User Stories – Hoe dan?

ada co-creating business software

My experiences on User Stories

- What is a user story and what is it not?
- What does a user story consist of?
- How do you describe these parts of a user story?
- Splitting up user stories, why and how!

What is a User Story?

- It’s a short description of a functional wish
- It’s written in a user language
- It always has added value for a user
- It’s input for discussion (not a contract)
- Hard to describe! (finding the perfect balance)

So a User Story is not ....

- A complete functional description.
- System documentation.

That's the theory … but HOW (HOE DAN)?

- Decomposition of a User Story?
  - **Description** (who, what, why)
  - **Context** (describes the current situation and the problem/wish)
  - **Acceptance criteria**; to check whether the story matches the expectations

Students viewing their schedules

As a student,
I want to view today's schedule of my lessons,
So that I know when my lessons start and I can be in time.

Context:

- Currently a student doesn't have any insight in their schedules. They do have an app where they can view their results.

Acceptatie criteria:

- A student can open an overview of today's lessons in the existing app.
- Per lesson the name, start and endtime and room is shown.
- The next lesson is highlighted.

User Story - description

- The structure of a … Who? What? en Why?
  - **As a**: (user)

    1. Use Persona's.
    2. Multiple users -> split-up the story
  - **I want to**: (descripion of what should be delivered)

    Use verbs
    So not "I want an overview", but "I want to see an overview in the App".
  - **So that I**: (describe the reason why this wish is requested)

    This can be a hard questions, but mandatory as it determines the VALUE
    Is there no good reason 'why' to do this? Then there is no reason to pickup this story.

Describe WHAT is needed and not HOW

As a student,
I want buttons to filter the search results
So that I only see the results that are relevant for me

As a student,
I want to be able to find the information that is relevant for me
So that I can save time

Behaviour Driven Design

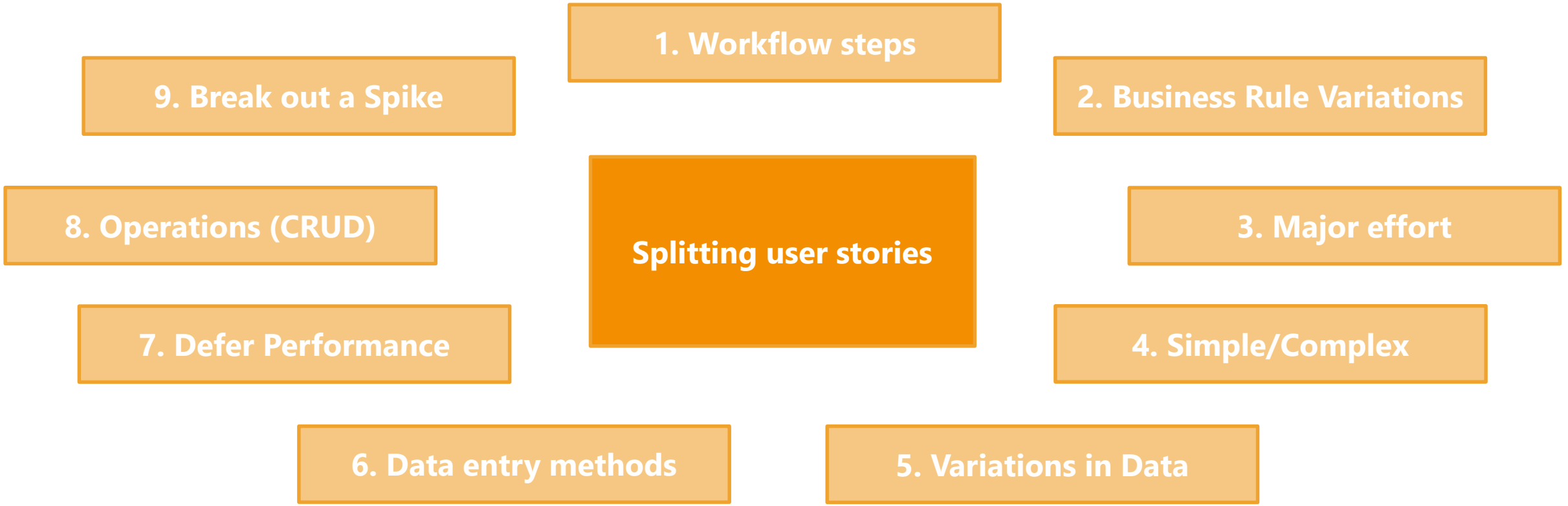
- A format for the ‘Acceptatie criteria’.
  - **Given** — pre-condition for the behavior (can be 1 or more)
  - **When** — the action/event of a user or system
  - **Then** — describe the result (can be 1 or more)
- Example for an ATM:
  - **Given:** a debit card is activated; AND the balance of the account is > €0
  - **When:** the customer wants to withdraw money from his account
  - **Then:** the balance is lowered; the ATM will dispense the money; the receipt is printed; the card is returned.

Having this all applied? … do the INVEST-check (all members)

Independent?	Make sure your user stories is independent from other stories, this enables the product owner to set priorities.
Negotiable?	User stories shouldn't be to detailed. Developers should have freedom to find the best solution.
Valuable?	The functionality should add value. This value is determined by the product owner.
Estimable?	Do you have enough information? Can it be estimated how long (relatively) it will take to deliver this story?
Small enough?	Is the story small enough? Don't make it too small as the 'value' will also be small.
Testable?	Have the right acceptance criteria been added? And are they SMART enough? Can they be verified?

Splitting User Stories

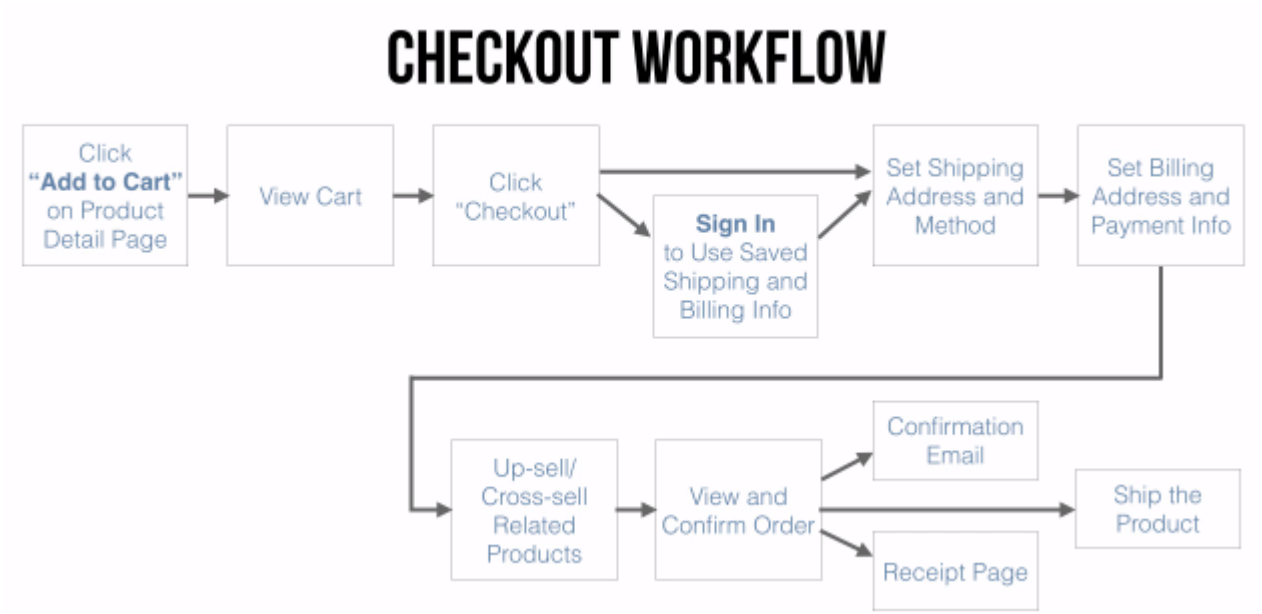
- Add business value asap.
- Avoid splitting bij architectural layer (like Database, Interfaces).
- Use 1 or more of the splitting patterns



https://agileforall.com/patterns-for-splitting-user-stories/

#1 Workflow steps

- Identify the most important steps:
  - START and END of a flow is most valuable
  - Do not split from LEFT to RIGHT



Animated slide #1

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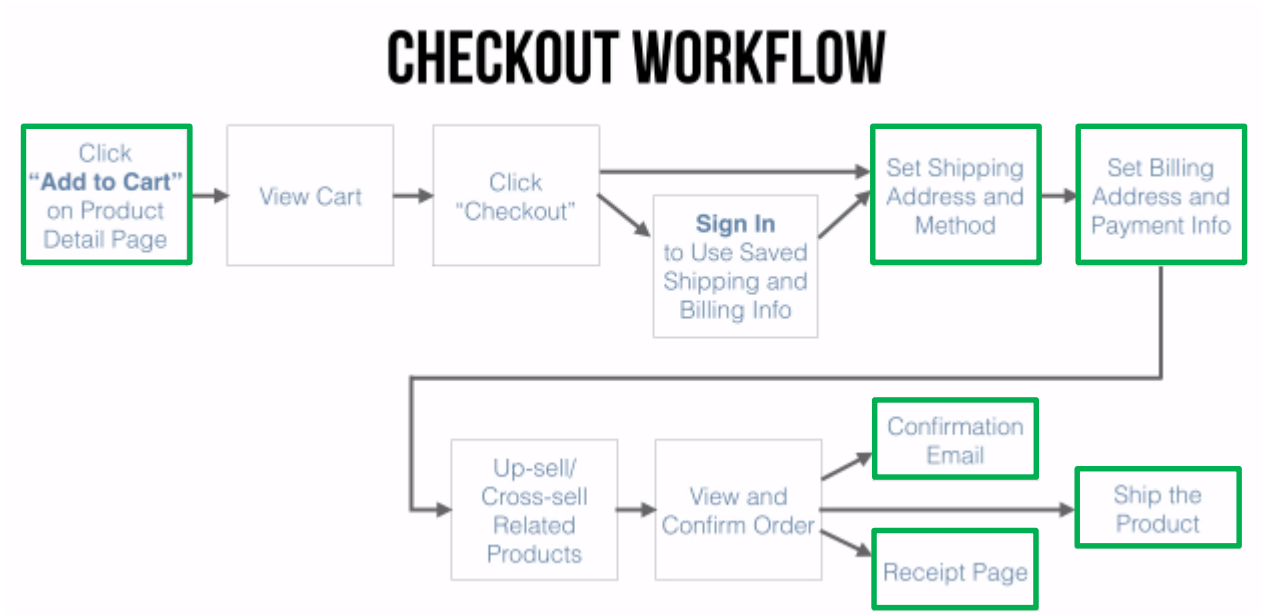

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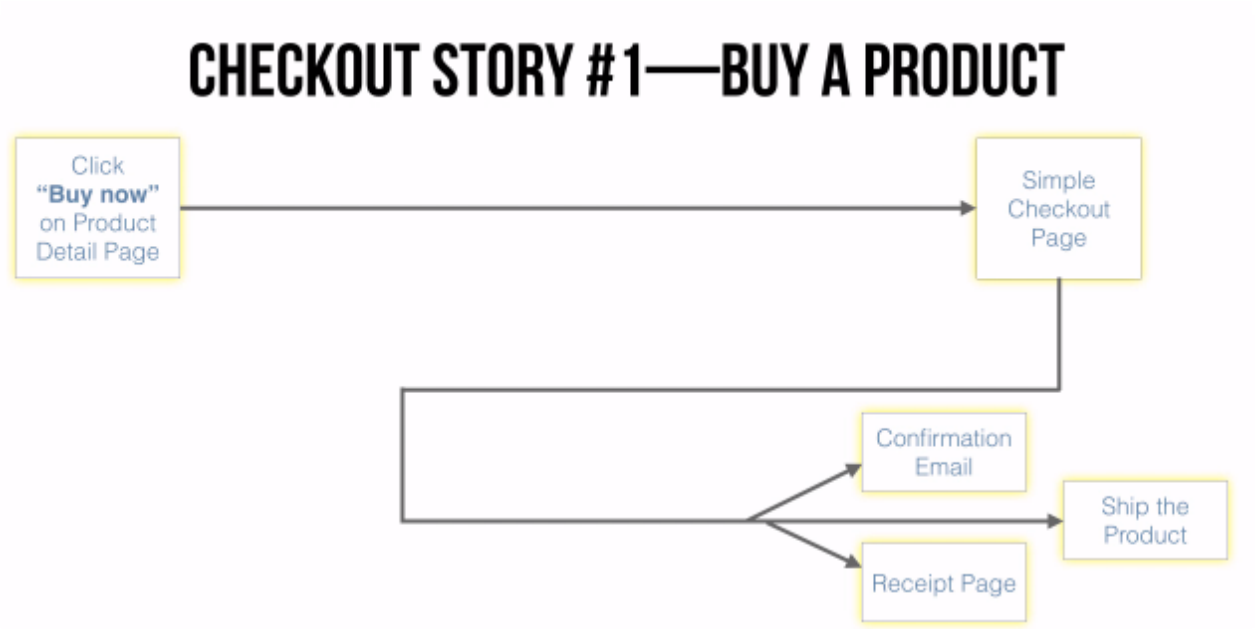

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#2 Business Rule Variations

- Can business rules be split?
- Or should it be split as the business rule is not SMART enough?

> **As a user, I can search for flights with flexible dates.**

Can be split into:

> **…as "between date x and y."**
> **…as "a weekend in December."**
> **…as "± n days of date x."|**

#3 Major effort

- Identify substantial effort but …
- Keep stories independent!

> **As a user, I can pay for my flight with iDeal, AfterPay, PayPal.**

Can be split into:

> **…I can pay with one type (or iDeal, AfterPay, PayPal).**
> **…I can pay with all 3 types (iDeal, AfterPay, PayPal).**
> (*given one type is already implemented*)

#4 Simple / Complex

- When during refinement stories are getting larger and larger -> Ask yourself “What’s the simplest version of this?”

> **As a user, I can search for flights between two destinations.**

Can be split into:

> **…specifying a max number of stops.**
> **…including nearby airports.**
> **…using flexible dates.**
> **…etc….**

#5 Variations in Data

- Complexity in a story can come from handling variations in data.
- Data can be anything like: location, language, role, type of customer.

> **As a customer, I can see all my telecom product that I ordered.**

Can be split into:

> **As a residential customer, I can see ….**
> **As a soho customer, I can see ….**
> **As a enterprise customer, I can see ….**

#6 Data Entry Methods

- Complexity sometimes is in the user interface rather than in the functionality itself.

> **As a user, I can search for flights between two destinations.**

Can be split into:

> **…using simple date input.**
> **…with a fancy calendar UI.**

#7 Defer performance

- In Agile, priority is to add business value and learn.
- If necessary, learn from slow implementation

> **As a user, I can search for flights between two destinations.**

Can be split into:

> **…(slow—just get it done, show a "searching" animation).**
> **…(within 5 seconds).**

#8 Operations (e.g. CRUD)

- The word ‘manage’ covers multiple operations.
- Identify the various operations and prioritize them.

> **As a user, I can manage my account.**

Can be split into:

> **…I can sign up for an account.**
> **…I can edit my account settings.**
> **…I can cancel my account.**

#9 Break Out a Spike

- When business part is unclear.
- When implementation is poorly understood

> **As a user, I can pay by credit card.**

Can be split into:

> **Investigate credit card processing.**
> **Implement credit card processing.**

HOW TO SPLIT A USER STORY

* INVEST - Stories should be:
Independent
Negotiable
Valuable
Estimable
Small
Testable

AGILE FOR ALL
www.agileforall.com

Visit http://www.richardlawrence.info/splitting-user-stories/ for more info on the story splitting patterns

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Vragen

Bewaar ze voor de Lean Coffee