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Unit III- Software Requirement and Specification

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Content

1. Introduction and Need of SRS

2. Structured Analysis

- Data Flow Diagram
- Context Diagram
- Data Dictionary

roduction to SRS

Software Requirements Specification (**SRS**) is a document that lays out the description of the software that is to be developed as well as the intention of software under development.

Software requirements specification shows **what** the software is supposed to do as well as **how** it is supposed to perform.

It is written down before the actual software development work starts.

SRS is important for developers because it **minimizes** the amount of time and effort developers have to expend to achieve desired software goals.

It thus **reduces** development cost. This also **benefits** the client company because the lesser the development cost, the lesser the developers will charge from the client.

Introduction to SRS

S should address, among other things:

Functionality of the software: What the software will do

External interfaces: How the given software will interact with hardware, other software and assumptions on these entities

Required performance levels: Required performance levels such as response rate, recovery rate etc. of the software

Quality attributes: The non-functional factors that are used to evaluate the performance of the software, such as security, safety, reliability etc

Design constraints: Any operating system limitations (e.g.: the stock exchange software will only run on Windows), implementation language etc that will affect or limit the design of the software.

Introduction to SRS

And, if composed properly, an **SRS** ensures that there is less possibility of future redesigns as there is less chance of mistake on the part of developers as they have a clear idea on the functionalities and externalities of the software.

It also helps **clear** any communication problems between the **client** and the **developer**.

Furthermore, an **SRS** serves to form a foundation of **mutual agreement** between the client and the developer (supplier).

It also serves as the document to **verify** the testing processes.

A good SRS defines how an application will interact with system hardware, other programs and human users in a wide variety of real-world situations. Parameters such as operating speed, response time, availability, portability, maintainability, security and speed of recovery from adverse events are evaluated.

Introduction to SRS

Format of software requirements specification given by **IEEE** (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers) is shown below (explanation for each is given within the point):

Introduction	3. External Interface Requirements
Purpose	3.1 User Interfaces
Document Conventions	3.2 Hardware Interfaces
Intended Audience and Reading Suggestions	3.3 Software Interfaces
Product Scope	3.4 Communications Interfaces
References	4. System Features
Overall Description	4.1 Graph Visualization
Product Perspective	4.2 Graph Layout
Product Functions	4.3 Graph Metrics
User Classes and Characteristics	4.4 Filters
Operating Environment	4.5 Data Table
Design and Implementation Constraints	4.6 Dynamic Graphs
User Documentation	4.7 Graph Export
Assumptions and Dependencies	5. Other Nonfunctional Requirements ...
	5.1 Performance Requirements
	5.2 Safety Requirements
	5.3 Security Requirements
	5.4 Software Quality Attributes
	Glossary

Purpose of an SRS

SRS forms the basis of an organization's entire project.

It sets out the framework that all the development teams will follow.

It provides critical information to all the teams, including development, operations, quality assurance and maintenance, ensuring the teams are in agreement.

Following the SRS helps an enterprise confirm that the requirements are fulfilled and helps business leaders make decisions about the lifecycle of their product, such as when to retire a feature.

Writing an SRS can help developers reduce the time and effort necessary to meet their goals as well as save money on the cost of development.

Structured Analysis

Structured Analysis is a development method that allows the analyst to understand the system and its activities in a logical way.

It is a systematic approach, which uses graphical tools that analyze and refine the objectives of an existing system and develop a new system specification which can be easily understandable by user.

It has following attributes –

- It is graphic which specifies the presentation of application.

- It divides the processes so that it gives a clear picture of system flow.

- It is logical rather than physical i.e., the elements of system do not depend on vendor or hardware.

- It is an approach that works from high-level overviews to lower-level details.

Structured Analysis Tools

Structured Analysis is diagrammatic notation which is design to help people understand the system.

The basic goal of SA is to improve quality and reduce the risk of System failure.

It establishes concrete management specification and documentation.

During Structured Analysis, various tools and techniques are used for system development. They are –

Flow Diagrams

Dictionary

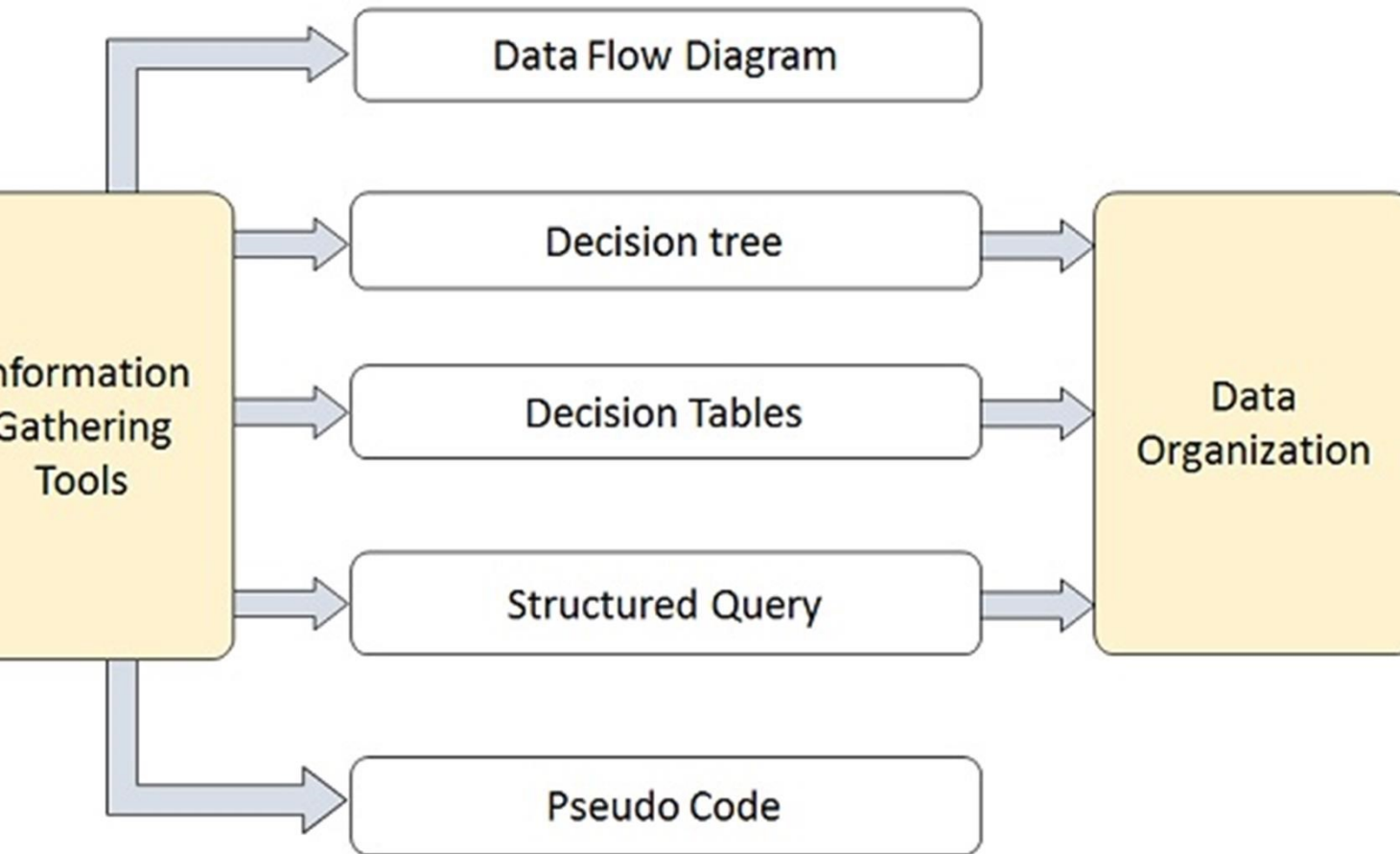
Decision Trees

Decision Tables

Structured English

Pseudocode

Structured Analysis Tools



Data Flow Diagram

is a technique developed by **Larry Constantine** to express the requirements of system in a graphical form.

Data Flow Diagram (DFD) is a graphical representation of the information flows within a system.

DFD can depict the right amount of the system requirement graphically. It can be manual, automated, or a combination of both.

It shows flow of data enters and leaves the system, what types of changes the information, and where data is going to be stored.

a Flow Diagram

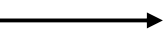
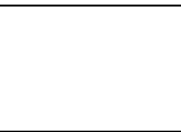
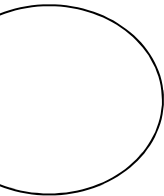
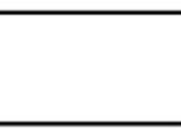
The objective of a DFD is to show the scope and boundaries of a system.

A DFD may be used to perform a system or software at any level of abstraction.

It may be used as a communication tool between a system analyst and any person who plays a part in the order that acts as a starting point for redesigning a system.

The DFD is also called as a data flow graph or bubble chart.

Basic Elements of Data Flow Diagram

Symbol	Symbol Name	Function
	Arrow	Data Flow , used to connect the process
	Box or Rectangle	Source of System Input and Destination of System Output
	Circle	It is a Process, it transforming data flow
	Open Rectangle	Data Store

Data Flow Diagram

ce:

l names should be unique.

remember that DFD is not a flow chart. arrows in DFD represents
flowing data.

DFD does not involve any order of events.

do not become bogged down with details. Defer error conditions and
error handling until the end of the analysis.

Types of Data Flow Diagram

There are two types: Physical DFD and Logical DFD.

The following table lists the points that differentiate a physical DFD from a logical DFD.

Physical DFD	Logical DFD
Implementation dependent. It shows the functions that are performed.	It is implementation independent. It focuses only on the flow of data between processes.
Provides low level details of hardware, software, files, and people.	It explains events of systems and data required by each event.
Indicates how the current system operates and how a system will be implemented.	It shows how business operates; not how the system can be implemented.
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Levels in Data Flow Diagram

DFDs may be partitioned into levels that represent increasing information flow and functional detail.

Levels in DFD are numbered 0, 1, 2 or beyond.

Here, we will see primarily three levels in the data flow diagram, which are: 0-level DFD, 1-level DFD, and 2-level DFD.

Levels Data Flow Diagram

is also called context diagram.

represents the entire software requirement as a single bubble with input and output data denoted by incoming and outgoing arrows.

bubble "A" has two inputs x_1 and x_2 and one output y , then the expanded DFD, that represents "A" should have exactly two external inputs and one external output as shown in fig:

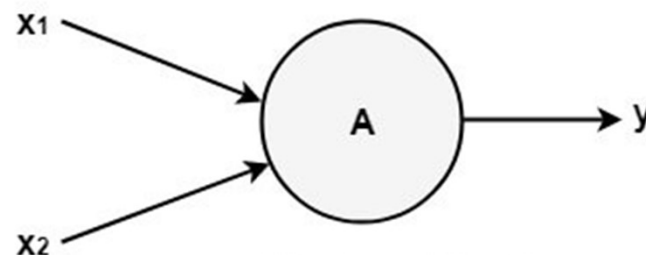


Fig: Level-0 DFD.

Levels Data Flow Diagram- Example

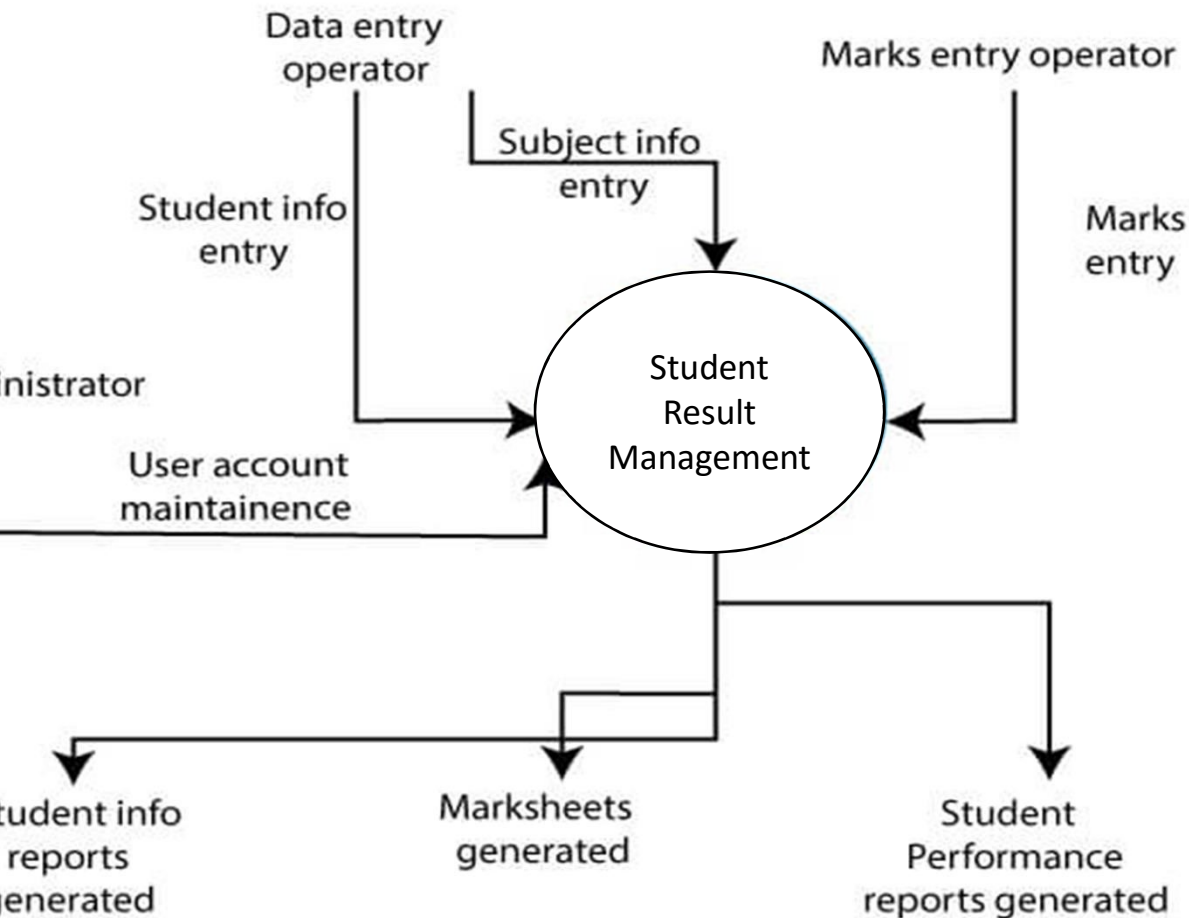


Fig: Level-0 DFD of result management system

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Level-1 Data Flow Diagram

DFD, O-level DFD is decomposed into multiple processes. In this level, we highlight the main modules of the system and breakdown the high-level process of O-level DFD into sub-processes.

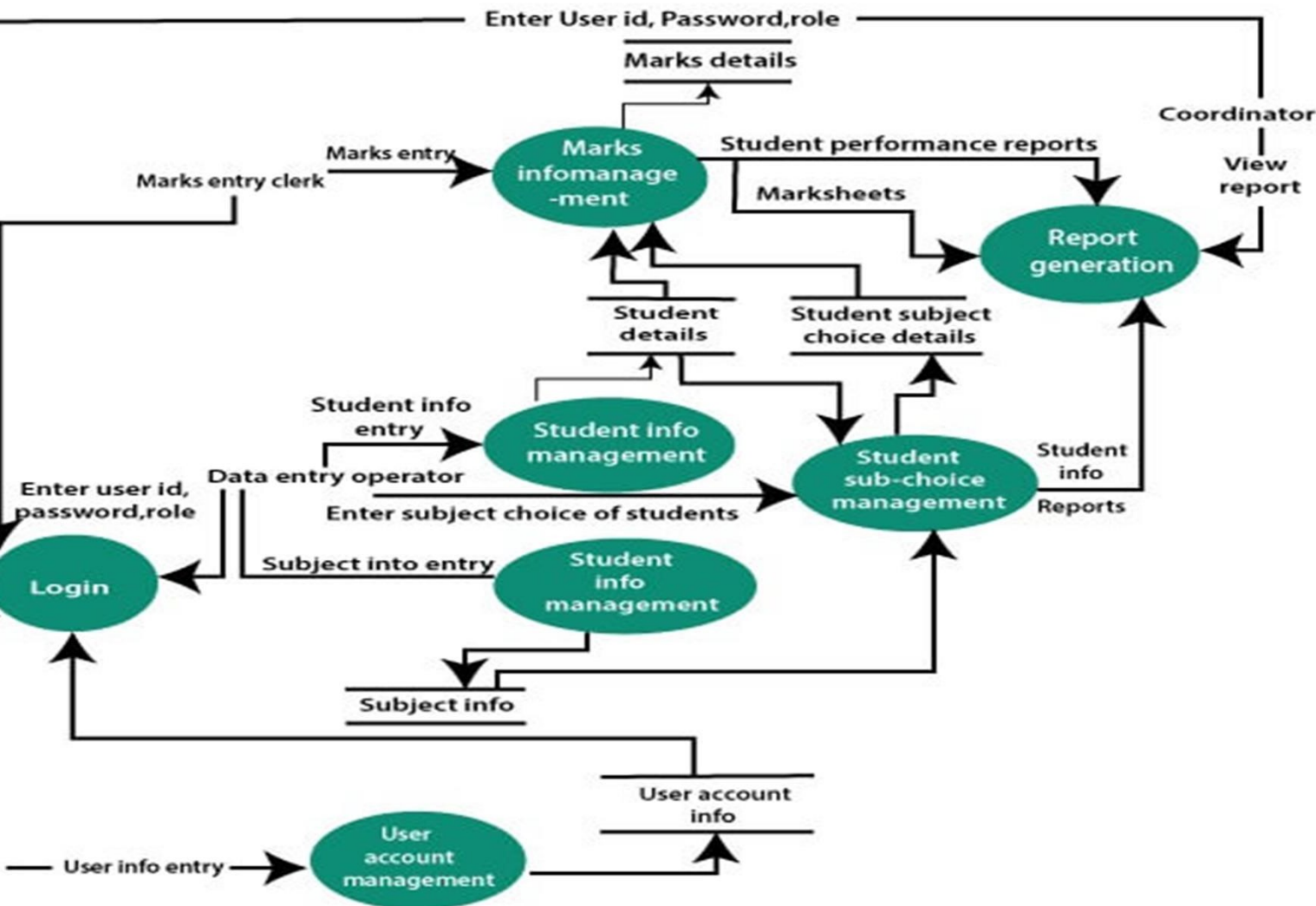


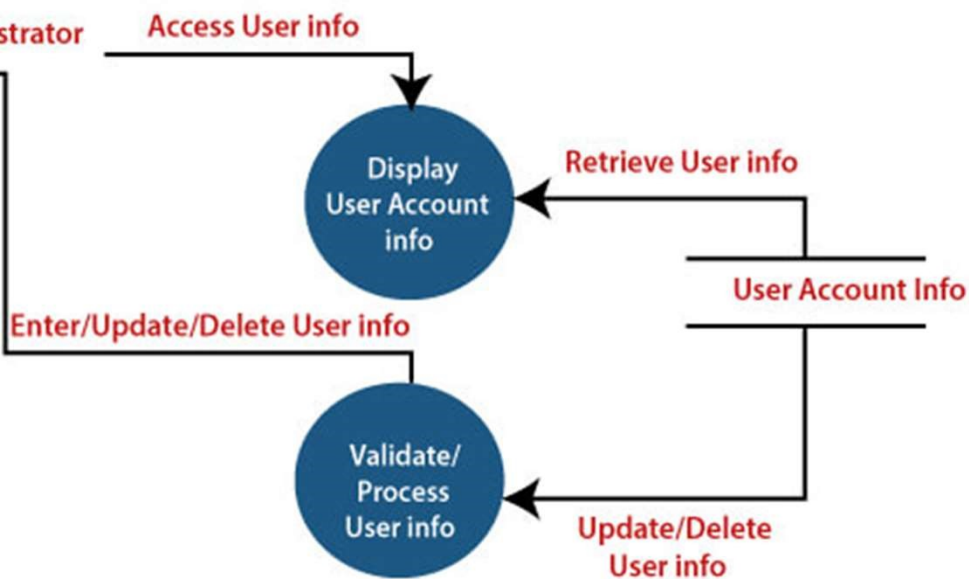
Fig: Level-1 DFD of result management system

Levels in Data Flow Diagram

Level DFD goes one process deeper into parts of 1-level DFD.

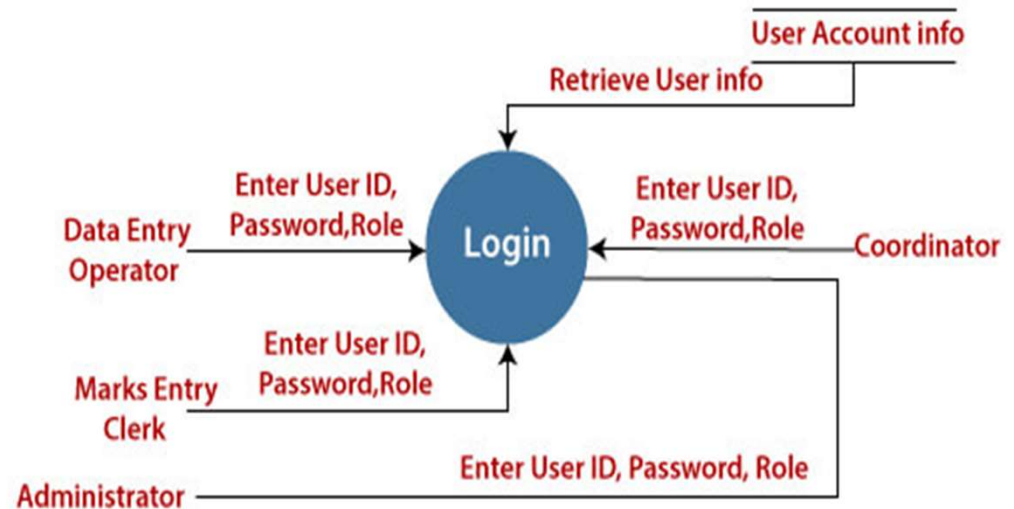
It can be used to project or record the specific/necessary details about the system's functioning.

Account Maintenance



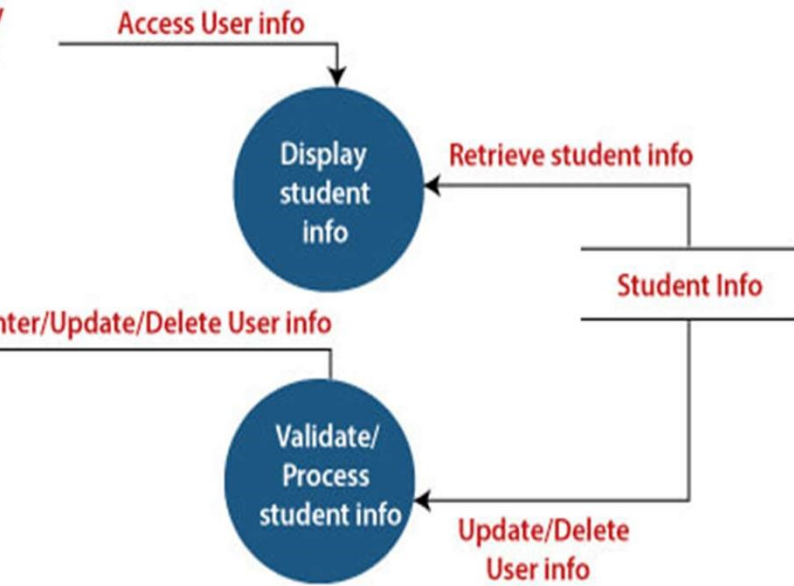
2. Login

The level 2 DFD of this process is given below:



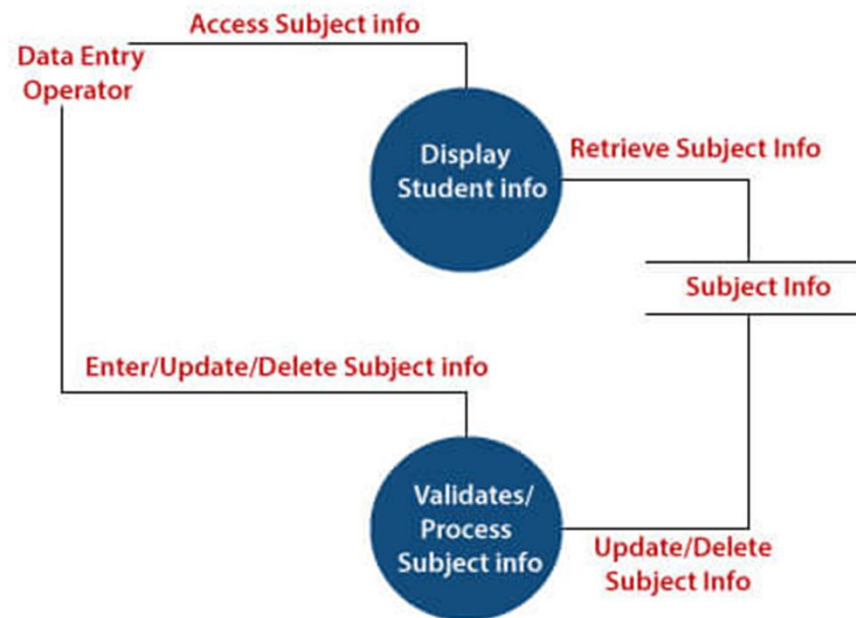
Levels in Data Flow Diagram

Student Information Management



4. Subject Information Management

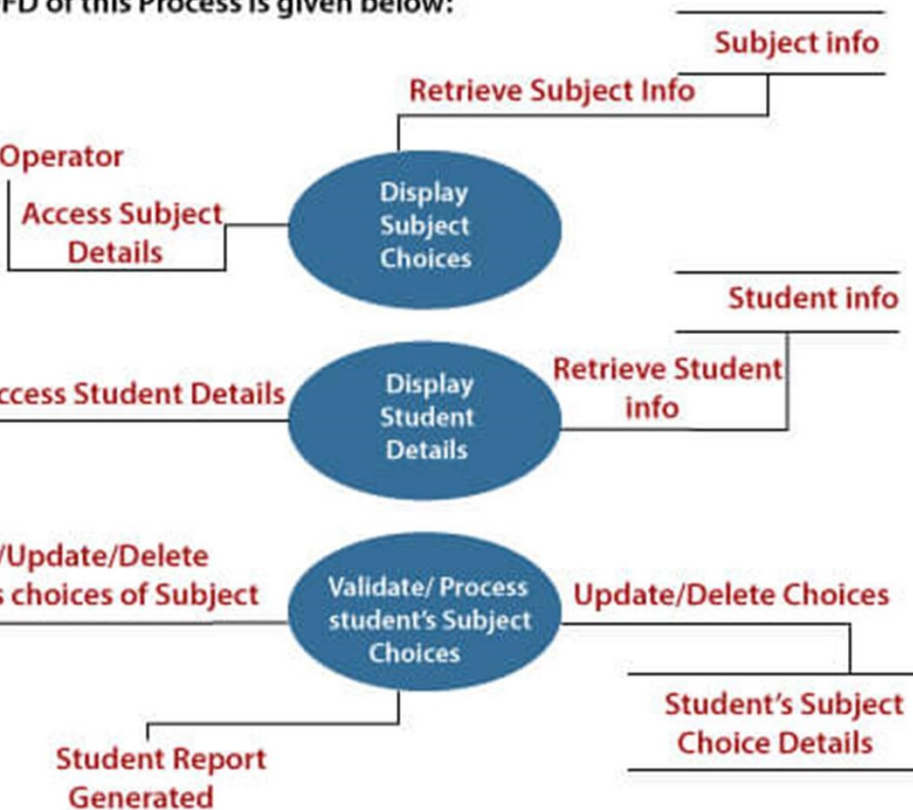
The level 2 DFD of this process is given below:



Levels in Data Flow Diagram

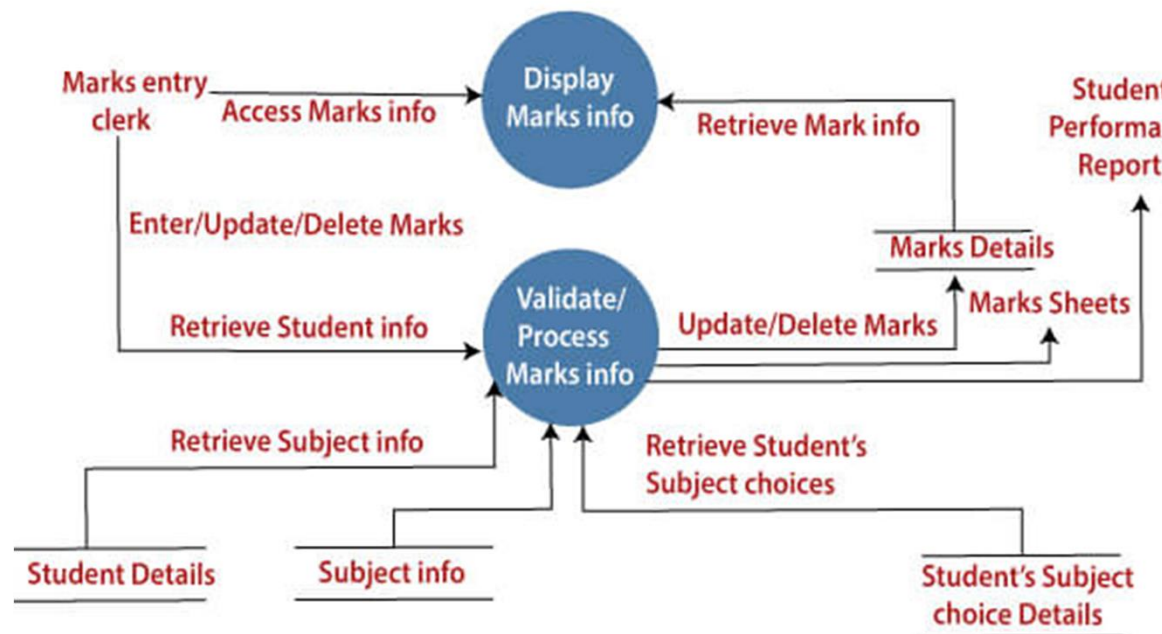
5. Subject Choice Management

The Level 2 DFD of this Process is given below:



6. Marks Information Management

The Level 2 DFD of this Process is given below:



a Dictionary

a dictionary is a file or a set of files that includes a database's metadata.

data dictionary hold records about other objects in the database, such as ownership, data relationships to other objects, and other data.

data dictionary is an essential component of any relational database.

ause of its importance, it is invisible to most database users.

cally, only database administrators interact with the data dictionary.

data dictionary improves the communication between the analyst and the

ays an important role in building a database.

a Dictionary

Data dictionary includes information about the following:

- Name of the data item

- Uses

- Description/purpose

- Related data items

- Range of values

- Data structure definition/Forms

a Dictionary

name of the data item is self-explanatory.

aliases: include other names by which this data item is called
EO for Data Entry Operator and DR for Deputy Registrar.

description: is a textual description of what the data item is
used for or why it exists.

related data items: capture relationships between data items
e.g., total_marks must always equal to internal_marks plus
external_marks.

a Dictionary

Field Length: records all possible values, e.g. total marks must be positive and between 0 to 100.

Data structure Forms: Data flows capture the name of processes that generate or receive the data items.

If the data item is primitive, then data structure form captures the physical structures of the data item.

If the data is itself a data aggregate, then data structure form captures the composition of the data items in terms of other data items.

a Dictionary: Student Table

Field Name	Data type	Field Length	Description
roll_no	Int	10	Primary Ke, Auto Generated
stud_name	Varchar	20	Student name
stud_class	Varchar	15	Class of student
mailid	Varchar	15	Email id of student
contact	In	15	Contact number of student

Applications of Data Dictionary

- Create an ordered listing of all data items.*
- Create an ordered listing of subset of data items.*
- Find a data item name from a description.*
- Design the software and test cases.*

Advantages of Data Dictionary

By using a data dictionary, designers have a central point of control and documentation for making changes and updates to data sets and structures.

It also helps programmers working on updating or replacing legacy systems figure out the basic data structures of the systems they are renovating and the definitions of individual variables.

Also, it allows easy development of new or ad hoc queries using SQL.

Thank You

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