

Distributed Requirements Elicitation

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Group 1

Context – Requirements Elicitation

- **Process of seeking, capturing & consolidating requirements**
- **Common Requirements Elicitation process** (Zowghi & Coulin, 2005)
 1. Understanding application domain
 2. Identifying the sources of requirements
 3. Analyse stakeholders
 4. Selecting techniques, approaches and tools to use
 5. Eliciting requirements from stakeholders and other sources

Challenges

- **Challenges in common Requirements Elicitation process**
 - Concept clear to 1 stakeholder but opaque to another
 - Time & cost constraints
 - Legal, environmental, physical constraints
 - Geographical location & cultural differences
 - ...

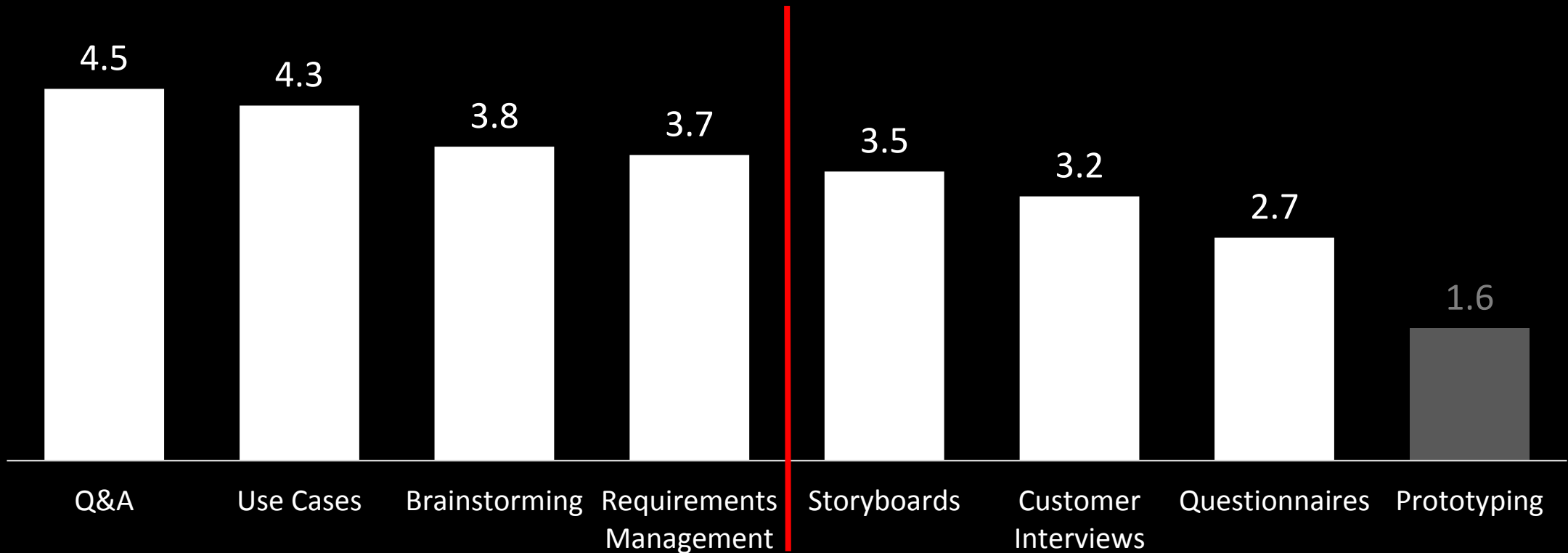
Challenges specific to DRE

- **Geographic location**

- Who are the key users and where do they reside?
- Software development team and stakeholders often distributed over long distances
- No frequent face-to-face meetings possible

- **Less rich communication media → consensus finding more difficult**

Effectiveness of RE Techniques for DRE



- **Synchronous** techniques tend to be more effective than **asynchronous** techniques (?)
- Customers need to be willing to **actively participate**

Challenges specific to WIS

- **Diverse Users**
- **Key user identification difficult**
- **Users are expected to grow in numbers therefore you have volatile user requirements**

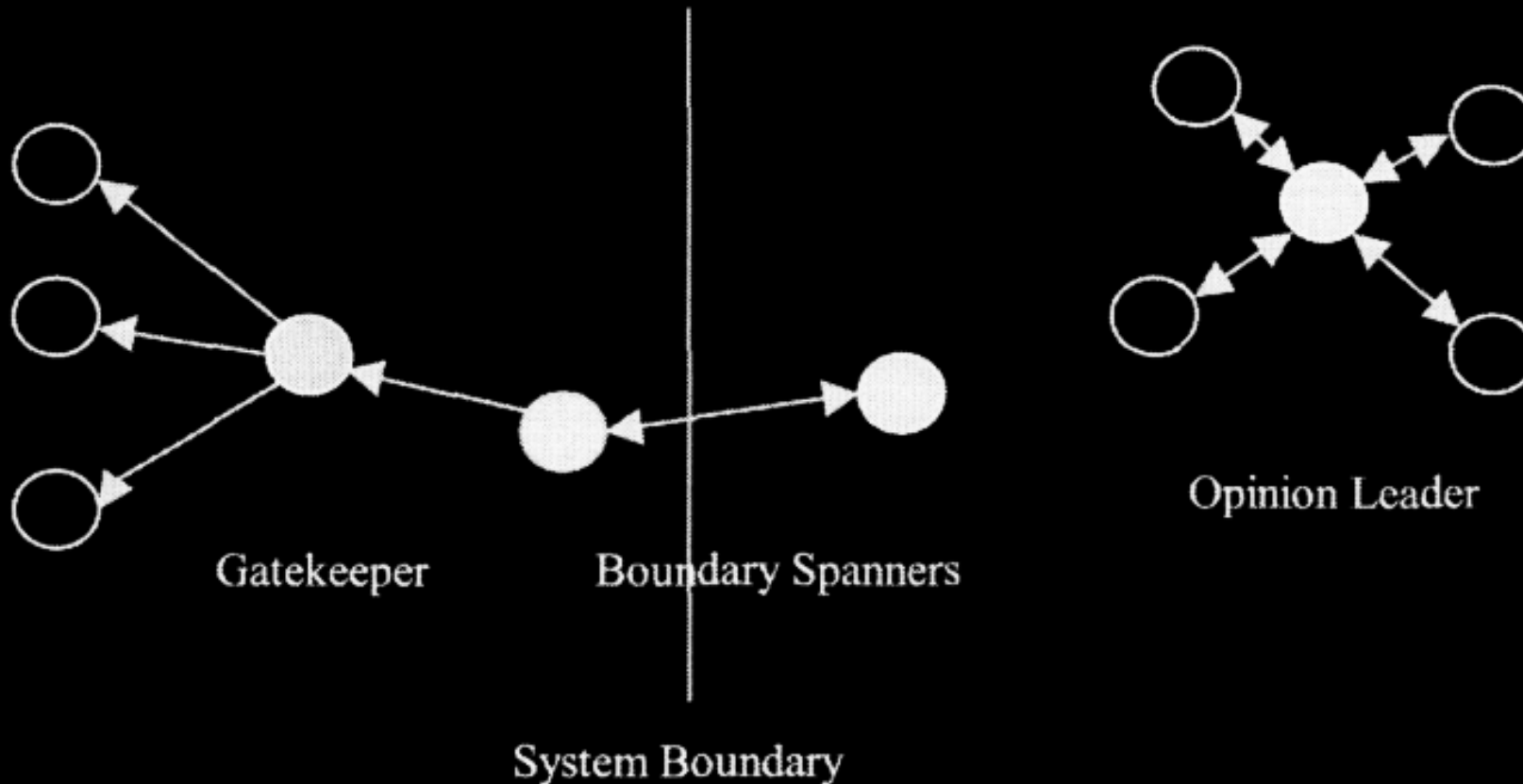
Sample Solution for DRE (WIS Context)

- **Three-Stage Requirements Elicitation Model**

- 1. Initial analysis**
- 2. Key user requirements elicitation**
 - **Social Network Analysis**
- 3. Regular user responses**

Finding Key Users in DRE using SNA

Common network roles



Discussion

- **Effectiveness of RE techniques in a DRE context:**
 - What are other possible techniques that may be effective in DRE and have not been addressed in this presentation? Why? Why not?
 - E. g. Group Work, Laddering, Ethnography, etc.
 - Has the context of DRE changed since the papers were published (2002/2003)? Has DRE become easier/harder? How?
- **Is the Three-Stage Approach presented sufficient for DRE?**
- **Social Network Analysis – the solution to finding all stakeholders? What may be problems?**