What is claimed is:

1. A computing system for specifying one or more validation rules for validating data included in one or more fields of elements of a plurality of elements of a dataset, the computing system including:

a processor; and

a memory in communication with the processor, the memory storing an execution environment, the execution environment comprising:

a processing module configured to evaluate a conditional expression and determine whether to apply one or more validation rules to at least one element of a dataset; and

a user interface module that generates a user interface that renders a plurality of cells and that configures validation rules with validation parameters, the cells arranged in a two-dimensional grid that comprises:

one or more first subsets of the cells extending in a first direction of the two-dimensional grid, each first subset associated with a respective field of an element of the plurality of elements of the dataset;

second subsets of the cells extending in a second, different direction of the two-dimensional grid, with the second subsets associated with a respective validation rule; and

a set of condition cells having an input element that receives a conditional expression that includes an operation and a value, the set of condition cells extending in the second direction of the two-dimensional grid, with cells in the set of condition cells being associated with one or more respective fields;

with the processing module configured to:

apply one or more validation rules to at least one field of an element of a dataset according to the value in a given one of the condition cells, with the given one of the condition cells having a given conditional expression to satisfy, with satisfaction of the given conditional expression causing

application of a validation rule associated with the given one of the condition cells to the at least one field that includes the entered value.

2. The system of claim 1, wherein the input element receives a condition such that at least one validation rule associated with the one or more respective fields is applied to the associated field when the condition is satisfied.

3. The system of claim 1, wherein the condition is dependent on a value of a second field different from the associated field.

4. The system of claim 1, further including applying validation rules to data in a first field of a first element of the dataset including:

determining a condition associated with selected validation rules based on input received in an input element of a condition cell associated with the first field;

determining that the condition is satisfied; and

applying the selected validation rules to the first field.

5. The system of claim 4, wherein the input element of the condition cell is configured to receive an operator and a value associated with the operator.

6. The system of claim 5, wherein determining that the condition is satisfied includes:

applying the operator to the value associated with the operator and a value in a second field of the first element of the dataset, the second field being identified by the field identifier.

7. A computer implemented method including:

rendering a plurality of cells arranged in a two-dimensional grid including:

one or more first subsets of the cells extending in a first direction of the two-dimensional grid, each first subset associated with a respective field of an element of a plurality of elements of a dataset;

second subsets of the cells extending in a second, different direction of the two-dimensional grid, with the second subsets associated with a respective validation rule; and

a set of condition cells having an input element that receives a conditional expression that includes an operation and a value, the set of condition cells extending in the second direction of the two-dimensional grid, with cells in the set of condition cells being associated with one or more respective fields; and

applying one or more validation rules to at least one field of an element of the dataset according to a value entered into a given one of the condition cells, with the given one of the condition cells having a given conditional expression to satisfy by the entered value, with satisfaction of the given conditional expression causing application of a validation rule associated with the given one of the condition cells to the at least one field that includes the entered value.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the input element receives a condition such that at least one validation rule associated with the one or more respective fields is applied to the associated field when the condition is satisfied.

9. The method of claim 7, wherein the condition is dependent on a value of a second field different from the associated field.

10. The method of claim 7, further including applying validation rules to data in a first field of a first element of the dataset including:

determining a condition associated with selected validation rules based on input received in an input element of a condition cell associated with the first field; determining that the condition is satisfied; and

applying the selected validation rules to the first field.

11. The method of claim 7, wherein the input element of the condition cell is configured to receive an operator and a value associated with the operator.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein determining that the condition is satisfied includes:

applying the operator to the value associated with the operator and a value in a second field of the first element of the dataset, the second field being identified by the field identifier.

13. A computer storage medium encoded with computer program instructions that when executed by one or more computers cause the one or more computers to:

render a plurality of cells arranged in a two-dimensional grid, the two-dimensional grid including:

one or more first subsets of the cells extending in a first direction of the two-dimensional grid, with each first subset associated with a respective field of an element of a plurality of elements of a dataset;

second subsets of the cells extending in a second, different direction of the two-dimensional grid, with the second subsets associated with a respective validation rule; and

a set of condition cells having an input element that receives a conditional expression that includes an operation and a value, the set of condition cells extending in the second direction of the two-dimensional grid, with cells in the set of condition cells being associated with one or more respective fields; and

apply one or more validation rules to at least one field of an element of the dataset according to the value in a given one of the condition cells, with the given one of the condition cells having a given conditional expression to satisfy, with satisfaction of the given conditional expression causing application of a validation rule associated with the given one of the condition cells to the at least one field that includes the entered value.

14. The medium of claim 13, wherein the input element receives a condition such that at least one validation rule associated with the one or more respective fields is applied to the associated field when the condition is satisfied.

15. The medium of claim 13, wherein the condition is dependent on a value of a second field different from the associated field.

16. The medium of claim 13, further including applying validation rules to data in a first field of a first element of the dataset including:

determining a condition associated with selected validation rules based on input received in an input element of a condition cell associated with the first field;

determining that the condition is satisfied; and

applying the selected validation rules to the first field.

17. The medium of claim 16, wherein the input element of the condition cell is configured to receive an operator and a value associated with the operator.

18. The medium of claim 17, wherein determining that the condition is satisfied includes:

applying the operator to the value associated with the operator and a value in a second field of the first element of the dataset, the second field being identified by the field identifier.

19. A computing system including:

a display device to render a plurality of cells arranged in a two-dimensional grid, the two-dimensional grid including:

first subsets of the cells extending in a first direction of the two-dimensional grid, each first subset of the first subsets associated with a respective field of an element of a plurality of elements of a dataset, and

second subsets of the cells extending in a second, different direction of the two-dimensional grid, with the second subsets associated with a respective validation rule;

a set of condition cells, each condition cell having an input element that receives a conditional expression that identifies a field and includes an operation and a value; and

a processor device and memory operatively coupled to the processor device to:

apply one or more validation rules to at least one field of an element of a dataset according to the value in a given one of the condition cells, with the given one of the condition cells having a given conditional expression to satisfy, with satisfaction of the given conditional expression causing

application of a validation rule associated with the given one of the condition cells to the at least one field that includes the entered value.

20. The computing system of claim 1, wherein a plurality of condition cells in the set of condition cells is associated with a particular field of an element.

21. The computing system of claim 20, wherein each of the condition cells in the plurality is associated with at least one cell in a second subset of cells that is associated with a particular validation rule.

22. The computing system of claim 21, wherein the at least one cell in the second subset of cells is a first cell and wherein the particular validation rule is a first validation rule,

wherein a condition cell in the plurality is associated with the first cell and is further associated a second cell in another second subset of cells that is associated with a second validation rule.

23. The computing system of claim 1, wherein a first subset of the cells is on a periphery of the two-dimensional grid.

24. The computing system of claim 1, wherein a second subset of the cells is on a periphery of the two-dimensional grid.

25. The computing system of claim 1, wherein the two-dimensional grid further comprises a plurality of interior cells juxtaposed between the one or more first subsets the and the second subsets of the cells for configuring corresponding validation rules.

26. The computing system of claim 25, with the set of condition cells being corresponding ones of the plurality of interior cells that are juxtaposed to at least one of the second subsets.

27. The computer-implemented method of claim 7, wherein a plurality of condition cells in the set of condition cells is associated with a particular field of an element.

28. The computer-implemented method of claim 27, wherein each of the condition cells

in the plurality is associated with at least one cell in a second subset of cells that is associated with a particular validation rule.

29. The computer-implemented method of claim 28, wherein the at least one cell in the second subset of cells is a first cell, and wherein the particular validation rule is a first validation rule,

wherein a condition cell in the plurality is associated with the first cell and is further associated a second cell in another second subset of cells that is associated with a second validation rule.

30. The computer-implemented method of claim 7, wherein a first subset of the cells is on a periphery of the two-dimensional grid.

31. The computer-implemented method of claim 7, wherein a second subset of the cells is on a periphery of the two-dimensional grid.

32. The computer-implemented method of claim 7, wherein the two-dimensional grid further comprises a plurality of interior cells juxtaposed between the one or more first subsets the and the second subsets of the cells for configuring corresponding validation rules.

33. The computer-implemented method of claim 32, with the set of condition cells being corresponding ones of the plurality of interior cells that are juxtaposed to at least one of the second subsets.

34. The medium of claim 13, wherein a plurality of condition cells in the set of condition cells is associated with a particular field of an element.

35. The medium of claim 34, wherein each of the condition cells in the plurality is associated with at least one cell in a second subset of cells that is associated with a particular validation rule.

36. The medium of claim 35, wherein the at least one cell in the second subset of cells is a first cell, and wherein the particular validation rule is a first validation rule,

wherein a condition cell in the plurality is associated with the first cell and is further associated a second cell in another second subset of cells that is associated with a second validation rule.

37. The medium of claim 13, wherein a first subset of the cells is on a periphery of the two-dimensional grid.

38. The medium of claim 13, wherein a second subset of the cells is on a periphery of the two-dimensional grid.

39. The medium of claim 13, wherein the two-dimensional grid further comprises a plurality of interior cells juxtaposed between the one or more first subsets the and the second subsets of the cells for configuring corresponding validation rules.

40. The medium of claim 37, with the set of condition cells being corresponding ones of the plurality of interior cells that are juxtaposed to at least one of the second subsets.

41. The computing system of claim 19, wherein a plurality of condition cells in the set of condition cells is associated with a particular field of an element.

42. The computing system of claim 41, wherein each of the condition cells in the plurality is associated with at least one cell in a second subset of cells that is associated with a particular validation rule.

43. The computing system of claim 42, wherein the at least one cell in the second subset of cells is a first cell and wherein the particular validation rule is a first validation rule,

wherein a condition cell in the plurality is associated with the first cell and is further associated a second cell in another second subset of cells that is associated with a second validation rule.

44. The computing system of claim 19, wherein a first subset of the cells is on a periphery of the two-dimensional grid.

45. The computing system of claim 19, wherein a second subset of the cells is on a periphery of the two-dimensional grid.

46. The computing system of claim 19, wherein the two-dimensional grid further comprises a plurality of interior cells juxtaposed between the one or more first subsets the and the second subsets of the cells for configuring corresponding validation rules.

47. The computing system of claim 46, with the set of condition cells being corresponding ones of the plurality of interior cells that are juxtaposed to at least one of the second subsets.