CHAPTER IV

IF-CONDITIONAL CONSTRUCTIONS IN THE LOB CORPUS OF BRITISH ENGLISH

4.1 Introduction:

In this chapter, we shall attempt a classification of the Conditional Constructions found in the LOB Corpus of British English. As already mentioned earlier, we shall follow a model which emerges from the work of Quirk et al. (1985). There are obviously two ways of approaching this problem: that is, present a classification of conditional constructions based on the verb forms and describe their functions or identify the different instances of types of conditionals in terms of their function and mention the different verb forms that are actually used to realise the function in the different types of conditionals in the corpus. In either case, an overview is indispensible as a starting point. So, the different types of conditions: Direct, Indirect and Rhetorical and further sub-types are shown along with the various verb forms that occur in each of the types in figure 1 followed by 8 tables i.e. 4.1.1.1 to 4.3.3. respectively.
Following Quirk et al. again, we give below the number of instances of each type realized by particular verb form combinations along with illustrative examples. It will become obvious that a variety of actual complexities are seen in the corpus data. We shall specially take note of instances in the corpus data which refuse to fall neatly into the types discussed by Quirk et al. This will help us see the richness of language use as represented in the corpus.

4.1.1 Direct Open Condition:

The various verb form combinations found to occur in this type of conditionals are shown in Table No.4.1.1.1. Now, we shall take up specific instances of these conditionals realized by more striking verb form combinations only and comment upon them. This explains why some cases of verb form combinations listed in the following table are not discussed.
Table 4.1.1.1

Direct Open Conditions: neutral

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<tr>
<th>Verb form combinations</th>
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* Typical standard conditional instances account for these in the corpus.

454 365 49 88
There are 86 instances of this verb form combination representing conditional constructions in which the verb forms both in the matrix clause and in subordinate clause are in the simple present tense.

According to Quirk et al. (1985:1086) the if-clauses in such constructions are clauses of contingency conveying a notion of recurrent or habitual contingency although the subordinator used is if. Therefore, other overt subordinators like when(ever), where(ever) and once can be substituted. In other words, they may also be clauses of place and time. There are a number of such instances in the LOB corpus.

For example:
1. Widow's benefits stop if the widow remarries. (H20: 76) (If= when)
2. If the doctor or midwife decides that such an examination is needed, it doesn't mean that there is anything wrong. (F32: 35) (If= when(ever))
3. We want to discuss what to do if the British Government gives into Sir Roy and the talks fall through. (A01: 18) (If= once)

According to Quirk, Direct conditionals convey the situation in the matrix clause that is directly contingent on that of the conditional clause which can be established by inserting then. Quirk et al.'s examples have simple present in the subordinate clause and will+base form of the verb in the matrix clause. Their example is:

If the weather is fine (then) we’ll have a barbacue. (Quirk et al. 1985: 1088)

However, there are several cases of verb forms in the present tense in both the clauses in the LOB corpus which turn out to be Direct Open conditional constructions.
For example:

1. If you stay still (then) you have a chance (L03: 63)

2. If you believe me capable of that (then) we have nothing more to say to each other... (P06: 12)

3. And if we all agree about that (then) why not act now and do something about it? (E34: 114)

In the above examples, the subordinate clause is initially positioned. There are several other instances where the matrix clause is initially positioned and the subordinate clause is positioned after the matrix clause.

For example:

1. He expects to be out in two or three days if all goes well. (A14: 98)

2. A national health service is bound to be expensive. It deserves to be so if it does work. (B14: 133)

3. The teaching of art in the schools makes sense... if this requires formal training. (G47: 19)

In these sentences, we cannot straight away insert then although the implication is clear. The positioning of clauses seems to have something to do with the discourse structure and or the pro-forms in the conditional construction. (Hornby 1975: 238)

* This is one of the typical conditional constructions and generally confronted in the corpus.

SIM5: There are 74 instances of this verb form combination i.e. present tense form of the verb in the subordinate clause and is/am/are in the matrix clause. Obviously, these represent occurrences of is/am/are in SVCs clause structures, progressive verbs of all types, intrasitives, and different classes of transitive verb and passive clauses. Most instances
of the construction with this verb-form combination turn out to be open conditions.

Most instances of S1M5 have SVCs clause structure in the matrix clause.

For example:
1. ... if we make dust unnecessarily, (then) we are killers... (A13: 66)
2. Brief ideas are welcome indeed if they compress a sizeable thought. (C01: 44)
3. ... if you think the Russians wallow in luxury (then) you're wrong ... (G49: 81)
4. Socialists are further handicapped in viewing the problem if they believe that capitalists are not only wicked but also devilishly clever. (J41: 67)
5. If it doesn't go spontaneously by this time, (then) it is likely to last for several years... (F31: 62)

There is a single instance of are+ing that is progressive form in the main clause.

e.g. But you're asking for trouble if you stand around for a gossip. (F33: 176)

Many other instances containing am/is/are in the matrix clause turn out to be passive clauses naturally implying a present simple tense like the S1M1 combination.

For example:
1. ... if an official resigns, he is not allowed to run again for three years. (A06: 24)
2. A wife's pension is similarly reduced if she earns over 3 to 10 shillings. (H20: 16)

S1M9: There are 100 instances of S1M9 verb form combination representing Direct Open Condition. The verb form in the matrix clause is will+base form
of the verb and the verb form in the subordinate clause is in the simple present tense. According to Quirk et al., such constructions convey a P and Q relationship i.e. we can insert *then* before the matrix clause. This is the most common form of Direct Open Conditional discussed by all the grammarians.

The following are some of the representative examples of S1M9 verb form combination from the LOB corpus.

1. If these *fail*, tactical nuclear weapons *will be* used ...
   (A20: 16)

2. If they *tend* to put on fat *it will* pay to keep them on the richer diet upto 120 to 140/0.1b. (E37: 28)

3. It *will simplify* our explanations if we *regard* consciousness as a property of mind rather than as mind itself. (F01: 110)

4. The audience *will eat* out of your hand if they *like* what you offer them. (F03: 155)

5. If you *pop* your finger quickly in and out of cold water you'll hardly *feel* the cold. (F33: 173)

6. If you *say* again what you said last night, I'll *kill* myself as soon as you leave the house. (K03: 90)

7. If you *say* that once more, I'll *ram* your teeth down your throat. (L10: 137)

8. If you *want* my true opinion, *I will* give it. (M02: 51)

9. ... my life *will be* completely ruined if you *throw* me over. (P23: 81)

10. If I *find* Stephen, I'll *bring* him straight home. (P26: 105)

* This is the most typical conditional construction in the corpus.

There are many other constructions bearing S1M10 to S1M19 verb form combinations which represent direct open conditions with modals *would*, *shall/should*, *can/could*, *may/might*, *must*, *has to/have to* and *had to* in the matrix clause. These modals in the matrix clause convey modal meanings in
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their own right.

These are the fewer conditional constructions in the corpus as you can see them.

S1M10: There are 15 instances of this verb form combinations, i.e. simple present tense in the subordinate clause and would+base form of the verb in the matrix clause conveying futurity/prediction. The following are some instances of Direct Open condition.

1. If it shifts it downwards further for that part of the visual field on which the I-figure is shown than for other parts, we would expect the T-figure to be judged larger than the C-figure. (J25: 19)

2. We'd be better if we stay in Viareggo. (N29: 17)

S1M11: There are 17 instances of this type i.e. simple present tense in the subordinate clause and shall+base form of the verb in the matrix clause. All these are instances of Direct Open conditional construction expressing modal meaning of shall:

For example:

1. If I have no more pupils after these are gone from me, I shall then be glad of a curacy near you. (G18: 49)

2. If the worst comes to the worst, and the abdication paper is signed, I shall stand down in favour of Willy. (K13: 25)

* S1M11 is one of the typical conditional constructions.

S1M12: There are 15 instances of S1M12 verb form combinations, i.e. Present tense form of the verb in the subordinate clause and should+base form of the verb in the matrix clause. The following are the examples:

1. If a man accepts applause... he should be man enough to accept hissing... (A10: 106)

2. A local authority or combination of authorities, should not hesitate too long if they contemplate acquiring an estate in their area. (F43: 43)
3. If it comes off, it should be quite a day... (A40: 98)

4. ... we should like to see the less developed members of the common
wealth ... given the opportunity, if they so wish to enter into
association... (H21: 28)

SIM13: There are 24 instances of this verb form combinations i.e. simple
present tense in the subordinate clause and can+base form of the verb in
the matrix clause. They are direct open condition with modal meaning. The
following are some examples:

1. ... he can be switched to a different industry if he just gives in
   and listens and looks. (B05: 39)

2. ... if he needs assistance for the purchase or training for the
   use of implements, seeds, fertilizers, etc., the community
development organization can be relied upon to help him. (G65: 74)

3. If he replies that he cannot bear the prospect, it can be answered
   .... (G71: 88)

4. ... if you really want it, you can have it. (P14: 109)

SIM14: There are 09 instances of SIM14 verb form combination i.e. Simple
Present tense in the subordinate clause and could+base form of the verb in
the matrix clause. These conform to Direct open condition with modal
meaning.

For example:

1. Sagacity could be the one to give Pinturischio most to do if they
   meet next Thursday. (A32: 28)

2. If we measure the uncertainty in each such distribution by Sp/0 log P,
   we could in general expect the uncertainty to be reduced... (J18: 25)

3. But if you prefer it, she could be poisoned or strangled. (N10: 131)

4. ... the bird could be taught to talk if you speak to it nice
   and quiet. (P18: 38)

SIM15: There are 19 instances of SIM15 verb form combination i.e., Simple
present tense in the subordinate clause and may+base form of the verb in
the matrix clause. These conform to Direct Open condition.
the proportion of texts representing books and periodicals. This reflects the second language situation in India which is obviously different from the native speaker situation.

Sources:

The Indian National Bibliography - INB monthly-lists of all the publications received in the National Library, Calcutta was referred to. But these issues take a long time in appearing and in fact those for 1978 had not appeared even by the end of 1979. So, the compilers prepared an independent bibliography of books printed in English in the year 1978 which had already been received in the National Library, Calcutta up to 1979 when the work actually began. The compilers stratified the publication by manual inspection of titles which was practicable due to the limited number of publications in the second language situation. Then the sampling was done from the lists separately with the help of a random number table. Whenever a selected book was not accessible, the next available on the shelf was selected. Whenever sufficient number of texts did not turn up in this process, other texts were deliberately chosen to fill the category.

The distribution of texts over different categories and the matching of individual texts have been kept more close to the LOB than to the BROWN Corpus. The widest difference is to be found in weighting given to different categories in the section Imaginative Prose. This was inevitable as the available texts in the categories L to P were short of even the number required. Similarly, the weighting given to short stories as against full length novels also is the result of the same handicap.

Table 3.1 which shows the basic composition of the three corpora clearly brings out the similarities and differences.
2. If you want to kill me, you've got to kill her first. (P24: 75)

S1R25: There are 25 instances of this verb form combination i.e. Simple present tense in the subordinate clause and the matrix clause is in the imperative. All these instances conform to Direct Open condition.

For example:
1. If you want to have a bit of fun, follow Commander Anthony Hogg's advice. (E19: 113)
2. If she tolerates this without trouble, then gradually work up the amount until she is having a tablespoon of pure juice, in a couple of ounces of boiled water, and a teaspoon of sugar.
3. But if the scales show a pound or two extra, then take this warning. (F33: 46)

S2R1: There are 04 instances of this verb form combination i.e. Present Perfect tense in the subordinate clause and the simple present tense in the matrix clause. All these instances conform to Direct Open condition.

For example:
I owe you if I have bought something from you not having paid, or finished playing for it, and if the debt has not been otherwise abrogated. (G63: 51)

S2R2: There are 02 instances of this verb form combination i.e. Present Perfect tense both in the subordinate as well as in the matrix clause. All these conform to Direct Open condition.

For example:
1. If the point has blunted, then the pressure has been too great. (E03: 74)

S2R5: There are 04 instances of this type of verb form combination representing the conditional constructions in which the verb form in the subordinate clause is present perfect tense and the verb form in the matrix clause is am/is/are. These represent occurrences of am/is/are in
SVCs clause structure, progressive form of verbs of all types or intransitive, and different clauses of transitive verbs and passive clauses. These instances are open condition.

For example:

1. ... If you've ever been inescapably bound by the threads of conversation of two such gentlemen as Mr. Ball and Mr. Baring, you are likely to agree. (K22: 3)

2. ... but if you have never done it before it is difficult to do it... (R09: 34)

S2H5.21: There is only 01 instance of this verb form combination i.e. Present perfect tense in the subordinate clause and am/is/are+going to in the matrix clause indicating future time. This example conforms to Direct Open condition.

e.g. If you have come to court to lie, you are going to lie... (F13: 28)

S2H9: There are 02 instances of this verb form combination i.e. Present perfect in the subordinate clause and will+base form of the verb in the matrix clause. They conform to Direct Open condition.

For example:

1. If you have not dispersed by ten O'clock... the police will act. (A02: 45)

2. If I have not discovered anything by then I'll give up trying. (L07: 84)

S2H10: There is 01 instance of this verb form combination i.e. Present perfect tense in the subordinate clause and would+base form of the verb in the matrix clause. The instance conforms to Direct Open condition as noted below:

1. I would not be at all surprised if... (You tell me or I learn) Hyacinth has returned to Lipur. (P12: 52)

S2H11-25: There are 12 instances of this verb form combinations...
representing present perfect tense in the subordinate clause and should, can, could, may, might, must, would, have to+base form of the verb and imperative in the matrix clause conforming to Direct Open condition. Some examples are noted below. The modals in the matrix clause convey modal meaning in their own right.

For example:

1. If he has taken flight he should be invited to return to head the provincial government. (B02: 61)

2. If you have once retired and decided to return to work (then) you can cancel your retirement and qualify for a bigger pension as described in paragraph 46, when you finally retire or reach the age of 70. (H20: 29)

3. If we have got 25,000 to spend let's spend it on the living. (A36: 50)

Thus, there are in all 27 instances of S2 combinations of the present perfect tense in the subordinate clause with several verb forms with modal auxiliaries etc., in the matrix clause. As shown above, all these constructions are cases of Direct Open condition.

S3M1: There are 45 instances of this verb form combination i.e. am/is/are in the subordinate clause representing SVCs clause structure, progressive form of verbs of all types or intransitive, and different clauses of transitive verbs and passive clauses and the simple present tense in the matrix clause. All these instances conform to Direct Open condition.

For example:

1. If that is to be the case, then we need some shrewd thinking on what to do about it. (B25: 22)

2. If this is correct, then much of Mr. Wilson's symbolism becomes easy to follow. (C09: 24)

3. If a pattern of reaction is obtained other than that expected for anti-D, the serum requires a more detailed investigation... (J13: 48)
There are 89 instances of this verb form combination representing am/is/are in SVCs clause structure, progressive tense verbs of all types of intransitive, and different clauses of transitive verbs and passive clauses both in the subordinate and matrix clauses. Most of these instances turn out to be Direct Open condition.

For example:

1. Federation is essential if this area of Africa is to develop the economic means to sustain political advance. (B19: 13)

2. ... we are unable to cure our own bodies if the cause of our pain is too deep-seated. so we are unable to cure our own minds, if the trouble is a complicated one involving careful and patient treatment. (D06: 49)

3. ... if digging is left until the spring, (then) it is often difficult to get the soil firm enough for the best results. (E08: 52)

4. ... other valencies are possible if the number of onions is doubled, e.g. lithium ferrite. (J70: 12)

5. ... there is no day grant in Pembrokeshire if the student is living at home... (H16: 70)

There are 61 instances of this verb form combination i.e. am/is/are in SVCs clause structure, progressive form of verbs of all types or passive clause structure in the subordinate clause and will+base form of the verb in the matrix clause. This combination conveys a 'P' and 'Q' relationship according to both reference and pedagogical grammars. We can insert them before the matrix clause.

The following are examples of S5M9 verb form combination which represent Direct Open condition.

1. If he is earning 15 a week, he will be paying in all probability S/OSI/od a week toward the graduated scheme. (B14: 25)

2. If South Africa is allowed to remain, Britain's prestige in Africa and Asia will dwindle... (B26: 50)

3. If her naturally healthy desire to grow up is frustrated she will either lose her urge to be independent or she will rebel and go
her own way anyhow. (F17: 101)

4. ... if due allowance is made for the age of each child when tested, then due compensation will also be given for any difference that might exist in length for previous schooling. (J38: 66)

5. If Tu Kota is with her he will look after her. (P12: 70)

6. ... if they are handled too barbarously they will be replaced by some sterner fellow... (R09: 80)

[Note: Most of the constructions of S5M9.18 to S5M19 etc., verb form combinations represent constructions with modal auxiliaries: will/would, shall/should, can/could, may/might, must, has to/have to and had to in the matrix clause. These modals in the matrix clause convey modal meanings in their own right]

S5M10: There are 14 instances of this verb form combination i.e. am/is/are in SVCs clause structure in the subordinate clause and would+base form of the verb in the matrix clause. All these instances conform to Direct Open condition.

For example:

1. If the UN is blamed for being weak, it would be more logical to send in more men, not weaken it further by desertion. (B01: 74)

2. Indeed, they would be wise to do so: particularly if the wife is in her late twenties or older. (H05: 42)

3. ... if the effect of this is allowed for, the claim payment would be more in line with the premiums collected. (H05: 42)

S5M11: There are 05 instances of this type with am/is/are in SVCs clause structure in the subordinate clause and shall+base form of the verb in the matrix clause. All these conform to Direct Open condition.

For example:

If the works are not substantially commenced within two years from the commencement of this order (then) the said power shall cease. (H13: 36)
S5M12: There are 19 instances of this verb form combination with am/is/are in SVCs structure in the subordinate clause and should+base form of the verb in the matrix clause. The following are some of the examples:

1. If that *is* their decision they should also go unequivocally on record that they regard apartheid as evil and indefensible. (B01: 125)

2. If, therefore, these bags are retained; in order to use them from time to time for storage purposes, they should be kept out of the reach of children. (B10: 211)

S5M13: There are 22 instances of this verb form combination with am/is/are in SVCs structure in the subordinate clause and can+base form of the verb in the matrix clause. All these conform to Direct Open condition. For example:

1. ... the oven floor can be protected from spilt juice if a tray is put under pies or tarts. (E24: 40)

2. But if it is proved that an employer has been negligent, the employee can sue him. (E34: 75)

3. Surely marrying me isn’t going to be all that bad? If it is... (she laughed uncertainly) You can have your ring back. (P03: 134)

S5M14: There are 04 instances of this verb form combination i.e. am/is/are in SVCs structure and could+base form of the verb in the matrix clause. All these conform to Direct Open condition. For example:

If this *is* correct, fluctuations in the spread could be regarded as an indicator of changes in the level of demand. (J44: 30)

S5M15: There are 32 instances of S5M15 verb form combination with am/is/are in SVCs structure in the subordinate clause and may+base form of the verb in the matrix clause. All these instances conform to Direct Open condition as noted below:

1. If the night *is* cold you may feel like giving your guests a hot punch. (E19: 116)
2. If the war damage is not made good a value payment under section 13 of the 1943 act may be paid. (H05: 5)

3. If your claim, or your notice of retirement is late, you may lose benefit. (H20: 26)

4. If you’re right, you may be in serious danger from Hardy. (L07: 64)

S5M16: There are 06 instances of S5M16 verb form combination i.e. am/is/are in SVCs clause structure in the subordinate clause and might+base form of the verb in the matrix clause. All these conform to Direct Open condition.

For example:
1. And if there is too much in the gear box a stream of surplus might be blown into your face. (E03: 30)
2. ... any possible growth check might occur if the change over to a finishing diet is made too early. (E37: 35)

S5M17: There are 32 instances of S5M17 verb form combination with am/is/are in SVCs structure in the subordinate clause and must+base form of the verb in the matrix clause. These instances conform to Direct Open condition.

For example:
1. ... if this is the principle on which the mind is developed in the body, (then) obviously the inversion of the principle must be fatal to it. (D14:M9)
2. ... if a man and woman are alone together..., (then) the door must be left open. (F08: 16)
3. But if it is to be used effectively, more personnel must be recruited. (J40: 8)

S5M25: There are 10 instances of this verb form combination i.e. am/is/are in the subordinate clause and imperative form of the verb in the matrix clause conforming to Direct Open condition.
For example:

1. If you are interested in portraits then try to make your sitter take an interesting pose. (E24: 37)

2. If the dream is merely an expression of your state of mind, then try to make peace with the world. (F12: 156)

It is, however, observed that many of the instances of S5M25 constructions fall into the category of style disjunct as they seem to imply an underlying statement '... I say'. However, the above cited examples seem to conform to Direct Open condition.

S7M9-27: There are 05 instances of the verb form combination with the present subjunctive be in the subordinate clause and different modals in the matrix clause representing Direct Open Condition in formal style. (Quirk et al 1985: 1012)

For example:

1. ... if the mind be immaterial, its functions ought to be unaffected by the condition of the body.

2. If it be thought that there might be any dubiety, I will say that my ruling applies to nothing... (H19: 65)

S9M1-25: There are 13 instances of the verb form combination i.e. will in the subordinate clause and various tense and modal forms in the matrix clause. They all represent Direct Open Condition. Quirk et al (1985: 1008) have mentioned that will and won't occur in adverbial clauses, particularly in if-clauses.

They state that in general, the difference between the simple present tense and the modal is that the simple present refers to an assumed future actual situation, whereas the modal refers to the assumed predictability of a situation or of situations. More specifically, will and won't are commonly used:

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1) Where the modals have a volitional meaning:

ii) Where the modals express the predictability of the occurrence or nonoccurrence of a future situation:

The following are the representative examples from the LOB data:

1. If you'll drink it, I'll not care... ['are willing to'] (P04: 154)
2. He says he'll help me a lot if I'll stick with him. ['am willing to'] (K18: 94)
3. I shall be interested to see their reasons if they will give them. ['are willing to'] (B23: 41)

It may be pointed out that there has been a very lively controversy about the use of will in the subordinate clause of a conditional construction which we have discussed in some detail in Chapter II, Section 2.

However, as the number of instances of this type of construction is quantitatively very small, there seems to be no need for a highly detailed discussion of the implications of will in the subordinate clause.

S10M3-25: There are 08 instances of would in the subordinate clause and various tense forms and modals in the matrix clause conforming to Direct Open condition.

For example:

1. 'If he would define them, the argument might be made more serviceable. (D14: 69)
2. If Mr. Barnett would define his terms, it would be easier to follow him. (D14: 88)

S11M11: There are 02 instances of shall in both the subordinate and matrix clauses in the LOB data conforming to Direct Open condition. The occurrence of shall in the if clause is discussed in Quirk et al (1985) in modal meanings. However, it is rare in our corpus.
For example:

1. And it shall come to pass, if you shall hearken diligently unto my commandments... (D04: 33)

S12M5-25: There are 14 instances of this verb form combination i.e. should+base form of the verb in the subordinate clause and various tense forms and modals in the matrix clause. They all conform to Direct Open condition. They are often formal real condition.

For example:

1. If you should think of anything that will help us in the Haines case, you'll give me a ring. (G02: 23)
2. If they should observe these footprints... they may be deterred from attacking us. (M03: 37)
3. If he should call in, tell him to go home at once... (P26: 128)

S13M1-25: There are 43 instances of this verb form combination i.e. can+base form of the verb in the subordinate clause and various other tense forms and modals in matrix clause conforming to Direct Open condition as shown in the following examples:

1. If you can accept the short opening scene between Falstaff and his followers, the evening has no further terrors for you. (C10: 12)
2. If you can find a Malaga, then try that. (E18: 68)
3. If you can get to Bletcham this evening I'll run you up there in the car. (L07: 92)

Other verb form combinations:

S14-S19M9-25: There are 15 instances of various verb form combinations in which modals occur in both the subordinate and matrix clauses. These conform to Direct open condition.

For example:

1. ... there must be far worse consequences if the UN had to abandon its task. (B01: 95)
2. ... you will find it interesting if we could go up to your room, Sir... (P12: 89).

3. I'll go crazy if I have to spend every single evening that I'm in Paris just sitting in the hotel. (P20: 70)

So far we have discussed finite clauses in the if- or subordinate ones. Let us now turn to the nonfinite and verbless clauses.

4.1.2 Direct Open Condition: Nonfinite and Verbless If-clauses:

Nonfinite and verbless clauses can occur as subordinate if-clauses in conditional constructions. Quirk et al. (1985: 1004-6).

In the LOB data, there are quite a few occurrences (i.e. 58) of nonfinite and verbless if-clauses in conditionals which fall into Direct Open condition. The following are examples of instances according to the type of clause, nonfinite, verbless etc., i.e. S22M1-25 types.

4.1.2.1 Nonfinite -ed Clauses:

There are 13 instances of this type in which the subordinate clause is a nonfinite -ed clause and the matrix clause has different tense and modal forms. All these conform to Direct Open condition.

For example:

1. This clause if unamended permits the widest variation even in the amount of grants. (H16: 8)  
   = 'If it is amended...'

2. Thus a family of a mother and four children will cost the country £37 a week when they are separated, and only £4 if kept together at St. Mary's (G64: 67)  
   = '... if they are kept...'

3. A soft icing to be put direct on the cake instead of almond paste if preferred (E20: 132)  
   = '... if it is preferred.'
4.1.2.2 Verbless Clauses: non-finite -adj/noun/prep-phr:

There are 08 instances of the verbless clauses containing different formal elements such as adjectives/nouns/prepositional phrases functioning as subject complement. All these conform to Direct Open condition.

For example:

1. If red, then it is high-speed steel; if yellow, carbon steel. (adj)
   = 'If it is red... if it is yellow...' (E03: 59)
2. A good rule is 'if in doubt, do so'... (prep-phr)
   = 'If you're in doubt...' (F08: 36)
3. If valid, this implies that migrations involve kineses rather than taxes. (noun)
   = 'If it is valid...' (J06: 36)

4.1.2.3 Other Verbless Clauses: Non-finite - possible/necessary:

The more frequent clauses are those which contain possible and necessary in the subordinate clause. There are 20 instances of such constructions conforming to Direct Open condition.

For example:

If possible:

1. Her books should be read at a sitting if possible...
   = 'If it is possible' (C09: 70)
2. If possible she will bring about that marriage...
   = 'If it is possible' (K13: 118)

If necessary:

1. Mr. Blundell, we will vote for you, if necessary.
   = 'If it is necessary' (G88: 11)

4.1.2.4 If so/If not:

There are 16 instances of these types of verbless clauses. All these
instances conform to Direct Open condition. Quirk et al. have discussed occurrences of such clauses as pro-clauses positive and negative which have their subject in the matrix clause. However, the following instances in our data have an anaphoric reference to the previous statement. Orthographically, these clauses are marked by a comma (').

For example:

**If so:**

1. *If so,* whose principle of life was it before the dog came? (D14: 63)
   
   = 'If it is so...'

2. They may be coming from one flute only, and *if so,* the drill has been incorrectly ground. = ['If it is so...'] (E03: 72)

**If not:**

1. If you have a wooden floor you can use 'A' frames fastened to the floor *if not,* use a strong horizontal frame that will sit firmly on the ground or concrete floor. (E04: 67)
   
   = 'If you haven't a...'

2. And *if not,* well that just goes to show that journeying through the world is a hazardous business. (G14: 06)
   
   = 'If there isn't'

4.1.2.5 Restricted Condition:

There are 10 instances of restricted condition (Quirk et al. 1985: 1081-93) in which the subordinator *if* is preceded by only i.e. Only if or if and only if as used in Logic and Mathematics.

For example:

1. Applications of candidates from overseas will be considered *only if* they are submitted to the University... (H29: 31)
   
   = If the applications are submitted to the university then only...

2. Hence the residue at 1=1; n; in 'U' formula, and this vanishes for all r *if and only if* the Fourier coefficient off(f) with respect to the eigen function \( F(+, 1, - n;) \) vanishes. (J49: 232)
Now, we shall deal with other types of Open condition like direct open condition: past reference.

4.1.3 Direct open condition: past time reference

The various verb form combinations that occur in this type of conditional are shown in Table 4.1.1.2

Table 4.1.1.2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Verb form combinations</th>
<th>No. of instances</th>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>S19M6</td>
<td>01</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Now, let us look at the above combinations form wise. In all there are 43 instances of past actual constructions. They are discussed below:

S3M3: There are 12 instances of this verb form combination representing simple past tense in both the subordinate clause and matrix clause. All these are instances of past real condition (Palmer 1965: 133). They have reference to real events that took place in the past. So they may be labelled as past actual. It may be noted that in these instances it is possible to replace if by when(ever) [in the past].

For example:
1. ... if archers had no target, campaigns became mere marauding route marches. (G01: 14)
2. If Shevlin expected a pat on the back from Camp, he didn't get it. (L18: 12)
3. If you stood your ground they came to a stop and sidled off in another direction. (R08: 17)

S3M4: There are 04 instances of this verb form combination i.e. simple past tense in the subordinate clause and past perfect tense in the matrix clause. All these instances have reference to the past. So these may be labelled as past actual.

For example:
1. They had been detained to watch thevilla and follow me if I tried to escape. (P04: 163)
2. If other terrors arising from the pond population came and went (as, for instance, the day my wife saw a large rat walk slowly across our bridge towards the front door, or the sudden surprise of beady shrew-eyes from the pond's grass banks) at least we had seemingly rid ourselves without offending anyone openly, of our Chinese, geese. (R08: 36)

S3M6: There are 06 instances of this verb form combination i.e. Simple past in the subordinate clause and was/were in the SVCs clause structure in the matrix clause. All these instances have reference to past time, hence
may be labelled as *past actual* as in the case of S3M3 verb forms. In these cases, it is possible to replace *if* by *when* (ever) [in the past]. The was/were passive construction in matrix clause becomes past actual as in S3M3 construction.

For example:

1. If a man objected to some statement be considered serious enough to justify this action, the entire class was made to stand until he abandoned his objection. (G55: 2)

**S6M3**: There are 05 instances of S6M3 verb form combination i.e. was/were in SVCs clause structure in the subordinate clause followed by simple past tense in the matrix clause. These instances have reference to the past hence may be labelled as past actual.

For example:

1. If he was at all abnormal, he supposed that it was only by reason of a certain mental rapidity. (G13: 47)

2. ... if any special man was interested in the girls in question, Chinese lily always saw that there were others, even more attractive -- no awkward questions were asked. (P12: 131)

**S6M4**: There are only 02 instances of this verb form combination i.e. was/were in the subordinate clause and past perfect tense in matrix clause having reference to the past hence may be labelled as *past actual*.

For example:

... and if it was a thing that Tom agreed, I'd decided to spend a discreet figure on this objective... (L15: 80)

**S6M6**: There are 04 instances of this verb form combination i.e. was/were in the subordinate clause and was/were in SVCs clause structure in the matrix clause. These instances have reference to the past. These may be labelled as *past actual* wherein *if* can be replaced by *when* (ever) in the past.
For example:

1. If she was on the other team, she was very good indeed. (N15: 139)

2. And if this was so, there was no need to plan anything or to feel any fear. (K14: 39)

S3-1SM3-14: There are 10 instances of these verb form combinations conforming to Direct Open condition with past time reference. They have reference to the past hence may be labelled as past actual. The following are some of the examples:

1. If you put out your hand she would put up her head to meet it, scenting its approach. (G19: 83)

2. I had more than half expected that Mrs. Caine, if and when she appeared in our midst, would make with her raised hand a sign of power; she did nothing of the kind. (M03: 60)

3. Thank goodness he had no means of knowing she always did blush furiously if she had told even the tiniest and whitest of lies. (P20: 86)

4. If no dress, shoes or handbag had appealed to her, then she would buy jewellery, make up or nylons. (P27: 56)

5. ... there was quite a clamour for back stamps if a child had to miss the Sunday Church from any cause which the Vicar considered outstififiable. (G04: 71)

Now let us look at the direct open condition: reported speech.

4.1.4 Direct Open Condition: reported speech:

When a direct open conditional sentence is reported, there will be backshifting of tense forms. As a result the conditional sentence will have verb forms with past tense markers. They, therefore, have the appearance of Direct hypothetical condition. In fact such sentences often have such reporting verbs as said, stated, etc. Table 4.1.1.3 gives the various verb form combinations that occur in this type of condition.
Table 4.1.1.3

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Verb form combinations</th>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>S14M12</td>
<td>02</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In all there are 26 instances of this type of condition.

S3M6-14: Out of these there are 20 instances of the verb form combination with simple past tense in the subordinate clause and auxiliaries was/were, modals would, should and could in the matrix clause.

For example:

1. ... Mr. Kaunda said that if UNIP didn't get its way what would happen would make the Mau Mau in Kenya seem like a child's picnic. (A02: 85)

It is clear that when the backshifting is removed the sentence will be Direct Open conditional i.e.:

... if UNIP doesn't get its way what will happen will make the Mau Mau in Kenya seem like a child's picnic.

Now, let us look at certain remaining 06 examples of the other verb form combinations shown in table 4.1.1.3.

For example:

1. Councillor Fred Vittle said, he thought that owners and trainers would stop running their horses at Warwick if the prize money was not increased. (A36: 06)
2. He said that if he were told to marry us he would resign. (A24: 140)

3. He stated that if the burgomaster or one of the council could empty it at one draught all should live and the city be spared. (F35: 9)

4.2 Direct Hypothetical Condition:

Quirk et al (1985: 1091) have classified Direct condition into Open and Hypothetical conditions. We have already dealt with Open conditions in the previous section. Now, as to the hypothetical conditions they say that: "a hypothetical condition conveys the speaker’s belief that the condition will not be fulfilled (for future conditions), is not fulfilled (for present conditions), or was not fulfilled (for past conditions), and hence the probable or certain falsity of the proposition expressed by the matrix clause".

Their examples are:

1. If he changed his opinions, he'd be a more likeable person. [1] = future time = contrary to expectation.

2. They would be here with us if they had the time. [2] = present time = contrary to assumption.

3. If you had listened to me, you wouldn't have made so many mistakes. [3] past time = contrary to fact.

The conditional clauses in the above cited examples convey the implications as follows:

He very probably won't change his opinions. [1a]
They presumably don't have the time. [2a]
You certainly didn't listen to me. [3a]

4.2.1 Direct Hypothetical Condition: present and future time reference:

We shall first deal with hypothetical conditions which have present and future time reference. The various verb form combinations that occur in this type of conditional are shown in Table 4.1.2.1.

Table 4.1.2.1

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Verb form combination</th>
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</table>

195                      72

* Typical standard conditional instances account for these in the corpus.
There are 74 instances of this verb form combination i.e. simple past tense in the subordinate clause and would base form of the verb in the matrix clause. According to pedagogical and reference grammars, Direct "hypothetical conditionals" may have either future or present time reference: contrary to expectation for future reference and contrary to assumption for present reference.

Out of these 74 instances, some of the instances represent cases of contrary to assumption i.e., they have present time reference and most of the instances represent cases of contrary to expectation indicating future time reference. The following are some of the examples.

I Present time reference : contrary to assumption

1. If... one happened to have grown up about the beginning of this century, one almost certainly would be conscious of that quality called style. (G21: 74)
   = one presumably doesn't happen to have grown up...

2. It would be disastrous, if the law had no firmer basis than the emotions of the majority... (G57: 36)
   = The law presumably has a firmer basis...

II Future time reference : contrary to expectation

1. ... they would ruin any middle class school of their own if they allowed entry to lower class children. (F28: 47)
   = they will very probably not allow entry to lower class children.

2. I wouldn't be surprised if we broke all speed records on the way in. (L03: 168)
   = We will very probably not break...

3. If he took the body down to the Foyer and left it in a chair in that mausoleum, a blood trail would be a confession. (N10: 82)
   = He will very probably not take the body down to the Foyer...
S3H10.18: There are 0\textsuperscript{7} instances of this verb form combination i.e. simple past tense in the subordinate clause and \textit{would+have to} in the matrix clause conforming to Direct hypothetical condition.

For example:

1. If he \textit{did} he \textit{would have to} leave the bar and either sit in the longe or return to his bedroom. (NO4: 62)

   = He will very probably not do...

There are 3\textsuperscript{9} instances of S3 followed by different modals in the matrix clause conforming to Direct hypothetical condition. We, therefore, give below only some examples of each combination. Most of the instances, indicate future time reference hence the condition is contrary to expectation.

For example:

1. If the Chancellor really \textit{wanted} to get more people into the saving and investing habit he \textit{could} without difficulty go further and give relief on the first slice of an individual’s income from his investments. (B07: 58)

   = "the chancellor really doesn’t want to get..."

2. If I \textit{accepted} it, it \textit{might well} start a civil war. (K13: 24)

   = "I very probably won’t accept it."

S6H10: There are 46\textsuperscript{8} instances of this verb form combination i.e. was/were or was to/were to in SVCs clause structure in the subordinate clause and would+base form of the verb in the matrix clause. All these instances conform to direct hypothetical condition and indicate present/future time reference. The following are some of the examples.

1. ... if there \textit{weren’t} any criminals, all the clergymen, police and probation officers \textit{would be} out of work. (C16: 55)

   = there \textit{are} presumably some criminals...
2. The businessman would find that he reached the end of the day with far less strain if he was a little more systematic. (D06: 72)

= He is presumably not so systematic...

3. Besides if you were seventy three, your parents would be dead. (K24: 101)

= you are presumably not seventy three...

S6M10.18-M25: There are 30 instances of S6 i.e. was/were in SVCs clause structure in the subordinate clause followed by various verb form combinations including modals in the matrix clause that conform to Direct hypothetical condition. We give below some selected examples.

1. ... if a scientist was as ignorant of history as most humanities are of Science, he would have to believe that Napoleon preceded Julius Caesar. (G64: 10)

= a scientist is presumably not as ignorant of history...

2. If there was a law, it should be impartial. (M10: 43)

= there is presumably not a law...

3. If the text was longer than the roll, a sheet could easily be glued on. (D01: 96)

= the text presumably is not longer than the roll...

4. If your ruling were given just like that, and without reasons, it might be held to go much further than you intend. (H19: 62)

= your ruling is presumably not given just like that...

5. If ever there was a modern fairy tale that went wrong then Margaret's and Peter's must surely be it. (F18: 105)

= there is presumably not a modern fairy tale that went wrong...

S6M10: There are 40 instances of this verb form combination i.e. subjunctive were in the subordinate clause and would+base form of the verb in the matrix clause. All these instances conform to direct hypothetical condition indicating present/future time reference hence contrary to assumption/expectation.
Following are some of the sample examples.

1. If East Berlin were part of a sovereign nation, no foreign troops and indeed no foreigners would be allowed to enter it without permission of its government. (B21: 80)

   = East Berlin is presumably not part of a sovereign nation...

2. Most men would unhesitatingly use a machine if it were available. (E02: 71)

   = it is presumably not available.

3. ... if he were announced to speak the week before, the crowd would be there at the appointed time and place ready and waiting. (G03: 29)

   = he is presumably not announced to speak the week before.

4. ... if Bob Higgins were at home he would stop any such foolhardiness. (k17: 70)

   = Bob Higgins is presumably not at home.

5. If I were needing a job I'd go to London... (P03: 09)

   = I presumably don’t need a job.

6. ... the Prime Minister continued. 'If I were to publish afterwards we said to each other it would not be private’. (A31: 71)

   = It will probably not be private/I very probably won’t publish...

7. If China were to acquire the bomb, it seems safe to prophesy that Russia and American would become allies again within the next five years. (G71: 53)

   = China will probably not acquire the bomb...

* The most common typical standard hypothetical conditions are represented by the three verb form combinations viz: S3M10, S6M10 and S8M10 already discussed.

S8M12-16: There are 12 instances of S8 verb form combination i.e. subjunctive were in the subordinate clause followed by various verb form combinations including modals in the matrix clause. All these conform to Direct hypothetical condition as follows:

1. If I were to answer this according to my own beliefs, I should probably say... (A17: 58)

   = I shall probably not answer this...
2. I could only obtain promotion if it were impossible to find anyone else to do the job. (G09: 34)

= It is presumably not impossible to find anyone else...

3. Naturally if the doctor were also a personal friend, or a social acquaintance, the situation might be different. (F08: 38)

= the doctor is presumably not a personal friend...

S14M10: There are 11 instances of this verb form combination i.e. could+base form of the verb in the subordinate clause and would+base form of the verb in the matrix clause conforming to Direct hypothetical condition.

For example:

1. It would be an excellent thing if everyone could swim...
  (B24: 10)

= everyone cannot presumably swim.

2. .... but if any of our keen supporters could steal a glimpse at its pages, their hearts would be warmed within them. (M25: 56)

= our keen supporters cannot possibly steal a glimpse at its pages.

S14M16: The following is the only example of this verb form combination conforming to Direct hypothetical condition.

1. If means could be found to level up the resources of labour and the liberals, much of the bitterness might be removed from personal discussion of election laws... (J41: 31)

= means will very probably not be found...

4.2.2 Direct Hypothetical Conditional : non-finite and verbless clauses:

S22M10-17: There are 08 instances of nonfinite-ed and verbless-if clauses i.e. reduced clauses in the corpus. So the verb form combinations are S22 followed by modals in the matrix clause. These instances conform to Direct hypothetical condition. The following are some of the sample examples:

1. ... he would wither away if taken away for too long. (A18: 72) (Non-finite -ed clause)
2. ... and if so the number of the notes would be known. (L15: 68) (Verbless clause)

3. Again that chopping blow, a blow that could kill if aimed at the right spot, ... (NOS: 184) (Non-finite -ed clause).

4. ... but she knew she must do something to distinguish herself if possible. (P14: 80) (Verbless - Noun clause)

4.2.3 Direct Hypothetical Condition: past time reference:

We shall now deal with direct hypothetical condition with past time reference popularly known as counterfactual.

The various verb form combinations that occur in this type of condition are shown in table 4.1.2.2.

Table 4.1.2.2

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Verb form combinations</th>
<th>No. of instances</th>
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<td>S22M10</td>
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89 17

* Typical standard conditional instances account for these in the corpus.
Now, we shall deal with each of the combination to convey the functional meaning as follows:

**S4M10.2:** There are 52 instances of this verb form combination containing the past perfect tense in the subordinate clause and past perfective modal would in the matrix clause. It may be noted that this is the only conditional which is both pure in form and function representing the Hypothetical condition contrary to fact. So it may be claimed that machine can identify this construction without error.

For example:

1. No one would have been surprized if the visit had been cancelled. (B13: 35)

2. If all fraternizing had not been strictly forbidden, the village maidens would gladly have obliged. (G10: 6)

3. It would have been too much of a disappointment to them if her plans had changed. (K05: 10)

4. ... if they had done so, Rodgers would not have stopped the questioning. (L02: 38)

5. If she hadn't taken the wrong path on the common and gone miles out of her way, she would have been home long before sunset. (N16: 09)

6. If that had been the case she would have left a letter or a message... (P12: 20)

* This is the most typical type of what is called "counterfactual condition".

**S4M12.2-17.2:** There are 21 instances of these verb form combinations i.e. past perfective in the subordinate clause and past perfective modals could, might, must and need in the matrix clause representing the hypothetical condition which is contrary to fact (see Table 4.1.2.2). The examples are as given below:

1. If the words had been simply "an amount is applied for the benefit of any person", I should have thought it very doubtful... (H18: 30)
2. If I'd had the power of movement I could've reached out and touched it. (L12: 128)

3. If he'd gone to America, they might never have met. (P13: 13)

4. ... if Gillian had at any time departed from it in his dealings with Wynter, the fact must inevitably have become known to us. (L24: 62)

5. I cried out accusingly: 'Esmond need never have died if you hadn't given him away. (P24: 162)

S3M10.2-17.2: Besides the regular verb form combination, there are 33 other instances of counterfactual condition i.e. contrary to fact in the LOB data. Out of these, 11 sentences have a simple past tense form of the verb in the subordinate clause and would+perfective in the matrix clause. There are a few instances of modal+perfective also in the matrix clause as shown in table 4.1.2.2.

For example:

1. Only they would have been able, if the need arose to finance the scheme out of their own resources. (G15: 22)
   = the need did not certainly arise...

2. ... if he did he would have been most unlikely to request the establishment of those stations. (B09: 62)
   = he certainly did not ...

3. ... and if I knew then as much about the problems of Ceylon as I do now some of the provisions would have been different. (G73: 58)
   = I certainly didn't know...

4. ... and if you weren't a policeman I wouldn't have let you in. (N05: 59)
   = you certainly were a policeman...

5. She would have carried him about with her all the time if it were socially permissible. (K28: 169)
   = it certainly was not socially permissible...

S3M12.2-17.2: There are some 05 examples of the various verb form
combinations i.e. simple past tense in the subordinate clause and past perfective modals in the matrix clause conforming to direct hypothetical condition which is contrary to fact.

For example:

1. ... why she should have taken her own life, if she did take it deliberately, when she had so much to look forward to. (L05: 140)

2. There was no reason why a tax reduction should not have been added to the reforms if the economic situation rendered this deliberately. (J43: 21)

3. ... if the United Nations wanted to clear up the Congo it could have started with stables more Augean than Tshombe's. (B02: 41)

S6M10.2 and 16.2: There are 05 instances of these verb form combinations representing counterfactual condition.

It may be noted that the verbs that occur in the if-clause in simple past tense form are the verb be or its subjunctive form. When other verbs occur, they are invariably stative verbs.

For example:

1. She'd have tried me long ago if it wasn't for my figure. (P14: 49)

2. ... and he would have been right if the only existing proof of the fact were the P6 concertos. (G42: 29)

3. If the threatened 'counter-revolution' was not enough to bring the president back from his travels it might have been thought that the muster from the 13 states of the commonwealth was an occasion worthy of his presence. (A02: 100)

S8M10.2-16.2: There are 05 instances of these verb form combinations i.e. subjunctive were in the subordinate clause and would and might+perfective modals in the matrix clause conforming to direct hypothetical condition.

For example:

1. Hungary's greatest poet... would have written an even more passionate piece about this silent revolution if he were alive today. (E22: 09)
2. It might have been better if it were true that all men are equal...
   (J36: 74)

S4M4-16: There are 05 instances of this verb form combination containing past perfect tense in the subordinate clause with various verb form combinations conforming to direct hypothetical condition with past time reference.

For example:
1. It need not have been such a burden if Western Governments had not been convinced... (B02: 82)

4.2.4 Nonfinite and verbless clauses:

S22M10-10.2: There are 05 instances of this verb form combinations i.e. verbless if-clause and nonfinite -ed clause and perfective modal would in the matrix clause conforming to direct hypothetical condition with past time reference.

For example:
1. If challenged to date it, Appleby would have said 1718, if challenged to name the builder, he would have said James Gibbs. (L13: 17) (Verbless -ed clauses)

4.3 Indirect Condition: Style Disjuncts:

According to Quirk et al (1985: 1095) Indirect conditions are open conditions that are dependent on an implicit speech act of the utterance and are therefore style disjuncts. They are mainly realized by if-clauses. Quirk et al have distinguished between four classes of style disjuncts. To be more clear, it may be useful to quote Greenbaum (1969: 81-93). According to him, disjunct can serve as a response to a Yes-No question, though some require to be accompanied by yes or no. A sub class of disjuncts can be isolated which Greenbaum (1969: 80-93) calls style disjuncts. The term is
an adaptation of 'style tertiaries', a designation coined by Jespersen (1937 and 1949). Style disjuncts refer to what Poldauf has called 'the form of the communication'.

The relationship of a style disjunct to its clause can be expressed by a corresponding clause in which a verb of speaking is present. For example:

Confidentially, she is very stupid.

In the above example, the relationship of confidentially can be shown by a number of correspondences.

For example:

Frankly, she isn't very stupid.

A possible correspondence for Frankly would be:

If I may be frank, [I would say (that)] she isn't very stupid.

The various interpretations of the sentence, the disjunct corresponds to are:

1) If I may ask you to be frank, tell me: isn't she very stupid?
2) If I may be frank [I would ask:] isn't she very stupid?

However, a conditional clause as in the following sentences will also have its non-finitization as correspondence.

For example:

If I may be frank, [I would say (that)] she isn't very stupid.

= To be frank, [I would say (that)] she isn't very stupid.

Here, frankly can be replaced by another style disjunct, relatively.

The structures with conditional clause are presumably the closest correspondences since their subordinate status reflects the subordinate
As with previous correspondences containing conditional clauses, we must assume that the conditional clause is subordinate to an implied clause with a verb of speaking. It is not subordinated to the clause to which the style disjunct relates. When a conditional clause precedes its superordinate clause, the latter can accommodate an inferential then, equivalent to 'in that case' or 'it follows from that' as applied in the test to:

e.g. If I may be frank, she isn't very stupid.

Here, it is clear that by inserting inferential then in the second clause, we produce an unacceptable sentence:

* If I may be frank then she isn't very stupid.

This indicates that If I may be frank is not conditional to she is not very stupid.

In the acceptable sentence If I may be frank, she is very stupid, we must assume a suppressed apodosis to the conditional clause, such as I would say.

Now, let us turn to Quirk et al's distinction of the four types of clauses of style-disjuncts. They are:

a) Conditional clause is a conventional expression of politeness which makes the speaker's utterance seemingly dependent on the permission of the hearer. The markers in the conditional clause include:

If you don't mind my saying so, if I may be quite frank with you, if I may say so without contradiction, if I may put it bluntly, if I may be personal, if you can be serious for just
this once, if you can keep a secret, if we can be practical for a moment, if I may put the matter as simply as possible, if I may interrupt, if I may change the subject.

  e.g. If you don’t mind my saying so, your slip is showing. [If you don’t mind my saying so, I’m telling you that...]

b) The conditional clause is a metalinguistic comment calling for the hearer’s agreement. The markers are:

  if that’s the right word, if one may put it so, if you know what I mean, if that’s the correct term, if you see what I mean, if I may phrase it delicately/loosely, crudely/figuratively, if you will (formal), if you like.

  It conveys both the speaker’s uncertainty as well as a warning more indirectly as in:

  e.g. His style is florid, if that’s the right word. (‘I’m not sure that florid is the right word’).

c) The conditional clause expresses uncertainty about the extra-linguistic knowledge required for a correct interpretation of the utterance. The uncertainty may be of the speaker’s or the hearer’s as in:

  e.g. I met your girl friend Caroline last night, if Caroline is your girl friend.

  The markers are:

  if I am correct, if I understand you correctly, if we can believe the experts, in case you don’t remember, if you remember, if you know what I’m referring to, in case you don’t know.

d) The conditional clause expresses the condition under which the speaker makes the utterance as in:

  e.g. If you’re going my way, I need a lift back. (‘If you’re
going my way, will you please give me a lift back').

Now we give below the details of occurrences of Indirect condition
as found in LOB corpus in table 4.2.1-2.4 (a)
Table 4.2.1-2.4 (a)

Indirect Conditions: style disjunct (Formal Types)

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The following table shows the functional classification of the types also as in the LOB corpus data.

Table No.4.2.1-2.4 (b)

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<td>Subordinate clause</td>
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<td>2. Metalinguistic/hedges the wording of the utterance calling for hearer's agreement.</td>
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<td>4. Sub cl. expresses uncertainty/condition under which the speaker makes the utterance.</td>
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</table>

There are 86 instances of indirect condition in the LOB corpus that fall into the four types of style disjuncts. The following are some examples of each of the types found in the corpus data.

a) **Expression of politeness** (seemingly dependent on hearer's permission)

1. 'When I got out of my car - if you will excuse the expression - I said to the woman driver, 'what the hell are you doing?' 'But she didn't reply'. (A35:145)

2. A being of whom the forest Indians are said to be mortally afraid, with a hoof shaped like the heel of a bottle. If your lordship will excuse me a moment. (M03: 145)

b) **Metalinguistic Comment** (hedges the wording of the utterance calling for hearer's agreement)
For example:

1. For another thing, he was beginning to feel sure that she had recognized him and wanted to talk but could not summon up the courage — **if courage was the word**. (L20: 26)

2. All I want to say is that all rounders (or **if one prefers the term — 'non-specialist'**) have no monopoly of bad judging. (E32: 17)

3. Mr. Wilson asked, 'You can call it a taxation management bill, **if you like**. (A06: 13)

4. The hero, **if such Mr. David Winterlea can be called**, tries to turn two Cantonese sisters from amahs into ladies and teach them English. (C01: 61)

c) **Extralinguistic Knowledge** (Uncertainty may be of speaker's or hearer's)

For example:

1. **If my assumption is correct** and you are trying to embark on some sort of an adventure — it might be a love-affair take the dream's warning and don't. (F12: 155)

2. 'I've told you I have no idea who this warning could have been for. **If it was a warning.** (L14: 12)

d) **Utterance Condition** (the speaker makes the utterance under certain condition)

For example:

1. There's a light in the cabin **if you want to sit below**. (M24: 115)

2. If you are friend of hers, I tell you, he said. 'Miss Pavone left just now with all her baggage. (M22: 145)

3. If a prospective teacher wants to know something about e.g. Child psychology or the history of education, **good luck to him**. (B27: 82)

It is to be noted that the verb form combinations in Indirect conditions have almost all the verb form combinations found in Direct open condition as shown in table 4.1.1.1. However, the instances are rare hence have not been discussed form wise. All these instances have the appearance of open condition as discussed by Quirk et al (1985: 1095-97).
4.4 Rhetorical condition:

According to Quirk et al. (1985: 1094) rhetorical conditional clauses give the appearance of expressing an open condition, but like rhetorical questions they actually make a strong assertion. They have discussed two types of rhetorical if-clauses, one in which the assertion is derived from the conditional clause and the other in which the assertion is derived from the matrix clause. Besides type A and B, the other types found in the corpus have also been discussed under rhetorical condition. See the following table.

Table 4.3.1-3.3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rhetorical Condition</th>
<th>true, false and Other types</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.1(A)</td>
<td>3.2(B)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIM0 01</td>
<td>S6M6 01</td>
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<tr>
<td>SIM0 01</td>
<td>S2M1-15 08</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSIM13 01</td>
<td>SSM1-17 06</td>
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<td>SIM5 01</td>
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<tr>
<th>No.of</th>
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<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>61</td>
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</table>
According to Quirk et al there are the two rhetorical conditions A & B:

TYPE A:
If the proposition in the matrix clause is patently absurd, the proposition in the conditional clause is shown to be false.

For example:
1. If they're Irish, I'm the Pope. ['Since I'm obviously not the Pope, they're certainly not Irish'].
2. If you believe that, you'll believe anything. ['You certainly can't believe that'].

(Quirk et al 1985: 1094)

TYPE B:
If the proposition in the conditional clause is patently true, the proposition in the matrix clause is shown to be true.

For example:
1. He's ninety if he's a day. ['If you'll agree that he's at least a day old, perhaps you'll take my word that he's ninety'].

(Quirk et al 1985: 1095)

They add that this type is used with measure expressions with the implication of at least the measure stated in the conditional clause. The if-clause is positioned finally.

In their note Quirk et al add that rhetorical questions can be the response to a question if the implied superordinate clause is made explicit.

The following are the only three examples of this type in the LOB corpus.

TYPE A:
1. I can tell by your voice that it means a lot to you, but I'm damned if I can see the reason. (L07: 47)

= I certainly cannot see the reason.
2. 'Damned if I know, boy', said the driver. 'But something very untoward has happened, if you ask me'. (NO4: 82)

= I certainly don't know.

3. Durned if I don't like him most as much as I like and thrust Gene Pelcher, by Jingo, I do! but havin' an official position, I just got to be close mouthed in expression my opinion of other men'. (NO3: 18)

= I certainly like him most.

TYPE B:

There is only one instance of this type in the LOB corpus:

1. Mr. Baring (who whispered and wore prince-nez) was seventy if he was a day. (K22: 12)

The fact that only 04 examples of Rhetorical condition occur in the whole of the LOB corpus calls for some explanation. It may well be that they occur in set phrases and curses such as 'damned'.

Again Quirk et al describe rhetorical condition as very similar to rhetorical question and say that like the rhetorical question, the rhetorical condition makes a strong assertion. However, they have not illustrated any examples. It would appear then that although there are quite a few instances of rhetorical questions in the corpus data they have not been accounted for. If we go by their generalization about Rhetorical condition, it would appear that certain other instances could be included in this category. For example:

Why did you go to Dr. Summersky's Office and ask him about these pain-killers of Hilary's if you didn't suspect something.
(LO5: 117)

= You certainly suspected something or you would not have gone to Dr. Summersky's office.

This conditional sentence makes a strong assertion. Such conditional sentences may qualify to be included in the category of rhetorical condition i.e. other types as shown in table 4.3.1-3.3 others.
Other types of rhetorical conditions:

There are 120 (= 68+52) instances of conditional sentences in which the matrix clause is a rhetorical question.

For example:

1. If, as is asserted, the pause is so vital to country's economy, why not invite us all to share it? (B09: 25) (Wh-question)
   = You should certainly invite us all to share it.

2. If the government tells you to kill off your mother because she is suffering from an incurable disease, is that religion or politics? (D16: 12) (Yes/No-question)
   = it is certainly politics.

3. But how can one expect a woman to control her desires if she is the only woman who can serve her man? (K29: 62) (Wh-question)
   = One can't certainly expect a woman to control her desires.

4. But why shouldn't you if it's true? (W02: 32) (Wh-question)
   = You certainly should.

5. If he doesn't mind, why should you? (W04: 118) (Wh-question)
   = You shouldn't certainly mind.

4.5 Other functions of if (Concessive etc.):

The marker if is very strongly associated with conditional constructions. Quantitatively by far the most frequent constructions containing if are conditional constructions. But quite a few (about 22.63%) constructions containing if are NOT conditional constructions. What is more they are distributed all over the text types A-R. (See table 4.4)
Table 4.4

Table showing frequency of occurrences of non-conditional if in LOB corpus.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>If=</th>
<th>If not</th>
<th>Even if only</th>
<th>If only</th>
<th>If-clause</th>
<th>As if</th>
<th>If-clause</th>
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<td>06</td>
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</table>

|        | 19  | 20    | 104          | 06     | 19        | 32    | 149       |

Grand Total: 519

These other constructions fall into five distinct categories: concessive constructions, if-clauses expressing strong wish, comment clauses, and non-conditional comparative clauses and reported questions.
4.5.1 Concessive if; if, if not, even if, if only:

There are 149 (19+20+104+6) instances of the use of if (if not, even if and if only) for concessive meaning in combination with if not, even if and if only. The following are some of the representative examples:

I If = though:

1. Broughton was Byron’s intimate (if a little stuffy and unimaginative) friend from their Cambridge days, who had travelled widely with him. (C01: 81)

   = ‘though he was a little stuffy and unimaginative...’

2. Graham’s advice on the subject was to the point if rather crude. (G56: 9)

   = ‘though it was rather crude’.

II If not = though not:

3. Ah well, our love affair was short if not sweet. (K07: 31)

   = ‘though our love was not sweet’.

4. We are half-way, if not to curing, at least to curing it. (R07: 92)

   = ‘though not half way to curing it’.

5. ... I was hustled into the sitting room and taught the rock n’ roll, the cha-cha and other gay, if not labyrinthine, mystiques. (R05: 105)

   = ‘though not labyrinthine mystiques’.

III Even if:

6. Even if he fails on Dandy Scat, Fred Winter is unquestionably the jockey to follow. (A07: 12)

   = ‘Though he fails on...’

7. They wonder why they get no rest at night even if they do sleep. (D06: 46)

   = ‘though they do sleep’.
IV  **if only = though:**

8. Now, in port, well deserved rest had been gained *if only* temporarily. (M05: 16)

= *though temporarily*.

It may be noted that the two different uses of concessive *if* are frequently realized in abbreviated verbless clauses.

4.5.2 **Strong wish etc.**:

Certain types of conditional constructions express a strong wish sometimes hypothetically. Generally, the marker is *if-only*. According to Quirk *et al* (1985: 842) subordinate clauses beginning with *if only* containing the form of the verb appropriate to conditional clauses also express an exclamatory wish. Their example is:

*if only* I’d listened to my parents!

= I wish I had listened to my parents.

*If only* is also used typically in hypothetical clauses to express what the speaker wishes *would happen*, *would be happening* or *would have happened*. The clause is sometimes used on its own as a hypothetical wish. For example:

*If only* I hadn’t lost it.

= I wish I had not lost it.

Collin’s COBUILD dictionary (1987: 720) also refers to the use of *if only* to express a wish or desire for example a wish that something in the past had happened differently. With this use, there is often no main clause to go-with the *if*-clause.

*If only* there were forty-eight hours in every day.

= I wish there were forty-eight hours in every day.
If only:

Out of the 19 instances of if only constructions there are only 10 instances of strong wish in LOB corpus all of which express a strong wish. For example:

Subordinate Clause Only:

1. if only I had the sense to tell you not to disturb him that first evening. (K06: 17)
   = I wish I had the sense to...
2. if only the police would do something... (L04: 128)
   = I wish the police would do something...

The other types are among others, cited in COBUILD Dictionary (1987: 720) is the use of if only to introduce what one think's a fairly good reason for doing something, although one realises it may not be a very good one.

Both the clauses:

For example:

I'll have a glass myself, if only to stop you from drinking it all.

= I think it a fairly good to have a glass myself to stop you from drinking it all.

It may be noted that such constructions contains both the matrix and subordinate clause. There are 09 instances of this type in the LOB corpus.

For example:

1. if only I could learn to accept, it would be easy. (L12: 101)
   = I am sorry that I cannot learn to accept it...
   = I think it a fairly good to learn to accept to make it easy.

4.5.3 Comment clauses:

According to Quirk et al (1985: 1112-18) comment clauses are
adverbial clauses. They have mentioned a number of structural properties of comment clauses but they have not illustrated examples of comment clauses in a conditional construction.

If we go by their description of comment clauses as "parenthetical disjuncts which may be either content disjuncts that express the speaker's comments on the content of the matrix clause or style disjuncts...", we find that there are quite a few instances of comment clauses in conditional constructions.

There are 32 instances of comment clauses which occur in LOB data and they fall into two formal types. One, the if clause is a comment on the content of the matrix clause and two, the matrix clause is a comment on the content of the if-clause. Within this type, we find several instances of the comment clause being verbless. The following are some of the examples.

1. Let the other fellow tell you something-- if he wishes to. (F03: 90)
2. Parnography-- if for the moment we stick to the etymological implication of writing-- is an aspect of literary. (G77: 2)
3. 'A storm, if it isn't too wild, wouldn't do any harm', Neil commented.
4. And if he backs anybody, that is surely good enough. (P05: 18)

4.5.3 Verbless Comment Clauses:

Type A : Matrix Clause Comment:

1. If they could send us also a copy of the guarantee itself, so much the better. (B18: 80)
2. If we like to call recognizing the need for intelligence and good will in achieving tolerable ways of living together a social philosophy, well and good. (G60: 59)

Type B : If-Clause Comment:

1. If anything, the present reign is likely to see a steady increase
in the influence of the sovereign. (G56: 4)

2. If nothing else, the Americans have to be convinced that the Government of Red China must be given full recognition, admitted to the United Nations, and treated as what it is, one of the leading governments in the world. (B20: 101)

3. Schiller prescribes for himself a very difficult task, which could only be accomplished, if at all, by the intricate verbal adjustments which in fact he makes in the course of the exposition. (J53: 58).

4. It would seem to me useful at this stage to make quite clear to us where, if anywhere, the particle aspect is unequivocal—certainly discreteness and discontinuity are not very relevant. (J18: 10)

5. And heaven alone knew when, if ever, he would be back on moon again, ... (M02: 42)

4.5.4 Non-conditional comparative constructions with as if:

Collins COBUILD dictionary (1987: 720) states that comparative constructions with as if are used in comparisons:

(i) when one is describing something that is done in a way that suggests that something else is the case.

For example:
She folded her arms as if she were cold.

(ii) and to emphasise that something is not the case, for example that something is not important.

For example:
He keeps worrying about what wine to buy, as if it mattered.

(Collins COBUILD 1987: 720)

There are 149 instances of as if constructions in our LOB data which are non-conditional constructions. The following are the examples:

1. It gives him a chance to make the health service look as if it costs less. (B14: 32)

2. Nan felt as if her breath had run out at the top of her head, leaving her suspended, her lungs helpless. (K18: 134)
3. He raved at me as if he were unbalanced. (L02: 150)

4. Suddenly she ran back towards the house as if possessed, shrieking at the top of her voice. (N25: 150)

4.5.5 Non-conditional \textit{reported yes/no questions}:

There are 170 instances of this type of yes/no questions in LOB data. In fact these are by no means non-conditional constructions. The following are the examples of non-conditional reported questions.

1. Other overseas commitments particularly in the far east should be reexamined to if such large numbers of men need be tied down (A20: 109)

2. He told the committee that he was going to write to the Minister of transport asking if he would receive a deputation from the council. (A36: 131)

3. I'd be very grateful if you'd try this car, he told me on the telephone one day. (G24: 28)

4. He would not care if he had never met you at all. (L19: 74)

5. She wondered if they wouldn't be right. (L06: 174)

6. Then Alen asked Field if he knew where a boy named Cobbolt lived. (P26: 80)

7. I waited to see if he would continue. (P15: 117)

4.6 Conclusion:

By now, it becomes clear that the LOB Corpus data tells us a good deal of the richness of Corpus data. The analysis of the conditional constructions in this corpus also clearly shows that it is more a quantitative work rather than a qualitative one.

We have seen that we have looked at the various different types of conditional constructions classified under Quirk et al's model viz: Direct, Indirect and Rhetorical conditions along with the sub-types subsumed under them as shown below:
Table No. 4.5

IF-CONDITIONAL CONSTRUCTIONS in LOB Corpus

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Types</th>
<th>Direct Open Condition</th>
<th>Direct Hypothetical</th>
<th>Indirect</th>
<th>Rhetorical</th>
<th>Others Non-con.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sub-types</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regular Past</td>
<td>Reported</td>
<td>Present Past &amp; Future time</td>
<td>style Disjuncts</td>
<td>True False +Rhetorical questions</td>
<td>Non-Conditionals</td>
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<td>47.44</td>
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<td>5.61</td>
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</table>

Grand Total: 97.31%

4.6.1 Direct Open Condition:

You will notice that the direct open condition accounts for more than half the total instances of the entire conditional constructions in the whole corpus i.e. 1048 out of 2209 i.e. 47.44%.

However, the typical standard conditional instances of direct open condition generally talk of only those which account for only the THREE typical constructions namely (1) Sentences in which both the matrix and
subordinate clauses are in the simple present tense (S1M1) accounting for 86 instances; for example:

1. Widows benefits stop if the widow remarries. (H20: 76) (If = when)

(2) Sentences in which the subordinate clause is in simple present tense and the matrix clause is in the simple future tense accounting for 117 instances. (i.e. S1M9, S1M11).

For example:

2. If I find Stephen, I'll bring him straight home. (P26: 105)

3. If I have no more pupils after these are gone from me, I shall then be glad of a curacy near you. (G18: 49)

(3) Sentences in which the subordinate clause is in the present tense containing am/is/are and the matrix clause is in the simple future tense accounting for 121 instances i.e. (S5M1 = 45, S5M9 = 61 and S5M11 = 15).

For example:

4. If Tukota is with her, he will look after her. (P12: 70)

In other words there are only 324 typical standard conditional instances of direct open condition. The remaining two thirds of these are complex and assorted types accessible more to the corpus data.

4.6.2 Direct Hypothetical Conditions:

On the other hand, the number of instances of hypothetical condition accounts for (267+106 = 373) 373 both for present & future time reference (S3M10, S6M10, S8M10) and past time reference (S4M10.2). Out of these, the typical regular hypothetical condition accounts for 212 (i.e. 74+46+40+52) i.e. 56.83% out of 373 within the Direct hypothetical as a whole.

For example:

5. I would be surprised if we broke all speed records on the way in. (L03: 168) (S3M10)
6. If they had done so, Rodgers would not have stopped the questioning. (L02: 38) (S4M10.2)

It is clear that most of the typical hypothetical constructions are not outside the reach of corpus data. In other words, hypothetical conditional constructions are both regular and easily understood.

4.6.3 Indirect Condition i.e. style disjunct:

The indirect condition i.e. style disjuncts accounts for only 86 instances spread over four different types. Naturally, they are quantitatively low and qualitatively complex. i.e. 3.89%.

4.6.4 Rhetorical Condition:

Similarly, Rhetorical condition is also infrequent accounting for 124 instances i.e. 5.61%. It may be mentioned that these two categories (viz: patently absurd and patently true) are based on Quirk et al. model which is based on the Survey of English Usages (SEU) Corpus data 1960.

Moreover, the LOB corpus data has revealed certain other rhetorical types other than patently absurd/true i.e. Wh/Yes-No etc. This may modestly be claimed as our own contribution from the corpus data. The rhetorical conditions are also quantitatively low and qualitatively complex.

4.6.5 Non-conditional Constructions:

The last important corpus data has been revealed by the existence of non-conditional constructions which abound in the so-called conditional constructions. These account for 519 instances i.e. 23.48%. On the purely formal basis, we have identified the marker - if in these constructions. Some of these are marginal cases of conditional-concessive ones, while there are the other extreme constructions i.e. of reported (Yes/No)
questions.

This is the measure of the richness of the corpus data which reveals varieties of if-constructions which would have been inaccessible but for the analysis we have attempted. It is significant to find that the complexity of if-conditional constructions has become complicated because of the fact that quantitatively it has added to analysis.