

Welcome to the TD8E plugin for Douglas W. Jones's pdp8 emulator (excerpt)

This TD8E plugin simulates up to four TD8E simple DECTape controllers with up to four dual TU56 DECTape units.

This simulation is NOT perfect and far away from being an emulation. But it is complete enough to boot OS/8 from a TD8E boot tape (tested with OS/8 V3B and V3D).

This new version supports two different file formats:

- DJG: David Gesswein's high level format (HLS) for using the OS/8 tape files (129 words per block) of many internet sites.
- PxG: My low level format (LLS) which supports additional simulation features like formatting a tape in different formats (only OS/8 format tested yet). With this file format the simulator should even pass some of the diagnostic routines. (Not tested yet. :-( )

The different formats are distinguished by the presence of a four byte header "tu56". If it is there it is a PxG or LLS format tape. Otherwise it is assumed to be in DJG or HLS format.

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Where to find more TD8E images?

Look at David Gessweins pdp8 homepage  
<http://www.pdp8.net>

Where to find more information about pdp8 emulators?

Look at Douglas Jones homepage  
<http://www.cs.uiowa.edu/~jones/pdp8>

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- \* DJG: compatible with DECTape images (129 words/block) from David Gessweins pdp8 page.
  - \*\* PxG: more like the files of the other simulator devices, but not in conformance with Douglas Jones's DECTape format.  
DWJ sets the mark track in the two most significant bits of a byte. The remaining 6 bits are the corresponding data bits of two lines.  
My format (PxG) keeps the mark track as the most significant bit of a nibble. The three lower bits are the corresponding data bits of this line.  
Then two lines are packed into one byte.