Schedule Analysis: Pre- and Post-Project

The Revision

Our final schedule and our initial schedule share an expected hour count, but that’s about it. As we neared the end of the planning phase and began work on the execution phase, we discovered some serious problems with our choice of technology. That prompted us to research and find a new approach to developing our system, which in turn led to us completely reevaluating our schedule. After applying our new solution and receiving the okay from our sponsor, we had completed every task that we had allocated time for in our schedule’s execution phase. It was at this point that we decided to expand the scope of our project to include a step-by-step help document.

That change prompted us to drastically modify our schedule, changing tasks related to system development into tasks related to documentation development. Through all of this, our expected hour count did not change because the expected duration of the documentation tasks matched the expected duration of the (now unnecessary) system development tasks.

Accuracy

Our time estimates were not incredibly accurate. In some phases, we overestimated the amount of time we would need to spend in meetings. And in other phases, we dramatically underestimated that time. However, because we both over- *and* underestimated, this means that the grand total hours used and the grand total hours expected are fairly close.