

Bringing Sophisticated Statistical Analysis to Real Time Decision Making

Eric Druker, Blake Boswell 2011 National SCEA Conference Albuquerque, NM

What is RealTime Analytics™

- ▶ One of the challenges in performing risk analysis is the time required to run simulations
 - Run-times of minutes or hours prohibit most risk analyses models from being decision making tools as they can not be re-run during meetings
- ▶ RealTime Analytics[™] (RTA) is a collection of technologies, tools and methodologies allowing complex analytics to be performed far faster than using currently available methods
- ▶ This presentation will focus on two tools utilizing RTA technology for SCEA-centric applications
 - RTA Excel Tool: Cost Risk Analysis, Business Simulations
 - Dynamic Integrated Cost Estimator: Integrated Cost & Schedule Risk Analysis,
 Schedule Risk Analysis, Joint Confidence Level Analysis
- ▶ Both of these tools allow simulations to run up to 99.99% faster than comparable industry tools
- Simulations formerly taking minutes or hours to run now finish in under 1 second
 - Allows decision makers to run an unlimited number of excursion scenarios without ever leaving the meeting room
 - RTA is not a numerical approximation approach such as Method of Moments, it simply runs simulations faster than existing tools

RTA's Real-Time Capability is Enabled by Advances in Simulation Algorithms, Not Computer Hardware

Iterative



Punch cards

- "Same Month Analysis"
- Finite Number of Scenarios



Early PCs

- "Same Week Analysis"
- Finite Number of Scenarios

Multi-core Processing

- "Same Day Analysis"
- Finite Number of Scenarios

Real Time



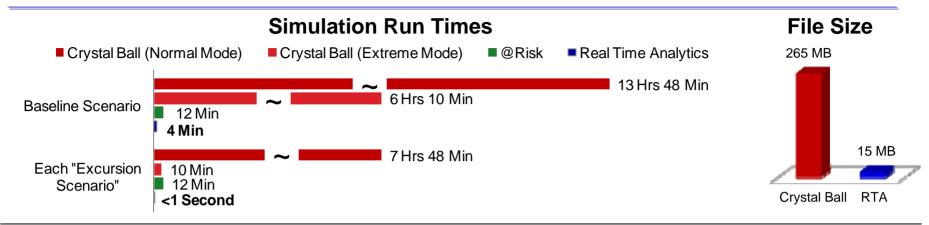
RealTime Analytics™

- Runtime: ~1 second
- Instantaneous, Unlimited Analysis

Advances in Computer Hardware

Advances in Simulation Algorithms

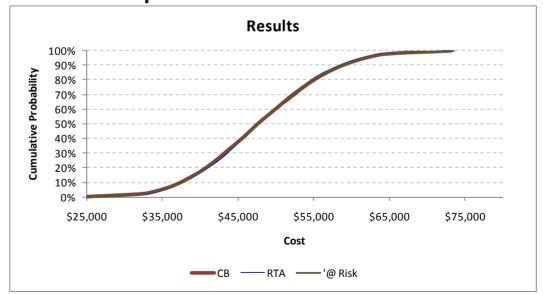
RealTime Analytics[™] Excel Tool: Benchmarking against Crystal Ball & @Risk



Assumptions

- Simulations include mix of triangular, normal, beta, lognormal and uniform distributions with same parameters in each model
- 444 correlated distributions with 9.620 forecasted values
- Baseline scenario is the time to "prime" the models; includes adding in correlation
- Each additional scenario is time to re-run model when a single distribution parameter is changed
- Crystal Ball v11.1.1.0.00, @Risk Standard v5.7

Comparison of Simulation Results

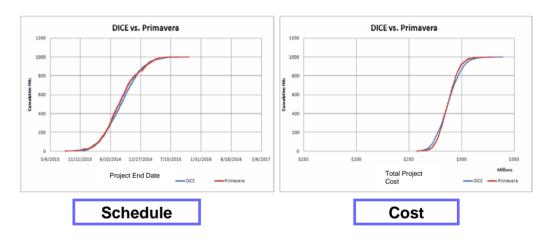


Dynamic Integrated Cost Estimator (DICE) Benchmarking against Primavera Risk Analysis

▶ Runtimes (3200-line schedule)

Task	Run Time	
	DICE	Primavera
Opening Tool	0:02	0:05
Import Schedule	0:03	2:05:27
Load Risk File	0:03	0:01
Initialize Correlation	0:02	0:05
Run Simulation	0:09	2:27
Export Data	0:08	0:00

S-Curves (at 0.4 correlation)



Key Points

- Identical input parameters to ensure consistency in benchmarking
- Importing risks from 3rd party template
- Outputs <1% variation from Primavera

Benefits of RealTime Analytics™

- Excursion scenarios requested by decision makers can be run without ever leaving the meeting room
 - Decisions are made quicker and more efficiently
 - Decision makers never lose focus on the task
- Engineers can immediately see the impact of design changes on cost, schedule and risk
 - Promotes synergy between engineers and cost/schedule/risk disciplines
 - Estimates are no longer "thrown over the fence" to be entered into "black box models"
- What-if analysis can be run in real-time
 - No longer a limit on number of excursion scenarios possible

The best way to demonstrate the benefits of RealTime Analytics™ is to see it in action!

Presented at the 2011 ISPA/SCEA Joint Annual Conference and Training Workshop - www.iceaaonline.com

RealTime Analytics™ Excel Tool Demo

Conclusion

- ▶ RealTime Analytics[™] allows analysts to run business simulations instantaneously
 - Without using approximation methods
- The ability to run simulations in real time has several advantages:
 - Unlimited number of excursion scenarios can be run without ever leaving the room
 - Engineers and decision makers get immediate feedback as assumptions are changes
- ▶ RealTime Analytics™ not limited to simulations
 - Also applied to fraud/outlier detection algorithms and cloud computing applications



For further information...

Eric Druker

Associate

Booz | Allen | Hamilton

Booz Allen Hamilton Inc. 8283 Greensboro Drive McLean, VA 22102 Tel 314.368.5850 druker eric@bah.com

Blake Boswell

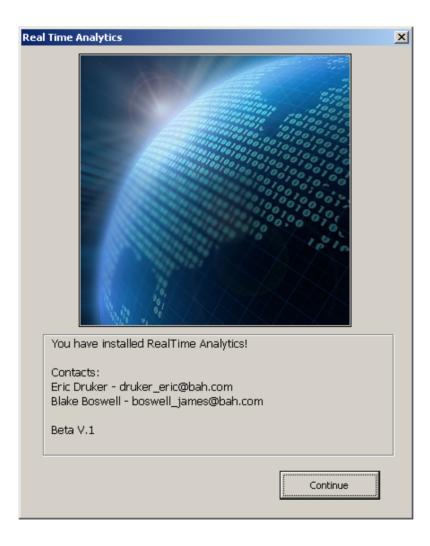
Consultant

Booz | Allen | Hamilton

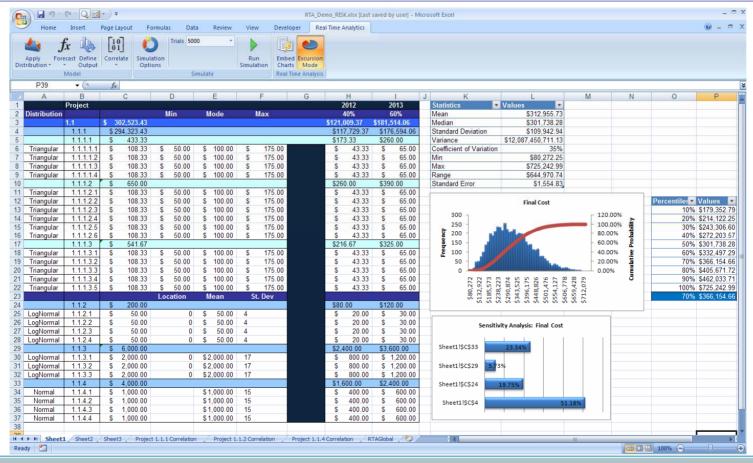
Booz Allen Hamilton Inc. 8283 Greensboro Drive McLean, VA 22102 Tel 202.412.7516 boswell james@bah.com Presented at the 2011 ISPA/SCEA Joint Annual Conference and Training Workshop - www.iceaaonline.com

Backup/Screenshots

Screenshots: RealTime Analytics Excel Tool



Screenshots: RealTime Analytics Excel Tool



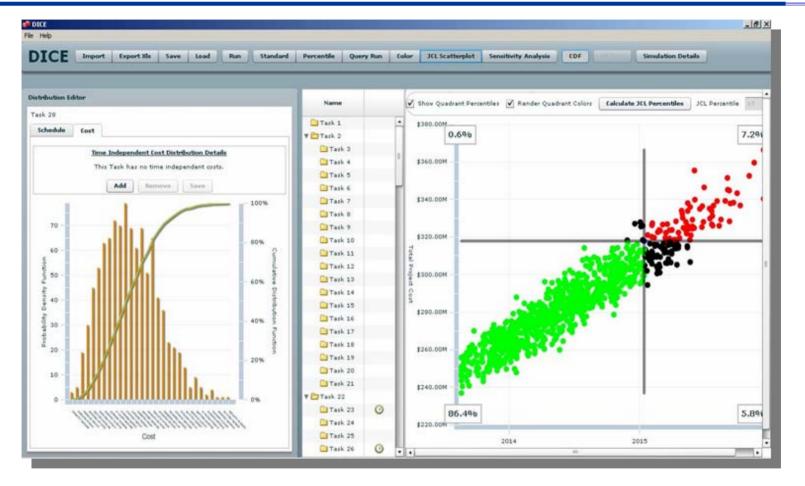
In this cost risk analysis example, that required Crystal Ball and @Risk up to 14 hours to run, RTA was able to reduce run-time to 4 minutes. Excursion scenarios using alternate assumptions took under a second to run

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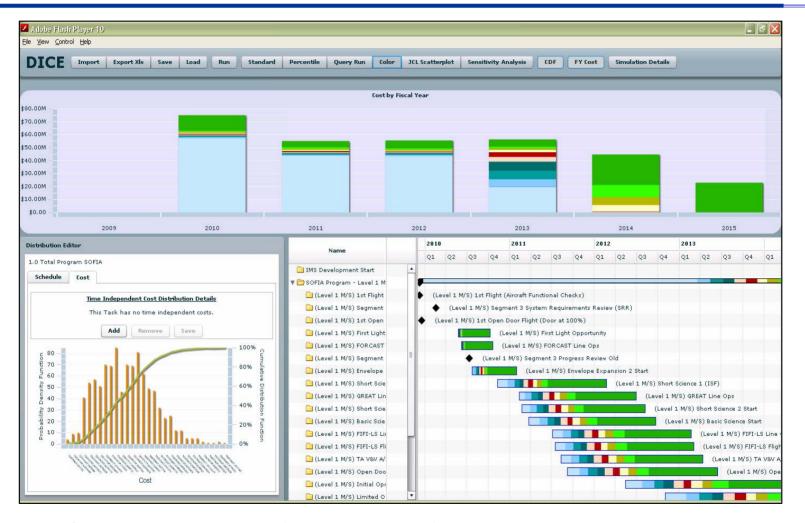
 Organizes project tasks, costs, constraints, schedule interrelationships, and adds uncertainty to individual cost and schedule items

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▶ DICE can load schedules with time-dependent and time-independent costs, generating standard outputs such as JCL scatter plots and iso-curves

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DICE accounts for costs (and uncertainty) by fiscal year – aids budget planning