

FOSTER

Master of
Professional Accounting



TRANSACTION ANALYSIS

(TESTING INTERNAL CONTROLS)

Advanced Cases in Assurance Services (ACCTG 521)
Class 6 | MPAcc class of 2026



Agenda

Review

Transaction Analytics

Lab: P-Card Case

- Review and Agenda
- Discussion Team Assignments
- Task 4 and Discussion
- Task 5 and Discussion

Audit Risk Model

Audit Risk: risk that the auditor expresses an inappropriate audit opinion when the financial statements are materially misstated

$$AR = IR \times \underbrace{CR \times DR}_{RMM}$$

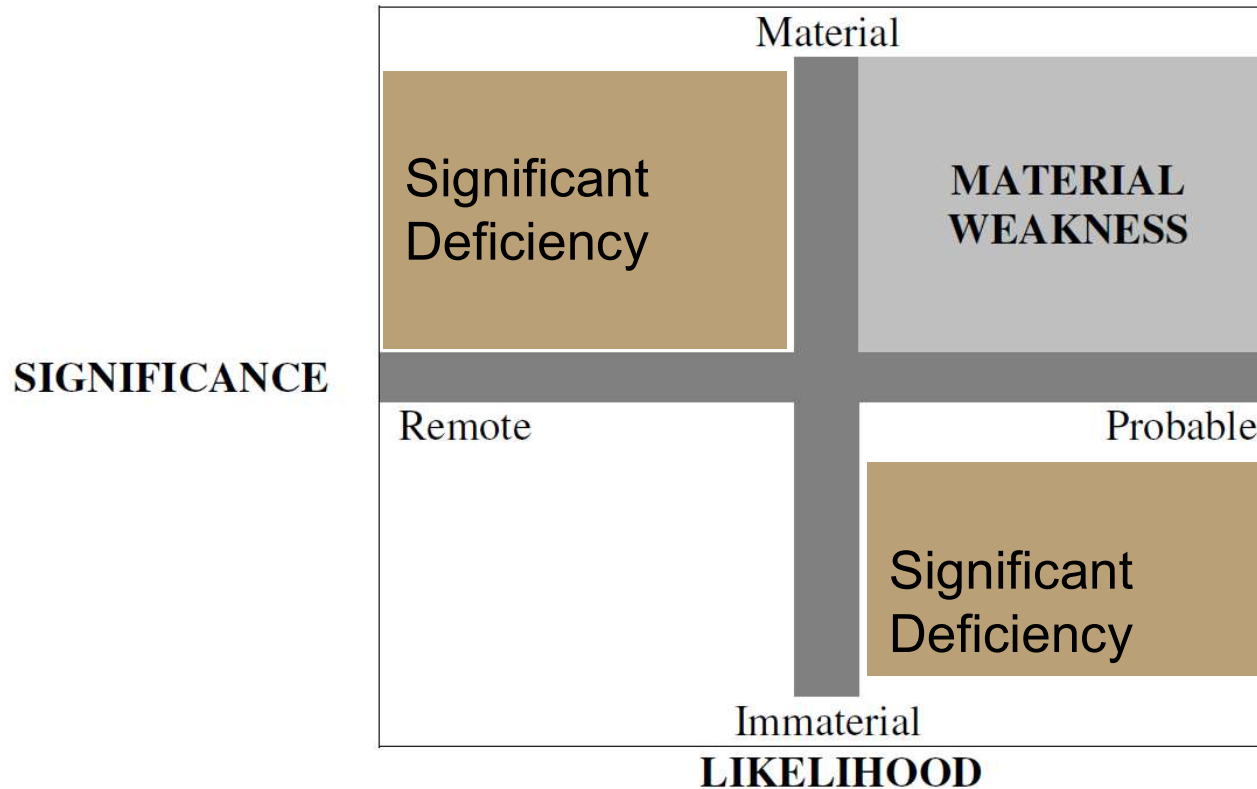
- **Inherent Risk:** risk that a management assertion is materially misstated (before considering internal controls)
- **Control Risk:** risk that internal controls fail to detect a misstatement
- **Detection Risk:** risk that auditors fail to detect a misstatement

Market response to restating firm



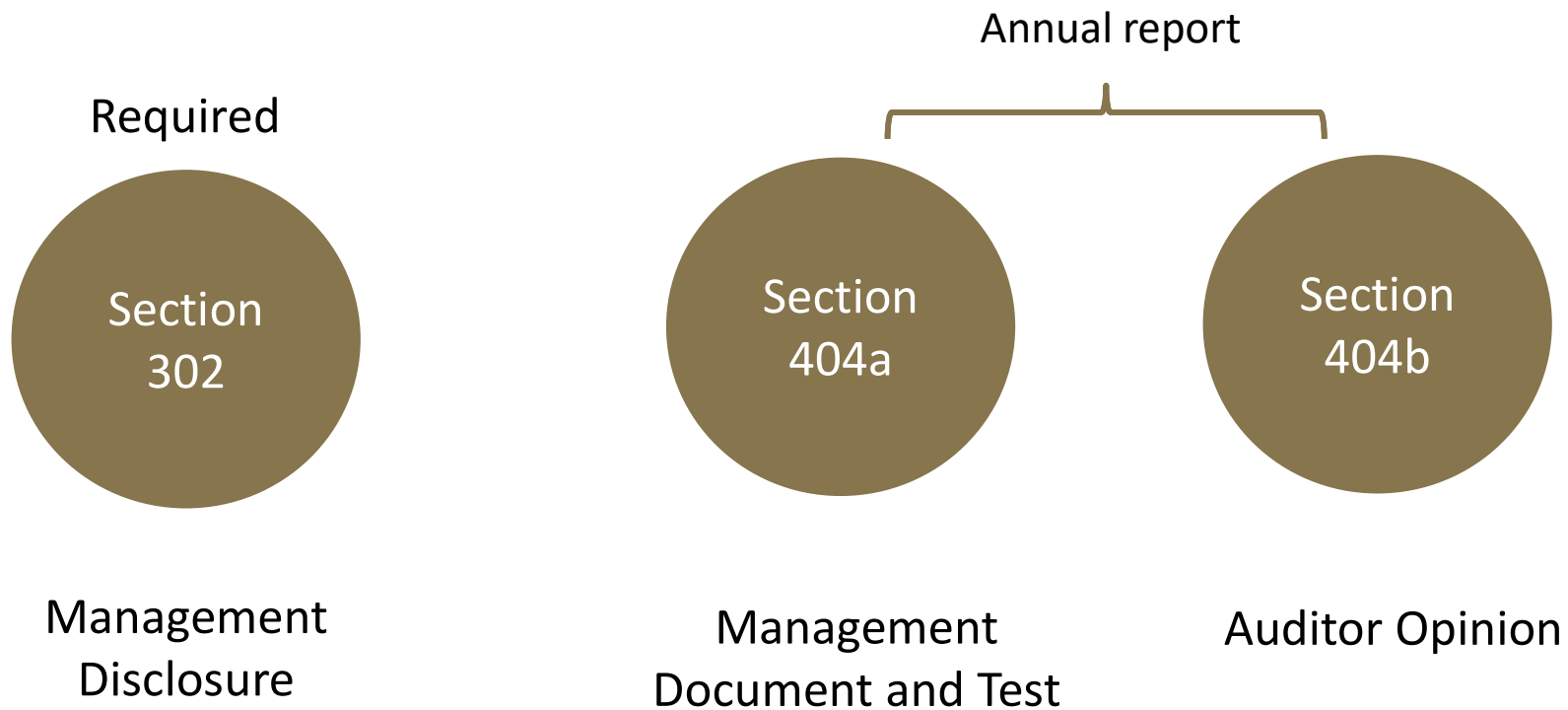
- Average abnormal returns below negative 9%
- Why might investors perceive a restatement as bad news?

What are material weaknesses and significant deficiencies?



- Material weaknesses need to be disclosed in the 10-K under Section 302 (and 404)
- Significant deficiencies do not need to be publicly disclosed, but must be disclosed to the audit committee

Disclosure requirements



Agenda

Review

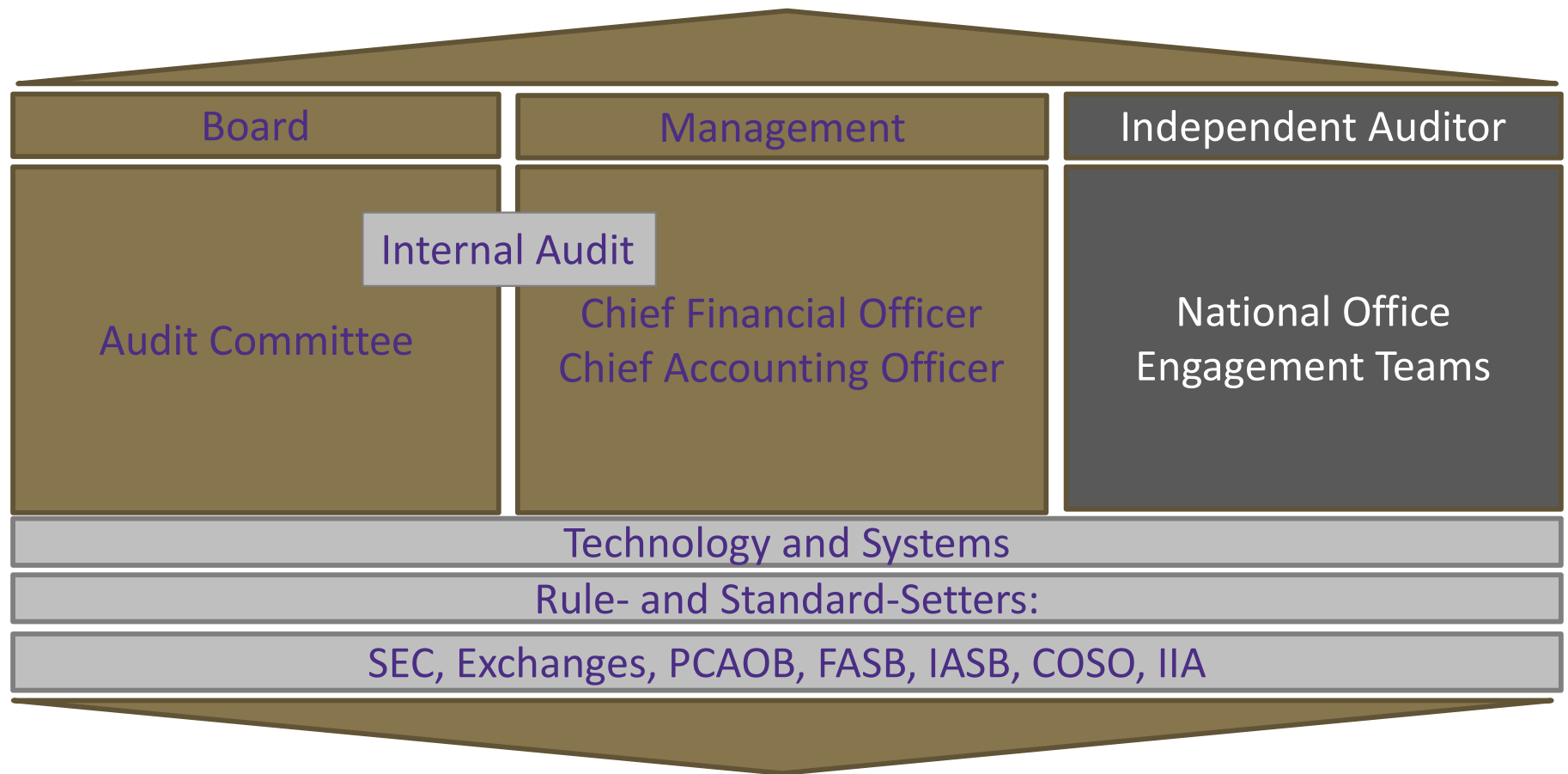
Transaction Analytics

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**Why is transaction analysis
important?**

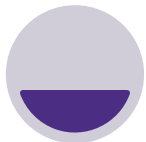
Effective Financial Reporting Governance



Sound Financial Reporting

Management

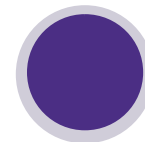
Audit



First Line of Defense



Second Line of Defense



Third Line of Defense

Management Control

The Business / Operations

Enterprise Risk Management

Legal & Privacy

Physical Security

Third Party Risk Management

Cybersecurity

Business Continuity
Management

Compliance

Internal Audit

Transaction analytics

Why is analyzing transaction data important:

- Central to both the **external audit** function and **internal audit** function.
- Transaction analysis can also be used by **management** to assess operational decisions.

Transaction analytics

- External auditors provide opinions a company's financial statements are **presented fairly**, in all material respects, in accordance with financial reporting framework (such as GAAP).
 - External auditors can also provide advisory services to help the company become more financially secure/agile, among other areas.
- Internal auditors ensure that company policies and procedures are followed and that the company is financially efficient.

Transaction analytics

- Internal auditors ensure that company **policies** and **procedures** are followed and that the company is financially efficient.
- **Better financial reporting governance leads to better quality financial reporting.**
 - One potential avenue is from detecting and preventing fraud.
 - **Transaction analytics** for fraud prevention and detection is seen as a major step **towards efficiently reducing fraud.**

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Transaction Analytics

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Team	Risk	Control
1	Unauthorized cardholder	Make cardholder always have ID when purchasing
2	Splitting purchases	Look for similar purchase amounts on the same day from same company
3	P-Card purchases in prohibited categories	Test how many p card transactions are in each category
4	Cash credit/Cash advance	Generate withdrawal receipts at ATMs
5	Purchases at gas stations	Have a system flag purchases at gas stations
6	Can spend an abundant amount of money	Credit limit and spending limit
7	Not enough evidence to prove policy violation	Require receipts to be submitted with most/every purchase
8	OSU Gets charged too much for purchase	Require user to keep receipts
9	Pay Oklahoma sales tax	Check location of purchases
10	Personal purchases on P-Card	Review receipts/approve purchases

P-Card Case Overview

Task 1: Overview (Discussed Earlier)

Task 2: Describing Data (Skip – work into Task 4)

Task 3: ETL Process (Skip – optional see workflow)

Task 4: Descriptive Data Analysis (24Qs)

Task 5: Control tests (7 tests)

Task 6: Prohibited Transactions Tests (Word searches)

Task 7: Forensic Audit (Multiple ledger-level tests)

Real-Time Analysis 07-09, 2025 and memo write-up
(Individual Deliverable -- Thursday)

Control Test Assignments

Discussion Team	Agency Name	Agency Number	Calendar Year	Sum Amount	Count
1	OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY	1000	2010	10069808.98	22653
2	OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY	1000	2011	44939177.45	116188
3	OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY	1000	2012	41568372.2	117711
4	OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY	1000	2013	34331217.29	116595
5	OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY	1000	2014	33504148.34	116031
6	UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA	76000	2010	33982135.44	83210
7	UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA	76000	2011	38380465.59	97547
8	UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA	76000	2012	34736171.04	90434
9	UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA	76000	2013	28185725.01	76118
10	UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA	76000	2014	26021689.11	77321

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Set up

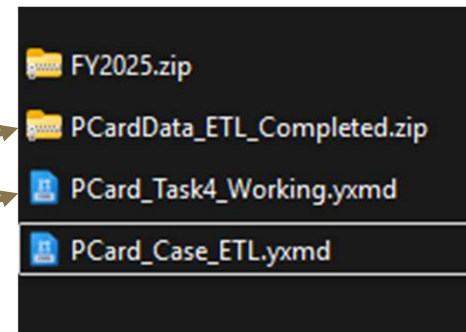
cd to datasets.io folder and run git pull

New files Pcard_V2

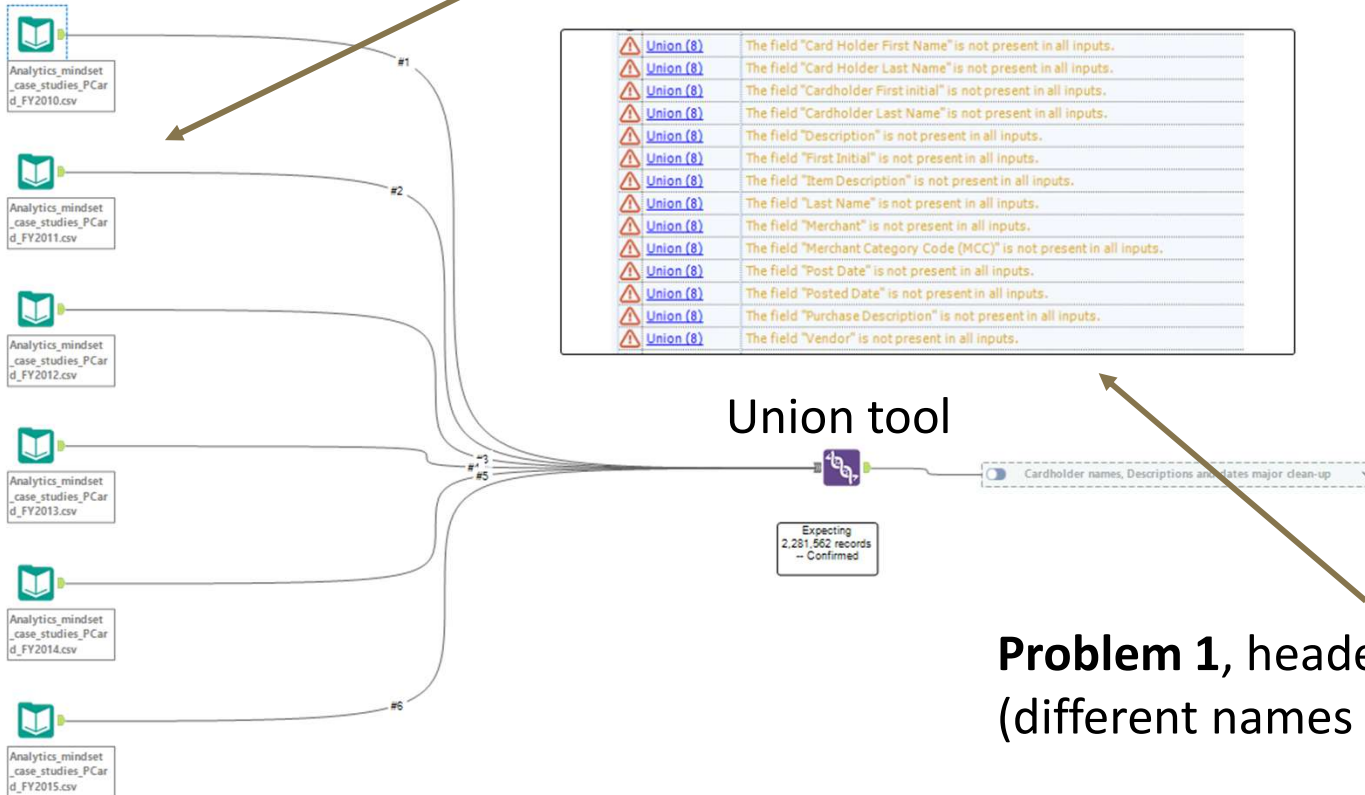
Copy and paste to your
/my_work/ folder

Unzip this file

Use this file



Input the original 6 files



⚠ Union (8)	The field "Card Holder First Name" is not present in all inputs.
⚠ Union (8)	The field "Card Holder Last Name" is not present in all inputs.
⚠ Union (8)	The field "Cardholder First initial" is not present in all inputs.
⚠ Union (8)	The field "Cardholder Last Name" is not present in all inputs.
⚠ Union (8)	The field "Description" is not present in all inputs.
⚠ Union (8)	The field "First Initial" is not present in all inputs.
⚠ Union (8)	The field "Item Description" is not present in all inputs.
⚠ Union (8)	The field "Last Name" is not present in all inputs.
⚠ Union (8)	The field "Merchant" is not present in all inputs.
⚠ Union (8)	The field "Merchant Category Code (MCC)" is not present in all inputs.
⚠ Union (8)	The field "Post Date" is not present in all inputs.
⚠ Union (8)	The field "Posted Date" is not present in all inputs.
⚠ Union (8)	The field "Purchase Description" is not present in all inputs.
⚠ Union (8)	The field "Vendor" is not present in all inputs.

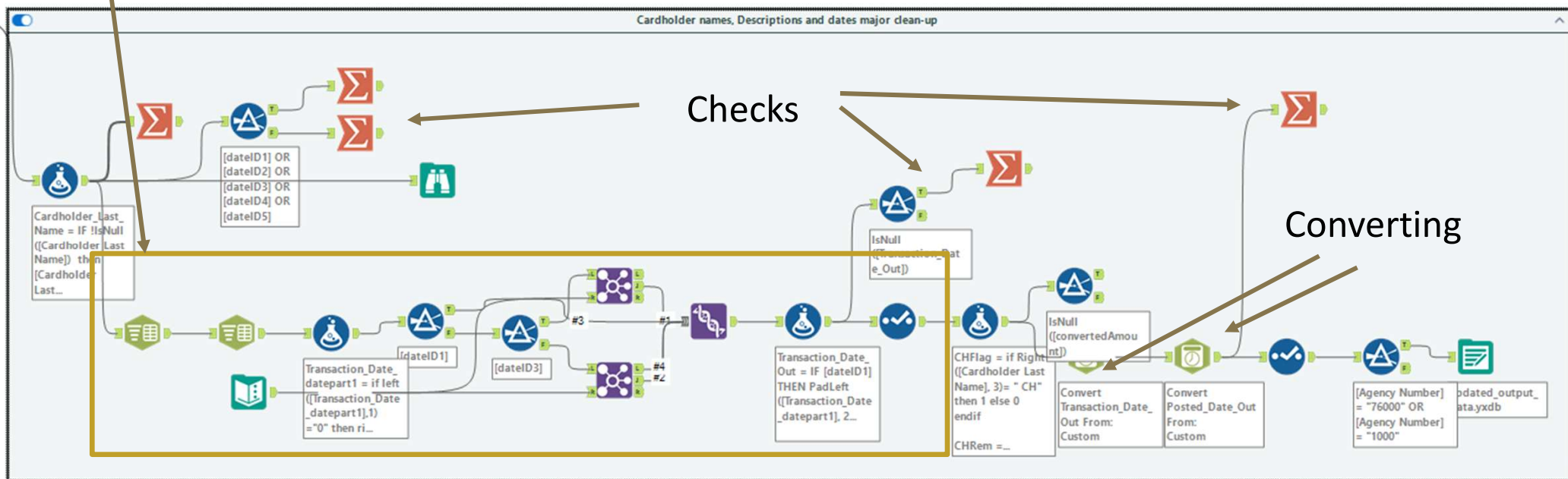
Record	Name	Type	Size	Source	Description
1	Agency Number	V_String	254	File: (Multiple Sources)	
2	Agency Name	V_String	254	File: (Multiple Sources)	
3	Cardholder Last Name	V_String	254	File: (Multiple Sources)	
4	Cardholder First Initial	V_String	254	File: (Multiple Sources)	
5	Description	V_String	254	File: (Multiple Sources)	
6	Amount	V_String	254	File: (Multiple Sources)	
7	Vendor	V_String	254	File: (Multiple Sources)	
8	Transaction Date	V_String	254	File: (Multiple Sources)	
9	Posted Date	V_String	254	File: (Multiple Sources)	
10	Merchant Category Code (MCC)	V_String	254	File: (Multiple Sources)	

Union tool

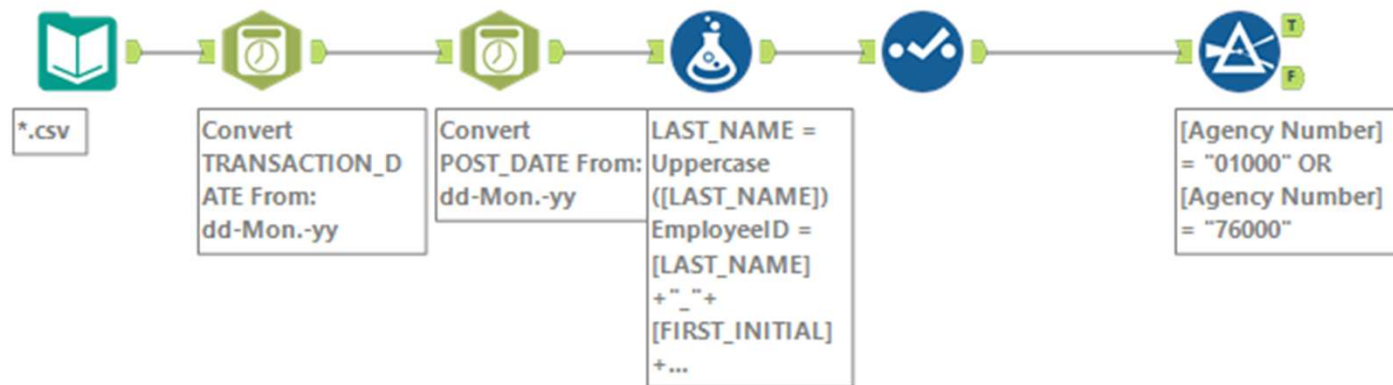
Problem 1, header inconsistency
(different names for the same fields)

d/M/yyyy H:mm (1/1/2014 0:00)

Solution



Some good news: Real Time 2025 files are formatted consistently!



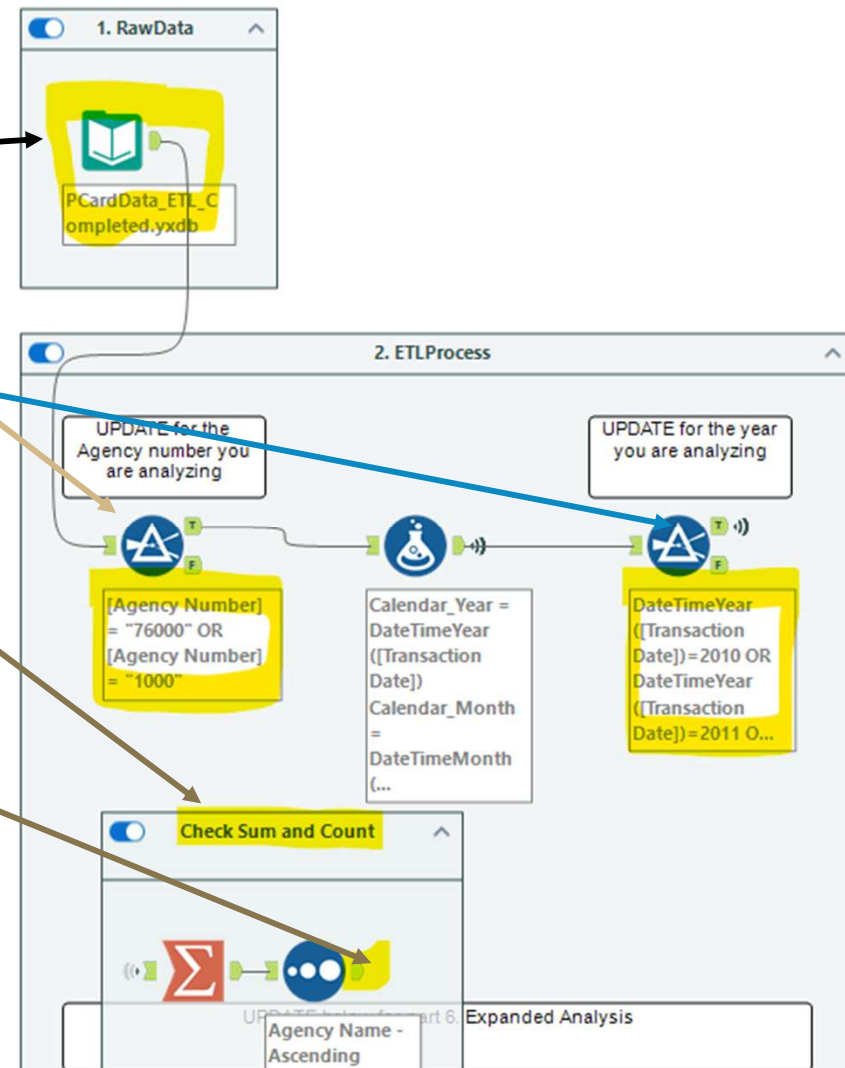
Task 4 Set up

Import unzipped data

Update Filter 1 to your Agency#

Update Year in the second filter

Run workflow with “Check Sum and Count” active and check your output matches mine.



Control Test Assignments

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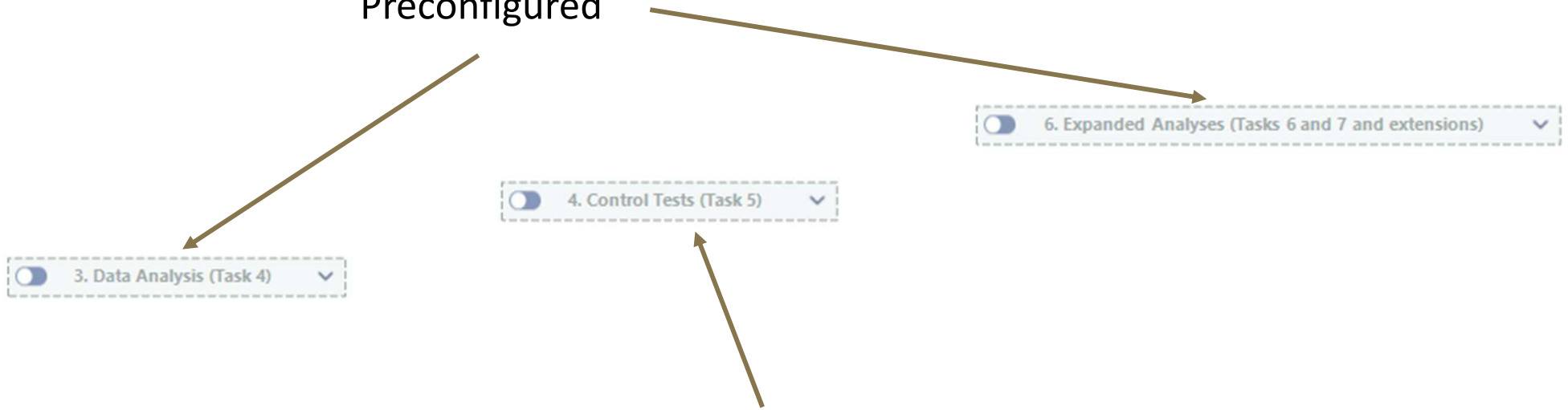
Preconfigured

☒ 3. Data Analysis (Task 4) ▼

☒ 4. Control Tests (Task 5) ▼

☒ 6. Expanded Analyses (Tasks 6 and 7 and extensions) ▼

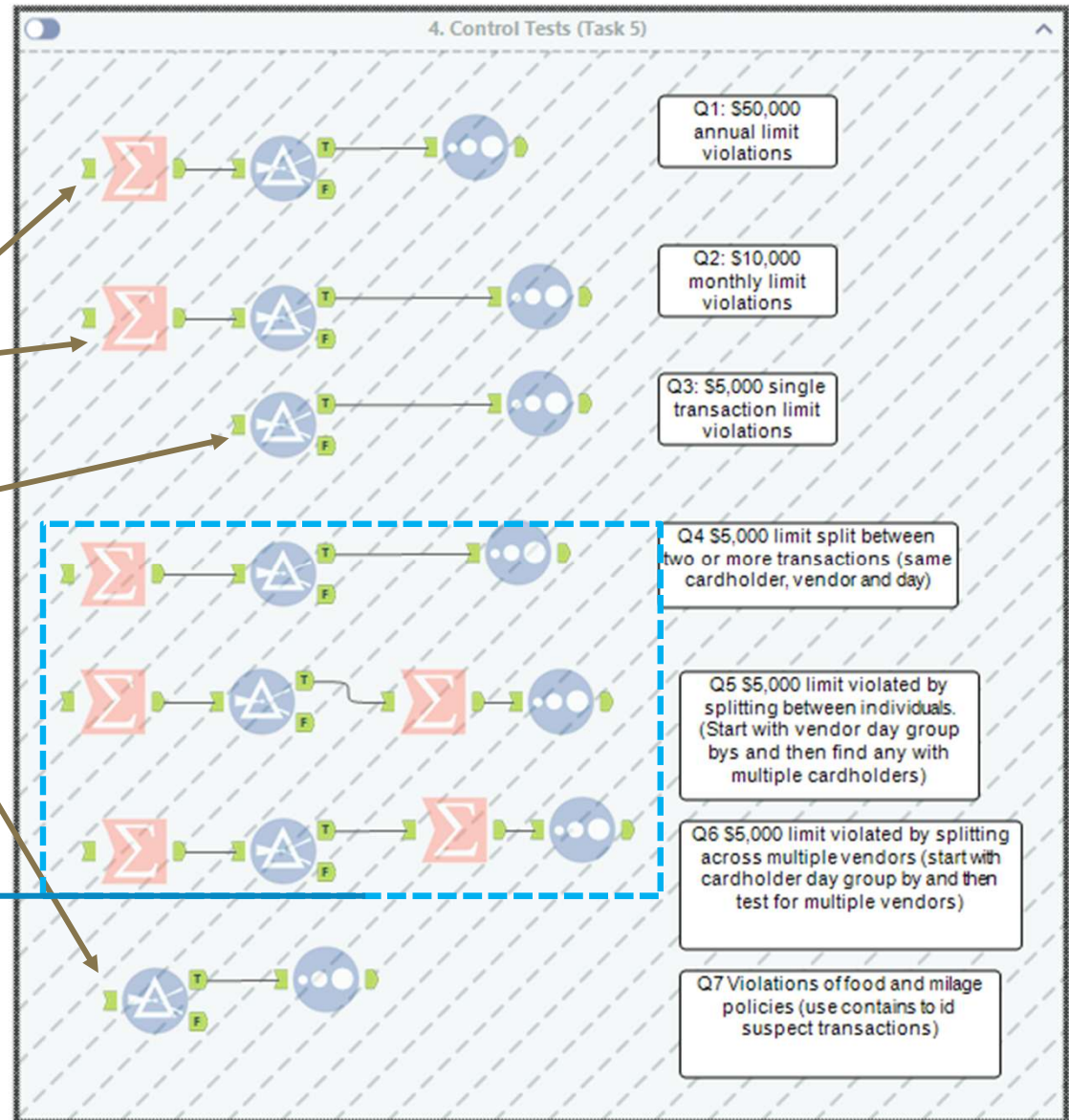
Needs to be configured for each control test



Control tests required are either:

1. Summarize the data to find an aggregate (summed) amount (e.g., spending limits) followed by filters and sorts
2. Flagging individual transactions by filtering data and then sorting by \$ amount.

Trickier but same process just in multiple steps



Task 4 & 5 Discussion

1. Run the analysis, use Task 4 output:
 1. To help you understand the data and types of transactions being made on the PCard.
 2. From the 24 question outputs, highlight the most interesting 1-3 of the outputs and be prepared to talk about them.
2. Configure Task 5, internal controls tests:
 1. Run the workflow, identify and be prepared to discuss the potential violations using the output.
3. Each Team will present their findings
 1. Approx 2-3mins starting @ 2:50pm.

Agenda for next class

Brief Review

Lab: P-Card Case

- Task 6 & 7 and Discussion
- Real Time ETL
- Real Time Analysis
- Memo Deliverable (Individual)

Thank you!

