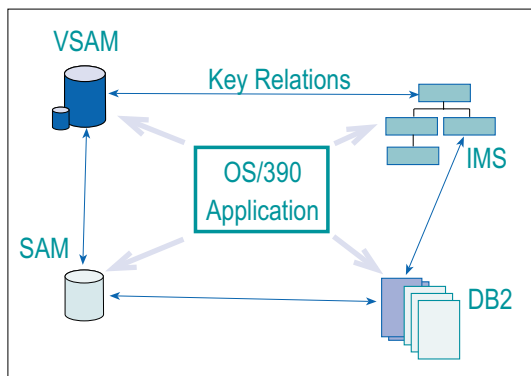


# D-SECT

## Select, Extract, Collect, and Transform

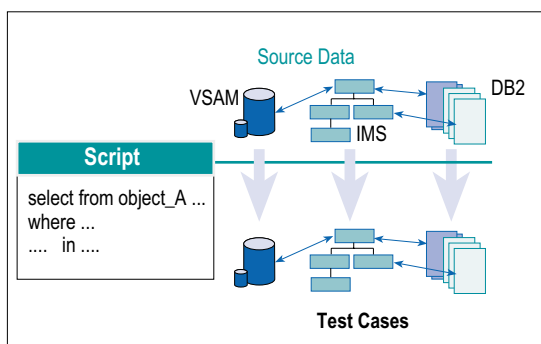
Complex OS/390 applications that have grown over the years work with varied files, organized as databases or similar, and related through the contents of fields. It is often necessary to transfer current data from one environment to another, for example from production into a test environment. Sometimes this can be achieved by a simple file copy but mostly it is a complicated business to create coherent portions of data.

There are many reporting and data extraction tools but these do not address the real problem. Either it requires additional programming to relate transactions, for instance



when a VSAM key has to match a DB2 column, or the usual infrastructure of an OS/390 shop with separate environments for development, test and production is in danger of being compromised.

This leads to a considerable effort required to create consistent test cases when maintenance or development work has been done.



### D-SECT does more than that

With D-SECT you can create SQL-like queries for typical file organizations such as:

- Relational databases (DB2)
- IMS, DL/1 databases

- VSAM datasets and
- Sequential files.

The queries may be linked as desired through field relationships. For example, the content of a field in a VSAM file can be used as an argument in a WHERE clause and this WHERE can result in a SELECT for IMS segments.

To further qualify selection and quantity the REXX language can be used in addition to SQL commands. This facilitates user-modifications to any fields or to the entire data structure.

The number of test cases generated can be limited with a simple command, for instance, "select 1000 test cases" or "select every 100th case". Whereby you may specify that a test case only be selected, when the chain is complete, that is, when the case occurs in all related files.

Output options allow overwriting, partial replacement or additions to data. The output can be made on the same computer or onto another one and can be flexibly parametrized.

The selected data retains the original format, that is, IMS stays IMS and VSAM stays as VSAM. But if desired, D-SECT can also convert the data. This way the selected data can be output in DIE format to a PC or transferred to another platform. All necessary conversion is handled by D-SECT.

A D-SECT script contains SQL clauses for selection, REXX statements for further modification and D-SECT commands to control output. The script is referred to by name within D-SECT and may be called from within another script.

D-SECT supports the separation of processing layers such as development, quality assurance tests and production environments on computers or LPARs within a SYSPLEX.

### D-SECTs Object/Layer Concept

Usually development will already be working on a newer version of an application while the previous version is still in production. This means that the production data doesn't have the same layout as the data required to test.

D-SECT's Object/Layer concept automatically takes care of the tailoring required for data structures. The various processing areas such as development-1, test, development-2, QA, production, are defined as layers, as in the following illustration.

