



## Module 1d

### The Bioenergy Chain

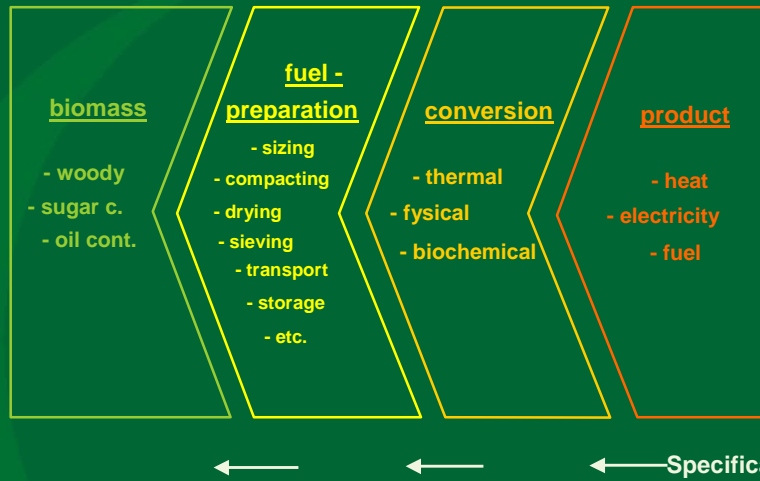
### Overview presentation

- > introduction
- > conversion-technologies
  - combustion
  - gasification
  - anaerobe digestion
  - bio transport fuels
- > new technologies
  - HTU, supercritical gasification, pyrolysis
  - importance of energy condensed bio-fuels
- > concluding remarks



introduction

# bio-energy conversion chain



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introduction

# bio-energy conversion chain

- > **Biomass:** non-fossil material of biological origin
- > **Biofuel:** fuel produced directly or indirectly from biomass
- > **Bioenergy:** energy derived from biofuels

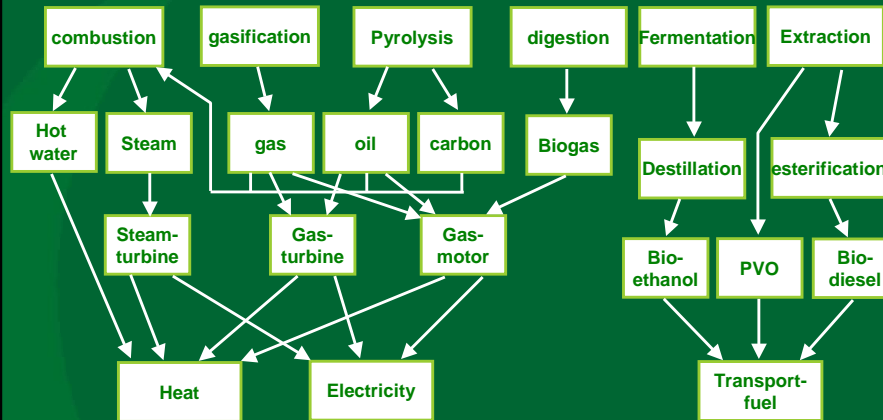


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## introduction overview conversion-technologies

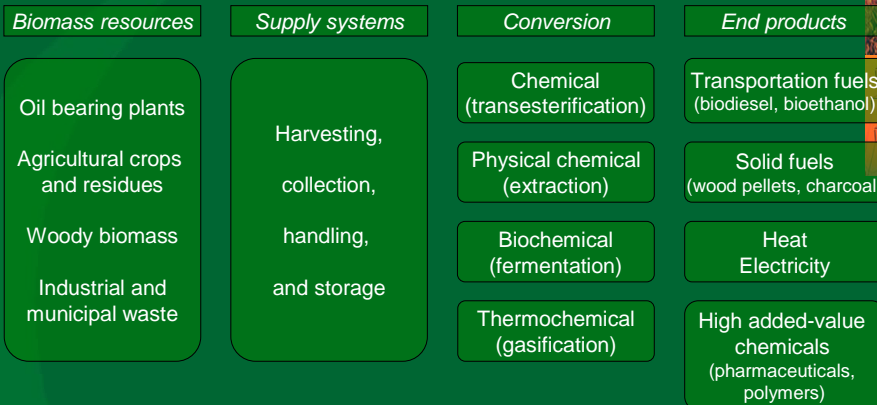


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## Biofuel value chain

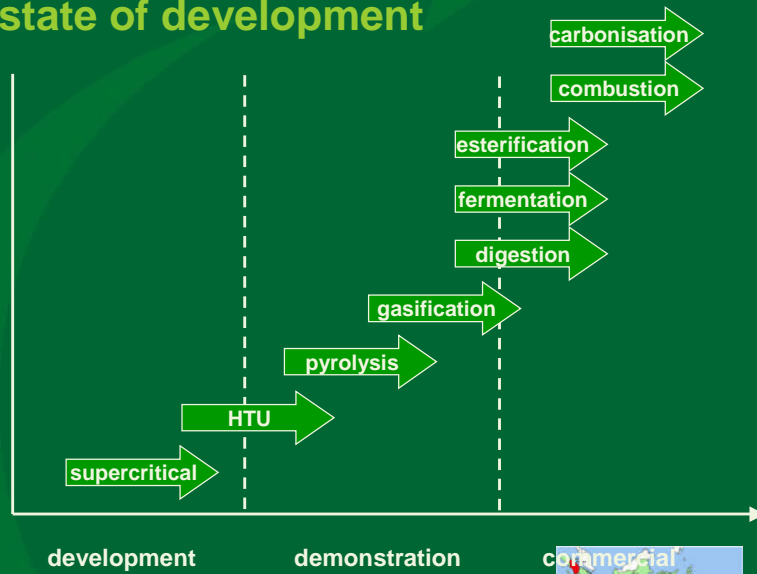


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## Conversion technologies state of development



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## Air factor lambda ( $\lambda$ )

$$\lambda = \frac{\text{actual amount of air}(L)}{\text{theoretical amount of air}(L_0)}$$

Three options:

- $\lambda < 1$  Combustion is incomplete (understoichiometric)
- $\lambda = 1$  Combustion is stoichiometric
- $\lambda > 1$  Combustion with excess air

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# Pyrolysis, Gasification, Combustion

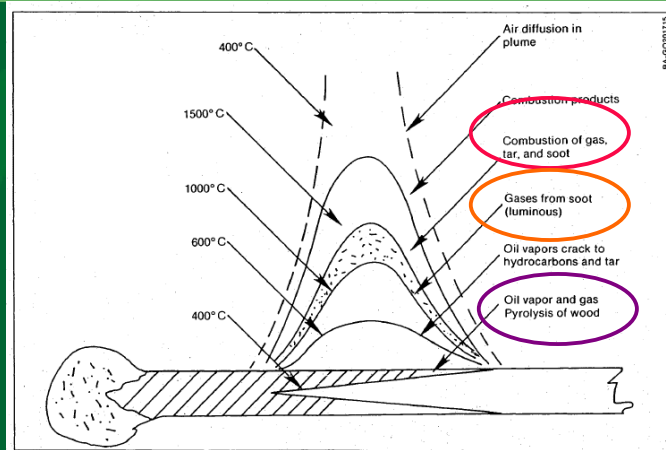


Fig. 4-2. Pyrolysis, gasification, and combustion in the flaming match

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# Residence time $\tau$ and temperature

$$\tau = \frac{V_{reactor} [m^3]}{\phi_{v,biomassa} [m^3/s]} [s]$$

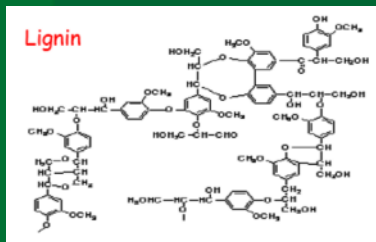
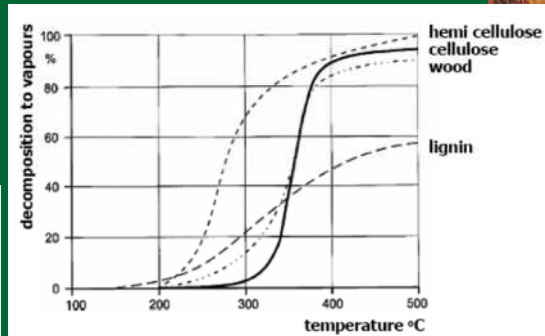
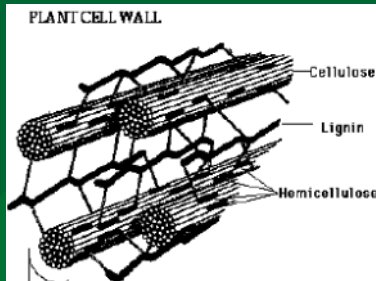
| Process   | Products |      |      |
|---|----------|------|------|
|   | "Oil"    | Char | Gas  |
| <b>"Fast Pyrolysis"</b><br>• medium temperature (400 °C - 600 °C)<br>• short residence time (~ 1 s)         | 75 %     | 12 % | 13 % |
| <b>"Carbonisation"</b><br>• low temperatur (350-450 °C)<br>• long residence time (several hours)            | 30 %     | 35 % | 35 % |
| <b>"Gasification"</b><br>• high temperature (800 °C - 1300 °C)<br>• variable residence time (10 s - 30 min) | 5 %      | 10 % | 85 % |

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# Chemical reactions: very complex outside the scope



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# Overview of Biofuel Production Technologies

First Generation of Biofuels

| Biofuel type              | Specific name   | Feedstock   | Conversion Technologies   |
|---------------------------|---|---|---|
| <b>Pure vegetable oil</b> | Pure plant oil (PPO),<br>Straight vegetable oil (SVO)   | Oil crops (e.g. rapeseed, oil palm, soy, canola, jatropha, castor, ...)                                 | Cold pressing extraction  |
| <b>Biodiesel</b>          | - Biodiesel from energy crops: methyl and ethyl esters of fatty acids<br>- Biodiesel from waste | - Oil crops (e.g. rapeseed, oil palm, soy, canola, jatropha, castor, ...)<br>- Waste cooking/frying oil | - Cold and warm pressing extraction, purification, and transesterification<br>- Hydrogenation |
| <b>Bioethanol</b>         | Conventional bio-ethanol  | Sugar beet, sugar cane, grain   | Hydrolysis and fermentation   |
| <b>Biogas</b>             | Upgraded biogas   | Biomass (wet)   | Anaerobic digestion   |
| <b>Bio-ETBE</b>           |   | Bioethanol  | Chemical Synthesis  |

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## Overview of Biofuel Production Technologies

Second/Third\* Generation Biofuels

| Biofuel type          | Specific name   | Feedstock                            | Conversion Technologies                        |
|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Bioethanol</b>     | Cellulosic bioethanol   | Lignocellulosic biomass and biowaste | Advanced hydrolysis & fermentation             |
| <b>Biogas</b>         | SNG (Synthetic Natural Gas)   | Lignocellulosic biomass and residues | Pyrolysis/Gasification                         |
| <b>Biodiesel</b>      | Biomass to Liquid (BTL), Fischer-Tropsch (FT) diesel, synthetic (bio)diesel | Lignocellulosic biomass and residues | Pyrolysis/Gasification & synthesis             |
| <b>Other biofuels</b> | Biomethanol, heavier (mixed) alcohols, biodimethylether (Bio-DME)           | Lignocellulosic biomass and residues | Gasification & synthesis                       |
| <b>Biohydrogen</b>    |   | Lignocellulosic biomass and biowaste | Gasification & synthesis or biological process |

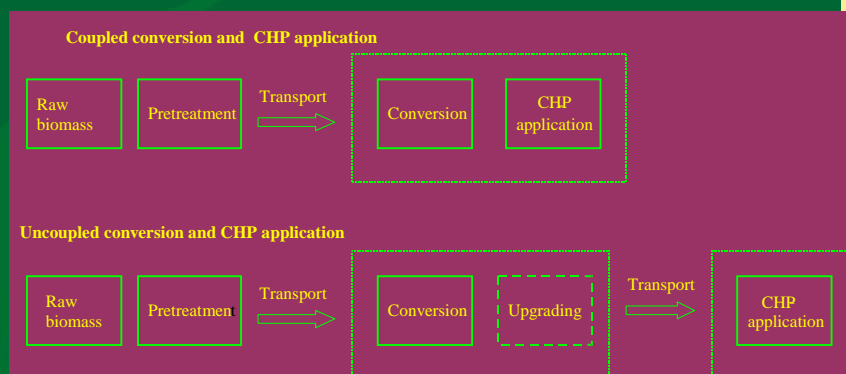
\*Use GMO as a feedstock to facilitate hydrolysis / technologies for hydrogen production

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## De-coupling biomass resources and utilisation



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## Comparison of technologies Technology aspects

| Biofuel option                            | Current stage of development |             | Techn. Effort <sup>a</sup> | Expected plant capacity <sup>b</sup> [MW <sub>th</sub> ] | Overall efficiency <sup>c</sup> [%] | Distri-<br>bution <sup>d</sup> | Use <sup>d</sup> |
|---|------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|
|   | Concept / Lab                | Pilot/ Demo |                            |  |                                     |                                |                  |
| Biofuel option 2 <sup>nd</sup> generation |                              |             |                            | 10.....1,000   | 0.....80                            |                                |                  |
| <b>Liquid</b>                             |                              |             |                            |  |                                     |                                |                  |
| Bioethanol                                | →                            |             | ++                         |  |                                     | +++                            | +++              |
| FT-Fuels                                  | →                            |             | +                          |  |                                     |                                |                  |
| Methanol                                  | →                            |             | ++                         |  |                                     |                                |                  |
| <b>Gaseous</b>                            |                              |             |                            |  |                                     |                                |                  |
| Biogas                                    | →                            |             | ++++                       |  |                                     | +++                            | +++              |
| Bio-SNG                                   | →                            |             | +++                        |  |                                     | +++                            | +++              |
| Dimethylether                             | →                            |             | ++                         |  |                                     | ++                             | ++               |
| Hydrogen                                  | →                            |             | ++(+)                      |  |                                     | +                              | +                |


Many different concepts for biofuel options of the 2<sup>nd</sup> generation; associated with appropriate benefits and bottlenecks along the pathway.

<sup>a</sup> regarding system complexity (+ less promising....++++ very promising)  
<sup>b</sup> related to biomass feedstock  
<sup>c</sup> according state of development (many different concepts) only theoretical values  
<sup>d</sup> suitability for current distribution and use (+ less promising....++++ very promising)

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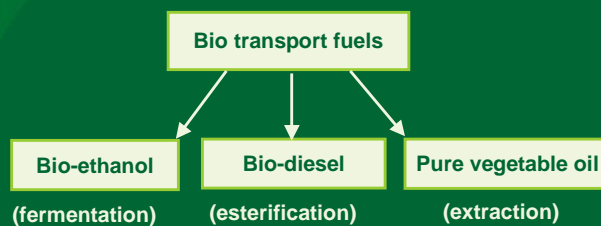
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Source: IEE Leipzig, 2007



## conversion-technologies bio transport fuels

- > Bio transport fuels: group of fluid fuels that can be used as substitute to fossil petrol or diesel.



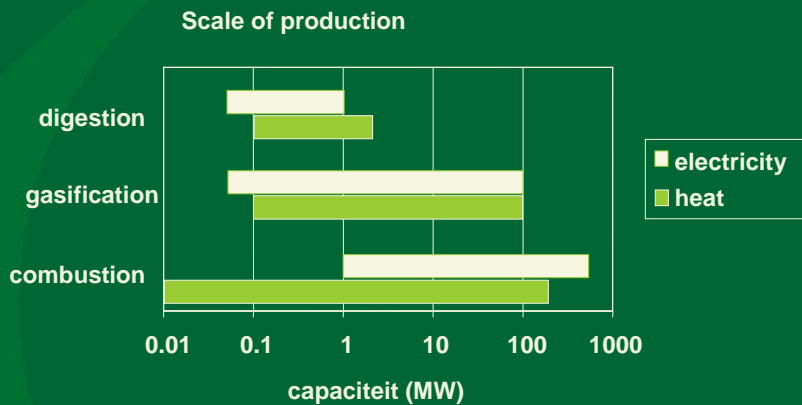
- > EU-guidelines for use of bio-transport fuels
  - 2% in 2006, 5.75% end 2010
  - in NL: ca 150,000 ha required (16% of all agricultural land)
- > limitations remain the very high costs of CO<sub>2</sub> reduction per ha and the limited CO<sub>2</sub> saving potential per ha.

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## Comparing conversion technologies scale of production - heat and electricity



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## technologies importance of condensed bio-fuels

- > energy density (important for transport and storage)

| fuel type | cal. value            | bulk                                | energy                 |
|-----------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| chips     | 12 GJ/t <sub>30</sub> | 0,2 t <sub>30</sub> /m <sup>3</sup> | 2,4 GJ/m <sup>3</sup>  |
| pellets   | 16 GJ/t <sub>10</sub> | 0,6 t <sub>10</sub> /m <sup>3</sup> | 9,6 GJ/m <sup>3</sup>  |
| charcoal  | 30 GJ/t               | 0,3 t/m <sup>3</sup>                | 9,0 GJ/m <sup>3</sup>  |
| bio-oil   | 16 GJ/t               | 1,2 t/m <sup>3</sup>                | 19,2 GJ/m <sup>3</sup> |

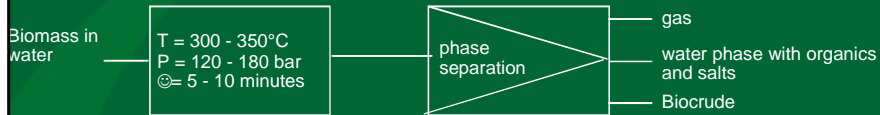
- > scenario studies show an increasing importance of imported bio-fuels causing strong competition versus european energy crops.

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# Biomass liquifaction



Reactions: oxygen removed as CO<sub>2</sub>  
 formation of hydrophobic oil (10 - 20% O<sub>2</sub>), 30 MJ/kg

Biocrude to be refined to high value hydrocarbon (blending) stock  
 Process still in development in the Netherlands (Biofuel and TNO)  
 Developments in USA and Japan mothballed

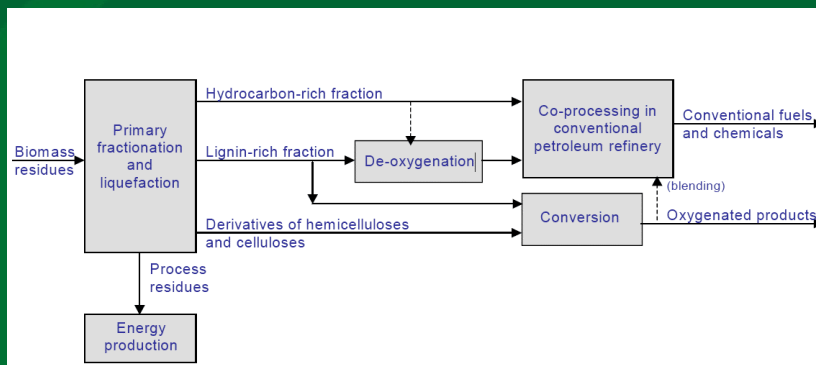
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# Overall biorefinery concept - a new chemical industry sector

- equivalent to the petrochemistry concept

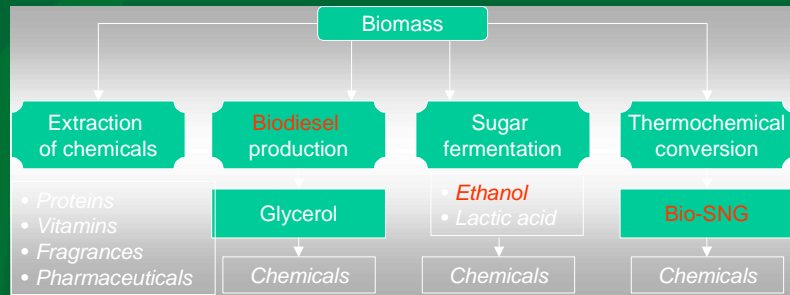


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## Biomass to high added value chemicals, an emerging chemistry

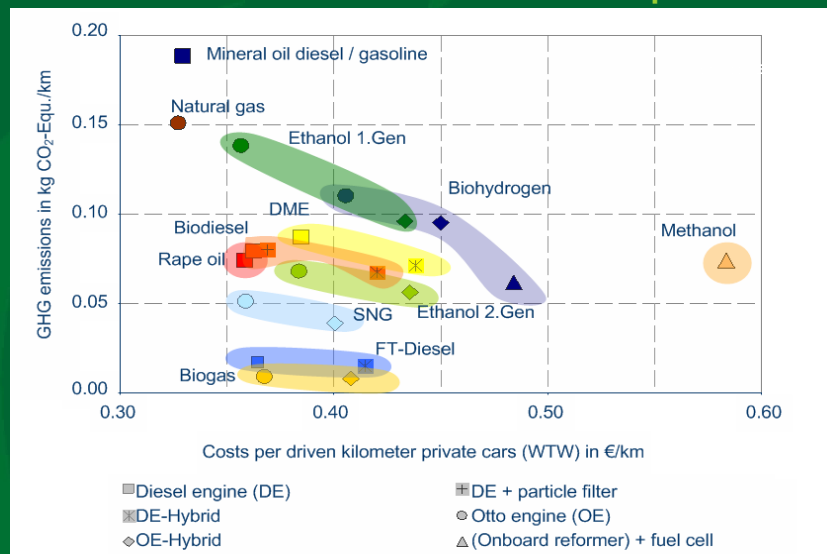


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## Comparison of technologies Economic versus environmental aspects



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## Concluding remarks - 1

- > The new directive on bio-transport fuels has a strong impact on the demand of these fuels and on the development of new technologies.
- > Bio-transport fuels will - at first - be produced on basis of available, proven conventional biological conversion technologies (bio-diesel, bio-methanol).
- > These technologies are, however, limited due to their limited overall efficiency and high production costs
- > Great efforts will be put into the development of second generation bio-transport fuels, based on thermal chemical conversion routes.

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## Concluding remarks - 2

- > Small scale applications of thermo chemical biomass conversion remain remarkably competitive vs large scale applications. This is due to better possibilities for optimised CHP application and more attractive prices, through subsidies.
- > Co-digestion of energy crops with manure also remains an attractive financial option for RE generation. However, overall impact on total RE share remains small due to limited size of individual systems.
- > Because of new technologies for the production of condensed bio-fuels, the importance of large scale import of bio-fuels is increasing.

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