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## Bio-sourced polymers

Etienne Grau

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# Bio-sourced polymers

Dr Etienne Grau

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There is no such thing as a stupid question,  
so please, do not hesitate to interrupt me



**1- Why ?**

2- How ?

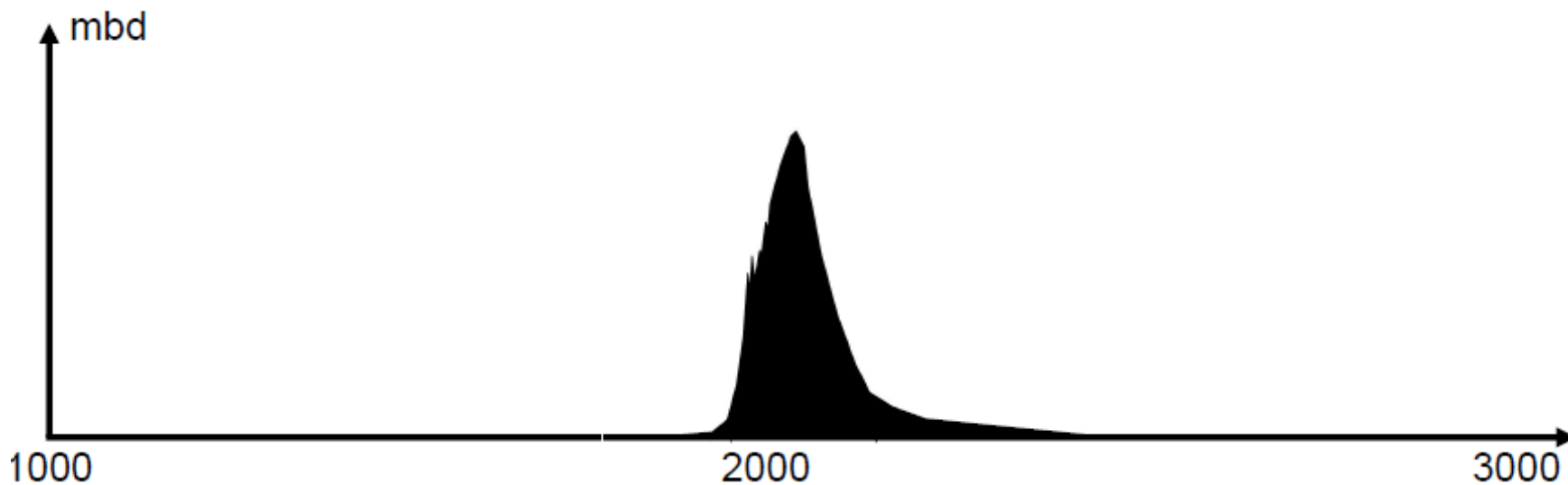
3- Bio-based plastics from natural polymers

4- Drop-ins: Bio-based alternative to fossil-based polymers

5- Smart drop-ins: Bio-based derivative of “fossil” polymers

6- New polymers from biomass

7- Conclusions and perspectives

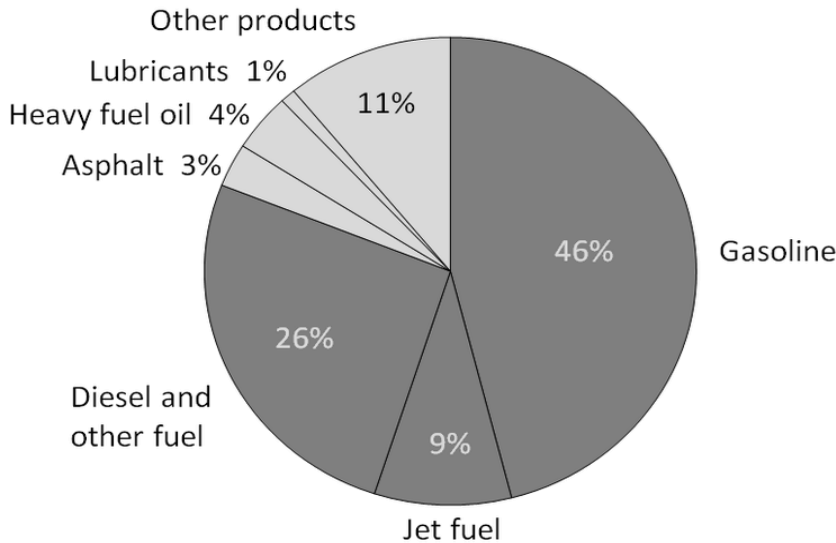


Petroleum is the starting materials of **99%** « commodity » chemicals

- 33% polymers (PE, PVC, PET, PMMA, PS, nylon ...)
- 30% organic molecules (acetone, toluene, petroleum ether...)
- 20% others (surfactants, pigment, carbon black, ...)
- 12% Inorganic component (soda, acids, Cl<sub>2</sub>, ...)
- 6% Fertilizers (NH<sub>3</sub>)

*Petroleum = C*

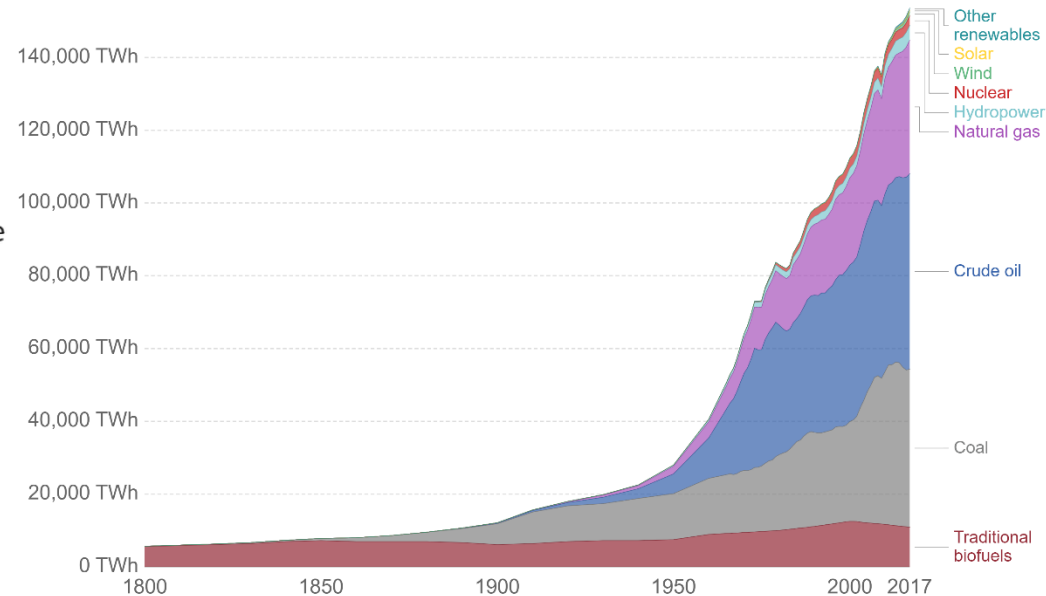
*Petroleum = J*



## Global primary energy consumption

Global primary energy consumption, measured in terawatt-hours (TWh) per year. Here 'other renewables' are renewable technologies not including solar, wind, hydropower and traditional biofuels.

Our World  
in Data

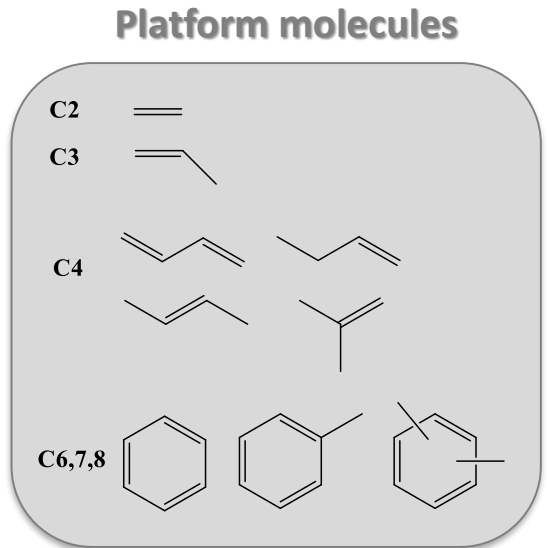


Source: Vaclav Smil (2017) and BP Statistical Review of World Energy

CC BY

# Synthetic polymers are based on petroleum

**20th century:  
A petroleum area**

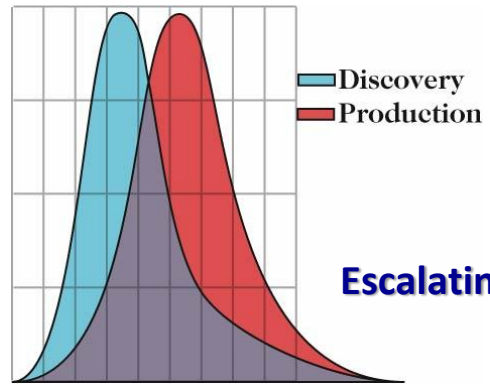
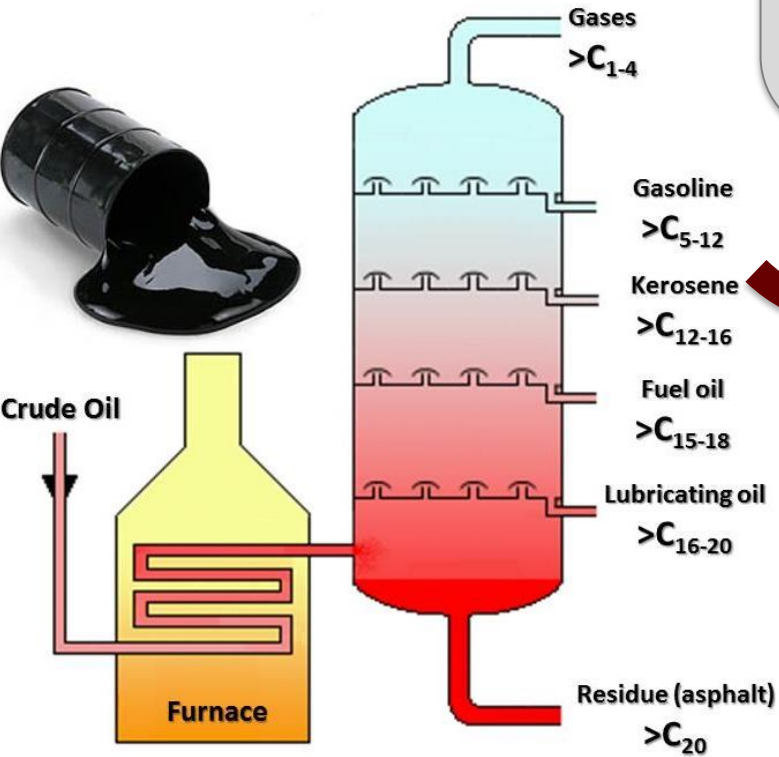


**~350 million tons  
(annual global production)**

**Steel 1800 Mt (230 Mm<sup>3</sup>)**

## PEAK OIL

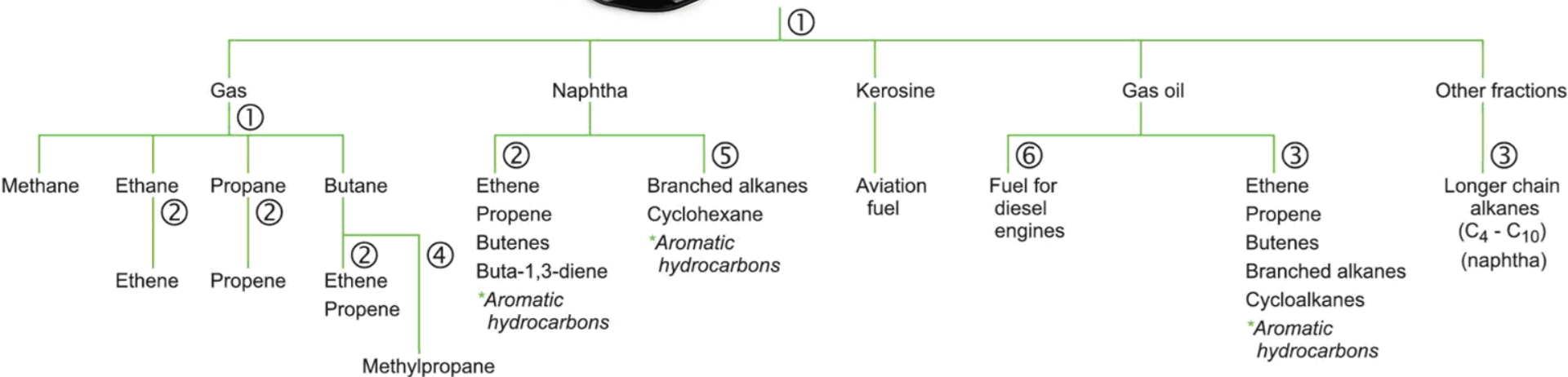
**Oil depletion  
Escalating prices of oil resources**



# From crude oil to platform molecules



Crude oil



- ① Distillation
- ② Steam cracking
- ③ Catalytic cracking ('hydrocracking')
- ④ Isomerisation
- ⑤ Reforming ('platforming')
- ⑥ Sulfur is removed

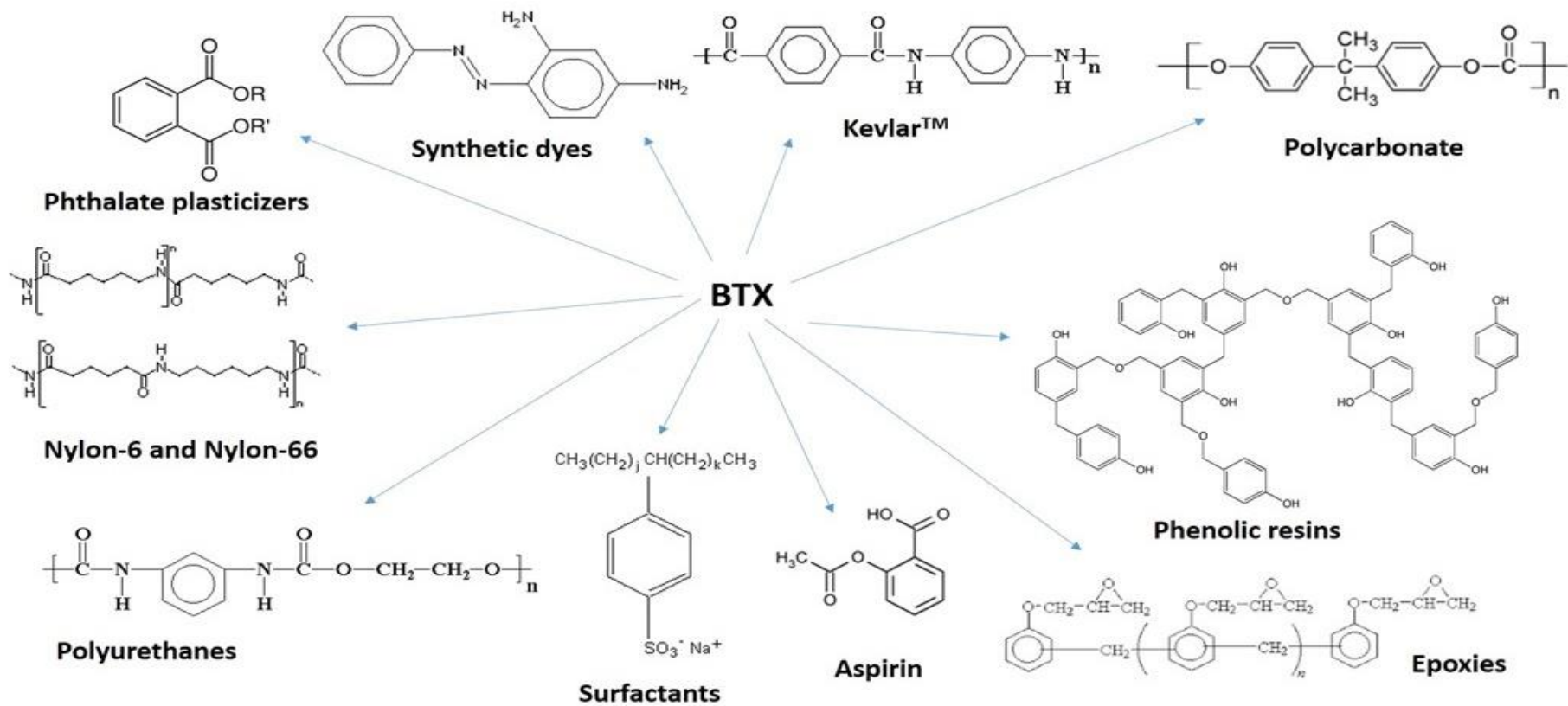


*\*Aromatic hydrocarbons:*  
benzene  
methylbenzene  
dimethylbenzenes  
ethylbenzene

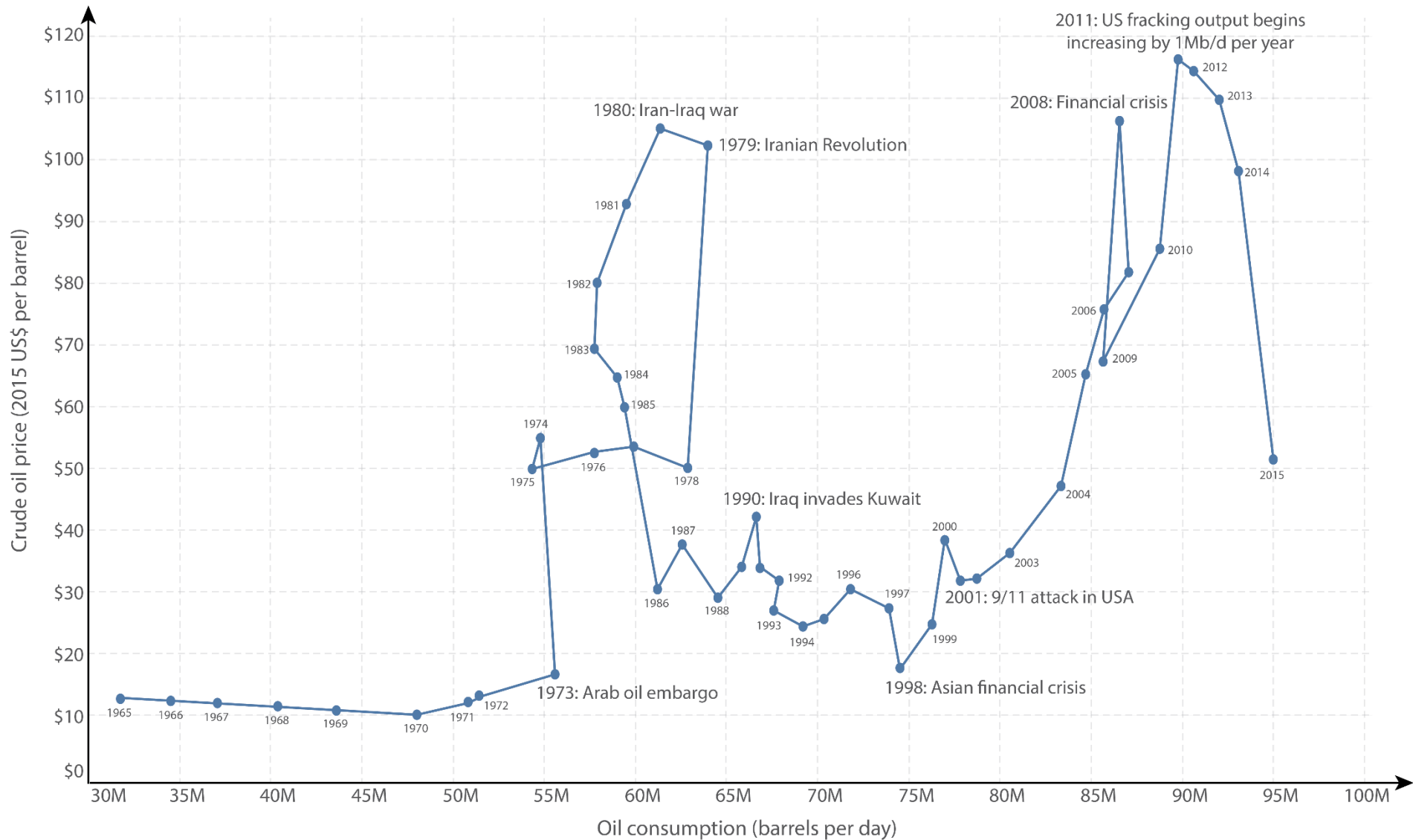




# Oil refinery – example of the BTX platform



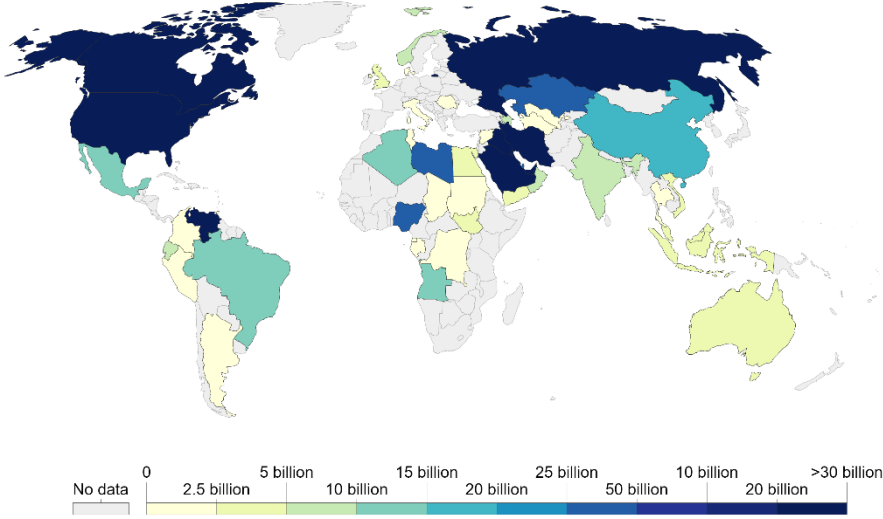
# World crude oil price vs. oil consumption



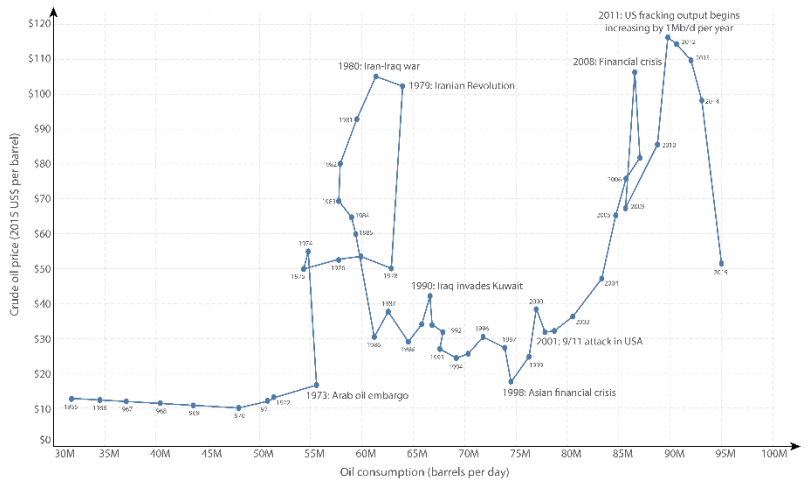
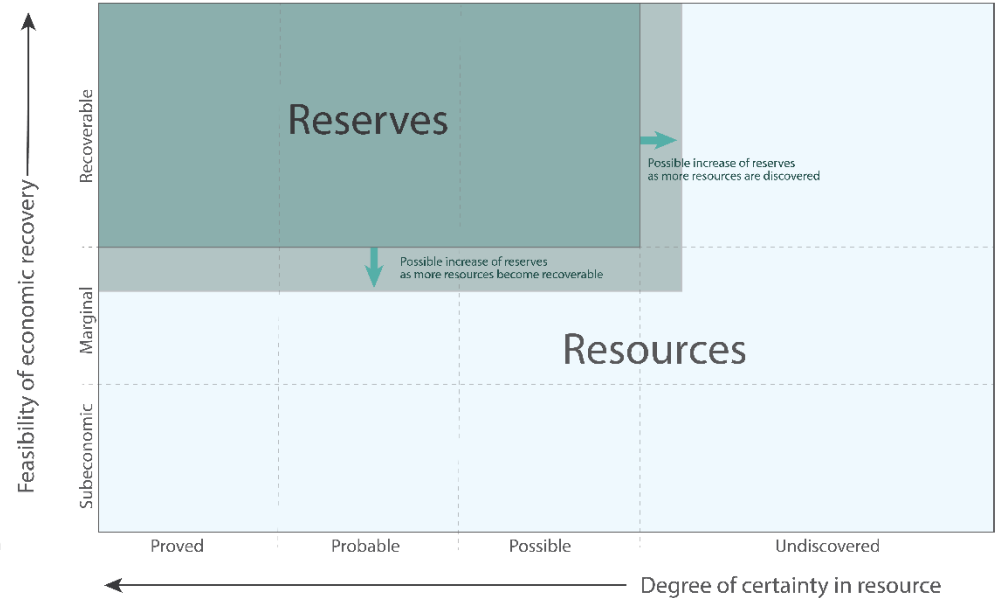
Data source: BP Statistical Review of World Energy 2016  
 The data visualization is available at [OurWorldinData.org](http://OurWorldinData.org). There you find research and more visualizations on this topic.

Licensed under CC-BY-SA by the authors Hannah Ritchie and Max Roser.

# Worldwide oil reserves

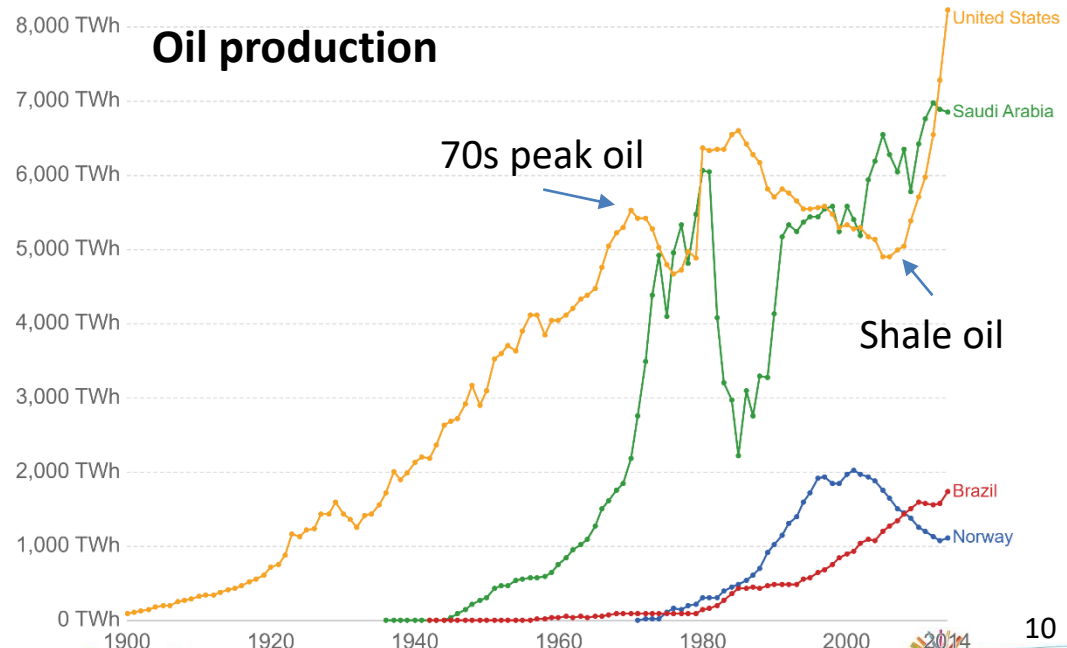


# Peak oil ?



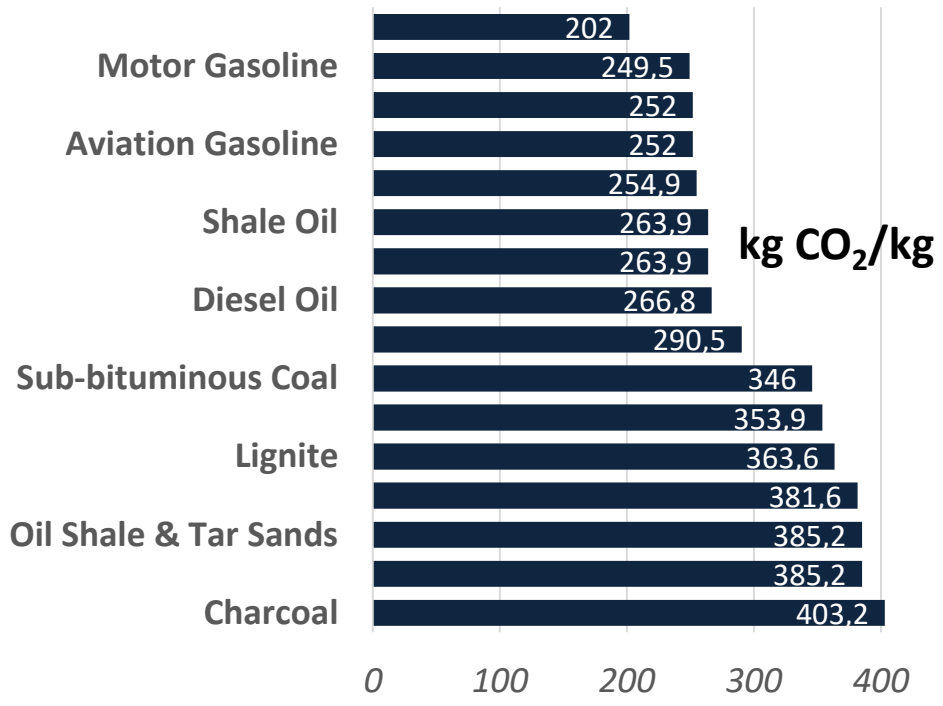
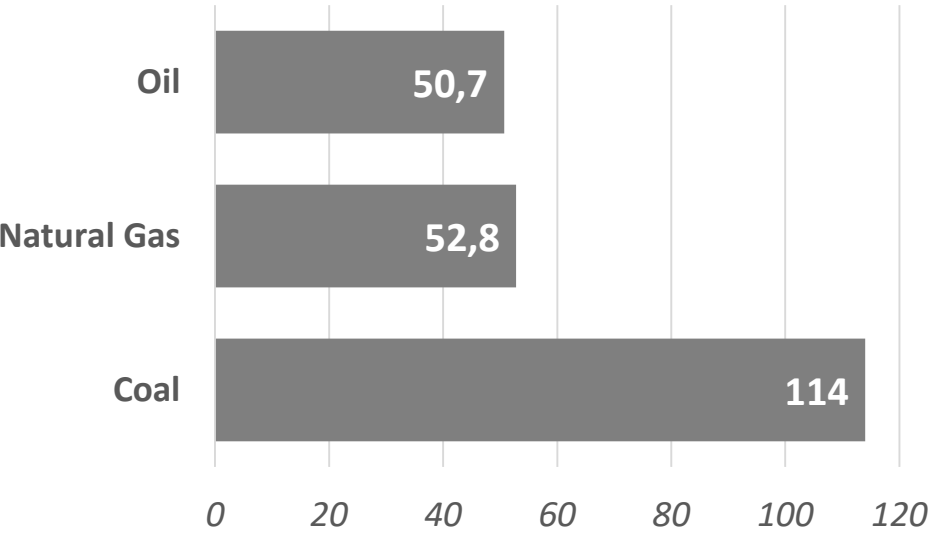
Data source: BP Statistical Review of World Energy 2016. The data visualization is available at OurWorldInData.org. There you find research and more visualizations on this topic. Licensed under CC BY SA by the authors Hannah Ritchie and Max Roser.

# Oil production

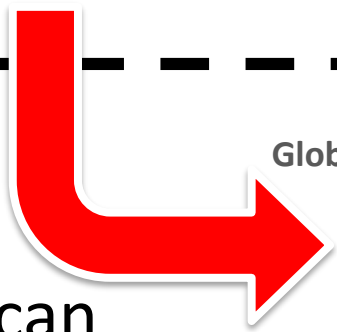


# Fossil fuel reserves

Years of fossil fuel reserves left



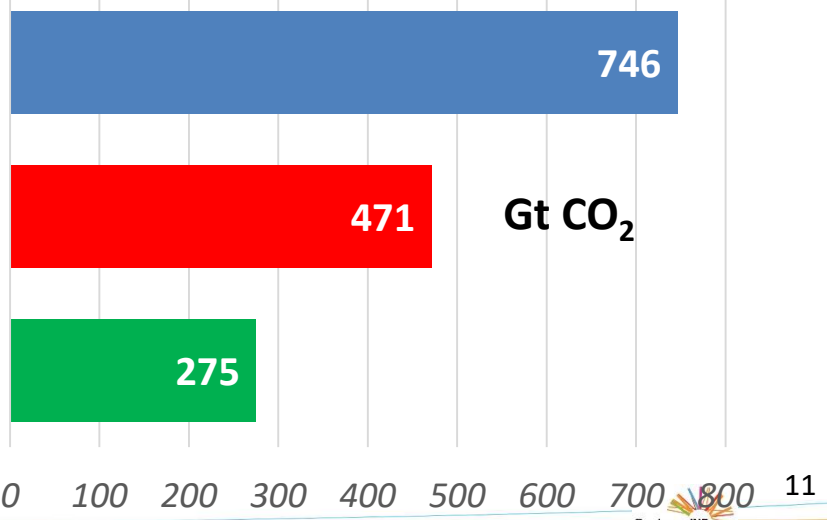
Only  $\frac{1}{3}$  can be burned



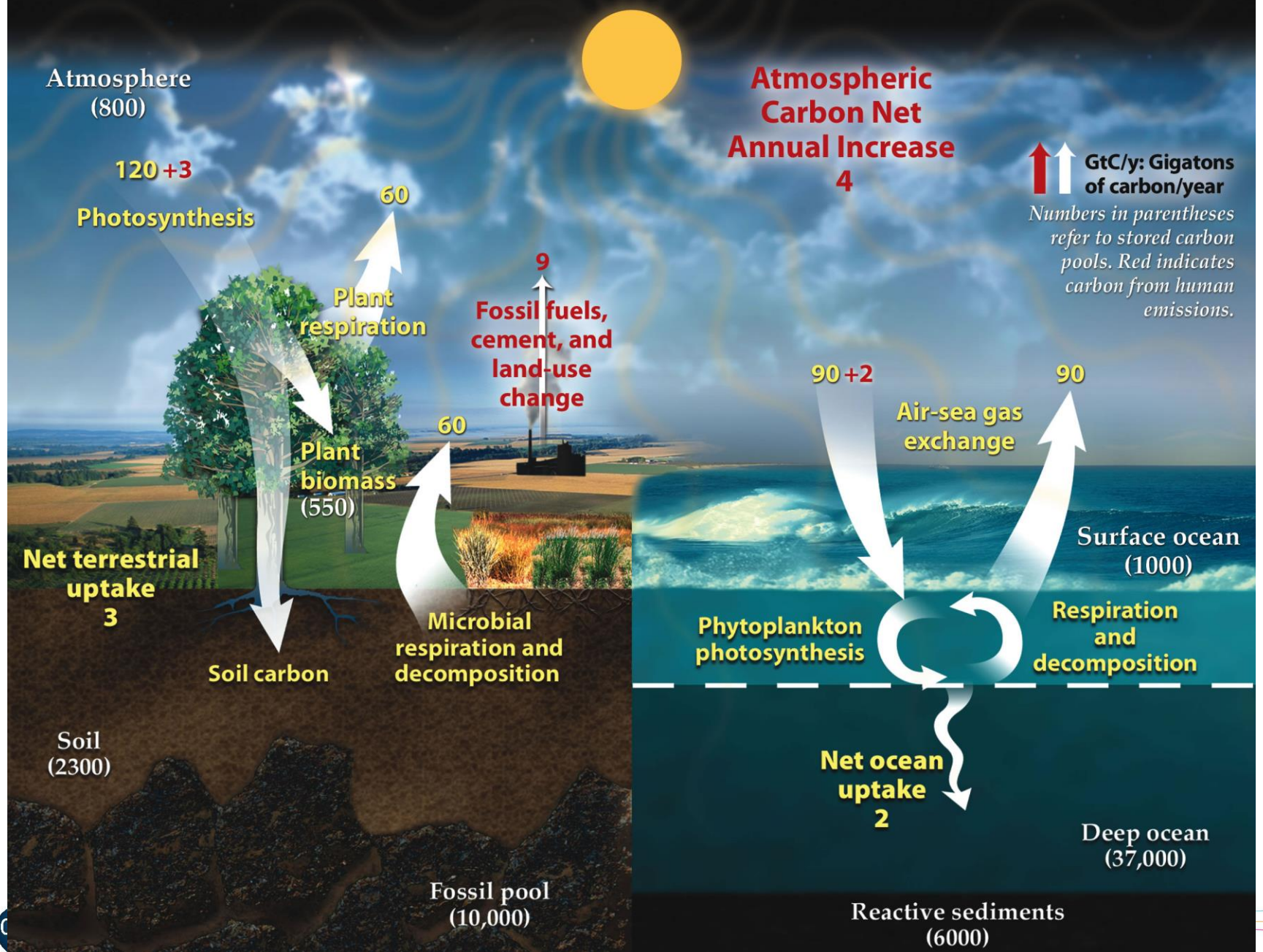
Global Fossil Fuel Reserves

Unburnable Reserves

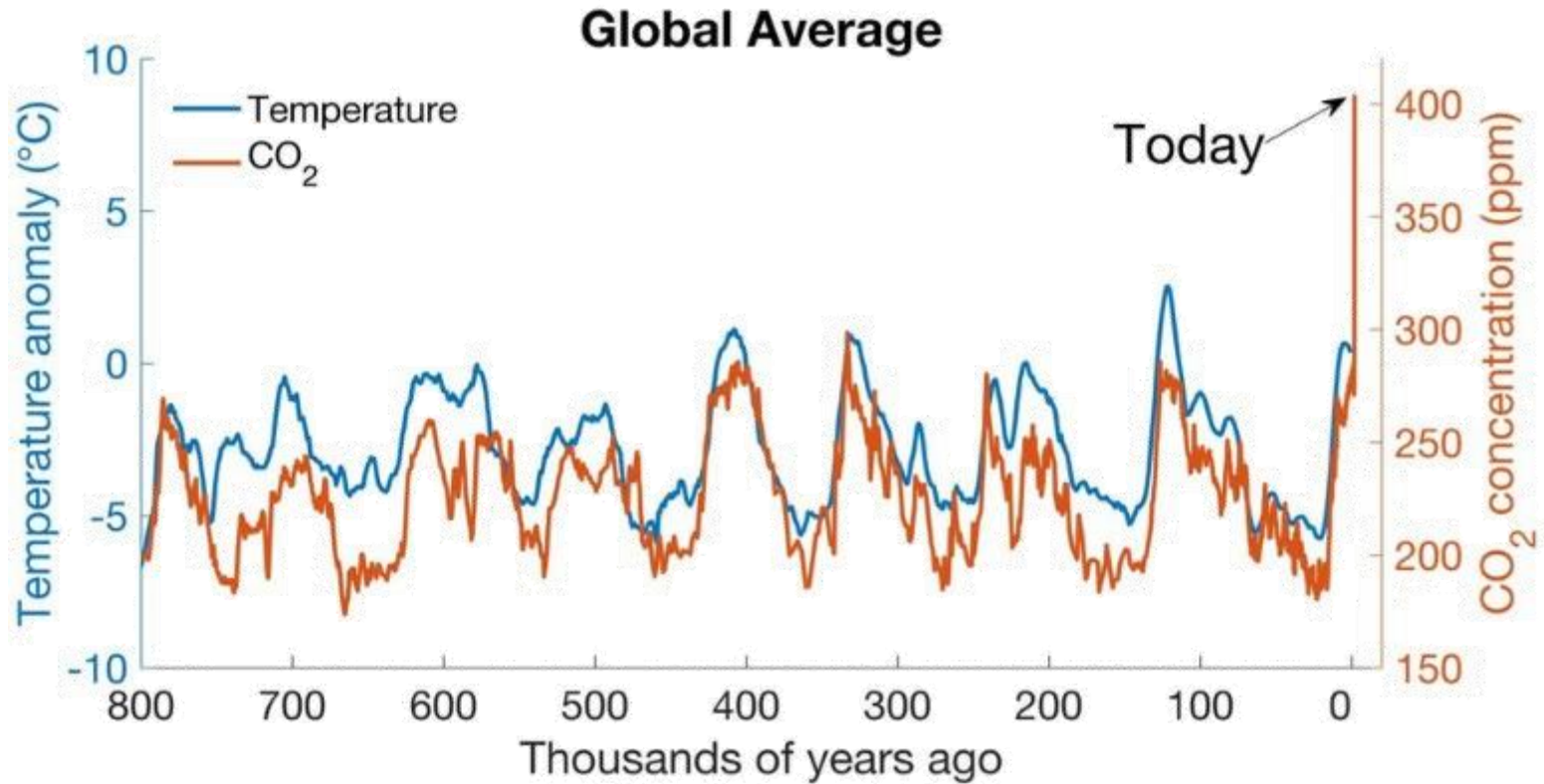
Carbon Budget for 2C



# CO<sub>2</sub> cycle



# CO<sub>2</sub> concentration keep increasing



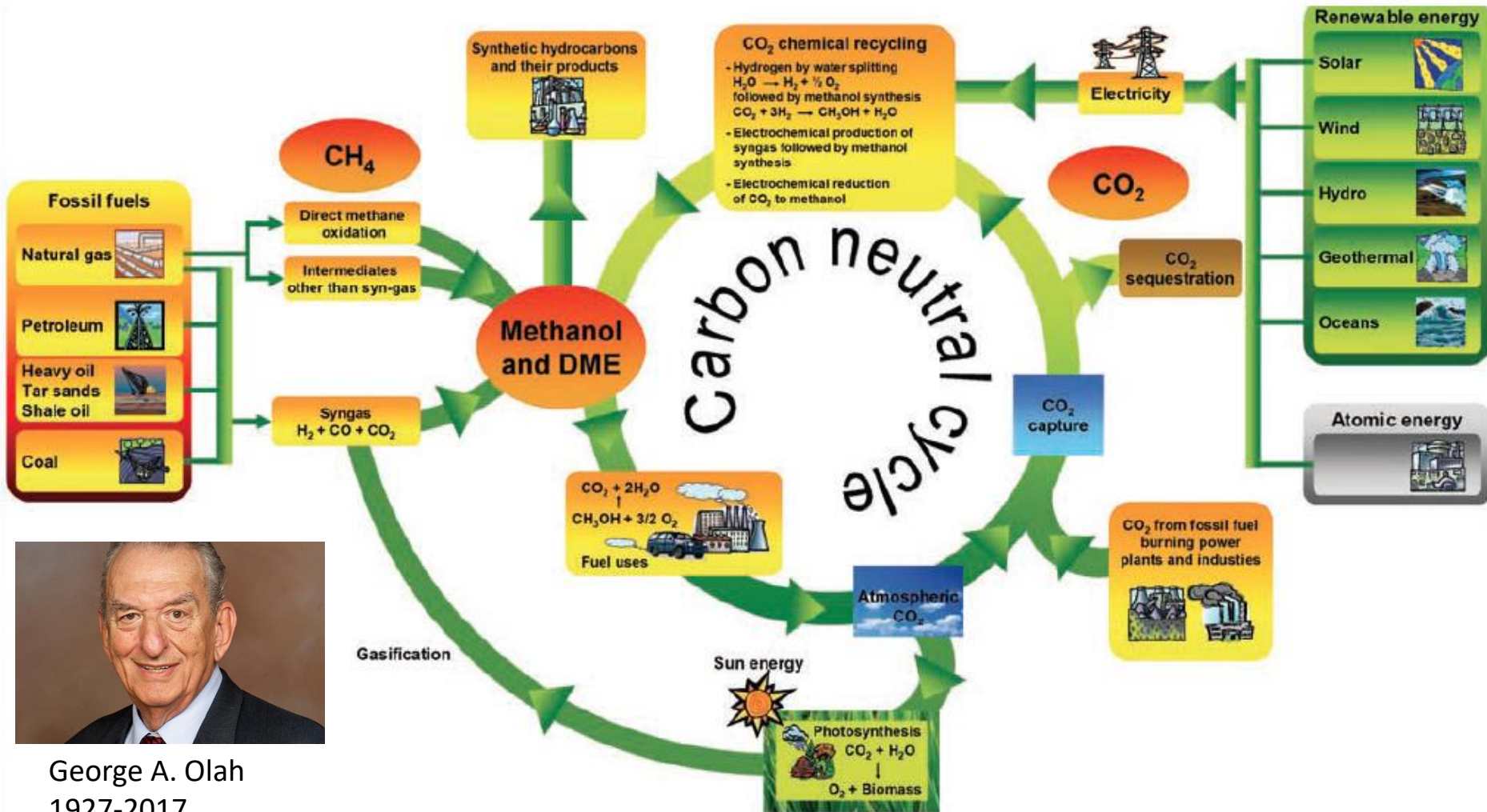
➔ Last time the CO<sub>2</sub> was that high the Human didn't exist  
4 ppm/year more CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere

May 2019: 415ppm  
Since Sept 2016 > 400ppm

1987 : 350ppm

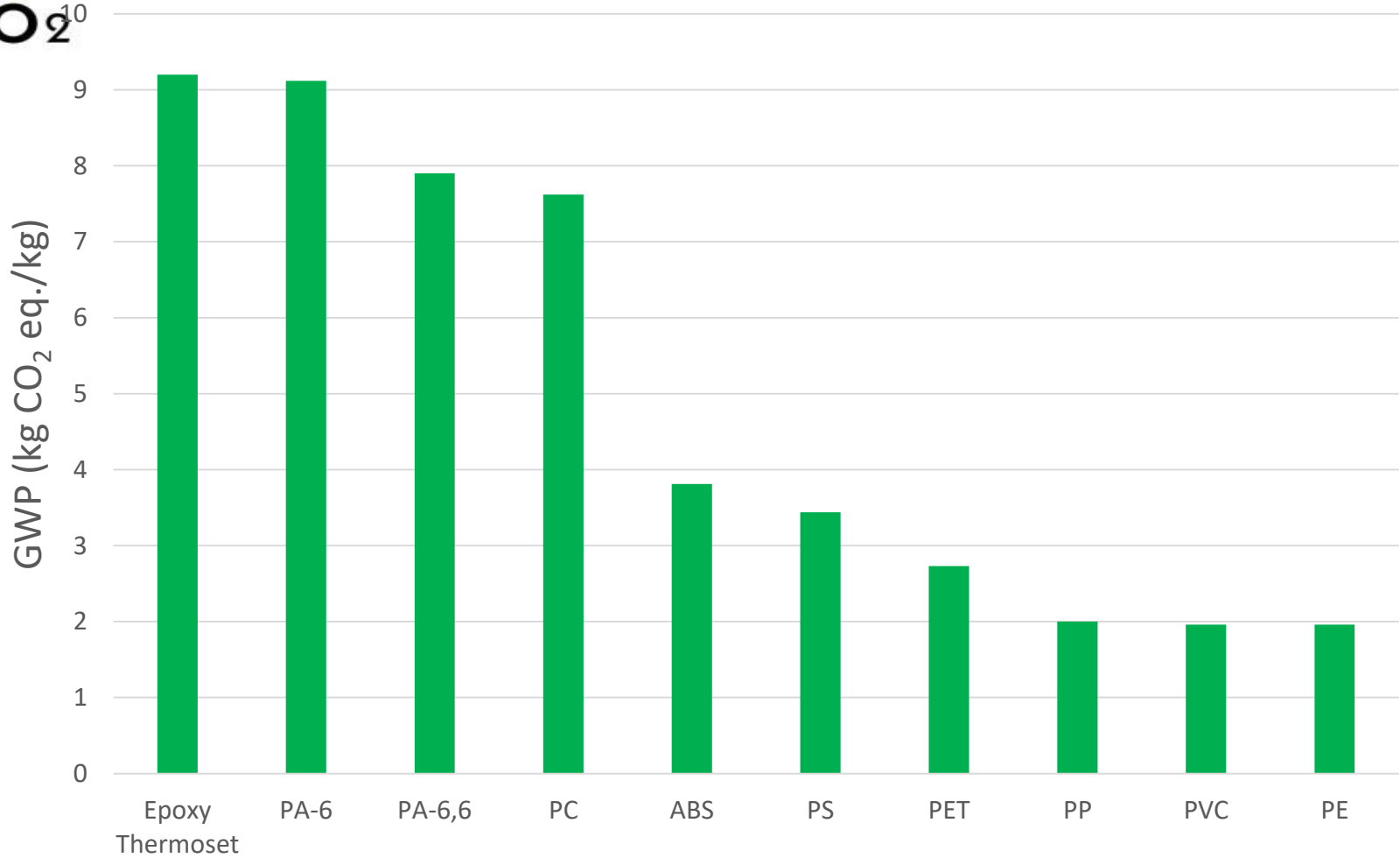
**Reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and trap it sustainably.**

# Carbon neutral society



George A. Olah  
1927-2017  
Nobel Prize 1994

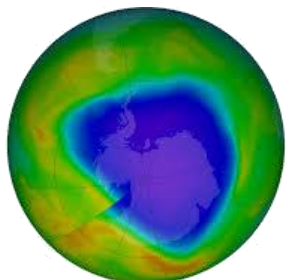
# CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from cradle to factory gate





# Life cycle analysis

Impact category	Units
Climate change	kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq.
Ozone depletion	kg CFC-11 eq.
Human toxicity, cancer effects	CTUh
Human toxicity, non-cancer effects	CTUh
Respiratory inorganics	kg PM2.5 eq.
Respiratory organics	kg NMVOC eq
Ionizing radiation	kBq U235 eq.
Terrestrial acidification	mol H <sup>+</sup> eq
Eutrophication terrestrial	mol N eq
Eutrophication freshwater	mol P eq
Eutrophication marine	mol N eq
Ecotoxicity freshwater	CTUe
Non-renewable energy	MJ
Depletion of abiotic ressources	kg Sb eq.
Water	L



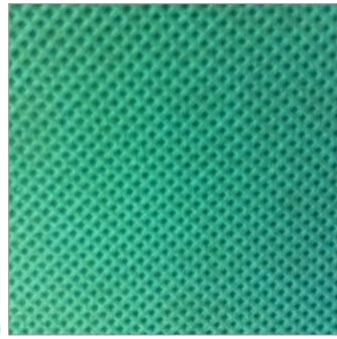
# LCA: Example of the grocery bags



Simple LDPE



Non-woven PP



Recycled PET



Rigid handle LDPE



Woven PP



polyester



biopolymer



paper



cotton

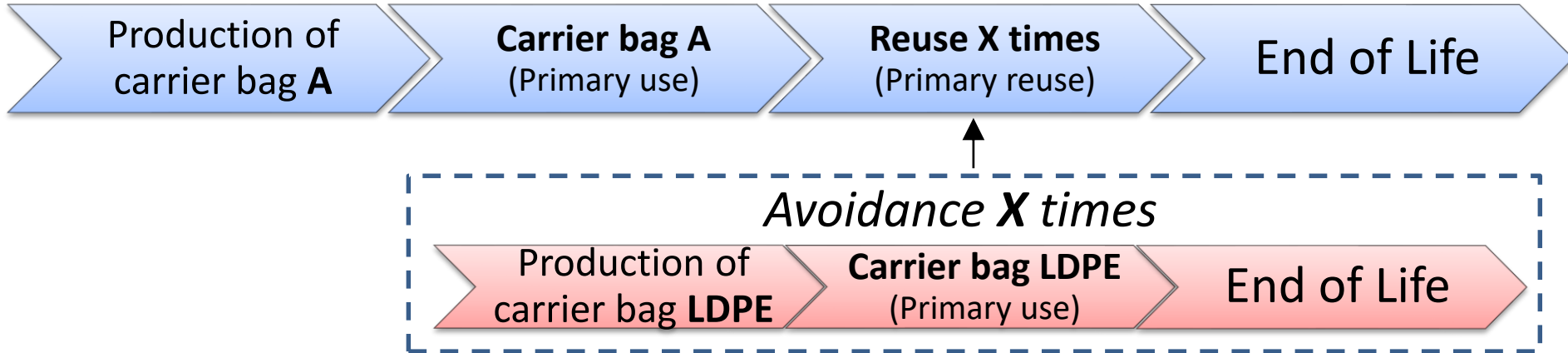


composite

# LCA: Example of the grocery bags

Impact category / bag	LDPE	PET	Bioplastique	Cotton	Units
Climate change	$1.1 \cdot 10^{-1}$	$7.7 \cdot 10^{-1}$	$9.0 \cdot 10^{-2}$	3.9	kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq.
Ozone depletion	$1.2 \cdot 10^{-9}$	$6.4 \cdot 10^{-8}$	$1.5 \cdot 10^{-8}$	$1.0 \cdot 10^{-5}$	kg CFC-11 eq.
Human tox., cancer effects	$1.3 \cdot 10^{-9}$	$7.0 \cdot 10^{-9}$	$2.3 \cdot 10^{-9}$	$1.7 \cdot 10^{-7}$	CTUh
Human tox., non-cancer effects	$-1.1 \cdot 10^{-8}$	<b><math>-1.6 \cdot 10^{-8}</math></b>	$3.1 \cdot 10^{-8}$	$5.6 \cdot 10^{-7}$	CTUh
Respiratory inorganics	$1.6 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$2.7 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$1.2 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$3.8 \cdot 10^{-3}$	kg PM2.5 eq.
Respiratory organics	$2.0 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$9.6 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$3.4 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$8.7 \cdot 10^{-3}$	kg NMVOC eq
Ionizing radiation	$6.0 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$1.4 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$3.8 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$1.3 \cdot 10^{-1}$	kBq U235 eq.
Terrestrial acidification	$1.1 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$1.1 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$7.4 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$2.0 \cdot 10^{-2}$	mol H <sup>+</sup> eq
Eutrophication terrestrial	$8.7 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$1.9 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$1.4 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$4.9 \cdot 10^{-2}$	mol N eq
Eutrophication freshwater	$-5.6 \cdot 10^{-7}$	$3.8 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$1.6 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$4.8 \cdot 10^{-4}$	mol P eq
Eutrophication marine	$2.3 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$2.2 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$2.4 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$3.4 \cdot 10^{-3}$	mol N eq
Ecotoxicity freshwater	$7.2 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$5.1 \cdot 10^{-1}$	$1.3 \cdot 10^{-1}$	12	CTUe
Non-renewable energy	1.7	12	2.9	72	MJ
Depletion of ressources	$1.9 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$2.1 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$5.1 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$1.6 \cdot 10^{-4}$	kg Sb eq.
Water	$4.4 \cdot 10^{-2}$	1.4	$2.4 \cdot 10^{-1}$	27	L

# LCA: Example of the grocery bags

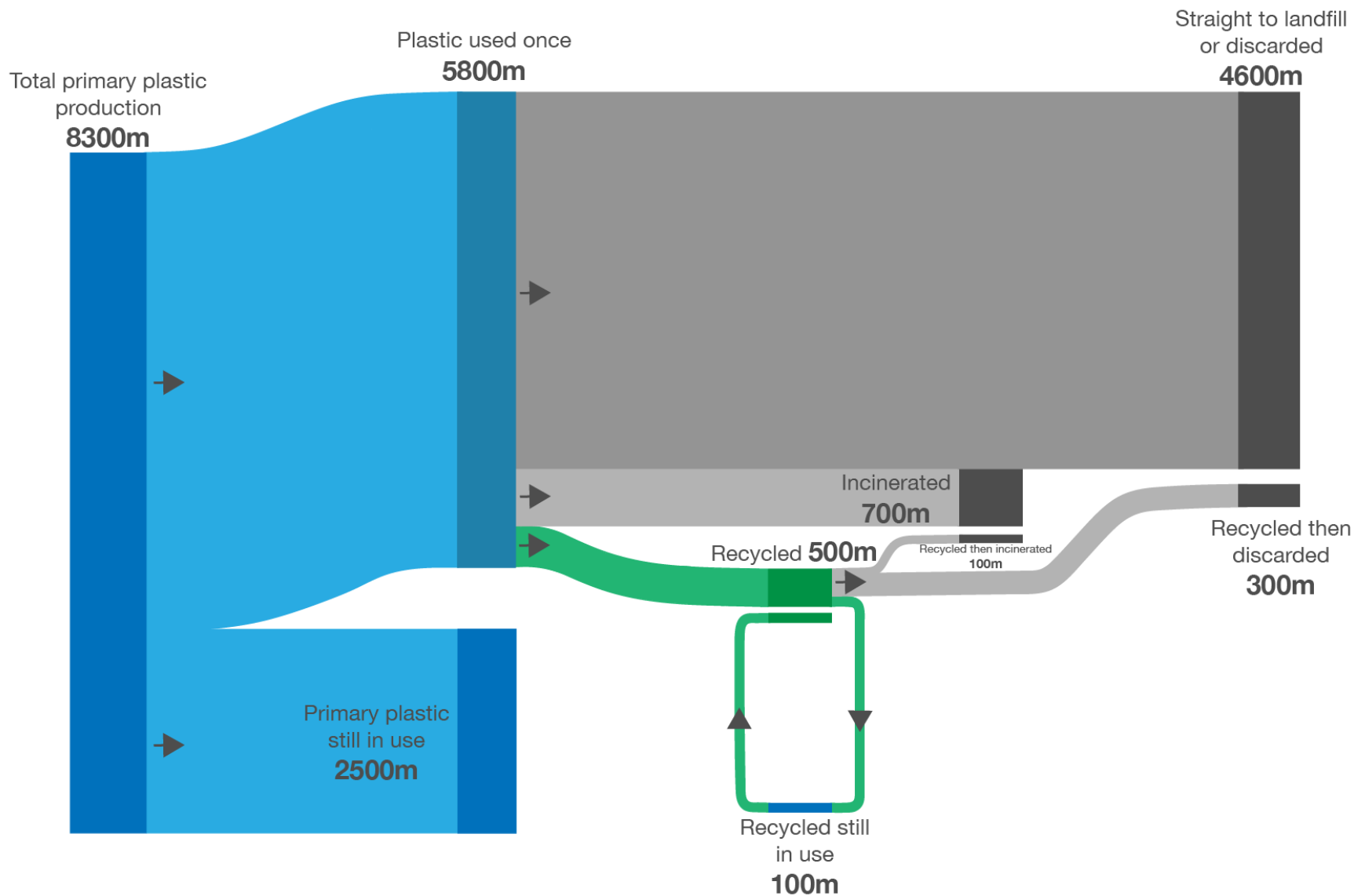


	Climate Change	All indicators
Non-woven PP, EOL = recycled	6	52
Woven PP, EOL = recycled	5	45
Recycled PET, EOL = recycled	8	84
Polyester, EOL = recycled	2	35
Biopolymer, EOL= waste bag or incinerated	0	42
Unbleached paper, , EOL= waste bag or incinerated	0	43
Bleached paper, EOL= waste bag or incinerated	1	43
Organic cotton, EOL= incinerated	149	20000
Conventional cotton, EOL= incinerated	52	7100
Composite, EOL= waste bag or incinerated	23	870

# Global plastic production and its fate (1950-2015)

Balance of plastic production and fate (m = million tonnes)

8300m produced → 4900m discarded + 800m incinerated + 2600m still in use (100m of recycled plastic)



# The route by which plastic enters the oceans

**2% of the plastics enter the oceans**  
→ **160 Mt**

**Global primary plastic production:**  
270 million tonnes per year

**Global plastic waste:**  
275 million tonnes per year

It can exceed primary production in a given year since it can incorporate production from previous years.

**Coastal plastic waste:**  
99.5 million tonnes per year

This is the total of plastic waste generated by all populations within 50 kilometres of a coastline (therefore at risk of entering the ocean).

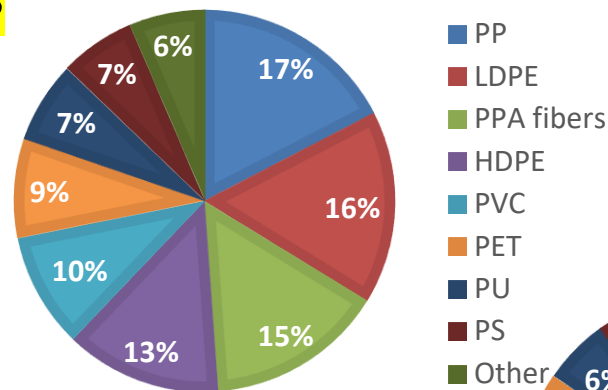
**Mismanaged coastal plastic waste:**  
31.9 million tonnes per year

This is the annual sum of inadequately managed and littered plastic waste from coastal populations. Inadequately managed waste is that which is stored in open or insecure landfills (and therefore at risk of leakage or loss).

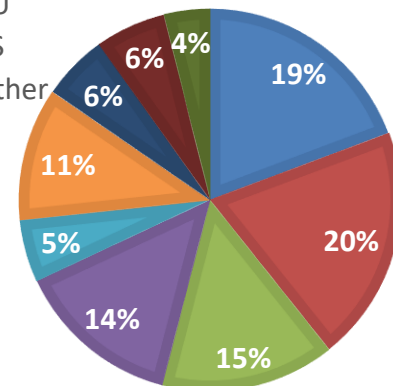
**Plastic inputs to the oceans:**  
8 million tonnes per year

2 billion people living within 50km of coastline

## PRODUCTION



## WASTE



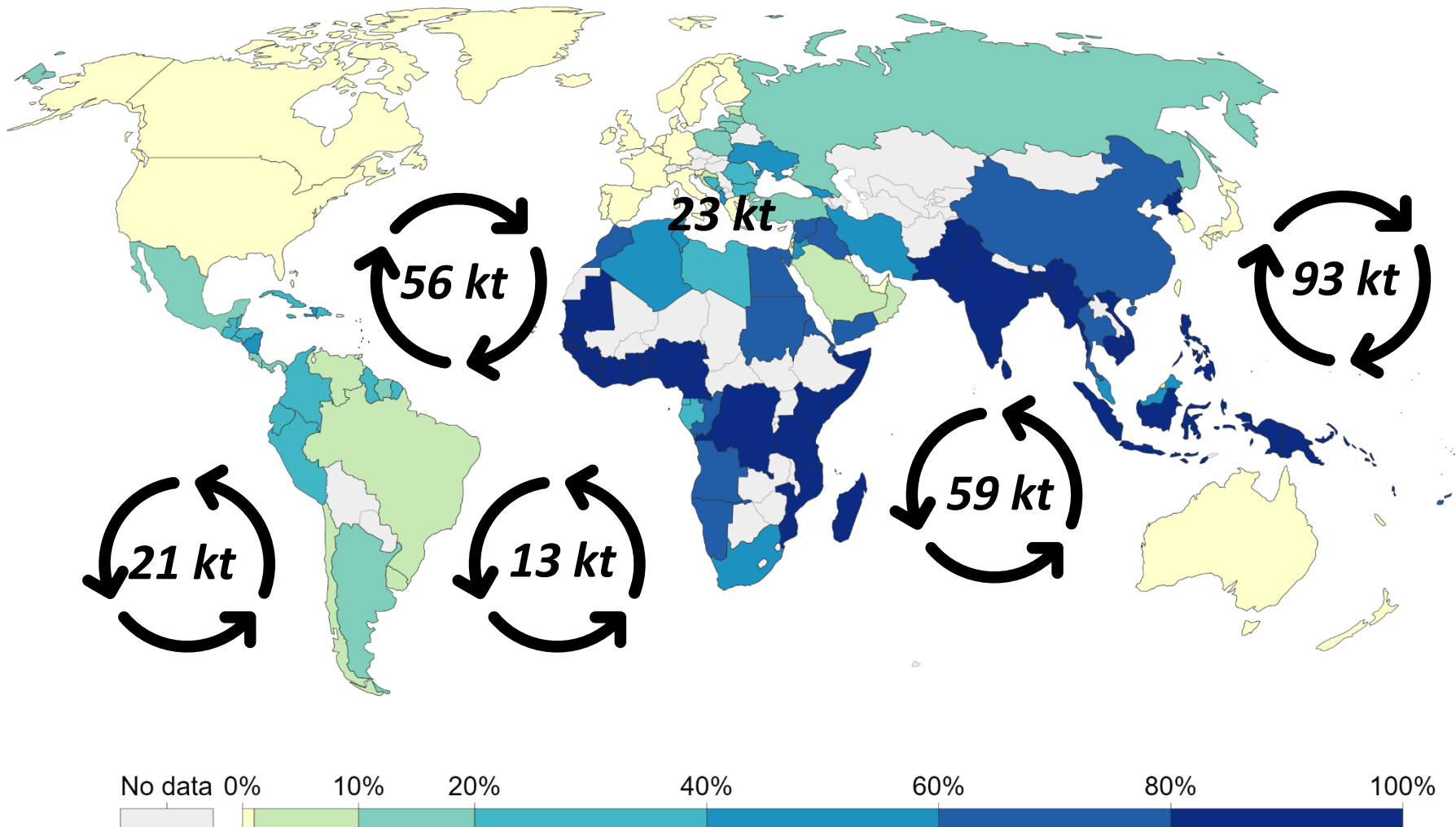
**Plastic in surface waters:**  
10,000s to 100,000s tonnes

There is a wide range of estimates of the quantity of plastics in surface waters. It remains unclear where the majority of plastic inputs end up — a large quantity might accumulate at greater depths or on the seafloor.

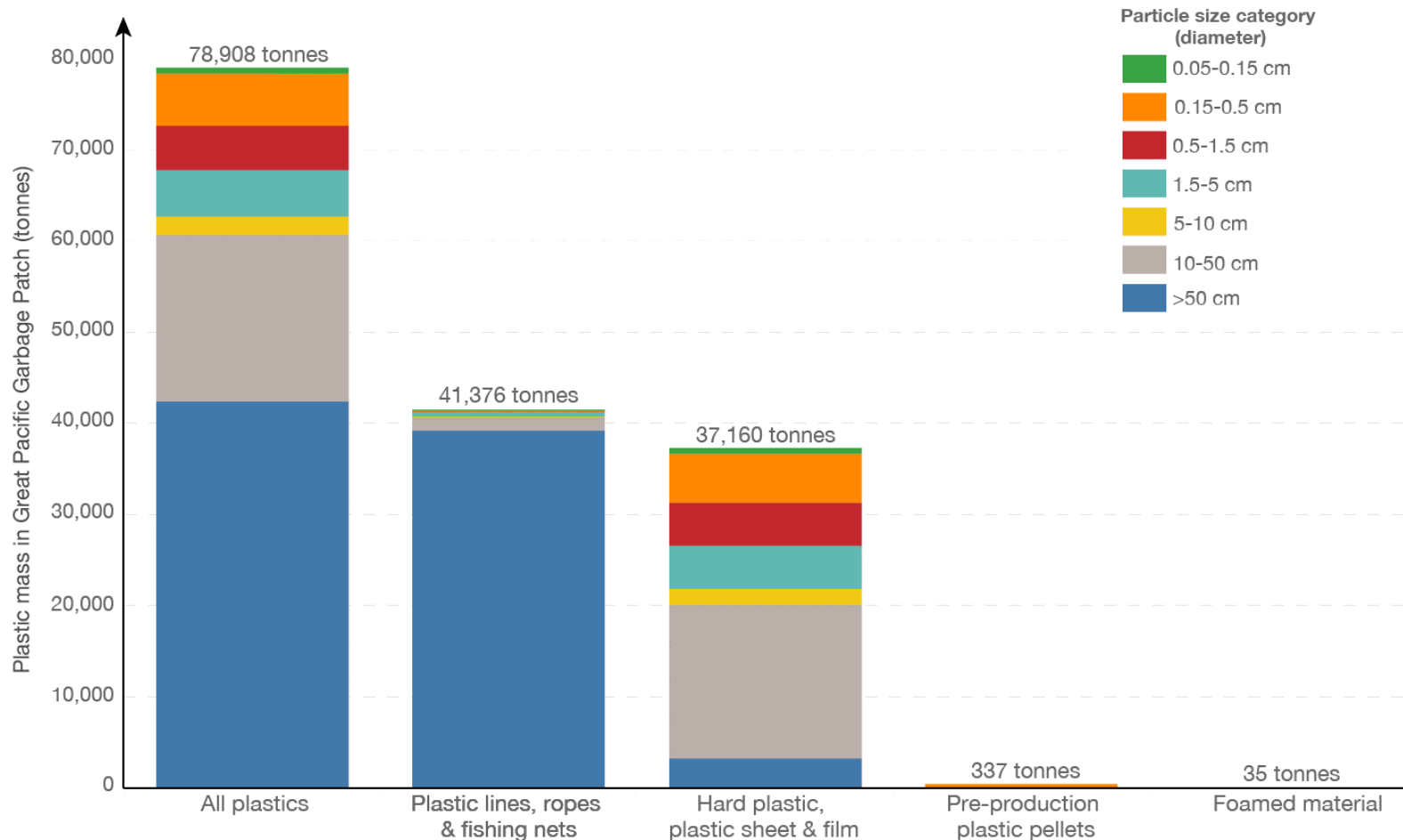


# Share of plastic waste that is inadequately managed (2010)

260 kt in the ocean's gyres but 8 Mt/y of plastic enters the oceans



# Great Pacific Garbage Patch (GPGP) plastic sources



Ultraviolet light (UV) and mechanical wave forces break large pieces of plastic into smaller ones called **microplastics**

Microplastic was up to **four orders of magnitude** more abundant (per unit volume) in deep-sea sediments than in surface waters.



# Where does plastic accumulate in the ocean?

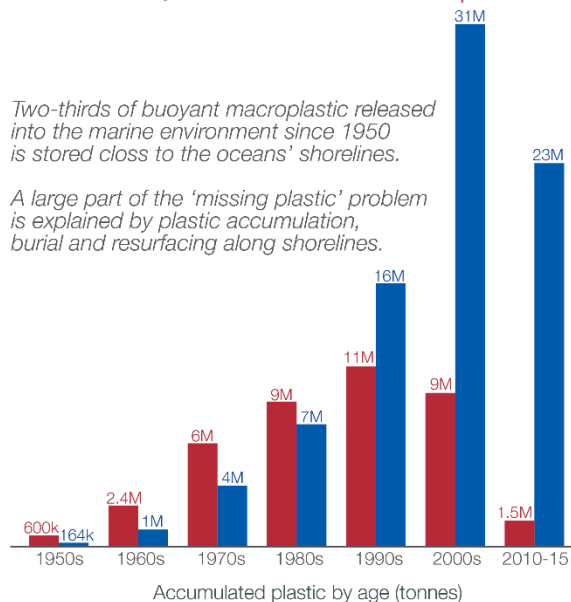
Macroplastics are greater than 0.5cm in diameter  
Microplastics are smaller than 0.5cm

## Shoreline Dry lands

Total from 1950 to 2015:  
82M tonnes macroplastic  
40M tonnes microplastic

Two-thirds of buoyant macroplastic released into the marine environment since 1950 is stored close to the oceans' shorelines.

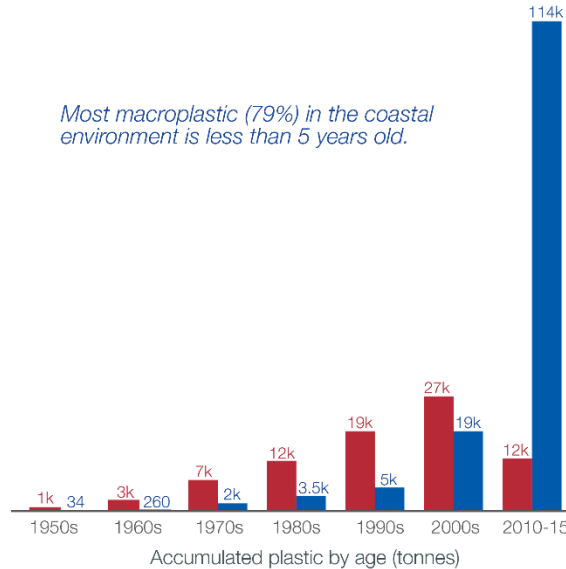
A large part of the 'missing plastic' problem is explained by plastic accumulation, burial and resurfacing along shorelines.



## Coastal Shallow waters (<200m)

Total from 1950 to 2015:  
150,000 tonnes macroplastic  
80,000 tonnes microplastic

Most macroplastic (79%) in the coastal environment is less than 5 years old.



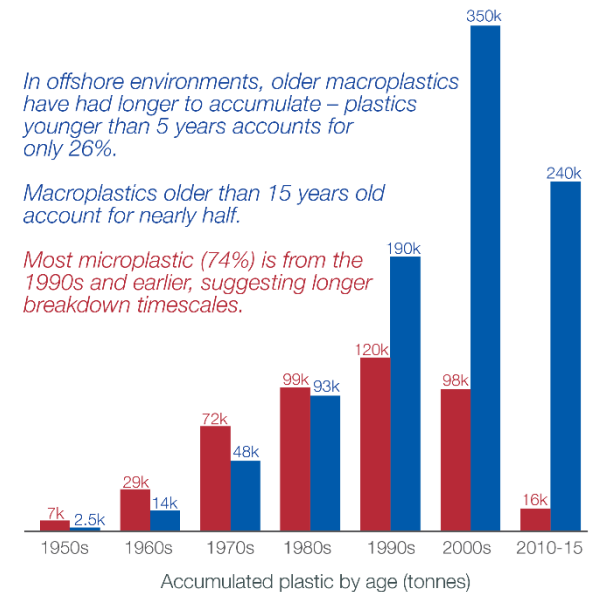
## Offshore Deeper waters (>200m)

Total from 1950 to 2015:  
1M tonnes macroplastic  
0.5M tonnes microplastic

In offshore environments, older macroplastics have had longer to accumulate – plastics younger than 5 years accounts for only 26%.

Macroplastics older than 15 years old account for nearly half.

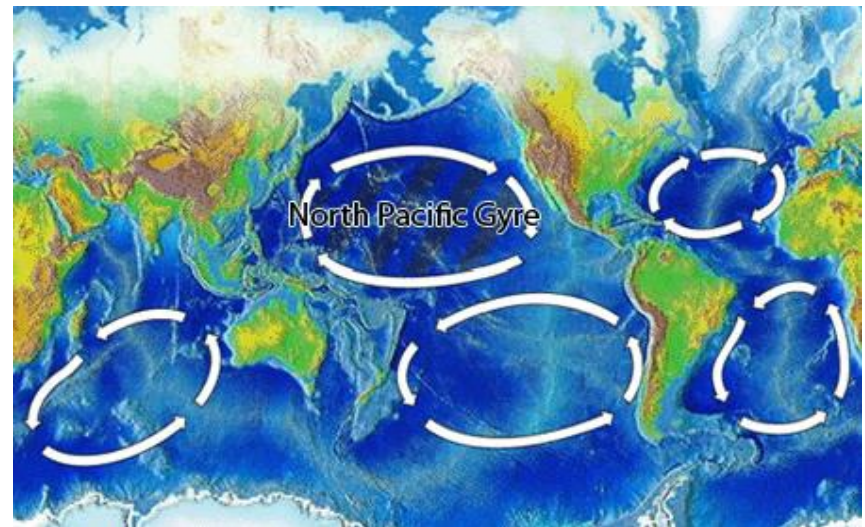
Most microplastic (74%) is from the 1990s and earlier, suggesting longer breakdown timescales.



**125 Mt** in the ocean's gyres but **8 Mt/y** of plastic enters the oceans

# Plastic pollution

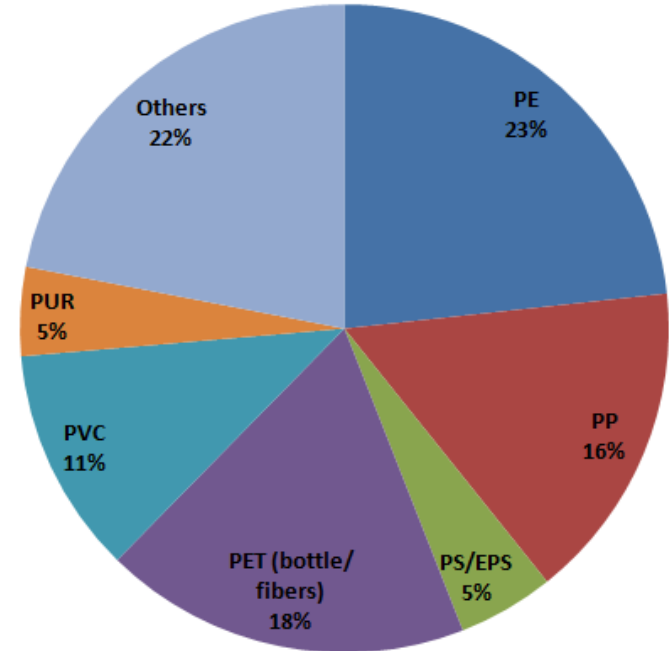
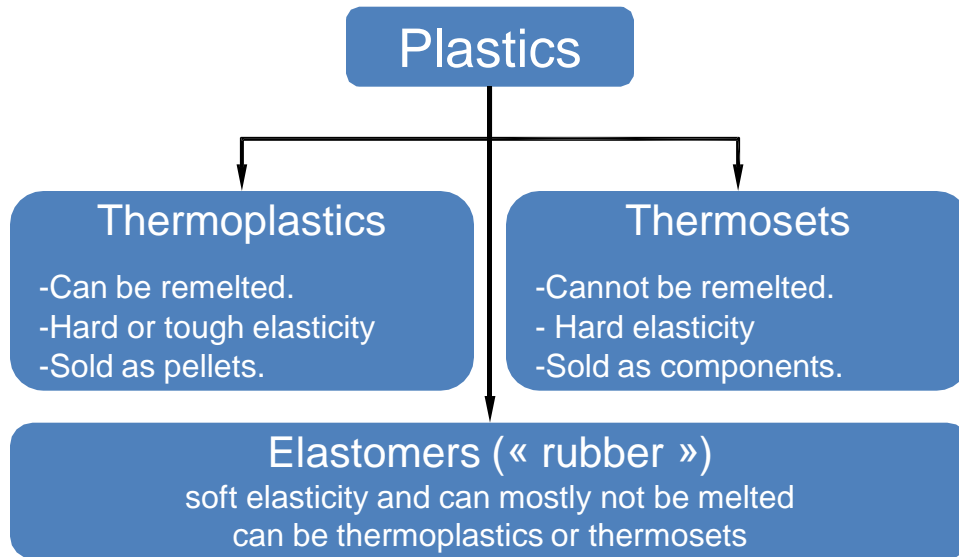
- Each year, we use and throw away :
  - 3,7 billions of plastic cups,
  - 365 billions of plastics bottles,
  - 3650 billions of plastic bags,
  - by 2050 more plastics than fish
  - 10% of the plastics go to the sea
- Pacific ocean accumulations:
  - o Plastic particles in suspension
  - o Concentration : 5.1 kg/km<sup>2</sup>
  - o More than 5 millions tons (?)
- Alliances of individuals, organizations and businesses working together to stop plastic pollution and its toxic impacts



*Plastic Pollution Coalition is a global alliance of individuals, organizations and businesses working towards a world free of plastic pollution and its toxic impacts.*

**PlasticPollutionCoalition**

## Global plastics demand 2017 ~350MT



Source: Total info, Plastics Europe  
ICIS, IHS, Tecnon Orbichem, Nexant

### 350 Mt\* plastics demand can be split into

-Thermoplastics: PE, PP, PS, PVC, PET, Engineering plastics (PA, PC, PEEK, TPE, ...).

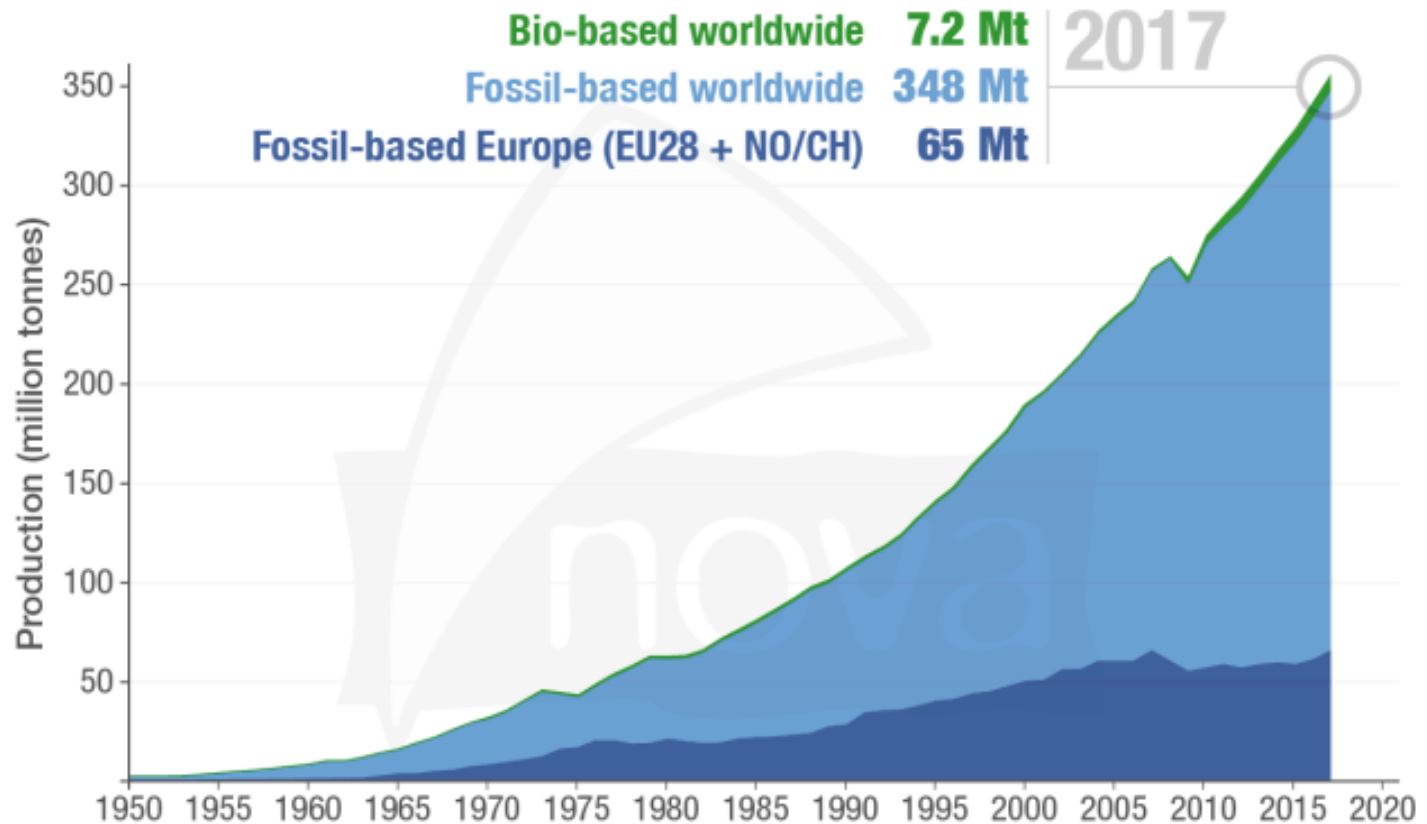
-Thermosets: PUR, UPR, Epoxy, Elastomers.

\* Plastics Europe reports 299MT demand, but we included polyester, PA and acrylic fibers.

- Others include: engineering plastics, other thermosets and fibers, elastomers and blends & compounds

\* TOP 5 polymers (PE, PP, PS/EPS, PVC & PET bottles/fibers) represent almost 75% of the market.

# Plastics production from 1950 to 2017



includes thermoplastics, polyurethanes, thermosets, elastomers, adhesives, coatings and sealants and PP-fibres. Not included PET-, PA-, and polyacryl-fibres.

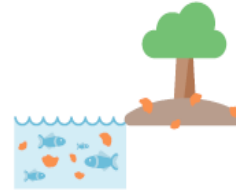
Data sources:  
PlasticsEurope, Consultic and nova-Institute

© nova-Institute.eu



**Huge market with continuous growth for more than 50 years (4% per year)**  
**But still based on fossil raw materials (for more than 99%)**

1- Why ?



2- How ?

3- Bio-based plastics from natural polymers

4- Drop-ins: Bio-based alternative to fossil-based polymers

5- Smart drop-ins: Bio-based derivative of “fossil” polymers

6- New polymers from biomass

7- Conclusions and perspectives

# So what is the solution?



Plant photosynthesis uses sunlight energy to produce sugars (glucose (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>12</sub>O<sub>6</sub>)). This glucose is then condensed by the plant into natural polymers such as starch or cellulose.

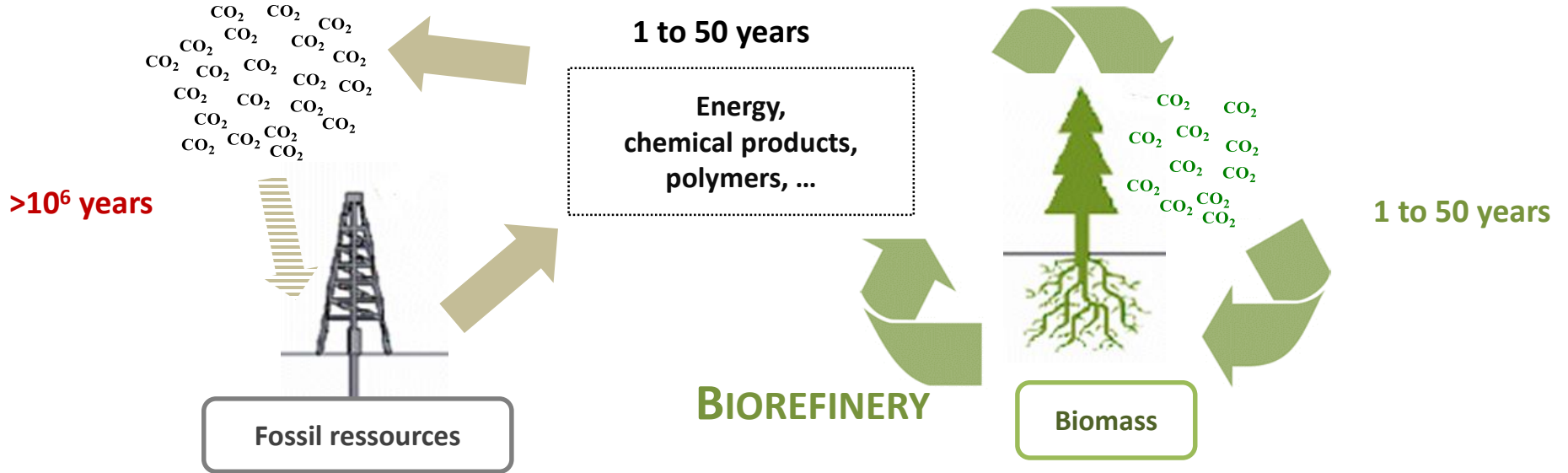
This plant photosynthetic process allows **the binding and storage of atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) in the form of matter in plant tissues.**



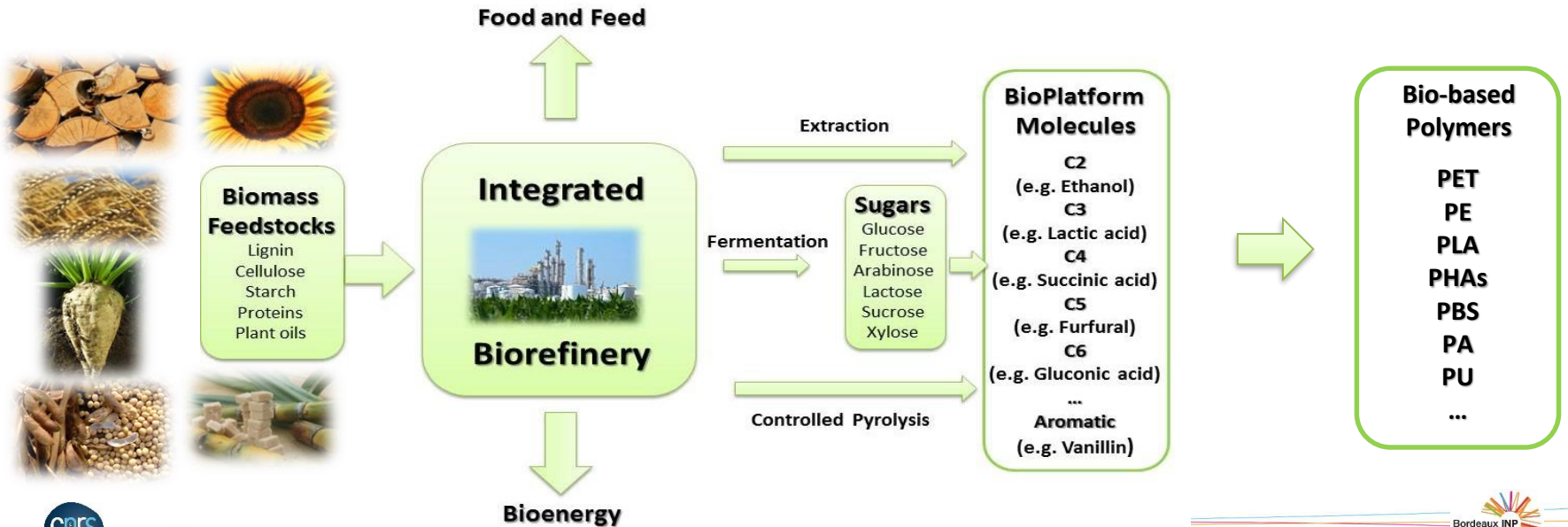
Plants, through this photosynthetic mechanism, thus produce **renewable natural carbon-based molecules.**

Annual plants such as wheat in the grains or potatoes in the tubers, synthesize starch that is renewed each year.

# Biorefinery Concept



## Emergence of biorefineries: use of biomass as raw materials instead of fossil resources



# Example of a Biorefinery

**Ethanol**

**Sugar**

**Corn**

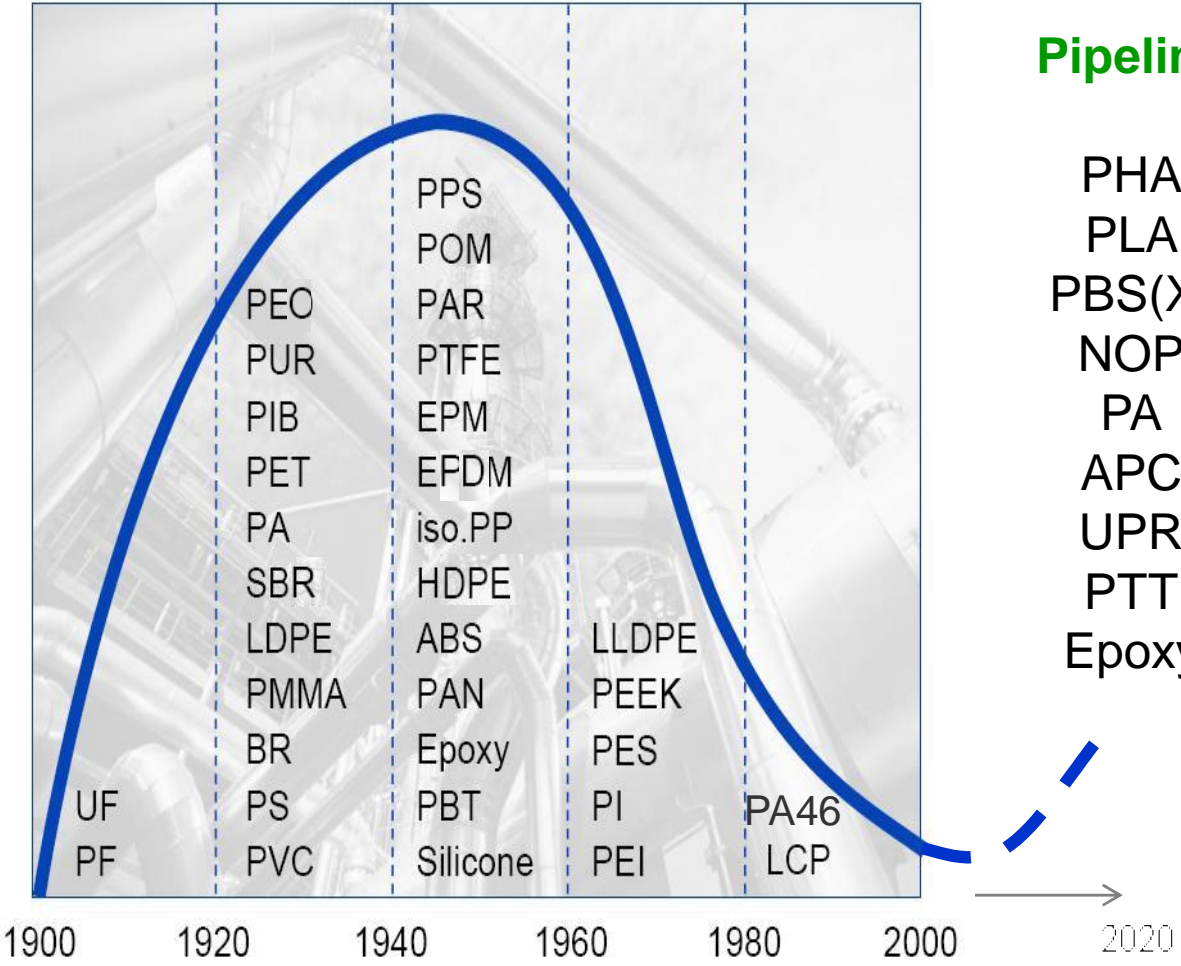




# What's new in the Plastic Industry ?

Find new pathways to 'old' polymers....?

- Ethylene
- Propylene
- Butadiene
- Benzene
- Toluene
- Xylene
- Methanol



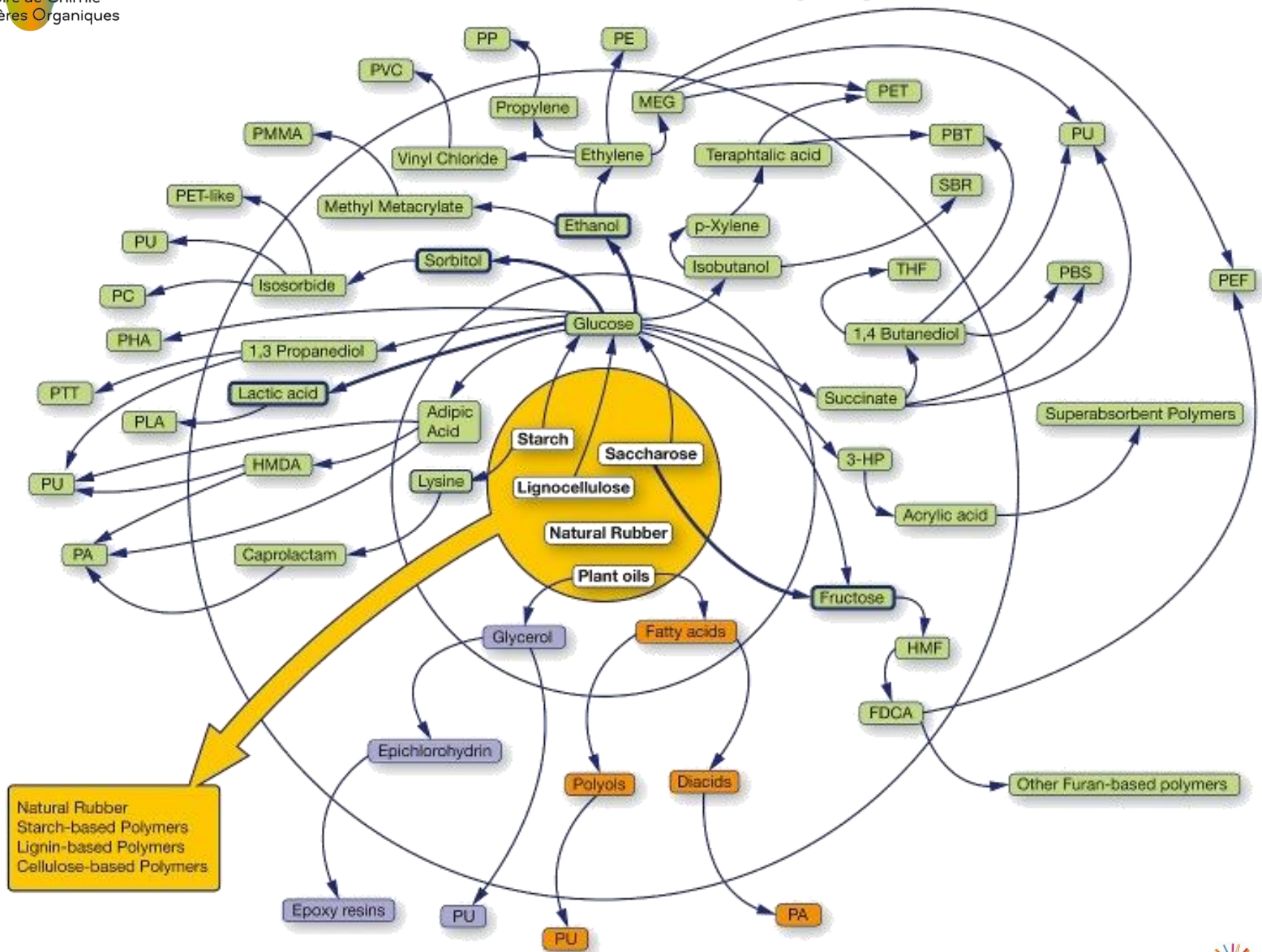
## Pipeline

- PHA
- PLA
- PBS(X)
- NOP
- PA
- APC
- UPR
- PTT
- Epoxy

- Propanediol
- Succinic Acid
- Lactic Acid
- Vegetable oils
- Hydroxy Alkanoates
- Isosorbide
- other

.....or Design novel polymers ?

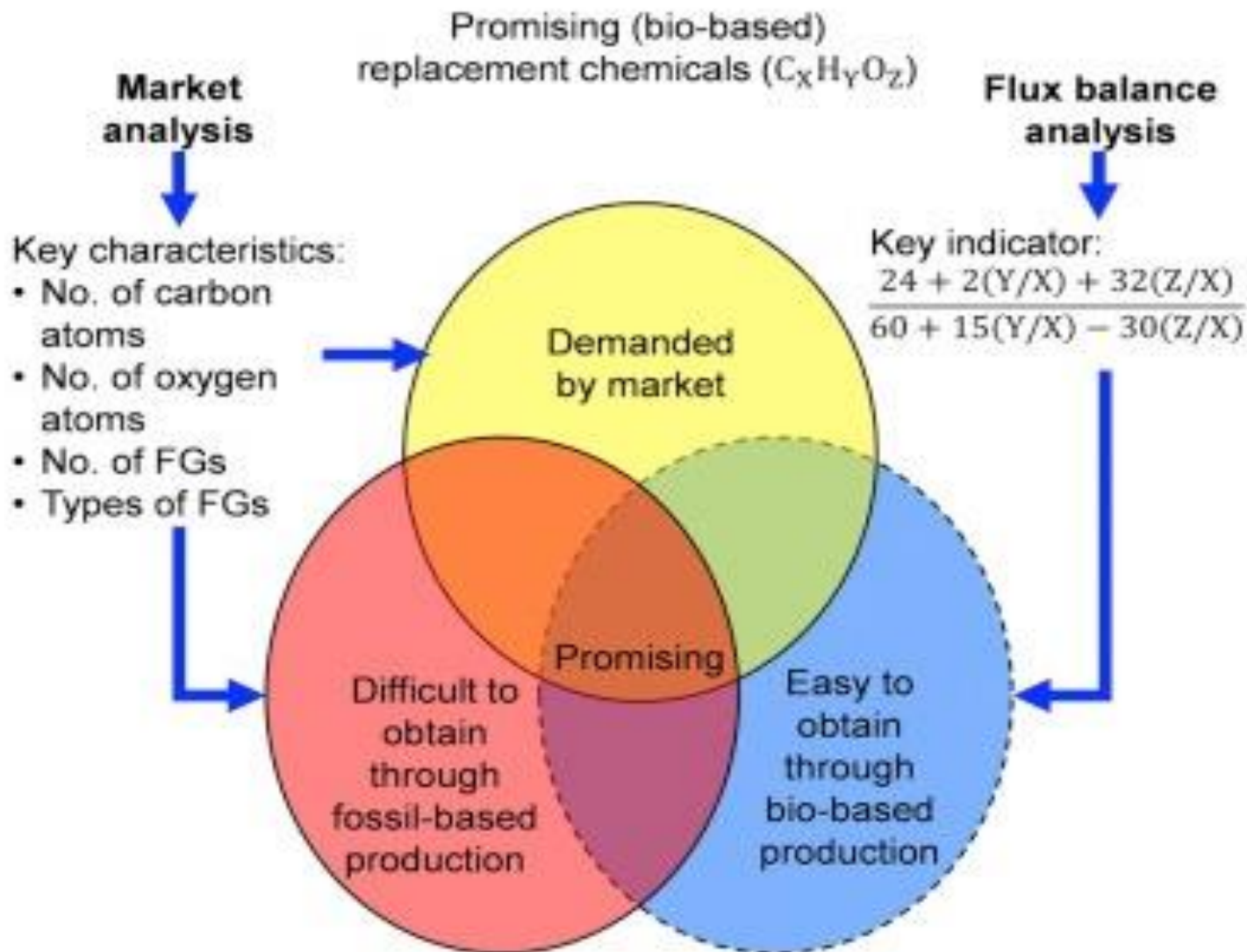
# From biomass to polymers



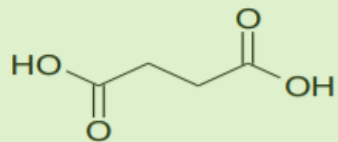




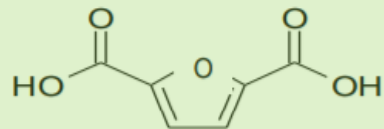
# Promising bio-based chemicals



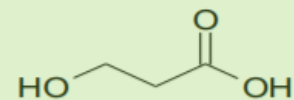
\*FG: functional group



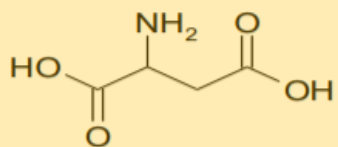
Succinic acid



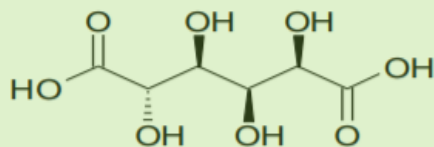
2,5-Furandicarboxylic acid



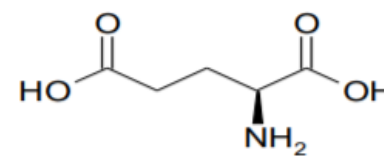
3-Hydroxypropionic acid



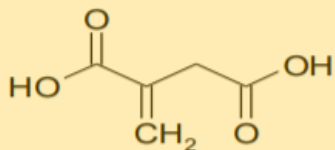
Aspartic acid



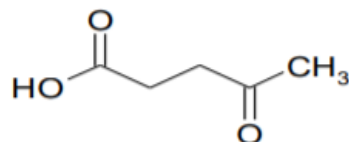
Glucaric acid



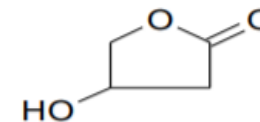
Glutamic acid



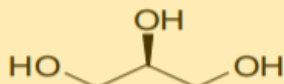
Itaconic acid



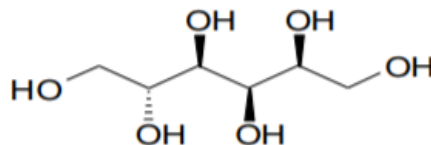
Levulinic acid



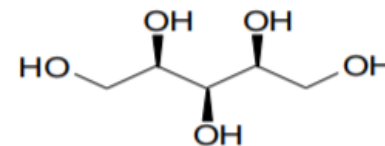
3-Hydroxybutyrolactone



Glycerol



Sorbitol

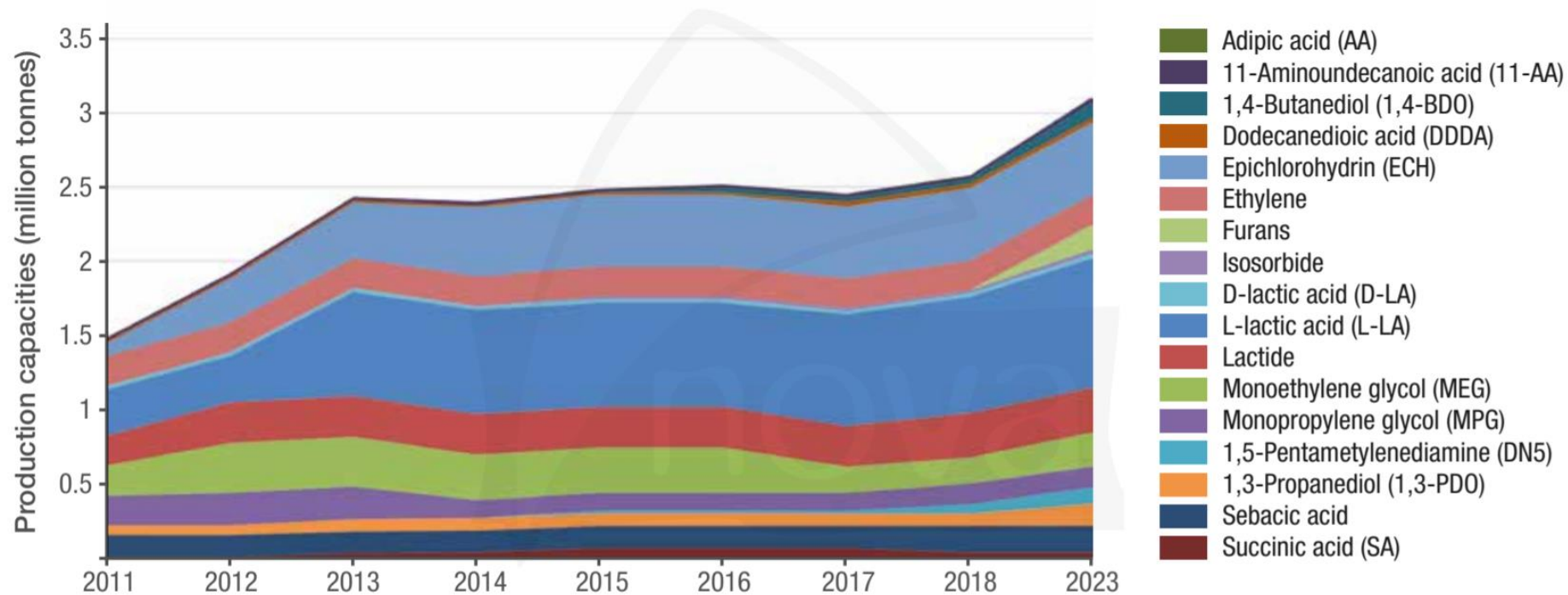


Xylitol

# Most promising bio-based building blocks: DOE 2016

Chemical	Type	Conversion Pathway	TRL Level based on commodity feedstocks	R&D on-going for lignocellulosic feedstocks
<b>Butadiene (1,3-)</b>	Drop-in	BC – Biological TC/BC – Gasification/Fermentation	6	Y
<b>Butanediol (1,4-)</b>	Drop-in	BC – Biological	8	Y
<b>Ethyl Lactate</b>	Functional	BC– Biological	9	Y
<b>Fatty Alcohols</b>	Drop-in	TC – Gasification, BC – Biological, Algae	9	Y
<b>Furfural</b>	Functional	TC– Pyrolysis, BC – Catalytic	9	Y
<b>Glycerol</b>	Functional	Algae	9	Y
<b>Isoprene</b>	Drop-in	BC – Biological	6	
<b>Lactic Acid</b>	Functional	BC – Biological	9	Y
<b>Propanediol (1,3-)</b>	Functional	BC – Biological	9	
<b>Propylene Glycol</b>	Functional	BC – Biological	9	
<b>Succinic Acid</b>	Functional	BC – Biological	9	Y
<b>Xylene (para)</b>	Drop-in	BC – Catalytic TC – Pyrolysis	6	Y

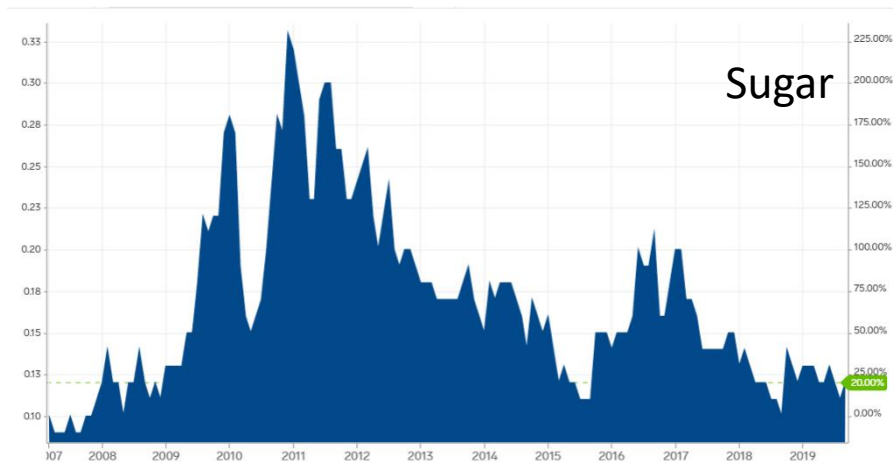
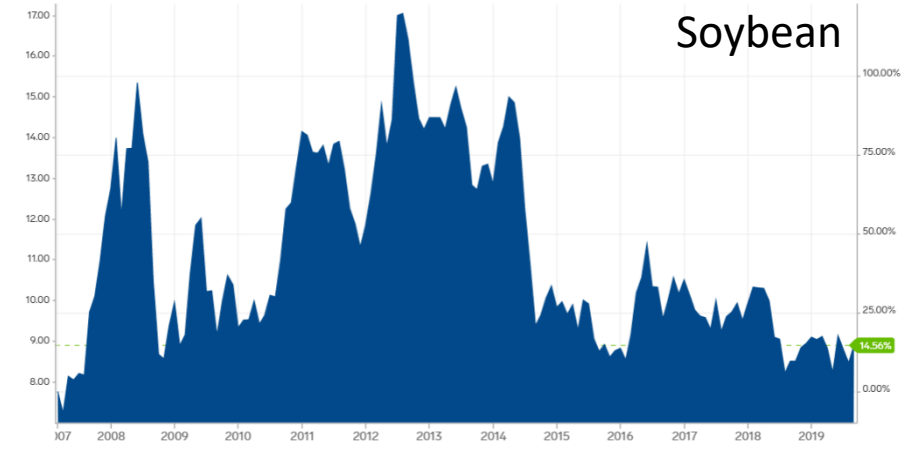
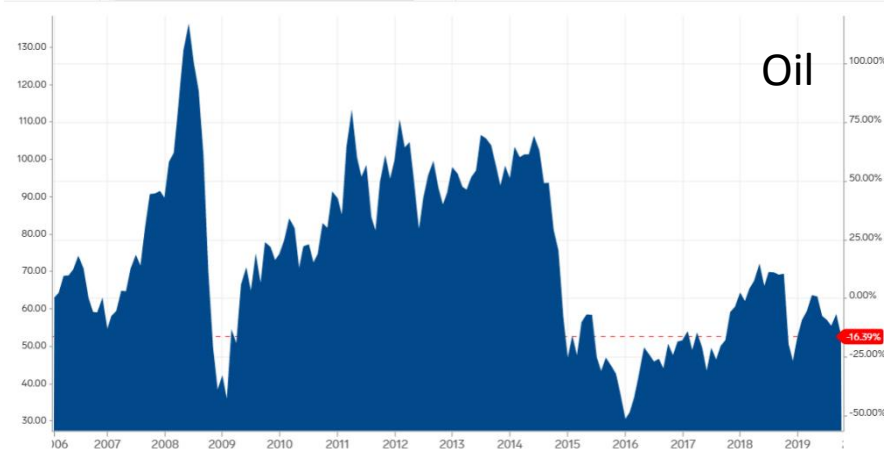
# Worldwide production of bio-based chemicals



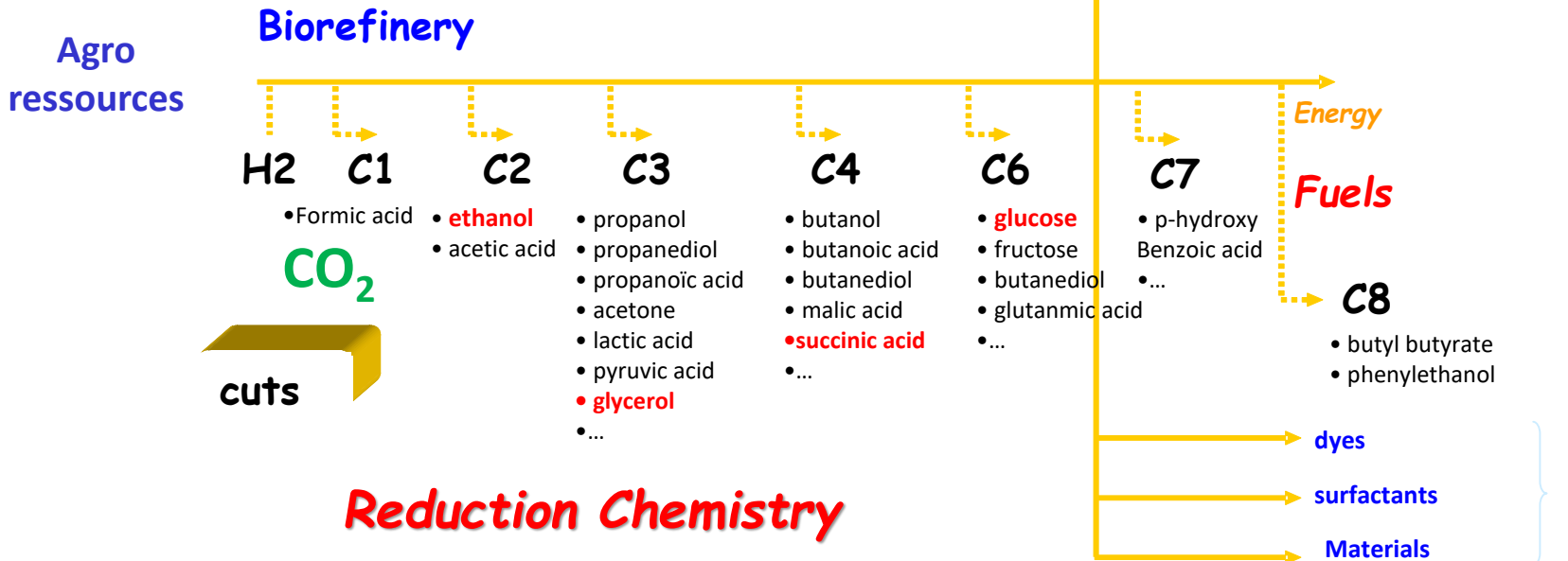
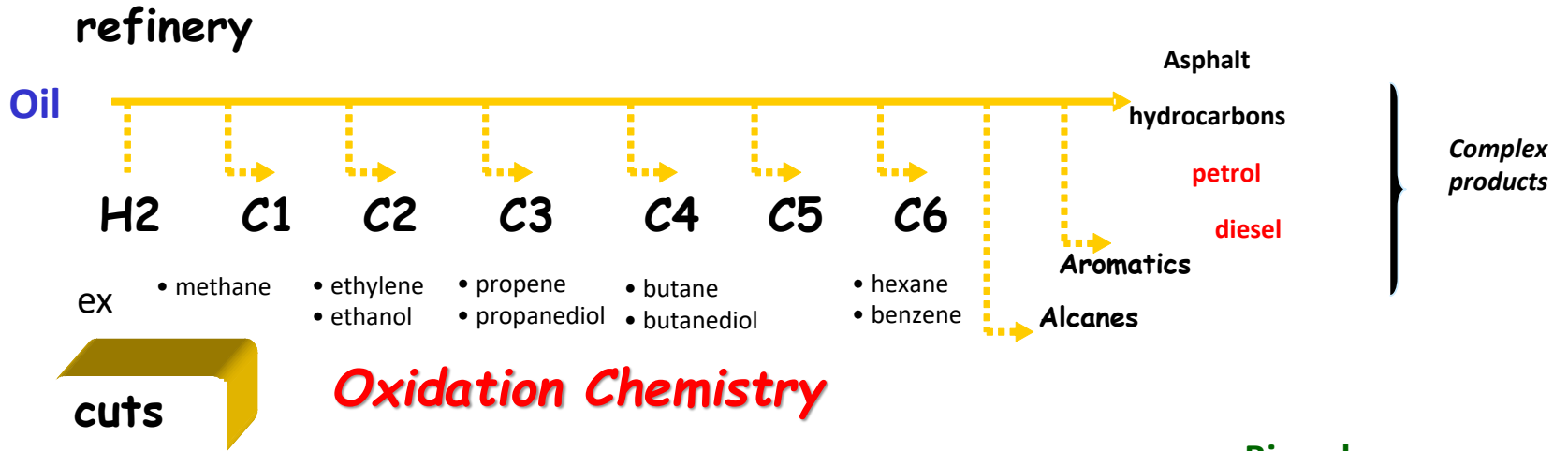


# Ressources prize volatility

Extracted 9/10/2019 from <https://markets.businessinsider.com>



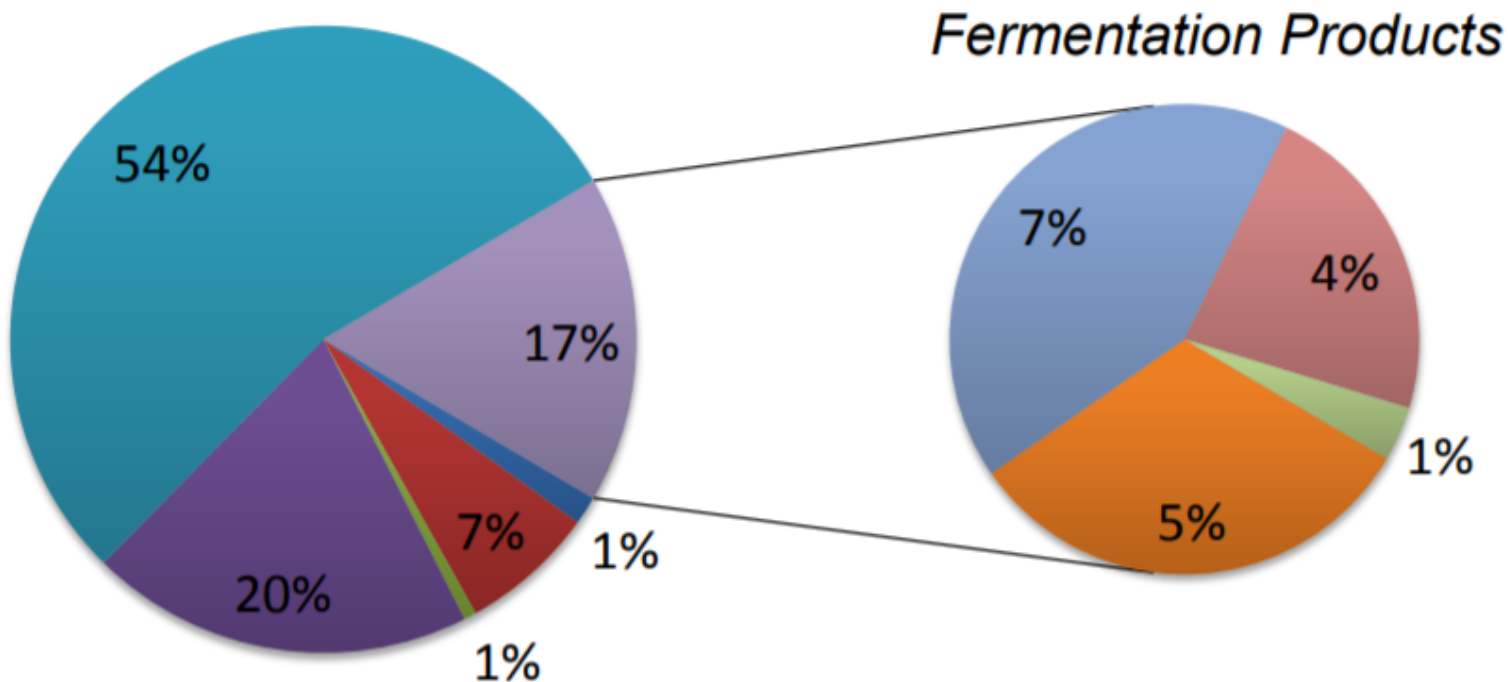
# Refinery to Biorefinery



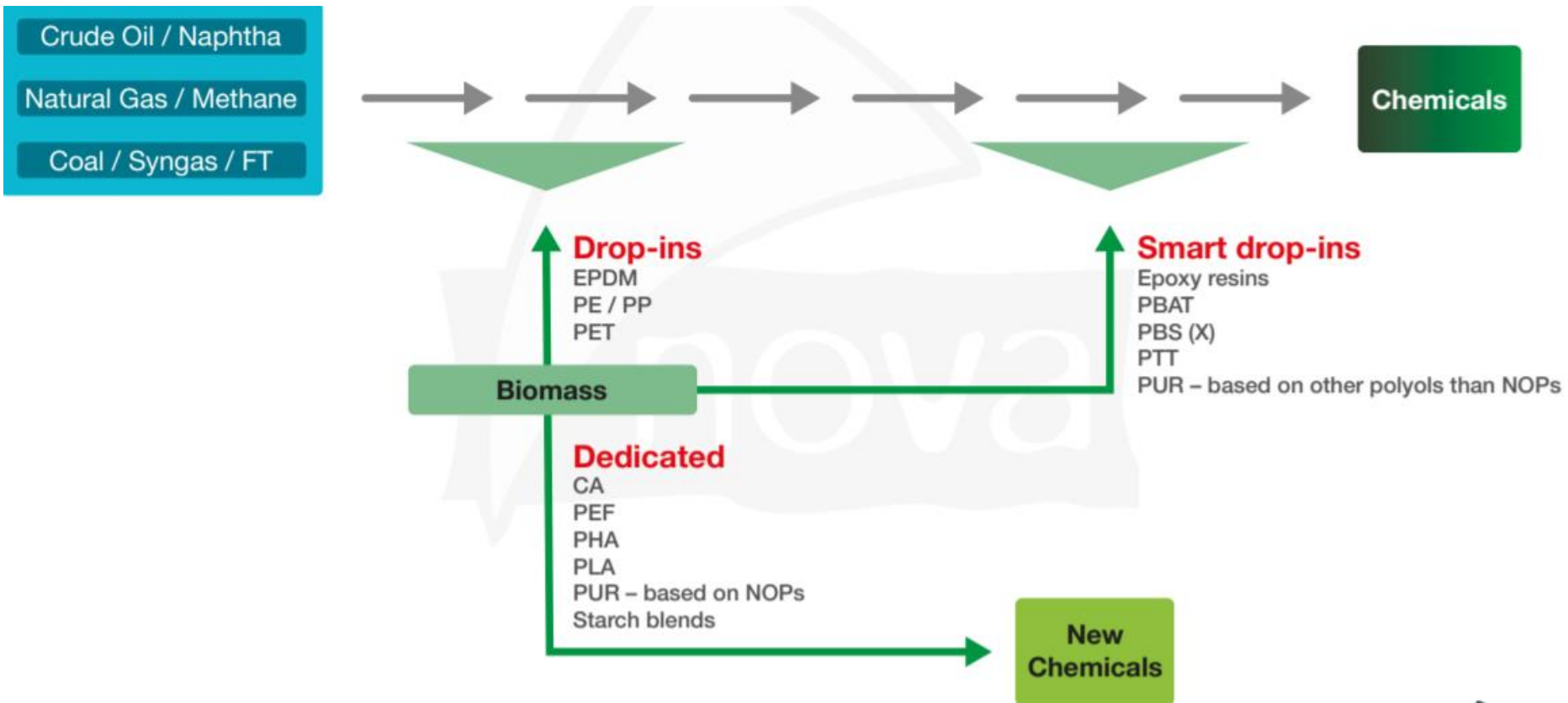
# Bio-sourced chemicals and polymers

Market size ~ 50 million tones

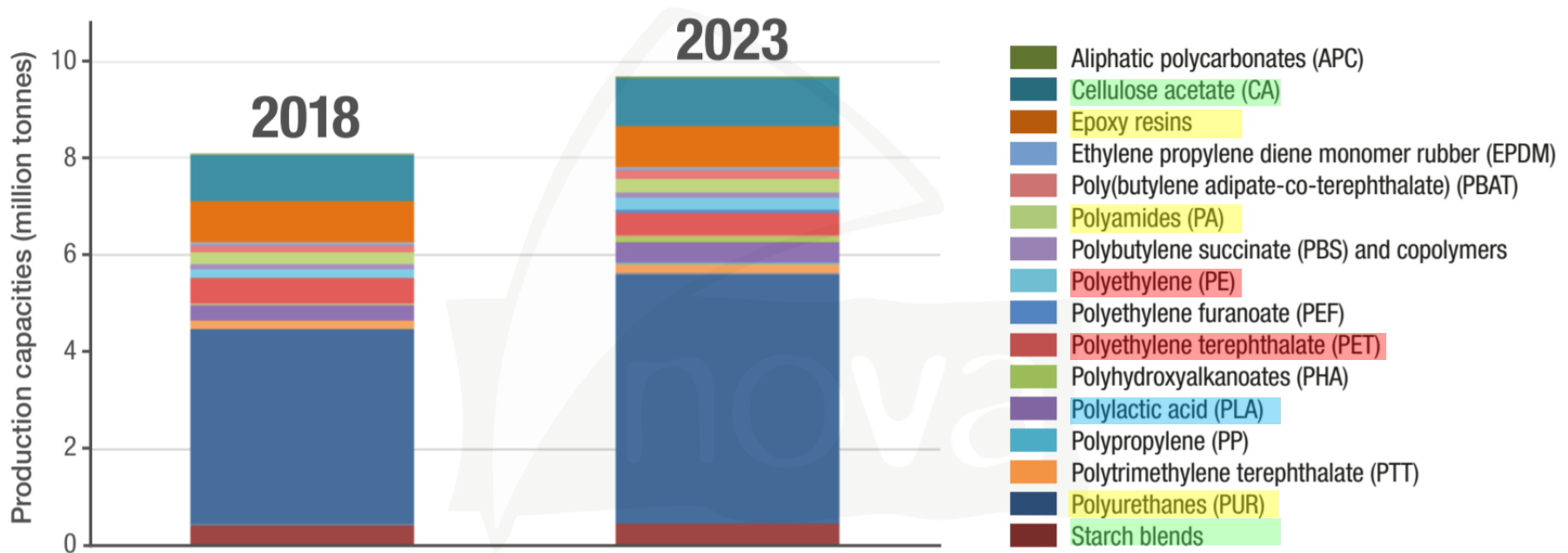
- Chemical Derivatives
- Naval Stores
- Natural Products
- Oleochemicals
- Biopolymers
- Amino Acids
- Alcohols
- Aliphatic acids
- Other



# Schematic differentiation of pathways of drop-in, smart drop-in and dedicated bio-based chemicals



# Worldwide production of bio-based polymers

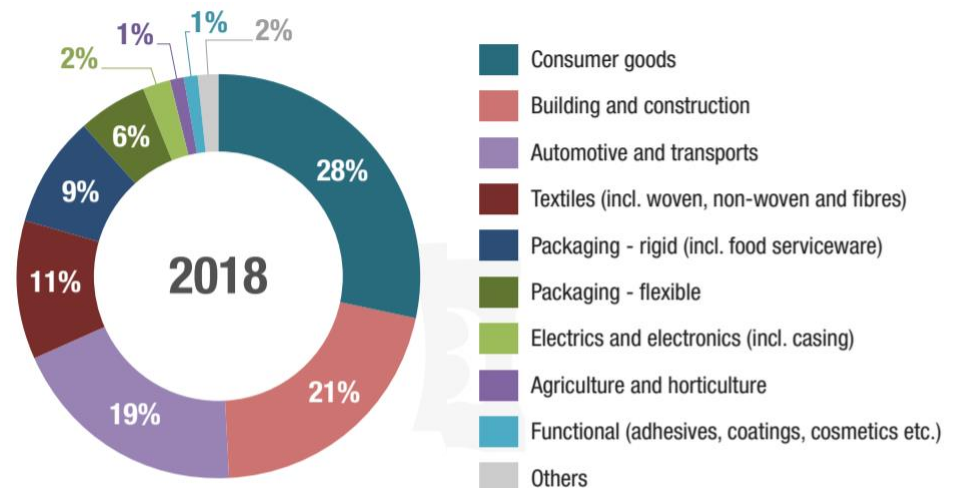
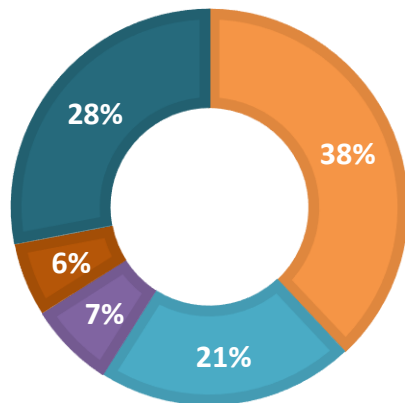


## Polymer applications

vs

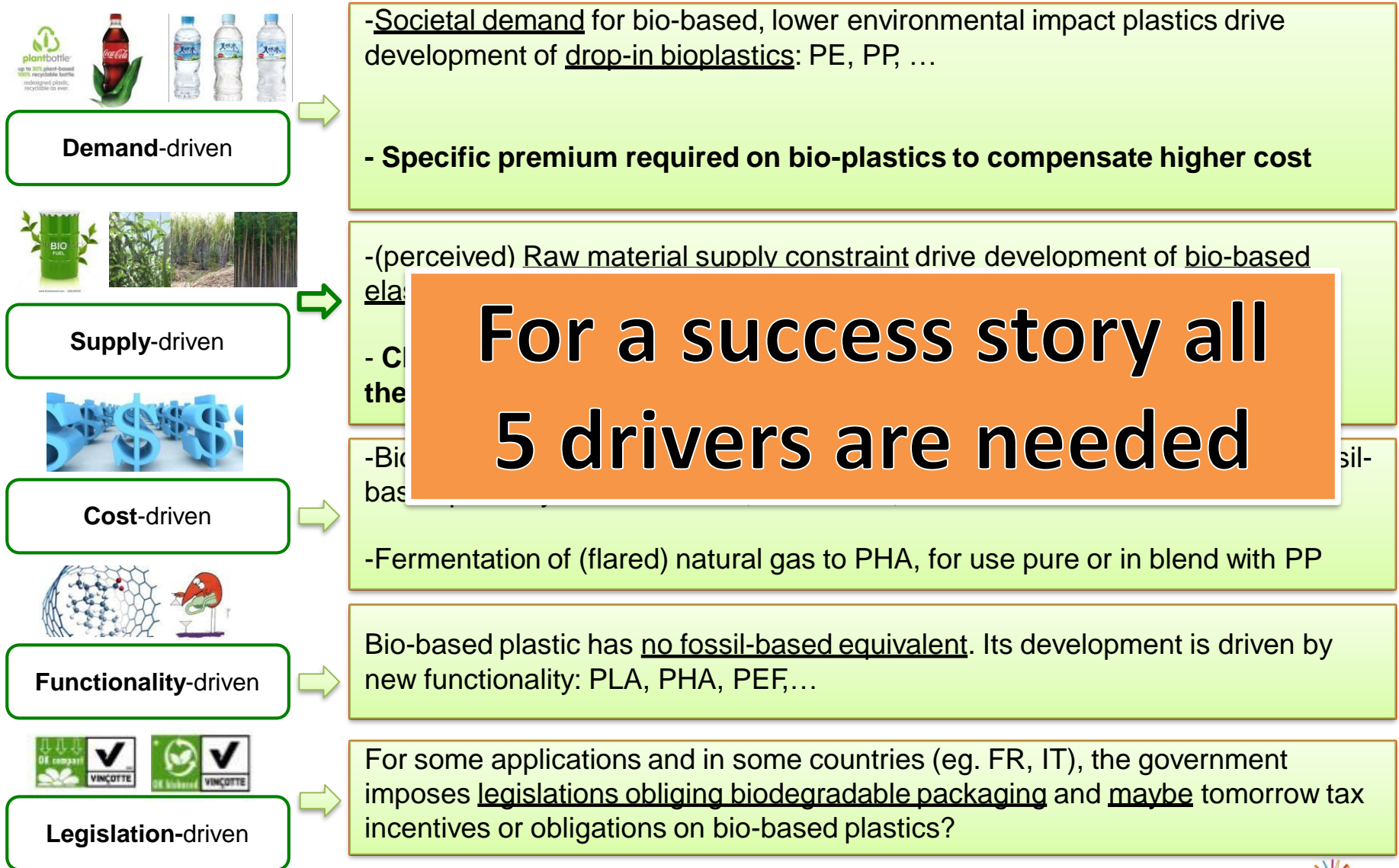
## bio-based polymer applications

- Packaging
- Building & Construction
- Automotive
- E & E
- Others

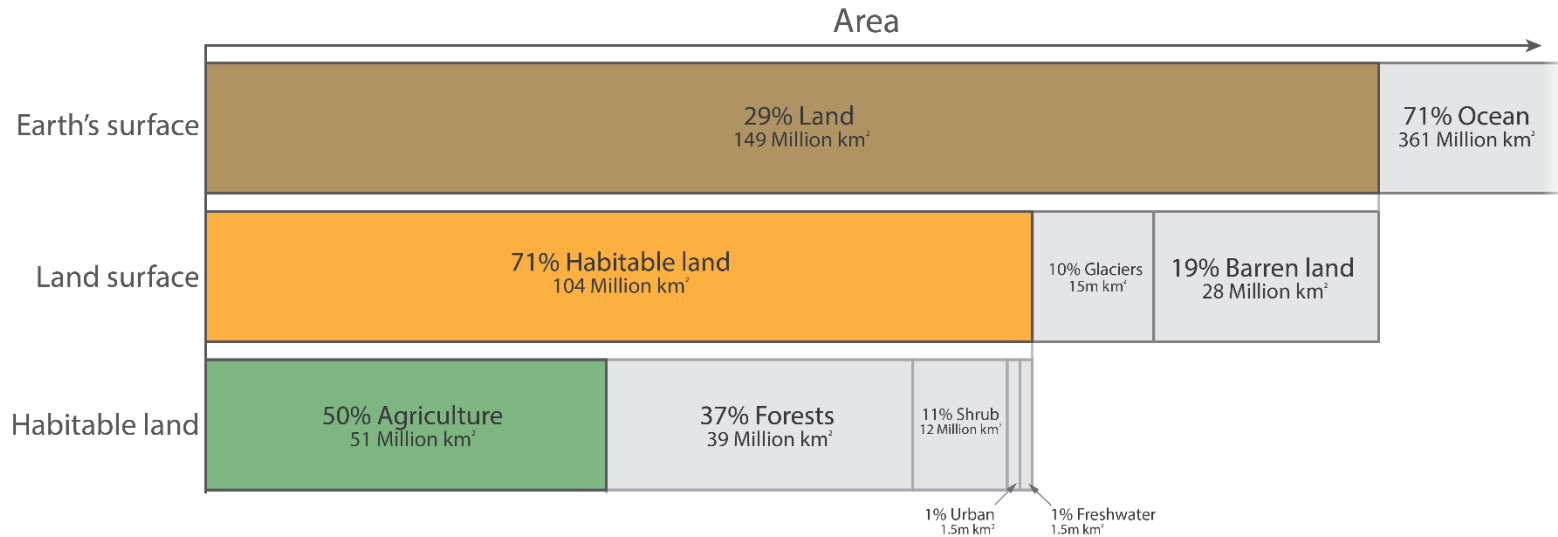


# Bio-based polymers : five drivers for development

Bio-based polymers development is driven by five main trends, combined or not:



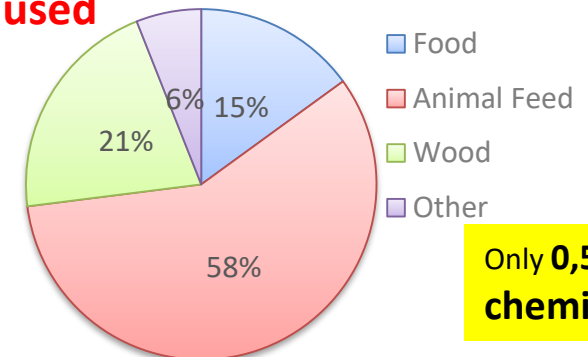
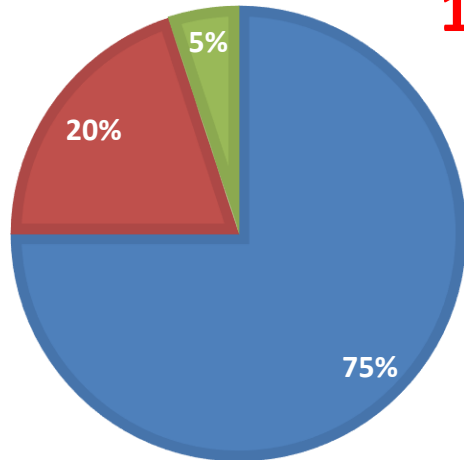
# Worldwide land use



**Biomass production ≈ 120 billions tons/year**  
(210 with algae)

**vs. 350 millions tons/y of polymers**

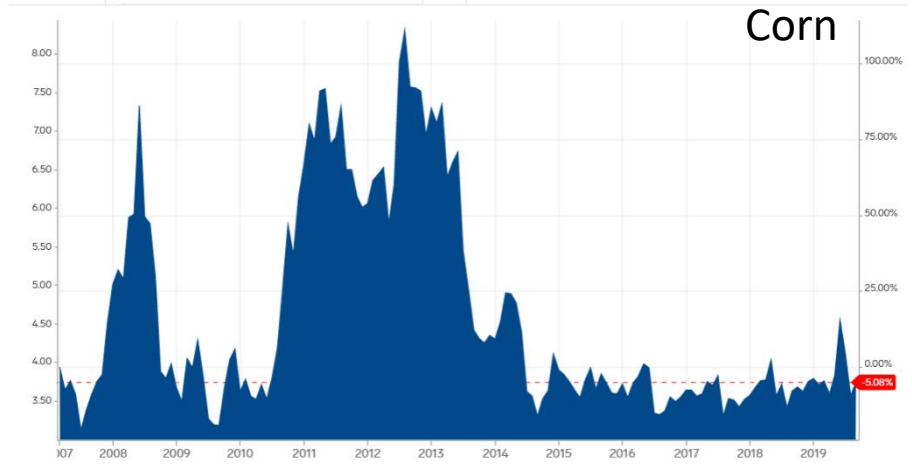
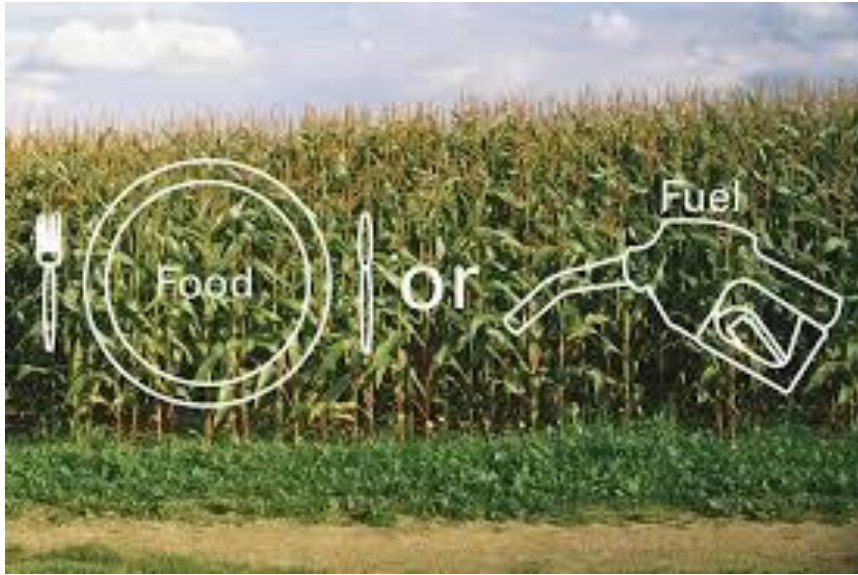
**10% of the biomass is used**



**Only 0,5% for chemicals**

Cellulose production ≈ 400 millions tons/year  
Less 1% of the worldwide cellulose production  
≈ 25% of the harvest wood

## Food vs Fuel



No impact on the price

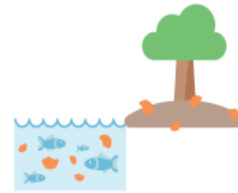
- *Can use crop wastes* (traditionnaly use as soil fertilizer)
- *Develop specific crops with high yield*

Crop	Oil content (%)	Oil yield (L/ha/year)
Corn	3.1–5.7	172
Soybean	18–22	446
Canola/Mustard	40–45	1190
Jatropha	20–40	1892
Coconut	17	2689
Oil palm	23	5950
Microalgae	30 (min. scenario)	58,700
Microalgae	70 (max. scenario)	136,900

Petroleum consumption in France **10 GL/y**  
**100 kha** of microalgae needed  
**2 ‰** of France surface



1- Why ?



2- How ?

→ Biomass transformation to platform chemicals

**3- Bio-based plastics from natural polymers**

4- Drop-ins: Bio-based alternative to fossil-based polymers

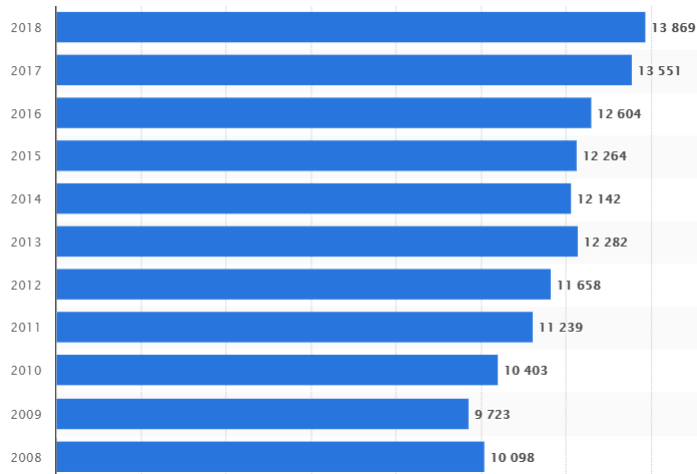
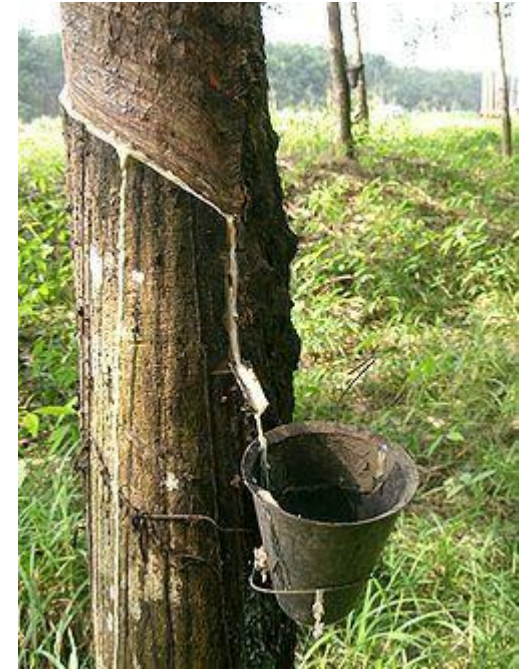
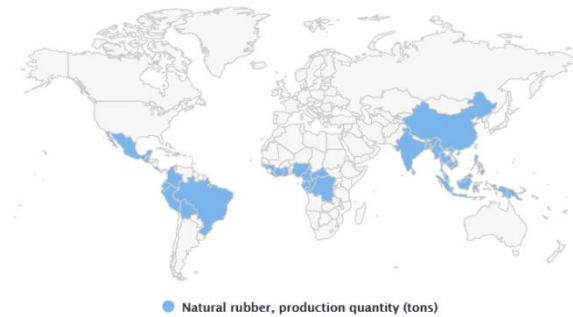
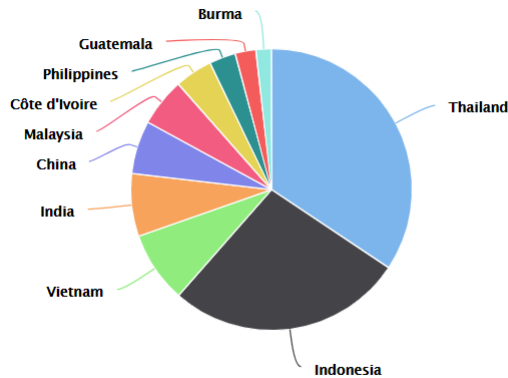
5- Smart drop-ins: Bio-based derivative of “fossil” polymers

6- New polymers from biomass

7- Conclusions and perspectives

## Natural rubber from latex

- Rubber products : polyisoprene 1,4-cis  
13.9 Mt (2018)



Production increase is too slow for the worldwide demands

→ Other sources

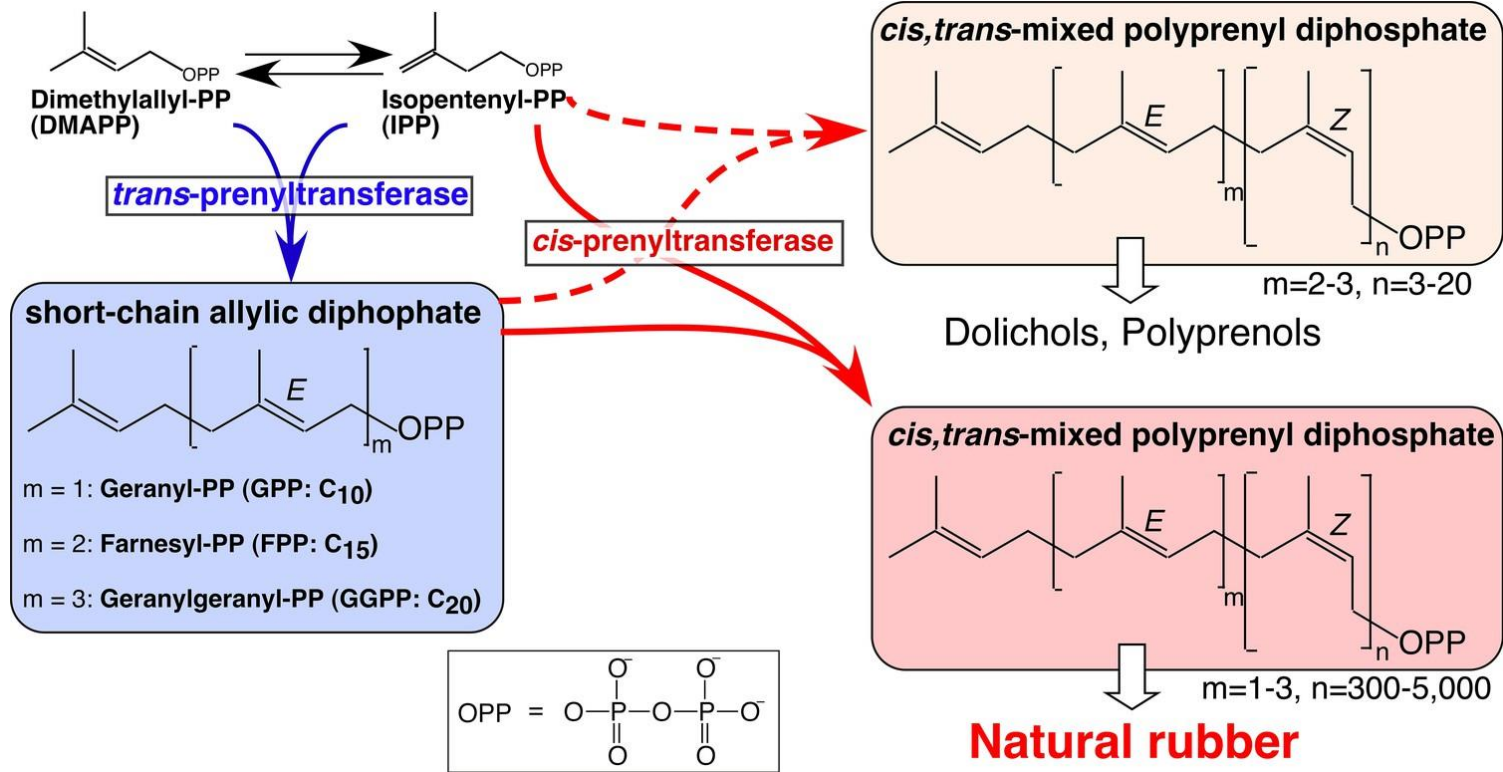
**Synthetic polyisoprene: 15.6 Mt (2018)**



shutterstock.com • 436160047

## Natural rubber from latex

### Biosynthesis pathway of natural rubber



Impossible to obtain by regular polymerization processes  
 → Enzymatic pathway

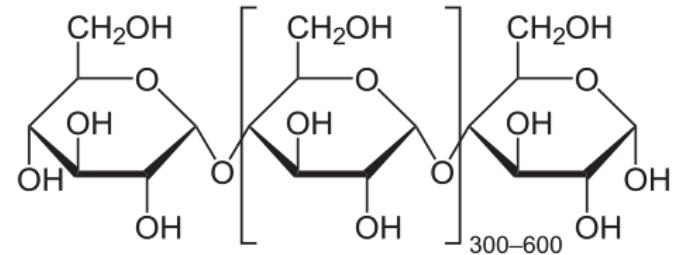
## Starch based polymers

### Starch blend with different polymers

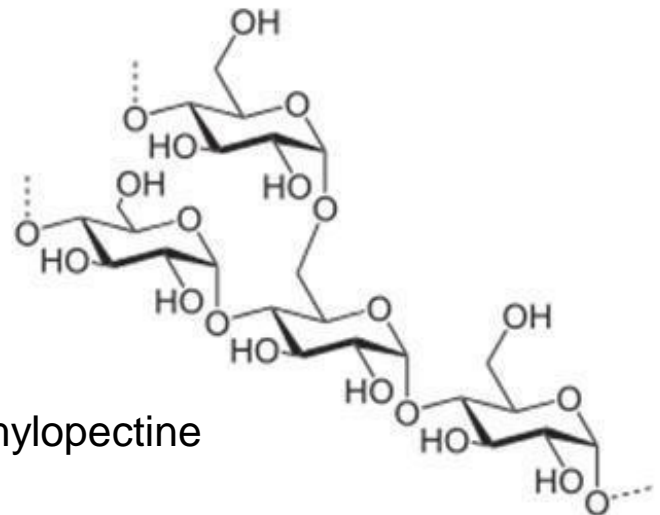
400 Kt (1Mt for the blend)

- Starch in blends with polyesters
  - Polycaprolactone
  - Poly(butylene adipate-co-terephthalate) (PBAT)
  - Poly(butylene azelate) (PBAZ)
  - PLA, PHA, PBS, ...
- Starch acetate in alloys with Polyolefins

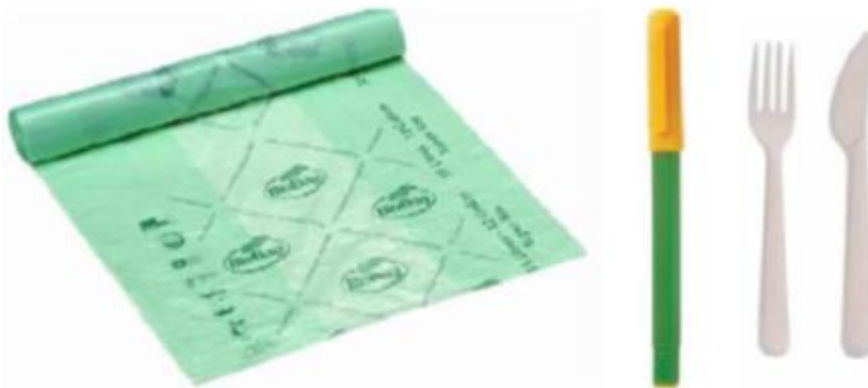
**Bio-based Carbon content : 25 to 100 %**



Amylose

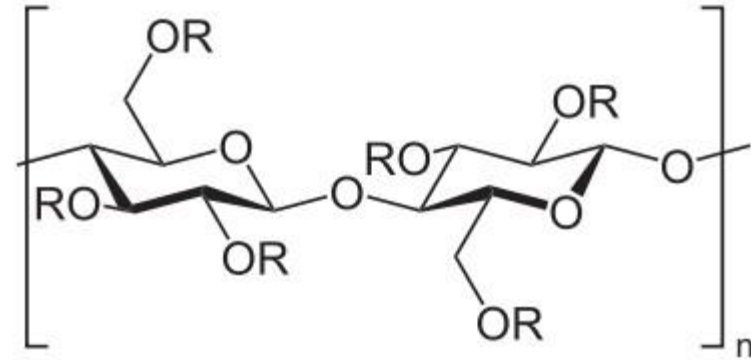
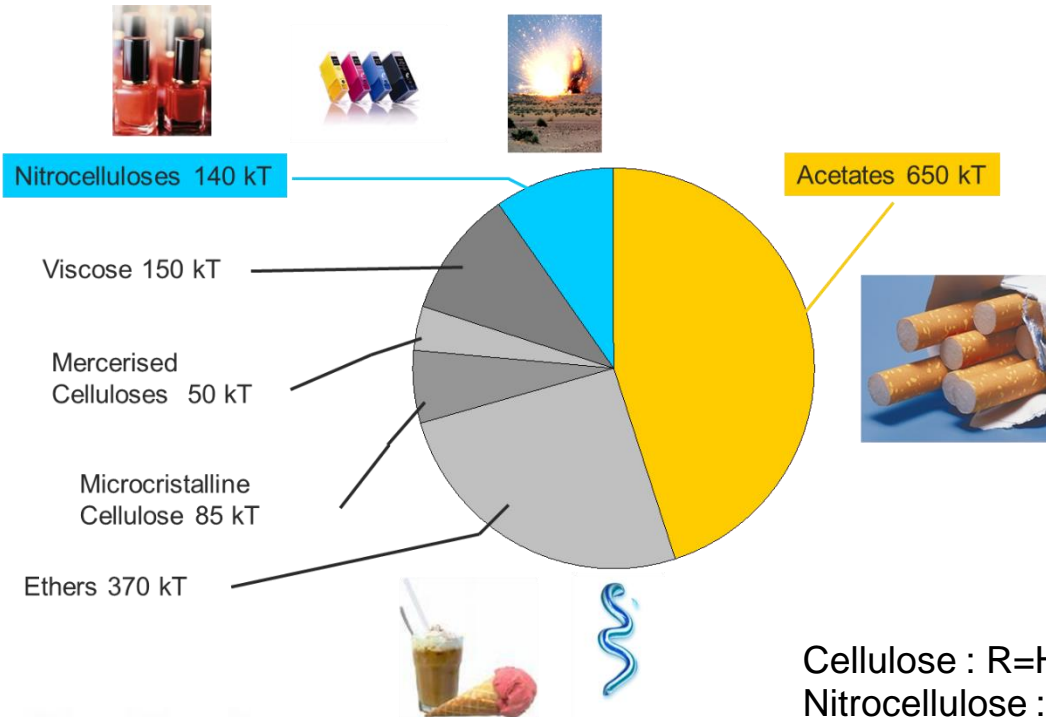


Amylopectine



## Cellulose-based polymers

Mature market with small growth (1.5Mt)



Cellulose : R=H

Nitrocellulose : R=H & NO<sub>2</sub>

Cellulose acetate : R=CH<sub>3</sub>CO

Cellulose acetate/butyrate : R=CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CO

Hydrophilic cellulose ethers: R=CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH; CH<sub>2</sub>CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)OH;

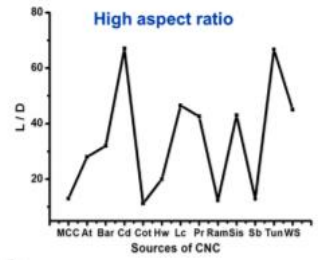
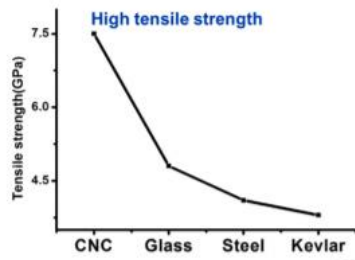
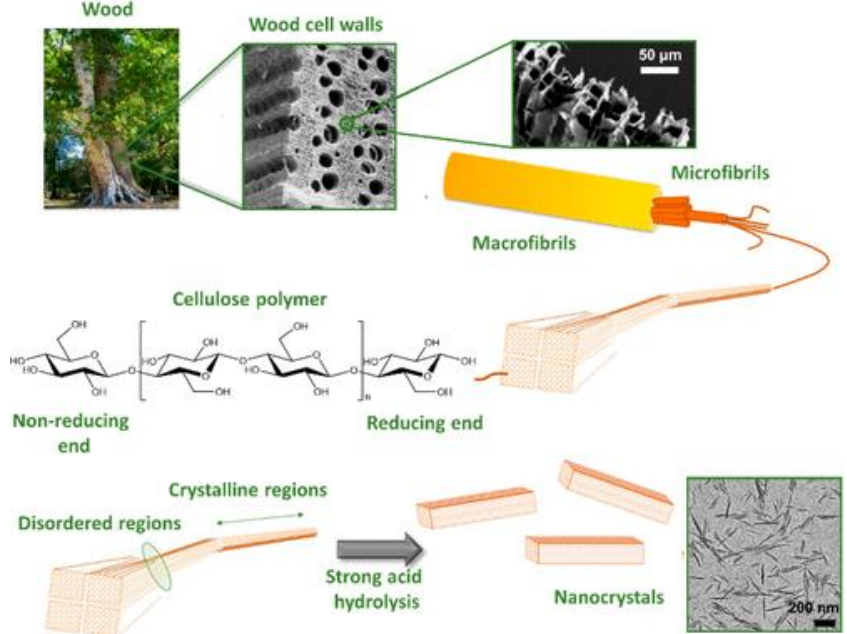
CH<sub>2</sub>COOH



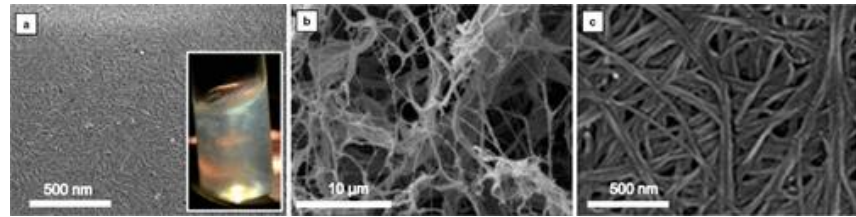
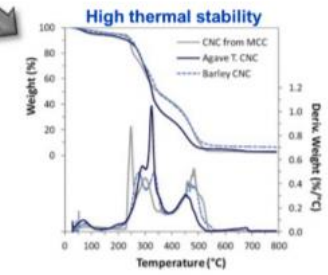
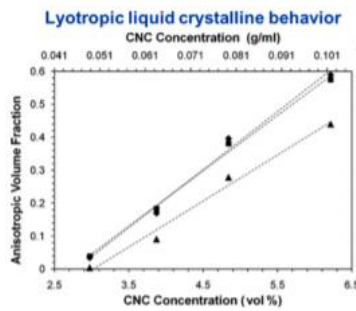
**Not a thermoplastic**

## Cellulose-based polymers

### Emerging application



**Cellulose nanocrystals**

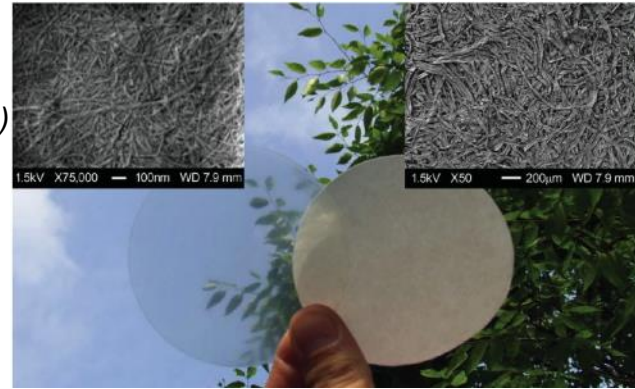


CNC

CNF

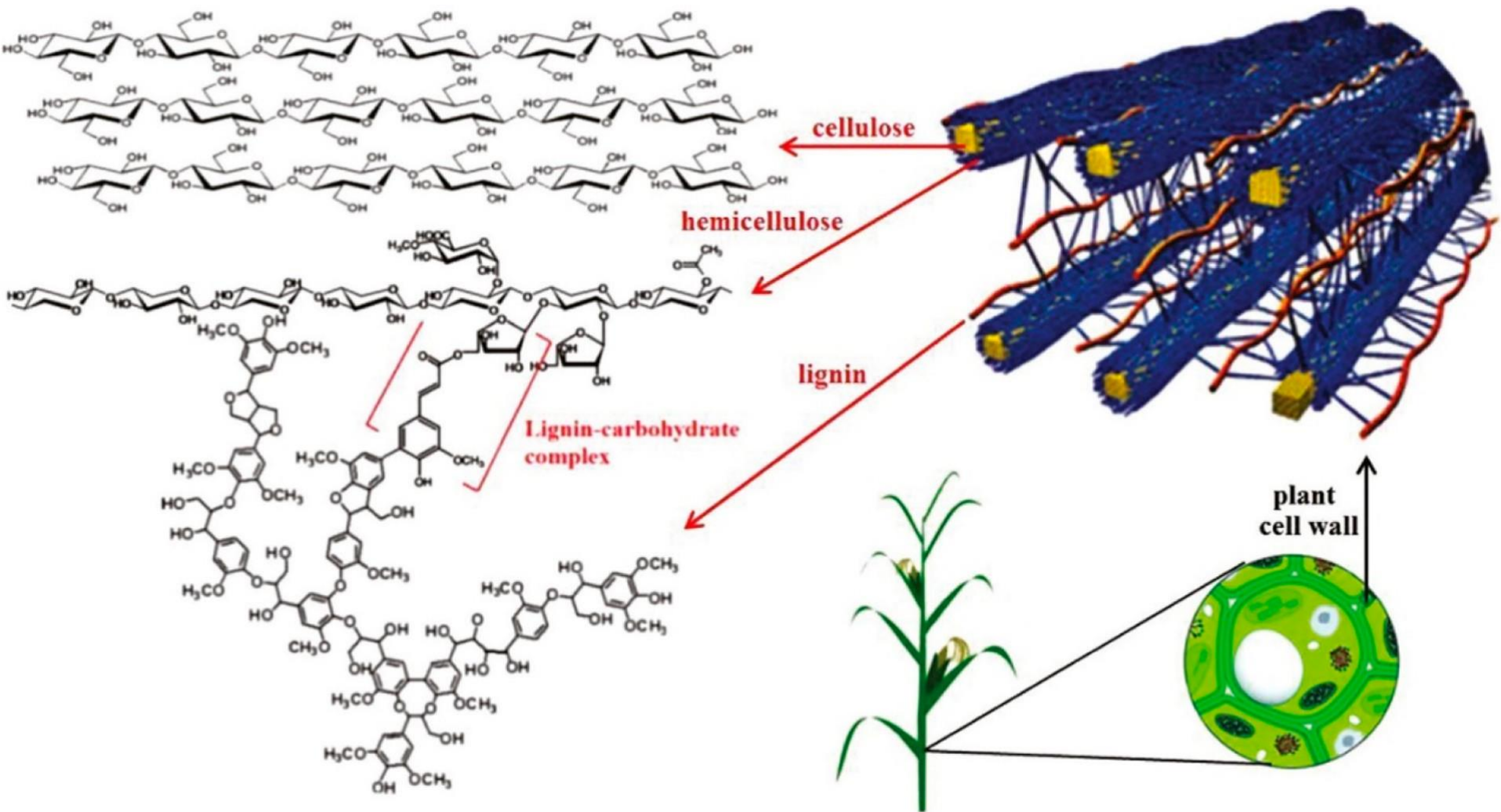
BC

CNC (100 nm)



CF (200 μm)

## Other polymers

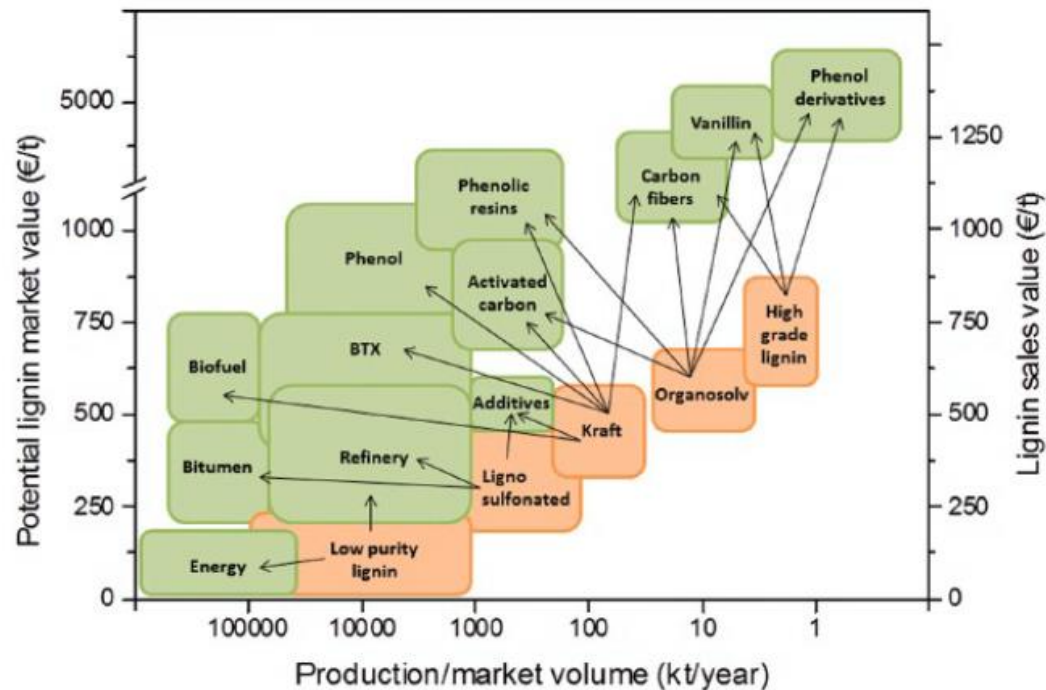
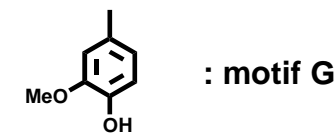
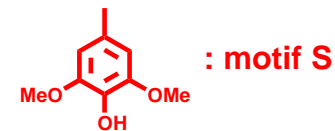
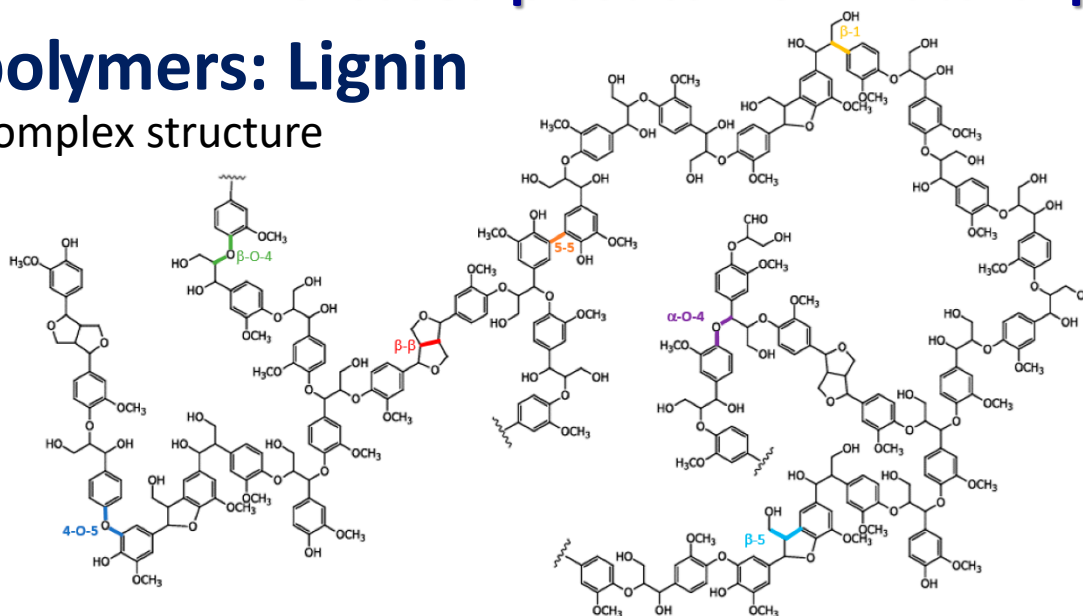


# Bio-based plastics from natural polymers

## Other polymers: Lignin

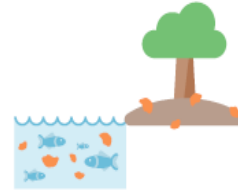
Extremely complex structure

500 kt





1- Why ?



2- How ?

→ Biomass transformation to platform chemicals

3- **Bio-based plastics from natural polymers**

*Cellulose, lignin, Natural rubber*

4- **Drop-ins: Bio-based alternative to fossil-based polymers**

5- Smart drop-ins: Bio-based derivative of “fossil” polymers

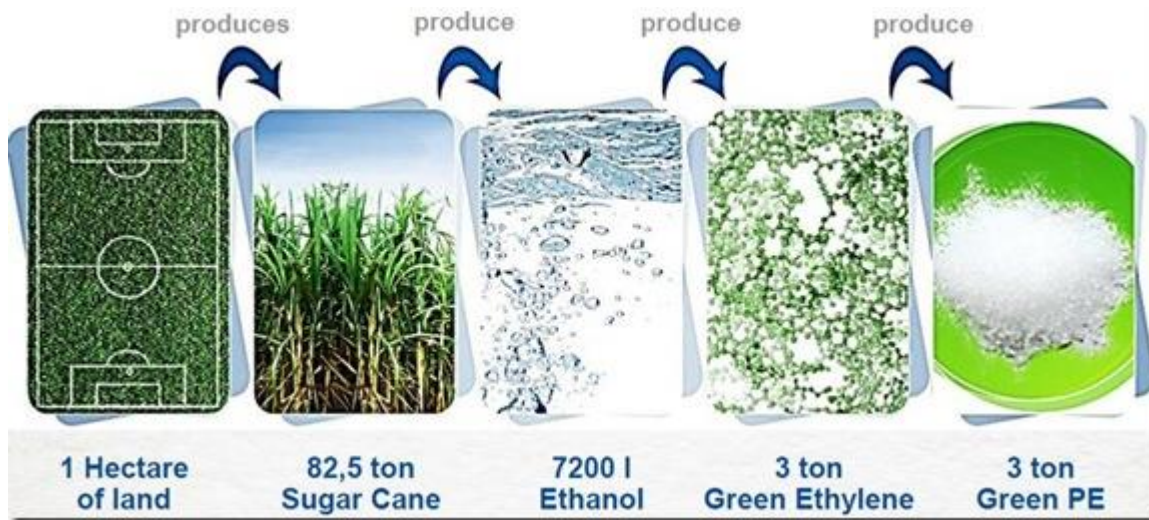
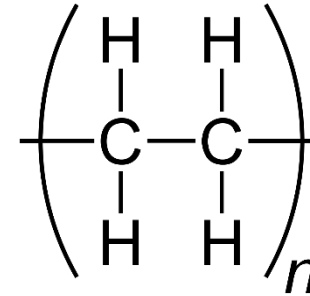
6- New polymers from biomass

7- Conclusions and perspectives

## Polyethylene (PE)

200 Kt

- Industrial plant in Brazil (Braskem)
- Premium value on the market due to bio-origin
- Too expensive outside Brazil



**-3.09 kgCO<sub>2</sub>e/kg**

(vs 1.96 kgCO<sub>2</sub>e/kg)

**27 Mha**



vs. **80 Mt** of PE

¼ of the habitable land !!!

## Polyethylene terephthalate (PET)

600 Kt

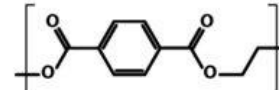
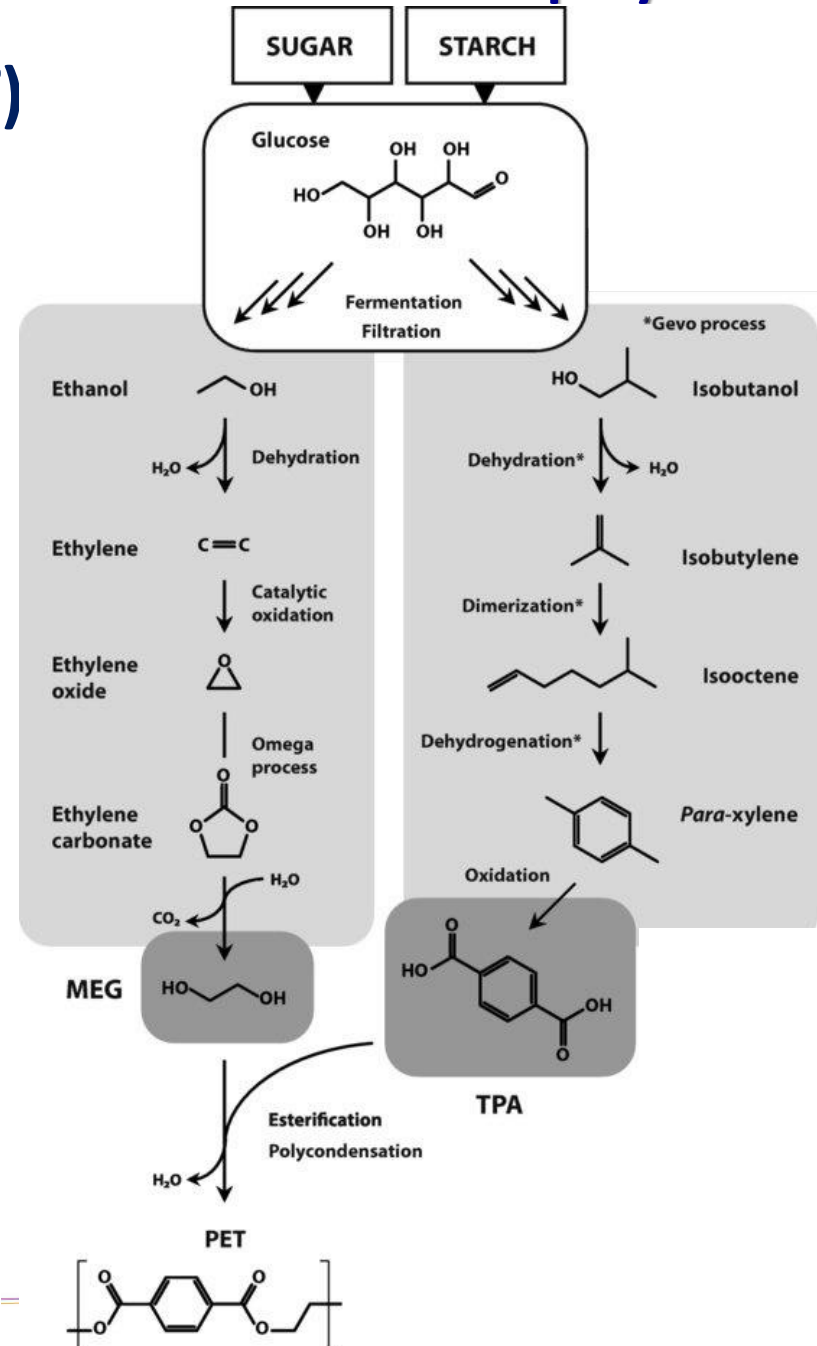
Most bio-based PET are only **30%** (20%) bio-based

Since 2015, Coca-Cola company produce **100%** bio-based  
by 2020 all their PET bottles will be 100% bio-based



**4 kgCO<sub>2</sub>e/kg**

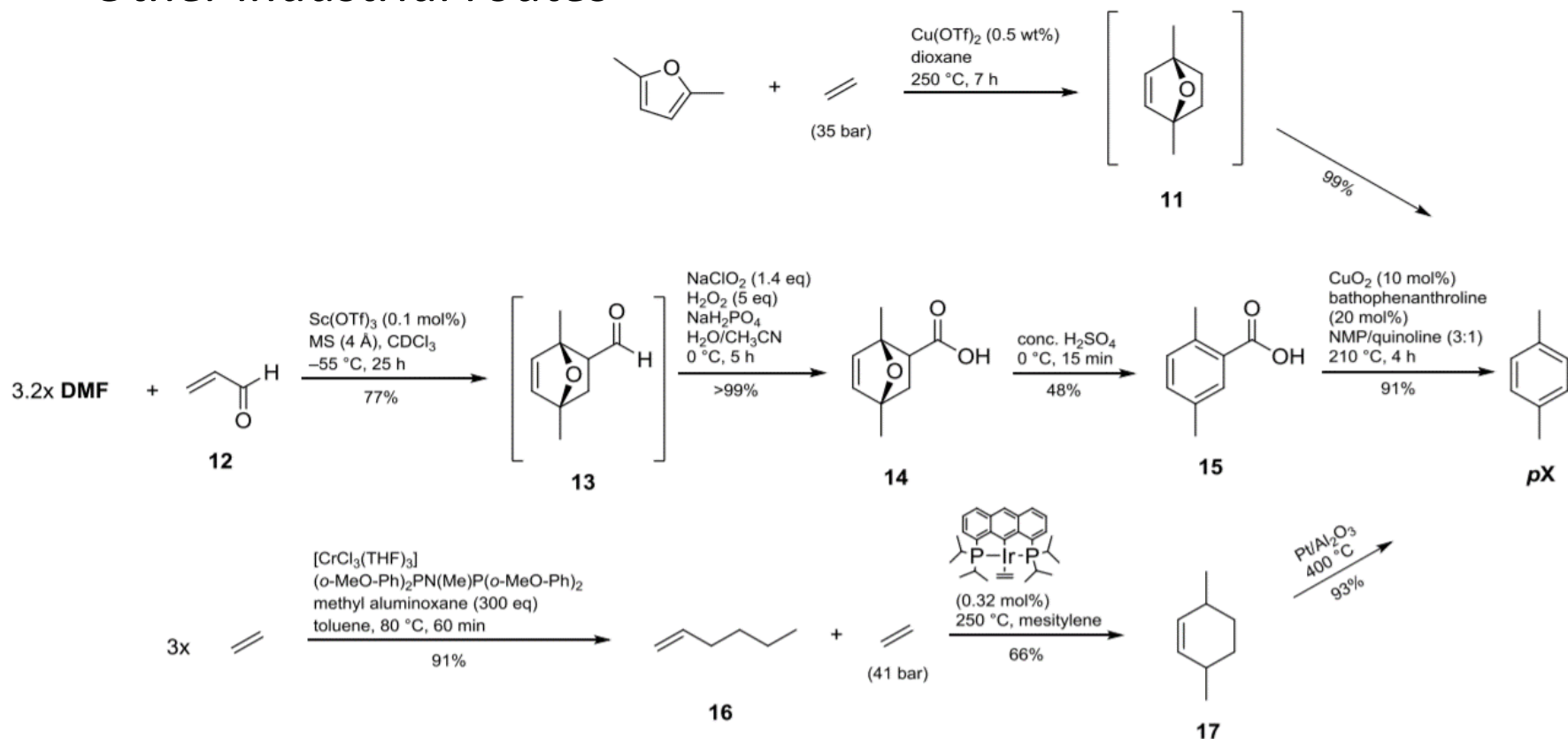
(vs 2.73 kgCO<sub>2</sub>e/kg)



## Polyethylene terephthalate (PET)

Other routes to terephthalic acid:

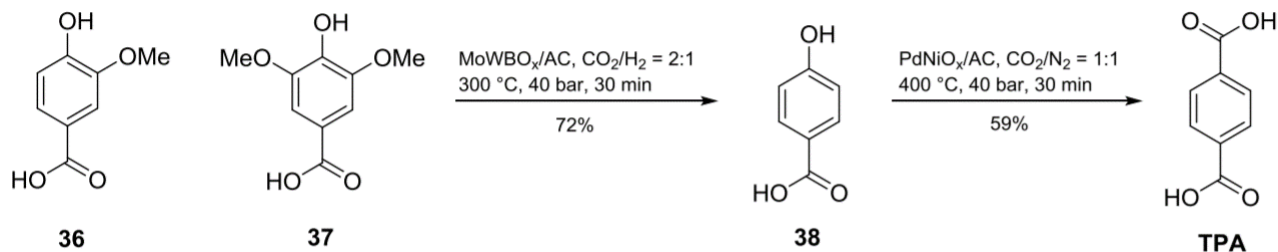
### Other industrial routes



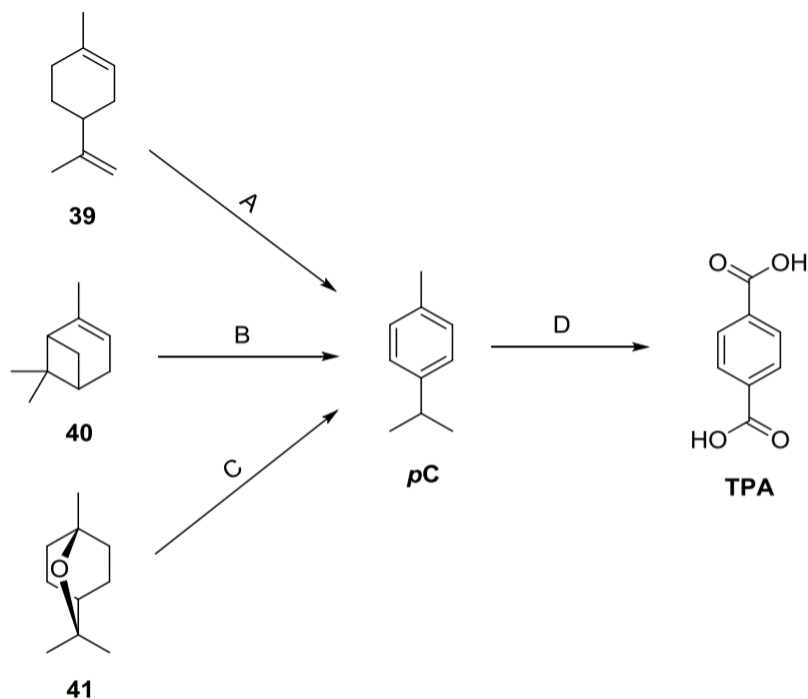
## Polyethylene terephthalate (PET)

Other routes to terephthalic acid:

Lignin



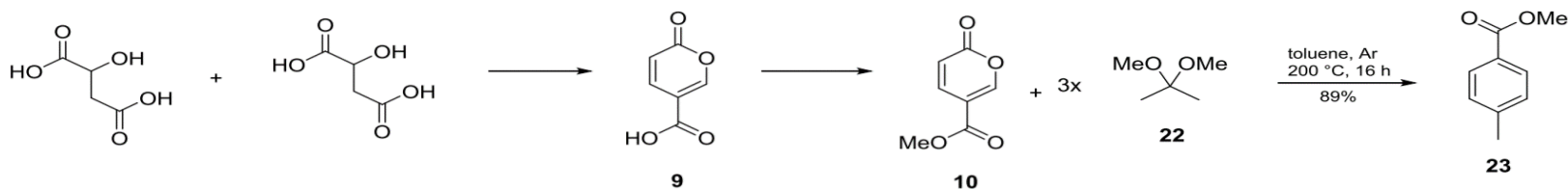
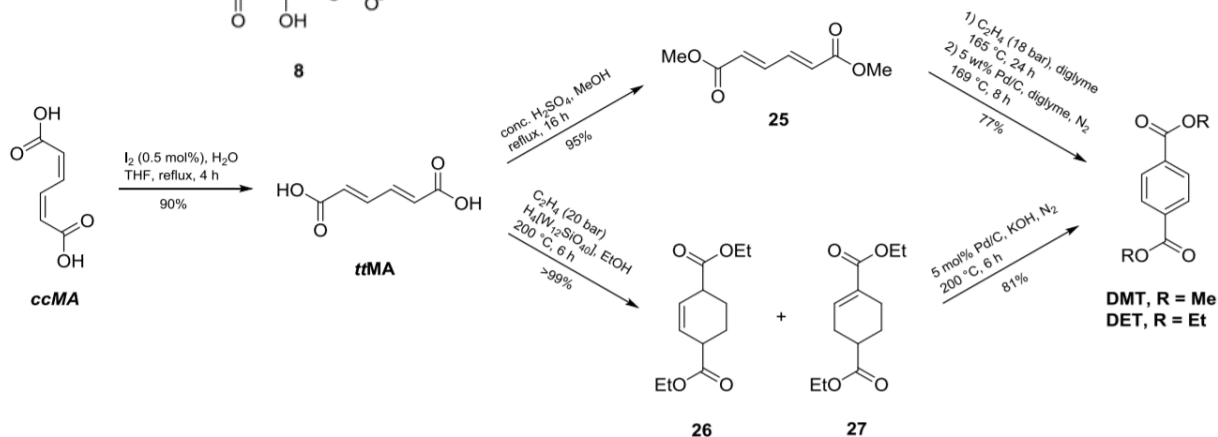
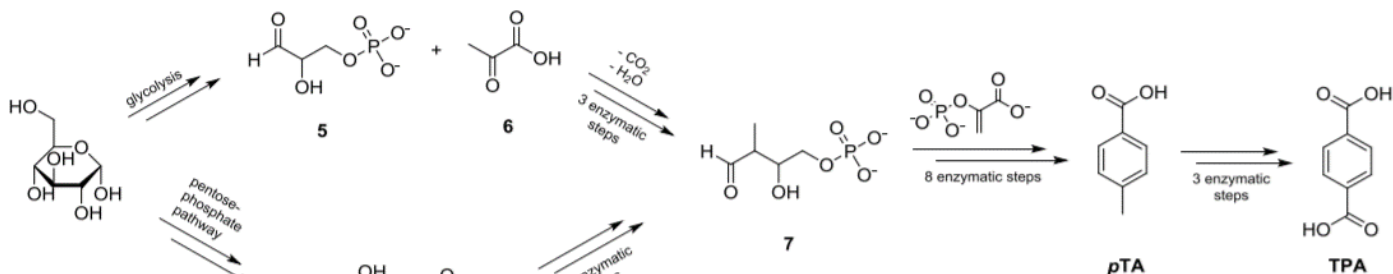
Terpens



## Polyethylene terephthalate (PET)

Other routes to terephthalic acid:

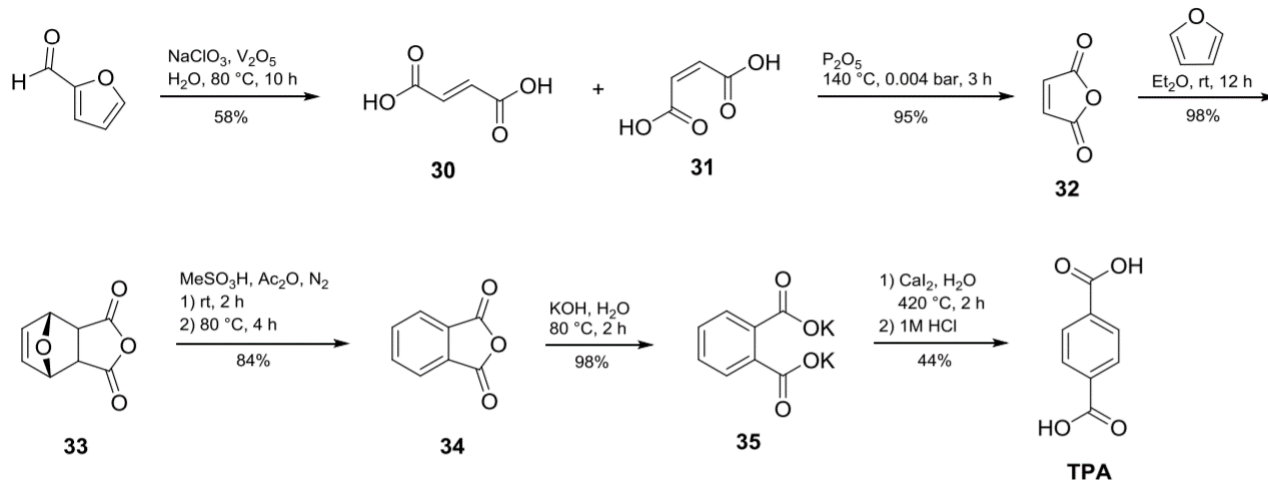
Sugars (C6)



## Polyethylene terephthalate (PET)

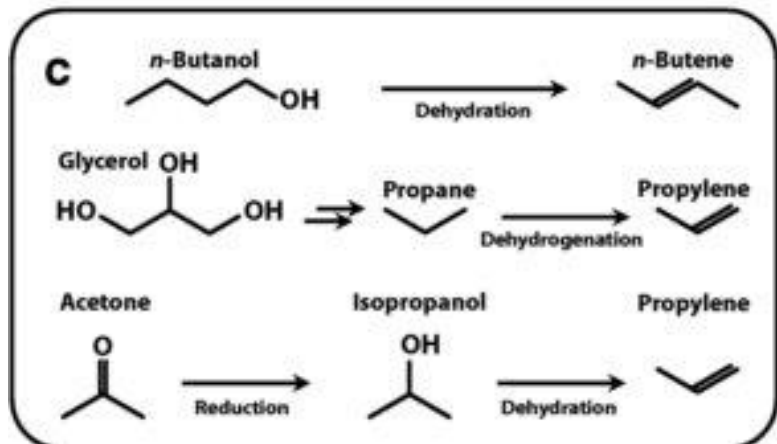
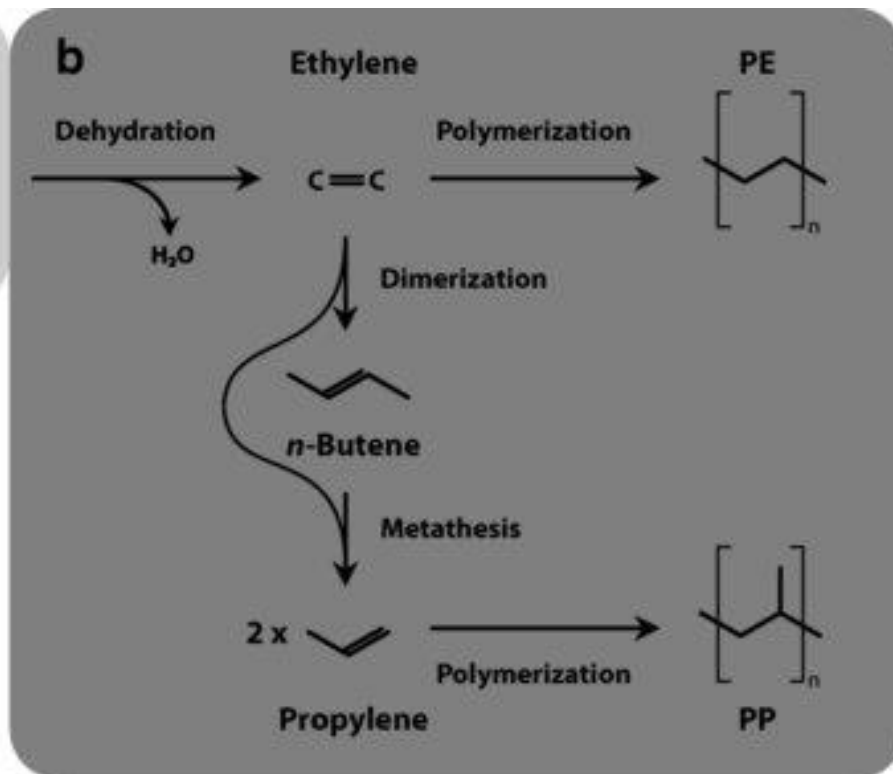
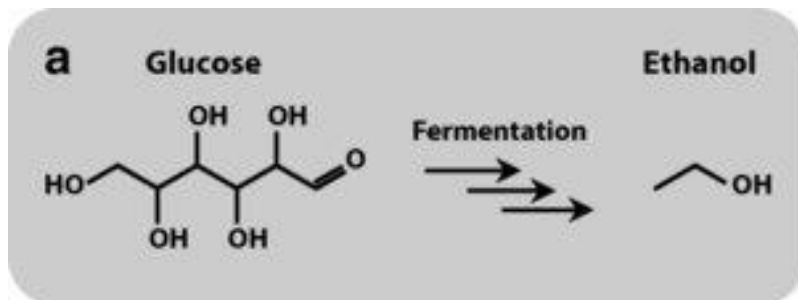
Other routes to terephthalic acid:

### Sugars (C5)



## Polypropylene (PP)

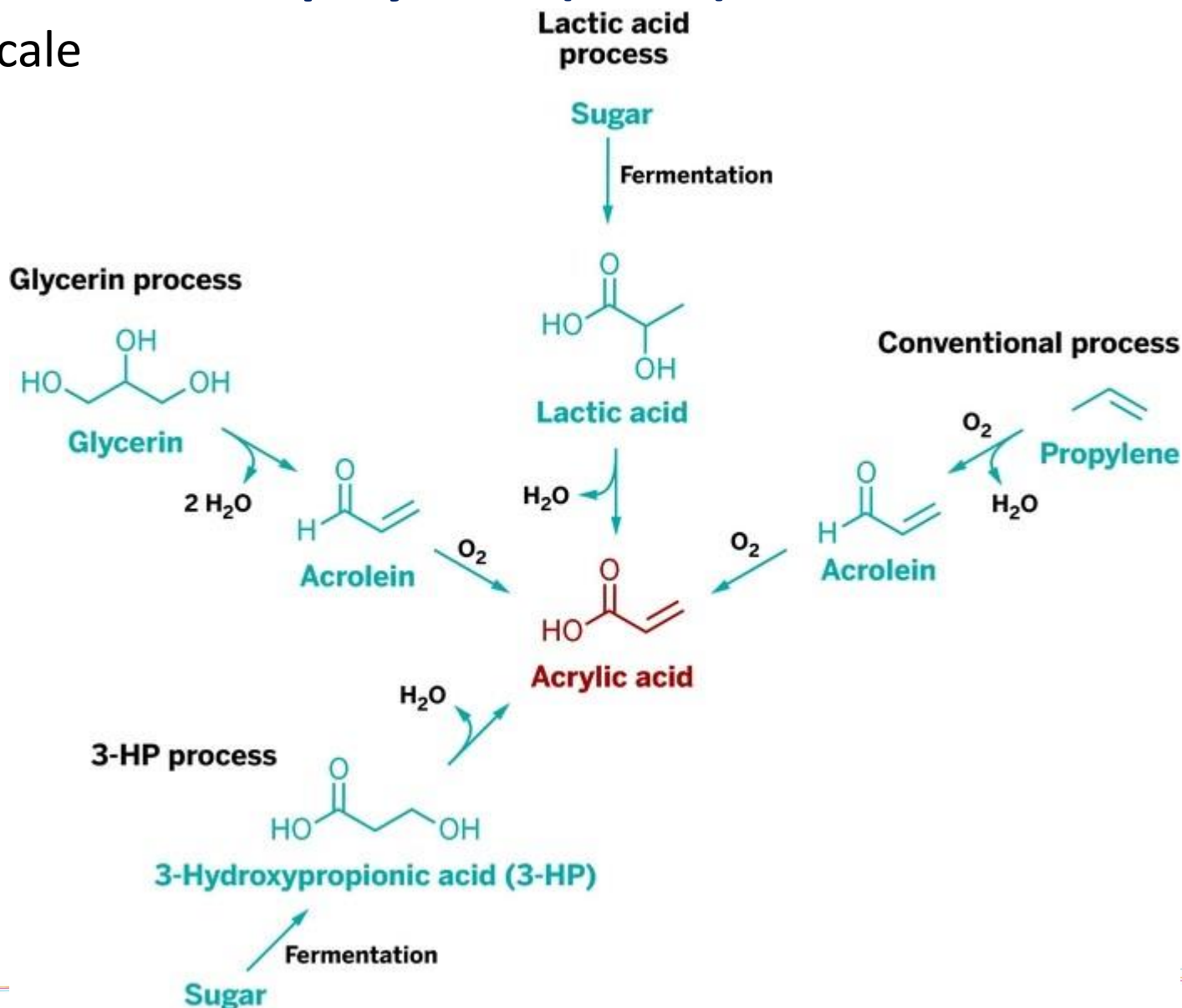
20 kt





## Super Absorbent polymers (SAP's)

Pilot scale

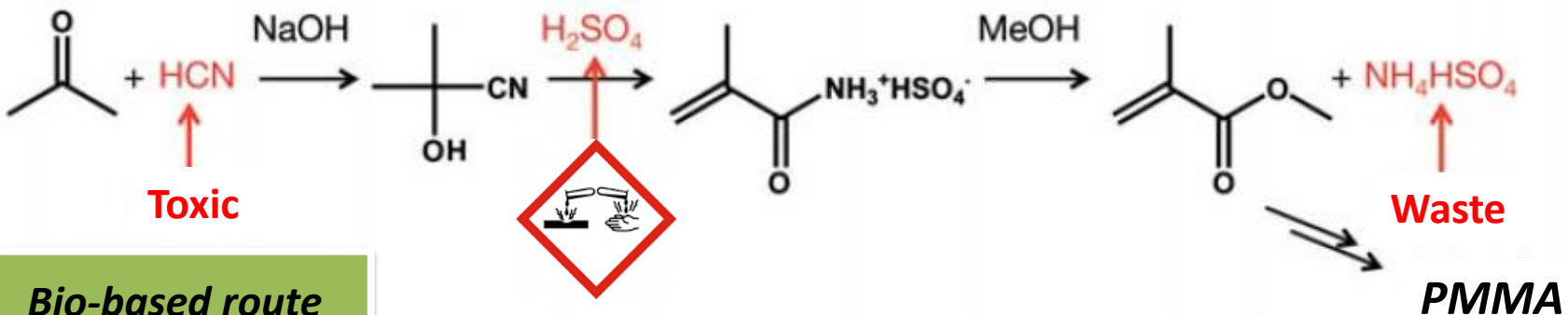


# Drop-ins: Bio-based alternative to fossil-based polymers

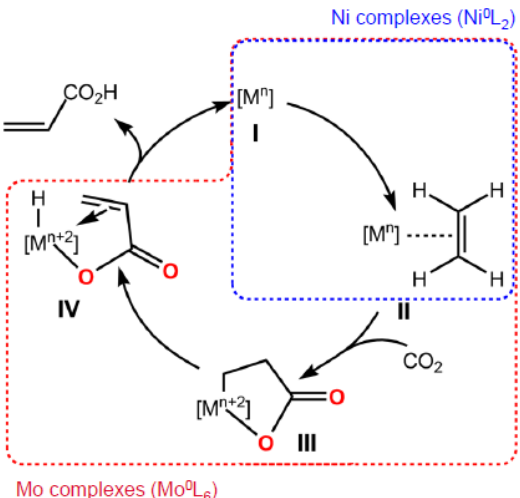
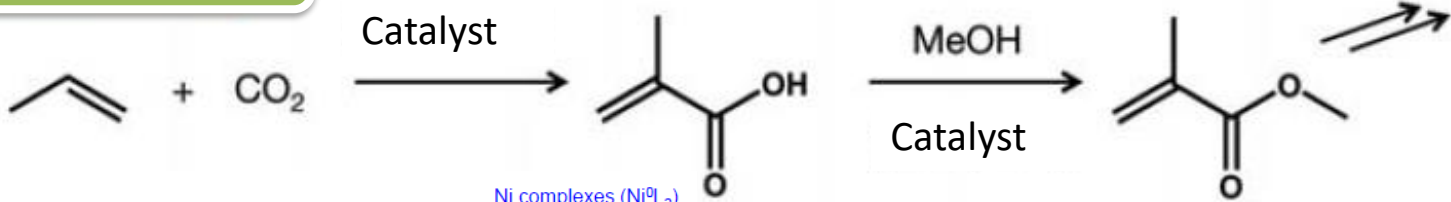
## Poly(methyl methacrylate) (PMMA)

Pilot scale

**Traditional route**

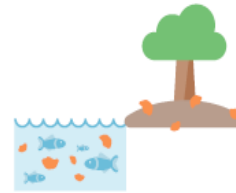


**Bio-based route**



- Greener ✓
- Safer ✓
- Bio-based ✓

1- Why ?



2- How ?

→ Biomass transformation to platform chemicals

3- Bio-based plastics from natural polymers

*Cellulose, Natural rubber*

4- Drop-ins: Bio-based alternative to fossil-based polymers

*PE, PET*

5- Smart drop-ins: Bio-based derivative of “fossil” polymers

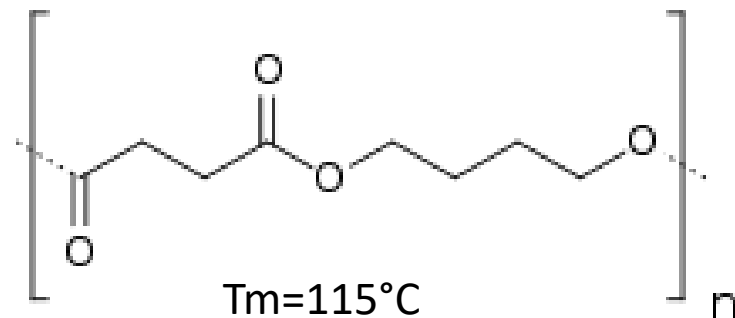
6- New polymers from biomass

7- Conclusions and perspectives

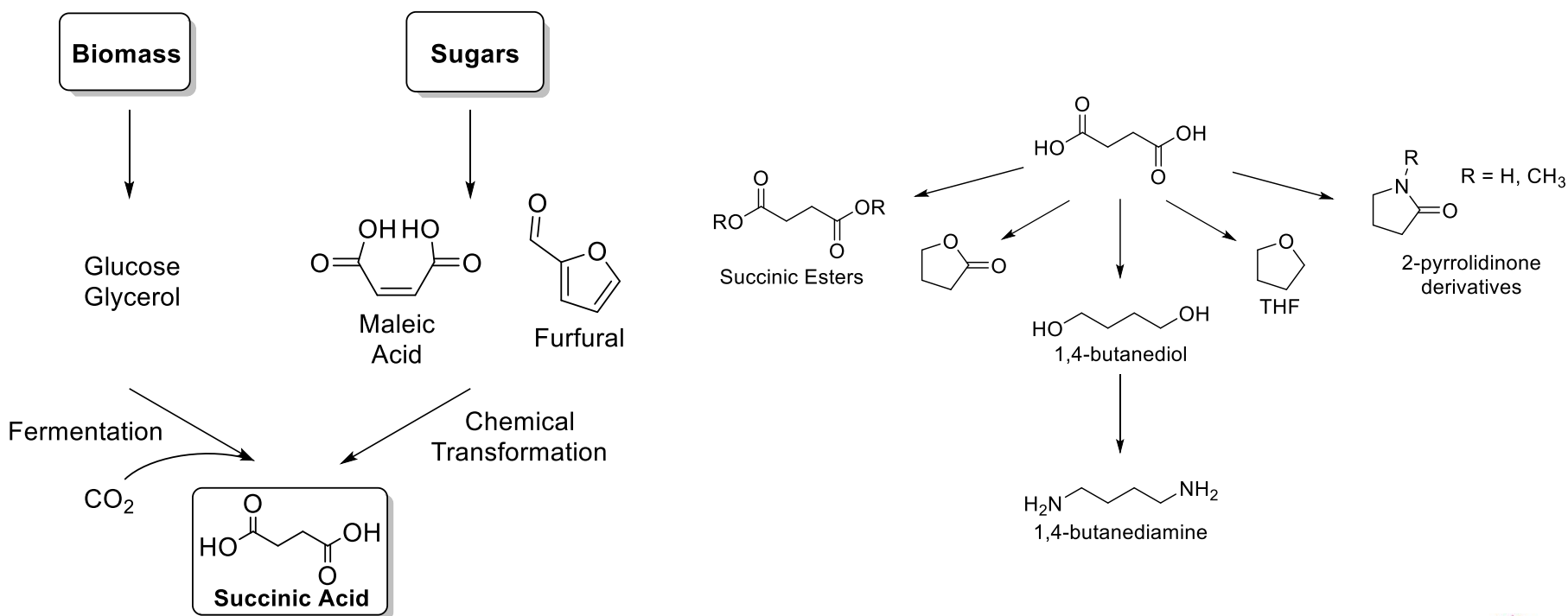
## Polybutylene succinate (PBS)

100 kt

*Bio-based succinic acid cost  $\approx$  fossil*



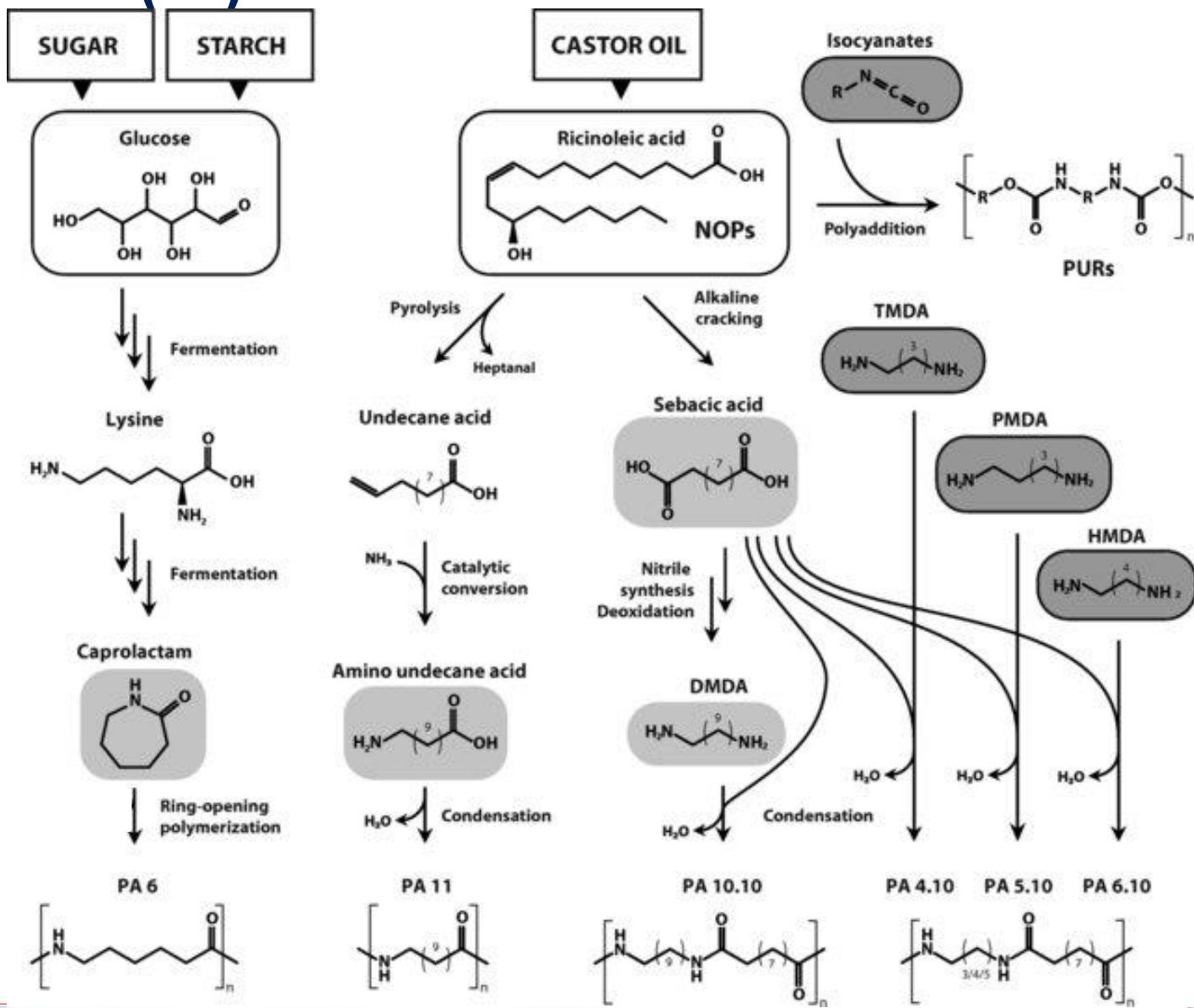
PBS polyethylene-like properties + biodegradable





## Polyamides (PA)

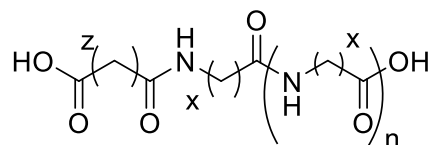
200 kt



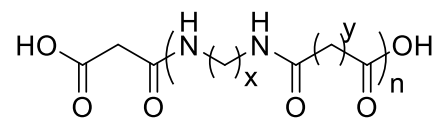
## Polyamides (PA)

Stiffness ↑  
↓ Hydrophobicity

- Polyamide
- PA 6
  - PA 6-10
  - PA 11
  - PA 12



or



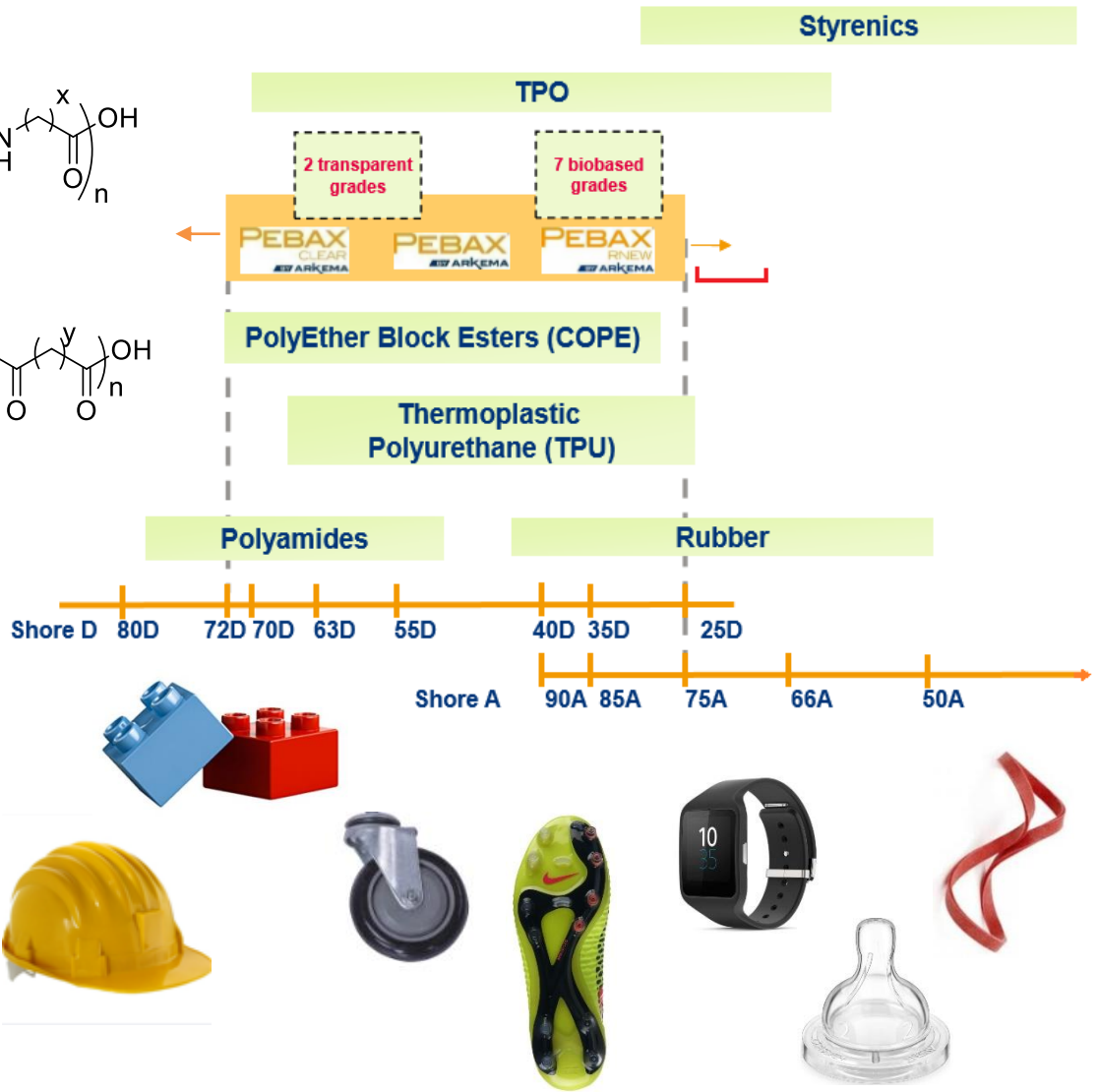
+

Polycondensation

Polyether

↓ Elasticity

- PEG
- PPG
- PTMO







## Epoxy

- ▶ 75% of epoxy are derived from Bisphenol-A (BPA)



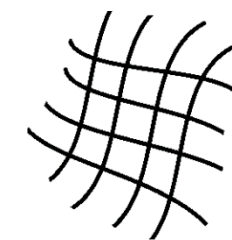
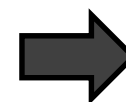
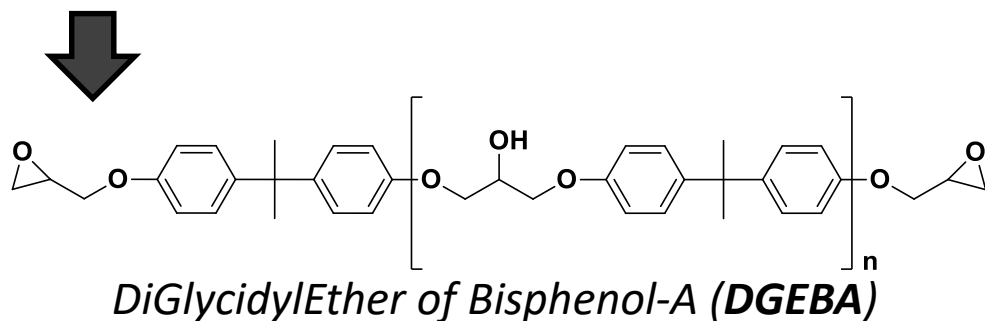
- ▶ Environnemental and economics concerns

- Petrochemicals → fossil carbon
- Price volatility

High risk of obsolescence of BPA



- ▶ Toxicity of BPA → *CMR<sup>1B</sup>*



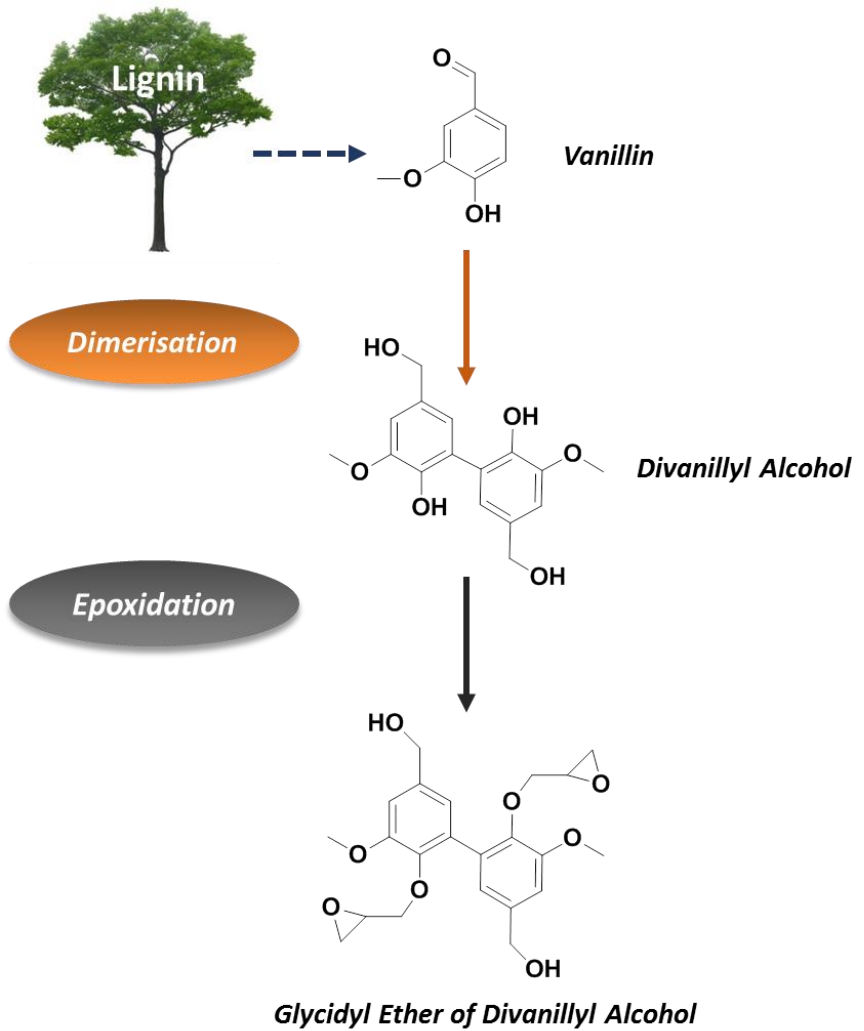
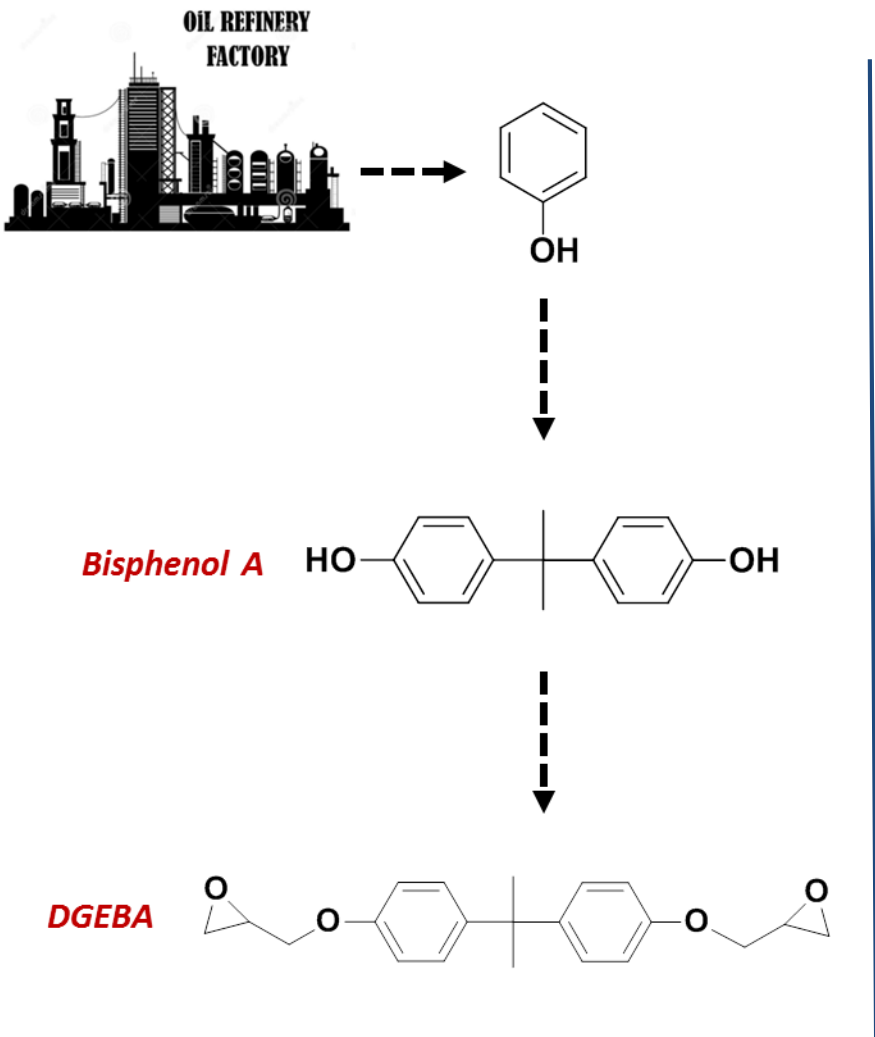
3D-network

40-25% bio-based if epichlorohydrine bio-sourced

# Smart drop-ins: Bio-based derivative of "fossil" polymers

## Epoxy

From Lignin to epoxy resins...

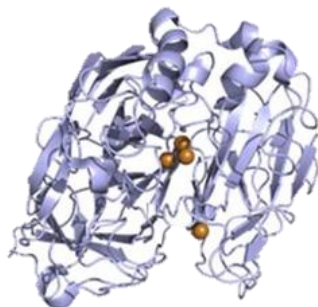


## Epoxy

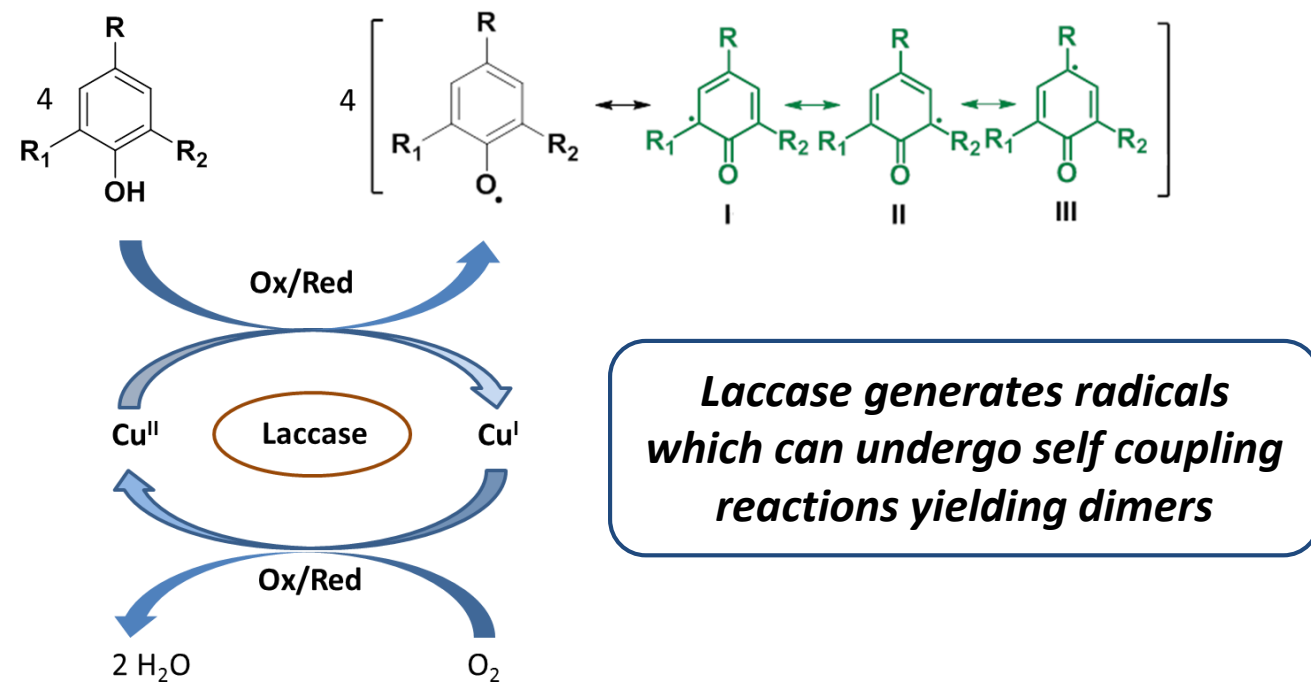


*Trametes Versicolor*

## Enzymatic coupling

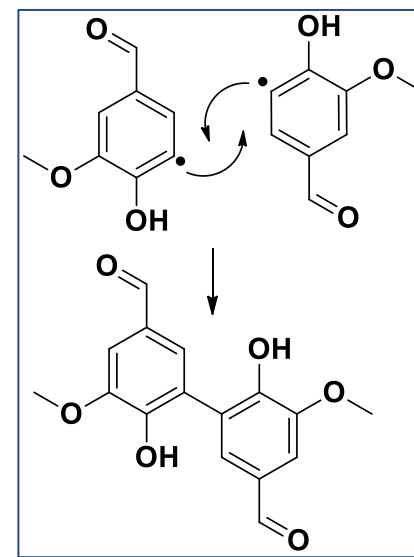


Laccase is an oxydative enzyme found in wood rotting fungi



**Laccase generates radicals which can undergo self coupling reactions yielding dimers**

## Coupling of Vanillin



**Divanillin**

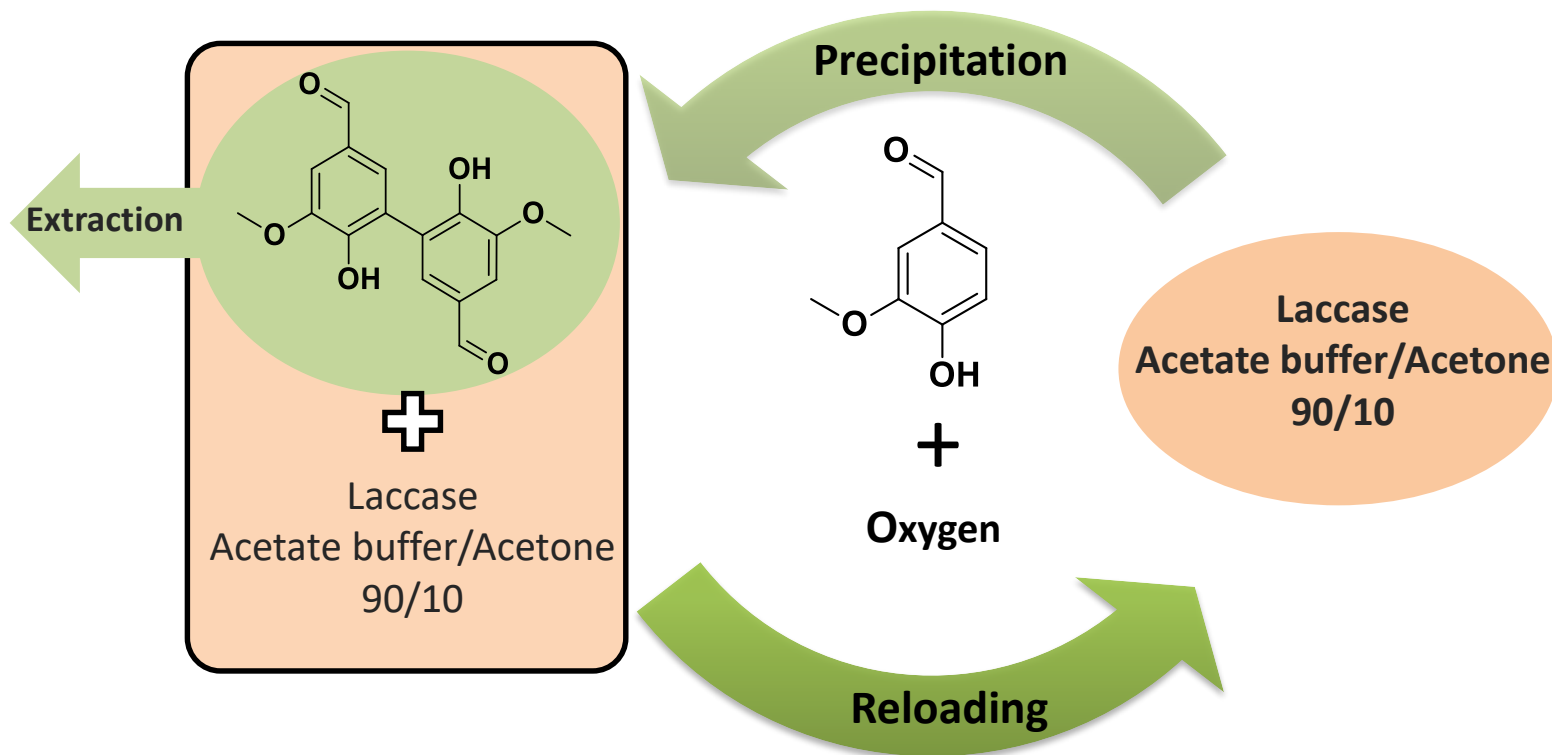
Kobayashi et al., *Chem. Rev.* 2009

Llevot et al., *Polym. Chem.* 2015, 6 (33)

# Smart drop-ins: Bio-based derivative of "fossil" polymers

## Synthesis of dimer from Vanillin

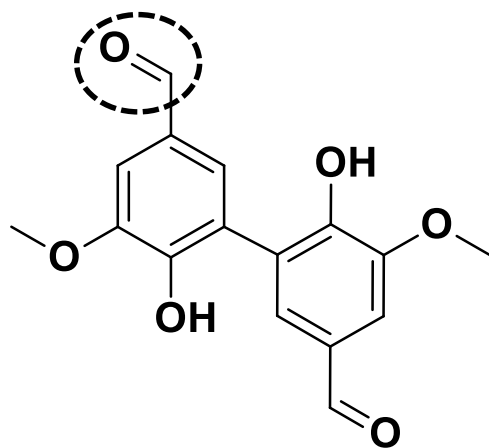
Epoxy



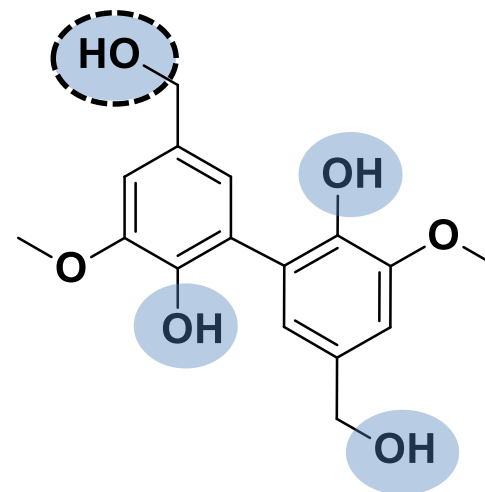
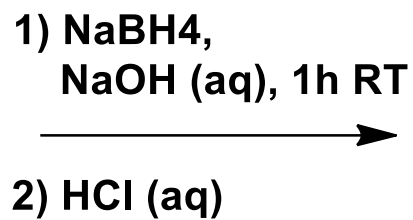
Self-sufficient process to synthesize dimers

## Epoxy

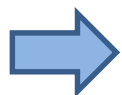
## Aldehyde Reduction



Divanillin



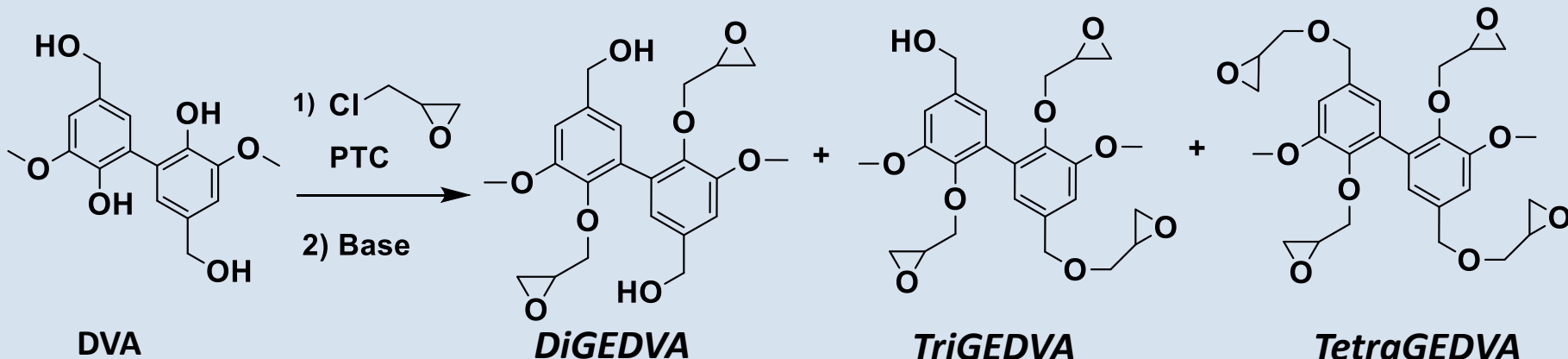
Divanillyl Alcohol (DVA)



4 functional groups available to achieve high mechanical properties

## Epoxy

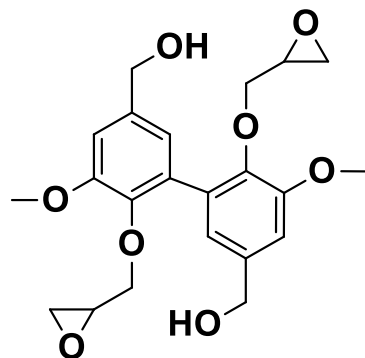
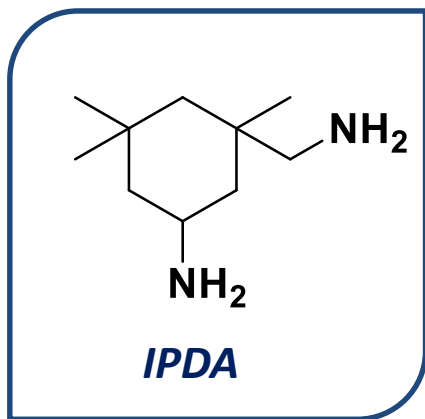
### Synthesis of epoxy prepolymers from DVA



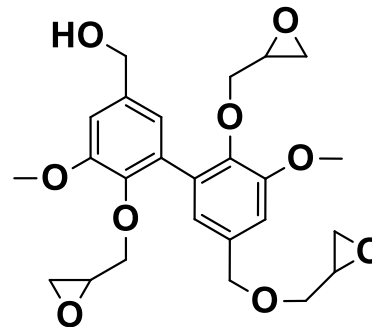
Properties	DGEBA	DiGEDVA	TriGEDVA	TetraGDVA
Melting point (°C)	45	-	-	-
Glass transition (°C)	-18	16	-6	-15
Viscosity at 25 °C (Pa.s)	5	<i>nd</i>	975	14
Viscosity at 40 °C (Pa.s)	1	1300	60	2
EEW th.	170	209	158	132
EEW exp.	171	232	164	129

## Epoxy

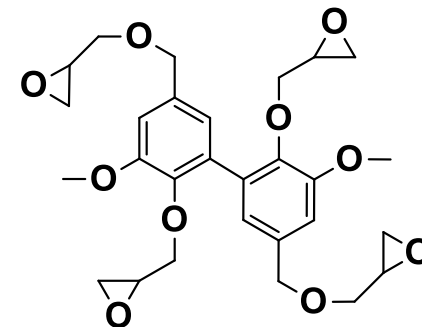
## Synthesis of polyepoxyde network



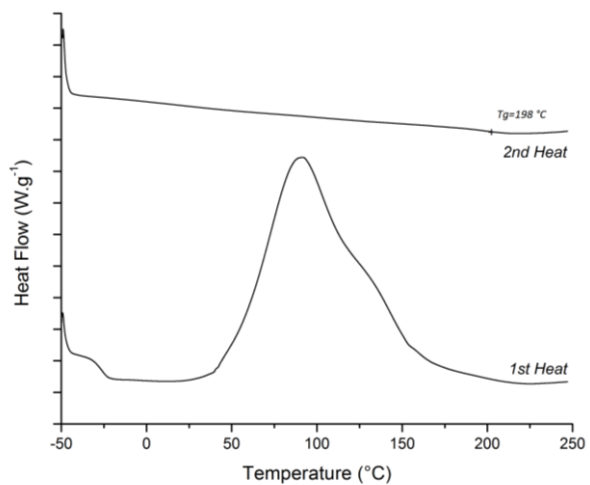
**DiGEDVA**



**TriGEDVA**



**TetraGEDVA**



Epoxy prepolymers/IPDA	$T_{\text{onset}}$ (°C)	$T_{\text{exotherm}}$ (°C)	$\Delta H$ (J.g <sup>-1</sup> )
DGEBA	73	111	430
DiGEDVA	47	107	(180)
TriGEDVA	48	113	(198)
TetraGEDVA	50	92	426

- Reactivity at lower temperature for biobased epoxy prepolymers

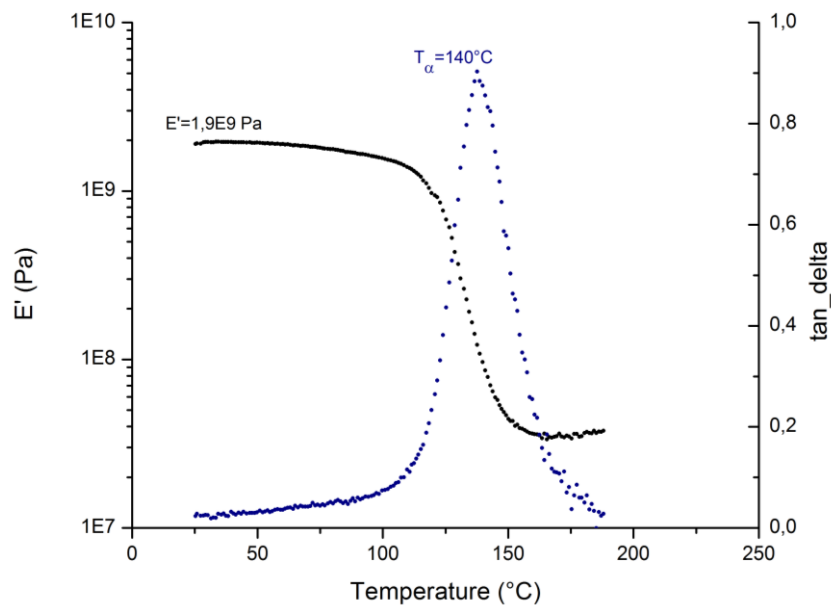
## Dynamic Mechanical Analysis of epoxy resins cured with IPDA

### Epoxy

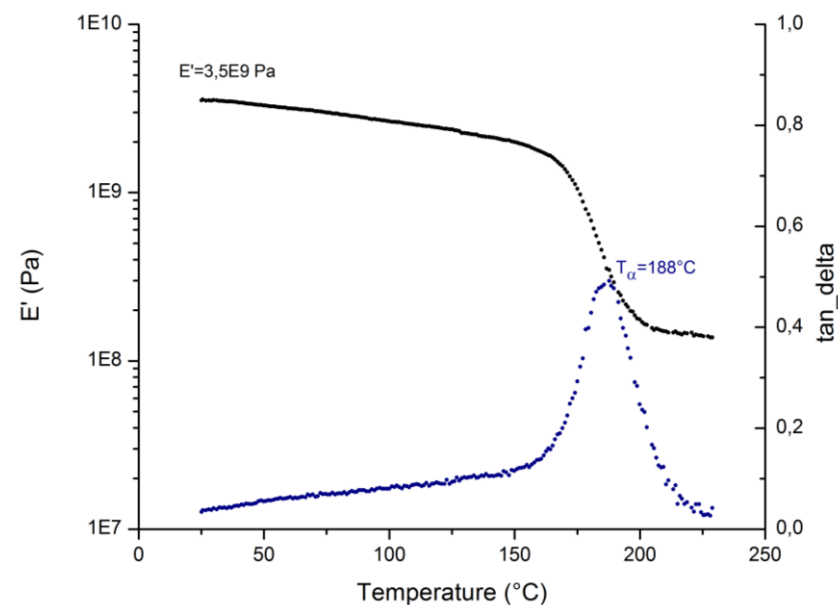
Epoxy prepolymer/IPDA	$T_g^a$ (°C)	$T_\alpha^b$ (°C)	$E'^b$ (Gpa)	$E'(T_{\alpha+30})^b$ (Gpa)	Network density ( $10^3 \text{mol.m}^{-3}$ )
DGEBA	152	155	1,7	0,035	9,2
DiGEDVA*	138	140	1,9	0,035	9,5
TriGEDVA	163	177	1,3	0,084	21
TetraGEDVA	198	188	3,5	0,15	36,7

<sup>a</sup>determined by DSC, <sup>b</sup> by DMA, \*80%DiGEDVA-20%TriGEDVA

**DiGEDVA**



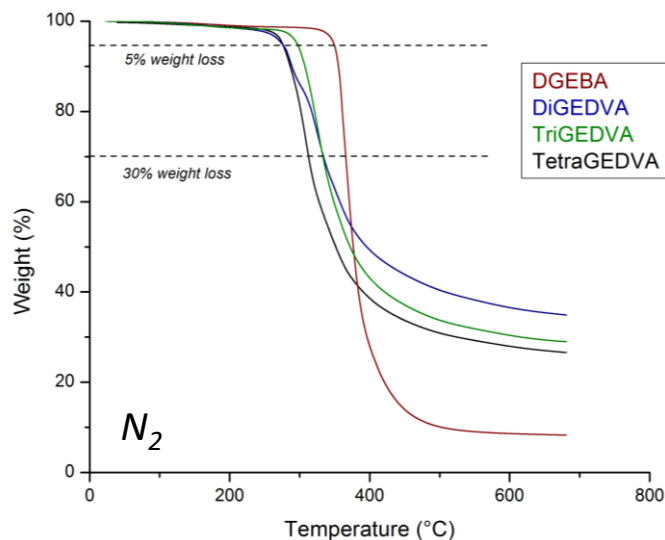
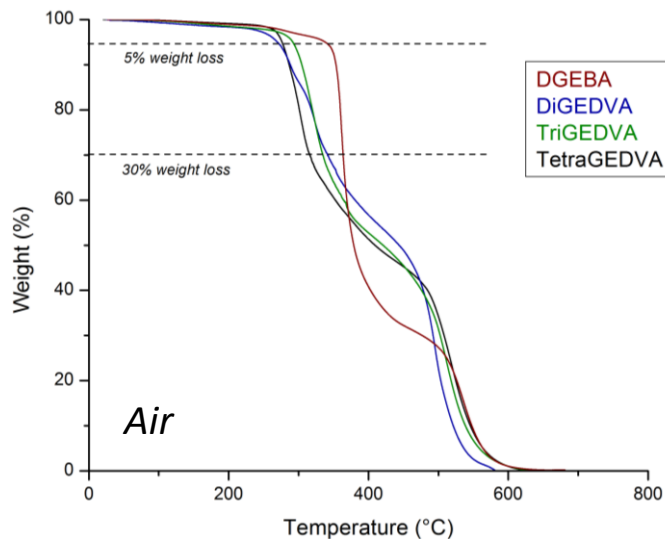
**TetraGEDVA**





## Epoxy

### Thermal degradation of epoxy resins cured with IPDA



Epoxy prepolymer/IPDA	T <sub>d</sub> 5% (°C)	T <sub>d</sub> 30% (°C)	T <sub>s</sub>
DGEBA	336	364	172
DiGEDVA	273	337	153
TriGEDVA	292	335	156
TetraGEDVA	275	316	147

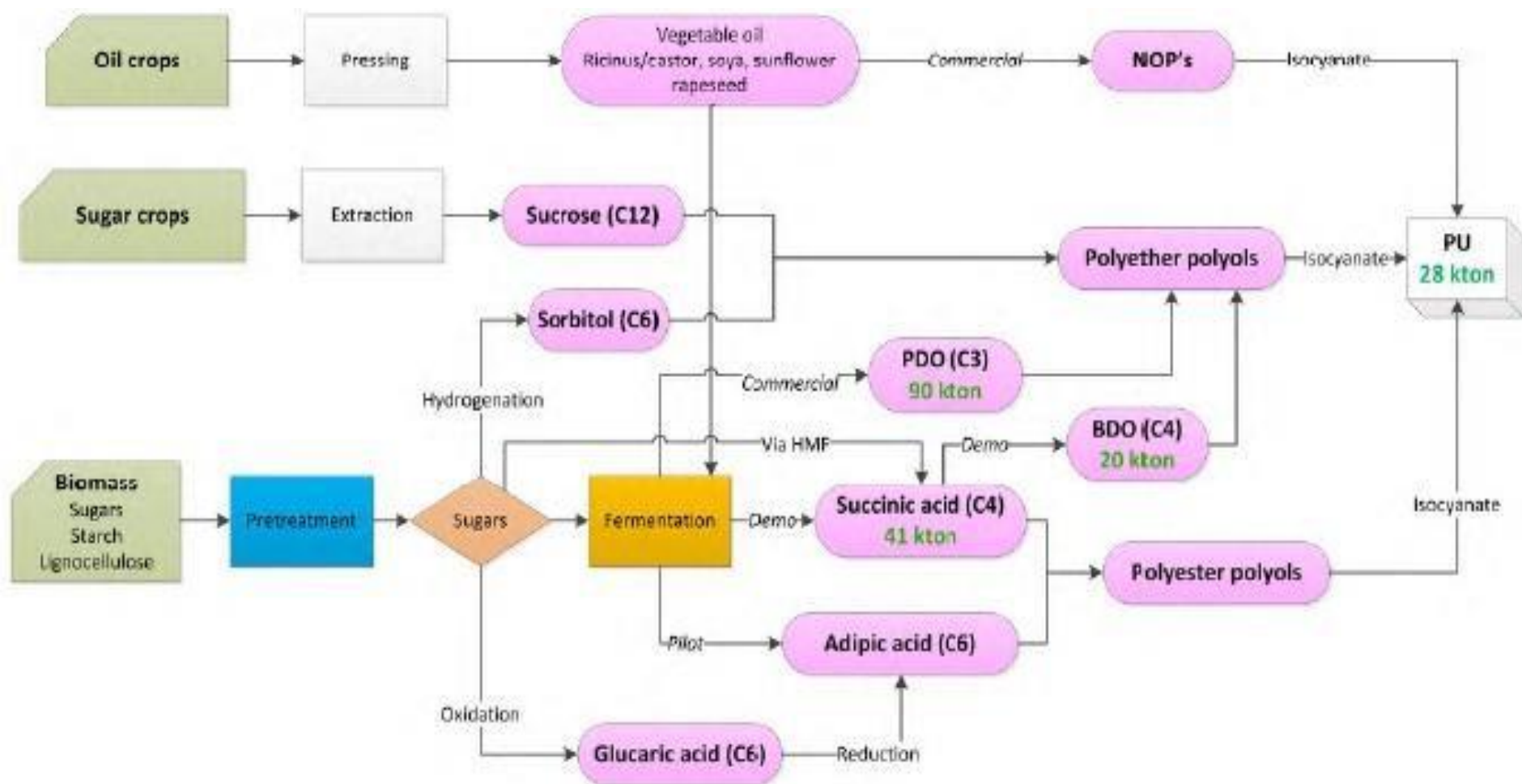
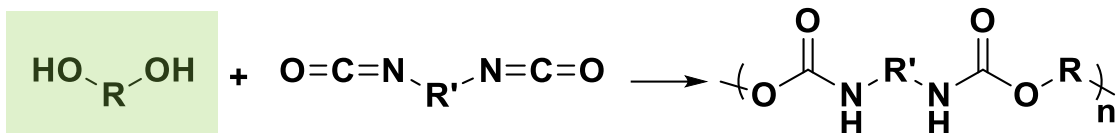
- Slightly lower thermal heat resistance

Epoxy prepolymer/IPDA	T <sub>d</sub> 5% (°C)	T <sub>d</sub> 30% (°C)	T <sub>s</sub>	Char <sub>600</sub> (%)
DGEBA	349	366	176	9
DiGEDVA	275	334	152	36
TriGEDVA	296	333	155	30
TetraGEDVA	276	313	146	28

- High char residue for biobased epoxy resins

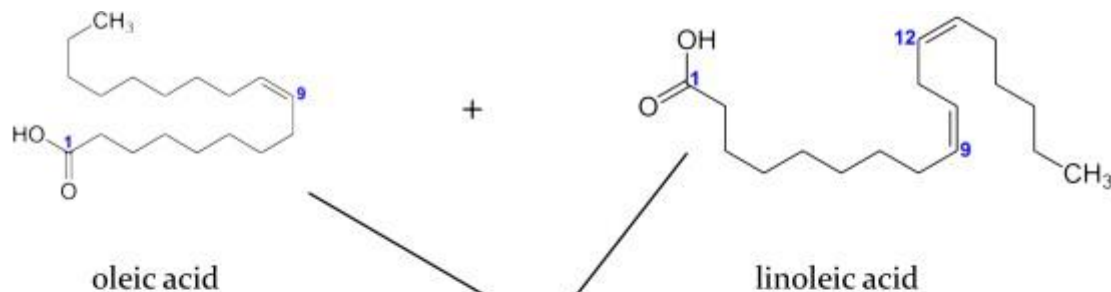


## Polyurethanes

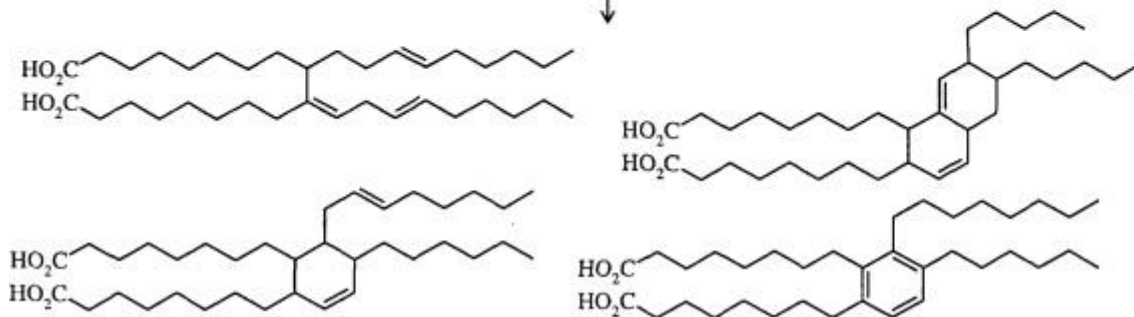




## Polyurethanes: polyol



*Acid catalyst*

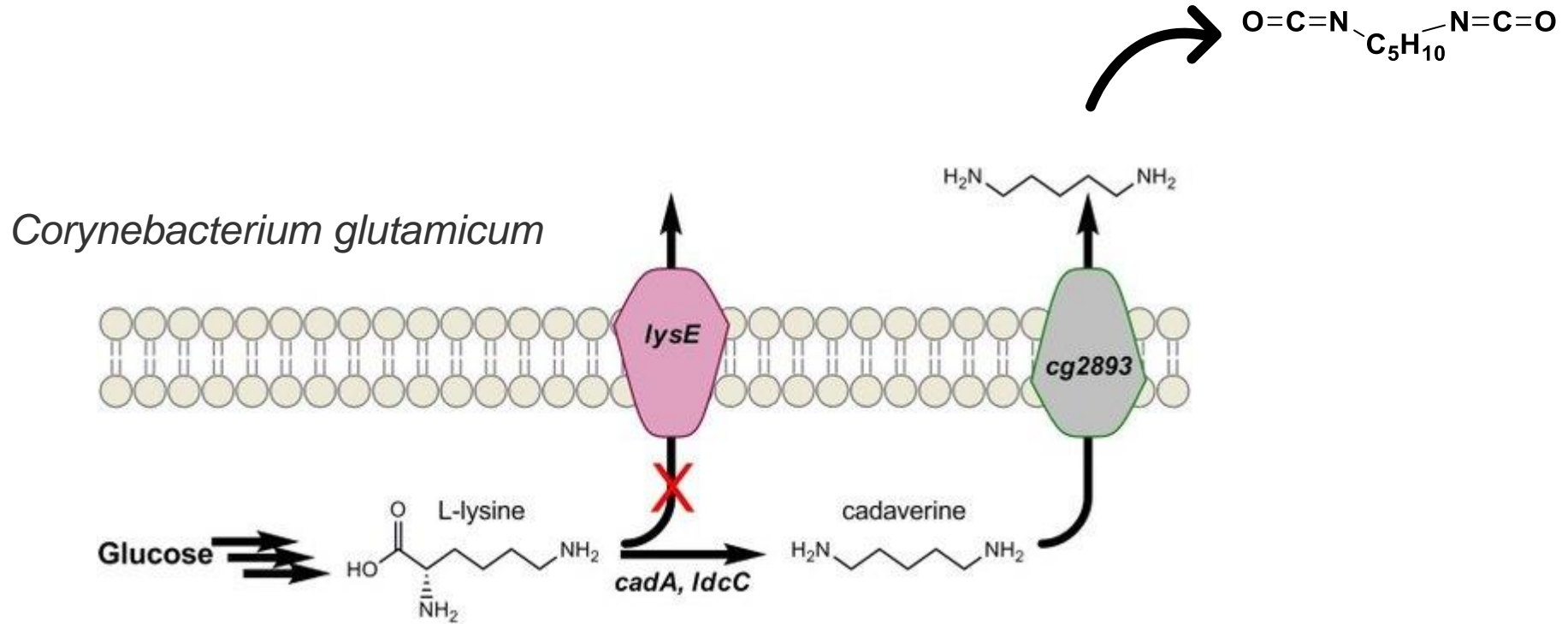


*(Hydrogenation)/modification*

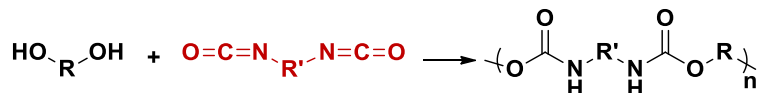


**PU**

## Polyurethanes: isocyanate



## Polyurethanes

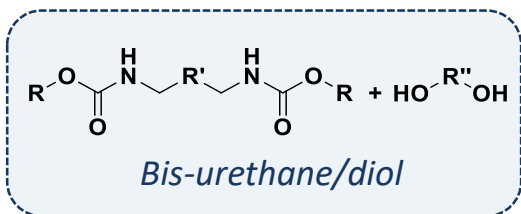


*Industrial process for the  
production of Polyurethanes :*  
**The Isocyanate/alcohol route**

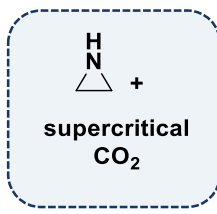


PU

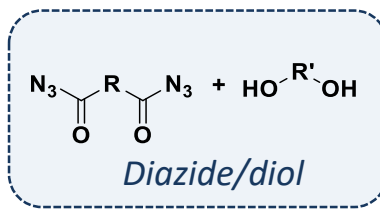
## Non Isocyanate PolyUrethane



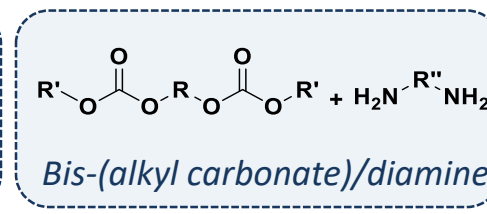
Transurethanization



Aziridine route



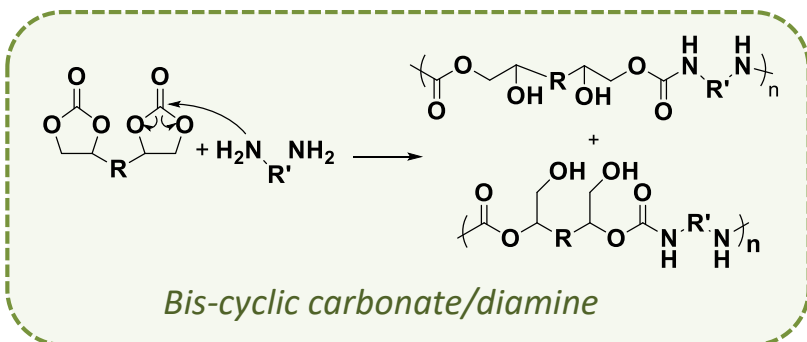
Rearrangements



Bis-(dialkyl carbonate) route

NIPU

## Poly(HydroxyUrethane)

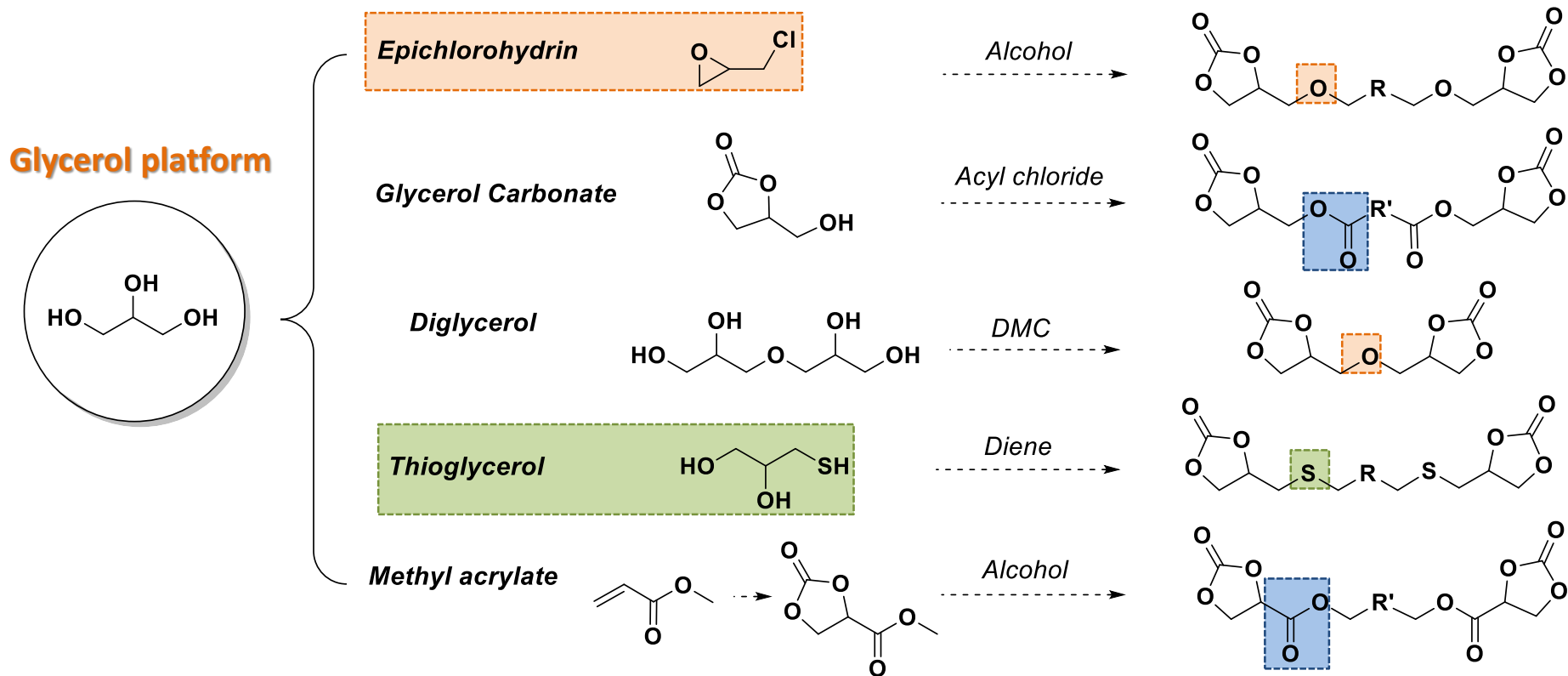


- ◆ | Phosgene- and isocyanate-free
- ◆ | Polyaddition : no by-product
- ◆ | Less moisture sensitive

↓ PHU

## Polyurethanes: isocyanate

*Objective : Design substituted fatty acid- and glycerol-based cyclic carbonates*

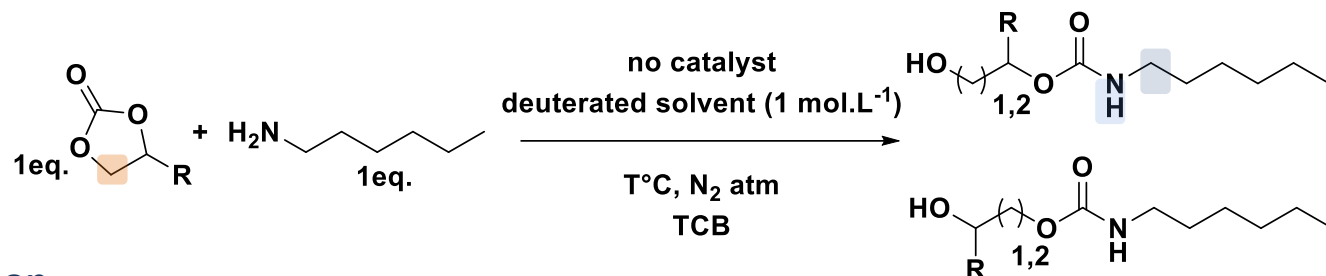


- Tunable **heteroatom nature and position** nearby the CC by varying the glycerol derivative
- **Ether, ester and thioether** functions inserted nearby the cyclic carbonate

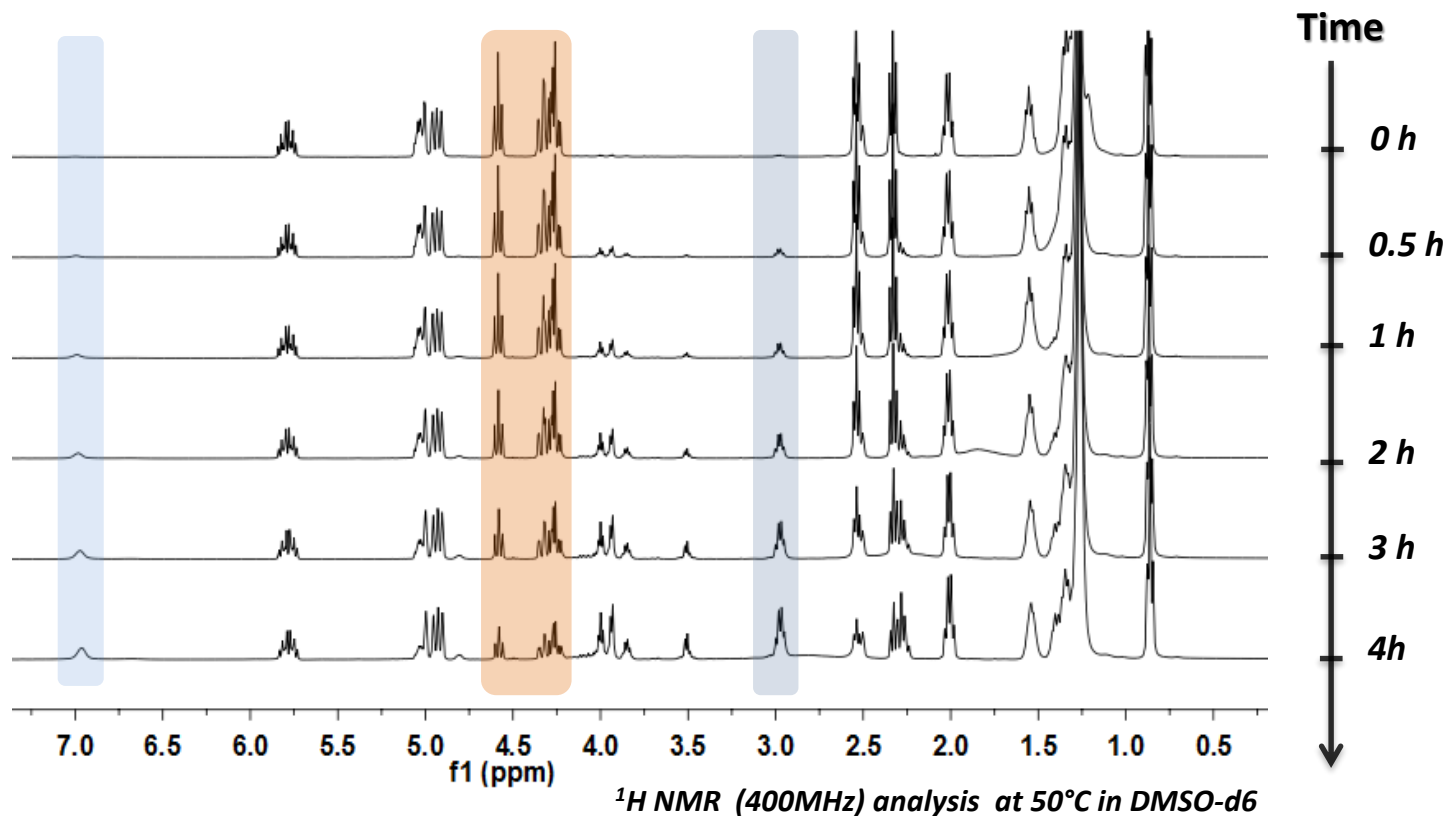


## Reactivity of various CC towards aminolysis

In situ measurements  
 NMR Tube  
 24h, 50°C  
 DMSO-d6



→ CC conversion calculation

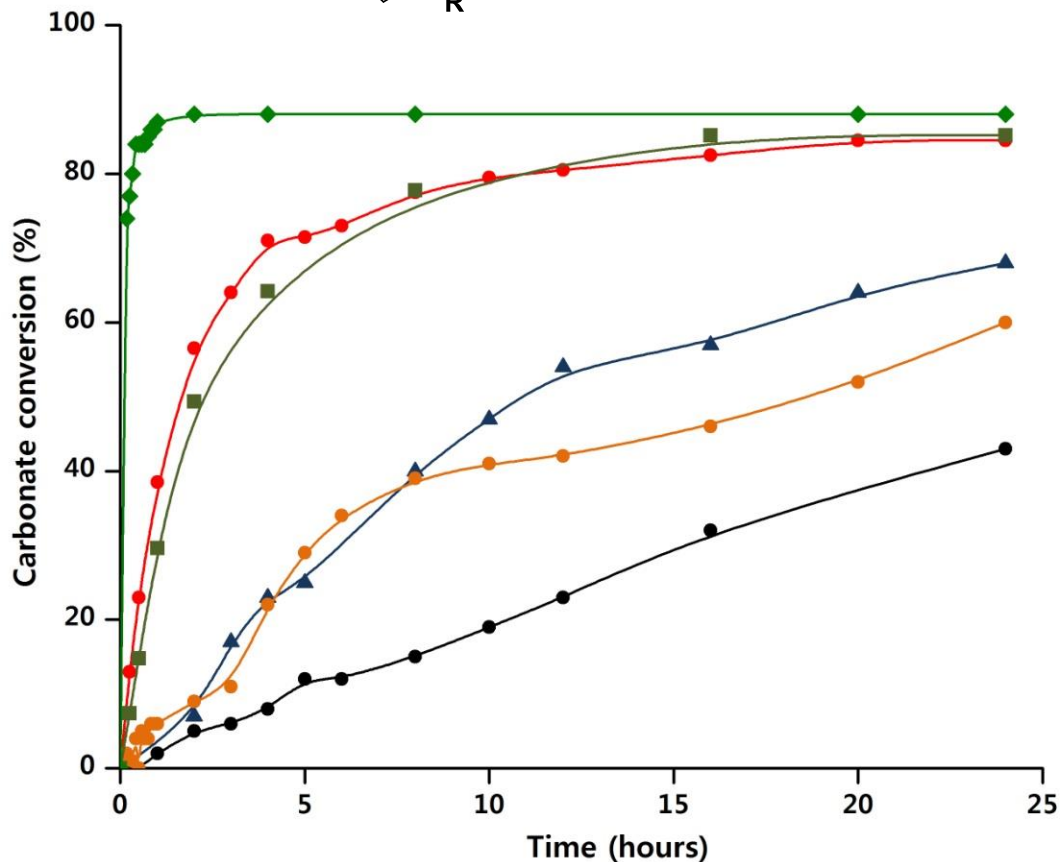
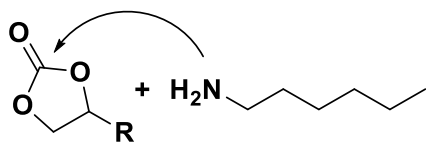


## Scale of CC reactivity towards aminolysis

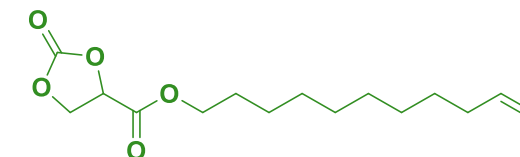
→ 2<sup>nd</sup> kinetic order law during the first hours -  $k_{app}$

$$\frac{x}{1-x} = k_{app} C_0 \Delta t$$

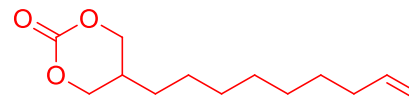
$+ k_{app}$   
(L.mol<sup>-1</sup>.h<sup>-1</sup>)



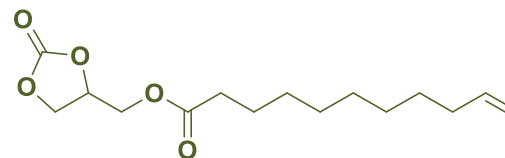
CC conversion in function of time (50°C, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 24h, ratio amine : CC = 1:1)



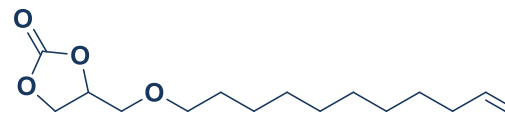
5CC-α ?



6CC 0.44



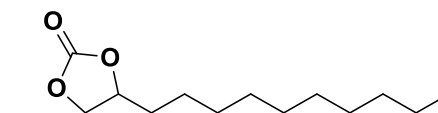
5CC-β 0.44



0.09



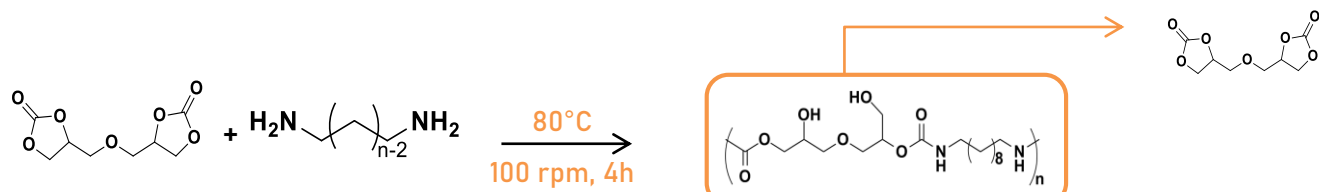
0.08



5CC 0.03



## > From DGDC & various DAs



DGDC

6 / 10 DA

$T_m = 76^\circ\text{C}$

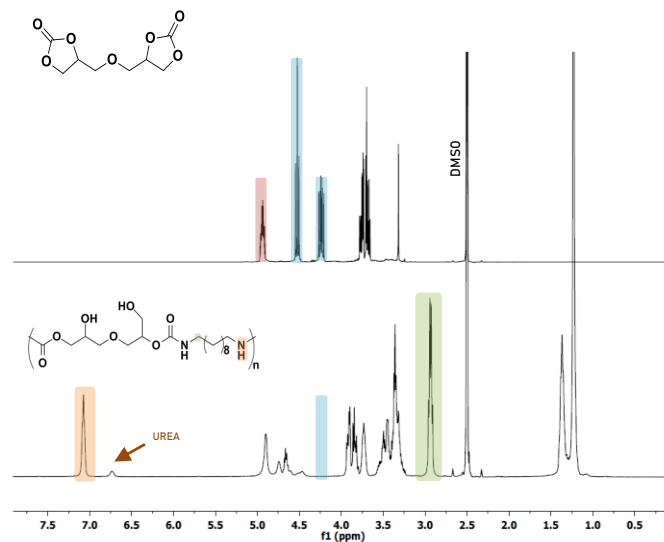
$T_m = 45^\circ\text{C} / 60^\circ\text{C}$



Conversions (%) ..... 99% / 99%  
 Molar masses (g/mol)..... up to 46800 / 50 000  
 $T_g$  ( $^\circ\text{C}$ ) ..... up to 18 / 17  
 $T_m$  ( $^\circ\text{C}$ )..... -- / 108  
 $T_{d5\%}$  ( $^\circ\text{C}$ )..... up to 227 / 233

Colorless

Rigid Fragile

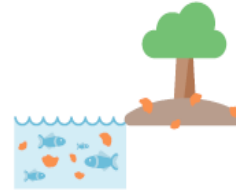


NMR spectra of DGDC monomer (up) and DGDC based PHU (down)

SEC analysis in DMF, with PS standards, at  $50^\circ\text{C}$   
 DSC second heating cycle at  $10^\circ/\text{min}$   
 TGA traces at  $10^\circ\text{C}/\text{min}$



1- Why ?



2- How ?

→ Biomass transformation to platform chemicals

3- Bio-based plastics from natural polymers

*Cellulose, Natural rubber*

4- Drop-ins: Bio-based alternative to fossil-based polymers

*PE, PET*

5- Smart drop-ins: Bio-based derivative of “fossil” polymers

*PBS, Epoxy, PU*

6- New polymers from biomass

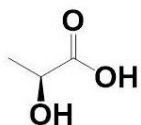
7- Conclusions and perspectives

# New polymers from biomass: PLA

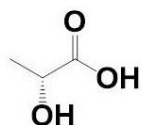
300 kt



Starchy Materials

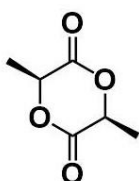


L-lactic acid

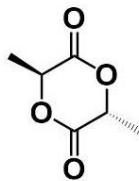


D-lactic acid

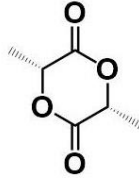
Condensation  
and Depolymerization



L-lactide

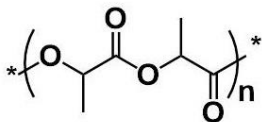


Meso-lactide



D-lactide

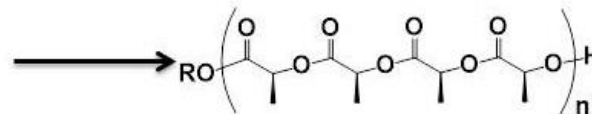
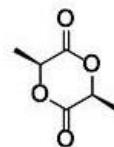
Catalytic Ring-Opening  
Polymerization (ROP)



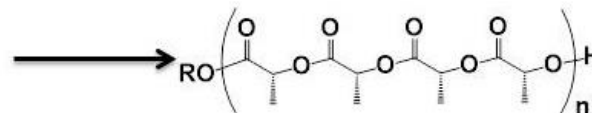
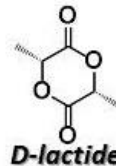
High Molecular Weight PolyLactide (PLA)

Microstructure control

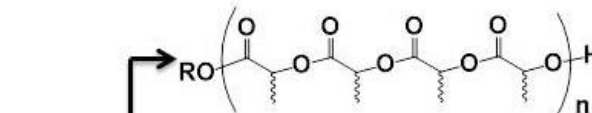
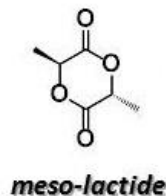
L-lactide



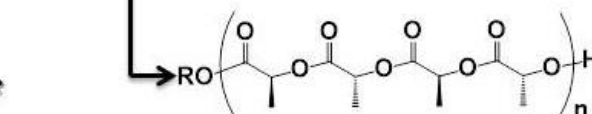
Isotactic PLLA



Isotactic PDLA



Atactic PDLLA



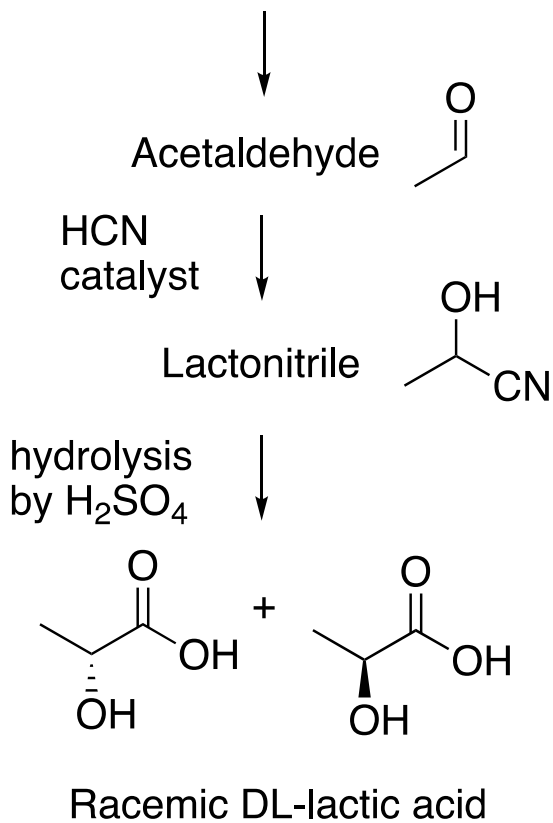
Syndiotactic PDLLA

Properties control

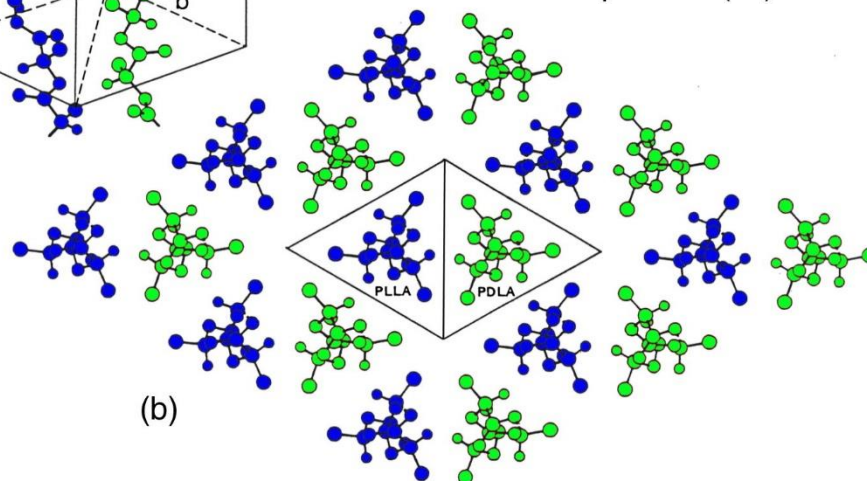
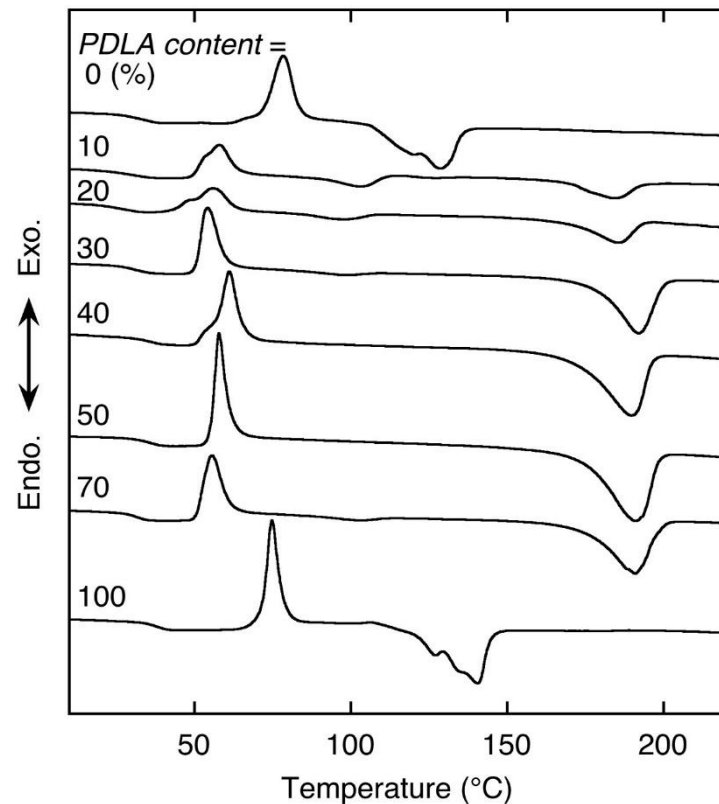
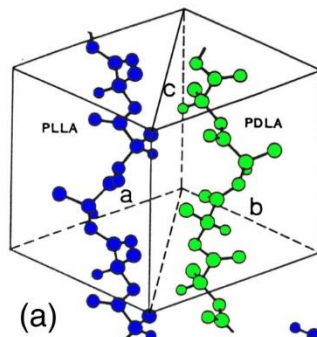
Physical properties	PLLA (PDLA)	Atactic PDLLA	Syndiotactic PDLLA
Tm (°C)	170-180	-	151
Tg (°C)	55-60	50-60	34
ΔHm (100%) (J.g <sup>-1</sup> )	93	-	-

*Why PLA is not  
petro-sourced ?*

**Petro-chemical resources**



**PLLA/PDLA  
stereocomplex**

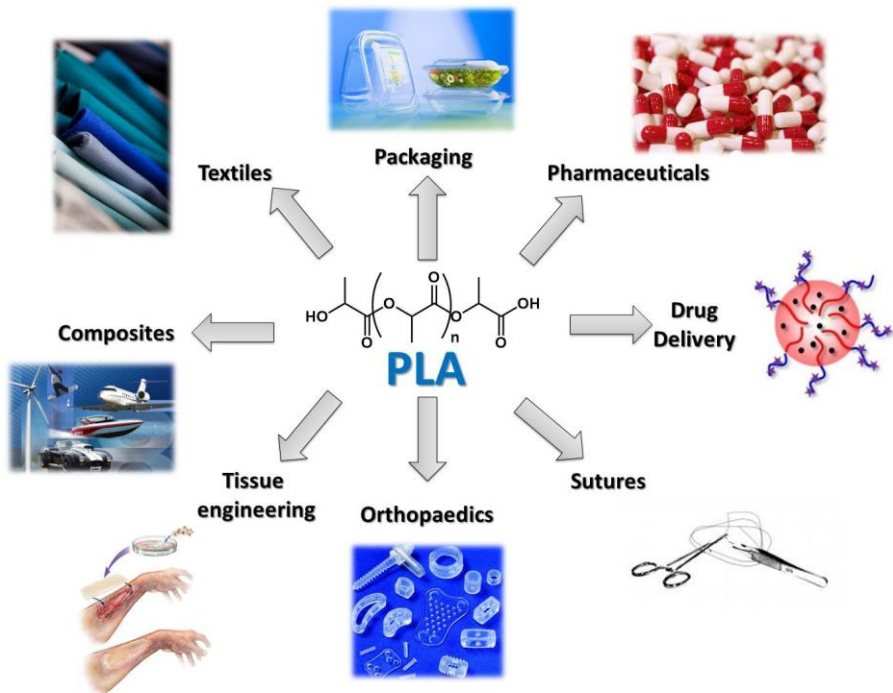


# New polymers from biomass: PLA



**Biobased, Compostable, Stiff**

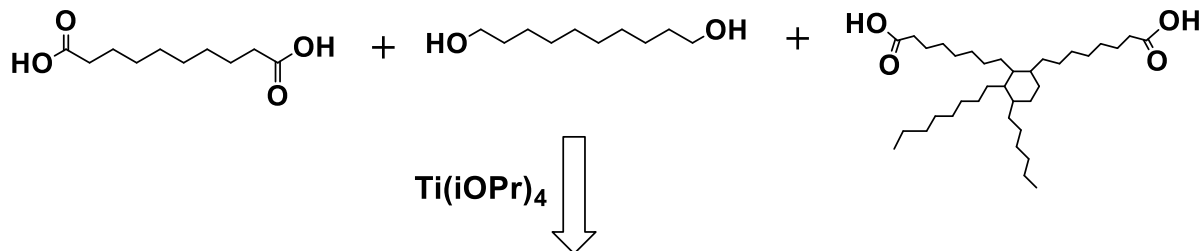
	PLLA	PS	PET
Density (kg.m <sup>-3</sup> )	1.26	1.05	1.40
Tensile strength (MPa)	59	45	57
Elastic modulus (GPa)	3.8	3.2	2.8-4.1
Elongation at break (%)	4-7	3	300
Notched IZOD IS (J.m <sup>-1</sup> )	26	21	59
Heat deflection (°C)	55	75	67



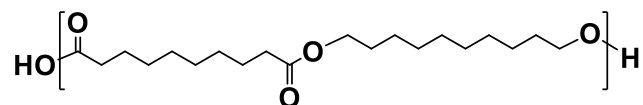
**Heat stability, Low crystallization rate, Brittleness**



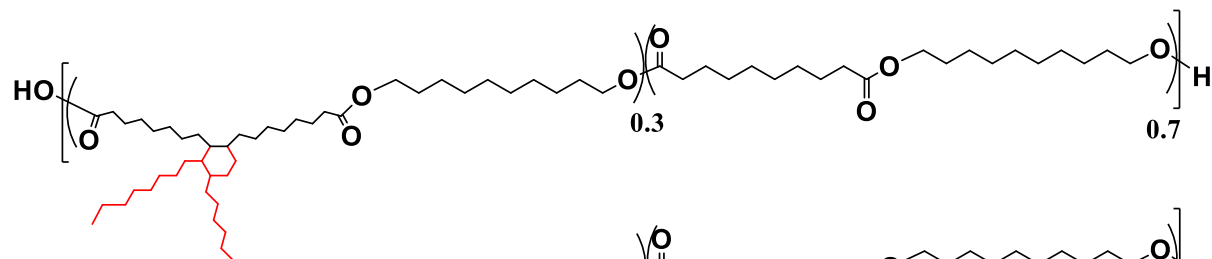
## PLA additive: Synthesis



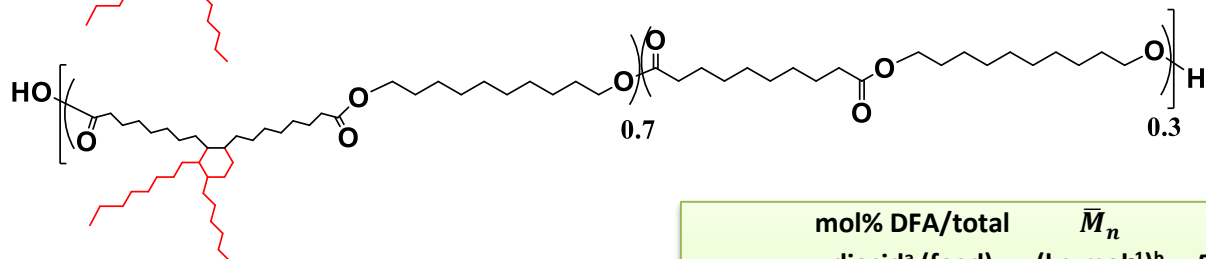
DFA0



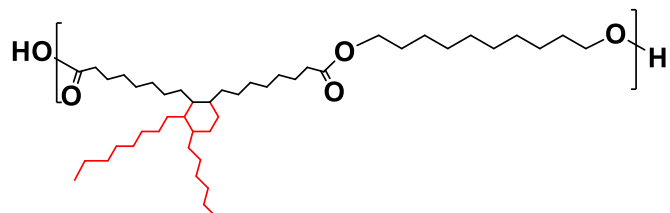
DFA0.3



DFA0.7



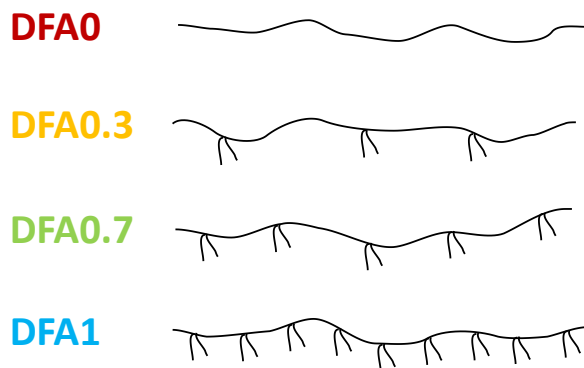
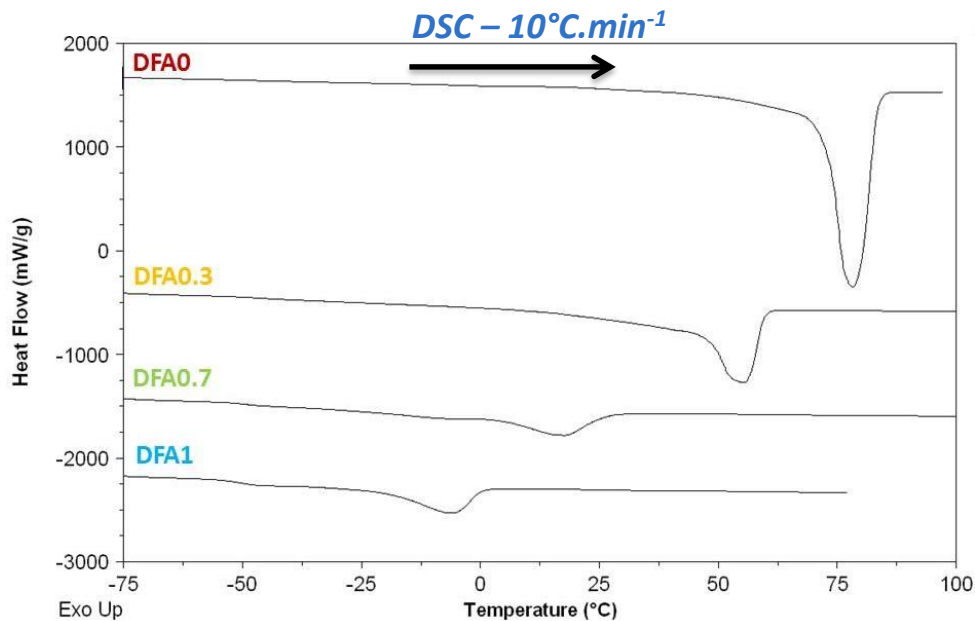
DFA1



	mol% DFA/total diacid <sup>a</sup> (feed)	$\bar{M}_n$ (kg.mol <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>b</sup>	$\rho^b$
DFA0	0 (0)	59	2.1
DFA0.3	0.40 (0.3)	44	1.8
DFA0.7	0.78 (0.7)	64	2.0
DFA1	1 (1)	36	2.0

(a) 1H-NMR (b) SEC in THF, PS calibration

## PLA additive: Properties



	$T_m$ (°C) <sup>a</sup>	$\Delta H_m$ (J.g <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>a</sup>	$T_g$ (°C) <sup>a</sup>	$T_{5\%}$ (°C) <sup>b</sup>
<b>DFA0</b>	78.2	100.9	-48.6	338
<b>DFA0.3</b>	55.2	57.7	-45.9	389
<b>DFA0.7</b>	17.7	22.4	-49.0	399
<b>DFA1</b>	-5.8	16.2	-50.0	394

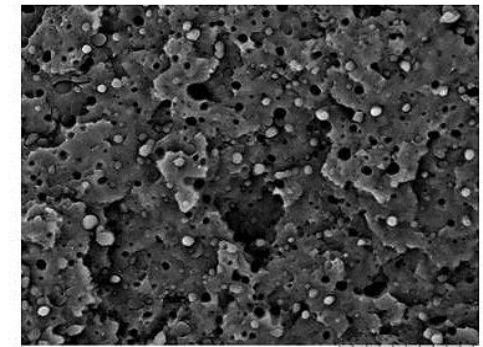
(a) DSC- 10°C.min<sup>-1</sup>

## PLA additive: Processing

**Melt-blending :**  
**Twin-screw mini-extrusion**  
**190°C for 5 min**



**Sample preparation:**  
**Injection molding**  
**200°C → 50°C**



10%

30µm

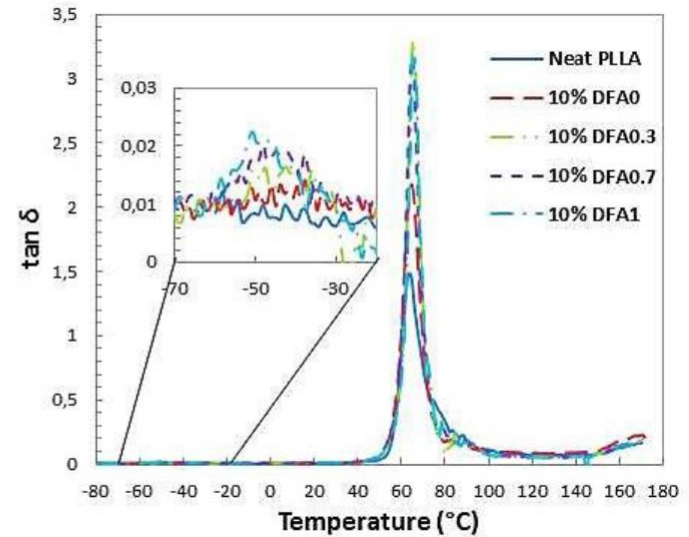
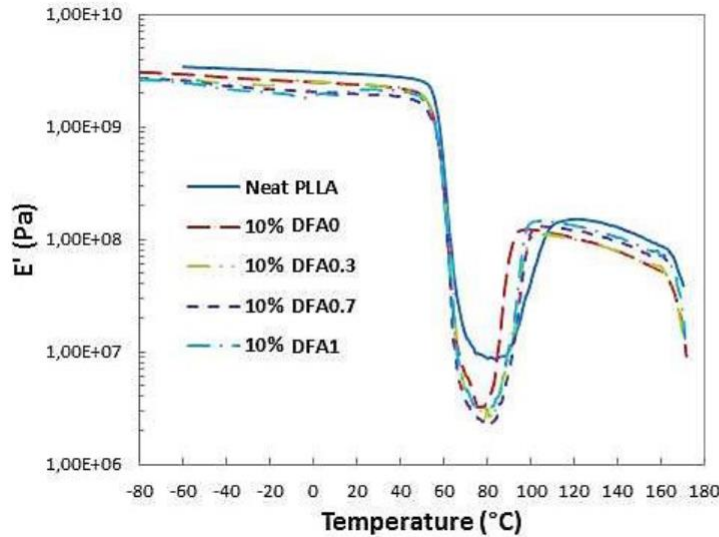
# LCPO

Laboratoire de Chimie des  
Polymères Organiques

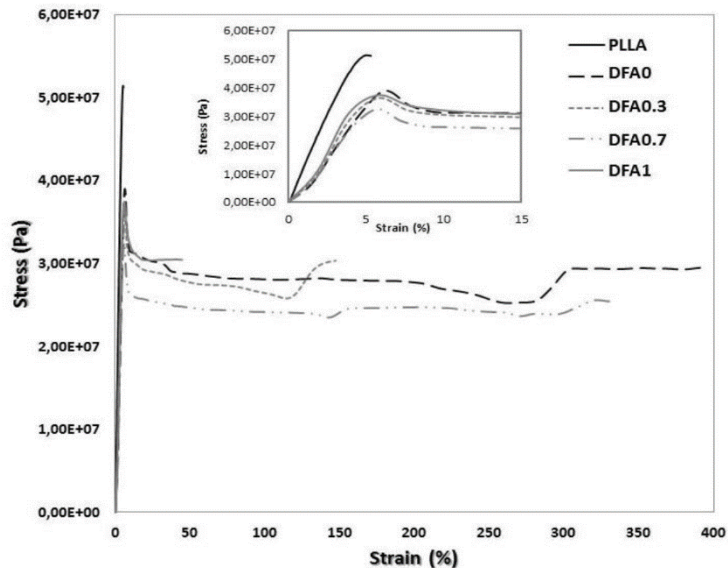
## PLA additive: Mechanical Properties

DMA

Heat stability



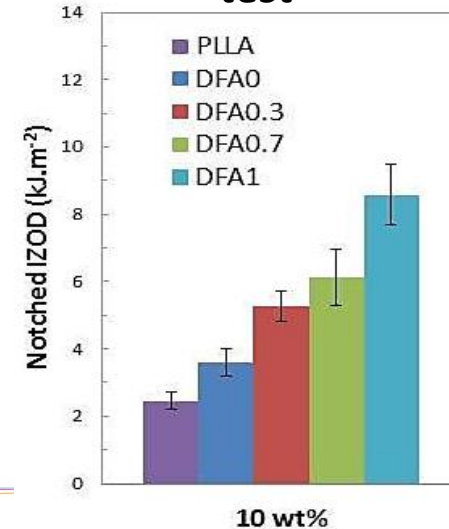
Tensile test



Brittleness

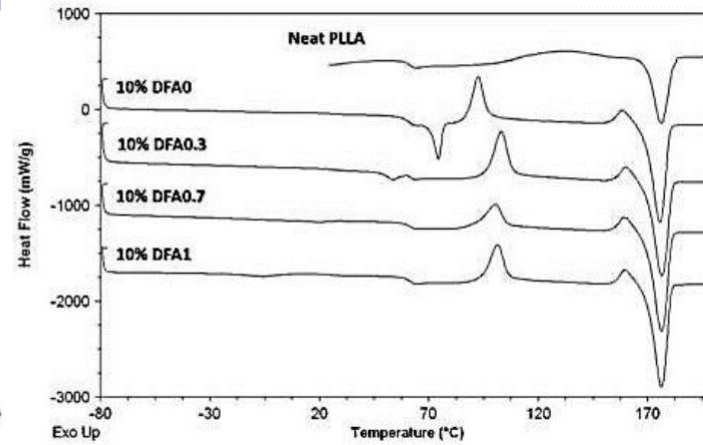
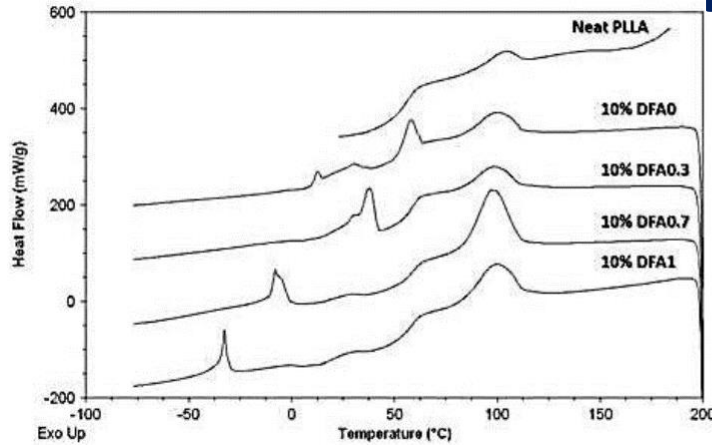


Impact strength test



## PLA additive: Thermal Properties

DSC



## Isothermal crystallization

Avrami equation :

$$\alpha_c = 1 - \exp(-k \cdot t^n)$$

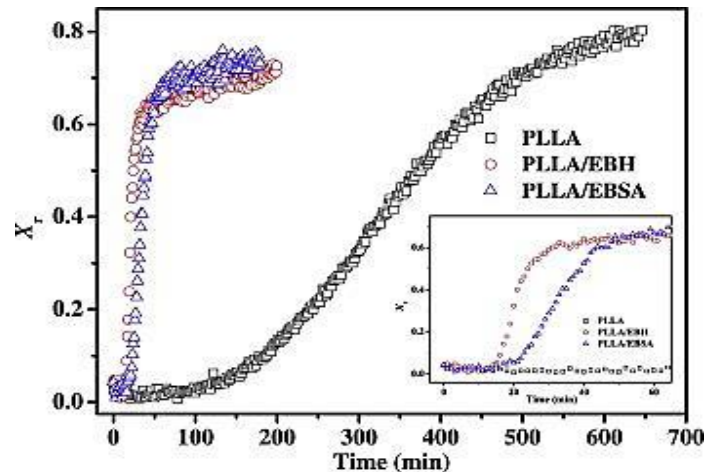
Half-time of crystallization :

$$t_{1/2} = \left( \frac{\ln 2}{k} \right)^{1/n}$$

$\alpha_c$ : the relative crystalline volume fraction

$k$ : rate constant of crystallization

$n$ : Avrami index



	n	k (min <sup>-n</sup> )	t <sub>1/2</sub> (min)
PLLA	1.80	0.027	6.12
10wt% DFA0	3.53	0.021	2.70
10wt% DFA0.3	3.73	0.014	2.85
10wt% DFA0.7	3.81	0.116	1.60
10wt% DFA1	4.20	0.015	2.48

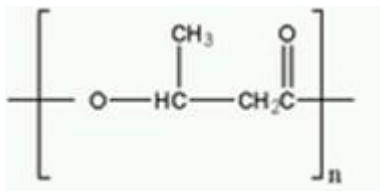
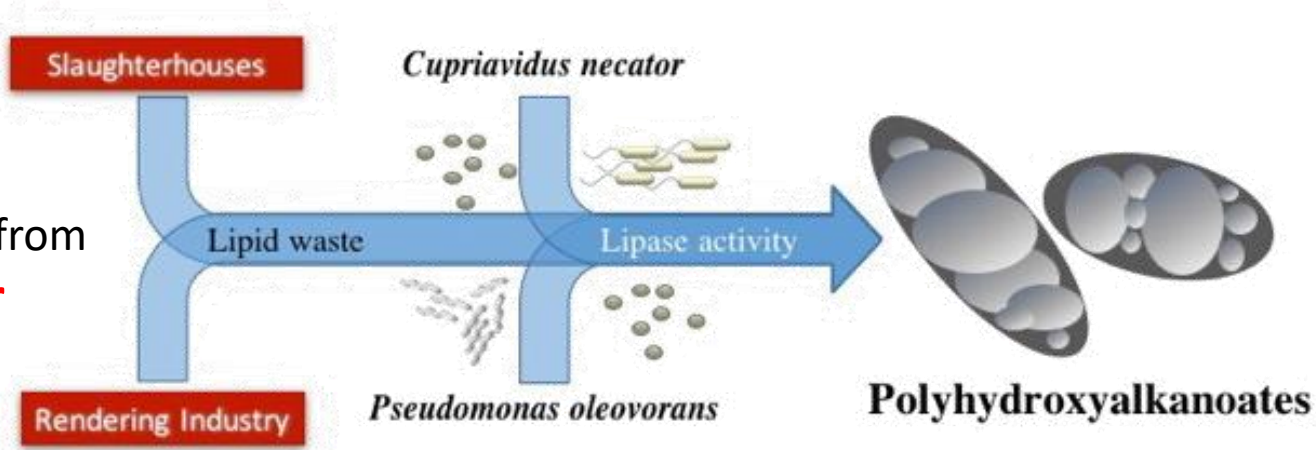


# New polymers from biomass: PHA

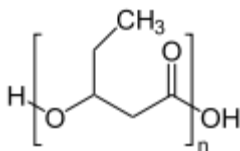
40 kt

One-pot biosynthesis from  
biomass to polymer

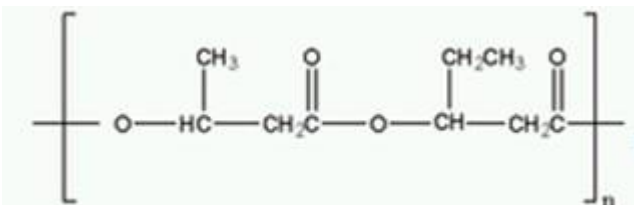
Max prod. 3 g.L<sup>-1</sup>.h<sup>-1</sup>



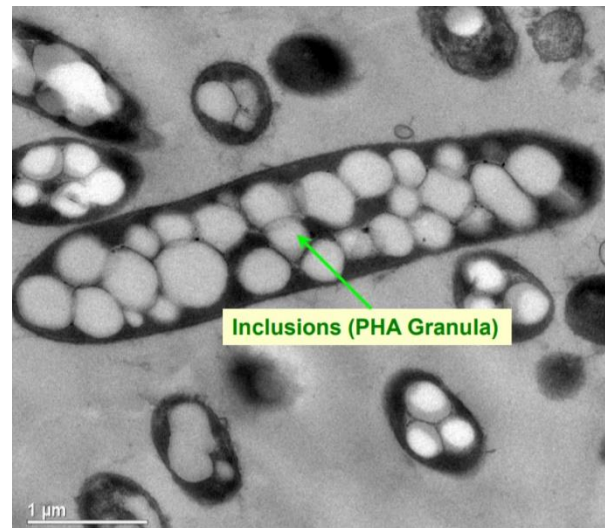
Polyhydroxybutyrate (PHB)



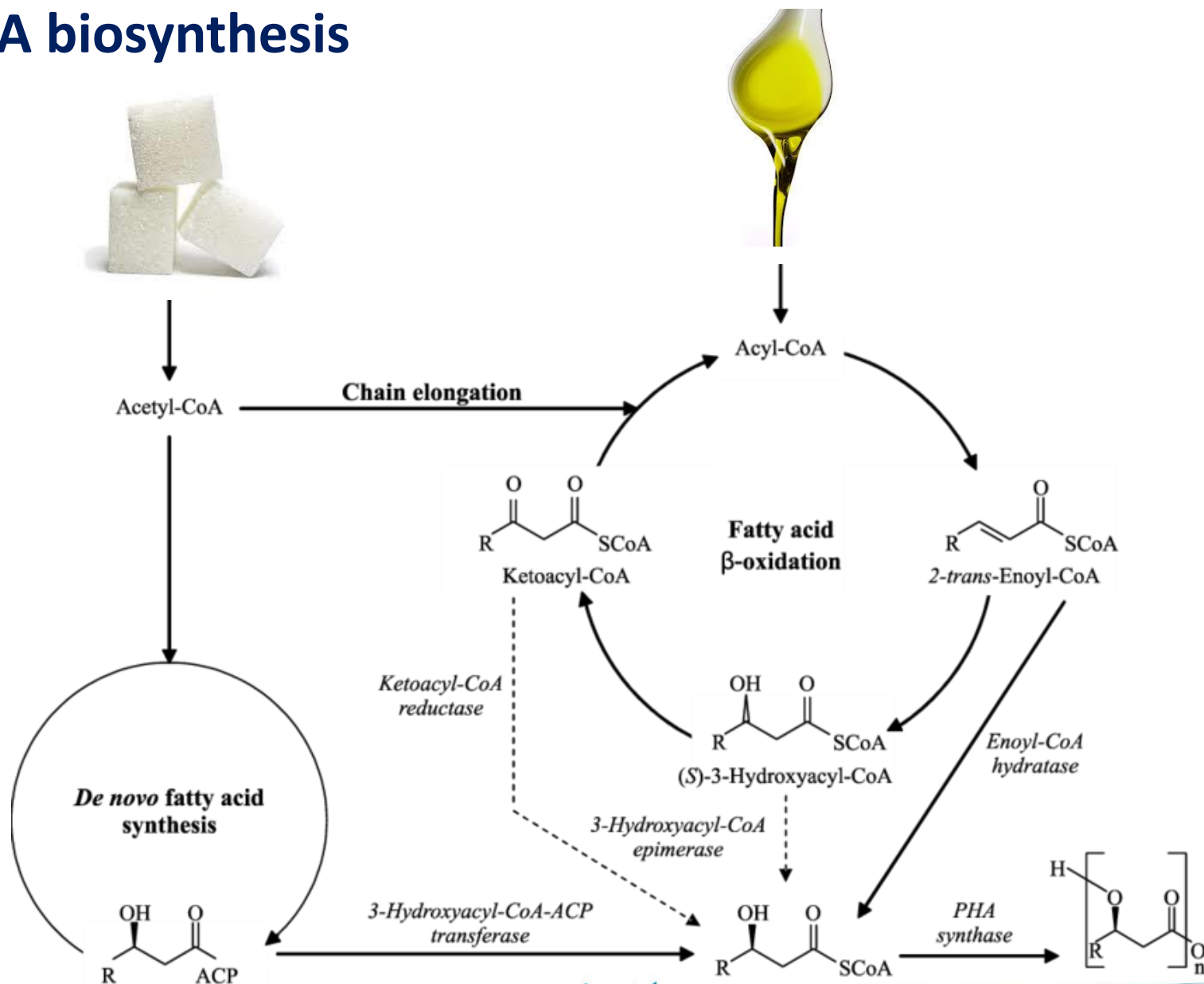
Poly-3-hydroxyvalerate (PHV)



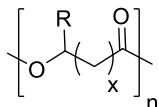
Poly(hydroxybutyrate-co-hydroxyalkanoates) (PHBV)



## PHA biosynthesis



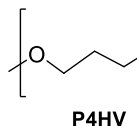
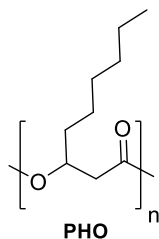
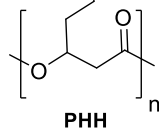
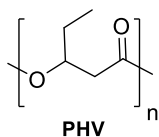
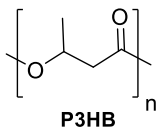
## PHA properties



PHA general structure

x = 1-4

R = Saturated, unsaturated, branched or substituted alkyl chain



	PHB	PHBV	PHBHHx	MCL-PHA
Tm (°C)	170 to 180	130 to 170	95 to 150	40 to 60
Tg (°C)	-5 to 5	-10 to 0	-3 to -1	-60 to -30
Mw x 10 <sup>3</sup> (g mol <sup>-1</sup> )	Up to 1500	Up to 1200	/	50 to 300
Density (g cm <sup>-3</sup> )	1.24	1.20	/	1.02
Crystallinity (%)	60 to 80	30 to 80	10 to 50	Up to 30
Tensile strength (MPa)	40	30 to 40	/	Up to 10
Young's modulus (MPa)	3.5 to 4 x 10 <sup>3</sup>	0.7 to 3 x 10 <sup>3</sup>	500 (10%HHx)	Up to 15
Elongation to break (%)	3 to 8	Up to 100	Up to 400	Up to 450

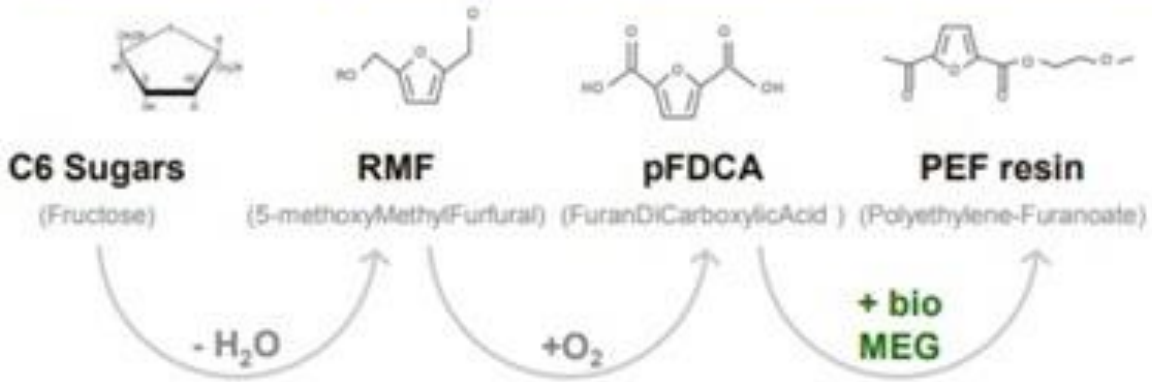
	PACKAGING FILM		PVC		P4HB PBHH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Flexible</li> <li>Good moisture and oxygen barriers</li> <li>Ductile</li> </ul>
	PLASTIC BAGS		LDPE		P(3HB-co-4HB) PBHH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Flexible</li> <li>Tough</li> <li>Ductile</li> </ul>
	FOOD CONTAINERS		PP		PHBV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stiff</li> <li>High operating temperature</li> <li>Tough</li> </ul>
	DISPOSABLE CUTLERY		PS		PH3B PHBV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strong</li> <li>Stiff</li> <li>High softening temperature</li> </ul>
	MEDICAL SUTURES		PLA		P(3HB-co-4HB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biocompatible</li> <li>Resorbable</li> <li>Strong</li> </ul>





# New polymers from biomass: PEF

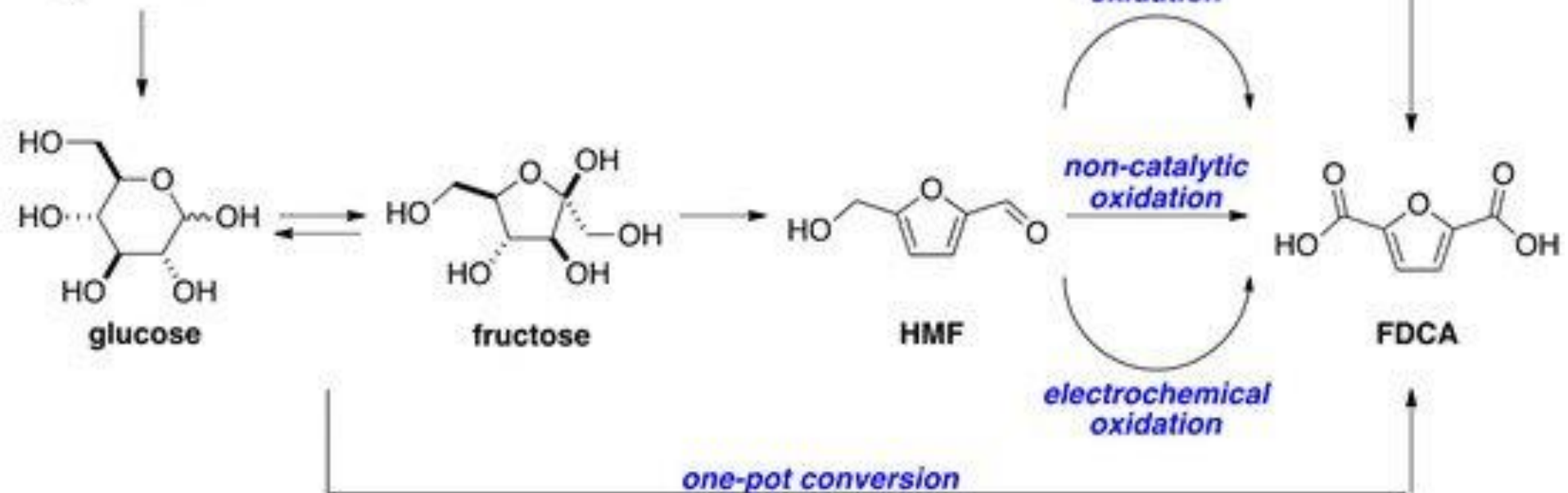
Pilot scale 40 t → 90 kt by 2025



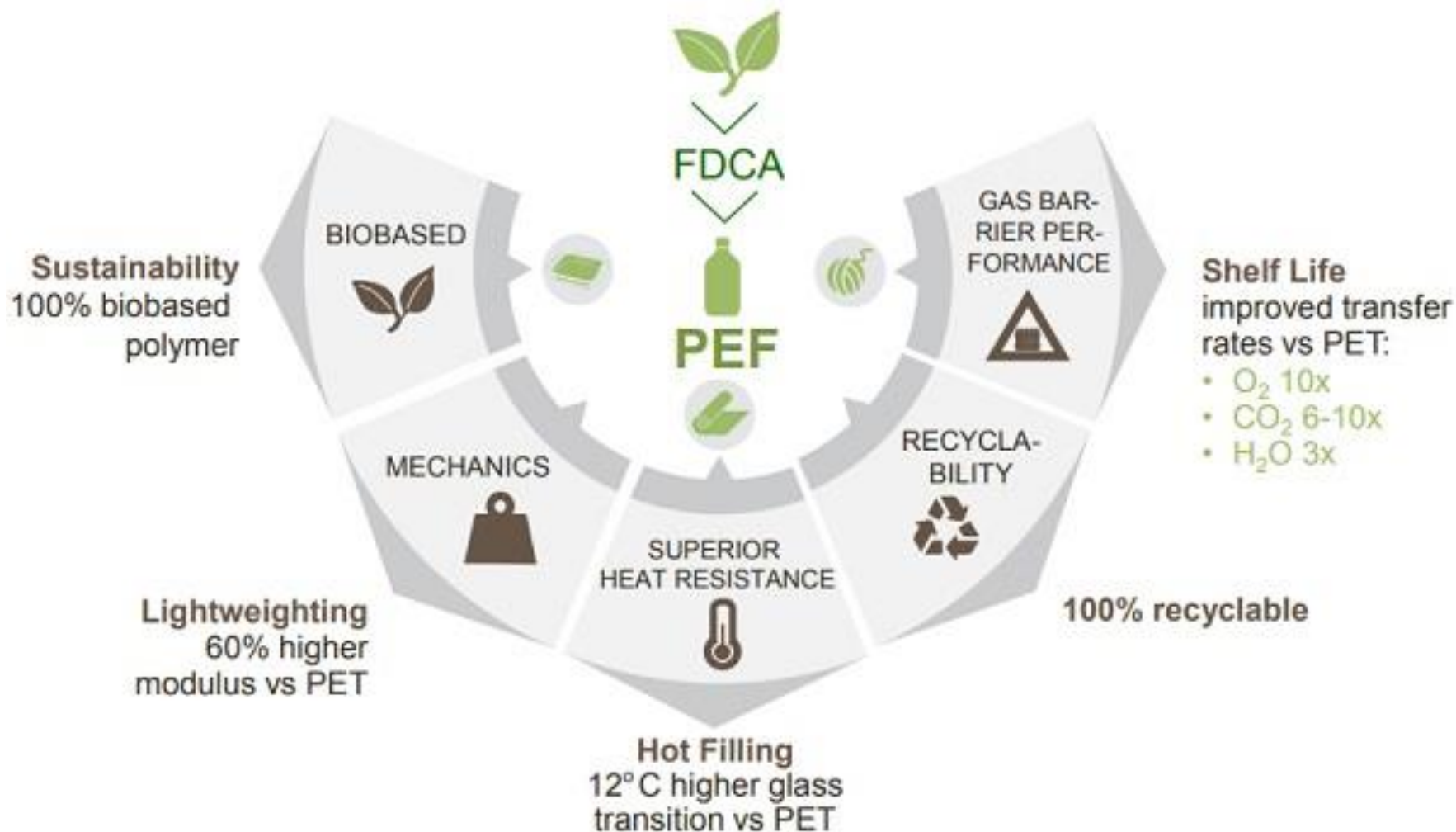
## FDCA synthesis



**lignocellulose**

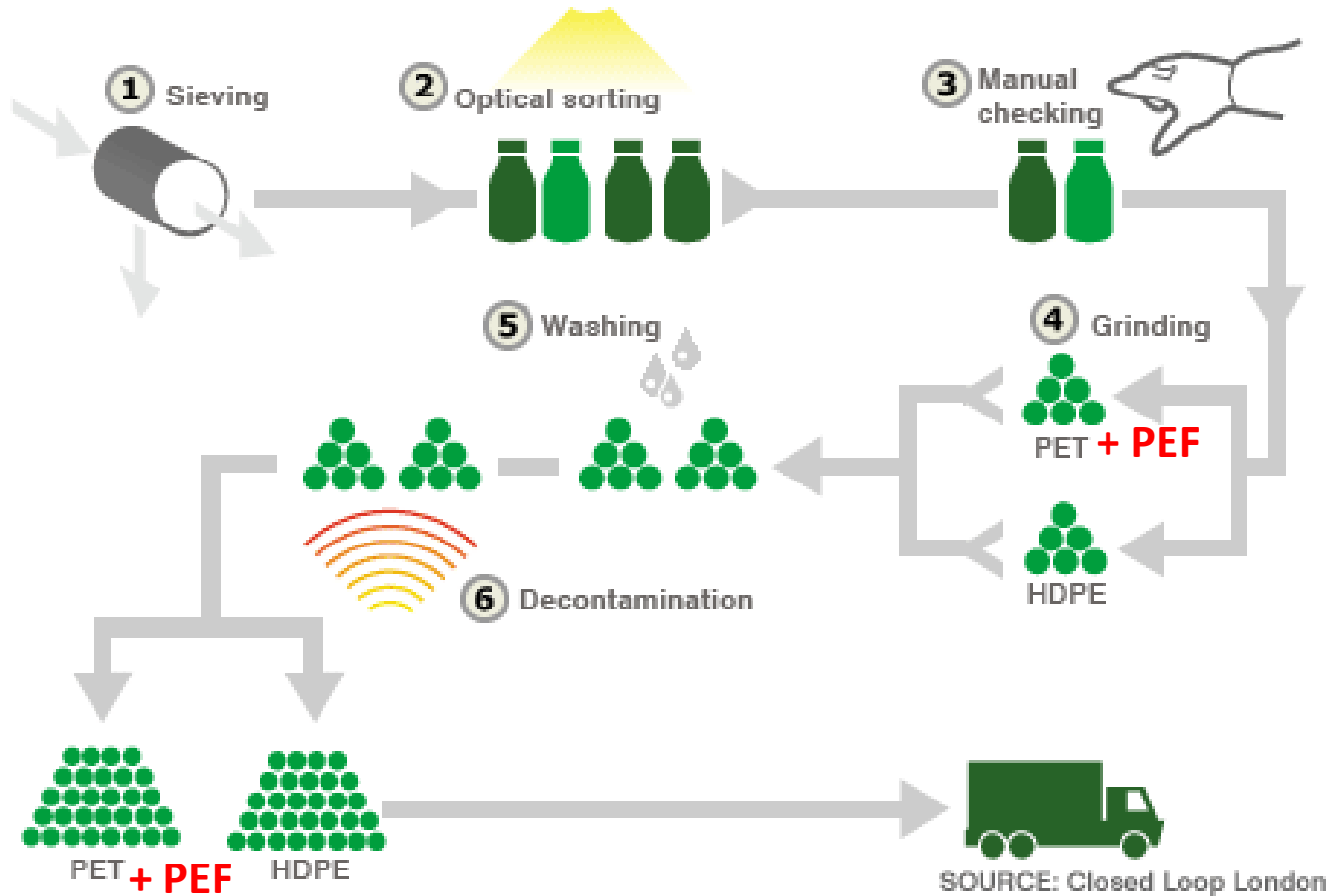


## Properties



## PEF as a drop-in from PET bottles ? No

1) PET is one of the best recycled plastic (30% worldwide)

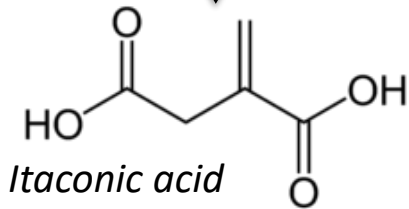


1) 100% bio-based PET is competitive in term of price

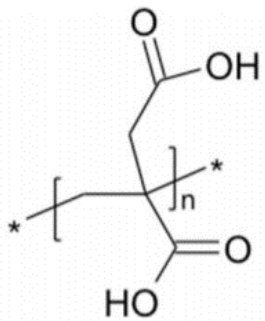
# New polymers from biomass: SAP's



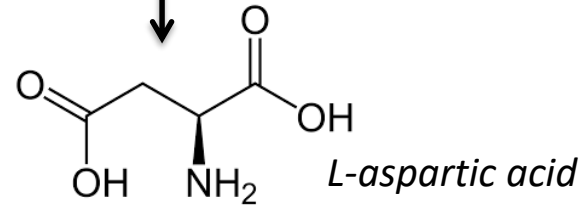
Fermentation



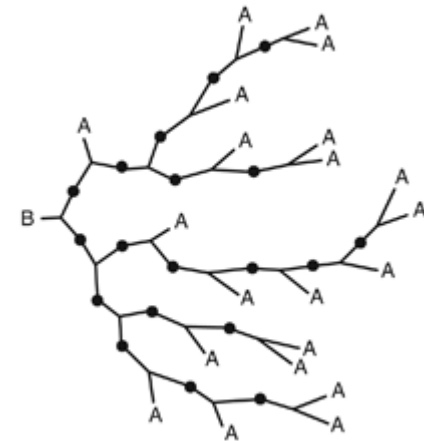
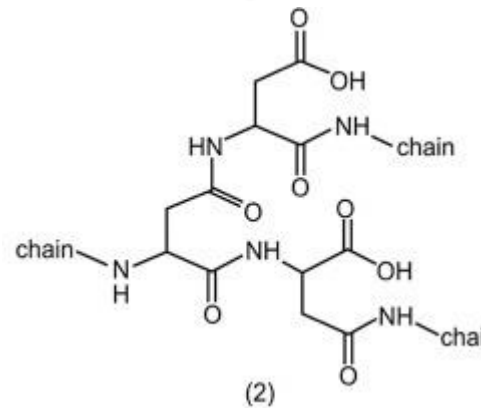
Polymerization



Fermentation

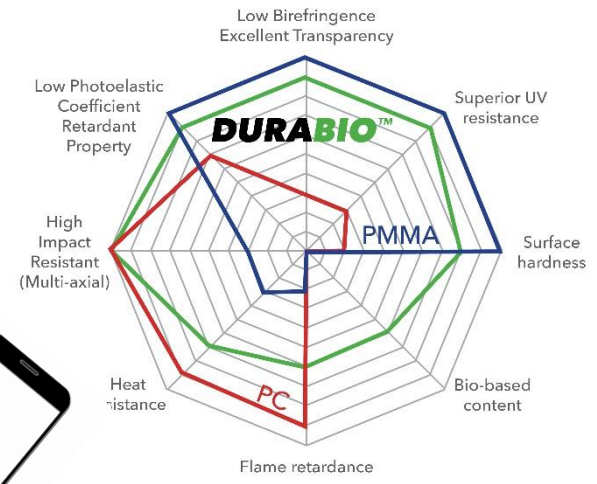
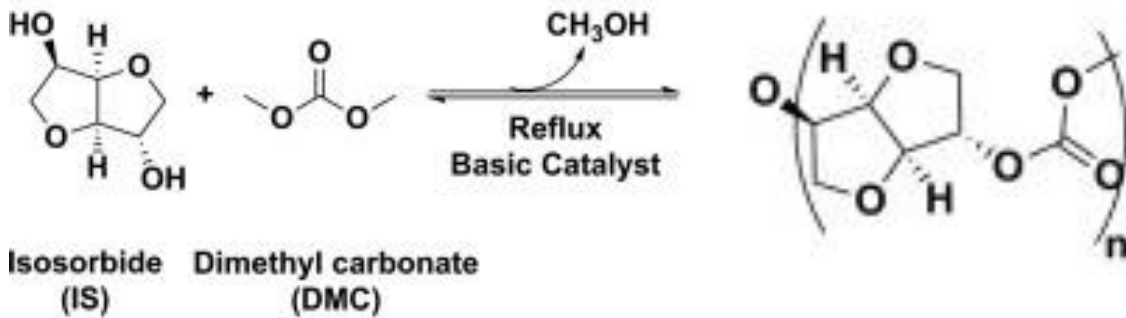
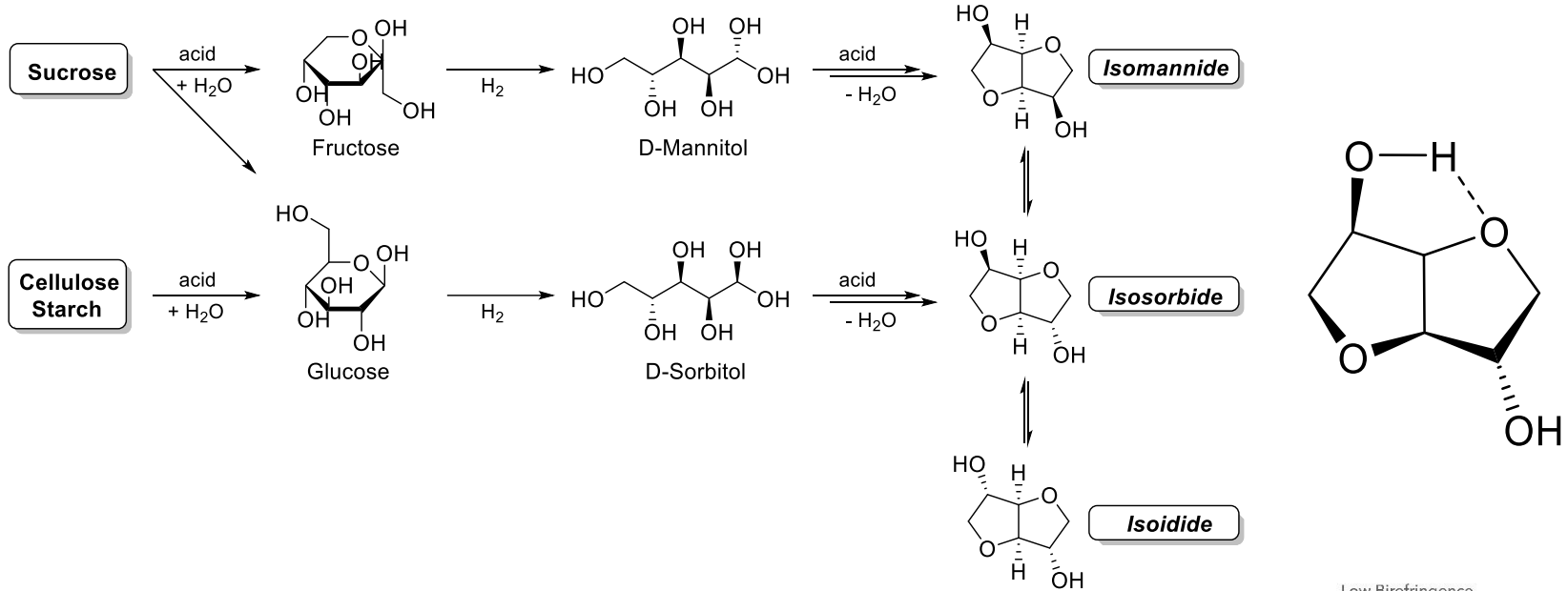


Polymerization

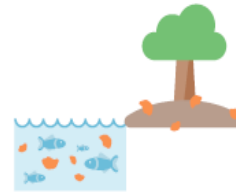


Hyperbranched Polymer

## Isorbide: « regular » chemistry to transform sugar



1- Why ?



2- How ?

→ Biomass transformation to platform chemicals

3- Bio-based plastics from natural polymers

*Cellulose, Natural rubber*

4- Drop-ins: Bio-based alternative to fossil-based polymers

*PE, PET*

5- Smart drop-ins: Bio-based derivative of “fossil” polymers

*PBS, Epoxy, PU*

6- New polymers from biomass

*PLA, PHA, PEF*

7- Conclusions and perspectives

# Conclusion and perspectives



Eucalyptus   spruce   pine   coconut   palm   soybean   rapeseed   peanut   castor bean

*Lignocellulose*

*Vegetable Oil*



Sugarcane   corn   wheat   rice   guar

*Carbohydrate*

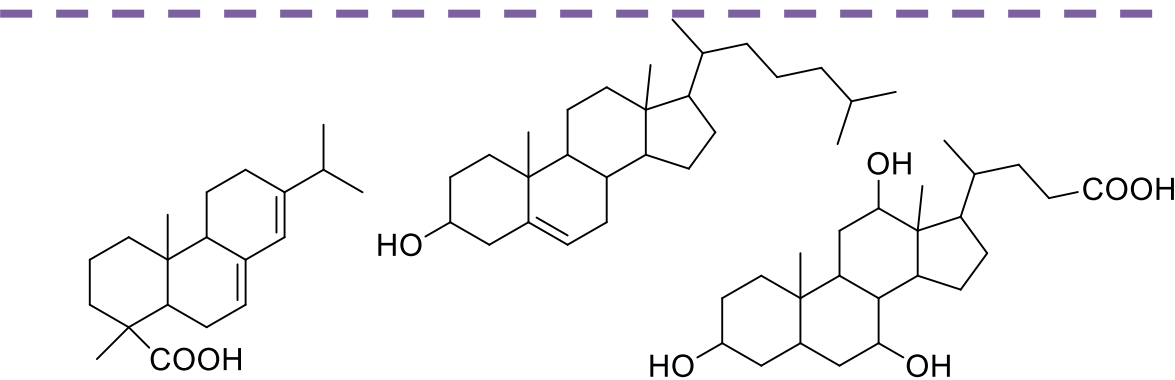
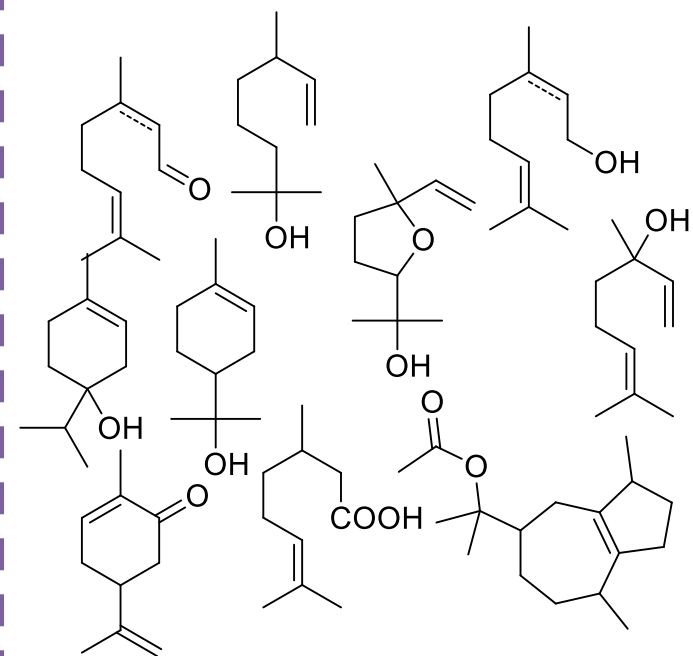
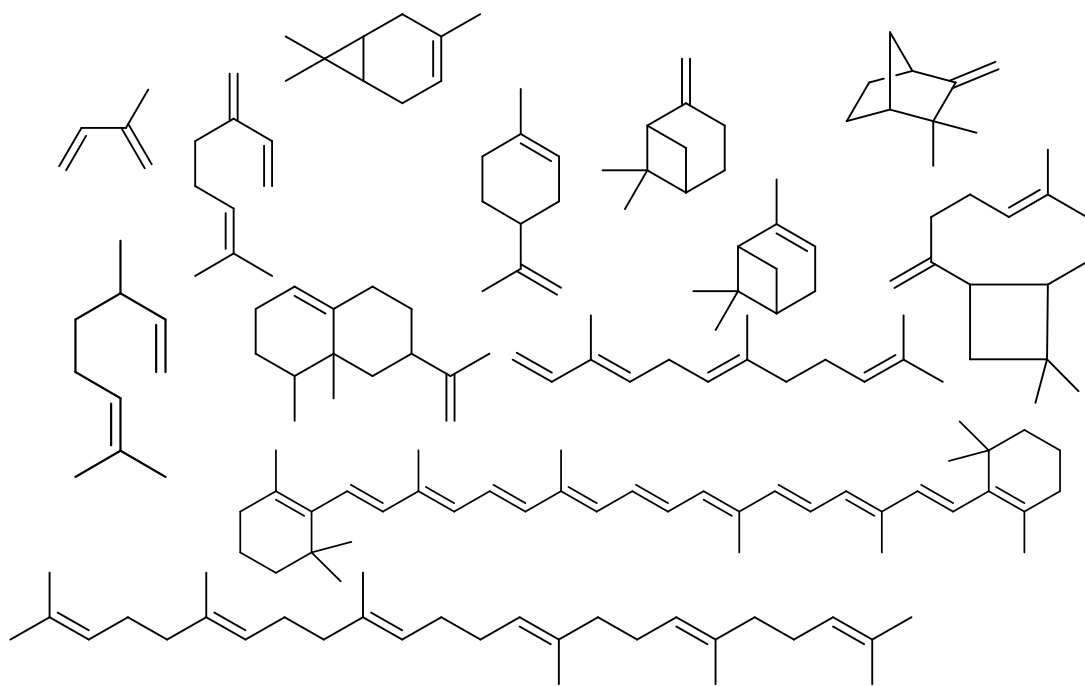


Clove   citrus

*Terpens?*



# Terpenes as a source of various backbones



> 1000 of skeletons

● ● ●

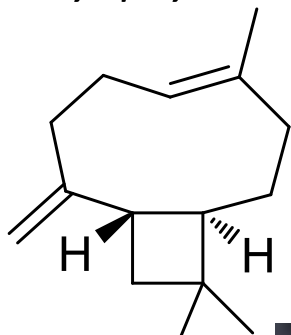


# What can we do with a little of Hop?



1 €/kg

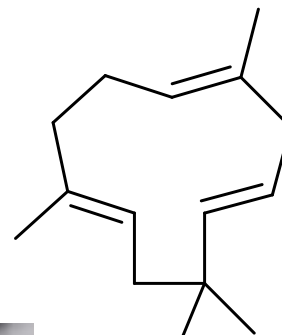
Caryophyllene



# No! Polymers



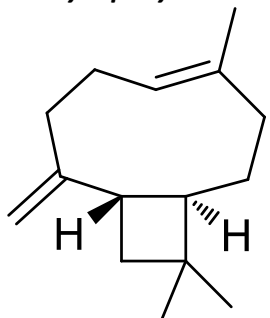
Humulene



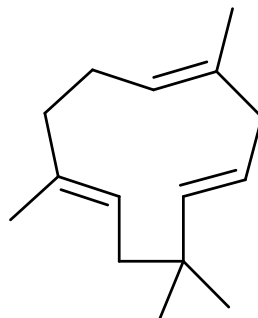
# Beer !!!

# First direct ROMP of natural compounds

Caryophyllene



Humulene



ROMP

ROMP

Can be performed

- In bulk at RT
- In water dispersion
- In hop/clove oil

T<sub>g</sub> = -32°C

T<sub>g</sub> = -48°C

H<sub>2</sub> Pd/C

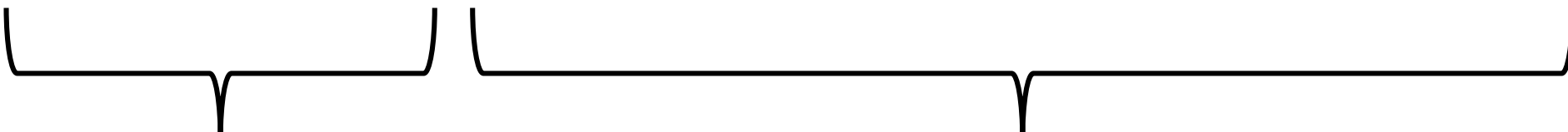
H<sub>2</sub> Pd/C

T<sub>g</sub> = -16°C

T<sub>g</sub> = -44°C

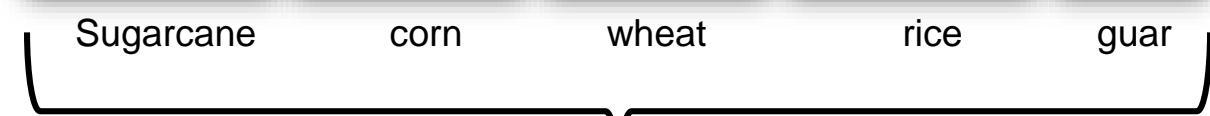
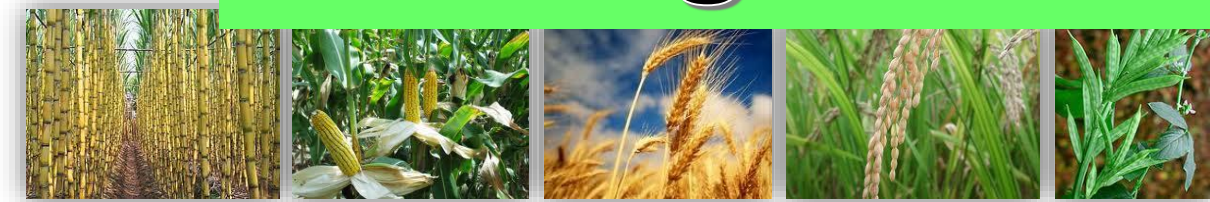


E. Grau, S. Mecking *Green Chem.*, 2013, **15**, 1112-111



*Ligno*

**Crossing the biomass !!!**



*Carbohydrate*

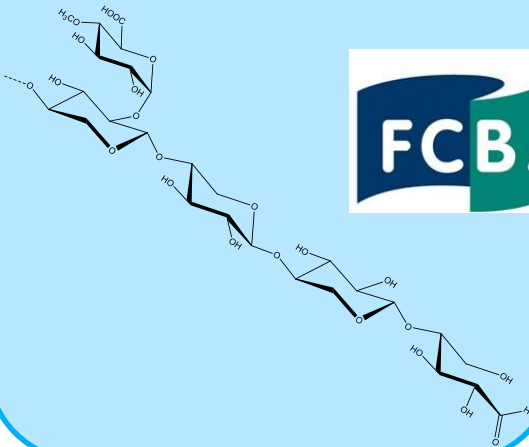


*Terpens*

# Crossing the biomass

**Wood**

**Xylo-oligosaccharides**



**FCBA**

**HYDROPHILIC**



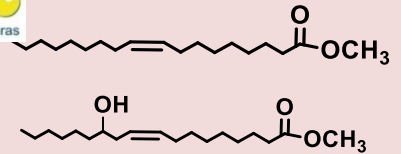
**HYDROPHOBIC**



**ITERG**  
Expertise Corps Gras

**Oil**

**Fatty esters**



- 🔥 Renewable feedstock
- 🔥 Abundant
- 🔥 High purity (up to 99%)
- 🔥 Polymerizable



**Cosmetics**

Emulsifiers -Foaming agents -  
Solubilizers -Wetting agents



**Pharmaceutical**

Biocompatible, drug delivery

**Food**

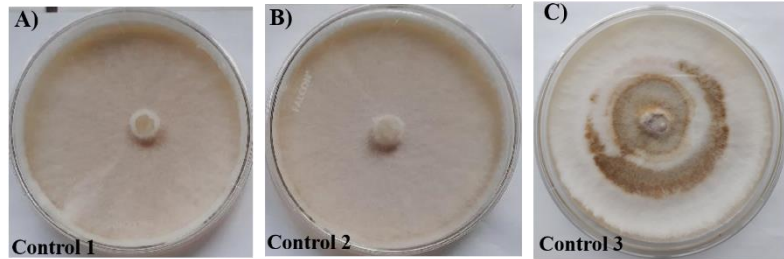
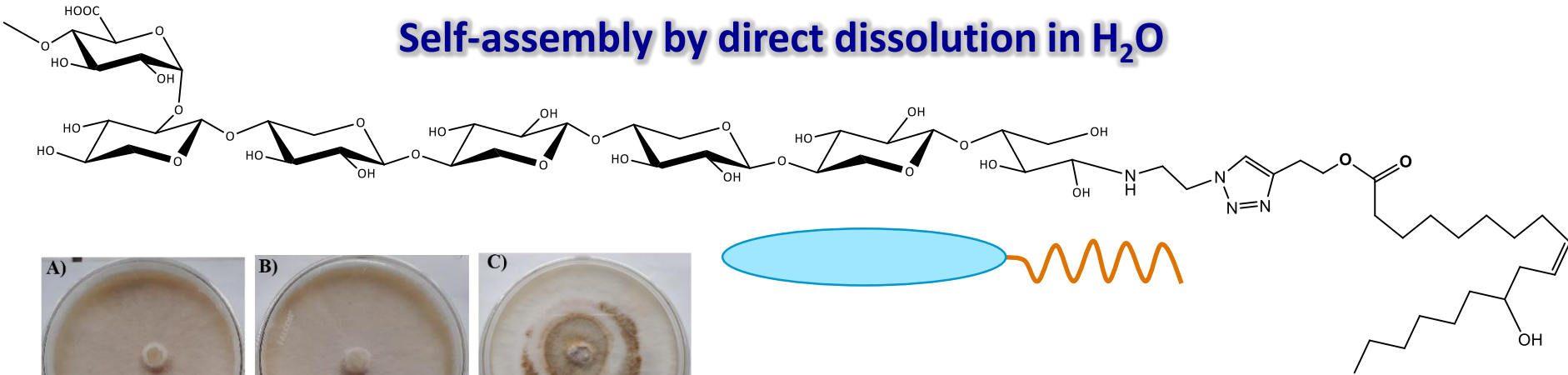
Use as emulsifier



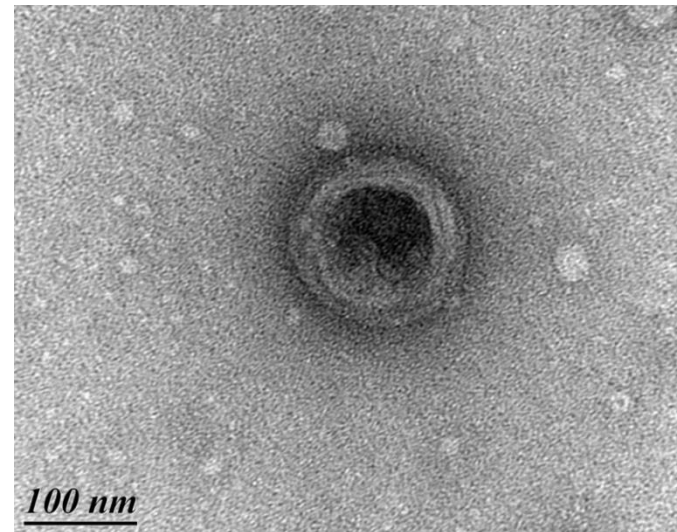
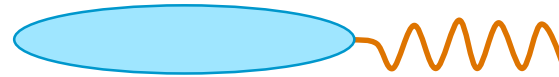
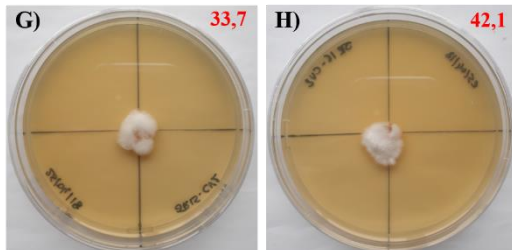
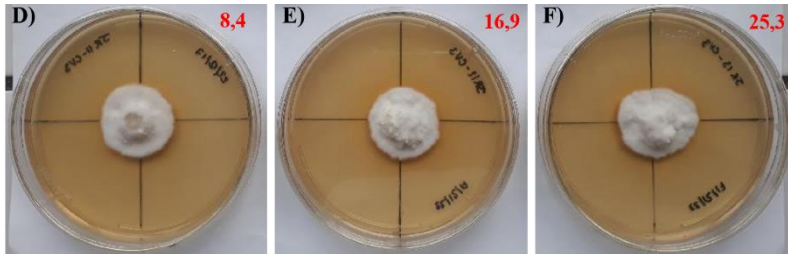
**Detergents**



## Self-assembly by direct dissolution in H<sub>2</sub>O

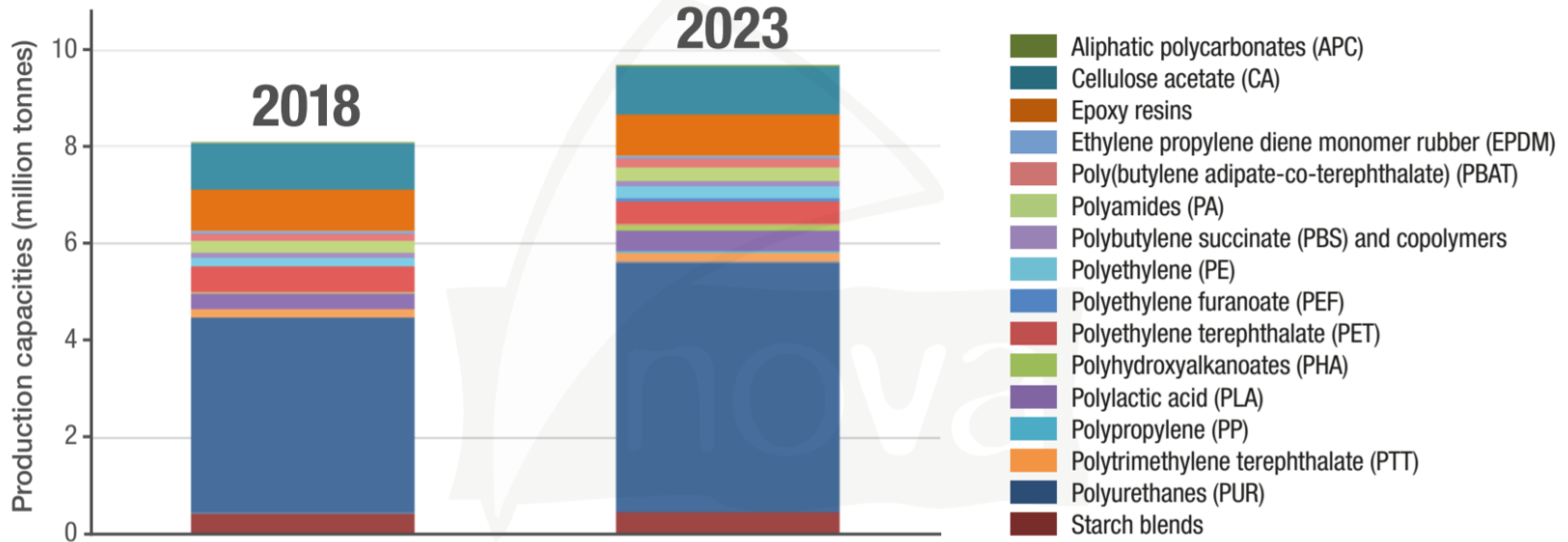


[Propiconazole] (nmol/mL)

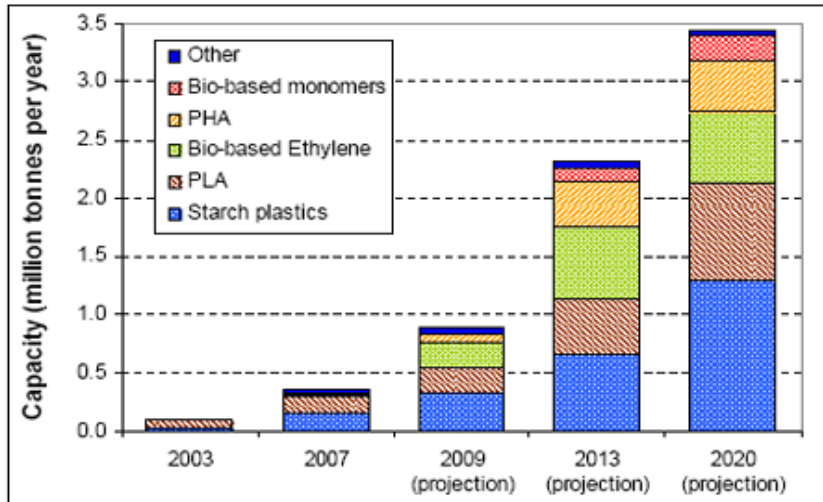


*J. Rosselgong et al. Biomacromolecules, 20(1), 118-129 (2019)*

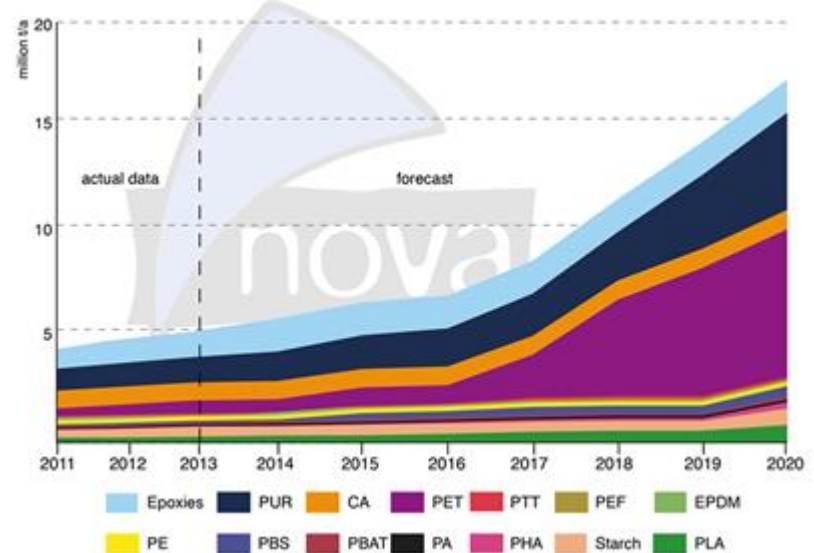
# Bio-based polymers forecast



**vs. 350 Mt of polymer**



Note: Category "other" includes cellulose films, PTT from bio-based 1,3-PDO, bio-based polyamide and PUR from bio-based polyols; category "Bio-based monomers" includes primarily bio-based epichlorohydrin.







***Thank you all !***

***Questions ???***

***egrau@enscbp.fr***



université  
de **BORDEAUX**

