

# Requirements Engineering

Requirements and elements of value

**Zheying Zhang** 

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#### **Outline**

- What are requirements?
- Elements of value
- Requirements engineering

Textbook: (Wiegers and Beatty, 2013) Chapters 1-3







# **Example 1: Goals of traffic control**

- Traffic control (goal: moving smoothly and safely)
  - · Drivers stop at red lights
  - Drivers drive at green lights
  - Pedestrians and cars can not be in the intersection at the same time
- Smart traffic control (goal: efficient transportation)
  - The system shall adjust the traffic light timing according to real-time traffic conditions.
  - The system shall prioritize public transportation over private vehicles.
  - •

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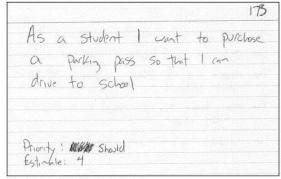
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# **Example 2 User story cards**

http://www.agilemodeling.com/artifacts/userStory.htm

#### Front of Card



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As a student I want to purchase a parking pass so that I can drive to school.

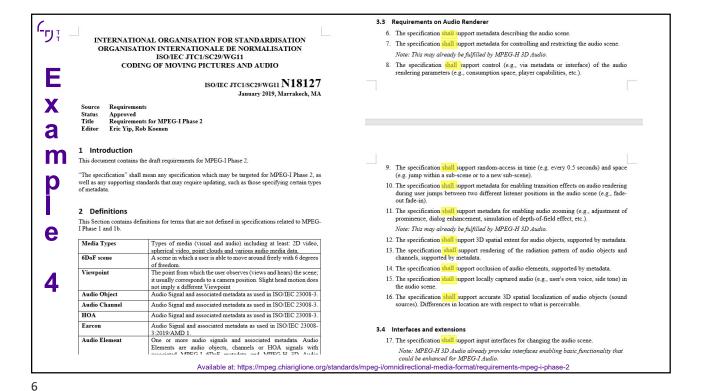
As a <type of user>, I want <activity> so that <goal>.



## Example 3 A use case specification for a Cafeteria ordering system

(Wiegers and Beatty, 2013 p. 581-582)

ID and Name:	UC-1: Order a Meal			
Created By:	Prithvi Raj	Date Created:	October 4, 2013	
Primary Actor:	Patron	Secondary Actors:	Cafeteria Inventory System	Order On Line
Description:	A Patron accesses the Cafeteria Ordering System from either the corporate intranet or external Internet, views the menu for a specific date, selects food items, and places an order for a meal to be picked up in the cafeteria or delivered to a specified location within a specified 15-minute time window.			
Trigger:	A Patron indicates that he wants to order a meal.			
Preconditions:	PRE-1. Patron is logged into COS. PRE-2. Patron is registered for meal payments by payroll deduction.			
Postconditions:	POST-1. Meal order is stored in COS with a status of "Accepted." POST-2. Inventory of available food items is updated to reflect items in this order. POST-3. Remaining delivery capacity for the requested time window is updated.			
Normal Flow:	1.0 Order a Single Meal 1. Patron asks to view menu for a specific date. (see 1.0.E1, 1.0.E2) 2. COS displays menu of available food items and the daily special. 3. Patron selects one or more food items from menu. (see 1.1) 4. Patron indicates that meal order is complete. (see 1.2) 5. COS displays ordered menu items, individual prices, and total price, including taxes and delivery charge. 6. Patron either confirms meal order (continue normal flow) or requests to modify meal order (return to step 2). 7. COS displays available delivery times for the delivery date. 8. Patron selects a delivery time and specifies the delivery location.			_





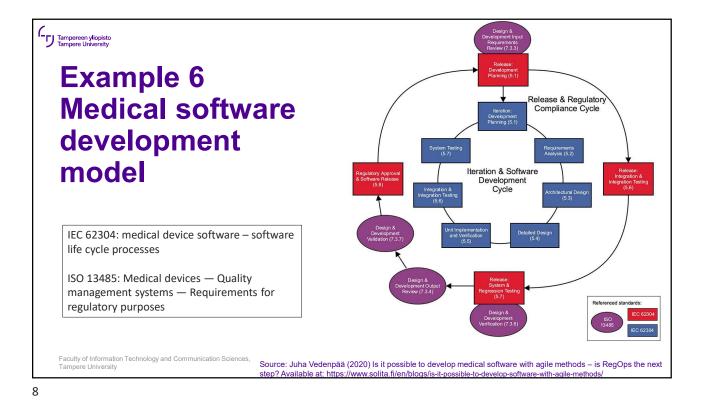
# **Example 5 a first-order logic specification in a train control system**

∀ tr1, tr2

Following  $(tr2, tr1) \rightarrow Dist (tr2, tr1) > WCS-Dist (tr2)$ 

- The atomic predicate *Following (tr2, tr1)* is true if and only if the pair (tr2, tr1) is a member of the binary relation *Following* over trains, defined as the set of pairs of trains in which the 1<sup>st</sup> train in the pair directly follows the 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Function Dist returns the exact distance between two given trains
- Function WCS-Dist returns the worst-case distance needed for the train to stop in an emergency
- Let's rephrase the expression: The distance between two successive trains should be kept sufficient to avoid collisions if the 1<sup>st</sup> train stops suddenly.

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- Requirements are expresses on the different abstraction levels, from goals to services, features, functions,....
- Rules and conventions are a kind of requirements. There are also regulartory requirements for the software development process.
- There are different ways of presenting requirements, e.g. pictures, text, form, index card, maths, etc.
- There are different kinds of information associated with requirements, e.g. priority, estimation of effort

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# Requirements

Requirements are *specifications* of the *services* that the system should provide, the *constraints* on the system and the *background information* that is necessary to developing the system (Zave 1997)

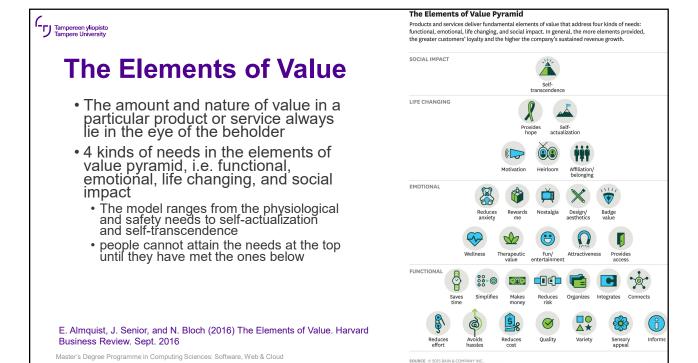
Zave, P. Classification of Research Efforts in Requirements Engineering, ACM Computing Surveys, 29(4), 1997

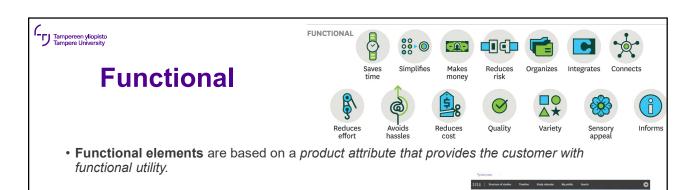


#### **Outline**

- What are requirements?
- Elements of value
  - The amount and nature of value in a particular product or service always lie in the eye of the beholder
- Requirements engineering

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- E.g. Sisu
  - Study plan, signup for courses, study calendar, completed studies integrates, informs, variety ...

Welcome to Sisu!

- Nysse Mobile app for public transport in Tampere
  - Buy one-time, day or season tickets saves time, simplify, reduce effort
  - Travel guide informs, reduces effort, avoids hassles, variety

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- they purchase or use a particular product. They add richness and depth to the experience of owning and using the product.
- E.g

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- Facebook: "on this day" nostalg
- Snapchat: lenses, filters, bitmoji tun/entertainment, attractiveness
- Nysse mobile
  - •buy tickets before getting up the bus reduces anxiety
  - Timetables, routes provides access

















Life changing

- Life changing elements provide an opportunity for someone to communicate his or her self-image.
- Inwardly focused, focusing on the act of using the product, primarily addressing consumers' personal needs, such as providing hope, self-actualization, affiliation and belonging or motivation Spotify
- E.g.
  - Spotify find music playlists: for runners that detects their tempo and finds music to match it motivation
  - · Home workout record training progress & customize workout reminder: personalized training plans to provide hopes, self-actualization



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# **Social impact**



- Social impact elements convey the sense of doing good for others
- Helping other people or society more broadly
- E.g.
  - Nysse: the public transport reduce carbon emissions, protect environment



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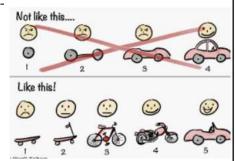


#### Patterns of value

- Some elements do matter more than others
  - Products and services must attain a certain minimum level quality
  - the critical elements depend on the industry domain
    - food and beverages -> sensory appeal (appealing in taste and smell)
    - Netflix -> variety,

#### Putting the elements to work

- Understand the elements critical to business
- Implement critical elements before attempting to add new ones
- Refine product designs to deliver more elements, e.g. save time, reduce cost



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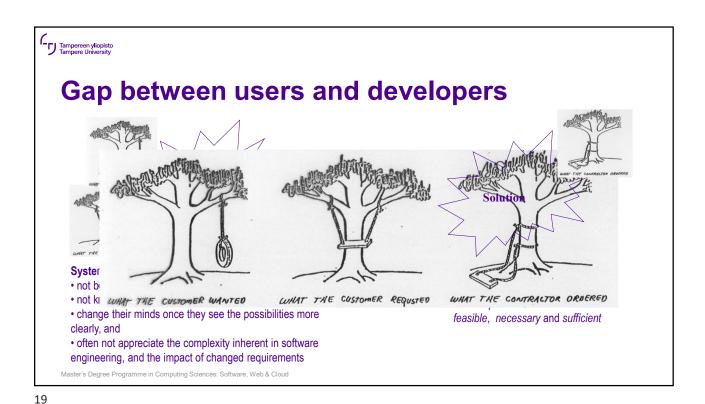


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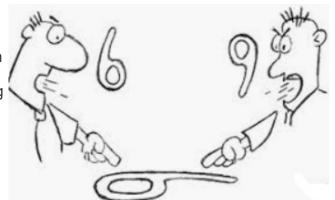
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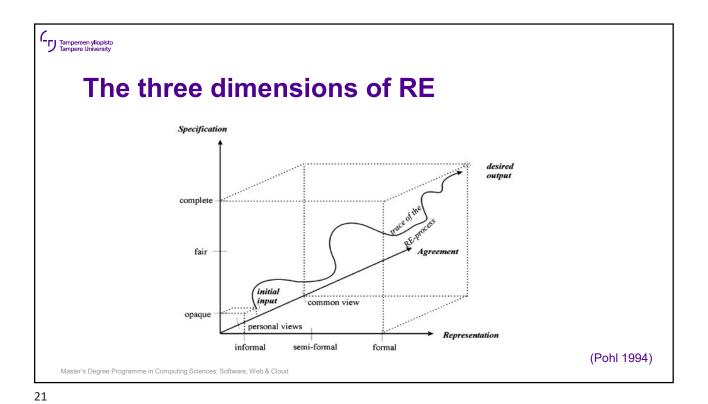


# Requirements engineering (RE)

- RE is a systematic process of developing requirements through an iterative cooperative process of analyzing the problem, documenting the resulting observations in a variety of representation formats, and checking the accuracy of the understanding gained. (Pohl, 1994)
  - A social process
  - · A variety of representation formats
  - Understanding and validating the requirements



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#### Main goals sketched from the three-dimension framework

The specification dimension deals with the degree of requirements understanding at a given time.

 Develop a complete system specification out of an opaque system understanding

The representation dimension copes with the degree of formality of knowledge expression: informal (user-oriented) -> formal (system oriented)

 Provide integrated representations and support the transformation between them

The agreement dimension deals with the degree of agreement reached on a specification

 Accomplish a common agreement on the final specification allowing personal views

# Readings

M. Jackson (1997) The meaning of requirements, Annals of Software Engineering, v3, 1997.

K. Pohl. The three dimensions of requirements engineering: a framework and its applications, Information Systems, 19(3), p.243-258, April 1994.

E. Almquist, J. Senior, and N. Bloch (2016) The Elements of Value. Harvard Business Review. Sept. 2016

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#### Reminder ©

- A1: element of value, answering by 19/9 and reviewing by 20/9
- Teaming up for a selected topic in Moodle
- Course cancellation in SISU, by Sept. 18