Team Meeting

January 17, 2017

Meeting Agenda

- Milestone Update
- Data model discussion
- Managing Management

Milestone Update

- Demonstration contractor can use OSNAP environment
- Demonstration contractor can migrate OSNAP legacy data
- Demonstration contractor can make a web application
- Demonstration contractor can meet OSNAP documentation requirements

We've completed the first milestone for the customer. Your script has been used to show that we can operate in their Linux environment and have some familiarity with their tools.
The next task is to demonstrate that we can work with their data. We'll talk about that more specifically later in the meeting/lecture.

That was...

- 👽 Awesome!
- 👽 Frustrating...
- 👽 Time consuming...
- 👽 Unexpectedly challenging...
- 👽 Confusing...

I appreciate everyone taking the daily and weekly reporting seriously. The information you are providing about your experience with the project is extremely important to me. I read your dailies every morning and reflect on how I can best respond via piazza, lecture, and email to what I'm hearing from the class.

Everyone is experiencing this class differently… and this class is a little weird since we're in an academic setting under academic constraints and I'm trying to take a work-like approach. Let's talk a little bit about what is happening and where the stresses between these approaches are appearing.

I care most about progress and visibility… If we get to the management discussion my management philosophy will tie into this. Assignments and tests are, to me, a complete distraction.

Poor specifications - This is the reality of our field. Our customers don't understand or care to understand the technology; they can't tell us how and can rarely even tell us what to do. Honestly, they would rather have magical fairies solve their problems instead of a computer.

Start early - that gives the most chance for progress and time to get help

Ask - the sooner you ask and the more people you ask the greater chance you'll get a good answer.

Relational Data Models

- Data models describe how the information representing conceptual things is organized
- In a relational database the models involve tables (entities) and relations (connections between entities)
- Relational algebra and other theory we won't cover back relational databases

Database Operations

- INSERT - add a row to a table
- UPDATE - change data in a table
- SELECT - retrieve a subset of the data
- DELETE - remove data

Managing Management

- “Manager” vs “Fixer”
- What do they care about?
- What should they do for me?
- How can I help?

A manager’s job is to manage problems… not actually solve them.
Lack of surprise is super important. Things being late are completely ok if the slip isn’t unexpected or putting the project in jeopardy. Good surprises and bad surprises are both bad.
A good manager should provide cover, visibility, and vision. These help you to be more efficient and make progress.
The best way to help is through communication.

Daily Status

- What is this about?
- Who would care?
- What do they need to know?

Daily status is about the day to day progress and challenges. What has been done today that we can use to show progress to the customer? What has been done today to show progress to the rest of the team? What went wrong that needs to be fixed tomorrow?
Your frontline management cares most about this since they will be the ones able to help you day to day. To do this, they need to know what is happening day to day for you on the project.

Weekly Status

- What is this about?
- Who would care?
- What do they need to know?

Weekly status is about broader progress that can be used by directors and executive management to promote your accomplishments and motivate organizational action. They need to know what you are doing that is special and that you are getting closer to their goals. They need to know what you will be doing next so that they can get the other teams ready to interact with you. The need to know challenges that need to be addressed in a way that they can use to push on upper management for resources.