

# Behind the Scenes of Sprint 2

## Introduction

As we complete our project's second sprint, it is essential to look back and analyze our progress in this postmortem analysis. The objective of this project is to develop a condo management website and its companion mobile app for potential buyers, condo owners and condo management companies. The core structure of this application is an Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system, which encompasses various functionalities such as user profile creation, a reservation system, and a financial system.

During this sprint, our main goal was to achieve a basic version of our platform, which would serve as a building block where we could add the rest of the features piece by piece. By doing so, we would also ensure that we would have an MVP that would showcase a section of our platform to potential users. This was met by a lot of hardship, as many team members did not have previous experience with some of the used technologies.

When reflecting on this sprint's outcome, we were proud of our progress but still believe that there is room for improvement. Among various achievements, our GitHub is well-organized, and we have laid a solid foundation for the software architecture through both the SAD document and the running prototypes. As the next sprint is approaching, we have a better understanding of the Agile refinement process and the areas that the team needs to work on.

After filling out a retrospective board anonymously, we saw that there was a mutual agreement towards the lack of communication amongst team members and the issues it led to.

## What went wrong

### 1 - Lack of Communication

Throughout the second sprint, team members were often busy with midterms, assignments and other school projects which made it hard to communicate within the team as everyone had different schedules. The impact of this was that we ended up each doing our own tasks separately and in the end we encountered issues with merging our work together. There was a lot of confusion as well as of what was completed and what was left to be done.

We addressed it by giving updates every 3 days on discord on the progress that was made on each side. However, it would have been better to stick to a regular meeting schedule to better communicate by voice chat rather than by texts.

## 2 - Lack of Organization

Throughout the second sprint, it was not entirely clear of which task was assigned to who. This made the organization of our work confusing and messy because some parts rely on others. The file management was also an issue as mentioned previously because it caused conflicts when we attempted to merge the implementations together. The lack of organization also made it so that we had to scramble to finish our work at the last minute since we did not set clear boundaries as to who does what. Some tasks were left unassigned and we did not realize early on enough. Also, some tasks required another task to be done. However, the preceding tasks were sometimes done late, which, in turn, delayed the task that depended on it such as the testing. Additionally, some tasks on GitHub were not updated as they should have been which created ambiguity in terms of the progression of the sprint.

We addressed it by getting on a call to work on the remaining tasks together. However, it would have been better if we had done this earlier instead of at the last minute.

## What went right

### 1 - Learning New Technologies

Throughout the second sprint, some members, who had never learned certain technologies such as writing automated tests and Next.js framework, got to learn these while doing their respective tasks. The impact of this was that we got the opportunity to use this project as a way to improve and surpass ourselves by challenging ourselves. Through this, we now have new tools under our belt that we can potentially use in a different setting in the future.

Some of the things that we learned, we each had to learn on our own for our own respective tasks. However, it would have been better to learn together so that we can share the knowledge across the team. This way, we can all help each other with our tasks and this could lessen the burden on certain people for their tasks.

### 2 - Flexibility of The Team Members

Throughout the second sprint, some members, as mentioned previously, team members were willing to challenge themselves and take on tasks even though they had little knowledge of the technology required for that part. Moreover, in desperate times, team members were willing to get together to put collective effort to help each other out with the remaining tasks. Other members were also willing to give tutorials to teach other members how to do their work.

The team's flexibility and adaptability made it so that the work that needed to be done was ultimately finished in the end despite our lack of communication and organization at the beginning. However, had we been more flexible at the beginning, we would have encountered less difficulties during this sprint.

# Conclusion

While reflecting on the second sprint, we realized that we encountered multiple challenges that originated from our lack of organization in terms of our files and tasks, and our lack of communication. However, we tackled these problems through the group's adaptability and flexibility. Although our teamwork is not perfect, we are in a learning process to improve on it to the best of our ability. Moreover, through learning new technologies, there was a lot of confusion throughout the sprint. However, things worked out fine in the end when we came together to collectively work on the project. We got to refine the rough edges and we were able to bond a bit more which improved the team dynamic.

As for the remaining upcoming sprints, we have learned many lessons that we will be applying for the rest of the project to ensure a smoother progression. For example, we now know that we can't delay the completion of our tasks as many are dependent on others. We also learned that we need to be more communicative with each other because we can't all be doing our tasks individually as it may cause conflicts. It is clearer to use now that we need to better assign tasks to members not only depending on what they are comfortable doing but also on their work style and availability. This sprint was an effective wake up call on the area for which we need more improvement as a team. By applying the lessons we learned, we will tackle future challenges being more informed and committed to developing the best product possible.