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Quality and Safety, always a beginning! (1)

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DEVELOPMENT OF PROJECT STATUS INDEX FOR A STUDENT SPACE TECHNOLOGY TEAM

Abstract

Space technology has proven itself to be a promising area of research and universities are initiating and nurturing students to actively contribute to this domain. Student organizations are cropping up throughout the world, making great progress despite various challenges in terms of funding, scheduling, and research facilities. A major drawback is the lack of a standard method that would help in keeping track of project progress. To address this issue, the paper expedites the development of a numerical project index called (PTA) indicating the level of completion of the project at a required stage of the project considering some latent variables. These include non-technical factors like non-availability of funds and motivation of the stakeholders of the project and technical factors like expertise in certain fields. This index can be used to quantify the progress of any similar student space technology organization with respect to factors like time, funding, and research. The real system is translated into a statistical model using suitable techniques and solved mathematically to arrive at the unified index. The quantification of the latent variables mentioned is done by gathering the outcomes of periodical reviews and the perception of the stakeholders. All the necessary data is gathered from the stake-holders of Team Antariksh, a student space technology team of RV College of Engineering, India.