CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE AND SOFTWARE ENGINEERING

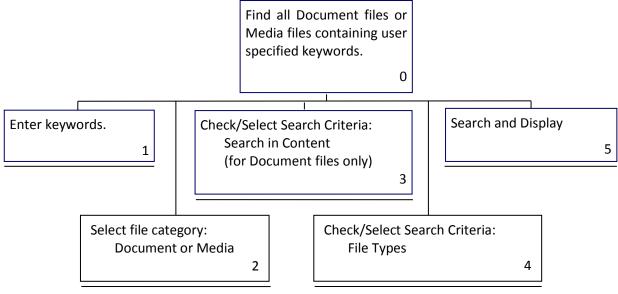
SOEN 357, Winter 2013

SOLUTIONS TO QUIZ 3

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Answer All Questions

The hierarchical task diagram of the Search interface from Quiz 2 (to find either all document files (of one or more types — PDFs, word processor files, spreadsheets, presentations) containing user-specified keywords in the name and optionally in the content or all media files (of one or more types — pictures, audio, video) containing user-specified keywords in the name is given below.



Plan:

To Search for Document files, do 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. To Search for Media files, do 1, 2, 4, 5

This quiz is on conceptual designs for this Search interface.

- (a) To perform each of the following subtasks in your conceptual design, state which interface control (text entry box, radio buttons, check boxes, or clickable buttons) is the most appropriate and why.
 - (i) [1 mark] Enter search keywords.
 - Text entry box, since there are many different possibilities for key words which cannot be input/selected using the other controls.
 - (ii) [1 mark] Select file category (Document files or Media files).

 Radío buttons, sínce only one of these choices should be selected (mutually exclusívely).

- (iii) [1 mark] Select file types.

 Check boxes, since any number and combination of the file types may be selected in any order
- (iv) [1 mark] Perform the search.

 Clickable button, since the affordance of a clickable button implies executing the task (performing the search).
- (b) For each of the following design suggestions, state whether you would use it in your conceptual design or not with proper justification.
 - (i) [1 mark] Add a "Cancel" button to cancel the search.

 I would add a "Cancel" button to cancel the search as this gives more control to the user giving the impression that he/she is controlling the task and not the system.
 - (ii) [1 mark] Always allow "Search in Content".

 I would not always allow "Search in Content" as this option is meaningful only for Document files and showing this option for Media files may confuse the user.
 - (iii) [1 mark] Preselect the default values for the file types.

 I would preselect the default values for each search options as this would make the search most efficient (just enter the keywords and click the Search button).
 - (iv) [1 mark] Show all the selectable file types (PDFs, word processor files, spreadsheets, presentations, pictures, audio, video) in the interface.I would not show all the selectable file types since they depend on the file category; instead only show the file types appropriate for the selected file category.
- (c) [2 mark] Draw the low-fidelity prototype of your conceptual design for this Search interface showing all the controls from (a) and all the accepted design suggestions from (b). One of the following is displayed depending on the selected file category.

