

A Software Concept for SRS Construction

Meeting Scheduler

Robert Keller

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Note: Since this origination of this concept, an independent implementation of the concept was discovered on the web. Do not search for information about this implementation, as the point of the exercise is to construct an SRS (Software Requirements Specification), not produce an implementation. You do not want to influence your specification with the attributes of an existing implementation. An SRS specifies the required characteristics of the solution, rather than a specific solution itself.

I am providing a brief description of the concept. Further attributes are to be derived by interviewing me in the role of customer.

Concept: Organizations have a need to schedule meetings among various groups of individuals. Ideally, such meetings do not conflict with the existing calendars of the individuals involved. Establishing acceptable meeting times often requires a significant expenditure of time and energy. The purpose of the meeting scheduler software is to reduce this expenditure.

Calendar software is widely available in packages such as Microsoft Outlook, Apple iCal, Google Calendar, Lotus, Zimbra, etc. It is further undesirable to require all members of an organization to use the same calendar software. Assume for this exercise that the information representation exchange issue for diverse calendars can be solved.

The meeting scheduler should make it simple to find meeting times for groups of people. It should use information stored on the calendars of individuals or groups, as well as ancillary information provided interactively, where needed. It should facilitate the defining of such groups and modifying them. Hierarchical structuring of groups is desired. Once meetings are scheduled, the possibility of changing the time or length, postponing until further notice, or cancelling should also be facilitated.

The remainder of the information should be determined by the interview process in class.

Harvey Mud College

Computer Science 121

Assignments 1-2, Spring 2009

Please work these two assignments individually. Turn in paper versions produced on a word processor.

Assignment 1, due Thursday 22 January:

Create an SRS (Software Requirements Specification) for the Meeting Scheduler application as described on the attached page and discussed and interviewed in the first class meeting. Consider this a first draft, so do not include detailed or formalized scenarios for use cases. Do not include specific design decisions you might make or other irrelevant information. Do separate functional and non-functional requirements. Consider including a glossary of terms as needed. Use of embedded spreadsheet tables for formatting is encouraged.

Some SRS examples may be found on the course web page,

<http://www.cs.hmc.edu/courses/current/cs121/>

but you are free to investigate others. Please list relevant references, but only ones that you actually use.

Assignment 2, due Tuesday 27 January:

Locate a non-technical, but apparently notable, article having to do with software in the popular press. Once you've chosen the article, spend an hour or two researching what you can about technical or societal issues behind the article. Produce a 1-2 page summary of the article and issues with references, and be prepared to discuss in class.