Jose Grijalva

9/22/2024

SER415 Fall A 2024

Reflection #4: Requirements Quality

- 1) I had very little trouble figuring out what parts of the email were requirements in the first case. I was really looking for specific functionalities, so they appeared obvious. I focused on the parts of the requirements analysis that explained the functions the system should have like the answers it should have or the activities users would perform. It was easier to differentiate actionable issues from generic statements using this approach. Each function's clear purpose statement naturally stood out, making it easy to choose the requirements. But I also exercised precaution in assuming anything that might have been hidden behind seemingly straightforward statements.
- 2) One requirement that surprised me when I was looking for ambiguous requirements was "User should be able to browse books." At first, I thought that looking through books was a distinct and defined function, but after giving it some thought, I saw that the term "browse" is actually somewhat unclear. This word could mean different things to different people depending on how browsing is done, including using categories, filters, or search features. This difference showed how different interpretations of even seemingly basic requirements might lead to misunderstandings throughout development.

- 3) I disagreed with the classification of one or two of the questions at first, but afterwards I considered whether they were important to ask. For instance, after some reflection, some of the questions that I had believed were good actually lacked clarity or crucial facts that would have helped to explain the requirement. Through this process, I learned that even while a question could appear relevant, it's critical to determine whether or not it would advance the conversation toward a clearer, more comprehensive requirement. My early disagreements eventually gave way to a greater awareness of how to formulate questions that resulted in answers that were more understandable and useful.
- 4) I found the activity to be quite enjoyable overall, as it was like solving an intriguing puzzle. My understanding of the challenge of requirement gathering has improved as a result of the process of carefully reviewing requirements to find any potential ambiguities or missing specifics. I came to notice how simple it is to ignore seemingly insignificant details that, if ignored later in the project, may lead to serious misunderstandings. This exercise made me realize how much work goes into making sure requirements are complete, verifiable, traceable, and easy to understand. It emphasized how crucial accuracy is when writing and checking requirements.