

# Chapter 1

## HMSL on the Macintosh

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HMSL is a programming language for experimental music. It is available on the Macintosh and Amiga computers. The language is primarily *host independant*. That means that it works pretty much the same way on both machines. There are, however, some minor differences. The Amiga version uses *JForth* to provide the Forth environment. The Macintosh version uses its own Forth that is integrated with HMSL, called *HForth*. The Macintosh version also uses the *Apple MIDI Manager* for its interface to MIDI so there are a few differences there as well. This supplementary manual documents all the features of HMSL that are specific to the Macintosh.

### What is HForth?

*HForth* is a 32 bit, subroutine threaded Forth written to support HMSL, the *Hierarchical Music Specification Language*. HForth provides the general purpose programming environment needed by HMSL. HForth has a compiler to convert your music programs to a form that the 68000 can understand and execute. It also has a *text editor*, a *debugger*, an *interactive text window* and many other features. It was developed by Phil Burk.

### Requirements for running HMSL

To run HMSL, you must have the following:

- 1) A Macintosh with at least 1 Megabyte of memory.
- 2) Finder version 6.0.2 or later.
- 3) Two floppy disk drives, or one floppy and a hard disk.
- 4) A System folder with at least 100K free in it.
- 5) A MIDI Interface.
- 6) A MIDI Synthesizer.
- 7) A sound system, ie. amplifier, speakers, etc.

### Installing HMSL

Even though you are anxious to start using HMSL but there are a few things that must be done first. These only have to be done before running HMSL for the first time. The procedure will differ slightly depending on whether you will be running HMSL from floppies or a hard disk.

#### Backing Up HMSL

- 1) Make backup copies of both HMSL disks. Save the original disks in a safe place. Use the new copies as your working disks. It is important that you name the copies the same as the original disks. The original disks are named "HMSL\_Source" and "HMSL\_User."
- 2) If your system disk is a floppy, you should also make a backup copy of your system disk. Then reboot using the new copy of the System disk.

#### Installing HMSL on a hard disk

If you do not have a hard disk, or do not want to install HMSL on your hard disk, then skip this section.

- 1) Make a folder for HMSL on your hard disk called "HMSL".
- 2) Insert HMSL\_User into a floppy drive and double click on its icon. Select all of the folders in the HMSL\_User window and drag them to the HMSL folder on your hard disk.
- 3) Do the same as (2) for HMSL\_Source. If you are short of space on your hard disk, you might want to only install the folder "Source" from the HMSL\_Source disk.

### **Installing the Apple MIDI Manager.**

HMSL uses the *Apple MIDI Manager* to interface with the serial ports. This allows different MIDI applications to run under MultiFinder.

- 1) You may already have the MIDI manager installed on your Macintosh. Double click on your System disk icon and find the System folder. Look for the files "MIDI Manager" and "Apple MIDI Driver". Check the version number of these files by selecting them, then select the "Get Info..." item from the "Files" menu. Do the same for the copies of the MIDI Manager supplied with HMSL. These will either be on their own disk or on the HMSL\_User disk if space permits. If the version you have matches or is later than the version supplied with HMSL, then skip the rest of this procedure.
- 2) Warning: Old versions of the MIDI Manager had a slightly different name than the new version. Old versions had a <sup>TM</sup> at the end. If you just put the new version in your system folder, it may not replace the old version. You could have two versions with slightly different names. This could cause a hard disk crash. (You're right. This is ridiculous. Tell it to Apple). If you have a version of MIDI Manager older than the one on the HMSL disk then you must remove "MIDI Manager<sup>TM</sup>" and "Apple Midi Driver" from the system folder before installing the new version.
- 3) Copy the files "**MIDI Manager**" and the "**Apple MIDI Driver**" into the System folder. If you have plenty of room on your system disk, you can also copy the "Patchbay Help" file to the System folder.
- 4) The MIDI manager will not be available until you "Restart" your Macintosh.

### **Installing the PatchBay Desk Accessory**

Now we must install the Patchbay Desk Accessory in your system. The Patchbay is a MIDI Manager tool that allows you to connect different MIDI applications together. It is very important when using HMSL. It is possible that the Desk Accessory may not work on your system. If it doesn't, use the PatchBay Application instead. (See the MIDI Manager chapter for more information.)

#### **System 6 Users**

- 1) The Font D/A Mover is an Apple supplied program that comes on one of your System Utilities disk. Find the program and double click on it.
- 2) Select "Desk Accessories" instead of "Fonts" at the top of the window.
- 3) Click on "Open" near the lower right corner of the window. Find and open the "MIDI Manager" folder and find the file called "PatchbayDA" on the HMSL\_User disk.
- 4) Select "PatchBay" from the right hand column. (There may be some extra D/As which will be described in the release notes. Hold down the SHIFT key when you want to select more than one item.) Copy it to the left hand column which is your system disk. If there is not room, you will have to remove some Fonts or D/As from the System disk. That is why we made a backup of the System disk. You may want to keep a special system disk just for HMSL. Quit from the Font D/A Mover when done.
- 5) Activate the MIDI Manager and your Desk Accessories by **restarting** your Macintosh. This can be done by selecting "Restart" from the "Options" menu.

#### **System 7 Users**

Open the MIDI Manager folder. Move the PatchBay Desk Accessory to the Desk Accessory folder on your system disk.

### **IMPORTANT - Setting the ASSIGNS for your Hard Disk (logical volume names)**

If you installed HMSL on your **hard disk**, please follow these instructions.

HMSL uses *logical volume names* for folders. This allows programs to reference folders using "nick names." This allows us to hide the fact that actual folder may have different names on different people's hard disks. We can reference the Pieces folder using the logical volume name HP: which might translate to "HMSL\_USER:PIECES:" on one person's system, or "HARDDISK:HMSL:PIECES" on another's. It also saves a lot of typing.

In this procedure, we will edit the **ASSIGNS** file to make it compatible with your system. Then we will load these new assignments into HMSL and save a new version of HMSL with those assignments. In essence, we will teach HMSL where to find its files on your system.

- 1) It is important that the name of your hard disk not have any spaces in it because Forth uses spaces to separate names. If it has spaces in the name, please change it. Most computer operating systems do not encourage spaces in names because they make it complicated to use command line interfaces. For example, if your hard disk is named "Big Disk", you might rename it "Big\_Disk." Also be careful there are no spaces at the end of the names. These are hard to spot.
- 2) Open the HMSL folder on your hard disk and double click on the HMSL4th\_V4.x icon.
- 3) Wait for it to load. When asked whether to initialize, enter 'N' for "No."
- 4) Edit the file ASSIGNS using the HMSL Text Editor. Select "Open..." from the File menu. Open the file called ASSIGNS in your HMSL folder.
- 5) Remove the backslashes, '\', from in front of the definitions of HMSL\_USER: and HMSL\_SOURCE:. We will change them so that HMSL will look on your hard disk for files instead of the original disks. If your hard disk is called "20MHD," define them as follows:  

```
ASSIGN HMSL_User: 20MHD:HMSL
ASSIGN HMSL_Source: 20MHD:HMSL
```

If, for example, you have a hard disk called "Stuff," that contains a folder called "Music," that contains a folder called HMSL\_V4, then you should define them as:

```
ASSIGN HMSL_User: Stuff:Music:HMSL_V4
ASSIGN HMSL_Source: Stuff:Music:HMSL_V4
```

Whenever HMSL is given a file name that begins with an assigned name, it will substitute the real name. Notice that later in the file is the line:

```
ASSIGN HP: HMSL_User:Pieces
```

Based on the first assignment from above, this is the equivalent of saying:

```
ASSIGN HP: 20MHD:HMSL:Pieces
```

Now if you refer to a file as **HP:XFORMS**, that will be the equivalent of saying **20HMD:HMSL:Pieces:XFORMS**. For more information on this, refer to the section on File I/O later in this manual.

- 6) Save the file to disk by selecting "Save" from the File menu.
- 7) Include the ASSIGNS file by selecting "Include from Editor" from the "Include" menu. You can check your assignments by entering:

```
ASSIGNS
```

- 8) HMSL has two timers, a highly accurate interrupt driven timer, and a crude software based timer for non-critical use. To calibrate this second timer, enter:

`CALIBRATE.MSEC`

- 9) To save these changes, enter:

`SAVE-FORTH BYE`

Your assignments will now be remembered for future sessions. There is more information on ASSIGN with the File I/O documentation.

## Running HMSL

Follow this procedure whenever you want to run HMSL.

- 1) Floppy users: Open the HMSL\_User disk.

--OR--

Hard disk users: Open the HMSL icon on your hard disk.

- 2) Double click on the HMSL4th\_V4.x icon.

- 3) Wait for it to load. When asked whether to initialize, enter 'y' for "yes."

HMSL should then initialize and print several messages ending with "ok." If it cannot open the MIDI Manager, double check your installation, then see the trouble shooting instructions below.

## Testing MIDI Output

- 1) Connect the Phone port of your Macintosh to a MIDI Interface. Then connect the output of your MIDI Interface to the "MIDI In" port on a synthesizer.
- 2) Setup the synthesizer so that it will receive MIDI messages on channel 1. Consult the owners manual for your synthesizer for specific instructions if needed. Connect your synthesizer to an audio amplifier and speakers. Verify that sounds can be heard by playing the keyboard if it has one.
- 3) Click on the HMSL4th window and hit the <RETURN> key several times. You should see "ok" messages from the Forth telling you it is ready for command input.
- 4) Enter in HMSL4th:

`MIDI.TEST`

You should see a message telling you it is sending Middle C notes. You should also be hearing about two notes per second. If you hear nothing proceed to the next section on Troubleshooting MIDI. Hit the <RETURN> key when done.

- 5) To test MIDI input, connect a keyboard or other controller to your Mac's MIDI input. Then enter:

`MIDI.SCOPE`

Now play the keyboard, you should see MIDI events displayed on the screen as you play.

When MIDI is working properly, refer to the main HMSL manual for instructions on how to learn HMSL. It will occasionally refer you back to this book for Macintosh specific instructions.

## Troubleshooting MIDI

**Symptom:** Error message when initializing HMSL saying that the MIDI Manager could not open a driver.

**Fix:** Try switching from using the old Finder to using MultiFinder, or vice versa. This can be done by selecting "Set Startup..." from the ????? menu.

The MIDI Manager can also have a problem if you have too many INITs in your System folder. If you still have problems, move all of your custom INITs to a folder outside of your System folder and reboot. Test MIDI. If it works, start moving INITs back into your system folder and rebooting until

MIDI does not work. Some INITs may interfere directly with the MIDI manager. If you find that the MIDI Manager does not work with a specific INIT, please call Phil Burk at Frog Peak Music. We can then warn other users and inform Apple. You may also try using the Custom MIDI Driver.

**Symptom:** No error message on initialization, but no output.

**Fix:** There seems to be a bug with the Apple CHOOSER Desk Accessory that causes the MIDI Manager to sometimes think the phone port is busy when it isn't. This is pretty rare. If MIDI Output doesn't work on the serial port, open the Patchbay desk accessory. Double click on the Apple MIDI Driver icon on the left. Try to enable the Phone Port MIDI. If you cannot enable MIDI on the phone port, enter in HMSL:

```
MIDI.FIX.SPCONFIG
```

This will reset the phone port bit in the SPConfig global variable. Now run Chooser before starting MIDI which will copy this fix to permanent RAM.

## Compiling Programs

Very short programs can be entered directly using the keyboard. For longer programs, you can use the HMSL Text editor to write the programs and save them in a file. To run your program, you must first compile it. You can compile the program from the file, using one of 4 ways.

- 1) From the Include menu. The first item in the Include menu is "Include File..." Selecting this will bring up the standard file requester. Select the file you want to compile.
- 2) Type INCLUDE filename. You can compile from the keyboard by typing INCLUDE followed by the name of the file to compile. You can use assigned logical volume names to avoid having to type complete pathnames. See the File I/O section in this manual for more information on ASSIGN.  

```
INCLUDE HP:SUBDIV
```
- 3) ReInclude a file by selecting the "ReInclude item" from the Include menu. This will include whatever file was last included. This is handy if you are working on a file and compiling it over and over again.
- 4) When you are editing a file using the HMSL Text Editor, you can include the code directly using the "Include from Editor" menu item.

## Compilation Errors

If the Forth compiler encounters a word that it doesn't recognize, it will print that word followed by a '?' then abort. Look in the file for the unrecognized word and fix it. Save it then recompile using the ReInclude menu item. If you are not sure where the error occurred, enter:

```
LATEST ID.
```

This will tell you the name of the last word defined. Your error will be in that word or right after it.

## Editing Programs

HMSL has its own integrated text editor. It can be accessed using "New" and "Open..." from the File menu. It behaves like other Macintosh style text editors so you should have no trouble figuring it out. It does, however, have a few unique features.

- 1) You can compile code directly from the file using the "Include from File" menu item. If an error is encountered, the file editing window will be brought to the front and the offending text will be highlighted.
- 2) If you select a region, and hit the <Enter> key, that region will be compiled and the output directed to the Forth window.

- 3) If you place the cursor on a line and hit <Enter>, that line will be executed. The output will be directed to the editor. This is a handy way to get Forth output into the editor. Note that the contents of the stack will not be preserved between successive entries.
- 4) Characters can be converted between UPPER case, lower case, and Capitals.
- 5) The "Windows" menu allows you to select various windows. You can open multiple windows and select between them using this menu.

## Expanding the Dictionary

HForth allows you to expand your dictionary if you run out of room. There are two variables that control how large an area of memory to allocate when HMSL starts up. One specifies the code dictionary size. The other specifies the header/name space. You expand the dictionary by setting these variables to large values then saving the Forth image. If you are working and find you have run out of space, you should quit from HMSL and follow these steps.

- 1) If you want the larger image to have a different name than the older small one, make a duplicate and rename it. You do this by selecting the HMSL4th icon then selecting "Duplicate" from the File menu. The HMSL4th icon may have any name.
- 2) Run HMSL4th. It is important to start fresh, so you should quit and restart if you have been using HMSL or working on other projects.
- 3) Do not initialize HMSL or any other complicated systems. Hit 'N' when it asks if you want to initialize. You should not allocate any memory, or open any files or device drivers (eg. MIDI).
- 4) Check the values of the two size control variables. Enter:

```
CODE-SIZE @ .
HEADERS-SIZE @ .
```

Or enter:

```
MAP
```

which prints statistics about the Forth memory usage. These values are in bytes. Set them to values that you think will allow you to fit your programs. If you set them too large, you will run out of memory on your machine. You should set the HEADERS-SIZE to roughly half of the CODE-SIZE. For example, enter:

```
300000 CODE-SIZE !
140000 HEADERS-SIZE !
```

- 5) Now save the Forth image to disk using SAVE-FORTH. Then quit from this image and restart it to get the larger image. Enter:
 

```
SAVE-FORTH BYE
```
- 6) When you get back to Finder, double click on the HForth icon you just saved. This will load your expanded dictionary.