

THE LOGIC OF DECISION TABLES AND
THEIR APPLICATIONS

BY

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this thesis is to present an in depth study of Decision Tables. The study includes both, the investigation of the logical structure and the nature of decision tables, as well as the practical application of conversion procedures for electronic data processing (EDP).

In the first part of this thesis a detailed mathematical description in terms of matrices, and the characterization of decision tables are introduced. Based upon these basic rules operations are defined and used for the precise investigation of ambiguity and completeness of decision tables. The problems associated with splitting and merging the decision tables are discussed with the aid of different types of links. Finally, different relations between decision tables are defined, and based upon them algorithms for minimization of different types of decision tables are included.

In the second part, a survey with detailed analysis of existing conversion procedures and algorithms is presented. This part also includes testing and diagnostic procedures with some powerful extensions.

The final part suggests an approach for implementing a decision table pre-compiler. The thesis is concluded by an attempt to design a comprehensive example that indicates the power and advantages of a good decision table pre-compiler.

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CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION

The recent development of third generation hardware in the computers field and the increasing cost of the software necessary to support it has lead different scientists and mathematicians to design automated ways of software generation such as compiler generators. With the exception of report program generators (RPG'S) and sort program generators no real attempt was made to automate the generation of application programs, which could lead to the elimination (to some extent) of the costly job of the programmer. One possible approach for automation of user's program generation is decision tables.

The purpose of this thesis is to present an in-depth study of the logical structure of decision tables as well as the practical application of possible automated conversion procedures.

Decision tables, as such, represent an organized method for choosing a course of action upon the satisfaction of a set of specified conditions. The early use of decision tables was only as a systems analysis tool. With the advent of more advanced conversion techniques for converting decision tables into computer programs, today they are becoming an accepted tool for writing complex computer programs both in commercial and scientific applications. The main advantages of the use of decision tables are :

1. Direct communication language between the system analyst and the computer.
2. High level, computer independent, programming language.

3. An advanced systems analysis and design tool.
4. Enforces a clear problem statement and shows where information is ambiguous or missing.
5. Provides a precise means of communication among functional personnel.
6. Provides an effective means of documentation and eliminates much unnecessary verbal description which can be easily misinterpreted.
7. Encourages modularity of programs.
8. Enables visualization of complex situations.
9. An easily learned technique.
10. Decision tables are problem-oriented design methods rather than machine-oriented.
11. Reduces significantly the amount of technical knowledge of the computer required by the systems designer.
12. Provides easier maintenance of a system.

Presently, there are available a large number of conversion processors for the automatic conversion of decision tables into computer programs. With the acceptance of these automated conversion techniques, the precise definition and characterization of decision tables is of vital importance. This is required to avoid ambiguity between the intended logic in the decision table and the corresponding computer program.

This thesis is divided into four parts:

1. Definition and characteristics of decision tables.

2. Manipulation of, and relations between decision tables.
3. A survey of existing conversion methods and algorithms.
4. A suggested decision table pre-compiler.

In the first part a generalized definition of decision tables, that provides consistent nomenclature and classification, is introduced. This is done in a matrix format which is adaptable to mathematical treatment. Exact definitions for decision tables with unrelated conditions as well as with related conditions, in terms of ambiguity and completeness, are presented. These definitions are in terms of the above defined matrix, and thus lend themselves to mathematical treatment. Furthermore, this part includes the fundamentals required for the mathematical manipulation of decision tables.

The second part is devoted to the problems involved in the splitting, merging, relations and minimization of decision tables. The problem of splitting decision tables is considered from the point of view of splitting by rules, by conditions and by branching. This is done by defining different types of linkages between decision tables. The resulting decision tables are either in the form of concatenated tables, or in the form of a tree of decision tables. It was found that merging, the inverse of splitting, could not be generalized.

The problem of relations between decision tables was considered from the point of view of isomorphism and equivalence. In line with this a few algorithms, with the associated problems, are

presented. Finally, three procedures for the minimization of decision tables were developed. One, corresponding to rule minimization, utilizes the concept of rule partitioning. The second corresponding to condition minimization, combines a set of logically related conditions into a single extended condition. The third, corresponding to action minimization, combines a set of actions into a single extended action.

The third part contains a critical survey of existing conversion procedures and algorithms. The procedures corresponding to three different conversion methods (the tree method, the mask method and the computed GO TO method) are converted separately. The advantages and the disadvantages of each conversion method are analysed together with the characteristics of each algorithm. This part also includes a set of theorems proving necessary and sufficient conditions for testing and diagnostic procedures for conversion time and a set of testing procedures for run time.

The last part suggests a flexible decision table pre-compiler based upon practical usage requirements. This scheme is presented in terms of syntactic and semantic description together with suggested conversion procedures. Finally an attempt was made to design a comprehensive example that indicates the usefulness of a decision table pre-compiler (or compiler). The actual conversion of this example into COBOL program code, using the steps of the suggested pre-compiler was done manually due to lack of funds necessary

for an implementation of a desired pre-compiler. The resulting program was run on a Burroughs B-5500 computer.

CHAPTER II. DEFINITION AND CHARACTERISTICS OF DECISION TABLES

The purpose of this chapter is to introduce the general background required in the study of decision tables and to provide a standard nomenclature. The latter is important as there are many uses of decision tables and thus, a number of different nomenclatures are used in existing literature.

In the first part of this chapter a general definition of decision tables is given and a classification based upon this is presented. The classification introduced here subdivides decision tables into 18 different classes, while the existing literature subdivides them into 2, 4, or 6 classes. In the same section a formal notation is introduced to allow detailed mathematical presentation.

In the second part of this chapter, a set of basic rule operations is defined to allow the detailed characterization of decision tables. This characterization, which is based on redundancy, contradiction and completeness, is done separately for tables with unrelated conditions only as well as for tables with both related and unrelated conditions.

II-1 DEFINITION AND CLASSIFICATION OF DECISION TABLES.

In this section we shall introduce a general definition of decision tables, and based upon this we provide a classification of

decision tables. At the end of this section we also introduce a list of notations.

II-1-1 DEFINITION OF DECISION TABLES:

		RULES				ELSE
		1	2	... i ... p		<u>p+1</u>
CONDITIONS	1					
	2					
STUB	...					
	j	-----	-----	-----	c_{ji}	
	...					
	q					
ACTIONS	1					
	2					
STUB	...					
	k	-----	-----	-----	a_{ki}	
	...					
	r					

Fig. II-1-1

A decision table as indicated in Fig. II-1-1 has p (or $p+1$) columns and $q+r$ rows. The resulting table is subdivided into two sub-tables: A conditions sub-table and an actions sub-table.

The conditions sub-table is divided into two parts: the CONDITION STUB containing the q CONDITIONS (condition statements) and the CONDITION ENTRY MATRIX $\{c_{ji}\}_{q \times p}$.

A condition is LIMITED, c_j , whenever it is completely specified in the condition stub, or EXTENDED, C_j , whenever the specification of the condition is extended into the appropriate condition row in the condition entry matrix.

provides a means of specifying the actions to be taken if none of the other p rules is satisfied. Further discussion of the else rule will be presented later.

The action sub-table is also divided into two parts; the ACTION STUB containing the r ACTIONS(action statements) and the ACTION ENTRY MATRIX $\{a_{ki}\}_{r \times p}$. The action statement can be limited, a_k , whenever the action is completely specified in the action stub, or extended, A_k , whenever the specification of the action is extended into the appropriate action row in the action entry matrix.

With a limited action, a_k , we associate the set $W_k = \{x\}$ and with an extended action we associate the set $W_k = \{w_{k1}, \dots, w_{kn_k}\}$ with $n_k \geq 1$.

The i^{th} column δ^i of the action entry matrix represents the actions and the order in which they are to be taken whenever the i^{th} rule is satisfied. The k^{th} row of δ^i denoted by δ_k^i is "x" in the limited case, or an element of W_k in the extended case, wherever the k^{th} action is to be executed; otherwise, it will be blank.

Accordingly, the ki^{th} entry of the action entry matrix a_{ki} is given by: $a_{ki} = \delta_k^i \quad :: = \text{blank} \mid x \mid \in W_k$

Note: The order in which the conditions of the table are arranged is insignificant in the above definition. This excludes conditions such as testing a quantity for zero before performing other tests which use that quantity as a divisor. This freedom in

With the j^{th} condition we associate the set $V_j = \{V_{j1}, V_{j2}, \dots, V_{jn_j}\}$ with $n_j \geq 2$. The j^{th} row of the condition entry matrix, ρ^j , associated with j^{th} condition contains elements from the set V_j or a don't care (sometimes denoted by "d", or left blank, or by "-"). It should be noted that only for extended conditions can $n \geq 2$. However in the case of limited condition $V_j = \{Y, N\}$, $n_j = 2$.

The i^{th} rule is represented by the i^{th} column of the condition entry matrix, γ^i , whose j^{th} entry γ_j^i is either a don't care entry or an element from the set V_j . Such a column γ^i is called an INCOMPLETELY SPECIFIED COLUMN or INCOMPLETE RULE (providing at least one of the entries γ_j^i is a don't care entry and not more than $q-1$ entries are don't care entries).

Thus the ji^{th} entry of the condition entry matrix is given by;

$$c_{ji} = \gamma_j^i = \rho_i^j \quad :: = \text{don't care} \mid \in V_j$$

Equivalently γ^i can be represented by a set of columns $\omega^i = \{\omega^{i1}, \omega^{i2}, \dots, \omega^{i\nu}, \dots, \omega^{il_i}\}$. Such a column ω^i is called a COMPLETELY SPECIFIED COLUMN (completely specified rule) and its j^{th} entry $\omega_j^{i\nu}$ is an element of V_j .

Note that:

$$1 \leq l_i \leq \max\{n_2 \times n_3 \times \dots \times n_p, n_1 \times n_3 \times \dots \times n_p, \dots, n_1 \times n_2 \times \dots \times n_{p-1}\}$$

A decision table may include the $p+1^{\text{st}}$ column which is associated with the so called ELSE RULE. This is a special rule which

the order of conditions will allow us later to design efficient algorithms for treating decision tables.

To clarify the above definition of decision tables we introduce now an example of a decision table which includes the different types of conditions, actions and rules.

		RULE AND ACTION NUMBERS						
CONDITION STUB		1	2	...	i	...	p	p+1
1 A = B		Y	N	...	N	...	Y	E
2 P =		3	-		15		35	
3 SIG Q		"+"	"0"	(b)	"_"	(c)	-	
⋮		⋮	⋮	(a)	⋮		⋮	L
j C > D		Y	N	...	Y	...	-	
j+1 R =		S or P	-		S and P		S	
⋮		⋮	⋮		⋮		⋮	S
q-2 W =		3 or 4	5.5		-			
q-1 REL U,V		U > V	U < V		-			
q T		> A	< A	...	< A	...		E
ACTION STUB								
1 A ← B			x	...	x	...		
2 Q ← 10			x	...		...	x	
⋮		⋮	⋮		⋮		⋮	⋮
K PERFORM		x1	x2	...	x1	...	x5	
K+1 Q ← E/Q		x	x	...	x	...	-	
⋮		⋮	⋮		⋮		⋮	⋮
r GO TO		P1	P2	...	P2	...	P1	ERR

FIG. II-1-2

Example of IS-MCE-MAE decision table.

- a. Completely specified rule (providing the entries not shown exclude don't care).
- b. Incompletely specified rules.
- c. The else rule.
- d. Limited condition entries.
- e. Extended condition entries.
- f. Limited action entries.
- g. Extended action entries.

Note: The extended condition entries and action entries do not necessarily represent all different possible conditions and actions. In existing precompilers, interpreters and compilers there are some limitations imposed on the user.

Many other condition can be used, for example, testing a field for numeric or alphabetic, etc. Some of the most commonly used conditions and actions are summarized in later sections.

II-1-2 CLASSIFICATION OF DECISION TABLES.

Decision tables are classified with respect to three major characteristics: The don't care condition, the number of elements in the sets V_j and the number of elements in the sets W_k .

- i) A decision table is called COMPLETELY SPECIFIED if it excludes don't care conditions in its condition entries c_{ji} ; otherwise it is called INCOMPLETELY SPECIFIED.
- ii) A decision table is called LIMITED CONDITION ENTRY if all the

sets V_j , $j = 1, 2, \dots, q$ are of the type $V_j = \{Y, N\}$ and it is called EXTENDED CONDITION ENTRY if all sets V_j are of the type $V_j = \{V_{j1}, \dots, V_{jn_j}\}$ $n \geq 2$ and $V_j \neq \{Y, N\}$ $j = 1, 2, \dots, q$.

Otherwise it is a MIXED CONDITION ENTRY decision table.

iii) A decision table is called LIMITED ACTION ENTRY if the sets W_k , $k = 1, 2, \dots, r$ are of the type $W_k = \{x\}$ and it is called EXTENDED ACTION ENTRY if all the sets W_k , $k = 1, 2, \dots, r$ are of the type $W_k = \{W_{k1}, W_{k2}, \dots, W_{kn_k}\}$, with $n_k \geq 1$. Otherwise it is called a MIXED ACTION ENTRY decision table.

Accordingly we can group the decision tables into the following classes:

1. CS-ICE-LAE :: = COMPLETELY SPECIFIED - LIMITED CONDITION ENTRY - LIMITED ACTION ENTRY.
2. CS-LCE-EAE :: = COMPLETELY SPECIFIED - LIMITED CONDITION ENTRY - EXTENDED ACTION ENTRY.
3. CS-LCE-MAE :: = COMPLETELY SPECIFIED - LIMITED CONDITION ENTRY - MIXED ACTION ENTRY.
4. IS-LCE-LAE :: = INCOMPLETELY SPECIFIED - LIMITED CONDITION ENTRY - LIMITED ACTION ENTRY.
5. IS-LCE-EAE :: = INCOMPLETELY SPECIFIED - LIMITED CONDITION ENTRY - EXTENDED ACTION ENTRY.
6. IS-LCE-MAE :: = INCOMPLETELY SPECIFIED - LIMITED CONDITION ENTRY - MIXED ACTION ENTRY.
7. CS-ECE-LAE :: = COMPLETELY SPECIFIED - EXTENDED CONDITION ENTRY - LIMITED ACTION ENTRY.
8. CS-ECE-EAE :: = COMPLETELY SPECIFIED - EXTENDED CONDITION ENTRY - EXTENDED ACTION ENTRY.
9. CS-ECE-MAE :: = COMPLETELY SPECIFIED - EXTENDED CONDITION ENTRY - MIXED ACTION ENTRY.
10. IS-ECE-LAE :: = INCOMPLETELY SPECIFIED - EXTENDED CONDITION ENTRY - LIMITED ACTION ENTRY.

matic translation from a formatted decision table into high level (or machine code) computer language.

II-1-3 NOTATION.

To simplify the future discussion on decision tables we will adopt the following notations:

c_i :: = LIMITED CONDITION

C_i :: = EXTENDED CONDITION

$d = " " = "-"$:: = don't care condition/don't do action

V_j :: = The set of values associated with the j^{th} condition

$$V_j = \{V_{ji}, \dots, V_{jn_j}\}, \quad n_j \geq 2$$

Y, N :: = The two different values a limited entry can have

$$V_j = \{Y, N\} \text{ (with exception of the don't care)}$$

p :: = The number of columns in a decision table (except the ELSE rule) equal to the number of rules.

q :: = The number of rows in the condition sub-table equal to the number of conditions.

r :: = The number of rows in the action sub-table equal to the number of actions.

γ^i :: = The i^{th} column in the condition entry matrix representing the i^{th} rule.

γ_j^i :: = The j^{th} entry in the γ^i column (can be a don't care or a value from the set V_j).

ρ^j :: = The j^{th} row in the condition entry matrix.

ρ_i^j :: = The i^{th} entry in the j^{th} row of the condition entry matrix.

- 11. IS-ECE-EAE :: = INCOMPLETELY SPECIFIED - EXTENDED CONDITION ENTRY - EXTENDED ACTION ENTRY.
- 12. IS-ECE-MAE :: = INCOMPLETELY SPECIFIED - EXTENDED CONDITION ENTRY - MIXED ACTION ENTRY.
- 13. CS-MCE-LAE :: = COMPLETELY SPECIFIED - MIXED CONDITION ENTRY - LIMITED ACTION ENTRY.
- 14. CS-MCE-EAE :: = COMPLETELY SPECIFIED - MIXED CONDITION ENTRY - EXTENDED ACTION ENTRY.
- 15. CS-MCE-MAE :: = COMPLETELY SPECIFIED - MIXED CONDITION ENTRY - MIXED ACTION ENTRY.
- 16. IS-MCE-LAE :: = INCOMPLETELY SPECIFIED - MIXED CONDITION ENTRY - LIMITED ACTION ENTRY.
- 17. IS-MCE-EAE :: = INCOMPLETELY SPECIFIED - MIXED CONDITION ENTRY - EXTENDED ACTION ENTRY.
- 18. IS-MCE-MAE :: = INCOMPLETELY SPECIFIED - MIXED CONDITION ENTRY - MIXED ACTION ENTRY.

The hierarchy, then, in terms of complexity, can be represented by the following diagram:

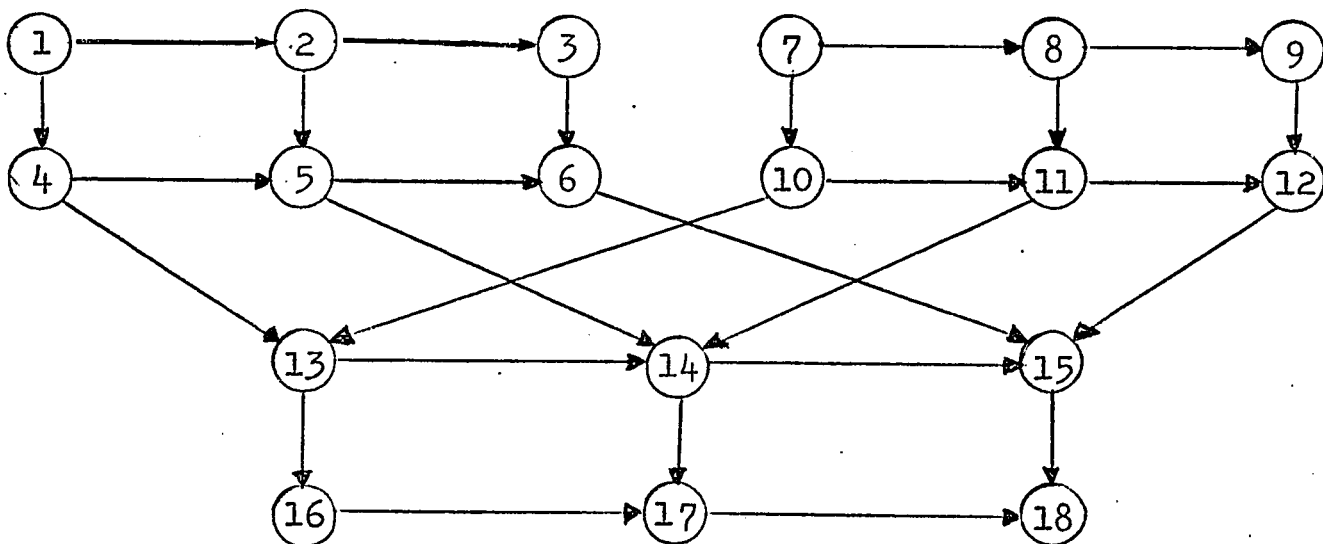


Fig. II-1-3

Note: This hierarchical diagram, as we shall see later, is quite important in developing or adapting algorithms for auto-

$c_{ji} = \gamma_j^i = \rho_i^j$::= The ji^{th} entry of the condition entry matrix.

ω^i ::= The set of completely specified columns (or rules) which represent the i^{th} column (or rule) γ^i .

$\omega^{i'}$::= A completely specified rule from the set ω^i .

$\{c_{ji}\}_{q \times p}$::= The condition entry matrix.

$\{a_{ki}\}_{r \times p}$::= the action entry matrix.

a_k ::= A limited action (action statement)

A_k ::= An extended action (action statement)

W_k ::= The set associated with the k^{th} action.

$W_k = \{x\}$ for limited actions.

$W_k = \{w_{k1}, \dots, w_{kn_k}\}$ for extended actions $n_k \geq 2$.

δ^i ::= The i^{th} column of the action entry matrix.

$\delta_k^i = a_{ki}$::= The k^{th} entry in the δ^i column.

Finally, a general decision table can be expressed in terms of the matrix definition given above, as follows:

$$\left[\begin{array}{c|ccc} \sigma_1 & c_{11} & \dots & c_{1i} & \dots & c_{1p} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots \\ \sigma_j & c_{j1} & & c_{ji} & & c_{jp} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots \\ \sigma_q & c_{q1} & & c_{qi} & & c_{qp} \\ \hline \alpha_1 & a_{11} & \dots & a_{1i} & \dots & a_{1p} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots \\ \alpha_k & a_{k1} & \dots & a_{ki} & \dots & a_{kp} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots \\ \alpha_r & a_{r1} & & a_{ri} & & a_{rp} \end{array} \right] = \left[\begin{array}{c|cccc} \sum & |\gamma^1| & |\gamma^2| & \dots & |\gamma^p| \\ \hline \propto & |\delta^1| & |\delta^2| & \dots & |\delta^p| \end{array} \right] =$$

$$= \left[\begin{array}{c|c} \Sigma & \begin{array}{c} \rho^1 \\ \vdots \\ \rho^q \end{array} \\ \hline \alpha & A \end{array} \right] = \left[\begin{array}{c|c} \Sigma & C \\ \hline \alpha & A \end{array} \right]$$

Where:

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_j &::= c_j / C_j \\ \alpha_k &::= a_k / A_k \\ \Sigma^T &= \{ \sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_q \} \\ \alpha^T &= \{ \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r \} \end{aligned}$$

II-2 CHARACTERISTICS OF DECISION TABLES.

The major characteristics of decision tables are ambiguity and completeness. Ambiguity in decision tables deals with the problems of Redundancy, Contradiction and Inconsistency. Completeness, on the other hand, deals with the number of rules included in a decision table. In order to define the characteristics we introduce some basic "rule-operations" in the first part of this section. The actual characteristics are first considered for decision tables with unrelated conditions and then extended to include decision tables with related and unrelated conditions.

II-2-1 BASIC RULE OPERATIONS.

Here we shall only introduce those "rule-operations" which are required in the definition of ambiguity and completeness. Other rule-

operations are defined wherever necessary.

Definition II-2-1; - "Simple Rule Splitting" - Let γ^i be an incompletely specified rule with c_{ji} as a don't care entry and the associated set $V_j = \{V_{j1}, V_{j2}, \dots, V_{jn_j}\}$. Then a simple rule splitting of c_{ji} (with respect to V_j), is given by:

$$\gamma^i = \begin{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} c_{1i} \\ c_{2i} \\ \vdots \\ - \\ \vdots \\ c_{qi} \end{bmatrix} \\ i_j & \end{matrix} \xrightarrow{V_j} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} c_{1i} \\ c_{2i} \\ \vdots \\ V_{j1} \\ \vdots \\ c_{qi} \end{bmatrix} ; \begin{bmatrix} c_{1i} \\ c_{2i} \\ \vdots \\ V_{j2} \\ \vdots \\ c_{qi} \end{bmatrix} ; \dots , \begin{bmatrix} c_{1i} \\ c_{2i} \\ \vdots \\ V_{jn_j} \\ \vdots \\ c_{qi} \end{bmatrix} \right\} = \bigcup_{p=1}^{n_j} \begin{bmatrix} c_{1i} \\ c_{2i} \\ \vdots \\ V_{jp} \\ \vdots \\ c_{qi} \end{bmatrix}$$

Note: The remaining entries c_{ji} in γ^i may or may not be don't care entries.

Definition II-2-2; - "Complete Rule Splitting" - A complete rule splitting is defined as a multiple simple rule splitting of all the don't care entries of an incompletely specified rule γ^i . That is, from the definition of the decision table in II-1-1, γ^i can be expressed by the set of completely specified rules $\{\omega^i\}$. If, for example, c_{ji} and $c_{j+k,i}$ are the only don't care entries in some rule γ^i with the associated sets V_j and V_{j+k} ($j+k < q$) respectively, we denote this transformation as follows:

$$\gamma^i \xrightarrow[V_j, V_{j+k}]{*} \{\omega^i\} = \{\omega^{i1}, \omega^{i2}, \dots, \omega^{i'}, \dots, \omega^{in}\}$$

Where $\omega^{i\nu}$ is a completely specified rule and $\omega^{i\nu} \neq \omega^{i\mu}$ if $\nu \neq \mu$. Furthermore, note that li is the number of completely specified rules corresponding to γ^i .

Example:

$$\text{Let } \gamma^i = \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{matrix} \begin{bmatrix} Y \\ - \\ - \\ \text{RED} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{where } \begin{cases} \{V_2\} = \{Y, N\} \\ \{V_3\} = \{100, 110, 120\} \end{cases}$$

then simple rule splitting with respect of c_{2i} is given by:

$$\gamma^i \xrightarrow{V_2} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} Y \\ Y \\ - \\ \text{RED} \end{bmatrix} ; \begin{bmatrix} Y \\ N \\ - \\ \text{RED} \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

and a complete rule splitting is given by:

$$\gamma^i \xrightarrow{V_2, V_3} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} Y \\ Y \\ 100 \\ \text{RED} \end{bmatrix} ; \begin{bmatrix} Y \\ Y \\ 110 \\ \text{RED} \end{bmatrix} ; \begin{bmatrix} Y \\ Y \\ 120 \\ \text{RED} \end{bmatrix} ; \begin{bmatrix} Y \\ N \\ 100 \\ \text{RED} \end{bmatrix} ; \begin{bmatrix} Y \\ N \\ 110 \\ \text{RED} \end{bmatrix} ; \begin{bmatrix} Y \\ N \\ 120 \\ \text{RED} \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

Note: In splitting a rule in an actual decision table, we have to assign the original action column to every one of the completely specified rules associated with the split rule. Thus:

$$\left[\frac{\gamma^i}{\delta^i} \right] \xrightarrow{*} \left\{ \left[\frac{\omega^{i1}}{\delta^i} \right] ; \left[\frac{\omega^{i2}}{\delta^i} \right] ; \dots ; \left[\frac{\omega^{il}}{\delta^i} \right] \right\}$$

We shall consider now the decision table characteristics separately for independent and dependent conditions.

II-2-2 CHARACTERISTICS OF DECISION TABLES WITH UNRELATED CONDITIONS

Definition II-2-4; - Two conditions(or condition statements) are called independent if and only if the variables in the respective condition stubs are logically independent, otherwise they are called dependent, or related conditions.

Using the definition II-2-4 we can define redundancy and contradiction in the case of limited condition entry decision tables (LCE) with independent conditions as follows:

Definition II-2-5; - If two (or more) rules γ^i and γ^k have identical actions $\delta^i = \delta^k$ respectively, and do not include at least one pair of Y,N in any of the ρ^p rows ($p = 1, 2, \dots, q$), then redundancy exists in the LCE decision table.

Definition II-2-6; - If two (or more) rules γ^i and γ^k have different actions $\delta^i \neq \delta^k$ respectively, and do not include at least one pair of Y,N in any of the ρ^p rows ($p = 1, 2, \dots, q$) then there is contradiction in the LCE decision table.

To include decision tables with mixed condition entries, these last two definitions can be generalized as follows:

Definition II-2-3; - "Rule Intersection" - Let γ^i and γ^k be represented by the following sets of completely specified rules:

$$\gamma^i = \omega^i = \{\omega^{i1}, \omega^{i2}, \dots, \omega^{il_i}\}$$

$$\gamma^k = \omega^k = \{\omega^{k1}, \omega^{k2}, \dots, \omega^{kl_k}\}$$

then the intersection of γ^i and γ^k is given by:

$$\gamma^i \cap \gamma^k = \omega^i \cap \omega^k = \{\Omega_{ik}^1, \Omega_{ik}^2, \dots, \Omega_{ik}^{l_{ik}}\} = \Omega_{ik}$$

where $\Omega_{ik} \subseteq \omega^i$ and $\Omega_{ik} \subseteq \omega^k$ (in the usual meaning of sub-sets).

Also note that the intersection is defined only between two rules of the same order (namely, with the same number of entries) and usually used for rules taken from the same table.

$$\text{Furthermore, } \gamma^i \cap \gamma^k = \gamma^k \cap \gamma^i = \Omega_{ik} = \Omega_{ki}$$

and $l_{ik} = l_{ki}$ represents the number of completely specified rules in the set $\{\Omega_{ik}\}$.

Example:

$$\text{Let } \gamma^i = \begin{bmatrix} Y \\ - \\ - \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and } \gamma^k = \begin{bmatrix} - \\ Y \\ - \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{where } \{V_3\} = \{\text{RED, BLUE, PINK}\}$$

$$\text{then } \gamma^i \cap \gamma^k = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} Y \\ Y \\ \text{RED} \end{bmatrix} ; \begin{bmatrix} Y \\ Y \\ \text{BLUE} \end{bmatrix} ; \begin{bmatrix} Y \\ Y \\ \text{PINK} \end{bmatrix} \right\} = \{\Omega_{ik}\}$$

Definition II-2-7; - If two (or more) rules γ^i and γ^k have identical actions $\delta^i = \delta^k$ respectively, and do not include at least one pair of values $\gamma_p^i \neq \gamma_p^k$ in any of the rows ρ^p ($p = 1, 2, \dots, q$) there is redundancy in the MCE decision table.

Definition II-2-8; - If two (or more) rules γ^i and γ^k have different actions $\delta^i \neq \delta^k$ respectively, and do not include at least one pair of values $\gamma_p^i \neq \gamma_p^k$ in any of the rows ρ^p ($p = 1, 2, \dots, q$) then a contradiction exists in the MCE decision table.

Lemma II-2-1: Given any two rules γ^i and γ^k of a decision table, their intersection is empty ($\{\Omega_{ik}\} = \emptyset$) if and only if they contain at least one pair of different values $\gamma_p^i, \gamma_p^k \neq$ don't care in any of the rows ρ^p , ($p = 1, 2, \dots, q$)

Proof: Let $\gamma^i \xrightarrow{*} \{\omega^i\} = \{\omega^{i1}, \omega^{i2}, \dots, \omega^{i1_i}\}$
and $\gamma^k \xrightarrow{*} \{\omega^k\} = \{\omega^{k1}, \omega^{k2}, \dots, \omega^{k1_k}\}$

a. First, let's prove that: If there is at least one pair $\gamma_p^i \neq \gamma_p^k$, ($p = 1, 2, \dots, q$) then $\gamma^i \cap \gamma^k = \{\Omega_{ik}\} = \emptyset$.

Since, by assumption $\gamma_p^i \neq \gamma_p^k$ (and they are not don't care) then, $\omega^{i\nu} \neq \omega^{k\mu}$ ($\nu = 1, 2, \dots, 1_i, \mu = 1, 2, \dots, 1_k$) and therefore, $\{\Omega_{ik}\} = \emptyset$.

b. If $\{\Omega_{ik}\} = \emptyset$ then there is at least one $\gamma_p^i \neq \gamma_p^k$ ($p = 1, 2, \dots, q$). Here, for simplicity, we shall start from completely specified rules:

- i. For completely specified rules. $\omega^j = \omega^{jl} = \gamma^j$, $j = i, k$
thus if $\omega^i \cap \omega^k = \Omega_{ik} = \emptyset$ then $\omega^{il} \neq \omega^{kl}$ and
therefore, $\gamma^i \neq \gamma^k$ which means there is at least one pair
of values $\gamma_p^i \neq \gamma_p^k$ $p = 1, 2, \dots, q$.
- ii. For incompletely specified rules, assuming $\{\Omega_{ik}\} = \emptyset$ we
have this for every $p = 1, 2, \dots, l_i$.
 $\omega^i \cap \{\omega^{kl}, \omega^{k2}, \dots, \omega^{kl_k}\} = \emptyset$ thus, $\omega^i \cap \gamma^k = \emptyset$ which
means there is at least one pair of values $\omega_p^{i\nu} \neq \omega_p^{k\mu}$
 $p = 1, 2, \dots, q$ such that $\gamma_p^k \neq$ don't care. This implies
the existence of at least one pair of values $\gamma_p^i \neq \gamma_p^k$ (γ_p^i ,
 $\gamma_p^k \neq$ don't care).

Theorem II-2-1; Given a decision table with unrelated conditions, the table is ambiguous if and only if there is at least one set $\{\Omega_{ik}\} \neq \emptyset$ for $i, k = 1, 2, \dots, p$. Furthermore, if ambiguity exists then:

- i. If $\delta^i = \delta^k$ the table includes redundancy.
- ii. If $\delta^i \neq \delta^k$ the table includes contradiction.

Proof:

- a. If there is at least one set $\{\Omega_{ik}\} \neq \emptyset$, $i, k = 1, 2, \dots, p$,
then by Lemma II-2-1, there can be no pair of values $\gamma_p^i \neq \gamma_p^k$
in any of the rows ρ^p , $p = 1, 2, \dots, q$. Therefore:
 - i. By definition II-2-7 if $\delta^i = \delta^k$ the table includes redundancy.
 - ii. By definition II-2-7 if $\delta^i \neq \delta^k$ the table includes contradiction.

This concludes the first part of the proof.

- b. If the table includes ambiguity, then, by definition II-2-7 and II-2-8, the table contains at least one pair of rules γ^i and γ^k $i, k = 1, 2, \dots, p$ such that they do not include any pairs of different values $\gamma_p^i \neq \gamma_p^k$ $p = 1, 2, \dots, q$. Thus by Lemma II-2-1 there is at least one set $\{\Omega_{ik}\} \neq \emptyset$ for $i, k = 1, 2, \dots, p$.

This concludes the proof.

In a decision table where all the conditions are independent only data dependent inconsistency can exist.

Definition II-2-2; - A rule γ^i is said to be data dependent inconsistency if it includes $c_{ij} \notin V_j$ or if the combination of its entries cannot be satisfied by real data. This is a semantics problem and is beyond the scope of this document.

Example:

	RULE NUMBER				
CONDITIONS	1	2	3	4	5
SIZE-OF-JACKET	42	42	42	82	ELSE
SIZE-OF-PANTS	40	42	48	46	
ACTIONS					
ORDER	x	x	x	x	
DO NOT ORDER					x

$$V_1 = \{40, 42, 44\}$$

Fig. II-2-1

In Fig. II-2-1 the third rule is data inconsistent of the second type because the combination of its entries cannot be satisfied by real data. Rule number 4 is also data inconsistent because $82 \notin V_1$.

Note that this type of inconsistency cannot be identified by any mechanical procedure.

In decision tables with related conditions, logical inconsistency may also exist. This type of inconsistency is presented in section II-2-3.

Definition II-2-10: - The Else Rule - Wherever included, represents all the possible rules not explicitly stated in the condition entry matrix.

Definition II-2-11: - A decision table with independent conditions is said to be complete whenever:

1. It includes the else rule (in this case, the table may include ambiguities)

or

2. It does not include any ambiguity and,

$$\sum_{i=1}^p l_i = \prod_{j=1}^q n_j$$

where n_j is the number of elements in the set V_j .

Note that in the case of LCE decision tables, $n_j = 2$ and

$$\sum_{i=1}^p l_i = 2^q$$

II-2-3 CHARACTERISTICS OF DECISION TABLES WITH RELATED
AND UNRELATED CONDITIONS.

The above definitions were developed for decision tables with unrelated conditions. Actually, they can also be applied to decision tables with related conditions, but, in this case, they become too restrictive for practical use. At this point, we shall introduce an example to indicate the restrictive nature of these definitions and then give a modified definition of ambiguity.

Example II-2-2;

In Electrical Engineering, it could happen that the following decision table with related conditions has to be used:

CONDITIONS	RULE NUMBER		
	1	2	3
VOLTAGE < 110	Y	-	-
VOLTAGE = 110	-	Y	-
VOLTAGE > 110	-	-	Y
ACTIONS			
GO TO	LOW	LOW	HIGH

Fig. II-2-2:

Decision table with related conditions.

Obviously, the conditions in the example are related and the rules are well designed and do not leave a place for ambiguity of

any kind. On the other hand, applying the rule for ambiguity and completeness just defined, we can easily determine that:

1. Rule number 1 and rule number 2 are redundant.
2. Rule number 2 and rule number 3 are contradictory.
3. Splitting the rules completely we get $1_1 = 12 \neq 2' = 8$
4. Every rule includes inconsistency. For example:

$$\begin{bmatrix} Y \\ - \\ - \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} Y \\ Y \\ Y \end{bmatrix} ; \begin{bmatrix} Y \\ Y \\ N \end{bmatrix} ; \begin{bmatrix} Y \\ N \\ Y \end{bmatrix} ; \begin{bmatrix} Y \\ N \\ N \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

The first three completely specified rules are inconsistent.

In this case the don't care entries have a different meaning: they specify that the condition entry with a don't care is irrelevant to the decision if the particular rule holds, and therefore, in making the decision, that condition should not be tested.

Actually, we could have designed a decision table that satisfies all the above definitions performing the same logical function as the one in the given example, Fig. II-2-3:

CONDITIONS	RULE NUMBER			
	1	2	3	4
VOLTAGE < 110	Y	N	N	E
VOLTAGE = 110	N	Y	N	L
VOLTAGE > 110	N	N	Y	S
ACTIONS				
GO TO	LOW	LOW	HIGH	ERROR

Fig. II-2-3

Decision table with related conditions

Note that, in this case, we must include the else rule for completeness (which will never take place in the example because it contains all the inconsistent rules which are logically impossible). Furthermore, in converting that table to a program, we have to make three tests in order to find the rule, which is an unnecessary increase in program running time. Actually to save program running time the designer may introduce in the decision tables with related conditions, irrelevant don't care entries, as in the above Example.

Definition II-2-12; - Given a mixed condition entry decision table with two (or more) rules γ^i and γ^k that have identical actions $\delta^i = \delta^k$, then:

- i) Possible redundancy exists if γ^i and γ^k do not contain at least one pair γ_p^i, γ_p^k of different values in any row ρ^p $p = 1, 2, \dots, q$ but have at least one pair $\gamma_p^i, -$ or $-, \gamma_p^k$.
- ii) If they contain at least one pair γ_p^i, γ_p^k of different values the rules are different and not redundant.
- iii) If neither i) nor ii) holds, the rules are identical and therefore trivially redundant.

Definition II-2-13; - Given a mixed condition entry decision table with two or more rules γ^i and γ^k that have different actions $\delta^i \neq \delta^k$ then:

- i. Possible contradiction exists if γ^i and γ^k do not contain at least one pair γ_p^i, γ_p^k of different values in any row ρ^p ,

2. If the number of elements in the set $\{\omega\} = \bigcup_{i=1}^p \{\omega^i\}$ is equal to $\prod_{j=1}^q n_j$.

Note: If the table includes extended condition entries, inconsistent data may give unpredicted errors when running a program embodying such a table. (depending on the way the table was translated into a computer program) therefore, the inclusion of the else rule is recommended whenever possible.

$p = 1, 2, \dots, q$ but have at least one pair γ_p^i - or - γ_p^k .

ii) If the table contains at least one pair γ_p^i, γ_p^k of different values the rules are different and do not contain contradictions.

iii) If neither i) nor ii) holds, the rules are identical and therefore trivially contradictory.

As stated before, in decision tables with related conditions outside data dependent inconsistency (see definition II-2-9), logical inconsistency may also exist

Definition II-2-14; - In decision tables with related conditions, a rule γ^i is said to include logical contradiction, if it can technically exist but implies logical contradiction.

Example II-2-3:

In the table shown in Fig. II-2-4 the first and last rules are technically possible, but obviously, logically impossible. In this case, the conditions are clearly logically related or dependent.

CONDITIONS	RULE NUMBER			
	1	2	3	4
$A = B$	Y	Y	N	N
$A \neq B$	Y	N	Y	N

Fig. II-2-4

Note that even this trivial type of logical inconsistency cannot be, in general, identified by a mechanical procedure.

Definition II-2-15; - A decision table with related and unrelated conditions is said to be complete whenever:

1. It includes the Else Rule (even if it includes real ambiguities).

CHAPTER III. MANIPULATION OF AND RELATIONS BETWEEN DECISION TABLES

The purpose of this chapter is to consider some basic procedures for obtaining simpler decision tables from a given table.

In the first part of this chapter we consider the basic procedures for splitting decision tables. After defining the different linkages that can exist between decision tables, the decision table is split with respect to its rules, or conditions, or by branching. Furthermore, it is indicated that the merging of decision tables can be done only as each specific case dictates.

In the second part of this chapter, isomorphism and equivalence of decision tables is defined and then simplification of decision tables is done by minimization. The minimization techniques developed in this chapter are accomplished along three lines: rule minimization; condition stub minimization and action stub minimization.

III-1 SPLITTING AND MERGING OF DECISION TABLES.

In the previous section we presented the definition and the characteristics of a single decision table. In the present section we consider sets of a single decision table that are functionally interconnected. First we shall define a few procedures for splitting

a (large) decision table into a set of smaller decision tables such that the resulting set of interconnected decision tables will have the same function as the original one. Finally, we shall deal with the problem involved in merging sets of interconnected decision tables.

III-1-1 SPLITTING OF DECISION TABLES.

Splitting of decision tables can be obtained along two lines: Splitting by rules and/or splitting by conditions. When splitting by rules the result is two or more decision tables with the same number of conditions, each containing else rules. On the other hand, splitting by conditions results in two or more decision tables with a reduced number of rules and conditions. It should be noted that in both cases, an extra action must be used to allow linkage between the resulting tables.

The linkage between decision tables can have one of the following three forms:

1. Simple Linkage: - A decision table T_1 is said to be linked to a decision table T_2 by a "Simple Linkage" if it contains in its action stub a statement which transfers the control to T_2 upon satisfaction of one or more of its rules. A simple linkage may exist between a single decision table and a set of decision tables.

2. Concatenated linkage: - A decision table T_1 is said to be concatenated to decision table T_2 if it contains in its action stub a statement which transfer control to T_2 only if none of its explicit rules is satisfied. This implies that T_1 includes the Else rule.
3. Reference linkage: - A decision table T_1 is said to be linked by a "Reference Linkage" or simply, to refer to T_2 if it contains in its action stub a statement which transfers temporary control to T_2 , such that upon completion of T_2 the control is transferred back to T_1 to the next action in sequence (if any). This implies that T_2 may not be linked to any other table by type 1 or type 2 linkes. That type of link allows for a single decision table to refer to a set of decision tables.

The third type of linkage is presented here only for the sake of completeness. It will be utilized only in later chapters. The usage of this type of linkage implies certain restriction which will be discussed later.

Example III-1-1:

Simple Linkage - In this example we shall use the statement "GO TO" to transfer control from one decision table to another. As shown below, a decision table can be linked by a "Simple Linkage" to one or more decision tables.

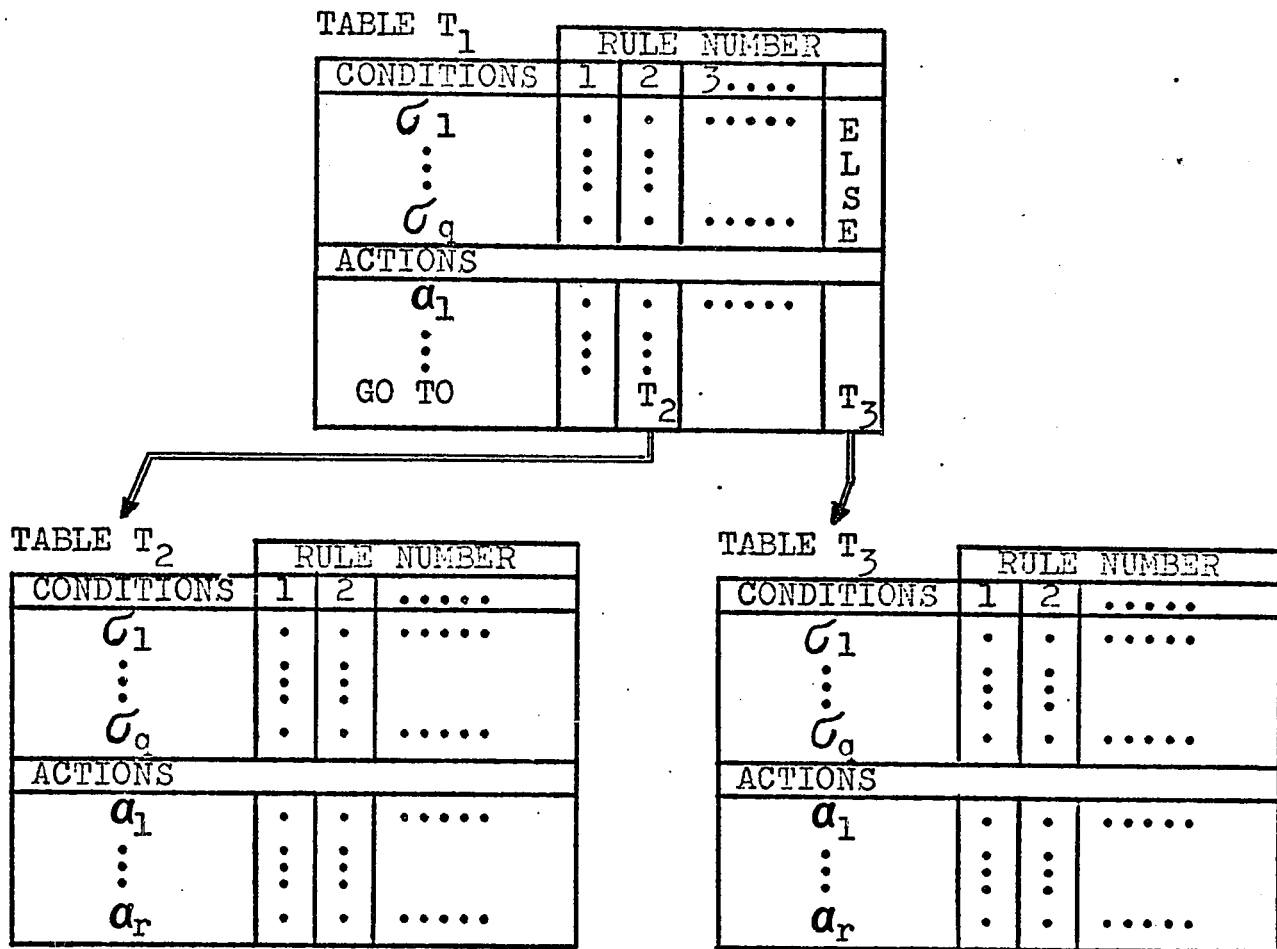


Fig. III-1-1: Simple Linkage

Example III-1-3: Concatenation Linkage

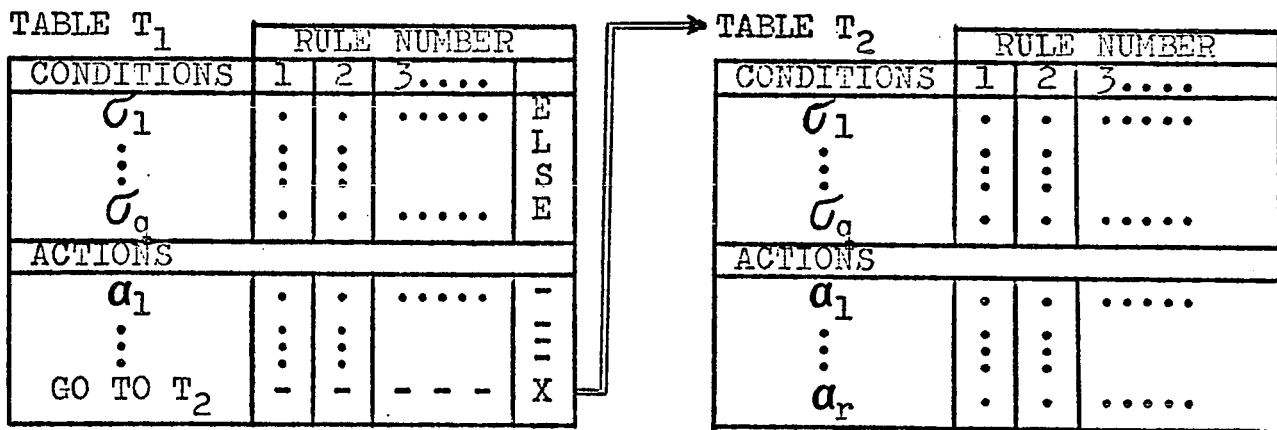


Fig III-1-2: Concatenation Linkage

Example III-1-3:

Reference Linkage - In this example, we shall use the statement "PERFORM" for "REFERENCE LINKAGE".

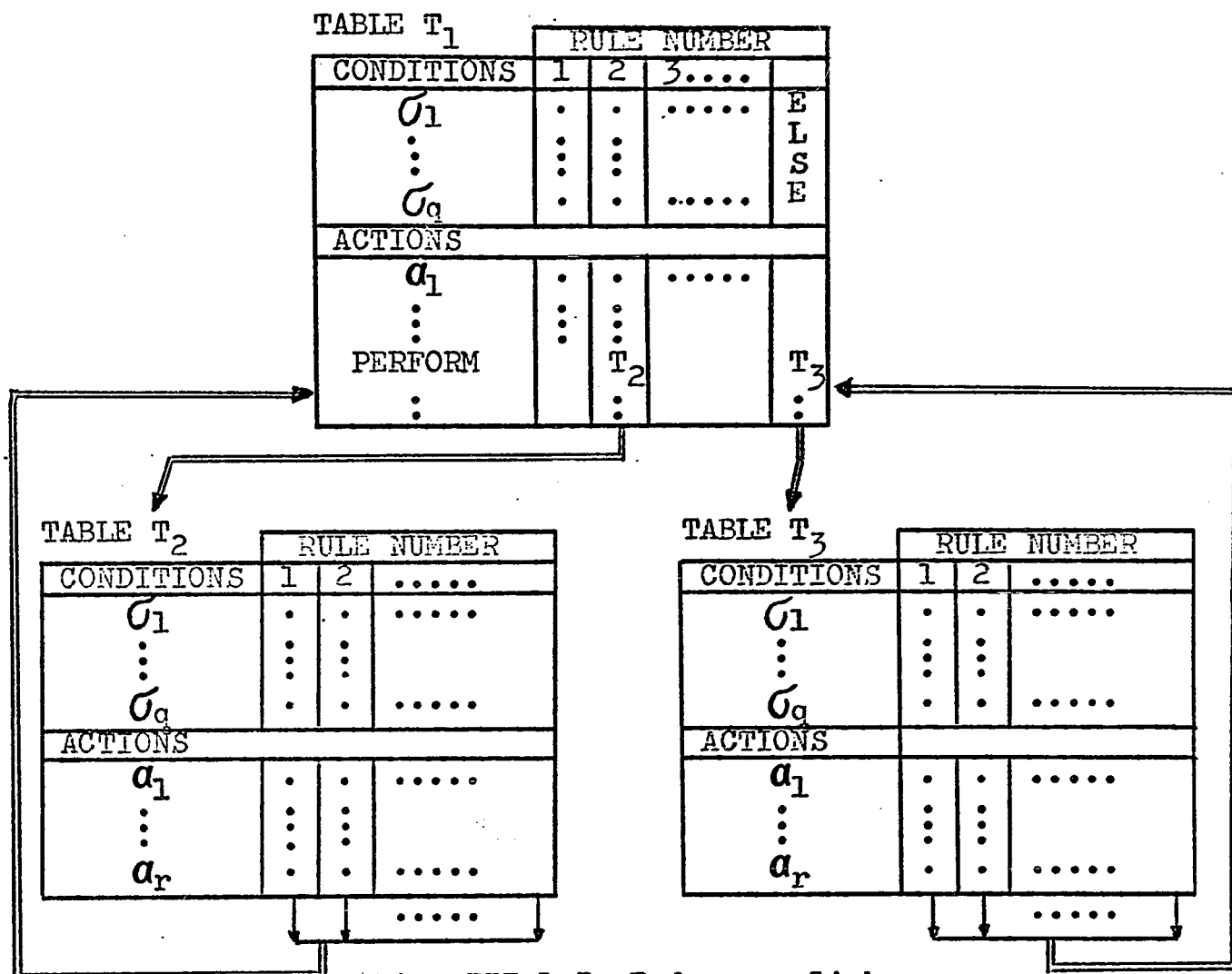


Fig. III-1-3: Reference Linkage

The splitting of a decision table by its rules is equivalent to breaking a given decision table into a set of concatenated decision tables. The actual procedure, described below, breaks the set of rules $\{\gamma^1, \gamma^2, \dots, \gamma^{p+1}\}$ into two or more concatenated sets

$\{\gamma^1, \gamma^2, \dots, \gamma^i, \gamma^{E_1}\} \dots \{\gamma^{i+1}, \dots, \gamma^{p+1}\}$ of rules, where the additional rules denoted by $\gamma^{E_1}, \gamma^{E_2}, \dots$ serve as concatenation links. A decision table is usually split by rules whenever the number of rules included in a single table are too large for practical usage.

SPLITTING BY RULES:

Given a decision table T_1 with the set $\{\gamma^1, \gamma^2, \dots, \gamma^p\}$ of rules. To split this table into two decision tables T_{11} and T_{12} after the i^{th} rule and without altering the logic,

TABLE T_1		RULE NUMBER						
CONDITIONS		1	2	3	...	i	...	p
σ_1		⋮	⋮	⋮	...	⋮	...	⋮
$\vdots$		⋮	⋮	⋮	...	⋮	...	⋮
σ_q		⋮	⋮	⋮	...	⋮	...	⋮
ACTIONS								
a_1		⋮	⋮	⋮	...	⋮	...	⋮
$\vdots$		⋮	⋮	⋮	...	⋮	...	⋮
a_r		⋮	⋮	⋮	...	⋮	...	⋮

Fig. III-1-4

the following rules should be applied:

1. Reordering of rules and/or conditions, before and/or after the splitting is allowed, as long as the logic remains unchanged.
2. Conditions and/or actions which become inapplicable after the splitting, may be excluded.
3. Every decision table (except the last one) contains an additional rule which is an else rule, and an additional action for concatenation linkage purpose (in the case of splitting into two, only the first decision table contains the linkage).

The resulting decision tables after the splitting are shown below.

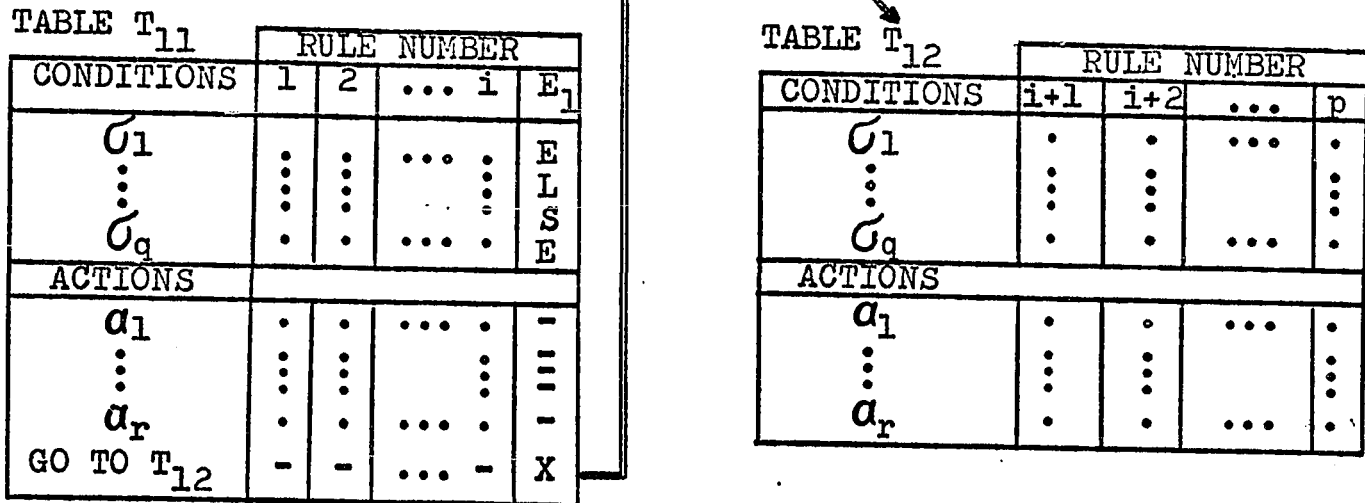


Fig. III-1-5: Splitting by Rules

Splitting into more than two decision tables is done in the same way, keeping the same rules.

Note that any decision table can be split by rules up to p concatenated decision tables, each containing a single rule and an else rule for linkage (except the last one, which contains a single rule plus the original else rule if it existed).

Example III-1-4: - "Splitting by Rule"

In this example we shall split a given decision table into two along the 16th rule.

It should be noted that in the process of splitting, we excluded the second condition σ_2 and the second action a_2 from T₁₁, since they originally had only don't care entries in their condition entry and action entry matrices up to number 16. This, obviously, did not change the logic.

TABLE T ₁		RULE NUMBER					
CONDITIONS	1	2	...	16	17	...	p
σ_1	c_{11}	c_{12}	...	-	c_{117}	...	c_{1p}
σ_2	-	-	...	-	c_{217}	...	c_{2p}
σ_3	c_{31}	c_{32}	...	c_{316}	.	...	.
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$		$\vdots$	$\vdots$		$\vdots$
σ_q	c_{q1}	c_{q2}	...	c_{q16}	c_{q17}	...	c_{qp}
ACTIONS							
a_1	a_{11}	a_{12}	...	a_{116}	a_{117}	...	a_{1p}
a_2	-	-	...	-	a_{217}	...	a_{2p}
a_3	a_{31}	.		.	.		.
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$		$\vdots$	$\vdots$		$\vdots$
a_r	a_{r1}	.	...	a_{r16}	.	...	a_{rp}

Splitting along the 16th rule we get:

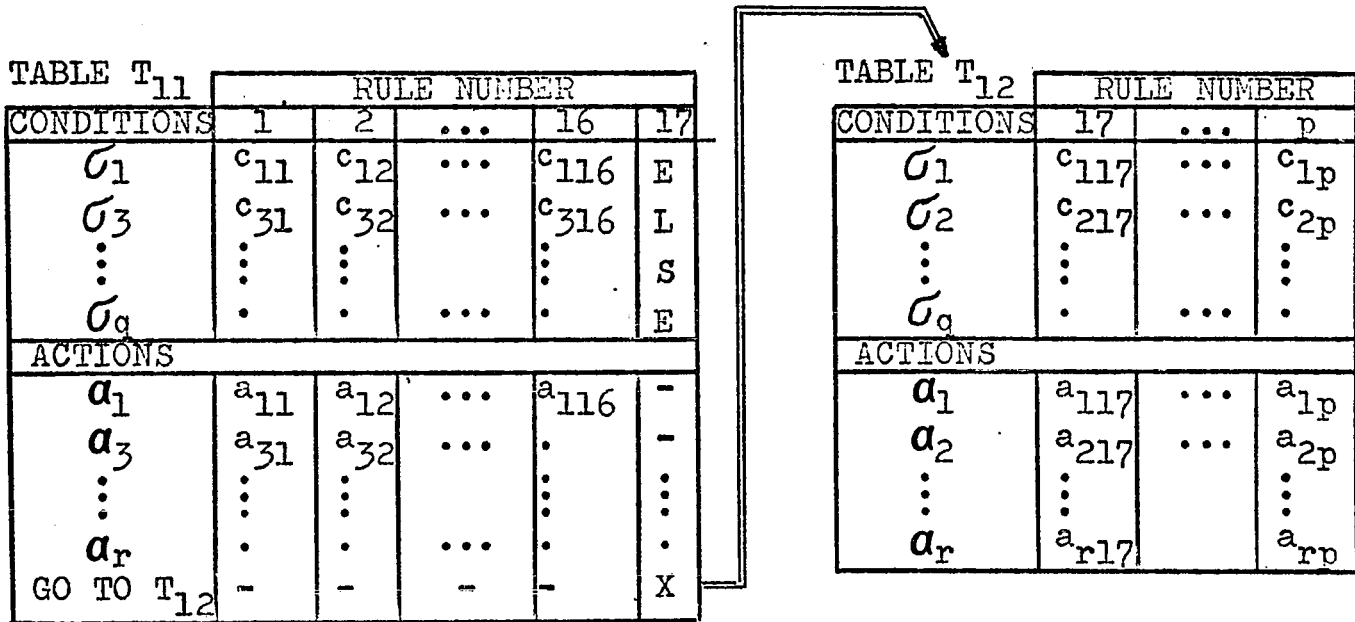


Fig. III-1-6: Splitting by Rules.

Splitting of a decision table by rules is definitely not recommended, unless it is absolutely necessary to do so. Splitting a

decision table by rules, into a set of K concatenated decision tables, multiplies the number of conditions that have to be tested by a factor of Q where $1 < Q < K$.

The splitting of a decision table by its conditions is also equivalent to breaking a given decision table into a set of concatenated decision tables. The actual splitting can be done only if the condition entry matrix C can be partitioned into blocks, such that all nondiagonal blocks (cells) contain only don't care entries as in Fig. III-1-7.

[illegible]

Fig. III-1-7

A partitioned condition entry natrix with don't care
entries in nondiagonal blocks.

done by concatenation.

TABLE T₁₁

CONDITIONS	RULE NUMBER				
	1	2	...	i ₁	
σ_1	c ₁₁	c ₁₂	...	c _{1i₁}	E
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$		$\vdots$	L
σ_{j1}	c _{j1}	c _{j2}	...	c _{ji}	S
					E
ACTIONS					
a ₁	a ₁₁	a ₁₂	...	a _{1i}	-
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$		$\vdots$	-
a _r	a _r	a _{r2}		a _{ri}	-
GO TO T ₁₂	-	-	...	-	X

TABLE T₁₂

CONDITIONS	RULE NUMBER		
			
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	E
			L
			S
			E
ACTIONS			
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	-
GO TO T ₁₃	-	-	X

TABLE T₁₃

CONDITIONS	RULE NUMBER		
	i	...	p
σ_{jn}	c _{ji}	...	c _{jp}
$\vdots$	$\vdots$		$\vdots$
σ_a	c _{ai}	...	c _{ap}
ACTIONS			
a ₁	.	...	a _{1p}
a ₂	.	...	a _{2p}
$\vdots$	$\vdots$		$\vdots$
a _r	.	...	a _{rp}

Fig. III-1-9: Splitting by Conditions

Note that the splitting procedure can be executed only in special cases, e.g., whenever the problem could have been originally expressed by a set of concatenated decision tables. Whenever rearranging rules does not alter the logic, it is possible to start from a decision table in which the condition entry matrix does not allow splitting by conditions. Then, after reordering the rules and the conditions, to generate a decision table in which splitting by conditions is possible. (As we shall see in section II-5 it is possible to do the same by changing the set of rules by merging rules, or as we have seen before, by splitting rules).

Another case in which splitting by conditions is possible, is of an extended condition entry decision table which is translated into a limited entry decision table, e.g.,

Example III-1-5:

Given the extended condition entry decision table:

CONDITIONS	RULE NUMBER			
	1	2	3	4
IF A =	B	C	D	E
IF P =	Q	R	T	S
ACTIONS				
a_1	.	.	.	.
a_2	.	.	.	.

Fig. III-1-10

The equivalent limited entry decision table is:

RULE NUMBER				
CONDITIONS	1	2	3	
A = B	Y	-	-	E
P = Q	Y	-	-	
A = C	-	Y	-	L
P = R	-	Y	-	
A = D	-	-	Y	S
P = T	-	-	Y	
ACTIONS				
a_1	.	.	.	.
a_2	.	.	.	.

Fig. III-1-11

Note that splitting by rules and excluding inapplicable conditions would have resulted in the same set of concatenated decision tables.

Another type of decision table splitting by its conditions is also possible. To differentiate it from the previous one, we shall refer to it as "Splitting by Branching". In this case, any decision table may be split with respect to any one of its conditions, providing the order of the rules is immaterial.

SPLITTING BY BRANCHING

Splitting by branching can be done if and only if, the order of the rules in a decision table that has to be split is immaterial and reordering does not change the logic. Otherwise, splitting by branching can be done only with respect to the conditions c_j , in which the condition row entries ρ^j are sorted by values from V_j and do not contain don't care entries.

Assuming that reordering of rules is allowed, the splitting is done as follows:

If the splitting is done with respect to a limited condition entry the result will be three different tables. The first table contains only the condition which controls the splitting, transferring control to the second or the third decision table, depending on the outcome of this condition testing.. In the second and the third tables, however, that condition is absent and also there are less

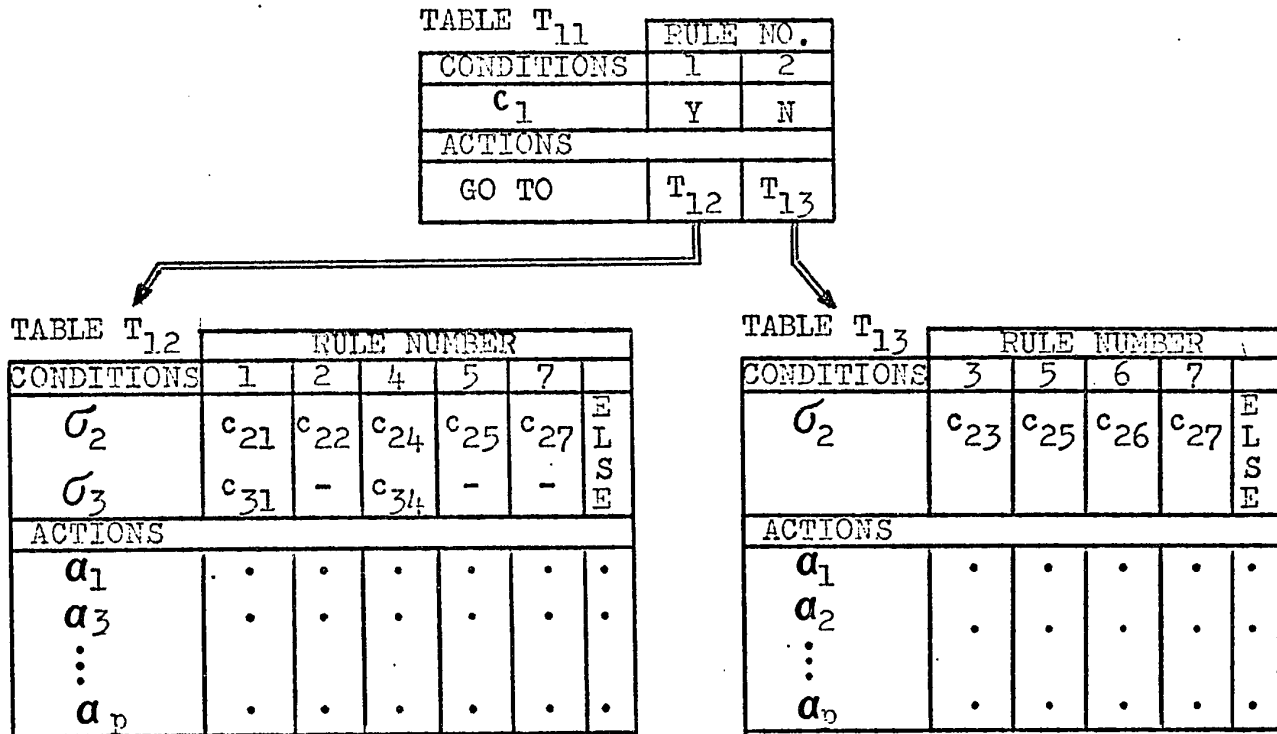


Fig. III-1-13

Note that the action a_2 was excluded in T_{12} and the conditions σ_3 was excluded in T_{13} . Every rule which had a don't care entry in its first condition entry row ρ^1 , appears in T_{12} and T_{13} :

If the splitting is done with respect to an extended condition entry the result will be $n_j + 1$ decision tables, otherwise, everything else is done by complete analogy.

Note that this process of splitting by branching can be continued with each subtable until the resulting set of subtables contains subtables with only one condition or one rule (and one else rule if the else rule was included in the original table). Tests for ambiguity and completeness in the final stage of splitting become trivial.

Splitting by branching can also be done with respect to more

rules in each. If the else rule was included in the original table, the second and the third decision tables will contain it. Conditions and actions which become inapplicable in the process of splitting may be excluded.

Assuming that the splitting is done with respect to the first condition then the actual splitting is done as illustrated in Fig. III-1-13 below.

TABLE T ₁		RULE NUMBER							
CONDITIONS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
σ_1	Y	Y	N	Y	-	N	-	ELSE	
σ_2	c_{21}	c_{22}	c_{23}	c_{24}	c_{25}	c_{26}	c_{27}		
σ_3	c_{31}	-	-	c_{34}	-	-	-		
ACTIONS									
a_1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
a_2	-	-	a_{23}	-	-	a_{26}	-	-	
a_3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
$\vdots$									
a_p	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	

Fig. III-1-12

than one condition as illustrated in the following example.

Example III-1-6: Splitting by branching with respect to two conditions

TABLE T ₁		RULE NUMBER							
CONDITIONS		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
c ₁		Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N
c ₂		Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	N
c ₃	c ₃₁		c ₃₂	-	c ₃₄	c ₃₅	-	-	-
c ₄	-		c ₄₂	c ₄₃	-	c ₄₅	c ₄₆	c ₄₇	c ₄₈
ACTIONS									
a ₁		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
⋮									
a _r		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

Fig. III-1-14

After splitting with respect to c₁ and c₂ we get the following set of tables.

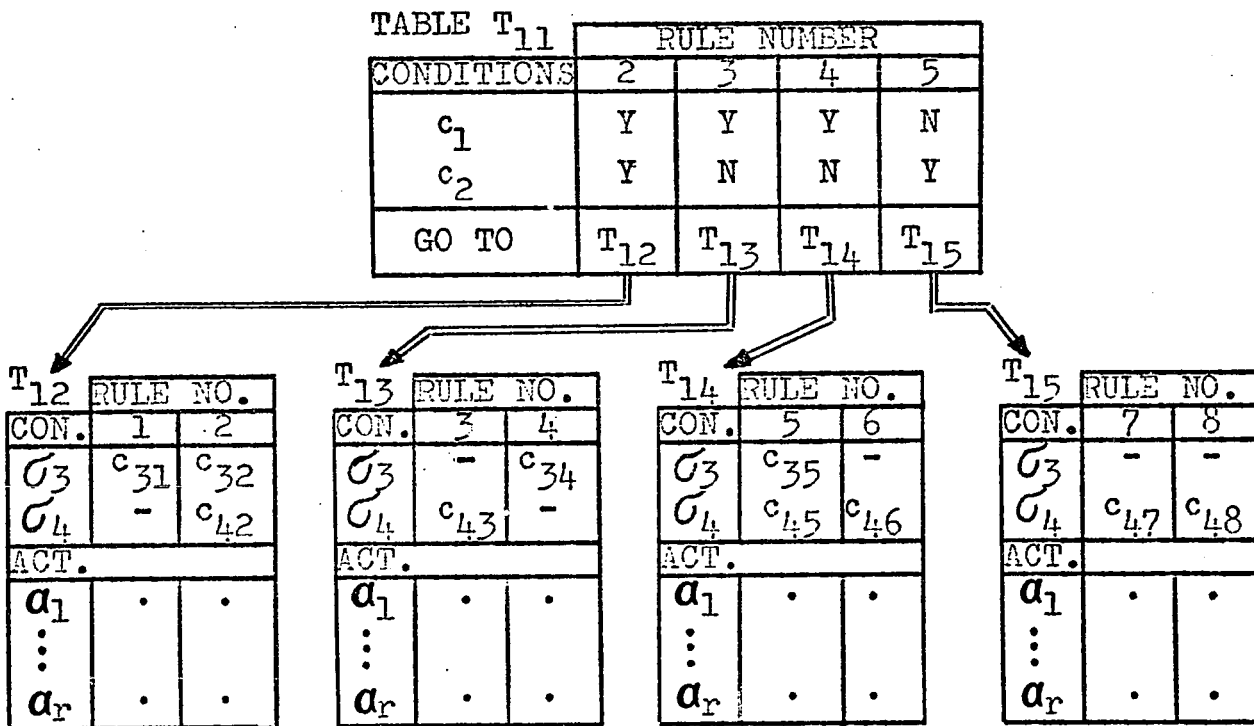


Fig. III-1-15

Even though the splitting procedures introduced in this section were presented separately, in practice they can be utilized in some combined way.

III-1-2 MERGING OF DECISION TABLES.

Merging of decision tables refers to the combination of two or more decision tables into one decision table. The question that must be ascertained first, is whether or not two decision tables (or more) can be merged without producing ambiguity and without changing the logical function of the original decision tables.

From this point of view, one can state that, given a set of decision tables, which was derived by using one or more of the splitting procedures, introduced in section III-1-1, they can be merged. The problem is that there is no mechanized procedure for testing whether the decision tables were derived by splitting a simple decision table or not. Therefore, even in this case, no generalized merging procedure can be given.

Now, with considering any two decision tables, it was found that even under severe restrictions there is no generalized procedure which will not produce, in general, ambiguities or other logical errors. The only statement that can be made is that merging of two decision tables (or more) can be considered only on an individual basis.

III-2 RELATIONS BETWEEN DECISION TABLES.

In this section we shall define the different relations possible between any two decision tables namely; isomorphism, equivalence, and coverage. As we shall see in the next section the equivalence relation is of special importance mainly in practical usage.

III-2-1 ISOMORPHISM AND EQUIVALENCE OF DECISION TABLES.

Definition III-2-1; Two decision tables are called isomorphic if:

1. They have the same set of conditions in the conditions stub, (not necessarily in the same order).
2. They have identical action stubs.
3. They have the same set of rules with the same actions associated respectively.
4. And by reorganizing the rules and the conditions in one decision table, providing the logic remains unchanged, it can be transformed into the second.

The above definition of isomorphism defines an equivalence relation. The only problem is how to check whether reorganizing of the rules changes the logic of a table or not. If the conditions are unrelated, the procedure for checking isomorphism can be mechanized.

Checking two decision tables (with dependent conditions) for isomorphism can be accomplished manually. This is done by checking after every rule reorganization to see that the logic was not changed. Another way is simply to check if all possible combinations of data will result in the same actions in both tables.

Definition III-2-2: Two decision tables T_1 and T_2 are said to be simply equivalent if:

1. They have the same set of conditions.
2. They have identical action stubs.

And as well, we can replace one decision table by the other without changing the logical function of the total system.

We shall introduce at this point another rule operation which, together with the rule splitting operations that were introduced in II-2-1, will simply allow us to treat equivalent tables more systematically.

Definition III-2-3: - "Rule Combination" - Let $\{\gamma^{n_1}, \gamma^{n_2}, \dots, \gamma^{n_{n_e}}\}$ be a subset of rules in a decision table with identical actions $\delta^{n_u} \equiv \delta^{n_v}$ $u, v = 1, 2, \dots, j$. Let $V_j = \{V_{j1}, V_{j2}, \dots, V_{jn}\}$ be the set of values associated with the j^{th} condition. Then if:

1. The subset contains rules which are identical except for the j^{th} entry; and
2. Every element $V_{ji} \in V_j$ appears at least in one of the rules ($n_i > n_j$).

This subset of rules can be combined into one rule in which the j^{th} entry is a don't care entry.

Example: "Rule Combination"

$$V_j = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$$

$$j \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} c_{1n} \\ c_{2n} \\ \vdots \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ c_{qn} \end{bmatrix} ; \begin{bmatrix} c_{1n} \\ c_{2n} \\ \vdots \\ 2 \\ \vdots \\ c_{qn} \end{bmatrix} ; \begin{bmatrix} c_{1n} \\ c_{2n} \\ \vdots \\ 3 \\ \vdots \\ c_{qn} \end{bmatrix} ; \begin{bmatrix} c_{1n} \\ c_{2n} \\ \vdots \\ 4 \\ \vdots \\ c_{qn} \end{bmatrix} \right\} \xrightarrow{V_j^*} \begin{bmatrix} c_{1n} \\ c_{2n} \\ \vdots \\ - \\ \vdots \\ c_{qn} \end{bmatrix}$$

Now it becomes quite obvious how two decision tables can be simply equivalent. To illustrate this, we shall introduce the following example.

Example III-2-1: - "Simple equivalent tables"

Suppose the following table is given

CONDITIONS	RULE NO.			
	1	2	3	4
c_1	Y	Y	Y	E
c_2	Y	N	N	L
c_3	Y	Y	N	S
ACTIONS				
a_1	X	X	X	
a_2				X

Fig. III-2-1

It is easy to see that we can combine rules 1 and 2 or rules 2 and 3 giving two different decision tables which are simply equivalent by definition II-4-2.

CONDITIONS	RULE NO.		
	1	2	3
c_1	Y	Y	E
c_2	-	N	L
c_3	Y	N	S
ACTIONS			
a_1	X	X	
a_2			X

CONDITIONS	RULE NO.		
	1	2	3
c_1	Y	Y	E
c_2	Y	N	L
c_3	Y	-	S
ACTIONS			
a_1	X	X	
a_2			X

Fig. III-2-2

For checking if two decision tables with unrelated conditions are simply equivalent the following procedure can be used:

Procedure III-2-1: Given two decision tables T_1 and T_2 .

STEP 1: Check if the conditions are the same

1. If they are different the tables are not simply equivalent, END.

2. GO to STEP 2.

STEP 2: Check if the actions stubs are identical

1. If not, the tables are not simply equivalent, END.
2. If yes GO to STEP 3

STEP 3: Transfer each table T_i ($i = 1, 2$) to a completely specified condition entry decision table T_i^C , GO to STEP 4.

STEP 4: Check if T_1^C and T_2^C are isomorphic.

1. If Yes, the tables are simply equivalent, END.
2. If Not, the tables are not simply equivalent, END.

Checking for simple equivalence in the general case, when the decision tables may include related rules, may be considered only on an individual basis. The only mechanized procedure that can be applied in every case is simply generating all possible combinations of data and checking on both tables to see if the resulting actions are the same for every combination. But even in this case, since many combinations might be logically, or data inconsistent, the results of the test may not prove a thing.

Definition III-2-4: Two decision tables are called equivalent if, and only if, we can replace one table by the other without changing the logical function of the total system.

In order to introduce a few comprehensive examples of equivalent decision tables, we shall define a transformation of an extended condition entry into a set of limited condition entries.

Definition III-2-5: - Let C_j be an extended condition associated with the set of values $V_j = \{V_{j1}, V_{j2}, \dots, V_{jn_j}\}$ then the transformation of C_j and the associated row ρ^j of condition entries into a set of limited conditions, and limited condition entries is done as follows:

1. The extended condition C_j is transformed into n_j limited conditions (obviously related).
2. Every don't care entry in c_j will result in a complete column of don't care entries after the transformation.
3. If as a result of the transformation, we get a condition c_p

associated with a row ρ^p full of don't care entries, it can be suppressed.

Example:

Given the extended condition A

$$A = 1 \quad 2 \quad 3 \quad 4 \quad - \quad 2$$

associated with the set $V_j = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$

then after the transformation we get

	1	2	3	4	5	6
A = 1	Y	-	-	-	-	-
A = 2	-	Y	-	-	-	Y
A = 3	-	-	Y	-	-	-
A = 4	-	-	-	Y	-	-
A = 5	-	-	-	-	-	-

Obviously, the 5th condition may be suppressed, column number 5 is the result of having a don't care entry in the original row. Columns 2 and 6 must both be included.

Attention should be paid to the fact that the number of columns after the transformation remains the same and the number of limited entry conditions is n_j or less. Therefore, this transformation does not affect the action entry matrix.

Definition III-2-6: Let A_k be an extended action associated with the set $W_k = \{w_{k1}, w_{k2}, \dots, w_{kn_k}\}$ then the transformation of A_k and the associated action entries row into a set of limited entry actions and limited action entries, is done as follows:

1. The extended action A_k is transformed into n_k limited actions.
2. Every blank entry in the action entries row results in a complete columns of blanks.

Example:

Given the extended action:

GO TO L1 L2 L3 - L2 - -

then after the transformation we get

GO TO L1 X

GO TO L2 X X

GO TO L3 X

Here again the number of columns remains the same and the number of limited entry actions is exactly n_k . Therefore this transformation does not effect in any way the condition entry matrix.

In the following example we shall see two equivalent decision tables and using the transformations we just defined, we shall prove that they are equivalent. Unfortunately, a general procedure for testing for equivalence cannot be given. In general case, the equivalence or the difference between two decision tables may even depend on information not explicitly stated in the decision tables under consideration, and again, every case must be treated on an individual basis.

Example:

The following two decision tables are equivalent

TABLE T ₁							
ACTIONS	RULE NUMBER						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A =	1	2	3	4	-	2	E
c ₂	Y	Y	-	Y	N	N	L
c ₃	-	Y	N	Y	-	Y	E
ACTIONS							
GO TO L ₁	X						
GO TO L ₂		X			X		
GO TO L ₃			X				
B ← A				X			
T ← A					X		

TABLE T ₂							
ACTIONS	RULE NUMBER						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A = 1	Y	-	-	-	-	-	E
A = 2	-	Y	-	-	-	Y	L
A = 3	-	-	Y	-	-	-	S
A = 4	-	-	-	Y	-	-	E
c ₂	Y	Y	-	Y	N	N	
c ₃	-	Y	N	Y	-	Y	
ACTIONS							
GO TO	L ₁	L ₂	L ₃		L ₂		
B ← A				X		X	
T ← A							X

Fig. III-2-3

In the above given example (which is relatively simple) we can deduce the equivalence of the tables simply by showing that by using the transformations just defined, we can transform every one of them to the table given below which is equivalent to T₁ and to T₂. (The equivalence of decision tables is an equivalence relation i.e. Reflexive symmetric and transitive).

In general, two equivalent decision tables may contain completely different conditions or actions which are equivalent in some particular type of

TABLE T							
ACTIONS	RULE NUMBER						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A = 1	Y	-	-	-	-	-	E
A = 2	-	Y	-	-	-	Y	L
A = 3	-	-	Y	-	-	-	S
A = 4	-	-	-	Y	-	-	E
c ₂	Y	Y	-	Y	N	N	
c ₃	-	Y	N	Y	-	Y	
ACTIONS							
GO TO L ₁	X						
GO TO L ₂		X			X		
GO TO L ₃			X				
B ← A				X		X	
T ← A							X

Fig. III-2-4

application. If, for example, the variable ALPHA is redefined somewhere as Beta (in COBOL) then a condition such as "IF ALPHA > 0" is logically equivalent to the statement "IF BETA > 0". But it is very difficult to know just from the information given in the decision tables. Moreover, in ALGOL, for example, if a statement like "A ← B ← C" is executed previous to executing the same decision table, then a condition like "IF A > 0" is equivalent to the condition "IF B > 0". But this equivalence is not apparent and requires additional knowledge not included in the decision tables.

III-2-2 MINIMIZATION OF DECISION TABLES.

Minimization of decision tables can be done along three lines: Rule minimization, done by rule combination; conditions stub minimization, done by transforming sets of limited entry conditions into extended entry conditions and action stub minimization, done by transformation of sets of limited entry actions into extended entry actions.

RULE MINIMIZATION: - Here we try to minimize a given decision table by minimizing the number of rules included in the condition entry matrix by combining or merging sets of rules whenever possible.

A necessary condition for rule combination is identical actions associated with the rules we are trying to combine. Therefore the first step in minimizing the table by rules is partitioning the set of rules into sub-tables with identical actions. If the

partitioning requires reorganizing rules then afterwards additional tests should be conducted to verify that the logic was not changed. If, by reorganizing the rules, the logic was changed and the original order of the rules is significant, then only partial partitioning is possible. In some cases some reorganization of rules is possible without altering the logic of the decision tables and should be done, if necessary, before partitioning. The goal, in every case, is to reach a partition with the smallest number of sub-sets possible. Suppose the following decision table is given:

$$\left[\begin{array}{c|cccccccccc} \Sigma & \gamma^1 & \gamma^2 & \gamma^3 & \gamma^4 & \gamma^5 & \gamma^6 & \gamma^7 & \gamma^8 & \gamma^9 & \gamma^{10} \\ \hline a & \delta^1 & \delta^2 & \delta^3 & \delta^4 & \delta^5 & \delta^6 & \delta^7 & \delta^8 & \delta^9 & \delta^{10} \end{array} \right]$$

where $\delta^1 = \delta^2 = \delta^6$

$$\delta^3 = \delta^4 = \delta^5 = \delta^7 = \delta^8$$

$$\delta^9 = \delta^{10}$$

then, if reorganization of rules is possible, the partitioning will give:

$$\{\gamma^1, \gamma^2, \gamma^6\} ; \{\gamma^3, \gamma^4, \gamma^5, \gamma^7, \gamma^8\} ; \{\gamma^9, \gamma^{10}\}$$

if the original order of the rules is significant, the partitioning will give:

$$\{\gamma^1, \gamma^2\} ; \{\gamma^3, \gamma^4, \gamma^5\} ; \{\gamma^6\} ; \{\gamma^7, \gamma^8\} ; \{\gamma^9, \gamma^{10}\}$$

if, for example, some reorganizing should take place without chan-

ging the logic, for example if shifting γ^6 to the 8th position was possible, then the partitioning will give:

$$\{\gamma^1, \gamma^2\} : \{\gamma^3, \gamma^4, \gamma^5, \gamma^7, \gamma^8\} : \{\gamma^6\} : \{\gamma^9, \gamma^{10}\}$$

The second step in rule minimization is to combine within every subset, as many rules as possible. To do that we shall partition again every sub-set by condition entry rows. As a first step in partitioning again, we have to find which are the possible condition entry rows that can be used. If the i^{th} sub-set includes N_i rules, then only the condition entry row associated with condition σ_j which, in turn, is associated with the set $V_j = \{V_{j1}, V_{j2}, \dots, V_{jn_j}\}$ where $n_j < N_i$, should be considered. For simplicity, we shall call the number n_j associated with the set V_j the index of the condition σ_j .

We start by trying to partition every sub-set with respect to the largest index $n_j < N_i$. Every n_j rules or more, included in the same sub-set, will form a new sub-set in the secondary partition if the j^{th} condition entry row contains the complete set $V_j = \{V_{j1}, V_{j2}, \dots, V_{jn_j}\}$ and all the other condition row entries contain identical values, respectively. Such a sub-set is called COMPLETE. If the original order of the rules is significant, then the rules of that sub-set must appear in a continuous sequence.

Now every complete sub-set of rules may be combined into a single incompletely specified rule with respect to the j^{th} entry*.

* See also the definition of rule combination; Definition III-2-3

Here again we must differ between two cases. If a sub-set can be partitioned into a set of complete sub-sets, then the secondary partition is called COMPLETE; otherwise, PARTIAL SECONDARY PARTITION.

A complete secondary partition with respect to any index $n_j < N_i$ will decrease the number of rules in the sub-set by a factor of n_j .

That procedure of secondary partitioning and rule combination, can be continued with respect to the other conditions until no more secondary partitioning is possible. The following example will clarify the procedure of rule minimization.

Example:

Let the $\gamma^1, \gamma^2, \dots, \gamma^{16}$ be a sub-set of rules with identical actions as given below

$$\{\gamma^1, \gamma^2, \dots, \gamma^{16}\} = \begin{bmatrix} a & a & a & a & b & b & b & b & c & c & c & c & d & d & d & d \\ Y & Y & N & N & Y & Y & N & N & Y & Y & N & N & Y & Y & N & N \\ Y & N & Y & N & Y & N & Y & N & Y & N & Y & N & Y & N & Y & N \\ e & e & e & e & e & e & e & e & e & e & e & e & e & e & e & e \end{bmatrix}$$

Where the first condition entry row is associated with the index $n_1 = 4$ (and $V_1 = \{V_{11}, V_{12}, V_{13}, V_{14}\} = \{a, b, c, d\}$ and the next two are limited condition entry rows associated with the index $n_2 = n_3 = 2$ (and $V_2 = V_3 = \{Y, N\}$)).

If the original order of the rules is not significant, starting from the largest index $n_1 = 4$, we can derive the following complete secondary partition:

$$\{\gamma^1, \gamma^5, \gamma^9, \gamma^{13}\} ; \{\gamma^2, \gamma^6, \gamma^{10}, \gamma^{14}\} ; \{\gamma^3, \gamma^7, \gamma^{11}, \gamma^{15}\} ;$$

$$\{\gamma^4, \gamma^8, \gamma^{12}, \gamma^{16}\}.$$

and after rule combination with respect to the above secondary partition, the following set of rules will result.

$$\{\gamma_1^1, \gamma_1^2, \gamma_1^3, \gamma_1^4\} * = \begin{bmatrix} - & - & - & - \\ Y & Y & N & N \\ Y & N & Y & N \\ e & e & e & e \end{bmatrix}$$

As can be easily seen, the number of rules is decreased by a factor $n_1 = 4$ (from 16 to 4), because the secondary partition is complete.

Now we can go one step farther and try to find another partition with the largest index n_j possible, which is, in this case, $n_3 = 2$, and the partition is:

$$\{\gamma_1^1, \gamma_1^2\} ; \{\gamma_1^3, \gamma_1^4\}$$

after rule combination we get:

$$\{\gamma_2^1, \gamma_2^2\} = \begin{bmatrix} - & - \\ Y & N \\ - & - \\ e & e \end{bmatrix}$$

In the final step we arrive at a single rule which is:

* The notation γ_n^i is used to denote the i^{th} rule after n rule combination took place

$$\{\gamma_3^1\} = \begin{bmatrix} - \\ - \\ - \\ e \end{bmatrix}$$

Note: The above example was so designed as to give, in every step, a complete secondary partition. In practical tables, this is not always the case. Sometimes it will be even difficult to decide which index to use for partitioning (if they are equal) as for example the following case:

$$\{\gamma^1 \gamma^2 \gamma^3\} = \begin{bmatrix} Y & Y & N \\ N & Y & Y \\ Y & Y & Y \end{bmatrix}$$

By using $n_1 = 2$ we get $\{\gamma^1\}$; $\{\gamma^2, \gamma^3\}$, and by using $n_2 = 2$ we get $\{\gamma^1, \gamma^2\}$; $\{\gamma^3\}$. As a result, whenever the secondary partitions are not complete, the above described procedure may not necessarily lead to the minimal number of rules, but will always decrease the number of rules. In such a case, the derivation of the minimal number of rules can be done by exhausting all possibilities, trying in every step, to find a complete secondary partition with respect to the maximal index.

CONDITION STUB and ACTION STUB MINIMIZATION.

The condition stub and action stub minimization are the opposite transformations of the transformations defined in III-2-5/6. By their very nature they are possible only in special cases. The usefulness of that kind of minimization is mainly for documentation

purposes and whenever a precompiler , interpreter or compiler, which accept ECE-EAE decision tables, is available. The procedure of minimizing the condition stub or the action stub (wherever possible) is simple and done step by step in the opposite order as defined in definitions III-2-5 and III-2-6 and for that reason will be omitted.

Note: that the nature of rule minimization is different from the condition stub and action stub minimization. In rule minimization we actually decrease the size of the decision table (not only physically) by reducing the number of rules and in terms of electronic data processing we decrease, in general, the compile time and run time. The condition stub and action stub minimization on the other hand decreases the size of the decision table only physically but usually increases compile or procompiler time due to the increase of complexity and does not save, in general, run time.

CHAPTER IV. CONVERSION METHODS

The methods used in converting decision tables to computer programs (either manual or automatic) fall into three main categories, depending upon the translation method. In this chapter we shall introduce the TREE METHOD, the MASK METHOD and the COMPUTED GO TO METHOD. The purpose of this chapter is to present existing procedures corresponding to the above methods and to print out their advantages, disadvantages and the limitations.

IV-1 THE TREE METHOD:

In this section, the tree method for conversion of decision tables to computer programs is described. Many variations of this method have been published, and based upon this method a large number of precompilers, interpreters and compilers have been implemented. All the procedures and algorithms based upon the tree technique were designed mainly for IS-LCE decision tables. At the end of the section we shall analyse the advantages and disadvantages of the tree method.

IV-1-1 THE TECHNIQUE:

The simplest technique for conversion of decision tables to computer programs is to translate the decision table into an equivalent flow chart, rule by rule, based upon "if... then..." relation-

ships. To show this we shall use the decision table given in Fig. IV-1-1:

CONDITIONS	RULE NUMBER			
	1	2	3	4
c_1	Y	Y	N	E
c_2	Y	Y	-	L
c_3	Y	N	N	E
ACTIONS				
a_1	x	x		x
a_2	x		x	x
a_3				x

Fig. IV-1-1

The corresponding flow chart is shown in Fig. IV-1-2. Note that this technique produces as many branch points as the number of condition entries which are not "don't care" entries.

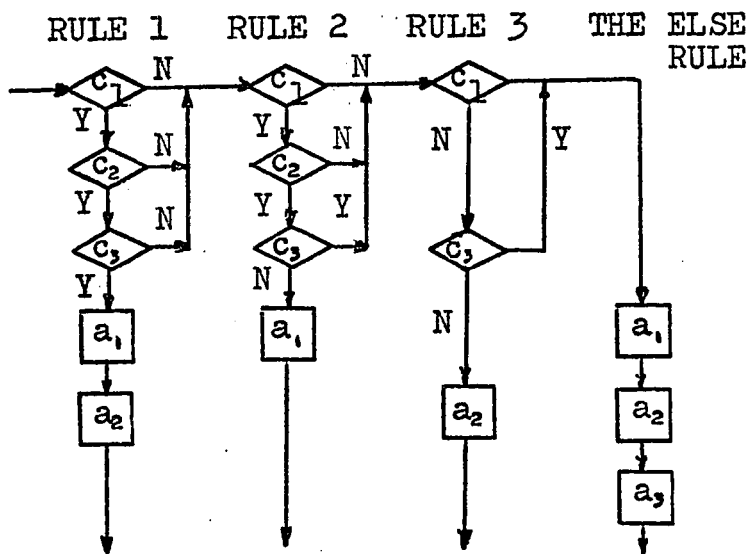


Fig. IV-1-2

In this section the conversion is presented using a flow chart to avoid the explicit use of a given programming language. Once a flow chart is obtained it can be written in assembly or any other high level language.

As seen from Fig. IV-1-2, in this translation a given condition is tested for every rule that includes it. For example condition c_1 is tested in every rule except the else rule. The "tree method" alleviates this by eliminating unnecessary redundancy. This is shown in the "decision tree" in Fig. IV-1-3.

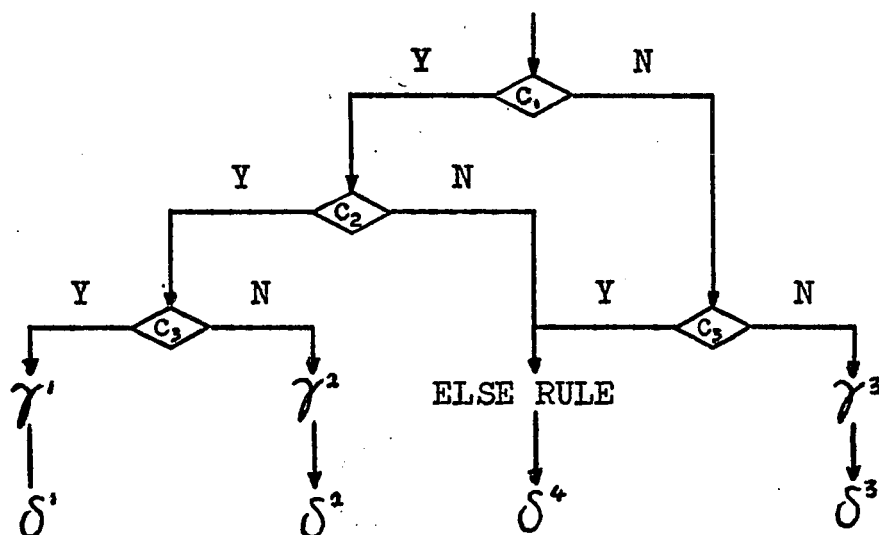


Fig. IV-1-3: Decision Tree

Each condition is tested never more than once and, therefore, the number of tests in a decision tree necessary to satisfy a particular condition, never can exceed the total number of conditions in the condition stub of a decision table.

In comparing the flow chart in Fig. IV-1-2 with the Decision Tree in Fig. IV-1-3, we can see that, in the worst cases, the former

must test eight times, while the latter requires three. Furthermore, a savings of over 50% is realized in storage required utilizing the Decision Tree Technique. Thus the superiority of the Tree technique over the usual flow chart is a certainty.

Note that only if the order in which the conditions are tested must be kept the same as in the condition stub, then the Decision Tree is unique. In general the form of the Decision Tree for any decision table is not unique and depends on the order in which the conditions are tested:

1. If, in every level of the decision tree, we test the same condition (if required), the number of different decision trees for a given decision table is equal to the number of permutations of the q conditions and therefore equal to $q!$.
2. If for every branch in the decision tree we are free to choose the next condition to be tested (in every level), then the number of decision trees for a given decision table is much larger. In this case, the upper limit of the number of different decision trees for a given decision table is:

$$q! [(q-1)!]^2 \cdot [(q-2)!]^3 \dots [2!]^{q-1} = \prod_{u=1}^q (u!)^{q-u}$$

This upper limit is obtained whenever the decision table does not include don't care conditions.

Even though many of the outcoming decision trees may look similar to each other, but taking into account that different tests may have different program code storage requirements and different

run times, the different trees may differ in total storage or run time requirements.

IV-1-2 EFFICIENCY CONSIDERATIONS.

In converting decision tables to computer programs the main goal is to generate the most efficient program code in the least amount of conversion time (by conversion time we mean the precompile, the interpret or the compile time). The efficiency of the program code is measured in terms of:

1. Computer run time.
2. Computer storage required.

As usual, we expect to use any program for some length of time before any changes or updates are necessary. For this reason the minimization of the conversion time is of less or importance and is not considered in this discussion.

The tree method can be used in many variations, and generate program code which takes minimum run time or minimum storage or a desired combination of both. This is done by choosing one of the many decision trees corresponding to a given decision table.

In the rest of this section we shall introduce briefly some of the most advanced techniques. The different techniques using the tree method fall in two categories:

1. Techniques for optimization of standard decision tables.

2. Techniques that require additional information not usually included in standard decision tables, such as apriori knowledge on data distribution, or the amount of code generated for a given condition etc.

PRESS'S [A5] PROCEDURE.

Press's procedure falls into the first category and can be used for hand-coding or as an algorithm for a decision tables processor. The leading idea is to choose, in every level and for every branch in the decision tree, the next condition to be tested, called by Press the "key row" or "key condition", based upon certain criteria. The table is then split by branching as defined in III-1-1.

The actual procedure, as stated by Press, is given below. After every step a brief explanation is also included.

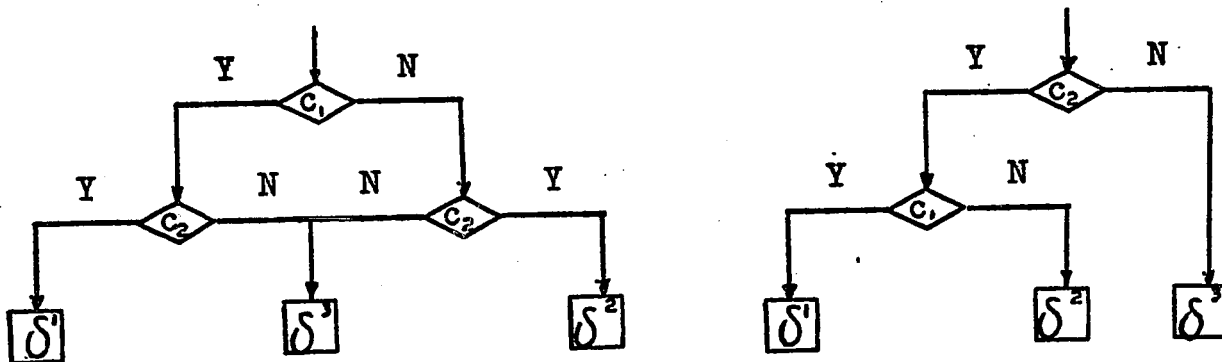
STEP 1: CHOOSE THE KEY CONDITION FROM THE SET OF ROWS (condition entry rows ρ^i) WITH THE MINIMUM NUMBER OF DON'T CARE ENTRIES.

As defined in III-1-1 splitting a table by branching on a given condition c_k that has y "Y" entries, x "N" entries and i don't care entries, results in two sub-tables with q-1 conditions and with x+i and y+i rules respectively. Choosing the key condition as the one with the minimum number of don't care entries obviously leads to smallest sub-table.

STEP 2: IF ONE OF THE ROWS CONTAINS ALL Y'S IN ALL ENTRIES DISCRIMINATE ON THAT ROW.

This can be best seen by the following example.

	1	2	3
c_1	Y	N	E
c_2	Y	Y	S
			E



In this example, both rules c_1 and c_2 are qualified to be the key condition by step 1. Choosing c_2 as a key condition, results in a decision tree which requires less storage.

STEP 3: DISCRIMINATE ON THE CONDITION ROW WHICH MAXIMIZES CS_i WHERE

$$CS_i = \sum_{j=1}^q \rho_{ij} - \rho_{ii}$$

AND WHERE q EQUALS THE NUMBER OF CONDITIONS IN THE TABLE.

The first two steps of the procedure can be applied by looking at the condition entry rows individually. In the third step of the procedure a look ahead strategy is applied by taking under consideration the relation among the key condition in such a way that that future sub-tables will contain condition entry rows with all Y's or all N's. To understand this look ahead strategy, con-

sider the following:

Divide the entries of each condition entry row ρ^i into two non disjoint sub-set:

1. A positive sub-set including all the Y and don't care entries.
2. A negative sub-set including all the N and don't care entries.

A condition entry row ρ^j is said to be the complement of a condition entry row ρ^i if corresponding to the negative elements and/or the positive element in ρ^i the elements of ρ^j are only Y's or only N's. The number of complementary elements, which is called the count of ρ^i with respect to ρ^j , is denoted by ρ_{ij} .

$$CS_i = \sum_{j=1}^q \rho_{ij} - \rho_{ii} = \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq i}}^q \rho_{ij}$$

$$\rho^i = \left\{ \underbrace{Y \quad Y}_{+'ve \text{ elements}} \quad \overbrace{- \quad N}^{-'ve \text{ elements}} \right\}$$

$$\rho^i = \begin{bmatrix} Y & Y & - & N \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\rho^j = \begin{bmatrix} N & N & N & - \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\rho_{ij} = 3$$

Thus choosing the row with the largest CS_i may lead at a future splitting to a subtable with a condition entry row with all Y's or all N's. This procedure does not produce necessarily the optimum code possible but gives a way of converting decision tables into efficient program in terms of run time and storage required.

It should be noted that the above procedure is good only for LCE non ambiguous decision tables. In this procedure no means were provided for testing for ambiguity or for completeness.

POLLACK'S [A1] PROCEDURES.

Two procedures were developed by S.L. POLLACK. One which minimizes the required computer storage space and the other which minimizes computer run time. The former falls into first category, while the second falls into the second category which requires information not usually included in a decision table.

POLLACK'S FIRST PROCEDURE: MINIMUM COMPUTER STORAGE REQUIRED

This procedure is based (as in Press) upon a selection criteria that chooses, in every level and for every branch in the decision tree, the next condition or condition entry row upon which the table or the sub-table is split by branching (see definition III-1-1). The selected condition is called by Pollack the "K condition" or the "K row". Pollack does not prove that the procedure actually leads to an optimum decision tree in terms of minimum computer storage required.

The procedure as stated by Pollack is given below. After every step whenever necessary a brief explanation is given.

STEP 1: CHECK FOR REDUNDANCY OR CONTRADICTION. IF, AT ANY STAGE, A PAIR OF RULES DOES NOT CONTAIN AT LEAST ONE Y,N PAIR IN ANY OF ITS ROWS, REDUNDANCY OR CONTRADICTION EXISTS.

Note: Pollack suggests performing the test for redundancy or contradiction when the table is reduced to sub-tables with one

condition.

STEP 2: DETERMINE THOSE ROWS THAT HAVE A MINIMUM DASH-COUNT.

A don't care entry that appears in a rule (i.e. column) containing r don't care entries is counted as 2^r dashes. For each rule, we denoted the 2^r as the column-count. In each row, the sum of the column-counts corresponding to the don't care entries in that row is denoted as dash-count. A row's dash-count is the sum of the column-count of those rules that have don't care entries in the row.

STEP 3: IF TWO OR MORE ROWS HAVE A MINIMUM DASH-COUNT, SELECT THE ROW THAT HAS THE MAXIMUM DELTA.

Delta is the absolute value of the difference of the Y-count and the N-count. The Y-count is the sum of the column-counts corresponding to the Y's in the row. The N-count is similar.

STEP 4: DISCRIMINATE ON THE CONDITION IN ROW K; CALL IT c_k . THIS DISCRIMINATION HAS BRANCHES, EACH OF WHICH LEADS TO A SUB-TABLE CONTAINING ONE MORE RULES, WITH ONE ROW LESS THAN THE ORIGINAL TABLE (ROW K IS DELETED).

The K row is the selected row. The selection is based on criteria described in the first three steps. Step 4 simply splits the decision table on the selected condition K by branching.

STEP 5: IF THE BRANCH LEADS TO A SUB-TABLE CONTAINING MORE THAN ONE RULE GO BACK TO STEP 1.

Step 5 simply states that the splitting by branching is repeated until the sub-tables contain only one rule.

STEP 6a: IF A BRANCH LEADS TO A SUB-TABLE CONTAINING EXACTLY ONE RULE, AND IF THAT RULE CONTAINS ALL DON'T CARE ENTRIES REPLACE THE SUB-TABLE WITH THE RULE ITSELF.

STEP 6b: IF A BRANCH LEADS TO A SUB-TABLE WITH ONE RULE, AND THAT RULE CONTAINS ONE OR MORE DON'T CARE ENTRIES BUT DOES NOT CONTAIN ALL DON'T CARE ENTRIES, CHOOSE AS ROW K ANY ROW THAT HAS NO DON'T CARE ENTRIES.

The selected branch will indicate a sub-table with one less row in it. The opposing branch of the selected row will be indicated as an ELSE-RULE.

STEP 6c: IF A BRANCH DOES NOT LEAD TO A SUB-TABLE, IT LEADS TO AN ELSE-RULE.

STEP 6d: IF THE BRANCH LEADS TO A SUBTABLE CONTAINING ONLY ONE RULE AND THAT RULE CONTAINS ONLY ONE CONDITION WHOSE VALUE IS Y (OR N), THEN ONE BRANCH OF THE DISCRIMINATION ON THAT CONDITION LEADS TO THE RULE, THE OTHER BRANCH LEADS TO THE ELSE-RULE.

POLLACK'S SECOND PROCEDURE: MINIMUM COMPUTER RUN TIME.

In his second procedure, Pollack uses the same technique of splitting by branching but the criteria for choosing the K condition upon which the splitting is done by introducing a weighted

dash count. This procedure can be used if and only if the following restrictions and conditions are satisfied.

1. The table is complete, whether by an implicit ELSE-RULE, or an explicit ELSE-RULE.
2. The average probability to satisfy a rule can be provided for every rule.
3. Only a small percentage of the transactions will satisfy the else rule.

This procedure falls into the second category, for which additional information is needed. The actual procedure, as stated by Pollack, is given below and explanations are added whenever needed.

STEP 1: SAME AS FOR THE FIRST PROCEDURE.

STEP 2: DETERMINE THOSE ROWS THAT HAVE MINIMUM WEIGHTED DASH COUNT.

If we denote by (p^i) the frequency of satisfying the i^{th} rule the weighted dash-count (WDC) for any row is the sum of the products $[p^i \times (\text{column count})]$ for those column that contain a dash in that row.

STEP 3: IF TWO OR MORE ROWS HAVE A MINIMUM WDC, SELECT, FROM AMONG THEM, THE ROW THAT HAS THE MINIMUM DELTA. IF, AMONG THESE, THERE STILL EXISTS TWO OR MORE ROWS, SELECT THE ROW WITH THE MINIMUM DASH-COUNT. IF THERE ARE MORE THAN TWO SUCH ROWS, SELECT ANY ONE OF THEM.

STEP 4,5, and 6: Same as the first procedure.

The procedure imposes the following three restrictions :

1. The decision table must be unambiguous.
2. The decision table must be complete without including an explicit else rule.
3. There is complete freedom in order in which the conditions in the decision table are being tested.

Furthermore it requires the following additional information:

$P_i = P(\gamma^i)$ the probability distribution of the rules.

$C_i = C(c_i)$ the cost function for testing the i^{th} condition expressed in terms of run time.

The rules are partitioned by actions.

At the the begining of this section we found that the number of decision trees corresponding to a given decision table is

$\pi^q (K!)^{q-K}$. Every decision tree is referred to as a Sequential Testing procedure (STP). The criterion of efficiency employed is "expected processing time". The expected processing cost for an STP is the weighted sum of the path costs where the weights are the respective path probabilities. The procedure described [A6] will find the minimum expected cost STP for a given LCE decision table. This procedure uses a similar algorithm like the Branch and Bound algorithm given by Little et al. [D4] for solving the traveling Salesman Problem. The authors have developed an extension which can be used in conversion of decision tables with related conditions.

REMARKS ON THE PROCEDURES DEVELOPED BY L.T. REINWALD
AND R.M. SOLAND [A6],[A7]

A detailed description of these two procedures are excluded because of their length, but for the sake of completeness some remarks are presented. L.T. REINWALD and R.M. SOLAND developed two procedures for converting decision tables to optimal computer programs. The first converts decision tables to computer programs with minimum average run time and the second converts to programs with minimum storage required. Both procedures were developed for conversion of LCE-decision tables, and fall into the second category in which additional information is required during conversion time.

FIRST PROCEDURE: MINIMUM RUN TIME [A6]

This procedure is designed to convert decision tables of the form given in Fig. IV-1-4 to program code which on the average will require minimum run time.

CONDITIONS	RULE NUMBER						COST
	1	2	...	i	...	p	
c_1	.	.	...	.	...	.	$C(c_1)$
c_2	.	.		.		.	$C(c_2)$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$		$\vdots$		$\vdots$	$\vdots$
c_q	.	.		.		.	$C(c_q)$
PROBABILITIES	P_1	P_2	...	P_i	...	P_p	
ACTIONS	δ^1		...	δ^u		δ^v	

Fig. IV-1-4.

SECOND PROCEDURE: MINIMUM STORAGE REQUIRED [A7]

This procedure converts decision tables of the form given in Fig. IV-1-5 to program code with minimum storage requirements. The storage required for every individual test must be given.

CONDITIONS	RULE NUMBER						S
	1	2	...	i	...	p	
c_1	.	.	...	.	...	.	$S(c_1)$
c_2	.	.		.		.	$S(c_2)$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$		$\vdots$		$\vdots$	$\vdots$
c_q	.	.		.		.	$S(c_q)$
ACTIONS	δ^1		...	δ^u	...	δ^v	

Fig. IV-1-5

$S_i = S(c_i)$ is the storage required for i^{th} test.

The rules are partitioned according to the actions.

The algorithm is similar to the Branch and Bound algorithm given by Little et al [D4] and used in the first procedure too.

The author developed a combination of both procedures to give a total minimum cost in terms of minimum average time and storage.

IV-1-3 ADVANTAGES, DISADVANTAGES AND COMPARISON OF TREE METHODS

1. THE ADVANTAGES OF THE TREE METHODS:

- Easy to use for CS-LCE and IS-LCE decision tables with and without related conditions.
- If used in a pre-compiler the generated code is clear and

easy to follow, (for debugging purposes).

- c. Using the last two procedures, whenever the probability function and the storage required per test is known, an optimum program code is generated.

2. THE DISADVANTAGES OF THE TREE METHODS:

- a. Not easily adaptable for conversion of ECE or MCE decision tables. Any extension of existing procedures to cover MCE becomes extremely complicated.
- b. The method does not include effective means for testing ambiguity and completeness, in conversion and/or run time.
- c. If order of the conditions is important no optimization is possible.
- d. If the order in which the rules have to be tested is significant the tree method cannot be used efficiently.
- e. The last two procedures require the probability function and/or the storage and cost per test as additional information, which in most cases are unknown to the user.

3. COMPARISON.

The comparison study of the different procedures presented in this section will be done by converting two illustrative examples to decision trees using the appropriate procedures as applicable.

Example IV-1-1; Minimum Average Processing Time.

Given the decision table:

CONDITIONS	RULE NUMBER								COST
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
c_1	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	$C(c_1)=50$
c_2	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	N	N	$C(c_2)=68$
c_3	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N	$C(c_3)=25$
PROBABILITIES	.00	.15	.20	.05	.25	.20	.00	.15	
ACTIONS	δ^1			δ^2		δ^3			

Fig. IV-1-6

Using the minimization techniques defined in III-2-2 we can obtain the following minimized condition entry matrices (with the appropriate probability and actions):

$$\begin{bmatrix} Y & N & Y & N & N \\ Y & Y & N & - & N \\ - & N & - & Y & N \end{bmatrix}$$

$$[.15 \quad .20 \quad .30 \quad .20 \quad .15]$$

$$[\delta^1 \quad \delta^1 \quad \delta^2 \quad \delta^3 \quad \delta^3]$$

(a)

$$\begin{bmatrix} Y & - & Y & N & N \\ Y & Y & N & Y & N \\ Y & N & - & Y & - \end{bmatrix}$$

$$[.00 \quad .35 \quad .30 \quad .20 \quad .15]$$

$$[\delta^1 \quad \delta^1 \quad \delta^2 \quad \delta^3 \quad \delta^3]$$

(b)

$$\begin{bmatrix} Y & N & Y & N & N \\ Y & Y & N & Y & N \\ - & N & - & Y & - \end{bmatrix}$$

$$[.15 \quad .20 \quad .30 \quad .20 \quad .15]$$

$$[\delta^1 \quad \delta^1 \quad \delta^2 \quad \delta^3 \quad \delta^3]$$

(c)

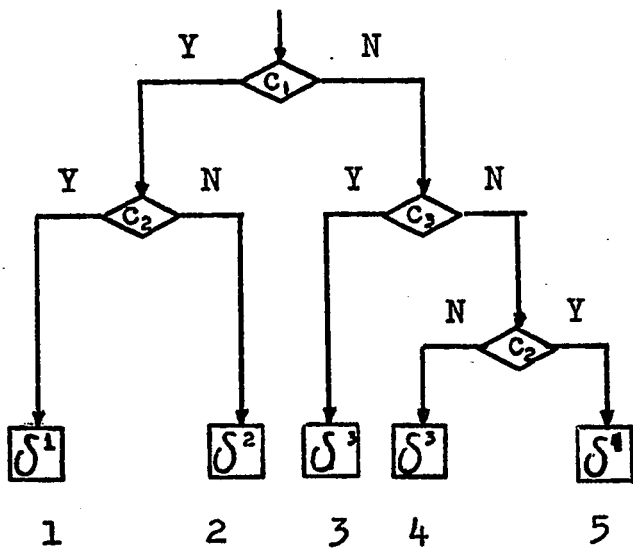
$$\begin{bmatrix} Y & - & Y & N & N \\ Y & Y & N & - & N \\ Y & N & - & Y & N \end{bmatrix}$$

$$[.00 \quad .35 \quad .30 \quad .20 \quad .15]$$

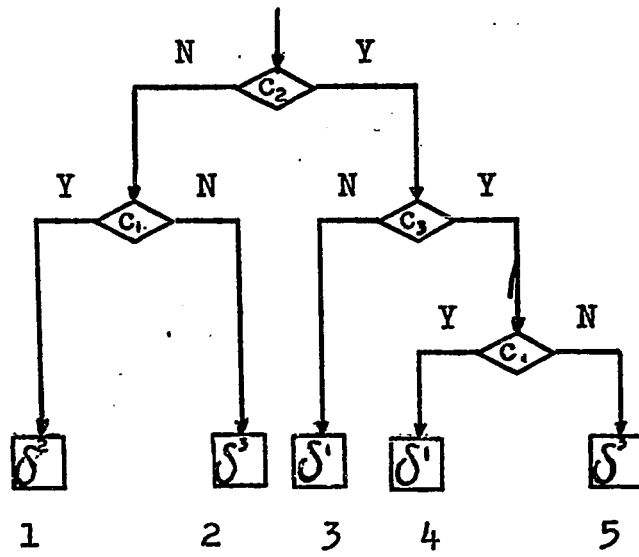
$$[\delta^1 \quad \delta^1 \quad \delta^2 \quad \delta^3 \quad \delta^3]$$

(d)

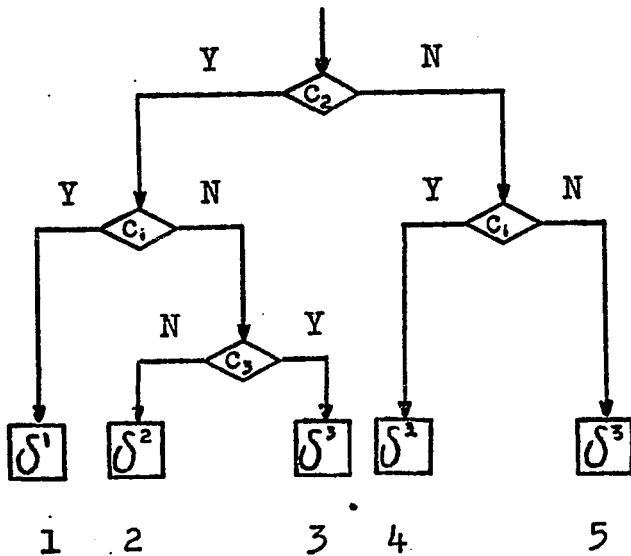
A. To take advantage of Press's procedure, we have to apply it to each of the minimized version of the decision table. The resulting decision trees are given below.



(a)



(b)



(a)

Press's criteria for choosing the condition for splitting do not give a unique result in this case. There are three different possibilities.

(d)

Fig. IV-1-7

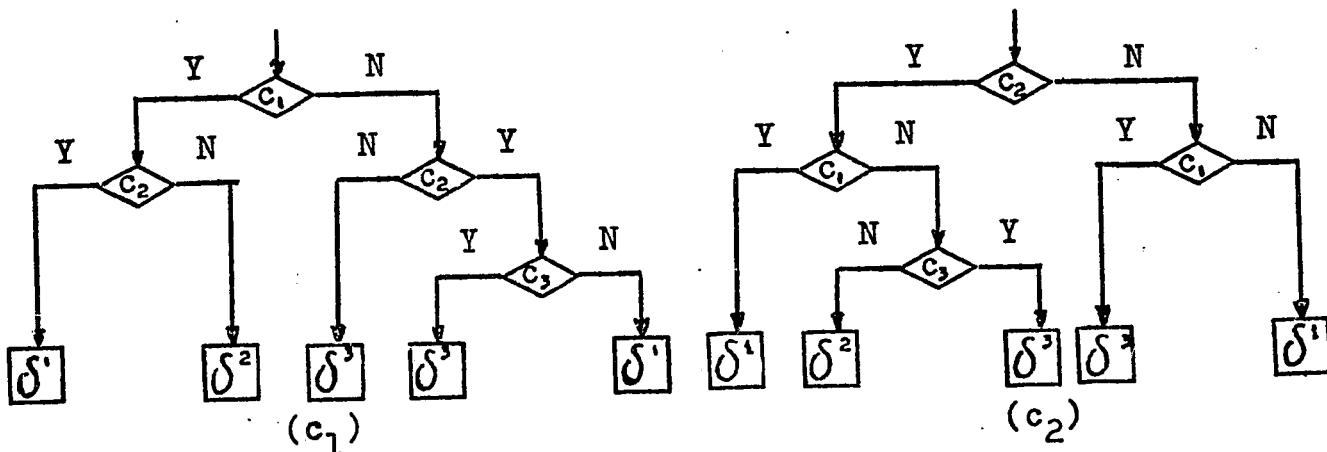
In the following table the expected costs of (a) (b) and (c) are given;

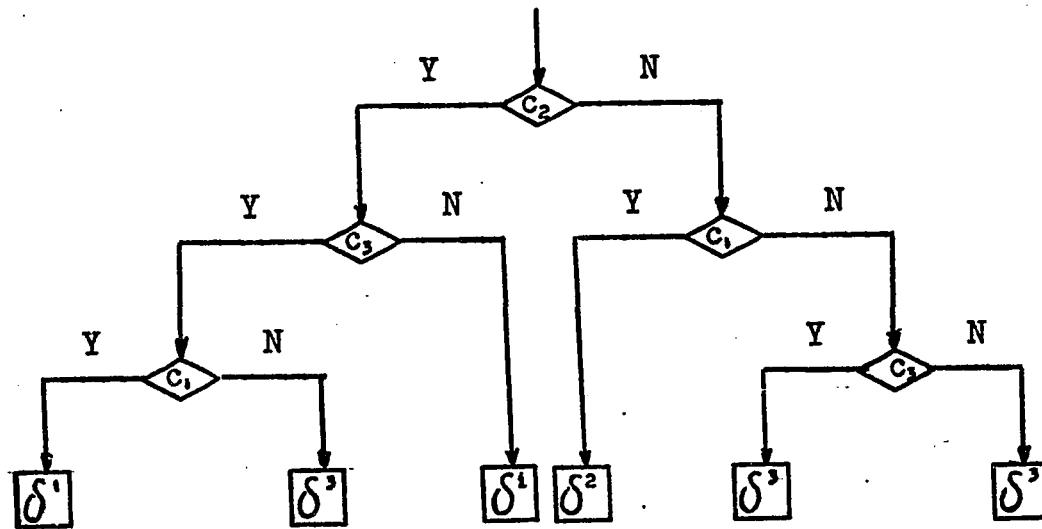
PATH	PROBABILITY			COST			EXPECTED COST		
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(a)	(b)	(c)	(a)	(b)	(c)
1	.15	.30	.15	118	118	118	17.70	35.40	17.70
2	.30	.15	.20	118	118	143	35.40	17.70	23.60
3	.20	.35	.20	75	93	143	15.00	32.55	28.60
4	.15	.00	.30	143	143	118	21.45	00.00	35.40
5	.20	.20	.15	143	143	118	28.60	28.60	17.70
TOTAL EXPECTED COST							118.15	104.25	123.00

TABLE IV-1-1

Note: It should be noted that using Press's procedure, any one of the above decision trees could have been the result, depending on the choice of the minimized form of the decision table.

B. Applying Pollack's second procedure on the minimized versions of the decision table given in Fig. IV-1-6, the resulting decision trees for (a) and (b) are exactly the same as in the case where Press's procedure is used. For (c) we arrive at two possible decision trees as shown below in (c₁) and (c₂). Pollack's procedure gives a unique decision tree shown in (d) below.





(d)

Fig. IV-1-8

In the following table the expected costs of (a), (b), (c₁), (c₂), and (d) are given:

PATH	PROBABILITY					COST					EXPECTED COST				
	a	b	c ₁	c ₂	d	a	b	c ₁	c ₂	d	a	b	c ₁	c ₂	d
1	.15	.30	.15	.15	.00	118	118	118	118	143	17.70	35.40	17.70	17.70	00.00
2	.30	.15	.30	.20	.20	118	118	118	143	143	35.40	17.70	35.40	23.60	28.60
3	.20	.35	.15	.20	.35	75	93	118	143	93	15.00	32.55	17.70	28.60	32.55
4	.15	.00	.20	.30	.30	143	143	143	118	118	21.45	00.00	28.60	35.40	35.40
5	.20	.20	.20	.15	.00	143	143	143	118	143	28.60	28.60	28.60	17.70	00.00
6					.15					143					
TOTAL EXPECTED COST											118.15	104.25	128.00	123.00	118.00

TABLE IV-1-2

Note: It should be noted that in this case too, the resulting decision tree could have been any one of the five different decision trees, depending on the minimized version of the decision table used.

Using the first procedure developed by L.T. Reinwald and R.M.

tree is not unique when using Press's or Pollack's procedure exhausting all possible minimal decision tables and trees, the optimum decision tree can be found. (see tables IV-1-1 and IV-1-2. Both include the minimal expected cost 104.25)

3. Press's procedure does not require any additional information such as probabilities or costs, which is an advantage over the other procedures. The procedure is simple and automatic conversion is relatively simple and efficient. To evaluate the maximum amount of expected overhead cost we shall use:

$$\frac{\text{MAXEC-MINEC}}{\text{MINEC}} \times 100 = \frac{123.00-104.25}{104.25} \times 100 = 19\%$$

Where: MAXEC = MAXimum Expected Cost and MINEC = MINimum Expected Cost.

The cost for a straight forward conversion is obviously 143 and the absolutemaximum overhead is $\frac{143.00-104.25}{104.25} = 37.2\%$

Taking into account cases in which the costs for the individual tests cannot be supplied, Press's procedure still gives an improvement of about $37.2-19 = 18.2\%$ in the worst case.

If the costs are given, Press's procedure can be used in an exhausting mode in which the expected cost is calculated for all the minimized decision tables. The decision tree with the minimal expected cost is the optimal sequential path resulting from Reinwald and Soland's first procedure.

4. Pollack's second procedure used in this example, makes use of the rule probabilities but does not require or uses the cost for the individual test. In this case also, the optimim deci-

Soland [A6], we obtain directly from the original decision table given in Fig. IV-1-6, the decision tree shown in Fig. IV-1-9(a) and using the modified form of that procedure we obtain decision tree shown in Fig. IV-1-9(b)

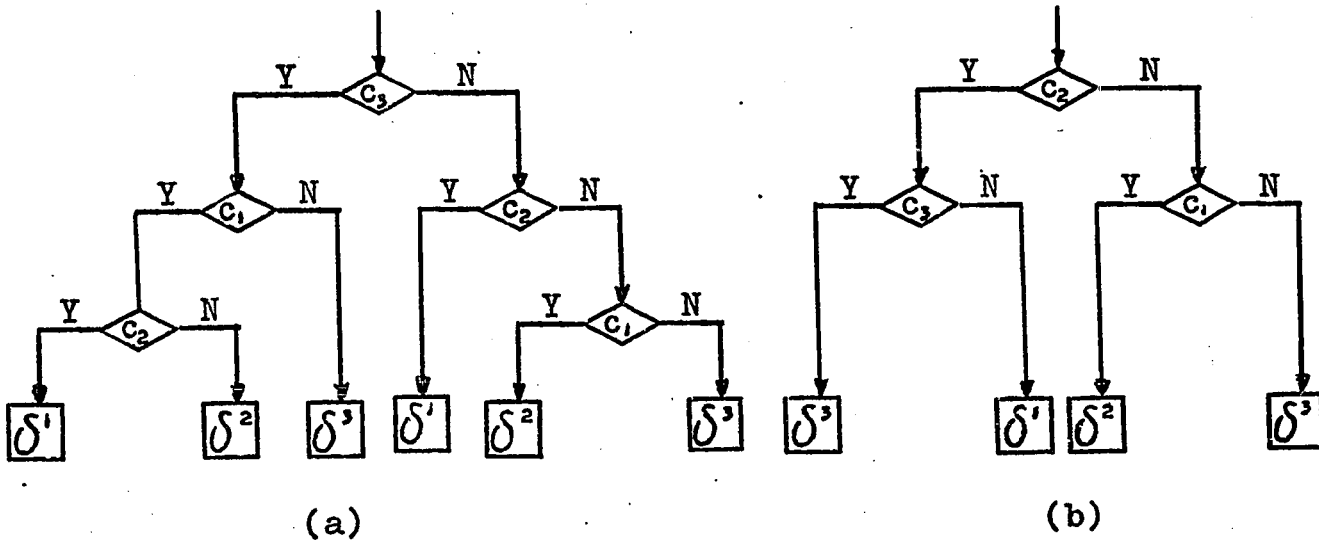


Fig. IV-1-9

Optimal decision tree for the decision table given in Fig. IV-1-6. The expected cost is 111.9.

Optimal decision tree resulting from the modified procedure. The expected cost is 104.25.

At this point we are ready to analyse the results from this example;

1. Neither Press's procedure nor Pollack's could produce a unique, efficient decision tree from the original decision table given in Fig. IV-1-6. Both procedures require some additional steps, namely to minimize the original decision table.
2. Minimization techniques do not lead necessarily to the appropriate minimal decision table and therefore the resulting decision

sion tree can be found (if the costs are supplied in an exhaustive mode. The maximum overhead in this case is

$$\frac{\text{MAXEC-MINEC}}{\text{MINEC}} = \frac{128.00-104.25}{104.25} = 23.8\%$$

Taking into account that the maximum overhead is 37.2% we still save about $37.8-23.8 = 14\%$ in the worst case.

5. The greatest limitation of Reinwald and Soland's first procedure is that the rule probabilities and the costs for individual test must be supplied. On the other hand, this procedure leads to an optimal decision tree without going into a phase of minimization. Note that for using this procedure it is required to complete the table if it is given in an incompletely specified form.

$$\frac{\text{MAXEC-MINEC}}{\text{MINEC}} = \frac{111.9-104.25}{104.25} = 7.3\%$$

The modified procedure leads to a decision tree with an absolute minimal expected cost. The only weak point is that branches (or rules) with probability 0 do not appear in the decision tree. If these rules are logically inconsistent, then by omitting them no harm is done. However they are data inconsistent or simply with probability 0, and if data satisfying these rules is submitted by mistake, the result may be unpredictable.

Example IV-1-2: Minimum Storage Requirement.

Given the decision table:

CONDITIONS	RULE NUMBERS								S
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
c_1	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	$S(c_1)=3$
c_2	Y	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	N	$S(c_2)=7$
c_3	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	Y	$S(c_3)=8$
ACTIONS	δ^1			δ^2		δ^3			

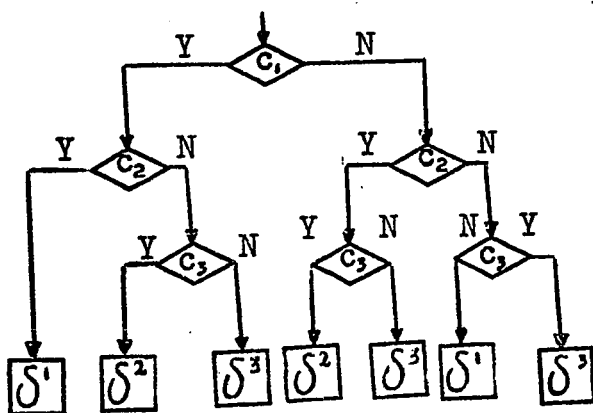
Fig. IV-1-10

Using again the minimization techniques defined in III-2-2, we arrive at the following simple minimized condition entry matrix (with the appropriate actions)

$$\begin{bmatrix} Y & N & Y & N & Y & N & N \\ Y & N & N & Y & N & Y & N \\ - & N & Y & Y & N & N & Y \end{bmatrix}$$

$$[\delta^1 \delta^1 \delta^2 \delta^2 \delta^3 \delta^3 \delta^3]$$

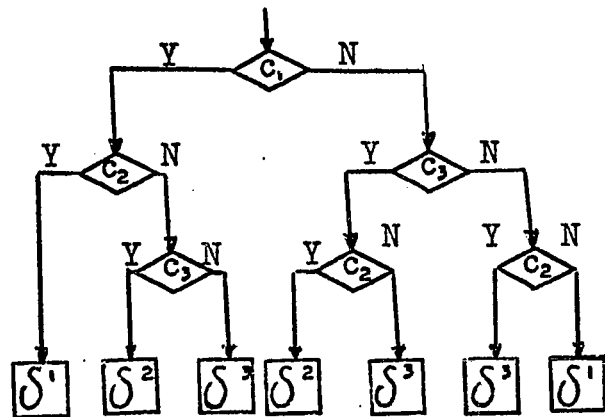
A. Using Press's procedure we obtain four decision trees, as shown in Fig. IV-1-11.



The storage required is

$$3 + 2 \times 7 + 3 \times 8 = 41$$

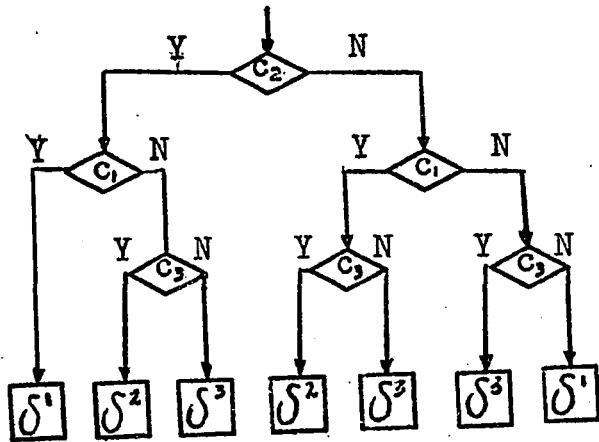
(a)



The storage required is

$$3 + 2 \times 8 + 3 \times 7 = 40$$

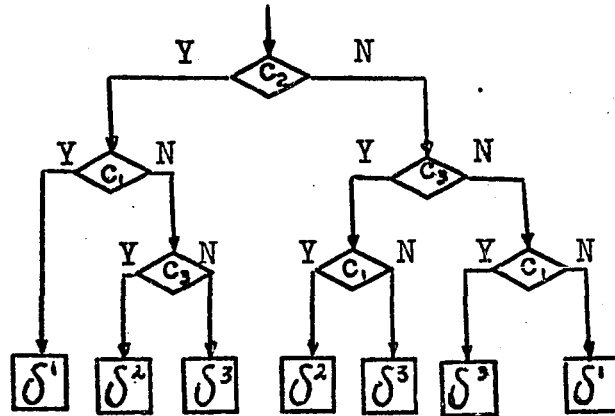
(b)



The storage required is

$$7 + 2 \times 3 + 3 \times 8 = 37$$

(c)



The storage required is

$$7 + 3 \times 3 + 2 \times 8 = 32$$

(d)

Fig. IV-1-11

B. using Pollack's first procedure on the minimized decision table, the resulting decision trees are exactly the same as those obtained by Press's procedure.

C. Using Reinwald and Soland's procedure, the resulting tree is unique and is given in Fig. IV-1-11(d).

The results of this example lead to the following conclusion:

1. The resulting decision trees after applying Press's or Pollack's procedures are not unique and depend on the minimized versions of the decision tables. Even if there is only one minimized decision table, the resulting decision tree is not unique. If the storage required for every individual test is known, then by exhausting search the decision tree with minimum storage required can be found. But, in any case, both procedures minimize to some extent the required storage.

2. Reinwald and Soland's second procedure leads to a unique decision tree with minimum storage required. The only weak point is that the individual storage required has to be known for every test, which becomes extremely hard in high language as it is compiler dependent.
3. Reinwald and Soland's procedure is applicable for tree methods only. It is possible to obtain further reduction in the storage requirement by using the mask method.

IV-2 THE MASK METHOD

In this section, a fundamentally different method for conversion of decision tables to computer programs is presented. The mask method can be regarded as a semi-interpretive method. The basic technique as first described by H.W. Kirk [B1] together with some variations, modifications and extensions will be discussed. At the end, a general comparison between the tree method and the mask method is presented.

IV-2-1 THE TECHNIQUE.

The technique, as Kirk [B1] describes it, is based upon the creation of a binary image of a limited entry decision table (we shall see later that this can be extended and used for LCE and MCE decision tables, too), and a binary image vector of the results after testing a given set of conditions for given data. This binary image vector is used then to scan the binary image of the decision

table in order to find which rule is being satisfied and which action has to be taken.

In introducing the basic Mask technique we shall use the following IS-LCE decision table (given in Fig. IV-2-1).

CONDITIONS	RULE NUMBER						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	E
2	Y	-	-	Y	N	N	L
3	Y	N	Y	-	Y	N	S
4	N	Y	Y	-	-	N	E
ACTIONS	δ^1	δ^2	δ^3	δ^4	δ^5	δ^6	δ^7

Fig. IV-2-1: Illustrative example for presenting the Mask technique

To create a binary image of a given decision table (like the one in Fig. IV-2-1) we have to build two binary matrices: a "Decision Matrix" and a "Mask Matrix."

The Decision Matrix: - Given a LCE decision table, the respective decision matrix, denoted by D, is constructed by the following rule:

$$d_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } c_{ij} = Y \text{ or Yes} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

The decision matrix which corresponds to the decision table of Fig. IV-2-1 is:

$$D = [d_{ij}] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

The Mask Matrix: - Given a LCE decision table, the respective mask matrix, denoted by M, is constructed by the following rule:

$$m_{ij} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } c_{ij} = \text{don't care} \\ 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

The mask matrix which corresponds to the decision table of Fig.

IV-2-1 is:

$$M = [m_{ij}] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

These two binary matrices include all the information given in a limited condition entry matrix. In order to decide which action is to be taken when certain data is presented, upon testing the different conditions, we build concurrently a result binary vector denoted by R, which is constructed by the following rule:

$$r_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{If the result of testing } c_i \text{ is YES} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

This next operation is a scanning operation in which, using the result vector and the mask matrix, we scan the decision matrix to find which rule is satisfied.

The Scanning operation: - Starting from the first column vector in the mask matrix, we multiply it logically by the result binary vector and test for equality with the corresponding column vector in the decision matrix.

i. If $r_i \times m_{ij} = d_{ij}$ for all $i = 1, 2, \dots, q$ then the j^{th} rule y^j is satisfied and the action to be taken is δ^j .

ii. If $r_i \times m_{ij} \neq d_{ij}$ for a least one i , $i = 1, 2, \dots, q$. then the next column vector has to be tested.

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- iii. If upon completion of the scanning operation, no rule was satisfied, the action corresponding to the "else rule" has to be taken. If no "else rule" is included (and the decision table is not complete) a standard error procedure has to be performed.

In the basic mask technique, as originally presented by Kirk, in order to find which rule is satisfied, we first have to test all the conditions. In addition, $p/2$ scanning operations, on the average, are also required. Therefore, a straight application of this method as a conversion procedure will give very inefficient program with respect to run time.

On the other hand, testing every condition in a continuous sequence, and recording the result in a binary form, gives a very compact program procedure requiring the least possible amount of storage. Also, no code for branching is required and therefore some run time together with many paragraph names (or labels) are saved (very important especially for computers in which the number of paragraph names or labels per program is limited as in the Burroughs B-5500 computer).

Note that since both matrices and the result vector are binary, very little additional storage is required.

KIRK'S MODIFICATION.

For computers which are character oriented and are lacking bit manipulation operations, Kirk [B1] has suggested the following

modification of the mask technique. In the modified technique, only a modified decision matrix and a modified result vector are used.

The decision matrix is created by the following rule:

$$d_{ij} = \begin{cases} Y & \text{if } c_{ij} = Y \text{ or YES} \\ N & \text{if } c_{ij} = N \text{ or NO} \\ D \text{ or "-" } & \text{if } c_{ij} = "-" \text{ or don't care.} \end{cases}$$

In other words $d_{ij} = c_{ij}$ or $D = C$ the condition entry matrix as defined. The result vector is created by the following rule:

$$r_i = \begin{cases} Y & \text{if testing the condition } c_i \text{ results in Yes} \\ N & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

The function originally performed by the mask matrix in the basic mask technique, is replaced by moving the result vector to a work area and then only inserting a D or "-" into the corresponding position whenever a D exists in the corresponding column vector in the decision matrix. The resulting modified result vector is denoted by $D_{ij}(r_i)$. Only then the comparison is done.

Let us use now the example given in Fig. IV-2-1. The modified decision matrix would be simply the original condition entry matrix $C = D$.

$$D = C = [r_{ij}] = \begin{bmatrix} Y & Y & Y & N & N & N \\ Y & - & - & Y & N & N \\ Y & N & Y & - & Y & N \\ N & Y & Y & - & - & N \end{bmatrix}$$

And if the result vector is:

$$R = \begin{bmatrix} Y \\ N \\ N \\ Y \end{bmatrix}$$

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Then:

$$D_{i1}(r_i) = \begin{bmatrix} Y \\ N \\ N \\ Y \end{bmatrix} \neq \begin{bmatrix} Y \\ Y \\ Y \\ N \end{bmatrix} = [d_{i1}] = [c_{i1}]$$

therefore the data does not satisfy the first rule

$$D_{i2}(r_i) = \begin{bmatrix} Y \\ - \\ N \\ Y \end{bmatrix} = [d_{i2}] = [c_{i2}]$$

the second rule γ^2 is satisfied and therefore the action δ^2 has to be taken.

The mask method, unlike the tree method, can be easily extended and used for ECE and MCE decision tables as well. This extension was done in 1969 by R.Peel [B6] and is given next.

PEEL'S EXTENDED MASK TECHNIQUE

In the extended mask technique introduced by Peel [B6] the decision matrix is modified and some additional vectors containing information pertinent to extended condition are utilized. In order to illustrate extended mask method, the following IS-MCE decision table will be used.

CONDITIONS	RULE NUMBER						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	A	B	A	C	C	B	E
2	Y	-	N	-	Y	N	L
3	20	10	-	-	20	30	S
ACTIONS	δ^1	δ^2	δ^3	δ^4	δ^5	δ^6	δ^7

Fig. IV-2-2: Illustrative example for presenting the extended mask technique

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In the extended mask technique we first create a row vector, denote by RV, for every condition by the following rule:

$$RV(c_j) = [V_{j1}, V_{j2}, \dots, V_{jn_j}]$$

For the illustrative example given in Fig. IV-2-2 we have to create two such row vectors for the first and the third conditions which are extended.

$$RV(c_1) = [A, B, C]$$

$$RV(c_3) = [20, 10, 30]$$

Then the decision matrix is built, by using two different rules, depending on the type of condition. For a limited condition c_i the corresponding row in the decision matrix is built using the rule:

$$d_{ij}(c_i) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } c_{ij} = \text{don't care}/"-\\ 1 & \text{if } c_{ij} = \text{YES}/Y\\ 2 & \text{if } c_{ij} = \text{NO}/N \end{cases}$$

For an extended condition C_i the corresponding row in the decision matrix is built according to the following rule:

$$d_{ij}(C_i) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } C_{ij} = \text{don't care}/"-\\ 1 & \text{if } C_{ij} = 1^{\text{st}} \text{ element in the appropriate row vector}\\ 2 & \text{if } C_{ij} = 2^{\text{nd}} \text{ element in the appropriate row vector}\\ \vdots & \\ \text{etc} \dots \end{cases}$$

Using these rules the decision matrix for the decision table given in Fig. IV-2-2 is:

$$D = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 & 3 & 3 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

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The mask matrix is created by the same rule as in the basic mask technique and therefore the corresponding mask matrix is :

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

The result vector contains, as before, a single element for each condition. For limited conditions, the result value after the test is:

$$r_i(c_i) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if the result is YES} \\ 2 & \text{if the result is NO} \end{cases}$$

For extended conditions the data is first compared against each element in the appropriate row vector, and the value is assigned according to the following rule.

$$r_i(c_i) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if no successful compare results.} \\ 1 & \text{if the first comparison is successful.} \\ 2 & \text{if the second comparison is successful} \\ \text{etc ...} \end{cases}$$

The scanning procedure is done in the same way as in the basic mask technique. As shown by Peel, the mask method can be easily adapted and used for all types of decision tables defined in chapter II. This is its big advantage. In the next section we shall analyse the efficiency of the mask technique and introduce an additional variation which will increase slightly the storage required, but increase the efficiency of the technique in run time.

EFFICIENCY CONSIDERATIONS

Here, as in the tree technique, the efficiency of the method

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or the technique would be measured in terms of: Conversion time, Run time and Storage requirement.

In addition, the flexibility of the method to include processing of ECE and MCE decision tables, without overcomplicating the techniques and increasing the conversion time significantly, should be also considered as a strong point in measuring the efficiency of the method.

Conversion time can be kept to a minimum due to the simplicity of the method and the different techniques. The modified Kirk technique for example can make use of the original decision table as part of the converted tables. Therefore the conversion time using the mask method, as presented so far, can be classified as low (the exact efficiency must be measured on an individual basis and depends on the skill and ability of the system programmer writing the processor).

Storagewise, the method allows implementation of techniques which will give program code with minimum storage requirements relative to any tree technique which attempts to do the same. As an example if we calculate again the storage requirement for the decision table given in Fig. IV-1-10 we get: $S(c_1) = 3+7+8 = 15$ plus some small additional storage for the different tables and vectors.. Using the best tree technique the minimum storage required is 32.

The only disadvantage of the mask method lies in the fact that the efficiency measured in terms of run time is less than in

any tree technique.

Kirk, himself, noticed this drawback of his method and suggested splitting large decision tables and taking into account, in every partial decision table, the rule probabilities. The run time saved in this way is relatively small and the main advantage of decision tables as a tool for describing complex logical problems in a single tabular form is lost.

P.J.H. King [B2] is the only one who has given serious considerations to the mask technique and suggested a modification which is called by King "The interrupted rule mask procedure".

THE INTERRUPTED RULE MASK PROCEDURE

As stated before, the only drawback of the different mask techniques and procedures is the inefficiency in run time. King, in his techniques attempts to improve the run time by taking into account the rule probabilities and the relative cost for evaluating the different conditions.

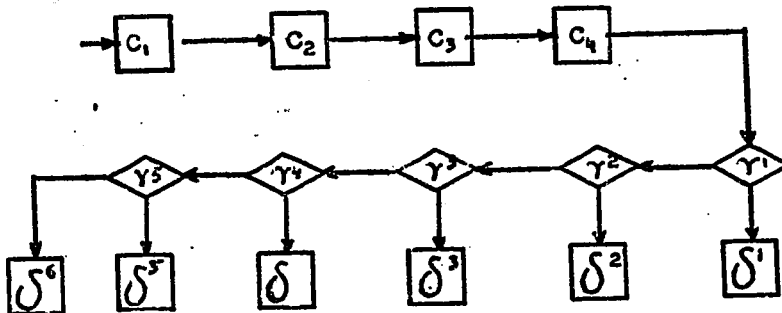
We shall introduce the interrupted rule mask procedure through the illustrative example given in Fig. IV-2-3. King developed the procedure only for LCE decision tables. For the sake of simplicity we shall also keep this restriction although that procedure can be extended and combined with Peel's procedure for ECE and MCE decision tables.

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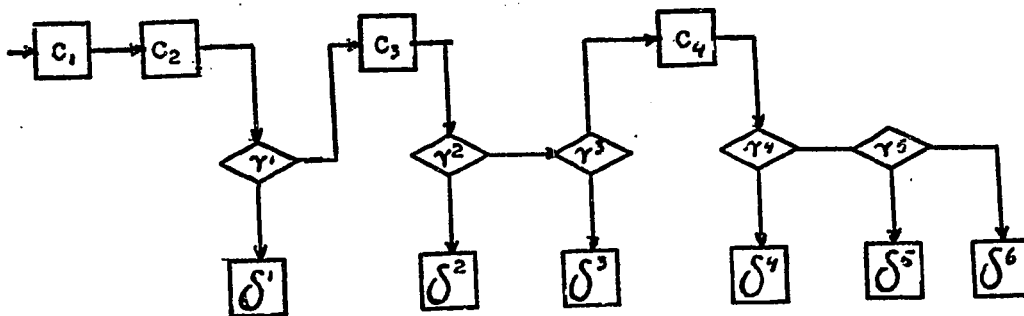
CONDITIONS	RULE NUMBER						COST
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
c_1	Y	Y	-	N	N	E	$C(c_1) = .6$
c_2	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	L	$C(c_2) = .1$
c_3	-	Y	N	Y	Y	S	$C(c_3) = .3$
c_4	-	-	-	N	Y	E	$C(c_4) = .3$
PROBABILITIES	.1	.1	.4	.2	.1	.1	
ACTIONS	δ^1	δ^2	δ^3	δ^4	δ^5	δ^6	

Fig. IV-2-3

If we express by a flow chart the basic mask technique, we get the flow chart presented in Fig. IV-2-4(a). In this flow chart we first test the conditions and then scan the rules.



(a)



(b)

Fig. IV-2-4.

However, it can be easily seen that in order to decide if γ^1 is satisfied, it is enough if we test only first two conditions, and in order to decide whether γ^2 is satisfied, only the first three conditions should be tested. This is expressed in Fig. IV-2-4(b).

The procedure described in IV 2-4(b) is referred to as the interrupted rule mask technique.

As suggested by King [B2], the order of the tests of the different conditions and scanning of the different rules can be specified in a $2 \times (q+p)$ array where q is the number of conditions and p the number of rules (excluding the else rule). For example, the order of operations for the flow chart in Fig. IV-2-4(a) and Fig. IV-2-4(b) is given in Fig. IV-2-5 (a) and (b) respectively.

$$\begin{bmatrix} c_1 & c_2 & c_3 & c_4 & - & - & - & - & - \\ - & - & - & - & \gamma^1 & \gamma^2 & \gamma^3 & \gamma^4 & \gamma^5 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} c_1 & c_2 & - & c_3 & - & - & c_4 & - & - \\ - & - & \gamma^1 & - & \gamma^2 & \gamma^3 & - & \gamma^4 & \gamma^5 \end{bmatrix}$$

(a) (b)

Fig. IV-2-5

Using the additional information supplied in the decision table given in Fig. II-2-3 we are in a position to calculate the average expected cost in terms of run time. Let denote by Sc the time (or cost) required for scanning a rule. Then the average cost for (a) and (b) are:

$$Ta = (.6+.1+.3+.3) + Sc \times .1 + 2Sc \times .1 + 3Sc \times .4 + 4Sc \times .2 + 5Sc \times .1 = 1.30 + 2.8Sc$$

$$Tb = (.6+.1+Sc) \times .1 + (.6+.1+.3+2Sc) \times .1 + (.6+.1+.3+3Sc) \times .4 +$$

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$$+ (.6+.1+.3+.3+4Sc) \times .2 + (.6+.1+.3+.3+5Sc) \times .1$$

$$= .96 + 28 \cdot Sc$$

Both expressions contain the constant $2.8Sc$ which depends on the way the scanning procedure was implemented, and remains a constant, independent of the order in which the different operations are performed. On the other hand, the first portion of the cost is different and is reduced in the interrupted rule mask technique.

Let us introduce the following vector notation.

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} P_1 \\ P_2 \\ \vdots \\ P_p \end{bmatrix} \quad \bar{C} = \begin{bmatrix} C(c_1) \\ C(c_2) \\ \vdots \\ C(c_q) \end{bmatrix} \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & \dots & a_{p1} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{1q} & \dots & a_{pq} \end{bmatrix} \quad V = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ \vdots \\ p \end{bmatrix}$$

Where $\bar{P}$ is the vector of probabilities, $\bar{C}$ the cost vector and A is a matrix in which every column vector conditions that have to be tested for the corresponding rule are represented by 1's. Finally let's denote by $\bar{G}$, a vector of the probabilities rearranged in the order in which the rules are tested.

Then:

$$T = \bar{C}^T A \bar{P} + Pc \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^q C(c_i) + pSc \right\} + Sc \bar{G}^T \bar{V}$$

The middle term in the above expression is constant, and therefore the procedure with the minimum average cost is the one for which $\bar{C}^T A \bar{P} + Sc \bar{G}^T \bar{V}$ is minimum.

King does not suggest any numerical or analytical procedure

to solve this problem (except an exhausting search which is of limited usage in the case of large tables). Instead, he offers four different strategies, in which the additional information of cost and probability is used in a limited mode and do not lead to optimum procedures. More detailed discussion on these techniques will be given in chapter VI.

IV-2-3 ADVANTAGES, DISADVANTAGES AND COMPARISON OF THE MASK METHODS

1. THE ADVANTAGES OF THE MASK METHODS:

- a. Easy to use for any kind of decision tables with and without related conditions.
- b. If used in a pre-compiler, a compiler or an interpreter, the conversion time is very low.
- c. The generated program code requires minimum storage space.
- d. If the order in which the rules that have to be tested is significant, the mask method is the one to be used.
- e. Does not require manual translation from ECE and MCE decision tables to LCE decision tables.
- f. The mask method lends itself to efficient testing for ambiguity and completeness in conversion time and/or run time.
(See chapter V).

2. THE DISADVANTAGES OF THE MASK METHODS

- a. If used in a pre-compiler or a compiler, the generated code can be some times confusing and hard to follow (when debu-

gging is neccessary).

- b. Less efficient in terms of run time compared to the tree method.
- c. The scanning operation adds a significant factor to the inefficiency in run time.

3. COMPARISON.

At this point, general discussion rather than analytical or numerical comparison is done. This because the complete presentation of the mask method together with different techniques for optimizing will be given in chapter VI.

In general, the mask method can be considered superior to the tree method. The mask method is easier to implement in an automatic translator or compiler, even when used with most complicated decision tables. Using the mask method in an advanced precompiler or interpreter can give us the possibility of skipping the function of the programmer; going from the system analyst straight to the computer, sacrificing, in some cases, more machine time which is becoming cheaper and cheaper. As a semi-interpretive method, it can be applied in time sharing and real time systems.

IV-3 THE COMPUTED GO TO METHOD:

This last method is also a semi-interpretive method and with some modifications it could be used in interpreters for time sharing systems. The method was first introduced by C.G. Veinott [C1] and will be referred to as "Veinott's Method", or "Veinott's Technique".

Veinott's method is based upon the well known computed GO TO in COBOL, FORTRAN and ALGOL.

IV-3-1 THE VEINOTT'S TECHNIQUE

The Veinott's technique differ from the mask technique, in the recording method of the results after testing, and in the scanning function required to find the right action. We shall introduce the technique through an example of Fig IV-2-1. The basic idea in Veinott's technique is to calculate a unique number for every possible combination of conditions, with a single restriction that the resulting number are in an unbroken sequence; such that they can be used as the value of a branching variable.

As a first step we shall assign a weighted value 2^{j-1} to the j^{th} condition and extend the decision table to its completely specified form. The resulting decision table (which is equivalent to the one given in Fig. IV-2-1) is:

CONDITIONS	W VAL.	RULE NUMBER															
		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
c_1	1	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N
c_2	2	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N
c_3	4	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	N
c_4	8	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	Y
ACTIONS		δ^1	δ^2	δ^2	δ^3	δ^3	δ^4	δ^4	δ^4	δ^4	δ^5	δ^5	δ^6	δ^7	δ^7	δ^7	δ^7

Fig. IV-3-1

The Else Rule

It should be noted, that in this case, it was relatively easy to derive the completely specified decision table with the correct

number of rules because the original decision table was unambiguous and complete. For decision tables in which apparent ambiguity (in particular, when some or all of the conditions are related) the process of going from a decision table given in IS form to a decision table which is in CS form can be more complicated, ambiguous and cannot be done using an automated procedure. In order to simplify the procedure, avoid ambiguity and keep completeness, it is preferable to arrange the rules in an increasing sequence denoting by "X", wherever the result of a test should be "Y" and leaving the entry blank when "N" should appear. The reformatted decision table is in Fig. IV-3-2

CONDITIONS	W	RULE NUMBER															
	VAL.	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
c ₁	1		X		X		X		X		X		X		X		X
c ₂	2			X	X			X	X			X	X			X	X
c ₃	4					X	X	X	X					X	X	X	X
c ₄	8									X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
ACTIONS		δ ⁶	δ ⁷	δ ⁴	δ ⁷	δ ⁵	δ ⁷	δ ⁴	δ ⁷	δ ⁷	δ ²	δ ⁴	δ ²	δ ⁵	δ ³	δ ⁴	δ ³

Fig. IV-3-2

The technique now uses a result vector R with q entries in which the outcome results for the respective conditions tests are recorded, "1" if the outcome is yes, and "0" otherwise. The next operation is to compute a single number for the satisfied rule, and the last operation is to branch to the appropriate action to be taken. If we assign labels L1, L2, L3 etc to the different actions the last two operations can be done in COBOL, FORTRAN IV, ALGOL and PL/I as follows:

In COBOL:

```
COMPUTE JUMP = 1 + R(1) + 2*R(2) + 4*R(3)
GO TO L6 L7 L4 L7 L5 L7 L4 L1 L7 L2 L4 L2 L5 L3 L4
      L3 DEPENDING ON JUMP.
```

In FORTRAN:

```
JUMP = 1 + R(1) + 2*R(2) + 4*R(3)
GO TO (L6,L7,L4,L7,L5,L7,L4,L1,L7,L2,L4,L2,L5,L3,L4,L3),JUMP
```

In FORTRAN IV:

```
GO TO (L6,L7,L4,L7,L5,L7,L4,L1,L7,L2,L4,L2,L5,L3,L4,L3)
      1 + R(1) + 2*R(2) + 4*R(3)
```

In ALGOL or PL/1:

```
SWITCH SW = L6,L7,...
:
JUMP = 1 + R(1) + 2*R(2) + 4*(3);
GO TO SW (JUMP)

or

SWITCH SW = L6,L7,...
:
GO TO SW (1 + R(1) + 2*R(2) + 4*R(3));
```

Using this technique, the problem of ambiguous and incomplete decision tables does not arise in the case of limited condition entry decision tables.

The same technique can be applied for ECE and MCE decision

tables. The technique generates again for every rule, a unique number which is used as a branching variable with the same restriction as for the case of LCE decision tables. Let's assume now that the table contains q conditions and every condition σ_j is associated with the set $V_{j1}, \dots, V_{jn_j}$ of n_j values. Then the j^{th} position in the result vector $R(j)$ can take the values $0, 1, 2, \dots, n_j - 1$ depending on the outcome of the rest of the j^{th} condition.

Now, the branching variable is calculated according to the following formula:

$$\text{JUMP} = 1 + R(1) + n_1 * R(2) + n_1 * n_2 * R(3) + \dots + R(q) * \prod_{j=1}^{q-1} n_j$$

Everything else remains the same as in the case of LCE decision tables. This technique implies again that the ECE or MCE decision table has to be given in an CS-LCE decision table, excluding the impossible combinations, due to the resulting related limited conditions, after the conversion from MCE to LCE.

The following example given in Fig. IV-3-3 will clarify the utilization of Veinott's technique used for extended condition entry decision tables.

CONDITIONS	RULE NUMBER											
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
σ_1	a	a	a	a	b	b	b	b	c	c	c	c
σ_2	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
ACTIONS	δ^0	δ^1	δ^2	δ^3	δ^4	δ^5	δ^6	δ^7	δ^8	δ^9	δ^{10}	δ^{11}

Fig. IV-3-3

The condition c_1 is associated with the set a,b,c with $n_1 = 3$

The condition c_2 is associated with the set 1,2,3,4 with $n_2 = 4$

The decision table in Fig. IV-3-3 is already given in a completely specified form. In order to make use of the Veinott's procedure for extended condition entry decision tables, the table should be converted into the following form:

CONDITIONS	RULE NUMVER												LOCAL VALUE	MULTI- PLIER	NET VALUE
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11			
$c_1(a)$	X			X			X			X			0		0
$c_1(b)$		X			X			X			X		1	1	1
$c_1(c)$			X			X			X			X	2		2
$c_2(1)$	X	X	X										0		0
$c_2(2)$				X	X	X							1	3	3
$c_2(3)$							X	X	X				2		6
$c_2(4)$										X	X	X	3		9
ACTIONS	δ^0	δ^1	δ^2	δ^3	δ^4	δ^5	δ^6	δ^7	δ^8	δ^9	δ^{10}	δ^{11}			

Fig. IV-3-4

It can be easily seen that the table does not contain all possibilities; only those which are included in the original CS-ECE decision table.

IV-3-2 EFFICIENCY CONSIDERATIONS.

If we limit the technique to CS-LCE-LAE nonambiguous and complete decision tables, rather than MCE-MAE decision tables then the conversion time required (manually or automatically) is low. In other words if the decision tables are such that most of the work is done ahead of conversion time then obviously the conversion time is

low. On the other hand if we allow any kind of decision tables up to IS-MCE-MAE then the conversion time will be increased significantly. In some cases in particular when IS-MCE decision tables which include apparent ambiguity but are incomplete, automated conversion becomes impossible.

The run time of the generated code using this technique obviously is maximum for testing all conditions. In addition some computation time is required for computing the proper rule number and executing a computed GO TO, which is, in general, relatively less than the time required for the scanning function in the mask techniques. In the case of ECE decision table, first they have to be converted to LCE. In run time for every condition which was originally extended c_j , n_j tests are made disregarding the fact that they are dependant.

Obviously, the storage required for the generated code is minimal as in the case of the mask method and may be even less.

Finally, it should be noted that, in terms of efficiency, this method is not recommended.

IV-3-3 ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES

1. THE ADVANTAGES OF THE VEINOTT'S METHOD

- a. Simple to use as a manual conversion technique.
- b. If used in pre-compiler or interpreter, within the limitations mentioned before the conversion time is relatively small.

- c. The generated code requires minimum storage.

2. THE DISADVANTAGES OF THE VEINOTT'S METHOD

- a. The method generates inefficient code with respect to run time.
- b. Does not allow natural extensions to ECE decision tables in the real sense.
- c. Cannot deal with apparent ambiguities.
- d. If the order in which the rules have to be tested is significant there is no way to do so using Veinott's method.
- e. Uses in every case 2^q branch tables, even in cases where this is unnecessary.

CHAPTER V. TESTING AND DIAGNOSTIC METHODS

This chapter is devoted to one of the most important aspects in the usage of decision tables, namely, testing and diagnostic methods. The efficiency and usefulness of decision tables in EDP (Electronic Data Processing) becomes doubtful without incorporating advanced and efficient methods and/or procedures for testing decision tables and generating, if necessary, comprehensive diagnostic messages. By testing, we mean testing for ambiguity of any kind and testing for completeness.

The testing of tables for ambiguity and completeness can be done at two different times; prior to conversion to computer programs and/or at run time. If a decision tables processor is used in time sharing or real time in an interpretive mode, the possibility of checking at run time is very desirable feature. Different approaches have been suggested and taken. The most common approach, defined by Pollack [A9], which assumes unrelated conditions in the condition stub, can be implemented in any LCE decision table processor, with relative simplicity, using the definitions for ambiguity given in II-2-2. If testing for completeness is required, one may use, also with relative simplicity, the definition given in II-2-11. Many of the existing decision table processors ignore completely the test for completeness, and that automatically adds the requirement of incorporating the ELSE RULE in every decision table. It should be noted that if definitions II-2-5 and II-2-6 are used as guide

rules for writing testing and diagnostic procedures (even with related conditions) the resulting tables and programs are correct (see the decision tables in Fig. II-2-2 and Fig. II-2-3). These definitions for ambiguity were used in many LCE decision table processors.

In general the testing and diagnostic methods fall into two main categories:

1. Testing methods in conversion time.
2. Testing methods in run time.

V-1 TESTING AND DIAGNOSTIC METHODS IN CONVERSION TIME.

In this section we shall introduce necessary and sufficient conditions for ambiguity in LCE and MCE decision tables which can serve as guide rules in writing and diagnostic procedures in conversion time. The conditions are based on the definitions given in sections II-1 and II-2. We shall start with LCE decision tables with unrelated conditions, extend it to LCE decision tables with related and unrelated conditions. Finally we shall consider MCE decision tables. It should be noted that P.H.J. King was the first to give a serious consideration to this subject and he introduced necessary and sufficient condition for testing LCE decision tables.

Before going any farther let us introduce the following definitions and notations:

1. We denote by d_i the i^{th} column of the decision matrix defined in IV-2-1.
2. We denote by m_j the j^{th} column vector of the mask matrix defined

in IV-2-1.

3. We denote by I a unity vector, a q dimensional column vector in which every component equals 1.

Definition V-1-1: - Given two q dimensional vectors m_i and d_j , the intersection $m_i \cap d_j$ is the row by row logical intersection and the union $m_i \cup d_j$ is the row by row logical union.

Bessed upon definitions II-2-5 and II-2-6, necessary and sufficient conditions for ambiguity are derived in the following theorems.

Theorem V-1-1: - Given a LCE decision table with unrelated conditions, the necessary and sufficient conditions for redundancy between two rules γ^i and γ^j are:

1. $m_i \cap d_j = m_j \cap d_i$

2. $\delta^i = \delta^j$

Where m_i, m_j are the i^{th} and the j^{th} vectors from the mask matrix, and d_i, d_j are the i^{th} and the j^{th} vectors from the decision matrix associated with the given LCE decision table.

Proof: First let us prove that the conditions are necessary. The necessity of the second condition is obvious from the definition of redundancy given in II-2-5.

From the definitions of the LCE decision matrix and the LCE mask matrix, the set of conditions that has to be tested in order to satisfy γ^i, γ^j or both, is given by the 1's in the vector $m_i \cup m_j$.

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$$\begin{aligned} &= m_j \cap (m_i \cap d_j) = \\ &= m_j \cap d_i \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (m_i \cap m_j) \cap d_j &= m_i \cap (m_j \cap d_j) \\ &= m_i \cap d_j \end{aligned}$$

if ambiguity exists $m_i \cap d_j = m_j \cap d_i$
and if the ambiguity is redundancy $\delta^i = \delta^j$

This concludes the proof that the conditions are necessary.

To prove that the conditions are sufficient we reverse the steps used in proving the necessity of the conditions. Therefore if the two conditions hold, so does:

$$(m_i \cap m_j) \cap d_i = (m_i \cap m_j) \cap d_j$$

and therefore redundancy exists.

Corollary V-1-1: - If, for a given LCE decision table, two rules γ^i and γ^j are found to satisfy the two conditions stated in theorem V-1-1, then redundancy will occur whenever the data satisfies the conditions represented by the 1's in the column vector, $(m_i \cup m_j) \cap (d_i \cup d_j)$ and every 0 in $(m_i \cup m_j)$ represents an irrelevant or a don't care condition.

This corollary simply states that if two rules γ^i and γ^j both have to be satisfied, the conditions relevant to γ^i or γ^j or both are given by the 1's in the column vector $(m_i \cup m_j)$. This set can be divided into three disjoint sets (as shown in theorem VI-1-1) which, when united, give :

This set of conditions can be divided into three disjoint subsets:

1. Conditions relevant to γ^i but not to γ^j , represented by the 1^s in the column vectors $m_i \cap (I - m_j)$, respectively.
2. Conditions relevant to γ^j but not to γ^i , represented by the 1^s in the column vector $m_j \cap (I - m_i)$, respectively.
3. Conditions relevant to γ^i and to γ^j , represented by the 1^s in the column vector $m_i \cap m_j$, respectively.

To satisfy γ^i , the conditions designated by the 1^s in the column vector $m_i \cap (I - m_j) \cap d_i$ have to be satisfied (This is a subset of the set of conditions that has to be satisfied in order to satisfy γ^i . The complete set correspondence to the 1^s in the column vector $m_i \cap d_i$).

Note that this does not prevent the satisfaction of rule γ^j also. Similarly to satisfy the rule γ^j , the conditions designated by the 1^s in the column vector $m_j \cap (I - m_i) \cap d_j$ have to be satisfied. That, again, does not prevent the satisfaction of the rule γ^i also.

Using the third subset $m_i \cap m_j$, in order to satisfy the rule γ^i , the conditions designated by the 1^s in the column vector $(m_i \cap m_j) \cap d_i$ have to be satisfied, and to satisfy the rule γ^j , the conditions designated by the 1^s in the column vector $(m_i \cap m_j) \cap d_j$ have to be satisfied.

If ambiguity exists:

$$(m_i \cap m_j) \cap d_i = (m_i \cap m_j) \cap d_j$$

but by definition $d_i \subset m_i$ and $d_j \subset m_j$; therefore:

$$(m_i \cap m_j) \cap d_i = (m_j \cap m_i) \cap d_i =$$

$$\{[m_j \cap (I-m_i)] \cap d_j\} \cup \{[m_i \cap (I-m_j)] \cap d_i\} \cup \{[m_j \cap m_i] \cap [d_i \cup d_j]\}$$

$$= (m_i \cup m_j) \cap (d_i \cup d_j)$$

Theorem V-1-2: - Given a LCE decision table with unrelated conditions, the necessary and sufficient conditions for contradiction between two rules γ^i and γ^j are:

1. $m_i \cap d_j = m_j \cap d_i$
2. $\delta^i \neq \delta^j$

Where m_i, m_j, d_i and d_j have the same meaning as in theorem V-1-1. The proof of this theorem is completely analogous to the proof in theorem V-1-1 and thus not included.

Corollary V-1-2: - If, for a given LCE decision table, two rules γ^i and γ^j are found to satisfy the two conditions stated in theorem V-1-2, then contradiction will occur whenever the data satisfies the conditions represented by the 1^s in the column vector:

$$(m_i \cup m_j) \cap (d_i \cup d_j).$$

These two theorems can actually serve as guide rules for implementation of an efficient and comprehensive procedures for testing LCE decision tables (with unrelated conditions) for ambiguity.

Actually, the same criteria for testing ambiguity of LCE decision tables with unrelated conditions can be used for testing ambiguity for LCE decision tables with related and unrelated conditions. This is stated in the following theorems.

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Theorem V-1-3: - Given an LCE decision table with related and unrelated conditions, the necessary and sufficient conditions for possible redundancy between two rules γ^i and γ^j are:

1. $m_i \cap d_j = m_j \cap d_i$
2. $\delta^i = \delta^j$

Actual redundancy exists if, and only if, there exists consistent data which satisfies the conditions represented by the 1^s in the column vector $(m_i \cup m_j) \cap (d_i \cup d_j)$.

The proof of this theorem is completely analogous to the proof of theorem V-1-1 and corollary V-1-1 and therefore not included.

Theorem V-1-4: - Given a LCE decision table with related and unrelated conditions, the necessary and sufficient conditions for possible contradiction between two rules γ^i and γ^j are:

1. $m_i \cap d_j = m_j \cap d_i$
2. $\delta^i \neq \delta^j$

Real contradiction exists if, and only if, there exists consistent data which satisfies the conditions represented by the 1^s in the column vector $(m_i \cup m_j) \cap (d_i \cup d_j)$.

The proof of this theorem is again completely analogous to the proof of theorem V-1-1 and corollary V-1-1 and thus not included.

Example V-1-1: - Given the rules $\gamma^i = \begin{bmatrix} Y \\ Y \\ - \\ N \\ - \end{bmatrix}$ and $\gamma^j = \begin{bmatrix} - \\ Y \\ N \\ N \\ - \end{bmatrix}$

the respective decision and mask vectors are:

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$$m_i = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad d_i = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad m_j = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad d_j = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$m_i \cap d_j = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \cap \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \cap \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = m_j \cap d_i$$

$\delta^i = \delta^j$; then:

If the decision table contains unrelated conditions, a definite redundancy exists. (Theorem V-1-1)

If the decision table contains related (and unrelated) conditions (as well), a possible redundancy exists. (Theorem V-1-3)

$\delta^i \neq \delta^j$; then:

If the decision table contains unrelated conditions, a definite contradiction exists. (Theorem V-1-2)

If the decision table contains related (and unrelated) conditions (as well), a possible redundancy exists. (theorem V-1-4)

Based upon corollaries V-1-1, V-1-2, and the last condition theorems V-1-3 and V-1-4, the ambiguity will occur with the following result:

$$(m_i \cup m_j) \cap (d_i \cup d_j) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \cup \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \cap \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \cup \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \cap \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} Y \\ Y \\ N \\ N \\ N \end{bmatrix} = R$$

can be easily seen that $R \in \{\omega^i\}$ as well as $R \in \{\omega^j\}$.

The last four theorems can be extended, with some modification

and definition, to cover the MCE decision table. In order to introduce these extensions we shall define the following two operations.

Definition V-1-2: - Given a mask vector m_i and a decision vector d_j of the same order, the multiplication $m_i \times d_j$ is a vector whose components are the respective row by row multiplication

$$R_{ik} = m_{ik} \times d_{jk} ; k = 1, 2, \dots, q$$

This operation has the following property $(m_i \cap m_j) \times d_j = m_i \times (m_j \times d_j)$

Definition V-1-3: - The operator $\bar{U}$ has the following meanings:

$$d_{ik} \bar{U} d_{jk} = \begin{cases} d_{ik} & \text{if } d_{ik} = d_{jk} \\ 0 & \text{if } d_{ik} = 0 \text{ and/or } d_{jk} = 0 \\ \text{not defined otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

the operator $\bar{U}$ between two vectors d_i and d_j is defined as if it is between every one of the corresponding components.

Theorem V-1-5: - Given an MCE decision table with unrelated conditions, these necessary and sufficient conditions for redundancy between two rules γ^i and γ^j are:

1. $m_i \times d_j = m_j \times d_i$
2. $\delta^i = \delta^j$

where m_i, m_j are the i^{th} and the j^{th} vectors from the MCE mask matrix and d_i, d_j are the i^{th} and the j^{th} vectors from the MCE decision matrix associated with a given MCE decision table.

Proof: First let us prove that the conditions are necessary. The necessity of the second condition is obvious from the definition of redundancy for MCE decision tables.

From the definitions of the MCE decision matrix and the MCE mask matrix the set of conditions that has to be tested in order to satisfy γ^i, γ^j or both is given by the 1^s in the vector $m_i \cup m_j$.

This set of conditions can be divided into three disjoint subsets:

1. Conditions relevant to γ^i but not to γ^j , represented by the 1^s in the column vector $m_i \cap (I - m_j)$ respectively.
2. Conditions relevant to γ^j but not to γ^i , represented by the 1^s in the column vector $m_j \cap (I - m_i)$ respectively.
3. Conditions relevant to γ^i and to γ^j represented by the column vector $m_i \cap m_j$ respectively.

To satisfy γ^i , the conditions designated by the non-zero entries in the column vector $[m_i \cap (I - m_j)] \times d_i$ have to be satisfied (This is a subset of the set of conditions that has to be satisfied in order to satisfy γ^i . The complete set corresponds to the non-zero entries in the column vector $m_i \times d_i$). Note that this does not prevent the satisfaction of the rule γ^j also. Similarly to satisfy the rule γ^j the conditions designated by the non-zero entries in the column vector $[m_j \cap (I - m_i)] \times d_j$ have to be satisfied. That, again, does not prevent the satisfaction of the rule γ^i also.

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From the third subset $m_i \cap m_j$, in order to satisfy the rule γ^i , the conditions designated by the non-zero entries in the column vector $(m_i \cap m_j) \times d_i$ have to be satisfied, and to satisfy the rule γ^j the conditions designated by the non-zero entries in the column vector $(m_i \cap m_j) \times d_j$ have to be satisfied.

If ambiguity exists

$$(m_i \cap m_j) \times d_i = (m_i \cap m_j) \times d_j$$

But the set of the non-zero entries in d_j is a proper subset of the non-zero entries in m_j , and the set of the non-zero entries in d_i is a proper subset of the non-zero entries in m_i therefore

$$\begin{aligned} (m_i \cap m_j) \times d_i &= (m_j \cap m_i) \times d_i \\ &= m_j \times (m_i \times d_i) \\ &= m_j \times d_i \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (m_i \cap m_j) \times d_j &= m_i \times (m_j \times d_j) \\ &= m_i \times d_j \end{aligned}$$

If ambiguity exists $m_i \times d_j = m_j \times d_i$

and if the ambiguity is redundancy $\delta^i = \delta^j$

This concludes the proof that the conditions are necessary.

To prove that the conditions are sufficient we reverse the steps used in proving the necessity of the conditions. Therefore if the two conditions hold so does:

$$(m_i \cap m_j) \times d_i = (m_i \cap m_j) \times d_j$$

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and therefore redundancy exists.

Corollary V-1-3: - If, for a given MCE decision table, two rules γ^i and γ^j satisfy the conditions stated in theorem V-1-5; then redundancy will occur whenever the conditions represented by the vector:

$$(m_i U m_j) \times (d_i \bar{U} d_j) \text{ are satisfied.}$$

The meaning of $d_i \bar{U} d_j$ is as previously defined in definition V-1-3.

Proof: This corollary states that if two rules γ^i and γ^j both have to be satisfied, the conditions relevant only to γ^i have to be satisfied, the conditions relevant only to γ^j have to be satisfied and the conditions relevant to both γ^i and γ^j have to be satisfied by the same values respectively. The set of all the conditions that have to be satisfied can be divided into three disjoint sets (as shown in theorem VI-1-5) which when united give:

$$\begin{aligned} & \{[m_j \cap (I - m_i)] \times d_j\} \bar{U} \{[m_i \cap (I - m_j)] \times d_i\} \bar{U} \{[m_j \cap m_i] \times [d_i \bar{U} d_j]\} \\ & = (m_i U m_j) \times (d_i \bar{U} d_j) \end{aligned}$$

Note that if the conditions of theorem V-1-5 hold $d_i \bar{U} d_j$ is always defined and the operation $\bar{U}$ is valid and can be applied.

Theorem V-1-6: - Given an MCE decision table with unrelated conditions, the necessary and sufficient conditions for contradiction between two rules γ^i and γ^j are:

1. $m_i \times d_j = m_j \times d_i$
2. $\delta^i \neq \delta^j$

Proof: The proof of this theorem is completely analogous to the proof of theorem V-1-5 and thus omitted.

Corollary V-1-4: - If, for a given MCE decision table two rules γ^i and γ^j satisfy the conditions stated in theorem V-1-6; then contradiction will occur whenever the data satisfies the conditions represented by the vector:

$$(m_i U m_j) \times (d_i^* U d_j).$$

Proof: The proof of this corollary is completely analogous to the proof of corollary V-1-3 and thus not included.

Theorem V-1-7: - Given a MCE decision table with related and unrelated conditions, the necessary and sufficient conditions for possible redundancy between two rules γ^i and γ^j are:

1. $m_i \times d_j = m_j \times d_i$
2. $\delta^i = \delta^j$

Real redundancy exists if and only if there exists consistent data which satisfy the conditions represented by the vector:

$$(m_i^* U m_j) \times (d_i U d_j).$$

Proof: The proof of this theorem is completely analogous to the proof of theorem V-1-5 and corollary V-1-3 and therefore not included.

Theorem V-1-8: - Given a MCE decision table with related and unrelated conditions, the necessary and sufficient conditions for

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possible contradiction between two rules γ^i and γ^j are:

1. $m_i \times d_j = m_j \times d_i$
2. $\delta^i \neq \delta^j$.

Real contradiction exists if and only if, there exists consistent data which satisfy the conditions represented by the vector:

$$(m_i U m_j) \times (d_i \bar{U} d_j).$$

Proof: The proof of this theorem is completely analogous to the proof of theorem V-1-5 and corollary V-1-3 and therefore not included.

Example V-1-2: - Given the following MCE decision table:

CONDITIONS	RULE NUMBER							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
c_1	27	27	30	35	35	35	40	E
c_2	Y	-	-	Y	-	Y	-	S
c_3	-	-	-	=	=	<	>	E
ACTIONS	δ^1	δ^2	δ^3	δ^4	δ^4	δ^5	δ^6	δ^7

Fig. V-1-1

$$V_1 = [27, 30, 35, 40]$$

$$V_2 = [=, <, >]$$

$$D = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 3 & 3 & 4 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$m_1 \times d_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = m_2 \times d_1$$

Since γ^1 and γ^2 stand for two different actions, and the actual conditions are not explicitly stated, a possible contradiction exists. If there exists consistent data which satisfy the conditions represented by the following vector, real contradiction exists

$$(m_1 U m_2) x (d_1 \bar{U} d_2) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \cup \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\} x \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \bar{U} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} x \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 27 \\ Y \\ - \end{bmatrix}$$

It can easily be verified that data which satisfies [27,Y,-] satisfies both γ^1 and γ^2 .

Testing for the 4th and the 5th rules we get:

$$m_4 x d_5 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} x \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} x \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = m_5 x d_4$$

And since γ^4 and γ^5 have identical actions, a possible redundancy for data which satisfies the conditions represented by the following vector, exists:

$$(m_4 U m_5) x (d_4 \bar{U} d_5) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \cup \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\} x \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \bar{U} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} x \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 35 \\ Y \\ = \end{bmatrix}$$

Data which satisfies [35,Y,=] satisfies both γ^4 and γ^5 .

Conclusions: Any one of the previous theorems can serve as a guide rule in implementing testing procedures for any kind of decision tables, starting with LCE decision tables with unrelated conditions and going up to MCE decision tables with related and unrelated conditions.

Since in every case, real or apparent ambiguity should result in the generation and printing of the appropriate messages, and since the most flexible decision tables for actual use are the MCE decision tables with related and unrelated conditions, the use of theorem V-1-8 is recommended. A good decision table processor should not stop the conversion if possible ambiguity is found. It should continue the conversion generating the appropriate messages and diagnostics, leaving the final decision to the systems analyst. If, after reviewing the generated messages, actual ambiguity is found then an appropriate correction and an additional conversion pass should be made.

The testing procedures which can be designed, using the former theorems, are most adaptable to the mask method, in which the same mask and decision matrices can be used. The same procedures can be adapted for testing, even if the tree methods are used; this at the expense of some additional storage and conversion time.

V-2 TESTING AND DIAGNOSTIC METHODS IN RUN TIME

In the last section, we dealt with possible ambiguity, because in actual use of decision tables, we use MCE decision tables with related and unrelated conditions. We were only able to comment on the data (if any) for which ambiguity could occur. This, because at conversion time, we are not able to judge whether or not this type of data is consistent and/or possible. The big advantage of the previously discussed testing and diagnostic methods, is the fact

that at conversion time, they can be used with the mask method as well as with the tree method.

The main problem is that a possible ambiguity cannot always be identified, by the user, as a real ambiguity or not. A simple example, given in Fig. V-2-1 shows that redundancy exists between the rules γ^1 and γ^2 , and possible contradiction exists between the rules γ^3 and γ^4 . But whether the ambiguity contained in this table is real or not it is sometimes quite difficult to decide.

CON.	RULE NUMBER				
	1	2	3	4	5
A<B	Y	-	Y	-	E
A>C	-	Y	-	Y	L
A=D	N	N	Y	Y	S
ACT.	δ^1	δ^1	δ^2	δ^2	δ^3

Fig. V-2-1

The present section will deal with testing and diagnostic methods at run time. These procedures were first published in an algorithmic form by C.R. Muthukrishnan and V. Rajaraman [B7] and can serve as a complementary way to the previously suggested methods to solve completely the problem of ambiguity in decision table logic. Note that these algorithms can be used with masked method only.

The following two algorithms can serve as conversion techniques as well as testing and diagnostic techniques.

ALGORITHM V-2-1: - For converting and testing LCE decision table.

STEP 1: GENERATE A MASK MATRIX M BY SUBSTITUTING THE FOLLOWING CODES FOR THE CONDITION ENTRIES IN THE CONDITION ENTRY MATRIX.

$$M_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } c_{ij} = Y \\ 0 & \text{if } c_{ij} = N \\ 1 & \text{if } c_{ij} = "-" \text{ or don't care.} \end{cases}$$

For example, the corresponding mask matrix for the table given in Fig V-2-1 is:

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

STEP 2: FOR GIVEN DATA, THE CONDITIONS ARE TESTED AND THE RESULTS ARE RECORDED IN A RESULT VECTOR D USING THE SAME CODES AS IN STEP 1.

STEP 3: SELECT THE ROWS OF M WHICH CORRESPOND TO THE 1 ENTRIES IN D, AND LOGICALLY "AND" THE RESULTING ELEMENTS IN A GIVEN POSITION TO A RESULT ROW VECTOR R OF ORDER p.

STEP 4: IF $R_j = 0$ $j = 1, 2, \dots, p$. THE "ELSE RULE" APPLIES. IF $R_k = 1$ for a unique k, THEN γ^k RULE APPLIES. IF MORE THAN ONE ELEMENT is equal to 1, A REAL AMBIGUITY BETWEEN THE CORRESPONDING RULES EXISTS; REDUNDANCY IF THE CORRESPONDING ACTIONS ARE THE SAME AND CONTRADICTION IF THE CORRESPONDING ACTIONS ARE DIFFERENT.

Example V-2-1: - Using the decision table given in Fig. V-2-1;

1. Suppose c_1 is false c_2 true and c_3 is false; then:

$$D = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

The corresponding rows in M are

$$\begin{array}{cccc} 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{array}$$

$$R = [0 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0]$$

which points to the fact that γ^2 is satisfied and there is no ambiguity.

2. If c_1 is true, c_2 is true and c_3 is false; then:

$$D = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

the corresponding rows in M are

$$\begin{array}{cccc} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \hline 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{array}$$

$$R = [1 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0]$$

which points out that ambiguity between γ^1 and γ^2 exists and since they have the same action, redundancy exists.

3. If c_1 is true, c_2 is true and c_3 is true; then:

$$D = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

the corresponding rows in M are

$$\begin{array}{cccc} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{array}$$

$$R = [0 \ 0 \ 1 \ 1]$$

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$$D_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if the } i^{\text{th}} \text{ condition is satisfied in } \gamma^j \\ 0 & \text{otherwise (including the don't care case)} \end{cases}$$

STEP 3: LET $T = D \text{ OR } M$

That is $t_{ij} = d_{ij} \text{ OR } m_{ij}$

STEP 4: LOGICALLY "AND" THE RESULTING ELEMENTS OF THE MATRIX T COLUMNWISE.

$$\bigcap_{i=1}^q t_{ij} = R_j$$

THE RESULTING ROW VECTOR R HAS 1'S IN EVERY POSITION FOR WHICH THE DATA SATISFIES THE RESPECTIVE RULE.

Example V-2-3: - Referring to the MCE decision table given

in Fig. V-1-1;

1. Suppose c_1 is 35, c_2 is true and c_3 is "-" then

$$D = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$D \text{ or } M = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \text{ or } \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R = [0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 1 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0]$$

which points out that ambiguity between γ^4 and γ^5 exists.

Since the actions of these two rules are different, contradiction exists. Note that this was discovered in Example V-1-2 as a possible ambiguity.

which points out that ambiguity between γ^3 and γ^4 exists and since they have different actions, the rules contain contradiction.

The proof of the algorithm is based on the fact that in order to satisfy a certain rule the corresponding outcome after the AND operation must be "1". Since the code for a don't care entry in the condition entry matrix is $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ this will not affect result of the AND operation.

ALGORITHM V-2-2: - For Conversion and Testing MCE Decision Tables. The steps of this algorithm will be illustrated, whenever it is felt necessary, by applying them to the MCE decision table given in Fig. V-1-1.

STEP 1: GENERATE A $q \times p$ MASK MATRIX M BY SUBSTITUTING THE FOLLOWING CODES FOR THE CONDITION ENTRIES c_{ij} IN THE CONDITION ENTRY MATRIX.

$$m_{ij} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } c_{ij} = Y \text{ or } c_{ij} = N \text{ or } V_{ij} \\ 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

The corresponding M matrix to the decision table given in Fig. V-1-1 is:

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

STEP 2: FOR GIVEN DATA PERFORM THE TESTS AND GENERATE A $q \times p$ MATRIX USING THE FOLLOWING CODE.

2. Suppose $c_1 = 30$, c_2 is false and c_3 is ">"; then:

$$D = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$D \text{ or } M = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ or } \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R = [0 \ 0 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0]$$

This points out that the γ^3 is satisfied.

Note: Conditions that have the same value in the condition entry matrix do not have to be tested more than once. For example, as soon as we found that c_1 is satisfied by 35 we can insert 1 in c_{14} , c_{15} and c_{16} .

Now we shall show that with some small modification the same algorithm can be used for testing at conversion time and at run time.

MODIFICATION FOR ALGORITHM V-2-1:

The only modification that has to be made in order to use this algorithm at conversion time for checking possible ambiguities, is in the 2nd step. Instead of generating a result vector after testing real data, we can generate in a loop all the possible outcomes (2^q) of result vectors and apply them to the mask matrix in the same manner as described in algorithm V-2-1. This will give us another

way to indicate possible ambiguities at conversion time.

MODIFICATION FOR ALGORITHM V-2-2:

Here the modification can be made in the same way as proposed previously for algorithm V-2-1. But here, instead of generating a possible result vector, we have to generate in a loop, a possible result matrix. In this case the number of possible matrices becomes very large ($\prod_{j=1}^q n_j$ - see definition II-2-11) and time consuming. Therefore, for MCE decision tables the use of theorems V-1-7 and V-1-8 is highly recommended.

REMARKS:

1. The two algorithms presented above are again interpretive in nature, and therefore more suited for interpreters to be used in time sharing or real time systems.
2. Both algorithms require testing all the conditions before deciding which rule is being satisfied and whether or not ambiguity of any kind exists. Therefore, a price of longer run time is paid for the advantage of being able to test for ambiguities at run time.
3. Both algorithms can be modified as suggested by King [B2] in his interrupted rule mask procedure, for the Kirk's procedure. But by doing so, we lose the ability of detecting ambiguities in run time since, in this procedure, the first rule satisfied will be taken. On the other hand this provides a way

to save run time.

4. In algorithm V-1-2 we could eliminate the $T = (D \text{ or } M)$ operation by initiating D to the values of M and save some time by eliminating further testing of conditions for a rule γ^i as the condition entry c_{ij} is found to be unsatisfied.
5. These two algorithms, as the other, discussed in the mask method, in chapter IV, are very efficient as far as the required storage is concerned.

V-3 TESTING AND DIAGNOSTIC METHODS IN CONVERSION TIME AND IN RUN TIME

In this section we shall introduce another two algorithms capable to perform testing in conversion time and run time as well as to serve as conversion algorithms. The use of conversion algorithms such as described in this section will allow conversion together with debugging runs to be run in a continuous sequence giving all the necessary diagnostics for fast and efficient debugging.

ALGORITHM V-2-3: - For conversion of LCE decision tables (with and without related conditions) and testing in conversion time and run time whenever the table contains possible ambiguities. This algorithm is based upon the mask technique given in IV-2-1 and theorems V-1-3, V-1-4.

The steps of the algorithm are divided into two groups, the first group is executed in conversion time while the second, based upon the first, is executed in run time.

GROUP 1: IN CONVERSION TIME

STEP 1: GENERATE A DECISION MATRIX D BY SUBSTITUTING THE FOLLOWING CODES FOR THE CONDITION ENTRIES IN THE CONDITION ENTRY MATRIX.

$$d_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } c_{ij} = Y \text{ or YES} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

STEP 2: GENERATE A MASK MATRIX M BY SUBSTITUTING THE FOLLOWING CODES FOR THE CONDITION ENTRIES IN THE CONDITION ENTRY MATRIX.

$$m_{ij} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } c_{ij} = "-" \text{ or don't care} \\ 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

STEP 3: CHECK FOR EVERY TWO RULES γ^i, γ^j IF $m_i \cap d_j = m_j \cap d_i$
 1. IF $m_i \cap d_j = m_j \cap d_i$ AND IF $\delta^i = \delta^j$ GENERATE A DIAGNOSTIC MESSAGE FOR POSSIBLE REDUNDANCY BETWEEN RULES γ^i AND γ^j FOR DATA WHICH SATISFYS THE CONDITIONS REPRESENTED BY THE 1'S IN THE COLUMN VECTOR

$(m_i \cup m_j) \cap (d_i \cup d_j)$. GENERATE A TEST RESULT VECTOR TR IDENTICAL TO $(m_i \cup m_j) \cap (d_i \cup d_j)$ WITH AN ADDITIONAL TAG (i, j, k) WHERE i, j ARE THE RULE NUMBERS AND

$$k = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{FOR REDUNDANCY} \\ 1 & \text{FOR CONTRADICTION} \end{cases}$$

TO BE USED IN RUN TIME. NOTE THAT HERE $k = 0$. STORE THIS RECORD IN A TABLE.

2. IF $m_i \cap d_j = m_j \cap d_i$ AND $\delta^i \neq \delta^j$ GENERATE A DIAGNOSTIC MESSAGE FOR POSSIBLE CONTRADICTION BETWEEN RULES γ^i

AND γ^j FOR DATA WHICH SATISFYS THE CONDITIONS REPRESENTED BY THE 1's IN THE COLUMN VECTOR $(m_i \cup m_j) \cap (d_i \cup d_j)$. GENERATE A TEST RESULT VECTOR TR IDENTICAL TO $(m_i \cup m_j) \cap (d_i \cup d_j)$ WITH AN ADDITIONAL TAG (i,j,k) AS FOR 1, HERE $k = 1$. STORE THAT VECTOR IN A TABLE.

GROUP 2: IN RUN TIME

STEP 4: FOR GIVEN DATA, THE CONDITIONS ARE TESTED AND THE RESULTS ARE RECORDED IN A RESULT VECTOR RV USING THE SAME CODES AS FOR THE DECISION MATRIX.

STEP 5: IF THE TABLE IN WHICH THE TR VECTORS ARE STORED IN CONVERSION TIME IS NOT EMPTY COMPARE THE RESULT VECTOR RV WITH EVERY VECTOR IN THE TABLE. FOR EVERY MATCH GENERATE A RUN TIME DIAGNOSTIC MESSAGE LISTING THE AMBIGUOUS DATA, REDUNDANCY IF $k = 0$, CONTRADICTION IF $k = 1$. STATE ALSO THE RULE NUMBER i AND j.

STEP 6: IF THE TEST RESULT VECTOR TABLE IS EMPTY OR NO MATCH OCCUR IN STEP 5 PERFORM THE SCANNING OPERATION (DESCRIBED IN IV-2-1) IN ORDER TO FIND WHICH RULE IS SATISFIED AND TAKE THE APPROPRIATE ACTION.

ALGORITHM V-2-4: - For conversion of MCE decision tables (with and without related conditions) and testing in conversion time and run time whenever the table contains possible ambiguities. This algorithm is based upon Peel's Extended Mask Technique given in page 92 and theorems V-1-7, V-1-8.

The steps of this algorithm are also divided into two groups, the first group is executed in conversion time and the second in run time.

GROUP 1: IN CONVERSION TIME.

STEP 1: GENERATE A DECISION MATRIX D AS IN PEEL'S EXTENDED MASK TECHNIQUE.

STEP 2: GENERATE A MASK MATRIX M AS IN PEEL'S EXTENDED MASK TECHNIQUE.

STEP 3: CHECK FOR EVERY TWO RULES γ^i, γ^j IF $m_i \times d_j = m_j \times d_i$

1. IF $m_i \times d_j = m_j \times d_i$ AND IF $\delta^i = \delta^j$ GENERATE A DIAGNOSTIC MESSAGE FOR POSSIBLE REDUNDANCY BETWEEN RULES γ^i AND γ^j FOR DATA WHICH SATISFIES THE CONDITIONS REPRESENTED BY THE VECTOR $(m_i \cup m_j) \times (d_i^* \cup d_j)$. GENERATE A TEST RESULT VECTOR TR IDENTICAL TO $(m_i \cup m_j) \times (d_i^* \cup d_j)$ WITH AN ADDITIONAL TAG (i,j,k) SAME AS IN STEP 3(1) IN ALGORITHM V-2-3, AND STORE IT IN A TABLE.
2. IF $m_i \times d_j = m_j \times d_i$ AND $\delta^i \neq \delta^j$ GENERATE A MESSAGE FOR POSSIBLE CONTRADICTION BETWEEN RULES γ^i AND γ^j FOR DATA WHICH SATISFIES THE CONDITIONS REPRESENTED BY THE VECTOR $(m_i \cup m_j) \times (d_i^* \cup d_j)$. GENERATE A TEST RESULT VECTOR TR SAME AS IN STEP 3(2) IN ALGORITHM V-2-3, AND STORE IT IN A TABLE.

GROUP 2: IN RUN TIME.

STEP 4: FOR GIVEN DATA, THE CONDITIONS ARE TESTED AND THE RESULTS

ARE RECORDED IN A RESULT VECTOR RV USING THE SAME CODES AS FOR THE RESULT VECTOR IN PEEL'S EXTENDED MASK TECHNIQUE.

STEP 5: SAME AS STEP 5 IN ALGORITHM V-1-3.

STEP 6: SAME AS STEP 6 IN ALGORITHM V-1-3.

REMARKS:

1. The main advantage in the last two algorithm is the fact that they incorporate in one; conversion, conversion time testing and run time testing almost without increasing the conversion time or the program run time and storage required compare to Kirk's mask technique or Peel's extended mask technique.
- 2.. The only disadvantage is that Kirk's mask technique as well as Peel's extended mask technique require the testing of every condition, which is inefficient in run time.
3. One way to make use of these last algorithms is by inclusion two additional rules denoted by A (for ambiguity) and R (for redundancy) which when satisfied specify the actions to be taken in either case.

CHAPTER VI. PROPOSED CONVERSION METHOD

In this chapter, an attempt is made to propose an efficient and flexible conversion method based upon the experience accumulated in the previous chapters. We can clearly state that none of the previously suggested methods, procedures and algorithms, for conversion of decision tables to program code and for checking ambiguity and completeness, can be used separately in a real attempt to write a good decision table processor. We shall first state the main requirements of a good processor in order of priority. This list of requirements will be the guiding list and the reason standing behind the suggested approach. Finally, we shall give an example in which the conversion will be made manually as if done by a preprocessor converting the tables into COBOL program code.

VI-1 REQUIREMENTS:

1. Minimum requirement limitations and restrictions imposed on the user.
2. Efficient conversion time checking procedures and a comprehensive system of diagnostic messages.
3. Efficient program code with optimal combinations of minimal run time and storage requirements.
4. Possible run time checking procedures for debugging mode runs.
5. Possible inclusion of additional information (such as probability distribution of the rules and storage required) for optimization

of the program code generated.

6. Possible elimination of the programming job.
7. Efficient decision table processor.

The most essential requirement, as stated above, is maximum flexibility. Fulfilling this requirement can eventually lead to possible elimination of the programming job. Using third generation computers, where machine time and memory are becoming cheaper and cheaper, and the price paid for programming becomes more and more expensive, these requirements simply state that the reduction and/or the elimination of the programming job is most desirable even if this means relatively longer conversion time and execution time. We would like to design and implement a decision table translator which can cope with the following functions:

1. Accept MCE decision tables, with and without auxiliary information. Easy to learn and easy to use.
2. Be able to copy standard portions of program code from standard library.
3. Have the necessary interface to data base generator.
4. Generate as efficient program code as possible, without imposing heavy restrictions or requirements upon the user.
5. Have efficient procedure for testing and generating diagnostic messages in conversion time, and upon requirement in run time as well, in a special debugging mode run.
6. Serve as an additional means of documentation.
7. The decision table processor should be written in a modular form

(as far as possible) to allow easy modification by the potential user.

VI-2 SUGGESTED DECISION TABLE COBOL PRE-COMPILER SYNTACTIC STRUCTURE

In this section we shall deal with the formation of rules for writing decision tables utilizing the COBOL language. The COBOL language was chosen in this particular example because this is the most useful language in today's computer applications. Besides a decision table processor written in a high level language is relatively machine independent. As stated before, an actual pre-compiler was not written because of lack of resources, but the presented suggestions can serve as nuclei in implementing one, and were used to generate the example of this chapter.

A COBOL pre-compiler must be able to accept any COBOL program intermixed with decision tables as input, from which an efficient COBOL program will be generated.

The syntax of the precompiler may contain few reserved words and symbols which must not be reserved nor have any specific meaning in any standard COBOL language specifications (COBOL 60, COBOL 61, COBOL 65, USASI and CIDASYL COBOL).

The pre-compiler must be able to accept three types of input data (or statements).

1. CONTROL STATEMENTS.
2. DECISION TABLES.
3. STANDARD COBOL STATEMENTS.

In the rest of the section we will make use of the Bachus normal form (with some modifications) to describe the syntax required by the pre-compiler. The conversions used are:

- a. < > left and right broken brackets are used to contain a ^{meta-}variable.
- b. ::= Means "IS DEFINED AS".
- c. Means "OR"
- d. [] Left and right brackets are used to indicate "AND"

Note: Some of the following is Burroughs oriented since I am most familiar with the Burroughs computers.

CONTROL STATEMENTS

Control statements can be supplied to the precompiler by means of punch cards and/or card images on magnetic tape or disk. The control statements supply important information to the pre-compiler as well as set and reset different options. Most of the control options are optional and must have a default value. The general format of a control card is as follows:

COLUMN:

- 1-6 STANDARD COBOL CARD SEQUENCE
- 7 BLANK
- 8 # (CONTROL CARD ID)

9-72 CONTROL OPTIONS (in free format)

73-80 STANDARD COBOL IDENTIFICATION.

SYNTAX:

```

<CONTROL OPTION>      :: = <INPUT OPTIONS><OUTPUT OPTIONS>
                        <TESTING OPTIONS><EFFICIENCY OPTIONS>
                        <DEBUGGING OPTIONS><WORK-FILES OPTIONS>
                        <COMPILE OPTIONS>

<INPUT OPTIONS>       :: = <MAIN INPUT OPTIONS><LIBRARY OPTIONS>

<MAIN INPUT OPTIONS>  :: =  CARD | TAPE | DISK | EMPTY

<LIBRARY OPTIONS>     :: =  EMPTY | TAPELIB | DISKLIB

<OUTPUT OPTIONS>      :: = <LISTING OPTIONS><CARD-OUTPUT OPTIONS>
                        <TAPE-OUTPUT OPTIONS><DISK-OUTPUT OPTIONS>
                        <XREF OPTIONS>

<LISTING OPTIONS>     :: = <REPORT OPTIONS><EDITING OPTIONS>

<REPORT OPTIONS>      :: =  EMPTY | LIST | LIST-1

<EDITING OPTIONS>     :: =  EMPTY | <LINE OPTIONS><PAGE OPTIONS>

<LINE OPTIONS>        :: =  EMPTY | SINGLE | DOUBLE

<PAGE OPTION>         :: =  EMPTY | NEWPAGE

<CARD-OUTPUT OPTIONS> :: =  EMPTY | PUNCH | PUNCH-1

<TAPE-OUTPUT OPTIONS> :: =  EMPTY | NEWTAPE | NEWTAPE-1

<DISK-OUTPUT OPTIONS> :: =  EMPTY | NEWDISK | NEWDISK-1

<X F
TREE OPTIONS>         :: =  EMPTY | XREF

<TESTING OPTIONS>     :: =  EMPTY | CT-TEST | RT-TEST

<EFFICIENCY OPTIONS>  :: =  EMPTY <FREQUENCY OPTIONS><MEMORY OPTIONS>
                        <MINIMIZATION OPTIONS><COST OPTIONS>

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<FREQUENCY OPTIONS> :: = EMPTY|FREQ.
<MEMORY OPTION :: = EMPTY|MEM.
<MINIMIZATION OPTIONS> :: = EMPTY|MINIMIZE
<COST OPTIONS> :: = EMPTY|COST
<DEBUGGING OPTIONS> :: = EMPTY|DEBUG

<WORK-FILES OPTIONS> :: = EMPTY|WD3|WD2TP1 | WD1TP2 | TP3
<COMPILE OPTIONS> :: = EMPTY|SYNCOM|RUNCOM|LIBCOM

REMARKS:

1. Control cards can be inserted anywhere in the input string to reset different options with one exception. The work-files option may appear only once in the first set of control cards in front of the pre-compiler input.
2. All the options can be pre-set at the time of the pre-compiler compilation. A suggested list of pre-set values is:
CARD, LIST, SINGLE, CT-TEST, TP3, SYNCON.
3. If necessary more than one control card may be used.

SEMANTICS:

The functions of the different control options available are as follows:

INPUT OPTIONS: The precompiler must be able to accept its primary input form cards, tape or decision tables and may be copied from a standard library.

OUTPUT OPTIONS: Up to four different output files may be produced

simultaneously. LIST stands for a listing of the generated program excluding the original decision tables. LIST-1 stands for a complete listing including the decision tables listed as notes for documentation purposes. SINGLE and DOUBLE stand for single and double line skipping, NEWPAGE stands for a newpage for every new decision tables. PUNCH and PUNCH-1, NEWTAPE and NEWTAPE-1, DISK and NEWDISK-1 are the same as LIST and LIST-1. The XREF option allows the user to receive crossreference of the generated program.

TESTING OPTIONS:

On request test for ambiguity can be done in conversion time or different procedures will be incorporated to do so in run time as well. This is a debugging mode of operation and as soon as the user is sure that the program is free of ambiguities, it should perform another conversion and compile pass to return back to normal mode of operation. Using the RT-TEST option additional and inefficient code will be incorporated to perform the required test.

EFFICIENCY OPTIONS: If the probability distribution of the rules and the storage required for testing the different conditions is known, they may be supplied to the pre-compiler and taken into account in the conversion pass, on request, to generate a more effi-

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cient code whenever possible. Possible minimization of tables should be also available.

DEBUGGING OPTIONS: If the DEBUG option is set together with LIST-1 some additional notes (including the mask and the decision matrices) will be listed for every decision table.

WORKING-FILES THREE WORKING FILES are used by the pre-compiler
OPTIONS: and they can be any combination of disk and tapes.

COMPILE OPTIONS: Three different options are available. The pre-compiler may start the COBOL compiler, after conversion, for syntax check, for compile and run or for compile for library.

DECISION TABLES; PROGRAM FORMAT:

The format of the program must be according to the COBOL requirement except from the control cards which can appear in one place and the decision tables which are inserted in the procedure division as sections and referred to by an appropriate COBOL statement (GO TO, PERFORM or simply in line code).

The IDENTIFICATION DIVISION and the ENVIROMENT DIVISION are treated as in any standard COBOL program. The DATA DIVISION in a program containing decision tables must contain every data name, constant or conditional variable referenced in the procedure division code or decision tables. Inconsistencies will be discovered only in the compilation pass.

CODE AND TABLE LINKAGE

In the procedure division COBOL statement can be intermixed with decision tables. Every decision table is translated into a COBOL section code and decision tables can be linked by any of the linkages described in chapter III.

FORMAT OF THE TABLES

The suggested format for a decision table is demonstrated in the table given at the end of this chapter. Due to the limitations, in size, of punched cards (80 columns) a special way was designed for extended condition entries and extended action entries.

The program generated from a decision table is illustrated in the example given at the end of this chapter.

ALGORITHMS WHICH SHOULD BE USED

An efficient decision table precompiler must be able to use different procedures with different decision tables and according to the user request. Therefore the following is suggested:

1. For standard LCE-MAE-decision tables: Press's or Pollack's procedures should be used if run-time efficiency is desired, and Kirk's mask procedure if minimum storage is desired.
2. For LCE-MAE decision tables where the cost for testing different conditions together with the rule probability distribution is supplied: Reinwald and Soland's procedure is to be used if run

time efficiency is desired; otherwise, the interrupted rule mask procedure (by King) should be used.

Note: In every one of the previous cases the procedures given by section V-2 should be used if run time diagnostics are required.

3. For MCE-MAE decision tables with and without cost and probability information, a special procedure is suggested here (and demonstrated at the end of this chapter.

STEP 1: Sort the conditions into two groups, LCE and ECE.

STEP 2: Use one of the tree procedures suggested in 1 or 2 for the LCE (depending on the type of the table) to partition the ECE into groups. The table is split by branching.

STEP 3: If cost and probability is given, use interrupted rule mask procedure accordingly; otherwise, use interrupted rule mask procedure dictated by the don't care entries.

STEP 4: Unsuccessful tests in any of the ECE groups leads to the ELSE RULE (if any); otherwise, to a standard error exit.

Note: If probabilities are given, the probability of every branch in the LCE is the sum of the probabilities of the rules in the appropriate group.

This procedure cannot produce run time diagnostics but can give the possible ambiguities included in the table.

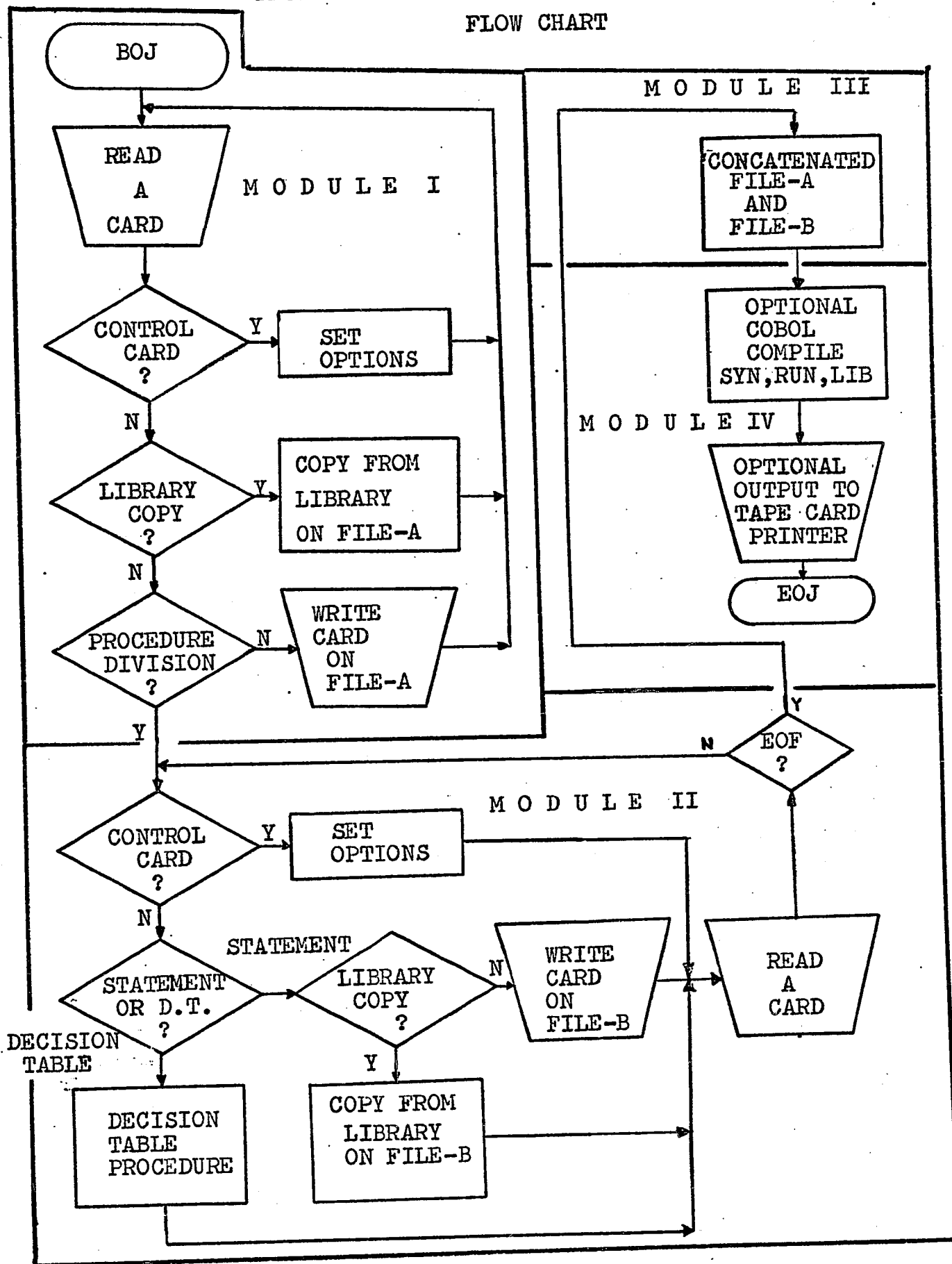
If run time diagnostics are required, the procedures described in section V-2 must be used.

VI-3 DECISION TABLE PRE-COMPILER GENERAL BLOCK DIAGRAM
AND FILE CHART.

The first of the following two diagrams is a macro flow chart describing the different modules of the suggested COBOL pre-compiler. No doubt that the real implementation will probably require significant modifications even to this general block diagram.

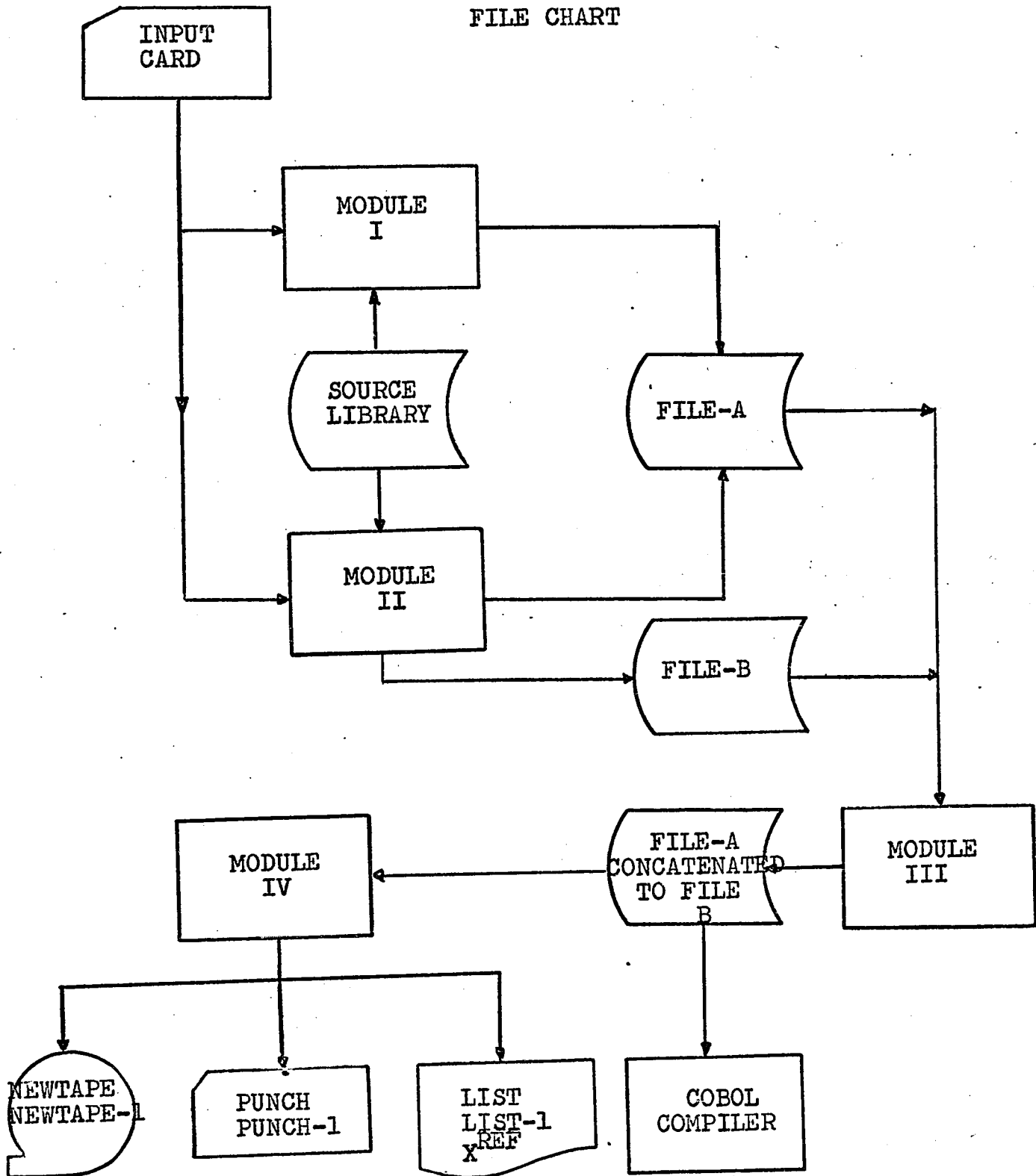
The file chart suggests a possible way of file utilization. All the files are described as disk files, actually any kind of combination of disk files and magnetic tape files can be used.

DECISION TABLE COBOL PRE-COMPILER MACRO FLOW CHART



DECISION TABLE COBOL PRE-COMPILER

FILE CHART



VI-4 EXAMPLE:

The following example was designed to illustrate a possible use of the suggested COBOL pre-compiler. The example does not contain all the suggested options but can serve as sample. The example contains the following:

1. Input to the (suggested) precompiler.
2. LIST-1 output from the pre-compiler which was prepared by simulating the pre-compiler operations manually.
3. An actual compilation of the generated program (done on the Burroughs B-5500 computer).
4. Test data.
5. Run.

Note that run time diagnostics were not demonstrated.

VI-4-1 PRE-COMPILER INPUT.

The pre-compiler input was designed to illustrate the simplicity of the input, and the suggested format for writing decision tables with extended condition entry and extended action entry.

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02816 WRITE PRINTER-LINE FROM GROUP-CNT-LINE AFTER ADVANCING 2.
02817 WRITE PRINTER-LINE FROM RULE-COUNT-LINE-1 AFTER ADVANCING 2.
02818 WRITE PRINTER-LINE FROM RULE-COUNT-LINE-2 AFTER ADVANCING 2.
02819 WRITE PRINTER-LINE FROM RULE-COUNT-LINE-3 AFTER ADVANCING 2.
02820 WRITE PRINTER-LINE FROM RULE-COUNT-LINE-4 AFTER ADVANCING 2.
02821 WRITE PRINTER-LINE FROM RULE-COUNT-LINE-5 AFTER ADVANCING 2.
02822 CLOSE CARDIN LISTING WITH RELEASE.
02823 STOP RUN.
999999 END-OF-JOB.

VI-4-2 COBOL PRE-COMPILER OUTPUT.

The pre-compiler output includes LIST-1, in which the original decision table together with conversion time diagnostics are listed under COBOL NOTES, as well as a cross reference of the program.

CARD LIST SINGLE XREF RESERVED
01 NOV 71 XREF PGM COMPILED 25 JUN 69

00101	IDENTIFICATION DIVISION.	DT-EXAMP
00102	PROGRAM-ID. "TEST MCE-MAE".	DT-EXAMP
00103	AUTHOR. A PINHAS.	DT-EXAMP
00104	DATE-WRITTEN. 28 DEC 1970.	DT-EXAMP
00105	DATE-COMPILED.	DT-EXAMP
00106	REMARKS. THIS PROGRAM WAS WRITTEN MANUALLY SIMULATING A	DT-EXAMP
00107	SUGGESTED DECISION TABLE PRE-COMPILED. THE PRE-	DT-EXAMP
00108	COMPILATION PASS WAS PRESUMABLY DONE WITH THE	DT-EXAMP
00109	FOLLOWING OPTIONS SET:	DT-EXAMP
00110	1. INPUT FROM CARDS	DT-EXAMP
00111	2. OUTPUT LIST-1 PUNCH=L	DT-EXAMP
00112	3. TEST CT-TEST	DT-EXAMP
00113	4. FREQ	DT-EXAMP
00114	5. COST	DT-EXAMP
00115	ENVIRONMENT DIVISION.	DT-EXAMP
00116	CONFIGURATION SECTION.	DT-EXAMP
00117	SOURCE-COMPUTER. R-5500.	DT-EXAMP
00118	OBJECT-COMPUTER. R-5500.	DT-EXAMP
00119	INPUT-OUTPUT SECTION.	DT-EXAMP
00120	FILE-CONTROL.	DT-EXAMP
00121	SELECT CARDIN ASSIGN TO CARD-READER.	DT-EXAMP
00122	SELECT LISTING ASSIGN TO PRINTER.	DT-EXAMP
00123	DATA DIVISION.	DT-EXAMP
00124	FILE SECTION.	DT-EXAMP
00125	FD CARDIN	DT-EXAMP
00201	VALUE OF ID IS "CARDS"	DT-EXAMP
00202	DATA RECORD IS INPUT-CARD.	DT-EXAMP
00203	01 INPUT-CARD	DT-EXAMP
00204	02 A PICTURE 9.	DT-EXAMP
00205	02 FILLER PICTURE X(5).	DT-EXAMP
00206	02 R PICTURE 9.	DT-EXAMP
00207	02 FILLER PICTURE X(5).	DT-EXAMP
00208	02 E PICTURE 99.	DT-EXAMP
00209	02 FILLER PICTURE X(5).	DT-EXAMP
00210	02 G PICTURE X(4).	DT-EXAMP
00211	02 FILLER PICTURE X(5).	DT-EXAMP
00212	02 X PICTURE 99.	DT-EXAMP
00213	02 FILLER PICTURE X(5).	DT-EXAMP
00214	02 COLOUR PICTURE X(5).	DT-EXAMP
00215	02 FILLER PICTURE X(5).	DT-EXAMP
00216	02 NUMBER PICTURE J99.	DT-EXAMP
00217	02 FILLER PICTURE X(5).	DT-EXAMP
00218	02 VAL PICTURE XX.	DT-EXAMP
00219	88 VALUE=1 VALUE "AA".	DT-EXAMP
00220	02 FILLER PICTURE X(5).	DT-EXAMP
00221	02 C PICTURE XXX.	DT-EXAMP
00222	02 FILLER PICTURE X(9).	DT-EXAMP
00223	02 RULE-ID PICTURE X(9).	DT-EXAMP
00224		DT-EXAMP
00225		DT-EXAMP
00301	FD LISTING	DT-EXAMP
00302	VALUE OF ID IS "REPORT"	DT-EXAMP
00303	DATA RECORD IS PRINTER-LINE.	DT-EXAMP
00304	01 PRINTER-LINE SIZE 132.	DT-EXAMP

SOLY TAPR 4 000

DI-EXAMP

DI-EXAMP

00305 WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.

00401 01 HDR1.

00402 02 FILLER.

00403 02 FILLER.

00404 02 FILLER.

00405 02 FILLER.

00406 02 FILLER.

00407 02 FILLER.

00408 01 HDR2.

00409 02 FILLER.

00410 02 FILLER.

00411 02 FILLER.

00412 02 FILLER.

00501 02 FILLER.

00502 02 FILLER.

00503 02 FILLER.

00504 02 FILLER.

00505 02 FILLER.

00506 02 FILLER.

00507 02 FILLER.

00508 01 PRINT-LINE.

00509 02 FILLER.

00510 02 FILLER.

00511 02 FILLER.

00511 02 FILLER.

00512 02 FILLER.

00513 02 FILLER.

00514 02 FILLER.

00515 02 FILLER.

00516 02 FILLER.

00517 02 FILLER.

00518 01 GROUP-CNT-LINE.

00519 02 FILLER.

00520 02 FILLER.

00521 02 FILLER.

00522 02 FILLER.

00523 02 FILLER.

00524 02 FILLER.

00525 02 FILLER.

00601 02 FILLER.

00602 02 FILLER.

00603 02 FILLER.

00604 02 FILLER.

00605 02 FILLER.

00606 02 FILLER.

00607 02 FILLER.

00608 02 FILLER.

00609 02 FILLER.

00610 02 FILLER.

00611 02 FILLER.

00612 02 FILLER.

00613 02 FILLER.

00614 01 RULE-COUNT-LINE.

00615 02 FILLER.

PICTURE X(9) VALUE SPACES.

PICTURE X(14) VALUE

"RULE SATISFIED".

PICTURE X(10) VALUE SPACES.

PICTURE X(10) VALUE INPUT-CARD.

PICTURE X(49) VALUE SPACES.

PICTURE X(40) VALUE SPACES.

PICTURE X(6) VALUE "A"

PICTURE X(6) VALUE "B"

PICTURE X(7) VALUE "E"

PICTURE X(9) VALUE "G"

PICTURE X(6) VALUE "X"

PICTURE X(8) VALUE "COULOR"

PICTURE X(8) VALUE "NUMBER"

PICTURE X(10) VALUE "VALUE-1"

PICTURE X(6) VALUE "C"

PICTURE X(13) VALUE "INTENDED RULE"

PICTURE X(13) VALUE SPACES.

PICTURE X(9) VALUE SPACES.

PICTURE X(15) VALUE

"SATISFIES RULE".

PICTURE X.

PICTURE X(11) VALUE SPACES.

PICTURE X(80).

PICTURE X(13) VALUE SPACES.

PICTURE X(16) VALUE

PICTURE X(17) VALUE

PICTURE X(17) VALUE

PICTURE X(17) VALUE

PICTURE X(17) VALUE

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PICTURE X(17) VALUE

PICTURE X(17) VALUE

00616 02 COUNTER-1 PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0.
00617 02 FILLER PICTURE X(17) VALUE " COUNTER-2 = ".
00618 02 COUNTER-2 PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0.
00619 02 FILLER PICTURE X(17) VALUE " COUNTER-3 = ".
00620 02 COUNTER-3 PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0.
00621 02 FILLER PICTURE X(17) VALUE " COUNTER-4 = ".
00622 02 COUNTER-4 PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0.
00623 02 FILLER PICTURE X(17) VALUE " COUNTER-5 = ".
00624 02 COUNTER-5 PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0.
00625 02 FILLER PICTURE X(17) VALUE " COUNTER-6 = ".
00701 02 COUNTER-6 PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0.
00702 02 FILLER PICTURE X(3) VALUE SPACES.
00703 01 RULE-COUNT-LINE-2. COUNTER-7 = ".
00704 02 FILLER PICTURE X(22) VALUE " COUNTER-7 = ".
00705 02 COUNTER-7 PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0. COUNTER-8 = ".
00706 02 FILLER PICTURE X(17) VALUE " COUNTER-8 = ".
00707 02 COUNTER-8 PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0. COUNTER-9 = ".
00708 02 FILLER PICTURE X(17) VALUE " COUNTER-9 = ".
00709 02 COUNTER-9 PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0. COUNTER-10 = ".
00710 02 FILLER PICTURE X(17) VALUE " COUNTER-10 = ".
00711 02 COUNTER-10 PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0. COUNTER-11 = ".
00712 02 FILLER PICTURE X(17) VALUE " COUNTER-11 = ".
00713 02 COUNTER-11 PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0. COUNTER-12 = ".
00714 02 FILLER PICTURE X(17) VALUE " COUNTER-12 = ".
00715 02 COUNTER-12 PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0.
00716 02 FILLER PICTURE X(3) VALUE SPACES.
00717 01 RULE-COUNT-LINE-3. COUNTER-13 = ".
00718 02 FILLER PICTURE X(22) VALUE " COUNTER-13 = ".
00719 02 COUNTER-13 PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0. COUNTER-14 = ".
00720 02 FILLER PICTURE X(17) VALUE " COUNTER-14 = ".
00721 02 COUNTER-14 PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0. COUNTER-15 = ".
00722 02 FILLER PICTURE X(17) VALUE " COUNTER-15 = ".
00723 02 COUNTER-15 PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0. COUNTER-16 = ".
00724 02 FILLER PICTURE X(17) VALUE " COUNTER-16 = ".
00725 02 COUNTER-16 PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0. COUNTER-17 = ".
00801 02 FILLER PICTURE X(17) VALUE " COUNTER-17 = ".
00802 02 COUNTER-17 PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0. COUNTER-18 = ".
00803 02 FILLER PICTURE X(17) VALUE " COUNTER-18 = ".
00804 02 COUNTER-18 PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0.
00805 02 FILLER PICTURE X(3) VALUE SPACES.
00806 01 RULE-COUNT-LINE-4. COUNTER-19 = ".
00807 02 FILLER PICTURE X(22) VALUE " COUNTER-19 = ".
00808 02 COUNTER-19 PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0. COUNTER-20 = ".
00809 02 FILLER PICTURE X(17) VALUE " COUNTER-20 = ".
00810 02 COUNTER-20 PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0. COUNTER-21 = ".
00811 02 FILLER PICTURE X(17) VALUE " COUNTER-21 = ".
00812 02 COUNTER-21 PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0. COUNTER-22 = ".
00813 02 FILLER PICTURE X(17) VALUE " COUNTER-22 = ".
00814 02 COUNTER-22 PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0. COUNTER-23 = ".
00815 02 FILLER PICTURE X(17) VALUE " COUNTER-23 = ".
00816 02 COUNTER-23 PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0. COUNTER-24 = ".
00817 02 FILLER PICTURE X(17) VALUE " COUNTER-24 = ".
00818 02 COUNTER-24 PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0.
00819 02 FILLER PICTURE X(3) VALUE SPACES.
00820 01 RULE-COUNT-LINE-5.

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01112 E IF COLOR =
01113 "BLUE "
01114 "RED "
01115 "GREEN"
01116 "WHITE"
01117
01118 L IF VALUE=1
01119 E IF NUMBER IS
01120 POSITIVE
01121 NEGATIVE
01122 ZERO
01123
01124 ACTIONS
01125 L MOVE "0" TO RL1
01126 L MOVE "1" TO RL1
01127 L MOVE "2" TO RL1
01128 L MOVE "3" TO RL1
01129 L MOVE "1" TO RL2
01130 L MOVE "2" TO RL2
01131 L MOVE "3" TO RL2
01132 L MOVE "4" TO RL2
01133 L MOVE "5" TO RL2
01134 L MOVE "6" TO RL2
01135 L MOVE "7" TO RL2
01136 L MOVE "8" TO RL2
01137 L MOVE "9" TO RL2
01138 L MOVE "ELSE" TO RULE=NO
01139 E ADD 1 TO
01140 CNT1
01141
01142 CNT2
01143 CNT3
01144 CNT4
01145 CNT5
01146 CNT6
01147
01148 E ADD 1 TO
01149 CNT1
01150
01151 CNT2
01152 CNT3
01153 CNT4
01154 CNT5
01155 CNT6
01156
01157 E ADD 1 TO
01158 CNT1
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01160 CNT2
01161 CNT3
01162 CNT4
01163 CNT5
01164 CNT6
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01166 E ADD 1 TO
01167 CNT1
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01169 CNT2
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01171 CNT4
01172 CNT5
01173 CNT6
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01175 E ADD 1 TO
01176 CNT1
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01182 CNT6
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01184 E ADD 1 TO
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01191 CNT6
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01193 E ADD 1 TO
01194 CNT1
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01200 CNT6
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01202 E ADD 1 TO
01203 CNT1
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01205 CNT2
01206 CNT3
01207 CNT4
01208 CNT5
01209 CNT6
01210
01211 E ADD 1 TO
01212 CNT1
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01214 CNT2
01215 CNT3
01216 CNT4
01217 CNT5
01218 CNT6
01219
01220 E ADD 1 TO
01221 CNT1
01222
01223 CNT2
01224 CNT3
01225 CNT4
01226 CNT5
01227 CNT6
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01229 E ADD 1 TO
01230 CNT1
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01232 CNT2
01233 CNT3
01234 CNT4
01235 CNT5
01236 CNT6
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01238 E ADD 1 TO
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01247 E ADD 1 TO
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01253 CNT5
01254 CNT6
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01256 E ADD 1 TO
01257 CNT1
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01259 CNT2
01260 CNT3
01261 CNT4
01262 CNT5
01263 CNT6
01264
01265 E ADD 1 TO
01266 CNT1
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01268 CNT2
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01270 CNT4
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01272 CNT6
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01274 E ADD 1 TO
01275 CNT1
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01278 CNT3
01279 CNT4
01280 CNT5
01281 CNT6
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01283 E ADD 1 TO
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01292 E ADD 1 TO
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01297 CNT4
01298 CNT5
01299 CNT6
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01301 E ADD 1 TO
01302 CNT1
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01306 CNT4
01307 CNT5
01308 CNT6
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01310 E ADD 1 TO
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01319 E ADD 1 TO
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01328 E ADD 1 TO
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01337 E ADD 1 TO
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01346 E ADD 1 TO
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01391 E ADD 1 TO
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01400 E ADD 1 TO
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01409 E ADD 1 TO
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01472 E ADD 1 TO
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01994 E ADD 1 TO
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02003 E ADD 1 TO
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02012 E ADD 1 TO
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02093 E ADD 1 TO
02094 CNT1
02095
02096 CNT2
02097 CNT3
02098 CNT4
02099 CNT5
02100 CNT6
02101
02102 E ADD 1 TO
02103 CNT1
02104
02105 CNT2
02106 CNT3
02107 CNT4
02108 CNT5
02109 CNT6
02110
02111 E ADD 1 TO
02112 CNT1
02113
02114 CNT2
02115 CNT3
02116 CNT4
02117 CNT5
02118 CNT6
02119
02120 E ADD 1 TO
02121 CNT1
02122
02123 CNT2
02124 CNT3
02125 CNT4
02126 CNT5
02127 CNT6
02128
02129 E ADD 1 TO
02130 CNT1
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02132 CNT2
02133 CNT3
02134 CNT4
02135 CNT5
02136 CNT6
02137
02138 E ADD 1 TO
02139 CNT1
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02141 CNT2
02142 CNT3
02143 CNT4
02144 CNT5
02145 CNT6
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02147 E ADD 1 TO
02148 CNT1
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02150 CNT2
02151 CNT3
02152 CNT4
02153 CNT5
02154 CNT6
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02156 E ADD 1 TO
02157 CNT1
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02159 CNT2
02160 CNT3
02161 CNT4
02162 CNT5
02163 CNT6
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02165 E ADD 1 TO
02166 CNT1
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02168 CNT2
02169 CNT3
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02171 CNT5
02172 CNT6
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02174 E ADD 1 TO
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02180 CNT5
02181 CNT6
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02183 E ADD 1 TO
02184 CNT1
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02187 CNT3
02188 CNT4
02189 CNT5
02190 CNT6
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02192 E ADD 1 TO
02193 CNT1
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02195 CNT2
02196 CNT3
02197 CNT4
02198 CNT5
02199 CNT6
02200
02201 E ADD 1 TO
02202 CNT1
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02204 CNT2
02205 CNT3
02206 CNT4
02207 CNT5
02208 CNT6
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02210 E ADD 1 TO
02211 CNT1
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02213 CNT2
02214 CNT3
02215 CNT4
02216 CNT5
02217 CNT6
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02219 E ADD 1 TO
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02228 E ADD 1 TO
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02231 CNT2
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02234 CNT5
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02237 E ADD 1 TO
02238 CNT1
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02240 CNT2
02241 CNT3
02242 CNT4
02243 CNT5
02244 CNT6
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02246 E ADD 1 TO
02247 CNT1
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02250 CNT3
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02252 CNT5
02253 CNT6
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02255 E ADD 1 TO
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02264 E ADD 1 TO
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02282 E ADD 1 TO
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02291 E ADD 1 TO
02292 CNT1
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02294 CNT2
02295 CNT3
02296 CNT4
02297 CNT5
02298 CNT6
02299
02300 E ADD 1 TO
02301 CNT1
02302
02303 CNT2
02304 CNT3
02305 CNT4
02306 CNT5
02307 CNT6
02308
02309 E ADD 1 TO
02310 CNT1
02311
02312 CNT2
02313 CNT3
02314 CNT4
02315 CNT5
02316 CNT6
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02318 E ADD 1 TO
02319 CNT1
02320
02321 CNT2
02322 CNT3
02323 CNT4
02324 CNT5
02325 CNT6
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02327 E ADD 1 TO
02328 CNT1
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02330 CNT2
02331 CNT3
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02334 CNT6
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02336 E ADD 1 TO
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02342 CNT5
02343 CNT6
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02345 E ADD 1 TO
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02352 CNT6
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02354 E ADD 1 TO
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02363 E ADD 1 TO
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02372 E ADD 1 TO
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02381 E ADD 1 TO
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02390 E ADD 1 TO
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02399 E ADD 1 TO
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02408 E ADD 1 TO
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02414 CNT5
02415 CNT6
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02417 E ADD 1 TO
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02421 CNT3
02422 CNT4
02423 CNT5
02424 CNT6
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02426 E ADD 1 TO
02427 CNT1
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02429 CNT2
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02432 CNT5
02433 CNT6
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02435 E ADD 1 TO
02436 CNT1
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02441 CNT5
02442 CNT6
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02444 E ADD 1 TO
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02451 CNT6
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02453 E ADD 1 TO
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02462 E ADD 1 TO
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02471 E ADD 1 TO
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02489 E ADD 1 TO
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02496 CNT6
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02498 E ADD 1 TO
02499 CNT1
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02501 CNT2
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02505 CNT6
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02507 E ADD 1 TO
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02514 CNT6
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02516 E ADD 1 TO
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02522 CNT5
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02525 E ADD 1 TO
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02534 E ADD 1 TO
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02543 E ADD 1 TO
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02552 E ADD 1 TO
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02561 E ADD 1 TO
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02588 E ADD 1 TO
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02595 CNT6
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02597 E ADD 1 TO
02598 CNT1
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02600 CNT2
02601 CNT3
02602 CNT4
02603 CNT5
02604 CNT6
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02606 E ADD 1 TO
02607 CNT1
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02609 CNT2
02610 CNT3
02611 CNT4
02612 CNT5
02613 CNT6
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02615 E ADD 1 TO
02616 CNT1
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02618 CNT2
02619 CNT3
02620 CNT4
02621 CNT5
02622 CNT6
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02624 E ADD 1 TO
02625 CNT1
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02627 CNT2
02628 CNT3
02629 CNT4
02630 CNT5
02631 CNT6
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02633 E ADD 1 TO
02634 CNT1
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02636 CNT2
02637 CNT3
02638 CNT4
02639 CNT5
02640 CNT6
02641
02642 E ADD 1 TO
02643 CNT1
02644
02645 CNT2
02646 CNT3
02647 CNT4
02648 CNT5
02649 CNT6
02650
02651 E ADD 1 TO
02652 CNT1
02653
02654 CNT2
02655 CNT3
02656 CNT4
02657 CNT5
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01318 COUNTER-23 X
 01319 COUNTER-24 X
 01320 COUNTER-25 X
 01321 COUNTER-26 X
 01322 COUNTER-27 X
 01323 COUNTER-28 X
 01324 COUNTER-29 X
 01325 COUNTER-30 X
 01401 PROBABILITY 00000100000000000000000000000000
 01402 RULE-DISTRIBUTION 001105420273238038401253735115
 01403 FINI.

IS-MCE-MAE-DT-OPTIONS.
 NOTE: FOR THIS DECISION TABLE THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS WERE SET:
 1 INPUT OPTIONS: CARD, TAPELIB
 2 OUTPUT OPTIONS: LIST-1, SINGLE
 3 TESTING OPTIONS: CT-TEST
 4 EFFICIENCY OPTIONS: FREQ, COST
 5 COMPILE OPTIONS: RUNCOM
 FOR OTHER OPTIONS THE DEFAULT VALUES WERE USED.

IS-MCE-MAE-DT-DIAGNOSTICS.

01412
 01413
 01414 NOTE
 01415 1 POSSIBLE REDUNDANCIES:
 01416 NONE
 01417
 01418

2 POSSIBLE CONTRADICTIONS:

FOR RULE	NO-1	NO-13	NO-18	NO-3	NO-3	NO-26
AND RULE	NO-9	NO-18	NO-24	Y	Y	Y
	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
	<	<	<	<	<	<
	20	30	15	15	35	35
	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N
	NUMERIC	ALPHABETIC	ALPHABETIC	NUMERIC	ALPHABETIC	ALPHABETIC
	RED	GREEN	GREEN	GREEN	GREEN	GREEN
	Y	N	N	N	N	N
	POSITIVE	POSITIVE	POSITIVE	POSITIVE	POSITIVE	POSITIVE
						NEGATIVE

FOR RULE NO-6 NO-19
 AND RULE NO-14 NO-26

01504
 01505
 01506
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 01518
 01519
 01520
 01521

3 COMPLETENESS: ACHIEVED BY THE ELSE RULE

4 GENERAL:
 THE SUM OF THE PROBABILITY IS NOT 1

*** NO FATAL ERRORS WERE FOUND

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01522 *** IN OPTIMIZING THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURES WERE USED:
01523 1 CONDITION PARTITIONING BY LCE FOLLOWED BY ECE
01524 2 TABLE SPLITTING BY BRANCHING DONE ON THE LCE
01525 3 OPTIMIZING THE LCE BY A TREE METHOD
01601 4 OPTIMIZING THE ECE FIRST BY PROBABILITIES FOLLOWED BY
01602 COST.
01603
01604 IS=MCE-MAE-DT-SPLIT.
01605 IF (X*2-3) = 97
01606 NEXT SENTENCE
01607 ELSE
01608 IF G="PINK"
01609 GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-GRP-3
01610 ELSE
01611 GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-GRP-5.
01612 IF VALUE=1
01613 NEXT SENTENCE
01614 ELSE
01615 GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-GRP-2.
01616 IF G="PINK"
01617 GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-GRP-1
01618 ELSE
01619 GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-GRP-4.
01620
01701 IS=MCE-MAE-DT-CON-2.
01702 IF A < B MOVE 1 TO RV-1(1) ELSE
01703 IF A = B MOVE 2 TO RV-1(1) ELSE
01704 IF A = B MOVE 3 TO RV-1(1).
01705 IS=MCE-MAE-DT-CON-3.
01706 IF E = 20 MOVE 1 TO RV-1(2) ELSE
01707 IF E = 15 MOVE 2 TO RV-1(2) ELSE
01708 IF E = 30 MOVE 3 TO RV-1(2) ELSE
01709 IF E = 35 MOVE 4 TO RV-1(2).
01711 IS=MCE-MAE-DT-CON-5.
01712 IF C IS NUMERIC MOVE 1 TO RV-1(3) ELSE
01713 IF C IS ALPHABETIC MOVE 2 TO RV-1(3) ELSE
01714 MOVE 3 TO RV-1(3).
01715 IS=MCE-MAE-DT-CON-6.
01716 IF COULOR = "BLUE " MOVE 1 TO RV-1(4) ELSE
01717 IF COULOR = "RED " MOVE 2 TO RV-1(4) ELSE
01718 IF COULOR = "GREEN" MOVE 3 TO RV-1(4) ELSE
01719 IF COULOR = "WHITE" MOVE 4 TO RV-1(4).
01721 IS=MCE-MAE-DT-CON-8.
01722 IF NUMBER IS POSITIVE MOVE 1 TO RV-1(5) ELSE
01723 IF NUMBER IS NEGATIVE MOVE 2 TO RV-1(5) ELSE
01724 MOVE 3 TO RV-1(5).
01725
01801 IS=MCE-MAE-DT-GRP-1.
01802 MOVE ALL ZEROS TO RESULT-VECTOR-1.
01803 PERFORM IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-2.
01804 PERFORM IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-3.
01805 PERFORM IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-8.
01806 PERFORM IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-6.
01807 MOVE RESULT-VECTOR-1 TO WORK-VECTOR-1
01808 MOVE ZERO TO WV-1(3) WV-1(5)

```

← RULE-20

IF WORK-VECTOR-1 = "33020"

01809 MOVE "2" TO RL1

01810 MOVE "0" TO RL2

01811 ADD 1 TO CNT1

01812 ADD 1 TO COUNTER-1

01813 GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.

01814 PERFORM IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-5.

01815 MOVE RESULT-VECTOR-1 TO WORK-VECTOR-1

01816 MOVE ZERO TO WV-1(4)

01817 IF WORK-VECTOR-1 = "11101"

01818 MOVE "0" TO RL1

01819 MOVE "1" TO RL2

01820 ADD 1 TO CNT1

01821 ADD 1 TO COUNTER-1

01822 GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.

01823 MOVE RESULT-VECTOR-1 TO WORK-VECTOR-1

01824 IF WORK-VECTOR-1 = "22321"

01825 MOVE "0" TO RL1

01901 MOVE "3" TO RL2

01902 ADD 1 TO CNT1

01903 ADD 1 TO COUNTER-3

01904 GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.

01905 MOVE RESULT-VECTOR-1 TO WORK-VECTOR-1

01906 MOVE ZERO TO WV-1(1)

01907 IF WORK-VECTOR-1 = "01121"

01908 MOVE "0" TO RL1

01909 MOVE "9" TO RL2

01910 ADD 1 TO CNT1

01911 ADD 1 TO COUNTER-9

01912 GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.

01913 MOVE RESULT-VECTOR-1 TO WORK-VECTOR-1

01914 MOVE ZERO TO WV-1(2)

01915 IF WORK-VECTOR-1 = "30232"

01916 MOVE "1" TO RL1

01917 MOVE "6" TO RL2

01918 ADD 1 TO CNT1

01919 ADD 1 TO COUNTER-16

01920 GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.

01921 GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-ELSE-RULE. ← ELSE-RULE

01922 IS-MCE-MAE-DT-GRP-2.

01923 MOVE ALL ZEROS TO RESULT-VECTOR-1.

01924 PERFORM IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-2.

01925 PERFORM IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-8.

02001 PERFORM IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-6.

02002 IF RESULT-VECTOR-1 = "10031"

02003 MOVE "1" TO RL1

02004 MOVE "8" TO RL2

02005 ADD 1 TO CNT2

02006 ADD 1 TO COUNTER-18

02007 GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.

02008 PERFORM IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-3.

02009 MOVE RESULT-VECTOR-1 TO WORK-VECTOR-1

02010 MOVE ZERO TO WV-1(3) WV-1(4) WV-1(5)

02011 IF WORK-VECTOR-1 = "31000"

02012 MOVE "2" TO RL1

02013 ← RULE-25

← RULE-09

← RULE-16

← RULE-18

← RULE-25

```

02014 MOVE "5" TO RL2
02015 ADD 1 TO CNT2
02016 ADD 1 TO COUNTER-25
02017 GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.
02018 MOVE RESULT-VECTOR-1 TO WORK-VECTOR-1
02019 MOVE ZERO TO WV-1(3) WV-1(5)
02020 IF WORK-VECTOR-1 = "24020"
02021 MOVE "0" TO RL1
02022 MOVE "2" TO RL2
02023 ADD 1 TO CNT2
02024 ADD 1 TO COUNTER-2
02025 GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.
02101 MOVE RESULT-VECTOR-1 TO WORK-VECTOR-1
02102 MOVE ZERO TO WV-1(3) WV-1(4) WV-1(5)
02103 IF WORK-VECTOR-1 = "22000"
02104 MOVE "3" TO RL1
02105 MOVE "0" TO RL2
02106 ADD 1 TO CNT2
02107 ADD 1 TO COUNTER-30
02108 GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.
02109 IF RESULT-VECTOR-1 = "23043"
02110 MOVE "0" TO RL1
02111 MOVE "7" TO RL2
02112 ADD 1 TO CNT2
02113 ADD 1 TO COUNTER-7
02114 GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.
02115 PERFORM IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-5.
02116 MOVE RESULT-VECTOR-1 TO WORK-VECTOR-1
02117 MOVE ZERO TO WV-1(4)
02118 IF WORK-VECTOR-1 = "12201"
02119 MOVE "2" TO RL1
02120 MOVE "4" TO RL2
02121 ADD 1 TO CNT1
02122 ADD 1 TO COUNTER-24
02123 GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.
02124 MOVE RESULT-VECTOR-1 TO WORK-VECTOR-1
02125 MOVE ZERO TO WV-1(1)
02201 IF WORK-VECTOR-1 = "03231"
02202 MOVE "1" TO RL1
02203 MOVE "3" TO RL2
02204 ADD 1 TO CNT2
02205 ADD 1 TO COUNTER-13
02206 GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.
02207 GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-ELSE-RULE.
02208 IS-MCE-MAE-DT-GRP-3.
02209 MOVE ALL ZEROS TO RESULT-VECTOR-1.
02210 PERFORM IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-2.
02211 PERFORM IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-5.
02212 PERFORM IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-6.
02213 IF RESULT-VECTOR-1 = "30120"
02214 MOVE "0" TO RL1
02215 MOVE "6" TO RL2
02216 ADD 1 TO CNT3
02217 ADD 1 TO COUNTER-6
02218 GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.

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← RULE-02

← RULE-30

← RULE-07

← RULE-24

← RULE-13

← RULE-06

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02219  PERFORM IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-3.
02220  PERFORM IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-8.
02221  MOVE RESULT-VECTOR-1 TO WORK-VECTOR-1
02222  MOVE ZERO TO WV-1(4) WV-1(5)
02223  IF WORK-VECTOR-1 = "14302" THEN
02224  MOVE "2" TO RL1-1(5)
02225  MOVE "3" TO RL2-1(5)
02226  ADD "1" TO CNT3
02227  ADD "1" TO COUNTER-23
02228  GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.
02229  IF RESULT-VECTOR-1 = "21231"
02230  MOVE "1" TO RL1-1(5)
02231  MOVE "2" TO RL2-1(5)
02232  ADD "1" TO CNT3
02233  ADD "1" TO COUNTER-19
02234  GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.
02235  MOVE RESULT-VECTOR-1 TO WORK-VECTOR-1
02236  MOVE ZERO TO WV-1(4) WV-1(5)
02237  IF WORK-VECTOR-1 = "38100"
02238  MOVE "1" TO RL1-1(5)
02239  MOVE "4" TO RL2-1(5)
02240  ADD "1" TO CNT3
02241  ADD "1" TO COUNTER-14
02242  GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.
02243  MOVE RESULT-VECTOR-1 TO WORK-VECTOR-1
02244  MOVE ZERO TO WV-1(4) WV-1(5)
02245  IF WORK-VECTOR-1 = "21201"
02246  MOVE "2" TO RL1-1(5)
02247  MOVE "6" TO RL2-1(5)
02248  ADD "1" TO CNT3
02249  ADD "1" TO COUNTER-26
02250  GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.
02251  MOVE RESULT-VECTOR-1 TO WORK-VECTOR-1
02252  MOVE ZERO TO WV-1(4) WV-1(5)
02253  IF WORK-VECTOR-1 = "2100"
02254  MOVE "2" TO RL1-1(5)
02255  MOVE "9" TO RL2-1(5)
02256  ADD "1" TO CNT3
02257  ADD "1" TO COUNTER-29
02258  GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.
02259  MOVE RESULT-VECTOR-1 TO WORK-VECTOR-1
02260  MOVE ZERO TO WV-1(2) WV-1(3) WV-1(4) WV-1(5)
02261  IF WORK-VECTOR-1 = "10000"
02262  MOVE "0" TO RL1-1(5)
02263  MOVE "3" TO RL2-1(5)
02264  ADD "1" TO CNT3
02265  ADD "1" TO COUNTER-3
02266  GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-ELSE-RULE.
02267  IS-MCE-MAE-DT-GRP-4
02268  MOVE ALL ZEROS TO RESULT-VECTOR-1.
02269  PERFORM IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-5.
02270  PERFORM IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-8.
02271  IF RESULT-VECTOR-1 = "00201"
02272  MOVE "1" TO RL1-1(5)
02273

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+ RULE-23

+ RULE-19

+ RULE-14

+ RULE-26

+ RULE-29

+ RULE-03

+ ELSE-RULE

+ RULE-15

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02424 MOVE "5" TO RL2.
02425 ADD 1 TO CNT4
02501 ADD 1 TO COUNTER-15
02502 GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.
02503 PERFORM IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-6.
02504 IF RESULT-VECTOR-1 = "00222"
02505 MOVE "1" TO RL1
02506 MOVE "1" TO RL2
02507 ADD 1 TO CNT4
02508 ADD 1 TO COUNTER-11
02509 GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.
02510 MOVE ZERO TO RV-1(4)
02511 IF RESULT-VECTOR-1 = "00103"
02512 MOVE "2" TO RL1
02513 MOVE "7" TO RL2
02514 ADD 1 TO CNT4
02515 ADD 1 TO COUNTER-27
02516 GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.
02517 GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-ELSE-RULE.
02518 IS-MCE-MAE-DT-GRP-5.
02519 MOVE ALL ZEROS TO RESULT-VECTOR-1.
02520 PERFORM IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-2.
02521 PERFORM IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-3.
02522 PERFORM IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-6.
02523 PERFORM IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-8.
02524 IF RESULT-VECTOR-1 = "31022"
02525 MOVE "1" TO RL1
02526 MOVE "2" TO RL2
02601 ADD 1 TO CNT5
02602 ADD 1 TO COUNTER-12
02603 GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.
02604 IF RESULT-VECTOR-1 = "23033"
02605 MOVE "1" TO RL1
02606 MOVE "7" TO RL2
02607 IF "ADD" TO CNT5
02608 MOVE "1" TO COUNTER-16
02609 GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.
02610 IF RESULT-VECTOR-1 = "13012"
02611 MOVE "0" TO COUNTER-20
02612 GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.
02613 MOVE "1" TO CNT5
02614 GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.
02615 ADD "WY-1" TO COUNTER-12
02616 IF "WY-1" TO COUNTER-12
02617 IF RESULT-VECTOR-1 = "22041"
02618 MOVE "1" TO RL1
02619 MOVE "0" TO RL2
02620 ADD 1 TO COUNTER-3
02621 GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.
02622 IF RESULT-VECTOR-1 TO WORK-VECTOR-1.
02623 MOVE ALL MOVE ZERO TO WORK-VECTOR-1.
02624 IF WORK-VECTOR-1 = "02032"
02625 MOVE "2" TO RL1
02701 MOVE "2" TO RL2
02702 MOVE "1" TO CNT5
02703

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02704      ADD 1 TO COUNTER-22
02705      GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.
02706      MOVE RESULT-VECTOR-1 TO WORK-VECTOR-1.
02707      MOVE ZERO TO WV-1(2)
02708      IF WORK-VECTOR-1 = "10022"
02709          MOVE "0" TO RL1
02710          MOVE "4" TO RL2
02711          ADD 1 TO CNT5
02712          ADD 1 TO COUNTER-4
02713      GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.
02714      IF RESULT-VECTOR-1 = "14033"
02715          MOVE "2" TO RL1
02716          MOVE "1" TO RL2
02717          ADD 1 TO CNT5
02718          ADD 1 TO COUNTER-21
02719      GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.
02720      MOVE ZERO TO RV-1(1)
02721      IF RESULT-VECTOR-1 = "01031"
02722          MOVE "2" TO RL1
02723          MOVE "8" TO RL2
02724          ADD 1 TO CNT5
02725          ADD 1 COUNTER-28
02726      GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.
02727      ELSE-RULE
02728      GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-ELSE-RULE.
02729      IS-MCE-MAE-DT-ELSE-RULE.
02730      MOVE "ELSE" TO RULE-NO.
02731      ADD 1 TO CNT6.
02732      GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.
02733      IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.
02734      EXIT.
02735      REPORTX SECTION.
02736      HEADINGS.
02737      WRITE PRINTER-LINE FROM HDR1 AFTER ADVANCING TO CHANNEL 1.
02738      WRITE PRINTER-LINE FROM HDR2 AFTER ADVANCING 2 LINES.
02739      WRITE PRINTER-LINE FROM WS-CARD-IMAGE.
02740      MOVE INPUT-CARD TO WS-CARD-IMAGE.
02741      WRITE PRINTER-LINE FROM PRINT-LINE AFTER ADVANCING 1 LINES.
02742      MOVE SPACES TO RULE-NO.
02743      LAST.
02744      WRITE PRINTER-LINE FROM GROUP-CNT-LINE AFTER ADVANCING 2.
02745      WRITE PRINTER-LINE FROM RULE-COUNT-LINE-1 AFTER ADVANCING 2.
02746      WRITE PRINTER-LINE FROM RULE-COUNT-LINE-2 AFTER ADVANCING 2.
02747      WRITE PRINTER-LINE FROM RULE-COUNT-LINE-3 AFTER ADVANCING 2.
02748      WRITE PRINTER-LINE FROM RULE-COUNT-LINE-4 AFTER ADVANCING 2.
02749      WRITE PRINTER-LINE FROM RULE-COUNT-LINE-5 AFTER ADVANCING 2.
02750      CLOSE CARDIN LISTING WITH RELEASE.
02751      STOP RUN.
02752      999999 END-OF-JOB.

```

DEFINED ONI NAME

REFERENCED ONI

NO OF ONI

NO OF ONI

OF

00204	A	01023	01702	01703	3
00206	B	01023	01702	01703	3
00125	CARDIN	01003	01006	02822	3
00521	CNT1	01214	01812	01821 01903 01911 01919 02121	7
00524	CNT2	01215	02006 02015 02023 02106 02112 02204		7
00602	CNT3	01216	02216 02301 02307 02315 02323 02406 02414		8
00605	CNT4	01217	02425 02507 02514		4
00608	CNT5	01218	02602 02608 02614 02620 02703 02711 02717 02724		9
00611	CNT6	01219	02805		2
00214	COULOR	01112	01716 01717 01718 01719		5
00711	COUNTER-10	01305	02621		2
00713	COUNTER-11	01306	02508		2
00715	COUNTER-12	01307	02603		2
00719	COUNTER-13	01308	02205		2
00721	COUNTER-14	01309	02316		2
00723	COUNTER-15	01310	02501		2
00725	COUNTER-16	01311	01920 02609		3
00802	COUNTER-17	01312			1
00804	COUNTER-18	01313	02007		2
00808	COUNTER-19	01314	02308		2
00816	COUNTER-1	01221	01813 01822		3
00810	COUNTER-20	01315			1
00812	COUNTER-21	01316	02718		2
00814	COUNTER-22	01317	02704		2
00816	COUNTER-23	01318	02302		2

00818	COUNTER-24	01319 02122	2
00822	COUNTER-25	01320 02016	2
00824	COUNTER-26	01321 02324 01700	2
00901	COUNTER-27	01322 02515 01700	2
00903	COUNTER-28	01323 02725 01700	2
00905	COUNTER-29	01324 02407 01001 01011 01019 01121	2
00918	COUNTER-2	01222 02024 01001 01006 01011 01019 01024	2
00907	COUNTER-30	01325 02107 01001 01006 01011 01019 01024	3
00620	COUNTER-3	01223 01904 02415 01001 01006 01011 01019 01024	2
00622	COUNTER-4	01224 02712 01001 01006 01011 01019 01024	1
00624	COUNTER-5	01225 01001 01006 01011 01019 01024	2
00701	COUNTER-6	01301 02217 01001 01006 01011 01019 01024	2
00705	COUNTER-7	01302 02113 01001 01006 01011 01019 01024	2
00707	COUNTER-8	01303 02615 01001 01006 01011 01019 01024	2
00709	COUNTER-9	01304 01912 01001 01006 01011 01019 01024	3
00221	C	01108 01712 01713	
PARA 990999	END-OF-JOB	NO EXPLICIT REFERENCE	
00208	E	01023 01102 01108 01112 01118 01213 01220 01706 01707	12
		01708 01709	
00518	GROUP-CNT-LINE	02816	1
00210	G	01022 01608 01616	3
00401	HDR1	02810	1
00408	HDR2	02811	1
PARA 02809	HEADINGS	PERFORMED AT: 01004	1
PARA 01002	INIT	NO EXPLICIT REFERENCE	
00203	INPUT-CARD	02813	1
PARA 01701	IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-2	PERFORMED AT: 01803 01925 02210 02520	4

PARA	01705	IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-3	"PERFORM"-ED AT:	01804 02009 02219 02521	4
PARA	01711	IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-5	"PERFORM"-ED AT:	01815 02115 02211 02420	4
PARA	01715	IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-6	"PERFORM"-ED AT:	01806 02002 02212 02503 02522	5
PARA	01721	IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-8	"PERFORM"-ED AT:	01805 02001 02220 02421 02523	5
PARA	01413	IS-MCE-MAE-DT-DIAGNOSTICS	NO EXPLICIT REFERENCE		
PARA	02803	IS-MCE-MAE-DT-ELSE-RULE	"GO TO"-ED AT:	01922 02207 02417 02517 02802	5
PARA	02806	IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END	"GO TO"-ED AT:	01814 01823 01905 01913 01921 02008 02017 02025 02108 02114 02123 02206 02218 02303 02309 02317 02325 02408 02416 02502 02509 02516 02604 02610 02616 02622 02705 02713 02719 02801 028051	31
PARA	01801	IS-MCE-MAE-DT-GRP-1	"GO TO"-ED AT:	01617	1
PARA	01923	IS-MCE-MAE-DT-GRP-2	"GO TO"-ED AT:	01615	1
PARA	02208	IS-MCE-MAE-DT-GRP-3	"GO TO"-ED AT:	01609	1
PARA	02418	IS-MCE-MAE-DT-GRP-4	"GO TO"-ED AT:	01619	1
PARA	02518	IS-MCE-MAE-DT-GRP-5	"GO TO"-ED AT:	01611	1
PARA	01012	IS-MCE-MAE-DT-NOTES	NO EXPLICIT REFERENCE		
PARA	01404	IS-MCE-MAE-DT-OPTIONS	NO EXPLICIT REFERENCE		
PARA	01604	IS-MCE-MAE-DT-SPLIT	NO EXPLICIT REFERENCE		
SECT	01011	IS-MCE-MAE-DT		01011	
			"PERFORM"-ED AT:	01007	2
PARA	02815	LAST	"GO TO"-ED AT:	01006	1
FILE	00301	LISTING	DUPLICATE NAME	01004 02822	2

00216 NUMBER 01118 01722 01723 3

00304 PRINTER-LINE 02810 02811 02814 02816 02817 02818 02819 02820 02821 9

00509 PRINT-LINE 02814 1

 PARA 01005 READ-LOOP "GO TO"-ED AT: 1
 01009

SECT 02808 REPORTEX 02808 1

 00909 RESULT-VECTOR-1
 01802 01807 01816 01824 01906 01914 01924 02003 02010 02018
 02101 02109 02116 02124 02209 02213 02221 02304 02310 02318
 02401 02409 02419 02422 02504 02511 02519 02524 02605 02611
 02617 02623 02706 02714 02721 35

 00513 RL1
 01019 01123 01124 01125 01201 01810 01819 01901 01909 01917
 02004 02013 02021 02104 02110 02119 02202 02214 02224 02305
 02313 02321 02404 02412 02423 02505 02512 02525 02606 02612
 02618 02701 02709 02715 02722 35

 00514 RL2
 01020 01202 01203 01204 01205 01206 01207 01208 01209 01210
 01811 01820 01902 01910 01918 02005 02014 02022 02105 02111
 02120 02203 02215 02225 02306 02314 02322 02405 02413 02424
 02506 02513 02601 02607 02613 02619 02702 02710 02716 02723 40

00614 RULF-COUNT-LINE-1 02817 1

00703 RULF-COUNT-LINE-2 02818 1

00717 RULF-COUNT-LINE-3 02819 1

00806 RULF-COUNT-LINE-4 02820 1

00820 RULF-COUNT-LINE-5 02821 1

00223 RULF-ID NO EXPLICIT REFERENCE

00512 RULE-NO 01212 02804 028141 3

 00910 RV-1
 01702 01703 01704 01706 01707 01708 01709 01712 01713 01714
 01716 01717 01718 01719 01722 01723 01724 02510 02720 19

009081 TABLE-1 NO EXPLICIT REFERENCE

00218 VAL NO EXPLICIT REFERENCE

00219 VALUE-1 01117 01612 2

 00912 WORK-VECTOR-1
 01807 01809 01816 01818 01824 01825 01906 01908 01914 01916
 02010 02012 02018 02020 02101 02103 02116 02118 02124 02201
 02221 02223 02310 02312 02318 02320 02401 02403 02409 02411
 02623 02625 02706 02708 34

PARA 02812 WRITE-LISTING "PERFORM"-ED AT:

01008

00516 WS-CARD-IMAGE

00913 WV-1

27

00212 X

01808 01808 01817 01907 01915 02011 02011 02011 02019 02019 02019
 02102 02102 02102 02117 02125 02222 02311 02311 02319 02402
 02402 02410 02410 02410 02410 02624 02707
 01107 01201 01202 01202 01202 01203 01203 01203 01204 01204
 01204 01205 01205 01205 01205 01206 01206 01207 01207 01207
 01208 01208 01208 01209 01209 01209 01210 01210 01210 01212
 01214 01214 01214 01214 01214 01215 01215 01215 01215 01215
 01216 01216 01216 01216 01216 01216 01216 01217 01217 01217
 01218 01218 01218 01218 01218 01218 01219 01221 01222 01223
 01224 01225 01301 01302 01303 01304 01305 01306 01307 01308
 01309 01310 01311 01312 01313 01314 01315 01316 01317 01318
 01319 01320 01321 01322 01323 01324 01325 01605

88

NO. OF DATA-NAMES
 NO. OF PARAGRAPHS
 NO. OF FILES DECL

000069
 000024
 000002

43

02801 02802 028051

IF 01015 01022 01023 01102 01107 01108 01112 01117 01118 01605
 01608 01612 01616 01702 01703 01706 01707 01708 01709 01712
 01713 01716 01717 01718 01719 01722 01723 01809 01818 01825
 01908 01916 02003 02012 02020 02103 02109 02118 02201 02213
 02223 02304 02312 02320 02403 02411 02422 02504 02511 02524
 02605 02611 02617 02625 02708 02714 02721

57

INPUT

01003

1

IONS

01016

1

IS

01108 01118 01712 01713 01722 01723

6

LINES

02811 02814

2

L

01022 01107 01117 01123 01124 01125 01201 01202 01203 01204
 01205 01206 01207 01208 01209 01210 01212

17

MCE-MAE

01018

1

MOVE

01123 01124 01125 01201 01202 01203 01204 01205 01206 01207
 01208 01209 01210 01212 01216 01716 01717 01718 01719 01722 01723
 01709 01712 01713 01714 01716 01717 01718 01719 01722 01723
 01724 01802 01807 01808 01810 01811 01816 01817 01819 01820
 01824 01901 01902 01906 01907 01909 01910 01914 01915 01917
 01918 01924 02004 02005 02010 02011 02013 02014 02018 02019
 02021 02022 02101 02102 02104 02105 02110 02111 02116 02117
 02119 02120 02124 02125 02202 02203 02209 02214 02215 02221
 02222 02224 02225 02305 02306 02310 02311 02313 02314 02318
 02319 02321 02322 02401 02402 02404 02405 02409 02410 02412
 02413 02419 02423 02424 02505 02506 02510 02512 02513 02519
 02525 02601 02606 02607 02612 02613 02618 02619 02623 02624
 02701 02702 02703 02706 02707 02709 02710 02715 02716 02720
 02722 02723 02804 02813 028141

135

NECESSARY

01016

1

NEGATIVE

01120 01723

2

NEXT

01606 01613

2

NOTE

01013 01405 01414

3

NUMERIC

01109 01712

2

OPEN

01003 01004

2

OUTPUT

01004

1

PERFORM

01004 01007 01008 01803 01804 01805 01806 01815 01925 02001
 02002 02009 02115 02210 02211 02212 02219 02220 02420 02421
 02503 02520 02521 02522 02523

25

01218 01218

01126

01124 01125

1-01117

01403

01119

01109

01022 000017

01028

09107

01131.

02222
01105

20810

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1

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11-11-11

0 100 200 300 400 500 600 700 800 900 1000

11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100 101 102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118 119 120 121 122 123 124 125 126 127 128 129 130 131 132 133 134 135 136 137 138 139 140 141 142 143 144 145 146 147 148 149 150 151 152 153 154 155 156 157 158 159 160 161 162 163 164 165 166 167 168 169 170 171 172 173 174 175 176 177 178 179 180 181 182 183 184 185 186 187 188 189 190 191 192 193 194 195 196 197 198 199 200 201 202 203 204 205 206 207 208 209 210 211 212 213 214 215 216 217 218 219 220 221 222 223 224 225 226 227 228 229 230 231 232 233 234 235 236 237 238 239 240 241 242 243 244 245 246 247 248 249 250 251 252 253 254 255 256 257 258 259 260 261 262 263 264 265 266 267 268 269 270 271 272 273 274 275 276 277 278 279 280 281 282 283 284 285 286 287 288 289 290 291 292 293 294 295 296 297 298 299 300 301 302 303 304 305 306 307 308 309 310 311 312 313 314 315 316 317 318 319 320 321 322 323 324 325 326 327 328 329 330 331 332 333 334 335 336 337 338 339 340 341 342 343 344 345 346 347 348 349 350 351 352 353 354 355 356 357 358 359 360 361 362 363 364 365 366 367 368 369 370 371 372 373 374 375 376 377 378 379 380 381 382 383 384 385 386 387 388 389 390 391 392 393 394 395 396 397 398 399 400 401 402 403 404 405 406 407 408 409 410 411 412 413 414 415 416 417 418 419 420 421 422 423 424 425 426 427 428 429 430 431 432 433 434 435 436 437 438 439 440 441 442 443 444 445 446 447 448 449 450 451 452 453 454 455 456 457 458 459 460 461 462 463 464 465 466 467 468 469 470 471 472 473 474 475 476 477 478 479 480 481 482 483 484 485 486 487 488 489 490 491 492 493 494 495 496 497 498 499 500 501 502 503 504 505 506 507 508 509 510 511 512 513 514 515 516 517 518 519 520 521 522 523 524 525 526 527 528 529 530 531 532 533 534 535 536 537 538 539 540 541 542 543 544 545 546 547 548 549 550 551 552 553 554 555 556 557 558 559 560 561 562 563 564 565 566 567 568 569 570 571 572 573 574 575 576 577 578 579 580 581 582 583 584 585 586 587 588 589 590 591 592 593 594 595 596 597 598 599 600 601 602 603 604 605 606 607 608 609 610 611 612 613 614 615 616 617 618 619 620 621 622 623 624 625 626 627 628 629 630 631 632 633 634 635 636 637 638 639 640 641 642 643 644 645 646 647 648 649 650 651 652 653 654 655 656 657 658 659 660 661 662 663 664 665 666 667 668 669 670 671 672 673 674 675 676 677 678 679 680 681 682 683 684 685 686 687 688 689 690 691 692 693 694 695 696 697 698 699 700 701 702 703 704 705 706 707 708 709 710 711 712 713 714 715 716 717 718 719 720 721 722 723 724 725 726 727 728 729 730 731 732 733 734 735 736 737 738 739 740 741 742 743 744 745 746 747 748 749 750 751 752 753 754 755 756 757 758 759 760 761 762 763 764 765 766 767 768 769 770 771 772 773 774 775 776 777 778 779 780 781 782 783 784 785 786 787 788 789 790 791 792 793 794 795 796 797 798 799 800 801 802 803 804 805 806 807 808 809 810 811 812 813 814 815 816 817 818 819 820 821 822 823 824 825 826 827 828 829 830 831 832 833 834 835 836 837 838 839 840 841 842 843 844 845 846 847 848 849 850 851 852 853 854 855 856 857 858 859 860 861 862 863 864 865 866 867 868 869 870 871 872 873 874 875 876 877 878 879 880 881 882 883 884 885 886 887 888 889 890 891 892 893 894 895 896 897 898 899 900 901 902 903 904 905 906 907 908 909 910 911 912 913 914 915 916 917 918 919 920 921 922 923 924 925 926 927 928 929 930 931 932 933 934 935 936 937 938 939 940 941 942 943 944 945 946 947 948 949 950 951 952 953 954 955 956 957 958 959 960 961 962 963 964 965 966 967 968 969 970 971 972 973 974 975 976 977 978 979 980 981 982 983 984 985 986 987 988 989 990 991 992 993 994 995 996 997 998 999 1000 1001 1002 1003 1004 1005 1006 1007 1008 1009 1010 1011 1012 1013 1014 1015 1016 1017 1018 1019 1020 1021 1022 1023 1024 1025 1026 1027 1028 1029 1030 1031 1032 1033 1034 1035 1036 1037 1038 1039 1040 1041 1042 1043 1044 10

1. What is the purpose of the study?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
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Abstract

100

100

100

2

READ PARA PROCESSOR TIME = 0000690 SECS
SCANNER PROCESSOR TIME = 0004180 SECS
OVERALL ELAPSED TIME = 0009010 SECS
OVERALL PROCESSOR TIME = 0006081 SECS
OVERALL I - O TIME = 0005466 SECS
NO. RECS RELEASED TO SORT 1297

VI-4-3 PROGRAM COMPILATION.

This part contains the actual COBOL compilation which can be initiated by the precompiler on an optional basis. Three different options can be used:

1. Compile for syntax (COMSYN)
2. Compile and Run (COMRUN)
3. Compile for Library(COMLIB)

Here the second option was illustrated.

Line	Code	Description	DT-EXAMP	ALPHANUMERIC
00222	02	FILLER	DT-EXAMP	0007-0001
00223	02	RULE-10	DT-EXAMP	0007-0001
00224	02	RULE-10	DT-EXAMP	0007-0001
00225	02	RULE-10	DT-EXAMP	0007-0001
00301	02	RULE-10	DT-EXAMP	0007-0001
00302	02	RULE-10	DT-EXAMP	0007-0001
00303	02	RULE-10	DT-EXAMP	0007-0001
00304	02	RULE-10	DT-EXAMP	0007-0001
00305	02	RULE-10	DT-EXAMP	0007-0001
00400	01	WORKING-STORAGE SECTION	DT-EXAMP	0007-0001
00401	01	HDR1	DT-EXAMP	0007-0001
00402	02	FILLER	DT-EXAMP	0007-0001
00403	02	FILLER	DT-EXAMP	0007-0004
00404	02	FILLER	DT-EXAMP	0007-0004
00405	02	FILLER	DT-EXAMP	0007-0006
00406	02	FILLER	DT-EXAMP	0007-0009
00407	02	FILLER	DT-EXAMP	0007-0012
00408	01	HDR2	DT-EXAMP	0007-0015
00409	02	FILLER	DT-EXAMP	0007-0015
00410	02	FILLER	DT-EXAMP	0007-0018
00411	02	FILLER	DT-EXAMP	0007-0020
00412	02	FILLER	DT-EXAMP	0007-0023
00501	02	FILLER	DT-EXAMP	0007-0026
00502	02	FILLER	DT-EXAMP	0007-0029
00503	02	FILLER	DT-EXAMP	0007-0032
00504	02	FILLER	DT-EXAMP	0007-0034
00505	02	FILLER	DT-EXAMP	0007-0037
00506	02	FILLER	DT-EXAMP	0007-0040
00507	02	FILLER	DT-EXAMP	0007-0043
00508	02	FILLER	DT-EXAMP	0007-0045
00509	01	PRINT-LINE	DT-EXAMP	0007-0049
00510	02	FILLER	DT-EXAMP	0007-0049
00511	02	FILLER	DT-EXAMP	0007-0052
00512	02	RULE-NO	DT-EXAMP	0007-0052
00513	03	RL1	DT-EXAMP	0007-0054
00514	03	RL2	DT-EXAMP	0007-0054
00515	02	FILLER	DT-EXAMP	0007-0057
00516	02	WS-CAPO-IMAGE	DT-EXAMP	0007-0060
00517	02	FILLER	DT-EXAMP	0007-0060
00518	01	GROUP-CNT-LINE	DT-EXAMP	0007-0063
00519	02	FILLER	DT-EXAMP	0007-0063
00520	02	CNT1	DT-EXAMP	0007-0063
00521	02	FILLER	DT-EXAMP	0007-0066
00522	02	FILLER	DT-EXAMP	0007-0069
00523	02	CNT2	DT-EXAMP	0007-0069
00524	02	FILLER	DT-EXAMP	0007-0072
00525	02	CNT3	DT-EXAMP	0007-0075
00601	02	FILLER	DT-EXAMP	0007-0075
00602	02	CNT4	DT-EXAMP	0007-0078
00603	02	FILLER	DT-EXAMP	0007-0081
00604	02	CNT5	DT-EXAMP	0007-0081
00605	02	FILLER	DT-EXAMP	0007-0088
00606	02	CNT5	DT-EXAMP	0007-0088
00607	02	FILLER	DT-EXAMP	0007-0091
00608	02	CNT5	DT-EXAMP	0007-0091

00609	02	FILLER	PICTURE X(17) VALUE	CNT6 = "	0007-0094
00610	02	CNT6	PICTURE 999 VALUE 0.		0007-0097
00611	02	FILLER	PICTURE X(13) VALUE SPACES.		0007-0101
00612					0007-0101
00613					0007-0104
00614	01	RULE-COUNT-LINE-1.			
	PRT 0111				
00615	02	FILLER	PICTURE X(22) VALUE "	COUNTER-1 = "	0007-0104
00616	02	COUNTER-1	PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0.		0007-0107
00617	02	FILLER	PICTURE X(17) VALUE "	COUNTER-2 = "	0007-0110
00618	02	COUNTER-2	PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0.		0007-0113
00619	02	FILLER	PICTURE X(17) VALUE "	COUNTER-3 = "	0007-0116
00620	02	COUNTER-3	PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0.		0007-0119
00621	02	FILLER	PICTURE X(17) VALUE "	COUNTER-4 = "	0007-0122
00622	02	COUNTER-4	PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0.		0007-0125
00623	02	FILLER	PICTURE X(17) VALUE "	COUNTER-5 = "	0007-0128
00624	02	COUNTER-5	PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0.		0007-0131
00625	02	FILLER	PICTURE X(17) VALUE "	COUNTER-6 = "	0007-0134
00701	02	COUNTER-6	PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0.		0007-0137
00702	02	FILLER	PICTURE X(3) VALUE SPACES.		0007-0140
00703	01	RULE-COUNT-LINE-2.			0007-0142
	PRT 0112				
00704	02	FILLER	PICTURE X(22) VALUE "	COUNTER-7 = "	0007-0142
00705	02	COUNTER-7	PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0.		0007-0145
00706	02	FILLER	PICTURE X(17) VALUE "	COUNTER-8 = "	0007-0148
00707	02	COUNTER-8	PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0.		0007-0151
00708	02	FILLER	PICTURE X(17) VALUE "	COUNTER-9 = "	0007-0154
00709	02	COUNTER-9	PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0.		0007-0157
00710	02	FILLER	PICTURE X(17) VALUE "	COUNTER-10 = "	0007-0160
00711	02	COUNTER-10	PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0.		0007-0163
00712	02	FILLER	PICTURE X(17) VALUE "	COUNTER-11 = "	0007-0166
00713	02	COUNTER-11	PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0.		0007-0169
00714	02	FILLER	PICTURE X(17) VALUE "	COUNTER-12 = "	0007-0172
00715	02	COUNTER-12	PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0.		0007-0174
00716	02	FILLER	PICTURE X(3) VALUE SPACES.		0007-0178
00717	01	RULE-COUNT-LINE-3.			0007-0180
	PRT 0113				
00718	02	FILLER	PICTURE X(22) VALUE "	COUNTER-13 = "	0007-0180
00719	02	COUNTER-13	PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0.		0007-0183
00720	02	FILLER	PICTURE X(17) VALUE "	COUNTER-14 = "	0007-0186
00721	02	COUNTER-14	PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0.		0007-0189
00722	02	FILLER	PICTURE X(17) VALUE "	COUNTER-15 = "	0007-0192
00723	02	COUNTER-15	PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0.		0007-0195
00724	02	FILLER	PICTURE X(17) VALUE "	COUNTER-16 = "	0007-0198
00725	02	COUNTER-16	PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0.		0007-0201
00801	02	FILLER	PICTURE X(17) VALUE "	COUNTER-17 = "	0007-0204
00802	02	COUNTER-17	PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0.		0007-0207
00803	02	FILLER	PICTURE X(17) VALUE "	COUNTER-18 = "	0007-0210
00804	02	COUNTER-18	PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0.		0007-0213
00805	02	FILLER	PICTURE X(3) VALUE SPACES.		0007-0216
00806	01	RULE-COUNT-LINE-4.			0007-0219
	PRT 0114				
00807	02	FILLER	PICTURE X(22) VALUE "	COUNTER-19 = "	0007-0219
00808	02	COUNTER-19	PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0.		0007-0221
00809	02	FILLER	PICTURE X(17) VALUE "	COUNTER-20 = "	0007-0225
00810	02	COUNTER-20	PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0.		0007-0227
00811	02	FILLER	PICTURE X(17) VALUE "	COUNTER-21 = "	0007-0231
00812	02	COUNTER-21	PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0.		0007-0233
00813	02	FILLER	PICTURE X(17) VALUE "	COUNTER-22 = "	0007-0237
00814	02	COUNTER-22	PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0.		0007-0239
00815	02	FILLER	PICTURE X(17) VALUE "	COUNTER-23 = "	0007-0243

00A16 02 COUNTER-23 PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0. COUNTER-24 = ".
00A17 02 FILLER PICTURE X(17) VALUE "
00A18 02 COUNTER-24 PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0.
00A19 02 FILLER PICTURE X(3) VALUE SPACES.
00A20 01 RULE-COUNT-LINE-5.

PRT 0115

00A21 02 FILLER PICTURE X(22) VALUE " COUNTER-25 = ".
00A22 02 COUNTER-25 PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0. COUNTER-25 = ".
00A23 02 FILLER PICTURE X(17) VALUE "
00A24 02 COUNTER-26 PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0. COUNTER-27 = ".
00A25 02 FILLER PICTURE X(17) VALUE "
00A26 02 COUNTER-27 PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0. COUNTER-28 = ".
00A27 02 FILLER PICTURE X(17) VALUE "
00A28 02 COUNTER-28 PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0. COUNTER-29 = ".
00A29 02 FILLER PICTURE X(17) VALUE "
00A30 02 COUNTER-29 PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0. COUNTER-30 = ".
00A31 02 FILLER PICTURE X(17) VALUE "
00A32 02 COUNTER-30 PICTURE 9(3) VALUE 0.
00A33 02 FILLER PICTURE X(3) VALUE SPACES.
00A34 01 TABLE-1.

PRT 0116

00A35 02 RESULT-VECTOR-1.
03 RV-1 PICTURE 9 OCCURS 5 TIMES.
00A36 02 WORK-VECTOR-1.
03 WV-1 PICTURE 9 OCCURS 5 TIMES.

PRT 0117

PROCEDURE 0007 SIZE 0296

PRT 0120

PRT 0121

PRT 0122

PRT 0123

PRT 0124

01001 PROCEDURE DIVISION.

01002 INIT.

PRT 0125

PRT 0126

PROCEDURE 0009 SIZE 0001

0010-0001

0010-0003

01003 OPEN INPUT CARDIN.

01004 OPEN OUTPUT LISTING. PERFORM HEADINGS.

PRT 0127

PRT 0130

PROCEDURE 0010 SIZE 0007

0011-0003

01005 READ CARDIN AT END GO TO LAST.

PRT 0131

01006 PERFORM IS-MCE-MAE-DT.

PRT 0132

01007 PERFORM WRITE-LISTING.

PRT 0133

01008 GO TO READ-LOOP.

01009

01010

IS-MCE-MAE-DT SECTION.

IS-MCE-MAE-DT-NOTES.

NOTE THE ORIGINAL DECISION TABLE TOGETHER WITH THE REQUIRED
DIAGNOSTICS (ACCORDING TO THE SPECIFIED OPTIONS IN THE
CARD) ARE LISTED HERE FOR YOUR INSPECTION. IF CORRECT-
IONS ARE NECESSARY EXECUTE ANOTHER PRE-COMPILE RUN.

01013

01014

01015

01016

01017

PROCEDURE 0011 SIZE 0008

0012-0001

0012-0001

0012-0001

0012-0001

0012-0001

0012-0001

0012-0001

0012-0001

0012-0001

0012-0001

0012-0001

TABLE-ID	"IS-MCE-MAE-DT"	MCE-MAE	COST
01018	RL1	000000000111111111222222223E	50
01019	RL2	123456789012345678901234567890L	20
01020	CONDITIONS	Y-YNYN-YNNN-YNNY-YNNY-YN-Y-	30
01021	L IF G="PINK"	Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-	50
01022	E IF A++B	-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-	20
01023	<	Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-	
01024	=	-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-	
01025	>	Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-	
01101	E IF E =	Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-	30
01102	20	Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-	
01103	15	Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-	
01104	30	Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-	
01105	35	Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-	
01106	L IF (X*2-3)=97	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	68
01107	E IF C IS	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	65
01108	NUMERIC	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01109	ALPHABETIC	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01110	ALPHANUMERIC	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01111	E IF COULOR =	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	50
01112	"BLUE"	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01113	"RED"	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01114	"GREEN"	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01115	"WHITE"	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01116	L IF VALUE-1	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	25
01117	E IF NUMBER IS	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	45
01118	POSITIVE	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01119	NEGATIVE	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01120	ZERO	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01121	ACTIONS	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01122	L MOVE "0" TO RL1	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01123	L MOVE "1" TO RL1	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01124	L MOVE "2" TO RL1	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01125	L MOVE "3" TO RL1	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01201	L MOVE "1" TO RL2	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01202	L MOVE "2" TO RL2	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01203	L MOVE "3" TO RL2	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01204	L MOVE "4" TO RL2	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01205	L MOVE "5" TO RL2	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01206	L MOVE "6" TO RL2	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01207	L MOVE "7" TO RL2	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01208	L MOVE "8" TO RL2	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01209	L MOVE "9" TO RL2	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01210	L MOVE "ELSE" TO RULE-NO	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01211	E ADD 1 TO	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01212	CNT1	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01213	CNT2	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01214	CNT3	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01215	CNT4	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01216	CNT5	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01217	CNT6	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01218	F ADD 1 TO	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01219	COUNTER-1	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01220	COUNTER-2	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01221	COUNTER-3	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01222	COUNTER-4	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01223	COUNTER-5	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01224	COUNTER-6	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01225	COUNTER-7	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01301	COUNTER-8	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01302	COUNTER-9	YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01303		YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	
01304		YNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNYNNY	

01305	COUNTER-10	X	0012-0001
01306	COUNTER-11	X	0012-0001
01307	COUNTER-12	X	0012-0001
01308	COUNTER-13	X	0012-0001
01309	COUNTER-14	X	0012-0001
01310	COUNTER-15	X	0012-0001
01311	COUNTER-16	X	0012-0001
01312	COUNTER-17	X	0012-0001
01313	COUNTER-18	X	0012-0001
01314	COUNTER-19	X	0012-0001
01315	COUNTER-20	X	0012-0001
01316	COUNTER-21	X	0012-0001
01317	COUNTER-22	X	0012-0001
01318	COUNTER-23	X	0012-0001
01319	COUNTER-24	X	0012-0001
01320	COUNTER-25	X	0012-0001
01321	COUNTER-26	X	0012-0001
01322	COUNTER-27	X	0012-0001
01323	COUNTER-28	X	0012-0001
01324	COUNTER-29	X	0012-0001
01325	COUNTER-30	X	0012-0001
01401	PROBABILITY	000001000000000000000000000000	0012-0001
01402	RULE-DISTRIBUTION	06105420273238038401253735115	0012-0001
01403	FINI.		0012-0001
01404	IS-MCE-WAE-DT-OPTIONS.		0012-0001

PRT 0134

NOTE FOR THIS DECISION TABLE THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS WERE SET:

- 1 INPUT OPTIONS: CARD, TAPELIB
- 2 OUTPUT OPTIONS: LIST-1, SINGLE
- 3 TESTING OPTIONS: CT-TEST
- 4 EFFICIENCY OPTIONS: FREQ, COST
- 5 COMPILE OPTIONS: RUNCOM

FOR OTHER OPTIONS THE DEFAULT VALUES WERE USED.

IS-MCF-WAE-DT-DIAGNOSTICS.

PRT 0135

NOTE.

1 POSSIBLE REDUNDANCIES:

NONE

2 POSSIBLE CONTRADICTIONS:

FOR RULE	NO-1	NO-13	NO-18	NO-3	NO-3
AND RULE	NO-9	NO-18	NO-24	NO-29	NO-26
	Y			Y	Y
	<	<	<	<	<
	20	30	15	15	35
	Y	Y	Y	N	N
	NUMERIC	ALPHABETIC	ALPHABETIC	NUMERIC	ALPHANUMERIC
	RED	GREEN	GREEN		
	Y	N	N		
	POSITIVE	POSITIVE	POSITIVE		NEGATIVE
	NO-9	NO-19	NO-26		
FOR RULE	NO-14	NO-26			
AND RULE	Y	Y			
	>	=			
	30	30			
	N	N			

PROCEDURE 0012 SIZE 0003

0013-0001
0013-0001
0013-0001
0013-0001
0013-0001
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0013-0001
0013-0001
0013-0001
0013-0001

PROCEDURE 0013 SIZE 0003

0014-0001
0014-0001
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0014-0001
0014-0001
0014-0001
0014-0001

01419
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01501
01502
01503
01504
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01506
01507
01508
01509
01510


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01715 IS-MCF-MAE-DT-CON-6.
PRT 0152
01716 IF COLOR = "BLUE " MOVE 1 TO RV-1(4) ELSE
01717 IF COLOR = "RED " MOVE 2 TO RV-1(4) ELSE
01718 IF COLOR = "GREEN" MOVE 3 TO RV-1(4) ELSE
01719 IF COLOR = "WHITE" MOVE 4 TO RV-1(4).
01721 IS-MCF-MAE-DT-CON-8.
PRT 0153
01722 IF NUMBER IS POSITIVE MOVE 1 TO RV-1(5) ELSE
01723 IF NUMBER IS NEGATIVE MOVE 2 TO RV-1(5) ELSE
01724 MOVE 3 TO RV-1(5).
01725
01801 IS-MCF-MAE-DT-GRP-1.
01802 MOVE ALL ZEROS TO RESULT-VECTOR-1.
01803 PERFORM IS-MCF-MAE-DT-CON-2.
01804 PERFORM IS-MCF-MAE-DT-CON-3.
01805 PERFORM IS-MCF-MAE-DT-CON-8.
01806 PERFORM IS-MCF-MAE-DT-CON-6.
01807 MOVE RESULT-VECTOR-1 TO WORK-VECTOR-1
01808 MOVE ZERO TO WV-1(3) WV-1(5)
01809 IF WORK-VECTOR-1 = "33020"
01810 MOVE "2" TO RL1
01811 MOVE "0" TO RL2
01812 ADD 1 TO CNT1
01813 ADD 1 TO COUNTER-1
01814 GO TO IS-MCF-MAE-DT-END.
PRT 0154
01815 PERFORM IS-MCF-MAE-DT-CON-5.
01816 MOVE RESULT-VECTOR-1 TO WORK-VECTOR-1
01817 MOVE ZERO TO WV-1(4)
01818 IF WORK-VECTOR-1 = "11101"
01819 MOVE "0" TO RL1
01820 MOVE "1" TO RL2
01821 ADD 1 TO CNT1
01822 ADD 1 TO COUNTER-1
01823 GO TO IS-MCF-MAE-DT-END.
01824 MOVE RESULT-VECTOR-1 TO WORK-VECTOR-1
01825 IF WORK-VECTOR-1 = "22321"
01826 MOVE "0" TO RL1
01827 MOVE "3" TO RL2
01828 ADD 1 TO CNT1
01829 ADD 1 TO COUNTER-3
01830 GO TO IS-MCF-MAE-DT-END.
01831 MOVE RESULT-VECTOR-1 TO WORK-VECTOR-1
01832 MOVE ZERO TO WV-1(1)
01833 IF WORK-VECTOR-1 = "01121"
01834 MOVE "0" TO RL1
01835 MOVE "9" TO RL2
01836 ADD 1 TO CNT1
01837 ADD 1 TO COUNTER-9
01838 GO TO IS-MCF-MAE-DT-END.
01839 MOVE RESULT-VECTOR-1 TO WORK-VECTOR-1
01840 MOVE ZERO TO WV-1(1)
01841 IF WORK-VECTOR-1 = "30232"
01842 MOVE "1" TO RL1
01843 MOVE "6" TO RL2
01844 ADD 1 TO CNT1
01845 ADD 1 TO COUNTER-16
01846

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0018-0053

PROCEDURE 0018 SIZE 0056
0019-0005
0019-0025
0019-0046
0019-0066
0019-0081

PROCEDURE 0019 SIZE 0084
0020-0007
0020-0028
0020-0044
0020-0060
0020-0062

0021-0052
0021-0053
0021-0056
0021-0067
0021-0071
0021-0073
0021-0075
0021-0080
0021-0084
0021-0086
0021-0088
0021-0092
0021-0094
0021-0097
0021-0101
0021-0106
0021-0107
0021-0110
0021-0120
0021-0125
0021-0127
0021-0129
0021-0133
0021-0138
0021-0139
0021-0142
0021-0152
0021-0157
0021-0159
0021-0161
0021-0166

← RULE-20

← RULE-01

← RULE-03

← RULE-09

← RULE-16

ADD 1 TO COUNTER-16

01921	GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.	0021-0170
01922	GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-ELSE-RULE.	0021-0171
01923	PRT 0155	
	IS-MCE-MAE-DT-GRP-2.	0021-0172
		PROCEDURE 0021 SIZE 0172
01924	MOVE ALL ZEROS TO RESULT-VECTOR-1.	0022-0001
01925	PERFORM IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-2.	0022-0003
02001	PERFORM IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-8.	0022-0004
02002	PERFORM IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-6.	0022-0006
02003	IF RESULT-VECTOR-1 = "10031"	0022-0007
02004	MOVE "1" TO RL1	0022-0011
02005	MOVE "8" TO RL2	0022-0013
02006	ADD 1 TO CNT2	0022-0016
02007	ADD 1 TO COUNTER-18	0022-0021
02008	GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.	0022-0025
02009	PERFORM IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-3.	0022-0026
02010	MOVE RESULT-VECTOR-1 TO WORK-VECTOR-1	0022-0028
02011	MOVE ZERO TO WV-1(3) WV-1(4) WV-1(5)	0022-0052
02012	IF WORK-VECTOR-1 = "31000"	0022-0063
02013	MOVE "2" TO RL1	0022-0067
02014	MOVE "5" TO RL2	0022-0069
02015	ADD 1 TO CNT2	0022-0071
02016	ADD 1 TO COUNTER-25	0022-0076
02017	GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.	0022-0080
02018	MOVE RESULT-VECTOR-1 TO WORK-VECTOR-1	0022-0082
02019	MOVE ZERO TO WV-1(3) WV-1(5)	0022-0095
02020	IF WORK-VECTOR-1 = "24020"	0022-0106
02021	MOVE "0" TO RL1	0022-0110
02022	MOVE "2" TO RL2	0022-0112
02023	ADD 1 TO CNT2	0022-0114
02024	ADD 1 TO COUNTER-2	0022-0119
02025	GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.	0022-0124
02101	MOVE RESULT-VECTOR-1 TO WORK-VECTOR-1	0022-0125
02102	MOVE ZERO TO WV-1(3) WV-1(4) WV-1(5)	0022-0149
02103	IF WORK-VECTOR-1 = "22000"	0022-0160
02104	MOVE "3" TO RL1	0022-0164
02105	MOVE "0" TO RL2	0022-0166
02106	ADD 1 TO CNT2	0022-0168
02107	ADD 1 TO COUNTER-30	0022-0173
02108	GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.	0022-0178
02109	IF RESULT-VECTOR-1 = "23043"	0022-0179
02110	MOVE "0" TO RL1	0022-0183
02111	MOVE "7" TO RL2	0022-0185
02112	ADD 1 TO CNT2	0022-0187
02113	ADD 1 TO COUNTER-7	0022-0192
02114	GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.	0022-0197
02115	PERFORM IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-5.	0022-0198
02116	MOVE RESULT-VECTOR-1 TO WORK-VECTOR-1	0022-0199
02117	MOVE ZERO TO WV-1(4)	0022-0202
02118	IF WORK-VECTOR-1 = "12201"	0022-0213
02119	MOVE "2" TO RL1	0022-0217
02120	MOVE "4" TO RL2	0022-0219
02121	ADD 1 TO CNT1	0022-0221
02122	ADD 1 TO COUNTER-24	0022-0226
02123	GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.	0022-0230
02124	MOVE RESULT-VECTOR-1 TO WORK-VECTOR-1	0022-0232
02125	MOVE ZERO TO WV-1(1)	0022-0234
02201	IF WORK-VECTOR-1 = "03231"	0022-0245
02202	MOVE "1" TO RL1	0022-0249
02203	MOVE "3" TO RL2	0022-0251
02204	ADD 1 TO CNT2	0022-0254

02205	ADD 1 TO COUNTER-13	0022-0258
02206	GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.	0022-0263
02207	GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-ELSE-RULE.	0022-0264
02208	IS-MCE-MAE-DT-GRP-3.	0022-0265
		PHOCEDURE
		0023-0001
02209	MOVE ALL ZEROS TO RESULT-VECTOR-1.	0023-0003
02210	PERFORM IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-2.	0023-0004
02211	PERFORM IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-5.	0023-0006
02212	PERFORM IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-6.	0023-0007
02213	IF RESULT-VECTOR-1 = "30120"	0023-0011
02214	MOVE "0" TO RL1	0023-0013
02215	MOVE "6" TO RL2	0023-0016
02216	ADD 1 TO CNT3	0023-0020
02217	ADD 1 TO COUNTER-6	0023-0025
02218	GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.	0023-0026
02219	PERFORM IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-3.	0023-0027
02220	PERFORM IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-8.	0023-0029
02221	MOVE RESULT-VECTOR-1 TO WORK-VECTOR-1	0023-0031
02222	MOVE ZERO TO WV-1(4)	0023-0042
02223	IF WORK-VECTOR-1 = "14302"	0023-0046
02224	MOVE "2" TO RL1	0023-0048
02225	MOVE "3" TO RL2	0023-0051
02301	ADD 1 TO CNT3	0023-0055
02302	ADD 1 TO COUNTER-23	0023-0060
02303	GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.	0023-0061
02304	IF RESULT-VECTOR-1 = "21231"	0023-0065
02305	MOVE "1" TO RL1	0023-0067
02306	MOVE "9" TO RL2	0023-0069
02307	ADD 1 TO CNT3	0023-0074
02308	ADD 1 TO COUNTER-19	0023-0078
02309	GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.	0023-0080
02310	MOVE RESULT-VECTOR-1 TO WORK-VECTOR-1	0023-0093
02311	MOVE ZERO TO WV-1(4) WV-1(5)	0023-0104
02312	IF WORK-VECTOR-1 = "33100"	0023-0108
02313	MOVE "1" TO RL1	0023-0110
02314	MOVE "4" TO RL2	0023-0112
02315	ADD 1 TO CNT3	0023-0117
02316	ADD 1 TO COUNTER-14	0023-0121
02317	GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.	0023-0123
02318	MOVE RESULT-VECTOR-1 TO WORK-VECTOR-1	0023-0125
02319	MOVE ZERO TO WV-1(4)	0023-0136
02320	IF WORK-VECTOR-1 = "21201"	0023-0140
02321	MOVE "2" TO RL1	0023-0142
02322	MOVE "6" TO RL2	0023-0145
02323	ADD 1 TO CNT3	0023-0149
02324	ADD 1 TO COUNTER-26	0023-0154
02325	GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.	0023-0155
02401	MOVE RESULT-VECTOR-1 TO WORK-VECTOR-1	0023-0168
02402	MOVE ZERO TO WV-1(4) WV-1(5)	0023-0179
02403	IF WORK-VECTOR-1 = "12100"	0023-0183
02404	MOVE "2" TO RL1	0023-0185
02405	MOVE "9" TO RL2	0023-0188
02406	ADD 1 TO CNT3	0023-0192
02407	ADD 1 TO COUNTER-29	0023-0197
02408	GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.	0023-0198
02409	MOVE RESULT-VECTOR-1 TO WORK-VECTOR-1	0023-0233
02410	MOVE ZERO TO WV-1(2) WV-1(3) WV-1(4) WV-1(5)	0023-0243
02411	IF WORK-VECTOR-1 = "10000"	0023-0248
02412	MOVE "0" TO RL1	0023-0250
02413	MOVE "3" TO RL2	0023-0252
02414	ADD 1 TO CNT3	

02415	ADD 1 TO COUNTER-3	0023-0257
02416	GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.	0023-0261
02417	GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-ELSE-RULE.	0023-0262
02418	IS-MCE-MAE-DT-GRP-4.	0023-0264
		PROCEDURE 0023 SIZE 0263
02419	MOVE ALL ZEROS TO RESULT-VECTOR-1.	0024-0001
02420	PERFORM IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-5.	0024-0003
02421	PERFORM IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-6.	0024-0004
02422	IF RESULT-VECTOR-1 = "00201"	0024-0006
02423	MOVE "1" TO RL1	0024-0010
02424	MOVE "5" TO RL2	0024-0012
02425	ADD 1 TO CNT4	0024-0014
02501	ADD 1 TO COUNTER-15	0024-0019
02502	GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.	0024-0023
02503	PERFORM IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-6.	0024-0025
02504	IF RESULT-VECTOR-1 = "00222"	0024-0026
02505	MOVE "1" TO RL1	0024-0030
02506	MOVE "1" TO RL2	0024-0032
02507	ADD 1 TO CNT4	0024-0035
02508	ADD 1 TO COUNTER-11	0024-0039
02509	GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.	0024-0044
02510	MOVE ZERO TO RV-1(4)	0024-0045
02511	IF RESULT-VECTOR-1 = "00103"	0024-0056
02512	MOVE "2" TO RL1	0024-0060
02513	MOVE "7" TO RL2	0024-0062
02514	ADD 1 TO CNT4	0024-0064
02515	ADD 1 TO COUNTER-27	0024-0069
02516	GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.	0024-0073
02517	GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-ELSE-RULE.	0024-0075
02518	IS-MCE-MAE-DT-GRP-5.	0024-0076
		PROCEDURE 0024 SIZE 0076
02519	MOVE ALL ZEROS TO RESULT-VECTOR-1.	0025-0003
02520	PERFORM IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-2.	0025-0004
02521	PERFORM IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-3.	0025-0006
02522	PERFORM IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-6.	0025-0007
02523	PERFORM IS-MCE-MAE-DT-CON-8.	0025-0009
02524	IF RESULT-VECTOR-1 = "31022"	0025-0013
02525	MOVE "1" TO RL1	0025-0015
02601	MOVE "2" TO RL2	0025-0017
02602	ADD 1 TO CNT5	0025-0022
02603	ADD 1 TO COUNTER-12	0025-0026
02604	GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.	0025-0027
02605	IF RESULT-VECTOR-1 = "23033"	0025-0031
02606	MOVE "1" TO RL1	0025-0033
02607	MOVE "6" TO RL2	0025-0036
02608	ADD 1 TO CNT5	0025-0040
02609	ADD 1 TO COUNTER-16	0025-0045
02610	GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.	0025-0046
02611	IF RESULT-VECTOR-1 = "13012"	0025-0050
02612	MOVE "0" TO RL1	0025-0052
02613	MOVE "8" TO RL2	0025-0055
02614	ADD 1 TO CNT5	0025-0059
02615	ADD 1 TO COUNTER-8	0025-0064
02616	GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.	0025-0065
02617	IF RESULT-VECTOR-1 = "22041"	0025-0069
02618	MOVE "1" TO RL1	0025-0071
02619	MOVE "0" TO RL2	0025-0073
02620	ADD 1 TO CNT5	0025-0078
02621	ADD 1 TO COUNTER-10	0025-0082
02622	GO TO IS-MCE-MAE-DT-END.	0025-0084
02623	MOVE RESULT-VECTOR-1 TO WORK-VECTOR-1.	

PROCEDURE 0008 SIZE 0036

PRT 0156

PROCEDURE 0032 SIZE 0002

PRT 0157

PROCEDURE 0033 SIZE 0020

PRT 0160

PROCEDURE 0034 SIZE 0020

PRT 0161

PROCEDURE 0035 SIZE 0020

PRT 0162

PROCEDURE 0001 SIZE 0079
0000-0000

999999 END-OF-JOB.
COMPILE OK : B-5500.FEB.1968.

PRT SIZE 0115

NO. SEGS. 044

COMPILE TIME 00050 SFCS.

TOTAL SEG. SIZE 02204

DISK SIZE 03090

MEMORY SIZE 02115

CARDS. 00652

VI-1-4 TEST DATA LISTING.

The test data was designed to illustrate later in the execution of the program ambiguous rules. This was done by specifying on every record the intended rule.

[illegible]

7	7	35	BLUE	10	RED	13	CC	BAB	RULE = 02
7	7	30	BLUE	10	WHITE	00	A5	BAB	RULE = 07
3	3	30	BLUE	10	WHITE	00	77	BAB	RULE = 07
2	2	30	BLUE	10	WHITE	00	BC	BAB	RULE = 07
9	2	30	BLUE	10	WHITE	00	DA	BAB	RULE = 07
2	3	30	PINK	10	GREEN	H1	CC	AAA	RULE = 13
3	4	30	----	10	GREEN	H2	/U	BBB	RULE = 13
2	3	30	BLUE	10	GREEN	33			RULE = 18
2	3	30		10	GREEN	H1			RULE = 18
8	9	30	***	10	GREEN	H2			RULE = 18
3	4	30	RED	10	GREEN	H3			RULE = 18
5	6	30	RED	10	GREEN	H4			RULE = 18
3	4	30		10	GREEN	H5			RULE = 18
7	8	30		10	GREEN	34			RULE = 18
7	5	30	PINK	10	GREEN	37			RULE = 18
2	3	15		10		35		ABC	RULE = 24
4	5	15		10		36		DEF	RULE = 24
6	7	15		10		37		GHI	RULE = 24
4	3	20		10					RULE = 25
5	2	20		10					RULE = 27
			BLUE	10			AA	375	RULE = 27
			BLUE	10			AA	001	RULE = 27
				10			AA	100	RULE = 27
			RED	10			AA	103	RULE = 27
			NONO	10			AA	781	RULE = 27
1	9	17	POPO	33	RED	J2	BA		RULE = 04
2	3	30	GOKO	07	BLUE	J3	MA		RULE = 08
7	9	30	SOKO	13	BLUE	J4	PH		RULE = 10
3	3	15	ROKO	17	WHITE	35	DR		RULE = 10
7	7	15	BOKO	23	WHITE	77	KT		RULE = 12
3	1	20	TOKO	75	RED	J7	LM		RULE = 12
6	5	20	KOKO	81	RED	J8	DP		RULE = 12
3	2	20	TAKA	31	RED	J3	RS		RULE = 16
5	5	30	KAKA	46	GREEN	00	TQ		RULE = 16
6	6	30	SAKA	64	GREEN	00	PP		RULE = 16
9	9	30	DOKO	61	GREEN	00	KK		RULE = 21
1	7	35	FORD	73	GREEN	00	RR		RULE = 22
		15	BLUE	56	GREEN	J1	TT		RULE = 22
		15	RAKA	51	GREEN	J2	TT		RULE = 28
		20	FORD	99	GREEN	37	AC		ELSE RULE
5	5	77	ELSE	77	PINK	00	**		ELSE RULE
5	5	77	ELSE	81	PINK	00	**		ELSE RULE
5	5	77	ELSE	99	PINK	00	**		ELSE RULE
5	5	77	ELSE	31	PINK	00	**		ELSE RULE
5	5	77	ELSE	77	PINK	00	**		ELSE RULE
5	5	77	ELSE	66	PINK	00	**		ELSE RULE
5	5	77	ELSE	55	PINK	00	**		ELSE RULE

VI-1-5 THE RUN.

The program output was designed to list every input record together with the rule number it satisfies making possible to check if the data satisfied the intended rule.

INPUT-CARD

RULE SATISFIED

	A	B	E	G	X	COULOR	NUMBER	VALUE-1	C	INTENDED RULE
SATISFIES RULE-19	4	4	20	PINK	77	GREEN	17	AA	BCA	RULE = 19
SATISFIES RULE-19	5	5	20	PINK	73	GREEN	76	AA	QTP	RULE = 19
SATISFIES RULE-19	9	9	20	PINK	31	GREEN	63	AA	LSD	RULE = 19
SATISFIES RULE-26	3	3	20	PINK	05		H1	AA	ABC	RULE = 26
SATISFIES RULE-23	3	7	35	PINK	35		J3	AA	A35	RULE = 23
SATISFIES RULE-23	2	5	35	PINK	47		J2	AA	R77	RULE = 23
SATISFIES RULE-23	1	8	35	PINK	93		J5	AA	CA3	RULE = 23
SATISFIES RULE-23	5	7	35	PINK	85		J4	AA	P30	RULE = 23
SATISFIES RULE-23	6	8	35	PINK	33		J1	AA	3A3	RULE = 23
SATISFIES RULE-26	4	4	20	PINK	08		33	AA	QTP	RULE = 26
SATISFIES RULE-26	9	9	20	PINK	74		35	AA	LSD	RULE = 26
SATISFIES RULE-ELSE	2	1	15	PINK	63			AA	375	RULE = 29
SATISFIES RULE-11				GOKU	10	RED	J5	AA	QTP	RULE = 11
SATISFIES RULE-11				GOKU	10	RED	J4	AA	LST	RULE = 11
SATISFIES RULE-11				GOKU	10	RED	J3	AA	SSD	RULE = 11
SATISFIES RULE-11				GOKU	10	RED	J9	AA	DP0	RULE = 11
SATISFIES RULE-11				GOKU	10	RED	J3	AA	TRS	RULE = 11
SATISFIES RULE-11				GOKU	10	RED	J1	AA	PTR	RULE = 11
SATISFIES RULE-11				PUKO	10	RED	J7	AA	ATO	RULE = 11
SATISFIES RULE-11				PUKO	10	RED	37	AA	RST	RULE = 15
SATISFIES RULE-15				PUKO	10	RED	H1	AA	UVW	RULE = 15
SATISFIES RULE-15				MOKU	10	RED	H2	AA	WWV	RULE = 15
SATISFIES RULE-15				MOKU	10	RED	37	AA	BCQ	RULE = 15
SATISFIES RULE-15				MOKU	10	RED	33	AA	TRQ	RULE = 15
SATISFIES RULE-15				MOKU	10	RED	78	AA	EPF	RULE = 15
SATISFIES RULE-15				MOKU	10	RED	83	AA	RST	RULE = 15
SATISFIES RULE-15				MOKU	10	RED	95	AA	QRU	RULE = 15
SATISFIES RULE-15				MOKU	10	RED		BC		RULE = 25
SATISFIES RULE-15				MOKU	10	RED		DA		RULE = 25
SATISFIES RULE-25	8	3	20		10			PP		RULE = 25
SATISFIES RULE-25	9	1	20		10			QT		RULE = 25
SATISFIES RULE-25	3	2	20		10					RULE = 30
SATISFIES RULE-25	5	2	15		10					RULE = 30
SATISFIES RULE-30	3	3	15		10					RULE = 30
SATISFIES RULE-30	9	9	15		10					RULE = 30
SATISFIES RULE-30	7	7	15		10					RULE = 30
SATISFIES RULE-30	6	6	15		10			YT		RULE = 30
SATISFIES RULE-30	1	1	15		10			AA		RULE = 03
SATISFIES RULE-03	3	9		PINK	13				035	RULE = 06
SATISFIES RULE-06	2	1	30	PINK	14	RED			756	RULE = 06
SATISFIES RULE-06	7	3		PINK	15	RED			770	RULE = 06
SATISFIES RULE-06	1	0		PINK	16	RED			077	RULE = 06
SATISFIES RULE-06	9	5		PINK	17	RED			133	RULE = 06
SATISFIES RULE-06	7	4		PINK	18	RED			331	RULE = 06
SATISFIES RULE-06	9	1		PINK	19	RED			551	RULE = 06
SATISFIES RULE-06	8	2		PINK	20	RED			197	RULE = 06
SATISFIES RULE-06	3	1		PINK	21	RED			354	RULE = 06
SATISFIES RULE-06	2	0	30	PINK	22	RED			256	RULE = 06
SATISFIES RULE-06	7	0		PINK	23	RED			128	RULE = 06
SATISFIES RULE-06	6	5		PINK	25	RED			064	RULE = 06
SATISFIES RULE-06	3	1	30	PINK	26	RED		AA	356	RULE = 14
SATISFIES RULE-14	3	2		PINK	17				625	RULE = 14
SATISFIES RULE-14	5	3	30	PINK	99				024	RULE = 14
SATISFIES RULE-14	7	1	30	PINK	J7				ABC	RULE = 19
SATISFIES RULE-19	3	3	20	PINK	14	GREEN	33	AA	333	RULE = 01
SATISFIES RULE-01	2	8	20	PINK	10	ORNGE	01	AA	001	RULE = 09
SATISFIES RULE-01	3	4	20	PINK	10	RED	J1	BB	A38	RULE = 02
SATISFIES RULE-02	2	2	35	PINK	10	RED	H2	BB	305	RULE = 02
SATISFIES RULE-02	7	3	35	RED	10	RED				

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SATISFIES RULE-02	4	4	35	RED	10	RED	H3	CA	RULE = 02
SATISFIES RULE-02	5	5	35	BLUE	10	RED	05	RA	RULE = 02
SATISFIES RULE-02	6	6	35	PINK	10	RED	77	AB	RULE = 02
SATISFIES RULE-02	7	7	35	BLUE	10	RED	13	CC	RULE = 02
SATISFIES RULE-07	7	7	30	BLUE	10	WHITE	00	A5	RULE = 07
SATISFIES RULE-07	3	3	30	BLUE	10	WHITE	00	77	RULE = 07
SATISFIES RULE-07	2	2	30	BLUE	10	WHITE	00	BC	RULE = 07
SATISFIES RULE-07	9	9	30	BLUE	10	WHITE	00	DA	RULE = 07
SATISFIES RULE-07	2	3	30	PINK	10	GREEN	H1	CC	RULE = 13
SATISFIES RULE-18	3	3	30	----	10	GREEN	H2	7U	RULE = 13
SATISFIES RULE-18	2	3	30	BLUE	10	GREEN	33	B88	RULE = 18
SATISFIES RULE-18	2	3	30	----	10	GREEN	H1		RULE = 18
SATISFIES RULE-18	8	0	30	----	10	GREEN	H2		RULE = 18
SATISFIES RULE-18	3	4	30	RED	10	GREEN	H3		RULE = 18
SATISFIES RULE-18	3	4	30	RED	10	GREEN	H4		RULE = 18
SATISFIES RULE-18	5	6	30	RED	10	GREEN	H5		RULE = 18
SATISFIES RULE-18	3	4	30	RED	10	GREEN	24		RULE = 18
SATISFIES RULE-18	7	5	30	PINK	10	GREEN	37		RULE = 18
SATISFIES RULE-13	7	5	30		10				
SATISFIES RULE-24	2	3	15		10		35	ABC	RULE = 24
SATISFIES RULE-24	4	5	15		10		36	DEF	RULE = 24
SATISFIES RULE-24	6	7	15		10		37	GHI	RULE = 24
SATISFIES RULE-25	4	3	20		10				RULE = 25
SATISFIES RULE-25	5	2	20		10				RULE = 25
SATISFIES RULE-27				BLUE	10		00	AA	RULE = 27
SATISFIES RULE-27				BLUE	10		00	AA	RULE = 27
SATISFIES RULE-27				RED	10		00	AA	RULE = 27
SATISFIES RULE-27				NONO	10		00	AA	RULE = 27
SATISFIES RULE-27				POPU	33	RED	J2	BA	RULE = 04
SATISFIES RULE-04	1	9	17		07	BLUE	J3	MA	RULE = 08
SATISFIES RULE-08	2	3	30		13	BLUE	J4	PH	RULE = 08
SATISFIES RULE-08	7	9	30		17	WHITE	35	DR	RULE = 10
SATISFIES RULE-10	3	3	15		23	WHITE	77	KT	RULE = 10
SATISFIES RULE-10	7	7	15		75	RED	J7	LM	RULE = 12
SATISFIES RULE-12	3	1	20		81	RED	J8	DP	RULE = 12
SATISFIES RULE-12	6	5	20		31	RED	J3	RS	RULE = 12
SATISFIES RULE-12	3	2	20		40	GREEN	00	TQ	RULE = 16
SATISFIES RULE-16	5	5	30		64	GREEN	00	PP	RULE = 16
SATISFIES RULE-16	6	6	30		61	GREEN	00	KK	RULE = 16
SATISFIES RULE-16	9	9	30		73	GREEN	00	RR	RULE = 21
SATISFIES RULE-21	1	7	35		56	GREEN	J1	TT	RULE = 22
SATISFIES RULE-22			15		51	GREEN	J2	TT	RULE = 22
SATISFIES RULE-22			15		99	GREEN	37	AC	RULE = 28
SATISFIES RULE-28			20		77	PINK	00	**	ELSE RULE
SATISFIES RULE-ELSE	5	5	77		81	PINK	00	**	ELSE RULE
SATISFIES RULE-ELSE	5	5	77		90	PINK	00	**	ELSE RULE
SATISFIES RULE-ELSE	5	5	77		31	PINK	00	**	ELSE RULE
SATISFIES RULE-ELSE	5	5	77		77	PINK	00	**	ELSE RULE
SATISFIES RULE-ELSE	5	5	77		66	PINK	00	**	ELSE RULE
SATISFIES RULE-ELSE	5	5	77		55	PINK	00	**	ELSE RULE
SATISFIES RULE-ELSE	5	5	77						

CNT1 = 005	CNT2 = 032	CNT3 = 028	CNT4 = 020	CNT5 = 002	CNT6 = 008
COUNTER-1 = 002	COUNTER-2 = 006	COUNTER-3 = 001	COUNTER-4 = 001	COUNTER-5 = 000	COUNTER-6 = 012
COUNTER-7 = 004	COUNTER-8 = 002	COUNTER-9 = 000	COUNTER-10 = 002	COUNTER-11 = 007	COUNTER-12 = 003
COUNTER-13 = 001	COUNTER-14 = 005	COUNTER-15 = 008	COUNTER-16 = 003	COUNTER-17 = 000	COUNTER-18 = 009
COUNTER-19 = 004	COUNTER-20 = 000	COUNTER-21 = 001	COUNTER-22 = 002	COUNTER-23 = 005	COUNTER-24 = 003
COUNTER-25 = 007	COUNTER-26 = 004	COUNTER-27 = 005	COUNTER-28 = 001	COUNTER-29 = 000	COUNTER-30 = 005

CHAPTER VII: CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

In this thesis a general mathematical description of decision tables was introduced for the first time. This mathematical formalism served as a basis of the over all investigation and allowed for the first time a precise treatment of the logical basis of decision tables as well as the conversion problem.

Chapter II presents the matrix description of decision tables with detailed classification. Based upon this, section II-2 introduces basic rule operations such as "simple rule splitting", "complete rule splitting" and rule intersection needed in the following discussion of the characteristics of decision tables given in II-2-2, and II-2-3. In the case of decision tables with unrelated conditions a formal theorem (II-2-1) on ambiguity was given. A precise definition of data dependent inconsistency was also included and demonstrated. Based upon previous definition a clear definition in mathematical terms for completeness is given. In II-2-3 the characteristics of decision tables with related and unrelated conditions are analyzed and given in terms of possible ambiguity. A definition of completeness for this case is also given. To this field of decision tables with related conditions further investigation can be applied by the inclusion of any particular programming language.

Chapter III deals with a more practical aspect of decision tables, namely, manipulations of decision tables and relations

between them. In many practical cases in which the use of decision tables is applied the actual decision tables can become too large and lose clarity and effectiveness. In these cases splitting techniques should be applied. The splitting techniques developed in III-1-1 are based upon the definition of different linkages between decision tables. Three different splitting procedures were developed; splitting by rules, splitting by conditions and splitting by branching. Some of them were used later in different conversion techniques. The problem of merging decision tables was analyzed as well. Unfortunately, the only conclusion reached was that even under severe restriction there is no simple generalized procedure for merging; on which will not produce, in general, ambiguities or other logical errors. Further investigations into this subject without making use of more intelligent procedures for logical rather than structured analysis is impossible. Section III-2 deals with relations between decision tables. Few definitions for isomorphism and equivalence, based upon the previously defined rule operations and the rule combination defined in definition III-2-3 are given. The purpose of these definitions was again to supply guiding rules in the practical use of decision tables creating a way of deciding whether two tables are logically equivalent or not. Under relatively severe restriction automated procedures were developed for checking simple equivalence. This subject can be further developed and analyzed. Nevertheless, this was used in III-2-2 for development of decision tables minimization procedures.

Chapter IV includes an in depth study and analysis of the advanced conversion methods published in existing literature. The necessity of this study lies in the fact that in implementing a decision table processor, one must be very careful in choosing the conversion procedures. In this chapter every one of the different existing techniques was analysed, leading to a conclusion that not one of these procedures can be used separately for every case.

Chapter V is devoted to testing and diagnostic methods. This chapter is divided into three sections. The first section dealt with testing and diagnostic procedures at conversion time. The first set of theorems (for LCE decision tables) is based upon Chapter III and the paper published by P.H.J. King [B4] which was the first to give serious consideration to this subject. Theorems V-1-5 through V-1-8 (for MCE decision tables) were originated for the first time here. In the second section testing and diagnostic procedures at run time are presented (originally published by C.R. Muthukrishnan and V. Rajaraman [B7]), together with some extensions for conversion time. In the third section, two algorithms for LCE and MCE decision tables (with and without related conditions) for conversion and testing in conversion time and run time, are developed. These algorithms give a combined and efficient way of debugging.

In Chapter VI an attempt was made to suggest briefly a method for writing a flexible decision table COBOL pre-compiler. With respect to this Chapter it should be noted that an actual pre-compiler

package has not been produced. Also, due to lack of funds, no real pre-compiler was written and the conversion work of the collaborated example included, was done manually. The goal of designing a decision table processor which can serve as a form of direct communication language between the systems analyst and the computer was not accomplished. Most of the work was done with respect to the conversion and testing procedures. Except for suggesting the option of library and data base interface no attempt was made to suggest ways for data and errors description. This part is left open for further investigation in the subject which might lead eventually to the complete elimination of the programmer.

The purpose of this thesis was to provide a general tool and therefore it is expected that an additional number of results could have been obtained for special types of decision tables or for decision tables in special applications.

It is believed that this treatment of decision tables will provide the required tools for the potential decision table user, or the implementer of a decision table translator.

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