

Earned Value Management – Early Computers

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Introduction

The use of mainframe computers in the 1960s was integral to the development of critical path scheduling and Earned Value Management. This paper will look at some of the earliest developments.

Extracts from various manuals are copied below as a starting point (but there's a lot of research to do).



The full paper is on its way.

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COST ANALYSIS

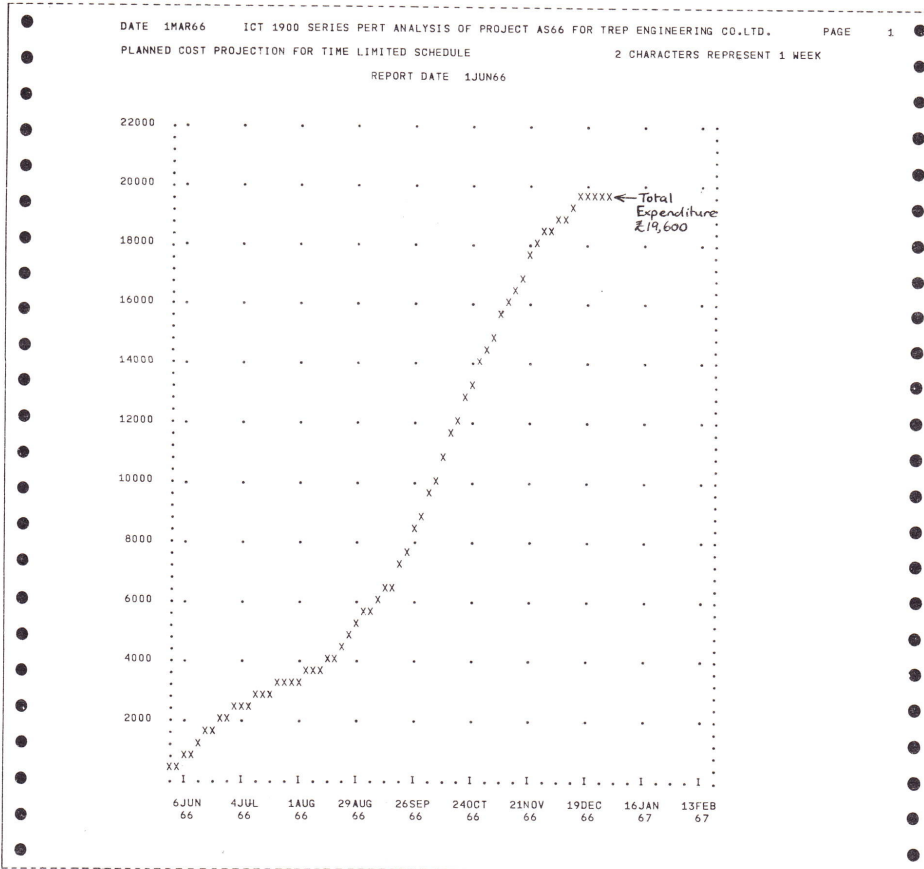
2.

Various types of Cost Output Summaries are available and these can be related to any of the schedules obtainable for Time and Resource analyses. The outputs are available in both numeric and graphic form at the user's discretion. The printout below shows the planned cost projection for the Time Limited schedule. The user can specify both the scale and time period for any projection required.

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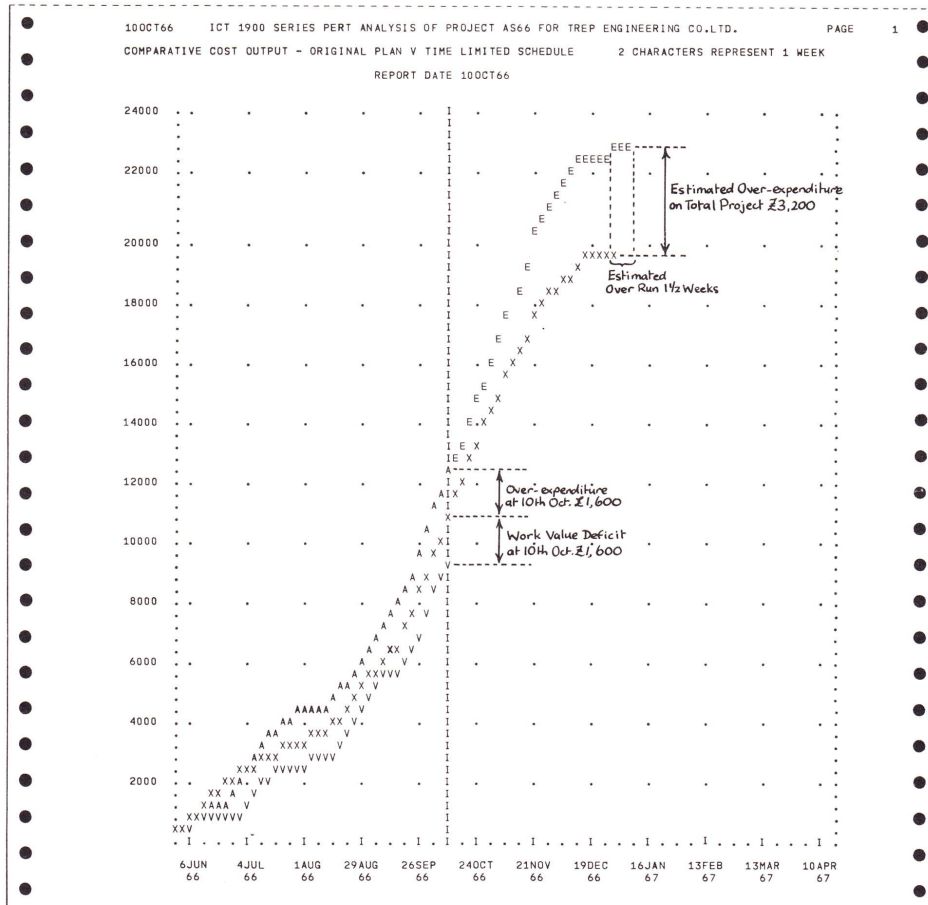
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The Origins and History of Earned Value Management

The following diagram shows the cost projection of the specimen project as at the 10th October 1966. The actual costs incurred as well as the value of work performed can be compared with the planned cost. Based upon performance to date the projection has been extended to show the revised estimate of total expenditure.



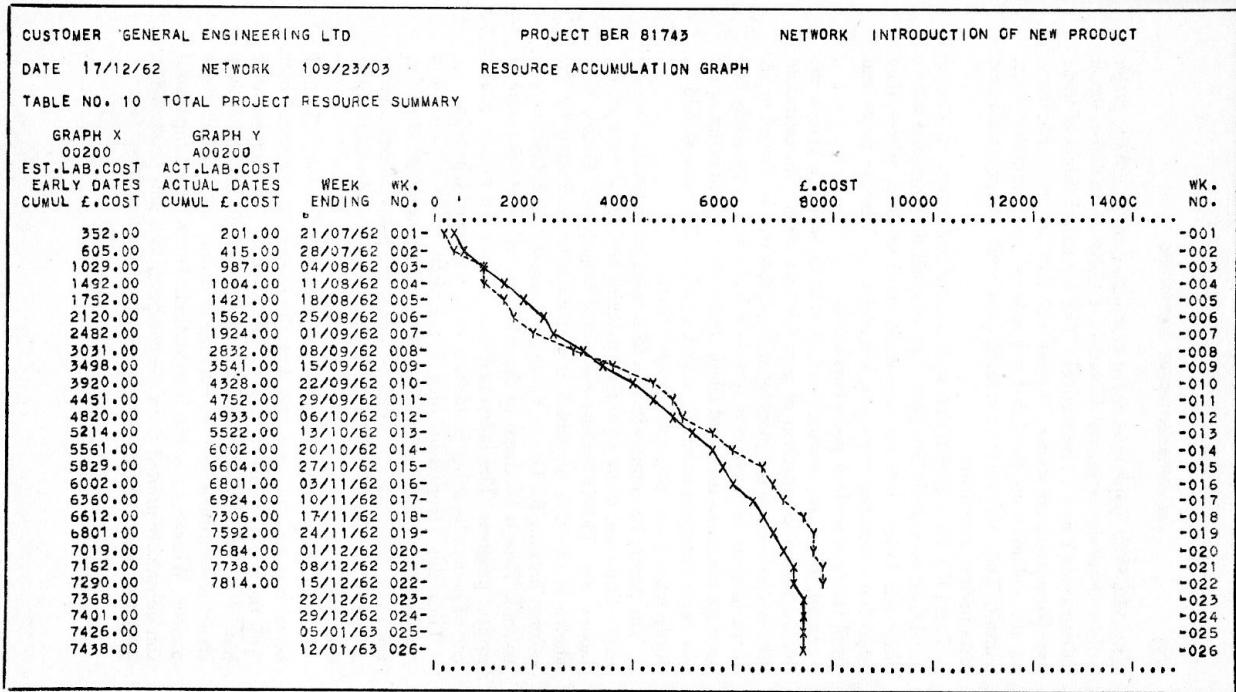


FIG. 88. Comparison of actual labour costs with estimated labour costs (produced by computer).

ICL 1500 PERT 1962

This is from Sam Woodgate's book, showing the fact that ICT1300 PERT also ran Cost Control, we did a lot of scenarios for Earned value analysis as it was known using the 1300 for the new 1900 PERT as it had then a better resource scheduling algorithm than I had in ICT1500 PERT

H Sam Woodgate was drafting his book "Planning by Network" which he started back in late 1961 and printed first edition in April 1964

I with two other basically wrote the book under his direction, we drew all the diagrams and we indicated PERT /COST USAF etc, as ICT was heavily involved in the UK Government's direction for project Management, Cost Controls and Scheduling

The terms shown in the first print draft of 1900 PERT Manual back in mid-1963 was the culmination of a whole plethora of meetings from 1961 through to end April 1963, at ORS, when ICT produced the draft from which I just scanned the page, section 5.2

Section 5

PROJECT COST CONTROL

GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS 5.1

The subject of cost control is complex, controversial and susceptible to many forms of application and interpretation. The facilities in the program aim essentially at providing a type of control that is directly linked with a network and which by its nature must be considered as a method of direct costing; but special cost-oriented activities (called Hammock activities) may be used to include overhead costs and to provide a medium for indirect cost measurement.

DEFINITION OF COST REQUIREMENT 5.2

To obtain a realistic cost picture of the current state of a project, it is necessary to measure:

- (a) Original *planned* expenditure
- (b) Actual expenditure to date
- (c) Actual *value* of work done to date
- (d) Future expenditure

both for the project as a whole, and also for subdivisions of a project that may be as small as individual activities, but which more usually will be groups of activities divided by reference to their cost codes.

To enable the computer to calculate these figures it is necessary to input:

- 1 *Time* progress data, such as activity start or completion dates, and the time to completion for activities in progress.
- 2 *Cost* progress data, which is the actual cost of completed or partially completed activities, including Hammock activities, which are explained more fully in Section 5.4.

PLANNED COST AND ACTUAL VALUE 5.3

The planned cost for an activity not yet performed, as well as the actual value of a completed or partially completed activity, are computed by extending the activity's required resources by the appropriate resource unit costs. These are input for a project using formats identical to those for specifying resource availabilities described in Section 4.2.

It is the aggregation of these activity costs and values which forms the totals for the headings listed in Section 5.2.

HAMMOCK ACTIVITIES 5.4

In practice, most users will find little difficulty in assigning costs to resources to obtain the planned cost and the actual value figures, but the factual measurement of cost incurred, activity by activity,

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