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LISP Linkage Feature:

Incorporating MIDAS Routines into PDP6 LISP

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Some PDP6 LISP users have felt the need for a way to incorporate MIDAS subroutines into LISP. LISP has been changed to let you do this, using files found on the LISP SYSTEM microtape.

1. ASSEMBLING

You write a routine for LISP in much the same way that you write any other MIDAS relocatable subroutine. You must, however, observe the constraints imposed by LISP's allocation and use of accumulators, and its method of handling input, output, and interrupts. In addition, you require linkage to LISP before your routine can operate properly: The entry point(s) of the subroutine must be put on the property list(s) of the appropriate atom(s), and the address fields of instructions pointing to other routines, to list structure, or to other LISP data structures must be set properly. This is done when LISP begins operation: after allocation, but before going into its listen loop.

We provide eight macros to ease the job of creating such linkages: SUBR, FSUBR, LSUBR, MACRO, QUOTE, E, SPECIAL, and SYM.

If you write "SUBR name" at a location a in your routine, LISP will subsequently ascribe the property SUBR to the atom name, with entry location a. Similar remarks apply to the use of FSUBR, LSUBR, and MACRO.

The significance and use of the other four macros is perhaps best communicated through examples:

1. An instruction like "MOVEI A,QUOTE(X Y Z)" will be assembled as "MOVEI A,0". At link time, however, LISP will insert the location of the list (X Y Z) into the address field of the instruction.

2. Suppose that the atom FOO has the properties shown in Figure 1. Then the instructions "MOVEI A,QUOTE FOO", "MOVEM B,SPECIAL FOO", "PUSHJ P,SYM FOO", and "CALL E FOO" will each be assembled with a zero address field, which will be modified at link time to be b, c, 106, and 101, respectively.

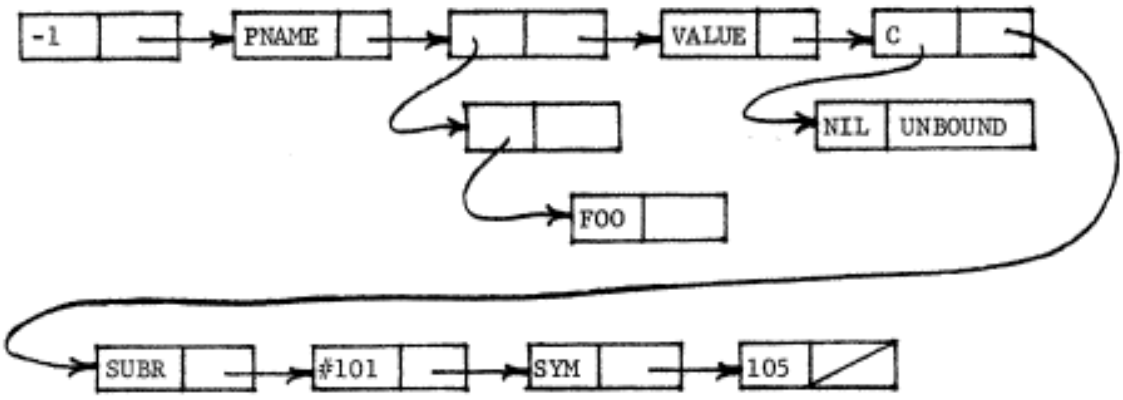

Figure 1

You should note that:

1. Of these macros, only QUOTE may be used with a nonatomic argument.

2. E can only be used with a routine which is known as a SUBR, FSUBR, LSUBR, or MACRO to LISP at link time.

3. SPECIAL will cause a value cell to be created for the atom named, if it does not already have one.

4. If your routine must do I/O in a more intimate manner than merely calling subroutines such as print, read, or uwrite, then consult a system programmer before blindly using instructions such as .OPEN or .IOT.

Appendix I maps LISP's allocation and use of the accumulators.

Appends II lists code which properly defines the eight macros, as well as defining the UUOs CALL, JCALL, CALLF, and JCALLF, and defining the accumulators A, B, C, T, and P. This code appears as the file LISP MACROS on the LISP SYSTEM tape. We suggest that you merge it in at the beginning of your program.

If you are mystified, peruse A.I. Memo 116, PDP-6 LISP (LISP 1.6) January 1967.

2. LOADING

Your programs must be loaded together with LISP by STINK. Here is a recipe:

1. Have the LISP SYSTEM tape on drive 2 (say), and have on drive 3 (say) a tape bearing the relocatable binary files (e.g. FOO BAR and BAR FOO) that you wish to load.

2. Perform the following incantation:

```
STINK|H
JLISP$0<.LINKI>
3MFOO BAR$LMBAR FOO$L$$
2MLISP BIN$LTD
```

Alternatively, one may use the files "1" and "2" on the LISP SYSTEM tape, typing:

```
STINK|H
2M1$@$$
3MFOO BAR$LMBAR FOO$L$$
2M2$@$$
```

The process will terminate with LISP and DDT loaded, with control in DDT. When you are ready, start LISP as usual with "$G". LISP will begin by allocating storage, then linking your routines into the system. If an error occurs in processing a macro statement of the form mac expr, LISP will print out the vague comment "LINKAGE ERROR LINKING TO expr". After processing all linkages, LISP will go into its listen loop.

3. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Most of the ideas for this hack were suggested by Stuart Nelson. The other hackers contributed many useful suggestions and much help.

APPENDIX I

LISP ASSIGNMENT AND USE OF ACCUMULATORS

AC	Name	Use
0	NIL	Atom head for NIL.
1	A"	Value of functions; arg 1; marked from.
2	B"	Arg 2; marked from.
3	C"	Arg 3; marked from.
4	AR1	Arg4; marked from.
5	AR2A	Arg 5; marked from.
6	T"	Used in calls to LSUBRs; marked from.
7	TT	Marked from.
10		Not marked; clobbered by garbage collector.
11	S	Ditto.
12	D	Ditto.
13	R	Not marked.
14	P"	Pushdown list ac.
15	F	Free storage list ac.
16	FF	Full word space ac.
17	SP	Special pdl ac.

APPENDIX II

CODE FOR DEFINING MACROS, UUOS, AND ACS

```
RELOCATABLE
IRP MAC,,[SUBR,FSUBR,LSUBR,MACRO,QUOTE,SPECIAL,E,SYM]TYPE,,[0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7]
DEFINE MAC NAME/HERE,OLDEND

HERE=.-IFGE TYPE-4 1
EQUALS OLDEND END
DEFINE END
        HERE,,.LINKLIST"
.LINKLIST"=$.-1
        TYPE_29.+ASCII /@NAME/
EQUALS END OLDEND
EXPUNGE HERE,OLDEND
END
TERMIN
TERMIN
TERMIN

CALL=74000,,
JCALL=75000,,
CALLF=76000,,
JCALLF=77000,,

.GLOBAL A B C P T
```