Reflection on Iteration #1

Context project: Programming life
Group: 2

User Story #	Task #	Task Assigned To	Estimated Effort	Actual Effort	Done (y/n)	Notes
As the scrummaster I want to have a contract describing the rules obeyed by the team members.	1. Write a collaboration contract 2. Agree to collaboration contract	1. Nieuwdorp 2. All	1. 3 2. 2	1. 3 2. 1	1. y 2. y	
As a user I want to be able to see a phylogenetic tree from the genomes.	1. Parse the tree file into JGraphT 2. Display the simple version of the tree graph	1. Boot 2. Boot	1. 2 2. 4	1. 4 2. 5	1. n 2. y	1. JGraphT moved to next iteration
As a user I want to be able to read the graph files.	1. Parse graph files into JGraphT 2. Display a simple version of the graph	1. Vennik 2. Vennik	1. 2 2. 5	1. 3 2. 5	1. y 2. y	
As a programmer I want to set up a specific programming environment with all the desired tools.	1. Set up Travis 2. Set up Octopull 3. Set up Checkstyle 4. Set up Maven 5. Set up Cobertura 6. Set up PMD 7. Define a document flow	1. Oolbekkink & Vennik 2. Hommes 3. Oolbekkink 4. Oolbekkink 5. Oolbekkink 6. Oolbekkink 7. Nieuwdorp	1. 2 2. 3 3. 1 4. 1 5. 1 6. 1 7. 2	1. 2 2. 2 3. 1 4. 1 5. 1 6. 1 7. 3	1. y 2. y 3. y 4. y 5. y 6. y 7. y	

As a product owner I want to have a backlog with all potential features for the application.	1. Add features to the issue tracker on GitHub 2. Judge and prioritize issues from GitHub	1. All 2. Vennik	1. 3 2. 2	1. 2 2. 3	1. y 2. y	
As a team we want to deliver our deliverables.	1. Deliver Sprintplan1.pdf	1. Nieuwdorp	1. 1	1. 1	1. y	1. File generated by Nieuwdorp, delivered by Vennik
As a programmer I want to know what direction the project is heading and have knowledge about the context I'm working in.	1. Have a brainstorm session for ideas 2. Determine the direction the project and make decisions. 3. Select relevant papers/information 4. Discuss what libraries to use	1. All 2. All 3. Boot 4. All	1. 2 2. 2 3. 4 4. 2	1. 2 2. 2 3. 3 4. 2	1. y 2. y 3. y 4. y	3. completed by Hommes

Main Problems Encountered

Problem 1 : Our daily meeting conflicted with scheduled lectures.
We discovered that we couldn't meet at the same time everyday because of scheduled lectures. We resolved this by changing the rules for meetings, if a meeting conflicts with a lecture we'll have the meeting directly after the lecture.

Problem 2 : We put files on our repository that shouldn't be public.
Eager to start with the project we added the available DNA strand files to our public repository, the next morning we heard that that information was proprietary and should not be out in the open. Since git is a versioning system designed to prevent data loss it was quite challenging to completely delete data. From now on we'll consider the licence/ownership of any file that we didn't create before putting it on our repository.

Problem 3 : TA meeting time.

When we made a shared calendar with all deadlines, lectures, events and meetings we discovered that two of our team members couldn't make it to our TA meeting (sprint review). We contacted the TAs and they told us to find a group that wanted to switch time slots with us. There was only one group that had a time slot that would work for our entire team. The other team wasn't willing to switch with us, so only three of us could be there during the meeting. We now have a shared calendar so that problems like this shouldn't occur anymore because everybody knows well ahead of time what time slots should be kept clear for the context project.

Problem 4 : There's a lot of overhead involved in the project.

While getting started with the project, finding out the best workflow and agreeing on how to collaborate and fulfill the grading rubrics as good as possible while ensuring a qualitative solution, we ran into a lot of overhead. Between the different skills, meetings, the normal iteration and documents suddenly 2 deadlines appeared on the planning for documents that we weren't quite sure on what they consist of. We were not the only group with this problem and after an announcement it was clear that we did most of the work that was requested in the documents so a draft of this document was quickly created. One of the ways we try to cope with this overhead is creating a shared calendar, defining a workflow and making sure the responsibilities are clear. We also expect to get more and used to the side tasks which will also benefit the progress.

Relection:

This iteration felt as the first real iteration of this project. There was a sprint plan, we were used to the daily meetings and we were mostly used to the different methodologies we're using (Test driven development, continuous integration and the pull based development model). But of course we already experienced the first few hiccups. The first one was the planning that we made with daily meetings at exactly the same time which conflicted with lectures. Another scheduling issue was Kings Day which influenced the time most of the team members could put in the project. We only had one task that we underestimated in terms of complexity and that is displaying the phylogenetic tree. We currently only have a simple visualisation and will it be completed in the next iteration. All in all we can say that we made a good start with our project and that we are very enthusiastic about delivering a great product. There were minor problems that we didn't oversee but we took measures to prevent those from occurring again. Part of the reason why we made a good start with the project is that 4 out of the 5 members worked on a similar project before for a different course. This of course also means that one person (Jim Hommes) is new to the team dynamics and the rest of the team is not yet acquainted with Jim's skills and qualities. Jim is also a TA for a first year course so we also noticed

that this made planning meetings a bit more difficult but now that we know this we can take this into account. In conclusion we can say that this was a very promising iteration which also leaves space for improvement.