
Subject: Bidirectional/Proportional
Posted by [jrt](#) on Tue, 14 May 2013 21:09:36 GMT
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Date: Wed, 1-Feb-84 16:12:40 EST

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Posted: Wed Feb 1 16:12:40 1984

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Organization: AT&T Information Systems Laboratories, Holmdel, NJ

Lines: 32

1) Proportional printing can only be done by one of two methods.

a. The printer has a 'proportional print mode' - such as a Diablo. The printer needs to know which print wheel is attached, and advances the head according to the size of the printed character

b. If your printer has 'graphics' resolution, that is you can control the absolute positioning of the paper to within 1/100 of an inch. This will require a software 'filter' for all printed files that would tell the printer..."print this char" and the "move to THIS location"

If your printer does not have the hardware capabilities to control it's head and paper to such fine degrees, you can NOT have proportional print. NOTE: Proportional print is NOT a function of a printwheel. It is a function of the hardware capabilities of the PRINTER!!!

2) Bidirectional printing can ONLY be done in one of two methods/

a. The printer has the hardware to handle bidirectional printing.
(see 1.a. above)

b. The printer has the hardware capabilities to address a particular column (see 1.b. above)

Bidirectional printing is NOT a function of software. It must be handled by HARDWARE.

(** FRODO **)

Subject: Re: Bidirectional/Proportional
Posted by [guy](#) on Tue, 14 May 2013 21:09:56 GMT
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Message-ID:
Date: Fri, 3-Feb-84 22:09:33 EST
Article-I.D.: rlgvax.1654
Posted: Fri Feb 3 22:09:33 1984
Date-Received: Thu, 9-Feb-84 02:55:38 EST
References:
Organization: CCI Office Systems Group, Reston, VA
Lines: 15

> Bidirectional printing is NOT a function of software. It must
> be handled by HARDWARE.

On some printers, however, it is not only a function of hardware (or, actually, firmware; any one of the Diablo-type servo-controlled printers has the hardware capability, but the micro controlling the printer may not have code to do it) but also a function of the software controlling the printer. The letter-quality printers I've worked with of the Diablo-type servo-controlled family (Diablo, NEC Spinwriter, Qume, etc.) could print backwards; however, the host software had to position the head to the leftmost or rightmost position, put the printer in "print forwards" or "print backwards" mode, and send the characters in right-to-left order if printing backwards.

Guy Harris
{seismo,ihnp4,allegra}!rlgvax!guy

Subject: Re: Bidirectional/Proportional
Posted by [ron%brl-vgr](#) on Tue, 14 May 2013 21:10:09 GMT
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Message-ID:
Date: Tue, 7-Feb-84 10:41:59 EST
Article-I.D.: sri-arpa.16484
Posted: Tue Feb 7 10:41:59 1984
Date-Received: Fri, 10-Feb-84 03:22:44 EST
Lines: 6

From: Ron Natalie

Yes, just see Elizer Naddor, professor at Johns Hopkins and his

amazing Hebrew Diablo Wheel.

-Ron