



ADVANCED PROCESS MODELLING FORUM

gPROMS Utilities

Online utility optimisation for chemical parks

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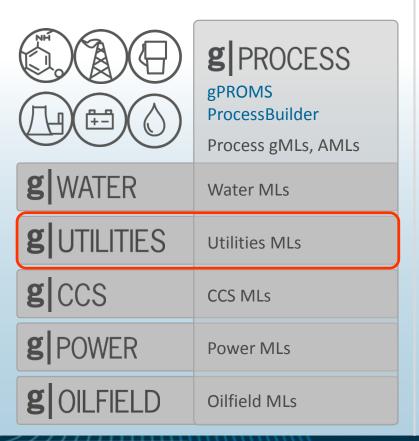


gPROMS product family

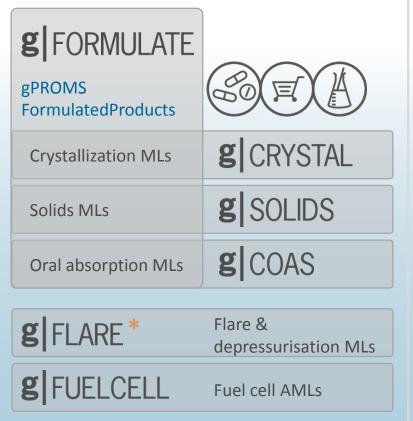
A family of advanced process modelling environments built on the gPROMS platform



"Vapour-liquid process world"



"Formulated products world"



General mathematical modelling

g MODEL

gPROMS ModelBuilder provides essentially the full platform functionality



The gPROMS platform

Equation-oriented modelling & solution engine

Utility management



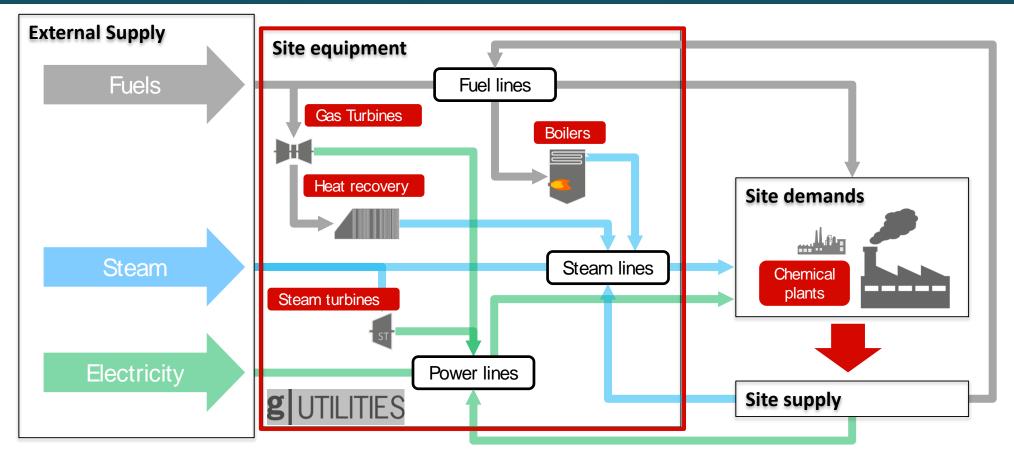




- Tens to hundreds of plants covering areas several km², each requiring fuel, steam at various pressures and / or electricity
- Utility management must predict and meet all demands simultaneously, and deal with upsets.
- The objective is to minimise overall cost

Options





- The key is how to manage the options available in the most cost effective way
- While meeting all constraints of the system

Constraints



Location

- Sites are very large
- Logistical difficulties moving fuel & steam around
- Fuel produced by plant X must be consumed in boiler Y

Losses

- Some headers are very long with multiple inlets and outlets
- Want to keep steam flowing in same direction to avoid issues w/ pressure & condensation
- Unless header is isolated, ensure flows > F min

Backup

- Lots of plants on site: upsets happen!
- Need to ensure a trip or surge at plant X does not cause interruption to plant Y
- Maintain a minimum steam reserve

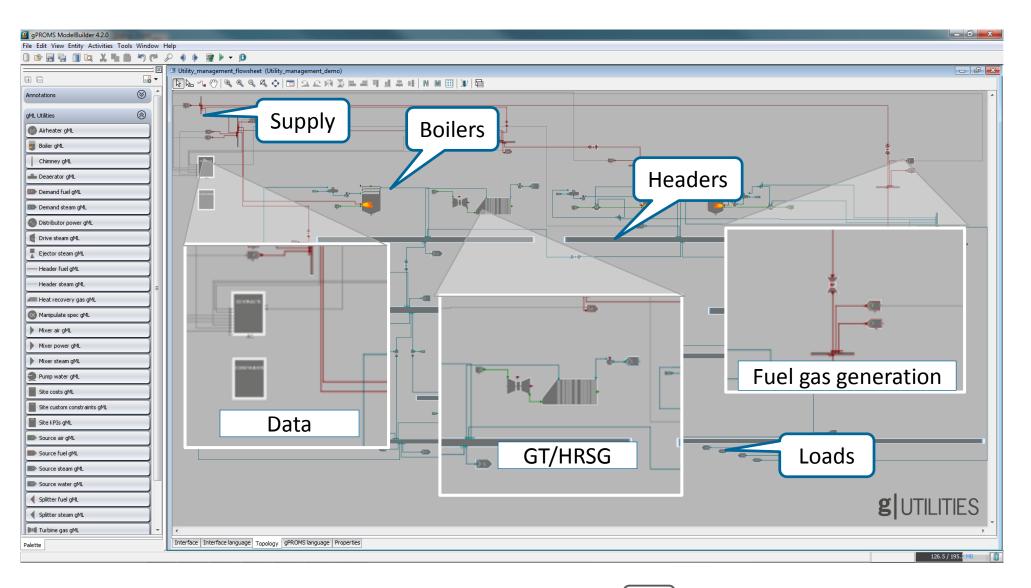
Optimisation tools



Flowsheeting

Engineer view





Optimisation



Controls

- Unit availability (on, off or available)
- Unit operating range (between F min and F max)
- Expect 10-50 such units

Constraints

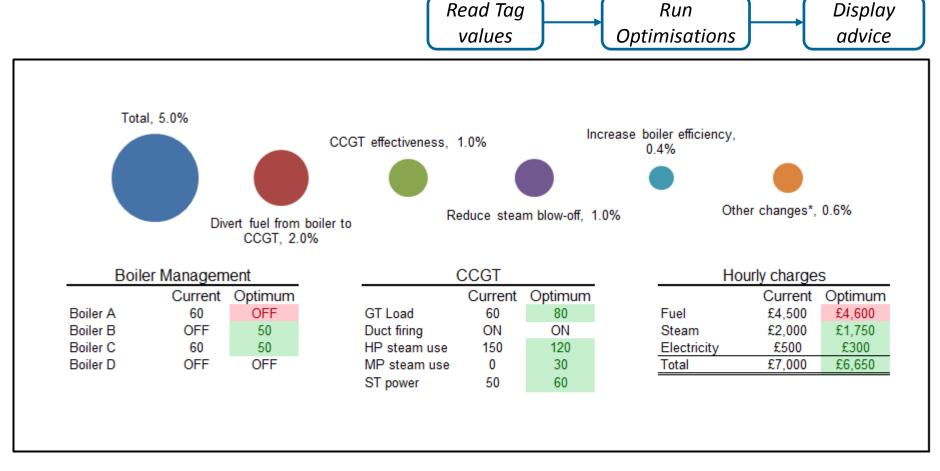
- Unit operating range (between F $_{min}$ and F $_{max}$)
- Custom equations (spinning reserve, geographical constraints)
- Expect 10-50 units + 0-10 custom equations

Objective

– Total cost = \sum fuel cost + \sum steam cost + \sum electricity cost

Online advice

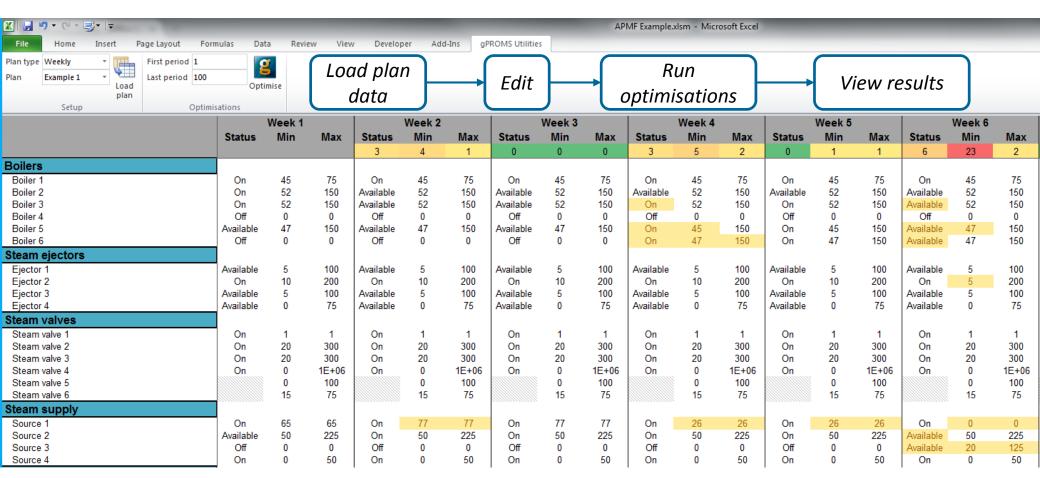




- Display advice alongside current readings
- Prioritise: what makes the most difference to overall performance?

Scenario planning

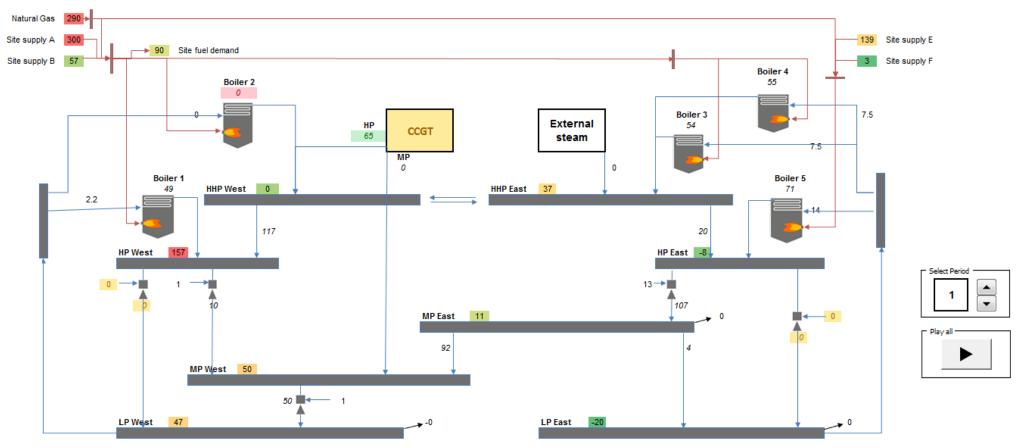




- Load information from SQL database (optional)
- Configure and run n periods

Scenario planning





- Execute n gPROMS MINLP optimisations (max 10s per case)
- Returns information to interface for viewing

Industrial use case



Experience



 DSM have over 10 years experience in developing and using models for Utility Optimisation

Key criteria:

Site

- Options to chose which utility to use
- Options to convert utilities
- Complexity

Model

- Include all major "managed" equipment related to utility provision
- Solution easy to manage & deploy
- Fast, robust and reliable optimisation



Practical uses



- Long-term strategic planning (years)
 - Budgeting
 - Contract evaluation/negotiation
 - Evaluation of future investments
- Short-term tactical planning (months)
 - meet contractual commitments
 - observe (equipment) maintenance schedules
 - Actual operational optimization to reduce daily/weekly/quarterly costs
 - Benefits:
 - 2-3% energy consumption for well-managed plants (~3-4% operating costs)
 - Up to 10-15% reduction of energy consumption for plants in emerging markets and/or less know-how

Benefits

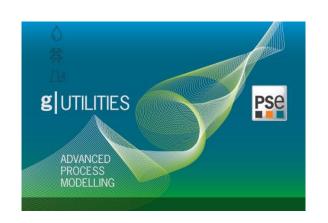


Operation

- Optimum equipment on/off decisions
- Optimum equipment load allocation (exploit differences in efficiency)
- Reduced off gas flaring/steam venting
- Ability to establish optimum operation fast (also after changes in utility loads or plant upsets)

Management

- Utilities Contract Management
- Maximize benefits from negotiating 'special conditions' for utility contracts
- Effective equipment maintenance by improved performance monitoring





Thank you

















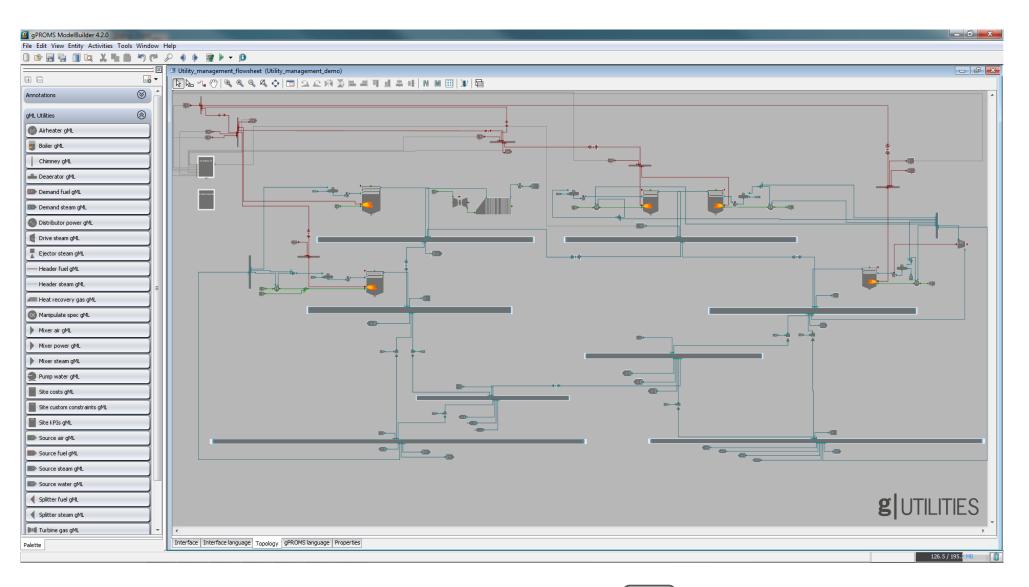




Flowsheeting

Engineer view





Summary



Summary



Utility Management

- Ensuring provision of utility demand across large chemical parks can be difficult and costly
- Many options & constraints to consider
- These and contracts are constantly varying

Optimisation tools

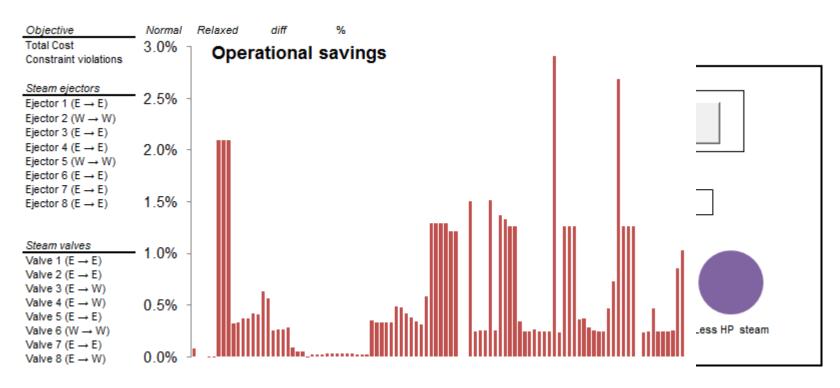
- gPROMS Utility optimiser developed jointly with DSM: currently finalising development
- Model & optimise utility provision system, including supply & demand from individual plants, managed equipment and imported utilities
- Link via interface to model database and/or directly to data historian

Industrial use case

- Key to carry out an initial assessment on site suitability
- Optimiser valuable for both short term and long term planning
- Significant savings are possible with respect to both managerial (e.g. contract negotiation) and operational (e.g. reduced blow-off) costs

Analysis: route constraints



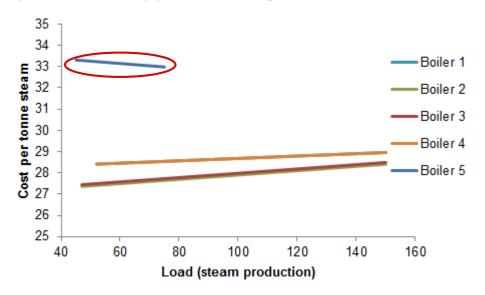


- Cheaper steam often not used due to distribution constraints
- Solution: isolate some headers and valves in West to reroute more flow via East

Analysis: boiler selection



Boiler comparison (typical Offgas availabilities):



- In general, boiler selection is limited in order to use Offgas from plants – especially in Boiler 5 which is much more expensive (350 £/hr more)
- Normal boiler operating costs roughly 80% fuel and 20% steam: balance between fuel and steam usage could be manipulated according to the current cost & availability