

CH402 Chemical Engineering Process Design

Class Notes L14

Cost Estimation & Capital Investments

Download and open “Cost and Evaluation Spreadsheet”

L14 Learning Objectives

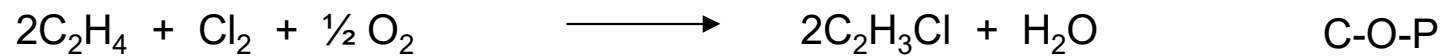
1. Relate the I/O analysis from Lesson 13 to the different cash flows in a process.
2. Calculate the different types of cash flow in a chemical process (Figure 6-1).
3. Calculate equipment costs using capacity scaling factors.

Definitions:

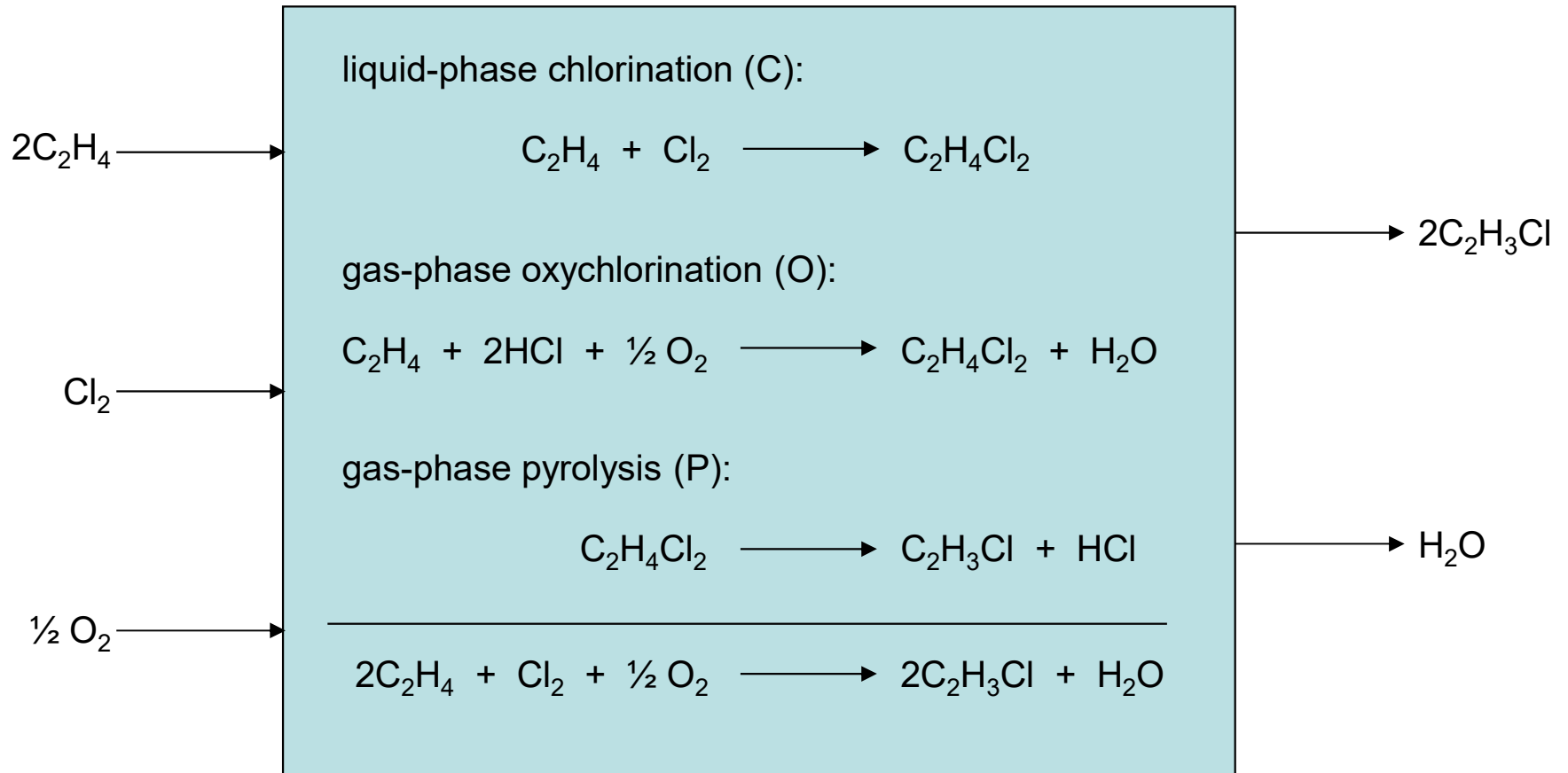
Working capital, nonmanufacturing and manufacturing fixed costs, direct and indirect costs, total capital investment, gross profit, purchased equipment costs, operating labor costs, utility costs, depreciation, annual total product costs, cumulative cash position, cost capacity scaling factors

Known Vinyl Chloride Routes

5 processes



Input/Output Structure - Route 5 – “COP”



The I/O diagram allows us to assess the overall economics of the process.

Economic Analysis Based on I/O Structure

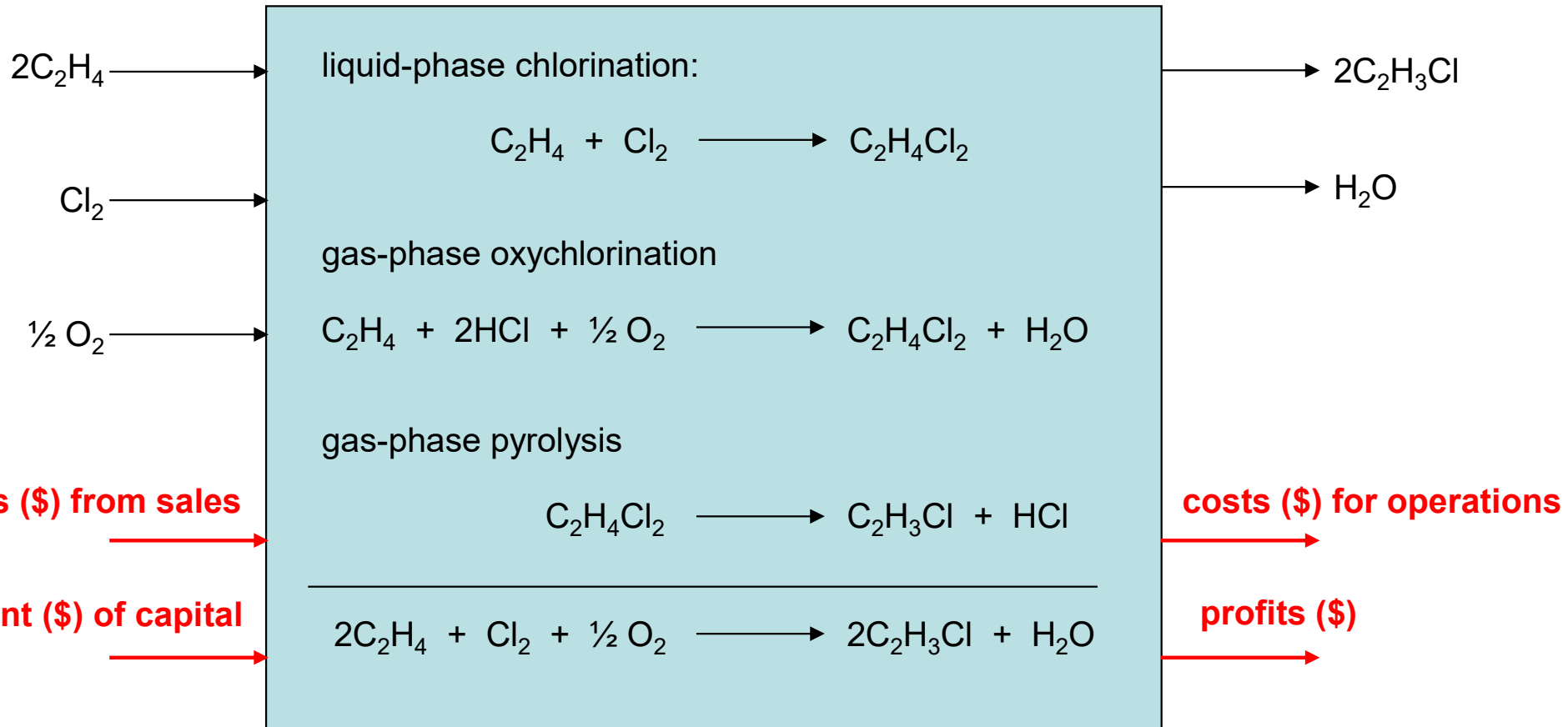
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	Example 4-2. Compare product and raw material values based on 1kg of vinyl chloride							
2								
3				Reaction Path, kg/kg VC				
4	Species	MW, kg/kgmol	Price, \$/kg	1	2	3	4	5
5	Cl ₂	70.9	0.03	---	1.13	1.13	---	0.57
6	HCl	36.5	0.22	0.58	0.58	0.58	0.58	---
7	C ₂ H ₂	26.0	1.39	0.42	---	---	---	---
8	C ₂ H ₄	28.1	0.45	---	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.45
9	C ₂ H ₃ Cl	62.5	0.45	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
10	O ₂	32.0	0.04	---	---	---	0.26	0.13
11								
12	product value			\$0.45	\$0.58	\$0.58	\$0.45	\$0.45
13	reactant cost			\$0.71	\$0.24	\$0.24	\$0.34	\$0.22
14	excess value			-\$0.26	\$0.34	\$0.34	\$0.11	\$0.23

I/O diagram for process 5 is shown in slides 4 and 6.

The bottom line represents \$ per kg of product. If we know the kg/year, then we know the annual cash flow.

Input/Output Diagram - Route 5 - COP

Decision Makers (company, government, army, etc.)
are concerned with cash flows.



Evaluation of Industrial Processes

- Economic – depends on cost of process, cost of process flows, and cash flows to and from process.
- Equipment needs to be designed, sized, and costed.
- Preliminary cash flow patterns must be created from *future cash flows* and analyzed.
- *Future cash flows* are functionally related to chemical flow rates through market values.
- *Future cash flows* must account for (1) interest, (2) depreciation, and (3) taxes.

Income taxes = $(s_j - c_{oj} - d_j)\Phi$
 (Φ is generally 21% of gross profit)

Net profit after taxes = $(s_j - c_{oj} - d_j)(1 - \Phi)$

“j” is the time period, typically months or years
 “s_j” is the sales in period j

\$ from sales = s_j
 (total income)

Chemical market data

Operations
for complete
project (I/O)

Costs for
operations = c_{oj}
(not including
depreciation)

Raw materials, labor, utilities

Gross profit = s_j - c_{oj} - d_j

Gross profit = s_j - c_{oj}
(before depreciation)

Depreciation = d_j

A_j defined

Net cash flow from the
project including
depreciation charge = A_j =
 $(s_j - c_{oj} - d_j)(1 - \Phi) + d_j =$
 $(s_j - c_{oj})(1 - \Phi) + d_j\Phi$
 (Eq. 6-1, p. 228)

Indirect costs

Direct costs

- detailed quotes
- unit cost estimate
- % of delivered equipment cost
- Lang factors
- power factors
- cost per unit of capacity
- turnover ratio

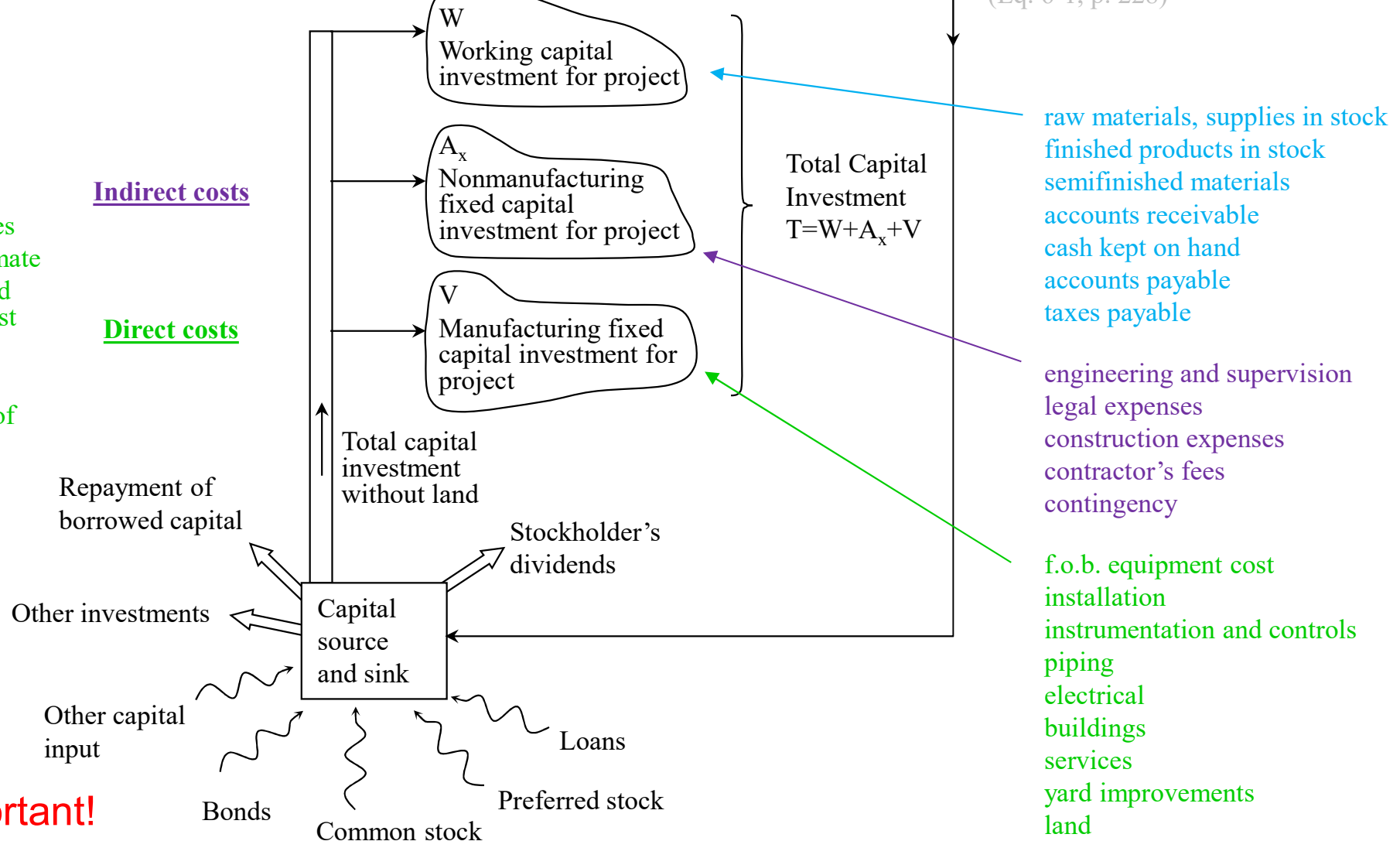


Fig. 6-1
 Very Important!

Cost and Evaluation Spreadsheet

CH402 Chemical Engineering Process Design

USMA Chemical Engineering AY23-2
Professor Andrew Biaglow (BH441. x4080)
C1R2 & D1S2 hours, BH331

Web site last modified
10 January 2023

USMA CHEMICAL
Program Mission
Program Objectives
Student Outcomes

COURSE ADMIN

Schedule
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Standing Instructions for Students (SIS)
Section Marcher Duties & Rotation
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Roster C1R2-Hour
Roster D1S2-Hour
Seating Chart C1R2-Hour
Seating Chart D1S2-Hour
FE Reference Handbook v10.2 (2022)
FE Calculator Policy
Cover Sheet

COST INDICES

CE Plant Cost Index
ENR Skilled Labor Index
Nelson-Farrar Refinery Index
Nelson-Farrar Chemical Cost Index

SPREADSHEETS

Cost & Evaluation Spreadsheet
Piping Design Spreadsheet
Agitator Design Spreadsheet
Pneumatic Conveyor Design Spreadsheet

CAPSTONE DESIGN PROJECT

Project Handout
Project Grading Rubric
Database Activation
Safety Design Checklist
Assignments and Groups
Guidance for IPR1
Guidance for IPR2

SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL

Chemical Safety & Hazard Investigation Board
Registry of Toxic Effects of Chem. Subst.
Nat. Inst. for Occ. Health & Safety
Safety Data Sheets

OTHER USEFUL RESOURCES

Online Unit Converter
Unit Glossary
Unit Dictionary
Nominal Pipe Size Charts
NIST WebBook
USMA Library
Perry's Chemical Engineer's Handbook
ChemExper (Structure and Properties)

CAPSTONE PROJECT RESOURCES

Encyclopedia of Chemical Engineering
Encyclopedia of Environmental Engineering
USMA Research
European Patent Office
Japanese Patent Office
US Patent Search
Access Engineering
Google Scholar
SciFinder
Knovel

USEFUL JOURNALS

American Chemical Engineer
Chemical Engineering Progress
Chemical Process Technology
EngineerLive

USEFUL eBOOKS

Chemical Process Design
Rules of Thumb for Chemical Engineers
Chemical Process Design
Pipeline Rules of Thumb
Troubleshooting

Slide 10

FEE Reference Handbook, v10.4, pp. 257 (263/502)

ESTIMATION OF CAPITAL INVESTMENT BY PERCENTAGE OF DELIVERED EQUIPMENT METHOD							
(See Table 6-9)							
The fractions in the cells below are approximations applicable to typical chemical processing plants. These values may differ depending on many factors such as location, process type, etc.							
Required user input		Default		Subtotal		Result	
Required, from a linked sheet or entered manually					Notes & comments		
Project Identifier: Illustration 101		Fraction of delivered equipment			User: copy from values at left or insert	Calculated values, million \$	
		Solid-processing plant	Solid-fluid processing plant	Fluid processing plant			
Direct Costs							
Purchased equipment, E'						1.000	
Delivery, fraction of E'		0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.100	
Subtotal: delivered equipment						1.100	
Purchased equipment installation		0.45	0.39	0.47	0.47	0.517	
Instrumentation&Controls(installed)		0.18	0.26	0.36	0.36	0.396	
Piping (installed)		0.16	0.31	0.68	0.68	0.748	
Electrical systems (installed)		0.10	0.10	0.11	0.11	0.121	
Buildings (including services)		0.25	0.29	0.18	0.18	0.198	
Yard improvements		0.15	0.12	0.10	0.10	0.110	
Service facilities (installed)		0.40	0.55	0.70	0.70	0.770	
Total direct costs		1.69	2.02	2.60	2.60	3.960	
Indirect Costs							
Engineering and supervision		0.33	0.32	0.33	0.33	0.363	
Construction expenses		0.39	0.34	0.41	0.41	0.451	
Legal expenses		0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.044	
Contractor's fee		0.17	0.19	0.22	0.22	0.242	
Contingency		0.35	0.37	0.44	0.44	0.484	
Total indirect costs		1.28	1.26	1.44	1.44	1.584	
Fixed capital investment (FCI)						5.544	Sent to 'Evaluation' and 'Year-0 \$', there adjusted as described below
Working capital (WC)		0.70	0.75	0.89	0.89	0.979	
Total capital investment (TCI)						6.523	

Raw Materials and Labor

ANNUAL RAW MATERIAL COSTS AND PRODUCTS VALUES

Process Identifier: Illustration 101			
Required user input		Notes & comments	
Default, may be changed			
RESULT			
Products, Coproducts and Byproducts			
Name of Material	Price, \$/kg	Annual Amount, million kg/y	Annual value of product, million \$/y
Main	1.60	30.000	48.00
Byproduct	0.25	12.000	3.00
			0.00
			0.00
			0.00
			0.00
Total annual value of products =			51.00

explained in
further in
slide 13

Sent to 'Evaluation'
and 'Year-0 \$'

Raw Materials			
Name of Material	Price, \$/kg	Annual Amount, million kg/y	Annual raw materials cost, million \$/y
1	0.45	20.000	9.00
2	0.25	12.000	3.00
3	0.05	13.000	0.65
			0.00
			0.00
			0.00
Total annual cost of raw materials =			12.65

Sent to sheet
'Annual TPC'

COST INDICES

CE Plant Cost Index

ENR Skilled Labor Index

Nelson-Farrar Refinery Index

Nelson-Farrar Chemical Cost Index

ANNUAL OPERATING LABOR COSTS

Process Identifier: Illustration 101			
Required user input		Notes & comments	
Default, may be changed			
RESULT			
Operating Labor			
Number of operators per shift*	Shifts per day**	Operator rate, \$/h #	Annual operating labor cost, million \$/y
3.0	3	33.67	0.885

Sent to 'Annual TPC'

*See Tables 6-13 and Fig. 6-9.

**Default = 3 for continuous process.

Enter appropriate value for batch operation.

#To obtain current, local value, enter (latest local ENR skilled labor index)/6067 =

explained further in
slide 12

1

Table 6-13 Typical Labor Requirements for Process Equipment

Type of equipment	Workers/unit/shift		# units	
Blowers and Compressors	0.1-0.2	0.15	4	0.6
Centrifugal separator	0.25-0.50	0.37	0	0.0
Crystallizer, mechanical	0.16	0.16	0	0.0
Dryer, rotary	0.5	0.5	0	0.0
Dryer, spray	1.0	1	0	0.0
Dryer, tray	0.5	0.5	0	0.0
Evaporator	0.25	0.25	0	0.0
Filter, vacuum	0.125-0.25	0.131	0	0.0
Filter, plate and frame	1.0	1	0	0.0
Filter, rotary and belt	0.1	0.1	0	0.0
Heat exchangers	0.1	0.1	2	0.2
Process vessels, towers	0.2-0.5	0.35	2	0.7
Reactor, batch	1.0	1	1	1.0
Reactor, continuous	0.5	0.5	1	0.5

Total number of workers per shift =

3.0

ENR Skilled Labor Index

ENR'S SKILLED LABOR INDEX (1990-2025)												
YEAR	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
2025	11870	11997										
2024	11709	11675	11675	11682	11687	11703	11703	11751	11805	11805	11805	11811
2023	11332	11332	11400	11445	11663	11674	11686	11686	11686	11698	11698	11698
2022	11056	11112	11112	11114	11155	11178	11200	11223	11246	11269	11292	11314
2021	10775	10797	10800	10805	10805	10815	10826	10848	10880	10978	11000	11055
2020	10626	10626	10626	10626	10626	10637	10658	10679	10690	10701	10722	10744
2019	10431	10436	10441	10441	10441	10483	10525	10527	10527	10548	10569	10622
2018	10224	10254	10275	10277	10277	10277	10277	10297	10349	10380	10380	10411
2017	1011	10021	10021	10061	10061	10061	10090	10133	10158	10168	10168	10215
2016	9705	9732	9771	9809	9809	9878	9888	9898	9898	9927	9927	10015
2015	9465	9468	9475	9529	9474	9551	9563	9570	9618	9653	9653	9715
2014	9188	9192	9225	9265	9294	9295	9306	9309	9341	9387	9387	9448
	9010	9028	9028	9028	9029	9047	9051	9058	9062	9129	9129	9192
	8809	8820	8848	8848	8848	8851	8879	8963	8966	8973	8973	9035
	8644	8644	8644	8652	8652	8711	8725	8748	8763	8773	8773	8835
	8356	8391	8391	8391	8437	8449	8494	8499	8517	8593	8593	8655
	8112	8112	8112	8112	8171	8191	8200	8240	8251	8255	8255	8317
	7796	7796	7796	7803	7818	7818	7846	7861	7975	8103	8105	8107
	7459	7459	7464	7466	7579	7579	7590	7644	7701	7718	7793	7796
	7201	7207	7209	7213	7213	7213	7218	7224	7266	7416	7450	7459
	6912	6926	6926	6926	6972	6981	6997	7065	7157	7164	7199	7199
	6644	6660	6672	6672	6672	6698	6717	6728	6838	6874	6878	6912
	6366	6393	6411	6421	6426	6487	6515	6553	6569	6596	6604	6616
	6097	6097	6109	6109	6148	6166	6242	6264	6291	6306	6333	6338
	5874	5874	5874	5892	5906	5948	5978	5984	6052	6065	6065	6067
	5641	5650	5676	5676	5714	5735	5750	5764	5770	5812	5817	5873
	5474	5474	5474	5489	5495	5521	5548	5548	5589	5596	5605	5635
	5294	5314	5317	5317	5317	5345	5369	5387	5416	5463	5471	5473
	5177	5177	5179	5182	5203	5203	5231	5263	5267	5280	5288	5294
	5016	5020	5020	5028	5039	5060	5075	5123	5133	5160	5164	5177
	4881	4892	4894	4903	4909	4909	4945	4967	4982	4998	5017	5016
	4766	4764	4764	4776	4782	4806	4816	4835	4865	4878	4878	4880
	4653	4653	4665	4665	4665	4662	4720	4720	4749	4757	4762	4766
	4539	4529	4536	4542	4553	4558	4593	4627	4639	4642	4551	4653
	4389	4387	4387	4390	4421	4440	4475	4493	4504	4520	4539	4539
1990	4242	4242	4248	4250	4267	4308	4310	4332	4372	4374	4387	4389

COURSE ADMIN

Schedule
Welcome Email
Standing Instructions for Students (SIS)
Section Marcher Duties & Rotation
Registrar
Canvas
Roster BIT2-Hour
Roster D1S2-Hour
Seating Chart BIT2-Hour
Seating Chart D1S2-Hour
FE Reference Handbook v10.4 (2024)
Cover Sheet
CHEMCAD License Server
CHEMCAD Installation Fix

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CE Plant Cost Index
ENR Skilled Labor Index
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Nelson-Farrar Chemical Cost Index

SPREADSHEETS

Cost & Evaluation Spreadsheet
Piping Design Spreadsheet
Agitator Design Spreadsheet
Pneumatic Conveyor Design Spreadsheet

Entry for labor index:

$$\frac{11977}{6067} = 1.97$$

Notes:

Index value in "Colorful" worksheet is **bold** and highlighted in yellow

Last updated 13 February 2025

Additional Info for Determining Operating Labor (Figure 6-9)

Example: A large automated plant produces 100,000 kg/day with 12 processing steps.

$(34 \text{ employee hours per day / step}) \times 12 \text{ steps} = 408 \text{ employee hours per day}$

$408 \text{ employee hours per day} / (8 \text{ hours / day}) = 51 \text{ employees}$

$51 \text{ employees} / 3 \text{ shifts} = 17 \text{ employees per shift}$

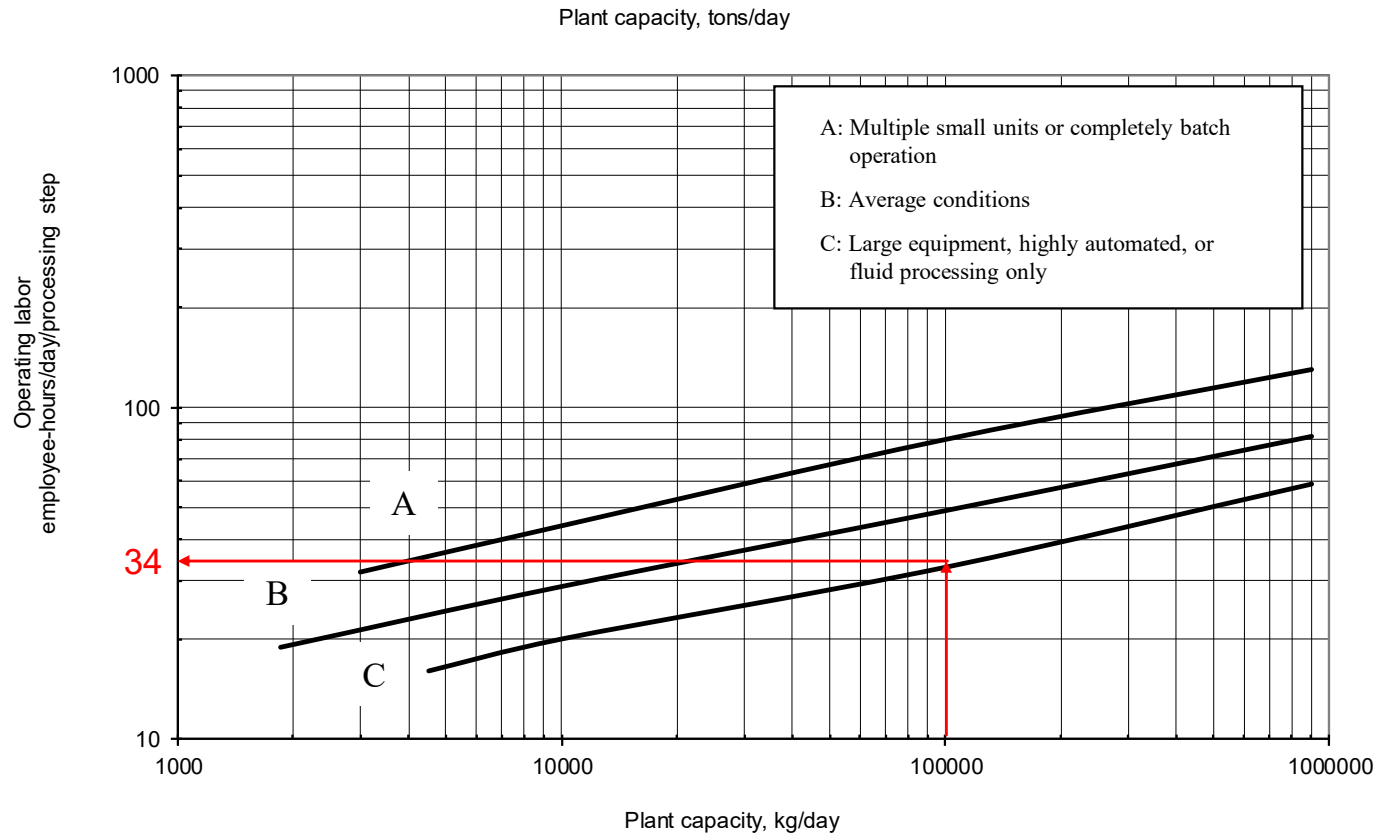


Figure 6-9 Operating Labor in the chemical process industries

Utility Costs

See Table 6-14 and Table B-1 for ranges of utility unit costs and sources of information. Default values are rough averages and may be changed. Utility costs can differ widely with location.

Process Identifier: Illustration 101

Process Identifier: Illustration 101

		Required user input		Notes & comments	
		Result		Default, may be changed	
TOTAL UTILITY COST =		2.025		million \$/y	
		Sent to sheet 'Annual TPC'			
Utility	Default unit cost	Default cost units	Annual utility requirement, in appropriate units	Default units of utility requirement	Annual utility cost, million \$/y
Air, compressed					
Process air	0.45	\$/100m ³ *		100 m ³ /y	
Instrument air	0.90	\$/100m ³ *		100 m ³ /y	
Electricity					
Purchased, U.S. average	0.045	\$/kWh	1800000	kWh/y	0.081
Self-generated	0.05	\$/kWh		kWh/y	
Fuel					
Coal	1.66	\$/GJ		GJ/y	
Fuel oil	3.30	\$/GJ		GJ/y	
Natural gas	3.00	\$/GJ	360000	GJ/y	1.080
Manufactured gas	12.00	\$/GJ		GJ/y	
Refrigeration, to temperature					
15 °C	4.00	\$/GJ		GJ/y	
5 °C	5.00	\$/GJ		GJ/y	
-20 °C	8.00	\$/GJ		GJ/y	
-50 °C	14.00	\$/GJ		GJ/y	
Steam, saturated					
3550 kPa	8.00	\$/1000 kg		1000 kg/y	
790 kPa	6.00	\$/1000 kg	40000	1000 kg/y	0.240
Exhaust (150 kPa)	2.00	\$/1000 kg		1000 kg/y	
Waste water					
Disposal	0.53	\$/m ³		m ³ /y	
Treatment	0.53	\$/m ³	400000	m ³ /y	0.212
Waste disposal					
Hazardous	145.00	\$/1000 kg		1000 kg/y	
Non-hazardous	36.00	\$/1000 kg		1000 kg/y	
Water					
Cooling	0.08	\$/ m ³	2500000	m ³ /y	0.200
Process					
General	0.53	\$/m ³	400000	m ³ /y	0.212
Distilled	0.90	\$/m ³		m ³ /y	

Modified Accelerated Cost Recovery System (MACRS)

FEE Reference Handbook, v10.5, pp. 230-231

[illegible]

Annual Total Product Cost

ANNUAL TOTAL PRODUCT COST AT 100% CAPACITY						
See Figure 6-7 and 6-8						
Default, may be changed		Subtotal	Notes & comments			
User input		RESULT				
Required, may be calculated here, in linked worksheet, or entered manually.						
Project identifier: Illustration 101						
Capacity	30	10 ⁶ kg per year				
Fixed Capital Investment, FCI	50.114	million \$				
Item	Default factor, user may change	Basis	Basis cost, million \$/y	Cost, million \$/y		
Raw materials				12.650		
Operating labor				0.885		
Operating supervision	0.15	of operating labor	0.885	0.133		
Utilities				2.025		
Maintenance and repairs	0.06	of FCI	50.114	3.007		
Operating supplies	0.15	of maintenance &	3.007	0.451		
Laboratory charges	0.15	of operating labor	0.885	0.133		
Royalties (if not on lump-sum basis)	0.01	of c_o	26.674	0.267		
Catalysts and solvents	0	--		0.000		
Variable cost =				19.550	Sent to 'Evaluation' and	
Taxes (property)	0.02	of FCI	50.114	1.002		'Year-0 \$'
Financing (interest)	0	of FCI	50.114	0.000		
Insurance	0.01	of FCI	50.114	0.501		
Rent	0	of FCI	50.114	0.000		
Depreciation	Calculated separately					
Fixed Charges =				1.503		
Plant overhead, general	0.6	of labor, supervisi	4.024	2.415		
Plant Overhead =				2.415		
Manufacturing cost =				23.468		
Administration	0.2	of labor, supervisi	4.024	0.805		
Distribution & selling	0.05	of c_o	26.674	1.334		
Research & Development	0.04	of c_o	26.674	1.067		
General Expense =				3.206		
TOTAL PRODUCT COST <u>WITHOUT DEPRECIATION</u> = c_o =				26.674		
					Sent to 'Evaluation' and 'Year-0 \$'	

Slide 17

[illegible]

Cumulative Cash Flow Position

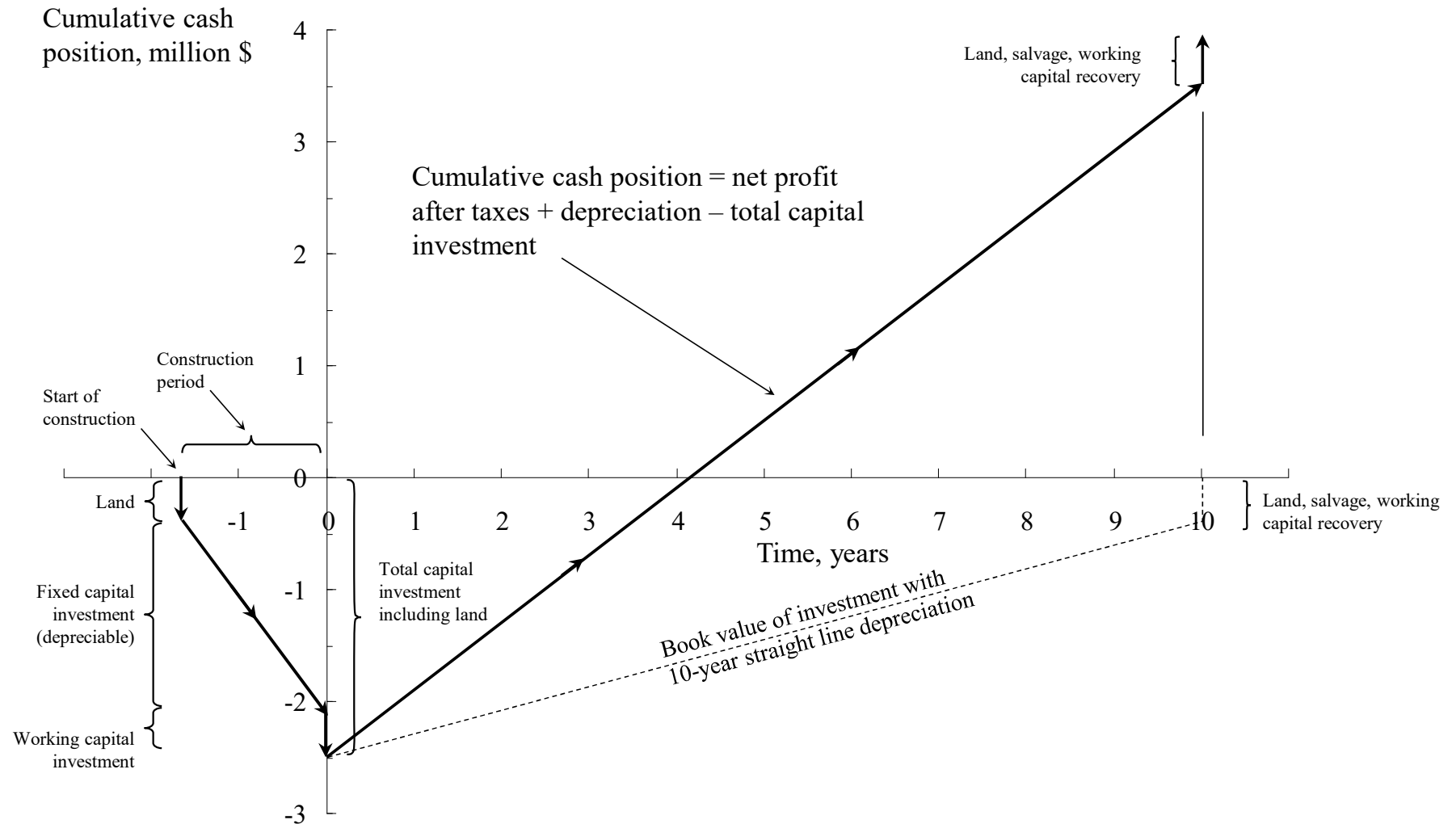


Figure 6.2 Graph of cumulative cash position showing effects of cash flow over full life cycle for a 10-year industrial operation, neglecting the time value of money

Problem 6-1

The purchased cost of a shell-and-tube heat exchanger (floating head and carbon steel tubes) with 10 m² (not 100 m²) of heating surface was \$4200 in 1990. What was the 1990 purchased cost of a similar heat exchanger with 20 m² of heating surface if the purchased cost capacity exponent is 0.60 for surface areas ranging from 10 to 40 m²? If the purchased cost capacity exponent is 0.81 for surface areas ranging from 40 to 200 m², what was the purchased cost of a heat exchanger with 100 m² of heating surface in 2000?

This problem jumps ahead to lesson 15.

Lesson 15

Scaling of Equipment Costs

$$\text{Cost of equipment a} = (\text{Cost of equipment b}) \cdot X^{0.6}$$

X is the “capacity ratio”

Equipment	Size Range	Exponent
Heat exchanger, shell-and-tube, floating head, (c.s.)	10 - 40 m ²	0.60
Heat exchanger, shell-and-tube, fixed sheet, (c.s.)	10 - 40 m ²	0.44
Pump, centrifugal, horizontal, cast steel (with motor)	4 - 40 (m ³ /s)·(kPa)	0.33
Reactor, glass-lined, jacketed (without drive)	0.2 - 2.2 m ³	0.54
Tower (c.s.)	500 – 5,000,000 kg	0.62
Tray, sieve	1 - 3 m	0.86

Selected entries from Table 6-4, page 243

Lesson 15

FEE Reference Handbook, v10.5, pp. 257-258

Scaling of Equipment Costs

The cost of Unit A at one capacity related to the cost of a similar Unit B with X times the capacity of Unit A is approximately X^n times the cost of Unit B.

$$\text{Cost of Unit A} = \text{Cost of Unit B} \left(\frac{\text{Capacity of Unit A}}{\text{Capacity of Unit B}} \right)^n$$

Typical Exponents (n) for Equipment Cost vs. Capacity

Equipment	Size range	Exponent
Dryer, drum, single vacuum	10 to 10 ² ft ²	0.76
Dryer, drum, single atmospheric	10 to 10 ² ft ²	0.40
Fan, centrifugal	10 ³ to 10 ⁴ ft ³ /min	0.44
Fan, centrifugal	2 × 10 ⁴ to 7 × 10 ⁴ ft ³ /min	1.17
Heat exchanger, shell and tube, floating head, c.s.	100 to 400 ft ²	0.60
Heat exchanger, shell and tube, fixed sheet, c.s.	100 to 400 ft ²	0.44
Motor, squirrel cage, induction, 440 volts, explosion proof	5 to 20 hp	0.69
Motor, squirrel cage, induction, 440 volts, explosion proof	20 to 200 hp	0.99
Tray, bubble cup, c.s.	3- to 10-ft diameter	1.20
Tray, sieve, c.s.	3- to 10-ft diameter	0.86

average, this table = .76

average, all equipment = .60

Problem 6-2

Plot the 2000 purchased cost of the shell-and-tube heat exchanger outlined in Problem 6-1 as a function of surface area from 10 to 200 m². Note that the purchased cost capacity exponent is not constant over the range of surface areas requested.

This problem also jumps ahead to lesson 15.

Questions?