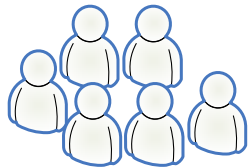


# Estimating

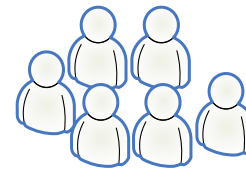
# How estimates are affected by specification length

Spec



117 hrs

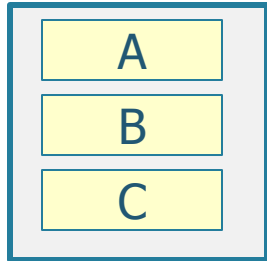
Same spec – more pages



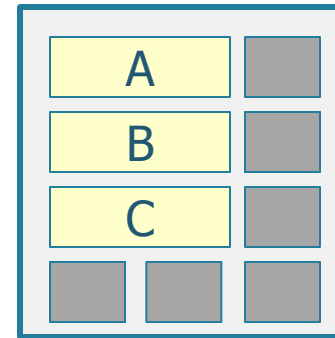
173 hrs

# How estimates are affected by irrelevant information

Spec 1

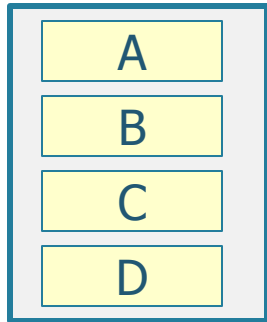


Same spec  
+ irrelevant details

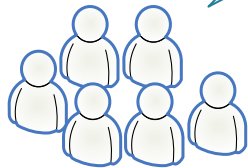


# How estimates are affected by extra requirements

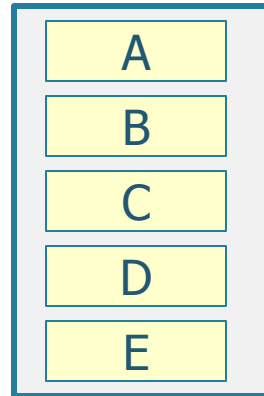
Spec 1



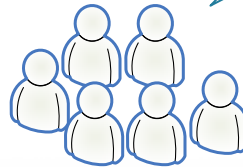
4 hrs



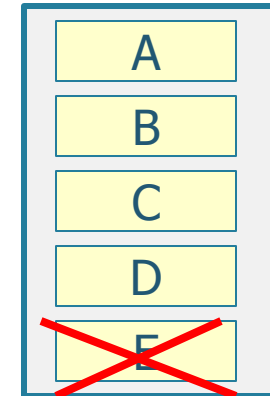
Spec 2



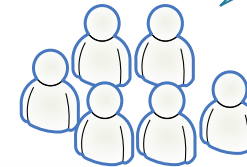
4 hrs



Spec 3



8 hrs

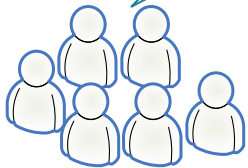


# How estimates are affected by anchoring

Spec



456 hrs



Same spec

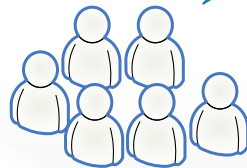


500 hrs

Never mind me



555 hrs



Same spec

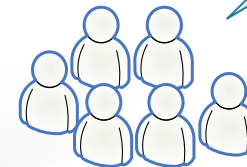


50 hrs

Never mind me



99 hrs



2007-09-28



Source: How to avoid impact from irrelevant and misleading info on your cost estimates, Simula research labs estimation seminar, Oslo, Norway, 2006

# Agile estimating strategy

- **Avoid estimating time.**
  - Estimate *relative size* of stories, or just count stories
  - Measure velocity per sprint.
  - *Derive* release plan.
- **Estimates done by the people who are going to *do the work*.**
  - Not by the people who want the work done.
- **Estimate continuously during project, not all up front.**
- **Prefer verbal communication over detailed, written specifications.**
- **Avoid false precision**
  - Better to be roughly right than precisely wrong



