

MEMORANDUM

14 June 1957

TO: Members, HARVEST Ad Hoc Group

Subject: Guide Lines

Reference: Dr. Engstrom Directive, dated 23 May 1957, setting up Ad Hoc Group.

1. Reference directive gives general guidance regarding HARVEST evaluation. The attached list of topics are suggested guide lines to be followed in carrying out the studies of the proposed HARVEST System design. It is suggested that, because of the limited time available for performing the evaluation, only broad outlines of programs be drawn up, with estimates reflecting their own degree of accuracy. It is also suggested that the item "probable cost" of recommended changes, mentioned in the reference directive, be separately handled by the Chairman of the group, with engineering assistance from ANEG, MPRO, or ENGR, after various members' individual suggested changes are in.

2. Individual specialized assignments will be made, based upon problem experience, or particular analytic techniques considered critical or necessary to the analysis. Individuals' assessment of the system will be made within the assigned field primarily; naturally comments bearing upon other specialties will be welcomed in addition.

3. Target date for completion and submission of individual evaluation reports is Friday 19 July 1957. These reports should be as brief as possible, informal, handwritten or typed, and supported by personal conference with the Chairman where desirable.

*250 cards / min.
card-to-tape
5 1/2 KC input rate.*

HARVEST EVALUATION

Guide Lines

I. General Usability at its rated speed.

Balance: op. times, access times, set-up.

Capacity: adequacy of memories of various speeds;
no. registers

Communication: adequacy of information flow lines;
external equipment; Exchange Unit

II. Applicability to Particular Problem Category.

Facility in performing principal operations;
note any examples of "clumsiness".

Streaming usage; to what extent do exceptions slow
down op'ns because of interruptions of streaming mode.

Comparison with current methods; present computers, special
purpose equipment.

III. General Programming Convenience.

Manual - suggestions affecting clarity of presentation.

Programming ease - - comments on difficulty; suggested
areas where automatic system would help.

IV. Suggested Changes.

Capacity; memory, Exchange, hi-perf. tapes

Instructions; additions or changes.

Other; changes in gating, indexing, indicator usage, etc.