

EGI – Process Economics  
PROBLEMS

1. Three new pieces of equipment will be installed in an existing factory: a reactor with agitation, a shell and tube heat exchanger and a centrifugal pump. The reactor has vitreous coating, its cost can be considered 3 times higher than a carbon steel reactor. The heat exchanger, the pump and the associated piping are all high-grade chromium stainless steel. The equipment will operate at moderate pressure and temperature. The volume of the reactor is 9 m<sup>3</sup>, the heat transfer area of the heat exchanger is 50m<sup>2</sup> and the pump power is 5kw. No significant investment is required in utilities, buildings, support infrastructures (*off Sites*), site preparation and working capital. Using the equations,

$$C_E = C_B \left( \frac{Q}{Q_B} \right)^M \quad \frac{C_1}{C_2} = \frac{I_1}{I_2}$$

$$C_F = \sum_i [f_M f_P f_T (1 + f_{PIP})]_i C_{E,i} + (f_{EP} + f_{INST} + f_{ELEC} + f_{UTIL} + f_{OS} + f_{BUILD} + f_{SP} + f_{DEC} + f_{CONT} + f_{WC}) \sum_i C_{E,i}$$

table 2.1 (values corresponding to the year 2000; Use the CEI in the attached chart) and tables 2.2 to 2.7, estimate the cost of the project.

2. A company ponders investing in one of two projects A and B. The capital cost of both projects is €10<sup>6</sup>. The annual cash flows are in table 1. For each project, determine:
- The Payback Time
  - The Return on investment (ROI)
  - The Discounted cash flow rate of return (DCFRR)

What would you conclude from the results?

Year	Cash Flow/10 <sup>3</sup> €	
	Project A	Project B
0	-1000	-1000
1	150	500
2	250	450
3	350	300
4	400	200
5	400	100

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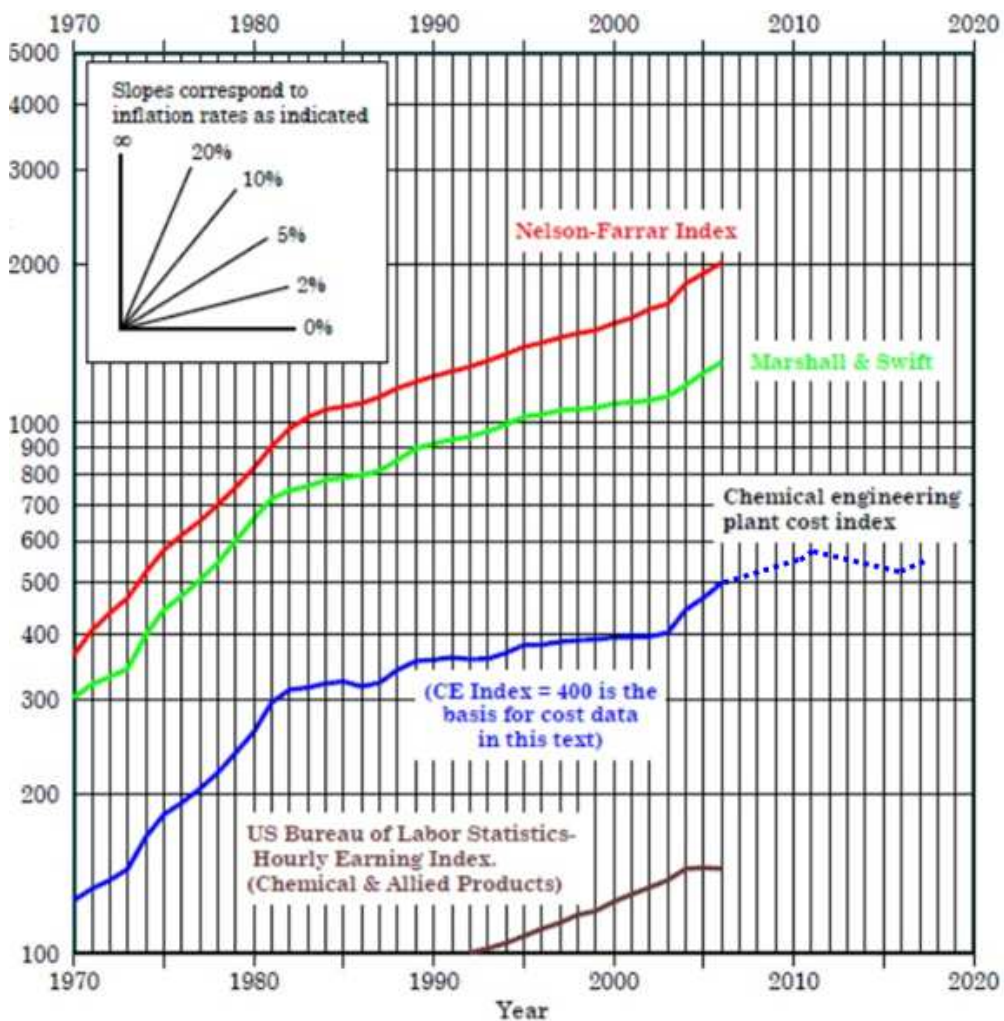
3. One company evaluates two competing projects whose cash flow is presented in table 2. For each project, determine:
- The Payback Time
  - The Net Present value (NPV) with a depreciation rate of 10%.
  - The Discounted cash flow rate of return (DCFRR)

Based on the comparison of these values, what project should be chosen? Justify the decision?

Table 2

Year	Cash Flow/€	
	Project A	Project B
0	-210000	-50000
1	70000	20000
2	70000	20000
3	70000	20000
4	70000	20000
5	70000	20000

**Attachments:**



**Table 2.1** Typical equipment capacity delivered capital cost correlations.

Equipment	Material of construction	Capacity measure	Base size $Q_n$	Base cost $C_B$ (\$)	Size range	Cost exponent $M$
Agitated reactor	CS	Volume (m <sup>3</sup> )	1	$1.15 \times 10^4$	1–50	0.45
Pressure vessel	SS	Mass (t)	6	$9.84 \times 10^4$	6–100	0.82
Distillation column (Empty shell)	CS	Mass (t)	8	$6.56 \times 10^4$	8–300	0.89
Sieve trays (10 trays)	CS	Column diameter (m)	0.5	$6.56 \times 10^3$	0.5–4.0	0.91
Valve trays (10 trays)	CS	Column diameter (m)	0.5	$1.80 \times 10^4$	0.5–4.0	0.97
Structured packing (5 m height)	SS (low grade)	Column diameter (m)	0.5	$1.80 \times 10^4$	0.5–4.0	1.70
Scrubber (Including random packing)	SS (low grade)	Volume (m <sup>3</sup> )	0.1	$4.92 \times 10^3$	0.1–20	0.53
Cyclone	CS	Diameter (m)	0.4	$1.64 \times 10^3$	0.4–3.0	1.20
Vacuum filter	CS	Filter area (m <sup>2</sup> )	10	$8.36 \times 10^4$	10–25	0.49
Dryer	SS (low grade)	Evaporation rate (kg H <sub>2</sub> O·h <sup>-1</sup> )	700	$2.30 \times 10^5$	700–3000	0.65
Shell-and-tube heat exchanger	CS	Heat transfer area (m <sup>2</sup> )	80	$3.28 \times 10^4$	80–4000	0.68
Air-cooled heat exchanger	CS	Plain tube heat transfer area (m <sup>2</sup> )	200	$1.56 \times 10^5$	200–2000	0.89
Centrifugal pump (Small, including motor)	SS (high grade)	Power (kW)	1	$1.97 \times 10^3$	1–10	0.35
Centrifugal pump (Large, including motor)	CS	Power (kW)	4	$9.84 \times 10^3$	4–700	0.55
Compressor (Including motor)		Power (kW)	250	$9.84 \times 10^4$	250–10,000	0.46
Fan (Including motor)	CS	Power (kW)	50	$1.23 \times 10^4$	50–200	0.76
Vacuum pump (Including motor)	CS	Power (kW)	10	$1.10 \times 10^4$	10–45	0.44
Electric motor		Power (kW)	10	$1.48 \times 10^3$	10–150	0.85
Storage tank (Small atmospheric)	SS (low grade)	Volume (m <sup>3</sup> )	0.1	$3.28 \times 10^3$	0.1–20	0.57
Storage tank (Large atmospheric)	CS	Volume (m <sup>3</sup> )	5	$1.15 \times 10^4$	5–200	0.53
Silo	CS	Volume (m <sup>3</sup> )	60	$1.72 \times 10^4$	60–150	0.70
Package steam boiler (Fire-tube boiler)	CS	Steam generation (kg·h <sup>-1</sup> )	50,000	$4.64 \times 10^5$	50,000–350,000	0.96
Field erected steam boiler (Water-tube boiler)	CS	Steam generation (kg·h <sup>-1</sup> )	20,000	$3.28 \times 10^5$	10,000–800,000	0.81
Cooling tower (Forced draft)		Water flowrate (m <sup>3</sup> ·h <sup>-1</sup> )	10	$4.43 \times 10^3$	10–40	0.63

CS = carbon steel; SS (low grade) = low-grade stainless steel, for example, type 304; SS (high grade) = high-grade stainless steel, for example, type 316

**Table 2.2** Typical average equipment materials of construction capital cost factors.

Material	Correction factor $f_M$
Carbon steel	1.0
Aluminum	1.3
Stainless steel (low grades)	2.4
Stainless steel (high grades)	3.4
Hastelloy C	3.6
Monel	4.1
Nickel and inconel	4.4
Titanium	5.8

**Table 2.3** Typical materials of construction capital cost factors for pressure vessels and distillation columns<sup>9,10</sup>.

Material	Correction factor $f_M$
Carbon steel	1.0
Stainless steel (low grades)	2.1
Stainless steel (high grades)	3.2
Monel	3.6
Inconel	3.9
Nickel	5.4
Titanium	7.7

**Table 2.4** Typical materials of construction capital cost factors for shell-and-tube heat exchangers<sup>2</sup>.

Material	Correction factor $f_M$
CS shell and tubes	1.0
CS shell, aluminum tubes	1.3
CS shell, monel tubes	2.1
CS shell, SS (low grade) tubes	1.7
SS (low grade) shell and tubes	2.9

**Table 2.5** Typical equipment pressure capital cost factors.

Design pressure (bar absolute)	Correction factor $f_P$
0.01	2.0
0.1	1.3
0.5 to 7	1.0
50	1.5
100	1.9

**Table 2.6** Typical equipment temperature capital cost factors.

Design temperature (°C)	Correction factor $f_T$
0–100	1.0
300	1.6
500	2.1

**Table 2.7** Typical factors for capital cost based on delivered equipment costs.

Item	Type of process	
	Fluid processing	Solid processing
<i>Direct costs</i>		
Equipment delivered cost	1	1
Equipment erection, $f_{ER}$	0.4	0.5
Piping (installed), $f_{PIP}$	0.7	0.2
Instrumentation & controls (installed), $f_{INST}$	0.2	0.1
Electrical (installed), $f_{ELEC}$	0.1	0.1
Utilities, $f_{UTIL}$	0.5	0.2
Off-sites, $f_{OS}$	0.2	0.2
Buildings (including services), $f_{BUILD}$	0.2	0.3
Site preparation, $f_{SP}$	0.1	0.1
<i>Total capital cost of installed equipment</i>	3.4	2.7
<i>Indirect costs</i>		
Design, engineering and construction, $f_{DEC}$	1.0	0.8
Contingency (about 10% of fixed capital costs), $f_{CONT}$	0.4	0.3
<i>Total fixed capital cost</i>	4.8	3.8
<i>Working capital</i>		
Working capital (15% of total capital cost), $f_{WC}$	0.7	0.6
<i>Total capital cost, <math>f_I</math></i>	5.8	4.4