



**“Finding The Data In The Noise”**

**A Data Mining Tool for Quantifying  
Improved Delayed Coker Performance**

**REFCOMM**  
GALVESTON

April 30-May 2, 2014

**Coking.com**

*Innovation isn't just what we do. It's who we are.*

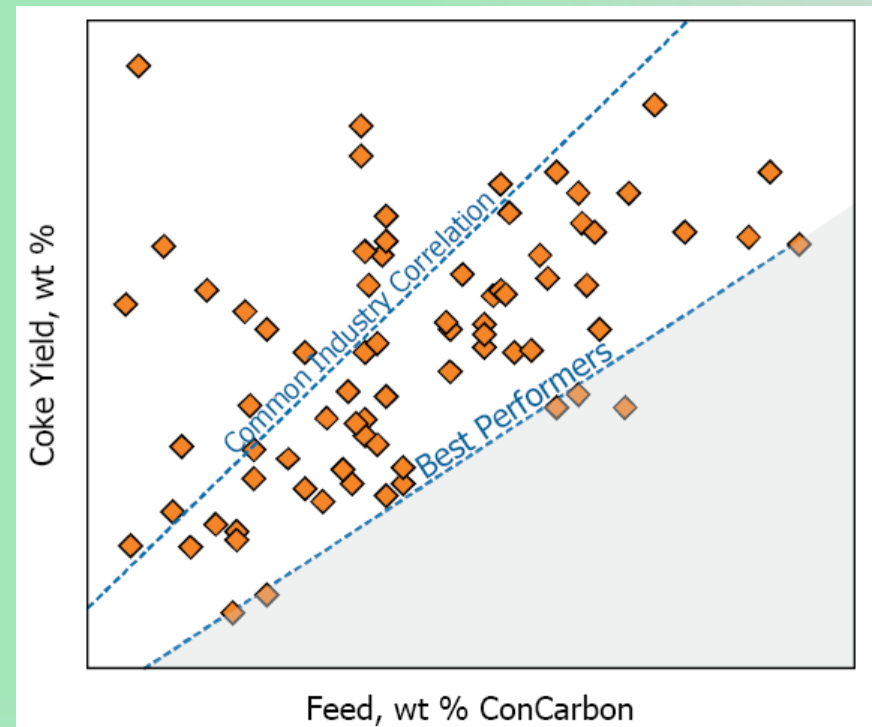
**DORF KET L**

# Agenda

- ◆ Introduction to Dorf Ketal
- ◆ Challenges in Today's Cokers
- ◆ Dorf Ketal Innovation for Improved Liquid Yield
- ◆ Data Mining Approach
- ◆ Case Histories

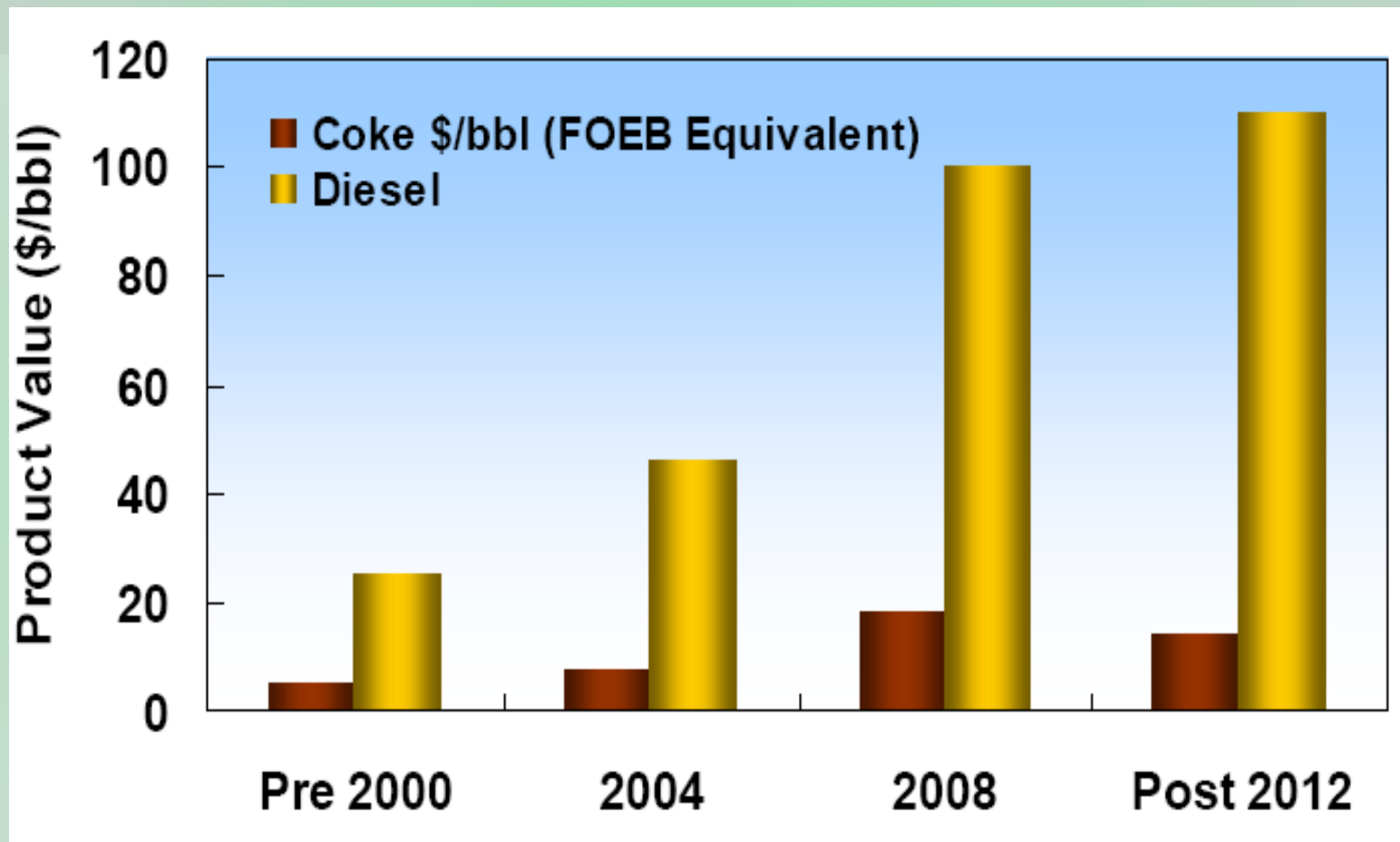
# Challenges in Today's Cokers

- **Significant Gap between current Coke Yield and CCR (theoretical min.)**
  - COKERMAX™ helps close this gap
- **Feed Quality is Poor**
  - More Metals
  - More CCR
  - Higher Asphaltene content
  - High Sulphur Content
- **More prone to fouling**
- **Coke Morphology is changing**
  - Shot Coke formation
  - Less Profitable
  - Operational Challenges
- **More foaming**



Source: Solomon Associates 2008 Fuels Refinery Performance Analysis

# Economic Drivers for Improved Liquid Yield



*Diesel vs. Coke pricing. Pricing varies by geography*

*1% increase of liquid over coke valued at \$1 to \$1.20 per bbl of Coker Feed in 2014 for USA*

# Joint Industry Project on Delayed Coking

## Research effort to address these challenges

- *Project began in 1999 and is on-going. Members include major refining companies.*
- *Dorf Ketal is a member of this project.*
- *Improving liquid yield is one of the goals of the project.*
- *Dorf Ketal invested heavily in finding a solution to challenge of improving liquid yield.*



# COKERMAX™ Offering

- **COKERMAX™ is a chemical additive that increases liquid yield 1% to 3%.**
- **Easy to feed**
  - Inject Additive into Suction of Main Fractionator Bottoms Pumps
- **Demonstrated success at one refinery in China**
  - Liquid yield improvement of 1.4% to 1.5%
- **Lab design and protocol to test your feed for liquid yield improvement**
  - Product selection, dosage range, liquid yield improvement
  - Predictive tool for full scale results
- **Data Mining Services to quantify impact of COKERMAX™ on liquid yield**

# Need for Data Mining

- **Variables affecting liquid yield**
  - feed composition, operating conditions, equipment configuration, processing goals, and nature of the coke.
  - Impractical to hold all these variables constant to isolate impact of additive.
- **Net Value of Converting Coke to Liquid**
  - \$100 to \$120 per barrel in USA, varies based on diesel & coke pricing
  - 1% improvement in liquid as % of Coker Feed = \$1 to \$1.2/bbl of feed.
  - 1.5% improvement for 30,000 bbl/day Coker is about \$14MM/year.
- **\$14MM/year is large number nominally, but:**
  - Benefit of CokerMax™ Additive may appear masked by normal yield variation.

# Dorf Ketal Approach to Data Mining

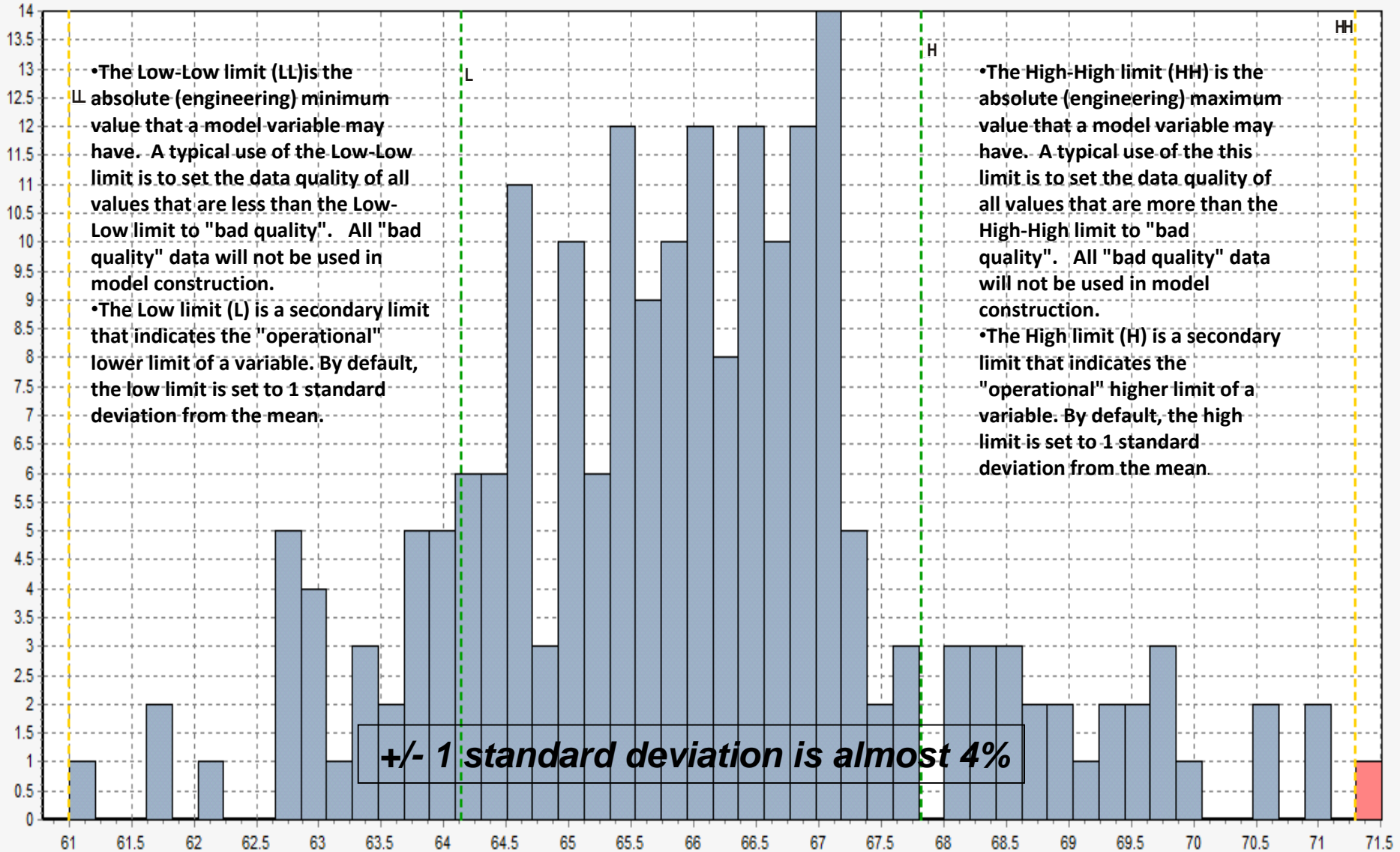
A multivariate statistical approach towards optimized yield comprising of,

- ✓ Data Preparation, eliminating outliers
- ✓ Principle Components Analysis, A detailed study of key process variables impacting yield.
- ✓ Development of correlations between principle components and actual liquid yield.
- ✓ Definition of baseline for benchmarking impact of change.
- ✓ Detailed root cause analysis for all the batches with yields below potential.
- ✓ Pre-trial protocol to evaluate the impact of change, in this case additive performance.

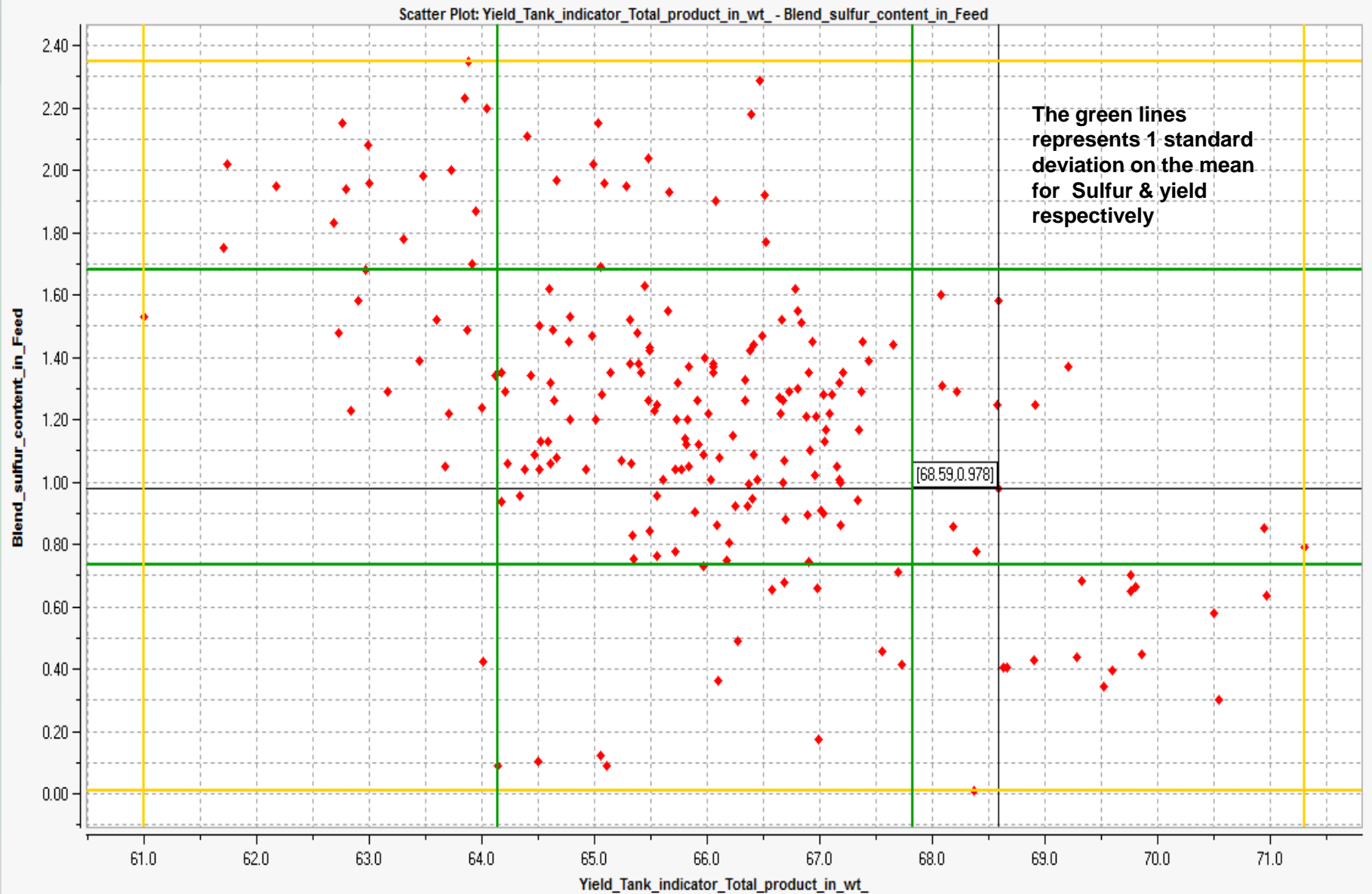


# A histogram Representation of Yield

Histogram: Yield\_Tank\_indicator\_Total\_product\_in\_wt\_

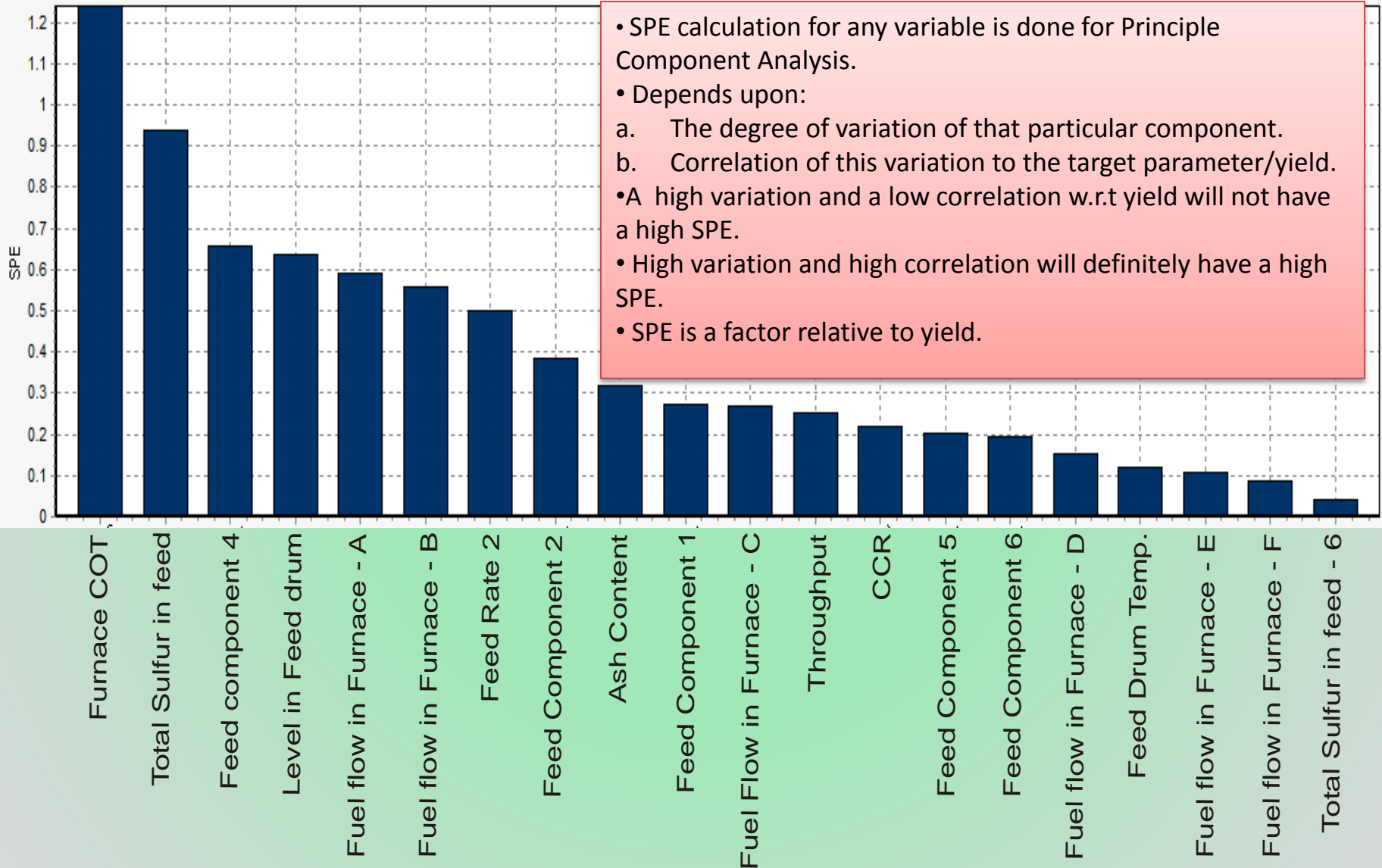


# Scatter plot for one of the variables with respect to yield

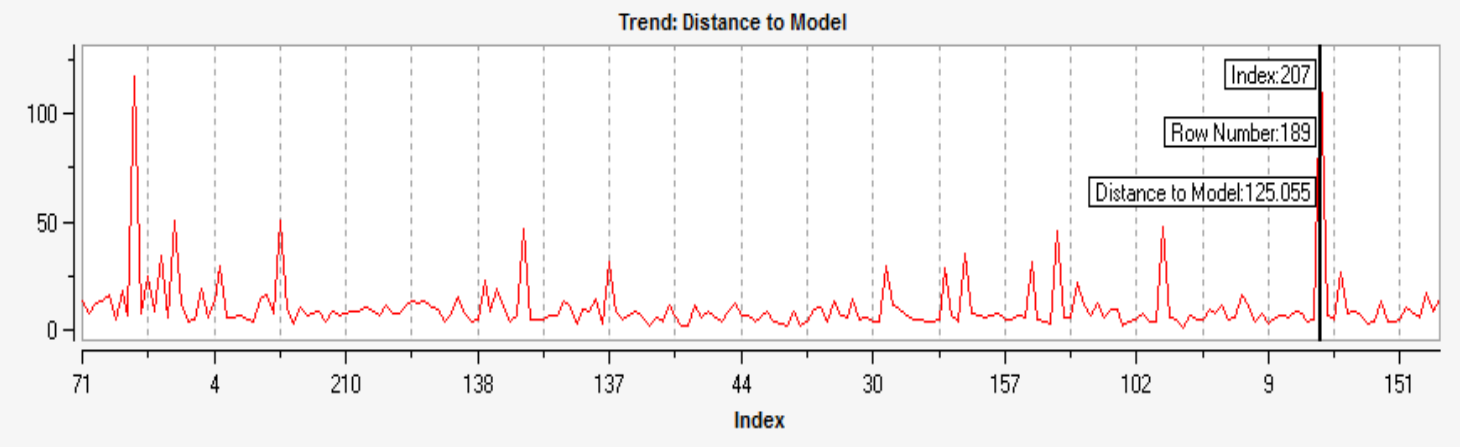


# Principle Components Identification Matrix

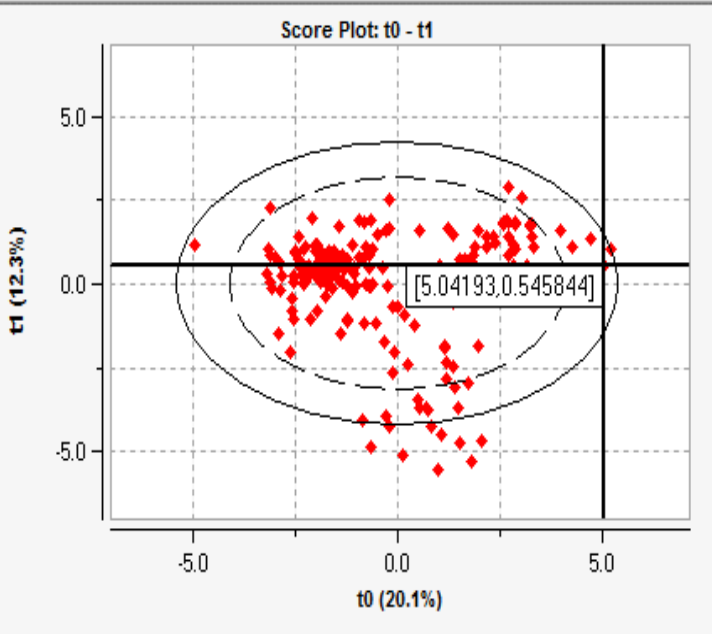
Variable Contribution Plot



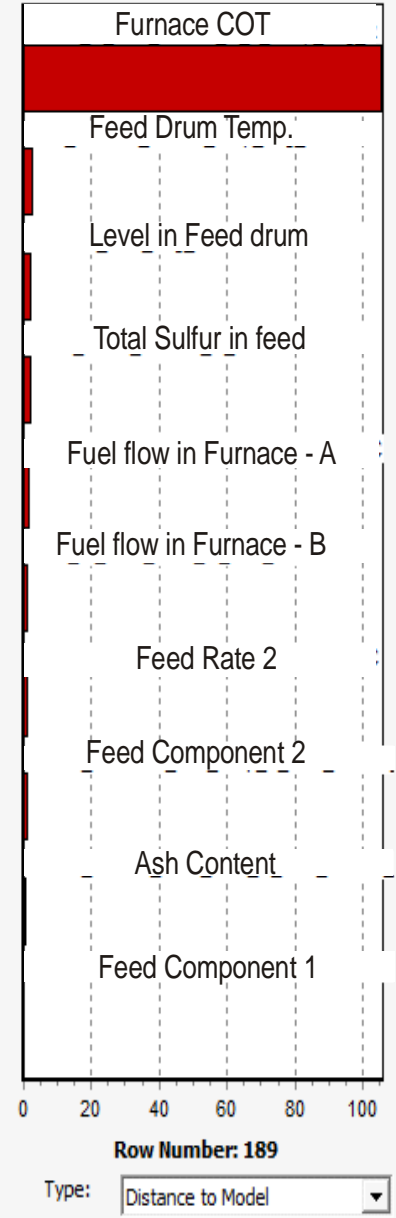
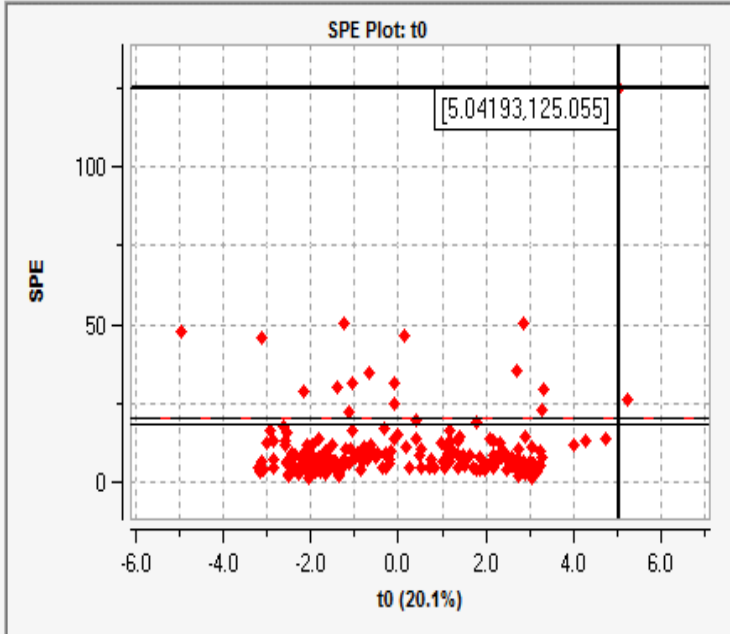
# Batch Wise Plot Identifying the Outliers



X: t0 (20.1%) Y: t1 (12.3%)

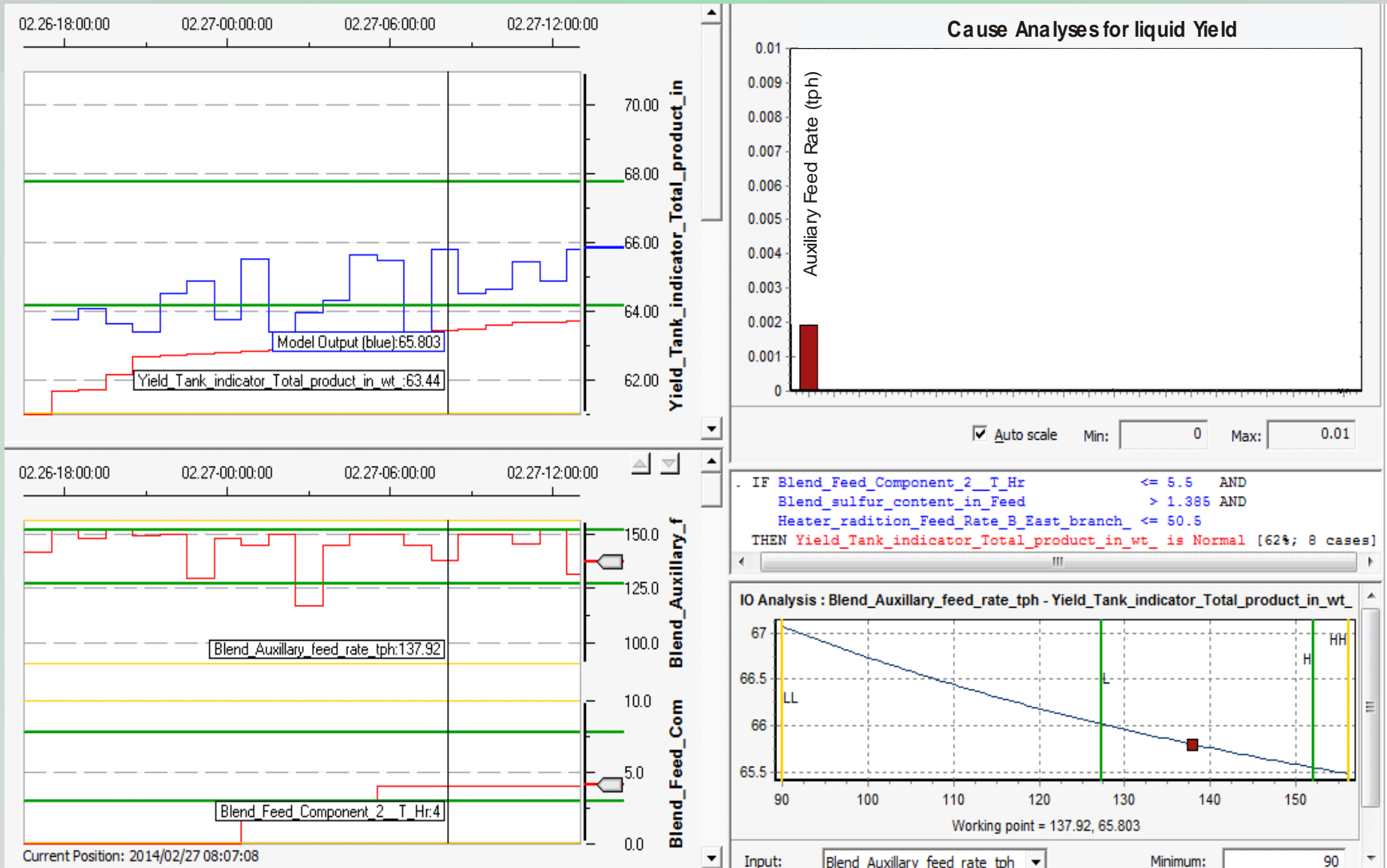


X: t0 (20.1%)

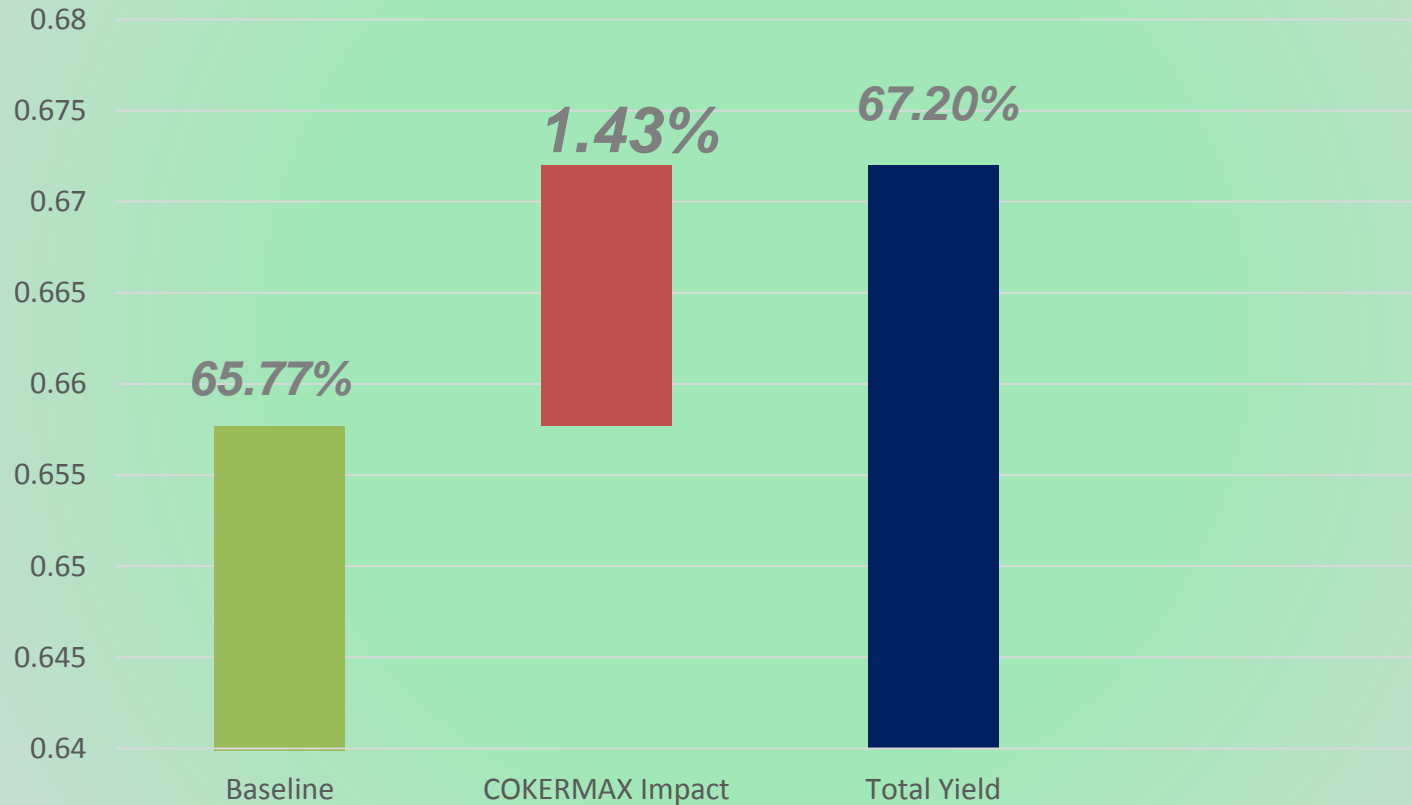


Confidence limits: 95 % 99 %

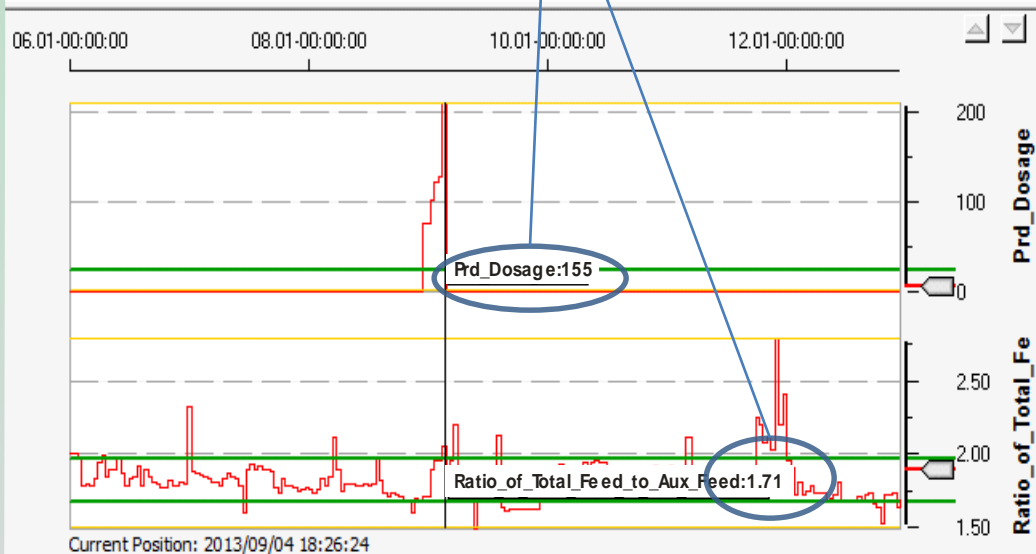
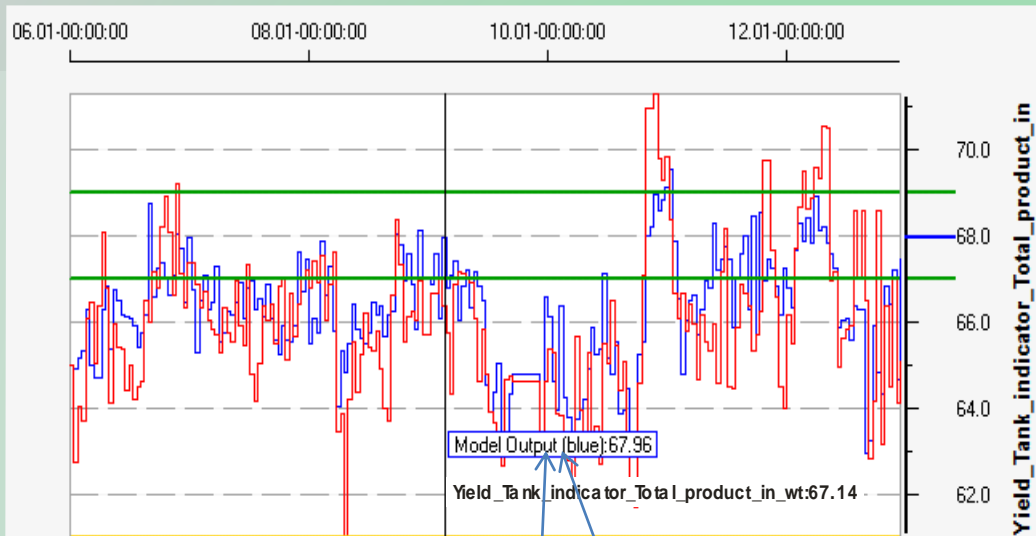
# A snapshot of the model output screen



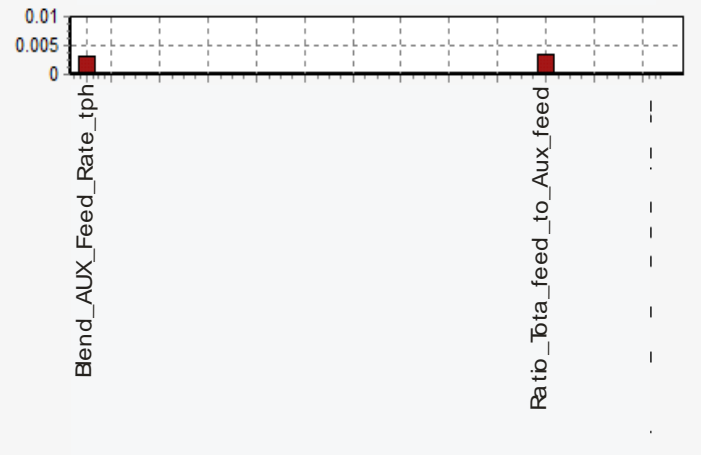
# Using the Model to Isolate Impact of COKERMAX™ Additive



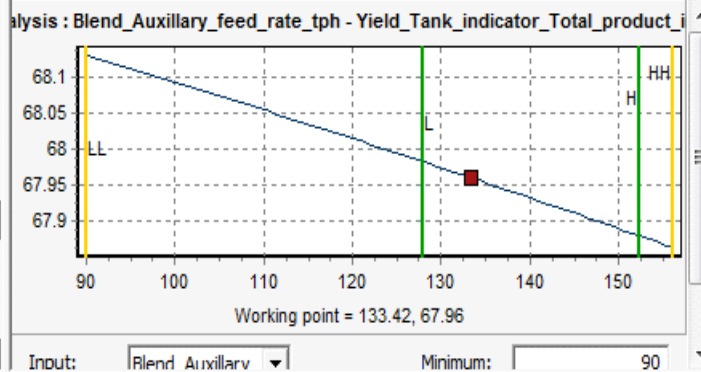
# Actual Yield is 67.14%, Model Output is 67.96%.



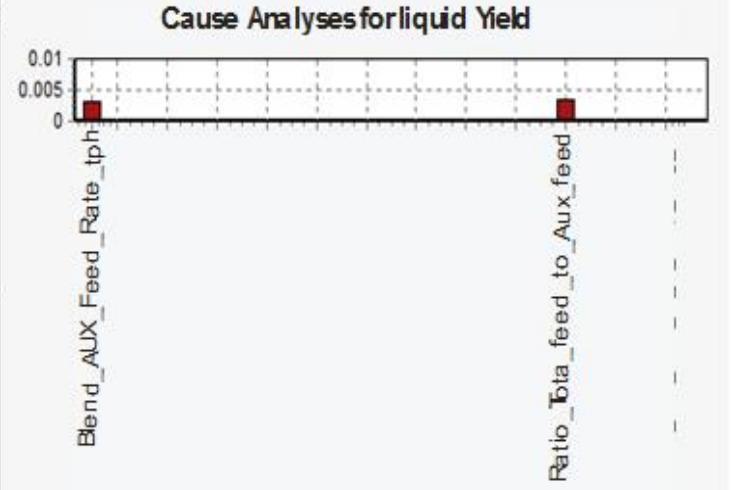
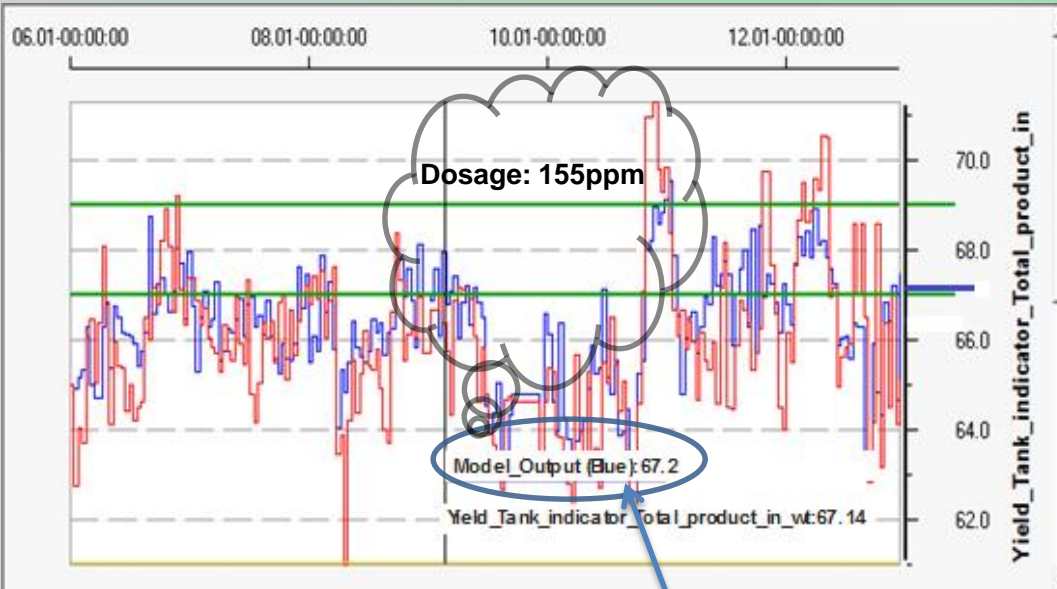
## Cause Analyses for liquid Yield



`_sulfur_content_in_Feed > 0.863 AND  
Gas_A_West_Branch <= 967.5  
ld_Tank_Indicator_Total_product_in_wt_is Low [91%; 115 cases`

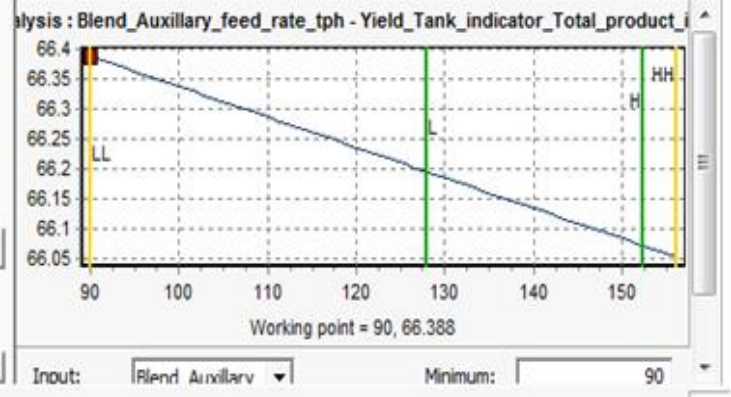


# Model 67.2% vs. 67.14% adj. for principle components



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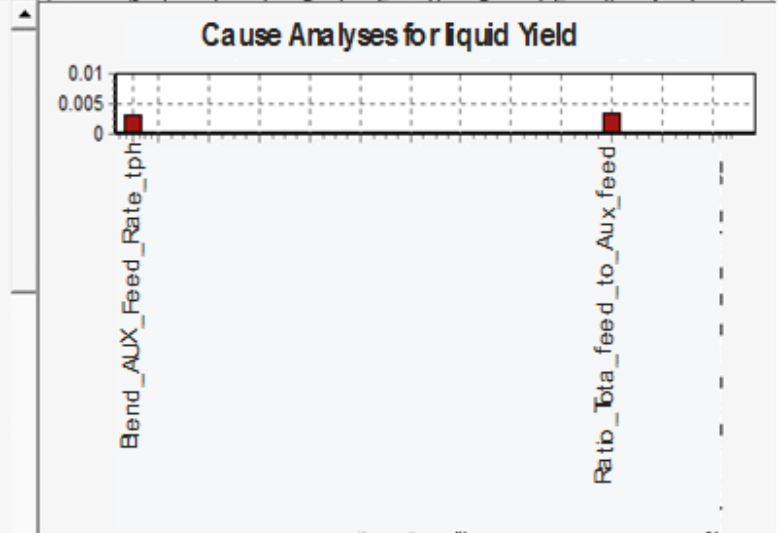
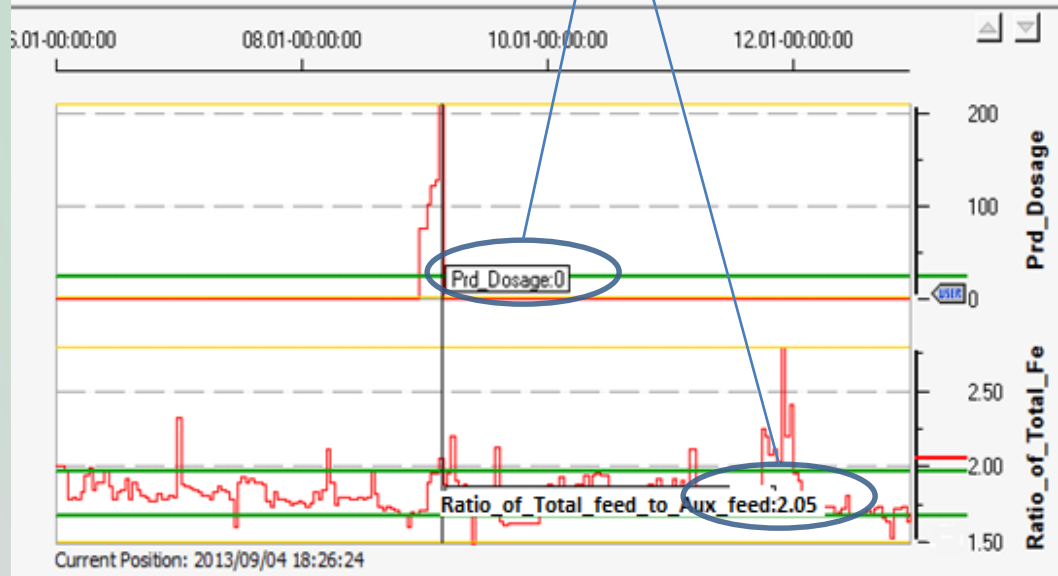
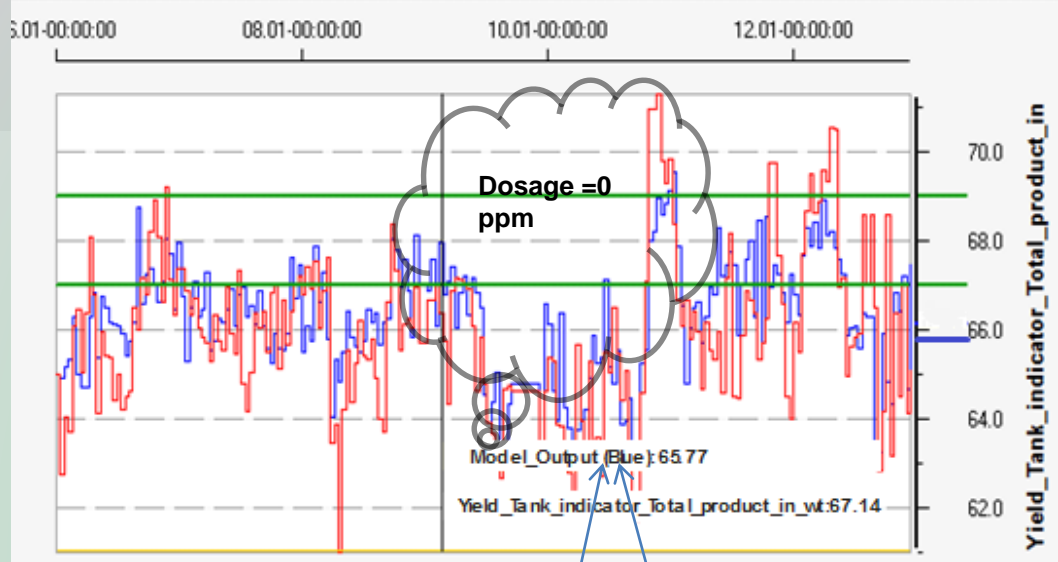
_sulfur_content_in_Feed > 0.863 AND
Gas_A_West_Branch <= 967.5
ld_Tank_indicator_Total_product_in_wt_ is Low [914; 115 cases]
    
```



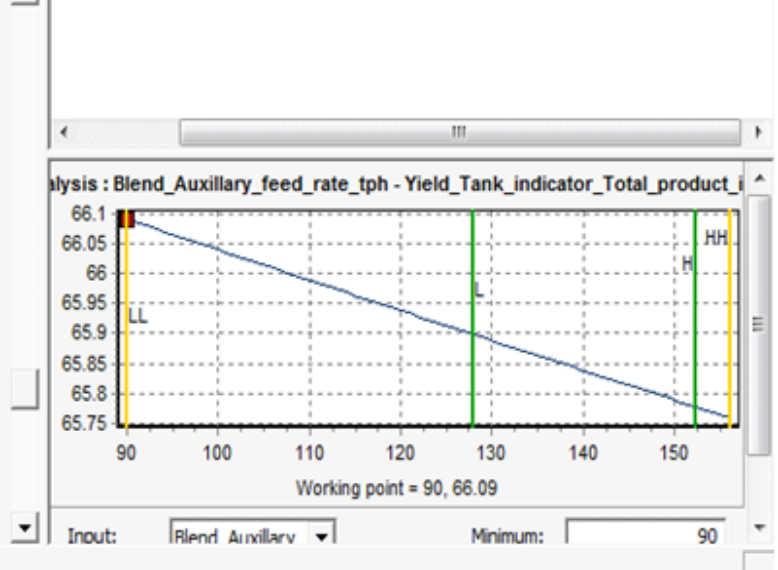


# Taking Chemical Out, Modeled Baseline is 65.77%, 1.43% due to COKERMAX™

Modeled baseline of 65.77% in close agreement with agreed actual baseline of 65.63%



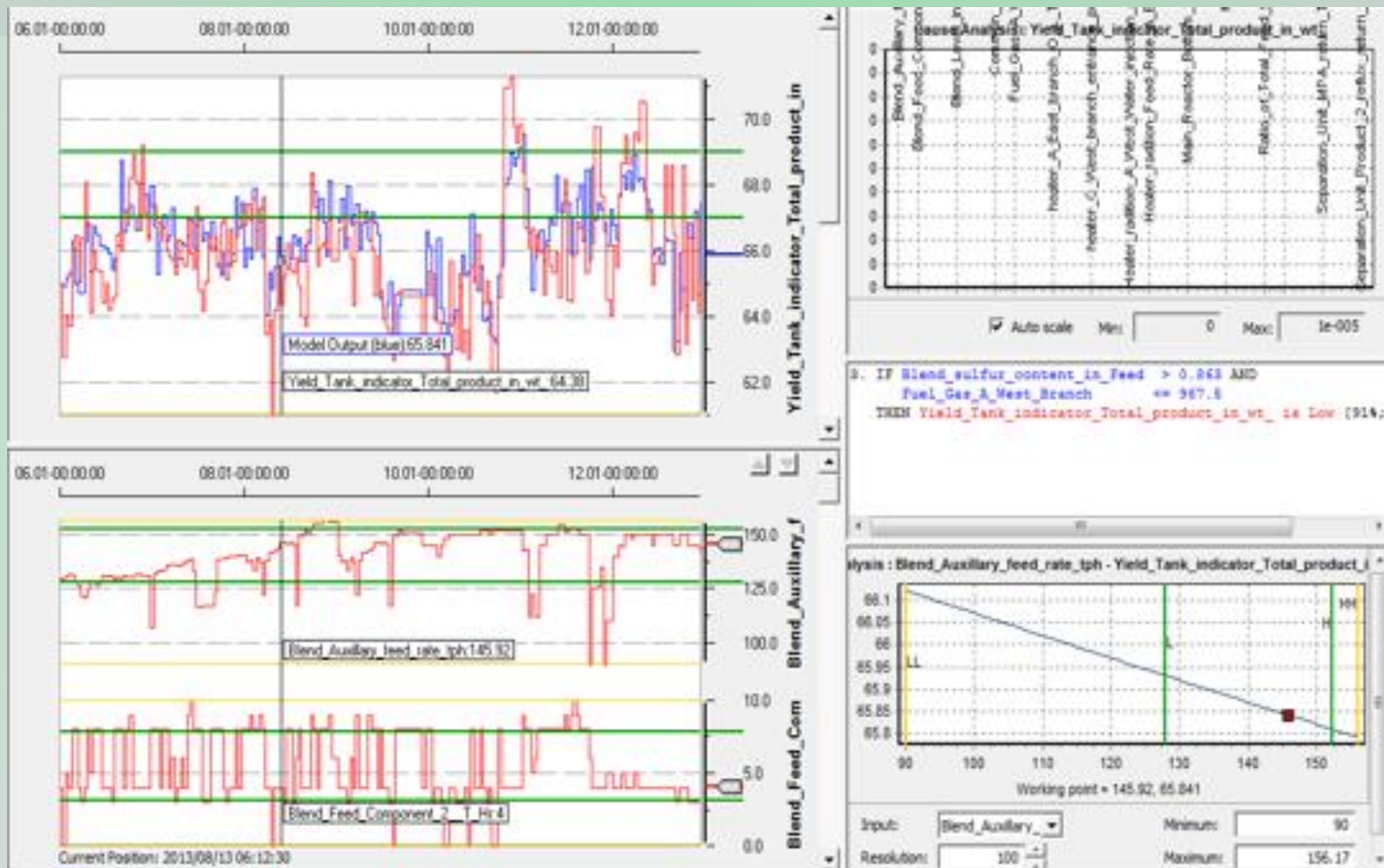
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Gas_A_West_Branch <= 967.5  
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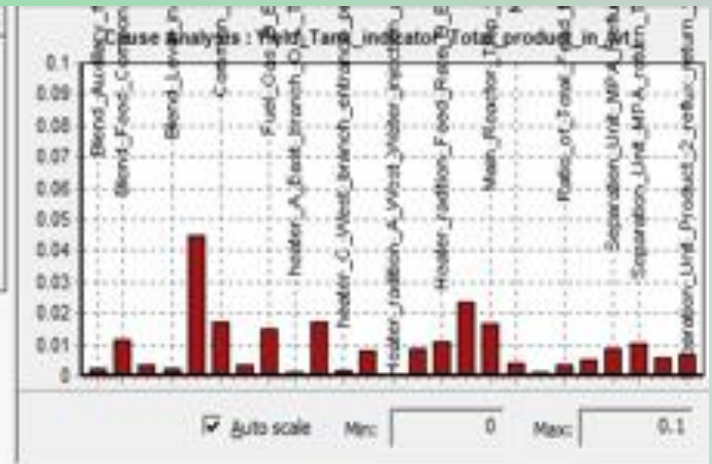
Current Position: 2013/09/04 18:26:24

# **Using the tool to evaluate how to improve yield with better control of principle components**

# Actual yield is 64.38%, model predicts 65.841%



# Adjusting for principal components, Model is close to actual.



`_sulfur_content_in_Feed > 0.863 AND`  
`Gas_A_West_Branch <= 967.5`  
`ld_Tank_Indicator_Total_product_in_wt_ is Low [914; 115 cases]`



# Summarizing Data Mining Process

- Outliers are removed from data set.
- Multivariate analysis rank orders principle components effecting liquid yield in baseline, used to create model.
- The model gives operator real time information on how variation in principle components is impacting liquid yield.
- The Model allows for every batch to have an adjusted baseline calculation, thereby isolating impact of COKERMAX™ Additive on batch by batch basis
- Ability to confirm additive effectiveness over time
- Model gives operator “What if” capability