

SOFTWARE SUPPORT SYSTEM FOR MICROCOMPUTER

Tsuneyoshi Oboshi
Yasuyuki Kohara
Yoshiyuki Taguchi
Fumio Takahashi
Yusho Sato

I. FOREWORD

Today, many microcomputer application products are being developed. The functions of such products are sophisticated and complex. The difficulty of developing software for them is being given a close look. Fuji Electric tackled this problem from an early stage and announced the development of the microcomputer oriented software support tool MOGET (Microcomputer Oriented General Tool) system in 1975.

The MOGET system is widely used as a uniform tool in FUJI MICREX-P/W/E development, including 1 chip microcomputer applied products, etc. However, to support development of more rational software to meet the appearance of the 32 bit microcomputer, expansion of address space, and other amazing hardware advances, the need for upgrading of the MOGET system and the development of a uniform support tool on the various host computer became high.

The N-MOGET (New-MOGET) system (see Fig. 1) developed as a support tool that is independent from the host computer and permits simple implementation of software support system for any microcomputer is introduced.

II. FEATURES OF N-MOGET SYSTEM

The features of the entire N-MOGET system are described here.

1. Portability of N-MOGET system

The N-MOGET can be run on an arbitrary host computer by means of a language processing technique called "metalanguage technology". (See Fig. 2)

The PANAFACOM U (PFU)-1000 series, FACOM M series, FACOM F230 series, are currently used as the host computer.

2. Adaptability to the target microcomputer

The N-MOGET system is basically a table controlled system. It can be used as a support tool for most microcomputers. (See Fig. 3)

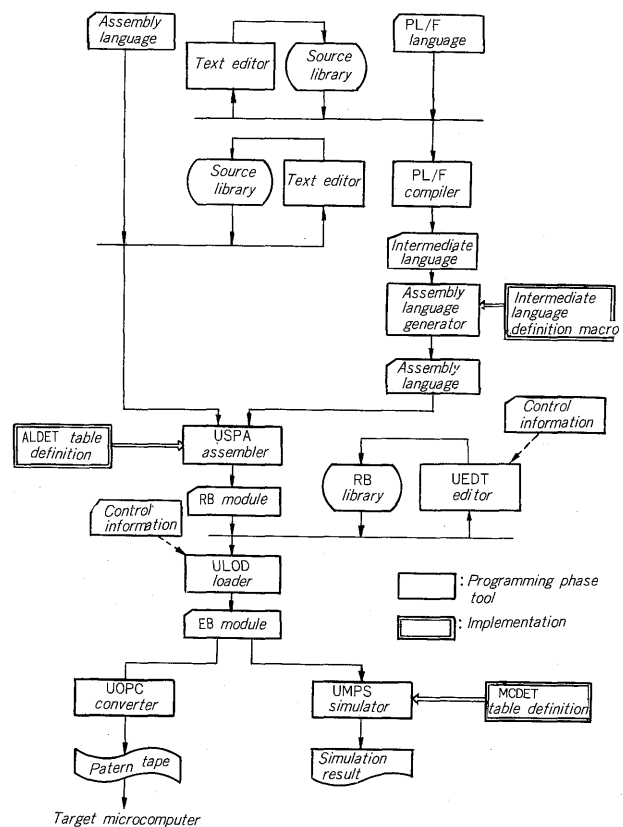


Fig. 1 Outline of N-MOGET system

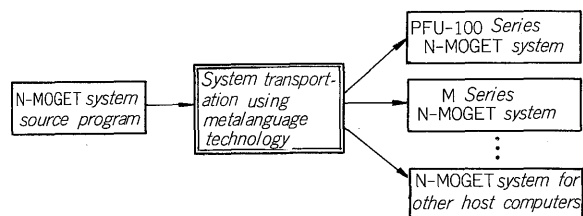


Fig. 2 Portability of N-MOGET system

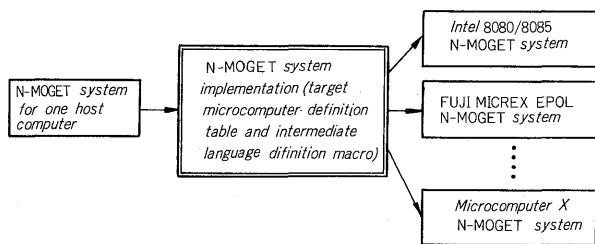


Fig. 3 Implementation of N-MOGET system

Therefore, the user does not have to learn a new support tool interface even when the target microcomputer is changed. This feature is continued from the MOGET system. However, the higher performance of the microcomputers has been accompanied by an following improvements:

- 1) The system can be applied to microcomputer of up to 32 bits/word.
- 2) Program linking has been simplified by making the assembler output relocatable.

3. Portability of application programs

The N-MOGET system is available with a high level language called PL/F (PL/I subset) in addition to assembly language. Application programs can be run on an arbitrary microcomputer by writing the application program in PL/F language. (See Fig. 4.)

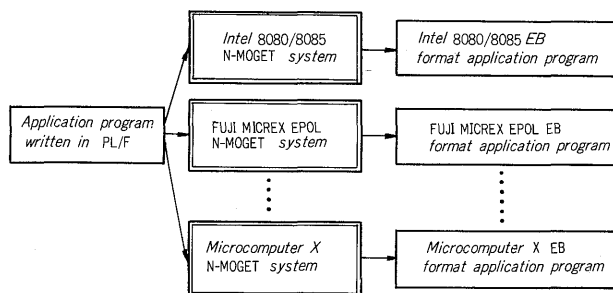


Fig. 4 Programming phase based on PL/F

4. Application program RB library

A user who develops application programs by using the N-MOGET system can manage the programs as an RB library without regard to whether the source language is PL/F or assembly language. Software development efficiency can be increased. (See Fig. 6)

III. OUTLINE OF N-MOGET SYSTEM

Fig. 1 outlines the N-MOGET system.

The N-MOGET system has the following three phases:

1. System transportation phase

This phase generates the N-MOGET system for the host computer from the N-MOGET system source program so that the N-MOGET system can be run on an arbitrary host computer. (See Fig. 2)

All the software forming the N-MOGET system are written in a system implementation language that guarantees the portability of the object program. Programs written in this system implementation language can be converted into programs written in an arbitrary computer assembly language by a string of language processing. Therefore, all the software forming the N-MOGET system can be converted to programs written in the assembly language of an arbitrary computer. N-MOGET system that can run on a certain computer can be generated by processing the assembly language format program of the converted result with the assembler and editor available with the computer. That computer becomes the N-MOGET system host computer.

The following software are produced at the system transportation phase. (See section IV.)

- 1) PL/F compiler
- 2) Assembly language generator
- 3) UEDT editor
- 4) ULOD loader
- 5) UTEC1 table processor
- 6) UTEC2 table processor
- 7) UOPC object program converter
- 8) USPA assembler
- 9) UMPS simulator

2. Implementation phase

This phase generates the N-MOGET system for an arbitrary microcomputer. (See Fig. 3)

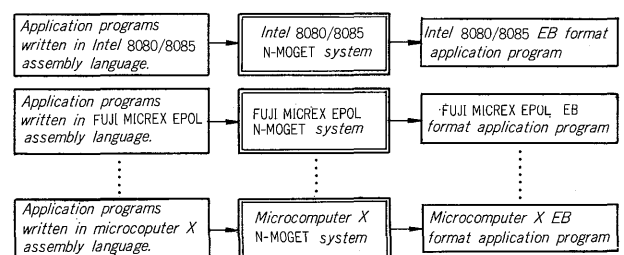


Fig. 5 Programming phase based on assembly language

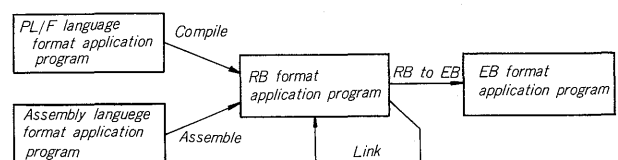


Fig. 6 Linkage of programs

The following tables must be produced at the implementation phase. These tables must be produced for each target microcomputer.

- 1) Assembly language definition table (ALDET table)
- 2) Microcomputer definition table (MCDET table)
- 3) Intermediate language definition macro

3. Programming phase

This phase generates the application programs for an arbitrary target microcomputer by using the microcomputer oriented N-MOGET system created through the implementation phase. (See Figs. 4 and 5)

Fig. 4 shows the programming phase based on PL/F. Fig. 5 shows the programming phase based on assembly language. In case of Fig. 5, portability of the application program is lost. However, application programs can be linked without regard to whether the application program notation language is PL/F or assembly language as shown in Fig. 6.

IV. OUTLINE OF PROCESSING AND FEATURES OF SOFTWARE

The outline of processing and the features of the software in the N-MOGET system shown in Fig. 1 are described.

The software not shown in Fig. 1 are described here. These software are used at implementation phase.

1. UTEC1 table processor

UTEC1 (Universal Text Converter 1) is used when implementing the USPA assembler. It is a table processor that analyzes the table called ALDET (Assembly Language Definition Table) that defines the language format of the assembler source program that is input to the USPA

assembler. This ALDET table must be defined for each microcomputer and has the following features:

- 1) The assembly language format can be freely defined by calling basic subroutines, called semantic routines, provided by USPA module.
- 2) The machine code may have variable bit length and any configuration can be used.
- 3) The printing format of address and machine code can be freely decided.
- 4) A knowledge of the machine code of the target microcomputer permits simple definition of this table.

2. USPA assembler

The USPA (Universal Symbolic Program Assembler) assembler is an assembler for an arbitrary microcomputer that is generated through USPA implementation.

It has the following main features:

- 1) RB module is output.
- 2) Since assembling is performed by a table controlled system, the assembly language format can be freely selected for each microcomputer.
- 3) Abundant constant definitions are available.
- 4) EBCDIC or ASCII code can be selected for character string data.
- 5) One instruction can be represented in free-form at several cards.
- 6) Cross reference list is output.
- 7) Continuous assembly is possible.
- 8) Since divided assembly is possible, only the programs to be correct should be assembled.

3. UEDT editor

The UEDT (Universal linkage EDiTor) produces one RB module by linking arbitrary number of RB modules output by the USPA assembler and also outputs a link map

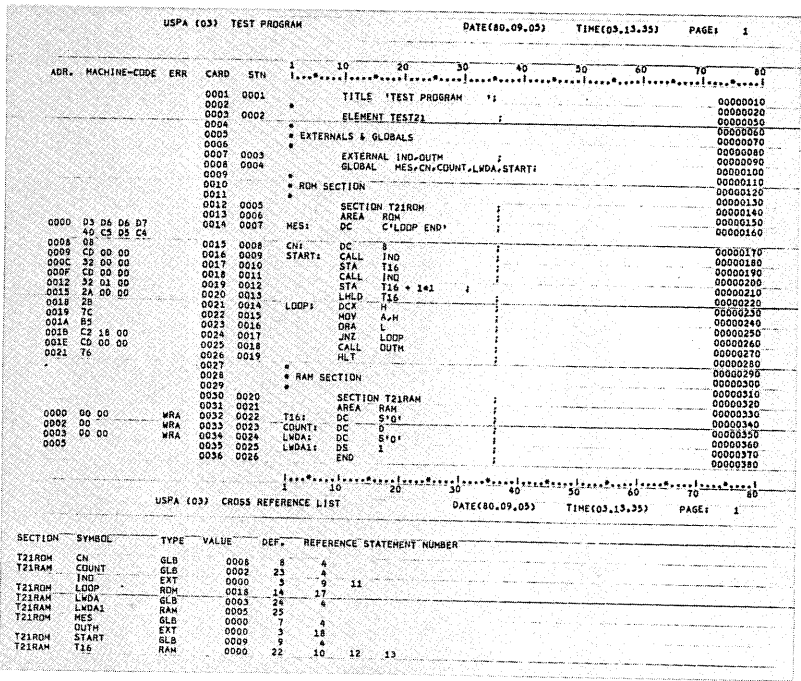


Fig. 7 Example of output of USPA assembler

list. Since several common subroutines can be linked to one RB module by using UEDT, RB library management can be simplified.

4. ULOD loader

The ULOD (Universal linkage LOaDer) produces one EB module by linking an arbitrary number of RB modules output by the USPA assembler or UEDT editor and outputs a link map list.

5. UOPC object converter

The UOPC (Universal Object Program Converter) edits the EB module output by ULOD in accordance with input format of PROM programmer, etc. and has the following main features.

- 1) Write pattern list is output.
- 2) Parity bit pattern list is output.
- 3) Since the program name, serial No., programmer name, address, etc. are output in dotted character at the pattern tape, pattern tape management is simple.
- 4) PROM chip size, positive/negative logic, even/odd parity, and abundant other parameters are available.

6. UTEC2 table processor

The UTEC2 (Universal TExt Converter 2) is used when implementing UMPS.

It is a table processor that analyzes the table called MCDET (MicroComputer DEfinition Table). This table defines operations of target microcomputer's instructions. This MCDET table must be defined for each microcomputer and has the following main features:

- 1) Operation of each instruction can be easily defined by calling basic subroutines called the arithmetic/logical operation routines and flag operation routines that are provided by the UMPS module.
- 2) Memory and address can be any bit length.

7. UMPS simulator

The UMPS (Universal Microcomputer Program Simulator) is a simulator for arbitrary microcomputers that is generated through UMPS implementation.

It has the following main features:

- 1) Interactive simulation is possible.
- 2) External names can be referenced by name. Local names and fetch address can be referenced by relative address.
- 3) Numerous debugging commands, register contents trace, I/O data contents display, run-time account, etc., are available.

8. PL/F compiler

The PL/F language is a high level programming language based on PL/I. The PL/F compiler compiles application programs written in the PL/F language. Use of the PL/F language offers the following advantages.

- 1) Top-down programming and structured programming are possible.
- 2) Programming efficiency is excellent.
- 3) Understandability of programs is improved.
- 4) Reliability of programs is improved.
- 5) Application programs can be developed without regard to the target microcomputer.

9. Assembly language generator

The assembly language generator is used when transporting the N-MOGET system on an arbitrary computer and when translating the intermediate language output by the PL/F compiler into the target microcomputer's assembly language.

V. CONCLUSION

The N-MOGET system was outlined above.

The assembly language generator is used when transporting the N-MOGET system on an arbitrary computer and when translating the intermediate language output by the PL/F compiler into the target microcomputer's assembly.

Reference:

M. Nonaka, J. Hiramatsu: A General Purpose Software Support System for Microprocessors, Euromicro Symposium, Microprocessing and Microprogramming (Oct. 1976)