

William F. Banholzer  
Executive Vice President and Chief Technology Officer  
March 21, 2011



# Recognizing Hype versus Practical Limitations in Fuels and Alternative Feedstocks

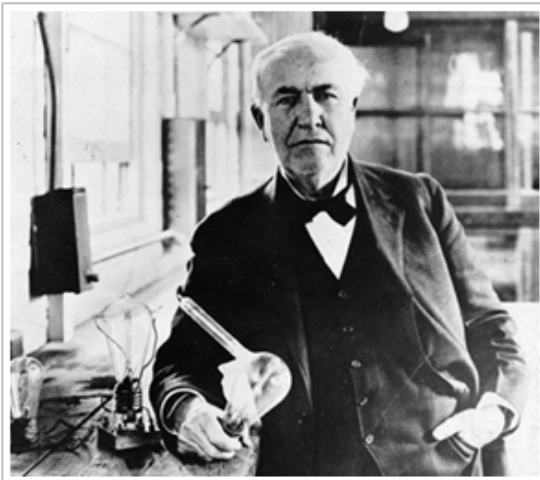


# Call to Engineers and Scientists

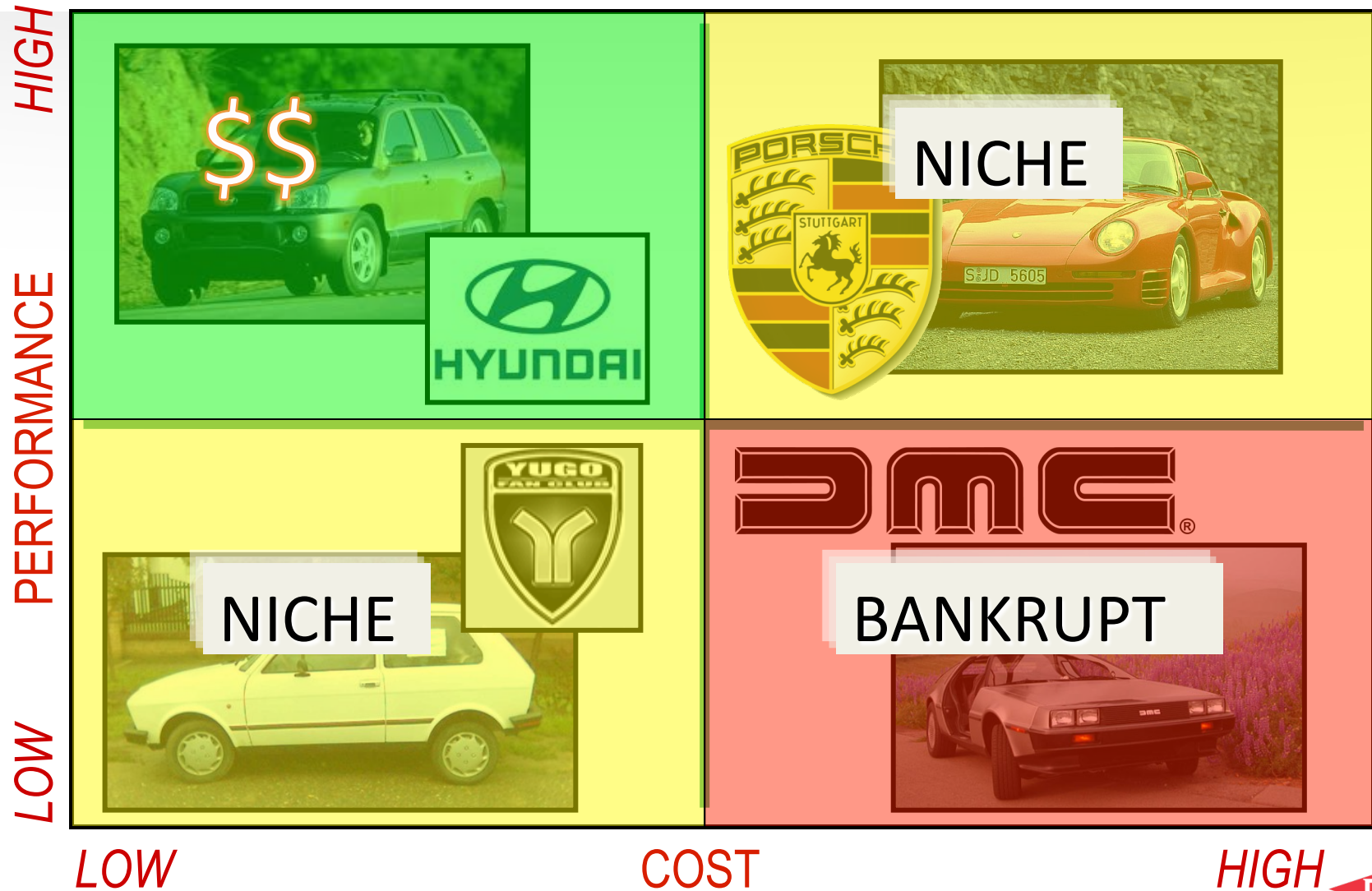
*Too much hype for the possible and not enough focus on the practical.*

*We are letting society down!*

# Invention to Innovation

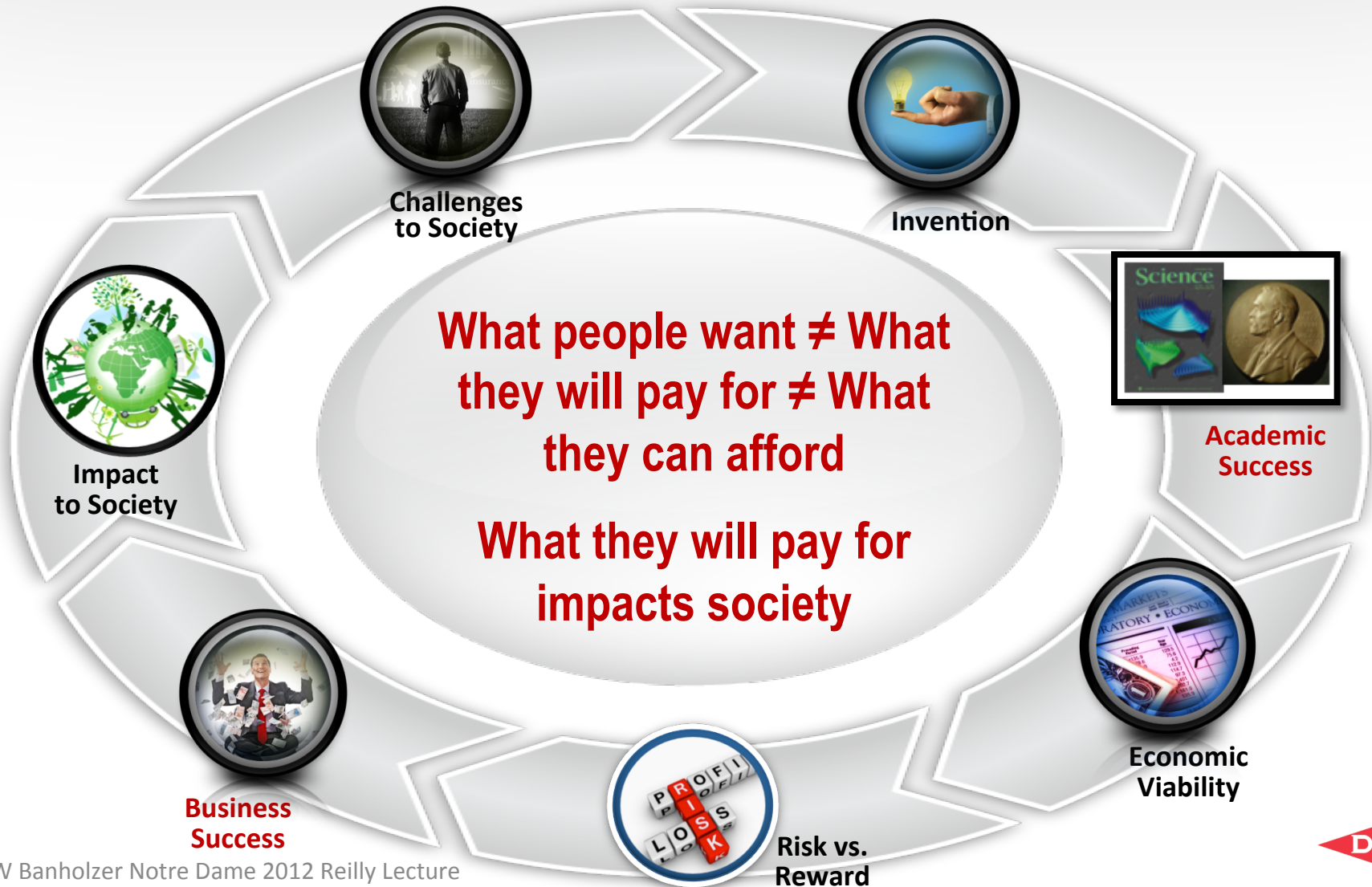


# Business Success





# Business vs. Academic Success



# Business Success vs. SCIENCE

Impact to Society = Business Success

High



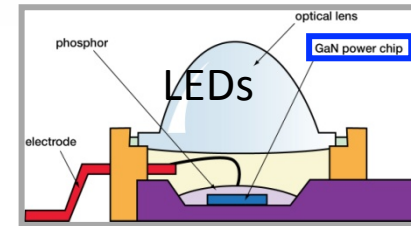
Man Made Diamonds



Transistors



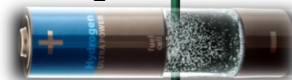
Antibiotics



Low



H<sub>2</sub> fuel cells



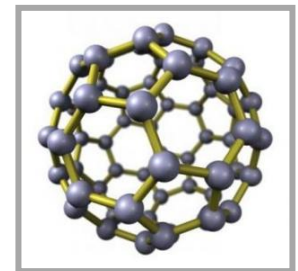
Electrochaea

Skyonic

CALERA  
Green Cement for a Blue Planet

Ethylene Styrene  
Interpolymers

wire



Low

Quality of Science

High

# Biology Can Do Great Things

**EXZACT™**  
Precision Technology

Dow AgroSciences

**Entrust™**  
**Naturalyte™**  
Insect Control

**Enlist™**  
Weed Control System

**Entrust™**  
**80W**  
Insecticide

**SmartStax™**

**HERCULEX XTRA**  
Insect Protection

**YieldGard VT Triple**

**Black cutworm**

**Corn rootworm**

**First- and second-generation European corn borer and southwestern corn borer**

**Western bean cutworm**

**Fall armyworm\***

**First- and second-generation European corn borer and southwestern corn borer**

**Corn rootworm**

\*YieldGard VT Triple provides intermediate protection against fall armyworm.

# Biofuels Are Like a Jetpack

**HYPE**

**ENERGY  
DENSITY**

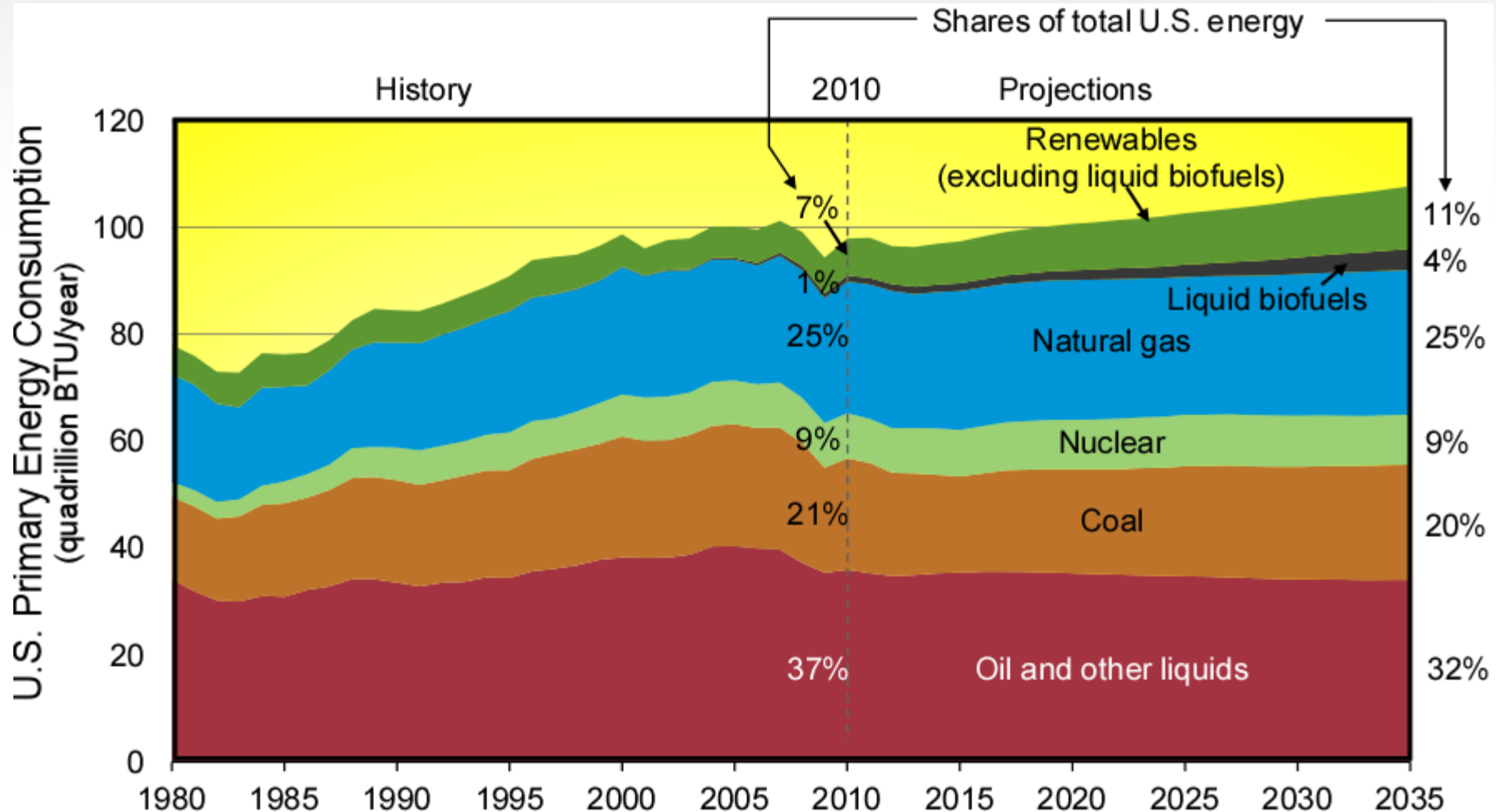
**LIMITATIONS  
OF BIOLOGY**



**PRACTICAL  
APPLICATION**



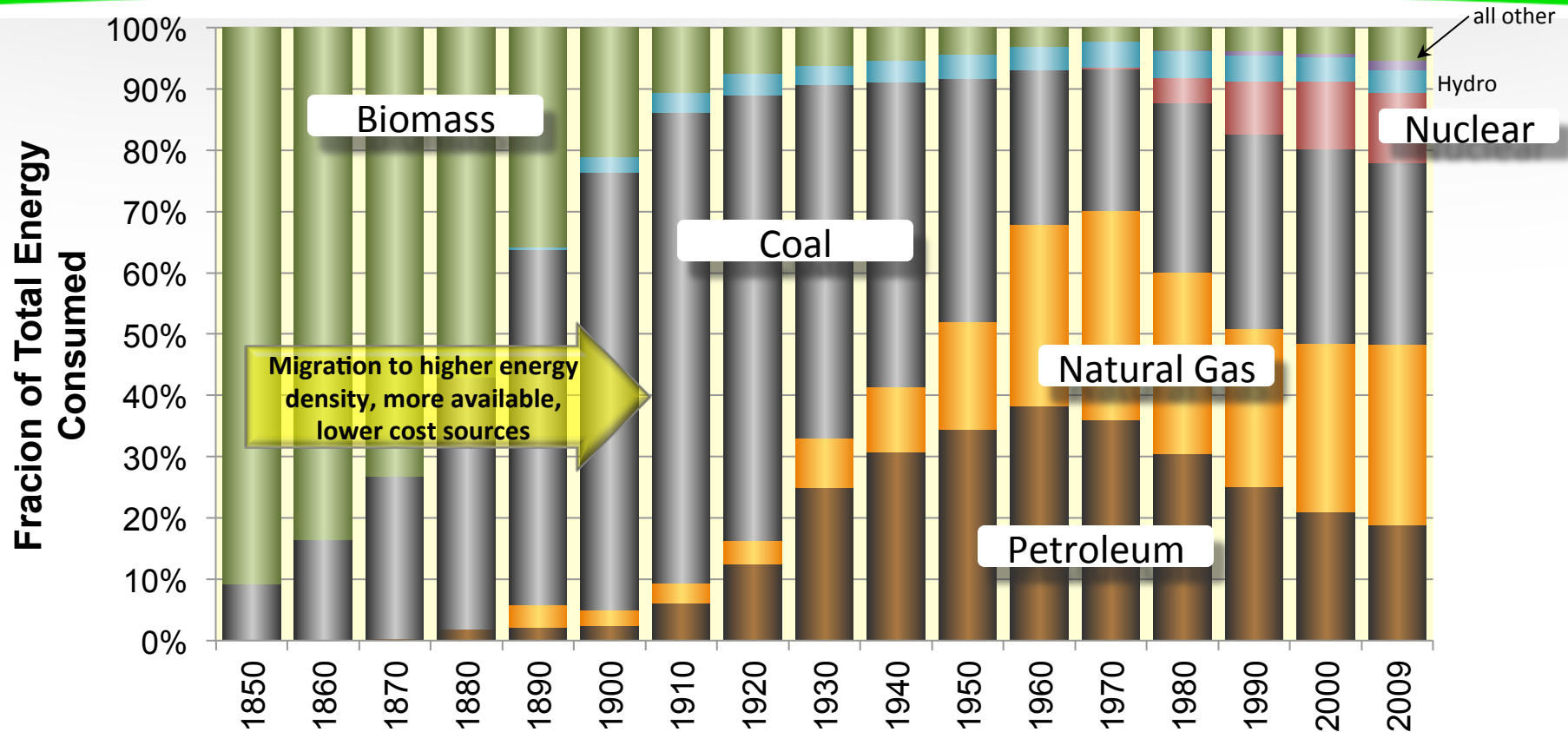
# Biofuels Growth



Source: EIA, Annual Energy Outlook 2012 Early Release



# Energy Sources Always Change



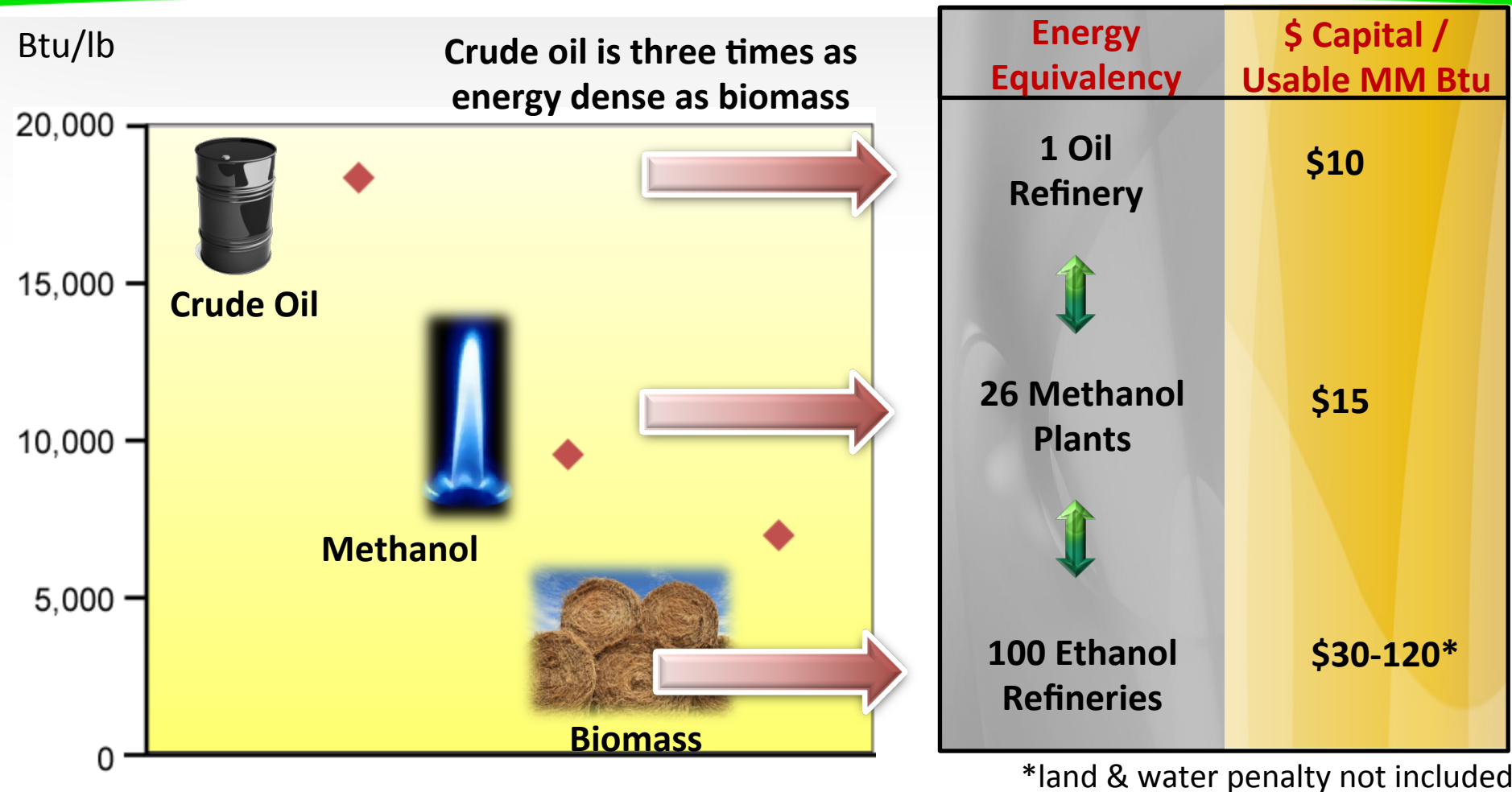
What's Changed?

- Oil Price Rise
- CO<sub>2</sub> awareness



Will this reverse the trend?

# Migration to Higher Energy Density Sources



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

# 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 Chu, 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."

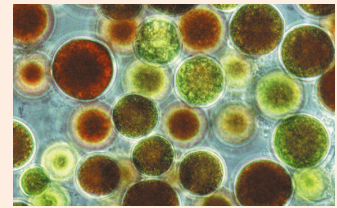
Robert Rapier



## Algae

"...microalgae can be raised on cheap, sun-splashed land that is unsuitable for crops or much of anything else."

Paul Voosen, New York Times, 29 March 2011.



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

## THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

### "Sun Chips Bag to Lose Its Crunch"



Photo: Associated Press

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

## Glycerin to Epi

Dow postponed in 2009 due to uncertain supply +



Dow Launched in 2007, exited in 2010.



ADM has given notice of termination of the Telles, LLC joint venture for PHA bioplastics

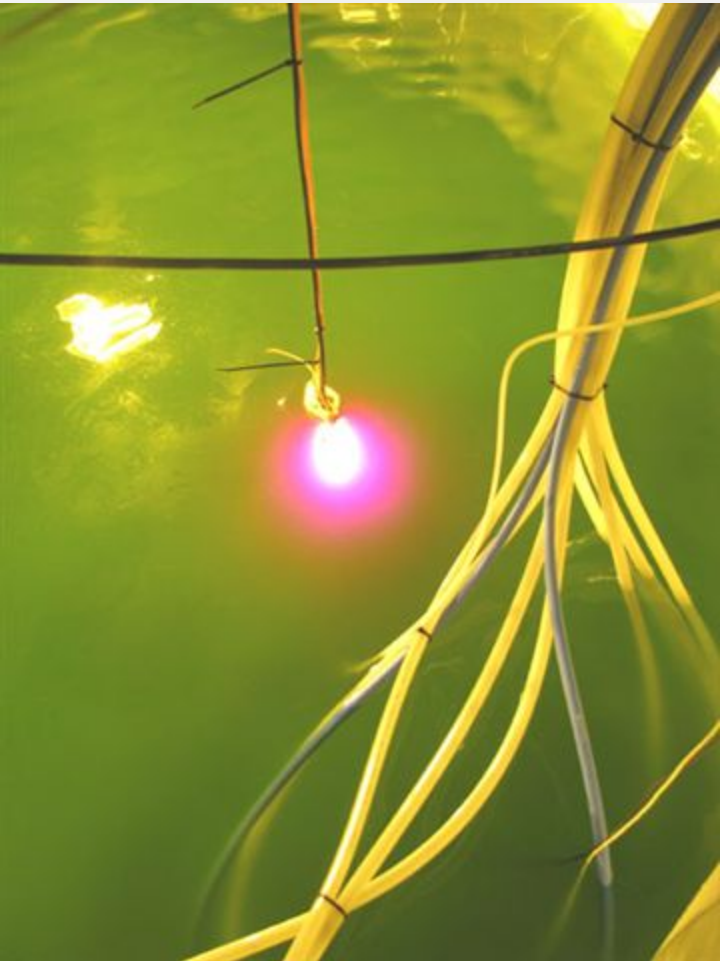


# Hype Building for Algae?

Using sunlight, CO<sub>2</sub> and little else, many varieties of fast-growing pond scum, when starved of nutrients, quickly build up oil in their cells. They need no external sugar from corn or cane to grow, so they don't compete with food crops. Farmed in ponds or translucent reactors, microalgae can be raised on cheap, sun-splashed land that is unsuitable for crops or much of anything else.

Voosen, Paul; "As Algae Bloom Fades, Photosynthesis Hopes Still Shine", New York Times, 29 March 2011.

# Practical?



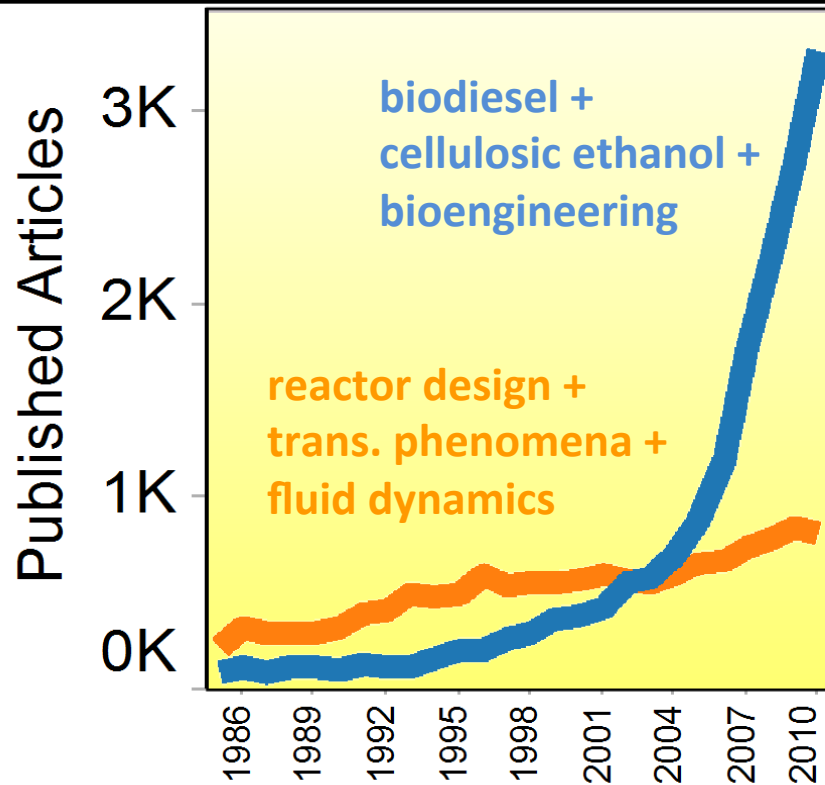
LumiGrow LED technology is instrumental to the operation of Algae Farm's algae biomass production system, which will produce algae for the nutraceutical, cosmetic and renewable energy market sectors. By growing in a climate-controlled indoor environment, Algae Farm can achieve predictable and scalable yields while it maintains the highest purity standards.

LumiGrow press release "Algae Farm Selects LumiGrow LED Horticultural Lighting  
November 29, 2011



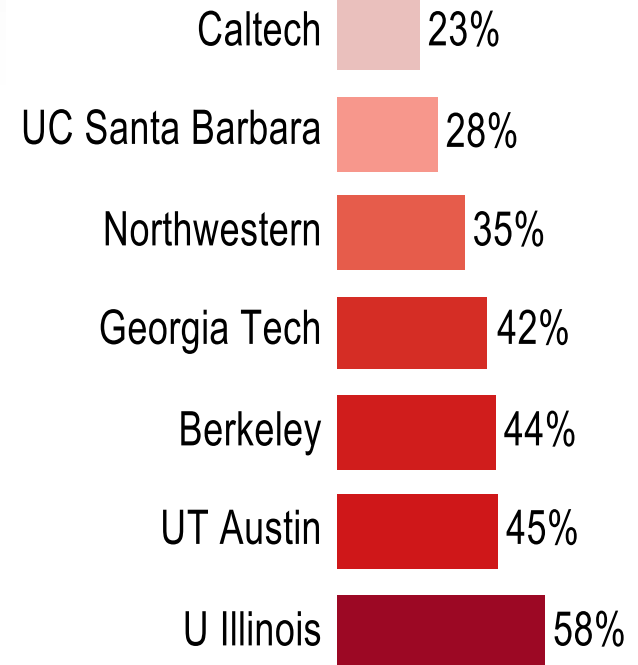
# Funding Follows the Hype

Published Articles Reflect the Focus on “Bio” Related Research:



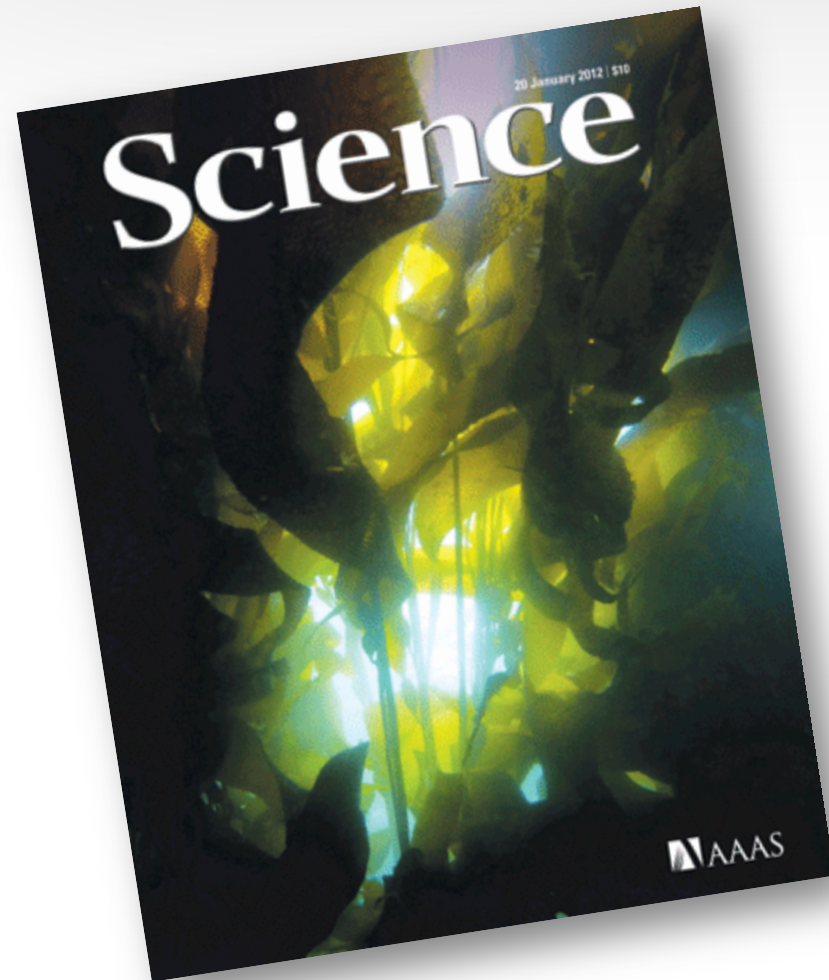
Percentage of Faculty with “Bio” Related Research Interests:

Top Strategic Universities



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

# Synthetic Biology



- lead story in Science 20 January 2012 issue
- Bio Architecture Lab, Berkeley, CA
- seaweed has no lignin
- alginate not fermented by yeasts
- *E. coli* genetically engineered to ferment alginate and other major sugars present to ethanol



# Hype?



- alginate only about a third of sugars present
- U.S. owns more ocean area than any other country
- “no land, (no) fresh water or (no) fertilizer”

*Erik Stokstad, Science, 20 January 2012, page 273*

# Problem not solved



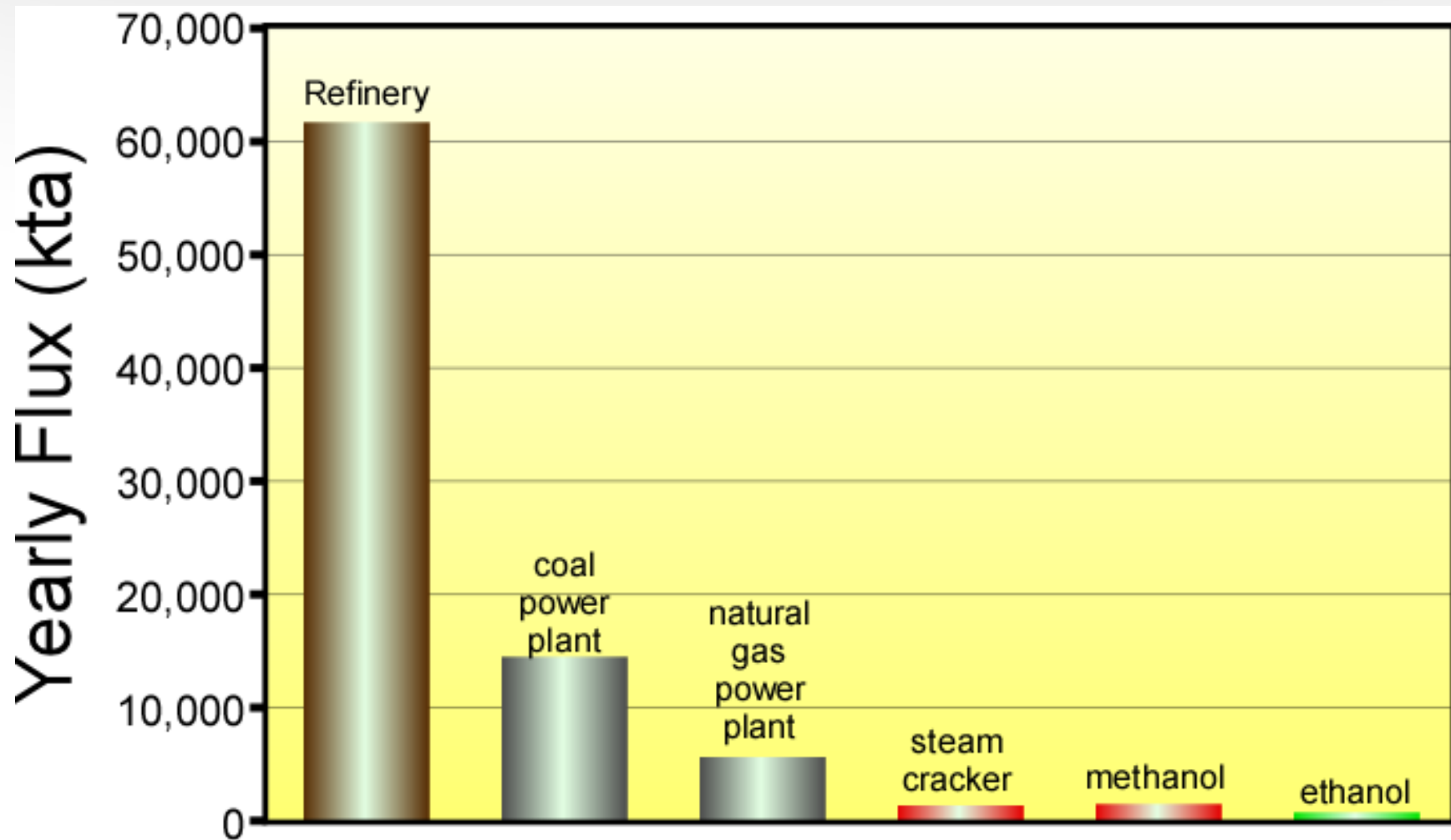
- harvested for over 400 years
- cost for wet biomass are > \$400/ton at water levels >70% *more expensive than corn!*
- Redfield ratio still required
- *arable ocean* (analogy to arable land) needed

# Biofuels Key Issues



- How much *biomass is available?*  
*not enough to replace fossil fuels*
- How much will the biomass cost?  
*it is not cheap!*
- How much will biofuels cost? *more than fossil*
- How much more are we willing to pay? *no premium*
- How realistic is chemical production from biomass?  
*we already do, but chemical use doesn't address the big issues*

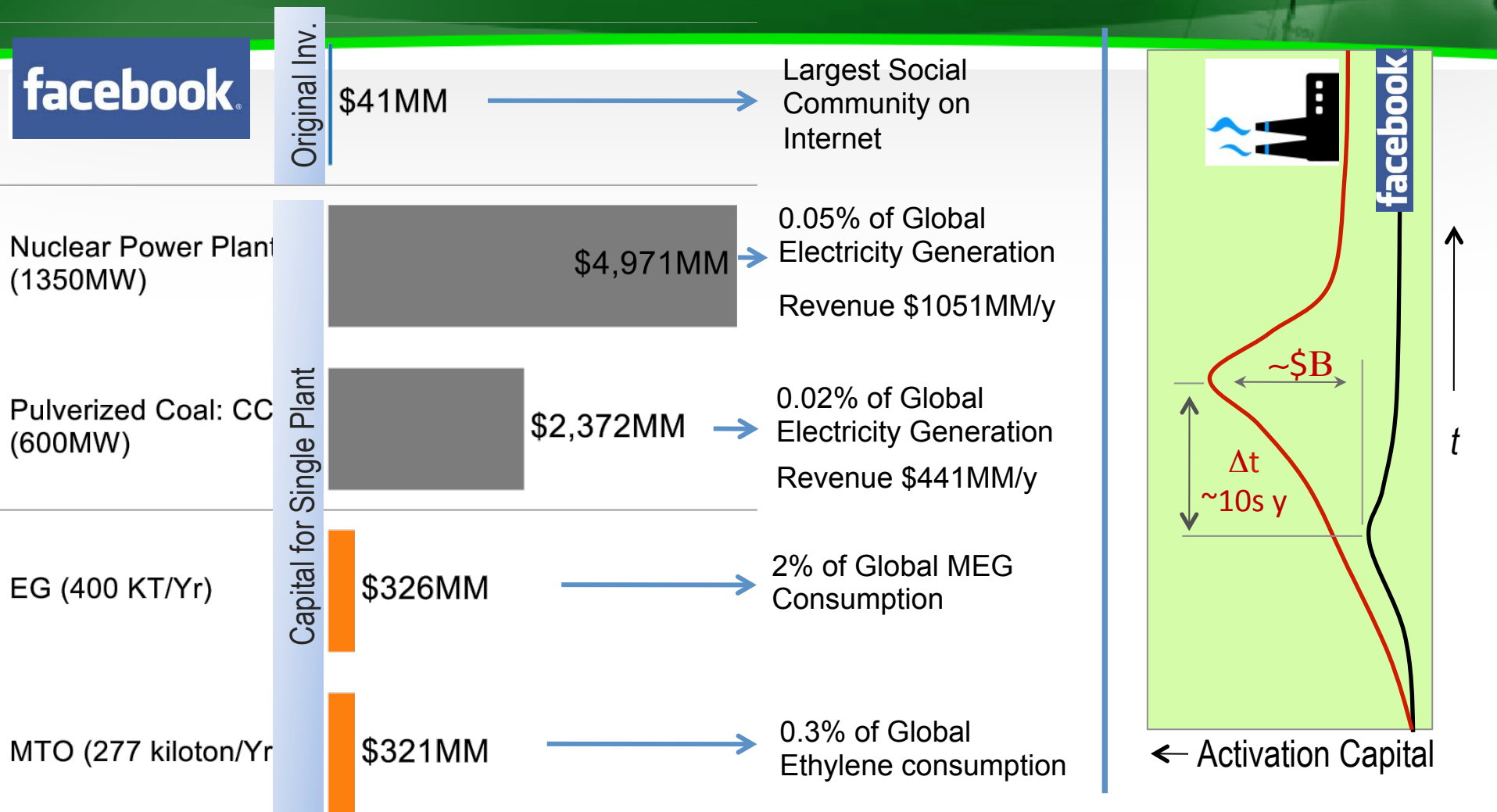
# Largest Plants



*feedstock limits scale*



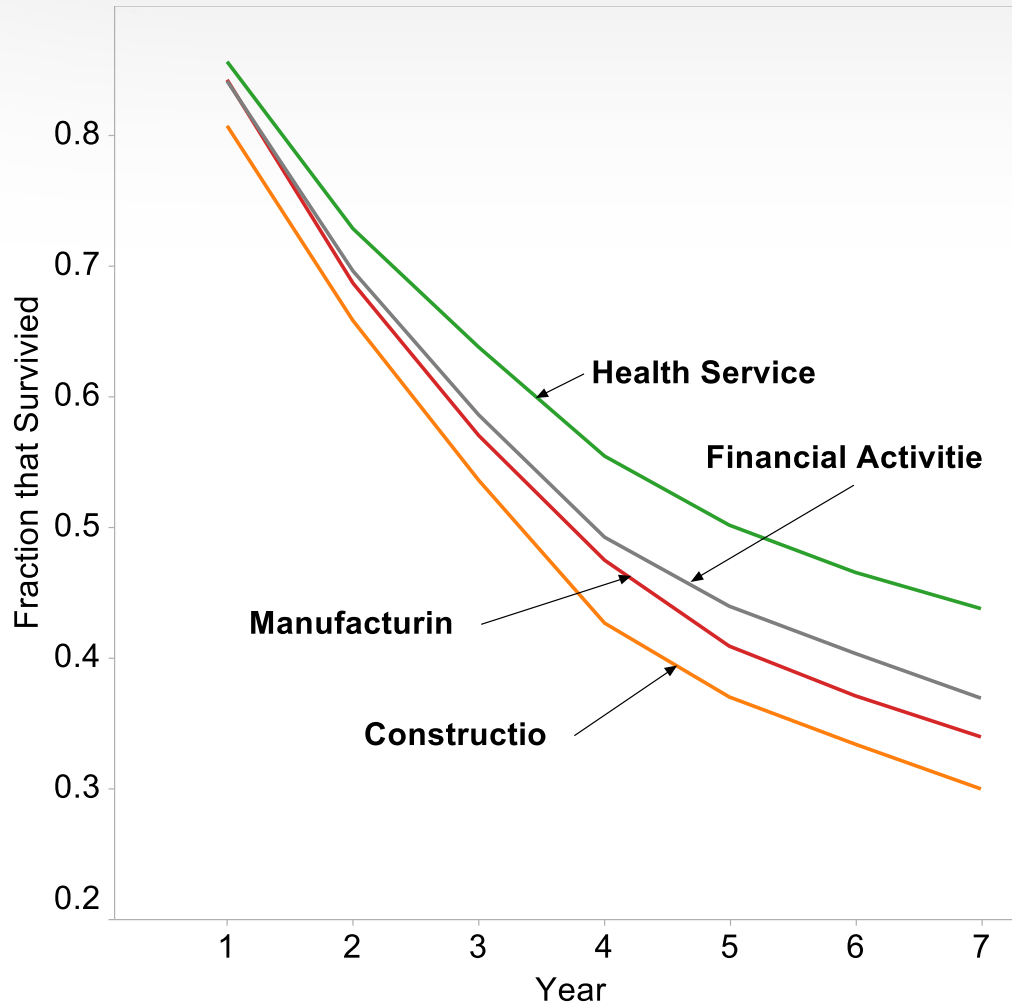
# Scale of Fuels Makes it Harder



**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 21 – SRI; **Revenues** for Power Plants calculated using 2010 electricity average retail prices (all sectors) 9.88 cents/kWh (data from DOE)

# The Challenge of a New Company

*Fraction of companies that survived after launch*



Energy & chemical industries require very high reliability

Energy & chemical industries are extremely capital intensive

Failure has massive financial and social consequences

Source: Knaup, Amy E., May 2005, "Survival and longevity in the Business Employment Dynamics data," *Monthly Labor Review*, pp. 50–56; Knaup, Amy E. and MC. Piazza, September 2007, Business Employment Dynamics Data: Survival and Longevity, *Monthly Labor Review*, pp 3-10.



# Timeline for Impact

Impact / Market Penetration

Invention



Development



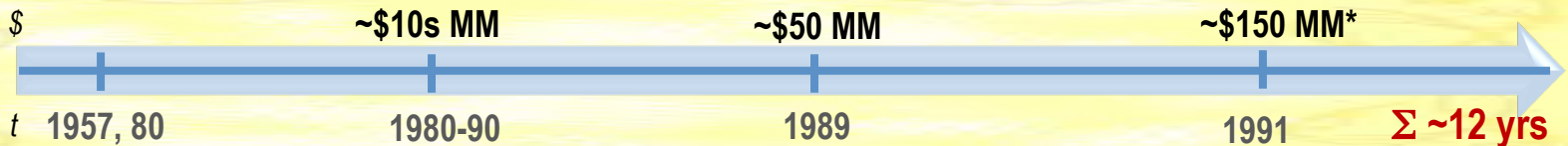
Demonstration



Deployment

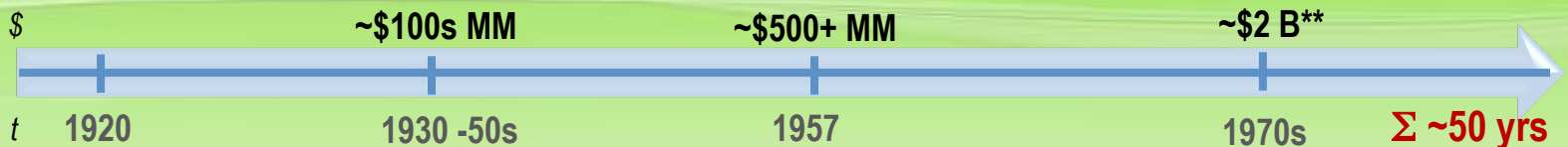


Single Site  
Catalysis



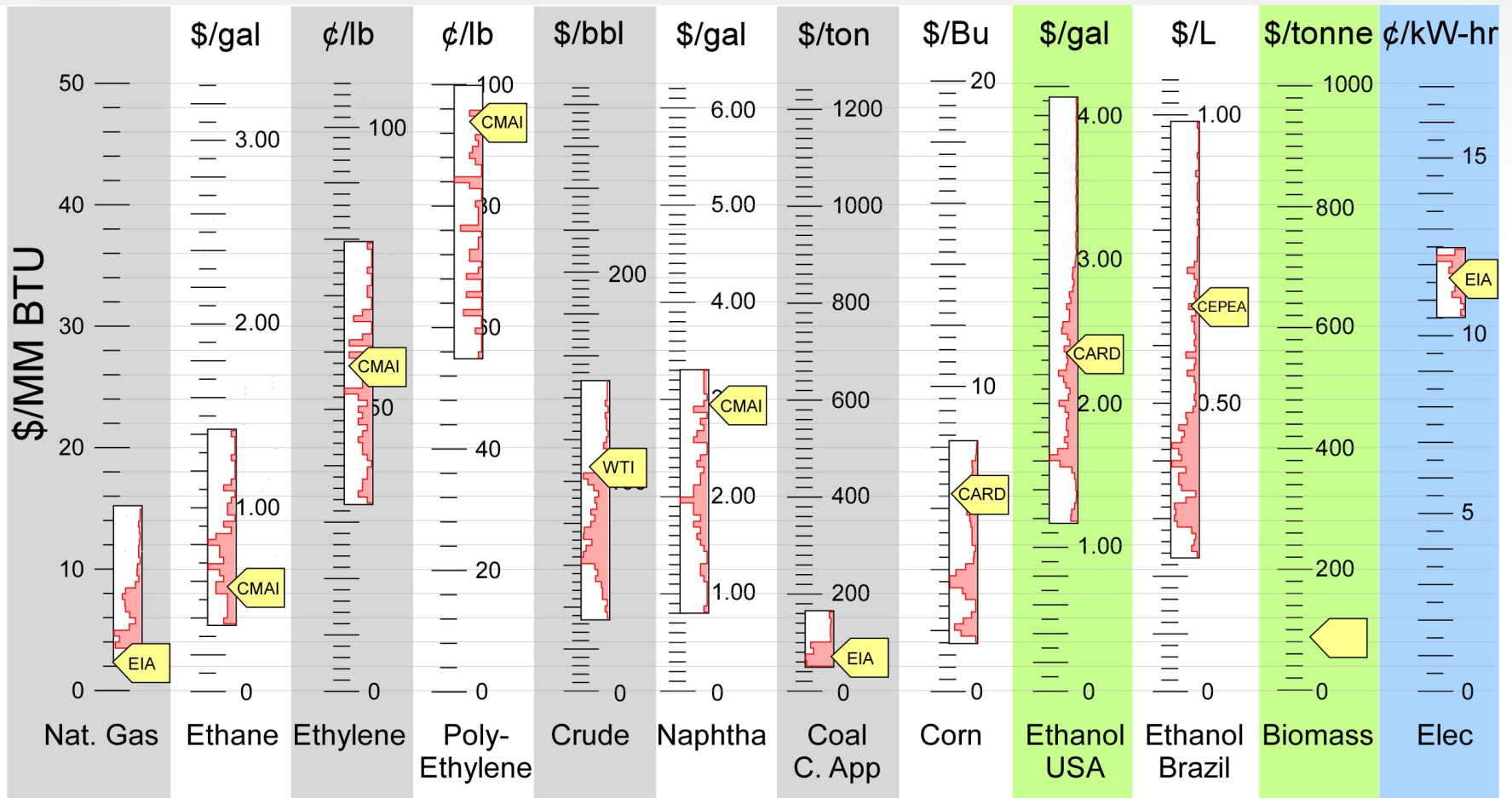
\*400 mT LLDPE plant, 2008\$

Super Critical  
Coal Power



\*\*600 MW plant, 2009\$

# Energy Content

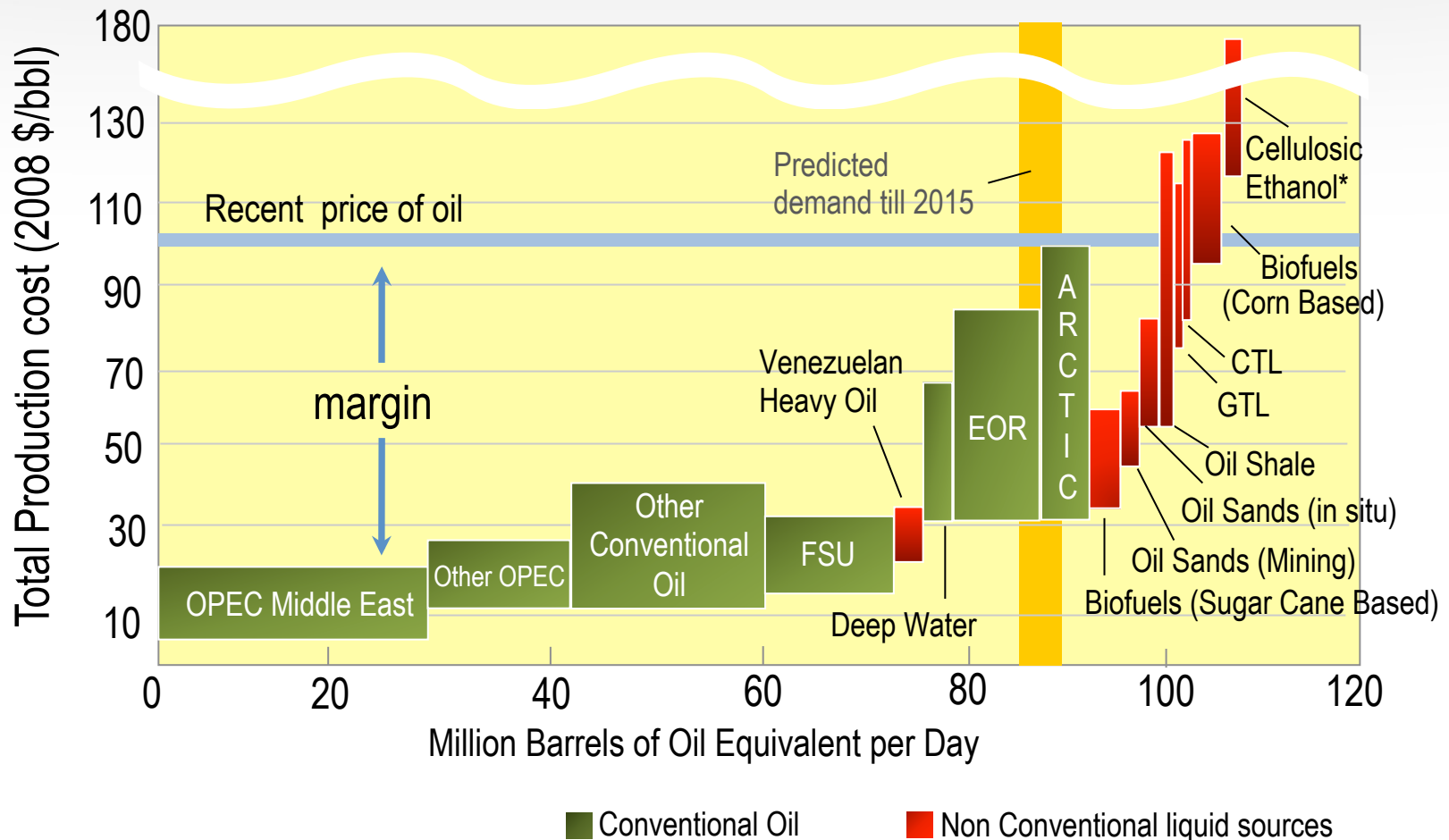


EIA is DOE Energy Information Agency, CMAI is an HIS affiliate, CARD is Iowa State Center for Agricultural and Rural Development, CEPEA is Centro de Estudos Avancado em Economia Aplicada – data for 3-5 years depending on source.

20 March 2012

# Energy Industry Dynamics

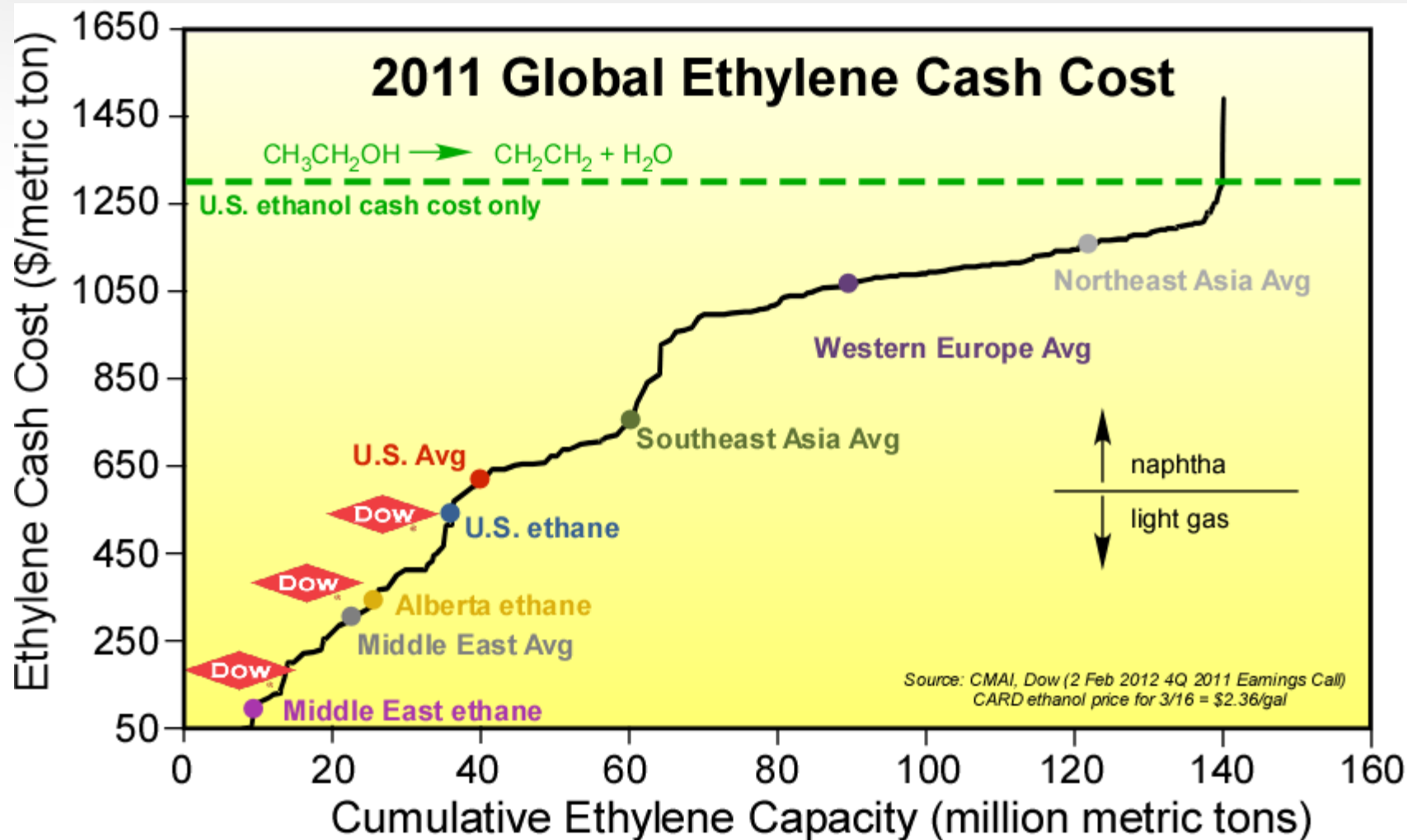
*As oil price rises, new capital will flow to EOR, Arctic, Oil sands, GTL, CTL before biofuels.*



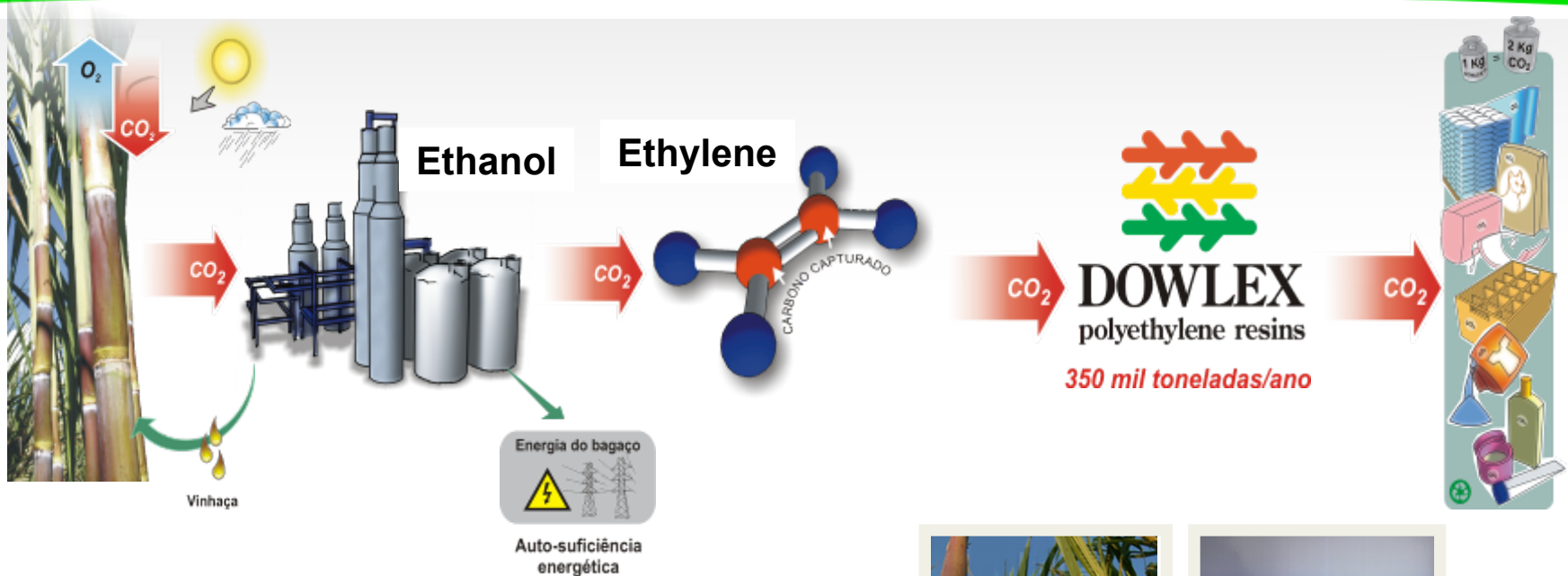
Source: IEA, EIA, Booz Allen Hamilton, DOE Biomass Multiyear Program Plan April 2011, Dow Analysis



# Global Ethylene Cash Cost



# Alternative Feedstock - Cane to LLDPE



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

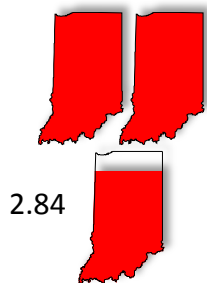


# Ethanol to PE in 2008

*naphtha was looming as the only feedstock choice*

Market prices and selected costs on energy equivalent basis

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



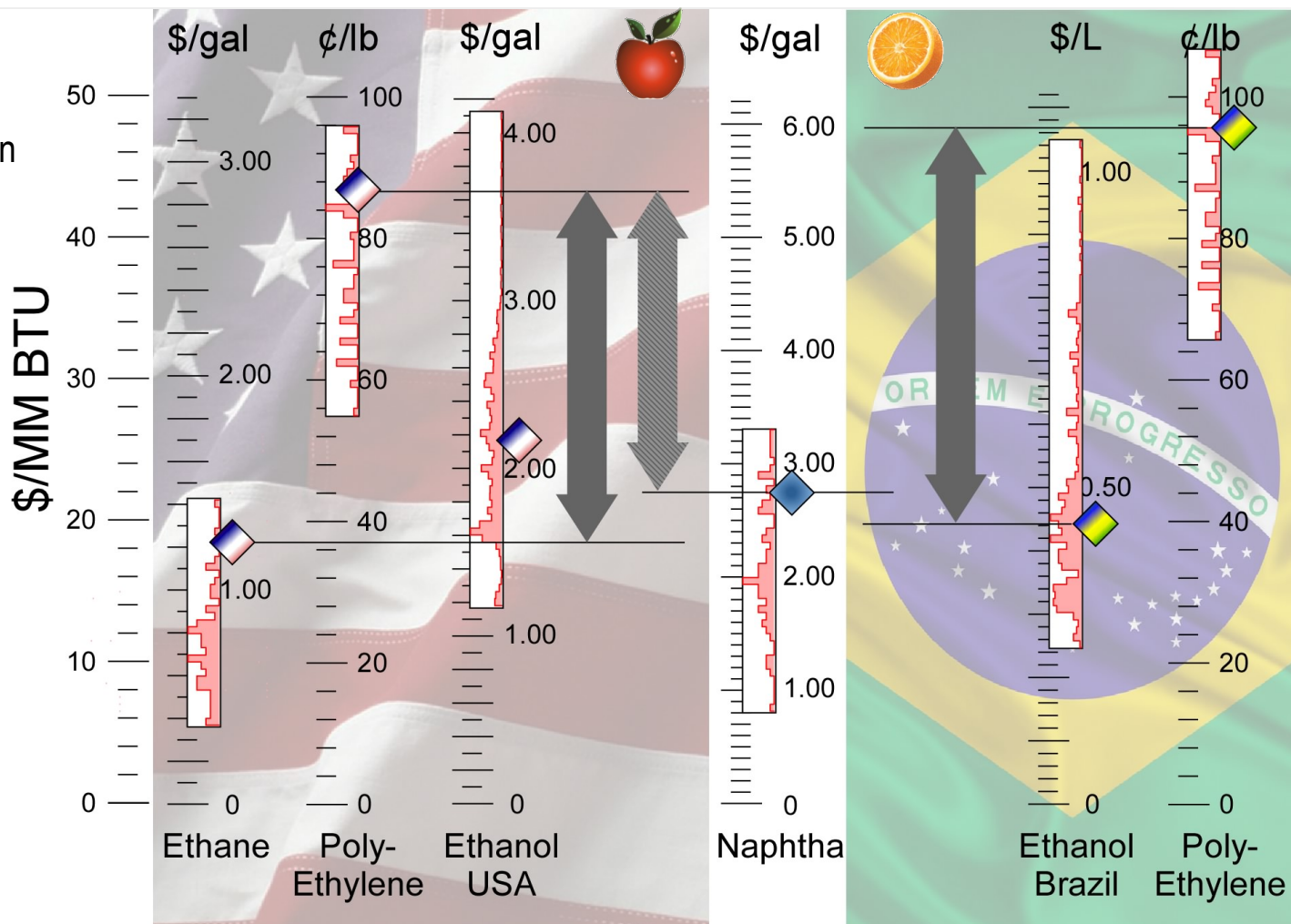
2.84

Area required to produce Brazilian cane ethanol sufficient to meet 2011 global PE demand

Market Prices



USA Brazil World



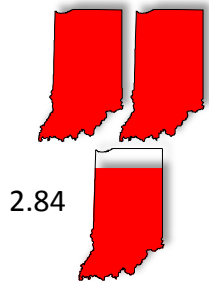
Sources: Ethane, ethylene, polyethylene (US): **CMAI**; Ethanol US: **CARD**, Ethanol Br: **CEPEA**; PE Brazil calculated based on market price differential Br to US. Price histograms shown for 2005 to FMar2012; \*Costs: Br EtOH: Data Agro 2009 and Estado de S. Paulo 2007 ratioed to 2012 exchange rate



# Ethanol to PE – A Niche Opportunity

Market prices and selected costs on energy equivalent basis

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

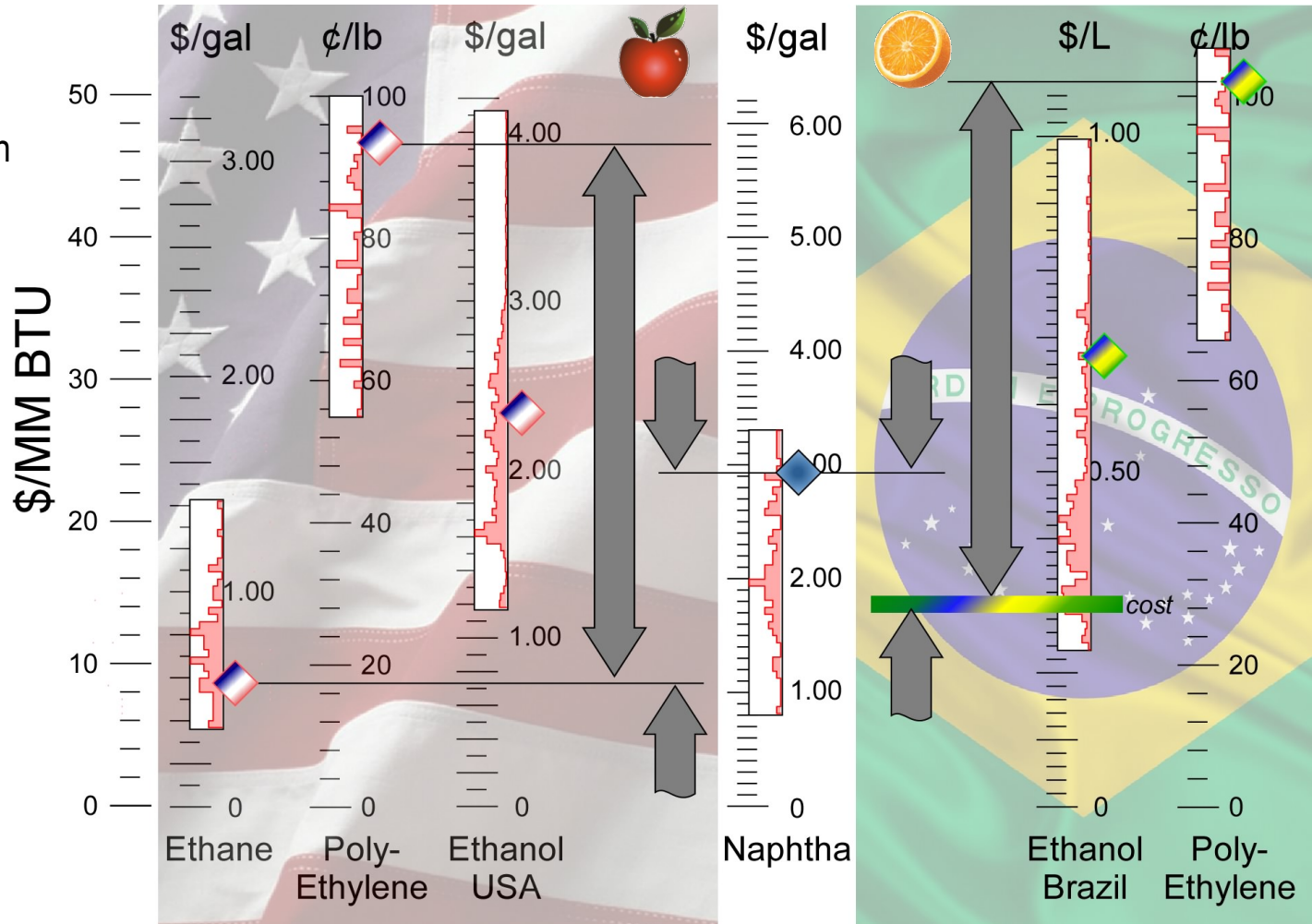


Area required to produce Brazilian cane ethanol sufficient to meet 2011 global PE demand

Market Prices



USA Brazil World

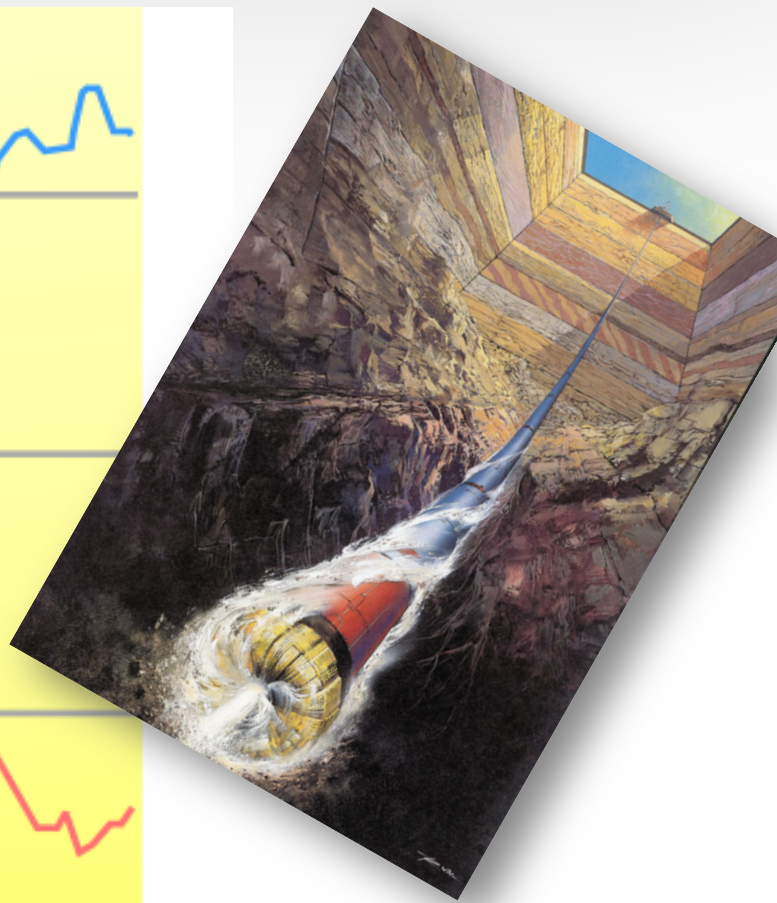
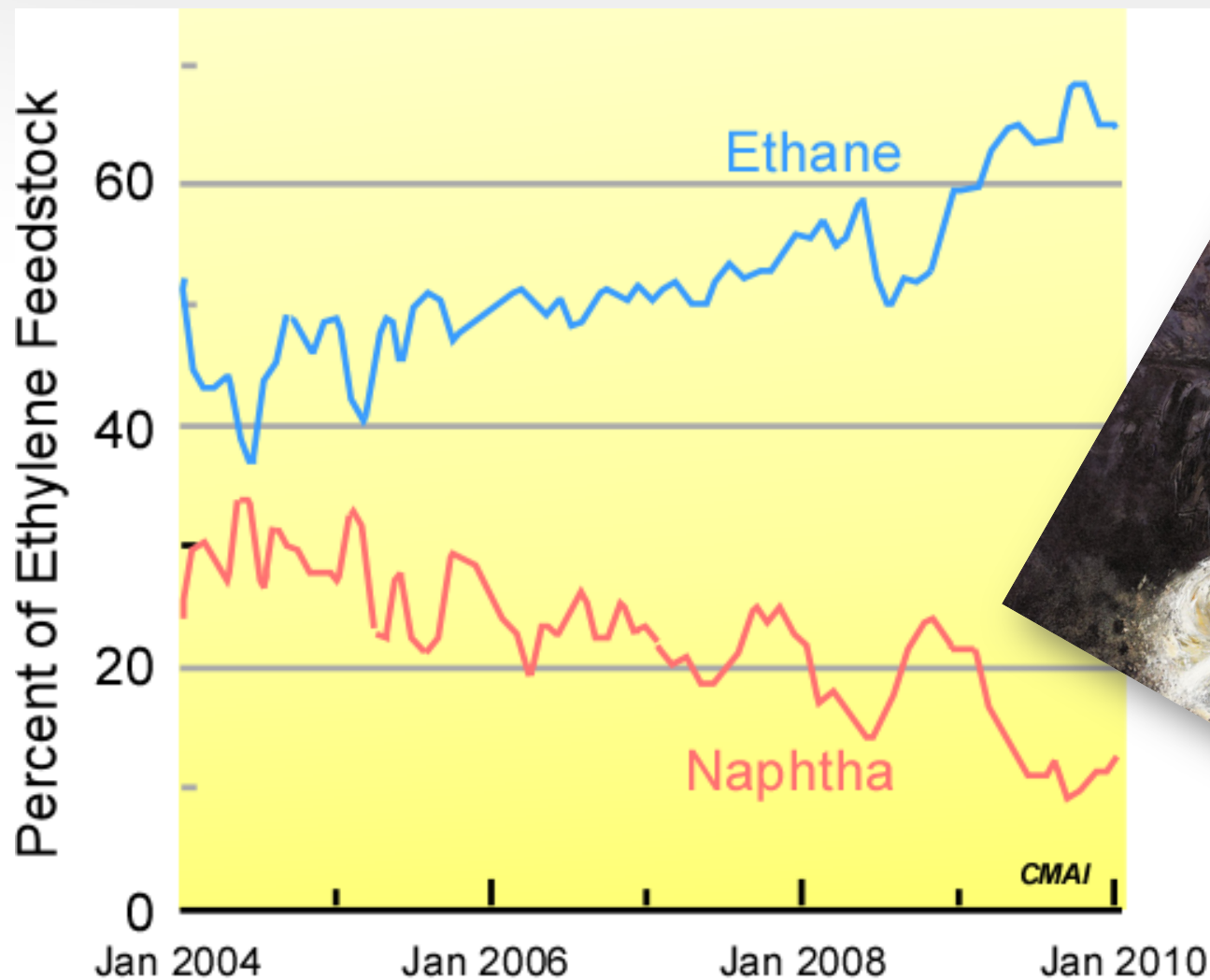


Sources: Ethane, ethylene, polyethylene (US): CMAI; Ethanol US: CARD; Ethanol Br: CEPEA; PE Brazil calculated based on market price differential Br to US. Price histograms shown for 2005 to March 2012; Prices shown from March 2012. \*Costs: Br EtOH: Data Agro 2009 and Estado de S. Paulo 2007 ratioed to 2012 exchange rate





# Shale Gas Revitalizes the Industry





# Demand for Bioproducts?



*Midland Daily News*  
1 January 2012

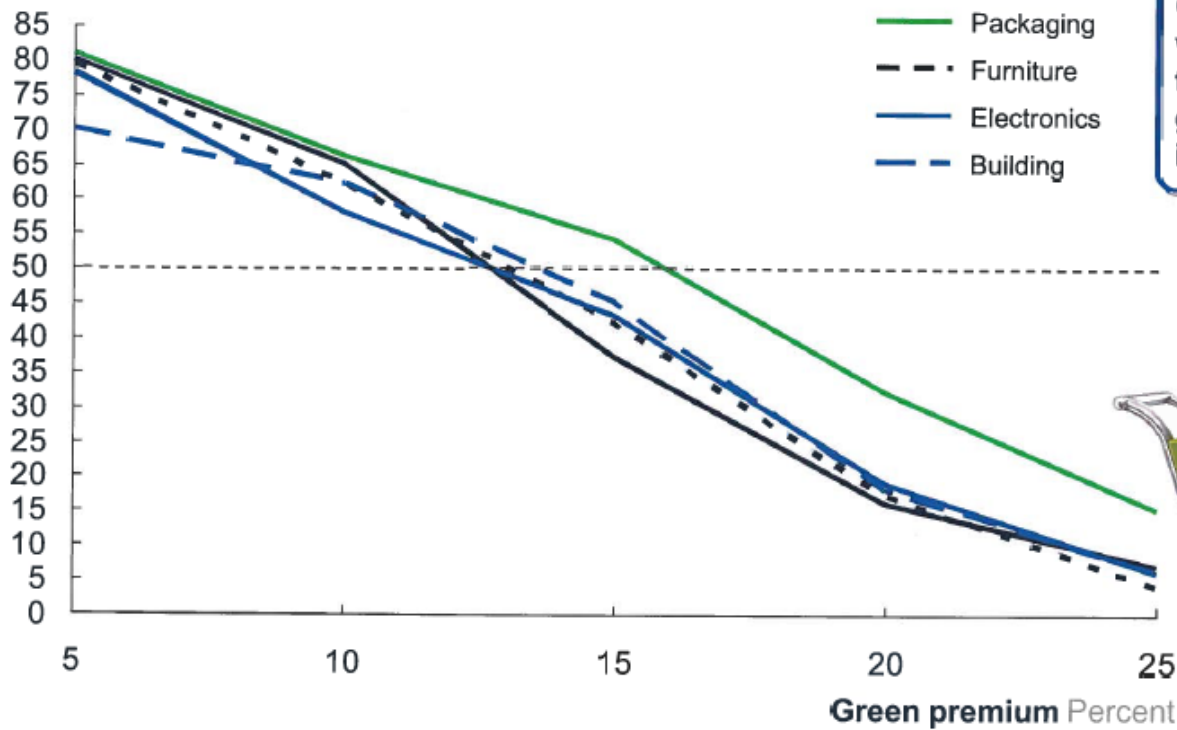


# Limit to Green Premium

- 4 But the proportion of consumers willing to pay premium goes down rapidly and reaches a very low level beyond 20-25% premium

Share of consumers picking green by premium  
Percent

Share of consumer picking green, Percent



Consumers are willing to pay the highest green premium in packaging



Working Draft - Last Modified 2/7/2012 9:04:49 AM Printed 02/02/2012 12:27:20

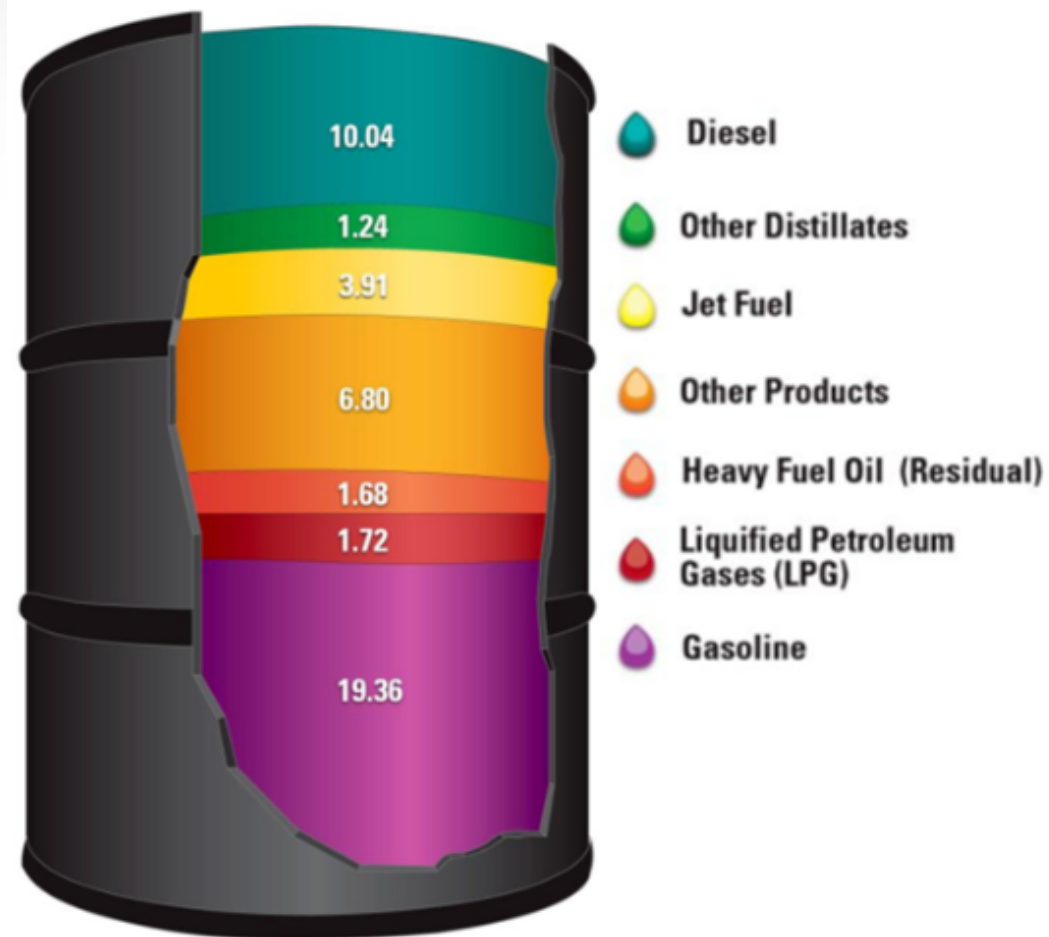
# Changing Emphasis

Biomass 2011: Replace the Whole Barrel,  
Supply the Whole Market  
*The New Horizons of Bioenergy*

July 26–27, 2011

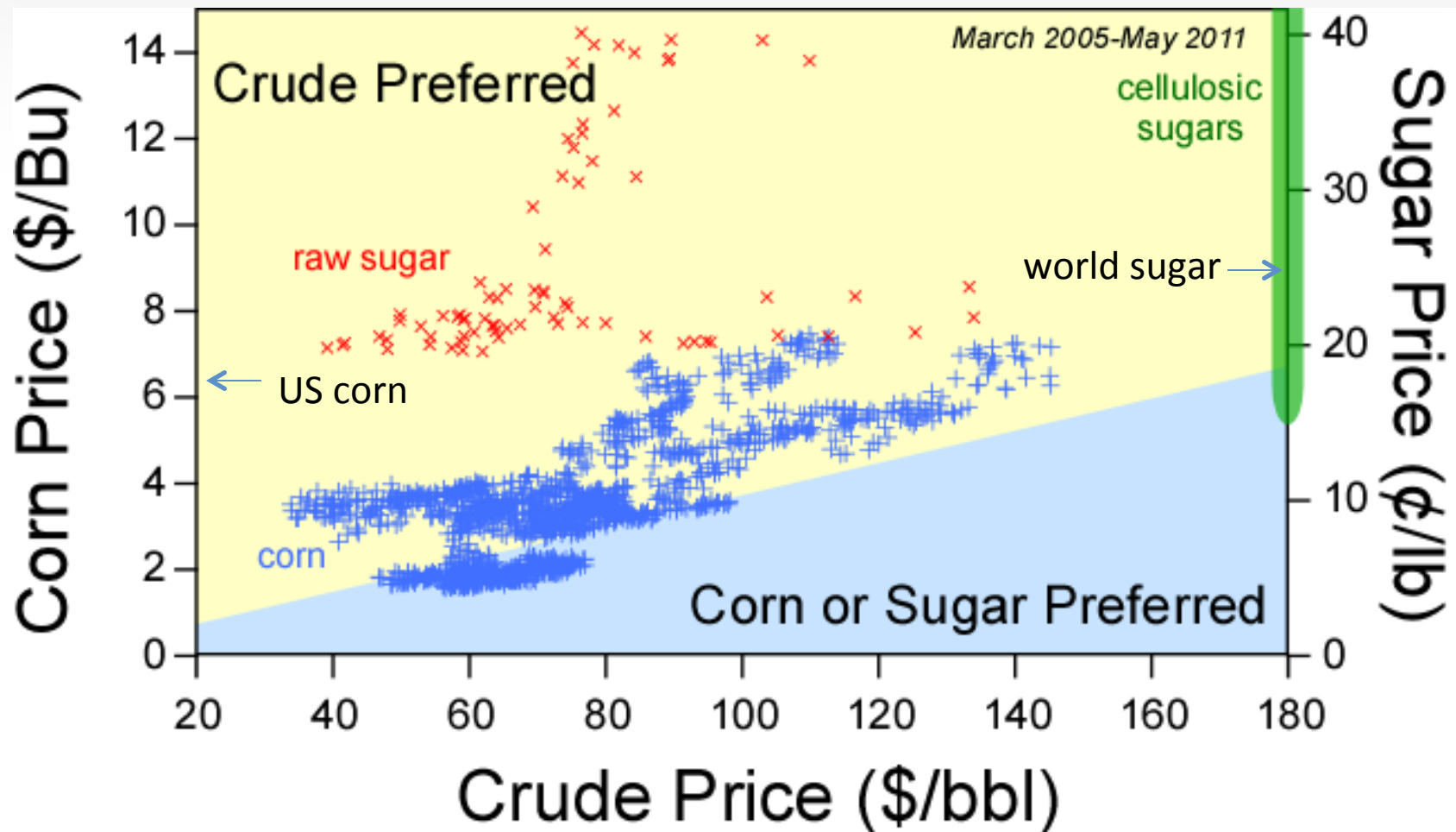


*“sugar is the new crude”*



# Bio Commodities Too Expensive

Cash cost indifference analysis for ethylene from crude oil and bio feedstocks





## Twelve Principles of Green Chemistry

1. Prevention: It is better to prevent waste than to treat or clean up waste after it has been created.
2. Atom Economy: Synthetic methods should be designed to maximize the incorporation of all materials used in the process into the final product.

7. Use of Renewable Feedstocks: A raw material or feedstock should be renewable rather than depleting whenever technically and economically practicable.

8. Reduce Derivatives: Unnecessary derivatization (use of blocking groups, protection/ deprotection, temporary modifications, etc.) should be avoided whenever possible, because such steps require additional reagents and can generate waste.

9. Safer Reagents: Reagents (as selective as possible) are preferred to stoichiometric reagents.

10. Design for Degradation: Chemical products should be designed so that at the end of their function they break down into innocuous degradation products and do not persist in the environment.

11. Real-time Monitoring for Pollution Prevention: Analytical methods need to be further developed to allow for real-time monitoring and control prior to the formation of pollutants.

12. Chemistry for Accident Prevention:

The form of a substance used in a chemical process should be chosen to minimize the potential for chemical accidents, including releases, explosions, and fires.

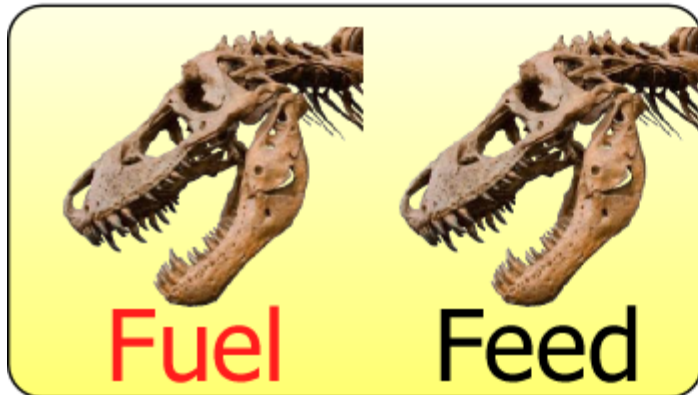
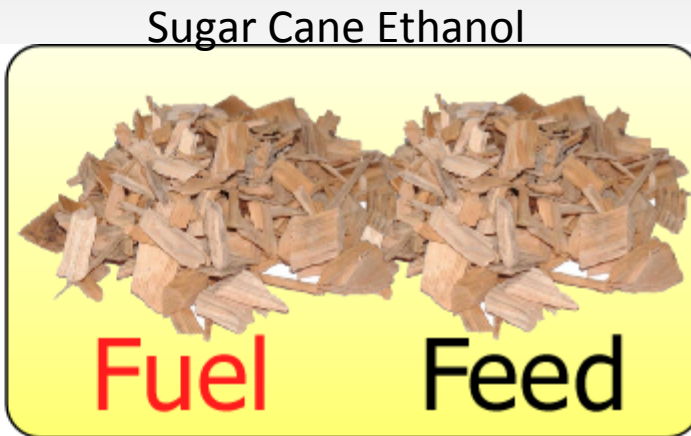
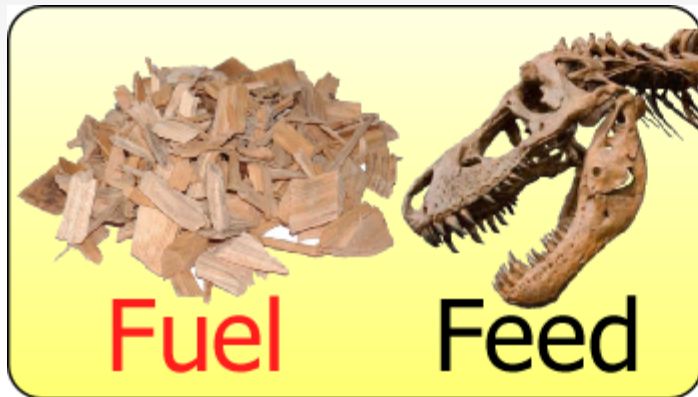
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feasible.

and pressure.

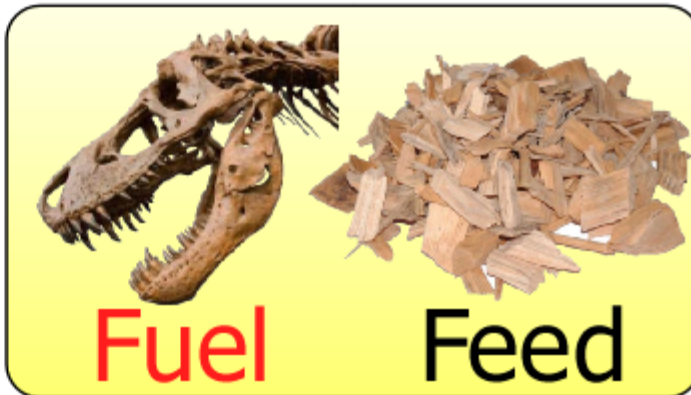
chemical accidents, including releases, explosions, and fires.



# Two Carbon Flavors



Petrochemicals



Corn Ethanol

# LCA of Polymers

*Biopolymers rank in the middle of LCA rankings*

POLYMER	Material	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

# LCA of Polymers

*Biopolymers rank in the middle of LCA rankings*

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PVC	Chlorine/petroleum	11	7
Polyhydroxyalkanoate-General	Corn kernels	2	8
Polylactic Acid-General	Sugar/cornstarch	4	9
PET	Petroleum	6	10
Polycarbonate	Petroleum	12	11
Bio-PET	Petroleum /plants	8	12

# What works in bioproducts?

- nature prepares the molecule:
  - nature puts it in the right oxidation state (*kind of carbon*)
  - nature makes the right molecular structure for the end application(*shape of carbon*)
  - nature makes enough that recovery is economical
- technical risk to serve market is low:
  - identical biomaterial for established markets
  - fossil and bio parity in market

# 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

### 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

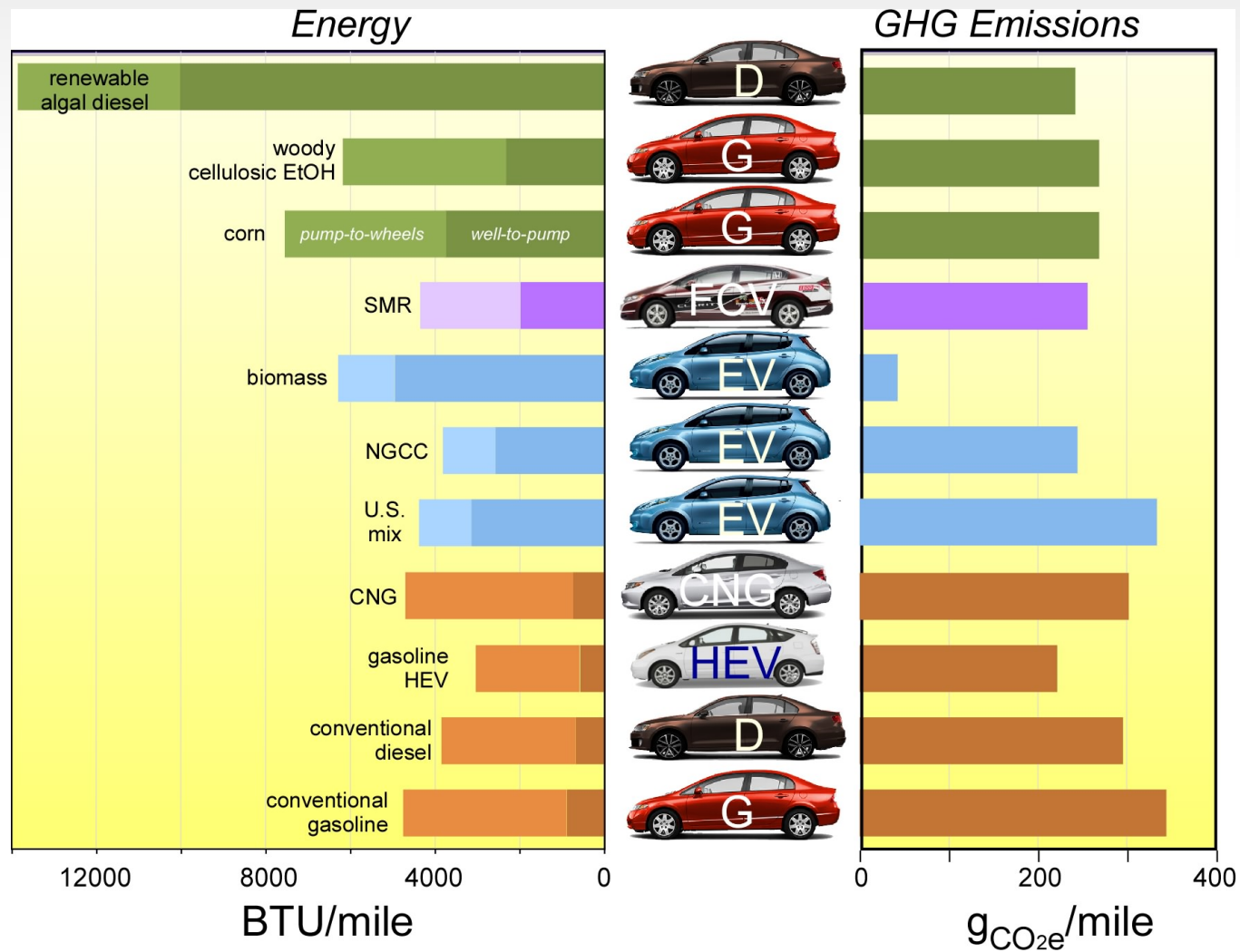




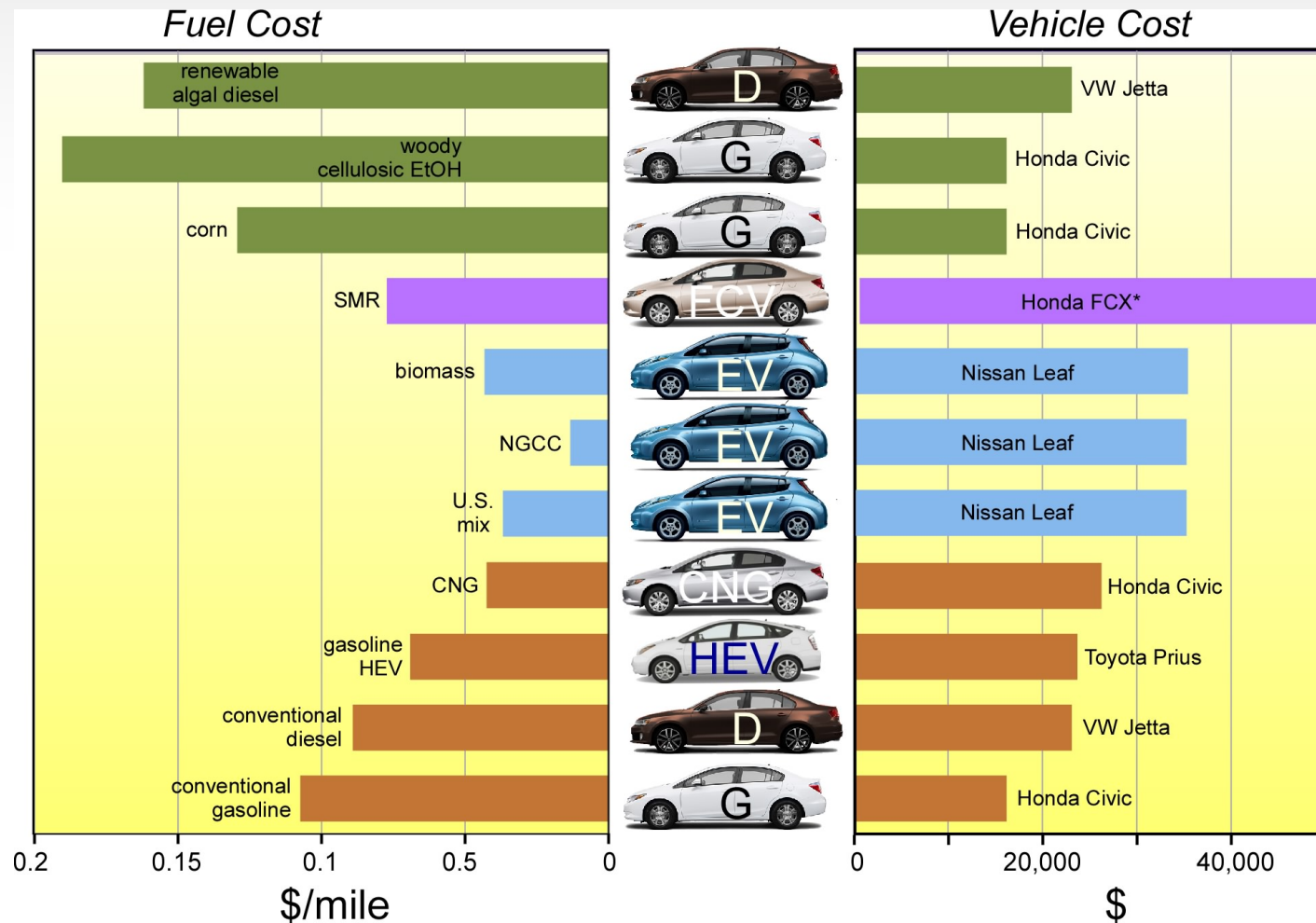


**Thank You**

# Electrification Beats Biofuels



# Electrification Beats Biofuels



# Compounding Miracles

Hydrogen Fuel Cell Technology  
*requires 4 miracles*



Production of  
Hydrogen



Hydrogen  
Storage



Fuel  
Cells



Distribution &  
Infrastructure

Cellulosic Ethanol Technology  
*requires 3 miracles*



Photosynthetic  
Yield



Collection &  
Transportation



Conversion/  
Cost

# Conclusions

- Too much hype for the possible and not enough focus on the practical
  - Incumbent fossil sources set the standard for competition
  - It takes decades to deploy a new technology
  - Scale wins and biomass availability limits biofuels scale
- Small companies access to patient capital makes success challenging
- Fundamental engineering judgment is crucial to long term innovation
- Can society afford to pay for a different solution?

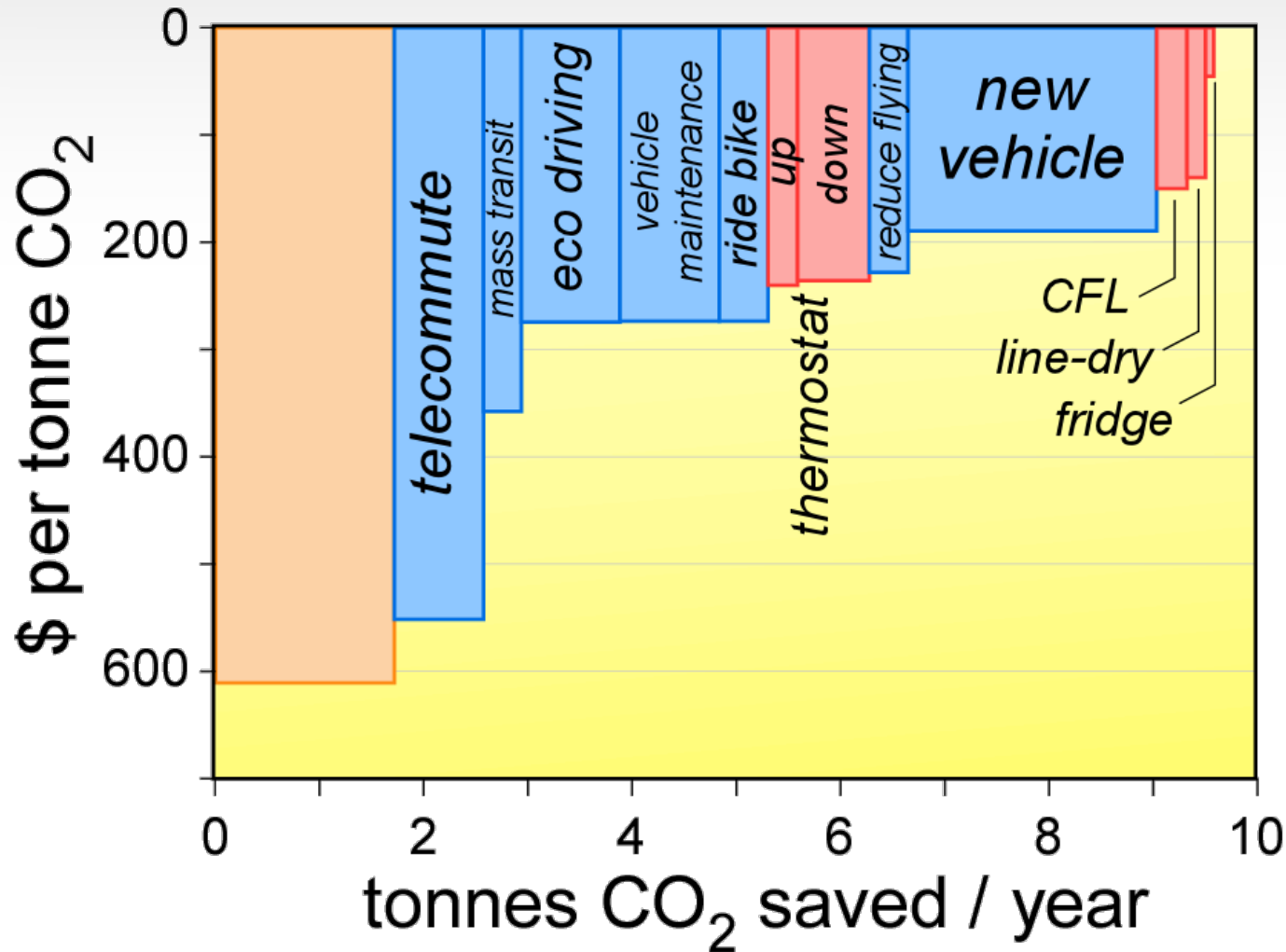
*Facts are the air of scientists. Without them you can never fly.*

*- Linus Pauling*



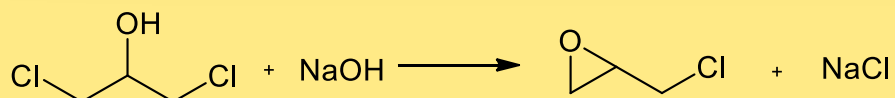
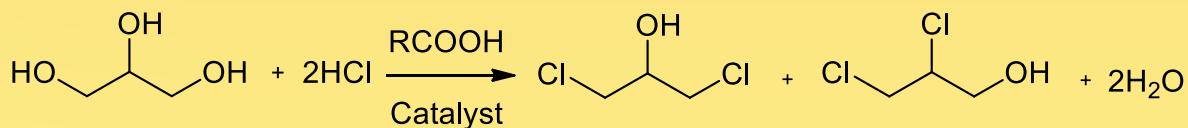
# Final Thought

## Average US Household Abatement Curve

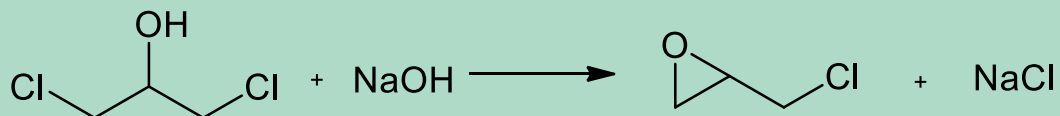
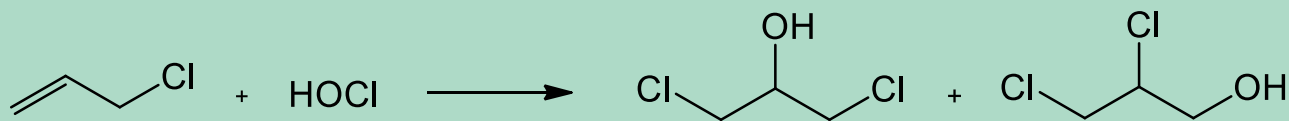


# Glycerin to Epichlorohydrin

## New Route



## Industry Standard Route



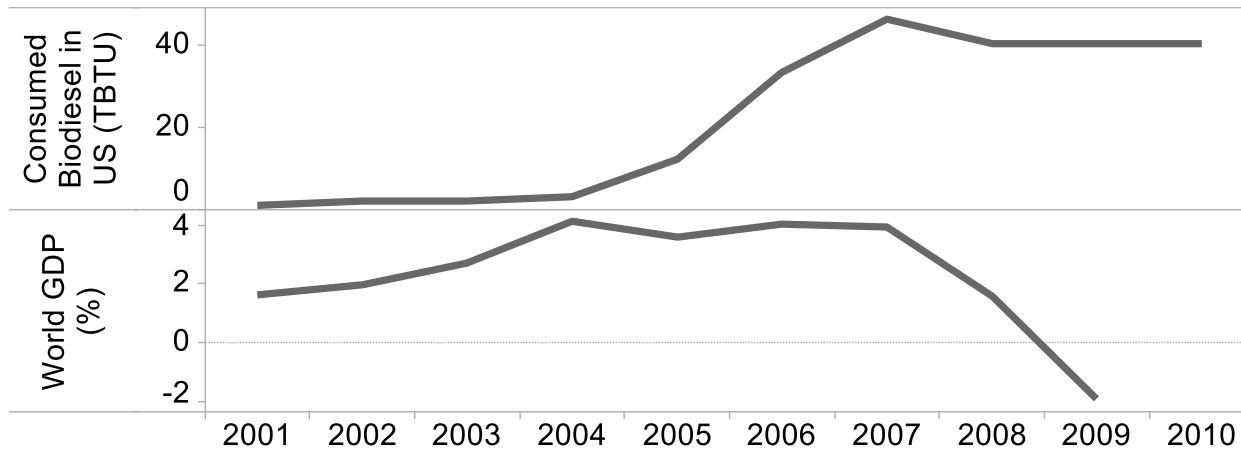
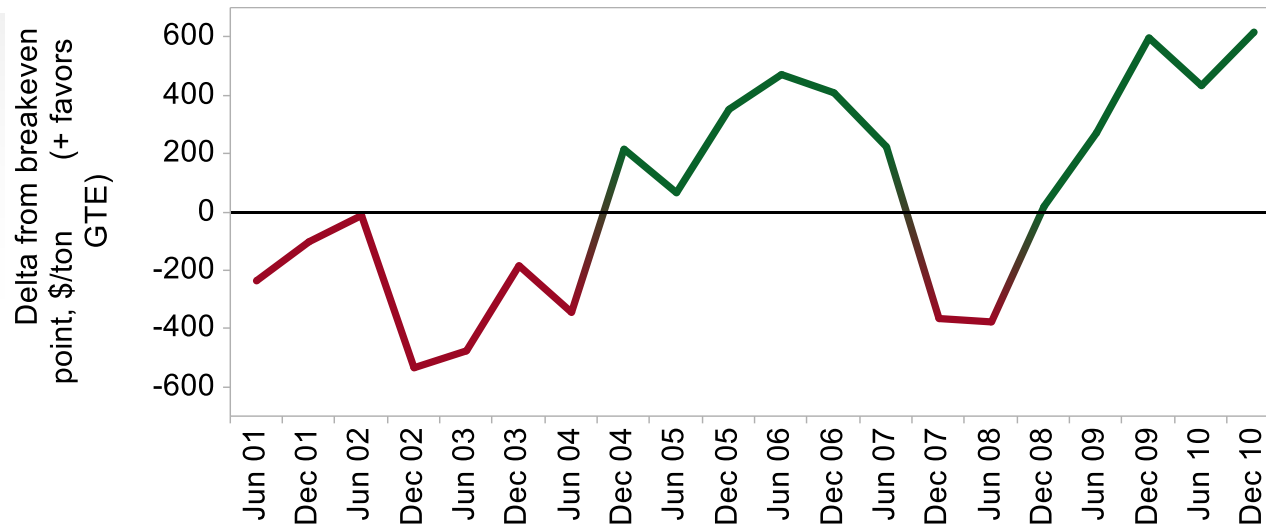
## Hypothesis

Glycerin from biodiesel  
Economically attractive

- Low Capital (2x lower)
- Simple & competitive process
- Additional market value for renewable feedstock



# Glycerin to Epichlorohydrin



Significant Issues:  
Supply chain  
uncertainties for  
crude glycerin

Dependence on  
biodiesel = uncertain  
future

Dow's investment  
decision coincided  
with global economic  
downturn

Propylene price  
variation challenges  
profitability

Sources:

Glycerin price from December 2010 Oleoline market report with prices corrected to Tallow glycerin.

Propylene prices from CMAI, spot simple average

Biodiesel: EIA Biodiesel Overview 2001-2009, Table 10.4 + AEO 2011 for 2010 data

GDP (%): The World Bank database

# The Promise versus The Reality

## PROMISE

Switchgrass today = 4.6 ton/acre  
*Miscanthus* – trials only



“Promised” to 10-15 ton/acre in a decade and  
15-20 ton/acre over following few decades

## REALITY

Cumulative Total R&D Investment

Dow Agrosciences

\$9.7B

Syngenta

Monsanto

\$7.0B

\$4.5B

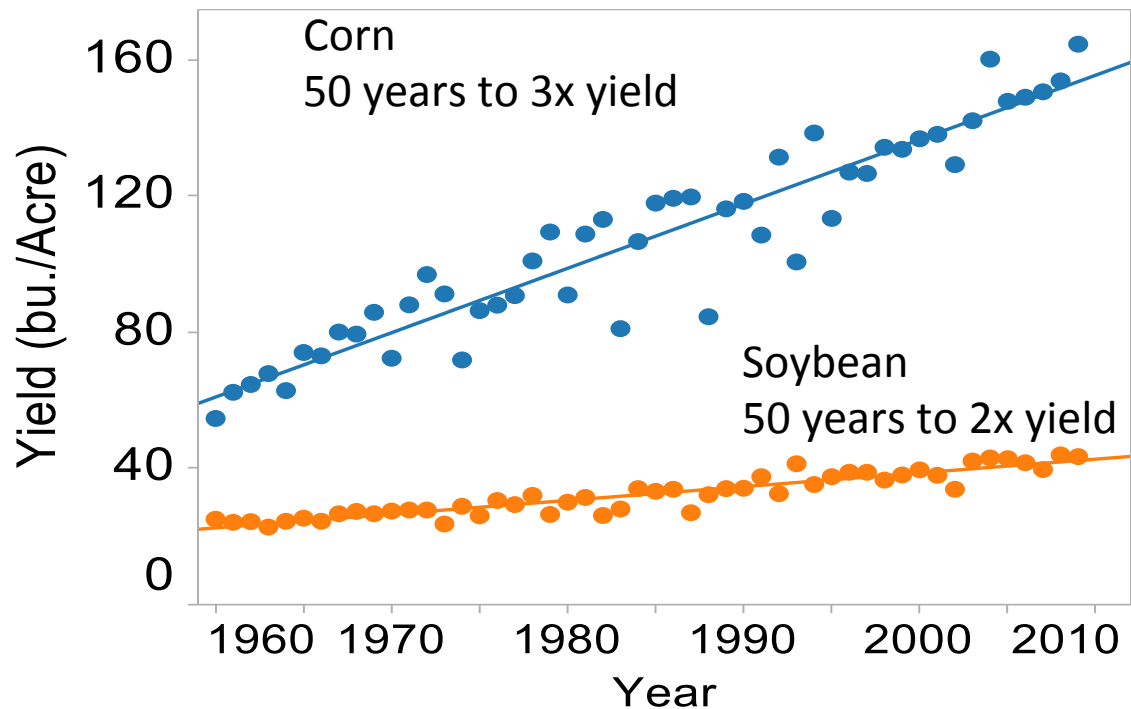
\$2.1B

2007 2008 2009 2010

Source: Bloomberg for 2007 to 2009 and Annual financial reports from 2010

W Banholzer Notre Dame 2012 Reilly Lecture

## Area Productivity



Source: USDA – quickstats.nass.usda.gov – reports:

AFBDFE1E-1AFC-35DE-8A93-7FB72F0DA089

0DB967AF-4F8E-32ED-9D5D-D150ADE7D838



# The Promise versus The Reality

## PROMISE

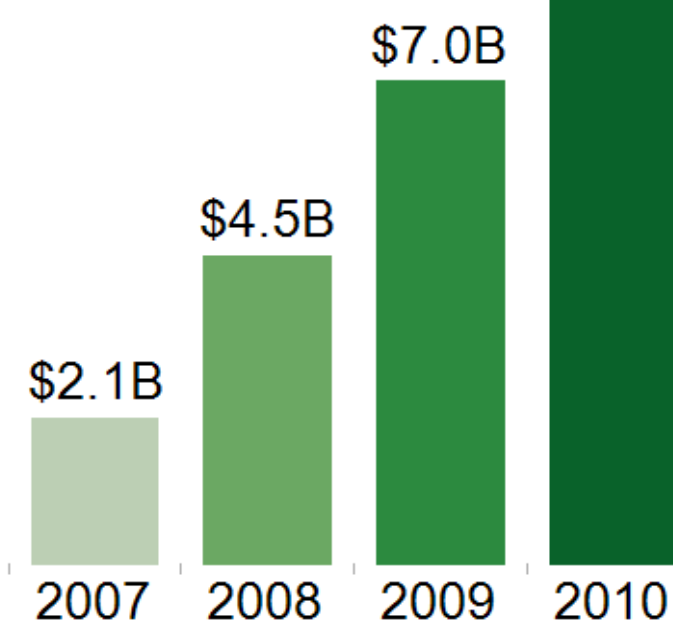
Switchgrass today = 4.6 ton/acre  
*Miscanthus* – trials only



“Promised” to 10-15 ton/acre in a decade and  
15-20 ton/acre over following few decades

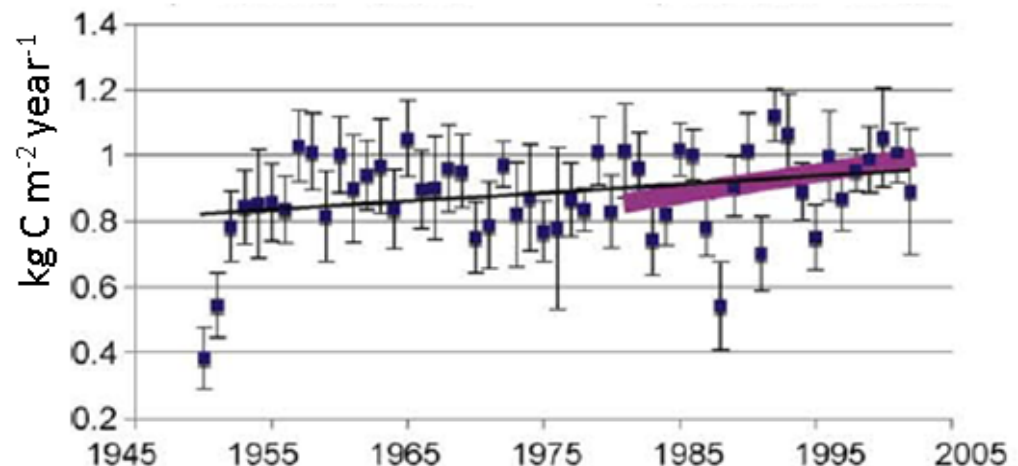
## REALITY

Cumulative Total R&D Investment  
Dow Agrosiences  
Syngenta  
Monsanto



Source: Bloomberg for 2007 to 2009 and Annual financial reports from 2010  
Source: Bloomberg for 2007 to 2009 and Annual financial reports from 2010  
W Banholzer Notre Dame 2012 Reilly Lecture

## Corn Net Primary Productivity Photosynthesis efficiency is the limit

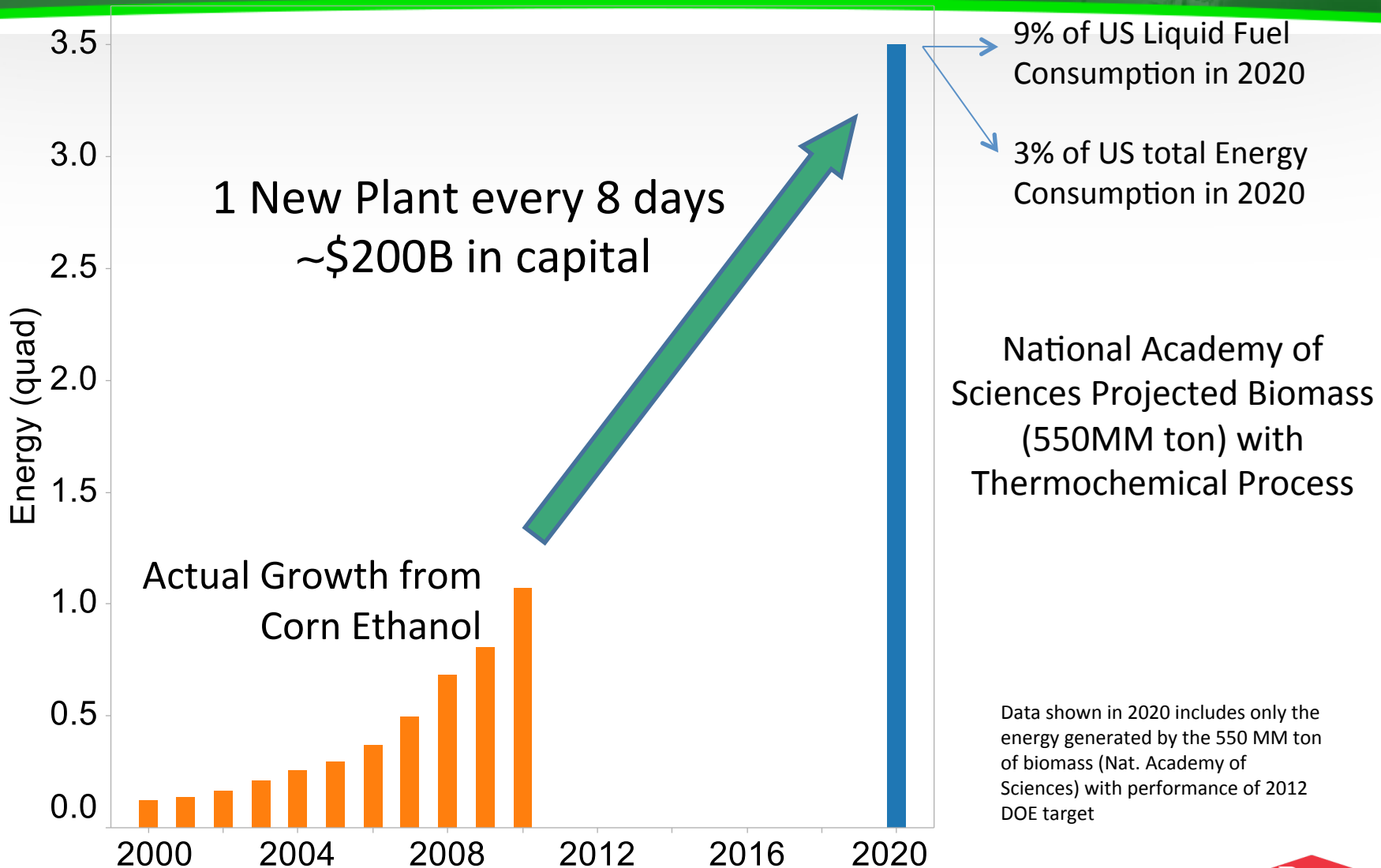


Tracy E. Twine, Christopher J. Kucharik, Agricultural and Forest Meteorology 149 (2009) 2143–2161

Source: USDA – quickstats.nass.usda.gov – reports:  
AFBDFE1E-1AFC-35DE-8A93-7FB72F0DA089  
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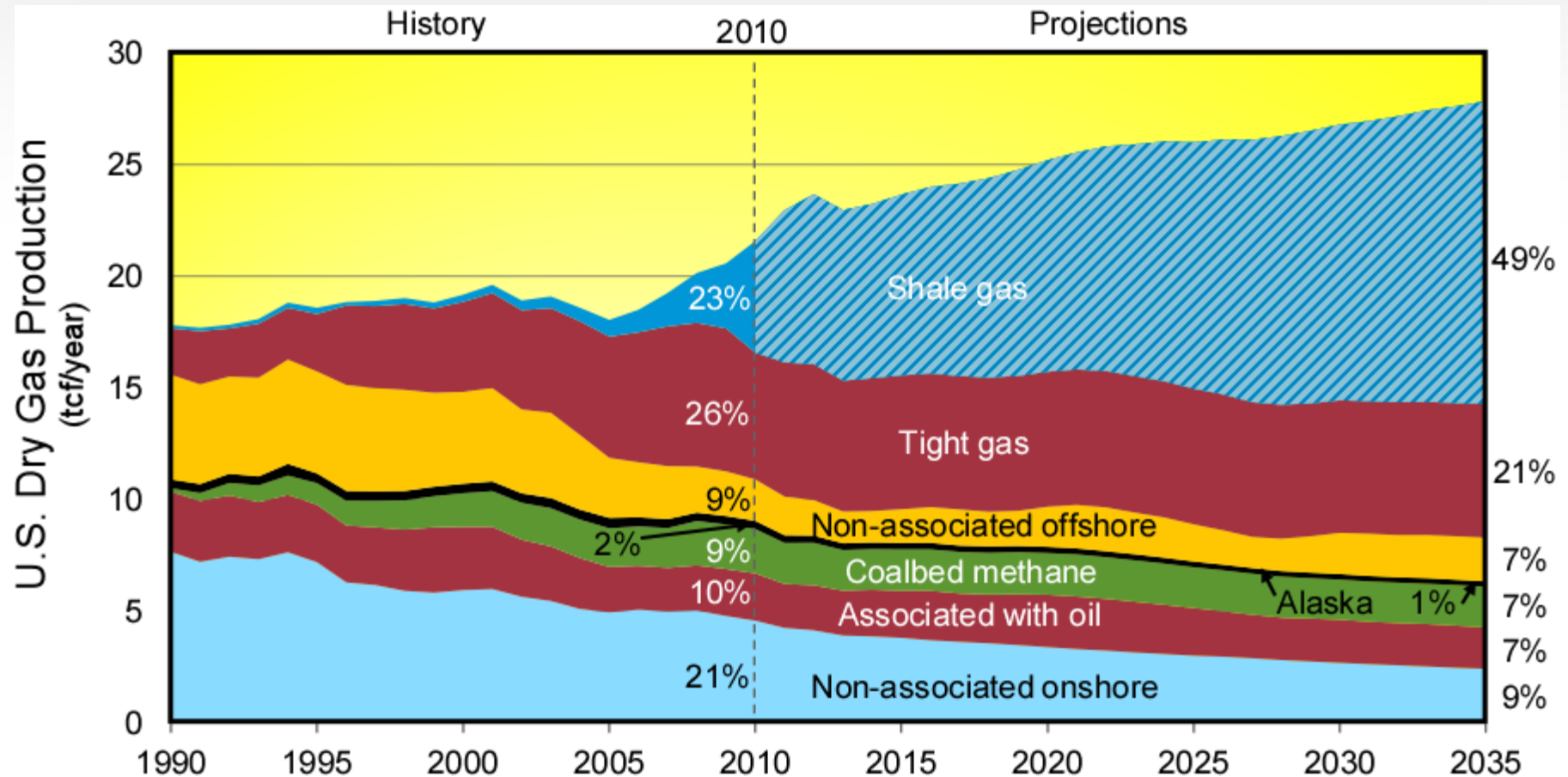
# Cost and Time to Implement





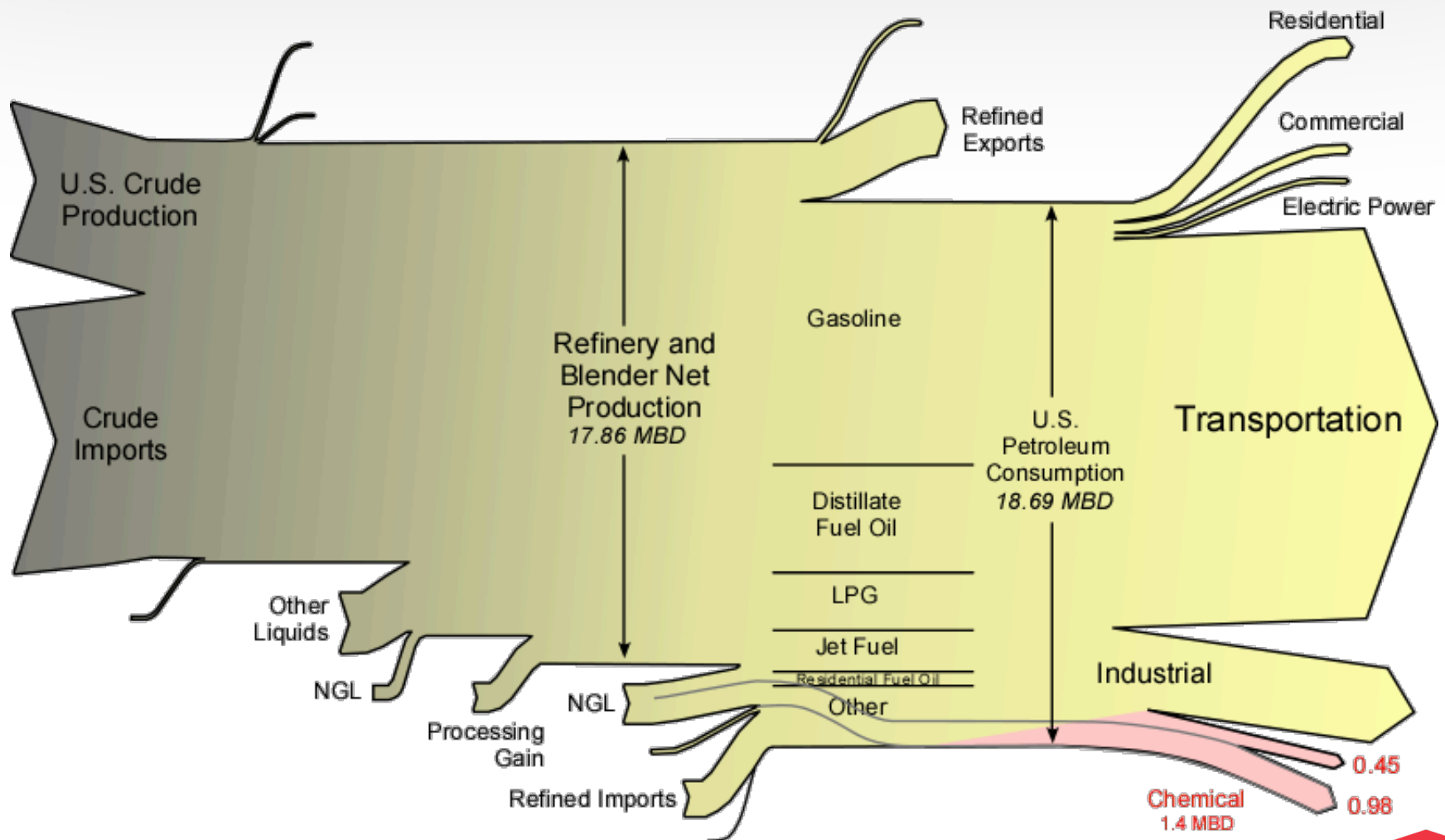
**Thank You**

# Shale Gas Growth

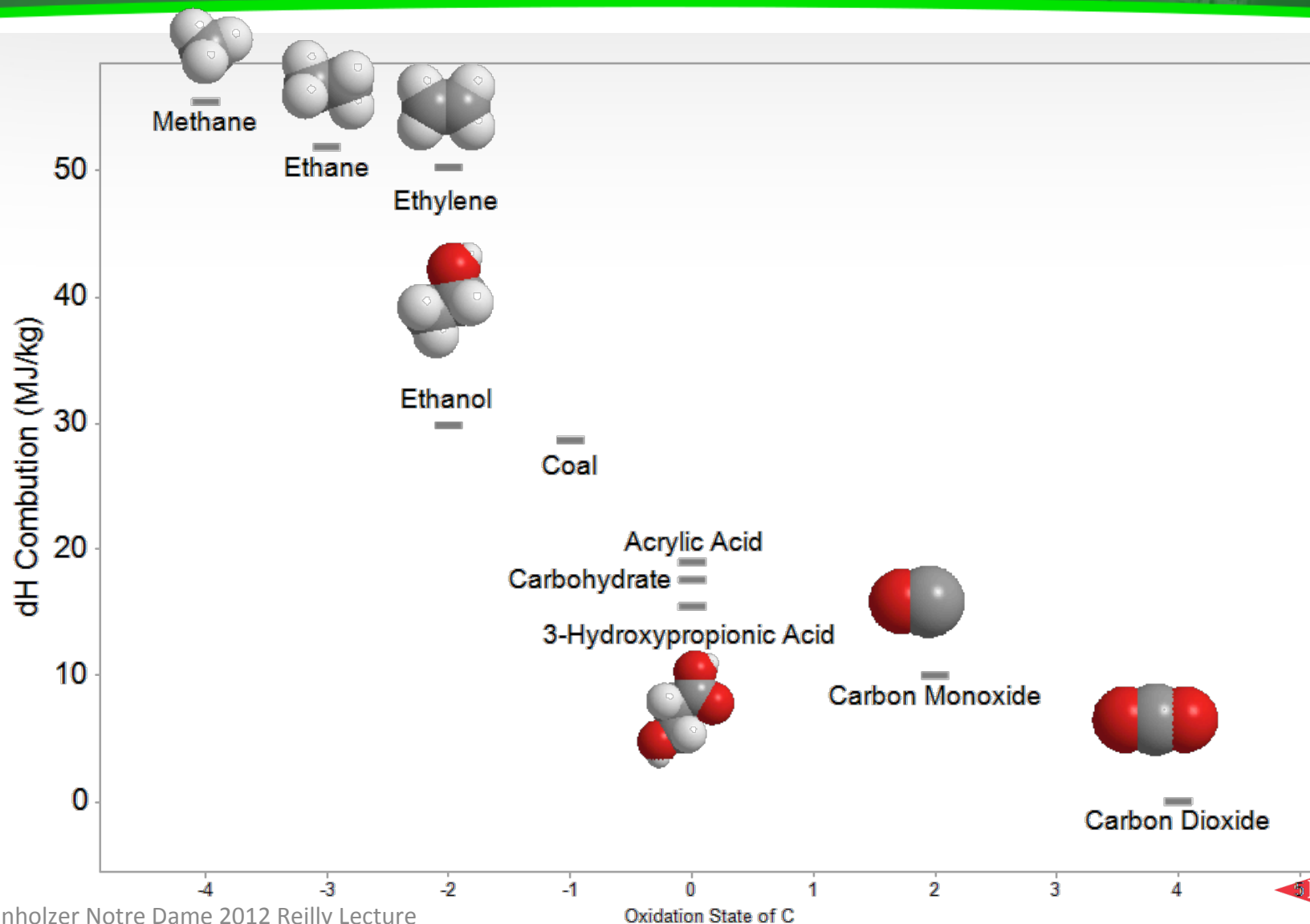


Source: EIA, Annual Energy Outlook 2012 Early Release

# U.S. Petroleum Flow



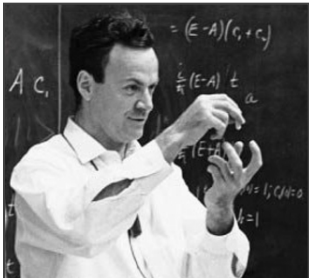
# Feedstock Oxidation States





# Understanding the Key Issues

- The requirements of **CAPITALISM** must be addressed.
- **ENERGY R&D** is a multi level challenge
- **NEW FEEDSTOCKS** have uncertainty in supply chain complexity, long term availability and market pull
- **TIME & SCALE TO IMPLEMENT** cannot be ignored
- The relationship between **SCIENCE** and **BUSINESS** is hard to predict
- **INCUMBENT TECHNOLOGY** sets the standard for competition
- **COMPANIES FAIL!**



For a successful technology, reality must take precedence over public relations, for Nature cannot be fooled.

- Richard Feynman

# Berkeley Study on PHA

## PHA production requires more fossil fuel energy

### PS vs. PHA – Energy and Fossil Fuel Equivalents (FFE's) comparison

	Energy and FFE (per kilogram polymer)			
	Polystyrene		PHA	
	Energy	FFE	Energy	FFE
Production of raw materials	See below*	1.78 kg*	31,218 kJ	0.80 kg
Utilities				
▪ Steam	7.0 kg	0.4 kg	2.78 kg	0.14 kg
▪ Electricity	0.30 kWh	0.08 kg	5.32 kWh	1.45 kg
<b>Total</b>		<b>2.26 kg</b>		<b>2.39 kg</b>

**High energy  
requirement of  
feedstock is largely  
responsible for  
high cost of PHA**

### Summary – predictions

- The increased market demand for bioplastics will sustain a small, slow-growth market for PHA
- PHA will not achieve a price parity with petroleum-based plastics
- PHA will be limited to niche applications where compostability creates a value and as a blend to improve performance of other bioplastics
- Perceived environmental benefits of biodegradable plastics will erode over time

# Abstract

The world aspires for sources of energy and product feedstocks that are 100% sustainable in adequate amounts to support a high standard of living for all. The question is whether these goals are practical.

Which new pathways and technologies will emerge to transform our situation? This question is addressed from the perspective of the chemical industry, which was built on oil, natural gas, and coal. These have served as the major raw material feedstocks and energy sources for driving reactions and separations. The industry is exploring new materials and solutions for energy supply and conversion.

Here we consider the mass and energy balances, capital investment, and resource requirements of several key alternative energy and feedstock technologies. These considerations determine where we can expect realistic progress toward sustainable chemistry in both the short and long term, and where we should place our investments.

# How CAPITALISM Works....

Companies have to make money



Money flows towards higher returns

Investors are risk adverse

Wrong investments drive companies to collapse