



Strategies for Co-processing in Refineries

Techno-economic & Refinery Impact Analysis

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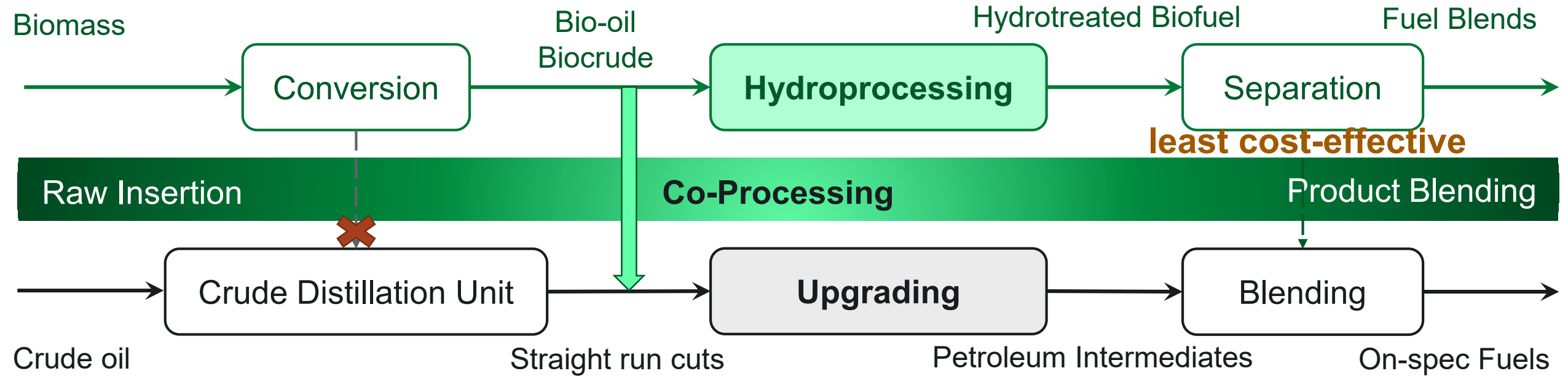
SCR Project Meeting, Richland, WA



- Introduction
- Refinery LP Model for Refinery Impact Analysis
- Co-Processing at Mild Hydrocracking Unit
- Co-Processing at Fluidized Catalytic Cracking Unit
- Discussions and Future Plan

Co-Processing Value to Bio-Refiner

➤ Refinery Integration – Co-Processing



➤ Potential Cost Saving at Bio-Refinery

(upgrading at a standalone biorefinery vs an existing petroleum refinery)

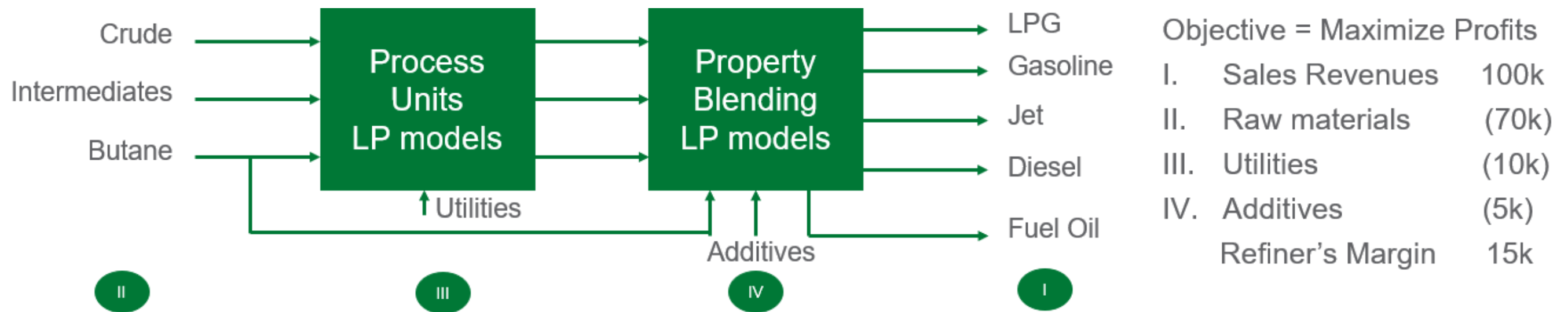
Cases (2016\$)	Catalytic Fast Pyrolysis (2000 dry tonne/day)	Waste Hydrothermal Liquefaction (110 dry tonne/day)
Reduction in MFSP (\$/gge)	0.83	0.65
MFSP w/o SCR (\$/gge)	4.28	3.11

Co-processing intermediate bio-oil or biocrude at an existing petroleum refinery has the potential to significantly reduce CAPEX and therefore minimum fuel selling price (MFSP) of a bio-refinery.

LP Model to Assess Refinery Impacts

- ✓ Biogenic Carbon ✓ Diesel Production ✓ Less Sulfur ✓ Less Metals
- ? Stability & Miscibility ? Acidity & Corrosion ? Oxygenates ? CO₂ & H₂O generation ? H₂ Consumption
- ? Yields & Utilities ? Operating Severity ? Feed & Product Quality ? Up- & Down-streams Operations

➤ A Bird's Eye View of Full Refinery Linear Programming Optimization in Aspen PIMS



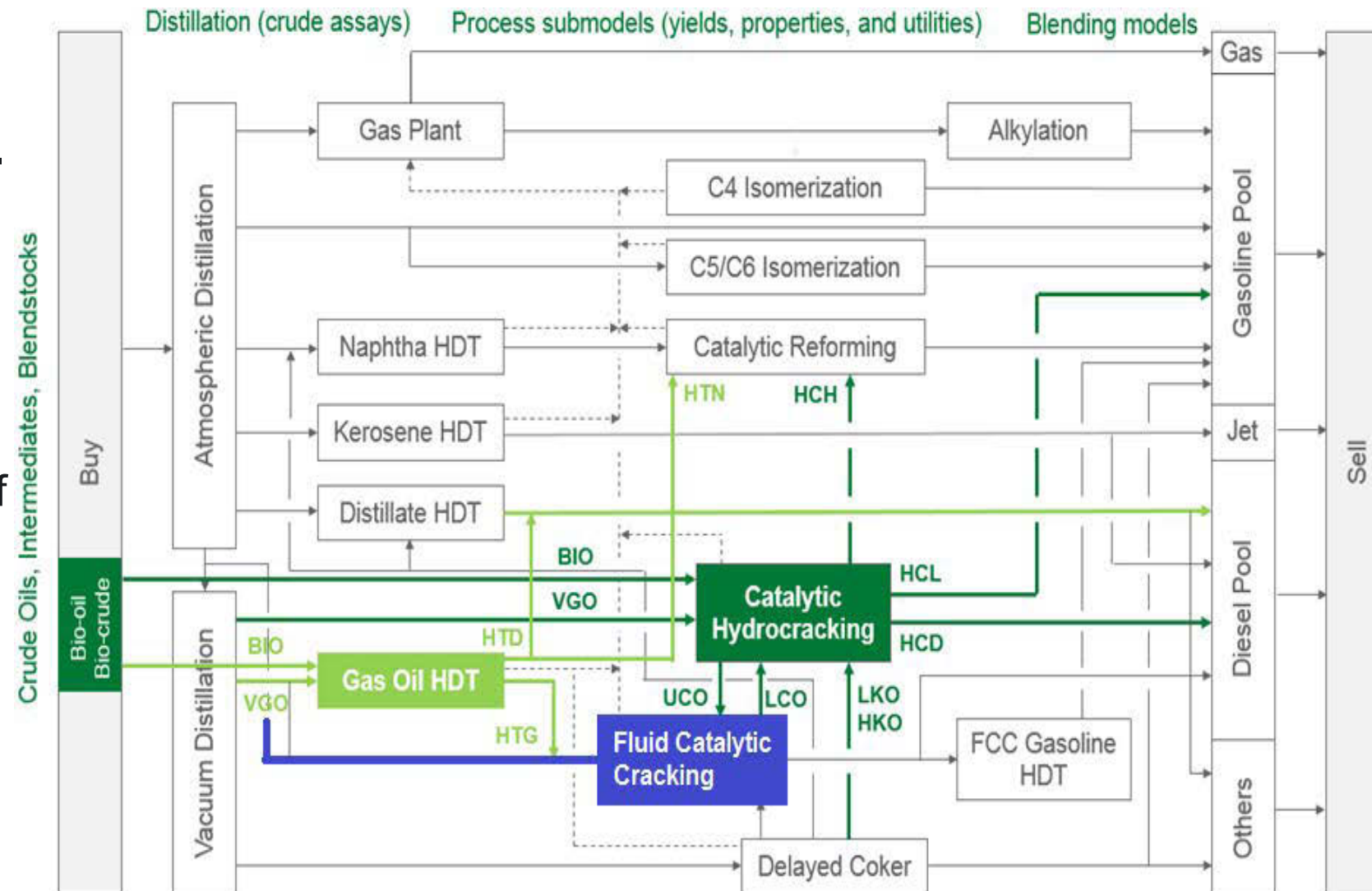
- The **economic value** of co-processing biomass intermediates can be evaluated by
 - comparing the **gross margins** of a petroleum refiner before and after adding bio-oil/biocrude
 - comparing the **break-even value** of bio-oil/biocrude to petroleum refiner and its **minimum selling price** at bio-refinery.

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- ? Yields & Utilities
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Model Inputs

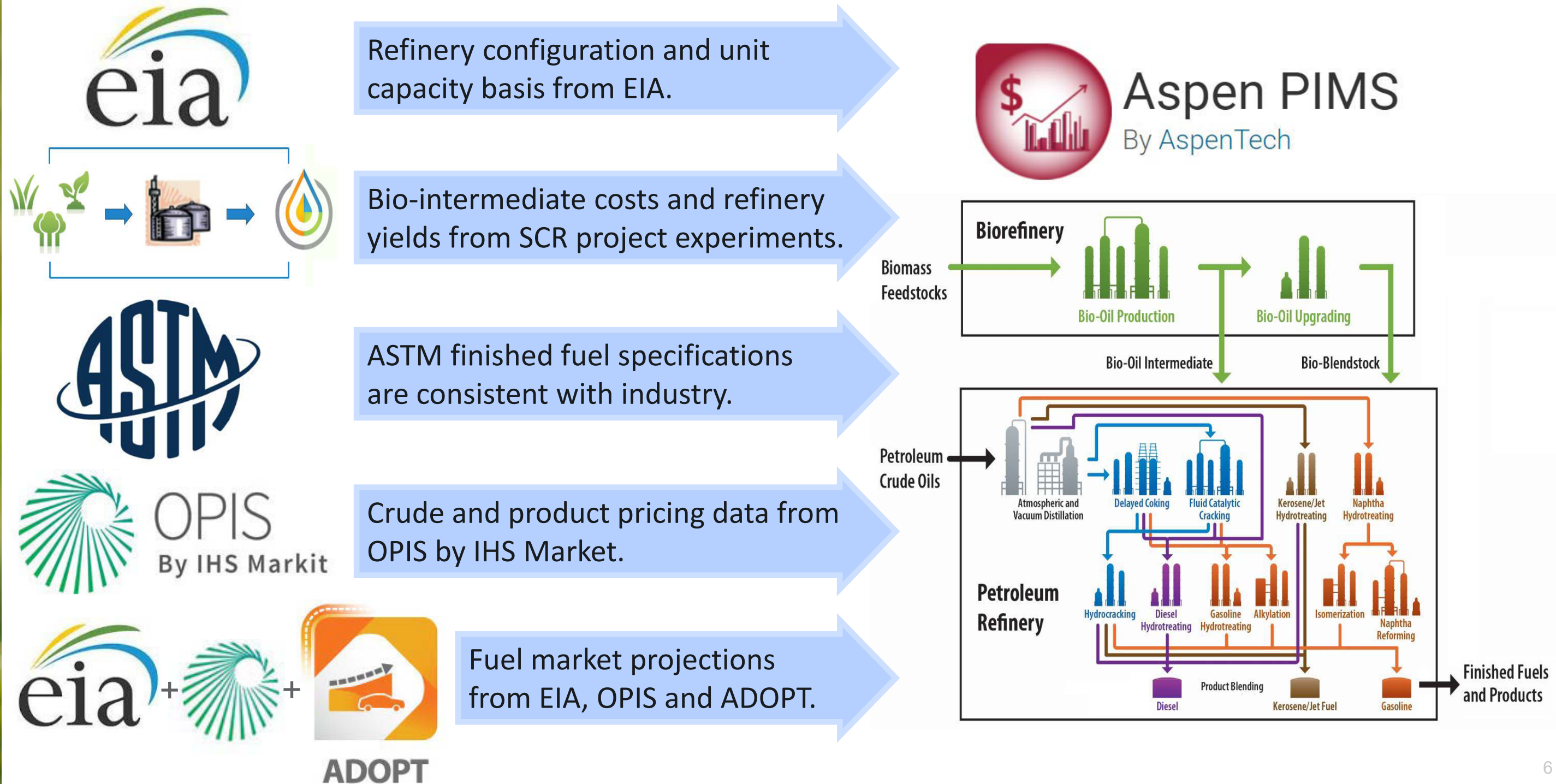
- **Mass balance** and **key properties of co-processing** from experimental data
- **Process model** and assay data of petroleum refinery from Aspen PIMS Gulf Coast Example
- **Process constraints**
- **Fuel specification**
- Feed and Product Slates
- Unit capacity



Model Outputs

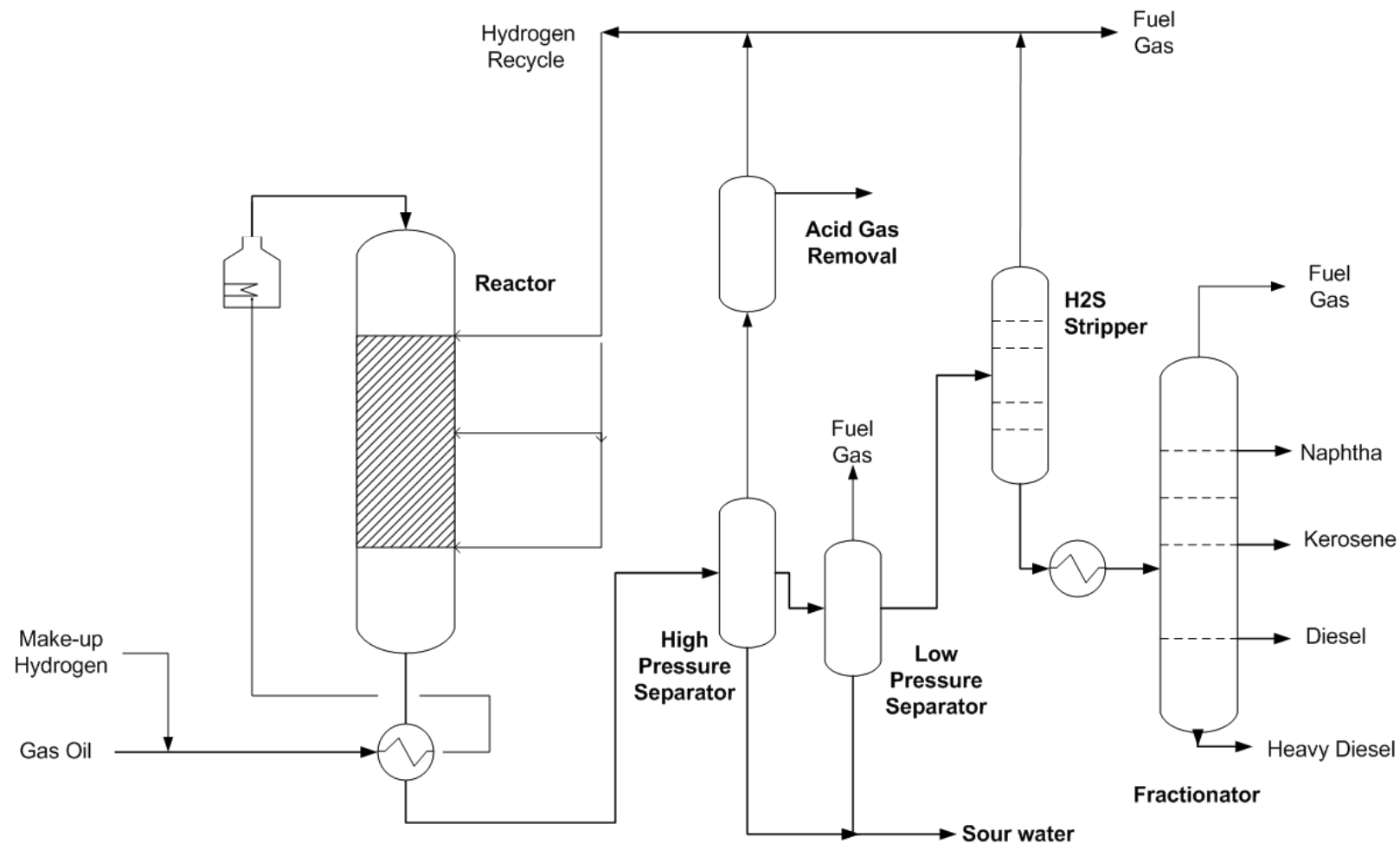
- Gross margin
- Break-even value
- Blending constraints
- Mass/Energy Balance
- Basis for LCA

Refinery Analysis Inputs for SCR Project



Process Model for Mild Hydrocracker Co-Processing

- Preliminary Aspen Plus & TEA models have been developed for single-stage fixed-bed mild hydrocracker



Assumptions in preliminary model

- One-stage HDC for bio-oil
- Similar yield as VGO HDC
- O removed via H₂O and CO₂
- No combination effects (either deleterious or synergistic)

To be updated in new model

- Yield
- Gas phase
- Combination effects
- Two-stage HDC for biocrude

- Detailed process model will be updated based on the coming co-processing experimental data
- Results from Aspen Plus model will be leveraged in the full refinery LP model

LP Model for Mild Hydrocracker Co-Processing

- Base-Delta Model in Refinery LP model

$$y_i = y_i^{base} + \sum a_k (q_{f,k} - q_{f,k}^{base}) + \sum a_j (z_j - z_j^{base})$$

$$\text{Subject to } q_{f,k}^L \leq q_{f,k} \leq q_{f,k}^U, \quad z_j^L \leq z_j \leq z_j^U, \quad f^L \leq f \leq f^U$$

y = yield, product quality; q_f = feedstock quality, z = operating condition, a = parameter ($\Delta y / \Delta q_f$, $\Delta y / \Delta z$), f = capacity

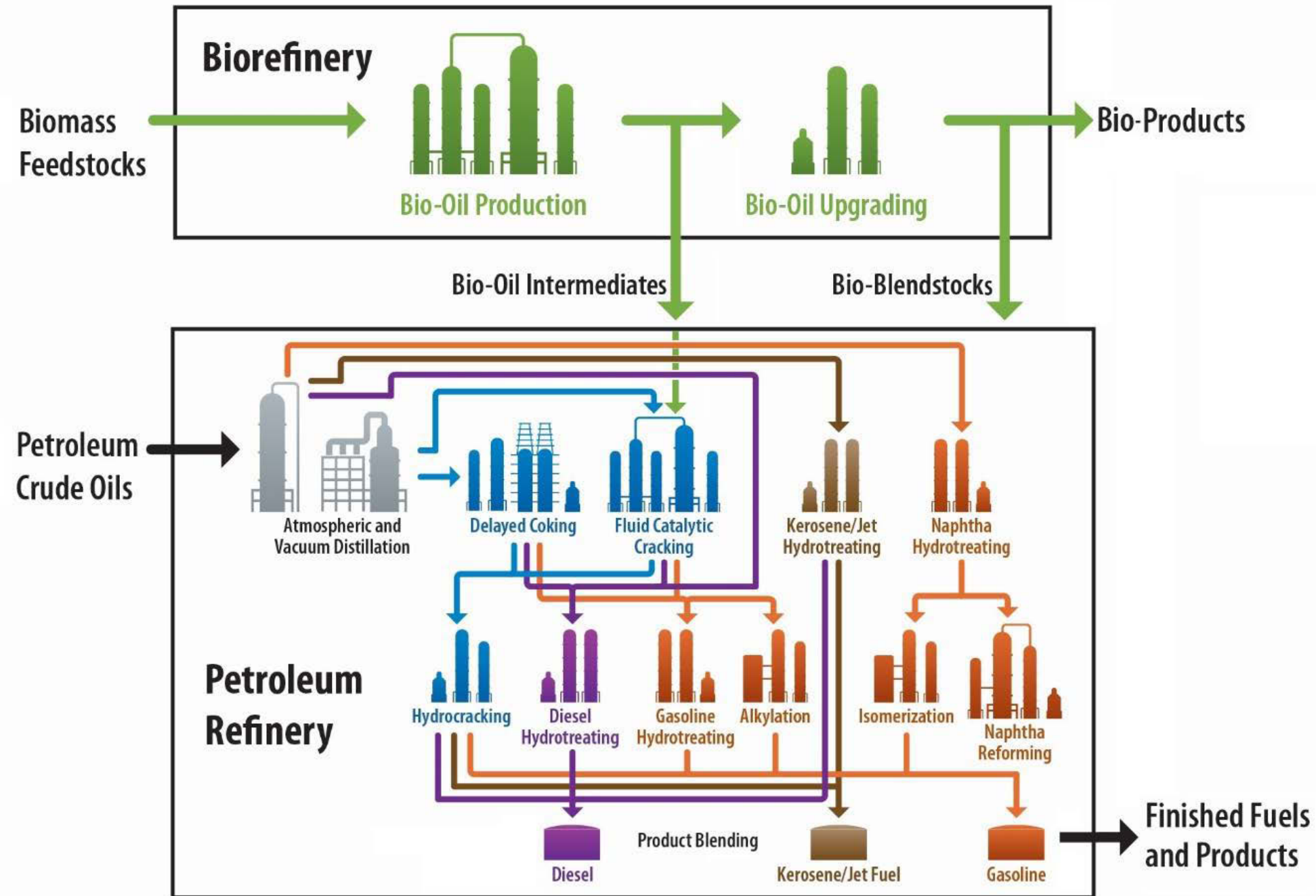
- Base-Delta Model for Mild Hydrocracker

y	q_f	z
Hydrogen consumption	Specific Gravity	Feed Rate
Product Yield	Sulfur, wt%	Conversion (%)
H ₂ S, CO ₂ , H ₂ O, Fuel Gas, C ₃ , C ₄ , Light Naphtha, Heavy Naphtha, Kerosene, Diesel, Unconverted Oil	50% ASTM Distillation Temp, °F	Recycle (% of fresh feed)
Product Qualities	Basic Nitrogen, ppmv	Catalyst Age (% used)
Required by downstream upgrading, or fuel blending (i.e. Cetane Index)	Oxygen, wt%	
Utility Consumption		

LP structure has been modified in Aspen PIMS to **adopt bio-oil/biocrude**; Value of parameter **a** will be updated based on the coming **experimental data** and **Aspen Plus model** in Q3 & Q4

Pyrolysis Oil Co-Processing in FCC

- NREL is focused on developing full refinery optimization models with integrated co-processing of pyrolysis oil intermediates in the Fluid Catalytic Cracking unit.
- Initially building models based on Petrobras-NREL CRADA project (Pinho et al, 2017) and prior Strategic Analysis / TC Platform Analysis work.
- Model design methodology to enable quick incorporation of SCR project results.



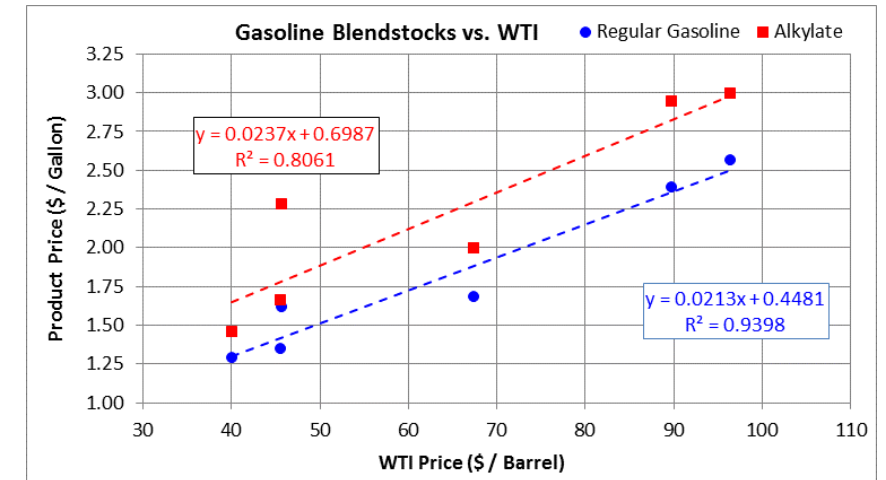
FCC Co-Processing Analysis in FY2020

- Applied initial yield basis for FCC co-processing of pyrolysis oil from Petrobras-NREL CRADA.
- Improved yield model to allow user to assess pyrolysis oils of varying quality based on prior co-processing work in Strategic Analysis and TC Platform Analysis tasks.

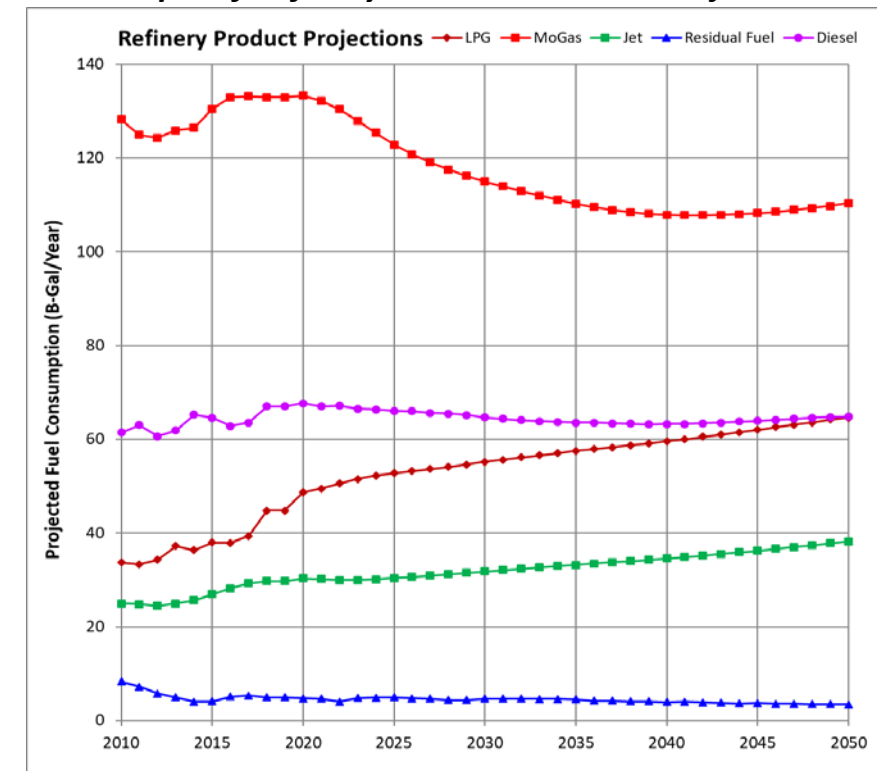
FCC Product X Yield = f(oxygen content, % FP oil in FCC feed, FCC operating conditions)

- Leveraging refinery impact and co-processing work from (1) Co-Optima ASSERT and (2) TC Platform Analysis.
 - Refinery configuration and unit capacity basis per region.
 - Variable crude and product pricing structure from OPIS.
 - Finished product specifications from ASTM international.
 - Fuel market projections from EIA, OPIS and ADOPT model.

Example of Gasoline Pricing Model

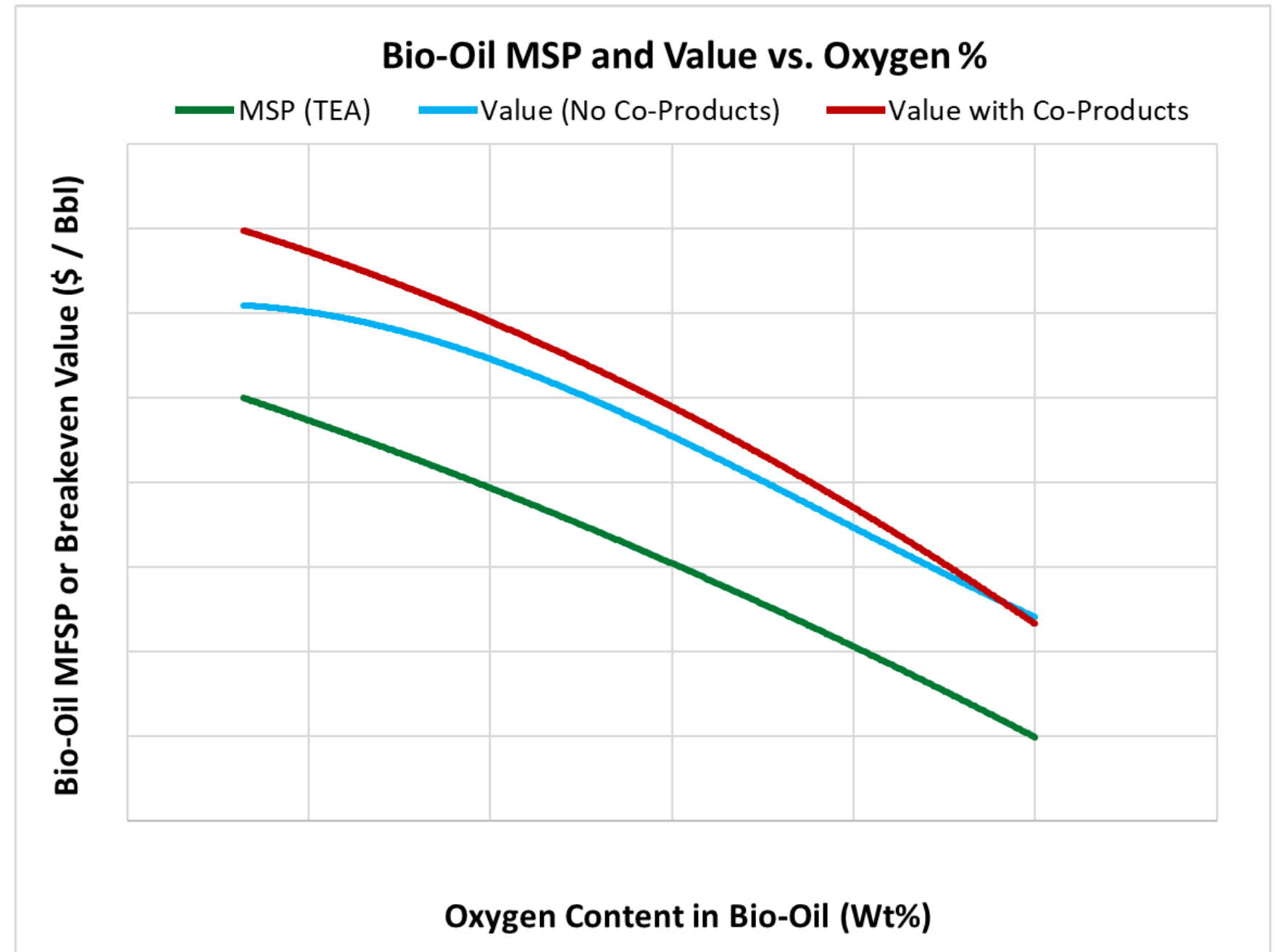


Example of Refinery Product Demand Projections



Preliminary FCC Co-Processing Analysis

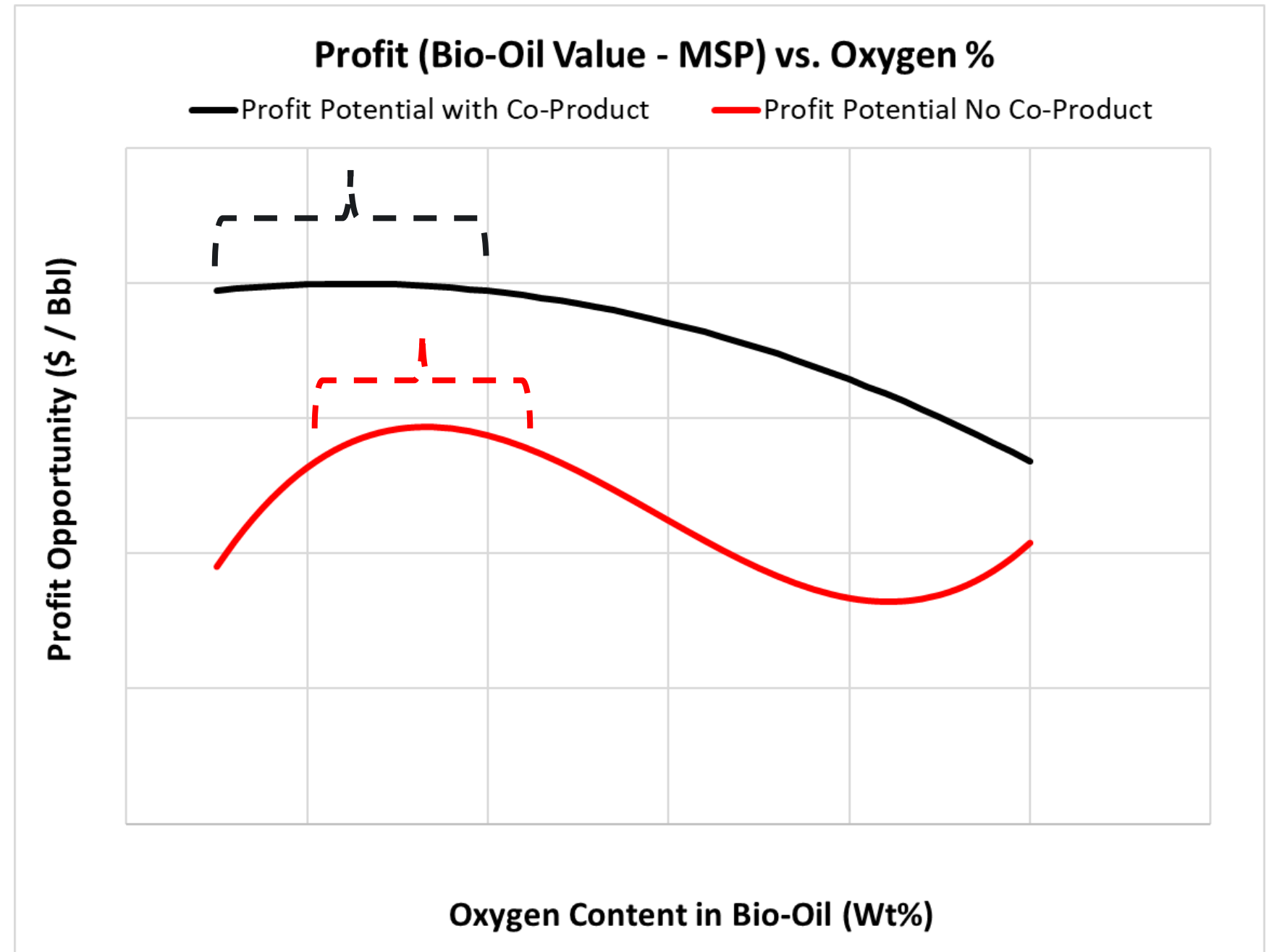
- Develop understanding of the optimal co-processing strategy:
 - Reduce bio-intermediate MSP by avoiding Biorefinery upgrading capital and operating costs.
 - Determine bio-intermediate values to refineries through Aspen PIMS models.
 - Valuation of high-value co-products from catalytic pyrolysis processes.



Preliminary example. Please do not cite or distribute.

Preliminary FCC Co-Processing Optimization

- Optimized scenarios have maximum delta between “Total Value” and “Total Cost”.
- Refinery analysis can help direct R&D.
- Preliminary insights:
 - Maximize yields.
 - Maximize co-product value.
 - Analysis can help optimize.

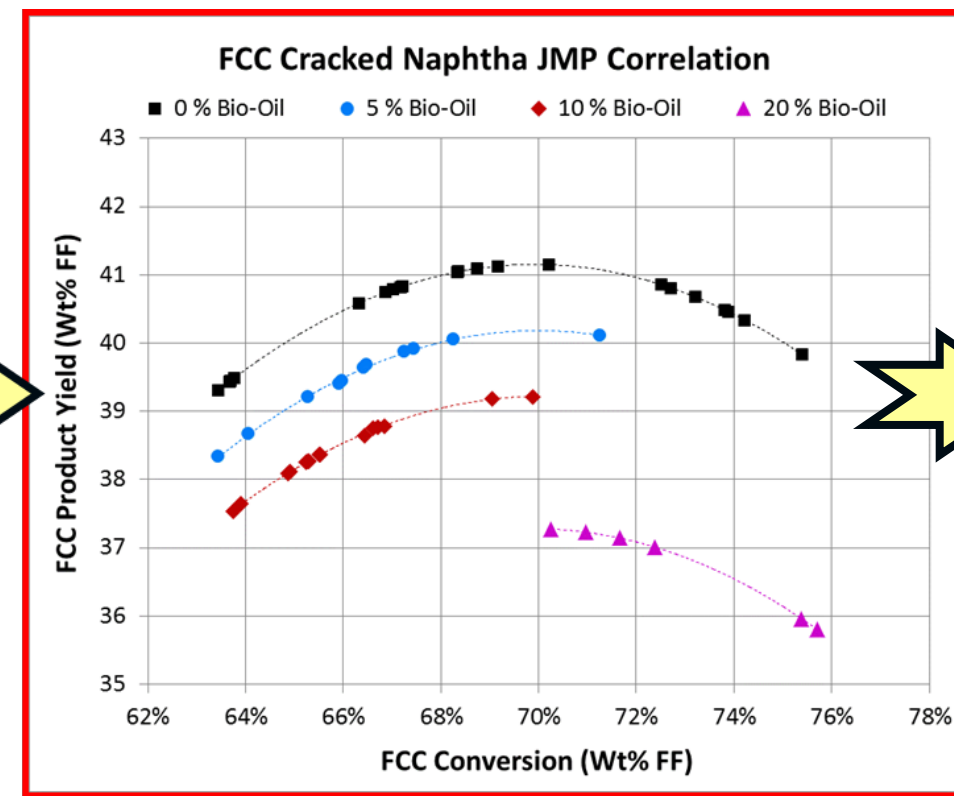
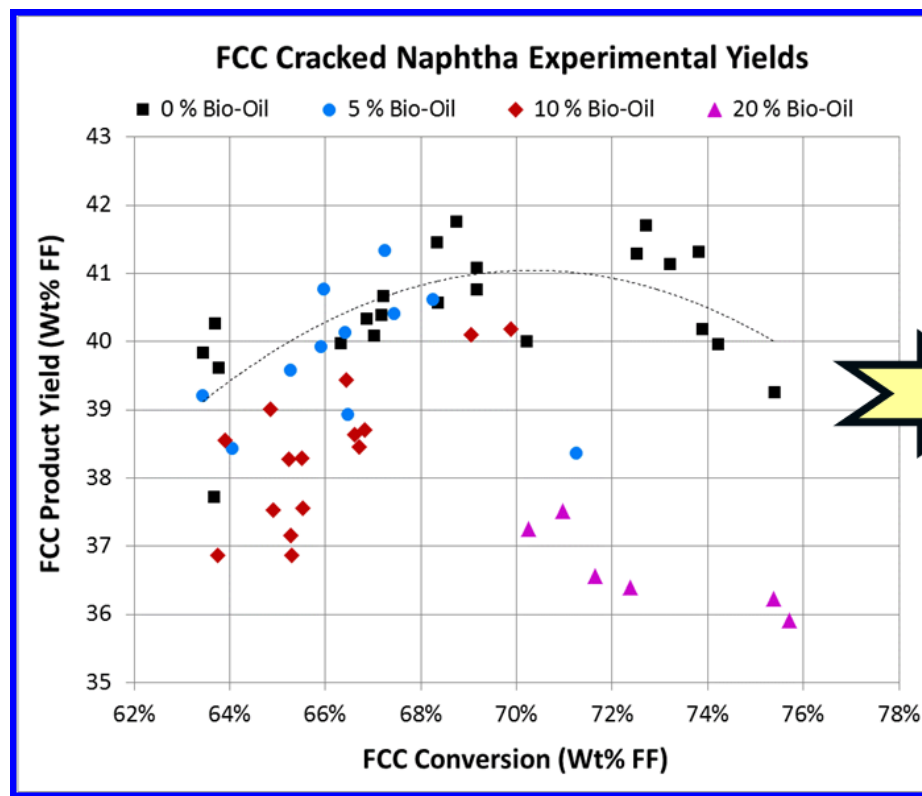


Preliminary example. Please do not cite or distribute.

Next Steps for SCR Co-Processing Analysis

- Experimental yield data

- Develop statistical yield models
- Incorporate yields into refinery LP models
- Develop basis for process models
- Derive basis for environmental analysis



Aspen HYSYS

Oxygen Species	Refinery Fuels	LPG Products	Distillate Products
CO	Dry Gas (C ₂ -)	Propane	Cracked Naphtha
CO ₂	Coke	Propylene	Light Cycle Oil
Water		i-Butane	Resid Fuel Oil
		n-Butane	
		Butenes	

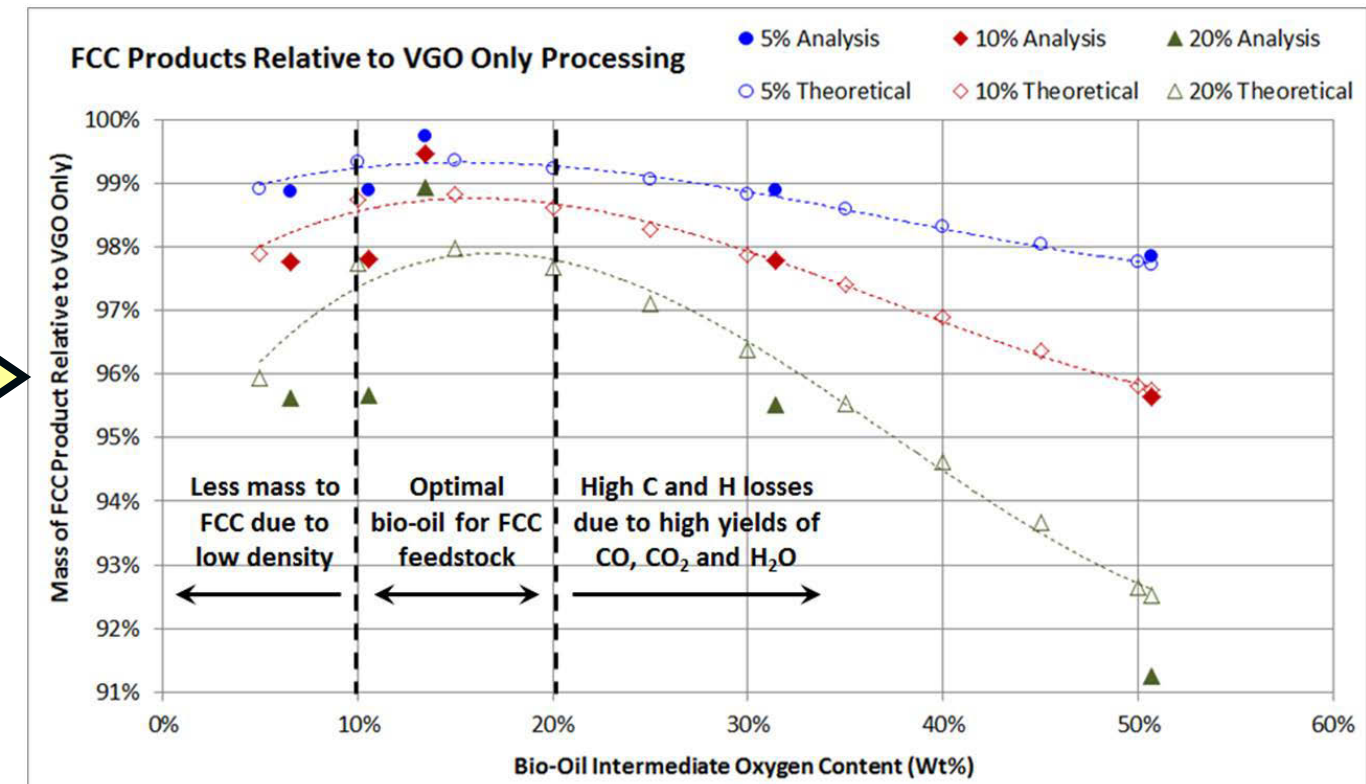
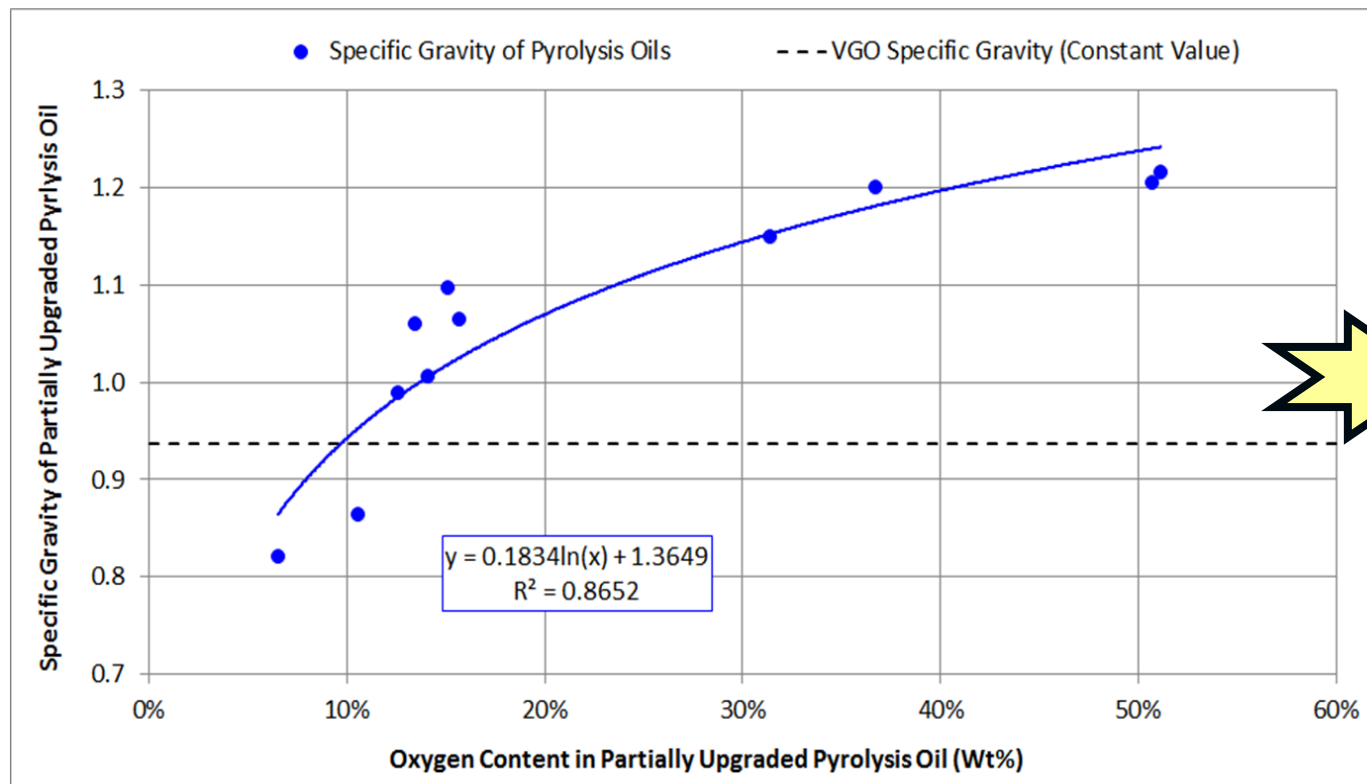
Graphs from TCS 2016, Chapel Hill, NC, November 1, 2016

Next Steps for SCR Co-Processing Analysis

- Feed and product **properties**

- Empirical physical property models
- Product allocation analysis
- Blending and fuel quality analysis
- ASTM certification and spec development
- LCA / GHG analysis
- Inconsistencies in valuation / allocation

Example of insights developed from bio-oil physical property data.



Downstream Refinery Impact Assessments

Assist in assessing co-processing topics outside of modeling scope:

- **Blendstock quality impacts** resulting from co-processing.
- **Bio-intermediate logistics** costs, challenges and constraints.
- **Operational reliability** impacts to downstream and ancillary unit operations:
Managing low bio-oil thermal stability, managing immiscibility of bio-oils with refinery streams, acidity and corrosion potential, alkali and alkaline earth metals, unconverted oxygenated species, H₂O, CO and CO₂ in refinery light end / fuel gas streams, analysis methods for renewable allocations.
- **Potential benefits** to refiners from co-processing:
Biofuels tax incentives, crude distillation capacity, FCC regenerator air blower capacity, FCC wet gas compressor, main fractionator flooding in FCC or Hydrocracker, reduced vanadium and nickel, low sulfur to sulfur plant and low nitrogen to sour water stripper.



Thank you!

Questions?

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