

ANYONE FOR TENNIS?

Make sense of machine code with this bouncy game, courtesy of Keith Hook and M Gaut.
The program can be altered to illustrate how the MTX's assembler works.

The Memotech MTX's in-built assembler/debugger is ideal for programming in Basic with 'in-line' machine code subroutines. However, once Basic has been mastered, most users get the urge to write in assembler: the routines run faster and allow certain special effects which are impossible in Basic.

Unfortunately, very little has been written about getting the best from the MTX assembler, and many users abandon the idea of attempting machine code as a result.

This listing is a game of practice tennis which allows you to alter any section of the code and experiment to see how it affects the game. For example it is quite easy to create a two player version, or to alter the angle at which the ball bounces off the walls or the bat.

Even the novice programmer can experiment and gain some ideas for future use. The source listing is fully documented for those of you who have not yet used the assembler.

How it works

The code starts at 8007 Hex — this is because it was written on a MTX 500 which only has 32K RAM. MTX 512 owners should type in the code exactly as printed, but when the assembler is entered by typing ASSEM 10, the code should start at 4007 Hex. The resulting code will align with the listing, but will always be prefixed by 4 instead of 8.

RST 10 instructions are used throughout the listing (see £800B). This call is an easy way to use the MTX's built-in



Although written for the MTX 500, this program is easily adapted for the more powerful MTX 512 (above).

graphic functions. Basic screen routines use these ROM calls, and because of the way the operating system is structured, it is easier to take advantage of the routines rather than write your own.

The RST 10 instruction expects certain information to follow the call, and depending upon this, the call will follow a certain course of action. These calls can draw lines, plot lines, create sprites, move sprites, print text and graphics to the screen, and much more.

The format for using RST 10 is:

```
RST 10
DB £83
DB "TRY"
```

The above example will print TRY on the screen, at the current cursor position. The function decides which command is to be executed by the bit pattern of the first byte (£83), which is the command byte.

Bit 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 0

Patt 1 0 cs Number of bytes

Here, bit 7 is set (£80 = 1000 0000), and we are printing three characters, so RST 10 DB £83 tells the MTX to print 3 characters at the current cursor location. Bit 5 is the Carry/Stop bit. If this bit is set (1) the RST 10 call executes the immediate command and then carries on to look for another command byte:

```
RST 10
```

```
DB £A3, "TRY"
```

```
DB £86, "AGAIN"
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The above code will result in RST 10 printing TRY AGAIN on the screen at the current cursor location before it returns to the calling program. (For a complete explanation of these calls see PCN issue 64).

The program uses 16 by 16 sprites and this mode is selected by setting bit 1 of VDP Register 1. In order that this register can also carry out its other functions, a value of £C2 must be sent to this register.

RST 10 followed by DB £4C will select Virtual Screen 4 and clear it on entry.

LD A,R is an easy way of getting a random number in the range 0 — 127. The Refresh register is constantly counting up to 127, so you get the same number twice in a row.

Finally, under MTX Basic, the sprite attribute table is located at 16128 decimal and each entry consists of four bytes:

- Byte 1** Vertical distance from top of screen
- Byte 2** Horizontal distance from left hand edge
- Byte 3** Pointer to sprite number
- Byte 4** Sprite colour

Listing

```
8007 LD SP, (£FA96) ; LOAD THE STACK POINTER FROM SYSTEM VARIABLES
8008 RST 10 ;RESTART 10
800C DB £83,16,2,2 ;SET THE BACKGROUND COLOUR TO GREEN
8010 INIT: RST 10 ;SWITCH TO VS 4 AND CLEAR IT
8011 DB £4C
8012 RST 10 ;RESTART 10
8013 DB £A3,16,3,15 ;SET THE PLOT INK COLOUR TO WHITE
8017 DB £A3,16,4,1 ;SET THE BORDER COLOUR TO BLACK
8018 DB £83,16,0,1 ;SET THE PRINT PAPER COLOUR TO BLACK
801F LD A, £C2 ;SELECT 16x16 SPRITES
8021 OUT (2),A ;BY SETTING BIT 1 OF VDP REGISTER 1
8023 LD A, £81
8025 OUT (2),A
8027 CALL MESSAGES ;PRINT THE MESSAGES AT THE TOP OF THE SCREEN
802A XOR A ;CLEAR THE ACCUMULATOR
802B LD (HIT),A ;SET HITS TO 0
802E LD (MISS),A ;SET MISS TO 0
8031 LD A,100
8033 LD (BAT),A ;SET THE Y COORDINATE OF THE BAT
8036 CALL PATTERN ;SET THE SPRITE PATTERNS
8039 LD DE, (£SATSAD) ;DISPLAY THE BAT
803D CALL VADOUT
8040 LD A, (BAT)
8043 OUT (1),A
8045 LD A,10
8047 CALL OUT
804A LD A,0
804C CALL OUT
804F LD A,15
8051 CALL OUT
8054 CALL BORDER ;DISPLAY THE BORDER AROUND THE COURT
8057 INIT: CALL RANDOM ;SET BALL AT A RANDOM POSITION
805A CALL DISSCR ;DISPLAY THE SCORES
805D LOOP: CALL UPDATE ;REDISPLAY THE BALL
8060 CALL DELAY ;DELAY THE PROGRAM FOR A SHORT TIME
8063 NOGO: IN A, (2)
8065 BIT 7,A
8067 JR NZ, NOGO
8069 CALL KBOARD ;SCAN THE KEYBOARD
806C INCR: LD HL, XINC ;INCREASE THE X COORD BY THE VALUE IN XINC
806F LD A, (XCOORD)
8072 ADD A, (HL)
8073 CP 9 ;TEST FOR BALL GOING OFF SCREEN
8075 JP C, SERVE
```

Listing (cont)

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8078 CP 242 ;TEST FOR BALL HITTING RIGHT WALL
807A JP NC, FIX1
807D LD (XCOORD),A
8080 INCY: LD HL, YINC ;INCREASE THE Y COORD BY THE VALUE IN YINC
8083 LD A, (YCOORD)
8086 ADD A, (HL)
8087 TESTY: CP 173 ;TEST FOR BOTTOM OF SCREEN
8089 JP NC, FIXY
808C CP 10 ;TEST FOR TOP OF SCREEN
808E JP C, FIXY
8091 SAVY: LD (YCOORD),A
8094 COMT: CALL TEST ;SEE IF BALL TOUCHING BAT
8097 JP LOOP ;DO IT ALL AGAIN
809A DELAY: LD BC, (DELT) ;GET THE CURRENT DELAY TIME
809E DEL1: DEC BC
809F LD A, B
80A0 OR C
80A1 JR NZ, DEL1
80A3 RET
80A4 FIX1: LD A, (XCOORD) ;THIS ROUTINE NEGATES THE XINC
80A7 LD HL, XINC
80AA SUB (HL)
80AB LD (XCOORD),A
80AE LD A, (XINC)
80B1 NEG
80B3 LD (XINC),A
80B6 RET
80B7 FIXY: LD A, (YCOORD) ;THIS ROUTINE NEGATES THE YINC
80BA LD HL, YINC
80BD SUB (HL)
80BE LD (YCOORD),A
80C1 LD A, (YINC)
80C4 NEG
80C6 LD (YINC),A
80C9 JP COMT
80CC KBOARD: LD A, $FB ;TEST FOR UP KEY
80CE OUT (5),A
80D0 IN A, (5)
80D2 CP $7F
80D4 JP Z, MOVUP ;IF IT IS, THEN MOVE BAT UP
80D7 LD A, $BF ;TEST FOR DOWN KEY
80D9 OUT (5),A
80DB IN A, (5)
80DD CP $7F
80DF JP Z, MOVON ;IF YES, THEN MOVE BAT DOWN
80E2 RET
80E3 FIX1: CALL FIX1 ;BOUNCE BALL IN X AXIS
80E6 JP INCY ;AND Y AXIS
80E9 VADIN: PUSH AF ;THIS ROUTINE SETS UP VRAM FOR READING
80EA LD A, E ;GET THE LOW PART OF THE ADDRESS
80EB OUT (2),A ;AND SEND IT DOWN PORT TWO
80ED LD A, D ;GET THE HIGH PART OF THE ADDRESS
80EE AND 63 ;MAKE SURE THAT BITS 6 AND 7 ARE OFF. THIS COMBINATION TELLS
;THE VOP THAT IT IS REQUIRED TO SEND DATA BACK TO THE Z80
80F0 OUT (2),A ;OUTPUT THIS VALUE DOWN PORT TWO
80F2 POP AF
80F3 RET ;RETURN
80F4 SATSAD: DW 1612B ;SPRITE ATTRIBUTE TABLE START ADDRESS
80F6 PATTERN: LD B, 64 ;SET COUNTER
80F8 LD HL, DATA ;POINT HL AT PATTERN DATA
80FB LD DE, 14336 ;SET VRAM ADDRESS FOR WRITING TO THE PATTERN GENERATOR TABLE
80FE CALL VADOUT
8101 PL1: LD A, (HL) ;READ A BYTE FROM THE PATTERN DATA
8102 OUT (1),A ;AND SEND IT TO THE CORRECT PLACE IN VRAM
8104 INC HL ;INCREMENT THE POINTER IN THE PATTERN DATA LIST
8105 DJNZ PL1 ;DECREMENT COUNTER AND DO IT AGAIN
8107 RET ;RETURN
8108 VADOUT: PUSH AF ;THIS ROUTINE SETS UP VRAM FOR WRITING
8109 LD A, E ;GET THE LOW PART OF THE ADDRESS
810A OUT (2),A ;AND SEND IT OUT THROUGH PORT TWO
810C LD A, D ;GET THE HIGH PART OF THE ADDRESS
810D OR 64 ;MAKE SURE THAT BIT 6 OF THE VALUE IS SET
810F AND 127 ;AND MAKE SURE THAT BIT 7 IS OFF. THIS COMBINATION OF BITS INFORMS
;THE VOP THAT IT IS ABOUT TO RECEIVE DATA
8111 OUT (2),A ;SEND THIS VALUE DOWN PORT TWO
8113 POP AF
8114 RET ;RETURN
8115 OUT: OUT (1),A ;THIS ROUTINE IS USED, BECAUSE A DELAY OF AT LEAST 8 MICROSECONDS
;IS NECESSARY BETWEEN SUCCESSIVE READS OR WRITES
8117 RET ;RETURN
8118 MOVUP: LD A, (BAT) ;GET THE BAT COORDINATE
811B CP 18 ;TEST TO SEE IF IT IS AT THE TOP OF THE SCREEN
811D RET C ;IF IT IS THEN RETURN WITHOUT MOVING IT.
811E DEC A ;OTHERWISE TAKE TWO OFF THE BAT POSITION
811F DEC A
8120 LD (BAT),A ;AND STORE NEW BAT POSITION
8123 LD DE, (SATSAD) ;SET UP THE ADDRESS OF THE SPRITE ATTRIBUTE TABLE
8127 CALL VADOUT
812A OUT (1),A ;SEND THE Y COORDINATE OF THE BAT
812C RET ;AND RETURN
812D MOVON: LD A, (BAT) ;GET THE BAT COORDINATE
8130 CP 168 ;TEST TO SEE IF IT IS AT THE BOTTOM OF SCREEN
8132 RET NC ;IF IT IS, THEN RETURN WITHOUT MOVING THE BAT
8133 INC A ;OTHERWISE ADD TWO TO THE BAT COORDINATE
8134 INC A
8135 LD (BAT),A ;STORE IT AGAIN
8138 LD DE, (SATSAD) ;SET UP TO WRITE TO THE SPRITE ATTRIBUTE TABLE
813C CALL VADOUT
813F OUT (1),A ;AND SEND THE NEW Y COORDINATE
8141 RET ;RETURN
8142 TEST: LD A, (XINC) ;TEST TO SEE IF XINC IS POSITIVE
8145 BIT 7, A ;BY TESTING BIT SEVEN. IF IT IS OFF, THEN THE VALUE IS POSITIVE
8147 RET Z ;IF IT IS, RETURN BECAUSE THE BALL IS TRAVELLING FROM THE LEFT TO THE
;RIGHT, AND THEREFORE CAN'T HIT THE BALL
8148 LD A, (XCOORD) ;TEST X COORDINATE OF BALL
814B CP 22 ;IF NOT WITHIN X RANGE, RETURN
814D RET NC
814E CP 20
8150 RET C
8151 LD A, (YCOORD) ;TEST Y COORD TO SEE IF BALL IS BELOW BAT
8154 LD B, A ;OR BAT BELOW BALL
8155 LD A, (BAT)
8158 CP B
8159 JP C, TESTD ;IF THE BALL IS BELOW THE BAT, THEN JUMP TO A DIFFERENT TESTING ROUTINE
815C SUB B ;IF THE BAT IS BELOW THEN SUBTRACT THE BAT COORD FROM THE BALL COORD
815D CP 12 ;AND SEE IF THEY ARE WITHIN 12 PIXELS OF EACH OTHER
815F RET NC ;IF THEY AREN'T, THEN RETURN
8160 JP HITB ;OTHERWISE JUMP TO THE 'HIT BALL' ROUTINE
8163 TESTD: LD A, (BAT) ;GET THE BAT Y COORD
8166 LD B, A ;STORE IT IN B
8167 LD A, (YCOORD) ;GET THE BALL Y COORD
816A SUB B ;SUBTRACT THE BALL COORD FROM THE BAT COORD
816B CP 17 ;ARE THEY WITHIN 17 PIXELS OF EACH OTHER?
816D RET NC ;IF THEY AREN'T, THEN RETURN
816E HITB: CALL INCHIT ;ADD ONE TO THE HIT COUNTER
8171 CALL FIX1 ;CALL THE ROUTINE TO BOUNCE THE BALL
8174 RET ;AND RETURN
8175 SERVE: CALL INCMIS ;ADD ONE TO THE MISS COUNTER
8178 LD BC, 0 ;MAKE A SHORT DELAY SO THAT THE NEW BALL ISN'T SERVED IMMEDIATELY
817B SRVI: DEC BC
817C LD A, B
817D OR C
817E JR NZ, SRVI
8180 JP INIT1 ;AND SERVE A NEW BALL
8183 RANDOM: LD A, R ;GET A NUMBER FROM THE REFRESHER REGISTER
8185 ADD A, 10 ;MAKE SURE THAT IT IS MORE THAN 10
8187 LD (YCOORD),A ;STORE IT IN THE BALLS Y COORDINATE
818A LD A, 12 ;STORE THE X COORDINATE OF THE BALL
818C LD (XCOORD),A
818F LD A, 1 ;RESET X AND Y INCREMENTS TO 1. THESE VALUES COULD BE CHANGED TO MAKE
;THE BALL GO FASTER RELATIVE TO THE BAT
8191 LD (XINC),A
8194 LD A, 1
8196 LD (YINC),A
8199 UPDATE: LD DE, (SATSAD) ;GET THE START OF THE SPRITE ATTRIBUTE TABLE
819D INC DE ;AND ADD FOUR TO IT, TO POINT TO THE START OF THE BALL BLOCK
819E INC DE
819F INC DE
81A0 INC DE

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