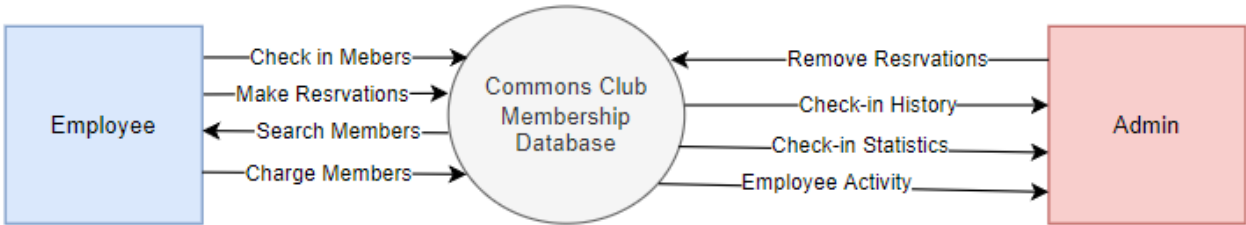


Software Context Model

Level 0 Data Flow Diagram

Below is the level zero data flow diagram for the Commons Beach Club Membership Database.



What is a Context Diagram

A context diagram is used to define the system's relationship to other related products, by looking at the context and boundaries of the system that will be created. A Context Diagram does not provide information about the timing, sequencing, or synchronization of processes such as which processes occur in sequence or in parallel. A context diagram simply shows the scope and boundaries of a system at a glance including the other systems that interface with it. This is important as a context diagram does not require any sort of technical knowledge to be assumed or known for the diagram to make sense. When creating a context diagram it is important to understand the scope of your project before you begin, which could include the user as well as the environment and other actors. Context diagrams are a great way to show a stakeholder or client your understanding of the system and who they hope to influence or what they hope to control without anything being technical or in the way of the explanation.

My Process

The first step to creating my diagram was making the center of it itself, and seeing as the entire system revolves around the database I thought it would be fundamentally important to give it a distinct circular shape in the center of the diagram. After I created the circle I then worked to understand the entities that would be interacting with the system itself. This is where I created my employee and admin boxes, and I chose to make them separate colors to indicate they are separate entities. After creating my entities I began to recall the functions and requirements I designed in the past and how they would play in the flow of data from the system. The arrows represented if the data was going from the database to the entity or from the entity to the database. With this in mind, I then listed the main functions to be completed by the Employee and Admin entities and determined how the data would flow depending on how each function worked. With this process, I was able to complete the chart above keeping it simplistic and color-coded, so that when I would present it to my sponsor they could easily understand how the system will contextually function on a low level.