



Assignment 1

Requirements Elicitation and Innovation

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I. Task

Individual Tasks

- Read the mandatory items in the reading list
- Prepare a critique of each mandatory paper. For each paper, we will select a student to present her or his critique orally in class (3-5 minutes). Particular questions to be addressed are:
 - What is the main message of the paper?
 - What are the expected practical benefits?
 - What are the strengths and weaknesses of the paper?
 - What questions do you have about the paper? (prepare at least two questions)
 - What is your personal opinion about the paper? Do you agree or disagree with its findings?
- Be prepared to answer the questions given in Sect. III below in class.
- Send your critiques to Norbert before the assignment discussion.

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

Theme-specific reading

[Lloyd et al. 2002], [Yang and Tang 2003]: Distributed Requirements Elicitation
[Maiden et al. 2007a], [Maiden et al. 2007b]: Elicitation of Requirements on Site
[Maiden and Robertson 2005], [Gorschek et al. 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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- Gorschek, T., S. Fricker, K. Palm, and S. Kunsman (2010). A Lightweight Innovation Process for Software Intensive Product Development. *IEEE Software* 27, 1 (Jan./Feb. 2010). 37-45.
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- Maiden, N., A. Gizikis, S. Robertson (2004). Provoking Creativity: Imagine What Your Requirements Could Be Like. *IEEE Software* 21, 5 (Sept./Oct. 2004). 68-75.
- Maiden, N., S. Robertson (2005). Integrating Creativity into Requirements Processes: Experiences with an Air Traffic Management System. *13th IEEE International Conference on Requirements Engineering (RE'05)*. Paris, France. 105-114.
- Maiden, N., C. Ncube, S. Kamali, N. Seyff, and P. Grünbacher (2007a). Exploring Scenario Forms and Ways of Use to Discover Requirements on Airports that Minimize Environmental Impact. *15th IEEE International Conference on Requirements Engineering (RE'07)*. New Dehli, India, 29-38.
- Maiden, N., N. Seyff, P. Grünbacher, O. Otojare, and K. Mitteregger (2007b). Determining Stakeholder Needs in the Workplace: How Mobile Technologies Can Help. *IEEE Software* 24, 2 (March/April 2007). 46-52.
- Yang, H., J. Tang (2003). A Three-Stage Model of Requirements Elicitation for Web-Based Information Systems (2003). *Industrial Management & Data Systems* 103, 6, 2003. 398-409.
- Zowghi, D., C. Coulin (2005). Requirements Elicitation: A Survey of Techniques, Approaches, and Tools. In Aurum, A., C. Wohlin. *Engineering and Managing Software Requirements*. Springer. 19-46.