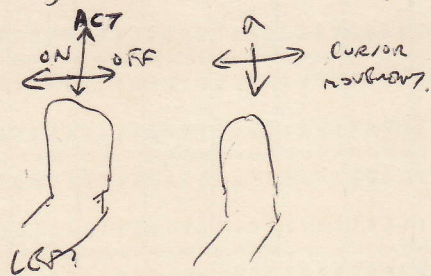


THE RATBAG

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1983 June 23

The screen 'mouse' is very useful, but does occupy a hand. If used in conjunction with a keyboard, keyboard work is interrupted.

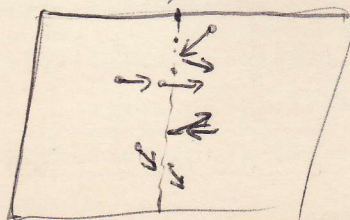


Keyboard operators could find good use for a pair of foot-controllers 'mice' - these could be bags into which the shoes were placed. The right foot could control cursor movements directly (up/down, l/r), the left could switch the right hand ratbag on, and perform actions highlighted by the cursor.

COMPUTER MOTION / MOTORS

1983-5-17

Is there some microscopic phenomenon, eg Brownian motion, which can be captured at the micro level to produce a new sort of motor? Say, a membrane which could pass molecules travelling in ~~a~~ ^{a given} direction, but not those in another? The



essence being that control is exerted at, say, the molecular level - rather coarser than the electronic level needed to provide the control.

SHELLING WITH LIQUID NITROGEN

1983-4-22

To shell nuts, it may be efficacious to dip them in liquid nitrogen, etc, to render the shells very brittle - they should shatter off easily then. May be particularly good with wetter shells as in chestnuts.