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The Optimization of Programs in MPE/XL



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The Optimization of Programs In MPE/XL

Introduction

To optimize or not to optimize? That is the question!

In MPE/XL, the native compilers (PASCAL/XL, COBOL/XL, FORTRAN/XL and C/XL) offer the possibility of generating optimized code. The intent of this Application Note is to present the functions of the optimizer and to study the different levels of optimization.

How to Use the Code Optimizer?

To invoke the code optimizer during compilation, a compilation option needs to be added to the beginning of the source program.

The syntax of compilation options by language is given in the figure below.

```
PASCAL/XL : $OPTIMIZE    ('LEVEL0')    no optimization
                ('LEVEL1')    optimization level 1
                ('LEVEL2')    optimization level 2
                ( ON   )    optimization level 2
                ( OFF  )    no optimization

COBOL/XL   : $CONTROL (OPTIMIZE )    optimization level 1
                (OPTIMIZE=0)    no optimization
                (OPTIMIZE=1)    optimization level 1

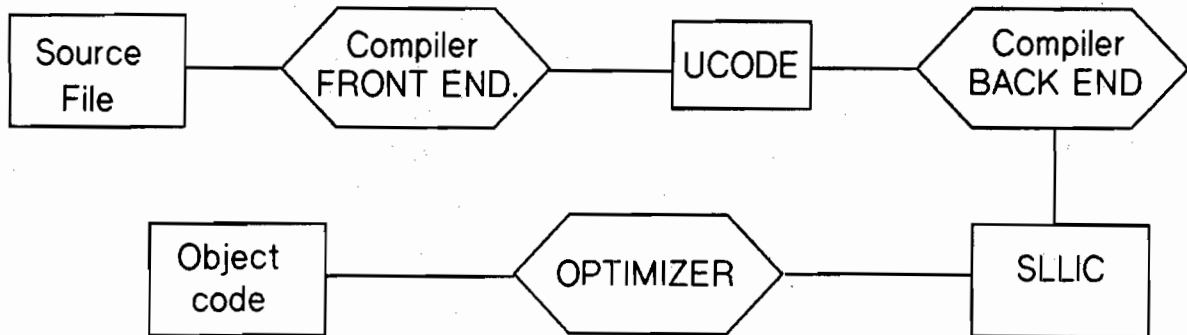
FORTRAN/XL: $OPTIMIZE ( ON   )    optimization level 2
                ( OFF  )    no optimization
                (LEVEL1 )    optimization level 1
                (LEVEL2 )    optimization level 2

C/XL      : #pragma OPT_LEVEL ( 1 )    optimization level 1
                ( 2 )    optimization level 2
                ( ON )    optimization level 2
                ( OFF )    no optimization
```

When Does the Optimizer Intervene

Let us begin by detailing the phases of a compilation.

The diagram below shows the different phases which take place between the submission of a source file to the compiler, and the generation of a object code file (SOM: System Object Module).



The first step of this operation is the translation of the source file by the compiler FRONT END.

This operation is the only one dependant on the language used since the result (UCODE) should be the same whatever the language of origin.

This design choice implies that all the following operations (BACK END, OPTIMIZATION) will be identical whatever the language. The UCODE is an intermediate internal code generated in an unnamed file which is then submitted to the BACK END during the compilation time. When compiling a very large program on screen, you may see a longer or shorter delay between the display of the last line of the source and the end of the compilation, this time, in fact, is the run time of the BACK END.

The BACK END therefore interprets the UCODE and generates the SLLIC (Spectrum Low Level Intermediate Code). This code is actually made up from groups of instructions which are ready, either to be optimized if the optimization level is 1 or 2, or to be regrouped in OBJECT MODULE.

The remainder of this Application Note we shall concentrate on the optimization phase.

Study of the Different Levels of Optimization

LEVEL 0

No optimization or OPTIMIZATION 0 level (default)

This mode is used during development and program DEBUGGING. In this case, the optimizer still intervenes for 5 operations.

Construction of basic blocks:

This operation consists of creating the data structures which divide the program and cut it into sections known as Basic blocks.

Registers allocation:

Here the optimizer on one hand assigns the necessary registers for the calculations and expressions evaluation, and on the other hand generates the procedural headers and footers.

Branch reduction:

During this phase the optimizer analyses the branches generated by the FRONT END and checks if a LONG type branch can be changed for a SHORT type and conversely.

Branch simplification:

This operation consists of extracting, from the instruction blocks between two branches, all those which can be extracted from it.

This then permits the long type branches to be changed to the short type (see example 1).

example 1 :

Before operation

```
begin
var1 := 1
input var2
if var2 > 0 then
  begin
    var3 := var1 + var2
    var4 := var2 * 2
    var4 := var4 + var3
  end;
write var4;
end.
```

After operation

```
begin
var1 := 1
input var2
var3 := var1 + var2
if var2 > 0 then
  begin
    var4 := var2 * 2
    var4 := var4 + var3
  end;
write var4;
end.
```

This example, to simplify reading, is in high level language instead of machine language. You will note that the line

```
var3 := var1 + var2
```

is extracted from the instruction block comprised between BEGIN and END since this expression does not depend on the result of the test and is not used afterwards.

Thus, if the test result is negative, the number of instructions of the IF loop to not execute is reduced. This may permit passing from a long type branch to a short type.

Extension of PSEUDO INSTRUCTIONS:

The optimizer generates machine code for multiplication and division. For example: multiplication by 2 becomes bit shifts, multiplications by 3 become multiplication by 2 plus an addition.

(3*1 <=> 2* 1+1 etc...)

LEVEL 1

Peephole optimizer:

This operation consists of checking if in the code, the addressing method of an instruction can be improved, if a code sequence can be shortened thanks to the use of instructions accessing or manipulating bits group.

Optimizing of branches:

Please note that in example 2 the group of instructions containing instr2 is NEVER used, consequently, as well as the direct branching at the end of the test near label 20, this instruction block is purely and simply deleted.

example 2 :

Before	After
if a > 0 goto 10	if a > 0 goto 20
instr1	instr1
10 goto 20	20 a := 1
instr2	
20 a := 1	

Improvement of instruction sequences:

This operation is necessary to avoid the conflicts between registers, also known as the INTERLOCKS REGISTER. In fact, an instruction accessing a register (LOAD, STORE) is composed of two phases. One FETCH phase, which fetches the information to be LOADED or to be STORED and an EXEC phase which carries out the operation.

The RISC architecture allows the execution of the EXEC phase of an instruction when the FETCH phase of the next instruction has already begun.

(This system also has the name of PIPELINE architecture on other systems).

This procedure is only possible if both instructions in sequence *do not* manipulate the same registers, if this is the case, we are confronted by a case of REGISTER INTERLOCK. The optimizer function, therefore, is to modify the order of the instructions to favor the PIPELINE function while avoiding the REGISTER INTERLOCKS.

example 3:

Calculation of $D := A + B + C$

Before Optimization

```
LOAD <A>,R19 ; Register R19 loaded with contents of A
LOAD <B>,R20
ADD R19,R20,R21 ; Register R21 loaded with sum of registers R19 et R20
; here we see a register interlock on register
```

; R20 :the 'FETCH' phase of ADD cannot begin as soon
as the 'EXEC' phase of the previous LOAD is not
finished

```
LOAD <C>,R22
ADD R21,R22,R23
STORE R23,<D> ; D loaded with contents of register R23.
```

After Optimization

```
LOAD <A>,R19
LOAD <B>,R20
LOAD <C>,R22
ADD R19,R20,R21 ; In this case the ADD 'FETCH' phase is executed in
                 parallel with the previous LOAD 'EXEC' phase, this
                 ; is because there is no register interlock between
                 ; these two instructions
ADD R21,R22,R23
STORE R23,<D>
```

You will note here that the number of executed instructions is the same before optimization as afterwards, however in the second version, the instruction flow is executed more quickly, using all the power of RISC architecture.

Deletion of NOP Instructions (No Operation):

The BACK END, for reasons of simplicity, generates a large number of NOP instructions which are deleted when possible.

Deletion of extraneous code:

Notice in one of the above examples, how a group of unused instructions may be deleted.

LEVEL 2

At this level of optimization, the compilation consumes a great deal more memory resources. This is because each procedure is processed by the compiler as an entire unit of code. This is why compilation at this level is much longer and its use is recommended only when your programs are completely DEBUGged and tested. Furthermore, optimized code is extremely difficult to read.

Optimization is always carried out from the SLLIC, and each procedure is first treated as a unit of code. These units are then regrouped, and if necessary some optimizations are still carried out in such a way as to generate the best possible code.

Two concepts are used by the optimizer to produce the code, and these two concepts generate an analysis for each unit of code.

The analysis of the program control flux:

The purpose of this analysis is to divide the units of code into groups of instructions with the following characteristics: if the first instruction is executed, no event can stop the last instruction being executed.

Analysis of the data control flow:

This consists for the optimizer in searching among the data used in a code unit which is the most often referenced. This process allows the definition of which data it is judicious to reserve registers for in relation to those that can be left in memory.

Once both these analyses have been carried out, the optimizations already discussed in level 0 and level 1 are carried out.

Then specific operations intervene at level 2. We will look at these in more detail.

Optimization of registers allocation and reduction of memory transfers:

We see in example 4 below, that the variables a, b, and c are internal to this procedure, consequently it is not necessary to store them in memory (even if the program's MAP indicates that they are supposed to be there). This avoids 3 STORE instructions which are extraneous in the sense that these variables do not have functions external to the procedure. Furthermore, only 3 registers are required instead of 5.

example 4:

```
source:begin
  a:= parm1
  b:= parm2
  c:= a + b
  parm4:= parm3 + c
end.
```

Generated code before optimization:

```
LOAD <parm1>, R4
STORE R4,<a>
LOAD <parm2>,R5
STORE R5,<b>
ADD R4,R5,R6
STORE R6,<c>
LOAD R7,<parm3>
ADD R6,R7,R8
STORE R8,<parm4>
```

Generated code after optimization

```
LOAD <parm1>,R4
LOAD <parm2>,R5
LOAD <parm3>,R6
ADD R4,R5,R4
ADD R4,R6,R4
STORE R4,<parm4>
```

Pre-evaluation of constant expressions:

Here, instead of re-evaluating the expression (a+b), it is calculated by the optimizer and directly integrated into the code.

example 5:

Before

```
a:=1
b:=2
c:=a+b+param
```

After

```
a:=1
b:=2
c:=3+param
```

Elimination of common sub expressions:

To do this the optimizer will search the code for all identical groups of instructions and substitute calculated instructions. The interest of this is that all redundancy in the code is avoided.

example 6:

Before	After
a := a + (c*b)	t := c*b
d := d - (c*b)	a := a+t
	d := d-t

Here the optimizer prefers to reserve a temporary register to store the result (c*b). This avoids carrying out the calculation twice.

Deleting of code not dependant on loop contents:

The expression of the calculation of a is extracted here from the loop and its evaluation carried out once instead of 100.000 times.

example 7:

Before	After
For i:= 1 to 100000 do	a:=b+c*(e+f/h)
begin	for i:= 1 to 100000 do
a:=b+c*(e+f/h)	begin
i:=a+i*2+a*(i-1)	i:=a+i*2+a*(i-1)
end	end

Development of induced variables

For this the optimizer uses what it knows about the type and format of the variables. In example 8 below, the optimizer uses the fact that an integer is coded on four bytes.

example 8:

```
Source :
  procedure test (B,C:packed array[1..10] of integer) ;
  type tab= packed array [1..10] of integer;
  var A : tab;
      i   : integer ;
  begin
  for i:= 1 to 10 do
    A(i) := B(i) + C(i);
  end.
```

Generated code without optimization .

```
B1 : T := i * 4
     A(T) := B(T) + C(T)
     i := i + 1
     if i <= 10 goto B1
```

Generated code using induced variables

```
B1 : T := T + 4
      A(T) := B(T) + C(T)
      if T >= 36 goto B1
```

(T is a byte offset to the beginning of the array.)

We see here that the variable *i* is deleted thanks to the fact that the optimizer knows the length of an element of the array is four bytes. Further, we note that the multiplication by four (2 bit shifts) is replaced by an addition which will be carried out by a single instruction.

Use of Different Levels of Optimization

The 0 level of optimization must be used during the development phase of a program. When the program has been entirely corrected and is ready for production, it then suffices to recompile it with the adequate option to optimize at the highest possible level in the language used (2 for PASCAL, FORTRAN or C, 1 for COBOL). If a malfunction occurs at this time, either from the compiler or the program, you should reduce the optimization level and re-test.

We have effectively seen above that the levels of optimization 1 and 2 work on a certain number of different types of improvements. These optimizations may be contradictory in certain cases this is why the optimizer must sometimes arbitrate between several different optimization concepts.

Thus, it can happen that the choice having been badly made by the optimizer it is then necessary to recompile at a lower level.

Optimization Example

Here and on the following pages you will see two examples of the compilation of the same program, one without optimization and the other with a level 2 optimization.

These examples show the difference in size of the generated code.

NON OPTIMIZED VERSION

MON, DEC 18, 1989, 6:14 PM

```
0      1.000  0  $optimize 'LEVELO'$
0      2.000  0  $list_code on$
0      3.000  0  program prog;
0      4.000  0  var i,j,k: integer;
3      5.000  1  begin
3      6.000  1  i:=1;
4      7.000  1  j:=4;
5      8.000  1  k:=i+j;
6      9.000  1  for i:=1 to 1000 do
7      10.000 2  begin
7      11.000 2  j:=8;
8      12.000 2  k:=i+j;
9      13.000 2  k:=4*j - j+12*6;
10     14.000 2  end;
10     15.000 1  end.
```

10 16.000 0

NUMBER OF ERRORS = 0 NUMBER OF WARNINGS = 0
PROCESSOR TIME 0: 0: 1 ELAPSED TIME 0: 0: 1
NUMBER OF LINES = 16 LINES/MINUTE = 1814.7
NUMBER OF NOTES = 0

END OF COMPILE

:link po,px

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LinkEd> link po,px

:do run

:run px;debug

DEBUG/XL A.1A.16

DEBUG Intrinsic at: 399.00005040 ?PROGRAM

\$1 (\$49) nmdebug > s

\$2 (\$49) nmdebug > s

\$3 (\$49) nmdebug > dc PROGRAM aa

PROG \$399.50f8

000050f8	PROGRAM	6bc23fd9	STW	2,-20(0,30)
000050fc	PROGRAM+\$4	37de0060	LDO	48(30),30
00005100	PROGRAM+\$8	6bc03ff9	STW	0,-4(0,30)
00005104	PROGRAM+\$c	e85f1edd	BL	?_start+\$1c,2
00005108	PROGRAM+\$10	08000240	OR	0,0,0
0000510c	PROGRAM+\$14	e85f1f0d	BL	?_start+\$3c,2
00005110	PROGRAM+\$18	08000240	OR	0,0,0
00005114	PROGRAM+\$1c	34010002	LDO	1(0),1
00005118	PROGRAM+\$20	6b610020	STW	1,16(0,27)
0000511c	PROGRAM+\$24	341f0008	LDO	4(0),31
00005120	PROGRAM+\$28	6b7f0018	STW	31,12(0,27)
00005124	PROGRAM+\$2c	4b730020	LDW	16(0,27),19
00005128	PROGRAM+\$30	4b740018	LDW	12(0,27),20
0000512c	PROGRAM+\$34	0a930e15	ADDO	19,20,21
00005130	PROGRAM+\$38	6b750010	STW	21,8(0,27)
00005134	PROGRAM+\$3c	34160002	LDO	1(0),22
00005138	PROGRAM+\$40	6b760020	STW	22,16(0,27)
0000513c	PROGRAM+\$44	34010010	LDO	8(0),1
00005140	PROGRAM+\$48	6b610018	STW	1,12(0,27)
00005144	PROGRAM+\$4c	4b7f0020	LDW	16(0,27),31
00005148	PROGRAM+\$50	4b730018	LDW	12(0,27),19
0000514c	PROGRAM+\$54	0a7f0e14	ADDO	31,19,20
00005150	PROGRAM+\$58	6b740010	STW	20,8(0,27)
00005154	PROGRAM+\$5c	4b750018	LDW	12(0,27),21
00005158	PROGRAM+\$60	08150e96	SH2ADDO	21,0,22
0000515c	PROGRAM+\$64	4b610018	LDW	12(0,27),1
00005160	PROGRAM+\$68	08360c1f	SUBO	22,1,31
00005164	PROGRAM+\$6c	b7f30890	ADDIO	72,31,19
00005168	PROGRAM+\$70	6b730010	STW	19,8(0,27)
0000516c	PROGRAM+\$74	4b740020	LDW	16(0,27),20

```

00005170 PROGRAM+$78 341507d0 LDO      1000(0),21
00005174 PROGRAM+$7c 82b4201a COMBT,=,N20,21,PROGRAM+$90
00005178 PROGRAM+$80 4b760020 LDW      16(0,27),22
0000517c PROGRAM+$84 b6c10802 ADDIO   1,22,1
00005180 PROGRAM+$88 6b610020 STW      1,16(0,27)
00005184 PROGRAM+$8c e81f1f67 B,N      PROGRAM+$44
00005188 PROGRAM+$90 e85f1e55 BL      ?_start+$5c,2
0000518c PROGRAM+$94 08000240 OR       0,0,0
00005190 PROGRAM+$98 08000240 OR       0,0,0
00005194 PROGRAM+$9c e85f1e7d BL      ?_start+$7c,2
00005198 PROGRAM+$a0 08000240 OR       0,0,0
0000519c PROGRAM+$a4 4bc23f79 LDW     -68(0,30),2
000051a0 PROGRAM+$a8 e840c000 BV      0(2)
000051a4 PROGRAM+$ac 37de3fa1 LDO     -48(30),30

```

\$4 (\$49) nmdebug > e

END OF PROGRAM

OPTIMIZED VERSION

:pasxl ps,po

PAGE 1 HP PASCAL/XL HP31502A.01.21 COPYRIGHT HEWLETT-PACKARD CO. 1986
MON, DEC 18, 1989, 6:04 PM

```

0      1.000  0  $optimize 'LEVEL2'$
0      2.000  0  $list_code on$
0      3.000  0  program prog;
0      4.000  0  var i,j,k: integer;
3      5.000  1  begin
3      6.000  1  i:=1;
4      7.000  1  j:=4;
5      8.000  1  k:=i+j;
6      9.000  1  for i:=1 to 1000 do
7      10.000 2  begin
7      11.000 2  j:=8;
8      12.000 2  k:=i+j;
9      13.000 2  k:=4*j - j+12*6;
10     14.000 2  end;
10     15.000 1  end.

```

```

NUMBER OF ERRORS = 0      NUMBER OF WARNINGS = 0
PROCESSOR TIME 0: 0: 1    ELAPSED TIME 0: 0: 3
NUMBER OF LINES = 16     LINES/MINUTE = 1511.8
NUMBER OF NOTES = 0

```

END OF COMPILE

:do lin

:link po,px

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:do ru

:run px;debug

DEBUG/XL A.1A.16

DEBUG Intrinsic at: 439.00005040 ?PROGRAM

\$1 (\$2e) nmdebug > s

\$2 (\$2e) nmdebug > s

\$3 (\$2e) nmdebug > dc PROGRAM 20

PRG \$439.50f8

000050f8	PROGRAM	6bc23fd9	STW	2,-20(0,30)
000050fc	PROGRAM+\$4	37de0060	LDO	48(30),30
00005100	PROGRAM+\$8	6bc03ff9	STW	0,-4(0,30)
00005104	PROGRAM+\$c	e85f1edd	BL	?_start+\$1c,2
00005108	PROGRAM+\$10	08000240	OR	0,0,0
0000510c	PROGRAM+\$14	e85f1f0d	BL	?_start+\$3c,2
00005110	PROGRAM+\$18	08000240	OR	0,0,0
00005114	PROGRAM+\$1c	341f0002	LDO	1(0),31
00005118	PROGRAM+\$20	341707d0	LDO	1000(0),23
0000511c	PROGRAM+\$24	82ff2012	COMBT	*,N31,23,PROGRAM+\$34
00005120	PROGRAM+\$28	b7ff0802	ADDIO	1,31,31
00005128	PROGRAM+\$30	b7ff0802	ADDIO	1,31,31
0000512c	PROGRAM+\$34	e85f1f0d	BL	?_start+\$5c,2
00005130	PROGRAM+\$38	08000240	OR	0,0,0
00005134	PROGRAM+\$3c	e85f1f3d	BL	?_start+\$7c,2
00005138	PROGRAM+\$40	08000240	OR	0,0,0
0000513c	PROGRAM+\$44	4bc23f79	LDW	-68(0,30),2
00005140	PROGRAM+\$48	e840c000	BV	0(2)
00005144	PROGRAM+\$4c	37de3fa1	LDO	-48(30),30

\$4 (\$2e) nmdebug > e

END OF PROGRAM

You will notice that the optimized version requires only 20 instructions instead of 44 in the basic version.



Published Application Notes

HP 3000

Following is a list of the Application Notes published to date. If you would like to order single copies of back issues please use the *Request Form* attached and indicate the number(s) of the note(s) you need, and the part number(s).

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1	5958-5824	Printer Configuration Guide - Version 1
2	5960-2841	Terminal types for HP 3000 HPIB Computers - Version 1
3	5960-2842	Plotter Configuration Guide
4	5960-2843	Printer Configuration Guide - Version 2
5	5960-2844	MPE System Logfile Record Formats
6	5960-2845	Stack Operation
7	5960-2846	COBOL II/3000 Programs: Tracing Illegal Data
8	5960-2847	KSAM Topics: COBOL's Index I/O: File Data Integrity
9	5960-2848	Port Failures, Terminal Hangs, TERMDISM
10	5960-2849	Serial Printers - Configuration, Cabling, Muxes
11	5960-2850	System Configuration or System Table Related Errors
12	5960-2851	Pascal 3000 - Using Dynamic Variables
13	5960-2852	Terminal Types for HP 3000 HPIB Computers - Version 2
14	5960-2853	Laser Printers - A Software and Hardware Overview
15	5960-2854	FORTTRAN Language Considerations - A Guide to Common Problems
16	5960-2855	IMAGE: Updating to TurboIMAGE & Improving Database Loads
17	5960-2856	Optimizing VPLUS Utilization
18	5960-2857	The Case of the Suspect Track for 792X Disc Drives
19	5960-2858	Stack Overflows: Causes & Cures for COBOL II Programs
20	5960-2859	Output Spooling
21	5960-2860	COBOLII and MPE Intrinsics
22	5960-2861	Asynchronous Modems

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27	5960-2866	HP Trend: An Installation and Problem Solving Guide
28	5960-2867	The Startup State Configurator
29	5960-2868	A Programmer's Guide to VPLUS 3000
30	5960-2869	Disc Cache
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33	5960-2872	Printer Configuration Guide - Version 3
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34B	5960-2874	Process Handling (Using COBOLII Examples) (B)
35	5960-2875	HPDESK IV (Script files, FSC, and Installation Considerations)
34C	5960-2876	Extra Data Segments (Using COBOLII Examples) (C)
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66	5960-1818	Using the Feedback Feature of HP SupportLine
67	5960-1819	Printing Documents from HP SupportLine
68	5960-1820	HP SupportLine Commands
69	5960-2901	Nonsystem Volume Sets and the Migration of Private Volumes to an S9000 HP 3000
70	5960-2907	Modem Links for Remote Console and Standard DTC Connections on Commercial XL HPPA Systems
71	5960-2918	Asynchronous Cabling
72	5960-2919	BRW Tips and Tricks
73	5960-2998	SNA NRJE Configuration
74	5960-2999	SNA IMF Configuration
75	5060-3000	XL NRJE Configuration

HP 3000 (continued) (continued)

Note #	Part Number	Topic
76	5960-4301	XL IMF Configuration
77	5960-4302	Calling the BRW Intrinsic
78	5960-4303	PUB.SYS What Is Behind It?
79	5960-4625	Conquest of Disc Space
80	5960-4633	Looking Behind the Scenes of Resource Sharing
81	5960-4637	MPE/XL System Interrupt Recovery Procedures
82	5960-4347	Private Volumes
83	5960-4396	Serial Printer Configuration
84	5960-4334	How to Migrate FORTRAN Programs to Newer Compilers and XL Hardware
85	5960-4335	The Optimization of Programs in MPE/XL

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