

* * * * *

"small" TeX

* * * * *

Send submissions to:
 Lance Carnes
 163 Linden Lane
 Mill Valley, CA 94941
 (415) 388-8853

The July meeting at Stanford was informative and enjoyable. Several new small TeX versions were announced, with several more in progress.

Below is a grid summarizing the known implementations of TeX on small machines. The term "small" is as vague in the TeX world as it is in the rest of the industry. A loose definition of a small processor is one which either has a 16-bit word size, or one which will rest on a tabletop.

The data given under "processor time per page" is a rough approximation, usually given by the implementer. Since there is no "standard" page to compile to give a rated time, these times should not

be used to predict anything important.

Under company and contact, these are the names of the implementer and not the manufacturer of the hardware. For a phone number or address, consult the most recent TUG membership list.

A brief note about the TYX products. They have used the smallest machines to date (IBM PC), and offer these implementations as fully-supported products. The version of TeX available (TYXTeX) is a rewrite in C of the SAIL version, and is closest to TeX80. TYX plans to update their version to TeX82 in the next year or so.

As the editor for small TeX, I receive several phone calls each month inquiring about microcomputer implementations of TeX. The most common request is from IBM PC users, and it would be useful to have a TeX82-WEB implementation to offer. All of you who would like to see this happen, and who would be willing to commit funding to such a project, contact me at the above address.

It is nice to see the variety of implementations, either completed or in progress. If you are currently using TeX on a small system, or are planning to, and the hardware does not appear in the grid below, be sure to contact me and supply information.

"small" TeX implementations				
Manufacturer	Processor	TeX version	Processor time per page	Company and contact
Hewlett-Packard 3000	16-bit	TeX82	10-30	TextT, Lance Carnes
Hewlett-Packard 1000	16-bit	TeX82	10-30	JDJ Wordware, John Johnson
DEC PDP-11/44	16-bit			
Plexus, Onyx	Z8000	TeX80	10-20	TYX, Dick Gauthier
IBM PC	8086/8			
Apollo	M68000	TeX82	2-10	OCLC, Tom Hickey
Hewlett-Packard 9836	M68000	TeX82	6-10	HP Boise Div., Jim Crumley
Sun	M68000	TeX82 ¹		Textset, Jim Sterken
Corvus	M68000	TeX82 ²		
Cyb	M68000	TeX82 ¹		Texas A&M, Norman Naugle
Apple Lisa	M68000	TeX82 ²		
Masscomp	M68000	TeX82 ¹		
Sage	M68000	TeX82 ²		

¹ in progress or recently completed

² hopeful