

**Chapter 1 : Brief notes on the Joint method of agreement and difference**

*Direct method of agreement* If two or more instances of the phenomenon under investigation have only one circumstance in common, the circumstance in which alone all the instances agree, is the cause (or effect) of the given phenomenon.

This part prescribes policies and procedures for the acquisition of supplies and services, including construction, research and development, and commercial items, the aggregate amount of which does not exceed the simplified acquisition threshold see 2. See part 12 for policies applicable to the acquisition of commercial items exceeding the micro-purchase threshold. The purpose of this part is to prescribe simplified acquisition procedures in order to -- a Reduce administrative costs; b Improve opportunities for small, small disadvantaged, women-owned, veteran-owned, HUBZone, and service-disabled veteran-owned small business concerns to obtain a fair proportion of Government contracts; c Promote efficiency and economy in contracting; and d Avoid unnecessary burdens for agencies and contractors. DoD component, see deviation below This policy does not apply if an agency can meet its requirement using -- 1 Required sources of supply under part 8 e. Effective August 31, If the solicitation is oral, however, information substantially identical to that in the provision shall be given to potential quoters. Drawings and lengthy specifications can be provided off-line in hard copy or through other appropriate means. For acquisitions not expected to exceed -- 1 The simplified acquisition threshold for other than commercial items, use any appropriate combination of the procedures in Parts 13, 14, 15, 35, or 36, including the use of Standard Form , Solicitation, Offer, and Award Construction, Alteration, or Repair , for construction contracts see For evaluation of quotations or offers received electronically, see The order is an offer by the Government to the supplier to buy certain supplies or services upon specified terms and conditions. A contract is established when the supplier accepts the offer. In other circumstances, the supplier may indicate acceptance by furnishing the supplies or services ordered or by proceeding with the work to the point where substantial performance has occurred. The requirement at 22 U. The FAR Council may make exceptions when it determines in writing that it is in the best interest of the Government that the enactment should apply to contracts or subcontracts not greater than the simplified acquisition threshold. The Administrator, OFPP, will include the law on the list in paragraph a of this section unless the FAR Council makes a determination that it is applicable within 60 days of receiving the petition. While certain statutes still apply, pursuant to Public Law , the following provisions and clauses are inapplicable to contracts and subcontracts at or below the simplified acquisition threshold: Prompt payment discounts shall not be considered in the evaluation of quotations; and 4 Use bulk funding to the maximum extent practicable. Bulk funding is a system whereby the contracting officer receives authorization from a fiscal and accounting officer to obligate funds on purchase documents against a specified lump sum of funds reserved for the purpose for a specified period of time rather than obtaining individual obligational authority on each purchase document. Bulk funding is particularly appropriate if numerous purchases using the same type of funds are to be made during a given period. Offices maintaining additional vendor source files or listings should identify the status of each source when the status is made known to the contracting office in the following categories: Authorized individuals do not have to obtain individual quotations for each purchase. Standing price quotations may be used if -- a The pricing information is current; and b The Government obtains the benefit of maximum discounts before award. The contracting officer must promote competition to the maximum extent practicable to obtain supplies and services from the source whose offer is the most advantageous to the Government, considering the administrative cost of the purchase. Unless the contract action requires synopsis pursuant to 5. Whenever practicable, request quotations or offers from two sources not included in the previous solicitation. In these cases, a separate solicitation is not required. The contracting officer must include enough information to permit suppliers to develop quotations or offers. In soliciting competition, the contracting officer shall consider the guidance in Contracting officers are encouraged to use best value. Solicitations are not required to state the relative importance assigned to each evaluation factor and subfactor, nor are they required to include subfactors. The documentation should state it is covering only the

portion of the acquisition which is brand-name. The requirements at Options may be included in solicitations, provided the requirements of Subpart An agency should respond to inquiries received through any medium including electronic commerce if doing so would not interfere with the efficient conduct of the acquisition. The procedures prescribed in parts 14 and 15 are not mandatory. Formal evaluation plans and establishing a competitive range, conducting discussions, and scoring quotations or offers are not required. Contracting offices may conduct comparative evaluations of offers. Evaluation of other factors, such as past performance -- i Does not require the creation or existence of a formal data base; and ii May be based on one or more of the following: Before making award, the contracting officer must determine that the proposed price is fair and reasonable. The contracting officer may base the statement on -- i Market research; ii Comparison of the proposed price with prices found reasonable on previous purchases; iii Current price lists, catalogs, or advertisements. In these instances, the contracting officer should inform the requiring activity of all facts regarding the quotation or offer and ask it to confirm or alter its requirement. The file shall be documented to support the final action taken. Keep documentation to a minimum. Purchasing offices shall retain data supporting purchases paper or electronic to the minimum extent and duration necessary for management review purposes see Subpart 4. The following illustrate the extent to which quotation or offer information should be recorded: The contracting office should establish and maintain records of oral price quotations in order to reflect clearly the propriety of placing the order at the price paid with the supplier concerned. In most cases, this will consist merely of showing the names of the suppliers contacted and the prices and other terms and conditions quoted by each. For acquisitions not exceeding the simplified acquisition threshold, limit written records of solicitations or offers to notes or abstracts to show prices, delivery, references to printed price lists used, the supplier or suppliers contacted, and other pertinent data. Include additional statements -- i Explaining the absence of competition see For acquisitions that do not exceed the simplified acquisition threshold and for which automatic notification is not provided through an electronic commerce method that employs widespread electronic public notice, notification to unsuccessful suppliers shall be given only if requested or required by 5. If a supplier requests information on an award that was based on factors other than price alone, a brief explanation of the basis for the contract award decision shall be provided see This paragraph takes precedence over any other FAR requirement to the contrary, but does not prohibit the use of any clause. Many supplies or services are acquired subject to supplier license agreements. These are particularly common in information technology acquisitions, but they may apply to any supply or service. For example, computer software and services delivered through the internet web services are often subject to license agreements, referred to as End User License Agreements EULA , Terms of Service TOS , or other similar legal instruments or agreements. Many of these agreements contain indemnification clauses that are inconsistent with Federal law and unenforceable, but which could create a violation of the Anti-Deficiency Act 31 U. The clause at This clause prevents such violations of the Anti-Deficiency Act. Therefore, action to verify price reasonableness need only be taken if -- i The contracting officer or individual appointed in accordance with 1. If competitive quotations were solicited and award was made to other than the low quoter, documentation to support the purchase may be limited to identification of the solicited concerns and an explanation for the award decision. The Governmentwide commercial purchase card may be used by contracting officers and other individuals designated in accordance with 1. The card may be used only for purchases that are otherwise authorized by law or regulation. Agency procedures should not limit the use of the Governmentwide commercial purchase card to micro-purchases. Generally, inspection and acceptance should be at destination. Source inspection should be specified only if required by Part When inspection and acceptance will be performed at destination, advance copies of the purchase order or equivalent notice shall be furnished to the consignee s for material receipt purposes. Receiving reports shall be accomplished immediately upon receipt and acceptance of supplies; 4 Specify f. Facsimile and electronic signature may be used in the production of purchase orders by automated methods. When obtaining oral quotes, the contracting officer shall inform the quoter of the EFT clause that will be in any resulting purchase order. A realistic monetary limitation, either for each line item or for the total order, shall be placed on each unpriced purchase order. The monetary limitation shall be an obligation subject to adjustment when the firm price is established.

The contracting office shall follow up on each order to ensure timely pricing. For example, do not add an inspection and acceptance or termination for convenience requirement unless the existing requirement is deleted. Also, do not delete a paragraph without providing for an appropriate substitute. Such organizations, for example, may be organized supply points, separate independent or detached field parties, or one-person posts or activities. Prepare BPAs on the forms specified in Do not cite accounting and appropriation data see A statement that the supplier shall furnish supplies or services, described in general terms, if and when requested by the contracting officer or the authorized representative of the contracting officer during a specified period and within a stipulated aggregate amount, if any. A statement that the Government is obligated only to the extent of authorized purchases actually made under the BPA. A statement that specifies the dollar limitation for each individual purchase under the BPA see A statement that a list of individuals authorized to purchase under the BPA, identified either by title of position or by name of individual, organizational component, and the dollar limitation per purchase for each position title or individual shall be furnished to the supplier by the contracting officer. A requirement that all shipments under the agreement, except those for newspapers, magazines, or other periodicals, shall be accompanied by delivery tickets or sales slips that shall contain the following minimum information:

**Chapter 2 : Chapter Summary**

*Method of agreement* "If two or more instances of the phenomenon under investigation have only one circumstance in common, the circumstance in which alone all the instances agree, is the cause (or effect) of."

Brief notes on the Joint method of agreement and difference Kabita Advertisements: The importance of this method is that the causal connection is determined on the basis of double agreements i. Hence for this method there is the need of two sets of instances. For example, suppose in a village by using a particular fertilizer people get good harvest and in the neighboring village, people have not used that fertilizer and have not got good harvest then the causal j connection between two incidents namely using the fertilizer and getting good harvest can be suspected. Thus where the presence of one incident leads to the occurrence of another incident and the absence of that incident leads to the absence of the other incident a causal connection between the two phenomena can be suggested. Because of the double agreement i. The following example will illustrate it. In this example among the positive instances A is common to all the three antecedent instances and correspondingly as is common in the three consequent instance. Here a causal connection between A and a is accepted. This method is based on both the first and second principle of elimination. It follows that whatever is absent in presence of a phenomenon cannot be the cause of that phenomenon and a circumstance in whose presence the effect does not occur cannot be the cause. Basing on these principles. In the cricket matches where Saurav is captain of the Indian team, the team wins and when Saurav is absent the team loses. Other circumstances being the same the captainship of Saurav is the cause of the winning of the team. The students who follow the textbooks regularly get good marks. The students who do not follow the textbooks but follow notebooks do not get good marks. Other conditions remaining almost the same it follows that following textbooks and securing good marks are causally connected. In the joint method there is application of the method of agreement and the method of difference. Hence the principles of elimination of both these methods are applied in this method to eliminate the accidental factors and to find out the real cause. Whatever antecedent can be left out without affecting the effect cannot be the cause. Similarly what cannot be eliminated without affecting the phenomenon must be causally related with it. It is not a primary method. It is the modification of the method of agreement and the method of difference. Fowler calls this method "the double method of agreement" and Bain calls it "the method of double agreement". But Mill considers this method as a special modification of the method of difference and calls it, "the indirect method of difference". Venn considers this method as the method of exclusion. In the method of difference only two instances are taken into consideration whereas in the joint method two sets of instances are taken into consideration. The method of difference strictly adopts experiment for finding out the instances but in the joint method instances may be collected either by experiment or by observation. The joint method proves the causal relation in an indirect way. The method of agreement suggests a causal relation through the positive set and the joint method confirms the suggestion through another set, the negative set. Hence it is supposed to be the method of proof. Advantages or merits of the method: It is a dependable method because it proves the supposition obtained through the method of agreement. The method becomes more dependable if the instances are chosen carefully. This method can be applied to the cases of observation and also to the cases of experiment. When the instances are taken from observations it becomes a modification of the method of agreement and when the experimental instances are taken into consideration it becomes a modification of the method of difference. It has a wide range of application. The cases of plurality of causes cannot create difficulty for this method. For it considers the negative instances that help to avoid the unconnected common antecedent. Mill claims that this method eliminates the difficulties arising out of the plurality of causes. The method of agreement is unable to tackle it. Some logicians point out that the possibility of plurality of causes is not agreeably eliminated by this method. Because the particular agreeable factor may be the cause so far. But there may remain many other cases unexamined where the cause may be different. So this method does not fare better to tackle the problem arising out of plurality of causes. This method also fails in case of intermixture of effects. The method can be applied when the antecedents and the unsequents are distinguishable in conjunction of causes and intermixture

of effects. But if the consequents make a complex phenomenon it is not possible to apply the joint method. The joint method is of no value in case of permanent causes. For it is not possible to procure negative instances. It also fails to distinguish the cause from co-existence. Because in respect of the co-existence of incidents two phenomena may be present or absent in several instances. But they may not be causally related. Lightning always precedes thunder and they are also absent together. But lightning is not the cause of thunder, but they are the co-effects of some other cause.

### Chapter 3 : FAR -- Part 13 Simplified Acquisition Procedures

*The importance of this method is that the causal connection is determined on the basis of double agreements i.e., the agreement in presence and agreement in absence. Hence for this method there is the need of two sets of instances.*

Theories of causation are, therefore, beneficial to study, for although they do not yield a definitive account of the concept, they clarify our thinking by providing conceptual frameworks within which we can think about causality and cause and effect relationships. The scientific method is built on the concept of causation. A good hypothesis provides an explanation for known facts and a way to test an explanation. We can test a hypothesis by getting it to make a prediction. Predictions are either true or false; the results are used to confirm support or disconfirm refute the hypothesis. Three requirements ensure a fair test of the causal hypothesis: The prediction should be something that is verifiable. The prediction should be unlikely to be true based on our background knowledge. There should be a connection between the hypothesis and the prediction. Five criteria need to be considered to fully appreciate the complexity of causality: There should be a correlation between the cause and the effect. The cause should precede the effect. The cause should be in the proximity of the effect. A set of necessary and sufficient conditions should exist. Alternative explanations should be ruled out. The weight of our answers to all five criteria together establishes the grounds for a satisfactory cause-effect relationship. The weight we give to a confirmation or refutation is never all-or-nothing. We need to accumulate evidence over a long time. Being conversant with following concepts is important for a successful understanding of causality and scientific method: A set of conditions that bring about an effect. The historical information regarding an object. A drastic change in the normal state. Any change from the normal state requires an explanation, typically a causal one. The object or event directly involved in bringing about an effect. Something that is connected to the precipitating cause by a chain of events. The method that looks at two or more instances of an event to see what they have in common. The method that looks for what all the instances of an event do not have in common. If two or more instances of an event have only one thing in common, while the instances in which it does not occur all share the absence of that thing, then the item is a likely cause. The method that subtracts from a complex set of events those parts that already have known causes. The method that looks for two factors that vary together. A correspondence between two sets of objects, events, or sets of data. The process of abduction occurs when we infer explanations for certain facts. Inference to the best explanation: When we reason from the premise that a hypothesis would explain certain facts to the conclusion that the hypothesis is the best explanation for those facts. One in which multiple experimental setups differ by only one variable. The group that gets the variable being tested. The group in which the variable being tested is withheld. The prediction, if it is true, must include an observable event. Requires reference to background knowledge, which is everything we know to be true.

### Chapter 4 : Method of Agreement - SAGE Research Methods

*The preferred method of closing Guaranteed, Streamlined, and In-Business Express IAs is by choosing Option A on the ICS Installment Agreement menu. Choosing this method of closure allows these installment agreements to be systemically uploaded from ICS to IDRS.*

### Chapter 5 : Mill's Methods - Wikipedia

*The method of agreement is a systematic effort to find single factor common several occurrences in order identify that as the cause phenomenon. For example, causal reasoning is used to suggest.*

### Chapter 6 : Mustang Alpha to Beta or Delta? : starcitizen

*Mill's joint method of agreement and difference: If two or more instances of an event have only one thing in common,*

*while the instances in which it does not occur all share the absence of that thing, then the item is a likely cause.*

## Chapter 7 : Method Of Agreement | Definition of Method Of Agreement by Merriam-Webster

*Method of agreement definition is - a method of scientific induction devised by J. S. Mill according to which if two or more instances of a phenomenon under investigation have only a single circumstance in common the circumstance in which all the instances agree is the cause or effect of the phenomenon.*