
LMI Forth for OS/2

Ray Duncan
Laboratory Microsystems Inc.
P. O. Box 10430
Marina del Rey, CA 90295
(213) 306-7412

LMI's UR/FORTH interpreter/compiler for the 80x86 and 680x0 is a segmented implementation designed for use under modern multi-tasking operating systems with virtual memory and memory protection. It allows full access to the host's file system, message-passing, and memory allocation services, while achieving high performance via direct threaded code, top-of-stack in register, a native-code optimizer that can be applied selectively to high-level definitions, and use of a completely hashed symbol table rather than the traditional single- or multi-threaded linked dictionary.

At last year's conference, we reported and demonstrated versions of UR/FORTH that ran under 68000 UNIX System V and Microsoft MS-DOS. We have been shipping the MS-DOS version in a complete development package including floating point and graphics support since November, 1986. At this year's conference, we will describe and demonstrate a version of UR/FORTH for the new Microsoft OS/2 operating system. LMI's Forth-83 Metacompiler has also been ported to run on top of UR/FORTH, allowing 80286 and 80386-based computers running OS/2 to be used as development stations for Forth code that will run on a wide variety of microprocessors.