

MASTER OF COMPUTER SCIENCE/
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

MCS4204 - Software Project Management

Topic 8: Project Resource Management

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UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO SCHOOL OF COMPUTING

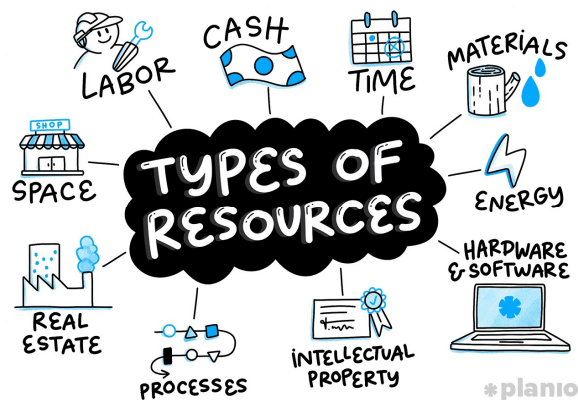


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Categories of Resources

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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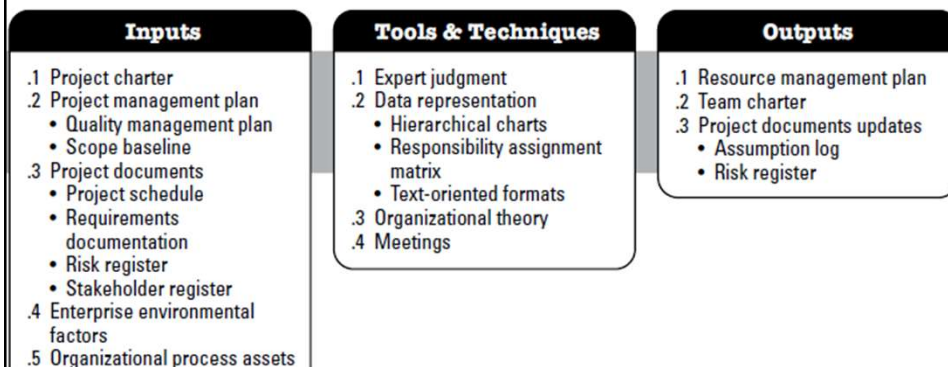
Resource Planning

- 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**.

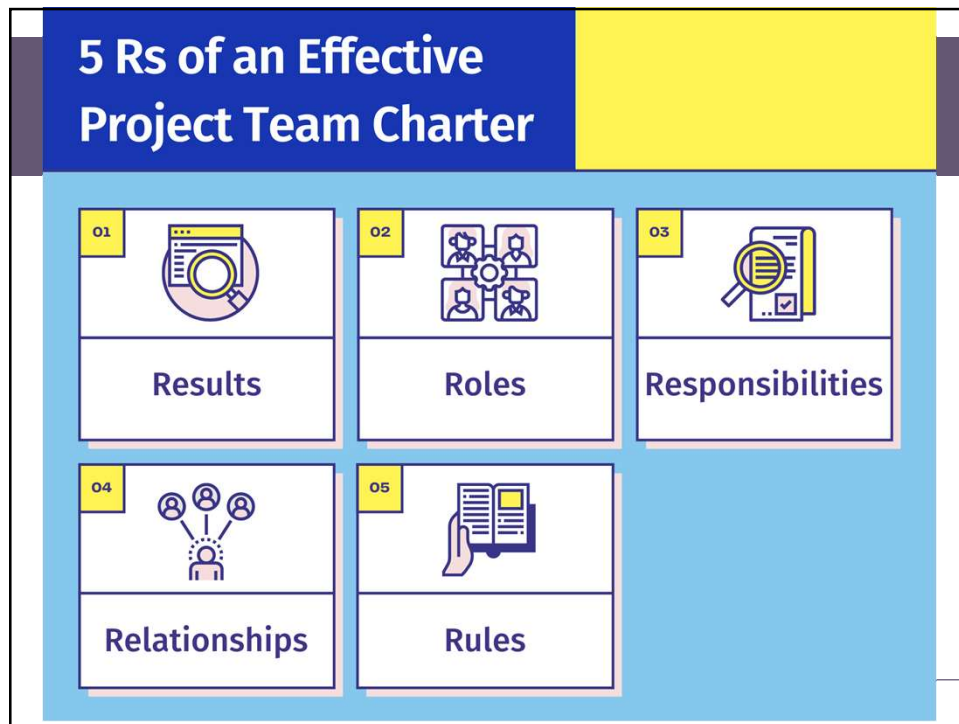


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Plan Resource Management




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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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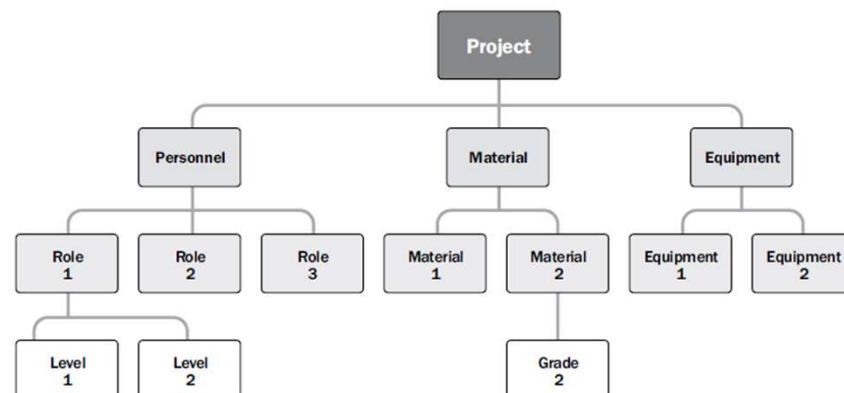
Plan Resource Management: Tools ... Contd.

- **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**

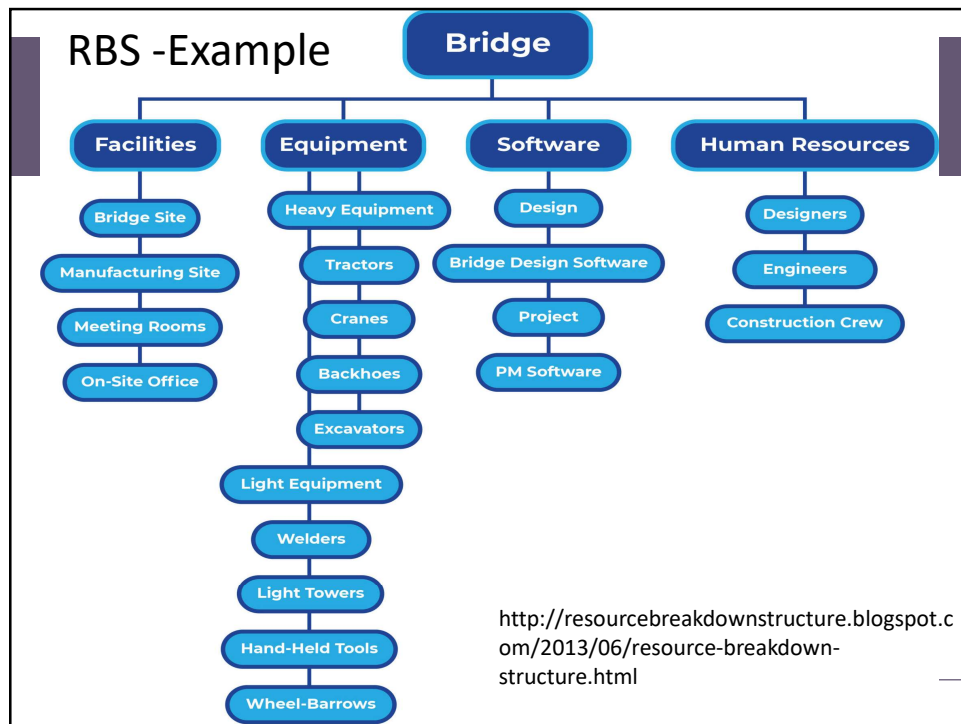


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Resource Breakdown Structure



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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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Example: RACI Chart/Matrix

| | |
|---|-------------|
| R | Responsible |
| A | Accountable |
| C | Consulted |
| I | Informed |

| Project tasks | 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

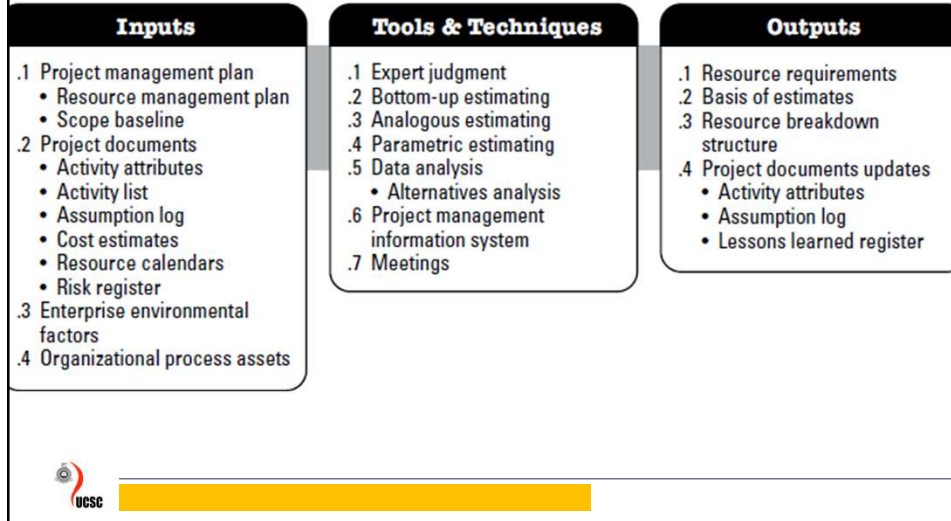
What is meant by RACI?

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



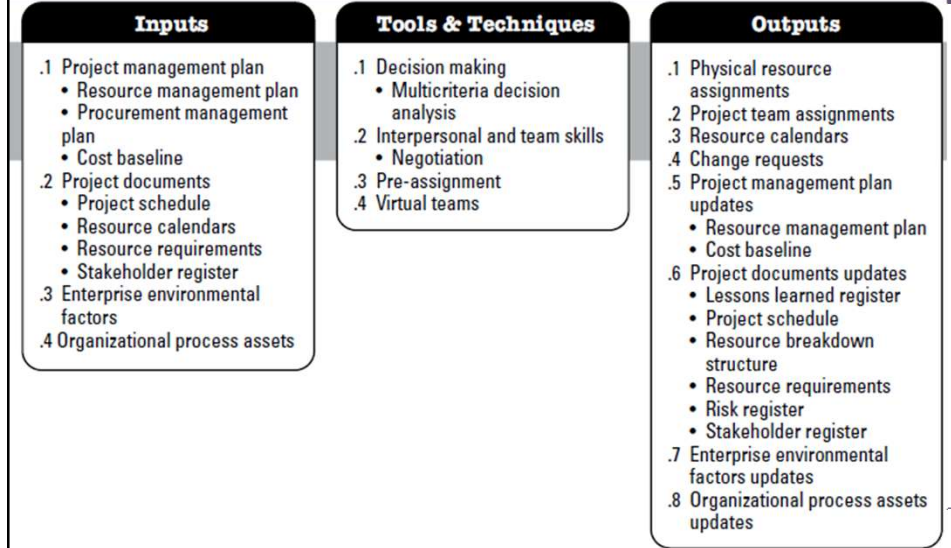
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Estimate Activity Resources



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Acquire Resources



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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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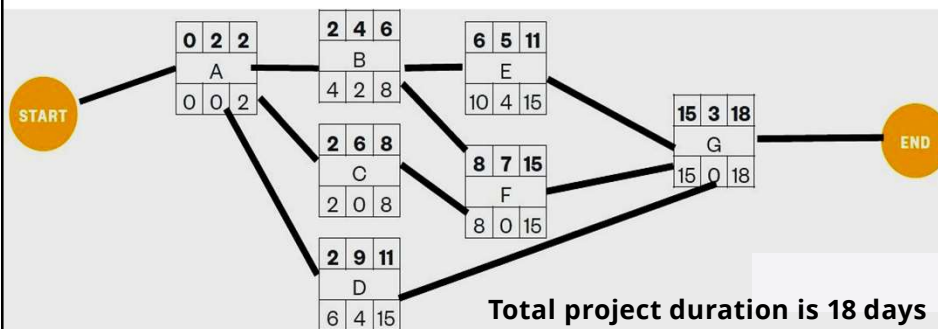
Example: Estimate Activity Resources

| 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.

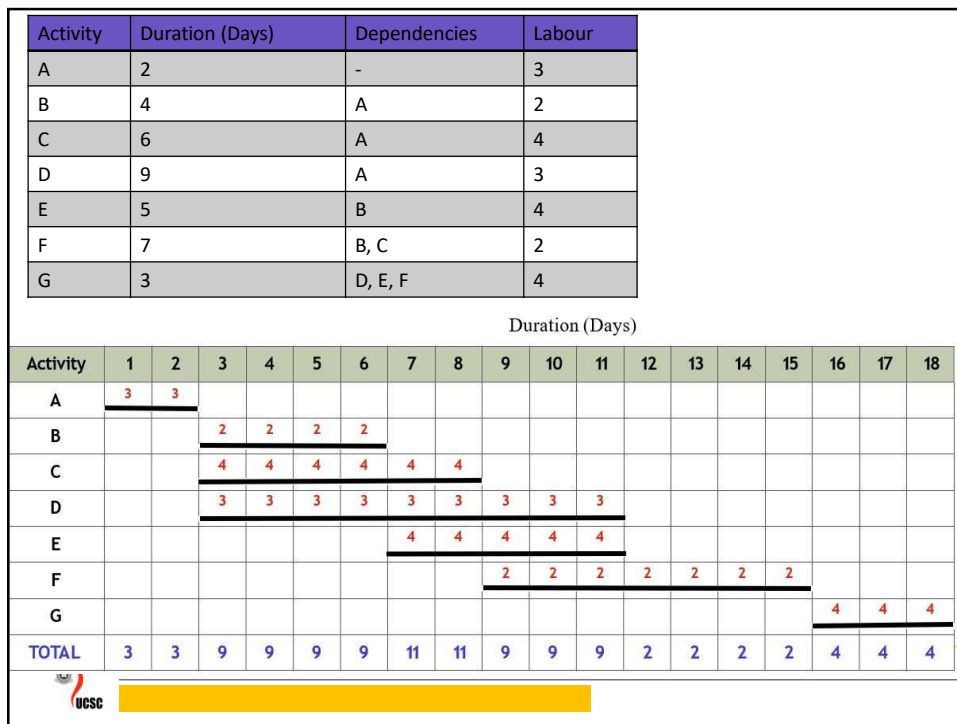
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| Activity | Duration (Days) | Dependencies | Labour |
|----------|-----------------|--------------|--------|
| A | 2 | - | 3 |
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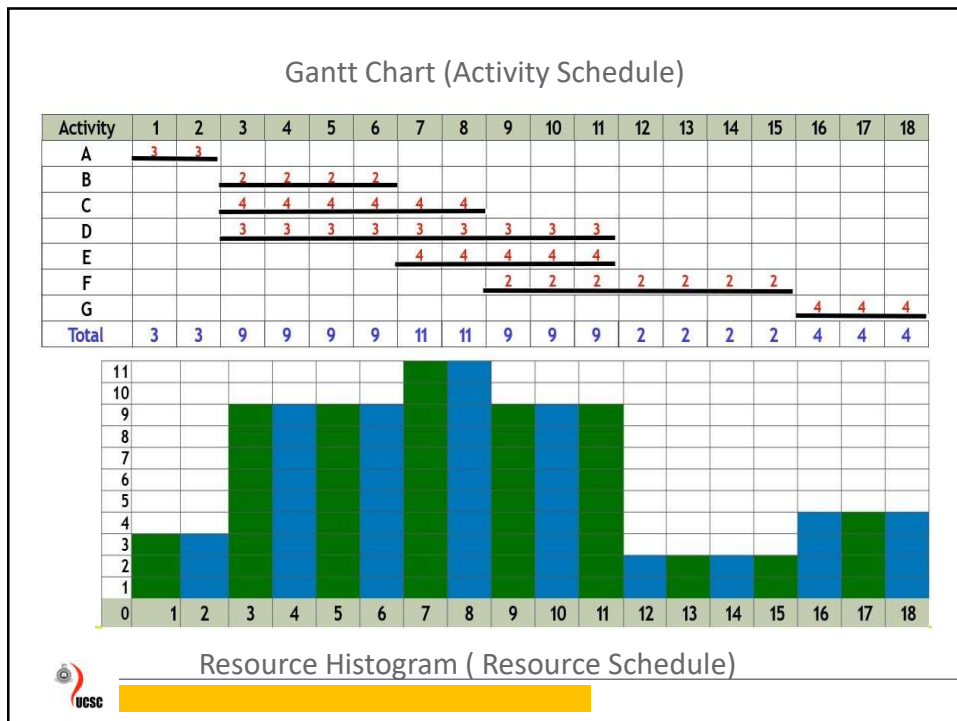


Next, draw the Gantt Chart.

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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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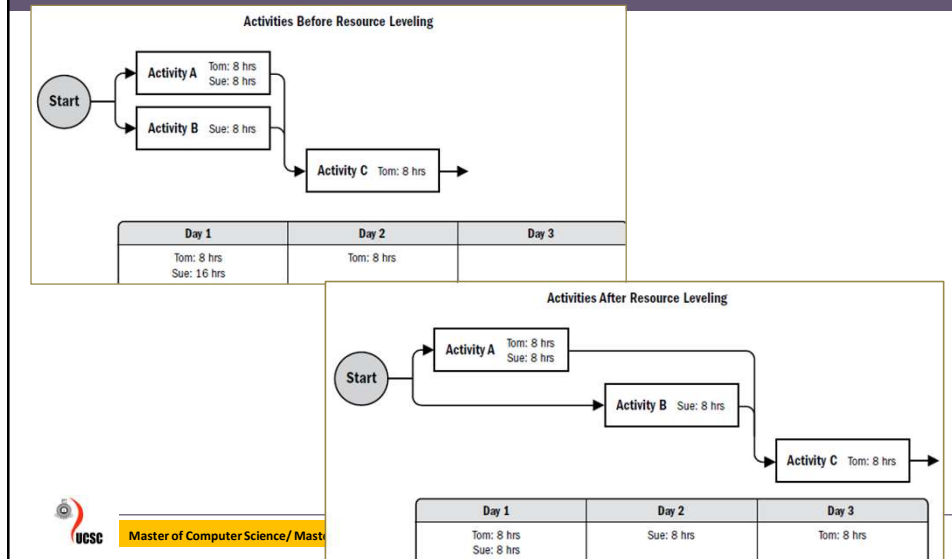
Resource Levelling

- 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 Levelling

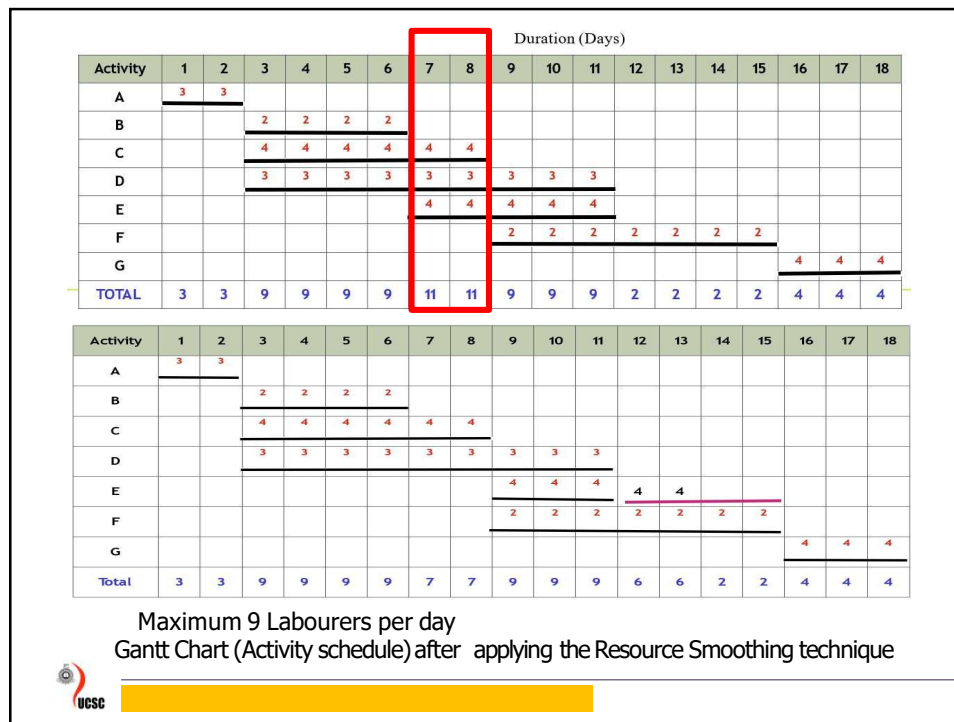


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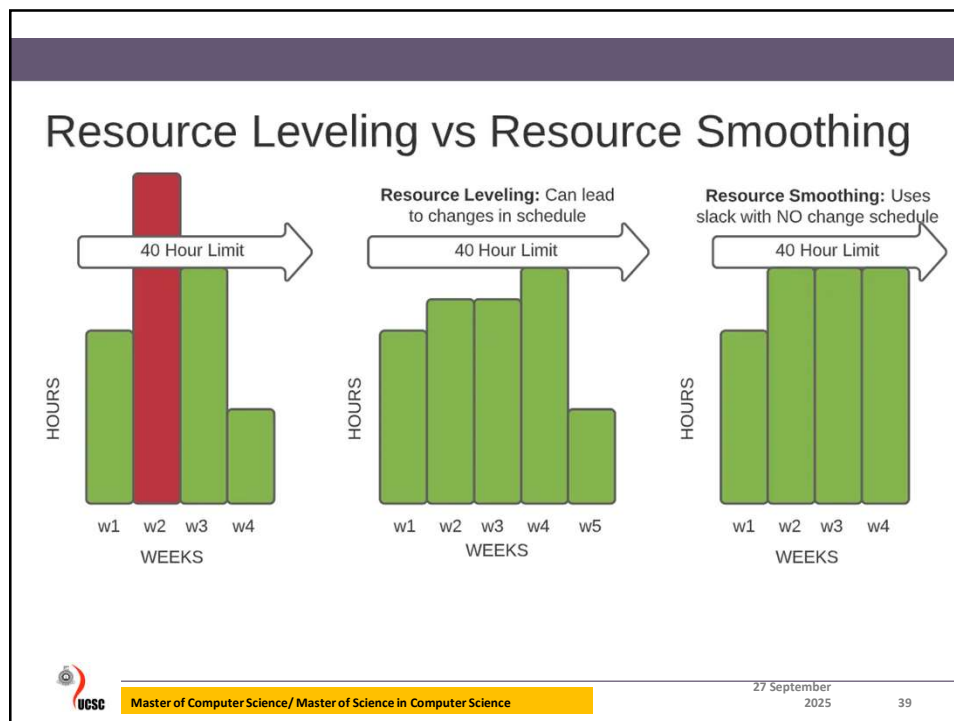
Resource Smoothing

- 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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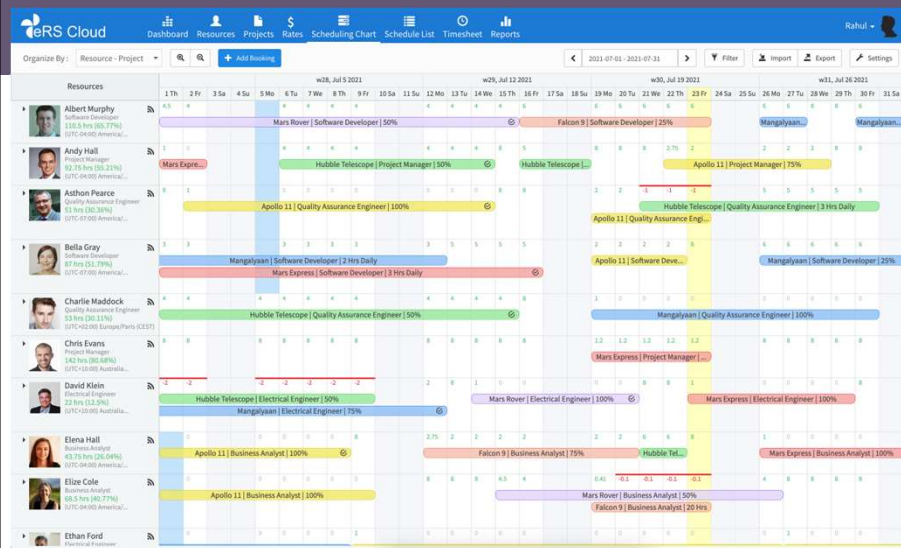
Publishing Resource Schedule

- 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

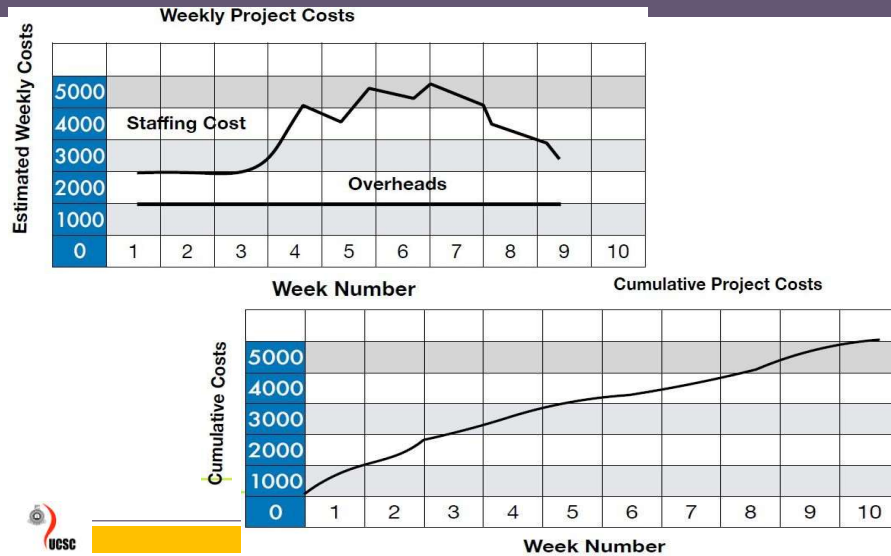
- Combines **budgeting** and **timeline** to ensure projects are delivered on time and within budget.
- Shows weekly or monthly costs over the life of the project.
- Aligns **expenditures** with the project **schedule**
- Helps track when costs will be incurred and control spending
- Supports Resource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



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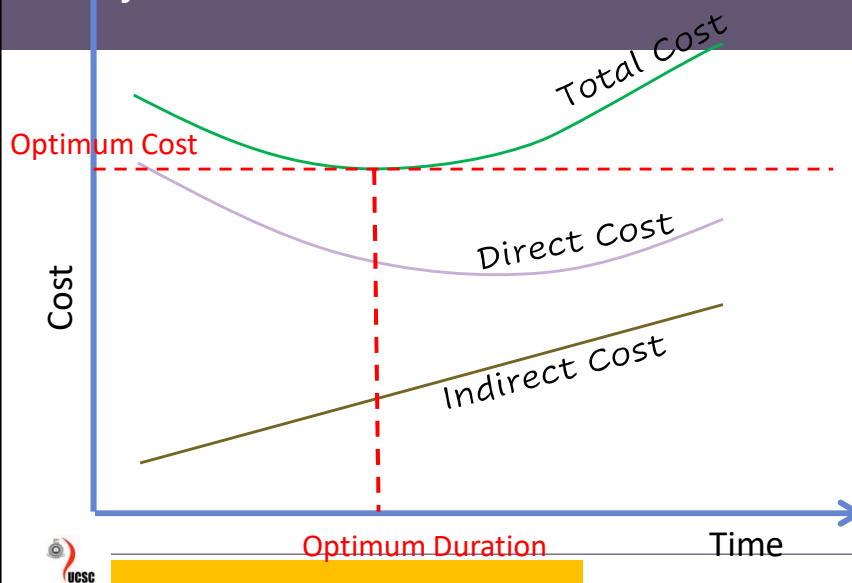
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Cost Schedules Cont...

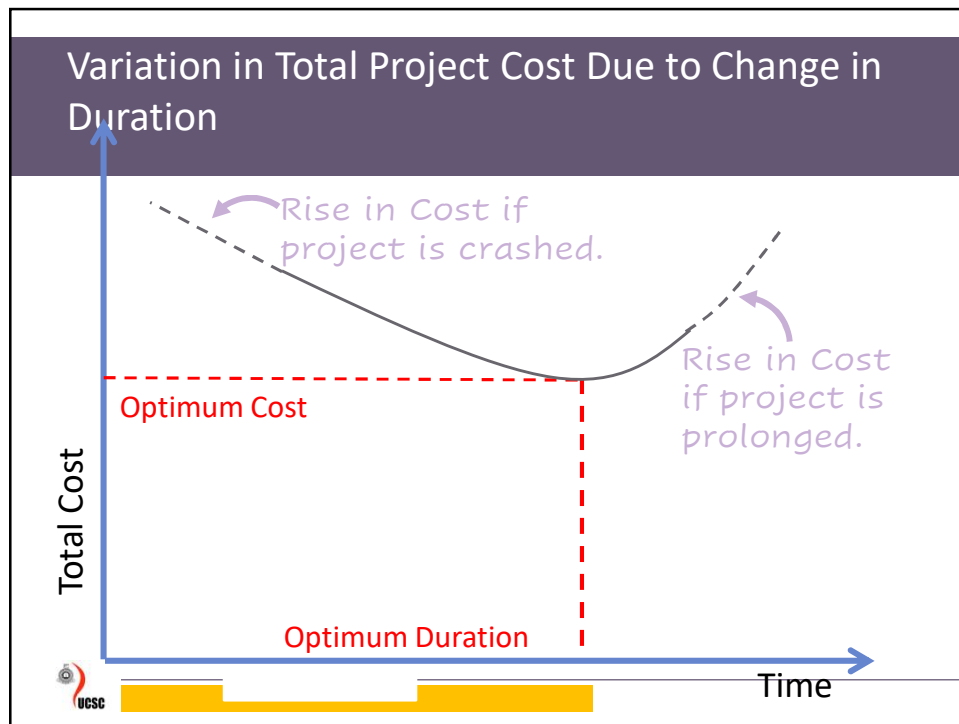


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Project Cost Curves



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Shortening the Project Schedule

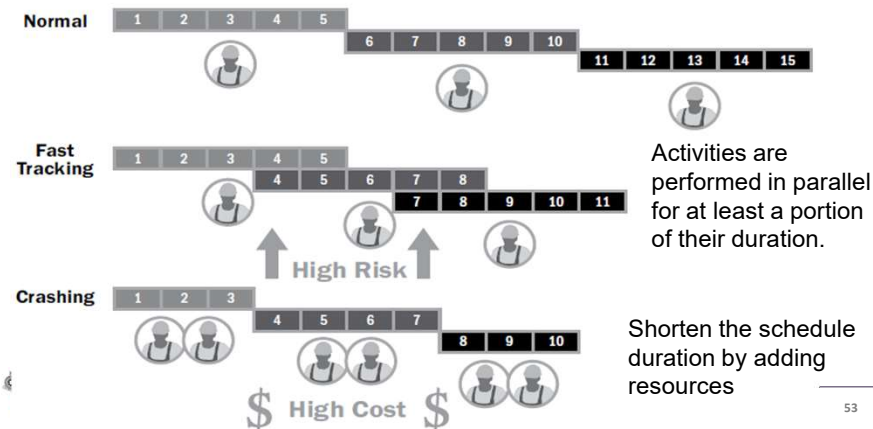
The strategies for shortening the project schedule are;

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;

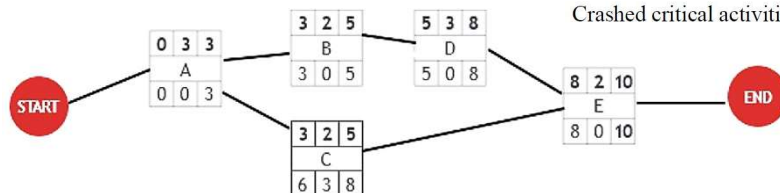
$$\text{Crash cost per period} = \frac{(\text{Crash cost} - \text{Normal cost})}{(\text{Normal time} - \text{Crash time})}$$
- Crash cost = Full cost with the alternative approach



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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

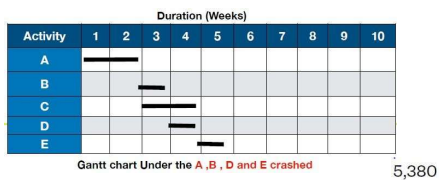
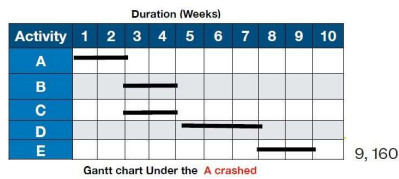
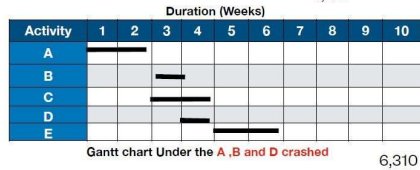
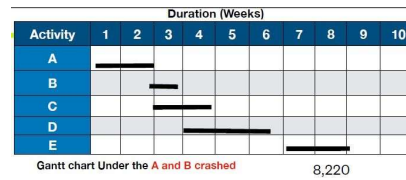
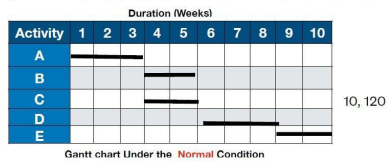
Crashed critical activities.

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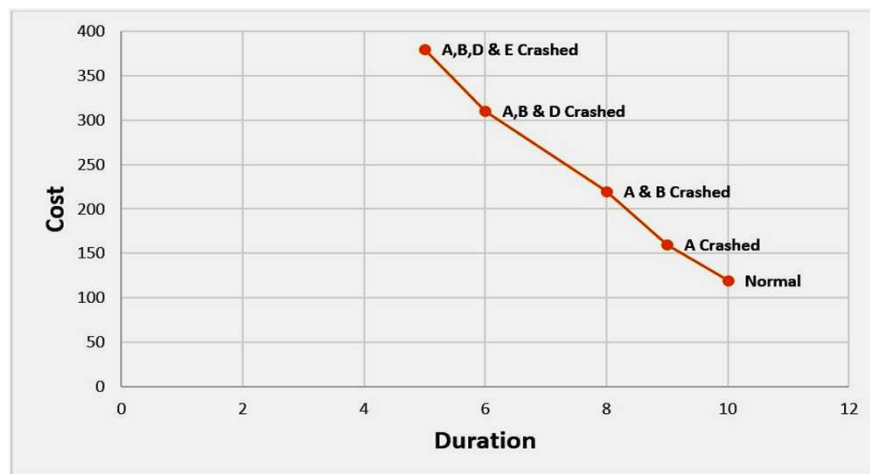
An Example of Crashing...contd.

| 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 |



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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 Time | Normal Cost | Crash Time | Crash 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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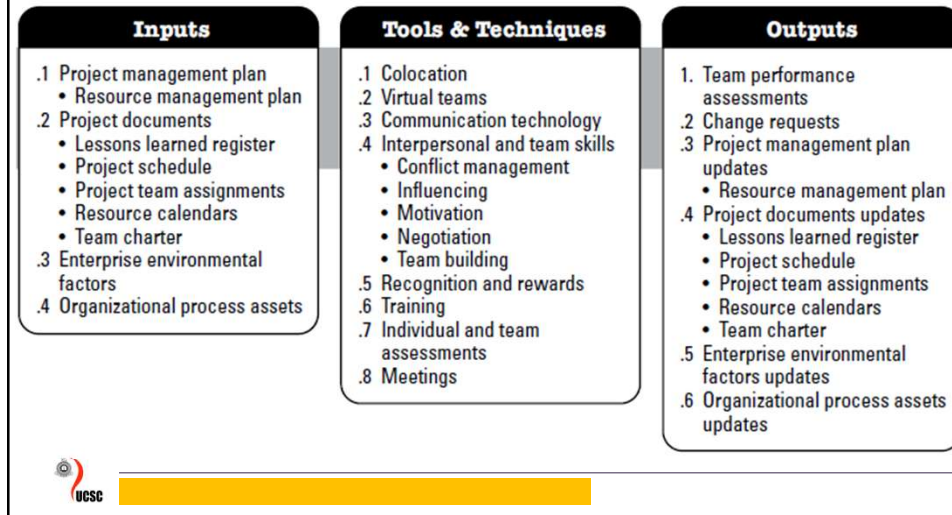
Exercise 3

| Activity | Predecessor | Normal Time | Normal Cost | Crash Time | Crash 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?

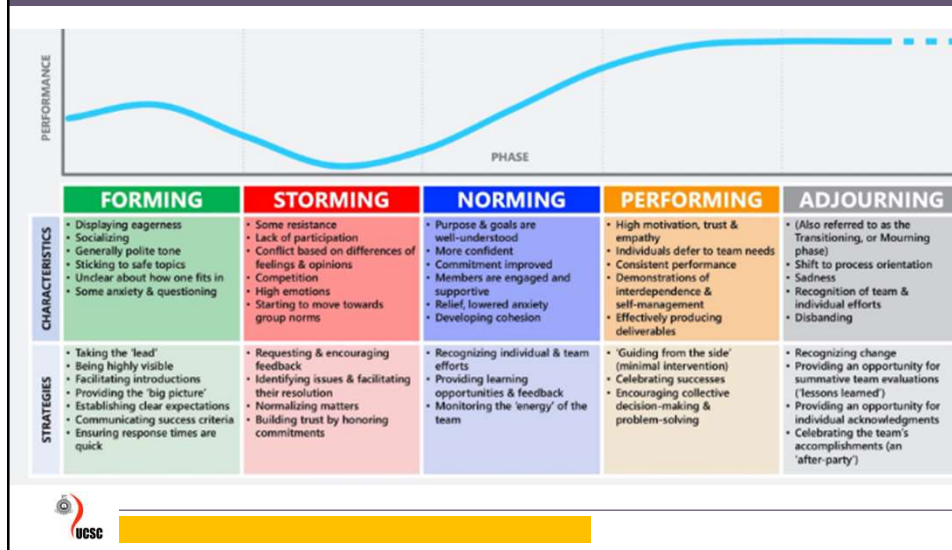
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Develop Team



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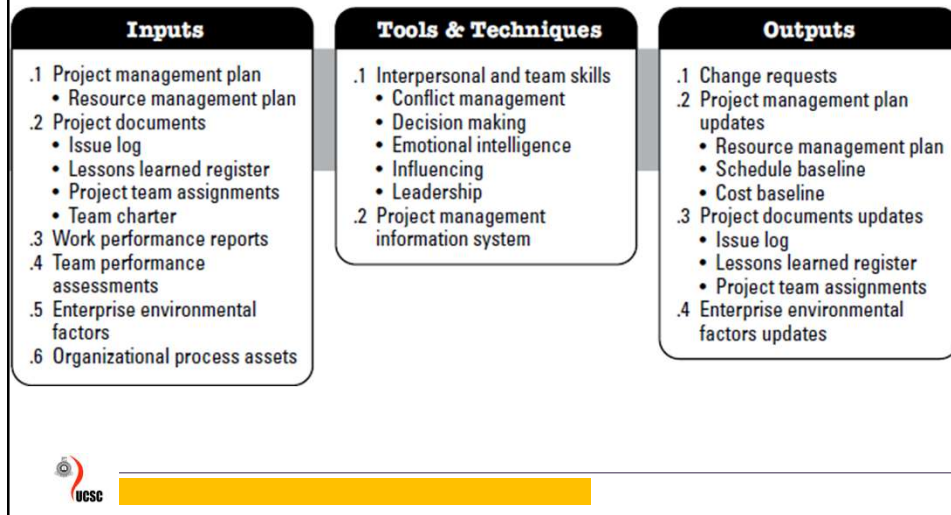
Phases of Team Development by Scott M. Graffius



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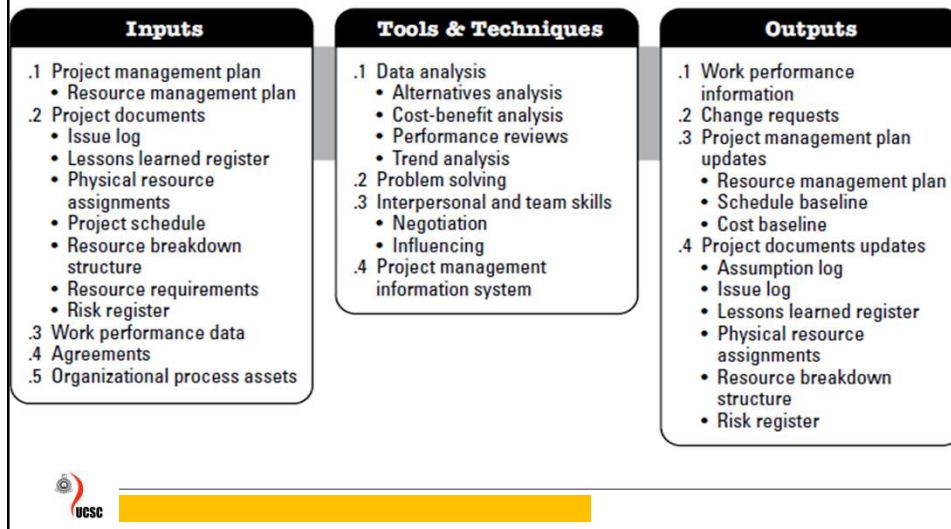
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Manage Team



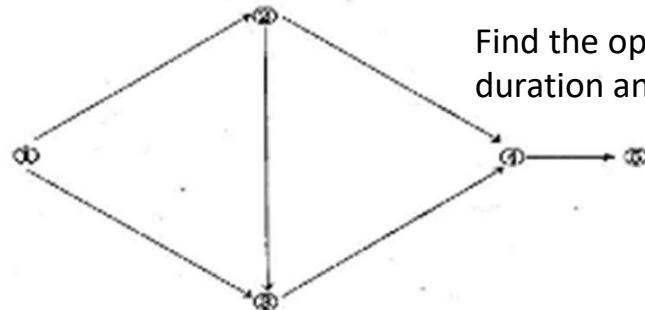
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Control Resources



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Exercise: Indirect Cost =Rs70 per day



Find the optimum duration and the cost

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

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