



Oilfield Data Services Inc.



Using the Wellbore as a d/p Meter to Calculate Gas Rate

Based on APPEA Journal Paper, 2015

Outline


- ▶ ODSI Real-time software features
- ▶ Gas Rate Calculation Theory and Process
 - ▶ Case Study 1
 - ▶ Case Study 2
 - ▶ Case Study 3
- ▶ Conclusions

ODSI Software Features

- ▶ Use DHPG and tree gauge to calculate the gas rate
- ▶ Calculate the pressure at any point in the wellbore using the calculated gas rate
- ▶ Rate validation if flow meter is present

ODSI Additional Features

- ▶ Automatic Pressure Transient Interpretation
 - ▶ Skin
 - ▶ Permeability
 - ▶ P^*/P_{res}
 - ▶ Productivity (PI)
- ▶ Automated Static Material Balance (P/z)
- ▶ Automated Decline Analysis
 - ▶ Connected and Mobile Reservoir Volume Calculations



Gas Rate Calculation Process and Theory

Wellbore Fluid Flow Model

Major Components:

- ▶ 1. PVT - Accurate prediction of properties of the wellbore fluid as a function of temperature and pressure
- ▶ 2. Wellbore Flow Path
- ▶ 3. Dynamic phase-thermal model
 - ▶ Calculation or prediction of the temperature at any point along the wellbore as a function of flow rate, time and fluid properties

Results of ODSI Flow Modeling

- ▶ Determination of the pressure drop in the wellbore, given a rate
- ▶ Determination of gas rate given a pressure drop
- ▶ Calculation of mid-completion (or “sweet spot” for horizontal wells) Bottomhole Pressure
 - ▶ Calculation to mid-completion BHP prevents the overestimation of skin and perm by accounting for head and friction below the pressure measurement

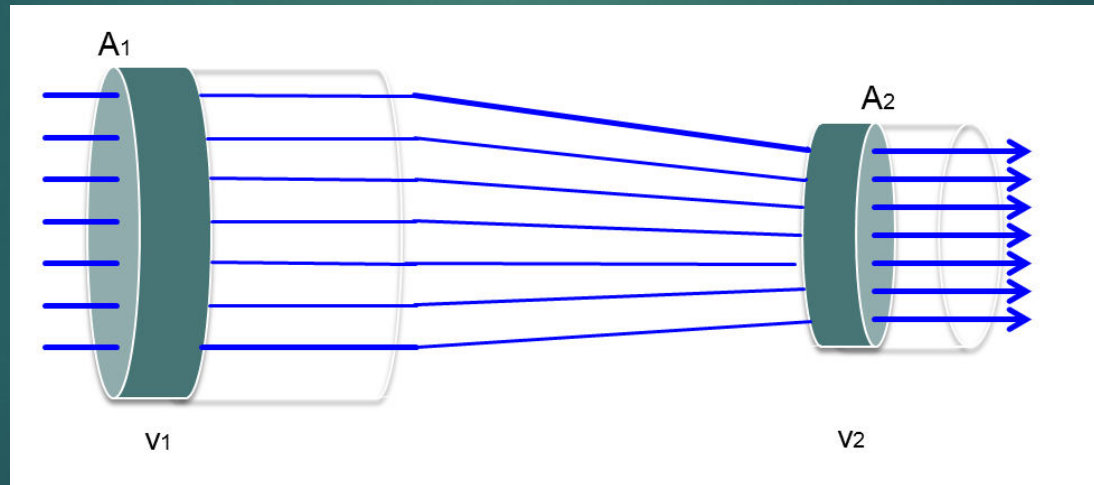
Wellbore Fluid Model Components

- ▶ Continuity equation
- ▶ Peng-Robinson – Peneloux Equation of State
- ▶ Mechanical Energy Balance
- ▶ Boundary Layer Disruption
- ▶ Modeling Heat Transfer through WB warming/cooling via conduction, convection & forced convection
- ▶ 3-Rate (or more) Test to tune thermals and friction

Continuity Equation

- ▶ Law of Conservation of Mass (0th law of Thermodynamics)
 - ▶ Volume of fluid entering the pipe should be equal to the volume of fluid leaving the pipe
 - ▶ Assuming constant fluid composition and neglecting compressibility

$$\rho A_1 v_1 = \rho A_2 v_2$$



If continuity fails, the well is loading

Peng-Robinson-Peneloux Equation of State

- ▶ Defines relationship between the fluid's thermodynamic and physical properties
 - ▶ Thermodynamic properties: pressure, volume, temperature
 - ▶ Physical properties: density, viscosity, conductivity, heat capacity, fluid fractions, etc.

$$P = \frac{RT}{V_m - b} - \frac{a(T)}{V_m(V_m + b) + b(V_m - b)}$$

Mechanical Energy Balance

- ▶ 1st Law of Thermodynamics:
 - ▶ For slightly compressible fluids, including friction and losses at changes in the flow path,

$$\Delta \frac{1}{2}(v^2) + g\Delta h + \int_{p_1}^{p_2} \frac{dp}{\rho} + W_s + \sum_i \left(\frac{1}{2} v^2 \frac{L}{R_h} f \right)_i + \sum_i \left(\frac{1}{2} v^2 e_v \right)_i = 0$$

- ▶ Where:
 - ▶ 1 – Kinetic Energy, 2 – DP due to gravity, 3 – pressure drop, 4- shaft work, 5– pressure loss due to friction and boundary layer disruption, 6 – potential energy changes due to pipe angle changes

Mechanical Energy Balance

- ▶ For predominantly gas-phase natural flow
 - ▶ neglecting insignificant terms, i.e. everything except for friction and head

$$\frac{dp}{\rho} = - \left(\frac{g \sin \theta}{g_c} + \frac{2f_f v^2}{g_c} \right) dL$$

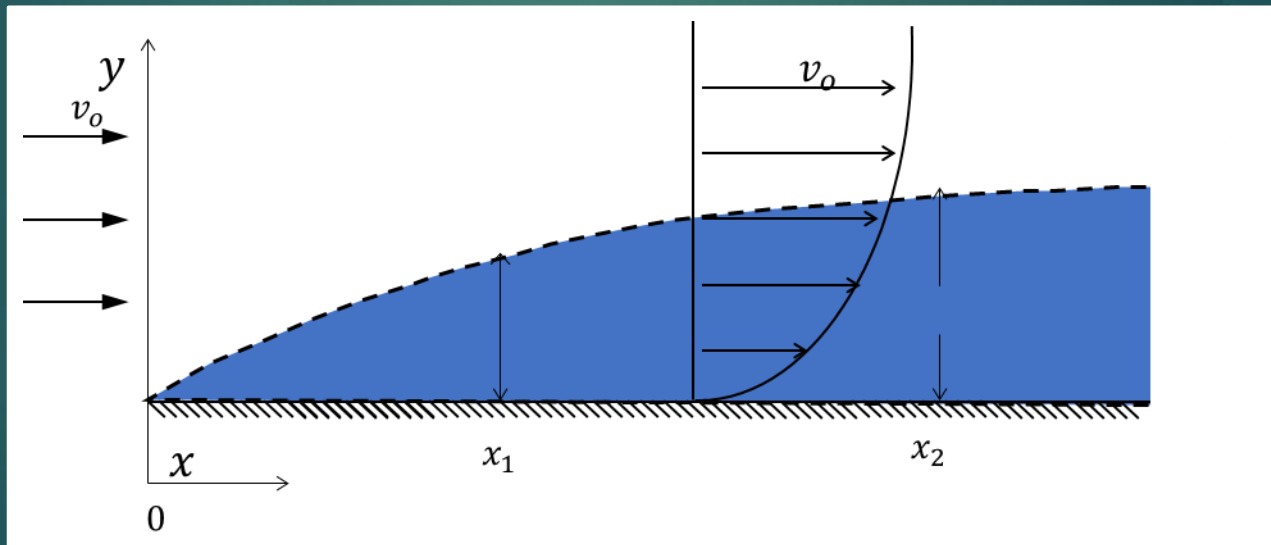
Mechanical Energy Balance

- ▶ Bernoulli equation for gas phase flow
- ▶ Neglect all pressure losses except friction and head loss
- ▶ After PTM and rate comparison re-arrange the MEB to solve for gas rate

$$\frac{ZRT}{MW_{gas}P} dP + \left\{ \frac{g}{g_c} \sin\theta + \frac{32f_f}{\pi^2 g_c D^5} \left[\frac{T P_{sc}}{P T_{sc}} QZ \right]^2 \right\} dL = 0$$

Boundary Layer Disruption

- ▶ Boundary Layer Disruption
 - ▶ Due to non-ideal connections (extra pipe dope extruding into the flow path)
 - ▶ Additional frictional losses

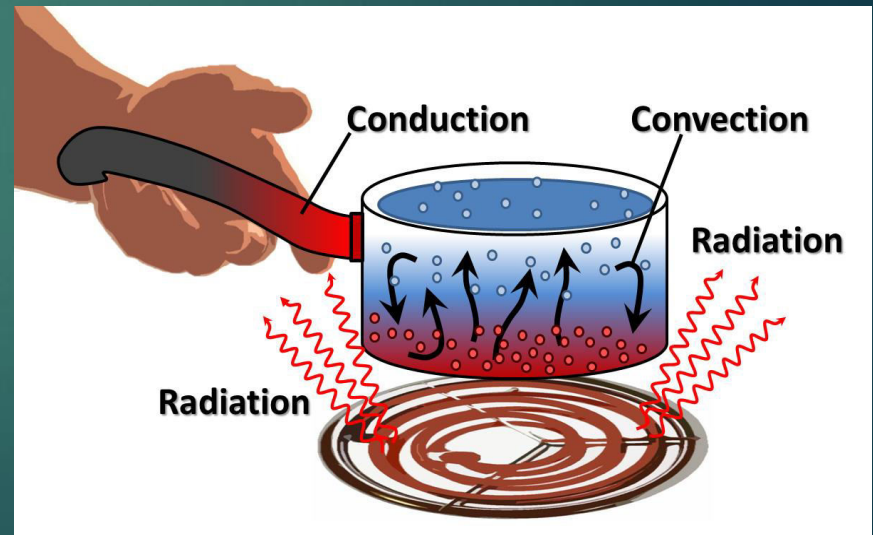


Friction and Boundary Layer Disruption

- ▶ Boundary Layer Disruption
 - ▶ At effective ID and pipe material changes
 - ▶ Mistakenly perceived as pipe friction losses
- ▶ Pressure drop calibration under constant fluid composition flowing conditions
 - ▶ Perform Multi-Rate Test
 - ▶ Effective friction factor can be back-calculated

Modeling the Heat Transfer

- ▶ WB Warming/Cooling via Conduction, Convection and Forced Convection
 - ▶ As warm fluid enters the WB from the reservoir and flows to the surface, heat is then transferred from fluid to WB, casing, cement and formation
- ▶ Heat Transfer Models
 - ▶ Conduction
 - ▶ Free/Natural Convection
 - ▶ Forced Convection
 - ▶ Radiation




Heat Transfer: Ambient Effects

- ▶ Ambient Effects have to be considered
 - ▶ Heat transfer from the surrounding environment
- ▶ All 4 heat transfer models can be modeled by conducting a **3-Rate Test**
 - ▶ Create a series of equations for individual mechanism/component
 - ▶ Generate overall heat transfer coefficient
 - ▶ Tune with real well temperature data to improve accuracy

Phase Thermal Model (PTM)

- ▶ Combination of EOS and Dynamic Heat Transfer
- ▶ Solution matrix for the various components of heat transfer
- ▶ Initial estimate for friction factor
- ▶ Thermal profile is generated as a function of rate and time
- ▶ When calculated DHG matches measured DHG temperatures the frictional component can be tuned to the measured rate



Tuning the Phase-Thermal Model Using a 3-Rate Test

3-Rate(or more Test)

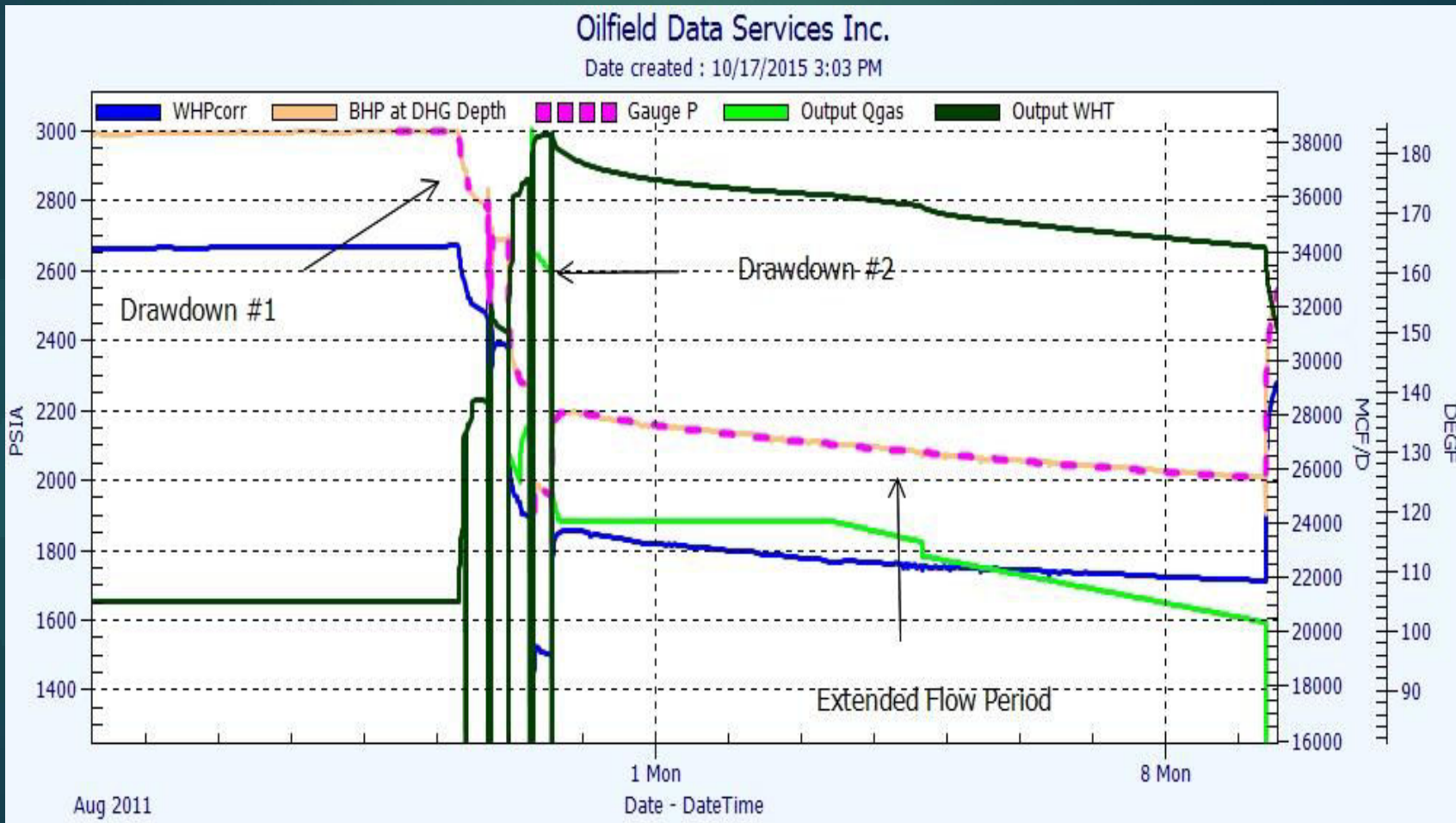
- ▶ Procedure:
 - ▶ Build EOS and tune the density and composition with a static pressure survey
 - ▶ Then flowing data can be simultaneously tuned for thermal profile and friction
 - ▶ Thermal profile can be generated as a function of rate and time and fluid properties

Thermal History Match: 3 – Rate Test



Fine tune the PTM to ensure that the converted downhole gauge pressures match the history of the data set

Thermal History Match: 3-Rate Test (Zoom 1)

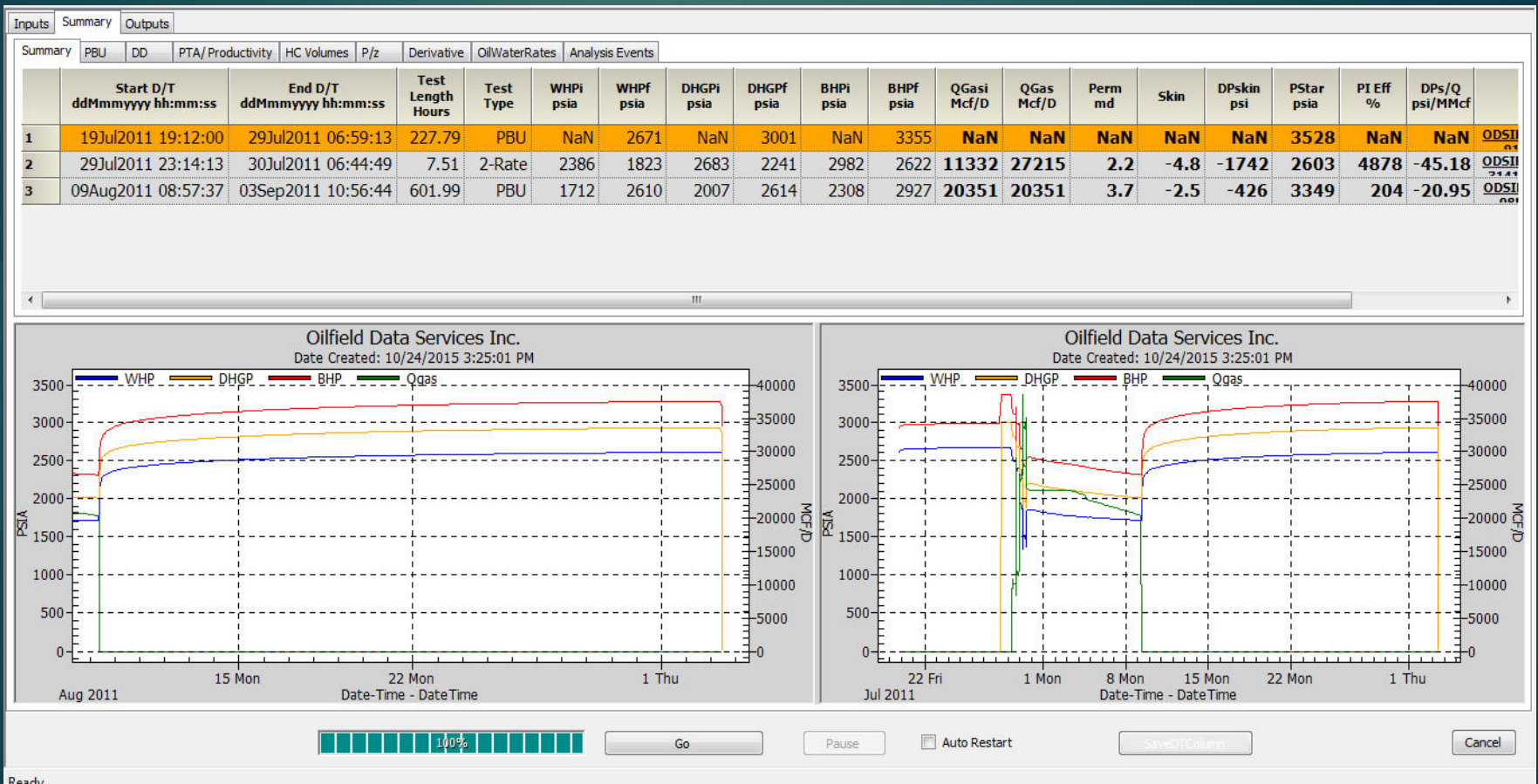


Thermal History Match: 3-Rate Test (Zoom-2)



3-Rate Test Example

Additional Features: Automated Well Test Analysis



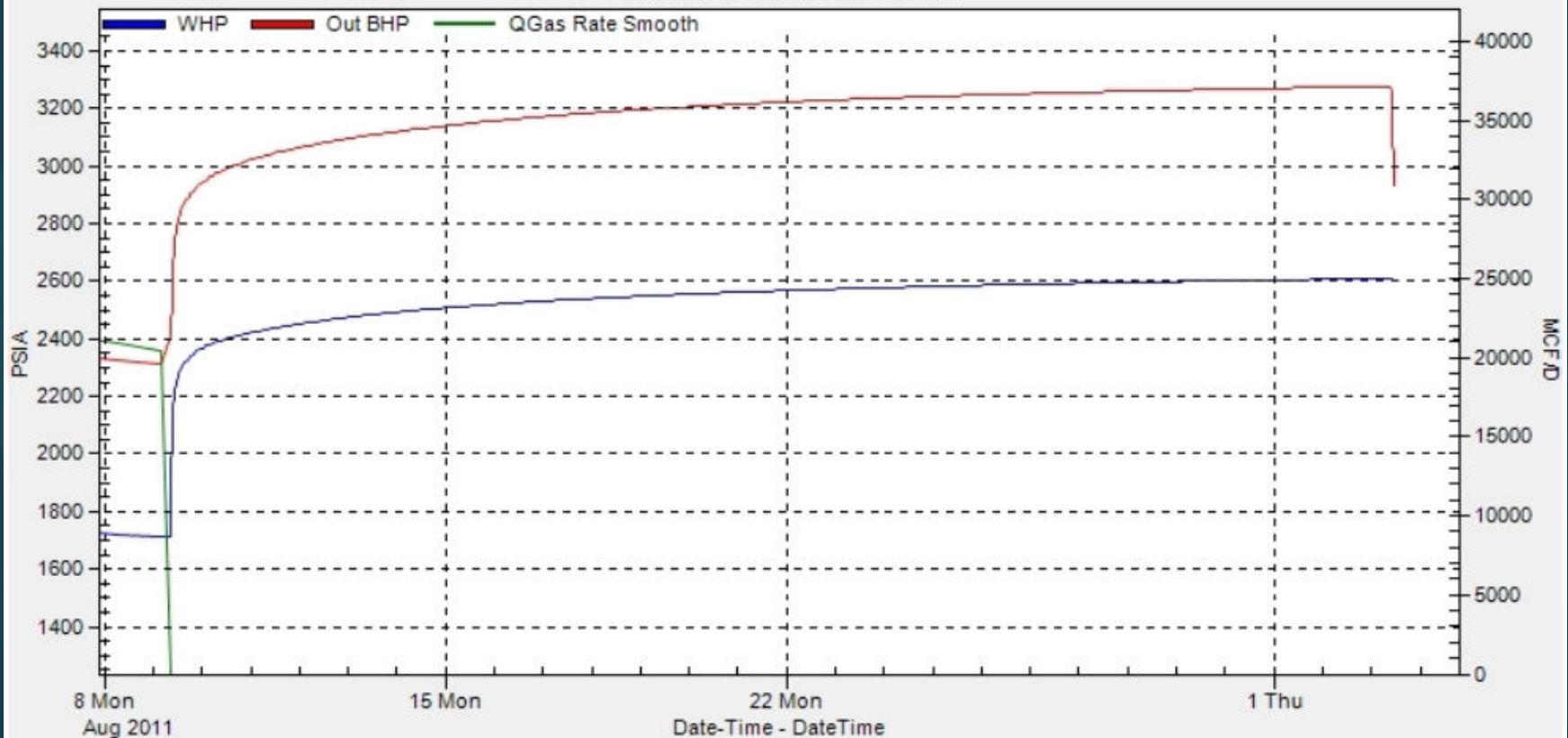
Automatic Well Test Analysis for skin, permeability, P^* , PI etc.

3-Rate Test Example

Additional Features: Automatic Well Test Analysis Example

DMS #1 dhg depth - PBU - Cartesian

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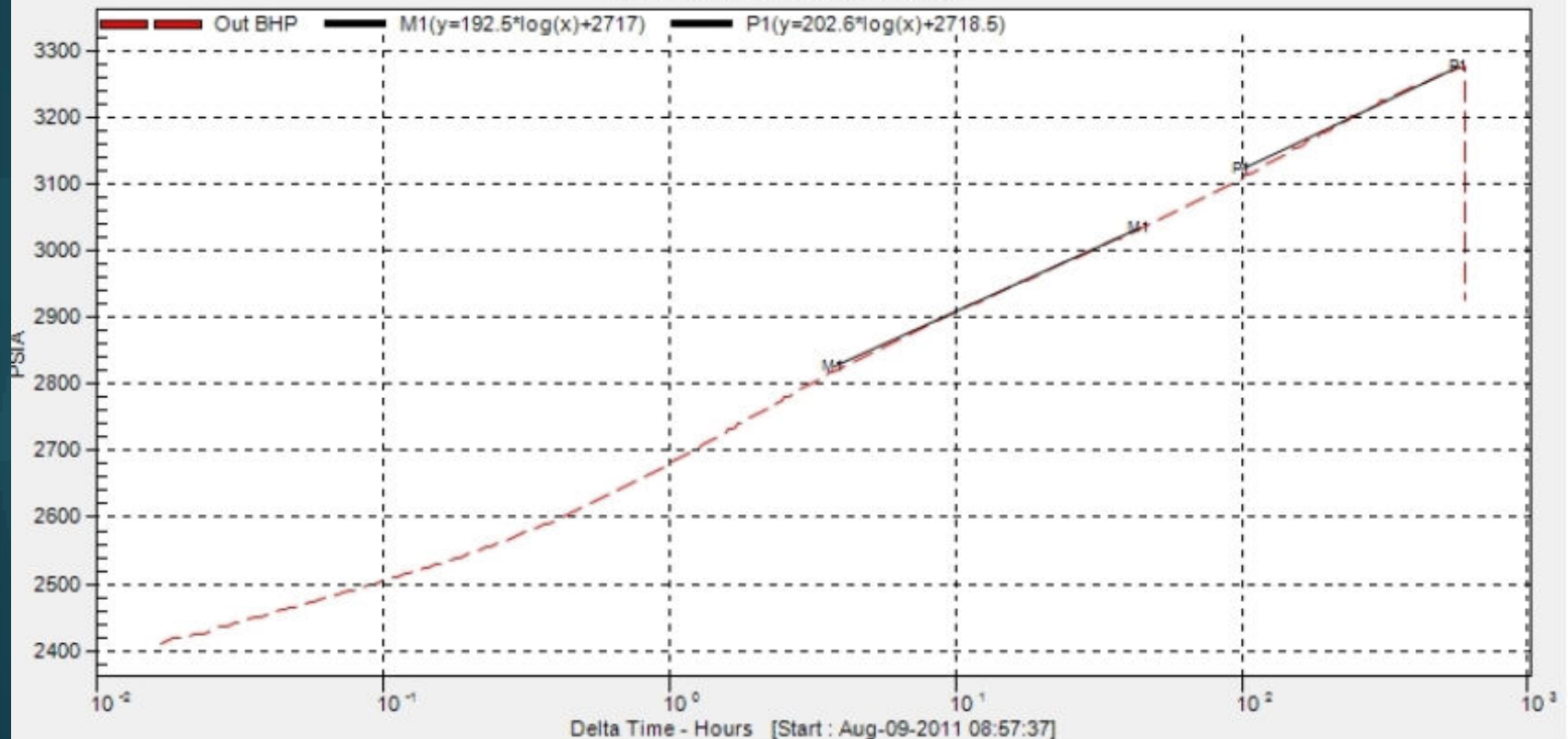


3 – Rate Test Example

Additional Features: Automatic Well Test Analysis Example

DMS #1 dhg depth - PBU - SemiLog

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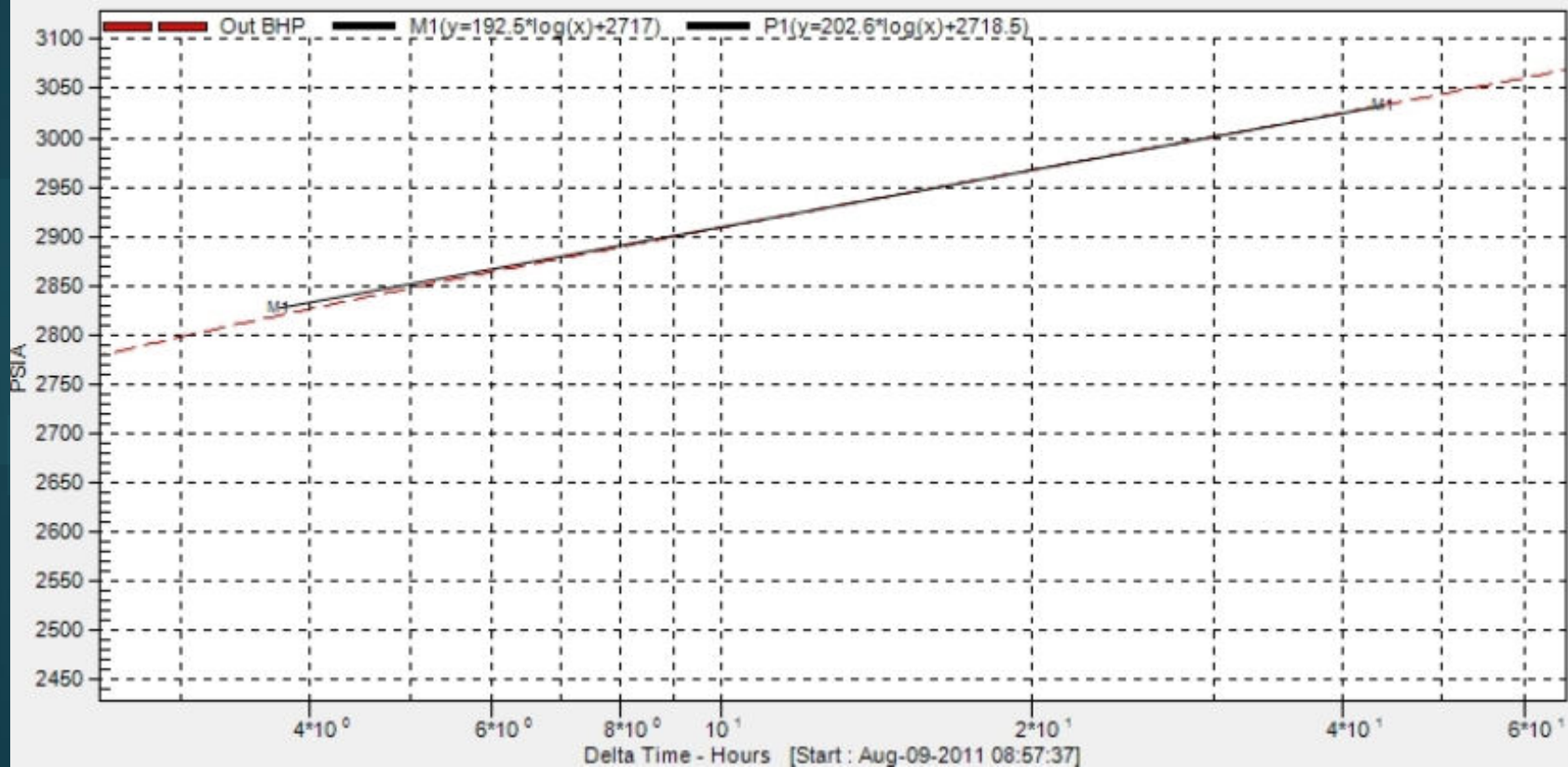


3 – Rate Test Example

Additional Features: Automatic Well Test Analysis Example

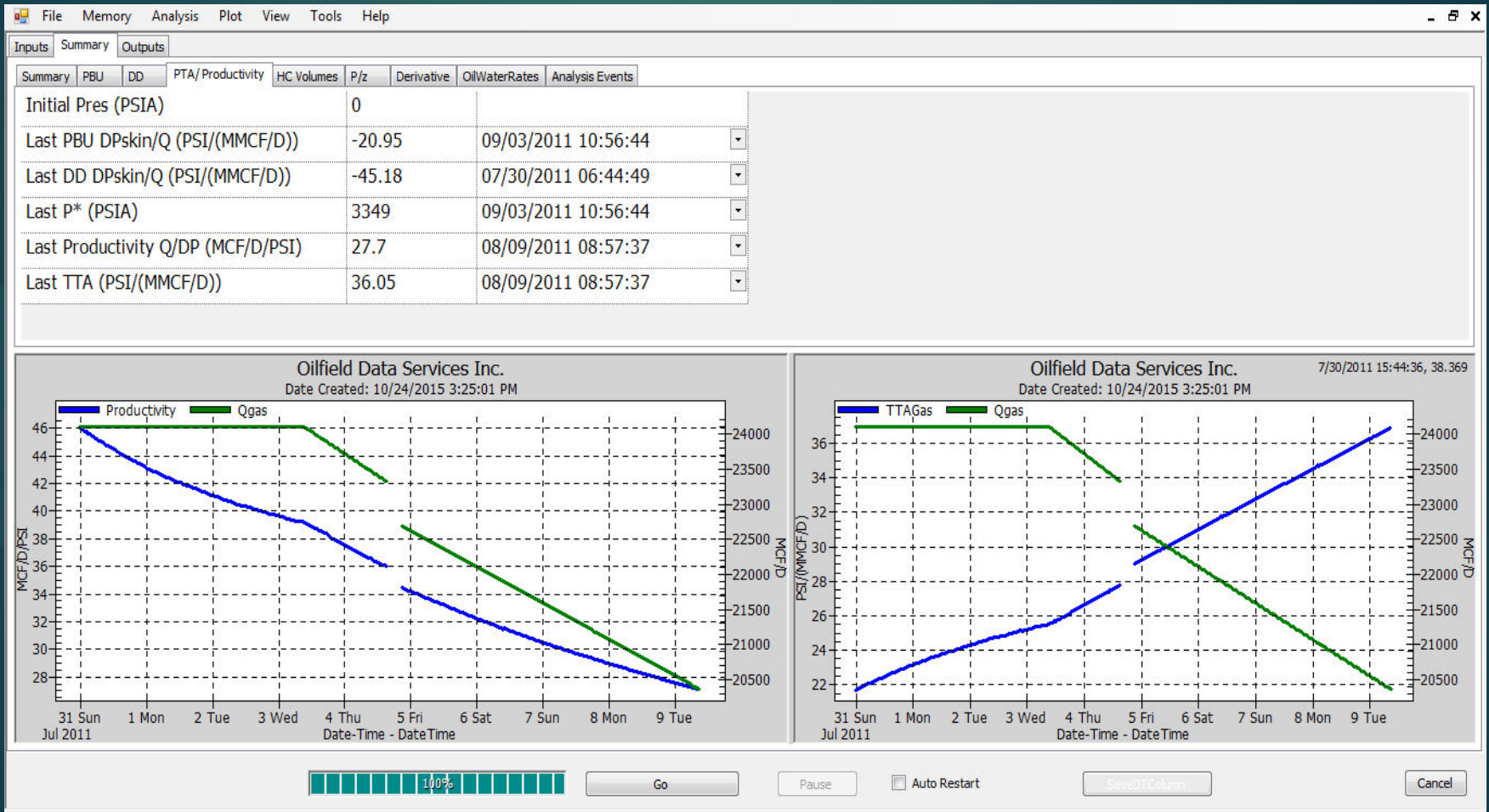
DMS #1 dhg depth - PBU - SemiLog Zoom

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3 – Rate Test Example

Additional Features: Productivity



Thermal History Match: 3-Rate Test Summary

- ▶ Perform a 3-Rate Test (or more)
 - ▶ Flow at different rates
 - ▶ Tube PTM to match DHGP conversion
 - ▶ < % 1 calculation error
- ▶ Additional software features:
 - ▶ Automated well test analysis for skin, permeability, PI, P* (PBU), Productivity Index etc.
 - ▶ Automated Static Material Balance (p/Z)
 - ▶ Automated Decline Analysis for hydraulically connected and mobile HC

Case Studies

Case Study 1

Case Study 1

- ▶ North Sea
- ▶ Dry gas
- ▶ High resolution subsea tree and downhole gauges
- ▶ Multiple wells produce to central host facility
 - ▶ Total field rate is known; individual well rates are not known
 - ▶ Downhole gauge is significantly higher than the completion depth

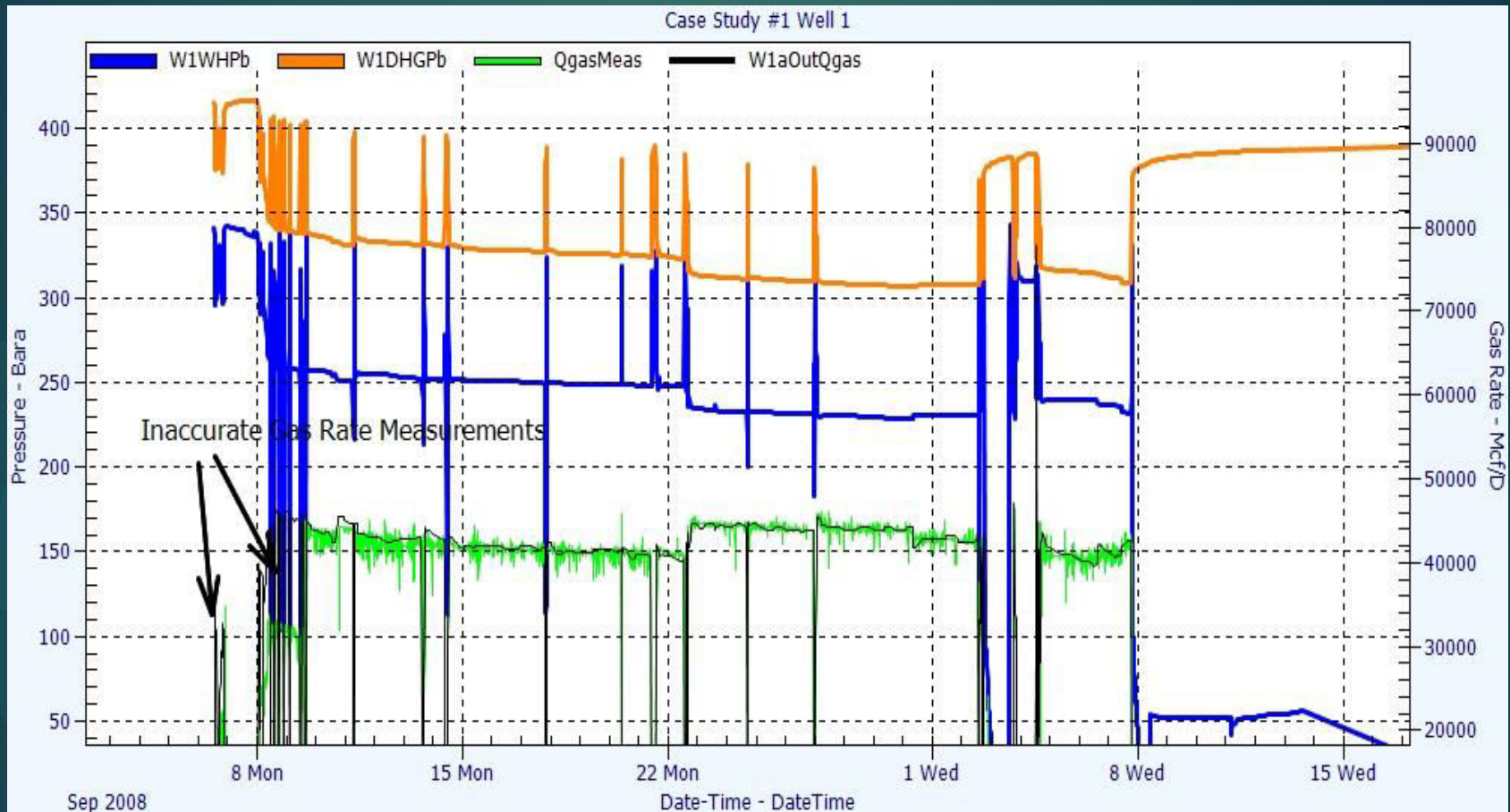
Case Study 1

- ▶ Consider initial data (Well 1 is producing only)
 - ▶ Allowed direct comparison of platform measured gas rates vs d/p wellbore calculated gas rates
- ▶ Tune gas composition by using the pressure difference between downhole gauge and subsea tree gauge during shut-ins
- ▶ Tune friction using several stable flow rate points
- ▶ Generate PTM using the same data
- ▶ Calculate rates using the modified MEB

$$\frac{ZRT}{MW_{gas}P} dP + \left\{ \frac{g}{g_c} \sin\theta + \frac{32f_f}{\pi^2 g_c D^5} \left[\frac{T}{P} \frac{P_{sc}}{T_{sc}} QZ \right]^2 \right\} dL = 0$$

Case Study 1 Results

Measured vs. Calculated Gas rates



Note: Inaccurate rate measurement due to loss of communication with the meter and inappropriate calibration of the meter calculations

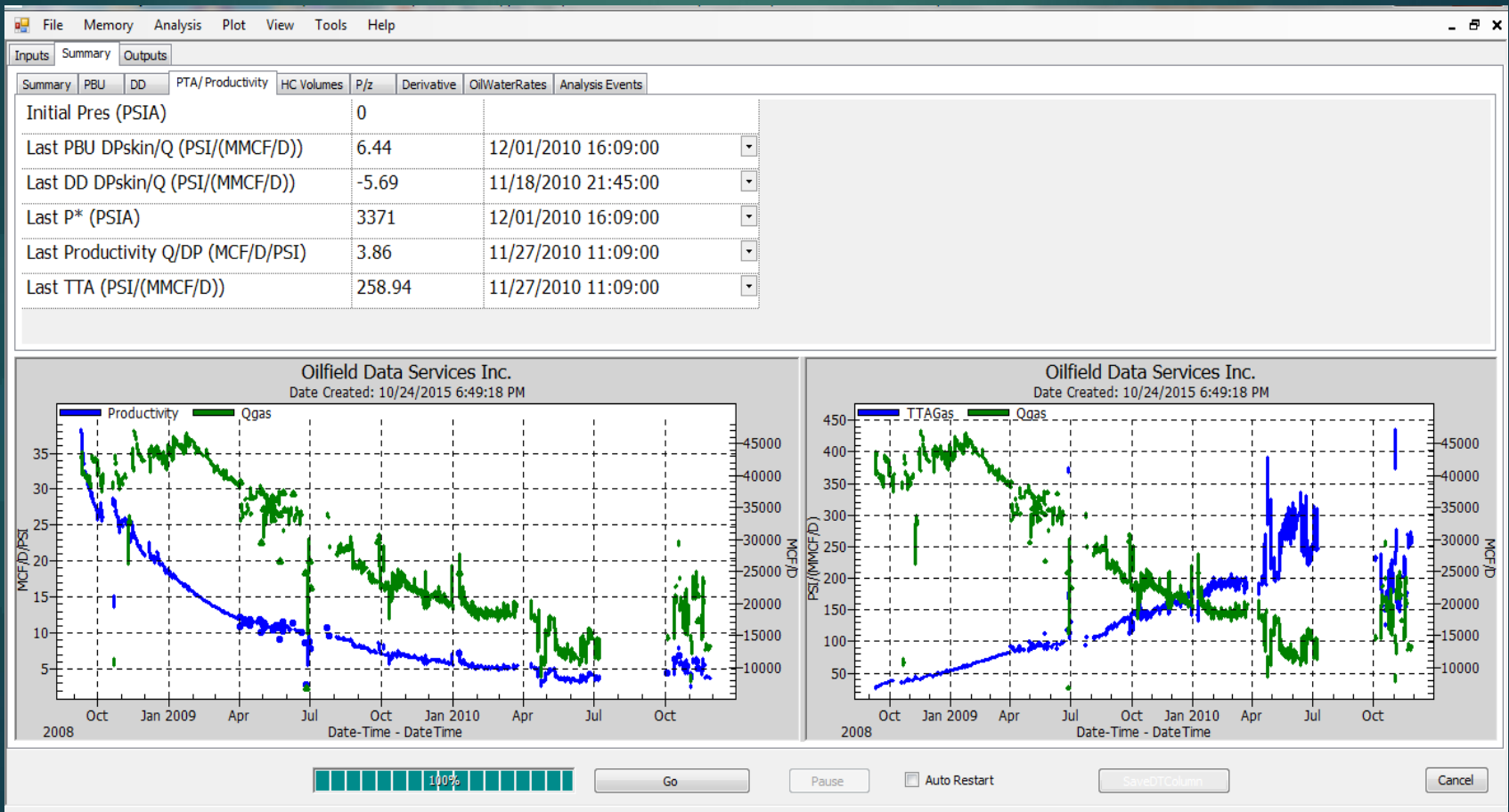
Case Study 1

Additional Features

- ▶ Automatic Well Test Analysis
 - ▶ The software recognizes new transients (DD/PBU/Multi-Rate Tests) and analyzes them for skin, permeability, DP skin, Productivity Index etc.
- ▶ Automatic Static Material Balance (p/Z)
 - ▶ In-place HC Volume
- ▶ Automatic Decline Analysis
 - ▶ Hydraulically Connected and Mobile HC volumes

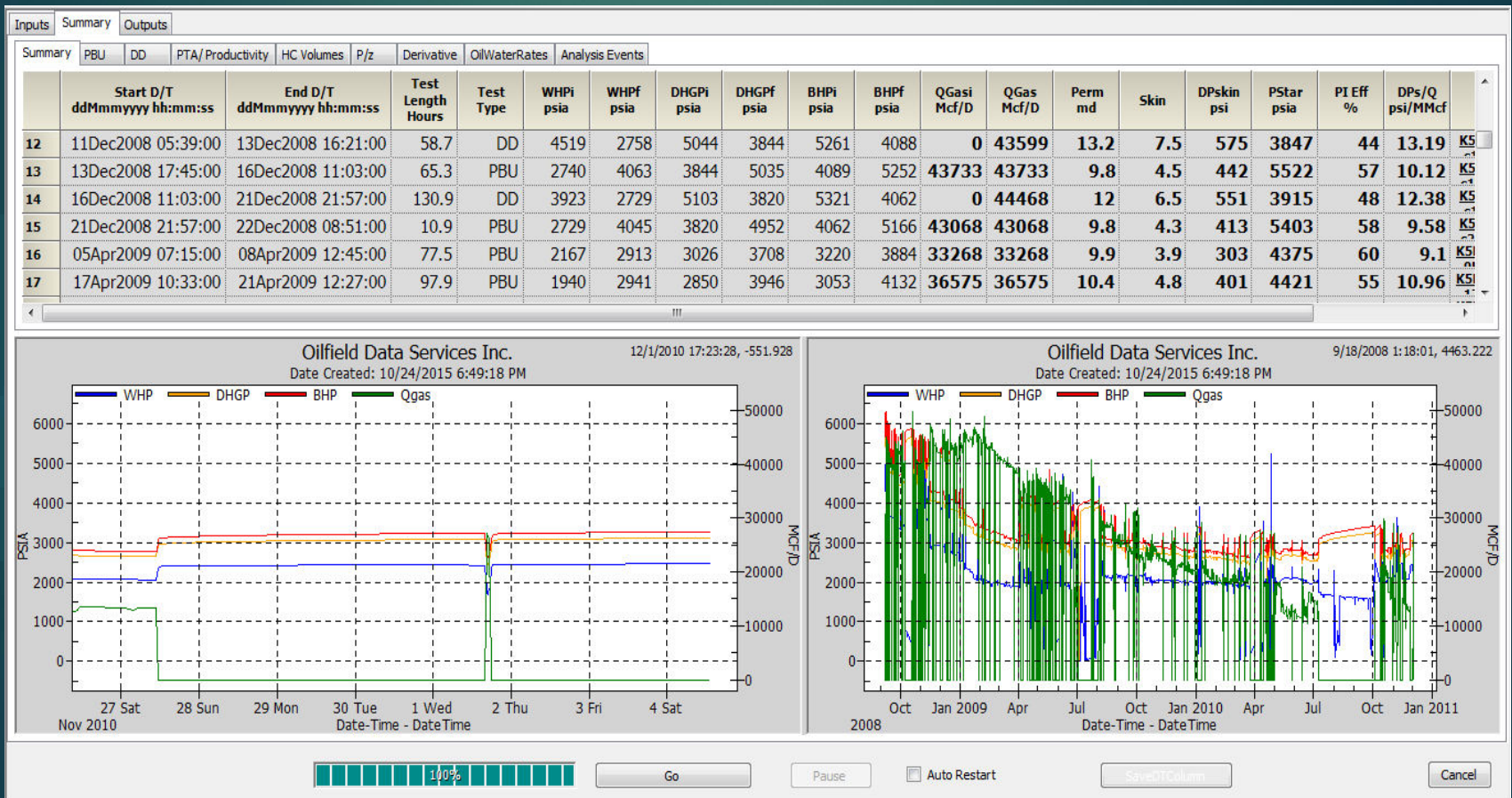
Case Study 1

Additional Features: Productivity and Inverse Productivity Plot



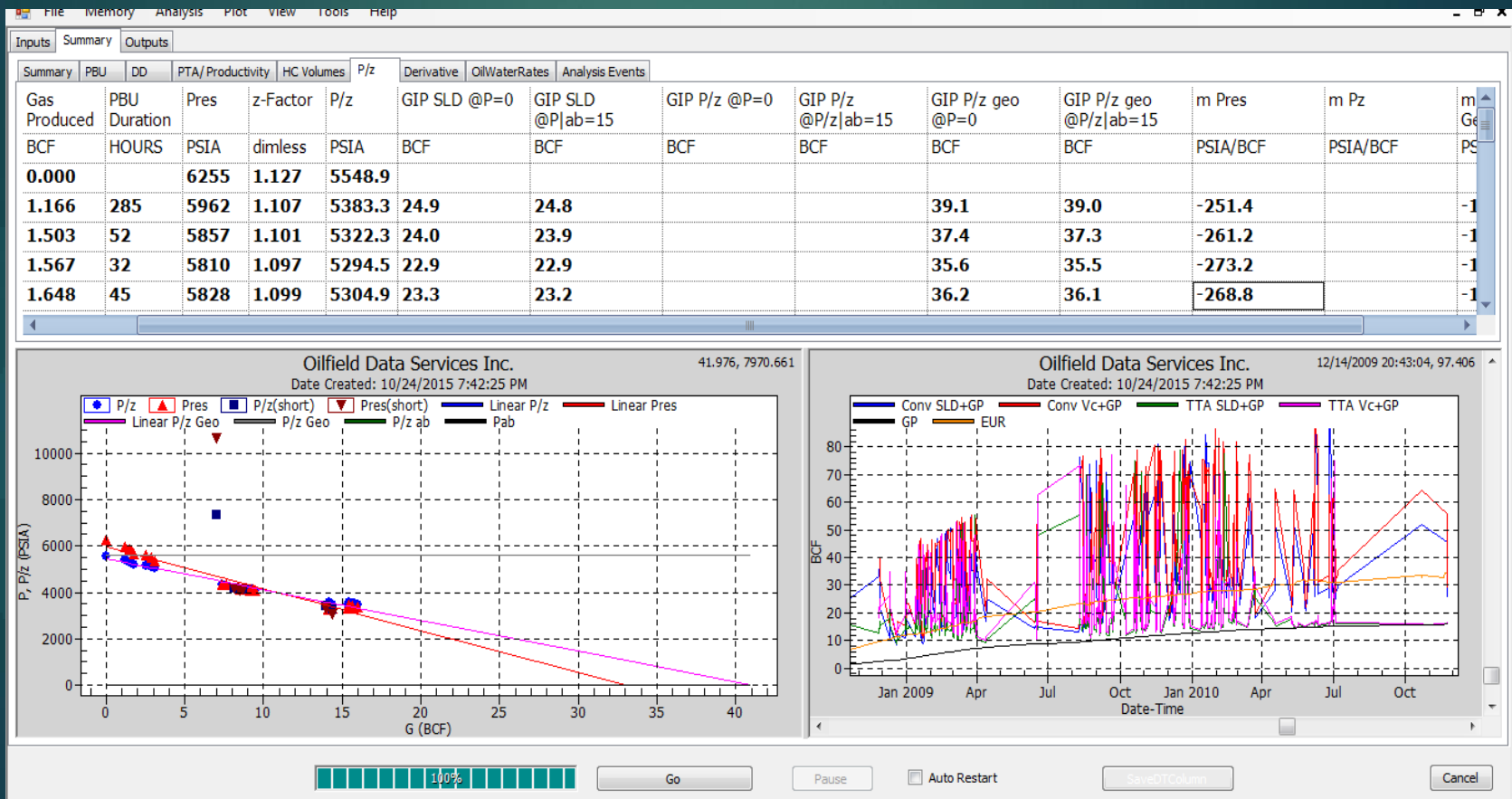
Case Study 1

Additional Features: Automated Well Test Analysis



Case 1:

Additional Features: Static Material Balance (p/Z)



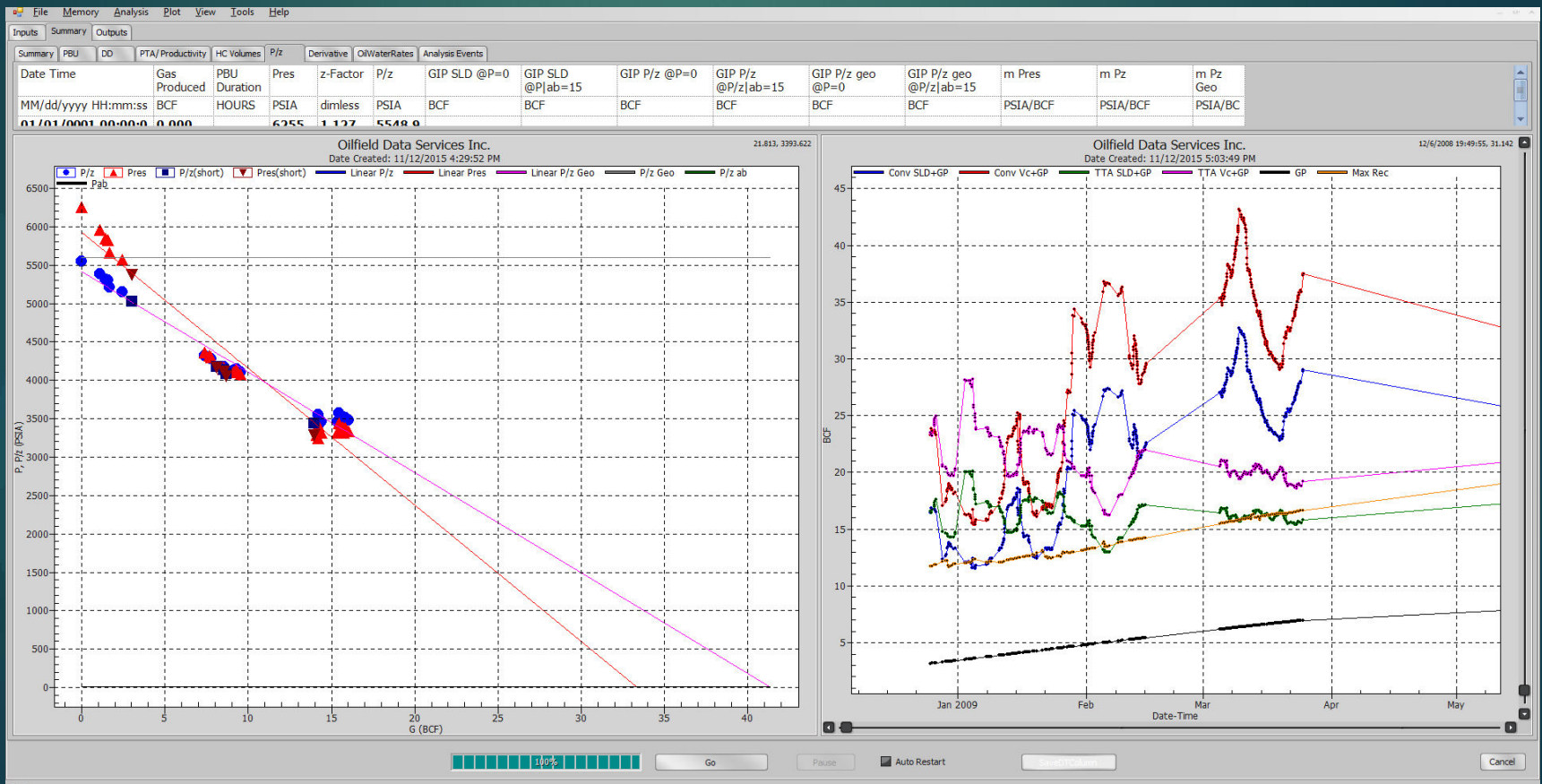
Case Study 1

Additional Features: HC Volume



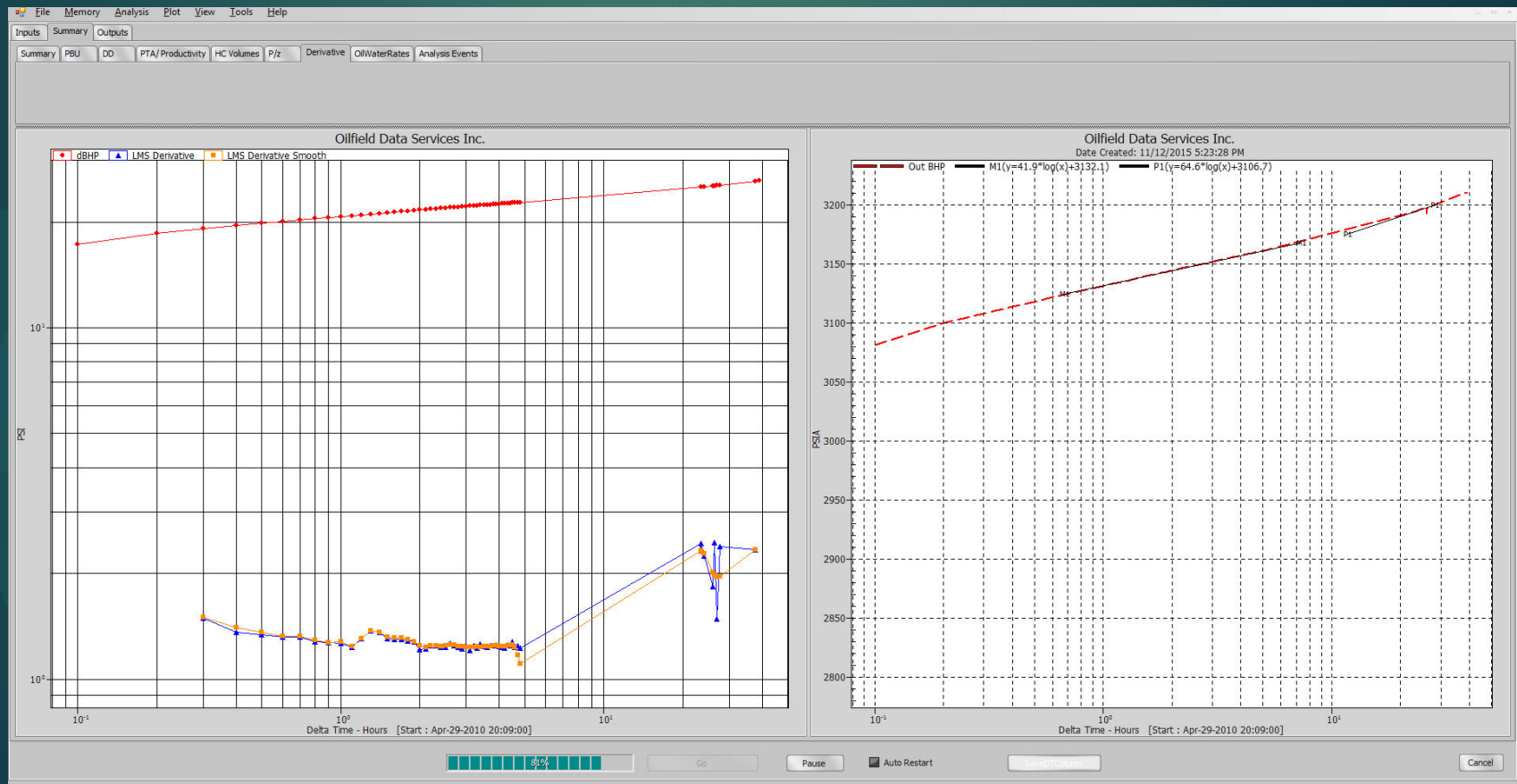
Case Study 1

Additional Features: HC Volume Before Water Mobilization



Case Study 1

Additional Features: Derivative Plot and Semi-log Plot for PTA



Case Study 2

Case Study 2

- ▶ North Sea subsea field
- ▶ Wet gas
- ▶ 2 wells are tied-back to the host facility
- ▶ Combined flow rates from both wells are measured at the host facility
- ▶ No subsea flowmeters

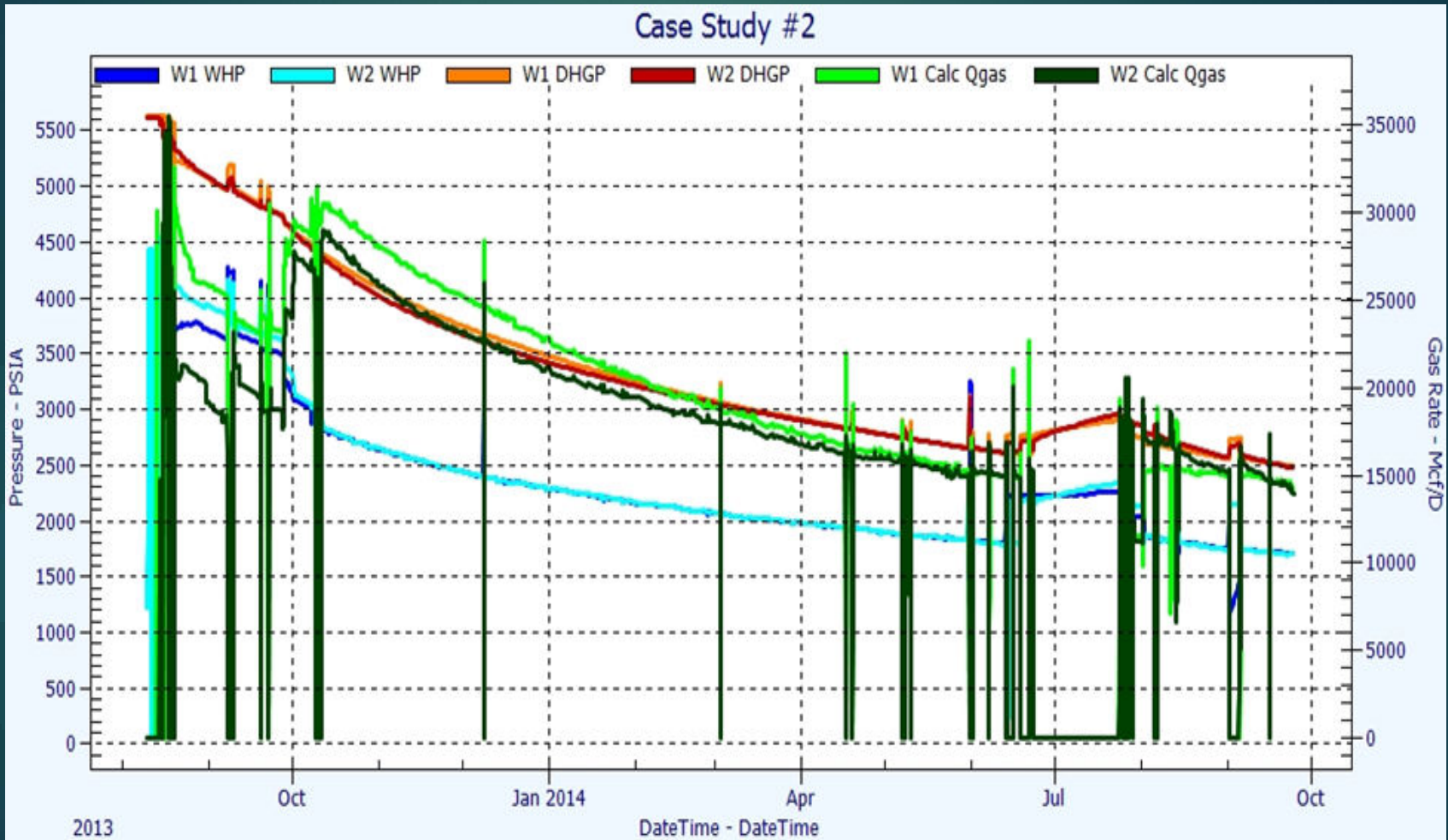
Case Study 2

- ▶ Initial density tuning was done using PBU following the flowback/initial completion test and compositional analysis
- ▶ Initial friction factor was acquired from DP WB during flow tests
- ▶ Further friction tuning was required due to the well clean-up
- ▶ Initial thermal model was generated

Case Study 2

- ▶ Well 1 was brought on-line and flowed at several different rates. Then clean-up was confirmed and the well was shut-in
- ▶ Well 2 was then brought on-line, flowed at several rates, cleaned-up and shut-in
- ▶ When both well models were tuned, Well 1 and Well 2 were brought on-line together
- ▶ Sum of the calculated d/p rates from Well 1 and Well 2 matched host platform measured rates.

Case Study 2 Results



Wellhead and downhole pressures and individual calculated rates

Case Study 2 Results



Sum of calculated gas rates and platform rate comparison

Case Study 2 Results

- ▶ Individual tuning of the wells to live match measured platform rates
- ▶ When both wells were brought on-line together, sum of the calculated wellbore DP rates was compared to measured platform rate
 - ▶ < 1 % error
- ▶ Benefits of DP wellbore rate calculations
 - ▶ Assists in diagnosing errors in allocations
 - ▶ Detects onset water production
 - ▶ Detects change in gas composition during shut-ins
 - ▶ If flow meter fails, DP wellbore calculations can be used on its own to determine the rate
 - ▶ Does not require additional equipment installation
 - ▶ Low-cost investment

Case Study 2

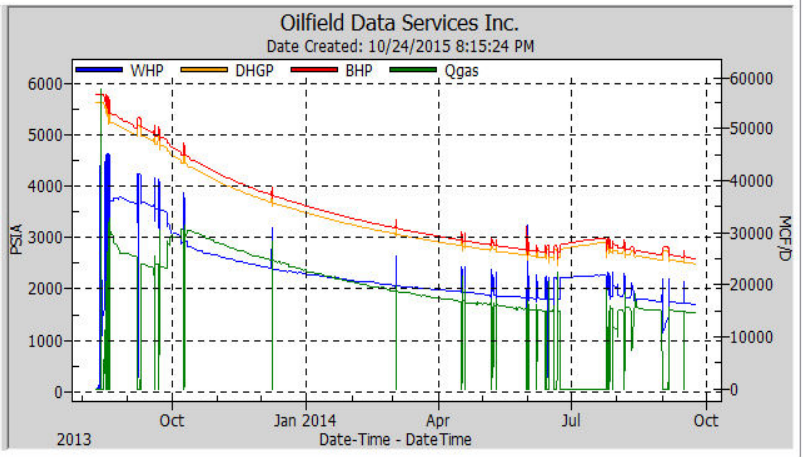
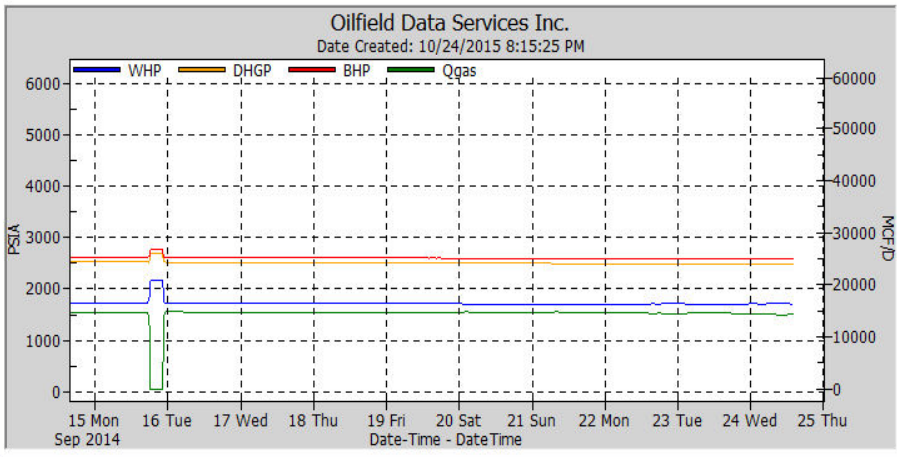
Additional Software Features

- ▶ Automated Pressure Transient Test Analysis
 - ▶ The software recognizes new transients (DD/PBU/Multi-Rate tests) and analyzes them for skin, permeability, DP skin, Productivity Index etc.
- ▶ Automated Static Material Balance (p/Z)
 - ▶ In-place HC Volume
- ▶ Automated Decline Analysis
 - ▶ Hydraulically Connected and Mobile HC volumes

Case Study 2

Additional features: Automated Well Test Analysis

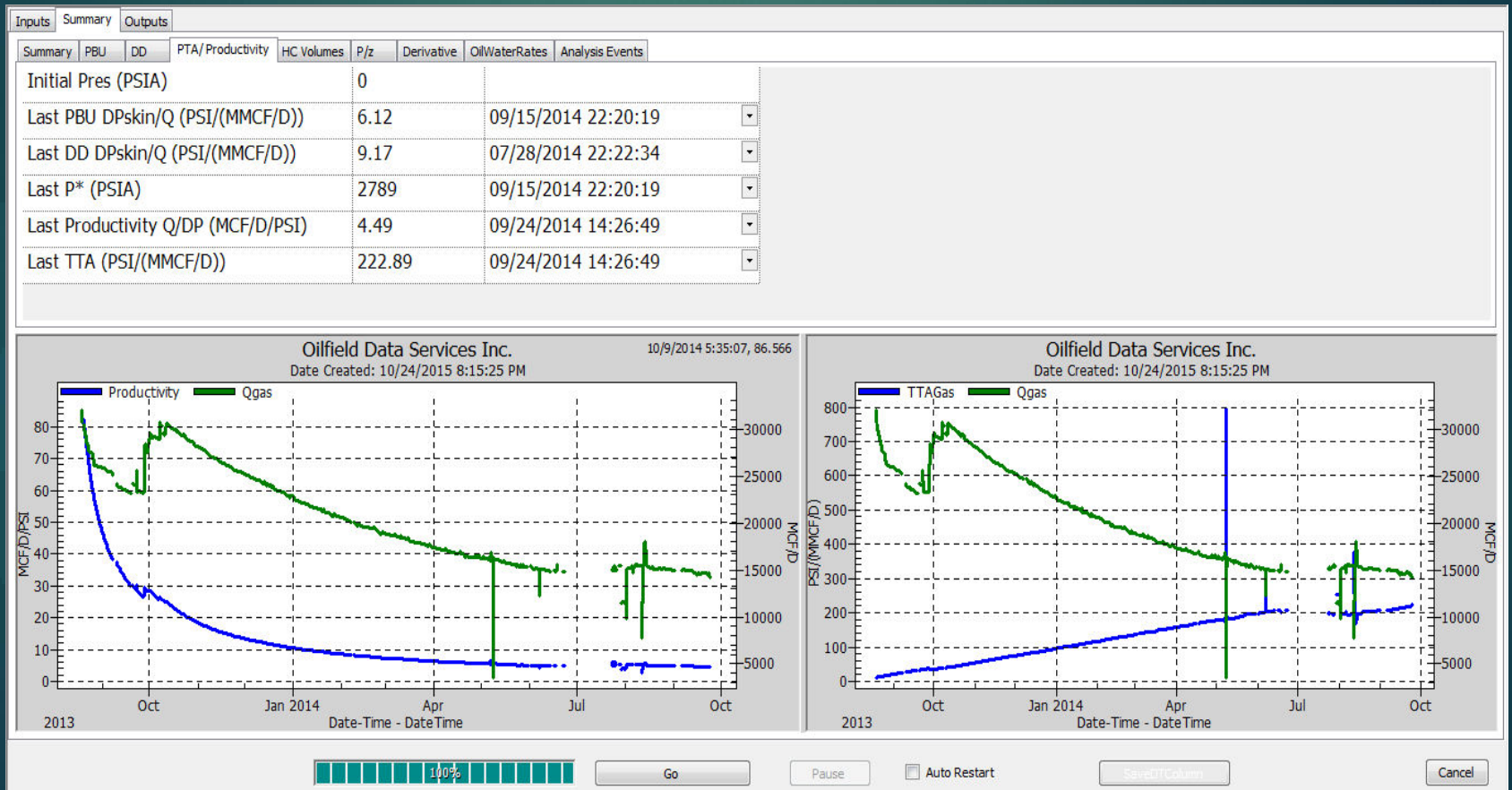
Summary		Analysis Events															Report Link	Graph Link
Test Length Hours	Test Type	WHPi psia	WHPf psia	DHGPi psia	DHGPF psia	BHPi psia	BHPf psia	QGasi Mcf/D	QGas Mcf/D	Perm md	Skin	DPskin psi	PStar psia	PI Eff %	DPs/Q psi/MMcf			
14	13.37	DD	2243	1943	2765	2605	2851	2694	0	12437	5.8	-4	-372	2702	404	-29.9	K4Z10DSIRTRep_2014Jun_12_004911_ML_DD.pdf	K4Z10DSIRTRep_2014Jun_12_004911_ML_DD.pdf
15	46.37	PBU	1798	2157	2605	2738	2702	2824	14801	14801	44	3.7	53	2895	63	3.55	K4Z10DSIRTRep_2014Jun_12_021011_ML_PBU.pdf	K4Z10DSIRTRep_2014Jun_12_021011_ML_PBU.pdf
16	67.85	PBU	1797	2148	2605	2739	2703	2824	14880	14880	61.7	7.2	73	2894	48	4.9	K4Z10DSIRTRep_2014Jun_19_19E7E6_ML_PBU.pdf	K4Z10DSIRTRep_2014Jun_19_19E7E6_ML_PBU.pdf
17	17.34	DD	2229	1800	2783	2607	2870	2705	0	22667	11.7	-1.9	-166	2704	151	-7.3	K4Z10DSIRTRep_2014Jun_21_144011_ML_DD.pdf	K4Z10DSIRTRep_2014Jun_21_144011_ML_DD.pdf
18	746.91	PBU	1801	2221	2609	2860	2707	2950	14800	14800	64.6	8.4	82	2950	44	5.51	K4Z10DSIRTRep_2014Jun_22_070041_ML_PBU.pdf	K4Z10DSIRTRep_2014Jun_22_070041_ML_PBU.pdf
19	21.76	PBU	1860	2249	2699	2866	2801	2955	15277	15277	73.2	14.4	124	3008	32	8.13	K4Z10DSIRTRep_2014Jul_25_132004_ML_PBU.pdf	K4Z10DSIRTRep_2014Jul_25_132004_ML_PBU.pdf



100% Auto Restart

Case Study 2

Additional Features: Productivity and Inverse Productivity Plots



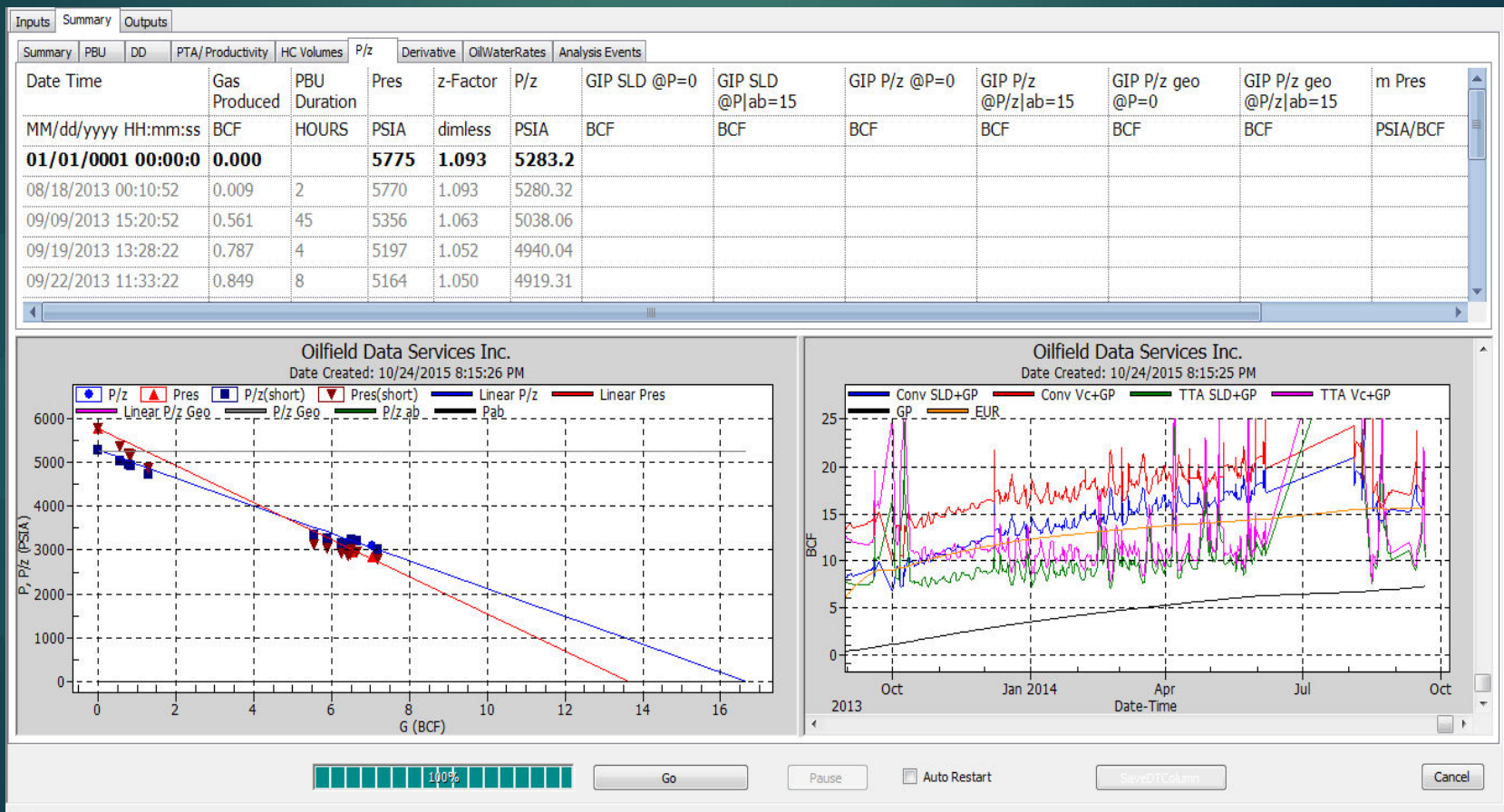
Case Study 2

Additional Features: HC Volume



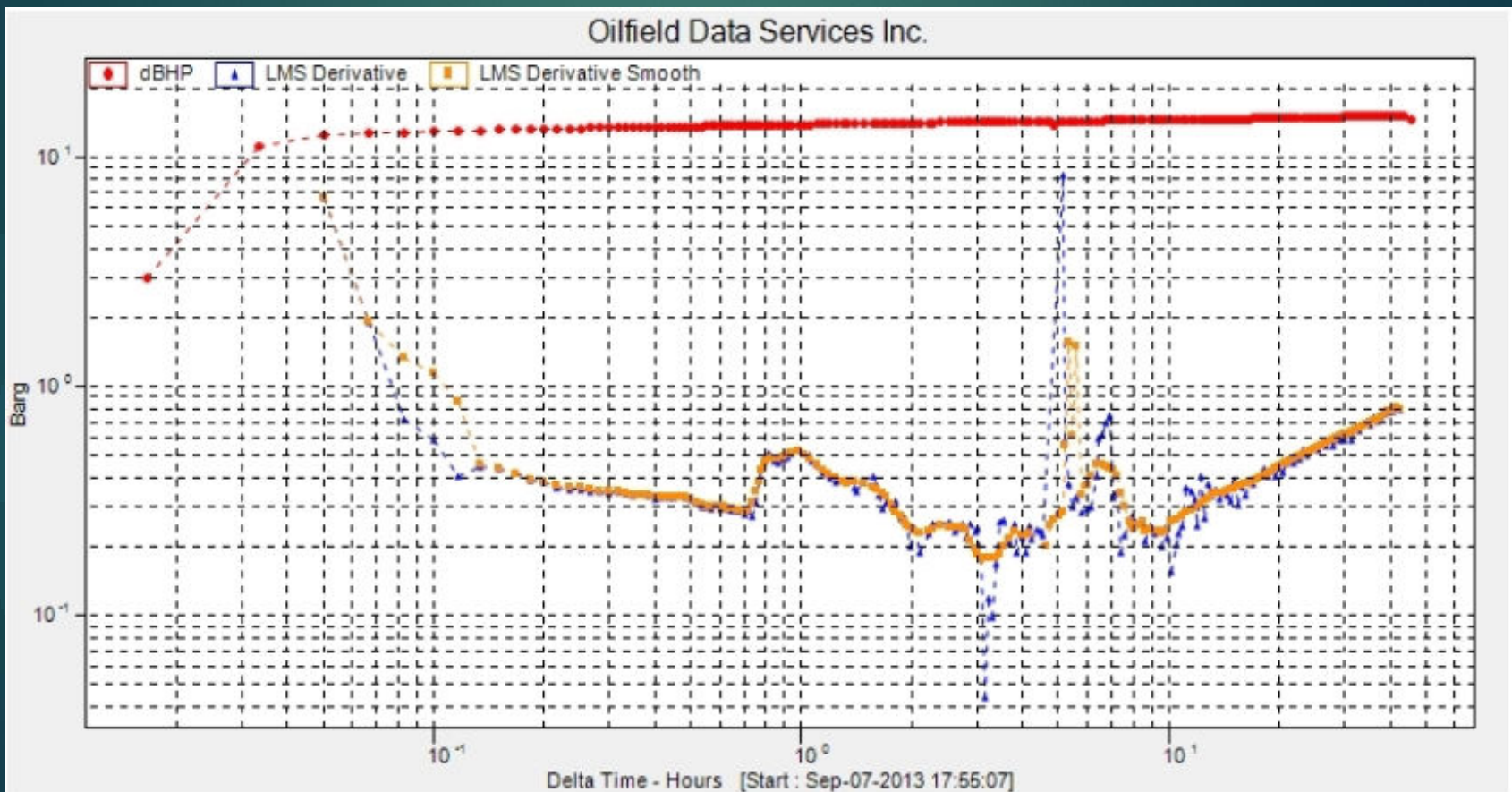
Case Study 2

Additional Features: Static Material Balance (p/Z Plot)



Case Study 2

Additional Features: Derivative Plots



Case Study 3

Case Study 3

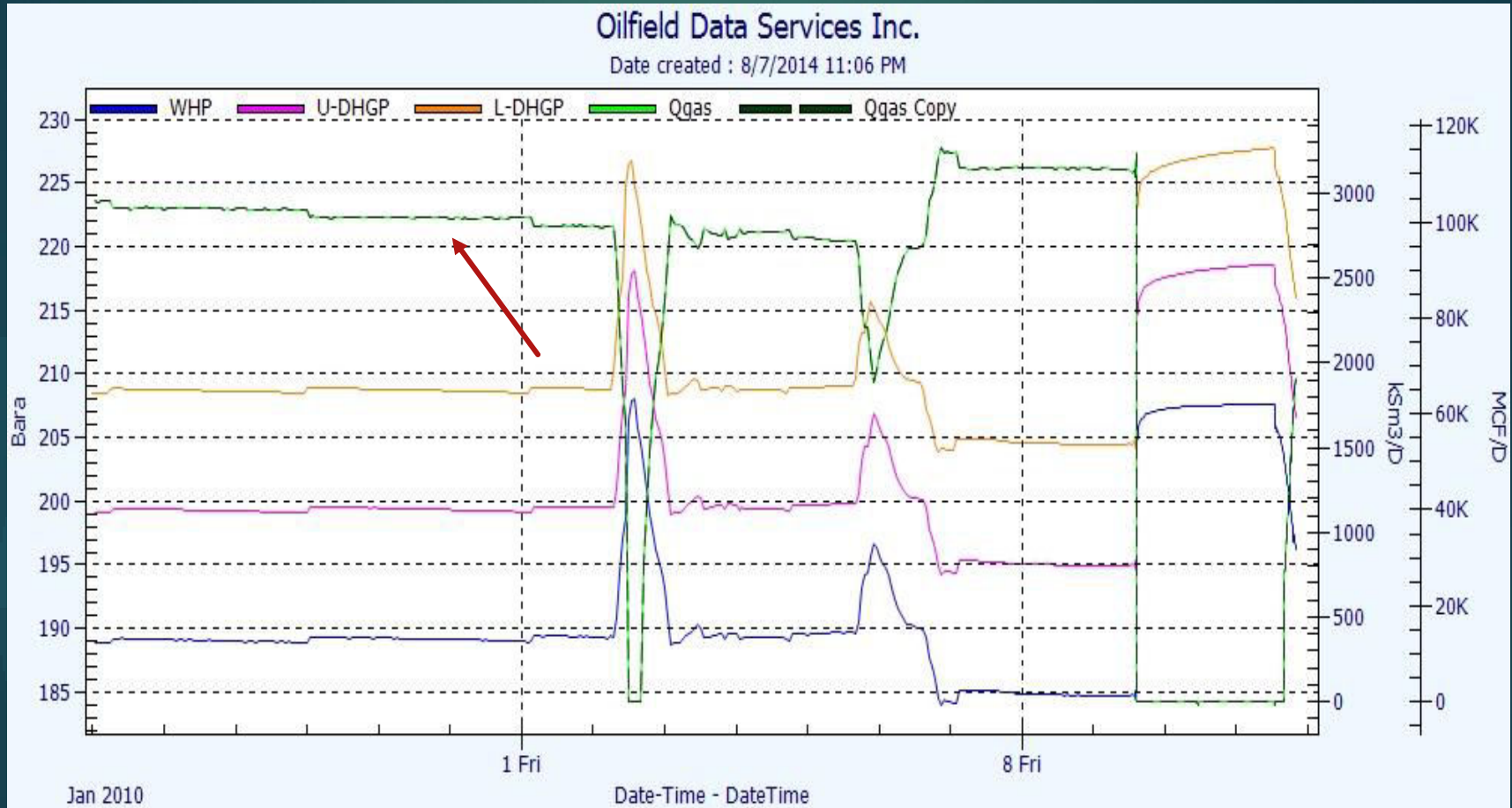
- ▶ North Sea
- ▶ Gas Condensate Well
- ▶ Well is equipped with multiple gauges
 - ▶ Tree gauge
 - ▶ Middle downhole gauge
 - ▶ Lower downhole gauge
- ▶ Objectives:
 - ▶ Validate rate
 - ▶ Validate middle and lower downhole gauge pressures
 - ▶ Perform well test analysis

Case Study 3

- ▶ Used shut-in data to calibrate PVT (gas gravity and condensate yield)
- ▶ Used tree data and middle DHG data to calibrate frictional pressure losses
- ▶ Used tree gauge and lower DHG data to confirm production rates
- ▶ Analyze well test using
 - ▶ WHP
 - ▶ Middle gauge pressure
 - ▶ Lower gauge pressure
 - ▶ Mid-completion BHP

Rate Comparison

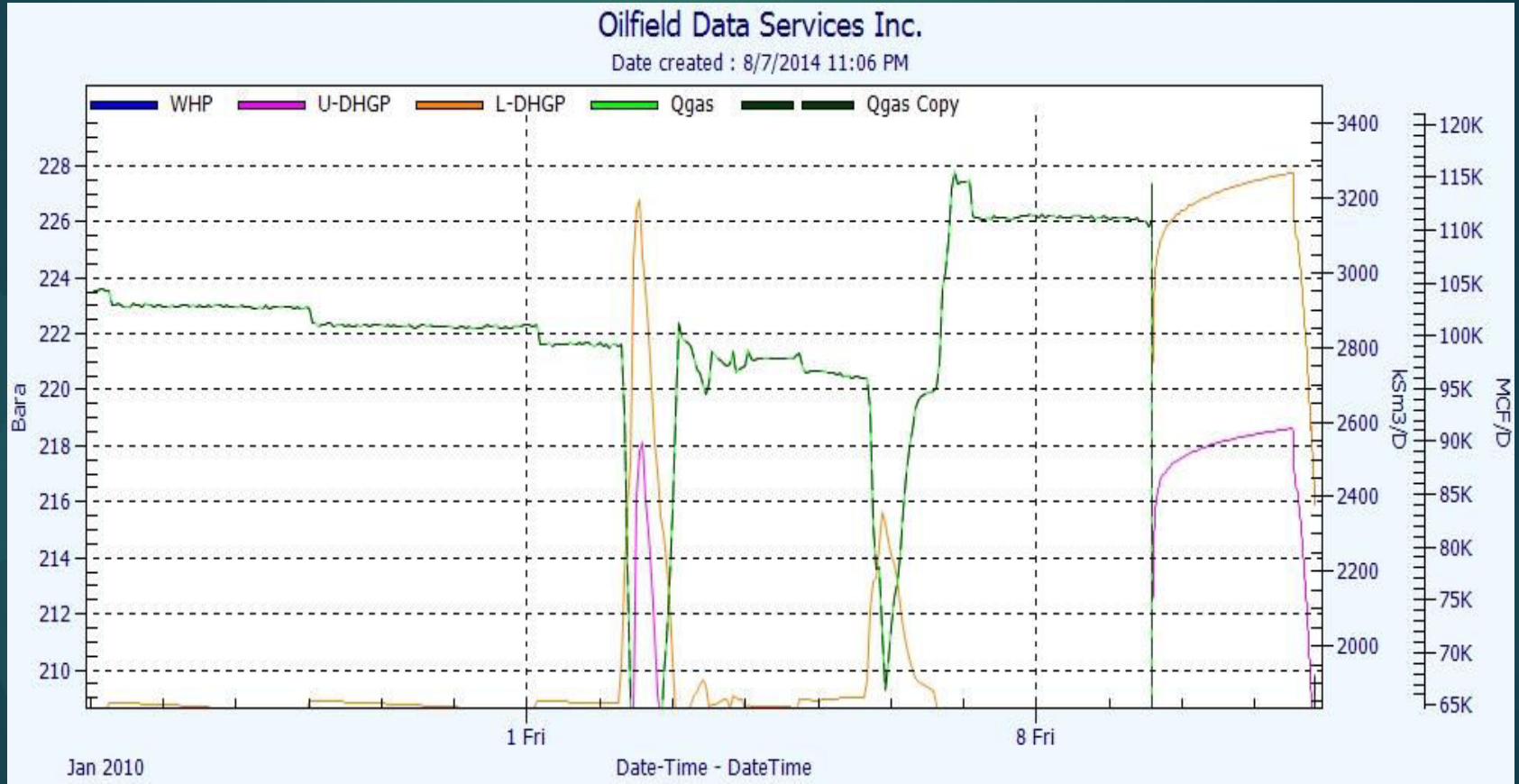
Case Study 3 Results



Measured Qgas vs. calculated Qgas (green and dark green respectively on the plot)

Case Study 3 Results

Rate Comparison Plot



< 1 % error in the Gas Rate Calculations (green – measured gas rate, dark green – calculated gas rate)

Case Study 3 Results

Rate Comparison Zoom Plot



< 1 % error in the Gas Rate Calculations (green – measured gas rate, dark green – calculated gas rate)

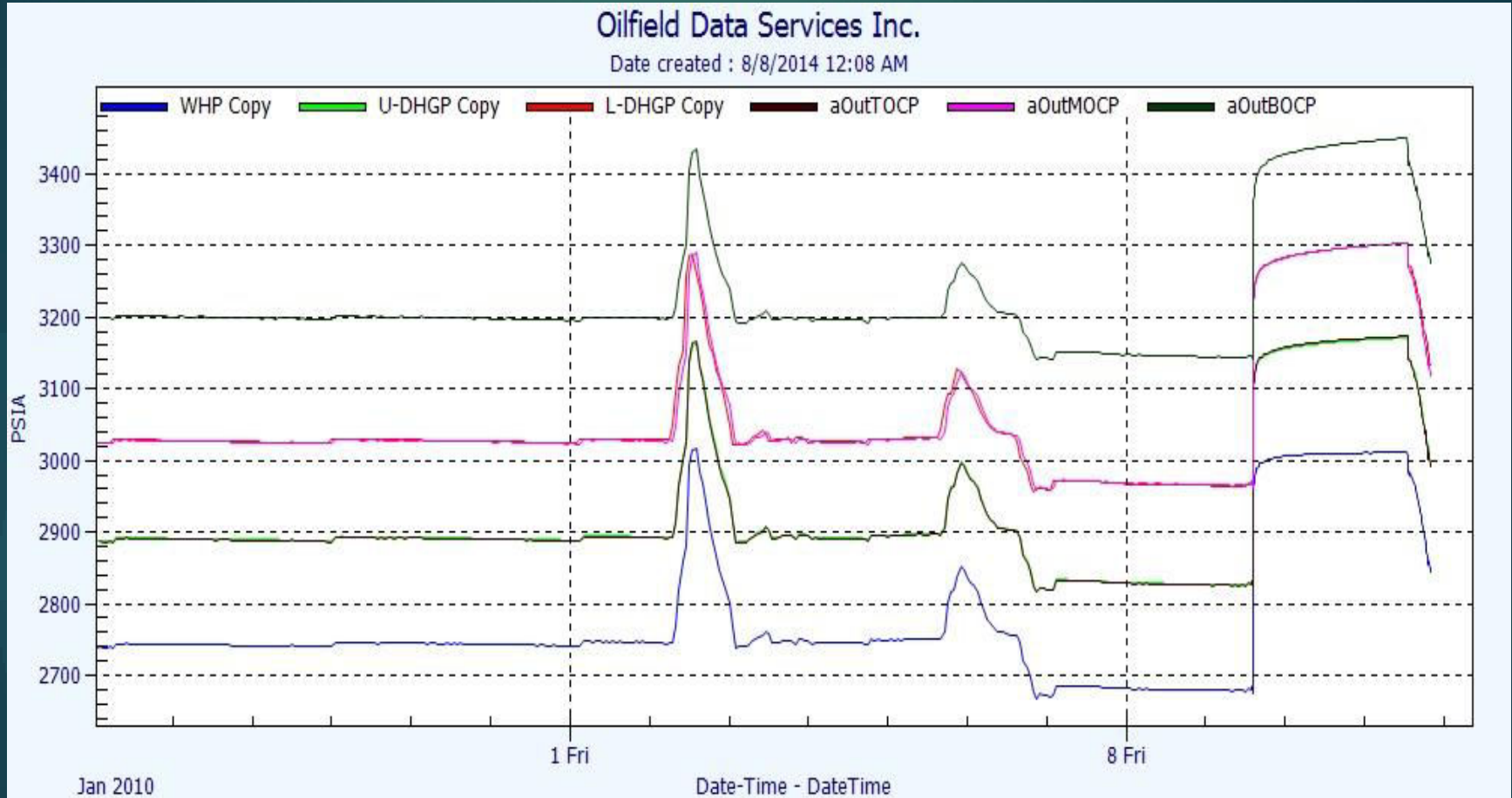


Case Study 3

Pressure Comparison

Case Study 3

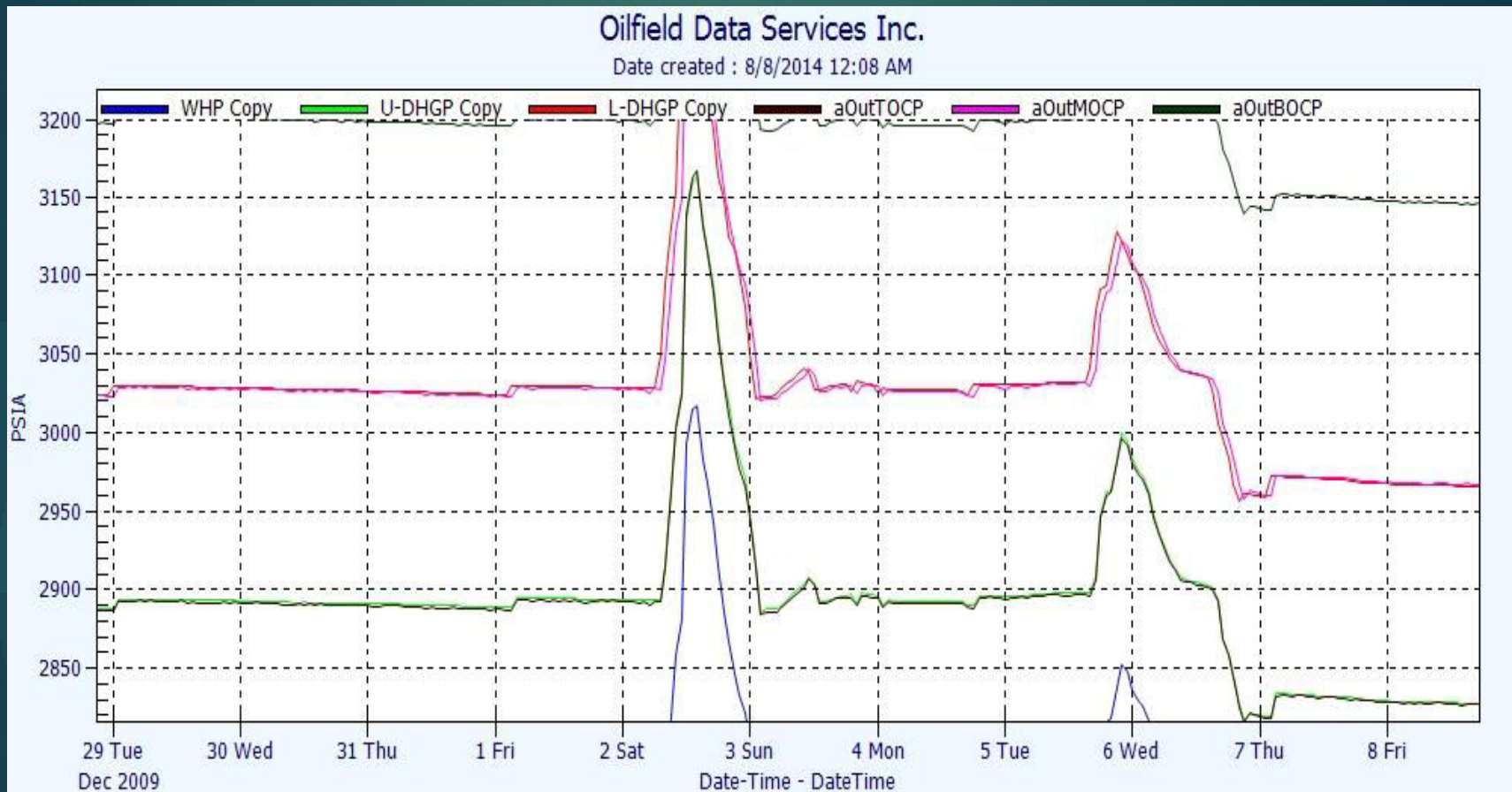
Pressure Comparison Results



Pressure can be calculated at any point in the wellbore (top of completion, mid-completion, bottom of completion depths)

Case Study 3

Pressure Comparison Results Zoom



Accurate Pressure conversions (< 2 psi): top of completion, mid-completion, bottom of completion)

Case Study 3

Pressure Comparison Results Zoom Plot



< 2 psi error for pressure conversion

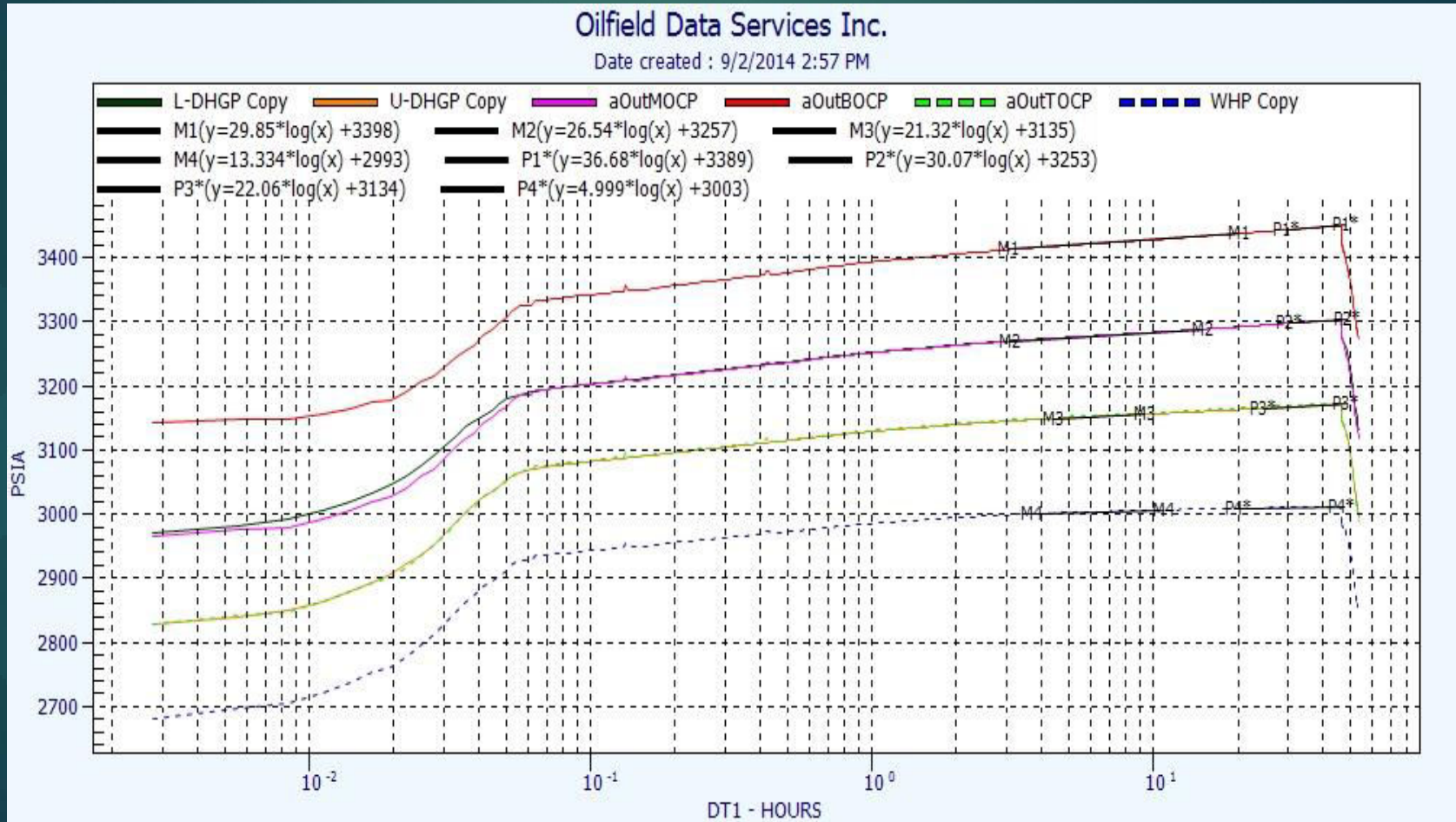


Case Study 3

Well Test Analysis Results

Semi-log PBU Plot

All reference depths

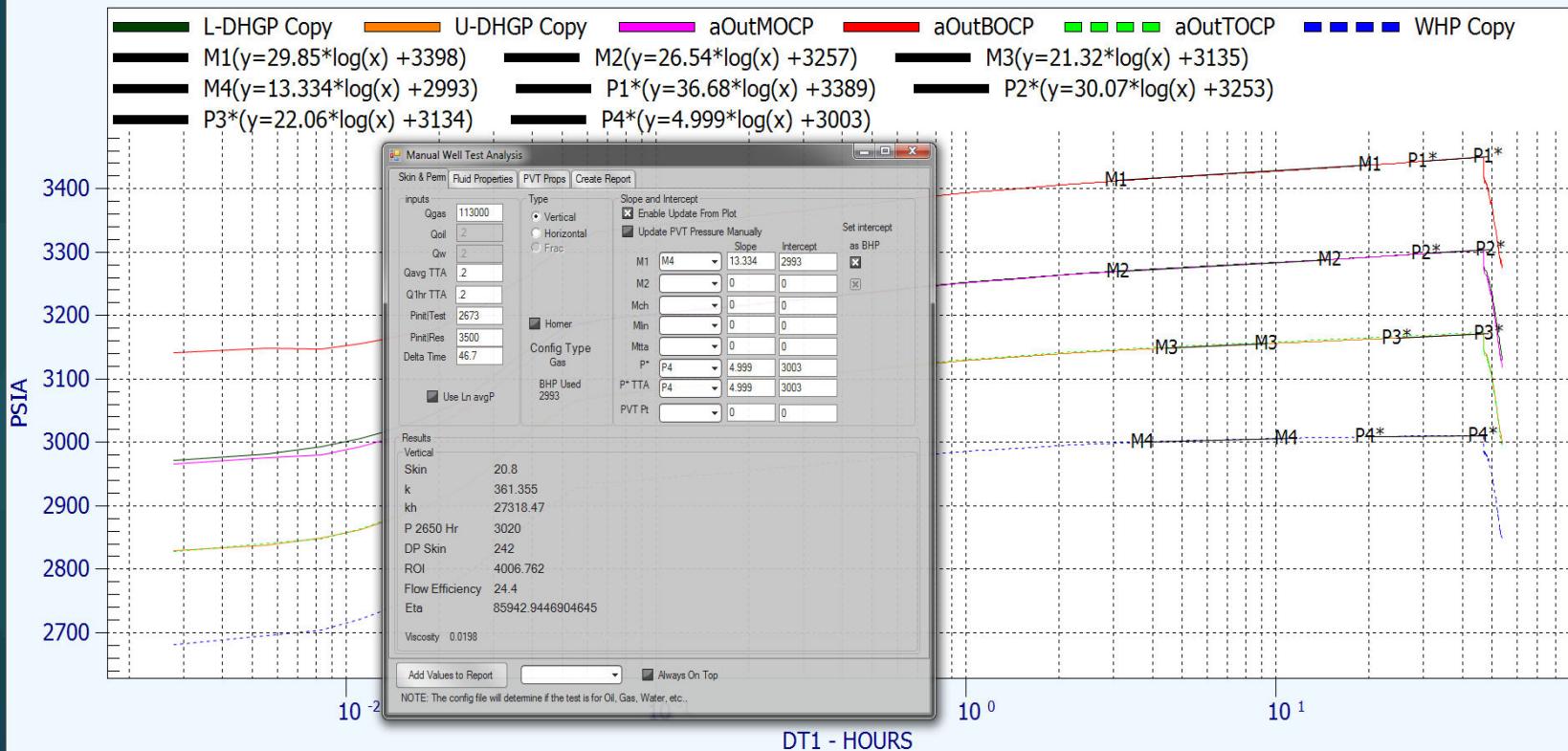


WHP/Tree Gauge PBU Semi-log Analysis

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Date created : 9/2/2014 2:57 PM

0.085, 2966.625



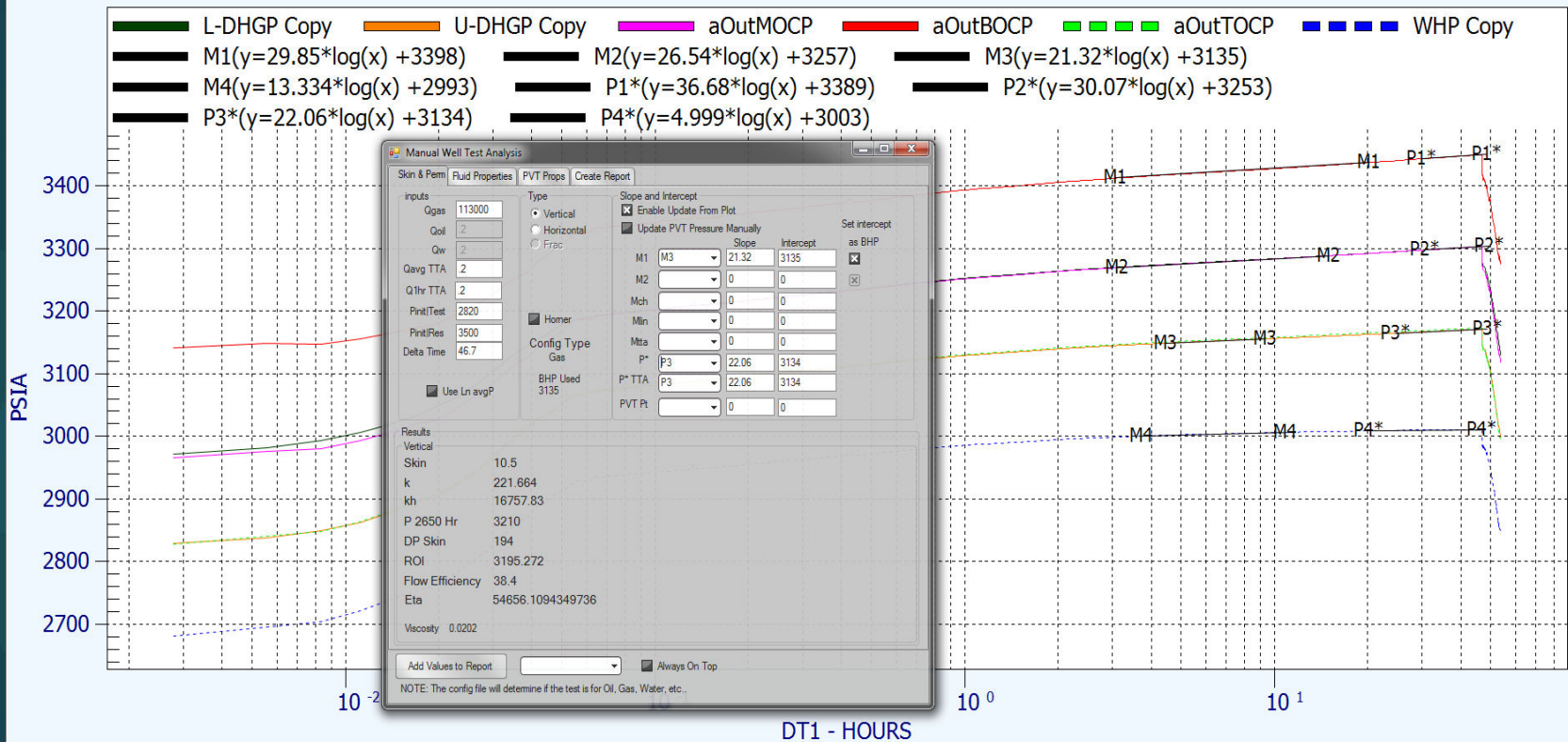
Closest record: (14226) 1/11/2010 4:16:50 AM

Skin = 20.8; permeability = 361 md

Upper DHG Semi-log PBU Analysis

Oilfield Data Services Inc.

Date created : 9/2/2014 2:57 PM



Closest record: (14226) 1/11/2010 4:16:50 AM

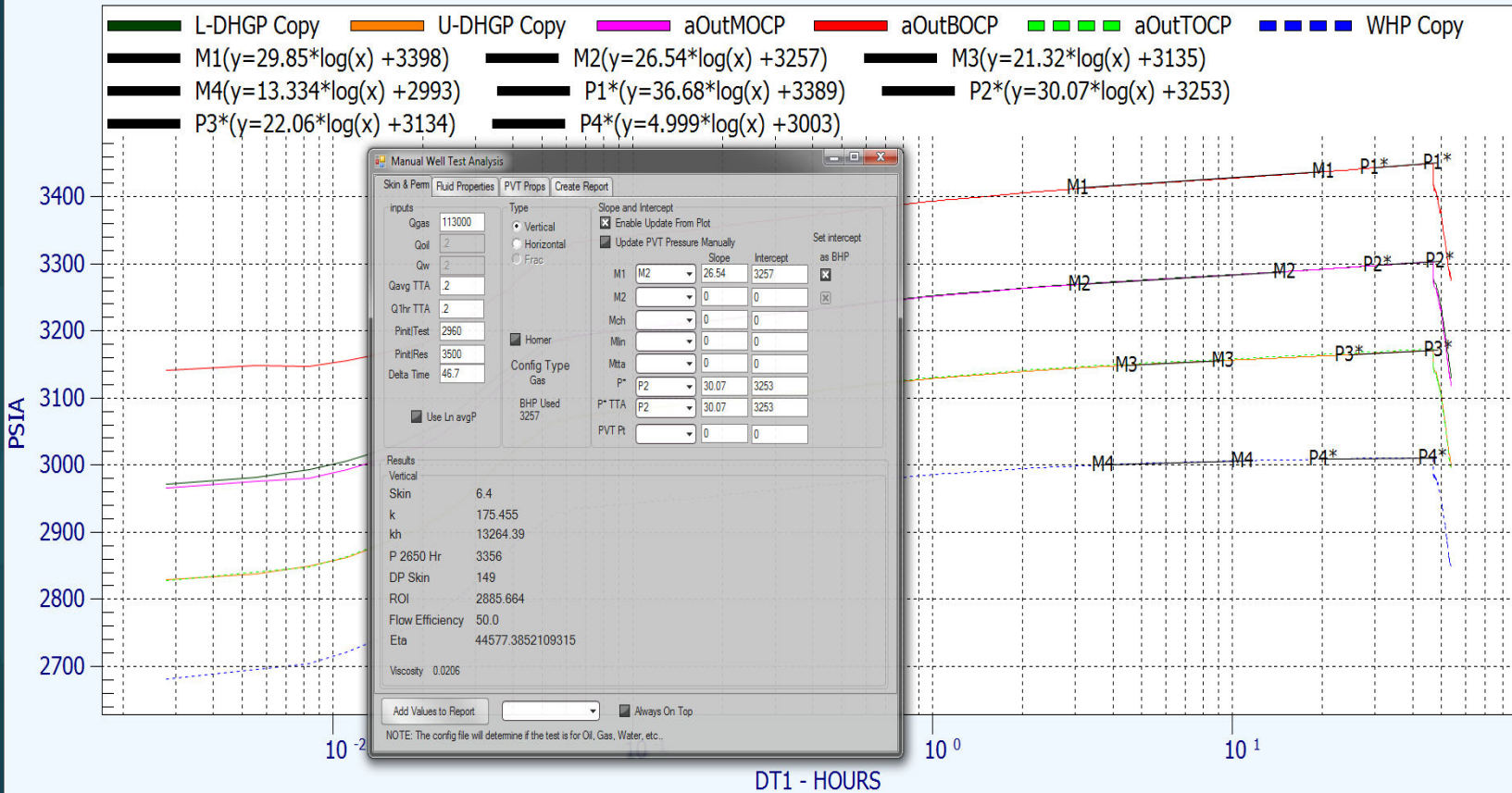
Ready

Skin = 10.5; permeability = 222 md

Lower DHG PBU semi-log Analysis

Oilfield Data Services Inc.

Date created : 9/2/2014 2:57 PM



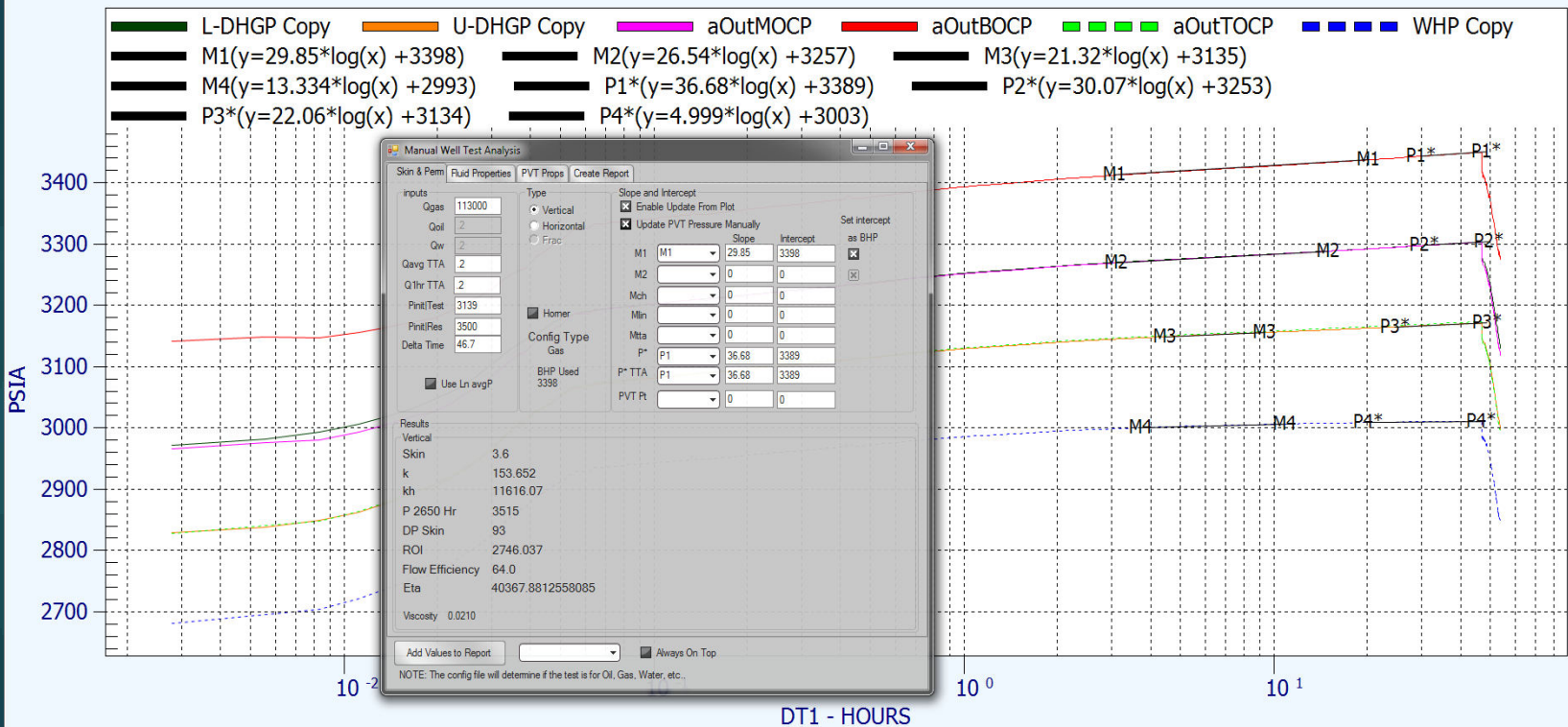
Skin = 6.4; permeability = 175 md

Mid-Completion Semi-log PBU Analysis

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Date created : 9/2/2014 2:57 PM

0.027, 2631-431



Skin = 3.6; permeability = 154 md

Semi-log PBU Analysis Summary

	Slope (psi/cycle)	Skin	DP Skin (psi)	DP Skin/Q (psi/MMCF/ D)	Permeability- thickness (md-ft)	Perm (md)	ROI (ft)
WHP	13.33	20.8	242	2.14	27318	361	4007
U-DHGP	21.32	10.5	194	1.72	16758	222	3195
L-DHGP	26.54	6.4	149	1.32	13264	175	2886
BHP	29.85	3.6	93	0.82	11616	154	2746

It is important to calculate mid-completion BHP. Failure to do so leads to overestimating skin and permeability

Case Study 3 Results

- ▶ Using a direct solution to the Mechanical Energy Balance, PVT, Thermal and Frictional models, accurate pressure conversions can be performed at any point in the wellbore

Conclusions

- ▶ DP between gauges can be used to calculate gas rates. The procedure involves:
 - ▶ Bernoulli equation (Mechanical Energy Balance)
 - ▶ Parametric/Dynamic functions of heat transfer in/near well
 - ▶ Calibrated equation of state
 - ▶ Tuned frictional model

Conclusions

- ▶ Gas rate calculations using d/p wellbore
 - ▶ Accuracy of the technique Assists in diagnosing errors in allocations
 - ▶ If flow meter fails, the technique can be used on its own to determine the rate
 - ▶ Does not require additional equipment installation
 - ▶ Gas rate calculations can be done in real-time and on historic data
 - ▶ Low cost investment