Week 6 Workshop

Estimation and sprint planning

Objectives

In this week's workshop, you will:

- estimate some user stories using Planning Poker

- work on creating your sprint backlog

Task 1. Planning poker

Conduct your own Planning Poker session to estimate some (or all!) of your team's user stories. You should have created some stories in last week's workshop. If you find that you don't have enough that are the right size to be estimated yet, you should refine them.

Information about Planning Poker is in the Week 5 lecture slides, and there are also links on Moodle that can help you.

If your team is colocated, you can use physical Planning Poker cards. Since we are all working in distributed teams this semester, we will need to use an online Planning Poker server. There are many free alternatives available, including `https://scrumpoker.online/`, `https://www.pointingpoker.com/`, and `https://www.planningpoker.com/`. If you search, you'll find more. Investigate this space to find a Planning Poker site that works for your team – perhaps your team can use it to help you estimate your stories during sprint planning.

Task 2. Sprint planning

If you have time left after your Planning Poker session, and you have not already done so, you should spend the rest of your class time getting your sprint backlog ready. Remember, most of your user stories will need to be split up into *tasks* so that the team can get working on them (see Lecture 10 for more information). You might also have some high-priority stories that need to be further refined in order to meet the INVEST criteria; your workshop time is a good opportunity to do this as well.

Since your team has only just formed, you don't yet have a good historical basis for estimating your velocity, and hence the number of story points you should aim to get Done in your first sprint. Don't worry too much about getting your velocity exactly right – your marker is well aware that this is challenging to do! We're looking at some ways to cope with discrepancies in velocity in lectures this week.