



A FULL FEATURED, OPEN SOURCE  
COBOL COMPILER

OPENCOBOL TECHNICAL INFORMATION  
AND RANDOM TIDBITS

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## Frequently Asked Questions

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## Well met,

Welcome to the OpenCOBOL FAQ. This document tries to answer some of the questions that may arise when using OpenCOBOL, and acts as a advocacy piece to entice people to **USE** OpenCOBOL.

As it's advocating OpenCOBOL, here is a *Hello from OpenCOBOL*

```

identification division.
program-id. hello.

procedure division.
display "Hello, OpenCOBOL's world!" end-display
goback.
end program hello.

```

## Credits

**OpenCOBOL** by Keisuke Nishida and Roger While.

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As of March 2011, a special thanks to the L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X people.

### Status

This is a 1.0 release candidate of the OpenCOBOL FAQ. Sourced at ocfaq.rst and Courtesy of ReStructuredText and Pygments.

ocfaq.pdf is also available, sourced at ocfaq.tex and associated Makefile.

This FAQ is more than a FAQ and less than a FAQ. Someday that will change and this document will be split into an OpenCOBOL manual and a simplified Frequently Asked Questions file.

"COBOL Warriors" image ©2008 Robert Saczkowski. Banner courtesy of the GIMP, ©2008 Brian Tiffin and both are licensed under Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 2.0 Generic License <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0/>

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:Status:  
  Release Candidate  
:Copyright:  
  |copyleft|  
:ChangeLog:  
  ChangeLog_
```

Regarding COBOL Standards, *Official COBOL Standards*:

There are many references to **standards** in this document. Very few of them are *technically correct* references. Apologies to all the hard working men and women of the technical committees for this unintentional slight. For specific details on what wordings should be used please see [What are the Official COBOL Standards?](#)





# Chapter 1

## OpenCOBOL

### 1.1 What is OpenCOBOL?

**OpenCOBOL** is an open-source COmmon Business Oriented Language (COBOL) compiler. The home site for OpenCOBOL is <http://opencobol.org> OpenCOBOL implements a substantial part of the COBOL 85 and COBOL 2002 standards, as well as many extensions of the existent COBOL compilers.

OpenCOBOL translates COBOL into C and compiles the translated code using the native C compiler. You can build your COBOL programs on various platforms, including Unix/Linux, Mac OS X, and Microsoft Windows.

The most excellent **OpenCOBOL Programmer's Guide** by Gary Cutler [2], can be found at <http://opencobol.add1tocobol.com/OpenCOBOLProgrammersGuide.pdf>

### 1.2 What is COBOL?

COBOL is an acronym for COmmon Business Oriented Language. This author has always thought of it as “Common Business” Oriented more than Common “Business Oriented”, but that emphasis is perhaps up to the reader's point of view.

### 1.3 How is OpenCOBOL licensed?

The compiler is licensed under GNU General Public License.

The run-time library is licensed under GNU Lesser General Public License.

All source codes are copyright by the respective authors.

OpenCOBOL is distributed in the hope that it will be useful, but WITHOUT ANY WARRANTY; without even the implied warranty of MERCHANTABILITY or FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. See the GNU General Public License for more details.

## 1.4 What platforms are supported by OpenCOBOL?

OpenCOBOL 1.0 the current official release version, hosted on SourceForge.net, compiles on:

- All 32-bit MS Windows (95/98/NT/2000/XP)
- All POSIX (Linux/BSD/UNIX-like OSes)
- OS/X

OpenCOBOL 1.1, has been built on

- MS Windows native
- MS Windows with Cygwin
- POSIX Systems including OpenSolaris
- OS/X
- OS/400

## 1.5 Are there pre-built OpenCOBOL packages?

Yes. Debian Advanced Package Tool (apt), and RedHat Package Manager (rpm) packages exist. Packages for NetBSD. Many. Google `opencobol` packages for any late breaking news.

A Debian Advanced Package Tool binary package exists for OpenCOBOL 1.0 as **open-cobol** and lists dependencies of

- `libc6` ( $\geq 2.7-1$ ),
- `libcob1`,
- `libcob1-dev` (= 1.0-1),
- `libdb4.5` ( $\geq 4.5.20-3$ ),
- `libdb4.5-dev`,
- `libgmp3-dev`,
- `libgmp3c2`,
- `libltdl3-dev`,
- `libncurses5` ( $\geq 5.6+20071006-3$ )

Thanks to the gracious efforts of Bart Martens, bartm on Debian's .org domain.

### 1.5.1 kiska.net repository

Also check out kiska.net for binary builds on various platforms. Thanks to Sergey Kashyrin.

## 1.6 What is the most recent version of OpenCOBOL?

See [What is the current version of OpenCOBOL? 2.4](#)

## 1.7 How complete is OpenCOBOL?

OpenCOBOL 1.0 implements a substantial portion of COBOL 85, supports many of the advances and clarifications of COBOL 2002, and includes many extensions in common use from Micro Focus COBOL, ACUCOBOL and other existent compilers.

OpenCOBOL 1.1 implements a more substantial portion of the COBOL 85 Dialect, COBOL 2002 and a growing number of vendor extensions. Some proposed COBOL 20xx features have also been implemented. Compatibility support includes:

- MF for Micro Focus
- IBM for IBM compatibility
- MVS
- BS2000

OpenCOBOL also includes some advanced features allowing source code such as

Listing 1.1: OpenCOBOL BY REFERENCE ADDRESS OF

```
CALL "cfunction" USING BY REFERENCE ADDRESS OF VAR-IN-LINKAGE-SECTION.
```

Passing the equivalent of `char**`, *pointer to pointer to char*. Just as a small example of the level of coverage and flexibility provided by OpenCOBOL.

Listing 1.2: OpenCOBOL showing off

```
DISPLAY
  FUNCTION UPPER-CASE(
    FUNCTION SUBSTITUTE(
      "This is the original string.";
      "original"; "new"; "string"; "text"
    )
  )
END-DISPLAY
```

To allow for substitution of mixed length strings, something not normally so easy in COBOL. The above will output:

```
THIS IS THE NEW TEXT.
```

**no claims** While OpenCOBOL can be held to a high standard of quality and robustness, the authors **DO NOT** claim it to be a "Standard Conforming" implementation of COBOL.

## 1.8 Will I be amazed by OpenCOBOL?

This author believes so. For an open source implementation of COBOL, OpenCOBOL may surprise you in the depth and breadth of its COBOL feature support, usability and robustness.

## 1.9 Who do I thank for OpenCOBOL?

Many people. In particular Keisuke Nishida and Roger While.

See the THANKS file in the source code archive for more names of people that have worked on the OpenCOBOL project. Roger points out that the list is woefully incomplete. To quote::

The OC project would not have been where it is today without the significant/enormous help from many-many persons. The THANKS file does not even do justice to this.

## 1.10 Does OpenCOBOL include a Test Suite?

Why yes it does. 74 syntax tests, 170 coverage tests, and 16 data representation tests in the February 2009 pre-release. 88 syntax, 253 coverage, and 22 data tests in a 2010 cut.

From the development tarball:

Listing 1.3: OpenCOBOL make check

```
$ make check
```

---

will evaluate and report on the test suite. See A.14 for a current output listing of a `make check` run.

## 1.11 Does OpenCOBOL pass the NIST Test Suite?

OpenCOBOL passes many of the tests included in the NIST sponsored COBOL 85 test suite. While it passes over 9000 of the tests, OpenCOBOL does not claim conformance to any level of COBOL *Standard*.

The National Institute of Standards and Technology, NIST, maintains a COBOL 85 implementation verification suite of tests. An archive of the tests can be found at [http://www.itl.nist.gov/div897/ctg/cobol\\_form.htm](http://www.itl.nist.gov/div897/ctg/cobol_form.htm) Instructions for use of the NIST suite is included in the build archive under:

```
tests/cobol85/README
```

Basically, it is a simple *uncompress* and make then sit back and relax. The scripts run OpenCOBOL over some 364 programs/modules and includes thousands of test passes.

#### Test Modules

-----

#### Core tests:

NC - COBOL nucleus tests  
 SM - COPY sentence tests  
 IC - CALL sentence tests

#### File I-O tests:

SQ - Sequential file I-O tests  
 RL - Relative file I-O tests  
 IX - Indexed file I-O tests  
 ST - SORT sentence tests

#### Advanced facilities:

IF - Intrinsic Function tests

With the addition of GLOBAL support, the OpenCOBOL 1.1 pre-release fails none of the attempted tests.

The summary.log from a run in February 2009:

----- Directory Information -----					--- Total Tests Information ---				
Module	Programs	Executed	Error	Crash	Pass	Fail	Deleted	Inspect	Total
NC	92	92	0	0	4363	0	6	11	4380
SM	15	15	0	0	290	0	3	1	294
IC	24	24	0	0	246	0	4	0	250
SQ	81	81	0	0	512	0	6	81	599
RL	32	32	0	0	1827	0	5	0	1832
IX	39	39	0	0	507	0	1	0	508
ST	39	39	0	0	278	0	0	0	278
SG	5	5	0	0	193	0	0	0	193
OB	5	5	0	0	16	0	0	0	16
IF	42	42	0	0	732	0	0	0	732
-----									
Total	374	374	0	0	8964	0	25	93	9082

## 1.12 What about OpenCOBOL and benchmarks?

COBOL has a legacy dating back to 1959. Many features of the COBOL standard provide defaults more suitable to mainframe architecture than the personal computer a 3rd millennium OpenCOBOL developer will likely be using.

OpenCOBOL, by default, generates code optimized for big-endian, A.1 hardware. Fairly dramatic speed improvements on Intel architecture can come from simple `USAGE IS COMPUTATIONAL-5` clauses in the `DATA DIVISION`.

### 1.12.1 telco billing

There is a benchmark posted at <http://speleotrove.com/decimal/telco.html> and thanks to Bill [5], there is a COBOL entry.

In summary, the benchmark reads a large input file containing a suitably distributed list of telephone call durations (each in seconds). For each call, a charging rate is chosen and the price calculated and rounded to hundreths. One or two taxes are applied (depending on the type of call) and the total cost is converted to a character string and written to an output file. Running totals of the total cost and taxes are kept; these are displayed at the end of the benchmark for verification.

A run on an older pentium 4 and the million number file gave:

```
$ echo 'N' | time ./telco
Enter 'N' to skip calculations:
0.46user 1.08system 0:01.61elapsed 96%CPU (0avgtext+0avgdata 0maxresident)k
0inputs+134776outputs (0major+345minor)pagefaults 0swaps
$ echo '' | time ./telco
Enter 'N' to skip calculations:
11.37user 1.41system 0:12.95elapsed 98%CPU (0avgtext+0avgdata 0maxresident)k
24inputs+134776outputs (0major+360minor)pagefaults 0swaps

$ tail TELCO.TXT
 35  D |          0.31          0.02          0.01 |          0.34
193  D |          1.73          0.11          0.05 |          1.89
792  L |          1.03          0.06          |          1.09
661  D |          5.91          0.39          0.20 |          6.50
 44  L |          0.06          0.00          |          0.06
262  L |          0.34          0.02          |          0.36
-----+-----
Totals: | 922,067.11  57,628.30  25,042.17 | 1,004,737.58
Start-Time:09:37:23.93
End-Time:09:37:36.83
```

A more recent 1.1 pre-release, on a dual quad-core Xeon box running Linux SLES 10 64-bit

```
$ tail TELCO.TXT
 35  D |          0.31          0.02          0.01 |          0.34
193  D |          1.73          0.11          0.05 |          1.89
792  L |          1.03          0.06          |          1.09
661  D |          5.91          0.39          0.20 |          6.50
 44  L |          0.06          0.00          |          0.06
262  L |          0.34          0.02          |          0.36
-----+-----
Totals: | 922,067.11  57,628.30  25,042.17 | 1,004,737.58
Start-Time:21:40:48.52
End-Time:21:40:51.92
```

3.4 seconds cache-hot. Not bad.

## 1.13 Can OpenCOBOL be used for CGI?

Yes. Through standard IO redirection and the extended `ACCEPT . . . FROM ENVIRONMENT . . .` feature, OpenCOBOL is more than capable of supporting advanced Common Gateway Interface programming. See 5.1 for a sample **Hello Web** program.

## 1.14 Does OpenCOBOL support a GUI?

Yes, but not out of the box. There is not, as of March 13, 2011, anything that ships with the product.

Third party extensions for Tcl/Tk and bindings for GTK+ do allow for graphical user interfaces. See 5.53 and 5.15.

The expectation is that GTK+ will be completely bound as a callable interface. That is, as of March 13, 2011, not the case, with perhaps 2% of the GTK+ functionality wrapped (but with that 2%, fully functional graphical interfaces are possible).

The Tcl/Tk engine is already quite complete but does place most of the burden of GUI development squarely on the Tk side.

Vala will also open up a quick path to GUI development with OpenCOBOL. There is already an embedded web browser using the Vala bindings to WebKit. See *Can OpenCOBOL interface with Vala?* 5.18 for a lot more details.

## 1.15 Does OpenCOBOL have an IDE?

Yes and no. There is no IDE that ships with the product. The `add1tocobol` team is, as of March 13, 2011, at work creating extensions for the GNAT Programming Studio. This is working out quite nicely and will likely be the IDE of choice for the `add1tocobol` OpenCOBOL developers.

See *Can the GNAT Programming Studio be used with OpenCOBOL?* for more information.

There is also the Eclipse IDE and a major project for integrating COBOL but this will not be OpenCOBOL specific.

Many text editors have systems in place for invoking compilers. SciTE, Crimson Editor, vi and emacs to name but a few of the hundreds that support edit/compile/test development cycles.

See *Does OpenCOBOL work with make?* for some information on command line compile assistance.

## 1.16 Can OpenCOBOL be used for production applications?

Depends. OpenCOBOL is still in active development. Feature coverage is growing, and while the current implementation offers great coverage, applicability to any given

situation would need to be analyzed and risks evaluated before commitment to production use.

The licensing allows for commercial use, but OpenCOBOL also ships with notice of indemnity, meaning that there are no guarantees when using OpenCOBOL, directly or indirectly.

There may be a time when commercial support of OpenCOBOL is offered, but at the time of writing no known offering exists.

**Search google just in case!**

And yes, OpenCOBOL is used in production environments.

From Roger [8]

Incidentally, OC has been (and still is) used in production environments since 2005.

(This includes projects that I personally worked on plus other projects reported to me; these worldwide)

The OC project would not have been where it is today without the significant/enormous help from many-many persons. The THANKS file does not even do justice to this.

### 1.16.1 Nagasaki Prefecture

Reported on <http://opencobol.org>, The Nagasaki Prefecture, population 1.44 million and 30,000 civil employees is using OpenCOBOL in support of its payroll management system. A team of 3 ported and maintain a suite of 200 COBOL programs, mingled with Perl and specialized reporting modules, running on Nec PX9000 big iron and Xeon servers.

### 1.16.2 more stories

Another post from <http://opencobol.org> in April 2009, *reprinted with permission*.

OpenCOBOL viability

For those concerned about the viability of OpenCOBOL in a production environment, I offer our situation as an example.

We started loading OpenCOBOL to a Debian (Etch) Parisc box in mid March. With some valuable help from this forum we were up and running in a few days.

We then explored the CGI capabilities and moved our home-brewed CGI handler (written in HP3000 Cobol) over. We ended up changing only a few lines.

As Marcr's post indicates, we found a MySQL wrapper and made some minor changes to it.

Starting the second week in April we were in full development of new systems for commercial use.



Please accept our congratulations to the community and our gratitude for the help from the forum.

jimc

Another reference by Jim, some 6 months later in February 2010, which seems to be enough time for any rose-coloured glass effect to have worn off if it was going to.

For our part, the answer is yes.

You may want to read an earlier thread about this. Search on OpenCOBOL viability.

Having worked with Cobol since the 1960's, my mindset is that no conversion is automatic.

In our case we are not converting from a specific dialect like MF, but instead are either writing entirely new systems or are changing features (making them web based for example) in older systems.

There are some identified failures in OpenCOBOL execution that have been discussed in this forum. We have found them to be inconsequential and simply work around them. Then again I do not remember working with a bug-free compiler.

Our environment is Debian Linux, OpenCOBOL 1.1, MySQL, ISAM (the one provided with the 1.1 prerelease), HTML (via CGI) and a new PreProcessor to relieve the tedium of writing SQL statements.

If you have some "nay sayers" in your organization and would like some support I will be happy to speak with them.

jimc

*Update that to March 2011, Jim's company is still churning out applications powered by OpenCOBOL and kicking back piles of wisdom to the internet.*

## 1.17 Where can I get more information about COBOL?

The COBOL FAQ by William M Klein [5] is a great place to start.

A google of the search words "COBOL" or "OpenCOBOL" are bound to lead to enough days worth of reading of in-depth articles, opinions and technical information to satisfy the greatest of curiosities.

The COBUG site, *COBOL User Groups* is also a wonderful resource for OpenCOBOL developers.

*This is highly subject to change*, but at least as of March 13, 2011 a Draft of 20xx is available at <http://www.cobolstandard.info/j4/index.htm> and in particular <http://www.cobolstandard.info/j4/files/std.zip>

<p><b>no claims</b> While OpenCOBOL can be held to a high standard of quality and robustness, the authors *DO NOT* claim it to be a "Standard Conforming" implementation of COBOL.</p>
--

## 1.18 Where can I get more information about OpenCOBOL?

The <http://opencobol.org> website is probably the best place to find out more about the OpenCOBOL system. <http://add1tocobol.com> is a place to find out about a few of the fan initiatives. (An older archive has been stashed at <http://oldsite.add1tocobol.com>.)

### 1.18.1 The OpenCOBOL Programmer's Guide

A very well written and masterful OpenCOBOL reference and COBOL development guide. By Gary Cutler [2], OpenCOBOL Programmers Guide.

## 1.19 Can I help out with the OpenCOBOL project?

Absolutely. Visit the <http://opencobol.org> website and either post a message asking what needs to be done, or perhaps join the development mailing list to find out the current state of development. See 1.20 for some details. OpenCOBOL is a GPL licensed open source project and while Roger [8] is the lead developer he is quite open to code submissions. Having a central point of development allows for consistency and the very high level of quality control enjoyed by OpenCOBOL users.

### 1.19.1 Translation Efforts

A new project has started to see native language support in the `cobc` compile and runtime systems. Please see [http://www.opencobol.org/modules/newbb/viewtopic.php?topic\\_id=1127&forum=1](http://www.opencobol.org/modules/newbb/viewtopic.php?topic_id=1127&forum=1) for details if you think you can help.

```
Hi folks!
```

```
We're starting to translate upcoming versions into different
languages. The necessary code changes for OC 2.0 were already done.
Now we need translators.
```

```
Before posting every stuff here I want to gather the translators
here. Who is able and willing to translate the strings (currently 667)
into what language(s)
[or has somebody who does this]?
```

```
From the last discussions I remember people wanting to do this for
French, Italian, Spanish, German but I don't remember who exactly said
that he/she will help. We already have a Japanese translation, but
that needs an heavy update.
```

```
...
```

## 1.20 Is there an OpenCOBOL mailing list?

Yes. Visit <http://opencobol.org> for details. The OpenCOBOL development mailing list is graciously hosted by SourceForge. The ML archive is available at [http://sourceforge.net/mailarchive/forum.php?forum\\_name=open-cobol-list](http://sourceforge.net/mailarchive/forum.php?forum_name=open-cobol-list) and once you have subscribed, the list will accept messages at the open-cobol-list email destination at [lists.sourceforge.net](mailto:lists.sourceforge.net).

## 1.21 Where can I find more information about COBOL standards?

The COBOL 85 standard is documented in

- ANSI X3.23-1985
- ISO 1989-1985
- ANSI X3.23a-1989
- ANSI X3.23b-1993

*This is highly subject to change*, but as of March 2011 a Draft of 20xx is available at <http://www.cobolstandard.info/j4/index.htm> and in particular <http://www.cobolstandard.info/j4/files/std.zip>

<p><b>no claims</b> While OpenCOBOL can be held to a high standard of quality and robustness, the authors *DO NOT* claim it to be a "Standard Conforming" implementation of COBOL.</p>
--

## 1.22 Can I see the OpenCOBOL source codes?

Absolutely. Being an open source system, all sources that are used to build the compiler are available and free.

The <http://opencobol.org> site has links to release and pre-release archives. Most distributions of GNU/Linux will also have source code bundles. For example

Listing 1.4: OpenCOBOL Debian source

```
$ apt-get source open-cobol
```

---

on Debian GNU/Linux will retrieve the most recent released package sources.

A ROBODoc experimental project to document the source codes is hosted at [ocrobo](http://ocrobo.org). See ROBODoc Support in A.12 for a sample configuration file.

### 1.22.1 What was used to color the source code listings?

I wrote a Pygments lexer, munched it into a local copy of ?? and then call a rst2html-pygments.py program. Requires a fair amount of mucking about. See ReStructuredText and Pygments for some details.

**Well, you will be seeing ~~LaTeX~~listing source code highlighting as of March 2011**, but I still appreciate the grand efforts of the Pygments team, and this is an open invitation to anyone that what's a COBOL lexer file ...ocpygments.py for source code.

### 1.23 Do you know any good jokes?

Maybe.

- A computer without COBOL and Fortran is like a piece of chocolate cake without ketchup or mustard.

*John Krueger*

- A determined coder can write COBOL programs in any language.

*Author: unknown*

- Rumour has it that the object oriented specification for COBOL was code named  
ADD 1 TO COBOL GIVING COBOL.

*Author: unknown*

A less verbose, more concise version; *very unCOBOL that*

ADD 1 TO COBOL.

*Thanks to aoirthoir*

And, just because;

ADD 1 TO COBOL GIVING OpenCOBOL

- A common disrespect of COBOL joke is that the acronym stands for:  
Completely Obsolete Business Oriented Language.

*Author unkown*

We know better. The reality is:

Can't Obsolesce Because Of Legacy. *And why would you want to?*

*Brian Tiffin*

- COBOL

Certainly Old But Often Limber.

*Brian Tiffin*

- Ruby on Rails? Don't forget COBOL ON COGS.  
`http://www.coboloncogs.org/INDEX.HTM`
- Eat COBOL, 200 billion lines can't be wrong.  
*Brian Tiffin*
- What did COBOL yell to the escaping thief?  
STOP RUN RETURNING NOW.  
*Brian Tiffin*
- A COBOL programmer's husband asks, "Honey can you go to the store and get some milk? And if they have eggs, get a dozen." After twenty minutes she returns and plops 12 bags of milk on the table. He looks at her curiously, "Honey, why did you do that?" She responds flatly, "They had eggs"  
*Author unknown*
- What did COBOL reply to the executive? "Yes, I can"  
PERFORM JUMPS THRU HOOPS.  
*Brian Tiffin*
- What did OpenCOBOL reply to the executive? *Sir, I can*  
PERFORM JUMPS THRU FLAMING-HOOPS UNTIL HELL-FREEZES-OVER.  
*And being COBOL, I have to show you how little code it takes:*

Listing 1.5: OpenCOBOL freezes over

```

identification division.
program-id. freeze.

data division.
working-storage section.
01 hell                                pic 9.
   88 hell-freezes-over value 1.

procedure division.
perform jumps thru flaming-hoops until hell-freezes-over.
stop run.

jumps.
flaming-hoops.
divide 1 by 0 giving hell.

```

---

### 1.23.1 A 5-7-5 haiku?

How about a 5-7-5 haiku?

Listing 1.6: OpenCOBOL 5-7-5

```
program-id. one.  
procedure division. add  
1 to return-code.  
  
*btiffin*
```

---

Compiles to a program that returns 1 to the shell, *fails*, when run. Fails as poetry, fails as code. *Your welcome*.

## Chapter 2

# History

### 2.1 What is the history of COBOL?

Starting in 1959, a committee was formed under the sponsorship of the United States Department of Defense to recommend a short range option regarding business computing. The Conference on Data System Languages (CODASYL) led by Joe Wegstein of National Bureau of Standards (now National Institute of Standards and Technology) developed a new language, and created the first standardized business computer programming language.

The Common Business Oriented Language acronym was announced on September 18th, 1959.

Late in 1960, *essentially* the same COBOL program ran on two different hardware platforms, and stakeholders espied the potential for fulfilling the objective of industry wide, compatible business systems.

Admiral Grace Hopper [4] is affectionately referred to as the mother of the COBOL language as she and her previous work with FLOW-MATIC programming language (FLOW-MATIC) greatly influenced the specifications of the first COBOL.

Standards have been published for:

- COBOL-68
- COBOL-74
- COBOL-85
- COBOL-2002
- Draft work for COBOL-20xx is, as of March 13, 2011, underway

and these roughly correspond to the year they were produced. Note the y2k flavour of four digit naming occurred after the millennium change.

Estimates vary, but it is entirely reasonable to believe that of the some 300,000,000,000 (three hundred thousand million) lines of computer source code in production today,

200,000,000,000 (two hundred thousand million) lines are COBOL. A full 2/3rds of the world's source code.

See the Wikipedia entry for COBOL for a lot more details.

## 2.2 What are the Official COBOL Standards?

Many thanks to William Klein [5], for details on what wordings are to be used when referencing COBOL Standards:

There are several references to "COBOL 85" and these are often distinguished from "Intrinsic Functions".

The official (but really obscure) term that should be used is "Amended Third Standard COBOL". The "clearer" (and IMHO better) term that should be used is something like

- "'85 Standard COBOL with its amendments"

By 1991 (actually 1993 for ISO rather than ANSI) there was no such thing as "just '85 Standard COBOL". The only recognized Standard was the "base" document (X3.23-1985) ALONG with its two amendments

- Intrinsic Functions Module Amendment
- Corrections Amendment

An interesting related fact is that the "Intrinsic Functions Module" was OPTIONAL in the ANSI and ISO COBOL Standards but was REQUIRED (at the HIGH level) for FIPS COBOL. As the "certification tests" were aimed at getting US government contracts, most vendors (who were still doing certification) actually treated Intrinsic Functions required not optional for "High-level" certification. (They were NOT included in the FIPS intermediate certification process).

Bottom-Line:

Although some intrinsic functions were added in the '02 Standard (and more are included in the draft revision), it is not proper (in my opinion) to distinguish between supporting the '85 Standard and supporting intrinsic functions.

P.S. The corrections amendment did make some technical changes but all of these were included in the '02 Standard. Therefore, hopefully, what it did won't impact OpenCOBOL much.

While OpenCOBOL can be held to a high standard of quality and robustness, the authors **DO NOT** claim it to be a "Standard Conforming" implementation of COBOL.

## 2.3 What is the development history of OpenCOBOL?

OpenCOBOL was initially developed by Keisuke Nishida [6] from experience working on TinyCOBOL originally developed by Rildo Pragana [7].

### 0.9.0

The first public release was version 0.9.0 on January 25th, 2002.



**0.30**

Development continued apace, with version 0.30 released by Keisuke [?, Nishida]n August 8th, 2004.

**Roger While [8]** then took up the role as lead developer on October 30th, 2004.

**Version 0.31**

was released February 1st, 2005.

**Version 0.32**

was released May 12th, 2005.

**Version 0.33**

started on May 13th, 2005.

**Version 1.0**

was released on December 27th, 2007.

**pre-release 1.1**

was release on February 6th, 2009, and as of March 13, 2011 is the most up to date.

## 2.4 What is the current version of OpenCOBOL?

OpenCOBOL 1.0 was released December 27th, 2007 by Roger While [8].

The decision to go 1.0 from the 0.33 version followed many incremental enhancements from 2005 through till late in 2007.

OpenCOBOL 1.1 pre-release became active on December 27th, 2007 and is as of March 13, 2011 in active development towards OpenCOBOL 2.0. The pre-release source tar can be found at `open-cobol-1.1.tar.gz` with installer instructions at <http://www.opencobol.org/modules/bwiki/index.php> and in the `INSTALLING` text file of the sources.

After the download, and ensuring the development library and dependencies mentioned in the Install Guide are on you system.

### Listing 2.1: OpenCOBOL compile from source

```
$ ./configure
$ make
$ make check
$ sudo make install
```

---

will place a new set of binaries rooted off `/usr/local`

Be sure to see `What are the configure options available for building OpenCOBOL?` for all the available options for building from sources.

### 2.4.1 `occurlrefresh`

If you build a pre-release OC1.1, you will be able to compile the `occurlrefresh.cbl` (with `occurlsym.cpy`) application and an early `occurl.c` libCURL wrapper that allows file transfers off the Internet. `occurlrefresh` includes default filenames for retrieving the most recent pre-release source archive and only updates the local copy if there has been a newer upstream release.

Thanks to [aioithoir \[3\]](#) for hosting these; (as of March 13, 2011) at

- `occurlrefresh.cbl`
- `occurlsym.cpy`
- `occurl.c`

and then simply

```
$ ./occurlrefresh
```

to download any new development archives. libCURL tests the modification timestamps, so this procedure is very resource efficient, only pulling from the server if there is something new. A `-b` option is accepted that will spawn off `tar`, `configure` and `make` pass to compile a fresh copy. `-b` does not do an install, you'll still have to do that manually after verifying that everything is ok.

## Chapter 3

# Using OpenCOBOL

### 3.1 How do I install OpenCOBOL?

Installation instructions can be found at [OpenCOBOL Install](#).

#### 3.1.1 From source with GNU/Linux

```
$ wget http://www.sim-basis.de/open-cobol-1.1.tar.gz
$ tar xvf open-cobol-1.1.tar.gz
$ cd open-cobol-1.1
$ ./configure
$ make
$ make check
$ sudo make install
$ sudo ldconfig
```

#### 3.1.2 Debian

The Debian binary package makes installing OpenCOBOL 1.0 a snap. From **root** or using `sudo`

```
$ apt-get install open-cobol
```

#### 3.1.3 Fedora

From the main Fedora repositories

```
$ yum install open-cobol
```

### 3.1.4 Windows<sup>TM</sup>

Build from sources under Cygwin or MinGW. Follow the instructions from the site listed above, or read the `OC_GettingStarted_Windows` document by Bill Klein [5] available online at

- [urlhttp://opencobol.add1tocobol.com/oc\\_gettingstarted\\_windows.html](http://opencobol.add1tocobol.com/oc_gettingstarted_windows.html)
- [urlhttp://opencobol.add1tocobol.com/OC\\_GettingStarted\\_Windows.pdf](http://opencobol.add1tocobol.com/OC_GettingStarted_Windows.pdf)

Also see `What is the current version of OpenCOBOL? 2.4.`

### 3.1.5 Macintosh

From Ganymede on <http://opencobol.org>

*HOWTO: Installing OpenCOBOL 1.0.0 (with BerkeleyDB) under Mac OS 10.5.x-10.6.x*

On Mac OS X 10.5.x/10.6.x, I have successfully managed to compile and install OpenCOBOL 1.0.0 (including libdb linking), and am now happily compiling production systems with it. It's not \*entirely\* straightforward, as it involves installing GMP via MacPorts -- the \*only way\* that GMP will install properly because of some eccentricities in Apple's Xcode development tools (particularly with relation to c99 in gcc), unless you are willing to patch things by hand. In addition, the earlier BerkeleyDB versions (the 4.x.x ones available via MacPorts) cause some strange ioctl errors at runtime under Mac OS X Leopard and Snow Leopard when attempting certain types of ORGANIZATION IS INDEXED operations; precisely what conditions causes this I am yet to fully ascertain. The upshot of it is that in order to compile and run a complete OpenCOBOL 1.0.0 installation on Leopard and Snow Leopard, one has to 1) install GMP via MacPorts; but 2) compile and install a recent version of BerkeleyDB natively.

Probably at some point, I'm going to package this into a pretty-pretty precompiled .app and .dmg along with a rudimentary Cocoa compiler interface. Until then, however -- my COBOL on Mac comrades! -- please do the following:

```
-- INSTALLATION STEPS (Tested on both 10.5.x and 10.6.x) --
1) Download an appropriate MacPorts distribution for your OS:
<http://distfiles.macports.org/MacPorts/>
If you want to use the installer:
* For 10.5.x: MacPorts-1.8.0-10.5-Leopard.dmg
* For 10.6.x: MacPorts-1.8.0-10.6-SnowLeopard.dmg
From source, MacPorts-1.8.0.tar.gz is confirmed to work on both versions.
NB: Make sure PATH is properly set by install in your active user's ~/.profile.
2) Update MacPorts: sudo port -d selfupdate
3) Install GMP with MacPorts: sudo port install gmp
4) Download the Oracle Berkeley DB 5.0.21 (or later) .tar.gz source:
<http://www.oracle.com/technology/products/berkeley-db/db/index.html>
5) Untar, cd to the Berkeley DB source folder, then:
cd /build_unix
6) Do the following to configure, make and install Berkeley DB:
../dist/configure
make
sudo make install
7) Download and untar OpenCOBOL 1.0.0, cd to directory
```

### 3.2. WHAT ARE THE CONFIGURE OPTIONS AVAILABLE FOR BUILDING OPENCOBOL?53

8) Run `./configure`, setting `CPPFLAGS` and `LDFLAGS` as below (CHANGING ANY VERSION-SPECIFIC PATHS TO WHAT YOU JUST INSTALLED) as follows:

```
./configure
CPPFLAGS="-I/opt/local/var/macports/software/gmp/5.0.1_0/opt/local/include/
-I/usr/local/BerkeleyDB.5.0/include/"
LDFLAGS="-L/opt/local/var/macports/software/gmp/5.0.1_0/opt/local/lib
-L/usr/local/BerkeleyDB.5.0/lib/"
```

9) Make and install:

```
make
```

```
sudo make install
```

10) Et voila! Try exiting the directory and invoking `cobc`.

-- YOU SHOULD THEN BE ABLE TO DO SOMETHING LIKE THIS: --

```
phrygia.ganymede-labs.com:bottles ganymede$ sw_vers
ProductName: Mac OS X
ProductVersion: 10.5.6
BuildVersion: 9G55
phrygia.ganymede-labs.com:bottles ganymede$ cobc -V
cobc (OpenCOBOL) 1.0.0
Copyright (C) 2001-2007 Keisuke Nishida
Copyright (C) 2007 Roger While
phrygia.ganymede-labs.com:bottles ganymede$ cobc -v -x bottles.cbl
preprocessing bottles.cbl into
/var/folders/KI/KI15WC0KGMmrvvO980RztgU+++TI/-Tmp-//cob75450_0.cob translating
/var/folders/KI/KI15WC0KGMmrvvO980RztgU+++TI/-Tmp-//cob75450_0.cob into
/var/folders/KI/KI15WC0KGMmrvvO980RztgU+++TI/-Tmp-//cob75450_0.c
gcc -pipe -c -I/usr/local/include
-I/opt/local/var/macports/software/gmp/5.0.1_0/opt/local/include/
-I/usr/local/BerkeleyDB.5.0/include/ -I/usr/local/include -O2 -Wno-unused
-fsigned-char -Wno-pointer-sign -o
/var/folders/KI/KI15WC0KGMmrvvO980RztgU+++TI/-Tmp-//cob75450_0.o
/var/folders/KI/KI15WC0KGMmrvvO980RztgU+++TI/-Tmp-//cob75450_0.c gcc -pipe
-L/opt/local/var/macports/software/gmp/5.0.1_0/opt/local/lib
-L/usr/local/BerkeleyDB.5.0/lib/ -o bottles
/var/folders/KI/KI15WC0KGMmrvvO980RztgU+++TI/-Tmp-//cob75450_0.o
-L/opt/local/var/macports/software/gmp/5.0.1_0/opt/local/lib
-L/usr/local/BerkeleyDB.5.0/lib/ -L/usr/local/lib -lcob -lm -lgmp
-L/usr/local/lib -lintl -liconv -lc -R/usr/local/lib -lncurses -ldb
```

With lots of sloppy LINKAGE SECTION kisses,  
-- Ganymede

### 3.2 What are the configure options available for building OpenCOBOL?

`configure` is a defacto standard development tool for POSIX compliant operating systems, in particular GNU/Linux. It examines the current environment and creates a Makefile suitable for the target computer and the package being built.

For OpenCOBOL, the `configure` script accepts `--help` as a command line option to display all of the available configuration choices.

'configure' configures OpenCOBOL 1.1 to adapt to many kinds of systems.

Usage: ./configure [OPTION]... [VAR=VALUE]...

To assign environment variables (e.g., CC, CFLAGS...), specify them as VAR=VALUE. See below for descriptions of some of the useful variables.

Defaults for the options are specified in brackets.

Configuration:

```
-h, --help                display this help and exit
  --help=short            display options specific to this package
  --help=recursive       display the short help of all the included packages
-V, --version            display version information and exit
--quiet, --silent        do not print 'checking...' messages
  --cache-file=FILE      cache test results in FILE [disabled]
-C, --config-cache       alias for '--cache-file=config.cache'
-n, --no-create          do not create output files
  --srcdir=DIR           find the sources in DIR [configure dir or `..']
```

Installation directories:

```
--prefix=PREFIX          install architecture-independent files in PREFIX
                          [/usr/local]
--exec-prefix=EPREFIX    install architecture-dependent files in EPREFIX
                          [PREFIX]
```

By default, 'make install' will install all the files in '/usr/local/bin', '/usr/local/lib' etc. You can specify an installation prefix other than '/usr/local' using '--prefix', for instance '--prefix=\$HOME'.

For better control, use the options below.

Fine tuning of the installation directories:

```
--bindir=DIR             user executables [EPREFIX/bin]
--sbindir=DIR           system admin executables [EPREFIX/sbin]
--libexecdir=DIR        program executables [EPREFIX/libexec]
--datadir=DIR           read-only architecture-independent data [PREFIX/share]
--sysconfdir=DIR        read-only single-machine data [PREFIX/etc]
--sharedstatedir=DIR    modifiable architecture-independent data [PREFIX/com]
--localstatedir=DIR    modifiable single-machine data [PREFIX/var]
--libdir=DIR            object code libraries [EPREFIX/lib]
--includedir=DIR        C header files [PREFIX/include]
--oldincludedir=DIR     C header files for non-gcc [/usr/include]
--infodir=DIR           info documentation [PREFIX/info]
--mandir=DIR            man documentation [PREFIX/man]
```

Program names:

```
--program-prefix=PREFIX prepend PREFIX to installed program names
--program-suffix=SUFFIX  append SUFFIX to installed program names
--program-transform-name=PROGRAM run sed PROGRAM on installed program names
```

System types:

```
--build=BUILD           configure for building on BUILD [guessed]
--host=HOST             cross-compile to build programs to run on HOST [BUILD]
```

Optional Features:

### 3.2. WHAT ARE THE CONFIGURE OPTIONS AVAILABLE FOR BUILDING OPENCOBOL?55

```
--disable-FEATURE      do not include FEATURE (same as --enable-FEATURE=no)
--enable-FEATURE[=ARG] include FEATURE [ARG=yes]
--enable-maintainer-mode  enable make rules and dependencies not useful
                        (and sometimes confusing) to the casual installer
--disable-dependency-tracking  speeds up one-time build
--enable-dependency-tracking  do not reject slow dependency extractors
--enable-experimental    (OpenCOBOL) enable experimental code (Developers only!)
--enable-param-check     (OpenCOBOL) enable CALL parameter checking
--enable-shared[=PKGS]   build shared libraries [default=yes]
--enable-static[=PKGS]   build static libraries [default=yes]
--enable-fast-install[=PKGS]  optimize for fast installation [default=yes]
--disable-libtool-lock    avoid locking (might break parallel builds)
--disable-rpath           do not hardcode runtime library paths
--disable-nls            do not use Native Language Support
```

#### Optional Packages:

```
--with-PACKAGE[=ARG]    use PACKAGE [ARG=yes]
--without-PACKAGE       do not use PACKAGE (same as --with-PACKAGE=no)
--with-cc=<cc>         (OpenCOBOL) specify the C compiler used by cobc
--with-segra-extfh     (OpenCOBOL) Use external SEQ/RAN file handler
--with-cisam           (OpenCOBOL) Use CISAM for ISAM I/O
--with-disam           (OpenCOBOL) Use DISAM for ISAM I/O
--with-vbisam          (OpenCOBOL) Use VBISAM for ISAM I/O
--with-index-extfh    (OpenCOBOL) Use external ISAM file handler
--with-dbl             (OpenCOBOL) use Berkeley DB 1.85 (libdb-1.85)
--with-db              (OpenCOBOL) use Berkeley DB 3.0 or later (libdb)(default)
--with-lfs64          (OpenCOBOL) use large file system for file I/O (default)
--with-dl              (OpenCOBOL) use system dynamic loader (default)
--with-patch-level    (OpenCOBOL) define a patch level (default 0)
--with-varse          (OpenCOBOL) define variable sequential format (default 0)
--with-gnu-ld         assume the C compiler uses GNU ld [default=no]
--with-pic            try to use only PIC/non-PIC objects [default=use
both]
--with-tags[=TAGS]    include additional configurations [automatic]
--with-gnu-ld         assume the C compiler uses GNU ld default=no
--with-libiconv-prefix[=DIR]  search for libiconv in DIR/include and DIR/lib
--without-libiconv-prefix  don't search for libiconv in includedir and libdir
--with-libintl-prefix[=DIR]  search for libintl in DIR/include and DIR/lib
--without-libintl-prefix  don't search for libintl in includedir and libdir
```

#### Some influential environment variables:

```
CC          C compiler command
CFLAGS      C compiler flags
LDFLAGS     linker flags, e.g. -L<lib dir> if you have libraries in a
nonstandard directory <lib dir>
CPPFLAGS    C/C++ preprocessor flags, e.g. -I<include dir> if you have
headers in a nonstandard directory <include dir>
CPP         C preprocessor
CXXCPP      C++ preprocessor
```

Use these variables to override the choices made by 'configure' or to help it to find libraries and programs with nonstandard names/locations.

Report bugs to <open-cobol-list@lists.sourceforge.net>.

### 3.3 Does OpenCOBOL have any other dependencies?

OpenCOBOL relies on a native C compiler ?? with POSIX compatibility. GCC ?? being a freely available compiler collection supported by most operating systems in use as of March 13, 2011.

OpenCOBOL requires the following external libraries to be installed:

GNU MP (libgmp) 4.1.2 or later  
libgmp is used to implement decimal arithmetic.  
GNU MP is licensed under GNU Lesser General Public License.

GNU Libtool (libltdl)  
libltdl is used to implement dynamic CALL statements.  
GNU Libtool is licensed under GNU Lesser General Public License.

NOTE - Libtool is not required for Linux and Windows  
(including MinGW and Cygwin)

The following libraries are optional:

Berkeley DB (libdb) 1.85 or later  
libdb can be used to implement indexed file I/O and SORT/MERGE.  
Berkeley DB is licensed under the original BSD License (1.85) or their own open-source license (2.x or later). Note that, as of 2.x, if you linked your software with Berkeley DB, you must distribute the source code of your software along with your software, or you have to pay royalty to Oracle Corporation. For more information about Oracle Berkeley DB dual licensing go to : Oracle / Embedded / Oracle Berkeley DB

Ncurses (libncurses) 5.2 or later  
libncurses can be used to implement SCREEN SECTION.  
Ncurses is licensed under a BSD-style license.

### 3.4 How does the OpenCOBOL compiler work?

OpenCOBOL is a multi-stage command line driven compiler. Command line options control what stages are performed during processing.

1. Preprocess
2. Translate
3. Compile
4. Assemble
5. Link
6. Build



OpenCOBOL produces intermediate C source code that is then passed to a configured C ?? compiler and other tools. the GNU C compiler, **gcc ??** being a standard.

The main tool, `cobc`, by default, produces modules, linkable shared object files.

### 3.4.1 Example of OpenCOBOL stages

Documenting the output of the various stages of OpenCOBOL compilation.

### 3.4.2 Original source code

```
$ cat hello.cob

000100* HELLO.COB OpenCOBOL FAQ example
000200 IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
000300 PROGRAM-ID. hello.
000400 PROCEDURE DIVISION.
000500     DISPLAY "Hello World!".
000600     STOP RUN.
```

### 3.4.3 Preprocess

```
$ cobc -E hello.cob
```

Preprocess only pass. One operation of the preprocessor is to convert FIXED format to FREE format. COPY 4.1.111 includes are also read in along with REPLACE 4.1.386 substitution. The above command displayed:

```
# 1 "hello.cob"

IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. hello.
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
    DISPLAY "Hello World!".
    STOP RUN.
```

to standard out.

### 3.4.4 Translate

```
$ cobc -C hello.cob
```

Translate only; preprocesses and then translates the COBOL sources into C. You can examine these files to get a good sense of how the OpenCOBOL environment interacts with the native C facilities. OpenCOBOL 1.1 produced `hello.c.h` and `hello.c`.

### 3.4.5 hello.c.h

Listing 3.1: OpenCOBOL hello.c.h

```

/* Generated by          cobc 1.1.0 */
/* Generated from       hello.cob */
/* Generated at        Oct 04 2008 00:19:36 EDT */
/* OpenCOBOL build date Oct 01 2008 22:15:19 */
/* OpenCOBOL package date Oct 01 2008 16:31:26 CEST */
/* Compile command     cobc -C hello.cob */

/* PROGRAM-ID : hello */

static unsigned char b_5[4] __attribute__((aligned)); /* COB-
CRT-STATUS */
static unsigned char b_1[4] __attribute__((aligned)); /* RETURN
-CODE */
static unsigned char b_2[4] __attribute__((aligned)); /* SORT-
RETURN */
static unsigned char b_3[4] __attribute__((aligned)); /* NUMBER
-OF-CALL-PARAMETERS */

/* attributes */
static cob_field_attr a_1 = {16, 4, 0, 0, NULL};
static cob_field_attr a_2 = {33, 0, 0, 0, NULL};

/* fields */
static cob_field f_5 = {4, b_5, &a_1}; /* COB-CRT-STATUS */

/* constants */
static cob_field c_1 = {12, (unsigned char *)"Hello World!", &
a_2};

/* ----- */

```

### 3.4.6 hello.c

Listing 3.2: OpenCOBOL hello.c

```

/* Generated by          cobc 1.1.0 */
/* Generated from       hello.cob */
/* Generated at        Oct 04 2008 00:19:36 EDT */
/* OpenCOBOL build date Oct 01 2008 22:15:19 */
/* OpenCOBOL package date Oct 01 2008 16:31:26 CEST */
/* Compile command     cobc -C hello.cob */

#define __USE_STRING_INLINES 1
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <string.h>

```

```
#include <math.h>
#include <libcob.h>

#define COB_SOURCE_FILE    "hello.cob"
#define COB_PACKAGE_VERSION "1.1"
#define COB_PATCH_LEVEL    0

/* function prototypes */
static int hello_ (const int);

int hello (void);

/* functions */

int
hello ()
{
    return hello_ (0);
}

/* end functions */

static int
hello_ (const int entry)
{
#include "hello.c.h" /* local variables */

    static int initialized = 0;
    static cob_field *cob_user_parameters[COB_MAX_FIELD_PARAMS];
    static cob_module module = { NULL, NULL, &f_5, NULL,
        cob_user_parameters, 0, '.', '$', ',', 1, 1, 1, 0};

/* perform frame stack */
int frame_index;
struct frame {
    int perform_through;
    void *return_address;
} frame_stack[255];

/* Start of function code */

if (unlikely(entry < 0)) {
    if (!initialized) {
        return 0;
    }
    initialized = 0;
    return 0;
}
```

```

}

module.next = cob_current_module;
cob_current_module = &module;

if (unlikely(initialized == 0))
{
    if (!cob_initialized) {
        cob_fatal_error (COB_FERROR_INITIALIZED);
    }
    cob_check_version (COB_SOURCE_FILE, COB_PACKAGE_VERSION,
        COB_PATCH_LEVEL);
    if (module.next)
        cob_set_cancel ((const char *)"hello", (void *)hello, (
            void *)hello_);
    (*(int *) (b_1)) = 0;
    (*(int *) (b_2)) = 0;
    (*(int *) (b_3)) = 0;
    memset (b_5, 48, 4);

    initialized = 1;
}

/* initialize frame stack */
frame_index = 0;
frame_stack[0].perform_through = -1;

/* initialize number of call params */
(*(int *) (b_3)) = cob_call_params;
cob_save_call_params = cob_call_params;

goto l_2;

/* PROCEDURE DIVISION */

/* hello: */

l_2:;

/* MAIN SECTION: */

/* MAIN PARAGRAPH: */

/* hello.cob:5: DISPLAY */
{
    cob_new_display (0, 1, 1, &c_1);
}
/* hello.cob:6: STOP */

```

```

{
  cob_stop_run ((*int *) (b_1));
}

cob_current_module = cob_current_module->next;
return ((*int *) (b_1));
}

/* end function stuff */

```

---

### 3.4.7 Generate assembler

Using the `-S` switch asks `cobc` to ask the C compiler tool chain to not process farther than the assembler code generation phase.

```
$ cobc -S hello.cob
```

### 3.4.8 hello.s

Listing 3.3: OpenCOBOL `cobc -S`

```

.file "cob9141_0.c"
.text
.globl hello
.type hello, @function
hello:
    pushl %ebp
    movl %esp, %ebp
    subl $8, %esp
    movl $0, (%esp)
    call hello_
    leave
    ret
.size hello, .-hello
.data
.align 4
.type module.5786, @object
.size module.5786, 28
module.5786:
    .long 0
    .long 0
    .long f_5.5782
    .long 0
    .long cob_user_parameters.5785
    .byte 0
    .byte 46
    .byte 36
    .byte 44
    .byte 1

```

```

.byte 1
.byte 1
.byte 0
.local  cob_user_parameters.5785
.comm  cob_user_parameters.5785,256,32
.local  initialized.5784
.comm  initialized.5784,4,4
.section  .rodata
.LC0:
.string  "Hello World!"
.data
.align 4
.type  c_1.5783, @object
.size  c_1.5783, 12
c_1.5783:
.long 12
.long .LC0
.long a_2.5781
.align 4
.type  f_5.5782, @object
.size  f_5.5782, 12
f_5.5782:
.long 4
.long b_5.5776
.long a_1.5780
.align 4
.type  a_2.5781, @object
.size  a_2.5781, 8
a_2.5781:
.byte 33
.byte 0
.byte 0
.byte 0
.long 0
.align 4
.type  a_1.5780, @object
.size  a_1.5780, 8
a_1.5780:
.byte 16
.byte 4
.byte 0
.byte 0
.long 0
.local  b_3.5779
.comm  b_3.5779,4,16
.local  b_2.5778
.comm  b_2.5778,4,16
.local  b_1.5777
.comm  b_1.5777,4,16
.local  b_5.5776

```

```

    .comm b_5.5776,4,16
    .section .rodata
.LC1:
    .string "1.1"
.LC2:
    .string "hello.cob"
.LC3:
    .string "hello"
    .text
    .type hello_, @function
hello_:
    pushl %ebp
    movl %esp, %ebp
    subl $2072, %esp
    movl 8(%ebp), %eax
    shrl $31, %eax
    testl %eax, %eax
    je .L4
    movl initialized.5784, %eax
    testl %eax, %eax
    jne .L5
    movl $0, -2052(%ebp)
    jmp .L6
.L5:
    movl $0, initialized.5784
    movl $0, -2052(%ebp)
    jmp .L6
.L4:
    movl cob_current_module, %eax
    movl %eax, module.5786
    movl $module.5786, cob_current_module
    movl initialized.5784, %eax
    testl %eax, %eax
    sete %al
    movzbl %al, %eax
    testl %eax, %eax
    je .L7
    movl cob_initialized, %eax
    testl %eax, %eax
    jne .L8
    movl $0, (%esp)
    call cob_fatal_error
.L8:
    movl $0, 8(%esp)
    movl $.LC1, 4(%esp)
    movl $.LC2, (%esp)
    call cob_check_version
    movl module.5786, %eax
    testl %eax, %eax
    je .L9

```

```

    movl $hello_, 8(%esp)
    movl $hello, 4(%esp)
    movl $.LC3, (%esp)
    call cob_set_cancel
.L9:
    movl $b_1.5777, %eax
    movl $0, (%eax)
    movl $b_2.5778, %eax
    movl $0, (%eax)
    movl $b_3.5779, %eax
    movl $0, (%eax)
    movl $4, 8(%esp)
    movl $48, 4(%esp)
    movl $b_5.5776, (%esp)
    call memset
    movl $1, initialized.5784
.L7:
    movl $0, -4(%ebp)
    movl $-1, -2044(%ebp)
    movl $b_3.5779, %edx
    movl cob_call_params, %eax
    movl %eax, (%edx)
    movl cob_call_params, %eax
    movl %eax, cob_save_call_params
.L10:
    movl $c_1.5783, 12(%esp)
    movl $1, 8(%esp)
    movl $1, 4(%esp)
    movl $0, (%esp)
    call cob_new_display
    movl $b_1.5777, %eax
    movl (%eax), %eax
    movl %eax, (%esp)
    call cob_stop_run
.L6:
    movl -2052(%ebp), %eax
    leave
    ret
.size hello_, .-hello_
.ident "GCC: (Debian 4.3.1-9) 4.3.1"
.section .note.GNU-stack,"",@progbits

```

---

Produces hello.s.

### 3.4.9 Produce object code

```
$ cobc -c hello.cob
```

Compile and assemble, do not link. Produces hello.o.



### 3.4.10 Build modules

```
$ cobc -m hello.cob
```

Build dynamically loadable module. This is the *default behaviour*. This example produces `hello.so` or `hello.dll`.

### 3.4.11 Module run

```
$ cobcrun hello
Hello World!
```

Will scan the DSO `A.5 hello.so`, and then link, load, and execute `hello`.

### 3.4.12 Create executable

```
$ cobc -x hello.cob
```

Create an executable program. This example produces `hello` or `hello.exe`.

**This is important.** `cobc` produces a Dynamic Shared Object (DSO) by default. To create executables, you need to use `-x`.

```
$ ./hello
Hello World!
```

OpenCOBOL also supports features for multiple source, multiple language programming, detailed in the FAQ at Does OpenCOBOL support modules 5.6.

## 3.5 What is cobc?

`cobc` is the OpenCOBOL compiler. It processes source code into object, library or executable code.

See What compiler options are supported? for more information.

## 3.6 What is cobcrun?

`cobcrun` is the OpenCOBOL driver program that allows the execution of programs stored in OpenCOBOL modules.

The `cobc` compiler, by default, produces modules (the `-m` option). These modules are linkable dynamic shared objects DSO. Using GNU/Linux for example

```
$ cobc -x hello.cob
$ ./hello
Hello World!
$ cobc hello.cob
$ cobcrun hello
Hello World!
```

The `cobc -x hello.cob` built an executable binary called `hello`. The `cobc hello.cob` produced a DSO `hello.so`, and `cobcrun` resolves the entry point and executes the code, right from the DSO.

*cobcrun is the compiler author's preferred way to manage OpenCOBOL development.* It alleviates knowing which source file needs `-x` while encouraging proper modular programming, a mainstay of OpenCOBOL.

### 3.7 What is cob-config?

`cob-config` is a program that can be used to find the C compiler flags and libraries required for compiling. Using GNU/Linux for example

```
$ cob-config
Usage: cob-config [OPTIONS]
Options:
    [--prefix[=DIR]]
    [--exec-prefix[=DIR]]
    [--version]
    [--libs]
    [--cflags]
$ cob-config --libs
-L/usr/local/lib -lcob -lm -lgmp -lncurses -ldb
$ cob-config --cflags
-I/usr/local/include
```

You may need to use these features during mixed source language development, usually by back-ticking the command output inline with other `gcc` commands.

### 3.8 What compiler options are supported?

The OpenCOBOL system strives to follow standards, yet also remain a viable compiler option for the many billions of existing lines of COBOL sources, by supporting many existing extensions to the COBOL language. Many details of the compile can be controlled with command line options. Please also see [What are the OpenCOBOL compile time configuration files?](#) for more details on this finely tuned control.

```
$ cobc -V
cobc (OpenCOBOL) 1.1.0
Copyright (C) 2001-2008 Keisuke Nishida / Roger While
Built    Oct 29 2008 16:32:02
Packaged Oct 28 2008 19:05:45 CET

$ cobc --help
Usage: cobc [options] file...

Options:
    --help                Display this message
```

```

--version, -V      Display compiler version
-v                Display the programs invoked by the compiler
-x               Build an executable program
-m               Build a dynamically loadable module (default)
-std=<dialect>   Compile for a specific dialect :
                  cobol2002  Cobol 2002
                  cobol85   Cobol 85
                  ibm       IBM Compatible
                  mvs       MVS Compatible
                  bs2000   BS2000 Compatible
                  mf        Micro Focus Compatible
                  default   When not specified
                  See config/default.conf and config/*.conf
-free           Use free source format
-fixed         Use fixed source format (default)
-O, -O2, -Os   Enable optimization
-g             Produce debugging information in the output
-debug        Enable all run-time error checking
-o <file>     Place the output into <file>
-b            Combine all input files into a single
              dynamically loadable module
-E            Preprocess only; do not compile, assemble or link
-C            Translation only; convert COBOL to C
-S            Compile only; output assembly file
-c            Compile and assemble, but do not link
-t <file>     Generate and place a program listing into <file>
-I <directory> Add <directory> to copy/include search path
-L <directory> Add <directory> to library search path
-l <lib>      Link the library <lib>
-D <define>   Pass <define> to the C compiler
-conf=<file>  User defined dialect configuration - See -std=
--list-reserved Display reserved words
--list-intrinsics Display intrinsic functions
--list-mnemonics Display mnemonic names
-save-temps(=<dir>) Save intermediate files (default current directory)
-MT <target>  Set target file used in dependency list
-MF <file>   Place dependency list into <file>
-ext <extension> Add default file extension

-W           Enable ALL warnings
-Wall       Enable all warnings except as noted below
-Wobsolete  Warn if obsolete features are used
-Warchaic   Warn if archaic features are used
-Wredefinition Warn incompatible redefinition of data items
-Wconstant  Warn inconsistent constant
-Wparentheses Warn lack of parentheses around AND within OR
-Wstrict-typing Warn type mismatch strictly
-Wimplicit-define Warn implicitly defined data items
-Wcall-params Warn non 01/77 items for CALL params (NOT set with -Wall)
-Wcolumn-overflow Warn text after column 72, FIXED format (NOT set with -Wall)
-Wterminator Warn lack of scope terminator END-XXX (NOT set with -Wall)
-Wtruncate  Warn possible field truncation (NOT set with -Wall)
-Wlinkage   Warn dangling LINKAGE items (NOT set with -Wall)
-Wunreachable Warn unreachable statements (NOT set with -Wall)

-ftrace     Generate trace code (Executed SECTION/PARAGRAPH)
-ftraceall  Generate trace code (Executed SECTION/PARAGRAPH/STATEMENTS)

```

-fsyntax-only	Syntax error checking only; don't emit any output
-fdebugging-line	Enable debugging lines ('D' in indicator column)
-fsource-location	Generate source location code (Turned on by -debug or -g)
-fimplicit-init	Do automatic initialization of the Cobol runtime system
-fsign-ascii	Numeric display sign ASCII (Default on ASCII machines)
-fsign-ebcdic	Numeric display sign EBCDIC (Default on EBCDIC machines)
-fstack-check	PERFORM stack checking (Turned on by -debug or -g)
-ffold-copy-lower	Fold COPY subject to lower case (Default no transformation)
-ffold-copy-upper	Fold COPY subject to upper case (Default no transformation)
-fnotrunc	Do not truncate binary fields according to PICTURE
-ffunctions-all	Allow use of intrinsic functions without FUNCTION keyword
-fmfcomment	'*' or '/' in column 1 treated as comment (FIXED only)
-fnull-param	Pass extra NULL terminating pointers on CALL statements

### 3.9 What dialects are supported by OpenCOBOL?

Using the `std=<dialect>` compiler option, OpenCOBOL can be configured to compile using specific historical COBOL compiler features and quirks.

Supported dialects include:

- default
- cobol85
- cobol2002
- ibm
- mvs
- mf
- bs2000

For details on what options and switches are used to support these dialect compilers, see the `config/` directory of your OpenCOBOL installation. For Debian GNU/Linux, that will be `/usr/share/open-cobol/config/` if you used APT to install an OpenCOBOL package or `/usr/local/share/open-cobol/config/` after a build from the source archive.

For example: the `bs2000.conf` file restricts data representations to 2, 4 or 8 byte binary while `mf.conf` allows data representations from 1 thru 8 bytes. `cobol85.conf` allows debugging lines, `cobol2002.conf` configures the compiler to warn that this feature is obsolete.

### 3.10 What extensions are used if `cobc` is called with- /without "-ext" for COPY

From Roger on <http://opencobol.org>

### 3.11. WHAT ARE THE OPENCOBOL COMPILE TIME CONFIGURATION FILES?69

In the following order -  
CPY, CBL, COB, cpy, cbl, cob and finally with no extension.

User specified extensions (in the order as per command line) are inspected PRIOR to the above defaults.

ie. They take precedence.

## 3.11 What are the OpenCOBOL compile time configuration files?

To assist in the support of the various existent COBOL compilers, OpenCOBOL reads configuration files controlling various aspects of a compile pass.

Each supported dialect will also have a `.conf` file in the `config/` sub-directory of its installation. For Debian GNU/Linux, these will be in `/usr/share/open-cobol/config/` or `/usr/local/share/open-cobol/config` under default package and default make conditions.

For example, the default configuration, `default.conf` is:

```
# COBOL compiler configuration -*- sh -*-

# Value: any string
name: "OpenCOBOL"

# Value: int
tab-width: 8
text-column: 72

# Value: 'cobol2002', 'mf', 'ibm'
#
assign-clause: mf

# If yes, file names are resolved at run time using environment variables.
# For example, given ASSIGN TO "DATAFILE", the actual file name will be
# 1. the value of environment variable 'DD_DATAFILE' or
# 2. the value of environment variable 'dd_DATAFILE' or
# 3. the value of environment variable 'DATAFILE' or
# 4. the literal "DATAFILE"
# If no, the value of the assign clause is the file name.
#
# Value: 'yes', 'no'
filename-mapping: yes

# Value: 'yes', 'no'
pretty-display: yes

# Value: 'yes', 'no'
auto-initialize: yes

# Value: 'yes', 'no'
complex-odo: no
```

```

# Value: 'yes', 'no'
indirect-redefines: no

# Value:          signed  unsigned  bytes
#               -----  -
# '2-4-8'         1 - 4          2
#                 5 - 9          4
#                 10 - 18         8
#
# '1-2-4-8'       1 - 2          1
#                 3 - 4          2
#                 5 - 9          4
#                 10 - 18         8
#
# '1--8'          1 - 2          1
#                 3 - 4          2
#                 5 - 6          3
#                 7 - 9          4
#                 10 - 11         5
#                 12 - 14         6
#                 15 - 16         7
#                 17 - 18         8
binary-size: 1-2-4-8

# Value: 'yes', 'no'
binary-truncate: yes

# Value: 'native', 'big-endian'
binary-byteorder: big-endian

# Value: 'yes', 'no'
larger-redefines-ok: no

# Value: 'yes', 'no'
relaxed-syntax-check: no

# Perform type OSVS - If yes, the exit point of any currently executing perform
# is recognized if reached.
# Value: 'yes', 'no'
perform-osvs: no

# If yes, non-parameter linkage-section items remain allocated
# between invocations.
# Value: 'yes', 'no'
sticky-linkage: no

# If yes, allow non-matching level numbers
# Value: 'yes', 'no'
relax-level-hierarchy: no

# not-reserved:
# Value: Word to be taken out of the reserved words list
# (case independent)

# Dialect features
# Value: 'ok', 'archaic', 'obsolete', 'skip', 'ignore', 'unconformable'
author-paragraph:      obsolete

```

```

memory-size-clause:      obsolete
multiple-file-tape-clause:  obsolete
label-records-clause: obsolete
value-of-clause:        obsolete
data-records-clause: obsolete
top-level-occurs-clause: skip
synchronized-clause: ok
goto-statement-without-name: obsolete
stop-literal-statement: obsolete
debugging-line: obsolete
padding-character-clause:  obsolete
next-sentence-phrase: archaic
eject-statement:          skip
entry-statement:          obsolete
move-noninteger-to-alphanumeric: error
odo-without-to: ok

```

## 3.12 Does OpenCOBOL work with make?

makefile Absolutely. Very well.

A sample makefile

Listing 3.4: OpenCOBOL Makefile sample

```

# OpenCOBOL rules

COBCWARN = -W

# create an executable
%: %.cob
    cobc $(COBCWARN) -x $^ -o $@

# create a dynamic module
%.so: %.cob
    cobc $(COBCWARN) -m $^ -o $@

# create a linkable object
%.o: %.cob
    cobc $(COBCWARN) -c $^ -o $@

# generate C code
%.c: %.cob
    cobc $(COBCWARN) -C $^

# generate assembly
%.s: %.cob
    cobc $(COBCWARN) -S $^

# generate intermediate suitable for cobxref
%.i: %.cob
    [ -d tmps ] || mkdir tmps

```

```

cobc $(COBCWARN) --save-temps=tmps -c $^

# hack extension; create an executable; if errors, call vim in quickfix
%.q: %.cob
    cobc $(COBCWARN) -x $^ 2>errors.err || vi -q

# hack extension; make binary; capture warnings, call vim quickfix
%.qw: %.cob
    cobc $(COBCWARN) -x $^ 2>errors.err ; vi -q

# run ocdoc to get documentation
%.html: %.cob
    ./ocdoc $^ $*.rst $*.html $*.css

# run cobxref and get a cross reference listing (leaves tmps dir around)
# THIS GETS EASIER in V2.0. Cross referencer will be built in
%.lst: %.cob
    [ -d tmps ] || mkdir tmps
    cobc $(COBCWARN) --save-temps=tmps -c $^ -o tmps/$*.o
    ~/writing/add1/tools/cobxref/cobxref tmps/$*.i

# tectonics for occurlrefresh
occurlrefresh: occurl.c occurlsym.cpy occurlrefresh.cbl
    cobc -c -Wall occurl.c
    cobc -x -lcurl occurlrefresh.cbl occurl.o

```

---

And now to compile a small program called `program.cob`, just use

```

$ make program      # for executables
$ make program.o   # for object files
$ make program.so  # for shared library
$ make program.q   # attempt comile and call vi in quickfix mode

```

The last rule, `occurlrefresh` is an example of how a multi-part project can be supported. Simply type

```
$ make occurlrefresh
```

and `make` will check the timestamps for `occurl.c`, `occurlsym.cpy` and `occurlrefresh.cbl` and then build up the executable if any of those files have changed compared to timestamp of the binary.

See Tectonics for another word to describe building code.

### 3.13 Do you have a reasonable source code skeleton for OpenCOBOL?

Maybe. Style is a very personal developer choice. OpenCOBOL pays homage to this freedom of choice.

Here is the FIXED form header that this author uses. It includes `ocdoc` lines.



### 3.13. DO YOU HAVE A REASONABLE SOURCE CODE SKELETON FOR OPENCOBOL?73

Listing 3.5: OpenCOBOL empty header

```
OCOBOL >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
*> *****
*><* =====
*><*
*><* =====
*><* :Author:
*><* :Date:
*><* :Purpose:
*><* :Tectonics: cobc
*> *****
identification division.
program-id. .

environment division.
configuration section.

input-output section.
file-control.
*> select
*> assign to
*> organization is
*> .

data division.
file section.
*>fd .
*> 01 .

working-storage section.
local-storage section.
linkage section.
screen section.

*> *****
goback.
end program .
*><*
*><* Last Update: dd-Mmm-yyyy
```

---

Fill in the `program-id` and `end program` to compile. Fill in the ocdoc title for generating documentation. See [What is ocdoc?](#) for more information on (*one method of*) inline documentation.

Here are some templates that can cut and pasted.

Fixed form in lowercase

Listing 3.6: OpenCOBOL empty header

```

OCOBOL >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
*> *****
*> Author:
*> Date:
*> Purpose:
*> Tectonics: cobc
*> *****
identification division.
program-id. .

environment division.
configuration section.

input-output section.
*> file-control.
*>     select
*>     assign to
*>     organization is
*>     .

data division.
*> file section.
*> fd .
*>     01 .

working-storage section.

local-storage section.

linkage section.

screen section.

*> *****
procedure division.

goback.
end program .

```

---

Fixed form in UPPERCASE

Listing 3.7: OpenCOBOL empty header

```

OCOBOL >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
*****
* Author:
* Date:
* Purpose:
* Tectonics: cobc
*****
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.

```

### 3.13. DO YOU HAVE A REASONABLE SOURCE CODE SKELETON FOR OPENCOBOL?75

```
PROGRAM-ID. .

ENVIRONMENT DIVISION.
CONFIGURATION SECTION.

INPUT-OUTPUT SECTION.
FILE-CONTROL.
    SELECT
    ASSIGN TO
    ORGANIZATION IS
    .

DATA DIVISION.
FILE SECTION.
FD .
    01 .

WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.

LOCAL-STORAGE SECTION.

LINKAGE SECTION.

SCREEN SECTION.

*****
PROCEDURE DIVISION.

GOBACK.
END PROGRAM .
```

---

The OCOBOL "sequence number" can safely be removed. It is there to ensure proper alignment in the browser.

FREE FORM can be compiled with `cobc -free` or use the supported compiler directive:

```
>>SOURCE FORMAT IS FREE
```

the above line must start in column 7 unless `cobc -free` is used.

#### Listing 3.8: OpenCOBOL empty header

```
*> ** >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FREE
*> *****
*> Author:
*> Date:
*> Purpose:
*> Tectonics: cobc -free
*> *****
identification division.
program-id. .
```

```
environment division.
configuration section.
```

```
input-output section.
file-control.
    select
    assign to
    organization is
    .
```

```
data division.
file section.
fd .
    01 .
```

```
working-storage section.
```

```
local-storage section.
```

```
linkage section.
```

```
screen section.
```

```
procedure division.
```

```
goback.
end program .
```

---

These files can be downloaded from

- <http://opencobol.add1tocobol.com/sources/headfix.cob>
- <http://opencobol.add1tocobol.com/sources/headfixupper.cob>
- <http://opencobol.add1tocobol.com/sources/headfree.cob>

There are tricks to ensure that FIXED FORMAT source code can be compiled in a FREE FORMAT mode. That includes using free form end of line comments, no sequence numbers, free form DEBUG line directives with the >>D starting in column 5 (so the D ends up in column 7).

### 3.13.1 vi autoload of skeleton headers

Inside `/.vimrc` put

```
" Auto load COBOL template
autocmd BufNewFile *.cob      0r ~/lang/cobol/header.cob
```

and then, when you

### 3.14. CAN OPENCOBOL BE USED TO WRITE COMMAND LINE STDIN, STDOUT FILTERS?77

```
$ vi newprogram.cob
```

and it is an empty new file, you will start with a nice starter skeleton. You will need to change the filename, `/lang/cobol/header.cob` to the name you use for your personal stash.

## 3.14 Can OpenCOBOL be used to write command line stdin, stdout filters?

Absolutely. It comes down to SELECT name ASSIGN TO KEYBOARD for standard input, and SELECT name ASSIGN TO DISPLAY for standard out.

Below is a skeleton that can be used to write various filters. These programs can be used as command line pipes, or with redirections.

```
$ cat datafile | filter
$ filter <inputfile >outputfile
```

You'll want to change the 01-transform paragraph to do all the processing of each record. This skeleton simply copies stdin to stdout, *with a limit of 32K records* so that may need to be changed as well or tests made to ensure the default LINE SEQUENTIAL mode of KEYBOARD and DISPLAY are appropriate for the task at hand.

Listing 3.9: OpenCOBOL filter

```
OCOBOL >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
*> *****
*><* =====
*><* filter
*><* =====
*><* :Author:    Brian Tiffin
*><* :Date:      20090207
*><* :Purpose:   Standard IO filters
*><* :Tectonics: cobc -x filter.cob
*> *****
identification division.
program-id. filter.

environment division.
configuration section.

input-output section.
file-control.
    select standard-input assign to keyboard.
    select standard-output assign to display.

data division.
file section.
fd standard-input.
```

```

    01 stdin-record      pic x(32768).
fd standard-output.
    01 stdout-record    pic x(32768).

working-storage section.
01 file-status          pic x value space.
   88 end-of-file      value high-value
      when set to false is low-value.

*> *****
procedure division.
main section.
00-main.

perform 01-open

perform 01-read

perform
    until end-of-file
        perform 01-transform
        perform 01-write
        perform 01-read
end-perform
.

00-leave.
perform 01-close
.

goback.
*> end main

support section.
01-open.
open input standard-input
open output standard-output
.

01-read.
read standard-input
    at end set end-of-file to true
end-read
.

*> All changes here
01-transform.
move stdin-record to stdout-record
.
*>

```

```
01-write.  
write stdout-record end-write  
.  
  
01-close.  
    close standard-input  
    close standard-output  
.  
  
end program filter.  
*><*  
*><* Last Update: dd-Mmm-yyyy
```

---

## 3.15 How do you print to printers with OpenCOBOL?

OpenCOBOL and COBOL in general does not directly support printers. That role is delegated to the operating system. Having said that, there are a few ways to get data to a printer.

### 3.15.1 printing with standard out

Writing directly to standard out, as explained in Can OpenCOBOL be used to write command line stdin, stdout filters? 3.14 and then simply piping to `lpd` should usually suffice to get text to your printer.

```
$ ./cobprog | lp  
$ ./yearend | lp -d $PRESIDENTSPRINTER
```

Don't try the above with the `DISPLAY` verb; use `WRITE TO stdout`, with `stdout` selected and assigned to the `DISPLAY` name.

### 3.15.2 calling the system print

Files can be routed to the printer from a running program with sequences such as

Listing 3.10: lp printing

```
CALL "SYSTEM"  
    USING "lp os-specific-path-to-file"  
    RETURNING status  
END-CALL
```

---

### 3.15.3 print control library calls

And then we open up the field of callable libraries for print support. Below is some template code for sending files to a local CUPS ?? install.

Listing 3.11: CUPS quick print

```

OCOBOL >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
*> *****
*> Author:      Brian
*> Date:        10-Aug-2009
*> Purpose:     CUPS quick print
*> Tectonics:   cobc -lcups -x cupscob.cob
*> *****
identification division.
program-id. cupscob.

data division.
working-storage section.
01 result          usage binary-long.
01 cupsError       usage binary-long.
01 msgPointer      usage pointer.
01 msgBuffer       pic    x(1024) based.
01 msgDisplay      pic    x(132).

*> *****
procedure division.
call "cupsPrintFile"
  using
    "cupsQueue" & x"00"
    "filename.prn" & x"00"
    "OpenCOBOL CUPS interface" & x"00"
  by value 0
  by reference NULL
  returning result
end-call

if result equals zero
  call "cupsLastError" returning cupsError end-call
  display "Err: " cupsError end-display

  call "cupsLastErrorString" returning msgPointer end-call
  set address of msgBuffer to msgPointer
  string
    msgBuffer delimited by x"00"
    into msgDisplay
  end-string
  display function trim(msgDisplay) end-display
else
  display "Job: " result end-display
end-if

```



```

goback.
end program cupscob.

```

---

### 3.15.4 print to PDF with CUPS

As it turns out, the above code snippet can be used to print directly to a PDF defined cups-pdf printer. By

Listing 3.12: Install CUPS

```
$ apt-get install cups cups-pdf
```

---

under Debian, you can then

Listing 3.13: OpenCOBOL cupsPrintFile

```

call "cupsPrintFile"
using
  "PDFer" & x"00"
  "cupscob.cob" & x"00"
  "cupscob.pdf" & x"00"
by value 0
by reference NULL
returning result
end-call

```

---

assuming PDFer is a Class or printer with a PDF member. A PDF version of the text in cupscob.cob will be placed in /PDF/ as cupscob.pdf.

Roger While added this wisdom:

```

Check if your particular distro has cups-pdf in
it's repository. (eg. Using Yast with Suse).
If yes, install from there.
If no, use one of the RPM finders on the web to find
a version for your distro.
eg. www.rpmfind.com

```

```

The installation of cups-pdf should automatically set
up a dummy printer with the name "cups-pdf".
So you do not actually need to define a class.
You can print directly to "cups-pdf".
(Check defined printers with eg. "lpstat -t")

```

```

The output file location is dependent on the cups-pdf
configuration file normally located at /etc/cups/cups-pdf.conf.
So, eg. on my box the location is defined thus -
Out ${HOME}/Documents/PDFs

```

### 3.15.5 Jim Currey's prtcb1

Jim kindly donated this snippet. One of his earliest efforts establishing a base of OpenCOBOL resources. prtcb1 produces source code listing with results piped to a printer.

*A few customizations.* This version requires a change to a filename for printer control, location of copybooks, and possible changes to the system lp command line.

Stash a print setup string in the file so named. The program prompts for input, output and printer.

Jim pointed out that this was early attempts with OpenCOBOL as a tool to support better in house development, *and was nice enough to let me reprint it.*

Listing 3.14: PRTCBL

```

OCOBOL IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. PRTCBL.
*AUTHOR. J C CURREY.
*****
* PRINTS A COBOL SOURCE FILE WITH IT'S COPY BOOKS
*
*
* VERSION 001--ORIGINAL VERSION
*
* 3/26/2009--J C CURREY
*
*
* 002--ADDS .CPY (CAPS) IF .cpy FAILS TO FIND
*
* FILE AND EXPANDS INPUT TO 132 CHARACTERS*
* 4/09/2009--J C CURREY
*
*
* 003--ADDS NOLIST AND LIST SUPPORT (NOTE NOT
*
* SUPPORTED BY OPENCOBOL COMPILER)
*
* **NOLIST IN COL 7-14 TURNS OFF LISTING
*
* **LIST IN COL 7-12 TURNS ON LISTING
*
* 4/22/2009--J C CURREY
*
*
* 004--ADDS SUPPORT FOR /testing-set-1/copybooks *
* Copybooks are searched for first in the
*
* local directory and if not found, then in *

```

```

*           /testing-set-1/copybooks
*
*           5/7/2009--J C CUREY
*
*
*           005--CORRECTS MISSING LINE ISSUE ON PAGE BREAKS*
*           IN THE COPY FILE PRINTING SECTION.
*
*           1285451--SANDY DOSS
*
*           06/19/2009--JEREMY MONTOYA
*
*
*           006--USES EXTERNAL PCL CODE FILE TO INSERT PCL *
*           CODE INTO PRINT FILE FOR FORMATTING.
*
*           1330505--JIM CUREY
*
*           12/14/2009--PETE MCTHOMPSON
*
*****
ENVIRONMENT DIVISION.
INPUT-OUTPUT SECTION.
FILE-CONTROL.
121409     SELECT FORMAT-FILE ASSIGN TO WS-NAME-FORMAT-FILE
121409     ORGANIZATION IS LINE SEQUENTIAL.
          SELECT PRINT-FILE ASSIGN TO WS-NAME-PRINT-FILE
          ORGANIZATION IS LINE SEQUENTIAL.
          SELECT INPUT-FILE ASSIGN TO WS-NAME-INPUT-FILE
          ORGANIZATION IS LINE SEQUENTIAL
          FILE STATUS IS WS-INPUT-FILE-STATUS.
          SELECT COPY-FILE ASSIGN TO WS-NAME-COPY-FILE
          ORGANIZATION IS LINE SEQUENTIAL
          FILE STATUS IS WS-COPY-FILE-STATUS.
DATA DIVISION.
FILE SECTION.
*
FD PRINT-FILE.
121409 01  FORMAT-LINE                PIC X(140).
        01  PRINT-LINE.
            05  OR-LINE-NUMBER        PIC Z(6).
            05  OR-FILLER-1          PIC XX.
            05  OR-TEXT               PIC X(132).
121409*
121409 FD  FORMAT-FILE.
121409 01  FORMAT-RECORD             PIC X(140).
*
FD INPUT-FILE.

```

```

01 INPUT-RECORD.
   05 IR-BUFFER                                PIC X(132).

FD COPY-FILE.
01 COPY-RECORD.
   05 CR-BUFFER                                PIC X(132).

**NOLIST
* THIS IS ANOTHER LINE
**LIST
*
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
*****
*   CONSTANTS, COUNTERS AND WORK AREAS   *
*****
121409 01 WS-NAME-PROGRAM                      PIC X(12) VALUE
                                           "prtcbl 006".
01 WS-NO-PARAGRAPH                          PIC S9(4) COMP.
01 WS-I                                      PIC S9(4) COMP.
01 WS-J                                      PIC S9(4) COMP.
01 WS-K                                      PIC S9(4) COMP.
01 WS-NAME-PRINT-FILE                      PIC X(64) VALUE SPACES.
01 WS-NAME-INPUT-FILE                      PIC X(64) VALUE SPACES.
01 WS-INPUT-FILE-STATUS                    PIC XX VALUE "00".
050709 01 WS-NAME-COPY-FILE                  PIC X(128) VALUE SPACES.
050709 01 WS-HOLD-NAME-COPY-FILE            PIC X(128) VALUE SPACES.
121409 01 WS-NAME-FORMAT-FILE                PIC X(128) VALUE SPACES.
01 WS-COPY-FILE-STATUS                      PIC XX VALUE "00".
01 WS-LINE-PRINTER-NAME                    PIC X(16) VALUE SPACES.
01 WS-LINE-NUMBER                          PIC S9(6) COMP
                                           VALUE ZERO.
01 WS-PAGE-LINE-COUNTER                     PIC S9(4) COMP
                                           VALUE 999.
01 WS-PAGE-NUMBER                           PIC S9(4) COMP
                                           VALUE ZERO.
01 WS-PRINT-COMMAND                         PIC X(128).
*
01 WS-ESCAPE-CHARACTER                      PIC X VALUE X"1B".
*
01 WS-HEADING-LINE                          PIC X(132).
01 WS-CURRENT-DATE                          PIC X(21).
01 WS-ED4S                                  PIC ZZZZ-.
042209 01 WS-SWITCH-PRINT                    PIC X VALUE SPACE.
*****
*                               PROCEDURE DIVISION
*
*****
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
0000-MAIN SECTION.
   PERFORM 1000-INITIALIZATION THRU 1990-EXIT.
   PERFORM 2000-PROCESS THRU 2990-EXIT.

```

```

        PERFORM 9000-END-OF-PROGRAM THRU 9990-EXIT.
        STOP RUN.
*****
*           INITIALIZATION
*
*****
1000-INITIALIZATION.
        MOVE 1000 TO WS-NO-PARAGRAPH.
        DISPLAY "I) ", WS-NAME-PROGRAM, " BEGINNING AT--"
            FUNCTION CURRENT-DATE.
1002-GET-INPUT-FILE.
        DISPLAY "A) ENTER INPUT-FILE NAME " WITH NO ADVANCING.
        ACCEPT WS-NAME-INPUT-FILE.
        OPEN INPUT INPUT-FILE.
        IF WS-INPUT-FILE-STATUS IS EQUAL TO 35
            DISPLAY "W) INPUT FILE NOT FOUND"
            GO TO 1002-GET-INPUT-FILE.
        DISPLAY "A) ENTER PRINT-FILE (WORK FILE) NAME "
            WITH NO ADVANCING.
        ACCEPT WS-NAME-PRINT-FILE.
        DISPLAY "A) ENTER PRINTER NAME " WITH NO ADVANCING.
        ACCEPT WS-LINE-PRINTER-NAME.
        OPEN OUTPUT PRINT-FILE.
121409        MOVE "laserjet_113D.txt" TO WS-NAME-FORMAT-FILE.
121409        OPEN INPUT FORMAT-FILE.
121409 1010-OUTPUT-PCL-CODES.
121409        READ FORMAT-FILE NEXT RECORD AT END GO TO 1020-FORMAT-EOF.
121409        MOVE FORMAT-RECORD TO FORMAT-LINE.
121409        WRITE FORMAT-LINE.
121409        GO TO 1010-OUTPUT-PCL-CODES.
121409 1020-FORMAT-EOF.
121409        CLOSE FORMAT-FILE.
1990-EXIT.
        EXIT.
*****
*           DETAIL SECTION
*
*****
2000-PROCESS.
        MOVE 2000 TO WS-NO-PARAGRAPH.
        READ INPUT-FILE NEXT RECORD AT END GO TO 2990-EXIT.
        ADD 1 TO WS-LINE-NUMBER.
        IF WS-PAGE-LINE-COUNTER IS GREATER THAN 112
            PERFORM 2800-HEADINGS THRU 2890-EXIT.
        MOVE WS-LINE-NUMBER TO OR-LINE-NUMBER.
        MOVE SPACES TO OR-FILLER-1.
        MOVE INPUT-RECORD TO OR-TEXT.
042209        IF IR-BUFFER (7:6) IS EQUAL TO "**LIST"
042209            MOVE "Y" TO WS-SWITCH-PRINT.
042209        IF WS-SWITCH-PRINT IS EQUAL TO "N"

```

```

042209     THEN NEXT SENTENCE
042209     ELSE WRITE PRINT-LINE
042209         ADD 1 TO WS-PAGE-LINE-COUNTER.
042209     IF IR-BUFFER (7:8) IS EQUAL TO "***NOLIST"
042209     MOVE "N" TO WS-SWITCH-PRINT.
    IF IR-BUFFER (7:1) IS EQUAL TO "*" GO TO 2000-PROCESS.
    MOVE 1 TO WS-I.
2010-COMPARE-LOOP.
    IF IR-BUFFER (WS-I:2) IS EQUAL TO ">" GO TO 2090-ENDER.
    IF IR-BUFFER (WS-I:6) IS EQUAL TO " COPY " GO TO 2020-COPY.
    ADD 1 TO WS-I.
    IF WS-I IS LESS THAN 73 GO TO 2010-COMPARE-LOOP.
    GO TO 2000-PROCESS.
2020-COPY.
    SUBTRACT 1 FROM WS-LINE-NUMBER.
    ADD 6 TO WS-I.
    MOVE 1 TO WS-J.
    MOVE SPACES TO WS-NAME-COPY-FILE.
2022-MOVE-LOOP.
    IF IR-BUFFER (WS-I:1) IS EQUAL TO SPACE
        GO TO 2030-OPEN-COPYFILE.
    IF IR-BUFFER (WS-I:1) IS EQUAL TO "."
        MOVE ".cpy" to WS-NAME-COPY-FILE (WS-J:4)
        GO TO 2030-OPEN-COPYFILE.
    MOVE IR-BUFFER (WS-I:1) TO WS-NAME-COPY-FILE (WS-J:1).
    ADD 1 TO WS-I, WS-J.
    IF WS-I IS GREATER THAN 73
        OR WS-J IS GREATER THAN 64
            THEN MOVE "***PROBLEM WITH.COPY STATEMENT ABOVE**"
                TO OR-TEXT
                WRITE PRINT-LINE
                ADD 1 TO WS-PAGE-LINE-COUNTER
                GO TO 2000-PROCESS.
    GO TO 2022-MOVE-LOOP.
2030-OPEN-COPYFILE.
    OPEN INPUT COPY-FILE.
    IF WS-COPY-FILE-STATUS IS NOT EQUAL TO "00"
040909     MOVE ".CPY" TO WS-NAME-COPY-FILE (WS-J:4)
040909     OPEN INPUT COPY-FILE
040909     IF WS-COPY-FILE-STATUS IS NOT EQUAL TO "00"
050709     MOVE WS-NAME-COPY-FILE TO WS-HOLD-NAME-COPY-FILE
050709     STRING "/testing-set-1/copybooks/"
050709     WS-HOLD-NAME-COPY-FILE
050709     INTO WS-NAME-COPY-FILE
*     DISPLAY "D) AT.COPY FILE OPEN NAME=\ ", WS-NAME-COPY-FILE, "\"
050709     OPEN INPUT COPY-FILE
050709     IF WS-COPY-FILE-STATUS IS NOT EQUAL TO "00"
050709     ADD 25 TO WS-J
050709     MOVE ".cpy" TO WS-NAME-COPY-FILE (WS-J:4)
*     DISPLAY "D) AT.COPY FILE OPEN NAME=\ ", WS-NAME-COPY-FILE, "\"

```

```

050709          OPEN INPUT COPY-FILE
050709          IF WS-COPY-FILE-STATUS IS NOT EQUAL TO "00"
050709             MOVE "***COPY FILE ABOVE NOT FOUND***" TO OR-TEXT
050709             WRITE PRINT-LINE
050709             ADD 1 TO WS-LINE-NUMBER
050709             ADD 1 TO WS-PAGE-LINE-COUNTER
050709             GO TO 2000-PROCESS
050709          END-IF
050709        END-IF
040909        END-IF.
040909      2032-PRINT-LOOP.
          READ COPY-FILE NEXT RECORD AT END GO TO 2039-EOF.
          ADD 1 TO WS-LINE-NUMBER.
061909*      MOVE WS-LINE-NUMBER TO OR-LINE-NUMBER.
061909*      MOVE SPACES TO OR-FILLER-1.
061909*      MOVE COPY-RECORD TO OR-TEXT.
          IF WS-PAGE-LINE-COUNTER IS GREATER THAN 112
              PERFORM 2800-HEADINGS THRU 2890-EXIT.
061909      MOVE WS-LINE-NUMBER TO OR-LINE-NUMBER.
061909      MOVE SPACES TO OR-FILLER-1.
061909      MOVE COPY-RECORD TO OR-TEXT.
042209      IF CR-BUFFER (7:6) IS EQUAL TO "***LIST"
042209          MOVE "Y" TO WS-SWITCH-PRINT.
042209      IF WS-SWITCH-PRINT IS EQUAL TO "N"
042209          THEN NEXT SENTENCE
042209          ELSE WRITE PRINT-LINE
042209              ADD 1 TO WS-PAGE-LINE-COUNTER.
042209      IF CR-BUFFER (7:8) IS EQUAL TO "***NOLIST"
042209          MOVE "N" TO WS-SWITCH-PRINT.
          GO TO 2032-PRINT-LOOP.
2039-EOF.
          CLOSE COPY-FILE.
042209      MOVE "Y" TO WS-SWITCH-PRINT.
2090-ENDER.
          GO TO 2000-PROCESS.
*
*      PAGE HEADINGS
*
2800-HEADINGS.
          INITIALIZE PRINT-LINE.
          ADD 1 TO WS-PAGE-NUMBER.
          MOVE FUNCTION CURRENT-DATE TO WS-CURRENT-DATE.
          MOVE WS-NAME-INPUT-FILE TO PRINT-LINE.
          MOVE WS-PAGE-NUMBER TO WS-ED4S.
          MOVE "PAGE" TO PRINT-LINE (66:4).
          MOVE WS-ED4S TO PRINT-LINE (71:4).
          MOVE WS-CURRENT-DATE (5:2) TO PRINT-LINE (80:2).
          MOVE "/" TO PRINT-LINE (82:1).
          MOVE WS-CURRENT-DATE (7:2) TO PRINT-LINE (83:2).

```

```

MOVE "/" TO PRINT-LINE (85:1).
MOVE WS-CURRENT-DATE (1:4) TO PRINT-LINE (86:4).
MOVE WS-CURRENT-DATE (9:2) TO PRINT-LINE (92:2).
MOVE ":" TO PRINT-LINE (94:1).
MOVE WS-CURRENT-DATE (11:2) TO PRINT-LINE (95:2).
MOVE ":" TO PRINT-LINE (97:1).
MOVE WS-CURRENT-DATE (13:2) TO PRINT-LINE (98:2).
IF WS-PAGE-NUMBER IS EQUAL TO 1
    THEN WRITE PRINT-LINE
    ELSE WRITE PRINT-LINE AFTER ADVANCING PAGE.
INITIALIZE PRINT-LINE.
WRITE PRINT-LINE.
MOVE 4 TO WS-PAGE-LINE-COUNTER.
2890-EXIT.
EXIT.
*
*   END OF JOB
*
2990-EXIT.
EXIT.
*****
*           TERMINATION
*
*****
9000-END-OF-PROGRAM.
MOVE 9000 TO WS-NO-PARAGRAPH.
CLOSE INPUT-FILE.
CLOSE PRINT-FILE.
121409*   STRING "lp -d " DELIMITED BY SIZE,
121409*       WS-LINE-PRINTER-NAME DELIMITED BY SIZE,
121409*       "-o sides=two-sided-long-edge " DELIMITED BY SIZE,
121409*       "-o lpi=11 -o cpi=18 -o page-left=34 " DELIMITED BY SIZE,
121409*       WS-NAME-PRINT-FILE DELIMITED BY SIZE
121409*       INTO WS-PRINT-COMMAND.
121409*   STRING "lp -d " DELIMITED BY SIZE,
121409*       WS-LINE-PRINTER-NAME DELIMITED BY SIZE,
121409*       "-o raw " DELIMITED BY SIZE,
121409*       WS-NAME-PRINT-FILE DELIMITED BY SIZE
121409*       INTO WS-PRINT-COMMAND.
121409*   CALL "SYSTEM" USING WS-PRINT-COMMAND.
121409*   DISPLAY "I) " WS-NAME-PROGRAM " COMPLETED NORMALLY AT--"
121409*       FUNCTION CURRENT-DATE.
9990-EXIT.
EXIT.

```

---



## 3.16 Can I run background processes using OpenCOBOL?

Absolutely. Using the CALL "SYSTEM" service. Some care must be shown to properly detach the input output handles, and to instruct the processes to ignore hangup signals along with the "run in a background subshell" control.

Listing 3.15: OpenCOBOL spawn background process

```
CALL "SYSTEM"  
  USING  
    "nohup whatever 0</dev/null 1>mystdout 2>mystderr &"  
  RETURNING result  
END-CALL
```

---

runs whatever in the background, detaches stdin, sends standard output to the file `mystdout` and standard error to `mystderr`.

*The above example is for POSIX shell operating systems. As always, the commands sent through SYSTEM are VERY operating system dependent.*



## Chapter 4

# Reserved Words

### 4.1 What are the OpenCOBOL RESERVED WORDS?

COBOL is a reserved word rich language. The OpenCOBOL compiler recognizes:

514 words in OC 1.1, 136 of which are marked not yet implemented. 378 functional reserved words, as of August 2008.

#### 4.1.1 ACCEPT

Listing 4.1: OpenCOBOL ACCEPT

```
ACCEPT variable FROM CONSOLE.  
ACCEPT variable FROM ENVIRONMENT "path".  
ACCEPT variable FROM COMMAND LINE.  
ACCEPT variable AT 0101.  
ACCEPT screen-variable.
```

---

#### 4.1.2 ACCESS

Defines a file's access mode. One of DYNAMIC 4.1.143, RANDOM 4.1.369, or SEQUENTIAL 4.1.422.

Listing 4.2: OpenCOBOL ACCESS

```
SELECT filename  
  ASSIGN TO "filename.dat"  
  ACCESS MODE IS RANDOM  
  RELATIVE KEY IS keyfield.
```

---

### ACTIVE-CLASS

Not yet implemented. Object COBOL feature.

### 4.1.3 ADD

Listing 4.3: OpenCOBOL ADD

---

```
ADD 1 TO cobol GIVING OpenCOBOL END-ADD.
```

---

### 4.1.4 ADDRESS

Listing 4.4: OpenCOBOL ADDRESS

---

```
SET pointer-variable TO ADDRESS OF linkage-store.
```

---

### 4.1.5 ADVANCING

Listing 4.5: OpenCOBOL ADVANCING

---

```
DISPLAY "Legend: " WITH NO ADVANCING END-DISPLAY.  
WRITE printrecord AFTER ADVANCING PAGE END-WRITE.
```

---

### 4.1.6 AFTER

A multi purpose clause.

For one use, allows nested loops inside a PERFORM 4.1.340 verb. Another usage can influence when loop conditional testing occurs.

Listing 4.6: OpenCOBOL AFTER

---

```
PERFORM  
  WITH TEST AFTER  
  VARYING variable FROM 1 BY 1  
    UNTIL variable > 10  
  AFTER inner FROM 1 BY 1  
    UNTIL inner > 4  
    DISPLAY variable ", " inner END-DISPLAY  
END-PERFORM.
```

---

Will display 55 lines of output. 1 to 11 and 1 to 5. Removing the WITH TEST AFTER clause would cause 40 lines of output. 1 to 10 and 1 to 4.

### 4.1.7 ALIGNED

Not yet implemented feature that will influence the internal alignment of not yet implemented USAGE 4.1.495 BIT fields.

### 4.1.8 ALL

A multipurpose reserved in context word.

Listing 4.7: OpenCOBOL ALL

---

```
INSPECT variable REPLACING ALL "123" WITH "456".
```

---

### 4.1.9 ALLOCATE

Allocates actual working storage for a BASED 4.36 element.

Listing 4.8: OpenCOBOL ALLOCATE

```
ALLOCATE based-var INITIALIZED RETURNING pointer-var.
```

---

### 4.1.10 ALPHABET

Listing 4.9: OpenCOBOL ALPHABET

```
* Set up for a mixed case SORT COLLATING SEQUENCE IS  
CONFIGURATION SECTION.  
SPECIAL-NAMES.  
  ALPHABET name IS "AaBbCcDdEe..".
```

---

### 4.1.11 ALPHABETIC

One of the OpenCOBOL data class *category* tests.

Listing 4.10: OpenCOBOL ALPHABETIC

```
IF variable IS ALPHABETIC  
  DISPLAY "alphabetic" END-DISPLAY  
END-IF
```

---

### 4.1.12 ALPHABETIC-LOWER

One of the OpenCOBOL data class *category* tests.

Listing 4.11: OpenCOBOL ALPHABETIC-LOWER

```
IF variable IS ALPHABETIC-LOWER  
  DISPLAY "alphabetic-lower" END-DISPLAY  
END-IF
```

---

### 4.1.13 ALPHABETIC-UPPER

One of the OpenCOBOL data class *category* tests.

Listing 4.12: OpenCOBOL ALPHABETIC-UPPER

```
DISPLAY variable "alphabetic-upper " WITH NO ADVANCING  
IF variable IS ALPHABETIC-UPPER  
  DISPLAY "true" END-DISPLAY  
ELSE  
  DISPLAY "false" END-DISPLAY  
END-IF
```

---

#### 4.1.14 ALPHANUMERIC

Listing 4.13: OpenCOBOL ALPHANUMERIC

---

```
INITIALIZE data-record REPLACING ALPHANUMERIC BY literal-value
```

---

#### 4.1.15 ALPHANUMERIC-EDITED

Listing 4.14: OpenCOBOL

---

```
INITIALIZE data-record
REPLACING ALPHANUMERIC-EDITED BY identifier-1
```

---

#### 4.1.16 ALSO

A powerful, multiple conditional expression feature of EVALUATE4.79.

Listing 4.15: OpenCOBOL

---

```
EVALUATE variable ALSO second-test
  WHEN "A" ALSO 1 THRU 5 PERFORM first-case
  WHEN "A" ALSO 6          PERFORM second-case
  WHEN "A" ALSO 7 THRU 9 PERFORM third-case
  WHEN OTHER              PERFORM invalid-case
END-EVALUATE
```

---

#### 4.1.17 ALTER

Obsolete and unsupported verb that altered the jump target for GO TO statements.

Yeah, just don't.

*Rumour is, 2.0 may support this verb*, to increase support for legacy code, and NOT as *homage to a good idea*. But to be honest, I do look forward to seeing the first OpenCOBOL Flying Spaghetti Monster for the giggles of righteous indignation.

#### 4.1.18 ALTERNATE

Defines an ALTERNATE key for Indexed Sequential Access Methods (ISAM) data structures.

Listing 4.16: OpenCOBOL

---

```
SELECT file
  ASSIGN TO filename
  ACCESS MODE IS RANDOM
  RECORD KEY IS key-field
  ALTERNATE KEY IS alt-key WITH DUPLICATES.
```

---

### 4.1.19 AND

COBOL rules of precedence are; NOT, AND, OR.

Listing 4.17: OpenCOBOL

```

IF field = "A" AND num = 3
  DISPLAY "got 3" END-DISPLAY
END-IF

```

---

COBOL also allows abbreviated combined relational conditions.

Listing 4.18: OpenCOBOL

```

IF NOT (a NOT > b AND c AND NOT d)
  code
END-IF

```

---

is equivalent to

Listing 4.19: OpenCOBOL

```

IF NOT (((a NOT > b) AND (a NOT > c)) AND (NOT (a NOT > d)))
  code
END-IF

```

---

### 4.1.20 ANY

Allows for any value is TRUE in an EVALUATE statement.

Listing 4.20: OpenCOBOL

```

EVALUATE TRUE ALSO TRUE
  WHEN a > 3 ALSO ANY      *> b can be any value **
    PERFORM a-4-b-any
  WHEN a = 3 ALSO b = 1
    PERFORM a-3-b-1
END-EVALUATE

```

---

### 4.1.21 ANYCASE

Not yet implemented. Will allow case insensitive match of currency symbols with FUNCTION NUMVAL-C.

### 4.1.22 ARE

Allows for multiple conditional VALUES.

Listing 4.21: OpenCOBOL VALUES

```

01 cond-1 PIC X.
88 first-truth VALUES ARE "A" "B" "C".
88 second-truth VALUES ARE "X" "Y" "Z".

```

---

### 4.1.23 AREA

Controls SORT, MERGE and RECORD data definitions.

Listing 4.22: OpenCOBOL AREA

```
I-O-CONTROL.
  SAME RECORD AREA FOR file1, file2.
```

---

### 4.1.24 AREAS

Plural readability option for AREA.

Listing 4.23: OpenCOBOL AREAS

```
SAME RECORD AREAS
```

---

### 4.1.25 ARGUMENT-NUMBER

Holds the number of OS parsed command line arguments, and can act as the explicit index when retrieving ARGUMENT-VALUE data. ARGUMENT-NUMBER can be used in ACCEPT FROM and DISPLAY UPON expressions.

Listing 4.24: OpenCOBOL ARGUMENT-NUMBER

```
ACCEPT command-line-argument-count FROM ARGUMENT-NUMBER END-ACCEPT

DISPLAY 2 UPON ARGUMENT-NUMBER END-DISPLAY
ACCEPT indexed-command-line-argument FROM ARGUMENT-VALUE END-ACCEPT
```

---

See COMMAND-LINE for more information on the unparsed command invocation string.

### 4.1.26 ARGUMENT-VALUE

Returns the next command line argument. This post from John on <http://opencobol.org> is an excellent idiom for parsing command line arguments without too much worry as to the order.

Listing 4.25: OpenCOBOL ARGUMENT-VALUE Sample, parsing command lines

```
>>source format is free
*>*****
*> Author:   jrls (John Ellis)
*> Date:     Nov-2008
*> Purpose:  command line processing
*>*****
identification division.
program-id. cmdline.
data division.
```



```

*>
working-storage section.
*>*****
01 argv                pic x(100) value spaces.
   88 recv              value "-r", "--recv".
   88 email             value "-e", "--email".
   88 delivered         value "-d", "--delivered".
01 cmdstatus           pic x    value spaces.
   88 lastcmd          value "1".
01 reptinfo.
   05 rept-recv        pic x(30) value spaces.
   05 rept-howsent    pic x(10) value spaces.
*>
procedure division.
0000-start.
*>
   perform until lastcmd
move low-values        to argv
accept argv           from argument-value
if argv > low-values
   perform 0100-process-arguments
else
   move "1"           to cmdstatus
end-if
end-perform
display reptinfo.
stop run.
*>
0100-process-arguments.
*>
   evaluate true
when recv
   if rept-recv = spaces
      accept rept-recv from argument-value
   else
      display "duplicate " argv
   end-if
when email
   move "email"       to rept-howsent
when delivered
   move "delivered"   to rept-howsent
when other display "invalid switch: " argv
end-evaluate.

```

---

Example run:

```

./cmdline --recv "john ellis" -e -f
invalid switch: -f
john ellis                               email

```

### 4.1.27 ARITHMETIC

Not yet implemented feature of the not yet implemented OPTIONS paragraph of the ?? DIVISION.

### 4.1.28 AS

Listing 4.26: OpenCOBOL AS

---

```
PROGRAM-ID. program-name AS literal.
```

---

### 4.1.29 ASCENDING

COBOL table suport.

Listing 4.27: OpenCOBOL ASCENDING

---

```
01 CLUBTABLE.
   05 MEMBER-DATA OCCURS 1 TO 6000000000 TIMES
      DEPENDING ON PEOPLE
      ASCENDING KEY IS HOURS-DONATED.
```

---

### 4.1.30 ASSIGN

Assign a name to a file or other external resource.

Listing 4.28: OpenCOBOL

---

```
SELECT input-file
ASSIGN TO "filename.ext"
```

---

The actual filename used is dependent on a configuration setting. Under default configuration settings, filename-mapping is set to yes.

See What are the OpenCOBOL compile time configuration files? What are the OpenCOBOL compile time configuration files? for details.

Listing 4.29: OpenCOBOL .conf

---

```
# If yes, file names are resolved at run time using
# environment variables.
# For example, given ASSIGN TO "DATAFILE", the actual
# file name will be
# 1. the value of environment variable 'DD_DATAFILE' or
# 2. the value of environment variable 'dd_DATAFILE' or
# 3. the value of environment variable 'DATAFILE' or
# 4. the literal "DATAFILE"
# If no, the value of the assign clause is the file name.
#
# Value: 'yes', 'no'
filename-mapping: yes
```

---

So, under GNU/Linux, bash shell

Listing 4.30: OpenCOBOL DD Name

```
$ export DD_DATAFILE='/tmp/opencobol.dat'
$ ./myprog
```

---

the program will find the data in /tmp/opencobol.dat

Listing 4.31: OpenCOBOL DD Name change

```
$ export DD_DATAFILE='/tmp/other.dat'
$ ./myprog
```

---

this run of the same program will find the data in /tmp/other.dat

As shown in the sample .conf comments, the order of environment variable lookup proceeds through three environment variables before using a literal as the filename.

1. DD\_DATAFILE
2. dd\_DATAFILE
3. DATAFILE
4. and finally "DATAFILE"

where DATAFILE is the name used in

Listing 4.32: OpenCOBOL

```
ASSIGN TO name
```

---

and can be any valid COBOL identifier, or string leading to a valid operating system filename, and is not limited to \*DATAFILE\*.

### 4.1.31 AT

Controls position of ACCEPT and DISPLAY screen oriented verbs.

Listing 4.33: OpenCOBOL AT

```
*> Display at line 1, column 4 <*
  DISPLAY "Name:" AT 0104 END-DISPLAY
*> Accept starting at line 1, column 10 for length of field <*
  ACCEPT name-var AT 0110 END-ACCEPT
```

---

### 4.1.32 ATTRIBUTE

Not yet implemented, but when it is, it will allow

Listing 4.34: OpenCOBOL ATTRIBUTE

```
SET screen-name ATTRIBUTE BLINK OFF
```

---

### 4.1.33 AUTO

Automatic cursor flow to next field in screen section.

### 4.1.34 AUTO-SKIP

Alias for AUTO

### 4.1.35 AUTOMATIC

LOCK MODE IS AUTOMATIC. See MANUAL and EXCLUSIVE for more LOCK options.

### 4.1.36 AUTOTERMINATE

Alias for AUTO4.1.33

### 4.1.37 B-AND

Not yet implemented BIT4.1.52 field operation.

### 4.1.38 B-NOT

Not yet implemented BIT4.1.52 field operation.

### 4.1.39 B-OR

Not yet implemented BIT4.1.52 field operation.

### 4.1.40 B-XOR

Not yet implemented BIT4.1.52 field operation.

### 4.1.41 BACKGROUND-COLOR

Listing 4.35: OpenCOBOL BACKGROUND

```
05 BLANK SCREEN BACKGROUND-COLOR 7 FOREGROUND-COLOR 0.
```

---

### 4.1.42 BASED

Listing 4.36: OpenCOBOL BASED

```
01 based-var PIC X(80) BASED.
```

---

A sample posted by human [?]

Listing 4.37: OpenCOBOL BASED sample

```

*-----
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. 'MEMALL'.
ENVIRONMENT DIVISION.
CONFIGURATION SECTION.
SPECIAL-NAMES. DECIMAL-POINT IS COMMA.
INPUT-OUTPUT SECTION.
FILE-CONTROL.
DATA DIVISION.
FILE SECTION.
*
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
*
77 mychar      pic x.
01 REC-TEST BASED.
   03 REC-TEST-PART1 PIC X(5500000).
   03 REC-TEST-PART2 PIC X(0100000).
   03 REC-TEST-PART3 PIC X(1200000).
   03 REC-TEST-PART4 PIC X(1200000).
   03 REC-TEST-PART5 PIC X(1700000).
*-----
LINKAGE SECTION.
*-----
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
declaratives.
end declaratives.
*-----
main section.
00.
   FREE ADDRESS OF REC-TEST
   display 'MEMALL loaded and REC-TEST FREEd before ALLOCATE'
   accept  mychar
*
   IF ADDRESS OF REC-TEST = NULL
      display 'REC-TEST was not allocated before'
   ELSE
      display 'REC-TEST was allocated before'
   END-IF
   accept  mychar
*
   ALLOCATE REC-TEST
   move all '9' to REC-TEST
   display 'REC-TEST allocated and filled with '
      REC-TEST (1:9)
   end-display
   accept  mychar
*
   IF ADDRESS OF REC-TEST = NULL

```

```

    display 'REC-TEST was not allocated before'
    ALLOCATE REC-TEST
    display 'REC-TEST allocated again, filled with '
        REC-TEST (1:9)
    end-display
ELSE
    display 'REC-TEST was allocated before'
END-IF
accept mychar
*
*
FREE ADDRESS OF REC-TEST
display 'REC-TEST FREEd'
accept mychar
*
stop run
*
continue.
ex. exit program.
*-----
*--- End of program MEMALL -----

```

---

#### 4.1.43 BEEP

Ring the terminal bell during DISPLAY output. Alias for BELL.

Listing 4.38: OpenCOBOL BEEP

```
DISPLAY "Beeeeeep" LINE 3 COLUMN 1 WITH BEEP END-DISPLAY.
```

---

#### 4.1.44 BEFORE

Sets up a PERFORM loop to test the conditional BEFORE execution of the loop body. See AFTER4.6 for the alternative. BEFORE is the default.

Listing 4.39: OpenCOBOL BEFORE

```

MOVE 1 TO counter
PERFORM WITH TEST BEFORE
    UNTIL counter IS GREATER THAN OR EQUAL TO limiter
        CALL "subprogram" USING counter RETURNING result END-CALL
        MOVE result TO answers(counter)
        ADD 1 TO counter END-ADD
END-PERFORM

```

---

Also used with the WRITE verb.

Listing 4.40: OpenCOBOL WRITE BEFORE

```

WRITE record-name
    BEFORE ADVANCING some-number LINES

```

---

And to control how the INSPECT verb goes about its job.

Listing 4.41: OpenCOBOL BEEP

---

```
INSPECT character-var TALLYING
the-count FOR ALL "tests" BEFORE "prefix"
```

---

And not supported as of March 13, 2011, in the declaratives for REPORT SECTION control.

Listing 4.42: OpenCOBOL USE BEFORE

---

```
USE BEFORE REPORTING
...
```

---

#### 4.1.45 BELL

Ring the terminal bell during DISPLAY output. Alias for BEEP

Listing 4.43: OpenCOBOL BELL

---

```
DISPLAY "Beeeeeep" LINE 3 COLUMN 1 WITH BELL END-DISPLAY.
```

---

#### 4.1.46 BINARY

Listing 4.44: OpenCOBOL BINARY

---

```
01 result PIC S9(8) USAGE BINARY
```

---

#### 4.1.47 BINARY-C-LONG

With OpenCOBOL's tight integration with the C Application Binary Interface the compiler authors have built in support that guarantees a native system C *\*long\** value being the same bit size between COBOL and C modules. This increases coverage of the plethora of open C library functions that can be directly used with the CALL4.1.60 verb. Including cases where callback functions that require *\*long\** stack parameters (that can't as easily be wrapped in thin C code layers) can now be used more effectively and safely.

#### 4.1.48 BINARY-CHAR

Defines an 8 bit usage item.

#### 4.1.49 BINARY-DOUBLE

Defines a 64 bit usage item.

**4.1.50 BINARY-LONG**

32 bit native USAGE modifier. Equivalent to S9(8).

**4.1.51 BINARY-SHORT**

16 bit native USAGE. Equivalent to S9(5).

**4.1.52 BIT**

Not yet implemented.

**4.1.53 BLANK**

Listing 4.45: OpenCOBOL

---

```
05 BLANK SCREEN BACKGROUND-COLOR 7 FOREGROUND-COLOR 0.
```

---

**4.1.54 BLINK**

Aaaaaah, my eyes!!

**4.1.55 BLOCK**

Listing 4.46: OpenCOBOL BLOCK

---

```
FD file-name
  BLOCK CONTAINS 1 TO n RECORDS
```

---

**4.1.56 BOOLEAN**

As yet unsupported modifier.

**4.1.57 BOTTOM**

A LINAGE setting.

Listing 4.47: OpenCOBOL BOTTOM

---

```
FD mini-report
  lineage is 16 lines
  with footing at 15
  lines at top 2
  lines at bottom 2.
```

---



### 4.1.58 BY

Listing 4.48: OpenCOBOL BY

```
PERFORM the-procedure  
  VARYING step-counter FROM 1 BY step-size  
  UNTIL step-counter > counter-limit
```

---

### 4.1.59 BYTE-LENGTH

Human incisors average about 16mm.

More to the point, the BYTE-LENGTH returns the length, in bytes, of a data item. See FUNCTION BYTE-LENGTH.

### 4.1.60 CALL

The OpenCOBOL CALL verb accepts literal or identifier stored names when resolving the transfer address. The USING phrase allows argument passing and OpenCOBOL includes internal rules for the data representation of the call stack entities that depend on the COBOL PICTURE and USAGE clauses. Return values are captured with RETURNING identifier. See What STOCK CALL LIBRARY does OpenCOBOL offer? What STOCK CALL LIBRARY does OpenCOBOL offer?.

For more information see <http://www.opencobol.org/modules/bwiki/index.php?cmd=read&page=Us>

CALL is the verb that opens up access to the plethora of C based Application Binary Interface (ABI) libraries. **A plethora.**

### 4.1.61 CANCEL

Virtual cancel of a module is supported. Physical cancel support is on the development schedule.

### 4.1.62 CD

A control clause of the as yet unsupported COMMUNICATION DIVISION.

### 4.1.63 CENTER

An as yet unsupported keyword.

### 4.1.64 CF

Shortform for CONTROL FOOTING, a clause used in REPORT SECTION.

### 4.1.65 CH

Shortform for CONTROL HEADING, a clause used in PAGE descriptors in the REPORT SECTION.

### 4.1.66 CHAIN

Invokes a subprogram, with no return of control implied. The chained program unit virtually becomes the main program within the run unit.

### 4.1.67 CHAINING

Passes procedure division data through WORKING-STORAGE and can be used for shell command line arguments as well, as in CALL "myprog" USING string END-CALL.

from opencobol.org by human

Listing 4.49: OpenCOBOL chaining sample

```
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
  01 cmd-argument.
  02 some-text pic x(256).

procedure division Chaining cmd-argument.

  display 'You wrote:'
  '>' function trim(some-text) ''
  'from shell command line'
end-display
```

---

### 4.1.68 CHARACTER

Listing 4.50: OpenCOBOL CHARACTER

```
PADDING CHARACTER IS
```

---

A soon to be obsolete feature.

### 4.1.69 CHARACTERS

A multi use keyword.

Used in SPECIAL-NAMES4.1.439

Listing 4.51: OpenCOBOL CHARACTERS

```
OCOBOL >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
*> *****
*> Author:    Brian Tiffin
*> Date:      20101031
*> Purpose:   Try out SYMBOLIC CHARACTERS
*> Tectonics: cobc -x figurative.cob
*> Rave:      OpenCOBOL is stone cold cool
*> *****
  identification division.
  program-id. figurative.
```

```

environment division.
configuration section.
special-names.
    symbolic characters TAB is 10
                                LF is 11
                                CMA is 45.

data division.
working-storage section.
01 a-comma pic x(1) value ",".
01 lots-of-commas pic x(20).

*> *****
procedure division.
display
    "thing" TAB "tabbed thing" LF
    "and" TAB "another tabbed thing" LF
    "other" CMA " things"
end-display

move a-comma to lots-of-commas
display "MOVE a-comma : " lots-of-commas end-display

move CMA to lots-of-commas
display "MOVE symbolic: " lots-of-commas end-display

goback.
end program figurative.

```

---

**Outputs:**

```

$ cobc -x figuratives.cob
$ ./figuratives
thing  tabbed thing
and    another tabbed thing
other, things
MOVE a-comma : ,
MOVE symbolic: ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,

```

Used in INSPECT

## Listing 4.52: OpenCOBOL

```
INSPECT str TALLYING tal FOR CHARACTERS
```

---

Used in a File Description FD

## Listing 4.53: OpenCOBOL

```
FD file-name
BLOCK CONTAINS integer-1 TO integer-2 CHARACTERS
```

---

```
RECORD IS VARYING IN SIZE FROM integer-5 TO integer-6 CHARACTERS
  DEPENDING ON identifier-1.
```

---

#### 4.1.70 CLASS

Used to create alphabets in SPECIAL-NAMES.

Listing 4.54: OpenCOBOL CLASS

```
ENVIRONMENT DIVISION.
CONFIGURATION SECTION.
SPECIAL-NAMES.
CLASS octals IS '0' THRU '7'.

...

PROCEDURE DIVISION.
IF user-value IS NOT octals
  DISPLAY "Sorry, not a valid octal number" END-DISPLAY
ELSE
  DISPLAY user-value END-DISPLAY
END-IF
```

---

#### 4.1.71 CLASS-ID

An as yet unsupported Object COBOL class identifier clause.

#### 4.1.72 CLASSIFICATION

An as yet unsupported source code internationalization clause.

#### 4.1.73 CLOSE

Close an open file. OpenCOBOL will implicitly close all open resources at termination of a run unit and will display a warning message stating so, and the danger of potentially unsafe termination.

Listing 4.55: OpenCOBOL

```
CLOSE input-file
```

---

#### 4.1.74 CODE

A syntactically recognized, but as yet unsupported clause of a report descriptor, RD4.1.370.

#### 4.1.75 CODE-SET

An as yet unsupported data internationalization clause.

**4.1.76 COL**

Alias for COLUMNS??.

**4.1.77 COLLATING**

Allows control over alphanumeric compares within a program unit.

Listing 4.56: OpenCOBOL

---

```
OBJECT-COMPUTER. name.
PROGRAM COLLATING SEQUENCE IS alphabet-1.
```

---

**4.1.78 COLS**

Alias for COLUMNS??.

**4.1.79 COLUMN**

A recognized but unsupported REPORT SECTION RD4.1.370 descriptor clause.

Also used for positional DISPLAY and ACCEPT, which implicitly uses SCREEN SECTION style ncurses screen IO.

Listing 4.57: OpenCOBOL

---

```
DISPLAY var-1 LINE 1 COLUMN 23 END-DISPLAY
```

---

**4.1.80 COLUMNS**

A recognized but as yet unsupported 4.1.370 clause.

**4.1.81 COMMA**

A SPECIAL-NAMES4.1.439 clause supporting commas in numeric values versus the default period decimal point. COBOL was way ahead of the internationalization curve, \*and this feature has caused compiler writers no little grief in its time, a challenge they rise to and deal with for the world's benefit\*.

Listing 4.58: OpenCOBOL

---

```
DECIMAL POINT IS COMMA
```

---

**4.1.82 COMMAND-LINE**

Provides access to command line arguments.

Listing 4.59: OpenCOBOL COMMAND-LINE

---

```
ACCEPT the-args FROM COMMAND-LINE END-ACCEPT
```

---

### 4.1.83 COMMIT

Flushes ALL current locks, synching file I/O buffers. OpenCOBOL supports safe transactional processing with ROLLBACK4.1.405 capabilities. \*Assuming the ISAM handler configured when building the compiler can support LOCK4.1.284\*

### 4.1.84 COMMON

Listing 4.60: OpenCOBOL COMMAND-LINE

```
PROGRAM-ID. CBL-OC-PROGRAM IS COMMON PROGRAM.
```

---

Ensures a nested sub-program is also available to other nested sub-programs with a program unit heirarchy.

### 4.1.85 COMMUNICATION

Currently March 13, 2011 unsupported DIVISION, but see Does OpenCOBOL support Message Queues? 5.10 for an alternative.

### 4.1.86 COMP

See COMPUTATIONAL??

### 4.1.87 COMP-1

See COMPUTATIONAL-1??

### 4.1.88 COMP-2

See COMPUTATIONAL-2??

### 4.1.89 COMP-3

See COMPUTATIONAL-3??

### 4.1.90 COMP-4

See COMPUTATIONAL-4??

### 4.1.91 COMP-5

See COMPUTATIONAL-5??

### 4.1.92 COMP-X

See COMPUTATIONAL-X??

**4.1.93 COMPUTATIONAL**

Implementors choice; OpenCOBOL is a big-endian default. With most Intel personal computers and operating systems like GNU/Linux, COMPUTATIONAL-5?? will run faster.

**4.1.94 COMPUTATIONAL-1**

Single precision float. Equivalent to FLOAT-SHORT4.1.207.

**4.1.95 COMPUTATIONAL-2**

Double precision float. Equivalent to FLOAT-LONG4.80.

**4.1.96 COMPUTATIONAL-3**

Equivalent to PACKED DECIMAL. Packed decimal is two digits per byte, always sign extended and influenced by a .conf setting \*binary-size\* COMPUTATIONAL-6?? is UNSIGNED PACKED.

**4.1.97 COMPUTATIONAL-4**

Equivalent to BINARY.

**4.1.98 COMPUTATIONAL-5**

Native form.

**4.1.99 COMPUTATIONAL-6**

Unsigned packed decimal form, see COMPUTATIONAL-3??.

**4.1.100 COMPUTATIONAL-X**

Native form.

**4.1.101 COMPUTE**

Computational arithmetic.

Listing 4.61: OpenCOBOL

```
COMPUTE circular-area = radius ** 2 * FUNCTION PI END-COMPUTE
```

---


$$a = \pi r^2$$

OpenCOBOL supports the normal gamut of arithmetic expressions.

- Add +

- Subtract –
- Multiply \*
- Divide /
- Raise to power \*\*

Order of precedence rules apply.

1. unary minus, unary plus
2. exponentiation
3. multiplication, division
4. addition, subtraction

Spaces and expressions

Due to COBOL allowing dash in user names, care must be taken to properly space arithmetic expressions.

Some examples of seemingly ambiguous and potentially dangerous code

Listing 4.62: OpenCOBOL

```

OCOBOL*> *****
      identification division.
      program-id. computing.

      data division.
      working-storage section.
      01 answer pic s9(8).
      01 var    pic s9(8).

      *> *****
      procedure division.
      compute answer = 3*var-1 end-compute

      goback.
      end program computing.

```

---

That is NOT  $3 * var - 1$  three times var \*minus one\*, OpenCOBOL will complain.

```

$ cobc -x computing.cob
computing.cob:18: Error: 'var-1' is not defined
$

```

whew, saved!



Listing 4.63: OpenCOBOL

```

OCOBOL*> *****
identification division.
program-id. computing.

data division.
working-storage section.
01 answer pic s9(8).
01 var    pic s9(8).
01 var-1  pic s9(8).

*> *****
procedure division.
compute answer = 3*var-1 end-compute

goback.
end program computing.

```

---

```

$ cobc -x computing.cob
$

```

OpenCOBOL will (properly, according to standard) compile this as three times var-1. Not saved.

*OpenCOBOL programmers are strongly encouraged to use full spacing inside COMPUTE statements.*

Listing 4.64: OpenCOBOL

```

OCOBOL*> *****
identification division.
program-id. computing.

data division.
working-storage section.
01 answer pic s9(8).
01 var    pic s9(8).
01 var-1  pic s9(8).

*> *****
procedure division.
compute answer = 3 * var - 1 end-compute

goback.
end program computing.

```

---

#### 4.1.102 CONDITION

As yet unsupported USE AFTER EXCEPTION CONDITION clause.

### 4.1.103 CONFIGURATION

A SECTION of the ENVIRONMENT DIVISION. Holds paragraphs for

- SOURCE-COMPUTER
- OBJECT-COMPUTER
- REPOSITORY
- SPECIAL-NAMES

### 4.1.104 CONSTANT

An extension allowing constant definitions

Listing 4.65: OpenCOBOL

---

```
01 enumerated-value CONSTANT AS 500.
```

---

### 4.1.105 CONTAINS

An FD clause:

Listing 4.66: OpenCOBOL

---

```
FD a-file RECORD CONTAINS 80 CHARACTERS.
```

---

### 4.1.106 CONTENT

A CALL clause that controls how arguments are passed and expected.

Listing 4.67: OpenCOBOL

---

```
CALL "subprog" USING BY CONTENT alpha-var.
```

---

alpha-var will not be modifiable by subprog as a copy is passed.  
See REFERENCE and VALUE for the other supported CALL argument control.

### 4.1.107 CONTINUE

A placeholder, no operation verb.

Listing 4.68: OpenCOBOL

---

```
if action-flag = "C" or "R" or "U" or "D"
  continue
else
  display "invalid action-code" end-display
end-if
```

---

**4.1.108 CONTROL****4.1.109 CONTROLS****4.1.110 CONVERTING**

A clause of the INSPECT verb.

Listing 4.69: OpenCOBOL

---

```
INSPECT X CONVERTING "012345678" TO "999999999" .
```

---

**4.1.111 COPY**

The COBOL include *pre-processor* verb. Also see REPLACE and Does OpenCOBOL support COPY includes?.

**4.1.112 CORR****4.1.113 CORRESPONDING**

Move any and all sub fields with matching names within records.

Listing 4.70: OpenCOBOL

```
01 bin-record.
   05 first usage binary-short.
   05 second usage binary-long.
   05 this-wont-move usage binary-long.
   05 third-will usage binary-short.
01 num-record.
   05 first pic 999.
   05 second pic s9(9).
   05 third-will pic 999.
   05 this-doesnt-match pic s9(9).

move corresponding bin-record to num-record
display
  first in num-record
  second in num-record
  third-will in num-record
end-display
```

---

**4.1.114 COUNT****4.1.115 CRT****4.1.116 CURRENCY****4.1.117 CURSOR****4.1.118 CYCLE**

A clause that causes `EXIT PERFORM` to return to the top of a loop. See `FOREVER` for an example.

**4.1.119 DATA**

A magical `DIVISION` 4.1.140.

**4.1.120 DATA-POINTER**

An as yet unsupported Object COBOL feature.

**4.1.121 DATE****4.1.122 DAY****4.1.123 DAY-OF-WEEK**

Listing 4.71: OpenCOBOL

---

```
accept the-day from day-of-week
```

**4.1.124 DE****4.1.125 DEBUGGING****4.1.126 DECIMAL-POINT****4.1.127 DECLARATIVES**

An imperative entry that can control exception handling of file operations and turn on debug entry points.

Listing 4.72: OpenCOBOL

```
procedure division.
declaratives.
handle-errors section.
    use after standard error procedure on filename-1.
handle-error.
    display "Something bad happened with " filename-1 end-display.
.
```

```
helpful-debug section.  
    use for debugging on open-main-file.  
help-me.  
    display "About to open " filename-1 end-display.  
.   
end declaratives.
```

---

#### 4.1.128 DEFAULT

#### 4.1.129 DELETE

#### 4.1.130 DELIMITED

A fairly powerful keyword used with the STRING verb. Accepts literals and the BY SIZE modifier.

Listing 4.73: OpenCOBOL

```
STRING null-terminated  
    DELIMITED BY LOW-VALUE  
    INTO no-zero  
END-STRING
```

---

#### 4.1.131 DELIMITER

#### 4.1.132 DEPENDING

#### 4.1.133 DESCENDING

#### 4.1.134 DESTINATION

#### 4.1.135 DETAIL

#### 4.1.136 DISABLE

#### 4.1.137 DISK

#### 4.1.138 DISPLAY

Prints values to standard out, sets environment variables

Listing 4.74: OpenCOBOL

```
DISPLAY "First value: " a-variable " and another string" END-DISPLAY
```

---

**4.1.139 DIVIDE**

Highly precise arithmetic.

Listing 4.75: OpenCOBOL

---

```
DIVIDE dividend BY divisor GIVING answer ROUNDED REMAINDER r
```

---

The 20xx draft standard requires conforming implementations to use 1,000 digits of precision for intermediate results. There will be no rounding errors when properly calculating financials in a COBOL program.

**4.1.140 DIVISION**

Ahh, sub-divisions. I think my favourite is the DATA DIVISION. It gives COBOL a distinctive and delicious flavour in a picturesque codescape.

OpenCOBOL is flexible enough to compile files with only a PROCEDURE DIVISION, and even then it really only needs a PROGRAM-ID. See [What is the shortest OpenCOBOL program?](#) for an example.

**4.1.141 DOWN****4.1.142 DUPLICATES****4.1.143 DYNAMIC****4.1.144 EBCDIC**

Extended Binary Coded Decimal Interchange Code.

A character encoding common to mainframe systems, therefore COBOL, therefore OpenCOBOL. Different than American Symbolic Code for Information Interchange (ascii) and OpenCOBOL supports both through efficient mappings. See <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/> for more info.

ASCII to EBCDIC conversion the OpenCOBOL way

Listing 4.76: OpenCOBOL ASCII to EBCDIC with INSPECT CONVERTING

---

```
SPECIAL-NAMES.
ALPHABET ALPHA IS NATIVE.
ALPHABET BETA IS EBCDIC.

PROCEDURE DIVISION.
INSPECT variable CONVERTING ALPHA TO BETA
```

---

**4.1.145 EC**

**4.1.146 EGI**

**4.1.147 ELSE**

Alternate conditional branch point.

**4.1.148 EMI**

**4.1.149 ENABLE**

**4.1.150 END**

**4.1.151 END-ACCEPT**

Explicit terminator for ACCEPT.

**4.1.152 END-ADD**

Explicit terminator for ADD.

**4.1.153 END-CALL**

Explicit terminator for CALL.

**4.1.154 END-COMPUTE**

Explicit terminator for ??.

**4.1.155 END-DELETE**

Explicit terminator for DELETE.

**4.1.156 END-DISPLAY**

Explicit terminator for DISPLAY.

**4.1.157 END-DIVIDE**

Explicit terminator for DIVIDE.

**4.1.158 END-EVALUATE**

Explicit terminator for EVALUATE.

**4.1.159 END-IF**

Explicit terminator for IF.

**4.1.160 END-MULTIPLY**

Explicit terminator for MULTIPLY.

**4.1.161 END-OF-PAGE****4.1.162 END-PERFORM**

Explicit terminator for PERFORM.

**4.1.163 END-READ**

Explicit terminator for READ.

**4.1.164 END-RECEIVE**

Explicit terminator for RECEIVE.

**4.1.165 END-RETURN**

Explicit terminator for RETURN.

**4.1.166 END-REWRITE**

Explicit terminator for REWRITE.

**4.1.167 END-SEARCH**

Explicit terminator for SEARCH.

**4.1.168 END-START**

Explicit terminator for START.

**4.1.169 END-STRING**

Explicit terminator for STRING.

**4.1.170 END-SUBTRACT**

Explicit terminator for SUBTRACT.



#### **4.1.171 END-UNSTRING**

Explicit terminator for UNSTRING.

#### **4.1.172 END-WRITE**

Explicit terminator for WRITE.

#### **4.1.173 ENTRY**

Always for CALL entry points without being fully specified sub-programs. Great for defining callbacks required by many GUI frameworks.

See Does OpenCOBOL support the GIMP ToolKit, GTK+? for an example.

#### **4.1.174 ENTRY-CONVENTION**

An as yet unsupported clause.

#### **4.1.175 ENVIRONMENT**

Divisional name. And allows access to operating system environment variables. OpenCOBOL supports

- CONFIGURATION SECTION
- INPUT-OUTPUT SECTION

within the ENVIRONMENT DIVISION.

Also a context sensitive keyword for access to the process environment variables.

- SET ENVIRONMENT "env-var" TO value
- ACCEPT var FROM ENVIRONMENT "env-var" END-ACCEPT

#### **4.1.176 ENVIRONMENT-NAME**

Provides access to the running process environment variables.

#### **4.1.177 ENVIRONMENT-VALUE**

Provides access to the running process environment variables.

#### **4.1.178 EO**

#### **4.1.179 EOL**

ERASE to End Of Line.

**4.1.180 EOP****4.1.181 EOS**

ERASE to End Of Screen.

**4.1.182 EQUAL**

Conditional expression to compare two data items for equality.

**4.1.183 EQUALS**

Conditional expression to compare two data items for equality.

**4.1.184 ERASE**

A screen section data attribute clause that can control which portions of the screen are cleared during DISPLAY, and ACCEPT.

Listing 4.77: OpenCOBOL

```
01 form-record.
  02 first-field PIC xxx
     USING identifier-1
     ERASE EOL.
```

---

**4.1.185 ERROR**

A DECLARATIVES clause that can control error handling.

Listing 4.78: OpenCOBOL

```
USE AFTER STANDARD ERROR PROCEDURE ON filename-1
```

---

**4.1.186 ESCAPE****4.1.187 ESI****4.1.188 EVALUATE**

A very powerful and concise selection construct.

Listing 4.79: OpenCOBOL EVALUATE

```
EVALUATE a ALSO b ALSO TRUE
  WHEN 1 ALSO 1 THRU 9 ALSO c EQUAL 1 PERFORM all-life
  WHEN 2 ALSO 1 THRU 9 ALSO c EQUAL 2 PERFORM life
  WHEN 3 THRU 9 ALSO 1 ALSO c EQUAL 9 PERFORM disability
  WHEN OTHER PERFORM invalid
END-EVALUATE
```

---

**4.1.189 EXCEPTION**

**4.1.190 EXCEPTION-OBJECT**

**4.1.191 EXCLUSIVE**

**4.1.192 EXIT**

OpenCOBOL supports:

- EXIT
  
- EXIT PROGRAM
  
- EXIT PERFORM [CYCLE]
  
- EXIT SECTION
  
- EXIT PARAGRAPH

Controls flow of the program. `EXIT PERFORM CYCLE` causes an inline perform to return control to the `VARYING 4.1.507`, `UNTIL 4.1.491` or `TIMES 4.1.474` clause, testing the conditional to see if another cycle is required. `EXIT PERFORM` without the `CYCLE` option causes flow to continue passed the end of the current `PERFORM` loop.

**4.1.193 EXPANDS**

**4.1.194 EXTEND**

**4.1.195 EXTERNAL**

**4.1.196 FACTORY**

**4.1.197 FALSE**

**4.1.198 FD**

**4.1.199 FILE**

**4.1.200 FILE-CONTROL**

**4.1.201 FILE-ID**

**4.1.202 FILLER**

**4.1.203 FINAL**

**4.1.204 FIRST**

**4.1.205 FLOAT-EXTENDED**

OpenCOBOL recognizes but does not yet support `FLOAT-EXTENDED` and will abend a compile.

**4.1.206 FLOAT-LONG**

OpenCOBOL supports floating point long.

Listing 4.80: OpenCOBOL `FLOAT-LONG`

```

identification division.
program-id. threes.

data division.
working-storage section.
01 fshort usage float-short.
01 flong  usage float-long.
01 fpic  pic 9v9(35).

procedure division.
compute fshort = 1 / 3 end-compute
display "as short " fshort end-display
compute flong = 1 / 3 end-compute
display "as long " flong end-display
compute fpic = 1 / 6 end-compute
display "as pic " fpic end-display
compute fpic rounded = 1 / 6 end-compute

```



```

        end-if

        display "cobol still creeping up on c" end-display
    end-perform

    display "cobol surpassed c and fortran" end-display

    goback.
end program foreverloop.

```

---

Which produces:

```

$ cobc -free -x foreverloop.cob
$ ./foreverloop
cobol at 1
cobol still creeping up on c
cobol at 2
cobol at 3
cobol surpassed c and fortran

```

#### 4.1.212 FORMAT

#### 4.1.213 FREE

Properly cleans up ALLOCATE4.8 allotted memory.

#### 4.1.214 FROM

#### 4.1.215 FULL

#### 4.1.216 FUNCTION

Allows use of the many OpenCOBOL supported intrinsic functions.

Listing 4.82: OpenCOBOL FUNCTION

```

DISPLAY FUNCTION TRIM("  trim off leading spaces" LEADING) END-DISPLAY.

```

---

#### 4.1.217 FUNCTION-ID

Not yet implemented, but it will allow for user defined functions.

#### 4.1.218 GENERATE

Not yet implemented beyond simple parsing REPORT writer feature.

**4.1.219 GET**

**4.1.220 GIVING**

Listing 4.83: OpenCOBOL GIVING

```
ADD 1 TO cobol GIVING OpenCOBOL.
```

---

**4.1.221 GLOBAL**

**4.1.222 GO**

GO TO is your friend. Edsger was wrong.

**4.1.223 GOBACK**

A return. This will work correctly for all cases. A return to the operating system or a return to a called program.

Listing 4.84: OpenCOBOL GOBACK

```
GOBACK.
```

---

**4.1.224 GREATER**

COBOL conditional expression.

**4.1.225 GROUP**

**4.1.226 GROUP-USAGE**

**4.1.227 HEADING**

**4.1.228 HIGH-VALUE**

The largest value by PICTURE or assumed PIC.

**4.1.229 HIGH-VALUES**

**4.1.230 HIGHLIGHT**

**4.1.231 I-O**

**4.1.232 I-O-CONTROL**

**4.1.233 ID**

**4.1.234 IDENTIFICATION**

The initial division for OpenCOBOL programs.

## Listing 4.85: OpenCOBOL

```
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.  
PROGRAM-ID. sample.
```

---

Many historical paragraphs from the IDENTIFICATION DIVISION have been deemed obsolete. OpenCOBOL will treat these as comment paragraphs. Including

- AUTHOR
- DATE-WRITTEN
- DATE-MODIFIED
- DATE-COMPILED
- INSTALLATION
- REMARKS
- SECURITY

**4.1.235 IF**

Conditional branching. In COBOL, conditionals are quite powerful and there are many conditional expressions allowed with concise shortcuts.

## Listing 4.86: OpenCOBOL

```
IF A = 1 OR 2  
  MOVE 1 TO B  
END-IF
```

---

**4.1.236 IGNORING****4.1.237 IMPLEMENTS****4.1.238 IN**

A data structure reference and name conflict resolution qualifier.

## Listing 4.87: OpenCOBOL

```
MOVE "abc" TO field IN the-record IN the-structure
```

---

Synonym for OF



**4.1.239 INDEX****4.1.240 INDEXED****4.1.241 INDICATE****4.1.242 INHERITS****4.1.243 INITIAL****4.1.244 INITIALIZE**

A sample of the INITIALIZE verb posted [opencobol.org](http://opencobol.org) by human [?]

Listing 4.88: OpenCOBOL INITIALIZE

```

OCOBOL*-----
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. 'INITTEST'.
ENVIRONMENT DIVISION.
CONFIGURATION SECTION.
SPECIAL-NAMES. DECIMAL-POINT IS COMMA.
INPUT-OUTPUT SECTION.
DATA DIVISION.
*
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
*
77 mychar      pic x.
77 mynumeric   pic 9.
01 REC-TEST BASED.
   03 REC-TEST-PART1 PIC X(10) value all '9'.
   03 REC-TEST-PART2 PIC X(10) value all 'A'.
01 fillertest.
   03 fillertest-1 PIC 9(10) value 2222222222.
   03 filler      PIC X      value '|'.
   03 fillertest-2 PIC X(10) value all 'A'.
   03 filler      PIC 9(03) value 111.
   03 filler      PIC X      value '.'.
*-----
LINKAGE SECTION.
*-----
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
*-----
Main section.
00.
*
   display 'fillertest '
           'on start:'
   end-display
   display fillertest
   end-display

```

```
accept mychar
*
initialize fillertest
display 'fillertest '
      'after initialize:'
end-display
display fillertest
end-display
accept mychar
*
initialize fillertest replacing numeric by 9
display 'fillertest '
      'after initialize replacing numeric by 9:'
end-display
display fillertest
end-display
accept mychar
*
initialize fillertest replacing alphanumeric by 'X'
display 'fillertest '
      'after initialize replacing alphanumeric by "X":'
end-display
display fillertest
end-display
accept mychar
*
initialize fillertest replacing alphanumeric by all 'X'
display 'fillertest '
      'after initialize replacing alphanumeric by all "X":'
end-display
display fillertest
end-display
accept mychar
*
initialize fillertest with filler
display 'fillertest '
      'after initialize with filler:'
end-display
display fillertest
end-display
accept mychar
*
initialize fillertest all to value
display 'fillertest '
      'after initialize all to value:'
end-display
display fillertest
end-display
accept mychar
*
```

```

        ALLOCATE  REC-TEST
        display 'REC-TEST after allocating:'
        end-display
        display REC-TEST
        end-display
        accept  mychar
*
        initialize REC-TEST all to value
        display 'REC-TEST after initalize all to value:'
        end-display
        display REC-TEST
        end-display
        accept  mychar
*
        stop run
*
        continue.
    ex.  exit program.
*-----
*--- End of program INITTEST -----

```

**Outputs:**

```

fillertest on start:
2222222222|AAAAAAAAAA111.
fillertest after initialize:
0000000000|          111.
fillertest after initialize replacing numeric by 9:
0000000009|          111.
fillertest after initialize replacing alphanumeric by "X":
0000000009|X          111.
fillertest after initialize replacing alphanumeric by all "X":
0000000009|XXXXXXXXXX111.
fillertest after initialize with filler:
0000000000          000
fillertest after initialize all to value:
2222222222|AAAAAAAAAA111.
REC-TEST after allocating:

REC-TEST after initalize all to value:
9999999999AAAAAAAAAA

```

**4.1.245 INITIALIZED****4.1.246 INITIATE**

Initialize internal storage for named REPORT SECTION entries.

Not supported as of March 13, 2011.

### 4.1.247 INPUT

A mode of the OPEN verb for file access.

Listing 4.89: OpenCOBOL INITIALIZE

```
OPEN INPUT file
```

---

### 4.1.248 INPUT-OUTPUT

A section in the ENVIRONMENT DIVISION of a COBOL source file containing FILE and I-O control paragraphs.

Listing 4.90: OpenCOBOL INITIALIZE

```
environment division.
input-output section.
file-control.
  select htmlfile
  assign to filename
  organization is record sequential.
```

---

OpenCOBOL supports

- FILE-CONTROL
- I-O-CONTROL

paragraphs within the INPUT-OUTPUT SECTION.

### 4.1.249 INSPECT

Provides very powerful parsing and replacement to COBOL and OpenCOBOL supports the full gamut of options.

Listing 4.91: OpenCOBOL INITIALIZE

```
OCOBOL identification division.
program-id. inspecting.

data division.
working-storage section.
01 ORIGINAL          pic XXXX/XX/XXBXX/XX/XXXXXXXX/XX.
01 DATEREC           pic XXXX/XX/XXBXX/XX/XXXXXXXX/XX.

procedure division.

move function when-compiled to DATEREC ORIGINAL

INSPECT DATEREC REPLACING ALL "/" BY ":" AFTER INITIAL SPACE
```

```

display
    "Intrinsic function WHEN-COMPILED " ORIGINAL
end-display
display
    " after INSPECT REPLACING           " DATEREC
end-display

goback.
end program inspecting.

```

---

Example output:

```

Intrinsic function WHEN-COMPILED 2010/03/25 23/05/0900-04/00
after INSPECT REPLACING          2010/03/25 23:05:0900-04:00

```

#### 4.1.250 INTERFACE

#### 4.1.251 INTERFACE-ID

#### 4.1.252 INTO

#### 4.1.253 INTRINSIC

Used in REPOSITORY to allow the optional use of "FUNCTION" keyword.

Listing 4.92: OpenCOBOL INITIALIZE

```

environment division.
configuration section.
repository.
    function all intrinsic.

```

---

The source unit will now allow for program lines such as

Listing 4.93: OpenCOBOL INITIALIZE

```

move trim(" abc") to dest
move function trim(" abc") to dest

```

---

to compile the same code.

**4.1.254 INVALID**

**4.1.255 INVOKE**

**4.1.256 IS**

**4.1.257 JUST**

**4.1.258 JUSTIFIED**

**4.1.259 KEY**

**4.1.260 KEYBOARD**

A special value for Standard Input

Listing 4.94: OpenCOBOL INITIALIZE

```
file-control.  
select cgi-in  
assign to keyboard.
```

---

**4.1.261 LABEL**

**4.1.262 LAST**

**4.1.263 LC-ALL**

**4.1.264 LC-COLLATE**

**4.1.265 LC-CTYPE**

**4.1.266 LC-MESSAGES**

**4.1.267 LC-MONETARY**

**4.1.268 LC-NUMERIC**

**4.1.269 LC-TIME**

**4.1.270 LEADING**

**4.1.271 LEFT**

**4.1.272 LENGTH**

**4.1.273 LESS**

A comparison operation.

Listing 4.95: OpenCOBOL INITIALIZE

```

IF requested LESS THAN OR EQUAL TO balance
    PERFORM transfer
ELSE
    PERFORM reject
END-IF

```

---

**4.1.274 LIMIT****4.1.275 LIMITS****4.1.276 LINAGE**

LINAGE is a *SPECIAL-REGISTER* supported by OpenCOBOL. A counter is maintained for file WRITE and can be used for paging and other control.

Listing 4.96: OpenCOBOL LINAGE

```

OCOBOL*****
* Example of LINAGE File Descriptor
* Author: Brian Tiffin
* Date: 10-July-2008
* Tectonics: $ cocb -x lineage.cob
*           $ ./linage <filename ["lineage.cob"]>
*           $ cat -n mini-report
*****
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. lineage-demo.

ENVIRONMENT DIVISION.
INPUT-OUTPUT SECTION.
FILE-CONTROL.
    select optional data-file assign to file-name
           organization is line sequential
           file status is data-file-status.
    select mini-report assign to "mini-report".

DATA DIVISION.
FILE SECTION.
FD data-file.
01 data-record.
   88 endofdata           value high-values.
   02 data-line           pic x(80).
FD mini-report
   lineage is 16 lines
       with footing at 15
       lines at top 2
       lines at bottom 2.
01 report-line           pic x(80).

```

## WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.

```

01 command-arguments    pic x(1024).
01 file-name            pic x(160).
01 data-file-status    pic 99.
01 lc                   pic 99.
01 report-line-blank.
  02 filler              pic x(18) value all "*".
  02 filler              pic x(05) value spaces.
  02 filler              pic x(34)
    VALUE "THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK".
  02 filler              pic x(05) value spaces.
  02 filler              pic x(18) value all "*".
01 report-line-data.
  02 body-tag           pic 9(6).
  02 line-3             pic x(74).
01 report-line-header.
  02 filler              pic x(6) VALUE "PAGE: ".
  02 page-no            pic 9999.
  02 filler              pic x(24).
  02 filler              pic x(5) VALUE " LC: ".
  02 header-tag         pic 9(6).
  02 filler              pic x(23).
  02 filler              pic x(6) VALUE "DATE: ".
  02 page-date          pic x(6).

01 page-count           pic 9999.

```

## PROCEDURE DIVISION.

```

accept command-arguments from command-line end-accept.
string
  command-arguments delimited by space
  into file-name
end-string.
if file-name equal spaces
  move "linage.cob" to file-name
end-if.

open input data-file.
read data-file
  at end
    display
      "File: " function trim(file-name) " open error"
    end-display
    perform early-exit
  end-read.

open output mini-report.

```



```

write report-line
    from report-line-blank
end-write.

move 1 to page-count.
accept page-date from date end-accept.
move page-count to page-no.
write report-line
    from report-line-header
    after advancing page
end-write.

perform readwrite-loop until endofdata.

display
    "Normal termination, file name: "
    function trim(file-name)
    " ending status: "
    data-file-status
end-display.
close mini-report.

* Goto considered harmful? Bah! :)
early-exit.
close data-file.
exit program.
stop run.

*****
readwrite-loop.
move data-record to report-line-data
move lineage-counter to body-tag
write report-line from report-line-data
    end-of-page
        add 1 to page-count end-add
        move page-count to page-no
        move lineage-counter to header-tag
        write report-line from report-line-header
            after advancing page
        end-write
    end-write
read data-file
    at end set endofdata to true
end-read
.

*****
* Commentary
* LINAGE is set at a 20 line logical page
* 16 body lines

```

```

*   2 top lines
*   A footer line at 15 (inside the body count)
*   2 bottom lines
* Build with:
* $ cobc -x -Wall -Wtruncate lineage.cob
* Evaluate with:
* $ ./lineage
* This will read in lineage.cob and produce a useless mini-report
* $ cat -n mini-report
*****
  END PROGRAM lineage-demo.

```

---

### Using

```
$ ./lineage except.cob
```

Produces a mini-report of:

```
*****          THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK          *****
```

```

PAGE: 0001                      LC: 000000                      DATE: 090206
000001 IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
000002 PROGRAM-ID. MINIPROG.
000003 ENVIRONMENT DIVISION.
000004 CONFIGURATION SECTION.
000005 SOURCE-COMPUTER. LINUX.
000006 OBJECT-COMPUTER. LINUX.
000007 SPECIAL-NAMES.
000008 INPUT-OUTPUT SECTION.
000009 FILE-CONTROL.
000010 SELECT PRINTFILE ASSIGN TO "XXRXWXX"
000011 FILE STATUS RXWSTAT.
000012 DATA DIVISION.
000013 FILE SECTION.
000014 FD PRINTFILE.

```

```
PAGE: 0002                      LC: 000015                      DATE: 090206
000001 01 PRINTREC PIC X(132).
000002 WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
000003 01 RXWSTAT PIC XX.
000004 01 str      pic x(4).
000005 PROCEDURE DIVISION.
000006 A00-MAIN SECTION.
000007 001-MAIN-PROCEDURE.
000008 OPEN INPUT PRINTFILE.
000009 DISPLAY "File Status: " RXWSTAT.
000010 DISPLAY "EXCEPTION-FILE: " FUNCTION EXCEPTION-FILE.
000011 DISPLAY "Return Length: "
000012 FUNCTION LENGTH (FUNCTION EXCEPTION-FILE).
000013 DISPLAY "EXCEPTION-STATUS: " FUNCTION EXCEPTION-STATUS.
000014 DISPLAY "EXCEPTION-STATEMENT: " FUNCTION EXCEPTION-STATEMENT.
```

```
PAGE: 0003                      LC: 000015                      DATE: 090206
000001 STRING "TOOLONG" DELIMITED SIZE INTO RXWSTAT.
000002 DISPLAY "EXCEPTION-STATUS: " FUNCTION EXCEPTION-STATUS.
000003 DISPLAY "EXCEPTION-STATEMENT: " FUNCTION EXCEPTION-STATEMENT.
000004 DISPLAY "EXCEPTION-LOCATION: " FUNCTION EXCEPTION-LOCATION.
000005 STOP RUN.
```

See ?? under the FUNCTION EXCEPTION-STATUS entry.

#### **4.1.277 LINAGE-COUNTER**

An internal OpenCOBOL noun, or *Special Register*. Value is readonly and is maintained during WRITES to files that have a LINAGE clause. Useful for quick reports and logical page layouts.

#### **4.1.278 LINE**

#### **4.1.279 LINE-COUNTER**

#### **4.1.280 LINES**

#### **4.1.281 LINKAGE**

#### **4.1.282 LOCAL-STORAGE**

#### **4.1.283 LOCALE**

#### **4.1.284 LOCK**

#### **4.1.285 LOW-VALUE**

A figurative constant for the lowest value of a COBOL field.

Listing 4.97: OpenCOBOL LOW-VALUE

```
MOVE LOW-VALUE TO numeric-1.  
  
IF alphanumeric-1 EQUALS LOW-VALUE  
    DISPLAY "Failed validation" END-DISPLAY  
END-IF.
```

---

### 4.1.286 LOW-VALUES

A pluralized form of LOW-VALUE 4.1.285. Equivalent.

Listing 4.98: OpenCOBOL

```
MOVE LOW-VALUES TO alphanumeric-1.
```

---

### 4.1.287 LOWLIGHT

A screen attribute for DISPLAY and SCREEN SECTION fields.

Listing 4.99: OpenCOBOL

```
SCREEN SECTION.  
01 example.  
    05 FILLER  
        LINE 1 COLUMN 10  
        VALUE IS "Example:"  
        LOWLIGHT.
```

---

Will display the *Example:* legend in a dimmed video if supported with the current terminal settings.

**4.1.288 MANUAL**

**4.1.289 MEMORY**

**4.1.290 MERGE**

**4.1.291 MESSAGE**

**4.1.292 METHOD**

**4.1.293 METHOD-ID**

**4.1.294 MINUS**

**4.1.295 MODE**

**4.1.296 MOVE**

A workhorse of the COBOL paradigm. MOVE is highly flexible, intelligent, safe and sometimes perplexing data movement verb.

Listing 4.100: OpenCOBOL MOVE

```
01 alphanum-3          PIC XXX.  
01 num2                PIC 99.
```

```
MOVE "ABCDEFG" TO xvar3  
DISPLAY xvar3 END-DISPLAY
```

```
MOVE 12345 TO num2  
DISPLAY num2 END-DISPLAY
```

---

displays:

```
ABC  
45
```

Note the 45, MOVE uses a right to left rule when moving numerics.  
Groups can be moved with

Listing 4.101: OpenCOBOL MOVE CORRESPONDING

```
MOVE CORRESPONDING ident-1 TO ident-2
```

---

in which case only the group items of the same name will be transferred from the ident-1 group to the ident-2 fields.

**4.1.297 MULTIPLE**

**4.1.298 MULTIPLY**

A mathematic operation.

- 4.1.299 NATIONAL**
- 4.1.300 NATIONAL-EDITED**
- 4.1.301 NATIVE**
- 4.1.302 NEGATIVE**
- 4.1.303 NESTED**
- 4.1.304 NEXT**
- 4.1.305 NO**
- 4.1.306 NONE**
- 4.1.307 NORMAL**
- 4.1.308 NOT**
- 4.1.309 NULL**
- 4.1.310 NULLS**
- 4.1.311 NUMBER**
- 4.1.312 NUMBERS**
- 4.1.313 NUMERIC**
- 4.1.314 NUMERIC-EDITED**
- 4.1.315 OBJECT**
- 4.1.316 OBJECT-COMPUTER**
- 4.1.317 OBJECT-REFERENCE**
- 4.1.318 OCCURS**

Controls multiple occurrences of data structures.

#### **4.1.319 OF**

A data structure reference and name conflict resolution qualifier.

Listing 4.102: OpenCOBOL OF

```
MOVE "abc" TO the-field OF the-record OF the-structure
```

---

Synonym for IN

**4.1.320 OFF**

**4.1.321 OMITTED**

**4.1.322 ON**

**4.1.323 ONLY**

**4.1.324 OPEN**

**4.1.325 OPTIONAL**

**4.1.326 OPTIONS**

**4.1.327 OR**

**4.1.328 ORDER**

**4.1.329 ORGANIZATION**

Defines a file's storage organization. One of INDEXED, RELATIVE, SEQUENTIAL. OpenCOBOL also supports LINE SEQUENTIAL file structures.

**4.1.330 OTHER**

**4.1.331 OUTPUT**

**4.1.332 OVERFLOW**

**4.1.333 OVERLINE**

**4.1.334 OVERRIDE**

**4.1.335 PACKED-DECIMAL**

**4.1.336 PADDING**

**4.1.337 PAGE**

**4.1.338 PAGE-COUNTER**

**4.1.339 PARAGRAPH**

**4.1.340 PERFORM**

**4.1.341 PF**

**4.1.342 PH**

**4.1.343 PIC**

A commonly used shortform of PICTURE 4.1.344.

### 4.1.344 PICTURE

The PICTURE clause is easily one of COBOL's greatest strengths. Fully detailed pictorial data definitions. The internal complexity is left to compiler authors, while developers and management are free to describe data at a very high conceptual level.

The two most common picture characters are 9 and X, for numeric and alphanumeric data respectively. For alphabetic data, A can be used.

Aside from data storage pictures, a vast array of *edit* pictures are allowed for control of input and output formatting.

+, -, A, B, N, X, Z, "\*", 'CR', 'DB', E, S, V, ., P, currency symbol

OpenCOBOL offers full standards support of all alpha, alphanumeric and numeric storage specifiers as well as full support for edit and numeric-edit clauses.

An example of some of the PICTURE options

Listing 4.103: OpenCOBOL PICTURE samples

```
>>source format is free
*> *****
*> Author:      jrjs (John Ellis)
*> Date:        Oct-2008
*> Purpose:     formatted output examples using pic strings.
*> *****

identification division.
program-id. picstring.
data division.
working-storage section.
*><*>

01 header.
   05 filler          pic xxx value "ln".
   05 filler          pic x(11) value "  disp1".
   05 filler          pic x(11) value "  disp2".
   05 filler          pic x(11) value "  disp3".
   05 filler          pic x(11) value "  disp4".
   05 filler          pic x(12) value "  disp5".
   05 filler          pic x(9) value "  an1".
   05 filler          pic x(14) value "  phone".
   05 filler          pic x(10) value "  date".
*><*>

01 headerLines       pic x(90) value all "-".
*><*>

01 displayformats.
   05 linenum        pic 99 value 1.
   05 disp1          pic zzz,zz9.99 value zero.
   05 filler         pic x value spaces.
   05 disp2          pic $zz,zz9.99 value zero.
   05 filler         pic x value spaces.
```



```

05 disp3          pic ---,--9.99 value zero.
05 filler         pic x value spaces.
05 disp4          pic $-z,zz9.99 value zero.
05 filler         pic x value spaces.
05 disp5          pic -zz,zz9.zz- blank zero value zero.
05 filler         pic x value spaces.
*><*an1 is actually a string field because of the embedded blanks, thus you put value sp
05 an1           pic 99b99b99 value spaces.
05 filler         pic x value spaces.
05 phone          pic bxxxxbxxxxbxxxx value spaces.
05 filler         pic x value spaces.
05 dispdate       pic 99/99/9999 value zero.
*><*

procedure division.
0000-start.
*><*
    display headerLines.
    display header.
    display headerLines.
*><*****
    move 220.22    to disp1,
                  disp2.
    move -220.22   to disp3,
                  disp4,
                  disp5.

    inspect disp5 replacing first "-" by "(",
                          first "-" by ")".

    move 10122008   to dispdate.
*><*****
*><*Please note the results of moving 'abcd' to an1.
*><*an1 will show up as 00 00 00 because alpha data was
*><*moved into instead of numeric data.
*><*
*><*The phone field will display " abc def ghij" because
*><*'b' in the pic string.
*><*****
    move "abcd"    to an1.
    move "abcdefghij" to phone.

    display displayformats.

    add 1          to linenum.
    move zero      to disp4,
                  disp5.
*><*****
*><*Here after moving data to an1 and phone, I use the
*><*inspect statement to replace the blanks.

```

```

*><*****
move "123456"      to an1.
move "555551234"  to phone.

inspect an1 replacing all " " by "-".

inspect phone replacing first " " by "(",
                           first " " by ")",
                           first " " by "-".

display displayformats.

inspect phone converting "23456789" to "adgjptw".
display phone.

perform 0010-endProgram.
*><*
0010-endProgram.
stop run.
*><*

```

---

```

-----
ln      displ      disp2      disp3      disp4      disp5      an1      phone      date
-----
01      220.22      $220.22    -220.22    $-220.22   (220.22)  00 00 00  abc def ghij 10/12/2008
02      220.22      $220.22    -220.22    $ 0.00     12-34-56 (555)555-1234 10/12/2008
(jjj)jjj-ladg

```

#### 4.1.345 PLUS

#### 4.1.346 POINTER

Listing 4.104: OpenCOBOL

```

01 C-HANDLE          USAGE IS POINTER.

CALL "open-lib" USING C-HANDLE

```

---

**4.1.347 POSITION**

**4.1.348 POSITIVE**

**4.1.349 PRESENT**

**4.1.350 PREVIOUS**

**4.1.351 PRINTER**

**4.1.352 PRINTING**

**4.1.353 PROCEDURE**

The COBOL DIVISION that holds the executable statements.

**4.1.354 PROCEDURE-POINTER**

**4.1.355 PROCEDURES**

**4.1.356 PROCEED**

**4.1.357 PROGRAM**

**4.1.358 PROGRAM-ID**

The program identifier. Case sensitive, unlike all other OpenCOBOL identifiers. OpenCOBOL produces C Application Binary Interface linkable entities and this identifier must conform to those rules. Dashes in names are replaced by a hex string equivalent.

**4.1.359 PROGRAM-POINTER**

**4.1.360 PROMPT**

**4.1.361 PROPERTY**

**4.1.362 PROTOTYPE**

**4.1.363 PURGE**

**4.1.364 QUEUE**

**4.1.365 QUOTE**

A figurative constant representing " .

Listing 4.105: OpenCOBOL

```
DISPLAY QUOTE 123 QUOTE END-DISPLAY
```

---

Outputs:

"123"

**4.1.366 QUOTES**

A figurative constant representing "s.

Listing 4.106: OpenCOBOL

```
01 var PICTURE X(4).  
  
MOVE ALL QUOTES TO var  
DISPLAY var END-DISPLAY
```

---

Outputs:

"" ""

**4.1.367 RAISE****4.1.368 RAISING****4.1.369 RANDOM**

A file access mode. RANDOM access allows seeks to any point in a file.

**4.1.370 RD****4.1.371 READ**

A staple of COBOL. Read a record.

- 4.1.372 RECEIVE
- 4.1.373 RECORD
- 4.1.374 RECORDING
- 4.1.375 RECORDS
- 4.1.376 RECURSIVE
- 4.1.377 REDEFINES
- 4.1.378 REEL
- 4.1.379 REFERENCE
- 4.1.380 RELATION
- 4.1.381 RELATIVE
- 4.1.382 RELEASE
- 4.1.383 REMAINDER
- 4.1.384 REMOVAL
- 4.1.385 RENAMES
- 4.1.386 REPLACE

A COBOL text preprocessing operator.

Listing 4.107: OpenCOBOL REPLACE

```
REPLACE ==MARKER== BY ==DISPLAY "REPLACE EXAMPLE" END-DISPLAY==.
identification division.
program-id. prog.

procedure division.
MARKER
goback.
end program prog.
```

---

And then to see how that REPLACE is working, use `cobc` with the `-E` argument

Listing 4.108: OpenCOBOL REPLACE

```
# 1 "replacing.cob"

identification division.
program-id. prog.

procedure division.
```

```

DISPLAY "REPLACE EXAMPLE" END-DISPLAY
goback.
end program prog.

```

---

#### 4.1.387 REPLACING

An INSPECT subclause.

#### 4.1.388 REPORT

#### 4.1.389 REPORTING

#### 4.1.390 REPORTS

#### 4.1.391 REPOSITORY

A paragraph of the CONFIGURATION SECTION. OpenCOBOL supports the FUNCTION ALL INTRINSIC clause of the REPOSITORY. Allows source code to use intrinsic functions without the FUNCTION keyword.

Listing 4.109: OpenCOBOL REPOSITORY

```

OCOBOL >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
*> *****
*> Author:      Brian Tiffin
*> Date:        20110213
*> Purpose:     Demonstrate an intrinsic function shortcut
*> Tectonics:   cobc -x functionall.cob
*> *****
  identification division.
  program-id. functionall.

  environment division.
  configuration section.
  repository.
    function all intrinsic.

*> *****
  procedure division.
  display function pi space function e end-display
  display pi space e end-display

  goback.
  end program functionall.

```

---

Sample output:

```

$ cobc -x functionall.cob
$ ./functionall

```

```
3.1415926535897932384626433832795029 2.7182818284590452353602874713526625
3.1415926535897932384626433832795029 2.7182818284590452353602874713526625
```

Without the repository paragraph::

```
$ cobc -x functionall.cob
functionall.cob:19: Error: 'pi' undefined
functionall.cob:19: Error: 'e' undefined
```

#### **4.1.392 REQUIRED**

#### **4.1.393 RESERVE**

#### **4.1.394 RESET**

#### **4.1.395 RESUME**

#### **4.1.396 RETRY**

#### **4.1.397 RETURN**

#### **4.1.398 RETURNING**

Specify the destination of CALL4.1.60 results.

Listing 4.110: OpenCOBOL

```
01 result PIC S9(8).
CALL "libfunc" RETURNING result END-CALL
```

---

#### **4.1.399 REVERSE-VIDEO**

#### **4.1.400 REWIND**

A really cool lyric in the Black Eyed Peas song, "Hey Mama".

#### **4.1.401 REWRITE**

Allow overwrite of records where primary key exists

**4.1.402 RF****4.1.403 RH****4.1.404 RIGHT****4.1.405 ROLLBACK****4.1.406 ROUNDED**

Well defined rounding clause applied to arithmetic. Defined well enough for bank managers to feel comfortable handing their calculations over to a bunch of nerds.

Listing 4.111: OpenCOBOL ROUNDED

```
COMPUTE total-value ROUNDED = 1.0 / 6.0 END-COMPUTE
```

---

**4.1.407 RUN****4.1.408 SAME****4.1.409 SCREEN****4.1.410 SD****4.1.411 SEARCH**

A powerful table and file search verb.

**4.1.412 SECONDS****4.1.413 SECTION**

COBOL source code is organized in DIVISIONs, SECTIONs, paragraphs and sentences. OpenCOBOL supports user named sections and recognizes the following list of pre-defined sections.

- CONFIGURATION
- INPUT-OUTPUT
- FILE
- WORKING-STORAGE
- LOCAL-STORAGE
- LINKAGE
- REPORT (recognized but unsupported)
- SCREEN



User defined sections provide for source code organization and use of PERFORM with THROUGH for tried and true COBOL procedural programming.

**4.1.414 SECURE****4.1.415 SEGMENT****4.1.416 SELECT****4.1.417 SELF****4.1.418 SEND****4.1.419 SENTENCE****4.1.420 SEPARATE****4.1.421 SEQUENCE****4.1.422 SEQUENTIAL**

OpenCOBOL supports both fixed length SEQUENTIAL and newline terminated LINE SEQUENTIAL file access.

**4.1.423 SET**

- SET ADDRESS OF ptr-var TO var.
- SET ENVIRONMENT "name" TO "value".
- SET cond-1 TO TRUE

That last one is pretty cool. An *88 level conditional* set TRUE will cause the associated value to change to a value that satisfies the condition is true.

Listing 4.112: OpenCOBOL

```
01 field-1 pic 99.  
   88 cond-1 value 42.  
  
MOVE 0 TO field-1  
DISPLAY field-1 END-DISPLAY  
SET cond-1 TO TRUE  
DISPLAY field-1 END-DISPLAY
```

---

00 and 42 are displayed.

**4.1.424 SHARING****4.1.425 SIGN****4.1.426 SIGNED****4.1.427 SIGNED-INT****4.1.428 SIGNED-LONG****4.1.429 SIGNED-SHORT****4.1.430 SIZE****4.1.431 SORT**

OpenCOBOL supports USING, GIVING as well as INPUT PROCEDURE and OUTPUT PROCEDURE clauses for the SORT verb.

Listing 4.113: OpenCOBOL SORT

```

OCOBOL* OpenCOBOL SORT verb example using standard in and standard out
identification division.
program-id. sorting.

environment division.
input-output section.
file-control.
    select sort-in
        assign keyboard
        organization line sequential.
    select sort-out
        assign display
        organization line sequential.
    select sort-work
        assign "sortwork".

data division.
file section.
fd sort-in.
    01 in-rec          pic x(255).
fd sort-out.
    01 out-rec         pic x(255).
sd sort-work.
    01 work-rec        pic x(255).

procedure division.
sort sort-work
    ascending key work-rec
    using sort-in
    giving sort-out.

```

```

goback.
exit program.
end program sorting.

```

---

In the next sample, demonstrating INPUT PROCEDURE and OUTPUT PROCEDURE take note of the RETURN and RELEASE verbs as they are key to record by record control over sort operations.

Also, just to complicate things, this sample sorts using a mixed-case alphabet (but also places capital A out of order to demonstrate special cases that can codified in an ALPHABET).

#### Listing 4.114: OpenCOBOL SORT

```

OCOBOL >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
*****
* Author:      Brian Tiffin
* Date:        02-Sep-2008
* Purpose:     An OpenCOBOL SORT verb example
* Tectonics:   cobc -x sorting.cob
*   ./sorting <input >output
*   or simply
*   ./sorting
*   for keyboard and screen demos
*****
identification division.
program-id. sorting.

environment division.
configuration section.
* This sets up a sort order lower then upper except for A and a
special-names.
    alphabet mixed is " AabBcCdDeEfFgGhHiIjJkKlLmMnNoOpPqQrRsStTu
-"UvVwWxXyYzZ0123456789".
*"
input-output section.
file-control.
    select sort-in
        assign keyboard
        organization is line sequential.
    select sort-out
        assign display
        organization is line sequential.
    select sort-work
        assign "sortwork".

data division.
file section.
fd sort-in.
    01 in-rec          pic x(255).

```

```

fd sort-out.
  01 out-rec          pic x(255).
sd sort-work.
  01 work-rec        pic x(255).

working-storage section.
01 loop-flag          pic 9 value low-value.

procedure division.
sort sort-work
  on descending key work-rec
  collating sequence is mixed
  input procedure is sort-transform
  output procedure is output-uppercase.

display sort-return end-display.
goback.

*****
sort-transform.
move low-value to loop-flag
open input sort-in
read sort-in
  at end move high-value to loop-flag
end-read
perform
  until loop-flag = high-value
  move FUNCTION LOWER-CASE(in-rec) to work-rec
  release work-rec
  read sort-in
  at end move high-value to loop-flag
  end-read
end-perform
close sort-in
.

*****
output-uppercase.
move low-value to loop-flag
open output sort-out
return sort-work
  at end move high-value to loop-flag
end-return
perform
  until loop-flag = high-value
  move FUNCTION UPPER-CASE(work-rec) to out-rec
  write out-rec end-write
  return sort-work
  at end move high-value to loop-flag
end-return

```

```

end-perform
close sort-out
.

exit program.
end program sorting.

```

---

Here is a snippet describing TABLE sorts by jrjs\_swla[?]

Listing 4.115: OpenCOBOL tables

```

table define

01  nbr-of-columns  pic 9(4) value zero.
01  tcindex2       usage is index.
01  dbtables.
    03  tables-columns occurs 1 to 1000 times
         depending on nbr-of-columns
         ascending key tcTable, tcColumn
         indexed by tcindex.
    05  tcTable     pic x(64) value spaces.
    05  tcColumn   pic x(64) value spaces.
         05  tcAlias pic x(10) value spaces.
    05  tcOrder    pic 9(4) value zero.
         05  tcType  pic x(10) value spaces.
         05  tcMaxLen pic 9(4) value zero.
*><*>
01  aliasName.
    05  pic x value "t".
    05  anVal   pic 9(3) value zero.

01  showdata.
    05  sdTable  pic x(17) value spaces.
    05  sdColumn pic x(17) value spaces.
    05  sdType   pic x(10) value spaces.
    05  sdOrder  pic zzzzz-.
    05  sdMaxLen pic zzzzz.

table load

perform varying rows from 1 by 1
until rows > dbNumRows
call "dbNextRow" using by value dbResult,
                  by reference ColumnBuff,
                  by reference CbuffDesc
                  returning dbResult
add 1 to nbr-of-columns
set tcindex up by 1
move cbTable to tcTable(tcindex)
move cbColumn to tcColumn(tcindex)
move cbType to tcType(tcindex)

```

```

move cbOrder          to tcOrder(tcindex)
move cbMaxLen         to tcMaxLen(tcindex)
if nbr-of-columns = 1
  add 1              to anVal
else
  set tcindex2       to tcindex
  set tcindex2       down by 1
  if cbTable <> tcTable(tcindex2)
    add 1            to anVal
  end-if
end-if
move aliasName        to tcAlias(tcindex)
end-perform.

```

```
table sort
```

```
sort tables-columns ascending key tcTable, tcColumn.
```

```
display table
```

```

perform varying tcindex from 1 by 1
until tcindex > nbr-of-columns
move tcTable(tcindex) to sdTable
move tcColumn(tcindex) to sdColumn
move tcOrder(tcindex) to sdOrder
move tcType(tcindex) to sdType
move tcMaxLen(tcindex) to sdMaxLen
display showdata
end-perform.

```

---

Excercise for the audience. Could the above code be simplified by using

Listing 4.116: OpenCOBOL

```

MOVE CORRESPONDING cbRecord to table-columns(tcindex)
...
MOVE CORRESPONDING table-columns(tcindex) to showdata

```

---

with a few judicious field name changes?

### An OCSORT support tool

There is an external sort utility referenced in What is ocsort?

#### 4.1.432 SORT-MERGE

Used in an I-O-CONTROL paragraph with the SAME clause:

```
SAME SORT-MERGE AREA FOR filename-1.
```

The SORT-MERGE keyword and SORT keyword are equivalent in this case.

**4.1.433 SORT-RETURN**

A *SPECIAL-REGISTER* used by the OpenCOBOL SORT routines.

- +000000000 for success
- +000000016 for failure

A programmer may set SORT-RETURN in an INPUT PROCEDURE.

**4.1.434 SOURCE****4.1.435 SOURCE-COMPUTER****4.1.436 SOURCES****4.1.437 SPACE**

A figurative constant representing a space character.

**4.1.438 SPACES**

A figurative constant representing space characters.

**4.1.439 SPECIAL-NAMES**

OpenCOBOL supports a fair complete set of the *SPECIAL-NAMES* in common use.

**4.1.440 STANDARD****4.1.441 STANDARD-1****4.1.442 STANDARD-2****4.1.443 START**

Sets a conditional that will influence sequential READ NEXT and READ PREVIOUS for INDEXED files. Can also be used to seek to the FIRST or LAST record of a file for SEQUENTIAL access modes.

Listing 4.117: OpenCOBOL START

```
start indexing
  key is less than
    keyfield of indexing-record
  invalid key
  display
    "bad start: " keyfield of indexing-record
  end-display
  set no-more-records to true
```

```

not invalid key
  read indexing previous record
    at end set no-more-records to true
  end-read
end-start

```

---

The conditionals are quite powerful.

Listing 4.118: OpenCOBOL START conditionals

```

KEY IS GREATER THAN
KEY IS >
KEY IS LESS THAN
KEY IS <
KEY IS EQUAL TO
KEY IS =

KEY IS NOT GREATER THAN
KEY IS NOT >
KEY IS NOT LESS THAN
KEY IS NOT <
KEY IS NOT EQUAL TO
KEY IS NOT =

KEY IS <>
KEY IS GREATER THAN OR EQUAL TO
KEY IS >=
KEY IS LESS THAN OR EQUAL TO
KEY IS <=

```

---

See Does OpenCOBOL support ISAM? for some example source code.

#### 4.1.444 STATEMENT

#### 4.1.445 STATUS

#### 4.1.446 STEP

#### 4.1.447 STOP

End a run and return control to the operating system.

Listing 4.119: OpenCOBOL

```
STOP RUN RETURNING 5.
```

---

#### 4.1.448 STRING

String together a set of variables with controlled delimiters.



Listing 4.120: OpenCOBOL STRING

```
01 var PICTURE X(5).  
  
STRING  
  "abc" DELIMITED BY "b"  
  "def" DELIMITED BY SIZE  
  "ghi" DELIMITED BY "z"  
  INTO var  
  ON OVERFLOW  
    DISPLAY "var is full at" SPACE LENGTH OF var END-DISPLAY  
END-STRING  
  
DISPLAY var END-DISPLAY
```

---

Outputs:

```
var is full at 5  
adefg
```

OpenCOBOL also fully supports the WITH POINTER clause to set the initial and track the position in the output character variable.

#### **4.1.449 STRONG**

#### **4.1.450 SUB-QUEUE-1**

#### **4.1.451 SUB-QUEUE-2**

#### **4.1.452 SUB-QUEUE-3**

#### **4.1.453 SUBTRACT**

#### **4.1.454 SUM**

A REPORT SECTION control break summation field clause.

- 4.1.455 SUPER**
- 4.1.456 SUPPRESS**
- 4.1.457 SYMBOL**
- 4.1.458 SYMBOLIC**
- 4.1.459 SYNC**
- 4.1.460 SYNCHRONIZED**
- 4.1.461 SYSTEM-DEFAULT**
- 4.1.462 TABLE**
- 4.1.463 TALLYING**
- 4.1.464 TAPE**
- 4.1.465 TERMINAL**
- 4.1.466 TERMINATE**
- 4.1.467 TEST**
- 4.1.468 TEXT**
- 4.1.469 THAN**

Part of the conditional clauses for readability.

Listing 4.121: OpenCOBOL THAN

```
IF A GREATER THAN 10
    DISPLAY "A > 10" END-DISPLAY
END-IF
```

---

#### **4.1.470 THEN**

A somewhat disdained keyword that is part of the IF THEN ELSE control structure.

Listing 4.122: OpenCOBOL THEN

```
IF A > 10 THEN
    DISPLAY "A GREATER THAN 10" END-DISPLAY
ELSE
    DISPLAY "A LESS THAN OR EQUAL TO 10" END-DISPLAY
END-IF
```

---

**4.1.471 THROUGH**

Used as PERFORM paragraph-1 THROUGH paragraph-2 to provide for *source code* modularized *procedural programming* control flow.

**4.1.472 THRU**

A more commonly used alias for THROUGH 4.1.471.

**4.1.473 TIME**

**4.1.474 TIMES**

Provides for counted loops.

- 4.1.475 TO**
- 4.1.476 TOP**
- 4.1.477 TRAILING**
- 4.1.478 TRUE**
- 4.1.479 TYPE**
- 4.1.480 TYPEDEF**
- 4.1.481 UCS-4**
- 4.1.482 UNDERLINE**
- 4.1.483 UNIT**
- 4.1.484 UNIVERSAL**
- 4.1.485 UNLOCK**
- 4.1.486 UNSIGNED**
- 4.1.487 UNSIGNED-INT**
- 4.1.488 UNSIGNED-LONG**
- 4.1.489 UNSIGNED-SHORT**
- 4.1.490 UNSTRING**
- 4.1.491 UNTIL**
- 4.1.492 UP**
- 4.1.493 UPDATE**
- 4.1.494 UPON**
- 4.1.495 USAGE**

OpenCOBOL uses standard big-endian internal storage by default. **USAGE** clauses influence the data representation. The INTEL<sup>®</sup> architecture uses little-endian form and OpenCOBOL programmers developing for this common chipset may need to pay heed to this for performance purposes. As per the standards, OpenCOBOL supports COMPUTATIONAL-5 native usage.

OpenCOBOL enables use of one to eight byte binary representations in both big and little endian forms.

Along with full support of all common COBOL **PICTURE** clauses both storage and display, OpenCOBOL supports **USAGE** clauses of:

- BINARY
- COMPUTATIONAL, COMP
- COMP-1
- COMP-2
- COMP-3
- COMP-4
- COMP-5
- COMP-X
- FLOAT-LONG
- FLOAT-SHORT
- DISPLAY
- INDEX
- PACKED-DECIMAL
- POINTER
- PROGRAM-POINTER
- SIGNED-SHORT
- SIGNED-INT
- SIGNED-LONG
- UNSIGNED-SHORT
- UNSIGNED-INT
- UNSIGNED-LONG
- BINARY-CHAR SIGNED
- BINARY-CHAR UNSIGNED
- BINARY-CHAR
- BINARY-SHORT SIGNED
- BINARY-SHORT UNSIGNED
- BINARY-SHORT
- BINARY-LONG SIGNED

- BINARY-LONG UNSIGNED
- BINARY-LONG
- BINARY-DOUBLE SIGNED
- BINARY-DOUBLE UNSIGNED
- BINARY-DOUBLE
- BINARY-C-LONG SIGNED
- BINARY-C-LONG UNSIGNED
- BINARY-C-LONG

**4.1.496 USE**

**4.1.497 USER-DEFAULT**

**4.1.498 USING**

**4.1.499 UTF-16**

**4.1.500 UTF-8**

**4.1.501 VAL-STATUS**

**4.1.502 VALID**

**4.1.503 VALIDATE**

**4.1.504 VALIDATE-STATUS**

**4.1.505 VALUE**

**4.1.506 VALUES**

**4.1.507 VARYING**

**4.1.508 WHEN**

A very powerful keyword used in EVALUATE phrases for specifying conditional expressions.

Listing 4.123: OpenCOBOL WHEN

```
EVALUATE TRUE
  WHEN A = 10
    DISPLAY "A = 10" END-DISPLAY
  WHEN A = 15
    PERFORM A-IS-15
  WHEN B IS EQUAL 6
```

```

    PERFORM B-IS-6
  WHEN C IS GREATER THAN 5
    DISPLAY "C > 5" END-DISPLAY
  WHEN OTHER
    DISPLAY "Default imperative" END-DISPLAY
END-EVALUATE

```

---

**4.1.509 WITH****4.1.510 WORKING-STORAGE****4.1.511 WRITE****4.1.512 YYYYDDD****4.1.513 YYYYMMDD****4.1.514 ZERO****4.1.515 ZEROES****4.1.516 ZEROS****4.2 Does OpenCOBOL implement any Intrinsic FUNCTIONS?**

Yes, many. As of the Feb 2009 1.1 pre-release

ABS, ACOS, ANNUITY, ASIN, ATAN, BYTE-LENGTH, CHAR, CONCATENATE, COS, CURRENT-DATE, DATE-OF-INTEGERS, DATE-TO-YYYYMMDD, DAY-OF-INTEGERS, DAY-TO-YYYYDDD, E, EXCEPTION-FILE, EXCEPTION-LOCATION, EXCEPTION-STATEMENT, EXCEPTION-STATUS, EXP, EXP10, FACTORIAL, FRACTION-PART, INTEGER, INTEGER-OF-DATE, INTEGER-OF-DAY, INTEGER-PART, LENGTH, LOCALE-DATE, LOCALE-TIME, LOG, LOG10, LOWER-CASE, MAX, MEAN, MEDIAN, MIDRANGE, MIN, MOD, NUMVAL, NUMVAL-C, ORD, ORD-MAX, ORD-MIN, PI, PRESENT-VALUE, RANDOM, RANGE, REM, REVERSE, SECONDS-FROM-FORMATTED-TIME, SECONDS-PAST-MIDNIGHT, SIGN, SIN, SQRT, STANDARD-DEVIATION, STORED-CHAR-LENGTH, SUBSTITUTE, SUBSTITUTE-CASE, SUM, TAN, TEST-DATE-YYYYMMDD, TEST-DAY-YYYYDDD, TRIM, UPPER-CASE, VARIANCE, WHEN-COMPILED, YEAR-TO-YYYY

**4.2.1 FUNCTION ABS**

Absolute value of numeric argument

Listing 4.124: OpenCOBOL FUNCTION ABS

```

DISPLAY FUNCTION ABS(DIFFERENCE) .

```

---

### 4.2.2 FUNCTION ACOS

The ACOS function returns a numeric value (in radians) that approximates the arccosine of the argument.

The domain of the arccosine function is -1 to +1. Domain errors return a result of 0. The inverse cosine function returns a range of  $[0, \pi]$ .

Listing 4.125: OpenCOBOL FUNCTION ACOS

---

```
DISPLAY FUNCTION ACOS(-1).
```

---

### 4.2.3 FUNCTION ANNUITY

Compute the ratio of an annuity paid based on arguments of interest and number of periods.

Listing 4.126: OpenCOBOL FUNCTION ANNUITY

```
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
77 INTEREST          PIC S9V9999 VALUE 0.08.
77 MONTHLY           PIC S9V9999 VALUE ZERO.
77 PERIODS           PIC 99          VALUE 36.
77 ANNUITY-VALUE    PIC S9V9999 VALUE ZERO.
PROCEDURE DIVISION.
  COMPUTE MONTHLY ROUNDED = INTEREST / 12
  COMPUTE ANNUITY-VALUE ROUNDED =
    FUNCTION ANNUITY (MONTHLY PERIODS)
  DISPLAY "Monthly rate: " MONTHLY
    " Periods: " PERIODS
    " Annuity ratio: " ANNUITY-VALUE
  END-DISPLAY.
```

---

Outputs:

```
Monthly rate: +0.0067 Periods: 36 Annuity ratio: +0.0314
```

### 4.2.4 FUNCTION ASIN

The ASIN function returns a numeric value (in radians) that approximates the arcsine of the argument. The domain of the arcsine function is  $[-1, 1]$ . Domain errors return a result of 0. The inverse sine function returns a range of  $[-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}]$ .

Listing 4.127: OpenCOBOL

---

```
DISPLAY FUNCTION ASIN(-1).
```

---



### 4.2.5 FUNCTION ATAN

The ATAN function returns a numeric value (in radians) that approximates the arctangent of the argument.

The domain of the arctangent function is all real numbers. The inverse tangent function returns a range of  $[-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}]$ .

Listing 4.128: OpenCOBOL

```
DISPLAY FUNCTION ATAN(1).
```

---

### 4.2.6 FUNCTION BYTE-LENGTH

The BYTE-LENGTH function returns an integer that is the internal storage length of the given argument.

Listing 4.129: OpenCOBOL FUNCTION BYTE-LENGTH

```
COBOL >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
*****
* Purpose:  demonstrate intrinsic FUNCTION BYTE-LENGTH
*****
identification division.
program-id. bytelength.

data division.
working-storage section.
01 char-var          usage binary-char.
01 short-var         usage binary-short.
01 long-var          usage binary-long.
01 double-var        usage binary-double.

01 num1-var          pic 9.
01 num4-var          pic 99v99.
01 num9-var          pic s9(9).
01 num18-var         pic s9(18).
01 num18c-var        pic s9(18) usage comp.
01 num18p-var        pic s9(18) usage comp-3.
01 edit-var          pic $zzzz9.99.

01 string-var        pic x(10) value "abc".

01 newline           pic x value x'0a'.

procedure division.
display
"num1-var len = " function byte-length(num1-var) newline
"num4-var len = " function byte-length(num4-var) newline
"num9-var len = " function byte-length(num9-var) newline
"num18-var len = " function byte-length(num18-var) newline
```

```

"num18c-var len = " function byte-length(num18c-var) newline
"num18p-var len = " function byte-length(num18p-var) newline
"edit-var   len = " function byte-length(edit-var)  newline

"12         len = " function byte-length(12)        newline
"12.12      len = " function byte-length(12.12)     newline
"1234567890.123 = " function
                byte-length(1234567890.123)        newline

"string-var len = " function byte-length(string-var) newline
"trim string = " function
                byte-length(function trim(string-var)) newline

"char-var   len = " function byte-length(char-var)  newline
"short-var  len = " function byte-length(short-var) newline
"long-var   len = " function byte-length(long-var)  newline
"double-var len = " function byte-length(double-var)

end-display
goback.
exit program.

```

---

#### Outputs:

```

num1-var   len = 1
num4-var   len = 4
num9-var   len = 9
num18-var  len = 18
num18c-var len = 8
num18p-var len = 10
edit-var   len = 9
12         len = 2
12.12      len = 4
1234567890.123 = 13
string-var len = 10
trim string = 00000003
char-var   len = 1
short-var  len = 2
long-var   len = 4
double-var len = 8

```

### 4.2.7 FUNCTION CHAR

The CHAR function returns a ONE character alphanumeric field whose value is the character in the current collating sequence having the ordinal position equal to the value of the integer argument. The argument must be greater than 0 and less than or equal to the number of positions in the collating sequence. Errors in the argument range return 0 (the LOW-VALUE by default).

See ASCII or EBCDIC and details of the ALPHABET clause.

Listing 4.130: OpenCOBOL FUNCTION CHAR

---

```
DISPLAY FUNCTION CHAR(66).
```

---

Would output A in the ASCII character set. Note this may be different than what some expect. *OpenCOBOL CHAR is 1 thru 128 not 0 thru 127 as a C programmer may be used to.*

*And to add a little confusion, most personal computers use an extended character set, usually erroneously called ASCII with a range of 0 to 255. A more appropriate name may be ISO-8859-1 Latin 1. This author is often guilty of this misnomer of the use of the term ASCII. See ASCII for more accurate details.*

#### 4.2.8 FUNCTION COMBINED-DATETIME

Returns a common datetime form from integer date (years and days from 1600 to 10000) and numeric time arguments (seconds in day). Date should be from 1 to 3067671 and time should be from 1 to 86400. The character string returned is in the form 7.5.

Listing 4.131: OpenCOBOL FUNCTION COMBINED-DATETIME

---

```
DISPLAY FUNCTION COMBINED-DATETIME(1; 1) END-DISPLAY
```

---

Outputs:

```
0000001.00001
```

#### 4.2.9 FUNCTION CONCATENATE

Concatenate the given fields. **CONCATENATE** is an OpenCOBOL extension.

Listing 4.132: OpenCOBOL

---

```
MOVE "COBOL" TO stringvar
MOVE FUNCTION CONCATENATE("Open"; stringvar) TO goodsystem
DISPLAY goodsystem END-DISPLAY
```

---

**OpenCOBOL**

#### 4.2.10 FUNCTION COS

The COS function returns a numeric value that approximates the cosine of the argument (in radians).

The domain of the cosine function is all real numbers, with a nominal domain of 0 thru —PISYM— with a zero returned at —PISYM—/2. The cosine function returns a range of -1 thru +1.

Listing 4.133: OpenCOBOL

---

```
DISPLAY FUNCTION COS(1.5707963267949).
```

---

Gives:

```
-0.0000000000000000304
```

### 4.2.11 FUNCTION CURRENT-DATE

Returns an alphanumeric field of length 21 with the current date, time and timezone information in the form YYYYMMDDhhmmsscc ± tznn

Listing 4.134: OpenCOBOL

```
DISPLAY FUNCTION CURRENT-DATE.
```

---

Example Output:

```
2008080921243796-0400
```

### 4.2.12 FUNCTION DATE-OF-INTEGERS

Converts an integer date, days on the Gregorian since December 31 1600 to YYYYMMDD form

Listing 4.135: OpenCOBOL

```
DISPLAY DATE-OF-INTEGERS(1)
DISPLAY DATE-OF-INTEGERS(50000)
```

---

Outputs:

```
16010101
17371123
```

50,000 days after December 31st, 1600 being November 23rd, 1737.

### 4.2.13 FUNCTION DATE-TO-YYYYMMDD

Converts a two digit year date format to four digit year form using a sliding window pivot of the optional second argument. The pivot defaults to 50.

The OpenCOBOL implementation of DATE-TO-YYYYMMDD also accepts an optional third argument, replacing the default century value of 1900 and is treated as the years added to the given year portion of the first argument and modified by the sliding 100 window pivot.

Domain errors occur for year values less than 1600 and greater than 999,999. There is no validation of the input date.

Because of the sliding window, this function is dependent on the date of evaluation

Listing 4.136: OpenCOBOL

```
DISPLAY FUNCTION DATE-TO-YYYYMMDD(000101)
DISPLAY FUNCTION DATE-TO-YYYYMMDD(500101)
DISPLAY FUNCTION DATE-TO-YYYYMMDD(610101)
```

```

DISPLAY FUNCTION DATE-TO-YYYYMMDD(990101)

DISPLAY FUNCTION DATE-TO-YYYYMMDD(990101, 50, 1900)
DISPLAY FUNCTION DATE-TO-YYYYMMDD(990101, -10, 1900)
DISPLAY FUNCTION DATE-TO-YYYYMMDD(990101, 50, 2000)
DISPLAY FUNCTION DATE-TO-YYYYMMDD(990101, 50, 2100)

```

---

When run in August, 2008 produces:

```

20000101
20500101
19610101
19990101
18990101
17990101
19990101
20990101

```

#### 4.2.14 FUNCTION DAY-OF-INTEGER

Converts a Gregorian integer date form to Julian date form (YYYDDD) based on days since December 31, 1600. Errors return 0

Listing 4.137: OpenCOBOL

```

DISPLAY FUNCTION DAY-OF-INTEGER(97336) .

```

---

```

1867182

```

97,336 days after 16001231 being the 182nd day of the year 1867. Canada's date of Confederation and recognized birthday.

#### 4.2.15 FUNCTION DAY-TO-YYYYDDD

Converts a Julian 2 digit year and three digit date integer to a four digit year form. See FUNCTION DATE-TO-YYYYMMDD for some of the details of the calculations involved.

#### 4.2.16 FUNCTION E

Returns Euler's number as an alphanumeric field to 34 digits of accuracy after the decimal. E forms the base of the natural logarithms. It has very unique and important properties such as:

- the derivative of  $e^x$  is  $e^x$

- and the area below the curve of  $y = \frac{1}{x} | 1 \leq x \leq e |$

$$\sum_{x=1}^e \frac{1}{x}$$

is *exactly* 1.

- making it very useful in calculations of Future Value with compound interest.

Listing 4.138: OpenCOBOL

DISPLAY FUNCTION E END-DISPLAY

---

outputs:

2.7182818284590452353602874713526625

A small graph to show the magic area.

Listing 4.139: OpenCOBOL plot Euler's number

```

OCOBOL >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
*> *****
*> Author:      Brian Tiffin
*> Date:        29-May-2009
*> Purpose:     Plot Euler's number
*> Tectonics:   requires access to gnuplot. http://www.gnuplot.info
*>              cobc -Wall -x ploteuler.cob
*> OVERWRITES  ocgenplot.gp and ocgpdata.txt
*> *****
identification division.
program-id. ploteuler.

environment division.
input-output section.
file-control.
    select scriptfile
        assign to "ocgenplot.gp"
        organization is line sequential.
    select outfile
        assign to "ocgpdata.txt"
        organization is line sequential.

data division.
file section.
fd scriptfile.
    01 gnuplot-command pic x(82).
fd outfile.
    01 outrec.
        03 x-value     pic -z9.999.
        03 filler      pic x.

```

```

03 y-value    pic -z9.999.

working-storage section.
01 xstep     pic 9v999.
01 x         pic 9v999.
01 recip     pic 9v999.

01 gplot     pic x(80) value is 'gnuplot -persist ocgenplot.gp'.
01 result    pic s9(9).

procedure division.

*><* Create the script to plot Euler's number
open output scriptfile.
move "set style fill solid 1.0; set grid;"
  to gnuplot-command
write gnuplot-command end-write
move "plot [0:3] [0:2] 'ocgpdata.txt' using 1:2" &
  " with filledcurves below x1 title '1/x'"
  to gnuplot-command
write gnuplot-command end-write
move "set terminal png; set output 'images/euler.png'; replot"
  to gnuplot-command
write gnuplot-command end-write
close scriptfile

*><* Create the reciprocal data
open output outfile
move spaces to outrec
compute xstep = function e / 100 end-compute
perform varying x from 1 by xstep
  until x > function e
    move x to x-value
    compute recip = 1 / x end-compute
    move recip to y-value
    write outrec end-write
end-perform
close outfile

*><* Invoke gnuplot
call "SYSTEM" using gplot returning result end-call
if result not = 0
  display "Problem: " result end-display
  stop run returning result
end-if

goback.
end program ploteuler.

```

---

The area in red is exactly 1. Well, not on this plot exactly, as it is somewhat sloppy with the *xstep* end case and the precisions.

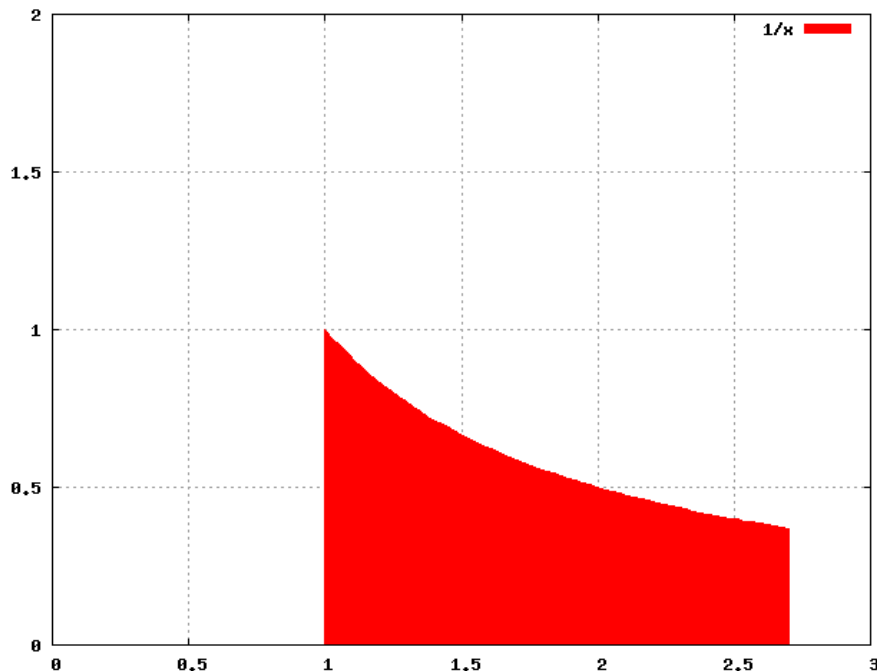


Figure 4.1:  $e$ , Euler's number

See [Can OpenCOBOL be used for plotting?](#) for some details on plotting.

#### 4.2.17 FUNCTION EXCEPTION-FILE

This special-register holds the error number and name of the source file that caused an input output exception. See `FUNCTION EXCEPTION-STATUS` for an example.

#### 4.2.18 FUNCTION EXCEPTION-LOCATION

This special-register can be queried for the location of the last exception. See `FUNCTION EXCEPTION-STATUS` for example source code. Note: This feature requires compilation with `*-fsource-location*` compiler switch. This option is also turned on with `*-g*` and `*-debug*` debugging info compiles. Information includes `PROGRAM-ID`, section and source line.

#### 4.2.19 FUNCTION EXCEPTION-STATEMENT

This special-register holds the statement that was executing when the latest exception was raised. See `FUNCTION EXCEPTION-STATUS` for an example. Note: This fea-



ture requires compilation with `-fsource-location` compiler switch. This option is also turned on with `-g` debugging info compiles.

#### 4.2.20 FUNCTION EXCEPTION-STATUS

This FUNCTION returns the current exception status. The example below is courtesy of Roger While, from a post he made announcing the FUNCTION EXCEPTION-features.

Source format is free, compile with `cobc -x -g -free except.cob`

Listing 4.140: OpenCOBOL

```
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. MINIPROG.

ENVIRONMENT DIVISION.
CONFIGURATION SECTION.
SOURCE-COMPUTER. LINUX.
OBJECT-COMPUTER. LINUX.
SPECIAL-NAMES.

INPUT-OUTPUT SECTION.
FILE-CONTROL.
SELECT PRINTFILE ASSIGN TO "XXRXWXX"
FILE STATUS RXWSTAT.

DATA DIVISION.
FILE SECTION.
FD PRINTFILE.
01 PRINTREC PIC X(132).

WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01 RXWSTAT PIC XX.

PROCEDURE DIVISION.
A00-MAIN SECTION.
001-MAIN-PROCEDURE.
OPEN INPUT PRINTFILE.
DISPLAY "File Status: " RXWSTAT.
DISPLAY "EXCEPTION-FILE: " FUNCTION EXCEPTION-FILE.
DISPLAY "Return Length: "
    FUNCTION LENGTH (FUNCTION EXCEPTION-FILE).
DISPLAY "EXCEPTION-STATUS: " FUNCTION EXCEPTION-STATUS.
DISPLAY "EXCEPTION-STATEMENT: " FUNCTION EXCEPTION-STATEMENT.
STRING "TOOLONG" DELIMITED SIZE INTO RXWSTAT.
DISPLAY "EXCEPTION-STATUS: " FUNCTION EXCEPTION-STATUS.
DISPLAY "EXCEPTION-STATEMENT: " FUNCTION EXCEPTION-STATEMENT.
DISPLAY "EXCEPTION-LOCATION: " FUNCTION EXCEPTION-LOCATION.

STOP RUN.
```

---

Example output:

```
File Status: 35
EXCEPTION-FILE: 35PRINTFILE
Return Length: 00000011
EXCEPTION-STATUS: EC-I-O-PERMANENT-ERROR
EXCEPTION-STATEMENT: OPEN
EXCEPTION-STATUS: EC-OVERFLOW-STRING
EXCEPTION-STATEMENT: STRING
EXCEPTION-LOCATION: MINIPROG; 001-MAIN-PROCEDURE OF A00-MAIN; 29
```

**TIP:** See the source file `libcob/exception.def` for a list of the run-time exceptions supported by OpenCOBOL.

### 4.2.21 FUNCTION EXP

Returns an approximation of Euler's number (see FUNCTION E) raised to the power of the numeric argument.

Listing 4.141: OpenCOBOL FUNCTION EXP

```
DISPLAY FUNCTION EXP(1) END-DISPLAY
```

---

outputs:

```
2.718281828459045091
```

Be aware that this approximation seems accurate to "only" 15 decimal places. Diligent programmers need to be aware of the foibles of floating point mathematics and take these issues into consideration.

### 4.2.22 FUNCTION EXP10

Returns an approximation of the value 10 raised to the power of the numeric argument.

Listing 4.142: OpenCOBOL

```
DISPLAY FUNCTION EXP10(1.0) END-DISPLAY
DISPLAY FUNCTION EXP10(1.2) END-DISPLAY
DISPLAY FUNCTION EXP10(10) END-DISPLAY
```

---

Outputs:

```
10.000000000000000000
15.848931924611132871
10000000000.000000000000000000
```

**4.2.23 FUNCTION FACTORIAL**

Computes the factorial of the integral argument. Valid Range of [0, 19] with a domain of [1, 121645100408832000].

Listing 4.143: OpenCOBOL FUNCTION FACTORIAL

```

OCOBOL*> *****
*> Program to find range and domain of FUNCTION FACTORIAL
  identification division.
  program-id. fact.

  data division.
  working-storage section.
  01 ind pic 999.
  01 result pic 9(18).

*> *****
  procedure division.
  perform varying ind from 0 by 1
    until ind > 20
      add zero to function factorial(ind) giving result
      on size error
        display "overflow at " ind end-display
      end-add
      display ind " = " function factorial(ind) end-display
    end-perform

  goback.
  end program fact.

```

**Outputs:**

```

000 = 00000000000000000001
001 = 00000000000000000001
002 = 00000000000000000002
003 = 00000000000000000006
004 = 00000000000000000024
005 = 00000000000000000120
006 = 00000000000000000720
007 = 00000000000000005040
008 = 0000000000000040320
009 = 0000000000000362880
010 = 0000000000003628800
011 = 0000000000039916800
012 = 000000000479001600
013 = 000000006227020800
014 = 000000087178291200
015 = 000001307674368000
016 = 000020922789888000

```

```

017 = 000355687428096000
018 = 006402373705728000
019 = 121645100408832000
overflow at 020
020 = 432902008176640000

```

#### 4.2.24 FUNCTION FRACTION-PART

Returns a numeric value that is the fraction part of the argument. Keeping the sign.

Listing 4.144: OpenCOBOL

```

DISPLAY FUNCTION FRACTION-PART(FUNCTION E) END-DISPLAY
DISPLAY FUNCTION FRACTION-PART(-1.5) END-DISPLAY
DISPLAY FUNCTION FRACTION-PART(-1.0) END-DISPLAY
DISPLAY FUNCTION FRACTION-PART(1) END-DISPLAY

```

---

Outputs:

```

+.718281828459045235
-.500000000000000000
+.000000000000000000
+.000000000000000000

```

#### 4.2.25 FUNCTION INTEGER

Returns the greatest integer less than or equal to the numeric argument.

Listing 4.145: OpenCOBOL

```

DISPLAY
  FUNCTION INTEGER (-3)      SPACE
  FUNCTION INTEGER (-3.141)
END-DISPLAY
DISPLAY
  FUNCTION INTEGER (3)      SPACE
  FUNCTION INTEGER (3.141)
END-DISPLAY
DISPLAY
  FUNCTION INTEGER (-0.3141) SPACE
  FUNCTION INTEGER (0.3141) SPACE
  FUNCTION INTEGER (0)
END-DISPLAY

```

---

Outputs:

```

-00000000000000000003 -00000000000000000004
+00000000000000000003 +00000000000000000003
-00000000000000000001 +00000000000000000000 +00000000000000000000

```

Note the -4, *greatest integer less than or equal to the argument.*

### 4.2.26 FUNCTION INTEGER-OF-DATE

Converts a date in the Gregorian calendar to an integer form. Expects a numeric argument in the form \*YYYYMMDD\* based on years greater than or equal to 1601 and less than 10000. Month values range from 1 to 12. Days range from 1 to 31 and should be valid for the specified month and year. Invalid input returns unpredictable results and sets the exception EC-ARGUMENT-FUNCTION to exist. See ?? for the converse function.

### 4.2.27 FUNCTION INTEGER-OF-DAY

Converts a Julian date of YYYYDDD to integer date form. See FUNCTION DAY-OF-INTEGER for the converse intrinsic function. Invalid arguments return an undefined result and set the exception EC-ARGUMENT-FUNCTION to exist.

### 4.2.28 FUNCTION INTEGER-PART

Returns the integer part of the numeric argument. Similar to FUNCTION INTEGER but returns different values for negative arguments.

Listing 4.146: OpenCOBOL FUNCTION INTEGER-PART

```

DISPLAY
  FUNCTION INTEGER-PART (-3)      SPACE
  FUNCTION INTEGER-PART (-3.141)
END-DISPLAY
DISPLAY
  FUNCTION INTEGER-PART (3)      SPACE
  FUNCTION INTEGER-PART (3.141)
END-DISPLAY
DISPLAY
  FUNCTION INTEGER-PART (-0.3141) SPACE
  FUNCTION INTEGER-PART (0.3141)  SPACE
  FUNCTION INTEGER-PART (0)
END-DISPLAY

```

---

Outputs:

```

-00000000000000000003 -00000000000000000003
+00000000000000000003 +00000000000000000003
+00000000000000000000 +00000000000000000000 +00000000000000000000

```

### 4.2.29 FUNCTION LENGTH

Returns an integer that is the length in character positions of the given argument.

Listing 4.147: OpenCOBOL FUNCTION LENGTH

```

working-storage.
01 nat      pic n(10).

```

```

01 cha      pic x(10).
01 bin      constant as h'ff'.

01 num      pic s9(8)v9(8).
01 form     pic $-z(7)9.9(8).

```

```

procedure division.
display
    function length(nat) space
    function length(cha) space
    function length(bin)
end-display
display
    function length(num) space
    function length(form)
end-display

```

---

Outputs:

```

20 10 3
16 19

```

### 4.2.30 FUNCTION LOCALE-DATE

Returns a culturally appropriate date given an alphanumeric of 8 character positions in the form "YYYYMMDD" and an optional locale name that has been associated with a locale in the SPECIAL-NAMES paragraph. See <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Locale> for a start at the very detail rich computational requirements of LOCALE. Will set EC-ARGUMENT-FUNCTION to exist for invalid input.

### 4.2.31 FUNCTION LOCALE-TIME

Returns a culturally appropriate date given an alphanumeric of 6 character positions in the form "HHMMSS" and an optional locale name that has been associated with a locale in the SPECIAL-NAMES paragraph. See <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Locale> for a start at the very detail rich computational requirements of LOCALE. Will set EC-ARGUMENT-FUNCTION to exist for invalid input.

### 4.2.32 FUNCTION LOCALE-TIME-FROM-SECONDS

Returns a culturally appropriate date given an alphanumeric number of seconds and an optional locale name that has been associated with a locale in the SPECIAL-NAMES paragraph. See <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Locale> for a start at the very detail rich computational requirements of LOCALE. Will set EC-ARGUMENT-FUNCTION to exist for invalid input.

### 4.2.33 FUNCTION LOG

Returns an approximation of the natural logarithmic value of the given numeric argument. Uses a base of FUNCTION E.

### 4.2.34 FUNCTION LOG10

Returns an approximation of the base-10 logarithmic value of the given numeric argument.

### 4.2.35 FUNCTION LOWER-CASE

Convert any uppercase character values (A-Z) in the argument to lowercase (a-z).

### 4.2.36 FUNCTION MAX

Returns the maximum value from the list of arguments.

Listing 4.148: OpenCOBOL

```
DISPLAY FUNCTION MAX("def"; "abc"); END-DISPLAY  
DISPLAY FUNCTION MAX(123.1; 123.11; 123) END-DISPLAY
```

---

Outputs:

```
def  
123.11
```

### 4.2.37 FUNCTION MEAN

Returns the arithmetic mean (average) of the list of numeric arguments.

Listing 4.149: OpenCOBOL

```
DISPLAY FUNCTION MEAN(1; 2; 3; 4; 5; 6; 7; 8; 9) END-DISPLAY
```

---

Outputs:

```
+5.000000000000000000
```

### 4.2.38 FUNCTION MEDIAN

Returns the middle value of the arguments formed by arranging the list in sorted order.

Listing 4.150: OpenCOBOL

```
DISPLAY FUNCTION MEDIAN(1; 2; 3; 4; 5; 6; 7; 8; 9) END-DISPLAY
```

---

Outputs:

```
5
```

### 4.2.39 FUNCTION MIDRANGE

Returns the arithmetic mean (average) of the minimum and maximum argument from the list of numeric arguments.

Listing 4.151: OpenCOBOL

```
DISPLAY FUNCTION MIDRANGE(1; 2; 3; 4; 5; 6; 7; 8; 9) END-DISPLAY
```

---

Outputs:

```
5.000000000000000000
```

### 4.2.40 FUNCTION MIN

Returns the minimum value from the list of arguments.

Listing 4.152: OpenCOBOL FUNCTION MIN

```
DISPLAY FUNCTION MIN ( "def"; "abc"; ) END-DISPLAY  
DISPLAY FUNCTION MIN ( 123.1; 123.11; 123 ) END-DISPLAY
```

---

Outputs:

```
abc  
123
```

### 4.2.41 FUNCTION MOD

Returns an integer value of that is the first-argument modulo second-argument.

Listing 4.153: OpenCOBOL

```
DISPLAY FUNCTION MOD(123; 23) END-DISPLAY
```

---

Outputs:

```
+000000000000000008
```

### 4.2.42 FUNCTION NUMVAL

Returns the numeric value represented by the character string argument.

### 4.2.43 FUNCTION NUMVAL-C

Returns the numeric value represented by the culturally appropriate currency specification argument.



#### 4.2.44 FUNCTION ORD

Returns the integer value that is the ordinal position of the character argument in the program's collating sequence. COBOL uses 1 as the lowest ordinal for character sequencing.

Listing 4.154: OpenCOBOL

```
DISPLAY FUNCTION ORD("J") END-DISPLAY
```

---

Outputs (on an ASCII system with no ALPHABET clause):

```
00000075
```

Note that COBOL uses 1 as the first value for collating. So ASCII 74 is ORD 75 for "J".

#### 4.2.45 FUNCTION ORD-MAX

Returns the integer that is the ordinal position of the maximum value of the given argument list.

Listing 4.155: OpenCOBOL

```
DISPLAY ORD-MAX(9; 8; 7; 6; 5; 4; 3; 2; 1) END-DISPLAY
DISPLAY ORD-MAX('abc'; 'def'; 'ghi') END-DISPLAY
```

---

Outputs:

```
00000001
00000003
```

#### 4.2.46 FUNCTION ORD-MIN

Returns the integer that is the ordinal position of the minimum value from the argument list.

Listing 4.156: OpenCOBOL

```
OCOBOL >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
*> *****
*> Author:    Brian Tiffin
*> Date:      20090531
*> Purpose:   Demonstration of FUNCTION ORD-MIN and REPOSITORY
*> Tectonics: cobb -x ordmin.cob
*> *****
identification division.
program-id. ordmin.

environment division.
configuration section.
```

```

repository.
    function all intrinsic.

data division.
working-storage section.
01 posmin                pic 9(8).

*> *****
procedure division.
move ord-min (9; 8; 7; 6; 5; 4; 3; 2; 1; 2; 3; 4; 5) to posmin
display posmin end-display
move ord-min ("abc"; "def"; "000"; "def"; "abc") to posmin
display posmin end-display
goback.
end program ordmin.

```

---

**Outputs:**

```

00000009
00000003

```

Notice how ord-min did not require FUNCTION, as the REPOSITORY entry allows this to be skipped in the source codes.

#### 4.2.47 FUNCTION PI

Returns an approximation of the ratio of the circumference by the diameter of a circle. It returns an alphanumeric with 34 digits after the decimal. Please be aware of the limitations of using these types of approximated values in computations.

##### Listing 4.157: OpenCOBOL

```

OCOBOL >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
*> *****
*> Author:      Brian Tiffin
*> Date:        20101030
*> Purpose:     Demonstrate PI
*> Tectonics:   cobc -x pi-demo.cob
*> *****
identification division.
program-id. pi-demo.

data division.
working-storage section.
01 args pic x(80).
01 diameter pic 999 value 1.
01 show-diameter pic zz9.
01 circumference usage float-long.
01 plural pic xx.
01 plural-length pic 9 value 1.

```

```

01 newline pic x value x'0a'.

*> *****
procedure division.
accept args from command-line end-accept
if args not equal spaces
    move args to diameter
end-if

if diameter not equal 1
    move "s " to plural
    move 2 to plural-length
else
    move " " to plural
    move 1 to plural-length
end-if
move diameter to show-diameter

display "FUNCTION PI is " function pi newline end-display

compute circumference = function pi * diameter end-compute
display
    "A wheel, " show-diameter " metre" plural(1:plural-length)
    "wide will roll, very close to but only approximately, "
    newline circumference " metres in ONE full rotation."
    newline
end-display

goback.
end program pi-demo.

```

---

**Outputs:**

```

$ cobc -x pi-demo.cob && ./pi-demo && ./pi-demo 42
FUNCTION PI is 3.1415926535897932384626433832795029

```

```

A wheel, 1 metre wide will roll, very close to but only approximately,
3.14159265358979312 metres in ONE full rotation.

```

```

FUNCTION PI is 3.1415926535897932384626433832795029

```

```

A wheel, 42 metres wide will roll, very close to but only approximately,
131.946891450771318 metres in ONE full rotation.

```

**4.2.48 FUNCTION PRESENT-VALUE**

Returns an approximation of the present value from a discount rate and list of future period end amounts. It attempts to reflect the future value of \$1.00 given time, inflation and interest.

Listing 4.158: OpenCOBOL

```

OCOBOL >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
*> *****
*> Author:    Brian Tiffin
*> Date:      20101030
*> Purpose:   Demo of PRESENT-VALUE
*> Tectonics: cobc -x present-value-demo.cob
*> *****
identification division.
program-id. present-value-demo.

data division.
working-storage section.
01 args pic x(80).
01 newline pic x value x'0a'.
01 rate pic s9v9999 value 0.7000.
01 the-value pic s9(6)v99.

*> *****
procedure division.
accept args from command-line end-accept

if args not equal to spaces
    move args to rate
end-if

compute the-value rounded =
    function present-value(rate; 1000, 1010, 1000, 1100)
end-compute
display
    "A discount rate of " rate " gives a PRESENT-VALUE of "
    the-value " given" newline
    "end-amounts of 1000, 1010, 1000 and 1100"
end-display

compute the-value rounded =
    function present-value(rate; 1000, 1000, 1000, 1000)
end-compute
display
    "A discount rate of " rate " gives a PRESENT-VALUE of "
    the-value " given" newline
    "end-amounts of 1000, 1000, 1000 and 1000"
end-display

goback.
end program present-value-demo.

```

---

Outputs::

```
$ ./present-value-demo
```

A discount rate of +0.7000 gives a PRESENT-VALUE of +001272.96 given end-amounts of 1000, 1010, 1000 and 1100

A discount rate of +0.7000 gives a PRESENT-VALUE of +001257.53 given end-amounts of 1000, 1000, 1000 and 1000

```
$ ./present-value-demo 0.333
```

A discount rate of +0.3330 gives a PRESENT-VALUE of +002089.18 given end-amounts of 1000, 1010, 1000 and 1100

A discount rate of +0.3330 gives a PRESENT-VALUE of +002051.88 given end-amounts of 1000, 1000, 1000 and 1000

```
$ ./present-value-demo 0.935
```

A discount rate of +0.9350 gives a PRESENT-VALUE of +001003.03 given end-amounts of 1000, 1010, 1000 and 1100

A discount rate of +0.9350 gives a PRESENT-VALUE of +000993.23 given end-amounts of 1000, 1000, 1000 and 1000

For details, talk to a professional.

**rant** Any COBOL programmer using financial functions for use by others **HAS** to attain some level of *domain expertise* in the mathematics at work, as well as a level of technical competence to read through and defend both the COBOL source code and the generated C code that OpenCOBOL emits before compiling. **rant over** *By the way, don't ask me to tell you what is going on with financials. I give free advice.*

#### 4.2.49 FUNCTION FUNCTION RANDOM

Returns a pseudo-random number given a numeric seed value as argument.

Listing 4.159: OpenCOBOL

```
DISPLAY FUNCTION RANDOM(1) END-DISPLAY
DISPLAY FUNCTION RANDOM(1) END-DISPLAY
DISPLAY FUNCTION RANDOM() END-DISPLAY
```

---

Outputs:

```
+000000000.1804289383
+000000000.1804289383
+000000000.846930886
```

#### 4.2.50 FUNCTION RANGE

Returns the value of the minimum argument subtracted from the maximum argument from the list of numeric arguments.

Listing 4.160: OpenCOBOL FUNCTION RANGE

```
DISPLAY FUNCTION RANGE(1; 2; 3; 4; 5; 6; 7; 8; 9) END-DISPLAY
```

---

Outputs:

```
+00000000000000000008
```

### 4.2.51 FUNCTION REM

Returns the numeric remainder of the first argument divided by the second.

Listing 4.161: OpenCOBOL

---

```
DISPLAY FUNCTION REM(123; 23) END-DISPLAY
```

---

Outputs:

```
+0000000000000000008
```

### 4.2.52 FUNCTION REVERSE

Returns the reverse of the given character string.

Listing 4.162: OpenCOBOL FUNCTION REVERSE

---

```
DISPLAY FUNCTION REVERSE("abc") END-DISPLAY
```

---

Outputs:

```
cba
```

### 4.2.53 FUNCTION SECONDS-FROM-FORMATTED-TIME

### 4.2.54 FUNCTION SECONDS-PAST-MIDNIGHT

Returns the seconds past midnight from the current system time.

### 4.2.55 FUNCTION SIGN

Returns +1 for positive, 0 for zero and -1 for a negative numeric argument.

### 4.2.56 FUNCTION SIN

Returns an approximation for the trigonometric sine of the given numeric angle (expressed in radians) argument. See Can OpenCOBOL be used for plotting? for a sample graph using gnuplot.

### 4.2.57 FUNCTION SQRT

Returns an approximation of the square root of the given numeric argument.

Listing 4.163: OpenCOBOL FUNCTION SQRT

---

```
DISPLAY FUNCTION SQRT(-1) END-DISPLAY
CALL "perror" USING NULL END-CALL
DISPLAY FUNCTION SQRT(2) END-DISPLAY
```

---

Outputs: *also demonstrates how OpenCOBOL can access 's*

```
0.00000000000000000000
Numerical argument out of domain
1.414213562373095145
```

Note: CALL "perror" reveals a bug in OpenCOBOL versions packaged before June 2009 where the stack will eventually underflow due to improper handling of the void return specification. Versions supporting RETURNING NULL*i* fix this problem. An actual application that needed to verify the results of square roots or other numerical function may be better off placing a small C wrapper to set and get the global errno.

#### 4.2.58 FUNCTION STANDARD-DEVIATION

Returns an approximation of the standard deviation from the given list of numeric arguments.

Listing 4.164: OpenCOBOL FUNCTION STANDARD-DEVIATION

```
DISPLAY
FUNCTION STANDARD-DEVIATION(1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10) SPACE
FUNCTION STANDARD-DEVIATION(1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 100)
END-DISPLAY
```

---

Outputs:

```
2.872281323269014308 28.605069480775604518
```

#### 4.2.59 FUNCTION STORED-CHAR-LENGTH

Returns the numeric value of the internal storage length of the given argument in bytes, not counting spaces.

#### 4.2.60 FUNCTION SUBSTITUTE

FUNCTION SUBSTITUTE is an OpenCOBOL extension to the suite of intrinsic functions.

Listing 4.165: OpenCOBOL FUNCTION SUBSTITUTE

```
DISPLAY
FUNCTION SUBSTITUTE("this is a test",
    "this", "that",
    "is a", "was",
    "test", "very cool!")
END-DISPLAY
```

---

Will display:

```
that was very cool!
```

having changed this for that, is a for was and test with **very cool!**

The new intrinsic accepts:

```
SUBSTITUTE(subject, lit-pat-1, repl-1 [, litl-pat-2, repl-2, ...])
```

where *lit-pat* just means the scan is for literals, not that you have to use literal constants. WORKING-STORAGE identifiers are fine for any of the subject, the search patterns or the replacements.

As with all intrinsics, you receive a new field and the subject is untouched.

Note: The resulting field can be shorter, the same length or longer than the subject string.

This is literal character **global** find and replace, and there are no wildcards or other pattern expressions. Unlike INSPECT, this function **does not require same length** patterns and replacements. Each pattern replacement pair uses the original subject, not any intermediate in progress result.

As this is an alphanumeric operation, a reference modification is also allowed

Listing 4.166: OpenCOBOL ref mod SUBSTITUTE

```
MOVE FUNCTION SUBSTITUTE(subject, pat, repl)(2:4) TO xvar4
```

to result in 4 characters starting at the second position after the substitution.

#### 4.2.61 FUNCTION SUBSTITUTE-CASE

Similar to ??, but ignores upper and lower case of subject when matching patterns.

#### 4.2.62 FUNCTION SUM

Returns the numeric value that is the sum of the given list of numeric arguments.

#### 4.2.63 FUNCTION TAN

Returns an approximation for the trigonometric tangent of the given numeric angle (expressed in radians) argument. Returns ZERO if the argument would cause an infinity or other size error.

#### 4.2.64 FUNCTION TEST-DATE-YYYYMMDD

Test for valid date in numeric yyyymmdd form.

#### 4.2.65 FUNCTION TEST-DAY-YYYYDDD

Test for valid date in numeric yyyyddd form.



### 4.2.66 FUNCTION TRIM

Returns a character string that is the argument trimmed of spaces. Defaults to trimming both ends, but can be passed LEADING or TRAILING qualifier arguments.

Listing 4.167: OpenCOBOL FUNCTION TRIM

```
DISPLAY ' ' FUNCTION TRIM(" abc ") ' ' END-DISPLAY
DISPLAY ' ' FUNCTION TRIM(" abc " LEADING) ' ' END-DISPLAY
DISPLAY ' ' FUNCTION TRIM(" abc " TRAILING) ' ' END-DISPLAY
```

---

Outputs:

```
"abc "
"abc  "
"  abc"
```

### 4.2.67 FUNCTION UPPER-CASE

Returns a copy of the alphanumeric argument with any lower case letters replaced by upper case letters.

Listing 4.168: OpenCOBOL FUNCTION UPPER-CASE

```
DISPLAY FUNCTION UPPER-CASE("# 123 abc DEF #") END-DISPLAY
```

---

Outputs:

```
# 123 ABC DEF #
```

### 4.2.68 FUNCTION VARIANCE

Returns the variance of a series of numbers. The variance is defined as the square of the FUNCTION STANDARD-DEVIATION4.2.58

Listing 4.169: OpenCOBOL

```
DISPLAY FUNCTION VARIANCE(1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 100) END-DISPLAY.
```

---

```
+818.2500000000000000
```

### 4.2.69 FUNCTION WHEN-COMPILED

Returns a 21 character alphanumeric field of the form YYYYMMDDhhmmsscc —plus-minus— zzzz e.g. 2008070505152000-0400 representing when a module or executable is compiled. The WHEN-COMPILED special register reflects when an object module was compiled

Listing 4.170: OpenCOBOL

```

program-id. whenpart1. procedure division.
display "First part :" FUNCTION WHEN-COMPILED end-display.

program-id. whenpart2. procedure division.
display "Second part:" FUNCTION WHEN-COMPILED end-display.

program-id. whenshow. procedure division.
call "whenpart1" end-call.
call "whenpart2" end-call.
display "Main part  :" FUNCTION WHEN-COMPILED end-display.

```

---

For a test

```

$ cobc -c whenpart1.cob && sleep 15 && cobc -c whenpart2.cob &&
> sleep 15 && cobc -x whenshow.cob whenpart1.o whenpart2.o
$ ./whenshow

```

gives:

```

First part :2008082721391500-0400
Second part:2008082721393000-0400
Main part  :2008082721394500-0400

```

### 4.2.70 FUNCTION YEAR-TO-YYYY

Converts a two digit year to a sliding window four digit year. The optional second argument (default 50) is added to the date at execution time to determine the ending year of a 100 year interval.

## 4.3 Can you clarify the use of FUNCTION in OpenCOBOL?

Yes. This information is from Roger [8], posted to the <http://opencobol.org> forums.

```

Just to clarify the use of FUNCTION.
(Applies to 0.33)
FUNCTION (generally speaking, there are exceptions) can
be used anywhere where a source item is valid.
It always results in a new temporary field.
This will have the desired characteristics dependant
on the parameters.
eg. FUNCTION MIN (x, y, z)
with x PIC 99
     y PIC 9(8) COMP
     z PIC 9(6)V99

```

#### 4.4. WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE LENGTH VERB AND FUNCTION LENGTH?195

will result in returning a field that has at least 8 positions before the (implied) decimal point and 2 after.

It does NOT ever change the contents of parameters to the function.

FUNCTION's are nestable.  
eg.

```
DISPLAY FUNCTION REVERSE (FUNCTION UPPER-CASE (myfield)).
```

One clarification to the above quote was pointed out by Roger. The line:

```
be used anywhere where a source item is valid.
```

should be:

```
be used anywhere where a sending field is valid.
```

#### 4.4 What is the difference between the LENGTH verb and FUNCTION LENGTH?

From Roger [8]:

```
The standard only defines FUNCTION LENGTH.  
The LENGTH OF phrase is an extension (from MF)
```

#### 4.5 What STOCK CALL LIBRARY does OpenCOBOL offer?

OpenCOBOL 1.0 ships with quite a few callable features. See CALL. Looking through the source code, you'll find the current list of service calls in:

```
libcob/system.def
```

With the 1.1 pre-release of July 2008, that list included

Listing 4.171: OpenCOBOL Stock Library

```
/* COB_SYSTEM_GEN (external name, number of parameters, internal name) */  
  
COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("SYSTEM", 1, SYSTEM)  
COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_ERROR_PROC", 2, CBL_ERROR_PROC)  
COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_EXIT_PROC", 2, CBL_EXIT_PROC)  
COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_OPEN_FILE", 5, CBL_OPEN_FILE)  
COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_CREATE_FILE", 5, CBL_CREATE_FILE)
```

```

COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_READ_FILE", 5, CBL_READ_FILE)
COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_WRITE_FILE", 5, CBL_WRITE_FILE)
COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_CLOSE_FILE", 1, CBL_CLOSE_FILE)
COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_FLUSH_FILE", 1, CBL_FLUSH_FILE)
COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_DELETE_FILE", 1, CBL_DELETE_FILE)
COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_COPY_FILE", 2, CBL_COPY_FILE)
COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_CHECK_FILE_EXIST", 2, CBL_CHECK_FILE_EXIST)
COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_RENAME_FILE", 2, CBL_RENAME_FILE)
COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_GET_CURRENT_DIR", 3, CBL_GET_CURRENT_DIR)
COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_CHANGE_DIR", 1, CBL_CHANGE_DIR)
COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_CREATE_DIR", 1, CBL_CREATE_DIR)
COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_DELETE_DIR", 1, CBL_DELETE_DIR)
COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_AND", 3, CBL_AND)
COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_OR", 3, CBL_OR)
COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_NOR", 3, CBL_NOR)
COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_XOR", 3, CBL_XOR)
COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_IMP", 3, CBL_IMP)
COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_NIMP", 3, CBL_NIMP)
COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_EQ", 3, CBL_EQ)
COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_NOT", 2, CBL_NOT)
COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_TOUPPER", 2, CBL_TOUPPER)
COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_TOLOWER", 2, CBL_TOLOWER)
COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("\364", 2, CBL_XF4)
COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("\365", 2, CBL_XF5)
COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("\221", 2, CBL_X91)
COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("C$NARG", 1, cob_return_args)
COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("C$PARAMSIZE", 1, cob_parameter_size)
COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("C$MAKEDIR", 1, cob_acuw_mkdir)
COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("C$CHDIR", 2, cob_acuw_chdir)
COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("C$SLEEP", 1, cob_acuw_sleep)
COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("C$COPY", 3, cob_acuw_copyfile)
COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("C$FILEINFO", 2, cob_acuw_file_info)
COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("C$DELETE", 2, cob_acuw_file_delete)
COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("C$TOUPPER", 2, CBL_TOUPPER)
COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("C$TOLOWER", 2, CBL_TOLOWER)
COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("C$JUSTIFY", 1, cob_acuw_justify)
COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_OC_NANOSLEEP", 1, cob_oc_nanosleep)

```

---

Note the "SYSTEM". This CALL sends a command string to the shell. It acts as a wrapper to the standard C library "system" call. "SYSTEM" removes any trailing spaces from the argument and appends the null terminator required for the C library "system" call. While shell access opens yet another powerful door for the OpenCOBOL programmer, diligent developers will need to pay heed to cross platform issues when calling the operating system.

### 4.5.1 A CBL-ERROR-PROC example

Listing 4.172: OpenCOBOL CBL-ERROR-PROC

OCOBOL >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED

```

*****
* OpenCOBOL demonstration
* Author:  Brian Tiffin
* Date:    26-Jun-2008
* History:
*   03-Jul-2008
*   Updated to compile warning free according to standards
* Purpose:
*   CBL_ERROR_PROC and CBL_EXIT_PROC call example
*   CBL_ERROR_PROC installs or removes run-time error procedures
*   CBL_EXIT_PROC installs or removes exit handlers
*   Also demonstrates the difference between Run time errors
*   and raised exceptions. Divide by zero is raises an
*   exception, it does not cause a run time error.
* NB:
*   Please be advised that this example uses the functional but
*   now obsolete ENTRY verb. Compiling with -Wall will display
*   a warning. No warning will occur using -std=MF
* Tectonics: cobc -x errorproc.cob
  identification division.
  program-id. error_exit_proc.

  data division.
  working-storage section.
* entry point handlers are procedure addresses
01  install-address  usage is procedure-pointer.
01  install-flag    pic 9 comp-x value 0.
01  status-code     pic s9(9) comp-5.

* exit handler address and priority (prio is IGNORED with OC1.1)
01  install-params.
    02 exit-addr    usage is procedure-pointer.
    02 handler-prio pic 999 comp-x.

* indexing variable for back scanning error message strings
01  ind            pic s9(9) comp-5.

* work variable to demonstrate raising exception, not RTE
01  val            pic 9.

* mocked up error procedure reentrancy control, global level
01  once           pic 9 value 0.
    88 been-here   value 1.

* mocked up non-reentrant value
01  global-value   pic 99 value 99.

* LOCAL-STORAGE SECTION comes into play for ERROR_PROCS that
*   may themselves cause run-time errors, handling reentry.

```

```

local-storage section.
01 reenter-value      pic 99 value 11.

* Linkage section for the error message argument passed to proc
* By definition, error messages are 325 alphanumeric
linkage section.
01 err-msg            pic x(325).

* example of OpenCOBOL error and exit procedures
procedure division.

* Demonstrate problem installing procedure
* get address of WRONG handler. NOTE: Invalid address
set exit-addr to entry "nogo-proc".

* flag: 0 to install, 1 to remove
call "CBL_EXIT_PROC" using install-flag
                        install-params
                        returning status-code
end-call.
* status-code 0 on success, in this case expect error.
if status-code not = 0
  display
    "Intentional problem installing EXIT PROC"
    ", Status: " status-code
  end-display
end-if.

* Demonstrate install of an exit handler
* get address of exit handler
set exit-addr to entry "exit-proc".

* flag: 0 to install, 1 to remove
call "CBL_EXIT_PROC" using install-flag
                        install-params
                        returning status-code
end-call.
* status-code 0 on success.
if status-code not = 0
  display
    "Problem installing EXIT PROC"
    ", Status: " status-code
  end-display
  stop run
end-if.

* Demonstrate installation of an error procedure
* get the procedure entry address
set install-address to entry "err-proc".

```

```

* install error procedure. install-flag 0 installs, 1 removes
call "CBL_ERROR_PROC" using install-flag
                        install-address
                        returning status-code
end-call.
* status-code is 0 on success.
if status-code not = 0
    display "Error installing ERROR PROC" end-display
    stop run
end-if.

* example of error that raises exception, not a run-time error
divide 10 by 0 giving val end-divide.
* val will be a junk value, use at own risk

divide 10 by 0 giving val
    on size error display "DIVIDE BY ZERO Exception" end-display
end-divide.

* intentional run-time error
call "erroneous" end-call.          *> ** Intentional error **

* won't get here. RTS error handler will stop run
display
    "procedure division, following run-time error"
end-display.
display
    "global-value: " global-value
    ", reenter-value: " reenter-value
end-display.

exit program.
*****

*****
* Programmer controlled Exit Procedure:
entry "exit-proc".

display
    "***Custom EXIT HANDLER (will pause 3 and 0.5 seconds)**"
end-display.

* sleep for 3 seconds
call "C$SLEEP" using "3" end-call.
* demonstrate nanosleep; argument in billionth's of seconds
* Note: also demonstrates OpenCOBOL's compile time
* string catenation using ampersand;
* 500 million being one half second
call "CBL_OC_NANOSLEEP" using "500" & "000000" end-call.

```

```

exit program.

*****
* Programmer controlled Error Procedure:
entry "err-proc" using err-msg.

display "**ENTER error procedure**" end-display.

* These lines are to demonstrate local and working storage
display
    "global-value: " global-value
    ", reenter-value: " reenter-value
end-display.
* As reenter-value is local-storage
* the 77 will NOT display on reentry, while the global 66 will
move 66 to global-value.
move 77 to reenter-value.

* Process err-msg.
* Determine Length of error message, looking for null terminator
perform varying ind from 1 by 1
    until (err-msg(ind:1) = x"00") or (ind = length of err-msg)
        continue
end-perform.
display err-msg(1:ind) end-display.

* demonstrate trapping an error caused in error-proc
if not been-here then
    set been-here to true
    display "Cause error while inside error-proc" end-display
    call "very-erroneous" end-call      *> Intentional error
end-if.

* In OpenCOBOL 1.1, the return-code is local and does
* not influence further error handlers
*move 1 to return-code.
move 0 to return-code.

display "**error procedure EXIT**" end-display.

exit program.

```

---

with tectonics A.16:

```

$ cobc -x errorproc.cob
$ ./errorproc
Intentional problem installing EXIT PROC, Status: -000000001
DIVIDE BY ZERO Exception
**ENTER error procedure**
global-value: 99, reenter-value: 11

```



```

Cannot find module 'erroneous'
Cause error while inside error-proc
**ENTER error procedure**
global-value: 66, reenter-value: 11
Cannot find module 'very-erroneous'
**error procedure EXIT**
libcob: Cannot find module 'very-erroneous'
**Custom EXIT HANDLER (will pause 3 and 0.5 seconds)**

```

### 4.5.2 Some stock library explanations

This small gem of a help file was written up by Vincent Coen, included here for our benefit.

Note: The code below is a work in progress. If you see this attention box; the file is not yet deemed complete.

```

System Calls v1.1.0 for OC v1.1 Author: Vincent B Coen dated 12/01/2009

COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_ERROR_PROC", 2, CBL_ERROR_PROC) Register error proc in Linux??? needs checking Roger?
call using install-flag pic x comp-x Indicates operation to be performed
                                (0 = install error procedure)
                                (1 = un-install error procedure)
                                install-addr Usage procedure pointer Create by 'set install-addr to entry entry-name'
                                (the address of error procedure to install or un-install)

COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_EXIT_PROC", 2, CBL_EXIT_PROC) Register closedown proc
call using install-flag pic x comp-x Indicate operation to be performed
                                (0 = install closedown proc. with default priority of 64)
                                (1 = un-install closedown proc.)
                                (2 = query priority of installed proc.)
                                (3 = install closedown proc. with given priority)
                                install-param group item defined as:
                                install-addr USAGE PROCEDURE POINTER (addr of closedown proc to install, uninstall or query)
                                install-prty pic x comp-x (when install-flag = 3, priority of proc. being installed 0 - 127)
returning status-code (See section key).
on exit install-prty (when install-flag = 2, returns priority of selected proc.)

COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_OPEN_FILE", 5, CBL_OPEN_FILE) Open byte stream file
call using file-name pic x(n) space or null terminated
access-mode pic x comp-5 (1 = read only, 2 = write only [deny must = 0]
                                3 = read / write)
deny-mode pic x comp-5 (0 = deny both, 1 = deny write, 2 = deny read
                                3 = deny neither read nor write)
device pic x comp-5 (must be zero)
file-handle pic x(4) (Returns a file handle for a successful open)
returning status-code (See section key)

COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_CREATE_FILE", 5, CBL_CREATE_FILE) Create byte stream file
call using file-name pic x(n) (space or null terminated)
access-mode pic x comp-x (1 = read only)
                                (2 = write only (deny must be 0)
                                (3 = read / write)
deny-mode pic x comp-x (0 = deny both read & write exclusive)
                                (1 = deny write)
                                (2 = deny read)
                                (3 = deny neither read nor write)
device pic x comp-x (must be zero) (reserved for future use)
file-handle pic x(4) (Returns a file handle for a successful open)
returning status-code (See section key)

COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_READ_FILE", 5, CBL_READ_FILE) Read byte stream file
call using file-handle pic x(4) (File handle returned when file opened)
file-offset pic x(8) comp-x (offset in the file at which to read) (Max limit X'00FFFFFF') ??
byte-count pic x(4) comp-x (number of bytes to read. Poss limit x'00FFFFFF')
flags pic x comp-x (0 = standard read, 128 = current file size returned in the
                                file-offset field)
buffer pic x(n)
returning status-code (See section key)
on exit: file-offset (Current file size on return if flags = 128 on entry)
buffer pic x(n) (Buffer into which bytes are read. IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY
TO ENSURE THAT THE BUFFER IS LARGE ENOUGH TO HOLD ALL BYTES TO BE
READ)

Remarks: See Introduction to Byte Stream Routines as well as example code taken
from old version of CobXref

COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_WRITE_FILE", 5, CBL_WRITE_FILE) Write byte stream file

```

```

call using file-handle pic x(4) (File handle returned when file opened)
           file-offset pic x(8) comp-x (offset in the file at which to write) (Max limit X'00FFFFFFF') ??
           byte-count pic x(4) comp-x (number of bytes to write. Poss limit x'00FFFF')
                                           Putting a value of zero here causes file to be truncated or extended
                                           to the size specified in file-offset)
           flags pic x comp-x (0 = standard write)
           buffer pic x(n) (Buffer into which bytes are written from)
returning status-code (See section key)

Remarks: See Introduction to Byte Stream Routines as well as example code taken
          from old version of CobXref

COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_CLOSE_FILE", 1, CBL_CLOSE_FILE) Close byte stream file
call using file-handle pic x(4) on entry the file handle returned when file opened
returning status-code (see section key)

COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_FLUSH_FILE", 1, CBL_FLUSH_FILE) ???????????????
call using ?????? pic ????? No Idea

COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_DELETE_FILE", 1, CBL_DELETE_FILE) Delete File
call using file-name pic x(n) file to delete terminated by space can contain path.
returning status-code

COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_COPY_FILE", 2, CBL_COPY_FILE) Copy file
call using file-name1 (pic x(n)) File to copy, can contain path terminated by space
           file-name2 (pic x(n)) File name of new file, can contain path terminated by space.
returning status-code (see section key)
           For both, if no path current directory is assumed.

COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_CHECK_FILE_EXIST", 2, CBL_CHECK_FILE_EXIST) Check if file exists & return details if it does
Call using file-name
           file-details
returning status-code

file-name pic x(n)
file-details Group item defined as:
file-size pic x(8) comp-x
file-date
day pic x comp-x
month pic x comp-x
year pic xx comp-x

file-time
hours pic x comp-x
minutes pic x comp-x
seconds pic x comp-x
hundredths pic x comp-x
status-code see section key

On entry: file-name The file to look for. name can contain path and is terminated by a space
           If no path given current directory is assumed.
On Exit: file-size Size if file in bytes
         file-date Date the file was created
         file-time Time file created

COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_RENAME_FILE", 2, CBL_RENAME_FILE) Rename file
call using old-file-name pic x(n) (file to rename can contain path terminated by space)
           new-file-name pic x(n) (new file name as above path must be same)
returning status-code (see section key)

COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_GET_CURRENT_DIR", 3, CBL_GET_CURRENT_DIR) Get details of current directory
call using ??? pic x(n) ???
           ??? pic x(n) ???
returning status-code (see section key)

COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_CHANGE_DIR", 1, CBL_CHANGE_DIR) Change current directory
Call using path-name pic x(n) (relative or absolute terminated by x'00')
returning status-code (see section key)

COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_CREATE_DIR", 1, CBL_CREATE_DIR) Create directory
Call using path-name pic x(n) (relative or absolute path-name terminate by x'00')
returning status-code (see section key)

COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_DELETE_DIR", 1, CBL_DELETE_DIR) Delete directory
Call using path-name pic x(n) (relative or absolute name terminated by space or null [x'00'])
returning status-code (see section key)

COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_AND", 3, CBL_AND) logical AND
Call using source (Any data item)
           target (Any data item)
           by value length (numeric literal or pic x(4) comp-5)
returning status-code (see section key)

COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_OR", 3, CBL_OR) logical OR
call using source (Any data item)
           target (Any data item)
           by value length (numeric literal or pic x(4) comp-5)
returning status-code (see section key)

COB_SYSTEM_GEN ("CBL_NOR", 3, CBL_NOR) Logical Not OR ?
Call using source (Any data item)

```



```

000100 Identification division.
000200 program-id.          cobxref.
...
...
104000 01 File-Handle-Tables.
104100    03 filler          occurs 0 to 99
104200                                depending on Fht-Table-Size.
104300    05 Fht-File-Handle pic x(4).
104400    05 Fht-File-Offset pic x(8)      comp-x value zero.
104500    05 Fht-File-Size  pic x(8)      comp-x value zero.
104600    05 Fht-Block-Offset pic x(8)    comp-x value zero.
104700    05 Fht-Byte-Count  pic x(4)    comp-x value 4096.
104800    05 Fht-CopyRefNo2  pic 9(6)     value zero.
104900    05 Fht-Pointer     pic s9(5)    comp  value zero.
105000    05 Fht-Copy-Line-End pic s9(5)  comp  value zero.
105100    05 Fht-Copy-Words  pic s9(5)    comp  value zero.
105200    05 Fht-sw-Eof      pic 9        value zero.
105300    88 Fht-Eof        value 1.
105400    05 Fht-Current-Rec pic x(160)   value spaces.
105500    05 Fht-File-Name  pic x(256).
105600    05 Fht-Buffer     pic x(4097).
105700    05 filler        pic x          value x"FF".
105800 01 Fht-Table-Size  pic s9(5) comp value zero.
105900*
106000 01 Cbl-File-Fields.
106100    03 Cbl-File-name  pic x(256).
106200    03 Cbl-Access-Mode pic x        comp-x value 1.
106300    03 Cbl-Deny-Mode  pic x        comp-x value 3.
106400    03 Cbl-Device     pic x        comp-x value zero.
106500    03 Cbl-Flags      pic x        comp-x value zero.
106600    03 Cbl-File-Handle pic x(4)    value zero.
106700    03 Cbl-File-Offset pic x(8)    comp-x value zero.
106800*
106900 01 Cbl-File-Details.
107000    03 Cbl-File-Size  pic x(8)     comp-x value zero.
107100    03 Cbl-File-Date.
107200    05 Cbl-File-Day   pic x        comp-x value zero.
107300    05 Cbl-File-Mth  pic x        comp-x value zero.
107400    05 Cbl-File-Year  pic x        comp-x value zero.
107500    03 Cbl-File-time.
107600    05 Cbl-File-Hour  pic x        comp-x value zero.
107700    05 Cbl-File-Min  pic x        comp-x value zero.
107800    05 Cbl-File-Sec  pic x        comp-x value zero.
107900    05 Cbl-File-Hund pic x        comp-x value zero.
...
...
*****
*
* zz300, zz400, zz500 & zz600 all relate to copy files/libraries
* via the COPY verb

```

```

* As it is hoped to only use the filename.i via Open-Cobol
* then this lot can be killed off as well as all the other related
* code.
* NOTE that the COPY verb is implemented in a very basic way despite
* the fact that this code allows for 99 levels of COPY, eg, there is
* NO replacing so hopefully I can remove it all after primary testing
* When it is built into cobc
*
356400 zz300-Open-File.
356500*****
356600* Open a Copy file using CBL-OPEN-File
356700* filename is using Cbl-File-name
356800*
356900     move     zero to Return-Code.
357000     if      Fht-Table-Size > 99
357100         move 24 to Return-Code
357200         display Msg11
357300         go to zz300-Exit.
357400*
357500* set up New entry in File Table
357600*
357700     add      1 to Fht-Table-Size.
357800     move     Fht-Table-Size to e.
357900     move     zeroes to Fht-File-OffSet (e) Fht-File-Size (e)
358000             Fht-File-Handle (e) Fht-Block-OffSet (e)
358100             Fht-CopyRefNo2 (e) Fht-sw-Eof (e)
358200             Fht-Copy-Line-End (e) Fht-Copy-Words (e).
358300     move     4096 to Fht-Byte-Count (e).
358400     move     spaces to Fht-Current-Rec (e).
358500     move     1      to Fht-pointer (e).
358600*
358700     perform  zz400-Check-File-Exists thru zz400-Exit.
358800     if      Return-Code not = zero
358900         subtract 1 from Fht-Table-Size
359000         go to zz300-Exit.
359100*
359200     move     Fht-Table-Size to e.
359300     move     Cbl-File-Size to Fht-File-Size (e).
359400     move     Cbl-File-name to Fht-File-Name (e).
359500     move     1      to Cbl-Access-Mode
359600             Cbl-Deny-Mode.
359700     move     zero to Cbl-Device
359800             Cbl-File-Handle.
359900     move     zero to Return-Code.
360000     call    "CBL_OPEN_FILE" using
360100             Cbl-File-name
360200             Cbl-Access-Mode
360300             Cbl-Deny-Mode
360400             Cbl-Device
360500             Cbl-File-Handle.

```

```

360600     if      Return-Code not = zero
360700     display Msg12 cbl-File-name
360800     display "          This should not happen here"
360900     subtract 1 from Fht-Table-Size
361000     go to zz300-exit.
361100*
361200     move     Cbl-File-Handle to Fht-File-Handle (e).
361300     add      1 to Copy-Depth.
361400     move     1 to sw-Copy.
361500     move     zero to Fht-CopyRefNo2 (e)
361600     Return-Code.
362000 zz300-Exit.
362100     exit.
362200/
362300 zz400-Check-File-Exists.
362400*
362500* check for correct filename and extention taken from COPY verb
362600*
362700* input : wsFoundNewWord2
362800* Output : Return-Code = 0 : Cbl-File-Details & Cbl-File-name
362900*          Return-Code = 25 : failed fn in wsFoundNewWord2
363000*
363100     move     zero to e.
363200     inspect wsFoundNewWord2 tallying e for all ".".
363300     if      e not zero
363400     go to zz400-Try1.
363500     perform varying a from 1 by 1 until Return-Code = zero
363600     move     1 to e
363700     move     spaces to Cbl-File-name
363800     string wsFoundNewWord2 delimited by space
363900     into Cbl-File-name pointer e
364000     string File-Ext (a) delimited by size
364100     into Cbl-File-name pointer e
364200     move     zero to Return-Code
364300     call    "CBL_CHECK_FILE_EXIST" using
364400     Cbl-File-name
364500     Cbl-File-Details
364600     end-call
364700     if      Return-Code not = zero
364800     and a = 7
364900     exit perform
365000     end-if
365100     end-perform
365200     if      Return-Code not = zero
365300     display "zz400A Check File exist err=" Return-Code
365400     display Msg13 wsFoundNewWord2
365500     move 25 to Return-Code
365600     go to zz400-Exit.
365700* ok file now found
365900     go      to zz400-Exit.

```

```
366000*
366100 zz400-Try1.
366200     move      wsFoundNewWord2 to Cbl-File-name.
366300     move      zero to Return-Code.
366400     call      "CBL_CHECK_FILE_EXIST" using
366500             Cbl-File-name
366600             Cbl-File-Details.
366700     if        Return-Code not = zero
366800             move function lower-case (wsFoundNewWord2) to
366900                 Cbl-File-name
367000             go to zz400-Try2.
367100* ok file now found
367200     go        to zz400-exit.
367300*
367400 zz400-Try2.
367500     move      zero to Return-Code.
367600     call      "CBL_CHECK_FILE_EXIST" using
367700             Cbl-File-name
367800             Cbl-File-Details.
367900     if        Return-Code not = zero
368000             display "zz400C Check File exist err=" Return-Code
368100             display Msg13 wsFoundNewWord2 " or " Cbl-File-name
368200             move 25 to Return-Code
368300             go to zz400-Exit.
368400*
368500* ok file now found
368600*
368700 zz400-Exit.
368800     exit.
368900/
369000 zz500-Close-File.
369100     call      "CBL_CLOSE_FILE" using
369200             Fht-File-Handle (Fht-Table-Size).
369300     if        Return-Code not = zero
369400             display Msg14
369500                 Cbl-File-name.
369800     subtract 1 from Fht-Table-Size.
369900*
370000     if        Fht-Table-Size = zero
370100             move zero to sw-Copy.
370200     subtract 1 from Copy-Depth.
370300     move      zero to Return-Code.
370400     go        to zz500-Exit.
370500*
370600 zz500-Exit.
370700     exit.
370800/
370900 zz600-Read-File.
371000*****
371100* called using file-handle
```

```

371200* returning CopySourceRecin1 size 160 chars
371300* If buffer empty read a block
371400* and regardless, move record terminated by x"0a"
371500* to Fht-Current-Rec (Fht-Table-Size)
371600*
371700 if Fht-Eof (Fht-Table-Size)
371800 perform zz500-Close-File
371900 go to zz600-Exit.
372000*
372100 if Fht-File-OffSet (Fht-Table-Size) = zero
372200 and Fht-Block-OffSet (Fht-Table-Size) = zero
372300 perform zz600-Read-A-Block
372400 go to zz600-Get-A-Record.
372500*
372600 zz600-Get-A-Record.
372700*****
372800* Now to extract a record from buffer and if needed read a block
372900* then extract
373000*
373100 move spaces to Fht-Current-Rec (Fht-Table-Size).
373200 add 1 to Fht-Block-OffSet (Fht-Table-Size) giving g.
373300*
373400* note size is buffer size + 2
373500*
373600 unstring Fht-Buffer (Fht-Table-Size) (1:4097)
373700 delimited by x"0A" or x"FF"
373800 into Fht-Current-Rec (Fht-Table-Size)
373900 delimiter Word-Delimit3
374000 pointer g.
374100*
374200* Get next Block of data ?
374300*
374400 if Word-Delimit3 = x"FF"
374500 and g not < 4097
374600 add Fht-Block-OffSet (Fht-Table-Size)
374700 to Fht-File-OffSet (Fht-Table-Size)
374800 perform zz600-Read-A-Block
374900 go to zz600-Get-A-Record.
375000* EOF?
375100 move 1 to Fht-Pointer (Fht-Table-Size).
375200 if Word-Delimit3 = x"FF"
375300 move 1 to Fht-sw-Eof (Fht-Table-Size)
375400 go to zz600-Exit.
375500* Now so tidy up
375600 subtract 1 from g giving Fht-Block-OffSet (Fht-Table-Size).
375700 go to zz600-exit.
375800*
375900 zz600-Read-A-Block.
*****
376000 move all x"FF" to Fht-Buffer (Fht-Table-Size).

```



```

376100*      if          Fht-File-Size (Fht-Table-Size) < 4096 and not = zero
376200*          move Fht-File-Size (Fht-Table-Size)
376300*          to Fht-Byte-Count (Fht-Table-Size).
376400      call      "CBL_READ_FILE" using
376500          Fht-File-Handle (Fht-Table-Size)
376600          Fht-File-OffSet (Fht-Table-Size)
376700          Fht-Byte-Count (Fht-Table-Size)
376800          Cbl-Flags
376900          Fht-Buffer (Fht-Table-Size).
377000      if          Return-Code not = zero
377100          display Msg15 Return-Code
377200          go to zz600-Exit.
377300* just in case all ff does not work
377400      move      x"FF" to Fht-Buffer (Fht-Table-Size) (4097:1).
377500      move      zero to Fht-Block-OffSet (Fht-Table-Size).
377600      subtract  Fht-Byte-Count (Fht-Table-Size)
377700          from Fht-File-Size (Fht-Table-Size).
377800 zz600-Exit.
377900      exit.

```

---

## 4.6 What are the XF4, XF5, and X91 routines?

From <http://opencobol.org>

The CALL's X"F4", X"F5", X"91" are from MF.  
 You can find them in the online MF doc under  
 Library Routines.

F4/F5 are for packing/unpacking bits from/to bytes.  
 91 is a multi-use call. Implemented are the subfunctions  
 get/set cobol switches (11, 12) and get number of call params (16).

Roger

Use

Listing 4.174: OpenCOBOL

```

CALL X"F4" USING
        BYTE-VAR
        ARRAY-VAR
        RETURNING STATUS-VAR

```

---

to pack the last bit of each byte in the 8 byte ARRAY-VAR into corresponding bits of the 1 byte BYTE-VAR.

The X"F5" routine takes the eight bits of byte and moves them to the corresponding occurrence within array.

X"91" is a multi-function routine.

Listing 4.175: OpenCOBOL

```

ALL X"91" USING
      RESULT-VAR
      FUNCTION-NUM
      PARAMETER-VAR
      RETURNING STATUS-VAR

```

---

As mentioned by Roger, OpenCOBOL supports FUNCTION-NUM of 11, 12 and 16.

11 and 12 get and set the on off status of the 8 (eight) run-time OpenCOBOL switches definable in the SPECIAL-NAMES paragraph. 16 returns the number of call parameters given to the current module.

## 4.7 What is CBL-OC-NANOSLEEP OpenCOBOL library routine?

CBL\_OC\_NANOSLEEP allows (upto) nanosecond sleep timing. It accepts a 64 bit integer value which may be in character or numeric data forms.

Listing 4.176: OpenCOBOL

```

CALL "CBL_OC_NANOSLEEP" USING 500000000
      RETURNING STATUS
END-CALL

```

---

Would wait one-half second. *It may be easier to grok if the source code uses string catenation; "500" & "000000" for example.*

## 4.8 How do you use C-JUSTIFY?

The C-JUSTIFY sub program can centre, or justify strings left or right.

Listing 4.177: OpenCOBOL

```

OCOBOL >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
*> *****
*> Author:      Brian Tiffin
*> Date:        01-Jul-2008
*> Purpose:     Demonstrate the usage of OpenCOBOL call library
*>              C$JUSTIFY, C$TOUPPER, C$TOLOWER
*> Tectonics:   Using OC1.1 post 02-Jul-2008, cobc -x -Wall
*> History:     02-Jul-2008, updated to remove warnings
*> *****
identification division.
program-id. justify.

environment division.
configuration section.

```

```

source-computer. IBMPC.
object-computer. IBMPC.

data division.
WORKING-STORAGE section.
01 source-str          pic x(80)
   value "      this is a test of the internal voice communication
- " system".
01 just-str           pic x(80).
01 justification      pic x.
01 result             pic s9(9) comp-5.

procedure division.
move source-str to just-str.

*> Left justification
move "L" to justification.
perform demonstrate-justification.

*> case change to upper, demonstrate LENGTH verb
call "C$TOUPPER" using just-str
                        by value function length( just-str )
                        returning result
end-call.

*> Centre
move "C" to justification.
perform demonstrate-justification.

*> case change to lower
call "C$TOLOWER" using just-str
                        by value 80
                        returning result
end-call.

*> Right, default if no second argument
call "C$JUSTIFY" using just-str
                        returning result
end-call.
move "R" to justification.
perform show-justification.

exit program.
stop run.

*> *****
demonstrate-justification.
call "C$JUSTIFY" using just-str
                        justification
                        returning result

```

```

end-call
if result not equal 0 then
    display "Problem: " result end-display
    stop run
end-if
perform show-justification
.

*> *****
show-justification.
evaluate justification
    when "L"    display "Left justify" end-display
    when "C"    display "Centred (in UPPERCASE)" end-display
    when other display "Right justify" end-display
end-evaluate
display "Source:    |" source-str "|" end-display
display "Justified:|" just-str "|" end-display
display space end-display
.

```

---

#### Producing:

```

$ ./justify
Left justify
Source:    |    this is a test of the internal voice communication system
Justified: |this is a test of the internal voice communication system

Centred (in UPPERCASE)
Source:    |    this is a test of the internal voice communication system
Justified: |          THIS IS A TEST OF THE INTERNAL VOICE COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

Right justify
Source:    |    this is a test of the internal voice communication system
Justified: |          this is a test of the internal voice communication system

```

## Chapter 5

# Features and extensions

### 5.1 How do I use OpenCOBOL for CGI?

OpenCOBOL is more than capable of being a web server backend tool. One of the tricks is assigning an input stream to KEYBOARD when you need to get at POST data. Another is using the ACCEPT var FROM ENVIRONMENT feature.

Listing 5.1: OpenCOBOL CGI handling

```
OCOBOL >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
*****
* Author:    Brian Tiffin, Francois Hiniger
* Date:      30-Aug-2008
* Purpose:   Display the CGI environment space
* Tectonics: cobc -x cgienv.cob
*   Move cgienv to the cgi-bin directory as cgienv.cgi
*   browse http://localhost/cgi-bin/cgienv.cgi or cgienvform.html
*****
identification division.
program-id. cgienv.

environment division.
input-output section.
file-control.
    select webinput assign to KEYBOARD.

data division.
file section.
fd webinput.
    01 postchunk          pic x(1024).

working-storage section.
78 name-count            value 34.
01 newline               pic x value x'0a'.
01 name-index            pic 99 usage comp-5.
```

```

01 value-string    pic x(256).
01 environment-names.
  02 name-strings.
    03 filler      pic x(20) value 'AUTH_TYPE' .
    03 filler      pic x(20) value 'CONTENT_LENGTH' .
    03 filler      pic x(20) value 'CONTENT_TYPE' .
    03 filler      pic x(20) value 'DOCUMENT_ROOT' .
    03 filler      pic x(20) value 'GATEWAY_INTERFACE' .
    03 filler      pic x(20) value 'HTTP_ACCEPT' .
    03 filler      pic x(20) value 'HTTP_ACCEPT_CHARSET' .
    03 filler      pic x(20) value 'HTTP_ACCEPT_ENCODING' .
    03 filler      pic x(20) value 'HTTP_ACCEPT_LANGUAGE' .
    03 filler      pic x(20) value 'HTTP_COOKIE' .
    03 filler      pic x(20) value 'HTTP_CONNECTION' .
    03 filler      pic x(20) value 'HTTP_HOST' .
    03 filler      pic x(20) value 'HTTP_REFERER' .
    03 filler      pic x(20) value 'HTTP_USER_AGENT' .
    03 filler      pic x(20) value 'LIB_PATH' .
    03 filler      pic x(20) value 'PATH' .
    03 filler      pic x(20) value 'PATH_INFO' .
    03 filler      pic x(20) value 'PATH_TRANSLATED' .
    03 filler      pic x(20) value 'QUERY_STRING' .
    03 filler      pic x(20) value 'REMOTE_ADDR' .
    03 filler      pic x(20) value 'REMOTE_HOST' .
    03 filler      pic x(20) value 'REMOTE_IDENT' .
    03 filler      pic x(20) value 'REMOTE_PORT' .
    03 filler      pic x(20) value 'REQUEST_METHOD' .
    03 filler      pic x(20) value 'REQUEST_URI' .
    03 filler      pic x(20) value 'SCRIPT_FILENAME' .
    03 filler      pic x(20) value 'SCRIPT_NAME' .
    03 filler      pic x(20) value 'SERVER_ADDR' .
    03 filler      pic x(20) value 'SERVER_ADMIN' .
    03 filler      pic x(20) value 'SERVER_NAME' .
    03 filler      pic x(20) value 'SERVER_PORT' .
    03 filler      pic x(20) value 'SERVER_PROTOCOL' .
    03 filler      pic x(20) value 'SERVER_SIGNATURE' .
    03 filler      pic x(20) value 'SERVER_SOFTWARE' .
  02 filler redefines name-strings.
    03 name-string pic x(20) occurs name-count times.

```

```

procedure division.

```

```

* Always send out the Content-type before any other IO

```

```

display
  "Content-type: text/html"
  newline
end-display.
display
  "<html><body>"

```

```

end-display.
display
    "<h3>CGI environment with OpenCOBOL</h3>"
end-display.
display
    '<a href="/cgienvform.html">To cgienvform.html</a>'
    "<p><table>"
end-display.
* Accept and display some of the known CGI environment values
perform varying name-index from 1 by 1
    until name-index > name-count
        accept value-string from environment
            name-string(name-index)
        end-accept
        display
            "<tr><td>"
            name-string(name-index)
            ": </td><td>"
            function trim (value-string trailing)
            "</td></tr>"
        end-display
    if (name-string(name-index) = "REQUEST_METHOD")
        and (value-string = "POST")
            open input webinput
            read webinput
                at end move spaces to postchunk
            end-read
            close webinput
            display
                '<tr><td align="right">'
                "First chunk of POST:</td><td>"
                postchunk(1:72)
                "</td></tr>"
            end-display
        end-if
    end-perform.
display "</table></p></body></html>" end-display.
COOL goback.

```

Once compiled and placed in an appropriate cgi-bin directory of your web server, a simple form can be used to try the example.

```
cgienvform.html
```

Listing 5.2: OpenCOBOL cgienv form

```

<html><head><title>OpenCOBOL sample CGI form</title></head>
<body>
<h3>OpenCOBOL sample CGI form</h3>
<form action="http://localhost/cgi-bin/cgienv.cgi" method="post">
  <p>
    Text: <input type="text" name="text"><br>

```

```

Password: <input type="password" name="password"><br>
Checkbox: <input type="checkbox" name="checkbox"><br>
<input type="radio" name="radio" value="ONE"> One<br>
<input type="radio" name="radio" value="TWO"> Two<br>
<input type="submit" value="Send"> <input type="reset">
</p>
</form>
</body>
</html>

```

---

### 5.1.1 AJAX

From a post on [opencobol.org](http://opencobol.org) by DamonH:

As promised, here is the html for AJAX to use the `cgenv.cgi` example from  
 You need not change anything with the cobol code.

ajax.html

Listing 5.3: OpenCOBOL `cgenv` form

```

<html>
<head>
<title>Simple Ajax Example</title>
<script language="Javascript">
function xmlhttpPost(strURL) {
    var xmlhttpReq = false;
    var self = this;
    // Mozilla/Safari
    if (window.XMLHttpRequest) {
        self.xmlhttpReq = new XMLHttpRequest();
    }
    // IE
    else if (window.ActiveXObject) {
        self.xmlhttpReq = new ActiveXObject("Microsoft.XMLHTTP");
    }
    self.xmlhttpReq.open('POST', strURL, true);
    self.xmlhttpReq.setRequestHeader('Content-Type', 'application/x-www-form-urlencoded');
    self.xmlhttpReq.onreadystatechange = function() {
        if (self.xmlhttpReq.readyState == 4) {
            updatepage(self.xmlhttpReq.responseText);
        }
    }
    self.xmlhttpReq.send(getquerystring());
}

function getquerystring() {
    var form      = document.forms['f1'];
    var word = form.word.value;
    qstr = 'w=' + escape(word); // NOTE: no '?' before querystring

```



```

    return qstr;
}

function updatepage(str){
    document.getElementById("result").innerHTML = str;
}
</script>
</head>
<body>
<form name="f1">
  <p>word: <input name="word" type="text">
  <input value="Go" type="button" onclick='javascript:xmlhttpPost("/cgi-bin/cgienv.cgi")'></p>
  <div id="result"></div>
</form>
</body>
</html>

```

---

A quick screenshot from the OpenCOBOL called Vala WebKit sample. **Some-times, just wow.**

## 5.2 What is ocdoc?

**\*\*ocdoc\*\*** is a small utility used to annotate sample programs and to support generation of Usage Documentation using COBOL sourced ReStructuredText extract lines.

Listing 5.4: OpenCOBOL ocdoc.cob

```

OCOBOL >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
  >> *****
  >>* =====
  >>* ocdoc.cob usage guide
  >>* =====
  >>* .. sidebar:: Table of Contents
  >>*
  >>* .. contents:: :local:
  >>*
  >>* :Author:    Brian Tiffin
  >>* :Date:      30-Sep-2008
  >>* :Rights:    Copyright (c) 2008, Brian Tiffin.
  >>*             GNU FDL License.
  >>* :Purpose:   Extract usage document lines from COBOL sources.
  >>*             Using OpenCOBOL 1.1pr. OpenCOBOL is tasty.
  >>* :Tectonics: cobc -x ocdoc.cob
  >>* :Docgen:    $ ./ocdoc ocdoc.cob ocdoc.rst ocdoc.html skin.css
  >> *****
  >>*
  >>* -----
  >>* Command line
  >>* -----

```

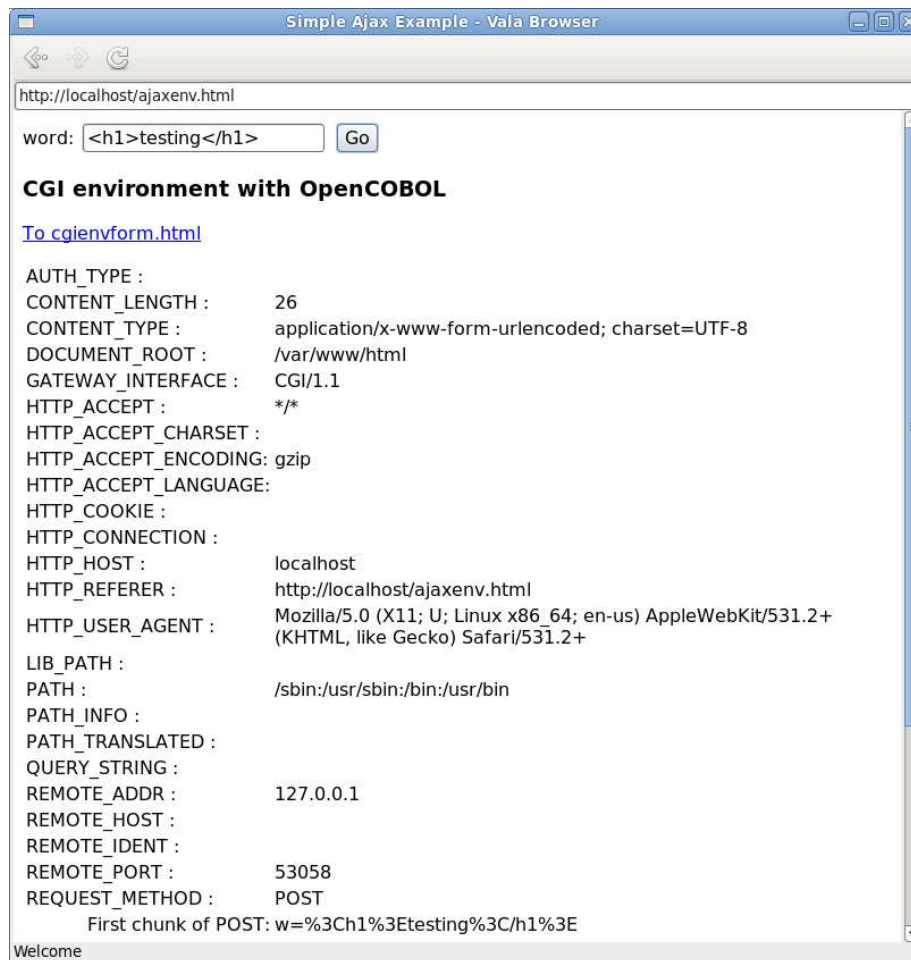


Figure 5.1: OpenCOBOL linked through Vala to WebKit browsing OpenCOBOL responding to CGI/AJAX

```

*><* *ocdoc* runs in two forms.
*><*
*><* Without arguments, *ocdoc* will act as a pipe filter.
*><* Reading from standard in and writing the extract to standard
*><+ out.
*><*
*><* The *ocdoc* command also takes an input file, an extract
*><+ filename, an optional result file (with optional
*><+ stylesheet) and a verbosity option *-v* or a
*><+ special *-fixed* flag (to force skipping sequence numbers).
*><* If a result file is given, ocdoc will automatically
*><* run an *rst2html* command using the SYSTEM service.

```

```

*><*
*><* Due to an overly simplistic argument handler, you can only
*><+ turn on verbosity or -fixed when using all four filenames.
*><*
*><* Examples::
*><*
*><* $ cat ocdoc.cob | ocdoc >ocdoc.rst
*><* $ ./ocdoc ocdoc.cob ocdoc.rst
*><* $ ./ocdoc ocdoc.cob ocdoc.rst
*><+ ocdoc.html skin.css -fixed
*><* ...
*><* Input : ocdoc.cob
*><* Output : ocdoc.rst
*><* Command: rst2html --stylesheet=skin.css
*><+ ocdoc.rst ocdoc.html
*><*
*><* -----
*><* What is extracted
*><* -----
*><* - Lines that begin with \*><* *ignoring spaces*, are
*><+ extracted.
*><*
*><* - Lines that begin with \*><+ are appended to the
*><+ previous output line. As lines are trimmed of trailing
*><+ spaces, and *ocdoc* removes the space following the
*><+ extract triggers, you may need two spaces after an
*><+ ocdoc append.
*><*
*><* - Lines that begin with \*><[ begin a here document
*><+ with lines that follow extracted as is.
*><*
*><* - Lines that begin with \*><] close a here document.
*><+ Here document start and end lines are excluded from the
*><+ extract.
*><*
*><* -----
*><* Source code
*><* -----
*><* `Download ocdoc.cob
*><+ <http://opencobol.addltocobol.com/ocdoc.cob>`_
*><* `See ocdocseq.cob
*><+ <http://opencobol.addltocobol.com/ocdocseq.html>`_
*><*
*><! This is not extracted. Reminder of how to include source
*><! .. include:: ocdoc.cob
*><! :literal:
*><*
*><* -----
*><* identification division
*><* -----

```

```

*><*
*><* ::
*><*
*><[
  identification division.
  program-id. OCDOC.

  environment division.
  input-output section.
  file-control.
    select standard-input assign to KEYBOARD.
    select standard-output assign to DISPLAY.

    select source-input
    assign to source-name
    organization is line sequential
    .
    select doc-output
    assign to doc-name
    organization is line sequential
    .
*><]
*><*
*><* -----
*><* data division
*><* -----
*><*
*><* ::
*><*
*><[
  data division.
  file section.
  fd standard-input.
    01 stdin-record      pic x(256).
  fd standard-output.
    01 stdout-record    pic x(256).

  fd source-input.
    01 source-record    pic x(256).
  fd doc-output.
    01 doc-record       pic x(256).

  working-storage section.
  01 arguments          pic x(256).
  01 source-name        pic x(256).
  01 doc-name           pic x(256).
  01 result-name       pic x(256).
  01 style-name         pic x(256).
  01 verbosity          pic x(9).
  88 verbose            values "-v" "--v" "-verbose" "--verbose".

```

```

    88 skipseqnum          values "-fix" "-fixed" "--fix" "--fixed".
01  usagehelp             pic x(6).
    88 helping            values "-h" "--h" "-help" "--help".
01  filter-flag          pic x value low-value.
    88 filtering          value high-value.

01  line-count           usage binary-long.
01  line-display        pic z(8)9.

*><]
*><*
*><* Note the conditional test for end of here doc
*><*
*><* ::
*><*
*><[
01  trimmed             pic x(256).
    88 herestart         value "><[".
    88 hereend          value "><]".

01  hereflag            pic x value low-value.
    88 heredoc          value high-value.
    88 herenone         value low-value.

*><]
*><*
*><* Note the here-record adds an ocdoc extract to lines that
*><+ follow.
*><*
*><* ::
*><*
*><[
01  here-record.
    02 filler           pic x(5) value "><* ".
    02 here-data       pic x(251).

01  seq-record.
    02 filler           pic x(7) value " ".
    02 seq-data       pic x(249).

01  doc-buffer          pic x(256).
01  buffer-offset      pic 999 usage comp-5 value 1.
01  buffer-flag        pic x value low-value.
    88 buffer-empty    value low-value.
    88 buffered-output value high-value.

01  counter            pic 999 usage comp-5.
01  len-of-comment     pic 999 usage comp-5.

01  first-part         pic x(8).

```

```

88 special          values "><*" "><+".
88 autodoc          value "><*".
88 autoappend       value "><+".

01 rst-command      pic x(256).
01 result            usage binary-long.
>><]
>><*
>><* -----
>><* procedure division
>><* -----
>><*
>><* ::
>><*
>><[
>> *****
   procedure division.

>><]
>><*
>><* Accept command line arguments.  See if help requested.
>><*
>><* ::
>><*
>><[
   accept arguments from command-line end-accept

   move arguments to usagehelp
   if helping
       display
           "$ ./ocdoc source markover [output [skin [--fixed]]]"
       end-display
       display "$ ./ocdoc" end-display
       display
           " without arguments extracts stdin to stdout"
       end-display
       goback
   end-if

>><]
>><*
>><* Either run as filter or open given files.  Two filenames
>><+ will generate an extract.  Three will run the extract
>><+ through *rst2html* using an optional fourth filename
>><+ as a stylesheet.
>><*
>><* ::
>><*
>><[
>> Determine if this is running as a filter

```

```

if arguments not equal spaces
  unstring arguments delimited by all spaces
    into source-name doc-name
        result-name style-name
        verbosity
  end-unstring

  open input source-input
  open output doc-output
else
  set filtering to true

  open input standard-input
  open output standard-output
end-if

*><]
*><*
*><* Initialize the output buffer, and line count.
*><*
*><* ::
*><*
*><[
  set buffer-empty to true
  move 1 to buffer-offset
  move spaces to doc-record
  move 0 to line-count

*><]
*><*
*><* The read is either from file or stdin. Start with the
*><+ first record.
*><*
*><* ::
*><*
*><[
*> filtering requires different reader loop
  if filtering
    read standard-input
      at end move high-values to stdin-record
    end-read
    move stdin-record to source-record
  else
    read source-input
      at end move high-values to source-record
    end-read
  end-if

*><]
*><*

```

```

*><* The main loop starts here, having done a pre-read to start
*><+ things off.
*><*
*><* ::
*><*
*><[
  perform until source-record = high-values
    add 1 to line-count

*><]
*><*
*><* Small wrinkle if processing fixed form with sequence numbers,
*><+ as the heredoc end marker needs to be recognized
*><+ but we still want the sequence numbers in the heredoc.
*><*
*><* So files processed --fixed play some data shuffling games.
*><*
*><* ::
*><*
*><[
  if skipseqnum
    if heredoc
      move source-record(7 : 248) to trimmed
      move source-record to seq-data
      move seq-record to source-record
    else
      move source-record(7 : 248) to source-record
      move source-record to trimmed
    end-if
  else
    move function trim(source-record leading) to trimmed
  end-if

*><]
*><*
*><* First to check for here doc start and end, setting flag
*><+ if trimmed conditional the heredoc start or heredoc end
*><+ strings.
*><*
*><* ::
*><*
*><[
  if herestart
    set heredoc to true
  end-if

  if hereend
    set herenone to true
  end-if

```



```

*><]
*><*
*><+ Inside the loop, we skip over heredoc entries.
*><+ If it is normal, than check for heredoc and include
*><+ source lines that follow, by prepending the extract tag
*><*
*><* ::
*><*
*><[
    if (not herestart) and (not hereend)
        if heredoc
            move source-record to here-data
            move here-record to trimmed
        end-if

*><]
*><*
*><+ Unstring the line, looking for special tags in the first
*><+ part.
*><*
*><* ::
*><*
*><[
    unstring trimmed delimited by all spaces
        into first-part
        count in counter
    end-unstring

*><]
*><*
*><+ If special, we either buffer or append to buffer
*><*
*><* ::
*><*
*><[
    evaluate true when special
        if autoappend and buffer-empty
            move spaces to doc-record
            move 1 to buffer-offset
        end-if

        if autodoc and buffered-output
            if filtering
                move doc-record to stdout-record
                write stdout-record end-write
            else
                write doc-record end-write
            end-if
        if verbose
            display

```

```

        function trim(doc-record trailing)
        end-display
    end-if
    move spaces to doc-record
    set buffer-empty to true
    move 1 to buffer-offset
end-if

*><]
*><*>
*><*> Skip over where the tag was found plus an extra space.
*><*> Adding 2 skips over the assumed space after a special tag
*><*>
*><*> ::
*><*>
*><*>
*><[

    add 2 to counter
    compute len-of-comment =
        function length(trimmed) - counter
    end-compute

    if len-of-comment > 0
        move trimmed(counter : len-of-comment)
        to doc-buffer
    else
        move spaces to doc-buffer
    end-if

*><]
*><*>
*><*> Buffer the line, either to position 1 or appending to last.
*><*>
*><*> ::
*><*>
*><*>
*><[

    string
        function trim(doc-buffer trailing)
            delimited by size
        into doc-record
        with pointer buffer-offset
        on overflow
            move line-count to line-display
            display
                "*** truncation *** reading line "
            line-display
        end-display
    end-string
    set buffered-output to true
end-evaluate
end-if

```

```

*><]
*><*
*><* Again, we either read the next record from file or stdin.
*><*
*><* ::
*><*
*><[
    if filtering
        read standard-input
            at end move high-values to stdin-record
        end-read
        move stdin-record to source-record
    else
        read source-input
            at end move high-values to source-record
        end-read
    end-if
end-perform

*><]
*><*
*><* We may or may not end up with buffered data
*><*
*><* ::
*><*
*><[
    if buffered-output
        set buffer-empty to true
        move 1 to buffer-offset
        if filtering
            move doc-record to stdout-record
            write stdout-record end-write
        else
            write doc-record end-write
        end-if
        if verbose
            display
                function trim(doc-record trailing)
            end-display
        end-if
        move spaces to doc-record
    end-if

*><]
*><*
*><* Close the OpenCOBOL files
*><*
*><* ::
*><*

```

```

*><[
  if filtering
    close standard-output
    close standard-input
  else
    close doc-output
    close source-input
  end-if

  if verbose
    display "Input : " function trim(source-name) end-display
    display "Output : " function trim(doc-name) end-display
  end-if

*><]
*><*
*><* If we have a result file, use the SYSTEM service to
*><+ generate an HTML file, possibly with stylesheet.
*><*
*><* ::
*><*
*><[
*> pass the extract through a markover, in this case ReST
move spaces to rst-command
if result-name not equal spaces
  if style-name equal spaces
    string
      "rst2html " delimited by size
      doc-name delimited by space
      " " delimited by size
      result-name delimited by space
      into rst-command
    end-string
  else
    string
      "rst2html --stylesheet=" delimited by size
      style-name delimited by space
      " " delimited by size
      doc-name delimited by space
      " " delimited by size
      result-name delimited by space
      into rst-command
    end-string
  end-if

  if verbose
    display
      "Command: "
      function trim(rst-command trailing)
    end-display
  end-if
end-if

```

```

end-if

call "SYSTEM"
    using rst-command
    returning result
end-call

if result not equal zero
    display "HTML generate failed: " result end-display
end-if
end-if

*><]
*><*
*><* And before you know it, we are done.
*><*
*><* ::
*><*
*><[
goback.

end program OCDOC.
*><]
*><*
*><* Don't forget to visit http://opencobol.org
*><*
*><* Cheers
*><*
*><* *Last edit:* 03-Oct-2008

```

---

See ocdoc.html for the output from processing \*ocdoc.cob\* with \*\*ocdoc\*\*.

## 5.3 What is CBL\_OC\_DUMP?

CBL\_OC\_DUMP is somewhat of a community challenge application to allow for runtime data dumps. Multiple postings to <http://opencobol.org> has refined the hex display callable to:

Listing 5.5: OpenCOBOL CBL-OC-DUMP

```

OCOBOL >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
-----
* Authors:   Brian Tiffin, Asger Kjelstrup, human
* Date:      27-Jan-2010
* Purpose:   Hex Dump display
* Tectonics: cobb -c CBL_OC_DUMP.cob
* Usage:    cobb -x program.cob -o CBL_OC_DUMP
*           export OC_DUMP_EXT=1 for explanatory text on dumps
*           (memory address and dump length)

```

```

*          export OC_DUMP_EXT=Y for extended explanatory text
*          (architecture and endian-order)
*-----
identification division.
program-id. CBL_OC_DUMP.
*
ENVIRONMENT      DIVISION.
CONFIGURATION    SECTION.
*
data division.
working-storage section.
77  addr                      usage pointer.
77  addr2addr                  usage pointer.
77  counter                    pic 999999 usage comp-5.
77  byline                      pic 999   usage comp-5.
77  offset                      pic 999999.
01  some                        pic 999   usage comp-5.
88  some-is-printable-iso88591
    values 32 thru 126, 160 thru 255.
88  some-is-printable-ebcdic
    values 64, 65, 74 thru 80, 90 thru 97,
           106 thru 111, 121 thru 127, 129 thru 137, 143,
           145 thru 153, 159, 161 thru 169, 176,
           186 thru 188, 192 thru 201, 208 thru 217, 224,
           226 thru 233, 240 thru 249.
77  high-var                    pic 99   usage comp-5.
77  low-var                      pic 99   usage comp-5.
*
01  char-set                      pic x(06).
88  is-ascii                      value 'ASCII'.
88  is-ebdic                      value 'EBCDIC'.
88  is-unknown                    value '?'.
01  architecture                  pic x(06).
88  is-32-bit                    value '32-bit'.
88  is-64-bit                    value '64-bit'.
01  endian-order                  pic x(10).
88  is-big-endian-no             value 'Little-Big'.
88  is-big-endian-yes           value 'Big-Little'.
*
77  hex-line                      pic x(48).
77  hex-line-pointer              pic 9(02) value 1.
*
77  show                          pic x(16).
77  dots                          pic x value '.'.
77  dump-dots                     pic x.
*
77  hex-digit                      pic x(16) value '0123456789abcdef'.
01  extended-infos                pic x.
88  show-extended-infos          values '1', '2', 'Y', 'y'.
88  show-very-extended-infos     values '2', 'Y', 'y'.

```

```

*
77 len                pic 999999 usage comp-5.
77 len-display       pic 999999.
*
linkage section.
01 buffer            pic x          any length.
77 byte              pic x.
*-----*
procedure division using buffer.
*
MAIN SECTION.
00.
    perform starting-address
*
    perform varying counter from 0 by 16
        until counter >= len
        move counter to offset
        move spaces to hex-line, show
        move '-' to hex-line (24:01)
        move 1 to hex-line-pointer
        perform varying byline from 1 by 1
            until byline > 16
            if (counter + byline) > len
                if byline < 9
                    move space to hex-line (24:01)
                end-if
                inspect show (byline:) replacing all spaces by dots
                exit perform
            else
                move buffer (counter + byline : 1) to byte
                perform calc-hex-value
                if ((some-is-printable-iso88591 and is-ascii) or
                    (some-is-printable-ebcdic and is-ebdic)
                    )
                    move byte to show (byline:1)
                else
                    move dots to show (byline:1)
                end-if
            end-if
        end-perform
        display offset ' ' hex-line ' ' show
        end-display
    end-perform
    display ' '
    end-display
*
    continue.
ex. exit program.
*-----*
CALC-HEX-VALUE SECTION.

```

```

00.
  subtract 1 from function ord(byte) giving some
  end-subtract
  divide some by 16 giving high-var remainder low-var
  end-divide
  string hex-digit (high-var + 1:1)
    hex-digit (low-var + 1:1)
    space
    delimited by size
    into hex-line
    with pointer hex-line-pointer
  end-string
*
  continue.
ex. exit.
-----
STARTING-ADDRESS SECTION.
00.
* Get the length of the transmitted buffer
  CALL 'C$PARAMSIZE' USING 1
  GIVING len
  END-CALL
* If wanted, change the dots to something different than points
  accept dump-dots from environment 'OC_DUMP_DOTS'
  not on exception
  move dump-dots to dots
  end-accept
*
  perform TEST-ASCII
  perform TEST-ENDIAN
  set addr to address of buffer
  set addr2addr to address of addr
*
  if len > 0
* To show hex-address, reverse if Big-Little Endian
  if is-big-endian-yes
    set addr2addr up by LENGTH OF addr
    set addr2addr down by 1
  end-if
  move 1 to hex-line-pointer
  perform varying byline from 1 by 1
    until byline > LENGTH OF addr
    set address of byte to addr2addr
    perform calc-hex-value
    if is-big-endian-yes
      set addr2addr down by 1
    else
      set addr2addr up by 1
    end-if
  end-perform

```



```

        end-if
    *
    * Get and display characteristics and headline
    accept extended-infos from environment 'OC_DUMP_EXT'
    end-accept
    if show-extended-infos
        display ' '
        end-display
        if len > 0
            end-display
            display 'Dump of memory beginning at Hex-address: '
                hex-line (1 : 3 * (byline - 1) )
            end-display
        end-if
        move len to len-display
        display 'Length of memory dump is: ' len-display
        end-display
        if show-very-extended-infos
            perform TEST-64bit
            display 'Program runs in '
                architecture ' architecture.'
                'Char-set is '
                function trim (char-set) '.'
            end-display
            display 'Byte order is ' endian-order
                ' endian.'
            end-display
        end-if
    end-if
    *
    * Do we have anything to dump?
    if len > 0
    * Ensure that the passed size is not too big
        if len > 999998
            move 999998 to len, len-display
            display 'Warning, only the first '
                len-display ' Bytes are shown!'
            end-display
        end-if
        display ' '
        end-display
        display 'Offset '
            'HEX-- -- -- -5 -- -- -- -- 10 '
            '--- -- -- -- 15 -- '
            ', '
            'CHARS----1----5-'
        end-display
    else
        display ' '
        end-display
    
```

```

        display 'Nothing to dump.'
        end-display
    end-if
*
    continue.
ex. exit.
-----
TEST-ASCII SECTION.
*Function: Discover if running Ascii or Ebdic
00.
    evaluate space
        when x'20'
            set is-ascii to true
        when x'40'
            set is-ebdic to true
        when other
            set is-unknown to true
    end-evaluate
*
    continue.
ex. exit.
-----
TEST-64BIT SECTION.
*Function: Discover if running 32/64 bit
00.
* Longer pointers in 64-bit architecture
    if function length (addr) <= 4
        set is-32-bit to true
    else
        set is-64-bit to true
    end-if
*
    continue.
ex. exit.
-----
TEST-ENDIAN SECTION.
00.
* Number-bytes are shuffled in Big-Little endian
    move 128 to byline
    set address of byte to address of byline
    if function ord(byte) > 0
        set is-big-endian-yes to true
    else
        set is-big-endian-no to true
    end-if
*
    continue.
ex. exit.
-----
end program CBL_OC_DUMP.

```

---

Example displays:

Alpha literal Dump

```
Offs  HEX-- -- -- 5- -- -- -- -- 10 -- -- -- -- 15 -- CHARS-----1-----5-
0000  61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 6a 6b 6c 6d 6f 70 71 abcdefghijklmopq
```

```
Offs  HEX-- -- -- 5- -- -- -- -- 10 -- -- -- -- 15 -- CHARS-----1-----5-
```

Numeric Literal Dump: 0

Dump of memory beginning at Hex-address: bf 80 fc e4  
 Program runs in 32-bit architecture. Char-set is ASCII .  
 Byte order is Big-Little endian.

```
Offs  HEX-- -- -- 5- -- -- -- -- 10 -- -- -- -- 15 -- CHARS-----1-----5-
```

### 5.3.1 Update to OC\_CBL\_DUMP

human posted a new version that displays the dump upon SYSERR. Goes to

\*Edit 19-Oct-2010: Put all dump-outputs to syserr. Removed unused paragraphs and minor beauty changes.\*

Listing 5.6: OpenCOBOL

```
OCOBOL >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
*-----*
* Authors:   Brian Tiffin, Asger Kjelstrup, Simon Sobisch
* Date:      19-Oct-2010
* Purpose:   Hex Dump display
* Tectonics: cobc -c CBL_OC_DUMP.cob
*   Usage:  export OC_DUMP_EXT=1 for explanatory text on dumps
*           (memory address and dump length)
*           export OC_DUMP_EXT=Y for extended explanatory text
*           (architecture and endian-order)
*-----*
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID. CBL_OC_DUMP.
*
ENVIRONMENT      DIVISION.
CONFIGURATION    SECTION.
*
DATA DIVISION.
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
77  addr                usage pointer.
77  addr2addr           usage pointer.
77  counter             pic 999999 usage comp-5.
77  byline              pic 999   usage comp-5.
```

```

77 offset                pic 999999.
01 some                  pic 999  usage comp-5.
88 some-is-printable-iso88591
   values 32 thru 126, 160 thru 255.
88 some-is-printable-ebcdic
   values 64, 65, 74 thru 80, 90 thru 97,
           106 thru 111, 121 thru 127, 129 thru 137, 143,
           145 thru 153, 159, 161 thru 169, 176,
           186 thru 188, 192 thru 201, 208 thru 217, 224,
           226 thru 233, 240 thru 249.
77 high-var              pic 99  usage comp-5.
77 low-var               pic 99  usage comp-5.
*
01 char-set              pic x(06).
88 is-ascii              value 'ASCII'.
88 is-ebdic              value 'EBCDIC'.
88 is-unknown            value '?'.
01 architecture         pic x(06).
88 is-32-bit             value '32-bit'.
88 is-64-bit             value '64-bit'.
01 endian-order         pic x(10).
88 is-big-endian-no     value 'Little-Big'.
88 is-big-endian-yes    value 'Big-Little'.
*
77 hex-line              pic x(48).
77 hex-line-pointer     pic 9(02) value 1.
*
77 show                  pic x(16).
77 dots                  pic x value '..'.
77 dump-dots            pic x.
*
77 hex-digit            pic x(16) value '0123456789abcdef'.
01 extended-infos       pic x.
88 show-extended-infos  values '1', '2', 'Y', 'y'.
88 show-very-extended-infos values '2', 'Y', 'y'.
*
77 len                  pic 999999 usage comp-5.
77 len-display          pic 999999.
*
LINKAGE SECTION.
01 buffer                pic x      any length.
77 byte                  pic x.
*-----*
PROCEDURE DIVISION USING buffer.
*
*MAIN SECTION.
*00.
   perform starting-address
*
   perform varying counter from 0 by 16

```

```

        until counter >= len
move counter to offset
move spaces to hex-line, show
move '-' to hex-line (24:01)
move 1 to hex-line-pointer
perform varying byline from 1 by 1
        until byline > 16
if (counter + byline) > len
if byline < 9
        move space to hex-line (24:01)
end-if
inspect show (byline:) replacing all spaces by dots
exit perform
else
        move buffer (counter + byline : 1) to byte
perform calc-hex-value
if ((some-is-printable-iso88591 and is-ascii) or
    (some-is-printable-ebcdic and is-ebdic)
)
        move byte to show (byline:1)
else
        move dots to show (byline:1)
end-if
end-if
end-perform
display offset ' ' hex-line ' ' show
        upon SYSERR
end-display
end-perform
display ' '
        upon SYSERR
end-display
*
exit program.
*-----
CALC-HEX-VALUE SECTION.
*00.
subtract 1 from function ord(byte) giving some
end-subtract
divide some by 16 giving high-var remainder low-var
end-divide
string hex-digit (high-var + 1:1)
        hex-digit (low-var + 1:1)
space
delimited by size
into hex-line
with pointer hex-line-pointer
end-string
*
exit section.

```

```

*-----
STARTING-ADDRESS SECTION.
*00.
* Get the length of the transmitted buffer
  CALL 'C$PARAMSIZE' USING 1
  GIVING len
  END-CALL
* If wanted, change the dots to something different than points
  accept dump-dots from environment 'OC_DUMP_DOTS'
  not on exception
  move dump-dots to dots
  end-accept
*
  perform TEST-ASCII
  perform TEST-ENDIAN
  set addr      to address of buffer
  set addr2addr to address of addr
*
  if len > 0
* To show hex-address, reverse if Big-Little Endian
  if is-big-endian-yes
    set addr2addr up   by LENGTH OF addr
    set addr2addr down by 1
  end-if
  move 1 to hex-line-pointer
  perform varying byline from 1 by 1
    until byline > LENGTH OF addr
    set address of byte to addr2addr
    perform calc-hex-value
    if is-big-endian-yes
      set addr2addr down by 1
    else
      set addr2addr up   by 1
    end-if
  end-perform
  end-if
*
* Get and display characteristics and headline
  accept extended-infos from environment 'OC_DUMP_EXT'
  end-accept
  if show-extended-infos
    display ' '
    upon SYSERR
  end-display
  if len > 0
    display 'Dump of memory beginning at Hex-address: '
    hex-line (1 : 3 * (byline - 1) )
    upon SYSERR
  end-display
  end-if

```

```

move len to len-display
display 'Length of memory dump is: ' len-display
      upon SYSERR
end-display
if show-very-extended-infos
  perform TEST-64bit
  display 'Program runs in '
        architecture ' architecture. '
        'Char-set is '
        function trim (char-set) '.'
        upon SYSERR
  end-display
  display 'Byte order is ' endian-order
        ' endian.'
        upon SYSERR
  end-display
end-if
end-if
*
* Do we have anything to dump?
  if len > 0
* Ensure that the passed size is not too big
    if len > 999998
      move 999998 to len, len-display
      display 'Warning, only the first '
            len-display ' Bytes are shown!'
            upon SYSERR
    end-display
  end-if
  display ' '
        upon SYSERR
  end-display
  display 'Offset '
        'HEX-- -- -- -5 -- -- -- -- 10 '
        '-- -- -- -- 15 -- '
        ', '
        'CHARS----1----5-'
        upon SYSERR
  end-display
else
  display ' '
        upon SYSERR
  end-display
  display 'Nothing to dump.'
        upon SYSERR
  end-display
end-if
*
exit section.
*-----

```

```

TEST-ASCII SECTION.
*Function: Discover if running Ascii or Ebcdic
*00.
    evaluate space
        when x'20'
            set is-ascii to true
        when x'40'
            set is-ebdic to true
        when other
            set is-unknown to true
    end-evaluate
*
    exit section.
-----
TEST-64BIT SECTION.
*Function: Discover if running 32/64 bit
*00.
*   Longer pointers in 64-bit architecture
    if function length (addr) <= 4
        set is-32-bit to true
    else
        set is-64-bit to true
    end-if
*
    exit section.
-----
TEST-ENDIAN SECTION.
*00.
*   Number-bytes are shuffled in Big-Little endian
    move 128 to byline
    set address of byte to address of byline
    if function ord(byte) > 0
        set is-big-endian-yes to true
    else
        set is-big-endian-no to true
    end-if
*
    exit section.
-----
end program CBL_OC_DUMP.

```

---

## 5.4 Does OpenCOBOL support any SQL databases?

Yes. There is no embedded SQL in OpenCOBOL in terms of EXEC but there are *at least* two usable CALL extensions, the EXEC potential of the Firebird gpre and the tried and successful use of Oracle's procob. There are as of March 13, 2011 quite a few active developments for easing SQL engine access.



- as reported on <http://opencobol.org> the `procob 10.2` Oracle pre-processor produces code that compiles and executes just fine with OpenCOBOL 1.1 See note about data sizes and the `binary-size:` configuration below.
- A `libdbi generic database access` extension is also available. See `cobdbi` for full details.
- Efforts toward providing a preprocessor for EXEC are underway.
- Jim Currey's team [1] has kindly posted an ease-of-use MySQL preprocessing layer. <http://svn.wp0.org/add1/libraries/mysql4Windows4OpenCobol/>
- Rumours of a potential Postgres layer have also been heard.
  - Not a rumour anymore. Work on a nicely complete PostgreSQL binding was posted by `gchudyk` to [opencobol.org](http://opencobol.org)
- **AND** as a *thing to watch for*, one of the good people of the OpenCOBOL community is writing a layer that converts READ and WRITE verbage to SQL calls at run time. More on this as it progresses.

### 5.4.1 SQLite

There are workable prototypes for access to the SQLite3 shell at

- `ocshell.c`
- with a sample usage program at `sqlscreen.cob`
- and supporting documentation at `sqlscreen.html`

The SQLite extension comes in two flavours; a shell mode discussed above and a direct API interface housed at `ocsqlite.c`

### 5.4.2 Oracle procob and binary data sizes

Details of the configuration setting for proper Oracle procob processing.

From Angus on [opencobol.org](http://opencobol.org)

Hi

I had some trouble with Oracle `procob 10.2` and OpenCobol 1.1 with `std=mf`. For PIC S9(2) COMP, `procob` seems to use 2 bytes, and OpenCobol only one. It doesn't work well. It comes from the parameter `binary-size` in the `mf.conf`, which seems to tell to `opencobol` the larger of `comp` type I modify to `binary-size: 2-4-8` and it works (same as the `mvs.conf`) Our application works with Microfocus / Oracle, and microfocus use 2 bytes, like Oracle. Perhaps because we have the `mvs` toggle

Except for this thing, `opencobol` and `oracle` work like a charm, on a debian 32bit.

Regards,  
Angus

### 5.4.3 Sybase ASE

Another post from <http://opencobol.org>

Preliminary work with Sybase ASE 15 indicates that the output of the Sybase precompiler cobpre64 and cobpre\_r64) is compatible with OpenCOBOL.

Some fiddling with COB\_LIBRARY\_PATH and COB\_LIBS was necessary to get ld (on AIX 6.1) to see and resolve the externals in the generated code. It's also important to get the "bitness" of the various pieces in agreement, in the UNIX case, 64-bit.

Works with UNIX (AIX), also Windows XP and 7 in 32-bit mode.

I'll put together a writeup on the process when time permits.

Jim

### 5.4.4 DB2

Another post from <http://opencobol.org>

Re: AN IDEA FOR SQL SUPPORT IN OPENCOBOL  
Embedded SQL with DB2 and the DB2 preprocessor (db2 prep)works fine with OpenCobol, too.

Cheers,  
Juergen

### 5.4.5 PostgreSQL Sample

Nowhere near as complete as the binding that Gerald posted to [opencobol.org](http://opencobol.org) the example below was a starting point.

Note that the PostgreSQL runtime library is libpq, *ending in q not g*.

Listing 5.7: OpenCOBOL PostgreSQL connection test

```

OCOBOL*> *****
*> Author:    Brian Tiffin
*> Date:      20091129
*> Purpose:   PostgreSQL connection test
*> Tectonics: cobc -x -lpq pgcob.cob
*> *****
identification division.
program-id. pgcob.

data division.
working-storage section.
01 pgconn usage pointer.
01 pgres  usage pointer.
01 resptr usage pointer.
01 resstr pic x(80) based.
01 result usage binary-long.
01 answer pic x(80).

*> *****

```

```

procedure division.
display "Before connect:" pgconn end-display

call "PQconnectdb" using
    by reference "dbname = postgres" & x"00"
    returning pgconn
end-call
display "After connect: " pgconn end-display

call "PQstatus" using by value pgconn returning result end-call
display "Status:      " result end-display

call "PQuser" using by value pgconn returning resptr end-call

set address of resstr to resptr
string resstr delimited by x"00" into answer end-string
display "User:      " function trim(answer) end-display

display "call PQexec" end-display
call "PQexec" using
    by value pgconn
    by reference "select version();" & x"00"
    returning pgres
end-call
display pgres end-display

*> Pull out a result. row 0, field 0 <*>
call "PQgetvalue" using
    by value pgres
    by value 0
    by value 0
    returning resptr
end-call
set address of resstr to resptr
string resstr delimited by x"00" into answer end-string
display "Version:      " answer end-display

call "PQfinish" using by value pgconn returning null end-call
display "After finish: " pgconn end-display

call "PQstatus" using by value pgconn returning result end-call
display "Status:      " result end-display

*> this will now return garbage <*>
call "PQuser" using by value pgconn returning resptr end-call
set address of resstr to resptr
string resstr delimited by x"00" into answer end-string
display "User after:      " function trim(answer) end-display

goback.

```

```
end program pgcob.
```

---

Run from a user account that has default PostgreSQL credentials:

```
$ cobb -x -lpq pgcob.cob
$ ./pgcob
Before connect:0x00000000
After connect: 0x086713e8
Status:      +0000000000
User:        brian
call PQexec
0x08671a28
Version:     PostgreSQL 8.3.7 on i486-pc-linux-gnu, compiled by GCC gcc-4.3.real (Debian 4.3.
After finish: 0x086713e8
Status:      +0000000001
User after:  PostgreSQL 8.3.7 on i486-pc-linux-gnu, compiled by GCC gcc-4.3.real (Debian 4.3.
```

Note that `User after` is not the valid answer, shown on purpose. The connection had been closed and the status was correctly reported as non-zero, being an error, but this example continued through as a demonstration.

## 5.5 Does OpenCOBOL support ISAM?

Yes. The official release used Berkeley DB, but there are also experimental configurations of the compiler that use VBISAM, CISAM, DISAM or other external handlers. See [What are the configure options available for building OpenCOBOL?3.2](#) for more details about these options. The rest of this entry assumes the default Berkeley database.

ISAM is an acronym for Indexed Sequential Access Method.

OpenCOBOL has fairly full support of all standard specified ISAM compile and runtime semantics.

For example:

Listing 5.8: OpenCOBOL ISAM sample

```
OCOBOL >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
*> *****
*><* =====
*><* indexing example
*><* =====
*><* :Author:   Brian Tiffin
*><* :Date:     17-Feb-2009
*><* :Purpose:  Fun with Indexed IO routines
*><* :Tectonics: cobb -x indexing.cob
*> *****
identification division.
program-id. indexing.

environment division.
configuration section.

input-output section.
```

```

file-control.
  select optional indexing
  assign to "indexing.dat"
  organization is indexed
  access mode is dynamic
  record key is keyfield of indexing-record
  alternate record key is splitkey of indexing-record
  with duplicates
.

*> ** OpenCOBOL does not yet support split keys **
*> alternate record key is newkey
*>     source is first-part of indexing-record
*>     last-part of indexing-record
*>     with duplicates

data division.
file section.
fd indexing.
01 indexing-record.
  03 keyfield          pic x(8).
  03 splitkey.
    05 first-part     pic 99.
    05 middle-part    pic x.
    05 last-part      pic 99.
  03 data-part        pic x(54).

working-storage section.
01 display-record.
  03 filler            pic x(4) value spaces.
  03 keyfield         pic x(8).
  03 filler            pic xx  value spaces.
  03 splitkey.
    05 first-part     pic z9.
    05 filler         pic x  value space.
    05 middle-part    pic x.
    05 filler         pic xx  value all "+".
    05 last-part      pic z9.
  03 filler            pic x(4) value all "-".
  03 data-part        pic x(54).

*> control break
01 oldkey             pic 99x99.

*> In a real app this should well be two separate flags
01 control-flag      pic x.
  88 no-more-duplicates value high-value
  when set to false is low-value.
  88 no-more-records value high-value
  when set to false is low-value.

```

```
*> *****
procedure division.

*> Open optional index file for read write
open i-o indexing

*> populate a sample database
move "1234567800a01some 12345678 data here" to indexing-record
perform write-indexing-record
move "8765432100a01some 87654321 data here" to indexing-record
perform write-indexing-record
move "1234876500a01some 12348765 data here" to indexing-record
perform write-indexing-record
move "8765123400a01some 87651234 data here" to indexing-record
perform write-indexing-record

move "1234567900b02some 12345679 data here" to indexing-record
perform write-indexing-record
move "9765432100b02some 97654321 data here" to indexing-record
perform write-indexing-record
move "1234976500b02some 12349765 data here" to indexing-record
perform write-indexing-record
move "9765123400b02some 97651234 data here" to indexing-record
perform write-indexing-record

move "1234568900c13some 12345689 data here" to indexing-record
perform write-indexing-record
move "9865432100c13some 98654321 data here" to indexing-record
perform write-indexing-record
move "1234986500c13some 12349865 data here" to indexing-record
perform write-indexing-record
move "9865123400c13some 98651234 data here" to indexing-record
perform write-indexing-record

*> close it ... not necessary, but for the example
close indexing

*> clear the record space for this example
move spaces to indexing-record

*> open the data file again
open i-o indexing

*> read all the duplicate 00b02 keys
move 00 to first-part of indexing-record
move "b" to middle-part of indexing-record
move 02 to last-part of indexing-record

*> using read key and then next key / last key compare
```

```

set no-more-duplicates to false
perform read-indexing-record
perform read-next-record
    until no-more-duplicates

*> read by key of reference ... the cool stuff
move 00 to first-part of indexing-record
move "a" to middle-part of indexing-record
move 02 to last-part of indexing-record

*> using start and read next
set no-more-records to false
perform start-at-key
perform read-next-by-key
    until no-more-records

*> read by primary key of reference
move "87654321" to keyfield of indexing-record

*>
set no-more-records to false
perform start-prime-key
perform read-previous-by-key
    until no-more-records

*> and with that we are done with indexing sample
close indexing

goback.
*> *****

*><* Write paragraph
write-indexing-record.
    write indexing-record
        invalid key
        display
            "rewrite key: " keyfield of indexing-record
        end-display
        rewrite indexing-record
            invalid key
            display
                "really bad key: "
                keyfield of indexing-record
            end-display
        end-rewrite
    end-write
.

*><* read by alternate key paragraph
read-indexing-record.

```

```

display "Reading: " splitkey of indexing-record end-display
read indexing key is splitkey of indexing-record
  invalid key
  display
  "bad read key: " splitkey of indexing-record
  end-display
  set no-more-duplicates to true
end-read
.

*><* read next sequential paragraph
read-next-record.
  move corresponding indexing-record to display-record
  display display-record end-display
  move splitkey of indexing-record to oldkey

  read indexing next record
  at end set no-more-duplicates to true
  not at end
  if oldkey not equal splitkey of indexing-record
    set no-more-duplicates to true
  end-if
end-read
.

*><* start primary key of reference paragraph
start-prime-key.
  display "Prime < " keyfield of indexing-record end-display
  start indexing
  key is less than
  keyfield of indexing-record
  invalid key
  display
  "bad start: " keyfield of indexing-record
  end-display
  set no-more-records to true
  not invalid key
  read indexing previous record
  at end set no-more-records to true
  end-read
end-start
.

*><* read previous by key of reference paragraph
read-previous-by-key.
  move corresponding indexing-record to display-record
  display display-record end-display

  read indexing previous record
  at end set no-more-records to true

```



```

        end-read
    .
*><* start alternate key of reference paragraph
start-at-key.
    display "Seeking >= " splitkey of indexing-record end-display
    start indexing
        key is greater than or equal to
            splitkey of indexing-record
        invalid key
            display
                "bad start: " splitkey of indexing-record
            end-display
        set no-more-records to true
    not invalid key
        read indexing next record
            at end set no-more-records to true
        end-read
    end-start
    .
*><* read next by key of reference paragraph
read-next-by-key.
    move corresponding indexing-record to display-record
    display display-record end-display

    read indexing next record
        at end set no-more-records to true
    end-read
    .
end program indexing.
*><*
*><* Last Update: 20090220

```

---

which outputs:

```

Reading: 00b02
12345679 0 b++ 2----some 12345679 data here
97654321 0 b++ 2----some 97654321 data here
12349765 0 b++ 2----some 12349765 data here
97651234 0 b++ 2----some 97651234 data here
12345679 0 b++ 2----some 12345679 data here
97654321 0 b++ 2----some 97654321 data here
12349765 0 b++ 2----some 12349765 data here
97651234 0 b++ 2----some 97651234 data here
12345679 0 b++ 2----some 12345679 data here
97654321 0 b++ 2----some 97654321 data here
12349765 0 b++ 2----some 12349765 data here
97651234 0 b++ 2----some 97651234 data here
Seeking >= 00a02

```

```

12345679 0 b++ 2-----some 12345679 data here
97654321 0 b++ 2-----some 97654321 data here
12349765 0 b++ 2-----some 12349765 data here
97651234 0 b++ 2-----some 97651234 data here
12345679 0 b++ 2-----some 12345679 data here
97654321 0 b++ 2-----some 97654321 data here
12349765 0 b++ 2-----some 12349765 data here
97651234 0 b++ 2-----some 97651234 data here
12345679 0 b++ 2-----some 12345679 data here
97654321 0 b++ 2-----some 97654321 data here
12349765 0 b++ 2-----some 12349765 data here
97651234 0 b++ 2-----some 97651234 data here
12345689 0 c++13-----some 12345689 data here
98654321 0 c++13-----some 98654321 data here
12349865 0 c++13-----some 12349865 data here
98651234 0 c++13-----some 98651234 data here
12345689 0 c++13-----some 12345689 data here
98654321 0 c++13-----some 98654321 data here
12349865 0 c++13-----some 12349865 data here
98651234 0 c++13-----some 98651234 data here
12345689 0 c++13-----some 12345689 data here
98654321 0 c++13-----some 98654321 data here
12349865 0 c++13-----some 12349865 data here
98651234 0 c++13-----some 98651234 data here
Prime < 87654321
87651234 0 a++ 1-----some 87651234 data here
12349865 0 c++13-----some 12349865 data here
12349765 0 b++ 2-----some 12349765 data here
12348765 0 a++ 1-----some 12348765 data here
12345689 0 c++13-----some 12345689 data here
12345679 0 b++ 2-----some 12345679 data here
12345678 0 a++ 1-----some 12345678 data here

```

on any first runs, where `**indexing.dat**` does not exist. Subsequent runs have the same output with::

```

rewrite key: 12345678
rewrite key: 87654321
rewrite key: 12348765
rewrite key: 87651234
rewrite key: 12345679
rewrite key: 97654321
rewrite key: 12349765
rewrite key: 97651234
rewrite key: 12345689
rewrite key: 98654321

```

```
rewrite key: 12349865
rewrite key: 98651234
```

preended, as the WRITE INVALID KEY clause triggers a REWRITE to allow overwriting key and data.

### 5.5.1 FILE STATUS

Historically, the condition of a COBOL I/O operation is set in an identifier specified in a FILE STATUS IS clause.

John Ellis did us the favour of codifying the OpenCOBOL FILE STATUS codes See ISAM for the details.

## 5.6 Does OpenCOBOL support modules?

Yes. Quite nicely in fact. Dynamically! COBOL modules, and object files of many other languages are linkable. As OpenCOBOL uses intermediate C, linkage to other languages is well supported across many platforms. The OpenCOBOL CALL instruction maps COBOL USAGE to many common C stack frame data representations.

Multipart, complex system development is well integrated in the OpenCOBOL model.

```
$ cobc -b hello.cob goodbye.cob
```

Combines both source files into a single dynamically loadable module. Example produces `hello.so`.

Using the `-l` link library option, OpenCOBOL has access to most shared libraries supported on it's platforms.

```
$ cobc -x -lcurl showcurl.cob
```

Will link the `/usr/lib/libcurl.so` from the cURL project to `showcurl`. The OpenCOBOL CALL verb will use this linked library to resolve calls at runtime.

Large scale systems are at the heart of COBOL development and OpenCOBOL is no exception.

For more information, see [What is COB-PRE-LOAD?](#).

## 5.7 What is COB\_PRE\_LOAD?

COB\_PRE\_LOAD is an environment variable that controls what dynamic link modules are included in a run.

For example:

Listing 5.9: OpenCOBOL ISAM sample

```
$ cobc occurl.c
$ cobc occgi.c
```

```

$ cobc -x myprog.cob
$ export COB_PRE_LOAD=occurl:occgi
$ ./myprog

```

---

That will allow the OpenCOBOL runtime link resolver to find the entry point for CALL "CBL\_OC\_CURL\_INIT" in the occurl.so module. \*Note:\* the modules listed in the COB\_PRE\_LOAD environment variable DO NOT have extensions. OpenCOBOL will do the right thing on the various platforms.

If the DSO files are not in the current working directory along with the executable, the COB\_LIBRARY\_PATH can be set to find them.

See What is COB\_LIBRARY\_PATH? ?? for information on setting the module search path.

## 5.8 What is the OpenCOBOL LINKAGE SECTION for?

Argument passing in COBOL is normally accomplished through the LINKAGE SECTION. This section does not allocate or initialize memory as would definitions in the WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.

Care must be taken to inform COBOL of the actual source address of these variables before use. Influences CHAINING and USING phrases. See CALL for more details.

## 5.9 What does the -fstatic-linkage OpenCOBOL compiler option do?

Under normal conditions, the \*LINKAGE SECTION\* is unallocated and uninitialized. When a LINKAGE SECTION variable, that is not part of the \*USING\* phrase (not a named calling argument), any memory that has been addressed becomes unaddressable across calls. \*-fstatic-linkage\* creates static addressing to the LINKAGE SECTION.

From Roger [8]

```

This relates to LINKAGE items that are NOT referred
to in the USING phrase of the PROCEDURE DIVISION.
It also only has relevance when the program is CALL'ed
from another prog.
This means that the addressability of these items must
be programmed (usually with SET ADDRESS) before reference.

```

```

Per default, the item loses it's addressability on exit
from the program. This option causes the module to retain
the item's address between CALL invocations of the program.

```

With some rumours that this may become the default in future releases of OpenCOBOL, and the \*-fstatic-linkage\* option may be deprecated.

## 5.10 Does OpenCOBOL support Message Queues?

Yes, but not out of the box. A linkable POSIX message queue layer is available.

Listing 5.10: OpenCOBOL POSIX message queues

```

/* OpenCOBOL access to POSIX Message Queues          */
/* Author: Brian Tiffin                               */
/* Date: August, 2008                                */
/* Build: gcc -c ocmq.c                               */
/* Usage: cobc -x -lrt program.cob ocmq.o            */

#include <fcntl.h>          /* For O_* constants */
#include <sys/stat.h>       /* For mode constants */
#include <errno.h>          /* Access to error values */
#include <mqueue.h>        /* The message queues */
#include <signal.h>        /* for notification */
#include <time.h>          /* for the timed versions */
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>        /* For strerror */

#include <libcob.h>        /* for cob_resolve */

/* Forward declarations */
static void ocmq_handler(int, siginfo_t *, void *);
static void (*MQHANDLER)(int *mqid);

/* Return C runtime global errno */
int ERRORNUMBER() {
    return errno;
}

/* Load a COBOL field with an error string */
int ERRORSTRING(char *errbuff, int buflen) {
    void *temperr;

    temperr = strerror(errno);
    memcpy((void *)errbuff, temperr, buflen);
    return strlen(temperr);
}

/*

/* Open Message Queue */
int MQOPEN(char *mqname, int oflags) {
    mqd_t mqres;

    errno = 0;
    mqres = mq_open(mqname, oflags);
    return (int)mqres;
}

```

```

/* Creating a queue requires two extra arguments, permissions and attributes */
int MQCREATE(char *mqname, int oflags, int perms, char *mqattr) {
    mqd_t mqres;

    errno = 0;
    mqres = mq_open(mqname, oflags, (mode_t)perms, (struct mq_attr *)mqattr);
    return (int)mqres;
}

/* Get current queue attributes */
int MQGETATTR(int mqid, char *mqattr) {
    mqd_t mqres;

    errno = 0;
    mqres = mq_getattr((mqd_t)mqid, (struct mq_attr *)mqattr);
    return (int)mqres;
}

/* Set current queue attributes */
/* only accepts mqflags of 0 or MQO_NONBLOCK once created */
int MQSETATTR(int mqid, char *mqattr, char *oldattr) {
    mqd_t mqres;

    errno = 0;
    mqres = mq_setattr((mqd_t)mqid, (struct mq_attr *)mqattr, (struct mq_attr *)oldattr);
    return (int)mqres;
}

/* Send a message to the queue */
int MQSEND(int mqid, char *message, int length, unsigned int mqprio) {
    mqd_t mqres;

    errno = 0;
    mqres = mq_send((mqd_t)mqid, message, (size_t)length, mqprio);
    return (int)mqres;
}

/* Read the highest priority message */
int MQRECEIVE(int mqid, char *msgbuf, int buflen, int *retprio) {
    ssize_t retlen;

    errno = 0;
    retlen = mq_receive((mqd_t)mqid, msgbuf, buflen, retprio);
    return (int)retlen;
}

/* Timeout send */
int MQTIMEDSEND(int mqid, char *message, int length, unsigned int mqprio, int secs,

```

```

mqd_t mqres;
struct timespec mqtimer;
struct timeval curtime;

/* Expect seconds and nanos to wait, not absolute. Add the OpenCOBOL values */
gettimeofday(&curtime, NULL);
mqtimer.tv_sec = curtime.tv_sec + (time_t)secs;
mqtimer.tv_nsec = nanos;

errno = 0;
mqres = mq_timedsend((mqd_t)mqid, message, (size_t)length, mqprio, &mqtimer);
return (int)mqres;
}

/* Read the highest priority message */
int MQTIMEDRECEIVE(int mqid, char *msgbuf, int buflen, int *retprio, int secs, long nanos) {
    ssize_t retlen;
    struct timespec mqtimer;

    struct timeval curtime;

    /* Expect seconds and nanos to wait, not absolute. Add the OpenCOBOL values */
    gettimeofday(&curtime, NULL);
    mqtimer.tv_sec = curtime.tv_sec + (time_t)secs;
    mqtimer.tv_nsec = nanos;

    errno = 0;
    retlen = mq_timedreceive((mqd_t)mqid, msgbuf, buflen, retprio, &mqtimer);
    return (int)retlen;
}

/* Notify of new message written to queue */
int MQNOTIFY(int mqid, char *procedure) {
    struct sigevent ocsigevent;
    struct sigaction ocsigaction;

    /* Install signal handler for the notify signal - fill in a
     * sigaction structure and pass it to sigaction(). Because the
     * handler needs the siginfo structure as an argument, the
     * SA_SIGINFO flag is set in sa_flags.
     */
    ocsigaction.sa_sigaction = ocmq_handler;
    ocsigaction.sa_flags = SA_SIGINFO;
    sigemptyset(&ocsigaction.sa_mask);

    if (sigaction(SIGUSR1, &ocsigaction, NULL) == -1) {
        fprintf(stderr, "%s\n", "Error posting sigaction");
        return -1;
    }
}

```

```

/* Set up notification: fill in a sigevent structure and pass it
 * to mq_notify(). The queue ID is passed as an argument to the
 * signal handler.
 */
ocsigevent.sigev_signo      = SIGUSR1;
ocsigevent.sigev_notify     = SIGEV_SIGNAL;
ocsigevent.sigev_value.sival_int = (int)mqid;

if (mq_notify((mqd_t)mqid, &ocsigevent) == -1) {
    fprintf(stderr, "%s\n", "Error posting notify");
    return -1;
}
return 0;
}

/* Close a queue */
int MQCLOSE(int mqid) {
    mqd_t mqres;

    errno = 0;
    mqres = mq_close((mqd_t)mqid);
    return (int)mqres;
}

/* Unlink a queue */
int MQUNLINK(char *mqname) {
    mqd_t mqres;

    errno = 0;
    mqres = mq_unlink(mqname);
    return (int)mqres;
}

/* The signal handling section */
/* signal number */
/* signal information */
/* context unused (required by posix) */
static void ocmq_handler(int sig, siginfo_t *pInfo, void *pSigContext) {
    struct sigevent ocnotify;
    mqd_t mqid;

    /* Get the ID of the message queue out of the siginfo structure.
    */
    mqid = (mqd_t) pInfo->si_value.sival_int;

    /* The MQPROCESSOR is a hardcoded OpenCOBOL resolvable module name */
    /* It must accept an mqd_t pointer */
    cob_init(0, NULL);
    MQHANDLER = cob_resolve("MQPROCESSOR");
}

```



```

if (MQHANDLER == NULL) {
    /* What to do here? */
    fprintf(stderr, "%s\n", "Error resolving MQPROCESSOR");
    return;
}

/* Request notification again; it resets each time a notification
 * signal goes out.
 */
ocnotify.sigev_signo = pInfo->si_signo;
ocnotify.sigev_value = pInfo->si_value;
ocnotify.sigev_notify = SIGEV_SIGNAL;

if (mq_notify(mqid, &ocnotify) == -1) {
    /* What to do here? */
    fprintf(stderr, "%s\n", "Error posting notify");
    return;
}

/* Call the cobol module with the message queue id */
MQHANDLER(&mqid);
return;
}

```

---

With a sample of usage. Note the linkage of the rt.so realtime library.

Listing 5.11: OpenCOBOL mq

```

OCOBOL >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
*****
* Author:      Brian Tiffin
* Date:       August 2008
* Purpose:    Demonstration of OpenCOBOL message queues
* Tectonics:  gcc -c ocmq.c
*             cobc -Wall -x -lrt mqsample.cob ocmq.o
*****
identification division.
program-id. mqsample.

data division.
working-storage section.
* Constants for the Open Flags
01 MQO-RDONLY          constant as 0.
01 MQO-WRONLY         constant as 1.
01 MQO-RDWR           constant as 2.
01 MQO-CREAT          constant as 64.
01 MQO-EXCL           constant as 128.
01 MQO-NONBLOCK       constant as 2048.
* Constants for the protection/permission bits
01 MQS-IREAD          constant as 256.
01 MQS-IWRITE         constant as 128.

```

```

* Need a better way of displaying newlines
01 newline          pic x value x'0a'.

* Message Queues return an ID, maps to int
01 mqid             usage binary-long.
01 mqres            usage binary-long.
* Queue names end up in an mqueue virtual filesystem on GNU/Linux
01 mqname.
    02 name-display pic x(5) value "/ocmq".
    02 filler       pic x value x'00'.
01 mqopenflags     usage binary-long.
01 mqpermissions   usage binary-long.

01 default-message pic x(20) value 'OpenCOBOL is awesome'.
01 user-message    pic x(80).
01 send-length     usage binary-long.

01 urgent-message  pic x(20) value 'Urgent OpenCOBOL msg'.

* Data members for access to C global errno and error strings
01 errnumber       usage binary-long.
01 errstr          pic x(256).
* legend to use with the error reporting
01 operation       pic x(7).

01 loopy           pic 9.

* Debian GNU/Linux defaults to Message Queue entry limit of 8K
01 msgbuf          pic x(8192).
01 msglen          usage binary-long value 8192.
* Priorities range from 0 to 31 on many systems, can be more
01 msgprio         usage binary-long.
* MQ attributes. See /usr/include/bits/mqueue.h
01 mqattr.
    03 mqflags      usage binary-long.
    03 mqmaxmsg     usage binary-long.
    03 mqmsgsize    usage binary-long.
    03 mqcurmsgs    usage binary-long.
    03 filler       usage binary-long occurs 4 times.
01 oldattr.
    03 mqflags      usage binary-long.
    03 mqmaxmsg     usage binary-long.
    03 mqmsgsize    usage binary-long.
    03 mqcurmsgs    usage binary-long.
    03 filler       usage binary-long occurs 4 times.

procedure division.
* The ocmq API support MQCREATE and MQOPEN.
* This example uses non blocking, non exclusive create

```

```

* read/write by owner and default attributes
compute
    mqopenflags = MQO-RDWR + MQO-CREAT + MQO-NONBLOCK
end-compute.
compute
    mqpermissions = MQS-IREAD + MQS-IWRITE
end-compute.

* Sample shows the two types of open, but only evaluates create
if zero = zero
call "MQCREATE" using mqname
                    by value mqopenflags
                    by value mqpermissions
                    by value 0
                    returning mqid
end-call
else
call "MQOPEN" using mqname
                    by value mqopenflags
                    returning mqid
end-call
end-if.
move "create" to operation.
perform show-error.

* Show the attributes after initial create
perform show-attributes.

* Register notification
call "MQNOTIFY" using by value mqid
                    mqname
                    returning mqres
end-call.
move "notify" to operation.
perform show-error.

* Create a temporary queue, will be removed on close
* call "MQUNLINK" using mqname
*             returning mqres
* end-call.
* move "unlink" to operation.
* perform show-error.

* Use the command line arguments or a default message
accept user-message from command-line end-accept.
if user-message equal spaces
    move default-message to user-message
end-if.
move function length
    (function trim(user-message trailing))

```

```

    to send-length.

* Queue up an urgent message (priority 31)
call "MQSEND" using by value mqid
                by reference urgent-message
                by value 20
                by value 31

end-call.
move "send-31" to operation.
perform show-error.

* Queue up a low priority message (1)
call "MQSEND" using by value mqid
                by reference user-message
                by value send-length
                by value 1
                returning mqres

end-call.
move "send-1" to operation.
perform show-error.

* Queue up a middle priority message (16)
inspect urgent-message
  replacing leading "Urgent" by "Middle".
call "MQSEND" using by value mqid
                by reference urgent-message
                by value 20
                by value 16
                returning mqres

end-call.
move "send-16" to operation.
perform show-error.

* Redisplay the queue attributes
perform show-attributes.

* Pull highest priority message off queue
call "MQRECEIVE" using by value mqid
                by reference msgbuf
                by value msglen
                by reference msgprio
                returning mqres

end-call.
display
  newline "receive len: " mqres " prio: " msgprio
end-display.
if mqres > 0
  display
    "priority 31 message: " msgbuf(1:mqres)
  end-display

```

```

end-if.
move "receive" to operation.
perform show-error.

* Pull the middling priority message off queue
call "MQRECEIVE" using by value mqid
                    by reference msgbuf
                    by value msglen
                    by reference msgprio
                    returning mqres

end-call.
display
    newline "receive len: " mqres " prio: " msgprio
end-display.
if mqres > 0
    display
        "priority 16 message: " msgbuf(1:mqres)
    end-display
end-if.
move "receive" to operation.
perform show-error.

* ** INTENTIONAL ERROR msglen param too small **
* Pull message off queue
call "MQRECEIVE" using by value mqid
                    by reference msgbuf
                    by value 1024
                    by reference msgprio
                    returning mqres

end-call.
display
    newline "receive len: " mqres " prio: " msgprio
end-display.
if mqres > 0
    display
        "no message: " msgbuf(1:mqres)
    end-display
end-if.
move "receive" to operation.
perform show-error.

* Pull the low priority message off queue, in blocking mode
move MQO-NONBLOCK to mqflags of mqattr.
call "MQSETATTR" using by value mqid
                    by reference mqattr
                    by reference oldattr
                    returning mqres

end-call
move "setattr" to operation.
perform show-error.

```

```

perform show-attributes.

call "MQRECEIVE" using by value mqid
                    by reference msgbuf
                    by value msglen
                    by reference msgprio
                    returning mqres

end-call.
display
    newline "receive len: " mqres " prio: " msgprio
end-display.
if mqres > 0
    display
        "priority 1 message: " msgbuf(1:mqres)
    end-display
end-if.
move "receive" to operation.
perform show-error.

perform varying loopy from 1 by 1
    until loopy > 5
        display "Sleeper call " loopy end-display
        call "CBL_OC_NANOSLEEP" using 5000000000
            returning mqres

    end-call
end-perform.

* Close the queue. As it is set unlinked, it will be removed
call "MQCLOSE" using by value mqid
                    returning mqres

end-call.
move "close" to operation.
perform show-error.

* Create a temporary queue, will be removed on close
call "MQUNLINK" using mqname
                    returning mqres

end-call.
move "unlink" to operation.
perform show-error.

goback.

*****
* Information display of the Message Queue attributes.
show-attributes.
call "MQGETATTR" using by value mqid
                    by reference mqattr
                    returning mqres

end-call

```

```

move "getattr" to operation.
perform show-error.

* Display the message queue attributes
display
  name-display " attributes:"      newline
  "flags:     " mqflags    of mqattr newline
  "max msg:   " mqmaxmsg   of mqattr newline
  "mqs size:  " mqmsgsize  of mqattr newline
  "cur msgs:  " mqcurmsgs  of mqattr
end-display
.

* The C global errno error display paragraph
show-error.
  call "ERRORNUMBER" returning mqres end-call
  if mqres > 0
    display
      operation " errno: " mqres
    end-display
    call "ERRORSTRING" using errstr
      by value length errstr
      returning mqres end-call

    if mqres > 0
      display
        "      strerror: " errstr(1:mqres)
      end-display
    end-if
  end-if
.

end program mqsample.

*****
* Author:      Brian Tiffin
* Date:        August 2008
* Purpose:     Demonstration of OpenCOBOL message queue notification
* Tectonics:   gcc -c ocmq.c
*              cobc -Wall -x -lrt mqsample.cob ocmq.o
*****
  identification division.
  program-id.  MQSIGNAL.

  data division.
  working-storage section.
  01 msgbuf pic x(8192).
  01 msglen usage binary-long value 8192.
  01 msgprio usage binary-long.
  01 mqres usage binary-long.

  linkage section.

```

```

01 mqid usage binary-long.

procedure division using mqid.

display "in MQSIGNAL".
display "In the COBOL procedure with " mqid end-display.
perform
    with test after
    until mqres <= 0

        call "MQRECEIVE" using by value mqid
                                by reference msgbuf
                                by value msglen
                                by reference msgprio
                                returning mqres

    end-call
display
    "receive len: " mqres " prio: " msgprio
end-display
if mqres > 0
    display
        "priority 31 message: " msgbuf(1:mqres)
    end-display
end-if
end-perform.

goback.
end program MQSIGNAL.

```

---

## 5.11 Can OpenCOBOL interface with Lua?

Yes. Lua can be embedded in OpenCOBOL applications.

Listing 5.12: OpenCOBOL Lua interface

```

OCOBOL >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
*<<* =====
*<<* OpenCOBOL Lua Interface
*<<* =====
*<<*
*<<* .. sidebar:: Contents
*<<*
*<<*     .. contents::
*<<*         :local:
*<<*         :depth: 2
*<<*         :backlinks: entry
*<<*
*<<* :Author:    Brian Tiffin
*<<* :Date:     28-Oct-2008

```



```

*><* :Purpose:      interface to Lua scripting
*><* :Rights:        | Copyright 2008 Brian Tiffin
*><*                | Licensed under the GNU General Public License
*><*                | No warranty expressed or implied
*><* :Tectonics:     | cobc -c -I/usr/include/lua5.1/ oclua.c
*><*                | cobc -x -llua5.1 luacaller.cob oclua.o
*><*                | ./ocdoc luacaller.cob oclua.rst oclua.html ocfaq.css
*><* :Requires:     lua5.1, liblua5.1, liblua5.1-dev
*><* :Link:          http://www.lua.org
*><* :Thanks to:    The Lua team, Pontifical Catholic University
*><*                of Rio de Janeiro in Brazil.
*><*                http://www.lua.org/authors.html
*><* :Sources:      | http://opencobol.addltocobol.com/luacaller.cob
*><*                | http://opencobol.addltocobol.com/oclua.c
*><*                | http://opencobol.addltocobol.com/oclua.lua
*><*                | http://opencobol.addltocobol.com/oclua.rst
*><*                | http://opencobol.addltocobol.com/ocfaq.rss
*><*
*> *****
identification division.
program-id. luacaller.

data division.
working-storage section.
01 luastate                usage pointer.
01 luascript               pic x(10) value 'oclua.lua' & x"00".
01 luacommand              pic x(64).
01 luaresult               pic x(32).
01 lualength               usage binary-long.

01 items                   pic 9 usage computational-5.
01 luastack.
   03 luaitem               pic x(32) occurs 5 times.
01 depth                   usage binary-long.

*> *****
procedure division.

call "OCLUA_OPEN" returning luastate end-call

move 'return "OpenCOBOL " .. 1.0 + 0.1' & x"00" to luacommand
call "OCLUA_DOSTRING"
   using
       by value luastate
       by reference luacommand
       by reference luaresult
       by value function length(luaresult)
   returning depth
end-call
display

```

```

    "OpenCOBOL displays: " depth " |" luaresult "|"
end-display

call "OCLUA_DOFIELD"
  using
    by value luastate
    by reference luascript
    by reference luaresult
    by value 32
  returning depth
end-call
display
  "OpenCOBOL displays: " depth " |" luaresult "|"
end-display

call "OCLUA_DOFIELD"
  using
    by value luastate
    by reference luascript
    by reference luaresult
    by value 32
  returning depth
end-call
display
  "OpenCOBOL displays: " depth " |" luaresult "|"
end-display

call "OCLUA_DEPTH"
  using
    by value luastate
  returning depth
end-call
display "Lua depth: " depth end-display

perform varying items from 1 by 1
  until items > depth
    call "OCLUA_GET"
      using
        by value luastate
        by value items
        by reference luaresult
        by value 32
      returning lualength
    end-call
    move luaresult to luaitem(items)
  end-perform

perform varying items from 1 by 1
  until items > depth
    display

```

```

        "Item " items ": " luaitem(items)
    end-display
end-perform

call "OCLUA_POP"
    using
        by value luastate
        by value depth
    returning depth
end-call

call "OCLUA_DEPTH"
    using
        by value luastate
    returning depth
end-call

display "Lua depth: " depth end-display

call "OCLUA_CLOSE" using by value luastate end-call

goback.
end program luacaller.
*> *****
*><* ++++++++
*><* Overview
*><* ++++++++
*><* The OpenCOBOL Lua interface is defined at a very high level.
*><*
*><* The objective is to provide easy access to Lua through
*><* script files or strings to be evaluated.
*><*
*><* Command strings and script file names passed to Lua MUST be
*><* terminated with a null byte, as per C Language conventions.
*><*
*><* A Lua engine is started with a call to OCLUA_OPEN, which
*><* returns an OpenCOBOL POINTER that is used to reference
*><* the Lua state for all further calls.
*><*
*><* A Lua engine is run down with a call to OCLUA_CLOSE.
*><*
*><* .. Attention::
*><*   Calls to Lua without a valid state will cause
*><*   undefined behaviour and crash the application.
*><*
*><* Lua uses a stack and results of the Lua RETURN reserved
*><* word are placed on this stack. Multiple values can be
*><* returned from Lua.
*><*
*><* The developer is responsible for stack overflow conditions

```

```

*><* and the size of the stack (default 20 elements) is
*><* controlled with OCLUA_STACK using an integer that
*><* determines the numbers of slots to reserve.
*><*
*><* Requires package installs of:
*><*
*><* * lua5.1
*><* * liblua5.1
*><* * liblua5.1-dev
*><*
*><* ++++++
*><* OpenCOBOL Lua API
*><* ++++++
*><* -----
*><* OCLUA_OPEN
*><* -----
*><* Initialize the Lua engine.
*><*
*><* ::
*><*
*><*   01 luastate USAGE POINTER.
*><*
*><*   CALL "OCLUA_OPEN" RETURNING luastate END-CALL
*><*
*><* -----
*><* OCLUA_STACK
*><* -----
*><* Check and possibly resize the Lua data stack. Returns 0 if
*><* Lua cannot expand the stack to the requested size.
*><*
*><* ::
*><*
*><*   01 elements USAGE BINARY-LONG VALUE 32.
*><*   01 result   USAGE BINARY-LONG.
*><*
*><*   CALL "OCLUA_STACK"
*><*     USING
*><*       BY VALUE luastate
*><*       BY VALUE elements
*><*     RETURNING result
*><*     END-CALL
*><*
*><* -----
*><* OCLUA_DOSTRING
*><* -----
*><* Evaluate a null terminated alphanumeric field as a Lua program
*><* producing any top of stack entry and returning the depth of
*><* stack after evaluation.
*><*
*><*
*><* Takes a luastate, a null terminated command string,

```

```

*><* a result field and length and returns an integer depth.
*><*
*><* .. Attention::
*><*   The Lua stack is NOT popped while returning the top of stack entry.
*><*
*><* ::
*><*
*><*   01 luaccommand pic x(64).
*><*   01 luaresult  pic x(32).
*><*   01 depth      usage binary-long.
*><*
*><*   move 'return "OpenCOBOL " .. 1.0 + 0.1' & x"00" to luaccommand
*><*   call "OCLUA_DOSTRING"
*><*       using
*><*           by value luastate
*><*           by reference luaccommand
*><*           by reference luaresult
*><*           by value function length(luaresult)
*><*       returning depth
*><*   end-call
*><*   display
*><*       "OpenCOBOL displays: " depth " |" luaresult "|"
*><*   end-display
*><*
*><* Outputs::
*><*
*><*   OpenCOBOL displays: +0000000001 |OpenCOBOL 1.1
||
*><*
*><* -----
*><* OCLUA_DOFIELD
*><* -----
*><* Evaluate a script using a null terminated alphanumeric field
*><* naming a Lua program source file, retrieving any top of
*><* stack entry and returning the depth of stack after evaluation.
*><*
*><* Takes a luastate, a null terminated filename,
*><* a result field and length and returns an integer depth.
*><*
*><* .. Attention::
*><*   The Lua stack is NOT popped while returning the top of
*><*   stack entry.
*><*
*><* ::
*><*
*><*   01 luascript  pic x(10) value 'oclua.lua' & x"00".
*><*   01 luaresult  pic x(32).
*><*
*><*   call "OCLUA_DOFIELD"
*><*       using

```

```

*><*          by value luastate
*><*          by reference luascript
*><*          by reference luaresult
*><*          by value function length(luaresult)
*><*          returning depth
*><* end-call
*><* display
*><* "OpenCOBOL displays: " depth " |" luaresult "|"
*><* end-display
*><*
*><* Given oclua.lua::
*><*
*><* -- Start
*><* -- Script: oclua.lua
*><* print("Lua prints hello")
*><*
*><* hello = "Hello OpenCOBOL from Lua"
*><* return math.pi, hello
*><* -- End
*><*
*><* Outputs::
*><*
*><* Lua prints hello
*><* OpenCOBOL displays: +0000000002 |Hello OpenCOBOL from Lua
||
*><*
*><* and on return from Lua, there is *math.pi* and the
*><* Hello string remaining on the Lua state stack.
*><*
*><* -----
*><* OCLUA_DEPTH
*><* -----
*><* Returns the current number of elements on the Lua stack.
*><*
*><* ::
*><*
*><* call "OCLUA_DEPTH"
*><* using
*><*     by value luastate
*><*     returning depth
*><* end-call
*><* display "Lua depth: " depth end-display
*><*
*><* -----
*><* OCLUA_GET
*><* -----
*><* Retrieves values from the Lua stack, returning the length
*><* of the retrieved item.
*><*
*><* An example that populates and displays an OpenCOBOL table::

```

```

*><*
*><* 01 items          pic 9 usage computational-5.
*><* 01 luastack.
*><* 03 luaitem       pic x(32) occurs 5 times.
*><*
*><* perform varying items from 1 by 1
*><*     until items > depth
*><*     call "OCLUA_GET"
*><*     using
*><*         by value luastate
*><*         by value items
*><*         by reference luaresult
*><*         by value function length(luaresult)
*><*     returning lualength
*><*     end-call
*><*     move luaresult to luaitem(items)
*><* end-perform
*><*
*><* perform varying items from 1 by 1
*><*     until items > depth
*><*     display
*><*         "Item " items ": " luaitem(items)
*><*     end-display
*><* end-perform
*><*
*><* Lua numbers the indexes of stacked items from 1, first
*><* item to n, last item (current top of stack). Negative
*><* indexes may also be used as documented by Lua, -1 being
*><* top of stack.
*><*
*><* Sample output::
*><*
*><* Item 1: OpenCOBOL 1.1
*><* Item 2: 3.1415926535898
*><* Item 3: Hello OpenCOBOL from Lua
*><* Item 4: 3.1415926535898
*><* Item 5: Hello OpenCOBOL from Lua
*><*
*><* -----
*><* OCLUA_POP
*><* -----
*><* Pops the given number of elements off of the Lua stack
*><* returning the depth of the stack after the pop.
*><*
*><* Example that empties the Lua stack::
*><*
*><* call "OCLUA_POP"
*><* using
*><*     by value luastate
*><*     by value depth

```

```

*><*      returning depth
*><*  end-call
*><*
*><* -----
*><* OCLUA_CLOSE
*><* -----
*><* Close and free the Lua engine.
*><*
*><* .. Danger::
*><*   Further calls to Lua are unpredictable and may well
*><*   lead to a SIGSEGV crash.
*><*
*><* ::
*><*
*><*   call "OCLUA_CLOSE" using by value luastate end-call
*><*

```

---

With usage document at [oclua.html](#)  
The above code uses a wrapper layer of C code

Listing 5.13: OpenCOBOL Lua C glue

```

/* OpenCOBOL Lua interface */
/* tectonics: cobc -c -I/usr/include/lua5.1 oclua.c */

#include <stdlib.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>

/* Include the Lua API header files. */
#include <lua.h>
#include <lauxlib.h>
#include <lualib.h>

/* Open the Lua engine and load all the default libraries */
lua_State *OCLUA_OPEN() {
    lua_State *oclua_state;
    oclua_state = lua_open();
    luaL_openlibs(oclua_state);
    return oclua_state;
}

int OCLUA_DO(lua_State *L, int which, const char *string, unsigned char *cobol, int
int result;
int stacked;
const char *retstr;
int retlen;

memset(cobol, ' ', coblen);
result = ((which == 0) ? luaL_dostring(L, string) : luaL_dofile(L, string));

```



```

    if (result == 1) {
/* error condition */
return -1;
    } else {
stacked = lua_gettop(L);
if (stacked > 0) {
    /* populate cobol field with top of stack */
    retstr = lua_tolstring(L, stacked, &retlen);
    memcpy(cobol, retstr, (coblen > retlen) ? retlen : coblen);
}
/* return number of items on the stack */
return stacked;
}
}

/* by filename */
int OCLUA_DOFIELD(lua_State *L, const char *filename, unsigned char *cobol, int coblen) {
    return OCLUA_DO(L, 1, filename, cobol, coblen);
}

/* by string */
int OCLUA_DOSTRING(lua_State *L, const char *string, unsigned char *cobol, int coblen) {
    return OCLUA_DO(L, 0, string, cobol, coblen);
}

/* retrieve stack item as string */
int OCLUA_GET(lua_State *L, int element, unsigned char *cobol, int coblen) {
    const char *retstr;
    int retlen;

    /* populate cobol field with top of stack */
    memset(cobol, ' ', coblen);
    retstr = lua_tolstring(L, element, &retlen);
    if (retstr == NULL) {
return -1;
    } else {
memcpy(cobol, retstr, (coblen > retlen) ? retlen : coblen);
return retlen;
    }
}

/* check the stack, resize if needed, returns false if stack can't grow */
int OCLUA_STACK(lua_State *L, int extra) {
    return lua_checkstack(L, extra);
}

/* depth of Lua stack */
int OCLUA_DEPTH(lua_State *L) {
    return lua_gettop(L);
}

```

```

/* pop elements off stack */
int OCLUA_POP(lua_State *L, int elements) {
    lua_pop(L, elements);
    return lua_gettop(L);
}

/* close the engine */
void OCLUA_CLOSE(lua_State *L) {
    lua_close(L);
}

/**/

```

---

and this sample Lua script `**oclua.lua**`

Listing 5.14: Lua script

```

-- Start
-- Script: oclua.lua
print("Lua prints hello")

hello = "Hello OpenCOBOL from Lua"
return math.pi, hello
-- End

```

---

## 5.12 Can OpenCOBOL use ECMAScript?

Yes. Using the SpiderMonkey ?? engine. See Can OpenCOBOL use JavaScript?

## 5.13 Can OpenCOBOL use JavaScript?

Yes. A wrapper for the SpiderMonkey engine allows OpenCOBOL access to core JavaScript.

Listing 5.15: OpenCOBOL with SpiderMonkey ECMAScript

```

/* OpenCOBOL with embedded spidermonkey javascript */
/*  cobc -c -I/usr/include/smjs ocjs.c
 *   cobc -x -lsmjs jscaller.cob
 *   some people found mozjs before smjs
 */
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>

/* javascript api requires an environment type */
#define XP_UNIX

```

```

#if (defined(XP_WIN) || defined(XP_UNIX) || defined(XP_BEOS) || defined(XP_OS2))
#include "jsapi.h"
#else
#error "Must define one of XP_BEOS, XP_OS2, XP_WIN or XP_UNIX"
#endif

/* Error codes */
#define OCJS_ERROR_RUNTIME -1
#define OCJS_ERROR_CONTEXT -2
#define OCJS_ERROR_GLOBAL -3
#define OCJS_ERROR_STANDARD -4
#define OCJS_ERROR_EVALUATE -5

/* OpenCOBOL main CALL interface */
/* javascript layer requires
 * a runtime per process,
 * a context per thread,
 * a global object per context
 * and will initialize
 * standard classes.
 */
static JSRuntime *rt;
static JSContext *cx;
static JSObject *global;
static JSClass global_class = {
    "global", 0,
    JS_PropertyStub, JS_PropertyStub, JS_PropertyStub, JS_PropertyStub,
    JS_EnumerateStub, JS_ResolveStub, JS_ConvertStub, JS_FinalizeStub
};

/* Initialize the engine resources */
int ocjsInitialize(int rtsize, int cxsize) {
    JSBool ok;

    /* on zero sizes, pick reasonable values */
    if (rtsize == 0) { rtsize = 0x100000; }
    if (cxsize == 0) { cxsize = 0x1000; }

    /* Initialize a runtime space */
    rt = JS_NewRuntime(rtsize);
    if (rt == NULL) { return OCJS_ERROR_RUNTIME; }
    /* Attach a context */
    cx = JS_NewContext(rt, cxsize);
    if (cx == NULL) { return OCJS_ERROR_CONTEXT; }
    /* And a default global */
    global = JS_NewObject(cx, &global_class, NULL, NULL);
    if (global == NULL) { return OCJS_ERROR_GLOBAL; }
    /* Load standard classes */
    ok = JS_InitStandardClasses(cx, global);

```

```

    /* Return success or standard class load error */
    return (ok == JS_TRUE) ? 0 : OCJS_ERROR_STANDARD;
}

/* Evaluate script */
int ocjsEvaluate(char *script, char *result, int length) {
    jsval rval;
    JSString *str;
    int reslen = OCJS_ERROR_EVALUATE;

    JSBool ok;

    /* filename and line number, not reported */
    char *filename = NULL;
    int lineno = 0;

    /* clear the result field */
    memset(result, ' ', length);

    /* Evaluate javascript */
    ok = JS_EvaluateScript(cx, global, script, strlen(script), filename, lineno, &rval);

    /* Convert js result to JSString form */
    if (ok == JS_TRUE) {
        str = JS_ValueToString(cx, rval);
        reslen = strlen(JS_GetStringBytes(str));
        if (length < reslen) { reslen = length; }
        /* convert down to char and move to OpenCOBOL result field */
        memcpy(result, JS_GetStringBytes(str), reslen);
    }
    return reslen;
}

/* Evaluate script from file */
int ocjsFromFile(char *filename, char *result, int length) {
    FILE *fin;
    int bufsize = 10240;
    char inbuf[bufsize];
    int reslen;

    fin = fopen(filename, "r");
    if (fin == NULL) { return OCJS_ERROR_EVALUATE; }
    //while (fread(inbuf, sizeof(char), bufsize, fin) > 0) {
    if (fread(inbuf, 1, bufsize, fin) > 0) {
        reslen = ocjsEvaluate(inbuf, result, length);
    }
    return reslen;
}

/* release js engine */

```

```

int ocjsRunDown() {
    if (cx != NULL) { JS_DestroyContext(cx); }
    if (rt != NULL) { JS_DestroyRuntime(rt); }
    JS_ShutDown();
    return 0;
}

/* Quick call; start engine, evaluate, release engine */
int ocjsString(char *script, char *result, int length) {
    int reslen;

    reslen = ocjsInitialize(0, 0);
    if (reslen < 0) { return reslen; }
    reslen = ocjsEvaluate(script, result, length);
    ocjsRunDown();
    return reslen;
}

```

---

A sample OpenCOBOL application:

Listing 5.16: OpenCOBOL embedding SpiderMonkey

```

OCOBOL >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
*>*****
*>Author:      Brian Tiffin
*>Date:        11-Sep-2008
*>Purpose:     Embed some javascript
*>Tectonics:   cobc -c -I/usr/include/smjs ocjs.c
*>             cobc -x -l/smjs jscaller.cob ocjs.o
*>*****
identification division.
program-id. jscaller.

data division.

working-storage section.
78 ocjs-error-runtime value -1.
78 ocjs-error-context value -2.
78 ocjs-error-global value -3.
78 ocjs-error-standard value -4.
78 ocjs-error-evaluate value -5.

78 newline          value x"0a".
01 source-data      pic x(40)
                    value "-----1-----$56.78 90----3-----4".
01 result           pic s9(9).
01 result-field     pic x(81).

01 javascript       pic x(1024).
01 safety-null      pic x value x"00".

```

```

*>*****
*><* Evaluate spidermonkey code, return the length of js result
  procedure division.

  display "js> " with no advancing end-display
  accept javascript end-accept
  call "ocjsString"
    using javascript
      result-field
      by value function length(result-field)
    returning result
  end-call
  display "OpenCOBOL result-field: " result-field end-display
  display "OpenCOBOL received      : " result newline end-display

*><* Initialize the javascript engine
  call "ocjsInitialize"
    using by value 65536
      by value 1024
    returning result
  end-call
  if result less 0
    stop run returning result
  end-if

*><* find (zero offset) dollar amount, space, number
  move spaces to javascript
  string
    "pat = /\$d+\.d+\s\d+//; "
    'a = "' delimited by size
    source-data delimited by size
    ';' delimited by size
    "a.search(pat); " delimited by size
    x"00" delimited by size
  into javascript
  end-string

  display
    "Script: " function trim(javascript, trailing)
  end-display

  call "ocjsEvaluate"
    using javascript
      result-field
      by value function length(result-field)
    returning result
  end-call
  display "OpenCOBOL result-field: " result-field end-display
  display "OpenCOBOL received      : " result newline end-display

```

```

*><* values held in js engine across calls
move spaces to javascript
string
    'a;' delimited by size
    x"00" delimited by size
    into javascript
end-string

display
    "Script: " function trim(javascript, trailing)
end-display

call "ocjsEvaluate"
    using javascript
    result-field
    by value function length(result-field)
    returning result
end-call
display "OpenCOBOL result-field: " result-field end-display
display "OpenCOBOL received      : " result newline end-display

*><* erroneous script
move spaces to javascript
string
    'an error of some kind;' delimited by size
    x"00" delimited by size
    into javascript
end-string

display
    "Script: " function trim(javascript, trailing)
end-display

call "ocjsEvaluate"
    using javascript
    result-field
    by value function length(result-field)
    returning result
end-call
if result equal ocjs-error-evaluate
    display " *** script problem ***" end-display
end-if
display "OpenCOBOL result-field: " result-field end-display
display "OpenCOBOL received      : " result newline end-display

*><* script from file
move spaces to javascript
string
    'ocjsscript.js' delimited by size
    x"00" delimited by size

```

```

        into javascript
    end-string

    display
        "Script: " function trim(javascript, trailing)
    end-display

    call "ocjsFromFile"
        using javascript
            result-field
            by value function length(result-field)
        returning result
    end-call
    if result equal ocjs-error-evaluate
        display " *** script problem ***" end-display
    end-if
    display "OpenCOBOL result-field: " result-field end-display
    display "OpenCOBOL received      : " result newline end-display

*><* Rundown the js engine
    call "ocjsRunDown" returning result

*><* take first name last name, return last "," first
move spaces to javascript
string
    "re = /(\\w+)\\s(\\w+)/; " delimited by size
    'str = "John Smith"; ' delimited by size
    'newstr = str.replace(re, "$2, $1"); ' delimited by size
    "newstr;" delimited by size
    x"00" delimited by size
    into javascript
end-string

    display
        "Script: " function trim(javascript, trailing)
    end-display

    call "ocjsString"
        using javascript
            result-field
            by value function length(result-field)
        returning result
    end-call
    display "OpenCOBOL result-field: " result-field end-display
    display "OpenCOBOL received      : " result newline end-display

*><* split a string using numbers return array (as js string form)
move spaces to javascript
string
    'myString = "Hello 1 word. Sentence number 2."; '

```



```

        delimited by size
        'splits = myString.split(/(\d)/); ' delimited by size
        'splits;' delimited by size
        x"00" delimited by size
        into javascript
    end-string

    display
        "Script: " function trim(javascript, trailing)
    end-display

    call "ocjsString"
        using javascript
        result-field
        by value function length(result-field)
        returning result
    end-call
    display "OpenCOBOL result-field: " result-field end-display
    display "OpenCOBOL received      : " result newline end-display

*><* Get javascript date
move "new Date()" & x"00" to javascript

    display
        "Script: " function trim(javascript, trailing)
    end-display

    call "ocjsString"
        using javascript
        result-field
        by value function length(result-field)
        returning result
    end-call
    display "OpenCOBOL result-field: " result-field end-display
    display "OpenCOBOL received      : " result end-display

    goback.
    end program jscaller.

```

---

And with a sample script:  
ocjsscript.js

Listing 5.17: javascript

```

var x = 2
var y = 39
var z = "42"
// boths line evaluate to 42
eval("x + y + 1")
eval(z)

```

---

Sample output:

```

js> 123 * 456 + 789
OpenCOBOL result-field: 56877
OpenCOBOL received      : +0000000005

Script: pat = /\$\d+\.\d+\s\d+\/; a = "----+----1----+-$56.78 90----3----+----
OpenCOBOL result-field: 16
OpenCOBOL received      : +0000000002

Script: a;
OpenCOBOL result-field: ----+----1----+-$56.78 90----3----+----4
OpenCOBOL received      : +0000000040

Script: an error of some kind;
      *** script problem ***
OpenCOBOL result-field:
OpenCOBOL received      : -0000000005

Script: re = /(\w+)\s(\w+)/; str = "John Smith"; newstr = str.replace(re, "$
OpenCOBOL result-field: Smith, John
OpenCOBOL received      : +0000000011

Script: myString = "Hello 1 word. Sentence number 2."; splits = myString.sp
OpenCOBOL result-field: Hello ,1, word. Sentence number ,2,.
OpenCOBOL received      : +0000000036

Script: new Date()
OpenCOBOL result-field: Mon Sep 15 2008 04:16:06 GMT-0400 (EDT)
OpenCOBOL received      : +0000000039

```

## 5.14 Can OpenCOBOL interface with Scheme?

Yes, directly embedded with Guile?? and libguile.

callguile.cob

Listing 5.18: OpenCOBOL

```

OCOBOL >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
      *> *****
      *> Author:      Brian Tiffin
      *> Date:        20090215
      *> Purpose:    Demonstrate libguile Scheme interactions
      *> Tectonics:  cobc -x -lguile callguile.cob
      *> *****
      identification division.
      program-id. callguile.

```

```

data division.
working-storage section.
01 tax-scm          usage pointer.
01 shipping-scm    usage pointer.
01 scm-string      usage pointer.
01 radix-scm       usage pointer.

01 subtotal        pic 999v99 value 80.00.
01 subtotal-display pic z(8)9.99.
01 weight          pic 99v99 value 10.00.
01 weight-display  pic z9.99.
01 breadth         pic 99v99 value 20.00.
01 breadth-display pic z9.99.

01 answer          pic x(80).
01 len             usage binary-long.

01 tax             pic 9(9)v9(2).
01 tax-display     pic z(8)9.9(2).
01 shipping        pic 9(9)v9(2).
01 shipping-display pic z(8)9.9(2).
01 invoice-total   pic 9(9)v9(2).
01 invoice-display pic $(8)9.9(2).

*> *****
procedure division.

display "OC: initialize libguile" end-display
call "scm_init_guile" end-call

display "OC: load scheme code" end-display
call "scm_c_primitive_load" using "script.scm" & x"00" end-call
display "OC:" end-display

display "OC: evaluate one of the defined functions" end-display
call "scm_c_eval_string" using "(do-hello)" & x"00" end-call
display "OC:" end-display

display "OC: perform tax calculation" end-display
move subtotal to subtotal-display
move weight to weight-display
move breadth to breadth-display
call "scm_c_eval_string"
  using
    function concatenate(
      "(compute-tax "; subtotal-display; ")"; x"00"
    )
  returning tax-scm
end-call

```

```

display "OC: perform shipping calculation" end-display
display "OC: " function concatenate(
    "(compute-shipping "; weight-display; " ";
    breadth-display; ")"; x"00"
)
end-display
call "scm_c_eval_string"
    using
        function concatenate(
            "(compute-shipping "; weight-display; " ";
            breadth-display; ")"; x"00"
        )
    returning shipping-scm
end-call

display "OC: have guile build a scheme integer 10" end-display
call "scm_from_int32"
    using by value size is 4 10 returning radix-scm
end-call

display "OC: have guile convert number, base 10" end-display
call "scm_number_to_string"
    using
        by value tax-scm by value radix-scm
    returning scm-string
end-call

display "OC: get numeric string to COBOL" end-display
call "scm_to_locale_stringbuf"
    using
        by value scm-string
        by reference answer
        by value 80
    returning len
end-call
display "OC: tax as string: " answer end-display
move answer to tax

call "scm_number_to_string"
    using
        by value shipping-scm by value radix-scm
    returning scm-string
end-call

call "scm_to_locale_stringbuf"
    using
        by value scm-string
        by reference answer
        by value 80

```

```

    returning len
  end-call
  display "OC: shipping as string: " answer end-display
  move answer to shipping

  compute invoice-total = subtotal + tax + shipping end-compute

  move subtotal to subtotal-display
  move tax to tax-display
  move shipping to shipping-display
  move invoice-total to invoice-display
  display "OC:" end-display
  display "OC: subtotal" " subtotal-display end-display
  display "OC: tax" " tax-display end-display
  display "OC: shipping" " shipping-display end-display
  display "OC: total:" " invoice-display end-display
  goback.
end program callguile.

```

---

script.scm

Listing 5.19: Guile script

```

(define (do-hello)
  (begin
    (display "Welcome to Guile")
    (newline)))

(define (compute-tax subtotal)
  (* subtotal 0.0875))

(define (compute-shipping weight length)

  ;; For small, light packages, charge the minimum
  (if (and (< weight 20) (< length 5))
      0.95

      ;; Otherwise for long packages, charge a lot
      (if (> length 100)
          (+ 0.95 (* weight 0.1))

          ;; Otherwise, charge the usual
          (+ 0.95 (* weight 0.05)))))

(display "Loaded script.scm")(newline)

```

---

Outputs:

```

OC: initialize libguile
OC: load scheme code

```

```

Loaded script.scm
OC:
OC: evaluate one of the defined functions
Welcome to Guile
OC:
OC: perform tax calculation
OC: perform shipping calculation
OC: (compute-shipping 10.00 20.00)
OC: have guile build a scheme integer 10
OC: have guile convert number, base 10
OC: get numeric string to COBOL
OC: tax as string: 7.0
OC: shipping as string: 1.45
OC:
OC: subtotal                80.00
OC: tax                     7.00
OC: shipping                1.45
OC: total:                  $88.45

```

Of course using Scheme for financial calculations in an OpenCOBOL application would not be a smart usage. This is just a working sample.

## 5.15 Can OpenCOBOL interface with Tcl/Tk?

Yes. OpenCOBOL supports the Tcl/Tk embedding engine developed by Rildo Pragana [7] as part of the TinyCOBOL project. We have been given permission by Rildo to embed his engine in OpenCOBOL.

See <http://ww1.pragana.net/cobol.html> for sources.

Rildo's working sample

Listing 5.20: TinyCOBOL tclgui

```

TCOBOL IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
PROGRAM-ID.    tclgui.
AUTHOR. Rildo Pragana.
*> REMARKS.
*>    Example tcl/tk GUI program for Cobol.
*>
ENVIRONMENT DIVISION.
DATA DIVISION.
*>
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
01 DATA-BLOCK.
   05 NAME                PIC X(40).
   05 W-ADDRESS           PIC X(50).
   05 PHONE               PIC X(15).
   05 END-PGM            PIC X.
   05 QUICK-RET          PIC X.

```

```

01 SITE-INFO.
   05 TITLE          PIC X(20).
   05 URL            PIC X(50).
77 GUI-01           PIC X(64) VALUE "formA.tcl".
77 GUI-02           PIC X(64) VALUE "formB.tcl".
77 END-OF-STRING    pic X value LOW-VALUES.
77 T-SCRIPT         PIC X(128).
77 T-RESULT         PIC X(80).
01 dummy           pic X value X"00".

PROCEDURE DIVISION.

CALL "initTcl"

*> test for stcleval function
string "expr 12 * 34" END-OF-STRING into T-SCRIPT
call "stcleval" using T-SCRIPT T-RESULT
display "eval by tcl: |" T-SCRIPT "|" returned " T-RESULT

MOVE "Your name here" to NAME
MOVE "Your address" TO W-ADDRESS
MOVE "Phone number" to PHONE
*> this variable tells Cobol that the user required an exit
MOVE "0" to END-PGM
MOVE "1" to QUICK-RET
MOVE "Afonso Pena" to NAME
*> now we may have the script name as a variable, terminated by a space
CALL "tclevall" USING DATA-BLOCK "./formA.tcl "
MOVE "Deodoro da Fonseca" to NAME
CALL "tclevall" USING DATA-BLOCK GUI-01
MOVE "Rui Barbosa" to NAME
CALL "tclevall" USING DATA-BLOCK GUI-01
MOVE "Frei Caneca" to NAME
CALL "tclevall" USING DATA-BLOCK GUI-01

MOVE "0" to QUICK-RET
MOVE "Your name here" to NAME.
100-restart.
*> call C wrapper, passing data block and size of data
CALL "tclevall" USING DATA-BLOCK GUI-01

DISPLAY "Returned data:"
DISPLAY "NAME      [" NAME "]"
DISPLAY "ADDRESS [" W-ADDRESS "]"
DISPLAY "PHONE    [" PHONE "]"
*> if not end of program required, loop
if END-PGM = 0
    go to 100-restart.
*> to start a new GUI (graphical interface), call this first
call "newGui"

```

```

MOVE "Title of the site" to TITLE
MOVE "URL (http://..., ftp://..., etc)" to URL
*> now we may draw other main window...
CALL "tcleval" USING SITE-INFO GUI-02
DISPLAY "Returned data:"
DISPLAY "TITLE    [" TITLE  "]"
DISPLAY "URL     [" URL   "]"

STOP RUN.

```

---

Which uses two Tcl/Tk scripts

Listing 5.21: TCL in OpenCOBOL, by Rildo Pragana for TinyCOBOL

```

#!/bin/sh
# the next line restarts using wish\
exec wish "$0" "$@"

if {[info exists vTcl(sourcing)]} {

    package require Tk
    switch $tcl_platform(platform) {
    windows {
        option add *Button.pady 0
    }
    default {
        option add *Scrollbar.width 10
        option add *Scrollbar.highlightThickness 0
        option add *Scrollbar.elementBorderWidth 2
        option add *Scrollbar.borderWidth 2
    }
    }
}

#####
# Visual Tcl v1.60 Project
#

#####
# VTCL LIBRARY PROCEDURES
#

if {[info exists vTcl(sourcing)]} {
#####
## Library Procedure: Window

proc ::Window {args} {
    ## This procedure may be used free of restrictions.
    ## Exception added by Christian Gavin on 08/08/02.

```



```

## Other packages and widget toolkits have different licensing requirements.
##   Please read their license agreements for details.

global vTcl
foreach {cmd name newname} [lrange $args 0 2] {}
set rest [lrange $args 3 end]
if {$name == "" || $cmd == ""} { return }
if {$newname == ""} { set newname $name }
if {$name == "."} { wm withdraw $name; return }
set exists [winfo exists $newname]
switch $cmd {
  show {
    if {$exists} {
      wm deiconify $newname
    } elseif {[info procs vTclWindow$name] != ""} {
      eval "vTclWindow$name $newname $rest"
    }
    if {[winfo exists $newname] && [wm state $newname] == "normal"} {
      vTcl:FireEvent $newname <<Show>>
    }
  }
  hide {
    if {$exists} {
      wm withdraw $newname
      vTcl:FireEvent $newname <<Hide>>
      return
    }
    iconify { if $exists {wm iconify $newname; return} }
    destroy { if $exists {destroy $newname; return} }
  }
}
}
#####
## Library Procedure: vTcl:DefineAlias

proc ::vTcl:DefineAlias {target alias widgetProc top_or_alias cmdalias} {
  ## This procedure may be used free of restrictions.
  ##   Exception added by Christian Gavin on 08/08/02.
  ## Other packages and widget toolkits have different licensing requirements.
  ##   Please read their license agreements for details.

  global widget
  set widget($alias) $target
  set widget(rev,$target) $alias
  if {$cmdalias} {
    interp alias {} $alias {} $widgetProc $target
  }
  if {$top_or_alias != ""} {
    set widget($top_or_alias,$alias) $target
    if {$cmdalias} {
      interp alias {} $top_or_alias.$alias {} $widgetProc $target
    }
  }
}

```

```

    }
  }
}
#####
## Library Procedure:  vTcl:DoCmdOption

proc ::vTcl:DoCmdOption {target cmd} {
  ## This procedure may be used free of restrictions.
  ##   Exception added by Christian Gavin on 08/08/02.
  ## Other packages and widget toolkits have different licensing requirements.
  ##   Please read their license agreements for details.

  ## menus are considered toplevel windows
  set parent $target
  while {[wininfo class $parent] == "Menu"} {
    set parent [wininfo parent $parent]
  }

  reghsub -all {\%widget} $cmd $target cmd
  reghsub -all {\%top} $cmd [wininfo toplevel $parent] cmd

  uplevel #0 [list eval $cmd]
}
#####
## Library Procedure:  vTcl:FireEvent

proc ::vTcl:FireEvent {target event {params {}}} {
  ## This procedure may be used free of restrictions.
  ##   Exception added by Christian Gavin on 08/08/02.
  ## Other packages and widget toolkits have different licensing requirements.
  ##   Please read their license agreements for details.

  ## The window may have disappeared
  if {![wininfo exists $target]} return
  ## Process each binding tag, looking for the event
  foreach bindtag [bindtags $target] {
    set tag_events [bind $bindtag]
    set stop_processing 0
    foreach tag_event $tag_events {
      if {$tag_event == $event} {
        set bind_code [bind $bindtag $tag_event]
        foreach rep "\{%W $target\} $params" {
          reghsub -all [lindex $rep 0] $bind_code [lindex $rep 1] bind_code
        }
        set result [catch {uplevel #0 $bind_code} errortext]
        if {$result == 3} {
          ## break exception, stop processing
          set stop_processing 1
        } elseif {$result != 0} {
          bgerror $errortext
        }
      }
    }
  }
}

```

```

        }
        break
    }
}
if {$stop_processing} {break}
}
}
#####
## Library Procedure:  vTcl:Toplevel:WidgetProc

proc ::vTcl:Toplevel:WidgetProc {w args} {
    ## This procedure may be used free of restrictions.
    ## Exception added by Christian Gavin on 08/08/02.
    ## Other packages and widget toolkits have different licensing requirements.
    ## Please read their license agreements for details.

    if {[llength $args] == 0} {
        ## If no arguments, returns the path the alias points to
        return $w
    }
    set command [lindex $args 0]
    set args [lrange $args 1 end]
    switch -- [string tolower $command] {
        "setvar" {
            foreach {varname value} $args {}
                if {$value == ""} {
                    return [set ::${w}::${varname}]
                } else {
                    return [set ::${w}::${varname} $value]
                }
            }
        }
        "hide" - "show" {
            Window [string tolower $command] $w
        }
        "showmodal" {
            ## modal dialog ends when window is destroyed
            Window show $w; raise $w
            grab $w; tkwait window $w; grab release $w
        }
        "startmodal" {
            ## ends when endmodal called
            Window show $w; raise $w
            set ::${w}::_modal 1
            grab $w; tkwait variable ::${w}::_modal; grab release $w
        }
        "endmodal" {
            ## ends modal dialog started with startmodal, argument is var name
            set ::${w}::_modal 0
            Window hide $w
        }
    }
}

```

```

        default {
            uplevel $w $command $args
        }
    }
}
#####
## Library Procedure:  vTcl:WidgetProc

proc ::vTcl:WidgetProc {w args} {
    ## This procedure may be used free of restrictions.
    ## Exception added by Christian Gavin on 08/08/02.
    ## Other packages and widget toolkits have different licensing requirements.
    ## Please read their license agreements for details.

    if {[llength $args] == 0} {
        ## If no arguments, returns the path the alias points to
        return $w
    }

    set command [lindex $args 0]
    set args [lrange $args 1 end]
    uplevel $w $command $args
}
#####
## Library Procedure:  vTcl:toplevel

proc ::vTcl:toplevel {args} {
    ## This procedure may be used free of restrictions.
    ## Exception added by Christian Gavin on 08/08/02.
    ## Other packages and widget toolkits have different licensing requirements.
    ## Please read their license agreements for details.

    uplevel #0 eval toplevel $args
    set target [lindex $args 0]
    namespace eval ::$target {set _modal 0}
}

}

if {[info exists vTcl(sourcing)]} {

proc vTcl:project:info {} {
    set base .top43
    namespace eval ::widgets::$base {
        set set,origin 1
        set set,size 1
        set runvisible 1
    }
    namespace eval ::widgets::$base.lab44 {
        array set save {-disabledforeground 1 -font 1 -text 1}
    }
}
}

```

```

}
namespace eval ::widgets::$base.cpd45 {
    array set save {-disabledforeground 1 -font 1 -text 1}
}
namespace eval ::widgets::$base.cpd46 {
    array set save {-disabledforeground 1 -font 1 -text 1}
}
namespace eval ::widgets::$base.che47 {
    array set save {-disabledforeground 1 -font 1 -text 1 -variable 1}
}
namespace eval ::widgets::$base.but48 {
    array set save {-command 1 -disabledforeground 1 -font 1 -text 1}
}
namespace eval ::widgets::$base.ent49 {
    array set save {-background 1 -insertbackground 1 -textvariable 1}
}
namespace eval ::widgets::$base.cpd50 {
    array set save {-background 1 -insertbackground 1 -textvariable 1}
}
namespace eval ::widgets::$base.cpd51 {
    array set save {-background 1 -insertbackground 1 -textvariable 1}
}
namespace eval ::widgets::$base.lis43 {
    array set save {-background 1 -listvariable 1}
}
namespace eval ::widgets::$base.lab45 {
    array set save {-disabledforeground 1 -font 1 -text 1}
}
namespace eval ::widgets::$base.but47 {
    array set save {-command 1 -disabledforeground 1 -text 1}
}
namespace eval ::widgets::$base.but51 {
    array set save {-command 1 -disabledforeground 1 -text 1}
}
set base .top47
namespace eval ::widgets::$base {
    set set,origin 1
    set set,size 1
    set runvisible 1
}
namespace eval ::widgets::$base.ent48 {
    array set save {-background 1 -disabledforeground 1 -insertbackground 1 -textvariable
}
namespace eval ::widgets::$base.but49 {
    array set save {-command 1 -disabledforeground 1 -text 1}
}
namespace eval ::widgets::$base.but50 {
    array set save {-command 1 -disabledforeground 1 -text 1}
}
namespace eval ::widgets_bindings {

```

```

        set tagslist _TopLevel
    }
    namespace eval ::vTcl::modules::main {
        set procs {
            init
            main
            cobol_update
        }
        set compounds {
        }
        set projectType single
    }
}
}

#####
# USER DEFINED PROCEDURES
#
#####
## Procedure:  main

proc ::main {argc argv} {
    global cobol_fields widget

    set cobol_fields {
        name      40
        address   50
        phone     15
        endpgm    1
        quickret  1
    }

    global nomes_anteriores
    if {[info exists nomes_anteriores]} {
        set nomes_anteriores {}
    }

    #bind all <Return> do_exit
}

proc ::cobol_preprocess {args} {
    global quickret
    if {$quickret} {
        do_exit
    }
}
#####
## Procedure:  cobol_update

proc ::cobol_update {} {

```

```

global widget
global nomes_antiores name

#puts "tcl-TC LOG: lappend nomes_antiores $name"
lappend nomes_antiores $name
focus $widget(nome_entry)

}

#####
## Initialization Procedure: init

proc ::init {argc argv} {

}

init $argc $argv

#####
# VTCL GENERATED GUI PROCEDURES
#

proc vTclWindow. {base} {
    if {$base == ""} {
        set base .
    }
    #####
    # CREATING WIDGETS
    #####
    wm focusmodel $top passive
    wm geometry $top lxl+0+0; update
    wm maxsize $top 1265 994
    wm minsize $top 1 1
    wm overrideredirect $top 0
    wm resizable $top 1 1
    wm withdraw $top
    wm title $top "vtcl.tcl"
    bindtags $top "$top Vtcl.tcl all"
    vTcl:FireEvent $top <<Create>>
    wm protocol $top WM_DELETE_WINDOW "vTcl:FireEvent $top <<DeleteWindow>>"

    #####
    # SETTING GEOMETRY
    #####

    vTcl:FireEvent $base <<Ready>>
}

proc vTclWindow.top43 {base} {
    if {$base == ""} {

```

```

    set base .top43
}
if {[winfo exists $base]} {
    wm deiconify $base; return
}
set top $base
#####
# CREATING WIDGETS
#####
vTcl:toplevel $top -class Toplevel \
    -highlightcolor black
wm focusmodel $top passive
wm geometry $top 570x523+318+169; update
wm maxsize $top 1265 994
wm minsize $top 1 1
wm overrideredirect $top 0
wm resizable $top 1 1
wm deiconify $top
wm title $top "New Toplevel 1"
vTcl:DefineAlias "$top" "Toplevel1" vTcl:Toplevel:WidgetProc "" 1
bindtags $top "$top Toplevel all _TopLevel"
vTcl:FireEvent $top <<Create>>
wm protocol $top WM_DELETE_WINDOW "vTcl:FireEvent $top <<DeleteWindow>>"

label $top.lab44 \
    -disabledforeground #ala4a1 -font {helvetica 18 bold} -text Nome:
vTcl:DefineAlias "$top.lab44" "Label1" vTcl:WidgetProc "Toplevel1" 1
label $top.cpd45 \
    -disabledforeground #ala4a1 -font {helvetica 18 bold} -text Endere o:
vTcl:DefineAlias "$top.cpd45" "Label2" vTcl:WidgetProc "Toplevel1" 1
label $top.cpd46 \
    -disabledforeground #ala4a1 -font {helvetica 18 bold} -text Telefone:
vTcl:DefineAlias "$top.cpd46" "Label3" vTcl:WidgetProc "Toplevel1" 1
checkboxbutton $top.che47 \
    -disabledforeground #ala4a1 -font {helvetica 10} -text concludo \
    -variable endpgm
vTcl:DefineAlias "$top.che47" "Checkbox1" vTcl:WidgetProc "Toplevel1" 1
button $top.but48 \
    -command do_exit -disabledforeground #ala4a1 \
    -font {helvetica 10 bold} -text entra
vTcl:DefineAlias "$top.but48" "Button1" vTcl:WidgetProc "Toplevel1" 1
entry $top.ent49 \
    -background white -insertbackground black -textvariable name
vTcl:DefineAlias "$top.ent49" "nome_entry" vTcl:WidgetProc "Toplevel1" 1
entry $top.cpd50 \
    -background white -insertbackground black -textvariable address
vTcl:DefineAlias "$top.cpd50" "Entry2" vTcl:WidgetProc "Toplevel1" 1
entry $top.cpd51 \
    -background white -insertbackground black -textvariable phone
vTcl:DefineAlias "$top.cpd51" "Entry3" vTcl:WidgetProc "Toplevel1" 1

```



```

listbox $top.lis43 \
    -background white -listvariable nomes_anteriores
vTcl:DefineAlias "$top.lis43" "Listbox1" vTcl:WidgetProc "Toplevel1" 1
label $top.lab45 \
    -disabledforeground #ala4a1 -font {verdana -11} \
    -text {nomes
anteriores}
vTcl:DefineAlias "$top.lab45" "Label4" vTcl:WidgetProc "Toplevel1" 1
button $top.but47 \
    -command {source /usr/bin/tkcon} -disabledforeground #ala4a1 \
    -text tkcon
vTcl:DefineAlias "$top.but47" "Button2" vTcl:WidgetProc "Toplevel1" 1
button $top.but51 \
    -command {MinhaJanela show} -disabledforeground #ala4a1 \
    -text {nome (aux)}
vTcl:DefineAlias "$top.but51" "Button3" vTcl:WidgetProc "Toplevel1" 1
#####
# SETTING GEOMETRY
#####
place $top.lab44 \
    -x 25 -y 35 -anchor nw -bordermode ignore
place $top.cpd45 \
    -x 25 -y 100 -anchor nw
place $top.cpd46 \
    -x 25 -y 170 -anchor nw
place $top.che47 \
    -x 30 -y 440 -anchor nw -bordermode ignore
place $top.but48 \
    -x 205 -y 430 -anchor nw -bordermode ignore
place $top.ent49 \
    -x 140 -y 40 -width 403 -height 27 -anchor nw -bordermode ignore
place $top.cpd50 \
    -x 175 -y 100 -width 368 -height 27 -anchor nw
place $top.cpd51 \
    -x 175 -y 175 -width 273 -height 27 -anchor nw
place $top.lis43 \
    -x 155 -y 245 -width 383 -height 156 -anchor nw -bordermode ignore
place $top.lab45 \
    -x 35 -y 250 -anchor nw -bordermode ignore
place $top.but47 \
    -x 470 -y 430 -anchor nw -bordermode ignore
place $top.but51 \
    -x 320 -y 430 -anchor nw -bordermode ignore

vTcl:FireEvent $base <<Ready>>
}

proc vTclWindow.top47 {base} {
    if {$base == ""} {
        set base .top47
    }
}

```

```

}
if {[wininfo exists $base]} {
    wm deiconify $base; return
}
set top $base
#####
# CREATING WIDGETS
#####
vTcl:toplevel $top -class Toplevel \
    -highlightcolor black
wm withdraw $top
wm focusmodel $top passive
wm geometry $top 433x150+169+728; update
wm maxsize $top 1265 994
wm minsize $top 1 1
wm overrideredirect $top 0
wm resizable $top 1 1
wm title $top "New Toplevel 2"
vTcl:DefineAlias "$top" "MinhaJanela" vTcl:Toplevel:WidgetProc "" 1
bindtags $top "$top Toplevel all _TopLevel"
vTcl:FireEvent $top <<Create>>
wm protocol $top WM_DELETE_WINDOW "vTcl:FireEvent $top <<DeleteWindow>>"

entry $top.ent48 \
    -background white -disabledforeground #a1a4a1 -insertbackground black \
    -textvariable name1
vTcl:DefineAlias "$top.ent48" "Entry1" vTcl:WidgetProc "MinhaJanela" 1
button $top.but49 \
    -command {global name name1
set name $name1
MinhaJanela hide} \
    -disabledforeground #a1a4a1 -text ok
vTcl:DefineAlias "$top.but49" "Button1" vTcl:WidgetProc "MinhaJanela" 1
button $top.but50 \
    -command {MinhaJanela hide} -disabledforeground #a1a4a1 -text fechar
vTcl:DefineAlias "$top.but50" "Button2" vTcl:WidgetProc "MinhaJanela" 1
#####
# SETTING GEOMETRY
#####
place $top.ent48 \
    -x 50 -y 30 -width 353 -height 27 -anchor nw -bordermode ignore
place $top.but49 \
    -x 145 -y 90 -anchor nw -bordermode ignore
place $top.but50 \
    -x 240 -y 90 -anchor nw -bordermode ignore

vTcl:FireEvent $base <<Ready>>
}

#####

```

```

## Binding tag:  _TopLevel

bind "_TopLevel" <<Create>> {
    if {[info exists _topcount]} {set _topcount 0}; incr _topcount
}
bind "_TopLevel" <<DeleteWindow>> {
    if {[set ::%W::_modal]} {
        vTcl:Toplevel:WidgetProc %W endmodal
    } else {
        destroy %W; if {$_topcount == 0} {exit}
    }
}
bind "_TopLevel" <Destroy> {
    if {[wininfo toplevel %W] == "%W"} {incr _topcount -1}
}

Window show .
Window show .top43
Window show .top47

main $argc $argv

```

---

and

Listing 5.22: TCL in OpenCOBOL, by Rildo Pragana for TinyCOBOL

```

#!/bin/sh
# the next line restarts using wish\
exec wish "$0" "$@"
# this script receives "data_block" with the (group) value
# of the cobol variable and returns "result"

## visual tcl leaves the main window iconified, so let's show it
wm deiconify .

##### put in this list varname, size pairs

set cobol_fields {
    title    20
    url      50
}

grid [label .msg -text \
    "Use <Tab> to navigate, <Return> (or click button) \n\
    to return to main program." ] -columnspan 2

grid \
    [label .lab1 -text "Title:" ] \
    [entry .e1 -width 20 -textvariable title] -padx 5 -pady 5 -sticky nsw
grid \
    [label .lab2 -text "URL:" ] \

```

```

[entry .e2 -width 50 -textvariable url] -padx 5 -pady 5 -sticky nsw

grid [button .ready -text Enter -command do_exit] \
    -columnspan 2 -pady 20 -sticky ns

bind all <Return> do_exit
focus .e1

#trace add variable ::ready write show_variables

proc show_variables {args} {
    uplevel #0 {
        set exclude {^::(env|auto_index|tcl_*|widget|tk_*|auto_*)$}
        puts "variables: -----"
        foreach v [info vars ::*] {
            if {[regexp $exclude $v]} {
                continue
            }
            if {[array exists $v]} {
                puts "$v: [array get $v]"
            } else {
                puts "$v: [set $v]"
            }
        }
    }
}

```

---

## 5.16 Can OpenCOBOL interface with Falcon PL?

Not yet, but work with Giancarlo to allow embedding of Falcon scripts is in progress.

\*\*Update on December 31st, 2010\*\*

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Falcon\\_\(programming\\_language\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Falcon_(programming_language))

Yes, yes it can.

This is from the linked post ... but the Falcon programming language embeds in OpenCOBOL just fine.

```
falconscript.fal
```

Listing 5.23: Giancarlo Niccolai Falcon, list comprehension

```

> "Falcon list comprehension called from OpenCOBOL"
sums = [].mfcomp( {x,y=> x+y}, .[1 2 3], .[4 5 6] )
return sums.describe()

```

---

it goes

```

$ ./callfalcon
argv[1]: falconscript.fal

```

```
Falcon list comprehension called from OpenCOBOL
VM Output: [ 5, 6, 7, 6, 7, 8, 7, 8, 9]
Intermediate: [ 5, 6, 7, 6, 7, 8, 7, 8, 9]
Falcon says: [ 5, 6, 7, 6, 7, 8, 7, 8, 9]
```

A Falcon list comprehension with `**mfcomp**` applies the reduction `x+y` on 1 and 4, 1 and 5, 1 and 6, then 2 and 4, 2 and 5 etc.

See [http://www.opencobol.org/modules/newbb/viewtopic.php?topic\\_id=1221&forum=1&post](http://www.opencobol.org/modules/newbb/viewtopic.php?topic_id=1221&forum=1&post) for details.

FalconPL has some nice features.

Listing 5.24: Giancarlo Niccolai's Falcon

```
saying = List("Have", "a", "nice", "day")

for elem in saying
  >> elem
  formiddle: >> " "
  forlast: > "!"
end
```

---

giving:

Have a nice day!

Source files can be found in <http://fossile.plpwebs.com/ocsamples.cgi/dir?ci=tip>

## 5.17 Can OpenCOBOL interface with Ada?

Yes. The freely available `**gnat**` system can be used and will create object files that can be included in an OpenCOBOL project.

This example compiles an gnat package that includes `*hello*` and `*ingress*` PROCEDURE and a `*echo*` FUNCTION. These will be called from an OpenCOBOL `**adacaller.cob**` program.

The gnat specification file

Listing 5.25: GNAT Ada

```
with Interfaces.C;
use Interfaces.C;
package HelloAda is

  procedure hello;
  procedure ingress(value : in INTEGER);
  function echo(message : in char_array) return integer;
  pragma export(C, hello);
  pragma export(C, ingress);
  pragma export(C, echo);

end HelloAda;
```

---

The gnat implementation body

Listing 5.26: GNAT Ada

```
with Ada.Text_IO, Ada.Integer_Text_IO, Interfaces.C;
use  Ada.Text_IO, Ada.Integer_Text_IO, Interfaces.C;
package body HelloAda is

  procedure hello is
  begin
    Put_Line("Hello from Ada and OpenCOBOL");
    New_Line;
  end hello;

  procedure ingress(value : in integer) is
  begin
    Put_Line("Passing integer to Ada from OpenCOBOL");
    Put("OpenCOBOL passed: ");
    Put(value);
    New_Line;
    New_Line;
  end ingress;

  function echo(message : in char_array) return integer is
  begin
    Put(To_Ada(message, true));
    return To_Ada(message, true)'length;
  end echo;

end HelloAda;
```

---

The adacaller.cob source file

Listing 5.27: OpenCOBOL interfacing to Ada

```
OCOBOL***** adacaller.cob *****
  >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
  *****
  * Author:    Brian Tiffin
  * Date:      08-Sep-2008
  * Purpose:   Demonstrate using Ada sub-programs
  * Tectonics: gnatgcc -c helloada.adb
  *            gnatbind -n helloada
  *            gnatgcc -c b~helloada.abd
  *            cobc -x -lgnat caller.cob helloada.o b~helloada.o
  *****
  identification division.
  program-id. caller.

  data division.
  working-storage section.
  01 ada-message          pic x(10) value "Ada echo" & x'0a' & x'00'.
```

```

01 result          pic s9(9) value high-value.
*****
procedure division.
begin.
call "adainit" end-call

call "hello" end-call

call "ingress" using by value 42 end-call

call "echo" using
    by reference ada-message
    returning result
end-call
display "Ada return: " result end-display

call "adafinal" end-call

goback
.
end program caller.

```

---

And the tectonics; Debian GNU/Linux `*build.sh*`

Listing 5.28: OpenCOBOL interfacing to Ada

```

gnatgcc -c helloada.adb
gnatbind -n helloada
gnatgcc -c b~helloada.adb
cobc -x -lgnat adacaller.cob helloada.o b~helloada.o

```

---

An important step is the creation of the object file from the `*gnatbind*` output `*with -n*` that is used in the final OpenCOBOL executable.

Sample run using `./adacaller`:

```

Hello from Ada and OpenCOBOL

Passing integer to Ada from OpenCOBOL
OpenCOBOL passed:          42

Ada echo
Ada return: +000000009

```

See [Can the GNAT Programming Studio be used with OpenCOBOL?5.20](#) for more.

## 5.18 Can OpenCOBOL interface with Vala?

Yes. Very easily. The Vala design philosophy of producing C application binary interface code means that Vala is directly usable with OpenCOBOL's CALL statement.

See <http://live.gnome.org/Vala> for some details on this emerging programming environment.

This interface will be seeing more and more use as it really does open the door to some very powerful extensions.

- WebKit embedding
- PDF Viewers
- GTK
- Media streaming
- much more

### 5.18.1 Call OpenCOBOL programs from Vala

Using a few simple tricks, Vala can easily call OpenCOBOL programs. Vala uses a predictable link module naming convention. Inside a class, `from.vala`, the linker will try and find `from_vala_name`, in this case `from_vala_ochello`.

Listing 5.29: Vala call OpenCOBOL

```
/* Call OpenCOBOL from Vala */

public class from.vala
{

    public static int main(string[] args)
    {
        stdout.printf("Result: %d\n", ochello());
        return 0;
    }
    [import()]
    public extern static int ochello();
}
```

---

So the PROGRAM-ID here is `from_vala_ochello`.

Listing 5.30: OpenCOBOL interfacing to Vala

```
OCOBOL >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
*> *****
*> Author:    Brian Tiffin
*> Date:      20101017
*> Purpose:   Call ochello from Vala in a from.vala Class
*> Tectonics:
*>   cobc -fimplicit-init -C ochello.cob
*>   valac callcobol.vala ochello.c -X -lcob
*> *****
```



```

identification division.
program-id. from_vala_ochello.

*> *****
procedure division.
display "Hello OpenCOBOL's World!" end-display
move 42 to return-code
goback.
end program from_vala_ochello.

```

The tectonics might seem a little bit mysterious. `*cobc*` is used to produce C source code, including calls for initialization of the OpenCOBOL runtime.

`*valac*` is then used to compile and link the Vala source, the generated `ochello.c` and then the `*gcc*` compiler is passed the `-lcob` to link in `libcob.so`.

### 5.18.2 Call OpenCOBOL from a Vala GTK gui application

And another experiment, with a gui button and repeated timer calls.

```
callhellogui.vala
```

Listing 5.31: Vala GTK call OpenCOBOL

```

// Call OpenCOBOL program from Vala and show the return code on a button
using Gtk;

public class from.vala {
    public static int cobolcode;
    public static char[] valarray = new char[80];

    public static int main (string[] args) {

        Gtk.init (ref args);
        var time = new TimeoutSource(50);

        var window = new Window (WindowType.TOPLEVEL);
        window.title = "Invoke OpenCOBOL program";
        window.set_default_size (300, 50);
        window.position = WindowPosition.CENTER;
        window.destroy.connect (Gtk.main_quit);

        cobolcode = ochello();

        var button = new Button.with_label (cobolcode.to_string());
        button.clicked.connect (() => {
            button.label = "Thanks for all the fish!";
            stdout.printf("%d\n", fishy());
        });

        time.set_callback(() => {
            var t = Time.local(time_t());

```

```

        string fromvala = "From vala string type + time to_string:
" + t.to_string();
        string fromcobol = "xxxx/xx/xxbxx/xx/xxxxxxxx/xx";

        stdout.printf("Vala fromcobol string was    : %s\n", fromcobol);

        datey(fromvala, fromcobol);

        stdout.printf("Vala fromcobol string set to: %s\n", fromcobol);
        return true;
    });

    time.attach(null);

    window.add (button);
    window.show_all ();

    Gtk.main ();
    return 0;
}

[import()]
public extern static int ochello();
public extern static int fishy();
public extern static int datey(string arg1, string arg2);
}

```

---

ochellogui.cob

And here we define from\_vala\_ochello, from\_vala\_fishy, from\_vala\_datey.

#### Listing 5.32: OpenCOBOL call ochellogui from.Vala

```

OCOBOL >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
*> *****
*> Author:    Brian Tiffin
*> Date:      20101017
*> Purpose:   Call ochello from Vala in a from.vala Class
*> Tectonics:
*>   cobc -fimplicit-init -C ochellogui.cob
*>   valac --pkg gtk+-2.0 callcobolgui.vala ochellogui.c -X -lcob
*> *****
identification division.
program-id. from_vala_ochello.
procedure division.
display "Hello OpenCOBOL's Wonderful World!" end-display
move 42 to return-code
goback.
end program from_vala_ochello.

*> *****
*> *****

```

```

program-id. from_vala_fishy.
procedure division.
display "We really do mean, thanks for all the fish!" end-display
goback.
end program from_vala_fishy.

*> *****
*> *****

program-id. from_vala_datey.
data division.
working-storage section.
01 editted-date pic xxxx/xx/xxbxx/xx/xxxxxxxx/xx.

linkage section.
01 datafromvala pic x(60).
01 datafromcobol pic x(27).

procedure division using datafromvala datafromcobol.
move function current-date to editted-date
inspect editted-date replacing all "/" by ":" after initial space
display editted-date end-display

display datafromvala end-display

move editted-date to datafromcobol
goback.
end program from_vala_datey.

```

Tectonics similar to the first sample. With this one, a timer fires every 50 milliseconds passing data back and forth between Vala and OpenCOBOL *unsafely, mind you*. If you push button "42", a message is printed to standard out.



Figure 5.2: Call OpenCOBOL GUI

Along with the GUI button, produces:

```

$ ./callcobolgui
...

```

```

Vala fromcobol string was      : xxxx/xx/xxbxx/xx/xxxxxxxx/xx
2010/10/17 18:19:5598-04:00
From vala string type + time to_string: 2010-10-17 18:19:55
Vala fromcobol string set to: 2010/10/17 18:19:5598-04:00
Vala fromcobol string was      : xxxx/xx/xxbxx/xx/xxxxxxxx/xx
2010/10/17 18:19:5603-04:00
From vala string type + time to_string: 2010-10-17 18:19:56
Vala fromcobol string set to: 2010/10/17 18:19:5603-04:00
...

```

### 5.18.3 Call Genie program from OpenCOBOL

Here is a sample that calls a small Genie program.

`pipng.gs`, a small program that spawns out some shell commands. One fails on purpose, `ech` is not a valid executable. The next `echo` call has the output captured in `ret_stdout`. 42 is then passed as the return code to OpenCOBOL.

Listing 5.33: Genie piping

```

Tectonics: valac -c pipng.gs
ndent=4]
class wrapper : Object
    def static hellogenie() : int
        ret_stdout : string
        ret_stderr : string
        ret_status : int

        try
            Process.spawn_command_line_sync("ech 'ech?'",out ret_stdout,out ret_stderr)
        except ex : Error
            print("in catch")
            print(ex.message)

        print("stdout: %s", ret_stdout)
        print("stderr: %s", ret_stderr)
        print("status: %d", ret_status)

        try
            Process.spawn_command_line_sync("echo -n 'hey it works!'",out ret_stdout,out ret_stderr)
        except ex : Error
            print("in catch")
            print(ex.message)

        print("stdout: %s", ret_stdout)
        print("stderr: %s", ret_stderr)
        print("status: %d", ret_status)

        return 42

```

---

callgenie.cob

Listing 5.34: OpenCOBOL call Genie

```

OCOBOL >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
*> *****
*><* =====
*><* callgenie
*><* =====
*><* :Author:    Brian Tiffin
*><* :Date:      29-Sep-2010
*><* :Purpose:   Demonstrate getting at Genie code
*><* :Tectonics:
*><*   valac -c piping.gs
*><*   cobc -x callgenie.cob piping.vala.o
*><*           -lglib-2.0 -lobject-2.0
*> *****
identification division.
program-id. callgenie.

data division.
working-storage section.
01 result usage binary-long.

*> *****
procedure division.
call "wrapper_hellogenie" returning result end-call
display "Result from Genie: " result end-display
.
goback.
end program callgenie.
*><*
*><* Last Update: 29-Sep-2010

```

---

The Vala/Genie link naming is predictable. Inside a *class*, *wrapper*, the Genie generated link name for *hellogenie* is *wrapper\_hellogenie*.

With a sample run producing:

```

[btiffin@home vala]$ ./callgenie
in catch
Failed to execute child process "ech" (No such file or directory)
stdout: (null)
stderr: (null)
status: 0
stdout: hey it works!
stderr:
status: 0
Result from Genie: +0000000042

```

#### 5.18.4 Pass data to and from Genie

The Genie

Listing 5.35: Genie regex

```
// Tectonics: valac -c genieregex.gs
[indent=4]
class cbl.oc.genie : Object
  def static regexing(pattern : string, subject : string, out value : string, out
  print " "
  print "Pattern: %s", pattern
  print "Subject: %s", subject
  try
    var r = new Regex(pattern)
    var s = subject
    s = r.replace(s, s.length, 0, "COBOL")
    value = s
    leng = (int)s.length
  except ex : Error
    print ex.message
    value = subject
    leng = (int)subject.length
  return 1
return 0
```

---

## The COBOL

Listing 5.36: OpenCOBOL call Genie Regex

```
OCOBOL >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
*> *****
*><* =====
*><* Call Genie Regex
*><* =====
*><* :Author: Brian Tiffin
*><* :Date: 20101101
*><* :Purpose: Getting at Genie Regex code
*><* :Tectonics: vala -c genieregex.gs
*><* cobc -x callgenieregex.cob genieregex.vala.o
*><* -lglib-2.0 -lobject-2.0
*> *****
identification division.
program-id. callgenieregex.

data division.
working-storage section.
01 pattern pic x(80) value "Fortran|APL|Python" & x"00".
01 subject pic x(80) value
"OpenCOBOL, Fortran, Vala, Genie, Python, C, APL" & x"00".
01 out-pointer usage pointer.
01 out-length usage binary-long.
01 middleman pic x(80) based.
01 replacement pic x(80).
01 result usage binary-long.
```

```

*> *****
procedure division.
call "cbl_oc_genie_regexing"
  using
    by reference pattern
    by reference subject
    by reference out-pointer
    by reference out-length
  returning result
end-call
display "Result from Genie: " result end-display

set address of middleman to out-pointer
move middleman(1:out-length) to replacement
display "replacement now: " replacement end-display

move "(red)" & x'00' to pattern
move "The red car was going too fast" & x'00' to subject
move 0 to out-length
set out-pointer to null
free middleman

call "cbl_oc_genie_regexing"
  using
    by reference pattern
    by reference subject
    by reference out-pointer
    by reference out-length
  returning result
end-call
display "Result from Genie: " result end-display

set address of middleman to out-pointer
move middleman(1:out-length) to replacement
display "replacement now: " replacement end-display

move "[:digit:]" & x'00' to pattern
move "The Regex fails" & x'00' to subject
move 0 to out-length
set out-pointer to null
free middleman

call "cbl_oc_genie_regexing"
  using
    by reference pattern
    by reference subject
    by reference out-pointer
    by reference out-length
  returning result

```

```

end-call
display "Result from Genie: " result end-display

set address of middleman to out-pointer
move middleman(1:out-length) to replacement
display "replacement now: " replacement end-display
goback.
end program callgenierex.

```

---

### The Output

```

$ valac -g -v -c genierex.gs
cc -g -c '/home/btiffin/lang/cobol/genierex.vala.c' -pthread -I/usr/include/glib-2.0 -I/usr/lib64/glib-2.0

$ cobc -g -debug -v -x callgenierex.cob genierex.vala.o -lgobject-2.0 -lglib-2.0
Preprocessing: callgenierex.cob to callgenierex.i
Return status: 0
Parsing: callgenierex.i
Return status: 0
Translating: callgenierex.i to callgenierex.c
Executing: gcc -c -I/usr/local/include -pipe -g -Wno-unused -fsigned-char
-Wno-pointer-sign -o "/tmp/cob3411_0.o" "callgenierex.c"
Return status: 0
Executing: gcc -Wl,--export-dynamic -o "callgenierex"
"/tmp/cob3411_0.o" "genierex.vala.o" -L/usr/local/lib -lcob
-lm -lgmp -lncurses -ldb -ldl -lgobject-2.0 -lglib-2.0
Return status: 0

$ ./callgenierex

Pattern: Fortran|APL|Python
Subject: OpenCOBOL, Fortran, Vala, Genie, Python, C, APL
Result from Genie: +0000000000
replacement now: OpenCOBOL, COBOL, Vala, Genie, COBOL, C, COBOL

Pattern: (red)
Subject: The red car was going too fast
Result from Genie: +0000000000
replacement now: The COBOL car was going too fast

Pattern: [:digit:]
Subject: The Regex fails
Error while compiling regular expression [:digit:] at char 0: POSIX named classes are supported only withi
Result from Genie: +0000000001
replacement now: The Regex fails

```

## 5.19 Can OpenCOBOL interface with S-Lang?

Yes. The *S-Lang engine* can be used with OpenCOBOL for two purposes. Supporting a very nice terminal and keyboard programmer interface S-Lang can be used to scan the keyboard for non-waiting ACCEPT key routines. As a bonus, S-Lang has a very nice scripting engine that allows easy and direct linkage of script variables with OpenCOBOL defined storage members.

### 5.19.1 Setup

You will need the S-Lang library for this interface. Under Debian3.1.2 that is simply



```
$ apt-get install libslang2
```

See <http://www.s-lang.org/> for details of this very capable library.

## 5.19.2 Keyboard control

This sample only show S-Lang terminal input. A very sophisticated terminal output control interface is also available.

Listing 5.37: OpenCOBOL

```
OCOBOL >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
*> *****
*> Author:      Brian Tiffin
*> Date:        20090503
*> Purpose:     Experimental S-Lang interface
*> Tectonics:   cobc -x slangkey.cob -lslang
*> *****
identification division.
program-id. slangkey.

data division.
working-storage section.
01 thekey          usage binary-long unsigned.
01 thekm           usage binary-long.
01 result          usage binary-long.

*> exit handler address and priority (prio is IGNORED with OC1.1)
01 install-flag   pic 9 comp-x value 0.
01  install-params.
   02 exit-addr   usage is procedure-pointer.
   02 handler-prio pic 999 comp-x.

*> *****
procedure division.

*> Initialize low and high level S-Lang terminal routines
call "SLtt_get_terminfo" end-call
call "SLkp_init" returning result end-call
if result equal -1
    display "problem intializing S-Lang tty" end-display
    stop run giving 1
end-if

call "SLang_init_tty" using
    by value -1    *> abort char
    by value -1    *> flow ctrl
    by value 0     *> output processing
returning result
end-call
```

```

if result equal -1
    display "problem intializing S-Lang tty" end-display
    stop run giving 1
else
    display "Keyboard in special mode" x"0d" end-display
end-if

*> install an exit handler to put terminal back
set exit-addr to entry "tty-reset"
call "CBL_EXIT_PROC" using
    install-flag
    install-params
    returning result
end-call
if result not equal zero
    display "error installing exit procedure" end-display
end-if

*> Not sure? Have SLang handle ^C or let OpenCOBOL take over?
call "SLang_set_abort_signal" using by value 0 end-call

*> The demo. Fetch a key, then fetch a keycode. 4 times.
*> SLang terminals display newline as newline. Need explicit
*> CR to get a carriage return. Hence the x"0d".
*> Plus, output is buffered until line terminators.
display
    "Tap a normal key, then tap a 'special' key, ie F1, 4 times"
    x"0d"
end-display
perform 4 times
    call "SLang_getkey" returning thekey end-call
    display thekey space with no advancing end-display
    call "SLkp_getkey" returning thekm end-call
    display thekm x"0d" end-display
end-perform

*> Exit handler will take care of resetting terminal
goback.

*> *****
*> Exit procedure to ensure terminal properly reset
*> *****
entry "tty-reset".
call "SLang_reset_tty" end-call
display "exit proc reset the tty" end-display
goback.

end program slangkey.

```

---

Outputs:

```
Keyboard in special mode
Tap a normal key, then tap a 'special' key, ie F1, 4 times
0000000097 +0000000513
0000000001 +0000000002
0000000099 +0000065535
0000000003 +0000000003
exit proc reset the tty
```

having tapped, A, F1, Ctrl-A, Ctrl-B, C, EscEsc and Ctrl-C. The S-Lang abort handler pretty much takes over the Ctrl-C handling in this sample so it looks as though Ctrl-C was tapped twice, but it wasn't.

### 5.19.3 Scripting

S-Lang also provides a very comprehensive scripting language, which is very easy to embed.

Listing 5.38: OpenCOBOL call S-Lang

```
OCOBOL >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
*> *****
*> Author:      Brian Tiffin
*> Date:        20090505
*> Purpose:     Experimental S-Lang interface
*> Tectonics:   cobc -x callslang.cob -lslang
*> *****
identification division.
program-id. callslang.

data division.
working-storage section.
01 result          usage binary-long.
01 cobol-integer   usage binary-long value 42.
01 cobol-float     usage float-long value 0.0.
01 sl-int-type     constant as 20.
01 sl-double-type  constant as 27.
01 read-write     constant as 0.

*> *****
procedure division.

*> Initialize S-Lang
call "SLang_init_all" returning result
if result equal -1
    display "Sorry, problem initializing SLang" end-display
end-if

*> Register "slint" variable
```

```

call "SLadd_intrinsic_variable" using
  by reference "slint" & x"00"
  by reference cobol-integer
  by value sl-int-type
  by value read-write
  returning result
end-call
if result equal -1
  display "Could not register cobol-integer" end-display
end-if

*> Register "sldbl" variable
call "SLadd_intrinsic_variable" using
  by reference "sldbl" & x"00"
  by reference cobol-float
  by value sl-double-type
  by value read-write
  returning result
end-call
if result equal -1
  display "Could not register cobol-float" end-display
end-if

call "SLang_load_string" using
"sldbl = sum([0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9]);" & x"00"
  returning result
end-call
if result equal -1
  display "Could not interpret sum intrinsic" end-display
end-if
display "S-Lang set cobol-float to " cobol-float end-display

display "Next lines of output are S-Lang printf" end-display
call "SLang_load_string" using
  '() = printf("slint (cobol-integer) = %d\n", slint);' & x"00"
  returning result
end-call
if result equal -1
  display "Could not interpret printf" end-display
end-if

add 1 to cobol-integer

call "SLang_load_string" using
  '() = printf("slint after COBOL add = %d\n", slint);' & x"00"
  returning result
end-call
if result equal -1
  display "error with printf after cobol add" end-display
end-if

```

## 5.20. CAN THE GNAT PROGRAMMING STUDIO BE USED WITH OPENCOBOL?317

```
*> Let's get out of here and do the Dilbert Nerd Dance...Woohoo!  
goback.  
end program callslang.
```

---

Which produces:

```
S-Lang set cobol-float to 45.000000000000000000  
Next lines of output are S-Lang printf  
slint (cobol-integer) = 42  
slint after COBOL add = 43
```

## 5.20 Can the GNAT Programming Studio be used with OpenCOBOL?

Yes. Extensions to smooth the integration of OpenCOBOL development in gnat-gps is posted at <http://svn.wp0.org/ocdocs/brian/opencobol.xml>

Listing 5.39: GNAT Programming Studio

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>  
<Custom>  
  <Language>  
    <Name>OpenCOBOL</Name>  
    <Spec_Suffix>.cob</Spec_Suffix>  
    <Extension>.cbl</Extension>  
    <Extension>.cpy</Extension>  
  
    <Keywords>^(identification|id|environment|data|procedure|division|</Keywords>  
    <Keywords>program-id|author|</Keywords>  
    <Keywords>configuration|source-computer|object-computer|</Keywords>  
    <Keywords>special-names|repository|</Keywords>  
    <Keywords>input-output|file-control|io-control|</Keywords>  
    <Keywords>file|working-storage|local-storage|linkage|</Keywords>  
    <Keywords>communication|report|screen|</Keywords>  
    <Keywords>section|declaratives|</Keywords>  
    <Keywords>end|</Keywords>  
    <Keywords>perform|end-perform|until|times|varying|</Keywords>  
    <Keywords>add|subtract|multiply|divide|compute|</Keywords>  
    <Keywords>end-add|end-subtract|end-multiply|end-divide|end-compute|</Keywords>  
    <Keywords>accept|display|read|write|rewrite|sort|</Keywords>  
    <Keywords>end-accept|end-display|end-read|end-write|end-rewrite|</Keywords>  
    <Keywords>move|evaluate|end-evaluate|if|end-if|when|</Keywords>  
    <Keywords>(un)?string|end-(un)?string|call|end-call|</Keywords>  
    <Keywords>goback|stop[\s]+run|</Keywords>  
    <Keywords>filler|low-value[s]?|high-value[s]?|space[s]?|zero[es]?[s]?)\b</Keywords>  
  
  <Context>  
    <New_Line_Comment_Start>\*&gt;|[ ]{6}\*</New_Line_Comment_Start>
```

```

<String_Delimiter>“</String_Delimiter>
<Constant_Character>’</Constant_Character>
<Can_Indent>True</Can_Indent>
<Syntax_Highlighting>True</Syntax_Highlighting>
<Case_Sensitive>False</Case_Sensitive>
</Context>

<Categories>
  <Category>
    <Name>procedure</Name>
    <Pattern>^[0-9a-z]+\.</Pattern>
    <Index>1</Index>
    <Icon>subprogram_xpm</Icon>
  </Category>
</Categories>
</Language>

<alias name="program">
  <param name="pid">prog</param>
  <text>*>OC<lt;*>
    *>*>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
    *> *****
    *> Author:    Brian Tiffin
    *> Date:      %D
    *> Purpose:   %_
    *> Tectonics: make
    *> *****
    identification division.
    program-id %(pid).

    environment division.
    configuration section.
    repository.
    special-names.
    input-output section.

    data division.
    file section.
    working-storage section.
    local-storage section.
    linkage section.
    screen section.

    procedure division.
    declaratives.
    end declaratives.

    00-main.

    .

```

## 5.20. CAN THE GNAT PROGRAMMING STUDIO BE USED WITH OPENCOBOL?319

```
    00-finish.
    goback.
    *> *****

    end program %(pid).
</text>
</alias>

<Language>
  <Name>Vala</Name>
  <Spec_Suffix>.vala</Spec_Suffix>

  <Keywords>^(bool|char|constpointer|double|float|size_t|ssize_t|string|unichar|void|</Keywords>
  <Keywords>int|int8|int16|int32|int64|long|short|</Keywords>
  <Keywords>uint|uint8|uint16|uint32|uint64|ulong|ushort|</Keywords>
  <Keywords>class|delegate|enum|errordomain|interface|namespace|struct|</Keywords>
  <Keywords>break|continue|do|for|foreach|return|while|</Keywords>
  <Keywords>else|if|switch|</Keywords>
  <Keywords>case|default|</Keywords>
  <Keywords>abstract|const|dynamic|ensures|extern|inline|internal|override|</Keywords>
  <Keywords>private|protected|public|requires|signal|static|virtual|volatile|weak|</Keywords>
  <Keywords>>false|null|true|</Keywords>
  <Keywords>try|catch|finally|throw|</Keywords>
  <Keywords>as|base|construct|delete|get|in|is|lock|new|out|params|ref|</Keywords>
  <Keywords>sizeof|set|this|throws|typeof|using|value|var|yield|yields)\b</Keywords>

  <Context>
    <New_Line_Comment_Start>//</New_Line_Comment_Start>
    <Comment_Start>*</Comment_Start>
    <Comment_End>*</Comment_End>
    <String_Delimiter>"</String_Delimiter>
    <Constant_Character>'</Constant_Character>
    <Can_Indent>True</Can_Indent>
    <Syntax_Highlighting>True</Syntax_Highlighting>
    <Case_Sensitive>True</Case_Sensitive>
  </Context>

  <Categories>
    <Category>
      <Name>procedure</Name>
      <Pattern>^[0-9a-z]+\.</Pattern>
      <Index>1</Index>
      <Icon>subprogram_xpm</Icon>
    </Category>
  </Categories>
</Language>

<tool name="cobc" package="OpenCOBOL" index="opencobol">
  <language>OpenCOBOL</language>
  <initial-cmd-line>-m</initial-cmd-line>
```

```

<switches lines="3" columns="2">
  <title line="1" column="1" >Code generation</title>
  <title line="1" column="2" >Run-time options</title>
  <title line="2" column="1" line-span="2" >Source forms and Warnings</title>
  <title line="3" column="1" line-span="0" />
  <title line="2" column="2" >Debugging</title>
  <title line="3" column="2" >Syntax</title>

  <radio>
    <radio-entry label="Build dynamic module (default)" switch="-m" />
    <radio-entry label="Build executable" switch="-x" />
    <radio-entry label="Build object file" switch="-c" />
    <radio-entry label="Preprocess only" switch="-E" />
    <radio-entry label="Translation only, COBOL to C" switch="-C" />
    <radio-entry label="Compile only, output assembly file" switch="-S" />
  </radio>
  <check label="Syntax checking only" switch="-fsyntax-only"
    tip="Syntax error checking only; no output emitted" />

  <combo label="Optimization" switch="-O" nodigit="1" noswitch="0"
    tip="Controls the optimization level">
    <combo-entry label="No optimization" value="0" />
    <combo-entry label="Simple optimization" value="1" />
    <combo-entry label="Some more optimization" value="s" />
    <combo-entry label="Full optimization" value="2" />
  </combo>

  <field label="Generate Listing to " switch="-t" separator=" " as-file="tr
    tip="Generate a listing file to given filename" />
  <field label="Save Generated files to " switch="-save-temps" separator="="
    tip="Save temporary files to given directory" />

  <radio line="2" column="1">
    <radio-entry label="Format FIXED" switch="-fixed"
      tip="Standards mandate default is fixed format source code" />
    <radio-entry label="Format FREE (FIXED is default)" switch="-free"
      tip="Assume free format source code" />
  </radio>
  <check label="MF comment (may lead to ambiguous source)" switch="-fmfcomm
    tip="Allow * or / in column 1 as FIXED format line comment" />
  <check label="FUNCTION implied" switch="-ffunctions-all" line="2" column=
    tip="Allow use of intrinsic functions without FUNCTION keyword" />
  <check label="Fold Copy LOWER" switch="-ffold-copy-lower" line="2" column
    tip="Fold COPY subject to lower case" />
  <check label="Fold Copy UPPER" switch="-ffold-copy-upper" line="2" column
    tip="Fold COPY subject to upper case" />
  <check label="Full Warnings" switch="-W" line="2" column="1"
    tip="ALL possible warnings" />
  <popup label="Warnings" line="2" column="1">
    <check label="All (exceptions listed below)" switch="-Wall" />

```



## 5.20. CAN THE GNAT PROGRAMMING STUDIO BE USED WITH OPENCOBOL?321

```
<check label="Obsolete" switch="-Wobsolete"  
  tip="Warn if obsolete features used" />  
<check label="Archaic" switch="-Warchaic"  
  tip="Warn if archaic features used" />  
<check label="Redefinition" switch="-Wredefinition"  
  tip="Warn of incompatible redefinition of data items" />  
<check label="Constant" switch="-Wconstant"  
  tip="Warn of inconsistent constant" />  
<check label="Parentheses" switch="-Wparentheses"  
  tip="Warn of lack of parentheses around AND within OR" />  
<check label="Strict typing" switch="-Wstrict-typing"  
  tip="Warn of type mismatch, strictly" />  
<check label="Implicit define" switch="-Wimplicit-define"  
  tip="Warn of implicitly defined data items" />  
<check label="Call params (Not set for All)" switch="-Wcall-params"  
  tip="Warn of non 01/77 items for CALL" />  
<check label="Column overflow (Not set for All)" switch="-Wcolumn-overflow"  
  tip="Warn for FIXED format text past column 72" />  
<check label="Terminator (Not set for All)" switch="-Wterminator"  
  tip="Warn when missing scope terminator (END-xxx)" />  
<check label="Truncate (Not set for All)" switch="-Wtruncate"  
  tip="Warn of possible field truncation" />  
<check label="Linkage (Not set for All)" switch="-Wlinkage"  
  tip="Warn of dangling LINKAGE items" />  
<check label="Unreachable (Not set for All)" switch="-Wunreachable"  
  tip="Warn of unreachable statements" />  
</popup>  
  
<check label="Internal run-time error checks" switch="-debug" column="2"  
  tip="generate extra internal tests" />  
<check label="Implicit initialize" switch="-fimplicit-init" column="2"  
  tip="Do automatic initialization of the Cobol runtime system" />  
<check label="No truncation" switch="-fnotrunc" column="2"  
  tip="Do not truncate binary fields according to PICTURE" />  
<check label="Sign ASCII" switch="-fsign-ascii" column="2"  
  tip="Numeric display sign ASCII (Default on ASCII machines)" />  
<check label="Sign EBCDIC" switch="-fsign-ebcdic" column="2"  
  tip="Numeric display sign EBCDIC (Default on EBCDIC machines)" />  
<check label="Stack checking for PERFORM" switch="-fstack-check" column="2"  
  tip="Generate code to verify that you do not go beyond the boundary of the s  
<check label="Pass extra NULL" switch="-fnull-param" column="2"  
  tip="Pass extra NULL terminating pointers on CALL statements" />  
  
<check label="Enable Debugging lines" switch="-fdebugging-line" line="2" column="2"  
  tip="Enable column 7 D (FIXED FORMAT) debug lines and &gt;&gt;D inline compi  
<check label="Object Debug Information" switch="-g" line="2" column="2"  
  tip="Link level debug information" />  
<check label="Trace (SECTION/PARAGRAPH)" switch="-ftrace" line="2" column="2"  
  tip="Enable output of trace statements for SECTION and PARAGRAPH" />  
<check label="Trace all (SECTION/PARAGRAPH/STATEMENT)" switch="-ftraceall" line="2"
```

```

        tip="Enable output of trace statements for SECTION, PARAGRAPH and
<check label="Source locations" switch="-fsource-location" line="2" column
        tip="Generate source location code (Turned on by -debug or -g)" />

<check label="COBOL2002" switch="-std=cobol2002" line="3" column="2"
        tip="Override the compiler's default, and configure for COBOL 2002"
<check label="COBOL 85" switch="-std=cobol85" line="3" column="2"
        tip="Override the compiler's default, and configure for COBOL 85"
<check label="Micro Focus" switch="-std=mf" line="3" column="2"
        tip="Override the compiler's default, and Micro Focus compatibilit
</switches>
</tool>

<action name="make">
  <external>make</external>
</action>

<action name="cobc">
  <external>cobc -x %f</external>
</action>

<action name="cobcrun">
  <external>cobcrun %p</external>
</action>

<action name="valac">
  <external>valac --pkg gtk+-2.0 %f</external>
</action>

<action name="gdb">
  <external>konsole --vt_sz 132x24 -e gdb ./%p</external>
</action>

<action name="cgdb">
  <external>konsole --vt_sz 132x24 -e cgdb ./%p</external>
</action>

<action name="cgdb...">
  <shell>MDI.input_dialog "Enter command arguments" "Args"</shell>
  <external>konsole --vt_sz 132x24 -e cgdb --args ./%p %1</external>
</action>

<action name="gdbtui">
  <external>konsole --vt_sz 132x24 -e gdbtui --args ./%p %1</external>
</action>

<action name="gdbtui...">
  <shell>MDI.input_dialog "Enter command arguments" "Args"</shell>
  <external>konsole --vt_sz 132x24 -e gdbtui --args ./%p %1</external>
</action>

```

## 5.20. CAN THE GNAT PROGRAMMING STUDIO BE USED WITH OPENCOBOL?323

```
<action name="DDD">
  <external>ddd ./%p</external>
</action>

<submenu after="Build">
  <title>OpenCOBOL</title>
  <menu action="make">
    <title>make</title>
  </menu>
  <menu action="cobc">
    <title>cobc</title>
  </menu>
  <menu action="cobcrun">
    <title>cobcrun</title>
  </menu>
  <menu action="valac">
    <title>valac</title>
  </menu>
  <menu><title /></menu>
  <menu action="gdb">
    <title>gdb</title>
  </menu>
  <menu action="cgdb">
    <title>cgdb</title>
  </menu>
  <menu action="cgdb...">
    <title>cgdb...</title>
  </menu>
  <menu action="gdbtui">
    <title>gdbtui</title>
  </menu>
  <menu action="gdbtui...">
    <title>gdbtui...</title>
  </menu>
  <menu action="DDD">
    <title>ddd</title>
  </menu>
</submenu>
</Custom>
```

---

which allows for development screens like

or *to be honest* would do, if the final touches were added to the XML to integrate more with the GPS suite. There is more work required to make a proud developer's interface. *Anyone?*

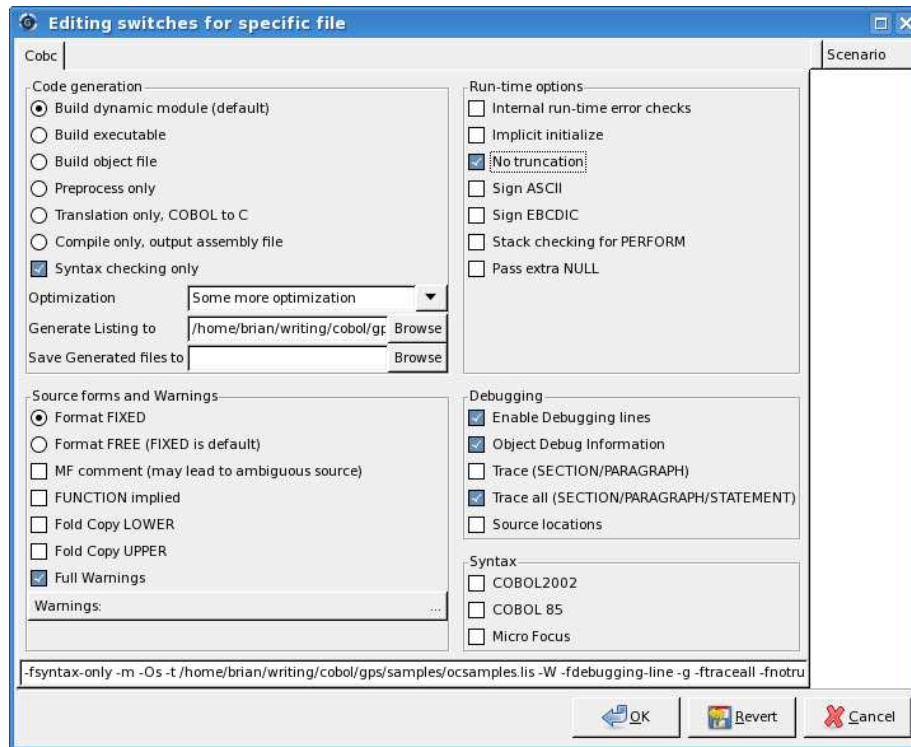


Figure 5.3: GNAT Programming Studio

## 5.21 Does OpenCOBOL support SCREEN SECTION?

Yes. The OpenCOBOL 1.1 pre-release now includes support for SCREEN SECTION. Experimental release for this support occurred in early July, 2008.

The compiler recognizes most (if not all) of the \*Screen description entry\* of the COBOL 20xx Draft standard.

External variables that influence screen handling include

COB\_SCREEN\_EXCEPTIONS=Y To enable exceptions during ACCEPT.

COB\_SCREEN\_ESC=Y To enable handling of the escape key.

See Does OpenCOBOL support CRT STATUS? for more information on key codes and exception handling.

According to the standard a SCREEN SECTION ACCEPT does not need to be preceded by a DISPLAY. The extra DISPLAY won't hurt, but is not necessary.

### 5.21.1 Environment variables in source code

Thanks to Gary Cutler [2] and [opencobol.org](http://opencobol.org).

In order to detect the PgUp, PgDn or PrtSc (screen print) keys, you must f

## 5.22. WHAT ARE THE OPENCOBOL SCREEN SECTION COLOUR VALUES?325

set the environment variable COB\\_SCREEN\\_EXCEPTIONS to a non-blank value.

If you want to detect the Esc key, you must set COB\\_SCREEN\\_EXCEPTIONS as described above AND you must also set COB\\_SCREEN\\_ESC to a non-blank value. Fortunately, both of these can be done within your OpenCOBOL program, as long as they're done before the ACCEPT.

Listing 5.40: OpenCOBOL set SCREEN EXCEPTIONS at runtime

```
SET ENVIRONMENT 'COB_SCREEN_EXCEPTIONS' TO 'Y'  
SET ENVIRONMENT 'COB_SCREEN_ESC' TO 'Y'
```

---

## 5.22 What are the OpenCOBOL SCREEN SECTION colour values?

The FOREGROUND-COLOR and BACKGROUND-COLOR clauses will accept

Listing 5.41: OpenCOBOL SCREEN SECTION color values

```
78 black value 0.  
78 blue value 1.  
78 green value 2.  
78 cyan value 3.  
78 red value 4.  
78 magenta value 5.  
78 brown value 6.  
78 white value 7.
```

---

The display of these colours are also influenced by HIGHLIGHT, LOWLIGHT and REVERSE-VIDEO options. For instance, brown will display as yellow when HIGHLIGHT is used.

## 5.23 Does OpenCOBOL support CRT STATUS?

Yes.

Listing 5.42: OpenCOBOL SCREEN SECTION color values

```
ENVIRONMENT DIVISION.  
CONFIGURATION SECTION.  
SPECIAL-NAMES.  
    CRT STATUS IS screen-status.  
  
DATA DIVISION.  
WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.  
COPY screenio.  
01 screen-status pic 9(4).
```

```

PROCEDURE DIVISION.
ACCEPT screen-sample.
IF screen-status = COB-SCR-F1
...

```

---

There is also a special OpenCOBOL variable, **\*\*COB-CRT-STATUS\*\*** which can be used instead of the CRT STATUS special name.

There is also a COPY text that ships with OpenCOBOL, `copy/screenio.cpy` that can be included in the DATA DIVISION and provides 78 level constants for supported key status codes. Some values include:

```
* COB-SCR-F1 thru * COB-SCR-F64 * COB-SCR-ESC
```

examine the file to see the other values.

## 5.24 What is CobCurses?

CobCurses is an optional package designed to work with OpenCOBOL 1.0, before OpenCOBOL 1.1 SCREEN SECTION support was initiated. It has many features beyond simple SCREEN SECTION handling.

See <http://sourceforge.net/projects/cobcurses> for full details. This is a major piece of work by Warren Gay, `ve3wwg`.

From an `opencobol.org` posting by Warren announcing release 0.95

```

CobCurses is a package designed to allow Open-Cobol
programmers to create screens on open system platforms,
or those (like Windows) that can use PDCurses. Since
handcrafting screens is tedious work, this package
includes a "Screen Designer" utility.

```

```

All User Guides and Programmer Guide documentation can
be found on the source forge (see link at bottom).

```

```
==== RELEASE NOTES ====
```

```

A large number of internal changes were implemented in
this release, but first let's cover the user visible
improvements:

```

1. MENUS! Popup menus are now supported, and are available in `sdesign` with every Action field. In fact, any `sdesign` field that is marked with a diamond graphic, has the ability to popup a menu with F1 (or ^O).
2. To support menus, FUNCTION keys are now available in Action mode (though CONTROL-O is an alternate way of opening a menu). This included a new event

callback NC-FKEY-EVENT.

3. GRAPHIC characters in the screen background. It is now possible using sdesign to draw alternate-charset graphics in your screen background. See the notes in the opening help screen for the "Paint" function.

4. TRACE facilities. CobCurses now includes an environment variable that can enable capturing of trace information to a file for debugging. A routine named NC\_TRACE\_MSG can also be used to add custom messages to the trace file.

#### INTERNAL CHANGES:

The main two major internal changes were:

1. The terminal support has been virtualized, so that the CobCurses routines deal with a "terminal" object (not curses routines). This will eventually lead to other possible windowing interfaces like perhaps graphic X Window or native Windows support.

The other motivation for this was to allow CobCurses to have one consistent set of constants for colours, attributes and character sets. Previously, these values were different depending upon the platform and implementation of curses used.

2. Menu support has been provided independently of curses. This is important for portability since PDCurses and some platforms do not provide a curses menu library. This also guarantees that CobCurses menus will behave consistently on all platforms (and overcome menu paging bugs in ncurses).

#### PLANNED FOR THE NEXT RELEASE:

Please avoid writing much code that works with colour pairs. In the next release, it is planned to hide the colour pair value altogether by using a TDC (Terminal Drawing Context). This TDC will tie together attributes and colours, and perhaps other "drawing contexts" so that you won't have to manage colour pairs (this will be transparent). This will also pave the way for graphical interfaces where a selected font and line styles etc. may also be supported.

## NOTES:

HPUX users will need to link with `ncurses`, instead of the native HPUX `curses` libraries. I didn't have time to fully investigate this, but the native include files define things like `MENU` and `ITEM` types that conflict with the `CobCurses` defined ones.

====

The release is available for download here:

<http://sourceforge.net/projects/cobcurses>

## 5.25 What is CobXRef?

CobXRef is a COBOL cross-referencing utility written by Vincent Coen and ported to OpenCOBOL 1.1.

Current source code is available at <http://svn.wp0.org/add1/tools/cobxref> or <http://sourceforge.net/projects/cobxref> and is, as of March 13, 2011, in active development.

The system ships with full documentation and information for building from source is included in the `*readme*` file.

Fetching the utility

Listing 5.43: `cobxref`

```
$ svn checkout http://svn.wp0.org/add1/tools/cobxref
```

Example `**truncated**` to 72 and using the `ocdoc.cob` OpenCOBOL program for source code:

```
$ cobc -save-temps ocdoc.cob
$ cobxref ocdoc.i -L
$ cut -c1-72 ocdoc.lst
```

```
ACS Cobol Cross Reference Xref v0.95.27 (04/01/2009@11:27) Dictionary File
```

```
Symbols of Module: ocdoc (ocdoc)
-----
```

Data Section (FILE)	Defn	Locations
doc-output	000124F	000252 000499
doc-record	000125F	000269 000381 000387 000390 000478 000482 000485



source-input	000122F	000251	000287	000458	000500	
source-record	000123F	000285	000288	000300	000316	00
		000324	000355	000456	000459	
standard-input	000117F	000256	000282	000453	000497	
standard-output	000119F	000257	000496			
stdin-record	000118F	000283	000285	000454	000456	
stdout-record	000120F	000387	000388	000475	000476	

ACS Cobol Cross Reference Xref v0.95.27 (04/01/2009@11:27) Dictionary Fi

Symbols of Module: ocdoc (ocdoc)

```
-----
```

Data Section (WORKING-STORAGE)	Defn	Locations
arguments	000128W	000219 000221 000244 000245
autoappend	000187W	000380
autodoc	000186W	000385
buffer-empty	000178W	000267 000380 000398 000472
buffer-flag	000177W	
buffer-offset	000176W	000268 000382 000399 000433 00
buffered-output	000179W	000385 000441 000471
counter	000181W	000369 000410 000412 000416
data-field1	000193W	
data-field2	000194W	
data-field3	000197W	
data-record	000192W	
data-subfield1	000195W	
data-subfield2	000196W	000218
doc-buffer	000175W	000417 000419 000430
doc-name	000130W	000246 000505 000522 000532
filter-flag	000138W	
filtering	000139W	000254 000281 000386 000452 00
first-part	000184W	000368
helping	000137W	000222
here-data	000169W	000355
here-record	000167W	000356
heredoc	000156W	000315 000337 000354
hereend	000153W	000340 000353
hereflag	000155W	
herenone	000157W	000341
herestart	000152W	000336 000353
len-of-comment	000182W	000411 000415 000416
line-count	000141W	000270 000301 000435
line-display	000142W	000435 000438

result	000190W	000548	000551	000552	
result-name	000131W	000247	000518	000524	000534
rst-command	000189W	000517	000525	000535	000542 00
seq-data	000173W	000317			
seq-record	000171W	000318			
skipseqnum	000135W	000314			
source-name	000129W	000246	000504		
special	000185W	000379			
style-name	000132W	000247	000519	000530	
trimmed	000151W	000316	000321	000324	000356 00
usagehelp	000136W	000221			
verbose	000134W	000392	000480	000503	000539
verbosity	000133W	000248			

ACS Cobol Cross Reference Xref v0.95.27 (04/01/2009@11:27) Dictionary F

Variable Tested [S]                      Symbol (88-Conditions)

-----

buffer-flag	buffer-empty
buffer-flag	buffered-output
filter-flag	filtering
first-part	special
first-part	autodoc
first-part	autoappend
hereflag	heredoc
hereflag	herenone
trimmed	herestart
trimmed	hereend
usagehelp	helping
verbosity	verbose
verbosity	skipseqnum

ACS Cobol Cross Reference Xref v0.95.27 (04/01/2009@11:27) Dictionary F

Variable Tested                      Symbol (88-Conditions) [S]

-----

first-part	autoappend
first-part	autodoc
buffer-flag	buffer-empty
buffer-flag	buffered-output
filter-flag	filtering
usagehelp	helping
hereflag	heredoc
trimmed	hereend

hereflag	herenone
trimmed	herestart
verbosity	skipseqnum
first-part	special
verbosity	verbose

ACS Cobol Cross Reference Xref v0.95.27 (04/01/2009@11:27) Dictionary Fi

Procedure	Defn	Locations
-----+-----		
trim	000324P	000394 000430 000482 000504 00

ACS Cobol Cross Reference Xref v0.95.27 (04/01/2009@11:27) Dictionary Fi

Unreferenced Working Storage Symbols

buffer-flag	000177W
data-field1	000193W
data-field2	000194W
data-field3	000197W
data-record	000192W
data-subfield1	000195W
filter-flag	000138W
hereflag	000155W

ACS Cobol Cross Reference Xref v0.95.27 (04/01/2009@11:27) Dictionary Fi

Unreferenced Procedures

None

\*CobXRef produces 132 column output by default and the commands used here limit the width to 72 characters in order to fit the FAQ file.\*

## 5.26 Does OpenCOBOL implement Report Writer?

Not at this time. *July, 2008*, or later March 13, 2011.

But it does support LINAGE. See Does OpenCOBOL implement LINAGE?Does OpenCOBOL implement LINAGE?

## 5.27 Does OpenCOBOL implement LINAGE?

Yes. LINAGE sets up logical pages inside file descriptors enhancing the WRITE operations and enabling the END-OF-PAGE clause.

Listing 5.44: OpenCOBOL LINAGE

```

FILE SECTION.
FD  A-REPORT
   LINAGE IS 13 LINES
   TOP 2
   FOOTING 2
   BOTTOM 3.

```

---

LINAGE clauses can set::

TOP LINES FOOTING BOTTOM

The LINAGE-COUNTER4.1.277 noun is maintained during writes to LINAGE output files.

See LINAGE4.1.276 for a sample program.

## 5.28 Can I use ctags with OpenCOBOL?

Yes. Use the Exuberant version of ctags. Exuberant ctags recognizes COBOL, producing a TAGS or tags file suitable for **\*\*emacs\*\***, **\*\*vi\*\***, **\*\*nedit\*\*** and other editors that support the ctags format. **\*ctags**, by default, only supports the competition, C and Fortran.\*

After running ctags program.cob

Listing 5.45: vi with ctags

```
$ vi -t WORKING-STORAGE
```

---

will open program.cob and start at the line defining the working-storage section.

Note: tags are case-sensitive and for larger projects, the above vi command would start an edit of the **\*first\*** file with an occurrence of WORKING-STORAGE found in the tags.

## 5.29 What about debugging OpenCOBOL programs?

OpenCOBOL internal runtime checks are enabled with **-debug**.

Support for tracing is enabled with **-ftrace** and **-ftraceall**.

Source line location is enabled with **-fsource-location**, and implied with the **-g** and **-debug** options..

Activation of FIXED format D indicator debug lines is enabled with **-fdebugging-line**.

In FREE format, **>>D** can be used anywhere on a line. Does OpenCOBOL support D indicator debug lines?.

**-fstack-check** will perform stack checking when **-debug** or **-g** is used.

**-fsyntax-only** will ask the compiler to only check for syntax errors, and not emit any output.

To view the intermediate files that are generated, using **-C** will produce the **.c** source files and any **.c.l.h** and **c.h** header files. **-save-temps[=dir]** will leave all intermediate files in the current directory or the optional directory specified, including **.i** files that are the COBOL sources after COPY processing.

Support for gdbA.7 is enabled with `-g`.

```
$ gdb hello
GNU gdb 6.7.1-debian
Copyright (C) 2007 Free Software Foundation, Inc.
License GPLv3+: GNU GPL version 3 or later <http://gnu.org/licenses/gpl.html>
This is free software: you are free to change and redistribute it.
There is NO WARRANTY, to the extent permitted by law.  Type "show copying"
and "show warranty" for details.
This GDB was configured as "i486-linux-gnu"...
Using host libthread_db library "/lib/i686/cmov/libthread_db.so.1".
(gdb) break 106
Breakpoint 1 at 0x0BFUSCA: file hello.c, line 106.
(gdb) break 109
Breakpoint 2 at 0xTETHESY: file hello.c, line 109.
(gdb) run
Starting program: /home/brian/writing/cobol/hello
[Thread debugging using libthread_db enabled]
[New Thread 0xSTEMADDR (LWP 5782)]
[Switching to Thread 0xESES6b0 (LWP 5782)]

Breakpoint 1, hello_ (entry=0) at hello.c:106
106          cob_new_display (0, 1, 1, &c_1);
(gdb) cont
Continuing.
Hello World!

Breakpoint 2, hello_ (entry=0) at hello.c:109
109          cob_set_location ("hello", "hello.cob", 6, "MAIN SECTION", "MAIN PARAG
(gdb) cont
Continuing.

Program exited normally.
(gdb)
```

Setting a break at line 106 and 109 was found by a quick look through the C code from `$ cobc -C hello.cob` and seeing where the `DISPLAY` call and `STOP RUN` was located. \*Note: just because; the gdb displayed addresses were obfuscated from this listing.\*

### 5.29.1 Some debugging tricks

From human [?] on opencobol.org:

If you want to have different outputs in debug / normal mode use a fake if 1 = 1 like

Listing 5.46: OpenCOBOL debug tips

```

OCOBOL
D   IF 1 = 1
D     DISPLAY "Debug Line"  END-DISPLAY
D   ELSE
D     DISPLAY "Normal Line" END-DISPLAY
D   END-IF

```

---

For using the environment Just define

Listing 5.47: OpenCOBOL debug tips

```

OCOBOL
01  debugmode pic x.
88  debugmode-on values 'O', 'Y', 'J', 'o', 'y', 'j', '1'.

```

---

put an

Listing 5.48: OpenCOBOL debug tips

```

OCOBOL
accept debugmode from Environment "DEBUGMODE"
end-accept

```

---

at the beginning of each program (or define debugmode as external) and use it in your programs like

Listing 5.49: OpenCOBOL debug tips

```

OCOBOL
IF debugmode-on
  DISPLAY "Debug Line"  END-DISPLAY
ELSE
  DISPLAY "Normal Line" END-DISPLAY
END-IF

```

---

For having no debug code in runtime you can combine these two

Listing 5.50: OpenCOBOL debug tips

```

OCOBOL
D 01 debugmode pic x.
D   88 debugmode-on values 'O', 'Y', 'J', 'o', 'y', 'j', '1'.
...
D   accept debugmode from Environment "DEBUGMODE"
D   end-accept
...
D   IF debugmode-on
D     DISPLAY "Debug Line"  END-DISPLAY
D   ELSE

```

```

        DISPLAY "Normal Line" END-DISPLAY
D      END-IF

```

---

In this way you have fast code at runtime (if not compiled with `-fdebugging-line`) and can switch the output during development.

The advantages over a compiler switch to disable the displays are:

- You can always use display in your program, not only for debug information.
- You see in the code what you do.
- If compiled with lines that have 'D' indicator you can switch at runtime.
- If compiled without lines that have 'D' indicator you can have faster and smaller modules.

### 5.29.2 Animator

Federico Priolo posted this beauty of a present on <http://opencobol.org>

TP-COBOL-DEBUGGER

<http://sourceforge.net/projects/tp-cobol-debugg/> and on his company site at <http://www.tp-srl.it/>

A system to preprocess OpenCOBOL inserting animator source code that at runtime provides a pretty slick stepper with WORKING-STORAGE display.

This open source bundle is OpenCOBOL. Compile the animator, run it over your own programs and it generates a new source file that when compiled and evaluated, runs in a nice SCREEN SECTION showing original source and a view pane into WORKING-STORAGE.

## 5.30 Is there a C interface to OpenCOBOL?

Most definitely. See C interface for details.

As a short example, showing off a little of `cobc`'s ease of use when it comes to C source code.

Listing 5.51: hello cobc and cobcrun sample

```

#include <stdio.h>
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    printf("Hello C compiled with cobc\n");
}

int hello(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    printf("Hello C compiled with cobc, run from hello.so with cobcrun\n");
}

```

---

With a sample run of

```

$ cobc hello.c
$ cobcrun hello
Hello C compiled with cobc, run from hello.so with cobcrun
$ cobc -x hello.c
$ ./hello
Hello C compiled with cobc

[btiffin@home cobol]$ cobc -v -x hello.c
Executing:      gcc -c -I/usr/local/include -pipe -Wno-unused -fsigned-char
                -Wno-pointer-sign -o "/tmp/cob2785_0.o" "hello.c"
Return status: 0
Executing:      gcc -Wl,--export-dynamic -o "hello" "/tmp/cob2785_0.o"
                -L/usr/local/lib -lcob -lm -lgmp -lncurses -ldb -ldl
Return status: 0

```

### 5.31 What are some idioms for dealing with C char \* data from OpenCOBOL?

*Thanks to Frank Swarbrick for pointing these idioms out*

To add or remove a null terminator, use the STRING verb. For example

Listing 5.52: OpenCOBOL

```

OCOBOL
* Add a null for calling C
STRING current-url
  DELIMITED BY SPACE
  X"00" DELIMITED BY SIZE
  INTO display-url
MOVE display-url TO current-url

* Remove a null for display
STRING current-url
  DELIMITED BY LOW-VALUE
  INTO display-url.

```

---

Or to make changes in place

Listing 5.53: OpenCOBOL

```

OCOBOL
* Change nulls to spaces
INSPECT current-url
  REPLACING ALL X"00" WITH SPACE.

```

---

Or there is also modified references in OpenCOBOL

Listing 5.54: OpenCOBOL



```

OCOBOL
* Assume IND is the first trailing space (or picture limit).
* Note: OpenCOBOL auto initializes working-storage to SPACES or ZEROES
*       depending on numeric or non-numeric pictures.
* Remove null
  MOVE SPACE TO current-url(IND:1).

* Add a zero terminator
  MOVE X"00" TO current-url(IND:1).

```

---

And the OpenCOBOL CONCATENATE intrinsic

Listing 5.55: OpenCOBOL

```

OCOBOL
  MOVE FUNCTION CONCATENATE(filename; X"00") TO c-field.

```

---

Roger [8] While points out: \*X"00" is almost always interchangeable with LOW-VALUE\*.

In all of the above snippets, the source code X"00" can be replaced by the COBOL noun **\*\*LOW-VALUE\*\*** or **\*\*LOW-VALUES\*\***. \*Except when a program collating sequence is active and where the first character is not X"00"\*.

.. Note to maintainers. The section below is just wrong. **BASED** is a different thing altogether and simply means the item does not have any permanent storage area. Entry commented out until corrected.

.. When a parameter needs to be passed between C and OpenCOBOL, you can use .. the **BASED** optional clause in **WORKING-STORAGE::** .. .. \* Create a **BASED** allocation .. **WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.** .. 01 current-url PIC X(80) **BASED.** .. .. This may be a cleaner solution than:: .. .. **LINKAGE SECTION.** .. 01 current-url PIC X(80). .. .. And a **SET ADDRESS OF CARG** ... sequence.

With the **CALL** verb, use **ADDRESS OF** and/or **BY REFERENCE**

Listing 5.56: OpenCOBOL

```

CALL "CFUNCTION" USING BY REFERENCE ADDRESS OF current-url.

```

---

The above being equivalent to **char\*\*** in C.

COBOL, by its nature, passes all arguments by reference. That can be overridden with the **\*\*BY VALUE\*\*** clause and the **\*\*BY CONTENT\*\*** clause.

## 5.32 Does OpenCOBOL support COPY includes?

Yes. **COPY** is fully supported, all variations from the standards up to and including the proposed 20xx standards.

Inline **REPLACE** text substitutions are also supported.

The **\*\*-I\*\*** compiler option influences the copybook search path and **\*\*-E\*\*** can be used to examine the *after* **COPY** preprocessor output.

There is also **\*\*-ffold-copy-upper\*\*** and **\*\*-ffold-copy-lower\*\*** compiler controls.

### 5.33 Does OpenCOBOL support WHEN-COMPILED?

Both as a noun and as an intrinsic function.

Listing 5.57: OpenCOBOL

```
DISPLAY WHEN-COMPILED.  
DISPLAY FUNCTION WHEN-COMPILED.
```

---

07/05/0805.15.20 2008070505152000-0400

Note: The noun WHEN-COMPILED is non-standard and was deemed obsolete in the pre 85 standard.

### 5.34 What is PI in OpenCOBOL?

With OpenCOBOL 1.1

Listing 5.58: OpenCOBOL

```
DISPLAY FUNCTION PI.  
3.1415926535897932384626433832795029  
  
DISPLAY FUNCTION E.  
2.7182818284590452353602874713526625
```

---

That's 34 digits after the decimal. Developers that need to know the tolerances for use in calculations are directed to poke around the freely available source code, and to read up on GMPA.8.

### 5.35 Does OpenCOBOL support the Object features of the 2002 standard?

Not yet. \*July 2008\*

### 5.36 Does OpenCOBOL implement PICTURE 78?

Yes. PICTURE 78 clauses can be used for constants, translated at compile time. This common non-standard extension is supported in OpenCOBOL.

### 5.37 Does OpenCOBOL implement CONSTANT?

Current OC 1.1 has preliminary support for a subset of the standard conforming "CONSTANT" phrase. eg

Listing 5.59: OpenCOBOL

```
01 MYCONST CONSTANT AS 1.
```

---

Note: there is a syntax difference between 78 and CONSTANT.

## 5.38 What source formats are accepted by OpenCOBOL?

Both FIXED and FREE COBOL source formats are supported. FIXED format follows the 1-6, 7, 8-72 special columns of the COBOL standards. The compiler directives:

```
Column
12345678901234567890
    >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FREE
    >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
```

can be used. The directive must occur at column 8 or beyond if the ACTIVE scan format is FIXED. As per the 2002 standard this directive can be used to switch formats multiple times within a compilation unit.

Continuation indicators in column 7 are not applicable to FREE format and are not supported in this mode of translation. String catenation can always be used; the & operator.

The special `;` *\*till end of line\** comment is supported in both FREE and FIXED forms, but by necessity will need to be placed at column 7 or greater in FIXED format sources.

.. Note to readers. The comment operator is `*`; the backslash is for ReST

The `**-free**` and `**-fixed**` options to `**cobc**` also influence the expected source formats, with the default being mandated by the standards as FIXED.

## 5.39 Does OpenCOBOL support continuation lines?

Yes. A dash `**-*` in column 7 can be used for continuation lines. But, by necessity continuation lines only apply in FIXED format source code. FREE format COBOL does not support continuation as there is no real meaning to *\*column 7\** in FREE form source.

Note that in this example there is no terminating quote on the string continuations, but there is an extra starting quote following the dash

Listing 5.60: OpenCOBOL

```
123456789012345678901234567890123456789012345678901234567890123456789012
  identification division.
  program-id. longcont.

  data division.
  working-storage section.
  01  longstr      pic X(80)
      value "This will all be one string in FIXED forma
-"t source code".
  01  otherstr    pic X(148) value "this
-"string will have spaces between the words THIS and STRING, as
```

```

- "continuation lines always fill to column 72.".
  procedure division.
    display longstr.
    display length longstr.
    display function length(function trim(longstr trailing)).
    display otherstr(1:72).
    display otherstr(73:75).
    display length otherstr.
    display function length(function trim(otherstr trailing)).
  goback.

```

---

Compiled with:

```

$ cobc longcont.cob
$ cobcrun longcont

```

produces:

```

This will all be one string in FIXED format source code
80
00000055
this                                string will have spaces between the words
THIS and STRING, as continuation lines always fill to column 72.
148
00000139

```

\*Note: The DISPLAY of\* **otherstr**\* was split to avoid any wide browser scrolling, not for any COBOL reasons.\*

\*Also note that the rules for continuation lines are quite difficult to describe simply and concerned OpenCOBOL programmers are urged to read through the standards documents for full details.\*

## 5.40 Does OpenCOBOL support string concatenation?

Absolutely. Sources that need long strings, or those wishing to enhance source code readability, can use the & operator

Listing 5.61: OpenCOBOL

```

identification division.
program-id. longstr.

data division.
working-storage section.
01 longstr      pic X(80)
                value "This " & "will " & "all " & "be " &
                    "one " &
                    "string " & "in both FIXED and FREE" &
                    " format source code".

```

```

procedure division.
display longstr.
goback.

```

---

Run this with

Listing 5.62: OpenCOBOL

```

$ cobc longstr.cob
$ cobcrun longstr
This will all be one string in both FIXED and FREE format source code
$ cobc -free longstr.cob
$ cobcrun longstr
This will all be one string in both FIXED and FREE format source code

```

---

And for an Intrinsic FUNCTION unique to OpenCOBOL, see FUNCTION CONCATENATE4.2.9.

## 5.41 Does OpenCOBOL support D indicator debug lines?

Yes, in two forms. As for continuation lines, column 7 has no meaning for SOURCE FORMAT IS FREE source code so the standard `**D**` in column 7 can not be used. FORMAT FREE source code can use the `**;D**` compiler directive instead. Use `**D**` lines as a conditional include of a source code line. These debug lines will only be compiled if the `*-fdebugging-line*` compiler switch is used.

From human on [opencobol.org](http://opencobol.org)

```

If you put a D in column 7 OC handles this as a comment. These lines are
only compiled if you run cobc with -fdebugging-line.

```

```

By using this you can put some test messages etc. into your program that
are only used if necessary (and therefore build with -fdebugging-line).

```

OpenCOBOL also supports a `**;D**` debug compile time directive and a handy trick for those that like to write code that be compiled in both FIXED and FREE forms, is to place the directive in column 5, 6 and 7.

```

::
Column 12345678901234567890 DISPLAY "Normal Line" END-DISPLAY ;DDIS-
PLAY "Debug Line" END-DISPLAY

```

This allows use of the directive form in FORMAT FREE and also, with the `**D**` in column 7, will compile properly in FORMAT FIXED. In FORMAT FIXED the `**;D**` in columns 5 and 6 will be ignored as part of the `*sequence number*` field.

For more information on debugging support see [What about debugging OpenCOBOL programs?5.29](#)

## 5.42 Does OpenCOBOL support mixed case source code?

Absolutely, kind of. Mixed case and mixed format, ASCII.3 and EBCDIC4.1.144. Most COBOL compilers have not required uppercase only source code for quite a few

years now. Still, most COBOL compilers including OpenCOBOL folds parts of the source to uppercase *\*with certain rules\** before translating.

The compiler is case insensitive to names

Listing 5.63: OpenCOBOL

```
000100 identification division.
000200 program-id. mixcase.
000300 data division.
000400 working-storage section.
000500 01 SOMEUPPER pic x(9).
000600 01 SomeUpper pic x(9).
000700 01 someupper pic x(9).
000800
000900 procedure division.
001000 move "SOMEUPPER" to SOMEUPPER.
001100 move "SomeUpper" to SomeUpper.
001200 move "someupper" to someupper.
001300 display "SOMEUPPER: " SOMEUPPER end-display.
001400 display "SomeUpper: " SomeUpper end-display.
001500 display "someupper: " someupper end-display.
001600 stop run.
```

---

Attempted compile with:

Listing 5.64: OpenCOBOL

```
$ cobc -x mixcase.cob
```

---

produces::

Listing 5.65: OpenCOBOL

```
mixcase.cob:10: Error: 'SOMEUPPER' ambiguous; need qualification
mixcase.cob:5: Error: 'SOMEUPPER' defined here
mixcase.cob:6: Error: 'SOMEUPPER' defined here
mixcase.cob:7: Error: 'SOMEUPPER' defined here
```

---

Note; that although the folded declarations conflict, the DISPLAY quoted strings will NOT be folded, and would display as expected.

*\*Case sensitivity is also at the mercy of operating system conventions\**. Under GNU/Linux, OpenCOBOL's dynamic link loader is case sensitive.

Listing 5.66: OpenCOBOL

```
CALL "C$JUSTIFY" USING center-string "C" END-CALL.
```

---

is not the same as

Listing 5.67: OpenCOBOL

```
CALL "c$justify" USING center-string "C" END-CALL.
```

---

In support of case folding and COPY libraries, OpenCOBOL supports `-ffold-copy-lower` and `-ffold-copy-upper`. For mixing and matching legacy sources.

Trivia The expressions *uppercase* and *lowercase* date back to early moveable type. Typographers would keep two cases of metal casted letters, Capitalized and normal. Usually set on stacked shelves over the workbench. The small letters, being used more frequently, ended up on the lower shelf; the lower case letters.

## 5.43 What is the shortest OpenCOBOL program?

All that is needed is a program-id. Doesn't do much.

Listing 5.68: OpenCOBOL shortest

---

```
program-id. a.
```

---

## 5.44 What is the shortest Hello World program in OpenCOBOL?

A short version of OpenCOBOL hello world, compiled -free

Listing 5.69: OpenCOBOL short Hello

---

```
program-id.h.procedure division.display "Hello World!".
```

---

Thanks to human and the <http://opencobol.org> forums.

**Please note:** This is *not good* COBOL form, and is only shown as an example of the possibilities.

## 5.45 How do I get those nifty sequential sequence numbers in a source file?

?? format COBOL uses the first 6 positions of each line as a programmer defined *sequence* field. This field is stripped as part of the preprocessing and is not validated. Historically, the sequence numbers were used to verify that card punch cards were read into a card reader in the proper order. Many legacy COBOL programs have sequentially numbered sequence values. Here is a little `vi` trick to renumber the sequence field by 100s.

Given

Listing 5.70: OpenCOBOL sequence numbers

```
000005* HELLO.COB OpenCOBOL FAQ example
000010 IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
000020 PROGRAM-ID. hello.
000030 PROCEDURE DIVISION.
```

```
000040 DISPLAY "Hello World!".
000100 STOP RUN.
```

---

Running the following `ex perl` filter

Listing 5.71: vi perl numbers

```
perl -ne 'printf("%06d%s\n", $. * 100, substr($_, 6, -1));'
```

---

.. Note to readers of the plain text of this FAQ. ReStructuredText uses backslash to escape certain features. That line is actually  
`:%!perl -ne 'printf("%06d%s\n", $. * 100, substr($_, 6, -1));'`

produces a nicely resequenced source file.

Listing 5.72: OpenCOBOL sequence numbers

```
000100* HELLO.COB OpenCOBOL FAQ example
000200 IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.
000300 PROGRAM-ID. hello.
000400 PROCEDURE DIVISION.
000500 DISPLAY "Hello World!".
000600 STOP RUN.
```

---

Note: Only use this on already FIXED form source. If used on any FREE format COBOL, the first 6 columns will be damaged.

This has no effect on the compilation process, it only effects the appearance of the sources.

Note:: Be careful not to confuse *SEQUENCE NUMBERS* with source code *LINE NUMBERS*. They are not the same.

\* Vim: For users of the Vim editor, the command

```
:set number
```

will display the number of each source line. Many editors support the display of line numbers. Even

```
$ less -N
```

can be used to display line numbers of its input.

## 5.46 Is there a way to count trailing spaces in data fields using OpenCOBOL?

Yes. Quite a few. But instead of resorting to a PERFORM VARYING sequence try



## 5.47. IS THERE A WAY TO LEFT JUSTIFY AN EDITED NUMERIC FIELD? 345

Listing 5.73: OpenCOBOL

```
01 B-COUNT                                PIC 999 VALUE 0.
01 TEST-CASE                              PIC X(80)
   VALUE "This is my string.".

ONE-WAY.
   INSPECT FUNCTION REVERSE(TEST-CASE)
     TALLYING B-COUNT
     FOR LEADING ' '.
   DISPLAY B-COUNT.

TWO-WAY.
   INSPECT TEST-CASE
     TALLYING B-COUNT
     FOR TRAILING SPACE.
   DISPLAY B-COUNT.

THREE-WAY.
   IF TEST-CASE EQUAL SPACES
     COMPUTE B-COUNT = LENGTH OF TEST-CASE
   ELSE
     COMPUTE
       B-COUNT = LENGTH TEST-CASE -
         FUNCTION LENGTH(FUNCTION TRIM(TEST-CASE TRAILING))
     END-COMPUTE
   END-IF
   DISPLAY B-COUNT.
```

---

produces:

```
062
124
062
```

The second value is 124 as TWO-WAY accumulates another 62 after ONE-WAY. The INSPECT verb does not initialize a TALLYING variable.

Information modified from <http://opencobol.org> forum post.

## 5.47 Is there a way to left justify an edited numeric field?

Yes, a couple of ways.

Assuming a working storage of

Listing 5.74: OpenCOBOL

```
01 mynumber PIC 9(8) VALUE 123.
01 myedit PIC Z(7)9.
01 mychars PIC X(8).
```

```

01 spcount PIC 99 USAGE COMPUTATIONAL.

MOVE mynumber TO myedit
MOVE myedit TO mychars
DISPLAY mynumber END-DISPLAY
DISPLAY myedit END-DISPLAY

00000123
 123

```

---

With OpenCOBOL, the intrinsic

```
FUNCTION TRIM(myedit LEADING)
```

will trim leading whitespace. The LEADING is not really necessary as TRIM removes both leading and trailing whitespace.

OpenCOBOL also ships with a library function for justification of strings

```
CALL "C$JUSTIFY" USING mychars "L" END-CALL
```

to left justify an alphanumeric field. "R" for right, or "C" for centre.

But a generic idiom that should work across all capable COBOL systems

Listing 5.75: OpenCOBOL

```

MOVE 0 TO spcount
INSPECT myedit TALLYING spcount FOR LEADING SPACE
MOVE myedit(spcount + 1:) TO mychars

DISPLAY myedit END-DISPLAY
DISPLAY mychars END-DISPLAY

 123
123

```

---

Listing 5.76: OpenCOBOL

```

MOVE 0 TO spcount
INSPECT mynumber TALLYING spcount FOR LEADING ZERO
DISPLAY mynumber
DISPLAY mynumber(spcount + 1:)

```

---

Uses the INSPECT verb to count leading spaces, then reference modification to move the characters one past the spaces till the end of the edit field to an alpha field.

## 5.48 Is there a way to determine when OpenCOBOL is running ASCII or EBCDIC?

OpenCOBOL supports both ASCII and EBCDIC character encodings. A simple test such as

## 5.49. IS THERE A WAY TO DETERMINE WHEN OPENCOBOL IS RUNNING ON 32 OR 64 BITS?347

Listing 5.77: OpenCOBOL

```
01 MYSPEACE PIC X VALUE X"20".
   88 MYISASCII VALUE SPACE.

IF MYISASCII
  DISPLAY "I'm ASCII" END-DISPLAY
END-IF
```

---

can be used to determine the character set at run-time.

## 5.49 Is there a way to determine when OpenCOBOL is running on 32 or 64 bits?

OpenCOBOL builds and supports both 32 and 64 bit architectures. A simple test such as

Listing 5.78: OpenCOBOL

```
01 MYPOINTER USAGE POINTER.

IF FUNCTION LENGTH(MYPOINTER) EQUALS 8
  DISPLAY "This is a 64 bit machine" END-DISPLAY
END-IF
```

---

can be used to determine the native bit size at run-time.

## 5.50 Does OpenCOBOL support recursion?

Yes. Not completely to standard, but as of March 13, 2011, as there are no restrictions on calling programs in a recursive manner, but yes.

A made up example using a factorial called program

Listing 5.79: OpenCOBOL recurvise factorial

```
OCOBOL*> *****
*> Author: Brian Tiffin
*> Date: 29-Dec-2008
*> Purpose: Horsing around with recursion
*> Tectonics: cobc -x recurse.cob
*> *****
identification division.
program-id. recurse.

data division.
working-storage section.
78 n value 4.
01 fact usage binary-long.
```

```

*> *****
procedure division.

call "factorial" using by value n returning fact end-call
display n "! = " fact end-display

goback.
end program recurse.
*> *****
*> *****

*> *****
identification division.
program-id. factorial is recursive.

data division.
local-storage section.
01 result usage is binary-long.

linkage section.
01 num usage is binary-long.

*> *****
procedure division using by value num.

display "num: " num end-display
if num equal zero
    move 1 to return-code
    display "ret: " return-code end-display
    goback
end-if

subtract 1 from num end-subtract
call "factorial" using by value num returning result end-call
compute return-code = (num + 1) * result end-compute
display "ret: " return-code end-display
goback.

end program factorial.

```

---

**Produces:**

```

num: +0000000004
num: +0000000003
num: +0000000002
num: +0000000001
num: +0000000000
ret: +0000000001
ret: +0000000001
ret: +0000000002

```

```
ret: +000000006
ret: +000000024
4! = +000000024
```

Of course the \*Intrinsic FUNCTION FACTORIAL\* might be a more efficient and much easier way at getting factorials.

## 5.51 Does OpenCOBOL capture arithmetic overflow?

Yes. Here is one sample using ADD with ON SIZE ERROR.

Listing 5.80: OpenCOBOL overflow

```
OCOBOL*> *****
*> Author:   Brian Tiffin
*> Date:     04-Feb-2009
*> Purpose:  Factorial and overflow
*> Tectonics: cobc -x overflowing.cob
*> *****
identification division.
program-id. overflowing.

data division.
working-storage section.
01 fact usage binary-long.
01 answer usage binary-double.

*> *****
procedure division.
00-main.

perform
  varying fact from 1 by 1
  until fact > 21
  add function factorial(fact) to zero giving answer
  on size error
  display
    "overflow at: " fact " is " answer
    " without test " function factorial(fact)
  end-display
  not on size error
  display fact ": " answer end-display
  end-add
end-perform
.

00-leave.
goback.
```

```
end program overflowing.
```

```
*> *****
```

---

which outputs:

```
+0000000001: +00000000000000000001
+0000000002: +00000000000000000002
+0000000003: +00000000000000000006
+0000000004: +00000000000000000024
+0000000005: +00000000000000000120
+0000000006: +00000000000000000720
+0000000007: +00000000000000005040
+0000000008: +00000000000000040320
+0000000009: +00000000000000362880
+0000000010: +00000000000003628800
+0000000011: +00000000000039916800
+0000000012: +00000000000479001600
+0000000013: +00000000006227020800
+0000000014: +00000000087178291200
+0000000015: +00000001307674368000
+0000000016: +00000020922789888000
+0000000017: +00000355687428096000
+0000000018: +00006402373705728000
+0000000019: +00121645100408832000
overflow at: +0000000020 is +00121645100408832000 without test 432902008
overflow at: +0000000021 is +00121645100408832000 without test 197454024
```

## 5.52 Can OpenCOBOL be used for plotting?

Yes? One way is with an external call to gnuplot.

Listing 5.81: Plot SIN/COS and Network

```
OCOBOL >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
*****
* Author:      Brian Tiffin
* Date:       29-July-2008
* Purpose:    Plot trig and a random income/expense/worth report
* Tectonics:  requires access to gnuplot. http://www.gnuplot.info
*             cobc -Wall -x plotworth.cob
* OVERWRITES ocbgenplot.gp ocbpdata.txt sincos.png ploworth.png
*****
identification division.
program-id. plotworth.

environment division.
input-output section.
file-control.
```

```

select scriptfile
    assign to "ocgenplot.gp"
    organization is line sequential.
select outfile
    assign to "ocgpdata.txt"
    organization is line sequential.
select moneyfile
    assign to "ocgpdata.txt"
    organization is line sequential.

data division.
file section.
fd scriptfile.
01 gnuplot-command pic x(82).
    fd outfile.
01 outrec.
    03 x-value pic -zzzzzz9.99.
    03 filler pic x.
    03 sin-value pic -zzzz9.9999.
    03 filler pic x.
    03 cos-value pic -zzzz9.9999.
    fd moneyfile.
01 moneyrec.
    03 timefield pic 9(8).
    03 filler pic x.
    03 income pic -zzzzzz9.99.
    03 filler pic x.
    03 expense pic -zzzzzz9.99.
    03 filler pic x.
    03 networth pic -zzzzzz9.99.

working-storage section.
01 angle pic s9(7)v99.

01 dates pic 9(8).
01 days pic s9(9).
01 worth pic s9(9).
01 amount pic s9(9).

01 gplot pic x(80) value is 'gnuplot -persist ocgenplot.gp'.
01 result pic s9(9).

procedure division.

* Create the script to plot sin and cos
open output scriptfile.
move "plot 'ocgpdata.txt' using 1:2 with lines title 'sin(x)'"
- to gnuplot-command.
write gnuplot-command.
move "replot 'ocgpdata.txt' using 1:3 with lines title 'cos(x)'"

```

```

- to gnuplot-command.
write gnuplot-command.
move "set terminal png; set output 'sincos.png'; replot"
- to gnuplot-command.
write gnuplot-command.
close scriptfile.

* Create the sinoidal data
open output outfile.
move spaces to outrec.
perform varying angle from -10 by 0.01
until angle > 10
  move angle to x-value
  move function sin(angle) to sin-value
  move function cos(angle) to cos-value
  write outrec
end-perform.
close outfile.

* Invoke gnuplot
call "SYSTEM" using gplot
  returning result.
  if result not = 0
display "Problem: " result
stop run returning result
end-if.

* Generate script to plot the random networkh
open output scriptfile.
move "set xdata time" to gnuplot-command.
write gnuplot-command.
move 'set timefmt "%Y%m%d"' to gnuplot-command.
write gnuplot-command.
move 'set format x "%m"' to gnuplot-command.
write gnuplot-command.
move 'set title "Income and expenses"' to gnuplot-command.
write gnuplot-command.
move 'set xlabel "2008 / 2009"' to gnuplot-command.
write gnuplot-command.
move 'plot "ocgpdata.txt" using 1:2 with boxes title "Income"
-' linecolor rgb "green"' to gnuplot-command.
write gnuplot-command.
move 'replot "ocgpdata.txt" using 1:3 with boxes title "Expense"
-' linecolor rgb "red"' to gnuplot-command.
write gnuplot-command.
move 'replot "ocgpdata.txt" using 1:4 with lines title "Worth"'
- to gnuplot-command.
write gnuplot-command.
move 'set terminal png; set output "plotworth.png"; replot'
- to gnuplot-command.

```



```

write gnuplot-command.
close scriptfile.

* Generate a bi-weekly dataset with date, income, expense, worth
open output moneyfile.
move spaces to moneyrec.
move function integer-of-date(20080601) to dates.
move function random(0) to amount.

perform varying days from dates by 14
until days > dates + 365
  move function date-of-integer(days) to timefield
  compute amount = function random() * 2000
  compute worth = worth + amount
  move amount to income
  compute amount = function random() * 1800
  compute worth = worth - amount
  move amount to expense
  move worth to networth
  write moneyrec
end-perform.
close moneyfile.

* Invoke gnuplot again. Will open new window.
call "SYSTEM" using gplot
  returning result.
if result not = 0
display "Problem: " result
stop run returning result
end-if.

goback.

```

---

Which displays and saves:

## 5.53 Does OpenCOBOL support the GIMP ToolKit, GTK+?

Yes. A binding for GTK+ is in the works. Early samples have proven workable and screenshots of OpenCOBOL GUI screens are shown here.

What does GIMP stand for?

**GIMP** is an acronym for the \*GNU Image Manipulation Program\*, a very complete and robust graphic design tool. See the GIMP site for more information.

**GTK+** is the GIMP ToolKit. See the GTK site for more information.

Simple buttons

Text entry widget

Sample OpenCOBOL that generated the above

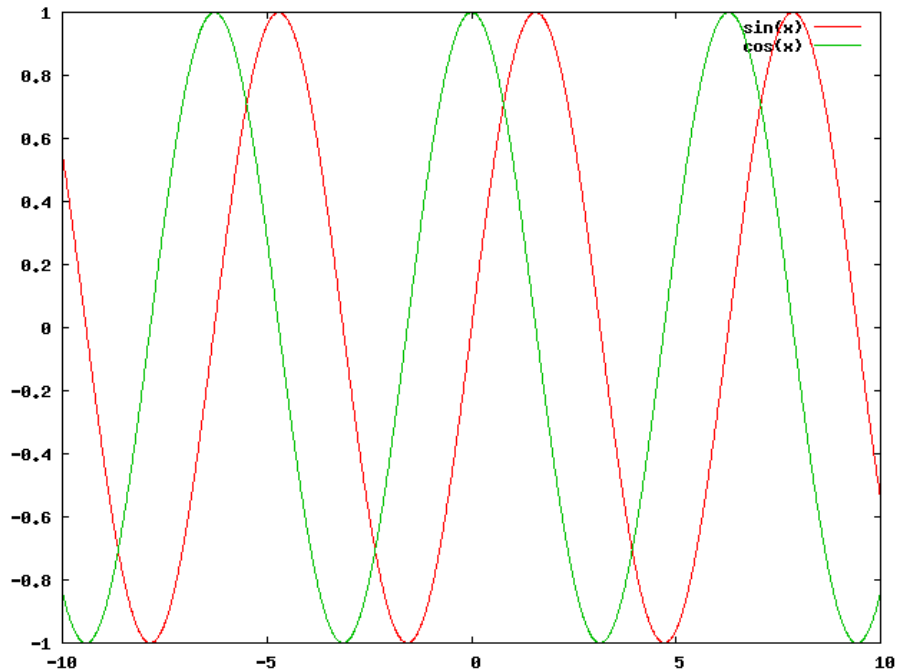


Figure 5.4: Plot of FUNCTION SIN, FUNCTION COS

## Listing 5.82: Hello from GTK+

```

OCOBOL >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
*> *****
*> Author:    Brian Tiffin
*> Date:     03-Dec-2008
*> Purpose:   Hello from GTK+
*> Requires: libgtk2.0, libgtk2.0-dev, gtk2.0, pkg-config
*> Tectonics:
*>          cobc -c 'pkg-config --cflags gtk+-2.0' ocgtk.c
*>          cobc -x 'pkg-config --libs gtk+-2.0' gtkhello.cob ocgtk.o
*> *****
identification division.
program-id.  gtkhello.

data division.

working-storage section.
01 result          usage binary-long.
01 gtk-window      usage pointer.
01 gtk-box         usage pointer.
01 gtk-hello       usage pointer.
01 gtk-textentry   usage pointer.

```

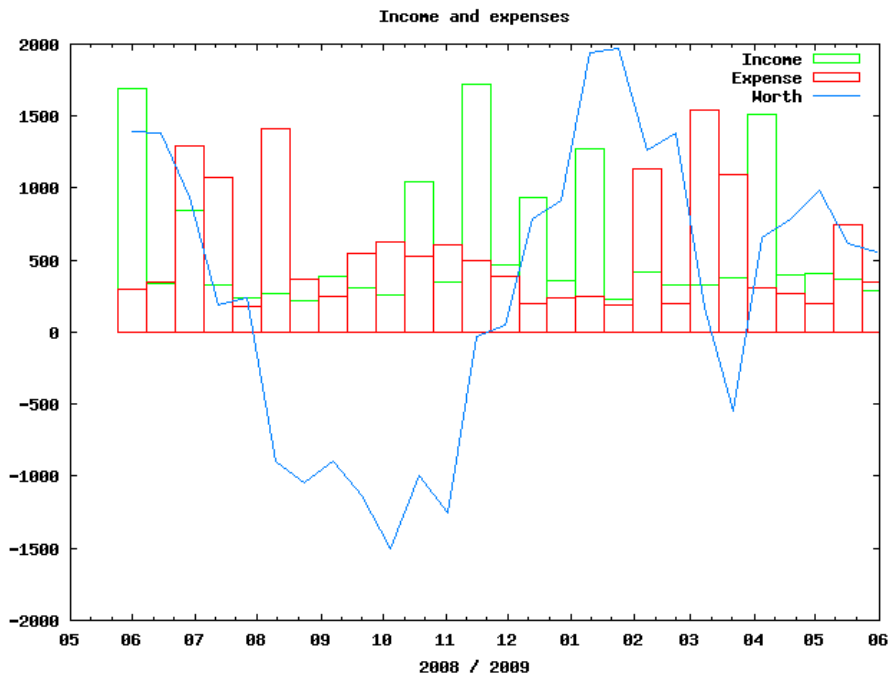


Figure 5.5: Plot of Income, Expenses, Networth

```
Hello from GTK in OpenCOBOL at 2008120111495787-0500
Hello from GTK in OpenCOBOL at 2008120111500044-0500
```

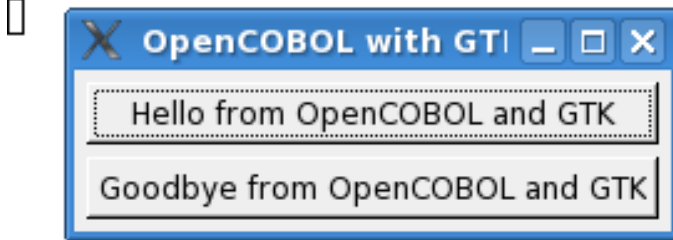


Figure 5.6: OpenCOBOL Hello from GTK+

```
01 gtk-goodbye          usage pointer.

01 callback             usage procedure-pointer.
01 params               usage pointer.

*> *****
procedure division.
```

```

Hello from GTK in OpenCOBOL at 2008120312472750-0500
text: first entry                , +0000000011
text: first entry - edited      , +0000000021
text: then a clear              , +0000000012
text:                            , +0000000000
text: and a final entry for the screen, +0000000032

```

□

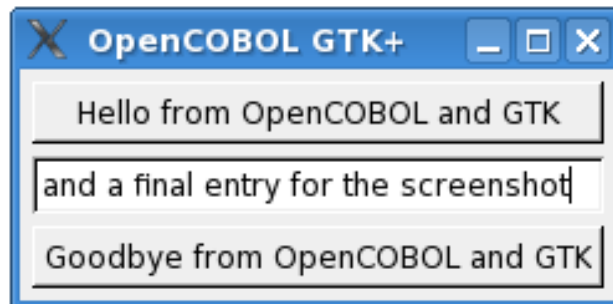


Figure 5.7: OpenCOBOL text entry with GTK+

```

*> Initialize GTK
CALL "CBL_OC_GTK_INIT_CHECK" returning result END-CALL
>>D display "init: " result end-display

*> Create a toplevel window
CALL "CBL_OC_GTK_WINDOW_NEW" returning gtk-window END-CALL
>>D display "win: " gtk-window end-display

*> Set the titlebar - using cob_field now **HERE**
CALL "CBL_OC_GTK_WINDOW_SET_TITLE"
using by value gtk-window
by reference "OpenCOBOL GTK+"
END-CALL
>>D display "title: " gtk-window end-display

*> Set the border width
CALL "CBL_OC_GTK_CONTAINER_SET_BORDER_WIDTH"
using by value gtk-window
by value 5
END-CALL
>>D display "border: " gtk-window end-display

*> connect a window destroy, quit main loop handler
set callback to entry "CBL_OC_destroy"
CALL "CBL_OC_G_SIGNAL_CONNECT"

```

```
        using by value gtk-window
        by reference "delete_event" & x"00"
        by value callback
        by value params
    END-CALL

*> Create a vertically packed box
CALL "CBL_OC_GTK_VBOX_NEW"
    using by value 0
    by value 5
    returning gtk-box
END-CALL
>>D    display "box: " gtk-box end-display

*> Add the box to the window
CALL "CBL_OC_GTK_CONTAINER_ADD"
    using by value gtk-window
    by value gtk-box
END-CALL

*> Create the hello button
CALL "CBL_OC_GTK_BUTTON_NEW_WITH_LABEL"
using by reference "Hello from OpenCOBOL and GTK" & x"00"
returning gtk-hello
END-CALL
>>D    display "button: " gtk-hello end-display

*> Connect the hello button to the hello code
set callback to entry "CBL_OC_hello"
CALL "CBL_OC_G_SIGNAL_CONNECT"
    using by value gtk-hello
    by reference "clicked" & x"00"
    by value callback
    by value params
END-CALL

*> Pack the button into the box, top to bottom
CALL "CBL_OC_GTK_BOX_PACK_START"
    using by value gtk-box
    by value gtk-hello
    by value 1
    by value 1
    by value 0
END-CALL

*> button is ready to show
CALL "CBL_OC_GTK_WIDGET_SHOW"
    using by value gtk-hello
END-CALL
```

```

*> Add a text entry field
CALL "CBL_OC_GTK_ENTRY_NEW"
    returning gtk-textentry
END-CALL

*> Connect code to the text entry, passing the entry widget
set callback to entry "CBL_OC_activate"
CALL "CBL_OC_G_SIGNAL_CONNECT"
    using by value gtk-textentry
        by reference "activate" & x"00"
        by value callback
        by value gtk-textentry
END-CALL

*> Pack the text field into the box, top to bottom
CALL "CBL_OC_GTK_BOX_PACK_START"
    using by value gtk-box
        by value gtk-textentry
        by value 1
        by value 1
        by value 0
END-CALL

*> text field is ready to show
CALL "CBL_OC_GTK_WIDGET_SHOW"
    using by value gtk-textentry
END-CALL

*> Create the bye button
CALL "CBL_OC_GTK_BUTTON_NEW_WITH_LABEL"
using by reference "Goodbye from OpenCOBOL and GTK" & x"00"
    returning gtk-goodbye
END-CALL
>>D    display "button: " gtk-goodbye end-display

*> Connect the bye button to the bye code
set callback to entry "CBL_OC_destroy"
CALL "CBL_OC_G_SIGNAL_CONNECT"
    using by value gtk-goodbye
        by reference "clicked" & x"00"
        by value callback
        by value params
END-CALL

*> Pack the button into the box, under hello
CALL "CBL_OC_GTK_BOX_PACK_START"
    using by value gtk-box
        by value gtk-goodbye
        by value 1
        by value 1

```

```

        by value 0
    END-CALL
>>D    display "pack: " gtk-box end-display

*> button is ready to show
CALL "CBL_OC_GTK_WIDGET_SHOW"
    using by value gtk-goodbye
END-CALL

*> box is ready to show
CALL "CBL_OC_GTK_WIDGET_SHOW"
    using by value gtk-box
END-CALL

*> window is ready to show
CALL "CBL_OC_GTK_WIDGET_SHOW"
    using by value gtk-window
END-CALL

*> Start up the event loop, control returned when GTK main exits
CALL "CBL_OC_GTK_MAIN" END-CALL

*> Something terminated the GTK main loop, sys-close or bye or
display "ending..." end-display

goback.
end program gtkhello.
*> *****

*> **** window shutdown callback *****
identification division.
program-id. CBL_OC_destroy.
data division.
linkage section.
01 gtk-window          usage pointer.
01 gtk-data            usage pointer.

procedure division using by value gtk-window by value gtk-data.

CALL "CBL_OC_GTK_MAIN_QUIT" END-CALL

goback.
end program CBL_OC_destroy.
*> *****

*> **** hello button click callback *****
identification division.
program-id. CBL_OC_hello.
data division.

```

```

linkage section.
01 gtk-window          usage pointer.
01 gtk-data            usage pointer.

procedure division using by value gtk-window by value gtk-data.
display
  "Hello from GTK in OpenCOBOL at "
  function current-date
end-display

goback.
end program CBL_OC_hello.

*> **** text entry activation callback *****
*> This procedure called from GTK on enter key pressed in entry
  identification division.
  program-id. CBL_OC_activate.
  data division.
  working-storage section.
  01 textfield          pic x(32).
  01 textlen            usage binary-long.

  linkage section.
  01 gtk-window          usage pointer.
  01 gtk-data            usage pointer.

  procedure division using by value gtk-window by value gtk-data.

  CALL "CBL_OC_GTK_ENTRY_GET_TEXT"
    using by value gtk-data
    textfield
    returning textlen
  END-CALL
  display "text: " textfield ", " textlen end-display

  goback.
  end program CBL_OC_activate.

```

---

Using this very early thin wrapper to GTK+

Listing 5.83: OpenCOBOL GTK+ wrapper

```

/* OpenCOBOL GTK+ 2.0 wrapper */
/* Tectonics: cobc -c `pkg-config --cflags gtk+-2.0` ocgtk.c */

#include <memory.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <libcob.h>

#include <gtk/gtk.h>
#include <glib.h>

```



```

#include "ocgtk.h"

/* Initialize the toolkit, abends if not possible */
void
CBL_OC_GTK_INIT(int argc, char *argv[])
{
    gtk_init(&argc, &argv);
}

/* Initialize the toolkit, return false if not possible */
/* Need pointers to argc and argv here */
int
CBL_OC_GTK_INIT_CHECK()
{
    gboolean gres = gtk_init_check(0, NULL);
    return (gres == TRUE) ? 0 : -1;
}

/* Create new window */
GtkWidget*
CBL_OC_GTK_WINDOW_NEW()
{
    return gtk_window_new(GTK_WINDOW_TOPLEVEL);
}

/* set the title */
void
CBL_OC_GTK_WINDOW_SET_TITLE(void *window, char *title)
{
    struct cob_module *module;
    cob_field *title_field;
    char *cstr;

    /* Error conditions simply return, doing nothing */
    if (cob_get_global_ptr()->cob_call_params < 2) { return; }

    module = cob_get_global_ptr()->cob_current_module;
    if (module == NULL) {
        //cob_runtime_error("No module!");
        cob_stop_run(1);
    }

    title_field = module->cob_procedure_parameters[1];
    if (!title_field) { return; }

    cstr = (char *)malloc(title_field->size + 1);
    if (!cstr) { return; }

    memcpy(cstr, title_field->data, title_field->size);
}

```

```

    cstr[title_field->size] = '\0';

    gtk_window_set_title(GTK_WINDOW(window), cstr);

    free(cstr);
}

/* Widget sizing */
void
CBL_OC_GTK_WIDGET_SET_SIZE_REQUEST(void *widget, int x, int y)
{
    gtk_widget_set_size_request(GTK_WIDGET(widget), x, y);
}

/* Set border width */
void
CBL_OC_GTK_CONTAINER_SET_BORDER_WIDTH(void *window, int pixels)
{
    gtk_container_set_border_width(GTK_CONTAINER(window), pixels);
}

/* New vertical box */
GtkWidget*
CBL_OC_GTK_VBOX_NEW(int homogeneous, int spacing)
{
    return gtk_vbox_new((gboolean)homogeneous, (gint)spacing);
}

/* New horizontal box */
GtkWidget*
CBL_OC_GTK_HBOX_NEW(int homogeneous, int spacing)
{
    return gtk_hbox_new((gboolean)homogeneous, (gint)spacing);
}

/* packing boxes */
void
CBL_OC_GTK_BOX_PACK_START(void *gcont, void *gobj, int expand, int fill, int padding)
{
    gtk_box_pack_start(GTK_BOX(gcont), gobj, (gboolean)expand, (gboolean)fill, (gint)padding);
}

/* menus */
GtkWidget*
CBL_OC_GTK_MENU_BAR_NEW()
{
    return gtk_menu_bar_new();
}

GtkWidget*

```

```

CBL_OC_GTK_MENU_NEW()
{
    return gtk_menu_new();
}

GtkWidget*
CBL_OC_GTK_MENU_ITEM_NEW_WITH_LABEL(char *label)
{
    struct cob_module *module;
    cob_field *title_field;
    char *cstr;
    GtkWidget *item;

    /* Error conditions simply return, doing nothing */
    if (cob_get_global_ptr()->cob_call_params < 1) { return; }

    module = cob_get_global_ptr()->cob_current_module;
    if (module == NULL) {
        //cob_runtime_error("No module!");
        cob_stop_run(1);
    }

    title_field = module->cob_procedure_parameters[0];
    if (!title_field) { return; }

    cstr = (char *)malloc(title_field->size + 1);
    if (!cstr) { return; }

    memcpy(cstr, title_field->data, title_field->size);
    cstr[title_field->size] = '\0';

    item = gtk_menu_item_new_with_label(cstr);
    gtk_widget_set_tooltip_text(item, (gchar *)cstr);

    free(cstr);

    return item;
}

void
CBL_OC_GTK_MENU_ITEM_SET_SUBMENU(void *item, void *menu)
{
    gtk_menu_item_set_submenu(GTK_MENU_ITEM(item), menu);
    return;
}

void
CBL_OC_GTK_MENU_SHELL_APPEND(void *menu, void *item)
{
    gtk_menu_shell_append(GTK_MENU_SHELL(menu), item);
}

```

```

        return;
    }

    /* New button */
    GtkWidget*
    CBL_OC_GTK_BUTTON_NEW_WITH_LABEL(char *label)
    {
        GtkWidget *button;
        button = gtk_button_new_with_label(label);
        if (button) {
            gtk_widget_set_tooltip_text(button, (gchar *)label);
        }
        return button;
    }

    /* New text entry */
    GtkWidget*
    CBL_OC_GTK_ENTRY_NEW() {
        return gtk_entry_new();
    }

    /* Set text in entry */
    void
    CBL_OC_GTK_ENTRY_SET_TEXT(void *entry, char *text)
    {
        gtk_entry_set_text(GTK_ENTRY(entry), text);
        return;
    }

    /* Get the text in an entry */
    int
    CBL_OC_GTK_ENTRY_GET_TEXT(void *entry, char *text)
    {
        struct cob_module *module;
        cob_field *text_field;
        size_t text_length;

        module = cob_get_global_ptr()->cob_current_module;
        text_field = module->cob_procedure_parameters[1];

        const gchar *entry_text;
        entry_text = gtk_entry_get_text(GTK_ENTRY(entry));
        text_length = entry_text ? strlen(entry_text) : 0;
        text_length = (text_length > text_field->size) ? text_field->size : text_length;

        memset(text_field->data, ' ', text_field->size);
        memcpy(text_field->data, entry_text, text_length);
        return (int)text_length;
    }

```

```
/* connect event to callback */
void
CBL_OC_G_SIGNAL_CONNECT(void *gobj, char *sgn, void (cb)(void *, void *), void *parm)
{
    g_signal_connect(G_OBJECT(gobj), sgn, G_CALLBACK(cb), parm);
}

/* add object to container */
void
CBL_OC_GTK_CONTAINER_ADD(void *window, void *gobj)
{
    gtk_container_add(GTK_CONTAINER(window), gobj);
}

/* tell gtk that object is now ready */
void
CBL_OC_GTK_WIDGET_SHOW(void *gobj)
{
    gtk_widget_show(gobj);
}

/* tell gtk to ready all the widgets */
void
CBL_OC_GTK_WIDGET_SHOW_ALL(void *window)
{
    gtk_widget_show_all(window);
}

/* Some dialogs */
GtkWidget*
CBL_OC_GTK_FILE_SELECTION_NEW(char *title)
{
    return gtk_file_selection_new(title);
}

/* the event loop */
void
CBL_OC_GTK_MAIN()
{
    gtk_main();
}

/* stop the gui */
void
CBL_OC_GTK_MAIN_QUIT()
{
    gtk_main_quit();
}
```

---

A screenshot with added menu and file dialog after hitting File -> Open

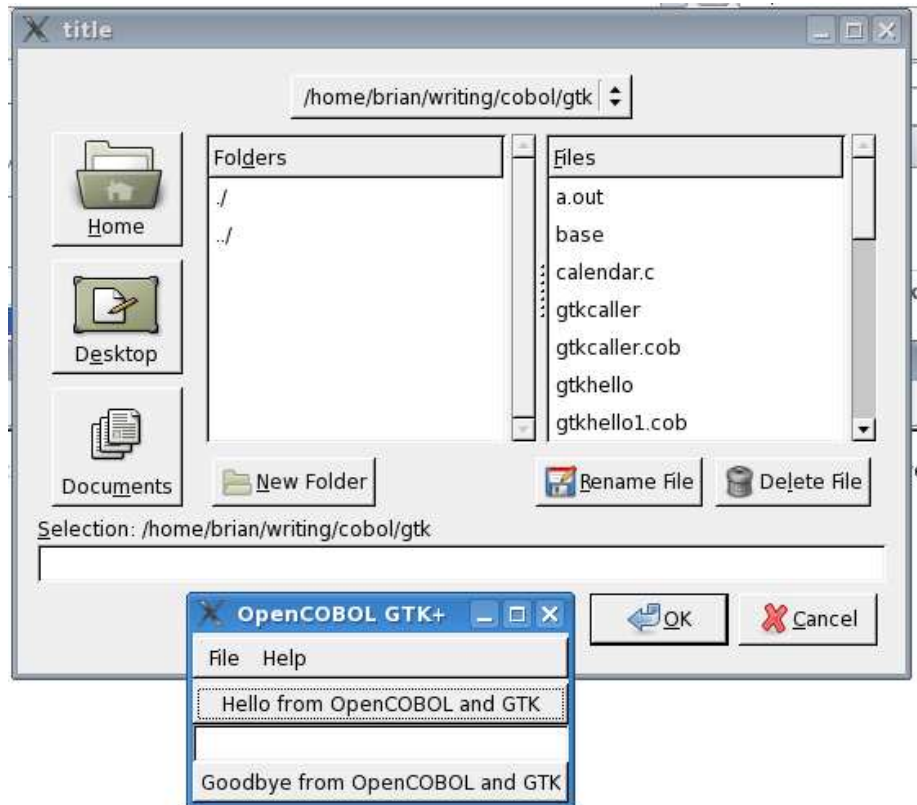


Figure 5.8: OpenCOBOL with GTK+ file menu

### 5.53.1 A web browsing widget embedded in OpenCOBOL?

Yep.

A short sample, made for OpenCOBOL 1.0's first birthday, Dec 27th, 2008.

Listing 5.84: OpenCOBOL GTK+ HTML rendering

```
int
CBL_OC_GTKHTML (char *html_string)
{
    GtkWidget *app;
    GtkWidget *html;
    GtkWidget *scrolled_window;

    char *fakeargv[2] = {"happybdy", ""};
```

```

/* prepare our environment, we need gnome and gconf */
gnome_init ("Example_1", "1.0", 1, fakeargv);
gconf_init (1, fakeargv);

/* create GtkHTML widget */
html = gtk_html_new ();
gtk_signal_connect (GTK_OBJECT (html), "url_requested",
                   GTK_SIGNAL_FUNC (url_requested), NULL);
gtk_signal_connect (GTK_OBJECT (html), "object_requested",
                   GTK_SIGNAL_FUNC (object_requested), NULL);

gtk_html_load_from_string (GTK_HTML (html), html_string, -1);

/* create GNOME app and put GtkHTML in scrolled window in it */
app = gnome_app_new ("Example_1", "Happy Birthday OpenCOBOL");

scrolled_window = gtk_scrolled_window_new (NULL, NULL);
gtk_scrolled_window_set_policy (GTK_SCROLLED_WINDOW (scrolled_window),
                               GTK_POLICY_AUTOMATIC, GTK_POLICY_AUTOMATIC);
gtk_container_add (GTK_CONTAINER (scrolled_window), html);

gnome_app_set_contents (GNOME_APP (app), scrolled_window);
gtk_window_set_default_size (GTK_WINDOW (app), 320, 100);
gtk_widget_show_all (app);

/* run the main loop */
gtk_main ();

return 0;
}

```



Figure 5.9: Happy Birthday 1.0 OpenCOBOL 1.0

And the COBOL:

Listing 5.85: OpenCOBOL GTK+ HTML rendering

```

*> *****
*> Author:    Brian Tiffin
*> Date:      27-Dec-2008
*> Purpose:   Happy Birthday OpenCOBOL
*> Tectonics:
*> gcc -c `pkg-config --cflags --libs libgnome-2.0 libgnomeui-2.0
*>         gtk+-2.0 libgtkhtml-3.14` hellogtk.c
*> cobc -lgtkhtml-3.14 -lgnomeui-2 -lSM -lICE -lglade-2.0
*>         -lbonoboui-2 -lgnomevfs-2 -lgnomecanvas-2 -lgnome-2 -lpopt
*>         -lbonobo-2 -lbonobo-activation -lORBit-2 -lart_lgpl_2
*>         -lgconf-2 -lgthread-2.0 -lrt -lgtk-x11-2.0 -lxml2
*>         -lgdk-x11-2.0 -latk-1.0 -lgdk_pixbuf-2.0 -lm
*>         -lpangocairo-1.0 -lpango-1.0 -lcairo -lgobject-2.0
*>         -lgmodule-2.0 -ldl -lglib-2.0 -x ocgtkhtml.cob hellogtk.o
*> *****
identification division.
program-id. ocgtkhtml.

data division.
working-storage section.
01 result                usage binary-long.
01 html-string           pic x(512) value
    "<B><FONT COLOR=Blue>Happy Birthday 1.0</FONT> " &
    "<FONT COLOR=LimeGreen>OpenCOBOL 1.0!!</FONT></B><br />" &
    "<div align='center'><a href='http://opencobol.org'>" &
    "opencobol</a> <img src='file:smiley.png' />" &
    "<br /><br /><OBJECT CLASSID=close_button>Closebutton" &
    "</OBJECT></div>" & x"00".

*> *****
procedure division.

call "CBL_OC_GTKHTML" using
    by reference html-string
    returning result
end-call

goback.
end program ocgtkhtml.

```

## 5.54 What is ocsort?

### Proof of concept release *as of February 2010*

A powerful external sort utility using OpenCOBOL for the sort engine.

A preliminary version can be referenced through <http://www.opencobol.org/modules/newbb/viewtopic.php?tid=10> or directly from [http://oldsite.addtocobol.com/tiki-download\\_file.php?fileId=74](http://oldsite.addtocobol.com/tiki-download_file.php?fileId=74)

ocsort supports a variety of sorting options, for example::



```
ocsort sort fields"(1,5,CH,A,11,4,CH,A)" use inputfile record f,391 org sq give out
```

Users of MFSORT may recognize the syntax. Explaining the above example, Angus posted:

```
This will sort the file "inputfile", a fixed length file (391 byte each
record, organization sequential), and create a file "outputfile" sorted
(which is of the same type). The sort fields are :
(start, length, type, direction)
=> start=1
=> length=5
=> type = character (you can sort on comp3 fields, but ocsort don't handle it)
=> direction = ascending (or descending)
It's like an order by.
The omit/include condition allow to remove record from the file (ex if
character number 5 of this record is 'F', omit the record). You can use and,
or, greater than...)
```

The sources include the parser for the ocsort command language.

## 5.55 When is Easter?

A short program to display the day of Easter for a given year.

Listing 5.86: Display the date of Easter

```
OCOBOL >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
*> *****
*> Author:      Brian Tiffin
*> Date:        17-Nov-2008
*> Purpose:     Display Easter Day for any given year, 1580 - 2050xx
*> Tectonics:   cobb -x easter.cob
*>              ./easter [year]
*> *****
identification division.
program-id. easter.

data division.
working-storage section.
01 a    picture 9(8) usage comp-x.
01 b    picture 9(8).
01 c    picture 9(8).
01 d    picture 9(8).
01 z    picture 9(8).  *> Why z? COBOL has pi for pi and e for e
01 f    picture 9(8).
01 g    picture 9(8).
01 h    picture 9(8).
01 i    picture 9(8).
01 j    picture 9(8).
```

```

01 year picture 9(4).
01 mo   picture 9(2).
01 da   picture 9(2).
01 args picture x(80).

*> *****
procedure division.

accept args from command-line end-accept
if args not equal spaces
    move args to year
else
    display "Year: " with no advancing end-display
    accept year end-accept
end-if

compute a = function mod(year 19)           end-compute
divide year by 100 giving b remainder c     end-divide
divide b   by 4   giving d remainder z     end-divide
compute f = (b + 8) / 25                   end-compute
compute g = (b - f + 1) / 3                end-compute
compute h = (19 * a) + b - d - g + 15      end-compute
compute h = function mod(h 30)             end-compute
divide c   by 4   giving i remainder j     end-divide
compute c = (z + i) * 2 + 32 - h - j       end-compute
compute c = function mod(c 7)              end-compute
compute b = (a + (11 * h) + (22 * c)) / 451 end-compute
compute a = h + c - (7 * b) + 114          end-compute
compute da = function mod(a 31) + 1        end-compute
divide a   by 31 giving mo                 end-divide

display "yyyy/mm/dd: " year "/" mo "/" da end-display
goback.
end program easter.

*> *****
*> Snagged from a REBOL script, easter-day.r by Didier Cadieu
*> http://www.rebol.org/view-script.r?script=easter-day.r
*>
*> easter-day: func [
*>     {Compute the easter date for the wanted year.}
*>     year [integer!] {Year for which you want the easter date}
*>     /local a b c d z f g h i k
*> ] [
*>     a: year // 19
*>     b: to integer! year / 100
*>     c: year // 100
*>     d: to integer! b / 4
*>     z: b // 4
*>     f: to integer! b + 8 / 25

```

```

*>      g: to integer! b - f + 1 / 3
*>      h: 19 * a + b - d - g + 15 // 30
*>      i: to integer! c / 4
*>      k: c // 4
*>      c: z + i * 2 + 32 - h - k // 7
*>      b: to integer! a + (11 * h) + (22 * c) / 451
*>      a: h + c - (7 * b) + 114
*>      to date! reduce [
*>          a // 31 + 1
*>          to integer! a / 31
*>          year
*>      ]
*> ]

```

---

Sample, with and without command line argument:

```

$ cobc -x easter.cob
$ ./easter 2011
yyyy/mm/dd: 2011/04/24
$ ./easter
Year: 2010
yyyy/mm/dd: 2010/04/04

```

## 5.56 Does Vim support OpenCOBOL?

Very well. See `cobol.vimA.13` for a syntax highlighter tuned for OpenCOBOL.

Vim's Visual Block mode can be very handy at reforming COBOL source code.

Author's choice. `ocfaq.rst` is edited using Vim, Bram Moolenaar's [?] `vi` enhancement. See below for some settings that can make OpenCOBOL more productive.

### 5.56.1 vim code completion

For *code completion* (Ctrl-P while in insert mode) start by creating a reserved word list using your `cobc` command

```
$ cobc --list-reserved | tail -n+3 | cut -f1 >~/vim/ocreserved.lis
```

followed by this change in `/.vimrc`

```

:set ignorecase
:set infercase
:set complete=k~/vim/ocreserved.lis

```

### 5.56.2 freedom

To free the cursor (allowing the cursor to travel past line endings) use:

```
:set virtualedit=all
```

### 5.56.3 autoloading a skeleton

For a quick template when starting a new file (in `.vimrc`, change the filename `~/lang/cobol/headfix.cob` to where you keep your favourite COBOL starter skeleton).

```
" Auto load COBOL template
autocmd BufNewFile *.cob      Or ~/lang/cobol/headfix.cob
```

## 5.57 What is w3m?

w3m is a text based web browser. OpenCOBOL can leverage some of the power of this application by directly calling it with `SYSTEM`.

Listing 5.87: Call w3m and get a web page

```
OCOBOL >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
*> *****
*> Author:      Brian Tiffin
*> Date:        30-Dec-2008
*> Purpose:     Textualize a webpage
*> Tectonics:   ccbc -x w3mcaller.cob
*>              ./w3mcaller opencobol.org
*> *****
identification division.
program-id. w3mcaller.

data division.
working-storage section.
01 args          pic x(256).
01 command       pic x(256).
01 result        usage binary-long.

*> *****
procedure division.
accept args from command-line.

string
    "w3m -dump " delimited by size
    function trim(args) delimited by size
    into command
end-string
call "SYSTEM" using command returning result end-call

goback.
end program w3mcaller.
```

---

Sample run on 28-Feb-2010:

```
$ ./w3mcaller opencobol.org
```

```

[logo]
[arrow] HOME      [arrow] NEWS      [arrow] FORUM      [arrow] D
                                OWNLOAD      [arrow] LINK

OpenCOBOL - an open-source COBOL compiler
[arrow] Welcome to the OpenCOBOL Website!
OpenCOBOL is an open-source COBOL compiler.
[arrow] Main      OpenCOBOL implements a substantial part of the
Menu              COBOL 85 and COBOL 2002 standards, as well as
Home News Wiki    many extensions of the existent COBOL
Forum Downloads   compilers.
Links
*                OpenCOBOL translates COBOL into C and compiles [arrow] Search
[arrow]           the translated code using the native C [Search]
Download         compiler. You can build your COBOL programs on Advanced Search
                various platforms, including Unix/Linux, Mac OS [arrow] Login
                X, and Microsoft Windows. Username:
                [
OpenCOBOL 1.0    The compiler is licensed under GNU General Password:
OpenCOBOL 1.1    Public License. [
pre-release      The run-time library is licensed under GNU [User Login]
                Lesser General Public License. Lost Password?

*
[arrow]           [arrow] Recent News Register now!
Documentation     OpenCOBOL 1.0 released (2007/12/27) [arrow] Recent
                Links

FAQ
Features [arrow] Recent Topics J&C
Install   Forum      Topic      Replies Views      Last      Migrations
Guide     Post
User Manual      using gui      2010/2/
                OpenCOBOL interface      18      733      28 10:12      COBOL Data
*                federico      Correlation
[arrow]           SET index-var      2010/2/      a... (2006/9
Development      OpenCOBOL TO DISP-FIELD      2      99      27 18:53      COBOL User
                implementation      Groups :
                OpenCOBOL of ocsort      7      308      2010/2/      COBU...
                select fname      2010/2/      (2006/1/17)
                OpenCOBOL clause,      9      426      27 5:15      The Kasten
                Variable value      2010/2/      COBOL Page
                as filename      shaj      (2005/9/8)
*                Die COBOL
[arrow] Who's     Connection
Online           OpenCOBOL Benchmarks      5      285      2010/2/      (2005/9/8)
12 user(s) are OpenCOBOL Benchmarks      5      285      24 23:45      University
online           btiffin      of Limerick
                2010/2/      (2005/9/8)

```

Members: 1	OpenCOBOL	Default Colour	7	327	21 15:32	Stefans
Guests: 11					jgt	kleine
		OpenCOBOL 1.1			2010/2/	COBOL
clmcoll,	OpenCOBOL	compiler	8	451	20 21:52	(2005/
more...		listing			btiffin	COBOL V
*		MOVE loops			2010/2/	Develo
[arrow] Powered	OpenCOBOL	when operands	9	443	20 20:39	(2005/
by		are overlaying			human	Kobol
SourceForge		[solved]				Kompar
		OMQ (zeromq),			2010/2/	(2005/
Xoops	OpenCOBOL	network	3	223	20 15:12	CoCoLab
		messaging and			btiffin	(2005/
Creative		OpenCOBOL				
Commons		Conversion				
		story from			2010/2/	
*	OpenCOBOL	MicroFocus to	10	768	20 12:23	
		OC, on SUSE			simrw	
		11.2				
		Visit Forums				

Copyright (C) 2005 The OpenCOBOL Project. All rights reserved.  
 Powered by Xoops2 | PHP | MySQL | Apache  
 ocean-net

## 5.58 What is COB\_LIBRARY\_PATH?

If the DSO files are not in the current working directory along with the executable, the COB\_LIBRARY\_PATH can be set to find them.

On GNU/Linux and bash it could be

```
export COB_LIBRARY_PATH=/home/developer/ocnewstuff:/home/developer/ocstuff
```

to search for link libraries ocnewstuff then ocstuff, giving your testing versions priority during development.

## 5.59 Can OpenCOBOL interface with Rexx?

Yes, ooRexx linkage is commented on at <http://www.opencobol.org/modules/newbb/viewtopic>.

A Regina Rexx layer can be as simple as

Listing 5.88: Embed Regina Rexx in OpenCOBOL

```
/* OpenCOBOL interface to Regina Rexx Interpreter */
/* Requires regina3 and regina3-dev */
/* cobc -I/usr/include/regina -c ocrexx.c */
```

```

#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>
#include <rexxsaa.h>

int ocrexx(char *script, char *args, char *resfield, int reslen, short *result) {
    APIRET rexxapiret;
    RXSTRING retstr;
    RXSTRING arglist[1];
    short rexxret = 0;

    int ignore = 0;

    /* Initialize the engine, run the script */
    retstr.strpstr = NULL;
    retstr.strlength = 0;
    arglist[0].strpstr = args;
    arglist[0].strlength = strlen(args);

    rexxapiret = REXXStart(1, (PRXSTRING)&arglist, script, NULL, NULL,
        RXCOMMAND || RXRESTRICTED, NULL, &rexxret, &retstr);

    /* set result back to OpenCOBOL */
    memset(resfield, ' ', reslen);
    if (rexxapiret == 0) {
        memcpy(resfield, retstr.strpstr, (retstr.strlength > reslen) ? reslen : retstr.strlength);
        *result = rexxret;
    }

    /* Let REXX do all the memory allocation */
    if (retstr.strpstr != NULL) { ignore = REXXFreeMemory(retstr.strpstr); }

    return (int)rexxapiret;
}

int ocrexxcmd(char *cmds, char *args, char *resfield, int reslen, short *result) {
    APIRET rexxapiret;
    RXSTRING retstr;
    RXSTRING arglist[1];
    RXSTRING instore[2];
    short rexxret = 0;

    int ignore = 0;

    /* For syntax check, no evaluate, taken from 8.4 of the Regina3.4 pdf */
    arglist[0].strpstr = "//T";
    arglist[0].strlength = 3;

    arglist[0].strpstr = args;
    arglist[0].strlength = strlen(args);

```

```

/* Move the command(s) to the instore array */
instore[0].strptr = cmds;
instore[0].strlength = strlen(cmds);
instore[1].strptr = NULL;
instore[1].strlength = 0;

/* Call Rexx. Use argcount 1 and &arglist to call syntax check */
retstr.strptr = NULL;
retstr.strlength = 0;
rexzapiret = RexxStart(1, (PRXSTRING)&arglist, "FILLER", (PRXSTRING)&instore, "C
    RXCOMMAND, NULL, &rexzret, &retstr);

/* set result back to OpenCOBOL */
memset(resfield, ' ', reslen);
if (rexzapiret == 0) {
    memcpy(resfield, retstr.strptr, (retstr.strlength > reslen) ? reslen : retst
    *result = rexzret;
}

/* Let Rexx do all the memory allocation */
if (instore[1].strptr != NULL) { ignore = RexxFreeMemory(instore[1].strptr); }
if (retstr.strptr != NULL) { ignore = RexxFreeMemory(retstr.strptr); }

return (int)rexzapiret;
}

```

---

with a usage example of

#### Listing 5.89: Call Regina Rexx from OpenCOBOL

```

OCOBOL >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
*> *****
*><* *****
*><* Rexx in OpenCOBOL
*><* *****
*><*
*><* :Author: Brian Tiffin
*><* :Date: 13-Nov-2008
*><* :Purpose: Very High Level Regina Rexx engine
*><* :Requires: regina-rexx, regina3, regina3-dev, OC 1.1 pre-rel
*><* :Tectonics:
*><* | cobc -I/usr/include/regina -c ocrexx.c
*><* | cobc -x -lregina rexxcaller.cob ocrexx.o
*><* | ocdoc rexxcaller.cob rexxcaller.rst rexxcaller.html
*> *****
identification division.
program-id. rexxcaller.

data division.
*><*
*><* =====

```



```

*><* Working Store
*><* =====
*><*
*><* ::
*><*
*><[
  working-storage section.
  01 newline constant as x"0a".
  01 apicode          usage binary-long.
  01 resultcode      usage binary-short.
  01 scriptname      pic x(12) value 'verrex.cmd' & x'00'.
  01 argument        pic x(256) value 'OC1.1 args' & x"00".
  01 cmds            pic x(1024).
  01 rexxstring      pic x(1048576).
*><]

*> *****
  procedure division.

*><*
*><* ===
*><* API
*><* ===
*><*
*><* -----
*><* ocrexx
*><* -----
*><* Pass a null-term scriptname, a null-term argument string
*><* the return value field and length, the return code and
*><* returning the Rexx api result code.
*><*
*><* Usage::
*><*
  compute
    apicode = function length(function trim(scriptname))
  end-compute
  display
    "CALL Rexx with |" scriptname(1:apicode - 1) "|"
  end-display
*><[
  call "ocrexx"
    using
      by reference scriptname
      by reference argument
      by reference rexxstring
      by value function length(renxstring)
      by reference resultcode
    returning apicode
  end-call
  display "|" apicode "|" resultcode with no advancing end-display

```

```

display "|" function trim(rexxstring trailing) "|" end-display
*><]

*><*
*><* -----
*><* ocrexxcmd
*><* -----
*><* Usage::
*><*
*><[
move "say 'Hello World!'; return 'From Rexx';" & x'00' to cmds.
compute
  apicode = function length(function trim(cmds))
end-compute
display newline
  "CALL Rexx command with |" cmds(1:apicode - 1) "|"
end-display
call "ocrexxcmd"
  using
    by reference cmds
    by reference argument
    by reference rexxstring
    by value function length(rexxstring)
    by reference resultcode
  returning apicode
end-call
display "|" apicode "|" resultcode with no advancing end-display
display "|" function trim(rexxstring trailing) "|" end-display
*><]

*><*
*><* or perhaps::
*><*
*><[
move
  "parse arg argument; say '##' || argument || '##';" & x"0a" &
  "capture = ';" & x"0a" &
  "address system 'cat tectonic && cat verrex.cmd && ls -l" &
  " && w3m rexxcaller.html'" &
  " with output fifo ';" & x"0a" &
  "DO i=1 WHILE queued() \= 0;" & x"0a" &
  "  parse pull line;" & x"0a" &
  "  capture = capture || line || '0a'x;" & x"0a" &
  "END;" & x'0a' &
  "return capture;" & x'00' to cmds
compute
  apicode = function length(function trim(cmds))
end-compute
display newline
  "CALL Rexx command with |" cmds(1:apicode - 1) "|"
end-display

```

```

call "ocrexxcmd"
  using
    by reference cmds
    by reference argument
    by reference rexxstring
    by value function length(renxstring)
    by reference resultcode
  returning apicode
end-call
*><]
display "|" apicode "|" resultcode with no advancing end-display
display "|" function trim(renxstring trailing) "|" end-display
goback.
end program rexxcaller.

```

---

And as a sample Rexx script

Listing 5.90: sample Rexx script

```

Parse Version ver;
Say ver;
return ver;

```

---

With a sample run producing:

```

$ ./tectonic
CALL Rexx with |verrexx.cmd|
REXX-Regina_3.3(MT) 5.00 25 Apr 2004
ocrexx.c ocrexx.o rexxcaller rexxcaller.cob rexxcaller.html rexxcaller.rst re
|+0000000000|+00000|REXX-Regina_3.3(MT) 5.00 25 Apr 2004|

CALL Rexx command with |say 'Hello World!'; return 'From Rexx';|
Hello World!
|+0000000000|+00000|From Rexx|

CALL Rexx command with |parse arg argument; say '##' || argument || '##';
capture = '';
address system 'cat tectonic && cat verrexx.cmd && ls -l && w3m rexxcaller.html' w
DO i=1 WHILE queued() \= 0;
  parse pull line;
  capture = capture || line || '0a'x;
END;
return capture;|
##OC1.1 args##
|+0000000000|+00000|cobc -I/usr/include/regina/ -c ocrexx.c
cobc -x -lregina rexxcaller.cob ocrexx.o
../ocdoc rexxcaller.cob rexxcaller.rst rexxcaller.html ../ocfaq.css
./rexxcaller
/* script for OpenCOBOL Regina Rexx */

```

```

Parse Version ver;
Say ver;
address system;
'ls';
return ver;
total 68
-rw-r--r-- 1 btiffin btiffin 2469 2008-11-16 11:09 ocrexx.c
-rw-r--r-- 1 btiffin btiffin 2568 2010-05-06 22:51 ocrexx.o
-rwxr-xr-x 1 btiffin btiffin 18128 2010-05-06 22:51 rexxcaller
-rw-r--r-- 1 btiffin btiffin 4477 2008-11-16 11:28 rexxcaller.cob
-rw-r--r-- 1 btiffin btiffin 9312 2010-05-06 22:51 rexxcaller.html
-rw-r--r-- 1 btiffin btiffin 3187 2010-05-06 22:51 rexxcaller.rst
-rw-r--r-- 1 btiffin btiffin 4131 2008-11-16 11:30 rexx.output
-rwxr-xr-x 1 btiffin btiffin 162 2008-11-16 11:21 tectonic
-rw-r--r-- 1 btiffin btiffin 101 2008-11-15 23:24 verrexx.cmd
Rexx in OpenCOBOL

```

```

Author: Brian Tiffin
Date: 13-Nov-2008
Purpose: Very High Level Regina Rexx engine
Requires: regina-rexx, regina3, regina3-dev, OC 1.1 pre-rel
cobc -I/usr/include/regina -c ocrexx.c
Tectonics: cobc -x -lregina rexxcaller.cob ocrexx.o
ocdoc rexxcaller.cob rexxcaller.rst rexxcaller.html

```

#### Working Store

```

working-storage section.
01 newline constant as x"0a".
01 apicode          usage binary-long.
01 resultcode      usage binary-short.
01 scriptname      pic x(12) value 'verrexx.cmd' & x'00'.
01 argument        pic x(256) value 'OC1.1 args' & x"00".
01 cmds            pic x(1024).
01 rexxstring      pic x(1048576).

```

#### API

##### ocrexx

Pass a null-term scriptname, a null-term argument string the return value and length, the return code and returning the Rexx api result code.

##### Usage:

```
call "ocrexx"
```

```

        using
            by reference scriptname
            by reference argument
            by reference rexxstring
            by value function length(rixxstring)
            by reference resultcode
        returning apicode
    end-call
    display "|" apicode "|" resultcode with no advancing end-display
    display "|" function trim(rixxstring trailing) "|" end-display

ocrexxcmd

```

Usage:

```

move "say 'Hello World!'; return 'From REXX';" & x'00' to cmds.
compute
    apicode = function length(function trim(cmds))
end-compute
display newline
    "CALL REXX command with |" cmds(1:apicode - 1) "|"
end-display
call "ocrexxcmd"
    using
        by reference cmds
        by reference argument
        by reference rexxstring
        by value function length(rixxstring)
        by reference resultcode
    returning apicode
end-call
display "|" apicode "|" resultcode with no advancing end-display
display "|" function trim(rixxstring trailing) "|" end-display

```

or perhaps:

```

move
    "parse arg argument; say '##' || argument || '##';" & x"0a" &
    "capture = '";" & x"0a" &
    "address system 'cat tectonic && cat verrex.cmd && ls -l" &
    " && w3m rexxcaller.html'" &
    " with output fifo '";" & x"0a" &
    "DO i=1 WHILE queued() \= 0;" & x"0a" &
    "    parse pull line;" & x"0a" &
    "    capture = capture || line || '0a'x;" & x"0a" &
    "END;" & x'0a' &

```

```

        "return capture;" & x'00' to cmds
compute
    apicode = function length(function trim(cmds))
end-compute
display newline
    "CALL Rexx command with |" cmds(1:apicode - 1) "|"
end-display
call "ocrexxcmd"
    using
        by reference cmds
        by reference argument
        by reference rexxstring
        by value function length(rixxstring)
        by reference resultcode
    returning apicode
end-call

|

and the ocdoc output at rexxcaller.html

```

## 5.60 Does OpenCOBOL support table SEARCH and SORT?

Yep.

This is a two part example. A small tax table search, and a dictionary sort and lookup.

### 5.60.1 Linear SEARCH

Listing 5.91: Demonstrate linear SEARCH

```

OCOBOL >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
*> *****
*> Author:    Brian Tiffin, with some suggestions from human
*> Date:      30-Nov-2008, 02-Dec-2008
*> Purpose:   Demonstration of the SEARCH verb
*> Tectonics: cobc -x searchlinear.cob
*> *****
identification division.
program-id. searchlinear.

data division.

working-storage section.
01 taxinfo.

```

```

    05 tax-table occurs 4 times indexed by tt-index.
       10 province      pic x(2).
       10 taxrate       pic 999v9999.
       10 federal       pic 999v9999.
    01 prov             pic x(2).
    01 percent          pic 999v9999.
    01 percentage       pic zz9.99.

*> *****
procedure division.
begin.

*> *****
*> Sample for linear SEARCH, requires INDEXED BY table
*> populate the provincial tax tabler; not really, only a couple
*> populate Ontario and then PEI using different field loaders
move 'AB' to province(1)
move 'ON' to province(2)
move 0.08 to taxrate(2)
move 0.05 to federal(2)
move 'PE00014000000000' to tax-table(3)
move 'YT' to province(4)

*> Find Ontario tax rate
move "ON" to prov
perform search-for-taxrate

*> Setup for Prince Edward Island
move 'PE' to prov
perform search-for-taxrate

*> Setup for failure
move 'ZZ' to prov
perform search-for-taxrate

goback.
*> *****

search-for-taxrate.
    set tt-index to 1
    search tax-table
        at end display "no province: " prov end-display
        when province(tt-index) = prov
            perform display-taxrate
    end-search
.

display-taxrate.
    compute percent = taxrate(tt-index) * 100
    move percent to percentage

```

```

display
    "found: " prov " at " taxrate(tt-index)
    "," percentage "%, federal rate of " federal(tt-index)
end-display
.

end program searchlinear.

```

A sample run producing:

```

$ cobc -x searchlinear.cob && ./searchlinear
found: ON at 000.0800, 8.00%, federal rate of 000.0500
found: PE at 000.1400, 14.00%, federal rate of 000.0000
no province: ZZ

```

## 5.60.2 SORT and binary SEARCH ALL

Listing 5.92: Demonstrate binary SEARCH ALL

```

OCOBOL >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
*> *****
*> Author:    Brian Tiffin, with some suggestions from human
*> Date:      30-Nov-2008, 02-Dec-2008
*> Purpose:   Demonstration of the SEARCH ALL verb and table SORT
*> Tectonics: cobc -x -fdebugging-line searchbinary.cob
*> *****
identification division.
program-id. searchbinary.

environment division.
input-output section.
file-control.
    select optional wordfile
    assign to infile
    organization is line sequential.

data division.
file section.
fd wordfile.
    01 wordrec          pic x(20).

working-storage section.
01 infile              pic x(256) value spaces.
   88 defaultfile     value '/usr/share/dict/words'.
01 arguments          pic x(256).

*> Note the based clause, this memory is initially unallocated
78 maxwords           value 100000.
01 wordlist           based.
   05 word-table occurs maxwords times

```



```

        depending on wordcount
        descending key is wordstr
        indexed by wl-index.
    10 wordstr          pic x(20).
    10 wordline        usage binary-long.
01 wordcount          usage binary-long.

01 file-eof           pic 9 value low-value.
    88 at-eof         value high-values.

01 word               pic x(20).

*> *****
procedure division.
begin.

*> Get the word file filename
accept arguments from command-line end-accept
if arguments not equal spaces
    move arguments to infile
else
    set defaultfile to true
end-if

*> *****
*> Try playing with the words file and binary SEARCH ALL
*> requires KEY IS and INDEXED BY table description

*> Point wordlist to valid memory
allocate wordlist initialized

open input wordfile

move low-value to file-eof
read wordfile
    at end set at-eof to true
end-read

perform
    with test before
    until at-eof or (wordcount >= maxwords)
        add 1 to wordcount
        move wordrec to wordstr(wordcount)
        move wordcount to wordline(wordcount)
        read wordfile
            at end set at-eof to true
        end-read
    end-perform

close wordfile

```

```

*> ensure a non-zero length table when allowing optional file
evaluate true                also file-eof
  when wordcount = 0        also any
    move 1 to wordcount
    display "No words loaded" end-display
  when wordcount >= maxwords also low-value
    display "Word list truncated to " maxwords end-display
end-evaluate

>>D display "Count: " wordcount ": " wordstr(wordcount) end-display

*> Sort the words from z to a
sort word-table on descending key wordstr

*> fetch a word to search for
display "word to find: " with no advancing end-display
accept word end-accept

*> binary search the words for word typed in and display
*> the original line number if/when a match is found
set wl-index to 1
search all word-table
  at end
    display
      word " not a word of " function trim(infile)
    end-display
  when wordstr(wl-index) = word
    display
      word " sorted to " wl-index ", originally "
      wordline(wl-index) " of " function trim(infile)
    end-display
  end-search

*> Release memory ownership
free address of wordlist

goback.
end program searchbinary.

```

---

with some sample words and a Debian 5.0.4 system:

```

$ cobc -x searchbinary.cob
$ ./searchbinary
word to find: zygote
zygote          sorted to +000000018, originally +0000098552 of /usr/
$ ./searchbinary
word to find: abacus
abacus         sorted to +000080466, originally +0000018104 of /usr/

```

See SORT4.1.431 for other examples.

## 5.61 Can OpenCOBOL handle named pipes?

Yes. Here is a sample, using a tongue-in-cheek corncob filename.

Listing 5.93: Demonstrate mkfifo named pipes

```

OCOBOL >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
*> *****
*> Author:      Brian Tiffin
*> Date:        10-Apr-2010
*> Purpose:     playing with the corncob pipe
*> Tectonics:   mkfifo corncob
*>              cobc -x popcorn.cob
*>              ls >corncob & ./popcorn
*> *****
identification division.
program-id. popcorn.

environment division.
configuration section.

input-output section.
file-control.
    select corncob
    assign to 'corncob'
    organization is line sequential
.

data division.
file section.
fd corncob.
    01 tobacco pic x(32768).

working-storage section.
01 filestat pic x value low-value.
    88 done value high-value.
01 liner pic 99999.
01 looper pic 99999.
01 atmost constant as 32768.
01 bowl.
    02 popcorn occurs atmost times depending on liner
        ascending key kernel.
    03 kernel pic x(132).

*> *****
procedure division.

*> Read from the pipe into a table
open input corncob
move zero to liner
perform until done or (liner greater than or equal to atmost)

```

```

        read corncob
        at end
            set done to true
        not at end
            add 1 to liner end-add
            move tobacco to kernel(liner)
        end-read
    end-perform
close corncob

*> Sort it descending and display
sort popcorn on descending key kernel

perform varying looper from 1 by 1 until looper > liner
display
    "OpenCOBOL: " function trim(kernel(looper) trailing)
end-display
end-perform

goback.
end program popcorn.

```

---

With a sample run producing:

```

$ rm corncob
$ mkfifo corncob
$ ls -d n* >corncob & ./popcorn
[1] 5033
OpenCOBOL: nums.cob
OpenCOBOL: nums
OpenCOBOL: network
[1]+  Done                               ls -d n* > corncob
$ ls -d n*
network  nums  nums.cob
$ date >corncob & ./popcorn
[1] 5037
OpenCOBOL: Sun Apr 11 08:04:48 EDT 2010
[1]+  Done                               date > corncob

```

## 5.62 Can OpenCOBOL interface with ROOT/CINT?

Yes. The February 2009 pre-release generates acC code that can be loaded by the ROOT/CINT framework. acROOT is a high energy physics data analysis framework released by acCERN. acROOT/CINT embeds the acCINT C/C++ interactive interpreter.

See <http://root.cern.ch/drupal/content/cint> for details.

OpenCOBOL programmers can use ROOT/CINT for interactive testing of COBOL subprograms.

Given:

Listing 5.94: pass arguments to ROOT/CINT

```

OCOBOL >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
*> *****
*> Author:    Brian Tiffin
*> Date:      20101119
*> Purpose:   Pass arguments to ROOT/CINT invoked subprograms
*> Tectonics: cobc -fimplicit-init -C cobparams.cob
*> *****
identification division.
program-id. cobparams.

data division.
linkage section.
01 a-number usage binary-long.

*> *****
procedure division using by reference a-number.
display a-number end-display
move a-number to return-code
goback.
end program cobparams.

```

---

and the command line

```
$ cobc -fimplicit-init -C cobparams.cob
```

gives a set of C source code output for cobparams.  
 ROOT/CINT can then be used to play with the program.

```

$ cobc -fimplicit-init -C cobparams.cob
$ root -l
root [0] gSystem->Load("/usr/local/lib/libcob.so");
root [1] .L cobparams.c+
root [2] int a = 0;
root [3] int d = 42;
root [4] a = cobparams((unsigned char*)&d);
+0000000042
root [5] printf("%d\n", a);
42
root [6]

```

There is some magic in the above snippet. LHC LCG ROOT/Framework (ROOT) preloads the runtime libcob.so. Then it's .L command is used with the plus + option to interpret and link load the cobc generated cobparams.c file.

The ROOT/CINT console now has access to the cobparams "function", defined by OpenCOBOL to have an unsigned char pointer as it's BY REFERENCE access; A cast

of the integer d's address allows CINT to call up the COBOL subprogram, passing the 42 for DISPLAY and then returning the same value as the result. The interactively defined integer a, gets this 42 from OpenCOBOL's RETURN-CODE.

### 5.62.1 Graphing sample

ROOT/CINT is built for analysis. So, plotting and graphing are built-in.

Given:

```

OCOBOL *>>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
*> *****
*> Author:  Brian Tiffin
*> Date:    20101119
*> Purpose: Pass arguments to ROOT/CINT invoked subprograms
*> Tectonics: cobe -fimplicit-init -C cobparams.cob
*> *****

identification division.
program-id. cobparams.

data division.
linkage section.
01 a-number usage binary-long.

*> *****
procedure division using by reference a-number.
display a-number end-display
move a-number to return-code
goback.
end program cobparams.

*> *****
*> *****

identification division.
program-id. cobalpha.

data division.
working-storage section.
01 incobol pic x(80).
linkage section.
01 fromroot pic x(81).

*> *****
procedure division using by reference fromroot.
display "fromroot: |" fromroot "|" end-display
move spaces to incobol
string fromroot delimited by low-value into incobol end-string

```

```

display "incobol:  |" incobol "|" end-display
move function ord(fromroot(1:1)) to return-code
goback.
end program cobalpha.

```

```

*> *****
*> *****

```

```

REPLACE ==ARRAYSIZE== BY ==450==.

```

```

identification division.
program-id. cobfloats.

```

```

data division.
working-storage section.

```

```

01 cnt pic 999.
01 val usage float-long.
01 xes.
  02 an-x usage float-long occurs ARRAYSIZE times.
01 yes.
  02 an-y usage float-long occurs ARRAYSIZE times.

```

```

linkage section.

```

```

01 vxes.
  02 an-x usage float-long occurs ARRAYSIZE times.
01 vyes.
  02 an-y usage float-long occurs ARRAYSIZE times.

```

```

*> *****

```

```

procedure division using by reference vxes, vyes.
perform varying cnt from 1 by 1 until cnt >= ARRAYSIZE
  compute val = cnt * function random() end-compute
  move cnt to an-x in xes(cnt)
  move val to an-y in yes(cnt)
end-perform
move xes to vxes.
move yes to vyes.
move cnt to return-code
goback.
end program cobfloats.

```

```

*> *****
*> *****

```

```

identification division.
program-id. cobmachine.

```

```

data division.
working-storage section.
01 time-field pic 999999.
01 job-field pic x(4).

*> *****
procedure division.
perform 10 times
  display
    "DEBUG: Your time and job " with no advancing
  end-display
  accept time-field end-accept
  accept job-field end-accept
  evaluate time-field also job-field
    when 0800 also 'Army' perform a-late
    when 1200 also 'Army' perform a-lunch
    when 2300 also 'Army' perform a-lights
    when 0800 also 'Baby' perform b-cryandpee
    when 1200 also 'Baby' perform b-cryandpee
    when 2300 also 'Baby' perform b-finally
  end-evaluate
end-perform
goback.

a-late.
  display "You're late! I'm docking 2 hours pay!" end-display
.

a-lunch.
  display "Eats!" end-display
.

a-lights.
  display "Can I sleep yet?" end-display
.

b-cryandpee.
  display "Whaaaa... psssssss" end-display
.

b-finally.
  display "Zzzzzz..." end-display
.
end program cobmachine.

```



which, with `cobc -C`, produces:

```

/* Generated by      cobc 1.1.0 */
/* Generated from    cobparams.cob */
/* Generated at      Mar 06 2011 22:15:57 EST */
/* OpenCOBOL build date Jan 04 2011 21:39:38 */
/* OpenCOBOL package date Feb 06 2009 10:30:55 CET */
/* Compile command   cobc -C cobparams.cob */

#define __USE_STRING_INLINES 1
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <string.h>
#include <math.h>
#include <libcob.h>

#define COB_SOURCE_FILE      "cobparams.cob"
#define COB_PACKAGE_VERSION  "1.1"
#define COB_PATCH_LEVEL     0

/* Global variables */
#include "cobparams.c.h"

static void
cob_decimal_set_uint (cob_decimal *d, const unsigned int n)
{
    mpz_set_ui (d->value, n);
    d->scale = 0;
}

/* Function prototypes */

int cobparams (unsigned char *);
static int cobparams_ (const int, unsigned char *);
int cobalpha (unsigned char *);
static int cobalpha_ (const int, unsigned char *);
int cobfloats (unsigned char *, unsigned char *);
static int cobfloats_ (const int, unsigned char *, unsigned char *);
int cobmachine (void);
static int cobmachine_ (const int);

/* Functions */

int
cobparams (unsigned char *b.5)
{

```

```

    return cobparams_(0, b_5);
}

static int
cobparams_(const int entry, unsigned char *b_5)
{
    /* Local variables */
    #include "cobparams.c.ll.h"

    static int initialized = 0;
    static cob_field *cob_user_parameters[COB_MAX_FIELD_PARAMS];
    static struct cob_module module = { NULL, NULL, NULL, NULL, cob_user_parameters,
    0, '.', '$', ', ', 1, 1, 1, 0 };

    /* Start of function code */

    /* CANCEL callback handling */
    if (unlikely(entry < 0)) {
        if (!initialized) {
            return 0;
        }
        initialized = 0;
        return 0;
    }

    /* Initialize frame stack */
    frame_ptr = &frame_stack[0];
    frame_ptr->perform_through = 0;

    /* Push module stack */
    module.next = cob_current_module;
    cob_current_module = &module;

    /* Initialize program */
    if (unlikely(initialized == 0))
    {
        if (!cob_initialized) {
            cob_fatal_error (COB_ERROR_INITIALIZED);
        }
        cob_check_version (COB_SOURCE_FILE, COB_PACKAGE_VERSION, COB_PATCH_LEVEL);
        if (module.next)
            cob_set_cancel ((const char *) "cobparams", (void *)cobparams, (void *)cobparams_);
        (*(int *) (b_1)) = 0;
        initialized = 1;
    }
}

```

```

cob_save_call_params = cob_call_params;

/* Entry dispatch */
goto l2;

/* PROCEDURE DIVISION */

/* Entry cobparams */

l2;;

/* MAIN SECTION */

/* MAIN PARAGRAPH */

/* cobparams.cob:17: DISPLAY */
{
  cob_display (0, 1, 1, (f_5.data = b_5, &f_5));
}
/* cobparams.cob:18: MOVE */
{
  (*(int *) (b_1)) = (*(int *) (b_5));
}
/* cobparams.cob:19: GOBACK */
{
  goto exit_program;
}

/* Program exit */

exit_program:

/* Pop module stack */
cob_current_module = cob_current_module->next;

/* Program return */
return (*(int *) (b_1));
}

int
cobfloats (unsigned char *b_24, unsigned char *b_26)
{
  return cobfloats_ (0, b_24, b_26);
}

static int

```

```

cobfloats_ (const int entry, unsigned char *b_24, unsigned char *b_26)
{
    /* Local variables */
    #include "cobparams.c.13.h"

    static int initialized = 0;
    static cob_field *cob_user_parameters[COB_MAX_FIELD_PARAMS];
    static struct cob_module module = { NULL, NULL, NULL, NULL, cob_user_parameters,
0, ' . ', '$', ' , ', 1, 1, 1, 0 };

    /* Start of function code */

    /* CANCEL callback handling */
    if (unlikely(entry < 0)) {
        if (!initialized) {
            return 0;
        }
        mpz_clear (d0.value);
        d0.scale = 0;
        mpz_clear (d1.value);
        d1.scale = 0;
        initialized = 0;
        return 0;
    }

    /* Initialize frame stack */
    frame_ptr = &frame_stack[0];
    frame_ptr->perform_through = 0;

    /* Push module stack */
    module.next = cob_current_module;
    cob_current_module = &module;

    /* Initialize program */
    if (unlikely(initialized == 0))
    {
        if (!cob_initialized) {
            cob_fatal_error (COB_ERROR_INITIALIZED);
        }
        cob_check_version (COB_SOURCE_FILE, COB_PACKAGE_VERSION, COB_PATCH_LEVEL);
        if (module.next)
            cob_set_cancel ((const char *) "cobfloats", (void *)cobfloats, (void *)cobfloats_);
        /* Initialize decimal numbers */
        cob_decimal_init (&d0);
        cob_decimal_init (&d1);
    }
}

```

```

    (*(int *) (b_14)) = 0;
    memset (b_18, 48, 3);
    {double temp = 0.0; memcpy (b_19, (char *)&temp, sizeof(temp));}
    for (i1 = 1; i1 <= 450; i1++)
    {
        {double temp = 0.0; memcpy (b_20 + 8 * (i1 - 1), (char *)&temp, sizeof(temp));}
    }
    for (i1 = 1; i1 <= 450; i1++)
    {
        {double temp = 0.0; memcpy (b_22 + 8 * (i1 - 1), (char *)&temp, sizeof(temp));}
    }
    initialized = 1;
}

```

```
cob_save_call_params = cob_call_params;
```

```
/* Entry dispatch */
```

```
goto l.8;
```

```
/* PROCEDURE DIVISION */
```

```
/* Entry cobfloats */
```

```
l.8.;
```

```
/* MAIN SECTION */
```

```
/* MAIN PARAGRAPH */
```

```
/* cobparams.cob:68: PERFORM */
```

```

{
    memcpy (b_18, "001", 3);
    while (1)
    {
        if (((int)cob_cmp_numdisp (b_18, 3, 450) >= 0))
            break;
        {
            /* cobparams.cob:69: COMPUTE */
            {
                {
                    cob_decimal_set_uint (&d0, cob_get_numdisp (b_18, 3));
                    cob_decimal_set_field (&d1, cob_intr_random (0));
                    cob_decimal_mul (&d0, &d1);
                    cob_decimal_get_field (&d0, &f_19, 2);
                }
            }
        }
    }
}

```

```

    }
  }
  /* cobparams.cob:70: MOVE */
  {
    cob_move (&f_18, (f0.size = 8, f0.data = b_20 + 8 * (cob_get_numdisp (b_18,
3) - 1), f0.attr = &a_3, &f0));
  }
  /* cobparams.cob:71: MOVE */
  {
    memcpy (b_22 + 8 * (cob_get_numdisp (b_18, 3) - 1), b_19, 8);
  }
}
cob_add_int (&f_18, 1);
}
}
/* cobparams.cob:73: MOVE */
{
  memcpy (b_24, b_20, 3600);
}
/* cobparams.cob:74: MOVE */
{
  memcpy (b_26, b_22, 3600);
}
/* cobparams.cob:75: MOVE */
{
  (*(int *) (b_14)) = cob_get_numdisp (b_18, 3);
}
/* cobparams.cob:76: GOBACK */
{
  goto exit_program;
}

/* Program exit */

exit_program:

/* Pop module stack */
cob_current_module = cob_current_module->next;

/* Program return */
return (*(int *) (b_14));
}
/* End functions */

```

Listing 5.95: pass WORKING-STORAGE data structure to ROOT/CINT

```

OCOBOL >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
*> *****
*> Author:   Brian Tiffin
*> Date:     20101119
*> Purpose:  Pass arguments to ROOT/CINT invoked subprograms
*> Tectonics: cobc -fimplicit-init -C cobparams.cob
*> *****

REPLACE ==ARRAYSIZE== BY ==450==.

identification division.
program-id. cobfloats.

data division.
working-storage section.
01 cnt pic 999.
01 val usage float-long.
01 xes.
   02 an-x usage float-long occurs ARRAYSIZE times.
01 yes.
   02 an-y usage float-long occurs ARRAYSIZE times.

linkage section.
01 vxes.
   02 an-x usage float-long occurs ARRAYSIZE times.
01 vyes.
   02 an-y usage float-long occurs ARRAYSIZE times.

*> *****
procedure division using by reference vxes, vyes.
perform varying cnt from 1 by 1 until cnt >= ARRAYSIZE
   compute val = cnt * function random() end-compute
   move cnt to an-x in xes(cnt)
   move val to an-y in yes(cnt)
end-perform
move xes to vxes
move yes to vyes
move cnt to return-code
goback.
end program cobfloats.

```

---

And then a console session of:

```

$ cobc -fimplicit-init -C cobparams.cob
$ vi cobparams.c
... add a single line
... #pragma K&R
... to lighten up CINT's type safety for ease of use at the console
$ root -l
root [0] gSystem->Load("/usr/local/lib/libcob.so");
root [1] .L cobparams.c+
root [2] int a = 0; double x[450]; double y[450];
root [3] a = cobfloats(&x, &y);

```

```

root [4] a
(int)450
root [5] printf("%f %f\n", x[42], y[42]);
43.000000 8.232543
root [6] TGraph *graph1 = new TGraph(450, x, y);
root [7] graph1->Draw("A*");
root [8] TGraphPolar *polar1 = new TGraphPolar(450, x, y);
root [9] polar1->SetLineColor(2);
root [10] polar1->Draw("AOL");

```

produces the following graphs; some constrained random numbers, and a circular view of those random numbers. \*Nerd heaven\*.

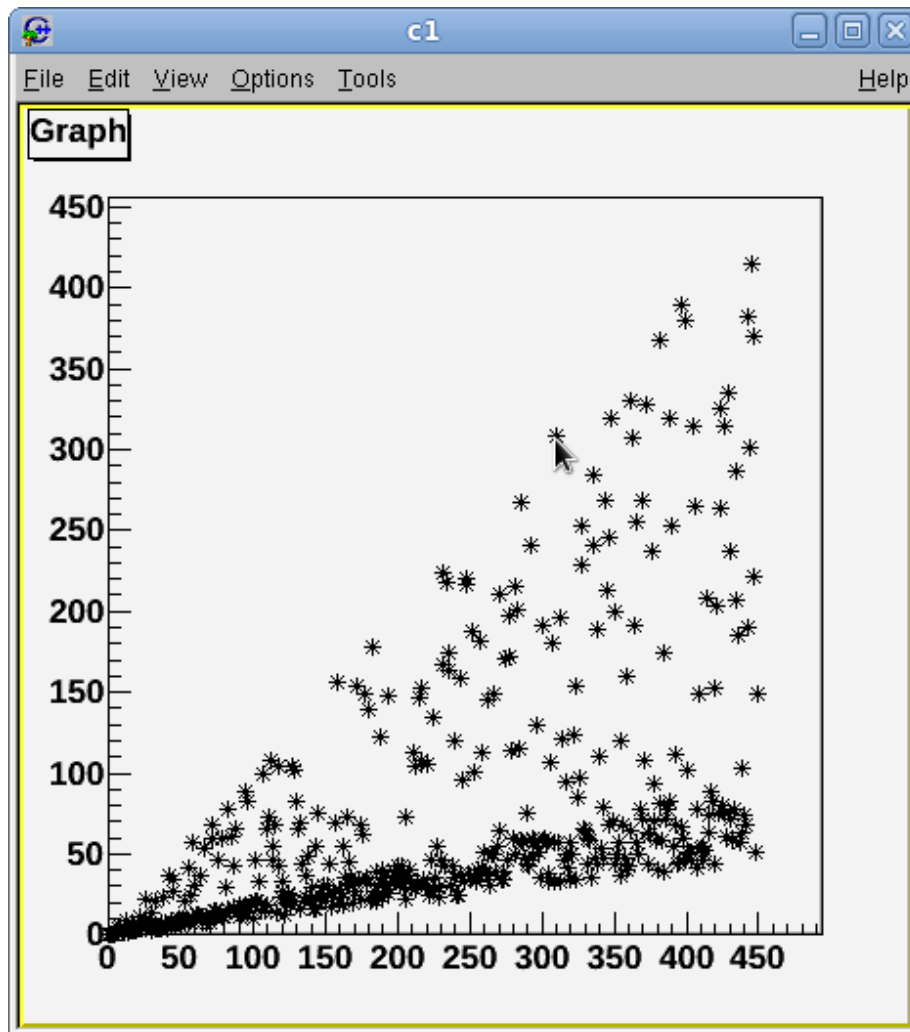


Figure 5.10: constrained random numbers

A trials and tribulations thread can be read at <http://www.opencobol.org/modules/newbb/viewt>



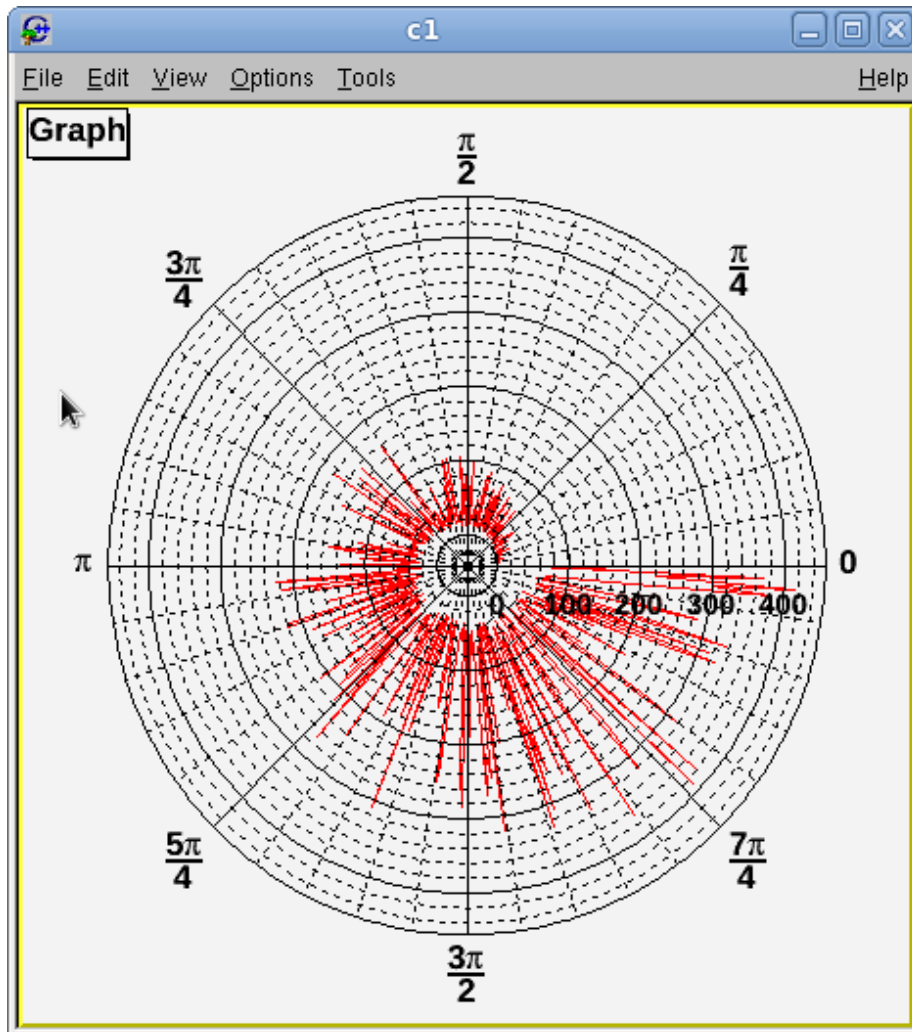


Figure 5.11: polar graph of the same constrained random numbers

## 5.63 Can OpenCOBOL be used to serve HTTP?

Not directly, COBOL preceding the World Wide Web by some 35 years, but yes.

### 5.63.1 libsoup HTTP server

Vala and libsoup is one way.

```
Given soupserver.vala
```

Listing 5.96: Vala libSoup

```

// vala .10 specific. .11 changes string to uint8 array
// valac -c --pkg libsoup-2.4 --thread soupserver.vala

// Give the server a default
void default_handler (Soup.Server server, Soup.Message msg, string path,
                     GLib.HashTable? query, Soup.ClientContext client)
{
    string response_text = ""
    <html>
    <body>
    <p>Current location: %s</p>
    <p><a href="/xml">Test XML</a></p>
    <p><a href="/cobol">Test COBOL</a></p>
    <p><a href="/exit">Tell server to exit</a></p>
    </body>
    </html>"".printf (path);

    msg.set_response ("text/html", Soup.MemoryUse.COPY,
                     response_text, response_text.size ());
    msg.set_status (Soup.KnownStatusCode.OK);
}

void xml_handler (Soup.Server server, Soup.Message msg, string path,
                 GLib.HashTable? query, Soup.ClientContext client)
{
    string response_text = "<node><subnode>test</subnode></node>";
    msg.set_response ("text/xml", Soup.MemoryUse.COPY,
                     response_text, response_text.size ());
}

void cobol_handler (Soup.Server server, Soup.Message msg, string path,
                   GLib.HashTable? query, Soup.ClientContext client)
{
    string response_text = ""
    <html>
    <body>
    <p>Current location: %s</p>
    <p><a href="/xml">Test XML</a></p>
    <p><a href="/">Home</a></p>
    <p><a href="/exit">Tell server to exit</a></p>
    </body>
    </html>"".printf (path);

    msg.set_response ("text/html", Soup.MemoryUse.COPY,
                     response_text, response_text.size ());
    msg.set_status (Soup.KnownStatusCode.OK);
}

void exit_handler (Soup.Server server, Soup.Message msg, string path,

```

```

        GLib.HashTable? query, Soup.ClientContext client)
{
    server.quit();
}

int CBL_OC_SOUPSERVER(ref Soup.Server* ss, int port) {
    var server = new Soup.Server(Soup.SERVER_PORT, port);
    server.add_handler("/", default_handler);
    server.add_handler("/xml", xml_handler);
    server.add_handler("/cobol", cobol_handler);
    server.add_handler("/exit", exit_handler);
    ss = (owned)server;
    stdout.printf("ss: %X\n", (uint)ss);
    return 0;
}

int CBL_OC_SOUPRUN(Soup.Server ss) {
    ss.run();
    return 0;
}

```

---

Listing 5.97: Demonstrate a libsoup sever

```

OCOBOL >>SOURCE FORMAT IS FIXED
*> *****
*> Author:    Brian Tiffin
*> Date:      20101205
*> Purpose:   An HTTP server with libsoup
*> Tectonics: valac -c --pkg libsoup-2.4 --thread soupserver.vala
*>             cobc -x ocsoup.cob soupserver.vala.o -lglib-2.0
*>             -lsoup-2.4 -lobject-2.0
*> *****
identification division.
program-id. ocsoup.

data division.
working-storage section.
01 soup-server usage pointer.
01 port usage binary-long value 8088.
01 result usage binary-long.

*> *****
procedure division.
call "g_type_init" end-call
display "Initialize soup HTTP server on port " port end-display
call "CBL_OC_SOUPSERVER" using
    by reference soup-server
    by value port
    returning result
end-call

```

```

display "Result: " result " Server at: " soup-server end-display

display "About to run server, ^C to terminate" end-display
call "CBL_OC_SOUPRUN" using
    by value soup-server
    returning result
end-call

goback.
end program ocsoup.

```

and a little bash

```

$ valac -c --pkg libsoup-2.4 --thread soupserver.vala
$ ... some warnings about unused methods ...
$ cobc -x ocsoup.cob soupserver.vala.o -lglib-2.0 -lsoup-2.4 -lgobject-2.0
$ ./ocsoup
Initialize soup HTTP server on port +0000008088
ss: 21CF060
Result: +0000000000 Server at: 0x000000000021cf060
About to run server, ^C to terminate

```

You get RESTful screen shots like...



Figure 5.12: ocsouphome

The next steps are getting the `add_handler` callbacks into COBOL, and then play with the template and replace model.

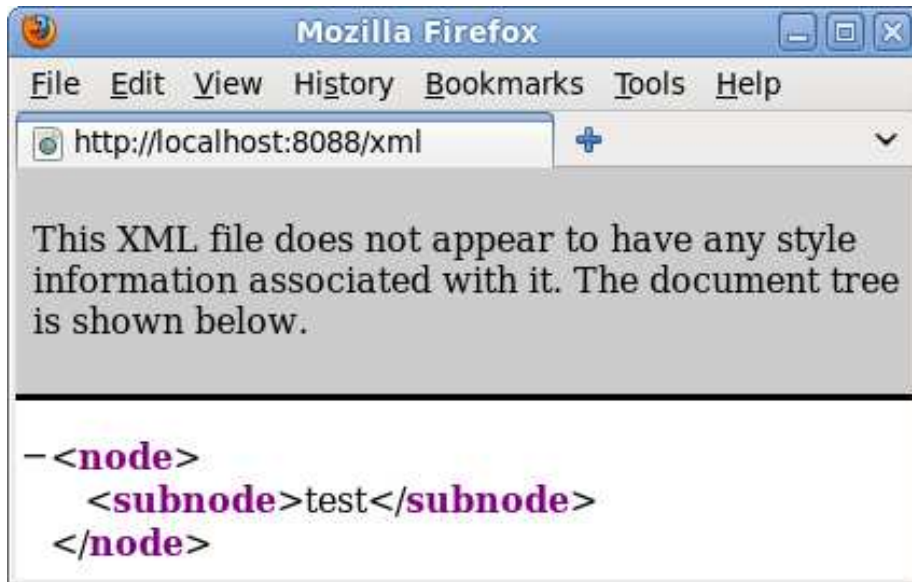
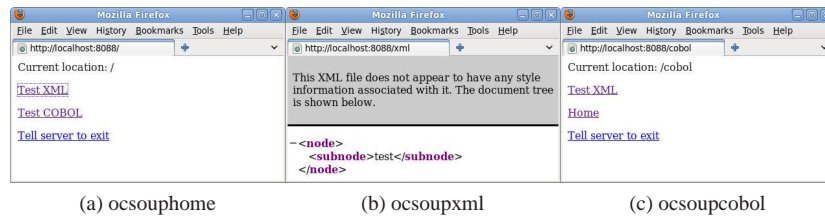


Figure 5.13: ocsoupxml



Figure 5.14: ocsoupcobol



(a) ocsouphome

(b) ocsoupxml

(c) ocsoupcobol

Figure 5.15: ocsoup

## 5.64 Is there a good SCM tool for OpenCOBOL?

In this author's opinion, yes. Fossil.

Where **SCM!** is *Software Configuration Management*, and not simply *Source Code Management*, which Fossil does quite well.

See the Fossil site, snag a tar ball, make, and move the binary to /usr/bin.

Then, to start up your next OpenCOBOL COBOL project:

```
# Create the fossil distributed repository
$ mkdir ~/fossils
$ cd ~/fossils
$ fossil new nextbigthing.fossil

# Serve it up on the localhost port 8080
$ fossil server . &

# browse to the admin panel and do a little nicey nice config
$ opera http://localhost:8080/nextbigthing

# set up the working copy
$ cd ~/projects
$ mkdir nextbigthing
$ cd nextbigthing
$ fossil clone http://localhost:8080/nextbigthing nbt.fossil

# now look at the shiny copy of nextbig
$ ls
$ vi nextbigthing.cob
$ fossil add nextbigthing.cob
$ fossil ci -m "On to the next big thing"

# browse to the repo and create some wiki pages for morale boosting
$ opera http://localhost:8080/nextbigthing

# compile and run the next big thing
$ cobc -x nextbigthing.cob
$ ./nextbigthing


# browse again, and create the bug tickets
$ opera http://localhost:8080/nextbigthing/tktnew
```

Ahh, morale boosting bugs.

OpenCOBOL: New Ticket - Opera

Menu OpenCOBOL - For... OpenCOBOL: New... +

Web localhost:8080/opencobol/tktnew Search with Goo

 **OpenCOBOL  
New Ticket** Logged in as btiffin

Home Timeline Files Branches Tags Tickets Wiki Admin Logout

## Enter A New Ticket

Enter a one-line summary of the ticket:

Type:  What type of ticket is this?

Version:  In what version or build number do you observe the problem?

Severity:  How debilitating is the problem? How badly does the problem affect the operation of the product?

Email:  Not publicly visible. Used by developers to contact you with questions.

Enter a detailed description of the problem. For code defects, be sure to provide details on exactly how the problem can be reproduced. Provide as much detail as possible.

After filling in the information above, press this button to create the new ticket

Abandon and forget this ticket

http://www.opencobol.org/modules/newbb/viewtopic.php?topic\_id=1237&forum=1&post... View (100%)

Figure 5.16: Fossil Ticket New





# Appendix A

## Notes

### A.1 big-endian

Binary values stored with the most significant byte at the lowest memory address.

**Big End First.**

See <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Endianness> for more details.

The OpenCOBOL compiler *default* storage format for USAGE 4.1.495 BINARY 4.1.46 and COMP ??.

### A.2 little-endian

Binary values stored with the most significant byte at the highest memory address.

**Little End First.**

See <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Endianness> for more details.

This is the common Intel architecture form, and USAGE 4.1.495 clauses of COMPUTATIONAL-5 ??, BINARY-CHAR 4.1.48, BINARY-SHORT 4.1.51, BINARY-LONG 4.1.50, BINARY-DOUBLE 4.1.49 are a true performance boost on this hardware. See <http://www.opencobol.org/modules/bwiki/> for some details.

### A.3 ASCII

ascii.

The character encoding common to personal computers and the early Internet Age, therefore OpenCOBOL. OpenCOBOL also supports the EBCDIC 4.1.144 character encoding so some data transfers and keyboard handling or console display programs may need programmer attention to detail. Although this is a rare case as OpenCOBOL operates using an intelligent choice of encoding for each platform build.

See [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/American\\_Standard\\_Code\\_for\\_Information\\_Interchange](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/American_Standard_Code_for_Information_Interchange) for more info.

**Unicode? OpenCOBOL supports PIC N, a two-byte character field.**

## A.4 currency symbol

COBOL allows a SPECIAL-NAMES clause that determines the currency symbol. This effects both source codes and input/output PICTURE 4.1.344 definitions.

Listing A.1: SPECIAL-NAMES currency symbol

```
CONFIGURATION SECTION.
SPECIAL-NAMES.
CURRENCY SIGN IS "#".
```

---

## A.5 DSO

Dynamic Shared Object (DSO)

Similar to but subtly different from *share libraries*.

## A.6 errno

OpenCOBOL and C are fairly closely related as OpenCOBOL produces intermediate C source code and passes this off to another compiler.

Some C functions had no easy way to report out-of-bound errors so a global int `errno` is defined in the standard C library as a thread safe variable. Conscientious programmers will reset and test this variable for any and all functions documented as setting `errno`.

This is not straight forward for OpenCOBOL, but a small wrapper along the lines of

Listing A.2: access errno

```
/* set/get errno */
#include <errno.h>

int reset_errno() {
    errno = 0;
    return errno;
}

int get_errno() {
    return errno;
}
```

---

exposes this critical run-time variable.

Usage:

```
$ cobc -c geterrno.c
$ cobc -x program.cob geterrno.o
```

and then something like

Listing A.3: access errno from OpenCOBOL

```
CALL "reset_errno" END-CALL
MOVE FUNCTION SQRT(-1) TO root
CALL "get_errno" RETURNING result END-CALL
IF result NOT EQUAL ZERO
    CALL "perror" USING NULL END-CALL
END-IF
```

---

Outputs::

Numerical argument out of domain

## A.7 gdb

The GNU symbolic debugger. Big, deep, wide.

```
$ info gdb for the details.
```

or visit <http://www.gnu.org/software/gdb/documentation/>

## A.8 GMP

GMP. GNU Library for decimal arithmetic. See <http://gmplib.org/> for complete details on the library advertised as *Arithmetic without limitations*.

## A.9 ISAM

ISAM. A system to allow a variety of access methods for data records in file storage.

See <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ISAM> for more details.

### A.9.1 OpenCOBOL FILE STATUS codes

From [http://oldsite.addtocobol.com/tiki-list\\_file\\_gallery.php?galleryId=1](http://oldsite.addtocobol.com/tiki-list_file_gallery.php?galleryId=1)  
 statcodes.cpy courtesy of John Ellis.

Listing A.4: File operations Status Codes

```
01 status-code    pic x(2) value spaces.
   88 SUCCESS                      value '00'.
   88 SUCCESS_DUPLICATE             value '02'.
   88 SUCCESS_INCOMPLETE           value '04'.
   88 SUCCESS_OPTIONAL              value '05'.
   88 SUCCESS_NO_UNIT               value '07'.
   88 END_OF_FILE                   value '10'.
   88 OUT_OF_KEY_RANGE              value '14'.
```

```

88 KEY_INVALID           value '21'.
88 KEY_EXISTS           value '22'.
88 KEY_NOT_EXISTS       value '23'.
88 PERMANENT_ERROR      value '30'.
88 INCONSISTENT_FILENAME value '31'.
88 BOUNDARY_VIOLATION   value '34'.
88 NOT_EXISTS           value '35'.
88 PERMISSION_DENIED    value '37'.
88 CLOSED_WITH_LOCK     value '38'.
88 CONFLICT_ATTRIBUTE   value '39'.
88 ALREADY_OPEN         value '41'.
88 NOT_OPEN             value '42'.
88 READ_NOT_DONE        value '43'.
88 RECORD_OVERFLOW      value '44'.
88 READ_ERROR           value '46'.
88 INPUT_DENIED         value '47'.
88 OUTPUT_DENIED        value '48'.
88 I_O_DENIED           value '49'.
88 RECORD_LOCKED        value '51'.
88 END_OF_PAGE          value '52'.
88 I_O_LINAGE           value '57'.
88 FILE_SHARING         value '61'.
88 NOT_AVAILABLE       value '91'.

```

---

Download and then in your WORKING-STORAGE SECTION use  
COPY "statcodes.cpy".

## A.10 line sequential

An access method for newline terminated files. OpenCOBOL reads each line and strips off carriage returns and line feeds. Filling the record buffer with the current line and padding with spaces.

## A.11 APT

Advanced Package Tool (apt). One of the strengths of the Debian GNU/Linux system. Allows for dependency checked binary packages.

## A.12 ROBODoc Support

Below is a sample of a configuration file for using ROBODoc with OpenCOBOL programs.

```

# robodoc.rc for OpenCOBOL
#
items:
    NAME

```

```

AUTHOR
DATE
PURPOSE
TECTONICS
SYNOPSIS
INPUTS
OUTPUTS
SIDE EFFECTS
HISTORY
BUGS
EXAMPLE
SOURCE
ignore items:
  HISTORY
  BUGS
item order:
  PURPOSE
  SYNOPSIS
  INPUTS
  OUTPUTS
source items:
  SYNOPSIS
preformatted items:
  INPUTS
  OUTPUTS
format items:
  PURPOSE
  SIDE EFFECTS
options:
#  --src ./
#  --doc ./doc
  --html
  --syntaxcolors
#  --singledoc
#  --multidoc
  --index
  --tabsize 4
headertypes:
  J "Projects"           robo_projects    2
  F "Files"             robo_files      1
  e "Makefile Entries"  robo_mk_entries
  x "System Tests"      robo_syst_tests
  q Queries             robo_queries
ignore files:
  README
  CVS
  *.bak
  *~
  "a test_*"
accept files:
  *.cob
  *.COB
  *.cbl
  *.CBL
  *.cpy
  *.CPY
header markers:

```

```
*>****
remark markers:
*>
end markers:
*>****
header separate characters:
,
header ignore characters:
[
remark begin markers:
*>+
remark end markers:
*>-
source line comments:
*>
# OpenCOBOL keywords *><*
keywords:
accept
access
active-class
add
address
advancing
after
aligned
all
allocate
alphabet
alphabetic
alphabetic-lower
alphabetic-upper
alphanumeric
alphanumeric-edited
also
alter
alternate
and
any
anycase
are
area
areas
argument-number
argument-value
arithmetic
as
ascending
assign
at
attribute
auto
auto-skip
automatic
autoterminate
b-and
b-not
b-or
```

b-xor  
background-color  
based  
beep  
before  
bell  
binary  
binary-c-long  
binary-char  
binary-double  
binary-long  
binary-short  
bit  
blank  
blink  
block  
boolean  
bottom  
by  
byte-length  
call  
cancel  
cd  
center  
cf  
ch  
chain  
chaining  
character  
characters  
class  
class-id  
classification  
close  
code  
code-set  
col  
collating  
cols  
column  
columns  
comma  
command-line  
commit  
common  
communication  
comp  
comp-1  
comp-2  
comp-3  
comp-4  
comp-5  
comp-x  
computational  
computational-1  
computational-2  
computational-3

computational-4  
computational-5  
computational-x  
compute  
condition  
configuration  
constant  
contains  
content  
continue  
control  
controls  
converting  
copy  
corr  
corresponding  
count  
crt  
currency  
cursor  
cycle  
data  
data-pointer  
date  
day  
day-of-week  
de  
debugging  
decimal-point  
declaratives  
default  
delete  
delimited  
delimiter  
depending  
descending  
destination  
detail  
disable  
disk  
display  
divide  
division  
down  
duplicates  
dynamic  
ebcdic  
ec  
egi  
else  
emi  
enable  
end  
end-accept  
end-add  
end-call  
end-compute



end-delete  
end-display  
end-divide  
end-evaluate  
end-if  
end-multiply  
end-of-page  
end-perform  
end-read  
end-receive  
end-return  
end-rewrite  
end-search  
end-start  
end-string  
end-subtract  
end-unstring  
end-write  
entry  
entry-convention  
environment  
environment-name  
environment-value  
eo  
eol  
eop  
eos  
equal  
equals  
erase  
error  
escape  
esi  
evaluate  
exception  
exception-object  
exclusive  
exit  
expands  
extend  
external  
factory  
false  
fd  
file  
file-control  
file-id  
filler  
final  
first  
float-extended  
float-long  
float-short  
footing  
for  
foreground-color  
forever

format  
free  
from  
full  
function  
function-id  
generate  
get  
giving  
global  
go  
goback  
greater  
group  
group-usage  
heading  
high-value  
high-values  
highlight  
i-o  
i-o-control  
id  
identification  
if  
ignoring  
implements  
in  
index  
indexed  
indicate  
inherits  
initial  
initialize  
initialized  
initiate  
input  
input-output  
inspect  
interface  
interface-id  
into  
intrinsic  
invalid  
invoke  
is  
just  
justified  
key  
label  
last  
lc\_all  
lc\_collate  
lc\_ctype  
lc\_messages  
lc\_monetary  
lc\_numeric  
lc\_time

leading  
left  
length  
less  
limit  
limits  
linage  
linage-counter  
line  
line-counter  
lines  
linkage  
local-storage  
locale  
lock  
low-value  
low-values  
lowlight  
manual  
memory  
merge  
message  
method  
method-id  
minus  
mode  
move  
multiple  
multiply  
national  
national-edited  
native  
negative  
nested  
next  
no  
none  
normal  
not  
null  
nulls  
number  
numbers  
numeric  
numeric-edited  
object  
object-computer  
object-reference  
occurs  
of  
off  
omitted  
on  
only  
open  
optional  
options

or  
order  
organization  
other  
output  
overflow  
overline  
override  
packed-decimal  
padding  
page  
page-counter  
paragraph  
perform  
pf  
ph  
pic  
picture  
plus  
pointer  
position  
positive  
present  
previous  
printer  
printing  
procedure  
procedure-pointer  
procedures  
proceed  
program  
program-id  
program-pointer  
prompt  
property  
prototype  
purge  
queue  
quote  
quotes  
raise  
raising  
random  
rd  
read  
receive  
record  
recording  
records  
recursive  
redefines  
reel  
reference  
relation  
relative  
release  
remainder

removal  
renames  
replace  
replacing  
report  
reporting  
reports  
repository  
required  
reserve  
reset  
resume  
retry  
return  
returning  
reverse-video  
rewind  
rewrite  
rf  
rh  
right  
rollback  
rounded  
run  
same  
screen  
sd  
search  
seconds  
section  
secure  
segment  
select  
self  
send  
sentence  
separate  
sequence  
sequential  
set  
sharing  
sign  
signed  
signed-int  
signed-long  
signed-short  
size  
sort  
sort-merge  
source  
source-computer  
sources  
space  
spaces  
special-names  
standard  
standard-1

standard-2  
start  
statement  
status  
step  
stop  
string  
strong  
sub-queue-1  
sub-queue-2  
sub-queue-3  
subtract  
sum  
super  
suppress  
symbol  
symbolic  
sync  
synchronized  
system-default  
table  
tallying  
tape  
terminal  
terminate  
test  
text  
than  
then  
through  
thru  
time  
times  
to  
top  
trailing  
true  
type  
typedef  
ucs-4  
underline  
unit  
universal  
unlock  
unsigned  
unsigned-int  
unsigned-long  
unsigned-short  
unstring  
until  
up  
update  
upon  
usage  
use  
user-default  
using

```

utf-16
utf-8
val-status
valid
validate
validate-status
value
values
varying
when
with
working-storage
write
yyyyddd
yyyymmdd
zero
zeroes
zeros

```

To be used with:

```
$ robodoc --src program.cob --doc program --singlefile --rc robocob.rc
```

Producing a nice HTML file documenting the program using embedded ROBODoc comment line directives. See ROBODoc for more information.

## A.13 cobol.vim

Many thanks to the good people at [www.vim.org](http://www.vim.org):

```

" Vim syntax file
" Language: COBOL
" Maintainers: Davyd Ondrejko
" (formerly Sitaram Chamarty
" James Mitchell
" Last change: 2001 Sep 02

" For version 5.x: Clear all syntax items
" For version 6.x: Quit when a syntax file was already loaded

" Stephen Gennard
" - added keywords - AS, REPOSITORY
" - added extra cobolCall bits

if version < 600
  syntax clear
elseif exists("b:current_syntax")
  finish
endif

" MOST important - else most of the keywords wont work!
if version < 600
  set isk=@,48-57,-
else
  setlocal isk=@,48-57,-

```

```

endif

syn case ignore

if exists("cobol_legacy_code")
  syn match cobolKeys "^\a\{1,6\}" contains=cobolReserved
else
  syn match cobolKeys "" contains=cobolReserved
endif

syn keyword cobolReserved contained ACCEPT ACCESS ADD ADDRESS ADVANCING AFTER ALPHABET ALPH
syn keyword cobolReserved contained ALPHABETIC-LOWER ALPHABETIC-UPPER ALPHANUMERIC ALPHANUM
syn keyword cobolReserved contained ALTERNATE AND ANY ARE AREA AREAS ASCENDING ASSIGN AT AU
syn keyword cobolReserved contained BLANK BLOCK BOTTOM BY CANCEL CBLI CD CF CH CHARACTER CH
syn keyword cobolReserved contained CLOCK-UNITS CLOSE COBOL CODE CODE-SET COLLATING COLUMN
syn keyword cobolReserved contained COMMUNICATIONS COMPUTATIONAL COMPUTE CONFIGURATION CON
syn keyword cobolReserved contained CONTROL CONVERTING CORR CORRESPONDING COUNT CURRENCY DA
syn keyword cobolReserved contained DATE-WRITTEN DAY DAY-OF-WEEK DE DEBUG-CONTENTS DEBUG-IT
syn keyword cobolReserved contained DEBUG-NAME DEBUG-SUB-1 DEBUG-SUB-2 DEBUG-SUB-3 DEBUGG
syn keyword cobolReserved contained DELARATIVES DELETE DELIMITED DELIMITER DEPENDING DESCEN
syn keyword cobolReserved contained DETAIL DISABLE DISPLAY DIVIDE DIVISION DOWN DUPLICATES
syn keyword cobolReserved contained ENABLE END-ADD END-COMPUTE END-DELETE END-DIVIDE END-EV
syn keyword cobolReserved contained END-MULTIPLY END-OF-PAGE END-PERFORM END-READ END-RECE
syn keyword cobolReserved contained END-REWRITE END-SEARCH END-START END-STRING END-SUBTRA
syn keyword cobolReserved contained END-WRITE ENVIRONMENT EQUAL ERROR ESI EVALUATE EVERY E
syn keyword cobolReserved contained EXTEND EXTERNAL FALSE FD FILE FILE-CONTROL FILLER FINAL
syn keyword cobolReserved contained GENERATE GIVING GLOBAL GREATER GROUP HEADING HIGH-VALU
syn keyword cobolReserved contained I-O-CONTROL IDENTIFICATION IN INDEX INDEXED INDICATE IN
syn keyword cobolReserved contained INITIATE INPUT INPUT-OUTPUT INSPECT INSTALLATION INTO I
syn keyword cobolReserved contained JUSTIFIED KEY LABEL LAST LEADING LEFT LENGTH LOCK MEMOR
syn keyword cobolReserved contained MERGE MESSAGE MODE MODULES MOVE MULTIPLE MULTIPLY NATIV
syn keyword cobolReserved contained NUMBER NUMERIC NUMERIC-EDITED OBJECT-COMPUTER OCCURS O
syn keyword cobolReserved contained OPTIONAL OR ORDER ORGANIZATION OTHER OUTPUT OVERFLOW PA
syn keyword cobolReserved contained PAGE PAGE-COUNTER PERFORM PF PH PIC PICTURE PLUS POSIT
syn keyword cobolReserved contained PRINTING PROCEDURE PROCEDURES PROCEED PROGRAM PROGRAM-
syn keyword cobolReserved contained RANDOM RD READ RECEIVE RECORD RECORDS REDEFINES REEL RE
syn keyword cobolReserved contained RELATIVE RELEASE REMAINDER REMOVAL REPLACE REPLACING RE
syn keyword cobolReserved contained REPORTS RERUN RESERVE RESET RETURN RETURNING REVERSED R
syn keyword cobolReserved contained RIGHT ROUNDED SAME SD SEARCH SECTION SECURITY SEGMENT S
syn keyword cobolReserved contained SELECT SEND SENTENCE SEPARATE SEQUENCE SEQUENTIAL SET S
syn keyword cobolReserved contained SORT-MERGE SOURCE SOURCE-COMPUTER SPECIAL-NAMES STANDAR
syn keyword cobolReserved contained STANDARD-1 STANDARD-2 START STATUS STRING SUB-QUEUE-1 S
syn keyword cobolReserved contained SUB-QUEUE-3 SUBTRACT SUM SUPPRESS SYMBOLIC SYNC SYNCHRO
syn keyword cobolReserved contained TAPE TERMINAL TERMINATE TEST TEXT THAN THEN THROUGH TH
syn keyword cobolReserved contained TRAILING TRUE TYPE UNIT UNSTRING UNTIL UP UPON USAGE US
syn keyword cobolReserved contained VARYING WHEN WITH WORDS WORKING-STORAGE WRITE

" new
syn keyword cobolReserved contained AS LOCAL-STORAGE LINKAGE SCREEN ENTRY

" new - btiffin
syn keyword cobolReserved contained END-ACCEPT END-DISPLAY

" new
syn keyword cobolReserved contained environment-name environment-value argument-number
syn keyword cobolReserved contained call-convention identified pointer

```



```

syn keyword cobolReserved contained external-form division wait national

" new -- oo stuff
syn keyword cobolReserved contained repository object class method-id method object static
syn keyword cobolReserved contained class-id class-control private inherits object-storage
syn keyword cobolReserved contained class-object protected delegate
syn keyword cobolReserved contained try catch raise end-try super property
syn keyword cobolReserved contained override instance equals

" new - new types
syn match cobolTypes "condition-value"hs=s,he=e
syn match cobolTypes "binary-char"hs=s,he=e
syn match cobolTypes "binary-c-long"hs=s,he=e
syn match cobolTypes "binary-long"hs=s,he=e
syn match cobolTypes "binary-short"hs=s,he=e
syn match cobolTypes "binary-double"hs=s,he=e
syn match cobolTypes "procedure-pointer"hs=s,he=e
syn match cobolTypes "object reference"hs=s,he=e

syn match cobolReserved contained "\<CONTAINS\>"
syn match cobolReserved contained "\<(IF\|ELSE\|INVALID\|END\|EOP\)\>"
syn match cobolReserved contained "\<ALL\>"

syn keyword cobolConstant SPACE SPACES NULL ZERO ZEROES ZEROS LOW-VALUE LOW-VALUES

syn keyword cobolReserved contained fold folder

if exists("cobol_legacy_code")
  syn match cobolMarker "^.\{6\}"
  syn match cobolBadLine "^.\{6\}[^ D\-*$/].*"hs=s+6
  " If comment mark somehow gets into column past Column 7.
  syn match cobolBadLine "^.\{6\}\s\+.*"
endif

syn match cobolNumber "\<-=\d*\.\=\d\+\>" contains=cobolMarker,cobolComment
syn match cobolPic "\<S*9\+\>" contains=cobolMarker,cobolComment
syn match cobolPic "\<$*\.\=9\+\>" contains=cobolMarker,cobolComment
syn match cobolPic "\<Z*\.\=9\+\>" contains=cobolMarker,cobolComment
syn match cobolPic "\<V9\+\>" contains=cobolMarker,cobolComment
syn match cobolPic "\<9\+V\>" contains=cobolMarker,cobolComment
syn match cobolPic "\<-+\[Z9\]\+\>" contains=cobolMarker,cobolComment
syn match cobolTodo "todo" contained

if exists("cobol_mf_syntax")
  syn region cobolComment start="*>" end="*$" contains=cobolTodo,cobolMarker
endif

syn keyword cobolGoTo GO GOTO
syn keyword cobolCopy COPY

" cobolBAD: things that are BAD NEWS!
syn keyword cobolBAD ALTER ENTER RENAMES

" cobolWatch: things that are important when trying to understand a program
syn keyword cobolWatch OCCURS DEPENDING VARYING BINARY COMP REDEFINES
syn keyword cobolWatch REPLACING THROW
syn match cobolWatch "COMP-[123456XN]"

```

```

" new - btiffin, added Intrinsic
syn keyword cobolWatch ABS ACOS ANNUITY ASIN ATAN BYTE-LENGTH CHAR
syn keyword cobolWatch COS CURRENT-DATE DATE-OF-INTEGER DATE-TO-YYYYMMDD
syn keyword cobolWatch DAY-OF-INTEGER DAY-TO-YYYYDDD E EXCEPTION-FILE
syn keyword cobolWatch EXCEPTION-LOCATION EXCEPTION-STATEMENT
syn keyword cobolWatch EXCEPTION-STATUS EXP EXP10 FACTORIAL FRACTION-PART
syn keyword cobolWatch INTEGER INTEGER-OF-DATE INTEGER-OF-DAY INTEGER-PART
syn keyword cobolWatch LENGTH LOCALE-DATE LOCALE-TIME LOG LOG10 LOWER-CASE
syn keyword cobolWatch MAX MEAN MEDIAN MIDRANGE MIN MOD NUMVAL NUMVAL-C
syn keyword cobolWatch ORD ORD-MAX ORD-MIN PI PRESENT-VALUE RANDOM RANGE
syn keyword cobolWatch REM REVERSE SECONDS-FROM-FORMATTED-TIME
syn keyword cobolWatch SECONDS-PAST-MIDNIGHT SIGN SIN SQRT
syn keyword cobolWatch STANDARD-DEVIATION STORED-CHAR-LENGTH SUM TAN
syn keyword cobolWatch SUBSTITUTE SUBSTITUTE-CASE
syn keyword cobolWatch TEST-DATE-YMMMDD TEST-DAY-YYYYDDD TRIM UPPER-CASE
syn keyword cobolWatch VARIANCE WHEN-COMPILED YEAR-TO-YYYY

syn region cobolEXECs contains=cobolLine start="EXEC " end="END-EXEC"

syn match cobolComment "^\{6\}\.*"hs=s+6 contains=cobolTodo,cobolMarker
syn match cobolComment "^\{6\}/.*"hs=s+6 contains=cobolTodo,cobolMarker
syn match cobolComment "^\{6\}C.*"hs=s+6 contains=cobolTodo,cobolMarker

if exists("cobol_legacy_code")
  syn match cobolCompiler "^\{6\}$.*"hs=s+6
  syn match cobolDecl "^\{6\} \{1,8\}\(0\=1\|77\|78\) "hs=s+7,he=e-1 contains=cobolMarker
  syn match cobolDecl "^\{6\} \+[1-8]\d "hs=s+7,he=e-1 contains=cobolMarker
  syn match cobolDecl "^\{6\} \+0\=[2-9] "hs=s+7,he=e-1 contains=cobolMarker
  syn match cobolDecl "^\{6\} \+66 "hs=s+7,he=e-1 contains=cobolMarker
  syn match cobolWatch "^\{6\} \+88 "hs=s+7,he=e-1 contains=cobolMarker
else
  syn match cobolWhiteSpace "^*[ \t]"
  syn match cobolCompiler "$.*"hs=s,he=e contains=cobolWhiteSpace,cobolTypes
  syn match cobolDecl "0\=[1-9] *$"hs=s,he=e-1 contains=cobolWhiteSpace,cobolTypes
  syn match cobolDecl "66 *$"hs=s,he=e-1 contains=cobolWhiteSpace,cobolTypes
  syn match cobolWatch "88 *$"hs=s,he=e-1 contains=cobolWhiteSpace,cobolTypes
endif

syn match cobolBadID "\k\+-(\$|[^\-A-Z0-9]\)"

syn keyword cobolCALLs CALL CANCEL GOBACK INVOKE PERFORM END-PERFORM END-CALL RUN
syn match cobolCALLs "STOP \+RUN"
syn match cobolCALLs "EXIT \+PROGRAM"
syn match cobolCALLs "EXIT \+PROGRAM \+RETURNING"
syn match cobolCALLs "EXIT \+PERFORM"
syn match cobolCALLs "EXIT \+METHOD"
syn match cobolCALLs "EXIT \+SECTION"
syn match cobolCALLs "STOP " contains=cobolString

syn match cobolExtras /\<VALUE \+\d\+\./hs=s+6,he=e-1

" zero terminated strings eg: pic x(10) value z"My C String"
if exists("cobol_mf_syntax")
  syn match cobolString /z"[^"]*\(|\$)\|
endif

```

```

syn match cobolString /[^[^"]*\(\\"|\$\\)/
syn match cobolString /'[^']**(\'|\$\\)/

" new - btiffin, added libcob calls
syn match cobolWatch /\(["']\)SYSTEM\1/
syn match cobolWatch /["']CBL_ERROR_PROC["']/
syn match cobolWatch /["']CBL_EXIT_PROC["']/
syn match cobolWatch /["']CBL_OPEN_FILE["']/
syn match cobolWatch /["']CBL_CREATE_FILE["']/
syn match cobolWatch /["']CBL_READ_FILE["']/
syn match cobolWatch /["']CBL_WRITE_FILE["']/
syn match cobolWatch /["']CBL_CLOSE_FILE["']/
syn match cobolWatch /["']CBL_FLUSH_FILE["']/
syn match cobolWatch /["']CBL_DELETE_FILE["']/
syn match cobolWatch /["']CBL_COPY_FILE["']/
syn match cobolWatch /["']CBL_CHECK_FILE_EXIST["']/
syn match cobolWatch /["']CBL_RENAME_FILE["']/
syn match cobolWatch /["']CBL_GET_CURRENT_DIR["']/
syn match cobolWatch /["']CBL_CHANGE_DIR["']/
syn match cobolWatch /["']CBL_CREATE_DIR["']/
syn match cobolWatch /["']CBL_DELETE_DIR["']/
syn match cobolWatch /["']CBL_AND["']/
syn match cobolWatch /["']CBL_OR["']/
syn match cobolWatch /["']CBL_NOR["']/
syn match cobolWatch /["']CBL_XOR["']/
syn match cobolWatch /["']CBL_IMP["']/
syn match cobolWatch /["']CBL_NIMP["']/
syn match cobolWatch /["']CBL_EQ["']/
syn match cobolWatch /["']CBL_NOT["']/
syn match cobolWatch /["']CBL_TOUPPER["']/
syn match cobolWatch /["']CBL_TOLOWER["']/
syn match cobolWatch /["']\364["']/
syn match cobolWatch /["']\365["']/
syn match cobolWatch /["']\221["']/
syn match cobolWatch /["']C$NARG["']/
syn match cobolWatch /["']C$PARAMSIZE["']/
syn match cobolWatch /["']C$MAKEDIR["']/
syn match cobolWatch /["']C$CHDIR["']/
syn match cobolWatch /["']C$SLEEP["']/
syn match cobolWatch /["']C$COPY["']/
syn match cobolWatch /["']C$FILEINFO["']/
syn match cobolWatch /["']C$DELETE["']/
syn match cobolWatch /["']C$TOUPPER["']/
syn match cobolWatch /["']C$TOLOWER["']/
syn match cobolWatch /["']C$JUSTIFY["']/
syn match cobolWatch /["']CBL_OC_NANOSLEEP["']/

if exists("cobol_legacy_code")
  syn region cobolCondFlow contains=ALLBUT,cobolLine start="\<(IF\|INVALID\|END\|EOP)\>"
  skip=/\(\\"|\$\\)[^"]*\{-}\(\\"|\$\\)/ end="\." keepend
  syn region cobolLine start="^\{6} " end="$" contains=ALL
endif

if exists("cobol_legacy_code")
  " catch junk in columns 1-6 for modern code
  syn match cobolBAD "^\{0,5}\[^\].*"
endif

```

```

" many legacy sources have junk in columns 1-6: must be before others
" Stuff after column 72 is in error - must be after all other "match" entries
if exists("cobol_legacy_code")
  syn match cobolBadLine "^\{6\}[^*/]\.\{66,\}"
endif

" Define the default highlighting.
" For version 5.7 and earlier: only when not done already
" For version 5.8 and later: only when an item doesn't have highlighting yet
if version >= 508 || !exists("did_cobol_syntax_inits")
  if version < 508
    let did_cobol_syntax_inits = 1
    command -nargs=+ HiLink hi link <args>
  else
    command -nargs=+ HiLink hi def link <args>
  endif
  HiLink cobolBAD Error
  HiLink cobolBadID Error
  HiLink cobolBadLine Error
  HiLink cobolMarker Comment
  HiLink cobolCALLs Function
  HiLink cobolComment Comment
  HiLink cobolKeys Comment
  HiLink cobolCompiler PreProc
  HiLink cobolEXECs PreProc
  HiLink cobolCondFlow Special
  HiLink cobolCopy PreProc
  HiLink cobolDecl Type
  HiLink cobolTypes Type
  HiLink cobolExtras Special
  HiLink cobolGoTo Special
  HiLink cobolConstant Constant
  HiLink cobolNumber Constant
  HiLink cobolPic Constant
  HiLink cobolReserved Statement
  HiLink cobolString Constant
  HiLink cobolTodo Todo
  HiLink cobolWatch Special
  delcommand HiLink
endif

let b:current_syntax = "cobol"

" vim: ts=6 nowrap

```

## A.14 make check listing

A make check from February 2009:

```

## ----- ##
## OpenCOBOL 1.1 test suite: Syntax Tests. ##
## ----- ##
1: COPY: file not found ok
2: COPY: replacement order ok
3: COPY: separators ok

```

4: COPY: partial replacement	ok
5: COPY: recursive replacement	ok
6: Invalid PROGRAM-ID	ok
7: Invalid PROGRAM-ID type clause (1)	ok
8: Invalid PROGRAM-ID type clause (2)	ok
9: Undefined data name	ok
10: Undefined group name	ok
11: Undefined data name in group	ok
12: Reference not a group name	ok
13: Incomplete 01 definition	ok
14: Same labels in different sections	ok
15: Redefinition of 01 items	ok
16: Redefinition of 01 and 02 items	ok
17: Redefinition of 02 items	ok
18: Redefinition of 77 items	ok
19: Redefinition of 01 and 77 items	ok
20: Redefinition of 88 items	ok
21: Ambiguous reference to 02 items	ok
22: Ambiguous reference to 02 and 03 items	ok
23: Ambiguous reference with qualification	ok
24: Unique reference with ambiguous qualifiers	ok
25: Undefined procedure name	ok
26: Redefinition of section names	ok
27: Redefinition of section and paragraph names	ok
28: Redefinition of paragraph names	ok
29: Ambiguous reference to paragraph name	ok
30: Non-matching level numbers (extension)	ok
31: Ambiguous AND/OR	ok
32: START on SEQUENTIAL file	ok
33: Subscripted item requires OCCURS clause	ok
34: The number of subscripts	ok
35: OCCURS with level 01, 66, 77, and 88	ok
36: OCCURS with variable-occurrence data item	ok
37: Nested OCCURS clause	ok
38: OCCURS DEPENDING followed by another field	ok
39: OCCURS DEPENDING without TO clause	ok
40: REDEFINES: not following entry-name	ok
41: REDEFINES: level 02 by 01	ok
42: REDEFINES: level 03 by 02	ok
43: REDEFINES: level 66	ok
44: REDEFINES: level 88	ok
45: REDEFINES: lower level number	ok
46: REDEFINES: with OCCURS	ok
47: REDEFINES: with subscript	ok
48: REDEFINES: with variable occurrence	ok
49: REDEFINES: with qualification	ok
50: REDEFINES: multiple redefinition	ok
51: REDEFINES: size exceeds	ok
52: REDEFINES: with VALUE	ok
53: REDEFINES: with intervention	ok
54: REDEFINES: within REDEFINES	ok
55: Numeric item (integer)	ok
56: Numeric item (non-integer)	ok
57: Numeric item with picture P	ok
58: Signed numeric literal	ok
59: Alphanumeric item	ok
60: Alphanumeric item	ok

```

61: Alphanumeric group item          ok
62: Numeric-edited item              ok
63: Alphanumeric-edited item        ok
64: MOVE SPACE TO numeric or numeric-edited item ok
65: MOVE ZERO TO alphabetic item    ok
66: MOVE alphabetic TO x            ok
67: MOVE alphanumeric TO x         ok
68: MOVE alphanumeric-edited TO x   ok
69: MOVE numeric (integer) TO x     ok
70: MOVE numeric (non-integer) TO x ok
71: MOVE numeric-edited TO x       ok
72: Operands must be groups         ok
73: MOVE: misc                      ok
74: Category check of Format 1      ok
75: Category check of Format 2      ok
76: Category check of literals      ok
77: SET: misc                      ok

```

```

## ----- ##
## Test results. ##
## ----- ##

```

All 77 tests were successful.

PASS: ./syntax

```

## ----- ##
## OpenCOBOL 1.1 test suite: Run Tests. ##
## ----- ##
  1: DISPLAY literals                ok
  2: DISPLAY literals, DECIMAL-POINT is COMMA ok
  3: Hexadecimal literal            ok
  4: DISPLAY data items with VALUE clause ok
  5: DISPLAY data items with MOVE statement ok
  6: GLOBAL at same level           ok
  7: GLOBAL at lower level          ok
  8: non-numeric subscript         ok
  9: The range of subscripts        ok
 10: Subscript out of bounds (1)    ok
 11: Subscript out of bounds (2)    ok
 12: Value of DEPENDING ON N out of bounds (lower)ok
 13: Value of DEPENDING ON N out of bounds (upper)ok
 14: Subscript bounds with ODO (lower) ok
 15: Subscript bounds with ODO (upper) ok
 16: Subscript bounds with ODO      ok
 17: Subscript by arithmetic expression ok
 18: Separate sign positions        ok
 19: Static reference modification  ok
 20: Dynamic reference modification ok
 21: Static out of bounds           ok
 22: Offset underflow              ok
 23: Offset overflow                ok
 24: Length underflow               ok
 25: Length overflow                ok
 26: ACCEPT                        ok
 27: INITIALIZE group entry with OCCURS ok
 28: INITIALIZE OCCURS with numeric edited ok
 29: INITIALIZE complex group (1)   ok
 30: INITIALIZE complex group (2)   ok

```

31: INITIALIZE with REDEFINES	ok
32: Source file not found	ok
33: Comma separator without space	ok
34: LOCAL-STORAGE	ok
35: EXTERNAL data item	ok
36: EXTERNAL AS data item	ok
37: cobcrun validation	ok
38: MOVE to itself	ok
39: MOVE with refmod	ok
40: MOVE with refmod (variable)	ok
41: MOVE with group refmod	ok
42: MOVE indexes	ok
43: MOVE X'00'	ok
44: Level 01 subscripts	ok
45: Class check with reference modification	ok
46: Index and parenthesized expression	ok
47: Alphanumeric and binary numeric	ok
48: Dynamic call with static linking	ok
49: CALL m1. CALL m2. CALL m1.	ok
50: CALL binary literal parameter/LENGTH OF	ok
51: INSPECT REPLACING LEADING ZEROS BY SPACES	ok
52: INSPECT: No repeat conversion check	ok
53: INSPECT: REPLACING figurative constant	ok
54: INSPECT: TALLYING BEFORE	ok
55: INSPECT: TALLYING AFTER	ok
56: INSPECT REPLACING TRAILING ZEROS BY SPACES	ok
57: INSPECT REPLACING complex	ok
58: SWITCHES	ok
59: Nested PERFORM	ok
60: EXIT PERFORM	ok
61: EXIT PERFORM CYCLE	ok
62: EXIT PARAGRAPH	ok
63: EXIT SECTION	ok
64: 88 with FILLER	ok
65: Non-overflow after overflow	ok
66: PERFORM ... CONTINUE	ok
67: STRING with subscript reference	ok
68: UNSTRING DELIMITED ALL LOW-VALUE	ok
69: READ INTO AT-END sequence	ok
70: First READ on empty SEQUENTIAL INDEXED file	ok
71: REWRITE a RELATIVE file with RANDOM access	ok
72: SORT: table sort	ok
73: SORT: EBCDIC table sort	ok
74: SORT nonexistent file	ok
75: PIC ZZZ-, ZZZ+	ok
76: Larger REDEFINES lengths	ok
77: PERFORM type OSVS	ok
78: Sticky LINKAGE	ok
79: COB_PRE_LOAD test	ok
80: COB_LOAD_CASE=UPPER test	ok
81: 88 level with FALSE IS clause	ok
82: ALLOCATE/FREE with BASED item	ok
83: INITIALIZER with reference modification	ok
84: CALL with OMITTED parameter	ok
85: ANY LENGTH	ok
86: BASED item non-ALLOCATED (debug)	ok
87: COMP-5	ok

88: Hexadecimal numeric literal	ok
89: Semi-parenthesized condition	ok
90: ADDRESS OF	ok
91: LENGTH OF	ok
92: WHEN-COMPILED	ok
93: Complex OCCURS DEPENDING ON	ok
94: MOVE NON-INTEGGER TO ALPHA-NUMERIC	ok
95: CALL USING file-name	ok
96: CALL unusual PROGRAM-ID.	ok
97: Case independent PROGRAM-ID	ok
98: PROGRAM-ID AS clause	ok
99: Quoted PROGRAM-ID	ok
100: ASSIGN MF	ok
101: ASSIGN IBM	ok
102: ASSIGN mapping	ok
103: ASSIGN expansion	ok
104: ASSIGN with COB_FILE_PATH	ok
105: NUMBER-OF-CALL-PARAMETERS	ok
106: PROCEDURE DIVISION USING BY ...	ok
107: PROCEDURE DIVISION CHAINING ...	ok
108: STOP RUN RETURNING	ok
109: ENTRY	ok
110: LINE SEQUENTIAL write	ok
111: LINE SEQUENTIAL read	ok
112: ASSIGN to KEYBOARD/DISPLAY	ok
113: Environment/Argument variable	ok
114: DECIMAL-POINT is COMMA (1)	ok
115: DECIMAL-POINT is COMMA (2)	ok
116: DECIMAL-POINT is COMMA (3)	ok
117: DECIMAL-POINT is COMMA (4)	ok
118: DECIMAL-POINT is COMMA (5)	ok
119: 78 Level (1)	ok
120: 78 Level (2)	ok
121: 78 Level (3)	ok
122: Unreachable statement	ok
123: RETURN-CODE moving	ok
124: RETURN-CODE passing	ok
125: RETURN-CODE nested	ok
126: FUNCTION ABS	ok
127: FUNCTION ACOS	ok
128: FUNCTION ANNUITY	ok
129: FUNCTION ASIN	ok
130: FUNCTION ATAN	ok
131: FUNCTION CHAR	ok
132: FUNCTION COMBINED-DATETIME	ok
133: FUNCTION CONCATENATE	ok
134: FUNCTION CONCATENATE with reference modding	ok
135: FUNCTION COS	ok
136: FUNCTION DATE-OF-INTEGGER	ok
137: FUNCTION DATE-TO-YYYYMMDD	ok
138: FUNCTION DAY-OF-INTEGGER	ok
139: FUNCTION DAY-TO-YYYYDDD	ok
140: FUNCTION E	ok
141: FUNCTION EXCEPTION-FILE	ok
142: FUNCTION EXCEPTION-LOCATION	ok
143: FUNCTION EXCEPTION-STATEMENT	ok
144: FUNCTION EXCEPTION-STATUS	ok



```

145: FUNCTION EXP ok
146: FUNCTION FACTORIAL ok
147: FUNCTION FRACTION-PART ok
148: FUNCTION INTEGER ok
149: FUNCTION INTEGER-OF-DATE ok
150: FUNCTION INTEGER-OF-DAY ok
151: FUNCTION INTEGER-PART ok
152: FUNCTION LENGTH ok
153: FUNCTION LOCALE-DATE ok
154: FUNCTION LOCALE-TIME ok
155: FUNCTION LOCALE-TIME-FROM-SECONDS ok
156: FUNCTION LOG ok
157: FUNCTION LOG10 ok
158: FUNCTION LOWER-CASE ok
159: FUNCTION LOWER-CASE with reference modding ok
160: FUNCTION MAX ok
161: FUNCTION MEAN ok
162: FUNCTION MEDIAN ok
163: FUNCTION MIDRANGE ok
164: FUNCTION MIN ok
165: FUNCTION MOD ok
166: FUNCTION NUMVAL ok
167: FUNCTION NUMVAL-C ok
168: FUNCTION ORD ok
169: FUNCTION ORD-MAX ok
170: FUNCTION ORD-MIN ok
171: FUNCTION PI ok
172: FUNCTION PRESENT-VALUE ok
173: FUNCTION RANGE ok
174: FUNCTION REM ok
175: FUNCTION REVERSE ok
176: FUNCTION REVERSE with reference modding ok
177: FUNCTION SECONDS-FROM-FORMATTED-TIME ok
178: FUNCTION SECONDS-PAST-MIDNIGHT ok
179: FUNCTION SIGN ok
180: FUNCTION SIN ok
181: FUNCTION SQRT ok
182: FUNCTION STANDARD-DEVIATION ok
183: FUNCTION STORED-CHAR-LENGTH ok
184: FUNCTION SUBSTITUTE ok
185: FUNCTION SUBSTITUTE with reference modding ok
186: FUNCTION SUBSTITUTE-CASE ok
187: FUNCTION SUBSTITUTE-CASE with reference mod ok
188: FUNCTION TAN ok
189: FUNCTION TRIM ok
190: FUNCTION TRIM with reference modding ok
191: FUNCTION UPPER-CASE ok
192: FUNCTION UPPER-CASE with reference modding ok
193: FUNCTION VARLANCE ok
194: FUNCTION WHEN-COMPILED ok

```

```

## ----- ##
## Test results. ##
## ----- ##

```

```

All 194 tests were successful.
PASS: ./run

```

```

## Run time tests with -O option ##

## ----- ##
## OpenCOBOL 1.1 test suite: Run Tests. ##
## ----- ##
1: DISPLAY literals ok
2: DISPLAY literals, DECIMAL-POINT is COMMA ok
3: Hexadecimal literal ok
4: DISPLAY data items with VALUE clause ok
5: DISPLAY data items with MOVE statement ok
6: GLOBAL at same level ok
7: GLOBAL at lower level ok
8: non-numeric subscript ok
9: The range of subscripts ok
10: Subscript out of bounds (1) ok
11: Subscript out of bounds (2) ok
12: Value of DEPENDING ON N out of bounds (lower)ok
13: Value of DEPENDING ON N out of bounds (upper)ok
14: Subscript bounds with ODO (lower) ok
15: Subscript bounds with ODO (upper) ok
16: Subscript bounds with ODO ok
17: Subscript by arithmetic expression ok
18: Separate sign positions ok
19: Static reference modification ok
20: Dynamic reference modification ok
21: Static out of bounds ok
22: Offset underflow ok
23: Offset overflow ok
24: Length underflow ok
25: Length overflow ok
26: ACCEPT ok
27: INITIALIZE group entry with OCCURS ok
28: INITIALIZE OCCURS with numeric edited ok
29: INITIALIZE complex group (1) ok
30: INITIALIZE complex group (2) ok
31: INITIALIZE with REDEFINES ok
32: Source file not found ok
33: Comma separator without space ok
34: LOCAL-STORAGE ok
35: EXTERNAL data item ok
36: EXTERNAL AS data item ok
37: cobcrun validation ok
38: MOVE to itself ok
39: MOVE with refmod ok
40: MOVE with refmod (variable) ok
41: MOVE with group refmod ok
42: MOVE indexes ok
43: MOVE X'00' ok
44: Level 01 subscripts ok
45: Class check with reference modification ok
46: Index and parenthesized expression ok
47: Alphanumeric and binary numeric ok
48: Dynamic call with static linking ok
49: CALL m1. CALL m2. CALL m1. ok
50: CALL binary literal parameter/LENGTH OF ok
51: INSPECT REPLACING LEADING ZEROS BY SPACES ok

```

52: INSPECT: No repeat conversion check	ok
53: INSPECT: REPLACING figurative constant	ok
54: INSPECT: TALLYING BEFORE	ok
55: INSPECT: TALLYING AFTER	ok
56: INSPECT REPLACING TRAILING ZEROS BY SPACES	ok
57: INSPECT REPLACING complex	ok
58: SWITCHES	ok
59: Nested PERFORM	ok
60: EXIT PERFORM	ok
61: EXIT PERFORM CYCLE	ok
62: EXIT PARAGRAPH	ok
63: EXIT SECTION	ok
64: 88 with FILLER	ok
65: Non-overflow after overflow	ok
66: PERFORM ... CONTINUE	ok
67: STRING with subscript reference	ok
68: UNSTRING DELIMITED ALL LOW-VALUE	ok
69: READ INTO AT-END sequence	ok
70: First READ on empty SEQUENTIAL INDEXED file	ok
71: REWRITE a RELATIVE file with RANDOM access	ok
72: SORT: table sort	ok
73: SORT: EBCDIC table sort	ok
74: SORT nonexistent file	ok
75: PIC ZZZ-, ZZZ+	ok
76: Larger REDEFINES lengths	ok
77: PERFORM type OSVS	ok
78: Sticky LINKAGE	ok
79: COB_PRE_LOAD test	ok
80: COB_LOAD_CASE=UPPER test	ok
81: 88 level with FALSE IS clause	ok
82: ALLOCATE/FREE with BASED item	ok
83: INITIALIZATE with reference modification	ok
84: CALL with OMITTED parameter	ok
85: ANY LENGTH	ok
86: BASED item non-ALLOCATED (debug)	ok
87: COMP-5	ok
88: Hexadecimal numeric literal	ok
89: Semi-parenthesized condition	ok
90: ADDRESS OF	ok
91: LENGTH OF	ok
92: WHEN-COMPILED	ok
93: Complex OCCURS DEPENDING ON	ok
94: MOVE NON-INTEGERS TO ALPHA-NUMERIC	ok
95: CALL USING file-name	ok
96: CALL unusual PROGRAM-ID.	ok
97: Case independent PROGRAM-ID	ok
98: PROGRAM-ID AS clause	ok
99: Quoted PROGRAM-ID	ok
100: ASSIGN MF	ok
101: ASSIGN IBM	ok
102: ASSIGN mapping	ok
103: ASSIGN expansion	ok
104: ASSIGN with COB_FILE_PATH	ok
105: NUMBER-OF-CALL-PARAMETERS	ok
106: PROCEDURE DIVISION USING BY ...	ok
107: PROCEDURE DIVISION CHAINING ...	ok
108: STOP RUN RETURNING	ok

109: ENTRY	ok
110: LINE SEQUENTIAL write	ok
111: LINE SEQUENTIAL read	ok
112: ASSIGN to KEYBOARD/DISPLAY	ok
113: Environment/Argument variable	ok
114: DECIMAL-POINT is COMMA (1)	ok
115: DECIMAL-POINT is COMMA (2)	ok
116: DECIMAL-POINT is COMMA (3)	ok
117: DECIMAL-POINT is COMMA (4)	ok
118: DECIMAL-POINT is COMMA (5)	ok
119: 78 Level (1)	ok
120: 78 Level (2)	ok
121: 78 Level (3)	ok
122: Unreachable statement	ok
123: RETURN-CODE moving	ok
124: RETURN-CODE passing	ok
125: RETURN-CODE nested	ok
126: FUNCTION ABS	ok
127: FUNCTION ACOS	ok
128: FUNCTION ANNUITY	ok
129: FUNCTION ASIN	ok
130: FUNCTION ATAN	ok
131: FUNCTION CHAR	ok
132: FUNCTION COMBINED-DATETIME	ok
133: FUNCTION CONCATENATE	ok
134: FUNCTION CONCATENATE with reference modding	ok
135: FUNCTION COS	ok
136: FUNCTION DATE-OF-INTEGGER	ok
137: FUNCTION DATE-TO-YYYYMMDD	ok
138: FUNCTION DAY-OF-INTEGGER	ok
139: FUNCTION DAY-TO-YYYYDDD	ok
140: FUNCTION E	ok
141: FUNCTION EXCEPTION-FILE	ok
142: FUNCTION EXCEPTION-LOCATION	ok
143: FUNCTION EXCEPTION-STATEMENT	ok
144: FUNCTION EXCEPTION-STATUS	ok
145: FUNCTION EXP	ok
146: FUNCTION FACTORIAL	ok
147: FUNCTION FRACTION-PART	ok
148: FUNCTION INTEGER	ok
149: FUNCTION INTEGER-OF-DATE	ok
150: FUNCTION INTEGER-OF-DAY	ok
151: FUNCTION INTEGER-PART	ok
152: FUNCTION LENGTH	ok
153: FUNCTION LOCALE-DATE	ok
154: FUNCTION LOCALE-TIME	ok
155: FUNCTION LOCALE-TIME-FROM-SECONDS	ok
156: FUNCTION LOG	ok
157: FUNCTION LOG10	ok
158: FUNCTION LOWER-CASE	ok
159: FUNCTION LOWER-CASE with reference modding	ok
160: FUNCTION MAX	ok
161: FUNCTION MEAN	ok
162: FUNCTION MEDIAN	ok
163: FUNCTION MIDRANGE	ok
164: FUNCTION MIN	ok
165: FUNCTION MOD	ok

```

166: FUNCTION NUMVAL ok
167: FUNCTION NUMVAL-C ok
168: FUNCTION ORD ok
169: FUNCTION ORD-MAX ok
170: FUNCTION ORD-MIN ok
171: FUNCTION PI ok
172: FUNCTION PRESENT-VALUE ok
173: FUNCTION RANGE ok
174: FUNCTION REM ok
175: FUNCTION REVERSE ok
176: FUNCTION REVERSE with reference modding ok
177: FUNCTION SECONDS-FROM-FORMATTED-TIME ok
178: FUNCTION SECONDS-PAST-MIDNIGHT ok
179: FUNCTION SIGN ok
180: FUNCTION SIN ok
181: FUNCTION SQRT ok
182: FUNCTION STANDARD-DEVIATION ok
183: FUNCTION STORED-CHAR-LENGTH ok
184: FUNCTION SUBSTITUTE ok
185: FUNCTION SUBSTITUTE with reference modding ok
186: FUNCTION SUBSTITUTE-CASE ok
187: FUNCTION SUBSTITUTE-CASE with reference mod ok
188: FUNCTION TAN ok
189: FUNCTION TRIM ok
190: FUNCTION TRIM with reference modding ok
191: FUNCTION UPPER-CASE ok
192: FUNCTION UPPER-CASE with reference modding ok
193: FUNCTION VARIANCE ok
194: FUNCTION WHEN-COMPILED ok

```

```

## ----- ##
## Test results. ##
## ----- ##

```

All 194 tests were successful.

PASS: ./run-0

```

## ----- ##
## OpenCOBOL 1.1 test suite: Data Representation. ##
## ----- ##
  1: BINARY: 2-4-8 big-endian ok
  2: BINARY: 2-4-8 native ok
  3: BINARY: 1-2-4-8 big-endian ok
  4: BINARY: 1-2-4-8 native ok
  5: BINARY: 1--8 big-endian ok
  6: BINARY: 1--8 native ok
  7: BINARY: full-print ok
  8: DISPLAY: Sign ASCII ok
  9: DISPLAY: Sign ASCII (2) ok
 10: DISPLAY: Sign EBCDIC ok
 11: PACKED-DECIMAL dump ok
 12: PACKED-DECIMAL display ok
 13: PACKED-DECIMAL move ok
 14: PACKED-DECIMAL arithmetic (1) ok
 15: PACKED-DECIMAL arithmetic (2) ok
 16: PACKED-DECIMAL numeric test ok
 17: POINTER: display ok

```

```

## ----- ##
## Test results. ##
## ----- ##

All 17 tests were successful.
PASS: ./data-rep

## Data representation tests with -O option ##

## ----- ##
## OpenCOBOL 1.1 test suite: Data Representation. ##
## ----- ##
  1: BINARY: 2-4-8 big-endian           ok
  2: BINARY: 2-4-8 native               ok
  3: BINARY: 1-2-4-8 big-endian         ok
  4: BINARY: 1-2-4-8 native             ok
  5: BINARY: 1--8 big-endian            ok
  6: BINARY: 1--8 native                ok
  7: BINARY: full-print                  ok
  8: DISPLAY: Sign ASCII                 ok
  9: DISPLAY: Sign ASCII (2)             ok
 10: DISPLAY: Sign EBCDIC                 ok
 11: PACKED-DECIMAL dump                 ok
 12: PACKED-DECIMAL display              ok
 13: PACKED-DECIMAL move                 ok
 14: PACKED-DECIMAL arithmetic (1)      ok
 15: PACKED-DECIMAL arithmetic (2)      ok
 16: PACKED-DECIMAL numeric test        ok
 17: POINTER: display                    ok

## ----- ##
## Test results. ##
## ----- ##

All 17 tests were successful.
PASS: ./data-rep-O
=====
All 5 tests passed
=====

```

## A.15 ABI

Application Binary Interface (ABI). An acronym that covers the way object code is managed and the expectations of the run-time system. OpenCOBOL is at home in the "C" ABI.

- Link names are as expected.
- CALL arguments are stacked as expected for C programming.
- etc, ...

The C application binary interface allows OpenCOBOL to link with many existant libraries, more than enough, but does mean that small wrapper access code may be required for access to C++ runtimes.

## A.16 Tectonics

I use the expression tectonics, *using a definition in the 1913 Webster dictionary* as a basis for the slang describing the code building process. Originally found using a lookup from the `dict://` protocol bank of open servers:

```
"Tectonics" gcide "The Collaborative International Dictionary of English v.0.48"
Tectonics \Tec*ton"ics\, n.
1. The science, or the art, by which implements, vessels,
dwellings, or other edifices, are constructed, both
agreeably to the end for which they are designed, and in
conformity with artistic sentiments and ideas.
[1913 Webster]
```

Trying to infer that building with OpenCOBOL is rock solid and artistically pleasing. Ok fine, I mean **wicked cool!**.





# Appendix B

## Authors

### B.1 Lead Development

#### **Keisuke Nishida**

Initial developer and creator of OpenCOBOL. From the 1990's through 2004 Keisuke was the primary developer and OpenCOBOL project lead. His efforts are greatly appreciated by the userbase of OpenCOBOL.

#### **Roger While**

OpenCOBOL 1.1 is as of March 13, 2011 in active development, and Roger is the lead programmer. From early 2004, Roger has been very active on the <http://opencobol.org> website, and is open to feature requests and clarifications to the implementation. Roger has, since January 2008, actively monitored an OpenCOBOL 1.1 wishlist on the [opencobol.org](http://opencobol.org) OpenCOBOL forum. OpenCOBOL 2.0 will likely be a Roger creation.

### B.2 Maintainers and Contributors

#### **btiffn**

Brian Tiffin, this FAQ and sample programs for OpenCOBOL 1.1.

#### **aoirthoir**

Joseph James Frantz. Hosting, support and herding the clowder.

#### **jrls\_swla**

John Ellis. Samples and how-to's and ...

**human** human. Samples and style, technical assistance.

#### **wmklein**

Bill Klein, Keeper of the COBOL FAQ and all round COBOL myth buster.

```

.. These are the external link substitutions.
.. _OpenCOBOL: http://opencobol.org/
.. _opencobol.org: http://opencobol.org/
.. _`OpenCOBOL 1.0`: http://opencobol.org/modules/mydownloads/singlefile.php
.. _`OpenCOBOL 1.1`: http://www.opencobol.org/modules/mydownloads/singlefile.php
.. _COBOL: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/COBOL
.. _`COBOL 85`: http://www.cobolstandards.com/
.. _`COBOL 2002`: http://www.iso.org/iso/iso_catalogue/catalogue_tc/catalogue_tc.html
.. _`COBOL FAQ`: http://home.comcast.net/~wmklein/FAQ/COBOLFAQ.htm
.. _COBUG: http://www.cobug.com/
.. _OpenCOBOL Install`: http://www.opencobol.org/modules/bwiki/index.php?Install
.. _`OpenCOBOL Wiki`: http://www.opencobol.org/modules/bwiki/
.. _`OpenCOBOL Forum`: http://www.opencobol.org/modules/newbb/
.. _`OpenCOBOL News`: http://www.opencobol.org/modules/news/

.. _`OpenCOBOL Programmers Guide`: http://opencobol.addltocobol.com/OpenCOBOLProgrammersGuide

.. _kiska.net: http://www.kiska.net/opencobol/1.1/

.. _ReStructuredText: http://docutils.sourceforge.net/rst.html
.. _Pygments: http://pygments.org/
.. _addltocobol.com: http://addltocobol.com
.. _ocfaq.rst: http://opencobol.addltocobol.com/ocfaq.rst
.. _ocfaq.pdf: http://opencobol.addltocobol.com/ocfaq.pdf

.. _GIMP: http://www.gimp.org
.. _GTK: http://www.gtk.org
.. _ROBODoc: http://www.xs4all.nl/~rfsber/Robo/robodoc.html
.. _ocrobo: http://opencobol.addltocobol.com/docs/cobc.html

.. _CUPS: http://www.cups.org

.. _SpiderMonkey: http://www.mozilla.org/js/spidermonkey/
.. _guile: http://www.gnu.org/software/guile/guile.html

.. _`GNU General Public License`: http://www.gnu.org/licenses/gpl.html
.. _`GNU Lesser General Public License`: http://www.gnu.org/licenses/lgpl.html

.. _TinyCOBOL: http://tiny-cobol.sourceforge.net/index.php

.. _`Admiral Grace Hopper`: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grace_Hopper

.. _SCM: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Software_configuration_management
.. _Fossil: http://www.fossil-scm.org

.. This section holds replacements and special symbols.

```

```
.. |copysym| unicode:: 0xA9
.. |copyright| replace:: Copyright |copysym|
.. |copyleft| replace:: Copyright |copysym| 2008 Brian Tiffin

.. |PISYM| unicode:: 0x03C0
.. |plusminus| unicode:: 0xB1

.. |currently| replace:: currently *(February 2010)*
.. |KeisukeActive| replace:: From the 1990s through 2004
.. |RogerActive| replace:: From early 2004 up till today, and tomorrow
```



# Appendix C

## ChangeLog

### **02-Jul-2008, 06-Jul-2008, 07-Jul-2008, 11-Jul-2008, 13-Jul-2008**

Experimental version for comment. First 0.0 pre-alpha release. Second 0.0 pre-alpha. Last 0.0 pre-alpha. Checked in for diffs. Last-last 0.0 pre-alpha. Verify DIFF functionality.

### **17-Jul-2008, 20-Jul-2008, 24-Jul-2008, 28-Jul-2008**

Last-last-last 0.0 pre-alpha. Second DIFF. Corrections pass. Expanded the SCREEN SECTION questions. Another correction pass, with clarifications from Roger While

### **10-Aug-2008, 21-Aug-2008, 28-Aug-2008, 29-Aug-2008, 30-Aug-2008**

Started in on the intrinsic functions. Dropped the pre from the alpha designation. Still some Look into this entries. Move to add1tocobol.com Publish link to 1.0rc Skeleton of the reserved words list Let the tweaking begin

### **23-Sep-2008**

Adds and a trial skin

### **13-Oct-2008, 15-Oct-2008, 19-Oct-2008, 22-Oct-2008, 29-Oct-2008**

Added a few samples. Added TABLE SORT sample. Added configure script information. Added dialect configuration information.

### **28-Nov-2008**

OpenCOBOL passes the NIST test suite.

### **12-Dec-2008, 16-Dec-2008, 21-Dec-2008**

Added new links to OpenCOBOL 1.1 binary builds by Sergey. Updated header templates. Added a few keywords.

### **28-Dec-2008, 29-Dec-2008, 30-Dec-2008**

Added info on CobXRef, some debugging tricks and an entry on recursion.

### **01-Jan-2009, 10-Jan-2009, 12-Jan-2009, 22-Jan-2009**

Lame attempt at clarifying (excusing) poor use of Standards references. Small

corrections and additions to SQL entry. Added a few RESERVED entries and Vincent's STOCK library expansion. Typos.

**02-Feb-2009, 06-Feb-2009, 09-Feb-2009, 11-Feb-2009**

Coloured Source codes. Added info on COB\_PRE\_LOAD, added LINAGE sample, fixed colours (kinda). Added Haiku, disclaimer about no claim to Standards conformance. Updated look.

**16-Feb-2009, 18-Feb-2009**

Added JavaScript, Lua, Guile embedding samples and mention Tcl/Tk, GTK. Added CBL\_OC\_DUMP sample by Asger Kjelstrup and human

**09-Mar-2009, 31-Mar-2009**

Added Vala and a few more RESERVED word entries. Added -ext clarification.

**17-Apr-2009, 18-Apr-2009, 19-Apr-2009**

Clarified -fsource-location option. Added a production use posting. Added START and ISAM sample.

**01-May-2009, 09-May-2009, 28-May-2009, 31-May-2009**

Started a structural and TOC reorg. Mention S-Lang. Continue re-org. Added some FUNCTION samples. Getting close to a complete Intrinsic list.

**01-Jun-2009, 03-Jun-2009, 05-Jun-2009, 28-Jun-2009**

Added errno, makefile, a few samples and some reserved word explanations. Added filter.cob the stdin stdout sample. Added some reserved word blurbs and the message queue sample. human assisted corrections. Many thanks to human.

**29-Jul-2009**

more human assisted corrections.

**13-Sep-2009**

Some printing information.

**12-Oct-2009**

Added some links, credits.

**15-Feb-2010, 20-Feb-2010, 25-Feb-2010, 27-Feb-2010, 28-Feb-2010**

Added advocacy, and a few tweaks. Added Jim's PRTCBL. Added Angus' oc-sort. Added cobol.vim and Easter Day programs. Updated CBL\_OC\_DUMP source code listing. Added a REPLACE text preprocessor sample. Added pg-cob.cob PostgreSQL sample.

**01-Mar-2010, 28-Mar-2010**

Added Oracle procob news. Added FILE STATUS codes to ISAM note. Mention TP-COBOL-DEBUGGER. Updated INSPECT sample and COB\_SCREEN\_ESC entry. Added ocgtk.c

**04-Apr-2010, 05-Apr-2010, 11-Apr-2010, 15-Apr-2010**

Fixed up the source code listings. Added telco benchmark. Added print to PDF. Added COB\_LIBRARY\_PATH info. Expanded the Tcl/Tk entry. Added Mac install instructions from Ganymede. Rexx.

**05-May-2010, 06-May-2010**

Added the SEARCH and SORT sample. Updated Rexx. Image for GNAT GPS.

**13-Jun-2010**

Reorganized table of contents boxes. Split SEARCH sample source code.

**18-Oct-2010, 19-Oct-2010, 24-Oct-2010, 30-Oct-2010, 31-Oct-2010**

Added some working Vala code samples. Added DamonH's AJAX code to the CGI section. Updated the CBL\_OC\_DUMP listings. Added a few minor reserved word entries. Added translation help request note. Added mkfifo sample. Added call Genie sample. Added CBL\_OC\_GTKHTML sample. Updated the PI and PRESENT-VALUE entries. Updated CHARACTERS entry.

**01-Nov-2010, 06-Nov-2010, 18-Nov-2010, 20-Nov-2010, 27-Nov-2010**

Added a Genie sample. Some small touch-ups. Restored borked colouring. Added DECLARATIVES entry and a few small tweaks. Added a few RESERVED words entries. Added ROOT/CINT info. Expanded install instructions.

**12-Dec-2010, 31-Dec-2010**

Added libsoup HTTP server sample. Changed EOP file status 52 copy sample. Updated Falcon entry.

**02-Jan-2011, 23-Jan-2011**

Added errorproc.cob sample. Added some vim and Fossil info.

**13-Feb-2011**

Fixed an unnecessary css import, small corrections. Added REPOSITORY, CYCLE and FOREVER entries.

**06-Mar-2011**

LaTeX markup begins.



Figure C.1: rennab QAF LOBOCnepO





# Appendix D

## Acronyms

**COBOL** COmmon Business Oriented Language

**CERN** European Organization for Nuclear Research

**C/Int** C Interpreter

**ROOT** LHC LCG ROOT/Framework

**COBOL** COmmon Business Oriented Language

**C** C programming language

**apt** Advanced Package Tool

**rpm** RedHat Package Manager

**FLOW-MATIC** FLOW-MATIC programming language

**ABI** Application Binary Interface

**ascii** American Symbolic Code for Information Interchange

**DSO** Dynamic Shared Object

**ISAM** Indexed Sequential Access Methods

**GMP** GNU Multi Precision math library, libgmp

**ABI** Application Binary Interface

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