

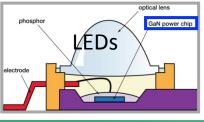
The Future of Fuels and Alternative Feedstocks – Recognizing Hype vs. Practical Limitations

### **Business Success vs. SCIENCE**



High

Man Made Diamonds Transistors **Antibiotics** 

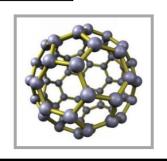




H<sub>2</sub> fuel cells

SkyMine®





Low

LOW

**Quality of Science** 

High

### **Business vs. Academic Success**





**Challenges to Society** 



Invention



**Academic Success** 



What people want ≠ what they will pay for What they will pay for impacts society



**Economic viability** 



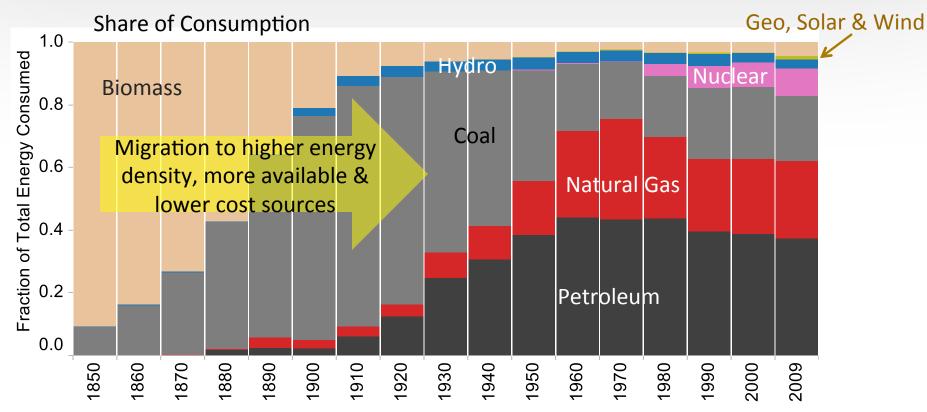
**Business Success** 



Risk vs Reward

# **Energy Sources Have Changed**





What's Changed?

- Oil Price Rise
- CO2 awareness

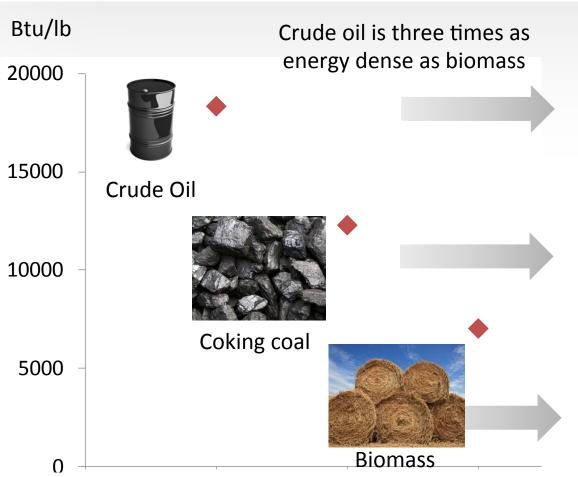


Is that enough?

Source: IEA, EIA

#### Migration to Higher Energy Density Sources





Energy Equivalency	\$ Capital / Usable MM Btu
1 oil refinery	\$164
1	
27 power plants	\$167
1	
60 Ethanol refineries	\$321*

\*land & water penalty not included

Energy from fossil infrastructure built over 80-100 years defines our current standard of living

# **Chemical Feedstocks Have Changed**





Why?



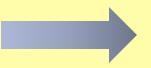


- Higher purity
- More availability
- Lower cost



What's Changed?

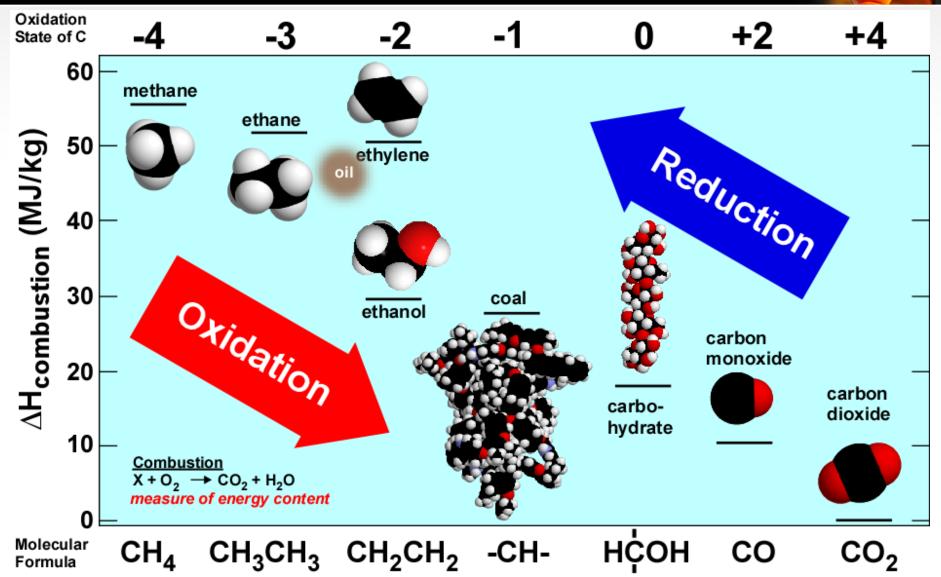
- Oil Price Rise
- CO2 awareness



Is that enough?

#### **Feedstock Oxidation States**

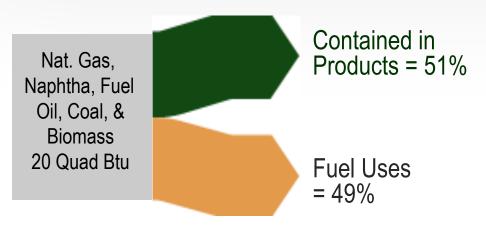




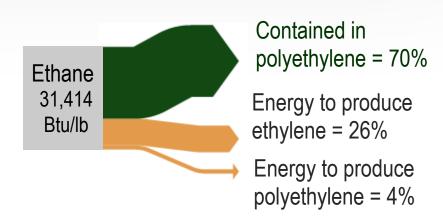
## **Carbon Stewardship**



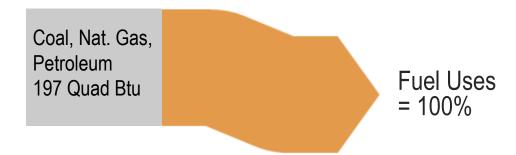
#### **Chemical Industry**



#### Ethane to Polyethylene



#### Transportation, \*Other Industrial, Commercial, Residential



\*Excludes Petrochemical industry

# Limits to Photosynthesis



#### Photosynthesis is a highly under optimized energy conversion process





Solar Capture Process	W/m <sup>2</sup>	Efficiency
Sugar Cane to Ethanol	0.60	0.30%
Energy Crop - Fermentation	0.70	0.32%
US Corn to Ethanol (gross)	0.32	0.16%

#### **Problems with Biofuels & feedstocks**



Poor quantum efficiencies	Less than1% for plants, max 3% for algae
Oxidized intermediates	Carbohydrates vs. products
Massive land & water	1 acre of US corn = 244 gallons of gasoline
Dilute feedstock & product	Capital costs are extreme
Food v fuel debates	Food needs expected to increase 2-5x by 2050
Cost prohibitive	Ethanol must be less than 15 cents/gal to compete with Middle east oil

Conclusion: Opportunistic plays but not massively scalable

### Carbon Dioxide – An Opportunity





Founded in 2005. Has raised \$4.5MM from 15 investors including TXU Corp (NYSE: TXU). Received \$28M in US federal support as of 8/2011.

SkyMine® Technology

NaOH Caustic



Carbon Dioxide

NaHCO<sub>3</sub>
Baking Soda



This technology appears to be a natural fit for Dow, the world's leading manufacturer of caustic soda.

## **Cookies from Coal**



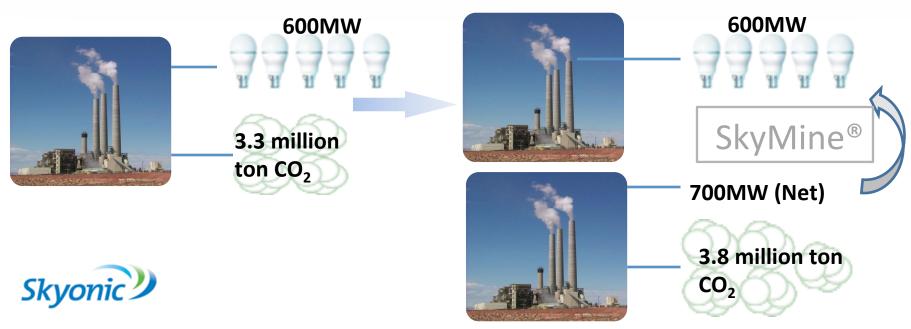


### **Technology Evaluation**





How much electricity is required to make this NaOH?



Byproducts: Chlorine: 2.7 million ton/yr - (50% of Dow global capacity)

Bicarbonate: 6.3 million ton/yr

Capital to build NaOH capacity \$4 billion

#### **Recognizing Fads**

The art of being wise is the art of knowing what to overlook - William James



#### Hydrogen Car





"We asked ourselves, 'Is it likely in the next 10 or 15, 20 years that we will convert to a hydrogen car economy?' The answer, we felt, was 'no,"" Steve Chum, Energy Secretary, May 2009

#### Corn Ethanol



"...Using land to grow fuel leads to the destruction of forests,

wetlands and grasslands that store enormous amounts of carbon."

Michael Grunwald, TIME **April 2007** 

#### **Biodiesel**

"Biofuels are contributing to higher prices and tighter markets."

Timothy Searchinger, **Princeton University April 2011** 



#### Cellulosic Ethanol

"...the need for trucks, machinery and manpower would come during harvest, already the busiest time of the year on the farm. And that's where a massive federal initiative into cellulosic ethanol may find its biggest bottleneck - on the farm."

Robert Rapier



#### THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

"Sun Chips Bag to Lose Its Crunch"



Bio based packaging launched in 2009 but discontinued by late 2010, due to performance perception issues

Photo: Associated Press

#### Natural oil Polyols





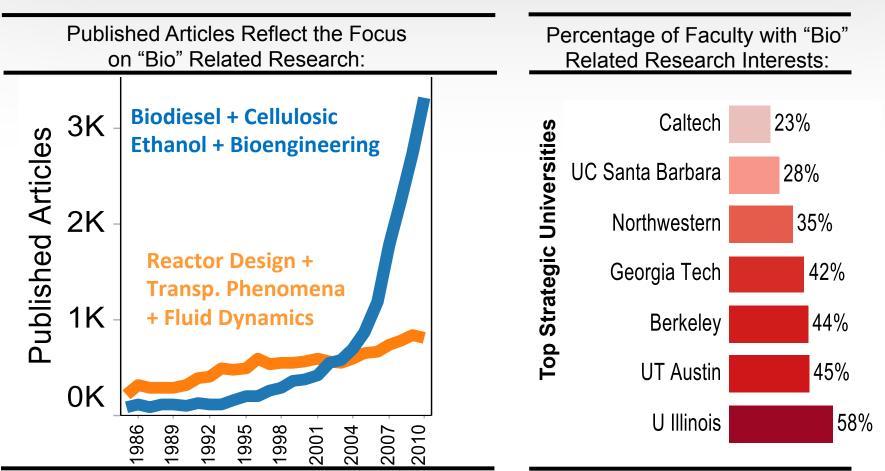
Dow Launched in 2007, exited in 2010.



Dow launched the JV with Cargill in 1997 to develop and market PLA from corn. exited the JV in 2004.

### **Funding Follows the Hype**

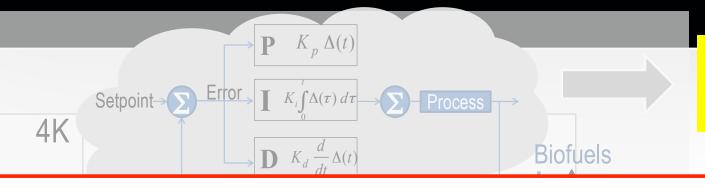




Dynamic range of the discipline is threatened by decreasing support of the traditional core research areas.

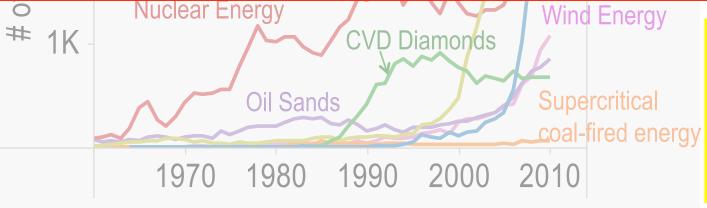
## Control Loop Feedback for Fads

R&D gets wasted on a lot of things that have little significance to society



A large proportional response to public opinion

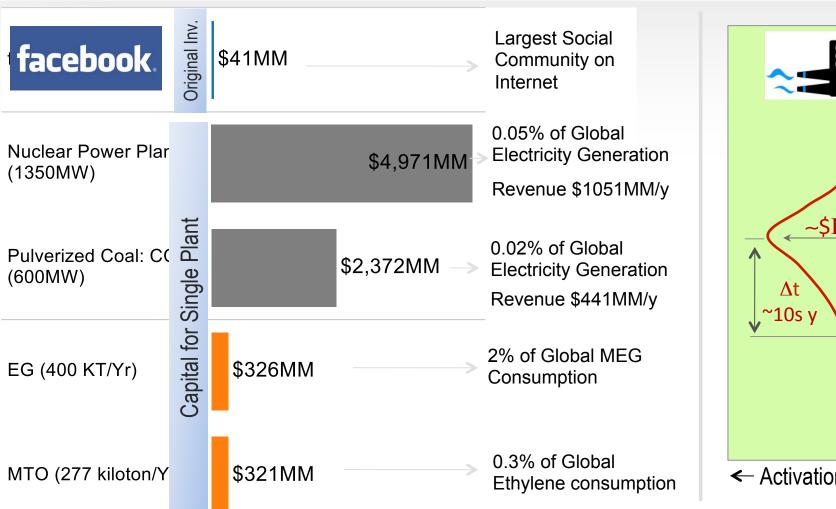


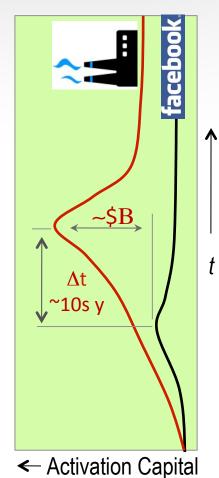


Requires an integral function of good science and economic analysis to separate fads from what is practical.

# Scale of Industry Makes it Harder





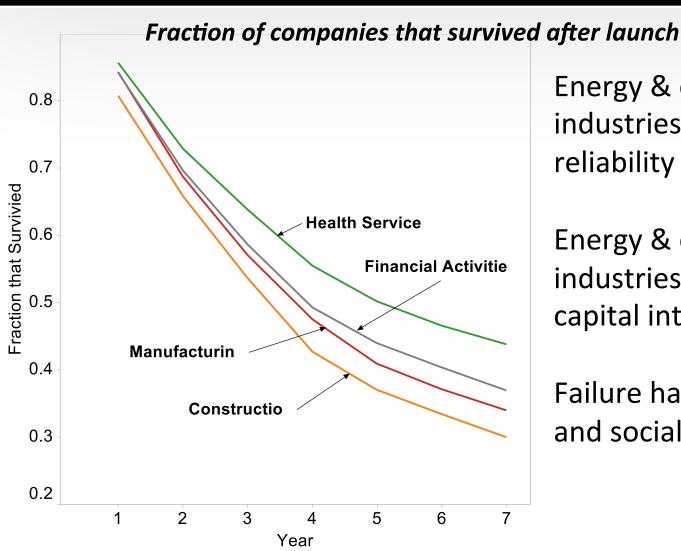


Sources: facebook original investment showing combined amounts from Peter Thiel (PayPal cofounder), Accel Partners and Greylock Partners as described in the History of facebook on wikipedia; Power Plants: RL34746 report - Stan Kaplan - Congressional Research Service; MTO: PEP Report 261 - SRI and EG: PEP Report 2I - SRI; Revenues for Power Plants calculated using 2010 electricity average retail prices (all sectors) 9.88 cents/kWh (data from DOE)

#### The Truth – Companies Fail

#### **Especially Small Companies**





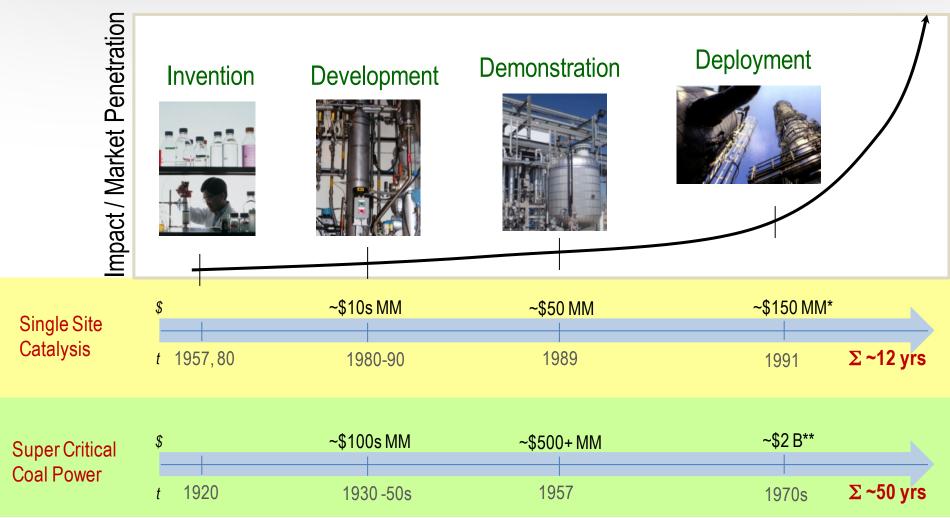
Energy & chemical industries require very high reliability

Energy & chemical industries are extremely capital intensive

Failure has massive financial and social consequences

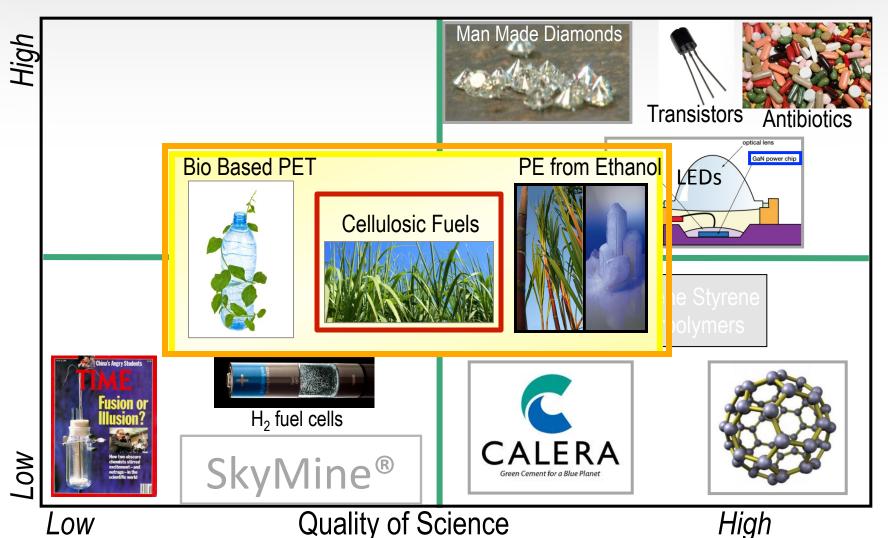
# Timeline for Impact

It takes decade(s) to commercialize new products or technology



### **Business Success vs. SCIENCE**





#### Ethanol – Its not a new idea







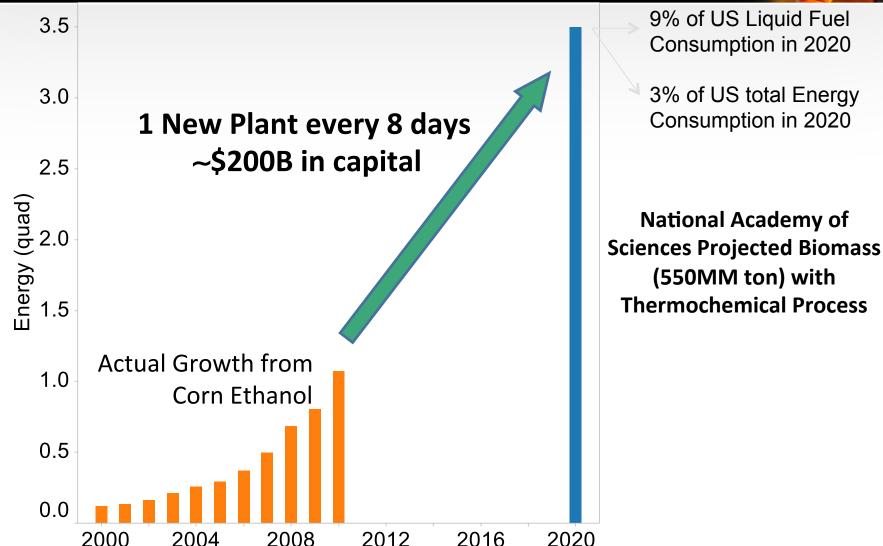
"Does the average citizen understand what this means? In from 10 to 20 years this country will be dependent entirely upon outside sources for a supply of liquid fuels ... paying out vast sums yearly in order to obtain supplies of crude oil from Mexico, Russia, and Persia."

Yale Professor Harold Hibbert - Ethanol promoter, <u>1925</u>

### The Cellulosic Ethanol Fad

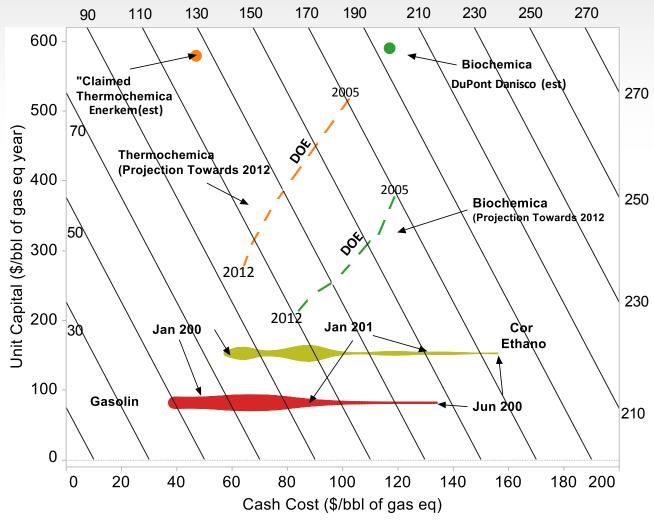
Long time and high cost to implement





# The Cellulosic Ethanol Fad Large cash and capital cost to implement



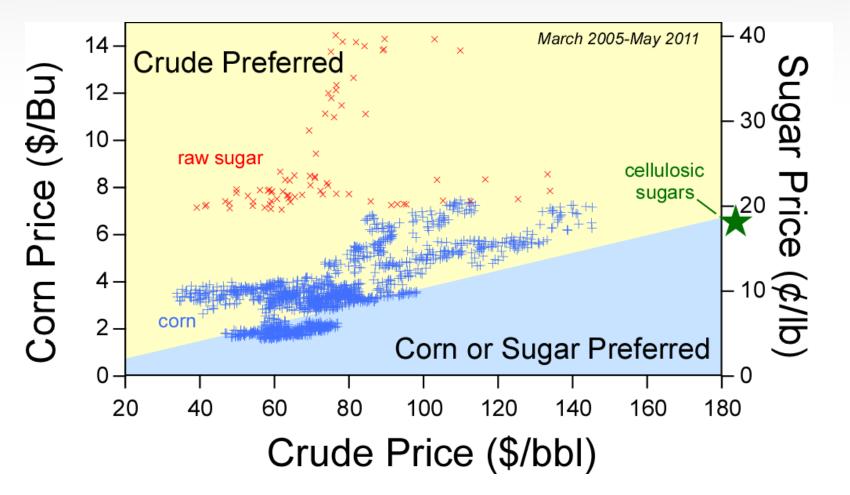


Sources: Crude Oil price, CMAI, Spot Average FOB price; monthly average prices from Jan 2005 to Jan 2011 Targets from DOE for Biochemical and Thermochemical routes; Capital from Biomass Multi Year Program 201 report from DOE (revisited by DOE on Nov 2010) Corn Ethanol from the Center of Agricultural and Rural Development from Jan 2005 to Jan 2011 Reality today: based on announced Verenium Capital Intensity and assuming: yield of 70 gal EtOH/ton of biomass, enzyme cost at \$0.50/gal EtOH and biomass at \$75/ton

### Cost Advantage of Petro feedstocks\*



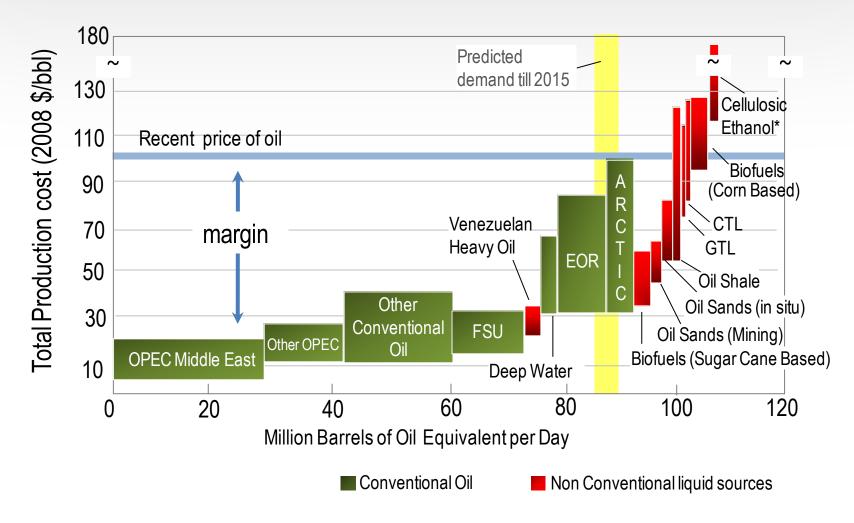
<u>Cash cost</u> indifference analysis for ethylene from crude oil and bio feedstocks



### **Energy Industry Dynamics**

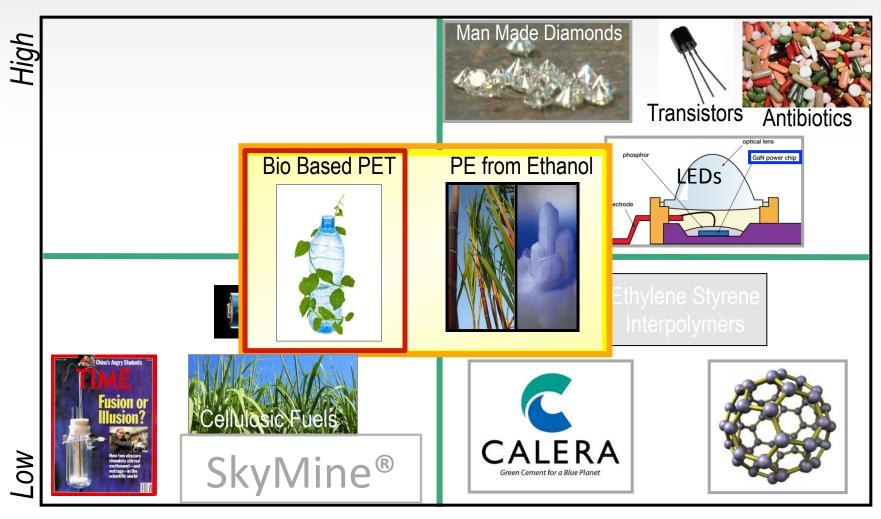
As oil price rises, new capital will flow to EOR, Arctic, Oil sands, GTL, CTL before biofuels.





### Business Success vs. SCIENCE





Low

**Quality of Science** 

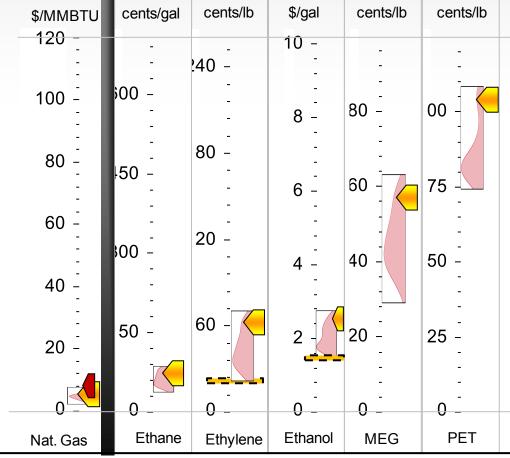
High

#### **Green PET**



#### Market prices and selected costs on energy equivalent basis







Area required for produce ethanol to meet global PET production ~ 0.4x of Illinois based on 2010 US avg productivity of corn.

Costs\* -- USA

**Market Prices** 



USA 2020 US Prj.

### **LCA of Polymers**

#### Biopolymers rank in the middle of LCA rankings



POLYMER		Green Design Rank	LCA Rank
Polylactic Acid – NatureWorks	Sugar/cornstarch	1	6
Polyhydroxyalkanoate-Stover	Cornstalks	2	4
Polyhydroxyalkanoate-General	Corn kernels	2	8
Polylactic Acid -General	Sugar/cornstarch	4	9
HD Polyethylene	Petroleum	5	2
PET	Petroleum	6	10
LD Polyethylene	Petroleum	7	3
Bio-PET	Petroleum /plants	8	12
Polypropylene	Fossil fuels	9	1
General Purpose Polystyrene	Petroleum	10	5
PVC	Chlorine/petroleum	11	7
Polycarbonate	Petroleum	12	11

Tabone, MD; Cregg, JJ; Beckman, EJ; Landis, AE. Environ. Sci. Technol. 2010, 44, 8264-9.

# Will Consumers Pay for "GREEN?"



# Only if they get "GREEN" in return.....



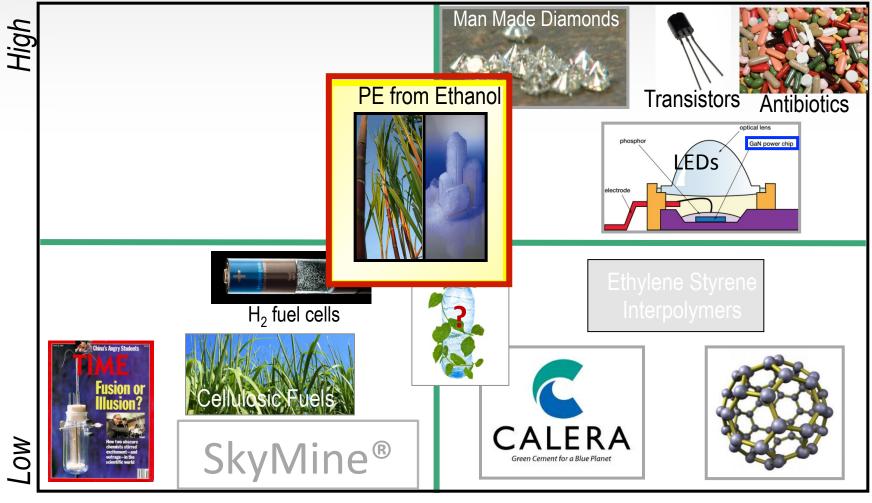






### **Business Success vs. SCIENCE**





Low

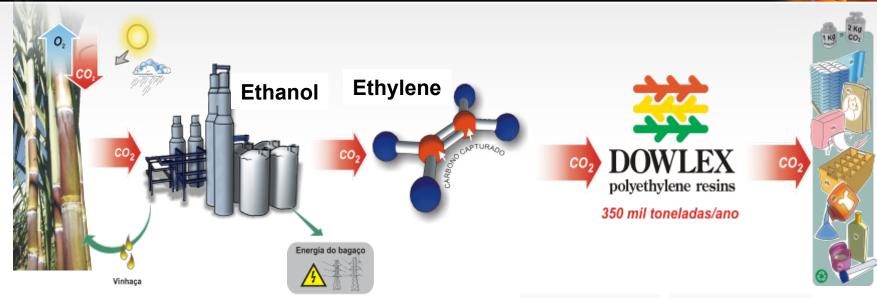
**Quality of Science** 

High

### **Alternative Feedstock - Cane to LLDPE**

Auto-suficiência energética





Fully-integrated facility in Brazil Utilizes state-of-the-art Dow polymerization catalysis





### **Ethanol to PE – A Niche Opportunity**

cents/gal



**BRAZIL** 

cents/lb

\$/gal

10 -

#### Market prices and selected costs on energy equivalent basis

\$/MMBTU

120

- Existing logistics for ethanol in Brazil
- High polyethylene price in Brazil
- Ethanol price fluctuation requires integration



Area required for produce ethanol to meet global PE production ~ 1.6x of Illinois at Brazil cane productivity	80 - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	300 - - - - - - - - - - -	80 -	6 - - - 4 - 2 -	50 -		6 - - - - 2 -	50 -	
Costs* - USA 🕶 Brazil	0 -	0 -	0 -	0 -	- - - 0 -		- - - 0 -	- - - 0 -	
Market Prices USA Brazil Sources: Ethane, eth	ylene, polyethylene (US):	Ethane	Ethylene  IS, Ethanol Br: ESALQ;	Ethanol	Polyethylene	rential Br to US.	Ethanol  Price Densities sh	Polyethylene	<b>-</b> e 2

UNITED STATES

\$/gal

10 -

cents/lb

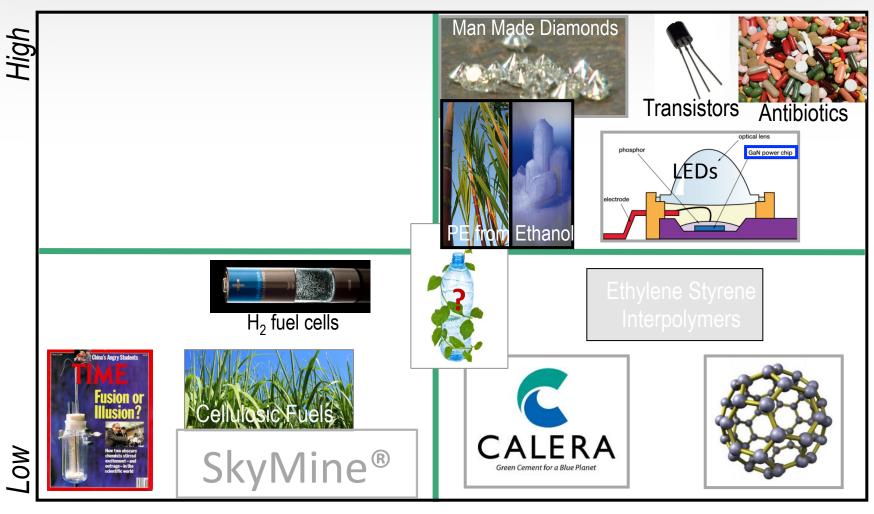
· 00!

cents/lb

240 -

### **Business Success vs. SCIENCE**





Low

**Quality of Science** 

High

### What are we doing?

R&D goal is to extract more earnings per dollar of investment

# Dow chooses to operate where materials science expertise drives success

#### Energy Storage



DOW KOKAM

#### **Superior Materials:**

Cathode
Anode
Electrolytes
Separator

#### Energy Efficiency



#### **Superior Materials:**

Energy efficiency improvements for commercial and industrial products

# **Energy Generation**



#### **Superior Materials:**

Efficiency Yield Performance Durability

### **Final Thoughts**



- Incumbent fossil sources set the standard for competition
- Unrecognized truths to transformation
  - It takes decades to deploy a new technology
  - The world is used to the current energy and feedstock infrastructure that was put over a century
- Scale makes small company success challenging
- Fundamental engineering and judgment is crucial to long term innovation
- Can society afford to pay for a different solution?

Facts are the air of scientists. Without them you can never fly.

- Linus Pauling



# **Thank You**