



Blaise Tricks for Advance Users

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IFD & TC 2008



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1. Fake GOTO Method



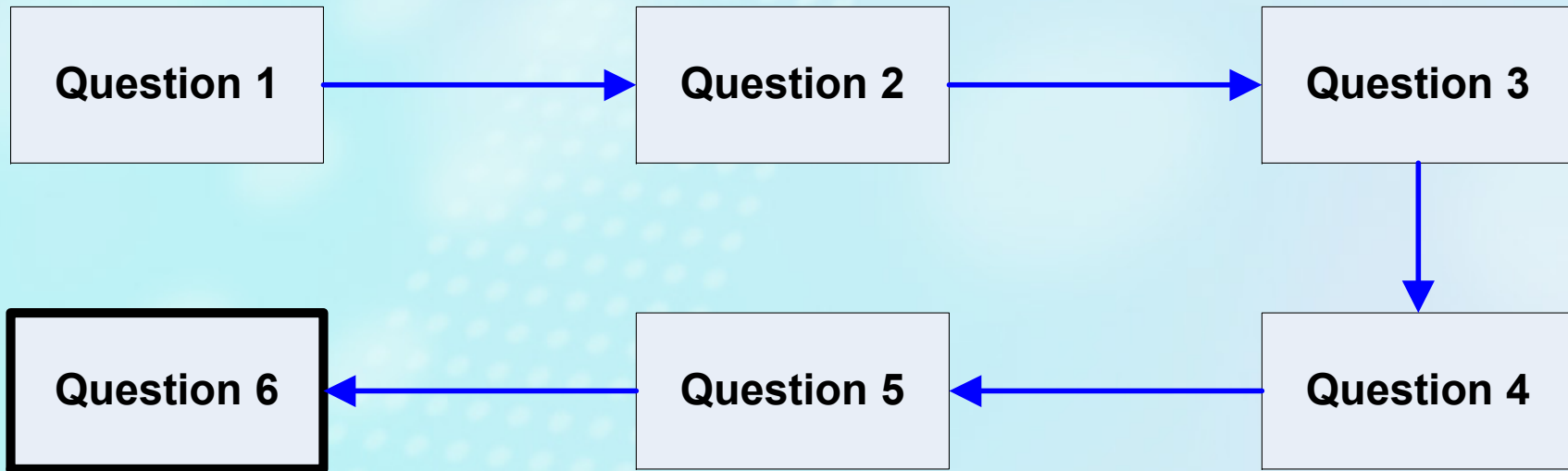
What is it?

- Developed by Richard Marcoux
- Technique to help in the programming of complex flows
- Easier and faster to program
- Simpler to troubleshoot
- Rules sections looks like the specifications



GOTO Method

Simple Flow



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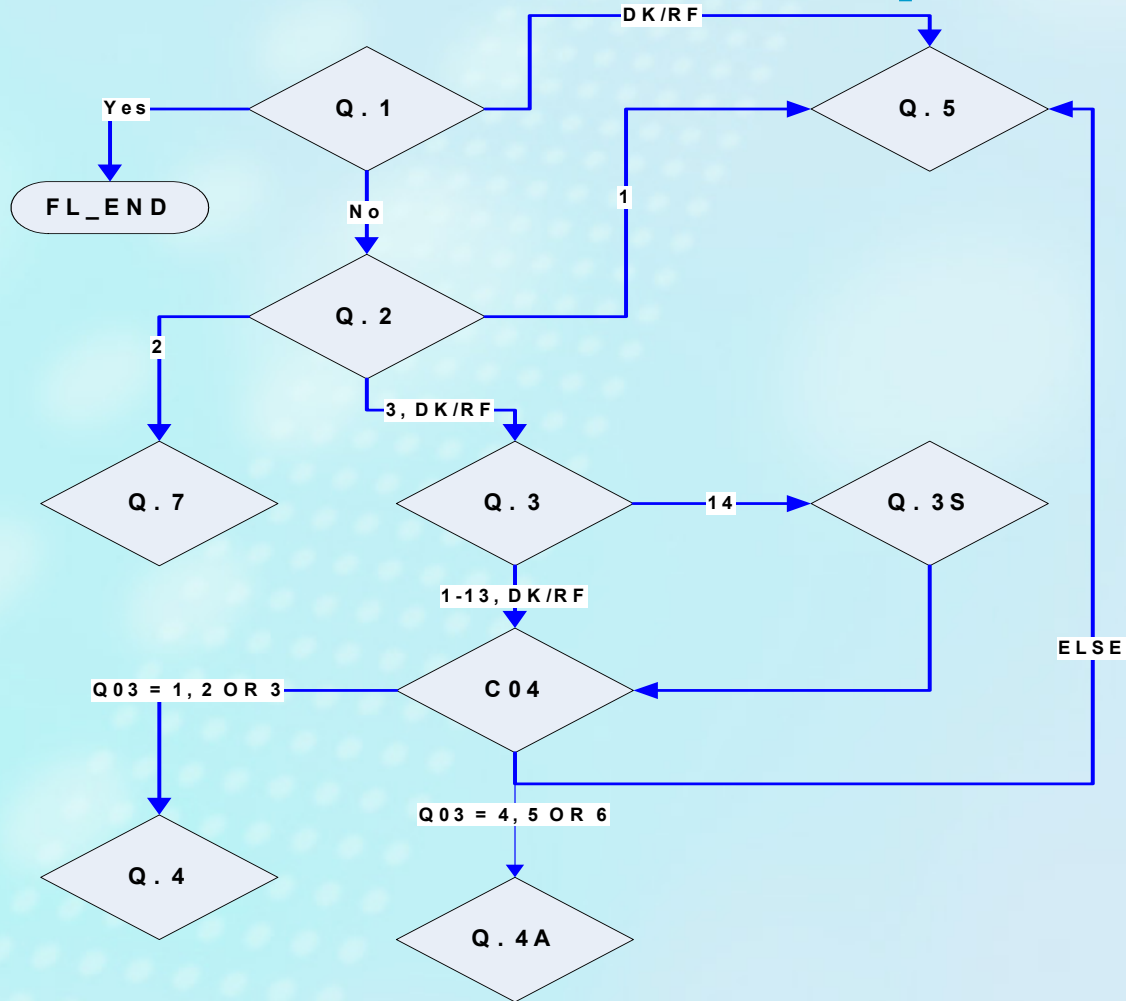
GOTO Method

Simple Flow

- *Rules* section not necessary or very simple:
 - RULES
 - Question1
 - Question2
 - Question3
 - Question4
 - Question5
 - Question6
- Equivalent to no flows
- Very seldom the case

GOTO Method

More realistic less simple Flow





GOTO Method

More realistic less simple Flow

- Noticed Q5?
- Rules to ask this question would look like:
IF Q1 = NONRESPONSE OR Q2 = 1 OR Q3 = 4 OR Q3 = 5 OR Q3 = 6 THEN
Q5.ASK
ENDIF

- Specs rarely in flow chart format
- More of a “goto” format:

FL_Q01 **FL_Q01**
Do you want to go to FL_END?

1 Yes..... go to FL_END
2 No
DK/RF Go to FL_Q03



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GOTO Method

Basic Idea

- Manage the flow with *AUXFIELDS*
- Same technique as assigning value to dynamic text
- For consistency labeled *aGOTO_XXXX*
- *XXXX* = Item to goto



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GOTO Method

Code to support this:

```
IF Q1 = NONRESPONSE OR Q2 = 1 OR Q3 = 4 OR Q3 = 5 OR Q3 = 6 THEN  
    Q5.ASK  
ENDIF
```

```
IF Q1 = NONRESPONSE THEN  
aGOTO_Q5 := 1  
ENDIF
```

```
IF Q2 = 1 THEN  
aGOTO_Q5 := 1  
ENDIF
```

```
IF Q3 = 4 OR Q3 = 5 OR Q3 = 6 THEN  
aGOTO_Q5 := 1  
ENDIF
```

```
IF aGOTO_Q5 = 1 THEN  
    Q5.ASK  
ENDIF
```



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GOTO Method

Not Convinced?



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GOTO Method

More complex flow

FL_C05 If FL_Q03 = V01 and V01 IN FL_Q04 THEN go to FL_Q05
Else if FL_Q03 = V01 and V02 IN FL_Q04 THEN go to FL_Q06
Else if FL_Q03 = V01 and V03 IN FL_Q04 THEN go to FL_Q07
Else if FL_Q03 = V02 and V01 OR V02 IN FL_Q04 THEN go to FL_Q05
Else if FL_Q03 = V02 and V03 IN FL_Q04 THEN go to FL_END
Else if FL_Q03 = V03 and V01 OR V02 IN FL_Q04 THEN go to FL_Q06
Else if FL_Q03 and FL_Q04 = NONRESPONSE go to FL_Q08
Else if FL_Q02 = NONRESPONSE then go to FL_Q07
Else go to FL_END



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GOTO Method

More complex flow

- Specifying was a challenge
- Developing was a BIG Challenge
- Debugging was a nightmare!



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Goto code to support this

RULES

```
FL_Q01
IF FL_Q01 = NONRESPONSE THEN
  aGOTO_Q03 := 1
ELSEIF FL_Q01 = No THEN
  FL_Q02
  IF FL_Q02 = V01 THEN
    aGOTO_Q04 := 1
  ELSEIF FL_Q02 = V02 THEN
    aGOTO_Q08 := 1
  ELSEIF FL_Q02 = V03 THEN
    aGOTO_Q03 := 1
  ELSE {FL_Q02 = NONRESPONSE}
    aGOTO_C05 := 1
  ENDIF
ENDIF

IF aGOTO_Q03 = 1 THEN
  FL_Q03
  aGOTO_Q04 := 1
ENDIF

IF aGOTO_Q04 = 1 THEN
  FL_Q04
  aGOTO_C05 := 1
ENDIF
```

```
IF aGOTO_C05 = 1 THEN
  IF FL_Q03 = V01 AND (V01 IN FL_Q04) THEN
    aGOTO_Q05 := 1
  ELSEIF FL_Q03 = V01 AND (V02 IN FL_Q04) THEN
    aGOTO_Q06 := 1
  ELSEIF FL_Q03 = V01 AND (V03 IN FL_Q04) THEN
    aGOTO_Q07 := 1
  ELSEIF FL_Q03 = V02 AND ((V01 IN FL_Q04) OR (V02 IN FL_Q04)) THEN
    aGOTO_Q05 := 1
  ELSEIF FL_Q03 = V02 AND (V03 IN FL_Q04) THEN
    {go to FL_END}
  ELSEIF FL_Q03 = V03 AND ((V01 IN FL_Q04) OR (V02 IN FL_Q04)) THEN
    aGOTO_Q06 := 1
  ELSEIF FL_Q03 = NONRESPONSE AND FL_Q04 = NONRESPONSE THEN
    aGOTO_Q08 := 1
  ELSEIF FL_Q02 = NONRESPONSE THEN
    aGOTO_Q07 := 1
  ELSE
    {go to FL_END}
  ENDIF
ENDIF

IF aGOTO_Q05 = 1 THEN
  FL_Q05
  aGOTO_Q08 := 1
ENDIF
```

```
IF aGOTO_Q06 = 1 THEN
  FL_Q06
  aGOTO_Q07 := 1
ENDIF

IF aGOTO_Q07 = 1 THEN
  FL_Q07
  aGOTO_Q08 := 1
ENDIF

IF aGOTO_Q08 = 1 THEN
  FL_Q08
ENDIF

FL_END
```



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GOTO Method

Some results

- Survey of Household Spending
- Tons of blocks + Tons of complexity = Tons of problems
- Historically very high average of flow problem per block
- Last 2 years, Minimal, close to none



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2. Stratum Control using groups



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Problematic

- Low response rate for some stratum
- No tools to manage the survey at the stratum level (reports were not enough)

FOG Example

- Response rate across different strata
- Looking at 4 level of education across all provinces
- Used different groups to represent each level of each province X 2 Languages
- 84 different groups were used

Stratum Control

ORDD/DRDO

DISTRIBUTION OF GROUPS FOR STRATUM CONTROL

		College	BA	MA	PhD
Newfoundland	French	Z01	Z23	Z44	Z65
Newfoundland	English	Z02	Z24	Z45	Z66
Nova Scotia	French	Z04	Z25	Z46	Z67
Nova Scotia	English	Z05	Z26	Z47	Z68
New Brunswick	French	Z06	Z27	Z48	Z69
New Brunswick	English	Z07	Z28	Z49	Z70
Prince Edward Island	French	Z08	Z29	Z50	Z71
Prince Edward Island	English	Z09	Z30	Z51	Z72
Quebec	French	Z10	Z31	Z52	Z73
Quebec	English	Z11	Z32	Z53	Z74
Ontario	French	Z12	Z33	Z54	Z75
Ontario	English	Z13	Z34	Z55	Z76
Manitoba	French	Z14	Z35	Z56	Z77
Manitoba	English	Z15	Z36	Z57	Z78
Saskatchewan	French	Z16	Z37	Z58	Z79
Saskatchewan	English	Z17	Z38	Z59	Z80
Alberta	French	Z18	Z39	Z60	Z81
Alberta	English	Z19	Z40	Z61	Z82
British Columbia	French	Z20	Z41	Z62	Z83
British Columbia	English	Z21	Z42	Z63	Z84
Nunavut	French	Z22	Z43	Z64	Z85
Nunavut	English	Z22	Z43	Z64	Z85
North West Territories	French	Z22	Z43	Z64	Z85
North West Territories	English	Z22	Z43	Z64	Z85
Yukon	French	Z22	Z43	Z64	Z85
Yukon	English	Z22	Z43	Z64	Z85



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Results

- In 2002, same survey, many strata had excellent results while 10 had poor results
- In 2005, **all** strata had good publishable results.

CCHS Example

- Response rate across different health regions
- Looking at +125 different regions
- Would have need 250 Z groups
 - Not handled by the current system
 - Management burden for the RO
- Reports by health regions

Stratum Control

Éric Joyal's great idea

- creation of only 2 priority groups Z01 & Z02
- Interviewers Started in Z01 or Z02 Group as main group
- All cases were assigned to INTER_E or INTER_F
- All interviewers had INTER_E and/or INTER_F as a secondary group
- All health regions have equal chances of coming up
- If a Health region fell behind, cases will be assigned to "Priority groups"
- Need for a new tool to set priority

Select a function - Supervisor ✕

Environment:

Select / CATI

Select / Browser

CATI Management

Report

Uppdate Day Batch

CATI Specification

Z Group setting

Close



Select Priority Groups [X]

<input type="checkbox"/> Region 1011	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 2406	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 3543	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 4625	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 4827
<input type="checkbox"/> Region 1012	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 2407	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 3544	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 4630	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 4828
<input type="checkbox"/> Region 1013	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 2408	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 3546	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 4640	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 5911
<input type="checkbox"/> Region 1014	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 2409	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 3547	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 4645	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 5912
<input type="checkbox"/> Region 1101	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 2410	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 3549	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 4660	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 5913
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Region 1102	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 2411	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 3551	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 4670	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 5914
<input type="checkbox"/> Region 1103	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 2412	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 3552	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 4685	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 5921
<input type="checkbox"/> Region 1201	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Region 2413	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 3553	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 4701	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 5922
<input type="checkbox"/> Region 1202	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 2414	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 3554	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 4702	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 5923
<input type="checkbox"/> Region 1203	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 2415	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Region 3555	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 4703	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 5931
<input type="checkbox"/> Region 1204	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 2416	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 3556	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Region 4704	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 5932
<input type="checkbox"/> Region 1205	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 3526	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 3557	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 4705	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 5933
<input type="checkbox"/> Region 1206	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 3527	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 3558	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 4706	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 5941
<input type="checkbox"/> Region 1301	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 3530	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 3560	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 4707	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 5942
<input type="checkbox"/> Region 1302	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 3531	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 3561	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 4708	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 5943
<input type="checkbox"/> Region 1303	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 3533	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 3562	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 4709	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 5951
<input type="checkbox"/> Region 1304	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 3534	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 3563	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 4710	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 5952
<input type="checkbox"/> Region 1305	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 3535	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 3565	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 4714	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 5953
<input type="checkbox"/> Region 1306	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 3536	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 3566	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 4820	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 6001
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Region 1307	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Region 3537	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Region 3568	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 4821	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 6101
<input type="checkbox"/> Region 2401	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 3538	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 3570	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 4822	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 6201
<input type="checkbox"/> Region 2402	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 3539	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 3595	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 4823	
<input type="checkbox"/> Region 2403	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 3540	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 4610	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 4824	
<input type="checkbox"/> Region 2404	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 3541	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 4615	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 4825	
<input type="checkbox"/> Region 2405	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 3542	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 4620	<input type="checkbox"/> Region 4826	

How does it work?

- Pre-daybatch job assigns priority groups based on criteria from the manipula
- Daybatch is created
- Since all interviewers have the priority groups as main, these cases are now prioritized by the call scheduler

Stratum Control

Improvements

- No (less) management at the interviewers level
- Simplify routing rules
- Reduce logic to assign Z group
- Can handle large number of strata

Deterioration

- Need to create daybatch to set priority

Questions:

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