MINIMIZING TOASTER TIME
WITH IMPORT/EXPORT FILTERS

MINIMIZING TOASTER TIME BY MANAGING IMPORT/EXPORT VOLUME

WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

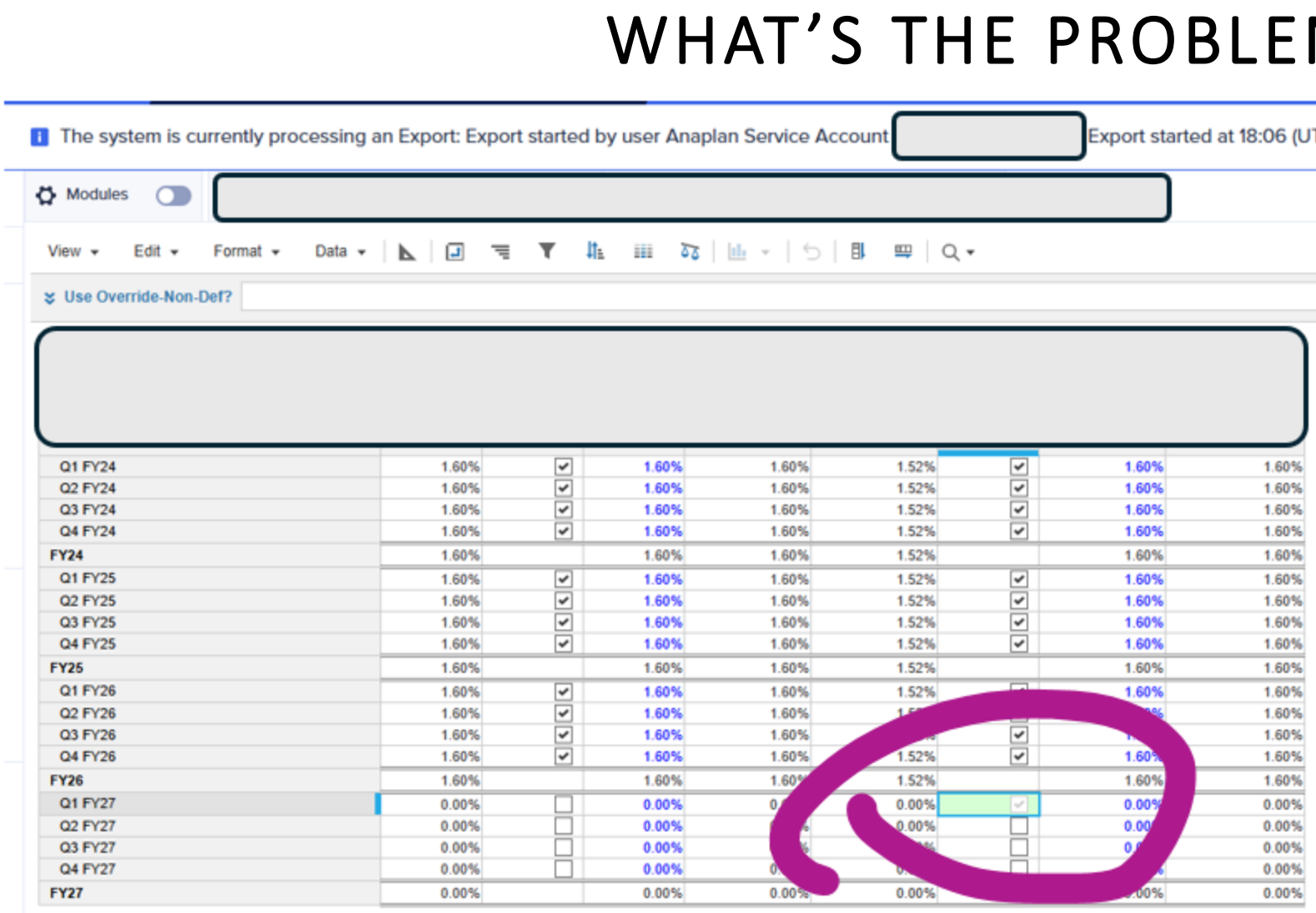
DO YOU REALLY NEED ALL THAT DATA?

CREATING DYNAMIC EXPORT VIEWS

IN-MODEL DEMO

FINAL TIPS & TAKEAWAYS

WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?



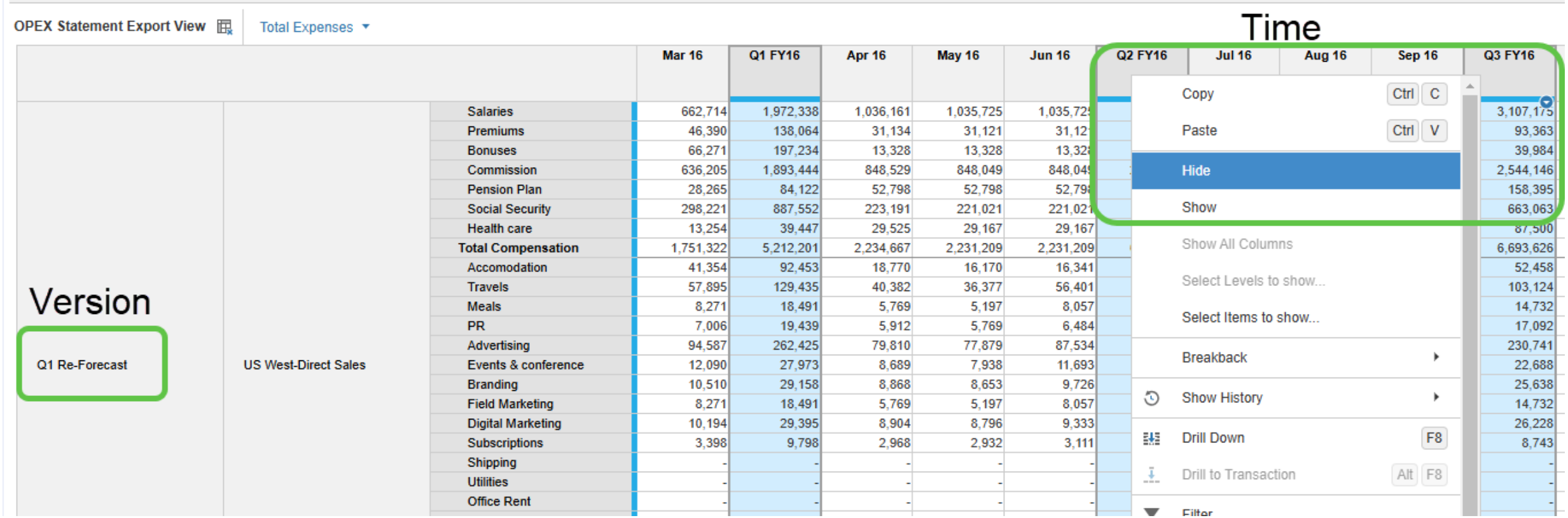
- During an import or export, all data in the model is locked
- All edits come to a halt
- If scheduled during business hours, these delays can cause problems
- A sluggish system causes frustration and reduces adoption

DO YOU REALLY NEED ALL THAT DATA? THINGS TO CONSIDER…

- Every included version and time period in your export/import will impact how long it takes to finish
- Typical data requirements of imports and exports are for a single version and a subset of the model calendar
- Determining true, minimal requirements around imported and exported data sets can save 50-90+% over unfiltered data sets
  - What's changed? What's stayed the same?
  - How will the import/export be used?

WHAT NEEDS TO BE ACCOMPLISHED?

WE NEED AN EXPORT VIEW WITH SELECTED TIME PERIODS AND VERSION DIMENSIONS ONLY.



A STATIC VIEW SEEMS SIMPLE. WHY NOT USE THAT?

Drawbacks of a static view

- PLANUAL says NO! (ok, not in so many words…) Sustainability is the key here.
- Actions are based on the original format of views only. Updates of a view do not register to an existing action.
- Any view changes required for an action requires a new action.
- Many views can be made to satisfy the requirement, but still no ad hoc modifications

Benefits of a dynamic view

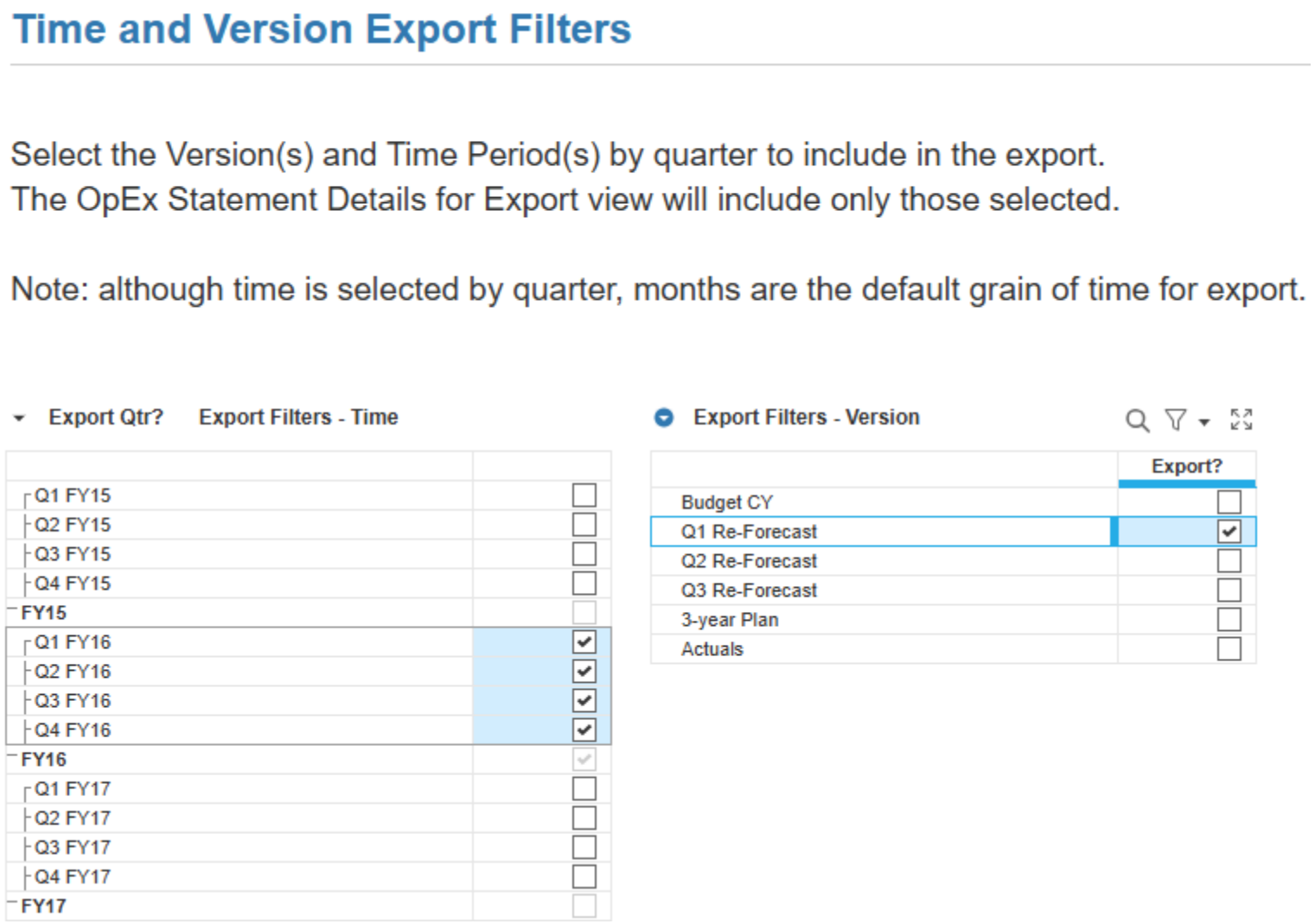
- Simple dashboard management with an ability to make ad hoc modifications makes this solution highly sustainable.
- Filtering the view based on other modules allows the original action to remain valid.
- The dimensions and data update based on the filters. Changing the filter settings that apply to the view do not change the underlying structure of the view.

IMPACTS OF TIME AND VERSION EXPORT FILTERS

Testing Scenario	Duration (ms)	File Size (KB)	Resulting % Time	Resulting % Size
No Filters – 5 years 6 versions	835	9,240		
Export filtered to single version	145	1,713	17%	19%
Export filtered to CY of single version	34	638	4%	7%

HOW DO WE DO THIS?

- The modules are simple and dimensioned on only time and versions, respectively. This allows data filtering across any other module dimensioned by time or version.
- The final interface can be a simple in-model dashboard where administrators select the version(s) and time period(s) to include in the view.
- The view filters directly on these Booleans and is not structurally changed!



FINAL TIPS & TAKEAWAYS

- Business hours imports and exports can take a toll on user engagement.
- Asking hard questions about true data requirements will pay off.
- Enhancing model performance by minimizing data volume is easy!
- A few simple modules and a dashboard makes this solution truly sustainable.
- Just say no to Toaster Time!

THANK YOU!

Find me on Community @Stacey_Gibbens

Resources!

Anaplan App HUB: Time Filters learning app!

Time filters | Anaplan Support