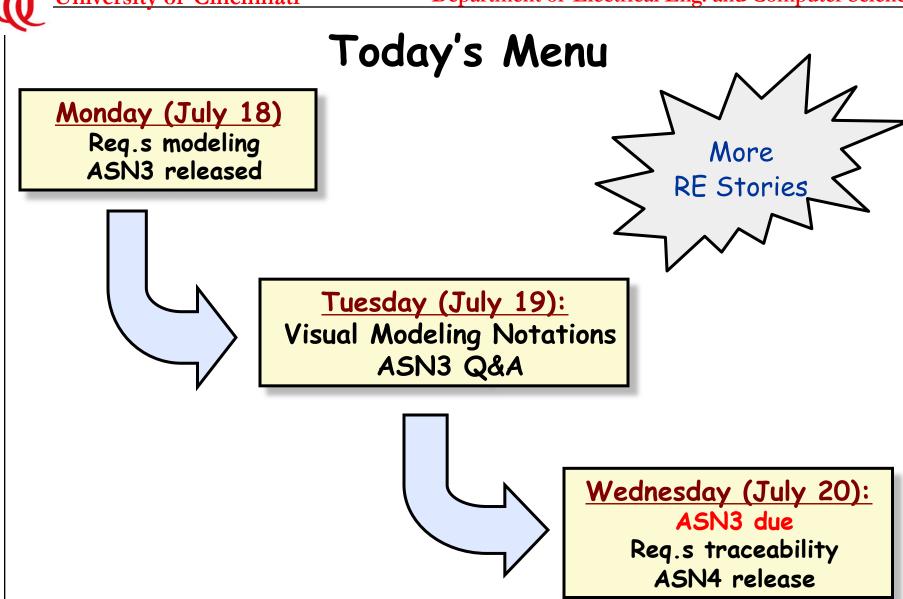
Requirements Engineering (Summer 2022)

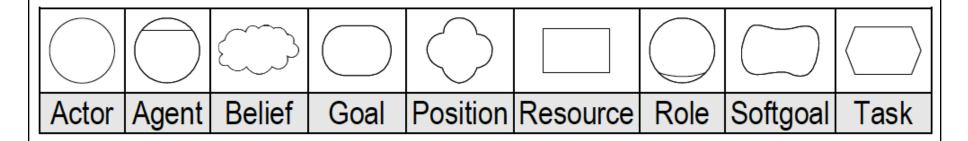
Prof. Nan Niu (nan.niu@uc.edu)

https://github.com/nanniu/RE-Summer2022





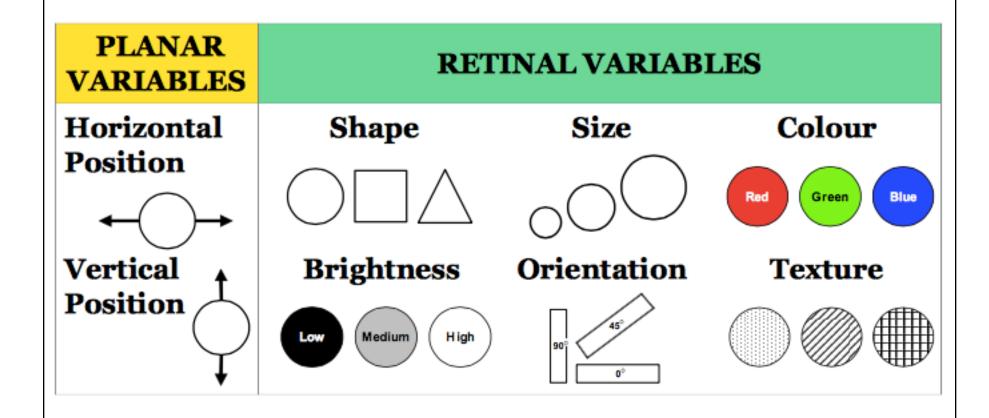
The i^* Notations [Yu-RE'97]

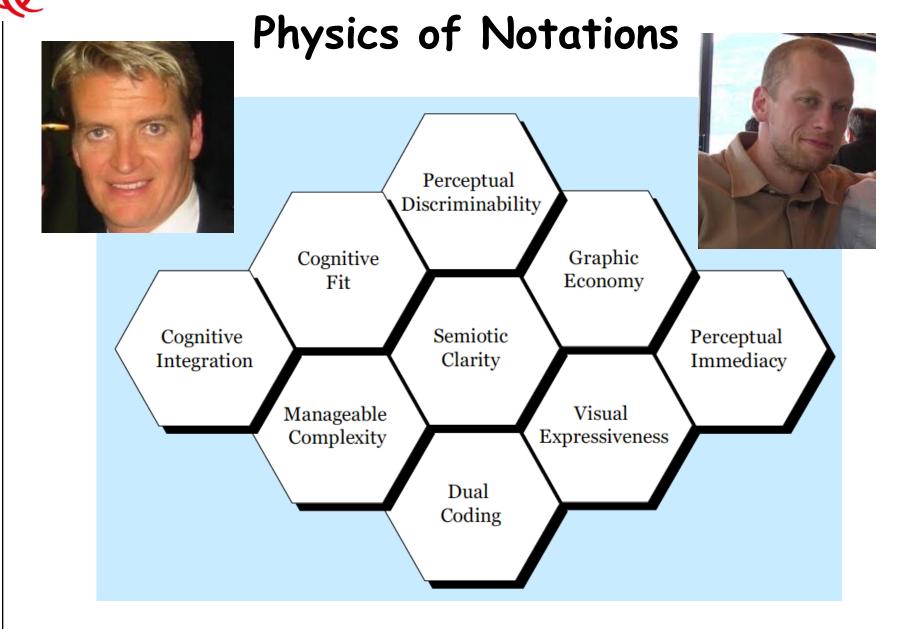


- → What do you think about these visual notations?
- → Would you use the same/similar/different ones?
- → How would you choose them in the first place?



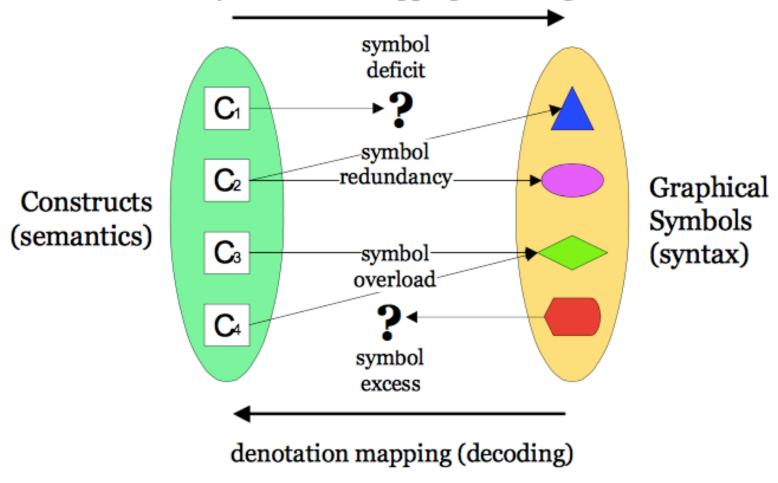
The Visual Alphabet



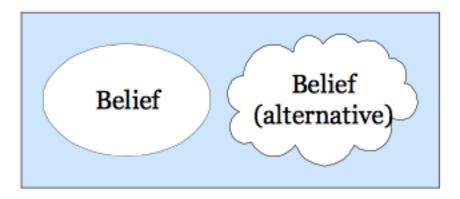


Semiotic Clarity

symbolisation mapping (encoding)



Symbol Redundancy

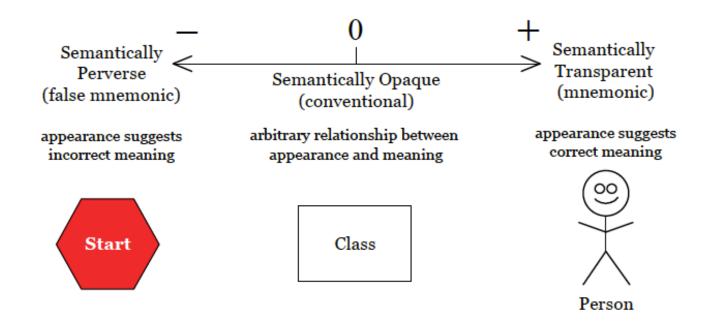


Symbol Overload

Graphic link	Semantic relationship	Overload
	Actor association (6 types) Contribution (9 types)	14
>	Correlation (9 types)	8



Let's design "semantically transparent" visual notations





Let's design "semantically transparent" visual notations





Let us practice the prototype way

→ For each of the five i* constructs (actor, resource, goal, softgoal, task), I'll show you 5 candidate visual notations, please <u>respond to a poll to select one and only one</u> that you think is the most semantically transparent

→ This is part of class participation



Here're our prototype results





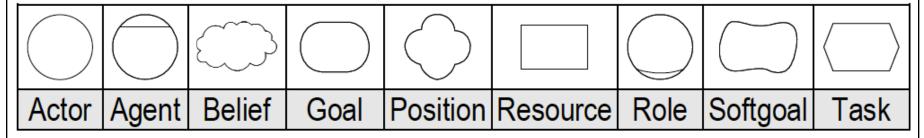
Relying on the judges: Stereotype



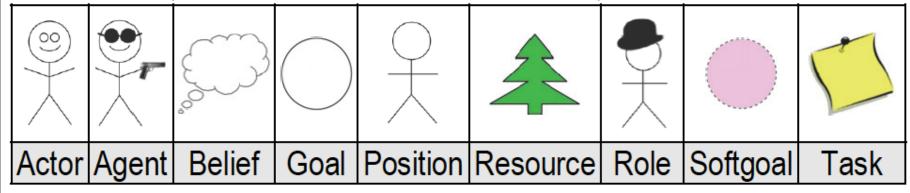


Test 4 sets of i^* Notations

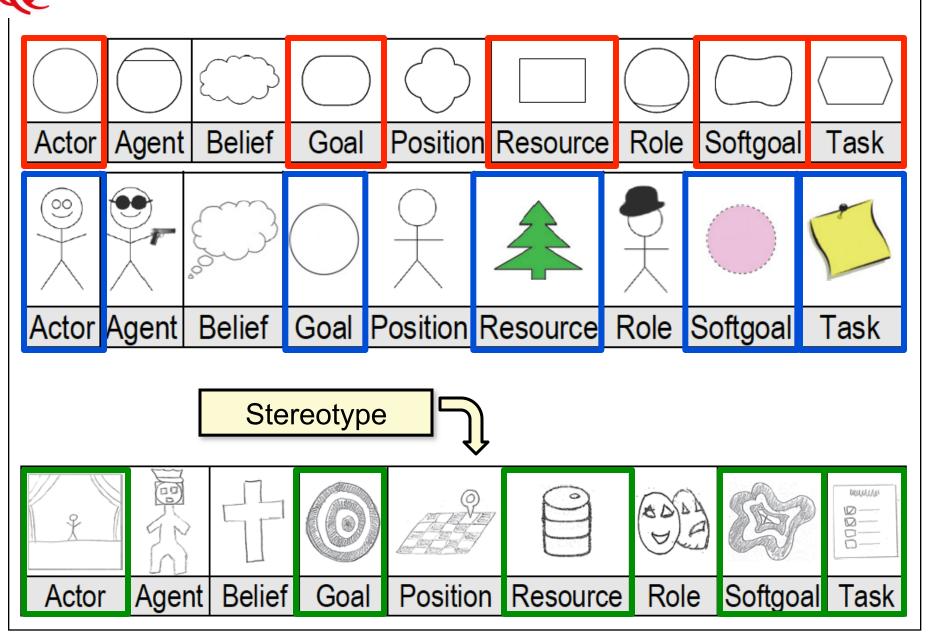
\rightarrow Standard i^* [Yu-RE'97]



\rightarrow PoN (Physics of Notation) i^* [Moody-REJ'10]



Both are designed by expert researcher(s) in RE, though the latter has embodied a set of principles (design rationales).



Test 4 sets of i^* Notations (Cont'd)

- \rightarrow Prototype i^*
- → Stereotype i^*
- \rightarrow PoN (physics of notation) i^*
- \rightarrow Standard i^*

- → What's your hypothesis?
- → What do you think the actual results are?

Results of the RE'13 study

- → 83 participants to experiment "recognition"
 - Measure hit ratio & semantic transparency coefficient
- → How effective these are?

```
♦ Standard i*
```

♦PoN i*

 $\$ Stereotype i^*

 $\$ Prototype i^*

→ Hypothesis

Prototype > Stereotype > PoN > Standard

→ Result

Stereotype > Prototype = PoN > Standard

Modeling in RE

- → Modeling with a <u>purpose</u>
 - \$Facilitate communication
 - **Organize** information
 - \$Uncover missing information
 - **Uncover** inconsistencies
- \rightarrow Yu's paper not purely on i^* per se, but more on "Early RE"
 - \$Uncover hidden assumptions ("who" & "why")
 - \$Explore alternatives
 - \$Relate to business and organizational objectives

"People can use pencil to draw on the back of an envelope." (E. Yu)



Summary (serving as today's take-aways)

→Visual notation design (HCI and RE)

Principles

>"Community Acceptance" must also be one of them

⇔Ways

Expert-based vs. end-user-based (stereotype & prototype)

Modeling with a purpose

- >Oftentimes, the purpose is NOT "appearance suggests correct meaning", just like lots of words are NOT "onomatopoeia"
- >Commenting "//increment i" for i++; is useless