

Stacey Diagram Analysis

The Stacey Diagram analysis tool allows decision makers to determine the best approach to planning and executing a project. This analysis is based on two parameters:

- **Level of Agreement:** Agreement scoring normally is an indicator of how much change you can anticipate. The less agreement you have, the more change can be anticipated. Agreement scores and complexity can impact the delivery cycles. In most cases, low agreement and high complexity levels normally lead to the need to deliver more frequently to ensure you are meeting project objectives.

Agreement Scoring Criteria	Almost 100%	About 80%	About 50%	Some Agreement 30%	Almost No Agreement
Level of Agreement	1	2	3	4	5

- **Technology Complexity:** Technology complexity is an indicator of the level of innovation that will be needed to plan and execute the project. Evaluation ranges span known technology to totally new and unknown technology.

Certainty Scoring Criteria	Known Technology	Known Technology - A Few Challenges	May Require Some Explanation and Prototyping	A Few Knowns--Many Unknowns	Almost 100% New or Unknown Technology
Technology/Innovation	1	2	3	4	5

The following table presents four scenarios. Using the Stacey Diagram analysis tool, you can see how they would likely be evaluated and scored. Note that the total score is calculated by multiplying the Agreement Score by the Technology Score.

Project	Agreement Score	Technology Score	Total Score
You are managing a new product development project for a state-of-the-art widget. There are five key groups involved and each has their own ideas on features. In addition, your team knows very little about the advanced technology which will require some digging.	5 There is almost no agreement	4 Likely a few knowns, but many unknowns	20

Project	Agreement Score	Technology Score	Total Score
<p>Your company manufactures servers. You are managing a project to develop a newer version of your best-selling server. Requirements are set. You have a firm date six months from now to deliver. In addition, you have a talented team who developed specs that will likely stand the test of time.</p>	<p>1</p> <p>Requirements are set</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Likely known technology but a few challenges</p>	<p>2</p>
<p>The current Accounts Receivable process is in dire need of an update. There are few changes to the overall technology expected. However, management has asked and agreed to a phased delivery approach that will allow for generally agreed upon deliveries of updated functionality on a weekly basis.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Generally agreed upon delivery schedule planned</p>	<p>2</p> <p>A few changes anticipated. Known technology</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>You have been put in charge of a new marketing project to roll out a new technology service. There is moderate agreement with the marketing KPIs shared in the Project Charter. The bad news is that ideas on how to roll out the campaign and the appropriate technology to leverage are changing dramatically as each day goes by.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Moderate agreement. Rate at 50%</p>	<p>5</p> <p>There is a high degree of innovation needed to determine how to roll out the technology and campaign.</p>	<p>15</p>