Thai, Henderson, Purviance, Cisneros

Dr. Steve Chenoweth

CSSE 374

Personal Inventory Manager:

Team Journal

**1 February 2012**

**Richard Thai:**

Worked on getting the activity diagrams straightened out. Though we hit and planned to meet up with you to ask about it. Started abstracting the code to get a full use case operational in order to get to work on the other use cases. So far the front end works, there’ll be another meeting to connect it to the back end so that we can add items to the database.

**Taylor Purviance:**

We talked to Tim and Steve and came to find that we had made a few design mistakes. We had been coding the back end without putting enough time into the front and middle end. Also, we had developed a monolithic class that would take care of all of the constraint checking for all of the objects that we would commit to the database. We are going to fix this by breaking up the logic from the giant class and depositing it into one of the several Sinatra-based classes that we plan to make. I have taken Tim’s suggestion and been looking through some of his GasTracker code (which is similar in design / implementation to our project) and trying to see how his code structure would be related to ours. Although they are different (his is a giant, singular class that spans multiple files; quite a breach of SRP), I think his code will still provide a helpful example of Sinatra coding.

**Susi Cisneros:**

We met today to go over where we have to go with our code and to know what we need to have done by the meeting with Steve on Friday. We are still working on refactoring the code, but that should be done by tonight. Our goal is to have a full use case done before the weekend. Taylor and I started working on an activity diagram for the add item use case, but we have some questions we want to ask Steve on Friday (especially since we just turned the homework for them in last night).

**27 January 2012**

**Richard Thai:**

A good portion of code and tests have been completed for elementary functionality of the use cases. However, our test-driven approach towards developing the software has led us to rely on a monolithic class to hold most of the functionality. The current decision is to abstract it out over the week and set ourselves up for code with a sustainable architecture. It appears that more of our attention will be more focused towards the Sinatra and HAML portion in order to complete a single use case.

**Taylor Purviance:**

This week I spent most of my project time working on learning Sinatra and HAML to make the front end of the personal inventory manager. I was delighted to find both of them relatively simple to use for my purposes. Richard and I put together a small demo of some of the more important aspects of the languages by reading tutorials for them. The only part of the implementation that I don't yet know how to do would be the data-mapping that Eric and Susi have been working to learn lately. For this reason, I think that our team won't have too much trouble putting the rest of the project together. We will be able to focus more fully on the application of design principles for the rest of the implementation.

**Susi Cisneros:**

For this milestone, I was largely pushed toward doing documentation. It was difficult to try to figure out how to apply the GRASP principles to the design we had been coding, and Taylor and I kept trying to talk to Richard and Eric about that but nothing productive was ever figured out. However, once we (as a group) had realized that our code was not following the design we had laid out, we spoke to Tim and he helped us understand how to arrange our classes and methods to fit our model. This made the principles in our code much more apparent. We have plans to refactor the code into the new model over the weekend and hopefully this will allow us to get one use case fully fleshed out, front end to back end, over the next week.

**6 January 2012**

**Richard Thai:**

Everyone has completed the Ruby Koans over break and has a fairly decent grasp on the peculiarities of Ruby. Sinatra and DataMapper are still menu for things to learn, and those will be picked up within the next few weeks depending on what is prioritized for features to complete. The current plan is to complete the documentation required for M3 on Saturday so that our PM can review it and suggest changes on Wednesday. Simultaneously, we’ll be working in pairs to get a basic code structure of the product after completing the documentation. My current focus of attention is my lack of satisfaction with the coverage of the Koans. While it was an *extremely* helpful and efficient exercise, it leaves me wanting more. I know that the tools that we need to uncover Ruby were not covered in them, so I’ll be taking it up to do some personal exploring (The Ruby Programming Language by Flanagan and Matsumoto) on Saturday/Sunday and to better understand the language.

**Taylor Purviance:**

Over break I was able to extend my grasp on ruby by completing the ruby koans. Now knowing all that I do about ruby, I find myself very excited to get a chance to try my hand at it for the project. The next step for me towards knowing our framework would be to start to learn Sinatra.

**Susi Cisneros:**

Over break I completed the Ruby Koans. I also found an online ruby sandbox that I believe will be useful as we start coding to help us try little things out while we are still becoming comfortable with the language. Our team has settled on a time line for completing M3 (a marathon meeting on Sat. to complete the diagramming and create our coding framework Mon-Wed). I'm not sure how working on the diagrams in one big chunk will go; I just hope we aren't too sick of each other by the end of it. I plan on looking at Sinatra in the next week, and hope to take a look at DataMapper as well since none of us really has a clue how much that will handle on the database end and how much we will have to do ourselves.

**16 December 2011**

**Richard Thai:**

The team has not progressed as far as expected concerning picking up the development languages. Currently, this doesn’t pose as a serious issue given the break coming up. We intend to maintain regular contact (via email) every two days (not including the holidays) to check on the status on learning Ruby, Sinatra, HAML, and Cucumber. Eric and I have experience with some of these technologies so we should be able to help with the experience. It will be assumed that all members are familiar with the technologies after the break which is when we will start testing and development on some of the simpler features. In addition, the team has agreed to start working on the third milestone after break.

Concerning previous action items, we have completed the second milestone and reviewed it with the client and the project manager. In addition, we have also found a Ruby resource to reference.

Overall, the team is in decent shape and not in any trouble and our energy will be focused on ensuring familiarity with the development technologies.

**Taylor Purviance:**

Today, we revised the domain model using feedback from both Doug and Tim. Doug confirmed our belief that the “Server” and “Web Page” entities didn’t belong in the domain model as they were too implementation-oriented. Instead, we had the users directly interface with the “Catalogue” and “Item” entities, as they would in the real world.

I don’t foresee any issues with the upcoming milestone 2 due date. We appear to be on track and doing fine. For milestone 3, we have all begun working towards ruby programming competence, both through the use of the “Ruby Koans” online, a set of guided ruby programming exercises, and through the reading of a digital copy of The Ruby Programming Language from O’Reilly. I think, using these as references, we should easily be able to program a framework for milestone 3 without any issues.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Team Member Names | Task/Comments | # of hours effort |
| Richard Thai | Reviewed Domain Model, Organize Meetings with PM and Client. | 1 |
| Eric Henderson | Created Visio Document, Compiled Final Document | 3 |
| Susi Cisneros | Created Rough Draft the Domain Model | 1 |
| Taylor Purviance | Created Rough Draft the Domain Model, Created the Project Plan | 3 |
|  |  | **8** |

**2 December**

This is the first entry of the PIM team journal for team SRIRAM whose members are Richard Thai, Eric Henderson, Taylor Purviance, and Susi Cisneros. This journal will inherit references previously made on separate journals by the aforementioned team members, save Eric Henderson who will continue to make his responses on his personal blog. Concerning our last team meeting, a few action items had been established: keep track of a team journal, become familiar with the development language Ruby, make a first draft of the project plan, set up the team development environments, and create the domain model.

For the time being, the team journal will be kept on this document on the GitHub repository for documentation. It is possible that this may change in the future depending on how easy it is for the team to consistently use it. The language in question has not been in heavy use by the team members—though Eric and Richard have used it in the past—meaning that the team needed to quickly become familiar with it. An attempt to satisfy this deficiency has been made by running the team through the Ruby Koans ([www.rubykoans.com](http://www.rubykoans.com)); a series of unit tests intended to be corrected by participants. However, on closer observation and comments by Eric Henderson, it appears that though the tutorial will definitely assist the team in becoming familiar with Ruby, it will not be completely adequate as it does not introduce participants to web programming or GUI-related manipulations. The rest of the team will complete the Koans over the weekend while looking for an additional resource to serve for the web-programming and GUI-related operations. A first draft of the project plan has been written up with the assignments to team members being left undecided for now. For the most part it’s been accepted that development will start by pair programming on the simplest features in order to jump start the team on to programming individually. All development environments that are going to be used by the team have been configured to use Ubuntu Linux (varying versions of preference 11.04 or newer) as well as the same version of Ruby, gems, and other such software requirements. Finally, a first draft of the domain model is completed for the architecture.

In addition to the action items—none of which took especially longer than expected—there has also been work on the side to speculate what features would be practical to approach first. Once the speculation has been finalized and formalized, it will be incorporated into the current project plan.