From Policy Literature Review toward Responsibility Concept – Presentations

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Abstract

This paper introduces a preliminary review of the research currently performed in the field of Policy. This review aims to understand the approaches covered by main research streams in that area and to highlight the advantages of the essential and most renowned solutions. The review of the literature quickly provides a plethora of publications that presents innovative proposals on the matter of policy conceptual model, engineering methods, elicitation languages, as well as cases studies. It also brings out that the papers most often refer rather evasively to the organizational model layers when aligning and positioning their theory with organizational concepts. Consequently, it sounds useful to orient and improve our own developments in the purpose of ameliorate that issue.

Based on that overview’s results, we are able to orient our researches more deeply by proposing an innovative approach that focuses in one hand on a policy model designed to take into account the responsibility of stakeholders and in the other hand on policy engineering method that takes care of business process while at the same time using requirement engineering (RE) principles. Responsibility is a notion that remains rarely addressed and that however embodies important and well-know concepts like accountability, capability and commitment. Moreover, responsibility constitutes a fundamental notion of management theory and is consequently identified as a meaningful bridge toward organizational artifacts. Exploiting process to define policy seems likewise to offer new research opportunities since process organizations become a more widely spread structured approach.

1. Introduction
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Outline

- Objective of the paper
- Camerer's observations over research performed in the field of policy
- Model of responsibility
- Review of AC model
- Review of Engineering methods
- Conclusion and Future works

March 12, 2015
Objectives of the paper

- Constat: many representations of policy.
- What policy targets: Role, Capability (Access Right), Obligations.
- What policy doesn’t target: Commitment.
- SIM Project, define policy based on business requirements.

- Paper objective: Review de litterature toward a innovative model
Camerer’s observations

Warning:

There are at least three symptoms of the disease causing the queasy dissatisfaction with policy research:

1. Concepts are often ambiguous and their definitions are not agreed upon;

2. Checklists or theories are rarely tested, and never tested directly against competing theories and

3. Theories do not ‘cumulate’ or built upon previous theories as they should.

These three deficiencies are a result of the way policy research is typically done.

Model of responsibility

- Capability: which describes the quality of having the requisite qualities or accesses to resources to achieve a task;
- Accountability: which describes the state of being answerable about the achievement of a task;
- Commitment: which is the engagement of a stakeholder to fulfil a task and the assurance he will do it.
**Review of AC model**

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<tr>
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<td>Yes, static and dynamic separation of duty</td>
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**Conclusions and Future works**

- **Objective**: Verifying the organizational structure and detecting policy problems and inconsistency
- We have reviewed the literature to propose a new responsibility model that addresses the Commitment.
- **Next step**: towards a formal representation.
  - User vs. enterprise responsibility
  - Violable vs. inviolable constraints
  - Deontic vs. predicate logic?
- Camerer's warning has been taken into account
- Responsibility's concept linked to organizational processes → Development of a prototype
7. References


[18] Pete A. Epstein, Engineering of Role/Permission Assignment, PhD thesis.


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