

Bioenergy Technologies and Strategies:

A New Frontier

September 20, 2013 US Frontiers of Engineering Symposium 2013 Wilmington, DE Joyce Yang, PhD

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Why Biofuels: Energy Security and Diversity

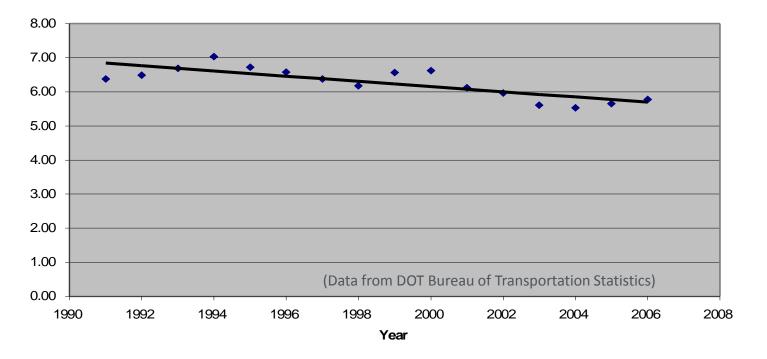


Line at Gas Station in Maryland (1979) US News and World Reports Cause: Iranian Revolution (loss of imported oil) Line at Gas Station in New Jersey (2012) Christian Science Monitor Cause: Hurricane Sandy (loss of electric power)



Transportation Infrastructure "Inelasticity"

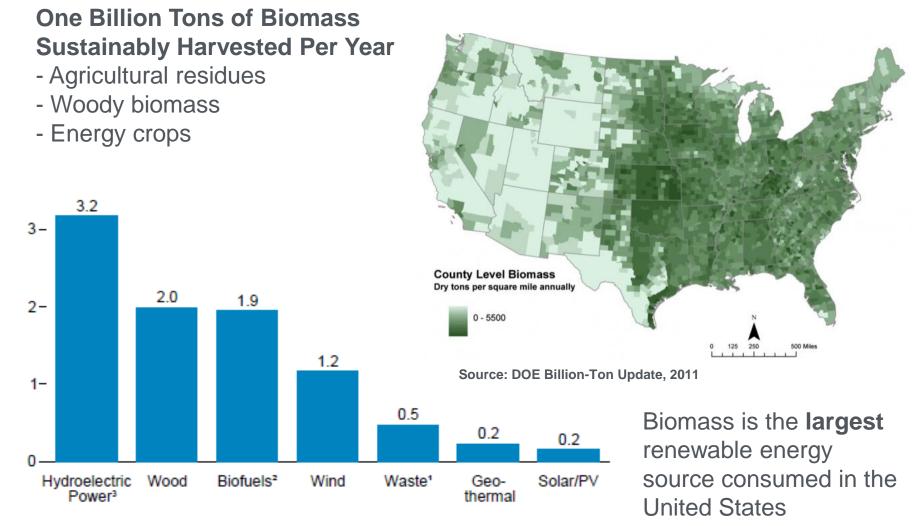
New Passenger Cars Trenc



- Number of cars constant (~132,000,000)
- 6.3% rate of fleet turnover per year
- 12 years to change over 50% of fleet; 30+ years for whole fleet



Biomass: A Strategic Clean Energy Resource



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF

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Energy Efficiency &

Renewable Energy

Annual U.S. Renewable Energy Consumption by Source Source: EIA Annual Energy Review, 2011

Quadrillion Btu

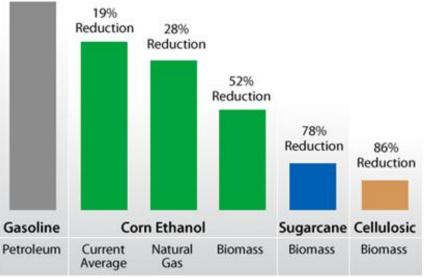
Cellulosics: Improving the Environmental Benefits

Water Consumption of Transportation Fuel

	Net Water consumed	Key Variability Factors
Corn ethanol	10-324 L/L ethanol	Regional differences in irrigation
Switchgrass ethanol	2-10 L/L ethanol	Fuel production technology
Gasoline (US conventional crude)	3-7 L/L gasoline	Age of oil well, production technology and degree of recycling
Gasoline (Canadian oil sands)	3-6 L/L gasoline	Geological formation, production technology

Source: Wu et al. Environmental Management (2009)

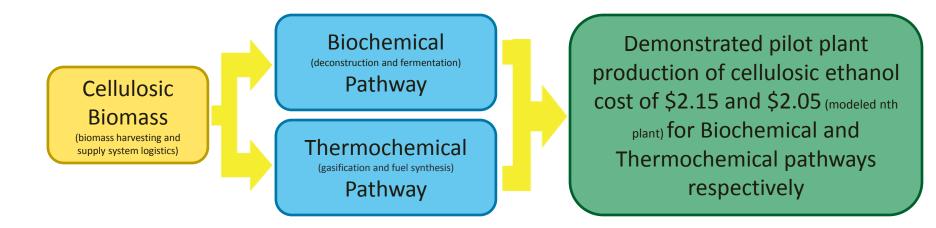
Greenhouse Gas Emissions of Transportation Fuels By Type of Energy Used Processing



Source: Wang et al. Environmental Research Letters (2007)



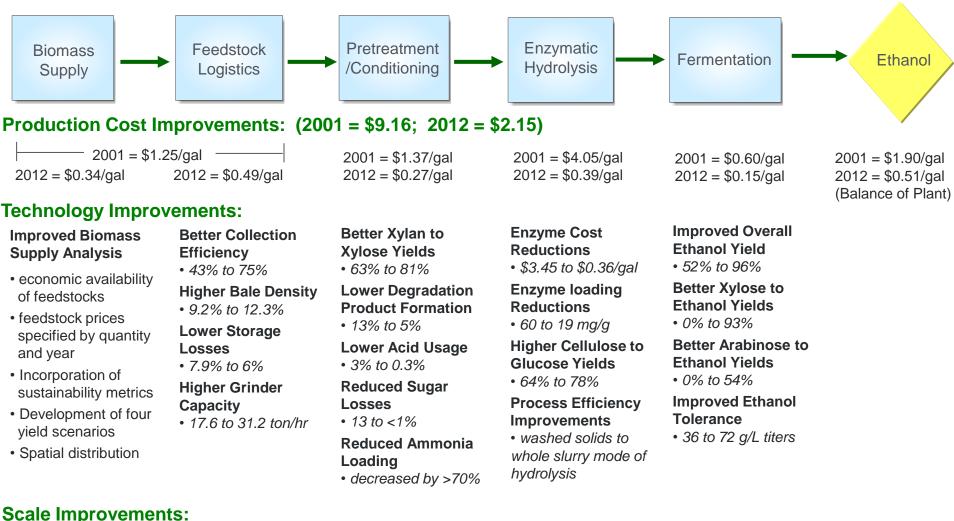
In September 2012, scientists at DOE's National Laboratories successfully demonstrated feedstock and conversion processes resulting in production of cellulosic ethanol at a price of \$2.15 or less per gallon.





Biochemical Conversion of Corn Stover: A Decade of Improvements

Source: NREL



Scale Improvements:

National to	county-
level detail	

Model Estimates to Field/Pilot Demonstration

Bench (1L batch) to Pilot (1 ton/day, continuous)

Bench (1 L batch) to Pilot (1 ton/day, continuous)

Bench (1L) to Pilot (8000L) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF

Energy Efficiency & **Renewable Energy**

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First Commercial Cellulosic Ethanol Production in US



Ineos Bio's Indian River Bioenergy Center, Vero Beach, FL

Source: Ineos Bio Website

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

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The news was a milestone for the renewable fuels ... If INEOS Bio can sustain production at the Florida plant, it would offer the promise of a new industry producing fuel out of everything from grass to garbage. (Ryan Tracy, July 31, 2013)



	Ground Broke	Target Product	Location	DOE Role
DuPont	Q4, 2012	Cellulosic ethanol	Nevada, Iowa	R&D
POET-DSM	Q1, 2012	Cellulosic ethanol	Emmetsburg, Iowa	R&D, IBR
Abengoa	Q4, 2011	Cellulosic ethanol	Hugoton, Kansas	IBR
KiOR	Q2, 2011	Cellulosic gasoline, diesel and jet	Columbus, Mississippi	none
Ineos-Bio	Q1, 2011	Cellulosic ethanol	Vero Beach, Florida	R&D, IBR

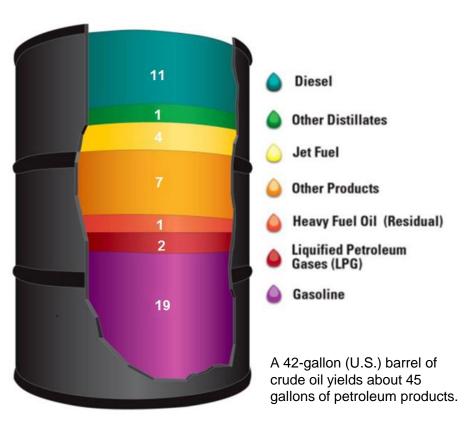
* "Commercial-scale" defined by expected profitability and not nameplate capacity



Greater focus needed on RDD&D for a range of technologies to displace the *entire* barrel of petroleum crude

- Ethanol can only displace the portion of the barrel that is made into gasoline.
- Reducing our dependence on oil also requires replacing diesel, jet fuel, heavy distillates, and a range of other chemicals and products that are currently derived from crude oil.

Products Made from a Barrel of Crude Oil (Gallons)



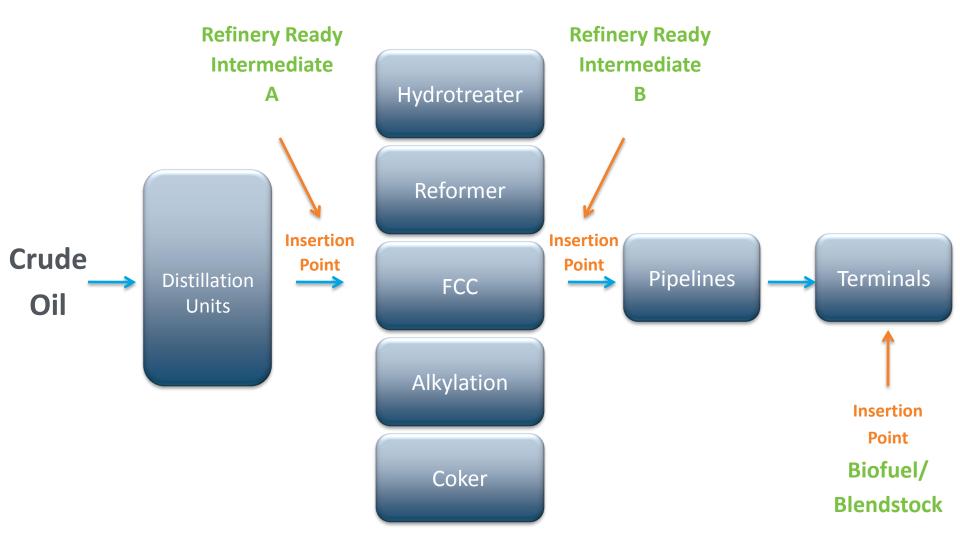
Source: Energy Information Administration (2011)



Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy

*American Petroleum Institute

Adapting to Refinery Infrastructure: Save on CAPEX



Adapted from the National Advanced Biofuels Consortium Website



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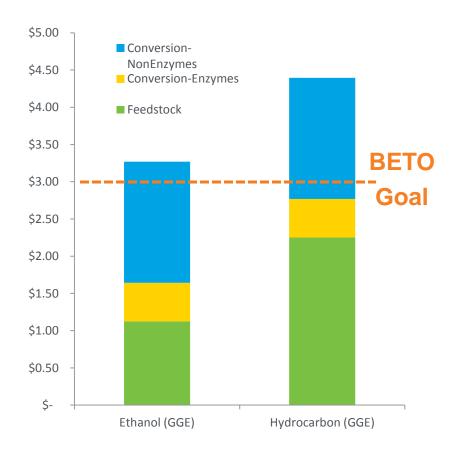
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Hydrocarbon Strategy and Implications

	Crude Oil (>80C:1O)	Biomass (1C:1O)
Elemental Composition of Feedstock (weight %)	C = 83 - 87% H = 10 - 14% N = 0.1 - 2% O = 0.05 - 1.5%	C = 44 - 51% H = 5.5 - 6.7% N = 0.12 - 0.6% O = 41 - 50 %
Elemental Composition of	C = 52%	C = 52%
Ethanol Product	H = 13%	H = 13%
(C2H6O)	O = 35%	O = 35%
Elemental Composition of	C = 85.3%	C = 85.3%
Hydrocarbon Product	H = 14.7%	H = 14.7%
(50% C8H18)	N = 0%	N = 0%
(50% C12H23)	O = 0%	O = 0%



Strategic Options



- Data from modeled nth plant cellulosic ethanol NREL Design Case (Humbird, 2011) transposed to generating hydrocarbon fuels using "same" technologies but accounting for 50% loss of feedstock
 - Even if same technology breakthroughs were achieved for hydrocarbon fuel from biochem processing, we will miss our \$3/GGE goal
 - 2. Strategy *must* include:
 - A. Non-fuel products, which are *enriched in oxygen* from biomass
 - or -
 - B. Shrink the conversion costs to < \$1.00

- or -

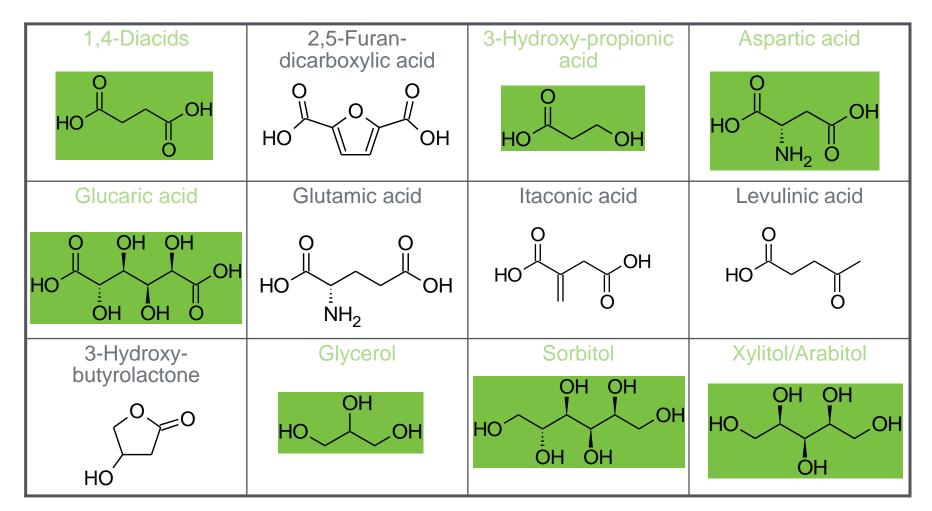
C. Derive higher value from lignin

-or –

D. Better use of feedstocks

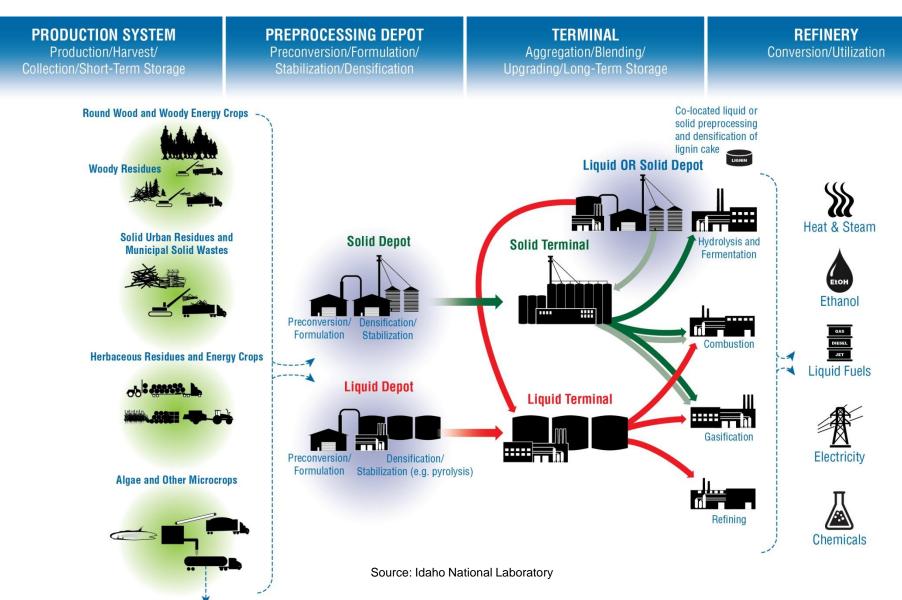


Value-Added Building Blocks From Sugars: 1C : 10 Candidates

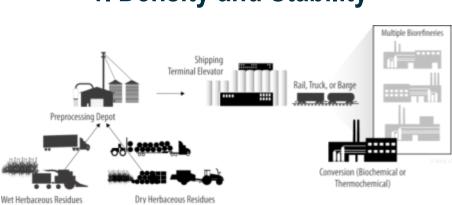


www.pnl.gov/main/publications/external/technical.../PNNL-14808.pdf

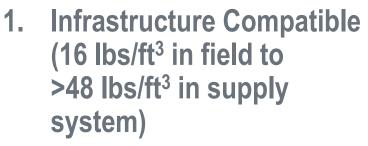




Commoditization Benefits

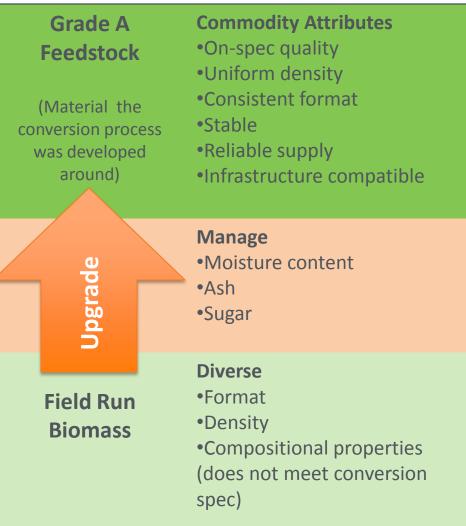


1. Density and Stability



2. Long-term stability in supply system (years, like grain or coal)

2. Conversion Performance



Other Opportunities: Energy Efficiency Innovation



Renewable Materials: Energy Efficiency Impact

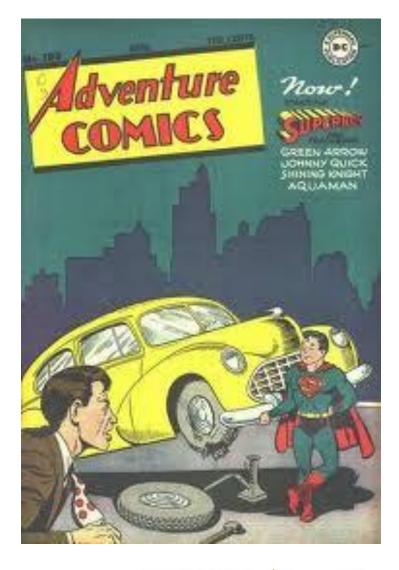
Cars are heavy! (each car weighs 4,000 lbs)

Reducing vehicle weight by 10% will result in a 4-5% reduction in fuel use in passenger cars

(Pagerit et al., 2006. Fuel Economy Sensitivity to Vehicle Mass for Advanced Vehicle Powertrains. Society of Automotive Engineers. 2006-01-0665)

Carbon fiber has the highest strength to weight ratio (super light weight material)

Assuming 8.8 million barrels of oil consumption by passenger cars per day, a 10% weight reduction will results in an annual saving of ~ 5 billion gallons of gasoline in the United States alone





THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

Questions? Please email:

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