

**Chapter 1: REXX: Introduction**

REXX - What is it ..... 1  
 REXX Featureset ..... 1  
 Components ..... 2  
 REXX Syntax ..... 3  
 Quotes and Strings ..... 4  
 Continuation ..... 5  
 Instruction - Types ..... 6  
 Executing a REXX Procedure ..... 7  
 Explicit Execution ..... 7  
 Implicit Execution ..... 8  
 Example - Allocation Procedures ..... 9  
 ALTLIB Command ..... 10

**Chapter 2: REXX Statements**

Variables ..... 1  
 Variable Name ..... 1  
 Simple Variable ..... 1  
 Compound Variables ..... 2  
 Expressions ..... 3  
 Constants ..... 3  
 Operators ..... 3  
 Comparison Operators ..... 4  
 Logical Operators ..... 5  
 Concatenation ..... 6  
 IF/THEN ..... 7  
 SELECT Statement ..... 8  
 SELECT Statement Walkthrough ..... 9  
 DO Loops ..... 10  
 DO FOREVER ..... 12  
 LEAVE and ITERATE Instructions ..... 13  
 DO WHILE and UNTIL Instructions ..... 14  
 EXIT Statement ..... 15  
 SIGNAL Statement ..... 16  
 Condition Traps ..... 17

**Chapter 3: Functions and Subroutines**

CALL Routine and RETURN ..... 1  
 Function - Types ..... 2  
 Coding Functions in a Program ..... 2  
 Subroutines ..... 4  
 Variable - Sharing ..... 4  
 Built-in Functions ..... 6  
 DATATYPE Function ..... 7  
 FORMAT Function ..... 8  
 TRUNC Function ..... 8  
 SUBSTR Function ..... 9  
 LENGTH Function ..... 9  
 COPIES Function ..... 10  
 CENTER Function ..... 10  
 LEFT and RIGHT Functions ..... 11  
 POS Function ..... 12  
 FIND Function ..... 13  
 OVERLAY Function ..... 13  
 COMPARE Function ..... 14  
 ABBREV Function ..... 14  
 VERIFY Function ..... 15  
 TRANSLATE Function ..... 16  
 DATE Functions ..... 17  
 TIME and USERID Functions ..... 18

**Chapter 4: Application Development**

Parsing Data ..... 1  
 Parsing Separators ..... 2  
 Examples: PARSE VAR ..... 2  
 SOURCELINE Function ..... 4  
 MSG Function ..... 5  
 Trace Statement ..... 6  
 TRACE Output ..... 6  
 Interactive Debug Facility ..... 7  
 TSO/E External Functions - LISTDSI ..... 8  
 OUTTRAP Function ..... 9  
 OUTTRAP Example ..... 9  
 Example: Display Datasets Allocation using OUTTRAP ..... 10  
 SYSDSN Function ..... 11  
 Returned Messages ..... 11  
 SYSVAR Function ..... 12

**Chapter 5: Data Structures, I/O, and Host Environment**

Data Stack and Queue ..... 1  
 Buffers ..... 2  
 QUEUE Instruction ..... 2  
 PUSH Instruction ..... 3  
 Example: Empty a Stack/Queue ..... 4  
 Buffer - Creating on the Data Stack ..... 5  
 Example: Preventing Access to Elements Below ..... 5  
 I/O in REXX ..... 6  
 Invoking an EXEC from an EXEC ..... 7  
 Host Command Environment ..... 8  
 Changing Host Environment ..... 8  
 SUBCOM Command ..... 9  
 REXX Components in Non-TSO Address Space ..... 9  
 Executing REXX ..... 10  
 Executing REXX in TSO Address Space ..... 10  
 Executing a REXX EXEC in non-TSO Environment ..... 10  
 ALTLIB - z/OS Features ..... 11

**Chapter 6: REXX Pitfalls**

Uninitialized Variables ..... 2  
 Variable Scoping ..... 3  
 PARSE Instruction ..... 5  
 WITH - Incorrect Use ..... 5  
 Unexpected Blanks in Parsed Results ..... 5  
 Mismatched Arguments and PARSE Pattern ..... 6  
 ALL Statement Syntax ..... 7  
 Compound Variables ..... 8  
 Case Sensitivity in a Compound Variable ..... 8  
 Inability to Have 'Constant' Values in Tails ..... 9  
 Inability to Have Expressions in Tails ..... 11  
 Strict versus Non-strict Comparison ..... 13  
 Line Continuation ..... 15  
 Explicit Concatenation ..... 16  
 Upper casing by ARG and PULL ..... 18  
 Null Strings versus Omitted Strings ..... 19  
 Case Sensitivity of Labels ..... 21  
 Condition Handling ..... 22