

Towards CAPE-OPEN 2.0

**Michel Pons,
CO-LaN Chief Technology Officer
CO-LaN contractor / France**

- ❑ A response to Mark STIJNMAN's presentation at CO 2019
- ❑ My views: not revised/approved by CO-LaN MB
- ❑ Mark addressed:
 - Changes in the computing landscape
 - Changes in the process simulation landscape
 - Pain points in the current standard:
 - Thermodynamics
 - Unit operations

CAPE-OPEN 2.0

- ❑ Scoping version of CAPE-OPEN not often done
 - Made for CAPE-OPEN 1.0 (released in 2003) as part of scoping of Global CAPE-OPEN project (before mid 1999)
 - Never a question (unfortunately?) for CAPE-OPEN 1.1
- ❑ CO-LaN known for slow progress on interface specification
 - No different from most Standard Development Organizations
 - With less resources involved than most SDOs
- ❑ Aiming too high calls for dissatisfaction
- ❑ Aiming too low makes goal unattractive
- ❑ Need for a time horizon
 - Is October 2025 the right evidence for CAPE-OPEN 2.0?
 - End of CO-LaN duration if not extended

Changes in the computing landscape

- ❑ *“Present is mostly single-threaded / future is multi-threaded”*
 - Single-thread is indeed common: architecture of the 90s
 - When multi-threaded, most often it is not “many” threads.
 - Some side effects of different threads used by separate components (Windows handle) resolved in COBIA Phase 2
 - Specified in CAPE-OPEN 1.2 in ICapeUtilities::Edit

- ❑ Multi-threading is addressed by COBIA
 - Threading model/rules have been developed by M&T SIG within Phase 2
 - Need still to be refined in Phase 3
 - Not necessarily an impact on CAPE-OPEN 2.0 specifications

Changes in the computing landscape

- ❑ *“Future of process simulation is cloudy”*
 - Present becomes progressively to get cloudy
 - ProSim, AVEVA, ANSYS, COMSOL, etc.. are present on the cloud
 - For evaluation purposes as well as daily calculations
 - User subroutines, plug-ins like CAPE-OPEN not always part of cloud
 - Solution to possible license issues not yet defined

- ❑ Additional CAPE-OPEN interface specifications or technical solution for CAPE-OPEN implementation to be developed?
 - If business case, can be considered as within scope of COBIA Phase 3 (still under definition) and hence towards CO 2.0

Business case

- ❑ Organization X makes available on the cloud Unit Operation A (PMC) to its customers for use in any PME (desktop or cloud)
 - No download of CAPE-OPEN PMC allowed by organization X
 - Generalization of case used in Virtual Plant Demonstration Model (VPDM) Project presented at CAPE-OPEN 2006 Annual Meeting by PSE Ltd
 - *aimed to support "arms-length" inter-organisational collaborative modelling, allowing companies to make their models available in a strictly controlled manner to collaborating organisations, with which they may potentially be competitors in different contexts.*

- ❑ The above business case led to a demonstration project *only*
- ❑ What would make it more important today?

Way forward on cloud issues?

☐ End-user organizations/ software vendors

- Develop relevant business cases
- Manifest intent to use solution once preliminary design available
 - No use of a solution which is not implemented

☐ Possible consequences

- Additional delays in COBIA Phase 3 deliverables
- Additional budget for COBIA Phase 3
- Increase attractiveness of CAPE-OPEN
- But would performance not be a big issue?

Dynamics and equation-oriented modeling

- ❑ “More dynamic and equation-oriented modelling in future than currently”: yes

- ❑ Equation-oriented modeling
 - Considered from the start in CAPE-OPEN (end of 90s)
 - As part of the Numerical interface specifications
 - Given same importance as Thermo and UNIT packages
 - Conceptual design by Imperial College (*PSE Ltd*)
 - “Equation Set Object” to encapsulate systems of equations
 - Numerical solvers to encapsulate solvers of many kinds
 - Implemented (with sometimes some adaptations)
 - In one commercial tool: gPROMS
 - In academic tools: EMSO, CheOps, Diana

CAPE-OPEN numerical interfaces

- ❑ Out of scope of COBIA Phase 2
 - Consequently out of CAPE-OPEN 1.2
 - Will they be in scope of COBIA Phase 3
 - And consequently of CAPE-OPEN 2.0?

- ❑ Current reasoning within M&T SIG on COBIA
 - There is no Numerical SIG to take care of Numerical interface specifications: no maintenance
 - There is almost no implementation in commercial tools
 - No business case exists for maintaining Numerical interface specifications within CAPE-OPEN standard

CO-LaN past activities on numerical interfaces

- ❑ NUMR interfaces included in original Tester Suite
 - Reason: Tester Suite needs to cover the entire spectrum of CAPE-OPEN
- ❑ Mixing equation-oriented and sequential approaches
 - Black box models / classic Unit models in EO PME's
 - Partly in current CAPE-OPEN Unit Operation interface specification: never implemented? (maybe in Aspentech Mixer VB example!)
 - Needs to be extended to be completely functional
 - Proposal made by PSE Ltd to CO-LaN Full Members (10 yrs ago)
 - No follow-up, for budgetary reasons mostly
 - Unclear if design contained in project proposal can be re-used
 - Copyright held by PSE Ltd
- ❑ Lack of business case and of financial resources for further activities?
- ❑ Lack of Numerical Special Interest Group to maintain sustain interest in Numerical interface specifications?

Creation of a Numerical Special Interest Group?

- ❑ Creation attempted at very beginning of CO-LaN
 - Not successful

- ❑ Potential for a Numerical SIG
 - Expertise exists in academics/software vendors/end-users
 - Carnegie Mellon University / Federal University of Rio de Janeiro
 - PSE Ltd / Aspentech / AVEVA
 - BASF / Linde Engineering / Shell

- ❑ W/o a Numerical SIG, no numerical interfaces in CO 2.0

Dynamics and equation-oriented modeling

- ❑ “*More dynamic simulation in future than currently*”: yes
- ❑ In CAPE-OPEN, two approaches to dynamic simulation
 - Interface specification for dynamic unit operations
 - Designed with Operator Training Simulation in mind
 - Prototyped in INDISS Plus (RSI/CORYS) and in PMCs at IFPEN
 - But nowadays “*no impact on CORYS current business*”
 - Not implemented in any other commercial/academic tools
 - No business case?
 - Design to be revised?
 - Interface specification for Differential Algebraic Equations
 - Implemented in academic tools
 - Not implemented in commercial tools
 - No business case?
 - Design to be revised? Go back to need for a Numerical SIG.

Interface specification for dynamic unit operations

- ❑ Activity located within UNIT Special Interest Group
 - Extension to the Unit Operation interface specification
 - No real constraint w.r.t. inclusion in CAPE-OPEN 2.0
 - Nobody currently within UNIT SIG from original design team
 - Is this the interface specification which is needed?
 - Where is the expertise, out of CORYS/IFPEN in CO-LaN?
 - Kongsberg: K-Spice® multipurpose dynamic simulator
 - Sim Infosystems: ProSimulator OTS system
 - ?

- ❑ Is there a business case for changing UNIT SIG charter to include work on this specification?

Pain points in thermodynamic PMC lifecycle

- ❑ “No way to create an empty Property Package”

- ❑ Property Package Manager exists
 - But its functionality is too reduced

- ❑ Current proposal (see Thermo SIG) to address issues
 - Manager interface specification
 - Carries functionality defined for Chemical Reaction Package Managers in Chemical Reactions interface specification
 - Editing, saving/loading, preset management, etc...
 - Common to Property Package Managers, to Chemical Reaction Package Managers, to ?
 - Is meant to be part of CAPE-OPEN 1.X and further

Pain points with multithreading and thermodynamics

- ❑ “*Property Packages are inherently unsafe for multi-threading*”
 - Property Package calculations are progressively made threadsafe
 - See KBC presentation: “extension of threadsafe models”
 - Underlying legacy software often an issue slowly resolved
- ❑ Mark points Material Object as root cause of pain points
 - MO used as a data container to store calculation results
- ❑ Solution proposed by Mark
 - Make a Property Package a stateless object
 - No move of data in and out of MO by Property Package
 - Move part of complexity to Package Manager
 - This part underway by specifying Manager interface
 - But Mark requests more e.g. in terms of compound subsets

Pain points with multithreading and thermodynamics

- ❑ Mark advocates major changes in design of Thermodynamic and Physical Properties interface specification
 - Current specification widely implemented
 - New solution needs to be fully specified
 - Much time needed, since would be a major revision
 - Could be reason for success/failure of CAPE-OPEN 2.0.
 - Who would be willing to implement new solution?
 - In parallel or to replace current solution
 - Software vendors often showed reluctance to change
 - Heavy development and maintenance costs

- ❑ Need to hear from software vendors
 - Any interface design has benefits and flaws

Other priorities on thermodynamics

- ❑ Inclusion of revised Chemical Reactions interface specification in Thermodynamics and Physical Properties interface specification
 - A single (reactive and non-reactive) phase equilibrium interface
- ❑ Distributed properties support: needed for solids for instance
 - TUHH made a proposal and implemented interface in SolidSim
 - Design to be reviewed (any intellectual property issue with Aspentech?)
- ❑ Semantics of Property Package parameters
 - No naming convention makes identification of parameters difficult
- ❑ Support for multiple point calculations in one call
 - Came up as a use case for multi-cell unit operation models

Pain points on Unit Operations

- ❑ *“Need some way to support “classic” unit operations in an equation-oriented environment”*
 - See part above on blackbox UOs in EO PME
 - Solution proposed by PSE Ltd
- ❑ Actionable for CAPE-OPEN 2.0

- ❑ *“Real-time display of current conditions”*
 - A complete use case is needed
 - Possible implementations: ChemSep, HTRI?

Other points on Unit Operations

- ❑ CAPE-OPEN looked upon as a reference
- ❑ At CAPE-OPEN 2019: CFIHOS / DEXPI communications
- ❑ Discussions initiated with DEXPI
 - Linking a data model and an interface model
 - Possible modifications to identification of Unit Operations
 - But not only
 - More than an extension: CAPE-OPEN 2.0
- ❑ Analysis
 - Challenge: new domain to be mastered
 - Benefits: access to new stakeholders
 - Risks: expectations of other SDOs not met

What could be CAPE-OPEN 2.0 in 2025?

- ❑ Thermodynamics (already under development)
 - Close integration between chemical reactions and thermodynamics
 - Manager interface offering enhanced functionality
 - Compared to Property Package Managers
- ❑ Unit Operations (preliminary design but need of business cases)
 - Black-box modeling support
- ❑ Equation-oriented and dynamic simulation
 - Strong basis exists that could be ported to CAPE-OPEN 2.0
 - Needs a Numerical SIG to make it happen
- ❑ Opening to digital twin aspects
- ❑ Software engineering aspects
 - Multi-threading / cloud: technical scope of COBIA Phase 3

Questions?

Thank you for your attention!