

AI Driven Autonomous Operation of Process Systems



Chris Kahrs	Microsoft
Varsha Raju	Microsoft
Dr David Smith	AVEVA

Speaker Introduction



Chris Kahrs,

Chris Kahrs is a long time Microsoft employee working in the Data and AI space for the past 7 years.

In his current position as a Technical PM in the Autonomous Systems group at Microsoft he works with Simulation Vendors and Partners to integrate Simulation with the Bonsai (Deep Reinforcement Learning) toolchain. This allows non data science, control engineers to teach the machine to learn an autonomous policy for system control. Chris holds a Computer Science degree from The Citadel, in Charleston, South Carolina.



Dr. David Smith

Senior Analytical Solutions Engineer, AI Center of Excellence, United Kingdom:

Dr. Smith is a Chartered Mechanical Engineer and holds a Ph.D. in Fluid Mechanics from Imperial College London. Until 2018 he worked in the industry mainly for EPC companies, leading design, development, and commissioning of Power Plant processes and combustion systems.

Moving to AVEVA, Dr. Smith joined the AI Center of Excellence where his main activities are the integration of AI technologies with AVEVA's first principles simulation products as well as being an SME for Power.



Varsha Raju

Varsha Raju is a Principal Program Manager in the Microsoft Bonsai team, which is part of Microsoft AI. She has over 20 years of experience working in partnerships, go-to-market, and engineering roles in industrial settings. She has worked with a diverse set of companies, including those in aerospace, chemicals, discrete manufacturing, and renewable energy. Varsha holds an undergraduate degree in chemical engineering from the University of Pittsburgh and an MBA from Harvard University. She is based in San Francisco, California.

Credits



David Coe
Bonsai Engineer,
Microsoft



Cyrill Glockner
Director of
Simulation
Partnerships,
Microsoft



Andrea Macri'
Product Manager
AVEVA Dynamic
Simulation,
AVEVA

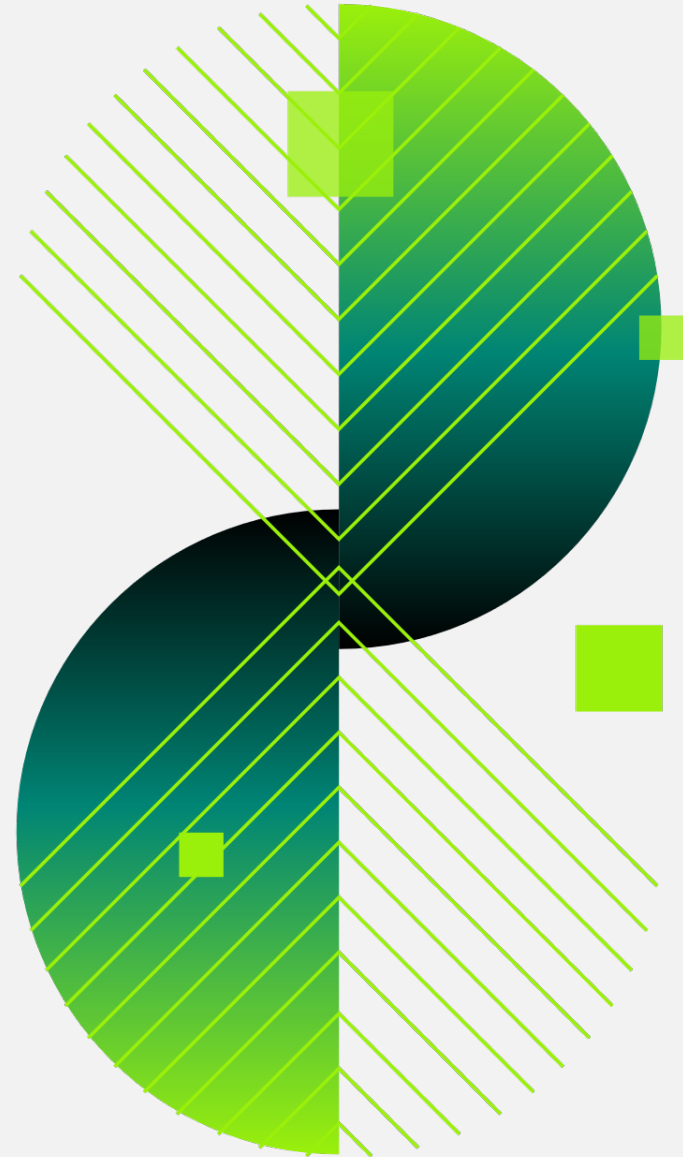


Doug Mills
Senior Consulting
Manager, OTS
Group,
AVEVA

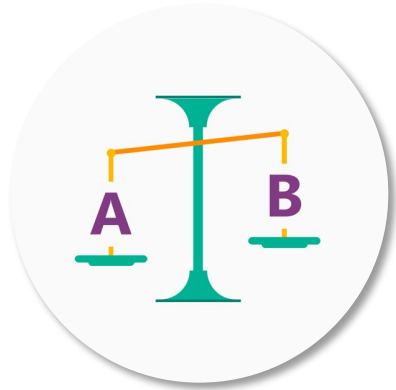


Project Bonsai

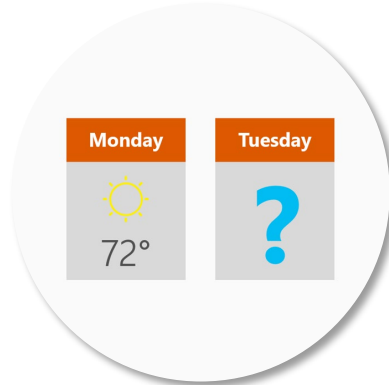
Autonomous Systems
Answering 'Next Optimal Action'?



Key questions answered by ML



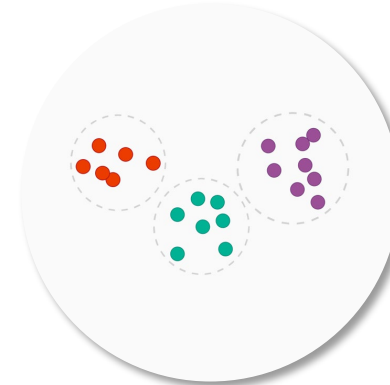
Is this A or B?



How much
— or —
How many?



Is this weird?



How is this
organized?



What should
I do next?

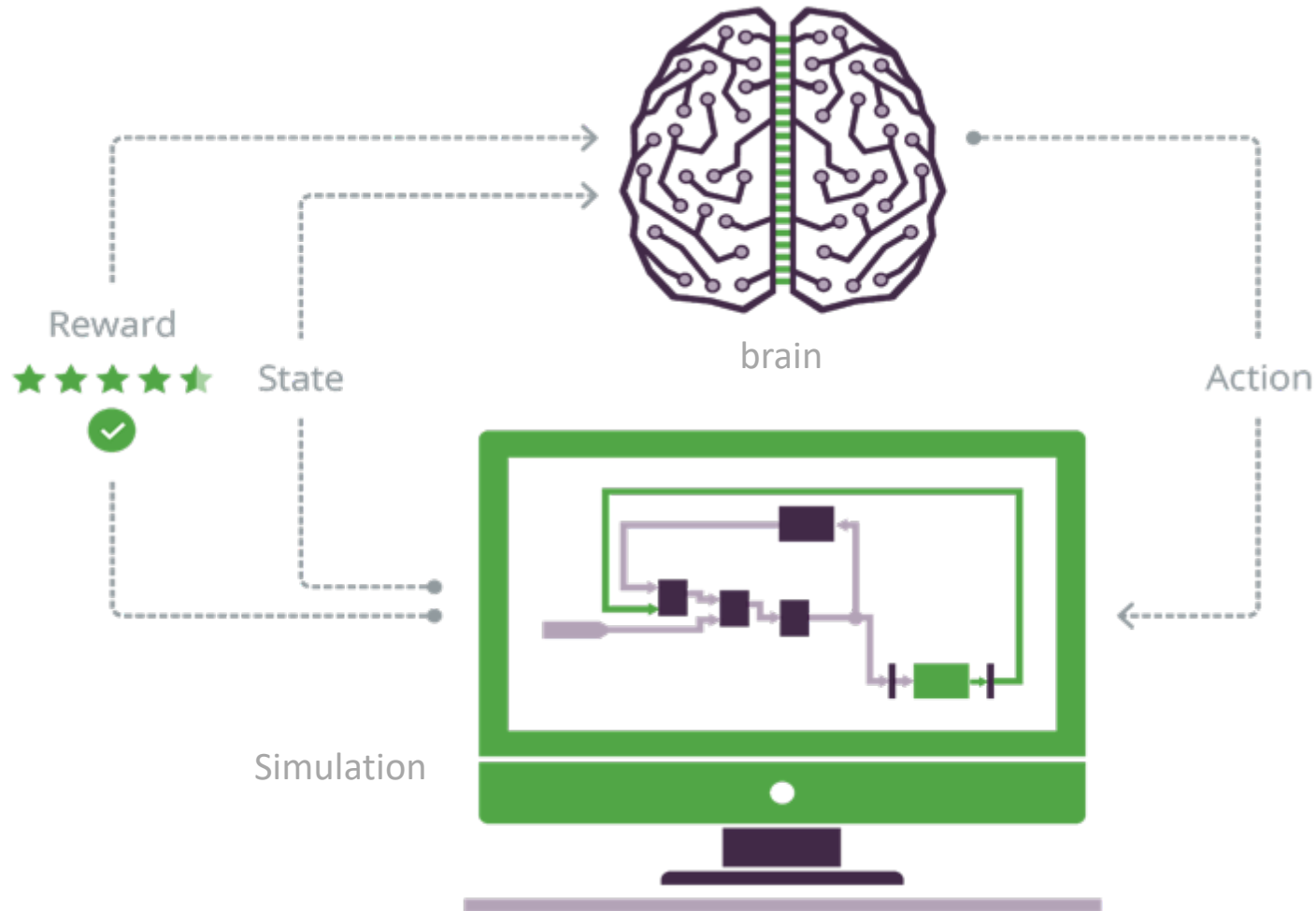
Supervised Learning

Unsupervised Learning

Reinforcement Learning

Building brains for Industrial Control Systems

Combining state-of-the-art techniques in DRL, simulations, and machine teaching



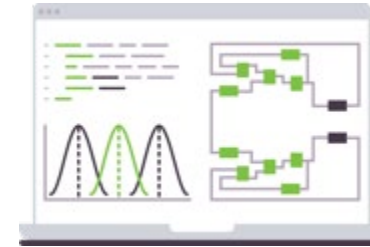
Bonsai Service Overview

A complete toolchain to build, train, and deploy brains

1. Machine Teaching injects subject matter expertise into brain training



2. Simulation tools for accelerated integration and scale of training



3. AI Engine automates the generation and management of neural networks and DRL algorithms



4. Flexible runtime to deploy and scale models in the real world



Machine Teaching infuses subject matter expertise into AI models

Machine Learning



Machine Teaching



Scale your
subject matter
expertise

Achieve faster
training times

Produce
explainable models

Easily share and
reuse concepts

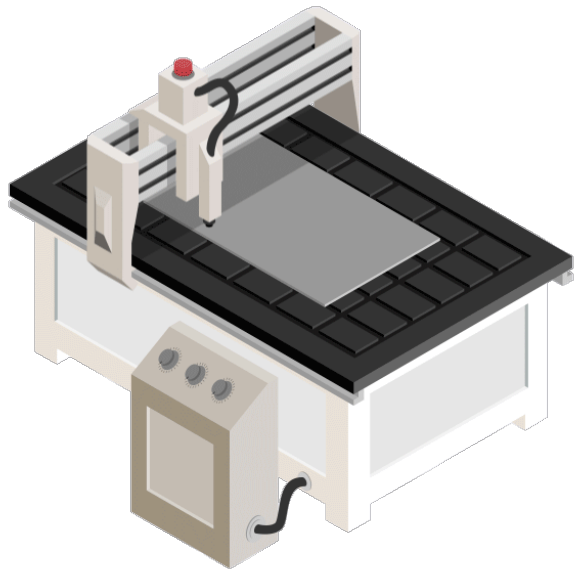
Project Moab – <https://aka.ms/moab>



Autonomous Systems Online Demos

<https://aidemos.microsoft.com/machineteaching>

Machine
Calibration



Smart
Buildings



Motion
Control

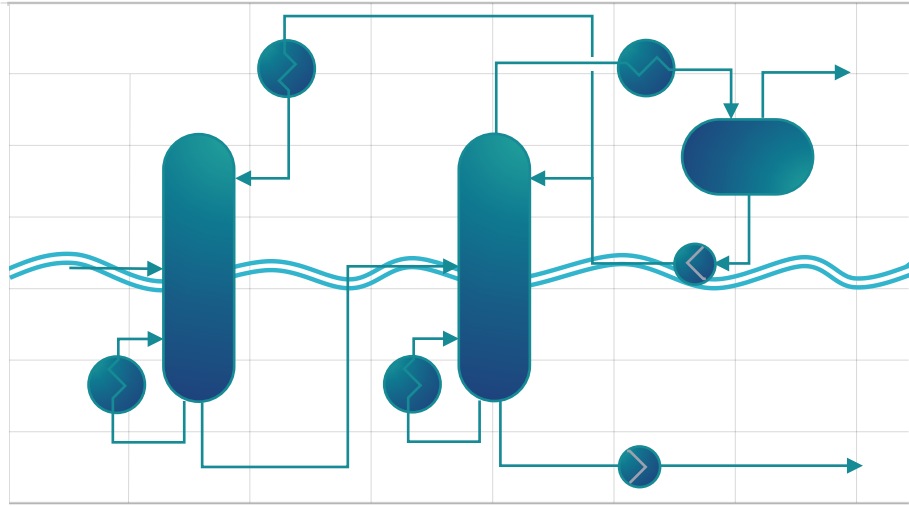


Microsoft Bonsai and AVEVA Dynamic Simulation for the Autonomous Plant

AVEVA



Problem Statement

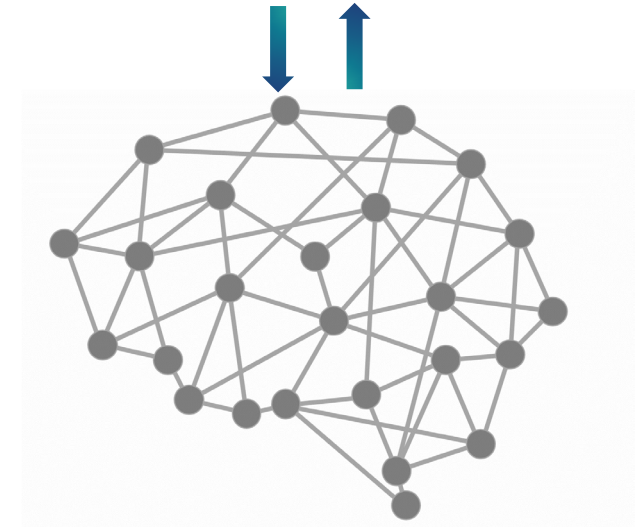
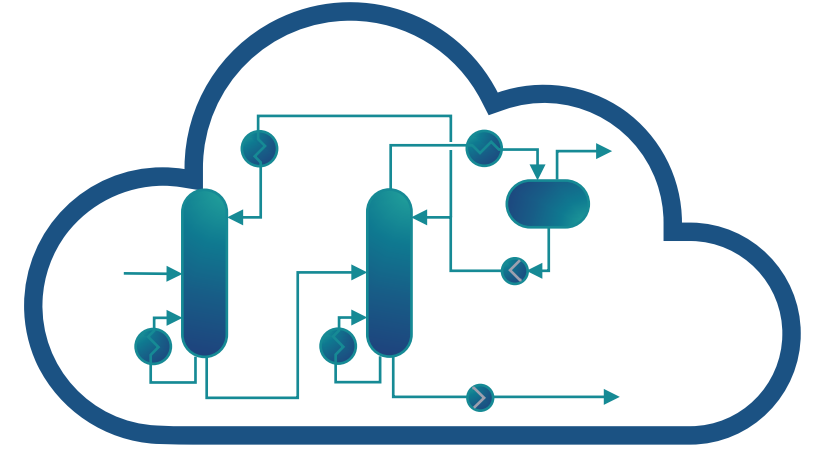


The plant is changing feed weekly

It takes the operators 8 hours to re-stabilize the plant

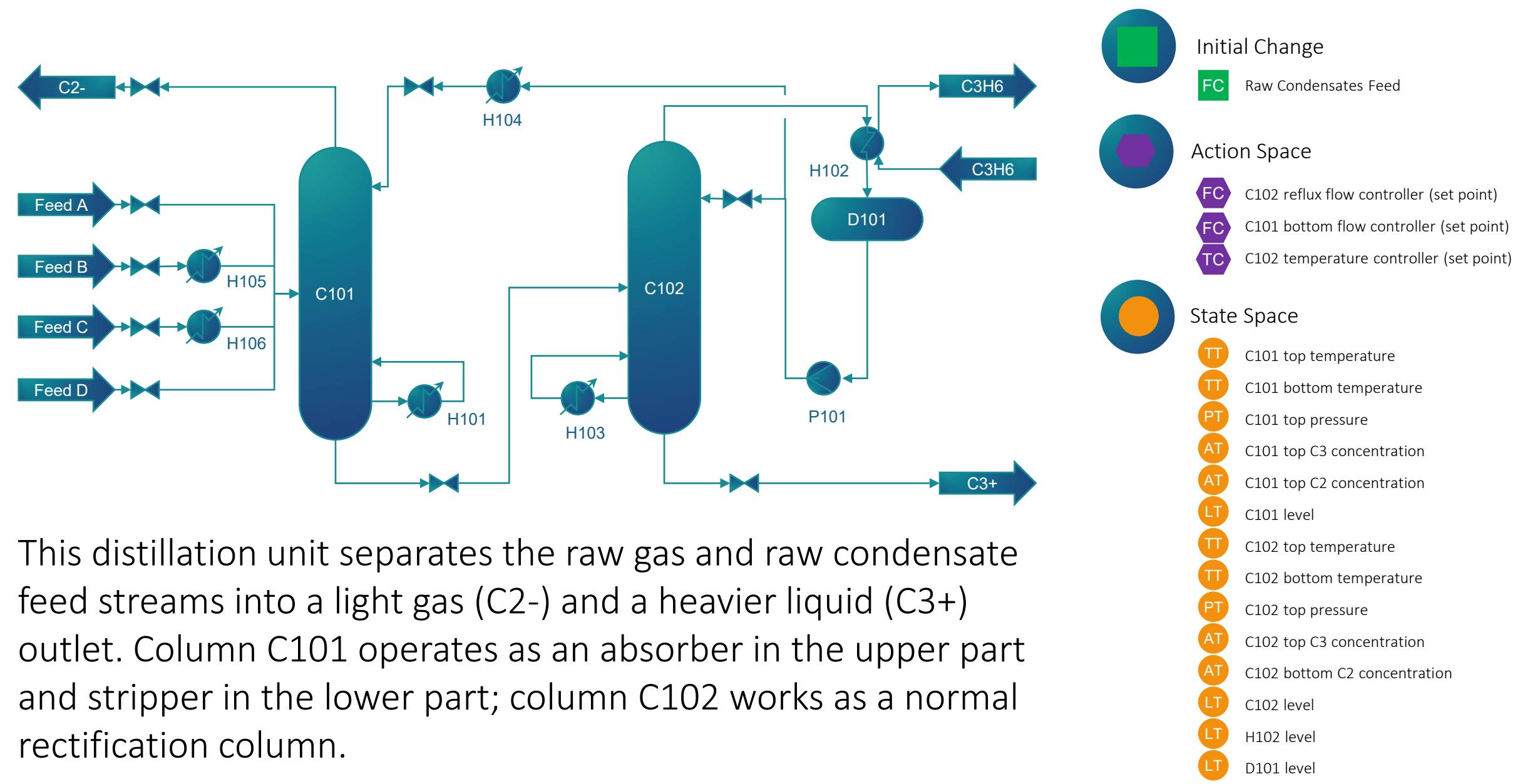
**Several days of
production are lost
every year**

HOW CAN WE
IMPROVE?



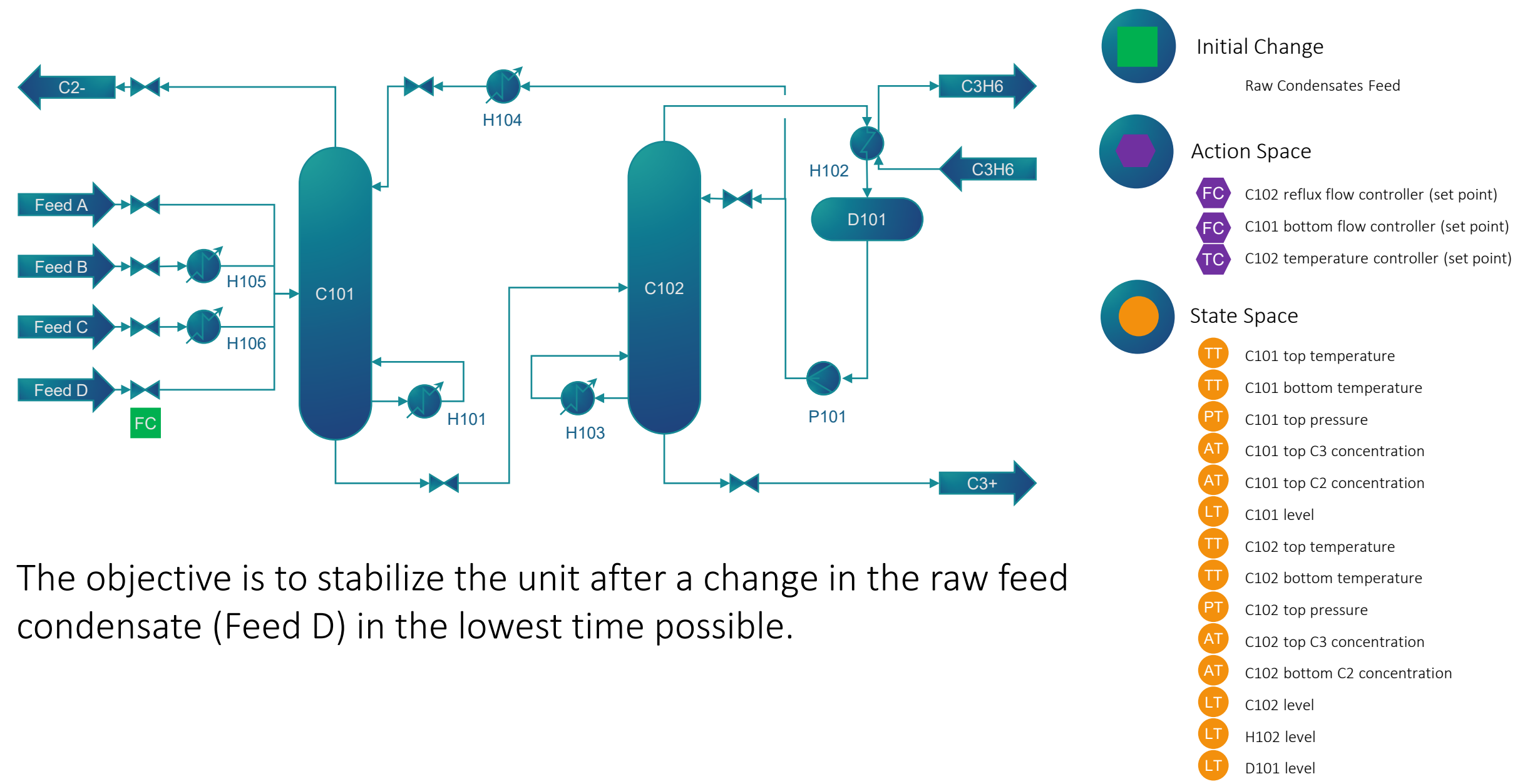
Bonsai Brain can be trained to optimize the operation using a digital replica of the plant in the cloud

Process Description and Problem Definition



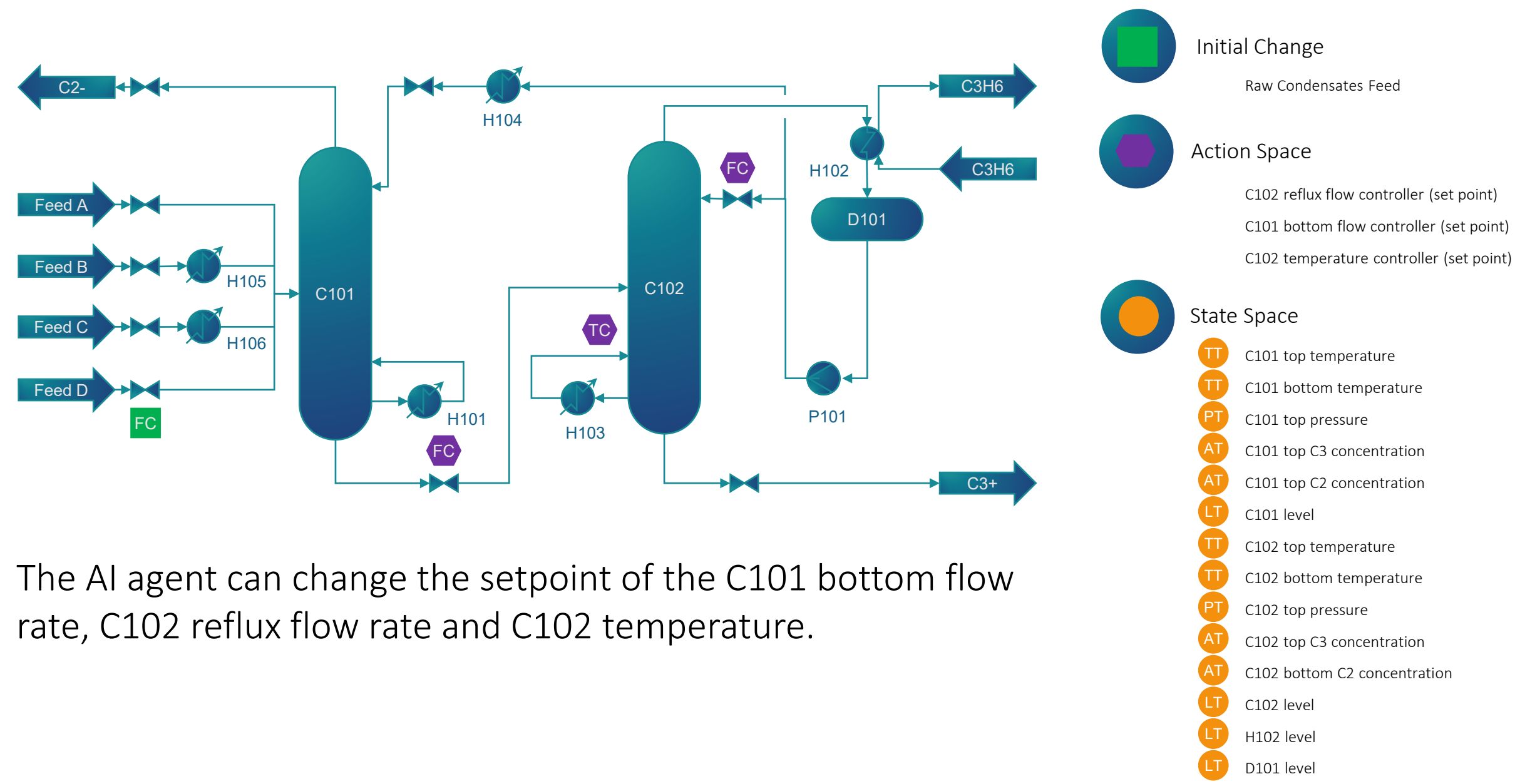
This distillation unit separates the raw gas and raw condensate feed streams into a light gas (C2-) and a heavier liquid (C3+) outlet. Column C101 operates as an absorber in the upper part and stripper in the lower part; column C102 works as a normal rectification column.

Process Description and Problem Definition



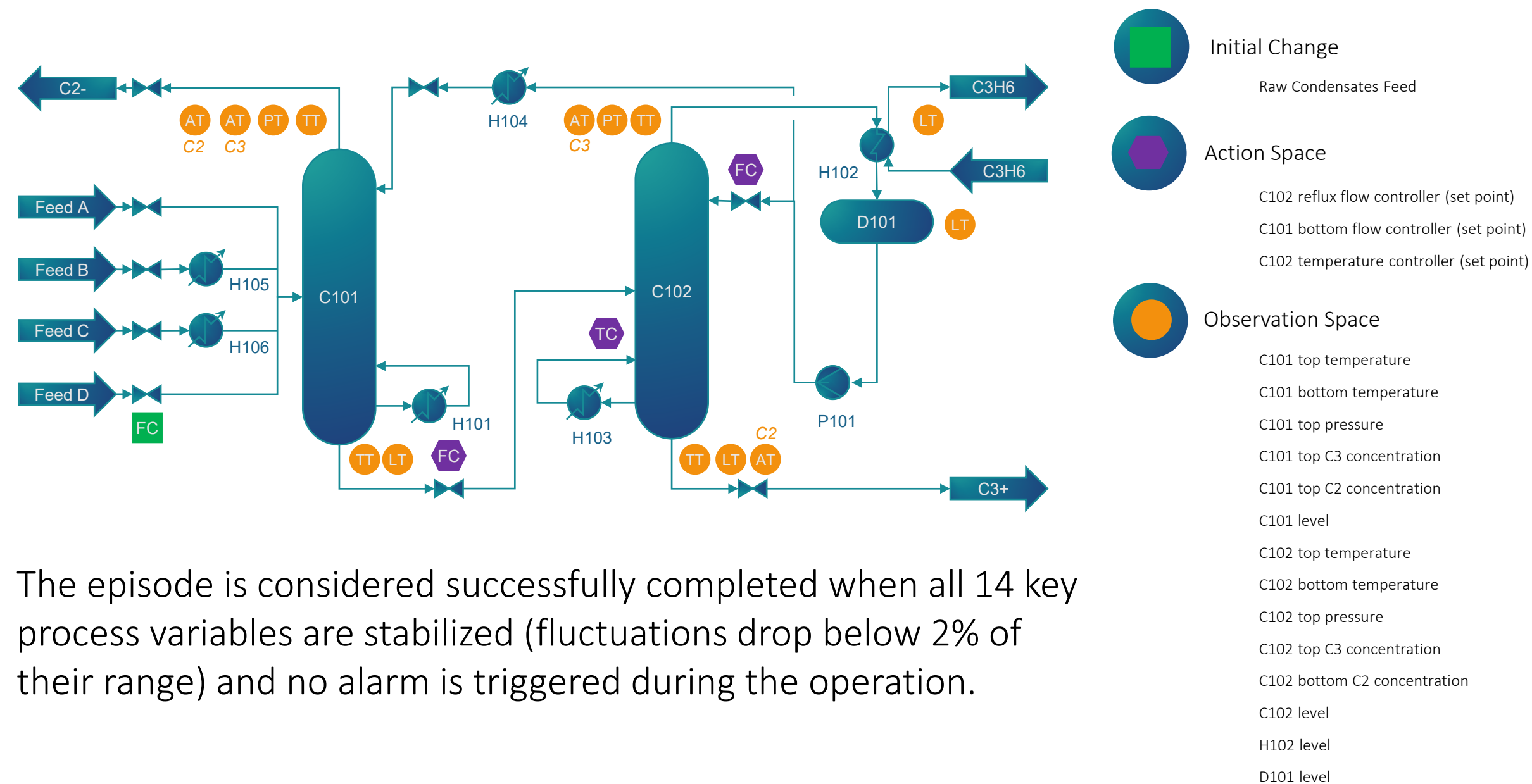
The objective is to stabilize the unit after a change in the raw feed condensate (Feed D) in the lowest time possible.

Process Description and Problem Definition



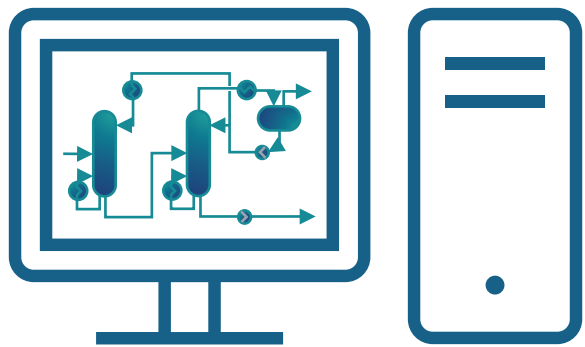
The AI agent can change the setpoint of the C101 bottom flow rate, C102 reflux flow rate and C102 temperature.

Process Description and Problem Definition



The episode is considered successfully completed when all 14 key process variables are stabilized (fluctuations drop below 2% of their range) and no alarm is triggered during the operation.

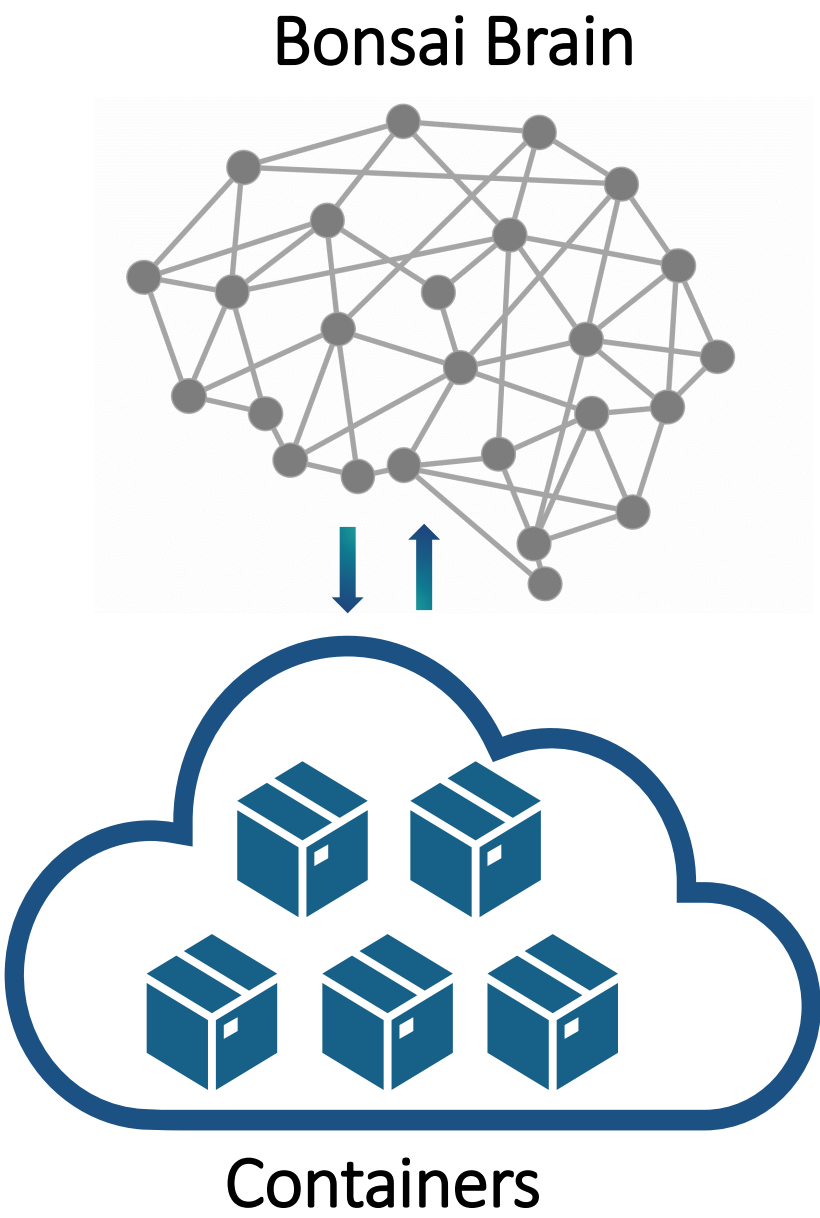
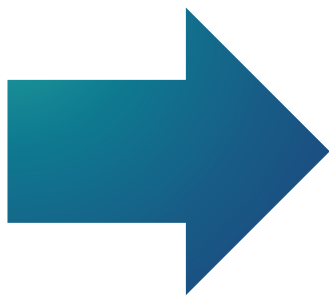
Containerization and the Cloud



Simulation
ADS <-> Bonsai adaptor
Operating System
Hardware



Container



Containers

Training Bonsai

[illegible]

High Alarm



The episode is considered **failed** when one of the 14 key process variables hits a high or low alarm during the operation.

Training Bonsai



ACTIONS							

STATES							

Not
stabilized in
the given
time



The episode is considered **failed** when the process is not reaching stability within the maximum allowed duration.

Training Bonsai



ACTIONS									

STATES									

All variables
are stable



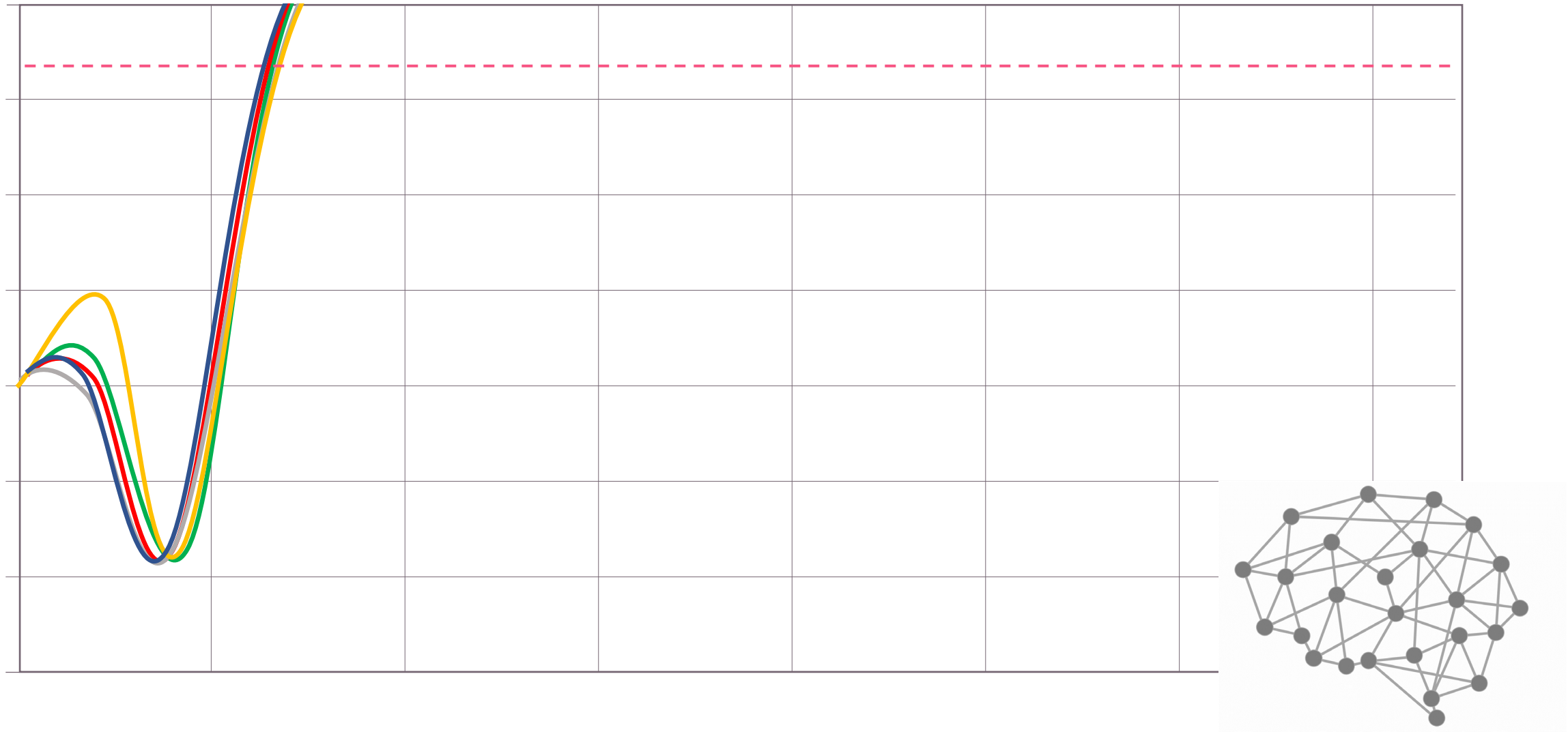
The episode is considered **successful** when all 14 key process variables are stabilized without triggering any alarms.

Learning Results



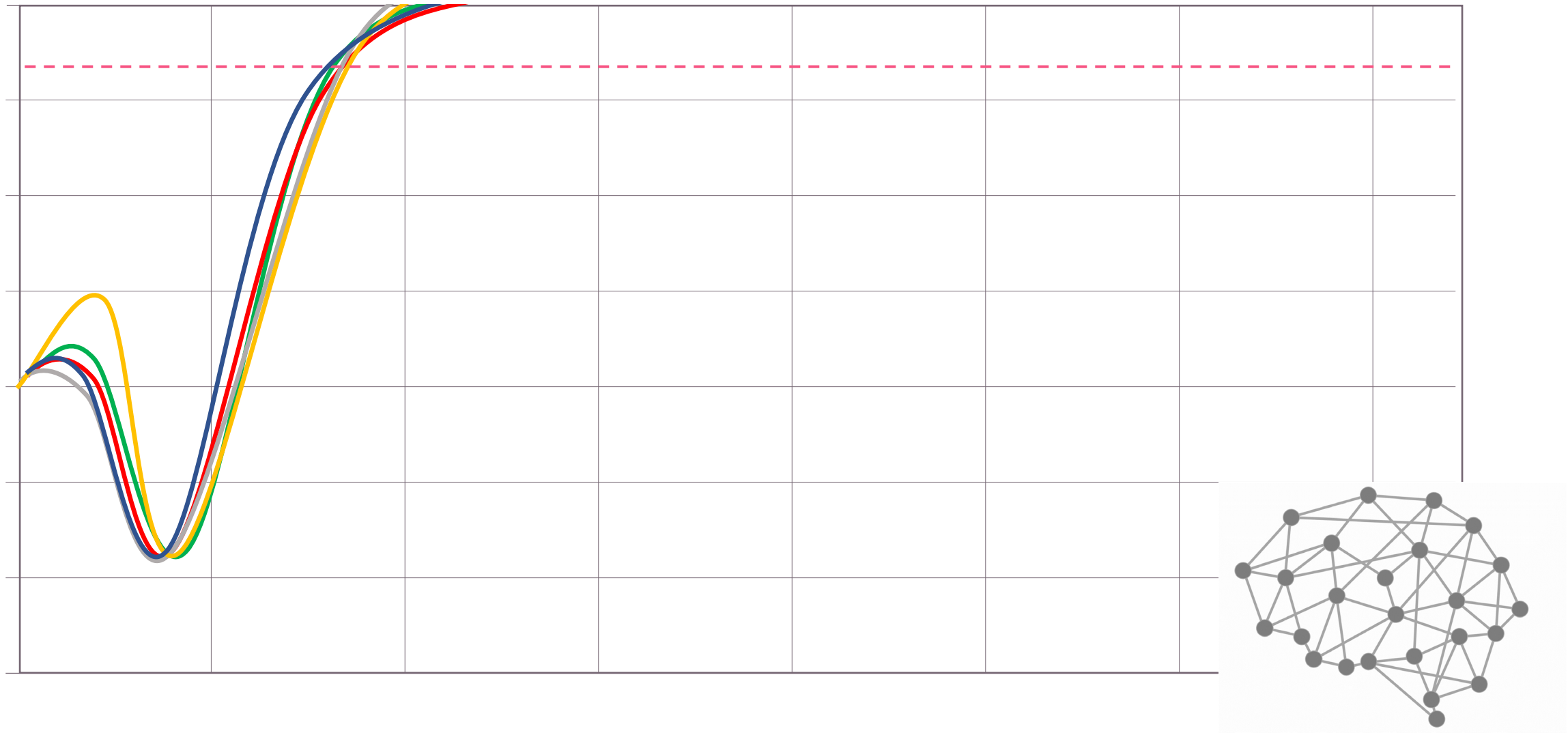
135 Episodes

C101 top C3 concentration



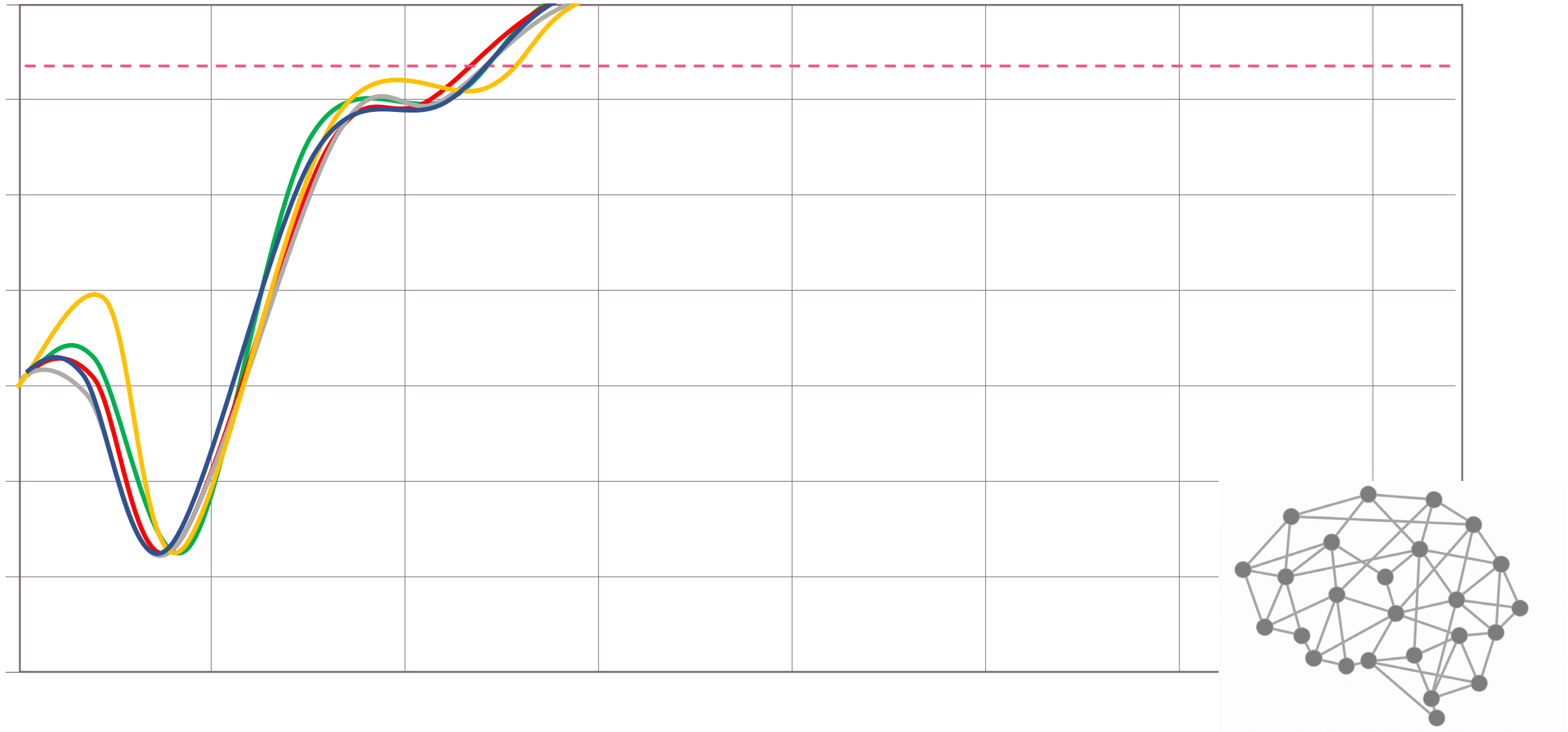
678 Episodes

C101 top C3 concentration



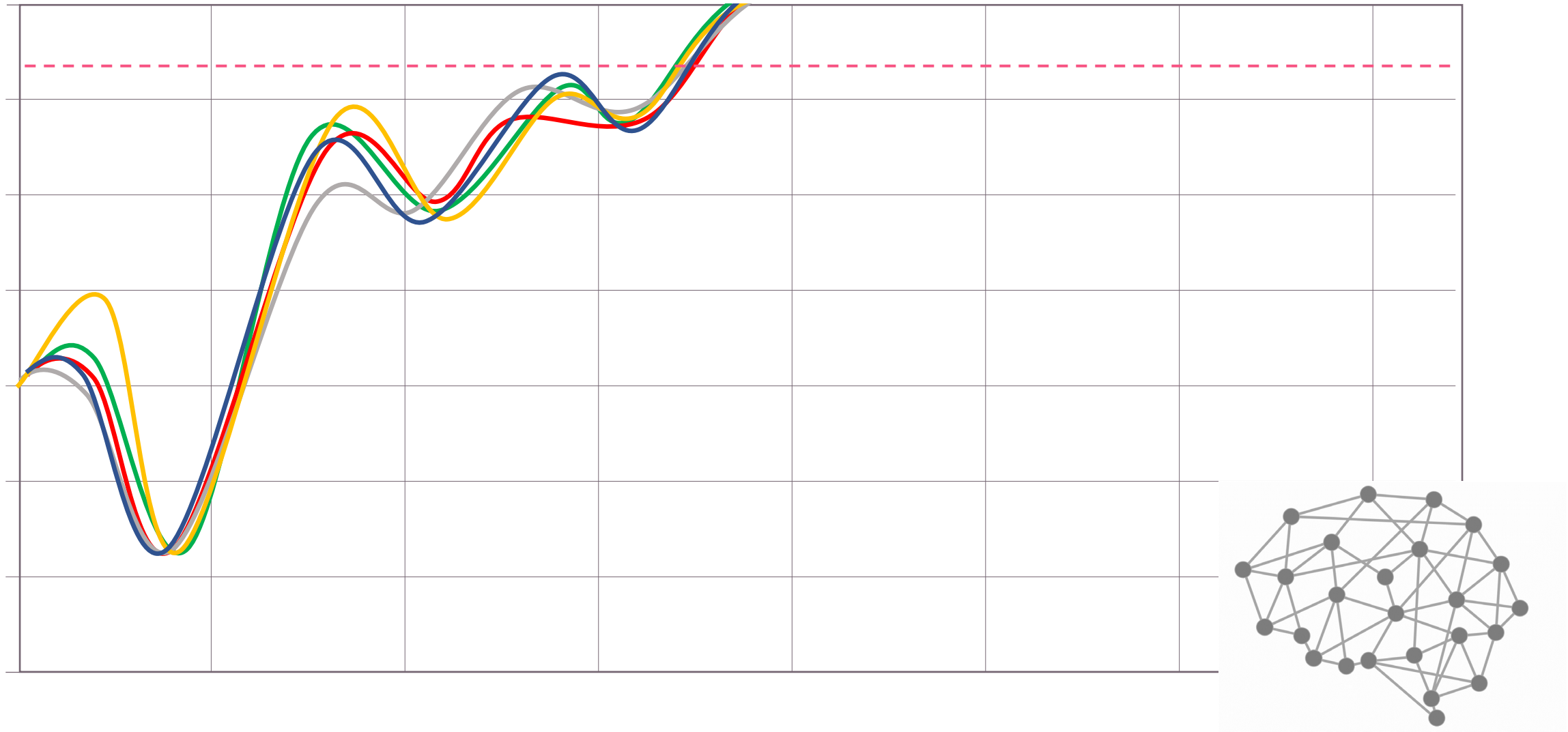
1479 Episodes

C101 top C3 concentration



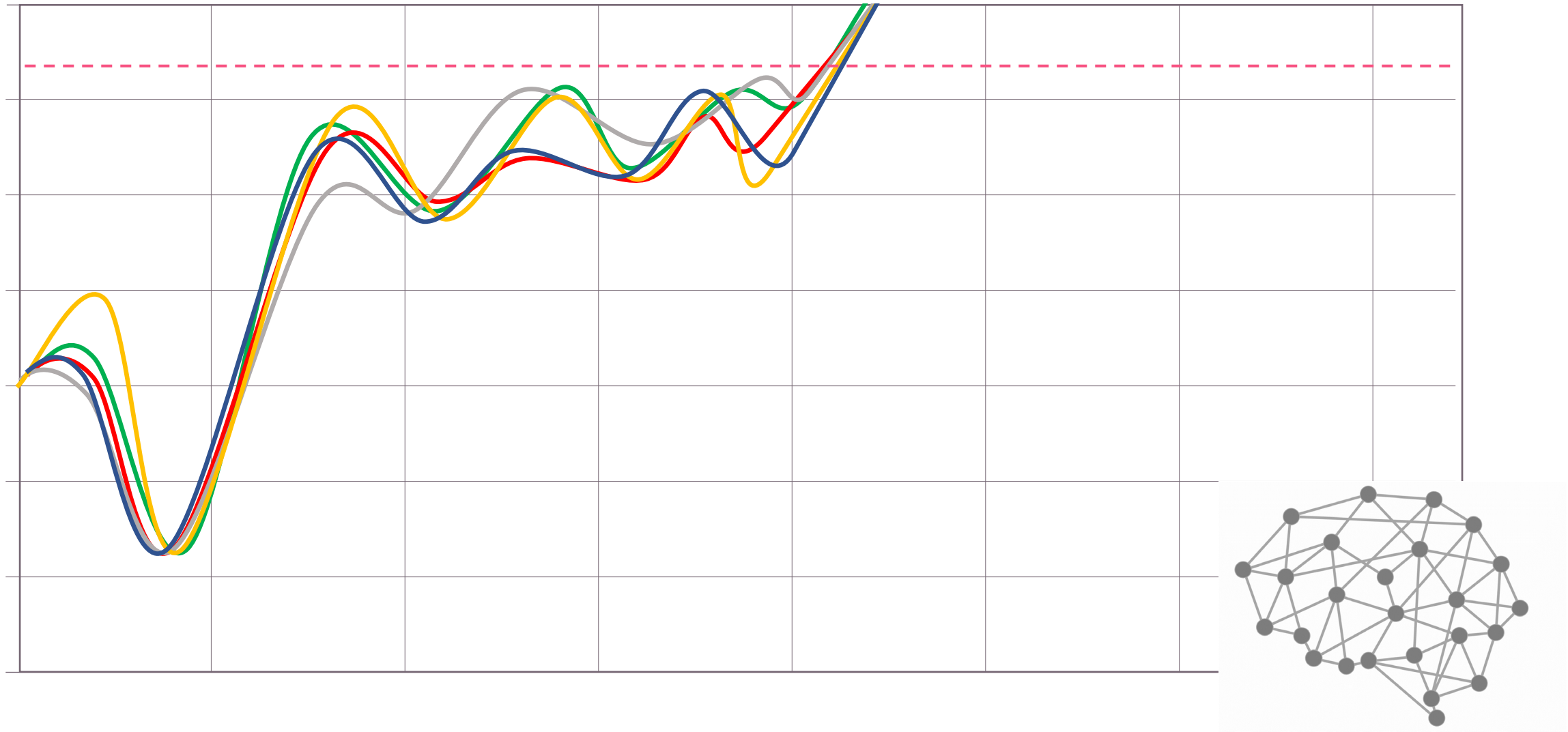
2111 Episodes

C101 top C3 concentration



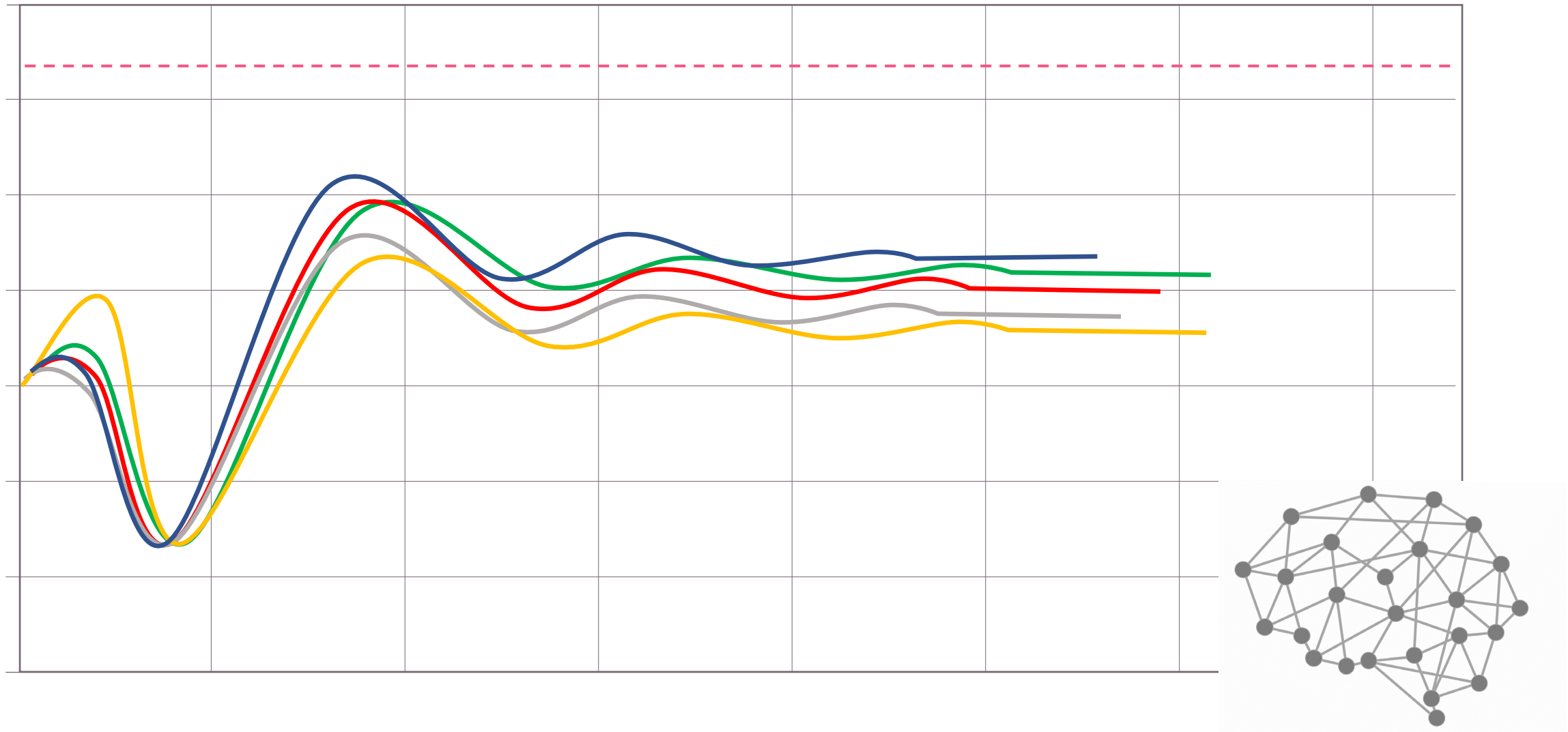
2851 Episodes

C101 top C3 concentration



3705 Episodes

C101 top C3 concentration



Brains

+ Create brain

Simulators

+ Add sim

Datasets

+ Add dataset

Exported Brains

Search by name

Dynsim_WebServer_Test_C2_V0 / v01

Teach

Train

Export brain

StabiliseProcessQuickly (In Progress)

The chart below updates when the brain finds an improved policy during train...

Mean brain performance

Brain performance

Exploration performance

Episode reward

Training iterations

Training duration

Training iterations

Simulators

Diagnostics

View policy performance

DynSimSimulator (Live)

II Pause charts

No assessments to display

States

time

Errors & Output

Notes

AVEVA Dynamic Simulation 2022

View Run Tools Settings Draw Users Help

Single Step Set Speed: 9999 Speed: 0 % Time: 0:11:15.00 RUNNING

Home_Page_AI_DeC2_24May22 F01_C101_AI_DeC2_24May22

Row 1, Col 1

Model Editing

C-101

H-101

FLARE

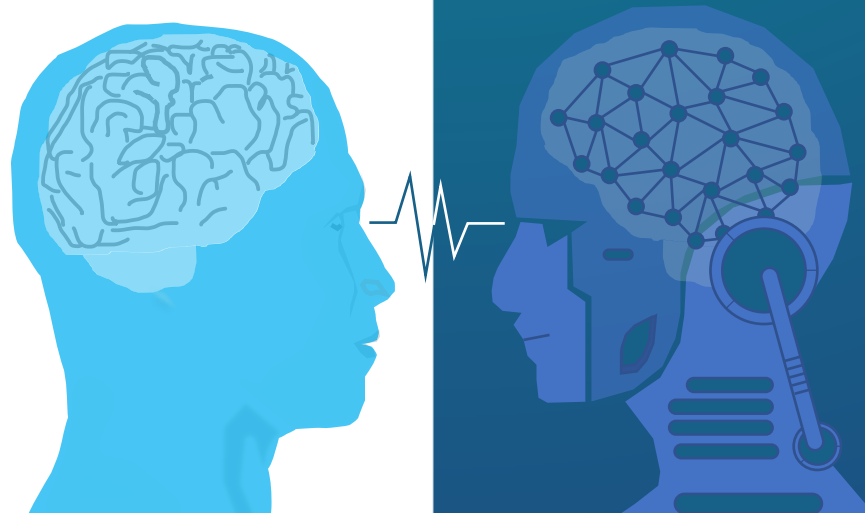
Messages

Warning: Invalid points specified in the Data Historian - FC_3102.PV FC_3102.OUT FC_3

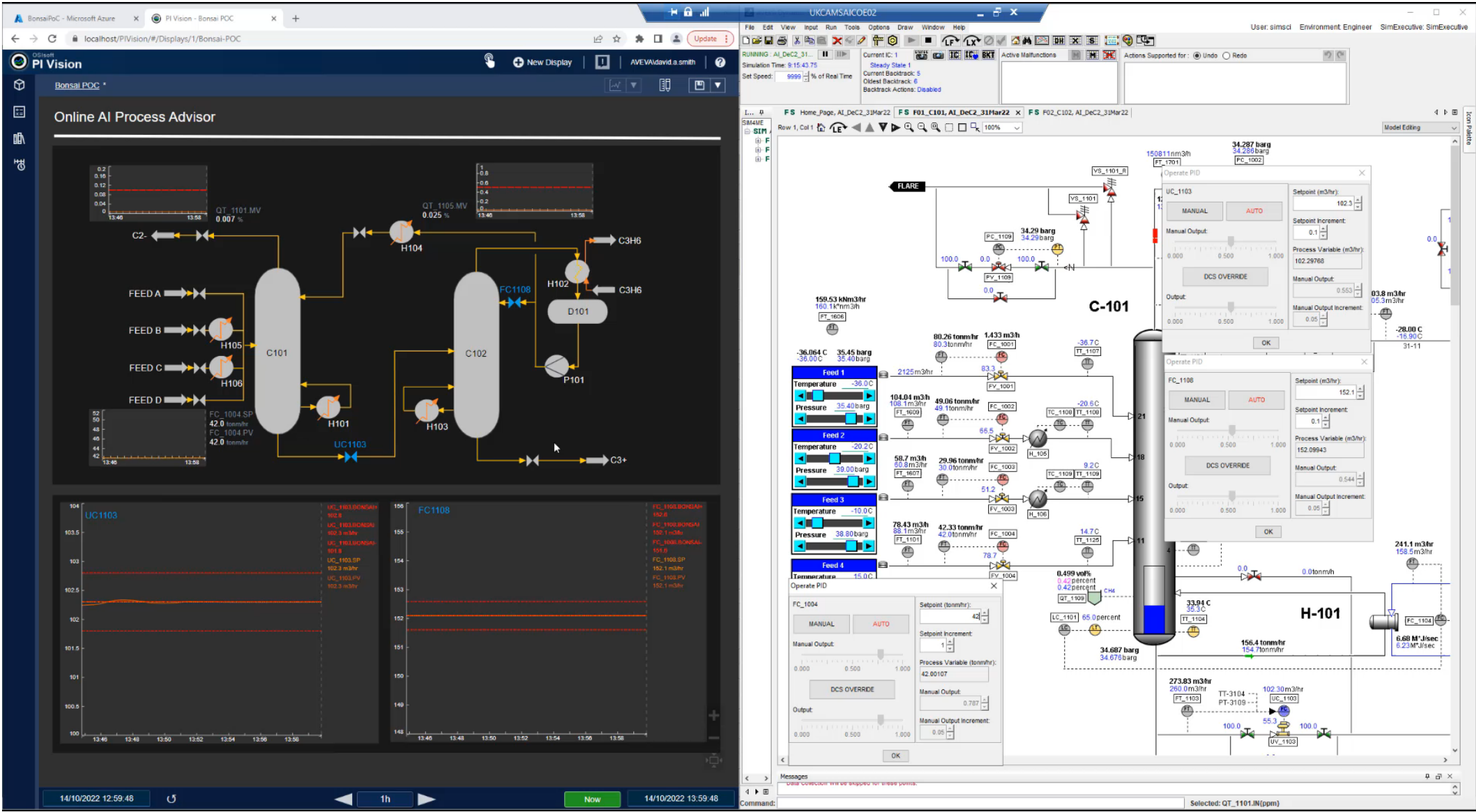
07 28 Time to stabilize 04 06

HRS MIN

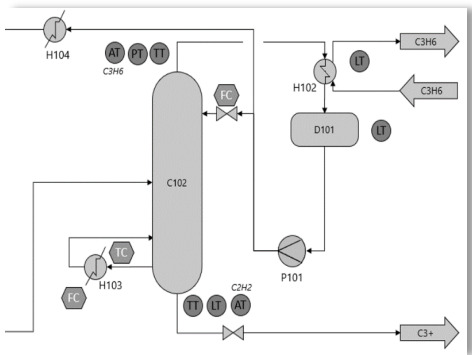
The diagram illustrates a simple alarm system with three components arranged horizontally. On the left is a red box with a black border containing the number '03' in red. In the center is a blue box with a black border containing the text 'Number of alarms' in white, with a white bell icon above it. On the right is a green box with a black border containing the number '00' in green. All three boxes are connected by a thin black line.



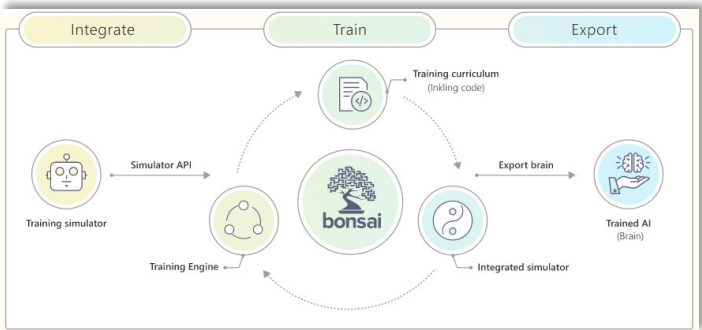
Deploy: Open Loop Advisor



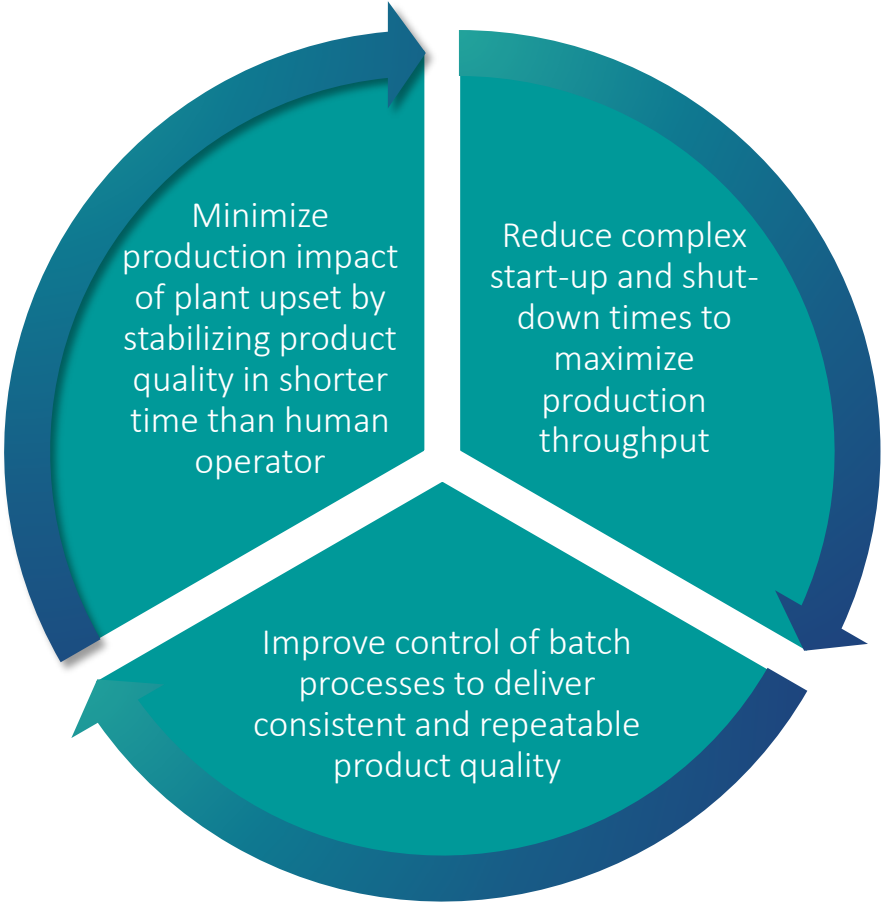
Conclusion



AVEVA Simulation



**Reinforcement
Learning Platform**



**Autonomous Operations for
Process Plant**



Questions?

