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THIS PAPER WAS PRESENTED AT A CONFERENCE ON 'NEW DIRECTIONS IN
RESEARCH ON EDUCATIONAL ADMINISTRATION.' TWO SCHEMES OF RESEARCH
METHODOLOGY WERE DISCUSSED. THE FIRST IDEA WAS 'FACET DESIGN AND
ANALYSIS' ORIGINATED BY LOUIS GUTTMAN. FACET DESIGN WAS DEFINED AS A
WAY OF LAYING OUT A DOMAIN FOR RESEARCH, WHILE FACET ANALYSIS
ENABLES ONE TO TEST THE VALIDITY OF THE ASSESSMENT OF THE ENTIRE
DOMAIN. THE SECOND SCHEME WAS 'THEORY OF DATA' BY CLYDE COOMBS. THIS
DEALS WITH THE STAGES OF GATHERING DATA OUT OF OBSERVATIONS AND OF
MAKING VARIABLES. THE PHASES DISCUSSED IN THE 'THEORY OF DATA' WERE
(1) SELECTING A DOMAIN OF INVESTIGATION, (2) RECORDING OBSERVATIONS,
(3) CONVERTING OBSERVATIONS INTO DATA, (4) CLASSIFYING THE
INDIVIDUALS OR OBJECTS (SCALING), AND (5) SEEKING RELATIONS AMONG
VARIABLES. THESE SCHEMES WERE SUGGESTED TO BE OF USE AS TOOLS BY
THOSE WHO WILL BE DEVELOPING NEW METHODS IN RESEARCH. (RS)

Center for the Advanced Study of Educational Administration

SOME RECENT IDEAS

IN RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

by

Philip J. Runkel

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

Eugene

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A paper presented March 30, 1965 at a

University of Oregon conference entitled

"New Directions in Research in Educational

Administration."

SOME RECENT IDEAS IN RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

(A paper for a conference on "New Directions in Research
on Educational Administration" sponsored by CASEA and UCEA
at the University of Oregon, March 29-31, 1965)

Philip J. Runkel

The purpose of this paper is to describe very briefly a couple of
particular ways of thinking about research methodology. My selection of
these ways of thinking is purely arbitrary, but I have chosen these par-
ticular ideas because first, I consider them very powerful ideas and sec-
ond, they are not yet being widely taught and are, therefore, not easy to
come by. Not only do these ideas help those familiar with them to seek
connections and make comparisons among the plethora of methods being used
in current research, but in my opinion these ideas will come more and
more to be used as tools by those who will be developing new methods to
replace those with which we have become dissatisfied.

Each of the two schemes of thought which I shall present is very
simple in its basic structure, though very extensive and complicated in
its implications. The first idea is that of facet design and analysis
originated by Louis Guttman, now director of the Israel Institute of
Applied Social Research. Guttman is now in the process of completing
the first draft of a book about facet design and analysis, but until that
book appears the only published information about this idea is to be found
in a few scattered articles. The second idea is the theory of data of
Clyde H. Coombs of the Psychology Department at the University of Michigan.
Most of the structure so far worked out for this theory of data is now con-
tained in a book which appeared just last year. Obviously, only the brief-
est of introductions to each of these ideas can be contained in this paper.
References which can be pursued if either of the ideas strike you as useful

will be found at the end of the paper.

It may be that you are already familiar with these ideas. If so, we shall be grateful for your help during the discussion sessions; the views of more than one person familiar with an idea will enrich the discussion. If all these ideas are new to you, they will probably compound into an overdose; if this is the case, I suggest that you concentrate your thinking upon one idea which most captures your interest.

FACET DESIGN AND ANALYSIS

Facet design is a way of laying out a domain for research. Although it produces hypotheses, its special power as a tool resides in the fact that it enables one to specify the boundaries and structure of the entire domain of relevance within which one may wish to experiment. Facet analysis then enables one to test the validity of one's assessment of the entire domain before he invests great time and money in experiments upon portions of the domain. But I have fallen into rather abstract phrases. In order to turn to a more concrete way of speaking, let me take a couple of paragraphs to set the stage with a few familiar features of experimental design.

In designing an experiment, one of the most nagging problems is whether we have chosen (a) relevant variables to be allowed to vary and (b) relevant variables to be controlled. That is, our hypotheses typically take this form: under what conditions will values of a certain (dependent) variable be higher and under what conditions will the values be lower? For example, we might ask under what conditions teachers will stay longer in a school and under what conditions teachers will cut short their stay. We might feel that the amount of communication of some certain kind within the faculty would be related to length of service --

and we might, therefore, produce or look for schools in which there were conditions of low, medium, and high communication. For purposes of economy in research, we might want to rule out the effects of other conditions which we felt would also have an effect on length of service. We might believe that salary levels would be related to length of service but, if we were primarily interested in the effects of communication, we would either randomize salary levels among our subjects or we would examine length of service within groups of teachers having salary levels relatively the same. The point is that we would pay attention in one way or another both to communication levels and salary levels (as well as other variables we think might be relevant) and the conclusions we would draw from our study would necessarily be circumscribed by these relevant variables. If we hold a variable constant at one level, then our conclusions must speak of our findings within this particular slice of total domain. If we select subjects randomly from among a certain set of conditions, then our conclusions are complete only if they state that we have ignored the effects of this variable (which we think might have had effects had they been allowed to show). To repeat, we begin a study by trying to become aware of the variables which are important in circumscribing the domain which we want to study.

It is not easy to become aware of the variables which put the "boundaries" on the domain we want to study. One of the difficulties is the ever-present bias on the part of the experimenter toward his own particular ways of looking at the world. Selecting variables (a) to be examined, (b) to be randomized, and (c) to be ignored typically becomes a matter of intuition. Another difficulty arises from the very technique of randomization in assigning subjects to experimental conditions. Randomizing

rules out from observation the effects not only of variables which we are aware might be relevant but also the effects of those of which we are unaware. What we need is some method which will enable us to be systematic in thinking about the domain which we are setting out to study.

The beginning logic of facet design is extremely simple; it is simply that of the Cartesian coordinates you used when you drew graphs in algebra class in junior high school. The chief differences are (a) that we do not always deal in the social sciences with numerical quantities along the coordinates and (b) we typically deal with many more coordinates than we were able to put on the graph in junior high school.

To be more exact, we might list down the left-hand side of a page some conditions of one sort and across the bottom of the page some conditions of another sort. By drawing horizontal and vertical lines, we would then have a grid of cells. Each cell would be designated by a particular condition of the one sort and a particular condition of the other sort. For example, we might list levels of communication down the left side of the page and levels of salary across the bottom of the page; in a particular cell we would then enter observations of length of service on the part of those teachers who were characterized by that particular salary level and that particular amount of communication in his school. Comparisons of length of service in relation to level of communication with salary held constant could then be made up and down a column of the diagram, while comparisons of length of service in relation to salary levels with level of communication held constant could be made from left to right along the rows of the diagram. Comparisons taking into account both communication and salary would be made diagonally. In this example, communication is one _facet_ and the various levels of communication are the

elements of that facet. Salary is the other facet. The variable of length of service is, of course, the dependent variable and the values of this variable constitute what Guttman calls the "range."

Taking this example a little farther, let us suppose for the sake of illustration that we predict that length of service will be longer where levels of communication are higher and also where salaries are higher. We would then expect that the average length of service would increase in the cells reading from left to right along a row and would also increase in the cells running from bottom to top in a column. Furthermore, we would predict that the average length of service in any particular cell would be higher than in cells to the "southwest" of it. On the other hand, we would not be able to predict the relative magnitudes to be found in cells to the northwest or southeast because the elements corresponding to those cells would be lower in one facet but higher in the other and therefore incomparable Facet design does not lay out all possible predictions about all sets of conditions specified by the facets.

There is another important feature to be observed in this example. Since the values for length of service increase along a row, the values in one cell are more similar to the values in an adjacent cell than they are to values in cells farther away. The same kind of pattern will be true of columns and it will also be true diagonally across the diagram. This pattern reflects what Guttman calls the principle of contiguity, which is the basis for facet analysis. The principle is usually expressed in terms of correlations between observations in different cells rather than in terms of levels of values.

By now I have presented enough ideas about facet design and analysis so that it will probably be profitable to present a more extensive

example. Quoted below (with minor changes in wording) are excerpts from an article by Guttman recently published in the _American Sociological Review_. This article takes data previously published by other authors, recasts them into a facet design, and subjects them to a facet analysis. The original article written by the other authors reported a study conducted within a domain of interest conceived in the usual intuitive manner. Guttman's study of their study shows clearly how the domain can be specified much more precisely, how a family of hypotheses flows directly from the facet design, and how the validity of the facets originally chosen can be checked in one coherent facet analysis. You should pay particular attention as you read along to the manner in which the facet design illuminates the domain of interest well beyond that portion of the domain which was investigated by the original authors.

I might make a note here about the process of choosing facets because, sometimes, facet analysis is confused with factor analysis. In the latter, factors are come upon after the data are collected. Quite the contrary is true of facet design. The facets must be chosen _before_ data are collected. This is done, to put it brutally, as best one can. However, there are aids upon which one can rely. One aid, of course, is a theory about the domain being studied -- if one is available or can be built. Another way to go about it, which is exemplified in the article excerpted below, is to study the materials available concerning the domain, looking for concepts which, when put together in the criss-crossing manner of the Cartesian space, will specify all the sets of conditions which one has found in his inspection of the domain. Note in the following article that the original authors _did not_ provide Guttman with the facets which he used in his re-analysis. Rather, Guttman inspected the

conditions described by the original authors in their article and the kinds of data-gathering instruments they used. He then picked out the features (facets) which he felt would "span" the conditions under which the original authors were studying favorableness of behavior or attitude toward Negroes. When this was done, it was immediately apparent that the facets spanned more combinations of conditions than the original authors had studied. In other words, the facet design laid out the complete domain of which the conditions studied by the original authors constituted merely a part. But perhaps I am talking too much about a study which you have not yet read. Let us turn to the excerpts from Guttman.

In a recent article, Bastide and van den Berghe describe four types, or subuniverses, of content in connection with inter-racial behavior: stereotypes, norms, hypothetical interaction, and personal interaction. They present some interesting empirical findings in these areas, based on their Brazilian research, including a set of correlations among the four subuniverses. The purpose of the present paper is to suggest a structural theory for the observed interrelations among the four subuniverses.

The four varieties of interracial behavior on which we are focussing are described briefly by Bastide and van den Berghe. For our present purposes, it is convenient to restate and to capsulize the descriptions. The following are definitions of the subuniverses of the four types:

I. Stereotype: Belief of (a white subject, that his own group (excels -- does not excel) in comparison with Negroes on (desirable traits).

II. Norm: Belief of (a white subject) that his own group (ought -- ought not) interact with Negroes in (social ways).

III. Hypothetical Interaction: Belief of (a white subject) that he himself (will -- will not) interact with Negroes in (social ways).

IV. Personal Interaction: Overt action of (a white subject) himself (to -- not to) interact with Negroes in (social ways).

Underlinings and parentheses used in the above definitions are intended to indicate the semantic structure we are positing for intergroup behavior, and each will be explained.

All four definitions have in common the fact that they involve a white subject and Negroes. The phrase "with Negroes" occurs uniformly in each of the definitions, as does "a white subject." The intergroup behaviors of some pairs of groups other than whites and Negroes can be defined merely by replacing "white" and "Negroes" with the respective characterizations of the desired groups. It is convenient to think of specific groups, such as Negroes and whites, in developing our theory. The theory may be enlarged subsequently by letting the groups vary according to some principle.

The common or fixed elements indicate the universe of which the subuniverses are subsets. Since the subuniverses nevertheless differ among themselves, our first task is to ascertain the facets which determine those differences.

The four definitions differ among themselves primarily on three facets, the elements of which are underlined in the definitions given above. Each definition concerns a type of behavior of a subject vis-a-vis a type of intergroup behavior of a type of referent. Two kinds of behavior for the subject occur in the

definitions: <u>belief</u> (a form of covert behavior) and <u>overt</u> <u>action</u>.
Also, two kinds of referents occur: the subject's <u>group</u> and the
subject <u>himself</u>. Similarly, two kinds of intergroup behavior are
distinguished: <u>comparative</u> and <u>interactive</u>.

Thus, each of the three facets occurs as a dichotomy. It is
helpful to list them and their elements in tabular form, assigning
symbols to each for later use as in Table 1.

TABLE 1. Facets on Which Subuniverses Differ

A = Subject's Behavior	B = Referent	C = Referent's Intergroup Behavior
a_1 = belief	b_1 = subject's group	c_1 = comparative
a_2 = overt action	b_2 = subject himself	c_2 = interactive

The capital letters A, B, and C denote the three facets, while the
corresponding small letters with subscripts denote the elements of
the respective facets.

Three dichotomous facets yield eight (= 2 x 2 x 2) possible
combinations of three elements each, one element from each facet.
That is, the Cartesian product of the three facets, which may be
denoted by ABC, is a set of eight profiles, each profile having
three components. Each profile defines a different subuniverse.
But we have defined above only four subuniverses, or only a sub-
set of ABC. We may tabulate this subset explicitly as follows:

Subuniverse	Profile
I. Stereotype	$a_1 b_1 c_1$
II. Norm	$a_1 b_1 c_2$
III. Hypothetical Interaction	$a_1 b_2 c_2$
IV. Personal Interaction	$a_2 b_2 c_2$

A striking feature revealed by this tabulation is that the
profiles form a perfect scale. For each facet, a single cutting
point in the rank order of the subuniverses suffices to divide
the elements with subscript "1" from the elements with subscript
"2." For facet A, the cutting point is between III and IV; for
facet B, between II and III; and for facet C, between I and II.
If we arbitrarily call subuniverse I the left end of the scale,
we have the rank order I < II < III < IV, or more verbally:

Stereotype $<$ Norm $<$ Hypothetical Interaction $<$ Personal Interaction. The symbol "$<$" is used merely to signify that what is to the left of the symbol precedes what is to the right of the symbol in the rank order.

Scale structures have been found in various kinds of empirical data -- in ranking people, social institutions, political units, and so on. We now find the same structure in ranking abstract concepts. In the empirical cases, only approximately perfect or quasi-scales are the rule, which sometimes raises troublesome problems of how to handle scale error. On the nonempirical, conceptual level, truly perfect scales are not at all impossible, as exemplified above, with no problem of scale error.

Semantic meaning for the rank order requires exploration. According to scale theory, ordering the profiles also implies a formal ordering of the categories _within_ each facet. The ordering $I < II < III < IV$ implies formally the three simultaneous orderings: $a_1 < a_2$, $b_1 < b_2$, $c_1 < c_2$. Do these further orderings have any common _semantic_ meaning, formalisms aside? If not, the formal scale of the four subuniverses need have no clear semantic meaning.

A common meaning for the orderings can be suggested: they show in each case a progression from a _weak_ to a _strong_ form of behavior of the subject vis-a-vis Negroes. "Belief" is weaker than "overt action" in being passive rather than active. Referring to the behavior of "subject's group" is weaker than the subject referring to "himself," insofar as the subject's relations with Negroes are concerned. "Comparative" behavior is weaker than "interactive" behavior since it does not imply social contact; a comparison is more passive than interaction.

Accepting this interpretation of the orderings within facets, we can say that the ordering of the subuniverses themselves also runs from weakest to strongest. "Stereotype" is the weakest form of intergroup subuniverse, "Personal Interaction" is the strongest form, while the other two subuniverses are intermediate in strength, in the indicated order.

What of the profiles from ABC that were not included among the original four definitions? These can define further subuniverses. Thus:

Two of the omitted profiles are $a_2b_1c_1$ and $a_2b_1c_2$. Each of these, according to its first two components (a_2b_1), concerns overt action (a_2) of the subject with reference to the subject's group (b_1). Presumably, each implies that the subject should activate or stimulate his group -- in one case as to how it compares itself with Negroes (c_1), and in the other, regarding interaction with Negroes (c_2). The first case might be called "Teaching" and the second "Preaching."

The remaining two omitted profiles are $a_1b_2c_1$ and $a_2b_2c_1$. According to their last two components (b_2c_1), each of these con-

cerns the comparison (c_1) of the subject himself (b_2) with Negroes
as to desirable traits. The first profile might be called "Feel
Superior" and the second "Act Superior."

Six scales are possible, given the orderings $a_1 < a_2$, $b_1 < b_2$,
$c_1 < c_2$ for the three facets. One way of bringing this out is to
portray the entire universe as a partly ordered set, as in Figure 1.

Figure 1

Level I: Stereotype
                                                  $a_1 b_1 c_1$

Level II: Norm   Teaching   Feel Superior
                            $a_1 b_1 c_2$ $a_2 b_1 c_1$ $a_1 b_2 c_1$

Level III: Hypothetical   Preaching   Act   Hypothetical
             Interaction   Superior   Interaction
             $a_1 b_2 c_2$ $a_2 b_1 c_2$ $a_2 b_2 c_1$ $a_1 b_2 c_2$

Level IV: Personal Interaction
                                        $a_2 \ b_2 \ c_2$

The connecting lines between "levels" in the figure show the pairs
of profiles between which the inequality relation "<" holds. If
abc and a'b'c' are any two different profiles, then abc < a'b'c'
if and only if simultaneously $a \leq a'$, $b \leq b'$, and $c \leq c'$.

In a scalable series of levels, each profile differs from its
predecessor on only one facet. Starting with Stereotype as Level
I, this allows for only three possible profiles for Level II, for
there are only three subscripts in Stereotype that can be raised
from a "1" to a "2." Since each profile in Level II has only two
subscripts of "1" that can be changed to a "2," there are only two
ways that a profile can move to Level III, so each has two lines
branching down from it. For convenience, we have listed Hypothe-
tical Interaction twice on Level III in the figure in order to
avoid criss-crossing lines. There are only three profiles possible
at Level III, since there are only three ways of having one sub-
script equal to "1" and the remaining two equal to "2." The scales
are the six continually descending possible pathways from Stereo-
type to Personal Interaction in the diagram, along the lines run-
ning from level to level.

The universe is only partly ordered, for many pairs of pro-
files are not comparable. For example, we cannot say that the
inequality "<" holds between Norm and Act Superior, in either
direction; while the latter exceeds the former on facets A and B,

the reverse is true on facet C. Any two profiles of the same level or noncomparable for similar reasons.

Bastide and van den Berghe apparently carried out no tests of scalability for their data. It seems plausible, however, that each of their subuniverses should be at least quasi-scalable. For purposes of our present discussion, let us accept the hypothesis that numerical scores may be sufficient for studying the empirical interrelationships among the subuniverses. Let us accept the empirical correlation coefficients of the Brazilian study as a correct picture of the relationships among the subuniverses considered.

The empirical product-moment correlations between the eight subuniverses of ABC for population P may be calculated. Our analysis above of the semantic structure of ABC provides a socialtheoretical basis for predicting the structure of this empirical correlation matrix. One cannot presume to predict the exact size of each correlation coefficient from knowledge only of the semantics of universe ABC, but we do propose to predict a _pattern_ or structure for the _relative_ sizes of the statistical coefficients from purely semantic considerations.

Since the Brazilian data allow us to check our prediction only with respect to the intercorrelations of scores on four of the subuniverses (those earlier labeled I, II, III, and IV), we concentrate first on these. Our prediction is based on the following proposition:

Contiguity Hypothesis. Subuniverses closer to each other in the semantic scale of their definitions will also be closer statistically.

Statistical closeness is measured approximately (but not always exactly, as we shall indicate below) by correlation coefficients. According to the contiguity hypothesis, generally Stereotype should correlate more highly with Norm than with Hypothetical Interaction, and almost certainly more than with Personal Interaction: $r_{I\ II} > r_{I\ III} > r_{I\ IV}$. Similarly, we should have approximately $r_{II\ III} > r_{II\ IV}$, $r_{III\ II} > r_{III\ I}$, and $r_{IV\ III} > r_{IV\ II} > r_{IV\ I}$. These exhaust the predictions that are directly possible, or where differing degress of contiguity are defined by semantic rank order considerations for the subuniverses.

The actual correlation matrix reported by the authors of the Brazilian study is equivalent to the presentation in Table 2. The structure of this correlation table is virtually as predicted. The largest correlations tend to be adjacent to the main diagonal, corresponding to the semantically contiguous subuniverses -- and they taper off to the northeast and southwest corners of the table, where semantic differences increase.

TABLE 2. Empirical Intercorrelations of Scores
on the Four Subuniverses

Subuniverse	I Stereotype	II Norm	III Hypothetical Interaction	IV Personal Interaction
I. Stereotype	–	.60	.37	.25
II. Norm	.60	–	.68	.51
III. Hypothetical Interaction	.37	.68	–	.49
IV. Personal Interaction	.25	.51	.49	–

An apparent slight exception to this structure is that $r_{IV\ III}$ (= .49) does not quite exceed $r_{IV\ II}$ (= .51), despite the fact that semantically III lies between II and IV. This need be no actual contradiction of the contiguity hypothesis, as should become evident in the explicit discussion of statistical distances below. Sampling error, of course, might also be offered as a tentative explanation for the apparent aberration, but we prefer to ignore such "outs" for the purpose of the exposition of our theory. The selection of the 580 subjects used from the Brazilian population is described as "neither random nor proportional;" even this need not affect our structural theory. The relative patterning of correlations need not change even though the absolute sizes of the coefficients might. Idiosyncracies of sampling and biased selections of subjects often can violently affect arithmetic means and other averages, as well as variances and other measures of dispersion. Correlation coefficients are often harder to destroy or to build up artificially, and the possible attenuation of disattenuation is even less likely to alter the pattern of correlations, since such effects usually influence correlation coefficients by constants of proportionality.

Had we empirical data for the complete matrix of correlations among all eight subuniverses, the validity of our structural theory as thus far developed could be checked further. The empirical results could be compared with the calculated results, and thus verify the adequacy of the structural theory.

Failure of the results to check out could imply either or both of the following possibilities: the statistical structure deduced from the semantic structure was not appropriate; the semantic structure was faulty or incomplete.

Note that the facet design, in contrast to the original limited design, lays out all the sets of conditions (or "subuniverses") which are relevant to the kind of hypothesis chosen by the original authors. The facet

design immediately produces an entire family of hypotheses; namely, those comparing "favorableness" in any two or more of the eight cells or subuniverses. The use of the principle of contiguity in the analysis makes an immediate check on whether the ordering of the elements in the several facets were properly chosen, and whether the facets and their elements were valid in the sense of supporting the prediction which the principle of contiguity makes. The principle of contiguity, in turn, is merely a direct inference from the meaning of "ordering" the elements within the facets.

The facet design in the study quoted above clearly exemplifies another advantage of this tool. In the restatement by Guttman of the descriptions of the subuniverses (labeled in Roman numerals in the second paragraph of the excerpts) it is easy to see some kinds of facets which could be added so as to enlarge the domain of study. In fact, each phrase enclosed in parentheses in the descriptions of the subuniverses suggests another kind of facet which might be explored. The particular elements which might be chosen to compose these facets are, of course, up to the ingenuity and theoretical acumen of the investigator.

Let us now turn to another application of facet design. Some time ago Guttman's institute was given the task by the Israeli government of developing guides or rating sheets which could be used to establish the salary levels of jobs within the Israel Civil Service. After a great deal of interviewing and studying job specifications to determine what people felt was meritorious about the duties and skills demanded by the various jobs, Guttman and his colleagues decided upon the five facets labeled with capital letters on the next page. The next task was to develop a set of items based on these facets which could be used to evaluate the various jobs in the system. Once the facets and their elements were chosen, the construction of items for evaluating job level was straightforward.

FACETS FOR JOB EVALUATION

(by L. Guttman for Israel Civil Service)

Types of restriction on work (facets):

A	B	C	D	E
Freedom **Freedom to change things**	**Guideline**	**Subordination to supervisor**	**Supervision**	**Level of other person's job**
a_1 transmit as is	b_1 detailed instructions	c_1 receives instructions	d_1 continuous, direct	e_1 mixed
a_2 modify	b_2 general instructions	c_2 consults	d_2 on completion of task	e_2 high
a_3 compose or create	b_3 policy	c_3 independent (selects advisors)	d_3 periodical review	e_3 very high
	b_4 creates policy			

Design of the items for job evaluation:

Originality and initiative	Judgment	Level of contact	Level of expression	Supervision over the job
a_1b_1	$a_1b_1c_1$	$a_1c_1e_1$	a_1b_1	$b_1c_1d_1$
a_2b_1		$a_2c_1e_1$		
				$b_1c_1d_2$
	$a_2b_2c_1$		a_2b_2	$b_2c_1d_2$
	$a_2b_2c_2$	$a_2c_2e_1$		$b_2c_2d_2$
		$a_2c_2e_2$		
		$a_2c_3e_2$		
a_3b_2				
		$a_3c_3e_3$		
a_3b_3	$a_3b_3c_3$		a_3b_3	
				$b_3c_3d_3$
a_3b_4	$a_3b_4c_3$			

The facets described in the tabulation specify $3 \times 4 \times 3 \times 3 \times 3$ or 324 cells; that is, 324 types of jobs. Since the elements within each facet are ordered according to level of restriction on work, cells specified by elements with larger subscripts are at higher levels than cells specified by elements with smaller subscripts. Accordingly, an instrument or rating sheet can be devised on which each item carries the specifications of some cell out of the 324. However, not all of the 324 possibilities would be useful; as we have seen earlier, not every cell in the complete design can be said to be higher or lower than every other. Furthermore, one encounters practical difficulties which reduce the number of items which might be used, such as diffidulties in phrasing items, amount of time or fatigue required to answer the items, and so forth.

The nature of the items finally selected is shown in the lower half of the tabulation. Each combination of small letters characterizes an item. For example, a_1b_1 would sound something like, "A person in this job passes on information or materials without change according to detailed instructions provided him." The item a_3b_4 might read simply, "Creates policy." The item $b_3c_3d_3$ might read, "Periodically, the person in this job seeks advice from others of his own choosing on whether his actions are carrying out the policy directives under which he works." Each line across the page in the lower half of the tabulation contains items which are at the same "level;" items lower on the page represent jobs of higher level than items higher on the page. All told, the lower half of the tabulation contains 24 items distributed over twelve levels.

Again, the principle of contiguity can be used to check the validity of this design. The principle of contiguity states that jobs described by adjacent cells of the facet design should be close together in their salary

ranges. If it turns out in practice to be difficult to maintain this rela-

tion among salary ranges, then the evaluation scheme will have been shown to

be invalid.

The example just given shows how a facet design can be used to generate

measuring instruments and also shows the fact that the facets the investiga-

tor uses for thinking his way through the problem do not restrict the manner

in which the investigator need talk to the people he is studying. The

types of items in the lower half of the tabulation are headed with titles

which are in terms more familiar to personnel workers than are the titles

of the facets.

Let us now turn to another example. In a study concerning communi-

cation in high school faculties which I am at present pursuing, one of the

hypotheses is as follows:

> Hypothesis 1. Given pairs of persons in disagreement at Time 1,
> such pairs which remain in disagreement will be found at Time 2
> not to have increased their communication, while pairs which in-
> creased their agreement will be found not to have decreased
> their communication.

This hypothesis is embedded in a domain which (because of some

other hypotheses) also includes factors of the social support an individual

receives for his opinion from other persons. The facets for this domain

are shown on the next page. Instead of merely listing the facets with their

elements, a form different from the earlier examples is used in this diagram.

The elements of the facets (labeled with capital letters) are embedded in a

sentence which describes the kind of domain which is being investigated.

The capital letters A through G designate the facets; the letter R does not

properly stand for a facet but rather for the "range" or dependent variable.

It will be seen in the beginning of the sentence composing the diagram that

certain possible facets are being held constant; that is, this is really a

BEHAVIORAL DOMAIN FOR HYPOTHESIS 1

Given that $respondent_1$ is an individual in strong disgreement with $respondent_2$ at Time 1 in respect to the appropriate duties of the counselor, then:

A	B	C
$respondent_1$ (who is a	teacher	receiving strong social support from
$respondent_2$	counselor	moderate
	administrator	weak

	D	
another, where the other is receiving	strong	social support and is a
	moderate	
	weak	

E		F
teacher)	reports his communication with	the other at Time 1 in terms
counselor)		the other at Time 2
administrator)		

R		G
of its frequency and in respect to	general communication.
	teaching-topics communication.
	guidance communication.

subdomain of a conceivable larger domain.

A great variety of sentences can be made from the sentence in the diagram simply by picking, under each capital letter, just one of the elements listed. An entire family of hypotheses is thereby generated simply by performing the comparison called for by any two different sentences in respect to frequency of communication. It is clear that the diagram shows a great many questions which would remain unanswered if the investigator were to limit his attention to the hypothesis as originally stated.

Now let us turn to a final example. Another job which was put into the hands of the Israel Institute of Applied Social Research was to develop an interviewing procedure which would select teachers who were applying for training to become vocational guidance counselors. The following pages describe the procedure finally worked out.

Now I am going to ask you to do something with these ideas.

EXERCISE 1. Study the pages describing the interview procedure for selecting teachers to become counselors. Then make a list of the facets, along with their elements, upon which you believe this procedure to be based.

It will be helpful if you can type your list upon a ditto master and send it to us before the conference; we can then have copies made and distributed to the other members at the conference. If you read this paper too late to send your list on ahead, please bring it with you Monday morning and we shall immediately have copies made. You may, if you wish, omit your name from the sheet you give us. It will be interesting, I am sure, for participants in the conference to see what facets other people saw in this interviewing procedure; it is not necessary, however, that they know who saw what.

If you read this paper too late even to think about making a list, don't worry about it; doing your homework before the conference is not a prerequisite to admission. Furthermore, we realize that we are not giving you very much time to get it done. I hope, however, that you will find time to give this exercise a try, because you cannot very well get the "feel" of facet design without trying it yourself.

The Government of Israel
The National Institute for Vocational Guidance

Interview   of Counseling Teachers
Instructions for the Interview

a) <u>Systematic interchange of tasks among the members of the acceptance
    committee.</u>

1) Every member of the committee will serve in one of the following
   tasks in each interview: (a) interviewer, (b) rater with form
   "A," and (c) rater with form "B."
2) The tasks of each interviewer will be interchanged at the end of
   each interview. The committee member who was an interviewer at
   a certain interview will serve as a rater at the following inter-
   views, until his turn comes again to serve as an interviewer.
3) A member who was a rater with form "A" at a certain interview
   will rate the next interview with form "B" and vice versa (until
   his turn comes again to be an interviewer).

b) <u>The 4 forms of the interview.</u>

1) Attached herewith are 4 parallel forms of an interview each of
   which includes 9 questions. The first interviewer employs form
   No. 1, the second employs form No. 2, etc. The fifth returns to
   form No. 1 and so on.
2) Before the beginning of each interview, the rater must mark on
   his rating form, at the proper place, which form of interview was
   used.
3) Before the beginning of the interview, each interviewer has to
   take care that the rater marks properly on his form the type of
   interview that is being used.

c) <u>Filling out the rating forms.</u>

1) At each interview, half of the raters will fill out rating form
   "A," and the other half will fill out form "B." If the number of
   raters is not even, it is necessary to arrange that the form will
   be filled out evenly in the course of the whole set of interviews.
2) Before each interview it is necessary to take care of the inter-
   change of tasks among interviewers and raters and also among raters
   in accordance with the instructions of paragraph "a" above.

Interview of Counseling Teachers
Form 1

1) What are the things in your present work that you are satisfied with, and why?

2) What do you see as the main function of the teacher?

3) Describe the relations that have developed between you and the children with whom you worked last year.

4) Tell me about your work with children in general.

5) In which things was your work with pupils successful and in which were you less successful?

6) To what extent do you have, according to your opinion, the necessary requirements for a good teacher?

7) Describe your past achievements in teaching.

8) To what extent did your class achieve the curriculum requirements?

9) Tell about a child whose specific personal problem you have treated.

Interview of Counseling Teachers
Form 2

1) Tell about the problems you have encountered in your work.

2) What are the problems that you may encounter in counseling work, according to your opinion?

3) Did you have an occasion to know children who needed counseling especially? Describe your relations with them.

4) Tell about your work with children in general.

5) Did you have an occasion to know children who need counseling? Can you describe their problems?

6) To what extent, do you think, you have the necessary traits of a good counselor?

7) Describe the teaching achievements you had in the past.

8) On what did it depend that your class did not achieve in the curriculum more than it did?

9) Concerning personality, what differences did you find between the children that you taught and rural children, urban children, and children from other institutions?

* Interview of Counseling Teachers
Form 3

1) What are the things in your present work that you are not satisfied
with, and why?

2) What are, in your opinion, the characteristics of a good teacher?

3) Describe by what method you succeed in gaining the confidence of the
children with whom you work.

4) Tell about your work with children in general.

5) In which things did you succeed in your work with pupils, and in
which things have you been less successful?

6) What is it that gives you satisfaction in your work as a teacher?

7) Describe your past achievements as a teacher.

8) To what extent did your class achieve the curriculum material?

9) Tell about a child whose specific personal problem you have treated.

Interview of Counseling Teachers
Form 4

1) Tell about your work.

2) What are, in your opinion, the characteristics of a good counselor?

3) Describe the relations that have developed between you and the children with whom you worked last year.

4) Tell me about your work with children in general.

5) Did you ever have an occasion to get acquainted with children who needed counseling? Can you describe their problems?

6) What do you find especially interesting in your work as a teacher?

7) Describe your previous achievements in teaching.

8) Upon what did it depend that your class did not achieve some of the curriculum material?

9) Concerning personality, what differences did you find between the children that you taught and rural children, urban children, and children from other institutions?

Rating Form of the Interview
Type A

Interviewee_____   Name of Rater_____

Place_____ ,   Date_____

Form of Interview   1   2   3   4

		No. of question								
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
a.	Facts only	1									
	Mainly facts	2									
	Many opinions	3									
	Opinions only	4									
b.	Achievements only	1									
	Mainly achievements	2									
	Achievements and problems	3									
	Mainly problems	4									
	Problems only	5									
	Neither of these	6									
c.	Almost all about himself	1									
	A lot about himself	2									
	Little about himself	3									
	Almost nothing about himself	4									
d.	Almost only about the children with whom he worked	1									
	Much about the children with whom he worked	2									
	Little about the children with whom he worked	3									
	Not at all about the children with whom he worked	4									
e.	His description of the children										
	absolutely positive	1									
	mainly positive	2									
	neutral	3									
	mainly negative	4									
	absolutely negative	5									

Additional remarks:

Rating Form of the Interview
Type B

Interviewee_____   Name of Rater_____

Place_____   Date_____

Form of Interview   1   2   3   4

		No. of question								
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Answer -- expansive with respect to question	1								
	To the question but also going beyond	2								
	Restricted with respect to question	3								
	Evades the question	4								
2.	Much hesitation	1								
	Careful	2								
	Unhesitating	3								
	Exaggerated confidence	4								
3.	Expresses himself with difficulty	1								
	Expresses himself with some difficulty	2								
	Fluent (without any difficulty)	3								
	Exaggerated fluency	4								
4.	Expresses himself very unclearly	1								
	Quite unclearly	2								
	Clearly	3								
	Very clearly	4								
5.	Special symptoms of nervousness (like biting the nails, etc.)	1								
	Usual symptoms of nervousness but to a conspicuous extent	2								
	Usual symptoms of nervousness to a limited extent	3								
	Without any symptoms of nervousness	4								
	Expressionless	5								

Description of the
symptoms of nervousness:

_____

Additional remarks:

THEORY OF DATA

We can conveniently think of research as having five phases. The first phase is that of selecting a universe of potential observations -- or, in our earlier terms, a domain of investigation. The criterion for <u>choosing</u> a domain for investigation (which, of course, is different from choosing facets to <u>specify</u> the domain) is simply that of personal preference.

The second phase is that of recording observations made within the selected domain. In this phase one must choose what observations to make. It is at this stage that facet design is especially helpful. One does not wish to find that he has omitted to make observations on a vital part of the domain, nor does he wish to find that he has wasted his time being redundant.

The third phase is to convert one's observations into data. If this sounds like an odd statement, let me give a brief example. Suppose that we have recorded the fact that John was not admitted to Rutgers. I can think of at least four conclusions which could be drawn from this observation: (1) John is not smart enough to get into Rutgers, (2) John is too far off to the side of genius for Rutgers' screening test to recognize, (3) Rutgers' standards are too high for John, (4) Rutgers is too stupid to recognize a good man when they see one. Two of these interpretations tell us opposite things about John, and two of them tell us opposite things about Rutgers. Into which datum should we convert our observation? If the information that John was not admitted to Rutgers appeared on a questionnaire containing other items about John, it would no doubt be used to assess the characteristics of John. If it appeared on a questionnaire sent out to people who had been and had not been admitted to Rutgers, it would probably be used to come to some conclusion about Rutgers. In brief, the

kind of data we make out of our observations is not a foregone conclusion, but rather a choice which the investigator must make -- a choice, in fact, which he does make, consciously or unconsciously.

The fourth phase is to take the data and classify the individuals or objects to which the data refer in some way which will simplify thinking about the data. This process is often called scaling. One technique often used is simply to add up the number of data which are interpreted as pointing in a certain direction. Very often this phase is followed by a fifth phase which consists of seeking relations which might exist between one classification of data or another classification; in other words, seeking relations among variables.

The theory of data deals with the stages of making data out of observations and of making variables out of data. Although over the years a great amount of thought has gone into various aspects of these phases of research, it is only recently that a scheme has been proposed (by Coombs) which promises to encompass all the facets encountered in these problems. If this seems too strong a statement, let me say at least that Coombs has proposed some facets which seem to be encountered whenever we convert observations into data and whenever we convert data into variables, and that these facets enable us to compare one with another the great variety of methods now in existence. Furthermore, Coombs' theory of data systematizes the field in such a way that we can even use it to tell ourselves how to invent new methods of collecting data and how to choose appropriate methods for analyzing data gathered by old or new methods. I want to carry my explanation in this paper far enough so that you can see how the theory can enable you to invent some new methods of data collection.

Some people feel that the method of data collection is of little

importance. Let me give a small example of a way in which one can come to quite different conclusions from identically the same actual situation because of different methods of data collection. Let us suppose that there are three candidates among whom one is to be elected. Suppose that ten voters prefer the candidates in the order ABC as shown in the tabulation below, ten others prefer them in the order BCA and a third ten prefer them in

Voter type	Preference order
1	A to B to C
2	B to C to A
3	C to A to B

the order CAB. The chairman takes a vote and finds that the candidates have fallen into a three-way tie. Thereupon the chairman adopts a run-off method and asks the voters first to choose between candidates A and B. As we see from the tabulation, the first and the third groups of ten voters prefer A to B, while only the second group of ten voters prefers B to A. B is therefore eliminated, and you can see that C would get twenty votes to A's ten in the run-off between A and C. Thus, C wins.

But suppose that the chairman had first decided to pit B against C. The first and second groups of ten would have voted for B over C while only the third group would have voted for C over B. Thus, C would have been eliminated. In the run-off between A and B, A would have won! Similarly, B would win the election if the chairman were to begin with a contest between A and C. In brief, the winner of the election in this case depends entirely upon how the chairman decides to collect the data concerning the voter preferences. (It should be noted also that this example does not depend upon having equal groups of voters. The same conclusions can be reached if any two groups of voters outnumber those in the third group.)

The theory of data begins with the interpretation that any datum can be represented by a relation on a pair of points (or on a pair of pairs of points). For example, if we are interested in the characteristics of John we can call John a point representing an "individual" and Rutgers a point representing an object or a "stimulus." We can then represent the observation that John was not admitted to Rutgers by saying the relation between the two points is that the "individual" point is on the "negative" side of the "stimulus" point. If we are interested in evaluating Rutgers, we would call Rutgers the individual point and John the stimulus point.

The theory of data is built principally on only three facets, each one of which contains only two elements. The first facet asks whether the datum is to be represented as a relation on just one pair of points or whether it is to be represented by a relation on two pairs of points; that is, by a relation on two distances. The second facet asks whether the datum is to be represented by points from one set or from two sets; that is, points from a set representing (a) only individuals or only stimuli, or (b) points from both sets. The third facet asks whether the relation is an order relation or a proximity relation. Coombs lays out these facets in a form similar to that shown in the diagram headed "The Data Quadrants." The elements of the first two facets specify the "quadrants" and the elements of the third facet correspond to the "a" and "b" within each quadrant. Some examples of data are given within each of the quadrants of the diagram.

It turns out that most methodologists have preferred to collect data by methods customarily interpreted as belonging in Quadrant II. Methods typically used to collect data for this quadrant are the mental test methods, attitude questionnaires, "pick one," rating scale methods, magnitude estimation, and others. Quadrant III has received increasing attention in recent

THE DATA QUADRANTS

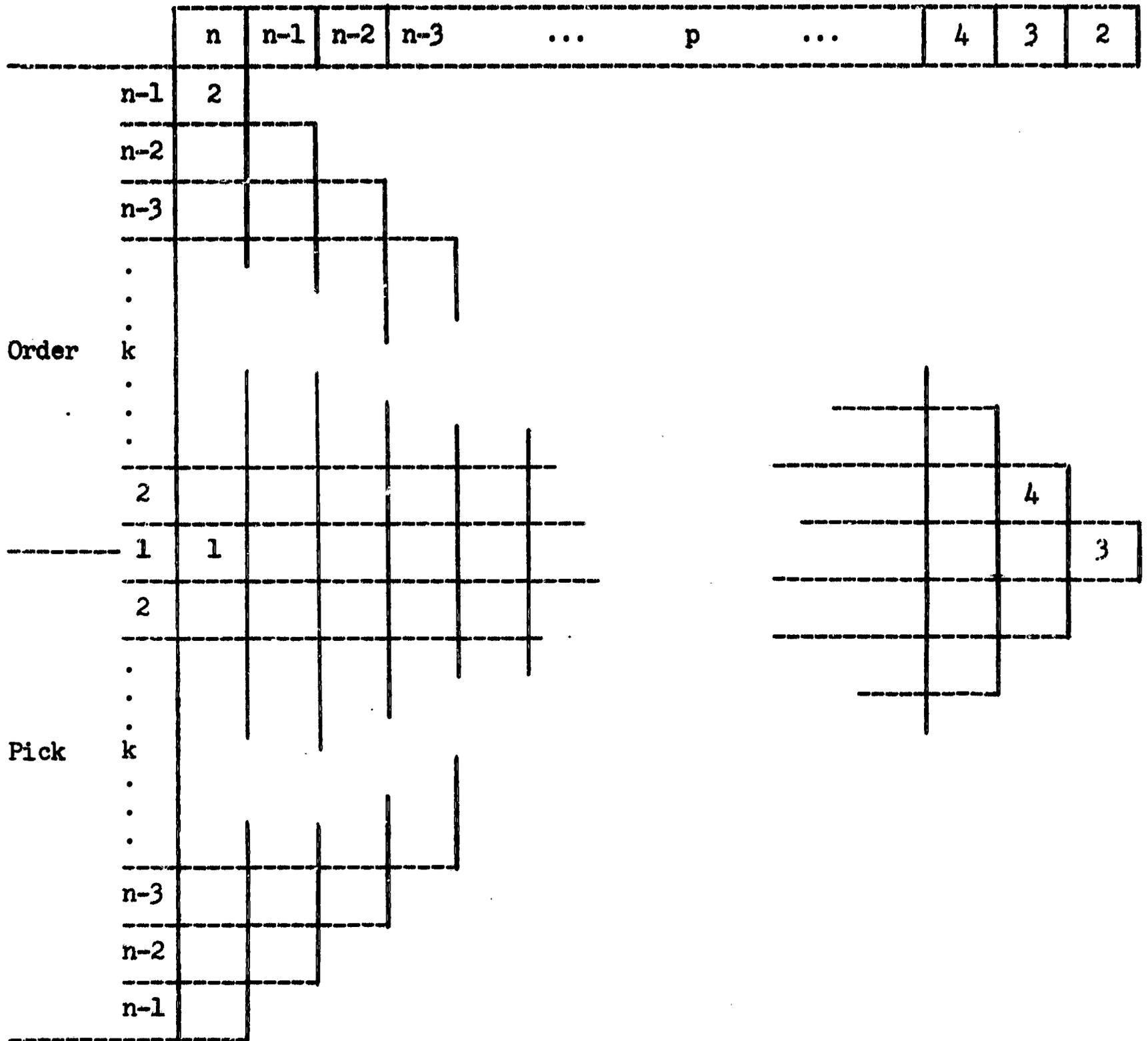|	One pair of points	Two pairs of points (distances)
Two sets: both individuals and stimuli	**Quadrant II: Single Stimulus** QIIa (ordinal): John exceeds Rutgers. For example, John passes Rutgers' requirements. QIIb (proximity): John is closer to Rutgers (from either direction) than some criterion distance. For example, John's ability is close to the average at Rutgers.	**Quadrant I: Preference** QIa (ordinal): The distance from John to Rutgers is less than that from John to Harvard. For example, John's preference for Rutgers is greater than his preference for Harvard. QIb (proximity): not collected.
One set: individuals or stimuli	**Quadrant III: Stimulus comparison** QIIIa (ordinal): Tuition at Rutgers is higher than at Harvard. QIIIb (proximity): Tuition at Rutgers is about the same as at Harvard.	**Quadrant IV: Similarities** QIVa (ordinal): The difference between tuition at Rutgers and Harvard is less than the difference between Rutgers and Princeton. QIVb (proximity): no models for analysis yet available.

years, while Quadrant IV has had so far the least attention of the four. In this paper I shall limit myself to telling you about Quadrant I.

Quadrant I provides the model for data which are interpreted as meaning that an individual prefers object A to object B. Of course, we need not limit ourselves to asking an individual about only two objects at a time. For example, we can ask John, "What is your rank-order preference among Rutgers, Harvard, Princeton, and Yale?" Sometimes in a conversation we ask a person about his preferences among three or four objects and then, if we feel we do not have enough information, we ask him about a different assortment of three or four objects. We might go on to ask John, "Well, how do you feel about Rutgers, Princeton, Michigan, and Oregon?" In other words, we can present the individual with different assortments of objects among which we want him to tell us his preferences.

We need not ask the individual for a rank-order. Simetimes we might ask a young man, "To which colleges out of this list did you apply?" If he has picked three out of the list we can interpret this behavior as telling us that those three colleges were closer to his ideal than the remainder on his list. These examples suggest quite a few different ways of collecting data. First, we can be concerned with n total objects. Second, we can present p of these n objects to the individual at a time. Third, we can ask him to pick k out of the p presented to him as most preferred, or we can ask him to order k out of the p presented to him. These facets within Quadrant I enable us to lay out an entire grid of methods of collecting data. This grid is called by Coombs the "searchingness structure" and is displayed on the next page. This chart ás shown here has no certain number of rows or columns because n is unspecified. The quantity n is, as I said before, the total number of objects or stimuli about which one wishes to get infarmation from his subjects.

THE SEARCHINGNESS STRUCTURE

Number of stimuli in a presentation

	n	n-1	n-2	n-3	...	p	...	4	3	2
n-1	2									

Order k

2										
1	1									
2										

Pick k

n-3										
n-2										
n-1										

4

3

The numbers of stimuli which can be presented at a time are arrayed across the top of the chart and the numbers of those stimuli which the investigator asks the subject pick or order are arrayed down the left side of the page. Every cell in the diagram represents a particular way one might go about getting preference information from subjects.

Of all these possible methods, only four are well known. The cell near the middle left side of the diagram labeled "1" is one version of the method of single stimuli; one presents all the stimuli in which one is interested and asks the subject to "pick one." At the top of that column, the cell labeled "2" represents the method of rank order; that is, "order n-1 of n." (This is equivalent, of course, to "order n of n." At the right side of the chart, the cell labeled "3" represents the method of pair comparisons; that is, "pick 1 of 2," which is equivalent to "order 1 of 2." The cell labeled "4" is the method of triads, much less used than the other three; that is, the n stimuli are presented to the subject three at a time and he is asked to order two of the three, which, of course, is equivalent to ordering all three in each presentation.

Beginning with only the two facets which determine the searchingness structure as displayed here, it is clear that a myriad of new ways have been laid out for collecting data. Furthermore, a little thought will show there are other facets which might be added which would generate even more varieties of ways of collecting data, very few of which have as yet been explored in empirical work. In recent years some work has been done with a few of the "new" cells in the chart and it has been amply demonstrated that some of the new methods are indeed considerably more "searching" than the traditional methods.

The searchingness structure, by the way, demonstrates again the power

of the facet idea. Psychologists went along for decades working with the methods of single stimuli, rank order, and pair comparisons, and with occasional unsystematic forays into the method of triads; it was not until Coombs looked hard at the ways in which the conditions of data collection could vary that the simple chart of the searchingness structure was laid out and it immediately became evident that a great array of methods of data collection lay as yet unexplored.

The searchingness structure itself is only one example of the kind of idea which is generated by the basic definition of data into eight simple types. Another important idea is the assessment of consistency and transitivity by means of some of the methods laid out in the searchingness structure. Still another is the "unfolding technique," which is crucial in assessing the relations subjects preceive among objects after you obtain from them their preference orders.

But there is not space to go on talking about the theory of data here. Instead, before coming to an end, let me illustrate only one kind of thing which can be done with the concepts generated from Quadrant I of the data types. Reproduced below is a passage which will appear in a forthcoming book by Newcomb et al. The study described made use of the method of triads and the unfolding technique. The unfolding technique was elaborated to produce an index of cognitive similarity called "collinearity."

Why does a speaker "get across" better to one listener
than to another? There can be a number of reasons, of course,
but surely one important factor in transmitting a meaning from
one person to another is the extent to which the two persons pay
attention to the same aspects of the thing they are talking about.
A person who pays attention to certain qualities or aspects of
environmental objects in preference to other qualities or aspects
has a distinctive "cognitive structure." If we find two people
paying attention to the same features or threads in their conver-
sation, we would say they are approaching the conversation with
similar cognitive structures and we would predict that the trans-
mission of meaning from the one person to the other would be more
complete or quicker than in the case of two persons attempting to
converse with dissimilar cognitive structures. This hypothesis
was tested by Runkel (1956) in a study examining the transmission
of meaning from instructors to college students.

The reasoning behind this experiment was simple. If
students are to get good grades, they must learn what kind of
statements about the subject matter the teacher prefers; for
example, they must be able to pick out pretty accurately the
statements on a multiple choice test which the teacher himself
would mark "right." The student need not agree with the state-
ments which the instructor favors; he need only be able to se-
lect or recognize such statements. Presumably the instructor
judges statements according to certain characteristics or "di-
mensions" and so also does the student. The hypothesis, then,
is that meaning will get more quickly or more fully from teacher
to student if the two are paying attention to the same character-
istics or dimensions of the statements than will be the case when
they are paying attention to different dimensions -- and this will
be true regardless of whether teacher and student agree on which
statements are best.

An analogy may make this more clear. Figure 2 below shows
a room full of people. Some are young females (YF); some are old
females (OF); some young males (YM); and some old males (OM).

```
                        North
        YF   YF   YF   YF   OF   OF   OF   OF

        YF   YF   OF   YF   OF   OF   YF   OF

        YF   YM   OM   YF   OF   OM   YM   OF

        YF   YF   YF   YF   OF   OF   OF   OF
West                                                East
        YM   YM   YM   YM   OM   OM   OM   OM

        YM   YM   OM   YM   OM   OM   YM   OM

        YM   YF   OF   YM   OM   OF   YF   OM

        YM   YM   YM   YM   OM   OM   OM   OM
                        South
```
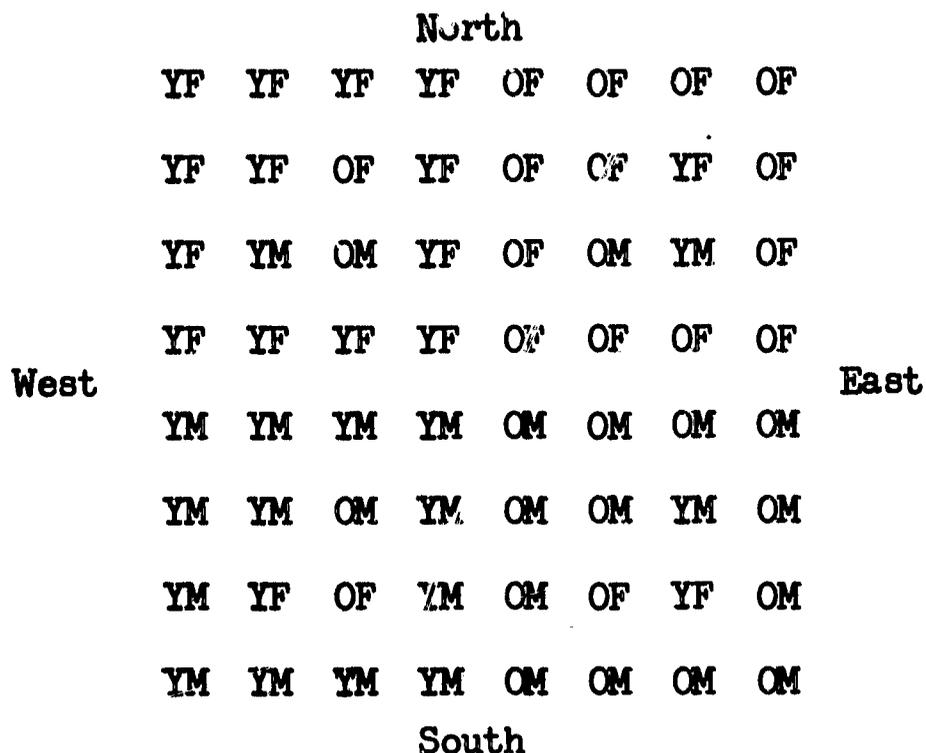
Figure 2. A field of young and old males and females.

Suppose that you walk into this room looking for someone of your
own age with whom to talk; if so, you would pay attention primarily
to the east and west halves of the room because the old people are
mostly in the east half and the young people in the west half.
That is, you would pay attention primarily to the "east-west di-
mension." On the other hand, if your chief interest was to find
someone of the opposite sex (whichever your own), you would pay
attention primarily to the north and south halves of the room --
the "north-south dimension."

Suppose you were in one corner (any corner) of the room
with a friend and he said, " I think I will look for some people
more interesting than this bunch." In order to predi t the dir-
ection in which he would stroll away, you would have to know the
dimension by which he judged interestingness. But you might
want to be helpful to your friend and you might suggest to him
one or two persons with whom he would like to converse. If you
took it for granted that he would move in the same direction
you would move and if you were right in this assumption, then
he would find your suggestions to be good ones. If you were
wrong about your assumption -- if your "cognitive structure"
about the interestingness of the people in the room was differ-
ent from his -- then he would not enjoy your suggestions.

You and your friend would not need to prefer the same
kind of conversationalists in order to comprehend the preferences
of each other. If you were twenty years old and he were fifty,
you might suggest to him that he strike up a conversation with
some of the people in the east half of the room; even though you
might yourself prefer to talk with young people, you might easily
accept the idea that he would prefer to talk with older people.
But you would both be using the east-west dimension as a basis
for understanding the preferences of the other person.

We can just as well think of Figure 2 as being a field
of statements about the realm of psychology as covered by a
course in college. In getting ready for his experiment, Runkel
constructed stat'nents about the realm of psychology which could
be imagined to be scattered over a field similar to that of Fig-
ure 2 (but no doubt having more than two dimensions). From the
preferences among five statements expressed by students and in-
structors, the rank order of each person's preferences was work-
ed out. The analogy here would be walking through the room, mak-
ing judgments about whether one person or another was the more
interesting conversationalist. You could very well end by rank
ordering quite a number of the persons from the most to least
interesting.

By using a geometric model (Coombs, 1964) it was possible
to estimate whether, on the one hand, a teacher and his student
were probably judging the statements about psychology on the same
dimension or, on the other hand, whether they were using different
dimensions. If the instructor and student were basing their pref-
erences among the statements on the same dimension, this was a
rough index of their "cognitive similarity" about psychology; if
they were using different dimensions, this indicated cognitive
dissimilarity.

Qualities of statements about psychology are not at all as easy to perceive as age and sex of human beings in a room. It is not easy to discern the dimensions of preference of another person concerning complicated matters such as opinions about psychological topics. The hypothesis in the experiment was that students who showed cognitive similarities to their instructors in regard to the statements would be better able to catch on to the preferences of their instructors about such statements, while students with cognitive structures dissimilar to those of their instructors would have a harder time anticipating the statements their instructors would prefer. Consequently, the prediction was that the "cognitivelysimilar" students would obtain higher grades on quizzes written and graded by their instructors than would the "cognitivelydissimilar" students.

The results computed for those subjects who were stable in their opinions (both in respect to their instructors and over the time period of a semester) supported the prediction and are summarized in the table. Because grading is different in level and range from class to class, the quiz scores were converted to "standard" scores within each class; that is, they were recomputed so that the standard deviation within each class became the unit for scoring. These standards scores are the "z-scores" mentioned in Table 3 below. The mean z-score for students with cognitive structures similar to those of their instructors was significantly higher $(P < .05)$ than the mean for students with cognitive structures dissimilar from their instructors.

Table 3. Difference between z-scores on quizzes for students whose cognitive structure about psychology was (a) similar to that of their instructor and for those whose cognitive structure was (b) dissimilar to that of their instructor.

	(a) Similar	(b) Dissimilar
Top z-score	2.77	1.74
Mean z-score	0.60	-0.25
Lowest z-score	-1.16	-2.56
Standard deviation	1.38	1.17
Number of students	17	19

A number of common causes of differences between quiz scores were examined in this experiment by looking further into the data. No evidence was found to cast doubt upon the hypothesis concerning cognitive similarity.

This paper is already too long and I shall end my list of fresh ideas in research methodology with only the two I have described. There are certainly many other important ideas coming to notice these days which are extremely helpful to the researcher. One should certainly mention the scheme for thinking about control groups and experimental design which is put forward by Donald T. Campbell and Julian C. Stanley as a chapter of the _Handbook_ _for_ _Research_ _on_ _Teaching_ edited by N. L. Gage. One should also mention the new explorations into Bayesian statistics. Another important trend is the renewed and more sophisticated attention being given to the effect of the observer or experimenter on what is being observed. But one must call a halt.

If you have time to try another exercise you might try this one:

EXERCISE 2. Describe one or two facets which might be added to the searchingness structure to extend the catalogue of methods of data collection.

Some selected references follow:

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NOTE: The facet designs for (a) job classification and (b) interviewing applicants for training in counseling are taken from informal materials distributed by Guttman in a seminar held some years ago at the University of Illinois; they should not be cited or quoted as representing current practice in Israel.