

IBM Views on REXX

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IBM

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# REXX Excitement!

- Customer support of REXX:
  - SHARE, GUIDE, COMMON, SEAS
  - REXX Symposium, OS/2 Technical Interchange, OS/2 Technical Conference
  - REXX Language Association
- REXX books
  - 40+ REXX books and manuals
  - 9 written in last year alone
  - Most recent include:
    - ▶ *REXX Reference Summary Handbook* by D.Goran
    - ▶ *Mastering OS/2 REXX* by G.Gargiulo
    - ▶ *Application Development Using OS/2 REXX* by A.Rudd



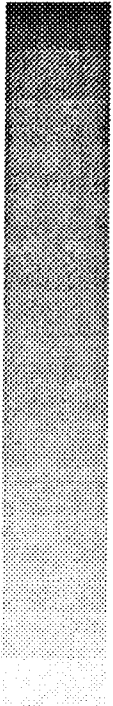
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## More REXX Excitement!

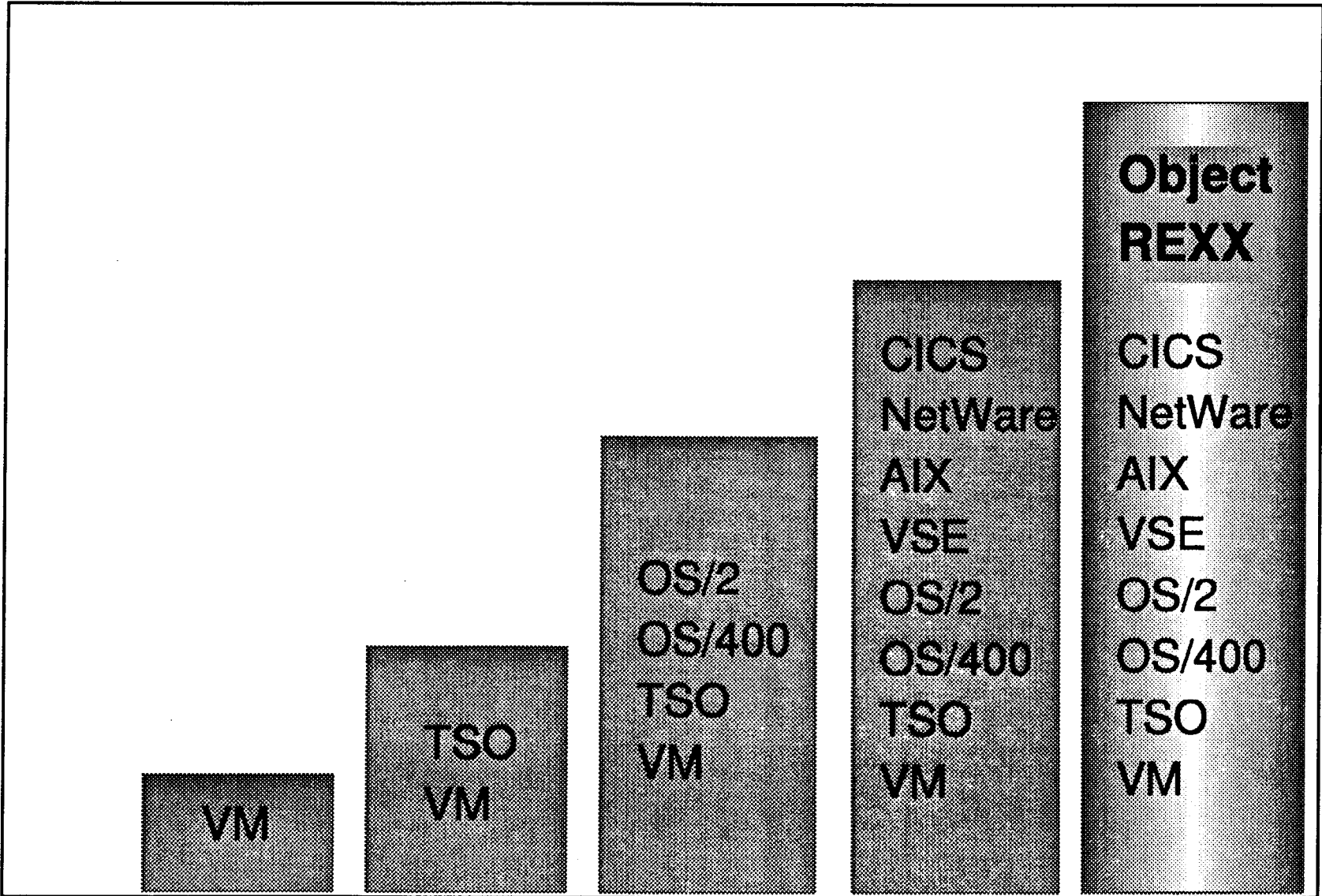
- Trade Press articles
  - 10+ articles in 1st quarter '94
  - Publications include:
    - ▶ *PC Week, Dr.Dobb's Journal, OS/2 Computing, OS/2 Professional, PC Magazine, Byte, OS/2 Monthly,...*
- Industry enthusiasm for REXX
  - ▶ *20+ implementations of REXX on many platforms*
- Visual programming with REXX
  - ▶ *VX REXX, VisProREXX, GpfREXX,...*
- ANSI Committee close to a REXX standard
- Enthusiastic response to IBM Object REXX beta program



# IBM REXX Implementations



89



1983

1988

1990-92

1993-94

1994-95

Plan



## IBM REXX on AIX and NetWare

- IBM AIX REXX/6000 (5764-057)
  - Available 12/93
  - Port of IBM's OS/2 REXX kernel to the AIX platform (3.2.5 release and up)
  - "AS-IS" release
- IBM REXX for NetWare (5764-075)
  - Available 3/94
  - Port of IBM's OS/2 REXX kernel to Novell's NetWare platform (3.11, 3.12, or 4.0 releases)
  - "AS-IS" release



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## IBM CICS and VSE REXX

- IBM REXX for CICS/ESA (5655-086 Development System, 5655-087 Runtime Facility)
  - Available 4/94
  - Port of IBM's TSO/E REXX kernel to CICS/ESA (3.2.1 or 3.3 releases)
  - Development System:
    - ▶ *Editor, File System, Panel interface*
- IBM REXX/VSE (5686-058)
  - Available 9/93
  - Port of IBM's TSO/E REXX kernel to VSE/ESA
  - Supports both compiled and interpreted REXX programs



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## REXX Future Directions

- Wide range of platforms
- Apply new technology:
  - ▶ *Object Oriented programming (SOM, DSOM, etc)*
  - ▶ *Visual Programming tools*
  - ▶ *OpenDoc*
- Develop REXX function packages to expand presence:
  - Communications, MultiMedia, Database,...
- Encourage use of REXX as the "application extender"
- Improve documentation
  - ▶ *Primer/on-line tutorial*
  - ▶ *Books, books and more books*
- Expand user base
  - ▶ *Students, non-"glass house" and OS/2 users*



# The Open Scripting Language



Coming to  
a system  
near you!

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