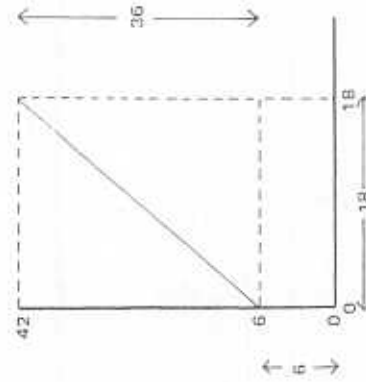
However this terminates with error code B after getting as far as $x = 18$, since the y value calculated when $x = 19$ is 44, which is off the screen.

Any diagonal line that we care to choose can be reduced to a simple equation of the form

$$y = mx + c$$

where m and c represent numbers.

The values of m and c can be seen more clearly from the following graph showing $y = 2x + 6$ again.



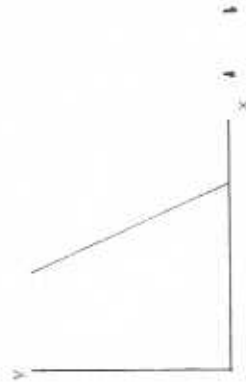
The gradient or steepness of the line is measured by height divided by length. As shown above the line goes up 36 squares as it goes along 18 squares, so the gradient is $36 \div 18$ or 2. This represents m in the general equation of a straight line, $y = mx + c$. Similarly c is given by where the line cuts the y axis. To understand this, remember that the y axis is where $x = 0$. Therefore when the line $y = mx + c$ and the line $x = 0$ intersect then

$$y = m \cdot 0 + c$$

$$= y = c$$

This value is often called the y intercept.

Consider a different line. This one slopes downwards and cuts the x axis.



Again this line fits the general equation $y = mx + c$, but this time the gradient m will be negative. The x intercept is easily found by remembering that the x -axis is where $y = 0$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{so } y &= mx + c \\ \text{becomes } 0 &= mx + c \\ \text{therefore } x &= \frac{-c}{m} \end{aligned}$$

The following program can be used to demonstrate the effects of different values for m and c .

5 REM ENTER VALUES AND PRINT EQUATION

```
10 CLS
20 PRINT "M=";
30 INPUT M
40 PRINT M;"bC="; (b = space)
```

```
50 INPUT C
60 CLS
70 PRINT AT 0,12;"Y=";M;"X+";C
75 REM DRAW AXES
80 FOR X=0 TO 63
90 PLOT X,0
100 NEXT X
110 FOR Y=0 TO 43
120 PLOT 0,Y
130 NEXT Y
135 REM DRAW LINE
140 FOR X=0 TO 63
150 PLOT X,M*X+C
160 NEXT X
```

(For 1K ZX81's omit the REM lines)

RUN the program with varying positive and negative values for m and c and finally $c = 0$ or $m = 0$. If the y value becomes negative some peculiar effects occur because the PLOT statement always takes the positive values of coordinates. To overcome this add the line

```
145 IF M*X+C<0 THEN STOP
```

If you find it difficult to understand why the ZX81 does not do continuous diagonal lines as it would if they were horizontal or vertical, remember that it is only blacking-in squares on a grid. You may have come across computers which appear to draw continuous lines on an output screen, but this is only because the number of squares or resolution of the display is higher.

1.4 MOVING OBJECTS

Moving Spots

To relieve what for some might be a tedious excursion into school maths, let us look at how we can get things to move on the ZX81 screen.

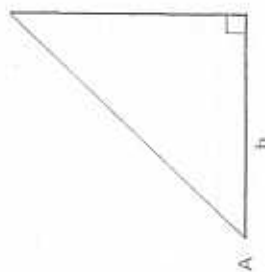
The way to produce animation by computer is the same as in cartoons: display a picture then display it in a slightly different position, and so on. When we draw lines on the screen we saw them being extended, and all we need to do to get moving spots is to rub out the trail. Modifying one of the previous routines gives us

1.5 TRIGONOMETRY

Tangents

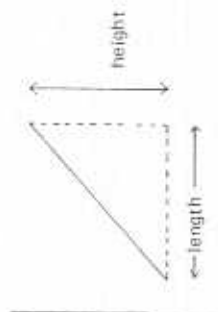
If you have started to read this section in spite of seeing the title then you are doing well. It is true that sines, cosines and particularly tangents can be useful in our theory of graphics. We will consider just tangents, but you can read up any secondary school maths text book to swot sines and cosines if you find it interesting.

A tangent is the ratio of two sides of a right-angled triangle:



The tangent of the angle at A
is $\frac{a}{b}$

But think of this on a graph



and we see that the tangent
is the same as the gradient of
a straight line.

Therefore we can start talking about lines being drawn at certain angles on the screen. For example the following program invites you to enter an angle (0-90°) and it then draws a line from the origin at this angle to the x axis.

```
10 PRINT AT 0,0;"ANGLE=";
20 INPUT A
30 PRINT A
40 IF A<0 OR A>90 THEN GO TO 20
```

```
10 FOR X=0 TO 63
20 PLOT X,0
30 UNPLOT X,0
40 NEXT X
```

and we see a spot moving quickly along the bottom of the screen. To slow it down and make it a bit clearer we could add a PAUSE

```
25 PAUSE 10
26 POKE 16437,255
```

(Vital for updated ZX80's)

Two points here — remember to include the POKE after every PAUSE if you use FAST mode, and also make sure you PAUSE while the spot is on the screen, not after you have just rubbed it out.

Exercise 1(c): Write a program to get a spot to move round the edges of the screen anti-clockwise starting at the origin (the program above starts you off).

Moving Objects

For greater realism a complete object can be built up and moved across the screen. As we will see later this is much better using the PRINT AT instruction but it can be achieved by PLOT, as below

```
10 FOR X=0 TO 61
20 PLOT X,0
30 PLOT X+1,0
40 PLOT X+2,0
50 PLOT X+1,1
60 PAUSE 10
70 POKE 16437,255
80 UNPLOT X,0
90 UNPLOT X+1,1
100 NEXT X
```

) or try 60 FOR A=1 TO 20
70 NEXT A

We see that not all of the object need be rubbed out each time, since the remaining part forms part of the next drawing of the object. The annoying blinking is much less accentuated using PRINT AT as we shall see, or even using the dummy loop.

```

50 LET M=TAN(A*2*PI/360)
60 FOR X=0 TO 63
70 IF M*X>43 THEN GO TO 100
80 PLOT X,INT(M*X)
90 NEXT X
100 PAUSE 100
110 POKE 16437,255
120 PRINT AT 0,6,"bbbb"
130 GO TO 10

```

(b = one space)

Lines 10–50 invite the user to enter an angle and then the value of m in the general equation for straight lines through the origin ($y = mx$) is calculated. As an added complication, the ZX81 will only handle tangents of angles expressed in radians which is a unit of circular measure but since one degree is $\frac{2\pi}{360}$ radians (or $\frac{\pi}{180}$)

we can do an easy conversion,

Lines 60 – 90 draw the line, making sure to stop drawing when the top of the screen is hit

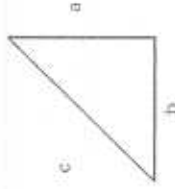
Lines 100 – 130 cause the program to repeat so that several lines can be drawn on the same graph.

Exercise 1 (d): Write a program to draw a "spider's web" of lines, similar to the ones above using the angles 0° to 90° at 5° intervals.

The program above and the exercise will crash when the angle is equal to ninety degrees because the tangent of 90° is infinitely large – draw the triangle if you cannot see why! A good way of stopping it anyway!

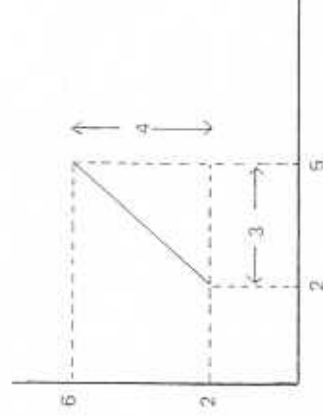
Pythagoras

The above-named gentleman may again not be too popular amongst some readers but his theorem can help us draw some nice pictures if nothing else. Basically he informs us that in a right angled triangle such as the one below the square of the hypotenuse is equal to the sum of the squares of the other two sides.



$$\text{i.e. } c^2 = a^2 + b^2$$

This can be used in straight line geometry to work out the length of a line e.g.



Take length of line as L

$$\text{then } L^2 = 3^2 + 4^2$$

$$= 25$$

$$\text{so } L = 5$$

Try changing this instruction in the solution of exercise 1(d) to see an example of how Pythagoras can justify his existence:

```
50 IF X*X + Y*Y > 1849 THEN GO TO 80
```

and a very nice set of equal length lines are produced in an arc.

Beware when using Pythagoras' theorem, particularly in loops, because the SQR function and even powers of numbers are very slow to evaluate. For example the following statement has the same effect as the instruction above but it is much slower:

```
50 IF SQR(X**2 + Y**2) > 43 THEN GO TO 80
```

Try it and see.

1.6 MORE STRAIGHT LINES

Lines Through a Point

Having done a quarter of a spiders web above, why not try a full web-shape. To do this we need to know some more theory about equations of lines on a graph, and in particular how to calculate the equation of a line between two points.

For example, say we want to draw a line between (2,3) and (15,20). Both of them are on the line (general equation $y = mx + c$) so both satisfy its equation.

So for point (2,3) we have $3 = 2m + c$
and for point (15,20) we have $20 = 15m + c$

and then we have another mathematical unpleasantry, a pair of simultaneous equations! We eventually find that in a general case, the equation through two points (p,q) and (r,s) is obtained by

$$\frac{y - q}{s - q} = \frac{x - p}{r - p}$$

Enough of the theory, let's draw some more pictures. We want to get a web or star shape, with the centre at the centre of the screen, (32,22). Therefore we want to draw lines from different points on the y axis through (32,22). This makes things easier since the y axis has the equation $x = 0$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So taking } (p,q) &= (32,22) \\ \text{and } (r,s) &= (0,y) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{we get } \frac{y - 22}{s - 22} = \frac{x - 32}{-32} \quad \text{for } S \text{ from } 0 \text{ to } 43$$

which after a lot of bashing comes to

$$y = 22 - \frac{(x - 32)(s - 22)}{32} \quad \text{for } S \text{ from } 0 \text{ to } 43$$

giving the following program

```
10 FOR S=0 TO 43 STEP 5 ... (Use 39 rather than 43
20 FOR X=0 TO 63
30 LET Y=INT(22-(X-32)*(S-22)/32)
40 IF Y>43 OR Y<0 THEN GO TO 70
50 PLOT X,Y
60 NEXT X
70 NEXT S
```

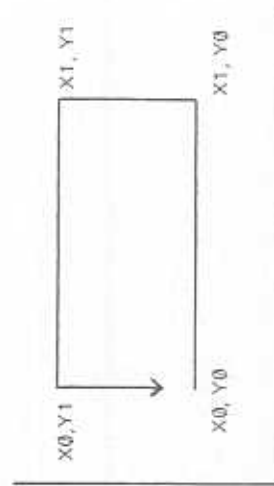
Lines with a Given Slope

Exercise 1(e): The display from the program above does not give a complete web effect because lines are only drawn from the y axis. Extend it by working out the equation of lines through a point *with a given gradient* and thus produce a complete web.

Spirals

An interesting display can be produced by drawing lines around the outside of the screen which gradually move into the centre in a 'rectangular spiral'. It is also quite an interesting exercise in logic.

Consider a general case where we are somewhere in the middle of the display:



We can label the corners of the current rectangle as shown above. Therefore we initially set the values of X0, X1, Y0, Y1 to be at the edges of the screen and then gradually change them in the course of the program

to produce the spiral. However we have to be very careful as to *where* in the program we modify these values.

This works very nicely:

```

10 LET X0=0 ... 15 )
20 LET X1=63 ... 48 ) for 1K ZX81's
30 LET Y0=0 ... 20 )
40 LET Y1=43 ... 43 )
50 FOR X=X0 TO X1
60 PLOT X,Y0
70 NEXT X
80 FOR Y=Y0 TO Y1
90 PLOT X1,Y
100 NEXT Y
110 FOR X=X1 TO X0 STEP -1
120 PLOT X,Y1
130 NEXT X
140 LET X1=X1-1
150 LET Y0=Y0+1
160 LET Y1=Y1-1
170 FOR Y=Y1 TO Y0 STEP -1
180 PLOT X0,Y
190 NEXT Y
200 LET X0=X0+1
210 GO TO 50

```

We need to stop the process somewhere so add

```
165 IF Y0>=Y1 THEN GO TO 500
```

and if you want to check that we stop at the right place add

```
500 PRINT "0"
```

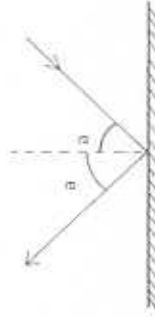
If you like this display and feel it could be extended to give a continuously moving video background in a room, you are absolutely right: wait for Section 1.7!

Bouncing

Many of the early TV games involved a ball bouncing around the screen.

We are now going to look at how to get a moving object to bounce off a flat object.

We assume that if our ball hits a wall at a certain angle it will bounce off at the same angle, i.e.:-



You are probably getting the sinking feeling that this is going to involve more theory: true, but not too much. It all has to do with the gradient of the line followed by the ball. We find that the gradient has its sign reversed after reflection from the wall. If you are into such things, this is because

$$\tan(90-a) = -\tan(90+a)$$

or incident gradient = -reflected gradient

Therefore if a ball travelling with a gradient of m hits a wall at a point (a,b) then it will continue with gradient negated and its equation will be

$$y = m(x-a) + b$$

$$\text{or } y = mx + (b-ma)$$

For drawing on the ZX81 we also have to be clear that if the ball hits a wall it will change direction on the screen, and therefore needs to be plotted carefully.

The following program draws a line starting at the origin on the screen at an angle specified by the user and then bounces it off the edges of the screen. Its path is left on the screen to illustrate the theory above. Use angles between 20° and 80° for useful results.

```

10 PRINT "ANGLE=";
20 INPUT A
30 CLS
40 LET M=TAN(A*PI/180)

```

```

50 LET X=0
60 LET I=1
70 LET C=0
80 LET X=X+I
90 LET Y=M*X+C
100 IF X<=0 OR Y<=0 THEN STOP
110 IF X>=43 OR Y>=43 THEN GO TO 140
120 PLOT X,Y
130 GO TO 80
140 LET M=-M
150 LET I=I-2*(X=43)
160 LET C=Y-M*X
170 GO TO 80

```

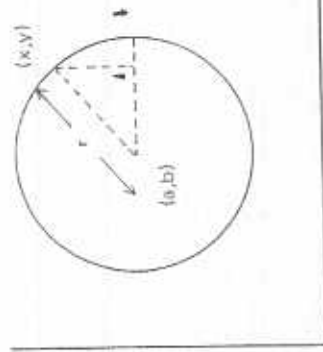
If you want to show just a single moving spot rather than continuous lines, add suitable UNPLOT and PAUSE statements.

1.7 CIRCLES AND OTHER INTERESTING SHAPES

We will use all this theory eventually in developing some good graphics games, so let us consider a final chunk of coordinate geometry.

Circles

We can specify the equation of a circle by noting that every point on the circle is the same distance away from the centre:



Taking the centre (a,b) and the radius as r then we can say for a general point (x,y) on the circle, using the ubiquitous pythagoras that

$$(x-a)^2 + (y-b)^2 = r^2$$

and we can take $x-a$ as $r \cos \theta$
and $y-b$ as $r \sin \theta$ where θ is any angle

$$\text{since } (r \cos \theta)^2 + (r \sin \theta)^2 = r^2 (\cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta) = r^2 \text{ as it happens}$$

Therefore we get $x = a + r \cos \theta$
and $y = a + r \sin \theta$

So let's see what the ZX81 makes of plotting a circle:

```

10 PRINT "RADIUS=";
20 INPUT R
30 PRINT R;"bCENTRE;bX=";
40 INPUT A
50 PRINT A;"bY=";
60 INPUT B
70 PRINT B
80 FOR Q=0 TO 360
90 LET P=Q*PI/180
100 PLOT A+R*COS P,B+R*SIN P
110 NEXT Q

```

RUN the program and enter the radius followed by the x- and y- coordinates of the centre. Make sure that the circle does not go over the edge of the screen in any direction. Before your eyes a circle will appear, albeit slowly. The slowness results from the evaluation of cosines and sines at line 100 — the ZX81 takes a long time to work these out.

Exercise 1(f): Work out the equation of a circle centred at the origin and radius 40 and therefore write a program to draw a circle quadrant (quarter arc) on the screen with radius 40.

Finally we choose a selection of interesting shapes and show how they may be plotted.

Parabola

Here is a nice parabola

```
10 FOR X=0 TO 63
20 LET Y=INT((2.52-0.04*X)*X)
30 PLOT X,Y
40 NEXT X
```

Ellipse

An ellipse is almost a general case of a circle or a parabola. Try this general ellipse plotter:

```
1 PRINT "A=";
2 INPUT A
3 PRINT A;"B=";
4 INPUT B
5 PRINT B
10 FOR Q=0 TO 360
20 LET P=Q*PI/180
30 PLOT A*(1+COS P),B*(1+SIN P)
40 NEXT Q
```

Try it with various values for A and B such as:

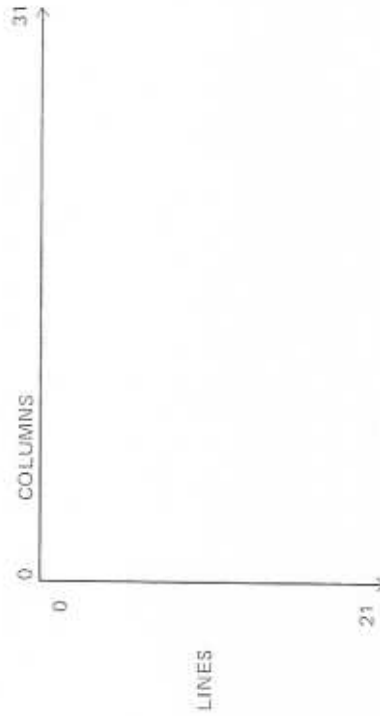
```
A = 30, B = 20
A = 20, B = 20
A = 5, B = 21
```

1.8 DRAWING WITH OTHER CHARACTERS

The PRINT AT Instruction

All our graphics work so far has been of the 'join the dots' variety, since all the PLOT statement can do is to black-in squares. Fortunately this is not the limit of the ZX81's capability. The PRINT AT statement can also be used for picture drawing and it has one disadvantage but one considerable advantage over PLOT. The disadvantage is that it cannot address parts of the screen in so much detail as PLOT — the figure

below shows its limitations



It can only draw in 22 x 32 positions and it works by means of specifying a line number and a column number, rather than standard x and y coordinates. Its great advantage is that any ZX81 character can be placed at a position.

The following simple routine illustrates the point

```
10 INPUT L
20 IF L<0 THEN STOP
30 INPUT C
40 INPUT S$
50 PRINT AT L,C:S$
60 GO TO 10
```

RUN the program and then keep entering groups of three items specifying line number, column number and character (or character sequence) and the ZX81 puts the character at this screen position.

ZX81 Video Show

Any of the programs previously considered can be modified to use PRINT AT rather than PLOT, and as promised here is a program to give a pleasant background video display to any room:

```
10 LET L0=0
```

1.9 REALTIME

Instructions

At the beginning of the chapter we saw that realtime programs are ones in which the computer responds to user action immediately, no matter what other action it is currently taking. The ZX81 instruction that provides this facility is INKEY\$. There is however another instruction which assists in a similar feature, moving displays, and that is PAUSE.

Almost all the programs in this section are designed for ZX81's running in compute and display mode (i.e. SLOW). However FAST mode is also available and in fact on 8K ROM ZX80's it is compulsory. In FAST mode, the only way to generate moving displays in BASIC is to cause the ZX81 to display the results of its processing by the PAUSE instruction, or rather PAUSE and POKE together since problems occur if you forget the accompanying POKE. We will put very little emphasis on PAUSE in this section, since INKEY\$ is the centre of the ZX81's realtime facilities.

INKEY\$

INKEY\$ is at the same time the most peculiar and the most powerful instruction on the ZX81, and we hope that after reading this section and trying out the programs you will be rather better informed than if you only had access to Chapter 19 of the Sinclair Manual!

First of all let us get our terminology right. INKEY\$ is not really an instruction like LET or IF but a function, since it is used as part of a ZX81 statement, and in fact has to be accessed via the FUNCTION key. Whenever the ZX81 executes a statement which includes INKEY\$ it looks at the keyboard, and if a key is being pressed at that instant, the character of the key is put into INKEY\$, i.e. if you were pressing 3 then

```
INKEY$ = "3"
```

If a key is not being pressed when the line containing INKEY\$ is executed, then INKEY\$ is set to the null string.

The following two line routine shows how it works

```
10 PRINT INKEY$;
20 GO TO 10
```

```
20 LET L1=21 ... 15 for 1K ZX81's
30 LET C0=0
40 LET C1=31 ... 15 for 1K ZX81's
45 LET Z$=CHR$(INT(RND*11+128*(RND<0.5)))
50 FOR L=L0 TO L1
60 PRINT AT L,C0;Z$
70 NEXT L
80 FOR C=C0 TO C1
90 PRINT AT L1,C;Z$
100 NEXT C
110 FOR L=L1 TO L0 STEP -1
120 PRINT AT L,C1;Z$
130 NEXT L
140 LET L1=L1-1
150 LET C0=C0+1
160 LET C1=C1-1
170 FOR C=C1 TO C0 STEP -1
180 PRINT AT L0,C;Z$
190 NEXT C
200 LET L0=L0+1
205 IF L0>=L1 THEN GO TO 500
210 GO TO 45
500 CLS
510 RUN
```

It could even prove as addictive as 'Emmerdale Farm'!

or if you do not appreciate squares, how about circles?

```
10 FOR R=10 TO 2 STEP -1
15 LET Z$=CHR$(INT(RND*11+128*(RND<0.5)))
20 FOR Q=0 TO 360 STEP 10
30 LET P=Q*PI/180
40 PRINT AT 10+R*COS P,15+R*SIN P;Z$
50 NEXT Q
60 NEXT R
70 CLS
80 GO TO 10
```

Try making your own variations — perhaps using a basic ellipse shape which grows fatter, thinner, longer or shorter with varying characters, being used to draw it. You need not stick to graphics characters, many normal characters or inverse video characters can be very nice.

RUN the program and then briefly touch any key on the keyboard. Let's assume you touched P — you will see a number of P's displayed on the screen. You may wonder why there are several rather than just one, since you touched the key only once. To understand this you need to have an appreciation of how fast the ZX81 is computing (even in SLOW mode!): while you have your finger on a key, albeit briefly, the ZX81 cycles round the GOTO 10 loop several times, the number of times being shown by the number of characters printed. Try pressing another key, and as soon as you do you will see some more characters displayed on the screen. See if you can touch a key so briefly that only one character is displayed! While you are not touching a key, nothing is displayed on the screen, since INKEY\$ is the nullstring, and PRINT ""; produces nothing. However if line 10 had read

```
10 PRINT INKEY$
```

i.e. no semi-colon at the end, the program would have given quite a different effect since PRINT "" causes a new line to be displayed, and the ZX81 quickly runs out of screen space.

Try using the two line program above with entry of keys such as *, + or =, i.e. shift keys. You will see that depression of SHIFT has no effect, but SHIFTed keys are displayed normally, even keywords. There are however some exceptions eg: EDIT, FUNCTION, GRAPHICS and RUBOUT. These all produce "?" on the screen, as does the NEWLINE key. We see from this that we can never enter graphic symbols via INKEY\$ — rather a shame as we shall see later. Also SPACE is always interpreted as BREAK and this stops the program.

To summarise where we have reached so far, we have seen that INKEY\$ is a way of entering single characters into a program without the need for INPUT statements or even NEWLINE.

Moving Blobs in Realtime

Your reaction to the above treatment of INKEY\$ may well be "OK, so what?" since it is not immediately obvious how INKEY\$ can be used. Hopefully this little program may change your mind.

```
10 LET L = 10
20 LET C = 15
30 LET Z$ = " " (inverse space)
40 IF INKEY$ = "5" THEN LET C=C-1
50 IF INKEY$ = "6" THEN LET L=L+1
```

```
60 IF INKEY$ = "7" THEN LET L=L-1
70 IF INKEY$ = "8" THEN LET C=C+1
200 PRINT AT L, C; Z$
210 GO TO 40
```

The program enables you to move a blob around the screen by pressing keys 5,6,7 or 8 and the blob moves according to the direction of the arrows on the keys. This is achieved by testing which key the user is pressing and changing accordingly the line and column numbers at which the blob is printed. RUN the program and see what interesting patterns can be produced. Only keys 5,6,7 or 8 will have any effect since these are the only values of INKEY\$ for which the program takes any action. If the blob goes off a screen edge, the program generally crashes, so to overcome this add the following lines.

```
80 LET L = L - L* (L=22) + 22* (L=-1) ... 16 not 22 for 1K
90 LET C = C - C* (C=32) + 32* (C=-1) ... 26 not 32 for 1K
```

and we get what is known as "wraparound" — if the line goes off one edge it reappears at the other edge.

It would also be pleasant if we had a choice of the type of character shown on the screen, rather than just a blob. With ZX81 technology all things are possible! Add this

```
100 LET K = CODE INKEY$
110 IF (K<>0 AND K<33) OR (K>36 AND K<64)
THEN LET Z$ = CHR$ K
```

If you now press any single character key other than 5,6,7 or 8 this character becomes the one being used for drawing on the screen. To stop any of these programs, simply press the SPACE key.

Note that in line 110 above we are careful to avoid taking a value of INKEY\$ when no key is being pressed: we exclude it when it is equal to the null string (character code 0). Note also that line 110 has

```
LET Z$ = CHR$ K
```

rather than LET Z\$ = INKEY\$ as you might have expected. This is because it is possible that the value of INKEY\$ might have changed between lines 100 and 110 (in particular it might be null) and this could cause inconsistencies in the program and therefore the resulting display.

1.10 EXAMPLE PROGRAMS

Introduction

In this section we will see how many of the concepts, and especially the maths, outlined above can be used in sophisticated realtime programs. Each program is given with detailed documentation so that the reader can understand how the program has been designed and developed. Appendix One shows the method of program design used and it is strongly recommended that a definite methodology should be used in programming. Although it is very tempting to start typing in BASIC instructions as soon as possible when developing a program, this causes more delay later, and it is in fact much quicker to design a program properly before touching the keyboard. Also, if a program is developed according to our method, documentation such as that given below builds up naturally so that you do not have to write it all up afterwards.

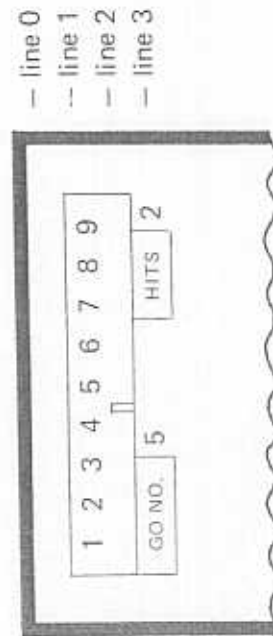
Anyway, on with the programs.

SHOOTING GALLERY (1K Memory)

Description

The program simulates a shooting gallery that you might find at a fair. An object moves from left to right across the screen under a row of numbers 1 to 9. The player attempts to hit the object by pressing one of the numeric keys 1 to 9 as the object passes under the number. There are ten goes and the program displays the current number of hits and the go number.

Sample Screen Format



Method

- i. Set up screen and initialise hits H to zero
- ii. Carry out the following with go number G = 1, 2, ..., 10
 - a. Set object position C to zero
 - b. Clear shot line
 - c. Clear message line & print go number
 - d. Display object at position C
 - e. If a key 1 - 9 pressed
 1. display shot
 2. if object hit:
 - A. Display message
 - B. Increment & display H
 - C. Jump to (6)
 3. Wait for key to be released
 4. Increment C
 5. If C less than 31 jump to (d)
 6. Wait for 5 seconds
- iii. Display end message & stop

List of Variables

- H = no. of hits scored
 G = go number (between 1 and 10)
 N = number of key pressed (valid only for keys 1 - 9)
 C = position of object on line

Program Listing

```

10 LET H=0
20 PRINT
30 PRINT "bbb1bb2bb3bb4bb5bb6bb7bb8bb9bbb"
   (inverse spaces & digits)
40 PRINT AT 4,0;"GO b NO." (inverse)
50 PRINT AT 4,26;"HITS" (inverse)
60 FOR G=1 TO 10
65 LET C=0
70 PRINT AT 3,0;"
   (inverse - 30 spaces)
100 PRINT AT 4,6;G;TAB 12;"bbbbbbb"
110 PRINT AT 3,C;"
   (inverse space and graphics 5)
130 LET N=CODE INKEY$-28
140 IF N<1 OR N>9 THEN GO TO 220

```

```

150 PRINT AT 3,N*3;"*" (inverse asterisk)
160 IF N*3<>C+1 THEN GO TO 210
170 PRINT AT 4,12;"GOT b HIM" (inverse)
180 LET H=H+1
190 PRINT AT 4,30;H
200 GO TO 240
210 IF INKEY$<>" " THEN GO TO 210
220 LET C=C+1
230 IF C<>31 THEN GO TO 110
240 PAUSE 250
250 NEXT G
260 PRINT AT 4,12;"THE b END" (inverse)

```

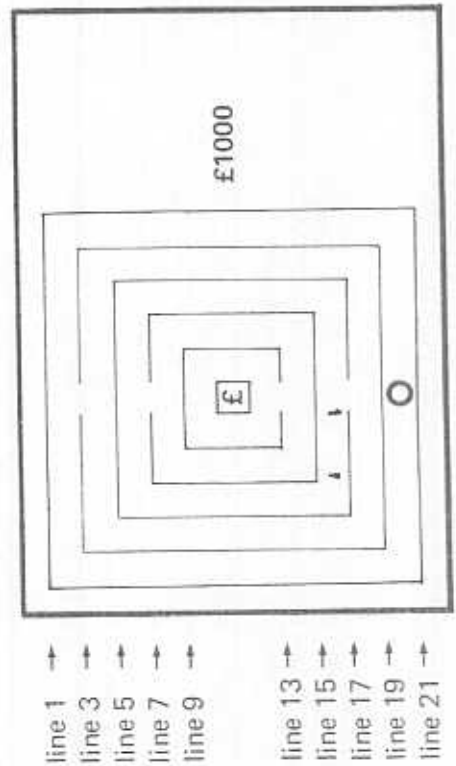
MONEY MAZE (16K Memory)

Description

A treasure chest full of £5 notes is located in the centre of a maze. You are on the outside of the maze and have to reach the treasure by using keys 5,6,7 or 8 to control your movement (direction arrows). However the chest has caught fire and the longer you take the less money there will be.

The program sets up and displays a 21 x 21 maze. The treasure chest is shown by £ and the player by O. A running counter of the amount of money left is shown to the right of the screen. The maze is displayed on the screen so that element i,j is at line i column j.

Sample Screen Format



```

line 1  →
line 3  →
line 5  →
line 7  →
line 9  →

line 13 →
line 15 →
line 17 →
line 19 →
line 21 →

```

Method

Array A of size 21 x 21 is used to hold the maze, with walls held as 128, space as 0 and the cash is 140 (inverse £).

- Set up array as shown
- Print array in character form
- Set sum of money M to 1000
- Display M
- Set player's position at bottom of maze, line L and column C.
- Display player's position
- Pause to allow player time to see screen
- Display player's position
- Burn a fiver from M, and if M is zero, display message and stop
- Display M
- Read number N from keyboard
- If N between 5 and 8
 - Use N to update L and C to LI and CI
 - If position (CI, LI) is the chest print message and stop
 - If position (CI, LI) is space (not a wall)
 - rubout position (C,L)
 - change C to CI
 - change L to LI
 - jump to (viii)
- jump to (ix)

List of Variables

- A — array of size 21 x 21 holding maze
- I,J — loop counters used in setting up array
- M — amount of money left
- L — line no. of player's position
- C — column no. of player's position
- N — code number of key pressed (valid for 5 to 8)
- LI — new line no. of player's position
- CI — new column no. of player's position

Program Listing

```

10 DIM A (21,21)
20 FOR I=0 TO 8 STEP 2
30 FOR J=I+1 TO 21-I

```



```

40 LET A(I+1,J)=128
50 LET A(21-I,J)=128
60 LET A(J,I+1)=128
70 LET A(J,21-I)=128
80 NEXT J
90 NEXT I
100 LET A(3,11)=0
110 LET A(7,11)=0
120 LET A(13,11)=0
130 LET A(17,11)=0
140 LET A(11,11)=140
200 PRINT
210 FOR I=1 TO 21
220 PRINT "b";
230 FOR J=1 TO 21
240 PRINT CHR$(A(I,J));
250 NEXT J
260 PRINT
270 NEXT I
300 LET M=1000
310 PRINT AT 11,22;"E";M
320 LET L=20
330 LET C=11
332 PRINT AT L,C;"O"
336 PAUSE 500
340 PRINT AT L,C;"O"
350 LET M=M-5
355 IF M<0 THEN GO TO 600
356 IF M<100 THEN PRINT AT 10,
22;"HURRY"
360 PRINT AT 11,23;M;"bbb"
370 LET N=CODE INKEY$-28
380 IF N<5 OR N>8 THEN GO TO 350
390 LET LI=L-(N=7)+(N=6)
400 LET CI=C+(N=8)-(N=5)
410 IF A(LI,CI)=140 THEN GO TO 500
420 IF A(LI,CI)<>0 THEN GO TO 350
425 PRINT AT L,C;"b"
430 LET L=LI
440 LET C=CI
450 GO TO 340
500 PRINT AT 10,22;"YOU GOT"

```

```

510 STOP
600 PRINT AT 10,22;"TOO SLOW"

```

DUCK SHOOT (16K Memory)

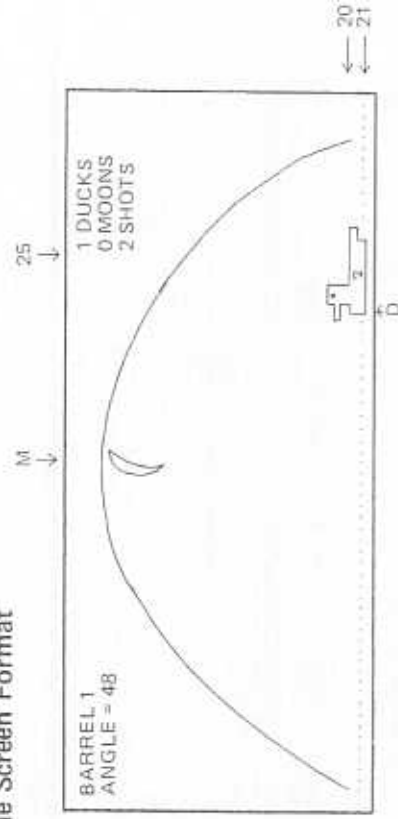
The author wishes to thank the designer of a similar game for the Research Machines 380 Z Microcomputer for the idea behind "Duck Shoot", the author's first experience of graphical games on a micro.

Description

A picture of a duck on a pond is displayed on the screen with the moon in the sky. The object is to shoot the duck making sure that you do not hit the moon in the process. Shooting is done by means of a double-barrelled cannon at the bottom left of the screen which fires up into the sky and the cannon ball travels in a parabola to eventually hit the pond and hopefully the duck. The player chooses the angle of elevation of the cannon. There are five goes.

For each go the duck and the moon are displayed at different (random) positions. The duck is drawn at a position starting between columns 12 and 27 at the bottom of the screen, and the moon starting between columns 12 and 18 at the top of the screen. Scores are shown at the top right of the screen while the barrel number and angle are displayed at the top left. The number of the go is shown on the duck itself. The duck has a range of comments which it makes depending upon the accuracy or otherwise of the player's shot. The moon drops out of the sky if the cannon ball hits it.

Sample Screen Format



Method

- (i) Initialise scores HD (ducks), HM (moons) and S (shots) to zero
- (ii) Carry out the following for go number $G = 1 \dots 5$
 - (a) clear screen
 - (b) choose duck position D between 12 & 27 along line
 - (c) choose moon position M between 12 & 18 along line
 - (d) draw screen display and headings
 - (e) carry out the following for barrel number $B = 1$ and 2
 - (1) Display barrel number
 - (2) Enter angle of elevation A
 - (3) If angle not between 45° and 85° go to (2) above
 - (4) Display angle
 - (5) Plot path of cannonball. For each plot position (x, y)

- A. If (x, y) is on the moon
 - (i) Increment HM (moon hits)
 - (ii) Drop moon out of sky
 - (iii) Increment and display S (shots)
 - (iv) Go to (f) below

- B. If (x, y) is on the duck
 - (i) If (x, y) is a central hit
 - (a) Display "DEAD"
 - (b) Increment HD (duck hits)
 - (c) Increment and display S (shots)
 - (d) Go to (f) below
 - (ii) Display "OUCH"
 - (iii) Go to (7) below
 - (6) Display "MISS"
 - (7) Increment and display S (shots)
 - (8) Wait
 - (f) Wait
- (iii) Clear screen
- (iv) Display final score of ducks hit.

List of Variables

HD = no. of ducks killed
 HM = no. of times moon hit
 S = no. of shots fired

G = go number (1–5)
 D = starting x-axis position of duck
 M = x-axis position of moon
 B = barrel number (1 or 2)
 A = angle of elevation of cannon (valid for 45° – 85° only)
 I = loop counter for display of cannon ball's path
 X = x position of cannon ball
 Y = y position of cannon ball
 M2 = 2 times M
 D2 = 2 times D
 Z = loop counter for display of falling moon

Equation

The path of the cannon ball is plotted using the following equations:

X = $\text{INT}(0.014 * 1 * (90 - A))$
 and Y = $\text{INT}((1 * (100 - I) * 0.0172))$ for $I = 0 \dots 100$

The X equation is chosen so that the cannon ball lands in the pond at the far right of the screen when angle A is 45° . The Y equation is chosen so that the cannon ball reaches its maximum height when $I = 50$, i.e. in the middle of its flight path.

Program Listing

```

2 LET HD = 0
4 LET HM = 0
6 LET S = 0
10 FOR G=1 TO 5
20 CLS
30 LET D=INT(RND*16)+12
40 LET M=INT(RND*7)+12
45 LET M2=M*2
46 LET D2=D*2
50 PRINT "BARREL"
60 PRINT "ANGLE=?"
70 PRINT AT 0,25;HD;"DUCKS"
80 PRINT AT 1,25;HM;"MOONS"
90 PRINT AT 2,25;S;"SHOTS"
100 PRINT AT 1,M;" "
110 PRINT AT 2,M;" "
```

```

120 PRINT AT 3,M;" "
130 PRINT AT 21,0;" ..... " (32 dots)
140 PRINT AT 20,D;"- "bb/"
150 PRINT AT 21,D;" "CHR$(G+156);" "
160 FOR B=1 TO 2
170 PRINT AT 0,B:B
180 PRINT AT 1,6;"?b"
190 INPUT A
200 IF A>85 OR A<45 THEN GO TO 190
205 PRINT AT 1,6:A
210 FOR I=0 TO 100
220 LET X=INT(0.014*I*(90-A))
230 LET Y=INT(I*(100-I)*0.0172)
240 PLOT X,Y
250 IF X<M2 OR X>M2+1 OR Y>41 OR Y<36 THEN GO
    TO 400
270 LET HM=HM+1
280 FOR Z=1 TO 18
290 PRINT AT Z,M;"b"
300 PRINT AT Z+1,M;" "
310 PRINT AT Z+2,M;" "
320 PRINT AT Z+3,M;" "
330 NEXT Z
340 LET S=S+1
350 PRINT AT 2,25:S
360 GO TO 530
400 IF X<D2 OR X>D2+9 OR Y>3 THEN GO TO 495
410 IF X=D2 OR X=D2+1 OR X=D2+8 OR X=D2+9 THEN GO
    TO 450
420 PRINT AT 20,D-4;"DEAD"
430 LET HD=HD+1
432 LET S=S+1
434 PRINT AT 2,25:S
440 GO TO 530
450 PRINT AT 20,D-4;"OUCH"
491 GO TO 500
495 NEXT I
497 PRINT AT 20,D-4;"MISS"
500 LET S=S+1
505 PRINT AT 2,25:S
510 PAUSE 150
520 NEXT B

```

```

530 PAUSE 150
540 NEXT G
550 CLS
560 PRINT AT 10,10;"THE END"({inverse})
570 PRINT AT 12,3;"YOU KILLEDb";HD;"bDUCKS"

```

Several more games are included in Chapter Three.

CHAPTER TWO — INFORMATION PROCESSING

2.1 INTRODUCTION †

This chapter is aimed at readers who want to use a ZX81 with 16K RAM to store and retrieve quantities of information, i.e. who want the micro-computer to act as an electronic filing system. The objective may be to design programs to assist in leisure activities or in small businesses. If you do not have a 16K RAM pack you will not be able to use much of the material in this chapter, but perhaps as you read through you will be encouraged to invest in one!

Data and Data Processing

RG Anderson in his book 'Data Processing and Management Information Systems' defines data processing as "the systematic recording, arranging, filing, processing and dissemination of facts". The term is often used synonymously with business computing as against scientific or technical computing. As a general rule business data processing involves the simple manipulation of large quantities of information while technical computing involves the complex manipulation of small quantities of information.

For example, a typical data processing activity might involve stock control: here a large number of records are maintained but the most complex processing involved would be simple addition or subtraction for goods received or despatched respectively. Contrast this with a typical technical computing activity, the evaluation of sets of equations: here a small set of coefficients is used as data but complex matrix arithmetic has to be used to produce the solutions.

It is the author's opinion that data processing is a much more realistic function for a home computer than technical computing. Many people would like a computer to handle all their filing, from addresses and telephone numbers to recipes, but how many require trigonometric and logarithmic processing capabilities? The only possible application of such facilities is in games (certainly a useful way to use a home computer), but in general, sophisticated maths is not required. It is unfortunate that home computer manufacturers, Sinclair Research included,

have addressed themselves more towards providing these technical computing facilities rather than data processing facilities such as large main memory capacities and good backing storage. In other words, Mr. Sinclair, why not forget about ARCSIN, ARCCOS and LN and give us a megabyte of online storage instead!

Hobbyhorses aside, a 16K ZX81 can be used for some very useful small tasks on the data processing side and we hope to give you the tools to develop your own such programs in this chapter.

2.2 CHARACTER HANDLING

Character Processing

While technical computing is mainly concerned with crunching numbers together, data processing deals largely with characters, either alphabetic characters or numbers not used for arithmetic purposes (e.g. code numbers). It is therefore essential that the reader has a good grasp of ZX81 character handling before embarking upon an information processing project. We suggest that you read over Chapters 7 and 21 of the Sinclair Manual and then follow the sections below.

Dimensions of Strings

A string can be used without first DIMensioning it, but giving a string a dimension can be useful if we always want it to be of fixed length. As an example, try this:

```
10 DIM A$(3)
20 PRINT "ENTER A WORD"
30 INPUT A$
40 PRINT A$
50 GO TO 20
```

The program will print the first three characters of any word you enter because A\$ can only contain three characters.

To stop the above program is difficult, but possible: rubout the quotes around the cursor when invited to enter a word and then enter CHR\$(99*99). This causes the ZX81 to attempt to evaluate 9999 — a

number too large for it to hold – so it crashes with error code 6.

Returning to dimensions of strings, it can be very useful to define a one character string which will always be used to INPUT responses to questions in a program, e.g.

```
10 DIM Z$(1)
...
100 PRINT "DO YOU WANT TO CONTINUE?"
110 INPUT Z$
120 IF Z$="N" THEN STOP
```

You may wonder why we bother with a dimension – why not do this:

```
100 PRINT "DO YOU WANT TO CONTINUE"
110 INPUT Z$
120 IF Z$(1)="N" THEN STOP
```

The answer is that if the user makes a null entry, i.e. just presses NEWLINE, the first version is OK but the second version crashes with code 3 at line 120 because Z\$(1) does not exist! It is vital in data processing programs which other people will use that the INPUTs be made as idiot-proof as possible. (See BOMB-PROOFING in Section 2.5).

Substrings

As we will see later in this chapter, verification of information input to a program is very important. Otherwise bad data gets onto files and it tends to make the whole system lookropy. A common verification is to check whether a string is alphabetic, i.e. contains letters A ... Z only.

```
10 PRINT "ENTER ALPHABETIC WORD"
20 INPUT A$
30 IF A$="" THEN GO TO 20
40 PRINT A$
50 FOR I=1 TO LEN A$
60 IF A$(I)<"A" OR A$(I)>"Z" THEN GO TO 100
70 NEXT I
80 PRINT "IS ALPHABETIC"
90 STOP
100 PRINT "HAS ERROR CHARACTER AT POSITION";I
110 PRINT "PLEASE RE-ENTER"
```

120 GO TO 20

Several techniques are employed in this program. Firstly at line 30 – always test for a null input and if one is found go back to the INPUT statement; try this out and see the effect from the user's end. Secondly at line 60 – relational operators work with characters as well as numbers. Lastly at line 100 – error messages should be as precise as possible to inform the user what he is doing wrong.

N.B. Be careful when using this routine because it treats 'space' as non-alphabetic, so "JOHN SMITH" would be rejected as non-alphabetic.

Exercise 2(a): modify the above program to allow spaces and hyphens as well as letters A to Z.

We often need to determine whether a string contains a given word or sequence of characters.

Exercise 2(b): write a program to enter a sentence and then test whether it contains the word "THE", and give an appropriate message.

2.3 DESIGN OF DATA PROCESSING PROGRAMS

Systems Analysis

In the world of business computing the analysis, design and implementation of computerised systems is a profession in itself. Obviously we are not going to call in a professional systems analyst to design programs for our 16K ZX81, but many of the methods used by the professionals can be scaled down and applied for our purposes.

Is It Feasible?

One of the first stages in systems analysis is the feasibility study – a survey of whether the area under study can usefully be computerised. Many data processing tasks are best done manually rather than by computer, and this applies especially to home DP. For example you may have some excellent ideas for a Recipe Access and Testing System for your spouse but how feasible is it that he/she will use RATS on a day-to-day basis? Do you have enough extra sockets or even room in the

kitchen for a ZX81, TV and cassette recorder? Will you be able to convince him/her that it is ten times better than his/her present manual system? Can the ZX81 cope with RATS storage requirements? Clearly these questions need honest answers before embarking upon a project which could consume many hours of precious time. A few of the areas you should consider are listed below:

BENEFITS — what substantial advantages would a computerised system have over the present system?

ZX81 CAPACITY — can the ZX81 store the program routines and data necessary for the system?

TECHNICAL ABILITY — are you sufficiently knowledgeable about the system and the relevant ZX81 facilities to implement your aims?

TIMESCALE — can the system be implemented in the time available?

USE — will the system be regularly and conscientiously used by the person(s) for whom it is designed?

Only after getting a positive answer to the above questions should you proceed with the design.

How Is It Done Now?

Before designing a new system a systems analyst takes a detailed look at how the present system operates using techniques such as interviewing staff, examination of documents, questionnaires and observation. If you are designing a system to be used by yourself you will have a clear idea of how you currently handle things and how things could be improved. However if you are producing a program to be used by someone else, you must get all this information from them. Since we are considering mainly filing systems on the ZX81 you need details of

Number of file records — present and future requirements

Size of records

How records are identified

How often records are added, changed or deleted.

Typical contents of records

How records are processed
Checking procedures

When we discuss the design of DP programs you will see why such facts are needed.

How Should It Be Done?

When getting together your ideas regarding features to be included in the computerised DP system, you need to be clear of the limitations of the current system and how these could be overcome. Eventually of course the facilities to be provided need to be listed in detail and a program routine designed to provide each facility. Appendix One describes a programming methodology that works: it is very important when writing a large program that a considerable amount of detailed program design is put in before touching the ZX81 keyboard.

You will need to pay particular attention to record formats and screen formats, i.e. what will be held in a file and what will appear on the screen. File formats are discussed in detail in Section 2.4. Good screen formats are vital for a workable program, particularly if the program will be used by a non-computer specialist, for example your husband or wife.

Typically, in a section of the program to allow you to add new records to the file, the information presented on the screen should clearly and concisely describe what data needs to be entered and in what order.

Features such as inverse video and judicious use of PRINT AT statements can make the program very user-friendly rather than user-nasty. It is best to actually map out on a piece of graph paper what will appear on the screen at major points in the program, and this can then be used to give you line and column numbers when you come to program your PRINT statements.

The Moment of Truth

Having designed the program, written it and debugged it according to the rules in Appendix One, the time comes to actually use it — “go live” in computing terminology. If someone else is using the program make sure that they are well-informed as to what to do to reap the amazing benefits offered by the program or else your efforts will have been wasted. In fact, if your family or others will be using your masterpiece of the programmer's art, a major exercise on your part will be selling the

system to them and training them: people will not use a computer (particularly if they object to nasty electronic objects and trailing wires) unless they are convinced it will help them in their own tasks or activities.

A final word of caution — a “parallel implementation” is often the best way of introducing your new system. In other words do not burn all your address books and telephone directories on the day that you introduce your Computerised Address and Telephone System. There is the remote possibility that someone might try something that you had not thought of and a hitherto unnoticed bug in CATS will jump out and grab the ZX81 by the throat; or even the not unheard of vagaries of 16K RAM packs could make the system die just after you have typed in a hundred and fifty names and addresses.



2.4 DATA STRUCTURES

Definitions

In this section we consider how information may best be organised for use as an ‘electronic filing system’.

First we define the terms used. A **field** is an item of data on a particular topic. A **record** is a collection of fields with some feature in common, and a **file** is a collection of related records, often organised in order.

To illustrate this terminology we introduce a sample application, a club membership list. This example will be used as the basis for all the concepts introduced in later sections of the chapter also. Assume that the list is currently kept by means of cards in a box, one card per member. The **file** is then the collection of cards in the box, while a **record** is an individual card and a **field** is some item on the card, e.g. name.

A card might look like this:

BETELGEUSE BREAKERS CLUB	
Membership Form	
Name	Ford Prefect
Address	23 Chatham Gardens
	London
Post Code	SW1X 1LB
Telephone	01-235-9649
Special Interest	Demolition
Membership Number	42
Handle	Earthman

N.B. For the uninitiated, **HANDLE** is the code name used to identify a breaker or CB user

Files

The formats of records and fields are very important since the file forms the heart of the data processing system. Each heading on the card above will be a field on a member’s record in the Betelgeuse Breakers Club (BBC) system which we are now starting to design. Whereas on a card we can have a few dotted lines upon which can be entered information, in a computerised system we must be much more precise as to the length of fields. The maximum number of characters allowed for each field must be chosen carefully. Every character will take up a byte of ZX81 memory so brevity is to be encouraged, although clarity must not suffer as a result.

Assume we choose the following:

NAME	—	length 15 characters
ADDRESS	—	length 50 characters
POSTCODE	—	length 8 characters
TELEPHONE NUMBER	—	maximum of 10 digits
SPECIAL INTEREST	—	length 20 characters
MEMBERSHIP NUMBER	—	3 digits
HANDLE	—	length 15 characters

Two fields above are numeric.[†] As the reader is no doubt aware, numbers can either be stored in the ZX81 as characters or digits, e.g.

```
LET A$="123" (characters)
or LET A=123 (digits)
```

As far as memory requirements are concerned, a character string is stored in N+2 bytes where N is the number of characters, while a number is always stored in five bytes. Therefore if a number is more than three digits long it is more economic to use numeric format than character format. Another consideration is the usage to which the number is put: if the number will be used in any calculations it may be best to store it in numeric format since arithmetic cannot be carried out on characters, although of course VAL can be used to convert a number from character format to numeric format.

It may be helpful to the programmer if we split some of the fields down into subfields. For example, if we want to access membership records by surname then we could make NAME split into FORENAME and SURNAME, or perhaps INITIALS and SURNAME. Similarly, a separate field for TOWN could be useful: it all depends, as we discuss below, on how the file will be accessed.

Tables

The SPECIAL INTEREST field merits more detailed attention. It is quite likely that the interests of the Betelgeuse Breakers can be classified into main areas. To save space on the file we could then choose some code or code number to identify each of these special interests. For example:[†]

Code No.	Special Interest
1	Demolition
2	Pangalactic Gargle Blasters
3	Sirius Cybernetics Corporation
4	Improbability Drive
5	Interplanetary DX
6	Vogon Poetry

and so on.

If the actual interest had to be displayed somewhere in the program, a

table could be kept relating the code number to the special interest. In fact, for simplicity the code number could act as the subscript to a string array holding the special interests.

Other Data Structures

For completeness it should be mentioned that several other ways of organising data apart from simple files and tables are possible. Linked lists and tree structures can be very useful in certain applications. The diagram below shows a binary tree structure:



Such structures are implemented by means of each record having a left and right pointer to other records. Such organisation can be very useful in manipulating the data contained therein, since to move records around the tree (e.g. in sorting) involves only the resetting of pointers.

Files, Tables and the ZX81

Most microcomputers have facilities to store files of data on a secondary memory device such as cassettes or floppy discs. Unfortunately the Sinclair ZX81 does not. However, when a ZX81 program is SAVED on cassette the data used by the program (in variables and arrays) is stored as well, and it is this feature that enables us to consider file processing on a ZX81.

Returning to our example, BBC could use an array for each field on a record

```

e.g. array N$ for NAMES
array A$ for ADDRESSES
array P$ for POSTCODES
array T for TELEPHONE NUMBERS
array S for SPECIAL INTEREST code numbers

```

array M for MEMBERSHIP numbers
array HS for HANDLE

Then a complete record would consist of a combination of members of these arrays, e.g. the first member would have his name stored in NS(1) address in AS(1), postcode in PS(1), telephone number in T(1) and so on. Assuming the system is designed for one hundred members, the arrays would be declared as follows:

```
DIM NS(100,15)
DIM AS(100,50)
DIM PS(100,8)
DIM T(100)
DIM S(100)
DIM M(100)
DIM HS(100,15)
```

We can immediately calculate how much storage time this will occupy

array NS takes up about	100 x 15	=	1500 bytes
array AS	100 x 50	=	5000 bytes
" PS	100 x 8	=	800 bytes
" T	100 x 5	=	500 bytes
" S	100 x 5	=	500 bytes
" M	100 x 5	=	500 bytes
" HS	100 x 15	=	1500 bytes
Total			10300 bytes

Another approach to file storage on the ZX81 is to have a single array, RS, holding the records so that RS(1) = first record, and so on. In this case each field starts at a given position and the numbers must be stored in character form. We may describe the records in RS using a RECORD FORMAT document such as the one following:—

BBC System		RECORD FORMAT			Member File
		No. of Records = 100	Length of Record = 102 bytes		
		Name of Array = R\$			
FIELD No.	FIELD NAME	START BYTE	END BYTE	LENGTH	VALUES
1	Name	1	15	15	
2	Address	16	65	50	
2.1	Street	16	45	30	
2.2	Town	46	65	20	
3	Postcode	66	73	8	
4	Tel.No.	74	83	10	Numeric
5	Interest Code	84	84	1	1-9
6	Membership No.	85	87	3	Numeric
7	Handle	88	102	15	

For 100 records we declare RS as DIM RS(100, 102) which will take up 10200 bytes approximately.

Notice that we have split ADDRESS into STREET and TOWN, that is the TOWN will always start at the 46th character position.

This is in fact the record format that we will use in this chapter to develop BBC programs. However it may help to mention an alternative in record design — that of **variable length fields**. In the record format above, much space will be wasted by data not filling their allowed field sizes. For example our sample record would be stored as:

```
1 16 46
+ + +
[FORDbPREFECTbb23bCHATHAMbGARDENSbbbbbbbbbbLONDON}
66 74 84 85 88 102
+ + +
{bbbbbbbbbbSW1Xb8LB012359649b 1 42b EARTHMANbBBBBbb (b=space)
```


Which contains a lot of unused space. With variable length working we store a special terminator symbol after each field, and it is this that indicates to the program the end of one field and the start of another. We could use inverse characters as terminators, e.g.:

```
FORDPREFECT 5236CHATHAMBGARDENS LONDON P1SW1X68LB
10123596411 10142 EARTHMAN
```

which only takes up 71 bytes rather than 102 above. If this is an average saving of space, then with 100 records we will save about 3100 bytes. The trade-off is that extra processing is required by the program to find and pick out specific fields. If you are short on file storage space this is certainly the technique to use, if your computer has the facilities to do this. Unfortunately the ZX81 does not since we are limited by the way in which the ZX81 handles string arrays. If we want to store 100 records in a string array RS, we must dimension RS thus

```
DIM RS(100,N)
```

where N is the length of each record. Thus we must choose a fixed record length, although we may have variable length fields within a record.

Variable Length Records

The only way of implementing true variable length records is to store the entire file as one long string with separator symbols between each of the records. We could for example use inverse asterisks, e.g.

```
RS
```

RECORD 1	•	RECORD 2	•	RECORD 3	•	RECORD 4	•	etc.
----------	---	----------	---	----------	---	----------	---	------

In this way each record only takes up the number of bytes that it needs. However what you win on the swings you lose on the roundabouts and efficient storage formats require extra processing to access and use them. One fairly easy way of accessing records stored in this format is to set up a pointer array P, in which P(i) shows the starting position of record i in RS. So to extract record 15 from the array and put it into XS we have

```
LET XS = RS(P(15) TO P(16) - 1)
```

Using this method we can dispense with the separator symbols and store one record immediately after another.

As an example we can write a program which invites the user to enter ten names; store the names in a single string NS and set up pointers in array P to indicate the starting position of each name. Then we invite the user to enter a record number (between 1 & 10) and extract and print out the appropriate record.

The program is listed below:

```
10 DIM NS(300)
15 DIM P(11)
20 LET C=1
30 PRINT "PLEASE ENTER 10 NAMES"
40 FOR I=1 TO 10
50 PRINT TAB 5;I;"b";
60 INPUT XS
70 IF XS="" THEN GO TO 60
80 LET P(I)=C
90 LET L=LEN XS
95 LET NS(C TO C+L-1)=XS
100 LET C=C+L
110 PRINT XS
120 NEXT I
125 LET P(11)=C
130 PAUSE 200
135 POKE 16437,255
140 CLS
150 PRINT AT 10,0;"ENTER RECORD NUMBER OR 0 TO STOP"
160 INPUT N
165 IF N=0 THEN STOP
170 IF N<0 OR N>10 THEN GO TO 160
180 CLS
190 PRINT AT 10,7;"RECORD NUMBER",N
200 PRINT AT 12,14;"IS"
210 PRINT AT 14,(31+P(N)-P(N+1))/2;NS(P(N) TO P(N+1)-1)
220 GO TO 130
```

Method:

- Set current position pointer C to 1
- Carry out the following for entry number I=1...10

2.5 FILE PROCESSING

Introduction

Having considered the different ways in which information can be stored in memory we can look at typical ways of processing it. We will first of all look at our example of the Betelgeuse Breakers Club (BBC) membership list in more detail, delving into what processing facilities would be required; we then think of what features need to be incorporated in file processing systems generally; and finally we split file processing down into typical modules such as file creation, validation, sorting and update, and use the BBC example to illustrate each of these concepts.

Sample Requirement

In Section 2.4 a typical Betelgeuse Breakers Club membership card was shown, and the file format for a computerised system was also explained (see page 46).

In the design of large computer program suites it is common for a user department to write a report specifying what facilities are required – an OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENT. Although we are considering information processing on a much smaller scale, it is still necessary to list what features our program aims to provide, since for every major facility a section will need to be included in the program.

The Secretary of the Betelgeuse Breakers Club will probably be looking for facilities in a computer system similar to the requirements of any Club Secretary. Let us assume these are:

- (i) finding a record by name, membership number or handle
- (ii) getting a list of all members' names and handles
- (iii) getting a list of all members interested in a certain topic,
- (iv) finding out which membership subscriptions are due; if, as is likely, membership numbers are handed out chronologically, this effectively means listing members with numbers in a certain range.

In addition there are certain run-of-the-mill facilities that must be available including adding and removing records and so on. These facilities will be formalised and developed as program modules in the final subsection of 2.5.

- (a) Enter name X\$
- (b) Store C at position I in pointer array P
- (c) Calculate length L of X\$
- (d) Insert name X\$ into array N\$ between positions C and C+L-1
- (e) Update C to next free position in array N\$
- (f) Print name X\$
- (iii) Store final value of C in P(11)
- (iv) Wait for 4 seconds
- (v) Clear screen
- (vi) Enter record number N
- (vii) If N=0 stop
- (viii) If N not between 0 and 10 then go back to (vi)
- (ix) Clear screen
- (x) Display record number N by accessing between positions P(I) and P(N+1)-1 in array N\$
- (xi) Go back to (iv)

List of Variable Names

- array N\$ = holds the 10 names as a single string
- array P = holds pointers to starting positions of names in N\$
- C = shows next free position in array N\$
- I = loop counter indicating sequence number of name being entered
- X\$ = name as entered
- L = length of X\$
- N = record number to be printed

Comments

The technique of adding records to a single string is very useful and can be applied to records having multiple fields, each of which can themselves be of variable length.

N.B. The weird looking algebra at line 210 in the column position is to make sure that the name is printed centrally on the screen, whatever the length. As we will see in the next section, clarity or even prettiness of output gives greater user-friendliness (Programs with Pleasant Personalities).

Program Features

Before seeing how a typical file processing program is written it is a salutary exercise to consider certain elements of programming style and technique. We aim to design systems which will be **bomb-proof** (or idiot-proof), **user-friendly** and **garbage-free**. Such terms may mean as little to the reader at this stage as redneck radio to an Easter Bunny, but all will be made clear.

BOMB-PROOFING is the careful design of programs and particularly INPUT sections so that the program cannot be made to terminate abnormally, (i.e. crash or bomb out). This is particularly important if the program user is not the program author. To achieve good bomb-proofing the program designer has to develop a very low opinion of the abilities of the intended user (even if it is himself), and hence the synonymous term idiot-proofing. In other words, if a mistake can be made, assume the user will make it.

As a simple example, consider a part of a program in which a number between 0 and 999 must be entered, e.g. as a membership number. Bomb-proofing theory suggests that we should tell the user the valid range and also check his entry:

```
100 PRINT "ENTER MEMBERSHIP NO. (0-999)"
110 INPUT M
120 IF M<0 OR M>999 THEN GO TO 110
```

We find that causing the program to wait until the user enters a correct number is usually sufficient, but some designers prefer to add an extra message, e.g.

```
110 INPUT M
120 IF M>=0 AND M<=999 THEN GO TO 150
130 PRINT "OUT OF RANGE:REENTER"
140 GO TO 110
150 ...
```

However with this system, if the user persists in entering rubbish the number of error messages printed will eventually fill the screen and thus crash the system.

Nevertheless the major fault in the discussion so far is that if the user makes a non-numeric entry, e.g. WHAT, then the system crashes. The

only way to get round this is never to have straight *numeric* INPUT statements but always to use strings and then convert them to numbers if they are valid, e.g.

```
...
100 PRINT "ENTER MEMBERSHIP NO.(0-999)"
110 INPUT M$
120 FOR I=1 TO LEN M$
130 IF M$(I)<"0" OR M$(I)>"9" THEN GO TO 110
140 NEXT I
150 LET M=VAL M$
160 IF M>999 THEN GO TO 110
```

If several numbers are required to be input in a program it is a good idea to write a general subroutine to carry out the string-to-numeric conversion.

As far as string inputs are concerned, the main idiotic action to beware of is the null input, i.e. where the user just hits the NEWLINE key. In the last example above LEN M\$ at line 120 evaluates to zero so the FOR . . . NEXT loop is stopped and line 150 cannot be executed because VAL of the null string is incorrect (error code C). Therefore every string input must be followed by a test for the null string. Here:

```
115 IF M$="" THEN GO TO 110
```

However the reader should note that if the string has previously been DIMensioned then this test will not work. This is because the ZX81 sets a string to all spaces when it is DIMensioned. You can show this by the following simple program

```
10 DIM M$(3)
20 INPUT M$
30 PRINT ":",M$,""
```

Do a RUN 20 and enter just NEWLINE : M\$ is null. However including the DIM statement by RUN and following the exactly similar procedure causes three spaces to be printed for M\$.

USER-FRIENDLINESS was the second objective in program design. We have already referred to this and in fact idiot-proofing is part of being user-friendly or perhaps user-condescending. It consists of making

the program as easy to use and human-like as possible. Prompts should be in plain English wherever possible and screen formats should look nice with clear headings, central placing and highlighted where appropriate.

As suggested in Section 2.3 the program designer may map out each screen display on a piece of graph paper and check whether the display meets these objectives.

GARBAGE-FREE was the third quality required, and this refers to the old computer adage "GIGO" or "garbage in, garbage out". In other words if you accept incorrect data into a computer system then you will get incorrect results. Here we are not considering errors which cause a program to crash but rather errors which produce wrong results. This is particularly relevant when information is being fed in to be used as file records: once information is on file it may be difficult and messy to remove it.

Books on systems analysis theory list a vast range of checks which can be carried out on input data to avoid garbage being accepted onto file. Such validation methods include format checks, range checks, period checks, compatibility checks and many more. The alphabetic validation listed on page 37 is a typical example of making sure that numeric or special characters are not accepted into straight alphabetic fields such as that for a person's name.

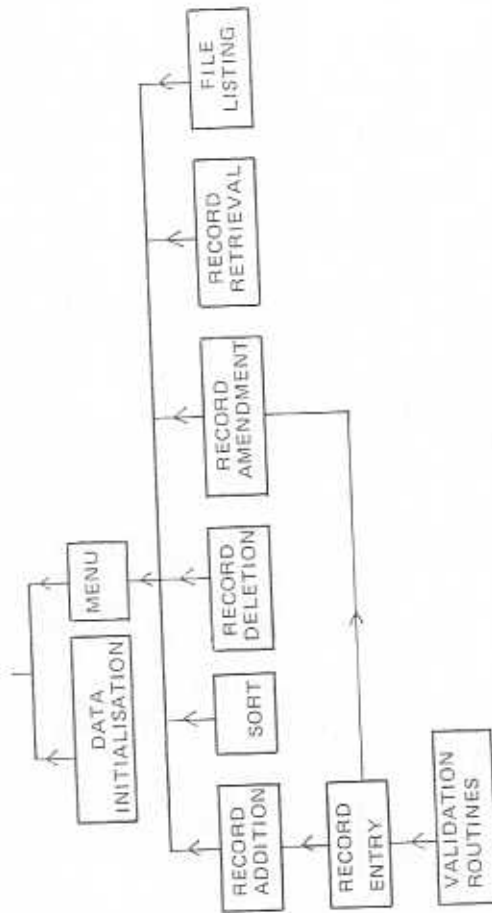
Validation techniques often include an element of redundancy and the use of a **check digit** is a good example. A check digit is an extra digit at the end of a code number which is formed by some specified calculation on the code number. The check digit would initially be calculated when the code number was first allocated and then when the code is entered into a program, the program includes a routine to recalculate the check digit: if a discrepancy appears then the entry is incorrect.

Unfortunately the reader may find that in all these three aims, some limitations have to be made purely because of lack of ZX81 memory space.

Program Modules

All of the program modules required by the Betelgeuse Breakers Club will be included in a single ZX81 program. The program will be menu-driven, that is, a menu of options available will be displayed at the beginning, and after the option chosen is completed the program returns to the menu.

The modular structure of the program is shown below



DATA INITIALISATION

In the first section of the program we declare the arrays required and other initial data values.

The arrays used are:

N\$	=	Member's name, length 15 characters
S\$	=	Member's street, length 30 characters
T\$	=	Member's town, length 20 characters
P\$	=	Member's postcode, length 8 characters
B\$	=	Member's telephone number, length 10 characters
C\$	=	Member's interest code, length 1 character
M\$	=	Member's number, length 3 characters
H\$	=	Member's handle, length 15 characters
R\$	=	the membership file, 80 records of 102 characters

Z\$ = general user's response, length 1 character
 I\$ = table of interests, 9 records of 15 characters each
 X\$ = record number entry, length 3 characters
 W\$ = working space for sorting, length 102 characters

We also define N, the number of records currently on file. Note we are restricting this to a maximum of EIGHTY because of memory limitation.

This section is only used in the first program run to give initial values to data - All subsequent program runs are started by GO TO 50 so that previously defined data are retained.

```

10 DIM N$(15)
12 DIM S$(30)
14 DIM T$(20)
16 DIM P$(8)
18 DIM B$(10)
20 DIM C$(1)
22 DIM M$(3)
24 DIM H$(15)
26 DIM R$(80,102)
28 DIM Z$(1)
30 DIM I$(9,15)
32 DIM X$(3)
34 DIM W$(102)
40 LET N=0
41 LET I$(1)="Interest 1"
42 LET I$(2)="Interest 2"
43 LET I$(3)="Interest 3"
44 LET I$(4)="Interest 4"
45 LET I$(5)="Interest 5"
46 LET I$(6)="Interest 6"
47 LET I$(7)="Interest 7"
48 LET I$(8)="Interest 8"
49 LET I$(9)="Interest 9"

```

MENU:

The menu section displays the choice of options available and directs program control to the appropriate module (b=space, below).

```

50 CLS
60 PRINT TAB 4;"BETELGEUSEbBREAKERSbCLUB"
70 PRINT
80 PRINT "1.bADDbAbRECORD"
90 PRINT "2.bSORTbRECORDS"
100 PRINT "3.bDELETEbAbRECORD"
110 PRINT "4.bCHANGEbAbRECORD"
120 PRINT "5.bDISPLAYbAbRECORD"
130 PRINT "6.bLISTbTHEbFILE"
140 PRINT AT 19,0;"ENTERbNO.bREQUIREDbORb0bTObSTOP"
150 INPUT Z$
155 IF Z$="0" THEN STOP
160 LET MO=CODE Z$-28
170 IF MO<1 OR MO>6 THEN GO TO 150
180 GO TO 500 *MO

```

MO is the menu option number chosen.

RECORD ENTRY:

Both option number 1 and option number 4 will require the entry of a record. In the former case, a new record will be added, whereas in the latter case an already existing record will be changed. However the entries will both require formatting and checking of inputs, so we write a general-purpose record entry module which can be used by both options.

The module will be entered with RN set to the number of the record to be entered. It then follows this method:

- ... actual data chosen as require
- (i) Clear screen.
 - (ii) Display sequence number RN of record to be entered
 - (iii) Enter a member record:
 - (a) Enter name into N\$
 - (b) Enter street into S\$
 - (c) Enter town into T\$
 - (d) Enter postcode into P\$
 - (e) Enter telephone number into B\$, checking it is numeric
 - (f) Enter interest code into CS, checking it is 1-9
 - (g) Enter membership number into M\$, checking it is 0-999
 - (h) Enter handle into H\$
 - (iv) Display record as entered.
 - (v) User confirms or cancels record

- (a) If confirmed (1) move NS, SS, TS, PS, B\$, C\$, M\$ and H\$ to RS (RN)
- (2) add 1 to RN
- (3) Output confirmation message
- (4) Go to (vi) below
- (b) If cancelled (1) Clear screen
- (2) Output cancellation message.
- (vi) Invite entry of NEWLINE or M
 - (a) If NEWLINE, go to (i) above
 - (b) If M return to menu.

Notice that we do not put the user's entries straight onto the file RS: we demand positive confirmation of his entries before this happens (step (v) above).

The BASIC for this section appears below:

```

5000 CLS
5010 PRINT TAB 4;"ENTRYbOFbRECORDbNUMBERb";RN
5020 PRINT AT 2,0;"NAME:"; (inverse)
5030 INPUT NS
5050 PRINT NS
5060 PRINT AT 4,0;"ADDRESS" (inverse)
5070 PRINT AT 5,4;"STREET:"; (inverse)
5080 INPUT S$
5100 PRINT S$
5110 PRINT TAB 4;"TOWN:"; (inverse)
5120 INPUT T$
5140 PRINT T$
5150 PRINT "POSTCODE:"; (inverse)
5160 INPUT P$
5180 PRINT P$
5190 PRINT AT 9,0;"TELbNO:"; (inverse)
5200 INPUT B$
5220 GO SUB 9000
5230 IF NOT OK THEN GO TO 5200
5240 PRINT B$
5250 PRINT AT 11,0;"INTERESTbCODE:"; (inverse)
5260 INPUT C$
5280 GO SUB 9100
5290 IF NOT OK THEN GO TO 5260
5300 PRINT C$

```

```

5310 PRINT AT 13,0;"MEMBERSHIPbNO:"; (inverse)
5320 INPUT M$
5340 GO SUB 9200
5350 IF NOT OK THEN GO TO 5320
5360 PRINT M$
5370 PRINT AT 15,0;"HANDLE:"; (inverse)
5380 INPUT H$
5400 PRINT H$
5410 PRINT AT 19,0;"ISbTHISbCORRECT?"
5420 INPUT Z$
5430 IF Z$="N" THEN GO TO 5570
5440 IF Z$="Y" THEN GO TO 5460
5450 GO TO 5420
5460 LET RS(RN,1 TO 15)=NS
5470 LET RS(RN,16 TO 45)=S$
5480 LET RS(RN,46 TO 65)=T$
5490 LET RS(RN,66 TO 73)=P$
5500 LET RS(RN,74 TO 83)=B$
5510 LET RS(RN,84)=C$
5520 LET RS(RN,85 TO 87)=M$
5530 LET RS(RN,88 TO 102)=H$
5540 PRINT AT 19,0;"RECORDbADDEDbTObFILE"
5550 LET RN=RN+1
5560 RETURN
5570 CLS
5580 PRINT AT 19,0;"ENTRYbCANCELLED"
5590 RETURN

```

As you can see it is all good solid boring stuff — the meat of data processing. However, having it as a subroutine at least means we do not need to enter it twice.

The routine returns with RN incremented by one if a record has been entered onto the file, or the same if no record has been entered.

The screen format used is:

ENTRY OF RECORD NUMBER -

NAME: _____
 ADDRESS _____
 STREET: _____
 TOWN: _____
 POSTCODE: _____
 TEL. NO: _____
 INTEREST CODE: _____
 MEMBERSHIP NO: _____
 HANDLE: _____

Message Line

VALIDATION ROUTINES

The record entry section invokes three subroutines to check the entry o telephone number, interest code and membership number. Each of the routines return a value OK, set to zero if the entry was invalid or one if it was valid.

Telephone number validation:

```
9000 LET OK=0
9010 FOR I=1 TO 10
9020 IF B$(I)="b" OR (B$(I)>="0" AND B$(I)<="9") THEN
  GO TO 9040
9030 RETURN
9040 NEXT I
9050 LET OK=1
9060 RETURN
```

Interest code validation:

```
9100 LET OK=0
9110 IF C$="b" THEN LET C$="0"
9120 IF C$<"0" OR C$>"9" THEN RETURN
9130 LET OK=1
9140 RETURN
```

Membership number validation:

```
9200 LET OK=0
9210 FOR I=1 TO 3
9230 IF M$(I)<"0" OR M$(I)>"9" THEN RETURN
9240 NEXT I
9250 LET M=VAL M$
9260 IF M=0 THEN RETURN
9270 LET OK=1
9280 RETURN
```

We can also have record number validation:

```
9300 LET OK=0
9310 IF X$(1)="b" THEN RETURN
9320 FOR I=1 TO 3
9330 IF X$(I)="b" OR (X$(I)<="9" AND X$(I)>="0")
  THEN GO TO 9350
9340 RETURN
9350 NEXT I
9360 LET VN=VAL X$
9370 IF VN>N OR VN=0 THEN RETURN
9380 LET OK=1
9390 RETURN
```

RECORD ADDITION:

This just adds a record at the end of the file and optionally repeats

```
500 LET RN=N+1
510 GO SUB 5000
520 IF RN=N+2 THEN LET N=N+1
530 PRINT AT 20,0;"PRESSbNEWLINEbTOADDbRECORD
  b";RN
540 PRINT AT 21,6;"ORbMFORbMENU"
550 INPUT Z$
560 IF Z$="b" THEN GO TO 510
570 IF Z$="M" THEN GO TO 50
580 GO TO 550
```

RECORD AMENDMENT

This is very similar to record addition, but allows the user to re-input and therefore change a record already on file:

```

2000      CLS
2010      PRINT AT 20,0;"ENTERbNUMBERbOFbRECORD"
2020      INPUT X$
2030      GO SUB 9300
2040      IF NOT OK THEN GO TO 2020
2050      LET RN=VN
2100      GO SUB 5000
2200      PRINT AT 20,0;"PRESSbNEWLINEbTObCHANGEb
        ANOTHER"
2210      PRINT AT 21,6;"ORbMbFORbMENU"
2220      INPUT Z$
2230      IF Z$="b" THEN GO TO 2000
2240      IF Z$="M" THEN GO TO 50
2250      GO TO 2220

```

SORT:

It is likely that the membership file will be in membership number order since as previously mentioned, numbers will probably be allocated in chronological sequence. However a sorting routine is included to allow for any anomalies.

There are many different methods of sorting information into sequence and such methods are easily found in computing textbooks. The following routine uses a simple exchange sort:

For pointer q from 1 to p:
 If no. of record q > no. of record q + 1 then swap record q and q + 1

The routine uses characters 85 to 87 of record R\$, the membership number: if sequencing is required on name or another attribute this specification may easily be changed.

```

1000      CLS
1002      PRINT AT 20,0;"SORTING ..."
1006      FOR P=N-1 TO 1 STEP -1

```

```

1010      FOR Q= 1 TO P
1020      IF R$(Q,85 TO 87) <= R$(Q+1,85 TO 87) THEN GO
        TO 1060
1030      LET W$=R$(Q)
1040      LET R$(Q)=R$(Q+1)
1050      LET R$(Q+1)=W$
1060      NEXT Q
1070      NEXT P
1080      PRINT AT 20,0;"SORTbCOMPLETED"
1090      PAUSE 250
1100      POKE 16437,255
1110      GO TO 50

```

RECORD DELETION:

If someone leaves the Betelgeuse Breakers Club then their record must be deleted from file. To do this the user selects this option and specifies the sequence number of the record to be removed.

```

1500      CLS
1505      PRINT AT 20,0;"ENTERbNO.bOFbRECORDbFORb
        DELETION"
1510      INPUT X$
1520      GO SUB 9300
1522      IF NOT OK THEN GO TO 1510
1524      LET D=VN
1530      PRINT AT 21,0;"DELETING ..."
1540      FOR I=D TO N-1
1550      LET R$(I)=R$(I+1)
1560      NEXT I
1570      LET N=N-1
1580      CLS
1590      PRINT AT 19,0;"RECORDb";D;"bHASbBEENb
        DELETED"
1600      PRINT AT 20,0;"PRESSbNEWLINEbFORbMOREb
        DELETIONS"
1610      PRINT AT 21,6;"OR M FOR MENU"
1620      INPUT Z$
1630      IF Z$="b" THEN GO TO 1500
1640      IF Z$="M" THEN GO TO 50
1650      GO TO 1620

```

RECORD RETRIEVAL

One of the requirements of the Breakers Club Secretary was to retrieve a record by name, membership number or handle. This is how it is done

```

2500 CLS
2510 PRINT AT 10,0;"SPECIFYbONEbOFbTHEb
      FOLLOWING:"
2520 PRINT AT 12,0;"NAME:"
2530 PRINT "MEMBERSHIPbNO:"
2540 PRINT "HANDLE:"
2550 PRINT AT 20,0;"ENTERbVALUEbORbNEWLINEb
      FORbEACH"
2560 INPUT N$
2570 PRINT AT 12,5;N$
2580 INPUT M$
2590 PRINT AT 13,14;M$
2600 INPUT H$
2610 PRINT AT 14,7;H$
2620 IF N$(1)="b" THEN LET N$(1)="*"
2630 IF M$(1)="b" THEN LET M$(1)="*"
2640 IF H$(1)="b" THEN LET H$(1)="*"
2650 PRINT AT 20,0;"SEARCHINGbBBBBBBBBBBBBBBBBBBBB"
2660 FOR I=1 TO N
2670 IF R$(I,1 TO 15)=N$ OR R$(I,85 TO 87)=M$ OR
      R$(I,88 TO 102)=H$ THEN GO TO 2715
      NEXT I
2680 CLS
2690 PRINT AT 10,5;"NObRECORDbFOUND"
2700 GO TO 2810
2710 CLS
2715 PRINT TAB 10;"RECORDbNO.b";I
2720 PRINT AT 2,0;R$(I,1 TO 15)
2730 PRINT R$(I,16 TO 45)
2740 PRINT R$(I,46 TO 65)
2750 PRINT R$(I,66 TO 73)
2760 PRINT R$(I,74 TO 83)
2770 PRINT R$(I,84)
2780 PRINT R$(I,85 TO 87)
2790 PRINT R$(I,88 TO 102)
2800 PRINT AT 20,0;"PRESSbNEWLINEbFORbANOTHER
      RECORD"
2810 PRINT AT 21,6;"ORbMbFORbMENU"
2820

```

```

2830 INPUT Z$
2840 IF Z$="b" THEN GO TO 2500
2850 IF Z$="M" THEN GO TO 50
2860 GO TO 2830

```

Notice that it is helpful to the user to display a message to show that the ZX81 is busy doing something, e.g. SEARCHING at line 2650.

FILE LISTING:

This section shows how to implement a full or selective file listing. In the listing, only members' names and handles are displayed.

Options are:

(i)	full listing
(ii)	listing of members with a given interest
(iii)	listing of members with membership numbers above a certain figure

```

3000 CLS
3010 PRINT TAB 10;"LISTbRECORDS"
3020 PRINT AT 20,0;"DObYOUbWANTbAbFULLbLISTb
      (Y/N)?"
3030 INPUT Z$
3040 IF Z$="Y" THEN GO TO 3065
3050 IF Z$="N" THEN GO TO 3120
3060 GO TO 3030
3065 CLS
3070 FOR I=1 TO N
3080 SCROLL
3090 PRINT AT 15,0;R$(I,1 TO 15);";";R$(I,88 TO 102)
3100 NEXT I
3110 GO TO 3350
3120 PRINT AT 20,0;"SELEcTbBYbINTERESTbORb
      NUMBER?b"
3130 INPUT Z$
3140 IF Z$="I" THEN GO TO 3170
3150 IF Z$="N" THEN GO TO 3260
3160 GO TO 3130
3170 PRINT AT 2,10;"INTERESTS"
3180 FOR I=1 TO 9

```

CHAPTER THREE — EDUCATION

3.1 THE ZX81 AS AN EDUCATIONAL TOOL

Introduction

At the time of writing Sinclair Research is operating a special offer to UK schools whereby a complete 16K ZX81 system with printer can be obtained at half-price. The offer came about in response to a Government-funded scheme to install a microcomputer in every secondary school, by providing a 50% subsidy for the purchase of either an Acorn Atom or a Research Machines 380Z.

Even without such a scheme for the Sinclair ZX80 this microcomputer found a place in many educational institutions. Certainly the ZX81 will prove even more popular. School students themselves will start to find that it is within their budgets, or rather their parents'. The ZX81 has many facilities that could make it a useful educational resource, but the key facility in education is of course suitable software. In this chapter we consider various types of educational computing and the design of software to be used in the primary and secondary sectors.

Computer Studies

Many secondary schools use microcomputers largely for examination subjects such as CSE or GCE 'O' level Computer Studies or GCE 'A' level Computer Science. These subjects generally require students to carry out substantial programming with a number of documented programs being submitted as part of the course assessment.

Most schools equipped with microcomputers allow and encourage students to get involved with programming. Even many primary schools in the author's region are encouraging children to develop their own programs with assistance from teaching staff.

In order for a microcomputer to be suitable for the learning of computer programming by a range of school students and also for more complicated project work for external assessment, the machine must be very flexible. The ZX81 scores well in this area and has a number of facilities that make program entry and development much easier than on many

```

3190 PRINT I$;"b";R$(I)
3200 NEXT I
3210 PRINT AT 20,0;"ENTERbINTERESTbCODEb
NUMBERb(1-9)";
INPUT C$
GO SUB 9100
IF NOT OK THEN GO TO 3220
LET M$="999"
GO TO 3300
PRINT AT 20,0;"LISTbMEMBERSbWITHbNUMBERSb
>?bbb";
INPUT M$
GO SUB 9200
IF NOT OK THEN GO TO 3270
LET C$="..."
CLS
FOR I=1 TO N
IF R$(I,84)<>C$ AND R$(I,85 TO 87)
<=M$ THEN GO TO 3340
SCROLL
PRINT AT 15,0;R$(I,1 TO 15);";";
R$(I,88 TO 102)
NEXT I
PRINT AT 20,0;"PRESSbNEWLINEbFORbMENU"
PAUSE 5000
POKE 16437,255
GO TO 50

```

Summary

When the above routines have been entered, records can be added and the system used. Once data has been entered, it is vital that the system is always started by GO TO 50, since RUN automatically clears data. Always SAVE the system on cassette whenever any file additions or modifications have been made.

Although your own file processing application may not be identical to the Betelgeuse Breakers Club system, the same principles apply and many of the routines in this chapter may be used directly.

similar micros. In particular the entry of keywords by single key depressions and the automatic syntax checking of lines has been found to aid beginners considerably. The ZX81's line editing capability is also unusually sophisticated for a machine of its size.

For more advanced programming the ZX81 has many powerful number-handling and text-handling facilities permitting a range of applications programs to be developed. Obviously the addition of 16K memory extensions are vital for any degree of sophistication, but with this a great deal of potential is available. Finally, the addition of a printer at around £50 (projected at the time of writing) makes the system suitable for project work where hard copy is vital: in fact the cheapness of the printer is a considerable advantage over other systems.

On the negative side, ZX81 report codes are clumsy in program development. It is a nuisance having to look up the meaning of codes in order to find out why a program is going wrong. The tiny keyboard with its multifunction keys, while being a novelty and definite aid for those not familiar with keyboards, is a considerable disadvantage when entering long and complicated programs.

General Subjects

Increasingly schools are buying computers for use as educational aids in general subjects, rather than in computer studies. This seems to be a more realistic and sensible approach for many secondary students since it is much easier to recognise the value of computer technology if a student is already aware of actual problems which he later discovers a computer can help to solve. Similarly for primary schoolchildren a background in using micros as *tools* similar to cassette recorders or projectors enables them to encounter computers in their later educational or working lives without having inbuilt prejudices against the technology involved.

In this area therefore we are analysing the validity of the ZX81 as a black-box (!) providing educational facilities. Obviously a crucial aspect here is the quality and relevance of the software used, and since the best educational software is written by subject teachers rather than by computer people, this chapter aims to aid the reader in producing good software. However we can make some general comments about ZX81 BASIC and its relevance in this area of use. Presentation of information is very important in many subjects, and the graphics features of the

ZX81 are helpful although of limited resolution; similarly the SLOW compute and display facility is very useful in displaying active processes on the ZX81 screen. The inverse character displays available are also good but it could be argued that the provision of lower case characters would have been more helpful: it is a considerable disadvantage at the primary level or in any language work to have to use upper case characters only.

Being able to interact with computer programs in realtime, using INKEY\$ can be an advantage in the educational area, and exercises in coordination can easily be designed using a limited number of keys. In fact the touch-sensitive keyboard can easily be partitioned off by overlays, with the active keys being labelled with special symbols according to the application currently in use.

Categories of Educational Programs

Before embarking upon the study of specific programs let us consider what general categories of programs can be used in the primary and secondary spheres to aid the teaching of non-computing subjects: this chapter does not seek to develop programs for Computer Studies, or for use in educational administration (see Chapter Two for ideas on this).

Demonstration or simulation programs are those with little student involvement, either run by a teacher or without any more inputs. Such programs are of limited value but can be used to demonstrate the facilities of a machine to an introductory group or at a more advanced level to demonstrate some process that is difficult to explain or model otherwise, eg: a dangerous chemical experiment might be shown by the reagents and products being displayed on the screen.

Programmed learning programs depend upon a program taking on to a small extent the role of a teacher: typically a program might contain teaching material on a topic and the student would respond to certain questions posed by the program. His response would determine the next block of material displayed by the program. Since these programs often require the storage of a great deal of textual material to be effective, the value of such programs on the ZX81 is limited.

Test or quiz programs are a simpler variant of the previous category. Here a bank of questions is held in a program and the student is given each question in turn (or perhaps randomly from a large section of

questions) and has to reply by entering his answer on the keyboard. The computer then responds by assessing his answer as right or wrong, and if the latter a hint or further help may be given. At the end a score appears. If the quiz is substantial the program may be written so that the student may stop in the middle, SAVE everything on cassette and restart from where he left off at a later time: the ZX81 is one of the few microcomputers which makes this very easy.

Modelling programs simulate a real-life process so that the user can be involved in the process without the accompanying problems or equipment. For example a complete list of chemical compounds with their reactions to certain tests can be held on file and the student can then be presented by the program with an unnamed compound and can perform a series of tests on it until he can finally determine what it is — all without getting his white coat dirty.

Games programs often have sound educational value, and many programs at primary level can be written as games to achieve their goals. Even quite stuffy programs such as maths quizzes can be written with a game-like flavour eg: a game of snakes and ladders in which the player has to get a sum right before he can throw dice.

A selection of different types of programs appears in the remainder of the chapter. Many 'standard' educational programs can be picked up easily from text books, magazines or groups such as MUSE, and it is not the author's intention to re-produce such material. Instead programs have been chosen which particularly use the educational facilities of the ZX81.

3.2 EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

MATHS STEPPING STONES (16K)

Background

The first program in this section has been chosen to illustrate how an essentially simple and boring maths testing program can be made interesting and dynamic using realtime graphics.

Here is the simple and boring version:

```

10 LET S=0
20 FOR I=1 TO 10
30 LET A=2+INT(RND*8)
40 LET B=2+INT(RND*8)
50 LET C=A*B
60 PRINT AT 1,0;"TAB 2:";A;"bXb?b=";C;"b"
70 INPUT G
80 IF G=B THEN GO TO 110
90 PRINT AT 1,15;"NO.bANSWERbISb";B
100 GO TO 120
110 PRINT AT 1,15;"CORRECT" (inverse)
115 LET S=S+1
120 PRINT AT 1,8;B
130 NEXT I
140 PRINT
150 PRINT "YOUbGOTb";S;"bBRIGHTbOUTbOFb10"
```

There are 10 questions of the type $4 \times ? = 32$ and the data names used are

S = number of questions answered correctly

I = question number

A }

B } the question posed in the form $A \times B = C$

C }

G = user's attempt

There is nothing novel about this type of program and personal computer magazines and books are full of such things. Let us now consider a program which aims to test exactly the same principles but which does

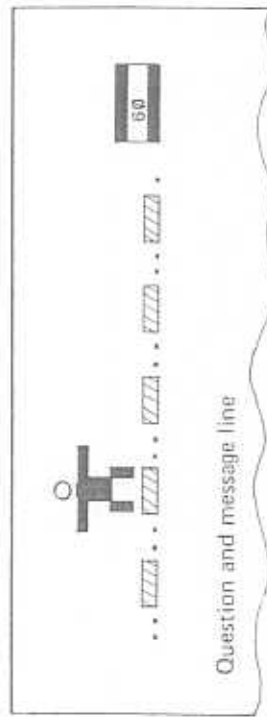
much more attractive way.

tion

yer is on one side of a river and a treasure chest is on the other
ne chest contains magic gold coins which as time goes on are
into frogs: the longer the player takes to cross the river the more
d less gold coins. The player crosses the river by means of five
g stones, but to reach each stepping stone he has to answer a
question. If the player has not crossed the river after twenty
ns the stones disappear and the player falls into the river. This
pens if all the coins have turned into frogs.

- (i) Initialise score S to zero and coins CO to 100
- (ii) Draw river scene on screen
- (iii) For I from 1 to 20
 - a) choose A at random between 2 and 9
 - b) choose B at random between 2 and 9
 - c) Evaluate C as A times B
 - d) Display I and question as $A \times ? = C$
 - e) If a key has been pressed:
 - 1) If key = value of B then
 - (a) Display message
 - (b) Add 1 to S
 - (c) If S = 6 display message and stop
 - (d) Move man
 - (e) Go to (3) below
 - 2) Display message
 - 3) Pause
 - 4) Repeat to (iii)
 - f) Subtract 1 from CO and display CO.
 - g) Go to (e) if no key pressed above.
 - h) If CO is zero, go to (iv) below.
 - i) Repeat to (iii)
- (iv) Display message and stop.

Screen Format



Program Listing (16K)

```

10 LET S=0
20 LET CO=100
30 PRINT AT 3,3,".....XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX"
   CO
40 PRINT AT 2,29,"■■■■"
50 PRINT AT 4,29,"■■■■"
60 LET X=0
70 GO SUB 500
80 FOR I=1 TO 20
90 LET A=2+INT(RND*8)
100 LET B=2+INT(RND*8)
110 LET C=A*B
120 PRINT AT 5,0;I;TAB 2;"b";A;"bxb?b=";C;
125 IF C<10 THEN PRINT "b"
130 PRINT AT 5,15;"bbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbb"
140 LET K$=INKEY$
150 IF K$="" THEN GO TO 310
155 PRINT AT 5,8;B
160 IF CODE K$-28<>B THEN GO TO 280
170 PRINT AT 5,15;"CORRECT"
180 LET S=S+1
190 IF S<>6 THEN GO TO 220
200 PRINT AT 6,0;"YOUbGOtb";CO;"bGOLDbCOINsb+b";100-CO;
   "bFROGS"
210 STOP
220 LET X=5*S
230 FOR J=0 TO 2

```

```

240 PRINT AT J,X-5;"bbb"
250 NEXT J
260 GO SUB 500
270 GO TO 290
280 PRINT AT 5,15;"NO.bANSWERbISb".B
300 PAUSE 300
310 LET CO=CO-1
315 IF CO=0 THEN GO TO 340
320 PRINT AT 3,29;"b".CO
325 IF CO<10 THEN PRINT "b"
326 IF KS="" THEN GO TO 140
330 NEXT I
340 PRINT AT 3,3;"....."
350 PRINT AT 6,0;"HARDbLUCKb-bYOUBWILLbGETbWET"
360 STOP
500 PRINT AT 0,X+1;"O"
510 PRINT AT 1,X;"■■■■"
520 PRINT AT 2,X;"■■■■"
530 RETURN

```

List of Variables

S = number of stepping stone upon which man is standing
 CO = number of gold coins left
 X = column position of man
 I = number of current question
 A =)
 B =) the question posed in the form A X B = C
 C =)
 J = loop counter

Comments

The child using the program need only press a single key to enter his answer – the use of INKEY\$ removes the need for NEWLINE at the end of entries.

After each attempt the correct sum stays on the screen for six seconds and the coin transmutation also temporarily halts. This period can be cut short by pressing NEWLINE if required, since this terminates the PAUSE. If the man reaches the chest then the game ends with a

message showing how many coins (and frogs!) he obtains.

To make the program easy to use a number of PRINT statements giving instructions on play should be included at the beginning of the listing.

Exercise 3(a): The theme of the program – crossing a river to a Treasure Chest – could be used in many different tasks other than a maths quiz, or at varying levels of difficulty. Modify the program to apply to a subject area of your choice.

SPELLING BIG WORDS (16K)

Description

This program is a spelling test which works by means of a word being displayed with a missing letter and the child has to enter the letter within a time limit. The word is displayed as four times normal size using direct access to the monitor character table. Words are entered by the teacher in a separate part of the program with the letter to be omitted being entered as an inverse character. N.B. Words up to 8 letters.

Method

Teacher :	(i) For I from 1 to 10 Enter word number I
	(ii) Stop
Child:	(i) Set score S to 0 (ii) For I from 1 to 10 a) Display word I, large with letter omitted b) Set counter to 20 c) Display counter d) If no key pressed 1) Decrement counter 2) Display counter 3) If counter = 0, display message & go to (g) 4) Go to (d) above e) If key pressed is correct 1) Add 1 to S 2) Display message 3) Go to (g)

- f) Display message and show correct letter
- g) Pause
- (iii) Display score S and stop

Screen Format



Program Listing (16K)

```

10 DIM WS(10,8)
20 PRINT TAB 7;"TEACHERSbSECTION"
30 PRINT "ENTERbWORDsbWITHbLETTERbTObBE"
40 PRINT "OMITTEDbINbINVERSEbFORM"
50 FOR I=1 TO 10
60 PRINT AT I+5,5;"WORD";I;TAB 12;"=";
70 INPUT WS(I)
80 PRINT WS(I)
90 NEXT I
100 STOP
210 LET S=0
220 FOR I=1 TO 10
225 CLS
226 FAST
227 PRINT AT 0,0;I
230 FOR K=1 TO 8
240 LET C=CODE WS(I,K)
250 IF C<128 THEN GO TO 280
260 LET MS=CHR$(C-128)
270 LET C=0
280 FOR L=0 TO 7
290 LET P=PEEK(7680+C*8+L)
300 LET V=128

```

```

310 FOR J=0 TO 7
320 IF P<V THEN GO TO 350
330 PLOT 8*(K-1)+J,39-L
340 LET P=P-V
350 LET V=V/2
360 NEXT J
370 NEXT L
380 NEXT K
390 SLOW
400 LET X=20
410 PRINT AT 0,13;"TIME:20"
420 LET K$=INKEY$
430 IF K$<>" " THEN GO TO 490
440 LET X=X-1
450 PRINT AT 0,18;X;"b"
460 IF X<>0 THEN GO TO 420
470 PRINT AT 7,0;"TOObSLOW"
480 GO TO 540
490 IF K$<>MS THEN GO TO 530
500 LET S=S+1
510 PRINT AT 7,0;"CORRECT."
520 GO TO 540
530 PRINT AT 7,0;"WRONG."
540 PRINT AT 7,10;"IT bWASb";WS(I)
550 PAUSE 300
560 POKE 16437,255
570 NEXT I
580 CLS
590 PRINT AT 7,5;"YOUbSCOREDb";S;"bOUTbOFb10"

```

List of Variables

WS	=	array holding ten eight-character words
I	=	number of word currently considered
S	=	score out of ten
K	=	letter of current word
C	=	code of letter in word
MS	=	missing letter in word
L	=	loop counter
P	=	value of location in character table
V	=	a power of two used to access bits in P

J = loop counter
 X = time counter
 KS = key pressed by player

Comments

The large display of the word being tested helps to give the program considerable visual impact and the single key entry of answers is also useful. The quiz proper is started by GOTO 210.

There is a delay while the ZX81 sets up the large word on the screen and this takes place with a blank screen (uses FAST mode) in order that the player only has a given time limit to choose his answer: he does not see the word gradually appearing on the display. The routine is explained on page 102. Display of large characters is applicable to many areas of language teaching.

Exercise 3(b): Write statements to ensure that only valid entries are permitted in the teacher's section.

SPOTS BEFORE THE EYES (1K)

Description

Here is a ZX81 version of a program which first appeared in *The ZX80 Companion* under the title of PATTERN RECOGNITION. The idea behind the program is based upon Glenn Doman's book *Teach Your Baby Maths*; in which it is suggested that children can be taught to recognise quite large numbers of dots (up to one hundred) with sufficient practice. The program makes use of the PAUSE instruction to display a collection of spots for a very short time before the user enters the number. There are ten goes and a score is given at the end. The program runs on a 1K ZX81.

Method

- (i) Set scores S, T and U to zero
- (ii) For go number G from 1 to 10
 - a) Choose R at random between 20 and 100
 - b) Display R spots for 2 seconds

- c) Enter user's attempt N
- d) If N=R (1) display "CORRECT"
 (2) add 1 to S
 (3) go to (h) below
- e) If $|N-R| \leq 5$, (1) add 1 to T
 (2) go to (g) below
- f) If $|N-R| \leq 10$, add 1 to U
- g) Display "INCORRECT" and value of R
- h) Wait for five seconds
- (iii) Display scores.

Program Listing (1K)

```

10 LET S=0
20 LET T=0
30 LET U=0
40 FOR G=1 TO 10
50 LET R=20+INT(RND*81)
60 FAST
70 FOR I=1 TO R
80 PRINT "■";
85 IF RND<0.5 THEN PRINT "b";
90 NEXT I
100 PAUSE 100
105 POKE 16437,255
110 CLS
120 SLOW
130 PRINT "HOWBANY?b";
140 INPUT N
145 PRINT N
150 IF N<>R THEN GO TO 190
160 PRINT "YES" (inverse)
170 LET S=S+1
180 GO TO 250
190 IF ABS(N-R)>5 THEN GO TO 220
200 LET T=T+1
210 GO TO 240
220 IF ABS(N-R)>10 THEN GO TO 240
230 LET U=U+1
240 PRINT "NO,b";R
250 PAUSE 250
255 POKE 16437,255

```



```

260 CLS
270 NEXT G
280 PRINT "SCORE:bb";S;"bCORRECT,b";T;"bWITHINb5,
bb";U;"bWITHINb10"

```

List of Variables

S	=	score correct
T	=	score within 5
U	=	score within 10
G	=	go number, 1--10
R	=	number of spots
I	=	loop counter
N	=	user's attempt

Comments

Note that the addition of line 85 ensures that the spots appear in a random pattern — without it the user can use the length of the pattern to estimate the number. The score given at the end in three parts {correct, within 5 and within 10} gives the user a clear idea of his performance.

The program would run perfectly well in FAST Mode, but the listing above reverts to SLOW mode for the input section as a matter of the author's preference! The display of the spots must be in FAST mode so that the two second display of the spots is effective.

Exercise 3(c): Why is the ABS function included in lines 190 and 220 and what would happen if it was omitted?

GRAB THE GRUNGER (16K)

Description

No discussion of primary level educational programs is complete without looking at grid games, of the HUNT THE HURKLE variety. In such programs a grid is displayed on the screen and an object (an imaginary creature such as a Hurkle, or in this case a GRUNGER) is chosen to be at a random position in the grid. The player then has a number of

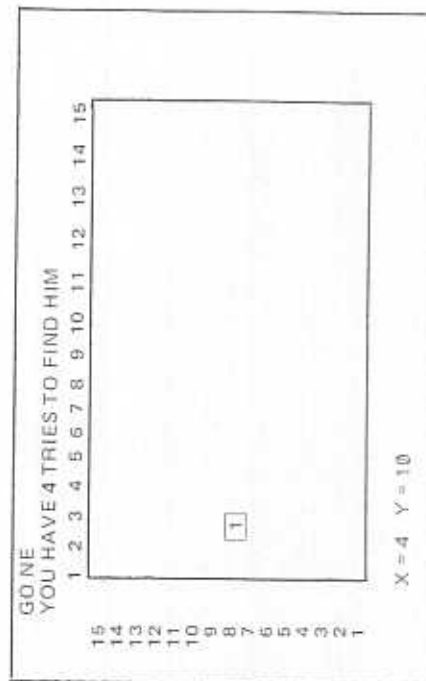
guesses to find the object and in some variations the object may move or even try and find the player. The educational value lies in that the player has to specify grid positions by means of standard X and Y axis co-ordinates, and the program gives the player hints by means of specifying the direction in which to move to find the object.

The following program uses a 15 x 15 grid in which the dreaded Grunger is hiding. The player has five tries to find it and after each attempt the program tells the player in which direction to proceed, e.g. SOUTH-EAST. The game ends and repeats when the player finds the Grunger or when he runs out of guesses.

Method

- (i) Display instructions and grid with labelled axis
- (ii) Choose random position of Grunger as (A,B)
- (iii) For go number 1 from 1 to 5
 - (a) Enter user's version of position, (X,Y)
 - (b) If (X,Y) = (A,B)
 - (1) Display CORRECT
 - (2) Go to (v) below
 - (c) Display direction to move
- (iv) Show Grunger's position
- (v) Wait
- (vi) Go to (i)

Screen Format



Program Listing

```

10 PRINT TAB 5;"AbGRUNGERbISbHIDINGbIN", TAB 8;"Ab
15bXb15 GRID";"YOUbHAVEb5bTRIESbTObFINDbHIM"
20 FOR I = 15 TO 1 STEP -1
30 PRINT TAB 6;TAB 9;"XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX"
40 NEXT I
50 PRINT TAB 9;"1234567891111111bX"
60 PRINT TAB 18;"012345"
70 PRINT AT 10, 1;"Y"
80 LET A = INT (RND*15) + 1
90 LET B = INT (RND*15) + 1
100 FOR I = 1 TO 5
110 PRINT AT 2,9;6-I
120 PAUSE 500
130 POKE 16437,255
140 PRINT AT 21,0;"bbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbb"
150 PRINT AT 21,0;I;"X=";
160 INPUT X
170 IF X<1 OR X>15 THEN GO TO 160
180 PRINT X;"Y=";
190 INPUT Y
200 IF Y<1 OR Y>15 THEN GO TO 190
210 PRINT Y
220 PRINT AT 15-Y+3, X+8;I
230 IF X=A AND Y=B THEN GO TO 500
240 PRINT AT 0,5;"bbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbb",TAB 8;
    "bbbbbbbbbbbb"
250 PRINT AT 0,13;"GOB"; CHRS (51*(Y<B) + 56*(Y>B));
    CHR$(42*(X<A) + 60*(X>A))
260 NEXT I
270 PRINT AT 0,7;"SORRYb-bITbWASb",A;"",B
280 PRINT AT 15-B + 3,A + 8; "G"
290 GO TO 510
500 PRINT AT 0,12;"CORRECT"
510 PRINT AT 2,0;"bbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbbb"
520 PAUSE 9000
530 POKE 16437,255
540 CLS
550 RUN

```

List of Variables

A = x position of Grunger
 B = y position of Grunger
 X = user's guess, x position
 Y = user's guess, y position
 I = loop counter and go number

Comments

Notice how the number of tries left is shown at the top of the screen, as part of the original playing instructions. To modify the program for 1K, omit the display of the grid, i.e. lines 20-70, 220,280 and modify lines 140 and 150 to use screen line 4 instead of line 21.

Exercise 3 (d): What size grid can be designed for a 1K ZX81 to include a grid display?

COPYCAT (1K)

Description

Here is a straight forward memory test. A sequence of letters is displayed, one letter at a time, on the ZX81 screen and the player has to repeat the sequence afterwards. The sequence starts at three letters but goes up to twenty! Letters are displayed eight times normal size for clarity, using a PRINT AT version of the routine used in BIG WORDS on page 74. At the end the player is given a mark showing the maximum number of letters he has copied correctly. The program works on a 1K ZX81.

Method

- (i) Generate 20 random letters in AS
- (ii) For no. of letters I from 3 to 20
 - (a) For letter number J from 1 to I
 - 1) Display letter J of AS, large
 - 2) Wait for two seconds
 - 3) Clear screen
 - (b) Enter user's version of sequence, XS

- (c) If correct
 1) Display "RIGHT SO FAR ..."
 2) Wait for five seconds
 (d) If incorrect display message, correct sequence and score (I-1)
 (iii) Display "CONGRATULATIONS"

Program Listing (1K)

```

10 DIM AS(20)
20 FOR I=1 TO 20
30 LET AS(I)=CHR$(INT(RND*27)+38)
40 NEXT I
50 FOR I=3 TO 20
55 CLS
60 FOR J=1 TO I
70 LET C=CODE(AS(J))
80 FOR H=0 TO 7
90 LET P=PEEK(7680+C*8+H)
100 LET V=128
110 FOR G=0 TO 7
120 IF P<V THEN GO TO 150
130 PRINT AT H,G;" "
140 LET P=P-V
150 LET V=V/2
160 NEXT G
170 NEXT H
180 PAUSE 100
186 POKE 16437,255
190 CLS
200 NEXT J
210 PRINT "SEQUENCE=";
220 INPUT XS
225 PRINT XS
230 IF XS<>AS(1 TO I) THEN GO TO 300
240 PRINT "RIGHT SO FAR ..." (inverse)
250 PAUSE 250
260 POKE 16437,255
270 NEXT I
280 PRINT "CONGRATULATIONS" (inverse)
290 STOP
300 PRINT "NO b-b";AS(1 TO I);" bYOU bGOT b";I-1
  
```

List of Variables

AS = array holding 20 character sequence
 I = loop counter and count showing length of current sequence
 J = counter showing character in current sequence
 H = counter indicating appropriate number of byte in character table
 P = value of byte in character table
 V = a power of 2
 G = counter showing current bit being tested
 XS = player's version of sequence
 C = character code of current character

Comments

By changing the randomising instruction at line 30 the program can easily be modified to handle sequences of numbers, or even graphics symbols.

Exercise 3(e): Change line 30 to produce sequences of digits 0 to 9 rather than letters.

PICKING PAIRS (16K)

Description

A useful exercise of memory whether by a child or an adult is the card game of Concentration, in which a number of cards are shuffled and laid out singly face down. The player then has to choose a pair of cards, look at them, and if they are a pair of the same type (e.g. Aces, Threes) they are left face up. Otherwise they are turned face down again and another pair chosen. This continues until all the cards are face up. Clearly the player has to try and remember the positions of cards that he has seen.

This program works on the same basis, using a grid sized 8 x 8 filled with eight sets of the letters A to H. The player chooses a pair by specifying a pair of column (X) and row (Y) positions. If an identical pair is found the letters stay on the screen, whereas if the letters chosen are different

they disappear after ten seconds. Running totals of choices and pairs are displayed on the screen. Entry of positions is done by single key depressions, NEWLINE not being needed (i.e. INKEY\$ is used) and there is built-in error checking.

Screen Format

CHOICES = 0

PAIRS = 0

X Y

SQUARE 1

SQUARE 2

3
5
10
11
13

Program Listing

```

5 DIM B(4)
10 DIM A$(8,8)
15 PRINT "SETTING UP";
20 FOR I=1 TO 8
30 LET A$(I)="ABCDEFGH"
40 NEXT I
45 FOR I=1 TO 100
47 IF I=10*INT(I/10) THEN PRINT " ";
50 FOR J=1 TO 4
55 LET B(J)=INT(RND*8)+1
60 NEXT J
65 LET X$=A$(B(1),B(2))
70 LET A$(B(1),B(2))=A$(B(3),B(4))

```

```

75 LET A$(B(3),B(4))=X$
80 NEXT I
85 CLS
90 PRINT
95 FOR I=1 TO 8
100 PRINT "b"
105 PRINT "b"
110 NEXT I
115 PRINT "b"
120 PRINT AT 0,2,"1b2b3b4b5b6b7b8"
130 FOR L=2 TO 16 STEP 2
140 PRINT AT L,0;9-L/2;TAB 18; 9-L/2
150 NEXT L
160 LET P=0
170 LET O=0
180 PRINT AT 3,2,"CHOICES = 0"
190 PRINT AT 5,2,"PAIRS=0"
200 PRINT AT 10,29,"XbY"
210 PRINT AT 11,20,"SQUARE 1"
220 PRINT AT 13,20,"SQUARE 2"
230 PRINT AT 13,29,"bbb"
232 PRINT AT 11,29,"bbb"
235 LET L=11
240 LET C=29
250 GO SUB 600
260 LET X1=K
270 LET C=31
280 GO SUB 600
290 LET Y1=K
300 IF CODE (A$(X1,Y1))>128 THEN GO TO 230
310 LET L=13
320 LET C=29
330 GO SUB 600
340 LET X2=K
350 LET C=31
360 GO SUB 600
370 LET Y2=K
380 IF CODE (A$(X2,Y2))>128 THEN GO TO 230
390 PRINT AT 18-2*Y1,2*X1;A$(X1,Y1)
400 PRINT AT 18-2*Y2,2*X2;A$(X2,Y2)
410 LET O=O+1

```

```

420 PRINT AT 3,29;O
430 IF A$(X1,Y1)=A$(X2,Y2) THEN GO TO 480
440- PAUSE 500
450 PRINT AT 18-2*Y1,2*X1;"b"
460 PRINT AT 18-2*Y2,2*X2;"b"
470 GO TO 230
480 LET P=P+1
490 PRINT AT 5,28;P
500 LET A$(X1,Y1)=CHR$(CODE(A$(X1,Y1))+128)
510 LET A$(X2,Y2)=CHR$(CODE(A$(X2,Y2))+128)
520 IF P<>32 THEN GO TO 230
530 PRINT AT 15,22;"WELL DONE" (inverse)
540 PRINT AT 2,29;"███"
550 PRINT AT 4,29;"███"
560 STOP
600 PRINT AT L,C;"?" (inverse)
610 LET K$=INKEY$
620 IF K$<="8" AND K$>="1" THEN GO TO 650
630 PRINT AT L,C;"?"
640 GO TO 600
650 LET K=VAL K$
660 PRINT AT L,C;K
670 RETURN

```

List of Variables

B = array of four random numbers used to shuffle A\$
 A\$ = 8 x 8 array of characters
 I = loop counter
 J = loop counter
 L = line number counter
 C = column number counter
 P = no. of identical pairs chosen
 O = no. of choices made
 X1,Y1 = coordinates of first member of pair
 X2,Y2 = coordinates of second member of pair
 K\$ = value of key pressed
 K = entry of x or y position

Comments

The program demonstrates several interesting features. The subroutines

at line 600 shows how an input prompt may be highlighted by a 'blinking' question mark and then accepted without NEWLINE, i.e. using INKEY\$.

The eight sets of eight letters are initially put into A\$ in sequence and then shuffled using one hundred random exchanges.

Exercise 3(f): How can you crash the program while it is waiting for an x or y input? Modify the program to overcome this.

PRIMES (1K)

Background

Having considered a number of primary level programs we now look at higher things. As mentioned above, the best educational programs are written by subject specialists, so the author's intention with the rest of the chapter is to illustrate some techniques for readers to apply to their own areas. The topic chosen is mathematics, and the next two programs are *demonstrations* to illustrate mathematical concepts or techniques. An excellent reference for mathematical computer programs is "A Collection of Programming Problems and Techniques" by Maurer and Williams, published by Prentice-Hall, Inc.

There is a slight problem when doing complex maths on the ZX81, as illustrated by

```
PRINT 20 - 0.0000000001
```

which does not give 19.999999999 or even 20 but 52. Yes, there is a bug in the ZX81's floating point arithmetic which leaps out when handling numbers of considerably different magnitudes. Beware!

Description

The following program accepts any number greater than one and calculates and prints the number's factors if any, or indicates that it is a prime number.

Method

- (i) Enter number M
- (ii) If M less than two, stop
- (iii) Set N to M
- (iv) Set divisor D to 2
- (v) If N is divisible by D
 - a) Display D
 - b) Divide N by D
 - c) Go to (v)
- (vi) Add 1 to D
- (vii) If D less than M go to (v)
- (viii) If N > 1 display "PRIME"
- (ix) Wait
- (x) Go to (i)

Program Listing (1K)

```

5 CLS
10 PRINT "ENTERbNUMBERb";
20 INPUT M
30 IF M<2 THEN STOP
40 LET N=M
50 PRINT N
60 LET D=2
70 IF N<>D*INT(N/D) THEN GO TO 100
80 PRINT D;"b";
85 LET N=N/D
90 GO TO 70
100 LET D=D+1
110 IF D<M THEN GO TO 70
120 IF N>1 THEN PRINT "PRIME"
130 IF N=1 THEN PRINT "AREbTHEbFACTORS"
140 PAUSE 9999
150 RUN
  
```

List of Variables

M = number as input
 N = number divided by factor(s)
 D = divisor

Exercise 3(g): Modify the above program so that when calculating whether m is prime, the highest possible factor used is the square root of m.

ITERATION (1K)

Description

The ZX81 is an excellent tool for demonstrating simple iterative techniques for the solution of equations. The Newton Raphson method is used to solve an equation of the form

$$f(x) = 0$$

by taking an initial approximation x_0 to the solution $x = \alpha$ and successively improving it by generating a sequence:

$$x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots$$

which converges to the solution.

The iterative formula is

$$x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{f(x_n)}{f'(x_n)}$$

Where $f'(x)$ is the differential of $f(x)$.

We determine whether we have reached the solution by considering successive approximations: if two approximations x_j and x_{j+1} fulfill:

$|x_j - x_{j+1}| < \epsilon$ where ϵ is a small constant then we are close enough. ϵ is chosen by the user according to the accuracy required.

The program accepts an equation of up to the fifth order and given an initial approximation, calculates a solution.

Method

- (i) Enter order of equation N
- (ii) For counter I from N+1 to 1

- (a) Enter coefficient A(I) (for a_{i+1} in $a_{i+1}x^i$)
- (iii) Enter approximation XA
- (iv) Calculate array B, the differential coefficients.
- (v) Calculate and print next approximation XB using coefficients in A and B
- (vi) If $XA - XB < 0.00001$ then
 - (a) Display solution
 - (b) Stop
- (vii) Set XA to XB
- (viii) Go to (v)

Program Listing

```

10 DIM A(6)
30 PRINT "ORDER=";
40 INPUT N
50 IF N>5 OR N<1 THEN GO TO 40
60 LET N=INT(N)
65 PRINT N
70 FOR I=N+1 TO 1 STEP -1
75 SCROLL
80 PRINT AT 1,0;"COEFFTbOfbX";I-1;"=";
90 INPUT A(I)
100 PRINT A(I)
110 NEXT I
120 PRINT "APPROX=";
130 INPUT XA
140 PRINT XA
150 LET C=2
160 LET F=A(1)
190 FOR I=2 TO N+1
200 LET F=F+A(I)*XA**(I-1)
210 NEXT I
220 LET DF=A(2)
230 FOR I=2 TO N
240 LET DF=DF+A(I+1)*I*XA**(I-1)
250 NEXT I
260 LET XB=XA-F/DF
265 SCROLL
270 PRINT AT 1,0;"APPROXB";C;"=";XB
280 LET C=C+1
290 IF ABS(XA-XB)<0.00001 THEN GO TO 320

```

```

300 LET XA=XB
310 GO TO 180
320 PRINT "SOLUTION=";XB

```

List of Variables

A = array holding coefficients of powers of x
 e.g. $f(x) = a_6x^5 + a_5x^4 + a_4x^3 + a_3x^2 + a_2x + a_1$
 N = order of $f(x)$ i.e. highest power of x
 I = loop counter
 XA =) successive approximations
 XB =)
 F = $f(x)$ at XA
 DF = $f'(x)$ at XA
 C = number of approximations

Comments

The program almost fills a 1K ZX81 and there is very little room left for a screen display. Therefore if using a 16K machine, extend the number of approximations displayed, i.e. change the PRINT AT instructions to use a line around 15 or so.

Exercise 3(h): In what circumstances would line 260 terminate with an error? Modify the program to overcome this.

THE QUIZ (16 K)

Description

At the beginning of the chapter we reviewed types of educational programs. This program is a general purpose quiz in which the teacher can set up a bank of questions and answers on any topic (and in any language!) and the ZX81 then poses the questions to a student in the form of an interactive quiz. There are two notable points about this program: firstly a standard question format is entered by the teacher

e.g. WHAT IS THE FORMULA FOR

or TRANSLATE INTO SWAHILI
or WHAT IS THE CAPITAL OF

and then pairs of question and answer keywords make up the remainder;
secondly, a student's answer is marked correct providing it contains the
answer keyword

e.g. if the answer keyword is OPTIC

then all the following responses are correct

OPTICAL ISOMERISM

OPTIC

OPTICALLY

CHANGES OPTICALLY

OPTICALLYISH

Naturally enough, this is a 16K program.

Method

- TEACHER:
- (i) Enter number of questions Q
 - (ii) Enter maximum length L1 of question word
and L2 of answer word.
 - (iii) Enter form of question F\$
 - (iv) For counter I from 1 to Q
 - (a) Enter question word number I into Q\$(I)
 - (b) Enter answer word number I into A\$(I)
 - (c) Store length of A\$(I) in A(I)
 - (v) Stop

- STUDENT:
- (i) Set score S to 0
 - (ii) For counter I from 1 to Q
 - (a) Display question F\$ and question word
Q\$(I)
 - (b) Enter student's response X\$
 - (c) If X\$ contains answer word A\$(I)
 - 1) Display CORRECT
 - 2) Add 1 to S
 - 3) Go to (e) below
 - (d) Display WRONG & answer word A\$(I)
 - (e) Repeat

(iii) Display score S

Program Listing

```

10 PRINT "NO.bOFbQUESTIONS"
20 INPUT Q
30 IF Q<5 OR Q >50 THEN GO TO 20
40 PRINT Q
50 PRINT "MAX.bLENGTHbOFbQbWORD=";
60 INPUT L1
70 IF L1<1 OR L1>30 THEN GO TO 60
80 PRINT L1
90 PRINT TAB 15;"AbWORD=";
100 INPUT L2
110 IF L2<1 OR L2>30 THEN GO TO 100
120 PRINT L2
122 DIM Q$(Q,L1)
124 DIM A$(Q,L2)
126 DIM A(Q)
130 PRINT "QUESTIONbFORMAT="
140 INPUT F$
150 IF F$="" THEN GO TO 140
160 PRINT F$
165 PAUSE 250
170 CLS
180 FOR I=1 TO Q
182 SCROLL
185 SCROLL
190 PRINT AT 18,0;"Q",I;"=";
200 INPUT Q$(I)
210 PRINT Q$(I)
220 PRINT "A",I;"=";
230 INPUT A$(I)
231 FOR J=L2 TO 1 STEP -1
232 IF A$(I,J)<>"b" THEN GO TO 234
233 NEXT J
234 LET A(I)=J
240 PRINT A$(I)
270 NEXT I
280 PRINT "ENDbOFbINPUT"
290 STOP
300 LET S=S+Q

```

CHAPTER FOUR – THE MONITOR

4.1 EXAMINING AND USING THE MONITOR

Introduction

This chapter aims to introduce readers to the way in which the 8K ROM Monitor is organised, how it may be examined and how it may be used. Much of the chapter is taken up by a listing of the contents of the ROM in terms of tables of data and assembly language instructions. In order to understand in any detail the workings of the Monitor a knowledge of Z80 low level language is required, but readers without this knowledge will find that parts of the chapter illustrating data tables in the monitor or describing start addresses of Monitor routines will be useful. A good book for learning about the Z80 is Rodney Zacs' "Programming the Z80". Readers should see Chapters 24 - 27 of the Sinclair Manual for further background information.

List of Variables

Q	=	number of questions
L1	=	maximum length of question words
L2	=	maximum length of answer words
Q\$	=	questions
A\$	=	answers
A	=	array holding actual lengths of answer words
F\$	=	question format
X\$	=	student's answer
S	=	score

Comments

The teacher sets up a bank of questions and answers having started the program by RUN. The student uses the program by GO TO 300, and each of the questions appear in turn. Providing the student's response to a question contains the answer keyword, it is marked correct. A score appears at the end.

Exercise 3(i): What is the purpose of line 360 and what would happen if it was omitted?

Hexadecimal

As described in Chapter 24 of the Sinclair Manual, binary and hexadecimal numbering is generally used when discussing the contents of ZX81 memory locations. Consider a location containing the decimal number 28. In binary this is

0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0
2 ⁷	2 ⁶	2 ⁵	2 ⁴	2 ³	2 ²	2 ¹	2 ⁰

$$\text{since } 2^4 + 2^3 + 2^2 = 16 + 8 + 4 = 28$$

In hexadecimal we have

$$1C \text{ hex} = 28 \text{ decimal}$$

But taking each hex digit as four binary digits

1				C			
0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0

thus showing how hexadecimal is a useful "shorthand" for binary.

In this chapter we will be using both decimal and hexadecimal numbers to represent memory addresses and contents. Therefore a useful start is a program to convert decimal numbers to hexadecimal.

The program uses an algorithm based upon a manual method of conversion. Consider for example 7654 decimal. If we successively divide this by 16 and take the remainders we have



Here is the program:

```

5 DIM HS(4)
10 PRINT "NUMBER=";
20 INPUT C
25 IF C=0 THEN STOP
30 GO SUB 500
40 PRINT C;"bbHEX=";
50 IF C>255 THEN PRINT HS(1);HS(2);
60 PRINT HS(3);HS(4)
70 PRINT
80 GO TO 10
500 LET D1=C
510 FOR I=4 TO 1 STEP -1
520 LET D2=INT(D1/16)
530 LET HS(I)=CHR$(D1-16*D2+28)
540 LET D1=D2
550 NEXT I
560 RETURN

```

The subroutine at line 500 does the conversion to hexadecimal while the first part of the program enters a number and then prints a hexadecimal number of an appropriate size.

Conversion from hexadecimal to decimal is simpler.

```

10 PRINT "HEXbNUMBER=";
20 INPUT HS
30 IF HS="" THEN STOP
40 LET D=CODE HS(1)-28
50 FOR I=2 TO LEN HS
60 LET D=16*D + CODE HS(I)-28
70 NEXT I
80 PRINT HS;"b,DECIMAL=";D
90 PRINT
100 GO TO 10

```

Monitor Routines and Entry Points

The disassembled listing of the 8K monitor given in Section 4.2 gives readers a chance to work out for themselves just how the ZX81 works. To make the task a little bit simpler the following points will be helpful. Addresses given below are in hexadecimal.

- (i) The program starts at location 0000 as in any Z80 system.
- (ii) RST 0008 is the 'error report handling' entry point.
It is entered by using the instruction 'CF - RST 0008' followed by a data byte for the required error., e.g. see 02F4 RST 0008
02F5 '0E'
which gives error 'F'.
(iii) RST 0010 is the character printing routine. The normal way to print a character to the next position on the screen is to load the A register with the appropriate character code (including NEWLINE) and then call this routine by using the instruction 'D7 - RST 0010'.
(iv) RST 0018 and RST 0020 are routines for collecting the next character in a BASIC line.
(v) RST 0028 is the entry point for the 'floating-point calculator', which starts at location 199C. (See note xxxvii).
(vi) RST 0030 is a routine that will make 'BC' spaces in the variable area.
(vii) RST 0038 is the interrupt routine that handles the lines of the T.V. display.
(viii) The routine at 0066 is the NMI routine that leads to a T.V. display being formed following a NM interrupt in 'slow' mode.
(ix) The main 'key table' is at 007E to 00CB. There is a code for

each key in 'lower' case and in 'shift'.

(x) The key-codes for the 'function mode' are in the table from 00CC to 00F2.

(xi) The key-codes for the 'graphics mode' are in the table from 00F3 to 0110.

(xii) The command table is at 0111 to 01FB. Each keyword is listed with its last letter inverted.

(xiii) The 'update routine' at 01FC to 0206 is used by the LOAD and SAVE command routines.

(xiv) The routines from 0207 to 02BA are used to produce the T.V. display.

(xv) The keyboard scanning routine at 02BB to 02E6 is a very useful routine. Each key of the keyboard gives a unique key-value in the HL register pair. No key pressed gives the value FFFF.

(xvi) The SAVE command routine is at 02F6 to 033F.

(xvii) The LOAD command routine is at 0340 to 03A7.

(xviii) The routine at 03CB to 03E4 is the RAM integrity check routine that is carried out upon initialisation and following a NEW command.

(xix) The main initialisation routine starts at 03E5, and is followed by the operating system routines for handling the 'cursor' and forming LISTings.

(xx) The main command routine for the running of a BASIC program is from 063E to 06DF.

(xxi) The keyboard decode routine at 07B4 to 07DB is also very useful as it converts the key-values (in BC now) to the values 1-78 and forms the appropriate address, in HL, for a given key in the main key table. (see note ix).

(xxii) The routine at 07F1 to 0868 is the character printing routine used by RST 0010. (see note iii.)

(xxiii) The routine at 08F5 to 094A is concerned with expanding the display file, in the case of a 'collapsed' display file.

The routine in effect sets the system variable 'DF-CC' to a legitimate address.

(xxiv) The CLS command routine is at 0A2A to 0A5F.

(xxv) The PRINT command routine is at 0ACF to 0BAE.

(xxvi) The PLOT/UNPLOT command routine is at 0BAF to 0C0D. The difference between the commands being dependant on the current value of T-ADDR.

(xxvii) The SCROLL command routine is at 0C0E to 0C28.

(xxciii) The main syntax tables are at 0C29 to 0CB9. The first

part being a pointer table and the second part the actual syntax table that gives the required syntax for each command and the address of the 'command routine'.

(xxix) The BASIC interpreter starts at 0CBA.

(xxx) The FAST command routine is at 0F20 to 0F27 and can be simply called using 'CALL 0F20' to enter FAST mode, or ensure the presence in FAST mode.

(xxxi) The SLOW command routine is at 0F28 to 0F2E and can likewise be called by 'CALL 0F28'.

(xxxii) The 'Expression Evaluator' starts at location 0F52.

(xxxiii) The LET command routine is at 131D to 1404.

(xxxiv) The DIM command routine is at 1405 to 1483.

(xxxv) The routines between 14CA and 1913 are concerned with handling 'floating-point' numbers, e.g. the routine 'Evaluate to integer' is at 1586. Print 'Last value' is at 15D7, etc.

(xxxvi) The function table for the 'floating-point calculator' is at 1914 to 199B.

(xxxvii) The 'floating-point calculator' is at 199C to 1AA8.

(xxxviii) The various function routines are at 1AA9 to 1DFF.

e.g. CHR\$ is at 1B8E to 1BA2, COS is at 1D3D to 1D47, etc.

(xxxix) The 'character generator' is at 1E00 to 1FFF. This part of the 8K ROM holds the 8*8 formats of the 64 characters that can appear on the T.V. display.

Program Aids

A number of BASIC programs can be written to assist in the examination of the Monitor, and particularly the data tables.

HEX DISPLAY

This program displays the contents of Monitor addresses in hexadecimal starting at a specified address:

```
5 DIM H$(4)
10 PRINT "START=";
20 INPUT S
25 PRINT S
30 FOR A=S TO 8191 STEP 8
35 SCROLL
```

```

40 LET C=A
50 GO SUB 500
60 PRINT AT 5,0;H$;"bbb";
70 FOR B=A TO A+7
80 LET C=PEEK(B)
90 GO SUB 500
100 PRINT H$(3 TO 4);"b";
110 NEXT B
120 PRINT
130 NEXT A
140 STOP
500 LET D1=C
510 FOR I=4 TO 1 STEP -1
520 LET D2=INT(D1/16)
530 LET H$(I)=CHR$(D1-16*D2+28)
540 LET D1=D2
550 NEXT I
560 RETURN

```

This works in 1K — for a 16K system change the PRINT AT statement at line 60 to give a larger screen display.

CHARACTER DISPLAY

This program displays the contents of Monitor addresses as characters — useful for some data tables.

```

10 PRINT "START=";
20 INPUT S
25 PRINT S
30 FOR A=S TO 8191
40 SCROLL
50 PRINT AT 15,0,A;"bbb";CHR$(PEEK A)
60 NEXT A

```

The program is very handy for displaying the Key Table (locations 126 to 272) and the following Command Table (locations 273 to 507). As described in the previous section the Key Table holds codes for the keyboard keys in 'lower' case, in shifted form, in function mode and finally in graphics mode. RUN the program with start address equalling 126 and the appropriate keyboard values will be shown. In the Command

Table we find each keyword with the last letter held in inverse form. To show this, run the program with a start address of 273, or simply let it run on after the Key Table.

CHARACTER GENERATOR DISPLAY

The last data table in the Monitor is the character generator held in locations 7680 to 8191. This holds the formats for each of the 64 characters used on the ZX81 by means of eight bytes per character, each byte consisting of 0's and 1's representing unshaded and shaded portions respectively.

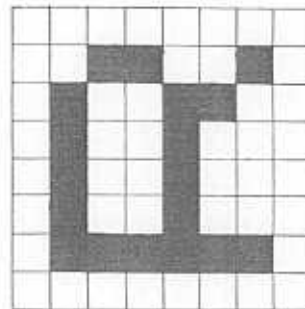
For example the letter R has character code 55. The portion of the character table holding the format for R is locations 8120 to 8127.

$$\text{i.e. } 7680 + (55 \times 8) \text{ to } 7680 + (55 \times 8) + 7$$

The binary patterns in these locations are shown below

Location	Contents
8120	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
8121	0 1 1 1 1 0 0 0
8122	0 1 0 0 0 0 1 0
8123	0 1 0 0 0 0 1 0
8124	0 1 1 1 1 0 0 0
8125	0 1 0 0 0 1 0 0
8126	0 1 0 0 0 0 1 0
8127	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

This represents



A routine to use the character table to display large characters has already been utilised in Chapter Three, and is shown again below:

To display characters at four times size we use the PLOT statement.

```

10 PRINT "CHARACTER=";
20 INPUT A$
25 LET C=CODE A$
30 PRINT A$;"bCODE=";C;"ATbLOCb";7680+C*8
40 FOR H=0 TO 7
50 LET P=PEEK(7680+C*8+H)
60 LET V=128
70 FOR G=0 TO 7
80 IF P<V THEN GO TO 110
90 PLOT G,40-H
100 LET P=P-V
110 LET V=V/2
120 NEXT G
130 NEXT H

```

For eight times size we use the PRINT AT statement and this can help illustrate the unshaded portions. We display the shaded portions using "■" and the unshaded by "□". Modify the above by

```

80 IF P<V THEN GO TO 108
90 PRINT AT H+3,G;"■"
104 GO TO 110
108 PRINT AT H+3,G;"□"

```

and the character will appear black on a grey background.

4.2 MONITOR LISTING

The next eleven pages contain a disassembled listing of the ZX81 8K ROM Monitor between addresses 0000 and 00CB, that is, up to the end of the syntax table. The rest of the Monitor has not been included since much of it consists of the BASIC interpreter which is not particularly interesting or usable.

A description of Monitor routines and tables appears in Section 4.1 and the listing should be studied in conjunction with this.

0000	03 F9	0001	03 A7	0002	03 17 7F	0003	03 03	0004	03 03	0005	03 03	0006	03 03	0007	03 03	0008	03 03	0009	03 03	0010	03 03	0011	03 03	0012	03 03	0013	03 03	0014	03 03	0015	03 03	0016	03 03	0017	03 03	0018	03 03	0019	03 03	0020	03 03	0021	03 03	0022	03 03	0023	03 03	0024	03 03	0025	03 03	0026	03 03	0027	03 03	0028	03 03	0029	03 03	0030	03 03	0031	03 03	0032	03 03	0033	03 03	0034	03 03	0035	03 03	0036	03 03	0037	03 03	0038	03 03	0039	03 03	0040	03 03	0041	03 03	0042	03 03	0043	03 03	0044	03 03	0045	03 03	0046	03 03	0047	03 03	0048	03 03	0049	03 03	0050	03 03	0051	03 03	0052	03 03	0053	03 03	0054	03 03	0055	03 03	0056	03 03	0057	03 03	0058	03 03	0059	03 03	0060	03 03	0061	03 03	0062	03 03	0063	03 03	0064	03 03	0065	03 03	0066	03 03	0067	03 03	0068	03 03	0069	03 03	0070	03 03	0071	03 03	0072	03 03	0073	03 03	0074	03 03	0075	03 03	0076	03 03	0077	03 03	0078	03 03	0079	03 03	0080	03 03	0081	03 03	0082	03 03	0083	03 03	0084	03 03	0085	03 03	0086	03 03	0087	03 03	0088	03 03	0089	03 03	0090	03 03	0091	03 03	0092	03 03	0093	03 03	0094	03 03	0095	03 03	0096	03 03	0097	03 03	0098	03 03	0099	03 03	0100	03 03	0101	03 03	0102	03 03	0103	03 03	0104	03 03	0105	03 03	0106	03 03	0107	03 03	0108	03 03	0109	03 03	0110	03 03	0111	03 03	0112	03 03	0113	03 03	0114	03 03	0115	03 03	0116	03 03	0117	03 03	0118	03 03	0119	03 03	0120	03 03	0121	03 03	0122	03 03	0123	03 03	0124	03 03	0125	03 03	0126	03 03	0127	03 03	0128	03 03	0129	03 03	0130	03 03	0131	03 03	0132	03 03	0133	03 03	0134	03 03	0135	03 03	0136	03 03	0137	03 03	0138	03 03	0139	03 03	0140	03 03	0141	03 03	0142	03 03	0143	03 03	0144	03 03	0145	03 03	0146	03 03	0147	03 03	0148	03 03	0149	03 03	0150	03 03	0151	03 03	0152	03 03	0153	03 03	0154	03 03	0155	03 03	0156	03 03	0157	03 03	0158	03 03	0159	03 03	0160	03 03	0161	03 03	0162	03 03	0163	03 03	0164	03 03	0165	03 03	0166	03 03	0167	03 03	0168	03 03	0169	03 03	0170	03 03	0171	03 03	0172	03 03	0173	03 03	0174	03 03	0175	03 03	0176	03 03	0177	03 03	0178	03 03	0179	03 03	0180	03 03	0181	03 03	0182	03 03	0183	03 03	0184	03 03	0185	03 03	0186	03 03	0187	03 03	0188	03 03	0189	03 03	0190	03 03	0191	03 03	0192	03 03	0193	03 03	0194	03 03	0195	03 03	0196	03 03	0197	03 03	0198	03 03	0199	03 03	0200	03 03	0201	03 03	0202	03 03	0203	03 03	0204	03 03	0205	03 03	0206	03 03	0207	03 03	0208	03 03	0209	03 03	0210	03 03	0211	03 03	0212	03 03	0213	03 03	0214	03 03	0215	03 03	0216	03 03	0217	03 03	0218	03 03	0219	03 03	0220	03 03	0221	03 03	0222	03 03	0223	03 03	0224	03 03	0225	03 03	0226	03 03	0227	03 03	0228	03 03	0229	03 03	0230	03 03	0231	03 03	0232	03 03	0233	03 03	0234	03 03	0235	03 03	0236	03 03	0237	03 03	0238	03 03	0239	03 03	0240	03 03	0241	03 03	0242	03 03	0243	03 03	0244	03 03	0245	03 03	0246	03 03	0247	03 03	0248	03 03	0249	03 03	0250	03 03	0251	03 03	0252	03 03	0253	03 03	0254	03 03	0255	03 03	0256	03 03	0257	03 03	0258	03 03	0259	03 03	0260	03 03	0261	03 03	0262	03 03	0263	03 03	0264	03 03	0265	03 03	0266	03 03	0267	03 03	0268	03 03	0269	03 03	0270	03 03	0271	03 03	0272	03 03	0273	03 03	0274	03 03	0275	03 03	0276	03 03	0277	03 03	0278	03 03	0279	03 03	0280	03 03	0281	03 03	0282	03 03	0283	03 03	0284	03 03	0285	03 03	0286	03 03	0287	03 03	0288	03 03	0289	03 03	0290	03 03	0291	03 03	0292	03 03	0293	03 03	0294	03 03	0295	03 03	0296	03 03	0297	03 03	0298	03 03	0299	03 03	0300	03 03	0301	03 03	0302	03 03	0303	03 03	0304	03 03	0305	03 03	0306	03 03	0307	03 03	0308	03 03	0309	03 03	0310	03 03	0311	03 03	0312	03 03	0313	03 03	0314	03 03	0315	03 03	0316	03 03	0317	03 03	0318	03 03	0319	03 03	0320	03 03	0321	03 03	0322	03 03	0323	03 03	0324	03 03	0325	03 03	0326	03 03	0327	03 03	0328	03 03	0329	03 03	0330	03 03	0331	03 03	0332	03 03	0333	03 03	0334	03 03	0335	03 03	0336	03 03	0337	03 03	0338	03 03	0339	03 03	0340	03 03	0341	03 03	0342	03 03	0343	03 03	0344	03 03	0345	03 03	0346	03 03	0347	03 03	0348	03 03	0349	03 03	0350	03 03	0351	03 03	0352	03 03	0353	03 03	0354	03 03	0355	03 03	0356	03 03	0357	03 03	0358	03 03	0359	03 03	0360	03 03	0361	03 03	0362	03 03	0363	03 03	0364	03 03	0365	03 03	0366	03 03	0367	03 03	0368	03 03	0369	03 03	0370	03 03	0371	03 03	0372	03 03	0373	03 03	0374	03 03	0375	03 03	0376	03 03	0377	03 03	0378	03 03	0379	03 03	0380	03 03	0381	03 03	0382	03 03	0383	03 03	0384	03 03	0385	03 03	0386	03 03	0387	03 03	0388	03 03	0389	03 03	0390	03 03	0391	03 03	0392	03 03	0393	03 03	0394	03 03	0395	03 03	0396	03 03	0397	03 03	0398	03 03	0399	03 03	0400	03 03	0401	03 03	0402	03 03	0403	03 03	0404	03 03	0405	03 03	0406	03 03	0407	03 03	0408	03 03	0409	03 03	0410	03 03	0411	03 03	0412	03 03	0413	03 03	0414	03 03	0415	03 03	0416	03 03	0417	03 03	0418	03 03	0419	03 03	0420	03 03	0421	03 03	0422	03 03	0423	03 03	0424	03 03	0425	03 03	0426	03 03	0427	03 03	0428	03 03	0429	03 03	0430	03 03	0431	03 03	0432	03 03	0433	03 03	0434	03 03	0435	03 03	0436	03 03	0437	03 03	0438	03 03	0439	03 03	0440	03 03	0441	03 03	0442	03 03	0443	03 03	0444	03 03	0445	03 03	0446	03 03	0447	03 03	0448	03 03	0449	03 03	0450	03 03	0451	03 03	0452	03 03	0453	03 03	0454	03 03	0455	03 03	0456	03 03	0457	03 03	0458	03 03	0459	03 03	0460	03 03	0461	03 03	0462	03 03	0463	03 03	0464	03 03	0465	03 03	0466	03 03	0467	03 03	0468	03 03	0469	03 03	0470	03 03	0471	03 03	0472	03 03	0473	03 03	0474	03 03	0475	03 03	0476	03 03	0477	03 03	0478	03 03	0479	03 03	0480	03 03	0481	03 03	0482	03 03	0483	03 03	0484	03 03	0485	03 03	0486	03 03	0487	03 03	0488	03 03	0489	03 03	0490	03 03	0491	03 03	0492	03 03	0493	03 03	0494	03 03	0495	03 03	0496	03 03	0497	03 03	0498	03 03	0499	03 03	0500	03 03	0501	03 03	0502	03 03	0503	03 03	0504	03 03	0505	03 03	0506	03 03	0507	03 03	0508	03 03	0509	03 03	0510	03 03	0511	03 03	0512	03 03	0513	03 03	0514	03 03	0515	03 03	0516	03 03	0517	03 03	0518	03 03	0519	03 03	0520	03 03	0521	03 03	0522	03 03	0523	03 03	0524	03 03	0525	03 03	0526	03 03	0527	03 03	0528	03 03	0529	03 03	0530	03 03	0531	03 03	0532	03 03	0533	03 03	0534	03 03	0535	03 03	0536	03 03	0537	03 03	0538	03 03	0539	03 03	0540	03 03	0541	03 03	0542	03 03	0543	03 03	0544	03 03	0545	03 03	0546	03 03	0547	03 03	0548	03 03	0549	03 03	0550	03 03	0551	03 03	0552	03 03	0553	03 03	0554	03 03	0555	03 03	0556	03 03	0557	03 03	0558	03 03	0559	03 03	0560	03 03	0561	03 03	0562	03 03	0563	03 03	0564	03 03	0565	03 03	0566	03 03	0567	03 03	0568	03 03	0569	03 03	0570	03 03	0571	03 03	0572	03 03	0573	03 03	0574	03 03	0575	03 03	0576	03 03	0577	03 03	0578	03 03	0579	03 03	0580	03 03	0581	03 03	0582	03 03	0583	03 03	0584	03 03	0585	03 03	0586	03 03	0587	03 03	0588	03 03	0589	03 03	0590	03 03	0591	03 03	0592	03 03	0593	03 03	0594	03 03	0595	03 03	0596	03 03	0597	03 03	0598	03 03	0599	03 03	0600	03 03	0601	03 03	0602	03 03	0603	03 03	0604	03 03	0605	03 03	0606	03 03	0607	03 03	0608	03 03	0609	03 03	0610	03 03	0611	
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SOLUTIONS TO EXERCISES

Chapter 1

- 1(a) 10 FOR X = 63 TO 0 STEP -1 ... use 59 for 1K ZX81's
 20 FOR Y = 43 TO 0 STEP -1
 30 PLOT X,Y
 40 NEXT Y
 50 NEXT X
- 1(b) 10 FOR X = 10 TO 30
 20 FOR Y = 5 TO 25
 30 PLOT X,Y
 40 NEXT Y
 50 NEXT X
- 1(c) For 16K Machines:-
 10 FOR X = 0 TO 63
 20 PLOT X,0
 30 GO SUB 500
 40 UNPLOT X,0
 50 NEXT X
 60 FOR Y = 0 TO 43
 70 PLOT 63,Y
 80 GO SUB 500
 90 UNPLOT 63,Y
 100 NEXT Y
 110 FOR X=63 TO 0 STEP -1
 120 PLOT X,43
 130 GO SUB 500
 140 UNPLOT X,43
 150 NEXT X
 160 FOR Y=43 TO 0 STEP -1
 170 PLOT 0,Y
 180 GO SUB 500
 190 UNPLOT 0,Y
 200 NEXT Y
 210 STOP
 500 PAUSE 10
 510 POKE 16437,255
 520 RETURN

For 1K ZX81's the boundaries of the display will need to be reduced.

Alternatively try this. (Substitute Y=15 for Y=0 for 1K):

```
10 LET X=0
20 LET Y=0
30 PLOT X,Y
40 PAUSE 10 ) or 40 FOR A=1 TO 20
50 POKE 16437,255) 50 NEXT A
60 UNPLOT X,Y
70 LET X=X+(Y=0)-(Y=43)-(X=63 AND Y=0) + (X=0 AND Y=43)
80 LET Y=Y-(X=0)+(X=63)-(Y=43 AND X=63) + (Y=0 AND X=0)
90 GO TO 30
```

1(d)

```
10 FOR A=0 TO 90 STEP 5
20 LET M=TAN(A*PI/360)
30 FOR X=0 TO 63 (use 40 for 1K)
40 LET Y=INT (M*X)
50 IF Y>43 THEN GO TO 80
60 PLOT X,Y
70 NEXT X
80 NEXT A
```

1(e) A line through the point (32,22) with gradient m can be calculated since the slope $y-22 = m \frac{x-32}{x-32}$

$$\text{so } y = m(x-32)+22$$

Use values of m from -5 to 5 in steps of one half

```
10 FOR M=-5 TO 5 STEP 0.5
20 FOR X=0 TO 63
30 LET Y=INT(M*(X-32)+22)
40 IF Y>43 OR Y<0 THEN GO TO 60
50 PLOT X,Y
60 NEXT X
70 NEXT M
```

1(f) Equation is $x^2 + y^2 = 40^2$

so $x = 40 \cos \theta$
and $y = 40 \sin \theta$

and we PLOT it for the angle θ between 0° and 90° .

```
10 FOR Q = 0 TO 90
20 LET P=Q*PI/180
30 PLOT 40*COS P,40*SIN P
40 NEXT Q
```

Chapter 2

2(a) Add the following instruction

```
55 IF A$(1)="-" OR A$(1)="b" THEN GO TO 70
```

```
2(b) 10 DIM S$(40)
      20 PRINT "ENTERbSENTENCE:"
      30 INPUT S$
      40 PRINT S$
      50 FOR I=1 TO 37
      60 IF S$(I TO I+2)="THE" THEN GO TO 100
      70 NEXT I
      80 PRINT "DOESbNOTbCONTAINbTHE."
      90 STOP
      100 PRINT "DOESbCONTAINbTHE"
```

Notice this accepts any word containing, T,H,E, e.g. PATHETIC

Chapter 3

3(a) No solution specified: the subject area is open to the reader's choice.

```
3(b) 71 LET V=0
      72 FOR J=1 TO 8
      73 IF CODE (W$(I,J))>128 THEN LET V=V+1
      74 NEXT J
      75 IF V<>1 THEN GO TO 70
```

V counts the number of inverse characters in the word.

3(c) ABS is included so that the relative values of N and R are compared effectively, i.e. it is unimportant which is the larger. Without ABS we have for example:

```
190 IF N-R>5 THEN GO TO 220
```

If R was 50 and N was 44 the test would not be satisfied since -6 is not greater than 5.

3(d) Try it and see!

3(e) 30 LET A\$(1)=CHR\$(INT(RND*11)+28)

3(f) There is not a way of crashing the program at the input stage that we have found!

3(g) Add the following line

```
105 IF N=M AND D>SQ R M THEN GO TO 120
```

3(h) Line 260 terminates with an error if DF is zero. Add the following:

```
253 IF DF<>0 THEN GO TO 260
255 PRINT "NObSOLUTIONbPOSSIBLE"
257 STOP
```

3(i) Line 360 detects a response which is shorter than the answer keyword, and which is therefore obviously wrong.

APPENDIX

PROGRAM DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT

Introduction

This section has been written to show the reader how a games program has been built up from first ideas into a fully working and documented program.

The writing of programs can generally be split into a number of steps:

1. Defining the problem
2. Outlining the solution
3. Selecting and representing algorithms
4. Coding (or writing the program)
5. Debugging
6. Testing and validating
7. Documentation
8. Maintaining the program

It is vital that a considerable amount of planning and design for a program takes place before the user touches the keyboard. In particular the aim and format of the program must be clearly specified, since ambiguities at this stage will cause problems later. When defining the method of solution (or **algorithm**) is it helpful to write this down as a series of separate steps in a block-structured form, as shown in earlier chapters. Some programmers like to use **flowcharts** (example later) but the author thinks these are not vital if the algorithm is written down in a structured way. All later stages of the implementation of the program are based upon this stage and it can be helpful to specify the names and meanings of variables here. Certainly a list of variables must be kept as the program is written to avoid confusion or duplication of names. Even when tracking down errors or program bugs, the structured method can be traced through to show any logic errors. Although it can be frustrating for the user with a good idea for a program to wait for an hour or so following this method before getting on the ZX81, he will find it saves a great deal of time later: there will be much fewer errors and those present will be easier to find.

This approach, while certainly the best, does present problems for those beginning to program, since such users will not have all their ideas at the beginning of the design process. The remainder of this section

represents an alternative of gradually improving upon an initial simple program.

Sample Specification

Step One, defining the problem means "What is the Program to do" or "What is its specification". Here is the specification of the program which will be covered in this section:

"The program is to draw a large block on the screen which represents a thick dungeon wall. A prisoner under the user's control has to dig himself out from one end to the other. However parts of the wall are of made of hard rock, which he must dig round. If he takes too long a Warder will come looking for him and if he is found he will be taken back and the tunnels he has dug filled in. The object is for the prisoner to escape."

Those people without 16K expansions will realise that (without using machine code) it will not be possible for their ZX81's to handle such a program. Even so the first part of this section is just as applicable to 1K as to 16K, so continue reading.

The specification has given us three main problems:

1. We have to be able to move a character representing the prisoner round the screen.
2. Parts of the screen have to be designated "No-Go" areas which the prisoner must go round, and
3. We have to make a second character follow the paths made by the "Prisoner" while looking for him.

PROBLEM ONE — MOVING A CHARACTER ROUND THE SCREEN

As described earlier in the book there are two ways of printing a character on the screen, "PRINT AT" and "PLOT". We will use "PRINT AT" because any character can be displayed by this statement. Since it is not necessary to input the co-ordinates for every move and since we do not want the program to stop while waiting for an input we will use the 'INKEY\$' statement. The following program shows briefly how this can be done.

```

5  REM PROGRAM 1
10 LET X=5
20 LET Y=1
30 IF INKEY$="8" THEN LET Y=Y+1
40 PRINT AT X,Y;"p"
50 GO TO 30

```

Y is the horizontal position which is incremented everytime the "Right Arrow" or "8" key is pressed thus drawing a line towards the right. Note that the line continues for as long as the "Right Arrow" key is pressed. If we can move in one direction like this then we can move in any direction by incorporating the other arrow keys in the program. One fault with the above program is that once the line reaches a certain length it crashes with an error message B/40 which means that the value of "Y" in line 40 is too large. The computer has tried to draw off the screen, to prevent this happening insert the following line:

```

35 IF Y>30 THEN LET Y=Y-1

```

The line will now no longer be drawn past column 30.

When the above technique is used to draw a line in all directions it becomes a very versatile method of drawing on the screen. The following "Sketcher" program demonstrates this. It makes the ZX81 imitate a child's Etch-A-Sketch machine. Movement and character changing are shown below:

```

5-8  Left, Down, Up, Right
D    Change character to a dot
B    Change character to a blank
S    Scroll whole picture
A    Change character back to black square
C    Press to insert your own character

```

```

5  REM SKETCHER PROGRAM
10 LET X=10
20 LET Y=12
30 LET P$=CHR$(128)
40 LET X=X-(INKEY$="7")+(INKEY$="6")
50 LET Y=Y-(INKEY$="5")+(INKEY$="8")
60 IF INKEY$="C" THEN GO SUB 300
70 IF INKEY$="A" THEN LET P$=CHR$(128)
80 IF INKEY$="D" THEN LET P$="."

```

```

90 IF INKEY$="B" THEN LET P$="b"
100 IF INKEY$="S" THEN SCROLL
110 IF Y>31 THEN LET X=X+1
120 IF Y>31 THEN LET Y=0
130 IF Y=0 THEN LET Y=Y+1
140 IF X=0 THEN LET X=X+1
150 IF X>20 THEN LET X=0
160 IF X=0 THEN LET Y=Y+1
170 PRINT AT X,Y;P$
180 GO TO 40
300 PRINT AT 1,1;"CHARACTER="
310 INPUT P$
320 PRINT AT 1,1;"bbbbbbbbbbb"
330 RETURN

```

Lines 10 to 30 Sets up coordinates and character to be printed.
 Lines 40 and 50 Change the character co-ordinates, compare with Line 30 in Program 1.

Lines 60 to 90 Allow character to be changed.

Lines 110 to 160 Stop the character from going off the screen.

Lines 300 to 330 Allow the user to change the character to any other character or string.

We have not totally achieved our objective as the Sketcher Program and Program 1 are drawing lines round the screen rather than moving a character. To create the illusion of movement we must erase the character everytime it moves. To do this we must store the old co-ordinates and print a blank on them. Insert the following lines into Program 1:—

```

25 LET S=X
27 LET T=Y
45 PRINT AT S,T;"b"
50 GO TO 25

```

Note how the character flashes — this is because it is constantly rubbing itself out. Try and work out how to stop the flashing (answer at the end of this section) and try to incorporate this technique into the Sketcher Program.

The two programs above both fit into a 1K ZX81 although memory full errors may occur with the Sketcher Program as the screen begins to fill

up. For the second problem below (defining parts of the screen as No-Go areas) a 16K expansion must be used.

PROBLEM TWO: DEFINING "NO-GO" AREAS ON SCREEN

By the expression "No-Go Areas" is meant a part of the screen which a program such as Sketcher cannot draw on and must go round to pass. This means that the ZX81 must know what is being displayed on the screen. The easiest way of doing this is to store the screen contents in an array. This is why a 16K expansion is needed. The array will be dimensioned as 21x31 (the number of "PRINT AT" positions) so that every time a character is printed on the screen a corresponding digit should be placed at the correct position in the array. For example if a "3" is printed on the screen at 5,7 then a "3" is stored in the array at 5,7.

```
PRINT AT X,Y;"3"
LET A(X,Y)=3
```

To create No-Go areas on the screen therefore all we have to do is place values in the array. If we try to draw a character in a No-Go screen position then we have to move the character back to its old position.

This BLOCK program gives a demonstration of the No-Go Areas, as well as a moving (self-erasing) character. Move the character by using the "Arrow" keys.

```
5 REM BLOCK PROGRAM
10 DIM A(21,31)
20 FOR S=1 TO 21
30 FOR T=1 TO 31
40 LET X=INT(RND*10+1)
45 IF X>8 THEN PRINT AT S,T;"■"
50 IF X>8 THEN LET A(S,T)=7
60 NEXT T
70 NEXT S
100 LET X=10
110 LET Y=1
120 LET S=X
130 LET T=Y
140 LET X=X-(INKEY$="7")+(INKEY$="6")
150 LET Y=Y-(INKEY$="5")+(INKEY$="8")
```

```
160 IF A(X,Y)=7 THEN GO SUB 200
170 PRINT AT X,Y;"O"
180 PRINT AT S,T;"b"
190 GO TO 120
200 LET X=S
210 LET Y=T
220 RETURN
```

This program produces a screen full of random black squares. Once the flashing "O" has appeared, move about by using the arrow keys. No matter how hard you try you will be unable to move the "O" through a black square. This is how the program works.

Line 10 Sets up the two dimensional array.

Lines 20 to 70 Fills randomly chosen parts of the array with 7 and prints out the corresponding position on the screen.

Lines 100 to 110 Set up the starting position of the flashing "O".

Lines 120 to 130 Store the previous position of the flashing "O".

Lines 140 to 150 Input the new position for the "O" to go to.

Line 160 Finds out whether the new position of the "O" is a No-Go Area by looking at the corresponding position in the array.

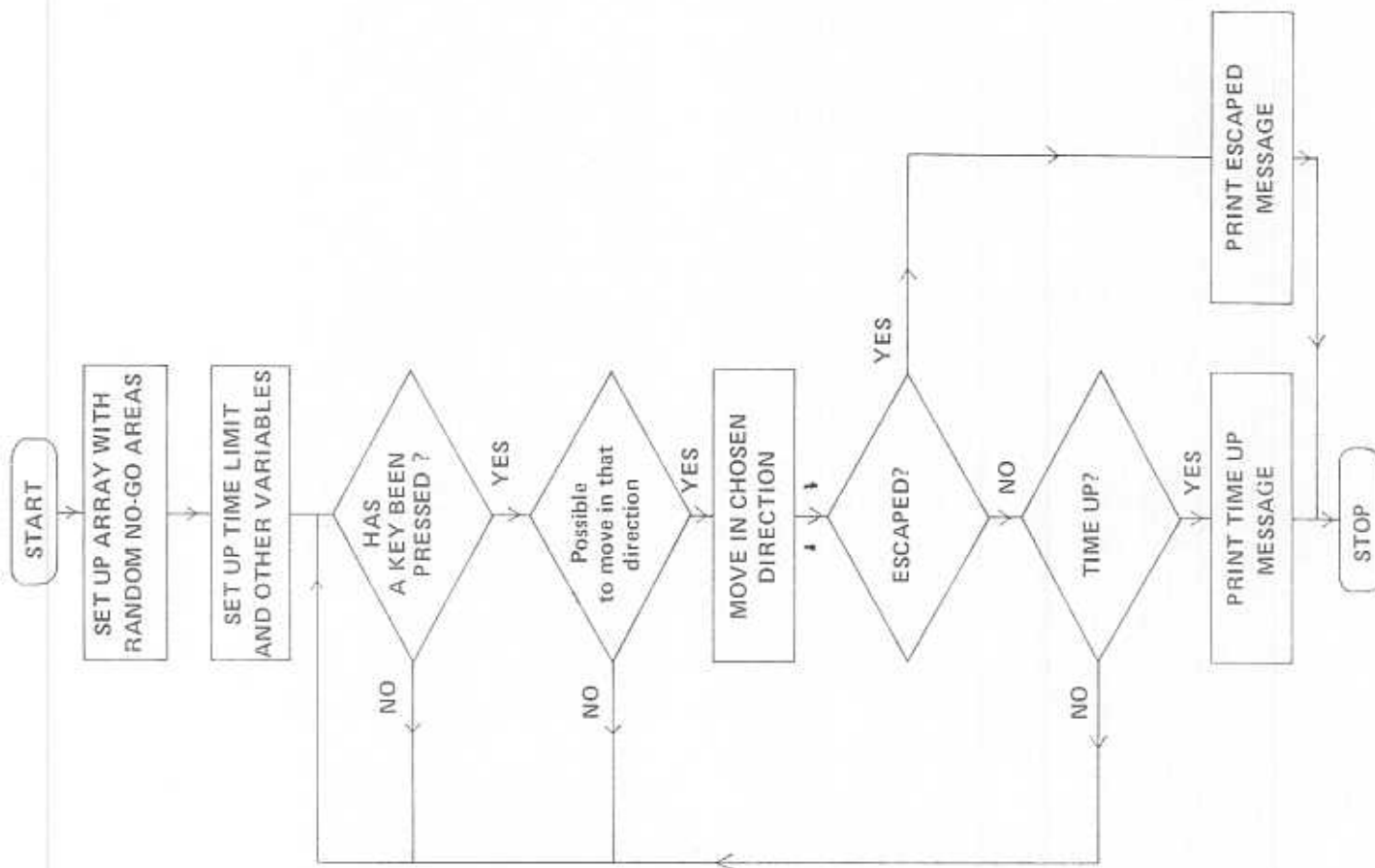
Lines 170 to 190 Print the "O" and erase the old "O".

Lines 200 to 220 Return the flashing "O" to its old position if it is trying to pass a No-Go Area.

An interesting alteration to liven this program up can be made as follows:-

```
200 LET X=S-2
210 LET Y=T-2
```

Now everytime the flashing "O" reaches a No-Go Area it will bounce away from it. As we now have the two main techniques which form the basis of the game program we can now begin work on it. The diagram on the next page shows a general algorithm for the game in the form of a flowchart. It is around this that we shall write the Game Program.



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This flowchart is not an algorithm for the complete game because we want a "Warder" to be able to chase the "Prisoner" through the "tunnels" and capture him. However this part of the program can be added later at the "Print Time Up" box. Box 1 carries out the same functions as lines 10 to 100 in the block program and can be broken down into the following sections.

- Set up array
- Set up initial variables (co-ordinates etc.)
- Fill array with random flags (No-go areas)
- Print out picture
- Set up time limit

Up to this point we have reached Step 3, in the program – writing procedure, that is we have: –

DEFINED THE PROBLEM, this was our specification.

OUTLINED THE SOLUTION, the techniques needed to write the program, i.e. character movement and No-go Areas.

SELECTED AND REPRESENTED ALGORITHMS, such as the flow-chart and the sketch and block programs.

We have also carried out some coding, debugging and documentation in the process of outlining the solution. Coding of the actual game program can now be done as all of the boxes in the flowchart have been covered already.

```

10 REM ESCAPE GAME
20 REM INITIALISE
30 FAST
40 DIM A(20,22)
50 LET X=10
60 LET Y=2
70 LET C=0
80 LET AS="O"
90 REM FILL ARRAY
100 FOR I=1 TO 100
110 LET V=INT(RND*20+1)
120 LET D=INT(RND*20+1)
130 LET A(V,D)=7
140 NEXT I
150 REM PRINT PICTURE
  
```

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```

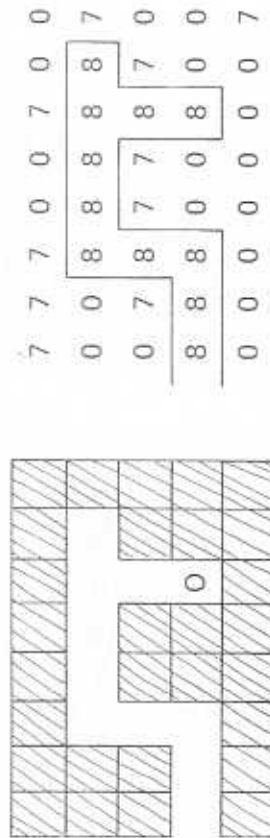
160 SLOW
170 CLS
180 FOR I=1 TO 20
190 PRINT "bb";
200 NEXT I
210 REM SET UP TIME LIMIT
220 LET TIME = INT(RND*200+1)
230 REM MOVING PRISONER
240 LET C=C+1
250 IF C>TIME THEN GO TO 500
260 LET K=X
270 LET P=Y
280 LET X=X-(INKEY$="7")+(INKEY$="6")
290 LET Y=Y-(INKEY$="5")+(INKEY$="8")
295 IF Y>20 THEN GO TO 400
300 IF A(X,Y)=7 THEN LET X=K
310 IF A(X,Y)=7 THEN LET Y=P
320 PRINT AT K,P;"b"
330 LET A(X,Y)=8
340 PRINT AT X,Y;A$
350 GO TO 230
400 PRINT AT 1,20;"YOU HAVE"
410 PRINT AT 3,20;"ESCAPED"
420 GO TO 700
500 PRINT AT 1,20;"YOU ARE"
510 PRINT AT 3,20;"CAUGHT"
700 STOP

```

When this program is run the screen will clear for about five seconds while the initialisation and array-filling take place (lines 10 to 140). A large black square is then drawn on the left of the T.V. screen with a flashing "O" at the left edge. The flashing "O" represents the prisoner and the black square shows the ground through which he must dig to make his escape. Escape is achieved when he reaches the right hand side. You may have noticed that this program uses a slightly different method of filling the array than does the block program. In this program the density of No-Go areas can be chosen (here 100) by the size of the FOR NEXT loop in line 100. The "Tunnel" effect is created by the printing of blanks in line 320 which also causes the "O" to flash. Try making changes to the program, for example to the density of No-Go areas, the time limit, or adding boundaries to the top, bottom and left of the screen so that the program does not crash with a 3/300 error if

you go off the edge.

This game provides a good springboard for further expansions, however we said that it was our aim to incorporate a "Warder" to capture the prisoner. The warder has to either follow the exact course taken by the prisoner or work his way through the tunnels by following the array. Let us look at the second method first. The array used by this program so far contains 3 numbers; 0, 7, 8, which correspond to the screen display as shown below.



SCREEN DISPLAY

8 = Passage taken by "Prisoner"
7 = No go areas
0 = Areas which can be passed through

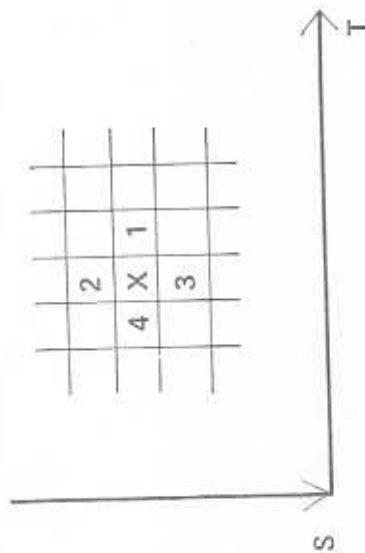
As the ZX81 will use the array to locate the position of the "Prisoner" the array must show where he is! This can be done by adding the line.

```
245 IF C>TIME THEN LET A(X,Y) = 9
```

Now as soon as the prisoners time is up his position is marked in the array by a "9".

The ZX81 (or warder) can now search from a starting position along the trail of "8"s in the array for the "9" (prisoners position). The computer not only has to search for the "9" but also "8"s so that it can follow a route made by the prisoner. To do this the computer has to search for an "8" or "9" in the squares adjacent to its present position.

Assume the "Warder" is at square X — he will search in the following way:



So to search from X to 1
 1 to 2 $T = T + 1$
 2 to 3 $S = S - 1 \text{ \& } T = T - 1$
 3 to 4 $S = S + 2$
 $T = T - 1 \text{ \& } S = S - 1$

So that when the ZX81 has found an adjacent "g" it moves onto it and starts the search procedure again. Because this order of searching has been chosen, the "Warder" will tend to move right and up, rather than down and left. The coding to do this will look like this

```
500 REM CHASING WARDER
510 LET D = 7
520 LET S = 10
530 LET T = 1
540 LET F = S
550 LET G = T
560 LET T = T + 1
570 IF A(S,T) < D THEN GO TO 1000
580 LET S = S - 1
590 LET T = T - 1
600 IF A(S,T) > D THEN GO TO 1000
610 LET S = S + Z
620 IF A(S,T) > D THEN GO TO 1000
630 LET S = S - 1
640 LET T = T - 1
650 IF A(S,T) > D THEN GO TO 1000
660 GO TO 560
1000 PRINT AT S,T,"X"
```

```
1010 PRINT AT F,G,"b"
1020 IF A(S,T)=9 THEN GO TO 1100
1030 GO TO 540
1100 PRINT AT 1,23,"GOT"
1110 PRINT AT 3,23,"YOU"
```

Because the same order of search is used by the "Warder" (right, up, down, left) it will occasionally become trapped. To prevent this from happening the search order can be randomised, though the "Warder" should be more inclined to move forward than to move backwards.

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