COBOL V5 Migration Strategies

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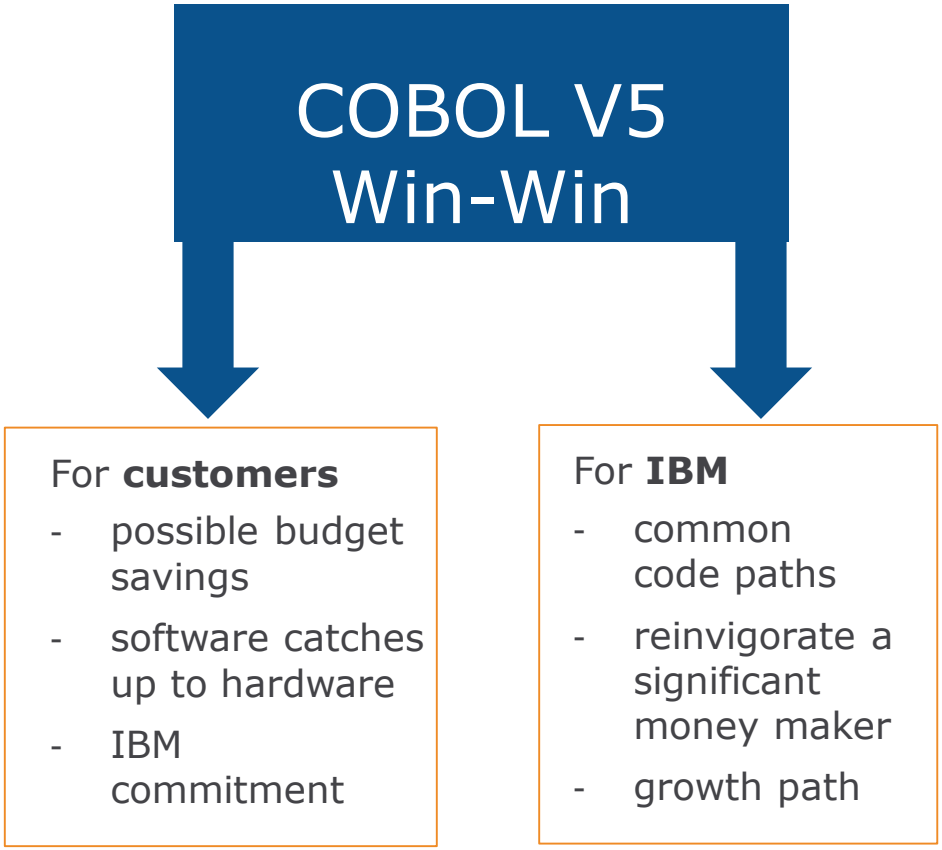
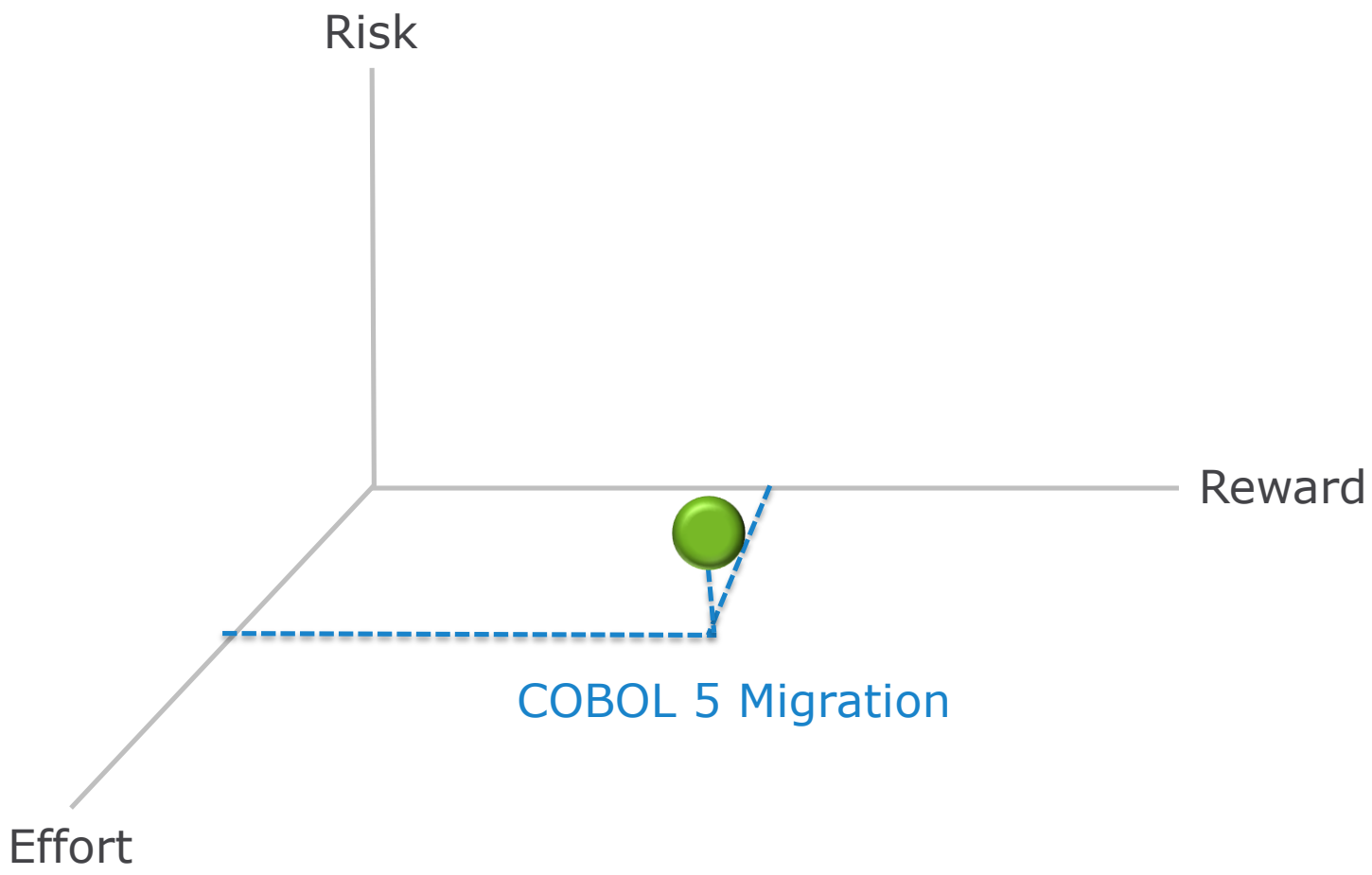
Background

COBOL V5: CliffsNotes

- Significant rewrite by IBM
  - leverage Code Generator code used in Java and C/C++
  - catch up with z/OS hardware improvements
  - aggressive optimization (CPU and memory intensive compile)
  - (more or less) compatible with previous COBOL compilers
  - (more or less) can run combined with older COBOL executables
- Runtime Performance improvements
  - We see 5-7% at our customers (highs in the 9-11% range)
  - IBM says up to 20% or more in certain cases.


COBOL V5
Win-Win
For **customers**
- possible budget savings
- software catches up to hardware
- IBM commitment
For **IBM**
- common code paths
- reinvigorate a significant money maker
- growth path


Risk
Reward
Effort
COBOL 5 Migration

Migration

First Steps

1. **Read these Books!**

   Migration Guide –
   GC14-7383-03
   Programming Guide
   SC14-7382-03

For Systems programmers:
Performance Guide – COBOL 5.1.1- Paper

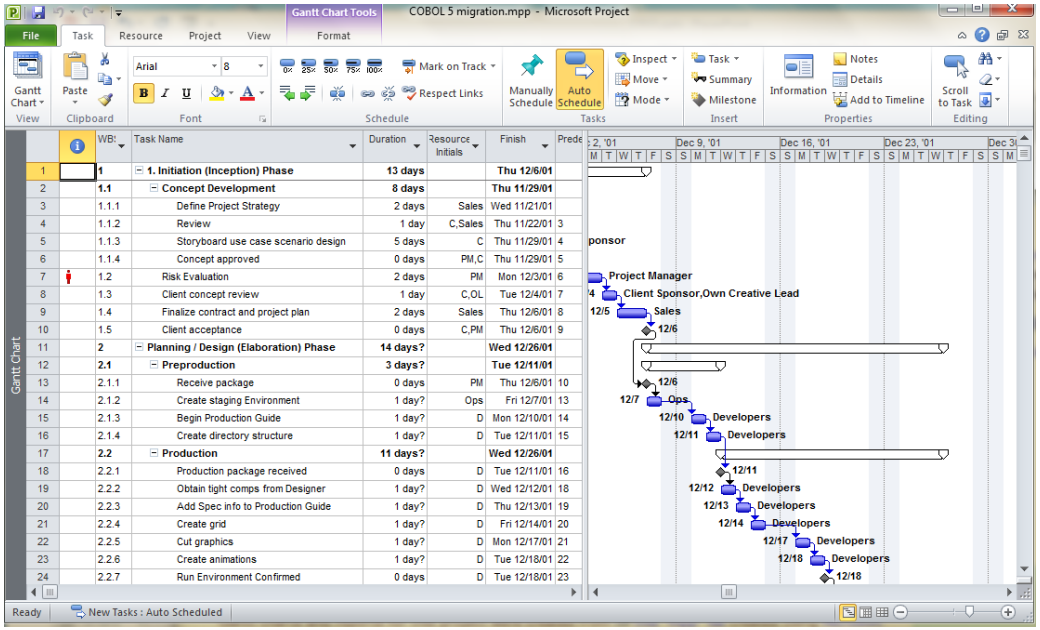
http://www-01.ibm.com/support/docview.wss?uid=swg27042388&aid=1

First Steps

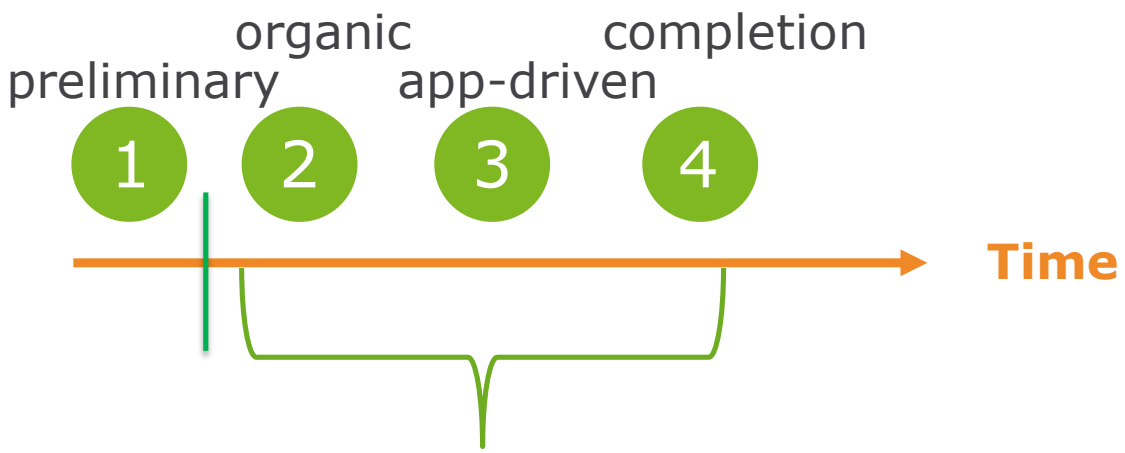
1. Read Migration Guide

2. Create a project!

a) Scope
b) Effort
c) Expectations



Project Timeline



IBM grace period for running two COBOL versions[1]

[1] *talk with IBM*

1 Preliminary Work

- Simplify migration by completing these items beforehand
- Do not order COBOL v5.2 until you're happy with the preliminary work!

1 Preliminary Work

a Get current

Prerequisite levels of related software products

To use these products with Enterprise COBOL V5, they must be at the following levels:

- z/OS V1R13 or later
- CICS Transaction Server for z/OS, V3 or later
- IBM DB2 V9 or later
- IBM IMS V11 or later

1 Preliminary Work

a Get current

b Complete LE runtime migration

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c Convert Load libraries to PDSE*

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a Get current

b Complete LE runtime migration

c Convert Load libraries to PDSE

d SCM product to drive all compiles

1 Preliminary Work

e Order and install COBOL v5.2 and apply latest PTFs!

[1] Likely to involve many PTF's – don't forget ISV's too.

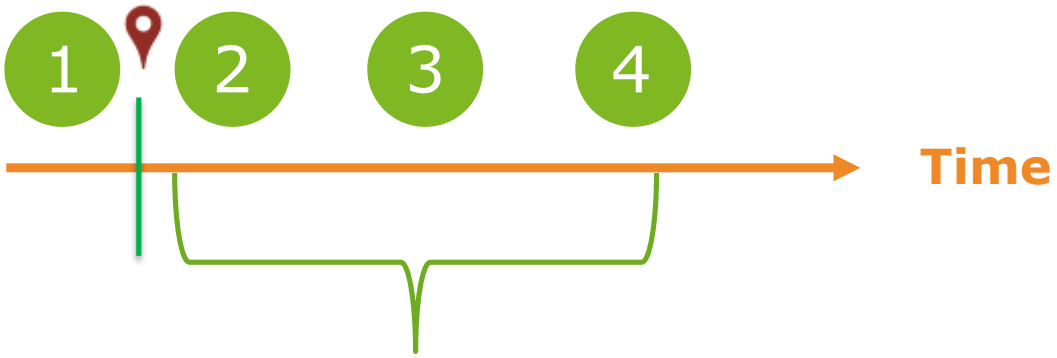
1 Preliminary Work

e Order and install COBOL v5

f Implement COBOL v5.2 in SCM driven compiles

- JCL changes
- decide on certain compile options
  - ARCH
  - NUMPROC
  - OPT
  - SSRANGE
  - STGOPT

Project Timeline



2 Organic changes

a Pilot project

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b Migrate programs as they come up for changes.

- Bug fixes
- Active development
- How much added regression testing?

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c Publish results

- CPU savings
- % complete (total, by application)

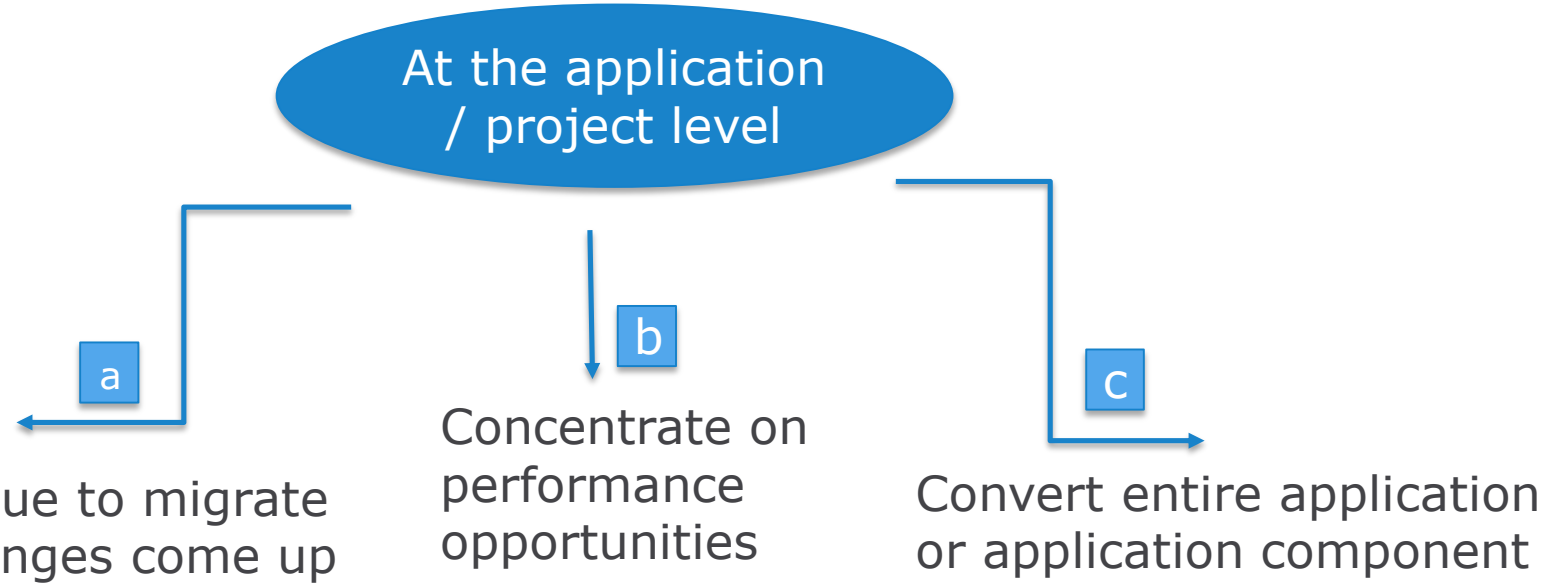
2 Organic changes

Challenges

- Expect "devil is in the details" type problems at this point.
- Exception criteria? Who decides the exceptions?
- When to move to step 3? What about code freeze time periods?

Project Timeline

3 Application Groups drive speed of migration

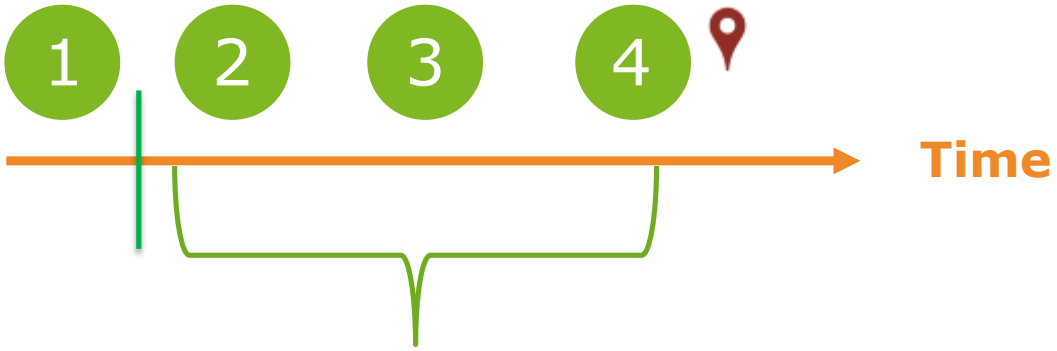


Project Timeline

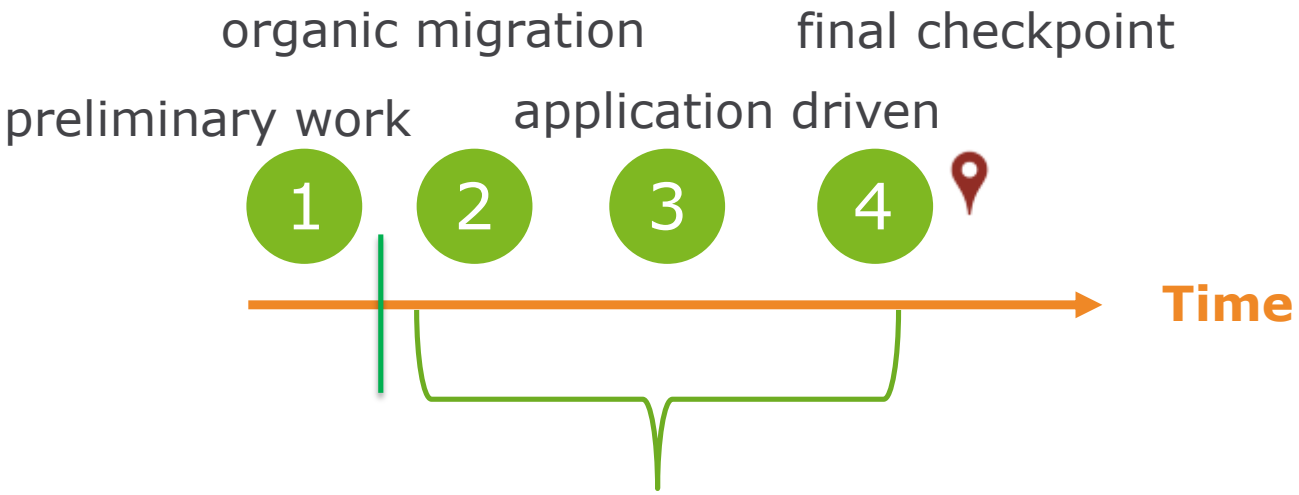
4 Final checkpoint

- Confident of conversion effort – willing to retire the older COBOL
- Go through one code freeze cycle?

Project Timeline



Project Timeline

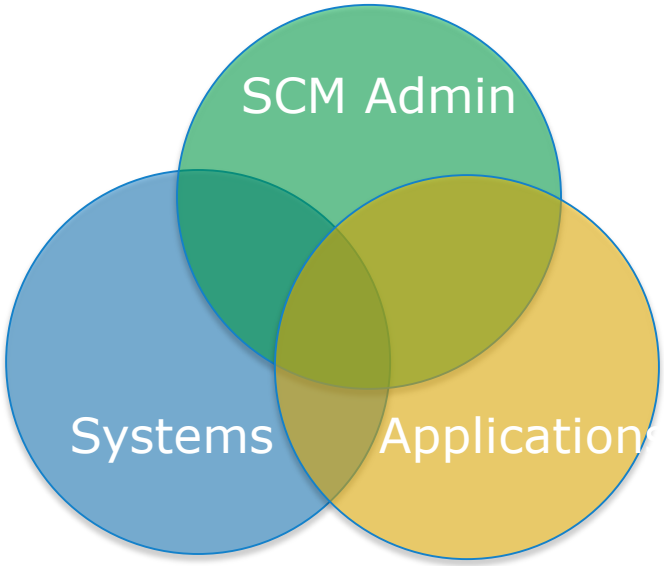


IBM grace period for two compilers

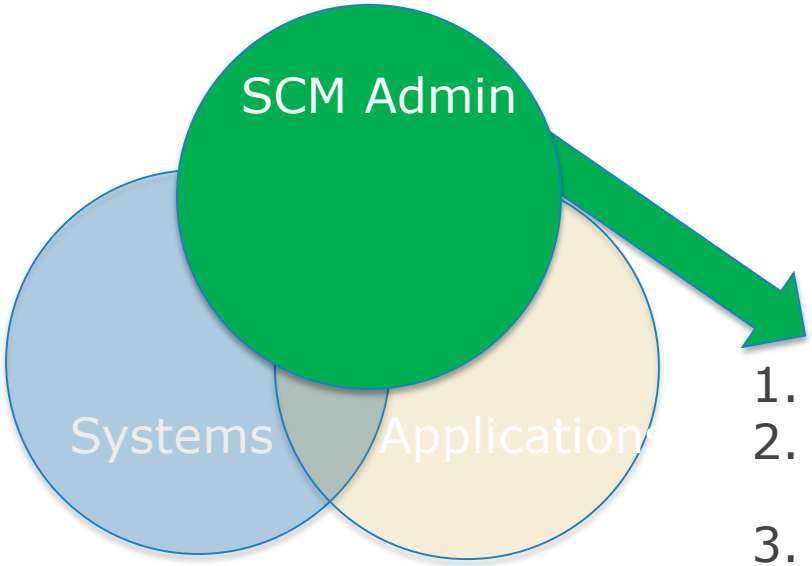
5 Project Analysis

- Did the project meet expectations?
  - CPU savings
  - $ savings
  - effort
- What about the remaining COBOL programs?

Project by Group

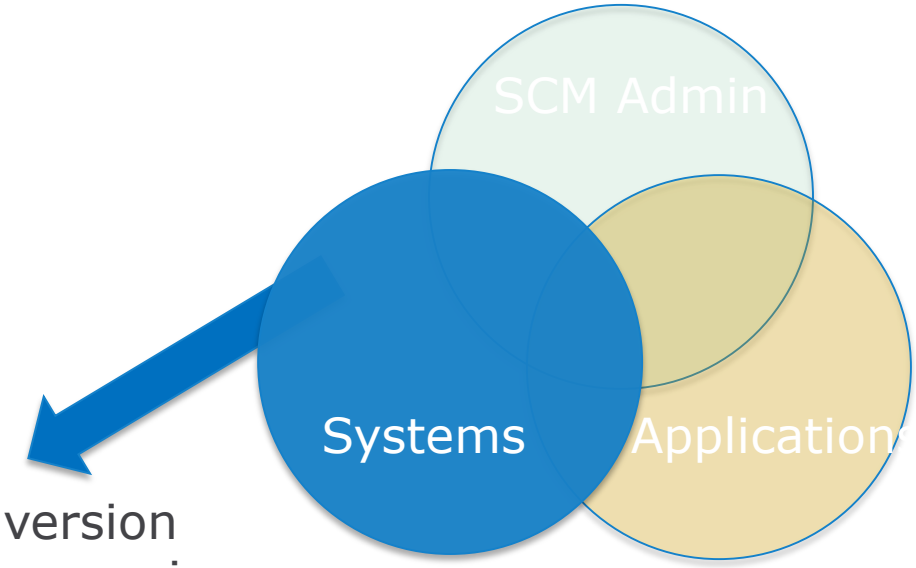


Project by Group



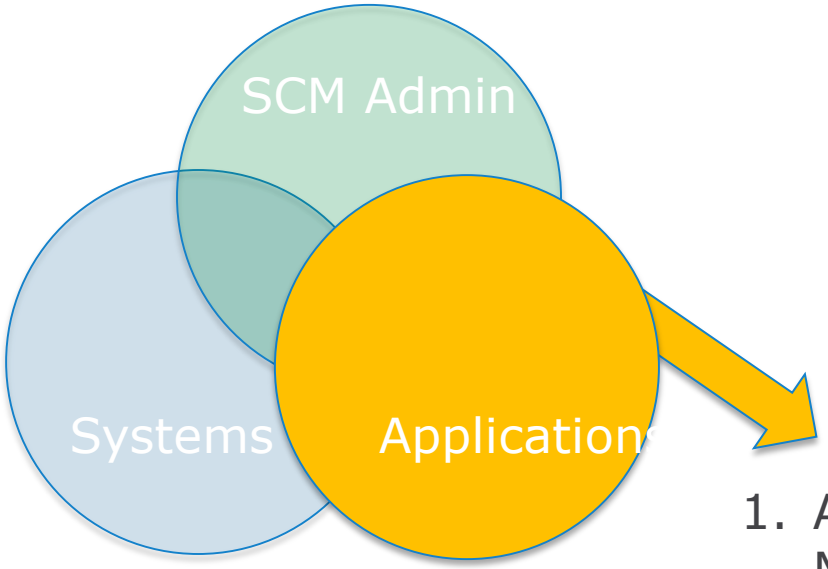
1. Compile JCL
2. Compile options
   a) At each promotion level
3. No-go gates

Project by Group



1. LE Conversion
2. PDSE conversion
3. Currency

Project by Group



1. Application Migration
2. Regression testing

Considerations

Compile Options

Option	Consideration
OPT(n)	Recommend OPT(0) during development; OPT(2) for last compile.
ARCH	Lowest common denominator
SSRANGE	not in production
NUMPROC	PFD. If NOPFD, why?
RULES	Helps identify performance and coding issues

Optimization

- OPTIMIZE(0) specifies limited optimizations, which result in the shortest compilation time. TEST option is not needed to use Xpediter for full debugging capability
- OPTIMIZE(1) specifies optimizations that improve application runtime performance. Optimizations include:
  - basic inlining
  - simplification of complex operations into equivalent simpler operations
  - removal of some unreachable code and block rearrangement.
  - Compiling with TEST will allow full debugging
- OPTIMIZE(2) specifies further optimizations:
  - more aggressive simplifications and instruction scheduling.
  - When the TEST option is specified, some debug capabilities are available.

Older Environments

Environment	Consideration
OS/VS COBOL	Doesn't mix with COBOL 5
VS COBOL II	If NORES – cannot mix with COBOL 5
Storage Eye-catchers	May be removed (STGOPT) during COMPILE.
AMODE(24)	Part of migration – to remove this restriction?

Abend Personality

Index over-runs:

- May change from S0C7 to S0C4
- Over-run itself may corrupt / re-corrupt / un-corrupt index
  - Removes forensics
  - Applications may reach out to systems to help solve

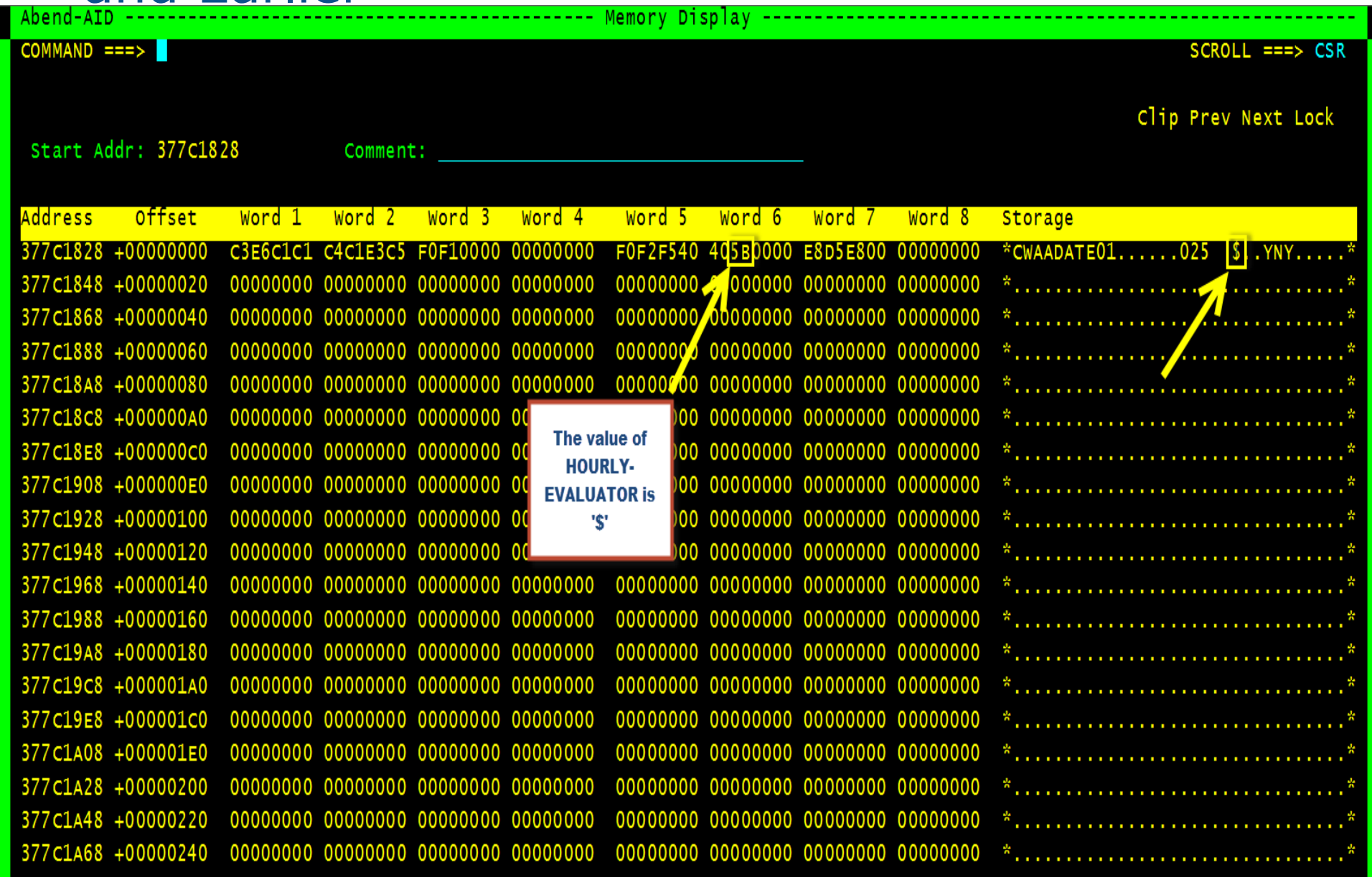
New IBM Compiler output

- Previous versions of the compiler output would display the BLL, BLF and BLW cells for each of the variables in the File Section, Program Storage Section and Linkage Section
- The new compiler output does not display the offset from the BLW pointer anymore. All 77, 88 and 01 group level variable names are located in the 'Static Map'.
  - Elementary variables are not listed in the static map. In the Working-Storage area, the elementary level variables are denoted by an offset from the group level
    - To find the value of the variable, one must find the location of the group level in the static map and add the offset of the variable from the group level (found in the program-storage section)

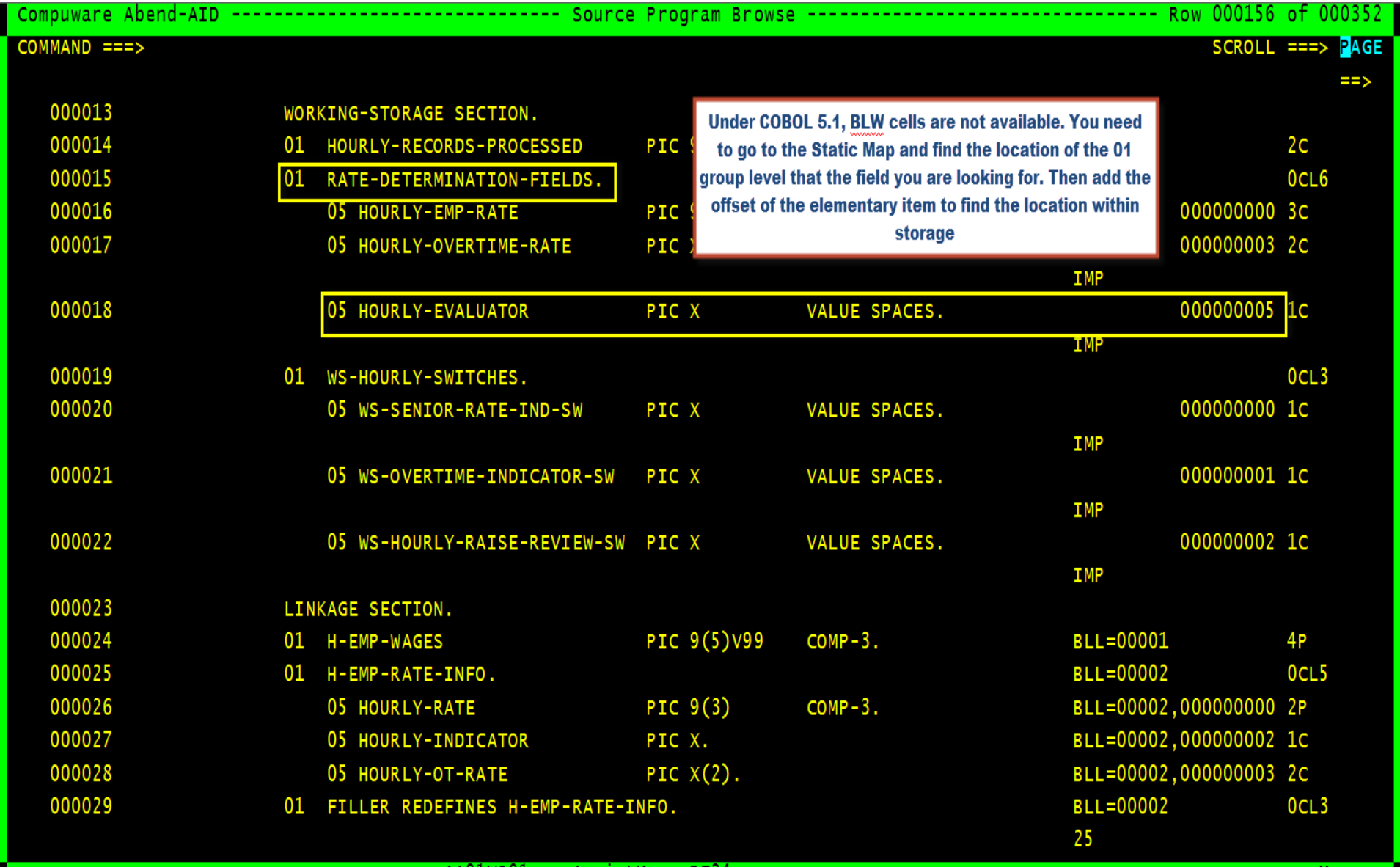
Pre 5.2 Compiler Listing

```
Compuware Abend-AID ------------------------------ Source Program Browse -------------------------------- Row 000154 of 000352
COMMAND ===>                                                                                 SCROLL ===> CSR
                                                                                                        ==>
  000013 ▌          WORKING-STORAGE SECTION.
  000014            01  CWAADATE    PIC X(08) VALUE 'CWAADATE'.                  BLW=00000+000         8C
  000015            01  HOURLY-RECORDS-PROCESSED     PIC 9(2)      VALUE 0.     BLW=00000+008         2C
  000016            01  RATE-DETERMINATION-FIELDS.                                BLW=00000+010         0CL6
  000017                05 HOURLY-EMP-RATE           PIC 9(3)      VALUE 0.     BLW=00000+010,0000000 3C
  000018                05 HOURLY-OVERTIME-RATE      PIC X(2)      VALUE SPACES. BLW=00000+013,0000003 2C
                                                                                 IMP
  000019                05 HOURLY-EVALUATOR          PIC X         VALUE SPACES. BLW=00000+015,0000005 1C
                                                                                 IMP
  000020            01  WS-HOURLY-SWITCHES.                                       BLW=00000+018         0CL3
  000021                05 WS-SENIOR-RATE-IND-SW     PIC X         VALUE SPACES. BLW=00000+018,0000000 1C
                                                                                 IMP
  000022                05 WS-OVERTIME-INDICATOR-SW  PIC X         VALUE SPACES. BLW=00000+019,0000001 1C
                                                                                 IMP
  000023                05 WS-HOURLY-RAISE-REVIEW-SW PIC X         VALUE SPACES. BLW=00000+01A,0000002 1C
                                                                                 IMP
  000024            LINKAGE SECTION.
  000025            01  H-EMP-WAGES                 PIC 9(5)V99   COMP-3.      BLL=00001+000         4P
  000026            01  H-EMP-RATE-INFO.                                          BLL=00002+000         0CL5
  000027                05 HOURLY-RATE               PIC 9(3)      COMP-3.      BLL=00002+000,0000000 2P
  000028                05 HOURLY-INDICATOR          PIC X.                     BLL=00002+002,0000002 1C
  000029                05 HOURLY-OT-RATE            PIC X(2).                  BLL=00002+003,0000003 2C
  000030            01  FILLER REDEFINES H-EMP-RATE-INFO.                         BLL=00002+000         0CL3
                                  AA01VS01     AssistMenu=PF24                                        More...
```

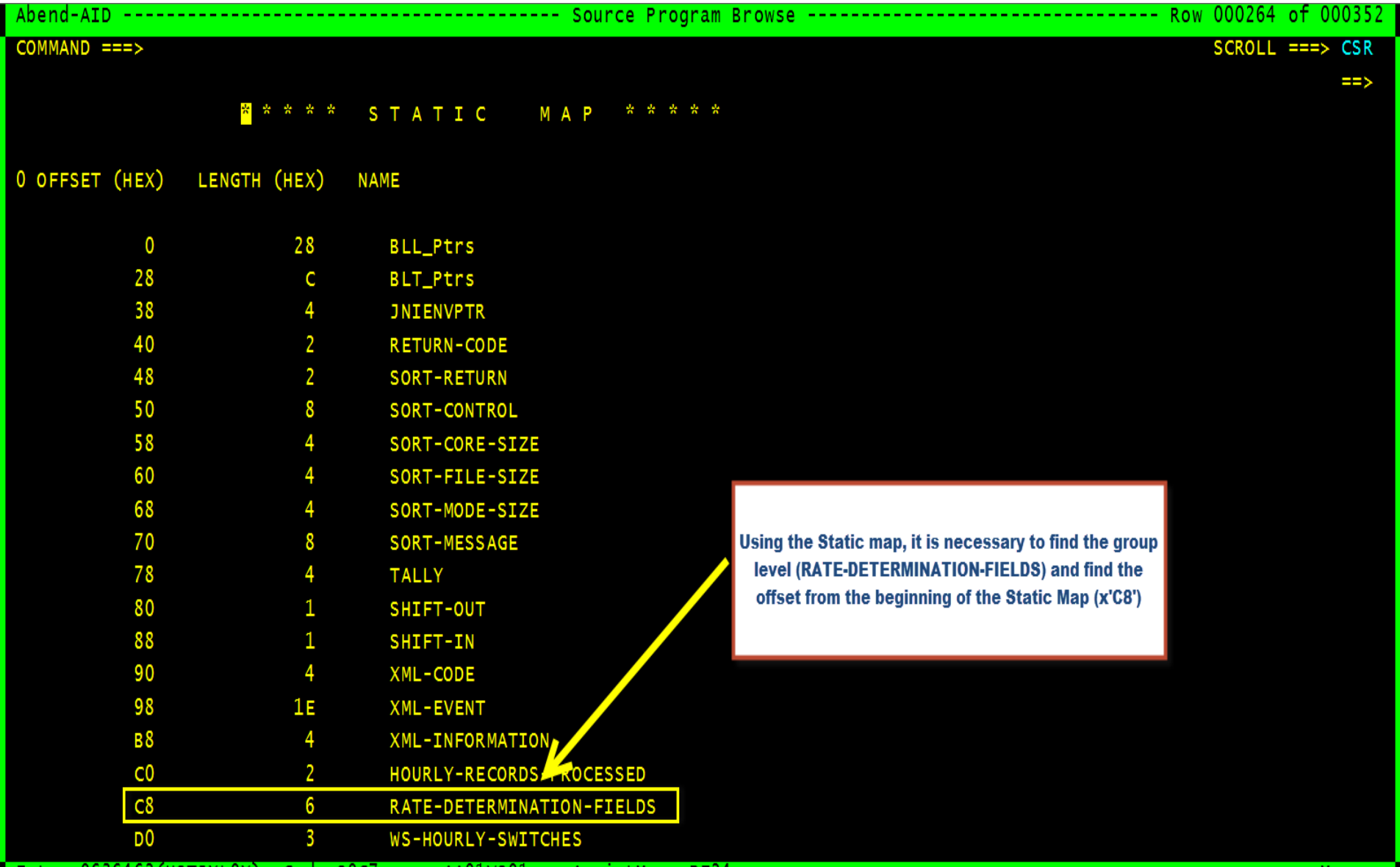
Finding Value of Variable using COBOL 4.2 and Earlier



With the 5.2 compiler listing



With the 5.2 compiler listing



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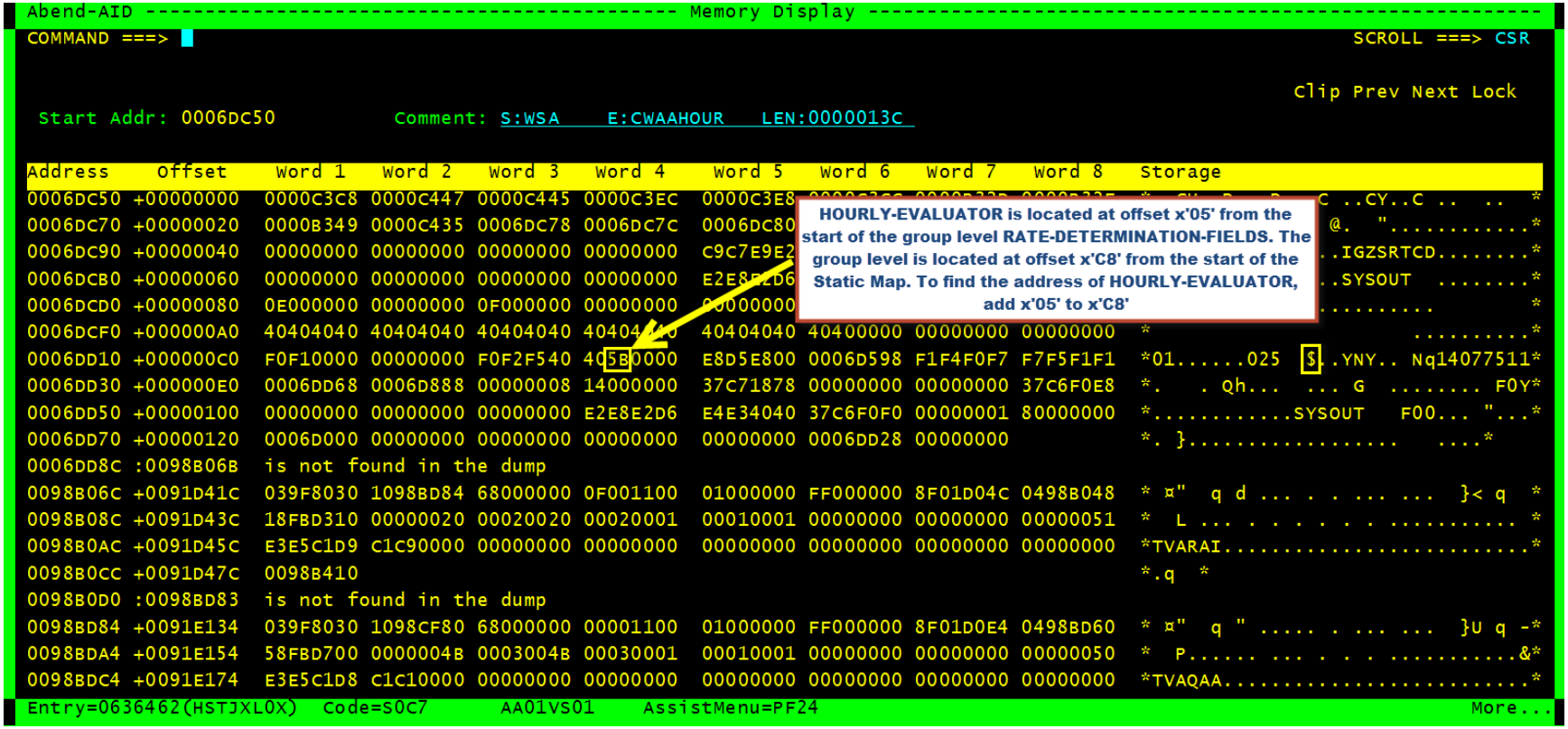


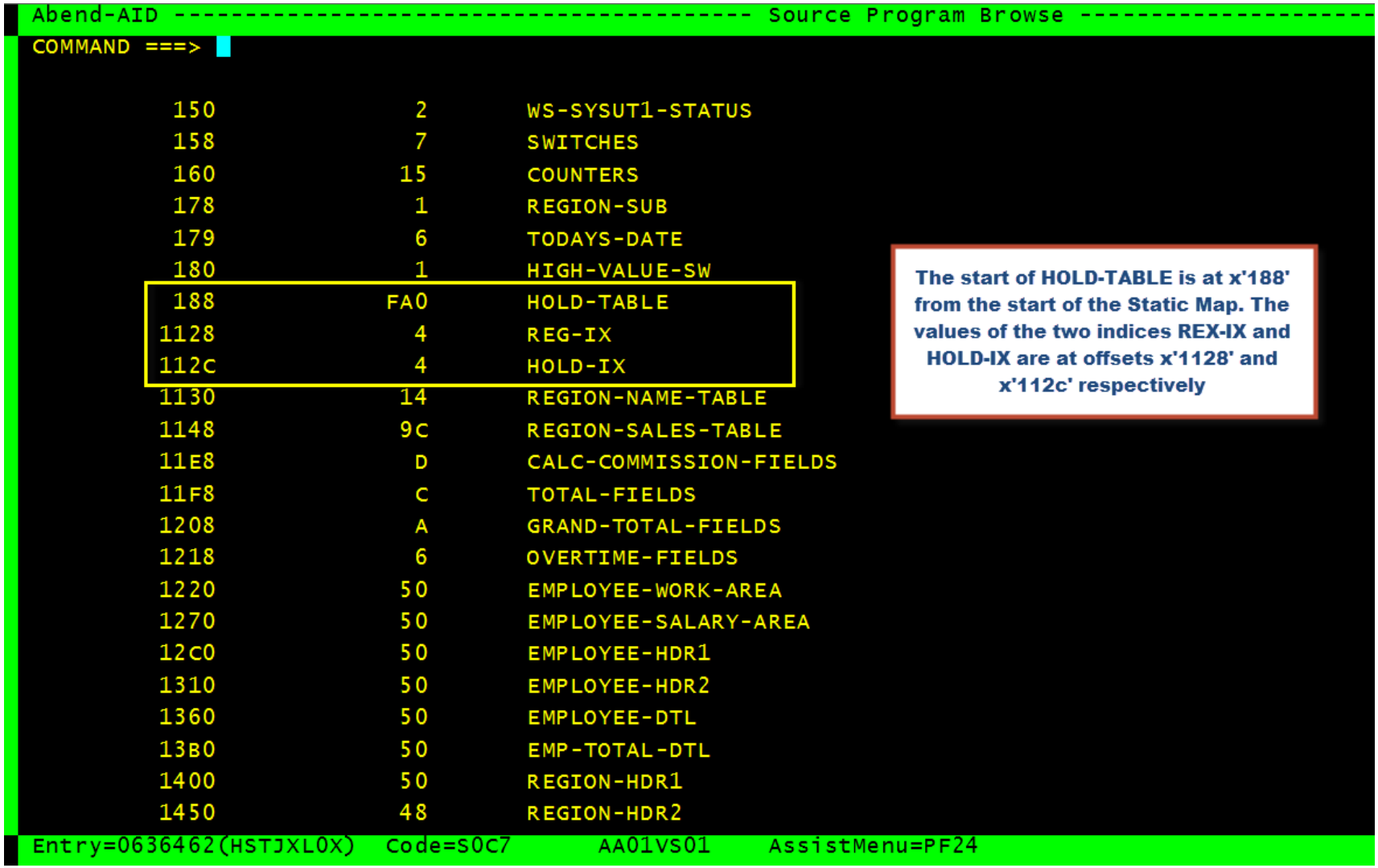
New IBM Compiler output

- Finding the value of the index has become more problematic under 5.2. The Indices and the offset are listed in the static map. However, when you go to the storage, the value is an offset.
  - You have to calculate the value of the offset against the length of the array level plus 1. The initial index value location was at offset 0 of the array.

Finding the Value of the Indices under COBOL 5.2

```
000089  01  HOLD-TABLE.                                                  0CL4000
000090      05  HOLD-AREA       OCCURS 4 TIMES                  000000000 0CL1000
000091                           INDEXED BY REG-IX.
000092          10  HOLD-LINE   OCCURS 20 TIMES                 000000000 0CL50
000093                           INDEXED BY HOLD-IX.
000094              15  HOLD-ANNIV          PIC X.              000000000 1C
000095              15  HOLD-REGION         PIC X(5).           000000001 5C
000096              15  HOLD-TYPE           PIC X.              000000006 1C
000097              15  HOLD-NAME           PIC X(15).          000000007 15C
000098              15  HOLD-WAGES          PIC 9(5)V99.        000000022 7C
000099              15  HOLD-OT             PIC 9(5)V99.        000000029 7C
000100              15  HOLD-COMM           PIC 9(5)V99.        000000036 7C
000101              15  HOLD-TOTAL          PIC 9(5)V99.        000000043 7C
```

Finding the Value of the Indices under COBOL 5.2



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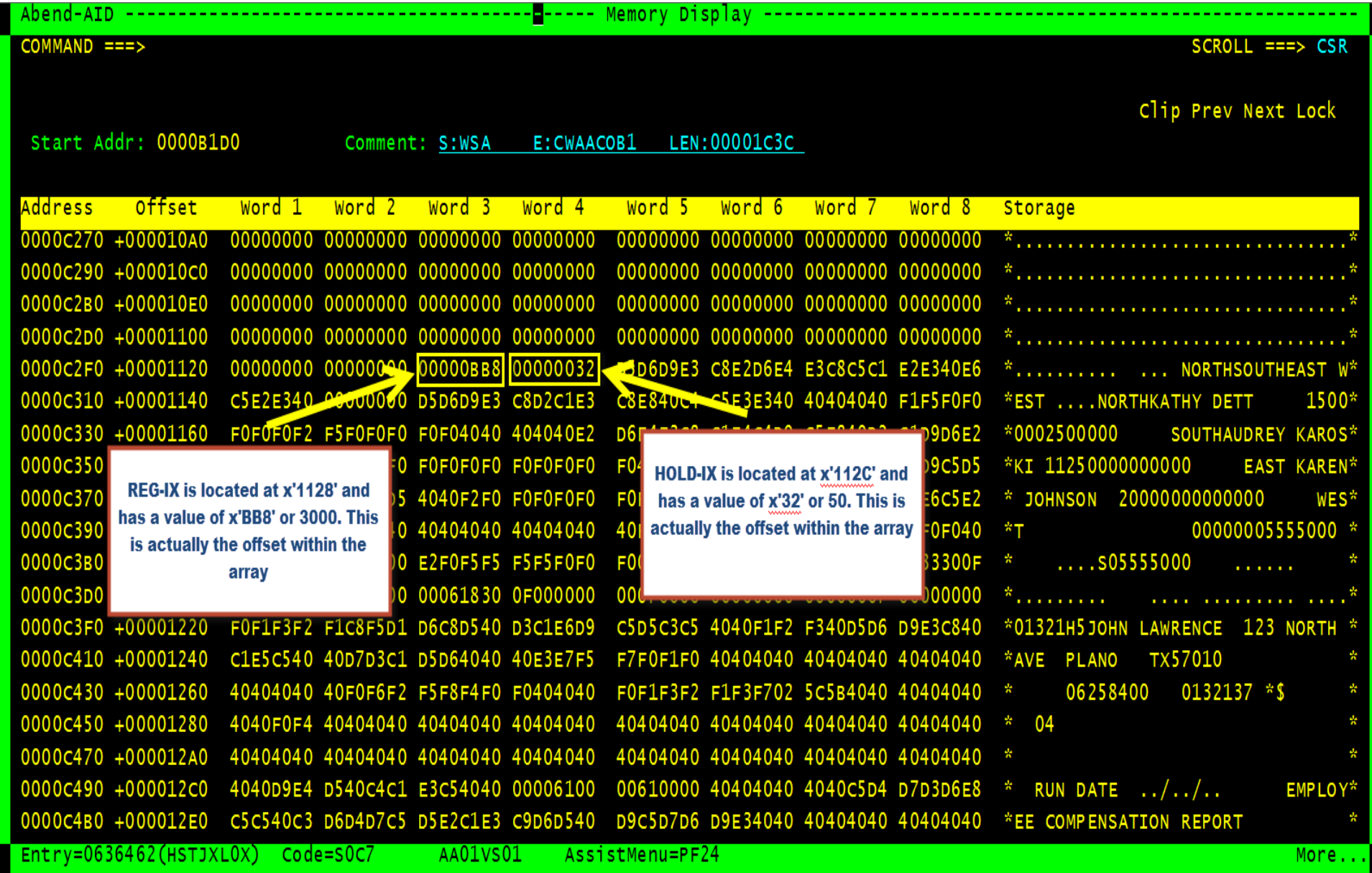

Finding the Value of the Indices under COBOL 5.2

- From the compiled listing, the HOLD-TABLE array is 4000 bytes long. Each occurrence of HOLD-AREA is 1000 bytes and HOLD-LINE is 50 bytes long.
- Since the value of REG-IX is 3000, and represents the offset within the array, the value of the index can be calculated by dividing the offset by the length of the array (3000/1000 = 3) and then adding 1. This is necessary because the array actually starts at offset 0. So the value of the index is 4
- HOLD-IX's value is 50. The length of HOLD-LINE is 50, so the value of HOLD-IX is 50/50 + 1 or 2

Questions?


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