

# THAO M. TA

1488 Lantern Circle, Naperville IL 60540  
(505) 903-8912 • [thaota2014@u.northwestern.edu](mailto:thaota2014@u.northwestern.edu)

## **EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND**

### **NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY – MS IN ENGINEERING MANAGEMENT**

Expected: Dec 2017

Evanston, Illinois, U.S.A

### **UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO (UNM) - BS IN CHEMICAL ENGINEERING**

Aug 2005- May 2009

Albuquerque, New Mexico, U.S.A

- Graduated Magna Cum Laude with a minor in Management. GPA: 3.87/4.00

### **Undergraduate Research Publications:**

- Lindsay R. Weisel, Thao Ta, et al. "Polarization Coherent Anti-stokes Raman Scattering Using Noisy Light". Journal of Raman Spectroscopy. Published Online: 14 Sep 2006
- Eric C. Booth, Thao M. Ta, et al. "Analysis of Raman-enhanced Nondegenerate Four-wave Mixing with Factorized Time Correlator Diagrams". JOSA B, Vol. 23, Issue 5, pp. 885-892

## **EXPERIENCE**

### **CITGO PETROLEUM CORPORATION**

#### **Lemont Refinery, Illinois, USA – Linear Programming (LP) Analyst**

Feb 2014 – Current

- Developed and maintained the refinery LP, the main computing tool used to plan operations and manage developments to optimize the refinery assets' utilization. This will result in maximizing refinery income and profits. Direct revenue impact is up to 30 MM/ year.
- Perform economic evaluation for long term plan and investment project(s).

#### **Lemont Refinery, Illinois, USA - Operation Process Engineer**

June 2013 – Feb 2014

- Managed special projects and studies across the refinery during transition to Linear Programming Analyst position starting Feb 17<sup>th</sup> 2014.
- Provided engineering support during critical activities (Emergency Shut-down and Turn-Around).

#### **Corpus Christi Refinery, Texas, USA - Process Engineer**

June 2009 – May 2013

- Monitored daily unit operation, applied analysis and simulation to analyze long-term trends and made recommendations to maximize the economic performance of the assigned units.
- Primary Engineer to develop and implement a new shutdown method for a FCC-Pretreat Unit to de-bottleneck the unit cooling time. Saved the company over \$500,000 in time saving.
- Teamed with Operations to detect and propose needed steam trap installations to improve the system reliability and saved the company over \$200,000 per year in steam usage.
- Led Root Cause Analysis of different interdisciplinary teams to investigate high-impact safety and environmental events.

#### **Corpus Christi Refinery, Texas, USA - Process Engineer Intern**

May 2008 – Aug 2008

- Performed detailed unit surveys on the Naphtha Hydrotreater, Platformer, and Coker Units, utilizing physics such as heat and mass transfer, thermodynamics, and fluid dynamics.
- Created and updated various spreadsheets to monitor Coker products' yield and steam condensate recovery.

## **AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS**

- Elected President for Biomedical Engineering Society- UNM Chapter in 2007- 2008.
- Awarded 2009 Engineering Student Services' Employee of the Year as a part-time employee while attending UNM.
- Won Quarterly Top 5 Citgo Volunteer Award 3 times based on service hours.

## **SKILLS**

- Language: Fluent in English and Vietnamese. Basic conversational Mandarin.
- Technical Software: Aspen PIMS, KBC, and UniSim.