

N-186
27Aug75

UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

Prentice Computer Centre

NEWSLETTER

authorization: Director of the Centre

1 PURGE OF OFFLINE DIRECTORY

As users will be aware, the charge for offline storage has been dropped temporarily as we did not feel that the revenue obtained justified the accounting overhead. Unfortunately, one consequence has been that users are apparently less liable to delete files on the offline directory. The offline storage requirement has increased significantly and reached a stage where it must be reduced as a matter of some urgency.

Starting from 30.8.75, all offline files not accessed since 1.1.75 are to be transferred to magnetic tape and retrieval of these files will be around a week. Requests for retrievals should be made to the Operations Supervisor.

We are currently reviewing the whole file migration system and accounting for offline files. With limited resources of the Centre, it is unlikely revised systems will be available before the end of 1975. In the meantime, we would be particularly grateful if users would co-operate by deleting unwanted files from the online and offline directory. It not only helps us but of more importance helps other users.

2 PROJECT, PROGRAMMER NUMBERS

Another area where users can assist us to improve the service to other users is the cancellation of project, programmer numbers that are no longer required. Please write to the Operations Supervisor providing a list of ppn's which are no longer required.

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3 SAVE YOURSELF (and everybody else) MONEY, TIME AND FRUSTRATION

Processing of all QUEUE commands (i.e. PRINT, SUBMIT, PLOT) involves a not insignificant amount of processing and disk access. You will save yourself money and substantially improve response time if you don't continually use QUEUE commands to monitor the progress of requests. If you must find the status of a job, try using the /F switch and be more selective about which queue entries you have to examine, i.e. instead of Q/L

use PRINT/F * [125,171]

Note The absence of an entry on a queue does not necessarily mean it has been processed (it may not even have been read on). The disappearance of an entry from a queue does not mean that it is available for immediate collection.

4 NEW AXIS PLOTTING SUBROUTINE IN THE CALCOMP LIBRARY

AXISI, a modification of AXIS, has been added to both PLO:CALCMP.REL and PLO:CALF10.REL libraries. AXISI takes the same arguments as AXIS and is similar in function to AXIS with two exceptions. Integer notation is used for the values at the tick marks where appropriate, i.e. if all values would be "xxx.00", the ".00" is not plotted for any of them. Secondly, in cases where AXISI adjusts the increment per tick mark by a power of ten and follows the axis title by "*10ⁿ", n is always a multiple of 3.

For example to plot the years 1963 to 1975 on a 300mm (12 inch) axis, the call to AXISI would be -

CALL AXISI (X,Y,'YEARS',-5,300.,0.,1963.,1./25.) for mm
or CALL AXISI (X,Y,'YEARS',-5,12.,0.,1963.,1.0) for inches.

Remember that DELTA V is in units per unit length and tick marks are spaced at inch or 25mm intervals.

Output from the AXISI tests is available for inspection at the Centre. Ask for Ian Burgess or Arthur Hartwig.

5 NEW VERSION OF PIP

Version 33B of PIP has been implemented on the system. It is primarily a maintenance release and users should note the following:

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- 5.1 TYPEing of files containing multiple spaces and lower case characters now works correctly.
- 5.2 SFD's are now fully supported.
- 5.3 Wildcard filename specifications are now compatible with DIRECT for example.
- 5.4 In the current monitor, 'NEW' in the jobs search list will reference [1,5] for system files not [1,4] as usual. DIRECT however will reference [1,4] in the same circumstances.

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