

Data Flow Diagram

DFD is the abbreviation for **Data Flow Diagram**. The flow of data in a system or process is represented by a Data Flow Diagram (DFD). It also gives insight into the inputs and outputs of each entity and the process itself. Data Flow Diagram (DFD) does not have a control flow and no loops or decision rules are present. Specific operations, depending on the type of data, can be explained by a flowchart. It is a graphical tool, useful for communicating with users, managers and other personnel. It is useful for analyzing existing as well as proposed systems.

Characteristics of Data Flow Diagram (DFD)

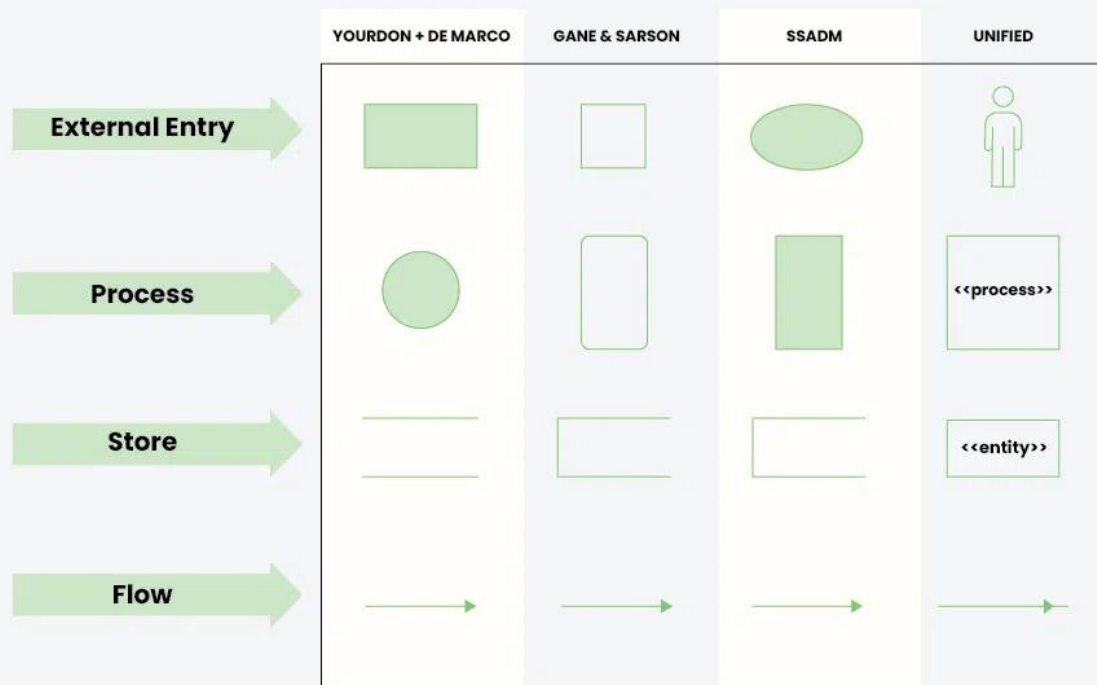
Below are some characteristics of Data Flow Diagram (DFD):

- **Graphical Representation:** Data Flow Diagram (DFD) use different symbols and notation to represent data flow within system. That simplify the complex model.
- **Problem Analysis:** Data Flow Diagram (DFDs) are very useful in understanding a system and can be effectively used during analysis. Data Flow Diagram (DFDs) are quite general and are not limited to problem analysis for software requirements specification.
- **Abstraction:** Data Flow Diagram (DFD) provides a abstraction to complex model i.e. DFD hides unnecessary implementation details and show only the flow of data and processes within information system.
- **Hierarchy:** Data Flow Diagram (DFD) provides a hierarchy of a system. High-level diagram i.e. 0-level diagram provides an overview of entire system while lower-level diagram like 1-level DFD and beyond provides a detailed data flow of individual process.
- **Data Flow:** The primary objective of Data Flow Diagram (DFD) is to visualize the data flow between external entity, processes and data store. Data Flow is represented by an arrow Symbol.
- **Ease of Understanding:** Data Flow Diagram (DFD) can be easily understand by both technical and non-technical stakeholders.

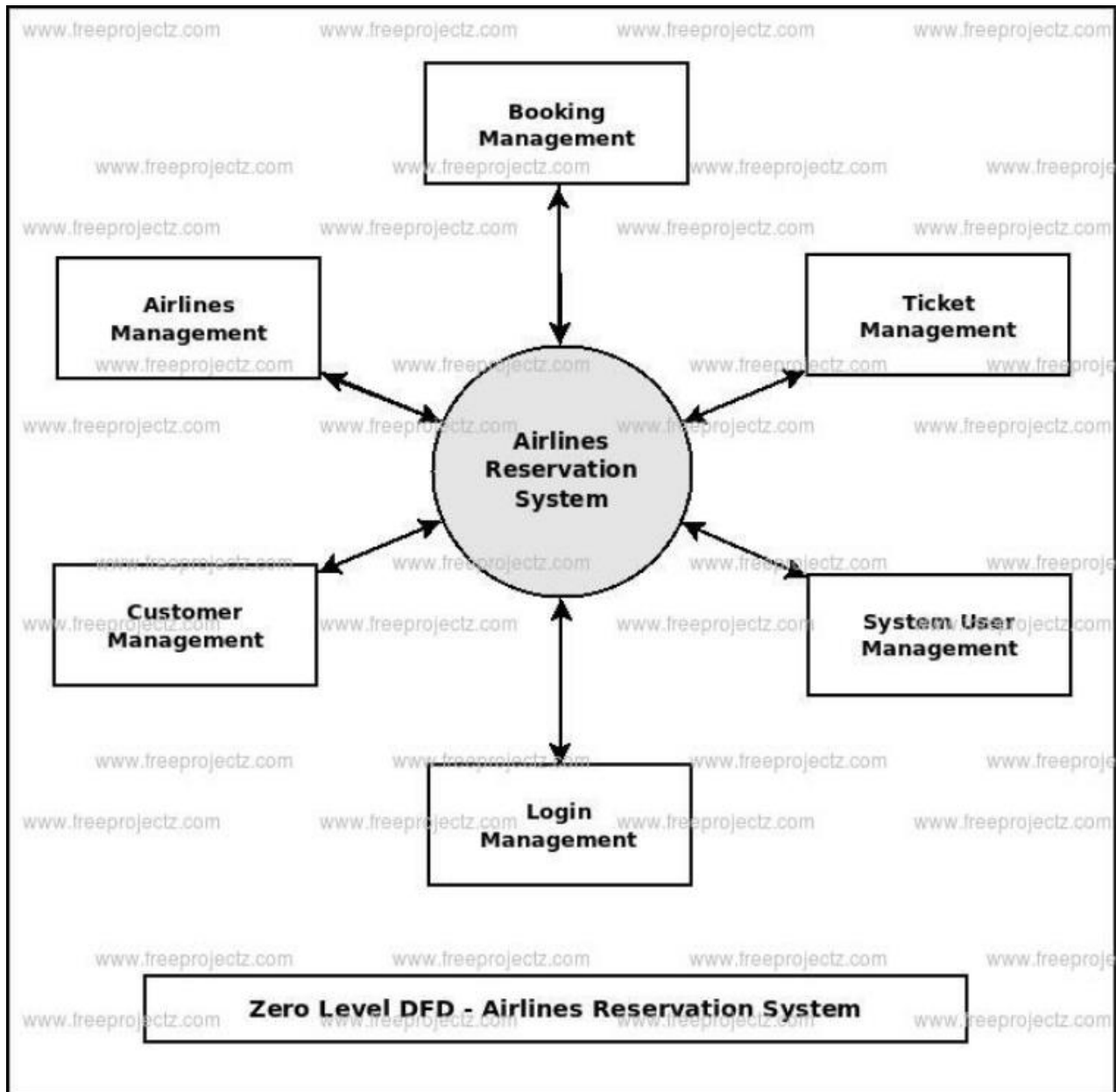
- **Modularity:** Modularity can be achieved using Data Flow Diagram (DFD) as it breaks the complex system into smaller module or processes. This provides easily analysis and design of a system.



Data Flow Diagram Methods & Symbols



Level 0



Level 1 , 2

