

KIM-1/6502 USER NOTES

SEPTEMBER 1976

REPRINT

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 1

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First of all, I would like to thank you for your response to the newsletter. There are about 200 of us now and our number continues to grow daily. The creativity in this group has not ceased to amaze me since the first letters started rolling in. The most noteworthy has been in the area of games, and demonstration programs in general without the use of any additional I/O devices.

Instead of standing there with a blank look on your face when your family and/or friends say "That's nice, but what can it do?", you can load up with a neat demo program and dazzle them to no end. Jim Butterfield's Real-time Lunar Lander should go a long way toward this end (and you don't need a terminal!).

It would be beneficial to publish a list of all the members in the next issue so local people can communicate directly. If you don't want your name & address published for any reason, please drop me a note very soon and I'll keep your name off the list.

Several Amateur Radio operators have suggested starting a Kim Users Net to meet on the ham bands. This is an excellent idea - as there are quite a few hams in the group (myself included). Would anyone like to coordinate activities in this area?

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Any of you wishing to start local groups of Kim-1/6502 users should let me know - I'll pass it on. Here's one:

Buffalo New York - Kim-1 group no forming.
Call (716) 634-6844 for information.

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Have you been waiting for an assembler, or perhaps Tiny Basic? Well wait no longer.

Kim-1 Tiny Basic for \$5.00 is now being offered by: Itty Bitty Computers

F.O. Box 23189
San Jose, Calif. 95153

Con't.

From H. T. Gordon, Univ. of Calif., College of Agriculture, Berkeley, Calif. 94720
Listing of Third Version of HXDEC. Converts 4-digit hex number in 00 E6 (hi byte) and 00 E7 (lo byte) into decimal equivalent stored in 00 D0, 00 E1, and 00 E2. Uses 00 E3, 00 E4, and 00 E5 to store calculated conversion factors for each of 16 binary bits. Length: 67 bytes. Conversion times: 0.7 millisec for hex 0000, 1.5 for hex 1111, 1.4 for hex 8080, 2.12 for hex FFFF. Times are proportional to the number of binary 1 bits, not to the numerical value.

0200 F8	(sets decimal mode)
98	(pushes Y, then X, index into stack)
48	
8A	
0205 A9 00	(zeros 00 D0 to 00 E: in a loop)
A2 06	(sets X-index for 6 operations)
95 DF	(zero-page, X storing)
020C D0 FB	(increments 00 E5 to 01, to be first conversion factor)
E6 E5	(accumulator pick-up of 10 hex byte)
0210 A5 E7	(stored in stack)
0212 48	(sets Y index for testing of 8 bits)
A0 08	(pulls hex byte from stack)
0215 68	(one logical shift right, lowest bit in carry)
4A	(stores shifted hex byte in stack)
48	(if carry clear, bit was a zero, skip to 0226)
0218 90 0C	(if not, do triple-precision add of conversion factor to the decimal locations)
A2 03	
18	
021D B5 E2	
75 DF	
95 DF	
CA	
0224 D0 F7	(next conversion factor always calculated, doubling previous factor by adding it to itself, giving sequence 1, 2, 4, 8,..... to final 65536 (not used))
0226 A2 03	
18	
B5 E2	
75 E2	
95 E2	
CA	
0230 D0 F7	(DEY)
88	(if not zero, back to 0215 for next bit)
0233 D0 E0	(this PLA stack pull needed to equalize PHAs and PLAs)
0235 68	(LDA highest conversion factor location)
A5 E3	(if not zero, job is finished, so exit)
0238 D0 04	(if zero, job is finished, so exit)
A5 E6	(if zero, load hi hex byte)
023C D0 D4	(if not zero, back to 0212 for bit testing)
023E 68	(restore X, then Y, indexes)
AA	
68	
A8	
0242 D8	(clear decimal mode)
0243 60	(RTS)

.....

FROM THE EDITOR:

I would like to clear up any misunderstanding there may be concerning the relationship between our User Notes and MOS Technology. This newsletter is being financed wholly by the subscribers. MOS was kind enough to print and mail the complementary issue so the newsletter could get started but we are self supporting now.

If you didn't get a particular application note or if you want your address changed on MOS Technology mailing list - please write to - KIM-1 Customer Support

c/o MOS Technology
950 Rittenhouse Rd.
Norristown, Pa. 19401

Any correspondence concerning the User Notes should, of course, be addressed to:

KIM-1 User Notes
c/o Eric C. Rehnke
7656 Broadview Rd. #207
Parma, Ohio 44134

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

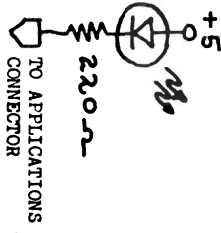
Contact for course hardware etc., from Microprocessor Seminar: Joe Williams, School of Engineering, Materials Engineering Dept., Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, New York 12181.

Machine Language Programming for the 8008 and similar microcomputers \$19.95:
Scelbi Computer Consulting, Inc., 1322 Rear Boston Post Road, Dept. D, Milford Connecticut 06460.

From Robert G. Lloyd, 7554 Southgate Rd., Fayetteville, N. C. 28304:

Here is my program for THERE'S MORE TO BLINKING LIGHTS THAN MEETS THE EYE (January 76, BYTE, Page 52)

```
0300 A9 FF Caterpl1 LDA #4FF
0302 8D 01 17 STA PADD Set PADD & PBDD to
0305 8D 03 17 STA PBDD OUTPUT
0308 38 SEC
0309 A9 0F NEMOVE LDA #40F
030B 8D 00 17 STA PAD Set march on I/O
030E 8D 02 17 STA PBD output
0311 A2 FF LDY #4FF
0313 A0 55 LDY #55 Set speed of bug
0315 88 DET
0316 DO FD BNE LOOP 2
0318 CA DEX
0319 DO F8 BNE LOOP 1
031B 2E 0A 03 ROL
031E 4C 09 03 JMP NEMOVE
```



INSTALL ONE LED/RESISTOR ON EACH OF THE FOLLOWING APP. CONNECTOR PINS IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER: 14,9,4,10,5,11,2,12,5,15,6,16,7,15,8. (the first LED goes to pin 14, the second goes to 9, etc.)

Included in the deal, is a 26 page user manual and a hexidecimal paper/tape in the MOS Technology loader format. A hex listing will be substituted for the tape for those who don't have paper tape equipment. They also have versions of TB for 6800 systems, Jolt, Apple, and Homebrew 6502 systems.

A note from: Bob Grater, Microfit Systems, 1595-21 Laurelwood Rd., Santa Clara, Calif. 95050 Phone (408) 246-4813

Just a short one with some info for the next newsletter. Steve Pittman here in San Jose has just finished a 2K "Tiny Basic" for KIM, and we'll have it on the market probably in the next couple of weeks (will give you more info as things jell). It should run about \$7.00 on paper tape pld. and will be sold thru the "Byte Shop" in Santa Clara.

What we would like to do is get it on cassettes and offer it in that form for the basic price plus the cost of a cassette. I don't have any additional RAM tacked onto KIM yet and would like to find someone in the area that has at least 2K of memory so we can transfer the BASIC on to a master cassette. A free copy on either paper tape or cassette will go to anyone who will help us on this and they may contact me at the above address & number.

Will let you know when everything is tied-down as to form, price, ect.

I completed my SAB-1 interface adaptor board and we are having the boards made now. The complete kit should be available by 1 Oct. from the "Byte Shop #2" in Santa Clara. Don't have price yet and am researching that now (estimate around \$25). The adaptor board will interface KIM's TTY port to any parallel TV Type-writer and Keyboard, with selectable baud rates from 100 to 1760. It is aimed at an easy jumper selectable interface with the "Byte Shop's" TTY kit that runs \$120 for the kit and \$35 for the bare board. his should give a good alternative to anyone who doesn't want to go out and spend 900 clams for a TTY! (and they are noisy).

Still don't have Tom Pittman's 2K TINY BASIC in hand, but it should be here soon and will let you know on that also.

Just to give you an update on the latest happenings "out this way".

CU
Bob Grater

Editors Note:

I've heard mention of a method for improving KIM TTY operation by raising the voltage on the TTY resistive divider network R48,R49. Can anyone supply the data on this modification?

OUR FILE OF ARTICLES FOR UPCOMING ISSUES IS RUNNING LOW!!! PLEASE SEND MORE MATERIAL!!! ANY SUBJECT THAT INTERESTS YOU WILL INTEREST OTHER MEMBERS!!!!

To prevent duplication of efforts in the areas of software and hardware design projects for the Kim or 6502 based machine, the User Notes will publish your name together with others who are working on similar projects.

Need some ideas?

Here's a note from Jim Butterfield, 14 Brooklyn Avenue, Toronto M4M 2X5 Canada.

Thought I'd produce something to fire up the imaginations of those KIMmers who'd like to start a project, but just can't think of a good one. The dozen I outline are just a sample... there are lots more, like GOLF, FACTORS OF AN INTEGER, MAD CHEMIST, etc. etc... this list could go on endlessly; many are games, some are physically useful. I've stayed out of diagnostics (SCAN MEMORY, RELOCATE PROGRAM, etc.), mostly because they could change in character for those lucky enough to have a printer/keyboard. And I've tried to make the descriptions fuzzy enough so that the programmer can create a system which is still truly his own concept. Last thought: I want to deliver the idea that you can have lots of fun without a terminal.

Has anyone thought of building a light pen for use with the KIM-1 display?

The following programs are concepts. None of them have been written (by me, at any rate). So if you want to take them on as a project, you'll be creating a new KIM capability. (Don't forget to send 'em to USER NOTES when they're ready; or, if you get stuck, call for help in USER NOTES!).

They can also be used as 'kicking off' points for other concepts; after all, ideas often generate new ideas.

Some projects are tougher than others. You may find one that's exactly your speed.

1. SUPER-CLOCK.

The six digits of the KIM-1 display are ideal for showing time in hours, minutes, and seconds. With the speed of the 6502, your main job will be killing time (no pun intended) until the next second needs to be added.

A simple wait loop will do the job for a basic clock. Each time you call the display (using SCANDS) you'll use up a bit over 3 milliseconds. (Has anyone worked out the exact timing of this subroutine?) So calling the display two or three hundred times before adding to the seconds should get you into the right ball park.

A more advanced approach is to use the KIM-1 timer. This will free you from having to count your loops and instructions so exactly, and you'll be able to add extra goodies to the clock with more freedom.

How about these for super-clock options? (a) 12-hour or 24-hour timing; (b) a Minute-Hinder option with audible alarm; (c) stopwatch capability; (d) alarm clock with audible alarm; (e) Westminster chimes or Cuckoo selectable by pushbutton; (f) a chess clock - check with a chess fanatic friend for the rules on this one. There are lots more - use your imagination.

Con't.

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MOON LANDER - Con't.

```

005B A6 E3      LDX ALT+1
005U F0 08      BRQ ST
005F D0 06      BNE ST
0061 F0 A6      BRQ CALC
0063 A5 EB      LDA FUEL
0065 A6 EC      LDX FUEL+1
0067 85 FB      STA POINTH
0069 86 FA      STX POINTTL
                show velocity as absolute
006B A5 E5      LDA VEL
006D 30 06      BMI DOWN
006F A5 E6      LDA VEL+1
0071 F0 07      BRQ FLY
0073 D0 05      BNE FLY
0075 38         SEC
0076 A9 00      LDA #500
0078 E5 E6      SEC VEL+1
007A 85 F9      STA INH
                FLY
                display the bird
007C A9 02      LDA #502
007E 85 E1      STA DECK
0080 20 1F 1F  filte
0083 F0 06      BRQ NOKEY
0085 20 6A 1F  JSR GERKEY
0088 20 91 00   JSR DOKEY
                NOKEY
008B C6 E1      DEC DECK
008D D0 F1      BNE FLITE
008F F0 D0      BEQ LINK
                subroutine for reading keys
0091 C9 15      CMP #15
0093 D0 03      BNE NALT
0095 85 EE      STA MODE
0097 60         RTS
                altitude mode?
0098 C9 10      CMP #10
009A D0 05      BNE NALT2
009C A9 00      LDA #500
009E 85 EE      STA MODE
00A0 60         RTS
                RETI
00A1 10 FD      NALT2
00A3 AA         TAX
00A4 A5 EA      LDA THRUST
00A6 F0 F8      BRQ RETI
00A8 86 EA      STX THRUST
00AA A5 EA      LDA THRUST
00AC 38         SFC
00AD E9 05      SBC #505
00AF 85 E9      STA THR2+1
00B1 A9 00      LDA #500
00B3 E9 00      SEC #500
00B5 85 E8      STA THR2
00B7 60         RTS
                dead stick?
                :INIT
00B8         to 00C5

```

NOTE: Moon Lander sometimes slips into the fuel mode by mistake... the cure? Simply change 0092 to \$14 and use the **E** key for energy (fuel) instead of **F**.

4. When your rate of descent has dropped to 15 to 20, steady the craft by pressing 5 or 6. Now you're on your own.

0000 A2 0C	GO	LIX #80C	'set up initial file.
0002 B5 B8	LP1	LDA INIT, X	
0004 95 E2		STA ALT, X	
0006 CA		DEX	
0007 10 F9	CALO	BPL LP1	acceleration/velocity update
0009 A2 05	RECAL	LDX #805	
000B A0 01		LDY #801	
000D F8		SED	
000E 18		CIC	
000F B5 E2	DIGIT	LDA ALT, X	add each digit
0011 75 E4		ADC ALT+2, X	
0013 95 E2		STA ALT, X	
0015 CA		DEX	
0016 88		DEY	next digit
0017 10 F6		BPL DIGIT	
0019 B5 E5		LDA ALT+3, X	
001B 10 02		BPL INCR	
001D A9 99	INCR	LDA #899	
001F 75 E2		ADC ALT, X	
0021 95 E2		STA ALT, X	
0023 CA		DEX	
0024 10 E5		BPL RECAL	
0026 A5 E2		LDA ALT	still flying?
0028 10 0B		BPL UP	
002A A9 00		LDA #800	
002C A2 02	DD	LDA #802	NOPE, turn off
002E 95 E2		STA ALT, X	
0030 95 E8		STA TH2, X	
0032 CA		DEX	
0033 10 F9		BPL DD	
0035 38	UP	SEC	update fuel
0036 A5 ED		LDA FUEL+2	
0038 E5 EA		SBC TH+UST	
003A 85 ED		STA FUEL+2	
003C A2 01		LDX #801	
003E B5 EB	LP2	LDA FUEL, X	
0040 E9 00		SBC #800	
0042 95 EB		STA FUEL, X	
0044 CA		DEX	
0045 10 F7		BPL LP2	
0047 B0 0C		BOS TANK	Any fuel left?
0049 A9 00		LDA #800	
004B A2 03		LDX #803	
004D 95 EA		STA THRUST, X	nope, turn off engine
004F CA		DEX	
0050 10 FB		BPL LP3	
0052 20 AA 00		!show altitude or fuel according to flag	
0055 A5 EE	TANK	JSH THRST	
0057 D0 0A		LDA MODE	
0059 A5 E2		ENE SHOTL	
		LDA ALT	

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Con't.

2. HONY RACE.

Three horses race across the KIM-1 display. They are represented by dashes in the top, middle, and bottom positions respectively. The race in run in, say, four laps; as the first horse moves off the display to the right, the display "hops" over to the next lap (you won't see the following horses until they reach this area). On the final lap, the finish line is visible as a vertical line. When the first horse reaches it, the display freezes, so that bets can be paid off without dispute.

Sample display:

```

- - -
- - -
- - -

```

You'll need a random number generator, of course, so the ponies will travel at varying speeds and the winner will be unpredictable. Random number generators are a whole study in themselves, of course. You might like to write your own; or the following one, which requires six data locations (from RND to RND+5):

```

CICD
SBC
LDA RND+1
ADC RND+4
ADC RND+5
STA RND
LDX #804
LOOP LDA RND, X
STA RND +1, X
DEX
BPL LOOP

```

The random number (from 0 to 255) will be available in either the accumulator or location RND. Each time you execute the above program, a new random number will be generated.

Be sure to slow the action down so that the horses can be "seen" to move.

3. DECIMAL-HEXIDECIMAL CONVERSION.

This could be handy to have while you're writing programs! The first four digits of the display might represent a decimal number, while the last two digits its hexadecimal equivalent.

You should be able to enter either decimal or hex, and get the equivalent instantly. (How about signed decimal?)

4. LE MANS.

You've got four-on-th-floor and lots of horsepower. Buttons A to D put you into the various gears (A is low, D is high, and maybe E is neutral).

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Con't.

Your gas pedal is the numbered keys: 9 is maximum power. Choose your gears carefully: too high a gear and you'll stall, except in low gear; too low a gear and you'll lose acceleration as your speed increases. To complicate the situation, you'll blow the motor if your RPM exceed a given limit.

This one should come with sound; the noise of the "motor" is vital to the realism of the game.

When no key is being pressed, the motor is "idling" at minimum power. When you're in gear, the motor RPM and the vehicle speed are locked together in the proper ratio for that gear. Each gas pedal key corresponds to a certain motor RPM, but you won't reach that RPM immediately; your speed will creep up (or down) depending on what gear is engaged.

There are lots of different ways you can set up the display. A digital speedometer is the most obvious. As an alternative, how about "telescope poles" (vertical lines on the display) which move from the center of the display to the outside according to your speed?

5. COSMIC RAY DETECTOR.

A great "do nothing" program. It doesn't really detect cosmic rays, but the effect is nice. Little "blips" dash erratically across the display: up and down, left to right, etc. Many of them have an audio output associated with them (bleep! plunk!)

You can use a Random number generator, or simply scan memory for your data (which will be random enough).

If you want to wire out to a temperature/skin resistance detector, you could cause the display rate to change if someone touches the sensor. Might make a great "sex appeal" meter.

6. CRAPS (dice game).

Using the random number generator, roll a pair of dice. Seven and eleven win; two, three, or twelve lose; any other number is a "point" and requires extra rolls.

Each roll may be initiated by pushing a button; or the machine may keep rolling until it wins or loses. The player could "bet" certain amounts before any play; and the computer would keep a tally on how he's done so far.

7. AUNTIE GRISEIDA'S FORTUNE TELLING MACHINE.

Think of a question that can be answered Yes or No. Push the button - any button - and Auntie Griseida will answer.

She might just say YES or NO - but you could also insert any other messages that might fit on the KIM-1 display, such as:

duuno
huh?
BUCCOFF
OY

or even the FRENCH OUT or NON.

*****DRIVER*****

13 0283	A0 03	LDY #803	! init. point high
0285	A9 01	LDA #501	! init. point low
0287	20 00 02	JSR 0200	! write
028A	4C 83 02	JMP 13	! repeat

DIRECTIONS:

1. Put a 00 in 0300
2. Enter your characters 1 byte per character (see char. set)
3. End with a 00
4. Program starts at 0283
5. A low number pressed speeds u display high number slows it down. A "r" makes it go forward, "b" backward. 0 gives a delay of about 25 seconds between shifts.

MOON LANDER by Jim Butterfield - Fly in real time with fuel constraints; this involves interface to display, keyboard monitor; requires active and real-time user interface.

1. Program starts at location 0000. Press AD O O O GO, you will find yourself at 4500 feet and falling. The thrust on your machine is set to low; so you'll pick up speed due to the force of gravity.
2. You can look at your fuel any time by pressing the F button, your fuel (initially 800 pounds) will be shown in the first four digits of the KIM display.
3. You can look at your altitude any time by pressing the A button. Your initial altitude is 4500 feet, and is shown in the first four digits of the KIM display.
4. The last two digits of the KIM display always show your rate of descent or ascent.
5. Set your thrust by pressing buttons 1 through 9. (Warning: button 0 turns your motor off, and it will not reignite! Be prepared for a very hard landing if you press this one!) A thrust of 1, minimum burns very little fuel; but gravity will be pulling your craft down faster and faster. A thrust of 9, maximum, overcomes gravity and reduces your rate of descent very sharply. A thrust of 5 exactly counterbalances gravity; you will continue to descend (or ascend) at a constant rate.

If you run out of fuel, your thrust controls will become inoperative.

6. A safe landing is considered to be one where you land at a descent rate of 5 or less. After you land, your thrust controls will be inoperative, since the motor in automatically turned off; but you can still press F to look at your fuel.

7. Suggestions for a safe flight:

1. Conserve fuel at the beginning by pressing 1. You will begin to pick up speed downwards.
2. When your rate of descent gets up to the 90's, you're falling fast enough. Press 5 to steady the rate.
3. When your altitude reaches about 1500 feet, you'll need to slow down. Press 9 and slow down fast.

```

0223 A4 DC IDY 00DC ; restore pointer
0225 4C 0A 02 JMP 3 ; continue rest of message

```

****DELAY-DISPLAY ROUTINE****

```

0228 A2 0A IDY#00A ; set rate
022A 86 DB STX 00DB ; put in decrement location
022C A9 52 LDA #052 ; load timer ( 0.1 seconds)
022E 8D 07 17 STA 1707 ; start timer
0231 20 3E 02 JSR 023E ; jmp to key entry subroutine
0234 2C 07 17 BIT 1707 ; timer done?
0237 10 F8 BPL 4 ; if not, loop
0239 C6 DB DEC 00DB ; decrement timer
023B D0 EF BNE 5 ; time completed?
023D 60 RTS ; go get 6 new characters

```

****KEY ENTRY ROUTINE****

```

023E 20 8C 1E JSR INT 1 ; set up
0241 20 69 02 JSR 0269 ; display-entry
0244 40 01 BNE 7 ; skip if key depressed
0246 20 69 02 JSR 0269 ; exit subroutine
0247 D0 01 RTS ; display-entry
024A D0 01 BNE 8 ; key still depressed
024C 60 RTS ; exit if no
024D 20 6A 1F JSR GET KEY ; get key value
0250 C9 15 CMP #015 ; valid key?
0252 10 E5 BPL 6 ; if not - try again
0254 C9 0F CMP #00F ; forward?
0256 D0 04 BNE 9 ; if not, continue
0258 A9 07 LDA #007 ; set forward shift
025A 10 06 BPL 10 ; store it
025C D0 05 CMP #005 ; backwards?
025E D0 05 BNE 11 ; if not, continue
0260 A9 05 LDA #005 ; set backward shift
0262 85 DF STA 00DF ; store shift
0264 60 RTS ; exit
0265 8D 29 STA 0229 ; put key entry in timer
0268 60 RTS ; exit

```

****BASIC DISPLAY ROUTINE****

```

0269 A9 7F LDA #07F ; change seg.
026B 8D 41 17 STA PADD ; to output
026E A0 00 LDY #000 ; init recall index
0270 B9 09 09 LDY #009 ; init digit number
0272 B9 E8 00 LDA 00E8, Y ; get character
0275 84 FC STY 00FC ; save Y
0277 20 4E 1F JSR 1F4E ; display character
027A C8 INY ; set up for next character
027B C0 06 CMP #006 ; 6 Char. displayed?
027D 90 F3 BCC 12 ; if not, get another
027F 20 3D 1F JSR 1F3D ; key down?
0282 60 RTS ; exit

```

Con't.

Since only one random number is needed each time the button is pushed, you might like to try a true "randomizing" program. Keep incrementing your random value with an INC command until the button is pushed. The result will be truly random, since there's no predicting when the questioner will hit it.

8. SIX-DIGIT CALCULATOR.

Since you can't light the decimal point on the KIM-1 display, you can't do fractions; but you can add and subtract, and even multiply and divide with a little effort.

Decimal arithmetic seems easiest for addition or subtraction, but you'll probably find that you'll be better off doing everything in binary, and then converting for display purposes.

"A" seems to be a good key for Add, with B for Subtract, C for Multiply, and D for divide. E might be good for "Divide and show the remainder", which turns out to be very handy for fixed-point work. And you should have lots of Store (DA) and Recall (AD) capability.

Of course, you can't easily compete with a pocket calculator. But you can sharpen up your arithmetic ability on the KIM, and at least show visitors that the capability is there.

9. NIM.

The game of NIM is pretty well documented, in several texts, but here are the brief rules: you have three piles of objects. The number of objects in each pile is a two-digit number, shown on the display. You play against the computer in the following manner: you may take from any pile, 1 to 9 objects, up to the maximum in that pile. Then the computer plays the same way. Objective: the player who picks up the last remaining objects wins.

If you know the theory, you can program the computer to play a perfect game (providing the deck isn't stacked against it!).

The player's interface must be two-stop. First, he must say which pile he wants to draw from; then, how many he wants to take. He must be prevented from taking more units from a pile than exist on the pile; or from drawing from an empty pile.

The game should be set up using random numbers, of course.

How about making the computer less-than-perfect... maybe one out of every ten moves or so (randomly) it will make a mistake? How about setting the computer's IQ before playing?

10. TIC-TAC-TOE.

Most people don't give this game enough credit. It has some interesting (but not terribly deep) strategies, particularly if you vary the opening move.

Con't.

From Stan Ockers, RRM, Box 209, Lockport, Illinois 60441
Alphanumeric on the KIM Display.

For many, one of the first peripherals they consider adding to their KIM-1 is some sort of alpha-numeric device, a mechanical printer or keyboard and video display unit for example. Unfortunately, such devices involve considerable expense and make your KIM slightly less than portable to say the least. The KIM already has a built in display. Isn't there some way to make use of this for alpha-numeric output? Is it worth it? Well, with a few concessions for a slightly strange character set, it is possible as I will try to show. Why not try it on your KIM and see if you think it offers any promise. The following program displays six characters, delays for a set time, shifts each character one space to the left and enters new characters from the right giving a scanning billboard effect.

Basic Display Routine.

The core of the alphanumeric method is contained in the basic display routine starting at $\$269$. The subroutine follows the same general pattern of Scand, (page 25 of the KIM listing), as a comparison of the two will show. Where Scand jumps to Convd, (1F2F), however this subroutine picks up characters stored in $\$0E8 - \$0ED$. Convd uses the table starting at 1F77 to get bytes representing the characters to be displayed. We must generate our own bytes and store them in $\$0E8 - \$0ED$. This is done according to the diagram in figure 1 where the numbers represent bit locations. The most significant bit ($\$0$) must be equal to one. For example, to generate a "y" the following bit pattern would be required: 11101110. The hex byte representing the letter "y" would then be EE. While the whole alphabet can't be generated, with a little imagination a fairly good substitute can be found. Figure 2 lists the set I've been using. If you wish to use the same table Scand uses and put the hex numbers to be displayed in $\$0E8 - \$0ED$, just jump in at 1F4A instead of 1F4E ($\$277$). All that is needed now is some way to get our characters into the zero page locations and some way to continually call this routine while we want a display (a delay-display routine).

Key-Entry Routine.

You may wish to slow down or speed up the display or you may wish to back up to catch something you missed. The key-entry routine allows these functions while the display is operating. Pressing a low numbered key will speed the display up, (shorten delay), while a high value key will slow it down. Zero gives a very long delay (25 sec) and if you press another key after zero you will have to wait for it to time out. Pressing "F" will cause the display to move forward while "B" will make it go backward.

Delay-Display Routine.

The delay display routine ($\$228$) is set up in tenth of a second multiples. A $\$A$ in $\$229$ give 10 tenths or a one second delay. For any other delay you can load X with a multiple of $\$A$ seconds and jump in at $\$22A$. The key-entry routine enters the key value in $\$29$, (unless it is a "F" or "B").

Scan Routine.

The routine that picks up the characters to be displayed and puts them in $\$0E8 - \$0ED$ starts at $\$300$. You must tell the routine where the characters are located, so Y should contain a pointer value high and the accumulator a pointer value low upon entry. You'll notice that there is no way to get out of this routine unless a null character ($\$0$) is encountered, (see $\$210$).

You'll need relays or SCR circuits, of course, to control power to safety lights and enlarger. An audible output might be useful if you want to use KIM to signal developing times (and if you want to control your exposure manually).

Question: Has anybody made an AC controller yet by modifying one of those inexpensive Triac lamp dimmers? I would think an optical coupler would replace the variable resistor and give high desirable isolation.

Regards,

Jim Butterfield

Some more project ideas from the Editor:

An automated I.C. tester - hardware & software project - should test any standard 7400 series chip (such as 7400, 7404, 7474, 7475, 7490, 7493 etc.) - 1 or 2 I/O ports would be necessary along with support logic. Each type of chip to be tested would require a special software routine. The program would go through all possible signal combinations and indicate go/no go on the KIM display. Open collector logic would require special interface considerations. A low insertion socket would be useful.

Digital Voltmeter, frequency meter, thermometer, capacity meter etc etc. (using the KIM-1 display)

By utilizing the correct input conditioning logic for the desired function any of these possibilities can be realized. For the DVM, see the low cost A/D in the last issue which utilizes a single LM311. A schmitt trigger input could be set up to increment some internal counters for a DVM. The thermometer and capacity meter would be additions to the basic DVM and DFM functions. With all the neat transducer chips coming out, all kinds of possibilities are open.

A programmable function generator - by hooking a D/A chip and a current/voltage converter on an output port you could set programs up to give you - positive ramp, negative ramp, triangular, staircase waveforms or any other complex waveforms you desire.

Along these lines - from Bob McCulla, 20335-15 N.E. #28, Seattle, Wash. 98155

One of our people has discovered a little jewel from Motorola - The MC3408 8 bit DAC at \$4.00 a shot. He lost little time in connecting it to the applications connector of his KIM board and is using it to control the sweep input of his H.P. function generator. He says that by offsetting the op amp at the output of the DAC, he can get both + and (-) voltage swings out of the unit - works great.

Con't.

Another use of the applications connector could be to control the input pins of the M014410 touch tone encoder. I use one of these encoders to dial numbers and control one of our local Amateur Radio 144MHz FM Repeaters and can see a good use of the KIM system here for telephone number storage and auto repeater control from my car. Along these lines, I understand that some Amateur Radio people in our area are using their systems for contact logging, Morse Code generations and the control of frequency synthesizers and frequency readout units.

A very interesting article appeared in the EDN Magazine for May 5, 1976, "A/D Conversion Systems: Let your up do the Working". It was written by an Engineer from Motorola and even though it was written about the 6800 up, the information is directly useable for 6502 systems.

Sincerely,
Bob McCulla

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Further hints on the KIM cassette interface from John P. Oliver, Asst. Professor of Astronomy, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida 32611.

Be certain to turn off the interval timer interrupt (READ or WRITE to 1706) before using the audio tape dump routine. Otherwise disaster results - that is, you get unreadable tapes. (This will only be necessary if you have run a program that uses the interval timer.)

For those who wonder what Baud rates are possible with the KIM teletype interface, we have one of ours hooked (through an RS232 converter similar to the one in KIM #1) to a Hazeltine CRT terminal. We can work reliably to 1200 Baud and most of the time we can work at 9600 Baud. At 9600 Baud it sometimes takes several RST, RUBOUT cycles before KIM gets the timing right but the results are well worth it.

Sincerely,
John P. Oliver

.....

From Jim Butterfield
LIGHTING THE KIM-1 DISPLAY
A. SIX-DIGIT HEXADECIMAL.

The easiest way to display six digits of data is to use the KIM-1 Monitor subroutine SCAND.

Calling JSR SCAND (20 19 1F) will cause the first four digits to show the address stored in POINTH (OOFA and OOFB), while the last two digits of the display show the contents of that address.

If you look at the first three lines of subroutine SCAND (lines 1057 to 1059 on page 25 of the listing), you'll see how the program "digs out" the contents of the address given by POINTL/POINTH and stores it in location INH (OOF9). It's neat programming, and worth studying if you're not completely familiar with the 6502's indirect addressing operation.

Thus, if you skip these three lines, and call JSR SCANDS (20 1F 1F) you will be displaying, in hexadecimal, the contents of three locations: POINTH, POINTL, and INH. This, of course, takes six digits.

Con't.

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LIGHTING THE KIM-1 DISPLAY - Con't.

To recap: SCAND will display four digits of address and two digits on contents. SCANDS will display six digits of data.

Important: in both cases, the display will be illuminated for only a few milliseconds. You must call the subroutine repeatedly in order to obtain a steady display.

B. DRIVING THE BITS OF THE DISPLAY DIRECTLY.

1. Store the value \$7F into PADD (1741). This sets the directional registers.

2. To select each digit of the display, you will want to store the following values in location SBD (1742):

Digit 1: \$09
Digit 2: \$0B
Digit 3: \$0D
Digit 4: \$0F
Digit 5: \$11
Digit 6: \$13

Note that this can easily be done in a loop, adding two to the value as you move to the next digit.

3. Now that you have selected a particular digit, light the segments you want by storing a "segment control" byte into location SAD (1740). The segments will be lit by setting the appropriate bit to 1 in SAD according to the following table:

Bit:	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
Segment:	..	Center	Upper Left	Lower Left	Bottom	Lower Right	Upper Right	Top

For example, to generate a small letter "v", we would store \$78 (center, upper left, lower left, bottom) into SAD.

4. Now that you have picked a digit and lit the appropriate segments, wait a while. Sit in a delay loop for about 1/2 millisecond before moving on to the next digit.

THE KIM-1 ALPHABET.

Some letters, like M and W, just won't go onto a 7-segment display. Some, like E, are only possible in capital; others, like T, can only be done in lower case. So here's an alphabet of possibilities:

A - \$F7	H - \$F6	U - \$BE	h - \$F4	r - \$D0	4 - \$E6
B - \$FF	I - \$86	Y - \$EE	l - \$84	t - \$F8	5 - \$ED
C - \$B9	J - \$9E	b - \$FC	j - \$9E	u - \$9C	6 - \$FD
D - \$BF	L - \$B8	c - \$D8	l - \$86	y - \$EE	7 - \$87
E - \$F9	O - \$BF	d - \$DE	n - \$D4	1 - \$86	8 - \$FF
F - \$F1	P - \$F3	f - \$F1	o - \$DC	2 - \$DB	9 - \$EF
G - \$BD	S - \$ED	g - \$EF	p - \$F3	3 - \$CF	0 - \$BF

.....

minus - \$C0

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