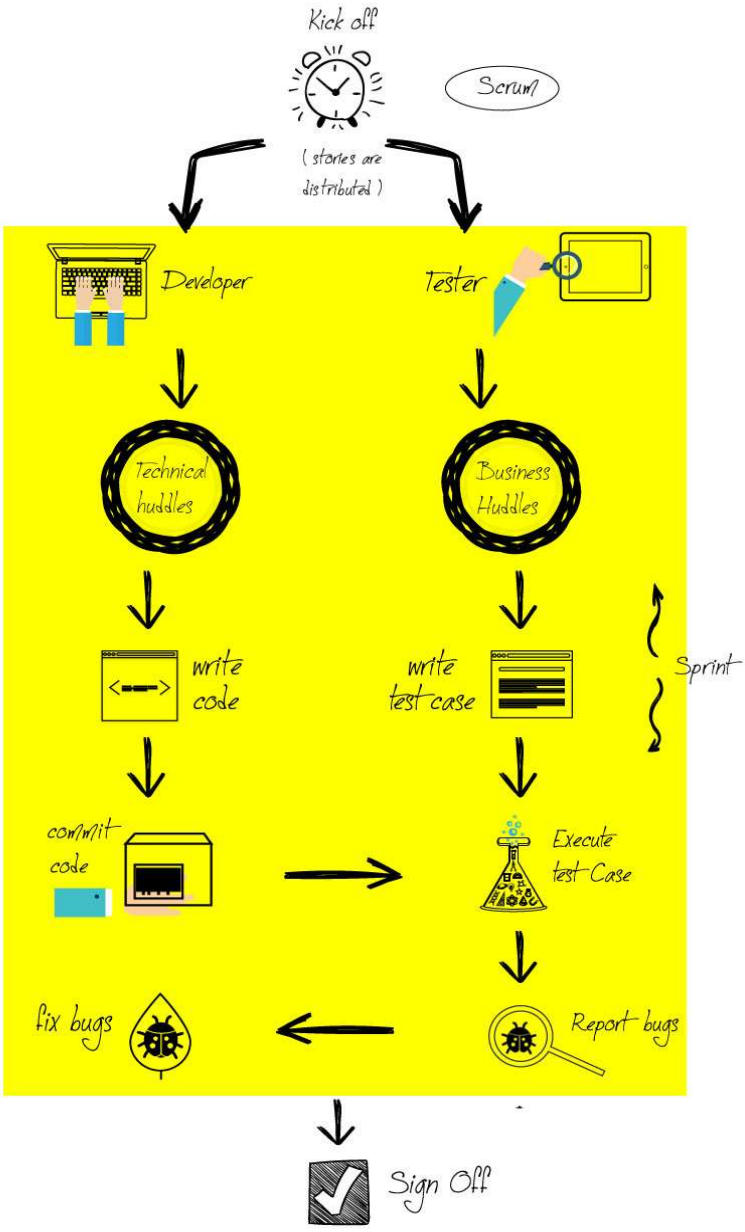
Software Testing in Agile Environment

Introduction

In the past recent years that followed the invention of 'Agile Manifesto', which was written in a manner of great laconism, the IT industry has flourished inevitably on Agile Methodology. The existing IT organisations are waking up to the conveniences and efficiencies provided by Agile, and on the other hand the blooming organisations and start-ups are already taking the less-hurdled approach; the *old traditional* way of doing things is now not the *smart* way of doing things.

On the similar lines, Agile Methodology has revolutionized the testing part of software development. As crucial as it is, testing had been a subject of not much importance for a significant period of time until the presence of fierce competition was realized in the market. Long last, the focus shifted to the quality of products and, alas, saved the entire population of testers!



How Agile is Helpful in Testing

1. ***Exposure****:* While in the traditional software development model, testing takes a backseat and is often skipped to complete the project deadlines; in an Agile environment testing is not only a mandatory phase but also goes on, in parallel, as long as the project lasts.

2. ***Absolute Involvement***: Agile methodology is a continuously engaging methodology. From Project Owners to Project Managers, to Team Leads, Developers, and to testers, at all times have to be well-familiar about the state and business changes of the project. As a result of which, the testing team, at any point in the software development life cycle, knows as much as any other team member does.

3. ***Personal Growth****:* Top-notch quality of the product is one of the many important objectives of Agile. It gives testers a chance to be creative and proactive in nature to keep up with the upcoming business requirements which adds on to the personal growth of the tester.

How Testing is Helpful in Agile

1. ***Revised Quality****:* The overall impact of testing builds the quality of the software product. The product goes to multiple iterations of testing before the completion, and each iteration ensures the fineness of the product.

2. ***Reduced Risk:*** The incremental-&-iterative nature of Agile helps the stakeholders learn about the possible risks and flaws early in the process. Testers try with all their might to find the loopholes in the system in each iteration, thereby preventing those errors to go further in the next iterations. There is never a guarantee that there will be no surprises, but continuous rounds of regression testing greatly minimize failures.

3. ***Thorough Testing:*** Testing does not deal with the functional aspect of the system alone but it revolves around the overall system. Performance, security and user-interface are also of the great importance to clients and end-users. Organisations, now a days, cannot get away with the functional testing alone, testing team needs to be jack of all trades.