

Team Reflection Week 4

Customer Value and Scope

- ***The chosen scope of the application under development including the priority of features and for whom you are creating value***

The scope of the application seems to be reasonable for the timeframe we have.

Some parts have taken longer than expected, and some have been easier. At the start of the first sprint we tried to organize the user stories and prioritize which parts were needed first.(A)

Our priorities seem to be sound so far, and the scope is fitting to the timeframe. But if this changes further on we will have to reassess the scope. (B) This is discussed in our weekly meetings. (A->B)

- ***The success criteria for the team in terms of what you want to achieve within the project (this can include the application, but also your learning outcomes, your teamwork, or your effort)***

The application is starting to take form, and we are all learning new ways to tackle this kind of project. Working as a team with the SCRUM philosophy is also starting to feel more natural with each passing week. (A)

Syncing our solutions with git has proved to be a challenge (B), we will have to find a good solution for this in the coming sprints(A->B)

- ***Your user stories in terms of using a standard pattern, acceptance criteria, task breakdown and effort estimation and how this influenced the way you worked and created value***

We have now completed quite a few user stories. We followed them to the best of our abilities but sometimes the acceptance criteria was a little vague, and the task breakdown was not sufficient enough as one task was estimated to take 3.33 hours, but instead took 13 hours to complete. There were also some things that were not completely finished after a sprint, and we could not include the work in progress as we only wish to give completed user stories to the PO. This clearly influenced our way we worked and how we prioritized when we closed in on the end of the sprint.

(A) It would have been better to more clearly state what was required in the acceptance criteria and have some thought to what problems could arise when we did the time estimation, and also assume it will take longer than you expect (B) We could, if we make additional user stories, be more descriptive and estimate that more time will be needed than we think. Doing this would more easily allow us to create value to the customer (A->B)

- ***Your acceptance tests, such as how they were performed, with whom, and which value they provided for you and the other stakeholders***

Currently we have not done any specific “acceptance testing”, due to the fact that we have not been able to get something that works together with all other user stories until just now. We have however done some implementation tests to each part that we created ourselves and we have run the program to see that everything does

function together. (A) We do wish to later next week be able to do some more acceptance testing (B) & (A->B)

- ***The three KPIs you use for monitoring your progress and how you use them to improve your process***

Our three KPI's are a burn up chart, our team reflection and stakeholder reflection. The burn up chart was helpful in the sense that we knew how efficient we are each sprint and we got an overview of how the project is coming along. Our team reflection allows us to think of what can be improved in the next sprint, if we did not have it we would probably make the same mistakes over and over again.(A) The stakeholder has not yet but will be shown a demo of the sprints and what we have done. They will tell us missing parts and perhaps how to improve existing ones.(B) This will come when the stakeholder has reached back to us, until then we believe our KPI's have been good and does not need to be altered drastically.(A->B)

Application of Scrum

- ***The roles you have used within the team and their impact on your work***

Well, we have always tried to be equal within the group. For example, the application of the scrummaster has varied during our work process(A) every week. We are always trying to use "Spin the wheel" whenever we are sharing roles and we agreed to continue using the method we are using (B) in order to act as equal as possible(A-B). Of course, we believe that this method affects us in a positive way as a team and our weekly deliveries as well. Basically, everyone in the group gets the opportunity to have a feeling on how it is to have such a role.

- ***The agile practices you have used and their impact on your work***

If we take a look in the first weeks of this course, we already now can see the improvements we have done as a group working agile(A). Every week, we are making sure to making these:

- Three meetings
 - Monday
 - Wednesday
 - Friday
- Team Reflection is written weekly.
- Startup meetings each week.
- Decisions in the meetings are taken by a discussion where everyone is included.

We want to work the same way we are doing right now(B). Of course, we could always strive for better agility within the group.

- ***The sprint review and how it relates to your scope and customer value (Did you have a PO, if yes, who?, if no, how did you carry out the review? Did the review***

result in a re-prioritisation of user stories? How did the reviews relate to your DoD? Did the feedback change your way of working?)

The sprint review is a collaboration with the team members and the PO. Since the PO is also developing user stories their approval of that one may be subject to bias. PO is held accountable for this by the entire team such that this will not create problems. The PO and the team is shown what has been made during the week from each team member and if it corresponds to the acceptance criteria, definition of done and passes the peer review of the code it will be accepted into a done state to be shown to the stakeholder. Re-prioritisation of user stories have not yet been necessary however given difficulties of a certain user story the team was not able to finish a user story which was a part of the sprint backlog. This week we concluded that no features deemed to be unfinished should be uploaded into the main branch to always hold a “finished” version of the product. Feedback and pace has been good enough to still be on track to completing all discussed user stories so no huge change to the scope has been made in response.

- ***Best practices for learning and using new tools and technologies (IDEs, version control, scrum boards etc.; do not only describe which tools you used but focus on how you developed the expertise to use them)***

At the moment we have had some issues with git stemming back to its creation. This could probably have been avoided however now that it has come to this the team will research ways for solving and avoiding this problem in the future. Testing tools in an environment with no pressure of it being implemented or accepted by the group has been a valuable tool in which to learn the tools we are using. Scrum boards on trello for example are quite malleable which leads to nothing being able to be ruined horribly by a single user because of inexperience during the testing of its tools. Code wise it has been useful to have people with different expertises in different areas to be able to question when issues in these areas arise. For example a member has experience in developing websites with the MVC framework and has therefore been a valuable asset to the rest of the team's learning.

- ***Relation to literature and guest lectures (how do your reflections relate to what others have to say?)***

The importance of the planning phase in how we determine and minimize outside influence on the project. One of the largest issues that was presented in the guest lecture regarding the project was the halt of continued support by the ones holding the open source engine they were building their project upon. This reflects upon the importance of knowing your key partners and in some ways minimizing their influence over your project. You do not wish for a huge project being reliant on a single point of failure. In our project something to this extent has not occurred however the largest issue that has come from the development is based on the data provided to us by our database provider. This issue could probably be minimized by researching exactly the type of data that would be provided and which techniques could be used to implement it into the project beforehand. In the future when relying on partners or data we should keep in mind to research them beforehand.