Pink Trenchcoat a cyberpunk rule-set

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Chapter 1

Basics

This chapter will cover the basics of Pink Trenchcoat including standard RPG nomenclature as wells as methods of conflict resolution. The rule system uses a fixed set of resolution methods, which are covered here, that will be used throughout the system exclusively.

1.1 Definitions

A couple of basic descriptions and definitions are given here. Throughout the book everything that is a game term with a defined meaning in the game is written in *italics*, and in upper-case if it is a noun. All game terms should be found in the index at the end of the book.

1.1.1 Gamers

Everyone that is taking part in the game is a Gamer.

Game Master The *Game Master* is the person that is not playing their own *Character*, but all the *Characters* that are not being played by a *Player*.

Players A Player is a *Gamer* that is only playing their *Character* and maybe *Characters* that are closely connected to this *Character* like *Drones*, *Agents* or *Contacts*.

1.1.2 Characters

A Character is an entity that can actively make decisions in the game world and act on those decisions. In Pink Trenchcoat this includes (Meta)-Humans, but also Agents, Drones, Spirits and more.

Player Characters A *Player Characters* or *PC* is a *Character* that is directly and often exclusively controlled by a *Player*.

Non-Player Characters All *Non-Player Characters* or *NPC* are most often controlled by the *Game Master*.

1.1.3 Mathematics

Pink Trenchcoat's resolution system only uses integers. Although during calculation a number mit be not an integer, it needs to be rounded to the next integer for any kind of *Test*.

Rounding Fractions are always rounded mathematically correct. This means that 0.5 is rounded to 1.

1.2 Dice

Like most game systems Pink Trenchcoat uses dice to act as a randomizer for *Tests*. This is done to increase tension during the game session and include a random element so that players can not plan everything in advance with 100% certainty. However, if the gaming group so chooses, the rule set can be used completely without dice, as the average result of a die roll is always 0.

Pink Trenchcoat uses five six-sided dice with two "-", two blank and two "+" symbols also known as FUDGE dice. They are always used together and there are no other dice rolls used.

Almost always a player will roll only 5 dice, and the game master will secretly roll the other 5 dice, either because its an *Opposed Test*, and the game master is performing the roll for the opposition, or because it is not an *Opposed Test* and the game master will roll 5 dice because the player should not be sure of the outcome. Only in cases where the player is managing the situation fully they should roll the full 10 dice, but either roll 5 dice twice or use differently coloured dice to calculate *Criticals* and other functionality the dice roll is covering.

Every test requires 10 dice to be rolled in total.

In this rule set, 5 FUDGE dice will always be referred to as:

5f

while the full 10 FUDGE dice will always be referred to as:

10f

1.2.1 Result

The Result of 10f is calculated by rolling 2 times 5 dice and summing all "+" as 1 and all "-" as -1 while blanks count as 0.

If the Result of a *10f* roll needs to be calculated in this rule system it will be denoted as:

10fR

1.2. DICE CHAPTER 1. BASICS

Probability Distribution The average *Result* of any dice roll in Pink Trenchcoat is always 0. The number of total dice rolled is also always 10 (although, sometimes, the dice are rolled by different people for psychological reasons, mathematically this makes no difference).

Using 10 dice, the following statistics apply the outcome of 10fR.

Probability for exactly rolling a value Sometimes it is good to know what the probabilities to exactly roll a value are. The probability distribution of the *10fR* is a gaussian with mean of 0 and a standard deviation of about 2.6.

Figure 1.1: 10fR Probability Distribution

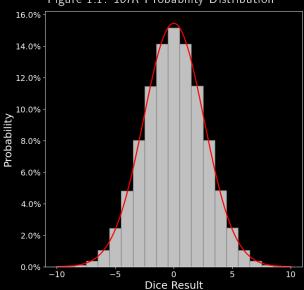


Table 1.1: 10fR Probabilities Roll exactly Chance one in -10/10 0.0014% 71000 6100 -9/9 0.016% -8/8 0.088% 1100 0.36% 280 -7/7 1.0% -6/6 96 -5/52.4% 41 -4/4 4.8% 21 -3/38.0% 13 12% 8.7 -2/2-1/114%7.1

Probability for rolling a value and lower/higher Most of the time it is important to know the probability to at at least a certain number or higher, or the inverse, the chance to roll a certain number or lower. Both are important to judge if a *Test* will fail or succeed.

15%

6.6

As a rule of thumb, rolling below -5 or above 5 is not happening often. This also means that *Tests* that only fail when a value smaller than -5 is rolled should only be done if the success or how well it succeeded or failed is critical for the game. Instead it can just be assumed that the *Test* succeeded normally.

Figure 1.2: 10fR Cumulative Probability Distribution

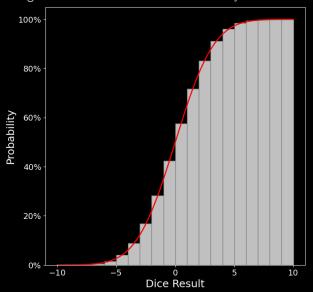


Table 1.2: 10fR Cumulative Probabilities

Roll ex	actly or	Chance	one in			
bigger	smaller					
10	-10	0.0014%	71000			
9	-9	0.08%	5600			
8	-8	0.11%	940			
7	-7	0.46%	220			
6	-6	1.5&	66			
5	-5	3.9%	25			
4	-4	8.8%	11			
3	-3	17%	6.0			
2	-2	28%	3.5			
1	-1	42%	2.4			
0	0	58%	1.7			

1.2.2 Anomalies and Criticals

The Result is not the only quantity that the dice deliver. Another one is Anomalies and Criticals. They are in principle the same thing, but Criticals are much more seldom and extreme in their effect.

Criticals and Anomalies are determined only looking at the 5f roll of either the player and the game master. This means that both parties in an *Opposed Test* can generate a Critical or Anomaly at the same time. They happen if multiple dice show similar symbols.

Anomaly To determine Anomalies the number of similar symbols have to be counted. Every time 4 dice of a 5f roll show the same symbol, an Anomaly happened. This can be four "+" (Positive Anomaly), four "-" (Negative Anomaly) or four blanks (Neutral Anomaly).

The chance to roll an Anomaly is 4.1% for any kind of Anomaly. This means that the chance is 12.3% to have any kind of Anomaly in a *Test*. The Game Master needs to decide whether they want to ignore Anomalies in an *Opposing Test*, if the opposing faction is an NPC. The same applies for the other *5f* that are rolled in a *Unopposed Test*.

1.3. TESTS CHAPTER 1. BASICS

Positive and Negative Anomaly The result of a positive or negative Anomaly enhances the outcome of the *Test* in a positive or negative way respectively, but does not change the *Result*. The Game Master needs to look at the situation and think of any positive or negative effects that could happen.

This includes:

- Taking more/less time of an action in combat that normally can not be slowed/sped up
- getting into a advantageous/disadvantageous position when performing a melee attack
- increasing/decreasing connection status of a contact when doing legwork
- using less/more resources when crafting an item

Neutral Anomaly A neutral Moderate Critical should just create unusual side effects to an outcome. Again the Game Master should be free to invent anything coming to their mind.

For example:

- A
- b
- c

Critical Criticals happens if all 5 dice of a *5f* show the same symbol. As with Anomalies there are positive, negative and neutral Criticals. Both the chance and the effect of a Critical are much more radical than an Anomaly.

The chance to roll any kind of Critical is 0.4%.

Positive Critical If there is a remote chance of the *Test* succeeding, it will. This does not allow *PC* to do things that are impossible like surviving an atomic blast or succeeding in a wrestling match with a dragon, but anything close to that.

Negative Critical The *Test* fails and it fails spectacularly. The Game Master is free to invent any convenient explanations. There is always a way something can fail.

Neutral Critical The *Result* of the *Test* is not affected, but something very strange happens. The Game Master can do whatever they see fit.

1.2.3 Non Blanks

The Non Blanks of 5f is calculated by counting all the "+" and "-" symbols, resulting in a number from 0 to 5.

If the Non Blanks need to be calculated from a *Test* this is denoted as:

5fN

Note that does not mean that an additional 5f need to be rolled in addition to the 10f of the Test itself, but instead use the 5f from the existing 10f roll.

The Non Blanks are used for various secondary purposes of a dice roll.

Figure 1.3: 5fN Probability Distribution

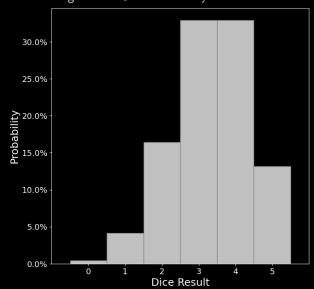


Table 1.3: 5dN Probabilities Roll exactly Chance one in 13% 7.6 33% 3.0 4 3 33% 3.0 2 16% 6.1 4.1% 24 0.4% 0 240

1.3 Tests

A test determines the outcome of a certain action, which has a certain probability to fail and which has an important impact on the game session if it fails. Tests should not be rolled if it is clear that the test will succeed, like in the case of opening a door. Tests should also not be rolled if the result is irrelevant for the game session, like when a character is trying to beat a popular game in their spare time.

Every time the outcome of an action is, given the capabilities of the acting character, in doubt, or if the result needs to be quantified, a *Test* is rolled.

1.3.1 Test Anatomy

All Tests in Pink Trenchcoat look like the following:

Test Quality =
$$10fR + Ability Score(s) + Modifiers(s)$$
 (1.1)

The 10fR was already explained in the previous section.

Ability Score The Ability Score is a number giving the proficiency of the person or entity that performs the *Test* to achieve the result. The higher, the better.

Normally Ability Scores are either *Attributes* or *Skills* of a character.

1.3. TESTS CHAPTER 1. BASICS

Limits Sometimes tools and other situational effects are not modeled as a *Modifier* that is added or subtracted but as a *Limit* to the *Ability Score*. In case the *Ability Score* can not be higher than the *Limit*.

Limits to the Ability Score are noted as follows:

Ability
$$Score(Limit)$$
 (1.2)

Modifier *Modifier* can be anything from a threshold that needs to be achieved to circumstantial *Modifiers* like visual conditions, tools or wounds that can change the result of a *Test*. If a *Modifier* is helping the *Character* performing the *Test*, like good tools, or support from friends, it is positive. If it is an obstacle of problem for the *Character* performing the *Test*, the *Modifier* is negative.

Test Quality The *Test Quality* ot *TQ* is the value that results from adding the *10fR* the *Ability Score* and the *Modifiers*. If the *Test Quality* is zero or positive, the *Test* succeed, if it negative it failed. The higher the *Test Quality* the better the result and the lower the *Test Quality* the worse the failure.

Table 1.4: Test Quality TQ Description < -9 Epic Fail -7 to -9 Severe Failure -4 to -6 Decisive Failure -1 to -3 Failure Barely made it 1 to 3 Acceptable Good Result 4 to 6 7 to 9 Exceptional **Epic Success**

1.3.2 Unopposed Tests

In an *Unopposed Tests* a *Character* is not testing against another *Character* but against the environment. Typical *Unopposed Tests* include:

- crafting something
- climbing a wall
- running fast
- remembering something

In this case, the *Ability Score* is just the relevant value from the *Character* and the *Modifier* is the difficulty of the task plus any additional situational *Modifiers*.

This rule system defines the *Ability Scores* to use in an *Unopposed Test* in the following notation:

Ability
$$Score_{Acting\ Character} + Modifier$$
 (1.3)

In case of a climbing test for a given wall, that would be:

Climbing -6

1.3.3 Opposed Tests

If two *Characters* are fighting against each other, either literally in melee combat or figuratively when one *Character* tries to sneak by and the other to spot the sneaker, an *Opposed Test* is called for. In this case, both involved *Characters Ability Scores* are used. The definition of the *Test* explains which values of a *Character* are used, as this can be the same, in the case of melee combat or be different in the case of sneaking.

This rule system defines the *Ability Scores* to use in an *Opposed Test* in the following notation:

In case of melee combat this would mean:

Melee Combat vs. Melee Combat

In case of sneaking it would mean:

Stealth vs. Perception

The final Test Quality is then calculated as follows:

$$Test\ Quality = 10fR \ + Ability\ Score_{Attacker} \ + Modifiers(s)_{Attacker} \ - Ability\ Score_{Defender} \ - Modifiers(s)_{Defender}$$

Ties are broken either by bespoke tie breakers given in the specific rules section, or, and if those tie breakers still end in a tie, by the *Game Master*. They can decide to either flip a coin or decide for themselves.

1.3.4 Supported Tests

If one or more *Characters* are helping another *Character* to do a task that can not be split into subtasks, but all characters have to do the full task, this is a *Supported Test*

- climbing a wall together
- helping a character to sneak
- crossing a mine-field

In this case the *Ability Score* for the *Supported Test* is the average *Ability Score* of all the *Characters* involved. The *Modifiers* for the *Supported Test* are the average *Modifiers* of all the *Characters* involved -1.

The Game Master decides which Tests can be supported.

1.3.5 Collaborative Tests

If one or more *Characters* are working together, distributing the work to perform a task that can be broken down into independent parts this is a *Team-Play Test*. The goal is to either increase the quality of the result, or to speed up the process by using less *Task Time*.

• crafting an item

- collecting information
- repairing a vehicle
- summoning a spirit

In this case the Ability Score for the CollaborativeTest is the average Ability Score of all the Characters involved. The Modifiers for the Collaborative Test are the average Modifiers of all the Characters with an additional benefit depending on the number of Characters working in the Test.

Table 1.5: Collaborative Tes

BOIGETTE TEE
Modifier
+1
+2
+3
+4

The Game Master decides which Tests can be Collaborative Tests.

1.3.6 Task Time

In most *Tests* a *Character* can spend more ore less *Task Time* to do the task better or achieve an outcome faster. In the case of spending more *Task Time*, this will either make a success possible or allow for a better result.

 Table 1.6: Extra Time

 Time Multiplier
 Modifier

 x0.5
 -6

 x0.7
 -3

 x3
 +1

 x10
 +2

 x100
 +3

 x1000
 +4

If not explicitly allowed or disallowed by the rules the Game Master decides whether spending more or less Task Time is possible.

1.4 Thoughts and Philosophy

The main idea behind the use of 10f is are th follows:

- easy calculable expectation value
- possibility of suspense
- possibly only one roll per decision

Expectations It should be easy to calculate the average and preferably also the most common outcome of a *Test*. In this rule-system both are the same and are extremely easy to judge, being zero. The average outcome of a *Test* is thus always the sum of *Ability Score* and *Modifiers*.

It is also important that the average outcome is occurring more often than the extremes. This is not the case in linear systems like d20 where the extremes of 1 and the 20 are

just as probable as the average 10 or 11. This is important because although a lot of tings are handled by rules, the vast majority of expectations about a game come from the real world, which mostly follows gaussian-like distributions and thus shape player expectations.

Suspense

One Roll This is not only design concept, but should also be the philosophy of each *Game Master*. If there is no decision between two *Tests*, the second test is unnecessary and should be avoided. A big *Test* should only be divided into smaller more granular *Tests* it is both interesting for the *Players* and there are decisions between the *Tests*. Otherwise just one general Test should be made.

Chapter 2

Character

This chapter describes *Characters*. Currently this chapter describes only meta-human *Characters* with a physical body to be played by a *Player*. In principle, certain types of *Agents* and *Spirits* could also be played, but are currently not in scope of this rule-set. body in particular.

2.1 Attributes

Attributes are very central values in defining a Character's abilities. They give a broad description of a Character's strengths and weaknesses and are influencing both final Skill values as well as derived Characteristics.

The base value for most *Attributes* of an average human is 8.

Table 2.1: Attribute Values

Value	Description
< 4	Disabled
4-5	Challenged
6-7	Underdeveloped
8	Average
9-10	Improved
11-12	Superior
13-14	Exemplar
> 14	Superhuman

Attribute values in Pink Trenchcoat are logarithmic with a base of 3. This means that a Character with Strength 11 is twice as strong as a Character with Strength 8 which in turn is twice as strong as a Character with Strength 5. This fact is only influencing certain Characteristics like Carrying Capacity and does not need to be kept in mind in most situations.

2.1.1 Mental Attributes

Pink Trenchcoat uses four Mental Attributes.

Charisma Charisma describes a Character's ability to positively affect other people in interactions. Highly charismatic people instantly get the attention of others, are often favored, and respected. A person with a low Charisma value is often ignored and sometimes not taken seriously. Charisma is also required to connect with people emotionally and understand emotional context of a conversation.

Ware is negatively affecting Charisma as it detaches the Character from itself.

Inutition Intuition describes the Character's ability to intuitively ans subconsciously process information. It describes not how fast or how much the Character can process, but how well. Furthermore a high Intuition value helps the Character to grasp a situation faster and perceive better

Logic Logic describes the raw processing power and storage capacity of a *Character's* brain. Combined with *Intuition*, both attributes form the *Character's* IQ. A high *Logic* value helps with most *Craftsmanship* and all *Knowledge Skills*.

Willpower Willpower represents the amount of control the Character has about their mind and body. How far they can force their body to go, and how well to withstand temptations of any kind. It is also a measure for courage.

2.1.2 Physical Attributes

Pink Trenchcoat uses four Physical Attributes.

Agility Agility represents a Character's nimbleness and dexterity. The motions of a Character with high Agility look fluid and smooth, while low Agility motions look stocky. Agility is important for all Close Combat and most Physical Skills. Larger Characters normally have lower Agility.

Body Body describes a *Character's* ability to endure physical strain, and keep going, even when exhausted. It also influences how much *Damage* the body can take before collapsing. *Body* is independent of *Size*, meaning that a large *Character* does have the same average *Body* as a smaller one.

Coordination Coordination is the ability to control your body the way you want, especially hand-eye coordination. Although a Character's body can be very agile, as long as the character can not control it in the right way, it may not help much. Coordination is important where the Character works with his hands, like in Ranged Combat or most Craftsmanship Skills.

Strength Strength measures the raw power of a Character's body, the pure muscle volume. Most Physical Skills benefit from a high Strength value. Strength generally increases with Size.

2.1.3 Other Attributes

Fate Fate is a measure of a *Character's* luck, the favour of the gods or their balance score with the universe itself. Or it is just a gamistic resource that can affect *Tests*.

Fate refreshes every game session and can be used to modify Test either before or after the roll. It can only be taken in high stake moments, that are critical for the story or the Character. The Game Master decides if this is the case.

Optional: Anomaly Ownership A Player can also, by spending Fate, take ownership of an Anomaly they have rolled. This means that now the Player instead of the Game Master decides and describes what the special effects of the Anomaly are. The Game Master however needs to accept the effect and decides how much Fate it costs.

Table 2	2.2: Fate Costs
Value	Description
1	+1 before
3	+2 before
6	+3 before
4	+1 after
9	+2 after
1+	own Anomaly

Magic

Size

2.2 Characteristics

2.2.1 Health

Life

Wound Limit

Damage Pip

Wound Heal Time

2.2.2 Athletics

Carrying Capacity

Combat Speed

Action Costs Action Costs describe how many *Ticks* a *Character* needs to spend for any kind of *Action*.

Reaction Reaction determines the speed a Character can react to external events like suddenly appearing dangers or actions in combat.

Table	e 2.3: Skill Values
Value	Description
≤ 0	Untrained
1-3	Amateur
4-6	Journeyman
7-9	Senior Journeyman
10-12	Master
13-15	Elite
16-18	Legendary
≥ 19	Godlike

2.3 Skills

- 2.3.1 Combat
- 2.3.1.1 Melee Combat
- 2.3.1.2 Direct Weapons
- 2.3.1.3 Ballistic Weapons
- 2.3.2 Craftsmanship
- 2.3.2.1 Chemistry
- 2.3.2.2 Mechanics
- 2.3.2.3 Mechatronics
- 2.3.2.4 Medicae
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- 2.3.3.1 Discourse
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- 2.3.6.1 Navigation
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- 2.3.7 Resistance
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- 2.3.7.4 **Survival**

Chapter 3

Combat

3.1 Timing

3.1.1 Resolution Order

In Pink Trenchcoat combat is resolved by a continuous, always increasing time value.

Tick This time value is measured in *Ticks*. A *Tick* is a time measure of about 0.3 seconds.

Current Tick Combat continuously advances the *Current Tick* that represents the the current point in time.

Initiative Score The emphlinitiative Score represents the *Current Tick* in which a *Character* can *declare* and take *Actions*. Ties in *Initiative Score* are broken by the *Characters Reflex* value.

Phase A *Phase* lasts 20 *Ticks*. Each Phase, this means on *Current Tick* 20,40,80 and so on *Continuous Effects* like fire, toxin damage and bleeding are resolved.

Combat Flow Characters who's *Initiative Score* matches the *Current Tick* are allowed to *declare* an *Action*. An *Action* that would increase a *Character's Initiative Score* to greater than the

 $Maximum\ Initiative\ Score = Current\ Tick + 20$ (3.1)

can not be declared.

After declaring an Action the Characters Initiative Score is immediately increased by a value depending on the Action. If no Interrupts occur, the Action is resolved.

When all eligible Characters have taken their Actions, the Current Tick is advanced to the next meaningful value which is normally either the next lowest Initiative Score of a Character, the next Phase if there are any Continuous Effects to resolve or the Tick a Character in Delay wants to act.

Interrupt Instead or in addition to acting on their *Initiative Score*, a *Character* can also chose to *interrupt* another *Character* after *declaring* an *Action*. After a *Character* declared their *Action* and increased their *Initiative Score*, but before it was *resolved*, the *interrupting Character* can *declare* their *interrupting Action* (and also immediately increase their *Initiative Score*). The *Interrupting Action* can

itself be interrupted by a *Character* that has not yet declared an *Action* this *Tick*.

A Reflex Test decides the order in which Characters taking part in the Interrupt are resolving their Actions. Each Character receives a Modifier equal to:

 $Interrupt \ Modifier = Current \ Tick-Initiative \ Score \ (3.2)$

In addition, the following *Modifiers* apply:

гар	Table 3.1: Interrupt Woodflers					
Modifier	Situation					
+9	Overwatch Action triggered					
+3	Aiming or Watching Character					
-3	per level of <i>Interruption</i>					

Actions are resolved starting from the highest Test Quality to the lowest. Ties are broken first by lowest Initiative Score, then by Reflex value.

3.1.2 Starting Combat

Once the Game Master decides that the Game should transition from Narrative Time to Combat Time, the Characters starting Initiative Score needs to be determined. To do so, each Character rolls a Reflex Test. The negative Test Quality determines the initial Initiative Score.

Apply the following Modifiers:

Table 3.2: Surprise Modifiers

Modifier	Character State
+6	Initiated first Action
0	Actively anticipating combat
-3	Suspicious
-6	Not expecting combat
-9	Deeply involved

3.2 Combat Actions

3.2.1 Action Times

To reduce cognitive load, Action Times are separated into four categories. Depending on the Character and their Attributevalues, these Actions take a different amount of Ticks to fulfil.

Free Action Free Actions are the shortest kind of Action. They require no or almost no thoughts and can be executed almost immediately.

Simple Action A *Simple Action* can still be done quickly, or be triggered by reflex, but is not instant.

Half Action Half Actions are the standard basic Action.

Full Action Actions taking a lot of concentration or a lot of time.

3.2.2 Meta-Actions

Meta Actions are different compared to normal Actions in a sense that they do not follow the typical scheme of Declaration. Initiative Score increase and Resolution.

Delay A delaying Character does not have a Initiative Score, but can chose to act at any future Current Tick and thus immediately gets the Current Tick assigned as Initiative Score, before declaring the Action. They have to do so before any other Character declared an Action in that Tick. If another Character already declared an Action, the delaying Character can still chose to act, but will need to perform an Interrupt.

After performing any Action, delay ends.

Watch When *declaring Watch* a *Character* has to chose a suitable *Character* or object to *watch*. The *Character* immediately loses their *Initiative Score*. The watching Character is granted a bonus of

A Character can switch from Watch to Delay at any time.

Overwatch When declaring Overwatch a Character has to chose both a specific Condition and a specific Action. The Character immediately loses their Initiative Score.

Once the *specific Condition* is fulfilled, even if in *declaration* the *Character* immediately performs the *specific Action*. The *Character* is assigned an *Initiative Score* according to the *Current Tick* plus the value depending on the *Action* and *Overwatch* ends. If *specific Condition* was declared by another *Character* an *Interrupt* is triggered. The *Character* on *Overwatch* receives a +9 *Modifier* for the *Reflex Test* in this case.

Specific Conditions should not be too complex and should be easily identified as true by the Character on Overwatch with the current situation.

Specific Actions can only be Active Actions.

A Character can switch from Overwatch to Delay at any time.

Move Normal movement, like crawling, walking or running, can be performed in addition to *Active Actions*. However, if of another *Action* is performed while moving, a *Movement Modifier* is applied.

The Movement Modifier, as well as the distance moved depend both on the movement style as well as the duration of the movement, which is represent by the Action Time.

The Character moves a number of meters according to their relevant *Movement Rate* and *Action Time*.

A Move Action can only performed in addition to an Active Action if the Action does not include movement.

Table 3.3: Movement Modifiers

Modifier Movement Style

-6 Crawl
-1 Walk
-3 Run

Talk When a *Character* is talking wile performing a *Test*, the *Test* receives an additional -1 *Modifier*.

Table 3.4: Talk							
Action	Words						
Free	1 Word						
Simple	Short sentence						
Half	2 Short sentences						
	1 Long sentence						
Full	4 short sentences						
	2 Long sentences						

Ongoing Actions Ongoing Actions represent Actions that take, longer than 20 Ticks, sometimes considerably longer. They are represented by increasing the *Initiative Score* of the *Character* performing the Action by 20 if the Character wants to continue doing the Ongoing Action, till it is finished.

3.2.3 Continuous Inclusive Actions

Leadership

Tactics

3.2.4 Active Actions

Active Actions are Actions a Character declares when their Initiative Score matches the Current Tick. They are the default action type.

3.2.4.1 General Actions

Free Actions Free Actions without specific rules include:

- dropping an object
- change facing 90°

Simple Actions Simple Actions without specific rules include:

- •
- change facing 180°

Half Actions Half Actions without specific rules include:

• change stance

Full Actions Full Actions without specific rules include:

- perform a Perception Test
- perform a Jump Test

Change Posture

Action Half

Test None/Acrobatics-6

Change posture from:

- standing to crouching
- crouching to prone
- standing to prone
- prone to crouching
- crouching to standing

Changing two levels at once (in this case only prone to standing) requires an *Acrobatics -6 Test*.

Drop Down

Action Free
Test None

Dropping down from a standing posture. After doing so, the *Character* is *disoriented*.

Ready Weapon

Action var.

Test None/Quickdraw

Ready a weapon given that the weapon is carried on the *Character*. A weapon needs to be ready to perform any *Actions* with it.

Table 3.5: Ready Weapon

Weapon	Action	Test
2 handed	Full	None
2 handed	Half	Quickdraw -8
2 handed	Simple	Quickdraw -16
1 handed	Half	None
1 handed	Simple	Quickdraw -8
1 handed	Free	Quickdraw -16

Reload Weapon

Action var.
Test None

Reloads a weapon given that ammunition is carried on the *Character*. Reload time depends on the weapon.

Sprint

Action Full
Test Running

Move number of meters equal to the *Characters Full Running Rate*. Add 1 meter for every 2 *Test Quality* of the *Running Test*.

Zigzag

Action Full
Test None

The Character moves a number of me-

ters equal to half their Running Rate. All attackers get the "Running 90° to Attacker" Modifier. Using the Zigzag Action is not possible when carrying an unwieldy weapon and not exceeding its Required Strength by 3.

3.2.4.2 Ranged Actions

Ranged Actions are specific to ranged combat.

Aim

Action Half/Full
Test None

Damage No

The Character aims at a target in their Front or Side Arc. The gain a +1 Modifier for all Ranged Actions that do Damage on the aimed target. This Action can be taken multiple times till a maximum Modifier of +4 is reached. Aiming with a Full Action counts as aiming 3 times.

Equipment modifies aiming as follows:

- A Red Dot/Smartgun conveys a +2 Modifier for the first Aim Action
- A Rangefinder conveys a +2 Modifier for the second Aim Action
- A Scope allows for a maximum Modifier of +6
- A Gun Light reduces emphVisual Modifiers for the target if the target is in range

The Aim Modifier is lost when the target moves out of sight or the Character takes any other Action than:

- any Free Action
- any Ranged Action
- any Processing Test
- any Empathy Test
- Talk
- Walk

Action Full/Half Brace Weapon Test None Damage No

A Character braces their two handed ranged weapon against a suitable object like a sandbag a window sill or a railing. The Weapon Range is doubled for all Ranged Attacks against targets in the Characters Front Arc with a height difference no greater than 1/4th of the distance.

The *Required Strength* of the weapon is also reduced by 3.

If the weapon is equipped with a bipod, bracing takes only a *Half Action* and the height difference can be 1/3rd of the distance.

Weapons equipped with a tripod take a *Full Action* to *brace*, which means they are effectively deployed. In this case *bracing* is not lost when the *Character* moves, if the *Character* choses to let go of their weapon. *Changing Facing* and *Posture* is also possible without losing the *braced* effect. The maximum height difference is 1/2nd.

Bracing for non tripod-weapons is lost when the *Character* moves in any way (also as a result of a *Dodge*, changes facing or changes posture).

Fast Ranged Attack

Action Half

Test Ranged Weapons -3

Damage Yes

The Character performs a Ranged Attack with a -3 Modifier. Weapons with the Single Shot keyword can not perform this Action.

Burst Ranged Attack

Action Full

Test Ranged Weapons +2/+3

Damage Yes

The Character performs a Ranged Attack with a weapon that has a Short Burst or Long Burst value. Short Bursts add a +2 Modifier, Long Bursts a +3 Modifier. For Damage Resolution multiply both Armor of the target and Penetration of the weapon with 2 (Short Burst) or 3 (Long Burst).

Burst Ranged Attacks can have an increased Required Strength.

Multi Ranged Attack

Action Full

Test Ranged Weapons -2/-1 per attack,

-1 per additional target

Damage Yes

The *Character* is performing multiple *Ranged Attacks* against one or more targets. Only one Test is rolled by the Character, modified by -2 per attack and -1 per additional target. This value is opposed by all targets individually.

This Action is only possible with one handed ranged weapons that do not have the Single Shot keyword. Wielding two ranged weapons decreases the attack Modifier to -1 and allow for 2 attacks even with Single Shot weapons.

Ranged Attack

Action Full

Test Ranged Weapons +0

Damage Yes

The Character performs a standard Ranged Attack.

Suppression Fire

Action Full
Test No
Damage No

The *Characters* suppresses an area with *Suppression Fire*. The attacker can cover a length of meters equal to the number of bullets of the weapons *Suppression Fire* value. Everybody moving through the suppressed zone or not going prone/into cover while being in it is hit with a final *Test Quality* of d10. Add +1 to the result if a target is crossing the area. The suppressed zone lasts till the *Characters Initiative Score*.

Suppression Fire can not be used if the Required Strength of the weapon is not met by the Character.

3.2.4.3 Melee Actions

Advance

Charge

Disarm

Disengange

Feint

Fast Melee Attack

Melee Attack

Multi Melee Attack

Power Attack

Precise Strike

3.2.5 Reactions

In contrast to Actions, Reactions are declared as a reaction towards an Action of another Character or an event in the game world. No Interrupt is required to declare them. Most Reactions define precisely how they interact with the triggering Action.

Apart from this, *Reactions* are normal *Actions* with all rules and limitations, especially the *Maximum Initiative Score*.

3.2.5.1 General Reactions

Dodge

Action Half/Simple/Free Test Dodge-2/-3/-4

The Character is dodging an incoming Attack Action that the Character is aware of, turning the attack into an opposed Test.

The *Character* can chose to drop to the ground while *dodging*, adding a +2 *Modifier* but also being *disoriented* afterwards.

If the *Character* is not dropping down, they may chose to move 1 meter for for every 3 points of *Test Quality*.

3.2.5.2 Melee Reactions

Disarm

Free Strike

Masterful Parry

Parry

Riposte

- 3.3 Hit Resolution
- 3.3.1 Hit Location
- 3.3.2 Damage

Chapter 4

Computers

This chapter explains both the matrix, including AR and everything computer related like electronic warfare.

Matrix rules are inclusive rules in a sense that each and every action a Player can take is described. This is in contrast to real world actions where the rule system gives a broad framework for players to extrapolate. This is the case because every Player has real world experience and expectations which just need to calibrated by rules (like introducing cyberware).

In the Matrix however, there is no common experience and thus no a priori contract between Players and Game Master what is possible and how probable it is. Thus Matrix rules have to be very strict and not assume anything.

As a rule of thumb, a character can not do anything that is not a given *Matrix Action*. However, the nature of the Matrix allows to describe the same *Action* very differently.

4.1 What is the Matrix

The Matrix is a virtual representation of the cyberspace for human users. It is they way they perceive interactions between themselves and both other matrix users and *Matrix Entities*.

4.1.1 Accessing the Matrix

There are various ways to access the Matrix.

Physical Access This method of *Matrix Access* uses outdated methods like keyboard and mouse. It is generally outdated and very slow. It is only used if people are afraid of any kind of matrix damage, or are very traditional.

Augmented Reality Augmented Reality or AR access is a widely used for of matrix access, especially one the go or while wanting to do things in parallel. AR users still see the real world, but get additional information projected on top of it. Thus they can see objects, additional information and also sound added to the real world that does not exist.

Virtual Reality Virtual Reality supersedes the perception of the user. They are not aware of the real world, but instead see, hear, smell and feal virtual sensory input that is 100% artificial.

Tortoise Tortoise uses not direct brain interfaces as provided by most data jacks, but uses outdated technologies like trodes. Due to it not requiring cyberware it is often used by adepts or magicians.

Cold Sim Cold Sim is the standard way of using the matrix today. The user is experiencing the matrix by direct stimulation of their sensory cortex so that they see, hear and feel the matrix. Their thoughts of movements and actions are translated into commands of their virtual bodies using virtual applications.

Hot Sim Hot Sim is the most dangerous but also the fastest way to access the matrix. The data is directly fed into the users brain even circumventing their sensory centers that are stimulated in cold sim. Instead, using knowledge link technology, the matrix user just instantly knows the information. Also their raw thoughts are transformed into matrix commands.

Table 4.1. Matrix Access Methods		
Method	Input	Output
Physical	KeyboardMouseTouchscreenInput Trigger	ScreenLoudspeaker
AR	TransducerMicrophoneAR GlovesHolo Scanner	LensesVision-LinkIn-EarsSound-Link
Tortoise	TrodesExternalSim Rig	TrodesExternalSim Module
Cold Sim	• Sim Rig	• Sim Module

4.2 Matrix building blocks

Transcriber

4.2.1 Matrix Devices

Hot Sim

The Matrix is made up of hardware that is processing and delivering it. Most notable are are the different pieces of hardware the matrix is running on. In general four different classes of matrix hardware can be found.

Knowledge Link

Table 4.2: Matrix Access Requirements

Method	Processor/ Uplink
Physical	1
AR	3
Tortoise	6
Cold Sim	6
Hot Sim	10

Table 4.3: Matrix Access Modifiers

Method	Skill	React	Tick	Damage
Physical	-3	-5	х6	None
AR	-2	-3	x3	Fatigue
Tortoise	-1	-2	x1.5	Fatigue
Cold Sim	0	0	x1	Stun
Hot Sim	+2	+3	x0.7	Physical

Gadget Gadgets are small and cheap pieces of hardware. Some of them are so cheap, they can be found in throwaway articles like food packaging. Others are powering small sensors or track positions. They range from pinhead size to coin size. A typical person is carrying around dozens of them.

Commlink Commlinks are not only the most common mans to communicate but also a matrix hardware class. They are bigger than gadgets, but the smallest of them can fit into a bigger earring. The standard size is of an average playing card. They carry enough processing power to allow for at least *Augmented Reality*.

Cyberdeck Cyberdecks are a special form factor that only few people need. Much bigger than a an average commlink, about the size of a shoe-box, they pack much more processing power. Most cyberdecks are used for illegal purposes and are equipped with a *Sleaze* module to avoid detection in the matrix.

Mainframe Mainframes are stationary pieces of matrix hardware. They range from shoe-box size to whole floors of a building. Mainframes are used to service multiple people or perform high performance computations.

4.2.2 Matrix Entities

Matrix entities are virtual building blocks of the matrix. Although they have a physical basis, they are purely virtual representations both in virtual- and augmented reality.

Node A Node is a matrix entity with processing power. It has matrix location and can be *accessed*. A Node can run *Processes*, store *Files* and be the origin or destination of a *Stream*.

Process Processes are matrix entities that actively perform actions. They are running on their origin *Node*.

Persona A Persona is a special kind of *Process* that represents a matrix user and their actions. *Personae* can access Nodes. In this case they are connected to their origin Node via a Stream.

Program A program is a piece of software that can be used by a *Persona* or an *Agent* as a tool to perform various actions. Programs are always attached to a *Persona* or *Agent*.

Agent An agent is a process that can perform autonomous decisions and use *Programs* to perform actions. *Agents* can *access Nodes*. In this case they are connected to their *origin Node* via a *Stream*.

ICE ICE, or Intrusion Countermeasures, are *Agents* with the special purpose to defend a node from hackers.

Streams A stream connects two *Nodes*, the origin and the destination, with a data connection. A stream also connects the *Node* a *Persona* or *Agent* is running on with the *Node* it is *accessing*.

File A *File* is a coherent set of any kind of data. This includes:

- a text document
- a trideo clip
- a BTL movie
- a voice record

4.2.3 Access Levels

In Pink Trenchcoat a decker that is accessing a Node is identified with a given Access Level, or Account. This Account is specific to the Node and linked to the deckers SIN or, in the case of Agents, to their AID.

Anonymous Anonymous Access Level is the default Level that is automatically granted to everyone.

User User is a catch all Level for a large number of Accounts of different Matrix users. A Node can have multiple User Levels with non overlapping Access Rights for Files, Streams and Processes. If a decker Exploited a User Account the Game Master decides which Access Rights come with it.

Security The *Security Level* is, in addition to any or no *User Access Rights* used to perform various security relevant *Actions*, especially controlling *ICE* and maintaining the *Security Tally*.

Admin The *Admin Access Level* can do everything in a *Node*.

4.2.4 Matrix Properties

Access Rights Each Matrix Entity has Access Rights that govern which Account Levels are allowed to perform which Actions. These Rights govern for example who can Access a Node, Read a File, Send to a Stream or Command a Process.

Each *Node* their own *Access Rights* for the *Matrix Entities* they contain. They can be changed by the *Edit Access Rights Action*.

Access ID

Subscription List

Logs The *Logs* are a special *File* that contains a history of all actions in a Node, including all actions of *Personae* and *Agents*, their *AIDs*, the *Files* and *Streams* the created and consumed and anything else that was done in the *Node*. *Actions* from a *Process* that has a *Sleaze* rating are only *logged* when they have been successfully *analyzed* by *Analyze ICE*.

Integrity Each *Matrix Entity* has an Integrity value that is a measure for how much *Matrix Damage* it can take before it is suffering negative consequences.

The Integrity value is depending on the origin *Node* of the *Entity*:

$$Integrity = 10 \cdot System \tag{4.1}$$

Matrix Damage Matrix Damage done to an Entity is added up until it reaches Integrity. Once the Damage reaches this threshold Nodes are shut down, Processes are crashed, Files are deleted and Streams are terminated.

4.2.5 Matrix Attributes

Each *Matrix Device* has a number of attributes that define its properties in the Matrix.

Processor The *Processor* attribute represents a *Nodes* row computing power. As most devices are very advanced, a high *Processor* rating is not needed for most every day tasks. High *Processor* ratings are required for intensive tasks like processing Sim-Sense signals for example when using *Cold Sim* or the even more complex *Hot Sim*. The attribute is also useful if a mainframe is supporting a large user base.

It is also important in matrix combat where combatants try to overwhelm the opponents *Node*.

The *Processor* attribute is mostly related to a *Devices* size. The bigger a *Device* the higher its rating is on average.

System System describes the quality of the operating system and standard software suite of a *Node*. The higher the ranking the higher the rating of *Programs* that can be

A high Systems rating also helps autonomous software like *ICE* to perform more efficiently.

Table 4.4: Processor Ratings

Entity	Processor
Gadget	0-4
Commlink	3-8
Cyberdeck	6-13
Mainframe	8-21

Firewall Firewall represents the resilience of a *Node* against anything illegal. This includes any kind of *Exploit* actions leading to illegal actions not governed by the users level

Firewall is not determined by a *Nodes* computing power but by the skill and time invested by the maintainers of the node, and the number of users and different *Processes* it is supporting.

Firewall Ratings are often given by a color coding.

Table 4.5: Firewall Ratings

Color	Firewall
Blue	0-4
Green	5-9
Orange	10-14
Red	15-19
Ultra Violet	20-21

Blue Blue *Nodes* represent the lowest level of security. They are often either very cheap gadgets like Smart Tags or public mainframes like public libraries.

Green Green *Nodes* represent the vast majority of matrix hosts. They are a good trade-off between expensive security experts and time invest. *Nodes* with fewer users tend to have higher green ratings.

Orange Orange *Nodes* are used when higher security is required, like in the mainframe of a police station, a law firm, or the *Nodes* of upper class individuals.

Red Red *Nodes* are mostly used by high security facilities like corporate research sites or government agencies.

Ultra Violet Ultra Violet *Nodes*, if they exist, are only used for legendary and top-secret institutions.

Uplink Uplink describes the quality, speed and volume of data that a *Node* can access per time. A high throughput is required for *Cold Sim* and even more for *Hot Sim*. Uplink mostly degrades over distance, although not as fast as wireless *Signal* does, or if the signal has to go through wireless channels.

Signal The Signal rating describes the power and quality of a wireless signal. It is used to check how far a signal penetrates and also represents the power delivered in case

of *Electronic Warfare*. Only nodes with wireless capabilities have a Signal rating.

Table 4.6: Signal Ranges

Signal	Range	Signal	Range
0	1 m	11	5 km
1	2 m	12	10 km
2	5 m	13	20 km
3	10 m	14	50 km
4	20 m	15	100 km
5	50 m	16	200 km
6	100 m	17	500 km
7	200 m	18	1,000 km
8	500 m	19	2,000 km
9	1 km	20	5,000 km
10	2 km	21	10,000 km

Sleaze Only devices equipped with with an illegal *Sleaze* module have a *Sleaze* rating. The *Sleaze* rating allows a decker to hide from security software of a *Node*. Without it the decker would instantly be recognized after performing any kind of *Exploit* action.

A *Sleaze* module allows also to broadcast and change (fake) SINs the decker possesses. The decker can not mimic arbitrary SINs.

4.3 Matrix Concepts

4.3.1 Security Tally

The Security Tally is tally that is specific for each Process accessing a Node. It is a measure on how suspicious a Node is about illegal Actions from a Process. The Tally increases by performing illegal Actions while not having a high enough Sleaze Attribute to not be noticed.

Actions that increase the Security Tally include:

- Exploit
- Crash
- Corrupt

The Tally for a Process can be changed by using the Edit Logs Action. Various effects of the Tally like ICE and Alerts can also be reverted by various Security Actions.

Depending on the value of the *Tally*, the *Node* is launching various countermeasures.

Table 4.7: Security Tally Measures

Tally	Measure
5	Analyze ICE
10	Trace ICE
15	Silent Alert
20	Combat ICE
25	Active Alert
50	Emergency Shutdown

Analyze ICE Analyze ICE is looking into a deckers activities to find any signs of illegal actions. If it finds anything it will be added to the deckers security tally.

While Analyze ICE is not *slowed*, it is adding 2 points to the *Nodes System* for any interaction, active or passive, with the triggering *Process*. This includes calculation of *Security Tally* increase as well as *Analyze Action* or *Crash Actions*.

If it is *crashed* it takes 10 seconds to restart.

Trace ICE Trace ICE will try to find the deckers location by analyzing its *Stream*. It will immediately start to perform an *Analyze Action* against the the triggering *Process*. Any information gained, especially location, is written in the *Nodes Logs*. The Nodes *System* is used as the *Ability Score* for the *Analyze Test*.

If it is *crashed* it takes 10 seconds to restart and will need to restart the *Analyze Action*.

Passive Alert In Silent or Passive Alert Status a list of predefined personnel is informed of a possible intrusion. The Node diverts resources to security purposes, increasing Firewall by 2 and decreasing Processor by 2. Any standard functionality of the Node could be impaired by this resource transfer (GM discretion). The information is not broadcasted to Processes in the Node.

Combat ICE Combat ICE will once triggered continuously attack the triggering *Process* in the form of *Crash Actions*. The Nodes *System* is used as the *Ability Score* for the *Crash Test*.

If it is crashed it takes 10 seconds to restart.

Active Alert In active Alert Status a list of predefined personnel is informed of an intrusion. The *Node* diverts resources to security purposes, increasing *Firewall* by 3 and decreasing *Processor* by 3. This is not cumulative with the changes made by the *Passive Alert Status*. Any standard functionality of the *Node* can be impaired by this resource transfer (GM discretion). The information is broadcasted to all *Processes* in the *Node*.

Emergency Shutdown

4.4 Matrix Actions

4.4.1 Basic Actions

Basic Actions are very simple and normally do not require a Test or Program. If a Test is required because the Character is wounded or has an extreme non-technical background use:

Computers + 3

Access Node

Prerequisite Node AID

Duration 0.1s

Table 4.8 Matrix Actions

Account Level	Program	lable 4.8: Mat Node	Process	Stream	File
	None	Anonymous Access			
	Analyze	 Analyze 	 Analyze 	 Analyze 	Analyze
	Break			• Break	 Break
Anonymous	Corrupt	CrashSlow	CrashSlow	• Corrupt	• Corrupt
	Find	• Find	• Find	• Find	• Find
	None	User Access	CommandStartStop	DecryptReadStartSendTerminate	CreateDecryptDeleteReadWrite
User	Control		Control [Thing]		
	Crypt			• Encrypt	• Encrypt
	Generate			 Generate 	 Generate
	Medic	• Repair	 Repair 		
Security	None	Security AccessView AccountsView Alert StatusView LogsView Subscriptions	Command ICEStart ICEStop ICE		
Admin	None	 Admin Access Change Alert Status Edit Access Rights Edit Logs Edit Subscriptions Shutdown 			

This action is required to access a *Node* with a known *AID*. After a successful *Access Action* the decker has *accessed* the *Node*.

Having accessed a Node is often a prerequisite for lots of Matrix Actions targeting Files and Streams. It is only of particular relevance when a decker does not have the relevant Access Rights to access the Node and needs to Exploit their way in.

Change Alert Status

Prerequisite Accessed Node
Duration 0.5s

This action allows the decker to change the *Nodes Alert Status*.

Command

Prerequisite Process AID, Accessed origin Node
Duration 2s

This action allows a decker to give commands to a *Process*. This can either be an *Agent*, or any other *Program* on a *Node* or *Device* like a drone or a security camera.

The decker needs the AID of the Process and needs to access the origin or target Node of the Process.

Create File

Prerequisite Accessed Node

Duration 1s

This action creates a *File* in a *Node*. The creator chooses content and *Access Rights* and gets the *Files AID*.

Decrypt

Prerequisite Red File, CryptKey
Duration 0.1s

Decrypt and encrypted File if the decker has the CryptKey.

Delete File

Prerequisite File AID, Accessed Node
Duration 0.1s

Delete a File in a Node. After the File is deleted it can not be recovered.

Edit Access Rights

Prerequisite Accessed Node
Duration 0.5s

This action allows the decker to edit *Access Rights* of a *Nodes*. This includes removing, adding and changing

Access Rights. In the case of adding a new Account the Stop Process respective SIN is required.

Edit Logs

Prerequisite Accessed Node

> Duration 0.5s

This action allows the decker to edit the Logs of a Node. This includes adding and removing entries.

Edit Subscriptions

Prerequisite Accessed Node

Admin Access other Node

Duration

This action allows the decker to edit the Subscription List of a Nodes. This includes removing and adding Nodes. In the case of adding a decker needs Admin Access on the other Node.

Read File

Prerequisite File AID, Accessed Node

Duration

This action allows a decker to read Files in a Node. Reading a File enables a decker to create a local File copy in the Personas origin Node.

Read Stream

Prerequisite Stream AID

Accessed origin/target Node

Duration

This action allows a decker to read Streams in a Node. Reading a Stream enables a decker to create a local File containing the content of the Stream in the Personas origin Node.

Start Process

Prerequisite Accessed Node

Duration

This action creates a Process in a Node. The creator chooses its Access Rights and gets the Process AID.

Send to Stream

Prerequisite Stream AID

Accessed origin Node

Duration

This action creates a Stream between two Nodes. The creator chooses content and Access Rights.

Start Stream

Accessed origin Node Prerequisite

Accessed destination Node

Duration

This action creates a Stream between two Nodes. The creator chooses content and Access Rights and gets the Streams AID.

Prerequisite Process AID

Accessed origin Node

Duration

This action stops a Process. A related Agent or Persona is instantly shut down.

Terminate Stream

Prerequisite Stream AID

Accessed origin Node

Duration

This action terminates a Stream. A related Process is instantly stopped.

View Accounts

Prerequisite Accessed Node

0.5sDuration

This action allows the decker to view all *User*, *Security* and Admin Accounts for the Node.

View Alert Status

Prerequisite Accessed Node

> Duration 0.5s

This action allows the decker to view the current Alert Status of the Node.

View Logs

Prerequisite Accessed Node

> Duration 0.5s

This action allows the decker to view the current Logs of the Node.

View Subscriptions

Prerequisite Accessed Node

> Duration 0.5s

This action allows the decker to view the AIDs of the Nodes the are subscribed to the Node.

Write to File

Prerequisite Found File

Duration

This action allows a decker to write any content to a File.

4.4.2 **Advanced Actions**

Advanced Actions require Tests to perform and require a Program to carry out. The standard format of a Test is given as:

Skill(Program) + Test Modifier

Analyze [Node, Process, Stream, File]

Program Computer(Analyze)

Prerequisite Found [Node, Process, Stream, File]

Test Modifier - Target *Sleaze*

Duration 2s

This action allows for analyzing properties of various matrix entities. To analyze a *Node* an AID is required. Other entities have to be *found*. *Processes* and *Streams* can only be analyzed if the decker has *accessed* either the target or the destination *Node*.

Table 4.9: Analyze Node Results

Result	Properties Locat	
0	Active Alert Status	
2	AID	
4	Type	
6	High/Low Attributes	Continent
8	Functionality	State
10	High/Med/Low Attributes	City
12	Active Processes	Suburb
14	Exact Attributes	Street
16		Building
18		Room
20		Exact

Control

Program Skill(Control)
Prerequisite Accessed Node

Process AID

Test Modifier var **Duration** 1s

Using the *Control Action* the decker can use any kind of item that can be *controlled* remotely from a *Process* in a *Node*. The decker has to use the relevant *Skill* limited by the *Control Program*.

Skill(Control)

Examples are using remotely controlled guns using *Gunnery* or driving a remotely controlled car using *Wheeled*.

Encrypt

Program Crypt

Prerequisite Accessed Node

File AID or Stream AID

Test Modifier 0
Duration 1s

The Encrypt Action encrypts a File or Stream so that even deckers with the required Access Rights can not read the content. The Action does not require a Test but automatically encrypts the File or Stream with the Crypt Programs rating. To read the content one needs either the key or try to Break the encryption.

Find Process

Program Computer(Find)

Prerequisite Access to origin/destination Node

Test Modifier - Target *Sleaze*

Duration 10s

This action allows a decker to find *Processes* in a *Node*, which must be either its origin or the destination.

Find Stream

Program Computer(Find)

Prerequisite Access to origin/destination Node

Test Modifier - Target Sleaze

Duration 10s

This action allows a decker to find *Streams* in a *Node*, which must be either its origin or the destination.

Find File

Program Computer(Find)

Prerequisite Access to origin/destination Node

Test Modifier - Target *Sleaze*

Duration 10s

This action allows a decker to find Files in a Node.

4.4.3 Matrix Combat

Actions in this section directly harm Matrix Entities either by damaging or slowing them. Most of the time, Processor is an important Attribute in Matrix Combat.

Corrupt

Program Cyber Combat(Corrupt)

Prerequisite Accessed Node

File AID or Stream AID or Found [File/Stream]

Test Modifier - Originating *Node* System

Duration 1s

If a decker does not have the Access Right to delete a File or Terminate a Stream the decker can corrupt it so it becomes unusable.

For each point of *Test Quality* deal *Processor Matrix* Damage to the *File* or *Stream*.

In addition each *Corrupt Test* that can increase the deckers *Security Tally*. The increase is given by:

$$Tally = max(0, 5fN + System - Sleaze)$$

Crash

Program Cyber Combat(Crash)
Prerequisite Found [Node/Process]

Test Modifier - System **Duration** 1s

For each point of *Test Quality* deal *Processor Matrix* Damage to the *Node* or *Process*.

In addition each *Crash Test* that is targeting a *Node* can increase the deckers *Security Tally*. The increase is given by:

$$Tally = max(0, 2 * 5fN + System - Sleaze)$$

Repair

Program Computer(Medic)

Prerequisite AID
Test Modifier 0
Duration 10s

The Repair Action allows a decker to repair Matrix Damage on Nodes, Processes, Files and Streams. For each point of Test Quality repairs one point of Matrix Damage to the target.

Slow Node

Program Cyber Combat(Slow)
Prerequisite Access to Node
Test Modifier - System

Duration 1s

The Slow Action allows a decker to reduce the Processor a target Node. Reduce the Processor by the Test Quality. This effect lasts for 10s, or till the decker takes another Action, whichever happens later.

Slow Process

Program Cyber Combat(Slow)
Prerequisite Found Process or AID
Test Modifier - System

Duration 1s

The Slow Action allows a decker to increase the Tick Cost of Actions a target Process, including Personae and Agents. Increase Free, Simple, Half, Full Actions by 1,2,3,4 times the Test Quality. Longer Action get increased by 50% for each point of TQ. This effect lasts till the targets next Action, or till the decker takes another Action, whichever happens later.

4.4.4 Hacking

Break

Program Hacking(Break)
Prerequisite Read File

Test Modifier - Crypt Rating -3

Duration $10 \cdot max(1, 5fN)$ seconds

A successful *Break Test* removes the *Encryption* from a *File*. The *Duration* is determined by the *5fN* roll of the *Game Master* to a minimum of 10 seconds.

Exploit Every time a decker wants to perform an *Action* where their *Access Level* is not high enough, like *Viewing* the security *Log* without being at least *Security* level, an *Exploit Test* is required. If the *Action* in question requires a *Test* itself, when for example *Writing to a Stream*, the *Exploit Test* does not replace the actual *Test* but is an additional requirement.

An Exploit test is an opposed test between the deckers Hacking(Exploit) and the Nodes Firewall.

Test Quality = 10fR + Hacking(Exploit) - Firewall

In addition each *Exploit Test* can increase the deckers *Security Tally*. The increase is given by:

Tally = max(0, 5fN + System - Sleaze)

Table 4.10: Exploit Modifiers

Account Level	Mods		
	Action	Account	
User	0	-3	
Security	-3	-5	
Admin	-4	-6	

4.4.5 Related Actions

Physical Reboot

A *Physical Reboot* can only be done while having physical access to the *Node*. It does not require a test and takes time depending on the *Processor* of the *Node*:

 $Reboot\ Time = Processor^2 + seconds$

During a *Physical Reboot* the Admin Account can be changed to whatever SIN(s) or AID(s) the person that does the *Reboot* desires.

While the *Node* is rebooting all *Processes* are *Stopped*, all *Streams* terminated, and all *Subscriptions* are inactive. The *Node* can not be accessed and all *Processes Accessing* the *Node* are disconnected, maybe resulting in *Dump Shock*.

After the Reboot all Matrix Damage to Processes, Files and Streams is removed.

Data Search

Jack Out The *Jack Out Action* is required to prevent *Dump Shock*. As most *Matrix Access Methods* are at least a little and sometimes extremely immersive and taxing on the brain, and are thus requiring this Action to safely log off. The *Action* itself is a simple *Mental Composure Test* that takes 5 seconds independent of *Matrix Access Method*.

Disconnecting from the Matrix without Jacking Out results in Dump Shock which can happen in an a number of situations like an Emergency Shutdown

Dump Shock The decker takes:

$$damage = (10 \cdot Mental Pip)$$
 (4.2)

4.5 Electronic Warfare

Find Wireless

Program Scan

Prerequisite Target in Signal range

Test Modifier var. **Duration** 10s

Jam Wireless

Program Scan
Prerequisite None
Test Modifier 0
Duration None

Chapter 5

Magic

Shielding

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Adept Powers

Chapter 6

Spells and Powers

6.1 Spell List

6.1.1 Creation

6.1.1.1 Astral

Astral Barrier

Category Astral Creation
Modifier 0
Time 60s
Drain 4 + 5fR
Range Self
Volume 4m
Anchor Self
Duration Sustain

Create a Ward with a Rating equal to the Test Quality.

Astral Armor

Astral, Creation Category Modifier 0 Time 60s Drain 4 + 5fRSelf Range Volume 4m Anchor Self Duration Sustain

Create Astral Armor. Astral armor only exists on the astral plane.

6.1.1.2 Mana

Healing

Category Mana, Creation Modifier 0 Time 60s 4 + 5fR Drain Self Range Volume 4m Anchor Self Duration Sustain

Heal Physical Damage.

First Aid

Category Mana, Creation **Modifier** 0

Time 60s
Drain 4 + 5fR
Range Self
Volume 4m
Anchor Self
Duration Sustain

Heal Physical Damage.

Heal Wounds

Category Mana, Creation

Modifier 0
Time 60s
Drain 4 + 5fR
Range Self
Volume 4m
Anchor Self
Duration Sustain

Heal Physical Wounds.

Increase Physical Attribute

Category Mana, Creation
Modifier 0
Time 60s
Drain 4 + 5fR
Range Self
Volume 4m
Anchor Self
Duration Sustain

Increase a physical attribute (Agility, Body, Coordination, Strength) by the [Task Quality]

Increase Rreflexes

Category Mana, Creation

Modifier 0
Time 60s
Drain 4 + 5fR
Range Self
Volume 4m
Anchor Self
Duration Sustain

Increase the Physical Reaction of the target by [Task Quality].

Mana Barrier

Mana. Creation Category Modifier 0 Time 60s 4 + 5fRDrain Range Self Volume 4m Self Anchor Duration Sustain

Create a Barrier that only effects mana targets.

6.1.1.3 Physical

Barrier

Category Physical, Creation
Modifier 0
Time 60s
Drain 4 + 5fR
Range Self
Volume 4m
Anchor Self
Duration Sustain

Create a physical barrier

Armor

Category Physical, Creation
Modifier 0
Time 60s
Drain 4 + 5fR
Range Self
Volume 4m
Anchor Self
Duration Sustain

Create a magical armor around the caster.

Animate

Category Physical, Creation
Modifier 0
Time 60s
Drain 4 + 5fR
Range Self
Volume 4m
Anchor Self
Duration Sustain

Animate a physical object.

6.1.2 Detection

Spells can only detect entities that have a presence on the plane the spell was cast. This means in particular that Mana spells cast in astral space an only detect astral and dual-natured entities.

6.1.2.1 Astral

Astral Window

Category Astral, Detection
Modifier 0
Time 60s
Drain 4 + 5fR
Range Self
Volume 4m
Anchor Self
Duration Sustain

The Anchor is able to place his astral sense anywhere in the volume (thus removing his original astral perception). The Assensing of any Tests performed through the Spell are given by the Task Quality of the pellcasting Test. Spells can not be cast through the Astral Window spell. The Target has to use Astral Perception to benefit from the spell, as the spell is only shifting the targets original sense and does not grant Astral Perception in itself.

Detect Magic

Astral, Detection Category Modifier 0 Time 60s 4 + 5fR Drain Self Range Volume 4m Anchor Self Duration Sustain

Detect any magic that is not disguised or disguised with a Task Quality less than the Task Quality of the Spellcasting test.

Detect Life

Category Astral, Detection Modifier 0 Time 60s 4 + 5fRDrain Range Self Volume 4m Self **Anchor** Duration Sustain

Detect position and size of life depending on the the Task Quality of the Spellcasting test. A Task Quality of 0 enables the caster to pinpoint the position to within Volume/2 that is \pm - Volume/4 meters and size to 2m (X \pm -1m).

Detect Enemies

Category Astral, Detection
Modifier 0
Time 60s
Drain 4 + 5fR
Range Self
Volume 4m
Anchor Self
Duration Sustain

Detect position of enemies depending on the the Task Quality of the Spellcasting. An enemy is defined as a sentient being that would, upon seeing the Anchor of the spell in the current location, want to take actions to decisively harm the social, economical or physical well being of the Anchor. A Task Quality of 0 enables the caster to pinpoint the position to within Volume/2 that is +/- Volume/4 meters.

Detect Emotions

Category	Astral, Detection
Modifier	0
Time	60s
Drain	4 + 5fR
Range	Self
Volume	4m
Anchor	Self
Duration	Sustain

Detect emotions depending on the the Task

Detect Individual

Category	Astral, Detection
Modifier	0
Time	60s
Drain	4 + 5fR
Range	Self
Volume	4m
Anchor	Self
Duration	Sustain

Detect position and size of a sapient entity that was

Detect Thoughts

Category	Astral, Detection
Modifier	0
Time	60s
Drain	4 + 5fR
Range	Self
Volume	4m
Anchor	Self
Duration	Sustain

Effect: Detect position and size of a sapient entity with given thoughts depending on the the Task Quality

Mindprobe

Category	Astral, Detection
Modifier	0
Time	60s
Drain	4 + 5fR
Range	Self
Volume	4m
Anchor	Self
Duration	Sustain

Effect: See through the mind and thoughts of the target. The information gained depends on the the

Mindnet

Category	Astral, Detection
Modifier	0
Time	60s
Drain	4 + 5fR
Range	Self
Volume	4m
Anchor	Self
Duration	Sustain

Allow a mental connection between the target and a number of other sentient beings.

6.1.2.2 Physical

Catalog

Category	Physical, Detection
Modifier	0
Time	60s
Drain	4 + 5fR
Range	Self
Volume	4m
Anchor	Self
Duration	Sustain

Effect: Get a list and information about every of every object in the Volume. The detail of the information depends on the Task Quality of the Spellcasting test. The caster can not get more information than he would get if he would be able to see/inspect the object himself.

Clairaudience

Category	Physical, Detection
Modifier	0
Time	60s
Drain	4 + 5fR
Range	Self
Volume	4m
Anchor	Self
Duration	Sustain

The Anchor is able to place his aural sense anywhere in the volume (thus removing his original aural perception). The Visual Perception Skill Rating

Clairvoyance

	Physical, Detection 0 60s 4 + 5fR Self 4m Self
Anchor Duration	
Duration	Justani

The Anchor is able to place his visual sense anywhere in the volume (thus removing his original visual perception). The Visual Perception Skill Rating

Detect Sensors

Category	Physical, Detection
Modifier	0
Time	60s
Drain	4 + 5fR
Range	Self
Volume	4 m
Anchor	Self
Duration	Sustain

Detect position and size of sensors on the the Task Quality of

6.1.3 Manipulation

6.1.3.1 Astral

Control Thoughts

Category Astral, Manipulation Modifier 0 Time 60s Drain 4 + 5fRRange Self Volume 4m Anchor Self Duration Sustain

The caster can control what the target wants to do. Doing so is a Complex Action. The Target is allowed to perform a Willpower test with a Difficulty of the Spellcasting test every time it receives an order that it is against its moral code (+0), endangers its mental/physical/economical well-being (+10) or life (+20) to break the spell.

Mana Illusion

Astral, Manipulation Category Modifier Ω Time 60s Drain 4 + 5fR Range Self Volume 4m Self Anchor Duration Sustain

Manipulate what everyone in the affected area perceives (Audio, Video, Olfactorial, Gustatory).

Fear

Category Astral, Manipulation
Modifier 0
Time 60s
Drain 4 + 5fR
Range Self
Volume 4m
Anchor Self
Duration Sustain

The target is instilled with fear of the caster. All Actions the target performs against the caster or anybody belonging to him are affected by a Task Modifier equal to the

Control Thoughts

Category Astral, Manipulation
Modifier 0
Time 60s
Drain 4 + 5fR
Range Self
Volume 4m
Anchor Self
Duration Sustain

The caster transforms the Target into another mundane creature. For every 10 Task Quality of the Spellcasting test the mundane creature can weight 1/2 or 2x the mass of the target.

6.1.3.2 Mana

Possession

Category Mana, Body, Manipulation Modifier 0 Time 60s 4 + 5fR Drain Self Range Volume 4m Anchor Self Duration Sustain

The caster takes control of the targets body as if it was his own (the casters original body behaves like it was in astral space). The caster can use all his mental skills (skills that have no physical mod contribution) and all the targets physical skills with a -10 modifier (in addition to any other modifiers like sustaining the spell). The Target is allowed to perform a Willpower test with a Difficulty of the Spellcasting test every time its body receives an order that it is against its moral code (+0), endangers its mental/physical/economical well-being (+10) or life (+20) to break the spell.

6.1.3.3 Physical

Physical Illusion

Category Physical, Manipulation Modifier 0 Time 60s 4 + 5fRDrain Range Self Volume 4m Anchor Self Duration Sustain

Creates a multisensor illusion (Audio, Video) that can only be detected with a perception test with a base Difficulty equal to the Task Quality of the Spellcasting test, or if somebody touches the illusion. A physical illusion spell is not able to simulate objects much hotter than Task Quality degrees Celsius above/below the current room temperature, as the spell has to effectively create/destroy radiation to achieve this effect. Also it can not generate sounds louder than 60dBA + Task QualitydBA as the spell has to effectively create sound waves. A physical illusion spell can not destroy light and sound coming from inside the illusion radius, only overlay it. It can thus not simulate the effects of silence or invisibility.

Physical Mask

Category	Physical, Manipulation
Modifier	0
Time	60s
Drain	4 + 5fR
Range	Self
Volume	4m
Anchor	Self
Duration	Sustain

Creates a multisensor volumetric illusion (Audio, Video) that can only be detected with a perception test with a base Difficulty equal to the Task Quality of the Spellcasting test. The physical mask spell allows the target to appear as another being of roughly the same size (+/- Task Quality percent). A physical mask spell can not destroy light and sound coming from inside the illusion radius, only overlay it. It can thus not simulate the effects of silence or invisibility.

Physical Invisibility

Category	Physical, Manipulation
Modifier	0
Time	60s
Drain	4 + 5fR
Range	Self
Volume	4m
Anchor	Self
Duration	Sustain

The spell manipulates photons in such a way that the target can almost not be detected visually. To see the flaws in the illusion a visual perception test with a base Difficulty equal to the Task Quality of the Spellcasting test needs to be passed.

Physical Silence

Category	Physical, Manipulatio
Modifier	0
Time	60s
Drain	4 + 5fR
Range	Self
Volume	4m
Anchor	Self
Duration	Sustain

The spell manipulates sound waves in such a way that the target can almost not be detected aurally. To hear the flaws in the illusion an aural perception test with a base Difficulty equal to the Task Quality of the Spellcasting test needs to be passed.

Levitation

Category	Physical, Manipulation
Modifier	0
Time	60s
Drain	4 + 5fR
Range	Self
Volume	4m
Anchor	Self
Duration	Sustain

Levitates a person or object.

Magic Fingers

Category	Physical, Manipulation
Modifier	0
Time	60s
Drain	4 + 5fR
Range	Self
Volume	4m
Anchor	Self
Duration	Sustain

Allows the caster to perform actions as if he were present at any location in the spell Volume. The fingers have an Agility.

6.1.4 Destruction

6.1.4.1 Astral

Astral Weapon

Astral, Destruction
0
60s
4 + 5fR
Self
4m
Self
Sustain

Create Astral Weapon

Stunbolt

Category	Mana, Destruction
Modifier	0
Time	60s
Drain	4 + 5fR
Range	Self
Volume	4m
Anchor Self	
Duration	Sustain
Direct Stun Damage	

6.1.4.2 Mana

Manabolt

Mana, Destruction
0
60s
4 + 5fR
Self
4m
Self
Sustain

Direct Physical Damage

Storiliza

Stermze	
Category	Mana, Destruction
Modifier	0
Time	60s
Drain	4 + 5fR
Range	Self
Volume	4m
Anchor	Self
Duration	Sustain

Reduction of Lethality of all diseases in the Volume by Task Quality/2 of the Spellcasting to connect biological samples to its owner (be it physical identification or magical tracking).

6.1.4.3 Physical

Firebot

Category Physical, Destruction

Modifier 0
Time 60s
Drain 4 + 5fR
Range Self
Volume 4m
Anchor Self
Duration Sustain

Create a Firebolt that start at the Range and flies toward a given target. This attack handles exactly like a ranged attack with a Skill equal to the characters Skill test.

Fireball

Category Physical, Destruction

Modifier 0
Time 60s
Drain 4 + 5fR
Range Self
Volume 4m
Anchor Self
Duration Sustain

Create a Fireball that start at the RangePoint in Space and flies toward a given target. This attack handles exactly like a Area Attack with a Skill equal to the characters Skill The Scatter Length is Volume/10.

Wreck Vehicle

Category Physical, Destruction

Modifier 0
Time 60s
Drain 4 + 5fR
Range Self
Volume 4m
Anchor Self
Duration Sustain

Direct Physical Damage

Melt Structure

Category Physical, Destruction

Modifier 0
Time 60s
Drain 4 + 5fR
Range Self
Volume 4m
Anchor Self
Duration Sustain

Direct Physical Damage

6.2 Critter Powers

Accident

Binding

Concealment

Confusion

Engulf

Ethereal

Fear

Fluid

Guard

Immunity to X

Increased Armor

Influence

Movement through X

Protection from X

Resistance to X

Sensitivity to X

Tolerance of X

Vulnerability to X

Structureless

Woundless The awakened does not suffer wounds.

Chapter 7

Resources

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Multi Ranged Attack, 15 Navigation, 11 Negative Anomaly, 6 Negative Critical, 6 Neutral Anomaly, 6 Neutral Critical, 6 Node, 18 Non-Player Character, 4 NPC, 4 Onging Action, 13 Opposed Test, 7 Overatch, 13 Passive Alert, 20 PC, 4 Perception, 11 Persona, 18 Phase, 12 Physical Reboot, 24 Physical Skills, 11 Pilot Air, 11 Pilot Ground, 11 Piloting Skills, 11 Player, 4 Player Character, 4 Positiv Anomaly, 6 Positive Critical, 6 Process, 18 Processing Skills, 11 Processor, 19 Program, 18 Ranged Action, 14 Ranged Attack, 15 Reaction, 10, 15 Ready Weapon, 14 Reload Weapon, 14 Resistance Skills, 11 Resolve Action, 12 Rounding, 4 Scrutiny, 11 Security, 18 Security Tally, 20 Signal, 19 Silent Alert, 20 Simple Action, 13 Size (Attribute), 10 Skills, 11 Sleaze, 20 Sleight of Hand, 11 Social Crafting, 11 Software, 11 Sprint, 14 Stealth, 11 Stream, 18 Strength, 9 Subscription List, 19 Supported Test, 7 Suppression Fire, 15

Survival, 11

System, 19 Talk Action, 13 Task Time, 8 Test, 6 Test Quality, 7 Tick, 12 Ties, 7 TQ, 7 Trace ICE, 20 Unopposed Test, 7 Uplink, 19 User, 18 Watch, 13 Willpower, 9 Wound Heal Time, 10 Wound Limit, 10 Zigzag, 14

Appendix A

Game Tables

Table A.1: Ranges

	0
Range	Range
1 cm	50 m
2 cm	100 m
5 cm	200 m
10 cm	500 m
20 cm	1 km
50 cm	2 km
1 m	5 km
2 m	10 km
5 m	20 km
10 m	50 km
20 m	100 km