

Progress report

First implementation phase

PMoC

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T-76.115 Progress report – Project planning phase PMoC

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Table of Contents

1. Project status	3
2. Work performed	3
2.1. Documentation	3
2.2. Project planning	4
2.3. Implementation	4
2.4. Testing	4
3. Applied process	5
3.1. Use-cases	5
3.2. Communication and meetings	5
3.3. Integration and regular builds	6
3.4. Testing	6
3.5. Coding conventions	6
4. Improvement	6
4.1. Working practices	6
4.2. Phase internal time planning	6

1. Project status

On an hourly basis the project has proceeded according to the plans made, and even those being somewhat behind in working hours and the common level of knowledge in relation to the project have put efforts to reaching the average level.

Still it can be clearly noticed that this phase, namely the first implementation phase, has given even bigger challenges at all levels of the project, and these challenges have been met with varying success.

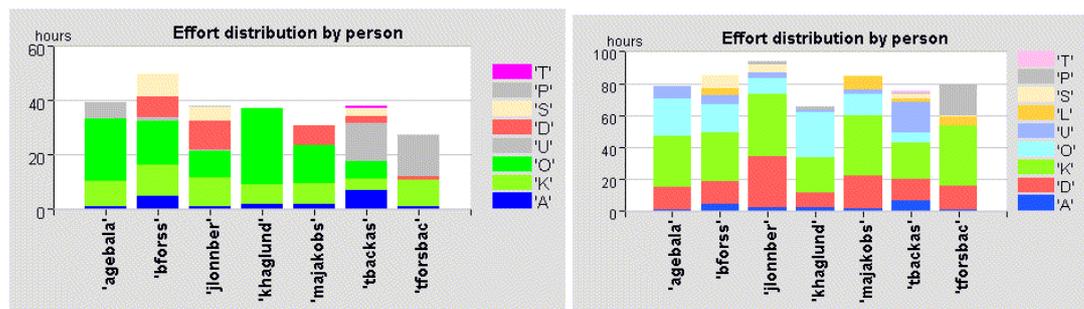


Figure 1. Effort by hours. This phase to the left and total time to the right.

Comments – One can see that all except khaglund has reached the planned 80 hours for this phase, and that was due to a heavy workload, which was detected during the phase. Other than that, the group members have had quite an acceptable workload each.

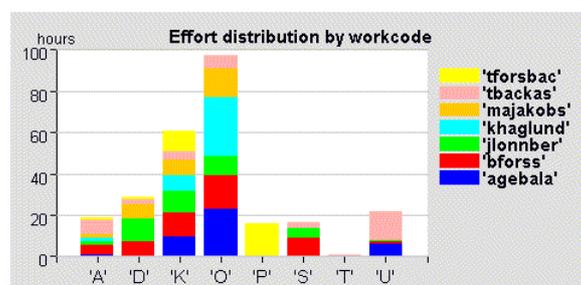


Figure 2. Effort by workcode. It can be noticed that programming has been the essential part of this phase, as expected, and secondly meetings and documentation also have been relevant parts to support the development.

2. Work performed

This phase has contained several more parts than the last one, and has mainly consisted of planning and organizing of the project, designing the architecture for the software, a few meetings with the customer, planning and doing the implementation and updating and creating of expected and needed documentation.

2.1. Documentation

Based on feedback from the customer and mentor all required documentation has been updated. The Project Plan has been update now containing

Comment

- Personal methods
- Tech Spech production
- Code documentation (javadoc..?)

Ref: Project Plan, Requirements Documentation.

2.2. Project planning

The planning of the project has mainly concentrated on anticipating the work to be done during coming week, and see that the knowledge needed has been at hand, computers have been working properly and that needed software has been installed. This has also contained planning of meetings to be held, and structuring the work for all parts in a good manner. One important, and good solution, was to divide the group in two smaller groups of three persons, one working with the so called gml-part, and the other working on the graphics-part of the project. The architectures Jan and Björn lead the programming groups, and the work within them, so that everyone would know what parts to work with.

2.3. Implementation

The implementation done during the first implementation phase has been logically and naturally divided into three parts. The two main architects of the system design have been assigned as leaders of the two main subgroups of the project so far; the graphics and the GML part. These two group leaders have planned their own areas; dividing the different tasks between themselves and the two developers working within each subgroup. This has been a fully working division, since the implementation of these two different areas so far has been almost entirely separate from the other.

The graphics package has evolved from a small test on how to load an SVG file to be shown on the screen, via finding out how to access the inner element tree of the SVG through the document object model, to realizing how to capture events from the canvas that shows the graphics and being able to draw own standard graphical figures like lines, circles and rectangles. The work in this subgroup was divided into an event-related part, and a pure figure-drawing-related part. Since both parts were in need of the results of the other area, close cooperation and communication has been essential. The subgroup leader has been the connecting factor and has among other things made the scaffold that the work in progress is supposed to be created into.

The packages that are mostly concerned with the handling of the GML were designed and its data structures were created by the leader for this subgroup, dividing the tasks into handling of data from and to file, and the graphical representation of the data acquired in a hierarchical structure on the screen. These areas were possible harder to understand and get a good understanding of the whole, and especially parsing the

2.4. Testing

Ref: Test Report

3. Applied process

3.1. Use-cases

No new use cases were created during the implementation phase one. The use cases created during the planning phase were enough for the implementation phase one and possibly also for implementation phase two. In the beginning of the implementation phase one, where the use cases from planning phase prioritized. The priority helped in planning the implementation and in giving an overview of the importance of different functionality.

Reference: Use-cases document

3.2. Communication and meetings

Due to the different types of the first two phases of the project (the planning phase and the first implementation phase), communication and meeting practices have also been notably different. Several of the members of the project group found the planning phase to contain too many large meetings that were uncalled for and sometimes even nonproductive, and this has improved during the implementation phase, as only a few meetings among the whole group were held. Instead, during the implementation phase, meetings and communication were naturally done within the subgroups of the project, and the leaders of the groups who are in charge of the architecture communicated more concisely between themselves in a fully working manner.

Meetings have evolved to become more concise and compact, since it has been noticed that they very easily run haywire. This has been corrected by decreasing the size of the meetings, and naturally also the nature of the later meetings have been more technical, with certain problems to be solved and areas to be planned. This kind of meetings will likely be used in the later phases as well, possibly also improved by some more shorter meetings with the whole project group, that give a good idea of how the project is going along and what the different subgroups currently are doing.

Communication has also evolved; even though the discussion forum was installed early during the planning phase, it was not much used. During the first implementation phase, it has found its place as a good way of keeping track of both the documents written, as well as a good distributed discussion of the different areas of the project. Communication still needs to be improved for the upcoming phases, since it still happens too often, that information about the project course doesn't reach everybody, either at all, or just too late for the information to be of any use. This is a problem that probably is caused by lack of time and too many things up in the air at the same time. If this is true, it is possible to correct simply by making people aware of the problem – to pay more attention and more effort on the distribution of information to other members of the group.

The team work has at times not been very effective, it seems people just write their own things and expect others to read it automatically and from there know what it means. The communication within the GML-group has not worked at a pleasing level. Maybe we didn't have anyone coordinating it or maybe the programmers just don't see this as an important part and therefore left it out.

3.3. Integration and regular builds

Reference: Integration and regular builds document

3.4. Testing

Reference: V-model testing document and test report.

3.5. Coding conventions

There was some group discussions on coding styles during this phase (II), see more about it in the specified document. The code was also examined and evaluated by the coordinator. The coding style was close to persistent, with a few exceptions, which are listed in the same document.

Ref: Coding Conventions

4. Improvement

4.1. Working practices

It has been somewhat difficult to be up-to-date with who is doing what, how and when. Therefore we will test some new ways of working together. During II-phase one day was held as working together in one computer-class and the experience was good. So therefore that will be further developed. Perhaps so that the group will work 2 – 4 hours a week together.

4.2. Phase internal time planning

Firstly, one main miss was that the delivery deadline for this phase was misunderstood to be 5.12.2002, when it actually was 2.12.2002, four days earlier. This complicated the work at the end, forcing some what more efforts to be put to finish work in time.

Secondly, the time planning over all was way different from the first phase, and the experiences from this phase will be used to develop an even better time planning for the second implementations phase, taking into account all new things that has