

PERT



PROGRAM EVALUATION & REVIEW TECHNIQUE

PERT BASICS



- **Expresses uncertainties in activity durations**
 - Assigns a beta distribution for activity durations.
- **Assumes project duration is normally distributed**
 - Based on the Central Limit Theorem summation of random variables result in a normal distribution for the total.
- **Assumes independent activity durations**
 - Independence is a basic assumption of the central limit theorem.

Probability Basics

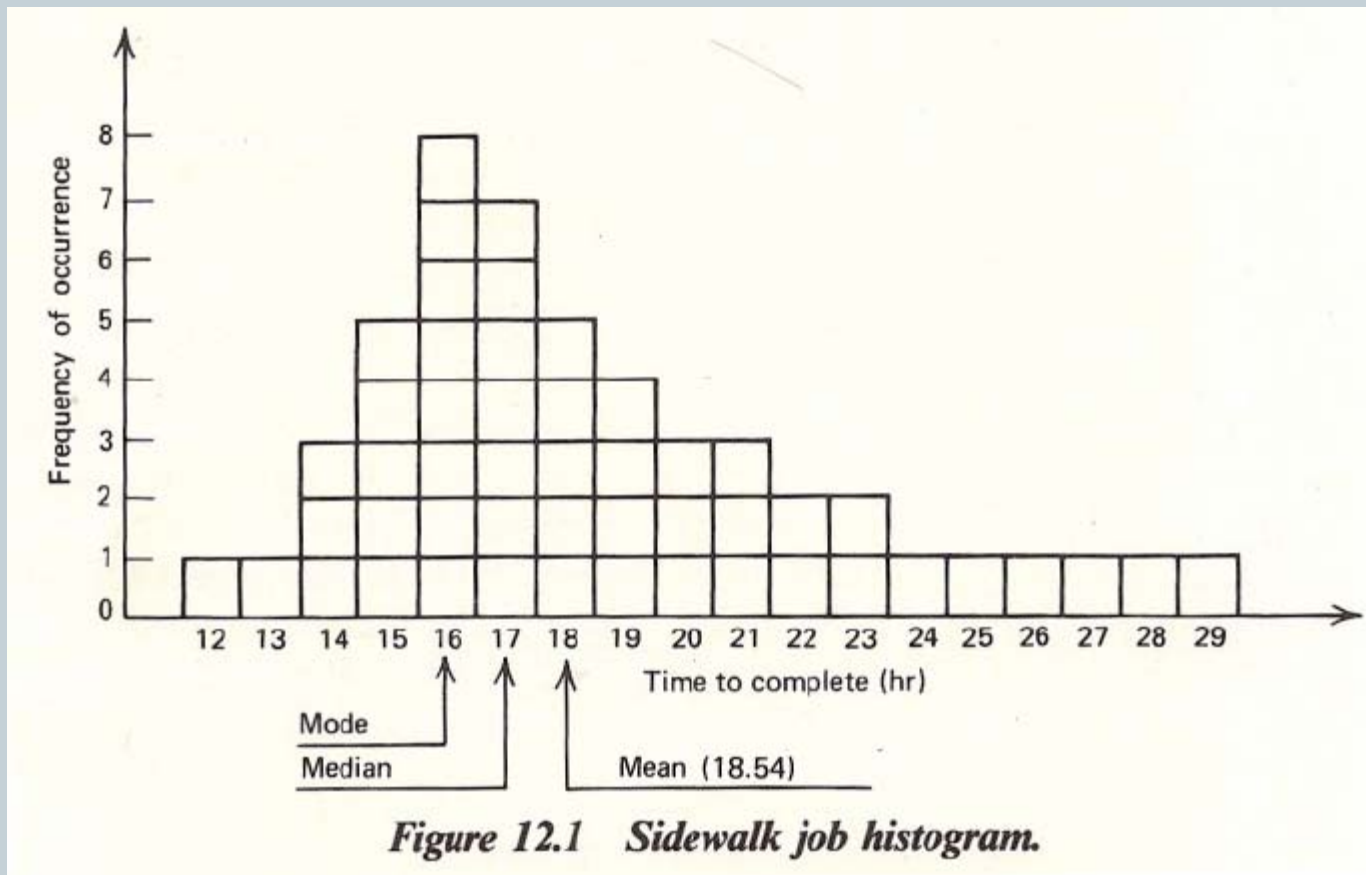


- Consider the simple project of constructing a sidewalk (1.5 m wide, 10 cm thick, and 20 m long)
- You have been keeping record of the duration and you wish to assess the probability distribution of the duration of this job.

TABLE 12.1

Sidewalk Jobs and Times																		
Hours to Complete	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Number of Jobs	1	1	3	5	8	7	5	4	3	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1

Frequency Histogram of Duration



Duration Distribution

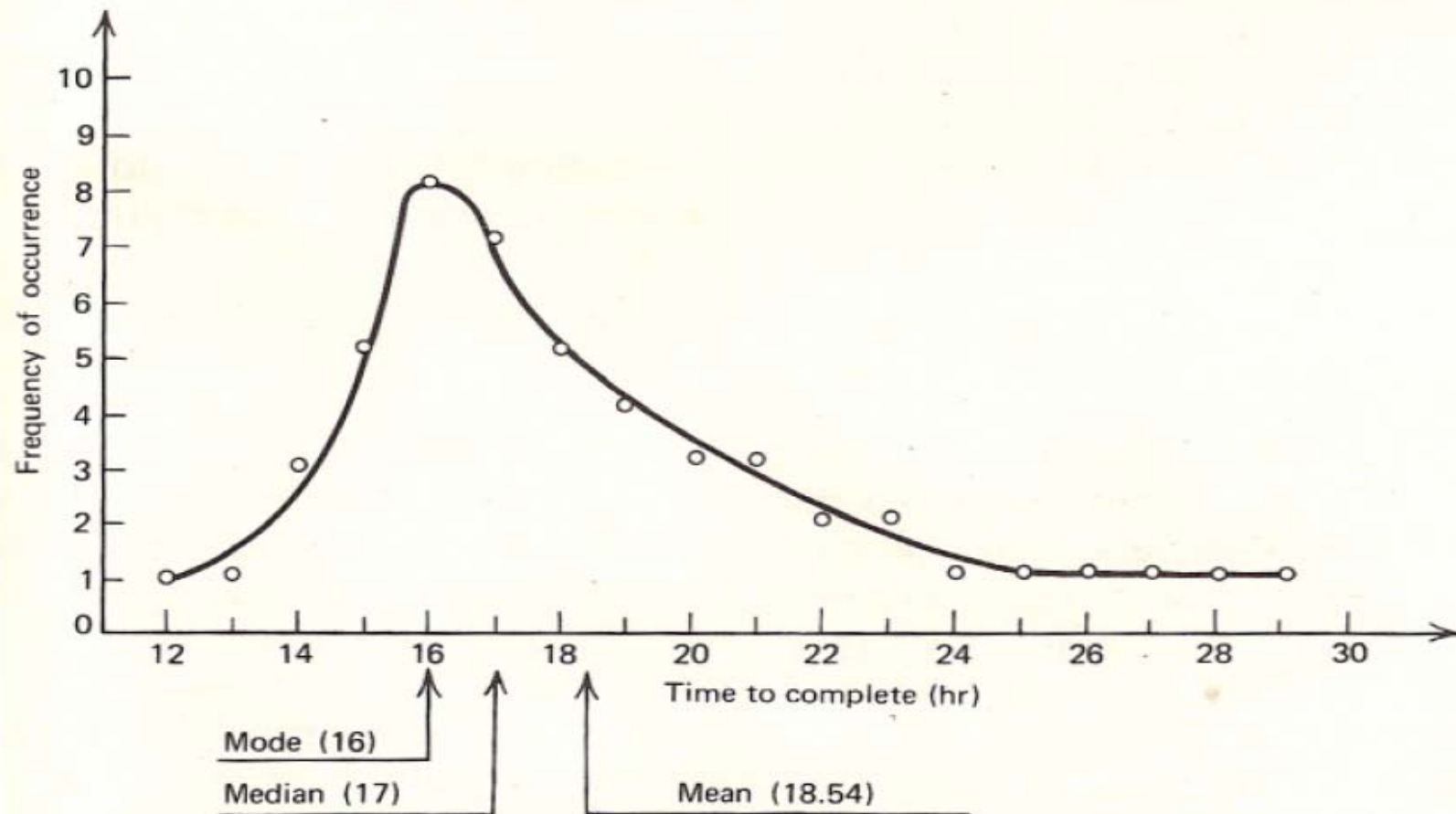


Figure 12.2 Sidewalk job times as a continuous distribution.

Activity Duration Distribution



- Activity duration distribution in PERT is assumed to be Beta distribution.
- A beta distribution has 3 value:
 - Optimistic duration (minimum duration) a
 - Pessimistic duration (maximum duration) b
 - Most likely duration (Mode) m
- It was also assumed that the expected value (mean) of the duration and the standard deviation are as follow:

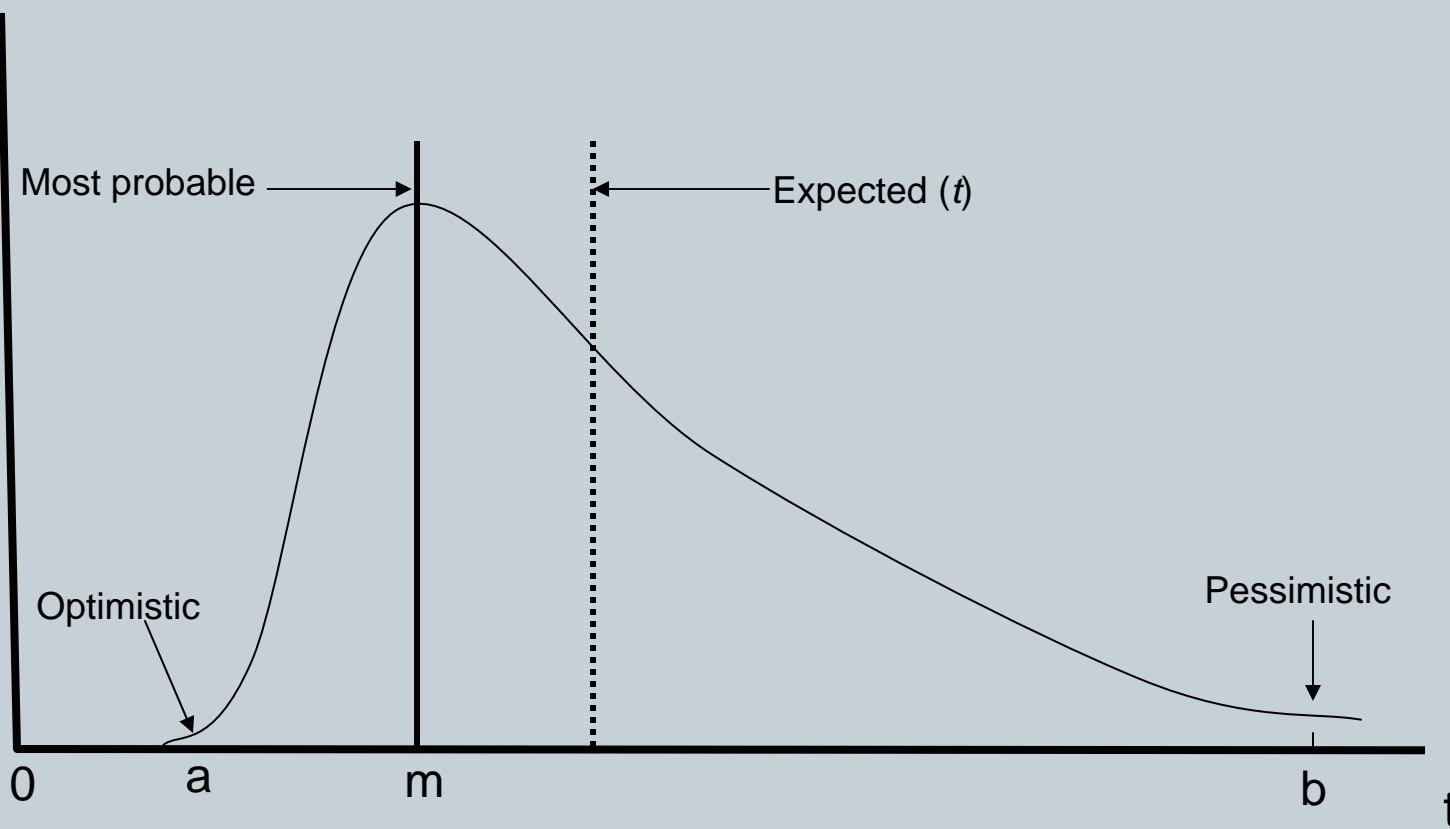
Expected value

$$t_e = \frac{a + 4m + b}{6}$$

Standard deviation

$$\sigma = \frac{b - a}{6}$$

Activity Duration Distribution



Steps in PERT Analysis



- For each activity
 - Determine a, m, and b
 - Compute expected duration t_e
 - Compute activity variance σ^2
- Perform Schedule computations as in standard CPM method using the expected activity duration, t_e .
- Determine critical path
 - In case of multiple critical paths use the one with largest variance.
- Compute probability to finish project by time T_0 assuming project duration is normally distributed.

Network Comparisons

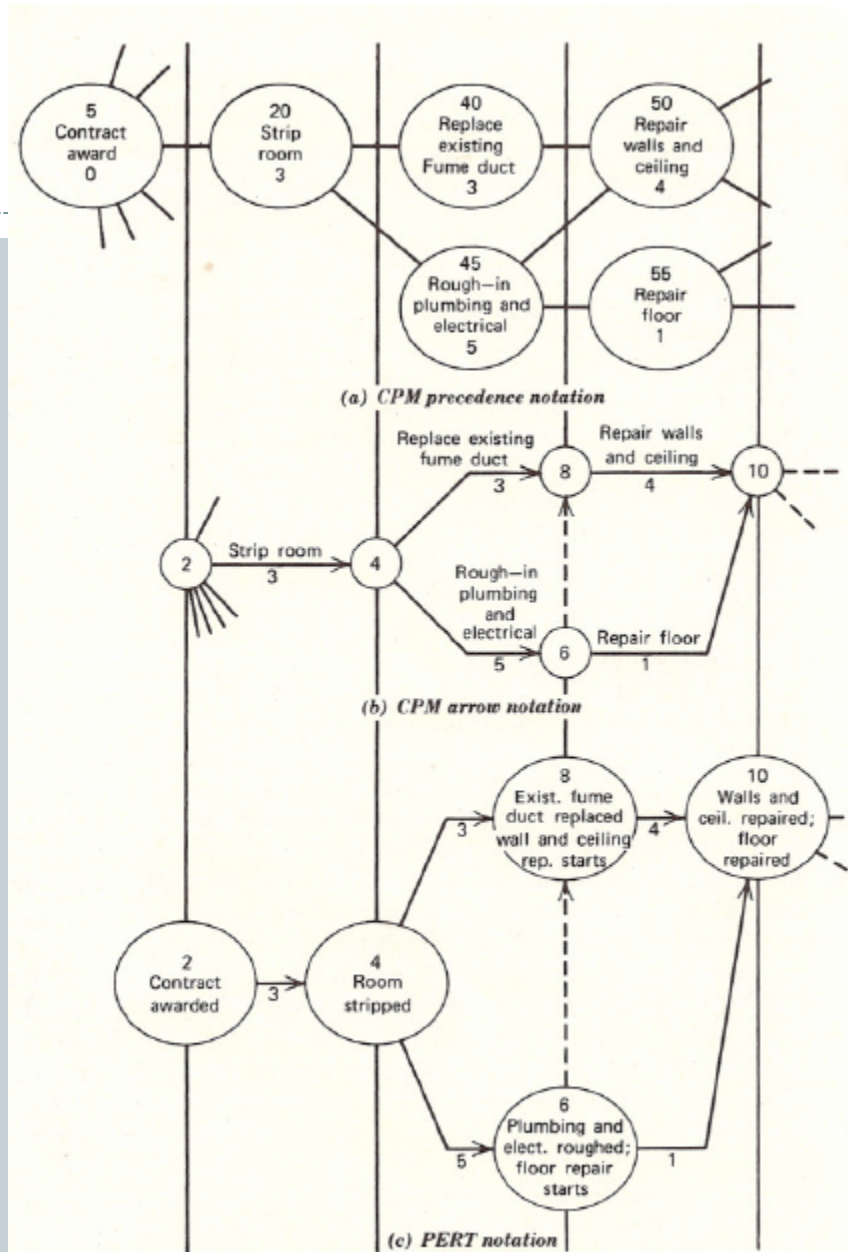


Figure 12.6 Network comparisons.

Slack (Floats)



- Free Slack

$$AFS_{ij} = TE_j - TE_i - (t_e)_{ij}$$

- Activity Total Slack

$$ATS_{ij} = TL_j - TE_i - (t_e)_{ij}$$

- Event Slack

$$ES_i = TL_i - Te_i$$

Example

TABLE 12.3

Typical PERT Computations Fast Food Outlet Analysis

CP	Event		Activity	Durations (Days)			t_e	TE_i	$TE_i + t_e$	$TL_j - t_e$	TL_j	σ^2	AFS	ATS
	i	j		a	m	b								
*	1	3	Base slab	3	6	12	6.5	0.	6.5	0	6.5	2.25	0	0
*	3	5	Wall panels	4	6	9	6.2	6.5	12.7	6.5	12.7	0.69	0	0
	3	7	Parking area	6	15	20	14.3	6.5	20.8	20.3	34.6	5.44	0	13.8
*	5	9	Roof trusses	1	2	5	2.3	12.7	15.0	12.7	15.0	0.44	0	0
	7	17	Landscaping	3	5	10	5.5	20.8	26.3	34.6	40.1	1.36	0	13.8
*	9	11	Roofing	1	3	5	3.0	15.0	18.0	15.0	18.0	0.44	0	0
*	11	13	Dummy	0	0	0	0.	18.0	18.0	18.0	18.0	0	0	0
*	11	15	Windows	1	2	4	2.2	18.0	20.2	18.0	20.2	0.25	0	0
*	13	15	Doors	1	2	4	2.2	18.0	20.2	18.0	20.2	0.25	0	0
	15	19	Counter	3	8	10	7.5	20.2	27.7	22.5	30.0	1.36	0	2.3
*	15	21	Dummy	0	0	0	0.	20.2	20.2	20.2	20.2	0	0	0
	15	23	Walk-in refrigerator	2	5	8	5.0	20.2	25.2	25.0	30.0	1.00	4.8	4.8
	17	27	Sign	3	4	6	4.2	26.3	30.5	40.1	44.3	0.25	13.8	13.8
	19	23	Dummy	0	0	0	0.	27.7	27.7	30.0	30.0	0	2.3	2.3
	19	27	Counter Equipment	1	2	4	2.2	27.7	29.9	42.1	44.3	0.25	14.4	14.4
*	21	23	Kitchen equipment	4	10	15	9.8	20.2	30.0	20.2	30.0	3.36	0	0
*	23	25	Floor coverings	2	4	8	4.3	30.0	34.3	30.0	34.3	1.00	0	0
*	25	27	Tables and furnishings	5	10	15	10.0	34.3	44.3	34.3	44.3	2.78	0	0

Example

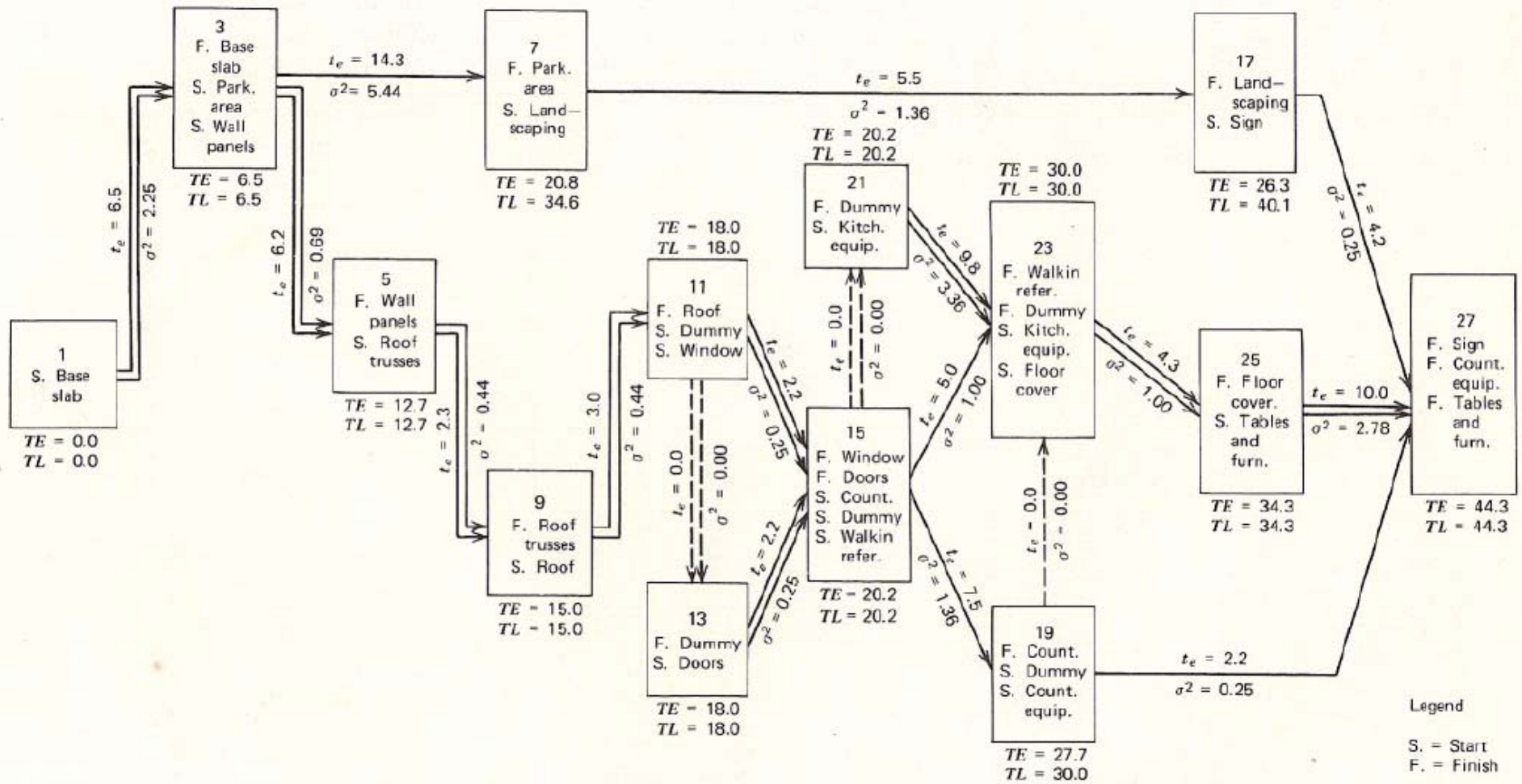
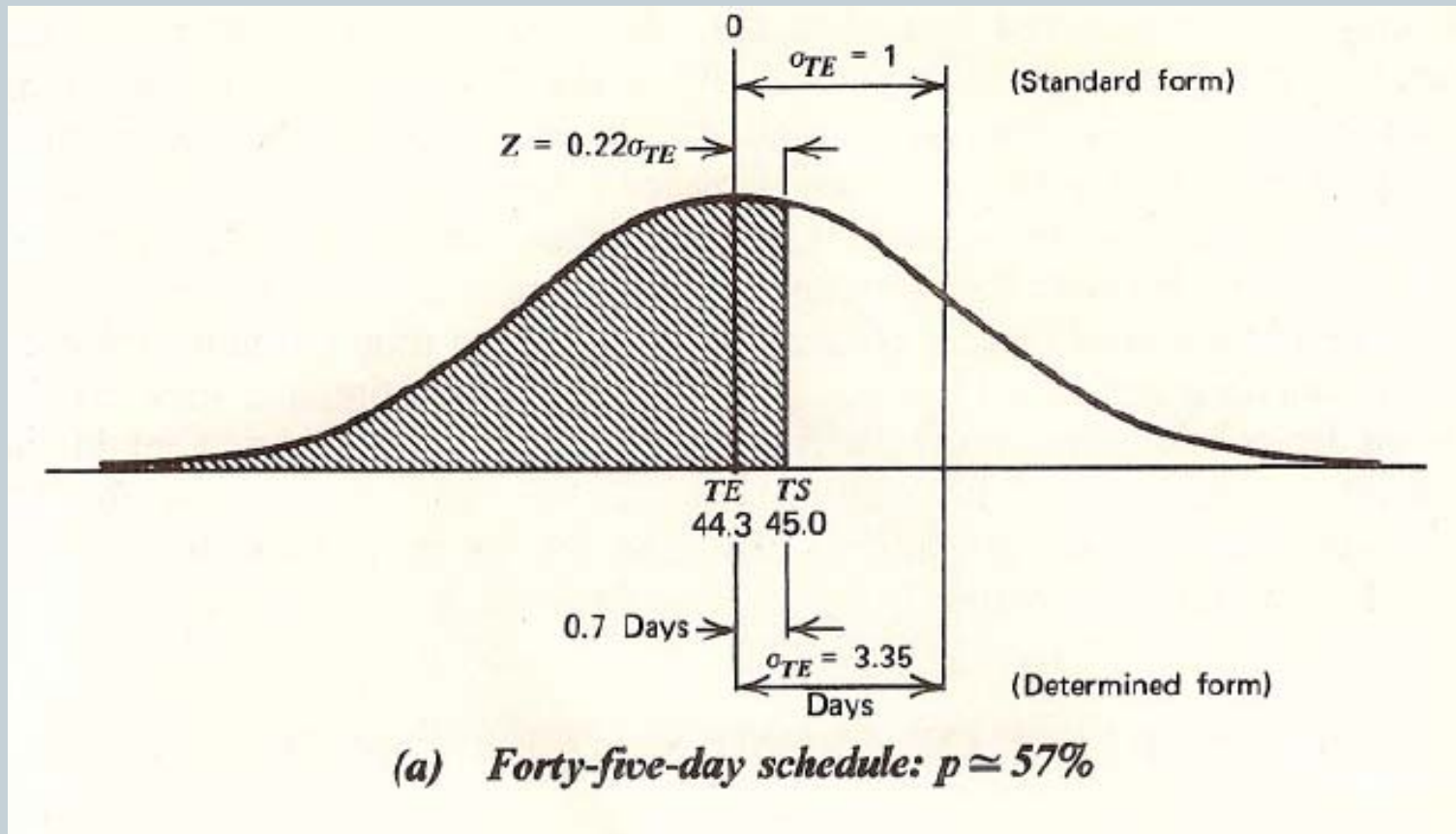
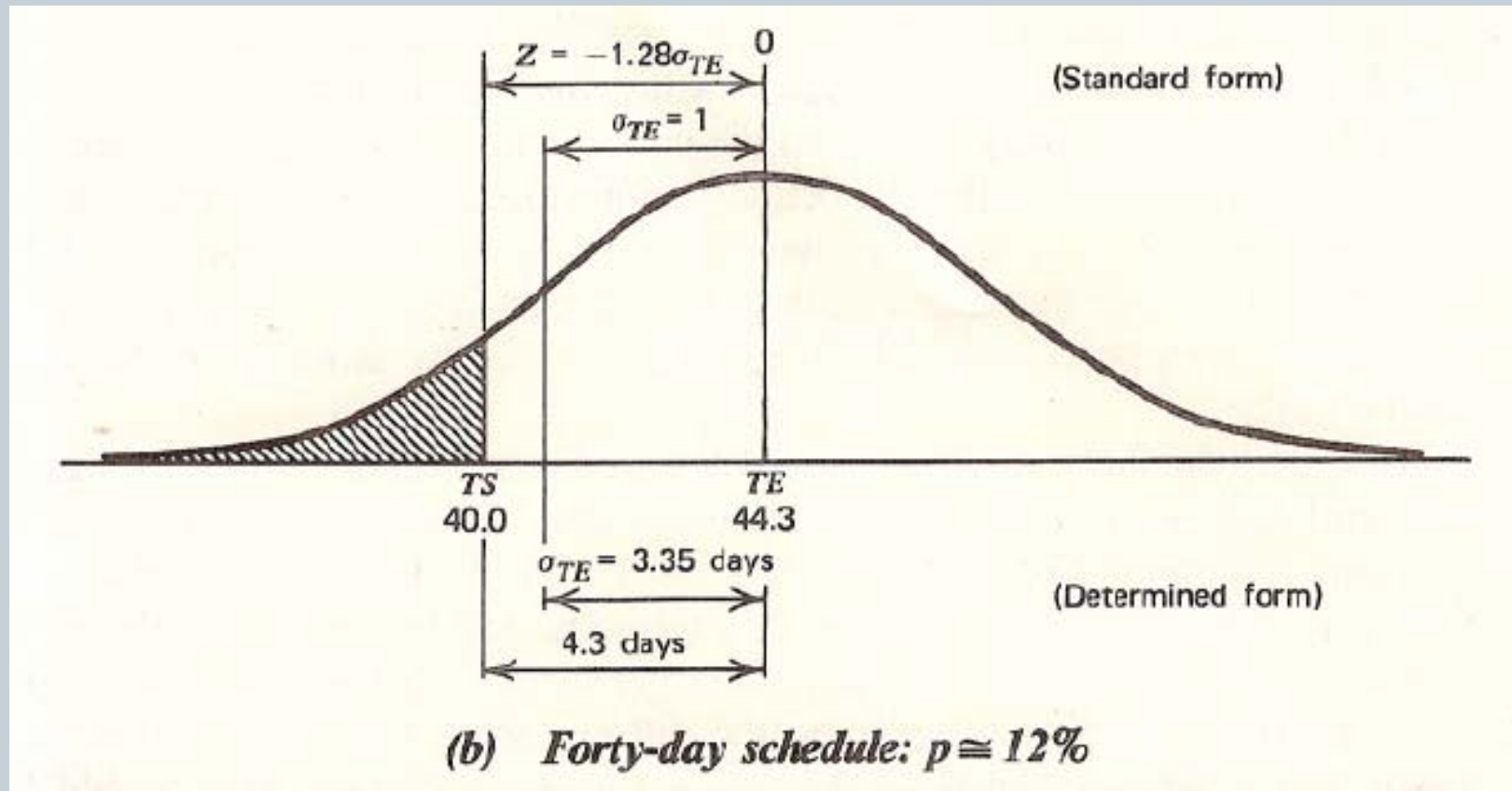


Figure 12.8 Fast food outlet analysis—typical PERT network.

Probability $T < 45$



Probability $T < 40$



Probability of Event Slack



- Event Slack = $TL_i - TE_i$
- Since both TE and TL are normal random variables, ES is also a normal random variable
- The mean of ES is TL-TE
- The variance is the sum of the variance of TL and the variance of TE
- The variance of TE is the sum of the variances of activities resulting in TE (forward calculation)
- The variance of TL is the sum of variances of activities resulting in TL (backward calculation)

Probability of Event Slack

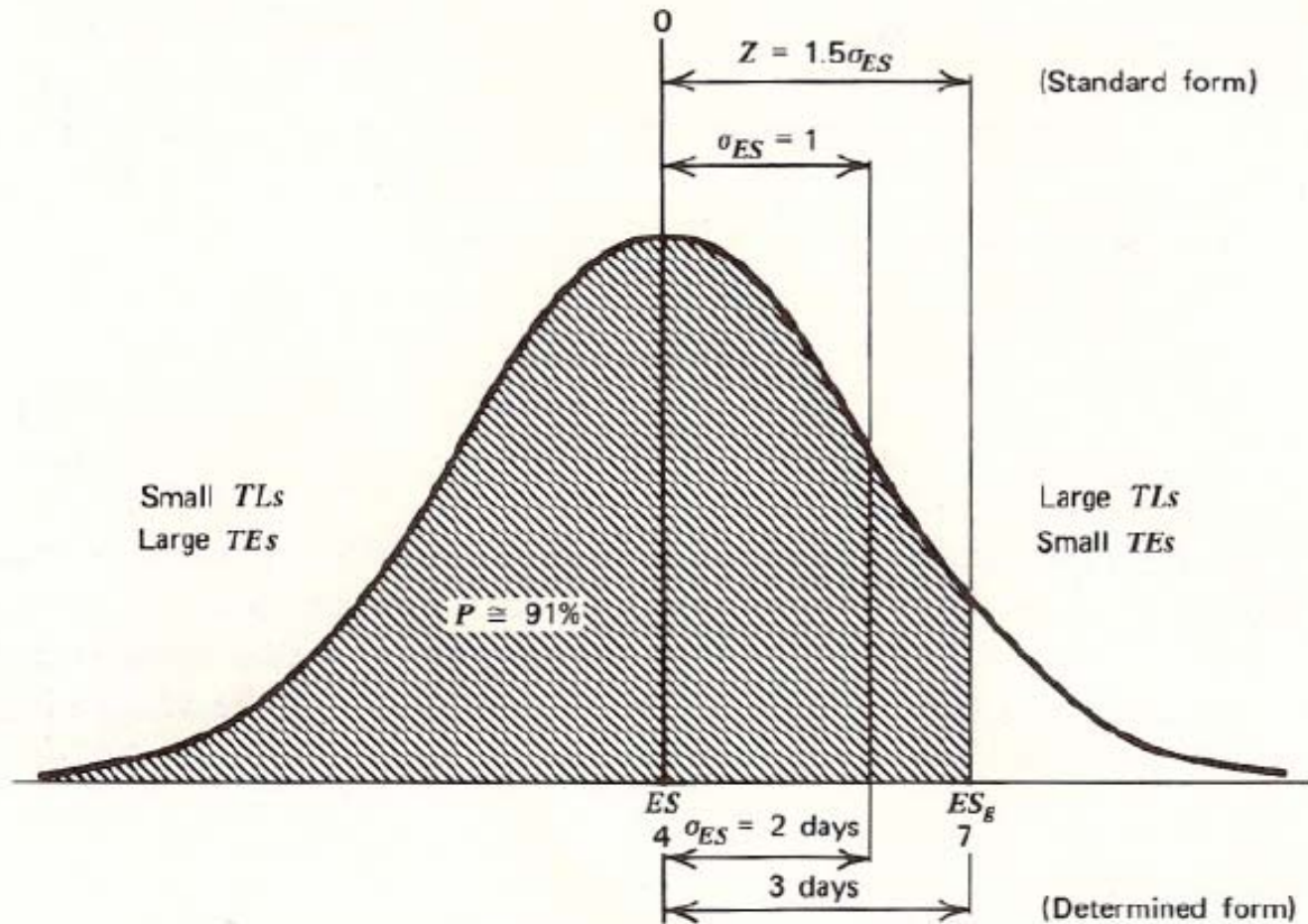


Figure 12.10 Probability of event slack.

Probability of Negative Event Slack [$p(ES < 0)$]

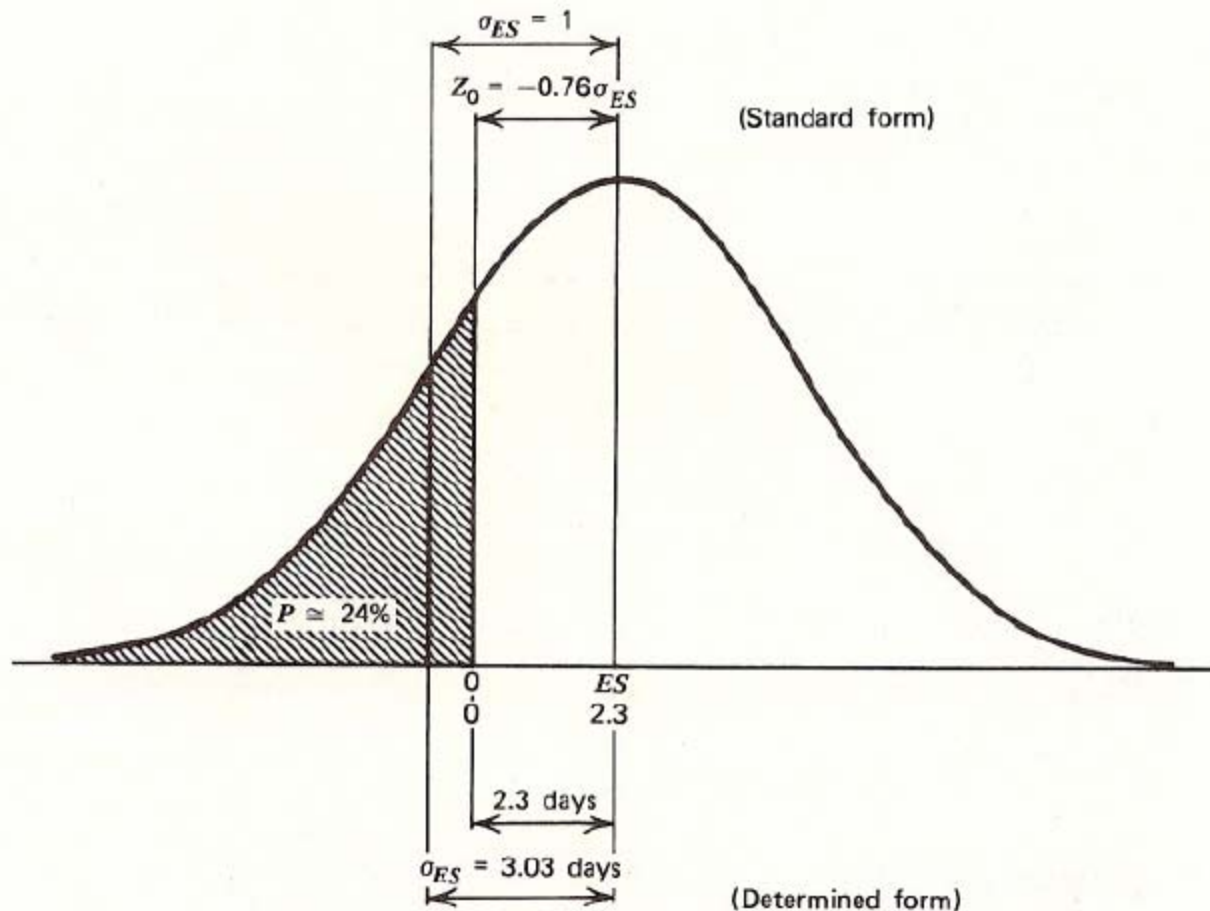


Figure 12.11 Fast food outlet analysis—probability of negative slack at Event 19.

