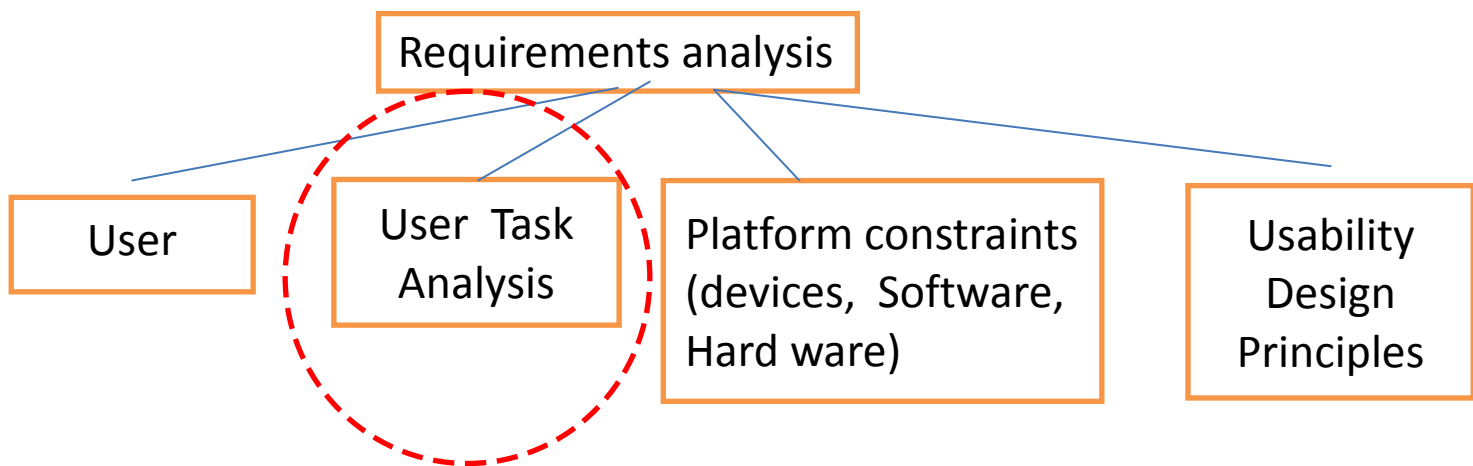


Basics of Hierarchical Task Analysis (HTA)

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Keywords: Tasks Analysis, Goals, Action, Task decomposition; HTA,

Task Analysis forms an important part of User requirements Analysis



- Task analysis is a study of user's, work flow patterns, conceptual frame works, sequential execution of interaction with the GUI.
- Task analysis results in a user's mental map of how he / she breaks down goals into a series of smaller tasks & sequences them.

Task analysis focuses on understanding User

- Users' goals and how they achieve them
- Personal, social, and cultural characteristics users bring to their tasks
- Physical environment's influence on users
- The influence of previous knowledge and experience on:

How users think about their work

The workflow users follow to perform their tasks

What is a 'TASK' ?

A set of human actions that contributes to a functional objective and to the goal of the system.

Task analysis defines performance of humans & not computers.

Task Analysis includes:

- User's goal; users need; user's intentions.
- Understanding user's environment – context of use.
- Planning for the 'actions'

Task analysis has direct implications in software design

Hierarchical Task Analysis is decomposing tasks into subtask & analyzing the logic of sequence needed to execute the task to achieve the set goal (state) in an optimal way.

HTA provides a consistent logical description of the interdependencies of tasks and therefore forms a rational framework for description of possible user interface architecture based on which a GUI is visualised.

Modeling user data for HTA: Tools

Affinity Diagrams; Flow Diagrams; Sequence Diagrams;

Assignment

1. Draw a HTA of the Indian style of making tea.
2. Draw a HTA for a website of your college to announce Results.
Take into consideration that there are multiple Departments,
Mid semester & End semester exams results to be declared and documented.