

30 Minute Stretch Class

Estimation and Sizing

Maurice Castro

30 Minute Stretch Class

Estimation and Sizing

- The “estimation problem”
- Historical estimation methods
- Estimation versus Sizing
- Relative sizing
- Planing Poker

30 Minute Stretch Class

The Estimation Problem

- “How long is this going to take?”
 - Complex problem we don’t understand
 - Johari Window - original from psychology but loved by business community
- Humans are bad at direct estimation: but believe they are good at it; & experience not always helpful

	Known to self	Not Known to self
Known to others	arena	blind spot
Not Known to others	facade	unknown

30 Minute Stretch Class

Historical Estimation Methods

- Size Oriented Metrics
 - SLOC - Source Lines of Code
- Function Points
- Empirical Models
 - Cocomo II - Cost Constructive Model

30 Minute Stretch Class

Estimation vs Sizing

- How much bigger is a softball than a golf ball?



- Humans **are** good at working out things relative to each other
- Hence relative estimation or sizing

ø96.52mm ø42.7mm

30 Minute Stretch Class

Estimation vs Sizing

- If you combine sizing with relevant statistical performance ...
 - Something we are **good at** and Something we **measured** = **better** result

30 Minute Stretch Class

Planning Poker

- Many variants
 - Modified logarithmic scale
(educated guess 3.5 or 4 isn't helpful)
 - Played as a group to create discussion
where there is difference

?	0.5	1
2	3	5
8	13	20
40	100	∞

30 Minute Stretch Class

Planning Poker

- Process
 1. Describe requirement
 2. Group asks questions
 3. Each implementor makes a hidden choice
 4. Show choices
 - Agreement: Record result
 - Disagreement: Discuss High Low and goto 4

?	0.5	1
2	3	5
8	13	20
40	100	∞