

XCOMS

XCOMS Competitive Specs.

Started 27/8 August 1970

to kettledrum music in Stony Brook, NY.

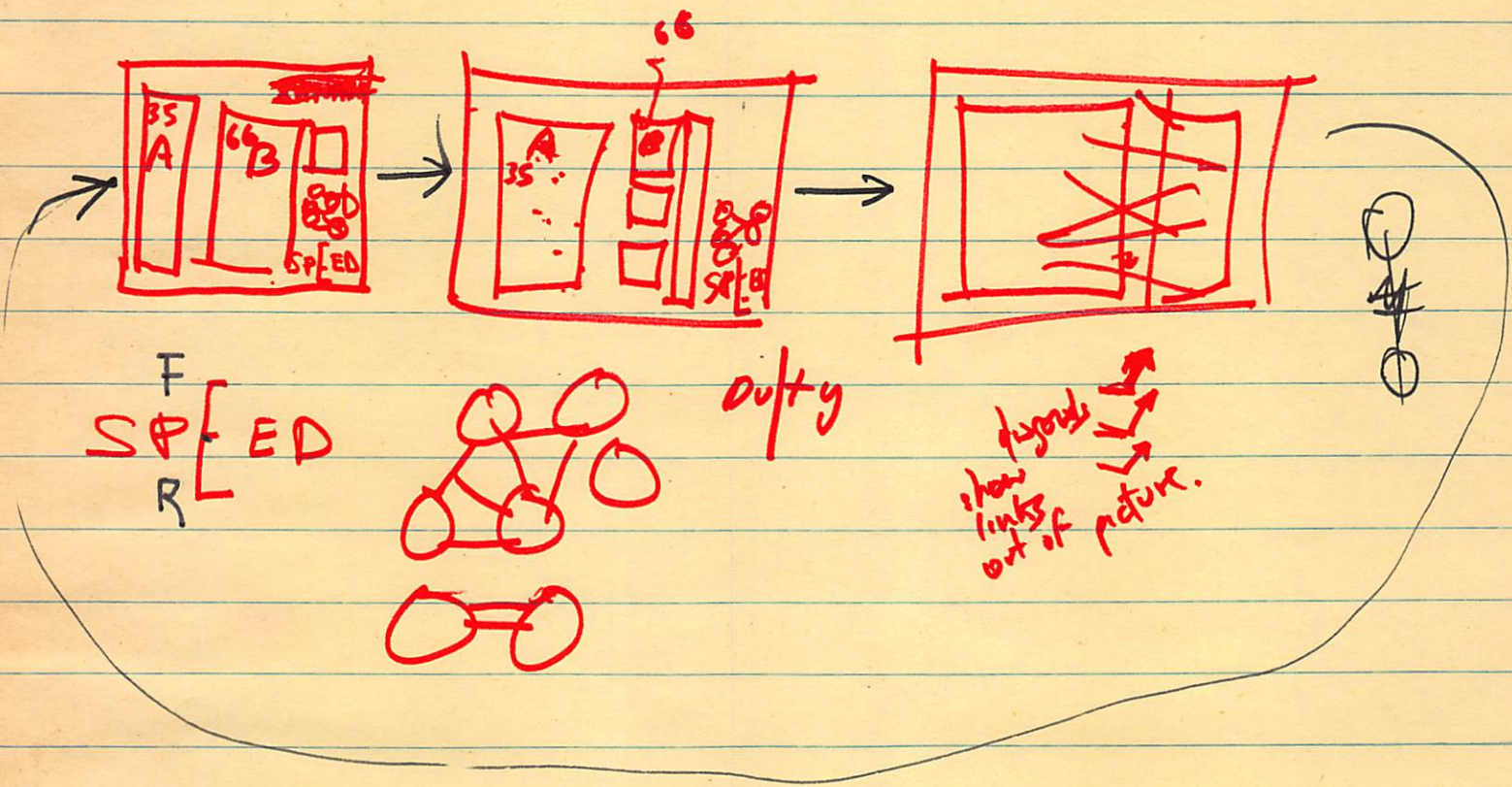
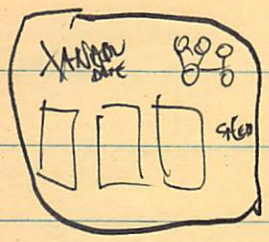
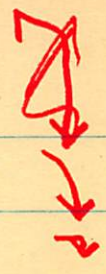
1-17 Kettledrum sect. on, 27/8 Aug 70.
Present: Nelson, Klugman, King, Sarno

18 Magnificent, if vague, unifying strategy.
Present? Nelson(?)

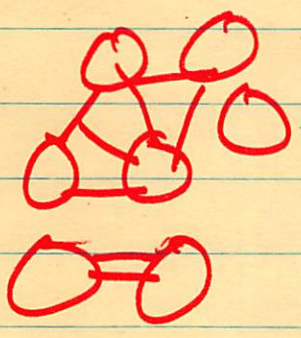
10-10



NOVEL
○

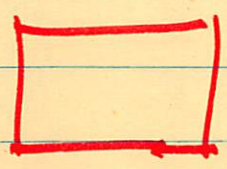


SPEED
F
R

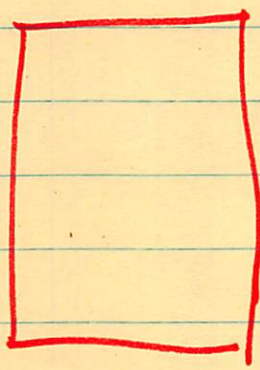


duty

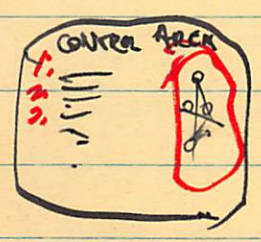
show links out of picture.



PILLOW

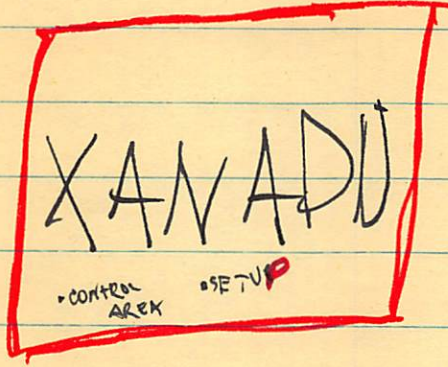


BED

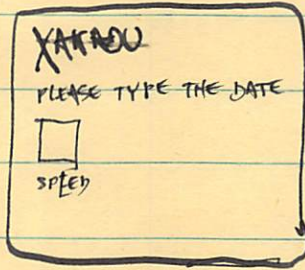


2

~~XCVMSZ~~
XCVMSZ



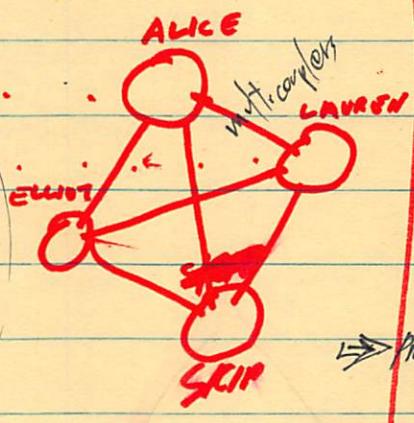
PRIMEVAL SETUP



1. type the date
2. MOVE ANYTHING

CONTROL AREA

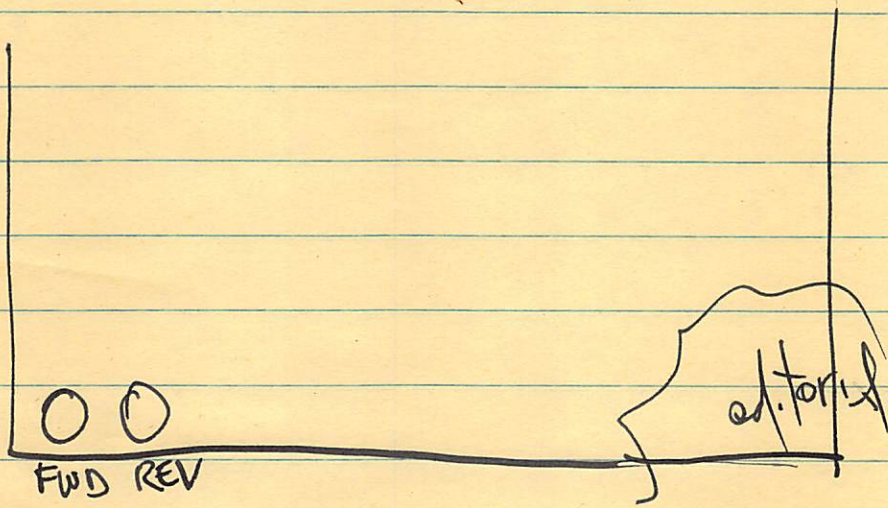
ALICE
 LAUREN
 ELLIOT
 SKIP



MULTICOPIED FILES
 MIGHT BE INDICATED BY LINKS
 IN THEIR NAME LIST.
 ↳ Probably mult. copies from a file should appear
 when that file is selected.
 TO MAKE A FILE BALL
 DIAGRAM:

- POINT AT FILE NAME.
BALL APPEARS UNDER PEN
- ~~///~~ USER MOVES BALL ANYWHERE.
- NEXT FILE SELECTED SHOWS NEW BALL;
- IF COUPLED TO A PREVIOUS BALL, LINE TO THAT BALL IS AUTOMATICALLY SHOWN.
- ~~BALL IS PLACED BY LIGHT PEN IN DIAGRAM.~~

BUTTONS



MORE BUTTONS:

'NEXT SETUP'

MAKE SETUP

⊕ DIM through five degrees, to disappearance.
Each disappeared thing leaves visible residue.

Panel: two dots [diagram of two dots] ...

★ READY [Elliot's suggestion for remaining of ads.]
TYPE SIZE

USER COMMANDS

SELECT PANEL: point at edge or interior
~~then~~ to specify a) which panel moves
 and/or b) which panel will change contents

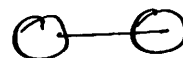
SELECT FILE: point at labelled file ball.

MAY DO IT MORE THAN ONCE FOR
 INTERLEAVED FILES.

END FILE SELECT: hit panel again.



TO GET LINKS: hit line between file balls



CHANGE COMMANDS

- ADD (insert)
- REMOVE (delete)
- MOVE (rearrange)
- REPLACE (substitute)
- DUPLICATE (copy)

TRANSFER ^{copy} from one file to another, with automatic link

Approaches:

Menu

Button-box

Editing pattern, e.g.

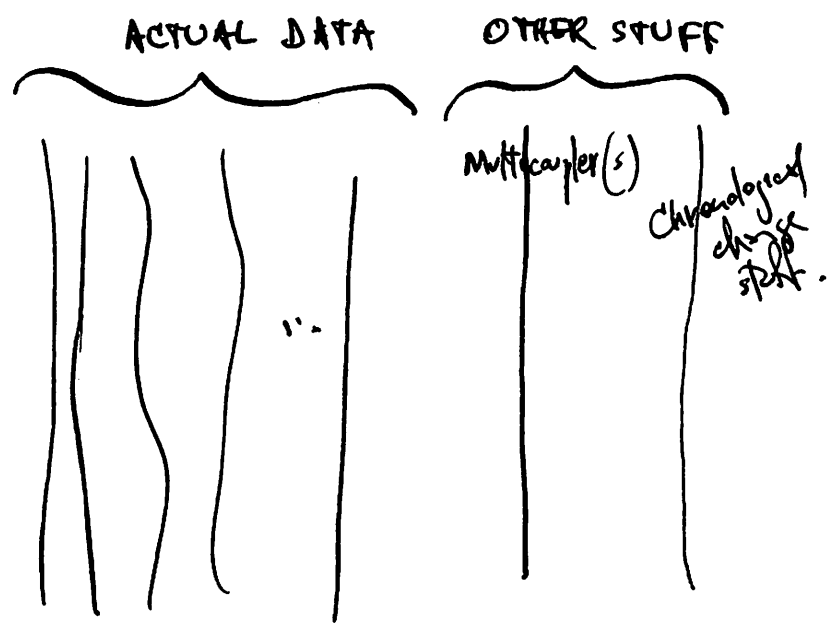
single or mult. letters:
e.g., 'move' ← INS + DEL



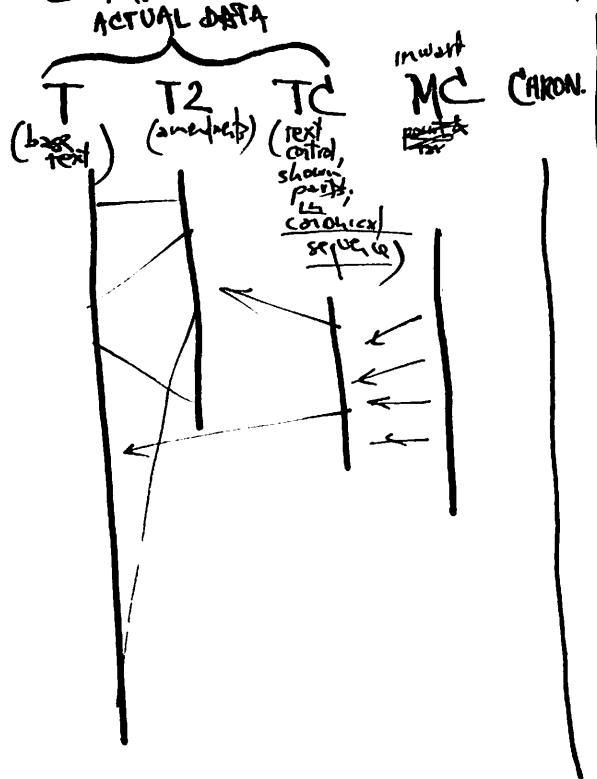
CHANGE COMMANDS ARE STORED SEQUENTIALLY.

Note: if text moves, it should itself move under lightpen.
[e.g. MOVE or COPY]

XANADU FILE consists of n parallel streams, slightly ficked up.
 There are two types.



EXAMPLE. The enriched text case.



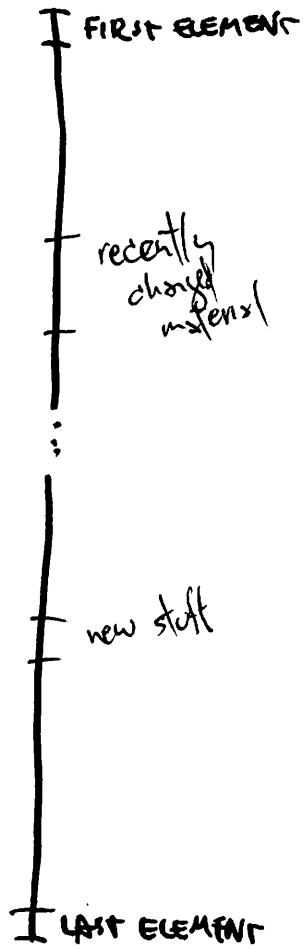
WHAT IS TEXT?

- Some say conflates. (characters in a row.)
- Some say messaging. (Symbol structures representing content.)
- Some say sequenced structures having externally referenced parts.

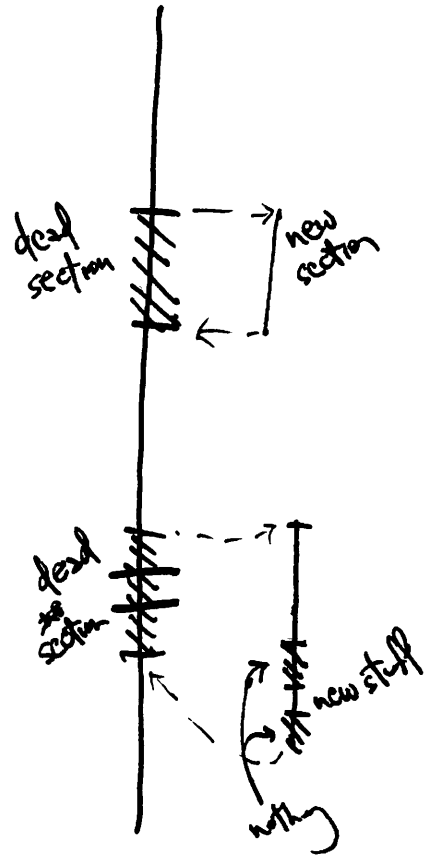
Text

The diagram shows a vertical line representing 'Text' with several horizontal arrows pointing to it from the right, labeled 'external references'. At the bottom, there is a circular symbol with an arrow pointing to it from the right.

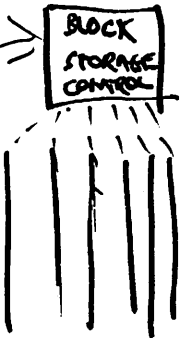
TRUE STREAM



STORAGE STREAM



ACTUAL

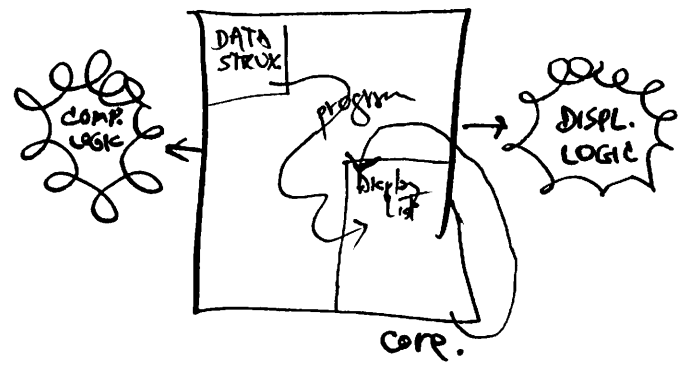


| BLOCK CONTROL | | | |
|---------------|-----|-----|-----|
| BLOCK NO | IN | EN | |
| ... | LOC | LOC | ... |
| STARTING | SSA | SSA | |
| STREAM | | | |
| ADDRESSES | | | |

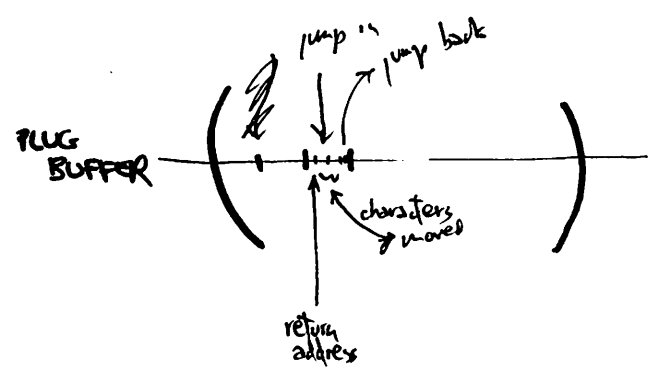
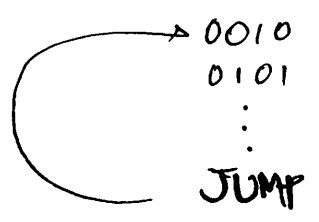
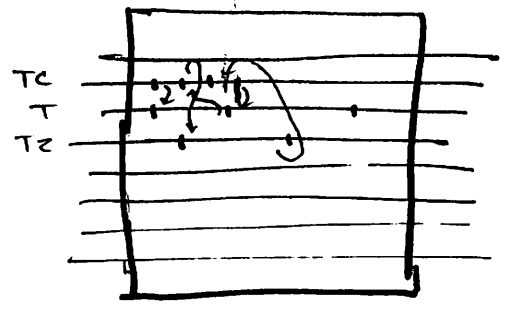
changes when blocks are changed in storage stream

~~CONVENTIONAL~~ DYNAMIC DISPLAY { 0110M, 2250 etc. }

CONVENTIONAL METHOD

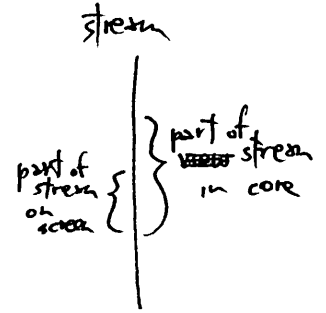
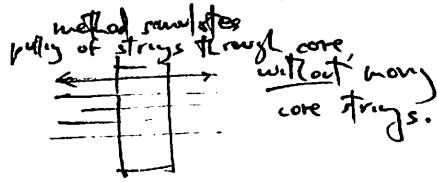


XANADU METHOD



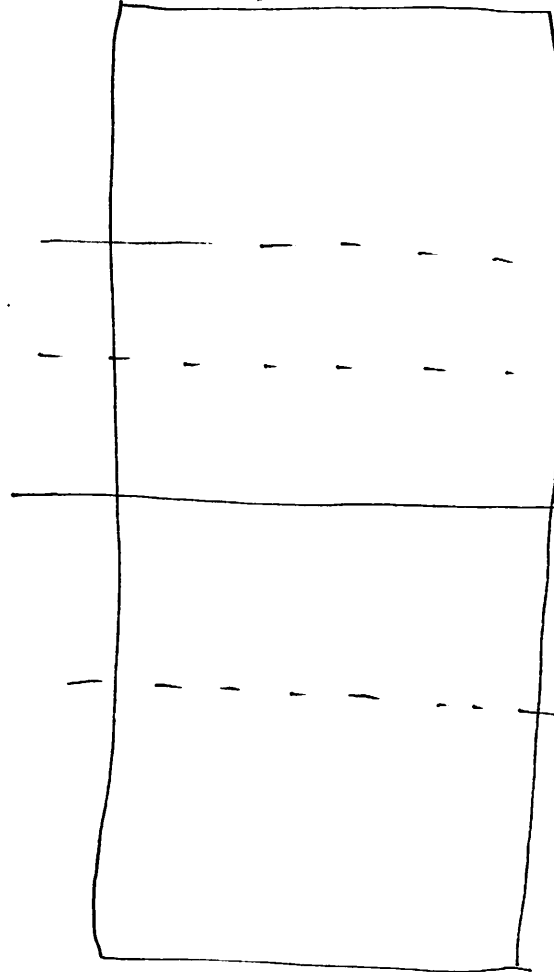
PLUG BUFFER IS A STREAM

BED & BABBLING IN BED.

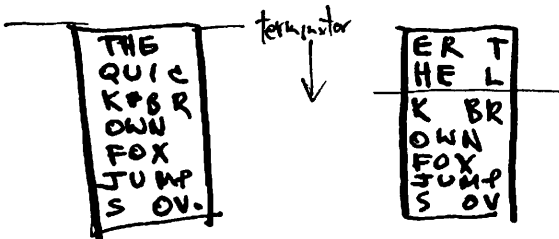


core location
for section of stream
is a bet.
Size is fixed
differently for
different functions.

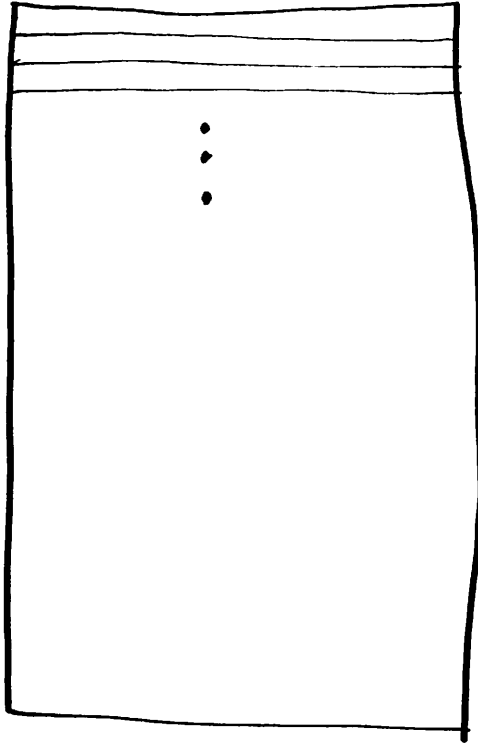
STARTING ADDR. OF BED



LAST ADDRESS OF BED



THE PILLOW. Preference for 16 words. Bit-packing no doubt essential.
fixed-length control table shown, status of a bit.



TO INCLUDE:

Starting location of bit
End
&/or length of "bed".

PRESENT LOCATION OF TERMINATOR
[prob. first or last word]

" " " BACKSTOP

Beginning of displayed area
End " " "

BED NOS. OF OTHER STREAMS IN FILE.

E.g. type of stream, e.g. Text control of some file



★ REFERENT STREAM POSITION

★ LOCATION THEREOF
e.g. "Stream 10796 → Bed pos. 24"

ITEM LENGTH IN THIS STREAM

ADDRESS CRUNCH:

Given stream address,
relate to referent stream position,
location thereof,
~~bed location~~
terminator position,
bed length

RETURN: THIS STREAM ITEM IS IN CORE AT ____;
IT IS NOT IN CORE (IT'S TOO HIGH/TOO LOW).

CORE

~~CORE~~

file/stream-in-core table

Activity push stream (setups etc.)

Layout Control: panel specifiers, control location specifiers (BABBLES OUT)

↓ derive

Layout Display Buffer: panel display, speed control position & setting, file ball list, brightness values
(Actual Display Code)

F1 {

F2 {

F3 {

⋮

P1/P2/P3
⋮

PROGRAM (may bubble some of it)

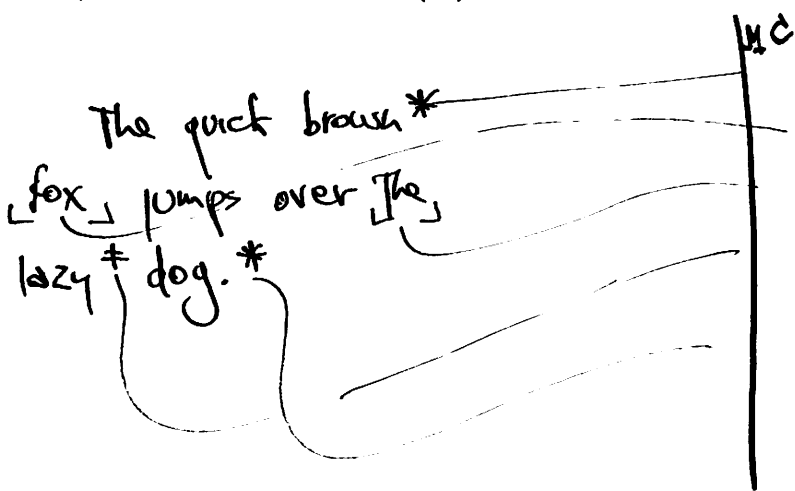
PLUG BUFFER (plugs from display list)

TAPE BUFFER [simulation of true bubble.]

Note: some bit-sets need to be overlaid for historical retraces.

MULTICOUPLER points to points and ~~strings~~ } fields.
strings.

They may be assigned to model types [as here, *, †.]



Whatever happens to the original, the multicoupler keeps pointing to the ^(succeeding) _{"same"} position.

The quick brown * dog pumps over the lazy † fox. *

What to do in weird cases? E.g.,

The star spangled banner → the star ^{and create} spangled banner *

FLAG THE USER, SO INFORM HIM.

the link can be split, passed to only half, etc.

SEPARATE LINK MODES SHD. HAVE DIFF.-DEFINED CONSEQUENCES.

MULTICOUPLER CAN WORK IN TERMS OF

- ¶ TRUE STREAM ADDRESSES
 - ¶ RELATIVE STR. ADDRESSES IN T, TL + BASE ADDRESSING
IN CONTROL BLOCK
 - ¶ " " " IN TC
- etc.

One problem: on a ~~split~~ split field, how retain the link to two items where it had been one (in some MC stream position)?

HISTORICALS.

We distinguish: CURRENT file (updated to perfection in streams)
PREVIOUS DRAFT (or will draft before work begins)

BRUTE FORCE METHOD: to go back in time, undo the chronological
trace one at a time,
rolling the streams back and forth like
hell,
OR go back to prev. draft & work forward.

KUHN METHOD: create list of pointers into it, it, etc.,
~~ASSEMBLE~~ each with a chronological range during
which its string is unbroken.

ASSEMBLE.

HYBRID METHOD: Save changes but not Kuhn list.
to backtrack, make a Kuhn list, assemble.

- ADVANTAGES:
1. Don't have to actually carry out editing ops on streams.
 2. Material is stored as dictated by other Xerox methods, then symbolically rearranged.
 3. Need only assemble part you're looking at.
 4. Possible to noodle back and forth around the time-range selected with comparative ease (since each piece has 2 valid time-ranges specified).

Note: "TIME" is not the variable. We have evolutionary tree
that can branch retrospectively.



MULTICOUPLING PLUS HISTORICALS.

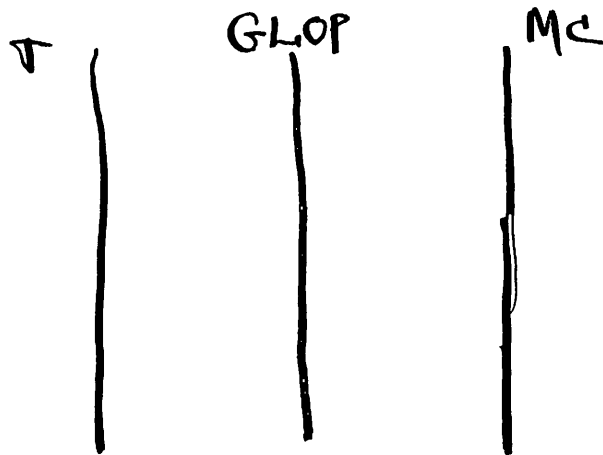
"If the multicoupler can be made ^{next} ~~next~~ enough,
coping with it historically should be
no problem."

- Gen. Custer

XCUMS 17
28 Aug 70

HUGE BREAKTHROUGH!!!

Can not the file be free freemas.



of: Glop stream contains, subsumes and superenvelopes the functions

T2

TC

TM [virtually obsolete anyway]

MC Amendments.

SECRETS OF THE GLOP STREAM:

Back-chaining of glop entries

permits their obsolence to be ascertained.

Glop stream can thus be compacted, revised, repacked, stored and built freely.