#### 国外大学优秀教材—工业工程系列 (影印版)

Mikell P. Groover

# 自动化、生产系统与计算机集成制造

(第2版)

Automation,
Production Systems,
and
Computer-Integrated
Manufacturing
Second Edition

Production

Production

Factory
Ievel
Manufacturing
Systems

Guality control
Systems

Factory
Ievel
Manufacturing
Systems



清华大学出版社 http://www.tup.tsinghua.edu.cn



培生教育出版集团 http://www.pearsoned.com



# Automation, Production Systems, and Computer-Integrated Manufacturing

SECOND EDITION

### 自动化、生产系统与计算机集成制造

(第2版)

Mikell P. Groover

Professor of Industrial and Manufacturing Systems Engineering Lehigh University





#### (京)新登字 158号

自动化、生产系统与计算机集成制造(第2版)

Automation, Production Systems, and Computer-Integrated Manufacturing, second edition.

EISBN: 0-13-088978-4

Copyright © 2001 by Prentice-Hall, Inc. All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced, in any form or by any means, without permission in writing from the publisher.

The author and publisher of this book have used their best efforts in preparing this book. These efforts include the development, research, and testing of the theories and equations to determine their effectiveness. The author and publisher shall not be liable in any event for incidental or consequential damages in connection with, or arising out of, the furnishing, performance, or use of these programs.

本书影印版由 Prentice-Hall 授权清华大学出版社在中国境内(不包括香港、澳门特别行政区及台湾)销售。

未经出版者预先书面许可,不得以任何方式复制或抄袭本书的任何部分。

本书封面贴有 Prentice-Hall 公司防伪标签, 无标签者不得销售。

北京市版权局著作权合同登记号: 图字: 01-2001-2107

书 名: 自动化、生产系统与计算机集成制造 (第2版)

作 者: Mikell P. Groover

出版者: 清华大学出版社(北京清华大学学研大厦,邮编100084) http://www.tup.tsinghua.edu.cn

责任编辑: 张秋玲

印刷者: 北京牛山世兴印刷厂

发行者:新华书店总店北京发行所

开 本: 787×960 1/16 印张: 54.75

版 次: 2002年6月第1版 2002年6月第1次印刷

书 号: ISBN 7-302-05484-3/TB • 44

印 数: 0001∼3000

定 价: 72.00 元

#### **Forward**

This textbook series is published at a very opportunity time when the discipline of industrial engineering is experiencing a phenomenal growth in China academia and with its increased interests in the utilization of the concepts, methods and tools of industrial engineering in the workplace. Effective utilization of these industrial engineering approaches in the workplace should result in increased productivity, quality of work, satisfaction and profitability to the cooperation.

The books in this series should be most suitable to junior and senior undergraduate students and first year graduate students, and to those in industry who need to solve problems on the design, operation and management of industrial systems.

Courl SallWX Gavriel Salvendy

Department of Industrial Engineering, Tsinghua University
School of Industrial Engineering, Purdue University
April, 2002

# 前言

本教材系列的出版正值中国学术界工业工程学科经历巨大发展、实际工作中对工业工程的概念、方法和工具的使用兴趣日渐浓厚之时。在实际工作中有效地应用工业工程的手段将无疑会提高生产率、工作质量、合作的满意度和效果。

该系列中的书籍对工业工程的本科生、研究生和工业界中需要解决工程 系统设计、运作和管理诸方面问题的人士最为适用。

> 加弗瑞尔·沙尔文迪 清华大学工业工程系 普渡大学工业工程学院(美国) 2002年4月

#### **Preface**

The first edition of this book was published in 1980 under the title **Automation**, **Produc**tion Systems, and Computer-Aided Manufacturing. A revision was published in 1987 with about 200 more pages and a slightly different title: Automation, Production Systems, and Computer Integrated Manufacturing. The additional pages expanded the coverage of topics like industrial robotics, programmable logic controllers, material handling and storage, and quality control. But much of the book was very similar to the 1980 text. By the time I started work on the current volume (technically the second edition of the 1987 title, but in fact the third generation of the 1980 publication), it was clear that the book was in need of a thorough rewriting. New technologies had been developed and existing technologies had advanced, new theories and methodologies had emerged in the research literature, and my own understanding of automation and production systems had grown and matured (at least I think so). Readers of the two previous books will find this new volume to be quite different from its predecessors. Its organization is significantly changed, new topics have been added, and some topics from the previous editions have been discarded or reduced in coverage. It is not an exaggeration to say that the entire text has been rewritten (readers will find very few instances where I have used the same wording as in the previous editions). Nearly all of the figures are new. It is essentially a new book.

There is a risk in changing the book so much. Both of the previous editions have been very successful for Prentice Hall and me. Many instructors have adopted the book and have become accustomed to its organization and coverage. Many courses have been developed based on the book. What will these instructors think of the new edition, with all of its new and different features? My hope is that they will try out the new book and find it to be a significant improvement over the 1987 edition, as well as any other textbook on the subject.

Specifically, what are the changes in this new edition? To begin with, the organization has been substantially revised. Following two introductory chapters, the book is organized into five main parts:

- I. Automation and control technologies: Six chapters on automation, industrial computer control, control system components, numerical control, industrial robotics, and programmable logic controllers.
- II. Material handling technologies: Four chapters covering conventional and automated material handling systems (e.g., conveyor systems and automated guided vehicle systems), conventional and automated storage systems, and automatic identification and data capture.
- III. **Manufacturing systems**: Seven chapters on a manufacturing systems taxonomy, single station cells, group technology, flexible manufacturing systems, manual assembly lines, transfer lines, and automated assembly.

- IV. **Quality control systems**: Four chapters covering quality assurance, statistical process control, inspection principles, and inspection technologies (e.g., coordinate measuring machines and machine vision).
  - V. Manufacturing support systems: Four chapters on product design and CAD/CAM, process planning, production planning and control, and lean production and agile manufacturing.

Other changes in organization and coverage in the current edition, compared with the 1987 book, include:

- Expanded coverage of automation fundamentals, numerical control programming, group technology, flexible manufacturing systems, material handling and storage, quality control and inspection, inspection technologies, programmable logic controllers.
- New chapters or sections on manufacturing systems, single station manufacturing systems, mixed-model assembly line analysis, quality assurance and statistical process control, Taguchi methods, inspection principles and technologies, concurrent engineering, automatic identification and data collection, lean and agile manufacturing.
- Consolidation of numerical control into one chapter (the old edition had three chapters).
- Consolidation of industrial robotics into one chapter (the old edition had three chapters).
- The chapters on control systems have been completely revised to reflect current industry practice and technology.
- More quantitative problems on more topics: nearly 400 problems in the new edition, which is almost a 50% increase over the 1987 edition.
- Historical notes describing the development and historical background of many of the automation technologies.

With all of these changes and new features, the principle objective of the book remains the same. It is a textbook designed primarily for engineering students at the advanced undergraduate or beginning graduate levels. It has the characteristics of an engineering textbook: equations, example problems, diagrams, and end-of-chapter exercises. A **Solutions Manual** is available from Prentice Hall for instructors who adopt the book.

The book should also be useful for practicing engineers and managers who wish to learn about automation and production systems technologies in modern manufacturing. In several chapters, application guidelines are presented to help readers decide whether the particular technology may be appropriate for their operations.

## Acknowledgments

Several people should be mentioned for their contributions to the current edition. I am grateful to the following: Prof. G. Srinivasan of the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, India, for his thoughtful reviews of Chapters 15 and 16\*; Prof. Kalyan Ghosh, Department of Mathematics and Industrial Engineering at Ecole Polytechnique in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, for his suggestions on topics for this new edition; Prof. Steve Goldman, Department of Philosophy here at Lehigh who reviewed Chapter 27 on lean and agile production, and Marcia Hamm Groover, who was very helpful in solving my computer problems for me (she is my "computer tutor" and my wife). I must also thank several graduate students here at Lehigh (past and present) who did some of the research for the book for me: David Aber, Jose Basto, Pongsak Dulyapraphant, Murat Erkoc, Peter Heugler, Charalambos Marangos, Brant Matthews, Jianbiao Pan, Hulya Sener, Steve Wang, and Tongquiang Wu. I am also grateful for the help and encouragement provided by several editors at Prentice Hall, namely Marcia Horton, Bill Stenquist, Laura Curless, and Scott Disanno. Finally, I am thankful to all of the instructors who adopted the two previous editions, thus making those books commercially successful so that Prentice Hall would allow me to prepare this new edition.

<sup>\*</sup>Chapters 15 and 16 are concerned with group technology and flexible manufacturing systems, respectively. Prof. Srinivasan first read about these topics in my 1980 Automation, Production Systems, and Computer-Aided Manufacturing, while he was a student. He became interested in these topics and went on to make these his principal research areas. Now he is a GT and FMS expert, and so I asked him to review these chapters for me, which he graciously agreed to do.

#### **About The Author**

Mikell P. Groover is Professor of Industrial and Manufacturing Systems Engineering at Lehigh University, where he also serves as Director of the Manufacturing Technology Laboratory. He holds the following degrees, all from Lehigh: B.A. (1961) in Arts and Science, B.S. (1962) in Mechanical Engineering, M.S. (1966) and Ph.D. (1969) in Industrial Engineering. He is a Registered Professional Engineer in Pennsylvania (since 1972). His industrial experience includes full-time employment at Eastman Kodak Company as a Manufacturing Engineer. Since joining Lehigh, he has done consulting, research, and project work for a number of industrial companies including Ingersoll-Rand, Air Products & Chemicals, Bethlehem Steel, and Hershey Foods.

His teaching and research areas include manufacturing processes, metal cutting theory, automation and robotics, production systems, material handling, facilities planning, and work systems. He has received a number of teaching awards, including the Albert Holzman Outstanding Educator Award from the Institute of Industrial Engineers (IIE). His publications include over 75 technical articles and papers which have appeared in Industrial Engineering, IIE Transactions, NAMRC Proceedings, ASME Transactions, IEEE Spectrum, International Journal of Production Systems, Encyclopaedia Britannica, SME Technical Papers, and others. Professor Groover's avocation is writing textbooks on topics in manufacturing and automation. His previous books are used throughout the world and have been translated into French, German, Korean, Spanish, Portuguese, Russian, Japanese, and Chinese. His book Fundamentals of Modern Manufacturing received the 1996 IIE Joint Publishers Award and the 1996 M. Eugene Merchant Manufacturing Textbook Award from the Society of Manufacturing Engineers.

Dr. Groover is a member of the Institute of Industrial Engineers, American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME), and North American Manufacturing Research Institute (NAMRI). He is a Fellow of IIE and SME.

#### PREVIOUS BOOKS BY THE AUTHOR

Automation, Production Systems, and Computer-Aided Manufacturing, Prentice Hall, 1980.

CAD/CAM: Computer-Aided Design and Manufacturing, Prentice Hall, 1984 (co-authored with E. W. Zimmers, Jr.).

Industrial Robotics: Technology, Programming, and Applications, McGraw-Hill, 1986 (co-authored with M. Weiss, R. Nagel, and N. Odrey).

Automation, Production Systems, and Computer Integrated Manufacturing, Prentice Hall, 1987.

Fundamentals of Modern Manufacturing: Materials, Processes, and Systems, Prentice Hall, 1996.

# Contents

Chapter	1	INTRODUCTION  1.1 Production System Facilities 2 1.2 Manufacturing Support Systems 7 1.3 Automation in Production Systems 9 1.4 Manual Labor in Production Systems 14 1.5 Automation Principles and Strategies 17 1.6 Organization of the Book 21	1
Chapter	2	MANUFACTURING OPERATIONS	24
		<ul> <li>2.1 Manufacturing Industries and Products 28</li> <li>2.2 Manufacturing Operations 31</li> <li>2.3 Product/Production Relationships 35</li> <li>2.4 Production Concepts and Mathematical Models 40</li> <li>2.5 Costs of Manufacturing Operations 48</li> </ul>	
PART I:		AUTOMATION AND CONTROL TECHNOLOGIES	61
Chapter	3	INTRODUCTION TO AUTOMATION	61
		<ul> <li>3.1 Basic Elements of an Automated System 63</li> <li>3.2 Advanced Automation Functions 71</li> <li>3.3 Levels of Automation 76</li> </ul>	
Chapter	4	INDUSTRIAL CONTROL SYSTEMS	79
		<ul> <li>4.1 Process Industries versus Discrete Manufacturing Industries 80</li> <li>4.2 Continuous versus Discrete Control 82</li> <li>4.3 Computer Process Control 88</li> <li>4.4 Forms of Computer Process Control 96</li> </ul>	
Chapter	5	SENSORS, ACTUATORS, AND OTHER CONTROL SYSTEM COMPONENTS	107
		<ul> <li>5.1 Sensors 108</li> <li>5.2 Actuators 111</li> <li>5.3 Analog-to-Digital Conversion 112</li> <li>5.4 Digital-to-Analog Conversion 115</li> <li>5.5 Input/Output Devices for Discrete Data 117</li> </ul>	

Chapter	6	NUMERICAL CONTROL  6.1 Fundamentals of NC Technology 122  6.2 Computer Numerical Control 128  6.3 DNC 134  6.4 Applications of Numerical Control 137  6.5 NC Part Programming 145  6.6 Engineering Analysis of NC Positioning Systems 179	120
Chapter	6	APPENDIX: APT WORD DEFINITIONS	196
Chapter	7	INDUSTRIAL ROBOTICS	210
		<ul> <li>7.1 Robot Anatomy and Related Attributes 212</li> <li>7.2 Robot Control Systems 218</li> <li>7.3 End Effectors 220</li> <li>7.4 Sensors in Robotics 222</li> <li>7.5 Industrial Robot Applications 222</li> <li>7.6 Robot Programming 230</li> <li>7.7 Engineering Analysis of Industrial Robots 240</li> </ul>	
Chapter	8	DISCRETE CONTROL USING PROGRAMMABLE LOGIC CONTROLLERS	
		<ul> <li>AND PERSONAL COMPUTERS</li> <li>8.1 Discrete Process Control 257</li> <li>8.2 Ladder Logic Diagrams 264</li> <li>8.3 Programmable Logic Controllers 268</li> <li>8.4 Personal Computers Using Soft Logic 275</li> </ul>	257
Part II:		MATERIAL HANDLING AND IDENTIFICATION TECHNOLOGIES	
Chapter	9	INTRODUCTION TO MATERIAL HANDLING	281
		<ul> <li>9.1 Overview of Material Handling Equipment 282</li> <li>9.2 Considerations in Material Handling System Design 285</li> <li>9.3 The 10 Principles of Material Handling 288</li> </ul>	
Chapter	10	MATERIAL TRANSPORT SYSTEMS	292
		<ul> <li>10.1 Industrial Trucks 293</li> <li>10.2 Automated Guided Vehicle Systems 295</li> <li>10.3 Monorails and Other Rail Guided Vehicles 302</li> <li>10.4 Conveyor Systems 303</li> <li>10.5 Cranes and Hoists 309</li> <li>10.6 Analysis of Material Transport Systems 311</li> </ul>	
Chapter	11	STORAGE SYSTEMS	328
		<ul> <li>11.1 Storage System Performance 329</li> <li>11.2 Storage Location Strategies 331</li> <li>11.3 Conventional Storage Methods and Equipment 332</li> </ul>	

Contents

	<ul><li>11.4 Automated Storage Systems 335</li><li>11.5 Engineering Analysis of Storage Systems 344</li></ul>	
Chapter 12	AUTOMATIC DATA CAPTURE	357
	<ul> <li>12.1 Overview of Automatic Identification Methods 358</li> <li>12.2 Bar Code Technology 361</li> <li>12.3 Other ADC Technologies 370</li> </ul>	
PART III:	MANUFACTURING SYSTEMS	
Chapter 13	INTRODUCTION TO MANUFACTURING SYSTEMS	375
	<ul> <li>13.1 Components of a Manufacturing System 376</li> <li>13.2 Classification of Manufacturing Systems 381</li> <li>13.3 Overview of the Classification Scheme 388</li> <li>13.4 Manufacturing Progress Functions (Learning Curves) 392</li> </ul>	
Chapter 14	SINGLE STATION MANUFACTURING CELLS	397
	<ul> <li>14.1 Single Station Manned Workstations 398</li> <li>14.2 Single Station Automated Cells 399</li> <li>14.3 Applications 404</li> <li>14.4 Analysis of Single Station Cells 409</li> </ul>	
Chapter 15	GROUP TECHNOLOGY AND CELLULAR MANUFACTURING	420
	<ul> <li>15.1 Part Families 422</li> <li>15.2 Parts Classification and Coding 425</li> <li>15.3 Production Flow Analysis 431</li> <li>15.4 Cellular Manufacturing 434</li> <li>15.5 Application Considerations in Group Technology 439</li> <li>15.6 Quantitative Analysis in Cellular Manufacturing 442</li> </ul>	
Chapter 16	FLEXIBLE MANUFACTURING SYSTEMS	460
	<ul> <li>16.1 What is an FMS? 462</li> <li>16.2 FMS Components 469</li> <li>16.3 FMS Applications and Benefits 480</li> <li>16.4 FMS Planning and Implementation Issues 485</li> <li>16.5 Quantitative Analysis of Flexible Manufacturing Systems 487</li> </ul>	
Chapter 17	MANUAL ASSEMBLY LINES	514
	<ul> <li>17.1 Fundamentals of Manual Assembly Lines 516</li> <li>17.2 Alternative Assembly Systems 523</li> <li>17.3 Design for Assembly 524</li> <li>17.4 Analysis of Single Model Assembly Lines 525</li> <li>17.5 Line Balancing Algorithms 534</li> <li>17.6 Mixed Model Assembly Lines 540</li> <li>17.7 Other Considerations in Assembly Line Design 552</li> </ul>	

viii Contents

Chapter 18	TRANSFER LINES AND SIMILAR AUTOMATED MANUFACTURING SYSTEMS	566
	<ul> <li>18.1 Fundamentals of Automated Production Lines 565</li> <li>18.2 Applications of Automated Production Lines 575</li> <li>18.3 Analysis of Transfer Lines with No Internal Storage 579</li> <li>18.4 Analysis of Transfer Lines with Storage Buffers 587</li> </ul>	
	16.1. Than, she of Mansier Emot with Storage Editors 20,	
Chapter 19	AUTOMATED ASSEMBLY SYSTEMS	601
	<ul> <li>19.1 Fundamentals of Automated Assembly Systems 602</li> <li>19.2 Design for Automated Assembly 606</li> <li>19.3 Quantitative Analysis of Assembly Systems 610</li> </ul>	
PART IV:	QUALITY CONTROL SYSTEMS	
Chapter 20	INTRODUCTION TO QUALITY ASSURANCE	631
	20.1 Quality Defined 633	
	<ul><li>20.2 Traditional and Modern Quality Control 635</li><li>20.3 Taguchi Methods in Quality Engineering 638</li></ul>	
	20.4 ISO 9000 648	
Chapter 21	STATISTICAL PROCESS CONTROL	654
	21.1 Process Variability and Process Capability 655 21.2 Control Charts 658	
	21.3 Other SPC Tools 667	
	21.4 Implementing Statistical Process Control 672	
Chapter 22	INSPECTION PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES	681
	22.1 Inspection Fundamentals 682	
	<ul><li>22.2 Sampling versus 100% Inspection 687</li><li>22.3 Automated Inspection 692</li></ul>	
	22.4 When and Where to Inspect 694	
	22.5 Quantitative Analysis of Inspection 698	
Chapter 23	INSPECTION TECHNOLOGIES	711
	23.1 Inspection Metrology 712	
	<ul> <li>23.2 Contact versus Noncontact Inspection Techniques 717</li> <li>23.3 Conventional Measuring and Gaging Techniques 718</li> </ul>	
	23.4 Coordinate Measuring Machines 720	
	23.5 Surface Measurement 736	
	<ul><li>23.6 Machine Vision 738</li><li>23.7 Other Optical Inspection Techniques 745</li></ul>	
	23.7 Other Optical Inspection Techniques 745 23.8 Noncontact Nonoptical Inspection Technologies 747	

PART V:	MANUFACTURING SUPPORT SYSTEMS	
Chapter 24	PRODUCT DESIGN AND CAD/CAM IN THE PRODUCTION SYSTEM  24.1 Product Design and CAD 755  24.2 CAD System Hardware 761  24.3 CAM, CAD/CAM, and CIM 764  24.4 Quality Function Deployment 767	753
Chapter 25	PROCESS PLANNING AND CONCURRENT ENGINEERING 25.1 Process Planning 776 25.2 Computer-Aided Process Planning (CAPP) 782 25.3 Concurrent Engineering and Design for Manufacturing 785 25.4 Advanced Manufacturing Planning 791	775
Chapter 26	PRODUCTION PLANNING AND CONTROL SYSTEMS  26.1 Aggregate Production Planning and the Master Production Schedule 798  26.2 Material Requirements Planning (MRP) 800  26.3 Capacity Planning 806  26.4 Shop Floor Control 808  26.5 Inventory Control 814  26.6 Manufacturing Resource Planning (MRP II) 822  26.7 Just-In-Time Production Systems 823	796
Chapter 27	LEAN PRODUCTION AND AGILE MANUFACTURING  27.1 Lean Production 833  27.2 Agile Manufacturing 835  27.3 Comparison of Lean and Agile 843	832

#### chapter 1

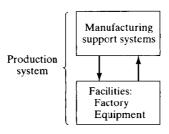
#### Introduction

#### **CHAPTER CONTENTS**

- 1.1 Production System Facilities
  - 1.1.1 Low Quantity Production
  - 1.1.2 Medium Quantity Production
  - 1.1.3 High Production
- 1.2 Manufacturing Support Systems
- 1.3 Automation in Production Systems
  - 1.3.1 Automated Manufacturing Systems
  - 1.3.2 Computerized Manufacturing Support Systems
  - 1.3.3 Reasons for Automating
- 1.4 Manual Labor in Production Systems
  - 1.4.1 Manual Labor in Factory Operations
  - 1.4.2 Labor in Manufacturing Support Systems
- 1.5 Automation Principles and Strategies
  - 1.5.1 USA Principle
  - 1.5.2 Ten Strategies of Automation and Production Systems
  - 1.5.3 Automation Migration Strategy
- 1.6 Organization of the Book

This book is about production systems that are used to manufacture products and the parts assembled into those products. The *production system* is the collection of people, equipment, and procedures organized to accomplish the manufacturing operations of a company (or other organization). Production systems can be divided into two categories or levels as indicated in Figure 1.1:

2 Chap. 1 / Introduction



**Figure 1.1** The production system consists of facilities and manufacturing support systems.

- 1. Facilities. The facilities of the production system consist of the factory, the equipment in the factory, and the way the equipment is organized.
- 2. Manufacturing support systems. This is the set of procedures used by the company to manage production and to solve the technical and logistics problems encountered in ordering materials, moving work through the factory, and ensuring that products meet quality standards. Product design and certain business functions are included among the manufacturing support systems.

In modern manufacturing operations, portions of the production system are automated and/or computerized. However, production systems include people. People make these systems work. In general, direct labor people (blue collar workers) are responsible for operating the facilities, and professional staff people (white collar workers) are responsible for the manufacturing support systems.

In this introductory chapter, we consider these two aspects of production systems and how they are sometimes automated and/or computerized in modern industrial practice. In Chapter 2, we examine the manufacturing operations that the production systems are intended to accomplish.

#### 1.1 PRODUCTION SYSTEM FACILITIES1

The facilities in the production system are the factory, production machines and tooling, material handling equipment, inspection equipment, and the computer systems that control the manufacturing operations. Facilities also include the plant layout, which is the way the equipment is physically arranged in the factory. The equipment is usually organized into logical groupings, and we refer to these equipment arrangements and the workers who operate them as the manufacturing systems in the factory. Manufacturing systems can be individual work cells, consisting of a single production machine and worker assigned to that machine. We more commonly think of manufacturing systems as groups of machines and workers, for example, a production line. The manufacturing systems come in direct physical contact with the parts and/or assemblies being made. They "touch" the product.

A manufacturing company attempts to organize its facilities in the most efficient way to serve the particular mission of that plant. Over the years, certain types of production facilities have come to be recognized as the most appropriate way to organize for a given type of manufacturing. Of course, one of the most important factors that determine the type of manufacturing is the type of products that are made. Our book is concerned primarily with

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Portions of this section are based on M. P. Groover. Fundamentals of Modern Manufacturing: Materials, Processes, and Systems [2].

the production of discrete parts and products, compared with products that are in liquid or bulk form, such as chemicals (we examine the distinction in Section 2.1).

If we limit our discussion to discrete products, the quantity produced by a factory has a very significant influence on its facilities and the way manufacturing is organized. *Production quantity* refers to the number of units of a given part or product produced annually by the plant. The annual part or product quantities produced in a given factory can be classified into three ranges:

- 1. Low production: Quantities in the range of 1 to 100 units per year.
- 2. Medium production: Quantities in the range of 100 to 10,000 units annually.
- 3. High production: Production quantities are 10,000 to millions of units.

The boundaries between the three ranges are somewhat arbitrary (author's judgment). Depending on the types of products we are dealing with, these boundaries may shift by an order of magnitude or so.

Some plants produce a variety of different product types, each type being made in low or medium quantities. Other plants specialize in high production of only one product type. It is instructive to identify product variety as a parameter distinct from production quantity. *Product variety* refers to the different product designs or types that are produced in a plant. Different products have different shapes and sizes and styles; they perform different functions; they are sometimes intended for different markets; some have more components than others; and so forth. The number of different product types made each year can be counted. When the number of product types made in a factory is high, this indicates high product variety.

There is an inverse correlation between product variety and production quantity in terms of factory operations. When product variety is high, production quantity tends to be low; and vice versa. This relationship is depicted in Figure 1.2. Manufacturing plants tend to specialize in a combination of production quantity and product variety that lies somewhere inside the diagonal band in Figure 1.2. In general, a given factory tends to be limited to the product variety value that is correlated with that production quantity.

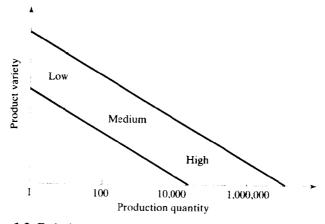


Figure 1.2 Relationship between product variety and production quantity in discrete product manufacturing.