SCRUM Project Optimization Model

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September 5, 2025

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1 Sets (Entities)

- P: Set of all Projects
- \bullet T: Set of all Teams
- \bullet W: Set of all Workers
- F: Set of all Features
- S: Set of all Skills
- R: Set of all Roles
- PO: Set of all Product Owners
- \bullet SM: Set of all Scrum Masters
- \bullet PB: Set of all Product Backlogs
- \bullet SP: Set of all Sprints
- SPP: Set of all Sprint Planning sessions
- \bullet DS: Set of all Daily Scrum meetings
- \bullet SR: Set of all Sprint Reviews
- SRE: Set of all Sprint Retrospectives
- \bullet SBL: Set of all Sprint Backlogs
- \bullet SG: Set of all Sprint Goals
- E: Set of all Epics
- \bullet US: Set of all User Stories
- TSK: Set of all Tasks
- \bullet DEV: Set of all Development Snapshots
- \bullet BL: Set of all Blockers
- \bullet SH: Set of all Stakeholders
- VEL: Set of all Velocity records
- \bullet *REP*: Set of all Release Plans
- RM: Set of all Roadmaps
- \bullet SCB: Set of all Scrum Boards
- FED: Set of all Feature Documentations

2 Indices

- $p \in P$: Index for a Project
- $t \in T$: Index for a Team
- $w \in W$: Index for a Worker
- $f \in F$: Index for a Feature
- $s \in S$: Index for a Skill
- $r \in R$: Index for a Role
- $po \in PO$: Index for a Product Owner
- $sm \in SM$: Index for a Scrum Master
- $pb \in PB$: Index for a Product Backlog
- $sp \in SP$: Index for a Sprint
- $spp \in SPP$: Index for a Sprint Planning session
- $ds \in DS$: Index for a Daily Scrum meeting
- $sr \in SR$: Index for a Sprint Review
- $sre \in SRE$: Index for a Sprint Retrospective
- $sbl \in SBL$: Index for a Sprint Backlog
- $sg \in SG$: Index for a Sprint Goal
- $e \in E$: Index for an Epic
- $us \in US$: Index for a User Story
- $tsk \in TSK$: Index for a Task
- $dev \in DEV$: Index for a Development Snapshot
- $bl \in BL$: Index for a Blocker
- $sh \in SH$: Index for a Stakeholder
- $vel \in VEL$: Index for a Velocity record
- $rep \in REP$: Index for a Release Plan
- $rm \in RM$: Index for a Roadmap
- $scb \in SCB$: Index for a Scrum Board
- $fed \in FED$: Index for a Feature Documentation

3 Goals

• G0: maximize team utilization

Maximize the average availability of all team members.

Maximize $Z_0 = \frac{1}{|W|} \sum_{w \in W} \text{availability}(w)$

• G1: minimize project duration

Minimize the total duration of the project in days.

Minimize $Z_1 = \text{project_end}(p^*) - \text{project_start}(p^*)$ for main project p^*

• G2: maximize feature delivery

Maximize the number of high-priority features delivered.

Maximize $Z_2 = \sum_{f \in F} \mathbb{I}(\text{priority}(f) \ge \text{Priority}_{\text{threshold}} \land \text{status}(f) = \text{"Done"})$

• G3: minimize blocker impact

Minimize the average severity of active blockers.

Minimize $Z_3 = \frac{1}{|BL_a|} \sum_{bl \in BL_a} \text{severity}(bl)$ where $BL_a = \{bl \in BL \mid \text{status}(bl) = \text{"Active"}\}$

• G4: maximize sprint goal achievement

Maximize the rate of successfully achieved sprint goals.

Maximize $Z_4 = \frac{1}{|SG|} \sum_{sq \in SG} \mathbb{I}(\text{achievement_status}(sg) = \text{"Achieved"})$

• G5: minimize task effort variance

Minimize the variance between estimated and actual effort for tasks.

Minimize $Z_5 = \frac{1}{|TSK|} \sum_{tsk \in TSK} (\text{effort}_{\text{actual}}(tsk) - \text{effort}_{\text{estimated}}(tsk))^2$

• G6: maximize stakeholder satisfaction

Maximize the average influence level of satisfied stakeholders.

Maximize $Z_6 = \frac{1}{|SH_s|} \sum_{sh \in SH_s} \text{influence_level}(sh)$ where $SH_s = \{sh \in SH \mid \text{satisfied}(sh) = \text{True}\}$

• G7: minimize budget deviation

Minimize the deviation from the initial project budget.

Minimize $Z_7 = |\text{budget}_{\text{actual}}(p^*) - \text{budget}_{\text{planned}}(p^*)|$

• G8: maximize team velocity

Maximize the average velocity of the team over the last 5 sprints.

Maximize $Z_8 = \frac{1}{5} \sum_{i=n-4}^{n} \text{avg._story_points}(vel_i)$ for latest sprints n, n-1, ..., n-4

• G9: minimize sprint overhead

Minimize the total time spent in meetings per sprint.

Minimize $Z_9 = \sum_{spp \in SPP_{sp}} \operatorname{duration}(spp) + \sum_{ds \in DS_{sp}} \operatorname{duration}(ds) + \operatorname{duration}(sr_{sp}) + \operatorname{duration}(sr_{sp})$

4 Conditions

• C0: team must be cross functional

The team must possess skills in all required categories.

 $\forall \operatorname{category}_c \in \operatorname{RequiredCategories}, \ \exists w \in t, s \in S_w : \operatorname{category}(s) = \operatorname{category}_c$

• C1: feature must have acceptance criteria

No user story can be started without defined acceptance criteria.

 $\forall us \in US : \text{status}(us) \neq \text{"To Do"} \implies \text{acceptance_criteria}(us) \neq \emptyset$

• C2: sprint must have goal

Every sprint must have a defined and clear goal.

 $\forall sp \in SP, \exists sg \in SG : \text{belongs to}(sg, sp) \land \text{objective description}(sg) \neq \emptyset$

• C3: task cannot be unassigned

All tasks in the sprint backlog must be assigned to a worker.

 $\forall tsk \in TSK_{sbl} : status(tsk) = "In Progress" \implies \exists w \in W : is_assigned_to(tsk, w)$

• C4: po must be available

The Product Owner must have high availability during the sprint.

 $\forall po \in PO : availability(po) > 0.8$

• C5: blocker must be high severity

Only blockers with severity above 'Medium' require immediate escalation.

 $severity(bl) > 2 \implies status(bl) = "Escalated"$

• C6: release must be on roadmap

A release plan must be part of the long-term roadmap.

 $\forall rep \in REP, \exists rm \in RM : \text{is part of roadmap}(rep, rm)$

• C7: worker may have certified skills

Workers are encouraged but not required to have certified skills.

This is a soft constraint with a weight, not a hard requirement.

• C8: sprint cannot exceed timebox

The duration of a daily scrum meeting cannot exceed 15 minutes.

 $\forall ds \in DS : \operatorname{duration}(ds) \leq 15$

• C9: snapshot must_pass_tests

The development snapshot must have a test status of 'Passed' before release.

 $\forall dev \in DEV : \text{is released}(dev) \implies \text{test status}(dev) = \text{"Passed"}$

5 Decision Variables

• DV0: assign worker to task

 $x_{w,tsk} \in \{0,1\}$

Binary decision to assign a specific worker to a specific task.

• DV1: feature priority

 $pri_f \in \mathbb{Z}, [1, 10]$

The assigned priority level for a feature.

• DV2: story points

 $pts_{us} \in \mathbb{Z}, [1, 13]$

The number of story points estimated for a user story.

• DV3: sprint duration

 $d_{sp} \in \mathbb{Z}, [7,21]$

The length of a sprint in days.

• DV4: team size

 $size_t \in \mathbb{Z}, [3, 9]$

The number of workers assigned to a team.

\bullet DV5: worker availability

 $a_w \in \mathbb{R}, \ [0.0, 1.0]$

The percentage of time a worker is available for project work.

\bullet DV6: task_effort_estimate

 $e_{tsk} \in \mathbb{R}, [0.5, 40.0]$

The estimated effort in hours for a task.

• DV7: blocker severity

 $s_{bl} \in \mathbb{Z}, [1, 5]$

The severity level of a identified blocker.

• DV8: meeting duration

 $m_{mtg} \in \mathbb{Z}, [15, 240]$

The planned duration for a scrum ceremony in minutes.

• DV9: project budget

 $b_p \in \mathbb{R}, \ [0.0, 1000000.0]$

The total allocated budget for the project.