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1.5em

# COMP4 Coursework

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# Chapter 1

## Analysis

### 1.1 Introduction

#### 1.1.1 Client Identification

My client is Josh Campbell, he is 24 years old. He uses computers regularly for design work, so has experience of computer systems. He uses his computer to design flyers, handouts, banners and visual graphics for projection, as well as surfing the web, email and various social media networks. He rarely uses hard copies other than to preview his work before sending it off to print. Josh uses a 2012 Mac Pro with the latest version of Apple's operating system, OS X (10.9).

Josh is the head of the media department for Cambridge Community Church. This involves being responsible for the large amount of Audio and Visual equipment used on the church's Sunday services. This currently involves a spreadsheet with limited info on each item.

Josh would like to have a database management system to be able to hold information about each item and their various attributes. He would like this database to be located on the church's central server so that it can be accessed by all staff if it is deemed necessary. He would use this database to store location, value and insurance details in case of damage or theft. He would like all of the information kept as a virtual copy as well as a hard copy to be kept as a visual backup in case of hard drive failure or corruption. He would also like to keep the location of each item as up to date as possible and if the location changes, he would like to be notified by email when it is

entered/updated in the system.

### **1.1.2 Define the current system**

The current system consists of multiple excel spread sheets. There is one spread sheet for each of three locations; main office, main church building, and storage. Each spreadsheet consists of items located there as well as information on the value of each item, the quantity and the total value for the items with multiple entries. Each spreadsheet is divided up into equipment type (i.e Cableing, lighting, audio, visual/camera's)

### **1.1.3 Describe the problems**

There are a number of problems with the current system. One of the problems is that there is no notification system to tell you when information is getting outdated or something is changed. For example, if an item is bought or sold, the total costings for that item will be updated and no-one will be notified. Another problem is that the current system doesn't show the PAT testings for all the items, these tests go out of date every 6 months and there is no way of being notified when a new PAT test is needed on an item.

### **1.1.4 Section appendix**

# Interview Questions

1. What does the current system do?
  - Multiple excel spreadsheets that list all the AV equipment
2. What are the problems or drawbacks of the current system?
  - There is no notification system
  - Data is easily out of date.
3. How much data is currently recorded?
  - Current data stored is the item name, its location, the quantity and it's value.
4. What extra data will need to be included?
  - PAT testing's
  - Current location
  - The item's usable state (working, in need of repair, being repaired etc)
5. How frequently will the data need to be updated?
  - The data will need to be updated a few times a month or so
  - Whenever the location changes.
6. Will new records need to be added or deleted? If so, how often?
  - New records will need to be entered, or some deleted every couple of months.
  - Whenever new equipment is bought or if an item is sold
7. How important is the data or information that is to be recorded?
  - Data is of high importance as it will be kept as a record for insurance in case of theft or damage
8. Are there any algorithms that are going to need to be implemented?
  - The number of a single item there is at a particular location
  - The total number of that item altogether
  - The sum of the values those individual items (value per unit \* quantity)
9. When are the algorithms going to be run?
  - These will need to be run when there are new items added/removed to a group of the same item
  - If the value of an item changes

10. What inputs are required for the proposed system?
  - Inputs are likely to be text, numbers and currency
11. What outputs are required for the proposed system?
  - Outputs are likely to be the same as the inputs
  - Notifications of when PAT tests are in need or reissue
  - Notifications when an items location or quantity is changed
  - A print function would be necessary
12. Are hard copies required?
  - Yes, hard copies would be required a visual backup.
13. Are back dated records required?
  - Yes, for insurance purposes
14. How long are these records going to be kept?
  - We will keep back dated records for a year
15. How are these records going to be stored?
  - We will store them electronically on the file server
16. How often will outputs be required?
  - Outputs will be required whenever possible
17. What computing resources do you currently possess to aid the new system's operation?
  - We currently have a Mac Pro that we use as a file server. This is where the database system will be placed.
18. Is security an issue?
  - No, security is not an issue, although the data would need to be backed up.
19. Should there be restricted access to certain areas?
  - No, restricted access is not needed.
20. What errors and exceptions will need to be reported in the new system?
  - I'm not 100% until we start testing the system.
21. How should these errors and exceptions be reported?
  - Errors should be reported to you either via email or another notification

method.

22. Are there any constraints on hardware, software, data, cost or time?
- No budget, time deadline is flexible and we'll adapt to whatever software/hardware resource available.



## 1.2 Investigation

### 1.2.1 The current system

#### Data sources and destinations

In the current system, there are multiple data sources. The client and his colleagues as well as members of the AV crew for the church can enter data into the spreadsheet by using a computer in the office and accessing the on the server.

#### Algorithms

In the current system, there are only a few algorithms in place.

Algorithm 1, When new item is bought:

---

```
IF Item =NewItem DO
    Enter Item into Spreadsheet
    ELIF Item = ItemMatch Do
        Update Item Quantity
```

---

Algorithm 2, When an item is sold or replaced:

---

```
IF Item = Sold OR Item = Damaged or Item = Stolen DO
    Update Quantity
    IF Item = Stolen OR Item = Damaged DO
        Claim Insurance
```

---

## Data flow diagrams

Figure 1.1: Flow Diagram Key.

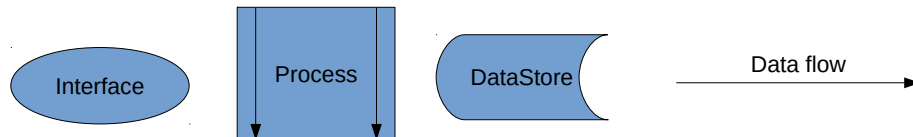


Figure 1.2: Entering a new item.

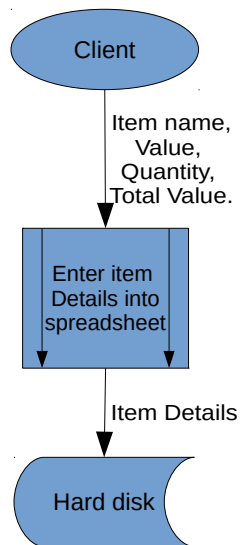
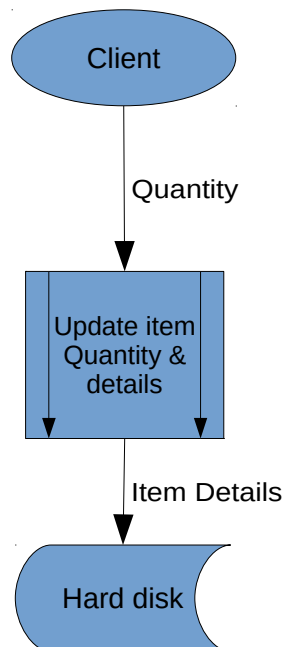


Figure 1.3: Flow Diagram Key.



**Input Forms, Output Forms, Report Formats**

Josh's current system only has one input form, this is an electronic form which is the application excel. Josh also has two output forms - an invoice form for when he hires out equipment to a third party and a quote sheet to show the value of a piece of equipment when he needs to insure it.

Below is an example of the input method used to insert data into the current system.

Below is an example of one of Josh's Invoice forms. The headings show Product Name, Loan Rate, Length of Loan and Total Cost.

Here is an example of a quote sheet that Josh has given me.

## **1.2.2 The proposed system**

### **Data sources and destinations**

The Following table shows the proposed data and their respective sources and destinations.

Figure 1.4: Data sources and destinations

Source	Data	Data Type	Destination
Josh	ItemID	Integer	Database - Item Records
Josh	ItemName	String	Database - Item Records
Josh	ItemType	String	Database - Item Records
Josh	Value	Real	Database - Item Records
Josh	Quantity	Integer	Database - Item Records
Josh	SubTotal	Real	Database - Item Records
Josh	OnLoan	Text	Database - Item Records
-	-	-	-
Josh	LoanID	Integer	Database - Loan Records
Database - Item Records	ItemID	Integer	Database - Loan Records
Database - Item Records	ItemName	Text	Database - Loan Records
Josh	LoanRate	Real	Database - Loan Records
Josh	LoanStart Date	Date	Database - Loan Records
Josh	LoanEnd Date	Date	Database - Loan Records
Josh	LoanTime	Time	Database - Loan Records
Josh	LoanCost	Real	Database - Loan Records
-	-	-	-
Josh	TestID	Integer	Database - PAT test records
Database - Item Records	ItemID	Integer	Database - PAT test Records
Database - Item Records	ItemName	Text	Database - PAT test Records
Database - Item Records	LastTest	Date	Next PAT Test Calculation
Next PAT Test Calculation	NextTest	Data	Database - PAT test Records

**Data flow diagram**

Figure 1.5: Flow Diagram Key.

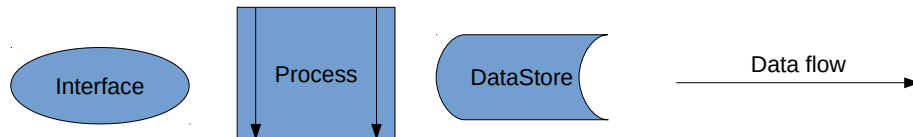


Figure 1.6: Enter New Item.

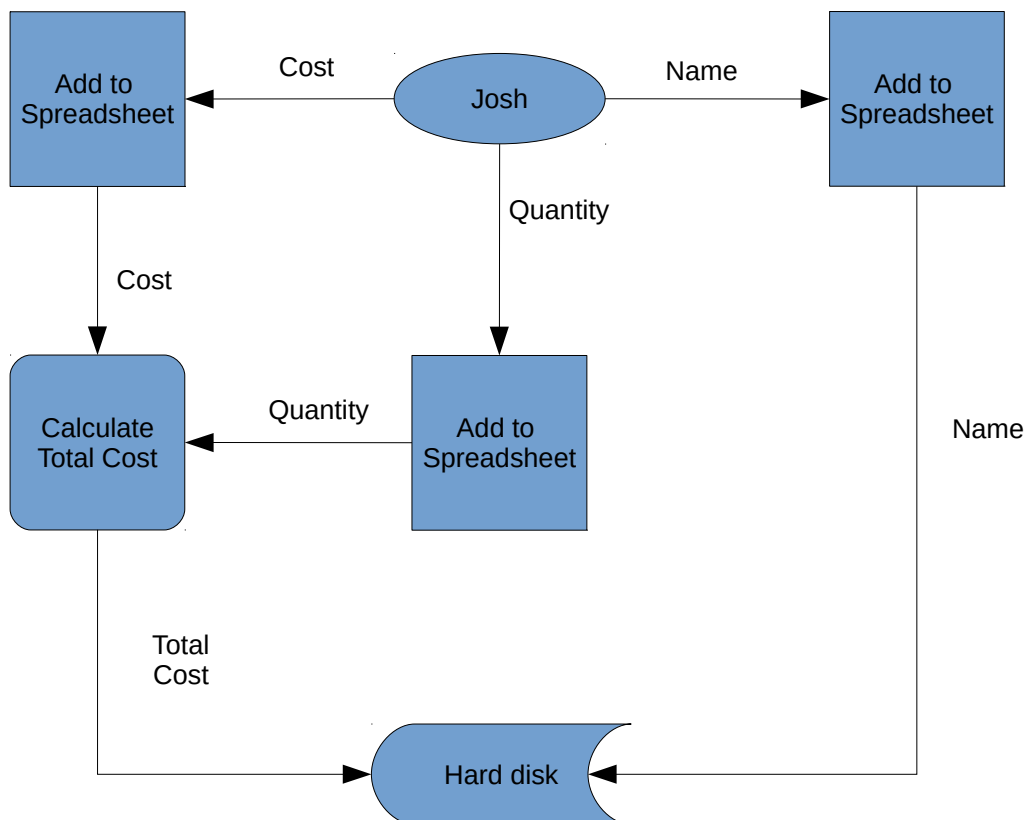
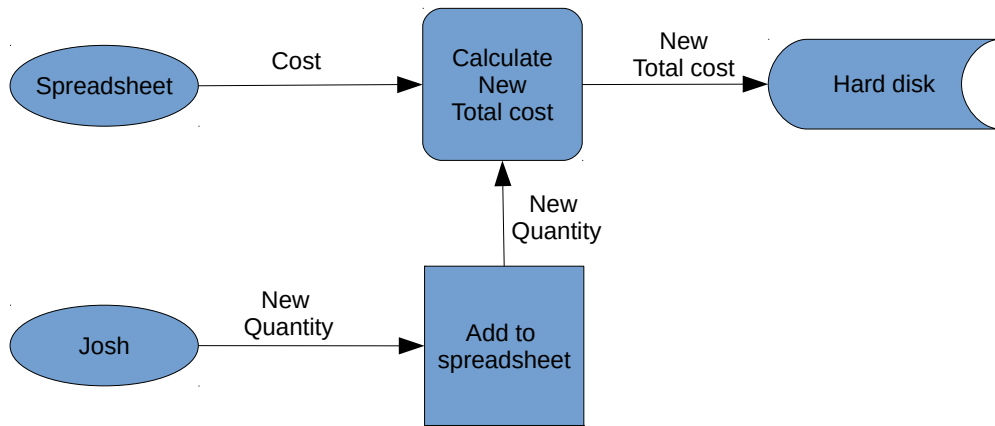


Figure 1.7: Enter New Item.





## Data dictionary

Figure 1.8: Data Dictionary.

Name	Data Type	Length	Validation	Example Data	Comment
ItemID	Integer	1-435	Range	184	-
ItemName	Text	5 - 40 Characters	Length	Mac Pro	-
Value	Real	2-5 figures	Range	1,300	-
Quantity	Integer	1-150	Range	8	-
Total Value	Real	2-8 figures	Range	133,204.86	
OnLoan	Boolean	-	Status Check	True	If an item is on loan or not
LoanRate	Real	1-3 figures	Range	75	
LoanStartDate	Date	-	Format	25/09/2014	
LoanEndDate	Date	-	Format	27/09/2014	
LoanTime	Integer	-	Date Range	7 Days	
LoanCost	Real	1-4 Integers	Range	250	
LastTest	Date	-	Format	01/10/2014	
NextTest	Date	-	Format	20/10/2014	Calculated 12 months from LastTest date

## Volumetrics

I have chosen to start off with only 20 Item Records along with 20 Loan Records and 20 PAT Test Records. In total there will be 60 Records. I have chosen this number of records as my Client and I had previously agreed that this would be a suitable number of records to start with in order for him to get used to the system and train up other colleagues to know how to use it also. This can be increased as time goes by.

The Item Records Database, Loan Records Database and the PAT Test Records Database will store 18 fields of combined data. Each field should

take up 1KB of hard disk space. With this the required initial storage space will be:

$$18\text{KB} * 60 = 1080\text{KB}$$

$$1080\text{KB} / 1024 = 1.05\text{MB}$$

If the rest of database management system took up 28MB, the client would need 19.05MB of space for 60 records, with 18 fields of data

## 1.3 Objectives

### 1.3.1 General Objectives

- Easily understandable layout and structure for records.
- Easy structure for input and outputs.
- Easy viewing of records

### 1.3.2 Specific Objectives

Record viewing:

- Clear labels for data attributes.
- Next and Previous record buttons.
- Edit button so data cannot be changed accidentally.
- Submit button to save data changes (if any) to the current record.
- First and Last record buttons to jump to respective record.

Data input:

- Data fields become editable
- Drop down selection for location selection
- Changes saved immediately after editing has finished (ie submit button pressed)

Data output:

- Print button and functionality
- Export records to PDF
- Print/Export a batch of records to PDF

### 1.3.3 Core Objectives

- Viewing of Item/Loan/PAT-test Records
- Item/Loan/PAT-test data input

- Item/Loan/PAT-test data editing
- Sending of Loan Invoices

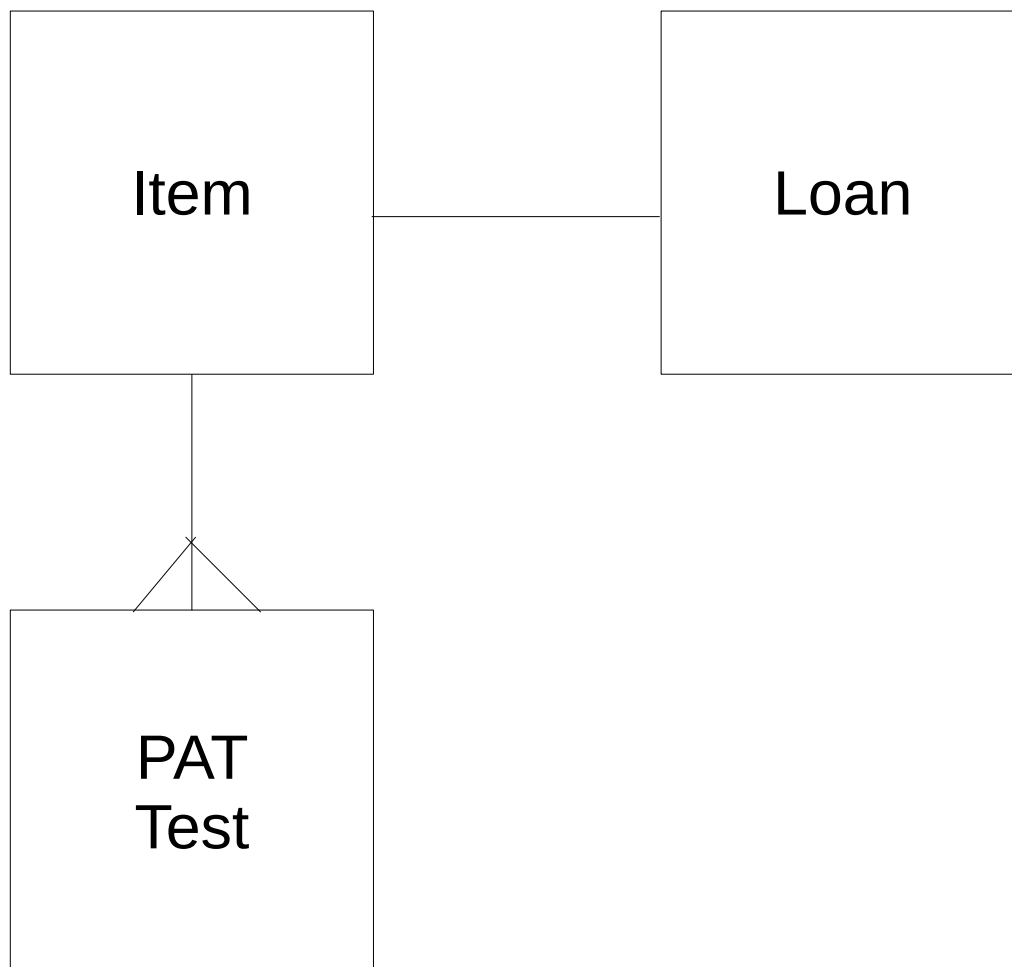
#### **1.3.4 Other Objectives**

- Printing records/invoices
- Exporting records/invoices to PDF

## 1.4 ER Diagrams and Descriptions

### 1.4.1 ER Diagram

Figure 1.9: ER Diagrams.



### 1.4.2 Entity Descriptions

Item(ItemID, Name, Location, Value, Quantity, SubTotal, OnLoan, *PATNeeded*)

Loan(LoanID, *ItemID*, *ItemName*, LoanRate, LoanStartDate, LoanEndDate, LoanTime, LoanCost)

PATTest(TestID, *ItemID*, *ItemName*, LastTest, NextTest)

## 1.5 Object Analysis

### 1.5.1 Object Listing

- Client
- Item
- Loan
- PAT test

### **1.5.2 Relationship diagrams**

### **1.5.3 Class definitions**

## **1.6 Other Abstractions and Graphs**

## **1.7 Constraints**

### **1.7.1 Hardware**

### **1.7.2 Software**

### **1.7.3 Time**

### **1.7.4 User Knowledge**

### **1.7.5 Access restrictions**

## **1.8 Limitations**

### **1.8.1 Areas which will not be included in computerisation**

### **1.8.2 Areas considered for future computerisation**

## **1.9 Solutions**

### **1.9.1 Alternative solutions**

### **1.9.2 Justification of chosen solution**