

Title: The war on general purpose computers is the war on science

Date: May 09, 2018 02:00 PM

URL: <http://pirsa.org/18050006>

Abstract: <p>The general purpose computer can run any program we can express in
symbolic logic; that makes it the go-to tool for accomplishing any task
that can be reduced to a computable function, and that's why software is
eating the world and cars and colliders and airplanes and pacemakers and
toasters are all just turning into computers in fancy cases.

That also means that every policy problem we can imagine will eventually
involve a computer -- and thus involve a lawmaker insisting that it must
be possible to make a computer that can run every program except for
some program that creates a problem in the world.

We don't know how to make that computer, but we can approximate it by
creating a computer with some spyware-like program running on it that
checks to see whether you're running a "naughty" program and shuts it down.

That's a spider we swallow to catch a fly. Here's the bird we swallow to
catch the spider: laws like Canada's C-11 make it a crime to
investigate, circumvent, or point out defects in systems that have these
spyware-like processes.

Companies have noticed that this offers some real upsides for them: they
can use these spyware-like processes to prevent users their customers
from using their own consumables (e.g. printer ink), parts, service
depots, apps -- anything that the company can command a high margin on,
provided that it's illegal for a customer to choose someone else's products.

What a deadly combination: companies are rapidly expanding the
constellation of devices that are locked in this way, and once a device
is locked in this way, it can't be investigated, its defects can't be
disclosed, and it can't be modified to improve it, mitigate its flaws,
and protects its owner from cybersecurity risk.

Peer review exists out of recognition that there is no way to know if
you're right until you let your enemies try to prove you wrong; in
creating a monopolistic right to control the use of products after they
were sold, Parliament also created the right for companies to enjoin the
most fundamental task of scientific knowledge creation: finding mistakes
and pointing them out.

This is urgent: our world is made of computers, those computers are
designed to treat their owners as their enemies, and security
researchers can't audit those computers without risking civil and
criminal reprisals. That's a catastrophe in the making.

Help keep Example.com profitable

Let these companies combine your browsing habits for 6 months with data they already have collected about you to improve their profile of you, including by inferring insights, to show you relevant advertising. (This profile may include your income bracket, age and gender, habits, social media influence, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion, political leaning, etc.).



Item 1 of 9

Next

Viewing 2 of 251 partners

Axiom GmbH

Martin Behaim Strasse 12,
63263 Neu-Isenburg,
Germany

[View details](#)

Google Ltd.

Gordon House, Barrow

[View details](#)

[Learn about your data rights here.](#)

Help keep Example.com profitable

Let these companies combine your browsing habits for 6 months with data they already have collected about you to improve their profile of you, including by inferring insights, to show you relevant advertising. (This profile may include your income bracket, age and gender, habits, social media influence, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion, political leaning, etc.).



Item 1 of 9

Next

Axiom GmbH

Martin Behaim Strasse 12,
63263 Neu-Isenburg,
Germany

Data may be processed in
the United States.

[Your Rights
& Safeguards](#)

[Back to list](#)

Data Protection Officer
Dr Sachiko Scheuing
datenschutz@axiom.com
+49 69 267090

[Contact](#)

[Learn about your data rights here.](#)



CP/M VERSION 2.2 (1.1)
(C) 1981 Digital Research, Inc.

Address
A: LOAD
A: VERIFY
A: FIP
A: PRETUP
Address B:
B: LOAD
B: VERIFY
B: FIP
B: PRETUP
Address C:
C: LOAD
C: VERIFY
C: FIP
C: PRETUP
Address D:
D: LOAD
D: VERIFY
D: FIP
D: PRETUP
END

**RUN
DMCA!**

CPA VERSION 2.2 (1.1)

© 1991 Digital Research, Inc.

First Session, Forty-first Parliament,
60-61 Elizabeth II, 2011-2012

Première session, quarante et unième législature,
60-61 Elizabeth II, 2011-2012

STATUTES OF CANADA 2012

LOIS DU CANADA (2012)

CHAPTER 20

CHAPITRE 20

to amend the Copyright

sur le droit d'auteur

A

ANNÉE

2012

C-11





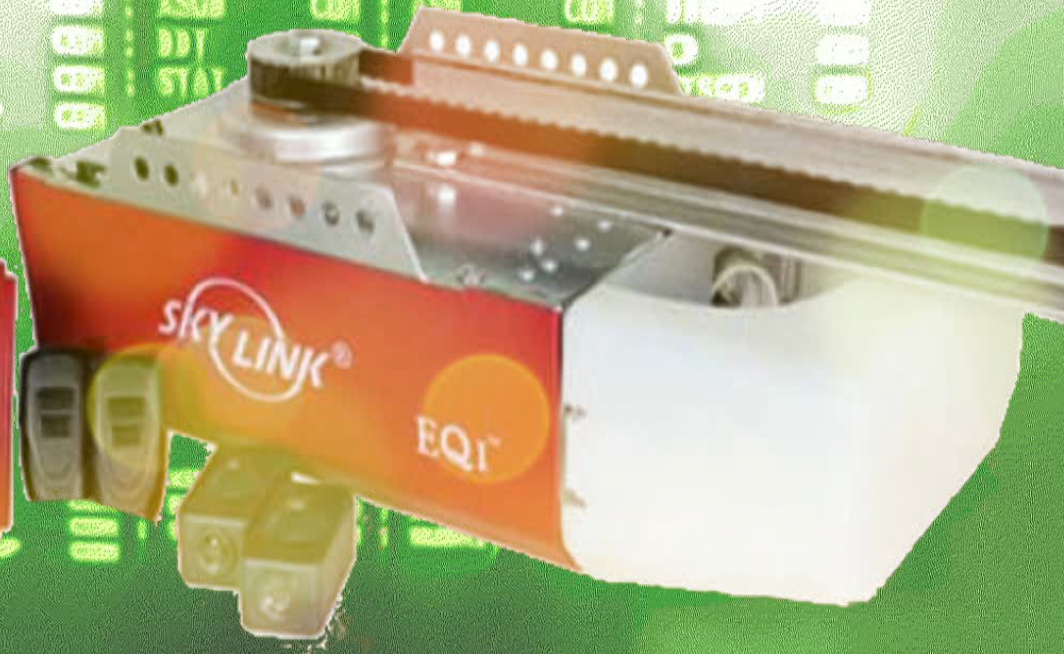
CP/II VERSION 2.2 (1.1)
(C) 1991 Digital Research, Inc.

Addr a:

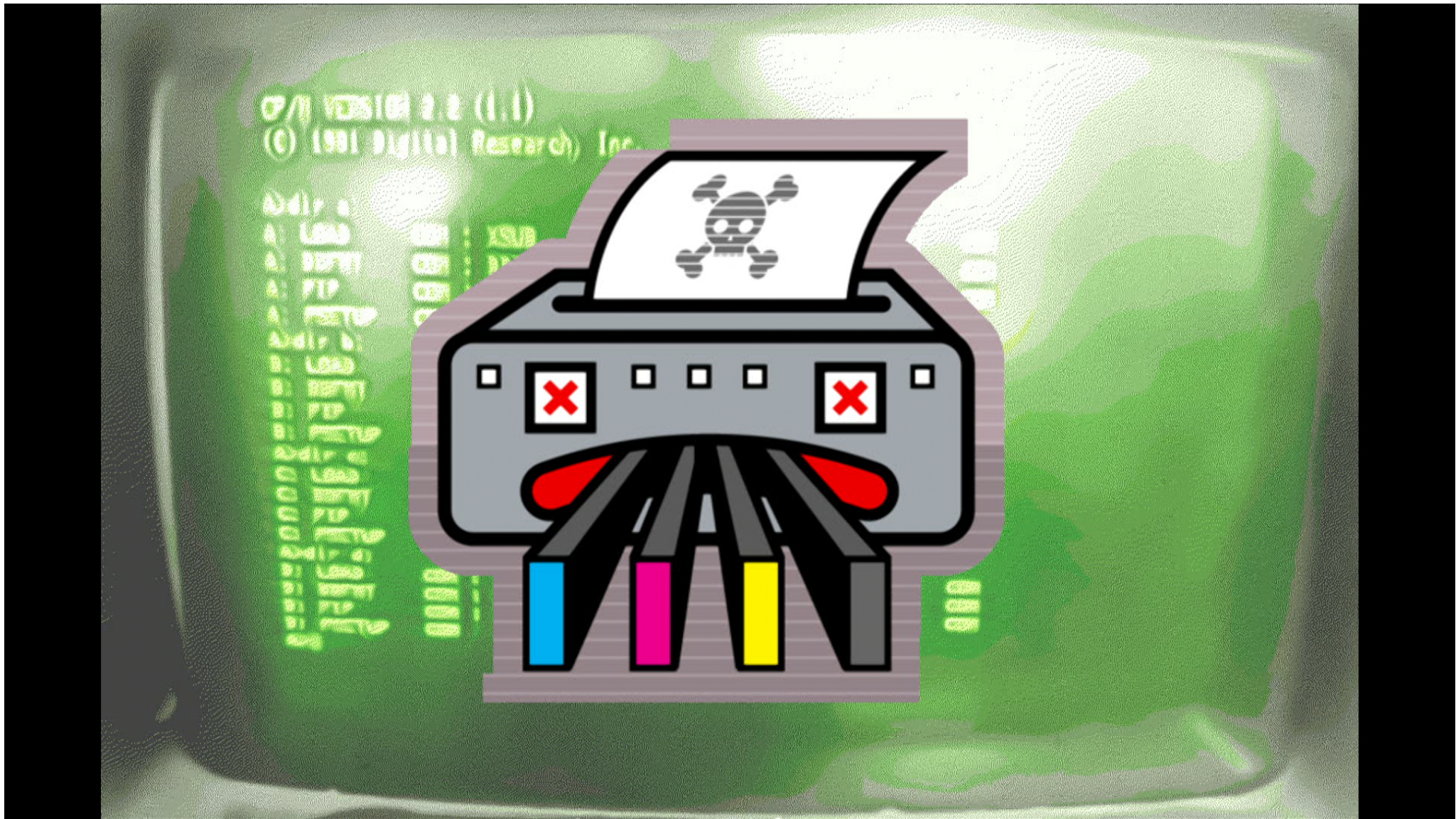
A: LOAD	CON : XSUB	CON : ASH	CON : BRANCH	CON :
A: BRANCH	CON : BDT		D	CON :
A: PTP	CON : STAT		VRG	CON :
A: PSETUP	CON :			

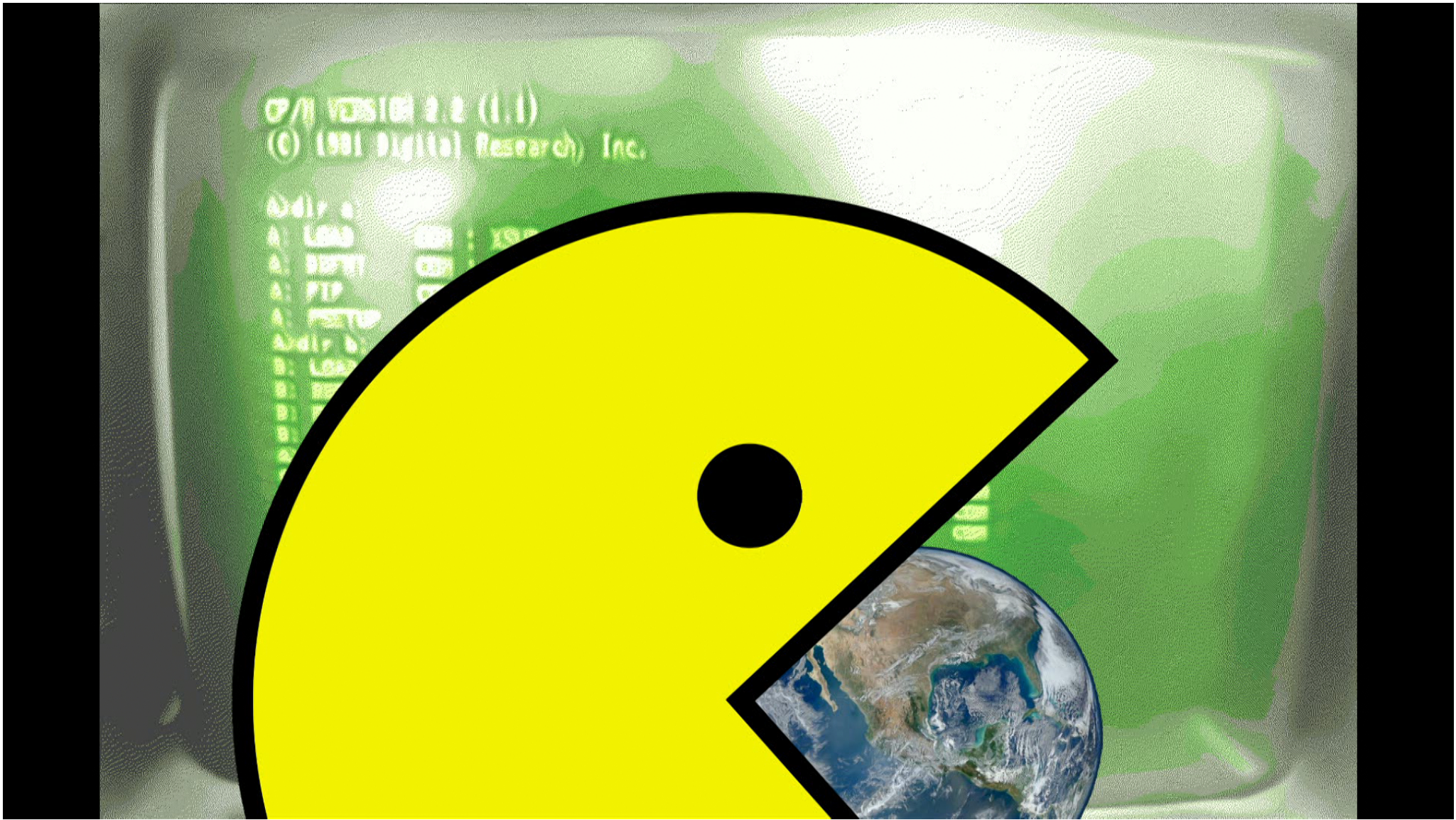
Addr b:

B: LOAD
B: BRANCH
B: PTP



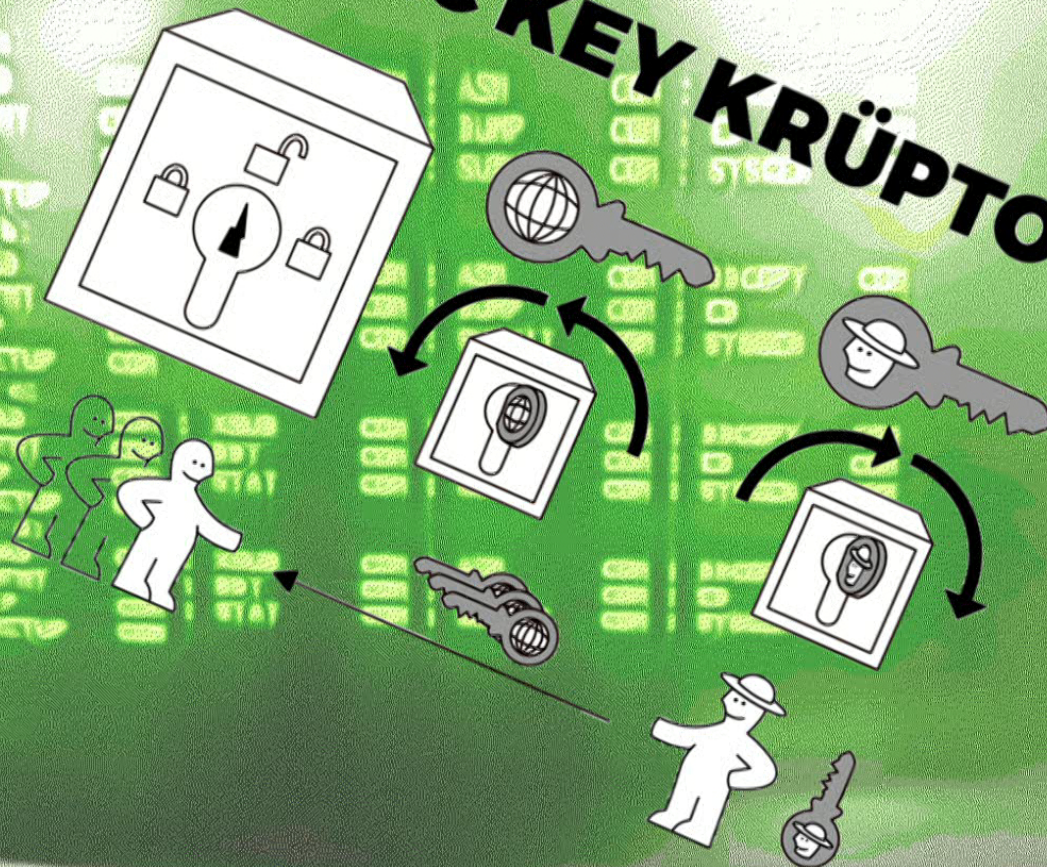








PUBLIC KEY KRÜPTO





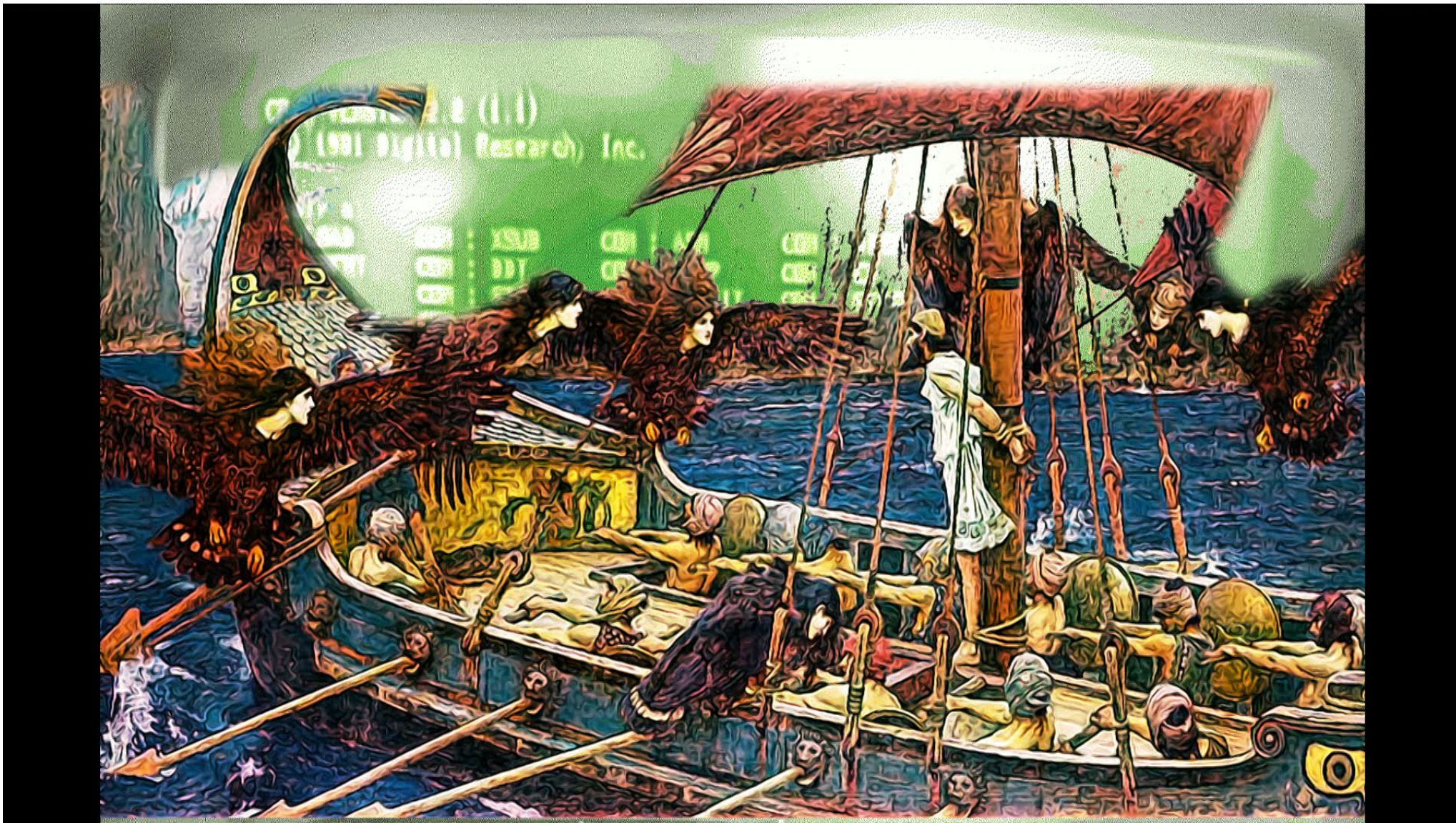












1. Devices obey their owners

2. Always lawful to disclose defects

CP/II VERSION 2.2 (1.1)

(C) 1991

Addr a:

A: LOAD

A: DISPT

A: PTP

A: PSETUP

Addr b:

B: LOAD

B: DISPT

B: PTP

B: PSETUP

Addr c:

C: LOAD

C: DISPT

C: PTP

C: PSETUP

Addr d:

D: LOAD

D: DISPT

D: PTP

D: PSETUP

Addr e:

E: LOAD

E: DISPT

E: PTP

E: PSETUP

Addr f:

F: LOAD

F: DISPT

F: PTP

F: PSETUP

