![University of Zurich UZH]

Requirements Engineering II

Assignment 1

Requirements Elicitation and Innovation

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I.   Task

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 classmates' 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 in Sect. III below in class.

Group Tasks
- Prepare a 10-12 minutes presentation (plus 6-8 minutes of discussion) on the theme assigned to your course group (cf. Sect. IV) 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.
    - Send your presentation to Norbert after the session to share it with others.
- Evaluate and select elicitation techniques for the case study presented in RE I: select ten elicitation techniques that you evaluate in terms of strengths, possible obstacles, and recommendations for their application in the project situation that was characterized in the case study. Select three of these ten techniques and justify why you would apply them in the described situation. Send in your solution as a PDF to Norbert before the assignment discussion.

II.   Reading List

Mandatory reading
[Zowghi 2005] provides an overview of requirements elicitation techniques. [Beyer 1999] deals with the problem of how to understand stakeholders' needs. [Maiden 2004] describes how creativity can be fostered to support product innovation.

Theme-specific reading
[Lloyd 2002], [Yang 2003]: Distributed Requirements Elicitation
[Maiden 2007a], [Maiden 2007b]: Elicitation of Requirements on Site
[Maiden 2005], [Gorschek 2010]: Creativity and Product Innovation

III.   Questions

- What are the most important types of techniques that can be used for distributed requirements elicitation? How do distributed systems (incl. Web Information Systems) differ from traditional information systems from the elicitation perspective?
- How does the understanding of work context help to identify the real stakeholder needs (beyond what they are telling)?
- Why does creativity matter in requirements engineering?

IV.   Themes for Presentation

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

A.   Distributed Requirements Elicitation

What categories of elicitation techniques are suitable for a distributed context? What are the challenges associated with distributed requirements elicitation? Which techniques are more successful?

B.   Elicitation on Site

What are the benefits of walking through scenarios in situ rather than in an elicitation workshop? How should mobile technologies be used for requirements elicitation?

C.   Creativity and Product Innovation

How can innovative ideas for a software product be identified? What needs to be done to enable the realization of a feasible number of ideas?

References

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