# *Forest Service Procedure for Stereotriangulation Adjustment* by *Electronic Computer*

### PART I

I <sup>N</sup> MARCH 1957 a new Stereoplanigraph C-8 was installed in the Regional Office of the Intermountain Region of the U. S. Forest Service. It was required specifically for use in road location and design surveys through the medium of photogrammetry. With the Stereoplanigraph came the problems of relating the bridged positions of selected photo points, recorded by the Stereoplanigraph counter in the form of *x, y* and z coordinates, to true ground coordinates. The graphic or stereotemplet method for locating ground positions from aerial photos was no longer applicable or adequate.

In order to develop new methods and procedures that would be applicable to using the Stereoplanigraph as a road survey tool, it became necessary for Forest Service personnel to become familiar with a new and highly complex phase of photogrammetry and photogrammetric equipment.

Arrangements were made with the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey in Washington, D.C. to provide the initial pre-delivery training and orientation on stereoplanigraph equipment and procedures. This opportunity is taken to express sincere appreciation for their fine cooperation.

The photogrammetric unit of that agency, under the direction of G. C. Tewinkel, had developed a combination graphical and mathematical system for correcting and transformation machine coordinate data to ground equivalents, irrespective of direction of flight lines.<sup>1</sup>

After becoming familiar with the Coast Survey's method of coordinate rotation and correction, the merits and weaknesses of the system, as applied to our use, were analyzed. The adaptability to non-cardinal flight direction was of extreme importance since the majority of the photographic strips are governed by the general alignment of roads rather than by cardinal directions. The

S. E. WEBB, *U. S. Forest Service, Ogden, Utah*

graphic part of the solu tion, however, left many opportunities for human error and was timeconsuming. The Coast Survey itself considered the graphic step as an interim method necessary only until the whole procedure could be carried through mathematically.

As soon as the stereoplanigraph had been assembled, Mr. Herbert Trager-representative of Zeiss Aereotopograph, Munich-came to Ogden in order to provide a period of intensive training in calibration, operation, and bridging techniques. At the end of this training, Mr. Trager demonstrated the two following methods, these being those most frequently used in Europe for coordinate rotation and correction.

METHOD NO.1:

This is the classic method of coordinate transformation and correction. Dr. Schwidefsky of Zeiss Aereotopograph is the au thor of the book of Photogrammetry used as text during the explanation. This method employs separate independent normal quadratic condition equations which are solved simultaneously for unknown constants for each of the three curves of error. The three major curves of error that the quadratic equation represents are scale, direction and z.

#### METHOD NO. 2:

The Helmert transformation in which all coordinates are reckoned from the gravicenter of all points under consideration. No attempt will be made to explain this method since it was not used in our final answer.

With the completion of these training periods, the staff of photogrammetrists in Ogden, with Mr. Trager acting as adviser, analyzed all of the methods under consideration and set up the following list of system requirements that our final method of coordinate correction must possess:

- 1. Entirely mathematical.<br>2. Accommodate non-cardinal
- 2. Accommodate non-cardinal photographic flights.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The method consists of an adaptation of the general method developed by the Army Map Serv-ice and described by Robert S. Brandt, in PHOTO-GRAMMETRIC ENGINEERING: Vol. XVII, No.5, p. 806 (1951); and by Charles W. Price, Vol. XIX, No.4, p. 627 (1953).

- 3. Adaptable to electronic computer processing.
- 4. Not lose any accuracy of the first-order Stereoplanigraph in the process of translating and relating stereoplanigraph coordinates to ground coordinates.

It was the belief that a system with such features would largely eliminate the introduction of human error in handling the coordinate data and, at the same time, erase the great time gap between actual machine operation and development of useable answers. Attendant with these would be a considerable reduction of man hours of labor and cost.

Work was initiated on the development of formulae and How diagrams to accommodate the program. The contribution of Mr. Trager in this effort was excellent and extensive. After much research and revision, the flow diagram shown in Figure No.1 was accepted as adequate.

It will be noted that the system utilizes the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey method of transforming and rotating field control coordinates into the system of stereoplanigraph coordinates for determination of ordinates of error. It then makes use of the classic mathematical condition equations, as taught by Mr. Trager, to solve for unknown constants simultaneously, and thus to determine the best least square fit for the correction curve. It then applies these constants in the final formulae to all measured points, correcting and transforming the machine coordinate data to state grid coordinates.

Following the development of this system, various electronic computer concerns were contacted in an effort to obtain assistance in the actual programming of the problem for the most appropriate computer equipment. The Los Angeles Applied Science Division of IBM, under the direction of Mr. Lloyd Hubbard, immediately scheduled the work in his unit. Within a few short weeks the program (see Part II) had been written by Mr. Bob Perry for the IBM 650.

The Forest Service then selected the project-designated the "Davis Mountain Road" -on the Wasatch National Forest, Utah, as the pilot project. It consists of 15 stereomodels of photography obtained at 1:8,000 scale. The model scale selected for machine operation was 1 :4,000, and the plotting scale on the coordinatograph was 1:2,400. Approximately nine miles of road location are involved within the stereo-bridge. Field control was established by Wild T-2 theodolite and Zeiss self-leveling level.

The project had been corrected by the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey graphic curve system, prior to presenting it to IBM Corporation; hence, the possibility for comparison of the two systems was presented. This comparison of coordinate values is shown in Figure No.2. It must be borne in mind in studying these values that the graphic curve procedure has no position correction dependent on the *Z;* hence, a small variation is expected. This motion is accounted for in the flow diagram by the BXZ term in equation #20. Furthermore, it is realized that the answers obtained by the graphic solution are based on human judgment, and probably should not be considered as reliable as those obtained mathematically.

The first answer obtained by the IBM 650 varied considerably from the graphic curve solution, and a rewrite of the program was required. Through the continued cooperation of the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, Mr. Tewinkel joined IBM and U. S. Forest Service personnel in Los Angeles to assist in this last effort. At this meeting Mr. Tewinkel explained the difference between the mathematical formula the Coast and Geodetic Survey had developed and that of the Forest Service. He also said that the Coast and Geodetic Survey was in the process of publishing this information programmed for the IBM 650, at which time it would be available for direct comparison. No attempt will be made here to explain the difference of approach except that Mr. Tewinkel's formulae were dependent on one another, and might in this manner more closely control the secondary or first derivative effects of errors.

After Mr. Tewinkel had left this meeting a search was made through original IBM program with hopes of finding an error that would explain the large differences between the graphic and mathematical approaches. An error in sense of rotation was found; the program was adjusted, and rerun. The tabulated answers shown in Figure No. 2 were taken from the adjusted IBM 650 program whose origin is the U. S. Forest Service flow chart as originally submitted.<sup>2</sup> Computer time for

*<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Note:* The corrected stereoplanigraph coordinates resulting from 7H of the flow diagram are not exactly at the selected model-scale. This is true because the ground coordinates were equated to the stereoplanigraph bridged coordinates in step 2H of the flow diagram. In order to arrive at exact model-scale coordinates the model-scale factor should be applied to the state grid metric coordinates resulting in step 9 and printed out. In addition, a print out of state grid coordinates in units of feet should be made.



FIG. 1. Stereotriangulation Adjustment Flow Diagram, United States Forest Service, Region 4, Ogden, Utah

(Continued on following pages)



Flow Diagram Continued



Flow Diagram Concluded

PHOTOGRAMMETRIC ENGINEERING

 $30<sub>t</sub>$ 

#### FIG. 2

#### DAVIS MOUNTAIN STEREOTRIANGULATION RESULTS

## Comparison of Corrected Values

#### WASATCH NATIONAL FOREST-REGION 4



(Continued on following pages)

EXPLANATORY NOTE: The following completes the data for points 141 to 223, given on preceding page— $Ed$ 

S. E. Webb - U.S. Forest Service, Ogden, Utah



\* Obvious error in mathematical result.



(Concluded on next page)

STEREOTRIANGULATION ADJUSTMENT BY ELECTRONIC COMPUTER

EXPLANATORY NOTE: The above completes the data for points 224 to 288 on preceding page—Ed.



PHOTOGRAMMETRIC ENGINEERING

FIG. 2-(Concluded)

the entire flow chart was 15 minutes as compared to 15 man days for the graphic solution.

Additional projects are now being prepared for correction and adjustment. One consists of a flight line 80 stereo-models in length on which field control has been established in excess of requirements. It is planned to complete the adjustment of this stereo-bridge with the IBM 650 at least three times, and varying the intensity and location of field control in each case. In this way we hope to learn much about minimum control requirements for road location purposes.

This program has answered our needs as of this writing. It may be that further refinements and adjustments will be required in uses other than for National Forest road locations. Continued efforts to improve the program are anticipated. Any comments or suggestions by others who may choose to use it will be welcomed.

#### PART 11\*

O. R. PERRY, *International Business Machines Corporation, Santa Monica, California*

ABSTRACT: PURPOSE.~This *program for the IBM Type 650 has been set up to accomplish the horizontal and vertical adjustment of a stereobridge for a single strip of aerial photographs.*

METHoD.~On *the basis of known horizontal and vertical "control" points, the stereo-bridge* is *adjusted both horizontally and vertically to give a best least squares fit to the known points. There are no limits to the nnmbers of horizontal, vertical and pass-points. A strip consisting of 80 points of which* 25 *are vertical points and* 7 *are horizontal control-points can be adjusted in* 12 *minutes. Computations are performed in a floating decimal mode. However, the optional floating point hardware on the computer* is *not used. Thus, the program can be used on any 2,000 word Type 650 presently in the field.*

#### 650 PROGRAM WRITE-UP

A. *Title:* Aerial Survey Triangulation; Single Strip.

B. *Author and Date:* O. R. Perry, November 22, 1957.

C. *Installation:* Applied Science, Santa Monica Branch Office.

D. *Purpose:* Determine the ground-coordinates of points read stereometrically from film.

E. *Justification:* This type of routine was not previously available.

F. *Detailed Statement of Problem:*

#### 1. *Origin of Data*

A strip of terrain to be mapped is photographed from the air. The photographs are so

taken that each ground point appears on two consecutive photographs. Following processing, the film plates are mounted in a Stereoplanigraph and all "interesting points" are "read" giving rise to horizontal and vertical "instrument-coordinates." The stereoplanigraph is so adjusted that the vertical reading is recorded directly in the units of feet or meters as desired. Horizontal units are simply millimeters or "instrument units." In addition to instrument data, a variable amount of "control data" is required. These latter data consist of actual ground-coordinates of several points in the strip.

Computation consists of determining a series of transformations which transform the instrument-coordinates of control-points into the actual ground-coordinates of these points. These transformations are then applied to all instrument readings furnished,

\* Distributed by IBM Applied Science, Western Region (c/o District 17) Los Angeles, 1958.

thereby determining ground-coordinates for all points.

- *2. Notation*
	- a. Coordinates
		- *X*: Ground-coordinate; accumulative (any units)l
		- *Y:* Ground-coordinate; lateral (units same as for *X)l*
		- z: Ground-coordinate; elevation (any units)
		- *x:* Instrument-coordinate; accumulative (any units)
		- *y*: Instrument-coordinate; lateral (any units)
		- z: Instrument-coordinate; elevation  $(same coordinates as Z)$ <br>round-coordinate: accumulative
		- $X_0$ : Ground-coordinate; reference2
		- $Y_0$ : Ground-coordinate; lateral refer-<br>ence<sup>2</sup>
	- b. Coefficients

These quantities are defined by the equations in which they occur. Subscripts are used to denote transformation number.

#### *3. Transformation Computations*

The following steps must be accomplished in computing the transformations:

a. Determine  $A_1$ ,  $B_1$ ,  $C_1$ , and  $D_1$  for the fol-<br>lowing transformation. lowing transformation.

$$
x' = A_1(X - X_0) + B_1(Y - Y_0) + C_1
$$
  
\n
$$
y' = A_1(Y - Y_0) - B_1(X - X_0) + D_1
$$
 Trans. #1.

The computation is performed in such a way that the ground coordinates of terminal points 1 and 2 are transformed to the instrument coordinates of terminal points 1 and 2 exactly. ("Terminal points" are specified by the customer.)

b. Determine  $A_2$ ,  $B_2$ ,  $C_2$ , and  $D_2$  for the following transformation.

$$
X - X_0 = A_2 x' - B_2 y' + C_1
$$
  
 
$$
Y - Y_0 = A_2 y' + B_2 x' + D_2
$$
 Trans. #2.

The computation is so performed that the instrument-coordinates of terminal points 1 and 2 are transformed to the ground-coordinates of terminal points 1

<sup>1</sup> For flights which are not strictly north-south or east-west, the terms "accumulative" and "lateral" as applied to  $\overline{X}$  and  $\overline{Y}$  may be ambiguous. In this case, if a rotation of  $A$  degrees will rotate the positive *x* axis into the positive *y* axis; X and Y must be designated so that a rotation of *A* degrees will rotate the positive  $X$  axis into the positive  $Y$ aXIS.

<sup>2</sup> These numbers are arbitrary but are actually chosen as the ground-coordinates of terminal point #2. They remain fixed throughout the com-<br>putation. and 2 exactly. It will be noted that trans.  $#2$  is the inverse of trans.  $#1$ .

- c. Apply transformation  $#1$  to all horizontal control points thereby computing *x'* and *y'* for all such points.
- d. Compute *cx* and *cy* for all horizontal control points as follows:

$$
cx' = x' - x
$$

$$
cy' = y' - y
$$

e. Determine  $A_3$ ,  $B_3$ ,  $C_3$ ,  $D_3$ ,  $E_3$  for the following transformation.

 $cx = A_3x^2 + B_3x + C_3xy + D_3xz + E_3$  Trans. #3.

The computations to be performed in such a way that  $\sum (cx_i-cx_i')^2$  is minimal (where  $i$  denotes the  $i$ th horizontal control point).

f. Determine  $A_4$ ,  $B_4$ ,  $C_4$ ,  $D_4$  for the following transformation.

 $cy = A_4x^2 + B_4xy + C_4y + D_4$  Trans. #4.

The computations to be performed in such a way that  $\sum (cy_i-cy_i)$  is minimal (where i denotes the ith horizontal control point).

g. Determine  $A_5$ ,  $B_5$ ,  $C_5$ ,  $D_5$ ,  $F_5$  for the following transformation.

$$
Z' = A_5 x^2 + B_5 x^2 + C_5 x y + D_5 Y + E_5 x + F_5 + z
$$
 Trans. #5.

The computations to be performed in such a way that  $\sum (Z_i' - Z_i)^2$  is minimal (where i denotes the ith elevation control point).

*4. Ground Coordinate Computations*

The following steps are performed for all points in the strip.

- a. Apply transformations  $#3$  and  $#4$  (computing *cx* and *cy).*
- b. Compute

$$
x' = cx - x
$$

$$
y' = cy - y
$$

- c. Apply trans.  $#2$  (computing  $X X_0$  and *y- Yo)*
- d. Add *X o*and *Yo* to get computed ground coordinates X and Y.
- e. Apply transformation #5 thereby computing *Z',* the computed ground coordinate.

G. *Derivation or Reference:* Stereotriangulation Adjustment Flow Diagram; U. S. Forest Service; Region 4; Ogden, Utah.

H. *Accuracy and Range:* There are no limitations of the number of points involved. Since computations are performed in floating-point,

accuracy of computation is well above the accuracy of the data. The method used is not an elaborate one; accuracy could be improved by further complication of the method.

I. Type of Routine: Self-contained engineering procedure.

J. *Calling Sequence:*

Console Settings: Storage entry switches<br>  $70$  1951 9900 70 1951 (If program is already on drum, set to 00 0000 0350).

Programmed: Stop Half Cycle: Run Address selection: Any Control: Run Display: Program register Overflow: Sense Error: Stop Loading of the program automatically transfers control to start processing.

K. *Symbol Definition in Calling Sequence:* Not applicable.

L. *Input Format:*

Data cards have the format given below.

The order of the cards during processing is very important. The prescribed order is as follows:

Terminal #2 card Terminal #1 card All horizontal control cards Spacer card (blank except for zeros in cols. 1-10) All vertical control cards Spacer card (as above) All points

In order to achieve this ordering, some of the cards must be duplicated; possibly as many as three times. For example, a card may appear as a terminal card, a horizontal-control card, a vertical-control card, and (of course) in the "all cards" portion of the deck. The card code can be used to advantage in achieving this ordering.

It should be noted that the Type 533 panel to be used may require 12 punches for plus signs.

M. *Output Format:* Two types of cards will be punched: Coefficient cards and results cards.

#### FORMAT OF THE DATA CARDS



The card code is defined as follows:<br> $Code$  Definition

*Code Definition*

1 horizontal-control pt. but not vertical-control point

2 horizontal and vertical-control point<br>3 vertical-control pt. but not horizonta

vertical-control pt. but not horizontal-control point

<sup>4</sup> pass point-(no vertical or horizontal-control).<br>
<sup>\*\*</sup> Identification should ordinarily be numeric. However, if the alphabetic feature is available, alphabetic identification can be used by making the following changes:<br>
cc  $6$  card code<br>
cc  $7-10$  alphabetic identification

\*\*\* Since any units can be used for *x* and *y,* the decimal point location is actually arbitrary. However, the transformation coefficients will be computed as if the decimal point were at the right. This remark holds for other items as well.<br>\*\*\*\* These fields should be left blank when data are not available.

\*\*\*\*\* The strip identification is any arbitrary coding. It should be identical for all data cards from anyone strip.

Coefficient cards are punched as follows:



All coefficients are punched in floating decimal form as follows:

 $x_1x_2x_3x_4x_5x_6x_7x_8x_9x_{10} \pm$ 

should be in terpreted as

 $(\pm x_1 \cdot x_2 x_3 x_4 x_5 x_6 x_7 x_8) 10^{x_9 x_{10}} - 50$ 

Thus, for example,

#### $1234567842+$  represents  $(1.2345678)10^{-8}$ .

Result cards are punched as follows:



All data quantities on the result cards have three figures to the right of the decimal point.

N. *Status on Exit:* Computer stops with a "Read Card" command.

O. *Stops Explicitly Stated:* None.

P. *Error Return and Error Code:* All error stops should indicate overflow during pseudofloating-point operations. These will always be "storage selection errors" with addresses "99XX." In addition, faulty arrangement of cards can cause a "distributor error" consisting of blanks. This latter type of indication cannot be assured since this type of error cannot always be detected by the program.

Computation should be restarted from the beginning of the deck: the program begins at loca tion 0350.

Q. *Overflow and Underflow Technique:* No general rule can be stated. If cards have been punched and sorted properly, no overflow should occur.

t If the alphabetic device is used, cols. 1-5 will be blank and cols. 6-9 will contain the word "TRAN," an abbreviation of "transformation."

R. *Special Coding Information:* None.

S. *A mount of Storage Required and A mount of Erasable Required:*

Approximately 1,700 cells are utilized. Of this amount,

approx. 300 are erasable.

approx. 500 are floating point routines. approx. 900 are programming.

The remaining cells are not in one block but are scattered. If modifications to the program are required, it is suggested that the drum be cleared, the program loaded, and a print-out be accomplished. Any blank cells between 800 and 1,500 are available.

T. *Timing:* Timing depends on the amount of data involved. As a typical figure, a strip containing 80 points of which 25 are vertical-control points and 7 are horizontal-control points can be adjusted in 12 minutes.

U. *Other Subroutines or Systems Required:* None.

The program deck furnished contains the required floating point routines (package 4 of FORTRANSIT)

V. *Components:* Standard 2,000 word type 650. If the alphabetic device is available, it can be used as described elsewhere.

W. *Name of Board Required:* Standard "80-80 Read and 80-80 Punch." Col. 1 is wired to "Load." If the alphabetic feature is used, word 1 should be wired for alphabetic from cols. 6-10 on both read and punch: the remainder of the panel being identical to the 80-80 panel.

X. *Description of Test Problem:* A complete set of data and results for a typical strip are contained in Appendix V. In addition to this, sample data and result cards will be furnished with the program deck.

Y. *Status:* Debugged for test data.

ApPENDIX III: PROCESS CHART

The entire problem has been programmed in 4 "phases" and 2 subroutines.

Phase I: Compute trans 1 and trans 2 (Figure 3).

Phase II: Compute trans 3 and trans 4 (Figure 4).

Phase III: Compute trans 5 (Figure 4).

Phase IV: Apply all transformations (Figure 5).

- Subroutine #1: "Float" input data (Figure 3).
- Subroutine #2: Solve "n" simultaneous linear equations (Figure 1).



#### **Subroutine #1: Float input data**











FIG. 5. Phase IV. Apply all Transformations.

#### ApPENDIX V: CHECK PRODLEM

North-South Photography Terminal point #1: Stereo #146 Terminal point #2: Stereo #284 Strip identification: 64



I. *Data*

#### II. *Results*

Results appear on Table A. Headings were inserted manually before listing for the purpose of clarification. TABLE A



## *Sociogrammetry*

#### LEO SILBERMAN.

*Research Center in Economic Development and Cultural Change, Univ. of Chicago, Chicago, Ill·*

#### THE PROBLEM

SOME time ago 172 Kenya Africans were border made three successive raids; two battalions of King's African Rifles were rushed to the scene. A series of enquiries into the causes of this, the largest of frontier disturbances, was instituted. Following a long period of calm, both of the two old tribal enemies had moved into the neutral zone which had been planned to be a separation area. This movement no doubt was due to urgent need for grazing land and by growing numbers. Control had become lax. The fighting not only caused a heavy loss of life, but it created new enmities with cries for vengeance, and with fears that in this already disturbed continent, new problems are to be added.

The raids came as a surprise. The Kenya

Police is large and mobile and has an air wing. It also has made several studies using air photography. What appears to have escaped the observation of the local authorities is that these air photographs could be used in tribal administration. This is perhaps less curious than it at first appears, because information is deficient in the general area of cooperation between the photo interpreter and the administrator, or of even greater significance, between air surveyors and social surveyors.

It is the purpose of this paper to examine what the social scientist might be able to contribute to the kind of aerial survey that so often is commissioned by governments in the hungry parts of the world; where human needs are crying out for more man-power research, census work, urbanization studies, information on migration patterns, that is in