30 Years of THE

2022 International Rexx Symposium
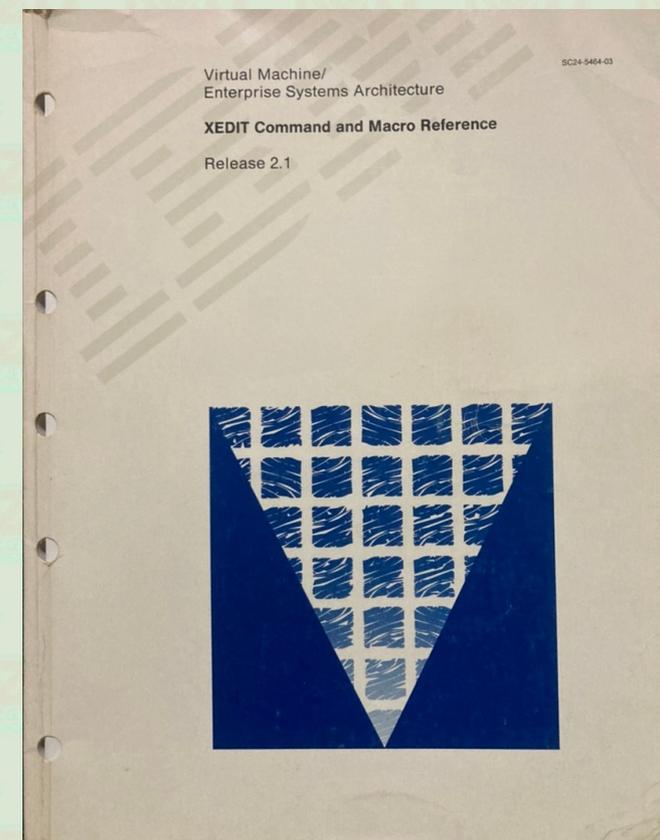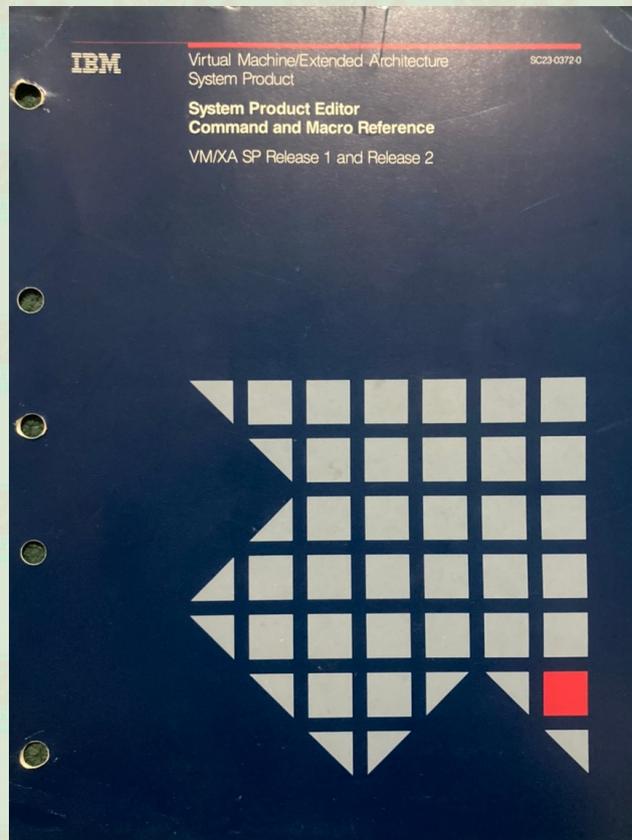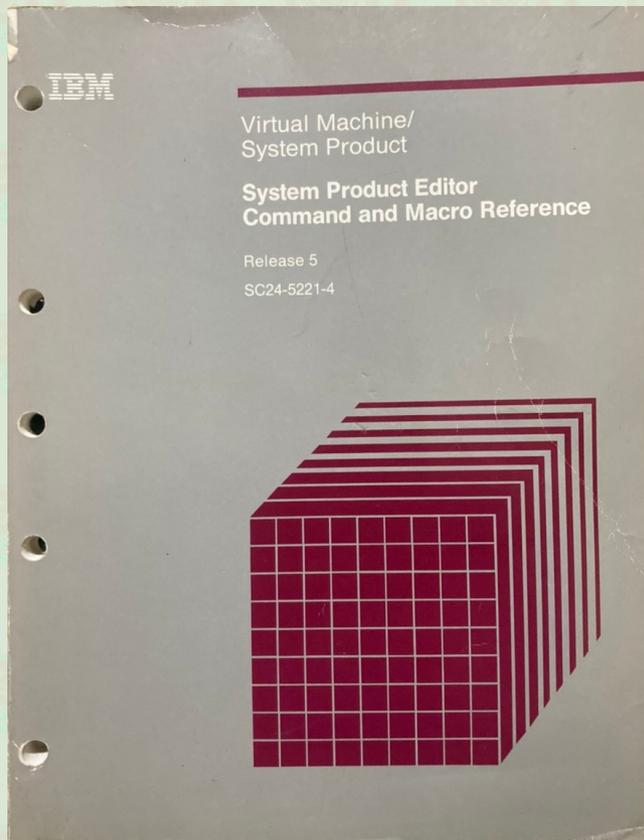## Virtual

Mark Hessling
13/14 September 2022

30 Years of THE

- Why, When, What

30 Years of THE – Why?

- In the beginning there was XEDIT - 1984-1990
- VM/SP, VM/XA SP

30 Years of THE – Why?

- Move to SunOS - 1990
  - EMACS
  - vi

30 Years of THE – Why?

- Move to SunOS - 1990
  - EMACS
  - Evil
- Decided to write my own editor based on XEDIT
  - Chose curses as UI for portability

30 Years of THE – When?

- 1990 - 1992 – Personal development
  - SunOS using BSD curses
  - DOS and OS/2 using PDCurses

30 Years of THE – When?

- 16 Aug 1992 – v1.0 – First Public release
    - DOS and OS/2 binaries: SIMTEL and comp.binaries.os2

30 Years of THE – When?

- 17 May 1993 – v1.1
  - Lots of new commands
  - First prefix commands
  - Added features from KEDIT
  - Added Rexx support on OS/2 and Unix (with Regina)

30 Years of THE – When?

- 1 Dec 1993 – v1.5
  - Lots bug fixes
  - Support ncurses under Linux
  - Rexx support under DOS (386 or above required)new commands
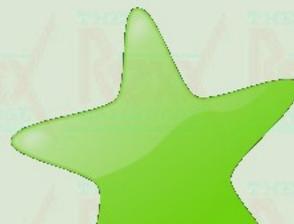 - Prefix macros can now be executed. Thanks to Dave Rittenhouse

30 Years of THE – When?

- 26 Jan 1995 – v2.0
  - Major rewrite of screen handling
  - Support AIX Extended Curses under AIX
  - Full colour support under all platforms
  - SET COMPAT to mimic default behaviour of XEDIT or KEDIT
  - ALL command added

30 Years of THE – When?

- 26 May 1996 – v2.2
  - Native X11 version (PDCurses)
    - Separate window
    - Mouse support
  - Support Rexx/imc and Rexx/6000 where available
  - More documentation

30 Years of THE – When?

- 17 Dec 1996 – v2.3
  - Native Windows version (PDCurses)
    - Separate window
    - Mouse support
  - Support Rexx/imc and Rexx/6000 where available
  - More documentation

30 Years of THE – When?

- 30 Jun 1998 – v2.5
    - Performance improvements around memory management
    - Autosave files on Linux crash suggested by Ian Collier
    - Support Object Rexx, Personal Rexx, Enterprise Rexx and uni-REXX on Win95/NT
    - Support uni-REXX on Unix
    - Shareware package THEdit released by InterSoft – 16bit native Windows

30 Years of THE – When?

- 31 Jul 1999 – v2.8
    - Clipboard support on Win32, OS/2 ad X121 ports
    - Mouse support on ncurses
    - THE ported to QNX

30 Years of THE – When?

- 16 Jan 2000 – v3.0
  - Syntax highlighting added based on Kedit

30 Years of THE – When?

- 16 Jan 2000 – v3.1
    - Support for regex in ALL and LOCATE commands
    - Single window mode in X11 to open file in existing THE window
    - Add support for Rexx/Trans
    - Additional platforms; Amiga, BeOS, AtheOS, Linux/390 and Mac OSX
    - Initial SET COMPAT ISPF

30 Years of THE – When?

- No formal release date – v3.3
    - Bug fixes and feature requests
    - Support ooRexx 4.x
    - Mac OSX native app supports drag/drop
    - Introduced a THE "launcher" which can run different UI variants
    - Mouse scroll wheel support
    - Started UTF8 support – still not complete

30 Years of THE – When?

- Coming soon – v3.4

    - Bug fixes and feature requests

    - Support ooRexx 4.x

    - Added SDL1, SDL2, VT variants

    - PDCursesMod code now included with THE source. This enables THE to be packaged

    - Added remote.the macro to enable editing files on remote servers. Requires Rexx/CURL and PKI support on remote server
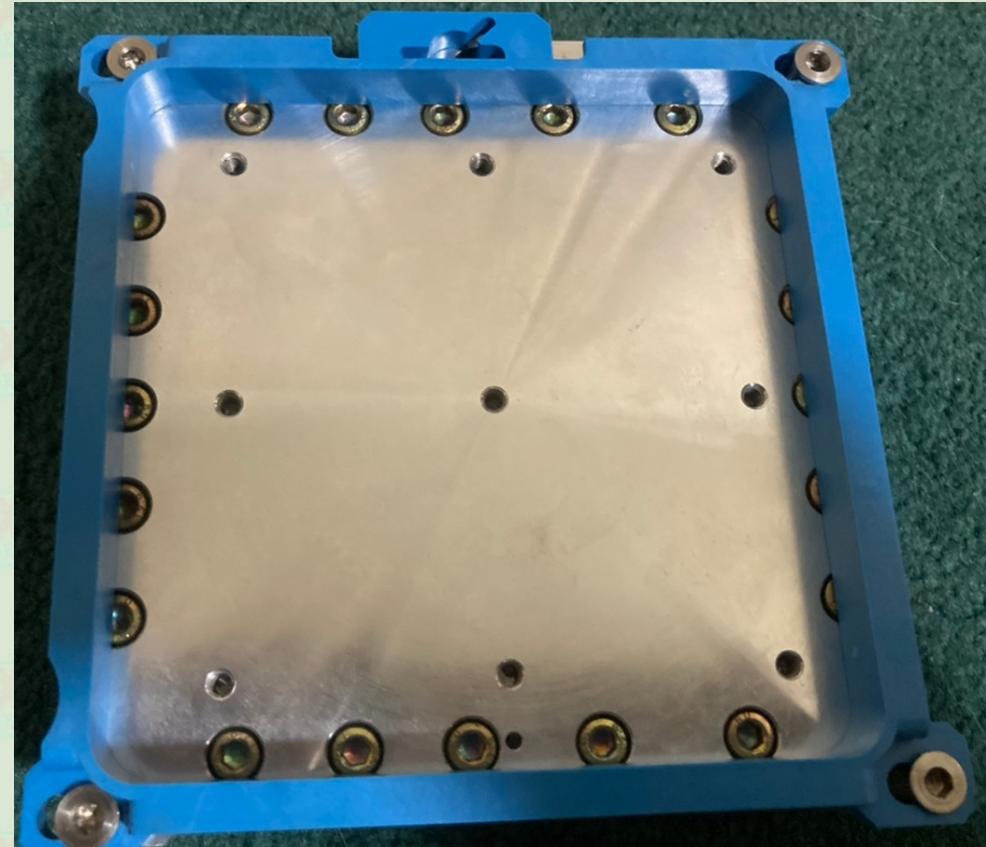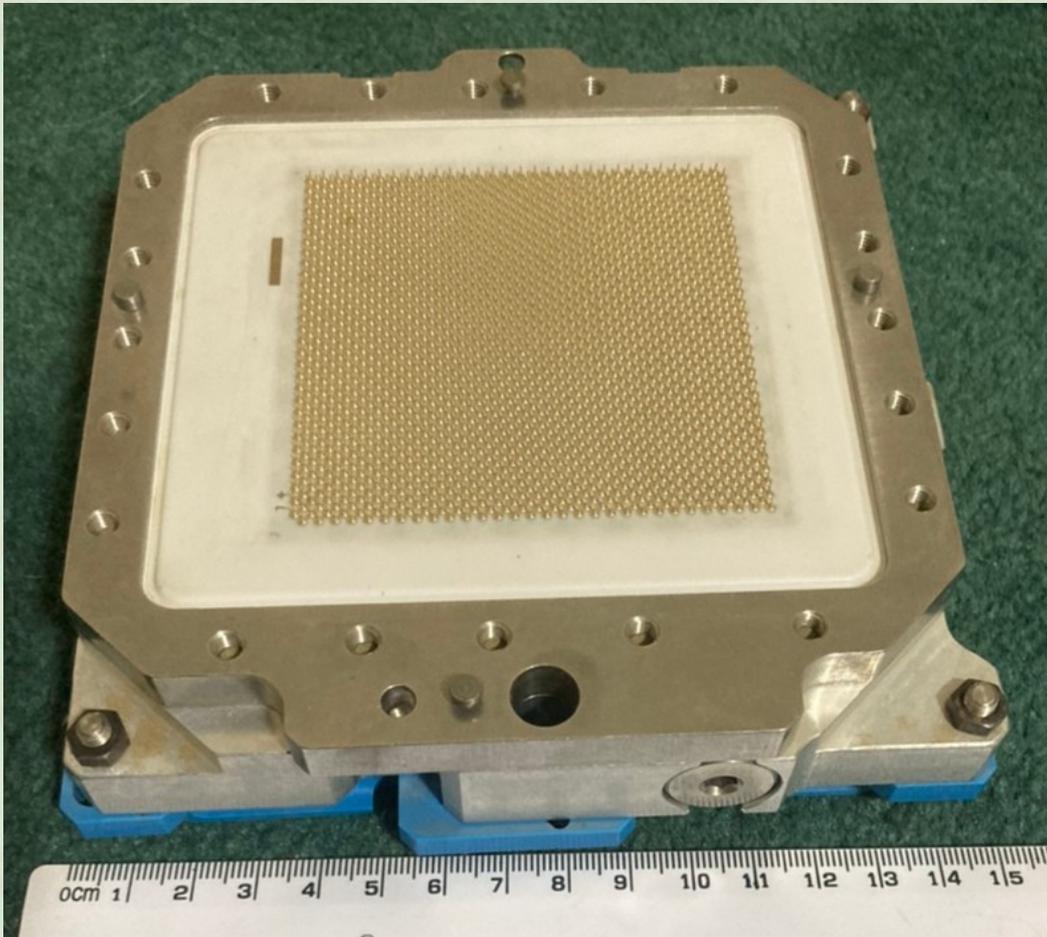
30 Years of THE – Misc

- 1992 took over maintenance of PDCurses
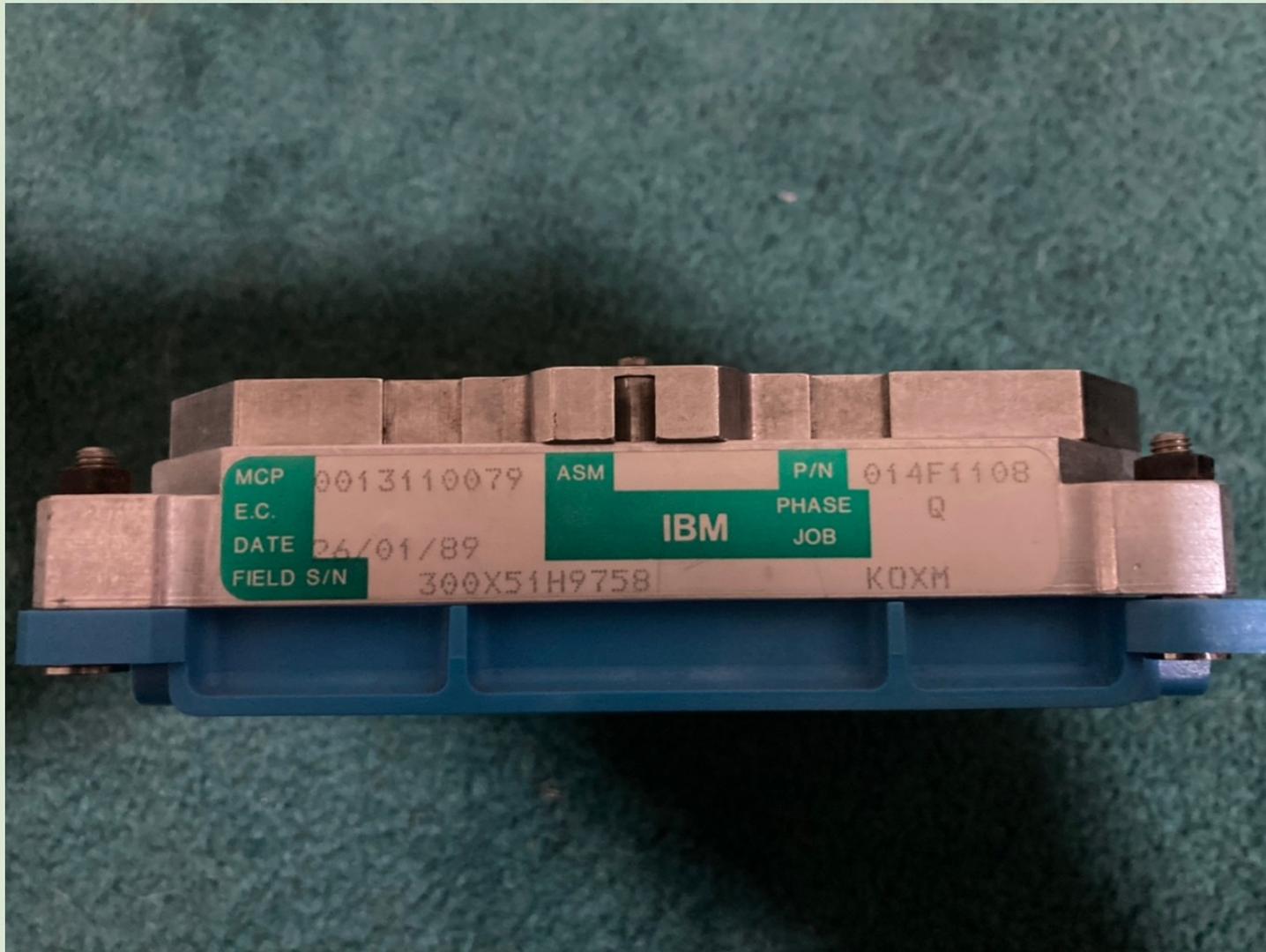- 2005 relinquished maintainer of PDCurses

30 Years of THE - Misc

- 1997 – Visit to CERN - Lucio Chiappetti
- What is this?

- Does this help?

30 Years of THE - Demo

Questions

- Are there any plans to make the handling of SET prefix in THE compatible with XEDIT? - Seymour Metz