

Agile Software Development

15 - 17 November 2022 | Guido Trensch (JSC, Simulation & Data Lab Neuroscience)





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Motivation

Plan-Driven vs Agile Software Development

Introduction to Scrum

Principles and Practices

Kanban – Small Projects

Tools

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Motivation



 Rapid software development became a success story and the standard methodology for developing sustaining complex software in industry, also known as:

"Agile Development" or "Agile Methods"

- Why is Agile Development such a success story?
 - Agile development accelerates the delivery.
 In contrast: "plan-driven" software development is a lengthy process.
 - Agile methods can handle changing requirements.
- Scientific software does not end its development cycle on publication of the paper.
- Reproducibility of scientific results requires sustainable software.



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Plan-driven

- Also known as "heavy-weight" or "traditional" methodologies.
- Up-front system architecture and detailed plans.
- Completely specifies:
 - Requirements
 - Design
 - Build and test environments
- Uses a conventional waterfall or specification-based software development process.

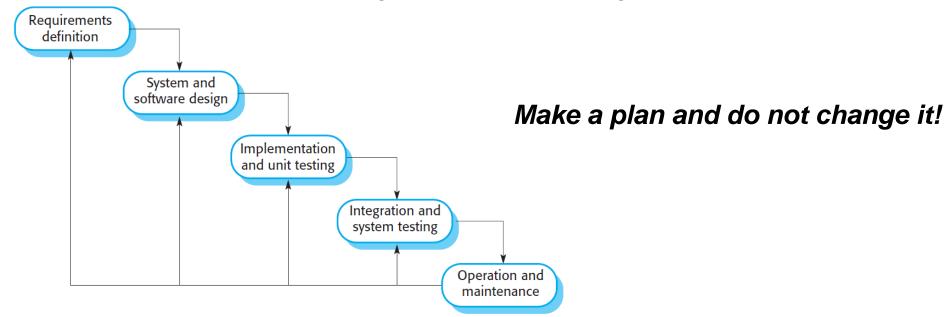




Plan-driven

Waterfall model

One stage must be completed before progress to the next stage is possible!



• Plan-driven software development is still applicable for some types of software, e.g., safety-critical systems.





Agile Development

- The need for rapid software development and processes has been recognized for many years.
- The idea of "Agile Methods" took off in the late 90's with new lightweight methodologies like:

eXtreme Programming (XP) [1999 Kent Beck]

Created in response to the need to solve the problem of changing requirements.

The approach was developed by pushing recognized good practice to "extreme" levels.

Set of software development practices:

Programming Continuou Integration

Test-Driven Development

Refactoring

Collective Ownership

[lan Sommerville, Software Engineering]
[www.agilealliance.org]
[Kent Beck, Extreme Programming Explained]





What is Agile Software Development?

[Dave Hecker, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-zDct5d2smY]

It is ..

 a methodology, a set of methods and practices, a way of executing software development management

iterative

- Iteration is the main concept in agile. (All agile methods are iterative!)
- It is the total opposite of the waterfall-model!
- The work is done in tight cycles, so called "sprints".
- The "plan" is constantly revisited.

streamlined

It favors for getting the work done.

time-boxed

very collaborative

The work is planed by time instead of by feature.





Methods and Processes

- eXtreme Programming (XP)
- Scrum
- Large-scale Scrum (LS Scrum)
- Kanban
- .. and more

... based on Practices like:

- Pair-programming
- Refactoring
- Following coding standards, clean code
- Test-driven development (TDD)
- User acceptance tests
- Continuous integration and delivery (CI/CD)
- Collective ownership
- .. and more





Plan-Driven

Agile

Make a plan and do not change it!

Constantly revisit the plan!





Agile methods are designed to produce useful software quickly!

"Our highest priority is to satisfy the customer through early and continuous delivery of valuable software."

https://agilemanifesto.org



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What is Scrum?

 Scrum is an Agile Method offering a lightweight project management framework for effective team collaboration.

 The Scrum methodology was first public presented in 1995 by Jeff Sutherland and Ken Schwaber at the OOPSLA conference.

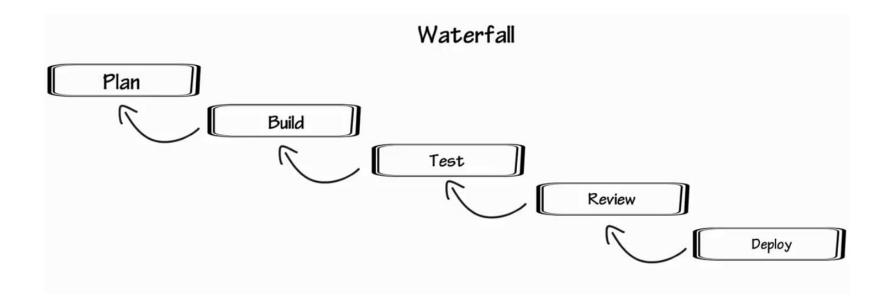
Terminology:

In the sport of rugby, a **Scrum** is a way of restarting the game, when the ball has gone out of play and 7-8 players work to move the ball forward.





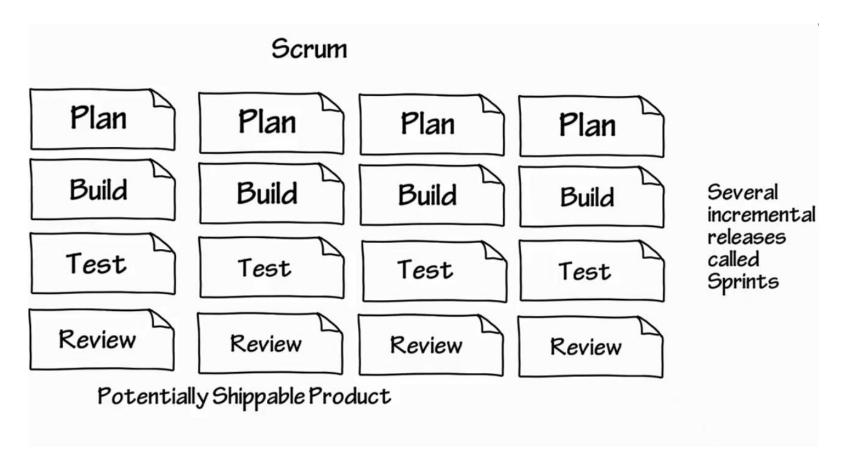




[Steve Stedman, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9TycLR0TqFA]



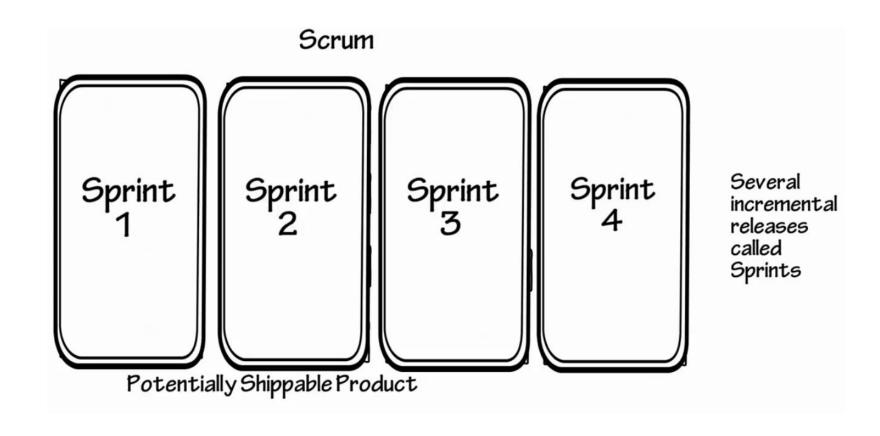




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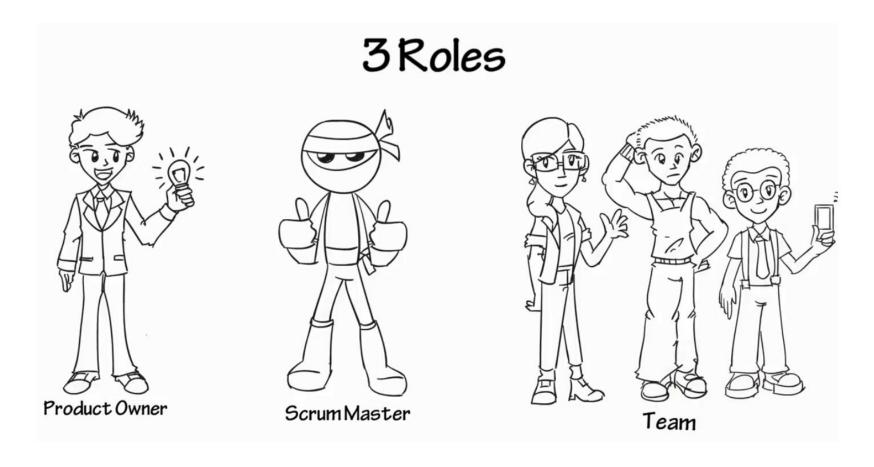




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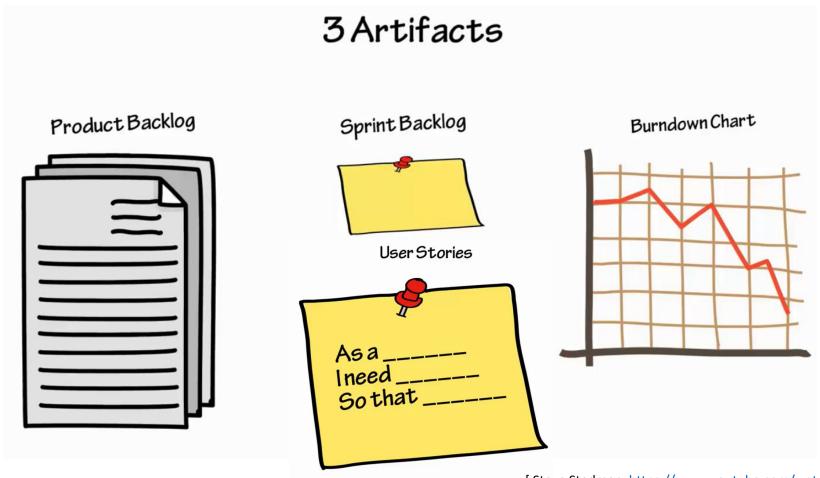




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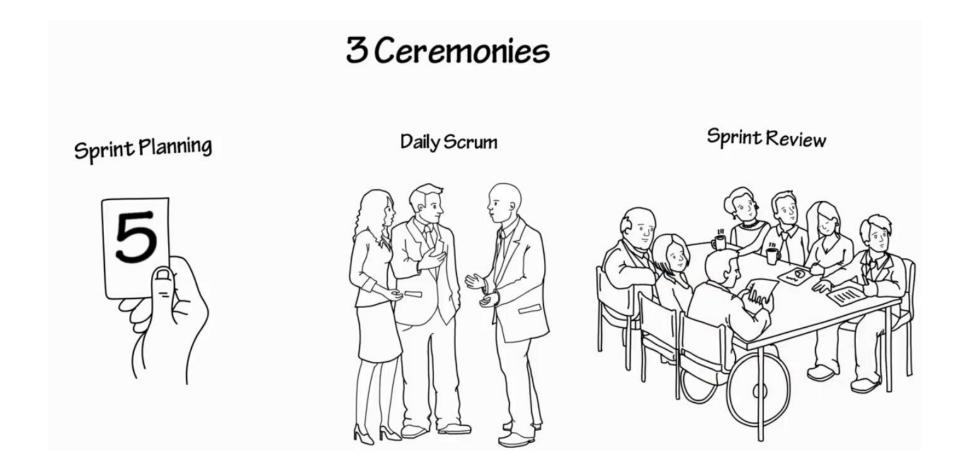






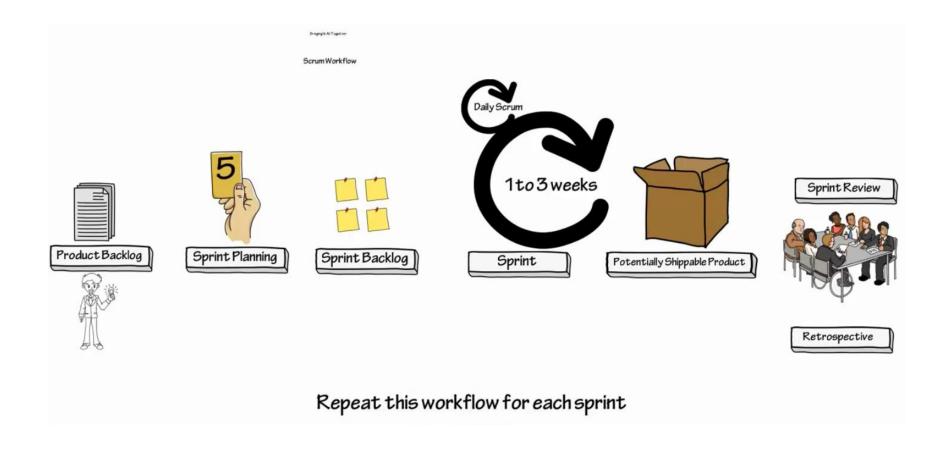












[Steve Stedman, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9TycLR0TqFA]





Sprint Backlog			
Product Backlog	ToDo	In Progress	Done
New Feature Research 7ask User Doc	Story Task: User Doc Story Task: Tests	Story 7ask: Implementation	Story Task: Design Story Task: Prototype







Scrum Team

- Product Owner
- Scrum Master
- Development Team

Events

- Sprint Planning
- Daily Scrum (Daily Stand Up)
- Sprint Review
- Sprint Retrospective

- Product Backlog
- Sprint Backlog
- Sprint Progress





Scrum Team

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- Sprint Review
- Sprint Retrospective

Artifacts

- Product Backlog
- Sprint Backlog
- Sprint Progress



One person, not a committee!

He or she is responsible for managing the backlog to achieve the desired outcome.

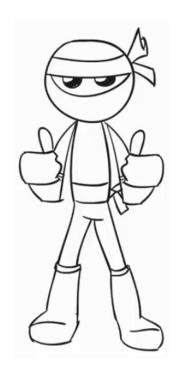
- Clearly identifies and describes product backlog items.
- Makes decisions regarding the priority of product backlog items.
- Ensures transparency.





Scrum Team

- Product Owner
- Scrum Master
- Development Team



Events

- Sprint Planning
- Daily Scrum (Daily Stand Up)
 Sprint Backlog
- Sprint Review
- Sprint Retrospective

- Product Backlog
- Sprint Progress

- He or she guides the team in the effective use of Scrum and protects the team from outside interruptions and distractions.
- The Scrum master is responsible for ensuring the team follows the processes and practices that the team agreed they would use.
- The Scrum master serves both, the product owner and the development team, facilitates Scrum events as requested or needed and moderates the (daily) stand up.





Scrum Team

- Product Owner
- Scrum Master
- Development Team



Events

- Sprint Planning
- Daily Scrum (Daily Stand Up)
- Sprint Review
- Sprint Retrospective

- Product Backlog
- Sprint Backlog
- Sprint Progress

- They are a self-organizing team and manage their own work.
- No one, not even the Scrum master, tells the development team how to turn the backlog into increments of potentially releasable functionality.
- Development team size ~ 3 9: Small enough to remain nimble, large enough to complete significant work within a sprint.





Scrum Team

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- Sprint Planning
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- Product Backlog
- Sprint Backlog
- Sprint Progress

- In this meeting, the entire Scrum team plans the work for the next sprint.
- The meeting is time-boxed to a maximum of eight hours for a four-week sprint.
- The work is selected from the backlog.





Scrum Team

- Product Owner
- Scrum Master
- Development Team

Events

- Sprint Planning
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- Sprint Review
- Sprint Retrospective

Artifacts

- Product Backlog
- Sprint Backlog
- Sprint Progress

It is time-boxed meeting, max. 15 minutes, for the development team to synchronize.

What did I do yesterday?

What will I do today?

Do I see any impediment that prevents me or the team from reaching the sprint goal.

Moderated by the Scrum master.





Scrum Team

- Product Owner
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Events

- Sprint Planning
- Daily Scrum (Daily Stand Up)
- Sprint Review
- Sprint Retrospective

- Product Backlog
- Sprint Backlog
- Sprint Progress

- This is an informal four-hour time-boxed meeting (for a four-week sprint) at the end of a sprint.
- The Scrum team and the stake holders discuss what was done in the sprint and adjust the product backlog if necessary.





Scrum Team

- Product Owner
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Events

- Sprint Planning
- Daily Scrum (Daily Stand Up)
 Sprint Backlog
 - Sprint Review
 - Sprint Retrospective

- Product Backlog
- Sprint Progress

- This is a three-hour time-boxed meeting which takes place after the sprint review and prior the next sprint planning.
- During the retrospective, the Scrum team inspects how the last sprint went with regards to processes, tools, etc.
- The team creates a **plan for improvements**.
- Eleminate waste!
- From experience, this is the **most important event**!





Scrum Team

- Product Owner
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Events

- Sprint Planning
- Daily Scrum (Daily Stand Up)
- Sprint Review
- Sprint Retrospective

- Product Backlog
- Sprint Backlog
- Sprint Progress
- The Product Backlog is a list of ToDo items, e.g.:
 - research tasks
 - feature definitions
 - architecture definitions
 - user stories (user requirements)
 - supplementary tasks
 - user documentation tasks
 - .. and more





Scrum Team

- Product Owner
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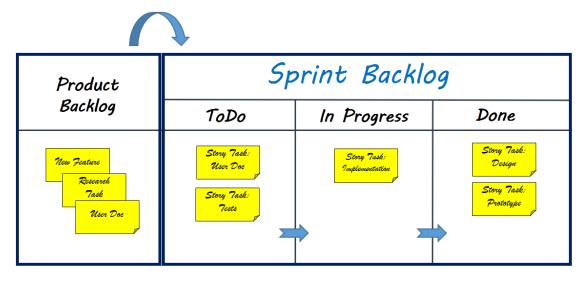
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The Sprint Backlog is a set of backlog items, selected for the sprint.







Scrum Team

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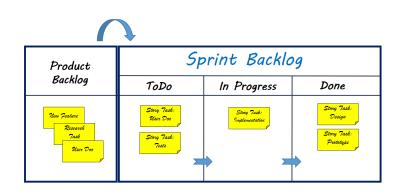
Events

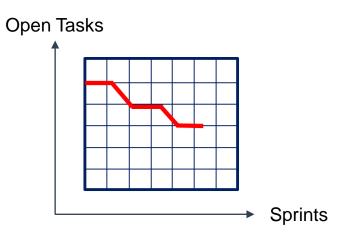
- Sprint Planning
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- Sprint Review
- Sprint Retrospective

Artifacts

- Product Backlog
- Sprint Backlog
- Sprint Progress

Usually a burn-down-chart.









Definition of Done

- To ensure transparency, Scrum team members must have a shared understanding of what it means for a task to be completed, e.g.:
 - source code peer-reviewed
 - documentation adapted
 - test case provided
 - all tests passed successfully
- As Scrum teams mature, the "Definition of Done" will expand to include more stringent criteria for higher quality.
- This guides the team in knowing how many product backlog items can be selected during sprint planning.





Any product should have a "Definition of Done".





Scrum Myths: There is no planning

- In reality there is a lot of planning in Scrum.
- In Scrum, we emphasize the activity of planning over the plan itself.
- Planning is collaborative.
- Planning is part of every event.
- The people doing the work own the plan.
- The way planning is done is to eliminate waste!



Introduction to Scrum



Scrum Smells: Signs that something may be amiss on a Scrum project

- Not all Scrum team members attend the Scrum meeting.
- Too much discussion in the Scrum meeting.
- Scrum master assigns work.
- The daily Scrum is for the Scrum master.
- The project team has highly specialized job roles.
- Wild fluctuations shown on a team's initial sprint burndown charts continue to be seen in much later sprints.



Introduction to Scrum



Conclusions

- Scrum is simple to understand but difficult to master.
- Scrum is not restricted to software development.
- Artifacts defined by Scrum are specifically designed to maximize transparency.
- Scrum functions well as a container for other techniques, methodologies and practices.





Scrum does not solve problems but makes them visible!



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Scrum as a method works as container for agile development techniques, such as:

- Collective ownership
- Continuous integration
- Incremental planning
- Pair programming
- Refactoring
- Test-driven development





- Collective ownership
- Continuous integration
- Incremental planning
- Pair programming
- Refactoring
- Test-driven development

- Developers work on all areas of the system.
- No islands of expertise develop.
- All the developers take responsibility for all of the code.
- Anyone can change anything.





- Collective ownership
- Continuous integration
- Incremental planning
- Pair programming
- Refactoring
- Test-driven development

- As soon as the work on a task is complete, it is integrated into the whole system.
- After any such integration, all the unit tests in the system must pass.





- Collective ownership
- Continuous integration
- Incremental planning
- Pair programming
- Refactoring
- Test-driven development

- Requirements are recorded on "story cards".
- The stories to be included in a release are determined by:
 - the time available
 - their relative priority





- Collective ownership
- Continuous integration
- Incremental planning
- Pair programming
- Refactoring
- Test-driven development

- Developers work in pairs.
- Checking each other's work.
- Providing support.
- Knowledge transfer.





- Collective ownership
- Continuous integration
- Incremental planning
- Pair programming
- Refactoring
- Test-driven development

- All developers are expected to refactor the code continuously as soon as potential code improvements are found.
- This keeps the code simple and maintainable.





- Collective ownership
- Continuous integration
- Incremental planning
- Pair programming
- Refactoring
- Test-driven development

 An automated unit test framework is used to write tests for a new piece of functionality before that functionality itself is implemented.



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Kanban



What is Kanban?

- Like Scrum, Kanban is also is an Agile Method offering management framework for software development.
- It's even more lightweight than Scrum and is preferably used in small projects (a few developers), and projects where:
 - tasks shift on a daily basis are unpredictable, and not plannable,
 - a fixed Scrum-sprint length planning is not possible.

How it works.

- Work items presented visually on a Kanban board (ToDo, In Progress, Done).
- Work is prioritized and pulled from backlog when capacity becomes available.
- Requires real-time communication of capacity and full transparency of the work.
- Only a limited number of "In Progress" items.



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Agile Management Tools

- There is a vast market of agile management tools.
- They are usually not free of charge for larger projects.
- The functionality differs in a wide range, from simple tracking or dashboard tools to complex workflow management and reporting for large teams and projects.













Tools



Agile Development Supporting Tools and Platforms

- Modern software development tools and platforms support agile methodologies and workflows:
 - Version control
 - Test-driven development (TDD)
 - Peer-review
 - Continuous integration, testing and delivery (CI/CD)
 - Basic agile managment







Tools



GitLab

www.gitlab.com

GitLab

Web-based DevOps (set of software development practices) lifecycle tool:

- Git-repository
- Issue-tracker
- CI/CD pipeline
- Basic agile software development workflow support
- Basic project management functionality
- Milestones
- Configurable issue board
- Wiki
- Simple role management
- Community Edition is free of charge



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- This book provides a state of the art view of most current thinking about using Scrum.
- It is full of practical advices.







 This book focuses on the technical aspects of agile development, e.g. continuous integration, test-driven development, refactoring, pair programming and collective ownership.







www.Scrum.org

The Scrum Guide™

The Definitive Guide to Scrum:
The Rules of the Game

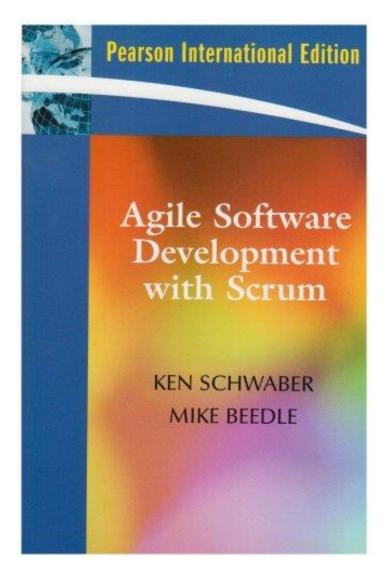






Key Schunder

July 2016







The possibly most comprehensive book.

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