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Synthetic jet fuel from renewable energy sources for sustainable aviation

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German Aerospace Center (DLR e.V.)
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Knowledge for Tomorrow



Agenda

1. Current developments within the Aviation sector

- Growth rates
- CO₂-reduction targets (IATA)
- Expected future demand on alternative fuels

2. “Green” jet fuel options

- Certified fuels by ASTM
- Potential fuel yields for Germany/Europe
- Introduction to Fischer-Tropsch fuels

3. Case study on green Fischer-Tropsch fuels

- Techno-economic evaluation
- CO₂-Abatement costs

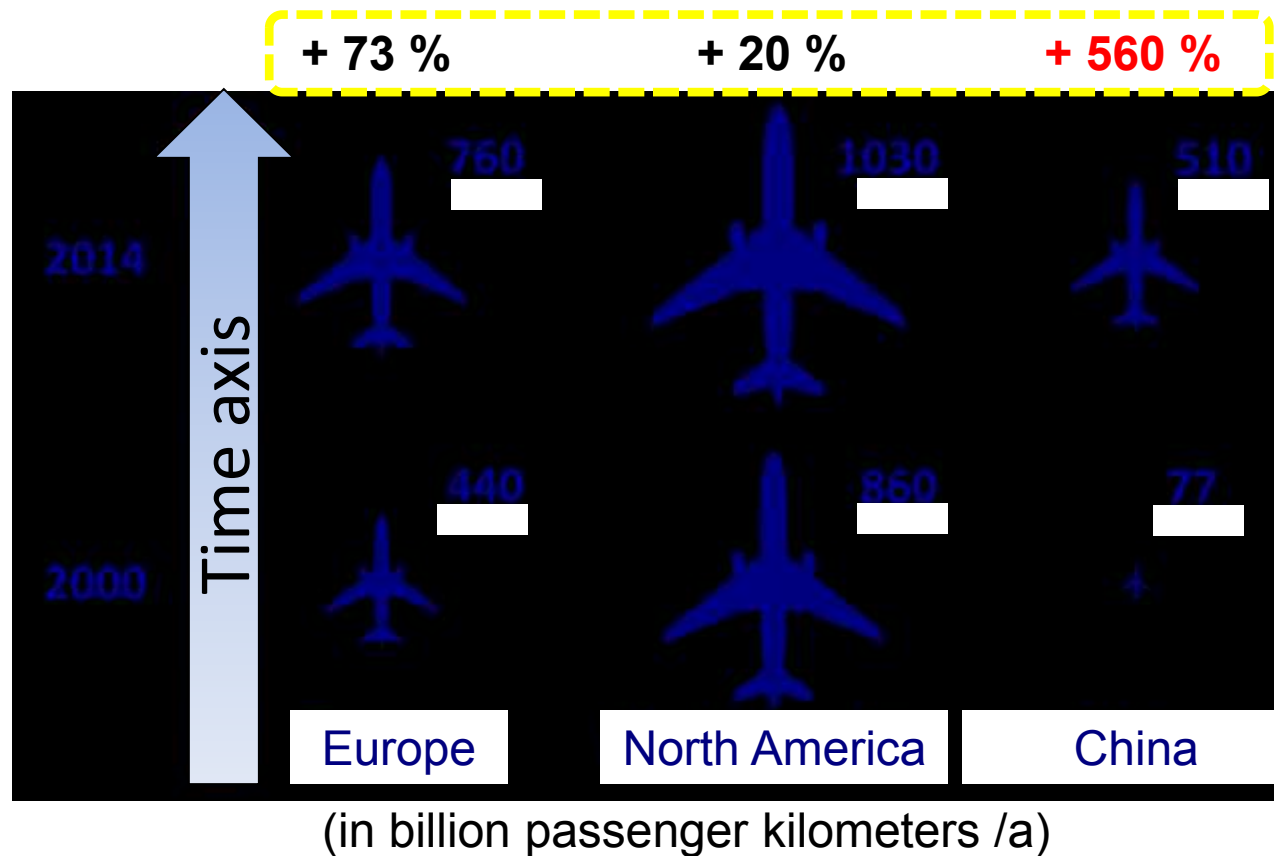
4. Summary and outlook



Growth sector aviation



Aviation mileage within three world regions



Source: Thess et al., DGLR-Mitgliedermagazin „Luft- und Raumfahrt“ edition 2/2016, p.20 et seq.



Political paradigm shift rises the pressure

COP21 Main agreements

- Hold global temperature increase below 2 °C
- De-carbonization of global economy in this century

Main targets: EU Roadmap 2050 – White paper

- 40% use of sustainable low carbon fuels in aviation

What does this mean for the aviation sector?

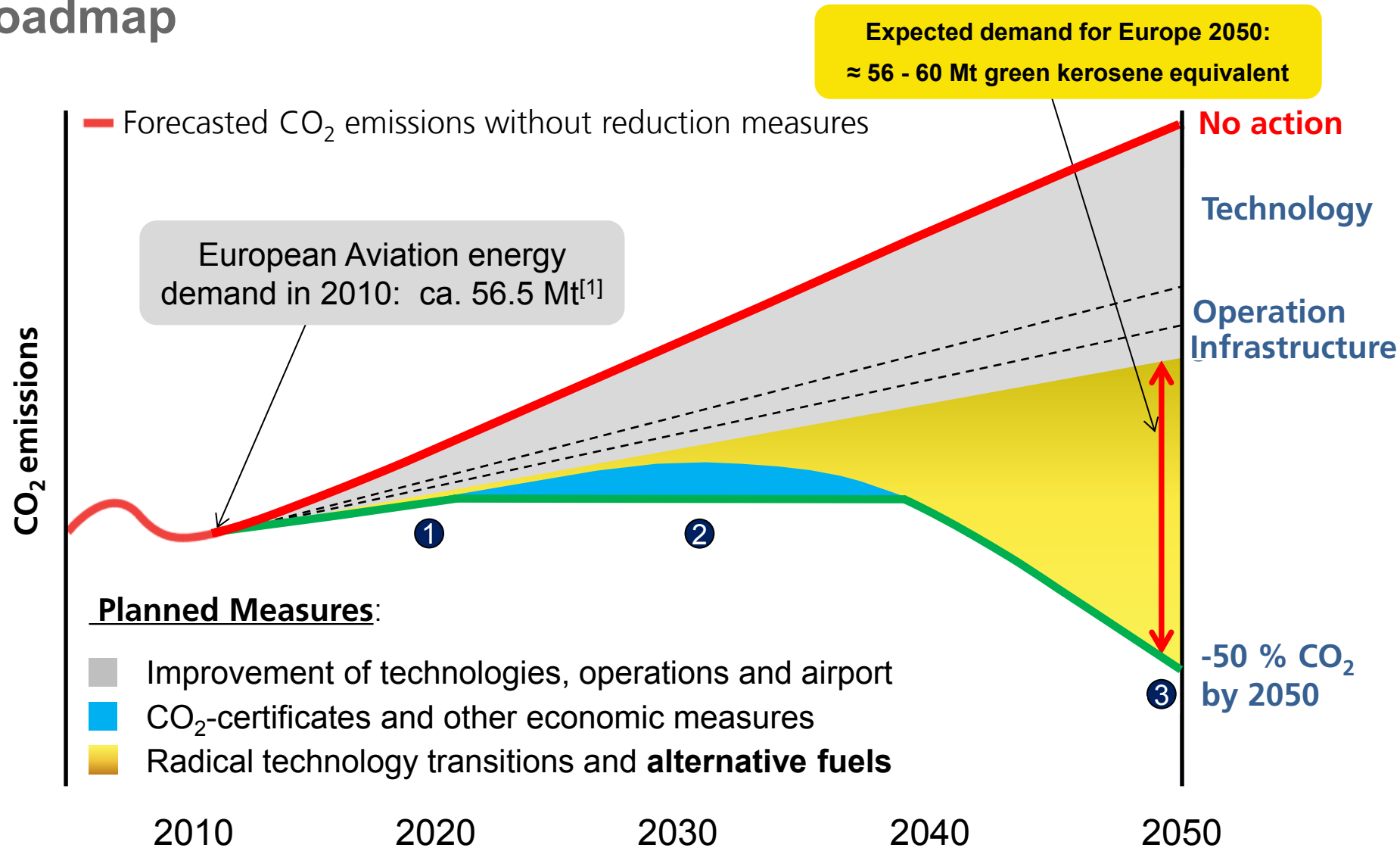


IATA Technology Roadmap

4. Edition, June 2013

Main aims:

- 1 Improvement of fuel efficiency about 1,5 % p.a. until 2020
- 2 Carbon-neutral growth from 2020
- 3 50 % CO₂ emissions reductions by 2050



[1] FuelsEurope Statistical Report 2010

Certified sustainable jet fuels: ASTM D7566 – 14c [1]

Feedstock	Synthesis technology	Fuel
Coal, natural gas, <i>biomass</i> , CO_2 & H_2	Fischer-Tropsch (FT) synthesis	Synthetic paraffinic kerosene
Lipids from Biomass (e.g. algae, soya, jatropha)	Hydroprocessed esters and fatty acids (HEFA)	Synthetic paraffinic kerosene
Sugar from Biomass	Direct Sugars to Hydrocarbons (DSHC)	Synthetic iso-paraffins / Farnesane
Bioethanol (-propanol, -butanol)	dehydration+oligomerization+hydration (Alcohol-to-Jet, AtJ)	AD-SPK

- AtJ in Europe (EU28)? – For example wheat

- Wheat area₂₀₁₄^[2]: **26.7 Mio.ha** → Ethanol yield: **2.2 t/ha**^[3] (range -30 % European yield average^[4])

Conversion to fuel^[4]: **0.56 t_{kerosene}/t_{ethanol}**

Kerosene wheat based: **23.0 to 32.9 Mt/a** (\approx 40.1 – 58.2 % of the aviation demand)



Certified sustainable jet fuels: ASTM D7566 – 14c [1]

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- DSHC in Europe (EU28)? – For example sugar beets
 - Sugar beet area₂₀₁₄^[2]: **1.6 Mio.ha** → sugar beet yield: **131 Mt^[2]** → sugar content_{average} ≈ **18 %^[3]**
 Conversion to fuel^[4]: **0.168 t_{kerosene}/t_{sugar}**
 Kerosene sugar based: **3.96 Mt/a** (≈ 7.0 % of the Aviation demand)



Fuels for a sustainable aviation sector

Synthetic jet fuels (ASTM D7566 – 14c)^[1]

Feedstock	Synthesis technology	Fuel
Coal, natural gas, <i>biomass</i> , CO_2 & H_2	Fischer-Tropsch (FT) synthesis	Synthetic paraffinic kerosene
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- HEFA in Europe (EU28)? – For example rape oil

• Rapeseed area₂₀₁₄^[2]: **12.9 Mio.ha** → rape yield: **24.1 Mio.t** → oil content_{average} ≈ **42 %**^[3]

Conversion to fuel^[4]: **0.49 t_{kerosene}/t_{rape oil}**

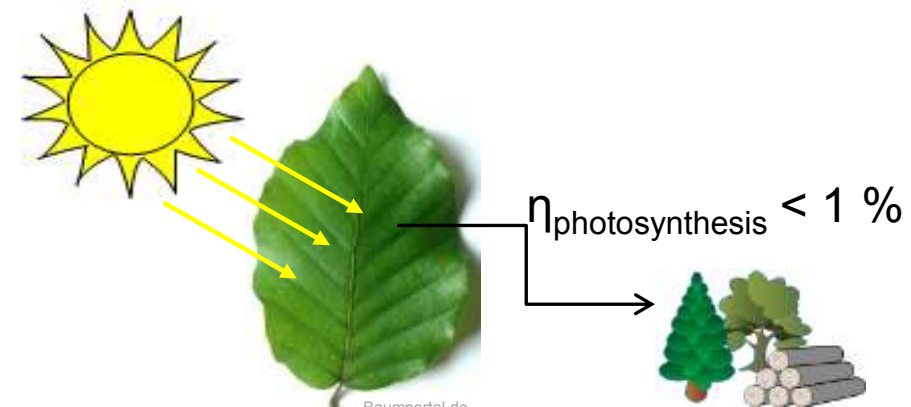
Kerosene sugar based: **7.3 Mio.t/a** (≈ 12.9 % of the Aviation demand)



Biomass potential from agricultural products in Europe

Kerosene from	Production [Mt/a]	[%]	Cultivation area [Mha]	EU28 [%]
Wheat	23.0 – 32.9	40.1 – 58.2	26.7 ^[1]	30.2
Sugar	3.9	7.0	1.6 ^[1]	1.8
Rapeseed	7.3	12.9	12.9 ^[1]	13.3
Σ	34.3 – 44.2	60.7 – 78.2	39.9	45.2

- Direct competition to food markets
- Ineffective conversion of sun light to biomass



[1] Eurostat „Crop statistics“ 2014

Fuels for a sustainable aviation sector

Synthetic jet fuels (ASTM D7566 – 14c)^[1]

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Fischer-Tropsch synthesis

- Large scale, commercial technology
- Based on synthesis gas, which can be produced from almost any carbon and hydrogen source
- Fully synthetic kerosene achievable^[2]

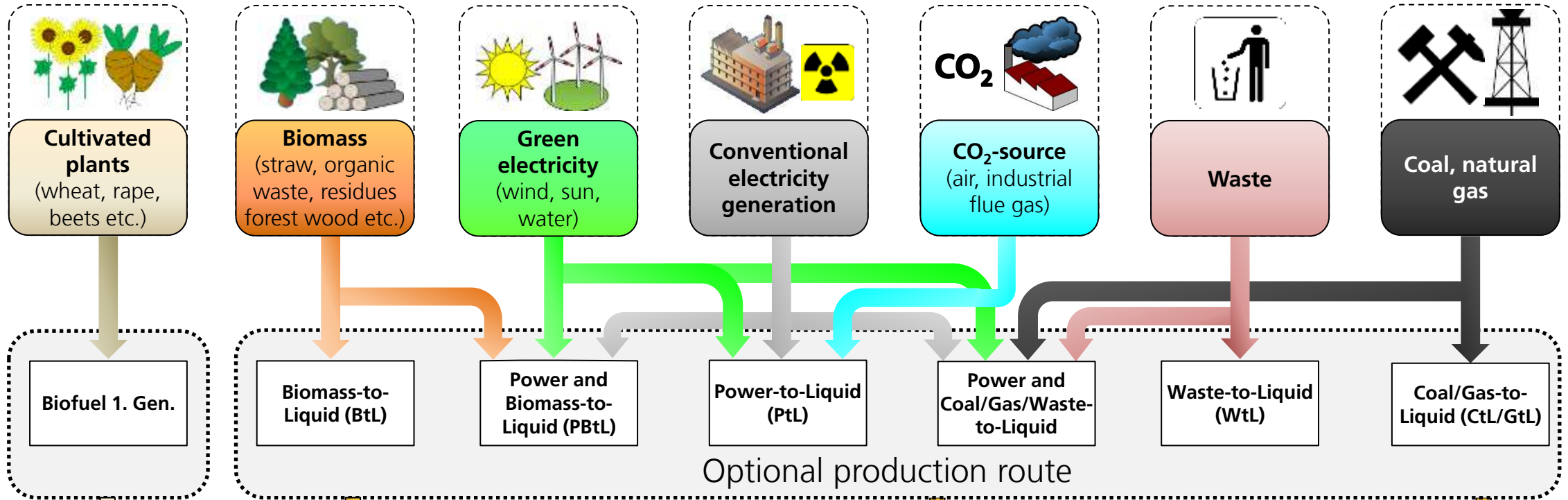
[1] ASTM International, „ASTM D7566 - 14C: Standard Specification for Aviation Turbine Fuel Containing Synthesized Hydrocarbons“, 2015

[2] UK Ministry of Defense, „DEF STAN 91-91: Turbine Fuel, Kerosene Type, Jet A-1,“ UK Defense Standardization, 2011.



Production routs of alternative Kerosene

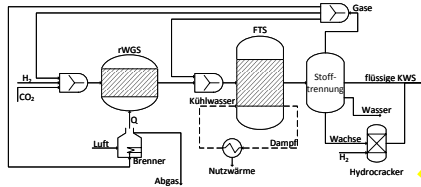
- **Low GHG potential**



The supply of large quantities of alternative kerosene within low GHG emissions is possible by coupling the sectors electricity generation and fuel markets (*without biomass imports*).



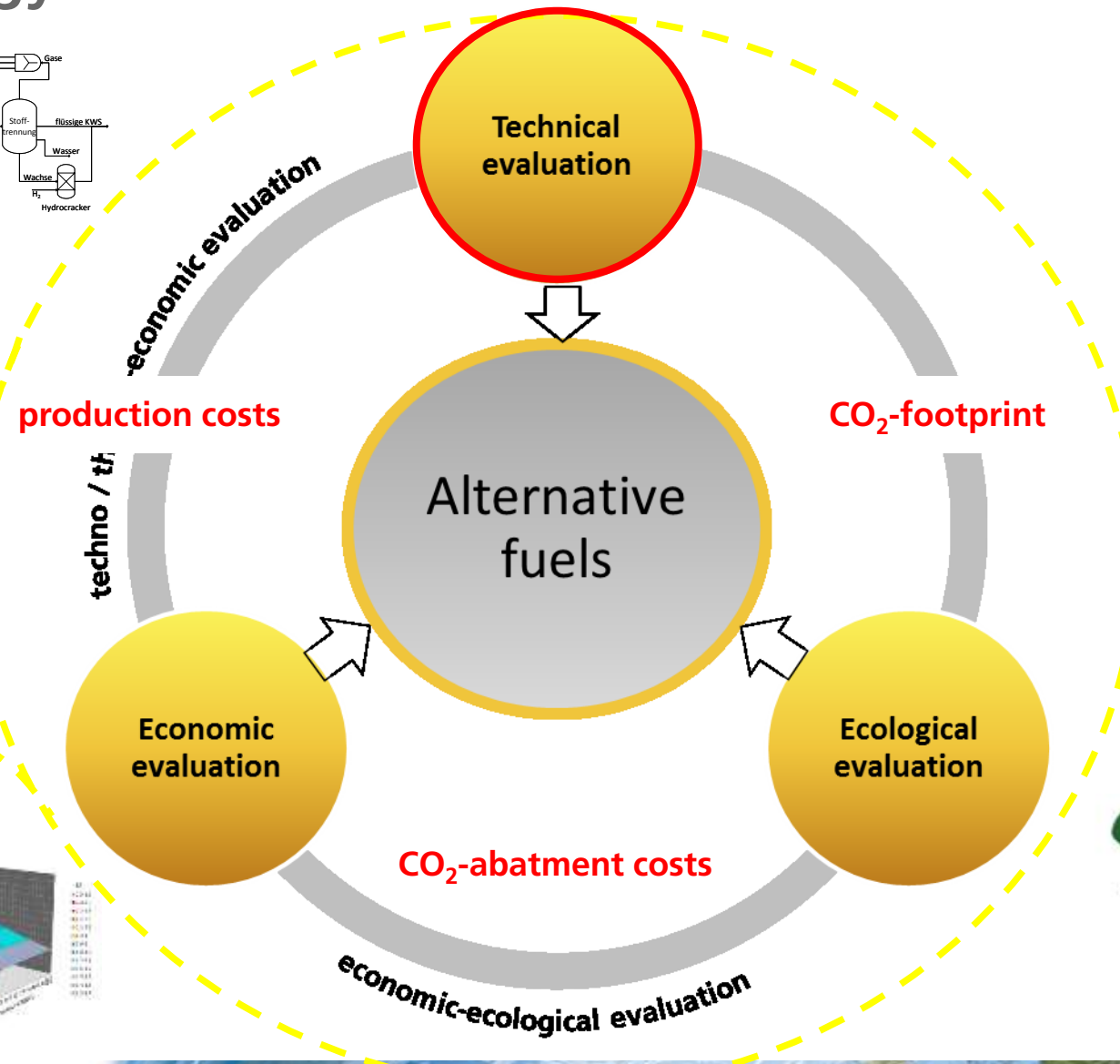
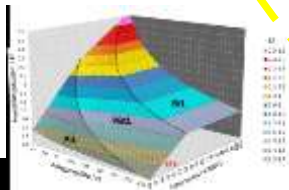
2. Applied methodology for fuel evaluation



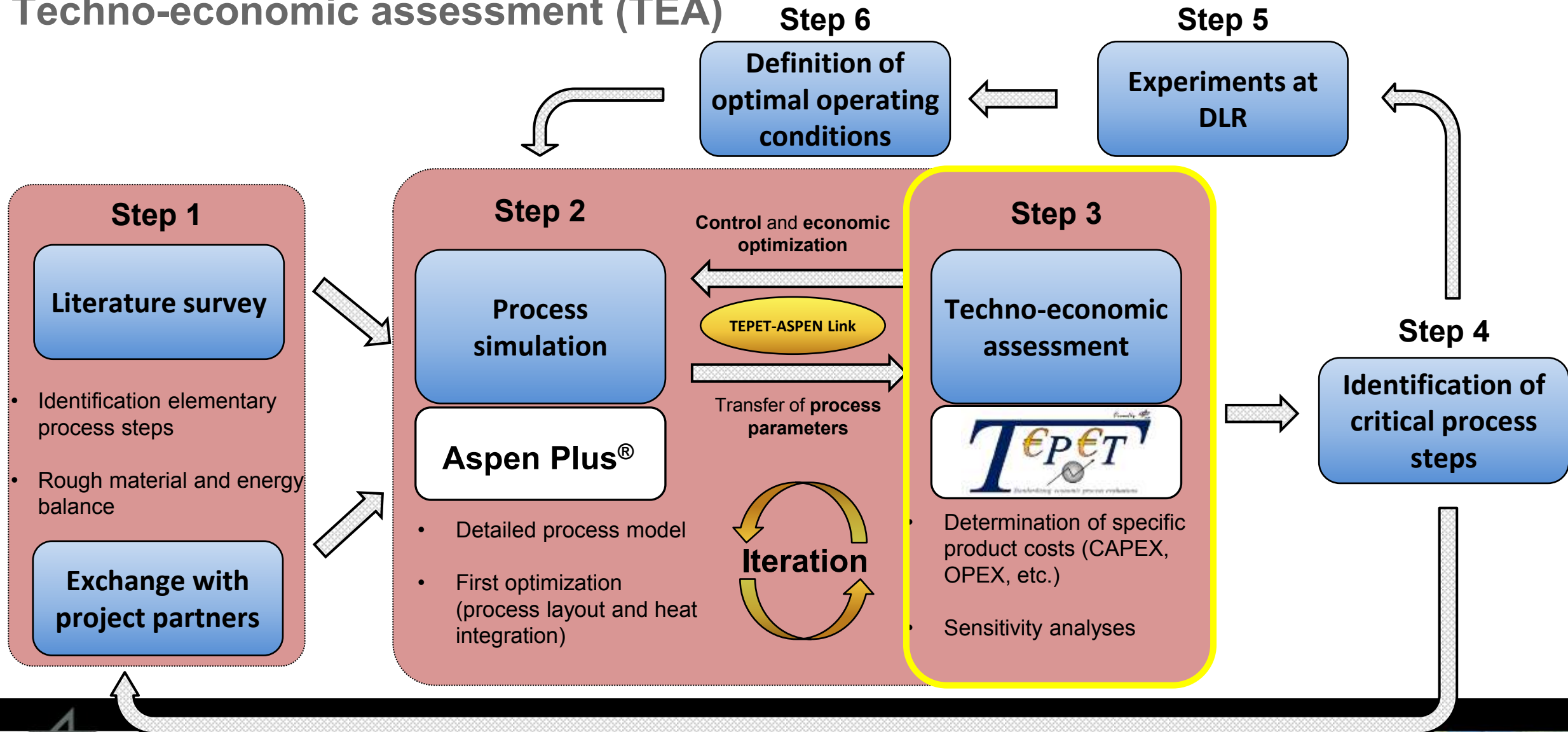
DLR-Softwaretool:



Results calculated with TEPET:



Techno-economic assessment (TEA)



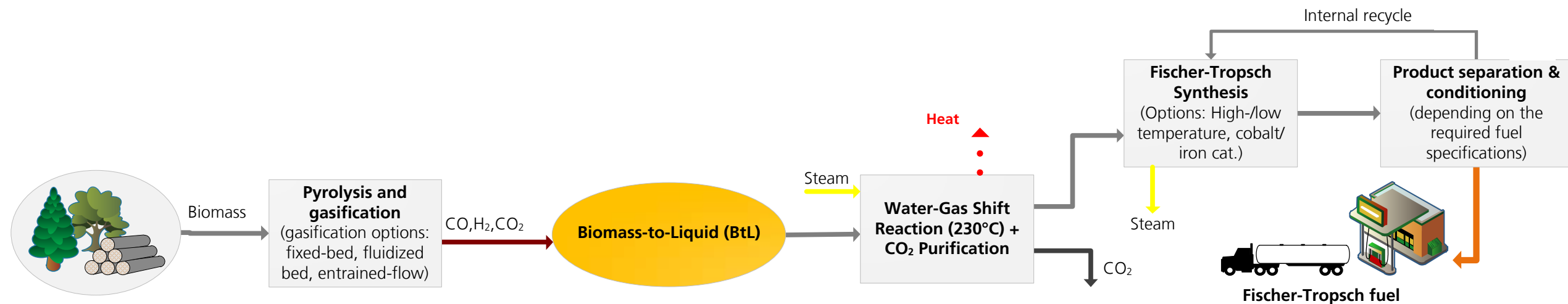
Investigated Fischer-Tropsch concepts

-From biomass (Biomass-to-Liquid, BtL)

Syngas supply

Syngas conditioning

Fuel synthesis



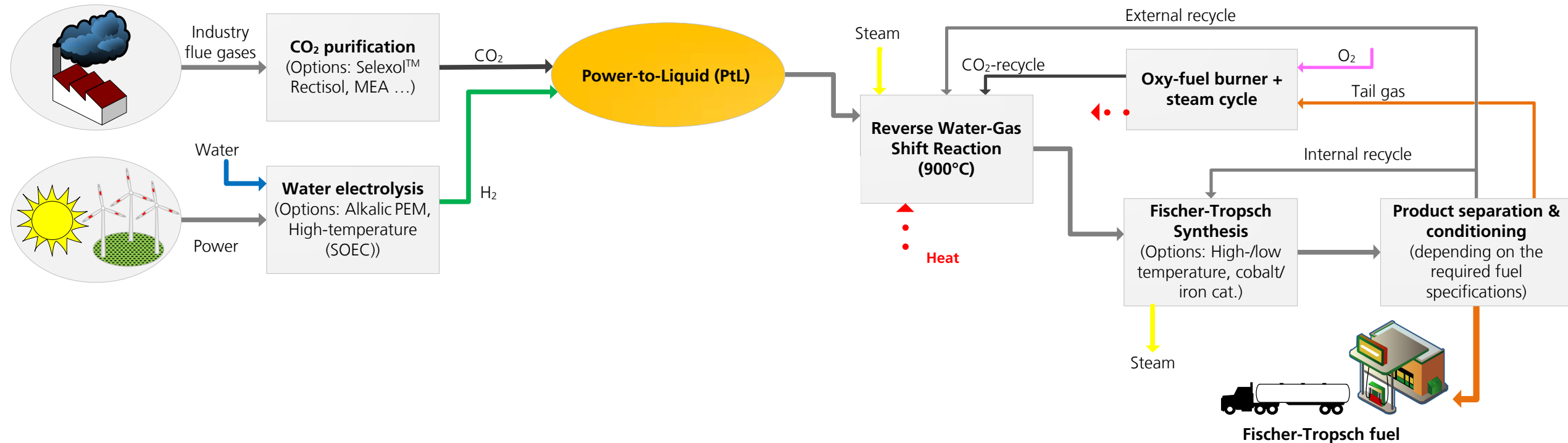
Investigated Fischer-Tropsch concepts

-From power and CO₂ (Power-to-Liquid, BtL)

Syngas supply

Syngas conditioning

Fuel synthesis



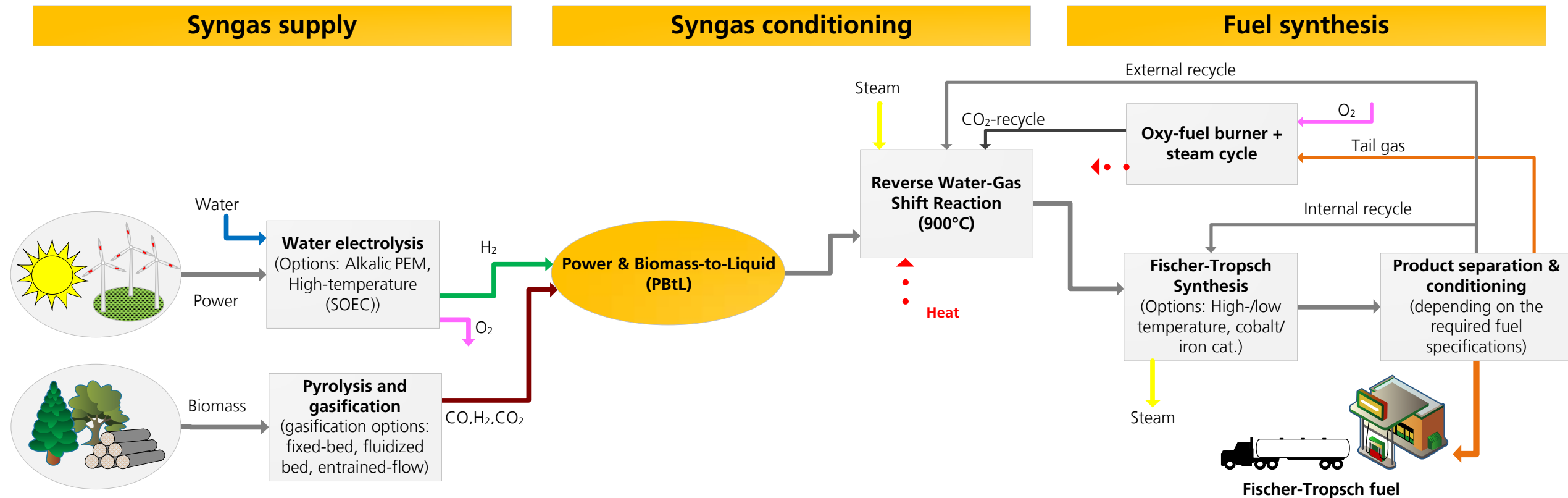
Investigated Fischer-Tropsch concepts

-From power and biomass (Power&Biomass-to-Liquid, BtL)

Syngas supply

Syngas conditioning

Fuel synthesis



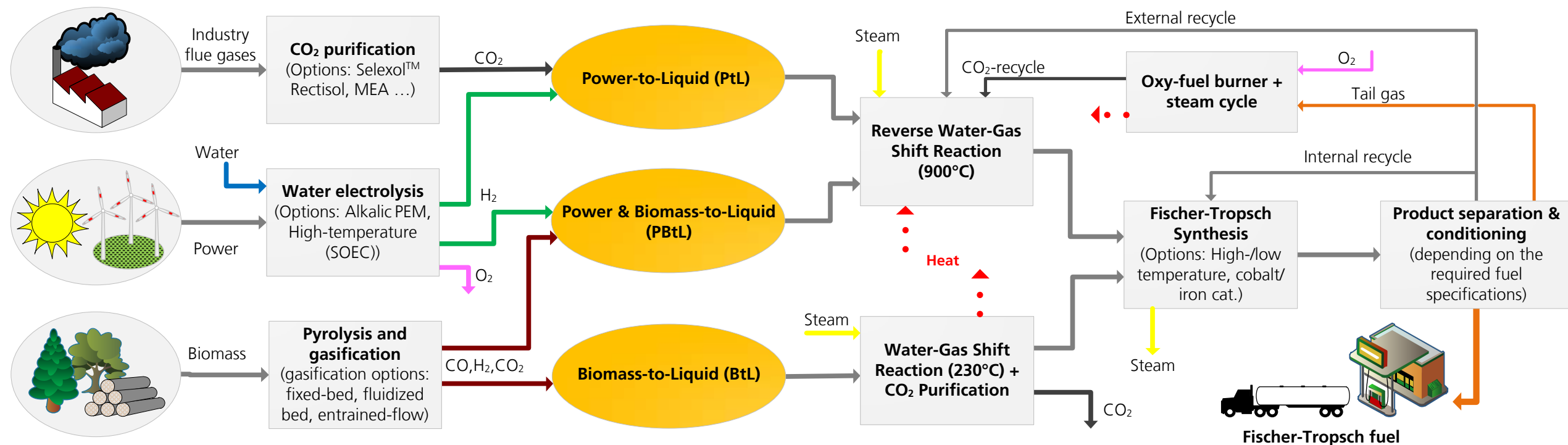
Investigated Fischer-Tropsch concepts

Overview of concepts

Syngas supply

Syngas conditioning

Fuel synthesis

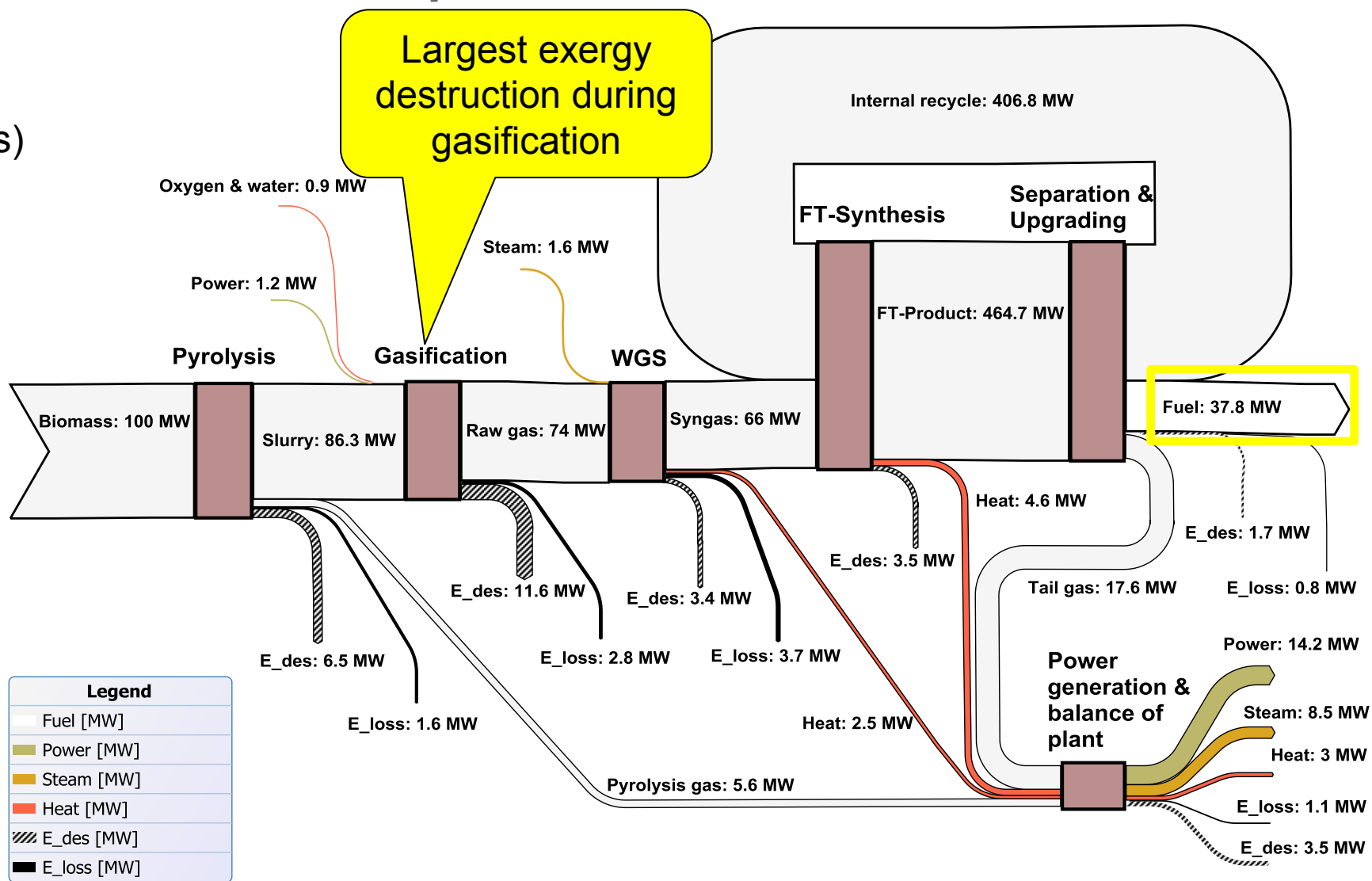


More information available in recent publication:

F. G. Albrecht, D. H. König, N. Baucks und R. U. Dietrich, „A standardized methodology for the techno-economic

Exergy flows - Biomass-to-Liquid

Exergy input:
100 MW (Biomass)

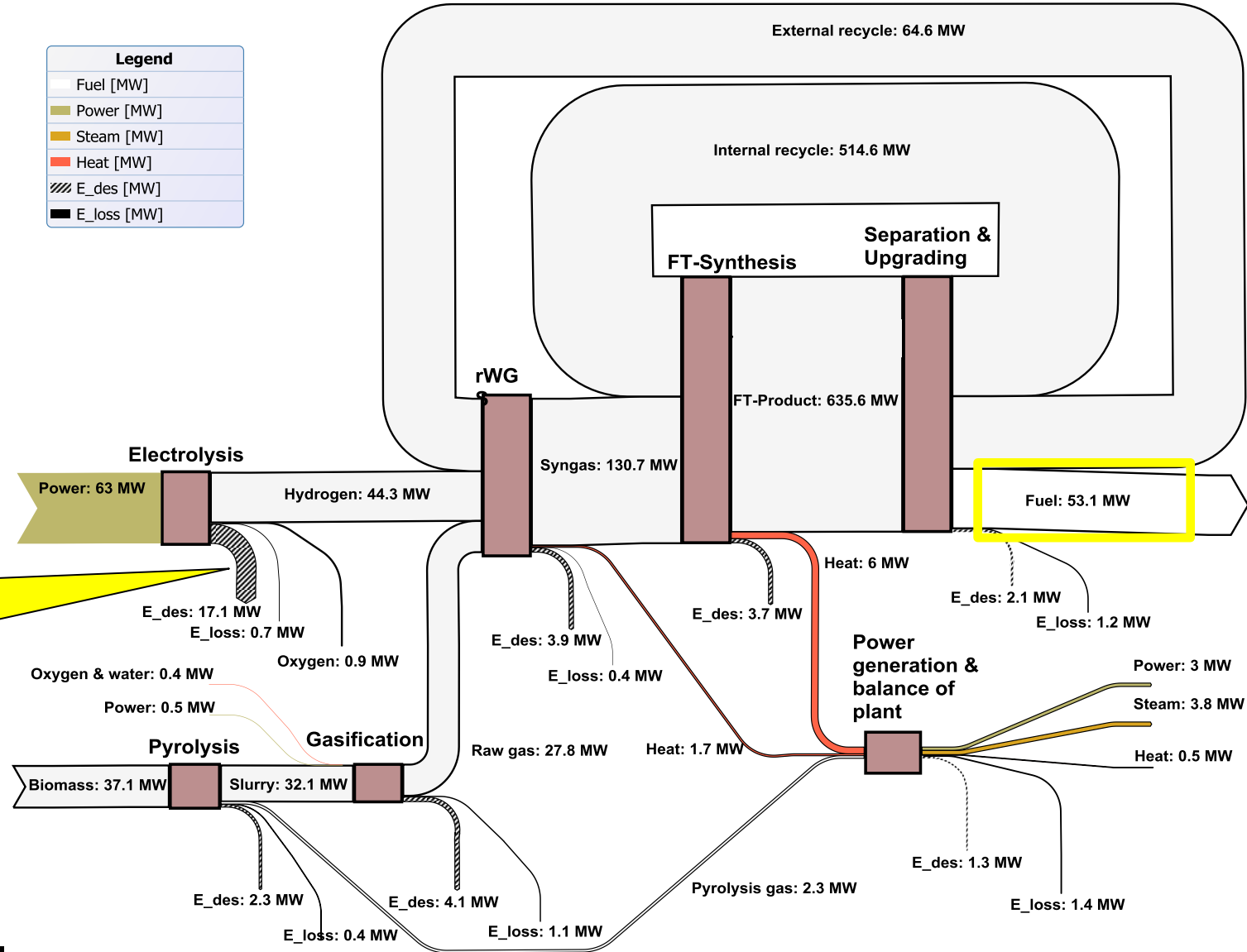


Exergy flows - PBtL

Exergy input:
37 MW (Biomass)
63 MW (Power)

Legend	
	Fuel [MW]
	Power [MW]
	Steam [MW]
	Heat [MW]
	E_des [MW]
	E_loss [MW]

Largest exergy destruction during electrolysis!



Technical process assessment

Case study equipment selection and assumptions:

- Proton exchange membrane electrolyzer (PEM), $\eta = 4.3 \text{ kWh/Nm}^3$ [1]
- Entrained flow gasifier, $T = 1200 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$, $p = 30 \text{ bar}$, pure O_2 [2]
- Fischer-Tropsch synthesis, $T = 225 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$, $p = 25 \text{ bar}$, $\alpha = 0.85$, $X_{\text{CO}} = 40 \%$ [3]

Process parameter	BTL	PBTL	PTL
Energy efficiency η_{XTL}	36.3 %	51.4 %	50.6 %
Power consumption	- 4.2 kWh/kg _{fuel}	15.8 kWh/kg _{fuel}	24.4 kWh/kg _{fuel}
Biomass/CO ₂ demand	7.5 kg _{BM} /kg _{fuel}	2.0 kg _{BM} /kg _{fuel}	3.1 kg _{CO2} /kg _{fuel}
Carbon efficiency η_{C}	24.9 %	97.7 %	98.0 %

- BTL fuel yield can be increased **by the factor 3 – 4 by the PBTL** concept
- Approximately full carbon conversion for PBTL and PTL applying oxy-fuel combustion and recycle concept
- PBTL XTL-efficiency comparable high as for PTL with reduced power consumption

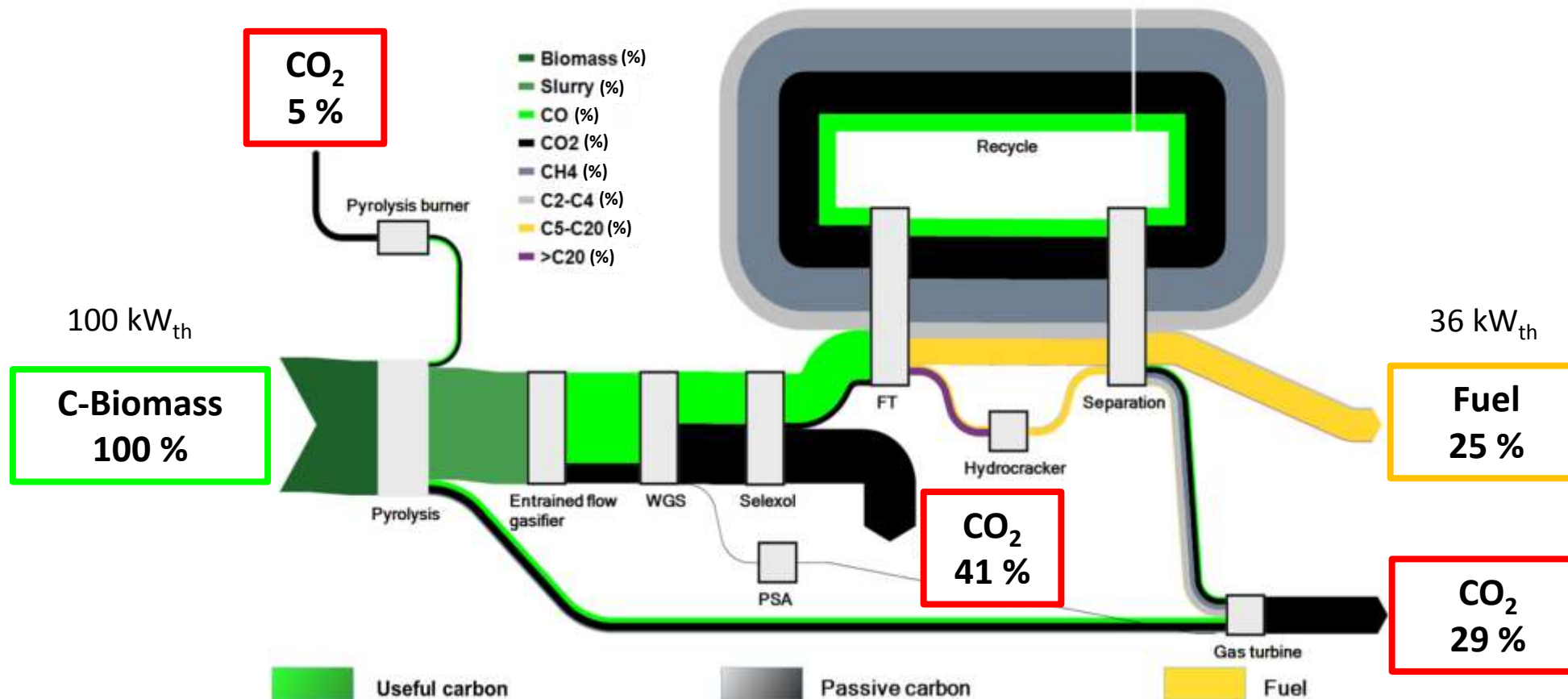
[1] T. Smolinka, M. Günther and J. Garche, „Stand und Entwicklungspotenzial der Wasserelektrolyse zur Herstellung von Wasserstoff aus regenerativen Energien,“ NOW GmbH, 2011, in German

[2] K. Qin, „Entrained Flow Gasification of Biomass, Ph. D. thesis,“ Technical University of Denmark (DTU), Kgs. Lyngby, 2012.

[3] P. Kaiser, F. Pöhlmann and A. Jess, "Intrinsic and effective kinetics of cobalt-catalyzed Fischer-Tropsch synthesis in view of a Power-to-Liquid process based on renewable energy," *Chemical Engineering Technology*, vol. 37, pp. 964-972, 2014.

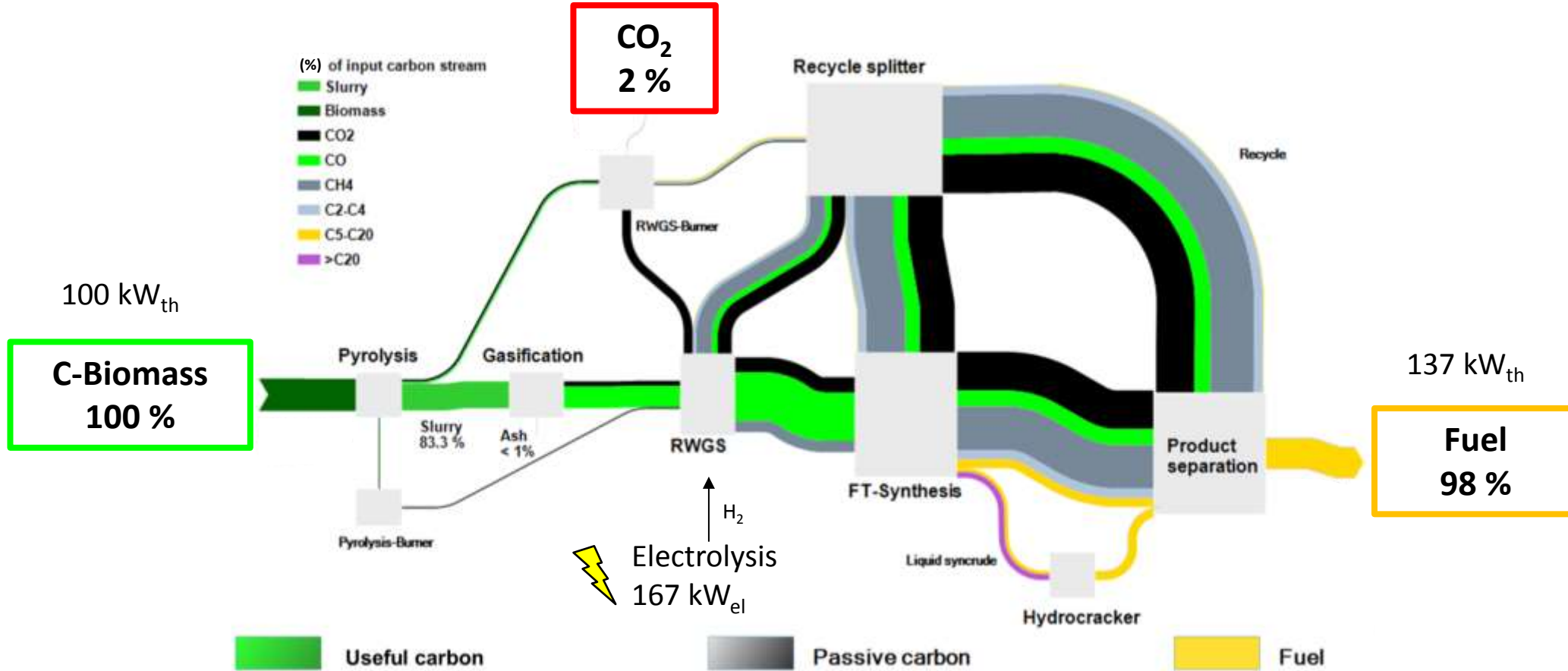


Biomass-to-Liquid – Carbon flow diagram



75 % of biomass carbon lost as CO₂

Power&Biomass-to-Liquid – Carbon flow diagram



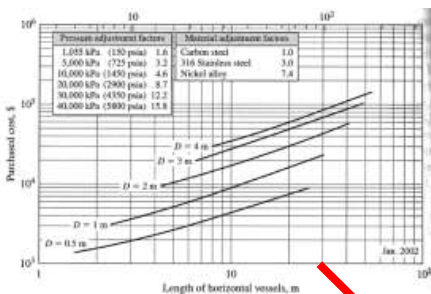
98 % of biomass carbon used in fuel



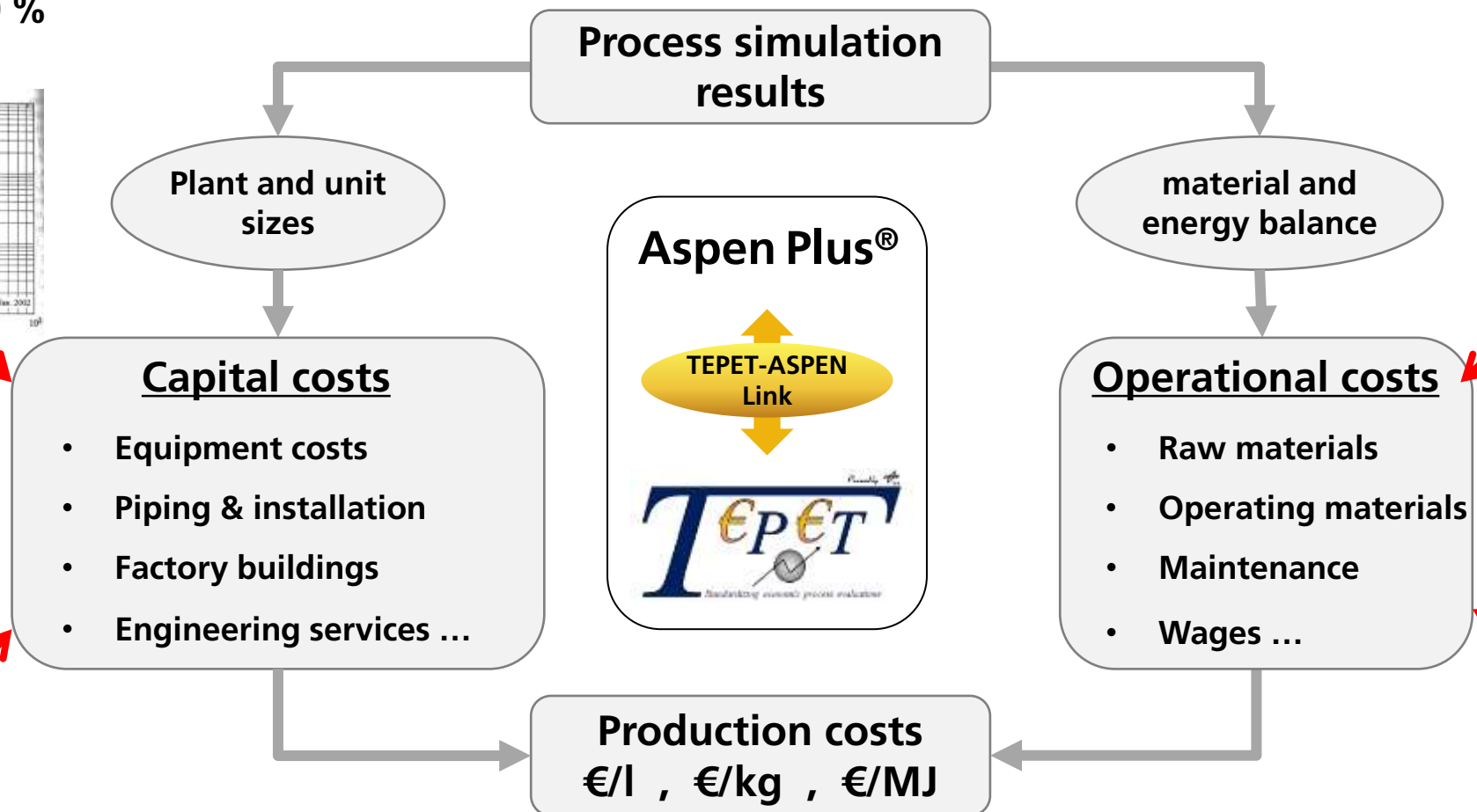
Methodology applied for TEA

Meets AACE class 3-4

Accuracy: +/- 30 %



Direct cost factors		
Installation factor	1.50	= Equip. cost
Transmission and control	1.20	= Equip. cost
Piping system	1.80	= Equip. cost
Electrical system	1.10	= Equip. cost
Buildings	1.4	= Equip. cost
Plant supervision	1.5	= Equip. cost
Service facilities	1.2	= Equip. cost
Indirect cost factors		
Engineering and supervision	1.5	= Equip. cost
Construction engineer	1.5	= Equip. cost
Legal expenses	1.4	= Equip. cost
Contractor's fee	1.4	= DM
Contingency	1.4	= DM



Assumptions dictate results of TEA

Plant size:

100 MW_{th} (Biomass input LHV)

Investment costs:

PEM-Elektrolyser: **640 €/kW** ^[1] (installed capacity)

Entrained flow gasification: **103.650 €/kg_{Slurry}/h** ^[2] (scale-factor 0.7)

Raw material prices:

Power: **105 €/MWh** ^[3] (industrial consumer)

Biomass (35% moisture): **97.4 €/t** ^[4]

General economic assumptions:

Reference year: 2014 *System operation:* 30 a

Operating hours: 8,260 h/year *Capital interest:* 7 %

[1] G. Saur, Wind-To-Hydrogen Project: Electrolyzer Capital Cost Study, Technical Report NREL, 2008

[2] P. Kerdoncuff, Modellierung und Bewertung von Prozessketten zur Herstellung von Biokraftstoffen der zweiten Generation, Dissertation, KIT, Karlsruhe, 2008

[3] Eurostat, Electricity prices for industrial consumer, 2014



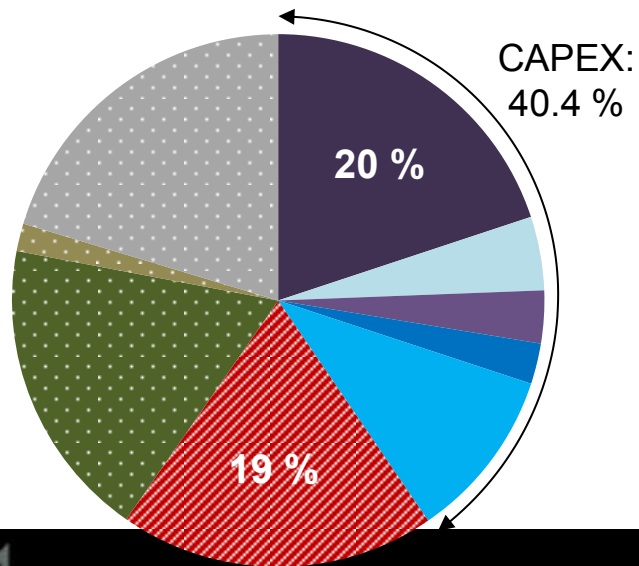
Comparison of Costs BTL / PBTL / PTL

Plant size: 100 MW_{th}

- Electrolyzer
- Fischer-Tropsch
- Power^[3]
- Maintenance
- Entrained flow gasification
- Selexol
- Biomass^[4]
- Labor costs
- Pyrolyse
- Remaining (CAPEX)
- Remaining (Utilities)
- Remaining (OPEX)

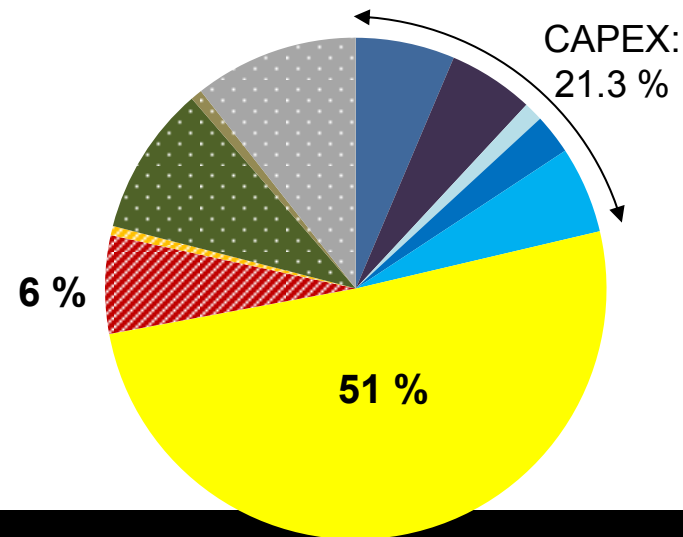
Biomass-to-Liquid (BTL)

Investment: ca. 395.2 mio. €
 Fuel production: 24.17 Mt
 Fuel costs: ca. **2.34 €/l**



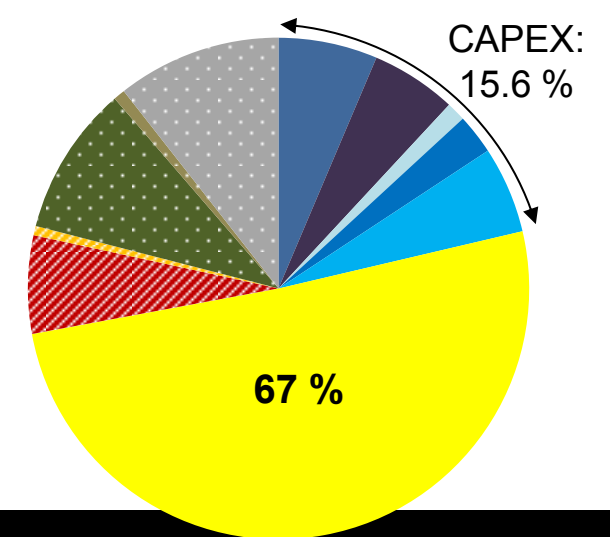
Power&Biomass-to-Liquid (PBTL)

Investment: ca. 751 mio. €
 Fuel production: 91.27 Mt
 Fuel costs : ca. **2.24 €/l**

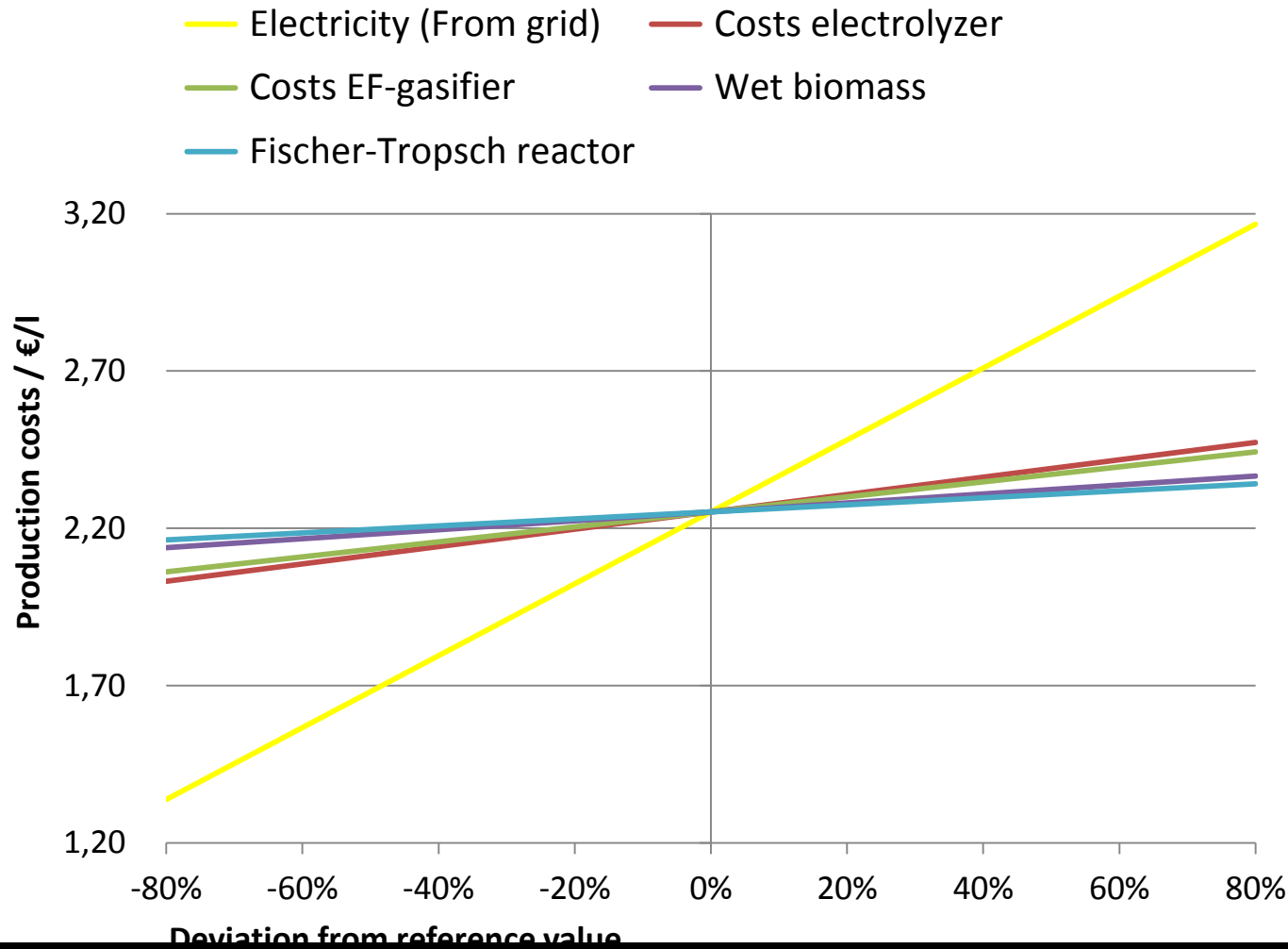


Power-to-Liquid (PTL)

Investment: ca. 672.5 mio. €
 Fuel production: 91.27 Mt
 Fuel costs : ca. **2.74 €/l**

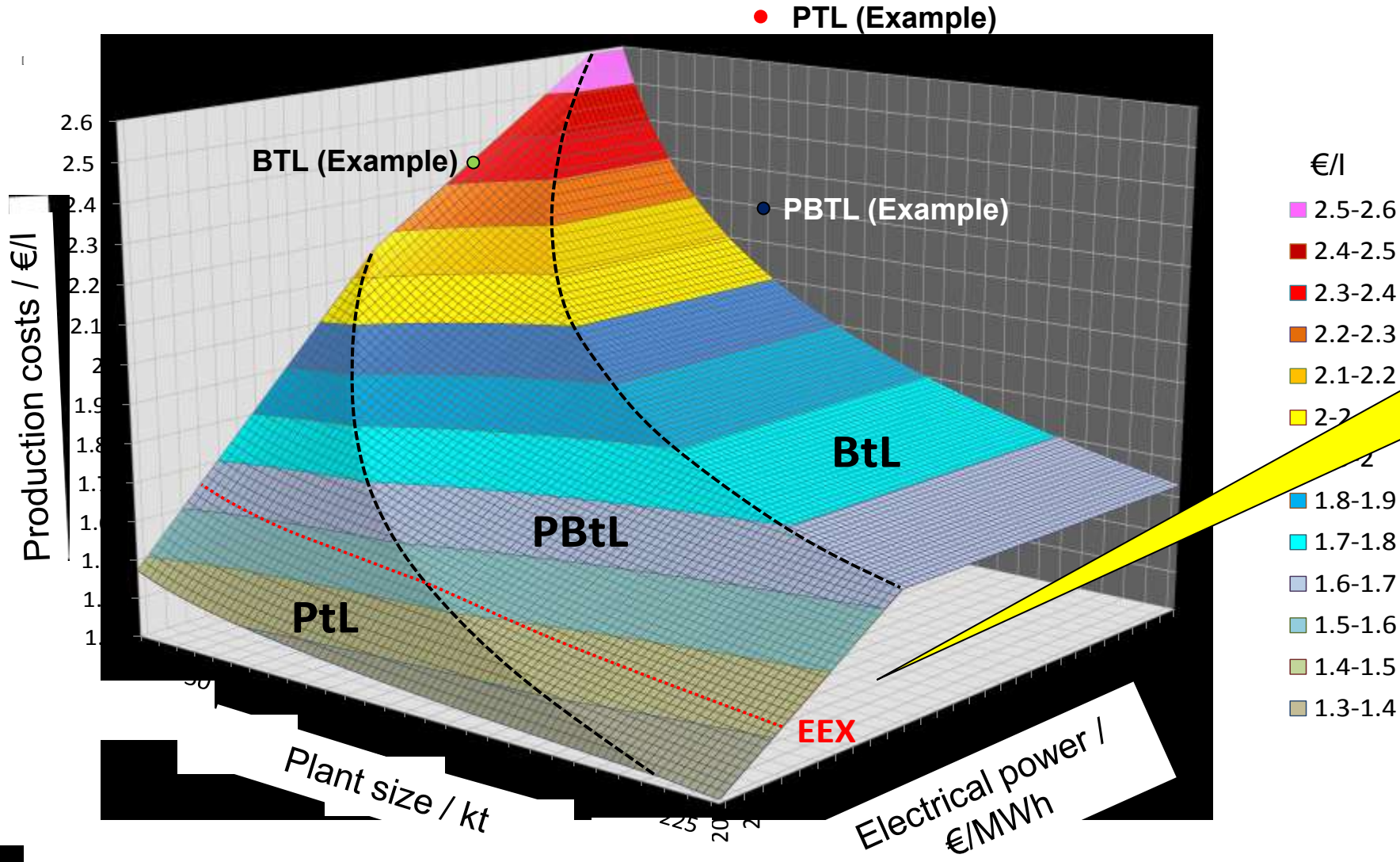


Sensitivity analysis for PBTL



- OPEX are the main cost driver for PBTL
- Power price mostly defines the net production costs
- Minor influence of CAPEX

Techno-economic assessment



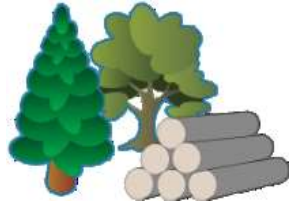
“optimal” production concept depends on boundary conditions!

- Cost-efficient fuel production depends mainly on the boundary conditions e.g. plant size and power price



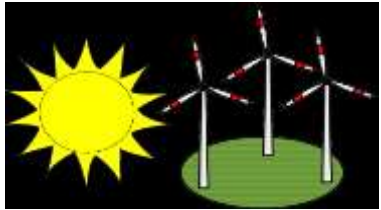
CO₂-Footprint - Methodology

Biomass



Carbon footprint of used raw materials and energy sources defines carbon footprint of produced fuel!

Power



Carbon dioxide



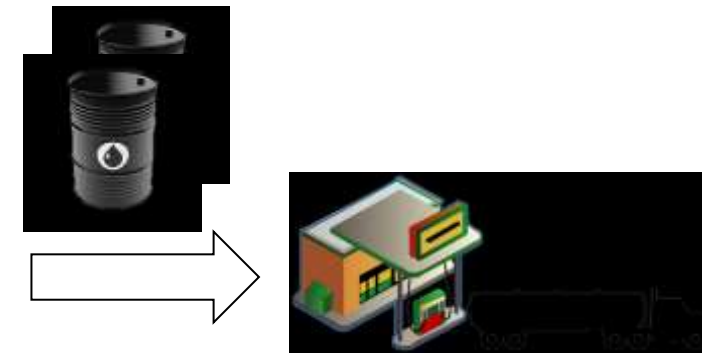
Oxygen



Black box



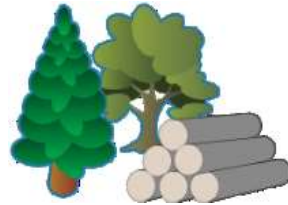
Fuel



$$CO_2 - Abatement\ costs \left[\frac{\text{€}}{t_{CO_2}} \right] = \frac{\text{Difference in fuel costs}}{CO_2 - emission\ reduction}$$



CO₂ Footprint – Basics

Biomass**Power****Carbon dioxide****Oxygen**

Functional unit	[kg _{CO₂eq} /t] ^a	[kg _{CO₂eq} /MWh] ^b	[kg _{CO₂eq} /t] ^c	[kg _{CO₂eq} /t] ^d
Low boundary	13.6	10	5	10
Average	134.3	272.5	77.5	75
High boundary	255	535	150	140

^a Taking into account biomass type (forest residues, straw etc.) and transport distances. CO₂-emissions during cultivation and harvesting are accounted for.

^b Low boundary value for pure wind electricity taken from [1]. High value corresponds to the actual CO₂-footprint of the German electricity sector [2].

^c Representing emissions arising from sequestration of CO₂ from flue gas (cement industry and coal fired power plants). The probably fossil nature of the flue gas was not taken into account.

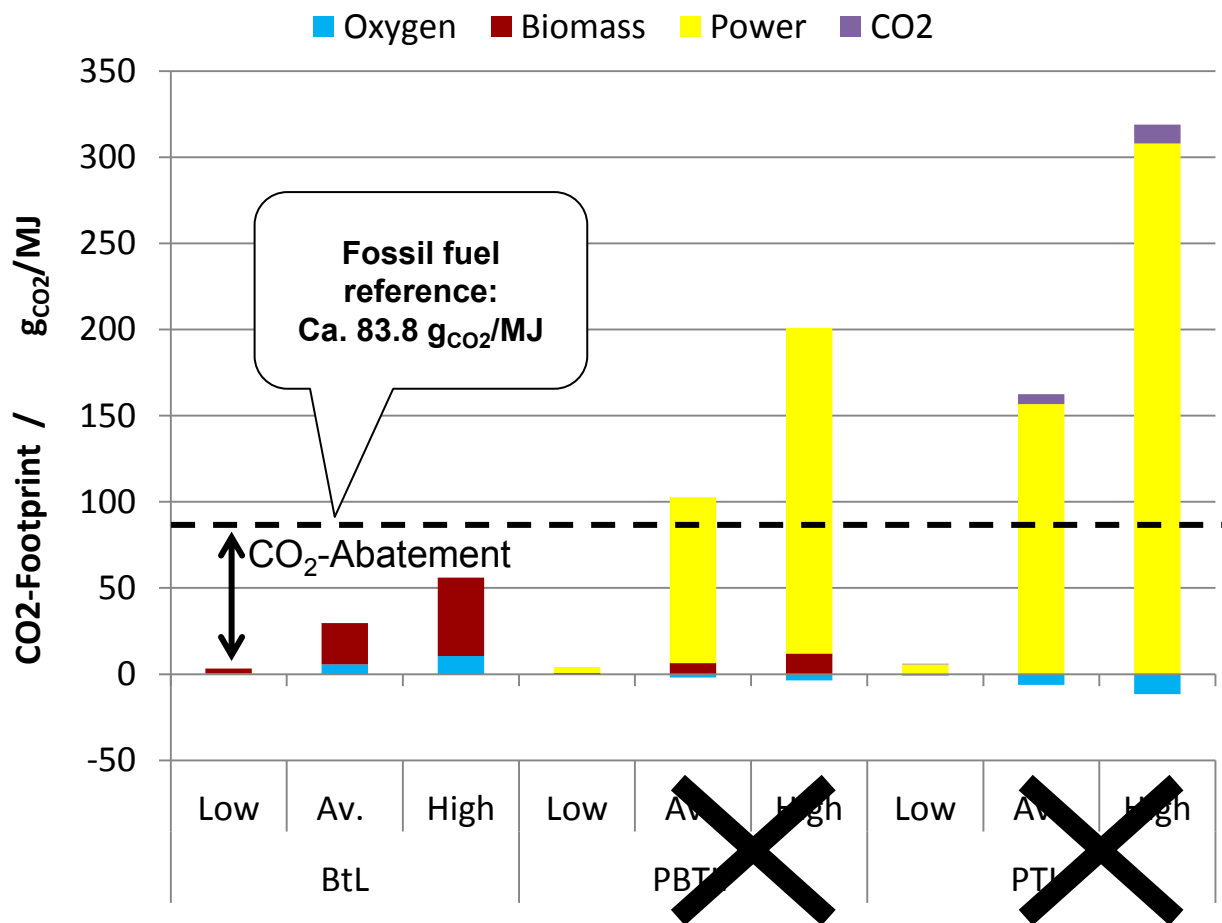
Low/high value: energy demand of CO₂-sequestration is covered with wind energy/German electricity mix.

^d ProBas databank [1]. Low/high value due to different electricity sources.

[1] Umweltbundesamt, "Prozessorientierte Basisdaten für Umweltmanagementsysteme," <http://www.probas.umweltbundesamt.de/php/index.php>.

[2] Umweltbundesamt, "Entwicklung der spezifischen Kohlendioxid-Emissionen des deutschen Strommix in den Jahren 1990 – 2016," Dessau-Roßlau, 2017.

CO₂ Footprint – Calculation



PtL-concepts only viable when using renewable power!

CO₂-Abatement costs:

Case1:

Price of fossil kerosene: ca. 0.5 €/l
 Power price: 105 €/MWh
 Biomass price: 100 €/t

Case2:

Price of fossil kerosene: ca. 1 €/l
 Power price: 30 €/MWh
 Biomass price: 60 €/t

CO ₂ -Abatement costs € / t _{CO2}					
Case	BtL-Low	BtL-Av.	BtL-High	PBtL-Low	PtL-Low
1	662	985	2756	631	827
2	406	605	1183	134	155

Current Price of CO₂ - European Emission Allowances: ca. 5 €/t

Required: Feedstock shift for sustainable aviation

- European jet fuel consumption (2010)
ca. 56.5 Mt/a
- EU target (2050):
40 % sustainable low carbon fuels
- Expected “green” jet fuel demand in 2050:
55-60 Mt/a

Six fully “green” refineries!

Just for aviation!!

Raw materials and energy requirements for 60 Mt/a of green jet fuel:

Demand	Unit	BtL	PBtL	PtL
Power ^a	TWh	-	890	1450
CO ₂ ^c	Mt	-	-	186

To be compared with:

- ^a Total produced renewable electricity in EU (2015): **930 TWh¹**
Expected development potential wind: **≈ 40,000 TWh²**
- ^b Total bioenergy consumption in EU (2014): **105.5 Mt³**
Expected wood potential (2030 EU): **146 Mt⁴**
- ^c Total CO_{2,eq.} emissions (2015 EU): **4,451.1 Mt⁵**

[1] Eurostat database, “online data codes: nrg_105a and tsdcc330,” 2017

[2] EEA Technical report, “Europe’s onshore and offshore wind energy potential”, No 6/2009

[3] AEBIOM „Statistical Report 2016 - Key findings“

[4] European Commission, Agriculture and rural development, „Biomass potential“

[5] Eurostat „Total greenhouse gas emissions by countries“

Summary

- EU aviation emission targets → large demand for green jet fuel
- Mass production of green jet fuel → renewable power-based fuel production concepts (Fischer-Tropsch)
- Syncrude from Fischer-Tropsch synthesis has to be upgraded → Update existing refinery infrastructure
- Alternative fuel costs are currently not competitive compared to fossil jet fuel → political demand
→ Identify the most viable fuel options in terms of fuel costs / CO₂-abatement costs
- Use the standardized DLR methodology for the evaluation of alternative jet fuels with respect to technical, economic and ecological key performance parameters (CAPEX, OPEX, net production costs, CO₂-Abatement costs)



Otherwise? – How about biking?

The Gossamer Albatross crossed the English Channel between Folkestone and Cap Gris-Nez

- Bryan Allen on June 12, 1979
- Distance: 35,8 km
- Travel time: 2:49 hours

This corresponds to:

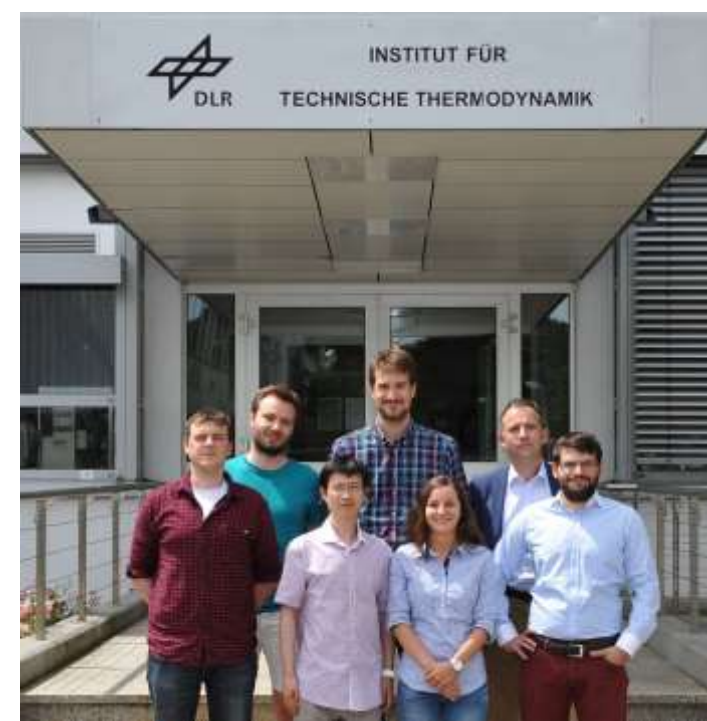
- Flight from Frankfurt am Main (FRA)
➔ Madrid (MAD): 1.450 km
- Calculated flight time: **114 hours**



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

German Aerospace Center (DLR)
Institute of Engineering Thermodynamics, Stuttgart
Research Area Alternative Fuels

ralph-uwe.dietrich@dlr.de
<http://www.dlr.de/tt/en>



Knowledge for Tomorrow