

Week 1 Reflection

I want to learn and have a good understanding of scrum, sprints, and other important concepts of agile development. During the exercise session on Wednesday, it felt hard to both concentrate on keeping to the allotted time, as well as making sure we really focused on each step, the planning, execution and reflection. For example, instead of truly reflecting on the sprints, we focused more on planning the next sprint. Instead of the 3 sprints feeling like an iterative process, it felt a bit more like 1 long extended sprint. I am also really interested in seeing how using this style of development effects and benefits the software that I create.

I am excited about working with the team to create something interesting and creative. I hope to be able to contribute to the group as much and as best I can. I want to be able to create an environment in our group where everyone feels like their voices can be heard and they don't feel afraid to make suggestions. Group dynamic can really effect how well a project is carried out and so I hope to do my part in making it as successful as possible.

Week 2 Reflection

Week 2 was really about establishing ourselves as a team. We struggled a lot with members both leaving and joining our group which felt a bit stressful to not know how many members we would end up with, and ultimately how much we would be able to accomplish with the people that did choose to stay in the course. Despite those problems we were able to start on our project. I think one thing that I found interesting was the focus on the value that our product is giving the customer. It feels obvious but it is new to me to think of the value proposition in every step of the development process.

We also started creating out project backlog and I had initially thought the vertical slicing would be a lot more challenging as it is definitely a new way of thinking for me. In most of my other programming classes I have thought only in terms of methods, functions, and the entire code being like layers. However this understanding of vertical slices actually came quite naturally to our team and we managed to create user stories that give value in themselves. While each slice builds on the functionality of the other, each slice has value in itself.

For next week my focus is trying to continue to create a good structure in our sprints, and in the team in general. As well as of course start with the coding of our project.