Automapping of Fields

Some workflow nodes (for example, Cross Table) don't have a constant output data structure. The list of fields for these nodes can vary based on the input data.

Automapping handles data with a variant structure. During this process, automapping synchronizes the port's list of output fields (or variables) with the list of input fields. Unlike the **Auto link** command, the synchronization algorithm used in automapping can change the list of output fields/variables and add new links.

Automapping uses the following synchronization algorithm:

1. Restores previously configured links to input fields/variables (addressing "missing" or "incorrect" links caused by changes in the input data structure).
2. Establishes links between unlinked input and output fields/variables based on matching data types and case-insensitive name matches.
3. Deletes all optional output fields/variables that are not linked to input fields/variables. Required fields (such as those inherited when creating a derived node or those you manually added or changed) are not deleted.
4. Adds new output fields/variables based on input /variables that still lack links after the previous steps.

This algorithm runs only once when you execute the **Map columns** command, and continuously during node execution if the **Automapping** port configuration option is enabled (see the Table Interface and Links Interface sections).

> **Note:** By default, the **Automapping** option is enabled for ports that receive table data.

Disabled automapping is visually indicated by a special circle icon in the middle of the port:

- , , — automapping on these ports is enabled
- , , — ports with disabled automapping

Read on: Links Interface