

MASTER OF COMPUTER SCIENCE/
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

MCS4204 - Software Project Management

Topic 8: Project Resource Management

Dr Thushani A Weerasinghe

Senior Lecturer, UCSC

taw@ucsc.cmb.ac.lk



UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO SCHOOL OF COMPUTING

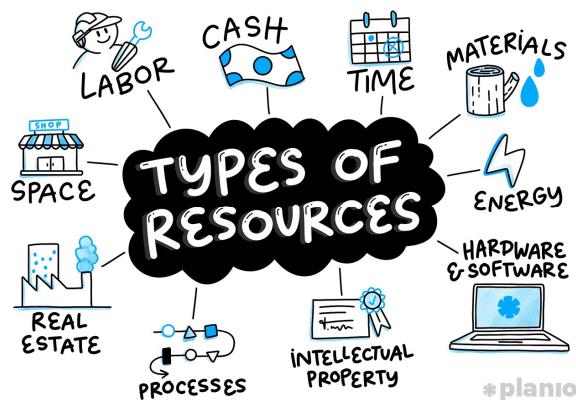


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Categories of Resources

Assets required for the successful completion of a project

- Labour
- Equipment
- Materials
- Space
- Services
- Time
- Money



They can be budgeted, spent, lost, or saved

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Project Resources

- **Human/Team resources:** Personnel (PM & Team members) They may have varied skill sets, be assigned full- or part-time, and be added or removed from the team as the project progresses.
 - Should be aware of skill levels, job positions, and working conditions
- **Physical resources:** equipment, materials, facilities, and infrastructure that are needed for the successful completion of the project in an efficient and effective way.
 - Should be aware of resource demands, resource configurations that will be required to meet those demands, and the supply of resources.



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Resource Allocation and Management

- Use the Work-Break-Down Structure and allocate the resources required to complete each task.
- Include processes to identify, acquire, and manage the resources needed for the successful completion of the project.
- Ensure that the right resources will be available to the project manager and project team at the right time and place
 - Prepare/update the Activity Schedule, Resource Schedule and the Cost Schedule



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Why is Resource Management challenging?

- Allocation of extra resources will be a waste.
- Allocation of fewer resources will negatively impact the quality of the project activities.
- Failing to secure critical resources on time may result in delays
- Organizations have to conduct different kinds of projects using fewer resources.
- Ordering low-quality material may damage the quality of the final product
- Keeping too much inventory may result in high operations costs



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Project Resource Management Processes

- 1. Plan Resource Management** > Prepare the resource management plan, Team charter, update project documents
- 2. Estimate Activity Resources** > Identify the resource requirements, make basic estimates, and resource breakdown structure
- 3. Acquire Resources**> Assign physical resources, and project team, and make resource calendars and change requests
- 4. Develop Team** > Assess team performance, make change requests, update the project management plan
- 5. Manage Team** > Make change requests, update project management plan and other documents
- 6. Control Resources** > Obtain work performance information, make change requests and update management plan and other documents



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Resource Planning

- Project resources may include team members, supplies, materials, equipment, services and facilities.
- Determine and identify an approach to ensure that sufficient resources are available for the successful completion of the project.
- Effective resource planning should consider and plan for the availability of, or competition for, scarce resources.



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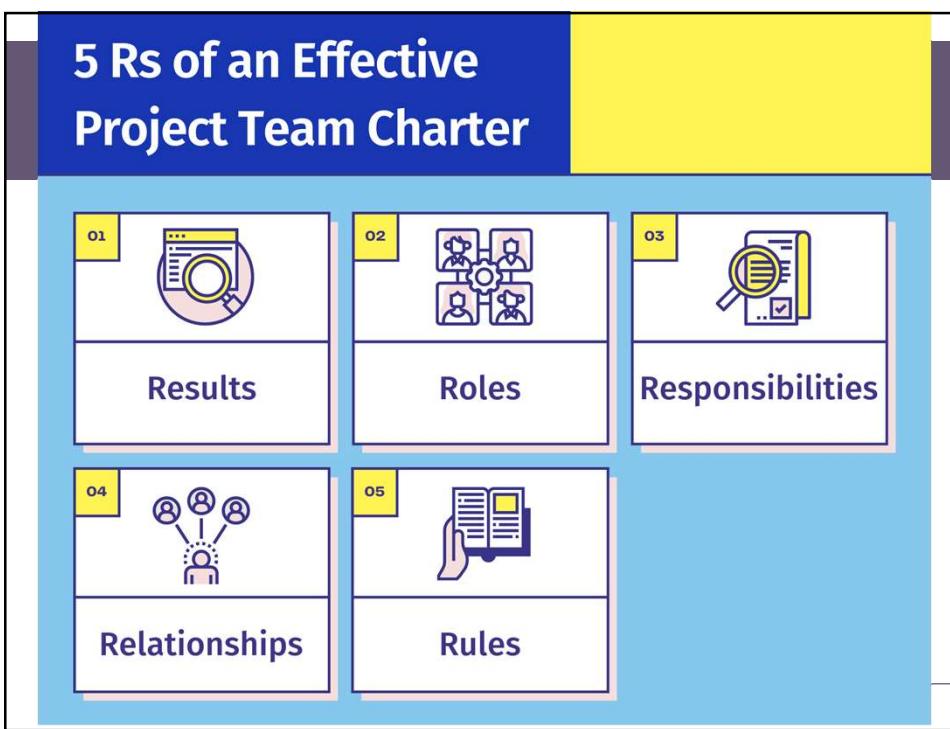
Plan Resource Management

Inputs	Tools & Techniques	Outputs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> .1 Project charter .2 Project management plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality management plan • Scope baseline .3 Project documents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project schedule • Requirements documentation • Risk register • Stakeholder register .4 Enterprise environmental factors .5 Organizational process assets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> .1 Expert judgment .2 Data representation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hierarchical charts • Responsibility assignment matrix • Text-oriented formats .3 Organizational theory .4 Meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> .1 Resource management plan .2 Team charter .3 Project documents updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assumption log • Risk register



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Plan Resource Management: Tools and Techniques

- Expert judgement
- Data representation using Hierarchical charts
 - **Work breakdown structures (WBS):**
 - Break down project deliverables into work packages and shows the high-level areas of responsibility.
 - **Organizational breakdown structure (OBS):**
 - Organizational entities and the project activities or work packages listed under each department
 - **Resource breakdown structure (RBS):**
 - A hierarchical list of team and physical resources related by category and resource type that is used for planning, managing and controlling project work

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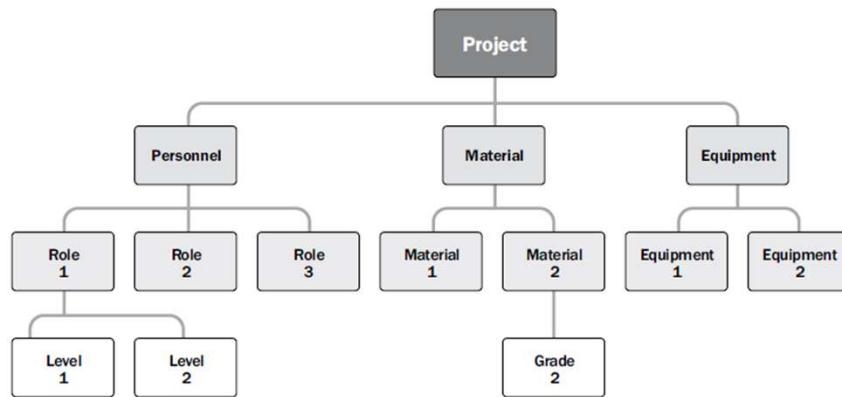
Plan Resource Management: Tools ... Contd.

- **Assignment Matrix:**
 - illustrates the connections between work packages, or activities, and project team members
- **Text-oriented format:**
 - Team member responsibilities that require detailed descriptions can be specified in text-oriented formats
- **Organizational Theory:**
 - Provides information regarding the way in which people, teams, and organizational units behave.
- **Meetings**



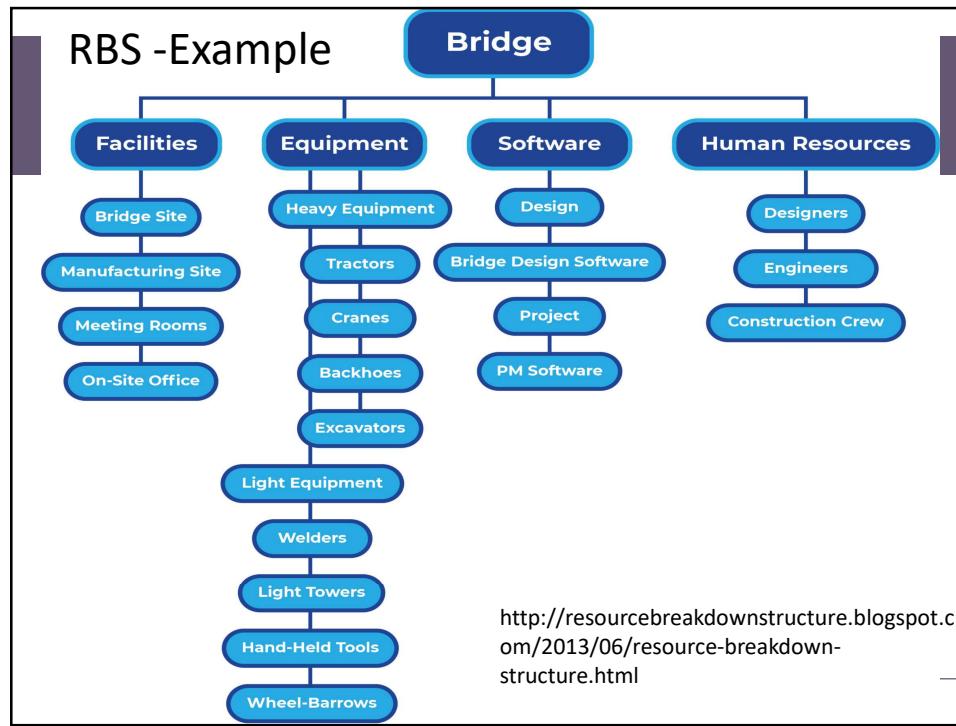
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Resource Breakdown Structure



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Resource Assignment Matrix:
RACI (responsible, accountable, consult, and inform) chart

RACI Chart		Person				
Activity		Amara	Bandara	Chintha	Devaka	Erandi
Create charter	A	R	I	I	I	
Collect requirements	I	A	R	C	C	
Submit change request	I	A	R	R	C	
Develop test plan	A	C	I	I	R	

R = Responsible A = Accountable C = Consult I = Inform

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		Project tasks										Responsible Accountable Consulted Informed
		Product Owner	Business Analyst	Financial Lead	Design Director	Design Lead	CRM Lead	Head of CRM	Senior Stakeholders*	Senior Stakeholders**	AGENCY	
	1. Research											
Econometric model		C	C	A	I	I	C	I	C	I	R	
Strategic framework		A	C	C	I	I	C	I	C	I	R	
	2. Define											
Product concept		A	C	I	C	I	C	C	C	I	R	
User testing		A	C	I	I	I	C	I	I	I	R	
User journey		A	C	I	I	I	C	I	C	I	R	
Design framework		C	C	I	R	A	I	I	C	I	R	
Technology recommendations		C	A	I	I	I	I	I	C	I	R	
Measurement framework		R	C	A	I	I	C	I	C	I	R	
Product backlog		A	R	I	C	I	C	I	C	I	C	
Delivery roadmap		A	R	I	R	C	C	I	C	C	R	

*Senior Stakeholder 1, Senior Stakeholder 2, Senior Stakeholder 3, Senior Stakeholder 4
** Senior Stakeholder 5, Senior Stakeholder 6, Senior Stakeholder 7, Senior Stakeholder 8

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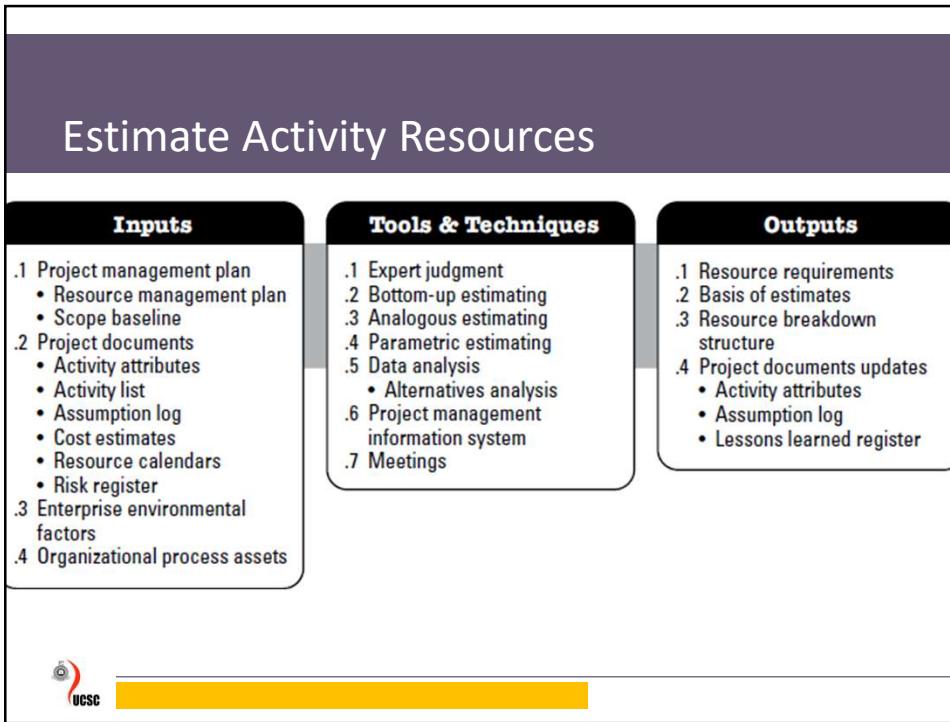
QUIZ

What is meant by RACI?

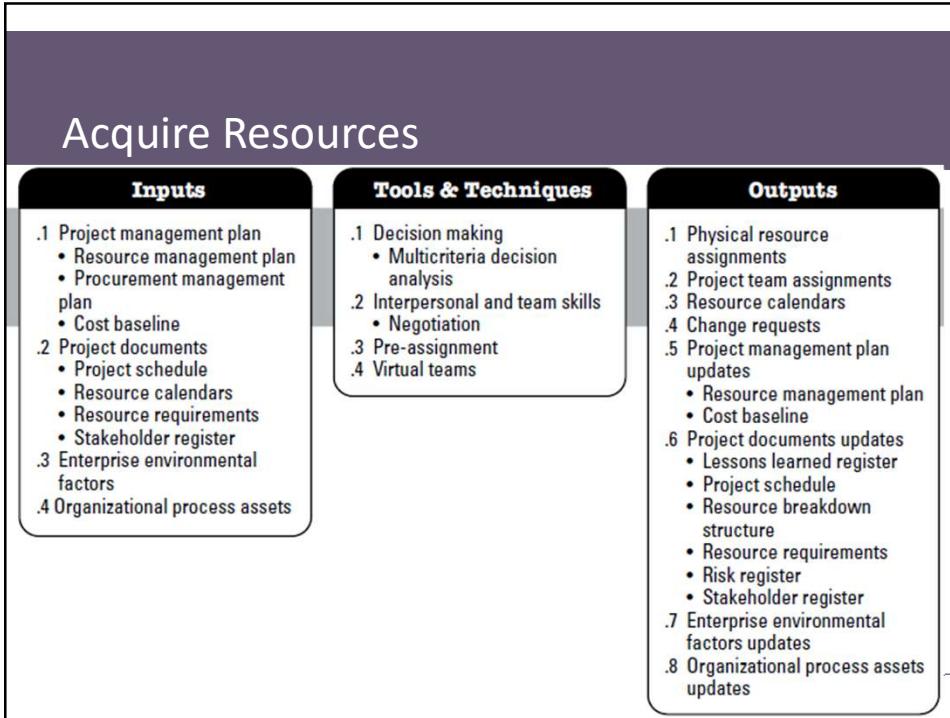
- A. Responsible, Accountable, Confirmed, Inquired
- B. Requested, Accountable, Consulted, Informed
- C. Responsible, Accountant, Consulted, Inquired
- D. Responsible, Accountable, Consulted, Informed



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Acquire Resources

- Acquire Resources is the process of obtaining team members, facilities, equipment, materials, supplies, and other resources necessary to complete project work.

Tools and Techniques:

- **Pre-Assignment:** The team members are selected in advance-promised in the proposal to have the expertise, or some members are defined within the project charter.
- **Virtual teams:** groups of people with shared goals who fulfil their roles with little or no time spent meeting face to face.



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Acquiring and Scheduling Resources

- Having produced the resource requirements list, the next stage is to map this onto the activity plan.
- This mapping is best done by representing the activity plan as a bar chart and using a Resource Histogram for each resource.
- Allocate resources on an activity-by-activity basis.
- Find the best allocation.
- Prioritize activities.



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Scheduling Resources

- In practice, resources are allocated **activity-by-activity basis** and finding the best allocation can be time-consuming and difficult.
- Allocating a resource to one activity limits the flexibility for resource allocation and scheduling of other activities.
- Therefore, it is better to **prioritize activities** so that resources can be **allocated to activities in some rational order**.



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Prioritizing Activities

- 1) **Total float priority**
 - i. Activities are ordered according to their total float.
 - ii. One with the smallest total float has the highest priority.

- 2) **Ordered list priority (Burman's priority list)**
 - i. Shortest critical activity
 - ii. Other Critical activities
 - iii. Shortest non-critical activities
 - iv. Non-critical activity with the least float
 - v. Other Non-critical activities



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Creating Critical Paths

- Scheduling resources can create new critical paths.
- Delaying the Start of an activity due to a lack of resources will cause that activity to become critical if this delay uses up its float.
- A delay in completing one activity can delay the availability of a resource required for a later activity.
- If the latter one is already critical then the earlier one might now have been made critical by linking their resources.



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Factors to be considered when Allocating individuals to Activities

- **Availability** –the particular individual will be available when required.
- **Criticality** - Allocate more experienced personnel to critical activities to shorten the duration and reduce the risk of overrun.
- **Risk** - Allocate experienced staff to activities with highest risks.
- **Training**- Allocate Junior Staff to non-critical activities
- **Team Building** – Consider the final shape of the project staff.



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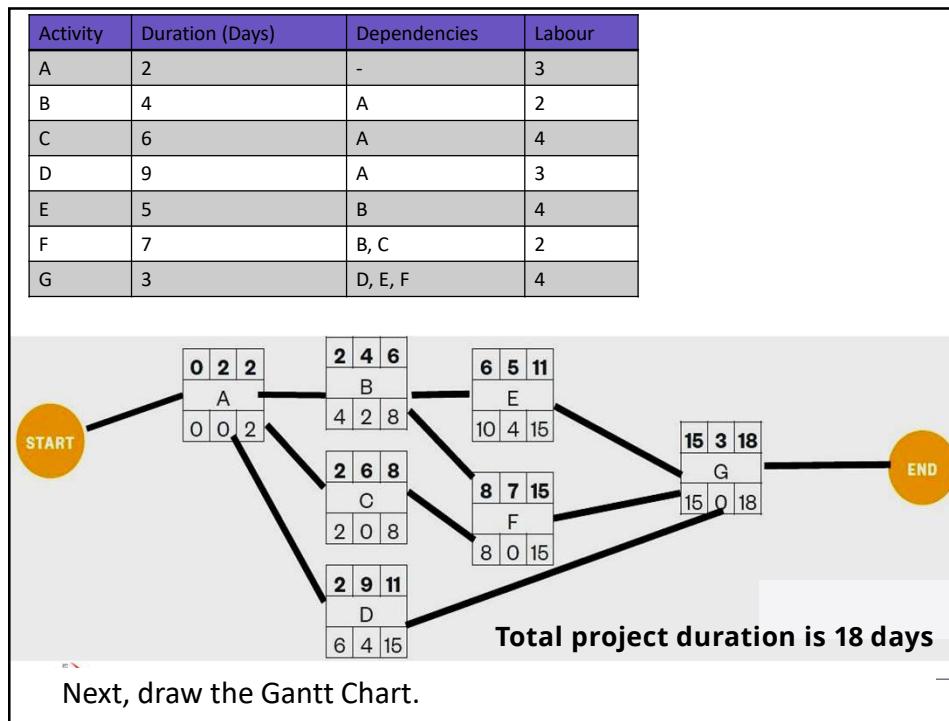
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Example: Estimate Activity Resources

Activity	Duration (Days)	Dependencies	Labour
A	2	-	3
B	4	A	2
C	6	A	4
D	9	A	3
E	5	B	4
F	7	B, C	2
G	3	D, E, F	4

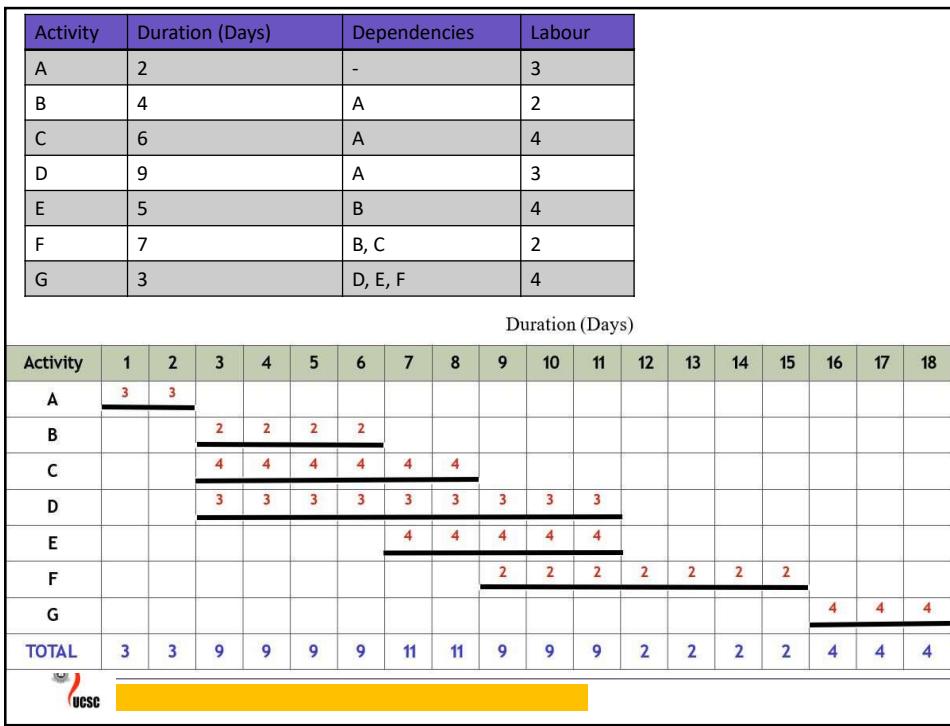
Let's draw the AON network and find the project duration.

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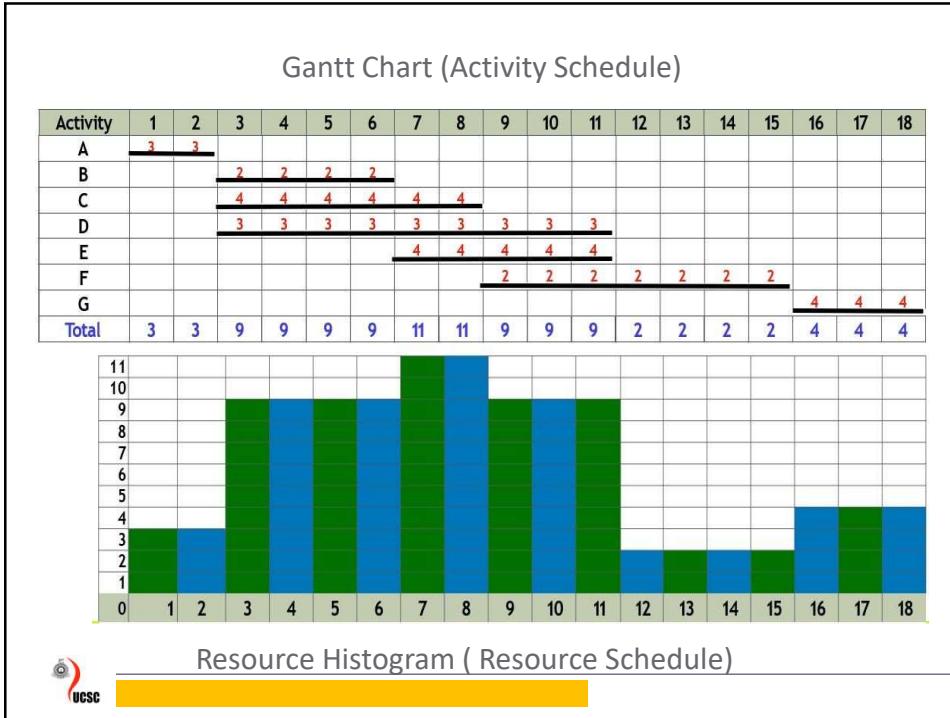


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Resource Optimization Techniques

1. Resource Levelling
2. Resource Smoothing
3. Reverse Resource Allocation - Start with the last or most critical task and allocate resources to make sure that the deadline or critical tasks must happen as planned.



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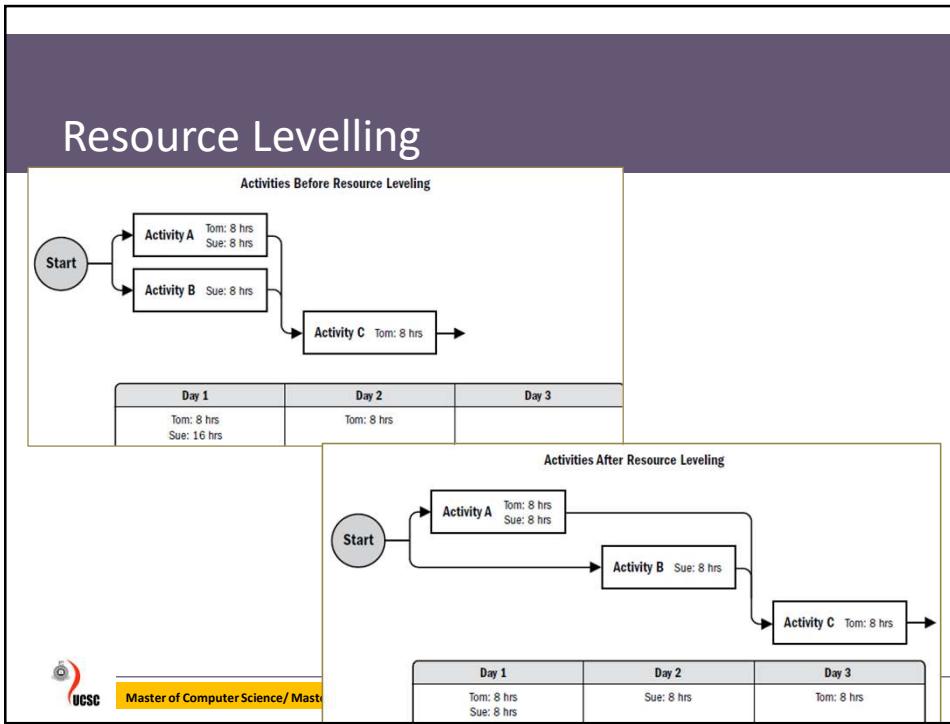
Resource Levelling

- A technique in which start and finish dates are adjusted based on resource constraints with the goal of balancing the demand for resources with the available supply.
- Resource levelling can be used:-
 - When shared or critically required resources are available only at certain times or in limited quantities
 - When resources are overallocated, such as when a resource has been assigned to two or more activities during the same time period.
 - When there is a need to keep resource usage at a constant level.
- Resource levelling can often cause the original critical path to change. Available float is used for levelling resources.
 - Consequently, the critical path through the project schedule may change.



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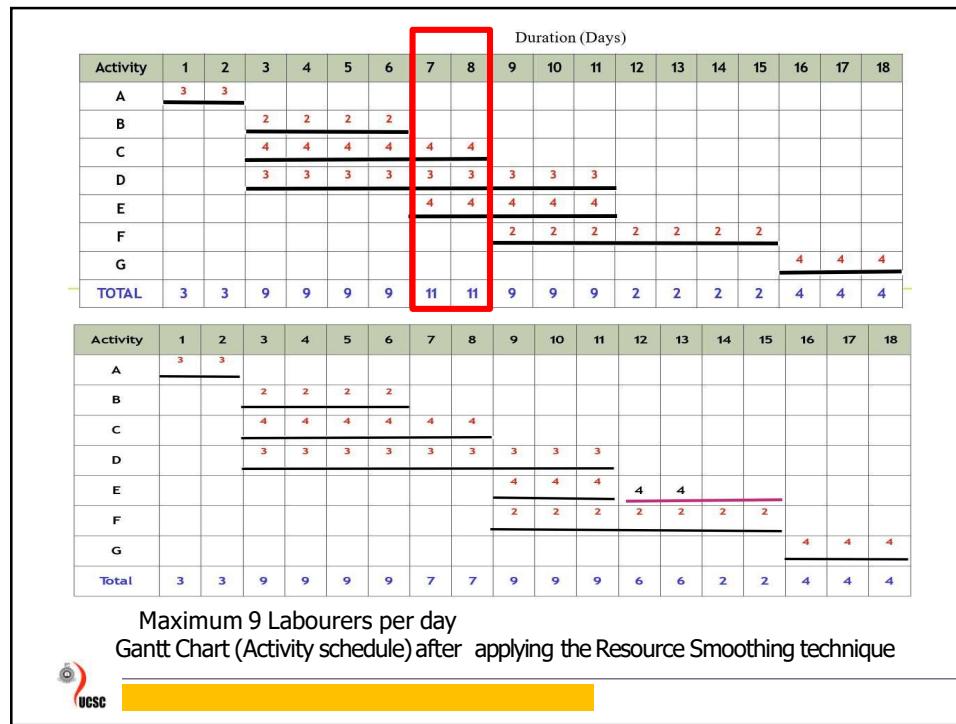
Resource Smoothing

- A technique that adjusts the activities of a schedule model such that the requirements for resources on the project do not exceed certain predefined resource limits.
- The project's critical path is not changed and the completion date may not be delayed.
- Activities may only be delayed within their free and total float.
- Resource smoothing may not be able to optimize all resources.

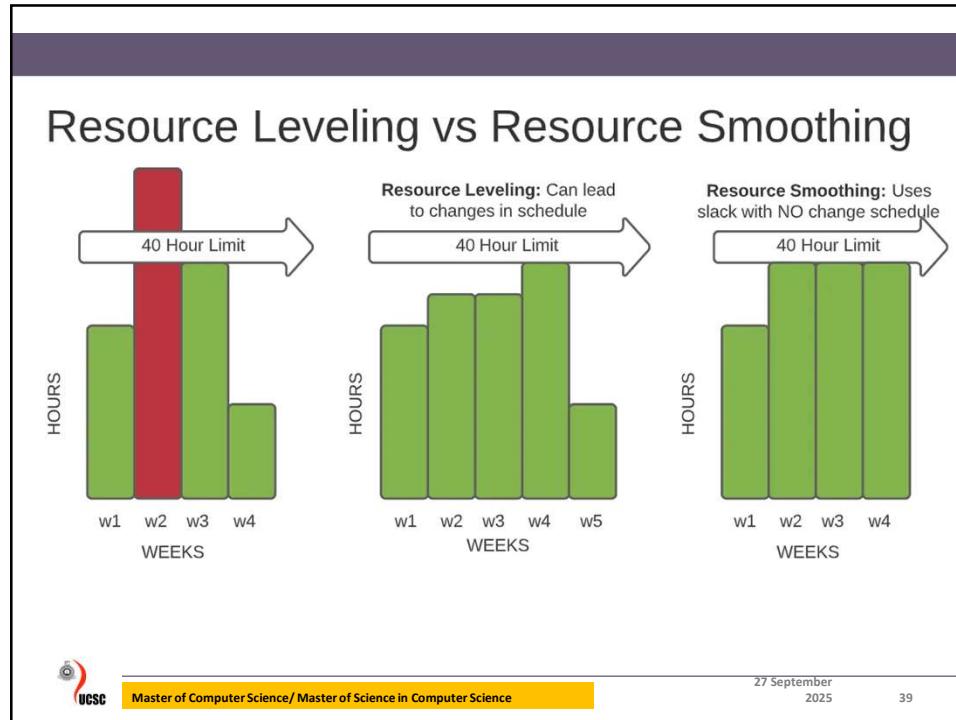


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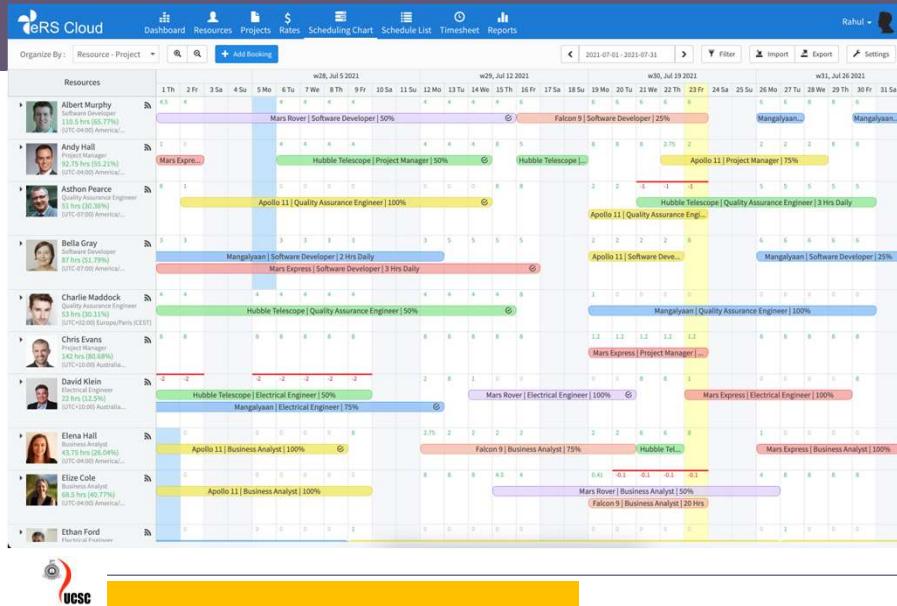
Publishing Resource Schedule

- In allocating and scheduling resources, people used an activity plan, information on network diagrams, activity bar charts and resource histograms.
- These are not the best way of publishing and communicating project schedules.
- For this, we need some form of **Work Plan**.
- Work Plans are commonly published as lists or charts.



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E.g. Work Plan



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Exercise 2: You are managing a website development project with the following tasks and dependencies

Resources Available: 1 BA, 2 Developers, 1 UI Designer and 1 Tester

Activity	Description	Est.Hrs	Duration (days)	Predecessor/s
A	Requirements Gathering	24	3	-
B	Design	32	4	A
C	Setup Development Env.	32	2	A
D	Backend Development	80	5	B, C
E	Frontend Development	24	3	B
F	Integration Testing	16	2	D, E
G	Final Review and fixes	32	2	F

1. Draw the network diagram with critical path highlighted
2. Complete the table showing resource estimation
3. Draw the Gantt chart and or the histogram
4. If only 1 developer was available instead of 2, what would happen to the project duration?

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Cost Schedules

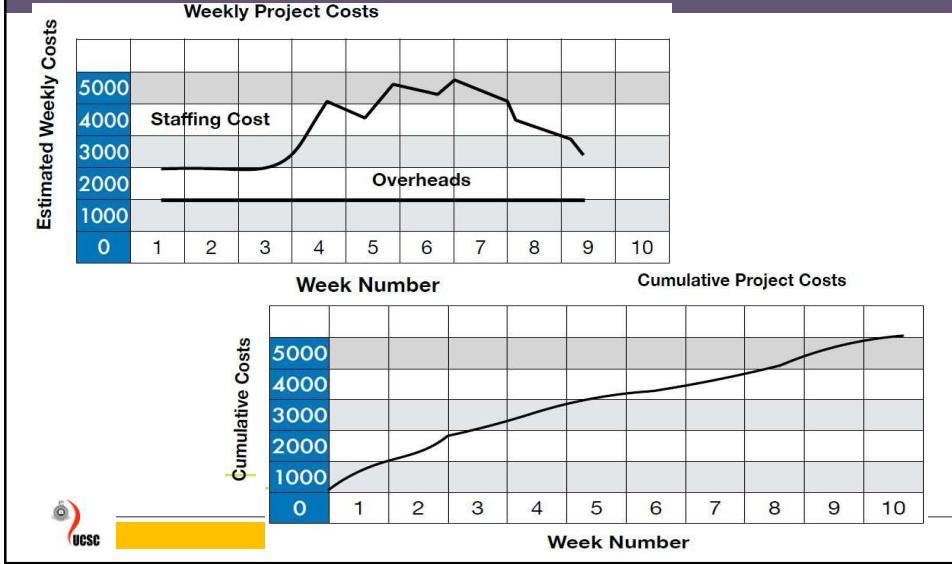
- Combines **budgeting** and **timeline** to ensure projects are delivered on time and within budget.
- Shows weekly or monthly costs over the life of the project.
- Aligns **expenditures** with the project **schedule**
- Helps track when costs will be incurred and control spending
- Supports Resource Allocation
- Facilitates Stakeholder Communication
- Assists risk management and decision making



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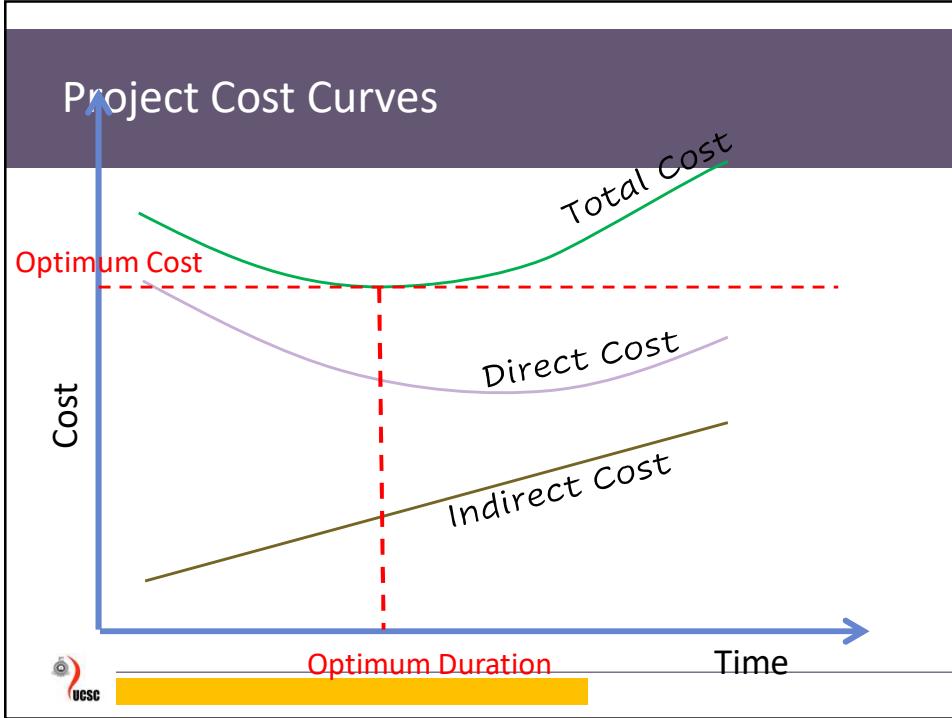
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Cost Schedules Cont...



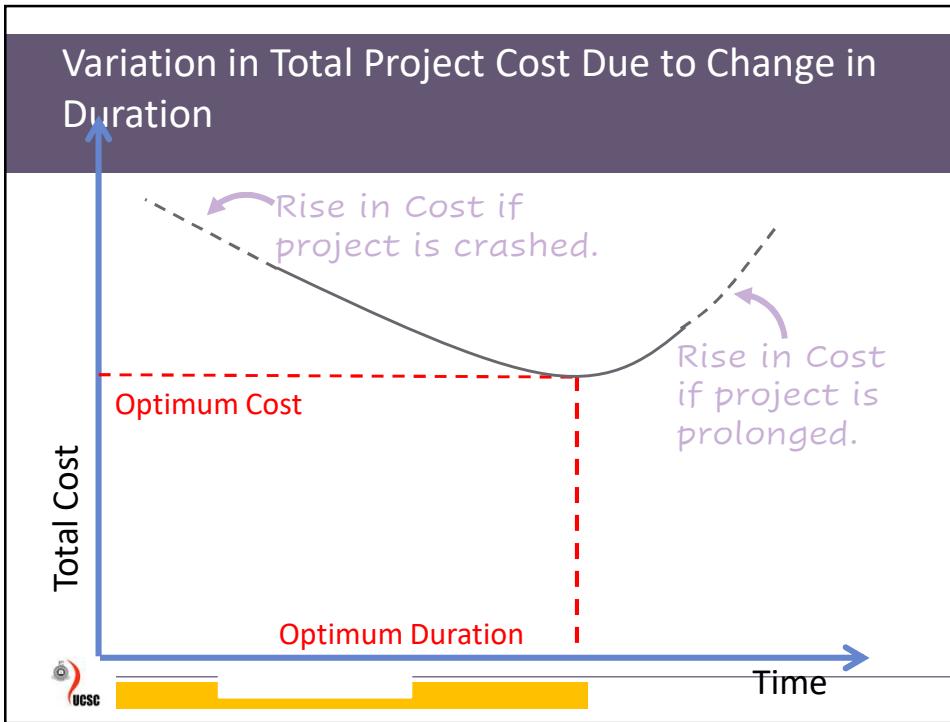
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Project Cost Curves



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Shortening the Project Schedule

The strategies for shortening the project schedule are;

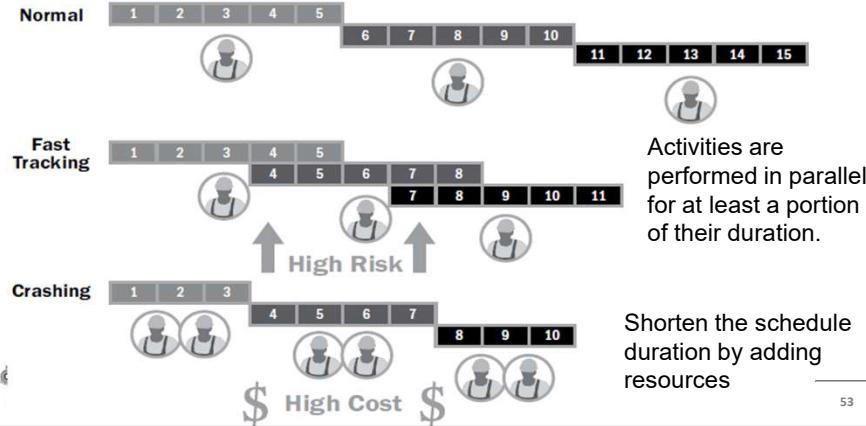
- 1. Project Crashing** - Assigning additional resources by bearing the extra cost.
- 2. Omit unnecessary requirements** from the project scope under the agreement of project sponsors.
- 3. Motivate employees to complete the project as soon as possible.** There may be;
 - penalties for late delivery
 - bonuses for early delivery

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Schedule Compression

- Used to shorten or accelerate the schedule duration without reducing the project scope in order to meet schedule constraints, imposed dates, or other schedule objectives.



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Crashing a project

- Project crashing is the method for shortening the project duration by reducing the time of one or more critical activities to less than normal time.
- Crashing is achieved by devoting more resources. Thus the cost associated with the project is increased.
- In Crashing if cost increases then time decreases. Time and cost are thus inversely related.



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Effect of crashing

- Slope = cost/time
 - To determine if crashing is effective, a cost/time slope is calculated for each activity that can be expedited (crashed).
 - The formula to calculate Slope;
- $$\text{Crash cost per period} = \frac{(\text{Crash cost} - \text{Normal cost})}{(\text{Normal time} - \text{Crash time})}$$
- Crash cost = Full cost with the alternative approach



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An Example of Crashing

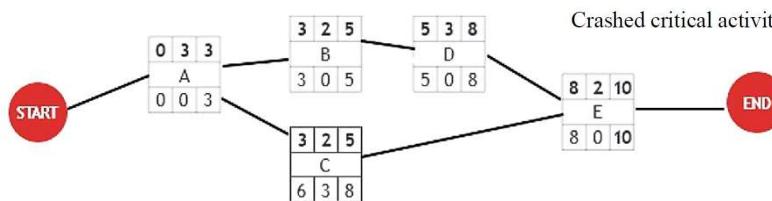
Activity	Precedence	Duration (wk)		Cost (Rs. Thousand)	
		Normal	Crashed	Normal	Crashed
A	-	3	2	40	80
B	a	2	1	20	80
C	a	2	2	20	20
D	b	3	1	30	120
E	C and d	2	1	10	80

Critical Path - A-> B-> D-> E

Non-Critical Activities - C

Critical Activities - A-> B-> D-> E

Crashed critical activities.



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An Example of Crashing...contd.

Activity	Precedence	Duration (wk)		Cost (Rs. Thousand)	
		Normal	Crashed	Normal	Crashed
A	-	3	2	40	80
B	a	2	1	20	80
C	a	2	2	20	20
D	b	3	1	30	120
E	C and d	2	1	10	80

Activity	Duration (Weeks)									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
A										
B										
C										
D										
E										

Gantt chart Under the A and B crashed

8,220

Activity	Duration (Weeks)									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
A										
B										
C										
D										
E										

Gantt chart Under the Normal Condition

10,120

Activity	Duration (Weeks)									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
A										
B										
C										
D										
E										

Gantt chart Under the A crashed

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Activity	Duration (Weeks)									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
A										
B										
C										
D										
E										

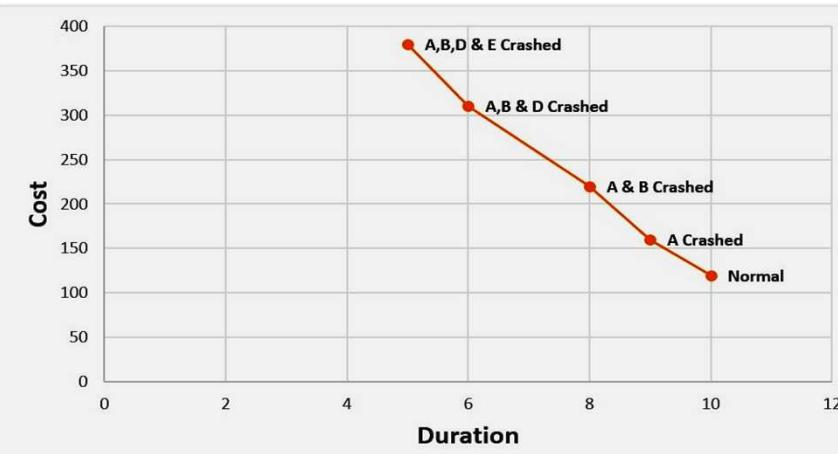
Gantt chart Under the A ,B and D crashed

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Crash Cost Vs Duration



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Calculating Slope

$$\text{Crash cost per period} = \frac{(\text{Crash cost} - \text{Normal cost})}{(\text{Normal time} - \text{Crash time})}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Crash cost per period for Activity D} &= \frac{120 - 30}{3 - 1} \\ &= 45\end{aligned}$$



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Exercise 1: Find the cost-slope

Activity	Precedence	Cost (\$)	Time (Days)	Crash Cost	Crash Time
A	-	12000	120	14000	100
B	-	1800	20	2800	15
C	B	16000	40	22000	30
D	C	1400	30	2000	20
E	D,F	3600	50	4800	40
F	B	13500	60	18000	45



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e.g. Find optimum duration and cost

Activity	Normal		Crash	
	Time in days	Cost in Rs.	Time in days	Cost in Rs.
1-2	3	300	2	400
2-3	6	480	4	520
2-4	7	2100	5	2500
2-5	8	400	6	600
3-4	4	320	3	360
4-5	5	500	4	520

Total normal cost = \$. 4100 and Total crash cost = \$. 4900.
 Suppose indirect cost = \$ 100 per day



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Activity	Cost-slope		
	ΔC	ΔT	$\frac{\Delta C}{\Delta T}$
1-2	100	1	100
2-3	40	2	20
2-4	400	2	200
2-5	200	2	100
3-4	40	1	40
4-5	20	1	20

Critical path activities 2-3 and 4-5 have least cost slopes. Therefore, these activities are first crashed, and network is drawn again .



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Exercise 2

Activity	Normal time (Days)	Cost per day (Rs)K	Crash time (Days)	Crash costs per day (Rs)K
1-2	18	30	14	40
1-3	23	10	22	11
2-3	8	50	6	70
2-4	10	35	6	80
3-4	3	40	2	80
4-5	8	25	6	50

- Find the critical path, total cost of crashing, & total normal cost.
- If there's an indirect cost of Rs20K per day, which activities should not be crashed? Find the optimum duration and cost of the project.



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Exercise 3

Activity	Predecessor	Normal	Normal	Crash	Crash
		Time	Cost	Time	Cost
a	-	5	\$50	3	\$150
b	-	4	40	2	200
c	b	7	70	6	160
d	a, c	2	20	1	50
e	a, c	3	30	-	-
f	b	8	80	5	290
g	d	5	50	4	100
h	e, f	6	60	3	180

- Calculate crash cost per day for each activity.
- Find the optimum way of getting 18 days delivery time. What is the project cost?
- Calculate the shortest delivery time for the project. What is the total project cost?



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Exercise 2

Activity	Normal time (Days)	Cost per day (Rs)K	Crash time (Days)	Crash costs per day (Rs)K
1-2	18	30	14	40
1-3	23	10	22	20
2-3	8	50	5	90
2-4	10	35	6	60
3-4	3	40	2	80
4-5	8	25	6	50

- Find the critical path, total cost of crashing, & total normal cost.
- If there's an indirect cost of Rs50 per day which activities should not be crashed. Find the optimum duration and cost of the project.



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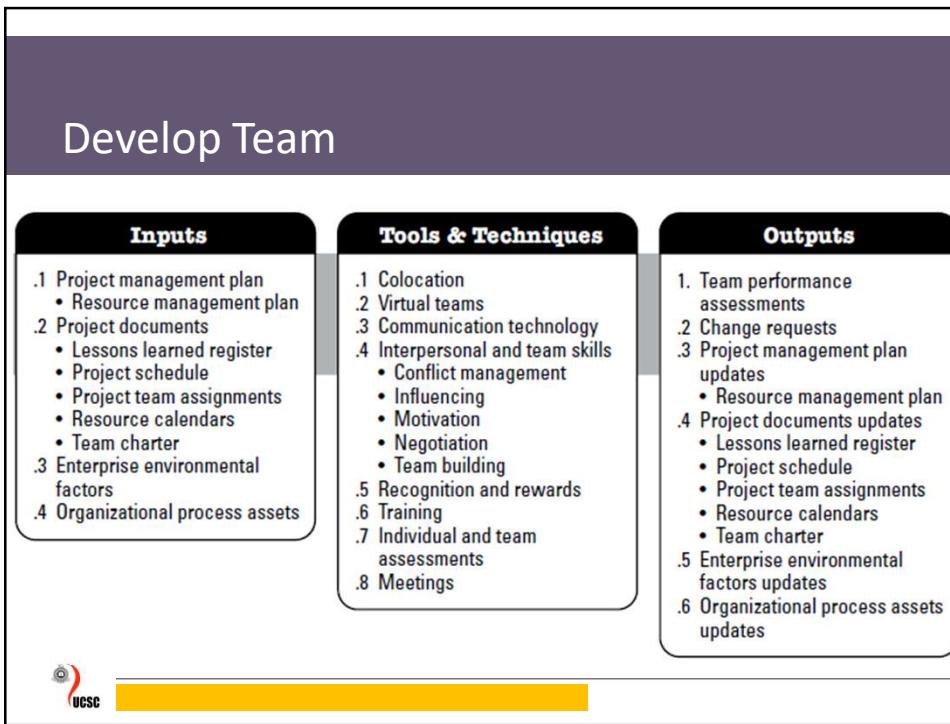
Exercise 3

Activity	Predecessor	Normal	Normal	Crash	Crash
		Time	Cost	Time	Cost
a	-	5	\$50	3	\$150
b	-	4	40	2	200
c	b	7	70	6	160
d	a, c	2	20	1	50
e	a, c	3	30	-	-
f	b	8	80	5	290
g	d	5	50	4	100
h	e, f	6	60	3	180

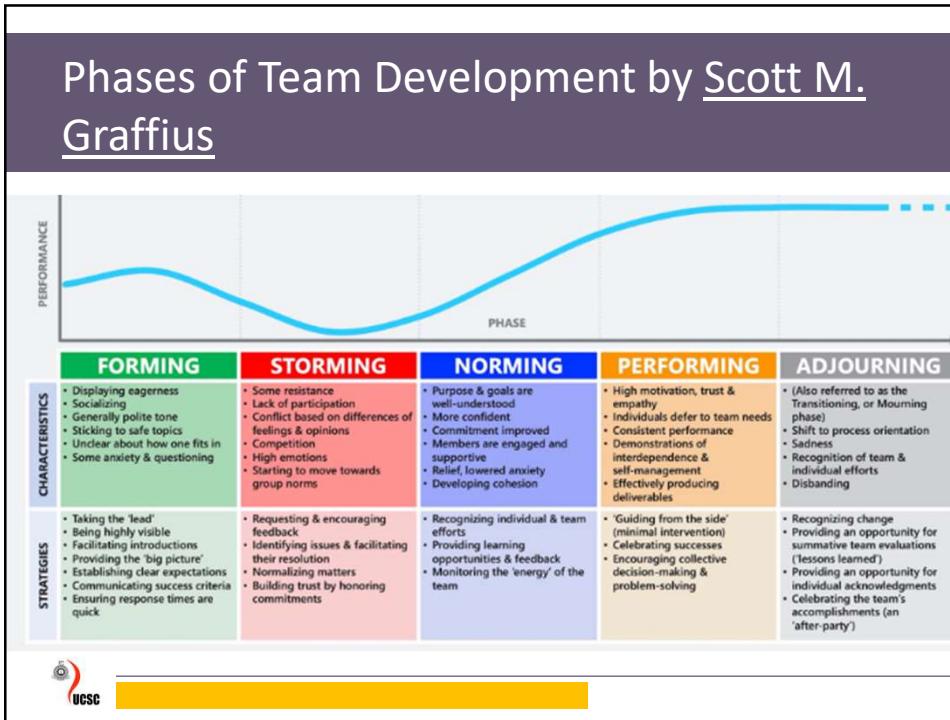
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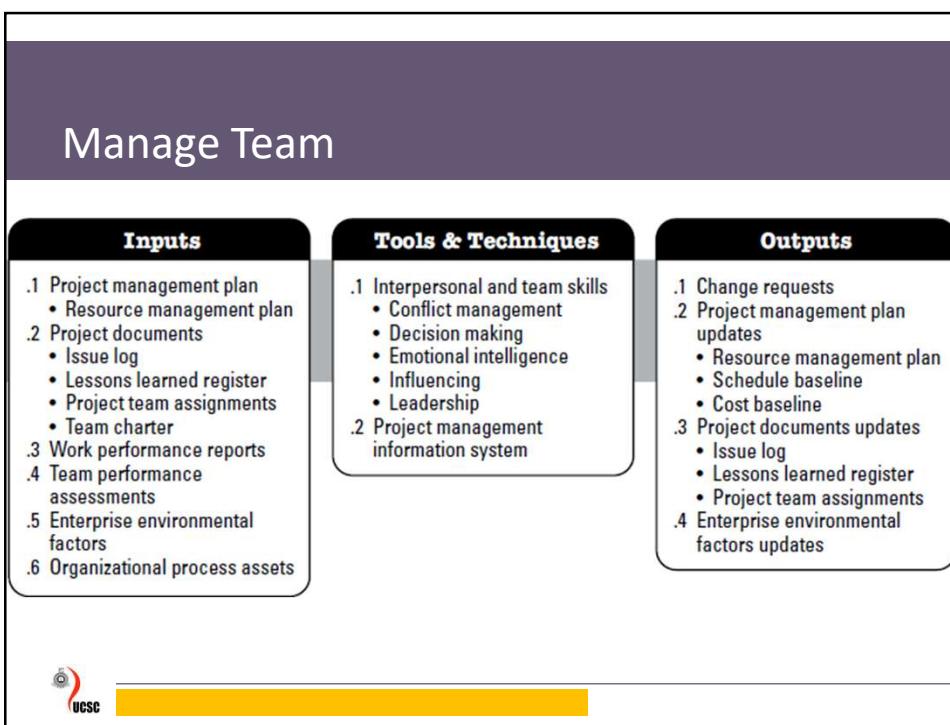


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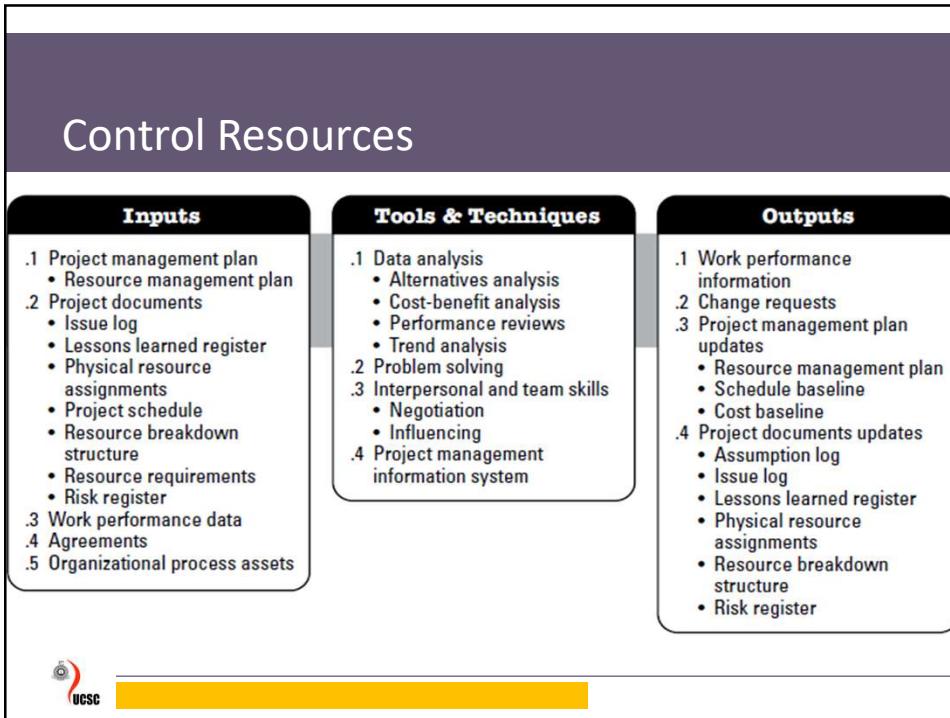


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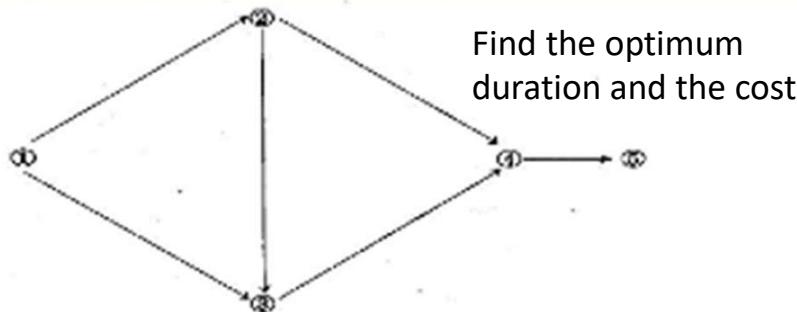
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Exercise: Indirect Cost =Rs70 per day



Activity	Normal Time (Days)	Crash Time (Days)	Crashing Cost (Rs./day)
1-2	18	14	40
1-3	23	22	20
2-3	8	5	60
2-4	10	6	40
3-4	3	2	80
4-5	8	6	50

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