STATISTICAL VARIABILITY APPLIED TO TASK DURATION ESTIMATION PROBLEM IN PROJECT SCHEDULES

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Project schedules overrun is a common and harmful problem. Researches reduce the whole problem to a tasks estimation problem. Generally, specialists incorporate their worst previous experiences within their tasks duration estimates. This practice is commonly justified by 'protecting' the estimates from variation. Considering a project schedule as a net of sequenced tasks, this practice induces an enlargement of the project duration. In spite of that, paradoxically projects persist to overrun. One treatment approach suggests partitioning each task estimate in two components, the median and the protection. The set of protections is then summed and inserted at the end of the new 'thinner' schedule. In this presentation we will discuss our empirical method to teach this statistical context and the success we have gathered with this practice.

REFERENCES

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