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Identification

Phase I option procedures
read_opt and read_global
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Purpose

The full option facility will not be available for Phase I of Multics, but several Phase I modules call read_opt and read_global to find out how certain options are set. This section describes a minimal options facility which supplies Phase I modules with default settings for these options. The reader should be familiar with BX.12.00 on the use of options in Multics.

Usage

There is no facility in Phase I for setting options. Therefore, all calls to read_opt and read_global (the only option procedures in Phase I) should indicate that the option is unset and return the default values: OFF and no (null) specification.

To test the option name in frame number n,

```
call read_opt (name, n, switch, spec, set);

dcl name char (K),

    n fixed,

    (switch, set) bit (1),

    spec char (L) var;
```

where $0<K\leq 64$ and $0\leq L\leq 512$.

Switch is 1 if the option name is ON and 0 otherwise. spec is the specification. Set is 1 if the option has been set and is 0 otherwise. If a user wishes to give an option a long specification, he should write a data file instead, and use the path name of the file as a specification. This will make it easier for him to change the complete specification to the option, and it expedites the work of the option procedures.

To test a global option for a procedure caller,

```
call read_global (caller, name, n, switch, spec, set);

dcl caller char (M);
```

Caller is the name of the calling procedure. M is an integer such that 0 <M <64-N, where N is the maximum number of characters in the name of any global option checked by caller. In phase I, both read_opt and read_global always return the following values:

```
switch = "0"b

spec = ""   (null character string)

set = "0"b
```

These are the same values that will be returned in Phase IV for options that have not been set. Thus, the Phase I modules operate as though there were a complete option facility but no options are set.