Lecture 5: Intro To Process

Milestones, Estimation, Planning

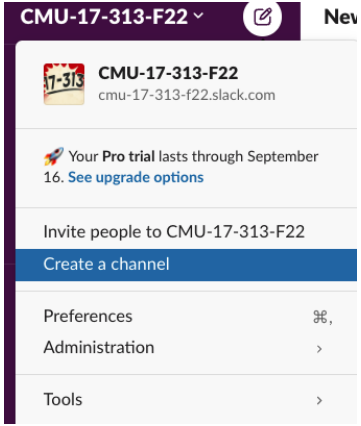
17-313 Fall 2022

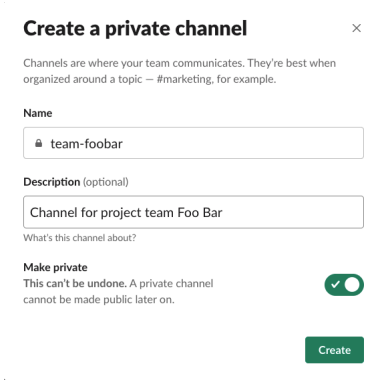
Learning Goals

- Recognize the importance of process
- Understand the difficulty of measuring progress
- Identify why software development has project characteristics
- Use milestones for planning and progress measurement
- Understand backlogs and user stories
- Know your team!

Administrivia

- HW1 needs link to issue/PR. Please submit if not yet done.
- HW2 released on course website
  - Team assignment. Let us know if you don't know your team!
  - Two deadlines (Sep 22nd and 27th) and three milestones
  - HIGHLY recommend completing first milestone this week
    - Create issue by Sep 15th to get the ball rolling
    - Soft deadline for getting feedback from staff
    - Fine to iterate/adapt through implementation (add comments to issue)
- Extra credit: Team activity
  - Create **private** channel on Slack
  - Invite your TA mentors to claim credit

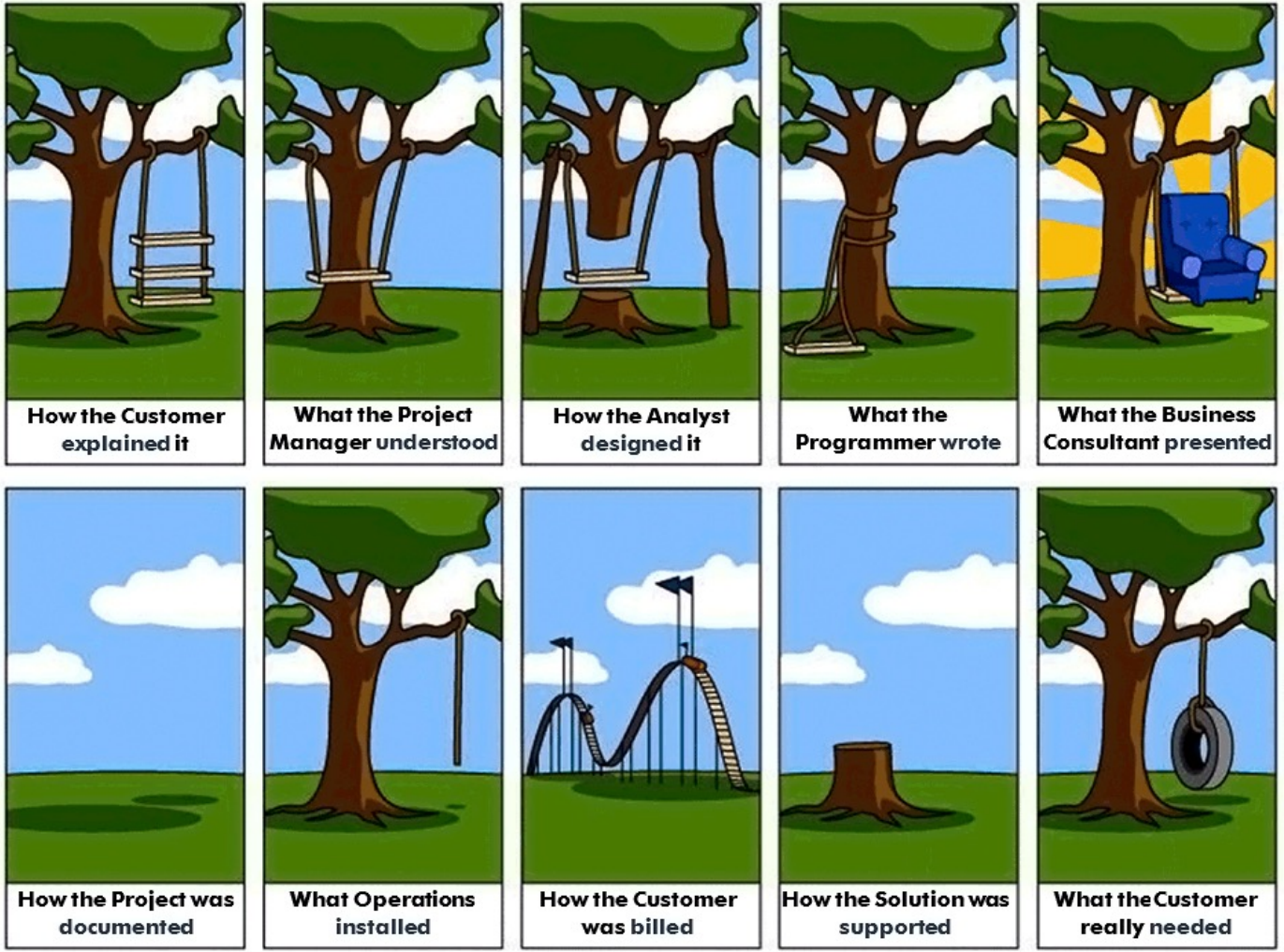




Software Process

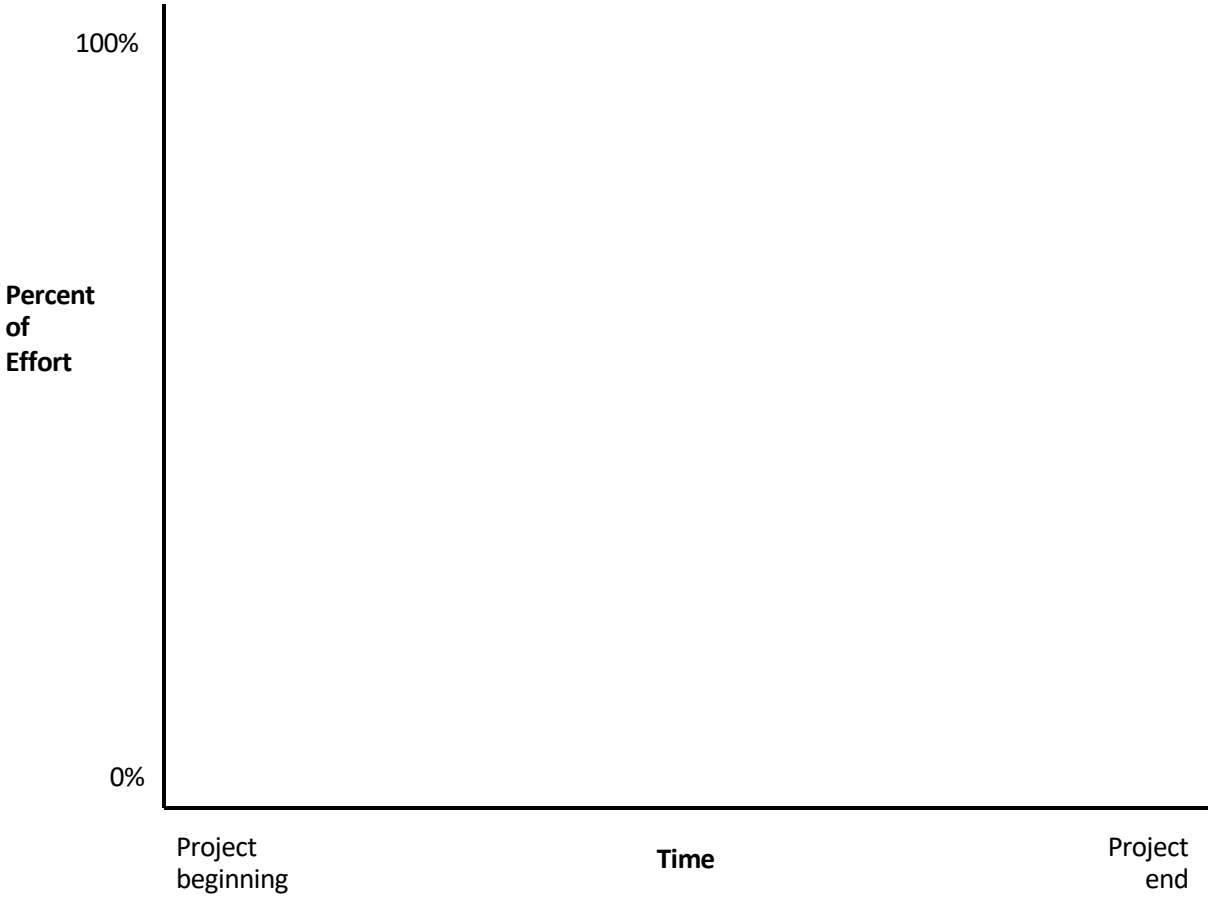
"The set of activities and associated results that produce a software product"

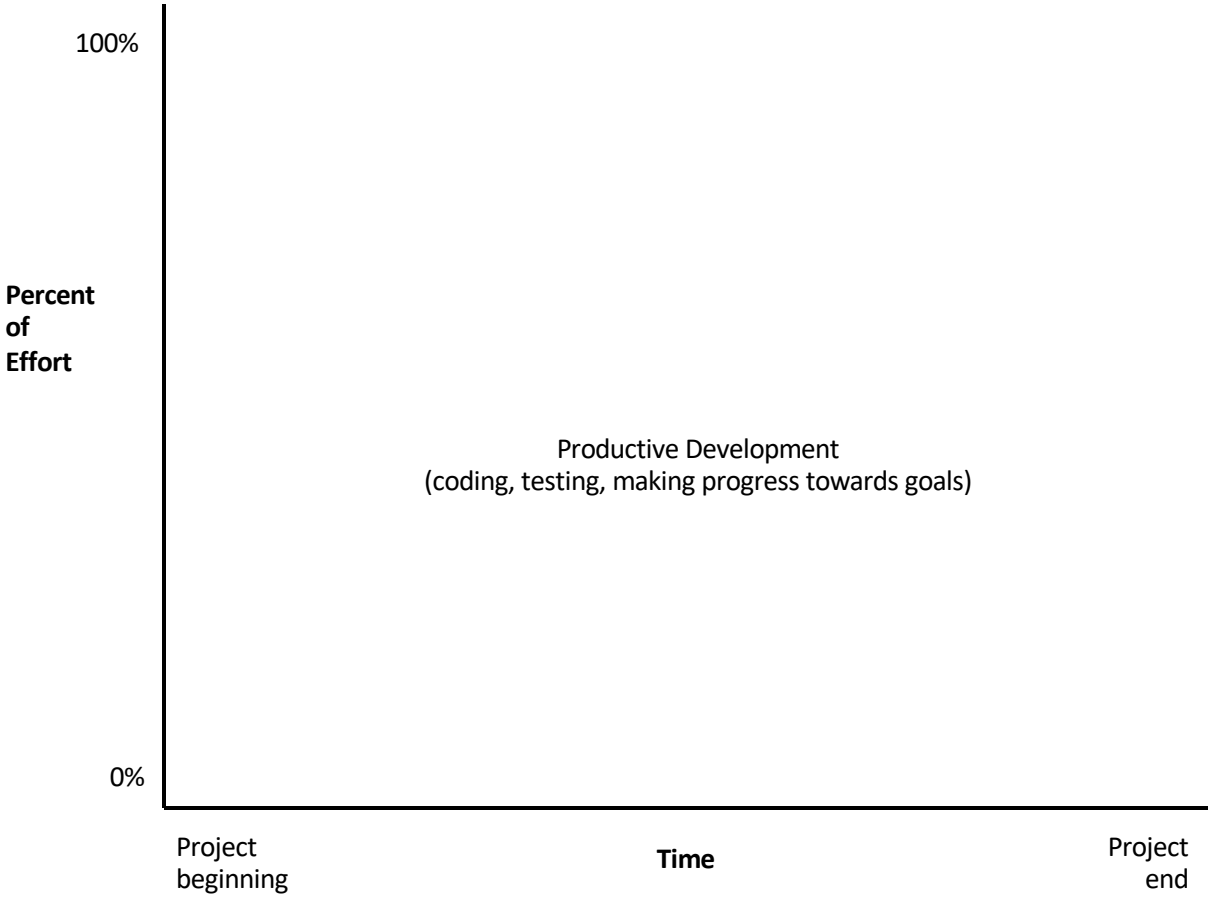
Sommerville, SE, ed. 8


How the Customer explained it
What the Project Manager understood
How the Analyst designed it
What the Programmer wrote
What the Business Consultant presented
How the Project was documented
What Operations installed
How the Customer was billed
How the Solution was supported
What the Customer really needed

How to develop software?

1. Discuss the software that needs to be written
2. Write some code
3. Test the code to identify the defects
4. Debug to find causes of defects
5. Fix the defects
6. If not done, return to step 1


100%
Percent of Effort
0%
Project beginning
Time
Project end

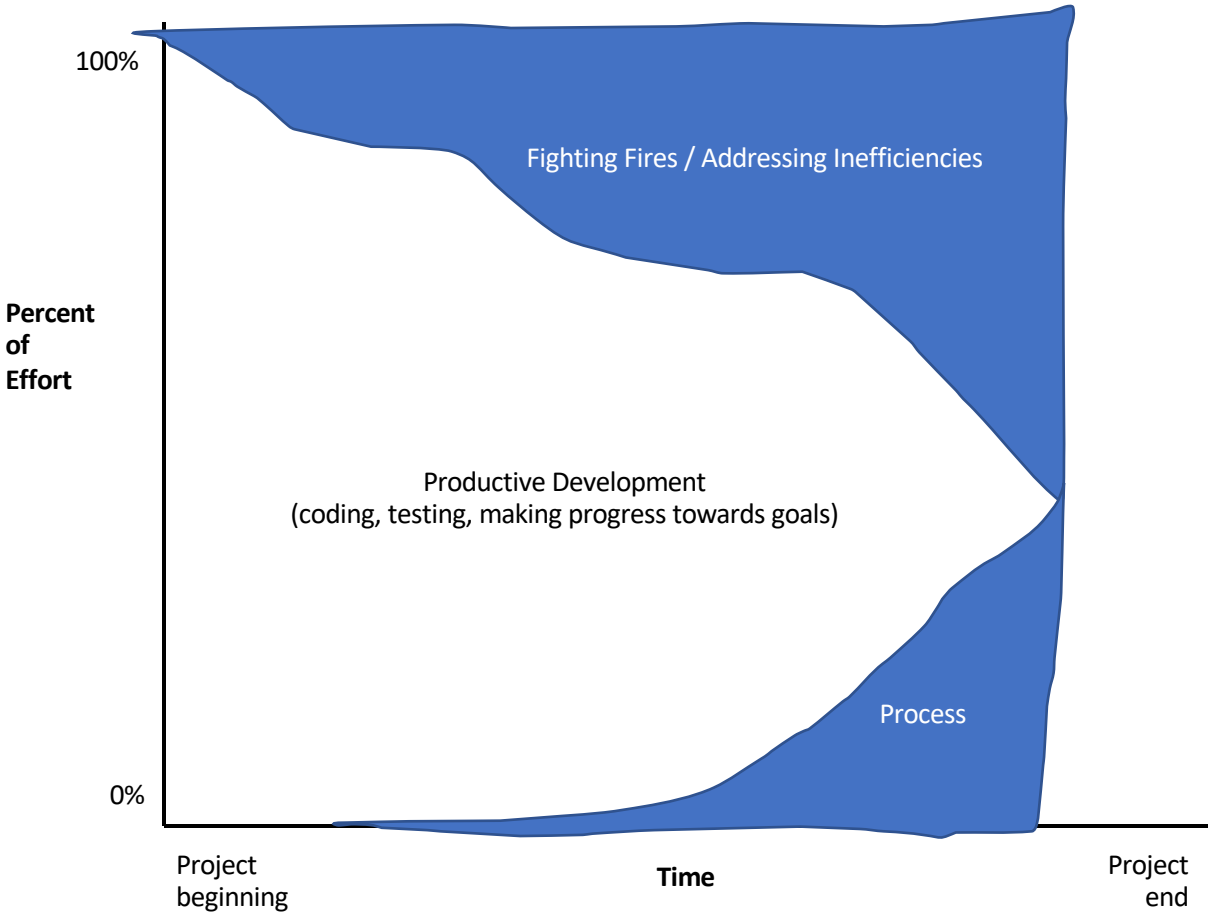

100%
Percent of Effort
Productive Development
(coding, testing, making progress towards goals)
0%
Project beginning
Time
Project end


100%
Addressing Inefficiencies
Percent of Effort
Productive Development
(coding, testing, making progress towards goals)
0%
Project beginning
Time
Project end

Your manager asks you to follow a process

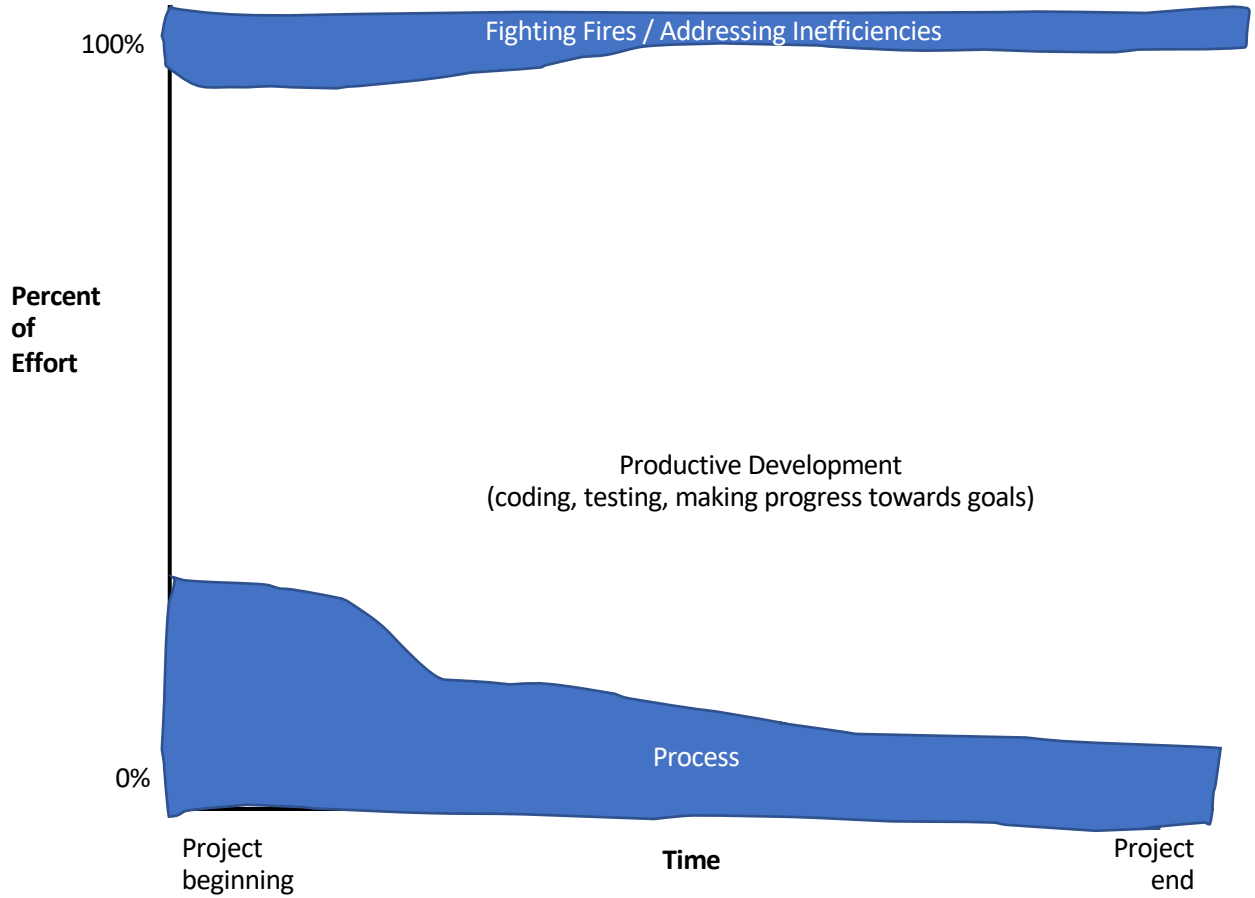
- Writing down all requirements
- Require approval for all changes to requirements
- Use version control for all changes
- Track all reported bugs
- Review requirements and code
- Break down development into smaller tasks and schedule and monitor them
- Planning and conducting quality assurance
- Have daily status meetings
- Use Docker containers to push code between developers and operation


100%
Addressing Inefficiencies
Percent of Effort
Productive Development
(coding, testing, making progress towards goals)
Process: Cost and Time estimates, Writing Requirements, Design,
Change Management, Quality Assurance Plan,
Development and Integration Plan
0%
Project beginning
Time
Project end


100%
Fighting Fires / Addressing Inefficiencies
Percent
of
Effort
Productive Development
(coding, testing, making progress towards goals)
Process
0%
Project
beginning
Time
Project
end

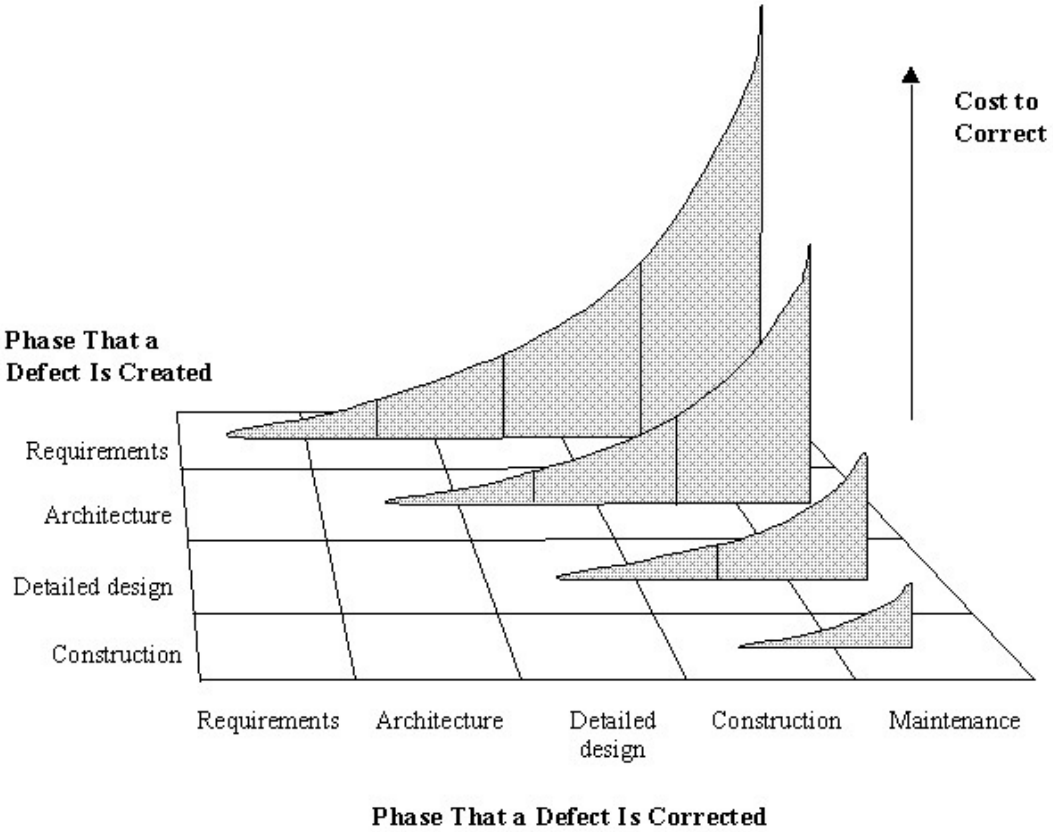
Example process issues

- Change Control: Mid-project informal agreement to changes suggested by customer or manager. Project scope expands 25-50%
- Quality Assurance: Late detection of requirements and design issues. Test-debug-reimplement cycle limits development of new features. Release with known defects.
- Defect Tracking: Bug reports collected informally, forgotten
- System Integration: Integration of independently developed components at the very end of the project. Interfaces out of sync.
- Source Code Control: Accidentally overwritten changes, lost work.
- Scheduling: When project is behind, developers are asked weekly for new estimates.



Hypothesis: Process increases flexibility and efficiency

Ideal Curve: Upfront investment for later greater returns



Planning

Time estimation

https://xkcd.com/612/

Activity: Estimate Time

Task A: Simple web version of the Monopoly board game with Pittsburgh street names

Team: just you

Task B: Bank smartphone app

Team: you with team of 4 developers, one experienced with iPhone apps, one with background in security

* Estimate in 8h days (20 work days in a month, 220 per year)

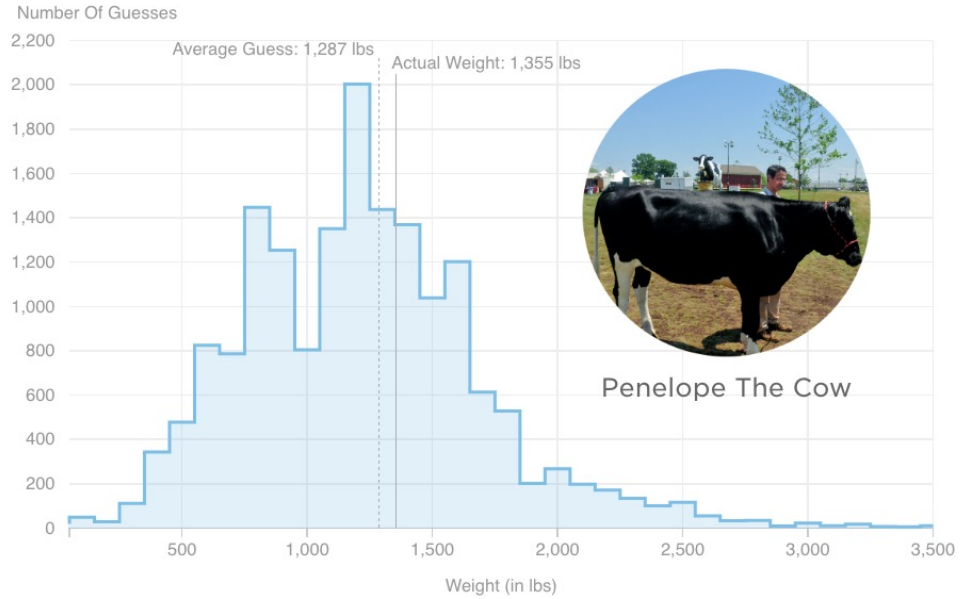
```
My Task A estimate: ___
My Task B estimate: ___

Other Task A estimate: __
Other Task B estimate: __

Other Task A estimate: __
Other Task B estimate: __
```

Revise Time Estimate

- Do you have comparable experience to base an estimate off of?
- How much design do you need for each task?
- Break down the task into ~5 smaller tasks and estimate them.
- Revise your overall estimate if necessary

How Much Does This Cow Weigh?

(All People)



Source: The Internet.

Credit: Quoctrung Bui/NPR


XS
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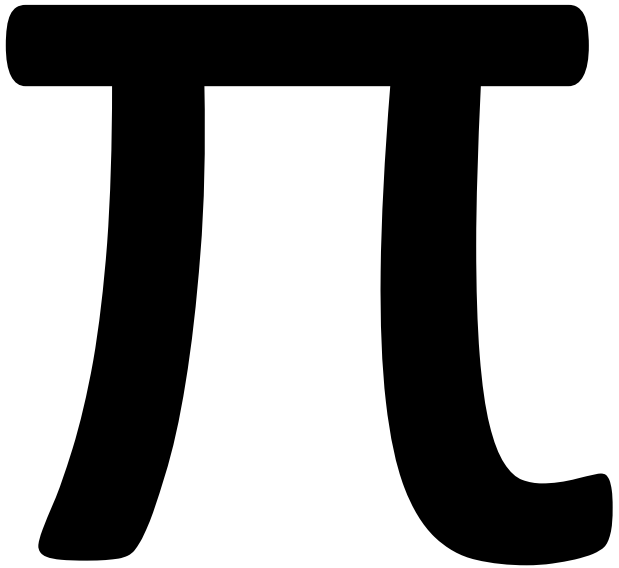
made by :codica
codica.com



Measuring Progress?

- “I’m almost done with the app. The frontend is almost fully implemented. The backend is fully finished except for the one stupid bug that keeps crashing the server. I only need to find the one stupid bug, but that can probably be done in an afternoon. We should be ready to release next week.”

Measuring Progress?

- Developer judgment: x% done
- Lines of code?
- Functionality?
- Quality?

Milestones and deliverables make progress *observable*

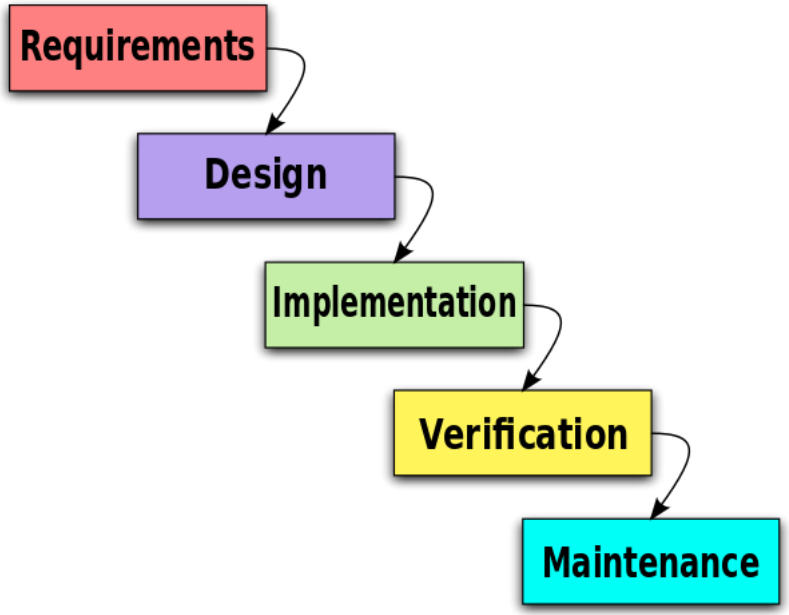
Milestone: clear end point of a (sub)tasks

- For project manager
- Reports, prototypes, completed subprojects
- "80% done" not a suitable mile stone

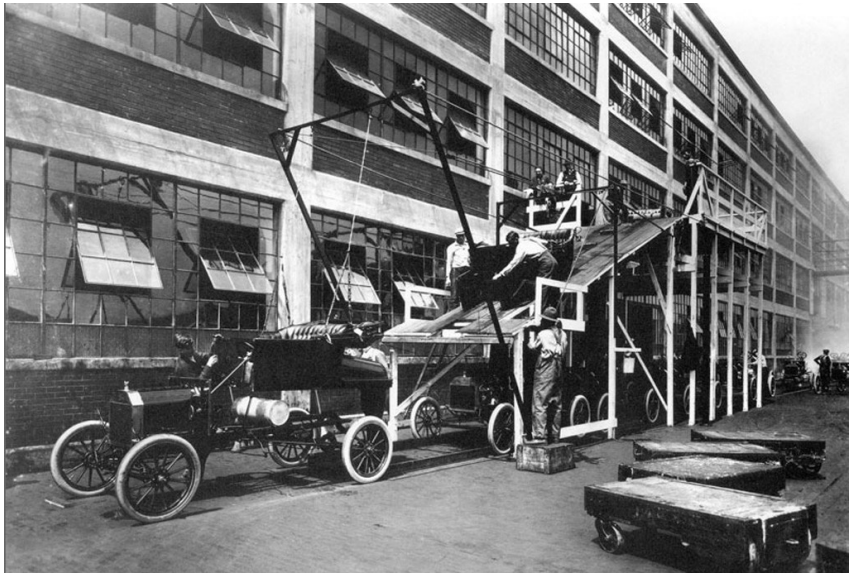
Deliverable: Result for customer

- Similar to milestone, but for customers
- Reports, prototypes, completed subsystems

Waterfall model was the original software process



… akin to processes pioneered in mass manufacturing (e.g., by Ford)



Lean production adapts to variable demand

Taiichi Ohno

Toyota Production System (TPS)

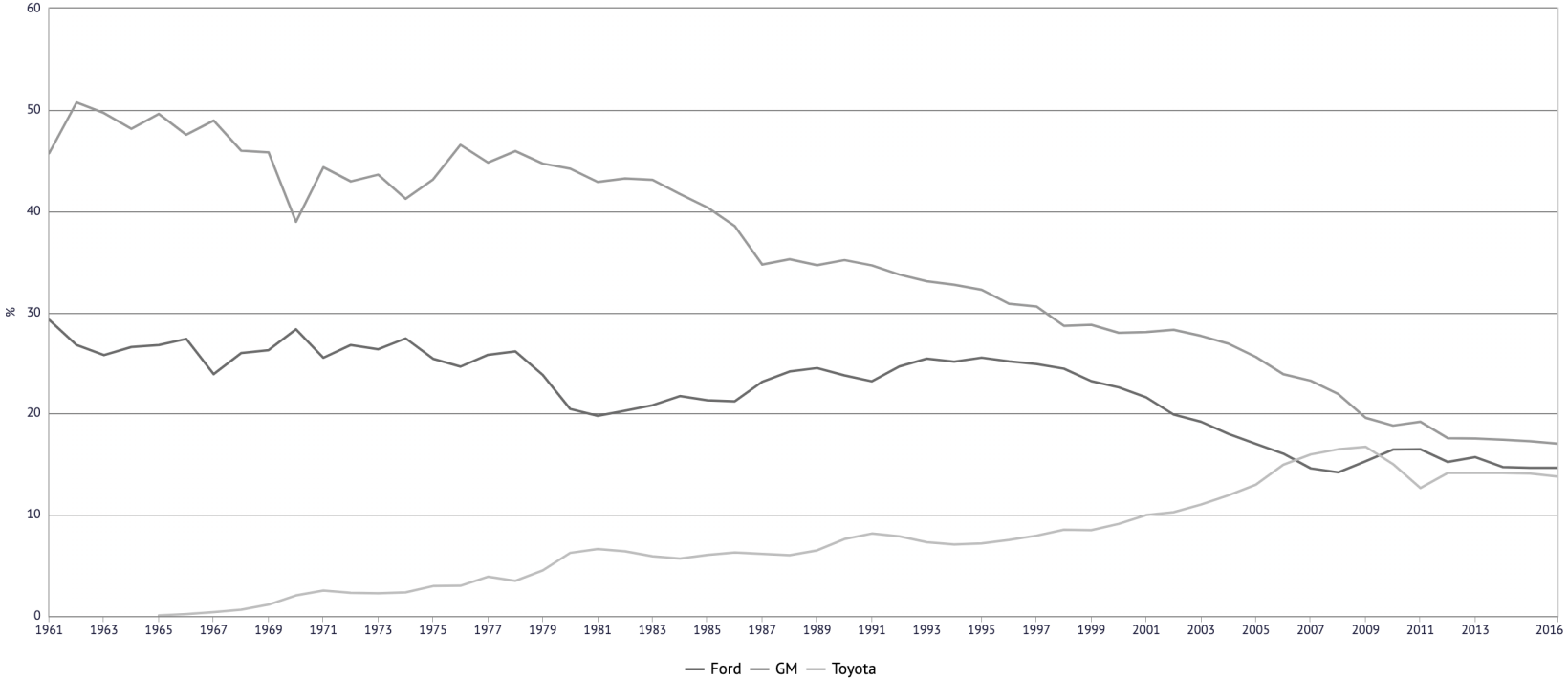
- Build only what is needed, only when it is needed.
- Use the “pull” system to avoid overproduction. (Kanban)
- Stop to fix problems, to get quality right from the start (Jidoka)
- Workers are multi-skilled and understand the whole process; take ownership

Lots of software buzzwords invented recently build on these ideas

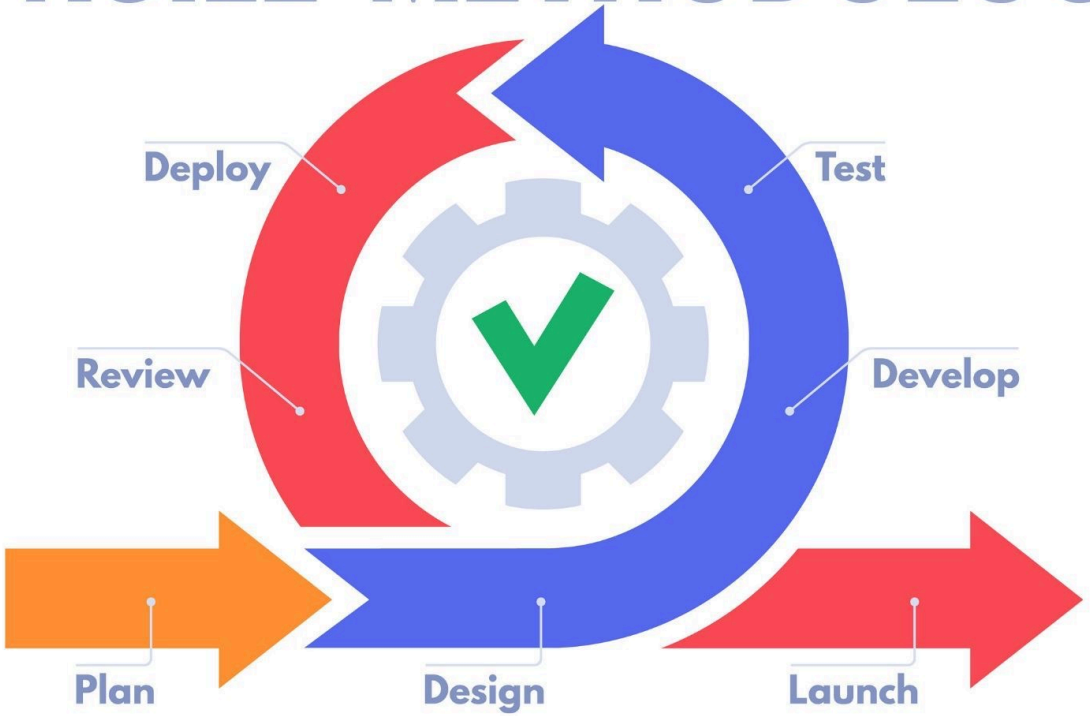
- Just-in-time, DevOps, Shift-Left

See also: “The machine that changed the world” by James P Womack et al. The Free Press, 2007.

US vehicle sales market share; 1961—2016 (source: knoema.com)



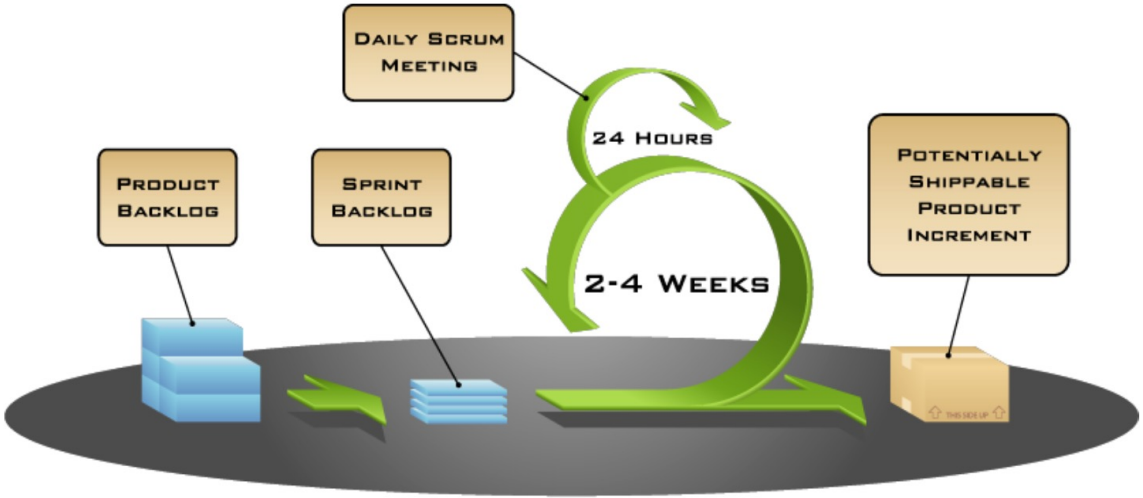
AGILE METHODOLOGY



Scrum

(Only a brief intro)

Elements of Scrum



Products:

- Product Backlog
- Sprint Backlog

Process:

- Sprint Planning Meeting
- Daily Scrum Meeting
- Sprint Retrospective
- Sprint Review Meeting

Backlogs

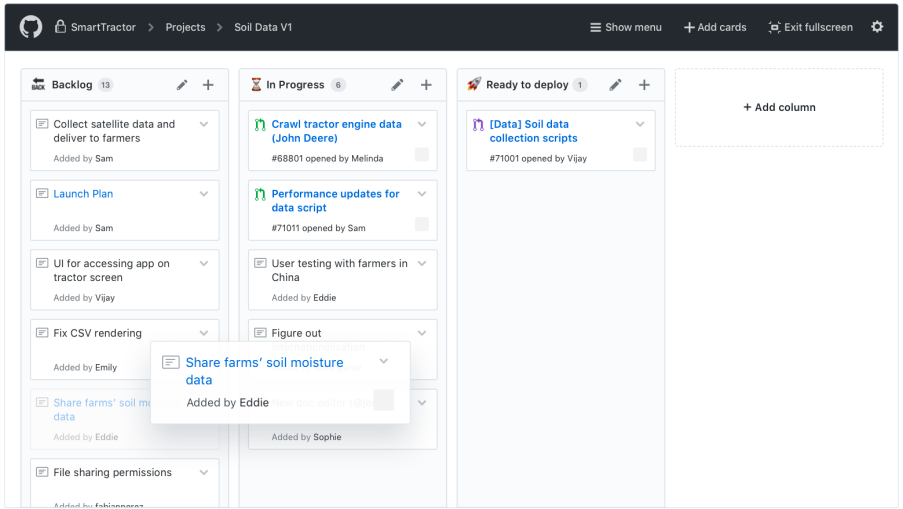
The **product backlog** is all the features for the product

The **sprint backlog** is all the features that will be worked on for that sprint. These should be broken down into discrete tasks:

- Fine-grained
- Estimated
- Assigned to individual team members
- Acceptance criteria should be defined

User Stories are often used

Kanban boards



Scrum Meetings

Sprint Planning Meeting

- Entire Team decides together what to tackle for that sprint

Daily Scrum Meeting

- Quick Meeting to touch base on :
  - What have I done? What am I doing next? What am I stuck on/need help?

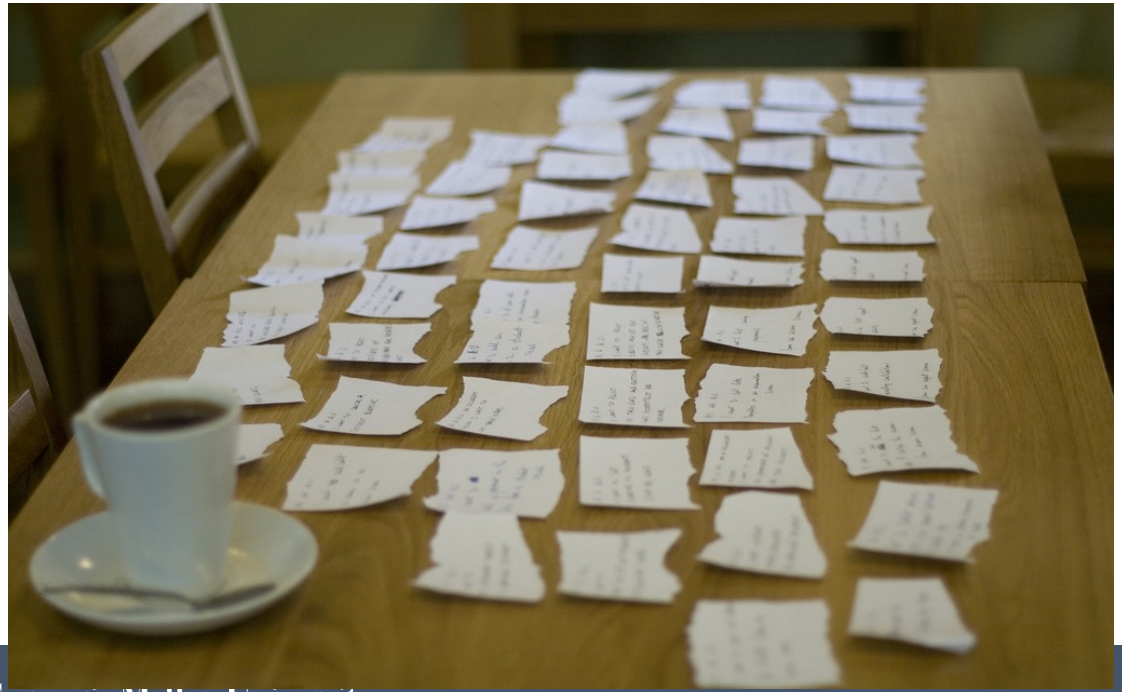
Sprint Retrospective

- Review sprint process

Sprint Review Meeting

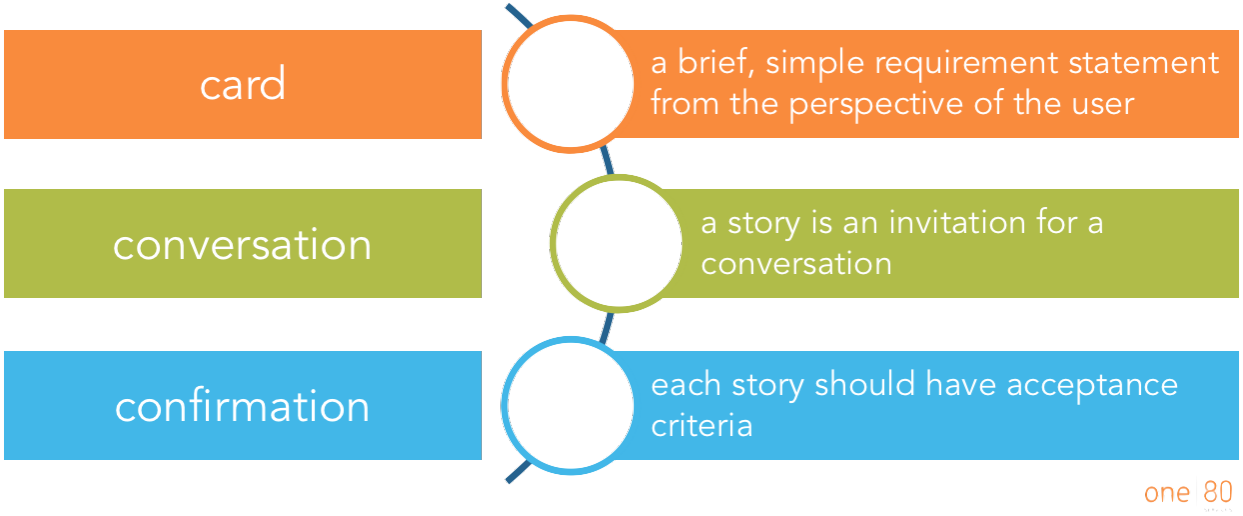
- Review Product

User Stories



Source: https://www.flickr.com/photos/jakuza/2728096478

User Stories

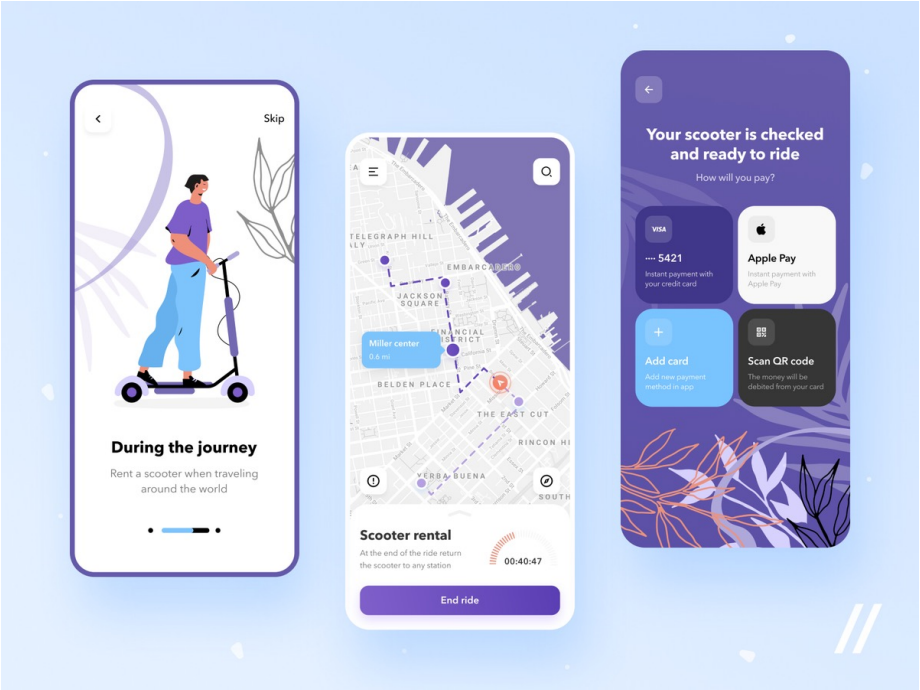


Source: http://one80services.com/user-stories/writing-good-user-stories-how-to-not-about-writing/

User story cards (3”x5”)

“As a [role], I want [function], so that [value]”

Exercise



https://dribbble.com/shots/12512417-Scooter-Rental-App-Design

How to evaluate user story?

Follow the INVEST guidelines for good user stories!

Source: http://one80services.com/user-stories/writing-good-user-stories-hint-its-not-about-writing/

one 80

Independent

- Schedule in any order.
- Not overlapping in concept
- Not always possible

Negotiable

- Details to be negotiated during development
- Good Story captures the essence, not the details

Valuable

- This story needs to have value to someone (hopefully the customer)
- Especially relevant to splitting up issues

Estimable

- Helps keep the size small
- Ensure we negotiated correctly
- “Plans are nothing, planning is everything” -Dwight D. Eisenhower

Small

- Fit on 3x5 card
- At most two person-weeks of work
- Too big == unable to estimate

Testable

- Ensures understanding of task
- We know when we can mark task “Done”
- Unable to test == do not understand

Activity

Follow the INVEST guidelines for good user stories!

one 80

Next up: Teams