



# Assignment 7

## RE Tools

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## I. Tasks

### Individual Tasks

- Read the mandatory items in the reading list
- Prepare two questions about each paper to ask your classmates. These questions can, for example, be about aspects of the paper that are not clear to you, or about your classmate's opinion on interesting aspects.
- Be prepared to give a short summary of each paper in class. This summary should address the following questions:
  - What is the main message of the paper?
  - What are the expected benefits of the proposed method or the paper in general?
  - What are weaknesses of the paper in your opinion?
- Be prepared to answer the questions given below in class

### Group Tasks

- Prepare a 15 minutes presentation (7-12 slides) on the theme assigned to your course group and choose two persons from your group to present it.
  - At the beginning of your presentation, relate your topic to the session's topic (as represented by the mandatory reading)
  - Browse/read additional papers and/or web pages where necessary.
  - After presenting your ideas on the papers read, you also highlight the results of the iRequirePlus/weQuire Experiment on 1-2 slides.
- Assume you are a "Cowboy Coder" who wants to get new ideas for apps you could develop. For the next 2 weeks you document ideas (min. 10) on new apps using the iRequirePlus tool. With this tool you document your ideas unobtrusively, anytime and anywhere. Alternatively you can also use a paper and pencil based approach to document your ideas in situ. You are focusing on ideas to support public transport (e.g., "I would like to have an app, which tells me when I actually have to leave the bus") and everyday shopping activities (e.g., "I would like to have an app, which gives me more information on the products I buy in terms of sustainability"). However, all other app ideas are welcome as well. Those of you who use iRequirePlus will find their ideas in the weQuire platform. The others need to enter them there manually. In a next step all your colleagues (not only those from your team) are requested to vote for your ideas. Further they can comment on your ideas. Additional slides on iRequirePlus/weQuire can be found online on the course webpage (<http://www.ifi.uzh.ch/reqr/courses/hs12/re-ii.html>).

## II. Reading List

### Mandatory reading

[Kitchenham 1997] describes and validates a method for systematic tool evaluation. [Farmer 2006] describes a checklist for introducing a new tool to an organization. [Bruckhaus 1996] has evaluated the impact of requirements management tools on productivity. [Seyff 2010] describes ideas on how to strengthen end-user participation in requirements elicitation at low costs.

### Theme-specific reading

[Sinha 2006], [Decker 2007]: Tools for Requirements-Centered Collaboration  
[Luisa 2004], [Campos 2007]: Tools for Requirements Elicitation and Analysis  
[Hoffmann 2004], [Beuche 2007]: Tools for Requirements Management

## III. Questions

- What techniques can be employed for evaluating RE tools? How do these techniques compare with respect to efficiency, rigor, and situational fit?
- What are important pitfalls for successful RE tool adoption in a development organization?
- How do requirements tools affect work efficiency? In which situations do they bring improvements, when not?
- What are the most promising ideas your team identified (top 5) using iRequirePlus/weQuire. What are the benefits and limitations of the iRequirePlus/weQuire approach?
- As both tools are still under active development, please propose at least one alternative name for the weQuire platform. No restrictions apply, but be serious.

## IV. Themes for Presentation

Themes will be assigned by the assistant who tutors this course; your group can apply for a theme.

### A. Tools for Requirements-Centered Collaboration

How can requirements tools support collaboration in a software project? How does Wiki-based support differ from support by traditional requirements management tools?

### B. Tools for Requirements Elicitation and Analysis

What are the most important tools for the design of graphical user interfaces? What is the influence of the development process on tool choice? What are possible applications of natural language processing in RE? According to [Luisa 2004], is there a market for a CASE (computer-aided software engineering) tool supporting natural language processing? In this market study, which software activities have been perceived as crucial?

### C. Tools for Requirements Management

What are requirements for requirements management tools? How does Focal Point satisfy these requirements? What are tool requirements specific for product line requirements management?

## References

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