

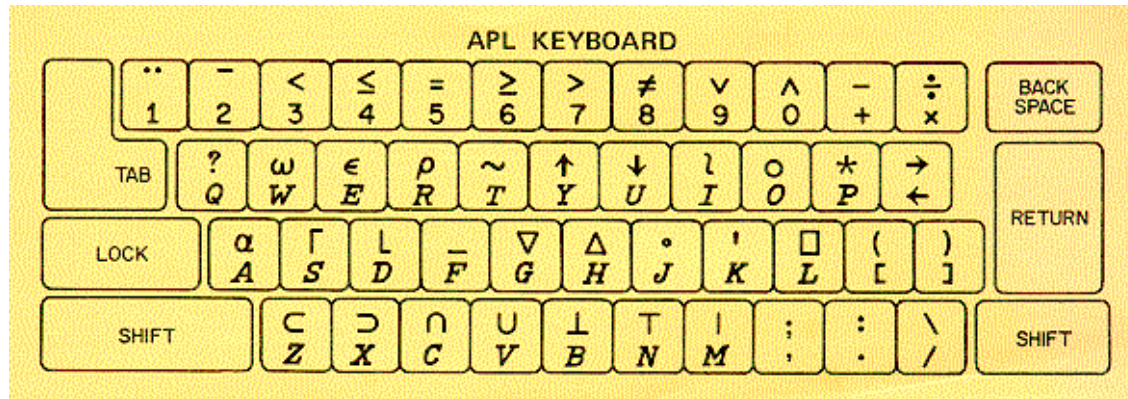
APL History Project

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APL – A Programming Language

- Late 1950s conception by Ken Iverson at Harvard
- Interactive array processing language using very concise mathematical notation



- *APL*\360 first implementation on System/360

Why *APL*?

- Interest (Lee and Christian)
- Very early interactive language
- Interesting branch of HLL development
- Pioneering JIT compiler work done for APL
- Many implementations
 - IBM (*APL*\360, STSC *APL**Plus, IP Sharp *APL*, *APL*2, *APL*\1130, IBM 5100)
 - Burroughs
 - XDS Sigma
 - DEC VAX
 - HP-3000
 - Several HLL micro-coded architectures (Berkeley CRMS, Symbol?, B1700?)
 - microcomputer based
- “Write-only” language

Goals

1. Collect original *APL*\360 source code
2. Identify and collect descendents of *APL*\360
3. Facilitate donation and collection of *APL* applications
4. Create awareness in *APL* community to facilitate donations
5. Identify problems with collecting *APL* systems and applications along with possible solutions
6. *APL*\360 system (*APL* subsystem running on emulated System/360) for access/download by interested individuals
7. Create project “template”
 1. Leverage work of Paul (FORTRAN/LISP), Dave (Control Data), and Phil (NLS/Augment)
 2. Facilitate startup of future projects – this is a “tool” for others
 3. **Formalize making material available ala Stretch collection**

To-Date & On-Going Tasks

- Project members – Lee and Christian
Would love other volunteers (contact courtney@computerhistory.org)
- Identified portion of archive materials at CHM
No software – only docs
- Christian pursuing rights to *A Programming Language* by Iverson from Wiley with eye towards *APL: An Interactive Approach* by Gilman and Rose.
- Christian researching donation of Brian Silverman's IBM DOS/360 *APL* and System/360 emulator

Next Steps

- Lee and Christian generate a project template
- Identify “Hit List” of companies, people, orgs to contact for software, documents, material etc.
- Follow in Paul, Dave, and Phil’s footsteps...