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ADDITION OF DATA FEATURE FOR FEASIL

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This report is a supplement to be used with technical report RD-80-11.
This report RD-82-18 supersedes report RD-81-16, same subject.

19. KEY WORDS (Continue on reverse side if necessary and identify by block number)

Relational Data Base
Data Base System
Retrieval
Data Storage
Data
Computer
Data Management System

20. ABSTRACT (Continue on reverse side if necessary and identify by block number)

This report describes the feature to add data to the relational-based Data Management System, FEASIL, developed for the Interdata 8/32. The report describes the feature that provides the ability to add the data in a card image, formal free form.

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I. INTRODUCTION

In many cases data is available or can be made available for input to FEASIL data bases from mechanical sources such as tape, cards, disk files, etc. In order to keep the input technique consistent with the FEASIL* concept the input technique will use the relational data model description.

While generality is most important, the system cannot be all things to all people. The relational data concept in FEASIL models data in columns (any number) where each column has a strategy as to data type. The data types are integer, floating point, single character, and character string. The data input scheme will also rely on the data types in interpreting the data as it is read into the relation.

II. DISCUSSION

The technique used will read a free format card image length record with delimiters between data elements. The free format data will then be interpreted between delimiters as the data type in the relations columns.

The following is an example of a card image type data input for use with FEASIL. Example of a relation is as follows:

Example Relation

COL 1	COL 2	COL 3	COL 4	COL 5	COL 6
Integer	Integer	F.P.	STRING	STRING	SINGLE CHARA

The following card images may be used to input data into this relation.

```
                                                                    COL 80
CARD 1  1, 33, 5.3, I LOVE YOU., DO YOU LOVE ME?, X                    ,

CARD 2  1                                                              ,

CARD 3  12, 10.2, YES I DO., HOW ABOUT YOU?, M                         ,

CARD 4  2, 9, .130E-10, HOW ARE YOU?, FINE, Z                          ,
```

These four cards will result in 3 tuples added to the example RELATION. The delimiter in this example is the (,). For all strategies except the string, a delimiter is assumed to exist at the end of the card whether it is there or not.

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*Hallum, Maurice M., III, "A relational-Based Data Management System for Engineering and Scientific Application," US Army Missile Command Technical Report RD-80-11, June 1980.

When a string strategy is the last item on a card the delimiter to end the string must appear in column 80 or FEASIL will assume the string is continued on the next card. If a delimiter is placed prior to the column 80, the blanks between the delimiter and assumed delimiter in column 80 will be interpreted as a data element for the relation. Therefore, to end any string entry that is the last item on a card the delimiter must be in column 80.

The restrictions thus imposed are that the data is in card image (80, CHARA RECORDS) and each element except the last one be followed by a delimiter.

The selection of a delimiter was made a user selectable entry, since no matter what selection is made, it will be wrong for some users. The data is input from the EDIT a relation function using the FEASIL Data Base Management System.

The data (in card image) can be read in from a user selected "Device". FEASIL will prompt the user to identify the "Device" and the delimiter.

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