Sprint Review and Retrospective: SNHU Travel Application

Chada Tech Scrum Pilot

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Applying Roles

In the SNHU Travel project, Scrum roles were instrumental in ensuring project success. The Product Owner defined and prioritized user stories such as “As a traveler, I want to filter trips by budget,” enabling value-driven backlog management (Schwaber & Sutherland, 2020). The Scrum Master facilitated sprint planning, daily stand-ups, and retrospectives, removing impediments like API documentation ambiguity. The Development Team self-organized to design, code, and test features iteratively. Acting in these roles provided comprehensive insight and accountability. Additional responsibilities included ensuring Definition of Done compliance and conducting backlog grooming sessions to maintain clarity on task priorities.

Completing User Stories

Scrum’s iterative sprints enabled the breakdown of the application into manageable chunks. For example, Sprint 1 focused on destination search. Early stakeholder feedback prompted the addition of a map-view filter without derailing the sprint. This demonstrated Agile’s adaptability to evolving requirements (Gomes Silva et al., 2024). The team utilized acceptance criteria to ensure all completed stories met functional and non-functional requirements. Regular sprint reviews allowed the Product Owner and stakeholders to validate deliverables and provide input for upcoming iterations.

Handling Interruptions

When the client requested a promotional discount feature mid-sprint, the Agile framework allowed reprioritization of the backlog. Lower-priority items were postponed, and the new request was integrated efficiently, avoiding delays common in the Waterfall model (Mokhtar & Khayyat, 2022). The Scrum Master played a crucial role in shielding the Development Team from unnecessary disruptions while ensuring the change was well-documented and aligned with the sprint goals. Risk assessment discussions during sprint planning helped prepare the team for such changes.

Communication

Effective communication ensured alignment among team members. For example, during a daily stand-up, the update was: “Yesterday, I completed the booking confirmation screen. Today, I’ll integrate payment validation. No blockers.” Asynchronous updates included: “Please review the updated API documentation before the next sprint planning.” These messages were concise, actionable, and encouraged collaboration. Beyond daily stand-ups, the team used Slack channels for quick clarifications and Confluence for documenting technical decisions, improving long-term knowledge retention.

Organizational Tools

Trello was used to visualize workflow via columns for To Do, In Progress, and Done. This aligned with Scrum events such as sprint planning, daily stand-ups, sprint reviews, and retrospectives. Its visual clarity supported the Scrum principle of transparency (IRJMETS, 2024). The board also featured color-coded labels for user stories, bug fixes, and technical debt, making prioritization more straightforward. Burndown charts generated from Trello provided a quick snapshot of sprint progress.

Evaluating Agile Process

The Scrum-Agile approach offered flexibility, stakeholder engagement, and faster feedback cycles. However, it required disciplined communication and carried a risk of scope creep. For SNHU Travel, Agile was optimal due to evolving requirements and the need for iterative delivery (Mokhtar & Khayyat, 2022). Continuous improvement was encouraged through retrospectives, where the team identified actionable steps such as improving automated test coverage and refining backlog item descriptions.

Conclusion

Scrum-Agile empowered the SNHU Travel team to deliver a high-quality application tailored to client needs. Its adaptability and collaborative framework make it a strong candidate for ChadaTech’s company-wide adoption. Future projects could benefit from integrating additional DevOps practices, such as automated deployment pipelines, to further reduce time-to-market.

References

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