AVEVAWORLD



Accelerating Corporate Decision-Making with The Process Simulation Twin

Gabriel Winter 03/24/2025

Agenda





Introduction

Operate



Enhancing Refining Operations with Digital Twin Technology

Aramco Digital Transformation Program

 Aramco's has developed an asset life cycle with respect to digital twins is a comprehensive and integrated approach that spans the entire life cycle of an asset, from design and construction to operation and decommissioning

 Digital Twins enhance decision-making by providing predictability and increasing confidence in decisions, enabling informed choices for engineers, planners, and management

Decommissioning

Commissioning & Startup

Asset Life Cycle

Design & Construction

Modification & Upgrade

Operations & Maintenance

Timely Decision-Making in Refining



Why Timely Decision-Making is Critical in Refining

Complexity & Variability

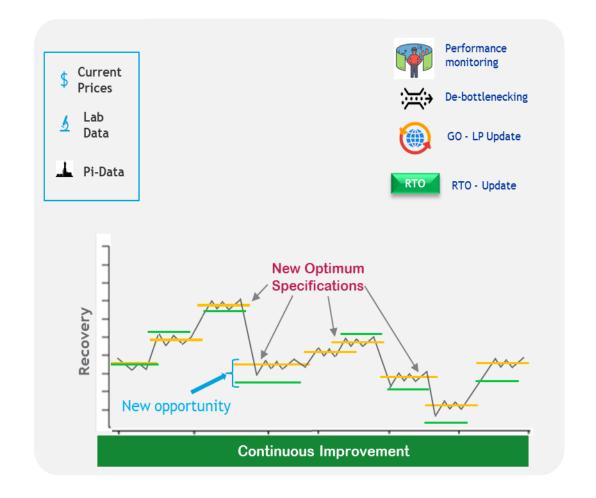
Refining involves complex processes with many variables, such as feedstock quality, equipment performance, and market demand.

Time-Sensitive operations

Refining is a continuous process and delays in decision making can lead to reduced throughput, increased costs, and potential safety risks.

Improved Yield and Quality

Accelerated decision making can help refiners optimize their processes to improve yield and quality of products. By quickly responding to changes in feedstock quality, equipment performance and market demand, refiners maximize the production of high-value products.



Challenges with Traditional Simulation

Limitations of Traditional Simulation

aramco

Static

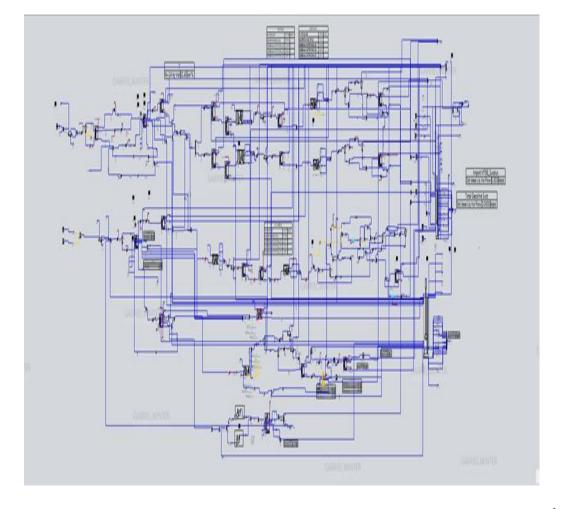
 Built on ad hoc basis only provides an accurate representation for a particular snapshot of time

High Maintenance

- Significant time required for data collection tuning and validation.
- Require frequent manual updates and maintenance to ensure models are accurate and relevant.

Steep Learning Curve

• Traditional simulation methods can require significant expertise and training to use effectively, which limits adoption and utilization.





A Solution to Traditional Simulation Challenges

Process Simulation Twin Requirements

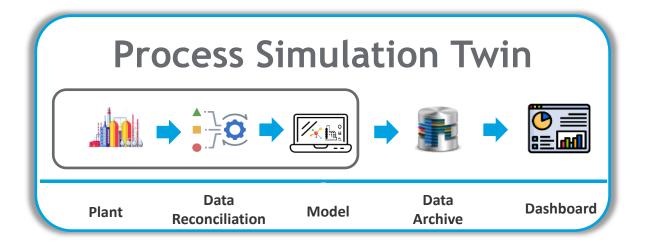
Automate data collection, reconciliation, and model calibration

Monitor planning model accuracy & provides regular planning model updates

Provide up-to-date models of individual units allowing Engineers focus on higher-value activities

Offer consistent, real-time key performance indicators (KPIs) for unit monitoring

Provide a refinery-wide model for techno-economic studies







Main Components

Data Source: PI data (Incl' Process Lab Data Prices)
Data collection: AVEVATM Real Time System (RTS)
Data Rec' & Tuning: AVEVATM Process Optimization
(APO)

Dashboard: AVEVA™ PI Vision™

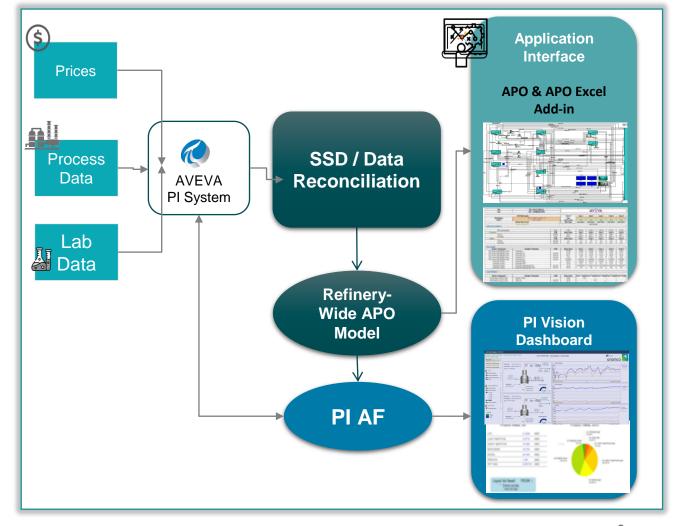
AVEVA PI Asset Framework

Application Dashboard

Model Status including bad actors
Reconciled Mass balance
Equipment monitoring plant vs model
Key equipment KPI's including Heat exchangers,
Columns, Heaters etc.

Case Studies:

Excel interface for individual units **APO** for refinery-wide Techno-economic studies





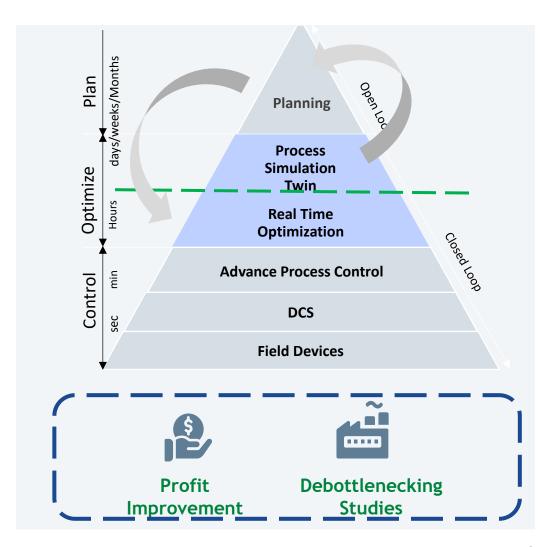
Key features

Auto-tuned model

- Feed Characterization
- Equipment Performance
- Reactor Performance
- Flows, Temperatures, Pressures etc

Key Features

- APC configuration limits
- Engineering limits
- Measured and predicted equipment KPI's such as HX fouling, Column flooding, CO2 emissions
- Fully optimized blend recipe calculation
- Auto-execution of pre defined case studies for LP Model Updates and open loop optimization handles





Use cases



Automated Unit Monitoring

Intrinsic KPI Calculation

Sustained Benefits via open loop Advisory



Profit Improvement

Opportunity Identification & Evaluation

Facility wide Economic Evaluation

Opportunity Implementation



Planning Support

LP Accuracy

LP Model Updates

Engineering

Trouble Shooting

Plant Debottlenecking

Revamp studies



Implementation Challenges

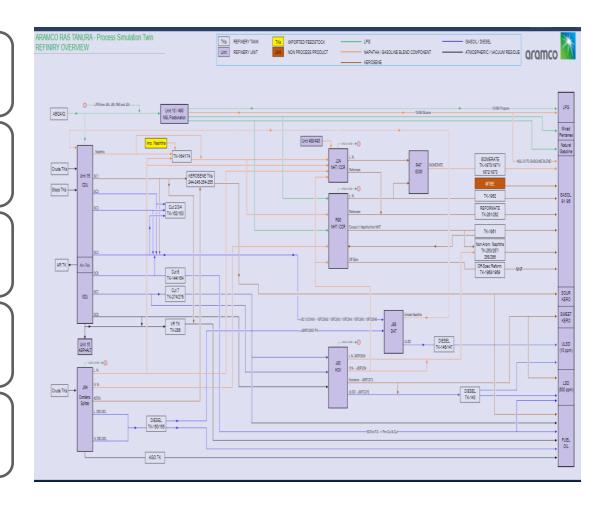
Full refinery-wide scope including blending

Changes in refinery operation during the project

Cyber security restrictions

Maintenance & Update

Training - EO Model



Conclusion and Path Forward





Solution

- Deployed a Refinery-wide simulation twin using AVEVA and PI System
- The PST enables real-time simulation on the corporate network via Online UpToDate rigorous refinery-wide model
- Drives continuous improvement and accelerates opportunity implementation



Results

- 13 profit improvement opportunities evaluated during the project
- Dashboard for monitoring unit performance, model performance, and planning model performance



Path Forward

- Profit tracking dashboard for open loop opportunities
- Work process to continue opportunity identification evaluation and implementation.
- PST lays the groundwork for integrating Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) techniques, including reinforcement learning and predictive analytics,

Final Thoughts

The Process Simulation Twin is a powerful tool for accelerating decision-making and enhancing refinery operations allowing focus on higher-value activities, unlocking sustainable value creation across the organization