



Drop-in Transportation Fuels from Carbon Dioxide and Solar Hydrogen

Jian Yu

Hawaii Natural Energy Institute

University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hawaii, USA

Environmental and Energy Resource Management Summit 2017
November 9-11, Washington DC.



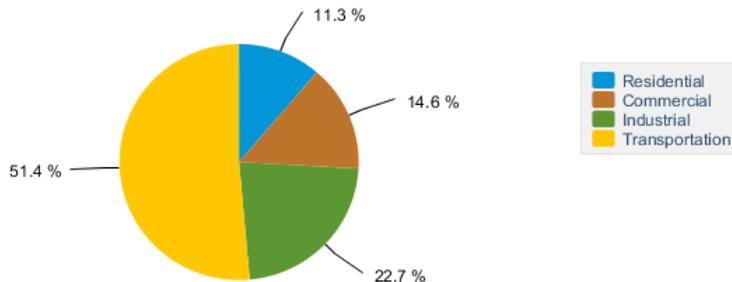


Energy Consumption & CO₂ Emission



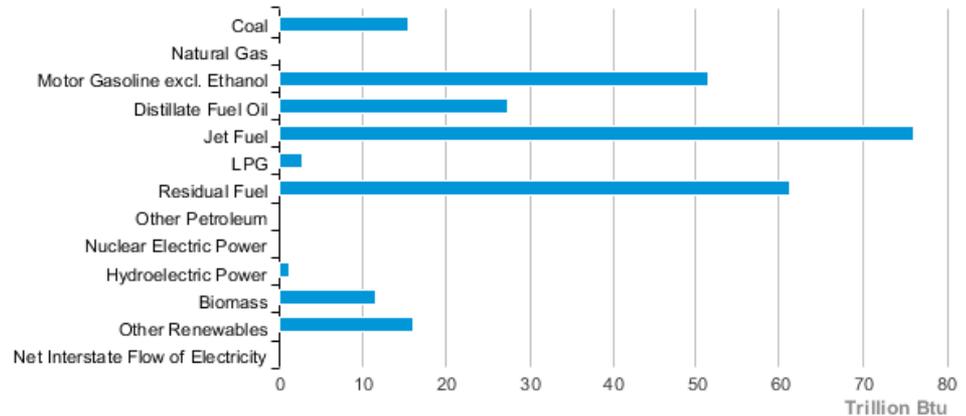
Hawaii Energy Consumption by End-Use Sector, 2015

Energy per capita (#48 in 50 states)



Source: Energy Information Administration, State Energy Data System

Hawaii Energy Consumption Estimates, 2015



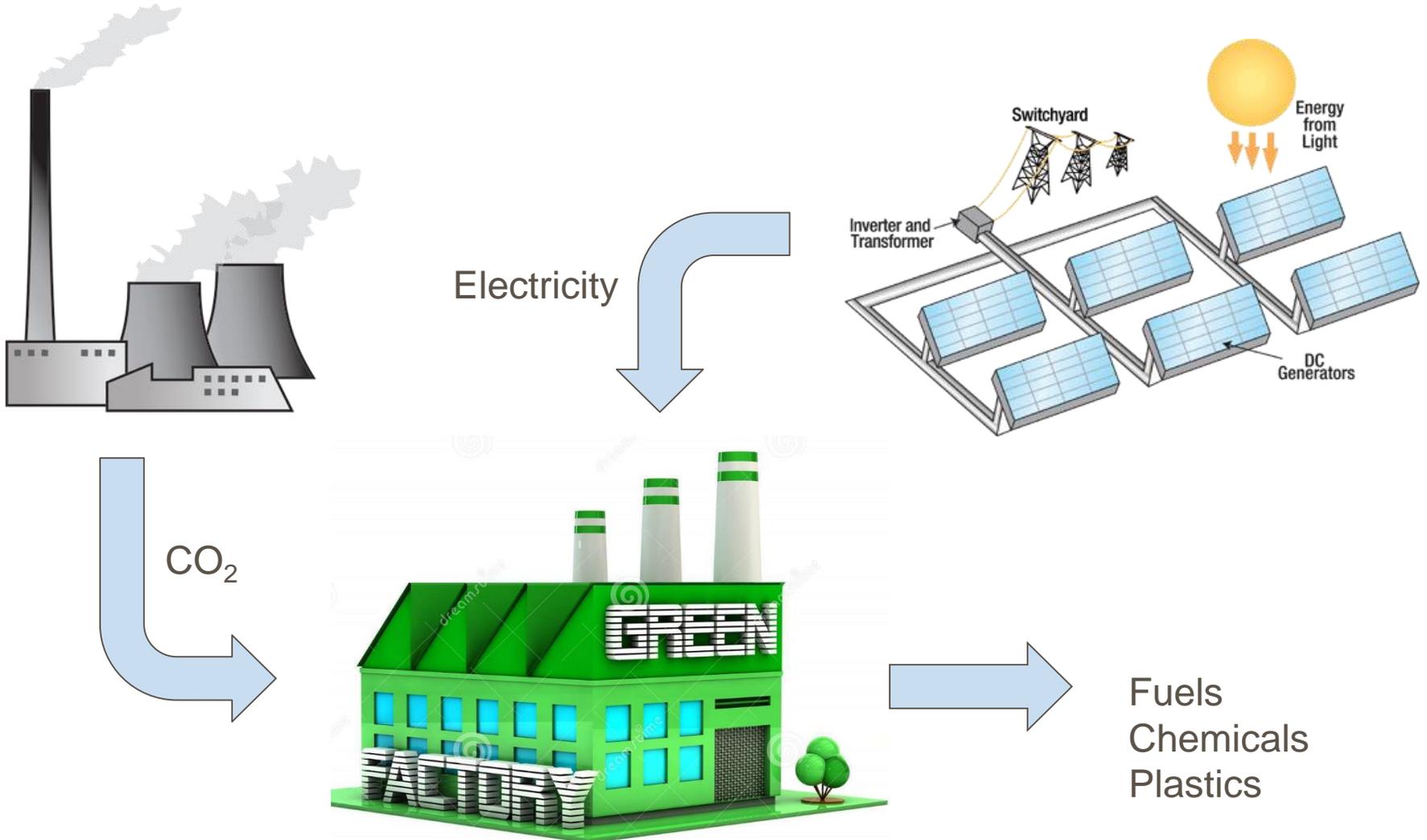
Source: Energy Information Administration, State Energy Data System

CO₂ emission (million metric tonnes)

- Total annual: 18.4 mmt
- Transportation 9.9 mmt or 54%
- Electric: 6.7 mmt or 36% (point source)
- Others: 1.8 mmt or 10%

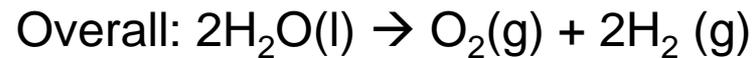
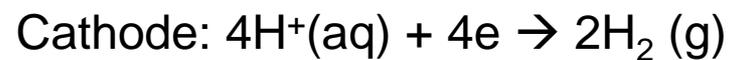
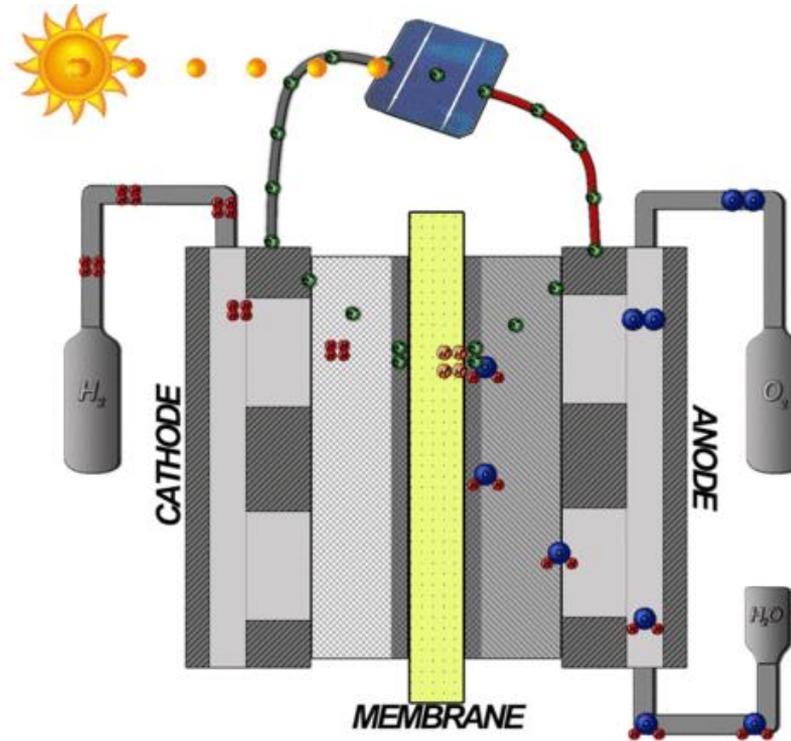


A Green Factory for Renewable Fuels



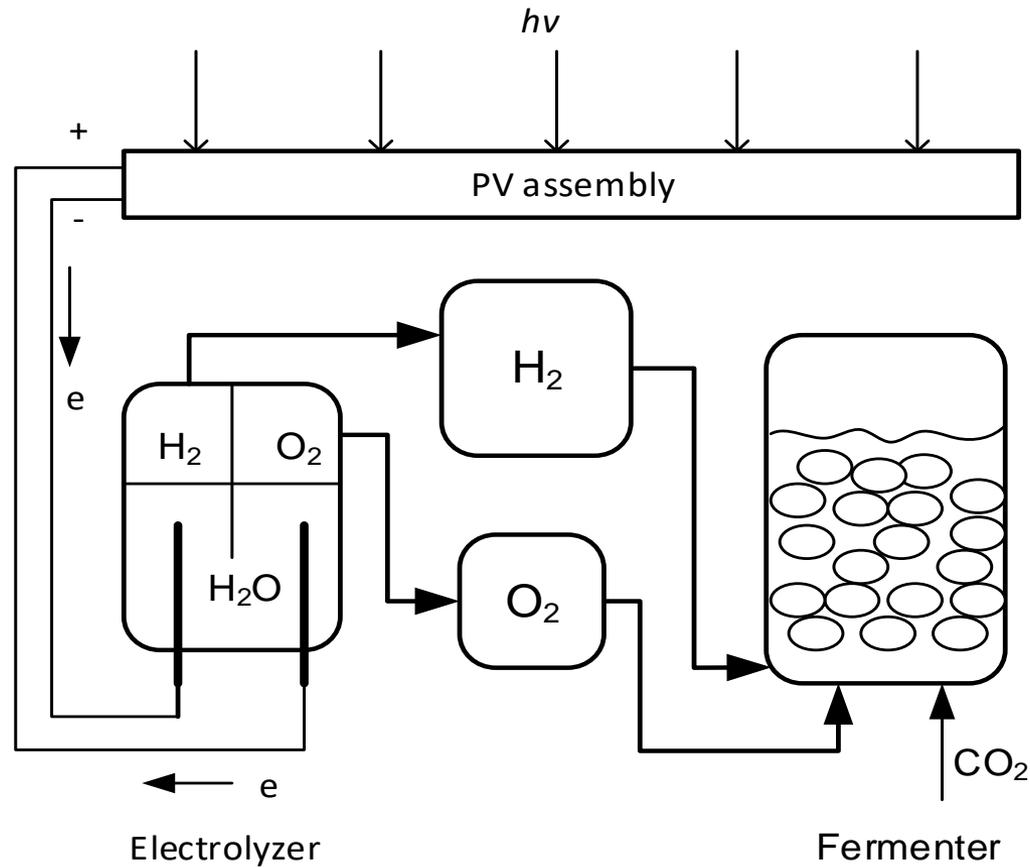


Solar Hydrogen from Water Electrolysis



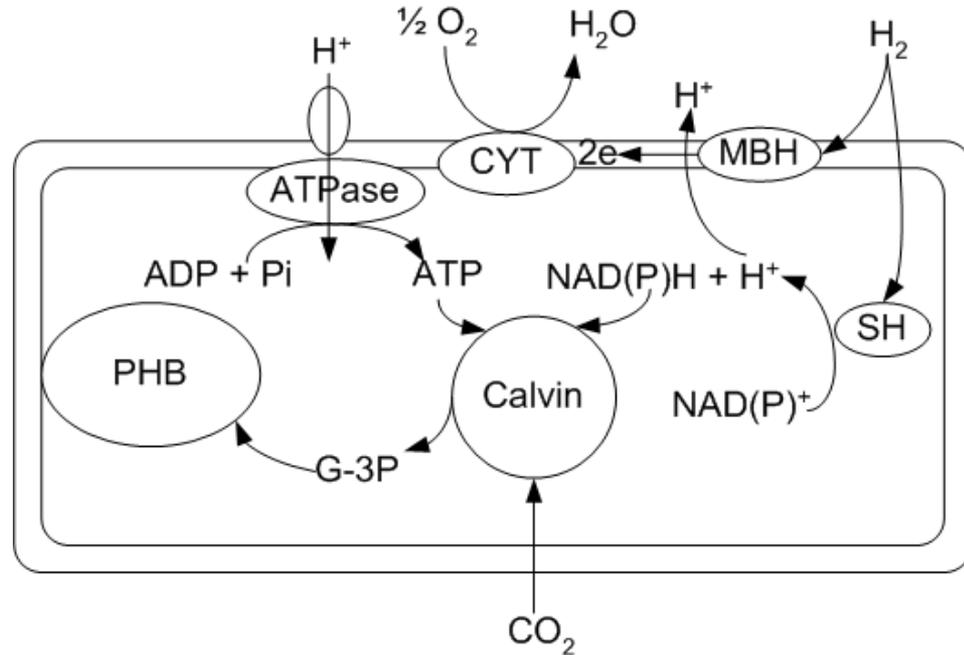
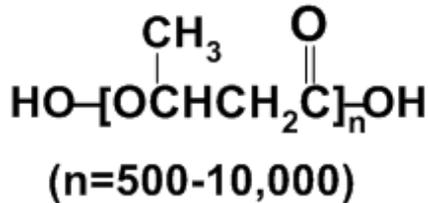
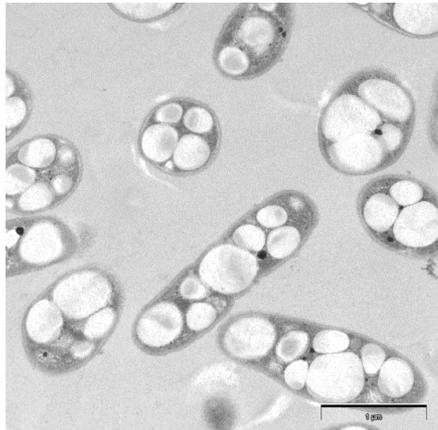


Artificial Photosynthetic System





CO₂ Fixation with H₂ & PHB Formation

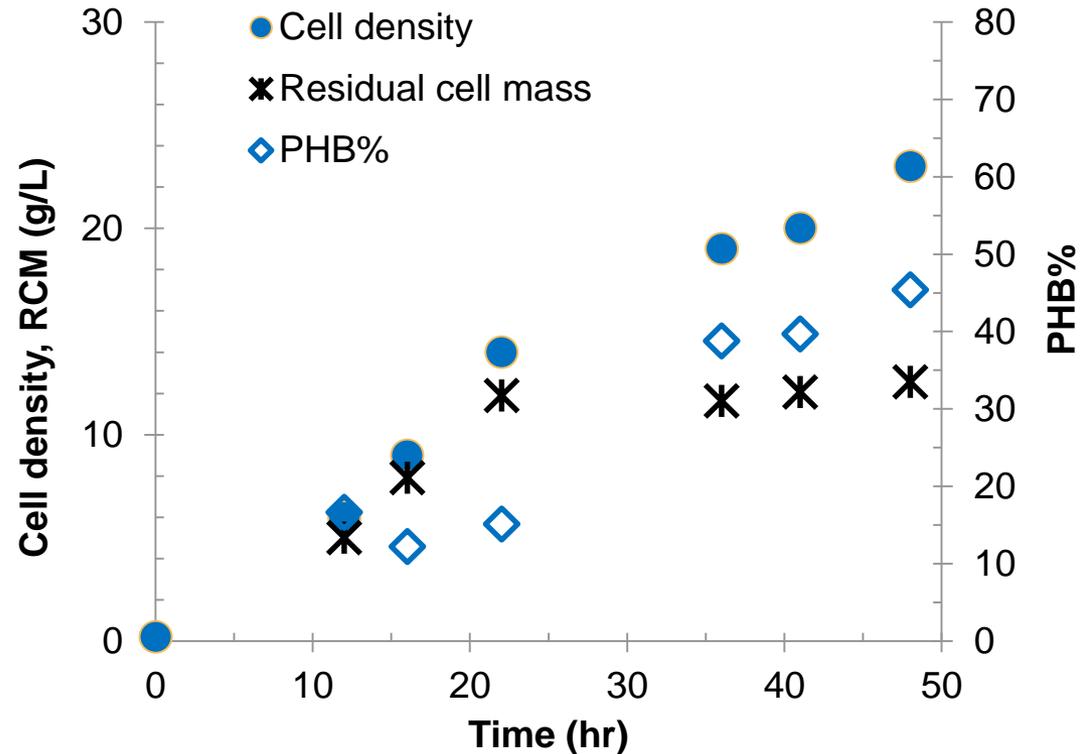


Autotrophic hydrogen-oxidizing bacterium

Granules of polyhydroxybutyrate (50-70 wt%) accumulated in bacterial cells as carbon and energy storage material



Gas Fermentation & PHB Production



- Cell mass doubled in 8 hours
- High cell density of 23 g/L
- 45-60% of PHB, a biopolyester material
- H₂ energy efficiency 20%



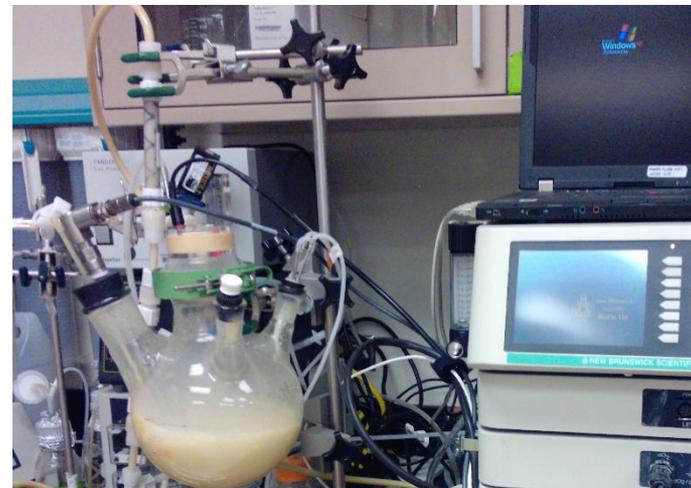
Solar Energy Efficiency



PV module 20%
(high efficiency 35%)



Water electrolysis 70%
(high efficiency 80%)

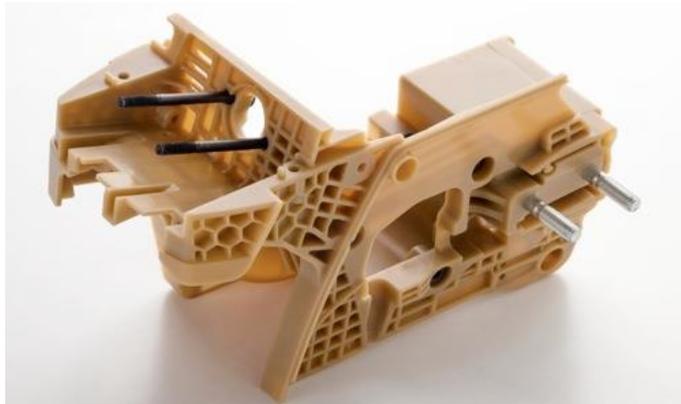
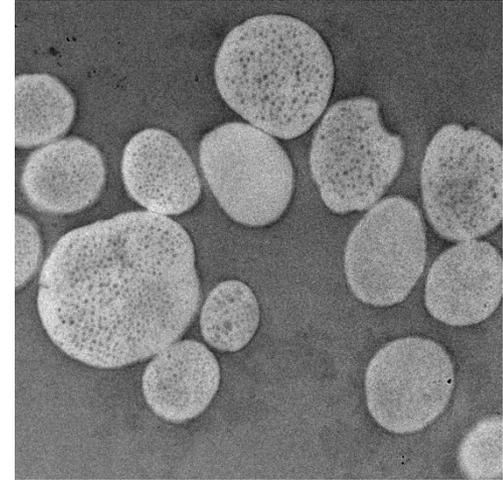
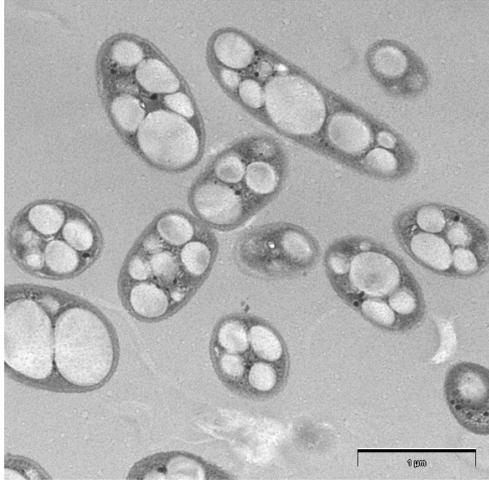


CO₂ fixation 20%
(high efficiency 28%)

- ✓ The energy efficiency is 3% (3 times higher than high plants and crops)
- ✓ Higher efficiency (8%) is achievable in the future!

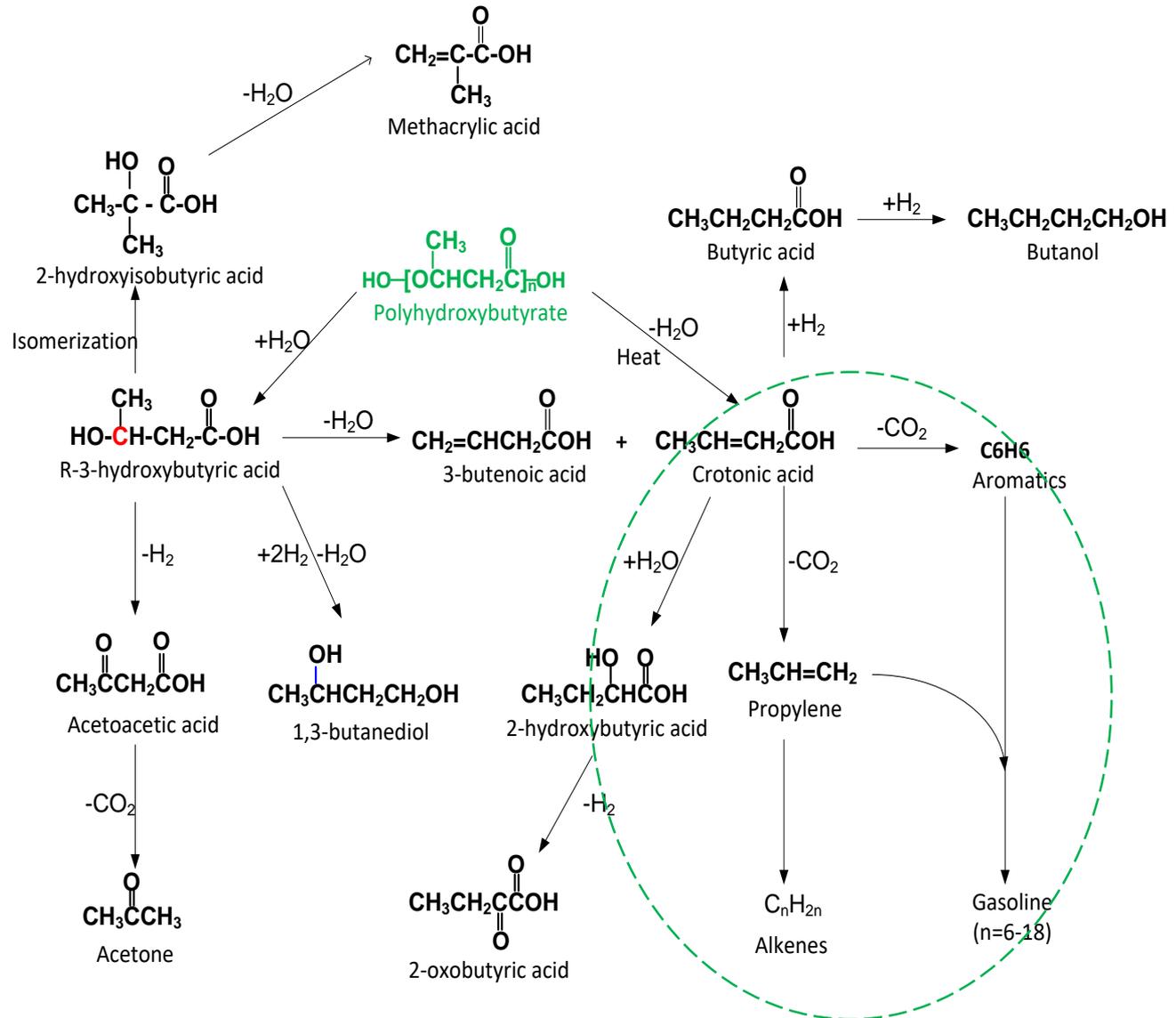


A Bioplastic of 100% CO₂ carbon



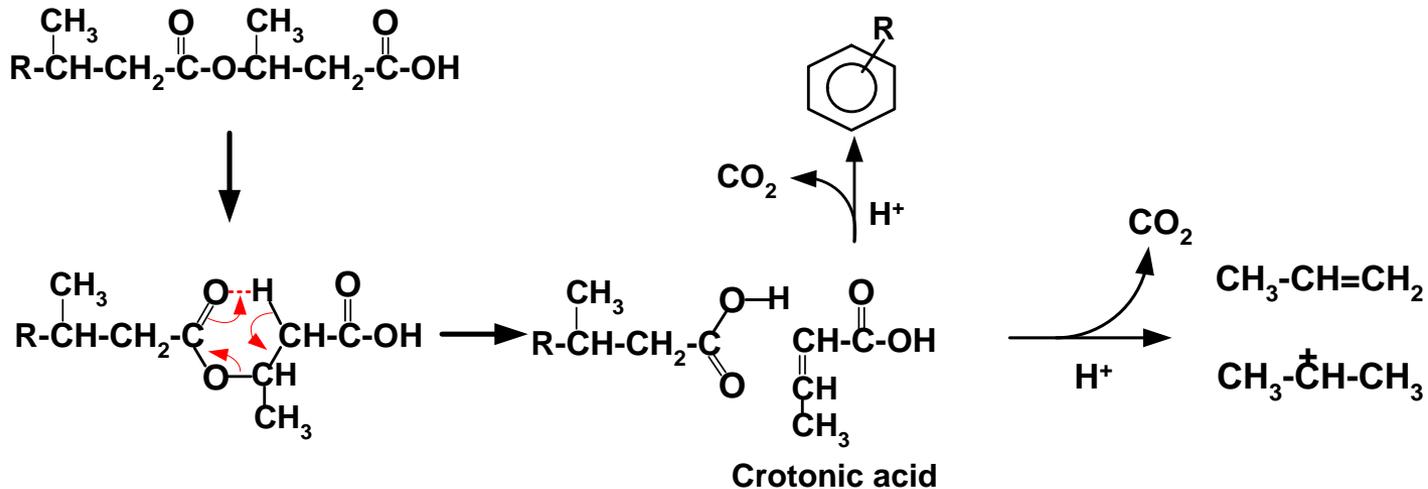
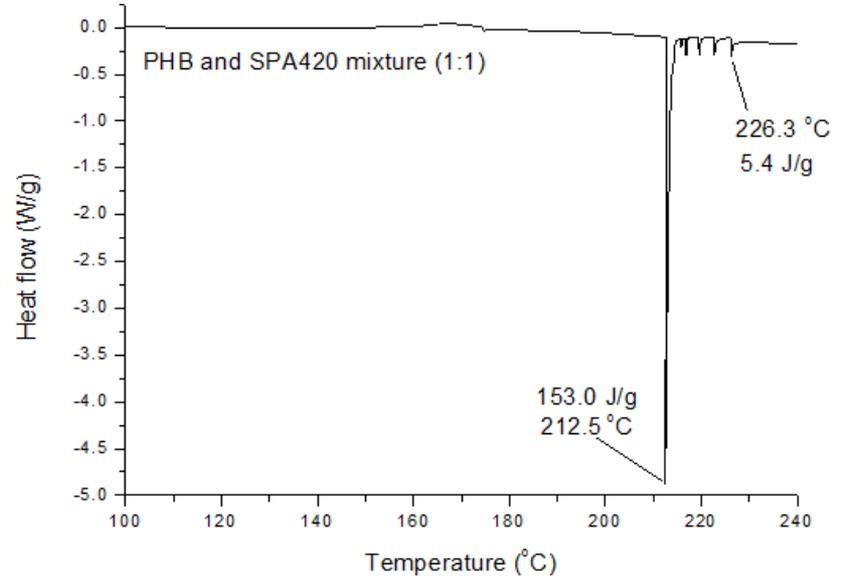
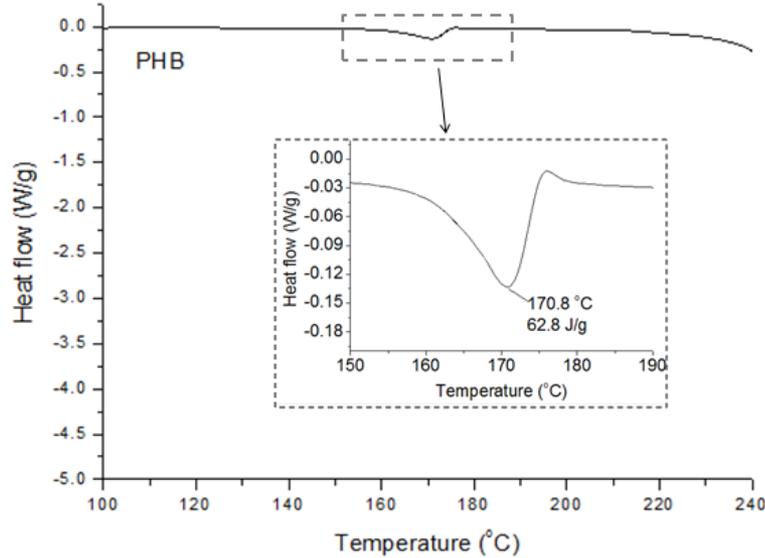


Hydrocarbon Oil from PHB



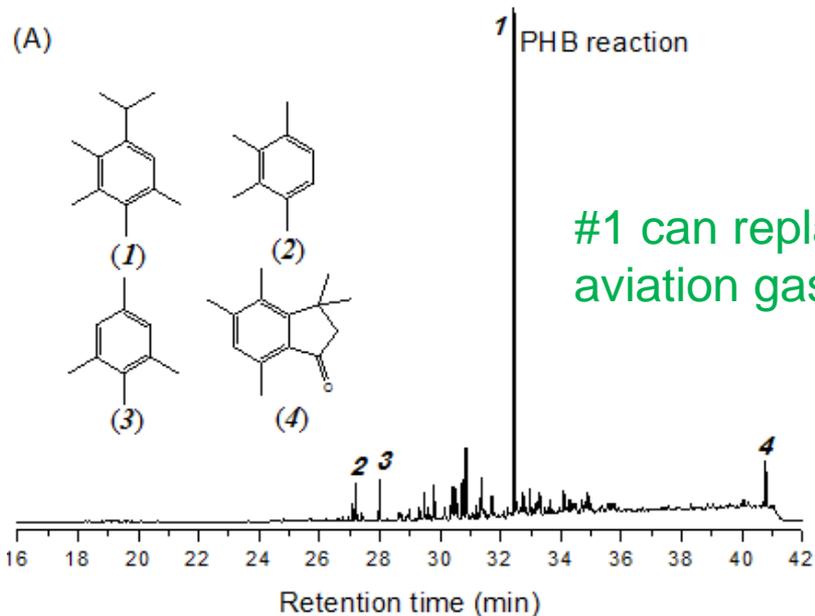


PHB Melting & Catalytic Reform in DSC

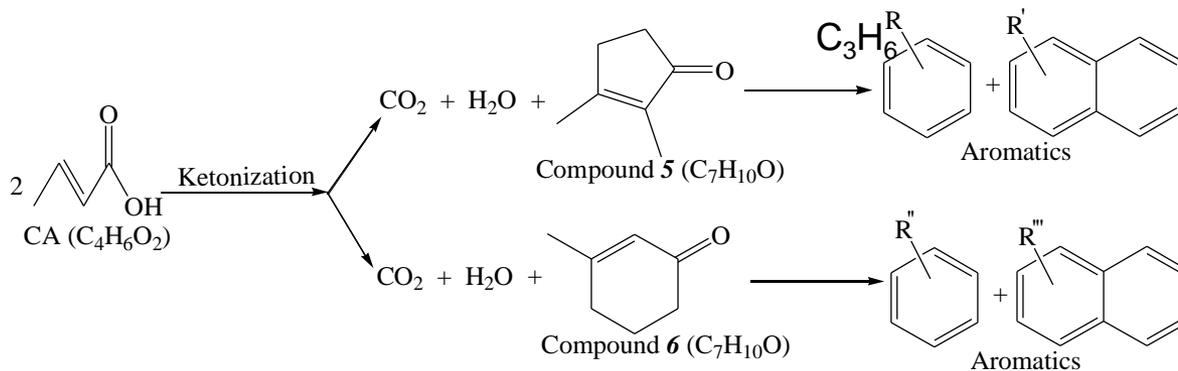




Aromatics from PHB: GCMS Analysis

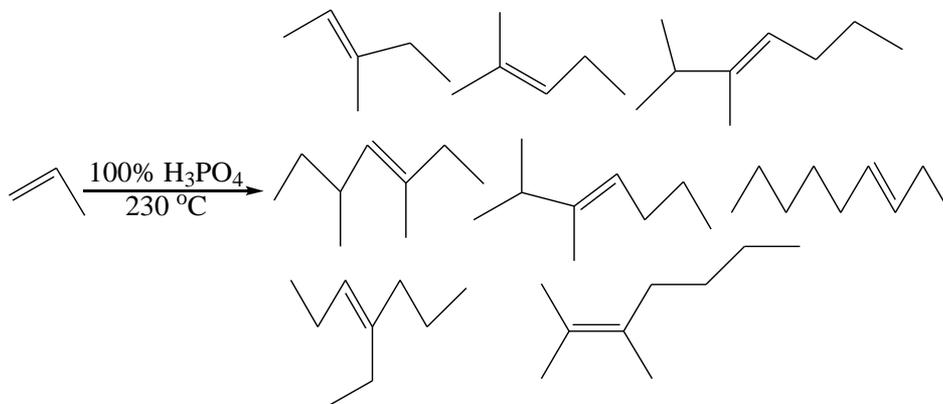


#1 can replace lead for high octane (100+) aviation gasoline





Alkenes from PHB

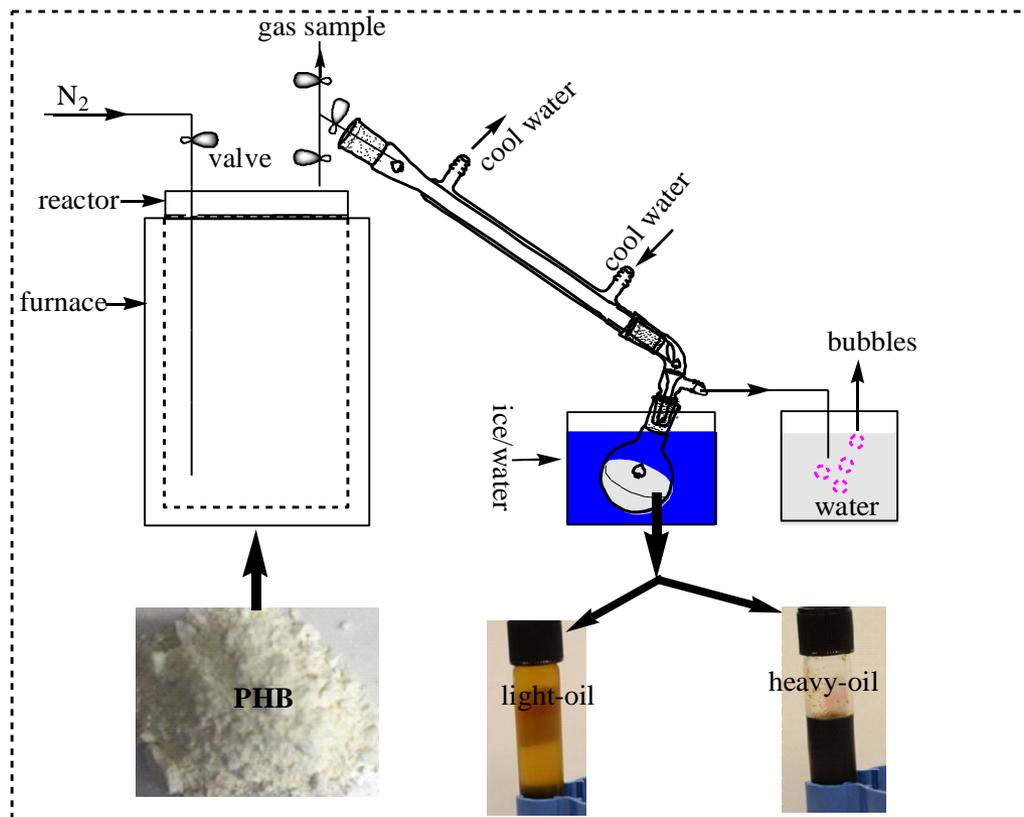
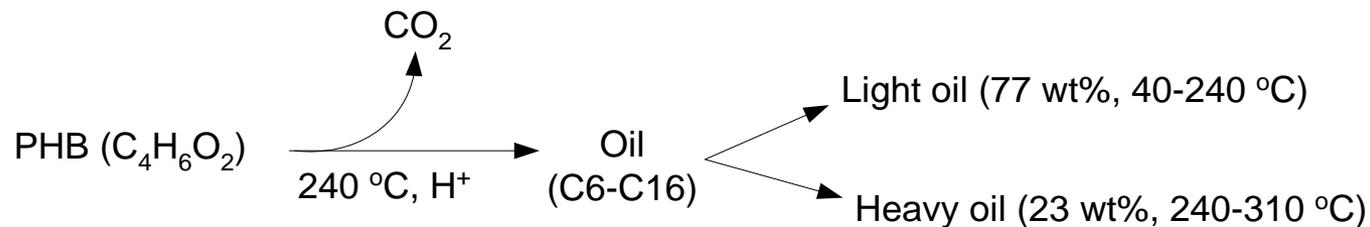


Catalyst	O-containing Chemicals (%) [*]	Alkenes (%) [*]	Benzenes (%) [*]	Naphthalenes (%) [*]
A	19.6	2.6	65.8	11.2
B	9.9	57.0	31.1	2.0

^{*}Based on percentage of peak areas in GCMS chromatograms



Oils from Reaction & Distillation





Drop-in Biofuels

Fuels	Gasoline ^a	Light-oil	Heavy-oil	Biodiesel ^b
BP (°C)	40-240	40-240	240-310	182-338
C (wt%)	80.40	81.37	79.38	76.96
H (wt%)	12.30	11.30	9.67	11.85
N (wt%)	0.15	0.14	0.23	-
O (wt%) ^c	6.35	7.19	10.72	9.41
HHV (MJ/kg) ^d	41.8	41.4	38.4	39.7

^a Commercial gasoline from a local station

^b Biodiesel from plant oil (FAME)

^c Estimated by elemental balance

^d Measured by Hazen Research Inc.



Acknowledgement

- ❑ Students and post-doctors for laboratory work
- ❑ Office of Naval Research for financial support

Thank You !!!