

How Chemical Engineers Will Save the World

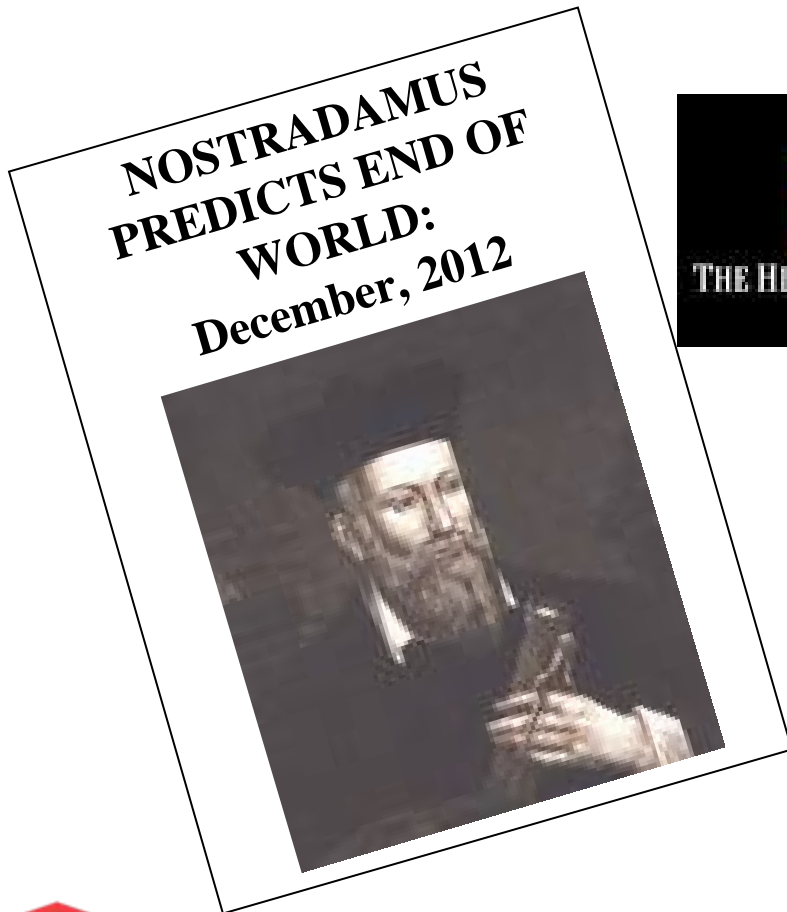


William F. Banholzer, PhD
Executive Vice President & Chief Technology Officer
The Dow Chemical Company



United Nations Declares 2011 “International Year of Chemistry”

...AND JUST IN TIME!



Response to Challenges

**“In order to save the world,
I choose to live green.”**



OR

**“In order to save the world,
I choose to work on solutions.”**



Chemical Engineers Have Saved the World Before

World War II

- **Synthetic fuel**
 - Catalytic cracking
- **Synthetic rubber**
 - Polymerization chemistry
- **Synthetic insulation**
 - Polystyrene



Chemical engineers operate
at the nexus between
necessity and invention

Keith J. Watson, PhD



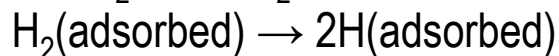
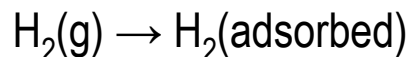
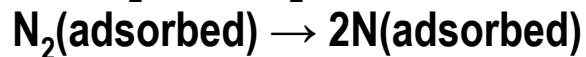
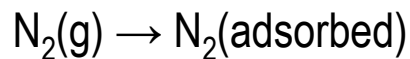
Chemical Engineers Feed the World

Nitrogen Fertilizers

- Most plants do not engage in nitrogen fixation
- Thus, nitrogen has to be added to the soil
- Chemical engineers make nitrogen for soil

Haber Process

- Methane as a feedstock to make synthesis gas
- **Mechanism:**



Today's World Challenges

Energy

Production



Transmission



Use



Water

Availability



Distribution



Purity



Food

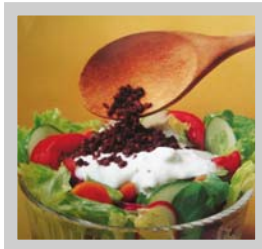
Land



Productivity



Quality



Sustainable Prosperity

Cost of Goods



Environmental Impact



The Fundamentals are just as Important Now

Never lose sight of these considerations:

Thermodynamics	➤	In Your Favor
Kinetics	➤	Fast
Catalysis	➤	Controlled
Separations/Transport	➤	Easy/Lower Energy
Unit Operations	➤	Lower Capital




There isn't a useful process in the world that is exempt from these fundamentals



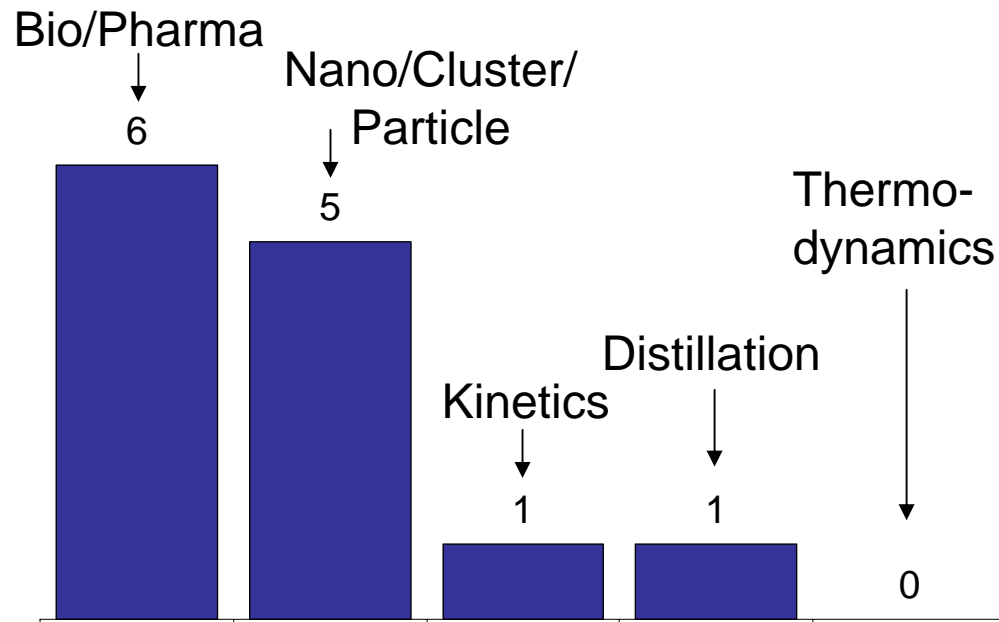

Proper Balance of Fads and Fundamentals?

"The energy business is ruthlessly policed by the immutable laws of thermodynamics. And those laws have snuffed out many promising ideas."

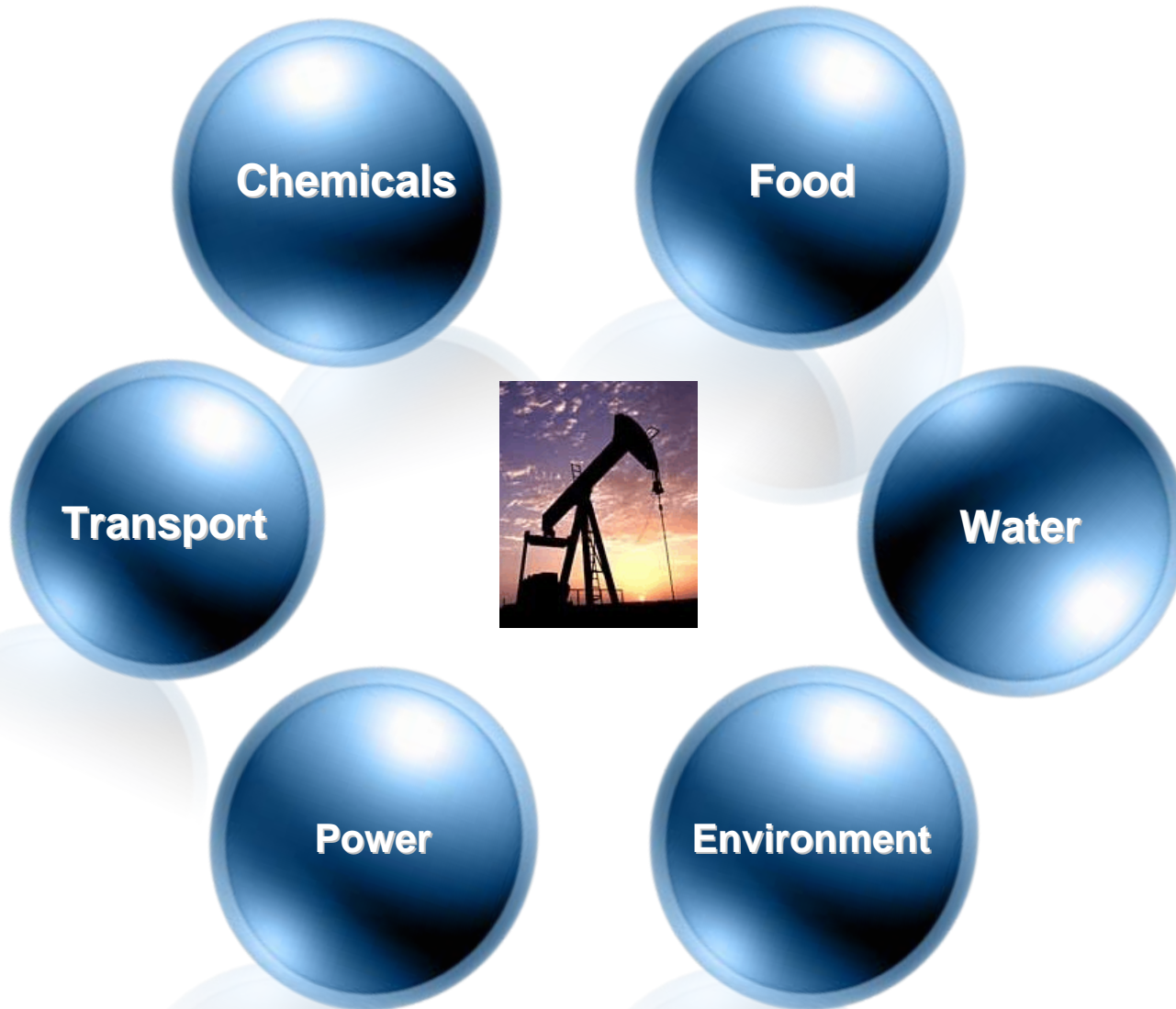
- Robert Bryce, author of Gusher of Lies



PURDUE
UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF CHEMICAL
ENGINEERING
Program and Abstracts
Sixteenth Annual
Graduate Research Symposium
August 16, 2007



Energy is Everything



Change the World Breakthrough?



Is Solar Water Splitting the Answer?

What People Hope:

Unleashes a solar revolution

pH = 7 matters

Just like photosynthesis

Replacing Pt matters

100% current efficiency

Novel discovery

Water splitting needed



What Chemical Engineers Know:

Getting to the end-use is impractical

Not on the critical path

Leaves do not make hydrogen

Coated stainless steel

Neglects overall energy balance

Exists in the patent literature

There are better ways to use electrons

Unit Operations Reality

Solar Cell



Electrolyzer



H₂ Storage Facility



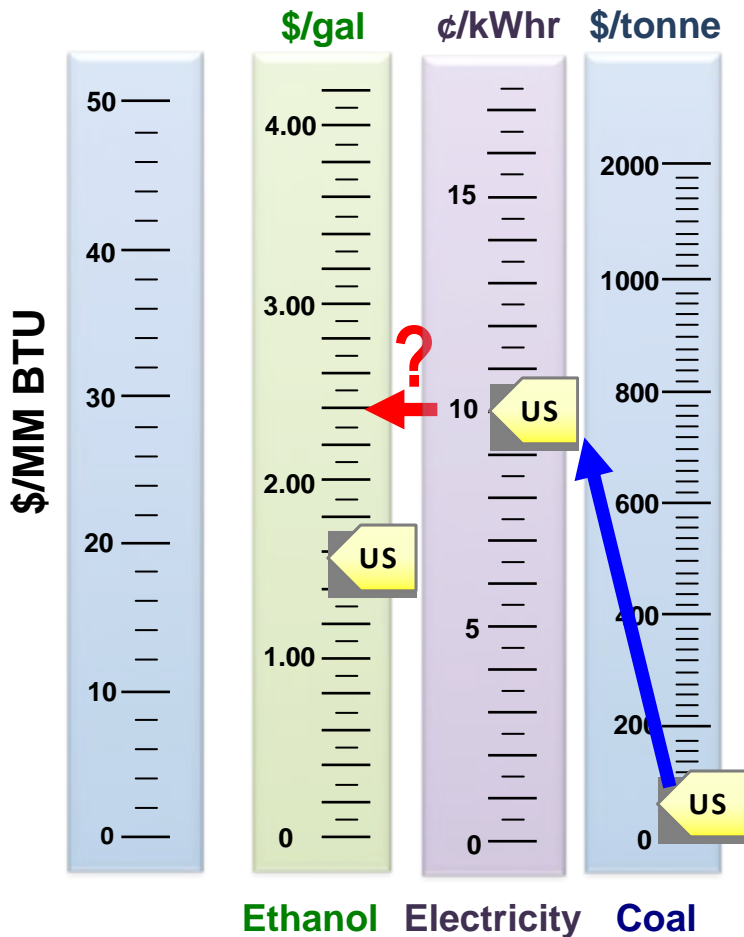
Point Of Use



Fuel Cell



Thermodynamic Considerations

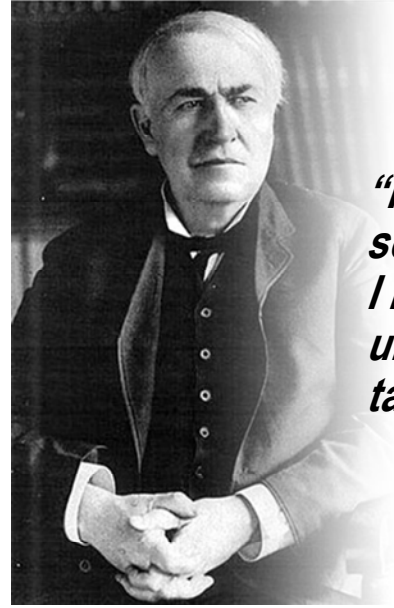


Solar at \$0.22/kWhr and conversion efficiency of 50% yields ~\$11/gallon ethanol

You make electricity from fuels, not the other way around



Solar is the Answer – Earth is Not a Closed System



“I’d put my money on the sun and solar energy. What a source of power! I hope we don’t have to wait until oil and coal run out before we tackle that.”

— *Thomas Edison*
The year – 1931.

Global power burn rate ~ 13 TW
Global solar incidence > 120,000 TW



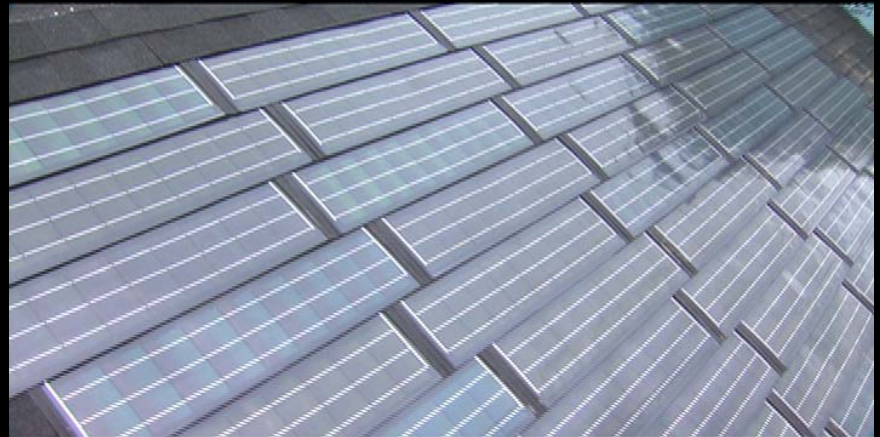
Conventional Solar Installations: \$40 Billion the Hard Way





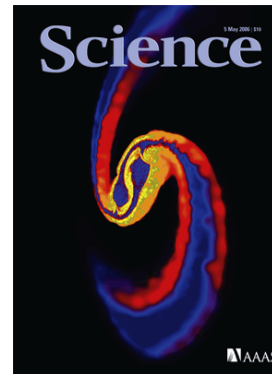
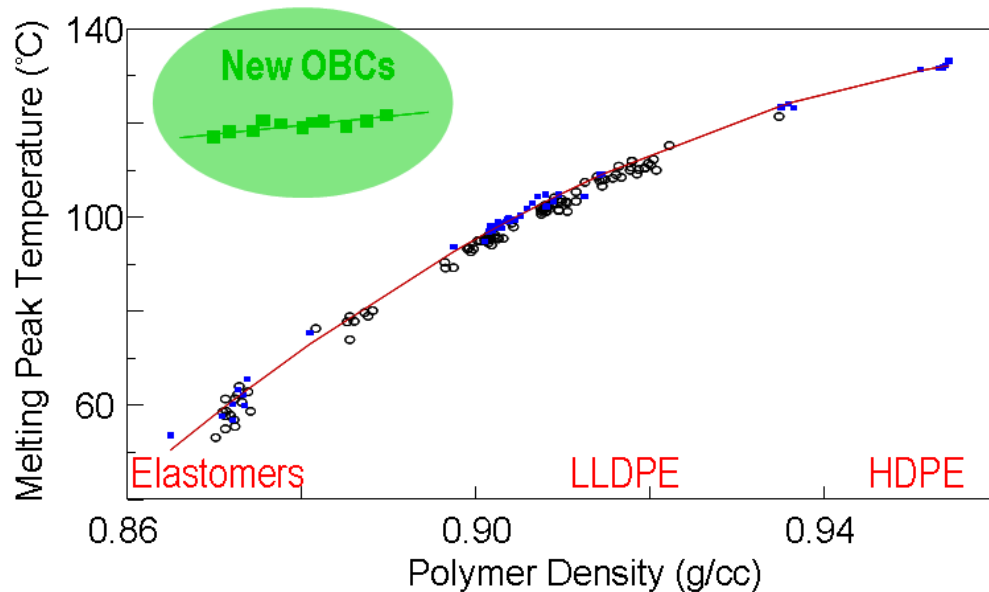
Chief Technology Officer, Duke Energy

Solar Shingle Installation Feedback Session





INFUSE™ Olefin Block Copolymers



RESEARCH ARTICLE

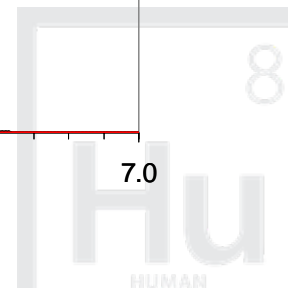
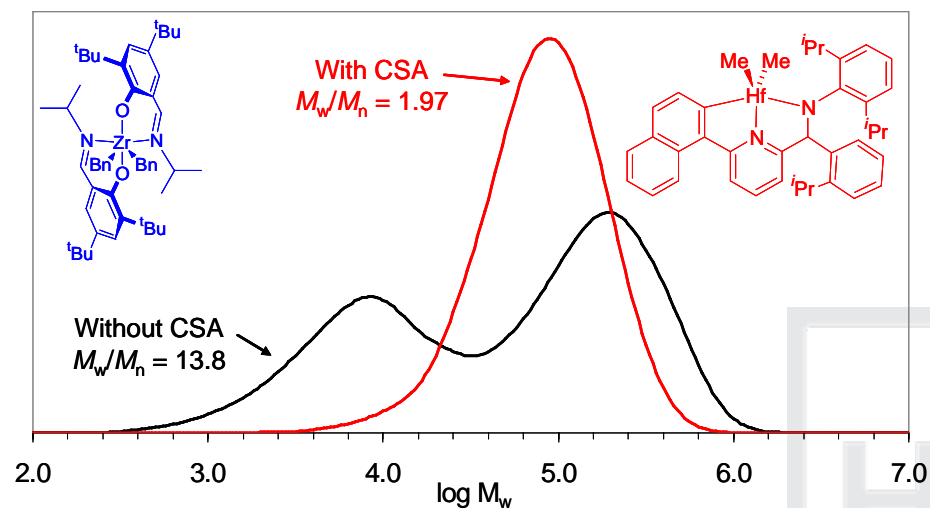
Catalytic Production of Olefin Block Copolymers via Chain Shuttling Polymerization

Daniel J. Ariola,^{1*} Edmund M. Carnahan,^{2*} Phillip D. Hustad,^{2*} Roger L. Kuhlman,^{2*} Timothy T. Wenzel^{1*}

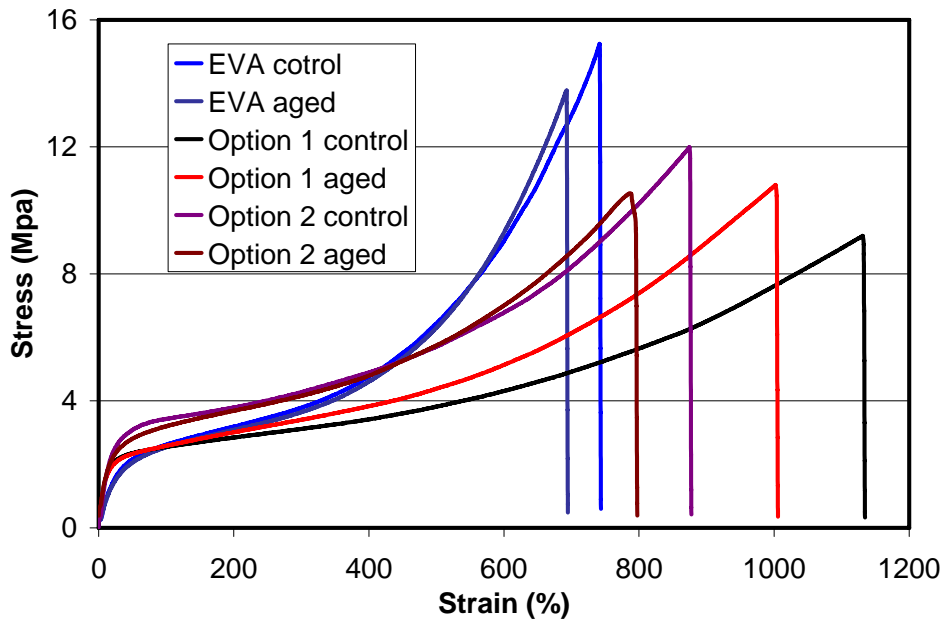
We report a catalytic system that produces olefin block copolymers with alternating semicrystalline and amorphous segments, achieved by varying the ratio of α -olefin to ethylene in the two types of blocks. The system uses a chain shuttling agent to transfer growing chains between two distinct catalysts with different monomer selectivities in a single polymerization reactor. The block copolymers simultaneously have high melting temperatures and low glass transition temperatures, and therefore they maintain excellent elastomeric properties at high temperatures. Furthermore, the materials are effectively produced in economically favorable, continuous polymerization processes.

From lead article in Science to commercial launch in the same calendar year!

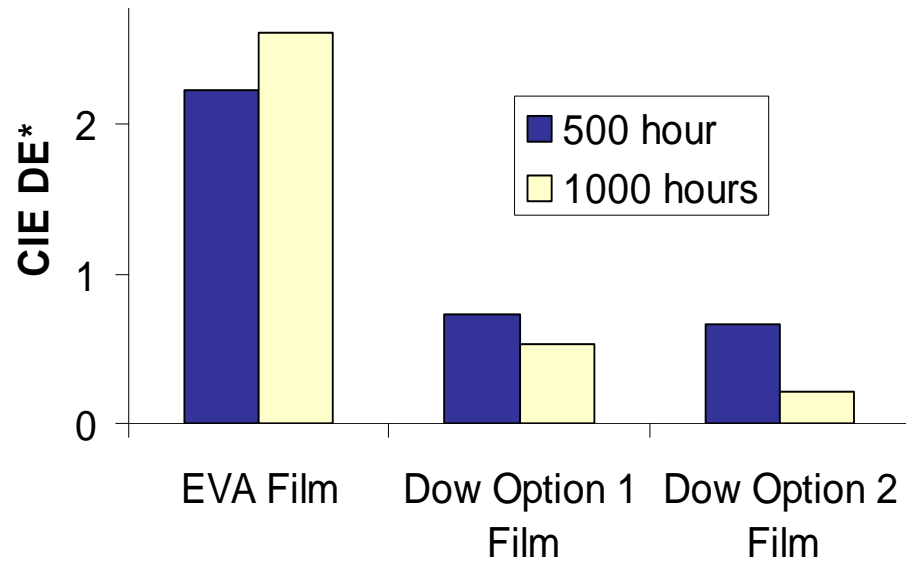
Kinetics!



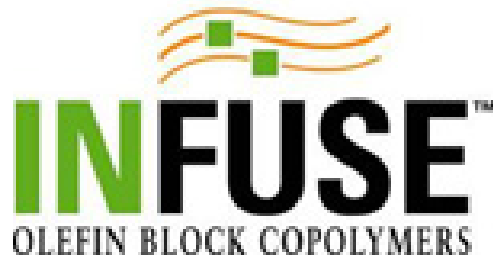
INFUSE™ Encapsulant Films



Mechanical Properties After Damp Heat (85C, 85%RH)

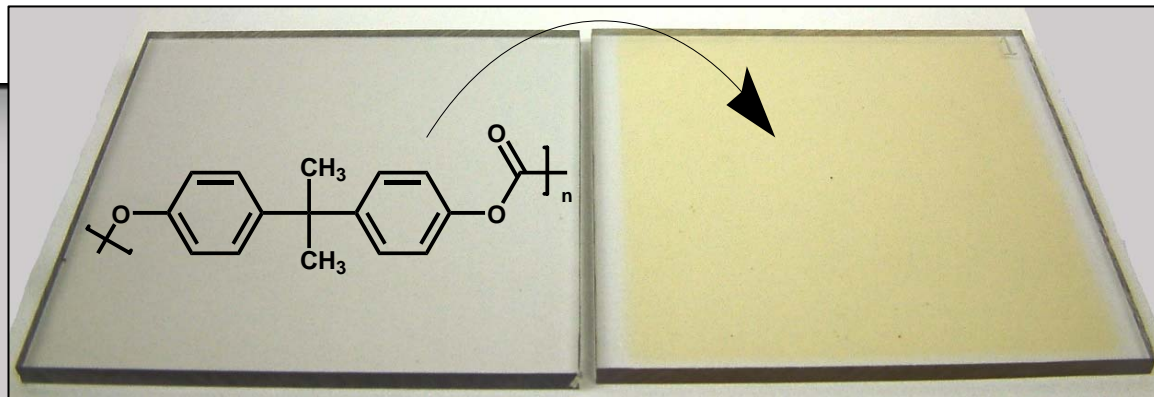


Color Change Under UV (Xenon Arc, 63C, 50%RH)
Post 500 & 1000 Hrs Damp Heat (85C, 85%RH)

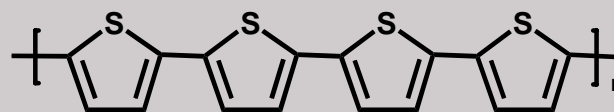
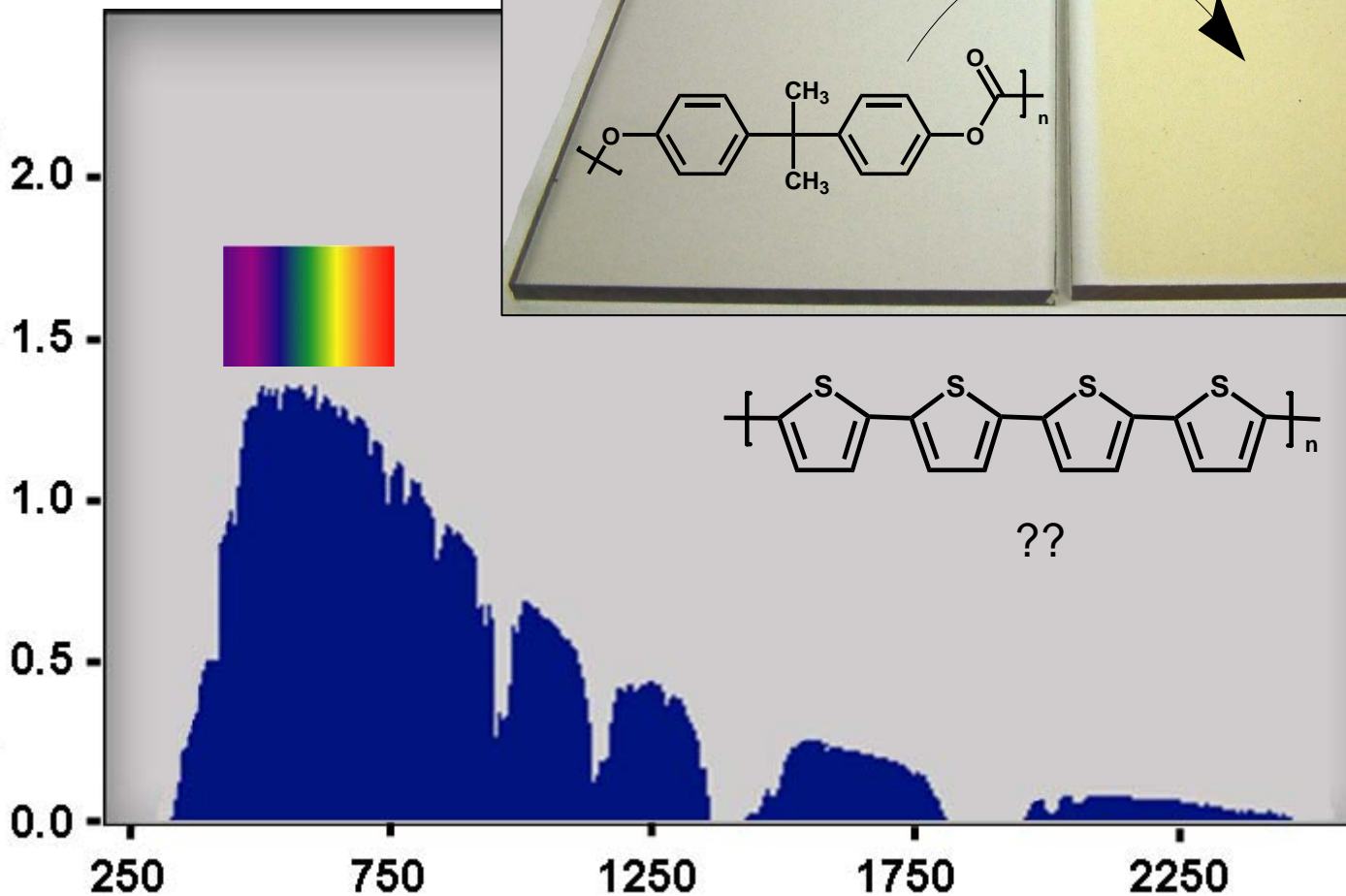


Organic PV? Aromatics Don't Weather Well!

UV Light, H₂O

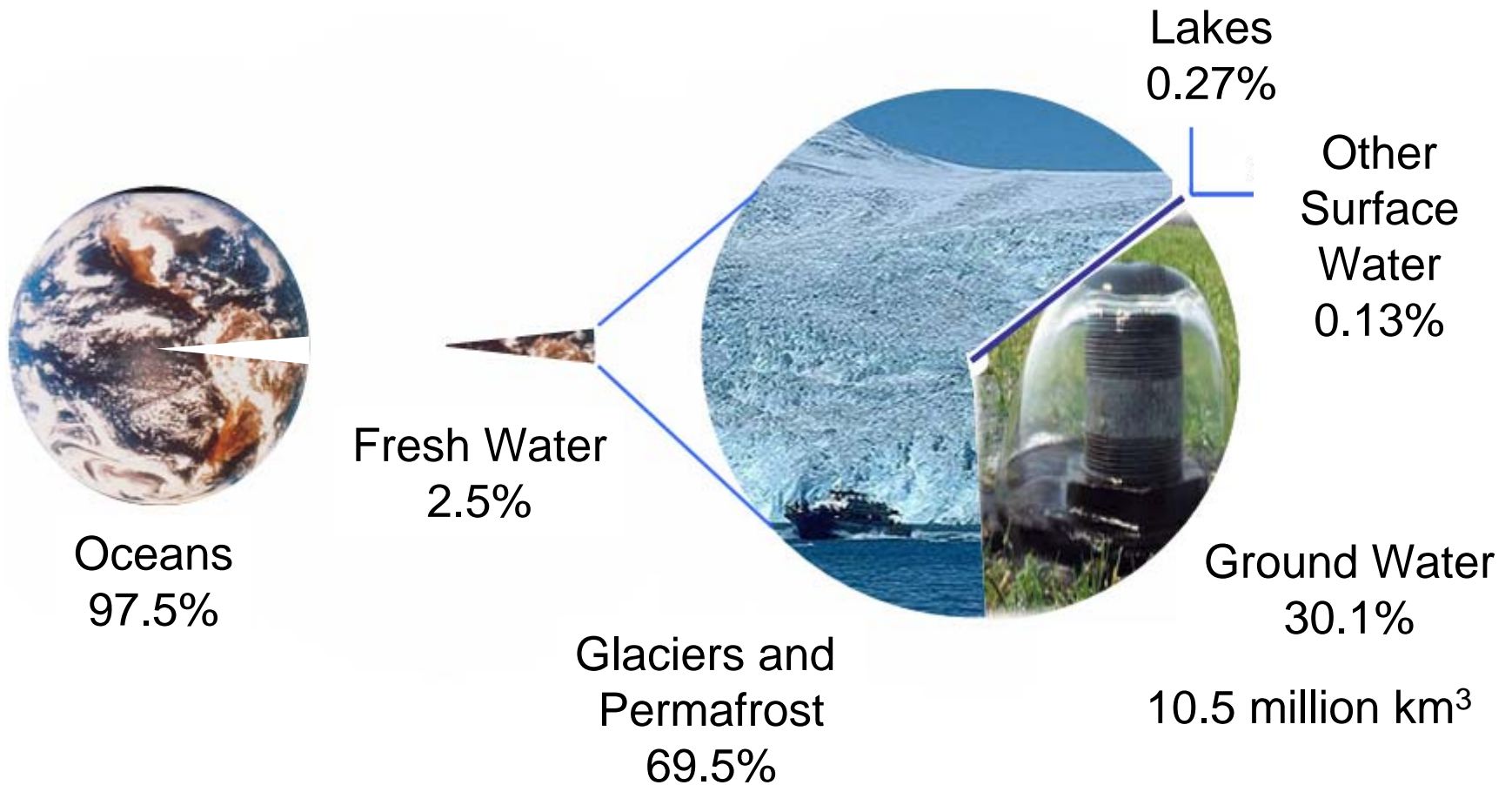


Spectral Irradiance (W/m²/nm)



??

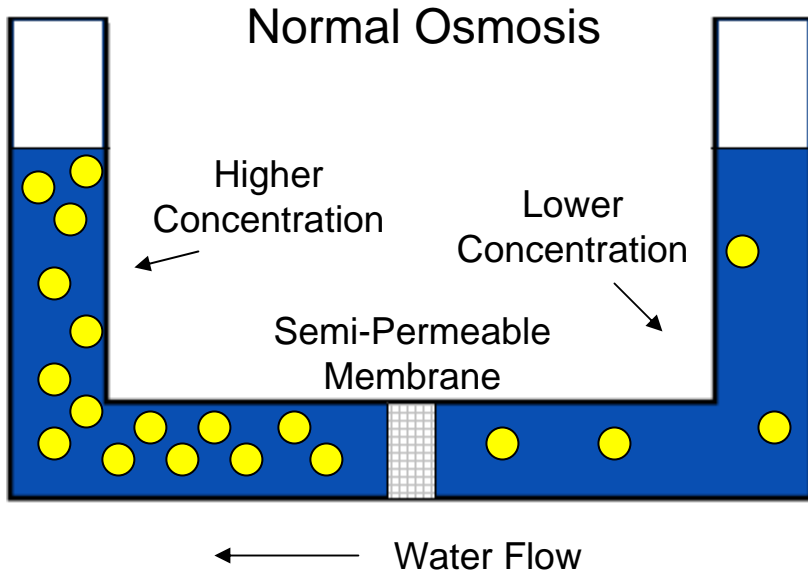
World Challenge – Water



The Mother of all separations problems

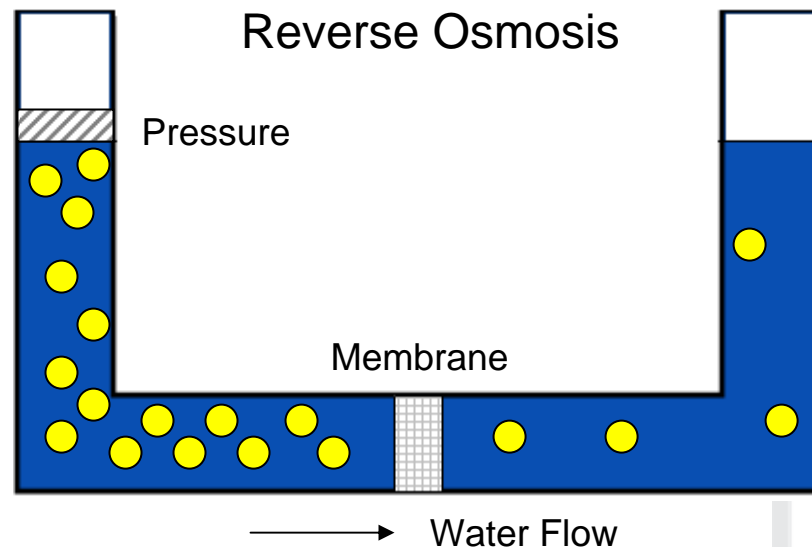


Fundamental of Reverse Osmosis



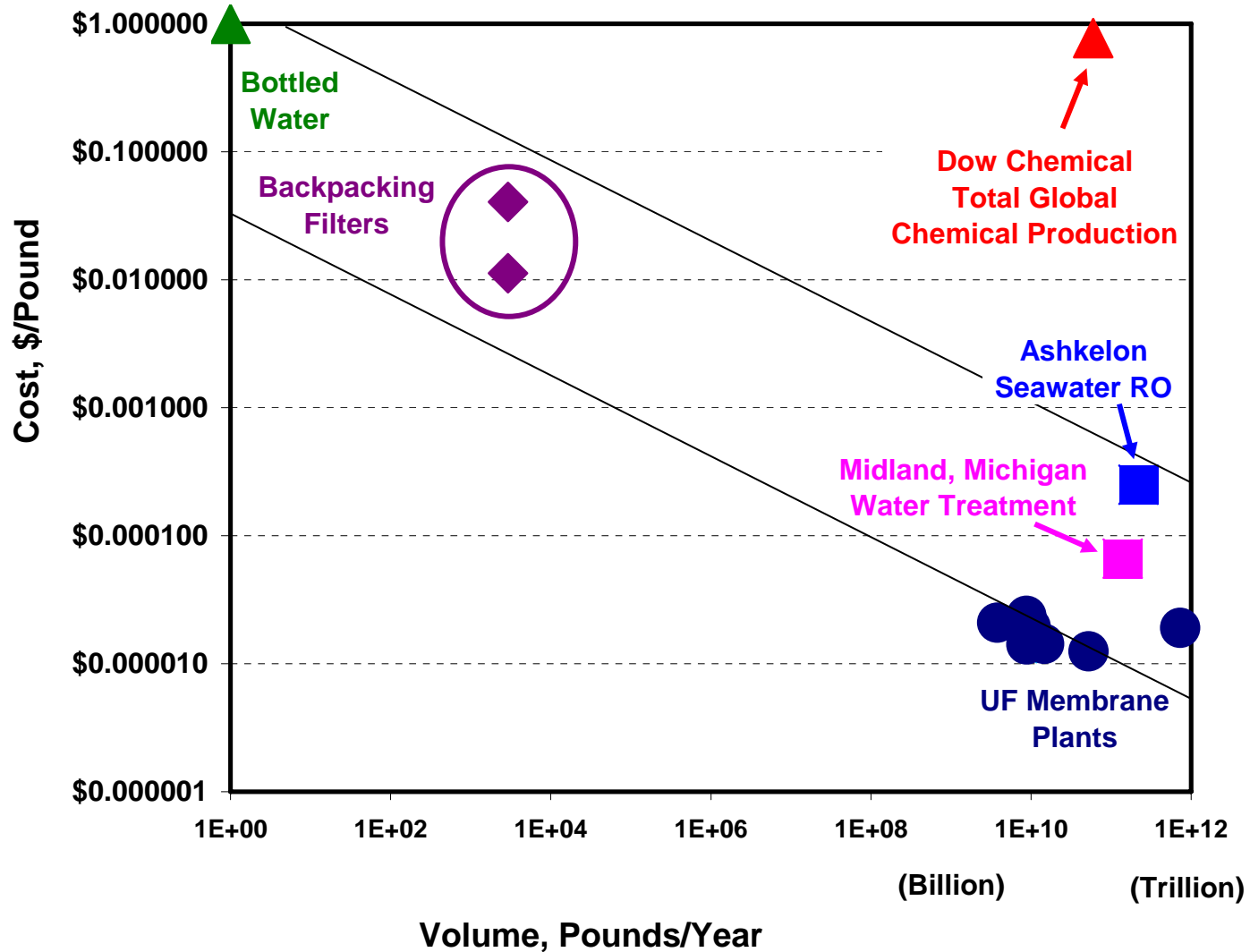
In **Osmosis** a concentration gradient “pumps” water across a permselective membrane.

In **Reverse Osmosis** pressure is applied, overcoming the osmotic pressure, and “pumps” water backwards.



Water Desalination Plants – Massive Scale

Water Cost vs. Production



Where are the Losses?

Quantity	RO
Exergy input, kW	76.95
Min work of separation	1.224
Total exergy destruction, kW	70.82
Mechanical energy of product water, kW	4.91
2 nd -law efficiency	8.0%
Exergy destruction in various components:	
-Discharged raw water	0.93 (1.3%)
-Bag filters	1.66 (2.4%)
-Static mixer	0.60 (0.8%)
-Separation unit (RO, NF, EDR)	25.62 (36.2%)
-Throttling of bypass water	7.49 (10.6%)
-Blending with bypass water	0.43 (0.6%)
-Mech. exergy of discharge brine	5.97 (8.4%)
-Pumps and piping system	28.11 (39.7%)

Source: Kahraman et. al. *Desalination* 171 (2004) 217-232



Improving the State-of-the-Art

Dual Work Exchanger Energy Recovery

Cylindrical vessel alternately filled with hp brine and lp feed

Brine and feed separated by a piston

DWEER has two cylinders so there is constant flow of hp feed to membranes

Flow is controlled via valves at both ends of cylinders

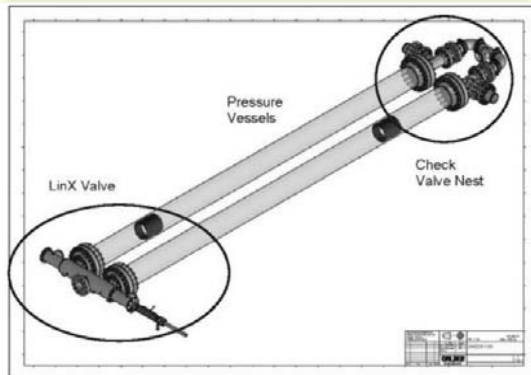
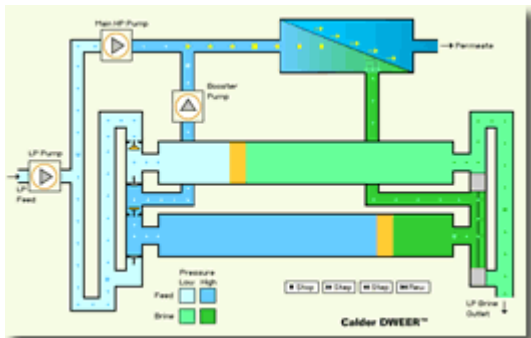
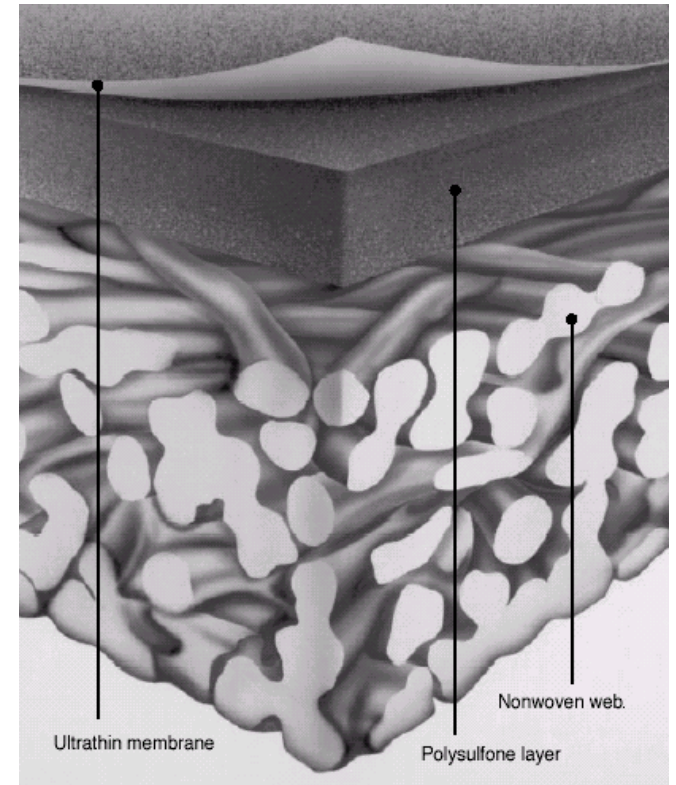
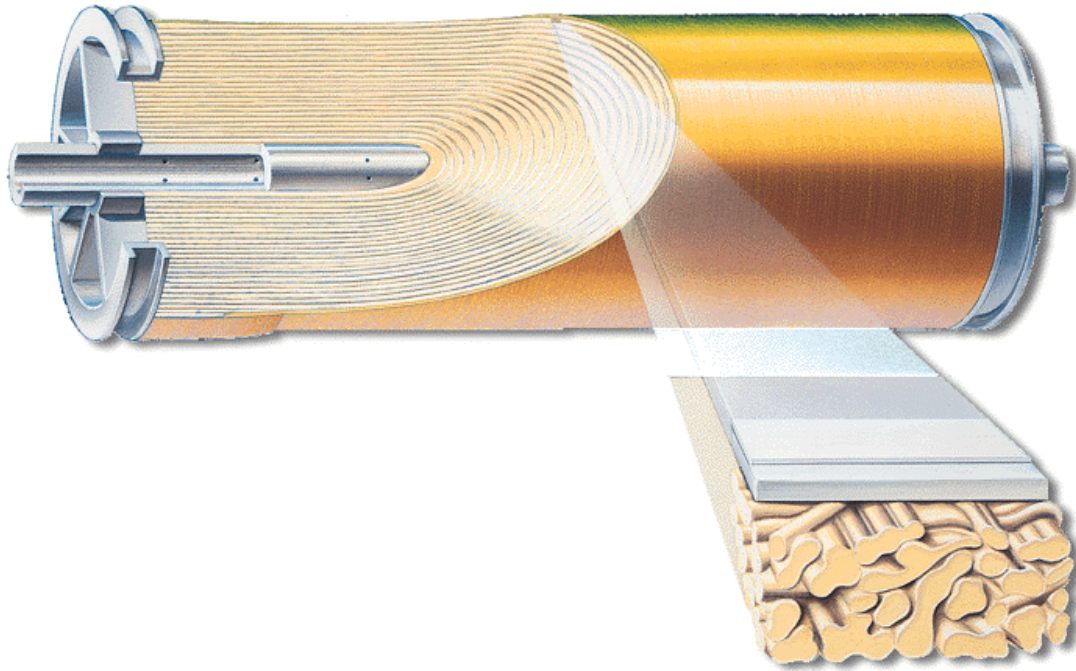


Fig. 3. The DWEER™ work exchange.



FILMTEC™ Reverse Osmosis Membranes



®™Trademark of The Dow Chemical Company ("Dow") or an affiliated company of Dow.



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Banhöler 1/29/08 27



Hidden Problem – Industrial Water Use

Dow/BASF Joint Venture - HPPO

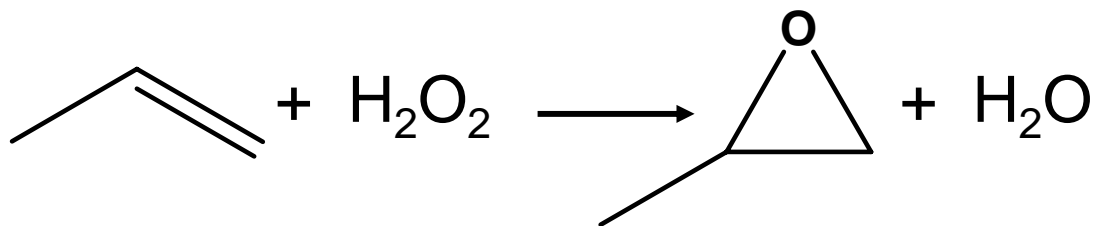
Collaboration with BASF

Reduces waste water by
75-80% and energy by 30%

PO is a key chemical intermediate



Simplified process



One example of many ongoing
projects to reduce water use



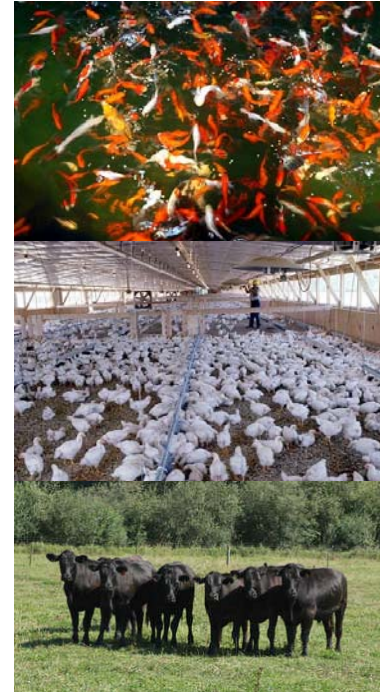
Food for Thought

To produce 1 Kg of:

Fish you need 1.5-3 Kg of grain

Chicken you need 2-3 Kg of grain

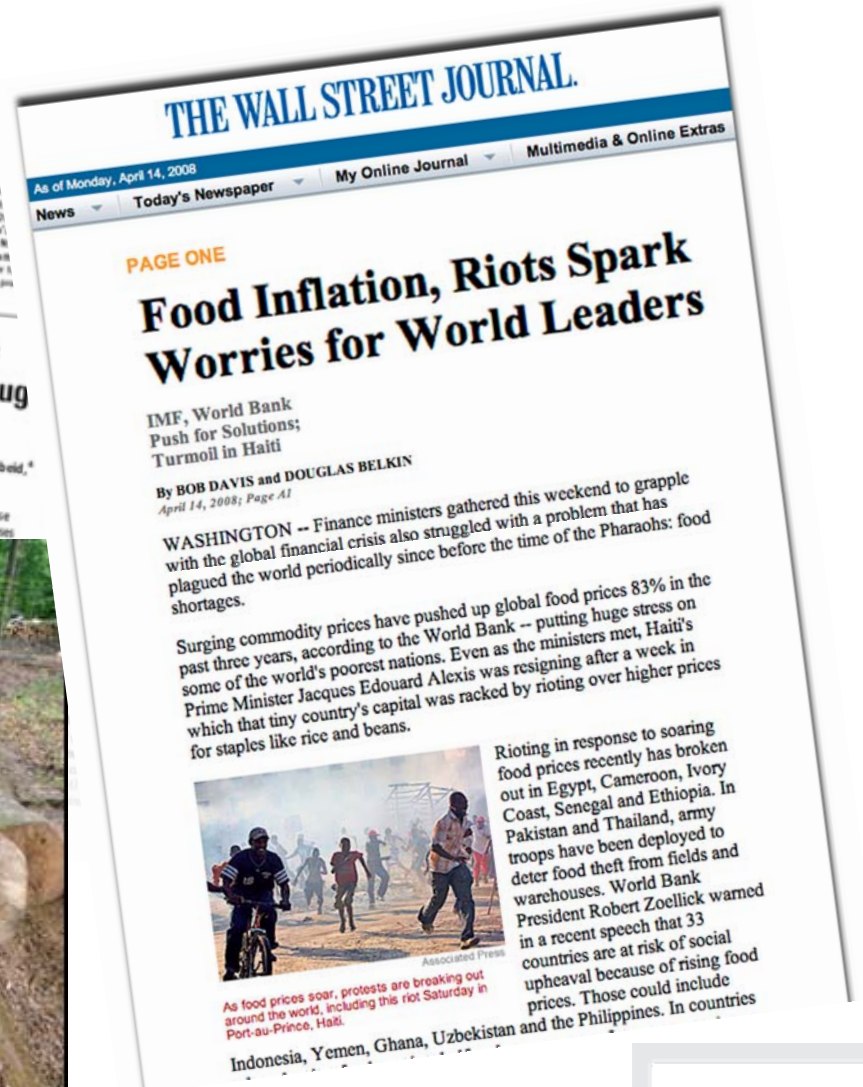
Beef you need 7-10 Kg of grain



The world is moving up
the food chain



World Challenge – Food



SmartStax™ Deal with Monsanto

Redefining Seeds and Traits in Corn

First ever eight way gene platform

Target end of decade
commercialization

Key attributes current in testing:

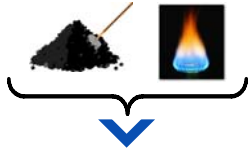
- Feasibility of full trait integration
- Viability of enhanced performance for insect and weed control



World Challenge – Sustainable Prosperity



The Chemical Industry Converts Feedstocks into Essential Products



190 Bn lbs 1.1 kWh per lb Cl₂

[Global Oil Consumption ~ 9700 Bn lbs]



C₁
88 Bn lbs

C₂
256 Bn lbs

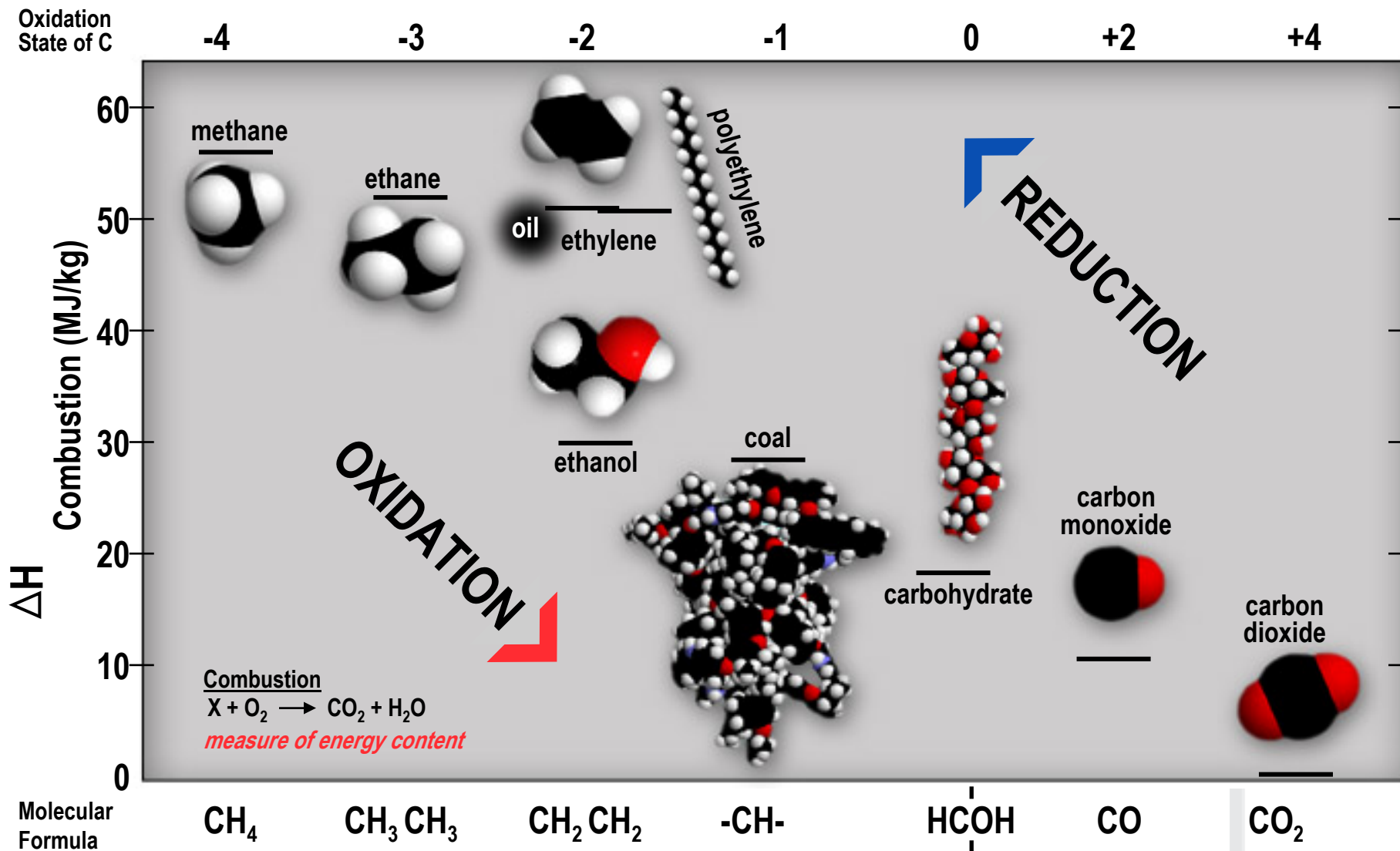
C₃
162 Bn lbs

C₄
22 Bn lbs

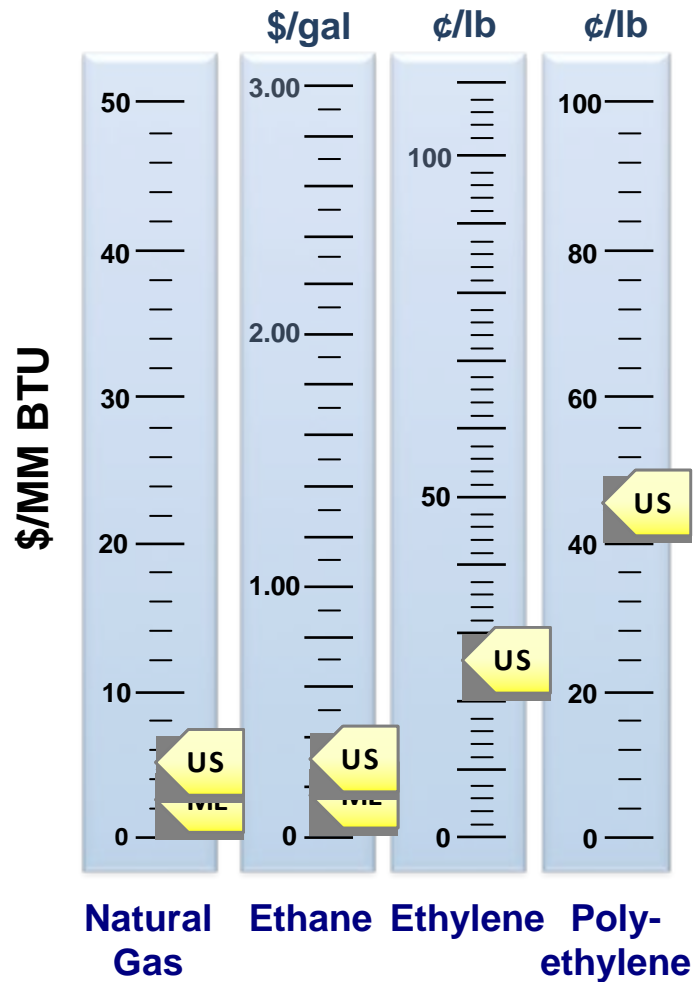
C₆
89 Bn lbs



Energetics of Feedstocks

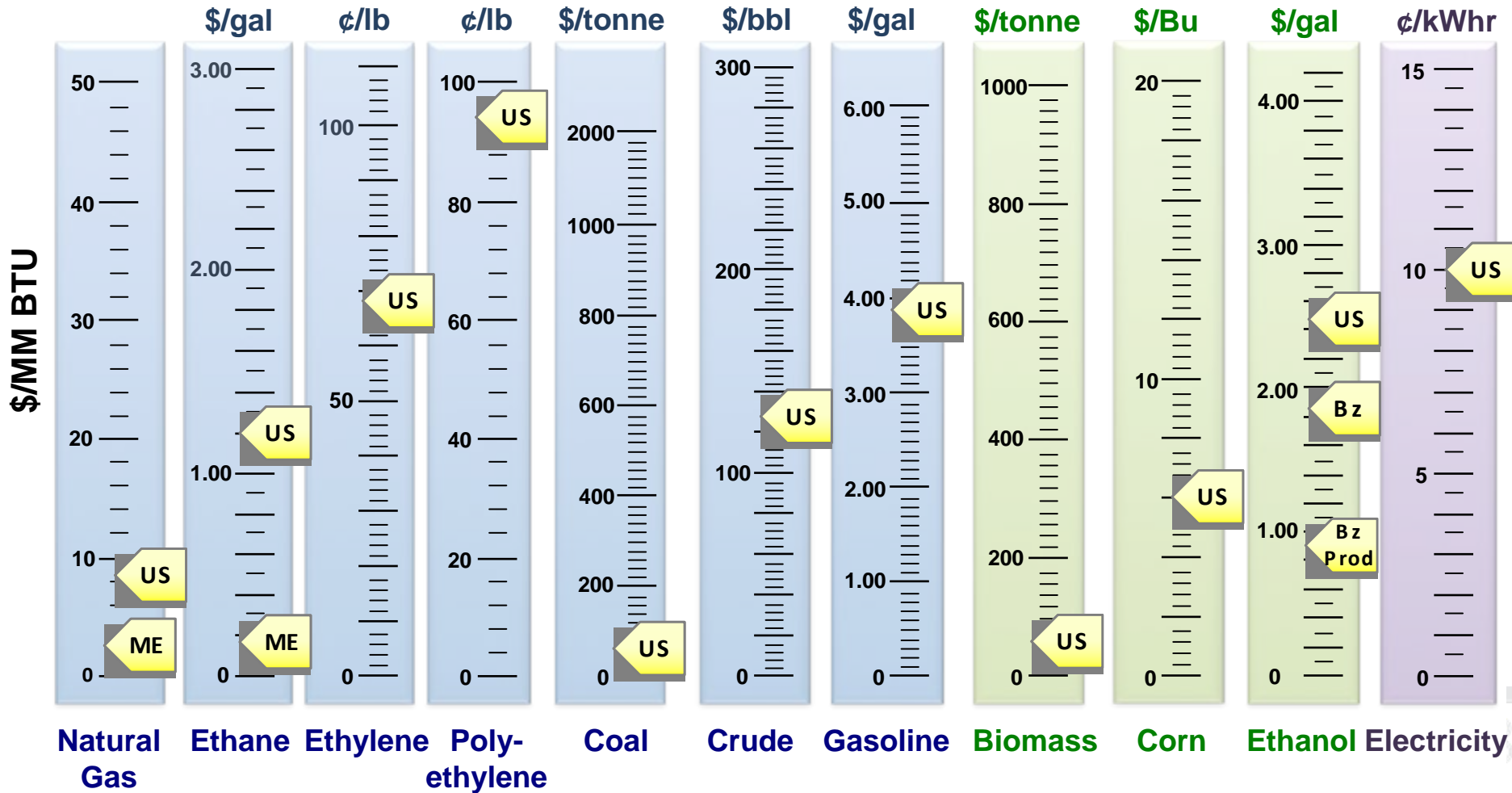


Price Per Unit Energy

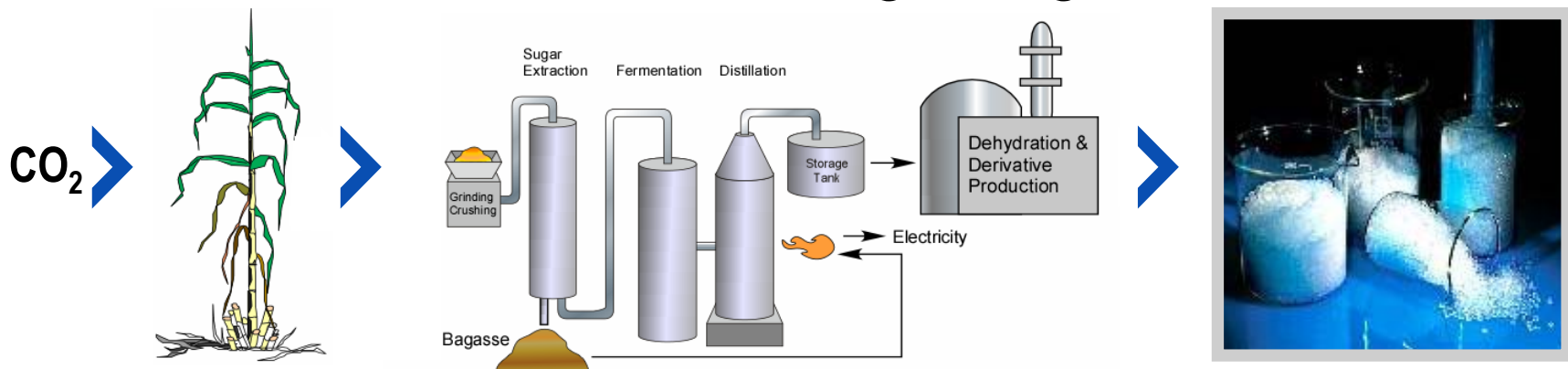


Price Per Unit Energy

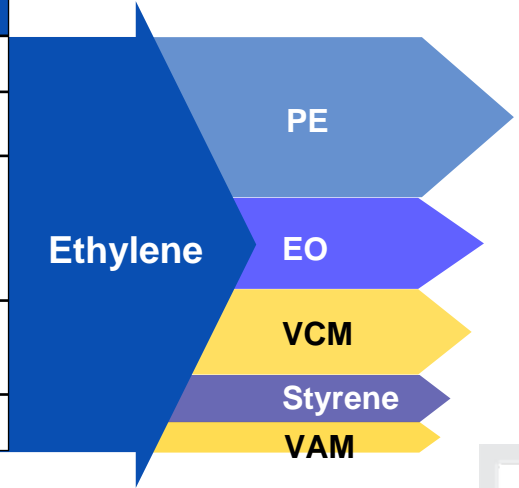
AUG 2008 PRICES



Solution - Ethanol to Polyethylene



	DuPont Bio-PDO (Serona®)	NatureWorks™ PLA	Dow/Crystalev JV
Plant Scale	45 kTA	140 kTA	350 kTA
Fermented Product	1,3-Propanediol	Lactic Acid	Ethanol
Key Processes	Fermentation, Condensation Polymerization	Fermentation, Oligomerization, Ring-Closing, & Ring-Opening Polymerization	Fermentation, Dehydration, Polymerization
Initial Product	PDO/TPA Copolymer	Polylactic acid	Ethylene, Polyethylene, Copolymers
Flexibility	Moderate	Low	High



PDO

PLA

Dow Crystalev JV



Benchmarking Land Use

Dow Brazil Plant



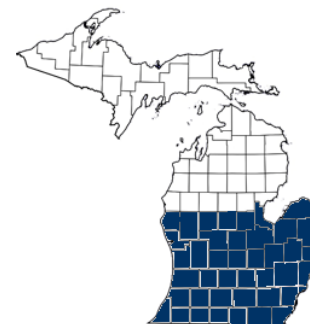
Bay County

Dow LLDPE Capacity



Seven Local Counties

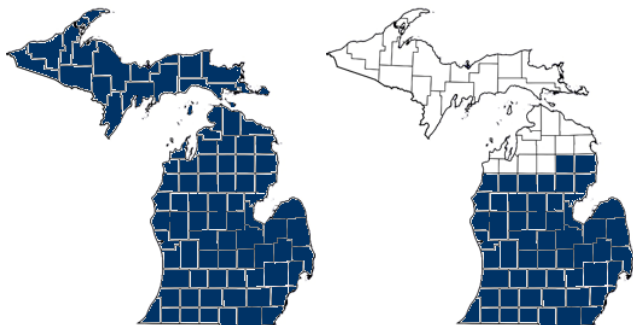
Global LLDPE Capacity



0.43 X Michigan

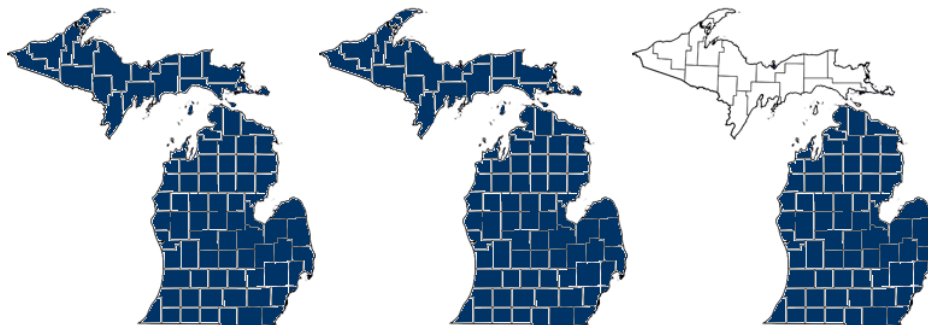
Assumes Brazil Cane Yields

Global Polyethylene



1.6 X Michigan

Global Ethylene



2.7 X Michigan



The Challenge for the Chemical Engineer

The story of civilization is, in a sense, the story of engineering - that long and arduous struggle to make the forces of nature work for man's good.

L. Sprague de Camp



SOLUTIONS





Thank You



Question 1



Question 2



Question 3



Question 4



Question 5

