

# The Forest Biorefinery- How do we capture more value?

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# The BIG Picture

## ◆ Michigan's Transportation Fuel Use:

- 5 billion gallons of gasoline per year
- 1 billion gallons of diesel

*(our forests could supply this for 6 years, then they'd be gone)*



## ◆ Michigan's Electricity Use:

- 13.6 Gigawatts consumed

*(our forests could supply this for 6 years, then they'd be gone)*

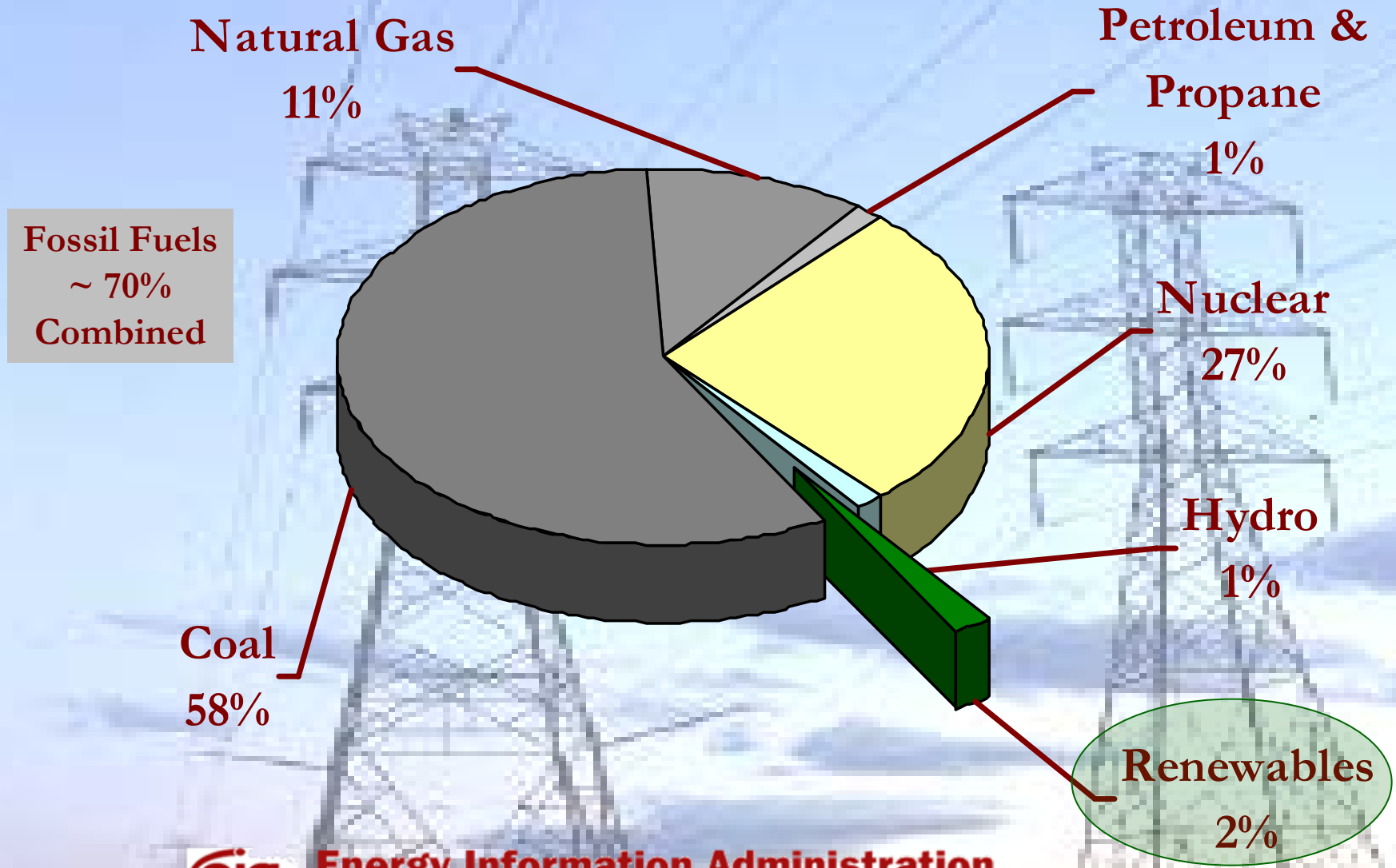


## ◆ Space and process heat

- No good estimates available



# Michigan's Electric Power Generation by Energy Source in 2005



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**FEDERAL RENEWABLE GOAL:**

*25% by 2025*

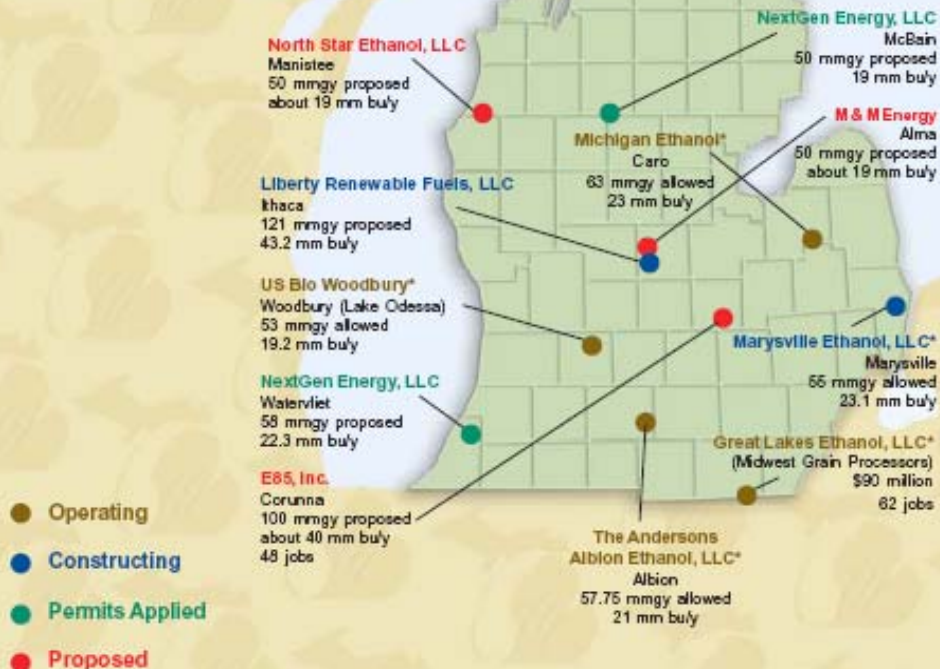
**MICHIGAN RENEWABLE GOAL:**

*10% by 2015  
then 20% by 2025.*

*(Sweden is going after 100% by 2020)*

# The Michigan Renaissance

## The New Bio Economy Ethanol Plants



● Operating

● Constructing

● Permits Applied

● Proposed

\* In a Michigan Renaissance Zone

mmgy = million gallons per year  
mm bu/y = million bushels per year

Sources: Michigan Department of Agriculture  
March 7, 2007

[www.michigan.gov/mda](http://www.michigan.gov/mda)

# CORN ETHANOL

## CURRENT PRODUCTION:

105 million gallons/year

*(1.5% of gasoline consumption)*

## PROJECTED PRODUCTION:

536 million gallons/year

*(7.5% of gasoline consumption)*

MICHIGAN STATE  
UNIVERSITY

# The Michigan Renaissance

## The New Bio Economy Biodiesel Plants



# BIODIESEL

## CURRENT PRODUCTION:

20 million gallons/year

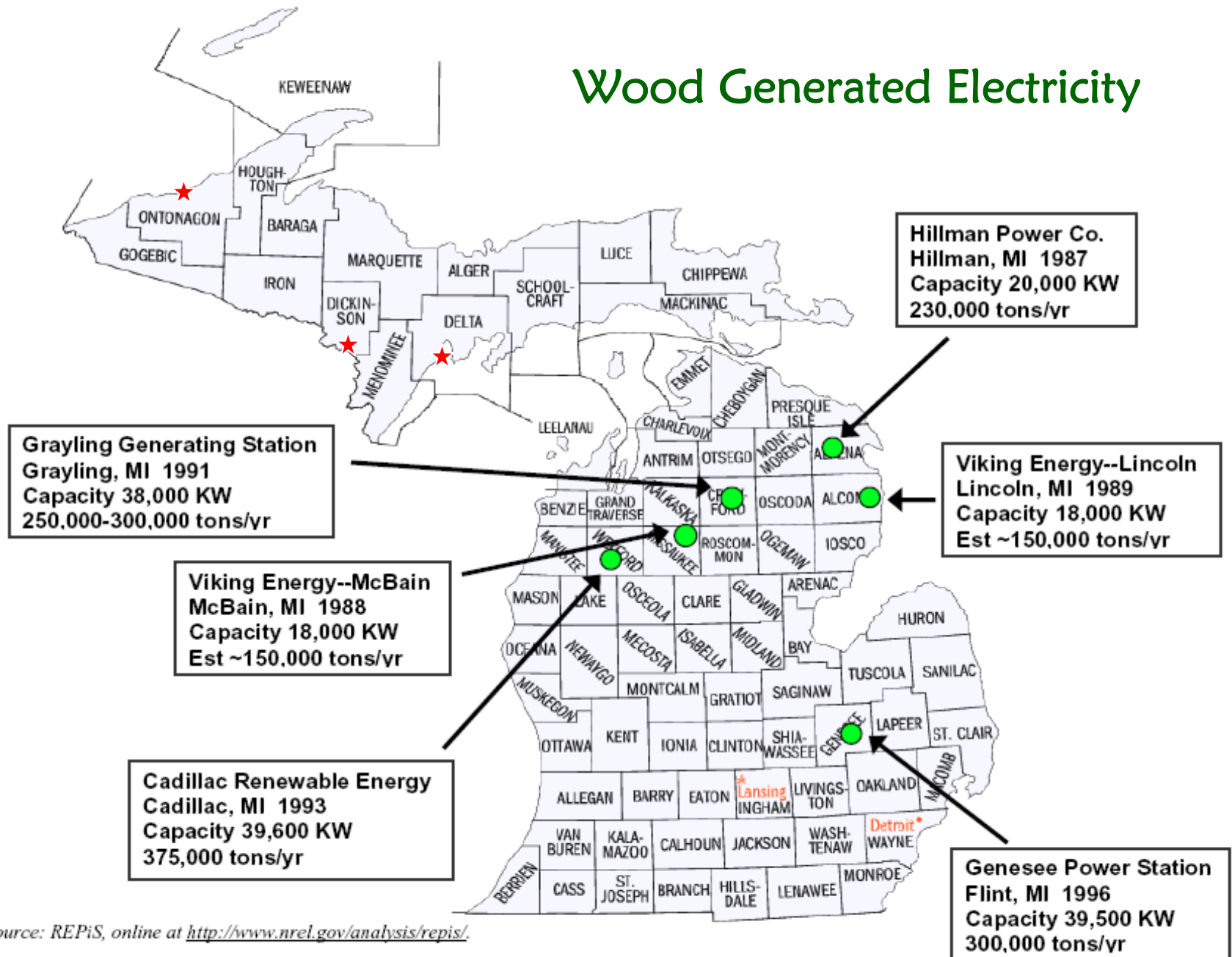
*(2% of petrodiesel consumption)*

## PROJECTED PRODUCTION:

60 million gallons/year

*(6% of petrodiesel consumption)*

# Wood Generated Electricity



Source: REPiS, online at <http://www.nrel.gov/analysis/repis/>.

# Wood Electric Production

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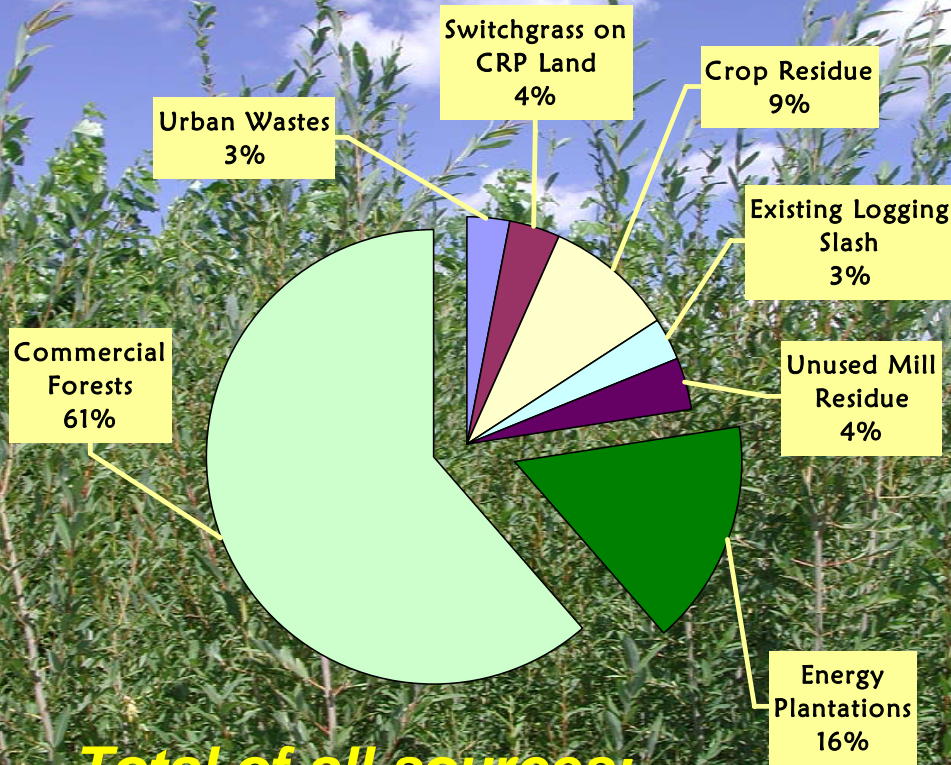
Wood Electric Generator	Capacity
Utilities (sold to grid)	173 MW/yr
Mills (used on site)	195 MW/yr*
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>368 MW/yr**</b>

\* 75% @ the big papermills –  
Escanaba, Quinnesec, & Ontanogan

\*\* 2-3% of today's total electricity production



## Biomass Estimate For Michigan



**Total of all sources:  
40 million dry tons per year**

# Six US Cellulosic Ethanol Plants Selected

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- ◆ DOE announcement February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2007
- ◆ Total DOE funding \$385 million over 4 years
- ◆ Total investment in 6 plants of >\$1.2 billion
- ◆ 6 biorefineries producing more than 130 million gallons per year
- ◆ Objective to make cellulosic ethanol competitive with gasoline by 2012
- ◆ Reduce US gasoline consumption by 20% in 2017 by producing 35 billion gallons of ethanol

# Information on Six US Projects

Company	Technology	Feed Type	Feed Rate (T/D)	Ethanol Rate (G/Y)	Ethanol – Feed Ratio (G/T)
Abengoa (Colwich-KA)	Syngas + fermentation	Corn stover, straw	700	11.4	54
Alico/JGC Co (LaBelle-FL)	Syngas fermentation	Wood, agro waste	770	7 (1 <sup>st</sup> ) 14 (2 <sup>nd</sup> )	30 (1 <sup>st</sup> ) 60 (2 <sup>nd</sup> )
Blue-Fire (S-California)	Sugar fermentation	Agro, wood waste	700	19	90
Broin/Dupont/NREL/Novozymes (Iowa)	Sugar fermentation	Corn stover	842	31	124
Iogen/Shell (Shelley-ID)	Sugar fermentation	Agro waste	700	18	86
Range Fuels/Koshla (GA)	Syngas catalytic	Wood waste	1200	10 (1 <sup>st</sup> ) 40 (2 <sup>nd</sup> )	28 (1 <sup>st</sup> ) 120 (2 <sup>nd</sup> )

# Conclusions

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- ◆ We have good biomass resources
- ◆ We have a long way to go to replace petroleum
- ◆ How do we get there from here in a way that is both good for society and also sustainable good business?
- ◆ Replacement of fossil fuels in high margin applications counts toward the goal.

# Pulp Industry Challenge

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- ◆ Due to global competition, wood pulp prices decrease by about 1% per year.
- ◆ Wood/biomass cost is correlated with energy cost, so feed stock price is increasing
- ◆ Profitability is “squeezed” from both sides

**➔ Traditional forest products industry desperately needs more revenue from higher value-added products besides wood, pulp and paper products**

# How to Increase Revenue?

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- ◆ Maximize pulp production
- ◆ Make ethanol, chemicals and polymers from hemicellulose
- ◆ Make transportation fuel from black liquor
- ◆ Use bark and biomass as fuel for pulp mill

→ **Forest Biorefinery which produces pulp besides chemicals, fuels and polymers**

# Approach for Hemicelluloses

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Hemicelluloses: - have low fuel value (half of lignin)  
- are valuable in pulp  
- degrade during pulping  
- undegraded sugars needed for biofuels and chemicals

→ **Extract hemicelluloses before pulping**

# How to Obtain Undegraded Hemicelluloses?

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- ◆ Extraction of hemis as polymers before pulping
- ◆ Extract with water and chemicals which are compatible with the kraft process
- ◆ Minimize the amount of additional water introduced in the pulping process
- ◆ Hardwood and softwood need different approaches because their hemicelluloses are chemically different



# Pulp Production Benefits of Hemicellulose Extraction

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- Decreased alkali consumption
- Reduced organic + inorganic load to recovery
- Increased delignification rate
- Increased pulp production rate

# Value of Cellulose Pulp Fibers

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- ◆ Maximum theoretical yield of ethanol from cellulose pulp on weight basis is ~ 50%
- ◆ Ethanol price must be at least  $> \$1000/\text{MT}$  ( $\$3.00/\text{gallon}$ ) for economical conversion of cellulose ( $\$500/\text{MT}$ ) into ethanol
- ◆ Cellulose has high crystallinity, is durable and has unique structural properties

**→ Pulp is more valuable than fuel ethanol. Keep pulp as product in paper or structural products**

# Fuel Costs in Forest Biorefinery

Fuel	Heating Value (GJ/MT)	Fuel Cost (US\$/Dry MT)	Energy Cost (US\$/GJ)
Oil	43.5	555 (US\$65/barrel)	12.8
Biomass (20% moisture)	15	55	3.7
Black Liquor (20% moisture)	12.6	$75 \times 3/4 = 56$ (org/inorg = 3/1)	4.4
Lignin	26.9	75	2.8
Carbohydrates	13.6	75	5.5

- Obtain energy from biomass and/or black liquor!
- Do not use oil!
- Minimize use of carbohydrates for energy purposes

# Hemicellulose Conversion Strategy

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- ◆ Produce oxygen containing products to increase yield, shorten conversion path and competitiveness relative to petroleum-based
- ◆ Produce alcohols, carboxylic acids, lactones, and esters
- ◆ Novel catalysts and engineered organisms are required for high yield and selectivity
- ◆ Bio and catalytic conversions must work for both C5 and C6 sugars

# Development Challenges

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- ◆ Maintain yield and quality of pulp
- ◆ Selective and economic pre-extraction of hemicellulose polymers
- ◆ High yield conversion of extract into ethanol, chemicals and polymers.
- ◆ Economic purification processes
- ◆ Use of precipitated lignin for non-energy uses
- ◆ Demonstrate pressurized kraft black liquor gasification at the mill scale

A successful biorefinery is a combination of the following elements:

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- ◆ Physical processes
- ◆ Thermal processes
- ◆ Chemical processes
- ◆ *Biochemical processes- White biotechnology*

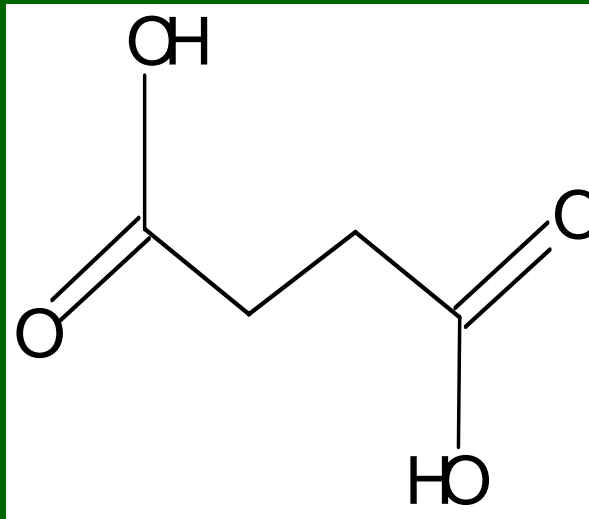
# Impact of white biotechnology in biorefining

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- ◆ Micro-organisms are proficient in the production of chemicals with broad functionality
- ◆ Fermentation processes can take advantage of dilute streams as feedstocks
- ◆ Some fermentation processes can use carbon dioxide as a feedstock
- ◆ Many fermentation processes can utilize a wide range of substrates
- ◆ Fermentation products are usually higher margin offering better overall biorefinery economics

# Development of a new biobased molecule- Succinic Acid (bärnstensyra)

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# The participants for succinic acid development & commercialization - an international consortium

US Department of Energy (USDOE), USA

Toyota Tsusho Company (TTC), Japan

Japan Asia Investment Corporation (JAIC), Japan

Diversified Natural Products, Inc. (DNP), USA

Agro Industrie Recherches et Développments (ARD), France

Luleå University of Technology (LTU), Sweden

Alfredshem Group (Processum AB/ SEKAB/ Etek AB) , Sweden

Showa High Polymer (SHP), Japan

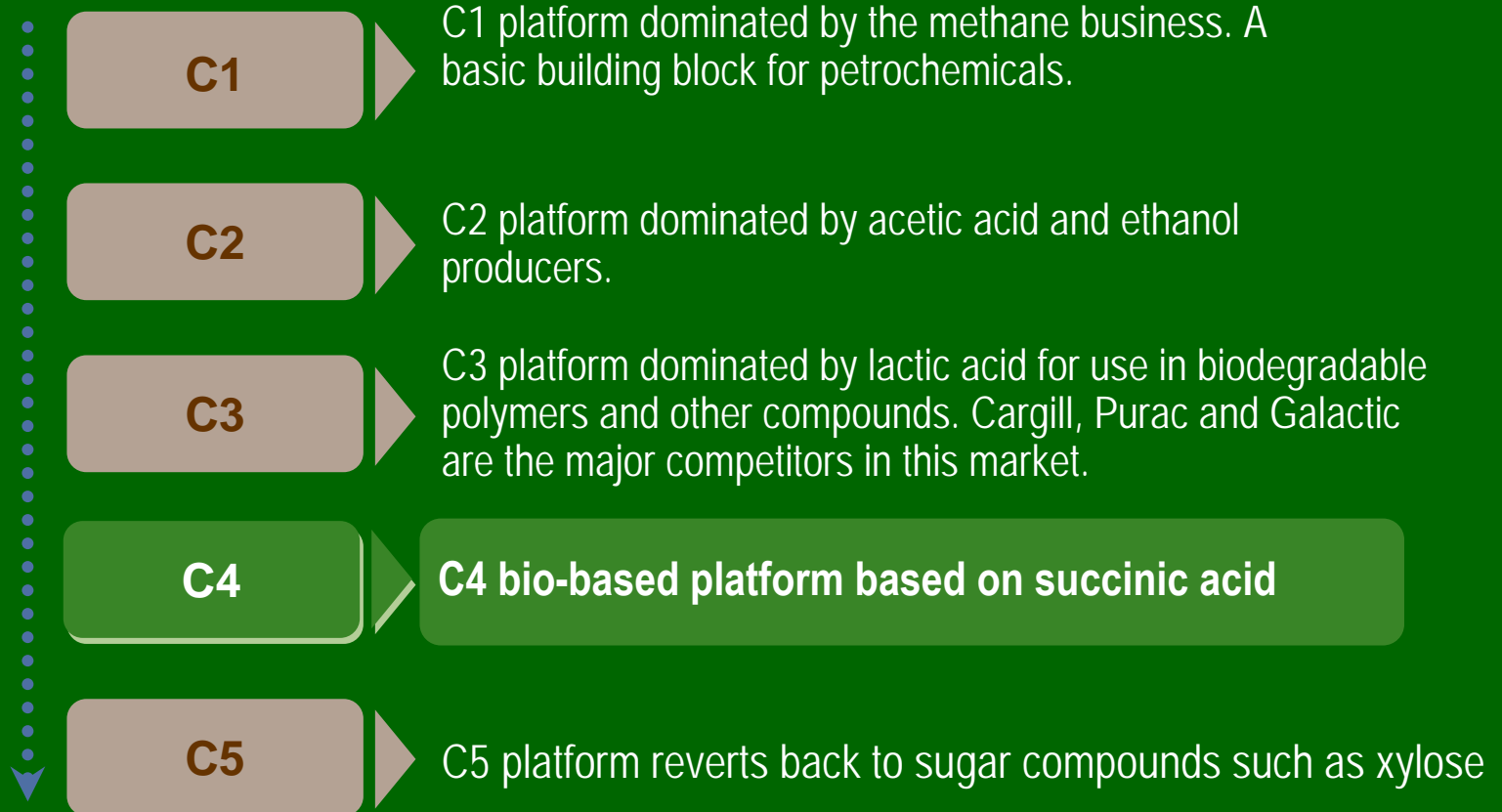
PlasEx AB (PEAB), Sweden

Michigan State University (MSU), USA

Solander Group(Smurfit Kappa/ KIRAM AB/ ETC), Sweden

# The biorefinery using the C4 bio-based platform

*Chemistry that does not use oil, is recyclable, and biodegradable*



# Technology Highlights

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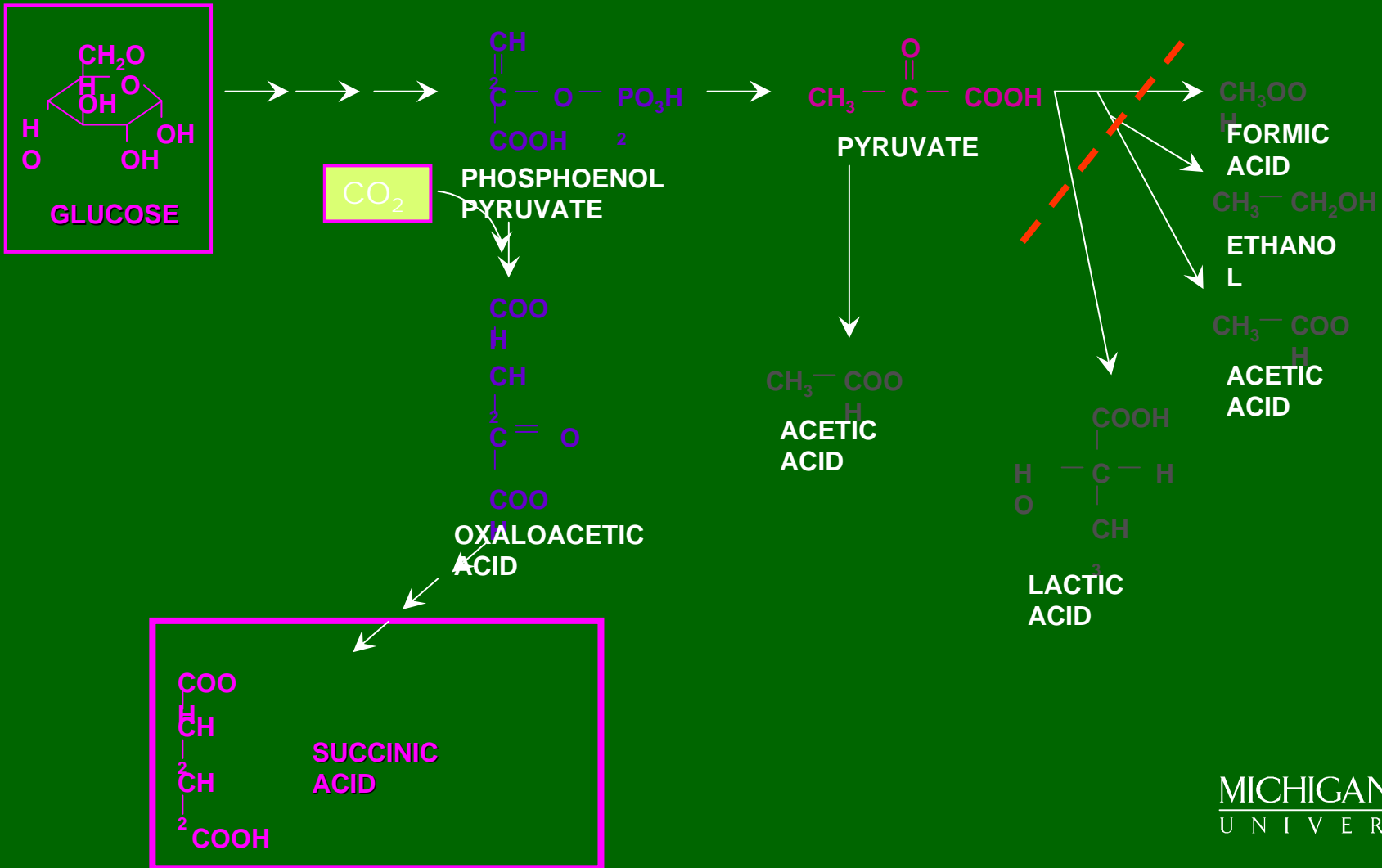
- ◆ Patent portfolio of over 25 issued and pending patents .
- ◆ Proprietary organisms that can ferment a wide range of sugars including xylose, arabinose, mannose, glucose, and fructose.
- ◆ Novel two-stage fermentation *that requires carbon dioxide* to be fed in the anaerobic stage.
- ◆ Downstream process technology for separations and derivatives.
- ◆ New applications technology.
- ◆ Minimal environmental impact.

# Coupling to forest biorefinery

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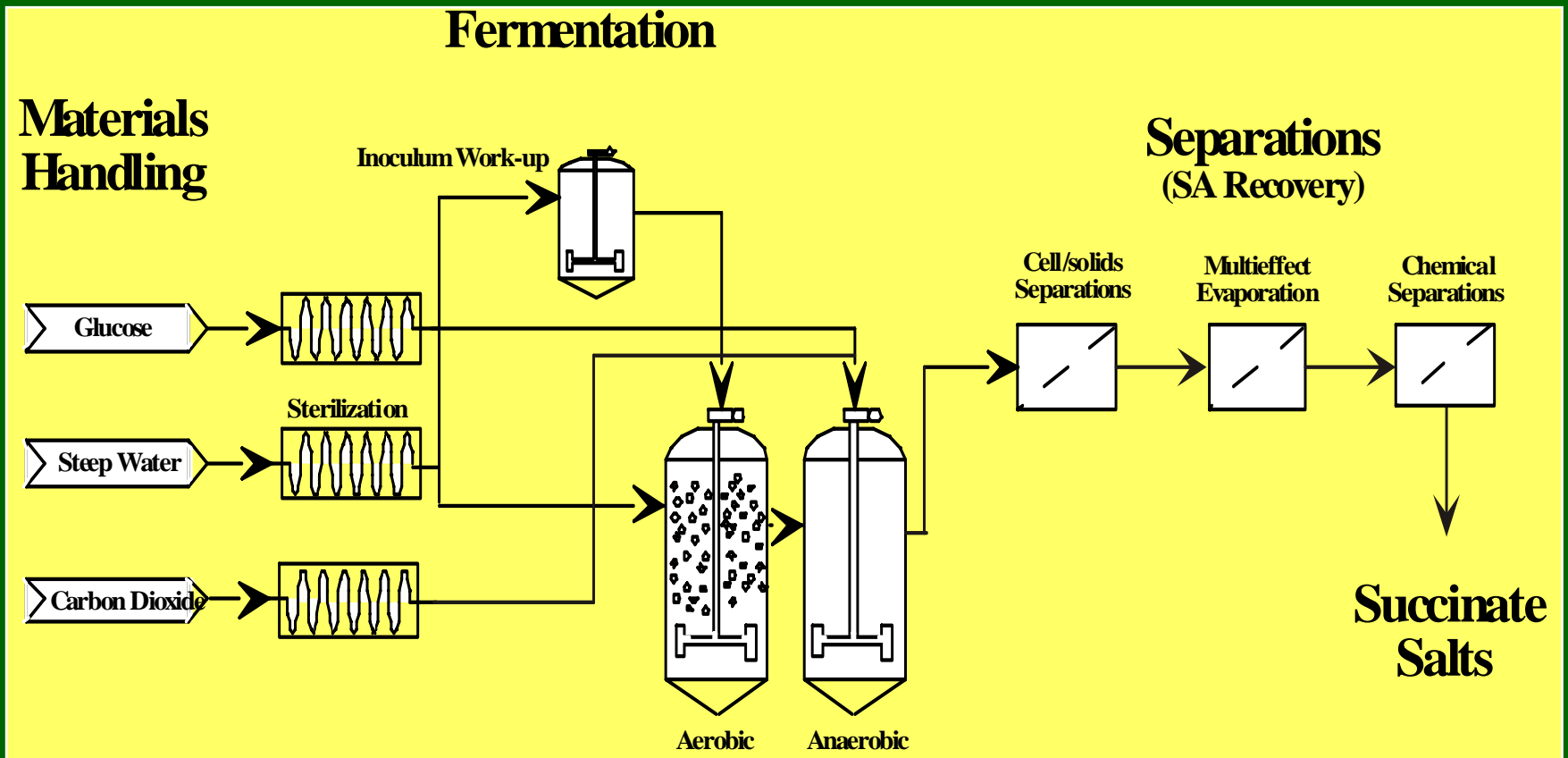
- ◆ Sugars- hemicellulose
- ◆ Carbon dioxide- numerous sources
- ◆ Energy

# Metabolic pathways



# E Coli Fermentation

## Two-Stage Process

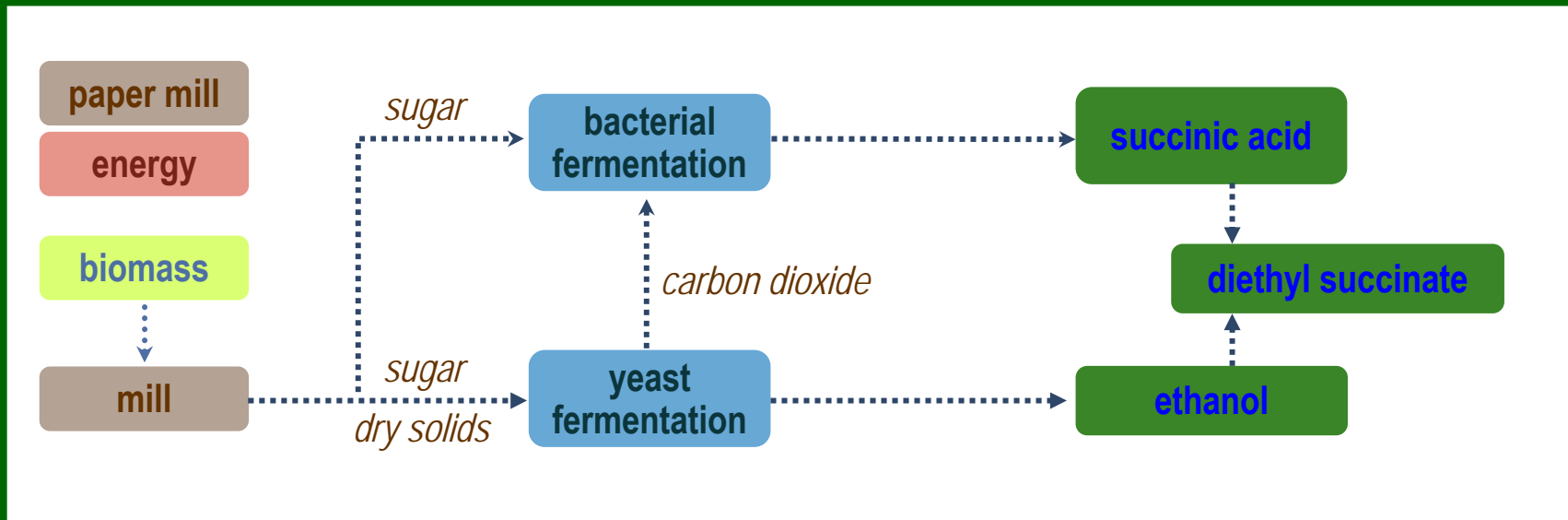


# Ethanol from biomass fermentations

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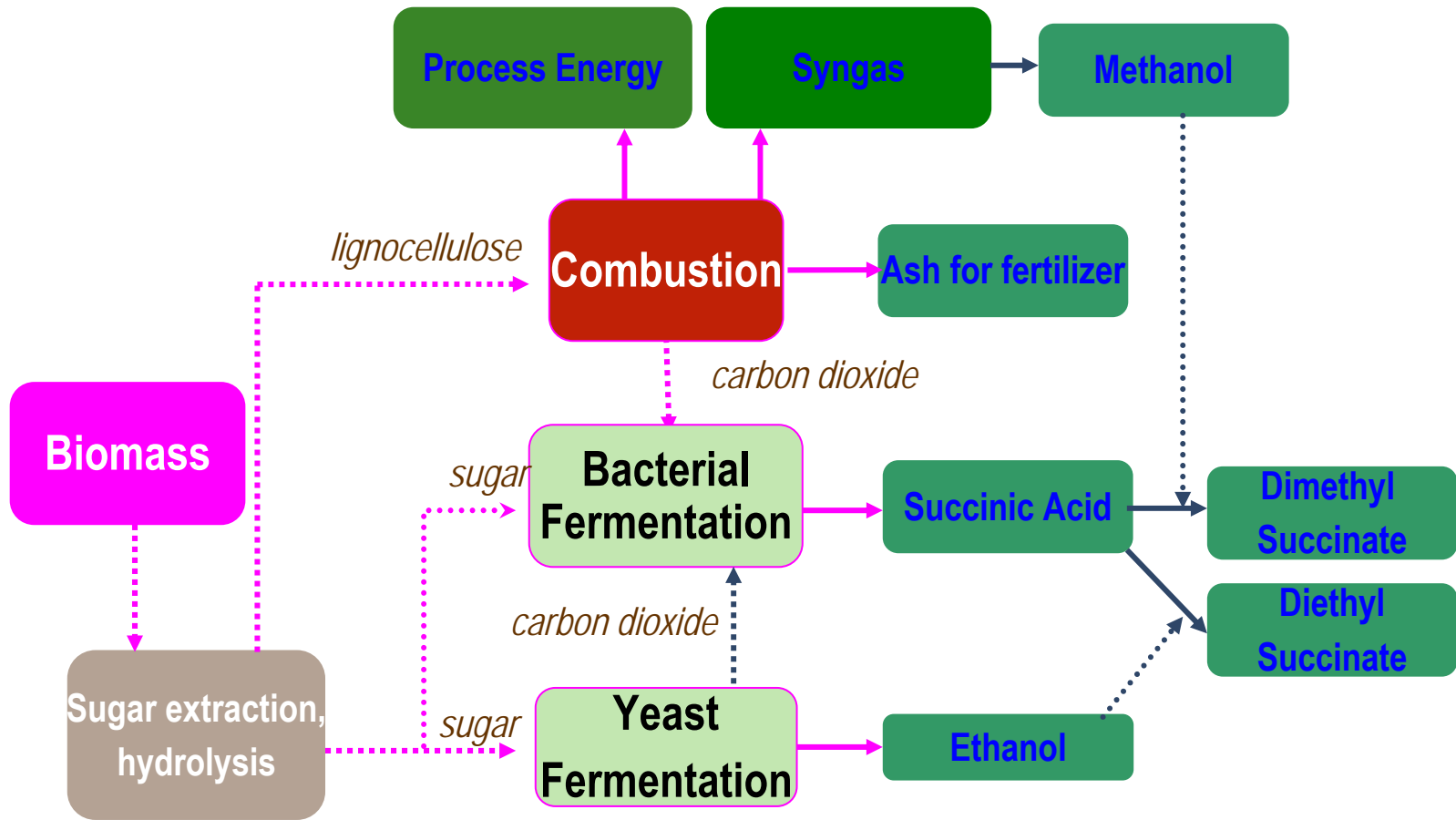
- ◆ Massive efforts are underway on a global level to produce fuel ethanol
- ◆ Little attention is being paid to value added derivatives that can leverage the capital investments for ethanol plants that is currently being made
- ◆ A chemical business that is parallel to fuel ethanol will offer diversification and stable margins.

# The succinic acid biorefinery concept coupled to ethanol production

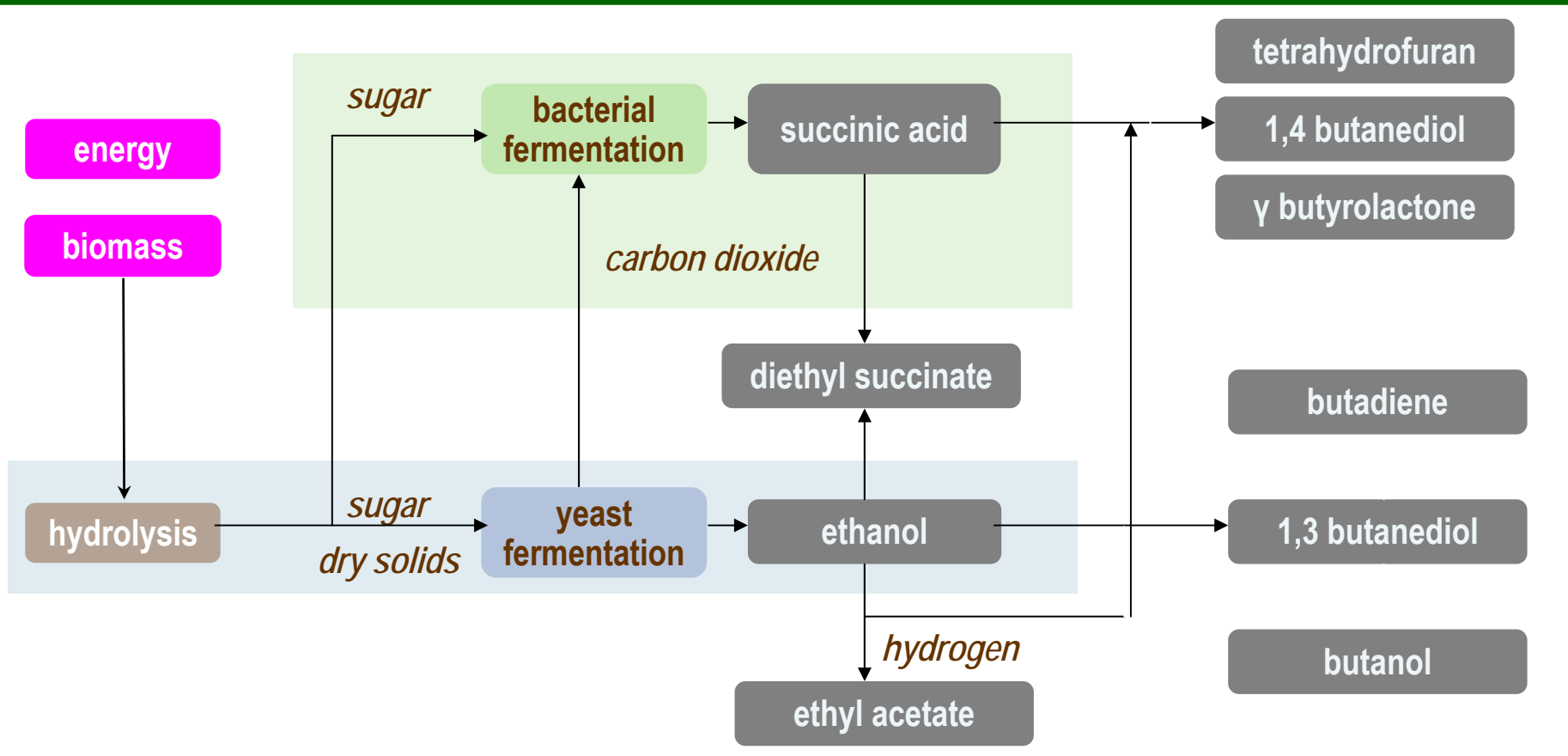




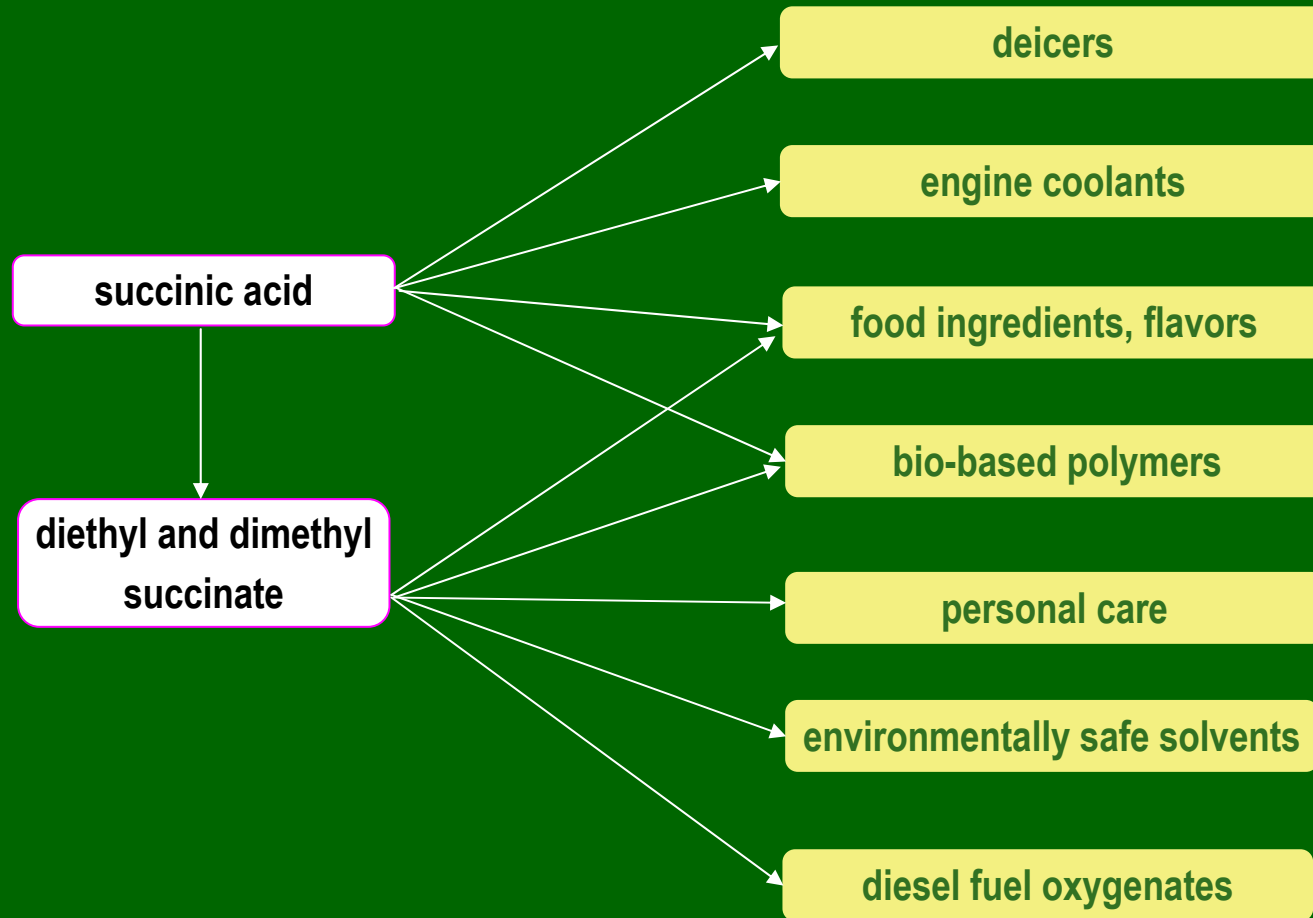
# Succinic acid/ ethanol biorefinery concept coupled to gasification technology



# Chemical production combining succinic acid and ethanol



# Succinic acid product family tree



# BDO/THF is market with the largest near term revenue potential

## BDO / THF

- This is a \$2.5 Billion market and growing
- The price is linked to the price of natural gas
- Producers are seeking lower cost sources with less price volatility
- 35% of total production is sold on open market (\$875M) – seeking to buy at the lowest price

## Diethyl Succinate

- These markets need to be created – they don't exist today
- There are several potential applications:
  - Solvents
  - Engine coolants
  - Diesel fuel additive
  - Runway deicer
- DNP is developing more IP / formulations

## Succinic Acid

- This is a \$20 - \$50M market today
- Currently S.A. derived from oil, is expensive
- There are two niche markets for natural S.A.
  - cosmetics
  - food acidulants
- Big potential: S.A. + acetic acid in foods

# New Applications Driven by Functionality

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- ◆ Ester solvents
- ◆ Runway and deicing chemicals
- ◆ Water treatment chemicals
- ◆ Diesel fuel additives
- ◆ Polymers

# Solvents

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- ◆ Succinate esters- e.g. diethyl succinate
- ◆ Biodegradable, low toxicity, low VOC
- ◆ Replacement for chlorinated solvents
- ◆ GRAS/Food grade- carriers for flavors, etc
- ◆ Already have established positions in coatings and inks
- ◆ Miscible in all proportions with ethyl lactate

# Aircraft and Runway Deicing Chemicals

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- ◆ Excellent performance
  - ice penetration/melting
  - non-corrosive
  - non-spalling
  - biodegradeable
- ◆ Excellent synergistic combination product with glycols
- ◆ Takes advantage of the production of succinate salts
- ◆ FAA approved for use on runways

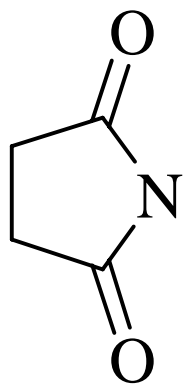
# Polymaleimide for water treatment

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- ◆ Maleimide can be produced directly from diammonium succinate
- ◆ Maleimide reaction is simple at high selectivity and conversion
- ◆ Maleimide is easily converted to polymalimide and hydrolysed to salt
- ◆ Superior properties to commercial polyacrylates

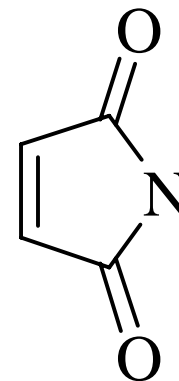
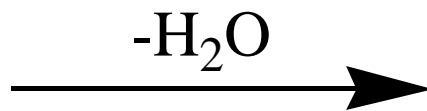


# Production of maleimide



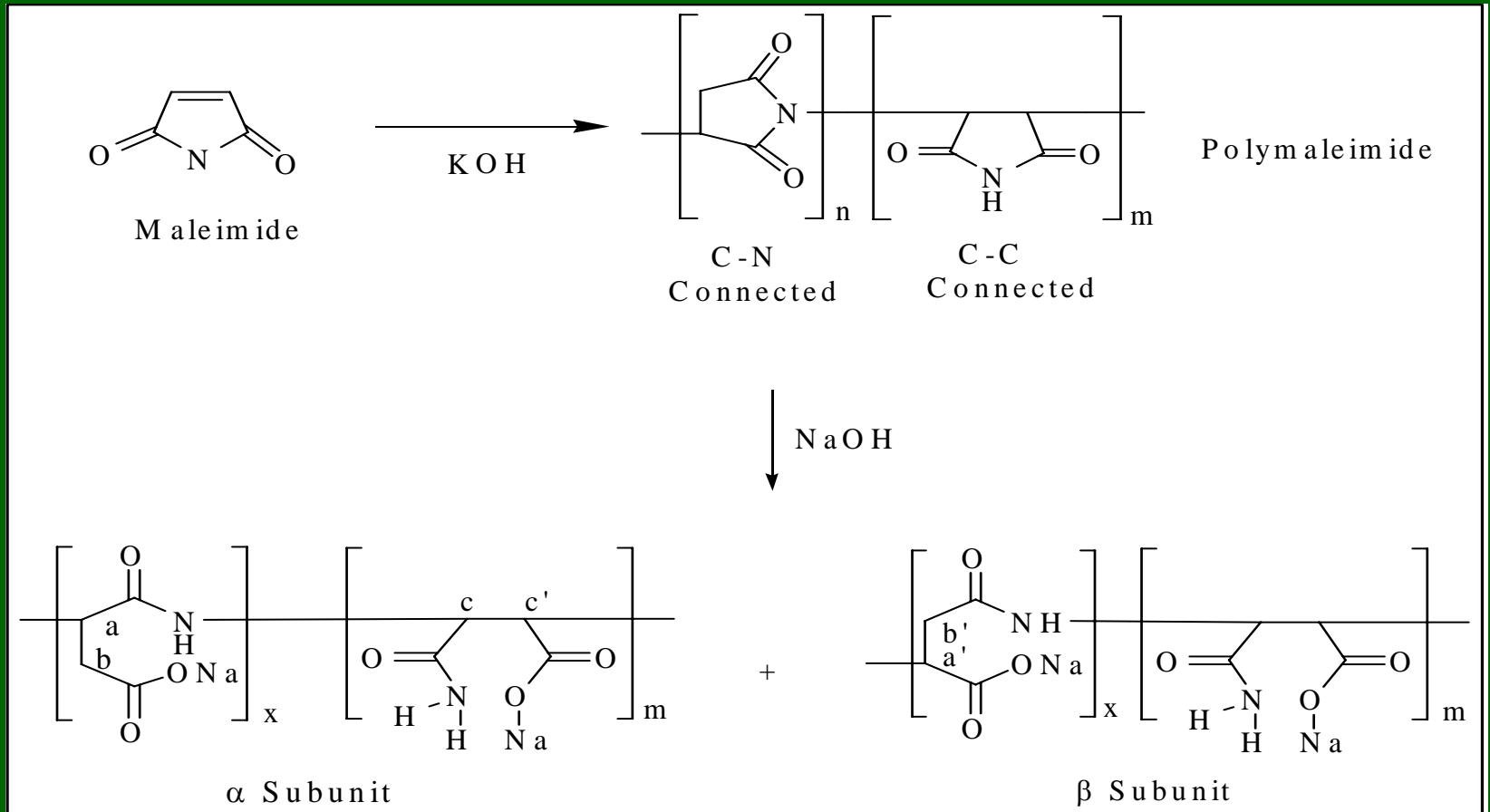
Succinimide

+O<sub>2</sub>



Maleimide

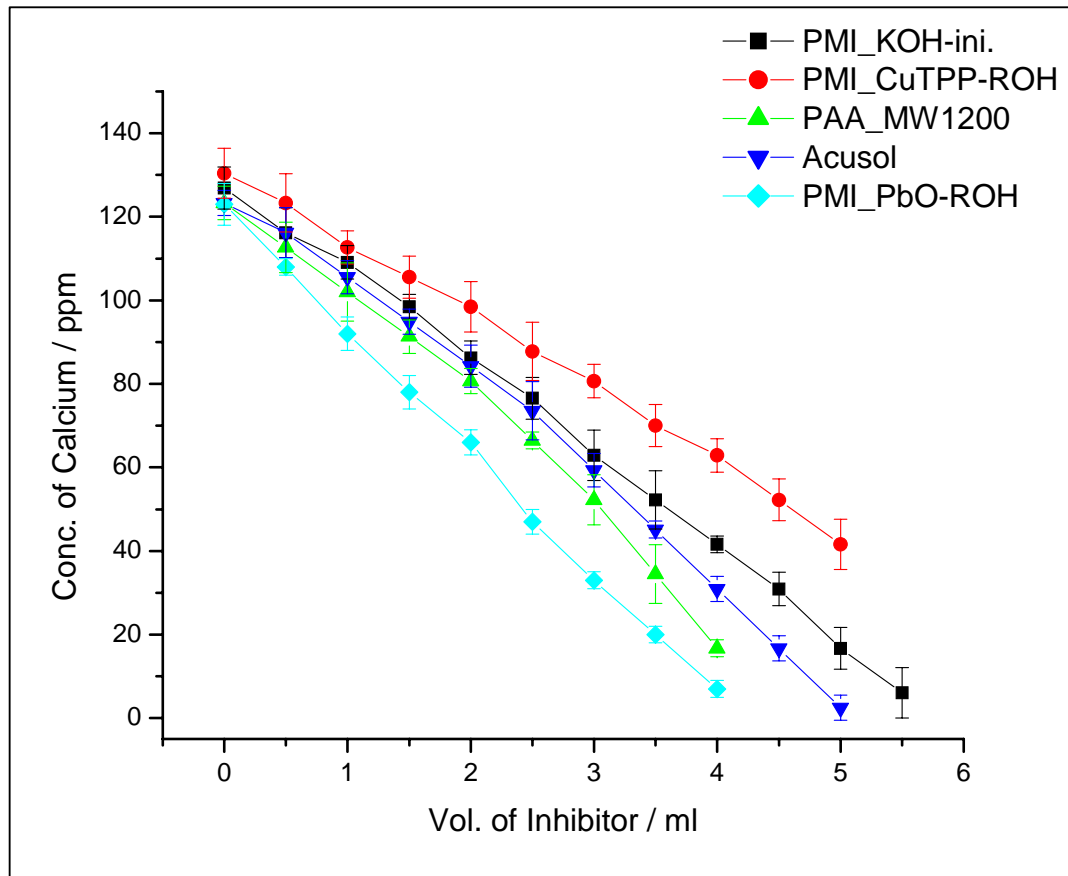
# Synthesis of Polymaleimide, Sodium Salt



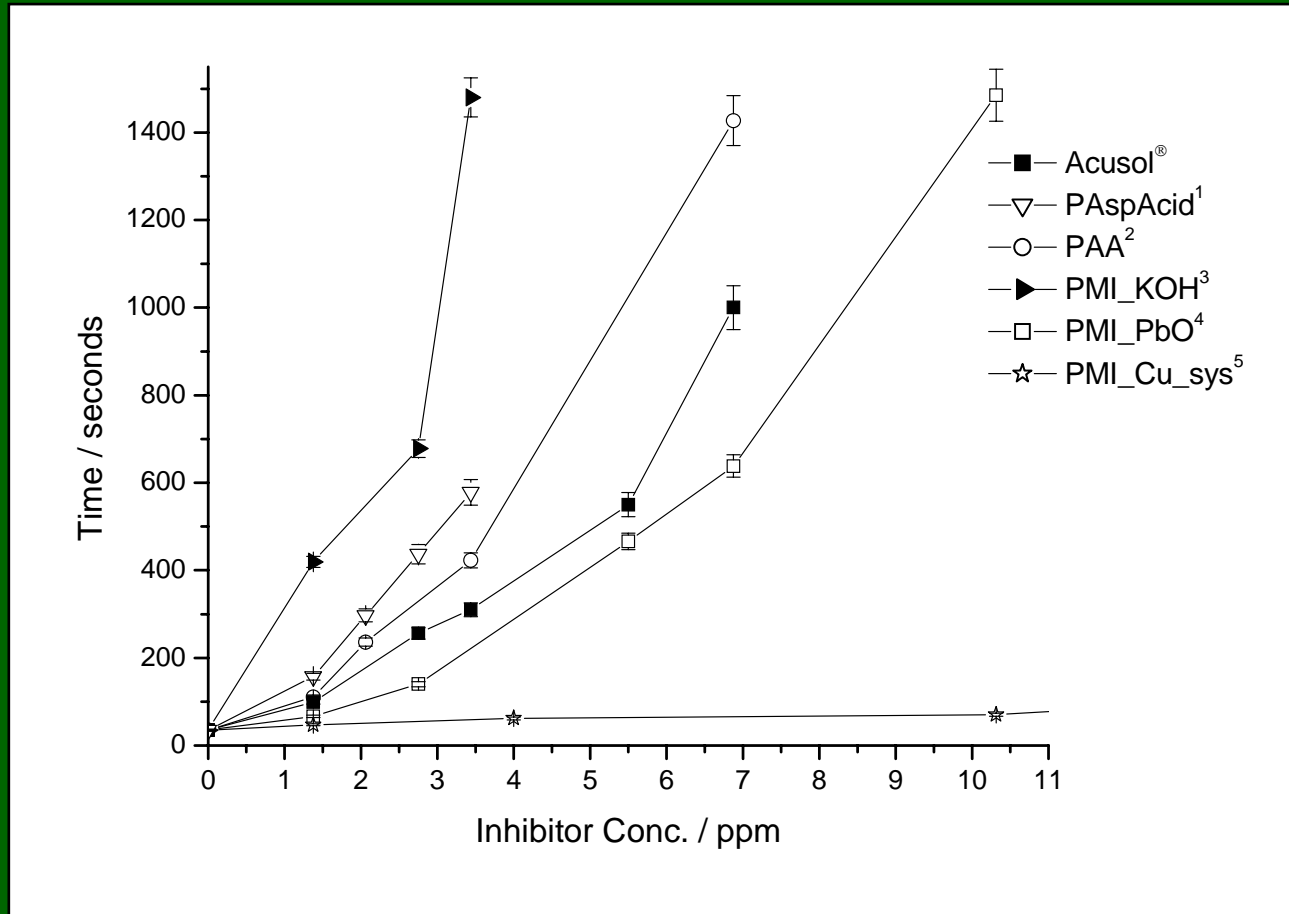
# Comparison of synthesized and commercial products

S.No.	Inhibitor	Source	Percent Conversion <sup>1</sup>	C-N Connected Monomer (%) <sup>1</sup>	Molecular Weight <sup>2</sup>
1	PMI_Cu_sys <sup>3</sup>	Synthesized	95.6 ± 0.5	43.2± 0.8	5900± 100
2	PMI_KOH <sup>4</sup>	Synthesized	92.8± 0.3	79.8± 0.9	1100± 180
3	PMI_PbO <sup>5</sup>	Synthesized	99.0± 0.5	38.7± 0.8	11500± 90
4	PAA <sup>6</sup>	Aldrich	-	-	5000
5	PaspAcid <sup>7</sup>	Bayer Corp.	-	-	-
6	Acusol <sup>®</sup>	Rhom & Haas	-	-	5000

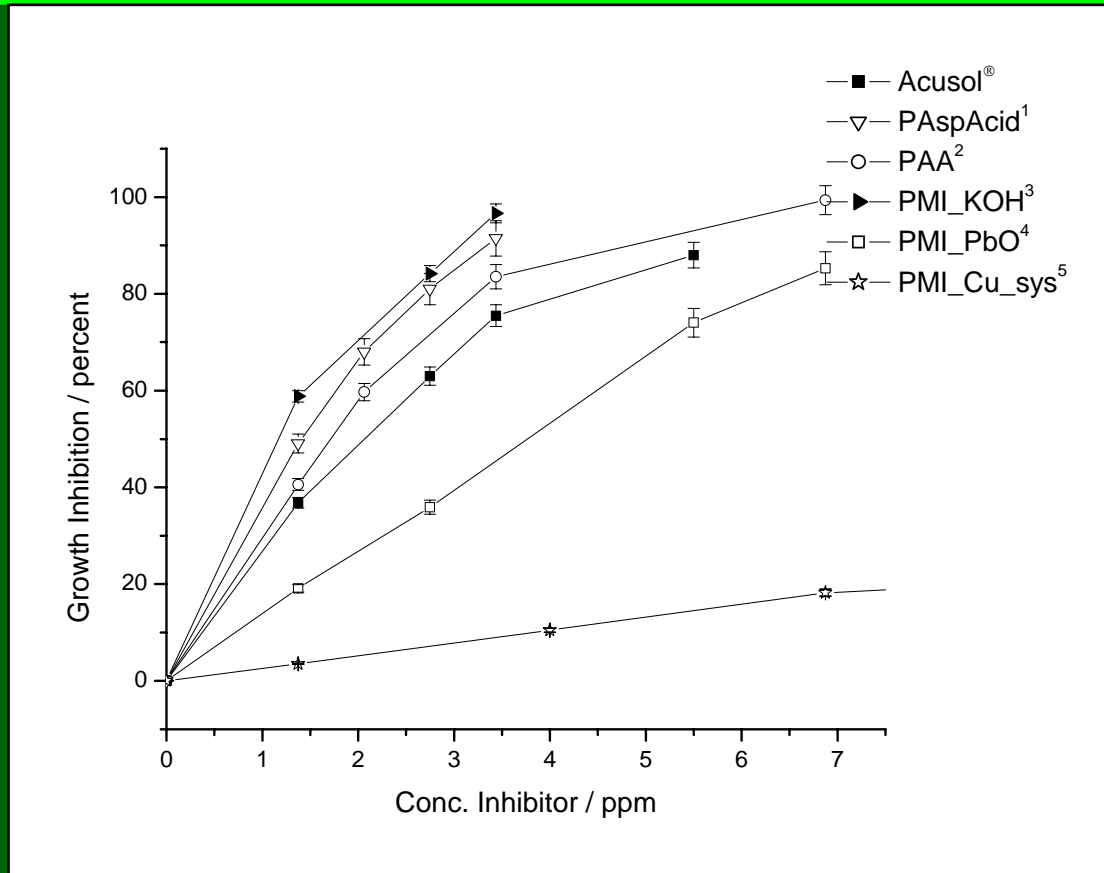
# Calcium chelation



# Calcium carbonate crystallization inhibition



# Calcium carbonate crystallization inhibition



# Diesel fuel additives

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- ◆ Diesel engines are much more efficient than gasoline engines
- ◆ Oxygenates are needed to reduce particulate emissions while maintaining low  $\text{NO}_x$
- ◆ Ethanol has miscibility problems requiring additives and pre-ignition problems due to high octane number
- ◆ There is a need for new oxygenates

# Dialkyl succinates for diesel fuel oxygenates

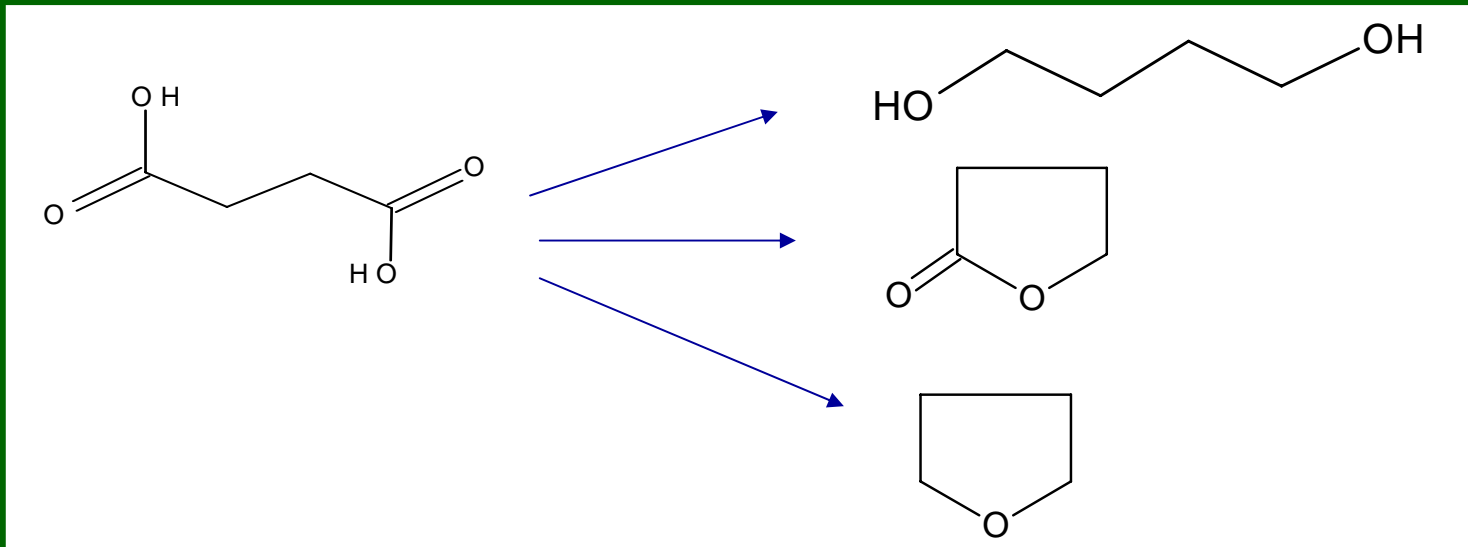
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- ◆ Miscible with diesel fuel
- ◆ Low volatility results in no pre-ignition problems
- ◆ Engine trials with MK-1 (Swedish Environmental Class 1) fuel show significant reductions in particulate emissions
- ◆ Direct addition to diesel fuel without modification appears possible



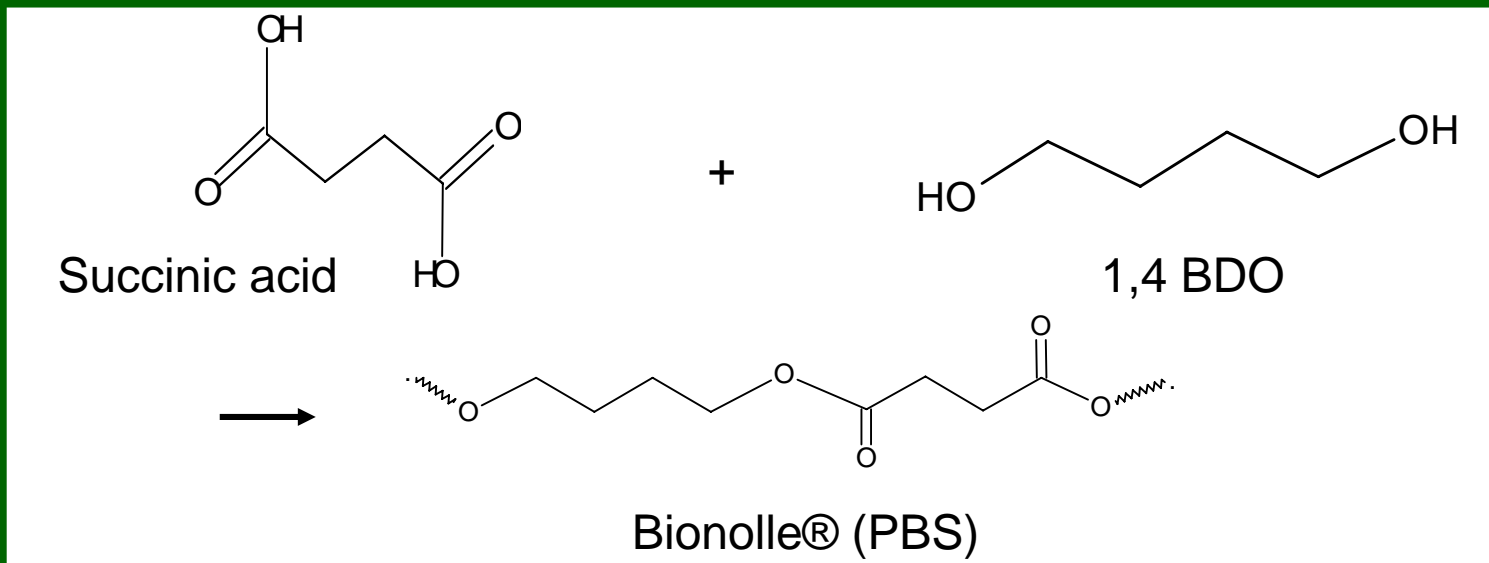
# Biodegradable/ biobased polymers

- ◆ Main hydrogenation products are 1,4 butanediol, gamma butyrolactone, and tetrahydrofuran and are produced as a mixture.
- ◆ These are commodity chemicals.



# Showa's Bionolle<sup>®</sup>

- ◆ Bionolle<sup>®</sup> is polybutylene succinate (PBS)
- ◆ PBS is a polyester produced by polymerization of succinic acid and 1,4 BDO



# Status

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- ◆ A starch based plant has been announced at the 5.000 MT scale in France.
- ◆ Continued R & D is underway to reduce costs and to optimize for forest biorefinery feedstocks through MSU, LTU, DNP SWEDEN AB, and other partners.
- ◆ New platforms are under development

# Conclusions

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## Benefits of Forest Biorefinery:

- ◆ **Protects the Core:** Increases the profits in support of traditional forest products production
- ◆ **Ecofriendly:** Transportation fuels, power, and bioproducts from a carbon-neutral, renewable resource
- ◆ **Low Capital:** Use existing pulping equipment and infrastructure for production of new, high value-added products besides traditional wood and paper products
- ◆ **Synergy:** Full integration of the traditional forest products and new bioproducts will lead to synergies
- ◆ **Self-Sufficiency:** Replacement of imported fossil fuels by domestic renewable fuel
- ◆ **Employment:** Preserves and creates jobs in rural forest-based communities

Thanks and questions.....

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