

# CATALYTIC CONVERSION OF BIOMASS INTO VALUABLE CHEMICALS

**Tomáš Soták**

[tomas.sotak@stuba.sk](mailto:tomas.sotak@stuba.sk)



Department of Organic Technology, Catalysis and Petroleum Chemistry  
Faculty of Chemical and Food Technology  
Slovak University of Technology  
Radlinského 9, SK-812 37 Bratislava, Slovak Republic

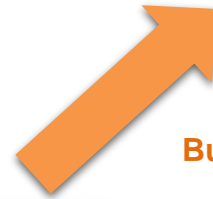
# BIOMASS CONVERSION



**WHY  
BIOMASS  
CONVERSION?**



**HEMICELLULOSES  
CELLULOSE**



**Bulk chemicals**

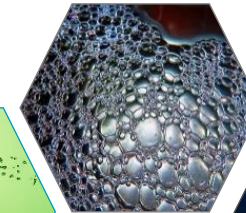


**Plastics**



**Material**

**Green solvents**



**Surfactants**



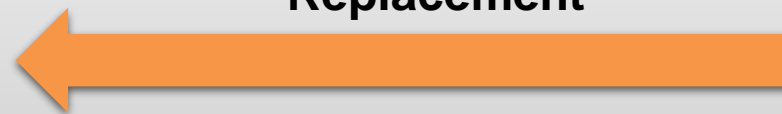
**Jet fuels**



**Drugs**



**Replacement**



**PETROLEUM**

**DESIRED PRODUCTS**

# BIOMASS CONVERSION

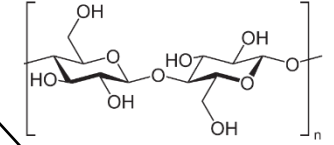
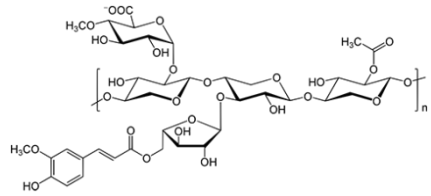
LIGNOCELLULOSE

Fractionation

HEMICELULLOSES

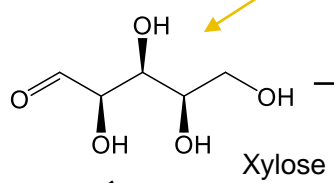
LIGNIN

CELLULOSE



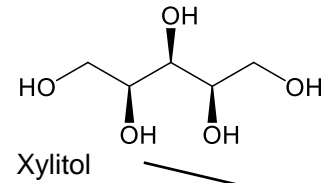
$H^+ / H_2O$

$H^+ / H_2O$

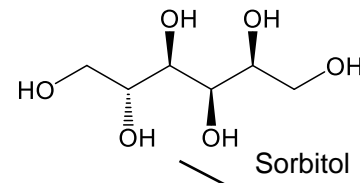


Xylose

$H_2$

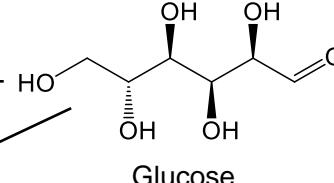


Xylitol

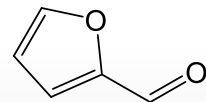


Sorbitol

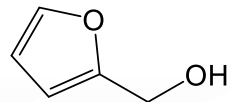
$H_2$



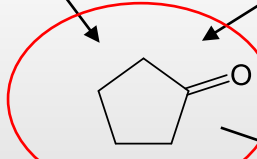
Glucose



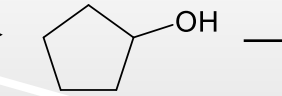
Furfural (FUR)



Furfuryl alcohol (FAL)

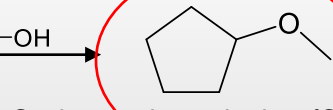


Cyclopentanone (CYPon)

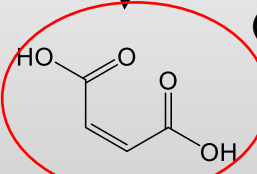


Cyclopentanol (CYPol)

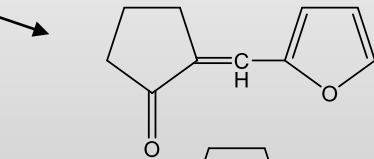
$H_3C-OH$



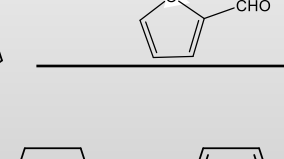
Cyclopentyl methyl ether (CPME)



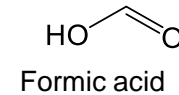
Maleic acid (MA)



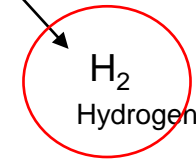
Cyclic ethers (C<sub>15</sub> - fuels)



2,5-bis(2-furylmethylidene)cyclopentane-1-one (F<sub>2</sub>C)



Formic acid



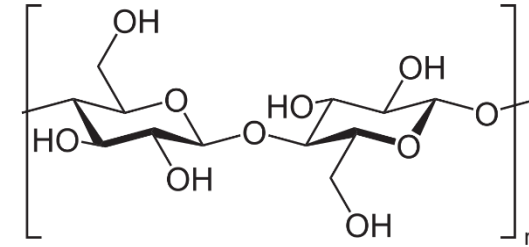
H<sub>2</sub>  
Hydrogen

Product separation !

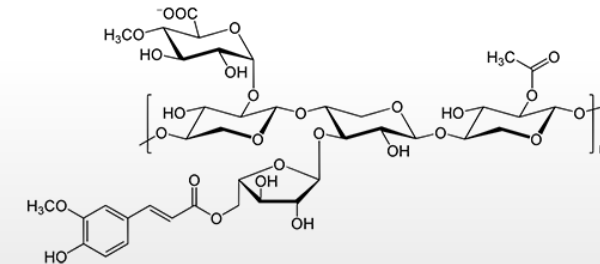
# BIOMASS CONVERSION

Components of  
ligno-celluloic biomass:

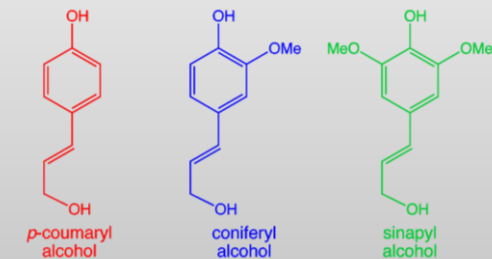
## CELLULOSE



## HEMICELLULOSES (xylan)



## LIGNIN (phenolics)



# LIGNIN CONVERSION

## LIGNIN

### Thermochemical processes



#### LIGNIN

15 – 30 wt.%  
depends on type  
of biomass



#### BIO-OIL

aromatic aldehydes  
(e.g. VANILLIN)  
other aromatic alcohols,  
ketones, esters,  
phenols, oligomers



pharmaceutical, food  
and fragrance industry

Bio fuels



**WHY  
NOT  
LIGNIN?**

### Catalytic processes

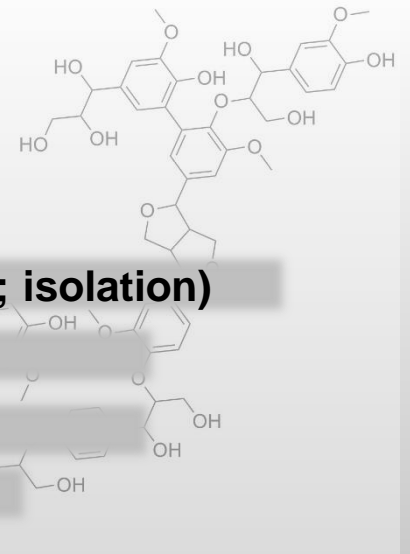


Products (identification; isolation)

Products in low yields

Polymerization

Catalyst deactivation



# CELLULOSE CONVERSION

## CELLULOSE



Hydrolysis

**CELLULOSE**  
40 – 50 wt.%  
depends on type  
of biomass  
(90% in cotton  
fiber)

**SUGARS**  
Glucose  
Mannose  
Sorbitol  
Mannitol

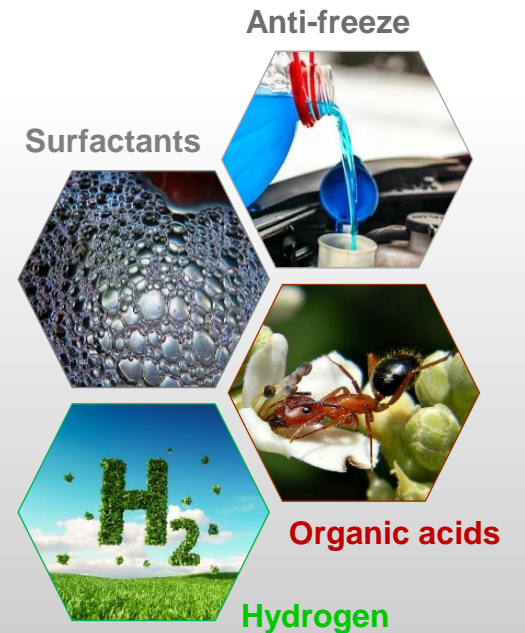
DIFFERENT  
PRODUCTS



**OUR FOCUS:**

H<sub>2</sub> formation

Formic acid preparation



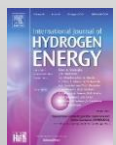
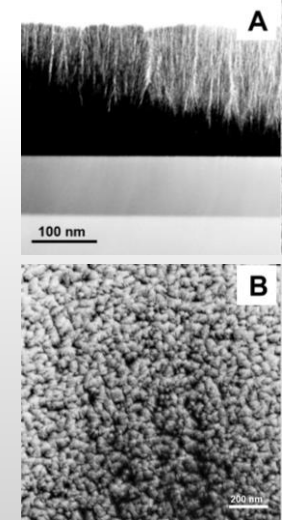
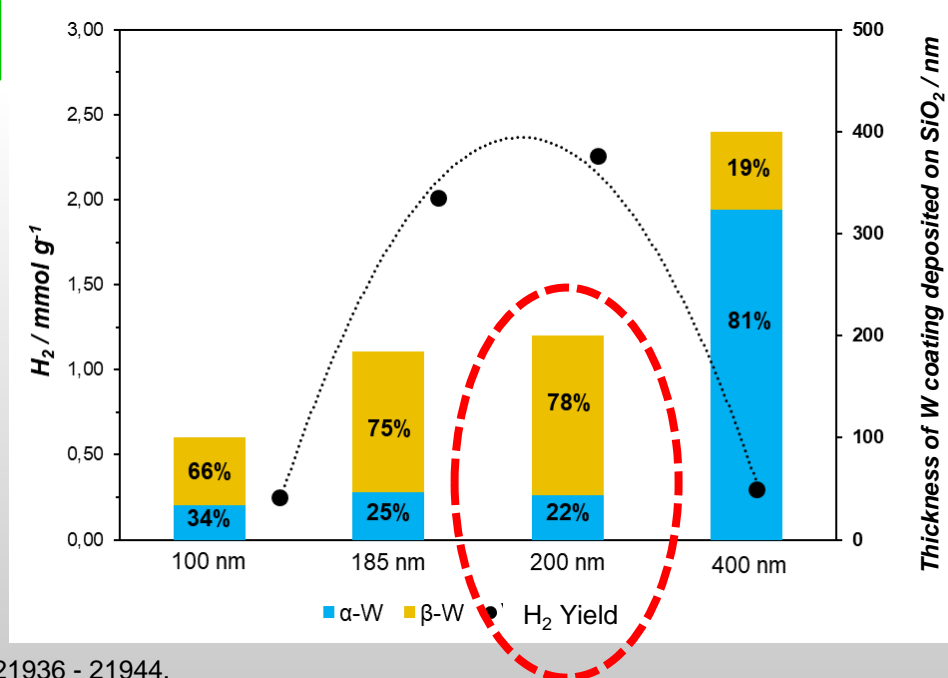
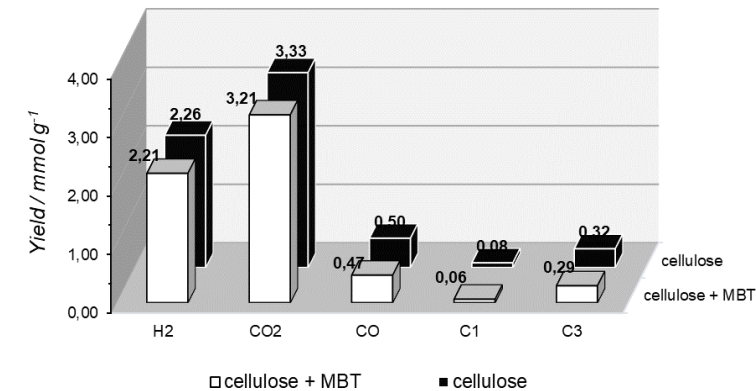
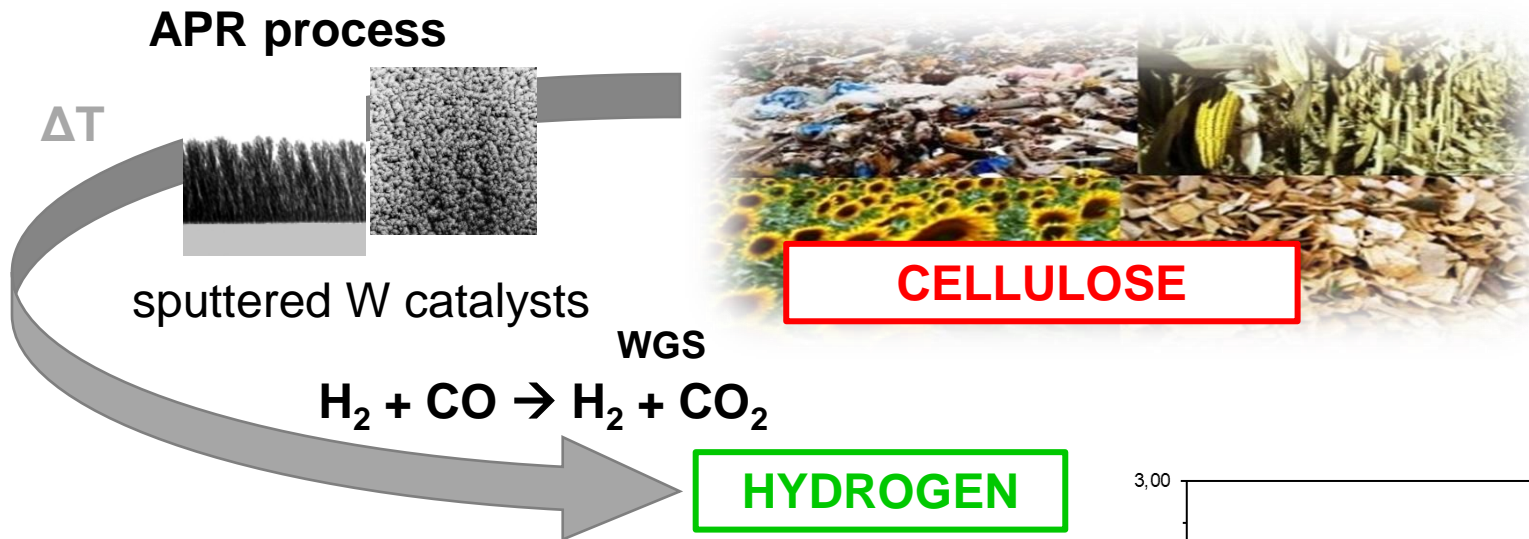
Anti-freeze

Surfactants

Organic acids

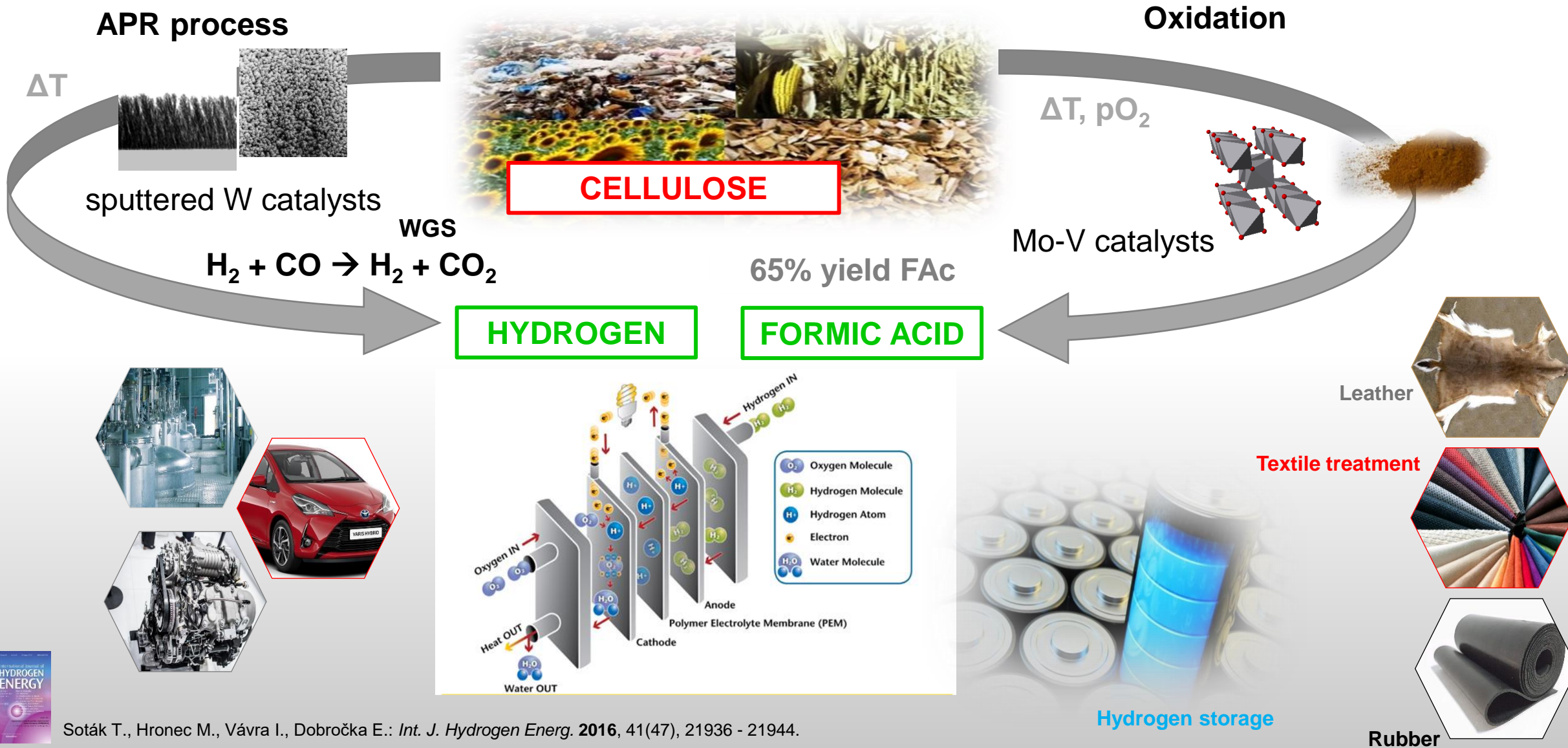
Hydrogen

# CELLULOSE CONVERSION

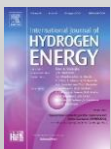


Soták T., Hronec M., Vávra I., Dobročka E.: *Int. J. Hydrogen Energ.* **2016**, 41(47), 21936 - 21944.

# CELLULOSE CONVERSION



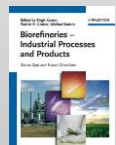
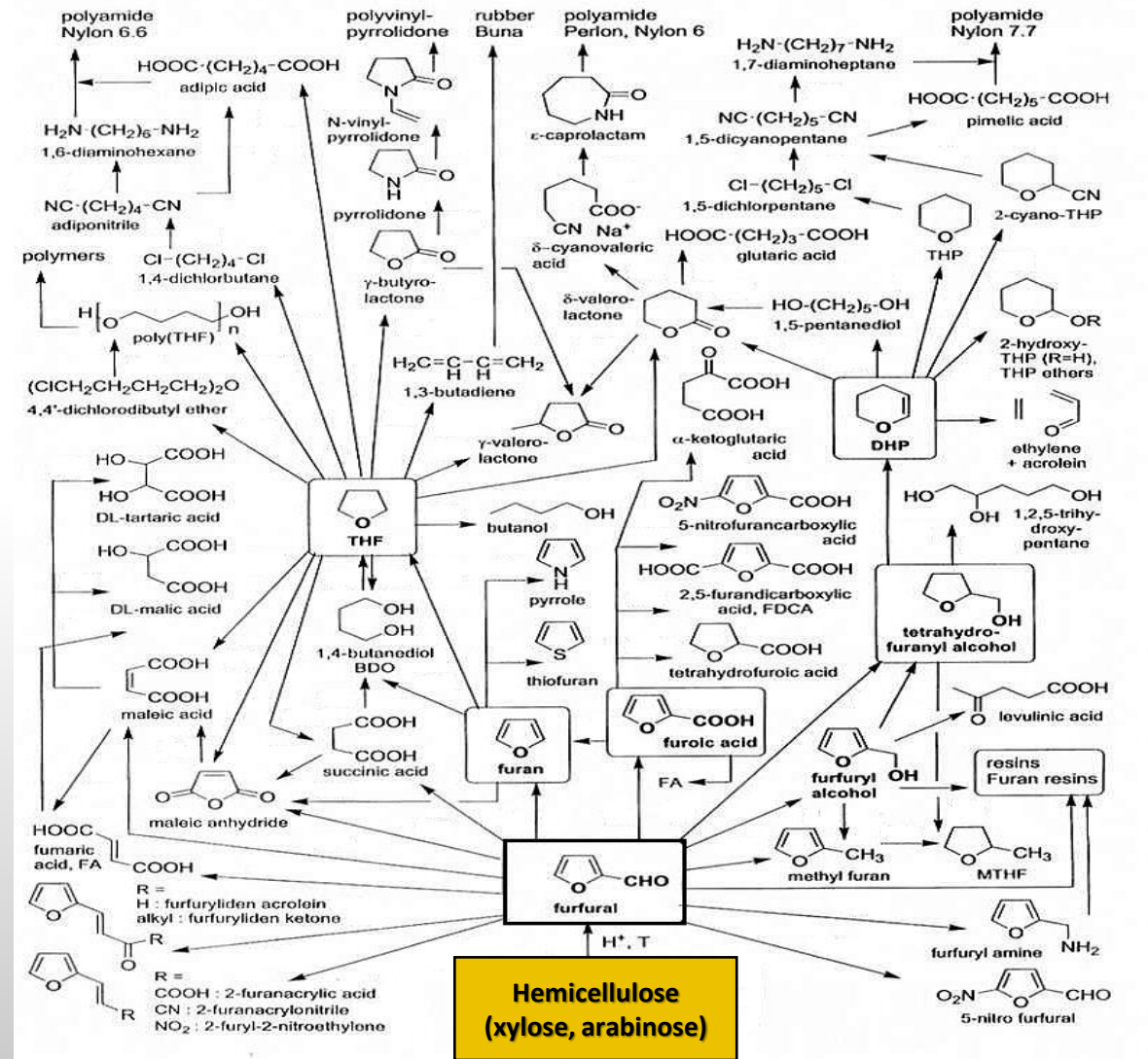
Soták T., Hronec M., Vávra I., Dobročka E.: *Int. J. Hydrogen Energ.* **2016**, 41(47), 21936 - 21944.





# HEMICELLULOSE CONVERSION

- ⚙️ esterification
- ⚙️ hydrogenation
- ⚙️ decarbonylation
- ⚙️ ring-opening reactions



B. Kamm et al.: *Biorefineries – Industrial processes and products. Status quo and future directions*, WILEY-VCH, 2006, vol.2

# HEMICELLULOSE CONVERSION

## HEMICELLULOSES



Resins



Organic solvents



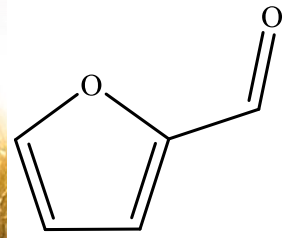
Adhesives



Bio-fuels



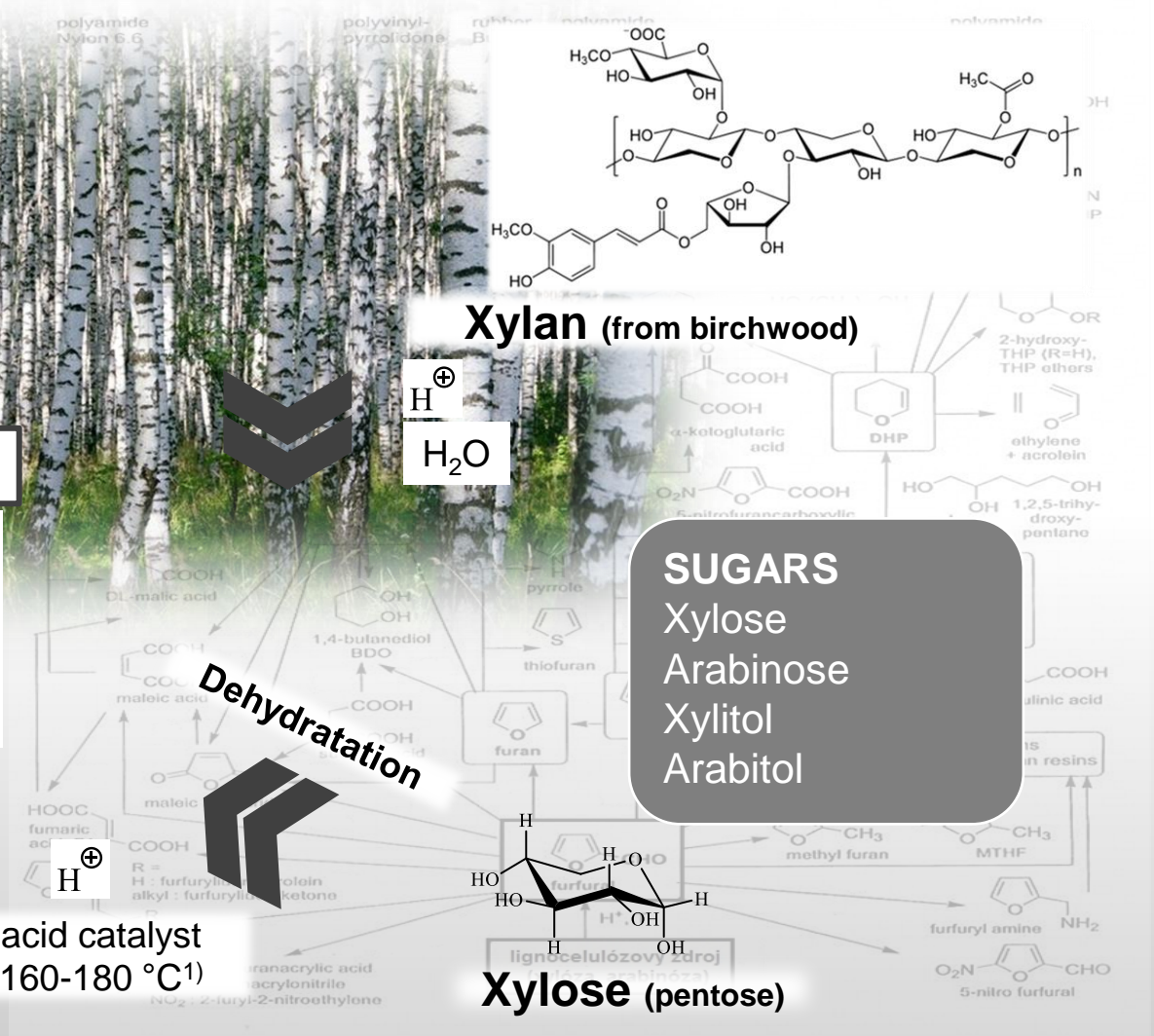
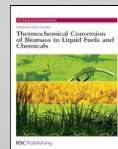
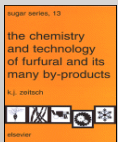
**FURFURAL**



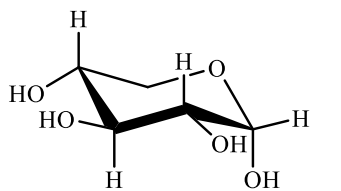
**300 000 t/yr<sup>2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>K.J. Zeitsch: *The Chemistry and Technology of Furfural and its Many By-Products*. Elsevier, 2000.

<sup>2</sup>G. Akien et al.: *Conversion of Carbohydrates to Liquid Fuels*. RSC Publishing, 2010.



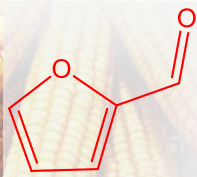
# HEMICELLULOSE CONVERSION



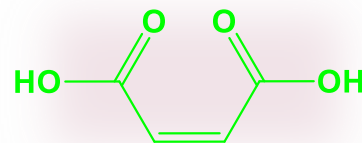
**Xylose (pentose)**



acid catalyst  
160-180 °C



**Furfural**

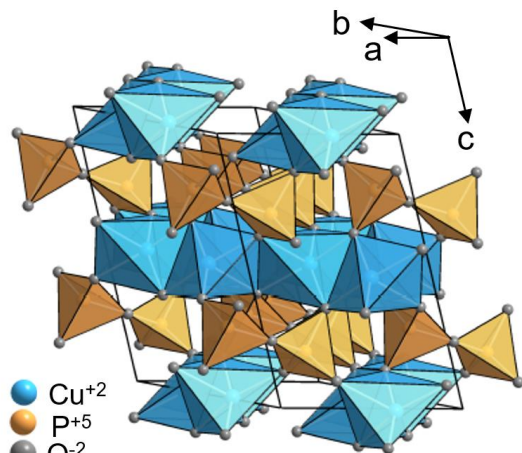
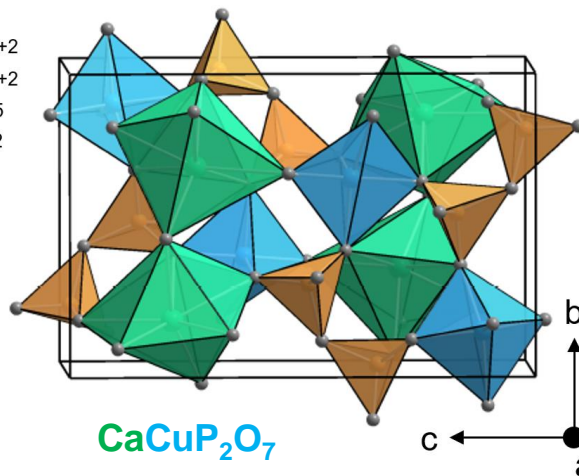


**Maleic acid**

Reaction conditions:  
t = 115 °C  
p(O<sub>2</sub>) = 0,8 MPa  
time = 18 h

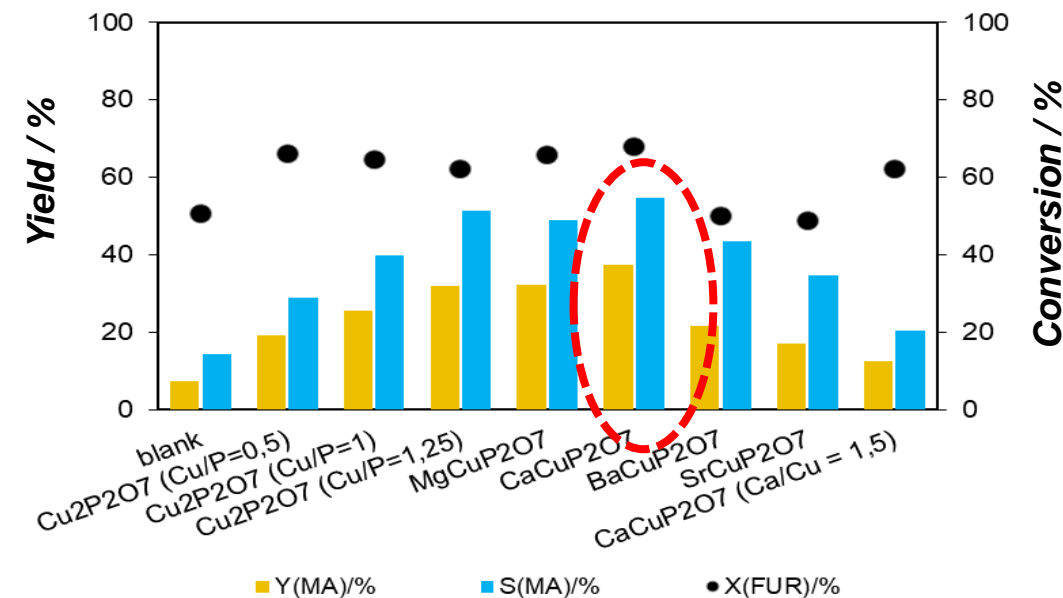
- **Cu<sub>2</sub>P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>**
- **MCuP<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>**
- M = Mg, Ca, Ba, Sr**

- Cu<sup>+2</sup>
- Ca<sup>+2</sup>
- P<sup>+5</sup>
- O<sup>-2</sup>



- Cu<sup>+2</sup>
- P<sup>+5</sup>
- O<sup>-2</sup>

**Cu<sub>2</sub>P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>**

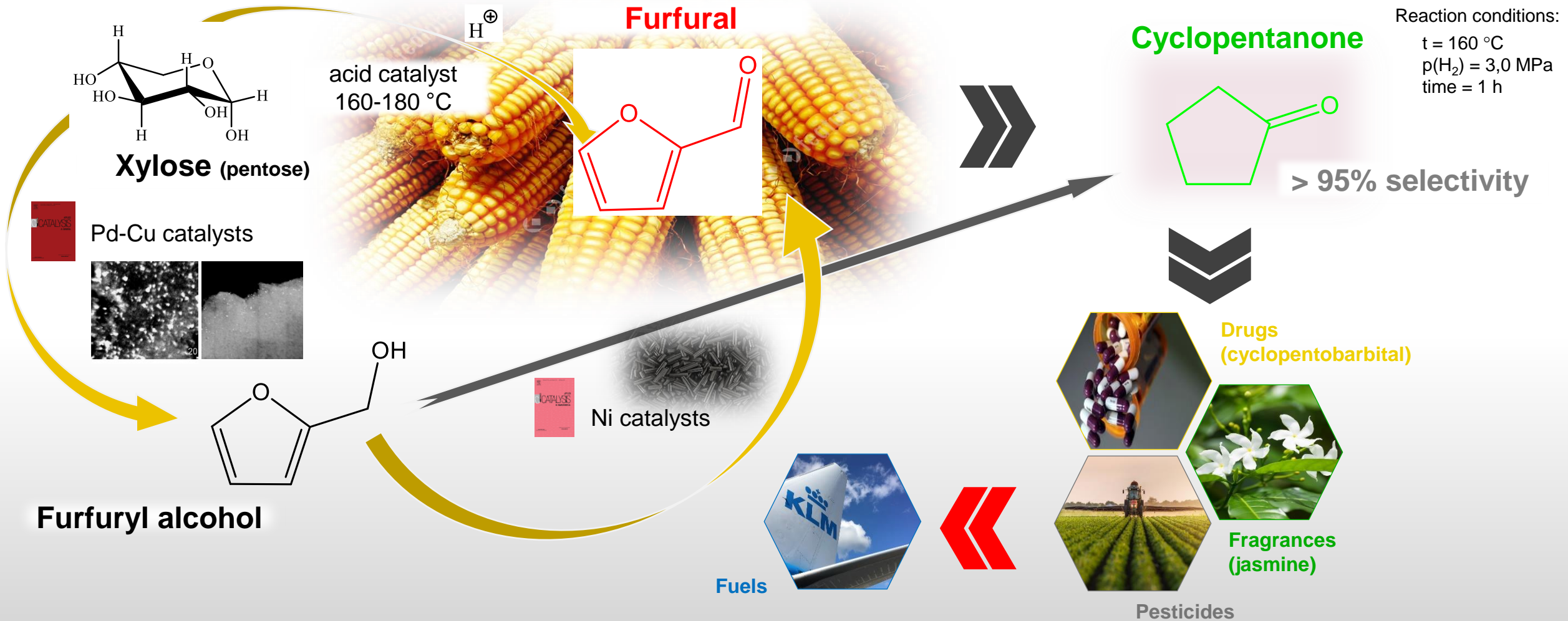


Soták T., Hronec M., Gál M., Dobročka E., Škriniarová J.: *Catal. Lett.* **2017**, 147, 2714 - 2723.



Bodišová J., Soták T., Naumowicz M., Sokolová R., Hronec M., Híveš J., Gál M.: *J. Electroanal. Chem.* **2018**, 821, 126 - 130.

# HEMICELLULOSE CONVERSION



Hronec M., Fulajtárová K.: *Catal. Commun.* **2012**, 24, 100 - 104.



Hronec M., Fulajtárová K., Soták T.: *Appl. Catal. B: Environ.* **2014**, 154 - 155, 294 - 300.

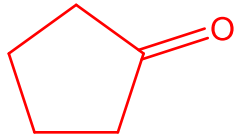


Hronec M.; Fulajtárová K.; Soták T.: *J. Ind. Eng. Chem.* **2014**, 20(2), 650 - 655.

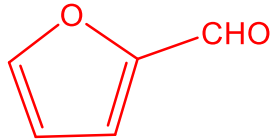
# HEMICELLULOSE CONVERSION

Cyclopentanone

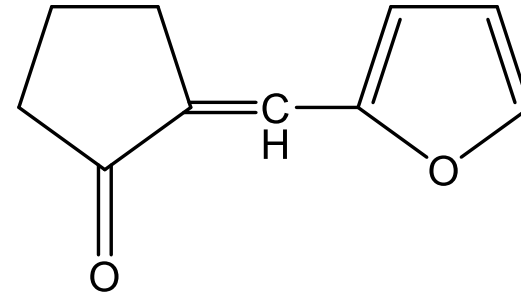
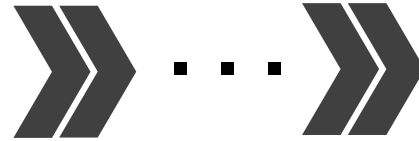
Furfural



+

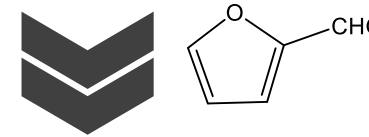


base



FC dimer

aqueous-phase aldol condensation

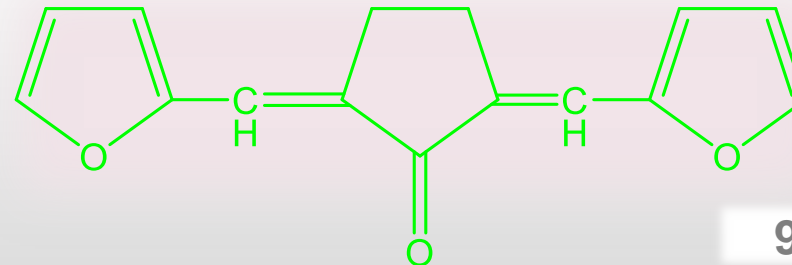


Jet fuel



Diesel fuel

F<sub>2</sub>C trimer



95 mol% yield



Hronec M., Fulajtárová K., Liptaj T., Štolcová M., Pronayová N., Soták T.: *Biomass Bioenergy*. **2014**, 63, 291–299.



Hronec M., Fulajtárová K., Liptaj T., Pronayová N., Soták T.: *Fuel Process. Technol.* **2015**, 138, 564–569.

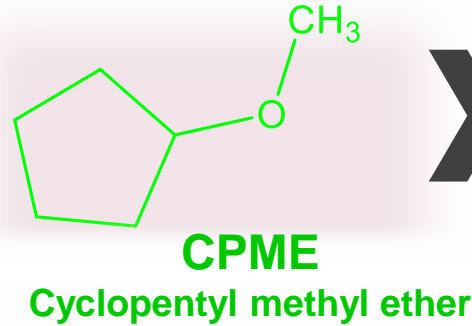
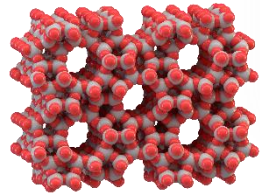


Fulajtárová K., Hronec M., Liptaj T., Pronayová N., Soták T.: *J. Taiwan Inst. Chem. Eng.* **2016**, 66, 137–142.

# UNSYMMETRIC ETHERS PREPARATION

Cyclopentanol

Methanol



„green“  
solvent

Reaction conditions:

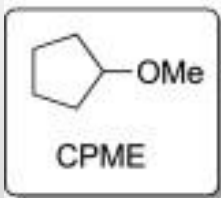
$t = 100\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$   
 $\text{WSHV} = 0,25\text{ g}_{\text{CYP}}\text{ g}_{\text{cat}}^{-1}\text{ h}^{-1}$   
 $\text{time} = 6\text{ h}$

Solvent in organic synthesis

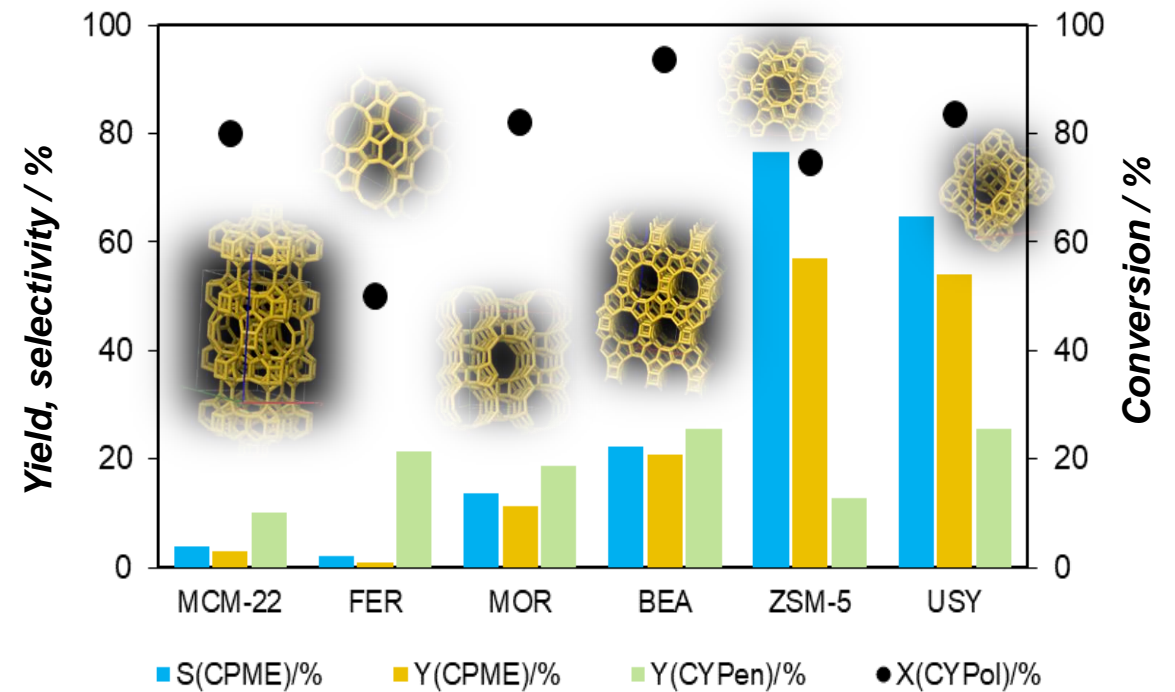
high boiling point

low solubility in water

stability

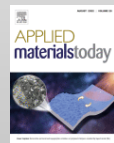


bp: 106 °C  
 mp: <-140 °C  
 vaporization energy (bp): 69.2 kcal/kg  
 solubility in water: 1.1 g/100 g (23 °C)  
 flash point: -1 °C  
 ignition point: 180 °C  
 explosion range: 1.1–9.9 vol%



Monatsh Chem. 2022, Under review.

Soták T., Magyarová Z., Shamzhy M.,  
 Kubů M., Gołabek K., Čejka J., Hronec M.:  
*Appl. Catal. A: Gen.* **2021**, 618, 118122.



Gołabek K., Shamzhy M., Kubů M., Soták  
 T., Magyarová Z., Hronec M., Čejka  
*Appl. Mater. Today* **2022**, 28, 101505.

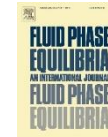
# PRODUCTS SEPARATION

- *Collaboration with:*

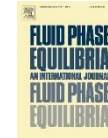
## Chulalongkorn University



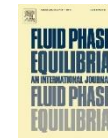
## Silpakorn University



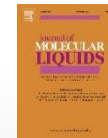
Wongsawa T., Hronec M., Soták T., Leepipatpiboon N., Pancharoen U., Phatanasri, S.: *Fluid Phase Equilib.* **2014**, 365, 88–96.



Prapasawat T., Hronec M., Štolcová M., Lothongkum A.W., Pancharoen U., Phatanasri S.: *Fluid Phase Equilib.* **2014**, 367, 57-62.



Wongkaew K., Mohdee V., Soták T., Hronec M., Pancharoen, U., Arpornwichanop, A.: *Fluid Phase Equilib.* **2017**, 450, 75-85.



Wongsawa T., Hronec M., Lothongkum A.W., Pancharoen U., Phatanasri S.: *J. Mol. Liq.* **2014**, 196, 98–106.



Wannachod, T., Hronec M., Soták T., Fulajtárová K., Pancharoen, U., Arpornwichanop, A.: *J. Mol. Liq.* **2016**, 218, 50–58.



Wannachod T., Hronec M., Soták T., Fulajtárová K., Pancharoen, U., Nootong K.: *J. Chem. Eng. Data.* **2016**, 61 2433–2439.



Kunthakudee N., Pancharoen U., Fulajtárová K., Soták T., Hronec M., Ramakul P.: *Korean J. Chem. Eng.* **2017**, 34, 2293–2300.

# MANY THANKS TO:

## DEPT. OF ORGANIC TECHNOLOGY, CATALYSIS AND PETROLEUM CHEMISTRY

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- ✿ Prof. A. Kaszonyi

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- ✿ Dr. T. Klempová

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- ✿ Dr. M. Shamzhy

## SLOVAK ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

### CEITEC Brno, Czech Republic

- ✿ Catalysts characterization and evaluation







SLOVAK RESEARCH  
AND DEVELOPMENT  
AGENCY

STU  
FCHPT

Contract no. APVV-17-0302



**THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR  
KIND ATTENTION**