

Programming the c64 from scratch Part II

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About Part I

- Presentation september 2023
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SJzYAGcQusQ>
 - <https://github.com/eldendo/Programming-the-Commodore-64-from-scratch>
- Building an environment on the c64 without existing tools
 - Back to 1983
 - Just BASIC, handwritten MC and tools made in them

About Part I

- First step: Building a PL/0 compiler
 - Based on the book Compiler Construction (Niklaus Wirth)
- The Future (then)
 - Cleaning up the code and write an educational text or course.
 - Extend PL/0 to write PL/0 in itself. (BASIC)
 - Write PL/0 in itself → bootstrapping
 - Make it faster
 - VM in MC
 - Or codegenerator to MC
 - Or (JIT ?) compiler from p-code to MC
- Further extend PL/0 and write other tools

What did I do ?

- Extended the compiler (pl0/E)
 - Print text
 - Arrays
- Demo
- Decided to translate the VM to MC
 - But... VM needs changes...
 - Hand translated MC is difficult to maintain...
 - So I wrote an Assembler in Basic.

PART II : An assembler in Basic

- Same Idea as PL/0:
 - No File IO
 - No Editor
 - Basic and assembly in one basic file
 - Fast tryout and debugging

The future

- Test and debug the assembler while making the virtual machine for the compiler.

WHY

- Because it is fun
- It is something I always wanted to do
- Combine hobby and my former job
- Learn and hopefully teach

The END

- Intelligence is the faculty of making artificial objects, especially tools to make tools.
 - Henri Bergson

DEMO