Identification

The parametizers
P. G. Neumann and M. R. Wagner

Purpose

The parametizers are responsible for monitoring the values of the parameters of core control and observing the consequences.   They are capable of altering the values of these parameters.   An entire parametizer or merely its algorithmic part may be replced or dummied, as required.

Introduction

The parametizers are responsible for the values of the following parameters.
> the allocation parameters, including
>> the thresholds
> the replenisher parameters, including
>> the roof, the floor
> the contiguation parameters
> the status parameters, including
>> the latch limit, the wired limit
> the ranker parameters
> and any other parameters whose values
>> seem worth controlling

In general, each parametizer may observe the effects of the various parameters upon the system performance, and alter the parameters accordingly.   Initially each parametizer may be dummied, returning control without altering any parameters. Such a trivial solution is adequate if the resulting constant parameters are chosen suitably. As experience is gained with the running of Multics, further sophistication is undoubtably required of the parametizers.   More sophisticated parametizers can be conceived at this point in the development, but their significance cannot be evaluated precisely in the absence of a running Multics. For this reason, the parametizers are left unspecified at present. Clever suggestions from the assembled multitude, or even the compiled multitude, are welcomed.