

CH402 Chemical Engineering Process Design

Class Notes L16

Plant Cost Scaling and Breakeven

L15 lookback: Estimating capital cost for an industrial facility

Method 1 – scaling against a known price

- Method 1a – scaling equipment
- Method 1b – scaling entire facilities (problems 6-9 and 6-10)

Method 2 – percentage method

- Method 2a – percentage of FCI – Example 6-1
- Method 2b – percentage of PEC – Colorful worksheet
- Need to differentiate between capital investment and purchased equipment cost.
- Need to understand the different components of capital investment.
- *Key - Each of these components has a well-known percentage of the total FCI.*
- To illustrate, we examined example 6-1 and problem 6-8.
- We also discussed Method 2c – Lang Factors - in Lesson 15.

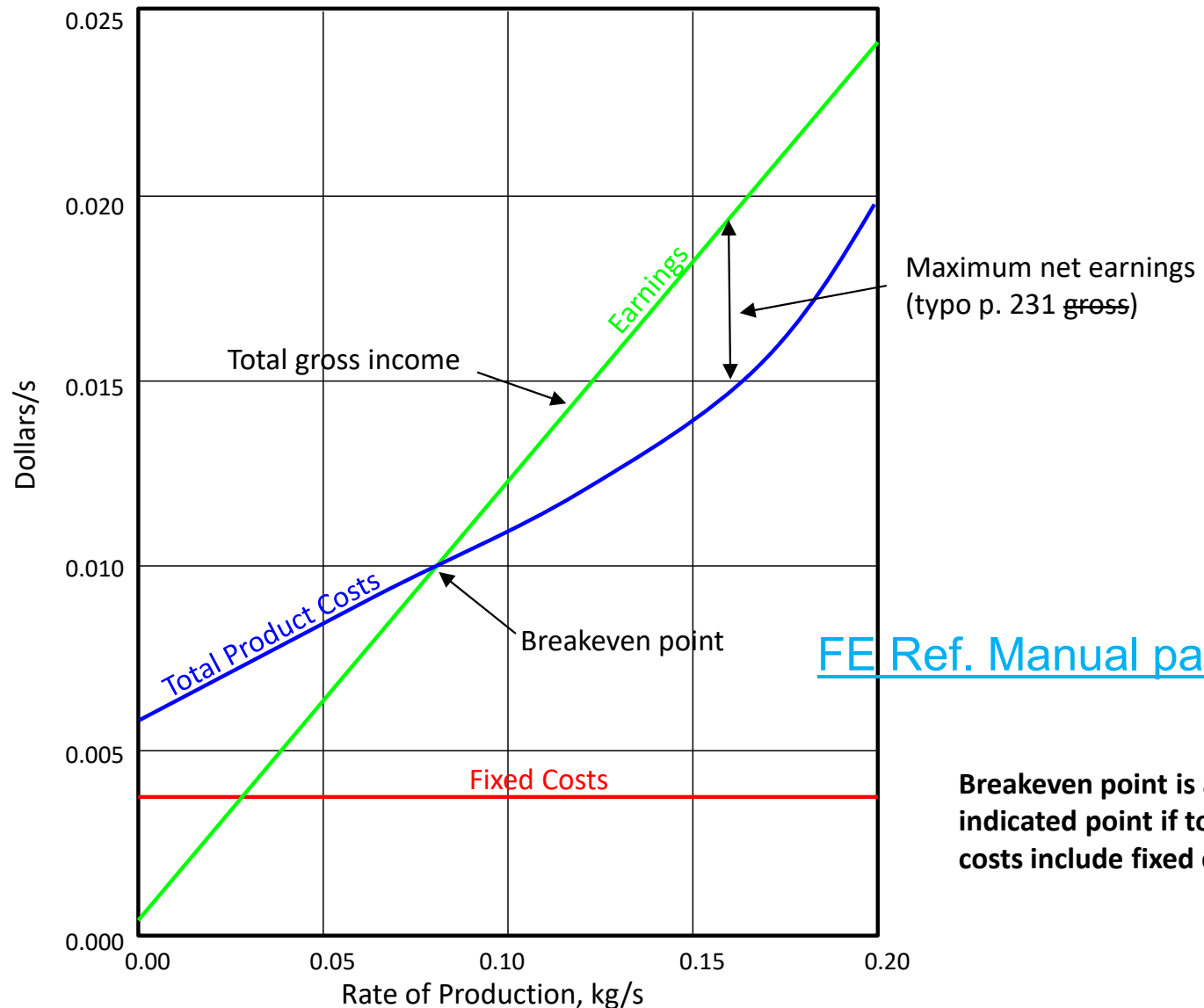
Objectives for Lesson 16:

1. Estimate capital costs using scaling factors.
2. Estimate capital costs based on turnover ratio.
3. Determine breakeven point given production data.

Break-Even Analysis – ICP

Figure 6-3; FEE p. 231; equation: $\text{gross earnings} - \text{variable costs} - \text{fixed costs}$

apply this equation



[FE Ref. Manual pages 231](#)

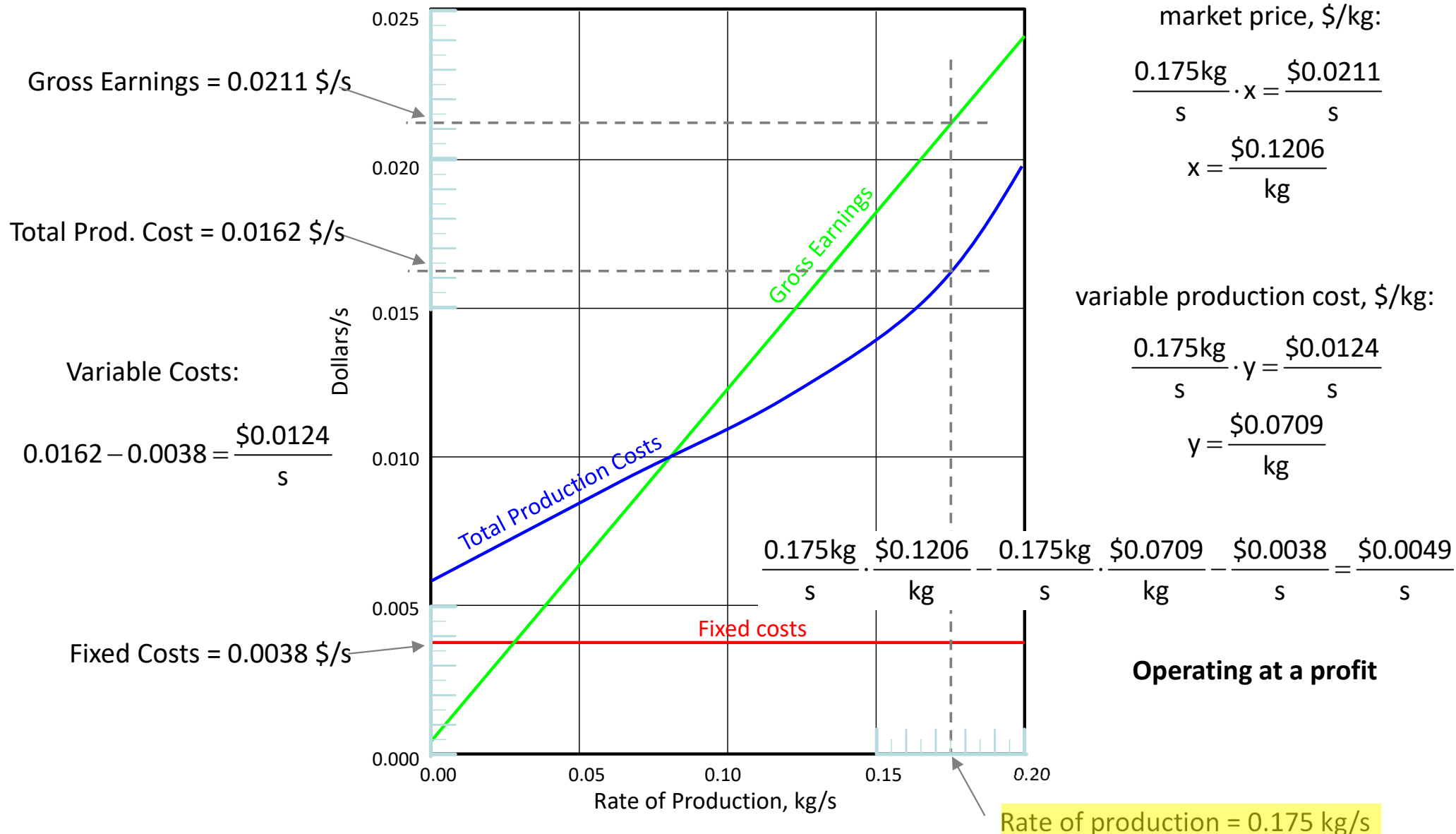
The authors do not state that fixed costs are included in total product costs. Normally they are not (as in ICP).

Break-even point is at the indicated point if total product costs include fixed costs.

Break-Even Analysis – Ex1

Figure 6-3; FEE p. 231; equation: $\text{gross earnings} - \text{variable costs} - \text{fixed costs}$

apply this equation



Break-Even Analysis – Ex2

Figure 6-3; FEE p. 231; equation: gross earnings – variable costs – fixed costs

apply this equation

Variable Costs, \$/s:

$$0.0064 - 0.0038 = \frac{\$0.0026}{s}$$

market price, \$/kg:

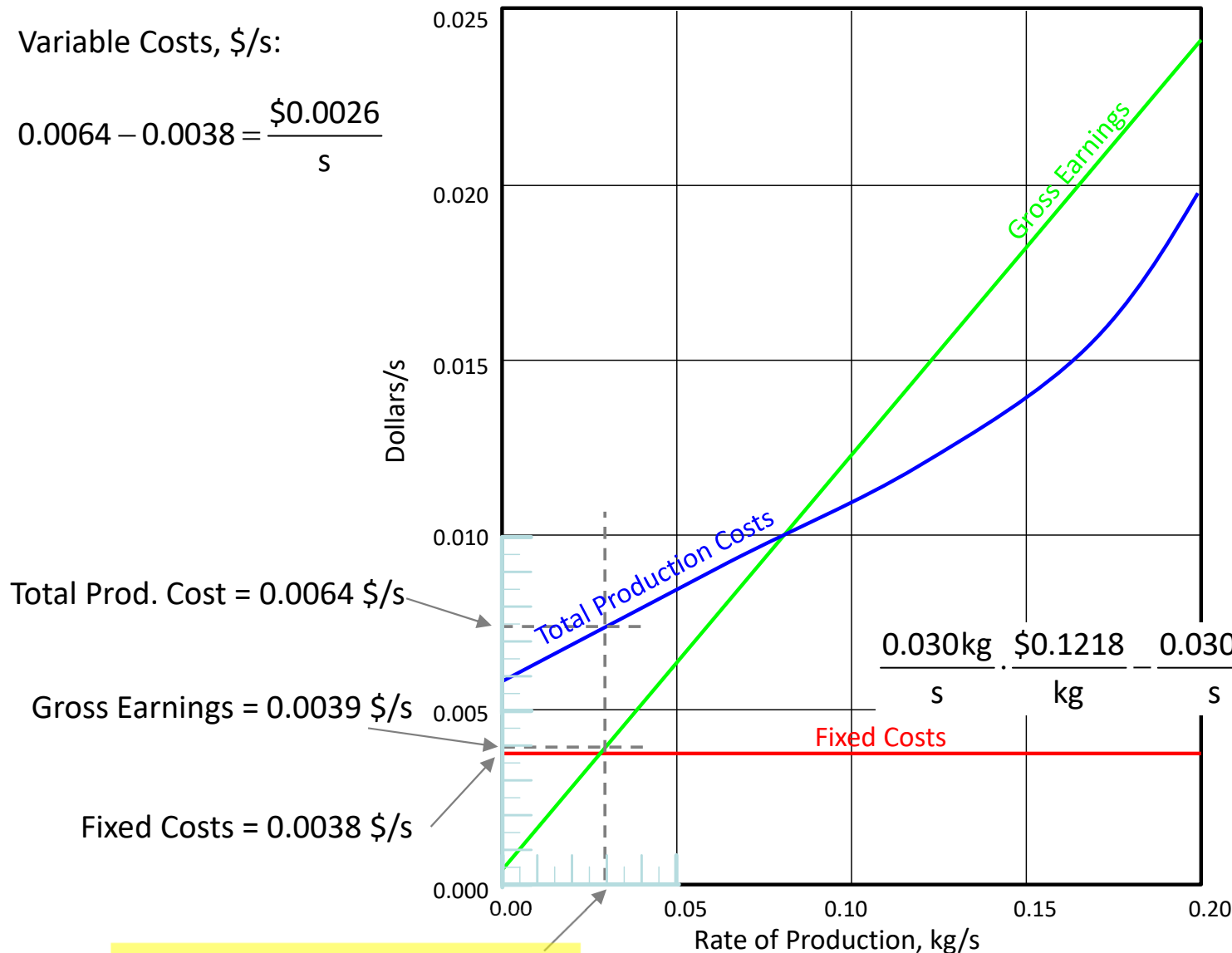
$$\frac{0.030\text{kg}}{s} \cdot x = \frac{\$0.0039}{s}$$

$$x = \frac{\$0.1300}{\text{kg}}$$

variable production cost, \$/kg:

$$\frac{0.030\text{kg}}{s} \cdot y = \frac{\$0.0026}{s}$$

$$y = \frac{\$0.0867}{\text{kg}}$$



$$\frac{0.030\text{kg}}{s} \cdot \$0.1218 - \frac{0.030\text{kg}}{s} \cdot \$0.0867 - \$0.0038 = -\$0.0025$$

Operating at loss

Rate of production = 0.030 kg/s

Break-Even Analysis – Ex3

Figure 6-3; FEE p. 231; equation: $\text{gross earnings} - \text{variable costs} - \text{fixed costs}$

apply this equation

Variable Costs, \$/s:

$$0.0100 - 0.0038 = \frac{\$0.0062}{s}$$

market price, \$/kg:

$$\frac{0.080\text{kg}}{s} \cdot x = \frac{\$0.0100}{s}$$

$$x = \frac{\$0.1250}{\text{kg}}$$

variable production cost, \$/kg:

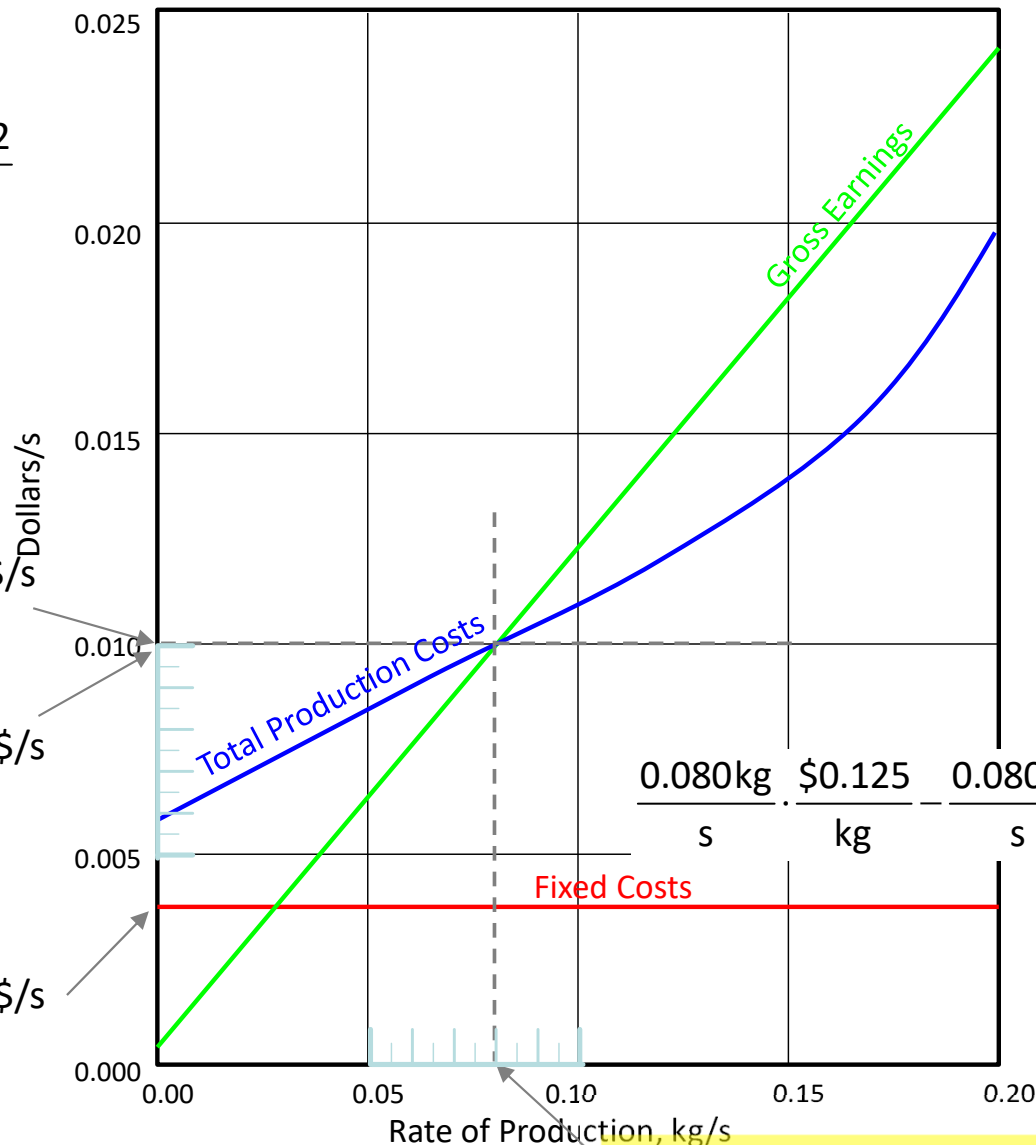
$$\frac{0.080\text{kg}}{s} \cdot y = \frac{\$0.0062}{s}$$

$$y = \frac{\$0.0775}{\text{kg}}$$

Total Prod. Cost = 0.0100 \$/s

Gross Earnings = 0.0100 \$/s

Fixed Costs = 0.0038 \$/s



$$\frac{0.080\text{kg}}{s} \cdot \$0.125 - \frac{0.080\text{kg}}{s} \cdot \$0.0062 - \$0.0038 = \frac{\$0.0000}{s}$$

"Breakeven"

Rate of production = 0.080 kg/s

Questions?