

# Introduction to Aspen Plus Basics

version 10.2

, Ph. D.



# Course Agenda – day 1

**Introduction** - General Simulation Concepts

The User Interface - Graphical Flowsheet Definition

Basic Input - Getting Around the Graphical User Interface

<u>Unit Operation Models</u> - Overview of Available Unit Operations

Separator - Two-phase & Three-phase Flash Calculation

<u>DSTWU</u> – Determination of N<sub>min</sub> and R<sub>min</sub>

**DISTIL** – Preliminary Separation Approximation

RadFrac - Multistage Separation Model



# Course Agenda – day 1

Heat Exchangers - Heaters and Heat Exchangers

<u>Pressure Changers</u> - Pumps, Compressors, Pipes and Valves

Reactor Models - Overview of Available Reactor Types

Full-Scale Plant Modeling Workshop: Additional

Simulate a Methanol Plant

Simulate a PX Plant

Simulate a CDU



### Introduction

### **Objective:**

Introduce general flowsheet simulation concepts and Aspen Plus features



#### Introduction

- What is flowsheet simulation?
  - Use of a computer program to quantitatively model the characteristic equations of a chemical process
- Uses underlying physical relationships
  - Mass balance
  - Equilibrium relationships
  - Summation of Compositions
  - Enthalpy Balance
  - Rate correlations (reaction and mass/heat transfer)
- Predicts
  - Stream flowrates, compositions and physical properties
  - Operating conditions
  - Equipment sizing



가?

(Chemical Process Simulator)

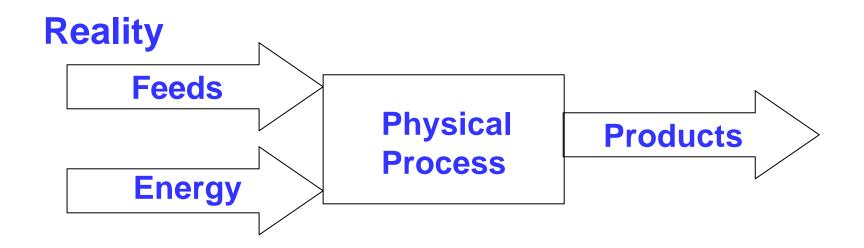
**Computer Hardware** 

Software . - 1988

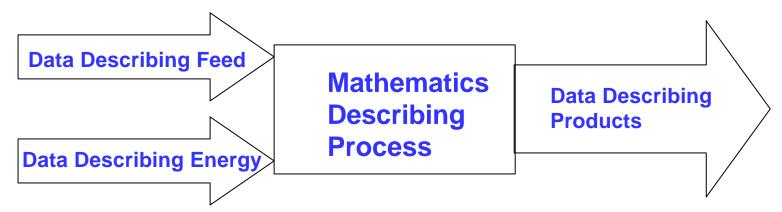
Henry Jo



#### **Process Simulation**



#### **Mathematics**





### (Purposes for Simulation?)

**New Plant Design** 

( )

**Existing Plant Revamp (Expansion)** 

**Existing Plant Operations** 

**Engineer Training** 



# **Advantages of Simulation**

- Reduces plant design time
  - Allows designer to quickly test various plant configurations
- Helps improve current process
  - Answers "what if" questions
  - Determines optimal process conditions within given constraints
  - Assists in locating the constraining parts of a process (debottlenecking)



### **Advantages of Simulation**

- Faster Calculations More solutions
- Accurate Results
- Standardization

Pure Components: 1,550

Binary Database: 10,000 VLE & 3,000 LLE

Thermodynamic Methods over 60 Models

- Solution of Recycle Processes
- Less Costly than Pilot Plant Tests!!





#### **Faster Calculations**

 The equilibrium flash separator is the simplest equilibrium-stage process with which the designer must deal. Despite the fact that only one stage is involved, the calculation of the compositions and the relative amount of the vapor and liquid phases at any given pressure and temperature usually involves a tedious trial-and-error solution.

Buford D. Smith, 1963





#### **Standardization**

Pure Component Database

```
1,550 가
```

(Commonly Used Components > 100)

Binary Database

```
10,000
```

(100)x(100-1)/2 = 4950 BIP's

Thermodynamic Option

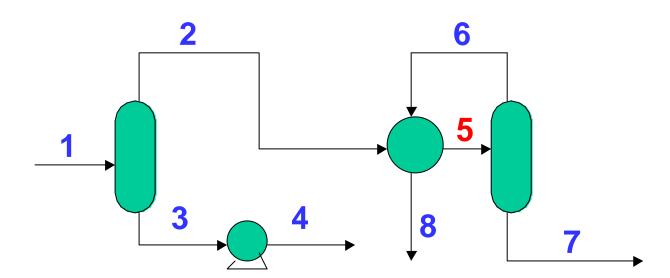
60

EOS Model, LACT Model, Special Package!



# Solution of Recycle Process

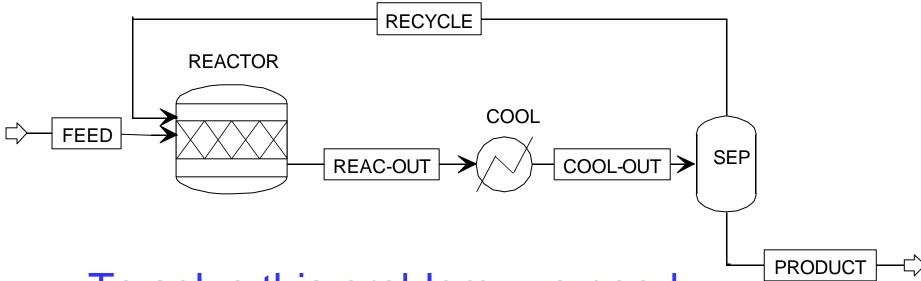
Sequential-Modular Approach



### **General Simulation Problem**



### What is the composition of stream PRODUCT?



- To solve this problem, we need:
  - Material balances
  - Energy balances

# Approaches to Flowsheet Simulation (\*\*) aspentech



### Sequential Modular

- Aspen Plus is a sequential modular simulation program.
- Each unit operation block is solved in a certain sequence.

### Equation Oriented

- Aspen Custom Modeler (formerly SPEEDUP) is an equation oriented simulation program.
- All equations are solved simultaneously.

#### Combination

- Aspen Dynamics (formerly DynaPLUS) uses the Aspen Plus sequential modular approach to initialize the steady state simulation and the Aspen Custom Modeler (formerly SPEEDUP) equation oriented approach to solve the dynamic simulation.



# **Aspen Plus Basics**

 The best way to learn Aspen Plus concepts is by using Aspen Plus. This session leads you through an example Aspen Plus simulation to explain how to open a file, enter data, run a simulation and examine results.

It will allow one and half hour for this session.



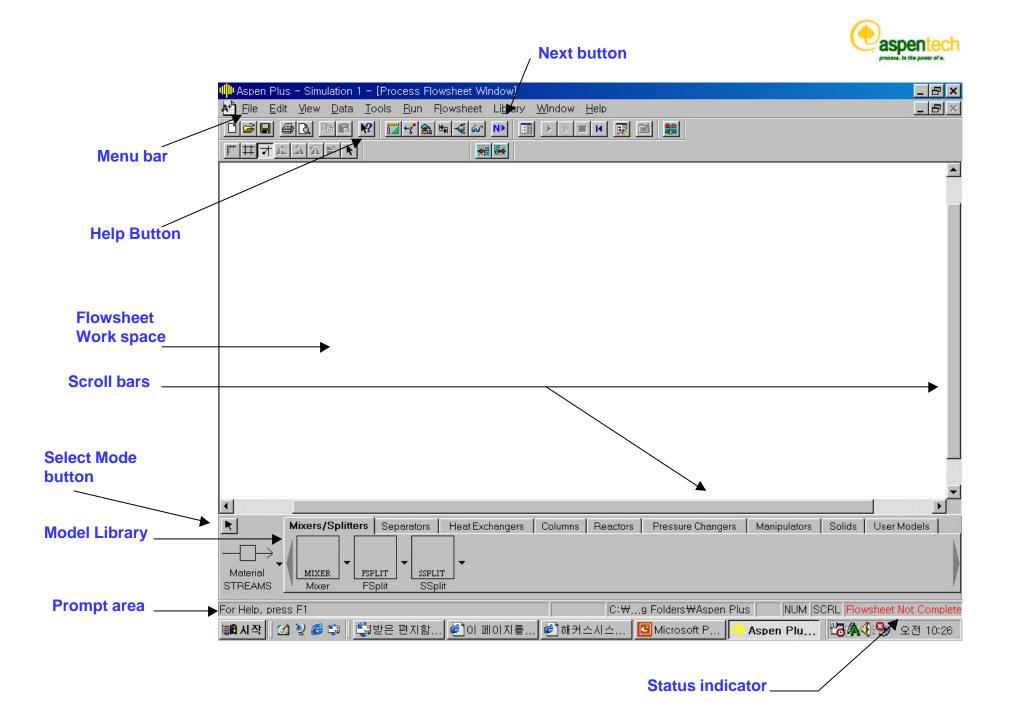
#### The User Interface

### Objective:

Become comfortable and familiar with the Aspen Plus graphical user interface

#### Aspen Plus References:

- User Guide, Chapter 1, The User Interface
- User Guide, Chapter 2, Creating a Simulation Model
- User Guide, Chapter 4, Defining the Flowsheet





# **Opening a File**

You can open a file for an Aspen Plus simulation by either:

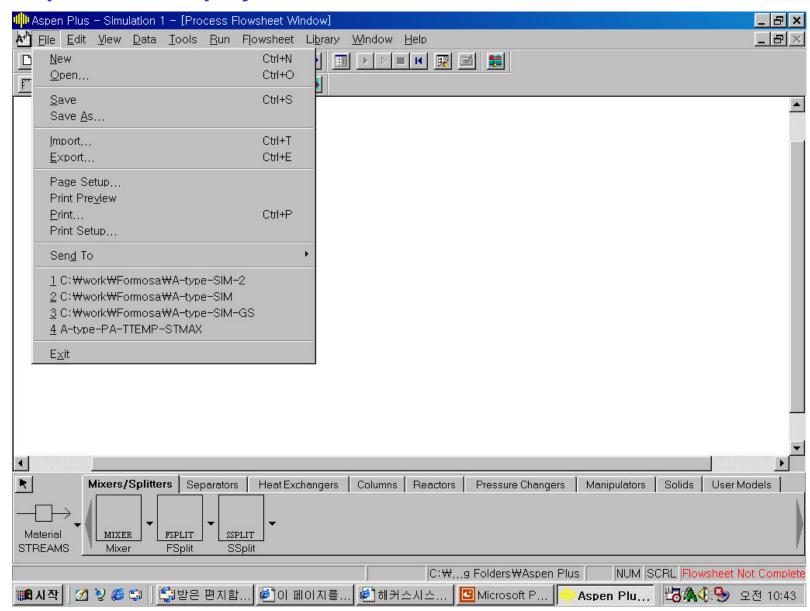
- Double-clicking the file from Windows Explorer
- Selecting the open command from the File menu in Aspen Plus

In this session, you will use the open command on the File menu.

- To display the File menu, click File on the menu bar.

#### **Aspen Plus displays the File menu:**



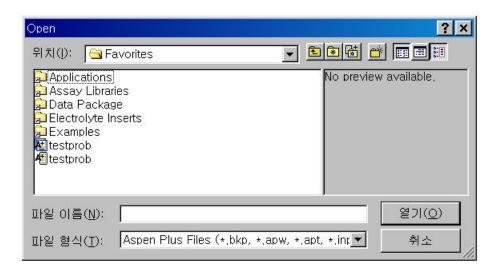




From the File menu, select Open.

The Open dialog box appears. Your default working directory is displayed in the Look In box. You can navigate to the folder containing a file by using the Look In box or the Look In Favorite button, .

Click the Look in Favorite button.





# **Aspen Plus modeling Procedures**

- 1. Define the process flowsheet modeled and the purpose of the model.

  (Setup Specifications Global) (Title Card in PRO/II)
- 2. Select the units of measurement for input data and output.
- 3. Specify what chemical components will be present in the streams of the flowsheet.

#### (Components Specifications Global) (Component Data in PRO/II)

4. Specify the methods and models to be used for calculating physical properties.

#### (Property Specifications Global) (Thermodynamic Data in PRO/II)

5. Define the feed streams to the process.

#### (Stream Specifications Global) (Stream Data in PRO/II)

6. Convert the process flowsheet into unit operating blocks and choose an appropriate model for each block.

#### (Block Specifications Global) (Unit Operations Data in PRO/II)

7. Specify the performance of each unit operating block to represent the design and operating conditions of the process.

(Design Specifications Global) (Specifications in PRO/II)



## **Basic Input**

The minimum required inputs (in addition to the graphical flowsheet) to run a simulation are:

- Setup Title

ComponentsComponent Data

Properties Thermodynamic Data

StreamsStream Data

Blocks Unit Operations Data



# **Using the Mouse**

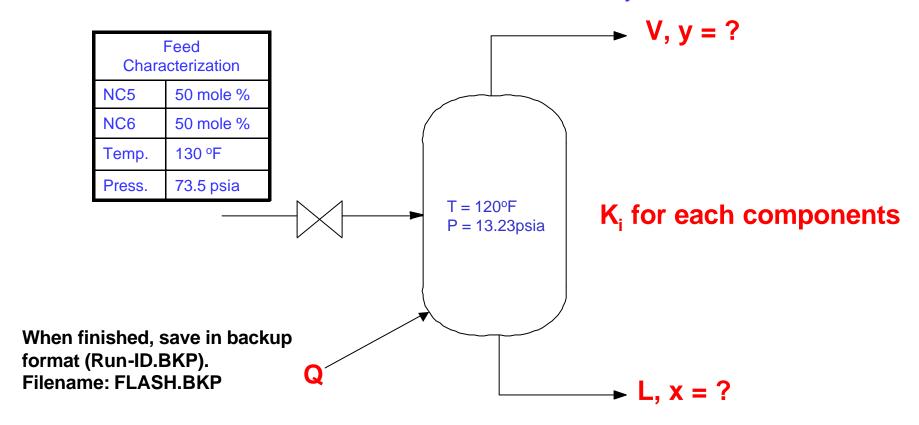
- Left button click Select object/field
- Right button click Bring up menu for selected object/field, or inlet/outlet
- Double left click Open Data Browser object sheet

Reference: Aspen Plus User Guide, Chapter 1, The User Interface



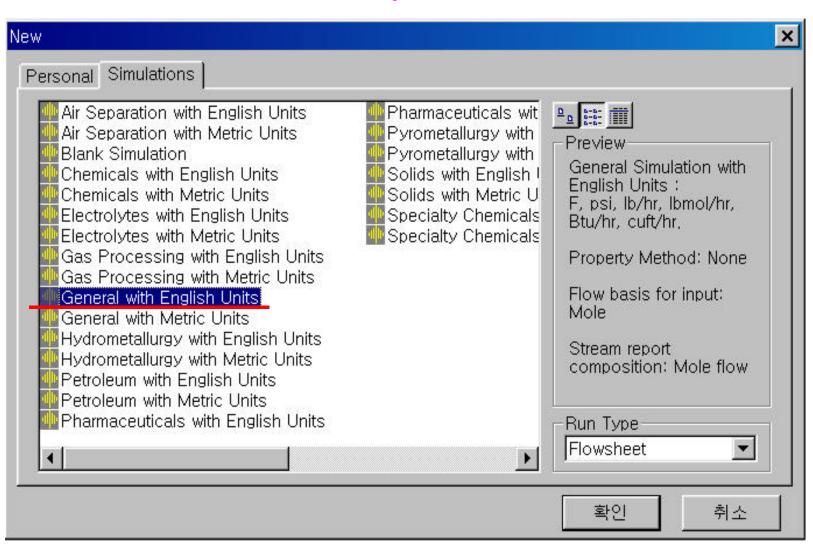
### Ex 1: Two-phase Flash

- An equimolar stream of *n*-pentane and *n*-hexane, at 130°F and 73.5 psia, is fed a flash vessel, where it is flashed to 13.23 psia with vapor liquid products in equilibrium at 120°F.
- Use ideal Raoult's law for the simulation of this system.





# Start with the General with English Units Template





# Choose the appropriate icons for the block

- To place a block on the flowsheet:
  - 1. Click on a model category tab in the Model Library.
  - 2. Select a unit operation model. Click the drop-down arrow to select an icon for the model.
  - 3. Click on the model and drag it to the flowsheet where you want to place the block, then release the mouse button.

### Choose the appropriate icons for the block



- To place a stream on the flowsheet:
  - 1. Click on the stream icon in the Model Library.
  - 2. If you want to select a different stream type (Material, Heat or Work), click the down arrow next to the icon and choose a different type.
  - 3. Click a highlighted port to make the connection.
  - 4. Repeat step 3 to connect the other end of the stream.
  - 5. To place one end of the stream as either a process flowsheet or product, click a blank part of the Process Flowsheet window.
  - 6. Click the right mouse button on stop creating streams.



# Graphic Flowsheet operations

- To display an input for a Block or a Stream in the Data Browser:
  - 1. Double click the left mouse on the object of interest.
- To rename, Delete, Change the icon, provide input or view results for a block or stream:
  - 1. Select object (Block or Stream) by clicking on it with the left mouse button.
  - 2. Click the right mouse while the pointer is over the selected object icon to bring up the menu for that object.
  - 3. Choose appropriate menu item.



### Automatic Naming of Streams and Blocks

- Stream and block names can be automatically assigned by Aspen Plus or entered by the user when the object is created.
- Stream and block names can be displayed or hidden.
- To modify the naming options:
  - Select Options from the Tools menu.
  - Click the flowsheet tab.
  - Check or uncheck the naming options desired.

# **Setup**



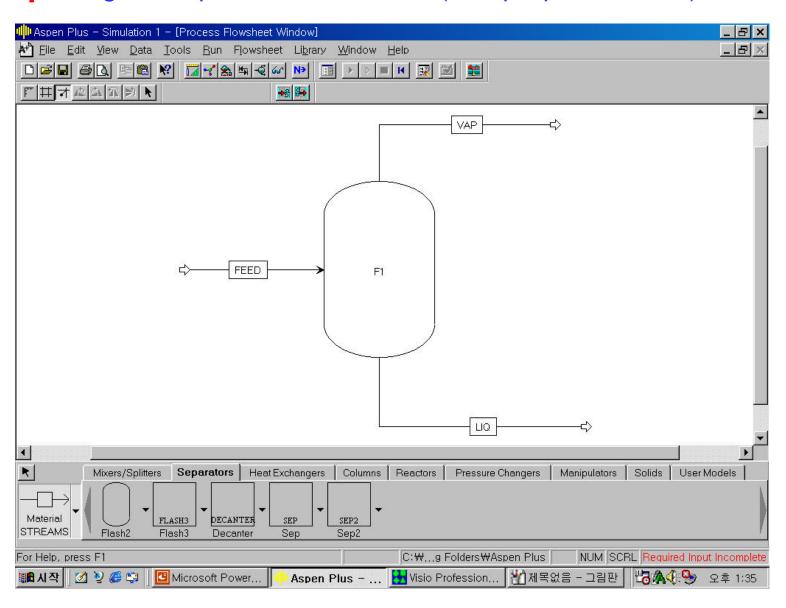
Most of the commonly used Setup information is entered on the Setup Specifications Global sheet:

- Flowsheet title to be used on reports
- Run type
- Input and output units
- Valid phases (e.g. vapor-liquid or vapor-liquid-liquid)
- Ambient pressure

Stream report options are located on the Setup Report Options Stream sheet.

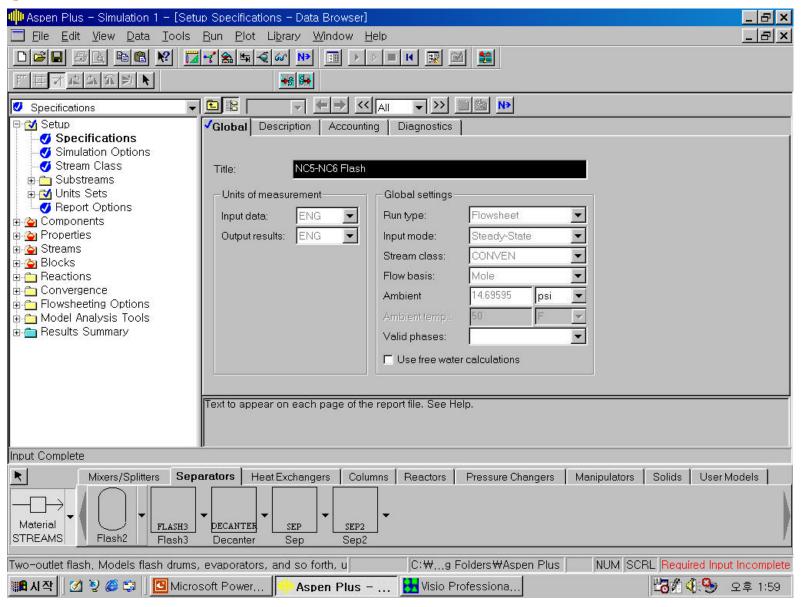


#### **Step 1**: general process information (Setup Specifications)





#### Step 1: general process information (Setup Specifications) continued





# **Status Indicators**

Symbol	Status
<b>~</b>	Input for the form is incomplete
<b>Ø</b>	Input for the form is complete
•	No input for the form has been entered. It is optional.
<b>✓</b>	Results for the form exist.
×	Results for the form exist, but there were calculation errors.
	Results for the form exist, but there were calculation warnings.
	Results for the form exist, but input has changed since the results were generated.



# **Setup Run Types**

Run Type	
Flowsheet	Standard Aspen Plus flowsheet run including sensitivity studies and optimization.
	Flowsheet runs can contain property estimation, assay data analysis, and/or property analysis calculations.
Assay Data Analysis	A standalone Assay Data Analysis and pseudocomponent generation run
	Use Assay Data Analysis to analyze assay data when you do not want to perform a flowsheet simulation in the same run.
Data Regression	A standalone Data Regression run
	Use Data Regression to fit physical property model parameters required by ASPEN PLUS to measured pure component, VLE, LLE, and other mixture data. Data Regression can contain property estimation and property analysis calculations. ASPEN PLUS cannot perform data regression in a Flowsheet run.
PROPERTIES PLUS	PROPERTIES PLUS setup run
	Use PROPERTIES PLUS to prepare a property package for use with Aspen Custom Modeler (formerly SPEEDUP) or Aspen Pinch (formerly ADVENT), with third-party commercial engineering programs, or with your company's in-house programs. You must be licensed to use PROPERTIES PLUS.
Property Analysis	A standalone Property Analysis run
	Use Property Analysis to generate property tables, PT-envelopes, residue curve maps, and other property reports when you do not want to perform a flowsheet simulation in the same run. Property Analysis can contain property estimation and assay data analysis calculations.
Property Estimation	Standalone Property Constant Estimation run
	Use Property Estimation to estimate property parameters when you do not want to perform a flowsheet simulation in the same run.

# **Setup Units**



- Units in Aspen Plus can be defined at 3 different levels:
  - 1. Global Level ("Input Data" & "Output Results" fields on the Setup Specifications Global sheet)
  - 2. Object level ("Units" field in the top of any input form
    - of an object such as a block or stream
  - 3. Field Level
- Users can create their own units sets using the Setup Units Sets Object Manager. Units can be copied from an existing set and then modified.

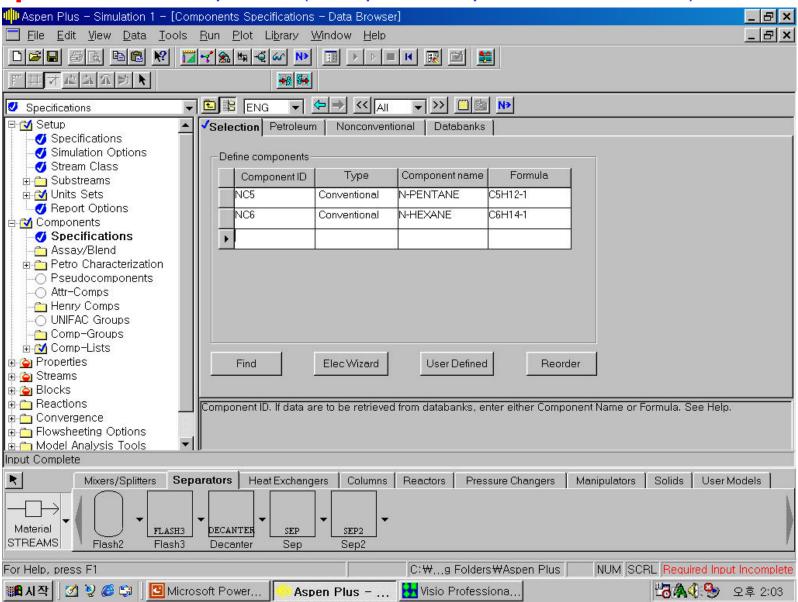
## **Components**



- Use the *Components Specifications* form to specify all the components required for the simulation.
- If available, physical property parameters for each component are retrieved from databanks.
- Pure component databanks contain parameters such as molecular weight, critical properties, etc. The databank search order is specified on the Databanks sheet.
- The Find button can be used to search for components.
- The Electrolyte Wizard can be used to set up an electrolyte simulation.



#### **Step 2 :** chemical species (Component Specifications Form)



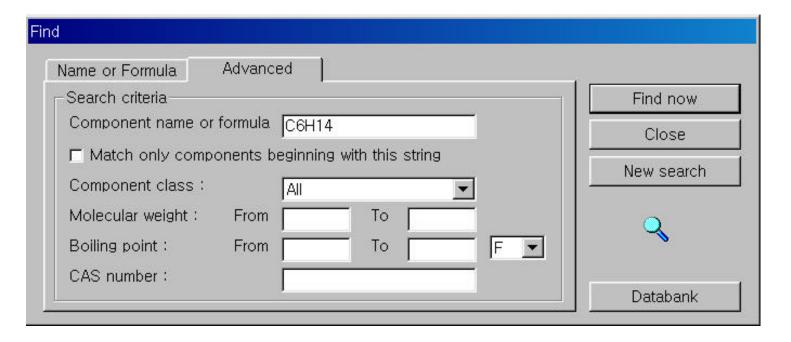
## **Entering Components**



- The Component ID is used to identify the component in simulation inputs and results.
- Each Component ID can be associated with a databank component as either:
  - Formula: Chemical formula of component (e.g., C6H6) (Note that a suffix is added to formulas when there are isomers, e.g. C2H6O-2)
  - Component Name: Full name of component (e.g., BENZENE)
- Databank components can be searched for using the Find button.
  - Search using component name, formula, component class, molecular weight, boiling point, pr CAS number.
  - All components containing specified items will be listed.



#### **Find**



• Find performs an AND search when more than one criterion is specified.



# **Pure Component Databanks**

Databank	Contents	Use
PURE10	Data from the Design Institute for Physical Property Data (DIPPR) and AspenTech	Primary component databank in Aspen Plus
AQUEOUS	Pure component parameters for ionic and molecular species in aqueous solution	Simulations containing electrolytes
SOLIDS	Pure component parameters for strong electrolytes, salts, and other solids	Simulations containing electrolytes and solids
INORGANIC	Thermochemical properties for inorganic components in vapor, liquid and solid states	Solids, electrolytes, and metallurgy applications
PURE93	Data from the Design Institute for Physical Property Data (DIPPR) and AspenTech delivered with Aspen Plus 9.3	For upward compatibility
PURE856	Data from the Design Institute for Physical Property Data (DIPPR) and AspenTech delivered with Aspen Plus 8.5-6	For upward compatibility

Parameters missing from the first selected databanks will be searched for in subsequent selected databanks.

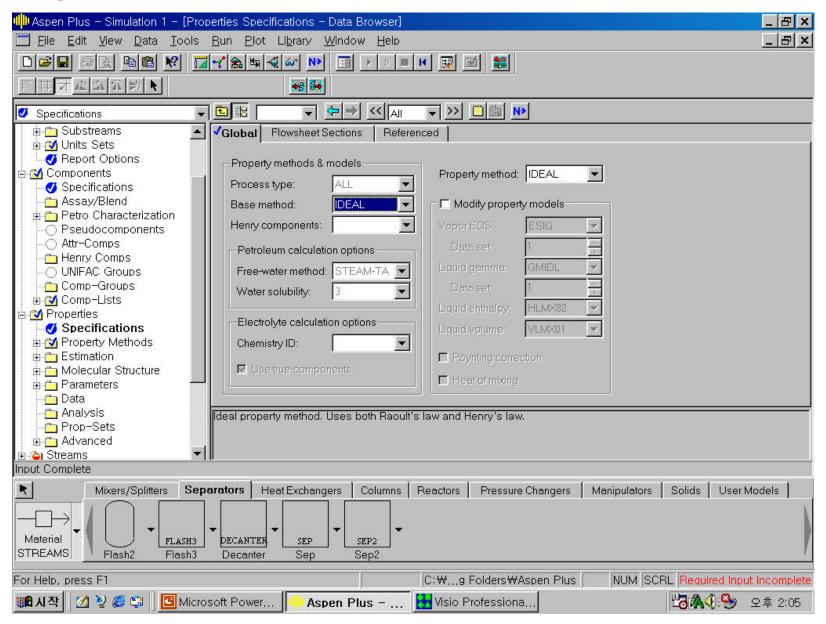


## **Properties**

- Use the *Properties Specifications* form to specify the physical property methods to be used in the simulation.
- Property methods are a collection of models and methods used to describe pure component and mixture behavior.
- Choosing the right physical properties is critical for obtaining reliable simulation results.
- Selecting a Process Type will narrow the number of methods available.



#### Step 3: physical property (Property Specifications Global Form)



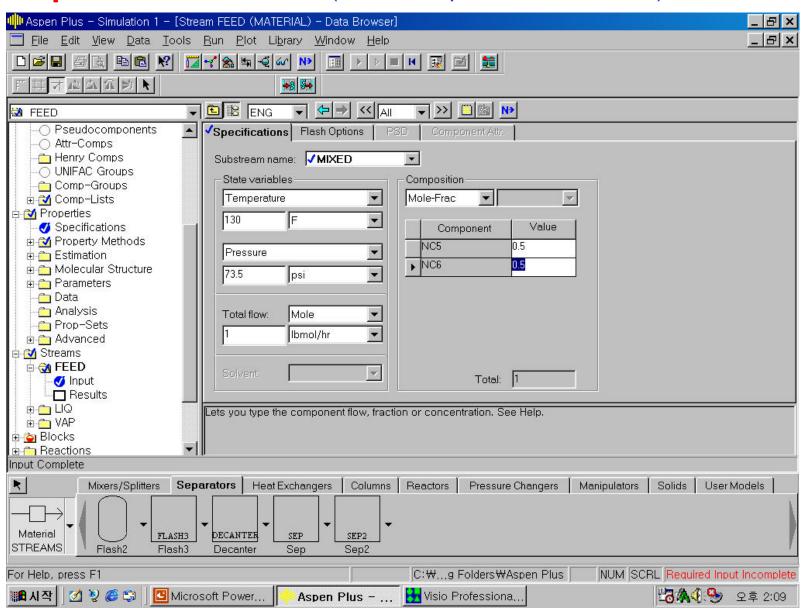
#### **Streams**



- Use Stream Input forms to specify the feed stream conditions and composition.
- To specify stream conditions enter two of the following:
  - Temperature
  - Pressure
  - Vapor Fraction
- To specify stream composition enter either:
  - Total stream flow and component fractions
  - Individual component flows
- Specifications for streams that are not feeds to the flowsheet (i.e. recycle streams) are used as estimates.



#### **Step 4:** stream variables (Stream Specifications form)



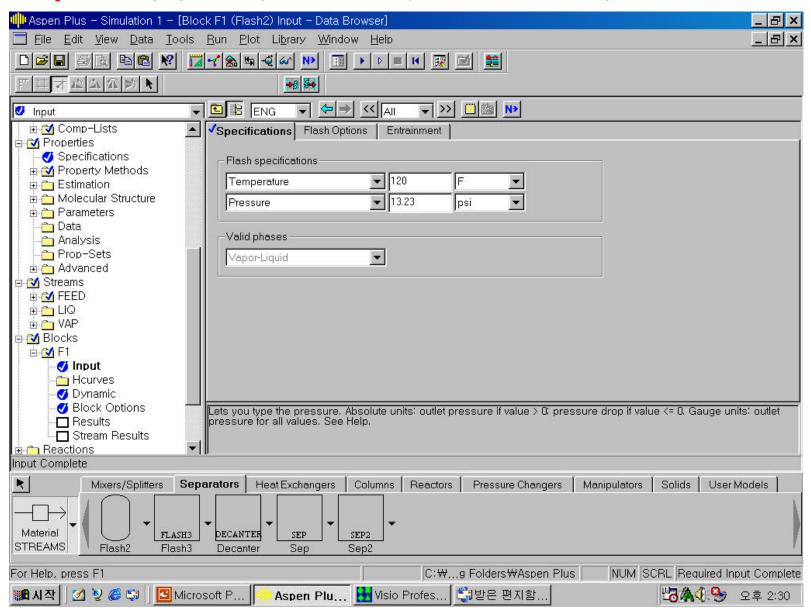
### **Blocks**



- Each *Block Input* or *Block Setup* form specifies operating conditions and equipment specifications for the unit operation model.
- Some unit operation models require additional specification forms
- All unit operation models have optional information forms (e.g. *BlockOptions* form).



#### **Step 5**: equipment parameters (Block [Flash2] Specifications Form)





## **Starting the Run**

- Select *Control Panel* from the *View* menu or press the Next button to be prompted.
  - The simulation can be executed when all required forms are complete.
  - The Next button will take you to any incomplete forms.

```
Calculation Sequence

-> F1

-> Calculation Sequence

-> F1

-> Processing input specifications ...

Flowsheet Analysis :

COMPUTATION ORDER FOR THE FLOWSHEET:
F1

-> Calculations begin ...

Block: F1 Model: FLASH2

-> Simulation calculations completed ...
```

### **Control Panel**



#### The Control Panel consists of:

- A message window showing the progress of the simulation by displaying the most recent messages from the calculations
- A status area showing the hierarchy and order of simulation blocks and convergence loops executed
- A toolbar which you can use to control the simulation

Run	•	Start or continue calculations
Step	Δ	Step through the flowsheet one block at a time
Stop		Pause simulation calculations
Reinitialize	H	Purge simulation results
Results		Check simulation results

## **Reviewing Results**



- History file or Control Panel Messages
  - Contains any generated errors or warnings
  - Select History or Control Panel on the View menu to display the History file or the Control Panel

#### Stream Results

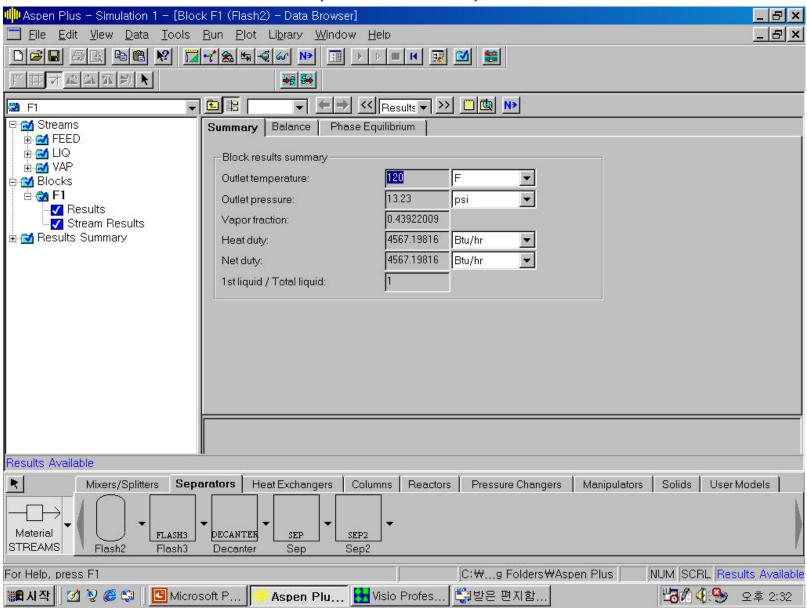
- Contains stream conditions and compositions
  - For all streams (/Data/Results Summary/Streams)
  - For individual streams (bring up the stream folder in the Data Browser and select the Results form)

#### Block Results

 Contains calculated block operating conditions (bring up the block folder in the Data Browser and select the Results form)

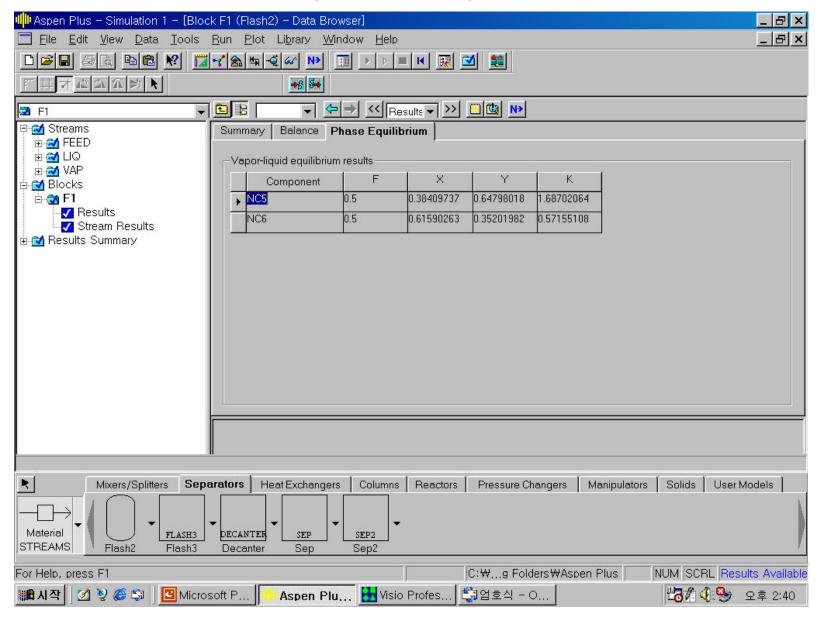


#### Examine result 1: Aspen Plus Output



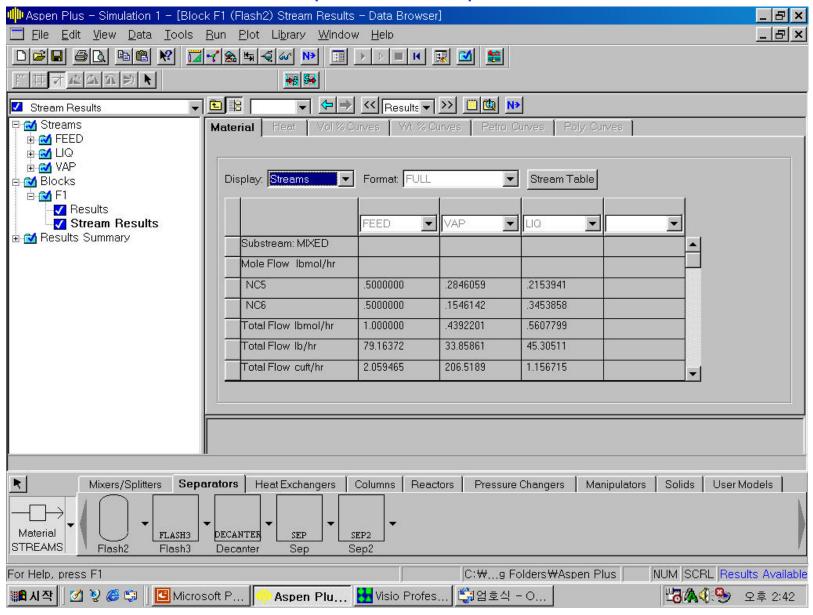


#### Examine results: Aspen Plus Output - continued





#### **Examine results:** Aspen Plus Output - continued





## **Unit Operation Models**

• Objective:

Review major types of unit operation models

#### Aspen Plus References:

- User Guide, Chapter 10, Unit Operation Models
- Unit Operation Models Reference Manual

## **Unit Operation Model Types**



- Mixers/Splitters
- Separators
- Heat Exchangers
- Columns
- Reactors
- Pressure Changers
- Manipulators
- Solids
- User Models



# **Mixers/Splitters**

Model	Description	Purpose	Use
Mixer	Stream mixer	Combine multiple streams into one stream	Mixing tees, stream mixing operations, adding heat streams, adding work streams
FSplit	Stream splitter	Split stream flows	Stream splitters, bleed valves
SSplit	Substream splitter	Split substream flows	Solid stream splitters, bleed valves



# **Separators**

Model	Description	Purpose	Use
Flash2	Two-outlet flash	Determine thermal and phase conditions	Flashes, evaporators, knockout drums, single stage separators
Flash3	Three-outlet flash	Determine thermal and phase conditions	Decanters, single stage separators with two liquid phases
Decanter	Liquid-liquid decanter	Determine thermal and phase conditions	Decanters, single stage separators with two liquid phases and no vapor phase
Sep	Multi-outlet component separator	Separate inlet stream components into any number of outlet streams	Component separation operations such as distillation and absorption, when the details of the separation are unknown or unimportant
Sep2	Two-outlet component separator	Separate inlet stream components into two outlet streams	Component separation operations such as distillation and absorption, when the details of the separation are unknown or unimportant



# **Heat Exchangers**

Model	Description	Purpose	Use
Heater	Heater or cooler	Determines thermal and phase conditions	Heaters, coolers, valves. Pumps and compressors when work-related results are not needed.
HeatX	Two-stream heat exchanger	Exchange heat between two streams	Two-stream heat exchangers. Rating shell and tube heat exchangers when geometry is known.
MHeatX	Multistream heat exchanger	Exchange heat between any number of streams	Multiple hot and cold stream heat exchangers. Two-stream heat exchangers. LNG exchangers.
Hetran*	Interface to B-JAC Hetran program	Design and simulate shell and tube heat exchangers	Shell and tube heat exchangers with a wide variety of configurations.
Aerotran*	Interface to B-JAC Aerotran program	Design and simulate air-cooled heat exchangers	Air-cooled heat exchangers with a wide variety of configurations. Model economizers and the convection section of fired heaters.



## **Columns - Shortcut**

Model	Description	Purpose	Use
DSTWU	Shortcut distillation design	Determine minimum RR, minimum stages, and either actual RR or actual stages by Winn-Underwood-Gilliland method.	Columns with one feed and two product streams
Distl	Shortcut distillation rating	Determine separation based on RR, stages, and D:F ratio using Edmister method.	Columns with one feed and two product streams
SCFrac	Shortcut distillation for petroleum fractionation	Determine product composition and flow, stages per section, duty using fractionation indices.	Complex columns, such as crude units and vacuum towers



# **Columns - Rigorous**

Model	Description	Purpose	Use
RadFrac	Rigorous fractionation	Rigorous rating and design for single columns	Distillation, absorbers, strippers, extractive and azeotropic distillation, reactive distillation
MultiFrac	Rigorous fractionation for complex columns	Rigorous rating and design for multiple columns of any complexity	Heat integrated columns, air separators, absorber/stripper combinations, ethylene primary fractionator/quench tower combinations, petroleum refining
PetroFrac	Petroleum refining fractionation	Rigorous rating and design for petroleum refining applications	Preflash tower, atmospheric crude unit, vacuum unit, catalytic cracker or coker fractionator, vacuum lube fractionator, ethylene fractionator and quench towers
BatchFrac*+	Rigorous batch distillation	Rigorous rating calculations for single batch columns	Ordinary azeotropic batch distillation, 3-phase, and reactive batch distillation
RateFrac*	Rate-based distillation	Rigorous rating and design for single and multiple columns. Based on nonequilibrium calculations	Distillation columns, absorbers, strippers, reactive systems, heat integrated units, petroleum applications
Extract	Liquid-liquid extraction	Rigorous rating for liquid-liquid extraction columns	Liquid-liquid extraction

<sup>\*</sup> Requires separate license and + Input language only in version 10.0



## **Reactors**

Model	Description	Purpose	Use
RStoic	Stoichiometric reactor	Stoichiometric reactor with specified reaction extent or conversion	Reactors where the kinetics are unknown or unimportant but stoichiometry and extent are known
RYield	Yield reactor	Reactor with specified yield	Reactors where the stoichiometry and kinetics are unknown or unimportant but yield distribution is known
REquil	Equilibrium reactor	Chemical and phase equilibrium by stoichiometric calculations	Single- and two-phase chemical equilibrium and simultaneous phase equilibrium
RGibbs	Equilibrium reactor	Chemical and phase equilibrium by Gibbs energy minimization	Chemical and/or simultaneous phase and chemical equilibrium. Includes solid phase equilibrium.
RCSTR	Continuous stirred tank reactor	Continuous stirred tank reactor	One, two, or three-phase stirred tank reactors with kinetics reactions in the vapor or liquid
RPlug	Plug flow reactor	Plug flow reactor	One, two, or three-phase plug flow reactors with kinetic reactions in any phase. Plug flow reactions with external coolant.
RBatch	Batch reactor	Batch or semi-batch reactor	Batch and semi-batch reactors where the reaction kinetics are known



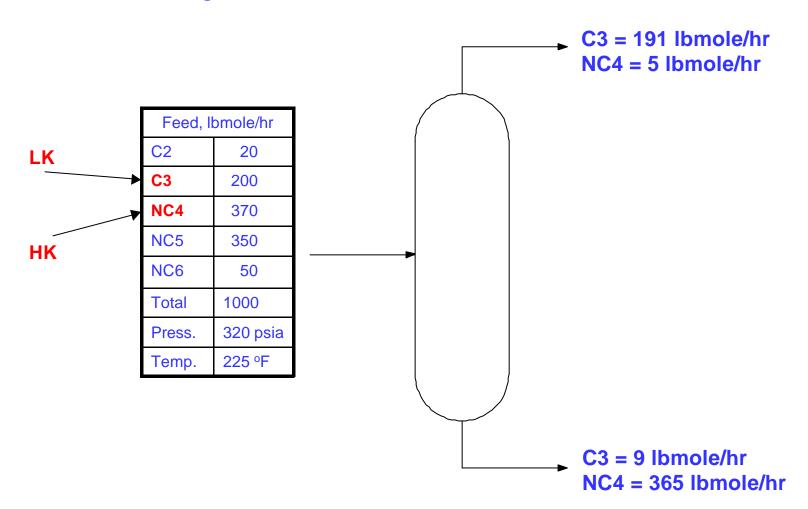
# **Pressure Changers**

Model	Description	Purpose	Use
Pump	Pump or hydraulic turbine	Change stream pressure when the pressure, power requirement or performance curve is known	Pumps and hydraulic turbines
Compr	Compressor or turbine	Change stream pressure when the pressure, power requirement or performance curve is known	Polytropic compressors, polytropic positive displacement compressors, isentropic compressors, isentropic turbines.
MCompr	Multi-stage compressor or turbine	Change stream pressure across multiple stages with intercoolers. Allows for liquid knockout streams from intercoolers	Multistage polytropic compressors, polytropic positive compressors, isentropic compressors, isentropic turbines.
Valve	Control valve	Determine pressure drop or valve coefficient (CV)	Multi-phase, adiabatic flow in ball, globe and butterfly valves
Pipe	Single-segment pipe	Determine pressure drop and heat transfer in single-segment pipe or annular space	Multi-phase, one dimensional, steady-state and fully developed pipeline flow with fittings
Pipeline	Multi-segment pipe	Determine pressure drop and heat transfer in multi-segment pipe or annular space	Multi-phase, one dimensional, steady-state and fully developed pipeline flow



## **Ex 2: Hydrocarbon Distillation**

• For the simulation of a depropanizer that involves five normal paraffins: ethane through *n*-hexane.



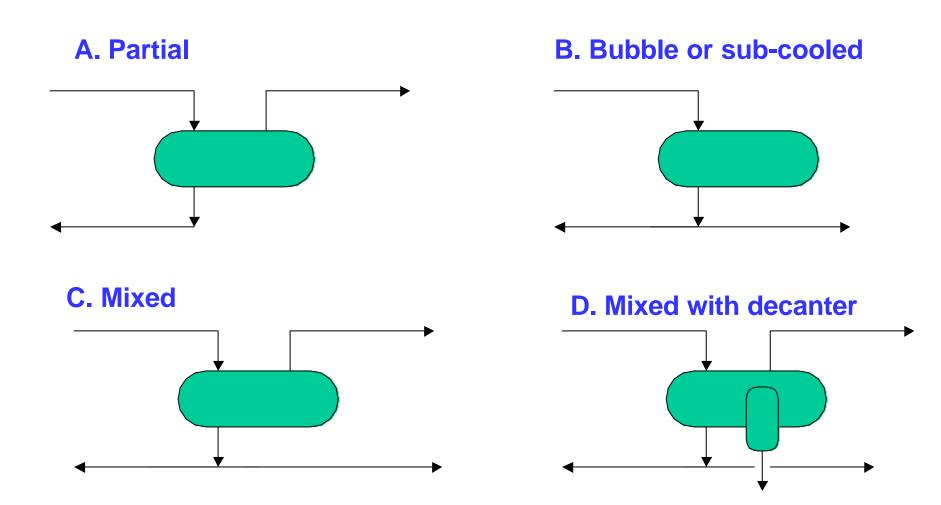


## **Depropanizer New Design**

- 1. Determine the number of tray to obtain:
  - a) C3 recovery at overhead: 99.5 %
  - b) NC4 recovery at overhead: 1.35 %
- 2. Determine the column pressure, based on a dew point condenser temperature of 130°F.
- 3. Use RK-Soave (SRK in PRO/II) method for VLE calculation.
- 4. Find an actual reflux ratio which minimizes the summation of total utility consumptions (operating costs) and theoretical number of stages (capital costs).



# How we can determine the condenser type? or How we can determine the column pressure?





# It depends on the refrigerant available and overhead compositions to be assumed.

Overhead molar flow rate (assume)

$$C2 = 30$$
,  $C3 = 191$ ,  $NC4 = 5$ 

Normalize ! (Component mole %)

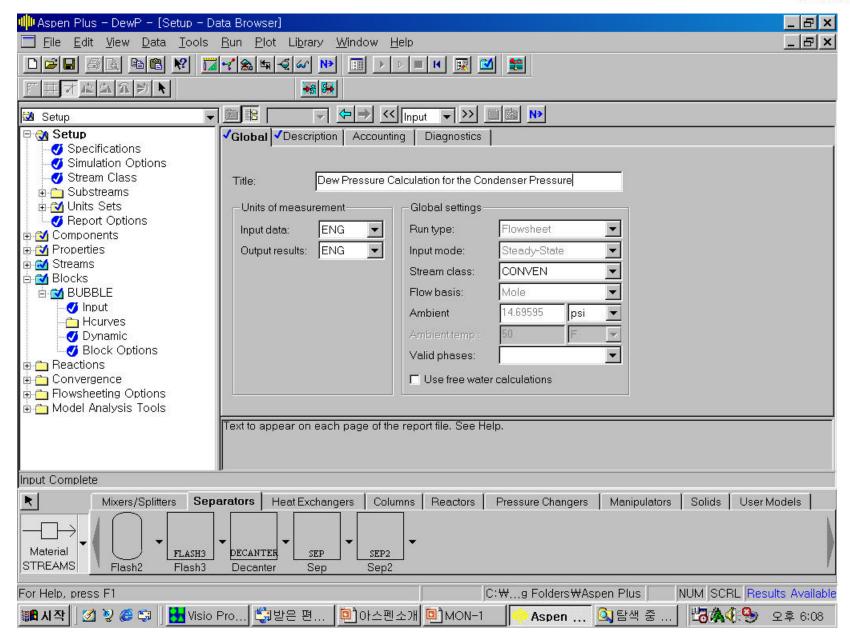
$$C2 = 13.27$$
,  $C3 = 84.51$ ,  $NC4 = 2.22$ 

First, we have to determine the dew point pressure!

Component	Mole %
C2	13.27
C3	84.51
NC4	2.22
Temperature (°F)	130.00
Dew P at 130 °F	?

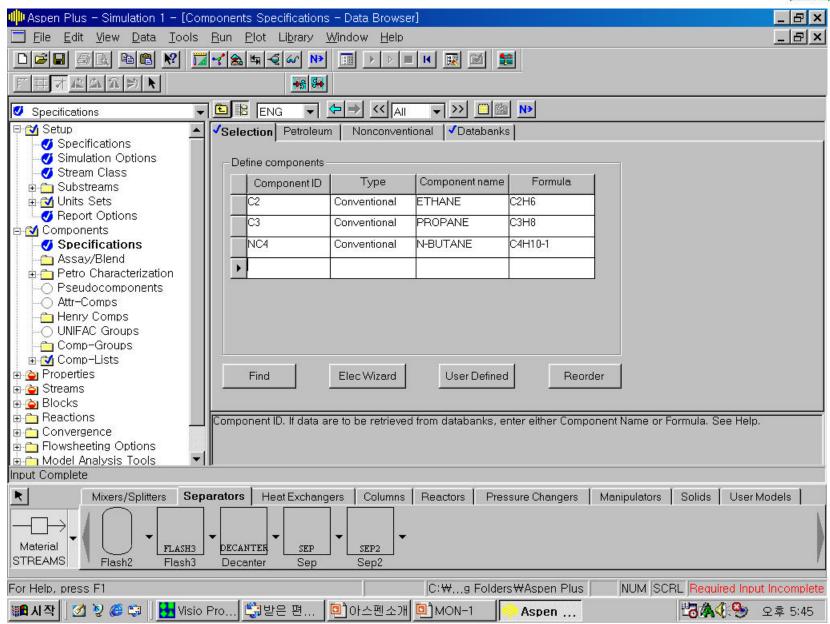
#### **Dew P Calculation** (General Process Information)





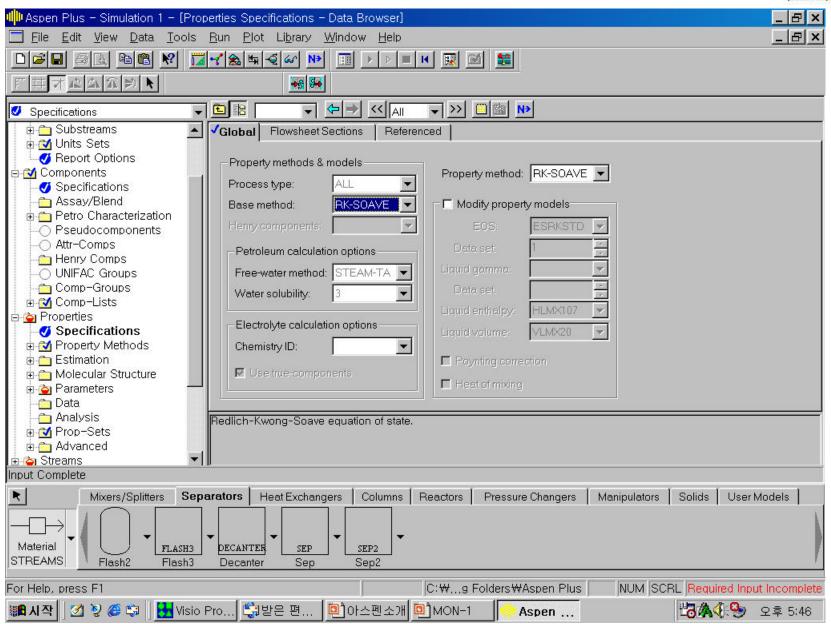
#### **Dew P Calculation** (Component Specification)





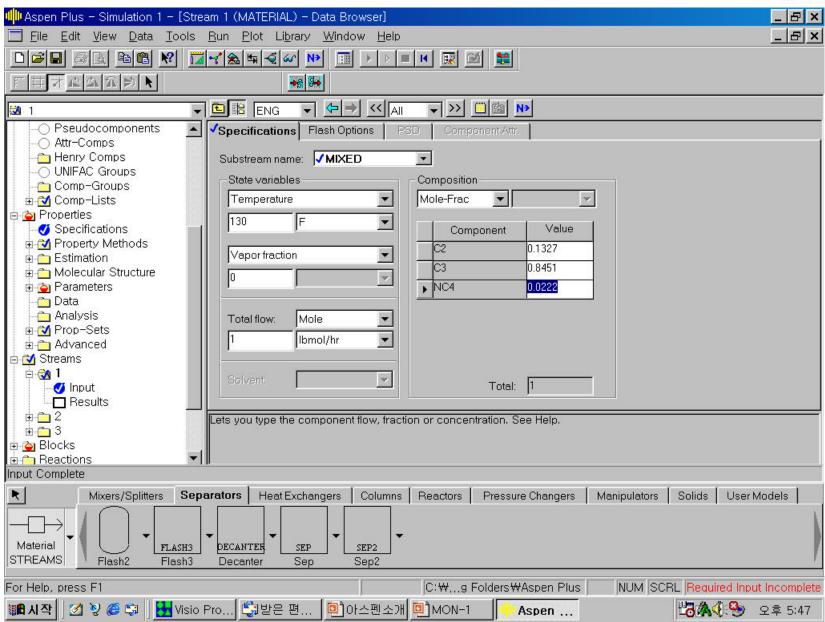
#### **Dew P Calculation** (Physical Property Specification)





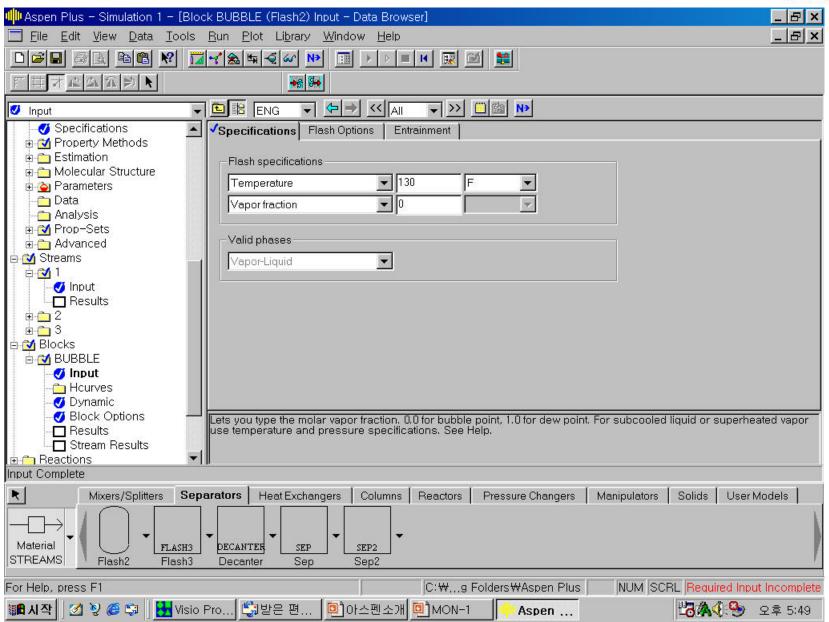
#### **Dew P Calculation** (Feed Stream Specification)





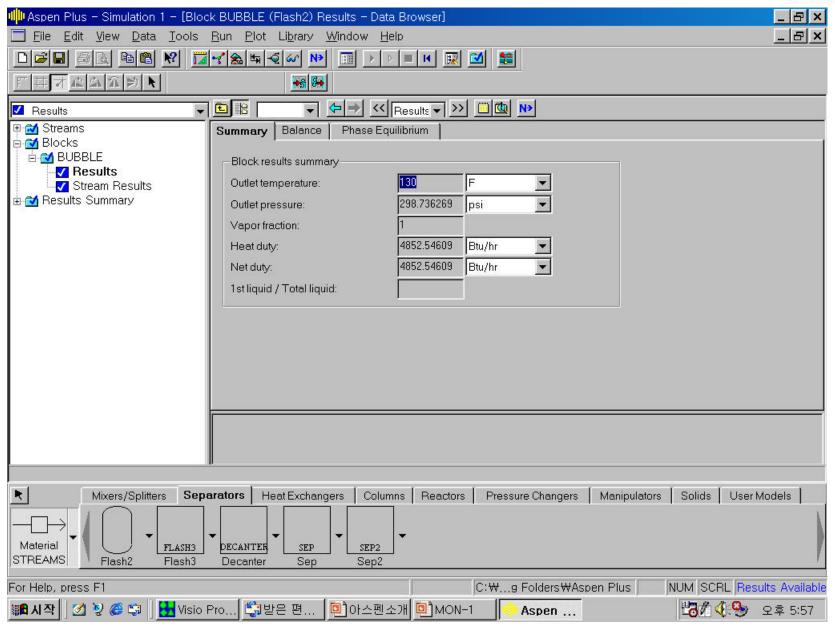
#### **Dew P Calculation** (Performance Specification)





#### **Examine Results**





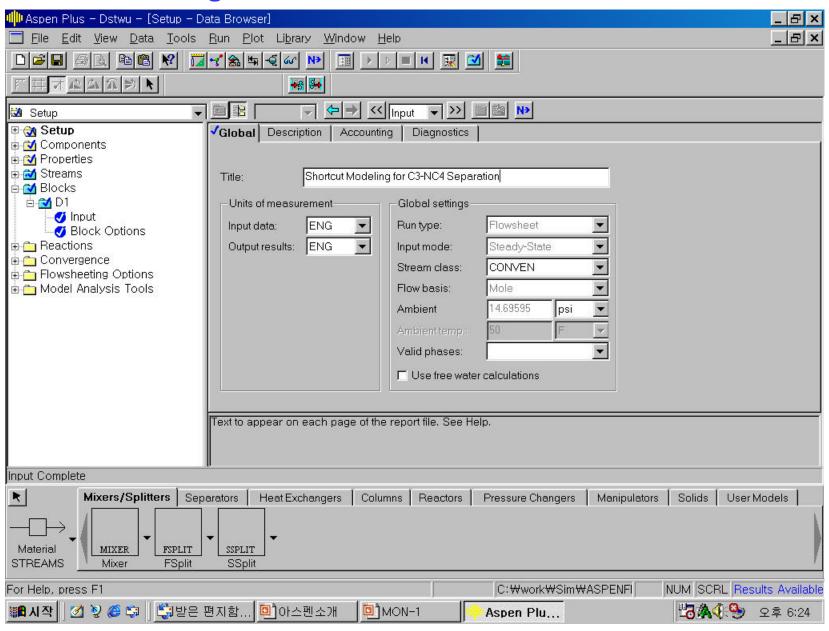


#### **Dew Pressure Calculation Results**

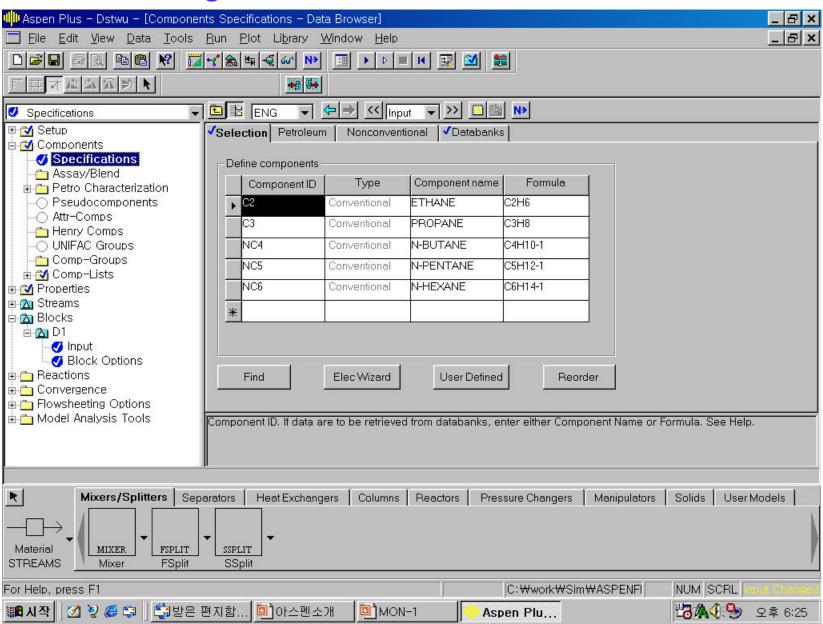
- Condenser type = partial condenser
- Condenser operating temperature = 130°F
- Condenser Pressure = 299 psia
- Condenser pressure drop = 4 psia (assumed)
- Column pressure drop = 5 psia (assumed)

- Partial condenser is utilized.
- RR = -1.75 ('-' means a multiple of minimum reflux ratio.)

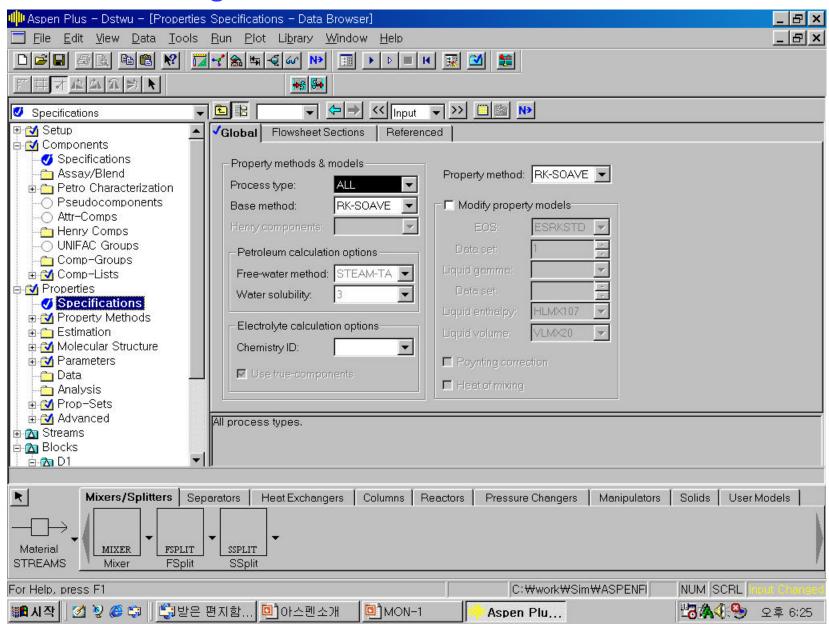




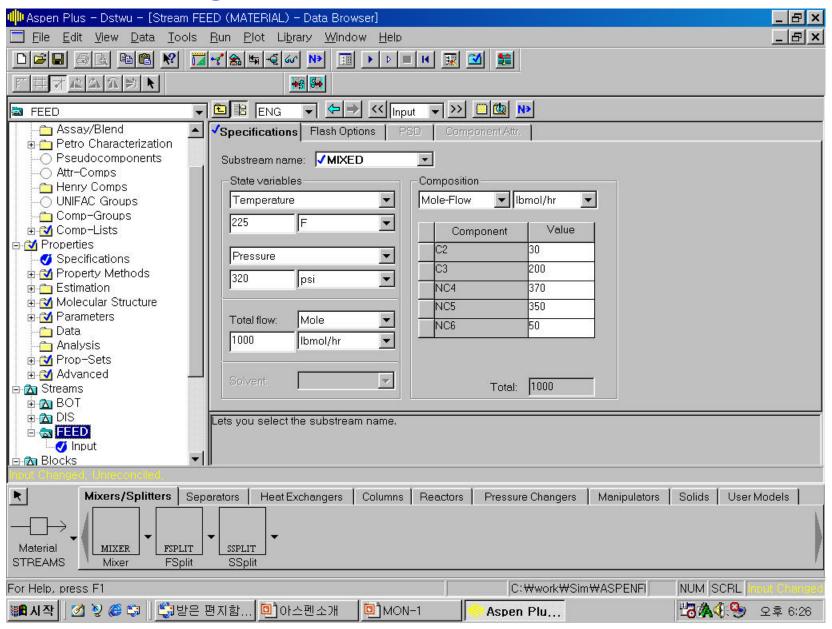




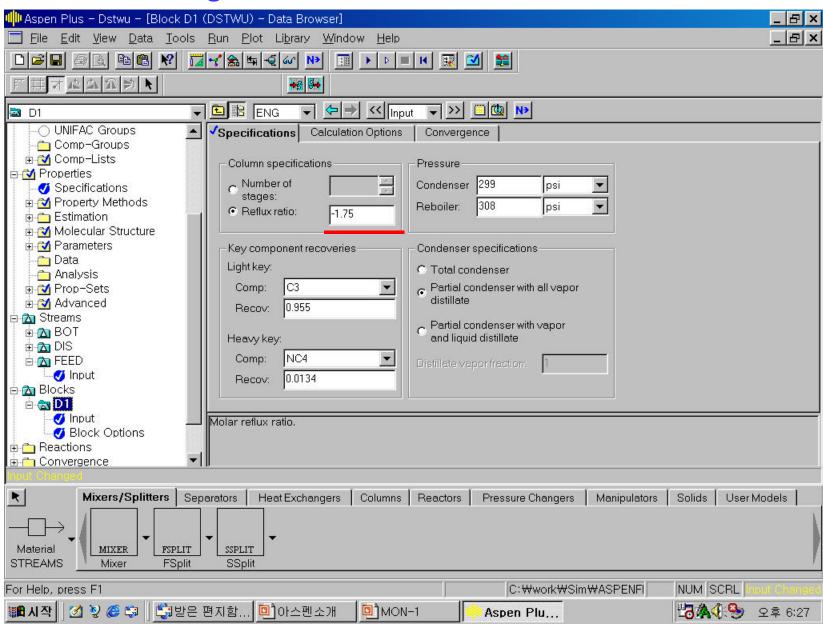






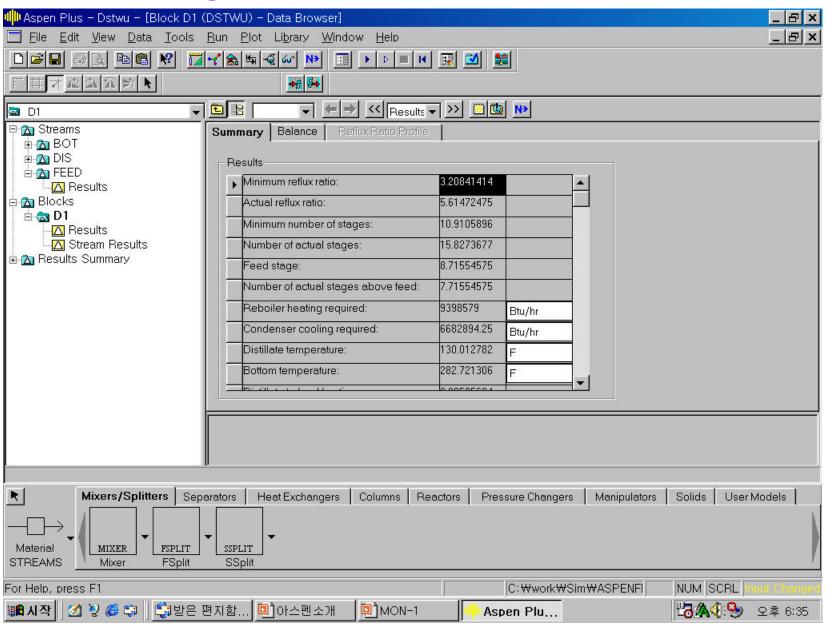








### **DSTWU** modeling Results





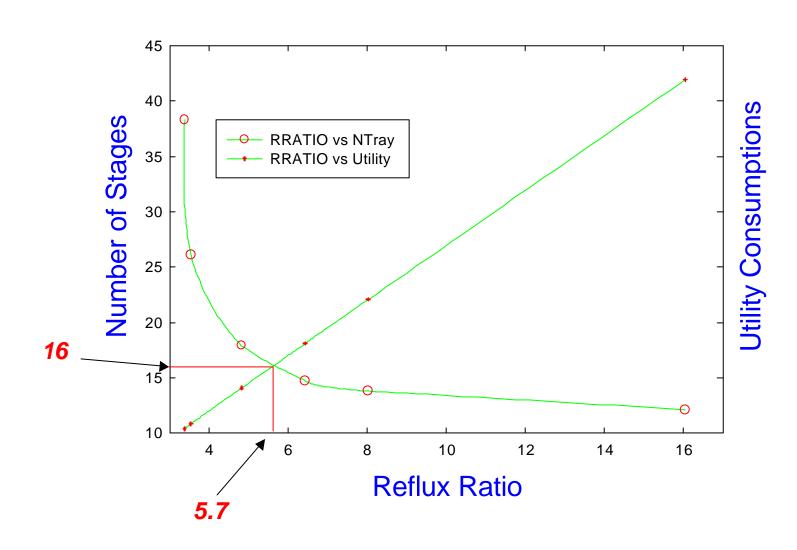
## **DSTWU** modeling Case Study

R/R <sub>min</sub>	Number	Reflux	Feed	Condenser	Reboiler	Utility
	of Tray	Ratio	Tray	Duty	Duty	
1.00	Infinitive	3.21	-	-	-	-
1.05	38.3	3.37	19.7	3.82	6.54	10.36
1.10	26.1	3.53	13.7	4.06	6.77	10.83
1.50	17.9	4.81	9.7	5.67	8.39	14.06
2.00	14.7	6.42	8.0	7.69	10.40	18.09
2.50	13.8	8.02	7.7	9.67	12.39	22.06
5.00	12.1	16.04	6.9	19.60	22.32	41.92
Infinitive	10.9	Infinitive	-	-	-	-

- Minimum Reflux Ratio = 3.21
- Minimum Number of Stages = 10.9



## Reflux Ratio vs. # of Stages & Utility Consumptions





## **Shortcut Modeling Results using DSTWU**

- File Name = DSTWU-F.bkp
- Optimum Reflux Ratio = 5.7
- Optimum Number of Stages = 16
- Feed Tray Location = 9
- Partial Condenser Temperature = 130 °F
- Overhead Condenser Heat Duty = 6.79 MM Btu/Hr
- Bottom Reboiler Heat Duty = 9.61 MM Btu/Hr
- C3 Recovery at Overhead Product = 95.5 %
- NC4 Recovery at Overhead Product = 1.34 %

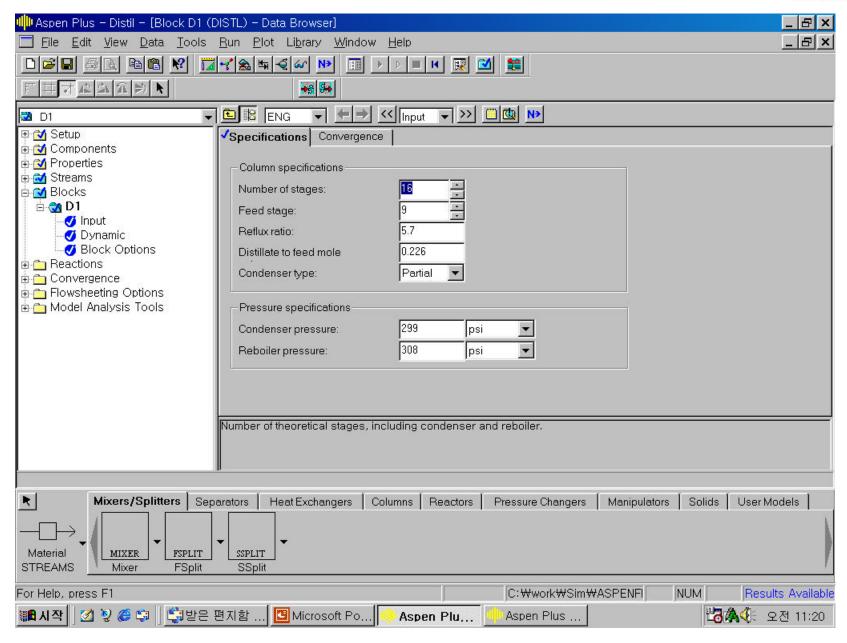


## **Shortcut Modeling using DISTIL**

- File Name = DISTIL.bkp
- Modeling using 'DISTIL' is an intermediate step between DSTWU and RadFrac
- DSTWU:
  - N<sub>min</sub>, R<sub>min</sub>,
  - Ratio, R/R<sub>min</sub>
  - R<sub>opt</sub>, N<sub>opt</sub>, FTRAY<sub>opt</sub>
- DISTIL tells us a preliminary modeling results such as condenser, reboiler heat duties, condenser temperature & material balances prior to performing rigorous modeling.

#### **DISTIL** (simulation flowshhet)







# Comparison between 'DSTWU' and 'DISTIL'

	DSTWU	DISTIL
Reflux Ratio	5.7	5.7
Number of Tray	16	16
Feed Tray Location	9	9
Condenser Temperature	130 °F	134 °F
Condenser Heat Duty	-6.79	-6.94
Reboiler Heat Duty	9.06	9.63
C3 Recovery at Top	95.5 %	93.0 %
NC4 Recovery at Top	1.34 %	2.7 %



## •Objective:

Discuss the minimum input required for the RadFrac fractionation model, and the use of design specifications and stage efficiencies

## •Aspen Plus References:

Unit Operation Models Reference Manual, Chapter 4, Columns



# RadFrac: Rigorous Multistage Separation

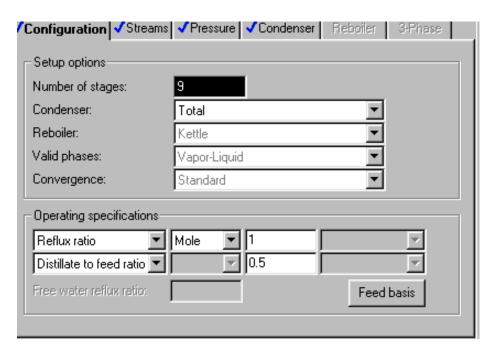
- Vapor-Liquid or Vapor-Liquid-Liquid phase simulation of:
  - Ordinary distillation
  - Absorption, reboiled absorption
  - Stripping, reboiled stripping
  - Azeotropic distillation
  - Reactive distillation

### Configuration options:

- Any number of feeds
- Any number of side draws
- Total liquid draw off and pumparounds
- Any number of heaters
- Any number of decanters



# RadFrac Setup Configuration Sheet

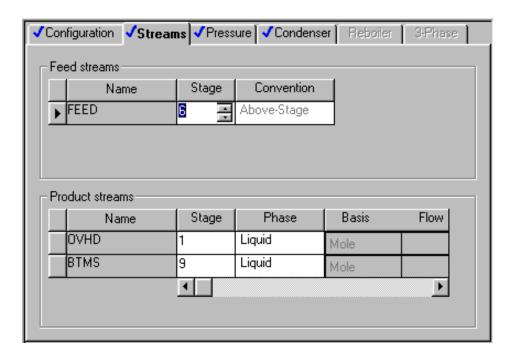


## Specify:

- -Number of stages
- Condenser and reboiler configuration
- -Two column operating specifications
- -Valid phases
- **-**Convergence



# RadFrac Setup Streams Sheet



## Specify:

- Feed stage location
- Feed stream convention (see Help)

#### **ABOVE-STAGE:**

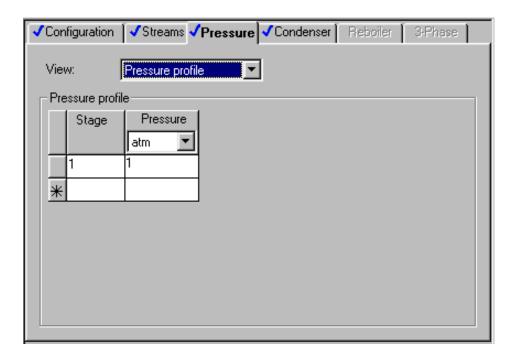
Vapor from feed goes to stage above feed stage Liquid goes to feed stage

### **ON-STAGE:**

Vapor & Liquid from feed go to specified feed stage



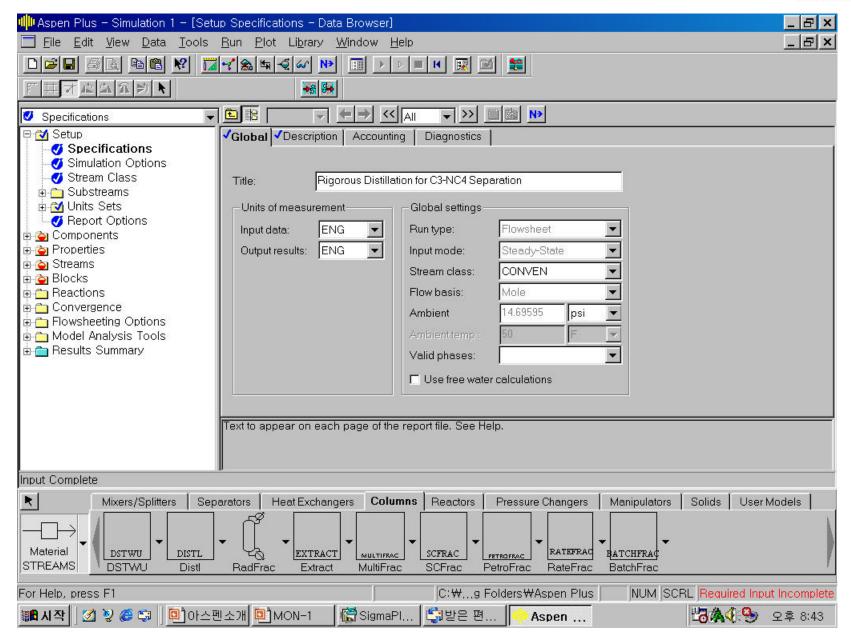
# RadFrac Setup Pressure Sheet



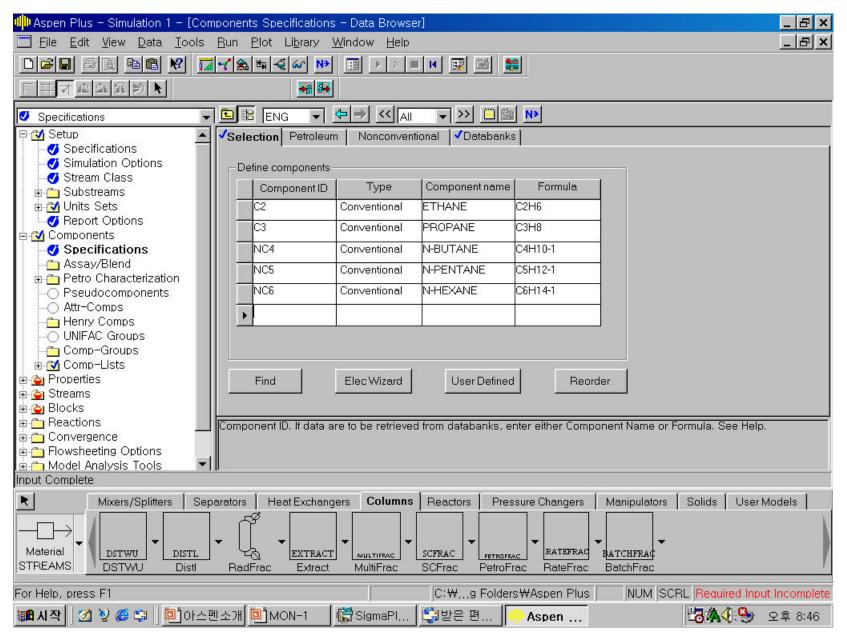
## Specify one of:

- Column pressure profile
- Top/Bottom pressure
- Section pressure drop

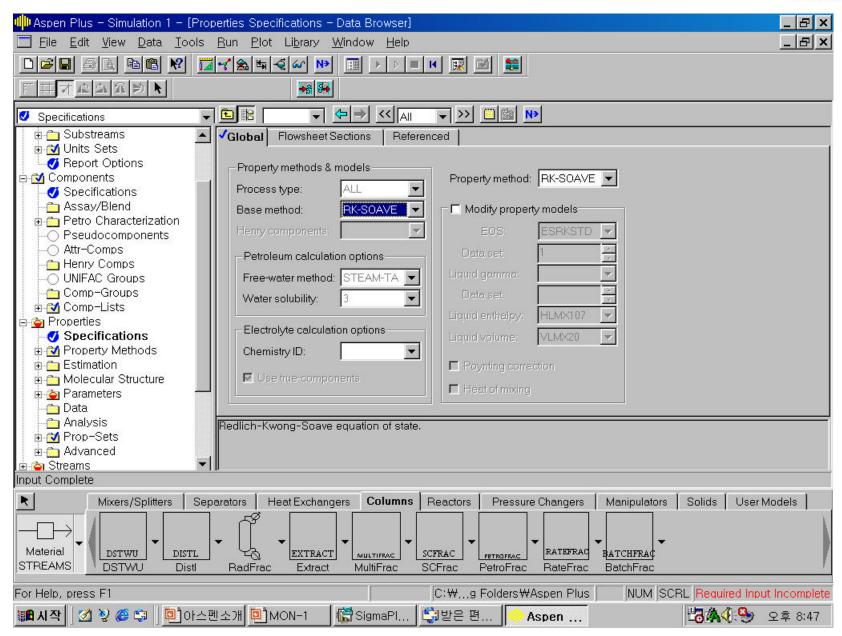




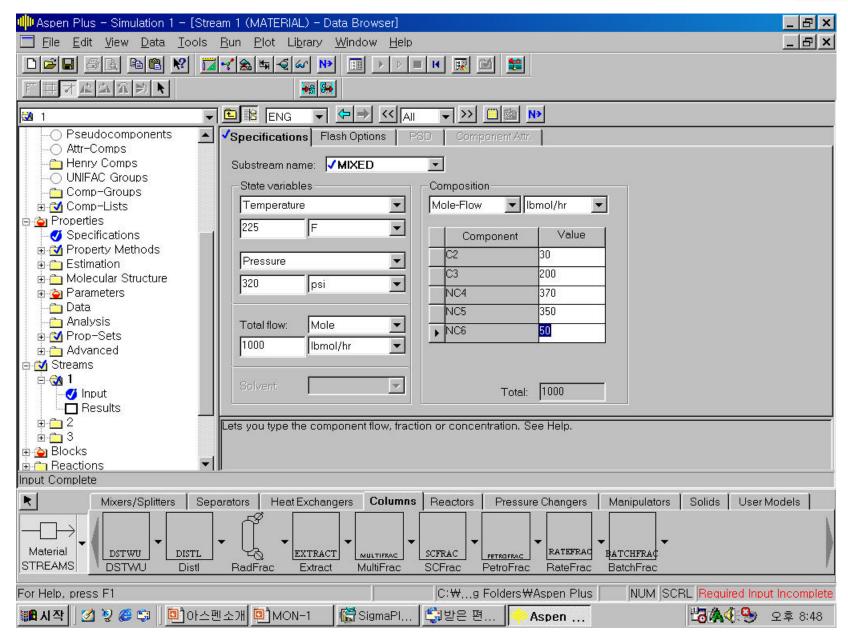




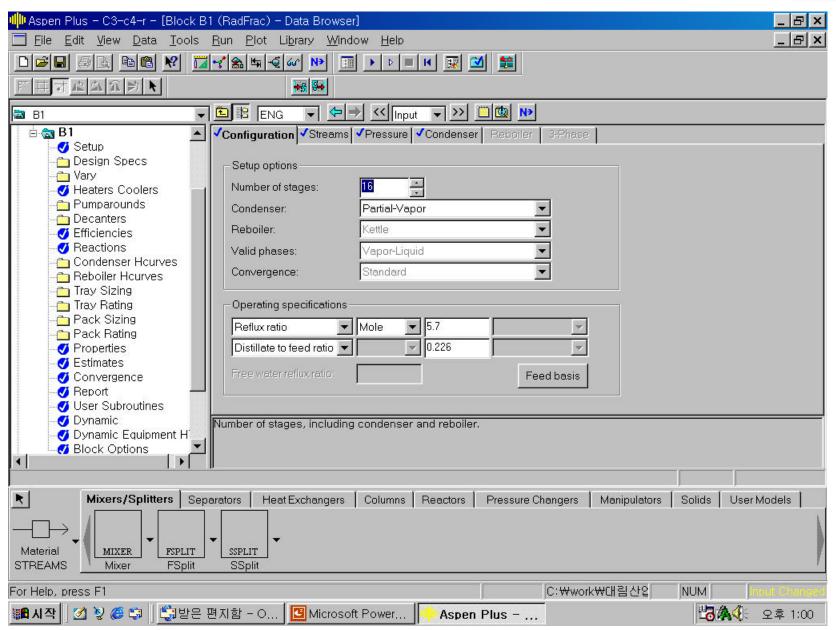




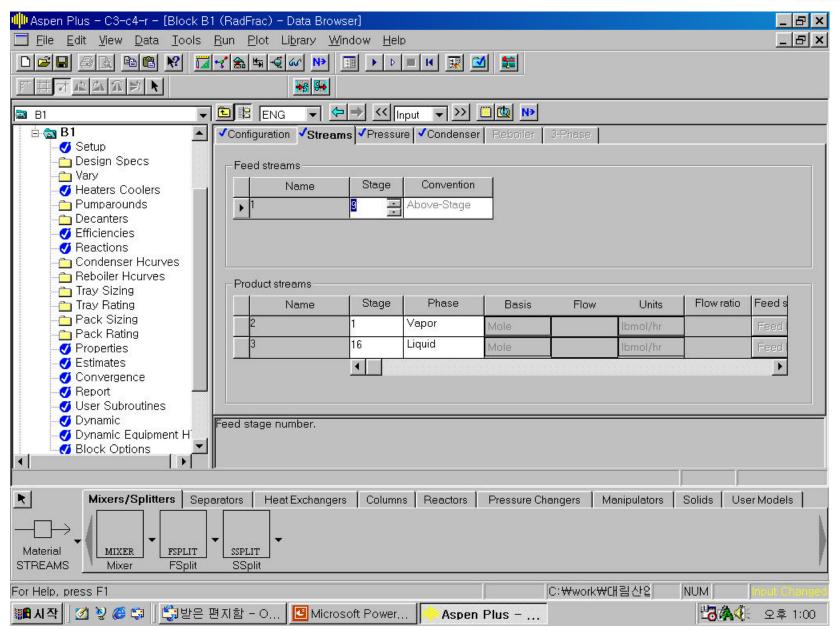




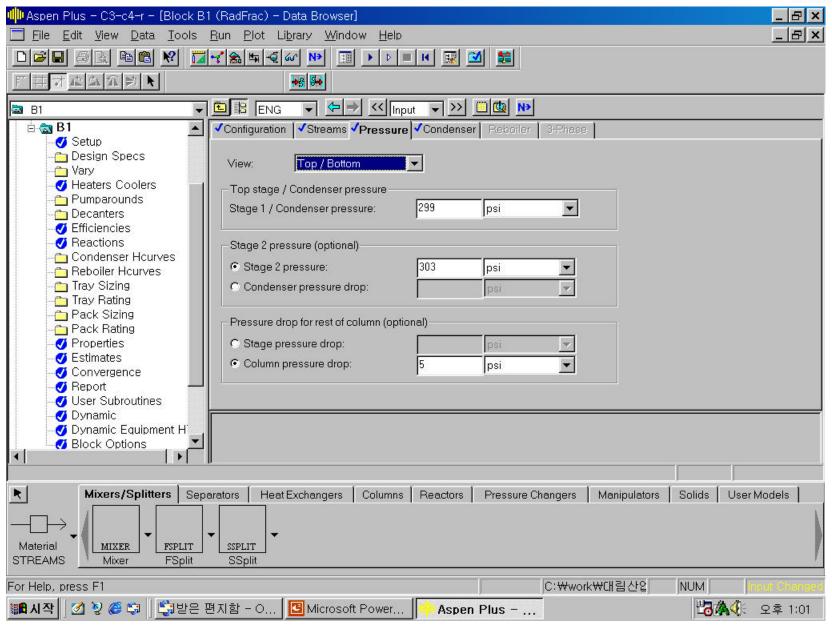












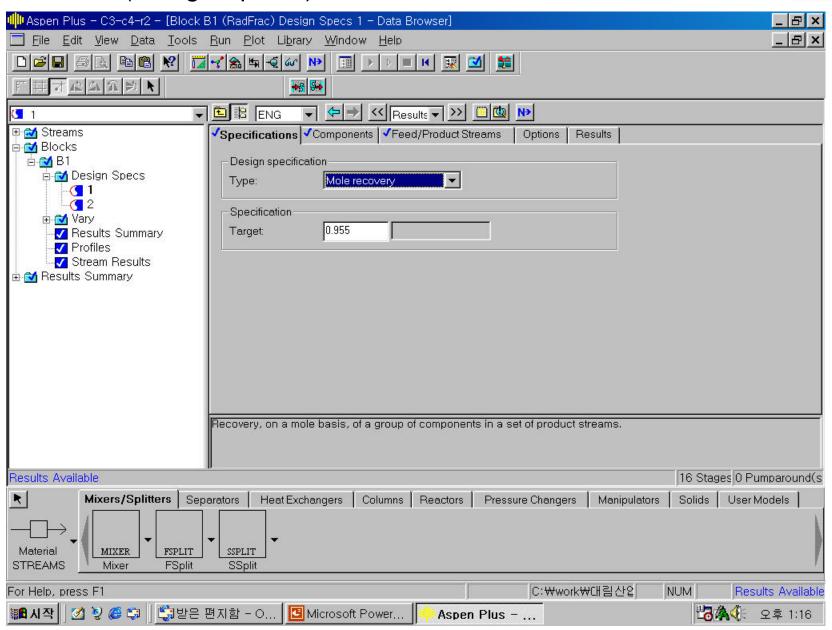


# Comparison between 'DSTWU', 'DISTIL', and 'RadFrac1'

	DSTWU	DISTIL	RadFrac1
Reflux Ratio	5.7	5.7	5.7
Number of Tray	16	16	16
Feed Tray Location	9	9	9
Condenser Temperature	130 °F	134 °F	135.3 °F
Condenser Heat Duty	-6.79	-6.94	-7.11
Reboiler Heat Duty	9.06	9.63	9.79
C3 Recovery at Top	95.5 %	93.0 %	92.0 %
NC4 Recovery at Top	1.34 %	2.7 %	3.22 %

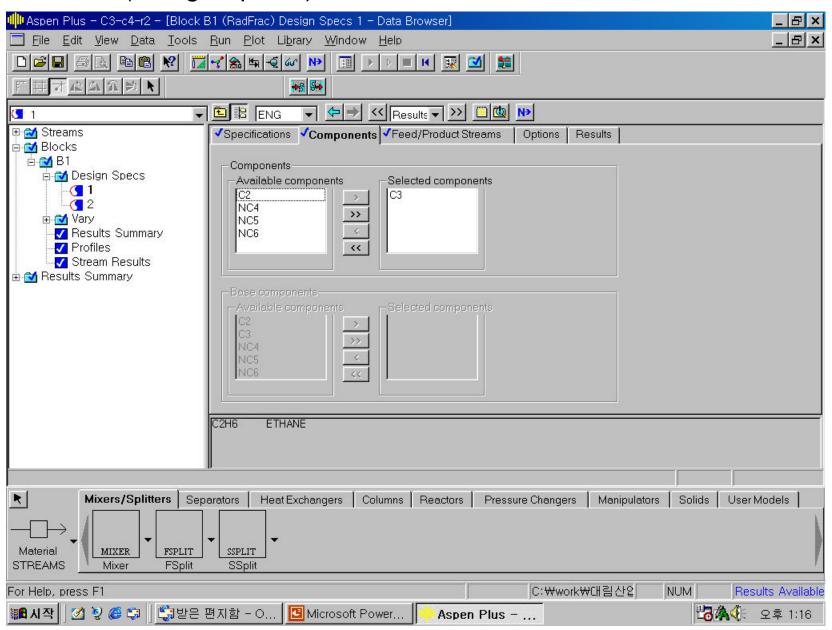
### RadFrac (Design Spec 1)





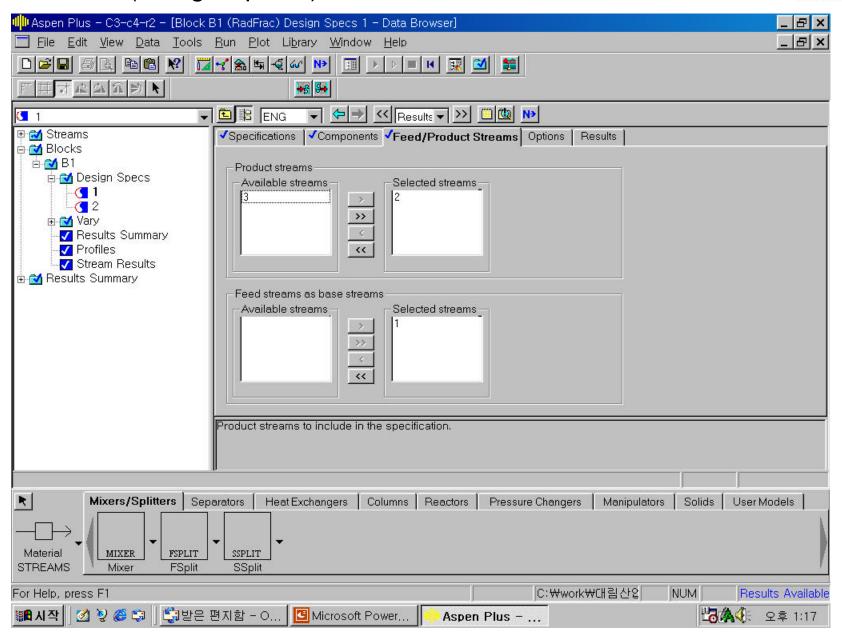
### RadFrac (Design Spec 1)





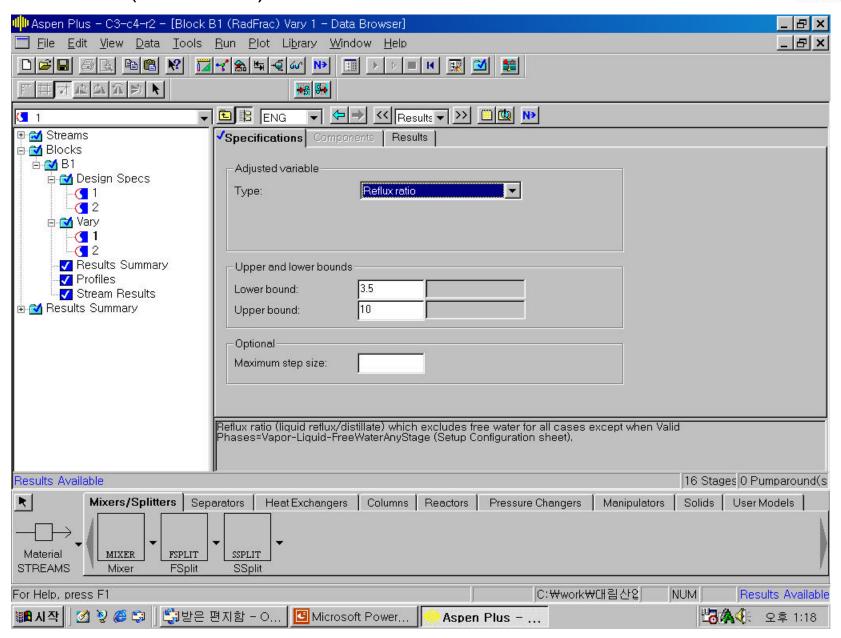
### RadFrac (Design Spec 1)





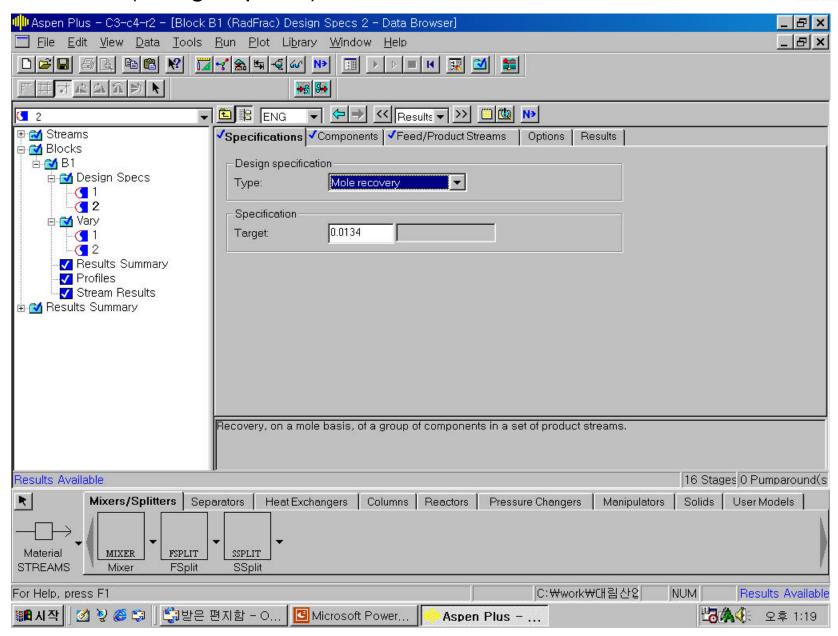
### RadFrac (Variable 1)





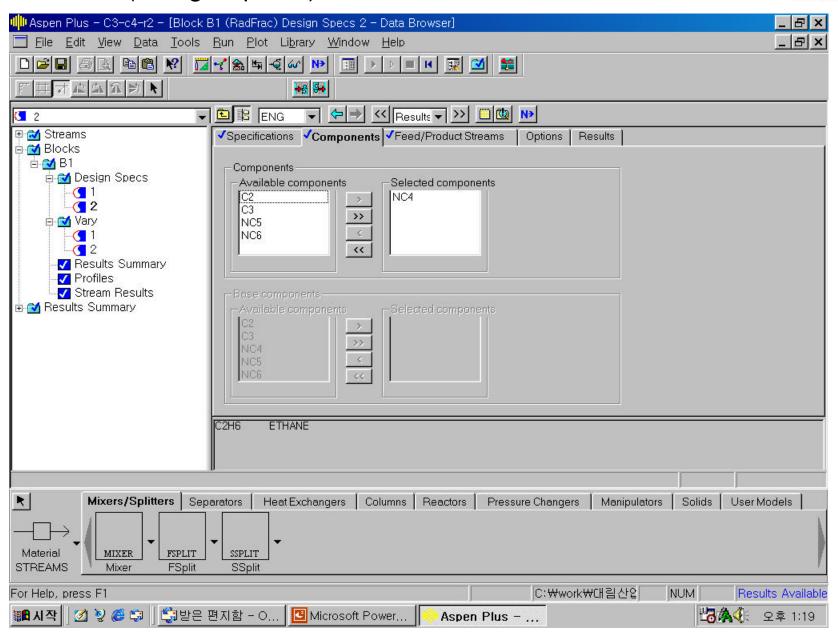
### RadFrac (Design Spec 2)





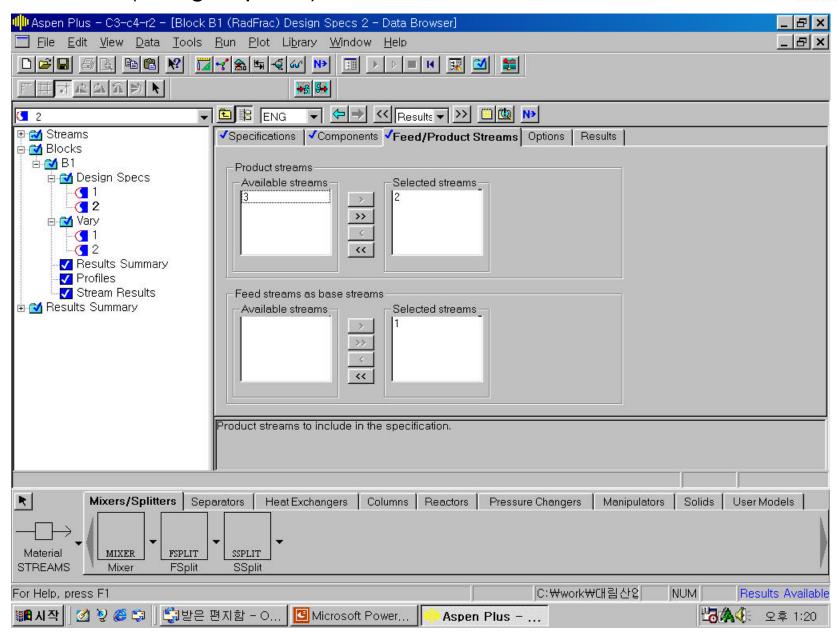
### RadFrac (Design Spec 2)





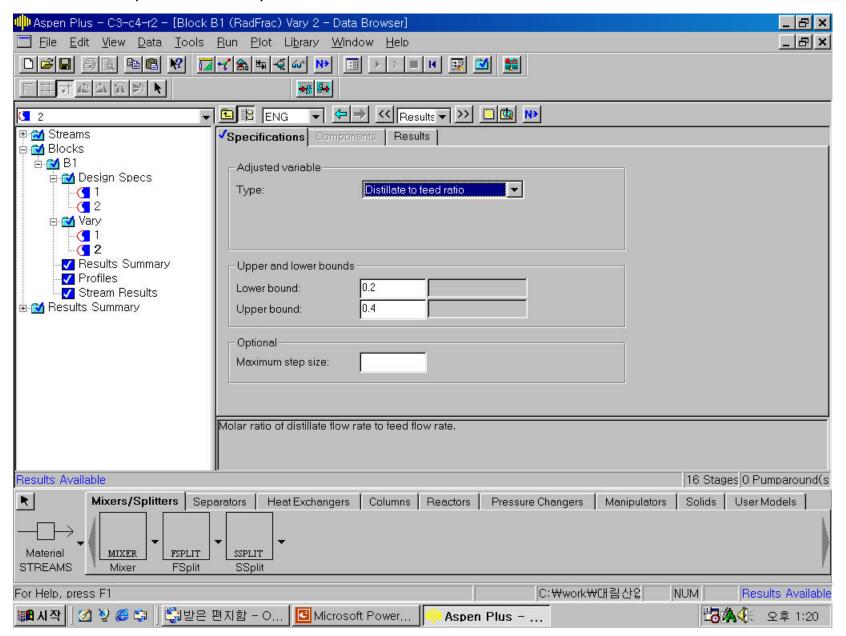
### RadFrac (Design Spec 2)





### RadFrac (Variable 2)





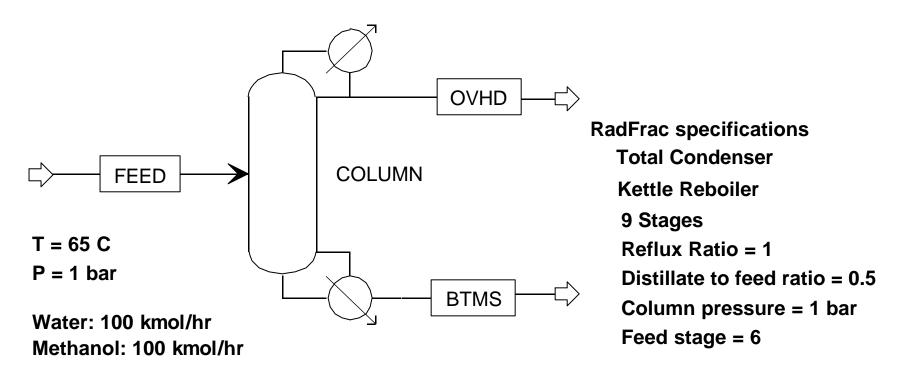


## Comparison between 'DSTWU', 'DISTIL', 'RadFrac1' & ;RadFrac2'

	DSTWU	DISTIL	RadFrac1	RadFrac2
Reflux Ratio	5.7	5.7	5.7	9.14
Number of Tray	16	16	16	16
Feed Tray Location	9	9	9	9
Condenser Temperature	130 °F	134 °F	135.3 °F	130 °F
Condenser Heat Duty	-6.79	-6.94	-7.11	-10.95
Reboiler Heat Duty	9.06	9.63	9.79	13.67
C3 Recovery at Top	95.5 %	93.0 %	92.0 %	95.5 %
NC4 Recovery at Top	1.34 %	2.7 %	3.22 %	1.34 %



## Methanol-Water RadFrac Column



Use the NRTL-RK Property Method

Filename: RAD-EX.BKP

# RadFrac Options



- To set up an absorber with no condenser or reboiler, set condenser and reboiler to none on the *RadFrac Setup Configuration* sheet.
- Either Vaporization or Murphree efficiencies on either a stage or component basis can be specified on the *RadFrac Efficiencies* form.
- Tray and packed column design and rating is possible.
- A Second liquid phase may be modeled if the user selects Vapor-liquid-liquid as Valid phases.
- Reboiler and condenser heat curves can be generated.



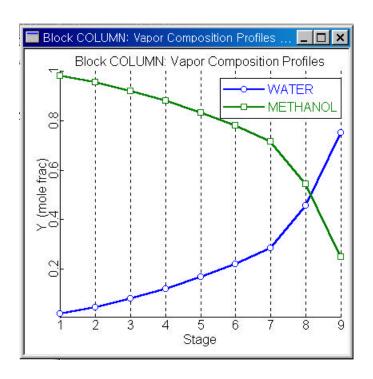
#### **Plot Wizard**

- Use Plot Wizard (on the Plot menu) to quickly generate plots of results of a simulation. You can use Plot Wizard for displaying results for the following operations:
  - Physical property analysis
  - Profiles for all separation models RadFrac, MultiFrac, PetroFrac and RateFrac
- Click the object of interest in the Data Browser to generate plots for that particular object.
- The wizard guides you in the basic operations for generating a plot.
- Click on the Next button to continue. Click on the Finish button to generate a plot with default settings.



# **Plot Wizard Demonstration (1)**

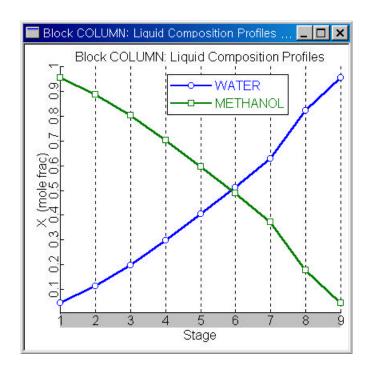
• Use the plot wizard on the column to create a plot of the *vapor phase compositions* throughout the column.





# **Plot Wizard Demonstration (2)**

• Use the plot wizard on the column to create a plot of the *liquid phase compositions* throughout the column.



# RadFrac DesignSpecs and Vary



- Design specifications can be specified and executed inside the RadFrac block using the *DesignSpecs* and *Vary* forms.
- One or more RadFrac inputs can be manipulated to achieve specifications on one or more RadFrac performance parameters.
- The number of specs should, in general, be equal to the number of varies.
- The DesignSpecs and Varys in a RadFrac are solved in a "Middle loop." If you get an error message saying that the middle loop was not converged, check the DesignSpecs and Varys you have entered.

# RadFrac Convergence Problems



If a RadFrac column fails to converge, doing one or more of the following could help:

- 1. Check that physical property issues (choice of Property Method, parameter availability, etc.) are properly selected.
- 2. Ensure that column operating conditions are feasible.
- 3. If the column err/tol is decreasing fairly consistently, increase the maximum iterations on the *RadFrac Convergence Basic* sheet.



# RadFrac Convergence Problems

(Continued)

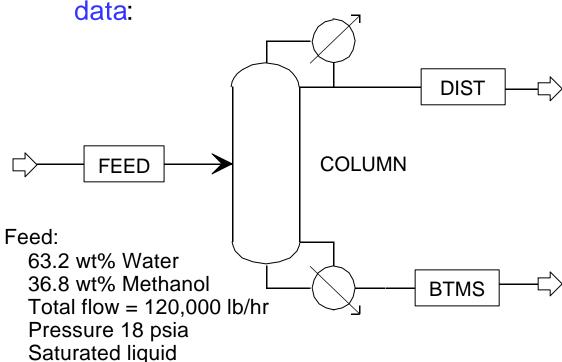
- 4. Provide temperature estimates for some stages in the column using the *RadFrac Estimates Temperature* sheet (useful for absorbers).
- 5. Provide composition estimates for some stages in the column using the *RadFrac Estimates Liquid Composition* and *Vapor Composition* sheet (useful for highly non-ideal systems).
- 6. Experiment with different convergence methods on the *RadFrac Setup Configuration* sheet.
- >> When a column does not converge, it is usually beneficial to Reinitialize after making changes.

### RadFrac Workshop



#### Part A:

Perform a rating calculation of a Methanol tower using the following



Column specification:

38 trays (40 stages)

Feed tray = 23 (stage 24)

Total condenser

Top stage pressure = 16.1 psia

Pressure drop per stage = 0.1 psi

Distillate flowrate = 1245 lbmol/hr

Molar reflux ratio = 1.3

#### Use

- 1) Ideal Raoult's Law
- 2) NRTL Property Method
- 3) NRTL-RK Property Method
- 4) RK-Soave Property Method

Filename: RADFRAC.BKP

# RadFrac Workshop



(Continued)

#### Part B:

- Set up design specifications within the column so the following two objectives are met:
  - 99.95 wt% methanol in the distillate
  - 99.90 wt% water in the bottoms
- To achieve these specifications, you can vary the distillate rate (800-1700 lbmol/hr) and the reflux ratio (0.8-2).
   Make sure stream compositions are reported as mass fractions before running the problem. Note the condenser and reboiler duties:

Condenser Duty:	
Reboiler Duty:	



# **Heat Exchangers**

#### Objective:

Introduce the unit operation models used for heat exchangers and heaters.

- •Aspen Plus References:
- Unit Operation Models Reference Manual, Chapter 3, Heat Exchangers



### **Heat Exchanger Blocks**

- Heater Heater or cooler
- HeatX Two stream heat exchanger
- MHeatX Multi-stream heat exchanger
- Hetran Interface to B-JAC Hetran block
- Aerotran Interface to B-JAC Aerotran block

# Working with the Heater Model



The Heater block mixes multiple inlet streams to produce a single outlet stream at a specified thermodynamic state.

#### Heater can be used to represent:

- Heaters
- Coolers
- Valves
- Pumps (when work-related results are not needed)
- Compressors (when work-related results are not needed)

Heater can also be used to set the thermodynamic conditions of an outlet stream.

### **Heater Input Specifications**



#### Allowed combinations:

- Pressure (or Pressure drop) and one of:
  - Outlet temperature
  - Heat duty or inlet heat stream
  - Vapor fraction
  - Temperature change
  - Degrees of sub-cooling or superheating
- Outlet Temperature or Temperature change and one of:
  - Pressure
  - Heat Duty
  - Vapor fraction



### Heater Input Specifications (Continued)

#### For single phase use Pressure (drop) and one of:

- Outlet temperature
- Heat duty or inlet heat stream
- Temperature change

Vapor fraction of 1 means dew point condition, 0 means bubble point



### Working with the HeatX Model

- HeatX can perform simplified or rigorous rating calculations.
- Simplified rating calculations (heat and material balance calculations) can be performed if exchanger geometry is unknown or unimportant.
- For rigorous heat transfer and pressure drop calculations, the heat exchanger geometry must be specified.

# **HeatX Workshop**



Objective: Compare the simulation of a heat exchanger that uses water to cool a hydrocarbon mixture using three methods: a shortcut HeatX, a rigorous HeatX and two Heaters connected with a Heat stream.

#### Hydrocarbon stream

Temperature: 200 C

Pressure: 4 bar

Flowrate: 10000 kg/hr

Composition: 50 wt% benzene, 20% styrene,
20% ethylbenzene and 10% water

#### Cooling water

Temperature: 20 C

- Pressure: 10 bar

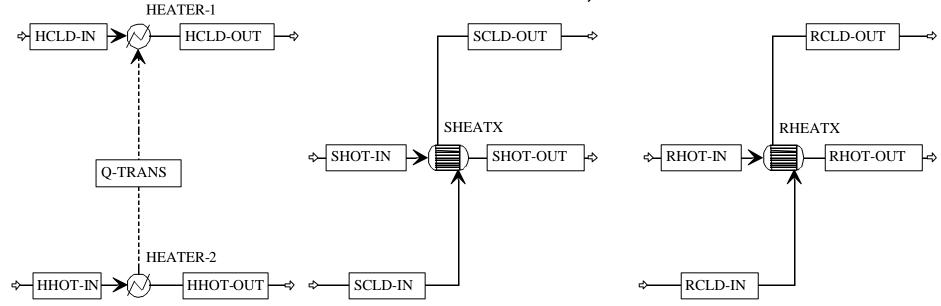
Flow rate: 60000 kg/hr

Composition: 100% water

#### HeatX Workshop (Continued)







Use the NRTL-RK Property Method for the hydrocarbon streams.

Specify that the valid phases for the hydrocarbon stream is Vapor-Liquid-Liquid.

Specify that the Steam Tables are used to calculate the properties for the cooling water streams on the Block BlockOptions Properties sheet.

Start with the General with Metric Units Template.

### HeatX Workshop (Continued)



- Shortcut HeatX simulation:
  - Hydrocarbon stream exit has a vapor fraction of 0
  - No pressure drop in either stream
- Two Heaters simulation:
  - Use the same specifications as the shortcut HeatX simulation
- Rigorous HeatX simulation:
  - Hydrocarbons in shell leave with a vapor fraction of 0
  - Shell diameter 1 m, 1 tube pass
  - 300 bare tubes, 3 m length, pitch 31 mm, 21 mm ID, 25 mm OD
  - All nozzles 100 mm
  - 5 baffles, 15% cut
  - Create heat curves containing all info required for thermal design.
  - Change the heat exchanger specification to Geometry and re-run.



# **Pressure Changers**

#### Objective:

Introduce the unit operation models used to change pressure: pumps, compressors, and models for calculating pressure change through pipes and valves.

#### Aspen Plus References:

Unit Operation Models Reference Manual, Chapter 6, Pressure Changers



### **Pressure Changer Blocks**

- Pump Pump
- Compr Compressor or turbine
- MCompr Multi-stage compressor or turbine
- Valve Control valve or Pressure Let-down Valve
- Pipe Single-segment pipe
- Pipeline Multi-segment pipe



#### **Reactor Models**

#### Objective:

Introduce the various classes of reactor models available, and examine in some detail at least one reactor from each class

#### Aspen Plus References:

Unit Operation Models Reference Manual, Chapter 5, Reactors



#### **Reactor Overview**

