

DataGeneral

SOFTWARE

PROGRAM

RELOCATABLE BINARY PUNCH

TAPES

Relocatable Binary: 089-000080

ABSTRACT

The Relocatable Binary Punch Program is a NOVA utility routine that punches operator specified ranges of memory in binary format acceptable as input to the Binary Loader. The program uses either the high-speed paper tape punch or the teletype ASR punch.

1. REQUIREMENTS

1.1 Memory

2K or larger alterable memory

1.2 Equipment

Teletype and teletype ASR or high-speed punch

1.3 Other

None

2. OPERATING PROCEDURE

2.1 Calling Sequence

The Relocatable Binary Punch program must be loaded using any Relocatable Loader (see Relocatable Loader, 093-000039). The starting address is RBFP, which has been declared as an entry and is 12 (octal) locations past the loading address. When started, the program will type carriage return, line feed and wait for input.

2.2 Input Format

There are three commands available:

nH

n, mP

nE

where: n and m are octal integers that cannot exceed the size of memory.

n is an optional argument in the E command.

The command nH places the value n in the H-register. If the H-register is non-zero, output is to the high-speed punch. If the H-register contains zero, output is to the teletype punch. The default value (following loading and restarting) is zero.

The command n, mP causes the contents of the memory range from address n to address m inclusive to be punched to the

2. OPERATING PROCEDURE (cont'd)

2.2 Input Format (cont'd)

output device specified by the H-register in format acceptable to the Binary Loader, with the requirement that $m \geq n$.

The command E causes punching to the output device, specified by the H-register, of an end block containing no starting address. The command nE produces an end block with starting address n .

If the output device is the teletype punch, the program will halt before and after punching to allow the punch to be switched on or off. It will halt with Carry set if the punch is to be turned on and with Carry reset if the punch is to be turned off. If the punch were left on at all times, all commands would be punched on the output tape.

2.3 Output Format

Output is a binary tape acceptable as input to the Binary Loader.

3. DISCUSSION

3.1 Algorithms

The routine checks for suitable input and responds with

?carriage return, line feed

on illegal input. Upon encountering the first legal P command (following loading, restarting, or an E command), the program punches leader, followed by the specified memory range in binary format. Subsequent P commands do not produce leader. Trailer is punched following every legal E command.

The routine is capable of punching itself if desired.

3.2 Size and Timing

The routine requires 370 (octal) words of storage. Its speed is limited by the output device.

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3. DISCUSSION (cont'd)

3.3 References

For a description of binary tape format, see the Binary Loader Manual (093-000003).

4. EXAMPLES AND/OR APPLICATIONS

One use for the Relocatable Binary Punch program is to produce an absolute version of a relocatable program to facilitate reloading of the program.

A standard debugging procedure is to load a binary tape, isolate program bugs, and overwrite (patch) the program locations that are in error. The Relocatable Binary Punch program enables the user to punch a new binary tape from the corrected state of memory, or the user can punch just the patches. If the patches are then loaded with the Binary Loader after the original tape is loaded, they will overwrite the selected portions of memory. (Note that if the original binary tape was relocatable and only the patches were punched, care must be taken that the original tape is reloaded at the same absolute address, since the patches are absolute.)

A sample teletype printout is shown on the following page. Note the following features, indicated by numbered lines on the printout:

Lines 1) through 4) are communications with the Relocatable Loader.

Line 2) initiated loading and the line following requested a loader map - which appears on lines following and ends with line 3).

4. EXAMPLES AND/OR APPLICATIONS (cont'd)

Line 3) gave the entry point, RBFP, as 1012. (Note that NMAX prior to loading was 1000.)

Line 4) caused the loader to halt. Setting the console switches to 1012 and pressing RESET and START initiates execution of the Relocatable Binary Punch program.

Line 5) set the output device to the high-speed punch. The lines following show examples of legal and illegal commands; the illegal commands are followed by a ?.

Line 6) set the output device to the teletype punch. After 1000, 1370P (which is the range of the program itself), the program halted with the Carry light on. The punch was turned on and CONTINUE was pressed.

Line 8) caused punching of an end block with starting address 1012 (with Carry light functioning as in Line 6). Lines 6) through 8) then produced a self-starting absolute binary tape of the Relocatable Binary Punch program on the TTP.

Note: By setting the value of NMAX prior to loading the Relocatable Binary Punch program, and then punching the range "NMAX prior to loading" to "(NMAX-1) after loading", an absolute version of the Binary Punch program for loading at any given range of memory can be produced.

Line 9) is garbage, typed during punching of the end block. Lines 10) and 11) indicate that the maximum memory address for the machine was 17777.

