

18973

RFC #570

NIC 18973

UPDATES: RFC 216

OBSOLETES: None

REFERENCES: RFC 216, RFC 398

Postel

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NOV 28 1973

EXPERIMENTAL INPUT MAPPING
BETWEEN
NVT ASCII AND UCSB ONLINE SYSTEM

30 October 1973

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RECEIVED AT NIC NOVEMBER 28, 1973.

Contents

	<u>page</u>
I. Motivation	1
II. Overview	1
III. Effects on Previous Specification	3
IV. Details	3
A. Details of One-to-One Mapping	3
B. Details of Two-to-One Mapping	6
V. New or Revised SERVER TELNET Options	8
A. OPERATOR/ALPHABET Option	8
B. SHIFT/UNSHIFT Option	8
C. INTERPRETLF/IGNORELF Option	9
VI. Conclusions and Suggestions for Easy Usage	9

Figures

Figure 1. OLS Keyboard	2
Figure 2. One-to-One Mappings	4
Figure 3. One-to-One Operator Mode Mappings, Expanded	5
Figure 4. Visual Representation of One-to-One Operator Mode Mappings.	5
Figure 5. Two-to-One Mappings	7
Figure 6. Summary of SERVER TELNET commands	10

I. MOTIVATION

Numerous requests have been received in the last six months to improve the human interface to the UCSB On-Line System (OLS) for network users. The problem stems from having to enter as many as six keys to describe a single OLS key. For example, ;PRED SP must be entered to specify the PRED key (See RFC 216, Telnet Access to UCSB's On-Line System). One solution to the problem has been to obtain and to use the custom OLS keyboard. However, this implies a capital outlay which is not always justifiable for users with tight budgets. Thus the following solution is offered as a compromise between the expense of a hardware keyboard and the awkwardness of spelled out key mappings.

II. OVERVIEW

The OLS keyboard, pictured in Figure 1, contains 168 meaningful keys. ASCII, the network standard for keyboards, allows only 128. Thus the mapping described in this report relies on one-to-one mappings for the most common keys and two-to-one mappings using ESC for less commonly used keys. Key assignments in the former case are picked so that location is approximately the same as pictured in Figure 1. Key assignments in the latter case are picked, wherever possible, to be suggestive of function. In addition, options exist to reenable upper and lower case alphabets and to ignore line feeds after carriage returns.

CURRENT OLS KEYBOARD

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	REAL	CMPLEX	SYST	USER	TYPE	LIST
\oplus	\ominus	\otimes	SQ	SQRT	CONJ	INV	DIFF	SUM	PROD	SORT	PRED	TEST
LS	RS	REFL	UP	DOWN	EVAL	SUB	MAX	MOD	NEG	CTX	ENL	CON
	SIN	COS	LOG	EXP	PWR	ATAN	ARG	DEL	CONV	ID	LOAD	STORE
DISPLAY												
												ESCAPE
												RESET

3

1*	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	!	-	@	#
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	+	-	/	,
PHI	OMEGA	EPSI.	RHO	TAU	PSI	UPSII.	IOTA	OMIC.	PI	¢	\$	%	PT
Q	W	E	R	T	Y	U	I	O	P	&	*	=	TAB
ALPHA	SIGMA	DELTA	PI	GAMMA	THETA	SIGMA	KAPPA	LAMB.	:	[]	↑	↓
A	S	D	F	G	H	J	K	L	:	()	SET	CLR
ZETA	XI	CHI	CHI	NU	BETA	ETA	NU	<	>	"	←	BACK	ERASE
Z	X	C	C	V	B	N	M	,	.	?		CASE	RETURN
SPACE													

* Superscripts

Figure 1. OLS Keyboard

These options (see Figure 6) are selectable via SERVER TELNET commands following the conventions of RFC 216.

III. EFFECTS ON THE PREVIOUS SPECIFICATION

The one-to-one and two-to-one mappings described herein fall completely within the previous specification of UCSB's teletype-compatible interface. At any time the user may specify an operator using the old style prefix and spelling. The old SERVER TELNET commands still apply. It is suggested, however, that the user change his prefix to be other than ; so that ; may be sent as a single key.

All UCSB sockets which allow TELNET input may use this new mapping. The socket which supports graphics display on TEKTRONIX series 4000 terminals and one socket which issues NGPO output are two such cases. (See RFC 398 for a listing of UCSB's graphic sockets.)

Control characters, which were ignored in the previous specification, now map always into operators. Figures 3 and 4 show this mapping.

IV. DETAILS

A. Details of One-to-One Mapping

One-to-one mappings exist for A-Z, 0-9, most punctuation, ERASE, and most upper keyboard operators. The mapping for operators is accomplished with upper case alphabets and control characters

MODE	TO PUSH OLS	OLS EXPLANATION	SEND ASCII
BOTH MODES	0-9	Numerics	0-9
	[SPACE] [RETURN] [BACK] [TAB] ,<.>?;: ([)]&*\$ =%+!- ,~,_ LINEFEED DOWN (↓)	Punctuation	[SP] [CR] [BACK] [TAB] ,<.>?;: ([)]&*\$ =%+!- ,~,← [LF]
	[ERASE] [USER] - [NEG] *	Erase Screen Operators	[DEL] †a-†z
OPERATOR	A-Z	UC Alphabetics	a-z
	[LS] - [SIN] *	Operators	A-Z
ALPHABET	A-Z	UC Alphabetics	A-Z
	a-z**	LC Alphabetics	a-z

Figure 2. One-to-One Mappings

* See Figures 3 and 4.

**a-z is actually Alpha-Zeta for local users. However, network users will see and use these keys as a-z.

<u>ASCII</u>	<u>LOWER SHIFT</u>	<u>UPPER SHIFT</u>	<u>CONTROL</u>
a	A	LS	USER
b	B	ATAN	DISPLAY
c	C	LOG	RESET
d	D	REFL	LIST
e	E	⊙	II
f	F	UP	ENTER
g	G	DOWN	REPT
h	H	EVAL	BACK
i	I	INV	(TAB) *
j	J	SUB	(↓) *
k	K	MAX	LOAD
l	L	MOD	STORE
m	M	DEL	(CR) *
n	N	ARG	ID
o	O	DIFF	CMPLX
p	P	SUM	SYST
q	Q	⊕	‡
r	R	⊘	III
s	S	RS	TYPE
t	T	SQ	IV
u	U	CONJ	REAL
v	V	EXP	CTX
w	W	⊖	I
x	X	COS	PWR
y	Y	SQRT	V
z	Z	SIN	NEG

Figure 3. One-to-One Operator Mode Mappings, Expanded

* **TAB**, **↓**, and **CR** are not really operator keys, but are included to be compatible with ASCII.

CONTROL →	‡	I	II	III	IV	V	REAL	TAB	CMPLX	SYST
UPPER →	⊕	⊖	⊙	⊘	SQ	SQRT	CONJ	INV	DIFF	SUM
LOWER →	Q	W	E	R	T	Y	U	I	∅	P
CONTROL →	USER	TYPE	LIST	ENTER	REPT	(BACK)	(↓)	LOAD	STORE	
UPPER →	LS	RS	REFL	UP	DOWN	EVAL	SUB	MAX	MOD	
LOWER →	A	S	D	F	G	H	J	K	L	
CONTROL →	NEG	PWR	RESET	CTX	DISPL	ID	(CR)			
UPPER →	SIN	COS	LOG	EXP	ATAN	ARG	DEL			
LOWER →	Z	X	C	V	B	N	M			

Figure 4. Visual Representation of One-to-One Operator Mappings

in the OPERATOR mode. ALPHABET mode sacrifices the upper case portion of this mapping, but don't panic. `[ESC]` may be used to return to OPERATOR mode for a single key (see details of Two-to-One Mapping). Figures 2, 3, and 4 contain the details of the one-to-one mapping. The ASCII keys FS, GS, RS, US, ` , \ , { , } , ^ are currently unassigned and may be used as convenient command prefixes.

B. Details of Two-to-One Mapping

Two-to-one mappings exist for the remainder of the OLS keys. In all cases the first key of the two key sequence is `[ESC]`. Either of two actions may be performed by `[ESC]` depending upon the successor key. If the successor is not an alphabetic the appropriate OLS key will be selected independent of mode, as outlined in Figure 5. For example, `[ESC]?` will always give the `[TEST]` key. If the successor is an alphabetic then it is interpreted as though the opposite mode were in effect (i.e. GENERATOR is the opposite of ALPHABET). This may seem confusing, but some useful effects are generated and will be illustrated by the following two examples.

1. If while in OPERATOR mode the keys `[ESC]a` are entered the interpretation will be "a" (as in ALPHABET mode) rather than "A". Thus users may enter lower case alphabetic while in OPERATOR mode.
2. If while in ALPHABET mode the keys `[ESC]A` are entered, the interpretation will be `[LS]` (as in OPERATOR mode) rather than "A". Thus users may enter the operators `[LS] - [SIN]` while in ALPHABET mode. The entire mapping is outlined in Figure 5.

MODE	TO PUSH OLS	OLS EXPLANATION	SEND ASCII
BOTH MODES	Shift 0 -Shift 9	Shift Numerics	[ESC] 0- [ESC] 9
	¢	Cent Sign	[ESC] \$
	↑	Line Feed Up	[ESC] [LF]
	TEST	Operators	[ESC] ?
	PRED		[ESC] #
	SORT		[ESC] %
	CONV		[ESC])
	CASE		[ESC] (
	ENL, CON		[ESC] >, [ESC] <
	VI, VII		[ESC] &, [ESC] '
PT	[ESC] .		
SET, CLR	[ESC] +, [ESC] -		
OPERATOR	A-Z*	UC Alphabetics	[ESC] A- [ESC] Z
	a-z	LC Alphabetics	[ESC] a- [ESC] z
ALPHABET	A-Z*	UC Alphabetics	[ESC] a- [ESC] z
	[LS] - [SIN]	Operators	[ESC] A- [ESC] Z

**

Figure 5. Two-to-One Mappings

*These cases are degenerate and minimally useful, but are included for completeness. A-Z is best sent by a-z in OPERATOR Mode and A-Z in ALPHABET Mode.

**Note: in actual usage these keys might be best handled by spelling them out rather than looking at a chart.

V. New or Revised SERVER TELNET Options*

A. OPERATOR/ALPHABET Option

A new option set by the OPERATOR command enables the one-to-one mapping described above. The ALPHABET command restores the interpretation of lower/upper case alphabets to that of RFC #216. Users of the OPERATOR mode will seldom return to ALPHABET mode. When ALPHABET mode is invoked, however, it will probably be to use message generation on the TYPE level or upper/lower case file creation using COL.

B. SHIFT/UNSHIFT Option

Another option, set by the SHIFT command, reverses the interpretation of upper/lower case ASCII alphabets. For example, if SHIFT is invoked while in ALPHABET mode, a lower case "a" would receive an upper case "A" interpretation (i.e. send an OLS "A"). Or while in OPERATOR and SHIFT modes a lower case "a" would receive the upper case "A" interpretation, LS. The SHIFT option was useful in the previous specification to gain convenient access to upper case. For this new specification, however, its usefulness is minimal, but might be used for a user who would rather map upper case ASCII to upper case OLS and lower case ASCII to operators.

*See Figure 6 for a summary of all available commands.

C. INTERPRETLF/IGNORELF Option

The options INTERPRETLF/IGNORELF exist due to the desire to map LF directly into the OLS key ↓ (located over CLR). Some terminals always send LF following CR. For these terminals IGNORELF ignores the trailing LF, thus avoiding spurious sends of ↓ to OLS. Most terminals, however, allow the separation of CR and LF. For these, INTERPRETLF can be used to cause all LF keys to be interpreted as ↓.

VI. CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR EASY USAGE

For these mappings to be most useful, the user should have tape-on labels for the fronts of keys A-Z and ↑A-↑Z (the same keys for most keyboards). A reference card summarizing double keypushes and special modes completes the necessary equipment. The Computer Systems Lab will work with individuals to create customized label sets.

It is hoped that the current experimental mapping will provide more convenient input to the UCSB OLS. As network graphics protocols become better defined, UCSB hopes also to enable more output features not now available to network users. Any criticisms, comments, or suggestions with this and future improvements should be sent via network mail (e.g. SNDMSG) to GRIPE at UCSB-MOD75.

COMMAND		MEANING
*HELP		Lists all NETOLS commands.
PREFIX	(default=;)	Change NETOLS command prefix.
SHIFT		Lower and upper case ASCII is interpreted as upper and lower case ASCII, respectively.
UNSHIFT	(default)	Lower and upper case ASCII is interpreted as lower and upper case ASCII, respectively.
*FULLDUPLEX		Causes NETOLS to echo all characters.
*HALF DUPLEX	(default)	Disables NETOLS character echoing.
*STATE		Displays status of all options.
LOGOUT		Sign off and break connection.
IGNORELF		Ignore any LF following CR .
INTERPRETLF	(default)	Interpret LF following CR as in Figure 2.
OPERATOR		Lower case and upper case ASCII are interpreted as upper case alphabetic and operators respectively.
ALPHABET	(default)	Lower case and upper case ASCII are interpreted as lower case (greek) and upper case alphabetic, respectively.

Figure 6. Summary of SERVER TELNET commands

*These commands are ignored on all sockets which output graphics.