Three Simple Little Tools

To Ease

MLF False Disk Linear Sector Checking

My 2023 Machine Language Foundation's False Disk System seeks to simplify disk sector access methodology by defining Linear Sectors 0 through 2447 in place of (or at least supplemental to) the standard "Drive, Track, Sector" method.

The following three BASIC programs are intended to both simplify translation between the two methods, and also to facilitate the examining of actual disk sector contents.

I do most of my CoCo development using the Vcc Emulator, and I make frequent use of the Emulator's RS-232 "BitBanger" port as an auxiliary debugging tool - to inspect the actual contents of the disk sectors being accessed. These three tools make that process easier.

SECTCHKR.BAS – Translates a Linear Sector Number into Drive, Track, and Sector Numbers; and then displays the contents of that Sector on the printer via the RS-232 "BitBanger" port.

DSECCHKR.BAS – Given Drive, Track, and Sector Numbers; this program indicates the corresponding Linear Sector Number (if applicable) and then displays the contents of the Sector on the printer via the RS-232 "BitBanger" port. This program is also the one to use for inspecting the FAT and Directory on Track 17.

GRANCALC.BAS – Given a Granule Number (0-67), returns that Granule's corresponding Track Number; and its range of Sector Numbers within that Track.

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2024 MLF Minor Bug Fix

On 2024/04/20, a bug was discovered in the Machine Language Foundation's (MLF) False Disk System's FALSXLTD.BAS subroutine.

This bug was considered to be of little consequence, because the subroutine was not used in any of the MLF's working code. That BASIC subroutine was included in the package primarily for reference. The Assembly language version of the subroutine (FLXLTD.ASM) does not include the bug.

Nevertheless, the bug has been corrected, and the corrected file is now in residence on the MLF's False Disk Production Disks on the www.bds-soft.com website.

For those who might prefer fixing their own copies, rather than downloading a complete new disk, the following two correct lines of code should replace the same numbered lines in the FALSXLTD.BAS file:

```
21860 L = (V3 * 612) + (V4 * 18) + V5 - 1
22240 L = (V3 * 612) + (V4 * 18) + V5 - 19
```

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