

### **Righting Software**

Juval Löwy www.idesign.net

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### **About Juval Löwy**



- Software architect
  - Specializes in architecture and project design
  - Helped hundreds of companies meet their commitments
  - Conducts Master Classes the world over
- Recent book
  - Righting Software (2019, Addison-Wesley)
- Published more than 100 articles
- Speaks at major international development conferences
- Participated in Microsoft's strategic design reviews
- Recognized Software Legend by Microsoft
- Contact at www.idesign.net

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### **Software Development Crisis**



- The software industry is in a deep crisis
  - Multi-dimensional crisis
- Cost
  - Initial development
  - Overall ownership
  - Unacceptable cost of changes leads to "clean slate"
  - \$ > ;
- Schedule
  - Time to market
  - Time to feature
  - Slips

### **Software Development Crisis**



- Requirements
  - Solving the wrong problems
  - System obsolete by release time due to requirements change
- Staffing
  - Unmaintainable by new staff

### **Software Development Crisis**



- Quality
  - Up to unusable systems
  - Customer satisfaction

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### **Righting the Industry**



- Requires fixing all dimensions of the crisis
  - Systems and projects
- Structured engineered methodology
  - The Method

### Agenda



- System Design
  - 9:00-12:00
- Lunch
  - 12:00-1:00 PM
- Project Design
  - 1:00-4:00 PM

Design

### **System Design**

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- Avoid functional decomposition
  - "Flow-chart" decomposition
  - Basing services on order of logical steps in use cases
  - Functional and time decomposition
- Leads to duplicating behaviors across services
- Extreme edges of the cost/size curve
  - Explosion of services
  - Bloating of services
  - Intricate relationships inside and between

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### **Avoid Functional Decomposition**



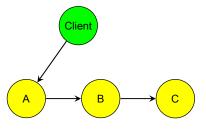
- Pollutes clients with business logic
  - Implementing uses cases in higher level terms
- Prevents reuse
  - Couples services to order and current use cases
- Prevents single point of entry

### Avoid Functional Decomposition Makes services too big or too small Often side by side FormSetup MainForm Resources

# Avoid Functional Decomposition Clients stitch services Too small services Bloated client Client



- Too big and bloated
  - Chaining services

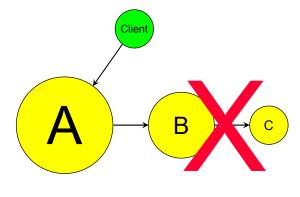


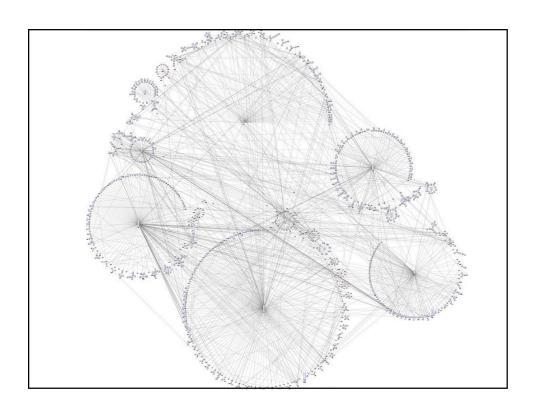
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### **Avoid Functional Decomposition**



- Too big and bloated
  - Contain details on downstream calls







- Functional decomposition means design adds no value
- Consider performing anti-design effort
- Think about building a house functionally

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### **Avoid Functional Decomposition**



■ Functional decomposition of a house

 Cooking
 Playing
 Resting
 Sleeping
 Entertaining

 Eating
 Bathing
 Growing
 Cleaning
 Fixing

 Working
 Paying Bills
 Learning
 . . . .

.

.



- How many sub services are under **Cooking**?
  - Breakfast
  - Lunch
  - Dinner
  - Guests
  - Snacks
  - Healthy
  - ...
- How would you implement just cooking?

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### Avoid Functional Decomposition Domain decomposition of a house Kitchen Bedroom 1 Garage Living Room Attic



- How would you implement just the kitchen?
- Pumping and bloating
  - Operations grouped based on business objects they require
- Functionality is often spread across multiple areas
  - Composed of smaller functionalities
  - Change involves multiple places
- Brown-field systems often require side-by-side deployment of new system
  - Reconciliation challenge often greater than actual system's
- Regression testing is next to impossible

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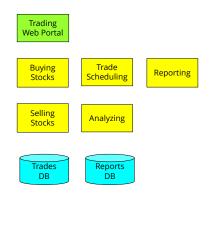
### **Avoid Functional Decomposition**



- Example: stocks trading system
- Requirements
  - Enable traders to buy and sell stocks
  - Schedule trades
  - Issue reports
  - Analyze trades
  - Client is browser
    - ▲ Connected sessions
  - After trade/report sends email confirming request or results
  - Data is stored in database



■ Naïve functional decomposition



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### **Avoid Functional Decomposition**



- Client orchestrates Selling Stocks, Buying Stocks, Scheduling Trades, Reporting
  - What will it take to change client to a mobile device?
  - Impact on components
  - Chances of client reuse slim
- Changing email to SMS impacts all components
- Switching to cloud storage impact data access code of all
- Async interactions requires rewrite of all components
- Changing trade items requires new components or massive re-write of old ones
- Changing feed impacts all
- Globalization impacts all



- Decompose based on volatility
  - Identify areas of potential change
    - ▲ Can be functional but not domain functional
  - Encapsulate in services
- Implement behavior as interaction between services and subsystems

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- Universal principle of good design
- Encapsulate change to insulate
  - Do not resonate with change
- Functional decomposition maximizes impact of change
  - Coupled to it

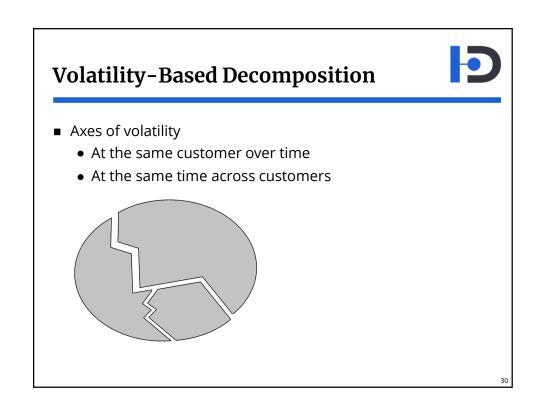
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### **Volatility-Based Decomposition**



- Volatility is often not-self evident
  - Takes longer than functional
  - Getting management support
  - Fighting insanity
- Dunning-Kruger effect
- Doctors of old







- Axes should be independent
  - Encapsulate from each other as well
  - When not, indicating functional decomposition

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### **Volatility-Based Decomposition**



- Volatility-encapsulating decomposition of a house
  - At the same customer over time

Furniture Volatility Appliances Volatility Occupants Volatility Appearance Volatility Utilities Volatility



- Volatility-encapsulating decomposition of a house
  - At the same time across customers

Structure Volatility Neighbors Volatility City Volatility

- Axes are independent
  - Neighbors more pronounced on second axis

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### **Volatility-Based Decomposition**



- Was cooking ever a requirement?
- Functional decomposition handles poorly solutions masquerading as requirements
- Volatility based decomposition is the proper way here as well



- Prepare list of areas of volatility
  - Prior to architecture and decomposition
  - Normal part of requirements gathering and analysis
  - Ask what could change along axes of volatility

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### **Volatility-Based Decomposition**



- Example: the stocks trading system
- At the same time there are several types of users
  - Who is the user
  - From professional traders to end users reviewing portfolio
- Volatility in users often manifests in volatility in type of client application and technology
  - Web page
  - Mobile device
  - Rich desktop app
- How the users authenticate
  - And authorize



- System notifications is volatile
  - Transport
    - **▲** Email
    - ▲ Paper mail
    - ▲ SMS
  - Publishers
  - Who receives and broadcast nature
- Where data is stored and how to access is volatile
  - Local database
  - Cache
  - Cloud

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### **Volatility-Based Decomposition**



- Type of connectivity and synchronicity
  - Connected, synchronous lock-step near real-time
  - Queued up trades
  - In or out of order
- Duration of interaction
  - Complete trade in one session
  - Long-running interaction spanning sessions and possibly multiple devices



- The trade item is volatile
  - Over time may want to trade commodities or currencies
- Volatility in trade item implies
  - Volatility in frequency of the market data update
  - Processing workflow of trade itself
  - Analysis of trade
- The locale is volatile with implication on
  - Trading rules
  - UI localization
  - Possible trade items

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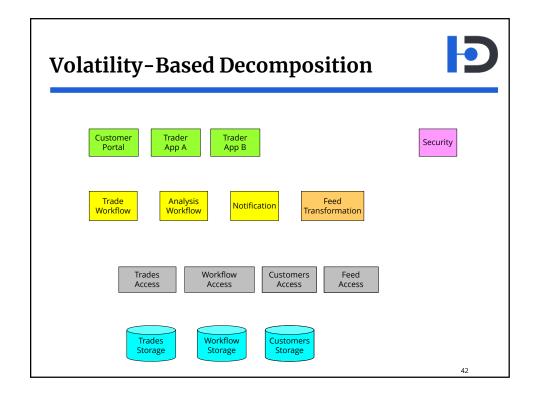
### **Volatility-Based Decomposition**



- Feed is volatile
  - Communication
  - Content
  - Format
  - Frequency
  - External or internal
  - Real or simulated



- Observation
  - Not exhaustive list
  - Objective is thinking about what could change and mindset
- Some volatile areas may be out of scope
  - Or relate too much to nature of the business
- Vital to call out the areas of volatility as early as possible
  - Designating a component costs nothing
  - Later on may allocate effort to design and construction
- Once settled on the areas of volatility encapsulate them in components of the architecture





- Transition from list of areas of volatility to services is hardly ever pure 1:1
  - Sometimes a single service encapsulates multiple areas
  - Some areas may map to operational concept
  - May encapsulated in a third party component
- Some mapping is straightforward
- Data storage volatility encapsulated behind **Access Services** 
  - Where the storage is
  - What technology is used to access it
  - Referring to the storage as **Storage** and not as Database

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### **Volatility-Based Decomposition**



- Notification volatility encapsulated in **Notification** 
  - How to notify
  - Who is the client
  - Often simple pub/sub will do
- Volatility in trading workflow is encapsulated in **Trade Workflow** 
  - What is being traded
  - Specific steps in buying or selling
  - Required customization for local markets
  - Reports
  - Workflow itself even if all else is constant
  - Uses some workflow tool persisting workflow

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- Persisting workflow encapsulates volatility
  - Duration of sessions
  - Connectivity type
  - Distributed sessions and multiple devices
- Volatility in analysis is handled exactly the same way as with the trading workflow
- Volatility in feeds is encapsulated in Feed Transformation
- **Security** component encapsulates volatility in ways of authenticating and authorizing users
  - Creds storage and access
  - Transfer security

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### **Volatility-Based Decomposition**



- Anything absent assumed not volatile enough
  - Nothing to encapsulate
- Resist the Siren song of bad habits
  - Tie yourself to the mast of VBD



### **Decomposition And Business**



- Avoid encapsulating changes to the nature of the business
  - Hint very rare indeed
  - Hint each done poorly
  - The speculating design trap



### **Decomposition And Business**



- Useful posture
  - Design both for you and your competitor
  - Identify nature of the business not to encapsulate
    - ▲ Not functionality



### The Method



- Template for common areas to encapsulate
  - A good starting point
  - Encapsulate classic volatile areas
  - Typical runtime behavior and relationships
- Layers encapsulate top-down
- Services inside layers encapsulate sideways

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### Layered Approach Systems are typically designed in layers Even simple systems Layers layer encapsulation All cross-layer entities are services Service Ser

### **Layered Approach**



- Cross-layer calls to services promote and enable
  - Consistency
  - Scalability
  - Fault isolation
  - Security
  - Separation of presentation from logic
  - Availability
  - Throughput
  - Responsiveness
  - Synchronization

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### **Structure**



- Client
  - AKA Presentation
  - Can be a user or another system
  - Can be variety of client application technologies
    - ▲ Encapsulate clients technology volatility
  - Advocate single point of entry to system

### **Structure**



- Business
  - Managers encapsulate volatility in the sequence in use cases and workflows
    - ▲ Each manager is collection of related use cases
  - Engines encapsulates volatility in business rules and activities
  - Manager may use zero or more engines
  - Engines may be shared between managers

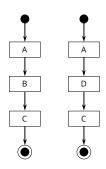
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## Structure Sequence volatility A B C B B B B C C C F(res) F(res)

### Structure



Activity volatility

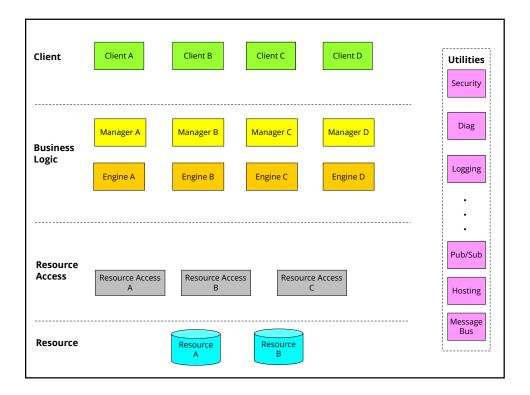


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### **Structure**



- Resource access
  - Encapsulate resource access
  - May call resource located in other systems
  - Can be shared across engines and managers
  - Expose lowest possible business context around resources
    - ▲ Atomic business verbs vs. CRUDS/IO
- Resources
  - Physical resources
- Utilities
  - Common infrastructure to all services



### **Containing Changes**



- System must respond to changes in requirements
  - Live system
  - Fighting change kills the system
  - Respond quickly
- Trick is in containing the change
  - Minimize the impact
- Functional decomposition maximizes impact of change
  - Change is spread across multiple places

### **Containing Changes**



- Change to use case means change to workflow
  - Manager implementation
  - Not underlying services
- Bulk of effort in system goes into
  - Engines
  - Resource access
  - Resource
  - Clients and UI
  - Utilities and infrastructure
- Essence of agility

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### **Project Design**

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### What is Project Design



- Much as you design software system, must **design** the project
  - Accurately calculating duration and cost
  - Devising several good execution options
  - Validating your plan
- All stem from your system design
- Addressing all properly is a hard-core engineering task
  - Requires both architect and project manager to find best overall plan
    - ▲ Along with other options for management to choose from
- Project design to project management is what system architecture is to programming

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### What is Project Design

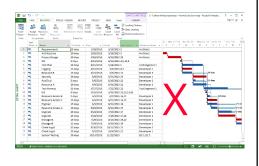


- Beyond decision making
- Project design is also system assembly instructions
  - Would you buy an IKEA set without assembly instructions?
  - What about your software system?
- Assembling is project management
- Project design produces project plan
  - System design produces the architecture

### **Project Design Overview**



- Staffing
- Estimations
- Network
- Schedule
- Cost
- Risk



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### **Staffing**



- If you want architecture get a competent architect!
- Requirements analysis and architecture are contemplative time consuming activities
  - Single architect is crucial for design integrity
    - ▲ Chimera
  - Accountability
  - More firepower does not expedite
  - Single architect usually suffices



### **Staffing**



- In large projects, have a senior architect and junior/apprentice
  - Architects are rare resource
  - Work well together
  - Sounding board
  - Grooming
- Assign a service to individual developer (1:1)
  - Anything else is failure
  - Cannot reliably estimate as well

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### **Core Team**



- Architect cannot work in isolation
- Need a core team in place
  - Project manager
  - Architect
  - Product manager
- Three logical roles
  - Often map to three individuals
- Core team stays thought the project
  - Other resources are transient

### **Core Team**



- Project manager shields team from organization
  - Most organizations create too much noise
  - Act as proxy for team
  - On-going through project
    - ▲ Status reports
    - ▲ Negotiations
    - ▲ Cross-organization constraints
- Architect decompose system into services
  - Project design upfront
  - On-going through project
    - ▲ Keeping system on the design

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### **Core Team**



- Product manager encapsulates customers
  - Proxy to customers
  - Resolves conflicts across customers
  - Negotiates requirements and priorities
  - Communicates expectations
- Core team stays throughout the project
  - Roles morph over time

### **Core Team**



- Core team designs project in **fuzzy front end** 
  - Requires 15-25% of project duration
    - ▲ Depending on constraints
    - From requirements gathering and analysis to system and project design
    - ▲ Design is not time consuming
- Reliably answering
  - How long it will take
  - How much it will cost
- Impossible to know without
  - Architecture
  - Project design

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### **Educated Decisions**



- Pointless to commit or approve project without
  - Cost
  - Schedule
  - Risk analysis
- Pointless to staff project with resources until committed

### **Educated Decisions**



- Plan is not single pair of schedule/cost
  - Must provide management with several options trading schedule, cost, and risk
  - Most managers would not opt for cheapest or fastest option
    - ▲ Or safest or riskiest
- Whose fault is it when pair is impractical

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### **Educated Decisions**



- Management commits to plan in Feed Me/Kill Me point
  - Officially, SDP review
  - Even if your "process" does not have it
- Killing beneficial for all if unacceptable
  - CLM for core team
  - Opportunity cost

#### **Estimations**



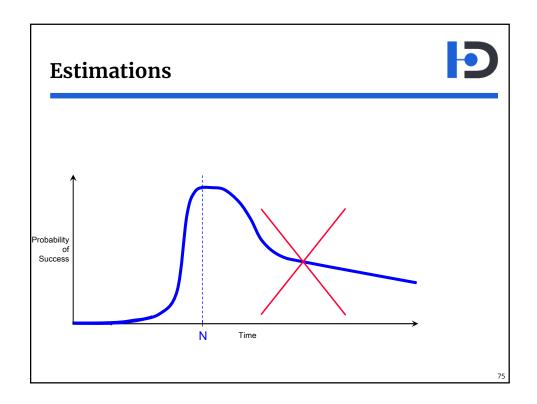
- How long will it take?
- Must estimate effort to continue the design
  - Overall
  - For each activity in project
- Overall duration is not sum divided by staffing
  - Dependencies
  - Communication overhead

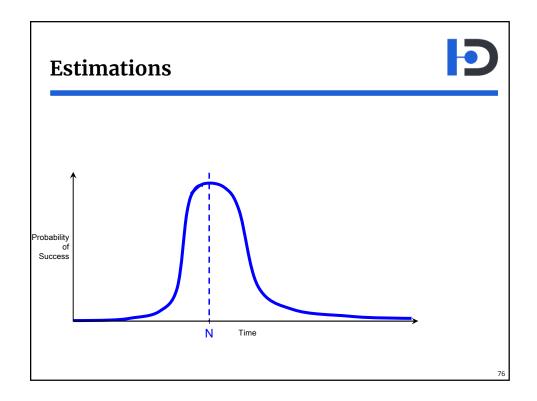
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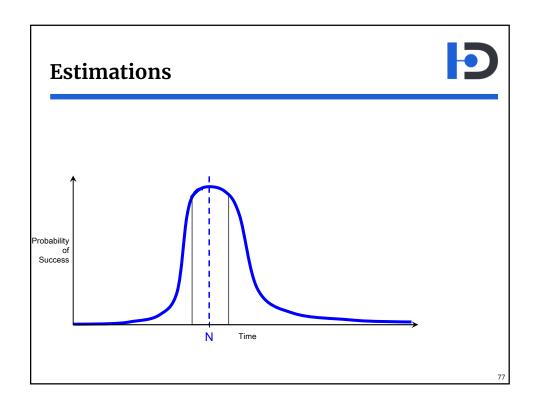
#### **Estimations**



- Both underestimation and overestimation are deadly
- Padding allows for increased complexity
  - Gold plating
  - Parkinson's Law
- Too aggressive schedule guarantees failure
  - Cutting corners and best practices
- Nominal estimation maximizes probability for success







# **Estimations**



- Good estimations are accurate
  - Not precise
- Do not confuse unknown with uncertain
- Help people overcome fear
  - Even refusal to estimate
    - ▲ "Don't know"
  - No entrapment

#### **Estimations**



- Confronted with uncertainty use orders of magnitudes
  - First to narrow type of units
  - Second to zoom in on value (2X)
- Use PERT to handle uncertainty
  - E calculated estimation
  - **T** optimistic estimation
  - M most likely estimation
  - P pessimistic estimation

$$E = \frac{T + 4*M + P}{6}$$

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#### **Estimations**



- Estimation resolution is always quantum of 5 days
  - Simple
  - Aligns with week boundaries
  - Reduces waste in plan
  - Looks great in Microsoft Project
  - Allow errors compensation due to law of big numbers

#### **Activity-Based Estimation**



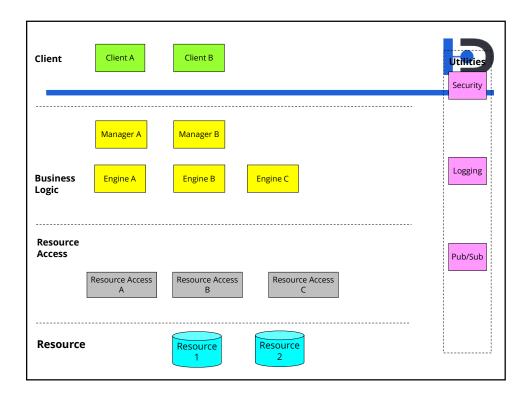
- Done individually per activity
  - Per owner if possible
- Maintain correct estimation dialog
  - Across all levels and roles
- Itemize lifecycle of all services
  - Do not omit:
    - ▲ Learning curves
    - ▲ Test clients
    - ▲ Installation
    - ▲ Integration points
    - ▲ Peer reviews
    - **▲** Documentation

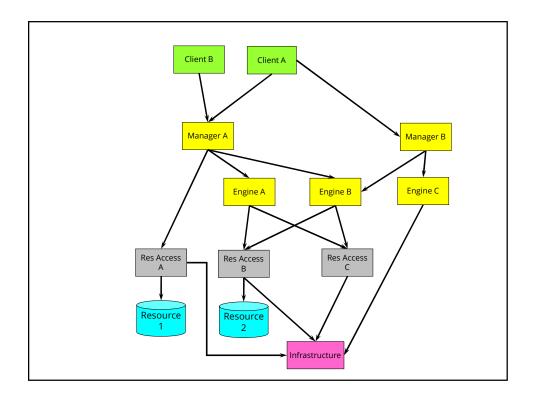
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### **Critical Path Analysis**



- Driven by architecture
- Pre-requisites
  - Decomposition into services
  - Dependencies tree
    - ▲ Driven by use-cases
  - List of non-coding activities
  - Effort estimation per activity
  - Available resources
    - ▲ Must repeat analysis per scenario

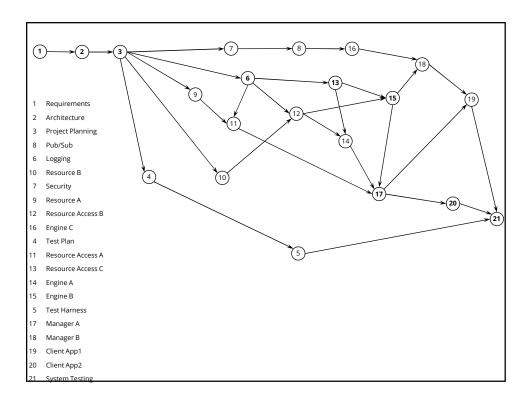




# **Project Network**



- Convert dependencies tree into abstract graph
  - Add non-coding activities



#### **Project Network**

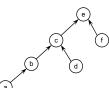


- Time to finish each activity
  - Activity effort estimation + time to get to activity
  - Time to get to activity is max of all paths leading to it

```
T(i) = E(i) + Max(T(i-1), T(i-2), ..., T(i-j))
```

■ Example

```
\begin{split} & \texttt{T(e)} \ = \ \texttt{E(e)} \ + \ \texttt{Max(T(c),T(f))} \ = \ \texttt{E(e)} \ + \ \texttt{Max(T(c),E(f))} \\ & \texttt{T(c)} \ = \ \texttt{E(c)} \ + \ \texttt{Max(T(b),T(d))} \ = \ \texttt{E(c)} \ + \ \texttt{Max(T(b),E(d))} \\ & \texttt{T(b)} \ = \ \texttt{E(b)} \ + \ \texttt{Max(T(a))} \ = \ \texttt{E(b)} \ + \ \texttt{E(a)} \end{split}
```



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# **Project Network**

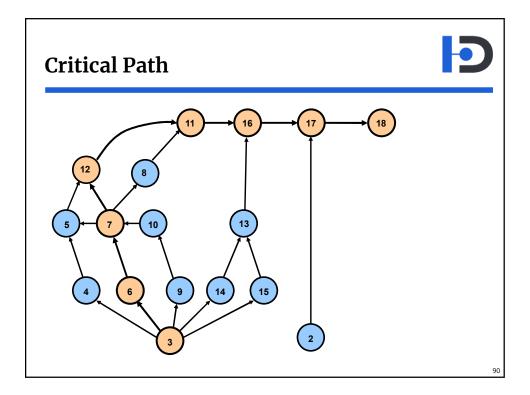


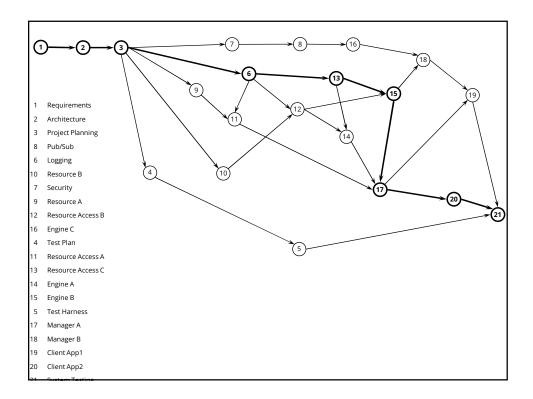
- Start at last activity and calculate time to finish per preceding activity
  - Use regression to calculate duration of all paths leading for each activity
- Identify longest path from start to finish
  - Called critical path

#### **Critical Path**



- Longest path from start to finish of project
  - Quickest possible way project can ever be built
  - No project can ever be accelerated beyond its critical path
- Duration of critical path is duration of project
  - Only way to answer "How long will it take?"

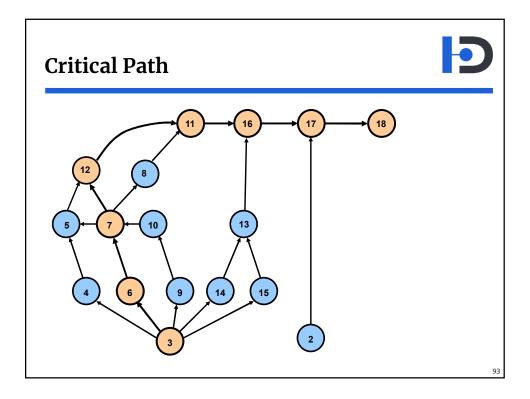




#### **Critical Path and Resources**



- Assign resources to critical path first
  - Accelerating non-critical paths does not accelerate project
  - Slowing down critical path absolutely slows down project
- Best resources always go to critical path
  - Where the risk is
- Look for smallest staffing level that allows unimpeded progress along critical path
  - Level will change along path
  - Assume for now unlimited resources



# **Float Analysis**



- Non-critical activities can float
  - Do not have to start immediately
- Non-critical paths float will vary
- Assign resources to near critical path first
  - Where the risk is
- Can trade float for resources
  - Look for smallest staffing level that allows unimpeded progress on critical path
  - With acceptable risk

#### **Activities and Resources**



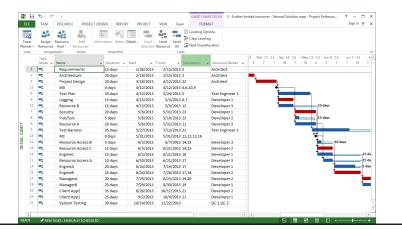
- Resource availability may dictate when activities done
  - Beyond logical dependencies
  - Resource dependencies are dependencies
- Assign resources for activities based on
  - Critical path
  - Floats
  - Available resources
  - Constrains
    - ▲ Will yield several plans

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# **Scheduling Activities**



- Use scheduling software to derive actual dates
  - And convert work days to calendar days



# **Scheduling Activities**



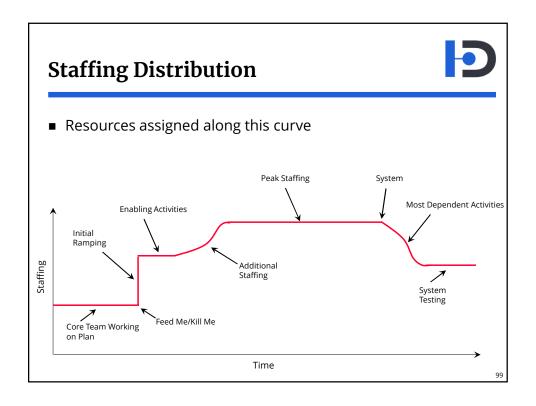
			Planned Completion	
Owner	Activity	Effort	Date	
			0 4/1/201	
BCM1	Build/Configuration Manager	4		
Patrick	Architect - Top Level Design	6	0 6/23/201	
Patrick	WCF + MVC Training		8 6/27/201	
Diane	Account Data	2		
Patrick	Service Model Pekin		0 8/8/201	
Dianne	Policy Data	1	1 8/9/201	
Dianne	Support Utilities		6 8/16/201	
Diane	Customer Account Data Access		0 9/5/201	
Pat	Transform Policy Data		9/16/201	
Patrick	Pub/Sub Service	2	3 9/19/201	
Patrick	Security	2	10/18/201	
Dianne	Policy Data Access	3		
Jakob	Customer Manager	5	7 11/23/201	
Patrick	Service Endpoint Lookup		0 11/29/201	
Dianne	Agency Data		2 12/8/201	
Jakob	Registration Process (UI)	2	12/22/201	
Jakob	Customer Logon Process (UI)	2	12/22/201	
Dianne	Agency Data Access	2	6 1/13/201	
Jennifer	QA Testing - Stage 1	2	1 2/20/201	
Jakob	Policy Engine	3	9 4/6/201	
Dianne	Documents Index Data	4	7 4/18/201	
Paul	Documents File Store	4	8 4/19/201	
Jakob	Attach (Customer Mgr)	3	2 5/22/201	
Jakob	Documents Access	2	6 5/24/201	
Jakob	Attach Policies (UI)	4	1 7/18/201	
Jennifer	QA Testing - Stage 2	2	1 8/16/201	
Jakob	Agency Engine	2	7 9/24/201	
Dianne	Policy Documents Engine	3	8 10/9/201	
Pat	Billing Data	6	7 11/19/201	
Jakob	Policy Manager	4	8 11/29/201	
Jakob	View attached Policies (UI)	3	2 1/14/201	
Dianne	Billing Info Access	4	0 1/14/201	
Jennifer	QA Testing - Stage 3	2	2/12/201	
Dianne	Billing History Engine	4	1 4/10/201	
Jakob	View Billing Info (Policy Mgr)	4		
Jakob	Activity Manager	2	9 7/26/201	
Jakob	View Billing Info (UI)		4 7/26/201	
Jennifer	QA Testing - Stage 4	2	1 8/26/201	
	Total Planned Effort	124	7	

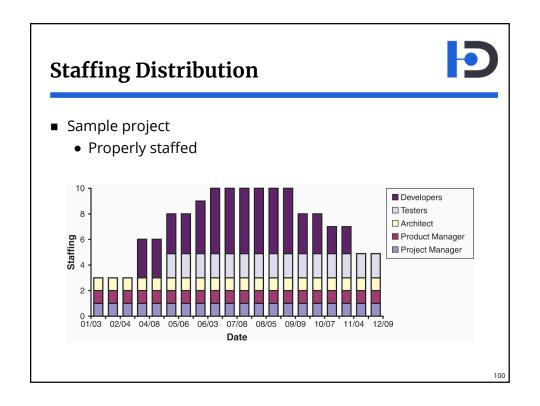
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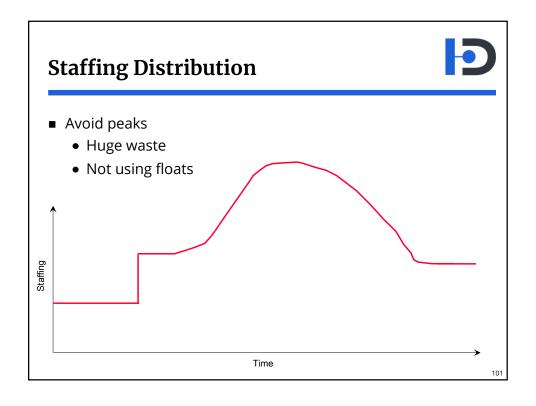
# **Staffing Distribution**

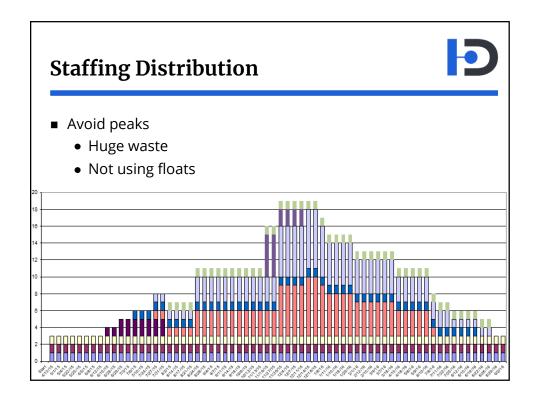


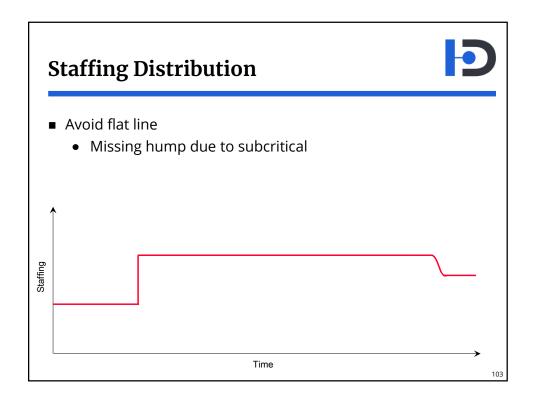
- Only once project approved should assign resources
  - And option chosen
- Not all resources
  - Needed at once
    - ▲ Critical path
  - Retired uniformly
- Developers and resources ramp after SDP review
  - Phase in and out
  - Avoid feast/famine cycles
- Each planning option must have own staffing distribution

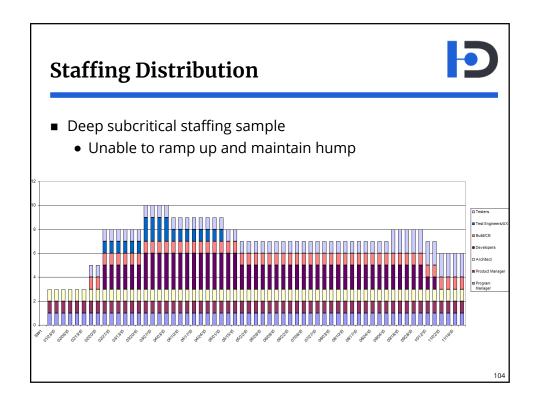


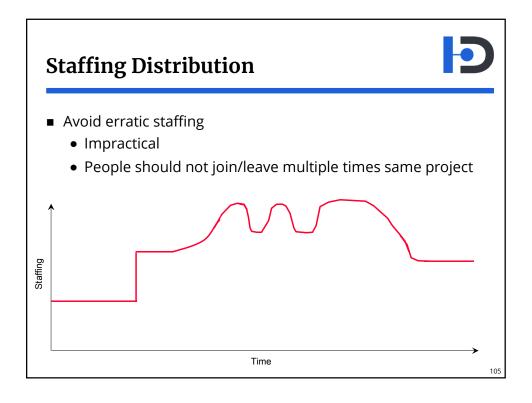


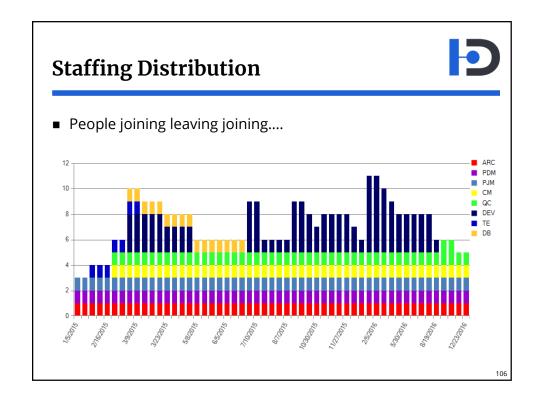


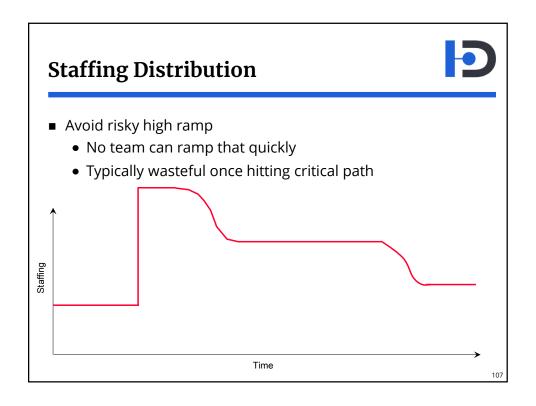


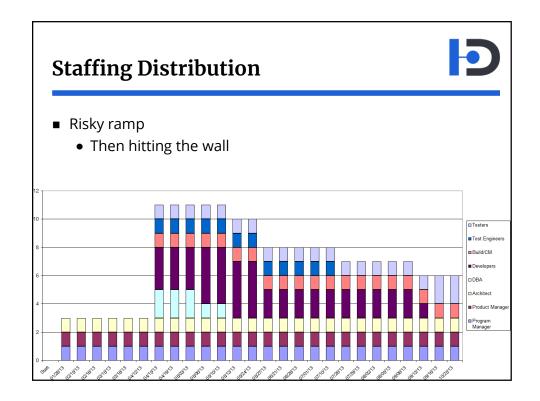


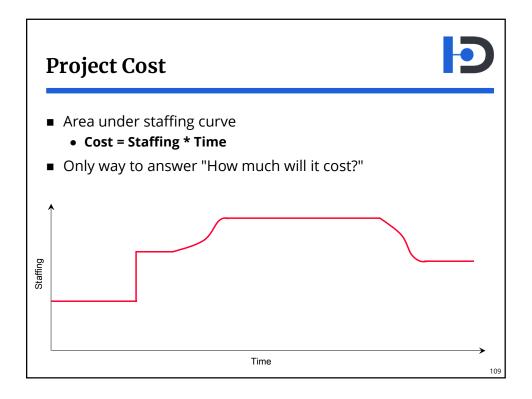












# **Project Cost**



- Without accurate cost and schedule
  - Perpetually overbid or underbid
  - In-house or external
  - Eventually go out of business
- Would you play poker without looking at the cards?
- Career/team/company survival

### **Roles and Responsibilities**



- Architect designs the project
  - Project manager in supporting role
- Project design hinges on
  - Architecture
  - Resources
  - Time

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# **Roles and Responsibilities**



- Architect has insight and perspective on
  - Architecture
  - Technology
  - Dependencies
  - Design constrains
  - Resource skills
- Project manager has insight and perspective on
  - Resources cost
  - Availability
  - Priorities
  - Feasibility
  - Politics

#### **Roles and Responsibilities**



- Building the plant is part of the plant design
  - Do not be astronaut architect
- Lack of physical constraints is all the more reason to design
- Project cost and schedule derive from architecture
  - Do not be empty suit project manager
- Managing and executing complex software system requires
  - Intimate familiarity with architecture
  - Close continuous cooperation with dedicated architect



#### **Roles and Responsibilities**



- Architects traditionally address
  - Maintainability
- Throughput
- Reusability
- Availability
- Extensibility
- Responsiveness
- Feasibility
- Performance
- Scalability
- Security
- Architects produce design solution that satisfies above requirements and constraints

# **Roles and Responsibilities**



- Must add to the list
  - Resources
  - Cost
  - Schedule
  - Risk
- Part of system design as much as the others
- Fundamentally an engineering design task

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### **Advanced Techniques**

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# **Network Diagrams**



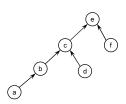
- Project is collection of related activities
- Network diagram is model of project
  - And relationship required to complete
  - Much like architecture is model of system

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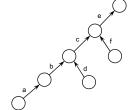
# **Network Diagrams**



■ Prefer arrow diagram to node diagram



Node Diagram



Arrow Diagram

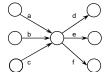
# Arrow vs. Node Diagrams



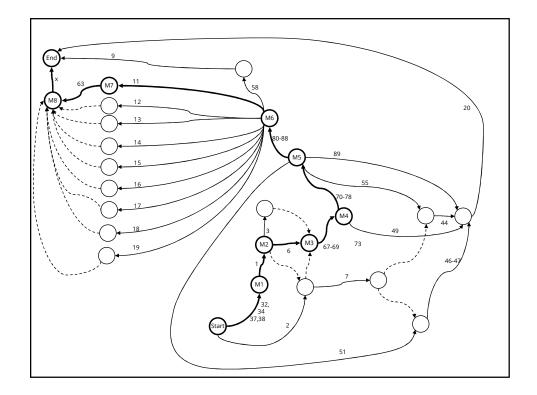
- Arrow diagram shines with complex dependencies involving repeated dependencies on activities
  - Avoid line crossing



Node Diagram



Arrow Diagram





### **Floats**

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### **Floats**



- Critical activities must complete as soon as possible to avoid delay
- Noncritical activities may be delayed without slipping
  - They can "float"

# **Floats Analysis**



- Floats are the project safety margins
  - Consume to compensate for unforeseen delays and inflictions in non-critical activities
- Low float projects are at high risk
  - Activities may become critical and delay project

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# **Activity Times and Floats**



- Microsoft Project calculates floats automatically
  - Called "slacks"

	1	Task 🕌 Mode	Task Name 🕌	Duration 🕌	Start 🕌	Finish 🕌	Predecessors 🔻	Total Slack 💂
1	-	3	Α	10 days	1/7/2013	1/18/2013		0 days
2		3	В	10 days	1/7/2013	1/18/2013		6 days
3		3	С	23 days	1/21/2013	2/20/2013	1	0 days
4		3	I	13 days	1/21/2013	2/6/2013	1	19 days
5		3	G	15 days	1/21/2013	2/8/2013	2	8 days
6		3	Н	17 days	1/21/2013	2/12/2013	2	6 days
7		=	D	12 days	2/21/2013	3/8/2013	3,5	9 days
8		3	E	14 days	2/21/2013	3/12/2013	6,3,5	7 days
9		=	F	30 days	2/21/2013	4/3/2013	6,3,5	0 days
10		3	J	12 days	2/7/2013	2/22/2013	4	19 days
11		3	L	1 day	2/7/2013	2/7/2013	4	31 days
12		3	K	9 days	3/13/2013	3/25/2013	7,10,8	7 days
13		3	M	8 days	2/8/2013	2/19/2013	11	31 days

# **Floats Analysis**



■ Color code to indicate risk



- Use absolute values
  - Works well in most projects
  - Should customize range
    - ▲ 1-10
    - ▲ 11-25
    - ▲ 26+

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# Floats Analysis Visualize risk Output Outp

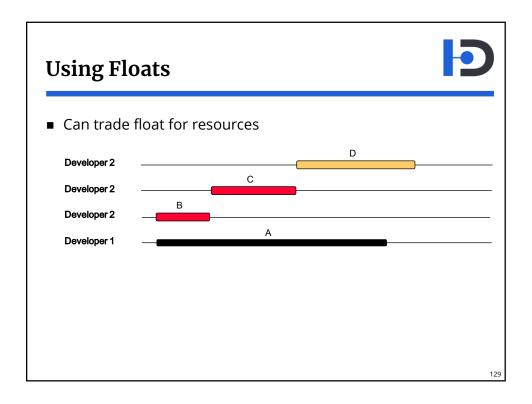
# **Using Floats**



- Floats key project design tool
  - Less for project management
  - Design within adequate resources
  - Design within acceptable risk

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# Using Floats Can trade float for resources Developer 3 Developer 2 Developer 1 A





#### Motivation



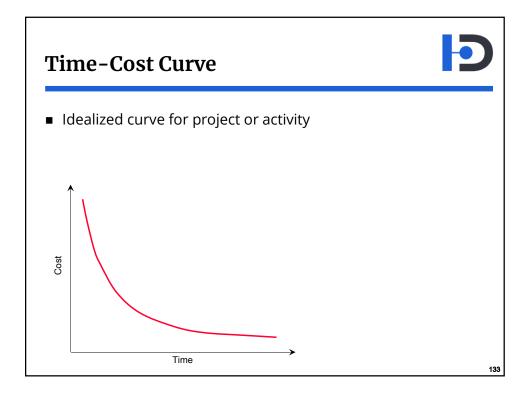
- There is no way to accelerate code-like-hell
  - You are already coding like hell
- Code-like-hell is not fastest way of building system
  - Effort assigned across critical path
- Code-like-hell is not cheapest way of building system
  - Horrendous waste

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#### Motivation



- Well-designed projects are fastest way of building system
  - Efficiently assign minimal resources along critical path
- No project can be accelerated beyond its critical path
- How can you accelerate project
  - Compress critical path



#### **Time-Cost Curve**



- Additional cost can accelerate project
  - Senior instead of junior developers
  - Test engineers
  - Testers
  - Infrastructure investment
  - Skills and process investment
  - Standards
  - Reviews
  - Parallel work
  - QA
    - ▲ Not QC

### Compression



- Accomplishing same objectives faster
  - Not necessarily the same work
- Only two possible ways
  - Better resources
    - ▲ Often will do more work required to finish earlier
  - Concurrent work

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# **Project Compression**



- Compressing individual activities without changing cross-activities dependencies
- Splitting activities and performing less-depended phases up-stream and parallel to other activities
  - Detailed design
  - Test plan
  - Test harness
  - Simulators for all required services

#### **Points On Time-Cost Curve**



- Normal solution
  - Assuming unlimited resources
  - Designing project for minimum direct cost
  - Without slowing critical path
- With longer than normal solution cost increases
  - Uneconomical drag-out
  - Probability for success diminishes
  - Complexity increases
  - Gold plating
  - Accumulated overhead

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#### **Points On Time-Cost Curve**



- Minimum time solution
  - Designing project for shortest duration at minimum cost
  - May redesign project as a whole
  - No point in compressing all activities
- Full compression solution
  - All activities are compressed
  - Duration same as minimum time
  - Costs more than minimum time

# Time-Cost Curve • Actual direct cost curve Full Compression Normal Solution Uneconomical Time

#### **Time-Cost Curve**

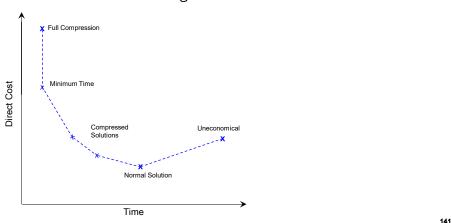


- Actual curve offers infinite options between minimum time and normal
- Optimal point
  - Somewhere between all-normal and minimum time
- Architect should provide 1-2 practical points in between
  - Reasonable options
  - Likely choice by management
  - Assume enough resources to proceed along critical path
  - Result of some network compression
- Risk is missing element

#### **Time-Cost Curve**



- Compiled solutions are discrete
  - Finite number of designed solutions



#### **Time-Cost Curve**



- Do present to management impractical points of
  - Full compression
  - Drag out
- Avoid classic mistakes
  - Schedule below minimum duration
  - Subcritically staffed project pushed right of normal
  - Often unaware of their impracticality

#### **Time-Cost Curve**



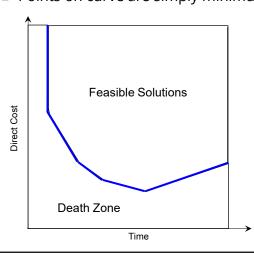
- Curve shows something paramount: feasibility
  - Points above curve are doable
    - ▲ Will cost more for same date
    - ▲ Will take longer than should for same cost
  - Points under curve are impossible to commit to
    - ▲ With that cost cannot ship on that date
    - ▲ With that date cannot ship on that cost
    - ▲ Project failed without ever starting

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#### **Time-Cost Curve**



■ Points on curve are simply minimum cost for duration



#### **Cost Elements**



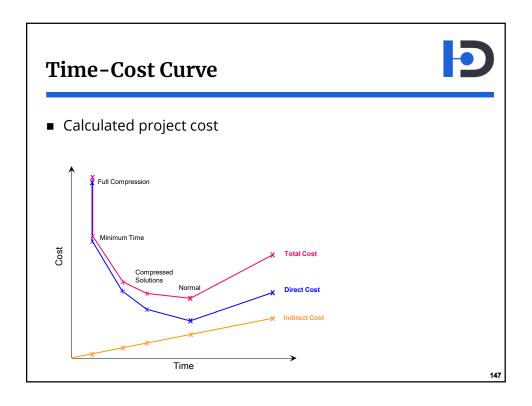
- Cost is product of both direct and indirect elements
- Direct cost when adding direct measurable value
  - Varies over project lifetime
- Direct cost typical elements
  - Developers working on project
  - Testers performing system testing
  - DBA designing database
  - Test engineer designing and building test harness
  - UI/UX designer designing client apps
  - Architect designing system or project

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#### **Cost Elements**



- Indirect cost is adding on-going indirect immeasurable value
  - Constant with time
- Indirect cost typical elements
  - Core team post SDP review
  - DevOps
  - Developers between assigned tasks
  - Daily build and Build
  - Daily smoke test



#### **Time-Cost Curve**



- Compressed project will have less indirect cost
- Mitigate somewhat cost of compression

#### **Staffing and Cost**



- Observation
  - All things being equal, shorter projects are cheaper
  - Even when requiring more expensive resources
- Even without compression
- Classic mistake
  - Trying to reduce cost by throttling resources
    - ▲ In quality or quantity
  - Project is longer
  - Costs more

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# **Quantifying Risk**

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#### Motivation



- For every project there are several design options
  - Some more aggressive than others
- The more aggressive options carry increased risk
  - Probability of success is lower
  - Must take into account when choosing
- Should be able to quantify risk to better evaluate your options
  - Most people recognize the risk axis but ignore it since cannot measure it

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#### **Objectives**



- Measure risk objectively
  - And easily
- Use more than one way of calculating
- Correspond to intuitive evaluation
- Evaluate design options in light of risk as well as cost and schedule
  - Feasibility

#### **Risk and Floats**



- Floats are objective way of measuring risk
- Changing project design can drastically change its risk

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# Risk and Floats Two possible designs for the same project Which would you rather be on?

#### **Requirements for Quantifying Risk**



- Risk is always relative
  - "Risky"?
    - ▲ Compare with what?
  - There is only riskier or safer
- What are units of risk?
- How can you compare options and projects?
- Normalize risk to numerical range
  - 0 to 1 is as good as any
  - 0 minimizing risk
  - 1 maximizing risk
- Different methods should yield comparable results

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#### **Criticality Risk Index**



- Capturing that almost intuitive impression of how much project is critical or at risk
- Classifying activities into risk bins
- Critical activities are riskier
  - Higher likelihood of cost and schedule overrun
- Near critical activities are risky too
  - The more critical the riskier
- Activities with large floats are less risky



- Assign weight for criticality
  - A factor
  - Follow float classification via color coding
- Can shift factors as long as sum is capped and constant

Activity Color	Criticality Factor
Critical (Black)	4
Red	3
Yellow	2
Green	1

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#### **Criticality Risk Index**



- Classify activities based on total floats
  - Color coding
- Same as with floats analysis
- Done for evaluating viability
  - Rather than resource assignment



- Definitions
  - C Number of critical activities
  - R Number of red activities
  - Y Number of yellow activities
  - G Number of green activities
  - Number of activities
  - Wc Weight of critical activities
  - ullet  $W_R$  Weight of red activities
  - W<sub>Y</sub> Weight of yellow activities
  - W<sub>G</sub> Weight of green activities

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#### **Criticality Risk Index**

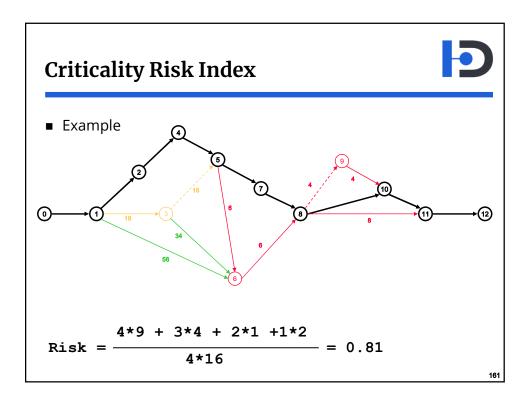


■ Risk formula

$$\text{Risk} = \frac{\mathbf{W}_{\text{C}}^{\star}\mathbf{C} + \mathbf{W}_{\text{R}}^{\star}\mathbf{R} + \mathbf{W}_{\text{Y}}^{\star}\mathbf{Y} + \mathbf{W}_{\text{G}}^{\star}\mathbf{G}}{\mathbf{W}_{\text{C}}^{\star}\mathbf{N}}$$

■ Or with the specific weights

Risk = 
$$\frac{4*C + 3*R + 2*Y + 1*G}{4*N}$$





■ Easy to calculate in Excel

No.	Float	Critical	Red	Yellow	Green	Criticality Risk	0.81
1	0	1	0	0	0		
2	0	1	0	0	0	Critical factor	4
3	56	0	0	0	1	Red Factor	3
4	0	1	0	0	0	Yellow Factor	2
5	18	0	0	1	0	Green Factor	1
6	34	0	0	0	1		
7	0	1	0	0	0	Total	10
8	6	0	1	0	0		
9	0	1	0	0	0		
10	6	0	1	0	0	Red Limit	10
11	0	1	0	0	0	Yellow Limit	25
12	0	1	0	0	0		
13	8	0	1	0	0		
14	4	0	1	0	0		
15	0	1	0	0	0		
16	0	1	0	0	0		
	132	9	4	1	2		



- Maximum risk at 1
  - All activities critical
- Minimum risk at w<sub>g</sub>/w<sub>c</sub>
  - 0.25 in the sample
  - Can risk ever be zero?

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#### **Activity Risk**



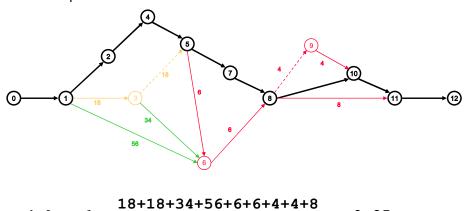
- Calculate each activity's contribution to risk
  - Instead of generic bins
  - More discrete and precise
- Definitions
  - ullet  $\mathbf{F_i}$  Total float of activity  $\mathbf{i}$
  - M Largest total float value across all activities
  - Number of activities
- Risk formula

$$Risk = 1 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N} F_{i}}{N*M}$$

# **Activity Risk**



■ Example



56\*18

# **Activity Risk**



- Easy to calculate in Excel
- Maximum risk at 1
  - All activities critical
- Minimum risk at 0
  - No critical path
  - All activities with same maximum float
  - Can risk ever be zero?

#### Criticality Vs. Activity Risk



- For decent size project yield very similar results
- Criticality often requires tweaking
  - Judgment calls
- Criticality reflects intuition better

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#### **Risk Metrics**



- Minimum direct cost is around 0.5
- Acceptable risk is 0.5 to 0.75
  - Symmetry in risk
  - Relates to risk rate of growth
- Normal solution slightly under 0.7
- Risk crossover is around 0.75

#### **Risk Decompression**



- Deliberately designing for a later date to reduce overall risk
  - Introducing float along critical path
- Objective
  - Increasing probability of meeting commitments
- Motivation
  - Past failures
  - Build trust
  - Too many unknowns
  - Volatile environment

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#### **Risk Decompression**



- Decompress by moving completion date of down-stream activities
  - While keeping same resources
- With Microsoft Project
  - Use "Start no earlier than" constraint on activity to move
- When moving multiple activities
  - Decompress earlier activities first
  - Move later activities more



# **Project Design in Action**

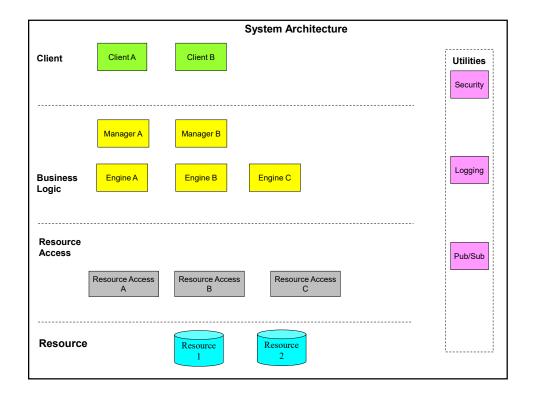
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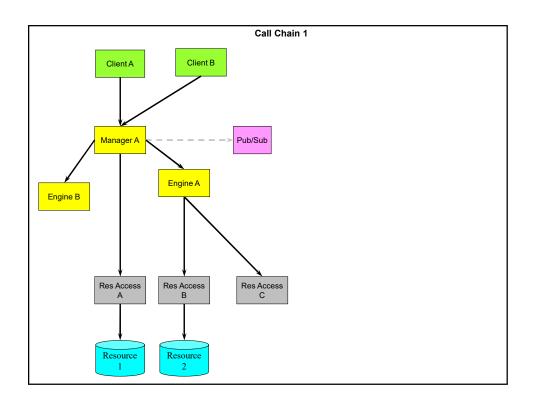
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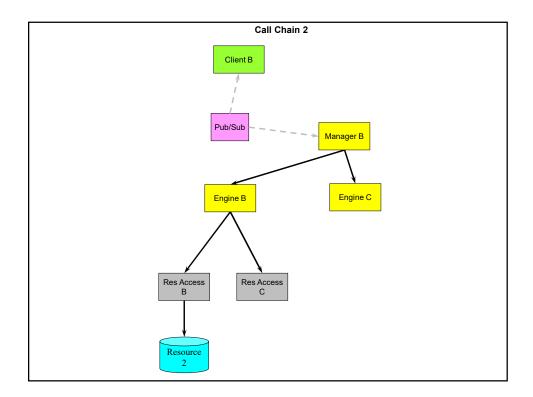
#### **Long Demo**



- Design project for typical business system
- Input
  - Static architecture
  - Call chains
  - List of activities
  - Effort estimation
  - Staffing requirements
  - Planning assumptions
  - Some constraints



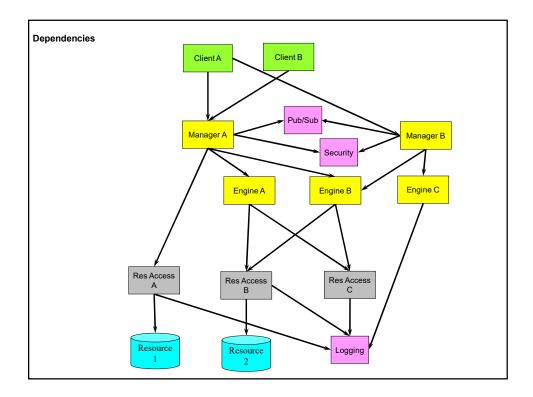




#### **Additional Information**



- All entities depend on logbook
- Clients and managers depend on security

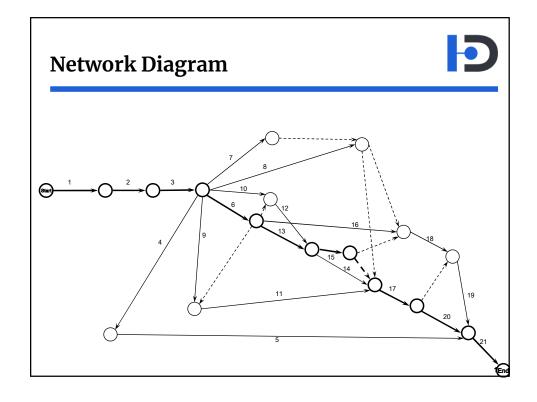


# **Adding Activities**



- Non-code non-structural activities
  - Requirements
  - Architecture
    - ▲ Vertical slice
    - ▲ Demo service
  - Project planning
  - Test plan
  - Training
  - Test harness
  - System testing
  - Documentation

40	ctivities			Ð
ID	Activity	Duration	Depends on	1
1	Requirements	15		
2	Architecture	20	1	
3	Project Planning	20	2	
4	Test Plan	30	3	
5	Test Harness	35	4	
6	Logging	15	3	
7	Security	20	3	
8	Pub/Sub	5	3	
9	Resource A	20	3	
10	Resource B	15	3	
11	Resource Access A	10	6,9	
12	Resource Access B	5	6,10	
13	Resource Access C	15	6	
14	EngineA	20	12,13	
15	EngineB	25	12,13	
16	EngineC	15	6	
17	ManagerA	20	7,8,11,14,15	
18	ManagerB	25	7,8,15,16	
19	Client App1	25	17,18	
20	Client App2	35	17	
21	System Testing	30	5,19,20	



#### **Staffing Requirements**



- 1 project manager throughout project
- 1 product manager throughout project
- 1 architect throughout project
- 1 developer per service
- 1 DB architect/specialist for each resource
- 1 tester throughout project
- 1 additional tester for system testing
- 1 test engineer for test plan and test harness

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#### **Staffing Requirements**



Staffing distribution plan

Role	Planning	Infrastructure	Services	Testing
Architect	X	X	X	X
Project Manager	X	X	X	X
Product Manager	X	X	X	X
Developers		X	X	
Testers			Х	X
DevOps		X	Х	Х

- Can add specialists
  - UX, test engineer, DBA, etc.

#### **Staffing Requirements**



- Assume every resource and rare skill set is available
  - Solution architect
  - DB architect
  - UI designer
  - Test engineer
- Yields first take on project duration and cost

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# Floats Analysis Non-critical paths and risk

#### **Network and Resource Problems**



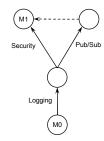
- There are no infinitely available recourses
- Rare skills are rare
- Undesirable unitizing resources for short periods of time
  - Rump up time
  - Subcontractors can help
- Avoid mass integration points

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#### **Limited Resources**



Assuming somewhat limited resources or ramp time



#### **Limited Resources**



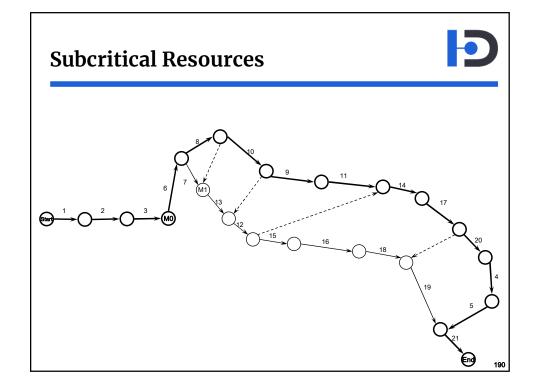
- Limited to 3 developers
- Result with no change in
  - Critical path
  - Cost
  - Schedule
    - ▲ Consumes float

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#### **Subcritical Resources**



- Only 2 developers
- Project is critically under-staffed
- Limiting factor is not duration of critical path
  - It is availability of resources
- Old critical path does not apply
  - By the time activities on the critical path are complete supporting non-critical activities are not ready
- Redraw network to accommodate resource dependencies
  - Lots of flexibility in order of activities
  - MS-Project with auto-scheduling helps define new network



#### **Subcritical Resources**



- Cost is increased by at least 25%
  - Indirect costs mount too
- Schedule is increased by 35%
- There is no saving with subcritical resources
- Risk index at 0.9
  - Up from 0.73
- Subcritical projects are of high risk

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#### Compression



- Could better resources accelerate this project?
- Assume 0.7/1.8 duration/cost is possible with top developer
- Ideally only apply to critical path
- Identify developer that spends the most time on critical path
  - Number of activities
  - Number of days in total
- Could foresee and assign beforehand all critical path to same developer
  - Not always feasible



■ Clearly it is better to have Developer 2 be top resource

Resource	Non-Critical Activities	Non-Critical Duration	Critical Activities	Critical Duration
Developer 1	4	85	2	35
Developer 2	1	5	4	95
Developer 1,2	5	90	6	130

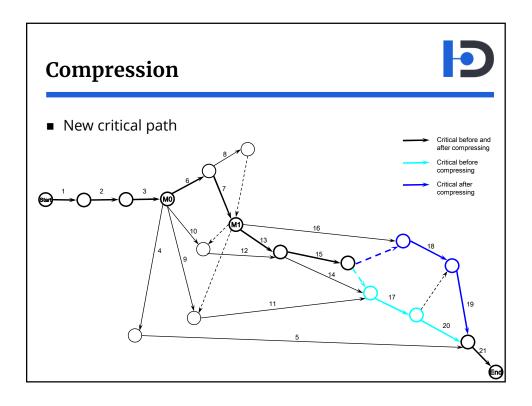
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# Compression



Activities with single top developer

ID	Activity	Duration
0	Start	C
1	Requirements	15
2	Architecture	20
3	Project Planning	20
4	Test Plan	30
5	Test Harness	35
6	Logging	15
7	Security	20
8	Pub/Sub	5
9	Resource A	20
10	Resource B	15
11	Resource Access A	10
12	Resource Access B	5
13	Resource Access C	10
14	EngineA	20
15	EngineB	20
16	EngineC	15
17	ManagerA	15
18	ManagerB	25
19	Client App1	25
20	Client App2	25
21	System Testing	30





- Total cost unchanged from normal solution
  - Less indirect cost
  - Compensating for direct cost of compression
- Duration reduced by 4%
  - New critical path limit



- Additional compression with Developer 1
  - On top of Developer 2

Resource	Non-Critical	Non-Critical	Critical	Critical
	Activities	Duration	Activities	Duration
Developer 1	2	35	4	85
Developer 2	3	45	2	30
Developer 1,2	5	80	6	115

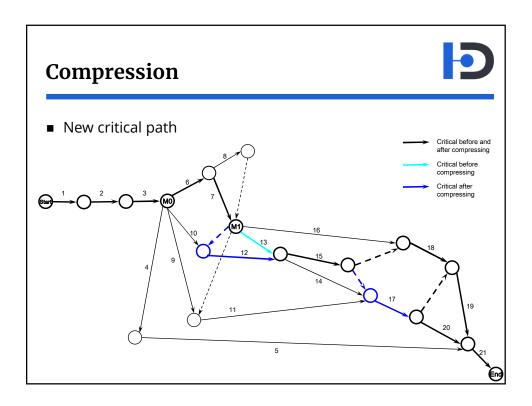
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# Compression



Activities with two top developers

ID	Activity	Duration	Depends on
0	Start	0	
1	Requirements	15	
2	Architecture	20	1
3	Project Planning	20	2
4	Test Plan	30	22
5	Test Harness	35	4
6	Logging	10	22
7	Security	15	6
8	Pub/Sub	5	6
9	Resource A	20	22
10	Resource B	15	22
11	Resource Access A	10	23,9
12	Resource Access B	5	23,10
13	Resource Access C	10	23
14	EngineA	15	12,13
15	EngineB	20	12,13
16	EngineC	10	23
17	ManagerA	15	11,14,15
18	ManagerB	20	15,16
19	Client App1	20	17,18
20	Client App2	25	17
21	System Testing	30	5,19,20





- Cost reduced by additional 3%
- Schedule reduced by additional 11%

#### **Accelerating Schedule**



- Adding top resources does little for acceleration
- Real acceleration enabled by working in parallel
  - Remove dependencies
    - ▲ Carefully
    - ▲ Additional investment up front
- Create new compressed critical path
- Parallel work typically increases
  - Risk due to lower float
  - Required competence
  - Peak team size
  - Noise

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#### **Accelerating Schedule**



- Removing upfront all dependencies between coding activities practically impossible
  - Pure waterfall
  - Diminishing return when all paths are near critical

# Infra+Clients Design in Front End



- Developer 1 and 2 work in parallel to front-end on
  - **Infra**structure
  - Clients apps
    - ▲ Requirements
    - ▲ Test plan
    - ▲ UI design

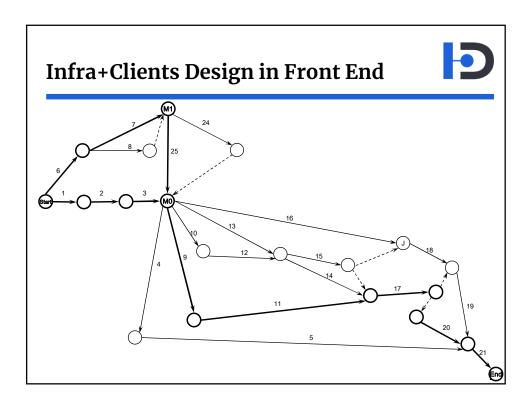
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# Infra+Clients Design in Front End



Activities

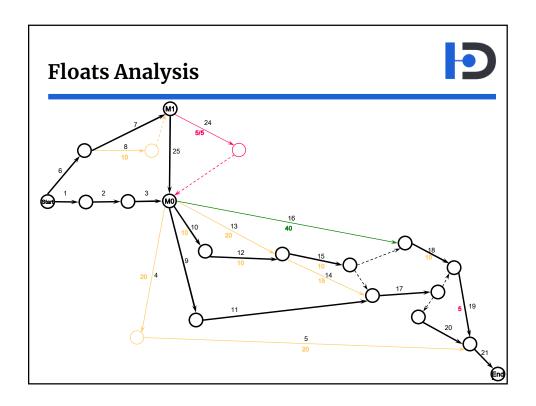
ID	Activity	Duration	Depends on
0	Start	0	
1	Requirements	15	
2	Architecture	20	1
3	Project Planning	20	2
4	Test Plan	30	22
5	Test Harness	35	4
6	Logging	10	
7	Security	15	6
8	Pub/Sub	5	6
9	Resource A	20	22
10	Resource B	15	22
11	Resource Access A	10	9
12	Resource Access B	5	10
13	Resource Access C	10	22
14	EngineA	15	12,13
15	EngineB	20	12,13
16	EngineC	10	22
17	ManagerA	15	14,15,11
18	ManagerB	20	15,16
19	Client App1	15	17,18 🟎
20	Client App2	20	17 🛶
21	System Testing	30	5,19,20
22	M0	0	3,24,25 ←
23	M1	0	7,8
24	Client App1 Design	10	23 ←
25	Client App2 Design	15	23 -



# Infra+Clients Design in Front End



- Cost increased by 6%
- Duration reduced by 8%



# Simulators



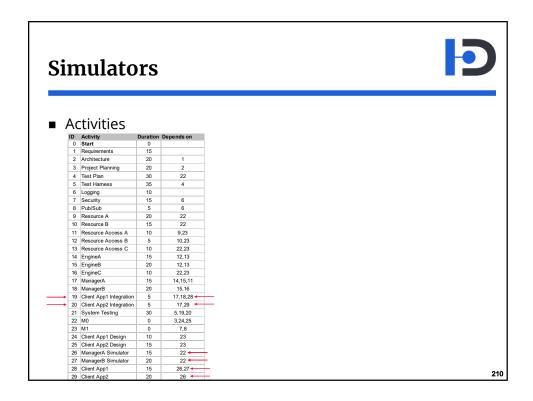
- Develop simulators for services
- Split clients into development against simulators and integration

#### **Simulators**

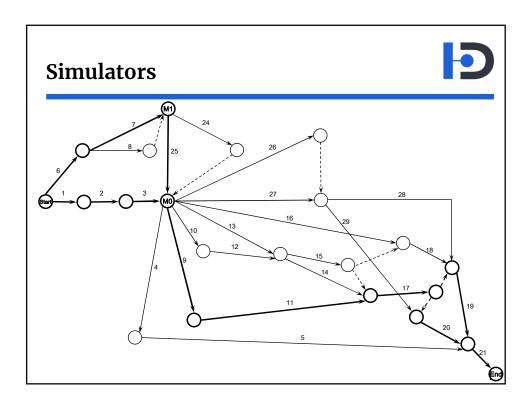


- Two additional developers required
  - Managers simulators
  - Clients implementation
- Also required for client integration at the end
  - Two developers for each integration

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#### **Simulators**



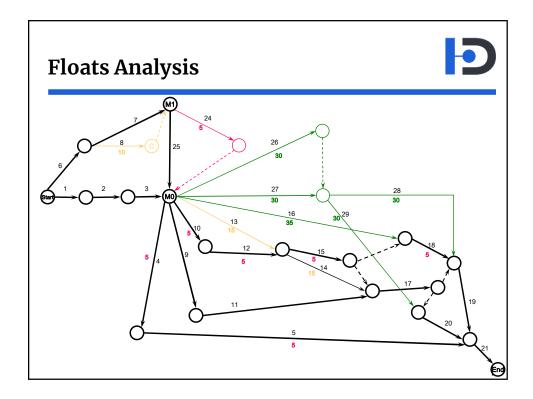
- Cost increased by 1.5%
- Duration reduced by 9%

#### **Network Compression**



- There is a lot of integration pressure at the end of the project
- Fairly coupled and risky at full compression
- Overall compression compared with normal solution
  - Duration decreased by 28%
  - Cost increased by 4%
    - ▲ High indirect cost
  - Direct cost increased by 59%

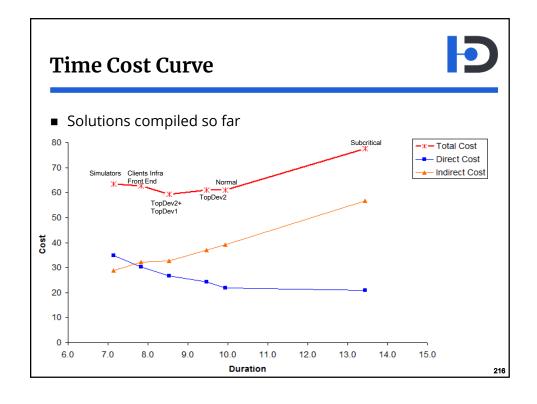
21:



#### **Floats Analysis**



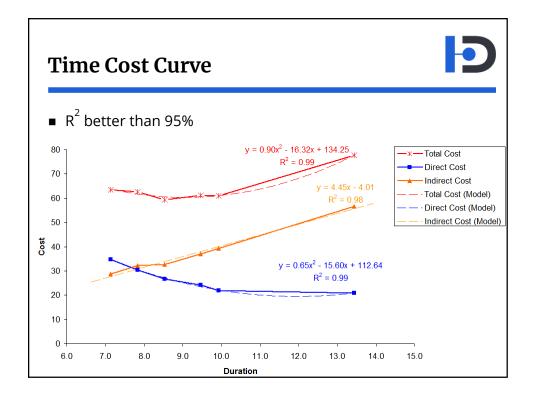
- While further compression is theoretically possible (services) in practice this is as far as the project design team should go
  - Low probability of success compressing any further
  - Wasting time designing improbable projects
- Natural limit compressing any project
  - 25-30%



### **Time Cost Curve**



- Can find correlation model
  - Indirect cost as straight line
  - Direct cost as polynomial of second degree
  - Total cost as polynomial of second degree



#### **Time Cost Curve**

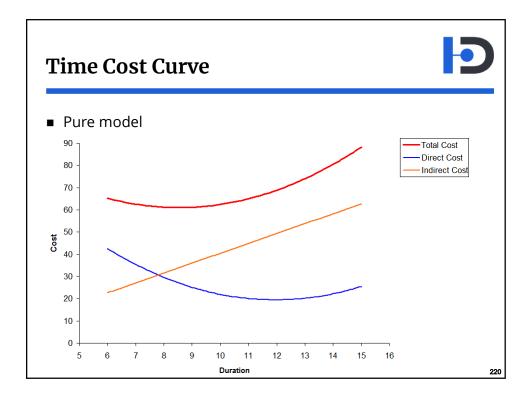


- Total cost can be correlated but better just sum of other two
  - Indirect is true straight line
  - Exact sum of direct and indirect model
- Formulas

Indirect Cost = 4.45T - 4.01

Direct Cost = 0.65T - 15.6T + 112.64

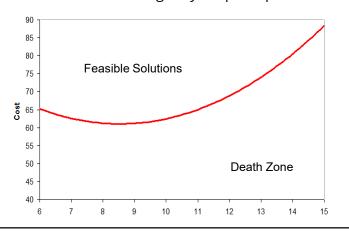
Total Cost = 0.65T - 11.15T + 108.63 = Direct + Indirect Cost



#### **Time Cost Curve**



- Can now avoid the death zone
  - And answer intelligently to quick questions



### **Time Cost Curve**

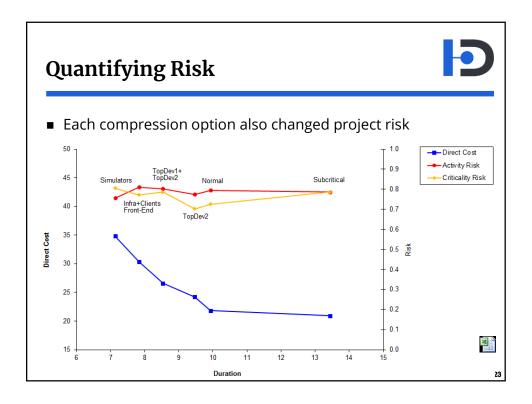


- Example
  - Suppose given 9 months and 4 people
- You will need at least 7 on average

Total Cost = 
$$0.65*9^2 - 11.15*9 + 108.63 = 61.2$$
  
Average staff =  $61.2/9 = 6.8$ 

- Normal solution has 68% average staffing
  - ▲ You will need as many as 10
  - ▲ Less will go subcritical
- 9 months and 36 man-months is not even on the chart

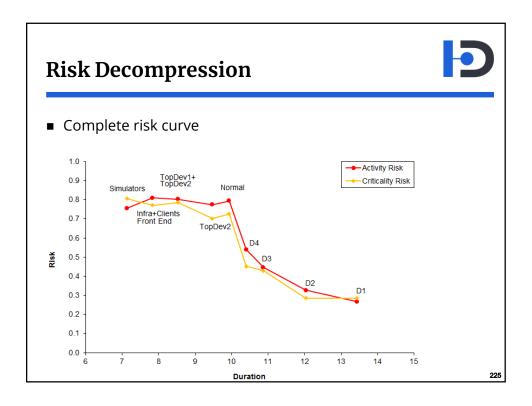




## **Quantifying Risk**



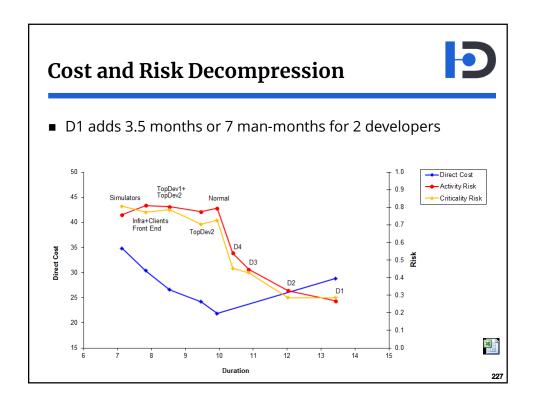
- The good news
  - Criticality and activity risk track closely
- The bad news
  - All design options so far are high risk
    - ▲ And similar value too
  - Model based on subcritical point that should be avoided
- Solution
  - Risk decompression
  - Try 2 weeks, 1 month, 2 months, 3.5 months

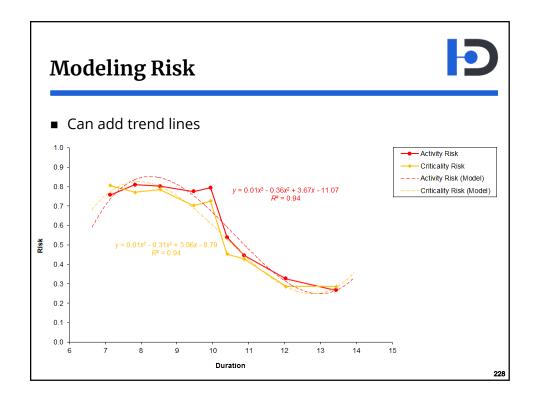


# **Risk Decompression**



- Risk tipping point around D4
  - Decompressing even a little decreases risk substantially
  - D3 if you want safer since D4 is right on the edge



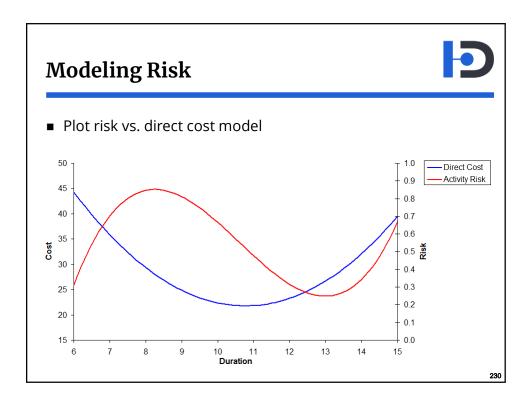


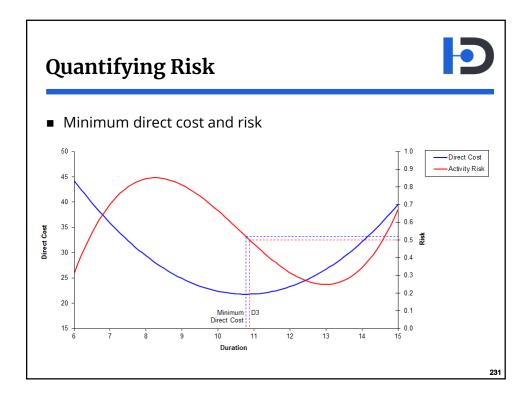
## **Modeling Risk**



- Use activity risk only for example
  - Higher values so a bit more conservative
- Can produce risk equation for this project
  - How risk changes with planned duration

$$R = 0.01T^3 - 0.36T^2 + 3.67T - 11.07$$





## **Quantifying Risk**



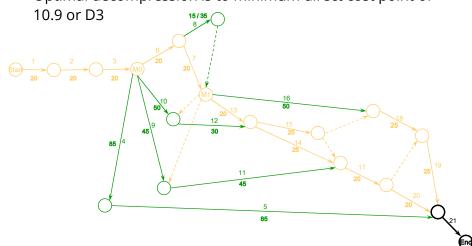
- Minimum cost at 0.52
  - As expected
  - 10.8 months or just before D3 at 10.9 months
  - D3 at exactly 0.50
- Minimum direct cost is also least acceptable risk
  - For critically staffed projects
  - Optimal in cost duration and risk
- Highest probability of delivering on plan
  - Should always strive to design around minimum direct cost
  - Other options are there almost to explain why not to

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## **Quantifying Risk**



Optimal decompression is to minimum direct cost point of



## **Planning and Risk**



- Anything worth doing requires risk
  - Risk-free projects are not worth doing
- Assume less than 0.3 is too safe
  - Criticality risk cannot even go below 0.25
- This project risk tops at 0.85
  - Will you ever design for maximum risk?
- IDesign's thumb rule is 0.75 as likely upper practical limit
  - Too fragile and slip likely when > 0.75
- Can derive exclusion zones for planning options
  - 0.3 to 0.75 is acceptable

#### **Risk Crossover Point**



- Initially risk rises faster than cost
  - Risk maximized before minimum duration or all-crash
- Designing for maximum risk is unwise
  - Where is the cut off point?
- Can gage acceptable risk
  - When risk rises slower than cost you should probably stop compressing
  - Called risk crossover point
  - Conservative point
  - IDesign risk model typically at 0.75

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### **Risk Crossover Point**



- Requires comparing risk and cost rates of change
  - Analytically if model available
  - Numerically in Excel without a model is easy too
  - Must scale risk and cost first

## **Scaling Risk and Cost**



- Risk maximized when first derivative is zero
- Calculus reminder

$$\bullet y = ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d$$

$$\bullet Y' = 3ax^2 + 2bx + c$$

■ In our case

$$\bullet$$
 R = 0.01T<sup>3</sup> - 0.36T<sup>2</sup> + 3.67T - 11.07

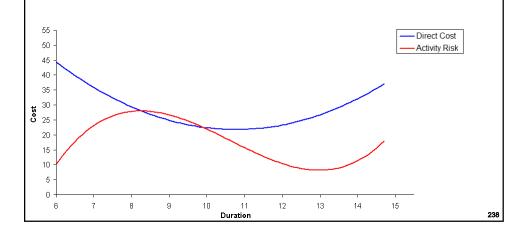
$$\bullet R' = 0.03T^2 - 0.72T + 3.67$$

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## **Scaling Risk and Cost**



• Can plot risk and direct cost on same axis and scale



#### **Risk Crossover Point**



- Acceptable risk is when all are true
  - Left of minimum risk
  - Right of max risk
  - Risk rises faster than cost in absolute value to scale

$$C' = 1.98T^2 - 21.32$$

$$R' = 0.03T^2 - 0.72T + 3.67$$

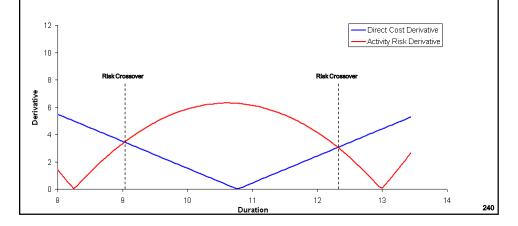
$$32.9*|0.03T^2-0.72T+3.67| > |1.98T - 21.32|$$

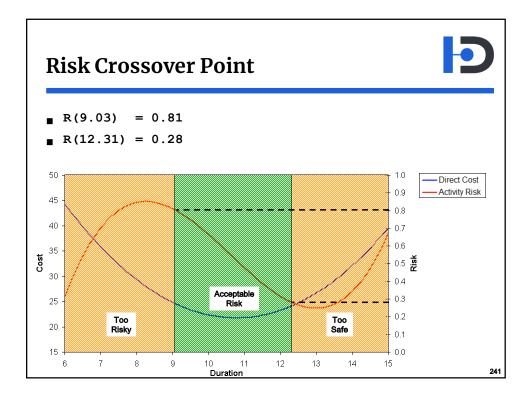
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### **Risk Crossover Point**



■ There are two crossover points





### When to Design a Project



- Several possible answers
- Always
- ROI question
  - Cost and time of designing project vs. saving in cost and time
  - Since it takes few days to a week for basic design it is no-brainer for most projects
    - ▲ In a week 17 iterations on a project while training
  - The larger the scope the more should invest in finding exact optimal solution across cost duration and risk
- With aggressive schedules

### When to Design a Project



- Really integrity and responsibility question
  - If project funded 100% by your money, would you like architect and project manager to invest in project design?
    - ▲ A little investment or a lot?
  - If project manager is personally liable for cost of slips beyond commitments would PM invest in project design?
    - ▲ A little investment or a lot?
    - ▲ But the company always pays for it
    - Why are you callus or cavalier or complacent with their money?
- Getting ahead in life

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#### More at DevIntersection



- Actors The Past and Future of Software Engineering
  - Tuesday 10:30 AM
- Composable Design
  - Tuesday 12:00 PM



### **Resources**

Juval Löwy www.idesign.net

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#### Resources



- Slides
  - www.idesign.net/DevInt

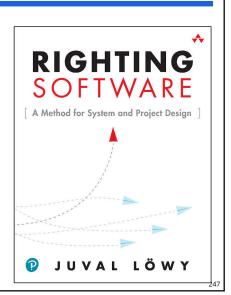
## **Righting Software**



- Addison-Wesley
  - December 2019



www.rightingsoftware.org



## **Next IDesign Master Classes**



- Architect's Master Class
  - August 2-6<sup>th</sup>, 2021, California
- Project Design Master Class
  - September 13-17<sup>th</sup>, 2021, California
- www.idesign.net