Optical system design aid announced

Dynacomp has introduced three educational and scientific software packages for IBM PCs and compatibles. Optics One, an optical ray-tracing program, employs recursion and iteration schemes to minimize both truncation and round-off error. The menu-driven lens design software allows users to zoom in on a graphical display to fine-tune their designs. The positions of surfaces, locations and heights of images, and Petzval sums are included in the general report. Optics One requires a 256K RAM, MS-DOS 2.0 or higher, and a graphics card.

Plotsmith is another menu-driven package for data plotting up to 10 sets of 250 data points each. Users enter and edit data from the keyboard.

Eigen Analyzer, designed for Apple, CP/M, and IBM computers, helps users find the real and complex eigenvalues of a real matrix, whether specified uncertainties exist in the matrix elements or not. Users can enter, edit, and save elements for later recall from disk as ASCII files.

Dynacomp sells Optics One for $99.95 (disk plus manual) and Plotsmith and Eigen Analyzer for $49.95 each (disks). 

Optics One Reader Service Number 10
Plotsmith Reader Service Number 11
Eigen Analyzer Reader Service Number 12

PS/2 software links laptops, PCs

Meridian Technology's Carbon Copy Plus data communications program is available on 3.5-inch disks for use on IBM's PS/2 family and compatible portable laptop computers. The software combines PC-to-PC remote control, PC-to-host terminal emulation, and X-modem and Kermit file transfer protocols in an integrated package.

In remote-control mode, the program joins together two PCs over an asynchronous link so that a keystroke entered on one appears simultaneously on the other. In a second mode, Carbon Copy Plus emulates DEC VT-52 and VT-100, Televideo 920, and IBM 3101 asynchronous terminals. Users can access host computers and on-line information databases.

The Meridian Technology software costs $195. 

Reader Service Number 13

VMEbus board supports TOP protocol

Motorola/Microcompter Division's MVME374 controller board hosts an Ethernet chip set and supports the seven-layer Technical and Office Protocol with 32-bit data transfer.

The VMEbus-based board also contains 1M byte of 32-bit-wide shared DRAM with parity for one-wait-state access to RAM supporting the MC68020 MPU and zero-wait-state cycle access for Ethernet Lance chip use.

The accompanying MicroTOP 1.0 protocol software is based on current OSI software and patterned after the ITI-certified MicroMAP 2.1 protocol stack.

Motorola expects the MVME374 to reach production early in 1988 and sell for $1795. Software object codes should sell for $600 each and source codes for $50,000.

Board Reader Service Number 14
Software Reader Service Number 15