

AGILE PLANNING & ESTIMATING



First things first

INTRODUCTIONS

A Quick Introduction

- Co-Author of “Becoming Agile”
- Executive Vice President at Santeon
- Over 10 years of dev and delivery experience
- Co-founder of International Consortium for Agile
- Masters in Requirements Engineering
- Ph.D in Agile Adoption from Virginia Tech
- Agile Educator, Coach and Consultant
- Frequent Presenter at Conferences
- Program Chair of Agile 2009



3 Step Learning Progression



Level 1: **following** (shu)

Learn “a technique that works”
(Success = following the technique)



Level 2: **breaking away** (ha)

Learn limits of the technique
Learn to shift between techniques



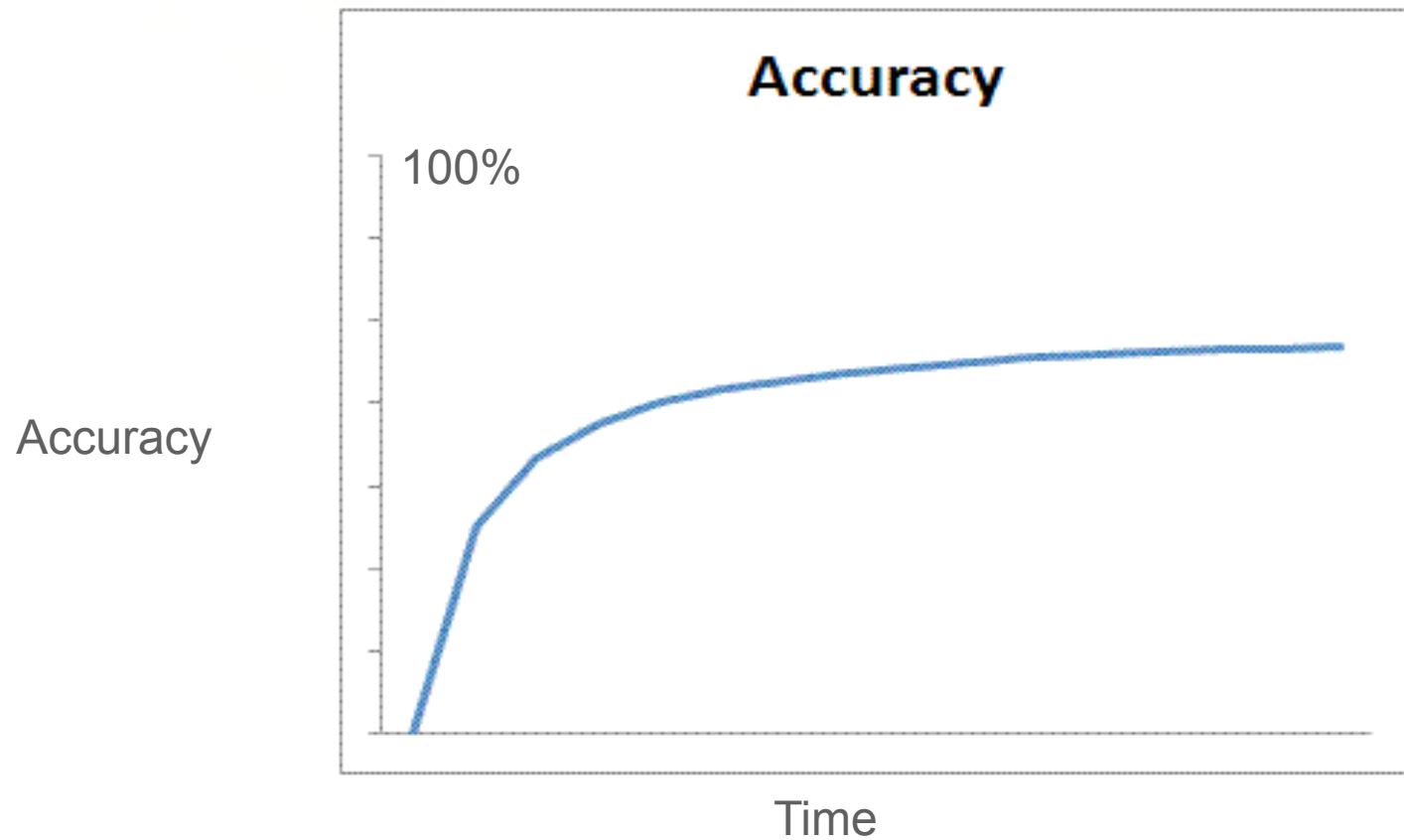
Level 3: **fluent** (ri)

Shift techniques at any moment
Possibly unable to describe the shifts

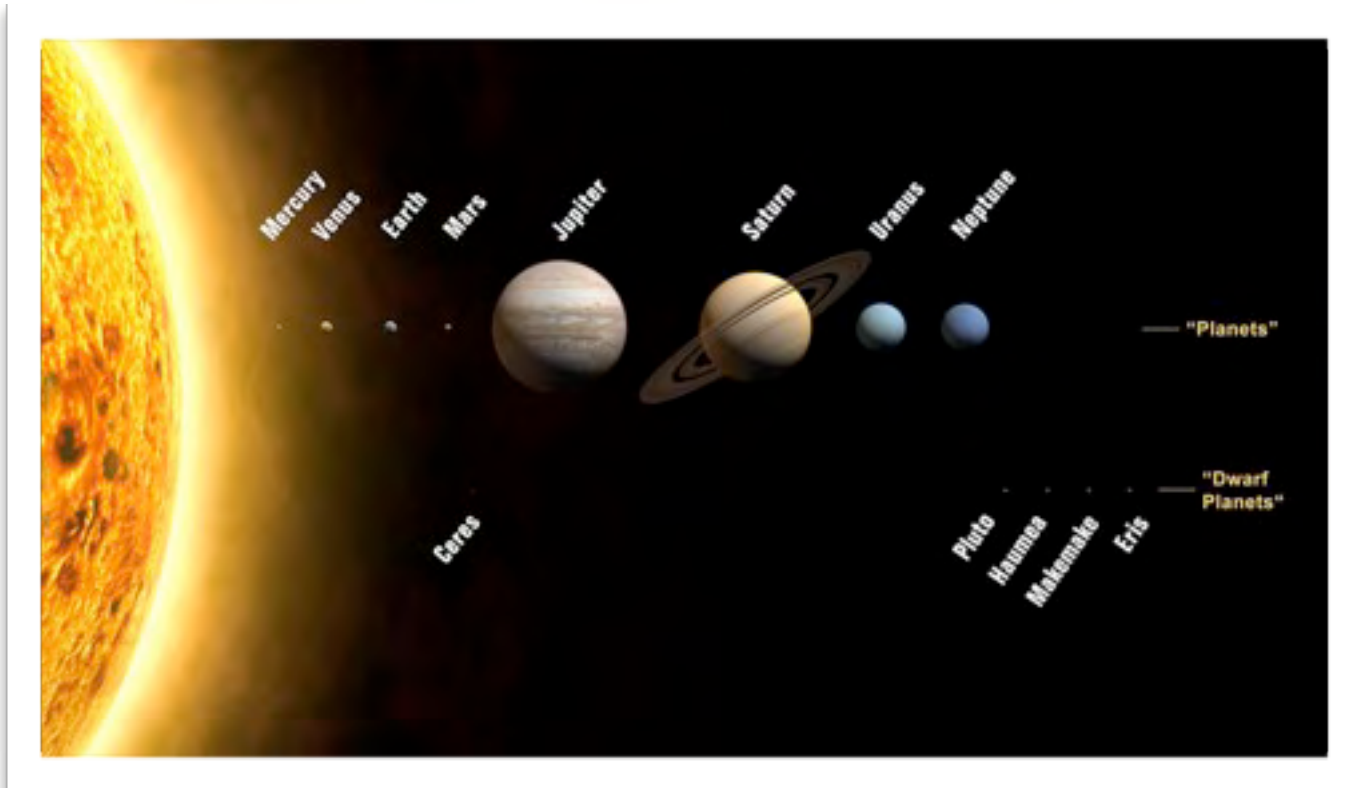


AGILE ESTIMATING

Agile Estimation - Accuracy



Agile Estimation - Relative Size



Agile Estimation - Size vs Time



Estimating in Story Points

- The “bigness” of a task
- Influenced by
 - How hard it is
 - How much of it there is
- Relative values are what is important
 - A login screen is a 2
 - A search feature is an 8
- Points are unit-less

Fruit Points

- Watermelon
- Strawberry
- Banana
- Pineapple
- Coconut
- Peach
- Orange
- Mango
- Dates
- Kiwi
- Apple

Using the right units

- Can you distinguish a 1-story point from a 2
- Can you distinguish a 17 from an 18
- Use units that make sense, such as
 - 1,2,3,5,8
 - 1,2,4,8
- Include 0 and $\frac{1}{2}$ if you want
- Stay mostly within in a 1-10 range

Planning Poker

- An iterative approach to estimating
- Steps
 - Each estimator has a deck of estimation cards
 - Product Owner reads a story and it's discussed briefly
 - Each estimator selects a card for their estimate
 - Cards are turned over at the same time
 - Discuss Differences (especially outliers)
 - Re-Estimate until estimates converge

Planning Poker - Example



Estimator	Round 1	Round 2
Adam	3	5
Mary	8	5
Ahmed	2	5
Sarah	5	8

Moving into an apartment

- King-size Bed
- 2 Couches
- Desk
- Microwave
- 5 Boxes of Books
- Dresser
- 42" LCD TV
- Dining Table (8 Chairs)
- Coffee Table
- 2 Night Stands

? , 1 , 2 , 3 , 5 , 8 , 13 , 20 , 50 , 100

Planning Poker

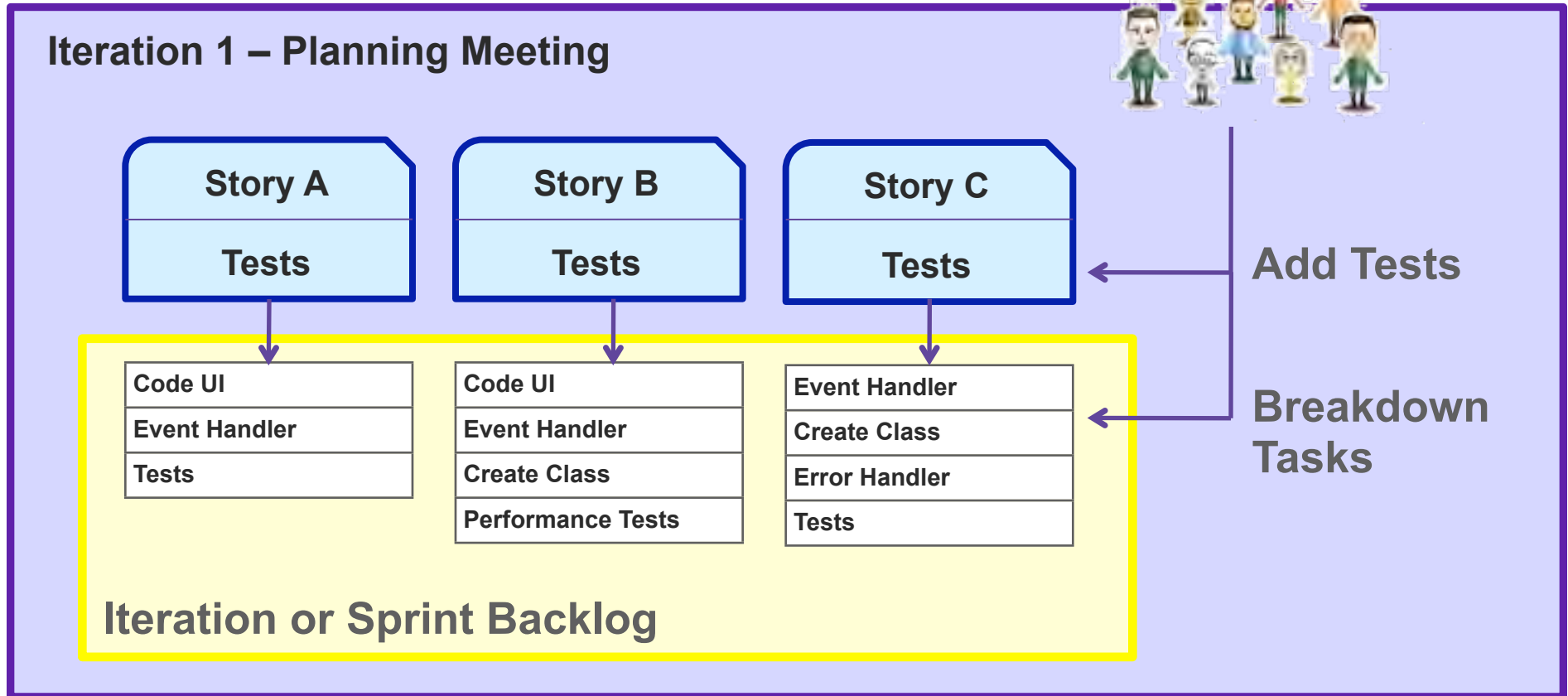
- Emphasizes relative estimating
- Focuses most estimates within an approximate one order of magnitude
- Everyone's opinion is heard
- Estimators are required to justify estimates
- Its quick
- Its Fun 😊



A Brief Intro ...

ITERATION PLANNING

Iteration Planning



Story to Tasks

Allow a new customer to enter personal information

Estimate: 5 Pts

Acceptance Criteria

On back...

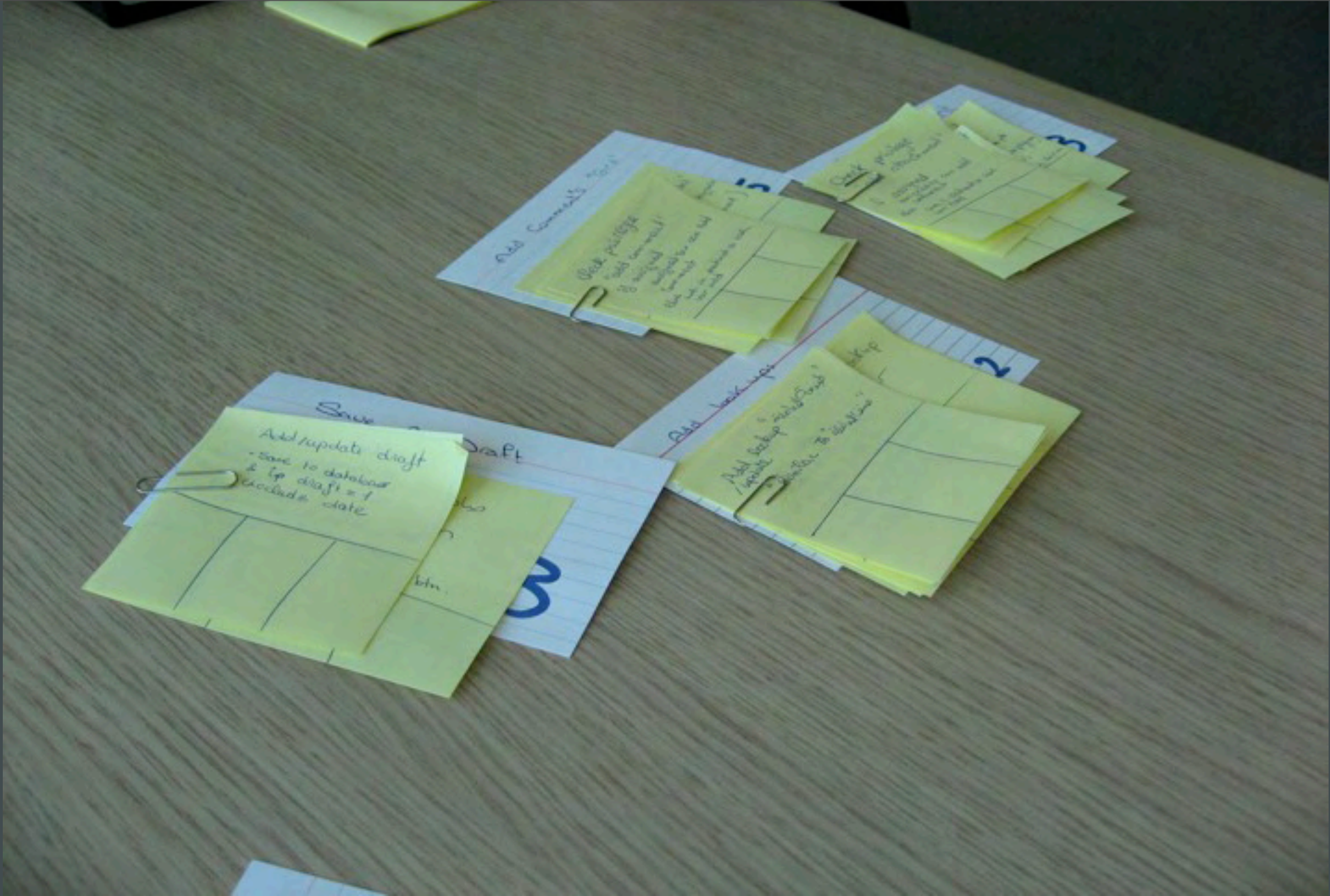
- Address validated against reference
- Phone number contains no alpha characters, min. 10 digits
- Name and email address required

Tasks

- Design user interface
- Develop CSS/HTML
- Create database fields
- Develop validation criteria
- Write test cases
- Code test fixtures
- Unit testing
- Acceptance testing
- Usability testing
- Write online help text



Iteration Planning



Stories and Tasks

Road-mapping

- Average Velocity for Team
- Total Number of Story points for Project
- Buffer Accordingly (Risks, Decreased Velocity ... etc.)
- Total Story Points as Ranges (depending on risks)
- Identify the number of iterations needed to finish the project
- **Firm Deadline - Need to increase team capacity?**
- **Stabilization Iteration ?**

Agile Planning

- Is focused more on planning than the actual plan
- Is multi-leveled (Release and Iteration)
- Encourages change
- Results in plans that are easily changed
- The whole team is involved in planning
- Is spread throughout the project

Adopt a different Mindset

Plan-Driven / Traditional

- Things should be stable
- The plan is a predication
- Aim, aim, aim, fire
- Stay the course
- Deliver Planned result
- Be a task master
- Do it right the 1st time

Value-Driven / Agile

- Expect continuous change
- The plan is a guess
- Point, fire, redirect bullet
- Be adaptive and agile
- Deliver desired result
- Be a relationship manager
- Do it right the last time

Multi-Level Planning

Release Planning

Iteration Plan



Iteration Plan



Iteration Plan



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Daily Stand Up Meeting

- 3 Questions
- Setup JIT meetings
- Address risks – share information
- Update and review burndown chart
- Post items to blocking list / technical debt

What's Next ...

Learn more about Agile

Upcoming Trainings...

Fundamentals of Agile Certification : April 12 -14

Agile and CMMI : April 26 – 28

Facilitation Skills for Agile : May 3 - 5

Fundamentals of Agile Certification : May 10 -12

Agile Coaching and Consulting

Agile Readiness Assessments

Simple Version : www.doctoragile.com

Expanded Version : contact us : asidky@santeon.com

A Personal Favor ... :)

I hope you enjoyed the class, ... I would appreciate if you left me a recommendation on LinkedIn

Ahmed Sidky
asidky@santeon.com