Sprint Review and Retrospective

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Applying Roles Throughout the SNHU Travel project, the various Scrum-Agile roles were critical to the project's success. As the Scrum Master, I facilitated meetings, ensured smooth communication, and helped remove obstacles. The Product Owner was responsible for defining the project requirements, prioritizing the backlog, and providing user stories aligned with SNHU Travel's goals. The Development Team members collaborated to implement features, performed testing, and continuously improved the product. One specific example was when a developer faced difficulty implementing a booking feature, and the Scrum Master coordinated a discussion to resolve the issue efficiently.

Completing User Stories The Scrum-Agile approach allowed user stories to be completed incrementally. Each sprint focused on delivering a small, functional piece of the application, ensuring continuous progress. For example, the login feature was developed and tested in the first sprint. In the second sprint, the flight search feature was added. Working in iterative cycles, we could continuously integrate user feedback and refine the features to align with SNHU Travel's requirements.

Handling Interruptions One of the most significant advantages of the Scrum-Agile approach was its ability to adapt to changes efficiently. An important change occurred during the project when SNHU Travel requested an additional feature for hotel booking integration. Instead of disrupting the entire development process, the team adjusted the backlog, reassessed priorities, and incorporated the new feature into the next sprint. This flexibility ensured we could meet evolving business needs without causing significant delays.

Effective communication was a cornerstone of our project's success. Daily stand-up meetings helped keep the team aligned and identified any blockers early. A specific instance of effective communication occurred when a team member discovered a potential security vulnerability in the payment gateway integration. The issue was promptly discussed during a stand-up, and a solution was devised collaboratively. Additionally, we used tools like Slack and Jira to track progress and maintain transparency.

Organizational Tools Several Scrum-Agile tools contributed to the project's success. Jira was used for backlog management and sprint planning, ensuring clear visibility of tasks and progress. Trello helped visualize workflows, and GitHub facilitated version control and collaboration. Sprint events like Sprint Planning, Daily Stand-ups, Sprint Review, and Retrospective allowed the team to maintain a steady pace and improve continuously. The Definition of Done (DoD) and Acceptance Criteria helped ensure that completed user stories met quality standards.

Evaluating Agile Process The Scrum-Agile approach had several benefits, including adaptability, continuous feedback, and incremental improvements. However, it also presented challenges, such as the need for constant collaboration and time management.

* Pros: Improved flexibility, better alignment with user needs, early issue detection, and continuous delivery.
* Cons: It requires active participation from all team members, has the potential for scope creep, and depends on frequent communication.

Considering the nature of the SNHU Travel project, the Scrum-Agile approach was the best choice. The need for adaptability, customer feedback, and iterative releases made Agile superior to a traditional waterfall model, which would have been too rigid for the dynamic requirements of this project.