VCR 2.0k Installation Notes

PUMA:038/VCR2/INST Revision 1.8

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2 VCR Distribution

VCR 2.0 forms an extension to the new TCOFF-based Inmos Toolsets. The occam Toolset, Inmos product numbers D(4/5/6/7)205, is a fundamental requirement for this system. Additionally the Inmos C Toolset, Inmos product numbers D(4/5/6/7)214, is required if the VCR package is to be accessed from C. This software package does not integrate with earlier versions of the Inmos occam Toolset (such as D705b). Users who only have that Toolset available will be restricted to VCR Version 1.8 or earlier.

Installation of VCR will require about 4MBytes of space to be available on the host filestore. The files comprising the MS-DOS release are listed in Table 1 and those for the Unix release in Table 2. They can be obtained via anonymous ftp from `ftp.ecs.soton.ac.uk` (152.78.64.201) in the directories `pub/transputer/vcr/msdos` and `pub/transputer/vcr/unix` respectively. The accompanying documentation can be found in `pub/transputer/vcr/docs`.

3 Transferring VCR onto the Host Filestore

For MS-DOS installation, first copy `zoox` onto the PC's path. VCR should then be unarchived by changing to the root directory of the target hard disk and, assuming use of floppy drive `a`, invoking:

File	Description
`readme`	Distribution note
`spr.doc`	Software performance report
`zoox.exe`	PC executable public domain archiving tool
`zoox.doc`	Document for above
`zoo.hlp`	Zoo distribution information
`zoo.doc`	Zoo documentation
`rk.zoo`	Example ParaPET environment
`vcr2_01.zoo`	First file of archived VCR
`vcr2_02.zoo`	Second file of archived VCR
`vcr2_03.zoo`	Third file of archived VCR
`vcr2_04.zoo`	Fourth file of archived VCR
`vcr2_05.zoo`	Fifth file of archived VCR
`vcr2_06.zoo`	Sixth file of archived VCR
`vcr2_07.zoo`	Seventh file of archived VCR
`vcr2_08.zoo`	Eighth file of archived VCR
`vcr2_09.zoo`	Ninth file of archived VCR

Table 1: VCR Distribution Files for MS-DOS.

File	Description
`readme`	Distribution note
`spr.doc`	Software performance report
`rk.tar.Z`	Example ParaPET environment
`vcr2.tar.Z`	Compressed tarred VCR installation
`voc.sun4.Z`	Sun 4 binary of virtual occam compiler

Table 2: VCR Distribution Files for UNIX.

```
zoox x// a:<zoofile>
```

for each of the nine VCR zoo archives, (`vcr2_[01..09]`), that make up the release. This will create a subdirectory `vcr` off the current directory containing the entire VCR package. Additionally, a further zoo file, `rk.zoo`, contains the source code for an example message-passing programming environment based on the ParaPET Toolkit. Unarchiving this file creates a further directory `rk` off the current directory. Further information on this software can be found in the accompanying document, *ParaPET — A Parallel Programming Environment Toolkit*.

For UNIX installation, uncompress and then untar the VCR file in a suitable directory. The file, rk.tar.Z, can be expanded as well if required.

4 Installing VCR

A step-by-step guide to installing the VCR package and running a few simple examples is given in the *Getting Started* section of the *Virtual Channel Router Version 2.0 User Guide* which accompanies these installation notes. The user guide assumes either prior installation of the Inmos Checker Utility or the existence of `.map` file wiring diagrams to describe the target hardware. Version 2.1 of the Checker Utility distributed with this release comes as two self-unpacking PC executables. One, `check\check2v1.exe`, unpacks to a set of PC executables and user guide, the other contains sources which can be compiled up to generate binaries for other hosts.

The two script or batch files used to launch VCR, `vcr` and `svcr`, will need site customisation (as described on P9 of the user guide) in order to resolve issues of accessing raw transputers. They are delivered in a state pertinent to the University of Southampton installation. For fixed topology machines no changes should be necessary. For reconfigurable machines these scripts need to locate the appropriate connectivity descriptions and set the switches. Additionally, multi-user transputers may require availability validation. A subsequent call to the appropriate VCR driver program commences the VCR launch.