

Sprint 4 Reflection - November 16th, 2019

This sprint focused on additional tasks to improve the UI through front end work and refactoring our backend code to be cleaner and have better Java documentation. We also added hibernate and migrated the database from AWS accounts.

Workflow / Process

Our workflow has gotten tremendously better and we are not committing tickets at the very last moment. I think we have gotten better at communication and asking for help when needed.

Code Quality

Our code is a lot cleaner with better documentation. We also refactored and removed a lot of unnecessary and redundant code. The front end side code is not as clean, but I know that HTML/CSS and JS are a learning curve for our team.

Scrum Master

Alice did great as a scrum master. She was very communicative and made sure everyone's tickets made sense. We were able to meet our goals because she did her job documenting everything and communicating them to the team for this sprint.

Technology

We are definitely getting the hang of the new tech stack with David still struggling with everything. He hasn't installed SonarQube locally and I am not 100% sure if he understands how to check his code for smells.

Teaming

While everyone contributed, I still think David is the weakest link on our team. His unwillingness to self learn is becoming a blocker for contributing to completion of sprint goals.

Improvement

The team still needs to work on completing tickets in a consistent and early manner. We have some teammates still waiting until the very last day to complete tickets.

Accomplishments

We progressed greatly on improving the UI. We now only need to implement channel features and the product will look like a pretty polished MVP.

Developer

I was lead on anything that included the front end. My current role as UX engineer at work has lent a great range of knowledge for front end work. The team acknowledges this and has asked me many questions regarding how to implement or tackle front end work. I communicated with David and Alice about their front end tickets to make sure they have everything they need to complete the tickets. While Javascript is not the goal of this project, I still made sure that the team was writing maintainable and effective front end code.

I contributed to the architecture of the front end by working with the team to developer session URL mappings and REST api mappings. I brought up issues with having a single session and talked to the team about refactoring to include multiple sessions. However, they team was hesitant on refactoring to include this work. In the end, we talked about this with the TA and he also agreed this is how it should work.

I worked with David and Alice on their tickets through guiding them on how to use the web developer tools to console log variables and to place break points to debug their work.

Because my experience and background is in front end stack, the work I was given was pretty straight forward and easy for me. Part of my work was making sure other front end tickets being developed were done with code quality in mind and not through hack methods. Other than that, I contributed to stand ups and meeting remotely with teammates when questions arise.

Team Member Reflections

Good

We collaborated very well on tickets since they had dependencies between the front end and database and required lots of communication and even some co-coding.

Average

Alice and I all completed our tickets in a timely manner.

Bad

Two members of our team were sick, however we still completed the sprint goals!

	Rating	Comment
Tanner	7	I worked with Alice and David to complete their front end work. I spent some time mentoring David on how to get his environment started again and also how to debug front end work.
Dian	9	Dian went above and beyond and completed more tickets than anyone else. He also refactored our database to include Hibernate and implemented the auto-deploy to AWS whenever our code is merged with master. I think he did beyond what was asked for this sprint and other sprints.
Alice	6	Completed her tickets in a timely manner and did great as Scrum Master!
David	3	While I acknowledge that David was sick for half of the sprint, he wasn't sick for the first half. He could've done a lot more tickets than just one. He spent the first half of the sprint doing nothing while he was still able body. Then spent the second half of the sprint trying to play catch up while he was sick (which is never a good idea). I think his time management skills are very poor. However he finally decided to communicate and ask for help with his tickets, which is a positive thing. I think though that he would be more effective if he took initiative in self learning. He has become a blocker for many of us as he requires more help from us in terms of even basic level understanding of setting up his IDE. Things that he should've have learned or could have learned easily from reading materials.