Lab 4: Agile Estimation Metrics using Jira Plugin

Objective

The objective of this lab is to learn how to use **Jira plugins** to perform Agile estimation using techniques like **Fibonacci story points**, **Planning Poker**, and **T-shirt size estimation**. This lab focuses on using a Jira estimation plugin (e.g. *Scrum Poker for Jira* or *Agile Poker*) to run interactive, collaborative estimations within a sprint backlog.

Materials Used

- Jira (Cloud or Server)
- Scrum Poker or Agile Poker Jira plugin
- Internet browser
- A project board with user stories or tasks

Theory

1️⃣ Fibonacci Estimation

Jira plugins provide Fibonacci values (1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21…) as selectable options when estimating story points.

- The gaps in the sequence represent increasing uncertainty as task size grows.
- Larger numbers are used for more complex or riskier tasks.

2️⃣ Planning Poker

Jira plugins like Scrum Poker allow team members to:

- Select a card privately for a story/task (based on Fibonacci or T-shirt sizes).
- Reveal all estimates simultaneously to prevent bias.
- Discuss and re-estimate if needed to reach consensus.

Planning Poker in Jira integrates directly with the backlog so story points are updated automatically after consensus.

3️⃣ T-Shirt Size Estimation

Some Jira plugins support T-shirt sizes (XS, S, M, L, XL) as estimation values.

- Useful for high-level backlog grooming.
- Allows quick comparison of effort before assigning story points.

Implementation

Steps using Jira plugin

Set up Jira plugin

- Install a plugin like **Scrum Poker for Jira** or **Agile Poker** from Atlassian Marketplace.

Open sprint backlog in Jira

- Select stories or tasks you want to estimate.

Start estimation session (via plugin)

- Choose estimation mode: Fibonacci story points or T-shirt sizes.
- The plugin will display estimation cards to each participant.
- **Team members vote privately**
- Each team member selects a card value that represents their estimate.

Reveal and discuss

- All estimates are revealed at once.
- If votes vary, the team discusses and re-votes until consensus is reached.

Save estimates

- Final story points (or T-shirt sizes) are saved directly into the Jira issue.

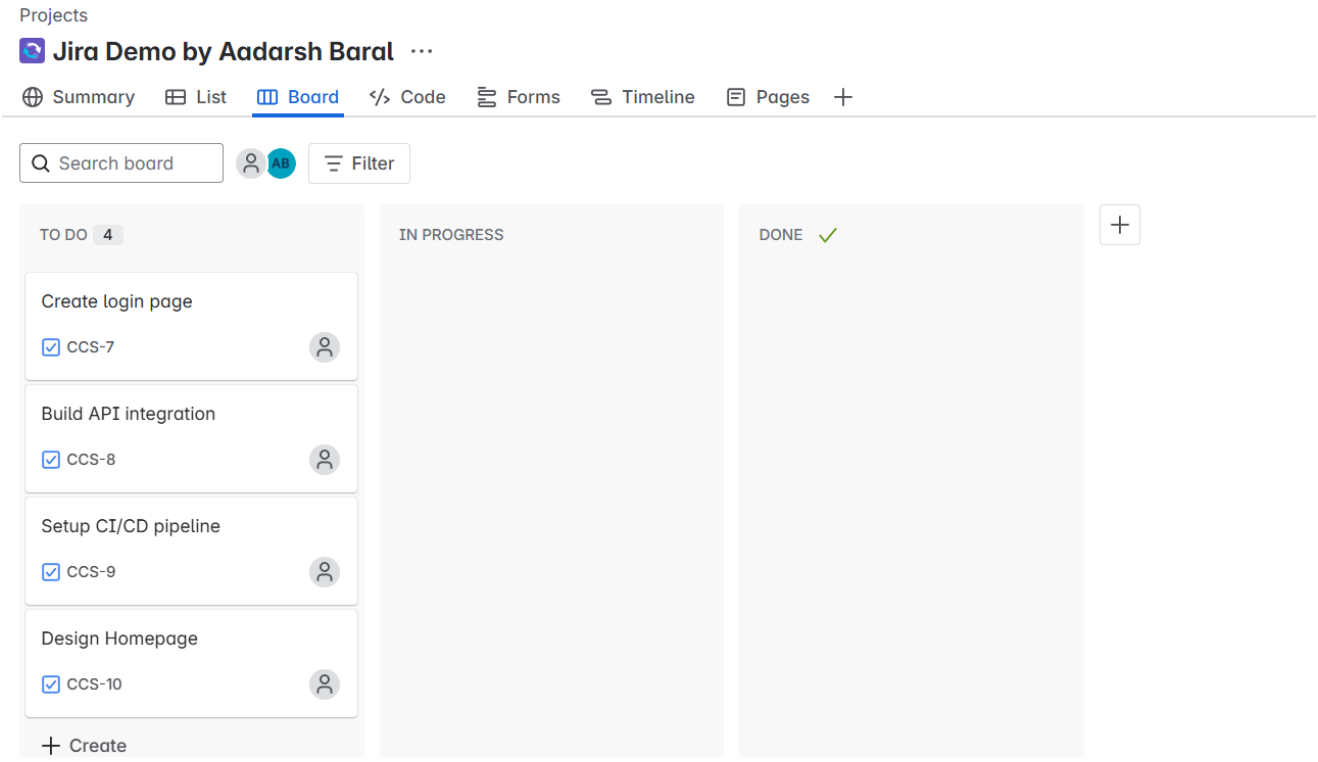
Example session

Task	Fibonacci Estimation	Planning Poker	T-Shirt Size
Create login page	3	Team consensus: 3	S
Build API integration	8	Team consensus: 8	M
Set up CI/CD pipeline	13	Team consensus: 13	L

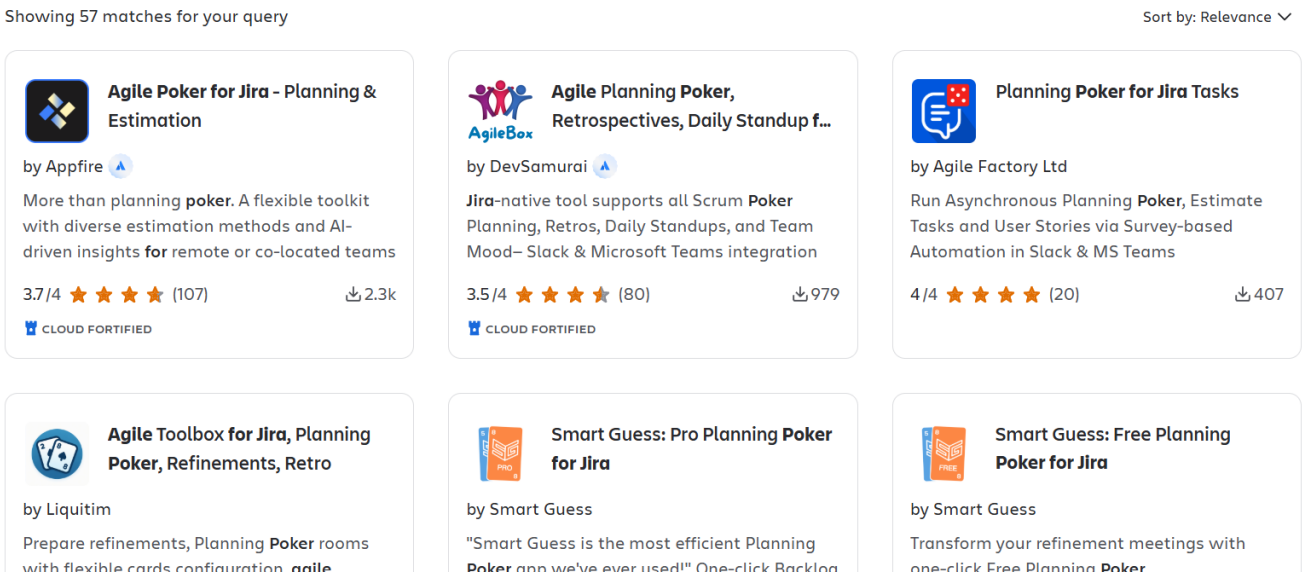
Task	Fibonacci Estimation	Planning Poker	T-Shirt Size
Design homepage	5	Team consensus: 5	M

Below are screenshots for a simple Agile Poker estimation

Step1 : Install Jira

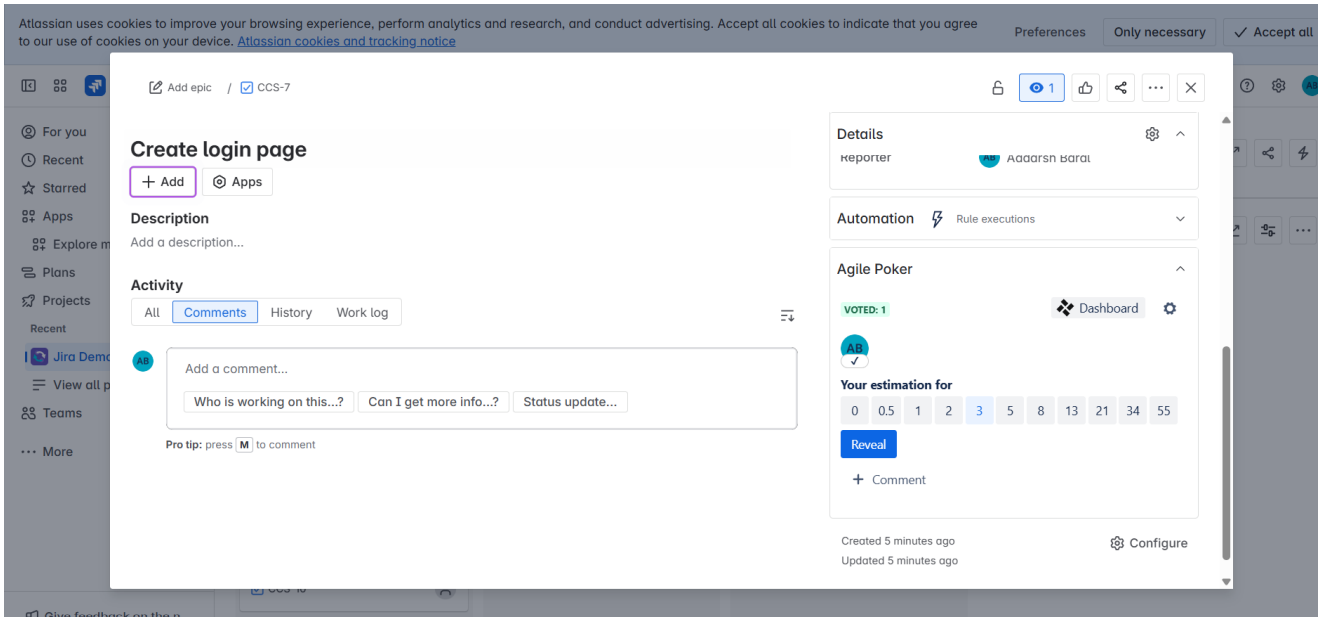


Step2 : Install the agile poker plugin from store



We will be using the `Agile Poker for Jira - Planning & Estimation` plugin

Step3: Scrum Poker estimation session in progress



Here, the team will vote on a specific value. This is based on the Fibonacci series
After all the team members vote, Jira will show a estimation result.

Conclusion

In this lab, I learned how to use Jira plugins to apply Agile estimation techniques. Using tools like Scrum Poker in Jira helps teams estimate more effectively, update the backlog in real time, and promote unbiased, collaborative decision-making.

By completing this lab, I gained experience in:

- Running Planning Poker sessions within Jira
- Applying Fibonacci and T-shirt size estimations using Jira plugins
- Reaching estimation consensus efficiently

Mastering these Jira-based estimation tools improves sprint planning accuracy and team collaboration.