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CERN

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0.1 Progress During November

In General:

- The prototype of the application is hosted: https://slides.web.cern.ch/, available only to Intranet, CI/CD pipeline and docker container is used, the application is served through Openshift. Automatically getting new commits, building and deploying to Openshift.
- Discussions about storage solutions for the application and integration with CERN-Box.
- Started SCRUM meetings and using JIRA (Nikos Kasioumis, Dimitra Chatzichrysou, Maria Dimou, Aristofanis Chionis). Our projects have some common issues, for example the investigation of appropriate storage solutions.
- While investigating the best solution for an online editor for the application, I found this project: spectacle-editor which seems useful, because it implements functionality like resizing, dragging components, set in front, set back, snap-lines etc. So I started integrating their code to mine in a new git branch. It is not easy because there is a lot of code and they use different state management solution.
- Found the CERN Themes used alongside reveal.js in CodiMD presentations and created a function that returns a spectacle-theme object that creates the same looking theme. This is background color, CERN-logo, font size and color for Text, Heading etc.
- Optimized a lot the CSS of the application in order to be able to start adding the themes.
- Added a new splash screen for the user to select Presentation name, theme and description.
- Handle the above mentioned user input and modify URL and Presentation style accordingly.

About JIRA:

JIRA is a project management tool used and recommended here at CERN for small medium projects.

We use JIRA to set goals, track our progress and check our productivity/performance. JIRA has some labels for each type of problem.

- Epic something so big it probably won't fit into a sprint, is not clearly understood in terms of customer requirements and should be broken down into stories. T-shirt sizing is a common way to size epics. Another way is to say we think it could take X to Y iterations to do this work. Epics are usually defined during initial product roadmapping and decomposed into stories in the product backlog as more is learned.
- Story something actionable and small enough to fit in a sprint. These are story pointed and defined using INVEST criteria. Stories should deliver a vertical slice of functionality to the customer that is valuable and complete by the end of an iteration. Stories are usually created throughout product development, more so leading up to iteration planning and also during higher level product roadmapping.
- Tasks decomposed parts of a story that get into HOW the story will be completed. Tasks can be hour estimated if desired. Tasks are usually defined by the people doing the work (developers, QA, etc), whereas stories and epics are generally created by the customer or the product owner representing the customer. Tasks are created within the bounds of an iteration because they are short-lived. There is very little value is tasking out stories that won't be worked on in the upcoming iteration.

0.2 MILESTONES FOR CURRENT MONTH

- Restructure codebase, because it is becoming larger and more difficult to handle.
- Manage to integrate the spectacle-editor editing functionalities in Slides app.
- When the above is achieved and editing and moving text is working properly, I will do the same for: images, code-blocks. Investigate if there is interest in adding scientific plots in presentations (plot.ly integration). Also integration with Markdown and LATEX would be possible.
- Try to save presentations locally and load them back.
- Try exporting PDF of the presentation.

Plan for Slides Application:

Firstly, APIs for CERNBox integration are being developed currently by another team. Once this is done, I can use them for Slides with CERNBox connection.

The plan for the future is that the user logs in CERNBox with his CERN account and then if he wants to make a new Presentation, he can create a new slides file.

Now he is redirected in my application in another window, he selects presentation name, summary and theme, all these are constructed together and he starts editing his new Presentation.

Slides auto-save the presentation progress in a .slides file which is in JSON format, this file is stored in CERNBox.

The user can export his Presentation as PDF file, maybe as html as well.

There is also the idea to get codimd slides (written in Markdown) and transform them in .slides presentations, this way a lot of people who have been using codimd for their presentations will be able to keep their old presentations and edit them in Slides app, easier, this will make more people interested in using Slides.