

Glossary.hyper

COLLABORATORS

	<i>TITLE :</i> Glossary.hyper		
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>NAME</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>SIGNATURE</i>
WRITTEN BY		December 6, 2024	

REVISION HISTORY

NUMBER	DATE	DESCRIPTION	NAME

Contents

1	Glossary.hyper	1
1.1	Glossary (Tue Nov 3 14:51:18 1992)	1
1.2	Glossary : abbreviations	3
1.3	Glossary : active logical window	3
1.4	Glossary : address operator	4
1.5	Glossary : aliases	4
1.6	Glossary : alias string	4
1.7	Glossary : ARexx port	4
1.8	Glossary : ARexx scripts	5
1.9	Glossary : auto output snap	5
1.10	Glossary : autodefault	5
1.11	Glossary : autoscalable	5
1.12	Glossary : box	6
1.13	Glossary : breakpoint node	6
1.14	Glossary : breakpoints	6
1.15	Glossary : code	7
1.16	Glossary : commandline	7
1.17	Glossary : conditional breakpoints	7
1.18	Glossary : conditional expressions	7
1.19	Glossary : constants	7
1.20	Glossary : contents operator	8
1.21	Glossary : crash node	8
1.22	Glossary : current debug node	8
1.23	Glossary : current list	8
1.24	Glossary : current list indicator	8
1.25	Glossary : current logical window	9
1.26	Glossary : current tag list	9
1.27	Glossary : debug nodes	9
1.28	Glossary : debug tasks	9
1.29	Glossary : double quotes	9

1.30 Glossary : dummy debug task	10
1.31 Glossary : execute mode	10
1.32 Glossary : expression	10
1.33 Glossary : fancy mode	10
1.34 Glossary : FD-files	10
1.35 Glossary : feedback mode	11
1.36 Glossary : flow mode	11
1.37 Glossary : fullscreen debugger	11
1.38 Glossary : function definitions	11
1.39 Glossary : function monitor	11
1.40 Glossary : functions	11
1.41 Glossary : group operator	12
1.42 Glossary : history buffer	12
1.43 Glossary : hold mode	12
1.44 Glossary : home position	12
1.45 Glossary : hot key	13
1.46 Glossary : instance	13
1.47 Glossary : interrupt key	13
1.48 Glossary : IntuiTick	13
1.49 Glossary : key attachments	13
1.50 Glossary : key code	14
1.51 Glossary : led monitor	14
1.52 Glossary : linenummer operator	14
1.53 Glossary : list	14
1.54 Glossary : list element	14
1.55 Glossary : list operator	15
1.56 Glossary : log file	15
1.57 Glossary : logical window	15
1.58 Glossary : LW	15
1.59 Glossary : machinelanguage scripts	15
1.60 Glossary : macro	16
1.61 Glossary : masterbox	16
1.62 Glossary : ML-scripts	16
1.63 Glossary : MMU tree	16
1.64 Glossary : monitor functions	16
1.65 Glossary : MORE checking	17
1.66 Glossary : names	17
1.67 Glossary : nofancy mode	17
1.68 Glossary : normal breakpoints	17

1.69 Glossary : output log	17
1.70 Glossary : pause key	18
1.71 Glossary : pen	18
1.72 Glossary : physical window	18
1.73 Glossary : PortPrint	18
1.74 Glossary : PowerVisor device	19
1.75 Glossary : PowerVisor screen	19
1.76 Glossary : PowerVisor scripts	19
1.77 Glossary : PowerVisor startup file	19
1.78 Glossary : PowerVisor window	19
1.79 Glossary : prefix operators	20
1.80 Glossary : private breakpoints	20
1.81 Glossary : profile tracing	20
1.82 Glossary : profiler breakpoint	20
1.83 Glossary : profiling	20
1.84 Glossary : prompt	21
1.85 Glossary : PVDevice	21
1.86 Glossary : PVSD file	21
1.87 Glossary : PW	21
1.88 Glossary : qualifier	21
1.89 Glossary : quote operator	22
1.90 Glossary : quotes	22
1.91 Glossary : real-top windows	22
1.92 Glossary : recursive aliases	22
1.93 Glossary : resident breakpoints	23
1.94 Glossary : resident commands	23
1.95 Glossary : resident ML-scripts	23
1.96 Glossary : resource tracking	23
1.97 Glossary : routine trace mode	23
1.98 Glossary : scripts	23
1.99 Glossary : single quotes	24
1.100Glossary : singlestep mode	24
1.101Glossary : size bar	24
1.102Glossary : snapping	24
1.103Glossary : special operator	24
1.104Glossary : special variables	25
1.105Glossary : stack checking	25
1.106Glossary : stack fail level	25
1.107Glossary : standard logical window	25

1.108Glossary : startup file	26
1.109Glossary : string expansion	26
1.110Glossary : string pointers	26
1.111Glossary : strings	26
1.112Glossary : structure definition	27
1.113Glossary : strong quote	27
1.114Glossary : symbols	27
1.115Glossary : tag	27
1.116Glossary : tag file	28
1.117Glossary : tag list	28
1.118Glossary : task accounting	28
1.119Glossary : Task Control Block (TCB)	28
1.120Glossary : task list	28
1.121Glossary : TCB	28
1.122Glossary : templates	29
1.123Glossary : temporary breakpoint	29
1.124Glossary : timeout breakpoints	29
1.125Glossary : top-visible windows	29
1.126Glossary : trace check	29
1.127Glossary : variables	30

Chapter 1

Glossary.hyper

1.1 Glossary (Tue Nov 3 14:51:18 1992)

Contents:

- abbreviations
- active logical window
- address operator
- aliases
- alias string
- ARexx port
- ARexx scripts
- auto output snap
- autodefault
- autoscalable
- box
- breakpoint node
- breakpoints
- code
- commandline
- conditional breakpoints
- conditional expressions
- constants
- contents operator
- crash node
- current debug node
- current list
- current list indicator
- current logical window
- current tag list
- debug nodes
- debug tasks
- double quotes
- dummy debug task
- execute mode
- expression
- fancy mode
- FD-files
- feedback mode
- flow mode
- fullscreen debugger
- function definitions

function monitor
functions
group operator
history buffer
hold mode
home position
hot key
instance
interrupt key
IntuiTick
key attachments
key code
led monitor
linenumber operator
list
list element
list operator
log file
logical window
LW
machinelanguage scripts
macro
masterbox
ML-scripts
MMU tree
monitor functions
MORE checking
names
nofancy mode
normal breakpoints
output log
pause key
pen
physical window
PortPrint
PowerVisor device
PowerVisor screen
PowerVisor scripts
PowerVisor startup file
PowerVisor window
prefix operators
private breakpoints
profile tracing
profiler breakpoint
profiling
prompt
PVDevice
PVSD file
PW
qualifier
quote operator
quotes
real-top windows
recursive aliases
resident breakpoints
resident commands
resident ML-scripts

resource tracking
routine trace mode
scripts
single quotes
singlestep mode
size bar
snapping
special operator
special variables
stack checking
stack fail level
standard logical window
startup file
string expansion
string pointers
strings
structure definition
strong quote
symbols
tag
tag file
tag list
task accounting
Task Control Block (TCB)
task list
TCB
templates
temporary breakpoint
timeout breakpoints
top-visible windows
trace check
variables

Various:

[Back to main contents](#)

1.2 Glossary : abbreviations

PowerVisor allows you to abbreviate several things. You can abbreviate command names and names for list elements

Tutor chapters : [Expressions](#) [Getting Started](#)

1.3 Glossary : active logical window

The active logical window is the logical window where you can scroll with the keyboard. You can see if a logical window is active by looking at the titlebar. A full (blue in AmigaDOS 2.0) titlebar indicates that the logical window is active. Note that the active logical window is NOT the same as the current logical window.

Starting at V1.10, the active logical window is also used for pending input (see the [Screens and windows](#) chapter for more info)

Commands : scroll active
Tutor chapters : Screens and windows
Related terminology : current logical window logical window

1.4 Glossary : address operator

The address operator ('&') can be used to ask the address of an element in the current list. You can only use this operator for the exec , graf and intb lists. An address operator always precedes a list operator

Tutor chapters : Expressions
Related terminology : contents operator list operator

1.5 Glossary : aliases

An alias in its simplest form is another name for a command. PowerVisor aliases are a bit more powerful than normal aliases. You can actually construct whole new commands with them

Commands : alias unalias
Tutor chapters : Installing PowerVisor
Related terminology : alias string recursive aliases

1.6 Glossary : alias string

The alias string is the string that is used instead of the commandline when an alias command is entered. It is in fact the definition of the alias

Commands : alias unalias
Tutor chapters : Installing PowerVisor
Related terminology : aliases

1.7 Glossary : ARexx port

The ARexx port is used by ARexx to send commands to. The name of the PowerVisor ARexx port is REXX_POWERVISOR

Commands : rx
Tutor chapters : Scripts
Related terminology : ARexx scripts

1.8 Glossary : ARexx scripts

An ARexx script is a ASCII script file containing ARexx commands. ARexx is a versatile script language for the Amiga. With ARexx you can interface PowerVisor to any other program supporting ARexx or you can write powerful scripts making life easier for you and other users of PowerVisor. ARexx scripts must begin with a comment
(/* */)

Commands : rx
Tutor chapters : Scripts
Related terminology : PowerVisor scripts scripts ML-scripts
ARexx port

1.9 Glossary : auto output snap

This feature is an optional setting for logical windows. When 'auto output snap' is on, the logical window will automatically scroll to the place where output appears. 'auto output snap' is on by default for the 'Main' logical window. You can change this behaviour with the setflags or prefs commands

Commands : setflags prefs
Tutor chapters : Screens and windows
Related terminology : logical windows MORE checking
home position

1.10 Glossary : autodefaut

Autodefaut is a method provided to make life easier for the user. Normally when PowerVisor parses some sequence of characters, several steps occur. In one of these steps PowerVisor tests if the sequence of characters could be an abbreviation for a name of a 'list element' in the current list.

But some commands are only useful for specific list elements. For example : the freeze command to freeze a task is only useful for tasks. Therefor 'freeze' uses 'autodefaut' to the 'task' list. This means that the parsing of the sequence of characters is not done for the current list but for the task list. In practice this means that you can simply use the name of the task even if the task list is not the current list. Many commands use this feature (see the

Command Reference chapter if you want to know if a certain command uses 'autodefaut'). Some functions also use 'autodefaut'

Related terminology : list element current list

1.11 Glossary : autoscalable

When a logical window is autoscalable for one or both directions (vertical or horizontal) the visible size will always be equal to the real size (in that direction) (see 'logical window' for more info). This means that when you change the visible size (by opening or closing another logical window or by dragging the size bar) the logical window will be cleared and the real size will be recomputed. The 'Main' logical window is NOT autoscalable by default

Commands : fit colrow
Tutor chapters : Screens and windows
Related terminology : logical window box

1.12 Glossary : box

A box is used by the physical window to manage the space for logical windows. A box has a parent (unless it is the root box for the physical window) and two children (unless it is a leaf of the box tree). A box with no children (a leaf box) corresponds with a logical window.

Tutor chapters : Screens and windows
Related terminology : logical window physical window
masterbox

1.13 Glossary : breakpoint node

A breakpoint node is the internal data structure used by PowerVisor to hold information about a breakpoint. Each breakpoint has its own breakpoint node. You can use `info` for a debug node to see a list of all breakpoint nodes

Commands : info debug
Tutor chapters : Debugging
Related terminology : breakpoints debug nodes

1.14 Glossary : breakpoints

A breakpoint is a location in memory where a debug node should stop (sometimes depending on some condition). They are implemented using 'ILLEGAL' instructions (so don't use them in shared memory)

Commands : break trace debug
Tutor chapters : Debugging
Related terminology : debug nodes normal breakpoints
timeout breakpoints conditional breakpoints
temporary breakpoints profile breakpoints
resident breakpoints private breakpoints

1.15 Glossary : code

See `key code`

1.16 Glossary : commandline

The commandline of PowerVisor is a stringgadget. This means that you can use all stringgadget editing facilities supported by the operating system. You can also use some extra facilities provided by PowerVisor like the 'history buffer'.

By default the commandline is 400 bytes long but you may decrease or increase this value with the `prefs` command

Commands : `prefs`
Tutor chapters : Getting Started
Related terminology : history buffer

1.17 Glossary : conditional breakpoints

Conditional breakpoints only break when a certain condition (expression) is true

Commands : `break` `trace` `debug`
Tutor chapters : Debugging
Related terminology : breakpoints `debug node`

1.18 Glossary : conditional expressions

Using the `if()` function you can make conditional expressions like in C

Tutor chapters : Expressions
Related terminology : expression

1.19 Glossary : constants

A constant is just like a PowerVisor variable. The only difference is that you can't change the value (obvious :-)
'version' is the only constant in the current version of PowerVisor

Commands : `vars`
Tutor chapters : Expressions
Related terminology : variables `functions` `special variables`

1.20 Glossary : contents operator

The contents operator ('*') can be used to read from memory locations. You can use it in expressions or before the assignment operator

Tutor chapters : Expressions
Related terminology : address operator

1.21 Glossary : crash node

A crash node (in the `crsh list`) corresponds with a crashed task. When a task crashes and PowerVisor traps the crash, PowerVisor will create a crash node and halt the task. This crash node contains some extra information about the crash

1.22 Glossary : current debug node

The current debug node is the debug node that you are currently debugging. All trace and breakpoint commands use the current debug node. You can have more than one debug node in memory at the same time

Commands : `with` `duse`
Tutor chapters : Debugging
Related terminology : debug node

1.23 Glossary : current list

When PowerVisor parses some sequence of characters, several steps occur. In one of these steps PowerVisor tests if the sequence of characters could be an abbreviation for a name of a 'list element' in a certain list. This list is the current list. In the bottom left corner of the PowerVisor window you can see the name of the current list. If you want to change the current list to some other list, just type the name of the other list (`task`, `lock`, `wins`, ...). Note that some commands do not use the current list for parsing sequences of characters (see 'autodefault')

Commands : `task` `lock` `wins` ...
Tutor chapters : List Reference
Related terminology : list list element autodefault
current list indicator

1.24 Glossary : current list indicator

The current list indicator is located in the left-bottom corner of the 'Main' physical window (the PowerVisor window). It displays the name of the current list ('Task', ...).
Right from the current list indicator is the prompt

Related terminology : current list prompt

1.25 Glossary : current logical window

The current logical window is the logical window that receives all output from most commands. This is 'Main' by default. Note that the current logical window is NOT the same as the active logical window

Commands : current on
Tutor chapters : Screens and windows
Related terminology : active logical window logical window

1.26 Glossary : current tag list

The current tag list is the tag list that is used by all the tag commands. There are sixteen possible tag lists (0..15)

Commands : tg usetag
Tutor chapters : Looking at things
Related terminology : tag list tag

1.27 Glossary : debug nodes

See debug tasks

1.28 Glossary : debug tasks

(or debug nodes) A debug task is a task you are debugging. When it is called a debug task, we are talking about the real task. When it is called a debug node (which is logically the same) we are also talking about the task in most cases, but sometimes the term debug node is used for the internal structure needed by PowerVisor to debug the task (this last meaning is actually more exact than the first one). All debug nodes are in the debug list

Commands : dbug debug
Tutor chapters : Debugging

1.29 Glossary : double quotes

See quotes

1.30 Glossary : dummy debug task

With a dummy debug task you can make symbols without having to create a real debug task. This makes it more easy to disassemble programs. You can't trace or set breakpoints with a dummy debug task, but you can create and show symbols

Commands : `debug symbol`
Tutor chapters : Debugging
Related terminology : `debug nodes`

1.31 Glossary : execute mode

See `singlestep mode`

1.32 Glossary : expression

A sequence of characters corresponding with some algebraic or other operations on integers

Tutor chapters : Expressions

1.33 Glossary : fancy mode

Fancy mode is another name for two-bitplane mode. PowerVisor is in fancy mode when the PowerVisor screen uses two bitplanes (default). Otherwise PowerVisor is in 'nofancy' mode

Commands : `mode`
Tutor chapters : Screens and windows
Related terminology : `nofancy mode`

1.34 Glossary : FD-files

A fd-file (function definition file) contains definitions for the functions defined in a shared library (you can find these files on the Extras 1.3 disk). PowerVisor uses these files for several purposes (to make the disassembly more readable when you are debugging for example, the `addfunc` command also uses FD-files). All loaded FD-files are in the `fdfi` list

Commands : `loadfd unloafd fdfi`
Related terminology : function definitions

1.35 Glossary : feedback mode

When feedback mode is on (default) PowerVisor will first print each command on the PowerVisor window before executing it. That way you have an easy way to know which command caused which output

Commands : mode
Tutor chapters : Getting Started

1.36 Glossary : flow mode

See `singlestep` mode

1.37 Glossary : fullscreen debugger

Normally debugging in PowerVisor is commandline based. Using the `fdebug` alias (or the 'db' script) you can install a fullscreen debugger. This fullscreen debugger uses the 'Debug' logical window for output

Commands : debug fdebug dwin
Tutor chapters : Debugging

1.38 Glossary : function definitions

A function definition is a definition for a library function (the name, registers, ...). Function definitions are part of an FD-file

Commands : loadfd libinfo libfunc
Related terminology : FD-files

1.39 Glossary : function monitor

The function monitor is the device in PowerVisor that monitors library functions (monitor functions)

Commands : addfunc
Related terminology : monitor functions

1.40 Glossary : functions

A function is a routine you may include in expressions. It has some arguments (or none) and most often a result. Note that PowerVisor always expects brackets after the function name even if there are no arguments (like in C). Functions live in the same list as variables. This is why you can't have a variable with the same name as a function

Commands : vars
Tutor chapters : Expressions
Related terminology : variables constants special variables

1.41 Glossary : group operator

The group operator ('{' ... '}') can be used to group several commands together. You can do this because you want to execute several commands at once or because you are interested in the return code of the last executed command in the list. Group operators can be used as stand alone command or in expressions. The commands in the group are separated by ';'.

The group operator is also useful if you want to create recursive aliases

Tutor chapters : Expressions
Related terminology : recursive aliases

1.42 Glossary : history buffer

To make editing easier PowerVisor supports a history buffer. Using the arrow up/down keys you can move in this history buffer and make changes to previous commands.

You can change the maximum number of lines in the history buffer with the `prefs` command

Commands : prefs
Tutor chapters : Getting Started
Related terminology : commandline

1.43 Glossary : hold mode

When PowerVisor is in hold mode, the screens and windows of PowerVisor are all closed. This is useful to preserve memory. You can reopen PowerVisor with the hot key

Commands : hold
Related terminology : hot key

1.44 Glossary : home position

The home position for a logical window depends on whether the logical window is a top-visible window or a real-top window

Tutor chapters : Screens and windows

Related terminology : top-visible windows real-top windows

1.45 Glossary : hot key

The PowerVisor hot key is the key combination used to bring the PowerVisor screen to the front. Normally the hot key is `<right-shift>+<right-alt>+'?'` but you can redefine it to any other key you want with the `prefs` command

Commands : `prefs`

Tutor chapters : Getting Started

Related terminology : hold mode interrupt key pause key

1.46 Glossary : instance

When you run more than one PowerVisor at the same time you get multiple instances of PowerVisor. The first instance is the master (number 0). All other instances are slaves. Slave instances can't debug. You can get the number of the instance you are in by looking at the `'pv'` constant. You can also use the `arexxport()` and `pubscreen()` functions if you want to write ARexx scripts.

1.47 Glossary : interrupt key

The interrupt key (`<esc>` by default) can be used to interrupt a PowerVisor command. You can use any key you want for the interrupt key with the `prefs` command

Commands : `prefs`

Tutor chapters : Installing PowerVisor

Related terminology : hot key pause key

1.48 Glossary : IntuiTick

An IntuiTick is one tenth of a second. It is used by the `refresh` command to measure the refresh rate

Commands : `refresh`

1.49 Glossary : key attachments

See `macro`

1.50 Glossary : key code

A key code is some quantity used by the Amiga operating system to distinguish between different keys on the keyboard. PowerVisor uses key codes in several cases (in conjunction with qualifiers) in order to install some commands on keys or other things

Commands : attach prefs
Tutor chapters : Installing PowerVisor
Related terminology : code qualifier

1.51 Glossary : led monitor

This is a (older) name for the function monitor

Related terminology : function monitor

1.52 Glossary : linenumber operator

The linenumber operator ('#') is useful when debugging. Directly after the operator follows a linenumber in the currently loaded source. The result is the address in memory for that linenumber

Tutor chapters : Expressions Debugging
Related terminology : 'special operator'

1.53 Glossary : list

A list contains some list elements (structures or nodes). You can look at a list with the `list` command. You can ask more information about a list element in a list with the `info` command. For example the `task` list contains all processes and tasks. The list is called 'task' and each list element in the list is either a process or a task.

Commands : list info
Tutor chapters : List Reference Looking at things
Related terminology : list element current list

1.54 Glossary : list element

See `list`

1.55 Glossary : list operator

The list operator (':') is a binary operator with both arguments for the operator optional. You can use it to search some item in a list

Tutor chapters : Expressions List Reference

Related terminology : list list element address operator

1.56 Glossary : log file

A log file is a file used to store all output appearing in a logical window. You can only have one log file at a time and only for one logical window

Commands : log to

Tutor chapters : Screens and windows

Related terminology : logical windows output log

1.57 Glossary : logical window

A logical window is the primary output device used by PowerVisor. It corresponds with a visible rectangle on a physical window (or Intuition window). You can have more than one logical window on each physical window. A logical window has an internal size and a visible size. The internal size is the number of columns and rows that PowerVisor really remembers for that logical window. The visible size is the part of the logical window that you can see. Using commands or keys you can scroll the visible logical window region in the real logical window region. The most important logical window is the 'Main' logical window. This logical window is always open and receives all output (by default) for most commands. All logical windows can be found in the lwin list

Commands : openlw closelw rwin dwin awin owin xwin

Tutor chapters : Screens and windows

Related terminology : physical window LW
standard logical window

1.58 Glossary : LW

An abbreviation for logical window

Related terminology : logical window

1.59 Glossary : machinelanguage scripts

See ML-scripts

1.60 Glossary : macro

A macro is another (and better) name for a key attachment. I hope to remove the term 'key attachment' from all documentation and use 'macro' instead. A macro is a command that is attached to a key. When you press that key the command is executed.

Commands : attach remattach
Tutor chapters : Installing PowerVisor
Related terminology : key attachment

1.61 Glossary : masterbox

The masterbox is the box that is always present in a physical window. It is the root of the box tree. The masterbox is the only box that can have no children while containing no logical window

Tutor chapters : Screens and windows
Related terminology : box logical windows physical windows

1.62 Glossary : ML-scripts

ML-scripts (or machinelanguage scripts) are scripts written in an external language (like C or machinelanguage). They are useful for more specialized tasks. Some examples can be found in the 's/pv' subdirectory

Commands : script pvcall
Tutor chapters : Scripts The wizard corner
Related terminology : ARexx scripts PowerVisor scripts scripts

1.63 Glossary : MMU tree

The MMU tree (or Memory Management Unit tree) is used by the 68851, 68030 or 68040 for memory management. On the Amiga the MMU is only marginally used. PowerVisor can make it's own MMU tree using the watch command. With this command you can enable the PowerVisor memory protection system.

Commands : mmutree mmuregs Watch
Tutor chapters : Looking at things

1.64 Glossary : monitor functions

Monitor functions are library functions you are monitoring with the `addfunc` command. Using this command provides a powerful way to debug some programs

Commands : `addfunc`

1.65 Glossary : MORE checking

MORE checking is an optional setting for logical windows. When MORE checking is on, PowerVisor will wait for a key press after a full page of output has appeared (a full page is measured by the real size of the logical window and not by the visible size). MORE checking is on by default for the 'Main' logical window

Commands : `mode`

Tutor chapters : Screens and windows

Related terminology : `auto output snap` `logical windows`
`home position`

1.66 Glossary : names

Names are actually strings but without the single quotes. There is no other significant difference. Note however, that names are NOT always interpreted in the same way as a normal string (with single quotes). For example, you cannot use single quotes when you want the name to use as a variable

Tutor chapters : Expressions

Related terminology : `strings` `single quotes`

1.67 Glossary : nofancy mode

See `fancy mode`

1.68 Glossary : normal breakpoints

See `breakpoints`

1.69 Glossary : output log

See `log file`

1.70 Glossary : pause key

The pause key ('<right-alt>+<help> by default) can be used to pause the output of a command

Commands : prefs
Tutor chapters : Installing PowerVisor
Related terminology : hot key interrupt key

1.71 Glossary : pen

A pen is a graphical object. A pen in PowerVisor has a name and a value. For all graphic operations PowerVisor uses a pen. This means that you can customize all colors you see on the PowerVisor screen (and not only with RGB values)

Commands : prefs
Tutor chapters : Installing PowerVisor Screens and windows

1.72 Glossary : physical window

A physical window directly corresponds with a normal Intuition window. A physical window can contain one or more logical windows. The visible size for logical windows is managed by the physical windows using the 'Box' concept. The most important physical window is the 'Main' physical window. This physical window contains the 'Main' logical window. All physical windows can be found in the pwin list

Commands : openpw closepw
Tutor chapters : Screens and windows
Related terminology : logical window box PW

1.73 Glossary : PortPrint

PowerVisor supports a PortPrint feature. This means that you can print debug information (using the powervisord.library) on the PowerVisor screen. This is useful for tasks for example because they normally can't easily print output. The name PortPrint is derived from the way this feature works. A message is send to the PowerVisor message port containing the output string (or some other data because PowerVisor supports more types of output). Note that the output of the portprint commands appears on the 'PPrint' logical window if this window is open

Commands : owin

1.79 Glossary : prefix operators

Prefix operators are operators you can put in front off the commandline before you execute it (press enter). These prefix operators have some effect on the output of the command or on other things

Tutor chapters : Screens and windows Technical information

1.80 Glossary : private breakpoints

Private breakpoints are used by PowerVisor to skip an instruction or for other purposes

Commands : break debug trace
Tutor chapters : Debugging
Related terminology : debug nodes breakpoints

1.81 Glossary : profile tracing

Profile tracing is implemented with the 'trace p' and 'trace pf' commands. The big difference with normal profiling is that profile tracing is exact. The normal profiler (with the 'prof' command) interrupts the program at certain sampling points and searches for the closest symbol. The 'profile tracer' intercepts every symbol that is passed ('trace p') or every symbol that is used as the destination of a 'bra', 'bsr', ... ('trace pf')

Commands : trace prof
Tutor chapters : Debugging
Related terminology : profiling

1.82 Glossary : profiler breakpoint

A profiler breakpoint never breaks, but only increments a counter everytime the breakpoint is passed. This is useful to gather usage statistics

Commands : break trace debug
Tutor chapters : Debugging
Related terminology : breakpoints debug nodes profiling

1.83 Glossary : profiling

A profiler is a program that determines which routines in a process or task use a lot of CPU time. These routines are likely candidates for optimization. PowerVisor implements profiling with the 'prof' command

Commands: prof
Related terminology : profiler breakpoint profile tracing

1.84 Glossary : prompt

The prompt is the '>' symbol right from the current list indicator. It indicates the stringgadget or commandline where you can type PowerVisor commands

Related terminology : current list indicator

1.85 Glossary : PVDevice

(or PowerVisor device) A PVDevice is a data structure used by some commands. With a PVDevice you can open any device in the system and send commands to it. This is useful to test selfmade devices or to learn about other devices

Commands : opendev devcmd

1.86 Glossary : PVSD file

A pvsd file (PowerVisor Structure Definition file) contains some structures. 'pvsd' files are made by the 'MStruct' utility or with the struct command

Commands : addstruct interpret struct
Tutor chapters : Looking at things
Related terminology : structure definition

1.87 Glossary : PW

An abbreviation for physical window

Related terminology : physical window

1.88 Glossary : qualifier

A qualifier is used together with a key code to distinguish between different key presses. A qualifier says something about some special keys pressed at the same time with the key (shift, alt, ...)

Commands : attach prefs
Tutor chapters : Installing PowerVisor
Related terminology : key code

1.89 Glossary : quote operator

The quote operator (or backslash '\') can be used to put integers, characters or other strings in one way or another in a string or string pointer. The quote operator is actually quite powerful

Tutor chapters : Expressions

Related terminology : strings string pointers quotes

1.90 Glossary : quotes

Quotes are used to define a string or string pointer. A single quote is used for real strings and a double quote is used for string pointers. For commands expecting a string there is no difference between using the single quote or the double quote. But if a command expects an integer as an argument there is a difference. A double quoted string (or string pointer) is in fact a pointer to that string while a single quoted string will be parsed according to several steps (variable, list element, symbol, function, ...)

Tutor chapters : Expressions

Related terminology : strong quote strings string pointers

1.91 Glossary : real-top windows

A real-top window is a logical window with the home position set to location (0,0). This means that when the logical window is cleared the current cursor position is automatically set to that position and the logical window is scrolled to the top-left visible corner in the real region of the logical window. The 'Refresh' and 'Debug' logical windows are real-top windows by default. See 'top-visible windows' for the other way to set the home position

Tutor chapters : Screens and windows

Related terminology : top-visible windows logical window
home position

1.92 Glossary : recursive aliases

Using the group operator you can make recursive aliases. This is because alias expansion is done again in a new group

Tutor chapters : Installing PowerVisor

Related terminology : aliases group operator

1.93 Glossary : resident breakpoints

A resident breakpoint is a breakpoint that you can put in your program even before PowerVisor is running. You put it in your program before compiling or assembling it. Resident breakpoints (like all breakpoints) are simply 'ILLEGAL' instructions

Commands : debug
Tutor chapters : Debugging
Related terminology : debug nodes breakpoints

1.94 Glossary : resident commands

See resident ML-scripts

1.95 Glossary : resident ML-scripts

(or resident commands) For faster execution you can make ML-scripts resident. Note that they must be reentrant

Commands : resident unresident
Tutor chapters : Scripts
Related terminology : resident commands ML-scripts

1.96 Glossary : resource tracking

Resource tracking is useful to see what resources a certain program uses. Possible resources are: allocated memory, open libraries, allocated signals, open files, locks, ... PowerVisor can track resources for a process or task with the track command

Commands : track

1.97 Glossary : routine trace mode

See singlestep mode

1.98 Glossary : scripts

See ARexx scripts , PowerVisor scripts or ML-scripts

1.99 Glossary : single quotes

See quotes

1.100 Glossary : singlestep mode

When you are tracing a program (a debug node), PowerVisor can use three modes : 'singlestep mode', 'execute mode', 'flow mode' or 'routine trace mode'. In singlestep mode each instruction is executed step by step. After each instruction an exception handler is called and some action is performed (you can control this action with the 'trace' command). In execute mode the program is running at full speed. The program only stops when a breakpoint or other exception occurs. If you have a 68020 or higher you can also use 'flow mode'. This is like 'singlestep mode'. The difference is that the exception handler is only called after a change of program flow. 'flow mode' is a lot faster than 'singlestep mode' (still slower than 'execute mode') but it is also somewhat less accurate because there are less 'sampling points'. The last possibility is 'routine trace mode'. This is equivalent to 'singlestep mode' but singlestepping only occurs in the current routine. If a BSR or JSR call is encountered this call will be executed at full speed ('execute mode'). Using this feature you can restrict the 'trace check' to the current subroutine

Commands : trace break debug
Tutor chapters : Debugging
Related terminology : debug nodes trace check

1.101 Glossary : size bar

The size bar is the (mostly horizontal) bar between two logical windows. You can use this bar to resize the logical windows

Tutor chapters : Screens and windows
Related terminology : logical windows

1.102 Glossary : snapping

Snapping is the process of moving the mouse to a position in a logical window and clicking on the word under the mouse pointer. The word will be copied to the string gadget

Tutor chapters : Getting Started

1.103 Glossary : special operator

The special operator ('@') is useful when debugging. It returns the value of the registername directly after the operator character

Tutor chapters : Expressions Debugging
Related terminology : 'linenumber operator'

1.104 Glossary : special variables

Special variables are a bit special :-) Special variables behave like normal variables in that you can assign values to them. But when you assign something to a special variable, a certain routine is called. The 'mode' variable is an example of a special variable. When you change something in the mode variable PowerVisor will automatically adapt all internal settings to the new settings provided in the assignment

Commands : vars mode
Tutor chapters : Looking at things
Related terminology : variables constants functions

1.105 Glossary : stack checking

PowerVisor has two stack checkers (not counting the internal stack checker for PowerVisor). These stack checkers check if a certain task (with the stack command) or all tasks (with the account command) have enough room left on the stack. The minimum amount of room allowed on the stack is called the 'stack fail level'

Commands : stack account
Related terminology : stack fail level

1.106 Glossary : stack fail level

The stack fail level is the minimum size of the stack that PowerVisor allows before it will halt a task. It is used both by the account and the stack commands

Commands : stack account prefs
Related terminology : stack checking

1.107 Glossary : standard logical window

A standard logical window is a logical window with a predefined meaning for PowerVisor. In the current version there are seven standard logical windows : Main, Extra, Debug, Refresh, Rextx, PPrint and Source

Commands : rwin awin dwin xwin owin swin
Tutor chapters : Screens and windows
Related terminology : logical window

1.108 Glossary : startup file

(or 'PowerVisor startup file') The startup file or s/PowerVisor-startup file is equivalent to the startup-sequence file. It is a PowerVisor script containing initialization commands. It is executed when PowerVisor starts

Related terminology : scripts PowerVisor scripts

1.109 Glossary : string expansion

String expansion is sometimes used to refer to the process of parsing a string (a sequence of characters) while assigning special meanings to some characters (like the quote operator and strong quote operator)

Tutor chapters : Expressions
Related terminology : strings quote operator strong quote

1.110 Glossary : string pointers

A string pointer (defined with double quotes) is a pointer to a sequence of characters. It is actually an integer is and is used as such by all commands expecting integers as an argument. This means that arithmetic on string pointers is perfectly valid and is equivalent to C pointer arithmetic

Tutor chapters : Expressions
Related terminology : strings quotes

1.111 Glossary : strings

A string (defined with or without single quotes) is a sequence of characters. Normally strings are surrounded by single quotes (or without quotes) but if a command expects a string as an argument double quotes will do as well. Note that this is NOT the case for a command expecting an integer as an argument. Strings (with single quotes) will be parsed according to some steps (variable, function, symbol, list element, ...) while a string pointer (with double quotes) simply corresponds to the pointer to the string

Tutor chapters : Expressions
Related terminology : string pointers quotes

1.112 Glossary : structure definition

A structure definition corresponds with a structure (like in C or assembler) or a record (like in Pascal). With the external utility 'MStruct' you can make structure definitions to be used by PowerVisor. A structure definition contains a list of names (for the structure fields) and their corresponding types (APTR, BPTR, BSTR, CSTR, BYTE, WORD, LONG, ...). You can interpret a range of memory as a structure or you can use tags to permanently define a region of memory as a structure

Commands : addstruct interpret struct
Tutor chapters : Looking at things
Related terminology : pvsd file tag

1.113 Glossary : strong quote

The strong quote '·' (or <alt>+8 on the keyboard) is normally not used very often. Using the strong quotes you can easily put all characters in a string expect one. This is the character directly after the string quote. This character is used to end the strong quote region

Tutor chapters : Expressions
Related terminology : strings string pointers quotes

1.114 Glossary : symbols

Symbols are names for labels and addresses used in programs. Most assemblers and compilers can output symbols in the program hunks. PowerVisor supports these symbols when you are debugging programs

Commands : symbol debug
Tutor chapters : Debugging

1.115 Glossary : tag

A tag is a definition for a region of memory. There are 16 tag lists. Each tag list can contain an arbitrary number of tags. One tag contains a pointer to the start of a memory block, a size in bytes and a type (Byte/Ascii, Code, Structure, ...)

Commands : addtag remtag view
Tutor chapters : Looking at things
Related terminology : tag list tag file current tag list

1.116 Glossary : tag file

A tag file contains some tags saved with the `savetags` command.

Commands : `savetags` `loadtags`
Tutor chapters : Looking at things
Related terminology : `tag` `tag list`

1.117 Glossary : tag list

See `tag`

1.118 Glossary : task accounting

When you enable task accounting (with the `account` command) PowerVisor counts the number of task switches for each task. This gives a rough indication of the cpu time a task uses. You can see this accounting information in the `task list`

Commands : `account` `list`

1.119 Glossary : Task Control Block (TCB)

The Task Control Block is another name for the task structure.

Related terminology : `TCB` `task list`

1.120 Glossary : task list

The `task list` contains all processes and tasks currently in the system.

Commands : `task list`
Tutor chapters : List Reference
Related terminology : `list`

1.121 Glossary : TCB

See Task Control Block (TCB)

1.122 Glossary : templates

A template is a syntactical description of a command. If you have the online help files installed (PowerVisor-help and PowerVisor-ctrl) you can get command templates by using '?' as the first argument (just like CLI commands)

1.123 Glossary : temporary breakpoint

A temporary breakpoint only breaks once. After the breakpoint has done its work it will automatically disappear

Commands : break trace debug
Tutor chapters : Debugging
Related terminology : breakpoints debug nodes

1.124 Glossary : timeout breakpoints

A timeout breakpoint only breaks after a specified number of times

Commands : break trace debug
Tutor chapters : Debugging
Related terminology : breakpoints debug nodes

1.125 Glossary : top-visible windows

A top-visible logical window is a logical window with the home position set to the top-left position of the bottom-left visible region of the real region of the logical window. This means that when such a window is cleared, the current cursor position is set to that position and the logical window is scrolled to the bottom visible region. The 'Main' logical window is top-visible by default. See 'real-top windows' for the other way to set the home position

Tutor chapters : Screens and windows
Related terminology : real-top windows logical windows
home position

1.126 Glossary : trace check

The 'trace check' is the check that the 'trace' command uses to determine if the tracing should be stopped. Some possible trace checks are : a register has changed, a condition is true, some counter has counted to zero, some address is reached, ...

The 'trace check' is set with the first argument after the 'trace' command. If you append a 'r', 't' or 'f' after this first argument you can control where and how often the 'trace check' should be

performed

Commands : trace
Tutor chapters : Debugging
Related terminology : singlestep mode

1.127 Glossary : variables

A variable can be used to remember some value. PowerVisor only has integer type variables (although a variable may point to a string, this is in fact a C string). There is no limitation (except memory) on the length of the variable name. A variable name must start with a letter or an underscore but may contain digits in the rest of the name.

Note that variables, constants, special variables and functions all live in the same internal list

Commands : vars remvar assign
Tutor chapters : Expressions
Related terminology : constants functions special variables