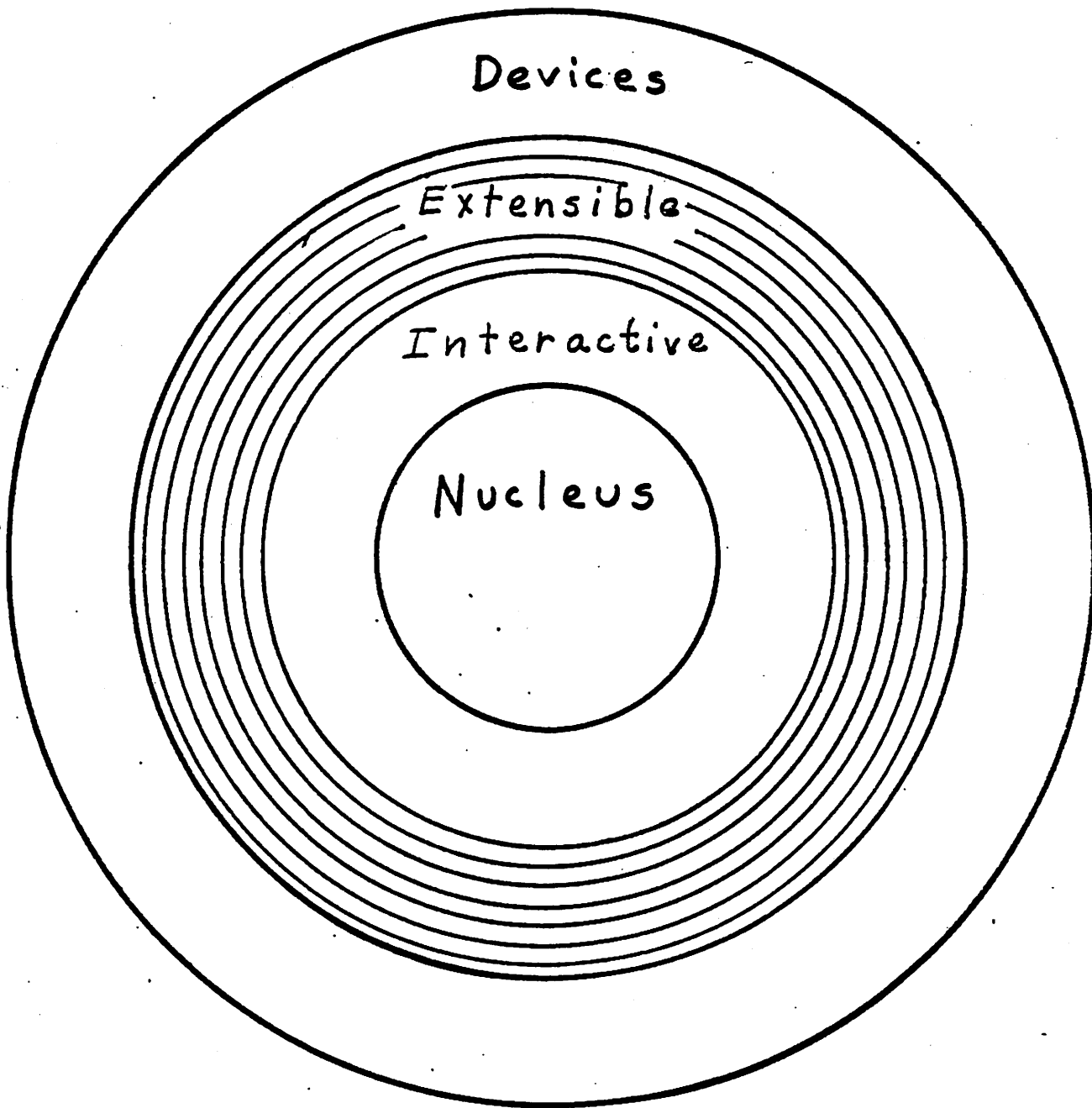
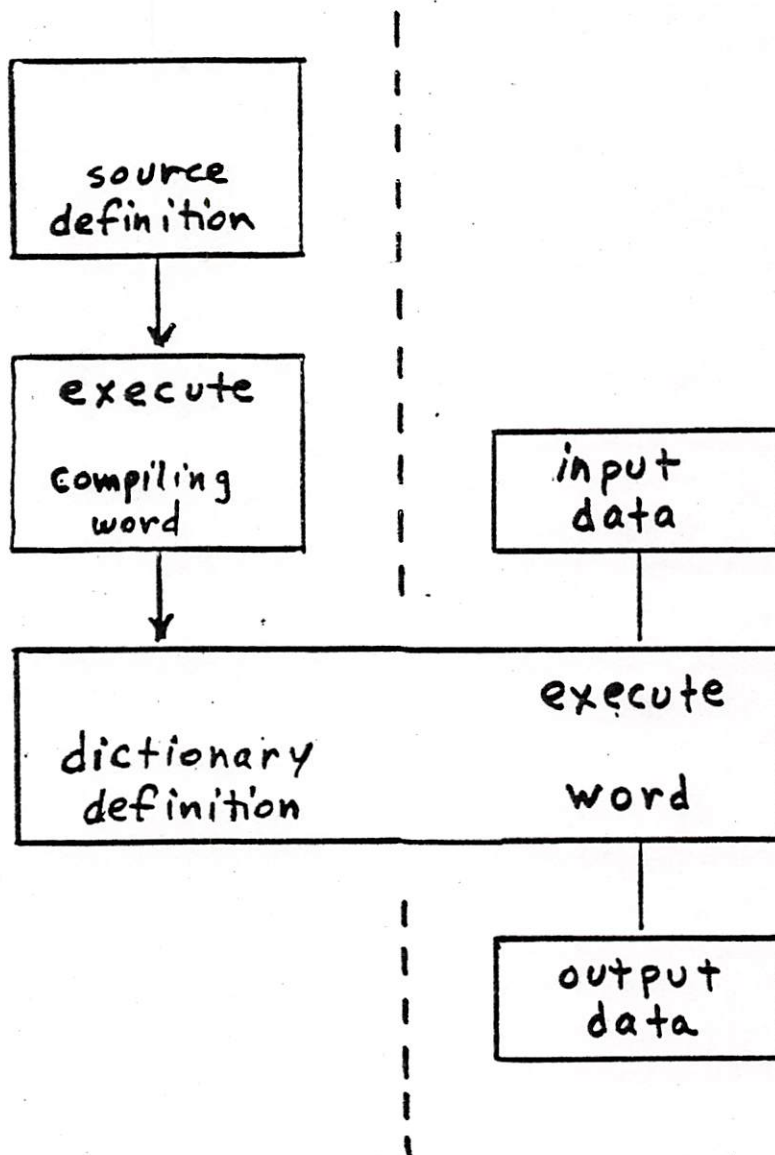


# FORTH COMPILER

Application  
Layers



# USING COMPILING WORDS



# USING COMPILING WORDS

Time Sequence:

①

compiling word source definition



execute existing compiler



compiling word dictionary definition

②

source definition



execute new compiling word



dictionary definition

③

when get into METAFORTH, get 3 copies of this, & 3 spatial "periods"

input data



execute word



output data

also defining words like BUILDS DOES occur here

Compile a new compiling word.

↓ e.g. IF, comma

Execute the new compiling word; Compile a new word.

Execute the new word.

During compilation,

"normal words" are compiled by storing each code field address in the next cell of the dictionary. CFA

"compiling words" are executed at compile-time. The contents of the dictionary may or may not be affected.

Compiling words are defined using any defining word (eg, : VOCABULARY) then use the word IMMEDIATE following the definition. This sets the Precedence bit of the previously defined word in its dictionary definition.

Some compiling words may be used only within : definitions; others may be used either inside or out.

Example:

### VOCABULARY FILES

defines a non-immediate word.

Using FILES outside of a : definition, causes it to be executed, switching the accessible vocabulary.

Using it inside a : definition, as in

: ENTER FILES get put ;

causes FILES to be compiled in the definition of ENTER. No vocabulary access is affected.

When ENTER is executed, FILES will be executed, switching vocabularies.

## VOCABULARY FILES IMMEDIATE

defines a compiling word.

Using FILES outside a : definition  
is the same as the non-immediate version.

However, using FILES inside a : definition  
causes vocabularies to be switched during  
compilation.

: ENTER FILES get put ;

The words get and put must be

in the FILES vocabulary.

This version of FILES is an example of an  
IMMEDIATE word which has a valid use  
both inside and outside a : definition.

# Selecting compilation or text interpretation:

[ terminates compilation      STATE @  
 begins text interpretation      = 0

] terminates interpretation      STATE @  
 begins compilation              ≠ 0

Used internally within : and ; to  
 start and stop compiling.

May also be used for compile-time  
 arithmetic and other operations  
 within a : definition.

Note: this had to be an IMMEDIATE word!

Is not an immediate word

## The compilation of literal values:

a literal is a numeric character string

example: 123

While interpreting, a literal is converted to binary value and pushed onto the data stack.

When encountered inside a `:` definition, a literal may be converted to its binary value, but the pushing of the value onto the stack must be deferred until the definition is executed.

`: def ~ 123 ~ ;`  
is compiled as

dictionary	addr code field	binary value	...
	LIT	123	
	2 bytes	2 bytes	

↑ when executed, pushes the contents of the cell following (in the dictionary) onto the data stack.



# Performing compile-time arithmetic (and other compile-time operations):

The expression  $1024 / 16$   
has a constant value. The definition  
: slow  $\sim 1024 / 16 \sim$  ;  
will perform the divide when the definition  
is executed and will take up 10 bytes of  
dictionary space.

If instead, the following definition is used,

: fast  $\sim [ 1024 / 16 ]$  LITERAL  
 $\sim$  ;

the divide is done when 'fast' is compiled,  
and only 6 bytes of space is used.

Dictionary definition of 'fast' :

...	addr LIT	cf	binary value 64	...
-----	-------------	----	--------------------	-----

At interpretation - time,

▼ DUP

pushes the parameter field address of DUP onto the stack.

Using the same phrase in a : definition,

: ADR-DUP ▼ DUP ;

results in the address of DUP being compiled. When ADR-DUP is executed, the parameter field address of DUP is pushed onto the stack.

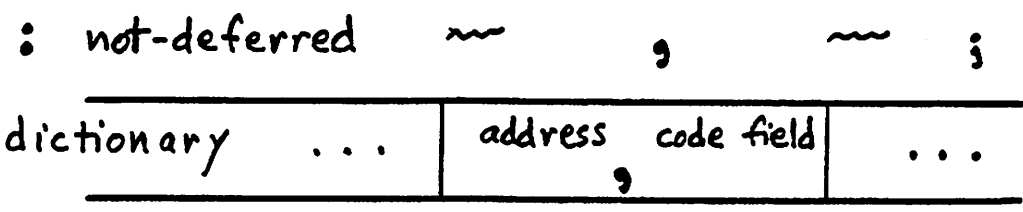
In fig-FORTH ▼ is an IMMEDIATE word.

TTCIC is an "intelligent" word — not in POLYFORTH  
there's a controversy —  
idea came from Europeans

# Deferred compilation:

A non-immediate word in a definition is compiled when it is encountered (ie, not deferred).

②

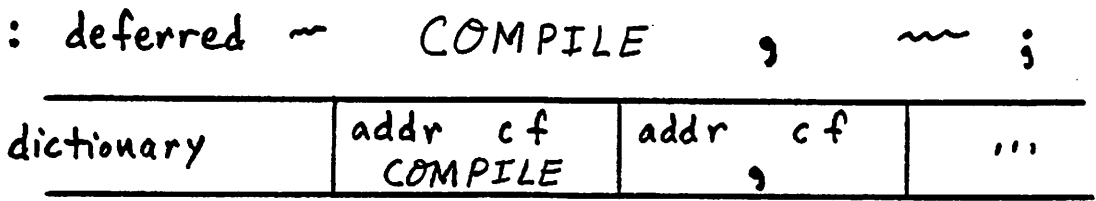


③

When this definition is executed, , is executed resulting in the top of the stack to the dictionary.

A compiling word may need to force a word to be compiled when the compiling word is executed.

①



When this definition is executed, COMPILE is executed. This takes the 46 bit value which follows in the definition being executed and compiles that value into the dictionary.

This technique cannot be used to compile an IMMEDIATE word.

Because the 'immediate' word would execute anyway

### Examples:

when bit is ON  
word is smudged  
turns off  
compiler

```
: ; ?CSP      COMPILE ;S      SMUDGE [ ;  
IMMEDIATE
```

None of the words within the definition of ; are IMMEDIATE, so each is compiled normally.

When ; is executed, the compile-time stack size is checked by ?CSP,

;S is compiled into the definition which is being compiled when ; is executed (at sequence 2)

SMUDGE makes the sequence 2 word name findable, and

[ terminates compilation.

### : LITERAL STATE @ IF

```
COMPILE LIT , THEN ; IMMEDIATE
```

None of the words within the definition are IMMEDIATE, so each is compiled normally.

When LITERAL is executed from within a : definition, the code field address of LIT is compiled into the sequence 2 definition,

then the top of the stack (at sequence 2 compile-time) is compiled following LIT.

When LITERAL is executed outside of a : definition, it does nothing.

# Compiling IMMEDIATE words:

Compiling words sometimes need to force the compilation of IMMEDIATE words.

For example, the word  $\blacktriangledown$  is IMMEDIATE in fig-FORTH. Words like FORGET must perform a dictionary search at interpret-time.

This could be done by switching to interpret state within the definition of FORGET, as in

```

: FORGET ~ [  $\blacktriangledown$   $\blacktriangledown$  ] LITERAL ~ ;

```

Annotations for the code block above:

- exit compiling (arrow pointing to the opening '[')
- get PPA of 'TICK' (arrow pointing to the first  $\blacktriangledown$ )
- reenter compiling (arrow pointing to the closing ']')
- CFA (in FIG Forth) (arrow pointing to the second  $\blacktriangledown$ )

This function is performed by [COMPILE]

which forces the compilation of the word following it in a : definition, even if that word is IMMEDIATE.

```

: FORGET ~ [COMPILE]  $\blacktriangledown$  ~ ;

```

Diagram illustrating the effect of [COMPILE]:

dictionary	...	addr code field	...
------------	-----	-----------------	-----

An arrow points from the [COMPILE] word in the code block above to the 'addr code field' in the table above. A small  $\blacktriangledown$  symbol is placed below the 'addr code field'.

- forces immediate compilation

# CONTROL STRUCTURES:

The control structures IF THEN, BEGIN UNTIL, and all others are built from two branch primitives:

## Unconditional branch:

dictionary ...	addr of BRANCH	branch address	...
----------------	-------------------	-------------------	-----

When executed, BRANCH causes the next word to be executed to be the word in the dictionary at the branch address.

Depending on the implementation of the address interpreter, the branch may be

absolute

then the branch addr is a 2 byte absolute machine address.

or

When the branch is executed, this address is stored in FORTH's Interpreter Pointer.

relative

then the branch addr is either a 1 or 2 byte signed value which is added to the contents of the Interpreter Pointer when the branch is executed.

## Conditional branch:

dictionary	addr of OBRANCH	branch address	...
------------	--------------------	-------------------	-----

When executed, OBRANCH  
pops the top of the data stack,

if it is  $\neq 0$  (~~true~~) then performs  
the branch (same as unconditional  
branch)

otherwise (~~false~~) skips over  
branch addr and executes the  
word following in the dictionary.

## Calculating branch addresses:

The : compiler uses the data stack  
during compile-time to compute the  
branch addresses. This permits indefinite  
nesting of control structures.

HERE returns the address of the  
next available location in the dictionary.

Example: 2 byte relative branch addresses

: BEGIN HERE ; IMMEDIATE

: UNTIL COMPILE OBRANCH HERE - ; ;  
 IMMEDIATE

calculate backward branch

... BEGIN S1 O= UNTIL S2 ...

BEGIN-HERE



: IF COMPILE OBRANCH HERE 0 ; IMMEDIATE

: THEN HERE OVER - SWAP ! ; IMMEDIATE  
 calculate forward branch

... IF S1 S2 THEN S3 ...

IF-HERE





Example: 2 byte relative branch addresses

: BEGIN HERE ; IMMEDIATE

: UNTIL COMPILE OBRANCH HERE - ; ;  
IMMEDIATE

calculate backward branch

... BEGIN S1 O= UNTIL S2 ...

UNTIL-HERE

BEGIN-HERE



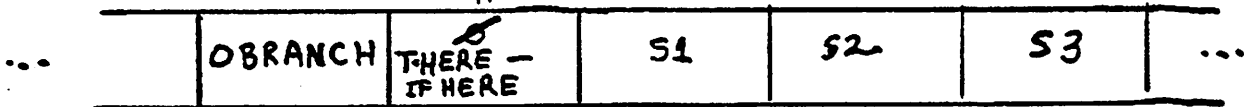
: IF COMPILE OBRANCH HERE O ; ; IMMEDIATE

: THEN HERE OVER - SWAP ! ; IMMEDIATE  
calculate forward branch

... IF S1 S2 THEN S3 ...

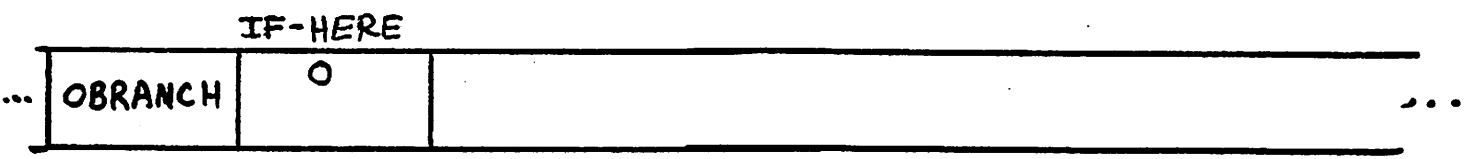
THEN-HERE

IF-HERE



: ELSE COMPILE BRANCH HERE 0 ,  
SWAP [COMPILE] THEN ; IMMEDIATE

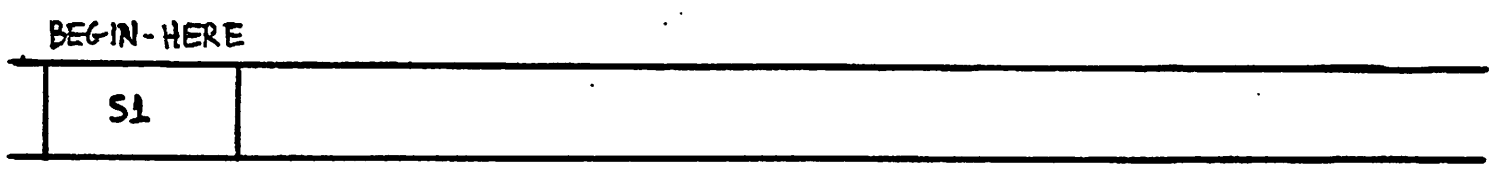
... IF S1 ELSE S2 THEN S3 ...



: WHILE [COMPILE] IF ; IMMEDIATE

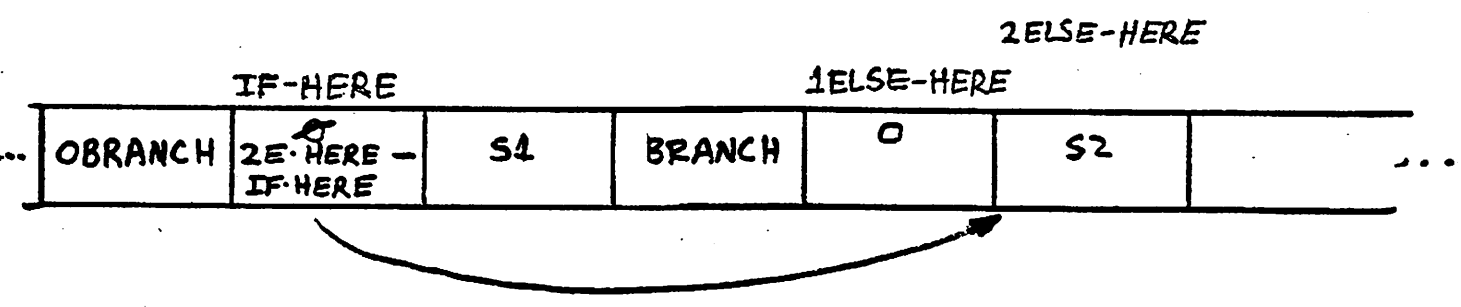
: REPEAT >R COMPILE BRANCH HERE - ,  
R> [COMPILE] THEN ; IMMEDIATE

... BEGIN S1 WHILE S2 REPEAT S3 ...



: ELSE COMPILE BRANCH HERE 0 ,  
 SWAP [COMPILE] THEN ; IMMEDIATE

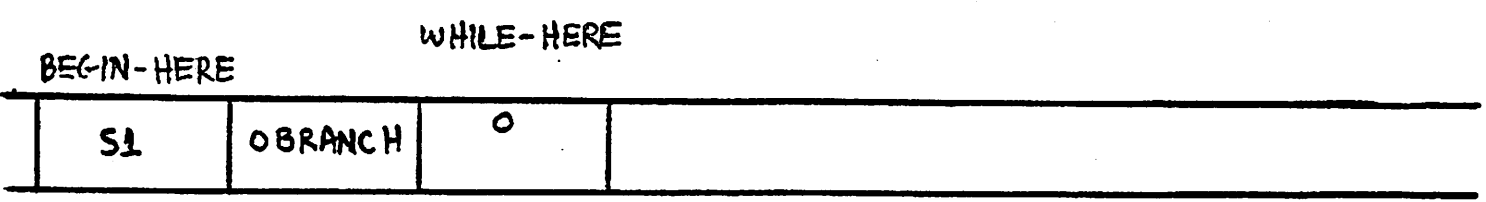
... IF S1 ELSE S2 THEN S3 ...



: WHILE [COMPILE] IF ; IMMEDIATE

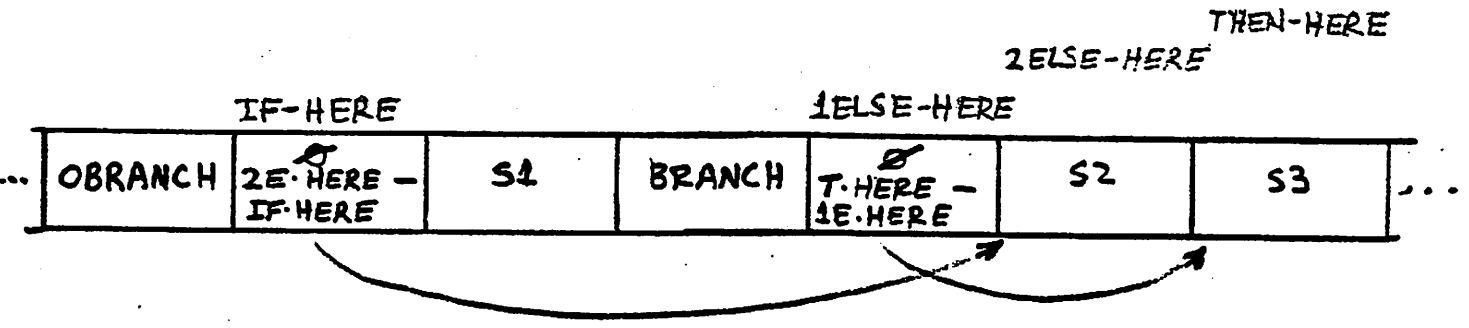
: REPEAT >R COMPILE BRANCH HERE - ,  
 R> [COMPILE] THEN ; IMMEDIATE

... BEGIN S1 WHILE S2 REPEAT S3 ...



: ELSE COMPILE BRANCH HERE 0 ,  
SWAP [COMPILE] THEN ; IMMEDIATE

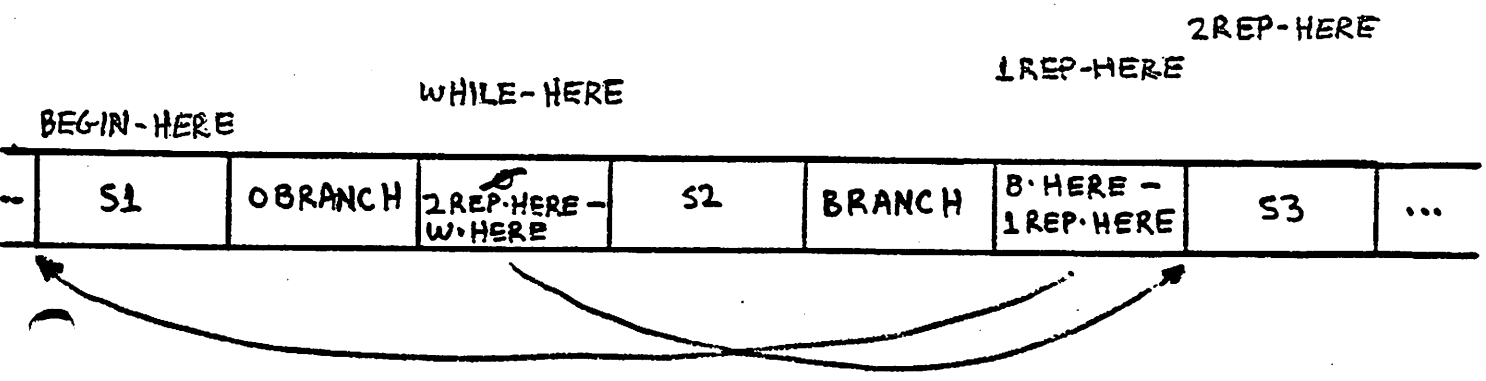
... IF S1 ELSE S2 THEN S3 ...



: WHILE [COMPILE] IF ; IMMEDIATE

: REPEAT >R COMPILE BRANCH HERE - ,  
R> [COMPILE] THEN ; IMMEDIATE

... BEGIN S1 WHILE S2 REPEAT S3 ...



```

0 ( figFORTH control structure compiling word definitions )
1 ( no compiler security )
2 : (-BRANCH HERE - , ; ( BACK in Installation Manual )
3 : ->BRANCH HERE OVER - SWAP ! ;
4
5 : IF COMPILE OBRANCH HERE 0 , ; IMMEDIATE
6 : THEN ->BRANCH ; IMMEDIATE
7 : ELSE COMPILE BRANCH HERE 0 ,
8 SWAP [COMPILE] THEN ; IMMEDIATE
9
10 : BEGIN HERE ; IMMEDIATE
11 : UNTIL COMPILE OBRANCH (-BRANCH ; IMMEDIATE
12 : AGAIN COMPILE BRANCH (-BRANCH ; IMMEDIATE
13 : WHILE [COMPILE] IF ; IMMEDIATE
14 : REPEAT >R COMPILE BRANCH (-BRANCH
15 R) [COMPILE] THEN ; IMMEDIATE
OK

```

```

0 ( figFORTH compiling words, part 2 )
1
2 : DO COMPILE (DO) HERE ; IMMEDIATE
3 : LOOP COMPILE (LOOP) (-BRANCH ; IMMEDIATE
4 : +LOOP COMPILE (+LOOP) (-BRANCH ; IMMEDIATE
5

```

```

0 ( figFORTH control structure compiling words, part 3 )
1 ( redefinitions to add compiler security )
2 : IF ?COMP [COMPILE] IF 2 ; IMMEDIATE
3 : THEN ?COMP 2 ?PAIRS [COMPILE] THEN ; IMMEDIATE
4 : ELSE ?COMP 2 ?PAIRS COMPILE BRANCH HERE 0 ,
5 SWAP 2 [COMPILE] THEN 2 ; IMMEDIATE
6 : BEGIN ?COMP [COMPILE] BEGIN 1 ; IMMEDIATE
7 : UNTIL ?COMP 1 ?PAIRS [COMPILE] UNTIL ; IMMEDIATE
8 : AGAIN ?COMP 1 ?PAIRS [COMPILE] AGAIN ; IMMEDIATE
9 : WHILE ?COMP [COMPILE] IF 2+ ; IMMEDIATE
10 : REPEAT ?COMP >R >R [COMPILE] AGAIN
11 R) R) 2 - [COMPILE] THEN ; IMMEDIATE
12 : DO ?COMP [COMPILE] DO 3 ; IMMEDIATE
13 : LOOP ?COMP 3 ?PAIRS [COMPILE] LOOP ; IMMEDIATE
14 : +LOOP ?COMP 3 ?PAIRS [COMPILE] +LOOP ; IMMEDIATE
15

```

# fig-FORTH Compiler Security

detects and aborts on most errors involving control structures:

missing parts of a control structure,  
incorrect nesting,  
use of compiling words outside a : def.

## Security words:

**?EXEC** if executed in EXECution state  
(ie, text interpretation state)  
then does nothing  
otherwise, an ABORT is executed.

**?COMP** opposite above, aborts if not  
executed while compiling.

**!CSP** stores contents of SP in user  
variable CSP

**?CSP** aborts if contents of SP  $\neq$   
contents of CSP

**?PAIRS** aborts if top two stack values  
are NOT equal

# Use of security words in compiling words:

compiling word	security action			
:	?EXEC	!CSP		
:	?CSP			
BEGIN	1			
UNTIL	1	?PAIRS		
IF	2			
ELSE	2	?PAIRS	2	
THEN	2	?PAIRS		
DO	3			
{ LOOP }	3	?PAIRS		
{ +LOOP }				
BEGIN	1			
WHILE	4			
REPEAT	1	?PAIRS	2 -	2 ?PAIRS