IDENTIFICATION

New Version of Imedit

Jack Haverty

18 June 1971

MOTIVATION

A new version of Imedit soon will be on the system. The major change in this version is the inclusion of a set of four searching commands. The behavior of these commands is subject to change upon reasonable <u>written</u> suggestions from those using Imedit.

CHANGES

Other minor changes are:

1. Imedit always remembers the last DEV: and file names it has seen, and uses them whenever you do not specify a field in a file specification. (This was supposed to be true before but wasn't.)

2. All commands taking numeric arguments now assume the numbers are expressed in decimal.

3. The ↑X and ↑P commands now take a numeric argument specifying the number of pages to read from the input file. Note that this means that these commands must be followed by a 'XMIT' before they will execute.

4.   If no numbers are given when a numeric argument is required (i.e., just a 'XMIT'), the value one is assumed.

SEARCH COMMANDS

There are four search commands: ↑S, ↑N, ↑V, ↑Q . Each command is followed by an argument giving the strings to look for. The behavior of the four commands is as follows:

↑S -- search until a match is found or a form feed is encountered. Send to the output file everything from the input file, including the <u>entire line</u> in which the match is found. If no match is found, print an appropriate message on the console. If a match is found, print the entire line on the console and position the input reader at the beginning of the <u>next</u> line.

↑N -- same as ↑S, except does not stop searching until end of file on input, or a match occurs.

↑V -- same as ↑S, except does not send anything to the output file.

↑Q -- same as ↑N, but does not send anything to output file.

ARGUMENTS TO SEARCH COMMANDS

All search commands require an argument. Nothing happens until you hit 'XMIT'. Arguments are of the form:

%string1%string2%...stringn%(XMIT)

The % represents a delimiter, which may be <u>any non-control character</u> which does not appear in any of the strings. E.g., use . | % $ # etc. Imedit will search for the first occurrence of any of the strings specified in the argument.

The argument strings are saved in a search list, which is remembered after the search. A search command given with no arguments (i.e. just a 'XMIT') will search for the list of strings last seen in an argument.
E.g.,

       ↑S /FOO/(XMIT)   searches for FOO

and

       ↑S(XMIT)   will then also search for FOO

A special feature is provided to allow you to add strings to a search list, without deleting strings already there. To do this, make the first string in the argument the null string: i.e.,

       ↑S /FOO/   searches for FOO

       ↑S//BAR/   then searches for FOO or BAR

MORE TO COME

Under the current implementation, searching is fairly slow. Be patient. This will be changed by the addition of I/O buffers to IMEDIT.

One further command being designed now is the ↑B command. This command, taking an argument, will reposition your input reader <u>backwards</u> in the file, to form feeds previously read in, for input from the disk only. It will have no effect on output.

The usage is as follows:

    Goal: edit a page containing 'LABEL:'

User: ↑Q /LABEL:/(XMIT)

Imedit: LABEL: MOVE   A,B

User: ↑B1(XMIT)

Imedit: *

User: ↑Y
Imedit: FILE FOO   PAGE 1Ø
           LABEL: MOVE   A,B
                    PUSHJ   P,AFREE
                    ...
                    ...
                    ...

In this way, you can easily scan forward and backward in a file as desired.

All Imedit versions greater than 1ØØ have the changes specified here except for ↑B.