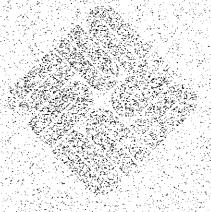
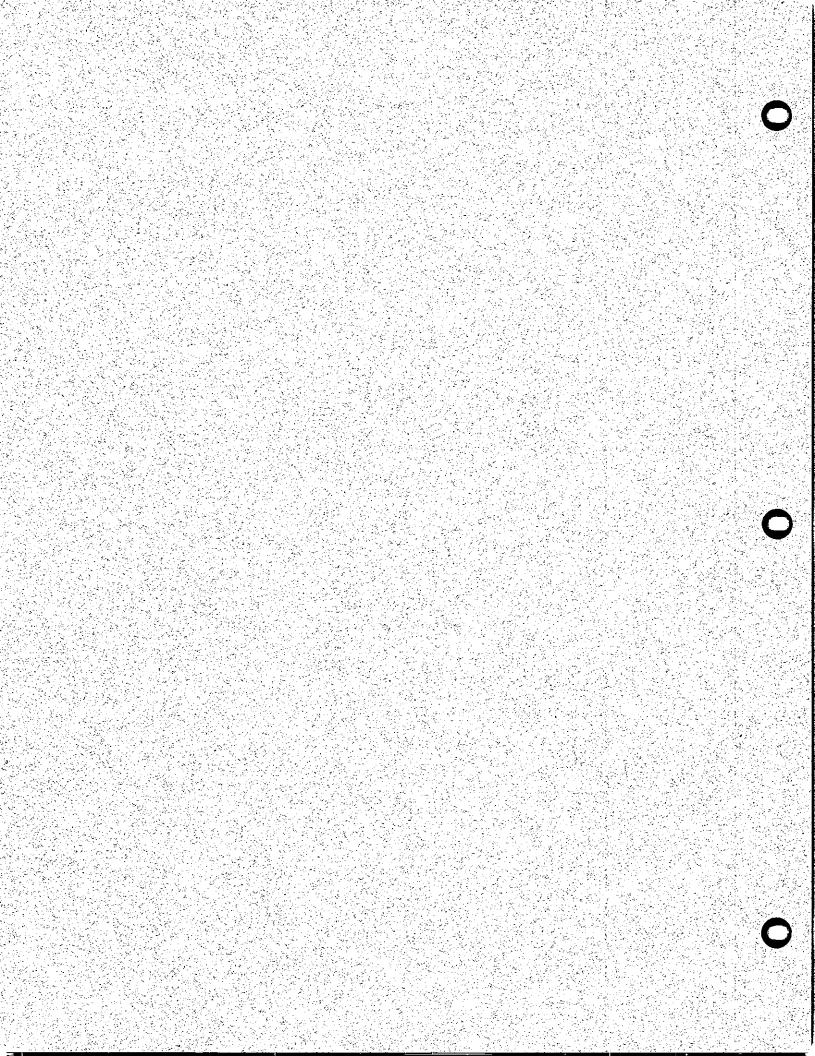


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Software Information Services

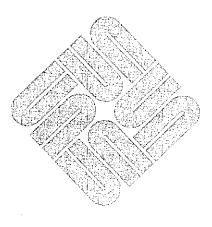






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Software Information Services



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NOTES & COMMENTS

Editor's Notes		
	(

Editor's Notes

The December editor's notes for the Software Technical Bulletin (STB) include the current Sun software products and release levels table, a note on STB mailing, and a reminder to first use the AnswerLine number when calling for support. Finally, in The Hackers' Corner, this issue includes three example programs that illustrate ways to process event-driven input when running SunView.

Current Sun Software Products and Release Levels Table

The December Software Technical Bulletin (STB) includes the current version table. The current release level is shown for each product.

Use this table along with STB articles that appear for a particular product. You can then better determine what your software needs are, what functions are available in a new release, and whether the release you are using is down-level from the most current product release.

STB Mailing

The Customer Service Division (CSD) of Sun Microsystems, Inc. is putting new bulk mailing procedures into place to ensure proper tracking, sorting, and mailing of STB issues.

The transition to the new procedures and implementation of United States Postal Service regulations has caused a delay in the availability of some STB issues.

Thank you for your patience in this regard.

Call the AnswerLine First

Please use your 1-800-USA-4-SUN AnswerLine first when calling for software support. This number allows Sun to dispatch your call and determine necessary billing information, based on your warranty or contract status, prior to a response from the appropriate United States Answer Center (USAC) support group.



USAC looks forward to answering your questions, but can do so only after a necessary service order number is generated by the dispatcher. Please refer to the article entitled 'Using USA-4-SUN' on page 567 of the September 1987 STB for details on dispatching, contract issues, and billing procedures that begin with your initial call to your AnswerLine.

World Hotlines Table

For Sun customers outside the United States, please call your local support group and follow the local software support procedures.

For your convenience, a table containing service hotlines around the world now appears monthly in the STB, beginning with this issue. Look for the world hotlines table in the Notes and Comments section each month.

The Hackers' Corner

This month's Hackers' Corner includes three example programs to illustrate how event-driven input is processed when running SunView.

Again, please note that such applications, scripts, or code are not offered as released Sun products, but as items of interest to enthusiasts wanting to try out something for themselves. They may not not work in all cases, and may not be compatible with future SunOS releases. Please consult your local shell script or programming expert regarding any application, script, or code problems.

Thanks.

The STB Editor





Software Release Levels

As of November 20, 1987

Product Name	Current Release
SunOS	3.4
Cross Compilers	2.0
SunLink BSC3270	4.0
SunLink Local 3270	5.0
SunLink SNA3270	5.0
SunLink Peer-to-Peer	5.0
SunLink IR	5.0
SunLink DDN	5.0
SunLink DNI	5.0
SunLink OSI	5.0
SunLink MCP	5.0
SunLink TE100	4.0
SunLink X.25	5.0
Sun FORTRAN	1.0
SunPro	2.0
NeWS	1.0
Sun Common Lisp-D	2.1
Sun Common Lisp-E	1.1
Modula-2	1.0
SunAlis	2.1
SunGKS	2.1
SunINGRES	5.0
SunSimplify	1.0
SunUNIFY	2.0
Transcript	2.0
SunIPC	1.1
PC-NFS	2.0
SunTrac	1.0



Current Sun Software Products and Release Levels

The table appearing above contains a list of current Sun software products and their respective current release levels.

You will note that the Software Technical Bulletin (STB) contains articles from time to time that detail technical changes in a given software product's next available release.

Please contact your sales representative if you decide that you would like to update the release level of a Sun software product you already use, or wish to purchase another product. Use the table below to determine whether your release is the current release level.

This table appears monthly in the STB for your convenience.

Sun FORTRAN Note

Please note that Sun FORTRAN is a value-added product that supports VMS extensions to the £77 compiler, which is automatically included with SunOS release 3.4.





World Hotlines

	Sun Customers throughout the world have service software and hardware support questions. The service for your country is not shown in the table, please office.	vice hotlines are shown below.
Australia	Sun Australia Lionel Singer Group	(011-61-2) 957-2522 (011-61-2) 957-2655
Canada	Montreal Branch Ottawa Vancouver Branch Western Branch	(514) 879-1914 (613) 748-9617 (604) 641-1296 (403) 295-0150
France	Paris Sun Microsystems France SA	(33) 1 4630 2324
Germany	Munich Sun Microsystems GmbH	(49) 89/95094-321
Japan	C. Itoh Data Systems Nihon Sun	(011-81-3) 497-4676 (011-81-3) 221-7021
The Netherlands	Soest Sun Microsystems Nederland BV	(31) 2155 24888
Switzerland	Zurich Sun Microsystems Schweiz AG	(41) 1 828 9555
United Kingdom	Camberley Sun Microsystems UK Ltd	(44) 276 62111
United States	All, including Puerto Rico	1-800-USA-4-SUN
Intercon	All countries outside the	(415) 691-6775

USA, Europe, and northern Africa



Errata

Errata

Please enter the corrections shown below into the appropriate articles.

European Hotlines

The 'European Hotlines' note on page 562 in Section 1 of the September 1987 STB needs updating. Please delete the European service hotline shown for Germany and replace it with the new Germany hotline (49)89/95094-321.

Client UNIX Status

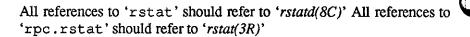
Enter the corrections listed below into the 'Client UNIX Status' article found on pages 577-579 in Section 2 of the September 1987 STB.

1. Subheading ping, page 577

In line 1 of the first paragraph under this subheading, delete imc echo and add icmp echo.

In line 2 of the same paragraph, delete 'Inter-Process' and add 'Internet Protocol'.

2. Subheading rpc.rstatd, page 578



3. Subheading pmap rmtcall, page 578

In line 4 of the first paragraph under this subheading, delete 'a user interface' and add 'an rpc library call'.

At the end of this section, add the following sentence: 'The user level program which allows you to determine if particular rpc daemons are running is 'rpcinfo(8)'.'



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ARTICLES

Using adb

Using adb: Determining Your nd Server

You can use adb as in interactive, general-purpose debugger to conveniently to determine which server is your Network Disk (nd) server.

Running adb on your /vmunix returns the storage address where the needed internet address information is located. You then use that information to determine your nd server internet address. After converting the address to a decimal representation, using the ypmatch command lets you determine your nd server machine name.

The adb command displays the nd server internet number in hexadecimal notation. An example is shown below. Note that the commands and values you enter are shown in **bold**.

The second and third lines are adb messages and can be ignored. Entering 'nd+708/X' causes two values to appear. The first value is the address requested and the second portion is the value stored at that address. This value is the hexadecimal representation of your nd server's internet address.



Hexadecimal-to-Decimal Conversion

Continuing through the example shown above, you now need to convert the hexadecimal representation of the nd server internet address to a decimal format. Do this by entering the commands as shown.

This example yields a decimal representation of 192.9.4.55 for the nd server internet address.

Determining Your nd Server Machine Name

You can now determine your nd server machine name since you know the server's internet address. If you are not on yellow pages, the nd server name and internet address are found in your /etc/hosts file.

If you are on yellow pages, determine your nd server machine name by using the ypmatch command as shown below.

machine% ypmatch 192.9.4.55 hosts.byaddr
192.9.4.55 fredonia # Department ND server
machine%

Please note that you must substitute your nd server internet address for the address used in the example above.

References for Further Information

adb(I)

Refer to chapter 4, 'adb Tutorial', in the manual *Debugging Tools for the Sun Workstation*, part number 800-1325, for details on how to use adb.

Related commands include cc(1V), dbx(1), kadb(1), ptrace(2), ILa.out(5), mem(4S), and core(5).





Missing lost+found

Missing lost+found

This article contains information on a problem described in Bug Reference Number 1001492, and an available workaround.

mkfs(8) is the command that is run to initialize a new disk partition for a filesystem. The directory /usr/lost+found should be created by mkfs(8) as part of this process for later use as needed by fsck(8).

The Problem

The problem is that setup for all SunOS releases 3.x removes the directory /usr/lost+found on standalone systems. This directory must be recreated manually.

The Workaround

Use the script contained in this article to manually create the directory /usr/lost+found. Follow the steps shown below.

- 1. Log in as root using su, the set user command.
- 2. Using cd, change directory to the root directory of the file system that is missing its /usr/lost+found directory.
- 3. Run the mklost+found shell script appearing below.

Reference for Further Information

Refer to fsck(8) for more detailed information on the /usr/lost+found directory.

The Shell Script

The shell script appears on the following page.



```
#!/bin/csh -f
# Shell script 'mklost+found'
# Creates a lost+found directory of the correct size
rm -rf lost+found
mkdir lost+found
chmod 755 lost+found
chown root lost+found
chgrp wheel lost+found
cd lost+found
     \{0,1,2,3,4,5\}\{0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9\}\{0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9\}\
touch
   6\{0,1,2,3,4,5\}\{0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9\}
rm [0-6]*
ls -ld . | grep -s 8192
switch ($status)
case 0:
   echo "${0}: lost+found directory created"
   exit (0)
default:
   echo "${0}: lost+found directory created but size is incorrect"
endsw
```



SunOS Release 3.5

SunOS Release 3.5

This article is a brief overview of Sun Operating System (SunOS) Release 3.5, which will be shipped with all new Sun-2 and Sun-3 orders, and provided free (upon request) to all existing Sun workstation users holding current software support contracts.

Introduction

SunOS Release 3.5 includes the functions and features in Releases 3.3 and 3.4, and is upwardly compatible with Releases 3.2, 3.3, and 3.4. Thus, any program developed to run under these previous releases will run properly under Release 3.5.

SunOS Release 3.5 incorporates the following:

- Support for new hardware products
- High-priority bug fixes
- Reduced media set

Each of these is discussed below.

New Hardware Product Support

SunOS Release 3.5 supports the following new hardware products:

- □ Sun-3/60 Desktop Workstation
- Sun-3 Eurocard Board (3E)
- Double buffering capability

This support provides a Release 3.X base for new hardware products, thus allowing Sun customers greater flexibility in determining when to adopt future operating system releases in order to upgrade system hardware capabilities.

SunOS Release 3.5 eliminates the need for special support tapes, by consolidating support for the Sun-3/60 and 3E products. Additionally, the double buffering support will provide higher quality rendering of graphics images on future Sun graphics workstations. To utilize double buffered graphics images, additional code is provided by SunOS Release 3.5.



Bug Fixes Included in SunOS Release 3.5

SunOS Release 3.5 incorporates all bug fixes from Release 3.4.1 and Release 3.4.2, in addition to new fixes since Release 3.4.2. These bugs are summarized by reference number, release(s) in which the bug occurred, and a brief one-line synopsis, as follows.

Release 3.4.1 Bug Fixes

Reference Number: 1004642

Release: 3.4 beta 3

Synopsis: screenblank allows the -k and -m options

while in suntools.

Reference Number: 1003572

Release: 3.2

Synopsis: Bad inquire_cell_array and inquire_pixel_array

name argument.

Reference Number: 1003687

Release: 3.2

Synopsis: The cgi mouse cursor is always visible.

Reference Number: 1004825

Release: 3.4 beta 3

Synopsis: -lcgi requires -lsuntool to compile a cgi

program.

Reference Number: 1005251

Release: 3.4

Synopsis: close_cgi_pw() fails if no viewsurface is active.

Reference Number: 1003864

Release: 3.2

Synopsis: The crosshair cursor does not work when CANVAS_FAST_MONO

is used.

Reference Number: 1004500

Release: 3.1, 3.2 (Sun3 fix only)

Synopsis: A program compiled using -ffpa causes an

FPA KERNEL BUS ERROR to occur.



Release: 3.2

Synopsis: The fsck: HOLD BAD BLOCK message is undocumented.

Reference Number: 1005131

Release: 3.2

Synopsis: The resolver has the wrong loopback address.

Reference Number: 1003151

Release: 3.2

Synopsis: make does not always build the objects that it should.

Reference Number: 1004791

Release: 3.4

Synopsis: ping says machines are up even when they are not.

Reference Number: 1004074

Release: 3.2

Synopsis: lprm causes line printer daemon to disappear.

Reference Number: 1005140

Release: 3.2

Synopsis: A rexd race condition occurs when mounting in /tmp.

Reference Number: 1004639

Release: 3.2, 3.4 beta

Synopsis: Emulex SCSI tape controller and DocuPro page scanner do

not work together correctly on the SCSI bus

Reference Number: 1005042

Release: 3.2

Synopsis: Yellow Page alias must use primary host names.

Reference Number: 1003135

Release: 3.2

Synopsis: panic: mfree occurs with AF UNIX SOCK STREAM

out-of-band (OOB) data.



Release: 1.1

Synopsis: Transformation of a Suncore segment containing text is not

clipped.

Reference Number: 1004898

Release: 3.4

Synopsis: The install_sunpro script fails for all configurations.

Reference Number: 1004731

Release: 3.2

Synopsis: termcap entry for TERM=wy breaks initscr().

Release 3.4.2 Bug Fixes

Reference Number: 1003647

Release: 3.2

Synopsis: Lexically recursive #includes confuse dbx.

Reference Number: 1004996

Release: 3.4, 3.2

Synopsis: dbx shows segmentation violation while stepling.

Reference Number: 1005466

Synopsis: sysdiag's sptest fails w//dev/tty[a,b]; does

not respond.

Reference Number: 1005360

Release: 3.4, 3.3

Synopsis: SCSI disk driver hangs when ACB4000 reports write fault.

Reference Number: 1005363

Release: 3.4, 3.3

Synopsis: Some SCSI MD21 (141 MB) errors cause system hang.

Reference Number: 1006127

Release: 3.4, 3.3

Synopsis: Ethernet problems induced by bad ICMP address mask reply.



Release: 3.3, 2.X, 1.X

Synopsis: physio bug causes writev (2V) failure.

Reference Number: 1001069

Release: 1.X, 2.X

Synopsis: Bug in physio breaks readv.

Reference Number: 1006165

Release: 3.4

Synopsis: sysdiag's softfp and mc68881 tests core dump on an

illegal instruction.

Reference Number: 1004863

Release: 3.2

Synopsis: GP1_PR_PGON_TEX problem.

Reference Number: 1004984

Release: 3.2

Synopsis: GP1 PR ROP TEX semantics are wrong for a 1-bit deep

src.

Reference Number: 1005359

Release: 3.4, 3.2

Synopsis: pw_line and pw_polyline do not draw a vector

from left to right when the starting point has a negative

'x' coordinate.

Reference Number: 1004336

Release: 3.4, 3.2

Synopsis: lockf() very slow.

Reference Number: 1003885

Release: 3.2

Synopsis: look may dump core on long lines.

Reference Number: 1004765

Release: 3.3

Synopsis: Subnet broadcast address computed incorrectly.



Synopsis: NFS attribute cache functions incorrectly.

Reference Number: 1004739

Release: 3.2

Synopsis: rpc.lockd fails to free, thus using excess memory.

Reference Number: 1003207

Release: 3.2

Synopsis: SCCS uses delta times for diffs.

Reference Number: 1005438

Release: 3.2

Synopsis: SCCS deledit duplicates random lines in a file.

Reference Number: 1005366

Release: 3.3

Synopsis: System returns panic: Bus error message when using

ttya with a configured kernel on a system with a SCSI3

host adapter.

Reference Number: 1006154

Release: 3.4

Synopsis: System is flooded with zs interrupts on synca/b

transitions.

Reference Number: 1004598

Synopsis: make does not handle square bracket characters in

target filenames.

Reference Number: various sunpro make bugs.

Synopsis: Various unnumbered fixes as described below.

Descriptions:

 make no longer dumps core if the source needed to build a library member does not exist; instead reports "Don't know how to build x".

2) Fixed the -k option so that it works for lists of targets given on the make command line.



3) Remove the .make.state lock file if make is interrupted.

4) Use the varargs mechanism for the error routines.

Reference Number: 1004559

Release: 3.4, 3.2

Synopsis: UNIX hangs while booting if xt controller has on-line

Reference Number: 1006132

Release: 3.4

Synopsis: TCP/IP file transfer using ftp hangs/stops when using 3.4.

Bug Fixes New to SunOS Release 3.5

Reference Number: 1001271

Synopsis: ptrace interaction with interrupting slow system calls.

Reference Number: 1002675

Release: 3.2, 3.0, 2.0

Synopsis: Driver error message is 'cryptic' (MTI).

Reference Number: 1002968

Release: 3.2

Synopsis: Incorrect comment in /usr/include/sys/buf.h.

Reference Number: 1004165

Release: 3.2

Synopsis: Setting raw mode under bk (4) line discipline panics.

Reference Number: 1004195

Release: 3.4beta

Synopsis: vi breaks on !! command with long output.

Reference Number: 1004200

Release: 3.2

Synopsis: SCSI tape drivers error handling inconsistent.



Release: 3.2, 3.0

Synopsis: ld -r confuses dbx.

Reference Number: 1004323

Release: 3.2

Synopsis: Re-debugging prog w aborted open of pipe crashes system.

Reference Number: 1004364

Release: 3.2

Synopsis: overwrite in 4.3 -lcurses drops core.

Reference Number: 1004503

Release: 3.2

Synopsis: Serial port device driver panic.

Reference Number: 1004577

Release: 3.2

Synopsis: printf padding strings with leading zeros is broken.

Reference Number: 1004768

Release: 3.3, 3.2

Synopsis: Maxusers causes sys pt too small message when booting.

Reference Number: 1004840

Release: 3.2

Synopsis: RSTAT(3R) always returns 0 in statstime.if opackets

Reference Number: 1005063

Release: 3.2

Synopsis: 1d -A produces bogus symbol tables.

Reference Number: 1005068

Release: 3.2

Synopsis: Misspelled error message in trap.c.



Release: 3.2

Synopsis: 3.X kernel can't handle failure of TOD chip on 3/50s.

Reference Number: 1005241

Release: 3.2

Synopsis: Boot from 1/2" tape (tm/cdc) on 3/260 hangs system.

Reference Number: 1005242

Release: 3.4

Synopsis: Upgrade doesn't install symlinks for screenld.

Reference Number: 1005252

Release: 3.4

Synopsis: tektool: PROPS key no longer works.

Reference Number: 1005253

Release: 3.4

Synopsis: tektool: menu missing items and no longer in walking

style.

Reference Number: 1005260

Release: 3.2

Synopsis: tektool: certain data streams causes core dump.

Reference Number: 1005310

Release: 3.4

Synopsis: cgtwo driver watchdogs if no vector is specified

Reference Number: 1005381

Synopsis: rasfilter8to1.1g has wrong filename suffix,

should be '.1'

Reference Number: 1005391

Release: 3.4, 3.3

Synopsis: ^C in diag using SCSI-3 host adaptor causes error message.



Release: 3.4

Synopsis: TCP performance problem.

Reference Number: 1005580

Synopsis: sysdiag puts logs in /usr2, filling the root

partition.

Reference Number: 1005812

Release: 3.4, 3.2

Synopsis: Programs whose inodes exceed the 512 Mb point will core

dump with a segmentation violation.

Reference Number: 1005983

Release: 3.2

Synopsis: PR PGON TEX does not clip texture to screen properly

on GP.

Reference Number: 1006055

Release: 3.4

Synopsis: Upgrade on 68010 does not upgrade ndl1.

Reference Number: 1006093

Release: 3.2

Synopsis: pr_load may behave badly in case of error.

Reference Number: 1006103

Release: 3.2

Synopsis: if.c changes to support MCP and subnets.

Reference Number: 1006202

Release: 3.4

Synopsis: Some colormap updates fail on 3/60 color frame buffer.



Release: 3.4, 3.2

Synopsis: Shell script crashes 3/200 series kernel.

Reference Number: 1006668

Release: 3.4

Synopsis: pr_polypoint on GP may draw first point incorrectly.

Reference Number: 1006164

Release: 3.4

Synopsis: sysdiag assumes you are always on console.

Reference Number: 1003351

Release: 3.4, 3.2

Synopsis: pw line() draws in window space instead of canvas

space.

Reference Number: 1006123

Release: 3.4, 3.2

Synopsis: pw_line() draws incorrectly when pw_batch_on().

Reference Number: 1006690

Synopsis: 2.59 sysdiag disables disk testing in systems with

GP/GB.

Reference Number: 1006255

Release: 3.4, 3.3

Synopsis: network routing deamon in.routed dies periodically

with 3.3 and 3.4.

Reference Number: 1006729

Release: 3.4

Synopsis: routing daemon in . routed sometimes uses wrong

interface.



Release: 3.4, 3.2

Synopsis: last incorrectly reports 'still logged in'.

Reference Number: (N/A)

Synopsis: fsck silently fails to fix partially truncated inodes.

Reduced Media Set

The entire system software media set is contained on five (5) tapes, thus reducing

the number of tapes necessary for operating system installation.

Upgrade Considerations

The upgrade path on the SunOS Release 3.5 distribution set can be used to

upgrade from either SunOS Release 3.2 or Release 3.4.

Obtaining SunOS Release 3.5

SunOS Release 3.5 consists of a full distribution set of five (5) tapes, a Right-To-Use (RTU) license, and documentation set for domestic and international customers, as shown below.

Order Number	Format	Includes	License Type
UPSYS2-01F	68010	1/4" tape, RTU, documentation	Domestic
UPSYS2-02F	68010	1/2" tape, RTU, documentation	Domestic
UPSYS2-03F	68010	1/4" tape, RTU, documentation	Export
UPSYS2-04F	68010	1/2" tape, RTU, documentation	Export
UPSYS3-01F	68020	1/4" tape, RTU, documentation	Domestic
UPSYS3-02F	68020	1/2" tape, RTU, documentation	Domestic
UPSYS3-03F	68020	1/4" tape, RTU, documentation	Export
UPSYS3-04F	68020	1/2" tape, RTU, documentation	Export
UPSYS-00F		RTU license only	



Workstations which are covered under a current software support contract will be provided with the full distribution set at no additional charge. This release will not be automatically shipped, but is available upon customer request. To request the SunOS Release 3.5 set, call (800) USA-4-SUN. This number can also be used by contract customers who would like to obtain only the Release 3.5 documentation set.



SunTrac Release 1.0

SunTrac Release 1.0

This article is an overview of SunTrac Release 1.0, Sun Microsystems' new graphics-based project management software that can be used on Sun-2, Sun-3, and Sun-4 workstations running Sun Operating System (SunOS) Release 3.2 or higher.

Introduction

SunTrac Release 1.0 is a graphics-based planning and scheduling project management package that has been developed for the SunView window environment. SunTrac combines Gantt charts showing task durations, PERT (Program Evaluation and Review Technique) charts showing the entire project broken down into smaller tasks, and Critical Path analysis techniques with a unique risk assessment methodology. The SunTrac system accommodates all levels of project participation by building hierarchical project models to offer a full range of detail, from individual task to summary-level overviews.

SunTrac's primary objective is to provide all levels of technical management with the capability to accurately create, analyze, and communicate the planning, scheduling, and controlling functions that are necessary to ensure the completion of all project objectives within specified schedule and budget limitations. To achieve this objective, SunTrac utilizes a new algorithmic technique called Trac (Total Risk Analysis Calculation) to address the effects of uncertainty in project cost and schedule milestones. Trac analyzes the risk factors with regard to the project schedule, thus aiding the user in directing ongoing work appropriately.

Instead of focusing on a single critical path, SunTrac assigns a criticality index to each of the project's activities. This criticality index has a value between zero (least critical) and one (most critical).

SunTrac Project Management Tools

In addition to Trac, the SunTrac project management system incorporates the following tools.

Sketch (Network Diagram Editor): Sketch is the graphics editor used to create PERT network diagrams and associated data. Sketch creates ASCII files for use as input to the Trac analysis program. Sketch also accepts output produced by other SunTrac tools, and incorporates this data back into the PERT diagram. Sketch is also used to print the network diagram on a laser printer.

Level (Interactive/Automatic Resource Leveling Tool): Level simultaneously displays a Gantt chart of task durations with a resource profile to graphically represent resource usage, schedule activity, and control activity.



Assign (Optimal Overtime Allocation Tool): Assign is used to create, display, and select an overtime allocation plan. Assign plans the least-cost reduction in a project schedule, keyed to a user-selected productivity factor. The data obtained from the Assign overtime allocation plan can then be merged with the Sketch input data.

Profile (Graphic Summary): Profile SunTrac's graphing tool, displays, analyzes, and prints staffing level and cost profiles for the network and data selected from the most recent Trac execution.

Report (Tabular Data Output): Report reviews, sorts, and extracts detailed tabular data for each activity, diagram, or subnetwork of a project. The data can be sorted on any of the data column headings. Report takes its input from four temporary files created by Trac.

HelpTrac (On-Line Help): HelpTrac is SunTrac's on-line help facility, which provides systematic application development and assistance for all of the SunTrac tools, in addition to listings of error messages and explanations for all SunTrac applications.

Traditional Analysis Methods and the Trac Algorithm

With traditional PERT analysis, optimistic and pessimistic estimates of task completion times are considered in calculations, but no attempt is made to use these estimates in a probabilistic analysis of the overall project completion time. Another limitation of PERT analysis is that it ignores all activities that are not on the critical path, as well as the stochastic (involving a random variable) nature of their respective completion times.

With the Monte Carlo simulation approach, a time is drawn from each of the activity distributions, a total project time is generated as in a deterministic model, then the process is repeated a large number of times, in order to determine a reliable sample mean and variance. This approach has as its main disadvantage the computer processing time required to form a statistically meaningful sample.

The Trac algorithm for stochastic analysis takes the data entered into Sketch (the input metrics) and calculates all of the essential output metrics necessary for other SunTrac programs to produce their respective reports and displays, such as Gantt charts, network diagrams, and tables and graphs of metric data. The Trac algorithm models the time to complete each task as a probability distribution by using the optimistic and pessimistic completion times as deviations from a mean completion time, where the optimistic and pessimistic estimates are actually interpreted as three standard deviations from the mean.



While the concept of using probability distributions instead of fixed times in PERT analysis is not new, it has been difficult to find a useful mathematical model, because of the complications involved in calculating probabilities for networks that contain many parallel paths. In contrast to these methods, the Trac algorithm uses a piecewise linear model of the distribution to calculate project completion probabilities quickly enough to allow repeated "what-if" trials of project scheduling and staffing.

Trac reports several completion times (deterministic, optimistic, expected, and pessimistic) for the project being analyzed. The different completion dates result from different ways Trac calculates the schedule.

Deterministic completion time is based on the expected value of each activity. The expected value of each activity duration is the 50% probability duration, which is not necessarily the same as the most likely duration estimate. The deterministic project completion date is usually near the 30% completion date. Because the deterministic schedule uses only one calculated duration value for each activity, it has no uncertainty associated with it.

Optimistic completion time has the same meaning in reference to project completion as the optimistic estimate does in activity completion; that is, there is less than a 1% chance of completing sooner than this date.

Expected completion time is equivalent to the 50% completion time. The expected date is always later than or the same as the deterministic date. There is an even chance of completing the project by this date.

Pessimistic completion time has the same meaning in reference to project completion as the pessimistic estimate does in activity completion; that is, there is less than a 1% chance of completing later than this date.

Trac Summary Metrics

Some network summary metrics are also included in the Trac report to help the user compare two or more project plans. Most of the metrics are straightforward and easy to understand. A few required more detailed explanation, as follows.

Network Complexity is a measure of network cross-connectedness. It is calculated using the following formula.

(number of arcs - number of nodes) / number of arcs

As values of network complexity approach unity (+1), the network is considered to be increasingly complex; that is, the number of arcs is greater than the number of nodes. Very simple networks can have negative values; that is, the number of nodes is greater than the number of arcs.

Stochastic Complexity, another measure of network complexity, measures the degree of occurrence of near critical paths. Values of stochastic complexity range between zero and one. A zero represents the simple network, with no near-critical paths, and a one represents a network with maximum cross-



connectedness, where Network Complexity approaches +1 and all paths are critical. In a comparison of two paths, the lower complexity factor is more desirable.

Stochastic Density is a summary measure of the slack in a project schedule, and is calculated using the following formula.

$$A / (A + B)$$

where A is the sum of all expected durations, and B is the sum of all free slack. The value falls between zero and one. A zero represents no duration, or infinite slack; a one represents no project slack. Lower stochastic density is desirable.

Plans with lower density are easier to manage for the following reasons:

- Project schedules are easier to shorten
- Staffing profiles are easier to level
- Recovery from unforeseen disasters is easier

Maximum Values for SunTrac Applications

Maximum values and limits for SunTrac applications are as follows.

Application	Maximum Value	Units
Sketch	250 250	nodes per diagram arcs per diagram
Trac	4000 4000 200	nodes total per analysis arcs total per analysis diagrams per analysis
Level	800	activities
Assign	800	activities
Profile	1800	days

Installation and Use Considerations

Refer to the *Software READ THIS FIRST* document provided with your copy of SunTrac Release 1.0 media for information relating to SunTrac installation and usage.

Required Risk Analysis for Department of Defense (DoD) Contractors SunTrac can be used by organizations who contract with the Federal Government and must comply with Department of Defense Standard DoD-STD-2167 when producing the required Risk Management Procedures in software development plans. Refer to Appendix A of the *SunTrac Reference Guide*, part number 800-2059, for complete information.



Additional Swap Space Required The Trac process requires 3 MB of free swap space in addition to the swap space currently being used.



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STB SHORT SUBJECTS

Using boot

Using the boot Command from the PROM Monitor Prompt

Use the boot command to list the contents of the root directory when in the PROM monitor. This is particularly useful when /vmunix is corrupted or missing and you are looking for a backup version of the kernel.

An example of using boot from the PROM monitor prompt is shown below.

>b *

This will list all of the contents of the root partition. The sample result shown below is a typical listing for a Sun-3 server.

```
>b *
bin
boot
dev
etc
kadb
lib
lost+found
mnt
private
private.MC68020
pub.MC68020
stand
sys
tftpboot
tmp
usr
usr.MC68020
vmunix
vmunix.gen
```



In this example, the backup version of the kernel is vmunix.gen.





Super Eagle Disks

Super Eagle Disk File System Sizes

Customers having the Super Eagle disk will find information in this article helpful to avoid core dumps and segmentation violation errors.

The Fujitsu 2361 Super Eagle is a 694Mb, 10-1/2" SMD disk drive using the Xylogics 451 controller.

The Problem

Some large programs fail with a segmentation fault and core dump. The bug ID reference number is 1005812.

This problem has the appearance of being intermittent, failing on some compilations and applications and not on others. A program will run in certain directories and not in others.

The problem has been observed on systems with Super Eagle drives.

The Cause

The cause has been identified as a limitation in the file system. If any partition is larger than 512Mb, programs located past the 512Mb point will not page correctly. Those programs stored on disk with disk block addresses exceeding this point will core dump with a segmentation violation.

The Workaround

You can avoid this problem by reconfiguring your Super Eagle so that no partition is larger than 512Mb.

References for Further Information

Refer to the manual and article listed below for detailed information on disk drive formatting, labeling, and using setup to set file system sizes.

- Installing UNIX on the Sun Workstation, Section 3.6, 'Disk Overview and Philosophy', part number 800-1521
- System Administration for the Sun Workstation, Chapter 4, 'Disks and File Systems', part number 800-1323
- Software Technical Bulletin, November 1987, 'System and SunOS Installation Aids', page 775, part number 812-8701-10



SunIngres 5.0

Upgrading to SunIngres Release 5.0

For those customers upgrading from SunIngres release 3.0 to release 5.0, you may encounter three problems during the upgrade installation. This short subject contains problem descriptions and a suggested workaround.

The Problems Defined

The three main problems are described below.

□ Permissions

The permissions for ingres/lib/* are all 444. The old libraries are therefore not overwritten when the new tape is tarred.

□ Root Ownership

Two processes are owned by root and therefore cannot be overwritten.

The processes are ingres/bin/kill_ing and ingres/bin/ntproc.

Undeleted Binaries and Libraries

The binaries and libraries that are no longer used in SunIngres release 5.0 are not deleted. The customer then has binaries and libraries taking up extra disk space unnecessarily.

The Workaround

The workaround for these problems is to delete ingres/bin/* and ingres/lib* prior to the upgrade installation. This will assure you that all of the libraries and binaries are the release 5.0 version.

CAUTION: Ensure that ingres/data and ingres/files are not deleted.



IN DEPTH

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IN DEPTH

Passing Commons

Passing FORTRAN Common Variables to C

Example of a Common Block

This tutorial explains how to pass FORTRAN common variables to and from C programs.

Let us start with a very simple example. Here is a FORTRAN program with a blank (unnamed) common variable.

```
common // hello
integer hello
print *, 'before initialization: hello = ',hello
hello = 9
print *, 'after initialization: hello = ',hello
end
```

When you compile this program using f77 f.f and run it, you will get the output shown below.

```
before initialization: hello = 0
after initialization: hello = 9
```

Passing a Common Block to a C Function

Now, suppose you want to pass the FORTRAN common to a C language subroutine. In this example, the C routine will change the value of hello and print it.

On the next page, let's see the FORTRAN program again with a call to a C routine and a print statement added.



```
common // hello
integer hello
print *, 'before initialization: hello = ',hello
hello = 9
print *, 'after initialization: hello = ',hello
call csub()
print *, 'after return from csub: hello = ',hello
end
```

The C function has the effect of changing the value of hello.

```
struct commonBLNK
{
        int hello;
} _BLNK__;

csub_()
{
        printf("csub:at the top: hello = %d\n", _BLNK__.hello);
        _BLNK__.hello = 7;
        printf("csub:after the value change: hello = %d\n", _BLNK__.hello);
}
```

When you compile and run these together using the command f77 t.f c.c, you get the following output.

```
before initialization: hello = 0
after initialization: hello = 9
csub:at the top: hello = 9
csub:after the value change: hello = 7
after return from csub: hello = 7
```

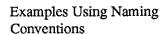
Appended Trailing Underscores

In line 5 of the called C routine, note that the subroutine name csub has an underscore (_) following it. Note also that _BLNK_ in lines 4, 8, 9, and 10 has two trailing underscores. The internal name of the blank common is _BLNK_. However, all references to _BLNK_ in the C subroutine require the additional trailing underscore.

Note that these underscores are required since the £77 compiler appends a trailing underscore to all external names in FORTRAN programs. Refer to Section 4.5, 'Interprocedure Interface', of the FORTRAN Programmer's Guide, part number 800-1371, for further information on C and FORTRAN interfacing.

The structure type <code>commonBLNK</code> has as its members the variables in the common block. In this case it has the integer <code>hello</code>. The name of the actual structure is <code>_BLNK_</code>. Thus, in the C code you reference, the variables in a <code>FORTRAN</code> common as structure members. <code>FORTRAN</code> commons are global data. Therefore, the C structures that you declare must also be global.





If your common has a name, use the same naming convention in your C subroutine. Substitute the common name for each occurrence of _Blnk_.

Here are our examples again. The common now has the name greetings.

The FORTRAN main program follows.

```
common /greetings/ hello
integer hello
print *, 'before initialization: hello = ',hello
hello = 9
print *, 'after initialization: hello = ',hello
call csub()
print *, 'after return from csub: hello = ',hello
end
```

The C subroutine is shown again below. Note that greetings has replaced the term BLNK.

```
struct commongreetings
{
    int hello;
} greetings_;
csub_()
{
    printf("csub:at the top: hello = %d\n", greetings_.hello);
    greetings_.hello = 7;
    printf("csub:after the value change: hello = %d\n", greetings_.hello);
}
```

You will see the following program output after compilation using the command f77 t.f c.c, and then executing the program.

```
before initialization: hello = 0
after initialization: hello = 9
csub:at the top: hello = 0
csub:after the value change: hello = 7
after return from csub: hello = 9
```

Note that greetings has one trailing underscore like csub and _BLNK_.

Complex Example

The following example shows a more complex common. This one has variables of several different types and sizes.

The FORTRAN code is shown on the next page.



```
common /greetings/ hello, shortone, string, pad, longone
integer hello
integer*2 shortone
character*3 string
character*3 pad
integer longone
print *, 'before initialization: hello = ',hello
print *, 'before initialization: shortone = ', shortone
print *, 'before initialization: string = ', string
print *, 'before initialization: pad = ',pad
print *, 'before initialization: longone = ',longone
hello = 9
shortone = 45
string = 'yz \setminus 0'
pad = 'pad'
longone = 167
print *, 'after initialization: hello = ',hello
print *, 'after initialization: shortone = ', shortone
print *, 'after initialization: string = ', string
print *, 'after initialization: pad = ',pad
print *, 'after initialization: longone = ',longone
call csub()
print *, 'after return from csub: hello = ',hello
print *,
         'after return from csub: shortone = ', shortone
print *, 'after return from csub: string = ', string
print *, 'after return from csub: pad = ',pad
print *, 'after return from csub: longone = ',longone
end
```

The C subroutine code follows on the next page.



```
struct commongreetings
        int hello;
        short shortone;
        char string[3];
        char pad[3];
        int longone;
} greetings ;
csub_()
{
        printf("csub:at the top: hello = %d\n", greetings .hello);
        printf("csub:at the top: shortone = %d\n", greetings_.shortone);
        printf("csub:at the top: string = %s\n", greetings .string);
        printf("csub:at the top: pad = %s\n", greetings_.pad);
        printf("csub:at the top: longone = %d\n", greetings .longone);
        greetings_.hello = 7;
        greetings .shortone = 15;
        greetings_.string[0] = 'd';
        greetings .string[1] = 'e';
        greetings_.string[2] = '\0';
        greetings .pad[0] = 'g';
        greetings_.pad[1] = 'h';
        greetings .pad[2] = ' \setminus 0';
        greetings_.longone = 67;
        printf("csub:after value change: hello = %d\n", greetings_.hello);
        printf("csub:after value change: shortone = %d\n", greetings .shortone);
    printf("csub:after value change: string = %s\n", greetings_.string);
        printf("csub:after value change: pad = %s\n", greetings_.pad);
        printf("csub:after value change: longone = %d\n", greetings .longone);
}
```

On the next page, the output shown results after compiling these programs.



```
before initialization: hello =
  before initialization: shortone =
  before initialization: string =
  before initialization: pad =
  before initialization: longone =
  after initialization: hello =
  after initialization: shortone =
  after initialization: string =
  after initialization: pad =
                                pad
  after initialization: longone =
csub:at the top: hello = 9
csub:at the top: shortone = 45
csub:at the top: string = yz
csub:at the top: pad = pad
csub:at the top: longone = 167
csub:after value change: hello = 7
csub:after value change: shortone = 15
csub:after value change: string = de
csub:after value change: pad = gh
csub:after value change: longone = 67
  after return from csub: hello =
  after return from csub: shortone =
  after return from csub: string =
                                     de
  after return from csub: pad =
  after return from csub: longone =
                                      67
```

Long Variables and Word-Boundaries You should have no trouble creating C structures to match FORTRAN commons. FORTRAN is the more restrictive language for long variables being located on word-boundaries. However, if you are creating a FORTRAN common from a C structure that already exists, you may have to add some extra padding space to both the C structure and the FORTRAN common to align them with the FORTRAN word-boundary rules.

To see this, remove the declarations and all references to 'pad' from the above examples. The FORTRAN program will give you an error message when you compile it, but the C program will not.

C Main Programs with FORTRAN Subroutines

The examples up to this point show you how to call a C subroutine from FORTRAN and use I/O in both. However, if you have a C main program you will have to make a few minor changes as shown in the following paragraphs.

Here are our original two programs, but now reversed. The C program is the main routine, and the FORTRAN program is the subroutine.

The C code follows on the next page.



```
struct commonBLNK
{
        int hello;
} _BLNK__;

main()
{
        printf("main:before initialization: hello = %d\n", _BLNK__.hello);
        _BLNK__.hello = 9;
        printf("main:after initialization: hello = %d\n", _BLNK__.hello);
        fsub_();
        printf("main:after return from fsub: hello = %d\n", _BLNK__.hello);
}
```

The FORTRAN code appears below.

```
subroutine fsub
common // hello
integer hello
print *, 'fsub:at the top: hello = ',hello
hello = 7
print *, 'fsub:after the value change: hello = ',hello
end
```

But, look at what happens when you try to compile them. The results follow.

You get this error message occurs because the link editor (1d) is trying to link in parts of the FORTRAN I/O subsystem to initialize it correctly. To resolve the problem, we create a 'dummy' FORTRAN main program and make the C main program an ordinary subroutine that looks and acts like a C main program, as shown in the next example.

'Dummy' FORTRAN Main Program Examples Note that much of the added code you will see below in the modified C program is not needed for our small test case. The example shows all changes needed to make the typical C main program run properly. In particular, the example shows you how to incorporate command-line argument processing without changing most of the source code. For our simple case, you would only need to rename 'main'.



The modified C code appears below.

```
struct commonBLNK
        int hello;
} BLNK ;
extern int xargc; /* allow access to argv and argc from a routine */
extern char **xarqv;
                      /* other than main */
            /* xargc and xargv are declared and initialized */
           /* in standard library code */
                /* rename main, remember the trailing " " */
cmain ()
        int argc; /* declare argc and argv to use in the rest */
                       /* of your old main program */
        char **argv;
                       /* initialize argc, and argv */
        argc = xargc;
        argv = xargv;  /* now argument processing can occur without
            /* further modification to your old C main */
       printf("main:before initialization: hello = %d\n", BLNK .hello);
        BLNK .hello = 9;
       printf("main:after initialization: hello = %d\n", _BLNK__.hello);
        fsub ();
       printf("main:after return from fsub: hello = %d\n", _BLNK__.hello);
}
```

The modified FORTRAN code follows.

```
integer cmain,n
n = cmain()
end

subroutine fsub
common // hello
integer hello
print *, 'fsub:at the top: hello = ',hello
hello = 7
print *, 'fsub:after the value change: hello = ',hello
end
```

The only FORTRAN code change is the addition of the 'dummy' main program. We make cmain a function to obtain its return value, if any. We can call exit with this value to signal either normal or abnormal program completion.

Note that in dbx, you need to use the name MAIN to stop in the FORTRAN dummy main program. Use the name cmain to stop in the C main routine, since we have renamed it.



QUESTIONS, ANSWERS, HINTS, AND TIPS

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QUESTIONS, ANSWERS, HINTS, AND TIPS

Q&A, and Tip of the Month	

Hints & Tips #9

This is the ninth in a continuing series of this column which I have created for two purposes.² First, some questions are asked regularly on the AnswerLine. I feel everyone can benefit from distributing discussions of these problems as widely as possible. Second, a large and constantly growing body of information, hints, and tips are not documented anywhere.

I will collect and distribute these information nuggets in this continuing column so that we can all learn from them. I will cover unusual topics, but this column should not be used as an alternative to contacting your support center or using the AnswerLine.

If you have a question that you would like answered in this column, please mail your question to 'Software Technical Bulletins' at Sun Microsystems, Inc., 2550 Garcia Avenue, M/S 2-312, Mountain View, CA 94043. You can also send in your question by electronic mail to *sun!stb-editor*. U. S. customers can call Sun Customer Software Services AnswerLine at 800 USA-4-SUN for technical questions on this column or any other article in this bulletin. I look forward to hearing from you!

Generic and Custom Kernels

One of the last steps to in the system installation process is configuring your system kernel. This is described in chapter 7, 'Configuring the System Kernel', in the *Installing UNIX on the Sun Workstation* manual, part number 800-1317.

Yet, many people neglect to do so. This important step should not be forgotten since it is an important part of making the most of your Sun workstation.

Since a generic kernel has to boot on an arbitrary configuration, every device driver for all devices supported by Sun is compiled into the kernel so the driver can be used if needed. This makes the kernel very large.

² This continuing column is submitted by Chuq Von Rospach, Customer Software Services.



When you boot your system, the kernel loads itself into memory. Any memory used by the kernel is unavailable for your user processes. Even if the drivers are not used, they are loaded into memory.

Configuring so that only the needed drivers for your system are compiled into your kernel can release up to 250k of memory. On a smaller system like a 4 megabyte Sun 3/50, this can mean the difference between a system slowed by a high paging rate and a system with reasonable performance.

Another reason to configure a kernel is to properly size UNIX internal tables. Some data structures are stored in fixed-size tables. If maxusers is set too small the system will get spurious failures and error messages like 'text: table is full'. If you see this message, or similar messages for the 'proc' or 'inode' tables, then the kernel is overflowing its tables and the table sizes need to be expanded.

The size of these tables is controlled by the 'maxusers' variable in the kernel configuration file. This name is unfortunate, because the size of this value is not directly related to the number of users on the system, but to the loading and activity on the system. A system with a dozen people running the vi screen editor will perform happily with a smaller maxusers setting than the same system with a single user using a number of tools in the suntools environment.

The generic kernel shipped on the SunOS distribution tape has maxusers set to 4. For many system loads, this is too small. If you are using a bitmap and suntools, you should set maxusers to 8 or more.

One final hint on configuring a kernel. When you build your kernel configuration file, make sure you change the 'ident' line to something other than 'GENERIC'. This is a special ident that causes some special code to be compiled into the kernel code, that you do not need in a custom kernel. In one case, this custom code even causes problems. If you attempt to build a kernel with two swap spaces and a GENERIC ident, the kernel compilation will fail with an unresolved variable setconf. The fix is to use an ident other than 'GENERIC'.

Finally, refer to the article 'Booting a Specific Kernel' on page 771 of the November 1987 STB. This article contains information on booting one of two available kernels in the case that you prefer to run a customized kernel for some applications.

This month's Tip is from Daniel Steinberg, and is a short C program that allows you to check whether some account or machine is in a netgroup. It is also interesting because it is a good practical example of how to program the yellow pages interface.

For more information on yellow pages netgroups, refer to Chapter 2, 'Sun Network Services', in the *System Administration for the Sun Workstation* manual, part number 800-1323.

Setting Maxusers

Tip of the Month



Finally, if you have a favorite short program, piece of code, or interesting tip or trick, send it to folklore@plaid.sun.com.

The C program code is shown on the following pages.



```
/*
 * innetgr - interface to innetgr() yp routine to determine if a given
 * machine or user is in a netgroup
 * Daniel Steinberg
#include <stdio.h>
main(argc, argv)
    int argc;
    char *argv[];
    char *prog;
    char *netgroup;
    char *mach = NULL;
    char *user = NULL;
    char *domain = NULL;
    char *key, *val;
    int keylen, vallen;
    char thisdomain[256];
    int err;
    prog = argv[0];
    if (argc < 3) {
        fprintf(stderr,
                "usage: %s netgroup machine [user [domain]]\n", prog);
    if (getdomainname(thisdomain, sizeof(thisdomain)) < 0) {
        fprintf(stderr, "%s: could not get current domain\n", prog);
        exit(1);
    }
    netgroup = argv[1];
    key = netgroup;
    keylen = strlen(key);
    if (yp_match(thisdomain, "netgroup", key, keylen, &val, &vallen)) {
        fprintf(stderr, "%s: no such netgroup as '%s' in %s\n",
                prog, key, thisdomain);
        exit(1);
    if (*argv[2] != '\0') {
        mach = argv[2];
        key = mach;
        keylen = strlen(key);
    if (yp match(thisdomain, "hosts.byname",
                     key, keylen, &val, &vallen)) {
        fprintf(stderr,
                    "%s: no such machine as '%s' in %s\n",
                    prog, key, thisdomain);
            exit(1);
```



```
}
if ((argc > 3) && (*argv[3] != '\0')) {
    user = argv[3];
    key = user;
    keylen = strlen(key);
    if (yp_match(thisdomain, "passwd.byname",
                 key, keylen, &val, &vallen)) {
        fprintf(stderr,
                "%s: no such user as '%s' in %s\n",
                prog, key, thisdomain);
        exit(1);
    }
}
if ((argc > 4) && (*argv[4] != '\0')) {
    domain = argv[4];
    key = domain;
    keylen = strlen(key);
    if (yp_match(thisdomain, "networks.byname",
                 key, keylen, &val, &vallen)) {
        fprintf(stderr,
                "%s: no such domain as '%s' in %s\n",
                prog, key, thisdomain);
        exit(1);
    }
}
printf("%s %s %s %s %s\n",
       netgroup,
       (err = innetgr(netgroup, mach, user, domain)) ?
       "contains" : "does not contain",
       mach ? mach : "",
       user ? user : "",
       domain ? domain : "");
exit(err ? 0 : 1);
```



}

THE HACKERS' CORNER

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THE HACKERS' CORNER

Porting SunView

Porting Applications to SunView

This month's Hackers' Corner contains three example programs that illustrate processing event-driven input when running SunView.

Please consult your local shell script or programming expert regarding any script or code problems. The example programs are not offered as a supported Sun product, but as items of interest to enthusiasts wanting to try out something for themselves. Note that **Hackers' Corner** code may not work in all cases, and may not be compatible with future SunOS releases.

Input Processing in SunView

Many customers have difficulty when porting an existing program to Sun workstations running SunView. This difficulty is typically in the area of input processing.

To understand the problem, it is helpful to understand how two different programming styles, 'mainline' and 'event-driven', effect where flow of control resides within a program.

Mainline Input Processing

Mainline input processing is the traditional type of flow of control. The flow of control resides within the main program, and the program blocks when it expects input. For example, a C programmer may use scanf() or getchar() to wait for characters on stdin (standard input).

Event-Driven Input Processing

SunView supports event-driven input processing. The program specifies event handlers at initialization time, e.g. via the WIN_EVENT_PROC attribute. After initialization, the program passes the flow of control to the notifier with window_main_loop(base_frame).

The notifier calls the specified event handler each time the specified event occurs. After processing the event, the handler returns control to the notifier. The notifier normally returns the flow of control to the main program only when the base_frame is destroyed.



The Problem

The SunView Programmer's Guide, part number 800-1345, fully describes how to program in the event-driven style, but it does not give many clues about programming in the mainline style. Furthermore, many customers new to SunView may not recognize that the manual is describing something which is incompatible with what they have in mind.

The input handling problem usually occurs when trying to port an existing program to SunView since most existing programs are written in the mainline style. The event-driven style is certainly very well suited to writing window-based applications, with their many different input objects (keyboard, mouse, panel items, pop-up menus, and so forth). But it is often impractical to convert an existing program from mainline to event-driven style.

The first step toward a solution is to understand the two programming styles, and to recognize each when you encounter it. New programs should be written in the event-driven style if at all possible, and existing mainline programs will usually have to remain mainline.

Next we need to find a way to perform mainline input in SunView. The manual tells you in the notifier chapter how to use notify_dispatch() and notify_do_dispatch() to write a mainline program which reads stdin and the like, but this does not help when trying to read event-driven input like mouse events and other SunView events. Example programs 2 and 3 below show how this can be done.

The notifier is *not* as is sometimes imagined some central process which distributes all of the events to the appropriate processes. It is, rather, a set of functions linked in from the suntool and sunwindow libraries. The notifier is actually a part of your code and runs as your process when you call it.

The notifier's purpose is to collect all of the events directed to your process, and to call the appropriate event handlers for each event. Some of these event handlers will be written by you (setup with WIN_EVENT_PROC, or notify_interpose_destroy_func(), for two examples). Other event handlers come straight from the libraries (Open, Close, Move, resize the frame, scroll, repaint canvas, and so forth).

Note it is very important to invoke the notifier as frequently as possible, otherwise your application will appear to be 'dead'. If the notifier is not running, it cannot receive requests to Move or Close the frame, for example. Usually the notifier is running while you are waiting for input. If you become CPU-bound, you should call the notifier from time to time during your computation.

window_main_loop() is used by event-driven programs in the normal SunView style.

notify_dispatch() runs the notifier once as notify_dispatch() processes the first event in each queue. Note that notify_dispatch() should be called more than once to be more sure of processing all events. If any

A Solution

The Notifier: What It Is and What It Does

The Notifier: How to Run It



events are pending, it calls the handlers for those events, and then returns. In mainline-style programs, it is useful for keeping the window alive during compute-intensive periods, for catching non-blocking input, and for taking action after calls like window_set (window, WIN_SHOW, TRUE, 0).

notify_start() runs the notifier continuously. It returns only if notify_stop() is called in an event handler, or if the frame is quit. It can be used to do blocking input.

notify_do_dispatch() and notify_no_dispatch() turn implicit dispatching on and off. Alternative versions of read(2) and select(2) are loaded from the sunwindow library which run the notifier while blocked when implicit dispatching is on. In this way, your window will not become dead while using getchar() and the like.

Please note one warning: if a notify_stop() is executed while a function is blocked, it will unblock unsatisfied.

The stdio of a window program is (like any other program) inherited from the environment from which it was invoked. In most cases this means that the stdio appears in the shelltool or emdtool from which it was run. Please note that input to your window is seen by you as events, while input to the parent shelltool is seen by you as stdin, and can be read with getchar().

You will need to decide where you want the keyboard dialogue to take place. Many programs do not use any stdio, but make use of input events and pw_text(). Other programs have stdio scattered throughout their code (printf and scanf, getchar and putchar, or FORTRAN READ and WRITE) or require the dialogue to take place on a scrolling, terminal-like area. These programs will need to use stdio, and can make use of either the parent shelltool, or use a ttysw for systems running SunOS release 3.4.

Please note that these programs require SunOS release 3.4 due to the use of TTY_ARGV_DO_NOT_FORK. However, SunOS release 3.4 is not required if all one wants to do is use a STDIO_TTYSW. Refer to the the example 1 code that follows.

Existing programs are unlikely to understand the 'quit' option in the frame menu. When the quit option is taken, the frame will be destroyed, but the program will not automatically exit. In fact, it may not even be aware that the frame has disappeared.

Doing Standard I/O

Quitting the Frame



There are three ways to respond in this case.

disable the option

(Set the Quit item to MENU_INACTIVE.) This method ensures that the problem does not arise, and is used in example program 2.

detect the quit, and cause an exit

This is a very severe action, much like typing control-C, and the application may consider this undesirable. This method is used in example program 1.

detect the quit, and return status and/or clear a flag

This is cleanest method, but it may be inconvenient for the application to have to keep testing the status or flag. This method is used in example program 3.

Please note that all examples have a quit handler for the sake of completeness, though in example 2 this can never be called, because the quit option has been made inactive.

Three Example Programs

Three example programs are shown at the end of this article. Example 1 is a simple program using graphic output, but no event-driven input. This is as described in 'Porting Programs to SunView', section 16.6 of the SunView Programmer's Guide, part number 800-1345.

Example 2 does event-driven input, using notify_start() to block, waiting for input. When the event occurs, an event handler is called which stores the event, and calls notify_stop(). This causes the notifier to exit, and so notify_start() unblocks. The mainline can then retrieve and process the event.

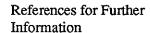
Example 3 additionally shows such features as non-blocking input, and redirection of ASCII events to the stdin window.

Examples 1 and 3 use the symbol STDIO_TTYSW to select between stdio appearing in the parent shell (0), and appearing in a subwindow of its own (1) for systems running SunOS release 3.4.

All examples are compiled using the command shown below.

machine% cc -o example example.c -lsuntool -lsunwindow -lpixrect





The following sections of the *SunView Programmer's Guide*, part number 800-1345, are suggested for details on the topics shown below.

Section	Topic
2.4	Notifier introduction
4	How to create windows
5	Canvases
6	How to interpret the input event
7	The graphic primitives
16	The Notifier
16.6	Explicit and implicit dispatching

In addition to chapter 7 shown above, also refer to the *Pixrect Reference Manual*, part number 800-1254, for pixrect details.

Example 1

The code for mainline input example 1 follows. This is the simplest example. It uses stdio, and writes graphics to a canvas, but does not accept any event-driven input such as mouse clicks and the like.

Example 1 uses implicit dispatching, as described in section 16.6 of the SunView Programmer's Guide, part number 800-1345.

Whe using implicit dispatching, you will need to find out when the frame is 'quit' by the user, in order to know when to terminate your program. To do so, interpose in front of the frame's destroy event handler with notify_interpose_destroy_func() so that you can notice when the frame goes away. At this point we call notify_stop() to break the read out of a blocking state.



```
/* Changed to 1. --r */
#define STDIO TTYSW 1
   Mainline input example 1.
*/
#include <stdio.h>
                                 /* added. --r */
#include <suntool/sunview.h>
#include <suntool/canvas.h>
#include <suntool/tty.h>
static Frame
                        base frame;
static Canvas
                        canvas;
static Tty
                ttysw;
static Pixwin
                    *pw;
static Notify_value my_notice_destroy();
main()
    int s, tty_fd;
    base_frame = window_create(0, FRAME, 0);
#if STDIO TTYSW
    ttysw = window_create(base_frame, TTY,
        WIN ROWS,
                   8,
        TTY ARGV,
                    TTY ARGV DO NOT FORK,
                         /* deleted line w/ signal. --r */
    tty_fd = (int)window_get(ttysw, TTY_TTY_FD);
    dup2(tty_fd, 0);
    dup2(tty_fd, 1);
#endif
    canvas = window create(base frame, CANVAS, 0);
    pw = canvas_pixwin(canvas);
    notify interpose destroy func (base frame, my notice destroy);
    window set (base frame, WIN SHOW, TRUE, 0);
    notify dispatch(); /* make the windows appear*/
    notify do_dispatch();
    while(1) {
        printf("Enter size of square (suggest 100): ");
        scanf("%d", &s);
        if(feof(stdin))
                                 /* added. --r */
            break;
                             /* added. --r */
        if(s == 0)
            break;
        pw writebackground(pw, 0, 0,
             (int)window_get(canvas, CANVAS_WIDTH),
```



```
(int)window_get(canvas, CANVAS_HEIGHT),
            PIX_CLR);
        pw_writebackground(pw, 10, 10, s, s, PIX_SET);
    fprintf(stderr, "exiting nicely\n");
    exit(0);
}
static Notify_value
my_notice_destroy(frame, status)
        Frame frame;
        Destroy_status status;
{
        if(status != DESTROY_CHECKING) {
                fprintf(stderr, "exiting abruptly\n");
        notify_stop();
        exit(0);
        }
        return( notify_next_destroy_func(frame, status) );
}
```



Mainline Input Example 2

The code for mainline input example 2 follows. This example shows event-driven input. Important features are described below.

Event Input

Event-driven input processing uses MS_LEFT and MS_RIGHT to write a string to the location of the event on the canvas, and ASCII events are echoed to the canvas.

This is mainline blocking event-driven input, and is an example for traditional CAD/CAE-style programs.

Quit

Finally, note that as an alternative to interposing on our destroy proc as in example 1, here we disable the 'quit' option from the frame's menu.

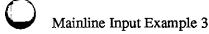


```
Mainline input example 2.
*/
#include <suntool/sunview.h>
#include <suntool/canvas.h>
static Frame
                       base frame;
static Canvas
                       canvas;
static Pixwin
                   *pw;
static Notify_value getevent_notice_destroy();
static void
               getevent_canvas_event_proc();
main()
   Event
           *event;
   Window window;
   base_frame = window_create(0, FRAME, 0);
   canvas = window_create(base_frame, CANVAS,
       WIN_CONSUME_KBD_EVENT, WIN_ASCII_EVENTS,
       WIN EVENT PROC,
                                  getevent canvas event proc,
       0);
   pw = canvas_pixwin(canvas);
    /* Inactivate the frame menu's "Quit" option. */
   menu set (
        (Menu) menu find (
            (Menu) window_get (base_frame, WIN_MENU),
               MENU STRING, "Quit", 0),
                   MENU_INACTIVE, TRUE, 0);
   window_set(base_frame, WIN SHOW, TRUE, 0);
   notify_dispatch();
   while( get_event(&event, &window )) {
       if (event_is_up(event))
           continue;
       switch(event_id(event)) {
       case MS RIGHT:
           pw_text(pw, event x(event), event y(event),
               PIX SRC, 0, "Clunk");
           break;
       case MS LEFT:
           pw_text(pw, event_x(event), event_y(event),
               PIX_SRC, 0, "Click");
           break;
       default:
           if( event is ascii(event) )
```



```
pw_char(pw, event_x(event), event_y(event),
                  PIX_SRC, 0, event_id(event));
           break;
       }
   }
   printf("exiting nicely\n");
   exit(0);
}
static Event getevent event;
static Window getevent_window;
/* ----- */
get event(event, window)
Event **event;
Window *window;
       notify_start();
                            /* this blocks until notify stop()
                                                                 */
       *event = &getevent event;
       *window = getevent_window;
       return ( getevent_window != NULL );
}
static void
getevent_canvas_event_proc(canvas, event)
Canvas canvas;
Event *event;
{
       getevent_event = *event;
       getevent_window = canvas;
       notify_stop();
}
```





The code for mainline input example 3 follows. This example shows eventdriven input. The major features are described below.

Event Input

MS LEFT writes a string to the location of the event on the canvas, and ASCII events are echoed to the canvas.

This is mainline blocking event-driven input, and is another example for traditional CAD/CAE-style programs.

Compute-Intensive MS MIDDLE selects a compute-intensive task. notify dispatch () is used to keep the frame and scrollbars alive, and to allow non-blocking input to occur. Input is tested, and, if present, breaks out of the compute loop.

stdio

The 'new string' option on the menu (selected with MS RIGHT) reads stdin with scanf(). This option uses implicit dispatching as described in 'Porting Programs to SunView', section 16.6, of the SunView Programmer's Guide, part number 800-1345.

It sets up WIN INPUT DESIGNEE to redirect ASCII events to the window handling stdio, to avoid moving the mouse into that window for stdin entry. However, note that ASCII events are consumed when get event() is called.

Scrollbars

The canvas uses scroll bars to display a part of a larger

bitmap.

Menus

Events must be translated from canvas to window

space.

Quit

A flag is cleared and can be tested when the 'quit'

option is selected on the frame menu.



```
#define STDIO_TTYSW 1
                                   /* added. --r */
/*
    Mainline input example 3.
#include <stdio.h>
                /* deleted #include <signal.h>. --r */
#include <suntool/sunview.h>
#include <suntool/scrollbar.h>
#include <suntool/canvas.h>
#include <suntool/tty.h>
static Frame
                    base_frame;
static Canvas
                   canvas;
static Tty
                ttysw;
static Pixwin
                    *pw;
    Support for get event();
                                        */
static Event
                getevent event;
static Window getevent_window;
static int getevent_gotevent;
static int getevent_continue_flag = 1;
static int getevent blocking;
static int getevent_nonblocking;
main(argc, argv)
int argc;
char **argv;
    Event
          *event;
   Window window:
   Menu
           menu;
    static char string[96] = "Click";
           str[20];
   int a, i, j, k, y;
   menu = menu_create(MENU_STRINGS,
       "One",
        "Two",
        "Three",
       "New string",
       0,
       0);
    init_windows();
   while( get_event_test_continue() ) {
       get_event(&event, &window);
```



```
if (event is_up(event))
    continue;
switch(event id(event)) {
case MS_LEFT:
    /*
    show that we can see the x & y position of the event
    pw_text(pw, event_x(event), event_y(event),
        PIX_SRC, .0, string);
    break;
case MS RIGHT:
    /*
    show that we can use menus
    canvas_window_event(canvas, event);
        notify no dispatch();
    a = (int)menu_show(menu, canvas, event, 0);
        notify do dispatch();
    canvas event (canvas, event);
    switch(a) {
    case 1:
    case 2:
    case 3:
        sprintf(str, "%d", a);
        pw_text(pw, event_x(event), event_y(event),
            PIX_SRC, 0, str);
        break;
    case 4:
        printf("Enter a string: ");
        scanf("%s", string);
        break;
    break;
case MS MIDDLE:
    /*
    Do something compute intensive, use non-blocking
    input to test for interruptions.
    */
    pw_text(pw, 5, 20, PIX_SRC, 0,
        "This will take a while...");
    pw text(pw, 5, 40, PIX SRC, 0,
        "Hit a mouse button to interrupt");
    y = 50;
    pw_vector(pw, 0, y, 500, y, PIX_CLR, 1);
    get event noblocking(1);
    for(i=0; i<500 ;i++) {
        notify dispatch();
        if( get_event_test_event() )
            break;
        pw_vector(pw, i, y, i, y, PIX_SET, 1);
       for (k=0; k<2000; k++);
    ŀ
```



```
get_event_noblocking(0);
            pw_writebackground(pw, 0, 0, 400, 45, PIX CLR);
            break;
        default:
            if( event_is_ascii(event) )
                pw_char(pw, event_x(event), event y(event),
                    PIX_SRC, 0, event id(event));
            break;
        }
    }
    fprintf(stderr, "exiting nicely\n");
}
                                  ----- */
static Notify_value
getevent_notice_destroy(frame, status)
    Frame frame;
    Destroy_status status;
{
    if (status != DESTROY CHECKING) {
        getevent_window = (Window)0;
        getevent_continue_flag = 0;
        notify_stop();
    return( notify_next_destroy_func(frame, status) );
}
static void
getevent_canvas_event_proc(canvas, event)
Canvas canvas;
Event *event;
    if (getevent_blocking) {
        /* return any event
                                        */
       getevent_event = *event;
        getevent_window = canvas;
       getevent gotevent = 1;
       notify_stop();
    } else
    if(getevent_nonblocking) {
        /* return only 'major' events
        if( event is down(event) )
            switch( event_id(event) ) {
           case MS LEFT:
           case MS MIDDLE:
           case MS RIGHT:
               getevent event = *event;
                getevent window = canvas;
                getevent_gotevent = 1;
           break;
            }
    }
```



```
/* ----- */
int
get_event_test_event()
     return getevent gotevent;
}
/* ----- */
int
get_event_test_continue()
  return getevent continue flag;
get_event_noblocking(s)
int s;
  getevent_nonblocking = s;
/* ----- */
get event (event, window)
Event **event;
Window *window;
  if( getevent gotevent == 0 ) {
  getevent blocking = 1;
  window_set(canvas, WIN_CONSUME_KBD_EVENT, WIN_ASCII_EVENTS, 0);
  window set (canvas, WIN IGNORE KBD EVENT, WIN ASCII EVENTS, 0);
  getevent blocking = 0;
   *event = &getevent event;
   *window = getevent_window;
  getevent_gotevent = 0;
  return ( getevent_window != (Window) 0 );
}
/* ----- */
init_windows()
  base frame =
  window create (0, FRAME,
     FRAME LABEL, "Mainline input demo",
     0);
   canvas =
   window_create(base_frame, CANVAS,
```



```
WIN ROWS,
                             16,
        CANVAS_WIDTH,
                             1200,
                             1200,
        CANVAS HEIGHT,
        WIN_VERTICAL_SCROLLBAR, scrollbar_create(0), /* changed --r */
        WIN_HORIZONTAL_SCROLLBAR, scrollbar_create(0), /* changed --r */
        CANVAS_AUTO_EXPAND,
                                FALSE,
        CANVAS AUTO SHRINK,
                                FALSE,
        WIN_EVENT_PROC,
                                     getevent canvas event proc,
        0);
   pw = canvas_pixwin(canvas);
#if STDIO_TTYSW
    ttysw = window_create(base_frame, TTY,
        WIN_ROWS,
        TTY ARGV,
                    TTY_ARGV_DO_NOT_FORK,
        0);
                    /* deleted call to signal. --r */
   dup2((int)window_get(ttysw, TTY TTY FD), 0);
   dup2((int)window_get(ttysw, TTY TTY FD), 1);
   window set (canvas,
        WIN_INPUT_DESIGNEE, (int)window_get(ttysw, WIN_DEVICE NUMBER),
        0);
#else
   window set (canvas,
        WIN_INPUT_DESIGNEE, win_nametonumber(getenv("WINDOW_ME")),
#endif
   window_fit_height(base_frame);
   notify_interpose_destroy_func(base_frame, getevent_notice_destroy);
   window set (base frame, WIN SHOW, TRUE, 0);
   notify dispatch();
   notify_do_dispatch();
}
```



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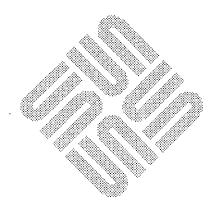
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