



agile-trac

Agile Integrated Project Collaboration

Effective use of **agile-trac** for (distributed) agile development

Jamie Allsop

`ja11sop@agile-trac.org`

<http://www.agile-trac.org>

Setting the Scene: Challenges Faced by Distributed Teams

- Communication burden is almost unbearable
- Clear communication is compounded by cultural and language differences
- Difficult to build trust among team members
- Hard to share and maintain tacit knowledge
- Synchronisation is often problematic
- Ensuring fair and accessible participation to all team members
- Maintaining a shared vision across all members often a challenge
- Providing visibility into progress for stakeholders inside and outside of the organisation
- Creating and sustaining a team identity, both within the team and throughout the organisation

Communication

Synchronisation

TRUST

Visibility



Overview

- Part 1: What is agile-trac and its fit for agile development
- Part 2: agile-trac – In a Nutshell
 - Relatively Sized User Stories
 - Time-Boxed Iterations
 - Roadmap with Prioritised Milestones
- Part 3: Principles and Recommended Practices
- Part 4: Future directions for agile-trac



Overview

- Part 1: What is agile-trac and its fit for agile development
- Part 2: agile-trac – In a Nutshell
 - Relatively Sized User Stories
 - Time-Boxed Iterations
 - Roadmap with Prioritised Milestones
- Part 3: Principles and Recommended Practices
- Part 4: Future directions for agile-trac



Part 1: What is agile-trac?

- <http://www.agile-trac.org>
- **agile-trac** is a plugin for the popular Trac integrated SCM and Project Management software (written in Python)
<http://trac.edgewall.org>
- **agile-trac**, like Trac, is free and open-source
- **agile-trac** augments Trac to make it more suitable for agile development and distributed agile teams in particular
- To make most use of **agile-trac** an agile development methodology should be adopted
- **agile-trac** *supports* agile development. It is not a replacement for good practices



A Quick Look at Trac

The image displays several overlapping screenshots of the Trac web application interface. The central screenshot shows the 'Welcome to the Trac Open Source Project' page, which includes a navigation bar with links like 'Wiki', 'Timeline', 'Roadmap', 'Browse Source', 'View Tickets', 'New Ticket', and 'Search'. The main content area features a 'Welcome to the Trac Open Source Project.' section with introductory text, a 'Try out our demos!' section with links for 'Trac 0.11 demo' and 'Trac 0.12 demo', and several sections for getting started, watching evolution, communicating, and getting involved. Below this is an 'About This Site' section and a 'Trac Users' section.

Other screenshots show the 'Timeline' view with a list of recent changes, the 'Roadmap' view with a progress bar for milestone '0.12' and a list of tickets, and a detailed view of a ticket titled 'Timestamp precision is too low..'. The ticket details include fields for 'Owned by', 'Milestone', 'Version', and 'Keywords', along with a list of attachments and a code diff view.

A Quick Look at agile-trac

user story #26 (closed: DONE) Opened 4 weeks ago
Last modified 13 days ago

XdpPublisher? will be able to subscribe to MAMA and receive opaque messages

Test Complete Size: 5 Test Complete Date: 02/08/10

Documentation Complete Size: 0 Documentation Complete Date:

Reported by: jamiea Owned by:

Milestone: OpenBookAggregated XDP Publisher Component: MAMA Subscribing

Severity: not applicable Keyword:

Cc: Release:

In Iterations: 2 3

Description (last modified by jamiea) (diff)

The XDP Publisher should be able to make a MAMA subscription

```
void MamaBasicSubscriptionCallback::onMsg
(
    MamaBasicSubscription* Subscription,
    MamaMsg& Msg )
{
    try
    {
        size_t Size;
        const void* Data = Msg.getOpaque( 0, T
        ...
    }
}
```

Relatively Sized User Stories

Iterations

Iteration Summary

Id	Dates		Summary
	Start	End	
#4	02/17/10	03/02/10	Consolidate xdp publisher and prepare Open OBA Publisher for initial test

#4: Consolidate xdp publisher and prepare Open OBA Publisher

02/17/10 to 03/02/10 Iteration in progress and ends in 8 days

Planning Evaluation

47%

DONE tickets (15 points): 6 Sized tickets (17 points): 7

The focus of this iteration is to create a preliminary implementation of Open Book: Aggregated page.

Value

Id	Summary	Iterations	Tested		Documented		SIZE	DONE
			size	done	size	done		
#30	XdpDev? ...-based							
#31	OBA XDP Publisher will reframe received XDP packets for							
#21	OBA XDP Publisher will be able to make MAMA subscription							
#4	XdpDev? should be able to use use the scon build system with the CodeBlocks IDE	1 2 3 4						
#11	XdpDev? will be able to use the boost candidates libraries	3 4	3		0		3	
#10	XdpDev? will be able to use the boost libraries	3 4	2		0		2	
#12	XdpDev? will be able to use and develop the nstd infrastructure libraries	3 4	2		0		2	

Time-boxed Iterations

Roadmap

Milestone Summary

Milestone	Value to Deliver			Due Date	Expected Date	Progress %	Overview
	Stories	Points	To Do				
PapaLite version of WepPublisher	15	34	6	No date set	Fri 26 Feb 10 → Mon 01 Mar 10	82%	
OpenBook:Aggregated XDP Publisher	15	37	21	Due in 11 days (03/05/10)	Mon 15 Mar 10 → Mon 22 Mar 10	43%	
Undecided	4	6	6	No date set	Mon 22 Mar 10 → Tue 23 Mar 10	0%	

Based on 11 points per iteration with an average iteration length of approximately 10 days

Milestone: PapaLite version of WepPublisher

Expected: Fri 26 Feb 10 → Mon 01 Mar 10

No date set

82%

DONE tickets (28 points): 12 Sized tickets (6 points): 3 Partially Sized tickets (0 points): 0 Unsized tickets (0 points): 0 / Total tickets (34 points): 15

Value

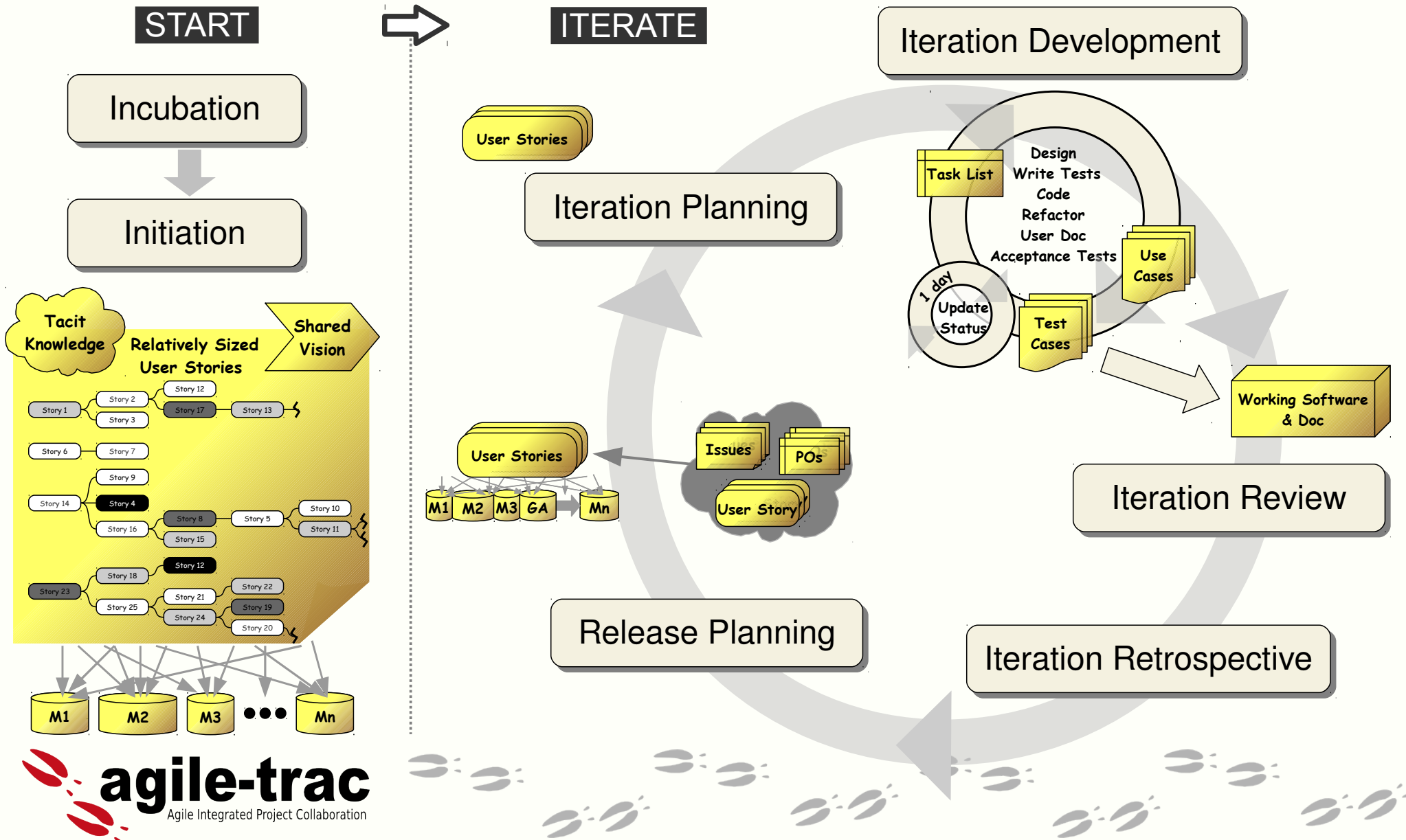
Id	Summary	Iterations	Tested		Documented		SIZE	DONE
			size	done	size	done		
#13	XdpDev? should be able to build on the target deployment platform of 64-bit RedHat 5.3	2	1		0		1	
#30	XdpDev? should be able to use a common scon-based build system	4	2		0		2	
#14	XdpDev? should be able to perform and test deployments of XDP on the target platform	3	2		0		3	
#7	XdpDev? will have a central location to shared knowledge and ideas for XDP	1 2	1		0		1	
#6	XdpDev? should have a central location to store and access XDP artifacts	1 2	1		0		1	
XDP Core								
#11	XdpDev? will be able to use the boost candidates libraries	3 4	3		0		3	
#10	XdpDev? will be able to use the boost libraries	3 4	2		0		2	
#12	XdpDev? will be able to use and develop the nstd infrastructure libraries	3 4	2		0		2	
#15	XdpDev? will have a strategy to allow shared format handling	4	2		0		2	

Summary View with predicted Completion dates

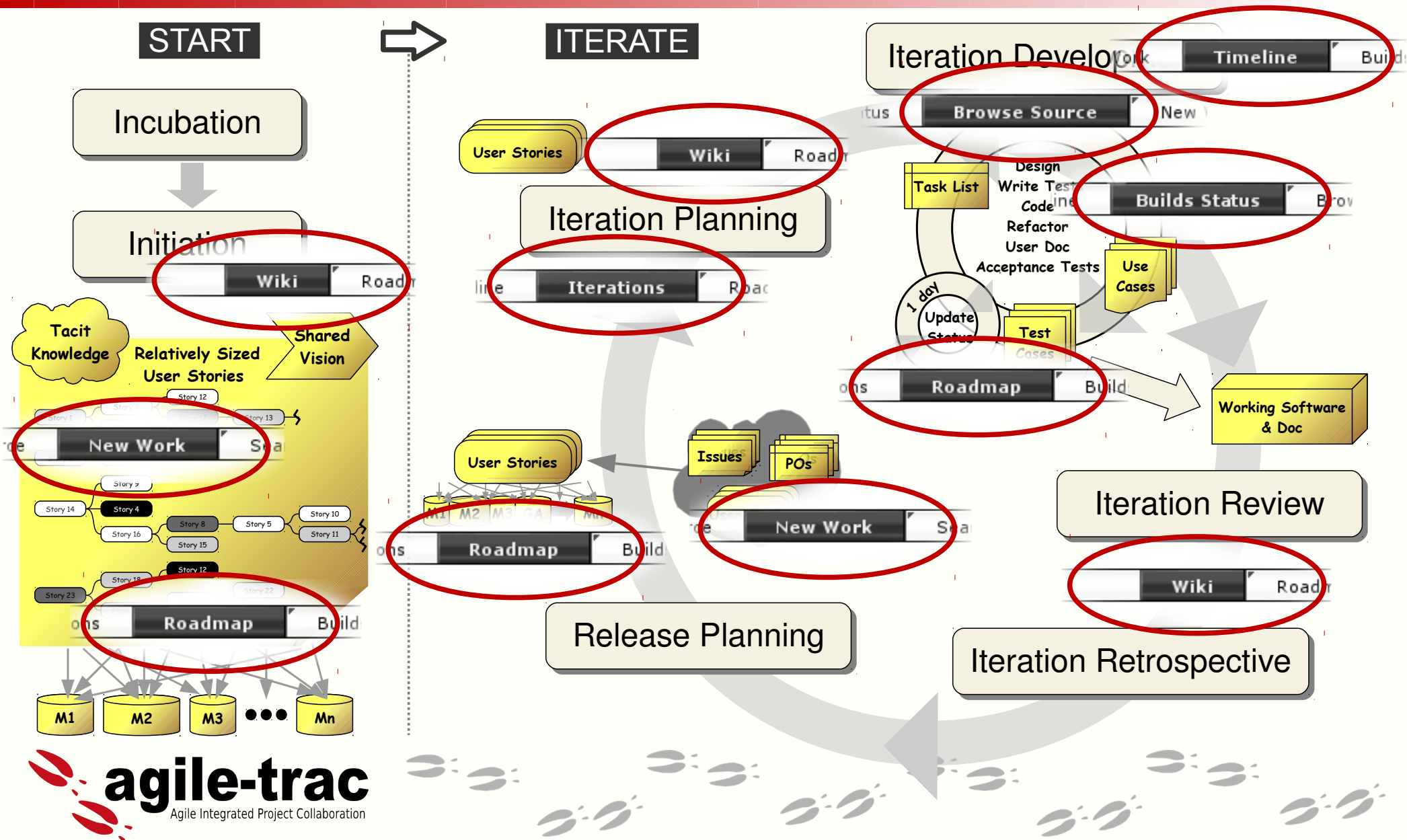
Virtual Story-Board



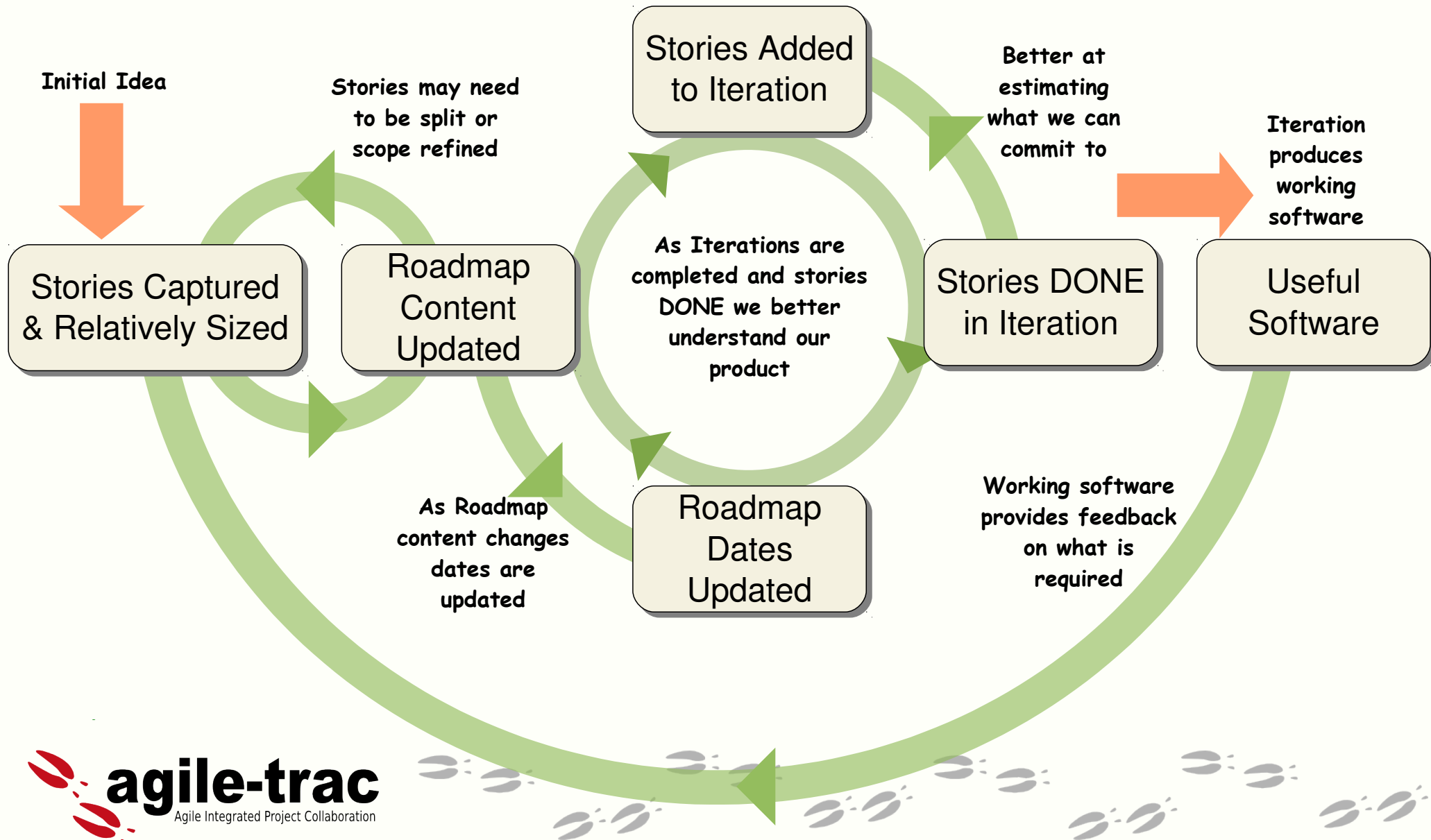
Assume An Agile Methodology



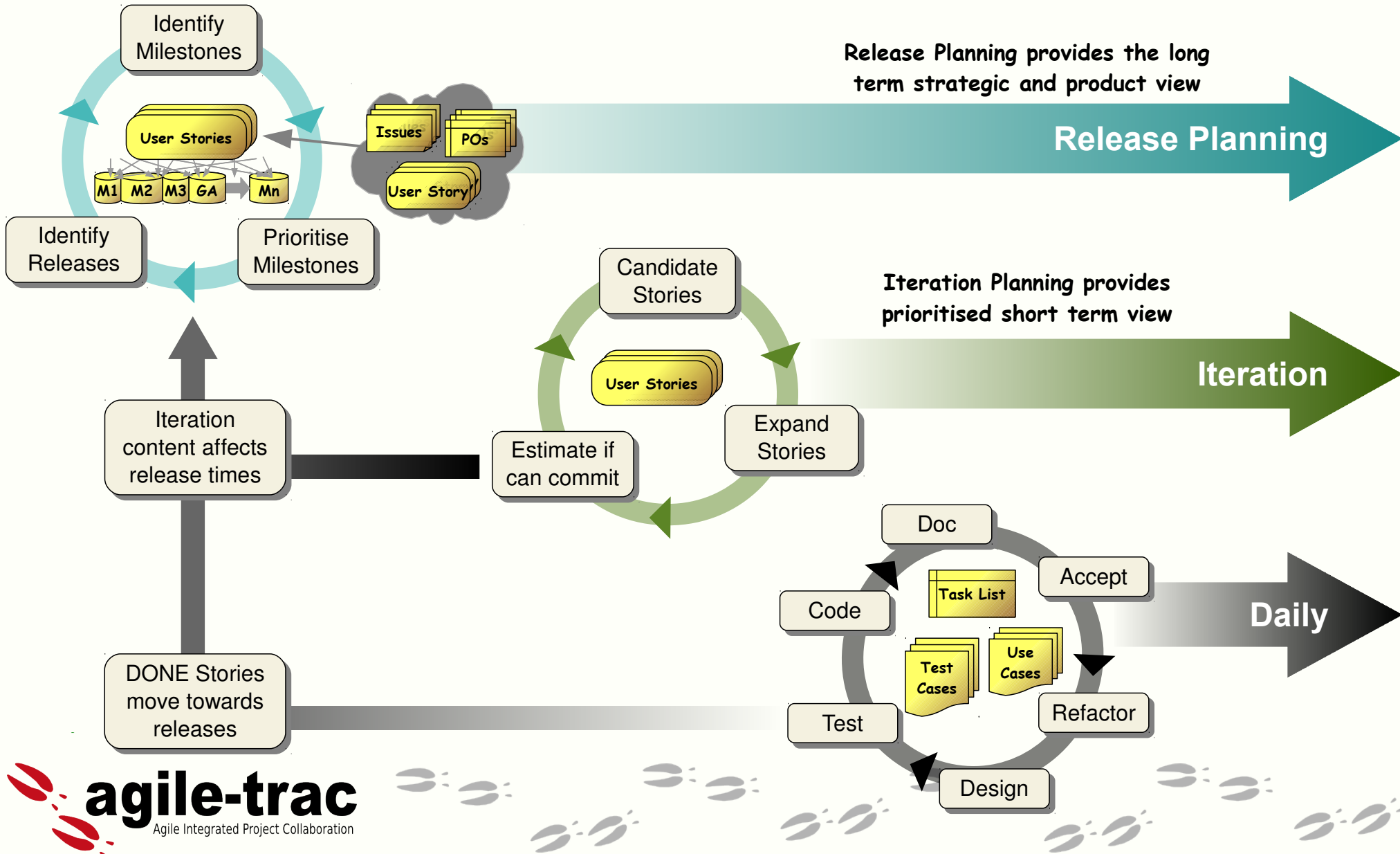
Basic Support For Distributed Agile



Supporting Feedback Loops in an Agile



Support Agile Planning



Overview

- Part 1: What is agile-trac and its fit for agile development
- Part 2: agile-trac – In a Nutshell
 - Relatively Sized User Stories
 - Time-Boxed Iterations
 - Roadmap with Prioritised Milestones
- Part 3: Principles and Recommended Practices
- Part 4: Future directions for agile-trac



agile-trac - In a Nutshell

- **agile-trac** adds Relatively Sized Completion Stages to tickets
 - Tickets are now User Stories
- **agile-trac** adds Time-Boxed Iterations
 - User Stories can be associated with iterations allowing measurement of observed progress
- **agile-trac** adds a Summary View to the Roadmap with predicted completion dates and prioritised milestones
 - DONE User Stories impact expected milestone completion dates



Part 2: agile-trac - In a Nutshell

- **agile-trac** adds Relatively Sized Completion Stages to tickets
 - Tickets are now User Stories
- **agile-trac** adds Time-Boxed Iterations
 - User Stories can be associated with iterations allowing measurement of observed progress
- **agile-trac** adds a Summary View to the Roadmap with predicted completion dates and prioritised milestones
 - DONE User Stories impact expected milestone completion dates



All Tickets are User Stories

- All stories have relatively sized completion stages
 - The sum of the relative size of the completion stages is the relative size of the story
 - Choose the number of completion stages that match your work-flow and fit with your organisation
 - Each completion stage is sized and progressed individually
- The ticket type is for classification purposes only. You may want to distinguish different types depending on how you interface with the rest of your company:
 - Requirement
 - Defect
 - Enhancement



Completion Stages

- Completion stages allow the progression of a story to be defined when different groups within the organisation are responsible for delivering them
 - Often organisations have separate Dev, TCom and QA
- The default completion stages are:
 - Test Complete
 - The software runs and tests pass
 - Documentation Complete
 - The documentation associated with the story is complete
 - Acceptance Complete
 - The implementation of the user story and the documentation are accepted as delivering the required business value



Redefine Completion Stages to suit your Organisation

- Completion stages are defined as part of the `trac.ini` configuration in the `[ticket-completion]` section
- Specify friendly short and long labels to aid understanding
- Completion stages have a defined ordering
- Removing or Changing completion stages is non-destructive
- Completion stages are lazily created for each user story
- Therefore changing stages as an evolution of your methodology is cheap

```
[ticket-completion]
test_complete =
test_complete.label = Test Complete
test_complete.order = 1
test_complete.short_label = Tested
doc_complete =
doc_complete.label = Documentation Complete
doc_complete.order = 2
doc_complete.short_label = Documented
acceptance_complete =
acceptance_complete.label = Acceptance Complete
acceptance_complete.order = 3
acceptance_complete.short_label = Acceptance
```



Relative Sizes for Completion Stages

- The default relative sizing scale should fit most needs
- **undefined, 1, 3, 5, 8, 13, 20, 40, 100**
- Modify the sizing scale through the Ticket Relative Sizes admin panel
- Only integer values are currently supported

Administration Manage Ticket Relative Sizes

General
Basic Settings
Logging
Permissions
Plugins

Builds
Configurations
Master Settings

Ticket System
Components
Custom Fields
Iterations
Milestones
Priorities
Ticket Relative Sizes
Resolutions
Severities
Ticket Types
Versions

trac.ini
attachment
bitten
browser
changeset
header_logo

Name	Default	Order
<input type="checkbox"/> undefined	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	1
<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="radio"/>	2
<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="radio"/>	3
<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="radio"/>	4
<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="radio"/>	5
<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="radio"/>	6
<input type="checkbox"/> 8	<input type="radio"/>	7
<input type="checkbox"/> 13	<input type="radio"/>	8
<input type="checkbox"/> 20	<input type="radio"/>	9
<input type="checkbox"/> 40	<input type="radio"/>	10
<input type="checkbox"/> 100	<input type="radio"/>	11

Remove selected items Apply changes

You can remove all items from this list to completely hide this field from the user interface.

Add Ticket Relative Size

Name:

Add

Creating New User Stories

- Stories are added by choosing **New Work**
- The **relative size** of each **completion stage** can be selected from a drop down list
- On creation stories will be **unsized, partially sized** or **sized**

Create New Ticket

Description

Properties

Summary:

Reporter:

Description:

Type:

Component:

Keywords:

Test Complete Size:

Documentation Complete Size:

Released In:

Milestone:

Severity:

Cc:

Assign to:

I have files to attach to this ticket

Elements of a User Story

- The Story Card summarises the state and classification of the user story
 - Shows sizes and completion dates
 - Shows which iterations a story participated in
- The Description should be treated like a rich content wiki page
 - It should be continually updated to provide the current understanding of the story
- Comments should be used only when appropriate

← Previous Ticket

user story #32 (sized) Opened 3 hours ago
Last modified 1 second ago

OBA Publisher will publish outbound XDP packets to the retrans Mart in the same order at the same time

Test Complete Size:	1	Test Complete Date:	
Documentation Complete Size:	0	Documentation Complete Date:	
Reported by:	jamiea	Owned by:	
Milestone:	OpenBookAggregated XDP Publisher	Component:	Retransmission
Severity:	not applicable	Keywords:	
Cc:		Released In:	
In Iterations:	4		

Description (last modified by jamiea) (diff)

The publisher must publish the exact same output packets to the MART in the same order as to the clients/multicast streams.

For more context refer to the [Open Book: Aggregated page](#).

Attachments

Change History

Changed 3 hours ago by jamiea

- **component** changed from *Development* to *Retransmission*

Changed 1 second ago by jamiea

- **description** modified (diff)

Completion Stages are Actions

- A story can be resized
- A story can be progressed by associating a date with a completion stage
- A fully progressed story is automatically resolved as DONE
- Only DONE stories impact the roadmap
- A story can also be resolved directly in the case of duplicate, invalid, worksforme and so on

For more context refer to the [wiki:product/openbook/aggregated/Book Aggregated page].

Type: Milestone:

Component: Severity:

Keywords:

Released In:

Cc:

Action

leave as sized


size

- Test Complete Size
- Documentation Complete Size

resolve as *The resolution will be set. Next status will be 'closed'*

reassign to *The owner will change. Next status will be "*

progress

- Test Complete Date  *Format: MM/DD/YY*

accept *The owner will change to jamiea. Next status will be "*

Completion Stages are Actions

- A story can be resized
- A story can be progressed by associating a date with a completion stage
- A fully progressed story is automatically resolved as DONE
- Only DONE stories impact the roadmap
- A story can also be resolved directly in the case of duplicate, invalid, worksforme and so on

For more context refer to the [wiki:product/openbook/aggregated/Book Aggregated page].

Type: Milestone: Severity:

Released In:

Cc:

Action

leave as sized

size

- Test Complete Size
- Documentation Comp

resolve as *ation will be set. Next status will be 'closed'*

reassign to *The owner will change. Next status will be "*

progress

- Test Complete Date

accept *The owner will change to jamiea. Next status will be "*

Completion Stages are Actions

- A story can be resized
- A story can be progressed by associating a date with a completion stage
- A fully progressed story is automatically resolved as DONE
- Only DONE stories impact the roadmap
- A story can also be resolved directly in the case of duplicate, invalid, worksforme and so on

For more context refer to the [wiki:product/openbook/aggregated/Book Aggregated page].

Type: Milestone:

Component: Severity:

Keywords:

Released In:

Cc:

Action

leave as sized

size

- Test Complete Size
- Documentation Complete Size

resolve as *The resolution will be set. Next status will be 'closed'*

reassign to *The owner will change. Next status will be "*

progress

- Test Complete Date

accept *The owner will change to jamiea.*

February 2010

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	1	2	3	4	5	6

Completion Stages are Actions

- A story can be resized
- A story can be progressed by associating a date with a completion stage
- A fully progressed story is automatically resolved as DONE
- Only DONE stories impact the roadmap
- A story can also be resolved directly in the case of duplicate, invalid, workforme and so on

← Previous Ticket

user story #26 (closed: DONE) Opened 3 weeks ago
Last modified 10 days ago

XdpPublisher? will be able to subscribe to MAMA and receive opaque messages

Test Complete Size:	5	Test Complete Date:	02/08/10
Documentation Complete Size:	0	Documentation Complete Date:	
Reported by:	jamiea	Owned by:	
Milestone:	OpenBookAggregated XDP Publisher	Component:	MAMA Subscribing
Severity:	not applicable	Keywords:	
Cc:		Released In:	
In Iterations:	2 3		

Description (last modified by jamiea) (diff)

The XDP Publisher should be able to make a MAMA subscription and receive opaque messages.

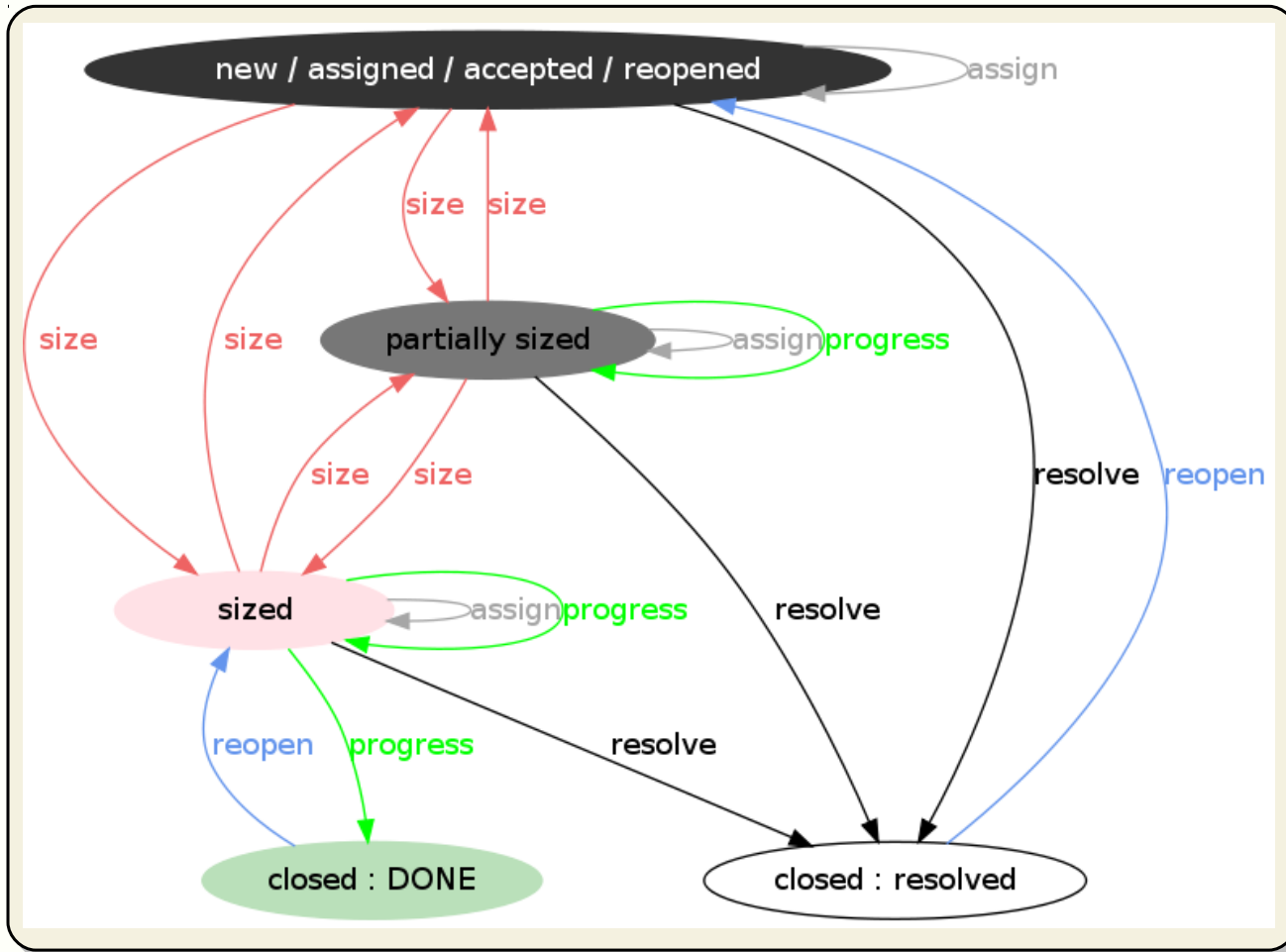
```

void MamaBasicSubscriptionCallback::onMsg
( MamaBasicSubscription* Subscription,
  MamaMsg& Msg )
{
    try
    {
        size_t Size;
        const void* Data = Msg.getOpaque( 0 , Transport->field_id(), Size );

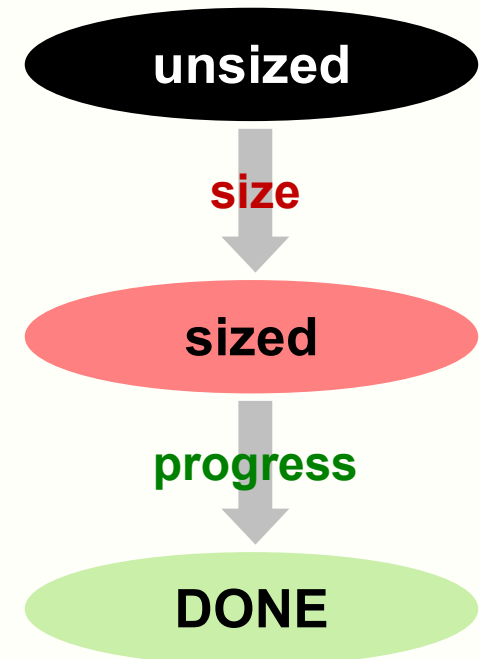
        Buses_[ Subscription->getTopic() ]->push( shared_opaque_data_t( Data, Size ) );
    }
    catch( const std::exception& e )
    {
        /// TODO: Log and Throw:
        ///     log_error << NSTD_LOG_EXCEPTION(e) << std::endl;
        ///     throw;
    }
}
        
```

Attachments

User Story Transitions



- Essentially the basic transition of a user story is



Progressing and Resolving Stories

- Typically in Trac tickets are resolved using the 'resolve as' action
 - To complete a ticket in Trac you would resolve it as 'fixed'
- In agile-trac resolving a ticket resets all completion stage sizes to 0 to indicate that the size is not tracked
- **Therefore you must remove the 'fixed' resolution**
 - In agile-trac stories that would have been 'fixed' in Trac are instead 'progress'ed until DONE
 - Reserve resolving stories only for effort tracking statuses
- **Add a 'split' resolution to support splitting user stories**



Using the Severity and Priority fields

- Severity is a useful indicator for defect stories
 - Severity provides an indication of impact to help prioritise the story in the roadmap
- Priority has little or no value as prioritisation is captured by
 - a stories presence in a given milestone
 - whether or not it will be prioritised into an iteration
- **Use of the Priority should be avoided as it sends conflicting information**
 - It is best removed as a field



Handling Bugs Raised against a Story

- Either the user story has not delivered the stated functionality
 - Re-open the user story by re-opening one or more completion stages
 - The story can then be prioritised into a future iteration
 - The Roadmap progress will be impacted appropriately
- Or the expectation of what the user story should deliver has changed
 - We have a better understanding of what is needed
 - Create a new user story capturing the new functionality
 - Prioritise into an appropriate milestone and possibly into a future iteration



agile-trac - In a Nutshell

- **agile-trac** adds Relatively Sized Completion Stages to tickets
 - Tickets are now User Stories
- **agile-trac** adds Time-Boxed Iterations
 - User Stories can be associated with iterations allowing measurement of observed progress
- **agile-trac** adds a Summary View to the Roadmap with predicted completion dates and prioritised milestones
 - DONE User Stories impact expected milestone completion dates



The Iterations Page – Window into Dev

Summary View shows current and future iterations

Default wiki pages associated with the iteration

Show already completed iterations

An indication of when the iteration will end

Older iterations can also be view giving an historical view of the project

Overview of the iteration's progress

Storyboard view of the current iteration

Story 'DONE' status. Either Done or Not Done

Id	Dates		Summary	Overview	Value Delivered		
	Start	End			Points	Number	Work
#4	02/17/10	03/02/10	Consolidate xdp publisher and prepare oba publisher for initial testing	Planning Evaluation	15	6	#30 (2) #4 (3) #11 (3) #10 (2) #12 (2) #18 (3)

#4: Consolidate xdp publisher and prepare oba publisher for initial testing

02/17/10 to 03/02/10 *Iteration in progress and ends in 11 days*

47% progress bar

DONE tickets (15 points): 6 | Sized tickets (17 points): 7 | Partially Sized tickets (0 points): 0 | Unsized tickets (0 points): 0 / Total tickets (32 points): 13

Id	Summary	Iteration	Points	Sized	Partially	Unsize	Completed	SIZE	DONE
							done		
#30	XdpDev? should be able to use a common sconsbased build system	4	2	0	0	0	0	2	Done
#21	XDP Publisher will reframe received XDP packets for publishing and inject a sequence number	4	3	0	0	0	0	3	Not Done
#21	Oba XDP Publisher will be able to make MAMA subscriptions and receive opaque data	2 3 4	3	0	0	0	0	3	Not Done
#4	XdpDev? should be able to use the sconsb build system with the CodeBlocks IDE	1 2 3 4	3	0	0	0	0	3	Done

Iterations in agile-trac

- Iterations are time-boxes of a fixed length
 - Allows planning, estimation and frequent feedback
 - Creates a rhythm
- In agile-trac a meaningful iteration will have a
 - Start and End Date
 - Summary
 - Stories
 - Optional Description
 - Optional Overview Wiki Pages
- The Start and End date must be specified to create an iteration
- Dates are inclusive
- All fields can be changed later



Creating an Iteration

- Create a new iteration from the Iterations page

accordingly

Start-up and Recovery SM

#34	OBA XDP Aggregated will execute a predictable state machine at start-up and recovery	4	3	<input type="checkbox"/>	0	<input type="checkbox"/>	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
-----	--	---	---	--------------------------	---	--------------------------	---	--------------------------

XDP Publisher

#18	OpenBookAggregatedDev? will have an initial XDP Publisher based on PapaLite?	4	3	<input type="checkbox"/>	0	<input type="checkbox"/>	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
#29	XdpPublisher? will be able to broadcast XDP packets over mulitcast	4	2	<input type="checkbox"/>	0	<input type="checkbox"/>	2	<input type="checkbox"/>

Retransmission

#32	OBA Publisher will publish outbound XDP packets to the retrans Mart in the same order at the same time	4	1	<input type="checkbox"/>	0	<input type="checkbox"/>	1	<input type="checkbox"/>
-----	--	---	---	--------------------------	---	--------------------------	---	--------------------------

Add new iteration

- Or create a new iteration from the Iterations admin panel

Administration

Manage Iterations

	Id	Summary	Start Date	End Date	Tickets
<input type="checkbox"/>	#1	Initial Creation of PapaLite WepPublisher	01/06/10	01/19/10	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
<input type="checkbox"/>	#2	Preliminary XDP Publisher and MAMA interfaces	01/20/10	02/02/10	4 5 6 7 13 20 21 22 25 26 27 28
<input type="checkbox"/>	#3	MAMA interfaces and the XDP format	02/03/10	02/16/10	4 10 11 12 21 25 26 27 28
<input type="checkbox"/>	#4	Consolidate xdp publisher and prepare oba publisher for initial testing	02/17/10	03/02/10	4 10 11 12 15 18 21 29 30 31 32 33 34

Add Iteration:

Start Date: Format: MM/DD/YY

End Date: Format: MM/DD/YY


Add


Remove selected items

Adding a New Iteration







New Iteration

Overview

Start Date:  Format: MM/DD/YY

End Date:  Format: MM/DD/YY

Summary (you may use [WikiFormatting](#) here):

B ***I*** **A**      

Select Work Items







List the tickets, by id, associated with this iteration, separated by a space:
 For example: 56 3 4 12

Currently **0** items selected with a total relative size of **0** points

Value

Id	Summary	Iterations	Tested		Documented		SIZE	DONE
			size	done	size	done		

Description (you may use [WikiFormatting](#) here):

B ***I*** **A**      

Adding a New Iteration


New Iteration

Overview

Start Date:

End Date:

Summary (you may use [WikiFormatting](#) here):

B *I* **A** 

<<< February 2010 >>>

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	1	2	3	4	5	6

Select Work Items







List the tickets, by id, associated with this iteration, separated by a space: For example: 56 3 4 12

Currently **0** items selected with a total relative size of **0** points

Value

Id	Summary	Iterations	Tested		Documented		SIZE	DONE
			size	done	size	done		


Description (you may use [WikiFormatting](#) here):

B *I* **A**      

Adding a New Iteration


New Iteration

Overview

Start Date:  Format: MM/DD/YY

End Date:

Summary (you may use [WikiFormatting](#) here):

B I A 

<<< February 2010 >>>

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	1	2	3	4	5	6

Select Work Items


List the tickets, by id, associated with this iteration, separated by a space:
 For example: 56 3 4 12

Currently **0** items selected with a total relative size of **0** points

Value

Id	Summary	Iterations	Tested		Documented		SIZE	DONE
			size	done	size	done		

Description (you may use [WikiFormatting](#) here):

B I A 

Adding a New Iteration

New Iteration

Overview

Start Date: Format: MM/DD/YY

End Date:

Summary (you can use **B** **I** **A** here)

February 2010

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	1	2	3	4	5	6

Select Work Items

List the tickets, by id, associated with this iteration, separated by a space:

Currently **0** items selected with a total relative size of **0** points

Value

Id	Summary	Iterations	Tested		Documented		SIZE	DONE
			size	done	size	done		

Description (you may use [WikiFormatting](#) here):

B **I** **A**

Start Date is shown as green and the End Date as red



Iterations consist of Phases

- An iteration has three basic phases
 - Planning
 - Development
 - Evaluation
- The Retrospective is an important part of the evaluation phase and can be considered separately
- It is useful to use wiki pages to
 - capture decisions and events for each phase
 - provide a focal point during meetings
- The iteration overview feature allows automatic association of wiki pages to an iteration



Iteration Overview Pages

- An iteration overview template can be specified
 - This adds an Overview column to the iteration summary table
 - Also adds the template to the iteration view
 - Main purpose is to associate wiki pages automatically with an iteration
 - Provides a unified entry point to iteration specific information and allows customisation of the iteration summary table
- The `iteration_overview_template` is defined as part of the `trac.ini` configuration in the `[agile-trac]` section
- The variable `$iteration.id` will be replaced by the id of the associated iteration
- For example, this entry adds links for planning and evaluation pages to every iteration:

```
[agile-trac]
iteration_overview_template = [wiki:iteration/$iteration.id/planning Planning] [wiki:iteration/$iteration.id/evaluation Evaluation]
```



Iteration Overview Information Example

Wiki
Timeline
Iterations
Roadmap
Builds St
Tree
View Work
New Work
Search
Admin

Iterations

Iteration Summary

Id	Dates		Summary	Overview	Value Delivered		
	Start	End			Points	Number	Work
#4	02/17/10	03/02/10	Consolidate xdp publisher and prepare oba publisher for initial testing	Planning Evaluation	15	6	#30 (2) #4 (3) #11 (3) #10 (2) #12 (2) #18 (3)

#4: Consolidate xdp publisher and prepare oba publisher for initial testing

02/17/10 to 03/02/10 *Iteration in progress and ends in 11 days*

Planning Evaluation

47%

DONE tickets (15 points): 6
 Sized tickets (17 points): 7
 Partially Sized tickets (0 points): 0
 Unsized tickets (0 points): 0 / Total tickets (32 points): 13

Show already completed iterations

Value

Id	Summary	Iterations	Tested		Documented		SIZE	DONE
			size	done	size	done		
Development								
#30	XdpDev? should be able to use a common sconsbased build system	4	2	<div style="width: 50%; height: 10px; background-color: #6aa84f;"></div>	0	<input type="checkbox"/>	2	<div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background-color: #6aa84f;"></div>
Packet Framing								
#31	OBA XDP Publisher will reframe received XDP packets for publishing and inject a sequence number	4	3	<div style="width: 75%; height: 10px; background-color: #e67e22;"></div>	0	<input type="checkbox"/>	3	<div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background-color: #e67e22;"></div>
MAMA Subscribing								
#21	OBA XDP Publisher will be able to make MAMA subscriptions and receive opaque data	2 3 4	3	<div style="width: 75%; height: 10px; background-color: #e67e22;"></div>	0	<input type="checkbox"/>	3	<div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background-color: #e67e22;"></div>
Scons Build Environment								
#4	XdpDev? should be able to use use the sconsb build system with the CodeBlocks IDE	1 2 3 4	3	<div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background-color: #6aa84f;"></div>	0	<input type="checkbox"/>	3	<div style="width: 100%; height: 10px; background-color: #6aa84f;"></div>
XDP Core								

Default wiki pages associated with the iteration

Fleshing out an Iteration during Planning

- Add all appropriate user stories to the iteration
 - Submitting your changes will display the user stories in a story board view
- Provide a meaningful **summary** of the iteration
 - This will appear in the iteration summary table
 - Acts as reminder for stakeholders of the iteration goal
 - You can use wiki formatting to link in topics or simply provide a more expressive summary
- Add a **description** allowing rich wiki content
- Make use of the iteration overview pages, capturing notes and comments on an iteration planning wiki page



During the Iteration

- Create any iteration evaluation pages during the planning phase so they can be updated while the iteration progresses
- The Iterations tab provides an up-to-date view of progress
- The Timeline, Browse Source and Builds Status views provide a heartbeat of progress
 - facilitates easy sharing of progress between team members
- As stories are updated and progressed to completion the Roadmap updates to reflect current status



Iteration Evaluation and Retrospectives

- Capture the results of iteration evaluations and retrospectives either in the iteration description or on an overview page
 - Provides a focal point for meetings
 - Provides useful input into release retrospectives
 - Ensures a common understanding throughout team members and other stakeholders
 - Conclusions will not be forgotten
- Sometimes iterations do not run according to plan
 - It is useful to be able to refer back to the reasons why



Iterations Provide a Project History

- The Iteration view is an historical snap-shot
- Story completion status is shown as it was at the end of the iteration period, not how it is now
- Information contained in the planning and evaluation pages gives context to the raw figures
- For example, a serious production outage may have all but halted development work in a given iteration

#17	03/17/09	04/06/09	First steps to an initial phase 2 build; Create 1.0.6h patch	Planning Evaluation	53	15	#388 (3) #389 (1) #386 (1) #387 (3) #385 (1) #396 (2) #114 (5) #399 (8) #410 (1) #113 (5) #397 (2) #398 (3) #368 (2) #395 (8) #403 (8)
#18	04/07/09	04/27/09	Phase 2 Guaranteed Delivery	Planning Evaluation	7	2	#115 (5) #425 (2)
#19	04/28/09	05/18/09	Phase 2 Continued work for Guaranteed delivery	Planning Evaluation	35	4	#391 (13) #390 (13) #132 (1) #392 (8)
#20	05/19/09	06/08/09	Phase 2 Processing of Trading Status Messages	Planning Evaluation	5	1	#416 (5)
#21	06/09/09	06/29/09	Phase 2 Process Trade Messages to the IBUS and CTS	Planning Evaluation	156	47	#451 (2) #148 (1) #457 (1) #436 (2) #434 (1) #120 (5) #122 (3) #123 (5) #124 (1) #125 (5) #126 (3) #127 (5) #119 (13) #448 (1) #447 (1) #446 (1) #456 (1) #376 (2) #452 (1) #421 (3) #420 (3) #117 (8) #422 (3) #423 (3) #355 (1) #449 (3) #441 (1) #411 (5) #412 (8) #413 (13) #426 (1) #442 (1) #438 (2) #430 (1) #431 (1) #443 (1) #137 (1) #455 (1) #445 (2) #100 (3) #414 (3) #142 (2) #146 (8) #147 (8) #151 (3) #152 (8) #153 (5)
#22	06/30/09	07/20/09	Phase 2 Fault Tolerance and Reject message processing	Planning Evaluation	31	21	#462 (2) #457 (1) #454 (2) #466 (1) #461 (1) #460 (1) #473 (1) #474 (1) #475 (1) #481 (1) #458 (6) #157 (1) #452 (1) #453 (3) #435 (1) #465 (1) #463 (1) #464 (1) #483 (1) #477 (1) #377 (2)
#23	07/21/09	08/10/09	Phase 2 Fault Tolerance,	Planning	75	39	#521 (1) #522 (1) #523 (1) #506

agile-trac - In a Nutshell

- **agile-trac** adds Relatively Sized Completion Stages to tickets
 - Tickets are now User Stories
- **agile-trac** adds Time-Boxed Iterations
 - User Stories can be associated with iterations allowing measurement of observed progress
- **agile-trac** adds a Summary View to the Roadmap with predicted completion dates and prioritised milestones
 - DONE User Stories impact expected milestone completion dates



The Release Plan is the Roadmap

An Up-to-Date View of Progress

Roadmap

Milestone Summary

Milestone	Stories	Points	To Do	Due Date	Expected Date	Progress	Overview
Phase 3 – Functional Enhancements and support for DBK "No Tape Print"	9	11	0	No date set	Completed 01/21/20	100%	
Phase 3 – Post NASDAQ roll-out fixes	12	15	5	No date set	Wed 24 Feb 10 → Thu 25 Feb 10	67%	
Phase 4 – Migration to 64-bit Redhat 5.3	2	18	13	No date set	Thu 04 Mar 10 → Mon 08 Mar 10	28%	
Phase 4 – Improved Monitoring and Performance Tuning	27	109	105	No date set	Thu 13 May 10 → Mon 21 Jun 10	4%	
Phase 4 – Operational enhancements	8	40	40	No date set	Mon 21 Jun 10 → Thu 01 Jul 10	0%	
Phase 4 – Performance Scaling	4	12	12	No date set	Thu 01 Jul 10 → Mon 05 Jul 10	0%	
Phase 1 – 01.00.06.1.T Release	3	5	2	No date set	Mon 05 Jul 10 → Mon 05 Jul 10	60%	
Phase X – SDOOT (SOBK) Messages	3	9	9	No date set	Thu 08 Jul 10 → Mon 12 Jul 10	0%	
Undecided	8	40	40	No date set	Thu 05 Aug 10 → Mon 16 Aug 10	0%	

Based on 21 points per iteration with an average iteration length of approximately 16 days

Milestone: Phase 3 - Functional Enhancements and support for DBK "No Tape Print"
Completed 01/21/20
No date set

100%
 DONE tickets (11 points): 9 | Sized tickets (0 points): 0 | Partially Sized tickets (0 points): 0 | Unsized tickets (0 points): 0 / Total tickets (11 points): 9

Milestone: Phase 3 - Post NASDAQ roll-out fixes
Expected: Wed 24 Feb 10 – Thu 25 Feb 10
No date set

67%
 DONE tickets (10 points): 10 | Sized tickets (5 points): 2 | Partially Sized tickets (0 points): 0 | Unsized tickets (0 points): 0 / Total tickets (15 points): 12

Milestone: Phase 3 - Migration to 64-bit Redhat 5.3
Expected: Thu 04 Mar 10 – Mon 08 Mar 10
No date set

28%
 DONE tickets (5 points): 1 | Sized tickets (13 points): 1 | Partially Sized tickets (0 points): 0 | Unsized tickets (0 points): 0 / Total tickets (18 points): 2

Milestone: Phase 4 - Improved Monitoring and Performance Tuning
Expected: Thu 13 May 10 – Mon 21 Jun 10
No date set

4%
 DONE tickets (4 points): 3 | Sized tickets (105 points): 24 | Partially Sized tickets (0 points): 0 | Unsized tickets (0 points): 0 / Total tickets (109 points): 27

Milestone: Phase 4 - Migration to 64-bit Redhat 5.3
Expected: Thu 04 Mar 10 – Mon 08 Mar 10
No date set

20%
 DONE tickets (5 points): 1 | Sized tickets (13 points): 1 | Partially Sized tickets (0 points): 0 | Unsized tickets (0 points): 0 / Total tickets (18 points): 2

Milestone: Phase 4 - Improved Monitoring and Performance Tuning
Expected: Thu 13 May 10 – Mon 21 Jun 10
No date set

4%
 DONE tickets (4 points): 3 | Sized tickets (105 points): 24 | Partially Sized tickets (0 points): 0 | Unsized tickets (0 points): 0 / Total tickets (109 points): 27

Milestone: Phase 4 - Migration to 64-bit Redhat 5.3
Expected: Thu 04 Mar 10 – Mon 08 Mar 10
No date set

20%
 DONE tickets (5 points): 1 | Sized tickets (13 points): 1 | Partially Sized tickets (0 points): 0 | Unsized tickets (0 points): 0 / Total tickets (18 points): 2

Milestone: Phase 4 - Improved Monitoring and Performance Tuning
Expected: Thu 13 May 10 – Mon 21 Jun 10
No date set

4%
 DONE tickets (4 points): 3 | Sized tickets (105 points): 24 | Partially Sized tickets (0 points): 0 | Unsized tickets (0 points): 0 / Total tickets (109 points): 27

The Milestone Summary View shows all open Milestones

Each Milestone is displayed as a Story Board View showing which Stories are Done or Not Done.

Refreshes

#721	ISS66903 MDD publishes client requested refreshes for symbols under exchange other than the designated ticker / exchange for that process	31	1	0	0	1	0
#722	ISS66932 MDD escmd 'stats' command shows queue on IntrlQ2Bus connection after process fail and recovery	31	32	1	0	0	1
#739	ISS69169 Configuration change to wcpfn_common.xml to work with new MDD Lite monitoring tool	32	1	0	0	0	1
#724	ISS66994 MDD trading status messages, with "Due to Related" reason code, are being rejected with error code 71 (Incorrect Halt Condition).	31	1	0	0	0	1
#742	ISS66964 MDD stops sending out regular (RL) trades to CTS, once an OL trade (with "noTradePrint" tag set) is processed (for Trading in Shares)	32	1	0	0	0	1
#743	ISS69594 MDD is not publishing refreshes (trade/quote/trading status) after receiving SDB updates	32	1	0	0	0	1
#745	ISS68866 Config change to disable the "Stale Trade" functionality in Phase 3	33	1	0	0	0	1
#740	ISS69247 MDD is truncating (in log) reject messages from SIP/NMS (these msgs are used for troubleshooting prod/QA issues)	32	1	0	0	0	1
#741	ISS66963 After a failure/recovery, reject messages to iBus, for suffixed symbols, contain NMS symbology (IBMG), instead of Host (IBM PRA)	32	1	0	0	0	1
#744	ISS69696 Update MDD recovery logic that triggers lastQuote and staleTrade (e.g., in 2.0.2.4, a current quote is required after recovery to send out "lastQuotes")	32	2	0	0	0	2
#718	ISS68684 MDD is missing Trades after NASDAQ process fails/recovery during data replay	31	32	3	0	0	3
#723	ISS68964 Change "stock [COF WS] is not in symbol range" messages from "Error" to "INFO" or "Warning", since it's expected and not an error.	31	1	0	0	0	1

Milestone: Phase 4 - Migration to 64-bit Redhat 5.3
Expected: Thu 04 Mar 10 – Mon 08 Mar 10
No date set

20%
 DONE tickets (5 points): 1 | Sized tickets (13 points): 1 | Partially Sized tickets (0 points): 0 | Unsized tickets (0 points): 0 / Total tickets (18 points): 2

Milestone: Phase 4 - Improved Monitoring and Performance Tuning
Expected: Thu 13 May 10 – Mon 21 Jun 10
No date set

4%
 DONE tickets (4 points): 3 | Sized tickets (105 points): 24 | Partially Sized tickets (0 points): 0 | Unsized tickets (0 points): 0 / Total tickets (109 points): 27

Milestone: Phase 4 - Migration to 64-bit Redhat 5.3
Expected: Thu 04 Mar 10 – Mon 08 Mar 10
No date set

20%
 DONE tickets (5 points): 1 | Sized tickets (13 points): 1 | Partially Sized tickets (0 points): 0 | Unsized tickets (0 points): 0 / Total tickets (18 points): 2

Milestone: Phase 4 - Improved Monitoring and Performance Tuning
Expected: Thu 13 May 10 – Mon 21 Jun 10
No date set

4%
 DONE tickets (4 points): 3 | Sized tickets (105 points): 24 | Partially Sized tickets (0 points): 0 | Unsized tickets (0 points): 0 / Total tickets (109 points): 27

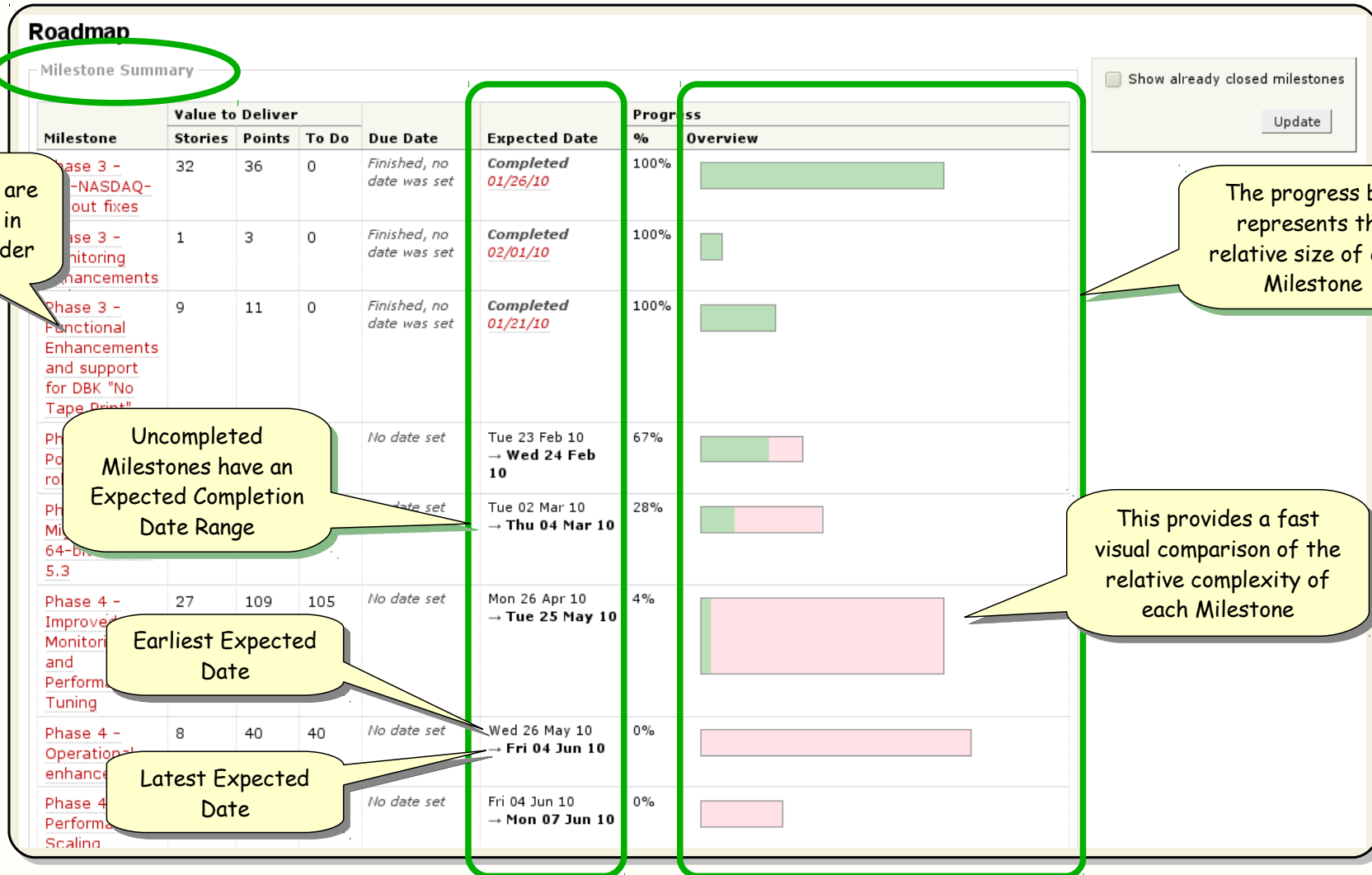
Milestone: Phase 4 - Migration to 64-bit Redhat 5.3
Expected: Thu 04 Mar 10 – Mon 08 Mar 10
No date set

20%
 DONE tickets (5 points): 1 | Sized tickets (13 points): 1 | Partially Sized tickets (0 points): 0 | Unsized tickets (0 points): 0 / Total tickets (18 points): 2

Milestone: Phase 4 - Improved Monitoring and Performance Tuning
Expected: Thu 13 May 10 – Mon 21 Jun 10
No date set

4%
 DONE tickets (4 points): 3 | Sized tickets (105 points): 24 | Partially Sized tickets (0 points): 0 | Unsized tickets (0 points): 0 / Total tickets (109 points): 27

The Milestone Summary Progress at a Glance



Milestones are arranged in priority order

Uncompleted Milestones have an Expected Completion Date Range

Earliest Expected Date

Latest Expected Date

The progress bar represents the relative size of each Milestone

This provides a fast visual comparison of the relative complexity of each Milestone



Interpreting Milestone Summary View

- The summary view answers the important questions of
 - Where are we now?
 - When are we likely to be finished?
- If a desired due date exists for a milestone then stakeholders can immediately determine if it is likely to be complete within that time-frame
- Completed Milestones are only hidden when they are closed
 - Allows positive progress to be seen



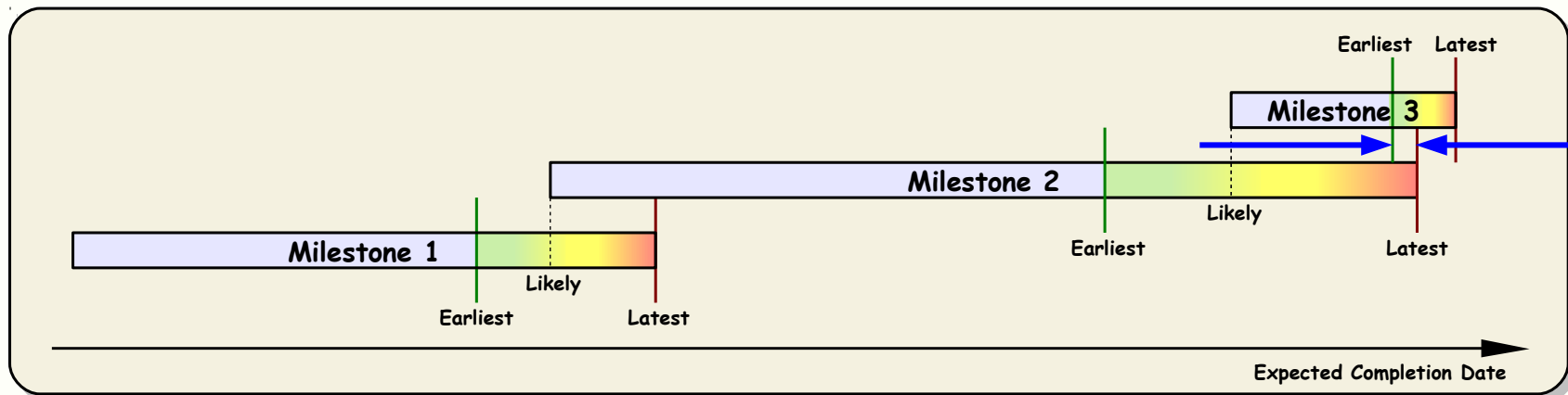
Completion Date Ranges

- Completion Date Ranges are calculated based on story point completion rates in the current and earlier iterations
 - A moving window of 5 iterations is currently considered
 - The actual figures being used are displayed at the bottom of the milestone summary view
- The larger the milestone the greater the expected completion range
 - The relationship to size is non-linear
 - Encourages smaller, more focused milestones



Completion Date Ranges can overlap

- Expected completion ranges are referenced against the most likely completion date of the previous milestone
 - Not the latest date, or the earliest date, but the most likely
 - Hence there will sometimes be an overlap in date ranges if, for example, a small milestone follows a large milestone
- In the example below the Earliest expected completion date of Milestone 3 is earlier than the Latest expected for Milestone 2



Ignoring Data from Old Iterations

- If there are sudden changes in team composition that will have a large effect on the completion rate it is possible to ignore the data from iterations older than some date
 - This essentially resets the completion rate to start from that date
 - Helps provide faster feedback to stakeholders over the impact that the new team is having
- The `ignore_iterations_ending_before` entry is defined as part of the `trac.ini` configuration in the `[agile-trac]` section. The date format should match that used for entering iteration start and end dates
- For example

```
[agile-trac]
ignore_iterations_ending_before = 20/03/09
```

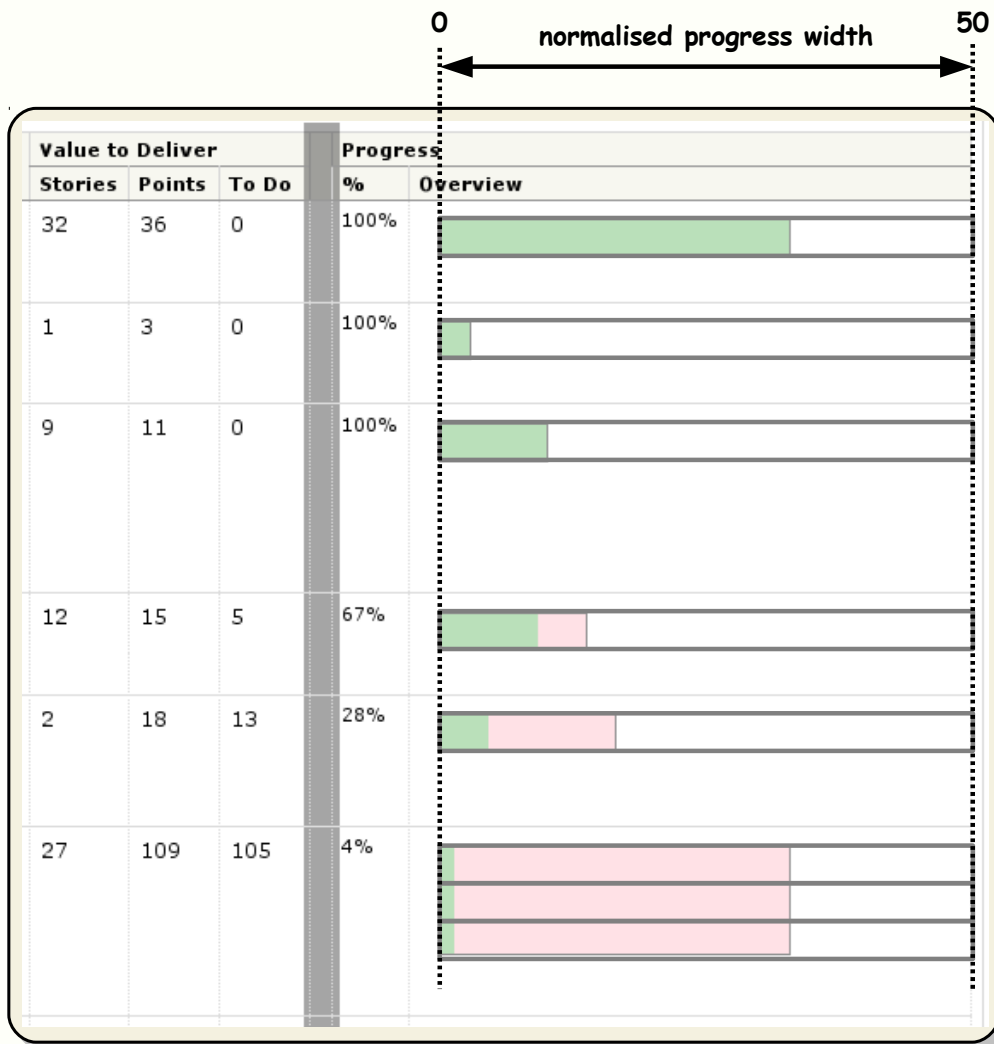


Interpreting Relative Milestone Sizes

- The milestone sizes are the sum of all the story sizes in the milestone
- If a story is unsized or partially sized the average size of each completion stage in the current milestone is used as a guesstimate for each unsized stage
 - If there are no equivalent sized completion stages in the current milestone the average completion stage size across all milestones
 - This guesstimate allows visualisation of stories of unknown size
- Guesstimates of partially sized stories are shown in grey
- Guesstimates for unsized stories are shown in black



The Normalised Progress Width



- The progress bar in the milestone summary view represents a configurable fixed number of story points
- Extra rows are added so the total area is large enough to contain the size of the milestone
- `normalised_progress_width` is defined as part of the `trac.ini` configuration in the `[agile-trac]` section

```
[agile-trac]
normalised_progress_width = 100
```

Milestones Have Relative Priority


- You may specify the relative priority of a milestone in terms of where the milestone will be inserted into the roadmap relative to other milestones
 - Insert with the same priority of an existing milestone
 - Insert before an existing milestone
 - Insert after an existing milestone

Edit Milestone Better User Story Support

Name of the milestone:

Schedule


Priority: milestone

Due:
  Format: MM/DD/YY

Completed:
 Format: MM/DD/YY hh:mm:ss

Retarget associated open tickets to milestone:

Description (you may use [WikiFormatting](#) here):

B *I* **A**     

Milestones Have Relative Priority

- You may specify the relative priority of a milestone in terms of where the milestone will be inserted into the roadmap relative to other milestones
 - Insert with the same priority of an existing milestone
 - Insert before an existing milestone
 - Insert after an existing milestone

Edit Milestone Better User Story Support

Name of the milestone:
Better User Story Support

Schedule





Priority: is the same as milestone Better User Story Support

Due: insert before
is the same as
insert after

Completed: 02/21/10 Format: MM/DD/YY hh:mm:ss

Retarget associated open tickets to milestone: None

Description (you may use [WikiFormatting](#) here):

B I A      



Milestones Have Relative Priority


- You may specify the relative priority of a milestone in terms of where the milestone will be inserted into the roadmap relative to other milestones
 - Insert with the same priority of an existing milestone
 - Insert before an existing milestone
 - Insert after an existing milestone

Edit Milestone Better User Story Support

Name of the milestone:

Schedule


Priority: milestone

Due:
  Format: MM/DD/YY

Completed:
 Format: MM/DD/YY hh:mm:ss

Retarget associated open tickets to milestone:

Description (you may use [WikiFormatting](#) here):

B *I* **A**      



Milestones Have Relative Priority

- You may specify the relative priority of a milestone in terms of where the milestone will be inserted into the roadmap relative to other milestones
 - Insert with the same priority of an existing milestone
 - Insert before an existing milestone
 - Insert after an existing milestone

Edit Milestone Better User Story Support

Name of the milestone:

Schedule

Priority: milestone

Due:
Format: MM/DD/YY

Completed:
Format: MM/DD/YY

Retarget associated open tickets to milestone:

Description (you may use [WikiFormatting](#) here):

B *I* **A**



Milestones Have Relative Priority


- You may specify the relative priority of a milestone in terms of where the milestone will be inserted into the roadmap relative to other milestones
 - Insert with the same priority of an existing milestone
 - Insert before an existing milestone
 - Insert after an existing milestone

Edit Milestone Better User Story Support

Name of the milestone:

Schedule




Priority: milestone

Due:
  Format: MM/DD/YY

Completed:
 Format: MM/DD/YY hh:mm:ss

Retarget associated open tickets to milestone:

Description (you may use [WikiFormatting](#) here):

B *I* **A**     

Overview

- Part 1: What is agile-trac and its fit for agile development
- Part 2: agile-trac – In a Nutshell
 - Relatively Sized User Stories
 - Time-Boxed Iterations
 - Roadmap with Prioritised Milestones
- **Part 3: Principles and Recommended Practices**
- Part 4: Future directions for agile-trac



Part 3: Principles and Recommended Practices

- The Project overall – helping stakeholders see the big picture
- Project History and Direction – helping stakeholders understand the timeline of the project
- Managing User Stories in an Iteration
- Iteration Duration
- Splitting User Stories
- Providing insight into the team itself
 - How the project is run
 - Who the team is



Part 3: Principles and Recommended Practices

- The Project overall – helping stakeholders see the big picture
- Project History and Direction – helping stakeholders understand the timeline of the project
- Managing User Stories in an Iteration
- Iteration Duration
- Splitting User Stories
- Providing insight into the team itself
 - How the project is run
 - Who the team is



Create and Evolve a Project Identity

- A Shared Vision is not the same thing as a Project Vision
- A shared vision becomes more concrete as the project progresses and stakeholders understand better the product being developed – it is a Shared Understanding
 - A project vision can be a great way to anchor the shared vision, but it must evolve
 - At the beginning it is unlikely that we know exactly what we need
 - A project vision therefore becomes vague
- Try to define the project as the sum of its stories and the dependencies between them



What the project is: Milestones and Releases

- Do not overload on the terms 'release' and 'milestone'
 - Reserve the word release for an actual versioned release
- Favour using names rather than release numbers
 - Instead reference related releases in the milestone description
- Have an 'Undecided' milestone so that stories don't get lost
- Don't allow any partially sized or unsized stories in the current or next milestone
- Consider limiting the size of stories in the current milestone to a sensible value, like 13



What the Project Does: Using Components

- When faced with a big flat list of User Stories and milestones it is often unclear to stakeholders what the project does
 - They lack the big picture
 - There are two basic views
 - The split story tree view
 - The story dependency view
- Components help capture the split user story view
 - As you split stories also make an effort to refine the components
 - By default stories are grouped by component so well thought out groupings can greatly improve the 'big picture' view



Part 3: Principles and Recommended Practices

- The Project overall – helping stakeholders see the big picture
- Project History and Direction – helping stakeholders understand the timeline of the project
- Managing User Stories in an Iteration
- Iteration Duration
- Splitting User Stories
- Providing insight into the team itself
 - How the project is run
 - Who the team is



Capture Project History and Direction

- Make effective use of the wiki and adopt a hierarchical structure to allow easy classification and browsing
- Track releases and versions on the wiki
- Cross-reference releases with Milestones and Iterations
- Keep release notes on the wiki if not generated from source
- Track major production issues
- Use canned 'TicketQuery's to provide dynamic views
- Maintain a project timeline with all this information



Part 3: Principles and Recommended Practices

- The Project overall – helping stakeholders see the big picture
- Project History and Direction – helping stakeholders understand the timeline of the project
- **Managing User Stories in an Iteration**
- Iteration Duration
- Splitting User Stories
- Providing insight into the team itself
 - How the project is run
 - Who the team is



Adding User Stories to Iterations

- Have a maximum size of story that can be added to an iteration
 - The recommended size is one that allows one team member to complete it
 - Split stories which are too big to fit into an iteration
- When a story is added to an iteration consider expanding the description to include a completion statement
 - A completion statement is a clarification of what it means for the story to be DONE
 - Useful ensuring all team members are clear on the story's meaning and a valuable reference for acceptance testing



Ownership of User Stories in an Iteration

- Think carefully before assigning stories to individuals as you would in a traditional development methodology
- Consider first how stories are prioritised in agile development
 - Stories are reviewed with the business and added to the appropriate milestone during release planning
 - The next most important stories are assigned to an iteration if work is to be carried out on them
 - Occasionally critical stories might be inserted into the current iteration but that is to be avoided
 - Remember pair working is to be encouraged and assigning stories to individuals breaks that model
- This is agile – think of workflow in a different way. The emphasis is on the team and how the team does, not on tracking the progress of each individual



Assigning User Stories In General

- It can still be useful to use 'ownership' of a story in an iteration to indicate that work has started
 - Only allow assignment of user stories in an iteration when work has started on the story
- Instead of 'assigning to me' or limiting assignment to a single specific username, use free form user lists like 'richards and linust'
 - This approach supports paired working which is to be encouraged
 - This also supports broader team effort on a story where several people may have been involved
- Be consistent with people's names
 - This allows ticket queries to be composed that will match against required permutations
- Being consistent in the use of ownership of stories can be a valuable aid in recalling who has greater understanding of a particular item

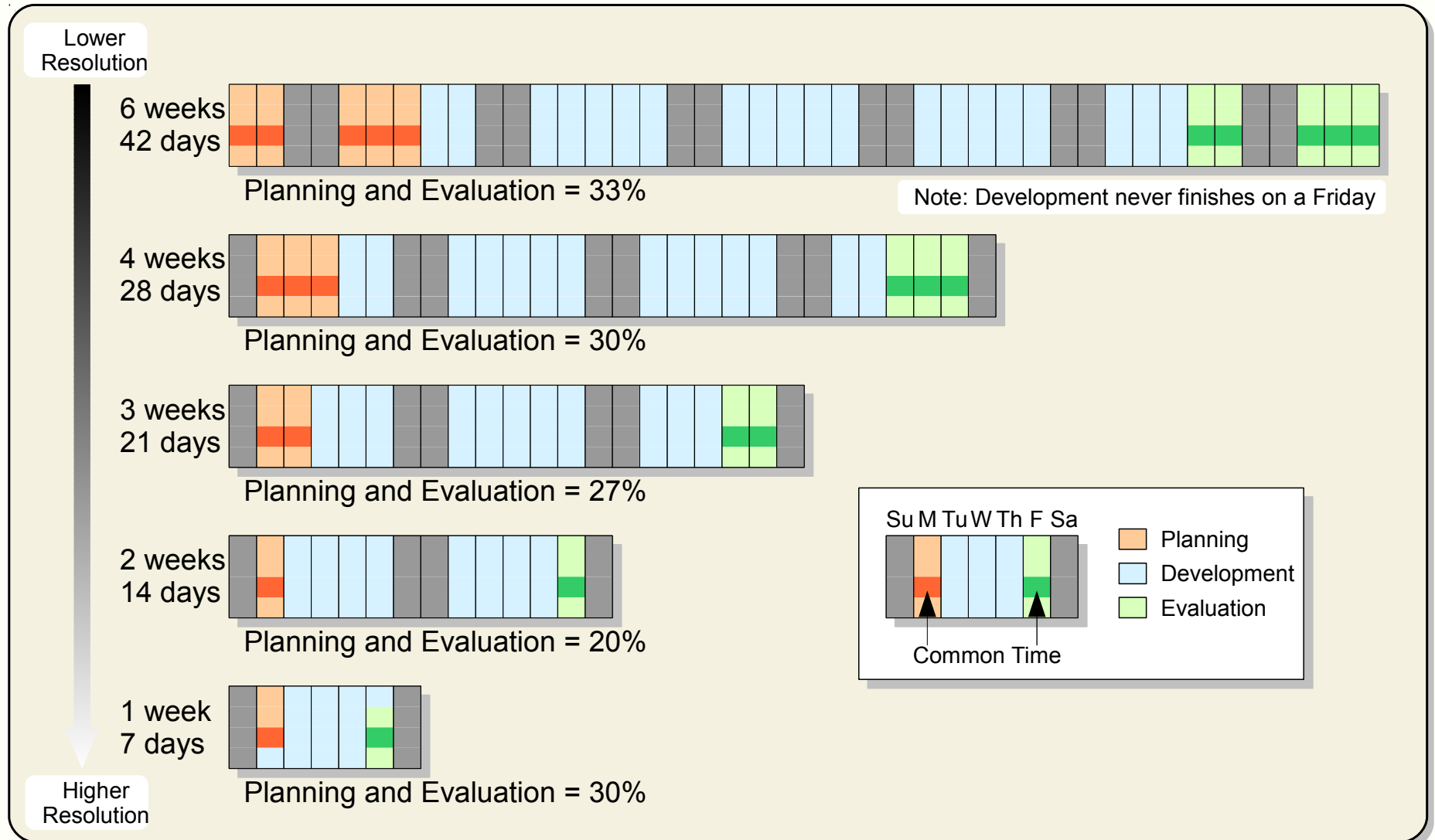


Part 3: Principles and Recommended Practices

- The Project overall – helping stakeholders see the big picture
- Project History and Direction – helping stakeholders understand the timeline of the project
- Managing User Stories in an Iteration
- **Iteration Duration**
- Splitting User Stories
- Providing insight into the team itself
 - How the project is run
 - Who the team is



Choosing a Sensible Iteration Duration



Part 3: Principles and Recommended Practices

- The Project overall – helping stakeholders see the big picture
- Project History and Direction – helping stakeholders understand the timeline of the project
- Managing User Stories in an Iteration
- Iteration Duration
- **Splitting User Stories**
- Providing insight into the team itself
 - How the project is run
 - Who the team is



Splitting User Stories

- Our basic principles state that only stories of a certain size are allowed in the highest priority milestone or in an iteration. We must therefore split stories into two or more smaller ones
 - This is not always easy but is an important step and builds shared a shared view of the project
 - Always size user stories as a team
 - Can be time-consuming
- Maintain the original user story as a reference so that a hierarchical view of the capabilities of the project can be built
- This is valuable when trying to communicate the big picture



Basic Approach to Splitting Stories

- Ensure you have a resolution of 'split'
- create the new stories from the story you are going to split
- add a comment to the story to be split referencing the new stories
- resolve the story as 'split'
- add a comment to the new stories referencing the story they've been split from



Part 3: Principles and Recommended Practices

- The Project overall – helping stakeholders see the big picture
- Project History and Direction – helping stakeholders understand the timeline of the project
- Managing User Stories in an Iteration
- Iteration Duration
- Splitting User Stories
- Providing insight into the team itself
 - How the project is run
 - Who the team is



Publish your Methodology

- Devote a wiki page to defining the methodology
- Keep this up-to-date as retrospectives drive evolution
- Show stakeholders how they can relate information in agile-trac to the current 'position' in the methodology
 - Are we doing release planning?
 - Iteration planning?
 - Development?
- Define the vocabulary of your methodology, and particularly terms like 'release' and 'milestone'



Emphasise the Team Identity

- There needs to be somewhere stakeholders can 'go' to see what the team is doing
 - Have a wiki page on the team, a who's who
- It is important that the team is seen as a team therefore the interface to the team should be the whole team, not an individual member of the team
 - When referencing the team or directing communication to the team on agile-trac always use a team alias for the medium, for example dev-team@company.com
- Remember when using opaque alias addresses make sure the actual recipients are listed somewhere so it is clear who will receive any information sent to that address



Overview

- Part 1: What is agile-trac and its fit for agile development
- Part 2: agile-trac – In a Nutshell
 - Relatively Sized User Stories
 - Time-Boxed Iterations
 - Roadmap with Prioritised Milestones
- Part 3: Principles and Recommended Practices
- Part 4: Future directions for agile-trac



Part 4: Future directions for agile-trac

Primary Goals

- Proper TicketQuery support allowing the Story-board view to become a plugin
- Separation of plugin from useful patches to trac
- Support recreation of Roadmap snapshots so the evolution of the roadmap can be viewed
- General Usability enhancements and better defaults
- Better support for milestones of equal priority
- Better Story and Iteration integration
- New features saved for Trac 0.12
- Localisation (in line with Trac 0.12)



The Devil is in the Details

Some specific enhancements

- Allow 'link-based' iteration velocity views of the roadmap
 - also allow manual experimentation with iteration velocity
- Allow customised algorithms for determining the iteration velocity
- Allow the viewing of ticket changes (classified by the type of change) for a given iteration (essentially a canned, complex, ticket query)
- Better integration between 'progress' and 'resolve as' as actions
- Cosmetic enhancements and better cross-browser support
- Consider prioritised queuing of Stories within an iteration





DONE