BACK END DEVELOPMENT

REFLECTION REPORT
SEMESTER PROJECT

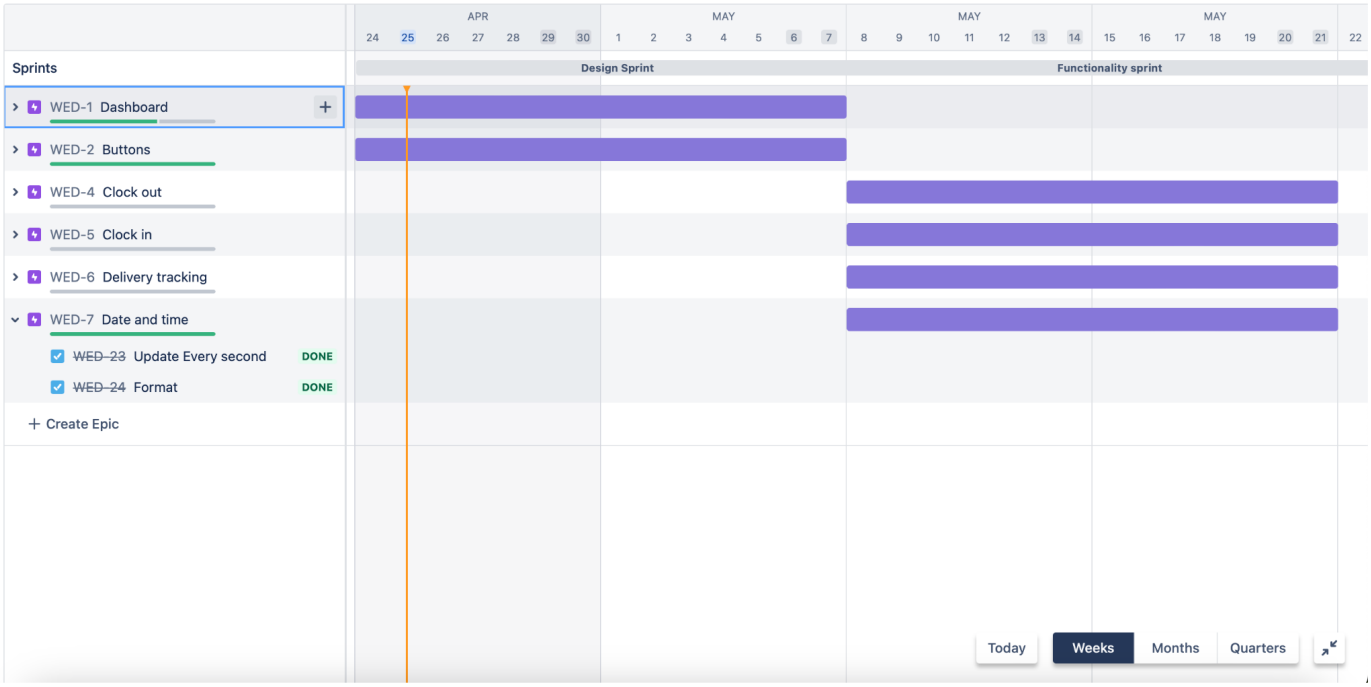
Introduction

For this semester project, I had the opportunity to get a taste of the real work that developers do on a day to day, and how to manage a project. In this reflection report, I will give a summary of the choices I made and what I learned.

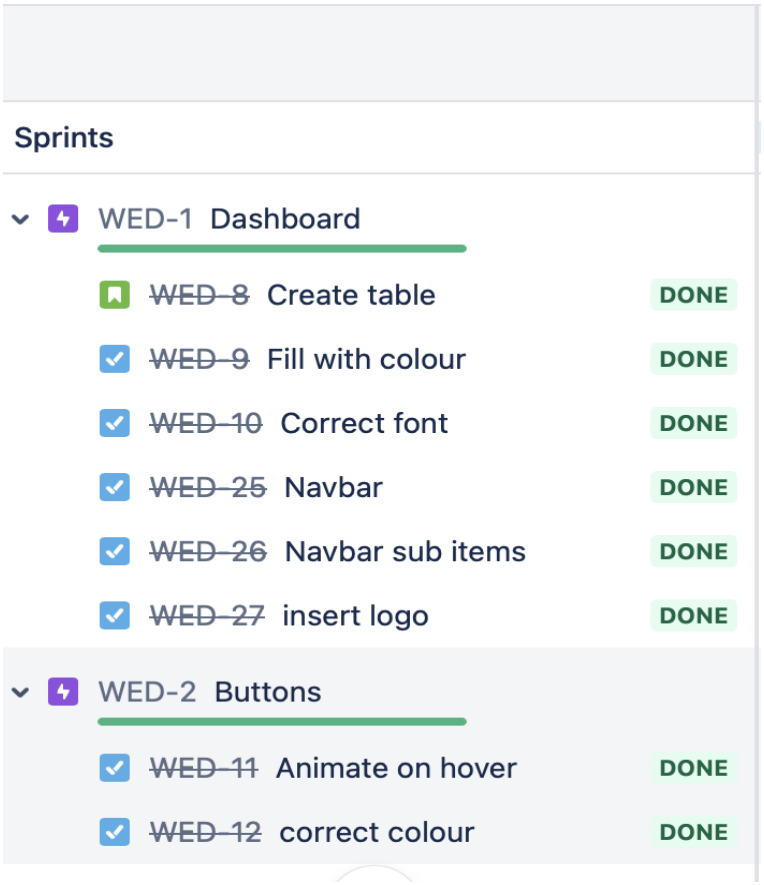
The goal for this project was to create a web application that fulfilled the requirements of the company “WeDeliverTech”. As the only developer on this team, I had to take on the role of manager as well, and create a plan that made sense for me.

Management and Jira

The first thing I did was read through the assignment thoroughly and used Jira to write down the basic requirements for the application, so that I could easily check what I had to implement, and what I had to do next. I also separated the different tasks into two separate sprints; “Design sprint” and “Functionality sprint”.

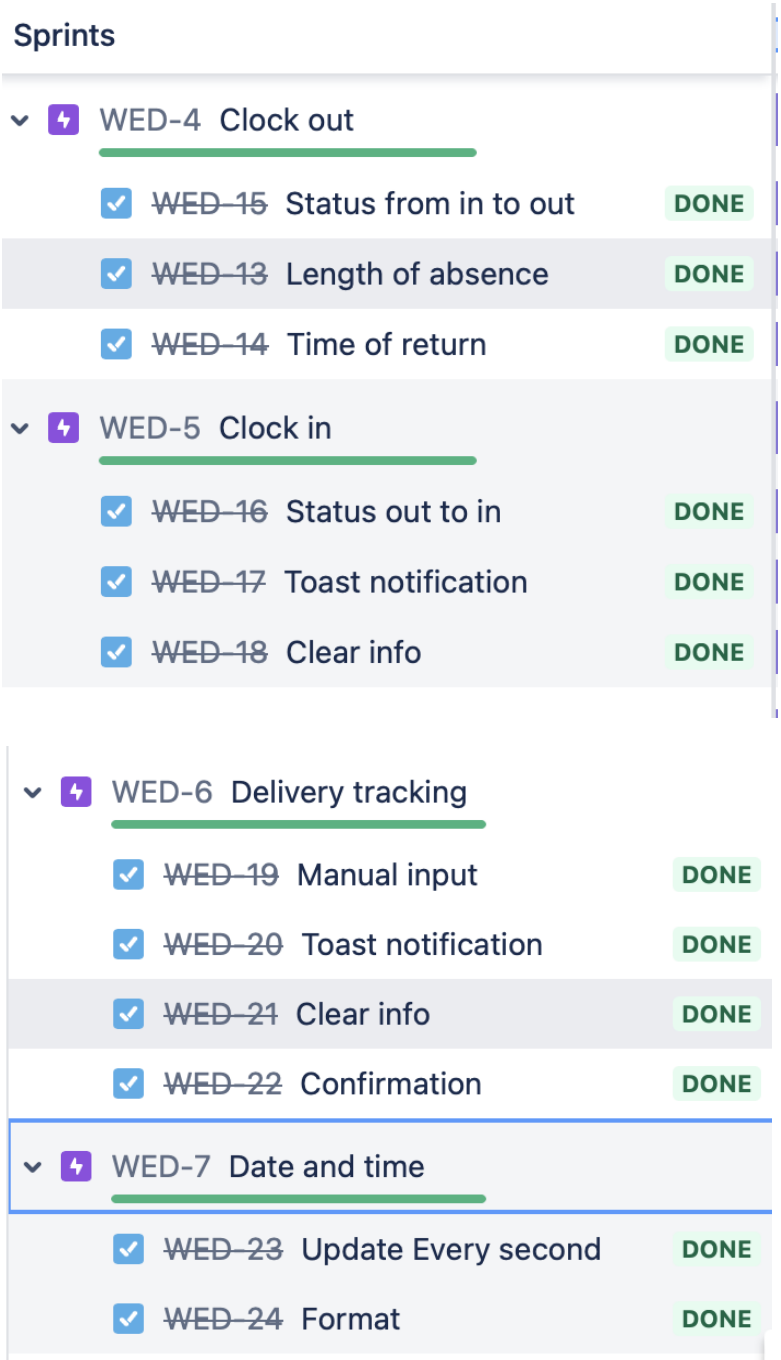


Each sprint lasted two weeks, where the design sprint focused on the front end of the project, and the functionality sprint was more focused on the back end. The design sprint contained two epics, “Dashboard” and “Buttons”.



I chose these two as the epics because they seemed like the main focus of the design part. In these epics, I chose these tasks based on what were the main requirements.

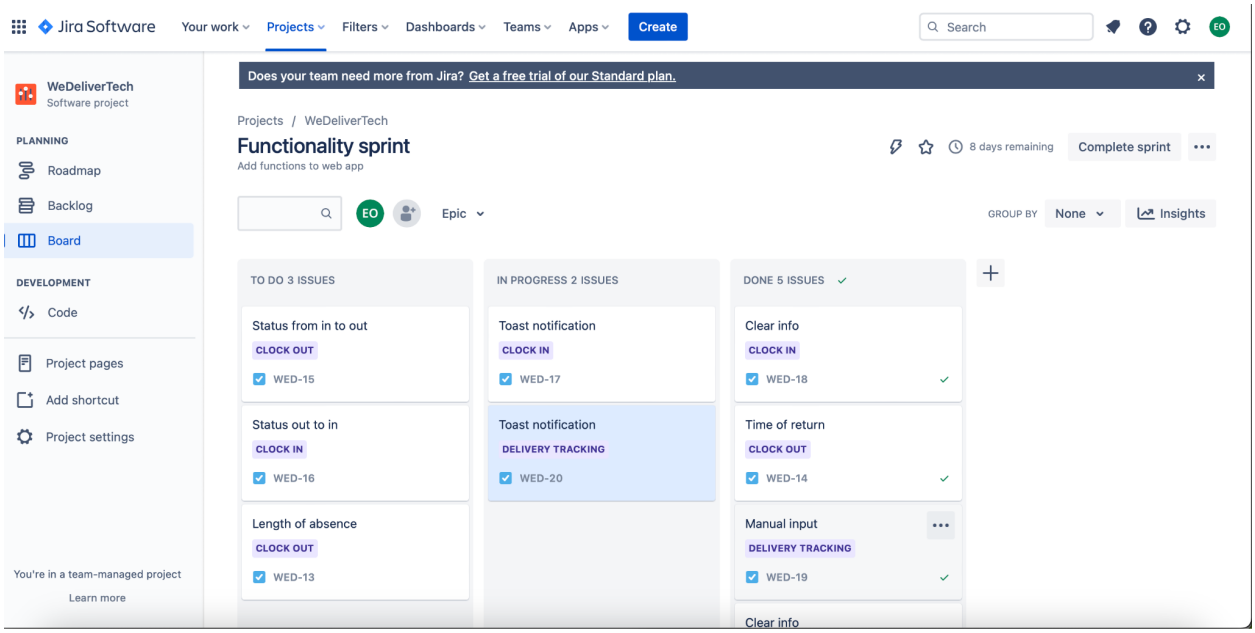
In the functionality sprint, I chose the epics based on the four main functions of the website, “Clock out”, “Clock in”, “Delivery tracking” and “Date and time”.



In these epics, I again chose the tasks based on requirements and importance. I also chose to be as general as possible, so that they incorporated all the mini-tasks I needed to add to the different functions.

Whenever I started a new task, or finished the one I was working on, I would update the tasks on the board. Throughout this process I also made regular commits to GitHub after I

finished tasks. This helped me keep track of my progress, and have a better overview of my code.



Project overview

I started this project with the design sprint, where I created the html code and the basic layout of the website as per the requirements. There were a few challenges during this sprint, like creating the navbar and the placements of the buttons. However, the rest of the design aspect went on without much issue, as I find the HTML and CSS part of programming to be very straightforward.

Most of the challenges I faced came in the functionality sprint, as the tasks were more complicated than they first seemed. For example, calculating the duration the employees were gone was a big challenge, as I had to find the correct way to compare the two times. Some challenges were also simple mistakes I missed that took me several hours to figure out, like missing a link to a stylesheet.

A lot of the tasks were also new to me, like taking user input into a table, and making a proper API call. However, I found that these challenges were not as scary as they seemed, and I learned to take one step at a time, instead of looking at the big picture.

Conclusion

Overall, I found this project to be a great learning experience. I feel more confident in my programming abilities, and the idea of working as a developer is a lot less scary.

I found the use of Jira for managing my work very helpful in keeping me on track. It made me more organized, and allowed me to feel a bigger sense of accomplishment when I finished a task. It also helped me focus on one task at a time, instead of being overwhelmed by the whole project.

I leave this project feeling very proud of the work I have put in, and the progress I have made as a student.