

**Flow unit:** Items that flow through the process (homogenous or hetero generous) → An order

**Flow time:** Time required to turn material into product or customer being served

**Unit load:** Total amount of time the resource works to process each flow unit

- Single type of flow units & **Multiple types of flow units:** The product mix needs to be considered

**Capacity rate:** Maximum units processed in a unit time; EX: 60/X per hour or 1/X per min

- Of a process: Maximum possible output rate → DETERMINED BY THE BOTTLENECK

**Bottleneck:** The resource with the lowest capacity rate

- “Slowest” resource or resource with the highest “unit load”
- Is FULLY utilized while other resources are not utilized = 100% UTILIZATION
- Shortening NON-BOTTLENECK tasks decreases flow time → Does NOT affect CAPACITY RATE

**How to increase** the capacity rate of a bottleneck or a process

- **Expand** (Adding another) resource pool & **reduce** (faster resource) the unit load

\*\*Be aware of bottleneck shift

**Throughput (flow) rate** = THE LOWER # {input rate, capacity rate}

- The amount of material or items passing through a process

**Cycle time:** Average time between completion of units → Paced by bottleneck

**Implied utilization** = Input rate / Capacity rate

- **Allows us to capture the idea of overtime**

Process Flow, Linear FChart, Swim-Lane FC, Gantt Chart

Inventory build-up diagram & Average inventory

- Continuous model: Assume continuous input and output processes  
Instantaneous input rate, output rate, and inventory accumulation rate;

**AVG inventory CONT:** Area under the inventory curve / Length of time interval

- **Discrete model:** Average inventory = Average height of the bars

**Little's Law:**  $I = R \cdot T$  (inventory = throughput rate \* flow time) →

Rate=Inventory/FlowTime → FlowTime=Inventory/Rate

Identify all paths between the start node and the end node  
(Enumeration Method)

- The maximum path /time required to finish the project is called **critical path**

- All activities on the critical path are critical activities

- Allows us to allocate resources among activities to find appropriate tradeoffs between project duration and project cost

**Crashing:** Reducing the time it takes to complete the activity

**Crash Time:** The minimum possible time to complete an activity (smaller than the normal time)

**Crash Cost:** Cost associated with the crash time (in place of the normal cost)  
Cost per week

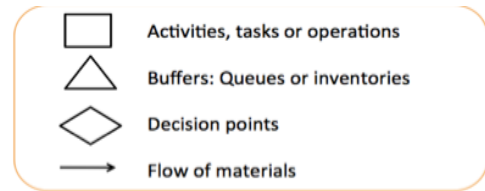
(Crash Cost- Normal Cost)/(Normal Time- Crash Time)

Activity	Preceding Activities	Normal Time	Crash Time	Normal Cost	Crash Cost	Cost per Week	Weeks
A	-	4	2	10,000	11,000	500	2
B	A	3	2	6,000	9,000	3,000	1
C	A	2	1	4,000	6,000	2,000	1
D	B	5	3	14,000	18,000	2,000	2
E	B, C	1	1	9,000	9,000		0
F	C	3	2	7,000	8,000	1,000	1
G	E, F	4	2	13,000	25,000	6,000	2
H	D, E	4	1	11,000	18,000	2,333	3
I	H, G	6	5	20,000	29,000	9,000	1

Flow Shop	Job Shop
- High volume	- Low volume
- Standardized product	- Custom orders
- Compete on cost	- Compete on servicing specific needs
- Fixed path	- Independent work stations (human judgment)
- Resource specialization (high utilization)	- Resource flexibility (low utilization)

To compute the CAP.R of each resource:  $1/(5 + 2)$  orders/min for A;  $1/(5 + 10)$  orders/min for B; and  $1/15$  orders/min for C. Both B&C are the bottlenecks, and the capacity rate is  $1/15$  orders/min or 4 orders/hr. Profit per unit is  $(25\%) \cdot (\$40) = \$10$ , the current profit rate is  $(\$10) \cdot (4) = \$40$  per hour.

Increase Type B by 10%--> New input mix is: 0.5 unit of A per hour and 2.2 units of B per hour, for a total of 2.7 units per hour. An hour's input requires for Category I,  $2.7 \cdot 10 + 0.5 \cdot 10 + 2.7 \cdot 10 = 59$  min < 60 min; for Category II,  $2.2 \cdot 30 + 66$  min < 120 min (there are two units of Category II). The new input mix can be accommodated under the current resource capacities. Since the marginal profit of B is \$110 per unit, the extra profit rate is  $0.2 \cdot \$110 = \$22$ /hour.



• Example: Bread making



$$\text{Utilization} = \frac{\text{Throughput Rate}}{\text{Capacity Rate}} = \frac{\text{Actual output rate}}{\text{maximum output rate}} \leq 100\%$$

	Production Process	Service Process
Flow Unit	Materials	Customers
Input Rate	Raw material releasing rate	Customer arrival rate
Capacity Rate	Maximum output rate	Maximum service completion rate
Throughput Rate	Finished goods output rate	Customers departure rate (service completion rate)
Flow Time	Time required to turn materials into a product	Time that a customer is being served
Inventory	Amount of work-in-process	Number of customers being served

Excess Capacity	INVENTORY BUILD-UP
23	0
2	0
0	3
23	0
	0.75

Average Inventory



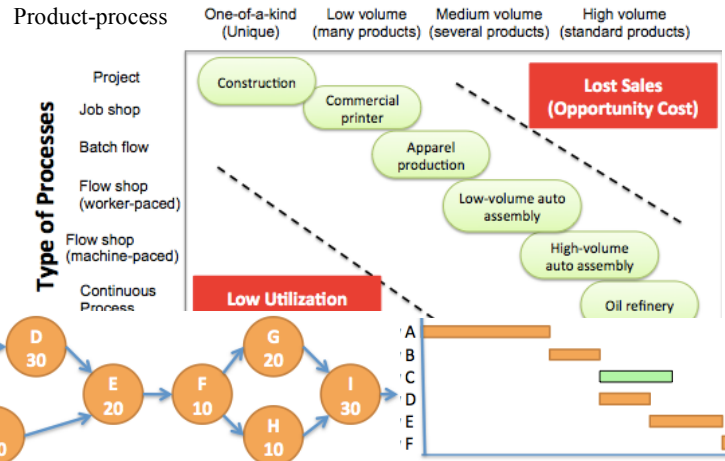
**Short-Run vs Long-Run AVERAGE**

Long-Run avg input rate must be LESS than the long-run avg capacity rate

Long-Run avg throughput rate EQUALS Long-run avg input rate if input is smaller than CAPACITY

Short-Run avg input rate can be greater than the short-run avg capacity rate

**Product Characteristics**



How long will it take to complete the project?

Path	# Days
A-B-D-E-F-G-I	190
A-B-D-E-F-H-I	180
A-C-E-F-G-I	200
A-C-E-F-H-I	190

8AM-9AM: 0  
 9AM-12noon: Area =  $3 \cdot 60 / 2 = 90$   
 12 noon-1PM: Area =  $(60 + 50) / 2 = 55$   
 1PM-3PM: Area =  $2 \cdot (50 + 60) / 2 = 110$   
 AVG Inv = 255. Dividing it by 7 hours (8AM to 3PM) =  $255/7 = 36.43$ .  
 The total number of customers who showed up is  $30 \cdot (5 \text{ hours}) + 45 \cdot (2 \text{ hours}) = 240$ . “Throughput” Rate =  $240/7 = 34.29$  customers/hour  
 Avg Flow Time = AVG Inventory/ Throughput Rate