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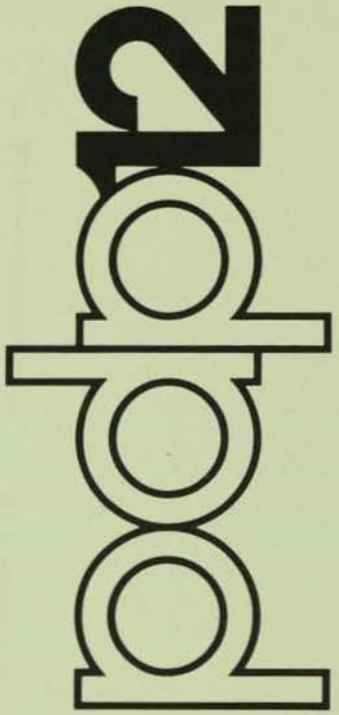
pdp12



Digital's PDP-12 is a general-purpose computer system. It is designed as a simple to operate, yet uniquely flexible tool for a wide variety of research and real-time data handling applications.

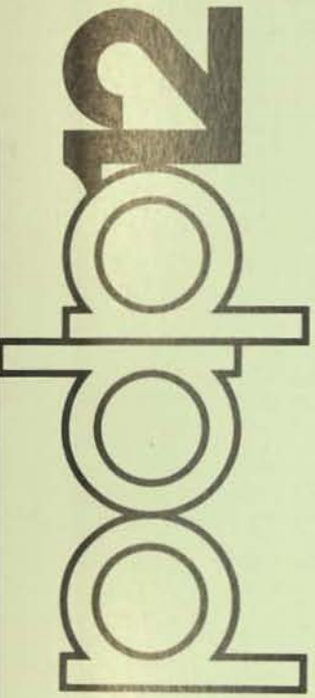
Performance characteristics of the PDP-12 have been optimized around a complete hardware/software system, rather than an expandable minimum configuration. The PDP-12 systems concept works to the advantage of users at all levels of programming sophistication. By simplifying programming tasks, the PDP-12 frees users from the mere mechanics of program preparation to concentrate on the more creative aspects of their work.

The following is a brief list of some of the PDP-12's outstanding features:

- All-new, unified display-based programming system
- Automatic program loading from magnetic tape
- Built-in program debugging hardware
- 7"x9" CRT display with graphic and alphanumeric capabilities
- Large existing library of applications programs
- TTL integrated-circuit modules throughout
- LINCtape-addressable, bi-directional program and data storage
- Free-standing cabinet and console table

The PDP-12 is a single-processor computer system which executes instructions from either of two complementary order codes. The PDP-12 directly executes programs written for PDP-8 or LINC computer systems.

The PDP-12 combines a totally new hardware organization with advanced system software to make optimal use of its hardware capabilities. Processor control is switched between modes by a single instruction or console action. All instructions and console functions are directly executed by hardware.



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PDP-12 is a faster, more powerful, and less expensive successor to the LINC-8. Its totally redesigned tape units, display, analog-to-digital converter, and prewired real-time clock offer many new benefits while retaining program compatibility with previous systems. The input/output bus is compatible with most integrated-circuit levels. It operates directly from either processor mode and is identical to those on the PDP-8/L and PDP-8/I.

HARDWARE SPECIFICATIONS

FUNCTIONAL

Instructions:
43 basic instructions including 29 memory reference instructions. Executes all PDP-8/I instructions as a subset of the order code repertoire. Includes half-word and boolean operations, and signed multiply.

Addressing:
Addresses a maximum of 1024 words directly and up to 4,096 indirectly.

Indexing:
15 auto-index registers (increment automatically when addressed indirectly).

Memory:
4096 words, expandable in 4096-word increments up to 32,768 words; 1.6 usec cycle time; direct memory access channel, standard.

Word length:
12 bits

Console:
Displays 6 active registers simultaneously; instructions may be executed from console switches including automatic magnetic tape loading; hardware program debugging controls; 2 12-bit switch registers

Display system:
7"x9" cathode-raytube; fully-buffered control capable of generating 400 characters (2 sizes) or 1000 points, flicker-free; 2 buffered D/A channels available externally.

Analog-to-Digital Converter and Multiplexer:
50 KHz conversion rate; 16 channels, expandable to 32 (includes 8 potentiometer inputs); 10 bit accuracy; ± 1 volt, differential inputs; fully-buffered output.

Magnetic tape Units:
Fully-buffered, completely automatic (no I/O subroutine necessary) LINCtape controller for up to 8 transports; each tape contains 512 directly addressable blocks of 256 12-bit words; maximum transfer rate of 7.5 Kwords/sec;

Additional features:
6 Programmable SPDT relays; 6 sense switches; 12 external sense lines.

ELECTRICAL

Power requirements:
15 amperes, average, at 115 volts, 60 cycles single phase. (Other line voltage & frequency ratings are available)

Power requirements:
Under 2 kilowatts

I/O bus levels:
Ground & + 3 volts

PHYSICAL

Standard cabinet size:
71" high, 33" wide, 35" deep (including console)

Table:
30" wide, 20" deep

Teletype size:
33" high to top of console, 22-1/4" wide, 18-1/2" deep

Weight:
700 lbs.

ENVIRONMENTAL

Temperature:
40° F to 110° F ambient

Humidity
20-80%

SOFTWARE SPECIFICATIONS

- Unified display-based software system:[1]

The all-new software system for the PDP-12 offers the speed and simplicity of CRT display-oriented operation.

The key features of this system are:

- Simple command language, common to all systems programs
- Display-based control dialogue
- Display-based editor
- Magtape/disk file manipulation
- Bilingual assembler which assembles intermixed LINC and PDP-8 code
- Adaptability for expanded configurations

- FORTRAN compilers (4K & 8K versions)
- FOCAL (conversational calculator—JOSS-like language)
- BASIC
- Utility routine package
- Mathematical routines package
- Demonstration programs package
- Maintenance programs package

1—Requires 2 tape transports and display system

PDP-12A LINC SYSTEM $29,900

4096 12-bit, 1.6 usec Core Memory
Direct Memory Access Channel
LC12 LINCtape Automatic Control, fully buffered, DMA Transfer
2 TU55 Magnetic Tape Transports
VC12 LINCscope Control and Character Buffer, 2 Intensity Channels,
2 sized Characters
VR12 7" x 9" CRT Display
AD12 Analog-to-Digital Converter and Multiplexer, 16 Channels (8 knobs),
10-bit accuracy, Sample and Hold, Differential Preamplifiers,
50 KHz conversion rate, expandable to 32 Channels, ± 1 volt input
DR12 6 Programmable SPDT Relays
Data Terminal Panel
ASR33 Teletypewriter, 10 Char/Sec Paper Tape Reader and Punch
6 Sense Switches
Hardware Signed Multiply Instruction (9 usec average)
15 Auto-index Registers
30" Freestanding Cabinet
Console Table

1 Shift Maintenance $200

PDP-12B INTERMEDIATE SYSTEM $28,900

4096 12-bit, 1.6 usec Core Memory
Direct Memory Access Channel
LC12 LINCtape Automatic Control, fully buffered, DMA Transfer
2 TU55 Magnetic Tape Transports
VC12 LINCscope Control and Character Buffer, 2 Intensity Channels,
2 sized Characters
VR12 7" x 9" CRT Display
ASR33 Teletypewriter, 10 Char/Sec Paper Tape Reader and Punch
6 Sense Switches
Hardware Signed Multiply Instruction (9 usec average)
15 Auto-index Registers
30" Freestanding Cabinet
Console Table

1 Shift Maintenance $190

PDP-12C BASIC SYSTEM $14,900

4096 12-bit, 1.6 usec Core Memory
Direct Memory Access Channel
ASR33 Teletypewriter, 10 Char/Sec Paper Tape Reader and Punch
6 Sense Switches
Hardware Signed Multiply Instruction (9 usec average)
15 Auto-index Registers
30" Freestanding Cabinet
Console Table

1 Shift Maintenance $130

This price list includes all standard options available with the PDP-12. A number of special systems have been designed and delivered to meet specific user requirements. Quotations for these systems are available upon request.

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PDP–12

PDP-12

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Addresses a maximum of 1024 words directly and up to 4,096 indirectly.

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- BASIC
- Utility routine package
- Mathematical routines package
- Demonstration programs package
- Maintenance programs package

1—Requires 2 tape transports and display system.

PDP-12A LINC SYSTEM $27,900

4096 12-bit, 1.5 μsec Core Memory
Direct Memory Access Channel
LC12 LINCtape Automatic Control, fully buffered, DMA Transfer
2 TU55 Magnetic Tape Transports
VC12 LINCscope Control and Character Buffer, 2 Intensity Channels,
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VR12 7" x 9" CRT Display
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6 Sense Switches
Hardware Signed Multiply Instruction (9 μsec average)
15 Auto-index Registers
30" Freestanding Cabinet
Console Table

1 Shift Maintenance $200

PDP-12B INTERMEDIATE SYSTEM $26,900

4096 12-bit, 1.5 μsec Core Memory
Direct Memory Access Channel
LC12 LINCtape Automatic Control, fully buffered, DMA Transfer
2 TU55 Magnetic Tape Transports
VC12 LINCscope Control and Character Buffer, 2 Intensity Channels,
2 sized Characters
VR12 7" x 9" CRT Display
ASR33 Teletypewriter, 10 Char/Sec Paper Tape Reader and Punch
6 Sense Switches
Hardware Signed Multiply Instruction (9 μsec average)
15 Auto-index Registers
30" Freestanding Cabinet
Console Table

1 Shift Maintenance $190

PDP-12C BASIC SYSTEM $14,900

4096 12-bit, 1.5 μsec Core Memory
Direct Memory Access Channel
ASR33 Teletypewriter, 10 Char/Sec Paper Tape Reader and Punch
6 Sense Switches
Hardware Signed Multiply Instruction (9 μsec average)
15 Auto-index Registers
30" Freestanding Cabinet
Console Table

1 Shift Maintenance $130

This price list includes all standard options available with the PDP-12. A number of special systems have been designed and delivered to meet specific user requirements. Quotations for these systems are available upon request.

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digital
PDP-12

2.0 PDP-12 HARDWARE DESCRIPTION

2.1 Introduction

The PDP-12 is a General Purpose small scale computer system optimized for real-time applications where mass storage, display and data acquisition are of importance in a user-interactive environment. The PDP-12 is a single processor, one address, fixed word length, parallel computer using both one and two's complement arithmetic. The cycle time of the 4,096 word random access core memory is 1.6 microseconds.

The PDP-12 operates in either of two modes which may be selected under program control. This allows direct processor execution of programs using either PDP-8 or LINC coding or a combination of both.

The 1.6 microsecond cycle time provides computation times of 312,400 adds per second. The hardware multiply requires approximately 9 microseconds. Arithmetic rotate functions operate at approximately 0.25 usec/step after instruction access. The display logic allows 400 characters to be placed on the scope screen without flicker.

A number of flexible user-oriented system options are pre-wired in the basic computer logic. These include: 10-bit multiplexed A/D conversion system with sample and hold, display control with character generation feature, fully buffered LINCtape control, relay register sense lines, extended arithmetic instructions, and memory expansion. The input-output structure is of a bus nature and allows general expansion without processor modification.

2.1 Introduction (continued)

The PDP-12 is constructed from TTL monolithic integrated circuit logic modules. The PDP-12 is self-contained requiring no special power sources. Internal power supplies develop all needed operating levels from 115 V, 60 Hz single phase line power at 20 amperes. (Other voltages and frequencies are available.) The PDP-12 is designed and tested for operation in normal "laboratory environments", (temperature ranges of 40°F to 105°F ambient and 20% to 80% relative humidity).

The two instruction sets (LINC and PDP-8) provide the user with 51 basic instructions. By intermixing LINC and PDP-8 code, a programming efficiency can be achieved that is superior to either mode individually. The LINC instruction set has three logical operation instructions, up to 16 count rotates and several data manipulation instructions which do not go through the accumulator. The PDP-8 mode offers a highly efficient operate and I/O transfer group along with a powerful subroutine call instruction.

2.2 Organization

The PDP-12 is organized into several segments including Core Memory, Processor and I/O bus, and Internal options including Teletype, LINCtape, Display, A/D Converter, etc. All logical control and programmed arithmetic functions are performed in the Processor. Long term storage is provided by the Core Memory. All individual peripherals are buffered and capable of carrying out their prescribed functions independently of the Processor.

The PDP-12 Processor is organized in an adder bus structure similar to that used for the PDP-8/I. Core Memory addressing is derived from the Processor Memory Address Register. The Processor and Memory operate asynchronously. The I/O Bus organization is identical to the PDP-8/I (positive bus). The PDP-12 tape control uses internal data paths for its transfer of data to and from core; therefore, the data break facility is free for such devices as disks or other tape systems.

2.3 Comparison of PDP-12 with LINC-8 and PDP-8/I

Because the PDP-12 is optimized at the level of an expanded system, the hardware and software become substantially easier to use. This allows the novice user to get on-line faster and more easily. The ability to directly start the system without RIM loaders, etc., is a major feature for many users. The LINCtape-oriented software makes programming and use substantially easier.

2.3.1 Comparison with LINC-8

The PDP-12 is very much a successor to the LINC-8 but its radically different single processor organization offers a substantial number of improvements while retaining

2.3.1 Comparison with LINC-8 (continued)

and expanding the important features of the LINC concept. These improvements are summarized below in tabular fashion.

- Single Processor allows very simple intermixing of LINC and PDP-8 code.
- I/O instructions operate directly for LINC as well as PDP-8 mode.
- All new operating system software provides easy assemblies of intermixed programming.
- Tape is fully buffered and requires no programmed subroutines. This allows easy A/D to tape throughput and shorter programming from PDP-8 mode than with a TCØ1.
- 4K of programmable memory (basic).
- 10-bit A/D.
- 7" x 9" CRT has higher intensity phosphor.
- Buffered Display Control can be used as an independent 2-channel A/D converter as well as providing much faster character display instructions.
- Trap feature allows real program compatibility with LINC-8 I/O Handler (PROGOFOP).
- Many more pre-wired options than with LINC or LINC-8.

2.3.2 Comparison with PDP-8/I

The PDP-12 can also be considered a PDP-8 and, as such, will operate all basic PDP-8 programming including all processor and memory diagnostics as well as FOCAL , FORTRAN, etc. Because the tape control is somewhat different, there is a PDP-12 version of the DISK operating system builder for generating the TAPE operating system but is otherwise identical to the corresponding PDP-8 program. A major difference between the PDP-12 and the PDP-8 other than peripherals is the tremendously powerful operating console which is described in the next section.

2.4 Operator Console

The complete features of the operator's console are operative in either programming mode. The hardware breakpoint (E Stop and F Stop), the DO switch for system start-up and the Auto Restart are the most significant features not obtainable on other small computers. Console interlock is useful in production application. Below is a summary of all lights and switches found in the console.

2.4.1 Console Indicator Lights

- Accumulator
- Memory Address
- Memory Buffer
- Program Counter
- Instruction Register
- Multiplier-Quotient
- Data Field
- Instruction Field
- Relay Register

2.4.1 Console Indicator Lights (continued)

- Processor States
- Tape Control States and Status
- Miscellaneous Processor Status

2.4.2 Console Switches

. Right Switches	12 bits
. Left Switches	12 bits
. Instruction Field	3 bits
. Sense Switches	6 bits

- Start 20
- Start 400
- Start Left Switches
- DO
- Fill
- Fill Step
- Examine
- Step Examine
- Stop
- Single Step
- Execute Stop
- Fetch Stop
- Continue
- Mark
- I/O Preset
- Mode (LINC or PDP-8)
- Auto Restart

2.5 Input/Output Bus

All options which are not pre-wired in the basic system as well as some of the internal options use the I/O Bus facility. The I/O Bus is identical to the PDP-8/I positive bus insofar as timing, loading, voltage levels and pin assignments. A full and detailed description of the bus, pin assignments, and suggested interface modules is contained in the PDP-12 Users Handbook.

2.5 Input/Output Bus (continued)

When operating in PDP-8 mode, IOT instructions are given normally. From LINC mode, the instruction IOB (Ø5ØØ) is executed as a 2-word instruction. The word following the instruction Ø5ØØ is treated as an IOT and the bus is activated.
Bits Ø-2 are unused and could be sub-device codes!

2.6 Pre-wired Options

A substantial number of the options expected to be most often sold are pre-wired in the basic system. These are shown in tabular form below and then described in the remainder of this section. Complete descriptions, programming examples, etc., will be found in the PDP-12 Users Handbook.

- TC12/TU55 LINCtape Control
- DECtape Format Option
- VC12 Display
- AD12 A/D Converter and Multiplexer
- KR12 Relays
- Sense Lines (STD)
- KW12 "Super" Clock
- XY12 Digital Plotter
- DP12 Teletype/Dataphone
- KE12 EAE
- MC12 Memory Extension Control and first additional 4K Module

2.6.1 LINCtape Control TC12

The PDP-12 LINCtape Control is a totally independent tape processor which operates directly into memory on a cycle stealing basis with the Central Processor. All

2.6.1 LINCtape Control TC12 (continued)

LINCtape instructions (see PDP-12 or LINC-8 handbooks) are directly executed by the TC12. The user may choose to have programming proceed or, for LINC program compatibility, the processor can pause during tape transfers.

The LINCtape instruction set includes instructions to read, write or check individual blocks or groups of tape blocks. Each instruction is complete in that the tape control does all searching as well as actual data transfers without program intervention or the use of memory locations for word counts, etc.

In addition to the defined LINCtape instructions, an extended addressing mode is provided which allows up to 2,048 blocks of any length to be transferred beginning with any program specified core location. The TC12 will handle up to 8 TU55 Transports.

The tape mark track format is LINCtape format. (See the PDP-12 or LINC-8 Users Handbook.) The TU55 transports offer high reliability and solid state motor control circuitry.

2.6.2 DECtape Format Option

A pre-wired option is available which allows the PDP-12 to read or write DECtape formatted tape. This allows a programmed block by block data transfer for the purpose of transferring data from DECtape to LINCtape and vice versa. It is not necessary to use the TC12 control in programming

2.6.2 DECtape Format Option (continued)

where the TCØ1 was previously used. The powerful instruction set of the TC12 usually allows tape subroutines in PDP-12 code to take less core than for the PDP-8.

2.6.3 Display

The PDP-12 display offers the user direct interaction with a small computer in a way previously unattainable at a reasonable price. The VR12 Point Plotting Display offers an 11" diagonal viewing surface. The very bright P31 phosphor allows viewing under normal ambient lighting conditions.

The VC12 buffered display control makes optimal use of the features of the VR12 display scope. The character display instruction DSC (see PDP-12 Handbook or LINC-8 literature) allows up to 400 characters to be displayed flicker-free. A half size character display instruction allows full utilization of the larger screen size.

The display control has its own buffer registers and allows the computer program to continue after initiating a display instruction. If a second display instruction is given prior to completion of the preceding one, the processor will pause and wait for completion, thereby offering total program compatibility with the LINC and LINC-8.

The D/A outputs are buffered and are capable of driving cables up to 200 feet

2.6.3 Display (continued)

in length as well as providing two independent channels of D/A output.

The 2-channel display concept of the LINC is retained to allow two simultaneous displays to be driven from the same computer on two separate scopes.

2.6.4 AD12 Analog-Digital Converter

The AD12 Analog-to-Digital Converter is a pre-wired option in the PDP-12. The AD12 includes 16 channels of input to a FET-switch multiplexer which drives an A404 Sample and Hold. The Sample and Hold output drives a 10-bit A/D converter which is controlled by the LINC mode SAM instruction. Eight channels go directly to potentiometers on the data terminal panel. These potentiometers are used by numerous programs as parameter inputs.

The remaining 8 channels go to A214 differential preamplifiers which provide an input resistance of 70,000 ohms in parallel with 300 pF of capacitance. The common mode rejection of the preamplifier is nominally X5Ø. The preamplifiers pass signals up to 60 Hz (3 dB down).

The preamplifiers provide 10,000% overload protection with microsecond recovery speeds. The preamplifier input presents a resistance to ground and the ± 1 volt input range allows capacitive coupling to the input.

2.6.4 AD12 Analog-Digital Converter (continued)

The multiplexer and preamplifiers can be expanded to 32 channels.

The sample time, including MPX selection, Sample and Hold, and conversion is 19 microseconds. There are two programmed modes of operating the converter which gives the user the option of pausing until conversion completion or continuing on with programming immediately.

2.6.5 Relays

The Relay Buffer is an optional 6-bit register connected to six relays located on the data terminal panel. The relays can be used for controlling experiments or external equipment. The contact rating is 2A at 28 vdc non-reactive load. One ampere at 110 vac resistive loads is also acceptable. Contact closure time is approximately 20 milliseconds.

2.6.6 Sense Lines

The PDP-12 has 12 Sense Lines which are brought out on one of the I/O cables. These are used to directly test digital conditions such as contact closures, etc.

2.6.7 Real-Time Clock

The PDP-12 Real-Time Clock is intended to solve 90% of the anticipated time base requirements. The clock offers a wide range of counting rates and interval times and its three operating modes offer great versatility in application.

The clock consists of a crystal time base which delivers pulses at a rate of 10

2.6.7 Real-Time Clock (continued)

microseconds, 1 millisecond, or 100 milliseconds. One of these three times or an external signal can be used to count the 12-bit clock register. A second clock buffer register is used in conjunction with the clock register to provide the following three methods of operation.

- Time-of-Day:

  The clock register counts at the time base rate and upon a computer signal, the clock is transferred to its buffer and read into the accumulator. The clock register also provides an overflow flag.

- Preset Counter:

  The buffer is loaded with a preset number from the accumulator. When clock overflow occurs, the overflow flag is set, the buffer is transferred to preset the clock and the clock continues to count.

- External Event Timer:

  Clock counts as in Time-of-Day mode. On an external "Event", the clock is transferred to buffer and the flag is set. The program can then pick up the "Time-of-Event" from the buffer while the counter continues to run. External signals can also be used to clear the counter.

2.6.8 XY12 Incremental Plotter Interface

The XY12 is pre-wired in the system and identical in operation to the PDP-8/I Plotter Control. It can be used directly with CALCOMP or Houston incremental plotters.

2.6.9 DP12 Teletype-Dataphone

The PDP-12 has a pre-wired asynchronous serial line interface with EIA standard logic levels. It uses M706 and M707 modules and provides a one-character buffer. Speed may be optionally crystal-controlled (available up to 100K baud). The DP12 may be used to interface with standard teletypes as well as asynchronous data-sets.

2.6.10 KE12 Extended Arithmetic Element

The KE12 provides all PDP-8 mode EAE instructions to the PDP-12. It is functionally identical with the KE8I.

2.6.11 MC12 Memory Extension Control

The MC12 provides the first 4K Memory Expansion of the PDP-12. Additional memory expansion uses the MM8/I memory module option. The MC12 contains the extension of the IF, DF, SF and IB registers to be used when the system is equipped with greater than 4K. Maximum memory capacity is 32K.

2.7 Other External Options

Other options are pre-wired in separate mounting panels and connect tc the I/O bus.

2.7.1 BA12 Option Panel

The BA12 contains other options standardly sold with the PDP-12. These include:

- PC12 Paper Tape Reader/Punch
- PR12 Paper Tape Reader
- PP12 Paper Tape Punch
- CR12 Card Reader

Additional options are to be included in the near future.

2.7.2 DW12 Bus Converter

The DW12 converts the positive bus of the PDP-12 to a negative bus for the operation of a number of PDP-8 peripherals. The DW12 is virtually identical with the DWØ8.

6.3 Configuration Constraints

6.3.1 Functional

- up to 32K of Core Memory
- up to 8 TU55 Tape Transports
- up to 32 Analog Inputs to Multiplexer
- only one additional device (over and above LINCtape) can access memory without adding a DM12 memory multiplexer
- up to 2 independent simultaneous displays; more can be added to display same picture

6.3.2 Pre-wired "Options"

- MC12 - Memory Extension Control and First Additional 4K
- AM12 - A/D Multiplexer with Expansion to 32 Inputs
- AG12 - Preamplifier Expansion to 32 Channels
- KE12 - Extended Arithmetic Element
- DP12 - Dataphone Interface
- VC12 - Scope Control
- TC12 - LINCtape Control
  - LINCtape/DECtape compatibility feature
- XY12 - Plotter Control
- KR12 - Relay Buffer
- KW12 - Clock

6.3.3 Physical Constraints

- for physical configuration details, see the PDP-12 price list
- temperature 40° to 105° ($^{\circ}$F) ambient
- humidity--20 - 80% relative humidity
- power input--115 V $\pm$ 10 V, 60 $\pm$ 1 Hz (others available, including 230 V, 50 Hz)

DIGITAL EQUIPMENT CORPORATION

the new pdp-12

Digital's PDP-12 is a complete computer system. It is designed as a simple-to-operate tool for a wide variety of research and real-time data-handling applications.

Performance characteristics of the PDP-12 have been optimized around a complete hardware/software system, rather than around an expandable minimum processor and memory. The PDP-12 system concept works to the advantage of users at all levels of programming sophistication. By simplifying program tasks, the PDP-12 frees users from the mechanics of program preparation to concentrate on more creative aspects of their work.

The following is a brief list of some of the PDP-12's features:

- All new, unified display-based programming system
- Automatic program loading from magnetic tape
- Program debugging hardware
- Seven by nine inch CRT display with graphic and alphanumeric capability
- Large existing library of applications programs
- TTL integrated circuit modules throughout
- LINCtape (addressable bi-directional magnetic tape) for program and data storage
- Free-standing cabinet and console table

DIGITAL EQUIPMENT CORPORATION

applications

Analytical Instrumentation

The PDP-12 can be used to acquire and analyze data from one or more instruments typically used in chemical or physical analysis. Mass spectrometers, gas chromatographs, chemical analyzers, NMR spectrometers, and various particle-size counters are a few of the instruments that may be automated through the use of the PDP-12. This application speeds up the process of obtaining the final data, reduces the number of errors, and performs a more thorough and accurate analysis than is possible when computations are done manually. The PDP-12, with its digital and analog input capabilities for handling the instrumentation signals and its relay outputs for instrument control or range switching, helps eliminate the need for complex special interfaces to several classes of instruments. The cathode ray tube display, with its graphic and alphanumeric capability, allows for the effective presentation of not only data and results but operating instructions which make the PDP-12 easy to use, even by the unskilled operator. The establishment of a question and answer dialogue between the computer and operator allows for an interaction not permitted by most small general purpose computers.

Signal Processing

Typical signal processing requirements within the general laboratory involve the manipulation of data through the use of such mathematical tools as averaging, time interval measurements, frequency analysis, and correlation techniques. The PDP-12 is well suited for this type of data acquisition and analysis for many reasons. It has a buffered analog-to-digital converter which allows analog-to-digital conversion to be initiated by an external source, such as a clock, and does not require any intervention on the part of the processor during the actual conversion of the analog signal. The results are then immediately available to the processor within one machine cycle (1½ microseconds). This feature allows the processor to continue doing useful work while the actual analog-to-digital conversion process is independently taking place. The data that is being acquired and processed may be transferred to digital magnetic tape, the operation of which is also completely buffered from the central processor. This allows the program to continue doing its computation while the tape units search for the proper block number and accomplish the transfer of data directly from memory onto magnetic tape, thereby freeing the processor of any tape handling routines. While the buffered CRT display is plotting data on its screen, the processor is free to continue with other tasks.

All these PDP-12 features enhance the machine's throughput capabilities (acquiring and transferring data to some intermediate storage device, such as digital magnetic tape). Throughput rates as high as 7.5 thousand words per second are possible with burst handling capability up to a maximum of 50,000 words per second. This high throughput capability allows the PDP-12 to handle the majority of signal processing chores encountered in real-time laboratory situations.

A library of programs is available to handle a wide variety of typical signal processing applications, such as data averaging, Fourier analysis, time interval histograms, general data acquisition, as well as programs for scanning data already acquired and placed on magnetic tape.

Education

It has become apparent to educators over the past several years that no discipline remains untouched by the revolution in the computer sciences. The use of computers as problem solving tools (computer extended instruction) is being adopted by universities, junior colleges, and high schools throughout the country. In technical curricula, computer usage is being taught as part of process control courses for chemical engineers, computer science courses for electrical engineers, instrumentation courses for medical students, and laboratory courses for speech students, just to name a very few. The computer in these applications is a new and powerful tool to assist in problem solving. The hands-on interactive concept of the PDP-12 makes it particularly well suited for this type of environment. The use of a graphics display through which the machine and operator can communicate, coupled with the ease of operation inherent in its design, has put the

PDP-12 and its predecessors, LINC-8 and LINC computers, in the forefront of computer extended instruction in many universities and technical schools around the world. Extending the computer concept slightly further, to such things as computer mediated instruction and guidance testing, brings into focus another ideal application for the PDP-12. Author-like languages and learning programs have already been written on predecessor machines and are available for experimental work in this field. These software packages, plus inexpensive bulk storage via LINCtape, and ease of programming, make the PDP-12 a highly flexible tool for the innovative researcher.

Bio-Medicine

Bio-medical research is an application to which the PDP-12 is ideally suited. In psychological research, operant behavior, and related fields it can control experiments, record events, and analyze results. It has the capability of handling data inputs and outputs for such things as reinforcements studies. In experiments where humans or animals are presented stimuli to which they respond by pushing buttons or levers, the computer can be used to analyze these results on-line, using standard statistical techniques. The relay contact outputs, digital signal inputs, and manual sense switch branching capabilities from the console make the PDP-12 a powerful and flexible tool for the psychological researcher. The use of inexpensive magnetic tape storage (LINCtape) for both data and programs, coupled with an existing library of statistical packages, graph plotting packages, as well as interviewing programs, provides an excellent starting point from which other programs may be written, to suit the specific needs of the individual researcher.

In physiological studies, the PDP-12 has the capability of handling both analog and digital signals, providing real-time analysis of the information and control of the experiment from which the data is being derived. Programs for handling EKG, EEG, and evoked potentials have already been written for predecessor machines and exist both within the DEC program library and the Digital Equipment Corporation User's Society Library.

Hospital Systems

In the clinical chemistry laboratory the PDP-12's turn-key system provides better patient care, reduces costs, helps relieve the load on the limited number of technicians, handles more tests, and provides better and faster information to the medical staff. This system interprets and processes data simultaneously from up to 15 analytical instruments. It gives automatic readouts, allows continuous monitoring of the process, files and stores results, and does all of the result calculations. A patient filing system allows an accumulative patient summary to be maintained. The computer is able to keep detailed records on each patient, print out periodic summaries, print out summaries on a particular patient on demand, even while it is logging data. At regular intervals the computer is capable of forwarding billing information based upon the tests performed to the accounting department's computer. This will allow the increased work load and record keeping to be performed without imposing a staggering task on the billing department or cause the hiring of additional personnel. The PDP-12 Clinical Laboratory System pays for itself in time otherwise spent in tedious and time-consuming calculations. Also, the operator needs no special training in computer programming. All interfaces and software are supplied by Digital in one easy-to-use turn-key system.

The PDP-12, with its inherent ease of operation, is an ideal tool for use in patient monitoring and patient interviewing. In the patient monitoring situation, EKG, EEG, respiration, etc. can all be handled by the PDP-12 A/D converter and multiplexer. In patient interviewing, the CRT display allows a question and answer dialogue to be established between the patient and the computer while allowing summary printouts via the Teletype. Programs have already been written on predecessor machines for general medical histories and are actually in use in clinical environments. Many new clinical diagnosis systems are being planned and designed. Cytology, multi-phasic screening, and many other systems will benefit from the flexibility and ease of operation of the new PDP-12, with its inherent data gathering capabilities, utilizing digital and analog inputs, as well as its alphanumeric and graphic display capabilities.

software

Due to the unique capability of the PDP-12 to execute two complete instruction sets (the LINC instructions and the PDP-8 family of instructions) a substantial amount of field-proven software is immediately available for use on this system. This software consists of the entire library of PDP-8 programs (both systems programs and applications programs). It is also compatible with the LINC and LINC-8 software, especially in regards to their application programs. To simplify the general programming task and to optimize the advantages of a dual order-code system, a special operating system has been developed. This operating system — a unified, display-based system — represents an ultra-powerful, general-purpose assembler, editor, and monitor for both PDP-8 and LINC programming.

Unified Display-Based Operating System

This sophisticated operating system assumes the use of two tape transports and a display as integral parts of the system. The operating system is composed of an editor, an assembler, a monitor, and data-handling routines for performing the typical functions required in program development.

The operating system is normally in the editor mode, awaiting input information that may be entered via the Teletype, magnetic tape, or paper tape. The command structure of the operating system allows simple and straightforward commands to perform operations such as manipulation (adding, changing, or deleting) of manuscripts, filing of information, copying of manuscripts and data, editing, listing, searching, and assembling.

Display-Based Editor

The editor allows editing on a line-by-line or on a character basis by the use of a controllable cursor on the display. The editor allows random access to any character or line being edited in the text, without resorting to any scheme using paging techniques. The assembler is a two-pass program that is called directly via the monitor. The assembler utilizes additional core and/or disk storage for handling symbols that it cannot contain within the initial 4K of memory. The concept is to maximize the speed at which the assembly can be made. The assembler will handle both PDP-8 and LINC instructions. Six character symbols and tags are used throughout.

4K FORTRAN Compiler

The 4K FORTRAN compiler lets the user express problems in a mixture of English words and mathematical statements. It reduces the time needed for program preparation and enables users with little or no knowledge of the computer's organization and operating language to write effective programs. FORTRAN language consists of four general types of statements: arithmetic, logic, control, and input/output. FORTRAN functions include addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, sine, cosine, arctangent, square root, natural logarithm, and exponentiation.

8K FORTRAN Compiler

(requires 8K of memory and high-speed paper tape)

The 8K FORTRAN compiler translates a source program into a symbolic language, and then the symbolic version of the program is translated into relocatable binary code, the language of the computer. The binary code is punched onto paper tape and then reloaded into the computer for running the program. The 8K FORTRAN system features USA Standard FORTRAN syntax; subroutines; two levels of subscripting; function subprograms; input/output

supervisors; relocatable output loaded by the Linking Loader; COMMON statements; I, F, E, A, X, and H format specifications; and arithmetic and trigonometric library subroutines.

The 8K FORTRAN system consists of the two-pass FORTRAN compiler, Linking Loader, Run-Time Monitor, and a library of subprograms. The system requires 8K of core memory, an ASR33 Teletype, and a high-speed paper tape reader and punch. The compiler utilizes all available core to 32K and is page transparent.

FOCAL

FOCAL (FOrmula CALculator) is a new conversational JOSS*-like calculator and programming language developed by Digital. FOCAL has proven to be a powerful tool for solving complex calculations. Of equal importance is FOCAL's role as a teaching aid. A computer novice can begin doing useful work within a few hours using straightforward, simple English commands. Programs can be checked and modified as they are prepared, and FOCAL will tell what went wrong if an error is made. FOCAL features 14 functions, automatic error tracing, character editing, and the power to solve six-level simultaneous equations. FOCAL is available in three versions — 4K, 8K, and 8K Four User. 4K FOCAL uses field zero to store the FOCAL program, the user's program, and the user's variables. 8K FOCAL uses field zero to store the FOCAL program and the user's variables, and uses field one to store the user's program. This allows for storage of much larger user programs. Four User 8K FOCAL, with the proper hardware to connect four Teletypes, gives four users each the power of 4K FOCAL from one computer.

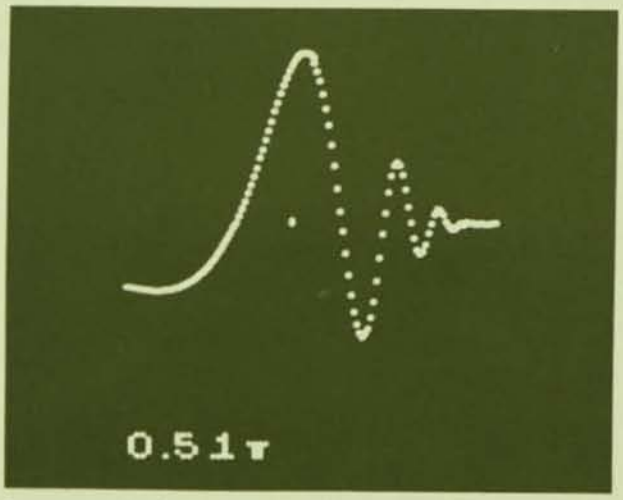
Signal Averaging Program

Signal Averaging Program (requires DW12 and AX08 peripherals) allows for handling of up to 1024 data points per epoch (sweep) and the averaging of this data over a maximum of 4096 sweeps, thus providing a technique for obtaining a valid signal from a noisy environment. Computation of standard deviation, confidence levels, and trend, plus calibration and plotting routines, are included. A dialog is established between the user and the set-up program with the system CRT display and Teletype.

JOSS is the trade mark and service mark of The Rand Corporation

Floating Point Packages

Floating point packages permit the PDP-12 to perform arithmetic operations that could not otherwise be done without the addition of costly hardware. In addition to increasing accuracy, floating point operations relieve the programmer of scaling problems common in fixed-point operations. This is a particular advantage to the inexperienced programmer. The floating point subroutines and interpreters permit the programmer to encode arithmetic operations to either 6 or 10 decimal digits of precision as easily as though the machine had floating point hardware. The operations implemented by the floating point packages include addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. Other functions in the package are sine, cosine, square root, logarithms, arctangent, and exponentiation.



Demonstration Program — simulates a simplified model of the basilar membrane in the inner ear.

Fixed-Point Mathematical Routines

The PDP-12 program library maintains a set of mathematical function routines which perform the following operations in both single and double precision: addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, square root, sine, cosine, arctangent, natural logarithm, and exponentiation. A library of analytic procedures is available which makes readily programmable trigonometric functions, logarithm operations, and procedures such as analysis of variance or fast Fourier transform.

DATA PROGRAMS

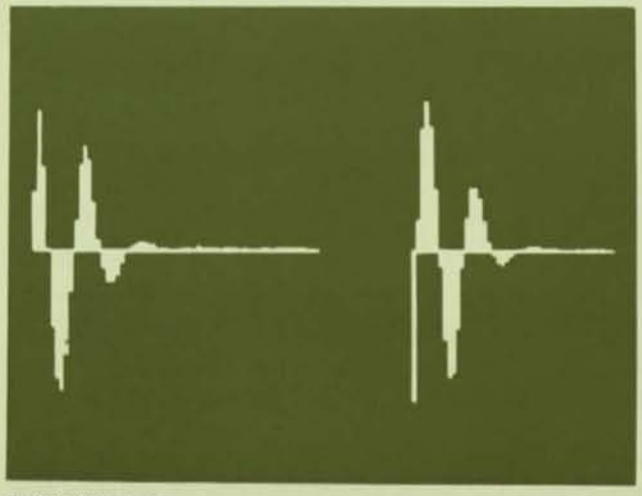
(require PDP-12A LINC system)

DATA-12 — This program retrieves, displays, and stores individual data blocks from magnetic tape and provides the user with a repertoire of mathematical operations for manipulating this data. These operations include high and low pass filtration, differentiation and integration, attenuation and amplification, inversion, addition of a constant, and plotting of a bar graph. The data or resulting waveforms are continuously displayed.

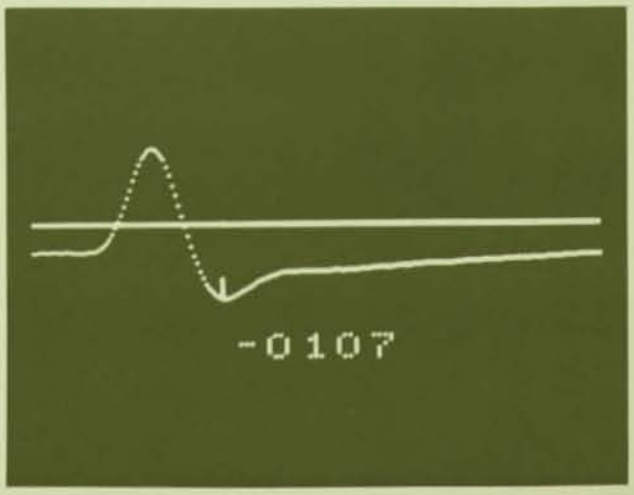
FRQANA — This program performs a frequency analysis of 512 points of data, and resolves the resulting spectrum into 64 components. The sine, cosine, and rms spectra are subsequently displayed and can be scaled. A resynthesis from the spectra can then be performed to provide a comparative display of the original data and the resynthesized waveform.

CURSOR — This program will display on the scope the signal samples from a designated analog input channel or data read into core memory from magnetic tape. Two data files, each 256 points in length, can be handled by CURSOR. A movable cursor, controllable from the front panel, is used to examine the data and display the absolute value of the amplitude.

GRAPHA — This program allows data to be retrieved from magnetic tape and displayed, as well as a graph to

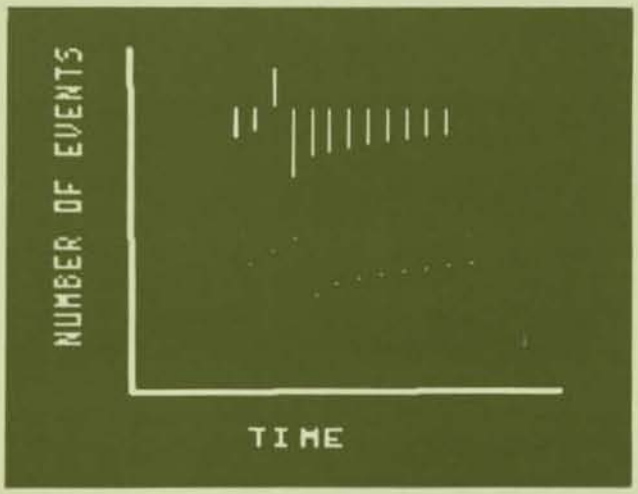


FRQANA Data Program

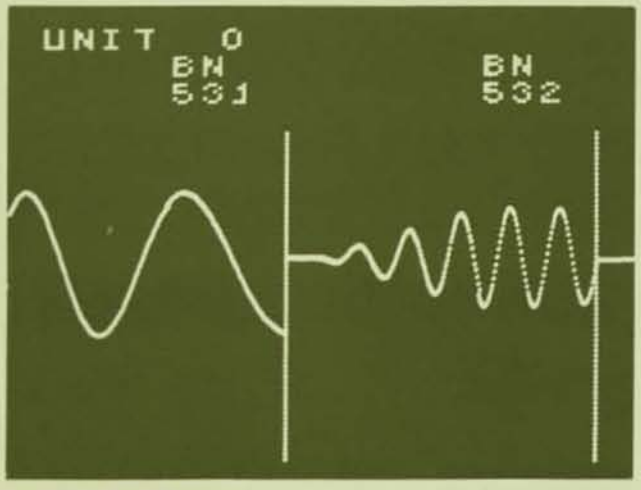


CURSOR Data Program

be composed for this data with appropriate lettering and axes. The graph is assembled on the display and the finished product may be photographed, plotted on an incremental plotter, or saved on magnetic tape for future reference.



GRAPHA Data Program



MAGSPY Data Program

MAGSPY — This program provides a moving window for scanning data stored on digital magnetic tape. The data is displayed on the scope and can be scanned at a rate determined by a potentiometer setting. The data can be interpreted either as binary numbers or packed characters.

Utility Programs

A number of utility programs are supplied with the PDP-12. They include programs to provide printouts or punch-outs of core memory content in octal, decimal, or binary forms, as specified by the user. Subroutines are provided for octal or decimal data transfer and binary-to-decimal, decimal-to-binary, and Teletype tape conversion. Other utility packages include:

Isometric Plot Subroutine — These programs provide for plotting a function of two variables, f (x, y), isometrically on a digital plotter.

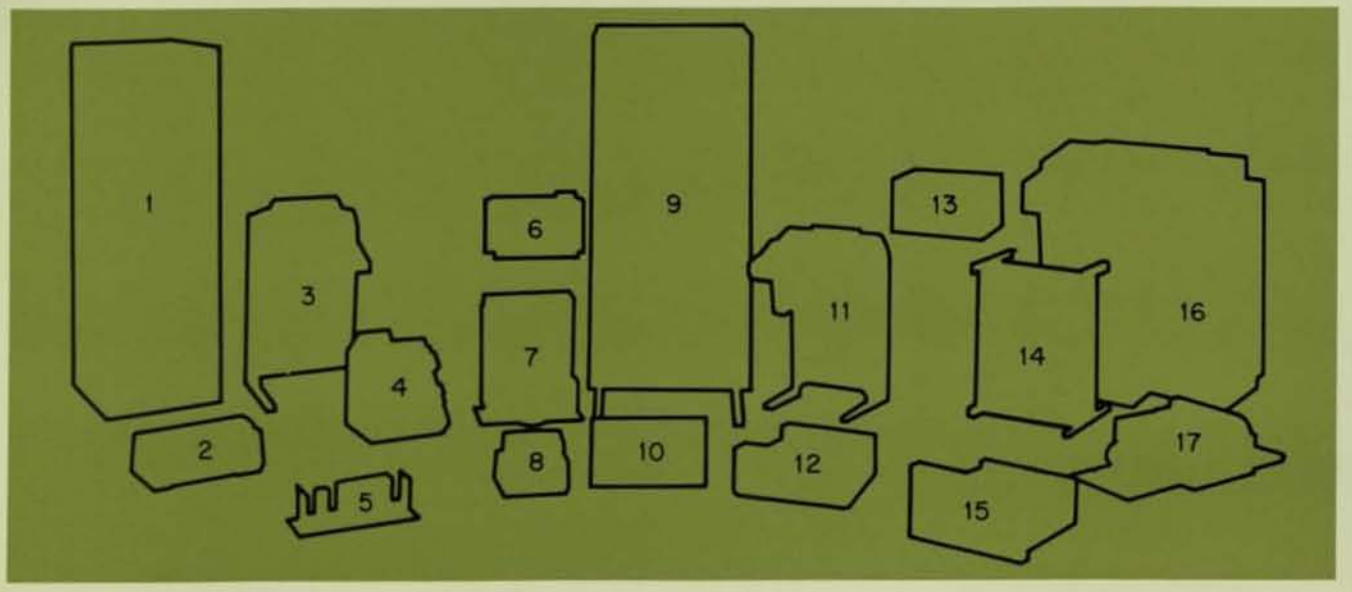
Message Display Subroutine — This is a basic subroutine for displaying lines of text on the scope. It is self-contained, with matrices for all digits, letters, and special characters.

Question and Answer Subroutine — This is a general subroutine used to display a page of text on the scope. Question marks may be displayed and replaced with responses from the keyboard. The information entered in this manner may be recovered by a subsequent portion of the user's program.

Maintenance Programs

A complete set of standard diagnostic programs simplifies and expedites system maintenance. Program descriptions permit the user to test effectively the operation of the computer for proper core memory functioning and proper execution of instructions. Diagnostic programs are provided to check the performance of standard and optional peripheral devices.

1. TU20 Industry Compatible Magnetic Tape Transports
2. Calcomp Plotter
3. KSR35 Teletype
4. CR12 Card Reader and Control
5. Interface Modules
6. PC12 High Speed Perforated Tape Reader and Punch
7. DF32 DECdisk Random Access Disk File
8. Bell Dataphone (interfaced by a DP12B)
9. PDP-12 Single Processor Computer System
10. TU55 Transport
11. ASR33 Console Teletype
12. AF01 A/D Converter System
13. VR12 Point Plotting Display
14. TR02 Incremental Tape Control
15. AX08
16. LP12 High-Speed Line Printer
17. Houston Complot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hardware

The PDP-12 is a single processor computer system which executes instructions from either of two order codes. The PDP-12 directly executes programs written for the PDP-8 or LINC computer systems.

The PDP-12 combines a totally new hardware organization with advanced system software to make optimal use of its hardware capabilities. Processor control is switched between modes by a single instruction or by console action. All instructions or console functions are directly executed by hardware.

The PDP-12 is a faster, more powerful, and less expensive successor to the LINC-8. Its totally redesigned tape units, display, analog-to-digital converter, and prewired real-time clock offer many new benefits while maintaining program compatibility with previous systems. The input/output bus is compatible with most integrated circuit levels. It operates directly from either processor mode and is identical to those on the PDP-8/L and PDP-8/I.

PDP-12 features:

- 4096 words, 12-bit core memory with 1.6 microsecond cycle time
- Full power processor prewired for the addition of a large number of options and peripherals
- Low-cost core memory expansion to 32,768 words, low-cost mass storage with DECdisks, and IBM-compatible synchronous and incremental magnetic tape
- Worldwide, dependable field service
- Over 4,000 compatible PDP-8, LINC, and LINC-8 family computers in use for sharing programs through Digital's users group (DECUS)
- Single cycle and three cycle direct memory data break facilities, standard
- All active registers continually displayed
- Signed multiple instruction, standard
- Fifteen auto-index registers, standard
- LINC feature to facilitate multiple precision arithmetic
- Both two's complement and one's complement arithmetic.
- 24-bit console switch register
- Six sense switches
- Complete with thirty inch free-standing cabinet, console table, ASR33 teleprinter including paper tape reader and punch
- Twelve digital sense line inputs, standard
- Six single-pole double-throw relay outputs

ELECTRICAL

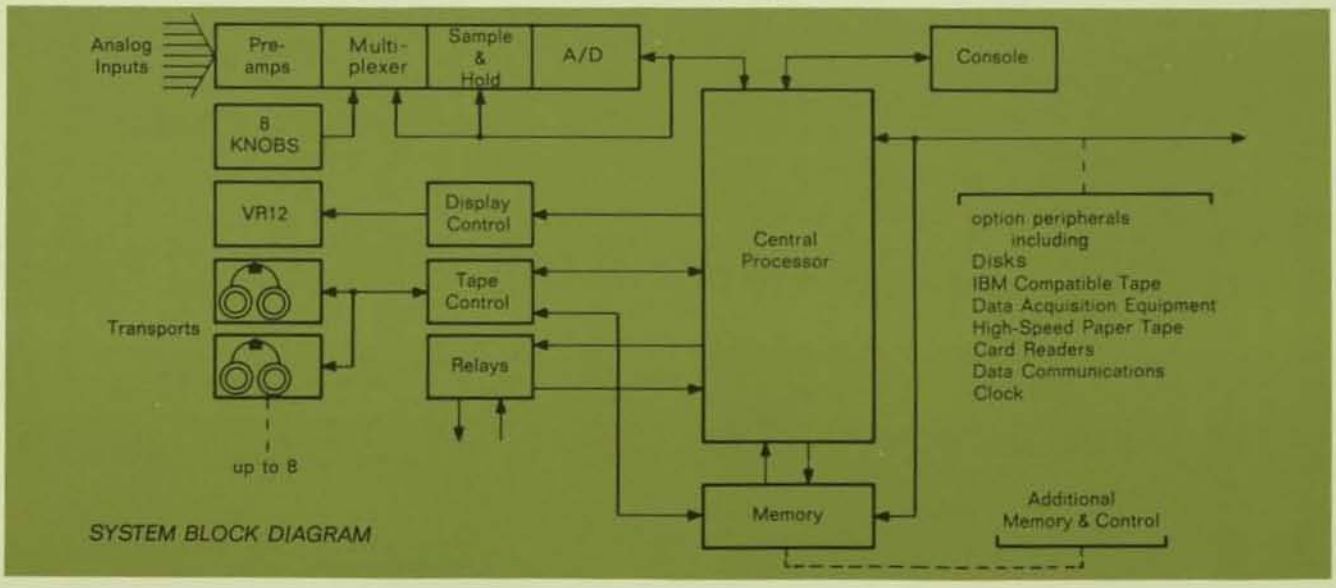
Power requirements:
15 amperes, average, at 115 volts, 60 cycles single phase. (Other line voltage and frequency ratings are available)
Power requirements:
Under 2 kilowatts
I/O bus levels:
Ground and +3 volts

PHYSICAL

Standard cabinet size:
71" high, 33" wide, 35" deep (including console)
Table:
30" wide, 20" deep
Teletype size:
33" high to top of console, 22¼" wide, 18½" deep
Weight:
700 lbs.

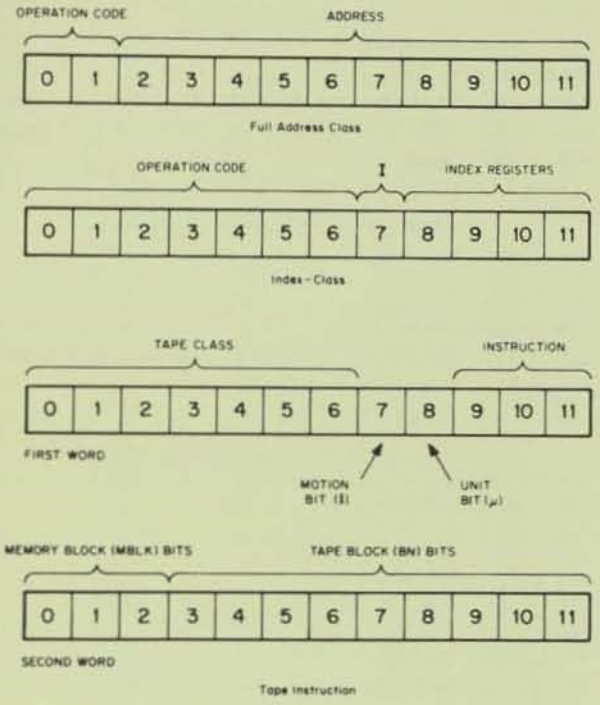
ENVIRONMENTAL

Temperature:
40°F to 105°F ambient
Humidity:
20-80%



SYSTEM BLOCK DIAGRAM

LINC INSTRUCTION FORMATS



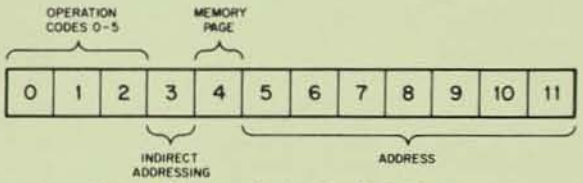
The following instructions are used in the LINC mode. The LINC Order Code is built on eleven basic functions as shown in the list that follows

Code	Mnemonic	Function	Time (μsec)
		ADD	
2000	ADD	Add memory to AC (IK address)	3.2
1100	ADA	Add memory to AC	3.2
1140	ADM	Add AC to memory (sum also in AC)	3.2
1200	LAM	Add link and AC to memory (sum also in AC)	3.2
		MULTIPLY	
1240	MUL	Signed multiply	9
0005	QAC	Load AC with MQ	1.6
		LOAD	
1000	LDA	Load AC, full register	3.2
1300	LDH	Load AC, half register	3.2
		STORE	
4000	STC	Store and clear AC (IK address)	3.2
1040	STA	Store AC	3.2
1340	STH	Store half AC	3.2
		SHIFT/ROTATE	
0240	ROL N	Rotate left N places	1.6-6.4
0300	ROR N	Rotate right N places	1.6-6.4
0340	SCR N	Scale right N places	1.6-6.4
		OPERATE	
0000	HLT	Halt	1.6
0016	NOP	No operation	1.6
0011	CLR	Clear AC and Link	1.6
0040	SET	Set register N to contents of register Y	6.4
6000	JMP	Jmp to register Y (IK address)	1.6-3.2
0006	DJR	Disable JMP return	1.6
0004	ESF	AC to spec. fctn. register	1.6
0024	SFA	Spec. fctns. register to AC	1.6

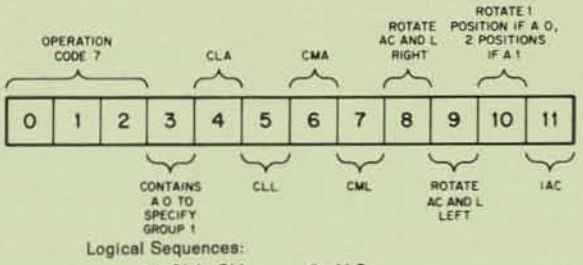
Code	Mnemonic	Function	Time (μsec)
		LOGICAL OPERATIONS	
1540	BCL	Bit clear (any combination of 12-bits, logical AND)	3.2
1600	BSE	Bit clear (any combination of 12-bits, inclusive OR)	3.2
1640	BCO	Bit complement (any combination of 12-bits, exclusive OR)	3.2
0017	COM	Complement AC	1.6
		SKIP	
		Skip next instruction if:	
1440	SAE	AC equals memory register Y	3.2
1400	SHD	Right half AC unequal to specified half of memory register Y	3.2
0440	SNS N	Sense switch N is set	1.6
0450	AZE	AC equals zero	1.6
0451	APO	AC contains positive number	1.6
0452	LZE	Link bit equals 0	1.6
0400	SXL N	External level N is present	1.6
0415	KST	Keyboard has been struck	1.6
0454	FLO	Add overflow is set	1.6
0455	QLZ	Bit 11 of MQ register equals 1	1.6
1500	SRO	Rotate memory register right one place, then if bit 11 of Y equals 0 skip next instruction	3.2
0453	IBZ	Between blocks on mag tape	1.6
0446	SKP	Unconditional skip	1.6
0200	XSK	Index memory register Y, skip when contents of Y equal 1777.	3.2
0416	STD	Tape instruction done	1.6
0417	TWC	Tape word completed	1.6
		INPUT-OUTPUT	
0014	ATR	AC to relay buffer	1.6
0015	RTA	Relay buffer to AC	1.6
0100	SAM N	Sample analog chan N	19.5
0140	DIS	Display point on oscilloscope	3.2
1740	DSC	Display character on oscilloscope (2x6 matrix)	4.8
0516	RSW	Right switch register to AC	1.6
0517	LSW	Left switch register to AC	1.6
0002	PDP	Transfer to PDP-8 program control	1.6
0500	IOB	Execute input-output Bus xfer	5.9
		MEMORY	
0640	LDF n	Change data field memory bank to bank n	1.6
0600	LIF n	Change instruction field memory bank to bank n	1.6
		LINC TAPE	
0702	RDE	Read one block into memory	3.2 plus time dependant on tape position
0700	RDC	Read and check one block	
0701	RCG	Read and check N consecutive	
0706	WRI	Write one block on tape	
0704	WRC	Write and check one block	
0705	WCG	Write and check N blocks	
0707	CHK	Check one block of tape	
0703	MTB	Move tape toward selected block	
0001	AXO	AC to Ext. operations buffer	1.6
0021	XOA	Ext. operations buffer to AC	1.6
0003	TAC	Tape AC register to AC	1.6
0023	TMA	AC to tape control register	1.6

Indirect addressing adds 1.6 μsec to given instruction times

PDP-8 INSTRUCTION FORMATS



Memory Reference Instruction Bit Assignments

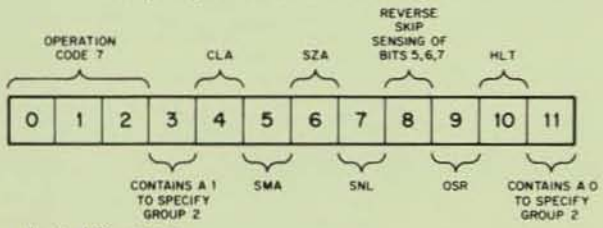


Logical Sequences:

1—CLA, CLL 3—IAC

2—CMA, CML 4—RAR, RAL, RTR, RTL

Group 1 Operate Instruction Bit Assignments

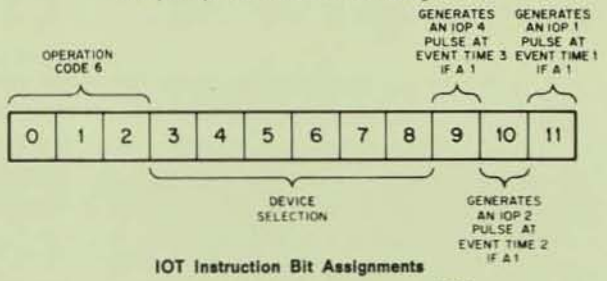


Logical Sequences:

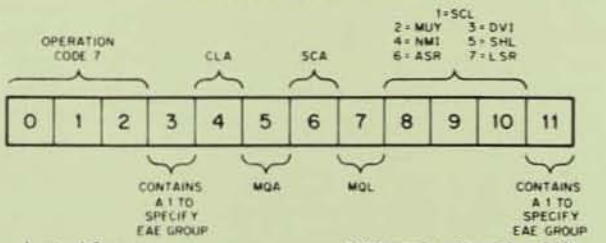
1 (Bit 8 is Zero) — Either SMA or SZA or SNL 2 — CLA

1 (Bit 8 is One) — Both SPA and SNA and SZL 3 — OSR, HLT

Group 2 Operate Instruction Bit Assignments



IOT Instruction Bit Assignments



Logical Sequence

1 — CLA

2 — MQA, MQL, SCA

3 (Bits 8 thru 10 = 1) — SCL

3 (Bits 8 thru 10 = 2) — MUY

3 (Bits 8 thru 10 = 3) — DVI

3 (Bits 8 thru 10 = 4) — NMI

3 (Bits 8 thru 10 = 5) — SHL

3 (Bits 8 thru 10 = 6) — ASR

3 (Bits 8 thru 10 = 7) — LSR

EAE Microinstruction Bit Assignments

Code	Mnemonic	Function	Time (μsec)
		BASIC INSTRUCTIONS	
0000	AND	logical AND	3.2
1000	TAD	2's complement add	3.2
2000	ISZ	increment and skip if zero	3.2
3000	DCA	deposit and clear AC	3.2
4000	JMS	jump to subroutine	3.2
5000	JMP	jump	1.6
6000	IOT	in/out transfer	4.25
7000	OPR	operate	1.6
		GROUP 1 OPERATE MICROINSTRUCTIONS	
7000	NOP	no operation	
7200	CLA	clear AC	
7100	CLL	clear link	
7040	CMA	complement AC	
7020	CML	complement link	
7010	RAR	rotate AC and link right one	1.6
7004	RAL	rotate AC and link left one	
7012	RTR	rotate AC and link right two	
7006	RTL	rotate AC and link left two	
7001	IAC	increment AC	
		GROUP 2 OPERATE MICROINSTRUCTIONS	
7500	SMA	skip on minus AC	
7440	SZA	skip on zero AC	
7510	SPA	skip on plus AC	
7450	SNA	skip on non-zero AC	
7420	SNL	skip on non-zero link	1.6
7430	SZL	skip on zero link	
7410	SKP	skip unconditionally	
7404	OSR	inclusive OR, switch register with AC	
7402	HLT	halts the program	
7600	CLA	clear AC	
		COMBINED OPERATE MICROINSTRUCTIONS	
7041	CIA	complement and increment AC	
7604	LAS	load AC with switch register	
7120	STL	set link (to 1)	
7204	GLK	get link (put link in AC bit 11)	
7300	CLA CLL	clear AC and link	
7201	CLA IAC	set AC = 1	
7240	CLA CMA	Set AC = −1	
7110	CLL RAR	shift positive number one right	
7104	CLL RAL	shift positive number one left	
7106	CLL RTL	clear link, rotate 2 left	
7112	CLL RTR	clear link, rotate 2 right	1.6
7640	SZA CLA	skip if AC = 0, then clear AC	
7460	SZA SNL	skip if AC = 0 or link is 1, or both	
7650	SNA CLA	skip if AC = 0, then clear AC	
7700	SMA CLA	skip if AC < 0, then clear AC	
7540	SMA SZA	skip if AC ≤ 0	
7520	SMA SNL	skip if AC < 0 or link is 1, or both	
7550	SPA SNA	skip if AC > 0	
7530	SPA SZL	skip if AC ≥ 0, and if the link is 0	
7710	SPA CLA	skip if AC ≥ 0, then clear AC	
7470	SNA SZL	skip if AC = 0 and link = 0	
		EAE MICROINSTRUCTIONS	
7405	MUY	multiply	
7407	DVI	divide	
7411	NMI	normalize	
7413	SHL	shift left	
7415	ASR	arithmetic shift right	
7417	LSR	logical shift right	
7421	MQL	load AC into MQ, clear AC	
7501	MQA	inclusive OR, MQ with AC	
7621	CAM	clear AC and MQ	
7441	SCA	read SC into AC	
7601	CLA	clear AC	
7403	SCL	load the step counter	

Indirect addressing adds 1.6 μsec to given instruction times

options

The concept of a useful computer system as embodied by the PDP-12 means the optimization of the systems hardware and software around a specific set of input/output devices. These devices include two magnetic tape transports, a large screen CRT display, an analog-to-digital converter and multiplexer, as well as relay closure outputs and sense line inputs. The ability to handle this specific set of input/output devices is designed into the basic instruction set of the PDP-12 and is not considered part of the general I/O bus facility, but rather an integral part of the system. This allows more efficient handling of information to and from the user devices.

LINCtape Control TC12 and TU55 Transports

Digital's PDP-12 LINCtape control is a totally independent tape processor which operates directly into memory on a cycle-stealing basis with the central processor. This system provides an addressable magnetic tape facility for high-speed loading, read-out, and program updating. A maximum LINCtape configuration with eight TU55 transports, each carrying a tape of standard format to take 131,000 words, can provide over one million words of rapidly accessible storage to the PDP-12. All LINCtape instructions are directly executed by the TC12 control. The user may choose to have programming proceed or pause during tape transfers, which occur at the rate of one 12-bit word every 100 microseconds.

The LINCtape instruction set includes instructions to read, write, and check individual blocks or groups of tape blocks. Each instruction is complete. The tape control does all searching, as well as actual data transfers, without program intervention or the use of memory locations for word count and current address counters.

In addition to the defined LINCtape instructions, an extended addressing mode is provided which allows up to 2048 blocks of any length to be transferred, beginning with any program specified core location. This provides for a maximum of over 200,000 12-bit words per reel of tape.

A controller option TC12-8 is available which allows the PDP-12 to read or write DECtape. This allows for the transfer of data for the purposes of moving information from DECtape to LINCtape, and vice versa, to provide compatibility with other DECtape units on other machines.

LINC Scope Control VC12 and VR12 Display

The PDP-12 display system offers the user direct interaction with a small computer in a way previously unobtainable at a reasonable price.

The VR12 point plotting display offers an 11″ diagonal viewing surface (58.5 square inches). The very bright P31 Phosphor allows viewing under normal ambient lighting conditions.

The VC12 buffered display control makes optimal use of the features of the VR12 display scope. The character display instruction (DSC) allows up to 400 characters to be displayed flicker-free in two preset sizes. The display control has its own buffer registers and allows the computer program to continue after initiating the display instruction.

The D/A converter outputs of the display control are buffered, and are capable of driving cables up to 200 feet in length. Two independent intensity channels allow two simultaneous displays to be driven from the same computer on two separate scopes.

Analog-to-Digital Converter and Multiplexer, AD12

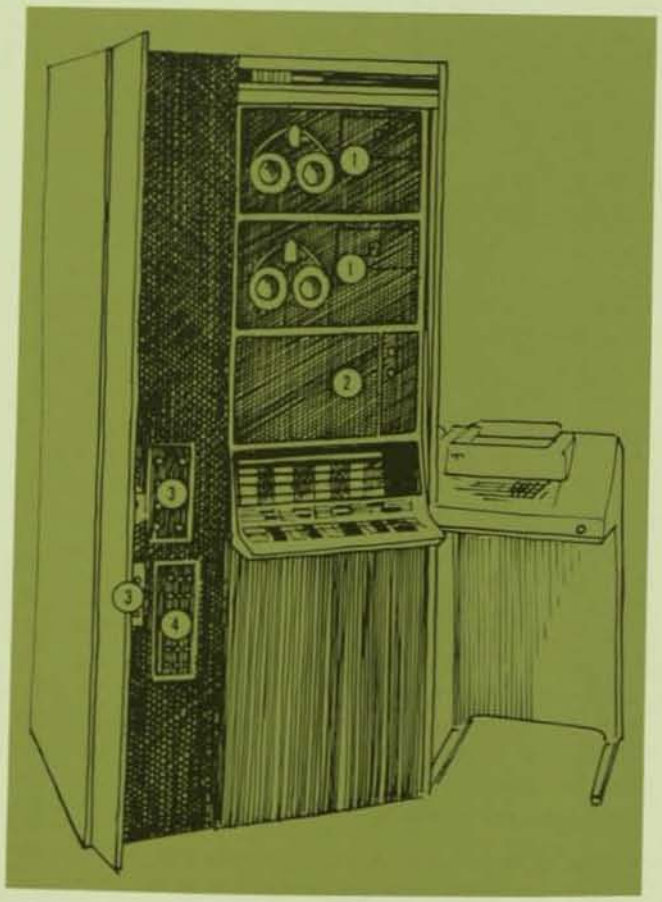
The analog-to-digital converter (AD12) includes 16 channels of input through an FET-switched multiplexer which drives a sample and hold circuit. The sample and hold output is converted by the 10-bit A/D converter which is controlled by the LINC mode SAM instruction. Eight of the 16 input channels go directly to the potentiometers which are used by numerous programs as parameter inputs. The remaining eight channels go to differential preamplifiers which provide an input range of ± 1 volt and an input impedence of 70K ohms. The common mode rejection of the preamplifiers is nominally 50 and will pass signals up to 60 KHZ. The preamplifiers provide 10,000 per cent overload protection with microsecond recovery speeds.

The convert time, including multiplexer selection, sample and hold, and conversion, is approximately 19 microseconds. There are two programmed modes of operation in which the converter gives the user the option of pausing until conversion is complete or continuing on with programming.

The multiplexer and preamplifier can be expanded to a total of 32 channels with the addition of the AM12 multiplexer switches and AG12 preamplifiers.

Relay Buffer KD12

The KD12 relay buffer contains a 6-bit register connected to six SPDT relays located on the data terminal panel. These relays can be used for controlling experiments or external equipment. The relay buffer is loaded from the accumulator and may be interrogated in a similar fashion. The contact rating is two amperes at 28 VDC. One ampere at 110 VAC is also acceptable. Contact closure time is approximately 20 milliseconds.



(1) LINCTAPE Control TC12 and TU55 Transports
(2) LINC Scope Control VC12 and VR12 Display
(3) Analog-to-Digital Converter and Multiplexer, AD12
(4) Relay Buffer KD12

peripherals

The PDP-12 has a complete line of peripherals identical to those offered for Digital Equipment Corporation's PDP-8/I and PDP-8/L. Included are two random access DECdisks, a high-speed paper tape reader and punch, synchronous and incremental IBM-compatible magnetic tape, incremental plotter, data communications equipment, and card readers. All of these are easily interfaced to the PDP-12 in the factory or in the field.

Extended Memory, MC12 and MM8/I

Core memory for the PDP-12 is expanded inexpensively by the addition of up to seven memory modules of 4096 words each. The first memory expansion, MC12, is designed for mounting within the PDP-12 central processor. It requires no additional rack space, and up to six additional 4096-work memory modules (MM8/I's) can be added to the PDP-12, external to the central processor. The memory cycle time is nominally 1.6 microseconds.

Real-Time Clock, KW12

The KW12 real-time clock is designed to solve a wide range of programming requirements. The clock consists of a crystal time base which delivers pulses from a 400 KHertz source at the rate of 400 KHertz, 100 KHertz, 10 KHertz, 1 KHertz, or 100 Hertz. One of these five time bases, or an external signal, can be used to count the 12-bit clock register. A second clock buffer register is used in conjunction with the clock register to provide the following three methods of operation:

- Time of day — the clock register counts at the time base rate. Upon a computer signal, the clock is transferred to its buffer and read into the accumulator. The clock register also provides an overflow flag.
- Preset counter — the buffer is loaded with a preset number from the accumulator. When a clock overflow occurs, the overflow flag is set, the buffer is transferred to preset the clock, and the clock continues to count.
- External event timer — the clock counts as in the time-of-day mode. On an external event, the clock is transferred to the buffer and the flag is set. The program can then pick up the time of event from the buffer while the counter continues to run. External signals can also be used to clear the counter. There are three such input channels.

Incremental Plotter Control, XY12

Incremental plotter control XY12 operates one of four models of incremental plotters for 30 inch, 12 inch, or 11 inch paper, and for step sizes of .01 inch or .005 inches. All recording (discrete points, continuous curves, or symbols) is accomplished by the incremental stepping action of the X and Y axes in any one of eight directions. Instructions are used to raise or lower the pen carriage. XY12 plugs directly into the PDP-12, requires no external mounting hardware, and provides a connector that is compatible with either Houston Complot or Calcomp Plotters.

DECdisk Random Access Disk File, DF32

The DECdisk type DF32 is a low-cost, random-access, bulk-storage device and control with a capacity of 32,000 words. Average access time is 16.7 microseconds for 60 cycle operation and the transfer rate is 66 microseconds per word. The DF32 can economically expand the memory capacity of the PDP-12 by providing up to 131,072 words of additional storage using three expander DS32 disks. Data is transferred through the three-cycle data break and uses the DW08A I/O conversion panel option of the PDP-12.

Disk, RS08 and Controller, RF08

Each RS08 Disk and RF08 Controller combination provides storage of 262,144 13-bit words (12 bits plus parity). Four RS08 Disks can be driven by one controller, for a maximum capacity of 1,048,576 words. Data transfer rate on 60-cycle power is 16.7 microseconds per word, and 20

microseconds per word on 50-cycle. Data is transferred through the 3-cycle data break system and I/O conversion panel of the PDP-12. Average access time with a 60-cycle disk is 16.7 milliseconds or 20 milliseconds at 50-cycle power. The RF08 requires the DW08A I/O conversion panel.

Incremental Tape Control, TR02 and Transports

The TR02 control unit transfers data under program control, between the PDP-12 and incremental tape transports. Transports are available for incremental write only or for incremental write and synchronous read. IBM-compatible 7 or 9-channel formats are available with densities of 200, 556, and 800 bpi. The interface requires no operator control and is expandable to control two tape transports. The tape transport's reading speed is 25 inches per second. The incremental writing rate operates at up to 700 steps per second. Tape reels are 8½ inches in diameter. The TR02 interfaces directly to the positive I/O bus of the PDP-12.

Card Reader and Control, CR12

The CR12 card reader handles standard 12-row, 80-column punched cards at 200 cards per minute, in either alphanumeric or binary mode. Cards are read by column beginning with column one. The CR12 requires the BA12 option expander panel.

High Speed Perforated Tape Reader and Punch, PC12

The PC12 includes the PR12 high speed reader and PP12 paper tape punch. It requires the BA12 option expander panel. The high speed reader is valuable as a programming aid or data input device because of its rapid read-in of perforated tapes. It photoelectrically senses 8-channel, fanfold, perforated tape at 300 characters per second. The companion paper tape punch operates at 50 cps. Both include hoppers for handling fanfold tape, and both the reader and punch are available separately.

AX08

The AX08 integrates in one piece of electronic hardware a 9-bit analog-to-digital converter, preamplifiers, multiplexer, sample-and-hold, converter, timing error flag, Schmitt triggers, crystal-controlled and RC clocks, two 12-bit registers, display control, and power supply. Together with a special programming package, the AX08 is intended to enhance the signal averaging capability of the PDP-12 general purpose computer system. It requires the DW12 I/O expander panel.

Other peripherals include:

- Industry Compatible Magnetic Tape Transports TU20 and Automatic Magnetic Tape Control TC58
- High-Speed Line Printer LP12 — 300 LPM, 132 columns
- General Purpose A/D Converter Systems
  - AF01 — selectable accuracy 6-12 bits with up to 64 multiplexed channels
  - AF04 — guarded, scanning IDVM. 5uv resolution and auto-ranging features. 140 db CMR
  - AM08 — analog multiplexer for up to 1024 channels
- Digital-to-Analog Converter AA01 and Control AA05
- Data Communications Systems
  - IBM 360 Data Link DX36
  - Additional Serial Line (TTY) Interface DP12
  - Multiple Teletype System DC02
- Interface Modules
- Special Systems
- Peripheral Expander Panel
- I/0 Bus Converter
- Power Failure and Turn-on Detection
- Teletypes

digital history

In little over a decade Digital Equipment Corporation has become a major force in the computer industry. The company has grown from a small operation with three employees and 8,500 square feet to an international corporation with over a million square feet in plants around the world. From a small manufacturer of digital control modules the company has become the fourth largest manufacturer of computers in the world.

More than 4,000 DEC computers have been installed around the world. In science they have had a tremendous impact in cutting experiment time and providing the researcher with direct, on-line data reduction. DEC computers control and monitor powerful nuclear reactors, control X-ray diffractometers, and analyze nuclear spectroscopy data. They monitor medical data, automatically analyze electrocardiograms, and study the effects of drugs on the nervous system.

DECUS

The Digital Equipment Computer Users Society (DECUS) gives PDP-12 users access to an expanding library of utility programs, subroutines, and other programming materials. They can contribute to and receive DECUSCOPE, a monthly technical newsletter containing user techniques, routines and program summaries. They may attend DECUS annual symposiums and seminars.

field service

A world-wide field service staff insures the proper maintenance of DEC machines. One of the company's over 500 field service engineers can be on the spot in a few hours if a problem develops. If a few hours is not fast enough, a resident engineer can be located at a site full time.

For small computer users, DEC also offers unique depot repair stations. Located at strategic Digital service centers, each station is a complete service lab manned with full time engineers and equipped with sophisticated test equipment.

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