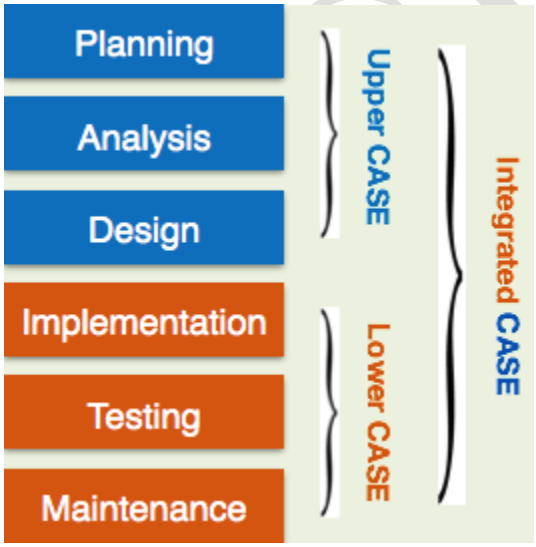
CASE TOOLS FOR ANALYST

A CASE (Computer Aided Software Engineering) tool is a standard term used to indicate any form of automated support for software engineering. It means development and maintenance of software projects with help of various automated software tools. The goal of introducing CASE tools is the reduction of the time and cost of software development and the enhancement of the quality of the systems developed. The interest in CASE tools and environments is based on expectations about increasing productivity, improving product quality, facilitating maintenance, and making software engineers' task less odious and more enjoyable. CASE tools are used by software project managers, analysts and engineers to develop software system and these tools can be used at all stages of Software development life cycle.

Components of CASE Tools



- **Central Repository:** CASE tools require a central repository, which can serve as a source of common, integrated and consistent information.
- **Upper case tools:** support planning, analysis and design phases of SDLC
- **Lower case tools:** support implementation, testing and coding phase
- **Integrated case tools:** it s helpful in all stages of SDLC

CASE TOOL TYPES

The various types of CASE tools are:

- **Diagramming tools:** It helps in diagrammatic and graphical representations of the data and system processes. For example, Flow Chart Maker tool for making state-of-the-art flowcharts.

- **Computer display and report generators:** help prototype how systems look and feel. It makes it easier for the systems analyst to identify data requirements and relationship.

- **Web Development Tools**: These tools assist in designing web pages with all allied elements like forms, text, and script, graphic and so on. For example, Adobe Edge Inspect, Foundation 3, Brackets.

- **Analysis tools:** automatically check for important, inconsistent, or incorrect specifications in diagrams, forms, and reports.

- **Central repository:** enables the integrated storage of specifications, diagrams, reports and project management information.

- **Documentation Generators:** produce technical and user documentation in standard formats.

- **Code generators:** enable the automatic generation of program and data base definition code directly from the design documents, diagrams, forms, and reports.

- **Process Modeling Tools:** Process modeling is method to create software process model, which is used to develop the software. Process modeling tools help the managers to choose a process model for software development.

- **Prototyping Tools:** These tools help us to build rapid prototypes based on existing information. In addition, they provide simulation of software prototype. For example, Serena prototype composer, Mockup Builder.

- **Maintenance Tools:** These tools are used once software product has been delivered. These tools help in maintenance phase of SDLC. For example, Bugzilla for defect tracking, HP Quality Center.