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Identification

Operator's Guide to the 6.36
R. Fenichel, 8/06/65

Tape Preparation

The GE 635 expects each beginning-of-tape marker to be at least fifty feet from the physical beginning of tape   this does <u>not</u> mean that the tapes must be hand-wound this distance when mounting on the 635.

On the 7094, on the other hand, fifty-foot leaders would be awkward.   The tapes used for 6.36, therefore, will each have <u>two</u> load-point markers.   The first of these will define the <u>IBM load point,</u> and the second, fifty feet later, the <u>GE load point.</u>

In addition, all tapes used for 6.36 will be given the following label sequence, starting at the IBM load point:

    Record 1, Hollerith: GETAPE n
    Records 2 to n+1, Binary: (96000/n)-100
        words, content immaterial

The integer n is arbitrary this label sequence is only used for skipping out to a point from which rewind is guaranteed to bring the tape back to the GE load point.   In order to prevent CTSS from being tied up for too long,   n should be greater than 44.

Merge-editor

The merge-editor is a foreground program which will be used by many different users at all three MULTICS locations.   The merge-editor instructs the operator to mount and dismount the 636 tapes.   The unit for these tapes if B9; tapes may be mounted and dismounted from the IBM load point.   The tricky code to circumvent the GE load point was written by Lee C. Varian.

635 Operation

Tapes from the merge-editor are brought to the 635, which produces CTSS input tapes for the disk-editor (see the CTSS <u>Programmer's Guide,</u> section AE.1).   These input tapes contain new files for the original 6.36 users.

Special Feature of 635-Produced Disk-Editor Input Tapes

The disk editor will not rewind these tapes beyond the GE load point.   The operators, therefore, will have to rewind the remaining fifty feet themselves.