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QuickStart

Think of **Context** as "secretarial" software. **Context**, of course is not a real secretary. But the concept of a "secretary process" residing between your work, your Windows based wordprocessor and your computer's filesystem, is the basis for the design of this product. Start by asking your "secretary" a question.

A few **examples** will give you some ideas.

To enable **Context** to respond more powerfully to what it is you *really want* when you ask it questions, like a good secretary, you have to give **Context** some more information - **once**.

See **What's an Alias?**

Why Context?

When you think about it, current computer filesystems are not really designed to reflect your work in a manner most meaningful to **you**. Software such as Windows based wordprocessors, while powerful and full featured do not take into account how your files relate to what it is you **actually do with them**.

To a computer, your "**work**" is just a bunch of files. Contrast this with a good secretary. If you are fortunate enough to have a good secretary, he or she usually manages to keep track of what you are working on, what you have done, and possibly, what you will need next. A good secretary is likely to have very specific knowledge of the work you do. Knowledge acquired over a period of time.

In a sense, each one of us has a "mental secretary" that we **converse** with each time we prepare to use a wordprocessor. We rarely start most of our work "from scratch". Instead we usually rely on what we have done similarly in the past.

Conceptually, situations similar to the following may arise.

"Hmm, I need a FooBar precedent to answer the third party's letter. Alright, I'll get the last FooBar response, alter it, then combine it with the stuff I sent to John Doe ."

OR

"Hmm, I was working on the Jane Doe claim sometime last fall... Wonder where I put the last response from her lawyer?"

It really is a chore to translate this **internal conversation** to commands that a wordprocessor "understands" in order to get work done. Especially if you have many files. Long file names are no solution, nor is full text retrieval. Endlessly featured and complex graphical interfaces add little extra value either.

What is needed is to place your wordprocessing files into a **context** meaningful specifically to you while you're working. **Context** aims to do just that.

Context seeks to employ a user's **language**, in an albeit constrained manner, to reduce common "**semantic** gaps." Gaps that waste your precious time every time you use wordprocessor software. By reducing these gaps **Context** seeks to make your overall wordprocessing experience more

productive and enjoyable.

Context is meant to be a useful Windows wordprocessing **add-on** with a simple edit box for input. Keyboard junkies take heart!

Inexpensive and reliable speech recognition + speech synthesis systems are here today. The default mode to interact with **Context** is text. So you could take the secretary analogy a couple of steps further and add speech input and output to **Context**.

"Open the pod bay doors please HAL..."

What is Context?

Context is a **productivity tool** designed to work with your Windows based wordprocessor. The idea is to enable you to access and process the work you do in a more rapid and meaningful way.

What kind of a tool? For people who like catchphrases, **Context** might be termed a "conversational interface" tool with implicit "command and control" capability.

As a tool, **Context** is intended to recognize specific **semantic** content of your **English input** sentence and execute appropriate instructions on your wordprocessor.

With productivity and ease of use in mind, the designers of **Context** have built in a limited ability to mimic conversation.

Now a few words about what **Context** is **not**.

- **Context** makes *zero* claims about "understanding" **unrestricted** human speech or text input.
(**natural language understanding**)
- Neither is **Context** intended to be a **chatterbot**.
- **Context** is not a toy but a tool designed to "jump-start" the time spent with your Windows based wordprocessor.

Overview

Suppose you have several hundred wordprocessing files in a folder and you need some specific piece of information in order to respond to work in progress. Or you may want to start work on a new client's file using older documents as precedents.

Simply splitting your files over several folders is not a viable long term solution. Organizationally this approach is a headache and over time one tends to forget what is in each folder. As a result, many files become unnecessarily duplicated. You still have the problem of finding the specific information you need.

Using one of several text retrieval or string matching programs available may not really help much either. Such programs do not grasp a "bigger picture" of what it is you need to do.

Most computers users, unless they have photographic memories, usually waste too much time looking for what the specific information that they really ***do*** need.

You are really much too busy to do this messing around every time you need to do something. **You need a secretary!**

"How would I ask my secretary to do this?"

Suppose you had a personal "secretary" for your wordprocessor files whose function was to keep track of what you need to find in a specific working situation. Such a "secretary" may want to know;

- is the info you want in a file?(**singular**)
- files?(**plural**)
- **what kind** of document is it?
- **when** did you do it?
- could you **tell me a bit about it**?
- is it **related to previous files** that you asked for?
- **literally** is that what you want, **or** are you really asking for **something else**?

The seven points just listed, and others, were considered fundamental in the design of **Context**.

These are the kinds of deliberations that we all take with our "mental secretary" when we are trying to do work with our wordprocessor. So any product billing itself "**secretaryware**" had better be able to deal with these

issues.

Context's "secretarial" tool approach is somewhat novel and there are a couple of things we need to emphasize.

In particular, all about topics and the use of **anaphora**.

To get started with **Context** you do not have to teach it anything. **Context** simply scans in your files and already knows something. See notes on: **Encryption** and Scanning files.

As you get more familiar with **Context**, use the more advanced capabilities to increase your productivity further. See **Advanced features**.

Interface

The main window consists of two edit windows or "boxes".

- The top box, which is read-only, is labelled "Conversation with ...". This box records recent dialog with **Context**.
- The bottom box is the user input box. The bottom box is where you type in your requests or "queries" to **Context**. Pressing the ENTER key submits your query to **Context**.
- There is no need to put a period at the end of your sentence. In fact **don't!** Periods have special meaning to **Context**. See Immediate retrieval and Punctuation.
- **Context** usually considers all of your input requests as **lower case** only. See Case.
- Keeping in mind the semantics that **Context** recognizes, you simply input your query, in **English**, to the user input box.
- Depending on the circumstances, **Context** will either execute your request immediately, or come back and ask you for more information.
- If **Context** recognizes that you want a specific file or specific set of files at any point, it automatically invokes WordPerfect. **Context** tells WordPerfect to bring in the file(s) requested and then minimizes itself to get out of the way.

The best way to quickly get up speed on the basic semantics of **Context** is to examine and try the examples.

The basic interface is simple. The semantics are a bit more complex.

What does Context look for?

The **semantics** that **Context** tracks, what it tries to recognize from your input, is the key to understanding how **Context** works.

Context employs several **semantic grammars** in parallel to process or "parse" your input sentences.

Before examining the things **Context** looks for, there are some tips to remember:

- You can ask **Context** to look for several meanings in a single input sentence or query.
- Keep in mind though, that it is easy to confuse **Context**. Using more than one simple query in series is often more productive than a complex single query that may be misunderstood.
- Building software that "understands" even a tiny subset of the English language is difficult. If one way of asking for something doesn't work, try rephrasing your question. There are likely many ways of asking for similar results.
- **KISS** (**K**ep **I**t **S**imple **S**tupid) is a good motto to have in mind while using **Context**. Alternatively, to paraphrase Einstein, "make things as simple as possible, but *no simpler*."

Context's semantics:

- Are you starting a new topic? **All about Topics**
- Are you using **anaphora**?
- Are you referring to specific **times or dates** or a range of times or dates?
- **Immediate retrieval** of a file?
- Are you looking for a **specific word string**?
- Are you looking for **keywords** in documents?
- What **reserved words** are you using?
- What **glue words** are you using?
- Are you using an alias? **What's an Alias?**
- Are you using a filetype? **What's a FileType?**
- **Files singular or files Plural?**
- Are you looking for a file **positionally** among a group of related files?
- Are you using - **all some or none?**
- Are you asking for your **last input?**
- Do you want the **next or previous "N"** files from a range of files?

- Do you want the **first or last "N"** files from a range of files, previously referenced or not?
- Do you want to repeat your **last query?**
- Are you engaging in **smalltalk?**

Examples

Examples of query/response dialog with **Context**, using semantics that **Context** recognizes. User "**Bill**" is fictitious.

Examples of All/Some/None

Examples of Aliases

Examples of Anaphora

Examples of Changing Topics

Examples of Date and Time of Day

Examples of Alias FileType

Examples of First/Last

Examples of Generic filetype

Examples of Immediate retrieval

Examples of Keyword search

Examples of Literal filetypes

Examples of Next/Previous

Examples of using Position within a list of files

Examples of Singular/Plural

Examples of Smalltalk

Advanced features

In **Context for WordPerfect** release 2.0, "advanced features" refers to the customizable creations we call alias words, or "aliases".

Aliases allow you to show **Context** what you mean when you use certain words. Words you don't need to memorize as they are already built-in to the way you think about what you do.

You need **only show Context once** what you mean by a particular alias.

- Aliases allow **Context** to recognize the unique signature of special kinds of documents you build. You use and talk about these special files all the time, almost unconsciously.
- To use an alias just insert it into your query to **Context**.
- To create/modify/delete aliases, use the **Alias Wizard**.

Other features

Select to see how **Context** implements the following features.

- **Changing your Name**
- **Conversation Logging**
- **Dates and the time of day**
- **Installation Notes**
- **Scanning files**
- **Shortcuts**
- **Single Quotes**

- **Limitations in 2.0**

Alias Wizard

- The Alias Wizard enables you to maintain the database of **alias** words that you have defined.
- The Wizard creates, modifies, and deletes aliases and their corresponding **boolean expressions**.
- The Alias Wizard is composed of eight separate pages.

WordPage

TypePage

NumberPage

SinglePhrasePage

LogicPage

OrPage

AndPage

AndOrPage

Troubleshooting

- As you use **Context**, you will find out quickly **what is**, and **what is not** possible to do.
- You will discover that you adapt to **Context's** limitations.
- Try to think of different yet simple ways of getting at the same information. Some will succeed others won't.
- Obviously use what works.
- If you're amazed at how completely misunderstood your query was, check out the "**Last**" menu item under "**Help**" in the main **Context** menu. Here there is a rudimentary breakdown of just how **Context** has "parsed" and "(mis)understood" your last query.

Release Notes

- **Context for WordPerfect** will only run in Win95.
- Both WordPerfect7 by **Corel**, and WordPerfect6.x by **Novell** will work with this release of **Context for WordPerfect**.
- **Context for WordPerfect** and WordPerfect7 are both 32bit applications. WordPerfect6.x versions are 16bit only.
- For your information, when **Context** starts in a WordPerfect6.x environment, it automatically launches a tiny 16bit DDE server program called "SERVER.EXE".
- SERVER.EXE acts as a DDE server, enabling the 32bit **Context** program to use WordPerfect6.x's 16bit DLLs. This fact should not usually concern you.
- When **Context** exits normally, it takes care to shut down "SERVER.EXE" also.

How To Order

- There are several ways to order **Context** for WordPerfect.
- Phone our ORDERING and REGISTRATION number: 888.293.2203
- **FAX** us directly at: 403.944.1471 using the order form provided
- Ordering by check: To order by check send the order form and a check to:

Context for WordPerfect,
WordSurf, Inc.,
#101 4249A - 97St
Edmonton AB
CANADA T6E 5Y4.

- Send EMAIL orders to "sales@wordsurf.com" or "support@wordsurf.com".
- When emailing us, include the following info:
 - Name
 - Company or Organization,
 - VISA or MC number
 - Expiry Date.
- Encrypt EMAIL to WordSurf using PGP. Pretty Good Privacy is strong freeware crypto available on the net.
- WordSurf Support's PGP public key is contained in the file "keyfile.asc" found in the Context installation directory.

Registration

- Mail ordered copies of **Context** will be **preregistered**. Simply enter the four registration codes provided on the registration form shipped with your copy of **Context**, into the registration window accessed under the "Help" main menu item to complete the registration process.
- Note: the four registration codes provided are keyed to the **exact Name** and **Company** shown on the registration form shipped with your software. Case and punctuation are important. If, when you installed **Context**, the **Name** and **Company** info you supplied are different than on the registration form, you'll have to either reinstall **Context**, or use "REGEDIT" to change "Username" and "Company" under the Win95 registry key:
 "HKEY_CURRENT_USER
 Software
 WordSurf
 Context
 Userinfo"
- Production release copies of **Context**, downloaded from **WordSurf's** website will have to be **registered** in order to become fully functional.
- Purchased "boxed" versions of **Context** are fully functional and come with a SERIAL NUMBER. To receive updates and customer support, "boxed" purchasers will have to **register** their copies. Provide your SERIAL NUMBER when registering.
- **How to Register** **Contacting WordSurf**

Alias WordPage

This wizard page allows you to inform **Context** of a word that you want to define as a new alias word, or, select an existing alias word that has already been defined.

If you are defining a new alias word, once the word is put into the listbox provided, press "next" to continue the definition process. Similarly to modify an existing alias definition, press "next" to continue the alias modification process.

If you want to completely eliminate a particular alias definition, once the existing alias word is selected in the listbox, press the "delete" button to erase that alias definition from your alias database.

Press "cancel" at any time to return to main window.

Alias TypePage

This page informs **Context** of one simple fact. Is the alias that you are creating/modifying going to represent a **filetype**?

If **not**, then your alias will be a kind of "**nickname**", and will *not* by itself cause a **topic change**.

If you **are** defining a filetype alias consider that everytime you mention this word in your queries to **Context**, you *will* be requesting a "new topic".

Alias NumberPage

How many word different phrases or "strings" will be represented by the alias word definition that you are trying to define/modify? **Context** requires at least one such string up to a maximum of five.

As an example consider the **letter** alias definition. Here two component strings "Yours truly," and "Sincerely," are defined.

Alias LogicPage

If you have chosen to define an **alias** as representing more than one component string, you'll arrive at this page.

Since you're now dealing with more than one string the question arises - what **logic** do you use to combine the strings? This page answers that question.

- If you primarily want to OR your strings together choose the first option, OR/(NOT).
- If you primarily want to AND your strings together choose the second option, AND/(NOT).
- Lastly, if you want some of your strings to be ORed together with an additional AND string condition, choose the last option, AND/OR/(NOT).
- Note: the universe of all possible **boolean expressions** is very big, and the Alias Wizard defines **only four basic types** of **boolean expression**. We believe that the the number and type of logic expressions and component strings that **Context** does allow are still broad enough to capture most practical alias definitions.
- Further note each individual string can be at most **60 characters** in length. This should be sufficient for most situations.

Alias SinglePhrasePage

If you selected "1" as the number of component strings for the alias definition you are trying to create/modify you will end up on this page.

Enter the literal string that you want your alias word to represent into the box provided. The following is an example.

- Suppose you wanted to define an alias "letter" as a file with the string "Yours truly," somewhere near the end of the file.
- "Yours truly," no quotes, would then be entered into the input box on this page.

Note: since the strings are literal strings punctuation and case are important!

Alias OrPage

- **Alias Expression:**

**[string1 OR string2 OR string3 OR string4]
AND
[NOT string5]**

- A maximum of 5 strings may be input to this page.
- **You don't have to use all 5 string slots**, though at least one of slots 1-3 must be occupied.
- String5, the **NOT** condition string, **is optional**.
- Example: Let string1 = "Yours truly,"
string2 = "Sincerely,"
(quotes not included)

A document with "Yours truly," or "Sincerely," would meet this expression definition. Any file with "Yours faithfully," and neither "Yours truly," nor "Sincerely," in it would fail.

Note: since the strings are literal strings punctuation and case are important!

Alias AndPage

- **Alias Expression:**

```
[string1 AND string2 AND string3 AND string4]
      AND
      [NOT string5]
```

- A maximum of 5 strings may be input to this page.
- **You don't have to use all 5 string slots**, though at least one of slots 1-4 must be occupied.
- String5, the **NOT** condition string, **is optional**.
- Example: Let string1 = "AFFIDAVIT",
 string2 = "SWORN BEFORE",
 string5 = "Yours truly,".
 (quotes not included)

A document with "AFFIDAVIT" and "SWORN BEFORE" but not "Yours truly," would meet this expression definition. Any file with "Yours truly," in it would fail, as would any document with "affidavit" but not "AFFIDAVIT".

Note: since the strings are literal strings punctuation and case are important!

Alias AndOrPage

- Alias Expression:

```
[[string1 OR string2 OR string3] AND [string4]]  
      AND  
      [NOT string5]
```

- A maximum of 5 strings may be input to this page.
- **You don't have to use all 5 string slots**, though at least one of slots 1-3 and slot 4 must be occupied.
- String5, the **NOT** condition string, is **optional**.
- Example: Let string1 = "AFFIDAVIT",
string2 = "Affidavit",
string3 = "affidavit",
string4 = "SWORN BEFORE",
string5 = "Yours truly,".
(quotes not included)

A document with "Affidavit" and "SWORN BEFORE" but not "Yours truly," would meet this expression definition. Any file with "Yours truly," in it would fail.

Note: since the strings are literal strings punctuation and case are important!

All about Topics

Context makes use of what is called **anaphora**. Anaphora allows **Context** to **stay on topic**.

See [Examples of Anaphora](#).

Humans use anaphora all the time, in fact it is a very powerful feature of our ability to communicate. Also, we signal to each other that we are **changing "topics" or "contexts"** by various means - changes in intonation, words or sounds, gestures etc.

Likewise, we must inform **Context** that we desire to start on a **new topic**. There are a few different ways to start a new topic or change topic with **Context** and the idea is really quite simple.

See [Examples of Changing Topics](#).

Topics are associated with words that we call **filetypes**.

- Whenever you input a query that contains a **filetype word** you change **topic**.
- The **filetype** signals to **Context** that the topic of your current sentence is not directly related to the topic of your last sentence. The context of the current sentence is a new topic.
- Note you **can combine more than one filetype** in a single input expression. The point to remember is that you use at least one filetype word in your query to signal topic change.
- If multiple filetypes are present in a single query, the **first** filetype that **Context encounters**, parsing your query from left to right, **is chosen** as the representative filetype for the **new topic** being introduced.
- Multiple filetypes in a single query shouldn't occur too often if you keep your queries simple, which is a good idea. Also, one tends to create filetypes that are somewhat mutually exclusive.

Encryption

- **Context does not read WordPerfect encrypted files!**
- If **Context** did read your encrypted files, that would be a security risk. **Context** stores file information in an unencrypted binary file called "CONTEXT.BIF".
- However **Context can retrieve** WordPerfect **encrypted file(s)**. Ask for the encrypted file(s) **implicitly** using **dates/times or postional information**.
- For example, if you ask **Context** "gimme the **last** file" **Context** will do as you ask even if the last file is encrypted, beacuse **Context** only has to check the file modification date/time to do your bidding. **Context** didn't have to to look inside "the last file".
- Likewise, asking for "the harris file", if "the harris file" happens to be **encrypted**, wouldn't work as you are likely asking for information that is found **inside** that file. "Likely" because **Context** knows **filenames**, so if "the harris file" were encrypted and its name was something like "HARRIS.WPD", then **Context would** still know about "the harris file".

WordPerfect file encryption is not considered "strong" by crypto-experts. If you are really concerned about file security, you might consider a different more transparent approach.

Simply store sensitive WordPerfect documents on a "strongly" encrypted partition on your hard drive.

An excellent product called **PartionMagic** relatively painlessly allows you to create extra partitions on your hard drive. You create the extra partitions without having to reinstall Win95.

- To make one or more of your newly created partitions encrypted, get the TSR resident program called **SecureDrive**, or a similar program.
- **SecureDrive** is on the net, and any decent computer store will carry **PartionMagic**.
- **SecureDrive** enables the encryption, using a strong algorithm (IDEA), of any and all files you write to the encrypted partition.
- This encryption is done - "**on the fly**" with no user intervention.
- You only need to remember the **one password** that you encrypted your

partition with. Don't forget it though, else all data on your encrypted partition is inaccessible.

- The whole process of creating the extra partition(s) and installing **SecureDrive** out shouldn't take longer than an hour.
- Of course if you leave your machine on all the time, unattended, you still have a security problem. You must shut your computer off when you don't use it, then even if somebody steals your computer they will still need a password to access your encrypted partition(s).
- Installing **Context** on an encrypted partition is also a good idea due to "CONTEXT.BIF" that **Context** produces. (discussed above)

Scanning files

- **Context** uses WordPerfect's own shared code libraries in order to scan your files. What this means is, aside from WordPerfect **encrypted** files, anything that your installed version of WordPerfect can read, so can **Context**.
- **Context** keeps track of any changes, additions or deletions that are made to files in your chosen scan folder **automatically**.
- If **Context** is running when the changes are made, the automatic **update** is done the **next time you submit a query** by pressing the **ENTER** key. A black and yellow "splash window" appears, and if the changes are not "massive", the updates are rapidly processed.
- If **Context** was not running when the changes to your scan folder occurred, the **next time Context starts** it automatically updates its binary file database, "CONTEXT.BIF".
- Be aware of what happens if both **Context** and WordPerfect are running at the same time, and **WordPerfect has open files with changes** to them. **Context** can't **immediately** maintain file coherence, or "updatedness", until you save and close the file(s) that you are making changes to. This shouldn't be a big problem normally.
- Also be aware that the **folder** that you choose for **Context** to **scan**, bears **no necessary relationship** with your **preferred WordPerfect document folder**. You may choose to have the two the same, or not.

Punctuation

As a rule, **use punctuation minimally**. Why? Because in most cases **Context** completely **ignores** it. Also where **punctuation** isn't ignored it **has special meaning**.

The use of the **period** "." **implies explicit filename retrieval**.

Single quotes mean - search for files containing the **literal string** inside the pair of single quotes.

Case

- **Context** normally treats all the text that you type in to form a request as lower case **ONLY!**
- The following points are the **two exceptions** to the above rule.
- Text inside **single quotes** is treated literally, thus **case** and **punctuation** become important, and,
- when you **define an alias**, the alias expression is literal text.

Limitations in 2.0

These limitations are not "cast in stone". If enough of our customers desire, these can be changed or eliminated entirely. If you have special requirements, on these or other issues, let us know.

- A maximum of **3000 files** are allowed in any particular scanning directory. If you have more than 3000 files in a single folder consider archiving some rarely used ones.
- A maximum of **20,000** unique keywords are allowed for any particular scanning folder. In our experience, this is "alot". Your experience may differ. Let us know.
- A maximum of **50** unique aliases. We find it difficult to imagine anyone without a photographic memory keeping that many specially defined words straight.
- We believe that less than 20 aliases will be typical for most users,

Shortcuts

- **Context** keeps your last query. Just hit the **ENTER** key again.
- **Periods '.'** mean "find this file" to **Context**. So, if you know that filename, and you want it **now**, just enter it.
- If you want that file **now**, and the name of the file you want doesn't contain a "dot", make sure there's a period or "dot" **attached to the end** of your query.
- See **Immediate retrieval** and
- **Examples of Immediate retrieval.**

Single Quotes

- **Context** does **not** currently recognize **any wildcards**.
- If you want to enclose single quotes within a pair of single quotes you're out of luck. **Context** does not allow you to "escape" a single quote character.
- Searching for a **regular expression** will not currently work either.
- In a future release, for you hackers out there, regular expressions and wildcards may be implemented if there is sufficient demand.

What's an Alias?

An **alias word**, or just "**alias**", is a word that stands for other words. The "other words" take the form of a **boolean string expression**.

- To define/alter/delete an alias use the **Alias Wizard**. Once an alias has been defined its definition remains in effect until you either change its definition or delete the alias.
- When **Context** encounters an alias in your text input, it effectively substitutes an alias **expression** for the alias **word**. "Effectively" because you're telling **Context** to now search for files containing the alias **expression** as opposed to the alias **word**.
- Aliases should be words that you commonly use **and** words that you couldn't possibly confuse with something else.
- There are two kinds of aliases. "**Nicknames**" and **filetypes**.
- "dad" could be an **alias** for the **expression** "Mr. John Smith" if your father's name was "Mr. John Smith". This is an example of the "**nickname**" kind of alias .
- **Context** will recognize up to four aliases in any one input sentence.

Scan folder

- The full path of the document folder that you have set for **Context** to scan is indicated at the bottom of the main window inside the status bar on the left.
- This folder has no necessary **relation** to the document folder set within WordPerfect, though of course they may be the same.
- **Context** checks the modification date/times of each file in the scanned folder **every** time the **ENTER** key is pressed. Keeping up-to-date on newly saved documents in your scan folder happens **automatically**.
- **Context** keeps track of **one folder at a time**, though of course you can change that **single folder** any time you wish.
- Recursive descent of subfolders is **not supported**. Subfolders are counter to the **Context** philosophy. Why have subfolders when your "secretary" will find it for you?
- **WordPerfect** allows a **maximum of nine open files** at any one time inside the main WordPerfect window. Thus if you in any way ask for more than nine files to be opened into WordPerfect, **Context** cannot oblige and will only bring in at most nine files.
- The onus is on the user to manage how many open files he/she has in WordPerfect. **Context** will **not prompt** you to close files **nor will Context close any open files**. That's your responsibility.
- At **no time** will **Context alter any** of your files.

Immediate retrieval

Input sentences with **periods** or "dots" in them are treated in a special way.

- Why? This "dot" feature is a result of the "**8.3**" filenaming convention. A holdover from the DOS days.
- When **Context** sees a "." it tries to place that "." as part of an actual filename so that it can **immediately retrieve the named file**.
- Putting a dot at the end of a filename that doesn't have a dot in its name, also causes the filename to be retrieved.
- **Other than immediate retrieval** you **don't** need to **use periods**. The end of your input sentence is always indicated when you hit the ENTER key on your keyboard.

What's a FileType?

A **filetype** is a word that represents a file. Filetypes come in three flavors, **generic**, userdefined or **alias** filetypes, and **literal** filetypes.

- Whenever **Context** encounters **any** variety of **filetype**, it starts a **new topic**. This is how you change topics or "contexts" with **Context**.
- **Generic filetypes** are denoted by the words, "file", "files", "doc", "docs", "document", and "documents". When you use these words you're telling **Context** that what you're looking for could be any of one or more "generic" files in the folder which you have set as the folder for **Context** to scan.
- **Alias filetypes** refer to computer files that **you** have made **special** because each such file contains an expression that you consider worthy of attention and definition. A common example is **letter**.
- **Literal filetypes** are implied by the use of **single quotes**. Using single quotes mean you are looking for **any** file or files containing the literal string that has been quoted.

Letter example

Suppose you sign your letters with either "Yours truly", **or**, "Sincerely,". Use the **Alias Wizard** to tell **Context** that files with either of those two expressions in them are what **you mean** as the **alias filetype** "letter". You only need define singular "letter" - **Context** figures out that "letters" is the plural.

Then you can ask **Context** to:

"get me the joe blow letter i did last week"

and **Context** will know that you're looking for a special kind of file called a "letter" that you wrote to "joe blow" last week.

Dates and the time of day

Remembering stuff by when you did it is sometimes a useful strategy.

Context is aware of **file modification** dates and times.

- See **Examples of Date and Time of Day**
- **Context always goes by the file modification dates and times.** It **ignores** dates and times mentioned **inside** any of your files, though, of course, there is usually some relationship between "inside" and "outside" dates/times.
- As far as **Context** is concerned, **1980** is when history began. Any files older than that you might consider archiving.
- **Context** currently recognizes;
 - "**morning**" (0000 - 1200) hours,
 - "**afternoon**" (1200 - 1800) hours,
 - "**evening**" (1800 - 2400) hours.
- **Context** also recognizes;
 - "**spring**" (March - May),
 - "**summer**" (June - September),
 - "**fall/autumn**" (Sept - November),
 - "**winter**" (November - March).
- **Context** allows you to **frame** date/time requests. It is usually best to frame your date/time request **approximately**. Thus,
- "get me the XYZ last file i did 2 months ago" is more likely to work for you than,
- "get me the XYZ file i did at 10:45AM on the second tuesday of July, 3 years ago".
- **Context** can process date/time **bracketing** requests. For ex., "give me the XYZ letters i did **between** last month **and** today".
- **Context** recognizes "**MM/DD/YY**" or "Month/Day/Year" notation. For example,
 - "11/2/94 letter to tom" **is equivalent to,**
 - "November 2 1994 letter to tom".
- **Certain** abbreviated notation for **months** and **years** is recognized. Examples of requests that **Context** should understand are;

"get me the XYZ file from nov 94" (for November 1994)
" gimme the last jan file" (for the latest month of January)
" 11/94 letter" (November 1994)

- **Context** views the whole **numbers** from from **80-99** inclusive as abbreviations for the **years 1980-1999** respectively.
- The approaching **millennium** change warrants special consideration. To avoid any possible ambiguity **Context** requires the **complete year** be given starting with the **year 2000**. Thus, **Context accepts** "nov **2004**" as a legitimate month/year request, but,

"get me the XYZ from nov 4" or even
"get the last 004 XYZ doc"

are **rejected** as **year requests**.

Examples of All/Some/None

Bill -> grigan letter

Context: 6 "grigan" letters found. Which one?

Bill -> **none**

Context: OK no letters selected.

Bill -> **all**

Context: OK. Bringing up all of the "grigan" letters.

...

Bill -> gimme **some** december divorce file

Context: Try FOO.WPD, "december divorce" file, 31st of 31.

Examples of Aliases

[Assume here "mom" is a **nickname alias** for "Mrs Smith" and "dad" is a **nickname alias** for "Mr J Smith". Also assume you've defined a **filetype alias** "letter".]

Bill -> birthday **letter** i sent to **mom** last week

Context: OK here is "last week **mom** **letter** - MOM.005

Bill -> **dad's** last mortgage renewal doc

Context: Retrieving MORT.001 - "**dad** mortgage" file.
(6th of 6)

Examples of Anaphora

[The following question/answers are on the **same** "topic" or thread of discussion. That is, the one started by the "brown file". Additionally, the word "one" is the anaphoric pronoun.]

Bill -> brown file

Context: 9 "brown" files found. Which one?

Bill -> first black one

Context: Bringing up BLUE.003 the 1st "brown black" file.

Bill -> black

Context: 6 "brown black" files found. Specify which.

Bill -> green

Context: 2 "brown black green" files found. Specify which.

Bill -> first one

Context: Getting - the first "brown black green" file.
(1 of 2) BLUE.003

Examples of Changing Topics

[You change topic by introducing a new filetype. In the first example Bill refers to the generic filetype "**files**". Assuming Bill has defined for **Context** what his "**letters**" look like, the second example refers to an alias filetype. Lastly whenever Bill asks **Context** to look for a unique string in single quotes, he changes topic also.]

Bill -> **files** i did last week

Context: OK ...

Bill -> the **letter** i sent to fred last week

Context: Here is ...

Bill -> '**apples and pears**'

Context: Getting APE.001 the "apples and pears" file.

Examples of Date and Time of Day

Bill -> **yesterday's** file

Context: Having trouble finding any "yesterday" files.

Bill -> files i did **between last week and today**

Context: Having trouble finding any "between last week and today" files.

Bill -> 'affidavit' **from oct 95**

Context: OK here is MAC2.PLD, "oct 95 affidavit" file.

Bill -> 'affidavit' **from the summer of 95**

Context: OK here is MAC1.PLD, "jul 95 affidavit" file.

Bill -> second file **this month**

Context: OK finding MEDNOTE.PRC, "this month" file, 2nd of 3.

Bill -> the file that i did **two months ago**

Context: 17 "2 month previous" files found. Which one?

Bill -> 'affidavit' **from oct to dec of 95**

Context: 11 "between october and december 95 affidavit" files found. Which one?

Bill -> files i did **this morning**

Context: OK ...

Bill -> last file i did **yesterday evening**

Context: Here is ...

Bill -> first XYZ letter i did **this afternoon**

Context: Retrieving ...

Examples of Alias FileType

[Assume here you've defined "letter" and "claim" as aliases which are filetypes.]

Bill -> **letter**

Context: 213 **letters** found. Which one?

Bill -> first one

Context: Getting - the first **letter**.
(1 of 14) RASH.006

Bill -> zip **claim** from last nov

Context: Having trouble finding any "last november zip" **claims**.

Examples of First/Last

Bill -> **last two** files please

Context: Try the **last 2** files.
(306 of 306) YELLOW.WPD
(305 of 306) MEDNOTE.PRC

Bill -> **first** telephone book file

Context: OK here's BOOK.001, "telephone book" file (**1st** of 54).

Examples of Generic filetype

[Basically just means using the words "file", or "files", "doc", or "docs", or "document" or "documents".]

Bill -> gimme the XYZ **documents**

Context: ...

Bill -> **files** from last wednesday

Context: ...

Bill -> fred's foobar **file**

Context: ...

Examples of Immediate retrieval

Bill -> **TEST.009**

Context: Retrieving TEST.009

Bill -> gimme **FOOD.**

Context: Bringing up FOOD

[In both above cases **Context** immediately minimizes itself, starts WordPerfect and bring in the requested file. Note: in the second instance the filename "FOOD" did not contain a period, so Bill appended a period to the end of "FOOD" and entered the query to **Context**.]

Examples of Keyword search

Bill -> **green black brown blue** file

Context: There are 7 "**green black brown blue**" files. Which one?

Bill -> the last

Context: OK ...

[In the above "green", "black", "brown", "blue" are **keywords**. "last" is a reserved word]

Examples of Literal filetypes

[To retrieve files using a literal string, enclose what you want to find literally, inside SINGLE QUOTES. Doing so starts a new topic of files containing your quoted string.]

Bill -> **'claim'**

Context: 55 "claim" files found. Which one?

[New topic about files with the literal string **'claim'** in them.]

Bill -> **'Bill goes to Hollywood'**

Context: Hmm, here's BILL.MOV

[New topic about files with the literal string **'Bill goes to Hollywood'** in them.]

Examples of Next/Previous

Bill -> **last three** aysken files

Context: **Last three** "aysken" files selected.

AYSKN.12 (12 of 12)

AYSKN.11 (11 of 12)

AYSKN.10 (10 of 12)

Bill -> **prior two**

Context: Retrieving **prior two** "aysken" files

AASK.09 (9 of 12)

AASK.08 (8 of 12)

Bill -> **next one**

Context: OK **next** "aysken" file - AASK.09 (9 of 12).

Bill -> **next** file

Context: **Next** "aysken" file - AYSKN.10 (10 of 12).

Examples of using Position within a list of files

Bill -> gimme the **last** file

Context: OK here is YELLOW.WPD, file, 306th of 306.

Bill -> **first** file

Context: Here is TOM1.WPD, file 1st of 306.

Bill -> **third** foobar file from last year

Context: Having trouble finding any "last year foobar" files.

Bill -> **second last** foobar file

Context: OK try FOOB.011, "foobar" file (11th of 12).

Examples of Singular/Plural

Bill -> **file** i did last week

Context: There are 10 "last week" files. Which one(s)?

Bill -> foobar **files**

Context: 5 "foobar" **files** selected.

Examples of Smalltalk

Bill -> Hi

Context: How do you do. What can I do for you?

Bill -> ?!Pthhhhhppt Aaack!

Context: Hmm. I'm afraid that I don't understand that.

Bill -> ok

Context: Sure thing.

Bill -> thanks

Context: You are welcome.

Bill -> bye

Context: Ciao Bill.

Glossary

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anaphora

Digital Webster says: "the use of a grammatical substitute such as a pronoun or a pro-verb, to refer to a preceding word or group of words". OR "repetition of a word or expression at the beginning of successive phrases, clauses, sentences, or verses *esp.* for rhetorical or poetic effect".

boolean search

Here we mean searching for AND/OR/NOT combinations of strings of words inside documents. For example, search for documents having the string "Mr Jones" AND NOT the string "Mr Smith".

chatterbot

A computer program that masquerades as a human.

glue word

Words that are common like "the", "a", "by", and don't really indicate the nature of any particular set of files. **Context** ignores glue words as far as finding information inside files, though of course these words **are important** and are used for the determination of what a user means from his input.

generic file words

The words **Context** recognizes as terms for "generic filetype" are: "file", "files", "doc", "docs", "document", "documents".

Any other filetype is explicitly defined by you, the user.

keywords

For this product, a "keyword" is a word that appears somewhere, **anywhere in a file or files** in your scanned folder. Certain "glue" words like "the" or "and" etc. are not considered to be keywords because saying that a file has the word "the" in it doesn't say much. Positional and date words like "last", "first", "december" aren't normally keywords either, unless singly quoted or invoked as part of an alias expression.

natural language understanding (NLU):

Computer "understanding" of "natural" human language or speech.

Context's domain of "understanding" is **restricted**.

Unrestricted NLU is best exemplified by HAL from Stanley Kubrick's 1968 classic film of Arthur Clarke's screenplay "2001: A Space Odyssey". HAL is an acronym for "**H**euristically programmed **A**lgorithmic computer".

regular expression

Here we mean input sentences which may contain **wildcards**.

reserved word

A word that has a special meaning to **Context** if **not** enclosed in single quotes. Days of the week, month names, positional words, filetypes, are examples of reserved words. To make use of these words to find something **literally**, enclose in single quotes.(ex. 'december snowfall')

semantics

The study of meanings. Also, "the meaning or relationship of meanings of a sign or set of signs; *esp*: connotative meaning".

semantic grammar

A grammar that is defined in terms of the major semantic categories of its domain is called a **semantic grammar**.

wildcards

An asterisk, *, and the question mark ?, are two usual wildcard symbols used when looking for things by various shells.(for ex., the DOS shell, or various and sundry UNIX shells) The * stands for zero or more "any symbols" and the ? stands for precisely one "any symbol".

Speech Synthesis

A very common PC soundcard is the "SoundBlaster" manufactured by Creative Labs Inc. Recent versions of this board come bundled with **text-to-speech** software called **TextAssist**. This software enables other Windows applications to actually read and speak text using the soundcard.

In order to have **Context** use **TextAssist**, you must have a version of **SoundBlaster** that comes with **TextAssist** installed. Additionally, and this is very important, you must have a tiny program called "TASSDDE.EXE". This program is a "DDE server" for **TextAssist** which enables other Windows programs to utilize **TextAssist's** synthesized speech capabilities. In order for **TextAssist** to work with **Context** "TASSDDE.EXE" **must be running**.

You may have to obtain TASSDDE from **Creative's** website, since for some reason, it might not be distributed on the CDROM found in the **SoundBlaster** package. Look for the self-extracting executable called "TASDDE.EXE", note the spelling differences, in the software section at:

"<http://www.creativelabs.com>"

Through **Context's** Options menu item "SpeechOut", you can set **Context** to speak its output using **TextAssist** with either a **male** or a **female** voice.

If you don't have World Wide Web access, the **Creative Labs** sales hotline is: 800.998.5227.

Speech Recognition

- IBM, Kurzweil, and Dragon Systems are three providers of **software only speech recognition systems** running on Win95.
- An excellent place to get the latest scoop on SPEECH TECHNOLOGY in general, and **speech recognition and speech synthesis** in particular, is the following WWW site courtesy of the Carnegie Mellon University:

"<http://www.speech.cs.cmu.edu/comp.speech>"

- This site is affiliated with "[comp.speech](#)", the Usenet newsgroup, which is a good place to find discussion of speech technology and products.

Status Window

- This is a READONLY "about" window.
- Displays date and version info for the installed copy of **Context**.
- Displays the Name and Company of the licensed user, if any.
- Supply the Name and Company information displayed on this window to WordSurf support in order to receive your personalized registration codes, R0, R1, R2, R3.

Registration Window

- Contact WordSurf support to receive your **FOUR** personalized registration codes. Namely, "R0", "R1", "R2", and "R3".
- Enter each of the four codes into the corresponding box located on the registration page.
- You access the registration page under the "Registration" submenu of the "Help" main menu item.
- You must enter **ALL FOUR** codes into their boxes!
- Successful registration entitles you to specified software updates and customer support. We will make software upgrades/updates available over the internet to registered users of **Context**.

How to Register

- Here are the current ways to register **Context** for WordPerfect.
- Phone our "**1-888**" ORDERING and REGISTRATION number: "1-888 293-2203",
- **FAX** us directly at: "1 403 944-1471" using the **REGISTER FORM** provided,
- Send EMAIL registration to "sales@wordsurf.com" or "support@wordsurf.com".
- When emailing us, include the following info:
 - Name
 - Company or Organization,
 - VISA or MC number(NET versions only)
 - Expiry Date.(NET versions only)
- Encrypt EMAIL to WordSurf using PGP. Pretty Good Privacy is strong freeware crypto available on the net.
- WordSurf Support's PGP public key is contained in the file "keyfile.asc" found in the Context installation directory.

ORDER FORM

Context for WordPerfect 2.0 Ordering Form/Invoice.

To print this order form, click on Print Topic in the File pull-down menu.

Credit card ordering: We currently accept **VISA or MC ONLY**.
Prices guaranteed through June 1997.

Context for WordPerfect is shipped on a 3.5" disk. Software disk and documentation are shipped by regular mail, unless otherwise specified. For **FedEx** add \$20 Cdn (\$17 US) for 2 day delivery.

___ copies at \$79.95 US or \$99 Cdn each = _____

Canadian residents add 7% GST + _____

TOTAL payment: ___\$US, or, ___\$Cdn

Credit Card Number: _____

VISA: ___ OR MC: ___

Expiry Date: _____

Please be sure to print clearly!

Name: _____

Date: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City, Prov/State, Postal Code/Zip: _____

Country: _____

Day Phone: _____ FAX: _____

Electronic Mail address: _____

How did you hear about this product?

Comments: _____

REGISTER FORM

Context for WordPerfect 2.0 Registration Form.

To print this registration form, click on Print Topic in the File pull-down menu.
Please be sure to print clearly!

****FOR COPIES DOWNLOADED FROM THE NET ONLY*****

NET copies, please provide CC info. We currently accept VISA or MC **only**.

Credit Card Number: _____
VISA: ___ OR MC: ___
Expiry Date: _____

\$79.95 US or \$99 Cdn = _____

Canadian residents add 7% GST + _____

TOTAL payment: (___\$US, or, ___\$Cdn) _____

****FOR COPIES DOWNLOADED FROM THE NET ONLY*****

For RETAIL copies *ONLY*, please provide the SERIAL NUMBER off of the box
that your software came with:

How would you like to receive your registration codes? Check one.

FAX EMAIL PHONE Snail Mail

Name: _____

Date: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City, Prov/State, Postal Code/Zip: _____

Country: _____

Day Phone: _____ FAX: _____

Electronic Mail address: _____

How did you hear about this product?

Comments:

Contacting WordSurf

- FAX number: area code (403), 944-1471.
- EMAIL: "support@wordsurf.com"
AND
"sales@wordsurf.com"
- 1-888 number: "1-888 293-2203"
(for order/registration ONLY)
- Snail Mail: **WordSurf Inc.**
#101 4249A - 97Street
Edmonton AB
CANADA T6E 5Y4
- WWW: <http://www.wordsurf.com>

Conversation Logging

- Under the "File" main menu item there is a sub-menu item "**Log**".
- "**Log**" is a checkable menu item which enables/disables **conversation logging** depending on whether or not it is checked.
- The largest scrollable window of **Context's** "main window", contains a record of the most recent interaction or "conversation" with **Context** since **Context** was last started.
- With "**Log**" checked, a running record of **ALL** of the conversation window dialog is stored in a file called "CONVERSE.TXT". This file is located in the folder to which you installed **Context**.
- The default "**Log**" condition is **checked**. If you *don't* want a record of your "conversations" with **Context**, please ensure that the "Log" sub-menu item is **unchecked**.
- "CONVERSE.TXT" is an appendable file, meaning every time you run **Context**, new conversation is appended to the conversation from previous runs of **Context**. In other words you don't write over top of "CONVERSE.TXT" each time you start **Context**.

Installation Notes

- If you wish to **update an old** version of **Context** with a **newer version** that you have obtained from **WordSurf** there are a couple of things to be aware of.
- If the **new** install folder is the **same as the old** install folder, simply install the new version over top of the old one in the same folder.
- If you are going to install the **newer** version to a **different** folder then you probably should uninstall the old version of **Context** prior to installing the new software. This is in order to avoid any confusion that Win95 may have with existing **Context** "shortcuts" or links.
- **WordSurf** will make software updates available over the Internet to registered users. **Contact WordSurf** for details.

Changing your Name

- If you are not happy with the way that **Context** has parsed your name and displayed it in the main window, request a name change.
- For example, tell **Context**,
 - "my name is john" or
 - "name is jane".

Complex Queries

- One form of **complex query** is "**conjunction**". That is, queries or user requests having the word "**and**".
- **Context will process** conjunctive queries that are used to frame date and time requests. See **examples of date and time of day** processing.
- **All other types of conjunctive query are not currently processed by Context.**

