

ESA v1.5 Documentation

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Chapter 1

ESA v1.5 Documentation

1.1 ESA v1.5 doc (30.10.1998)

Extended Syntax Assembly v1.5 (30.10.1998)

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DISCLAIMER & Distribution
some legal stuff

Requirements & Installation
did you buy another 32Mb Simm?

Introduction
got time to waste?!? Read here!!!

Features
what can it do?

Usage
how to run it?

Grammar & Constructions
what you can write and what you can't

General Notes
things you have to know

Error Messages
what's wrong, now?!?

Bugs
oh, no!

History
what has happened till now

Future

what's still to be done?

Author
some notes about me...

Greetz & Thanx
ciao!

1.2 DISCLAIMER and Distribution

DISCLAIMER

```
*****
* THIS PROGRAM IS PROVIDED "AS-IS" WITHOUT WARRANTY OF ANY KIND *
* EITHER EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED. *
*
```

I

```
ACCEPT NO RESPONSABILITY OR LIABILITY FOR ANY DAMAGE OR PROBLEM *
* DERIVING FROM THE USE OF THIS PROGRAM: USE AT YOUR OWN RISK!!! *
*****
```

Distribution

This program is FREEWARE, therefore IT CANNOT BE SOLD FOR PROFIT.
So, only the distribution charges (i.e.: disk, postage, handling, etc.)
can be applied.

No fee is required from

me

, but donations of any kind (something like
the 1st original tankobon of "Dr.Slump & Arale chan" would be just a
dream... ;) will be gladly accepted.

If distributed on a coverdisk, please send a copy of the mag!!!

ALL the following files *MUST* be included in the same package (regard-
less of the form it comes in):

ESA/	(main dir)
ESA	main executable
ESA.guide	this manual
examples/	(examples dir)
tab.txt	tabulation indicator
MergeSort.ei	example source
QuickSort.ei	example source
sss/	(dir of a complete example program)
sss.guide	prog's documentation
do	script for quick compiling
defs.i	standard asm source

main.esa	ESA source code
misc.ei	ESA include file
opt.ei	ESA include file
split.ei	ESA include file
data.i	standard asm source

1.3 Requirements & Installation

Requirements

ESA requires a 020+ CPU.
It should work also on KS1.3, but I can give no guarantee.
About 90kb + 40kb (or as much as specified with
-b
) + enough room
for all the
source files
of the program to compile are needed.

Installation

It doesn't need to be installed, just put it anywhere on your HD
(preferably on your commands path).

1.4 Introduction

Introduction

Oh... so you're wondering why I wrote this prog...
No special purpose indeed... I came from a long period during which
I just studied and didn't code anything (coding is kinda disease...
you know when you start, but don't know when you'll finish... sadly
this doesn't help with exams...). At the end of this interminable
period of forced coding inactivity, I would've coded just anything.
And that's what happened. ESA was the 1st idea which came to my mind
and so I immediately started it, getting up in the depths of night.
OK, I guess you can imagine perfectly how I felt like, so I'll try
to be brief.

Between one project and another, I continued (slowly) developing
this program, even though, when the "creative attack" was over, I
was no longer much convinced about it. Yes, an interesting piece of
software to produce, but - I was wondering - will it somehow come in
handy? I didn't find an answer... I wish that somebody of you will
find it useful or (this would please me even more) that it will
help someone to approach the assembly language...

what do you think

about it!?!?

I wouldn't be surprised of hearing comments of the kind:
«Junk. Afraid of asm? Stop complaining about its "difficulty" and go
on with an high level language. No need of this "extension" at all.»

No. I wouldn't be surprised, because that's EXACTLY what *I* think. Can't believe it? It doesn't matter. The only other thing, apart from the pleasure of coding a program that I personally found interesting to code, which pushed me to complete my work is the fact that I've learned that in this world there's always somebody who likes what you wouldn't have ever believed that could appeal to anyone (phew! Correct? If not, I hope you can get the general sense the same!!!).

1.5 Features

Features

The job of this program is to take a "strange" assembly source and convert it to a "standard" one, ready to be assembled by your favourite assembler. A kinda asm-preprocessing, in short.

So now - you're surely wondering - what can this prog do, precisely? Well, as its name suggests, it handles "extended" asm sources (read below to see how), so that, in the end, it can be said that a new, enriched (if you like, this can also be read as: "at an higher level" - but that's *not* what I want at all) assembly language comes out of it. In a nutshell: ESA takes an "extended" asm source as input and outputs a standard 020+ asm source.

The simplest feature is the possibility of writing
several assembly

instructions on a single line

. While this does *not* ease the reading,

sometimes it can help since it permits to have more code than usual on a single page.

Surely this is not all that ESA can offer.

In fact, it allows you to use some constructions for the program flow control, which are typical of high-level languages.

Normally you have inline asm inside C, Pascal, Basic, etc.;

ESA, instead, gives inline C, Pascal, Basic, etc. inside asm, with all the consequent advantages (yeah! we can mess around with CPU's and HW's registers, variables, the stack, etc. in total freedom!).

Besides, there are some facilities for the program's structure design: yes, I'm referring to procedures and functions...

All I'm talking about is described in detail

here

.

Obviously, any construction can be used in nested form (there's only a

very loose limitation...

)!

Finally, ESA treats the include files of any kind (i.e.: both the "old" "#?.i"s and ESA's "#?.ei"s) in a "special" way:

it's well worth having a look at

these info about this

!

1.6 Using ESA

Using ESA

Run it from both CLI or WB (no tooltypes support... do you really wanna launch it from icon!?! I can't believe it!!!).

SYNTAX

```
esa [OPTIONS] source [dest]
```

ARGS

```
source      : asm source file to convert
dest        : output filename
              (def.: source="file.esa" -> dest="file.s"
               source="anything" -> dest="anything.s")
```

OPTIONS

```
-sS      {S}: 'S' is the instructions' separator (def.: S='$')
          with this you can decide how to separate
          two or
          more instructions on the same line
          -c      {D}: include comments in the output file
                  (normally they are omitted)

-lC      {D}: 'C'=first char of labels (def.: '.')
          each label produced by ESA will start with 'C'

-bSIZE {M}: work buffer of SIZE bytes (SIZE=>4096; def.: 40Kb)
          (the bigger the faster... less accesses to disk!)

-q       {M}: quiet mode (no message will be given)
```

NOTES

- {S}=source option, {D}=dest option, {M}=misc option
- the options can be placed anywhere in the command line
- the options and their args can be separated by spaces
- press CTRL-C to break execution anytime

1.7 ESA Grammar & Constructions (back to school...)

ESA Grammar & Constructions (back to school...)

Although ESA makes asm coding a little "easier", to use it without problems you *do* need to know at least the basics of 68k asm (and of the Amiga, of course).

Yet, certainly you don't need to be a master...

so don't let this messy manual fool you: the formal definitions of the grammar are a bit scary, but in the end everything is extra-simple.

The fundamental thing to bear in mind is that you can mix pure 68k assembly and ESA code wherever and whenever you want. To know how to write ESA code, just read on...

Urgh... quite hard to explain clearly and deeply how the syntax works! Anyway, once you've understood the general sense, everything should come easy (at least I hope).

To start, I advice you to have a good look at
this quite formal list

of the valid types
of the grammar: if something somewhere is not clear
go on the same (don't worry!) taking some glances at the examples in
any of the sections below, and then go back for better understanding.

logic:

bool
boolean evaluation

loops:

do ... loop
a bit of AMOS, too!

exit
exiting loops

expire ... nexp
68k "dbra"

for ... to ... step ... next
what to say?!?

repeat ... until ...
just like Pascal!

while ... ewhile
BASIC's "while"... "wend"

decisions:

on ... goto ...
jump table (branches)

on ... gosub ...
jump table (subroutines)

switch .. -> .. def .. eswitch
much better than C's!

when .. owhen .. othw .. ewhen
"if".. "else[if]".. "endif"

functions:

function ... efunc
defining functions

FUNCNAME[]
calling functions

```
pop
exiting functions
```

procedures:

```
procedure ... eproc
defining procedures
```

```
PROCNAME[]
calling procedures
```

```
pop
exiting procedures
```

directives:

```
incdir & include
using external sources
```

1.8 General Notes

General Notes

This section gives you a few hints about:

```
correct use
problems with generated code
```

```
speed
performance of generated code
```

```
misc notes
interesting things
```

1.9 Correct Use

Correct Use

The most important thing you have to bear in mind in order to get fully working code is that you can't use the stack pointer (sp) freely inside

```
ESA constructions
(avoid dirty sp tricks!): in fact, the code produced
needs to mess a lot with the sp, so don't be surprised if crashes hap-
pen when (sp)-like modes are used inside expressions. Just think about
something else and let ESA take total control of the sp inside its own
constructions.
```

Remember: the stack is heavily used by ESA generated code!

Another thing to remember is that constructions nesting is permitted to a certain degree: the biggest nest possible is 64 entries long.

Pay attention! There is **no** check... instead of inserting checks, I'd prefer to enlarge the internal stack (even doubled would be still very small) used for this purpose in order to avoid the consequent slowdown.

Let me know
if you feel too constrained.

Finally, I advice you to increase the default stack size (4096 bytes) when working with long & complex sources.

1.10 How Do I Get the Best Performance?

How Do I Get the Best Performance?

Basic, simple, speedy, flexible... but hard to work with due to the length of the use procedures.

This applies to almost everything in this world. And particularly to the hardware/software worlds. Often, to make things a little bit shorter, simplicity, speed and flexibility are sacrificed. And this is exactly what (naturally) happens with ESA.

WHEN WRITING TIME-CRITIC ROUTINES, DON'T RELY ON ESA CODE'S SPEED!!!

There's not much to add. You gotta write them by hand (and that's not so much bad...). The reason is that to allow total flexibility to the various constructions, the code has got to be as much general as possible, and, consequently, slower than it could be if hand written.

ESA's

add-ons
affect the speed in different degrees:

-

procedures
and
functions
cause a very little speed loss (sometimes
no loss at all)

- the

for
and
expire
constructions also cause a minor speed loss,

(

expire
, in particular, thanks to its nature (simple), is often as fast as hand written code). Be careful, though, when using a variable for the counter of
for...next

: in small loops the overhead
could be quite heavy!

- the real beasts are all the others, as they include the evaluation of

boolean expressions

.

Here I'd like to spend a couple of words (you can skip this...):
writing code which automatically generates pieces of code to evaluate (almost) all kinds of boolean expressions, *without* having the possibility of using registers, is a tough thing (I looked at it as a challenge... I really enjoyed writing the code about this part -
- I wonder if there's any theory about this... if you know, please

contact me

); it isn't easy to get rid of the difficulties that this problem presents (mainly because there is no availability of registers), since not only variables (like in high level languages) but also the registers themselves have to be handled (carefully) as boolean and integer variables in the expressions.

The result is that the code produced for boolean expressions' evaluation looks ugly (and it is, indeed), although I put in as many optimizations as possible (for example: "not" ("

~

") is treated in a very smart way, making large use of the "De Morgan" rules): so, if you need speed, avoid automatically generated boolean expressions.

My advice is: use

procs

,

funcs

,

fors

on so on almost everywhere, but

do pay attention when a

boolean expression

pops up!!!

1.11 Miscellaneous Notes

Miscellaneous Notes

These notes come in no particular order.

If you have followed a link then you should be automatically pointed to the relevant section (unless you're at the bottom of the page... this is a problem of the amigaguide viewers!)

- some constructions produce jumps to labels generated automatically: if they are local (=start with '.') and if between these jumps you use any global definition, probably the assembler will fail with an error of the kind: "undefined symbol"

- default size is ".1" (except where differently stated);
-

- place spaces/TABs wherever you want, except between the arguments and their own sizes;
 - remember that ESA makes mainly **syntactical** checks, **semantics** is left to the assembler: so, if you write an invalid expression, ESA won't warn you at all (give a look at
 this simple example
)!!!
 - since
 var
 accepts almost anything, it's up to you to avoid weird things...
 - ESA is **case sensitive** for speed's sake!
 - remarks must start with '*' or ';' if they are at the beginning of a line or are not preceded by any instruction/directive; otherwise ';' is the only char which marks a comment (in this case it has to be used after a TAB or space);
 - comments can be put only at the end of any sequence of instructions
 ;
 - all spaces and TABs in the arguments will be removed (except if enclosed between "" or '');
 - when ESA is halted by
 an error during pass 2
 , the output file holds
 all the code generated until that moment
 - as shown in the examples scattered in the grammar chapter, sometimes
 ESA doesn't seem able to align properly the asm instructions in their column... weird, huh?!? Well, this is not a bug, it's another "tribute" to speed!!! For the same reason, a negated exclusive or (~eor) makes some capitalized letters appear in the code ("EOR")!!!
 - the labels generated by ESA have this format: CXXXXXXX, where XXXXXXXX is a number in hexadecimal notation and C is generally '.' (or the char you have selected with the
 -l option
); otherwise, it can be either 'p' for
 global procedures
 or 'f' for
 global functions
 .
 - In theory, up to 3*268435456 different labels can be generated, but once passed the 268435455 mark, it's highly likely to produce repetitions... but who's gonna pass it, anyway?!?
 - for those who are going to deeply and critically analyze the code produced: somewhere you'll find things like "(-6,sp)" where, in-
-

stead, it should have been "`~-5,sp`". Don't worry. This is due to a "bug" in the MC68k which decreases [increases] `sp` by 2 when using a byte size and a predecrement [postincrement] addressing mode!

- notice on
 - error reports
 - : rarely (in just **one** particular case - challenge (no prize): find it!) the printing of the string which generated the error could be somehow corrupted (truncated or partially modified in the middle, etc.); this is **not** a bug: it's because during `pass1` some integer values are directly written in the source (to speed up several things): since it happens not so often, I chose not to fix this problem (to avoid a little slowdown and an increase of memory needs)
- lines longer than 2048 characters could cause malfunctioning (even GURUs!!!) when the work buffer is almost full
- little discussion on the kind of brackets used for funcs/procs or boolean expressions: yes, I was **forced** to use `'[,']` or `'{','}'`, respectively. Wanna know why?!?

Look at this: `" ~(a0) "` [this is a boolean expression]

What does it mean to you?

1. logical complement of the data stored at the address in `a0`
2. logical complement of the data stored in `a0`

If I had used `'(,')'`, both answers would have been right.

Using the ungraceful `'{','}'` any ambiguity is swept away:

1. `~(a0) = ~{(a0)}`
2. `~a0 = ~{a0}`

About functions: `" move.l MyLabel(a0),d0 "`

What's your pick?

1. load in `d0` the value at the address calculated as `a0+MyLabel`
2. load in `d0` the value returned by the function `MyLabel()` with the parameter `a0`

Again, those would've been both right.

But those unusual brackets help us once again:

1. `move.l MyLabel(a0),d0 = move.l (MyLabel,a0),d0`
2. `move.l MyLabel[a0],d0`

And what about procs?

Honestly, there is no problem with them, thanks to the way they are

called

. But how could I mix together `'['`s and `'('`s ?

- not to complicate too much the code which checks the syntactical correctness of
 - `vars`
 - , `"-(ax)+"` is accepted even if wrong bigtime!

1.12 Error Messages

Error Messages

As you may have guessed, this section covers the errors reported by ESA and all the related stuff. I've not been too fussy, so the same error could be given for a number of different mistakes. My advice is to check the syntax, the prob is almost always there!

Error reports take the form of:

```
"ERROR " ERRNO ": " ERRTXT
```

or (when needed):

```
"ERROR " ERRNO ": " ERRTXT " at line " LINENO " of " FILENAME ":"  
">" CODELINE
```

where:

- ERRNO is the number of the error found (it will also be returned as the AmigaOS fail returncode)
- ERRTXT is the concise explanation of what happened
- LINENO is the line which the error occurred at
- FILENAME is the file which contains the error (only the file part of the path is printed)
- CODELINE is the wrong line in the source

(there's also another little
notice about this
...)

Errors are grouped into 3 classes; below you can find a few info about them (no description/info given for self-explaining messages):

```
pass 1  
reports during pass 1
```

```
pass 2  
reports during pass 2
```

```
misc  
general messages
```

You may also find useful an ordered
list of all messages

.

1.13 Pass 1 Errors

Pass 1 Errors

1: user break

```

- this is your own business...
2: couldn't load source file
4: not enough memory
  - ESA either didn't find enough room to load a
    source file
    or
  failed to allocate dinamically one of the little structures used
  for
    procedures
    and
    functions
    definitions!
12: wrong syntax in
    procedure declaration
    13: wrong syntax in
    function declaration
    24: too many
    nested includes
        - max recursion degree for
    include files
        is 64 - and you've just
    passed beyond!
25: couldn't access source directory
  - ESA couldn't get the lock to the dir of a
    source/include file
    33: directory not found
-
    incdir
    specifies a directory which cannot be reached from the
    current directory

```

1.14 Pass 2 Errors

Pass 2 Errors

```

1: user break
  - this is your own business...
5: unexpected end of file
  - there is a construction of the type: "begin"..."end" which
    hasn't been closed (i.e. "end" part missing) before the end
    of the source file
6: unexpected end mark
  - ESA met an "end" statement used for the constructions of the
    kind: "begin"..."end" which wasn't the one it was waiting for.
    Pay attention to the
        nested constructions
        in your source
7: insignificant string after ESA declaration
  - side comments must start with ';'
  - no string is allowed after an ESA construction, unless separated
    by the
        separator char
        8: wrong syntax in
        boolexp
        9: wrong syntax in

```

```

        bool
        declaration
10: wrong syntax in
        expire
        declaration
11: wrong
        condition code
        in
        nextp
        declaration
14: wrong size in
        pop
        declaration
15:
        pop
        statement not inside a
        procedure
        /
        function
        -
        pop
        doesn't work for loops
16: unknown
        procedure
        17: unknown
        function
        18: wrong syntax in
        procedure call
        19: wrong syntax in
        function call
        20: arguments mismatch in
        procedure
        /
        function
        call
- you passed less or more arguments than expected from the decla-
  ration of the
        procedure
        /
        function
        21: wrong syntax in
        until
        declaration
22: wrong syntax in
        while
        declaration
23: wrong syntax in
        when
        declaration
26: wrong syntax in on...
        goto
        /
        gosub
        ... declaration
27: wrong syntax in
        for...to...step
        declaration

```

```

28: byte size in conjunction with address register
    - CTR has a byte size in the
      for...to...step
      declaration and END
    or STP is an address register (this applies also to
      functions
      ,
      return values!)
    - you simply wrote "ax.b"!
29: wrong size in
    next
    declaration
30:
    othw
    not inside
    when...ewhen
    31: wrong syntax in
    switch
    declaration
32: wrong value declaration after
    ->
    34: error inside
    switch...eswitch
        - at least 1 "->" is needed (independently of
    def
    case}
-
    def
    must be the last case statement
35:
    othw
    repetition
    - othw has already been declared inside the current
    when...ewhen
    36:
    owhen
    not inside
    when...ewhen
    37:
    othw
    already specified before
-
    owhen
    can't be declared after
    othw
    38: wrong size in
    loop
    declaration
39: wrong size in
    exit
    declaration
40: not enough loops to
    exit
    41: cannot
    exit

procedures

```

```

/
functions
    - you have to use
pop
!
42: bad
efunc
return value

```

1.15 General Errors

General Errors

```

3: couldn't open dest file
4: not enough memory
    - ESA failed to allocate the work buffers.
    Try freeing some memory or decreasing the
      work buffer size

```

1.16 Errors List

Errors List

no	class	text
1		1
		2
		: user break
2		1
		: couldn't load source file
3		m
		: couldn't open dest file
4		1
		m
		: not enough memory
5		2
		: unexpected end of file
6		2
		: unexpected end mark
7		2
		: insignificant string after ESA declaration
8		2
		: wrong syntax in

```
boolexp  
  9  
  2  
    : wrong syntax in  
bool  
  declaration  
10  
  2  
    : wrong syntax in  
expire  
  declaration  
11  
  2  
    : wrong  
condition code  
  in  
nexp  
  declaration  
12  
  1  
    : wrong syntax in  
procedure declaration  
  13  
  1  
    : wrong syntax in  
function declaration  
  14  
  2  
    : wrong size in  
pop  
  declaration  
15  
  2  
    :  
pop  
  statement not inside a  
procedure  
/  
function  
  16  
  2  
    : unknown  
procedure  
  17  
  2  
    : unknown  
function  
  18  
  2  
    : wrong syntax in  
procedure call  
  19  
  2  
    : wrong syntax in  
function call  
  20  
  2
```

```

    : arguments mismatch in
procedure
/
function
call
21
    2
    : wrong syntax in
until
declaration
22
    2
    : wrong syntax in
while
declaration
23
    2
    : wrong syntax in
when
declaration
24
    1
    : too many
nested includes
    25
    1
    : couldn't access source directory
26
    2
    : wrong syntax in on...
goto
/
gosub
... declaration
27
    2
    : wrong syntax in
for...to...step
declaration
28
    2
    : byte size in conjunction with address register
29
    2
    : wrong size in
next
declaration
30
    2
    :
othw
not inside
when...ewhen
    31
    2
    : wrong syntax in
switch
```

```

    declaration
32
    2
      : wrong value declaration after
->
    33
    1
      : directory not found
34
    2
      : error inside
switch...eswitch
    35
    2
      :
othw
    repetition
36
    2
      :
owhen
    not inside
when...ewhen
    37
    2
      :
othw
    already specified before
38
    2
      : wrong size in
loop
    declaration
39
    2
      : wrong size in
exit
    declaration
40
    2
      : not enough loops to
exit
    41
    2
      : cannot
exit

procedures
/
functions
    42
    2
      : bad
efunc
    return value
```

1.17 Bugs

Bugs

Some versions of ESA have been tested (not so deeply) on:

- Unexpanded A1200
- A1200 + BZ1230-IV
- A1200 + BZ1260
- A4000/040
- A4000 + CS060-II

No known bug at the moment.

If you think you have found any, please
send me
a detailed bug report.

Machine specs ain't strictly necessary, the most important thing is the part of code which you think to be responsible for the bad behaviour of ESA and the (bad) code generated.

After this, just hope for a prompt fix!!!

1.18 History

History

v1.5 (30.10.1998)

- - efunc
 - extended
- little optimization in
 - boolexpr
 - check code
- little manual retouches

Well, no bugfixes this time... it seems I'm almost done with this prog (at least I wish so)!

v1.4 (25.10.1998)

- as I feared, the "frantic" changes in the previous version led to a number of mistakes:
 1. the usual "bne" <-> "beq" error in type detection code
 2.
 - >> and <<
 - were considered
 - cmpops
 - if used in
 - mathexprs
 - inside

- boolexprs
 - 3.
 - predecrement/postincrement
 - modes weren't recognized correctly as
 - var
 - , because '+' and '-' were considered separator chars
 - 4. negative
 - symbols
 - weren't accepted (this should have been fixed
 - much time ago, but I simply forgot to do it!!!)
 - 5. '.' was recognized as an "empty"
 - symbol
 - removed superfluous TAB+ENTER in the code produced by
 - switch
 - several optimizations (particularly in the grammar handling ←
 - code)
- manual update

All the bugs fixed in the last two versions (including this one) have been discovered while writing the program "sss" (contained in the archive "sss.lha" in the directory "examples" of this distribution

Please, Mr.Murphy, stop tormenting me...

v1.3 (23.10.1998)

- brackets changed again!
 - Procs
 - and
 - funcs
 - now use '[' , ']' : nicer and
 - more practical (no SHIFT - one keystroke less) (sorry if you have already defined many {}-procs, but there was also a serious reason: the '{'s produced some conflicts with boolexprs and resolving them in another way would have been less efficient... and less stylish!!!)
- bugfixes:
 1. by changing the brackets used for procs/funcs (in v1.2) I introduced several bugs (ex.: funcs were handled incorrectly inside boolexprs; during debugging I even found one which should have screwed up everything, but all misteriously worked perfectly!!!).
 2. silly flaws in
 - do
 - ,
 - repeat
 - and
 - expire
 - code which, in some
 - combinations, messed up the labels
 - 3. little correction to include handling
 - 4. few minutes before going to the uni computer lab (and just after getting up...) to upload this version, I realized that due to the last changes the grammar code had to be modified!!! So I turned on my Amiga and made this fix "on the fly", with one hand on the keyboard and the other putting on my shoes...

- little change in
 - when...ewhen
 - routines to make generated code a little more readable if compiling interrupts in the middle of that construction
- small optimizations
- oh damn! I fear I'll never stop updating this .guide!!!

Several important parts of the code had to be modified in a hurry, I just hope I didn't throw in any other bugs... I've been fighting for the whole night!!!

v1.2 (16.10.1998)

- major changes in parsing routine (optimised)
- the elegant form "name(args)" for proc/func calls has been dropped in favour of the awkward form "name{args}"...
 - ...but now
 - calls to undefined functions can be detected
 - !!!
- - do...loop
 - added
- "exit" renamed "
 - pop
 - "
- (new)
 - exit
 - added!
- some flaws fixed
- elapsed time report added
- usual boring changes to this manual

Although this is not a definitive version, I decided to release it because I'm going away for a few days and, when I'll be back, I'll be very busy with studies...

Since it's complete (and bugfree, I hope) now, there's no reason to delay the release for an undefined period of time

v1.1 (12.10.1998)

- - switch
 - 100% working: now nesting is permitted and "beq" replaced the wrong "bne" (little moment of absent-mindedness of mine...)
- - switch
 - and
 - when...ewhen
 - capabilities extended (explicit condition
 - declaration and
 - owhen
 - , respectively)
- - for...next

```

        default step set to -1 when using
        dwto
        (I just forgot
about it before...)
- bugfixes:
  1. source file loading
  2.
        incdir
        (after pass1 this directive wasn't preserved)
  3.
        until
        ("bne"<->"beq"... same as
switch
!)
  4. parameters loading in
        proc
        /
        func
        calls
-
        includes
        handling improved (now names between " or ' are accepted)
- misc optimizations
-
        grammar definition of type imm
        extended (I totally forgot the forms
of the kind: #"symb" or #'symb')
-
        grammar definition of type args
        changed (compatible with previous)
-
        AmigaOS fail returncode
        added
- default
        work buffer size
        changed (10Kb -> 40Kb)
- manual deeply revised/updated

```

WOW! it seems I'm almost finished with it!!!

v1.0 (05.10.1998)

```

-
        switch
        included at 99%
-
        size types
        extended ({dsize, asize, jsize} instead of {size})
- better handling of regs' sizes ("ax.b" somewhere would have been
used as a
        val
        instead of causing an error)
-
        procedures
        and
        functions

```

declaration syntax slightly changed:
 "PROCNAME,loc()" has become a much more meaningful: "loc:PROCNAME()"
 - bugfixes:
 1. error reports
 2. othw
 3. include
 4. type detection code (probably introduced in v0.9b!), "/" ←
 recogni
 tion as a
 matop
 - manual revised/updated ;)

Not released, although it's the 1st (almost) complete version

v0.9b (14.09.1998)

-
 indir
 handling added

For some unknown reasons the upload of this version failed several times: hence it's never been publically released!!!

v0.9 (15.07.1998)

First public release.
 For time reasons
 switch
 and
 indir
 couldn't be implemented.

1.19 Future

Future

First, let me say that I don't think I'll have much time to spend on improving this program. Too bad this *doesn't depend on me*.

I just can ensure that I'll do my best to fix all the
 bugs
 you'll find

(as soon as I'll have the time) and add those easy, minor improvements which could make ESA a little more friendly.

Speaking about "real" additions/expansions or whatever...

To be honest, I'm not willing at all to add more constructions, for one simple, plain reason: I don't wanna end up writing a new language. If you need to pass to an even higher level, than switch to C or E or anything else.

ESA has already a few features which at the beginning I didn't plan nor want to implement (which ones? procedures, functions... and something else), 'coz I considered too "advanced"...

Well, now you got'em, enjoy and let's forget about this.

But, pleeeeeeze, don't ask me to add other magic commands, unless they're are really something special...

However, don't be discouraged by what I just said:
got an idea? Just

```
    gimme a call
    and let's see if I fancy it.
```

Maybe it turns out to be that damn nice feature ESA was missing!

1.20 Hi there!

Hi there!

I *do* want your feedback.
Let me know what you think and if you have any problems/ideas or need some explanations/hints.

Write to:

bevilacq@cli.di.unipi.it

I can also be reached by snail mail at the following addresses:

(during "normal" periods)

Simone Bevilacqua
P.za Garibaldi 9
56100 Pisa (PI)
ITALY

(during uni vacation periods - "safer" address!!!)

Simone Bevilacqua
Via A.Volta 6
86010 Ferrazzano (CB)
ITALY

1.21 Greetz and Thanx

Greetz and Thanx

Thanks to all the Amiga coders still around and in particular to:

Michele Berionne, Pietro Ghizzoni: help with uploading and testing;
Fabio Bizzetti: testing;
Frank Wille: testing and... his magic PhxAss!!!

Mega greetings to my family and all my friends!!!

```
(the next time I'd like to scribble here something like:
"WOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOW!FINALLYMPATIENCEHASBEENREWARDED!!!
THANXALOTAMIGAINC./INT.FORHAVINGGIVENTHEWORLDANEWBEAUTYANDAHOPETOSAVEIT
FROMTHOSEDIRTYM$OFT/INTEL'SHANDS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!")
```

Now I wonder: will that moment ever come before 2177a.d.?!?
PLEASE, MAKE IT SO, MAKE IT SOON!!!)

1.22 Include Files Handling

Include Files Handling

ESA processes the include files listed in the source so that you can freely build your own "libraries" of

```
functions
/
procedures
```

It will recursively (max depth: 64) parse the includes, producing a single output file without *any* include statement. Of course, each include file will be included and compiled just once (BTW: as a side effect, this will ease the assembler's task, as it will have to load only a single source).

Please note that "IF" directives are simply ignored, so this kind of declarations:

```
IFND EXEC_TYPES_I
include "exec/types.i"
ENDC
```

would be compiled as:

```
IFND EXEC_TYPES_I

ENDC
```

if "exec/types.i" has already been included (even if specified with a different path).

The directory which will be scanned to find the include files listed in a source is the source's one (when no full path is declared - this applies recursively also to includes).

The above rule is void if an "incdir" directive is found: in that case, any other subsequent include statement in the source containing that "incdir" will refer to the specified directory.

Dir/file names can be enclosed in "" or ''.

Please note that it doesn't make any sense to compile ESA include files (my proposal is to call them "#?.ei" for convention) separately from the source[sources] which makes[make] use of them because ESA generates unique labels only when all the source files are available.

```

* WARNING: DUE TO TIME REASONS, VERY FEW TESTS HAVE BEEN DONE!      *
*           IF SOMETHING STRANGE HAPPENS (ESPECIALLY WITH "incdir") IT *
*           COULD BE WELL A                                          *
*           BUG                                                       *
*           (though I had no problem)!                                *
*****

```

1.23 Multiple Instructions on a Single Line

Multiple Instructions on a Single Line

ESA allows you to put several instructions and/or ESA commands (with their arguments, if required), separated by a special char, on a single line.

Let's make an example:

```
lea.l buffer,a0 $ bool d1=d2,d0.b $ add.b d0,d0
```

I stopped at the 3rd instruction, but there can be as many instructions as you want... but then you'll find yourself scrolling the screen horizontally rather than vertically! Not a great deal!!!

As you can see, the instructions are separated by " \$" (note: the leading ' ' is compulsory, the following not), which is the default separator. If you wish to change it, use the

```
-s option
.
```

WARNING: don't put labels after an instruction using the separator (they would be exchanged for instructions)!

1.24 Conventions and Types

CONVENTIONS USED IN THE WHOLE TEXT

```

...           = ESA and/or asm code
[xyz]        = xyz is optional
ID:type      = ID is an identifier of the type specified
"xyz"        = xyz is a string of characters
'xyz'        = as above (less frequent)

```

Also, have a look at the

```

misc notes
.
```

TYPES

```

0.
    logop
: "&" | "|" | "^"
```

1. cmpop
: "<" | ">" | "<=" | ">=" | "=" |
 "«" | "»" | "«=" | "»=" | "<>"
 2. matop
: "+" | "-" | "*" | "/" | "//" | "<<" | ">>"
 3. dsize
: ".l" | ".w" | ".b"
 4. asize
: ".l" | ".w"
 5. jsize
: ".l" | ".w" | ".b" | ".s"
 6. dreg : "d0" | "d1" | ... | "d7" |
 dreg dsize
 7. areg : "a0" | "a1" | ... | "a7" |
 areg asize
 8. reg
 : dreg | areg
 9. regslst
: reg | reg"/regslst |
 dreg-"dreg | dreg-"dreg"/regslst |
 areg-"areg | areg-"areg"/regslst
 10. sym
: any symbol accepted by the assembler
 11. var : ea
 [size] except imm
 12. boolexpr
: rval | rval cmpop rval | boolexpr logop boolexpr |
 imm cmpop rval | "
 ~
 " boolexpr | "{" boolexpr "}"
 13. mathexpr
: sym matop sym | sym matop mathexpr |
 mathexpr matop sym | mathexpr matop mathexpr |
 (" mathexpr ")
 14. imm : "#sym | "#mathexpr | "#'?' | '#"?'
 (where "?" is a string 1,2 or 4 characters long)
 15. val : imm | var | func
 16. rval
: var | func
 17. args : val | val ", " args
 18. func : any valid ESA
 function call
 19. cc
 : "eq" | "ne" | "vc" | "vs" | "pl" | "mi" |
-


```
"lo" | "ls" | "hi" | "hs" | "cc" | "cs" |
"lt" | "le" | "gt" | "ge" | "t" | "f"
```

1.25 Effective Address

Effective Address

ea = any valid addressing mode

ESA won't make any check on several addressing modes, so eas correctness is in your hands.

1.26 Logical Operators

Logical Operators

```
"&" = and
"|" = or
"^" = exclusive or
```

These operators work on boolean basis:
they are **not** bitwise operators operators, but just know 0 and <>0.

Please note that "~" (not), being an unary logic operator, can be used only in some positions in
boolean expressions
.

1.27 Comparison Operators and Condition Codes

Comparison Operators and Condition Codes

Here's the list of the operators which can be used in
boolexprs
(with the corresponding condition codes):

op	cc	meaning
"="	eq	equal to
"<>"	ne	not equal
"<"	lt	less than (signed)
">"	gt	greater than (signed)
"<="	le	less or equal (signed)
">="	ge	greater or equal (signed)
"<<"	lo	lower than (unsigned)
">>"	hi	higher than (unsigned)
"<="	ls	lower or same (unsigned)
">="	hs	higher or same (unsigned)

Other valid condition codes are:

```
cc    meaning
t     true
f     false
vc    overflow clear
vs    overflow set
cc    carry clear
cs    carry set
pl    plus
mi    minus
```

1.28 Mathematical Operators

Mathemathical Operators

```
"+" = addition
"- " = subtraction
"*" = multiplication
"/" = division
"//" = modulo
"<<" = shift left
">>" = shift right
```

These are the ones accepted by PhxAss;
dunno other assemblers.

1.29 Sizes

Sizes

```
".b", ".s" = byte
".w"      = word
".l"      = long
```

1.30 A Little Mistake in the Grammar...

A Little Mistake in the Grammar

According to the definition adopted in the
conventions
, a thing in

the shape of: "d0.b.b.w" is a **correct** dreg.

Actually, this is **not** true, but that's just a simplification in the
grammar (to make it a bit more readable).

1.31 Registers

Registers

Only data & address registers can be used, sorry.
 (For now) forget about ssp, sr, and so on...
 If you try to use one of them, it will be treated just like a normal symbol!

1.32 Registers Lists

Registers Lists

This is the type used for movems in 68k asm.
 With ESA it assumes a more versatile aspect: in fact you can declare also the size of any argument.
 This, obviously, doesn't applies to movems (sizes are discarded, ".l" is used as default), but has a great importance in
 procs
 and
 funcs
 calls.

A declaration of the kind: "a0.w/d3.b-d5" is perfectly legal and means, if included in a call:

- load a0 with a 2 bytes long value
- load d3, d4, d5 with 1 byte long values

The same would have happened if the declaration had been:

"a0.w/d3.b-d5.w"

since only the 1st size, in "dx.y-di.j" or "ax.y-ai.j" statements, is taken into account (y here).

Moreover, as the syntax shows, it's possible to mix in any order aregs and dregs: "a3.w / d0-d2 / a5 - a7 / d5 / a1" is still valid (but *NO* check is performed on repetitions! An "a5" in the place of "a1" would not cause any error!).

1.33 Symbols

Symbols

Here are listed all the chars which can be used in symbols (labels).
 If you think that someone is missing, just
 drop me a line

.

```
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z
a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z
```

```
@ $ \ _ $^1$ $^2$ $^3$ ¢ ¼ ½ ¾ · ì è à ù $ ò å \textdegree{} © ® þ ¨ $\mathrm{\ ←
mu}$ ;
ø ¶ æ ß ð £ £ \ensuremath{\pm} $\times$ ç ª °
```

The chars '.' and '-' are allowed only at the beginning of a symbol.

ESA will only partially check the correctness of symbols, so it can happen that invalid symbols are used without any warning.

1.34 Boolean Expressions

Boolean Expressions

[Click here](#)

for some hints on how to use these expressions in the most effective way.

Also have a look at the
boolean
and
comparison
operators.

The arguments of boolean expressions are treated in this way:

```
false=0, true<>0.
```

Yet, after the execution of the evaluation code, it will always be:

```
false=0, true=-1 (255);
```

that's why it's possible to write expressions like: "a0.w & Sendo.b", whose code would be:

```
cmpa.w      #0,a0
sne.b       -(sp)
tst.b       Sendo
sne.b       -(sp)
move.l      d0,(-4,sp)
move.b      (sp)+,d0
and.b       d0,(sp)
move.l      (-6,sp),d0
```

The size used in comparisons is the one of the 1st register or, when there's no reg, of the 1st argument:

code produced for "Hanamichi.w=Kaede.b":

```
move.l      d0,(-6,sp)
move.w      Hanamichi,d0
cmp.w       Kaede,d0
seq.b       -(sp)
move.l      (-4,sp),d0
```

code produced for "d5.b=Haruko.l" or "Haruko.l=d5.b":

```
cmp.b       Haruko,d5
seq.b       -(sp)
```

As an additional note, when an argument is an address register only ".w" and ".l" can be used, thus it's impossible to write something like "a5.b = Senbe"; on the other hand, a statement of the kind "d0.b > a3.w" will make use of ".w", since aregs have priority over dregs.

OK. Why don't you use the same size in both arguments ;)

As you can see, the best code is obtained when at least one argument is a register:

code produced for "Ronzaman<d1":

```
    cmp.l    Ronzaman,d1
    sgt.b    -(sp)
```

code produced for "a5.w >= Suppaman":

```
    cmpa.w   Suppaman,a5
    shs.b    -(sp)
```

code produced for "Suppaman.b >= Ronzaman":

```
    move.l   d0,(-6,sp)
    move.b   Suppaman,d0
    cmp.b    Ronzaman,d0
    shs.b    -(sp)
    move.l   (-4,sp),d0
```

"Style" note: boolean expression can be contained inside '{' and '}'. I know it isn't stylish, but there's a very serious reason behind.

1.35 Mathematical Expressions

Mathematical Expressions

These are made of constats/symbols and math operators

.

As always, ESA will check only their syntactical correctness:

```
- ((say+hello-to-Pippo)
```

this will be reported as wrong (FYI (if you're a very curious dude): (say+hello-to-Pippo) will be accepted and used. Upon completion of all the operations with it, going on with the parsing, the second ')' will not be found and an error will be generated);

```
- ApplePie/0
```

this, instead, won't cause any warning, even if the assembler will clearly scream out loud that divisions by 0 are a little hard to do...

1.36 Restricted Values

Restricted Values

This type is defined for (almost) exclusive use in
 boolexprs

.

As the name suggests, it's a restricted version of val, lacking of the

imm type

.

1.37 boolean evaluation

bool

SYNTAX

```
"bool" BL:boolexpr ", " DEST:var
```

MEANING

1. evaluates BL
2. writes its value (true, false) to DEST

NOTES

- the default size used for DEST is *byte*;
- to obtain the fastest results, use the default size, especially if DEST is not a dreg (see below);
- if DEST is an areg without explicit size, ".w" is used as default;

EXAMPLE 0

ESA asm:

```
bool { {Suppaman=d4} & Slump} | {~{d4=d5}}, d2.l
```

68k asm:

```

  cmp.l    Suppaman, d4
  seq.b    -(sp)
  tst.l    Slump
  sne.b    -(sp)
  move.l   d0, (-4, sp)
  move.b   (sp)+, d0
  and.b    d0, (sp)
  move.l   (-6, sp), d0
  cmp.l    d5, d4
  sne.b    -(sp)
  move.l   d0, (-4, sp)
```

```

move.b    (sp)+,d0
or.b      d0,(sp)
move.l    (-6,sp),d0      ;BL evaluation
move.b    (sp)+,d2      ;.l size doesn't affect
extb.l    d2              ;much the speed...

```

EXAMPLE 1

ESA asm:

```

bool Makusa,ObabaHaru.w

bool Makusa,ObabaHaru.b      ;default size

```

68k asm:

```

tst.l     Makusa            ;1st "bool"
sne.b     -(sp)
move.l    d0,(-4,sp)
move.b    (sp)+,d0
extb.l    d0
move.w    d0,ObabaHaru
move.l    (-6,sp),d0      ;sloooow...

tst.l     Makusa            ;2nd "bool"
sne.b     -(sp)
move.b    (sp)+,ObabaHaru ;much faster, huh!?!?

```

1.38 a bit of AMOS, too!

do ... loop

SYNTAX

```

"do"
...
...
...
"loop"[SZ:jsize]

```

MEANING

1. executes the code between "do" and "loop"
2. repeats 1 forever

NOTES

- SZ is the size for the bra instruction used (default: none);

EXAMPLE 0

ESA asm:

```
do
    addq.l    #1,d0    ;here's a nice
loop.s      ;way of wasting
            ;processor time...
```

68k asm:

```
.00000000
    addq.l    #1,d0
    bra.s     .00000000
```

1.39 exiting loops

exit

SYNTAX

```
"exit"[SZ:jsize] [" CNT:imm]
```

MEANING

1. exits from the last CNT loops entered
(if CNT undeclared, then CNT=1 by default)

NOTES

- SZ is the size to be used for the bra (default: none);
- CNT is the number of loops you wish to exit from (CNT>0; default: 1)
- if used also inside a begin...end-type construction, this will be "broken", too (except if it's a proc or func: that would generate an error)!

EXAMPLE 0

ESA asm:

```
do
  repeat
    while d0
      expire d1=#23
      for d2=#0 upto #10
        exit.s #5
      next
    nexp
  ewhile
until d3
loop
```

68k asm:

```
.00000000                                ;do label
```



```

.0000001                                     ;repeat label
.0000002  tst.l      d0                                     ;while condition
          sne.b     -(sp)
          tst.b     (sp)+
          beq       .0000003
          move.w    #23,d1
.0000004                                     ;expire label
          move.l    #0,d2                                     ;for args loading
          move.l    #10,.0000005
          move.l    #1,.0000005+4
          bra.s     .0000006
.0000005  dc.l      0,0
.0000006  cmp.l     .0000005,d2
          bgt       .0000007
          bra.s     .0000008                                     ;this is exit!!!
          add.l    .0000005+4,d2
          bra       .0000006                                     ;next
.0000007
          dbra     d1,.0000004                                     ;nexp
          bra      .0000002                                     ;ewhile
.0000003                                     ;until condition
          tst.l     d3
          sne.b     -(sp)
          tst.b     (sp)+
          beq       .0000001
          bra       .0000000                                     ;loop
.0000008

```

EXAMPLE 1

ESA asm:

```

do                                     ;looks like a rather *WorRyInG*
  when.s #1000=d0.b                   ;delay-loop!!!
  exit.s
  othw
  addq.l #1,d0
  ewhen
loop.s

```

68k asm:

```

.0000000
  cmpi.b  #1000,d0
  seq.b   -(sp)
  tst.b   (sp)+
  beq.s   .0000002
  bra.s   .0000003                                     ;exits when...ewhen, too
  bra.s   .0000001
.0000002
  addq.l  #1,d0
.0000001
  bra.s   .0000000

```

.0000003

1.40 68k 'dbra'

expire ... nexp

SYNTAX

```
"expire" DX:dreg "=" ST:val
    ...
    ...
    ...
"nexp" [" ," COND:cc]
```

MEANING 0 (when COND not declared)

1. assigns to DX the value of ST
2. executes the code
3. decrements DX by 1
4. if DX=>0, goes to 2

MEANING 1 (when COND declared)

1. assigns to DX the value of ST
2. executes the code
3. if COND is satisfied then the execution continues with the first instruction after "nexp"
4. else decrements DX by 1
5. if DX=>0, goes to 2

NOTES

- since the instruction used is dbcc, the size of DX and ST is always word (any specification is ignored);
- if DX=ST, no assignment is done, so that you can use a register initialized externally;

EXAMPLE 0

ESA asm:

```

        lea.l    Buffer,a0
.air    expire d7 = BufLen
        clr.b    (a0)+
        nexp
```

68k asm:

```

        lea.l    Buffer,a0
.air    move.w    BufLen,d7    ;counter initialization
.0000000
```

```

clr.b      (a0)+
dbra      d7,.0000000

```

EXAMPLE 1

ESA asm:

```

expire d3=d3
nop $ nop $ tst.l d1      ;ran out of fantasy...
nexp,pl

```

68k asm:

```

.00000001
nop                      ;no init here!
nop
tst.l      d1
dbpl      d3,.00000001   ;dbra with COND

```

1.41 what to say?!?

for ... to ... step ... next

SYNTAX

```

"for" CTR:var "=" ST:val "upto"|"dwto" END:val ["step" STP:val]
...
...
...
"next"[SZ:jsize]

```

MEANING 0 ("upto", STP>0)

1. assigns the value of ST to the counter CTR
2. if CTR>END, goes to 6
3. executes the code "..."
4. adds STP to CTR
5. goes to 2
6. first instruction after "next"

MEANING 1 ("dwto", STP<0)

2. if CTR<END, goes to 6

NOTES

- defaults: STP= 1 if "upto";
STP=-1 if "dwto";
- **NEVER** use STP=0!!! No check!
- SZ is the size of the bcc instruction used (default: none);
- size of CTR is its own;

- size of ST, END and STP is forced to be equal to CTR's;
- never use "upto" with negative STP or "dwto" with positive STP!
 - it is necessary to declare the direction with "upto"/"dwto" because statically STP's sign is unknown. Direct checks in the generated code would produce even more unefficient code...

EXAMPLE 0

ESA asm:

```

for d4.b=#100 upto d6
  clr.l    (a0)+
next.s

```

68k asm:

```

move.b    #100,d4           ;load CTR with ST
move.b    d6,.0000002      ;store END
move.b    #1,.0000002+4    ;default STP
bra.s     .0000003
.0000002  dc.l    0,0        ;local variables (END,STP)
.0000003  cmp.b   .0000002,d4 ;compare CTR with END
          bgt     .0000004   ;exit if CTR>END
          clr.l   (a0)+
          add.b   .0000002+4,d4 ;update CTR
          bra.s   .0000003   ;repeat the loop
.0000004

```

EXAMPLE 1

ESA asm:

```

for tmp.w = d3 dwto #23 step NegStep[]
  move.l   (a1)+, (a2)+
next

```

```

bra       WhoKnowsWhere

```

```

function NegStep[]:d1
bsr      _rnd
neg.l    d0
efunc

```

68k asm:

```

move.w    d3,tmp           ;load CTR with ST
move.w    #23,.0000002     ;store END
bsr      f0000000         ;call NegStep[]
move.w    d1,.0000002+4    ;store function result (STP)
bra.s     .0000003
.0000002  dc.l    0,0        ;local variables (END,STP)
.0000003  move.l   a0,-(sp)   ;this quite complex way of
          exg.l   d0,a0       ;performing the boundary
          move.w   tmp,d0      ;check is caused by the fact
          cmp.w   .0000002,d0 ;that CTR is not a reg!

```

```

        exg.l      d0,a0
        movea.l   (sp)+,a0
        blt      .00000004      ;exit if CTR<END
        move.l   (a1)+,(a2)+
        move.l   d0,-(sp)      ;again, things get complicated!
        move.w   tmp,d0        ;using a reg for CTR would
        add.w   .00000002+4,d0 ;noticeably speed up this
        move.w   d0,tmp        ;part (see above)!
        move.l   (sp)+,d0
        bra     .00000003
.00000004

        bra     WhoKnowsWhere

f00000000      ;NegStep[]
        bsr     _rnd
        neg.l   d0
f00000001     rts

```

1.42 just like Pascal!

repeat ... until ...

SYNTAX

```

"repeat"
    ...
    ...
    ...
"until"[SZ:jsize] BL:boolexpr

```

MEANING

1. executes the code "..."
2. evaluates BL
3. if BL is false, goes to 1, else exits

NOTES

- the code is always executed at least once;
- SZ is the size of the bcc instruction used (default: none);

EXAMPLE

ESA asm:

```

moveq.l   #1,d0
repeat
    add.b   d0,d0
until.s  #16=d0.b      ;silly, but works...

```

68k asm:

```

        moveq.l    #1,d0

.000000A
        add.b     d0,d0
        cmpi.b    #16,d0
        seq.b     -(sp)          ;BL evaluation
        tst.b     (sp)+
        beq.s     .000000A      ;until

```

1.43 BASIC's 'while' ... 'wend'

while ... ewhile

SYNTAX

```

"while"[SZ:jsize] BL:boolexpr
...
...
...
"ewhile"

```

MEANING

1. evaluates BL
2. if BL is false, goes to 5
3. executes the code "..."
4. goes to 1
5. 1st instruction after "ewhile"

NOTES

- if the 1st time BL is false, the code is never executed;
- SZ is the size of the bcc instruction used (default: none);

EXAMPLE

ESA asm:

```

while.s {Arale<d7.w}&{#Gacchan>d3}
  addq.l    #1,Arale
  add.l     Arale,d3
ewhile                                ;don't try to find a meaning...

```

68k asm:

```

.000000D    cmp.w     Arale,d7
            sgt.b     -(sp)
            cmpi.l    #Gacchan,d3
            slt.b     -(sp)
            move.l    d0,(-4,sp)
            move.b    (sp)+,d0

```

```

        and.b      d0,(sp)
        move.l     (-6,sp),d0      ;BL evaluation
        tst.b      (sp)+
        beq.s      .000000E       ;if while fails...
        addq.l     #1,Arale
        add.l      Arale,d3
        bra.s      .000000D       ;repeat loop
.000000E

```

1.44 jump table (branches)

on ... goto ...

SYNTAX

```
"on" V:val ", " RX:reg "goto" ["safe"] (S0:sym, S1:sym, ... , Sn:sym)
```

MEANING 0 ("safe" not declared)

1. evaluates V
2. V=x and x<=n: the execution continues at the address Sx
 V=x and x>n : get ready for a GURU!!!

MEANING 1 ("safe" declared)

1. evaluates V
2. V=x and x<=n: the execution continues at the address Sx
 V=x and x>n : jumps to the first instruction after "on ... goto"

NOTES

- RX is the register which can be freely trashed to perform the jump;
- RX's size is discarded;
- V is loaded to RX only if V<>RX (obvious enough...);
- the size of V can be only ".w" and ".l" (def.: ".w");
- no check is done on Sxes...

EXAMPLE 0

ESA asm:

```
on d5,a6 goto (.shoot, .block, .pass, .jump
              .steal, .dunk, .run, .fly ) ;very legal!!!
```

68k asm:

```

        move.w     d5,a6                ;get V
        jmp        ([.0000000,pc,a6.w*4])
.0000000    dc.l      .shoot,.block,.pass,.jump,.steal,.dunk,.run,.fly

```

EXAMPLE 1

ESA asm:

```
on UnitID.w,a2 goto safe (68k,Copper,Blitter,Paula)
```

68k asm:

```

        move.w    UnitID,a2                ;get V
        cmp.w    #$0004,a2                ;is it valid?
        bhs     .0000001                  ;if not...
        jmp     ([.0000002,pc,a2.w*4])
.0000002 dc.l    68k,Copper,Blitter,Paula
.0000001
```

1.45 jump table (subroutines)

on ... gosub ...

SYNTAX

```
"on" V:var", "RX:reg "gosub" ["safe"] (S0:sym, S1:sym, ... , Sn:sym)
```

MEANING 0 ("safe" not declared)

1. evaluates V
2. V=x and x<=n: jumps to the subroutine indicated by Sx
V=x and x>n : get ready for a GURU!!!
3. the code at the address Sx is expected to return with an "rts"
4. execution goes on with the first instruction after "on ... gosub"

MEANING 1 ("safe" declared)

1. evaluates V
2. V=x and x<=n: jumps to the subroutine indicated by Sx
V=x and x>n : goes to 4
3. the code at the address Sx is expected to return with an "rts"
4. execution goes on with the first instruction after "on ... gosub"

NOTES

- RX is the register which can be freely trashed to perform the jump;
- RX's size is discarded;
- the size of V can be only ".w" and ".l" (def.: ".w");
- no check is done on Sxes...

EXAMPLE 0

ESA asm:

```
Mangas on Rumiko.w,a0 gosub (.ataru, .akane, .lum, .ranma)
```



```
.000000E
      bsr      _rnd
      cmpi.l   #4,d0
      sne.b    -(sp)
      tst.b    (sp)+
      bne      .000000E
f0000001    rts
```

1.46 much better than C's!

```
switch ... -> ... eswitch
```

SYNTAX

```
"switch"[SZ:jsize] SW:rval
"->" [CO:cmpop] V1:val
...
["->" [CO:cmpop] V2:val
...

"->"
...

"->" [CO:cmpop] Vn:val
...]
["def"
... ]
"eswitch"
```

MEANING

1. executes the code contained between the brackets whose Vx is compared successfully to SW according to the condition CO specified (if CO is omitted, '=' is used as default);
if the case that no condition is satisfied, the default code is executed (if "def" declared)
2. jumps to the 1st instruction after "eswitch"

NOTES

- if one or more Vx potentially satisfy their own condition, only the code of the 1st one (starting from the top) is executed;
- SZ is the size to be used for branches (bccs - default: none);
- the "def" statement must be the last case;
- to decide the case to execute, a series of comparisons between SW and the Vxs have to be done: the rules about their sizes (if different) are explained
here
;

EXAMPLE

ESA asm:

```
switch.s WhatHasHappened.w

-> #2
    lea.l  OhDamn,a0
    bsr    Say

-> a0
    lea.l  WOWILIKEIT,a0
    bsr    Say

-> >= xz
    bsr    GetUpset

def
    move.l #"OKOK",answer
eswitch
```

68k asm:

```
    cmpi.w    #2,WhatHasHappened ;1st comparison
    seq.b     -(sp)                ;CO omitted, '=' used
    tst.b     (sp)+
    beq.s     .0000000             ;if not successful, go to next
    lea.l     OhDamn,a0           ;else execute the code inside
    bsr      Say

.0000000    bra.s     .00000001      ;then continue after switch
    cmpa.l   WhatHasHappened,a0    ;2nd comparison - please note
    seq.b     -(sp)                ;that the size used is .l,
    tst.b     (sp)+                ;cos aregs' size has priority
    beq.s     .00000002
    lea.l     WOWILIKEIT,a0
    bsr      Say

.0000002    bra.s     .00000001      ;3rd comparison
    move.l    d0,(-6,sp)
    move.w    WhatHasHappened,d0
    cmp.w     xz,d0
    sge.b     -(sp)                ;CO is ">="
    move.l    (-4,sp),d0
    tst.b     (sp)+
    beq.s     .00000003           ;go to default case
    bsr      GetUpset

.0000003    bra.s     .00000001
.0000001    move.l    #"OKOK",answer
```

1.47 'if' ... 'else if' ... 'else' ... 'end if'

when ... owhen ... othw ... ewhen

SYNTAX

```

"when"[SZ:jsize] BLW:boolexpr
    ...
    ...
    ...
["owhen" BLO:boolexpr]
    ...
    ...
    ...
["othw"]
    ...
    ...
    ...
"ewhen"

```

MEANING

1. evaluates BLW
2. if BLW is true, executes the code between "when" and the following "owhen" or "othw" or "ewhen"; then goes to 8
3. if any "owhen" is declared goes to 6
4. if "othw" is specified, executes the code between "othw" and "ewhen"
5. goes to 8
6. if BLO is true, executes the code between "owhen" and the following "owhen" or "othw" or "ewhen"; after that goes to 8
7. repeats from step 3
8. execution continues after "ewhen"

NOTES

- SZ is the size to be used for branches (bccs - default: none);
- there can be as many "owhen"s as you want;
- "othw" can be declared only once and after any "owhen" statement;

EXAMPLE 0

ESA asm:

```

when.s ~{d0.w ^ ~d1.b}
    bsr      OhDamn
ewhen

```

68k asm:

```

tst.w      d0
seq.b      -(sp)
tst.b      d1
sne.b      -(sp)
move.l     d0, (-4, sp)
move.b     (sp)+, d0
EOR.b     d0, (sp)

```

```

        not.b      (sp)
        move.l     (-6,sp),d0      ;BL evaluation
        tst.b     (sp)+
        beq.s     .000000F        ;if false condition...
        bsr      OhDamn
.000000F
        ;...jump here!

```

EXAMPLE 1

ESA asm:

```

when rains
    bsr      OpenUmbrella
othw
    bsr      PutOnSunGlasses
ewhen

```

68k asm:

```

        tst.l     rains
        sne.b     -(sp)           ;BL evaluation
        tst.b     (sp)+
        beq      .0000011        ;jump performed when false
        bsr      OpenUmbrella
        bra      .0000010        ;skip "othw" section
.0000011
        bsr      PutOnSunGlasses
.0000010

```

EXAMPLE 2

ESA asm:

```

when.s d0=d1
    nop
owhen d1<d2
    nop $ nop
owhen d3>d4
    nop $ nop $ nop
othw
    bsr      DoSomething
ewhen

```

68k asm:

```

        cmp.l     d1,d0
        seq.b     -(sp)           ;d0=d1?
        tst.b     (sp)+
        beq.s     .0000001        ;if not...
        nop
        bra.s     .0000000        ;exit
.0000001
        cmp.l     d2,d1
        slt.b     -(sp)           ;d1<d2?
        tst.b     (sp)+
        beq      .0000002        ;if not...

```

```

        nop
        nop
        bra.s      .00000000      ;exit
.00000002      cmp.l      d4,d3
        sgt.b      -(sp)          ;d3>d4?
        tst.b      (sp)+
        beq        .00000003      ;if not...
        nop
        nop
        nop
        bra.s      .00000000      ;exit
.00000003      bsr        DoSomething      ;default case
.00000000

```

1.48 defining functions

function

SYNTAX

```

"function" ["loc:"] NAME:sym "[" [RL1:regslst] "]" ["," RL2:regslst] ":" OUT: ←
    var
    ...
    ...
    ...
"efunc" [',' RESULT:val]

```

MEANING

1. a label is defined as the entry point of the function
2. if RL2 is declared, the registers are stored in the stack with a movem
3. the code "... " is copied (and processed, of course)
4. if RESULT is specified, it is copied to OUT (with OUT's size)
5. if RL2 is specified, the registers are restored from the values previously saved in the stack (another movem)
6. rts is put at the end of the function

NOTES

- RL1 tells ESA how to assign the arguments when this function is

called

;

- OUT tells ESA where to get the function's result from;
- pay attention to RL2 and OUT!!! RL2 *SHOULD NOT* contain OUT, if OUT is a reg (*no* check)!!!
- "function" must be separated from NAME by one or more spaces/TABs, otherwise "functionNAME" would be acknowledged as an instruction/macro/etc...
- the exit point of the function is marked by a label to allow the

```

        forced exit from the func
        ;
- normally functions' labels are global (
        whatever char has been

        chosen
        for labels); instead, if "loc" is declared, the function
        definition will be "local", i.e. its labels will start with '.';
- NAME can be up to 30 char long;
- don't put a label on the same line of "function" (why should you
        enter a func in that way?!?);
- size of OUT is used only if inside a boolexpr;
- ESA won't check for repetitions of function names;
-
        wondering why you have to use '['','']'-type brackets?
        EXAMPLE 0

```

ESA asm:

```

function SetDMA[d0.w],d1:d0
move.w    $dff002,d1
ori.w     #$8000,d0
move.w    d0,$dff096
move.w    d1,d0
efunc

```

68k asm:

```

f0000000  movem.l    d1,-(sp)           ;save regs in RL2
          move.w    $dff002,d1
          ori.w     #$8000,d0
          move.w    d0,$dff096
          move.w    d1,d0
f0000001  movem.l    (sp)+,d1
          rts

```

EXAMPLE 1

ESA asm:

```

function GetMess[], d0-d7/a0-a6 :MessAmount.b
lea.l     TileTable,a0
bsr      MessWithRegs
move.b    (a5),MessAmount
efunc

```

68k asm:

```

f0000002  movem.l    d0-d7/a0-a6,-(sp)
          lea.l     TileTable,a0
          bsr      MessWithRegs
          move.b    (a5),MessAmount
f0000003  movem.l    (sp)+,d0-d7/a0-a6
          rts

```

EXAMPLE 2

```
Go
    here
    to learn a way of using local definitions.
```

EXAMPLE 3

ESA asm:

```
function MessWithDMA[],d0:d1
    bsr      _Rnd          ;let's get a random d0...
    efunc , SetDMA[d0]    ;... and watch some fireworks!
```

68k asm:

```
f0000004  movem.l    d0,-(sp)
          bsr      _Rnd
          bsr      f0000000    ;see example 0
          move.l   d0,d1      ;return SetDMA[] retcode
f0000005  movem.l    (sp)+,d0
          rts
```

1.49 calling functions

Calling a Function

SYNTAX

```
NAME:sym [SZ:jsize] "[" [ ["sav:"] PARAMS:args] "]"
```

MEANING

1. if "sav:" is declared, stores the RL1 registers (declared in the


```
function definition
) in the stack
```
2. loads to RL1 the parameters passed inside the brackets
3. executes function code
4. after the execution of NAME (if "sav:" is declared, the registers of RL1 are restored) the program continues with the 1st instruction after this call

NOTES

- a function can be called only as an argument of an asm instruction or ESA construction, i.e. you can't put it in the label/instruction fields;
- SZ is the size to be used for the bsr (default: none);
- when SZ=".1", the instruction jsr is used instead of bsr.l to easily allow calls to other code sections;
- since ESA is fully orthogonal, funcs can be used everywhere their re-


```

turn type (
    var
    ) is expected to be found;
- when "sav:" declared make sure that OUT (returned by the function),
  if reg, is not included in RL1;
- be extremely cautious when calling functions inside other ESA con-
  structs, as you could accidentally trash some variables/registers!
-
    wondering why you have to use '['','']'-type brackets?
    EXAMPLE 0

```

ESA asm:

```

move.w      SetDMA.l[#$f]
            ,OldDMA      ;1st
move.w      SetDMA[sav:#$f],OldDMA      ;2nd

```

68k asm:

```

move.w      #$f,d0      ;load arg
jsr         f0000000
move.w      d0,OldDMA   ;1st OK!
movem.l     d0,-(sp)    ;"sav:" used in the 2nd
move.w      #$f,d0
bsr         f0000000
movem.l     (sp)+,d0    ;WRONG! the result
move.w      d0,OldDMA   ;is lost!!!

```

EXAMPLE 1

ESA asm:

```

bool #24=
    GetMess[]
    ,d7      ;compound call!

```

68k asm:

```

bsr         f0000002    ;execute function
cmpi.b      #24,MessAmount
seq.b       -(sp)      ;BL evaluation
move.b      (sp)+,d7   ;result

```

1.50 premature exit from a procedure or function

pop

SYNTAX

```
"pop"[SZ:jsize]
```

MEANING

1. the last procedure/function being defined is forced to terminate (a jump to the end label is performed)

NOTES

- SZ is the size to be used for the bra (default: none);
- make sure that the sp is in the same position when the proc/func was entered, otherwise a crash is almost sure!
- if inside a func, don't forget about the return value...

EXAMPLE 0

ESA asm:

```

procedure UpperCase[a0/d0],d0-d1/a0
IFNE      TEST_ON                ;if we're in test mode,
pop.s                    ;we wanna do nothing...
ENDIF
moveq.l   #$df,d1
subq.l    #1,d0
expire d0=d0
and.b     d1,(a0)+
nexp,eq
eproc

```

68k asm:

```

p0000000  movem.l   d0-d1/a0,-(sp)
          IFNE      TEST_ON
          bra.s     p0000001                ;jump to exit label
          ENDIF
          moveq.l   #$df,d1
          subq.l    #1,d0

.0000002
          and.b     d1,(a0)+
          dbeq     d0,.0000002
p0000001  movem.l   (sp)+,d0-d1/a0
          rts

```

EXAMPLE 1

ESA asm:

```

procedure StrangePlot[a0],d0-d1/a0

expire d0=#199
move.b   fx[d0],(a0)+
nexp

pop                                            ;fx *MUST* be skipped!!!

function loc:fx[d1]:d1                        ;local func definition:

```

```

        mulu.w    d1,d1                ;as StrangePlot[] is glo-
        eori.l    RndSeed,d1          ;bal, fx[] isn't visible
        efunc                                ;externally

        eproc

68k asm:

p0000000    movem.l    d0-d1/a0,-(sp)

        move.w    #199,d0

.00000004   move.l    d0,d1
        bsr      .00000002
        move.b    d1,(a0)+
        dbra     d0,.00000004

        bra      p00000001

.00000002   mulu.w    d1,d1
        eori.l    RndSeed,d1

.00000003   rts

p00000001   movem.l    (sp)+,d0-d1/a0
        rts

```

1.51 defining procedures

procedure

SYNTAX

```

"procedure" ["loc:"] NAME:sym "[" [RL1:regslst] "]" ["," RL2:regslst]
...
...
...
"eproc"

```

MEANING

1. a label is defined as the entry point of the procedure
2. if RL2 is declared, the registers are stored in the stack with a `movem`
3. the code `"..."` is copied (and processed, of course)
4. if RL2 is specified, the registers are restored from the values previously saved in the stack (another `movem`)
5. `rts` is put at the end of the procedure

NOTES

- RL1 tells ESA how to assign the parameters when this procedure is

- ```

 called
 ;
- movems size is always long;
- size of RL2 is always ".1";
- "procedure" must be separated from NAME by one or more spaces/TABs,
 otherwise "procedureNAME" would be acknowledged as an instruction/
 /macro/etc...
- the exit point of the procedure is marked by a label to allow the

 forced exit from the proc
 ;
- normally procedures' labels are global (
 whatever char has been

 chosen
 for labels); instead, if "loc" is declared, the procedure
 definition will be "local", i.e. its labels will start with '.';
- NAME can be up to 30 char long;
- don't put a label on the same line of "procedure" (why should you
 enter a proc in that way?!?);
- ESA won't check for repetitions of procedure names;
-
 wondering why you have to use '['','']'-type brackets?
 EXAMPLE 0

```

ESA asm:

```

 procedure loc: WaitMouse[]
.w btst.b #6,$bfe001
 bne.s .w
 eproc

```

68k asm:

```

.0000002 ;local labels
.w btst.b #6,$bfe001
 bne.s .w
.0000003 rts

```

EXAMPLE 1

ESA asm:

```

 procedure SlowClr[a0/d0.b],a0/d1
 move.l d0,d1
 lsr.l #2,d1
 subq.l #1,d1
.c clr.l (a0)+
 dbra d1,.c ;from "Writing Bad Code", Chapter 1
 eproc

```

68k asm:

```

p0000000 movem.l a0/d1,-(sp) ;save regs in RL2
 move.l d0,d1
 lsr.l #2,d1

```

```

 subq.l #1,d1
.c clr.l (a0)+
 dbra d1,.c
p0000001 movem.l (sp)+,a0/d1
 rts

```

## EXAMPLE 2

```

Go
 here
 to learn a way of using local definitions.

```

## 1.52 calling procedures

### Calling a Procedure

#### SYNTAX

```
NAME:sym [SZ:jsize] "[" [["sav:"] PARAMS:args] "]"
```

#### MEANING

1. if "sav:" is declared, stores the RL1 registers (declared in the procedure definition) in the stack
2. loads to RL1 the parameters passed inside the brackets
3. executes the proc code
4. after the execution of NAME (if "sav:" is declared, the registers of RL1 are restored) the program continues with the 1st instruction after this call

#### NOTES

- procedure calls can only be put in the instruction field;
- SZ is the size to be used for the bsr (default: none);
- when SZ=".l", the instruction jsr is used instead of bsr.l to easily allow calls to other code sections;
- if one of the args matches exactly the correspondent destination register in RL1, no "move" is done!

wondering why you have to use '[' , ']'-type brackets?  
EXAMPLE 0

#### ESA asm:

```

 WaitMouse.s[]
 bra SomewhereElse ;avoid "collisions" with procs

 procedure loc:WaitMouse[]
.w btst.b #6,$bfe001
 bne.s .w

```

```

 eproc

68k asm:

 bsr.s .00000000
 bra SomewhereElse

.00000000
.w btst.b #6,$bfe001
 bne.s .w
.00000001 rts

```

## EXAMPLE 1

```

ESA asm:

 SlowClr[sav: #buffer , d1]
 bra SomewhereElse

 procedure SlowClr[a0/d0.b],a0/d1
 move.l d0,d1
 lsr.l #2,d1
 subq.l #1,d1
.c clr.l (a0)+
 dbra dl,.c ;from "Writing Bad Code", Chapter 1
 eproc

68k asm:

 movem.l a0/d0,-(sp) ;"sav:" -> save regs in RL1
 move.l #buffer,a0
 move.b dl,d0 ;.b according to declaration
 bsr p0000000 ;call proc
 movem.l (sp)+,a0/d0
 bra SomewhereElse

p00000000 movem.l a0/d1,-(sp)
 move.l d0,d1
 lsr.l #2,d1
 subq.l #1,d1
.c clr.l (a0)+
 dbra dl,.c
p00000001 movem.l (sp)+,a0/d1
 rts

```

## EXAMPLE 2

```

ESA asm:

 SlowClr.l[sav:#Buffer,d0] ;same proc as above

68k asm:

 movem.l a0/d0,-(sp)
 move.l #Buffer,a0 ;only a0 loaded!

```

```
jsr p0000002 ;jsr instead of bsr
movem.l (sp)+, a0/d0
```