

**PASI 2008**

Pan American Advanced Studies Institute Program on Emerging Trends in  
Process Systems Engineering

**Case Study:**  
**Product and Process Design**  
**Methodologies for Engineering the**  
**Forest Biorefinery**



# “Economic Statement” for NA and European Forestry Companies





# Some Forestry Industry Survival Strategies

- ⚠ Go for Survival in Commodities, or *Make the Most of Our Existing Industry*
- ⚠ Buy/Build Elsewhere In Emerging Markets, or *Make the Most of Our Pulp and Paper Competency in Emerging Economies*
- ⚠ Diversify Core Business with Marketing & Technological Partners, or *Make the Most of Our Existing Value Chain by Migration to New Business Paradigms*

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→ **The Forest Biorefinery!**





# The Dilemma

Forest industry strategists are talking about  
“revenue diversification” and industry  
transformation via the forest biorefinery....

...do forestry company executives know how to  
go about designing and implementing  
biorefinery?

How should we apply process systems  
engineering techniques to address the  
biorefinery, recognizing that it is an industry  
transformation?

Intégration des  
procédés dans  
l'industrie  
papetière



Process  
Integration  
in the Pulp & Paper  
Industry

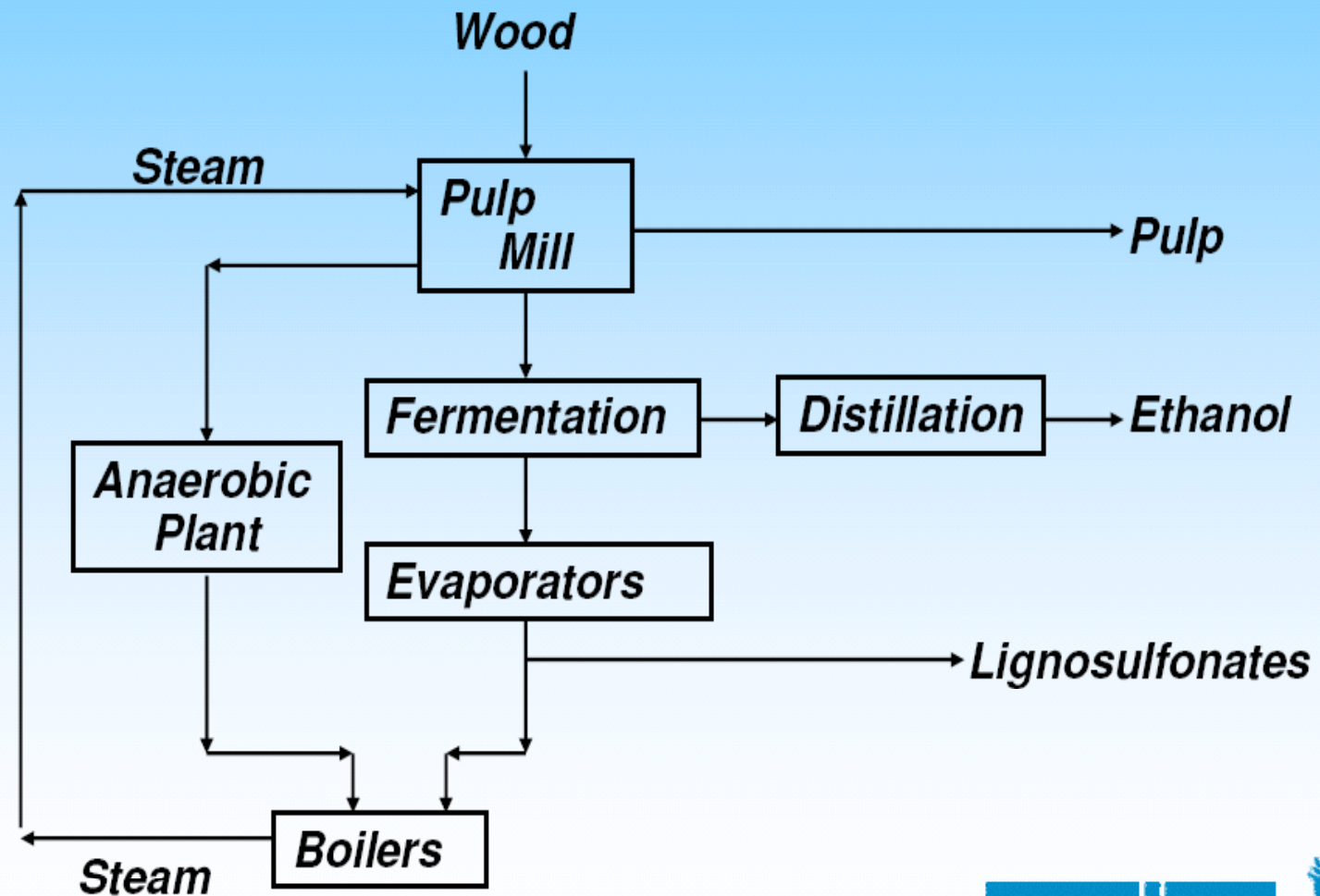
# Tembec Temiscaming: Forest Biorefinery?

## Temiscaming Complex



**Tembec** 

# Tembec Temiscaming: Forest Biorefinery?



# Tembec Temiscaming: Forest Biorefinery?

## Bio-Ethanol

- **Capacity:**
  - *18 million liters per year*
- **Second largest industrial alcohol supplier in Canada**
- **High purity (95%) alcohol produced from a renewable resource**
- **Vinegar**
- **Mouth washes**
- **Pharmaceutical products**
- **Only “true” green ethanol producer in North America.**





# Forest Biorefinery Definition

## One forest biorefinery definition:

= full utilization of incoming woody biomass for the production of:

- Wood products
- Pulp and paper products
- Energy
- Chemicals

see background papers by Galbe & Zacchi (2002) and Larson et al (2006)

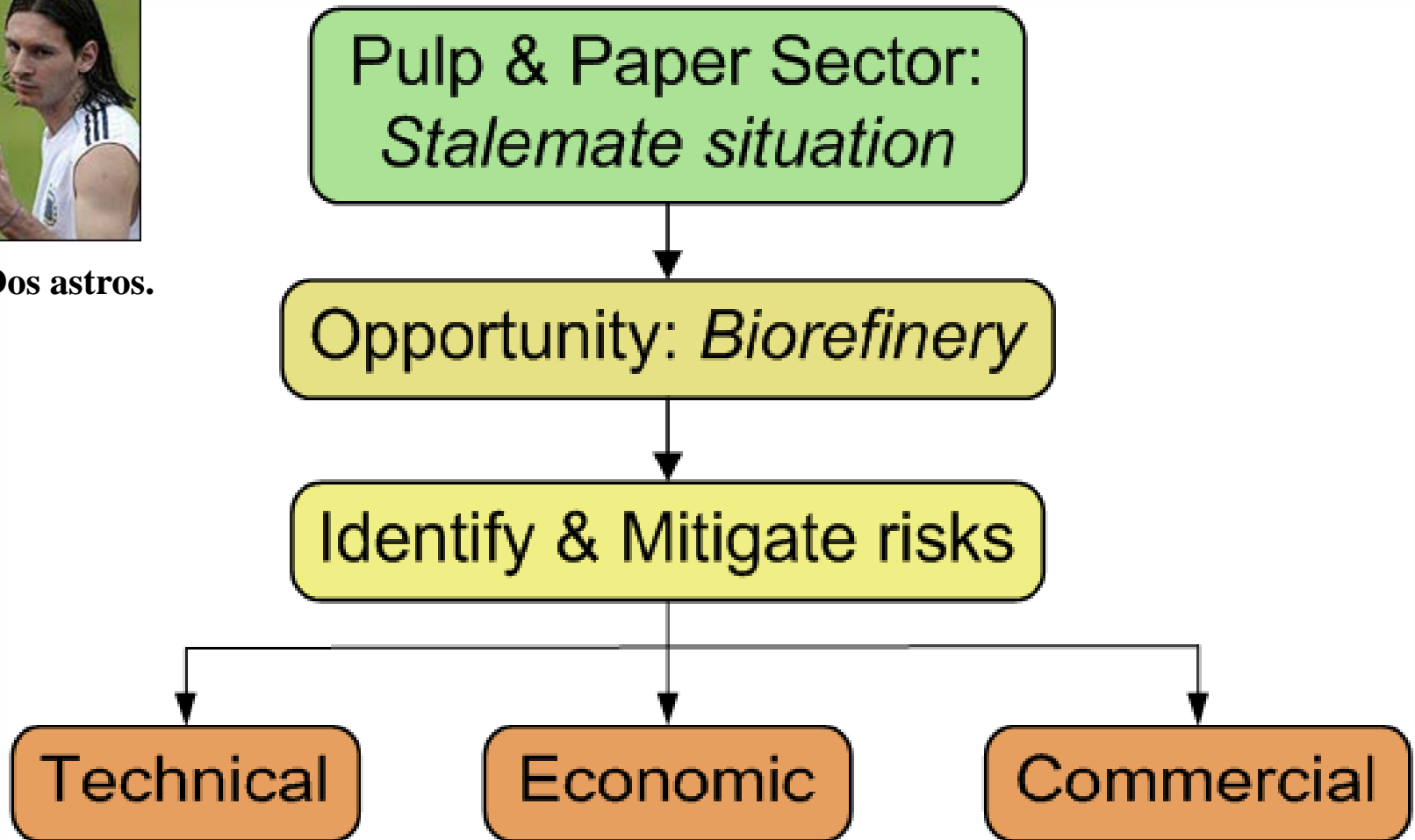
## △ Another (more practical) forest biorefinery definition:

- = Maximizing the economic value from trees
- = Improved business model
- = Corporate transformation...

# The Challenge: Mitigating Risks, Improving Existing Core Business



Un clásico. Dos astros.



# Objective of this Presentation

To present (certain) critical issues that should be considered by forestry companies seeking to identify promising biorefinery pathways based on biorefinery design activities, consulting activities, and pulp and paper company strategic planning leading to a proposed **implementation strategy** and multidisciplinary **design methodology** employing **process systems engineering**, for exploring the implementation of the forest biorefinery.



# Presentation Outline

- ▶ Leading companies are implementing the forest biorefinery
- ▶ Key biorefinery concepts and definitions
- ▶ Biorefinery **implementation strategy** for forestry companies
- ▶ Overall **design methodology** for the forest biorefinery
- ▶ Some interesting **process systems engineering** approaches that we are exploring

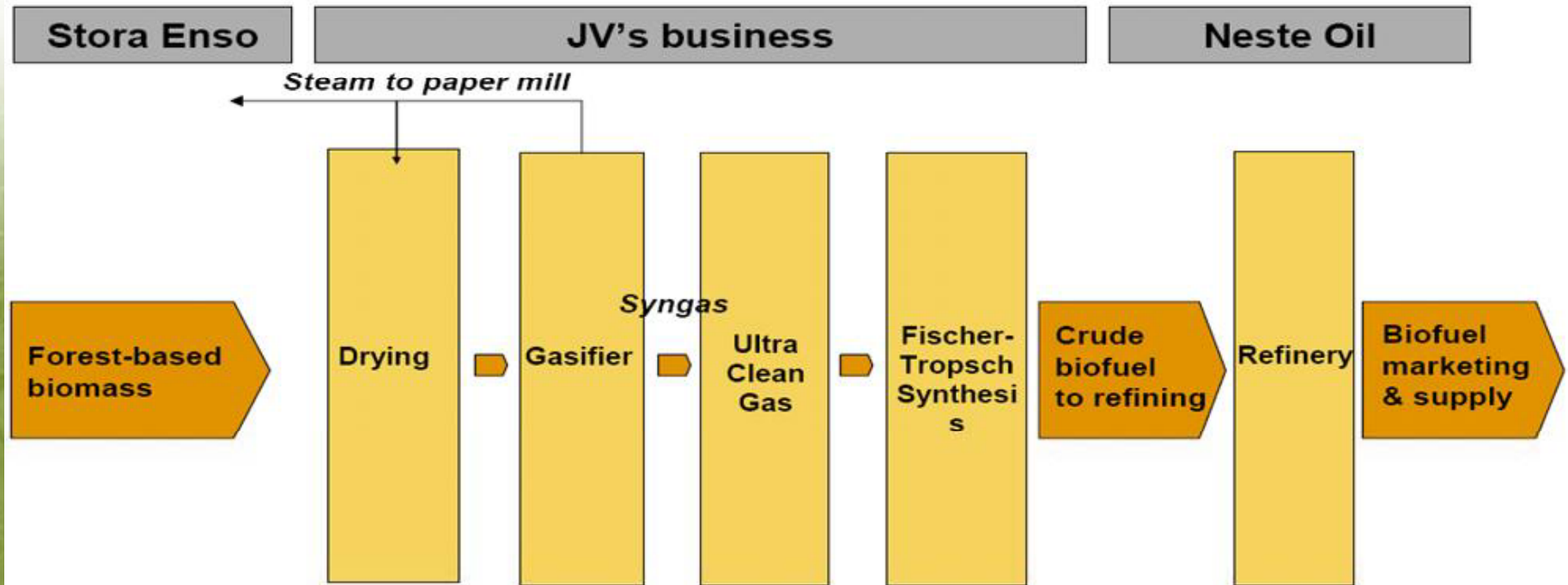


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  - See 3 survey papers by Thorp, March-May 2008
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# NSE Biofuels Oy Ltd

## Demonstration planned for Varkaus Mill (2008)



Intégration des  
procédés dans  
l'industrie  
papetière



Process  
Integration  
in the Pulp & Paper  
Industry

# Catchlight Energy

## Chevron-Weyerhaeuser Biofuels JV (March 2008)



[About Us](#) | [Our Businesses](#) | [Environment](#) | [Media Gateway](#) | [Citizenship](#) | [Investors](#) | [Careers](#) | [Suppliers](#)

### Weyerhaeuser and Chevron Create Biofuels Alliance



We have signed a letter of intent with Chevron Corporation aimed at developing renewable transportation fuels derived from cellulose.



toward finding innovative uses for cellulose fiber to help meet growing energy needs. We feel cellulosic biofuels will fill an important role in diversifying the nation's energy sources.

**A**t Weyerhaeuser, we believe in releasing the potential in trees to solve important problems for people and the planet. The need for imaginative, sustainable solutions to the world's challenges has never been greater.

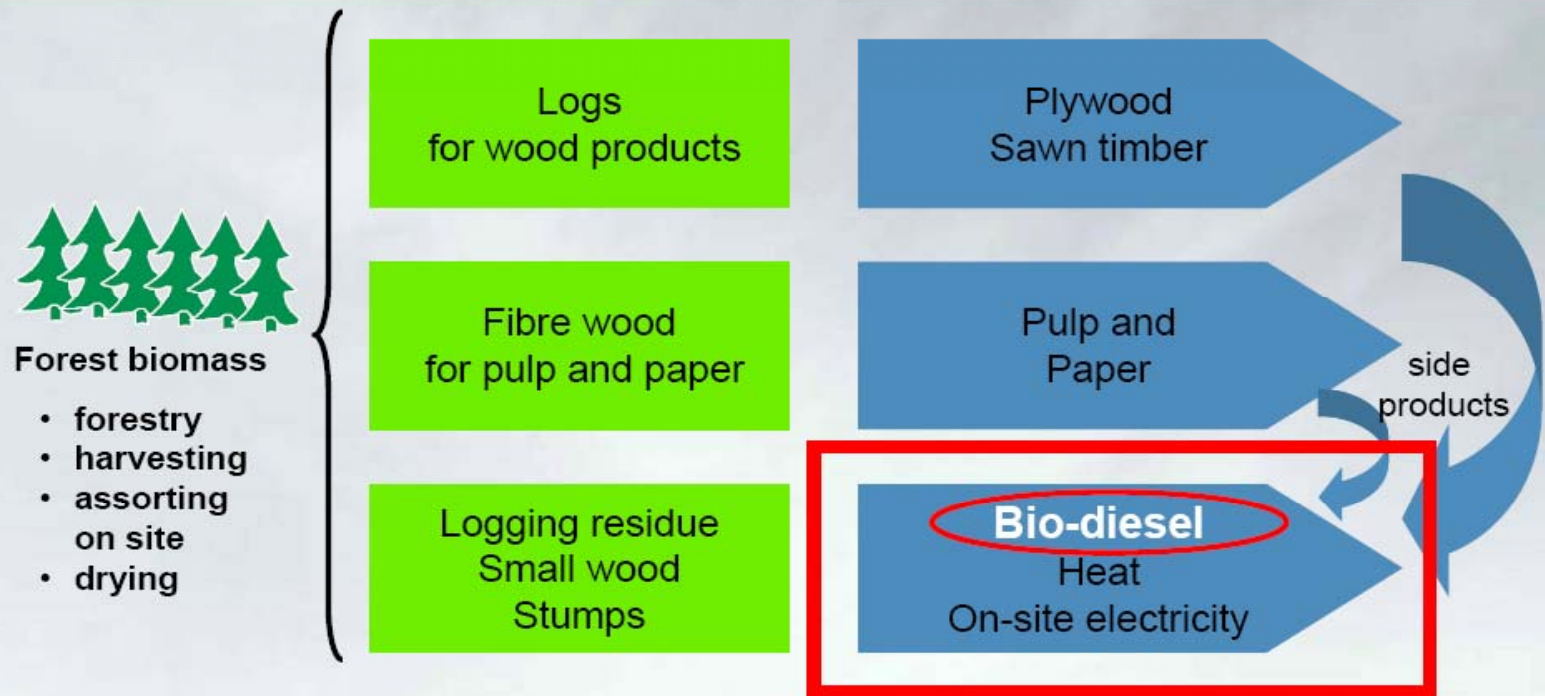
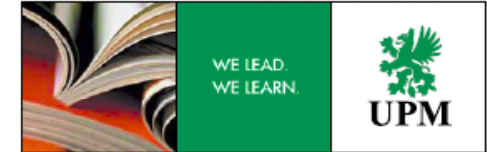
We currently collaborate with several research universities, national laboratories and technology-based companies in research on conversion of forest products into ethanol and other biofuels. Our latest alliance with Chevron Corporation is another step

# UPM-Kymmene Report to Investors

## R&D increased from 50 to 80 MM euros (March 2007)

### PORTFOLIO DEVELOPMENT – BIODIESEL

Sustainable optimisation of gain from biomass base adds value



Bio-diesel is a natural extension for a company whose core business is adding value to wood raw material- primary fibres will remain in pulp and paper production



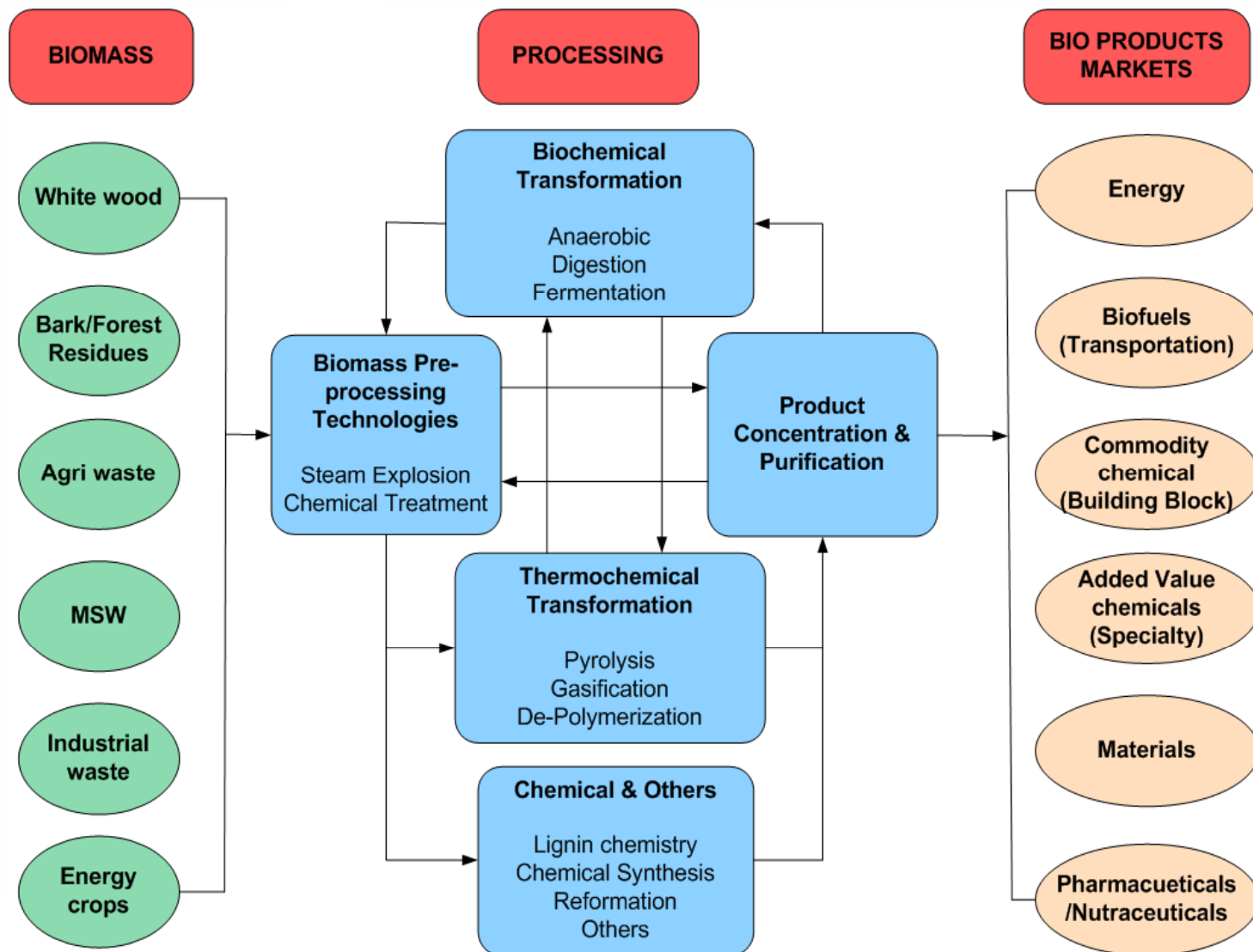


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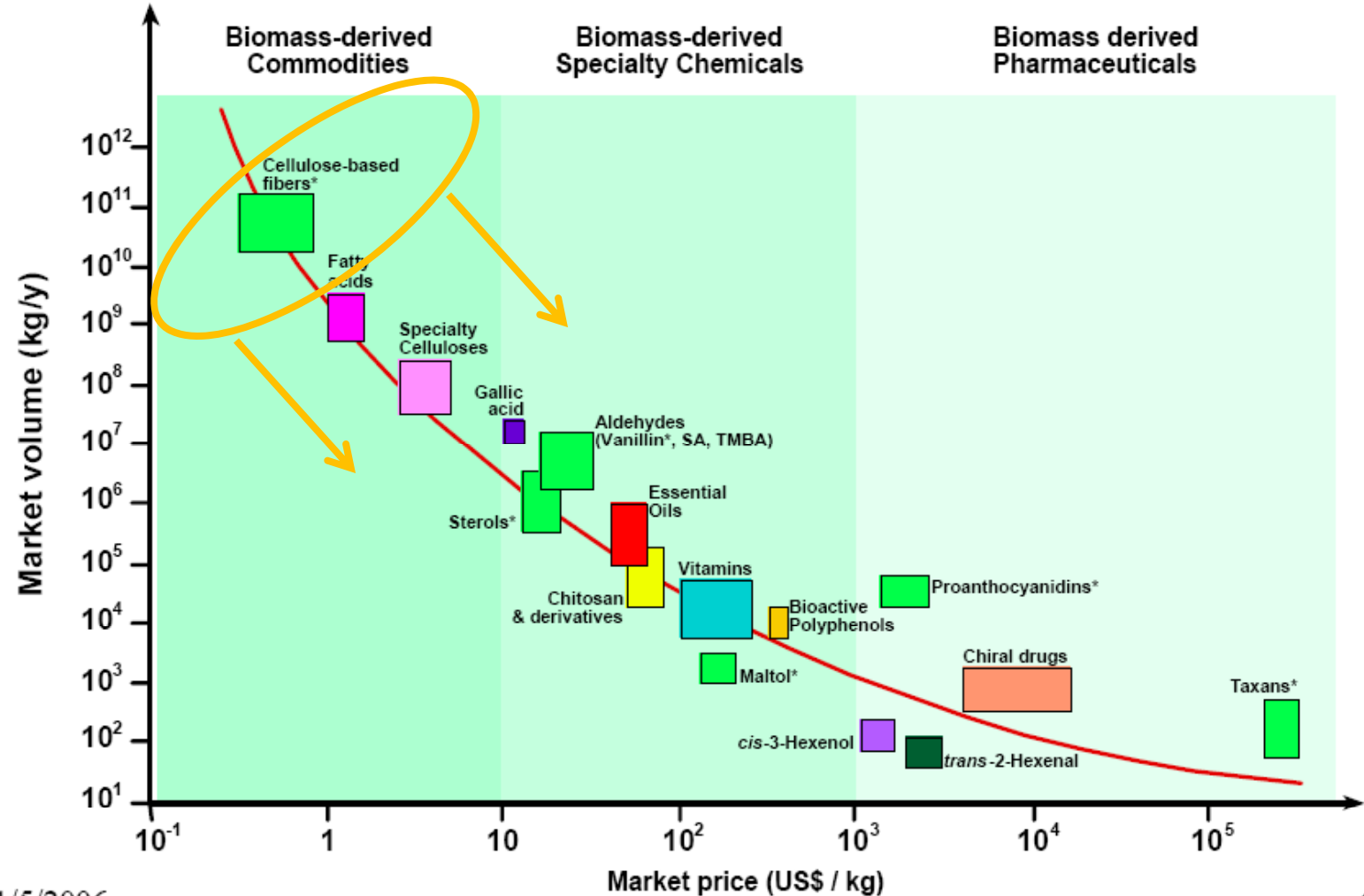


# Identifying the Right Biorefinery Configuration is Complex...



# Volume-Margin Trade-Offs for the Forest Biorefinery

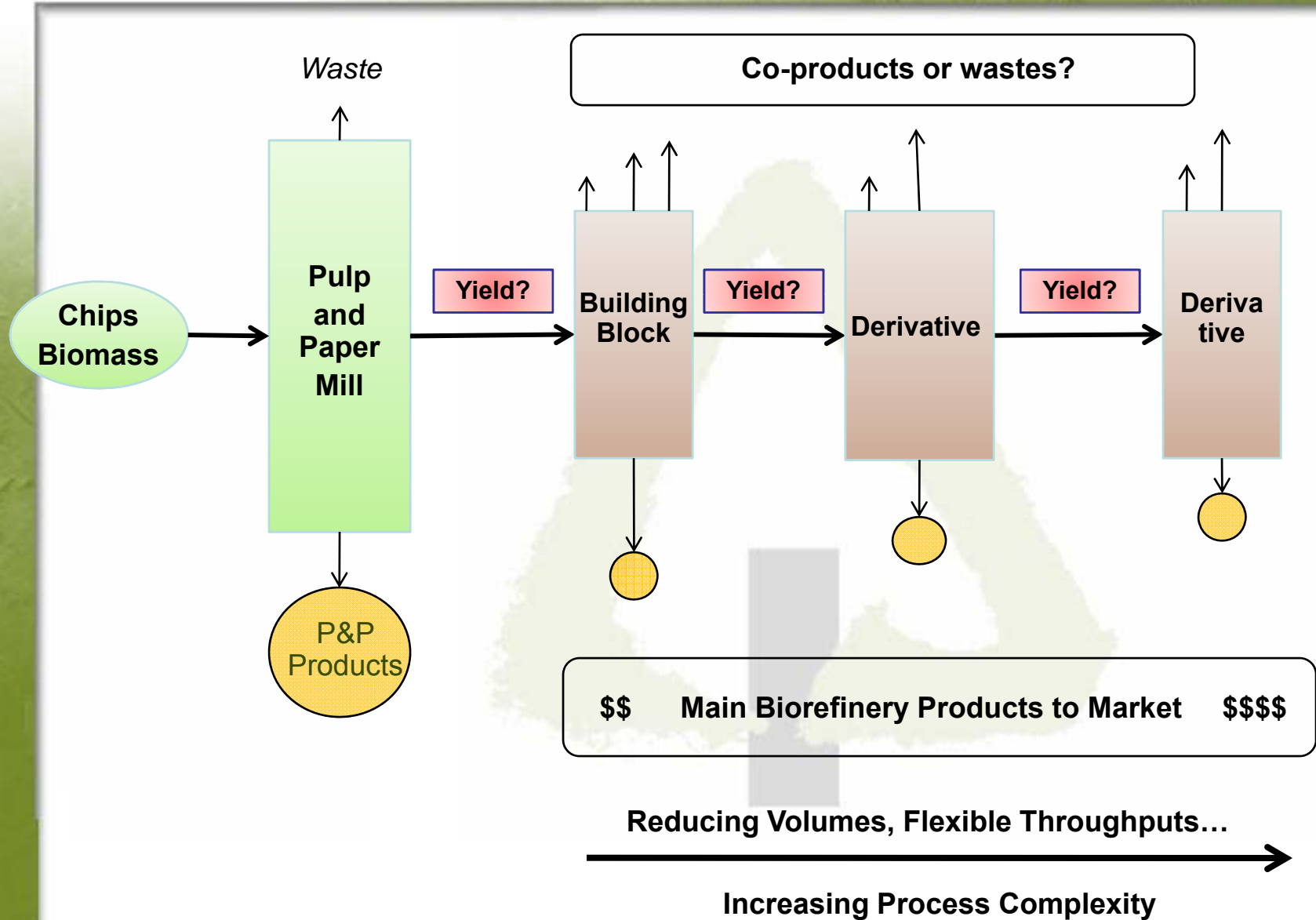
Market size / price for co-products derived from biomass



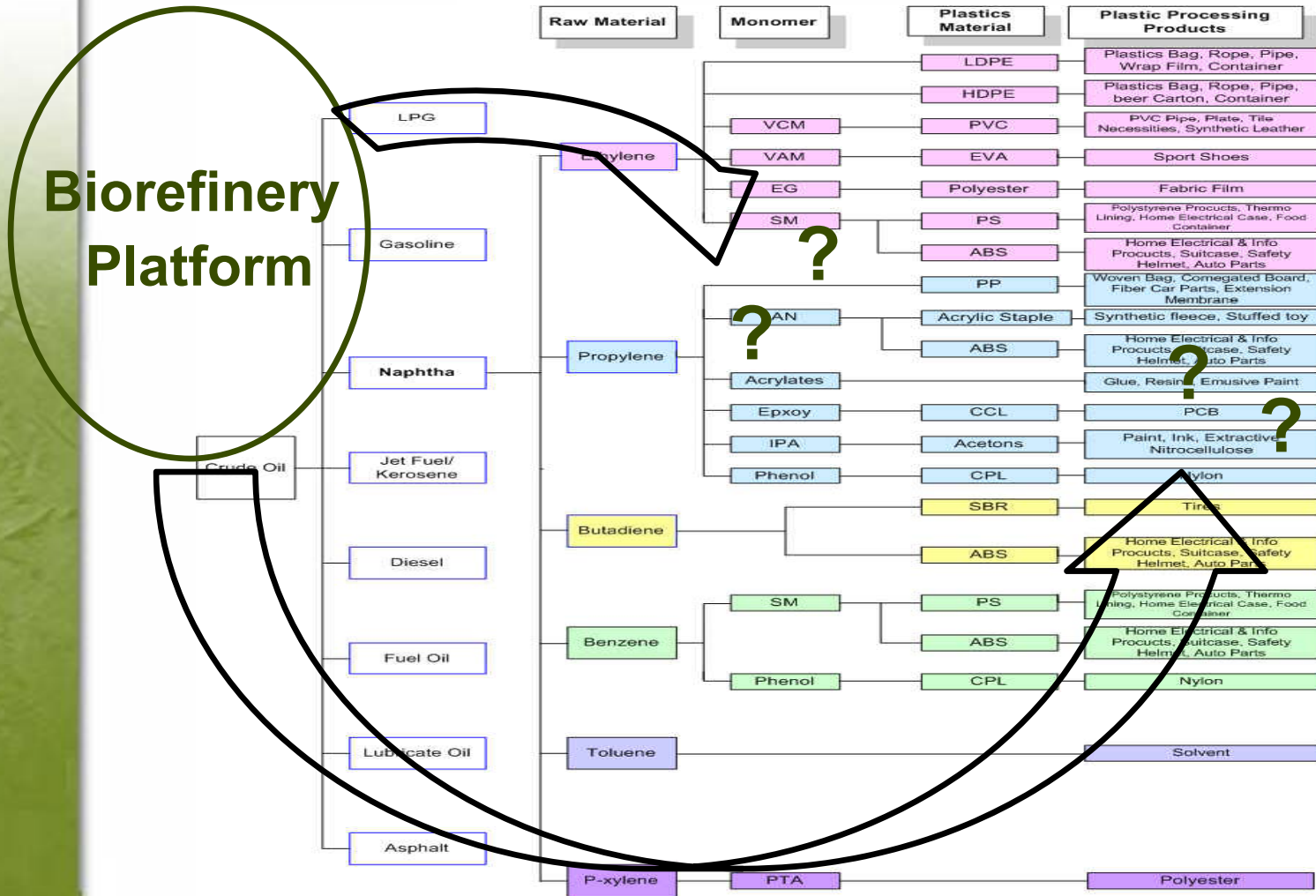
1/5/2006

Industry Canada Nov 2005

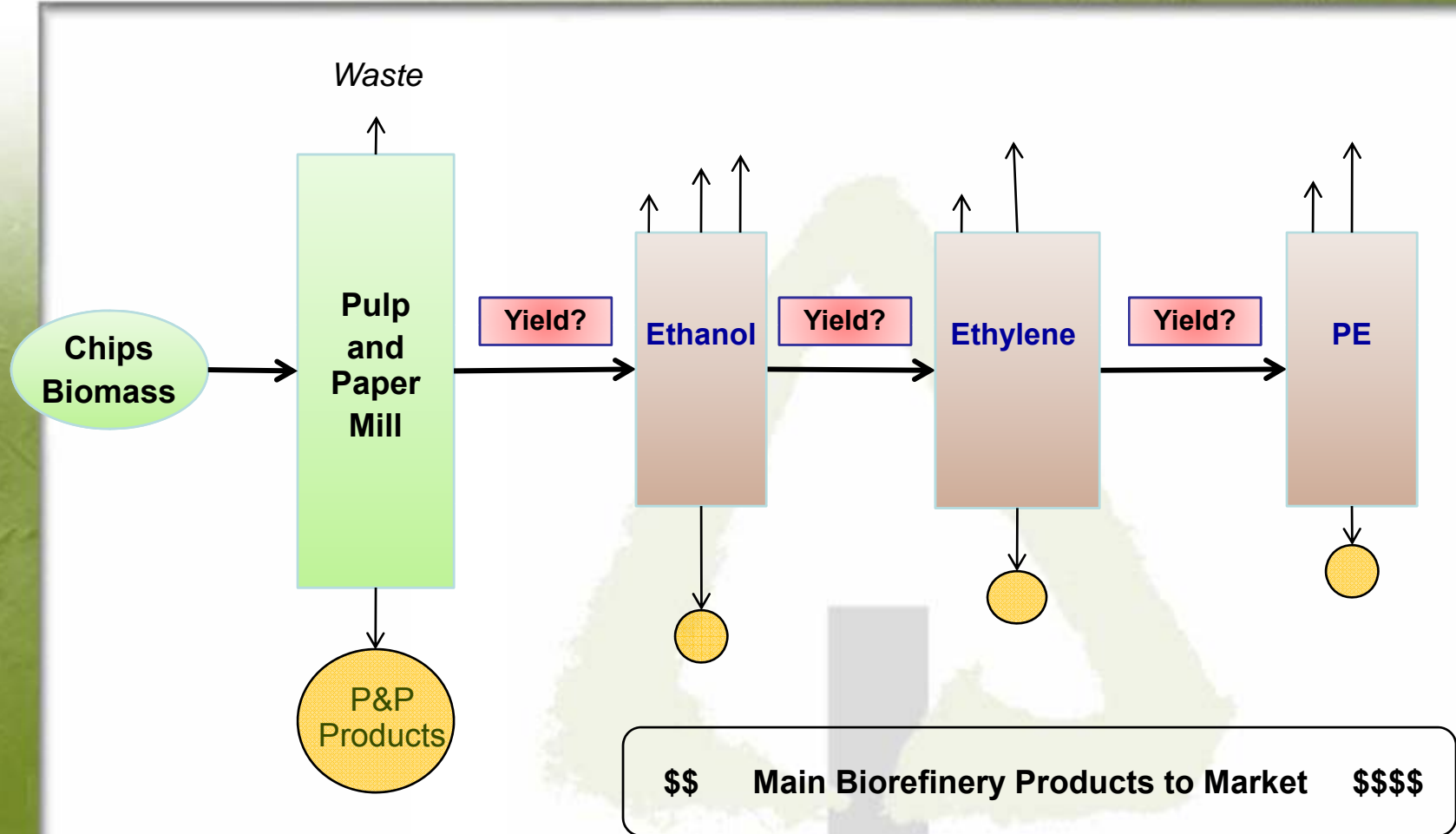
# Definition: Building Blocks and Derivatives...



# Definition: Petrochemical Value Chains and Product Replacement

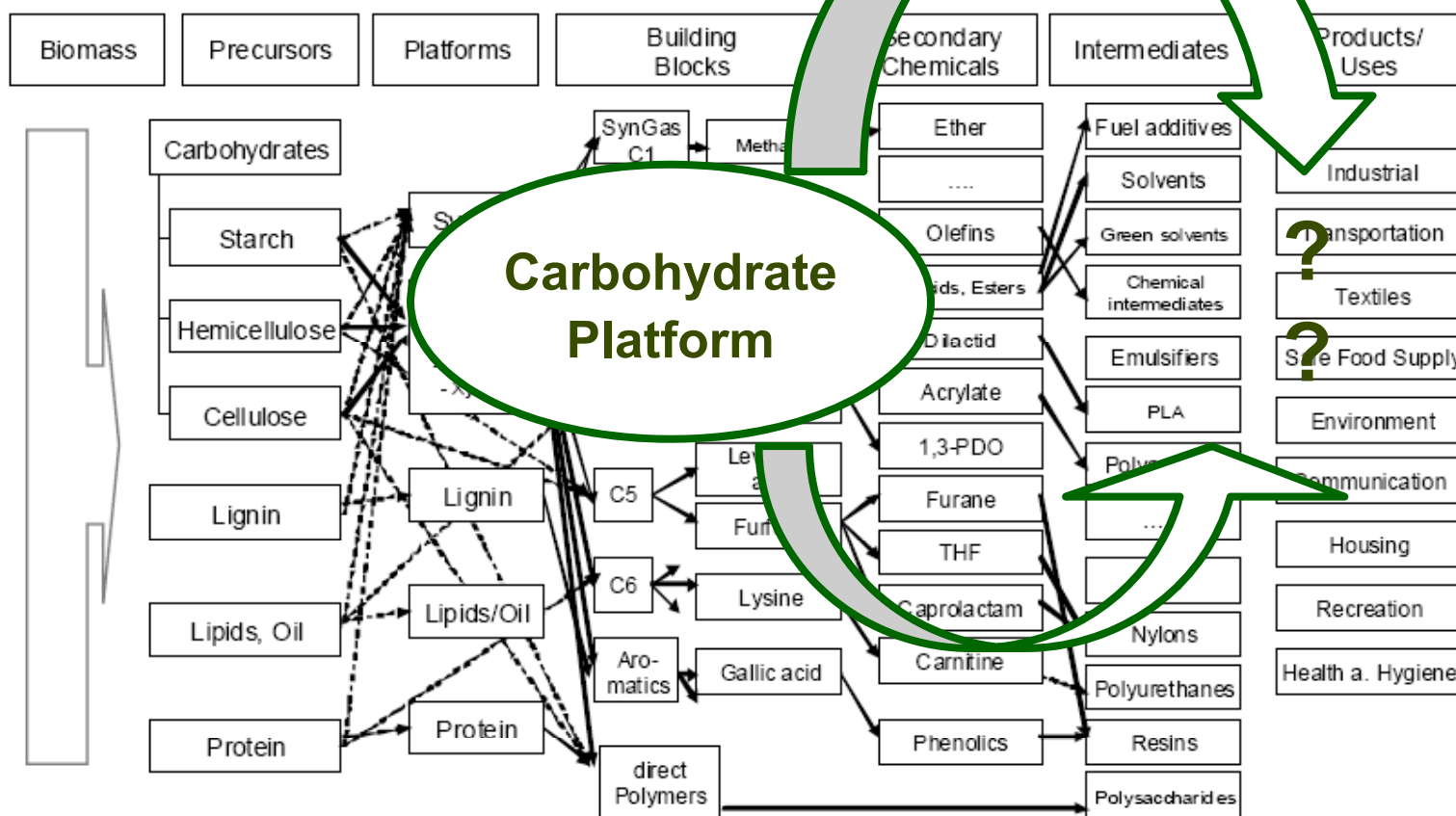


# Example: Product Replacement in Mature Supply Chain...

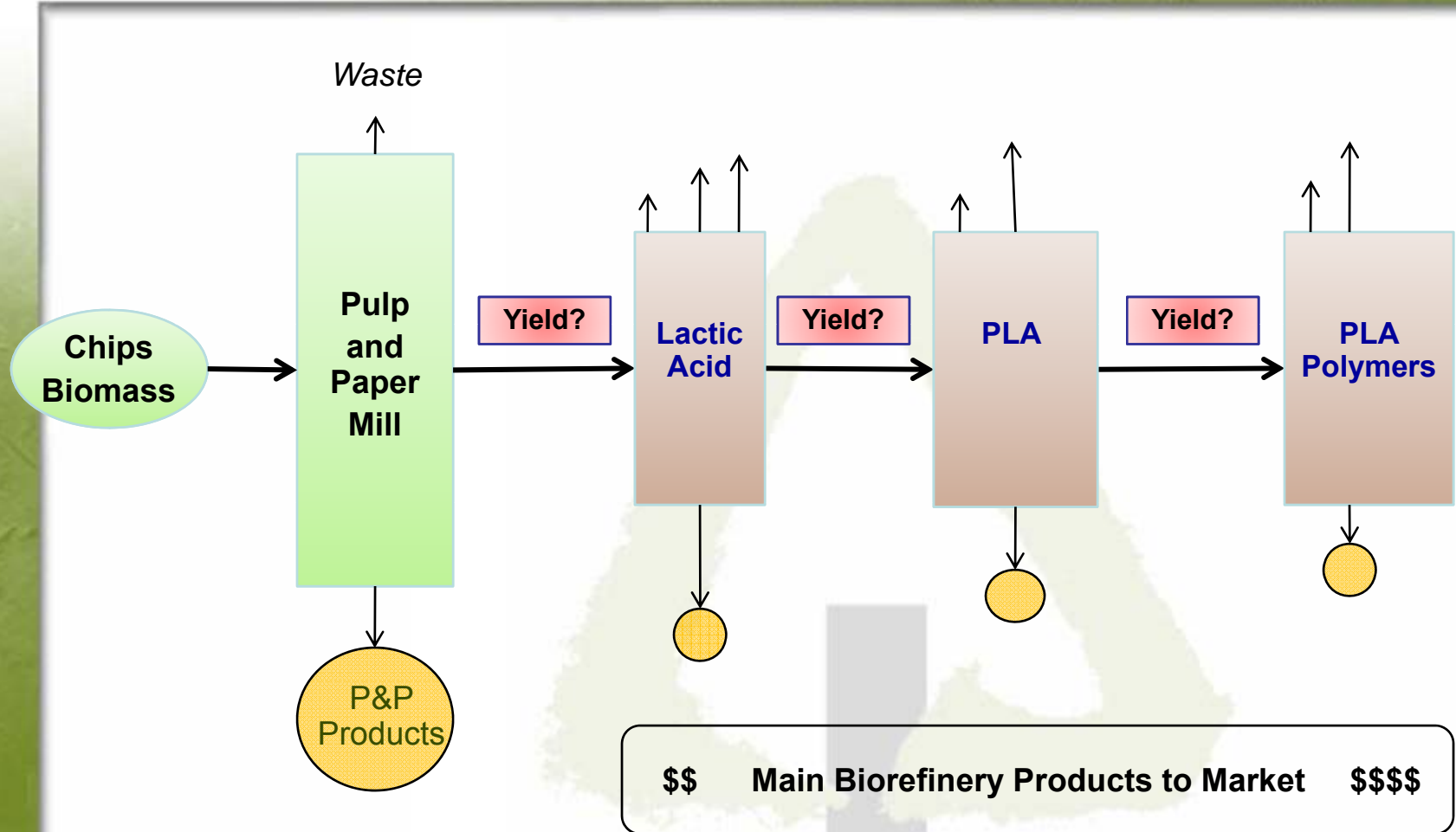


# Definition: Emerging Carbohydrate Platforms and Product Substitution

Model of biobased Flow-chart for Biomass Feedstock



# Example: Product Substitution in Emerging Supply Chain...







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# Some Key Competitive Factors

- △ Main competitive advantages for forestry companies:
  - △ Access to biomass availability and harvesting know-how
  - △ Existing infrastructure in close proximity to forest biomass
  - △ Established SC for wood, pulp and paper products
- △ Main competitive disadvantages for forestry companies:
  - △ Lack of capital
  - △ Lack of product development culture
  - △ Lack of knowledge of product quality requirement, SC practices etc for new bioproducts

# Some Lessons Learned from Our Case Studies Thus Far...

- ⚠ Biorefinery **technology** will be critical for competitive position in the short-term, the **unique supply chain** will be critical for competitive position in the longer-term
- ⚠ In order to be competitive in the longer term: **product design**, before process design
- ⚠ Meet profitability targets for varying market conditions by designing for **manufacturing flexibility**
- ⚠ The key to success in the forest biorefinery will be through implementing “**knowledge-based manufacturing**” in conjunction with flexible manufacturing and advanced supply chain management

# Strategic Approach for Implementing the Biorefinery

Implementation: compete with all capital spending

## Phase I Lower

### Operating Costs:

- Replace fossil fuels at mill (natural gas, Bunker C), and/or
- Produce “building block” chemicals
- Lower risk technologies

Compete internally  
for capital

## Phase II

### Increase Revenues:

- Manufacture of derivatives
- Market development for new products
- Higher process complexity and technology risk
- Partners essential

Select the most  
sustainable  
product platform  
and partner(s)

## Phase III

### Improve Margins:

- Knowledge-based manufacturing and production flexibility
- Business flow transformation
- Product development culture
- Off-shoring, Outsourcing, etc...

Company culture  
transformation  
SCM key to  
success

Strategic Vision: Phase III must determine Phase I

Main challenges

# Strategic Approach for Implementing the Biorefinery

Implementation: compete with all capital spending



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## Phase III Improve Margins:

- Knowledge-based manufacturing and production flexibility
- Business flow transformation
- Product development culture
- Off-shoring, Outsourcing, etc...

**Margins improvement is the goal**

Strategic Vision: Phase III must determine Phase I





# Phase I: Lower Operating Costs

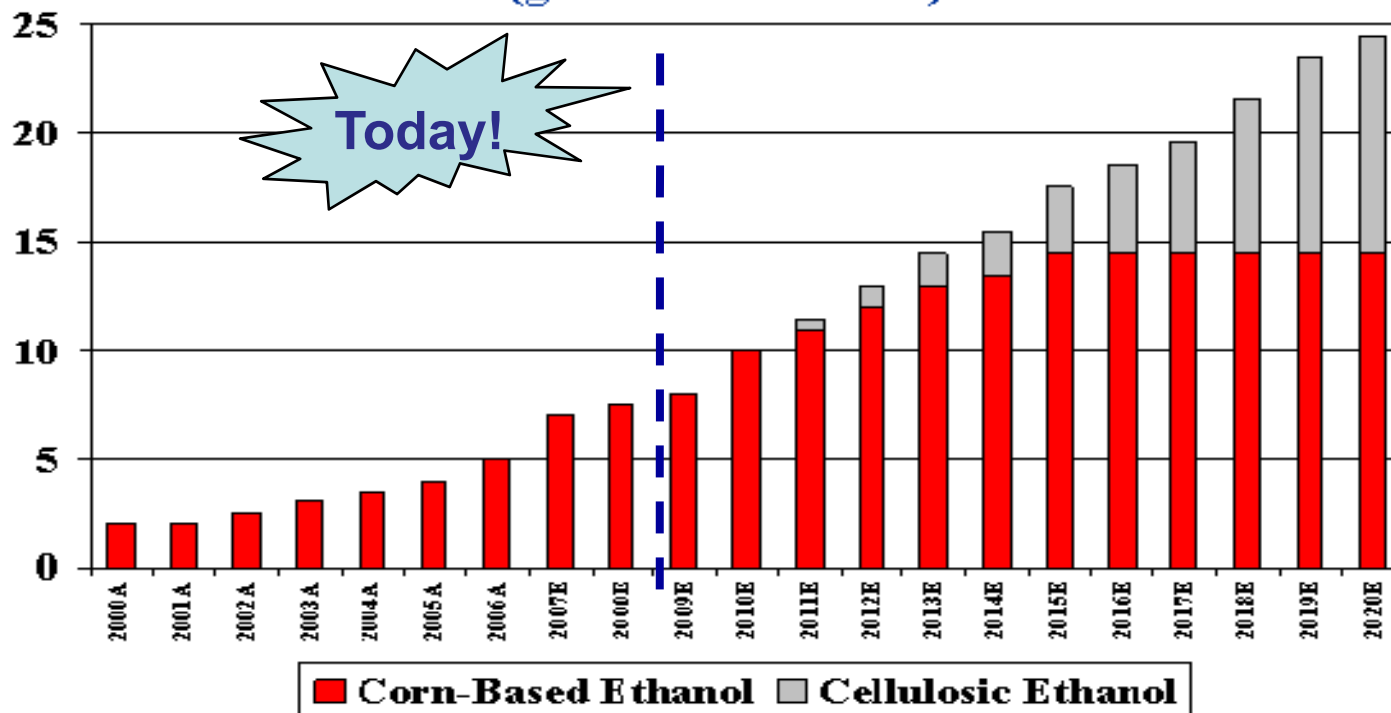
## Phase I Lower Operating Costs:

- Replace fossil fuels at mill (natural gas, Bunker C), and/or
- Produce “building block” chemical
- Minimum risk technologies

- △ Generate more free cash flow (EBITDA), in competition with all other capital spending proposals
- △ The mill operation remains manufacturing-centric, i.e. produces a commodity and seeks to be a low-cost producer
- △ Seek to reduce biorefinery costs by identifying synergies with the existing mill:
  - △ Utilization of existing infrastructure to offset equivalent greenfield biorefinery capital cost
  - △ Exploitation of green credits
- △ Possible partnership with technology provider

# Is Cellulosic Ethanol the Right Product?

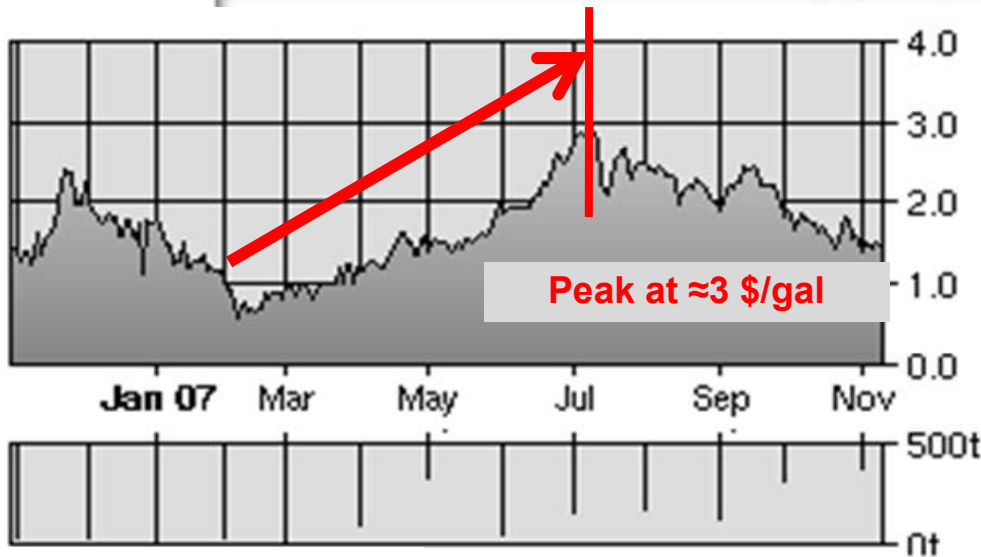
## Bank of America Ethanol Forecast (gallons in billions)



Alternative Energy report by Eric K. Brown

Source: Renewable Fuels Association, National Biofuels Board, Banc of America Securities LLC estimates

# Ethanol Price Volatility: An Important Risk



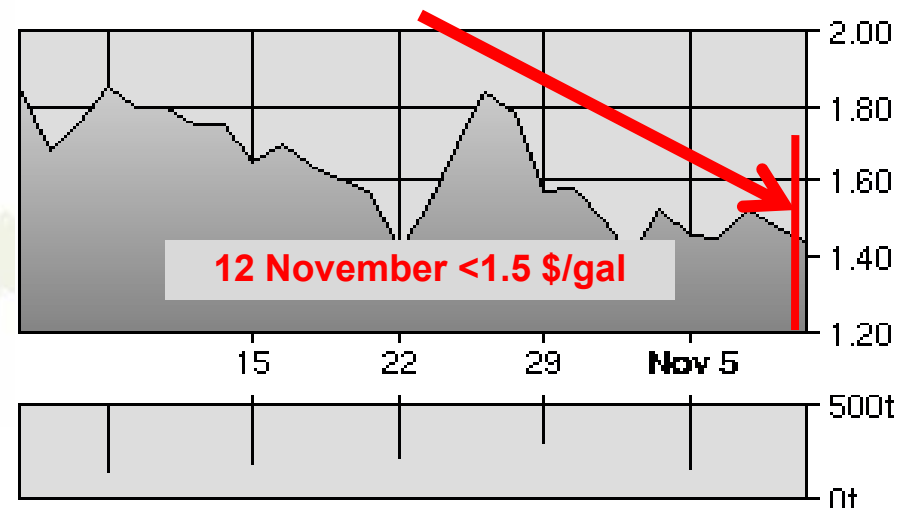
Source: Gulf Ethanol Corp

## Price volatility due to:

- Impact of crude oil and natural gas prices
- Changing balance between supply and demand
- Diverse feedstock types and their relative competitiveness
- Energy legislation – tax credits and incentives

In 4 months: Ethanol prices  
dropped by half...

How can companies  
stabilize margins in the  
context of volatility and  
uncertainty?

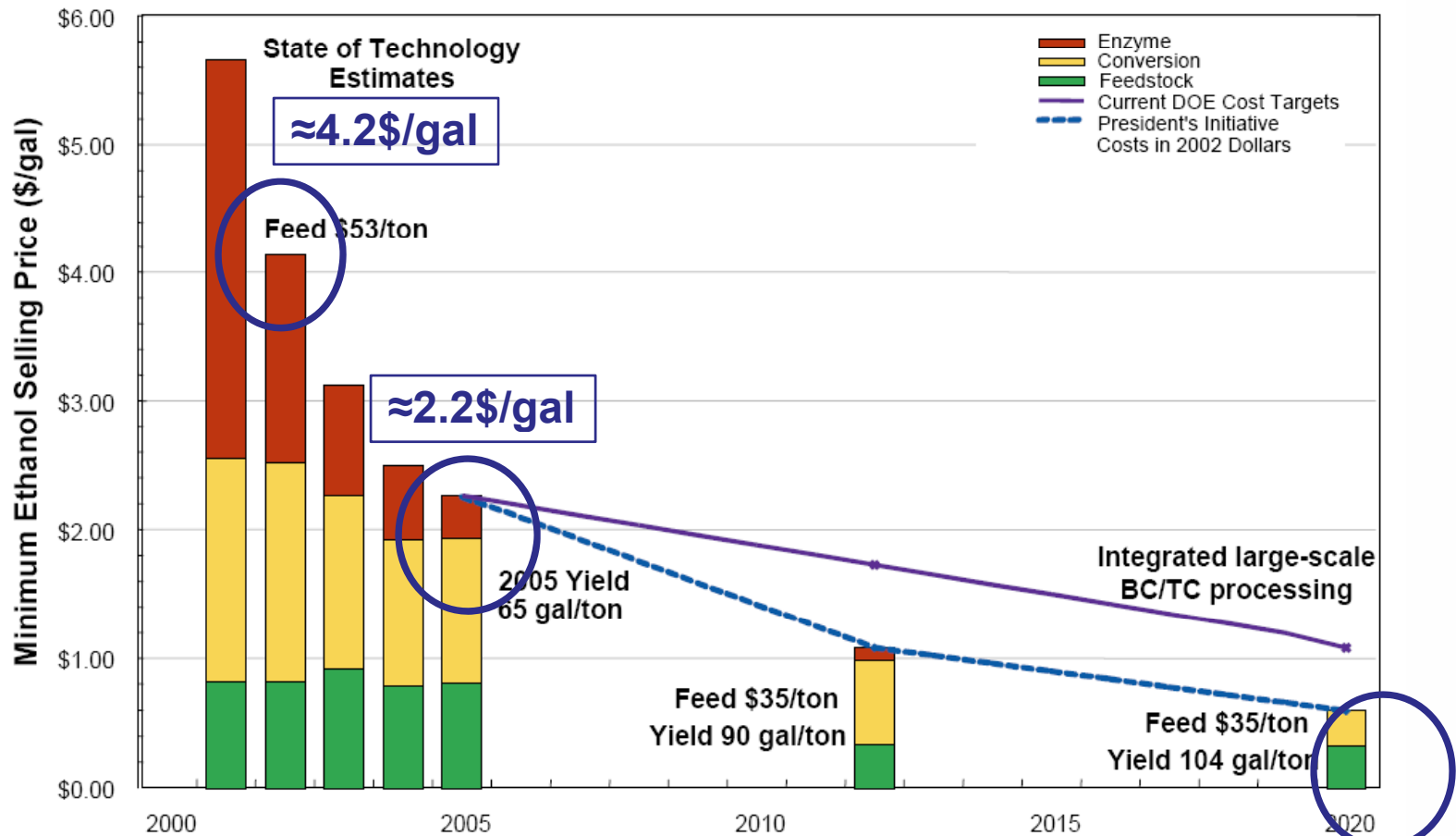


Source: Gulf Ethanol Corp



# Biochemical Ethanol Technology

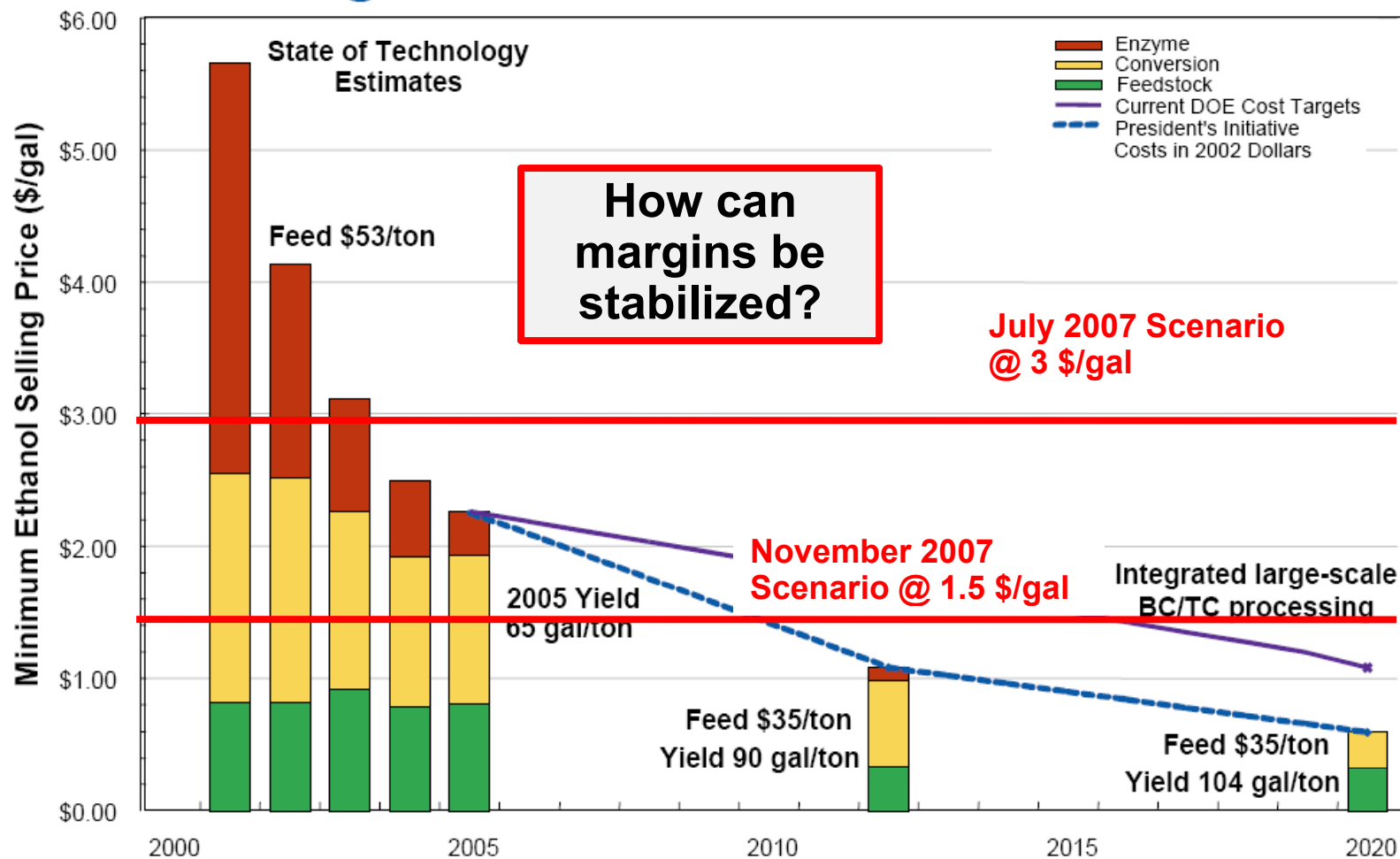
## Building on Past Successes



Source: NREL - 2006

# Should Biochemical Ethanol be Implemented Today?

## Building on Past Successes



# Is Cellulosic Ethanol the Right Product?

- ⚠ Implementing the forest biorefinery is about mitigating risk...
- ⚠ ...and clearly ethanol represents a great opportunity, but also presents risks
- ⚠ These can be mitigated as part of a forest biorefinery product design strategy, e.g.:
  - What derivatives can be made from ethanol?
  - What opportunities are there with by-product lignin?
  - What manufacturing flexibility between products is required, including perhaps producing ethanol from cellulose?
- ⚠ Before implementing ethanol production facilities, know what product portfolio your company will ultimately produce...

# Process-Centric and Product-Centric Design

- △ *“Towards a Product-Centered Chemical Industry - Rethinking the Role of R&D and its Interaction with Marketing and Business Strategy”* FOCAPD (2004), and AIChE webcast (2004 – see link in background materials)



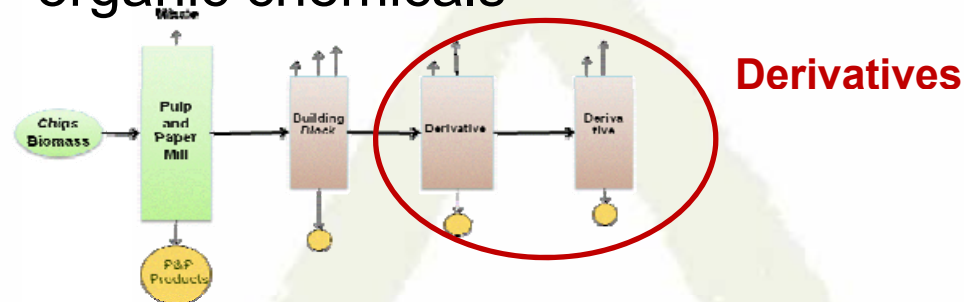
**George  
Stephanopoulos,  
MIT**

- △ Chemical Engineering is moving from being process-centric to product-centric
- △ Product centered: market trends → product specifications → components and subsystems → chemicals and materials → manufacturing systems design

# Start With Phase II: Define your Product Portfolio

## Product Design first, Process Design second

- Increase revenues by producing new “green” organic chemicals



### Phase II

#### Increase Revenues:

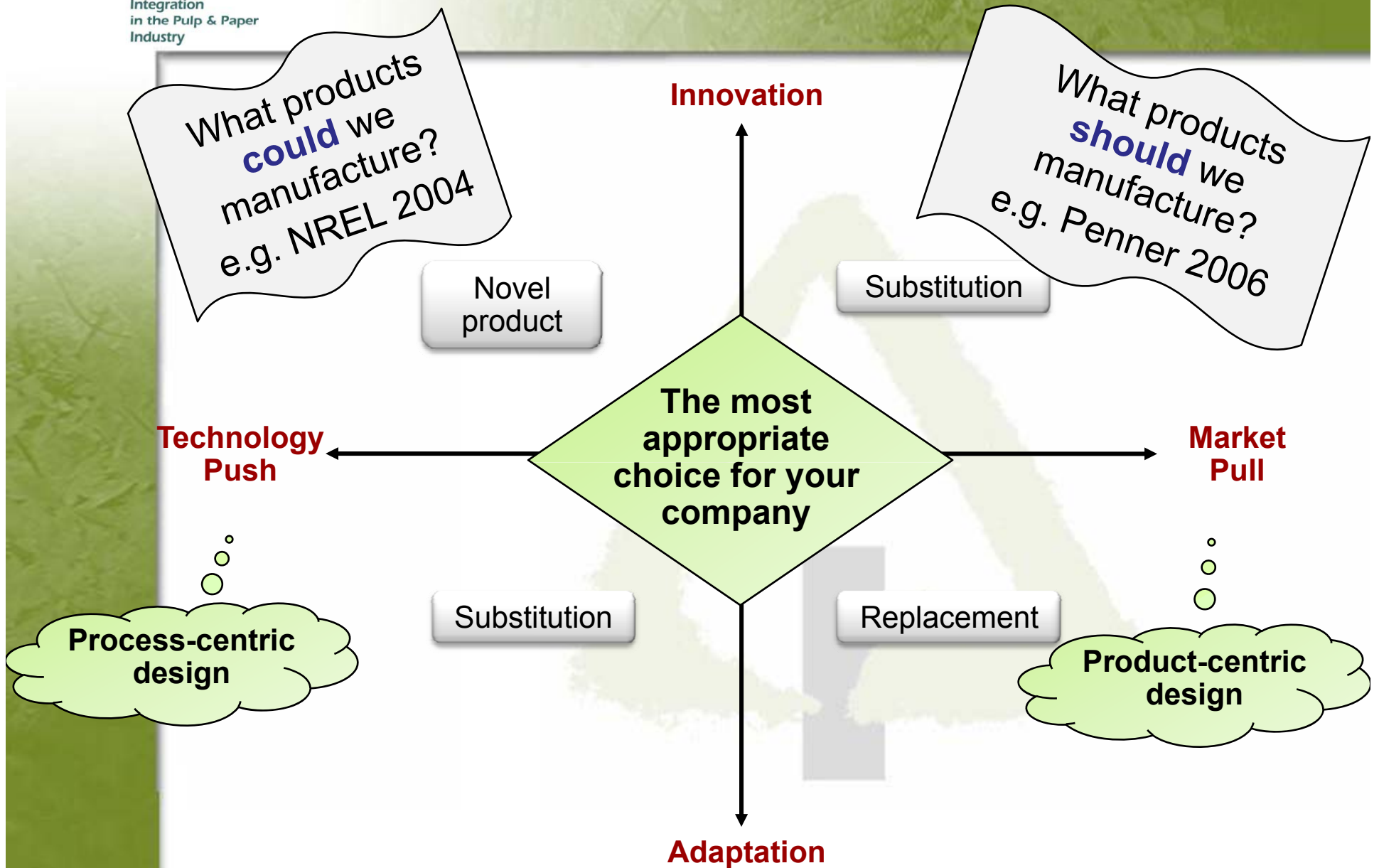
- Manufacture of derivatives
- Market development for New products
- Higher complexity and risk technologies
- Partners with SC

## Determine promising product portfolios for your company using a market perspective

- Which are technically feasible?
- Secure the best partners for securing the value chain...
- Examine the implied company transformation



# Product Portfolio Identification



# Phase III = Enterprise Transformation

## Phase III Improve Margins:

- Knowledge-based manufacturing and production flexibility
- Business flow transformation
- Product development culture
- Off-shoring, Outsourcing, etc...

- ♻️ **Supply Chain Restructuring**, e.g., simplifying supply chains, negotiating just-in-time relationships, developing collaborative information systems
- ♻️ **Outsourcing & Offshoring**, e.g., contracting out manufacturing, information technology support; employing low-wage, high-skill labor from other countries
- ♻️ **Process Standardization**, e.g., enterprise-wide standardization of processes for product and process development, R&D, finance, personnel, etc.
- ♻️ **Process Reengineering**, e.g., identification, design, and deployment of value-driven processes; identification and elimination of no value creating activities
- ♻️ **Web-Enabled Processes**, e.g., online, self-support systems for customer relationship management, inventory management, etc.
- ♻️ **Market-driven culture** to be established through a phased transformation



# Presentation Outline

## Argentina knock out rivals Brazil

**Argentina beat Brazil 3-0 to set up an Olympic final against Nigeria in the men's football competition.**



Aguero celebrates scoring against Brazil in Beijing



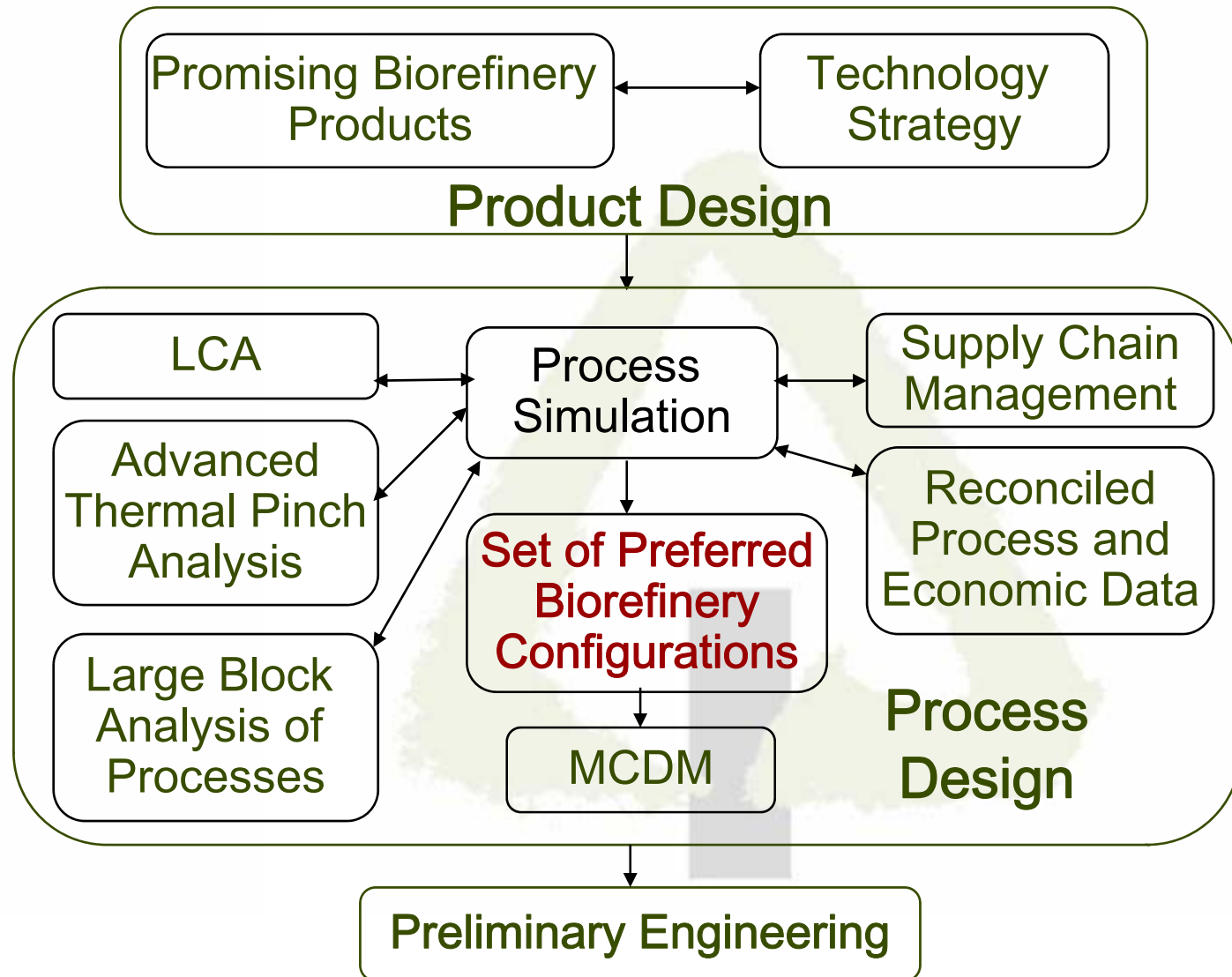
**BBC Sport's Olympic**  
Find out about the Beijing  
football venue

**Football medals ta**

- 🌱 Overall **design methodology** for the forest biorefinery
- 🌱 Some interesting **process systems engineering** approaches that we are exploring



# Overall Biorefinery Design Framework



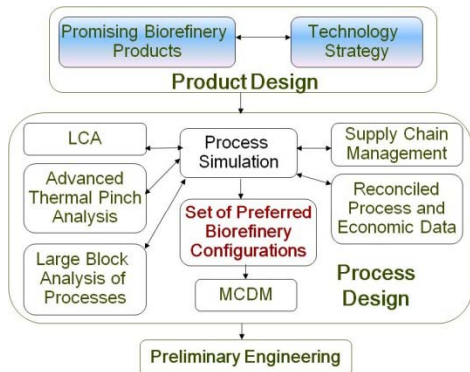
# Coupling the Problem Context with the Design Approach

- △ The forestry executives we work with understand the story to this point in the presentation, but don't understand PSE tool strengths and limitations.
- △ How can we apply PSE tools to create competitive advantage during the implementation of the sustainable biorefinery...?
- △ This is a great case study in product and process design – there is a race for forestry companies to identify novel and sustainable strategies, and secure quality partners as well as market strategies
- △ What strategies best meet industry's profitability requirements, and at the same time are sustainable?



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# Product Design: Which Biorefinery Sequence?

## Individual Product Analysis

- Which replacement/substitution products should be considered?
  - Promising technologies
  - Product growth
  - Potential for competitive advantage with green product
- Competitive manufacturing costs/existing value chain

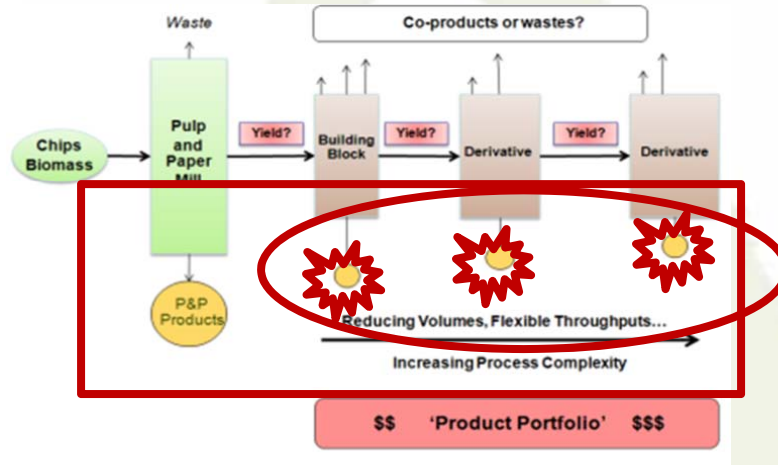
## Product family analysis:

- Creating added value along the value chain
- What are the competitive factors associated with the aggregated product family?



## Product Portfolio:

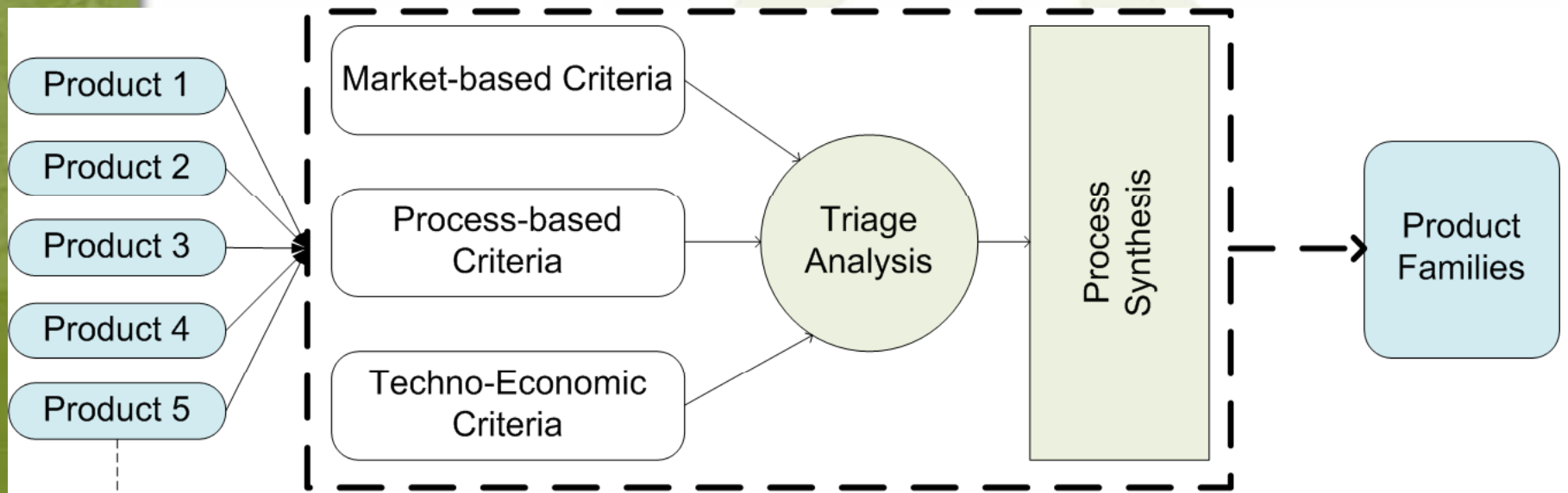
- What potential new supply chain opportunities are there?
- Will a unique SC result, that can't be achieved by others?

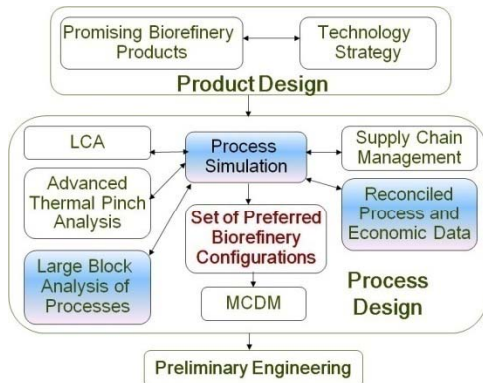


## Partnership Selection:

- Who are the promising partners for the candidate product families?
- Do their corporate visions align with yours, i.e. implementing the biorefinery in partnership?

# Overall Product/Process Opportunities Methodology

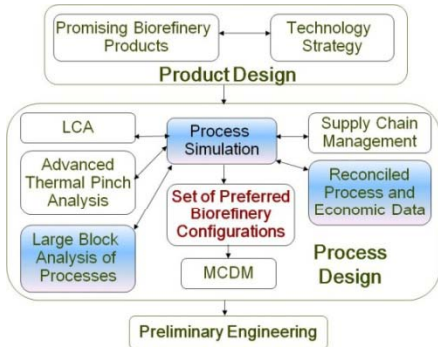




# Techno-Economic Analysis: Some Key Questions

- ♻️ What are the available feedstocks, and emerging processes available to manufacture the set of targeted products? Other “**show-stoppers**”?
- ♻️ Is there a competitive opportunity through partnership with **innovation** companies?
- ♻️ How will biorefinery implementation enhance the competitive position of the **core business** of pulp and paper products?
- ♻️ How can the capital cost of the biorefinery be reduced through existing **mill infrastructure**?

# Data Processing and Data Reconciliation



## Data Processing

### Objectives

- Cleansed data
- Near steady-state detection
- Process trends

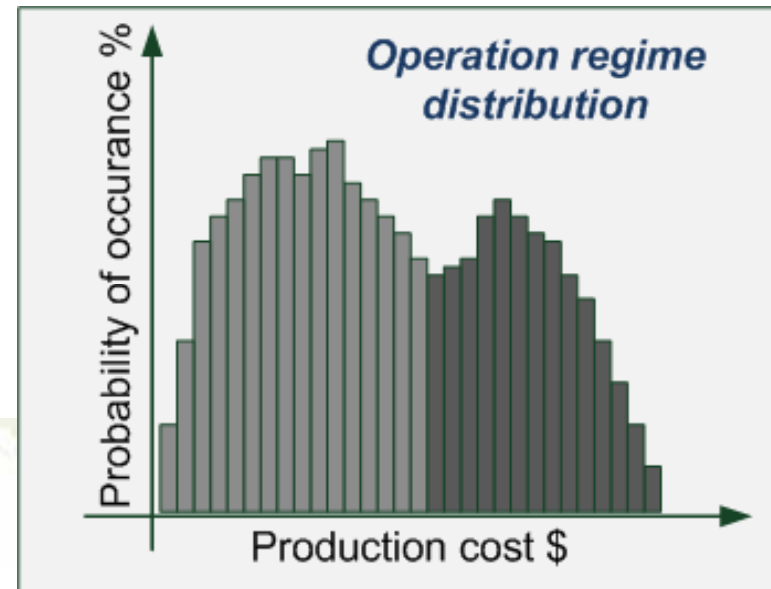
## Process-Driven Cost Modeling

- Bottom-up approach to linking costs with process data
- ABC-like methodology for tracking resources consumption in mill

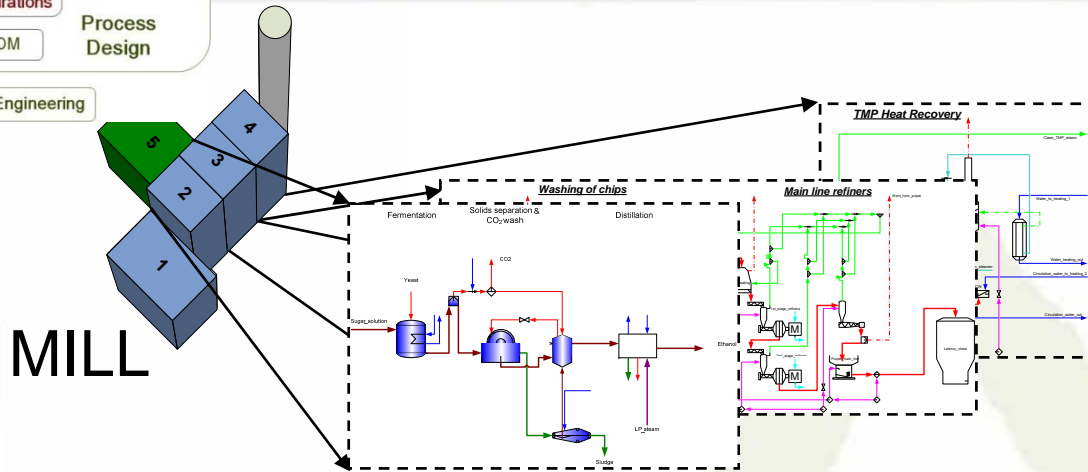
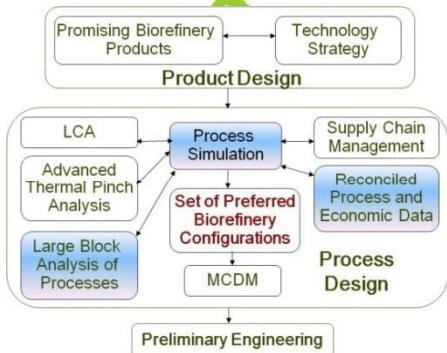
## Process Data Reconciliation

### Objectives

- Further improved data quality by making it consistent with an underlying process model

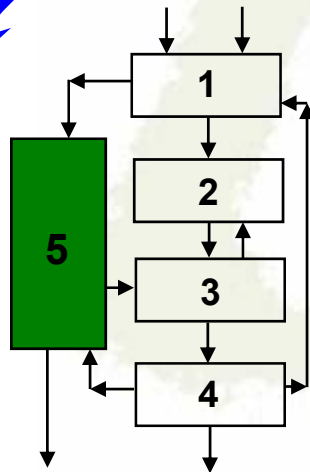


# Activity-Based Cost (ABC) Accounting



Forest biorefinery

INPUTS	VALUE
Raw material	
...	
Chem cons.	
...	



Process Analysis

Mill wide data reconciliation

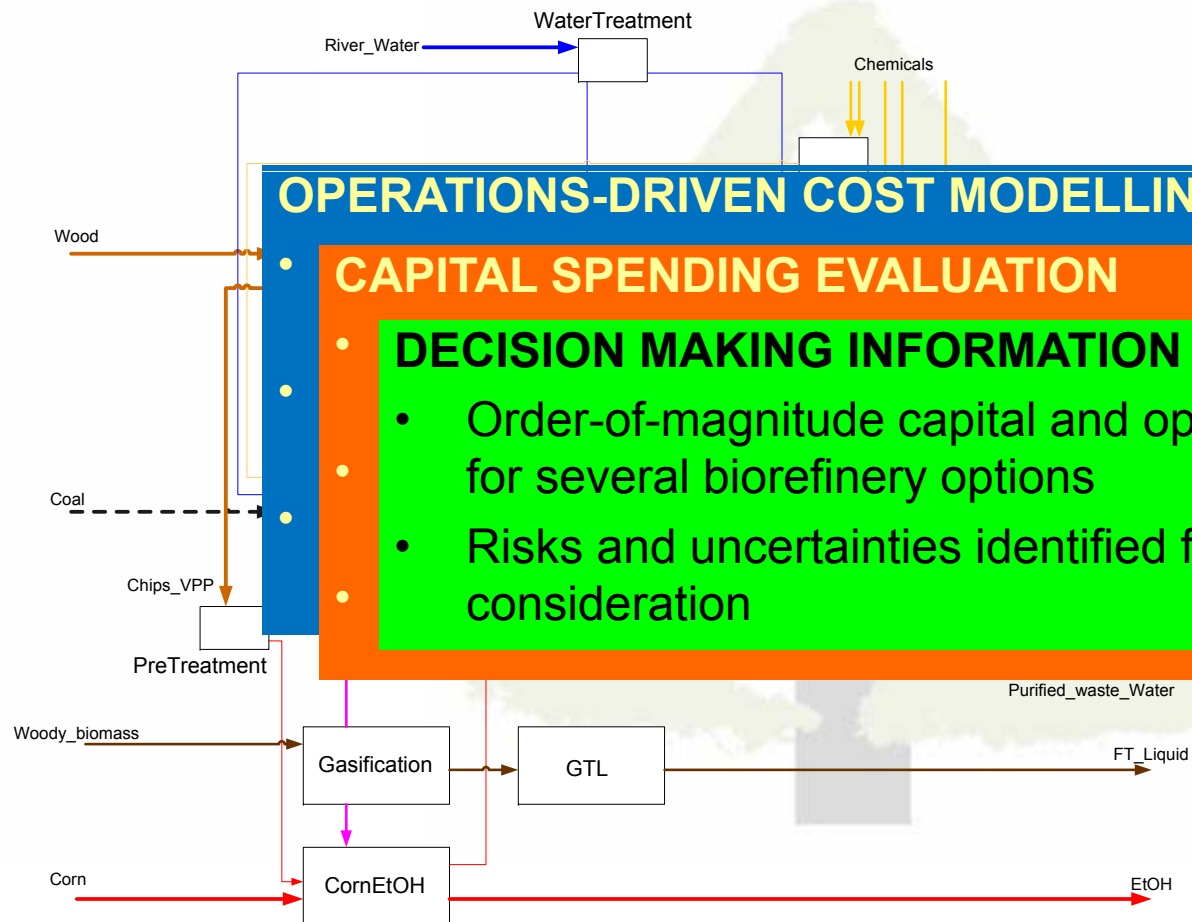
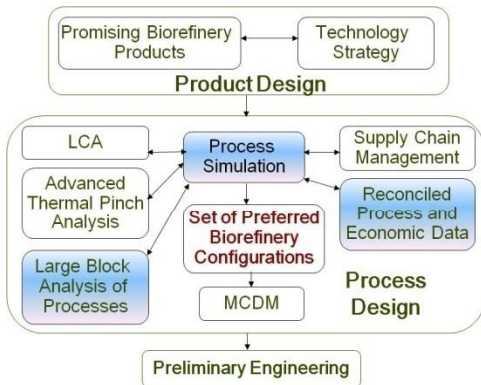
Process-Driven Cost Modelling

Technology Strategy

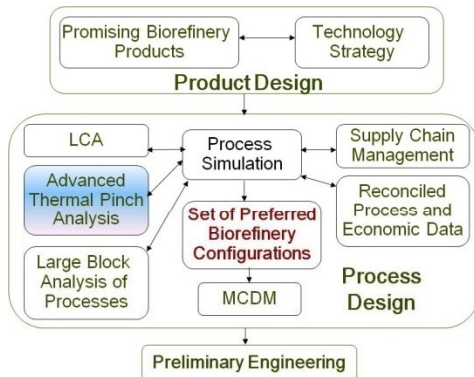


# Value from this Preliminary Analysis?

## Large block analysis of biorefinery technologies



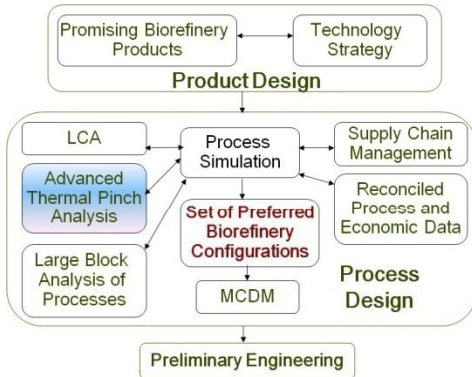
# Energy Planning: Some Key Questions



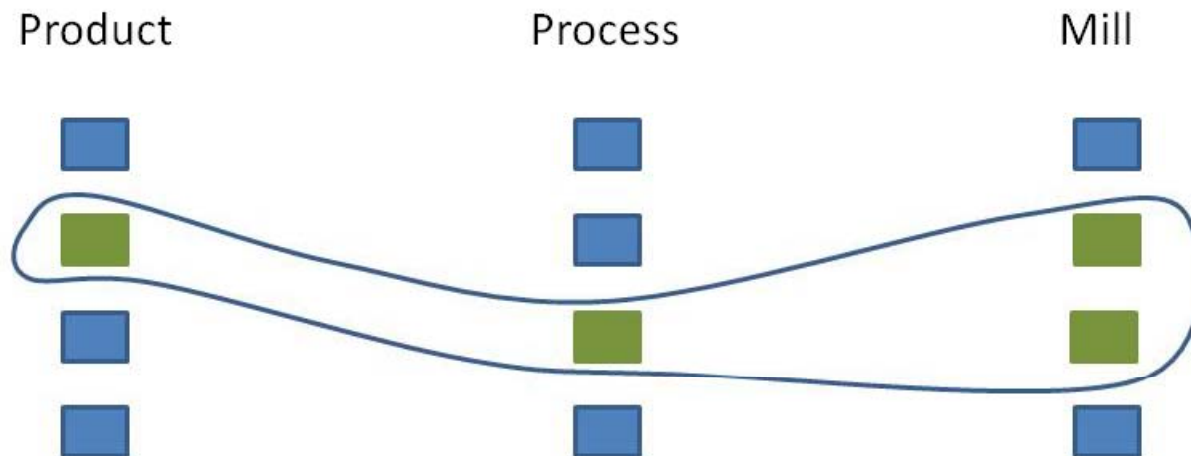
- ⚠ What is the most practical **thermal pinch analysis** methodology for exploring the biorefinery?
- ⚠ Retrofit context
- ⚠ Simultaneous water use and energy use reduction
- ⚠ Do we need to be as **energy efficient** as possible, in order to have the best energy profile for the

Matches	For Argentina	Draw	For Brazil	Goals
93	34	24	35	149/145 <sup>[1]</sup>

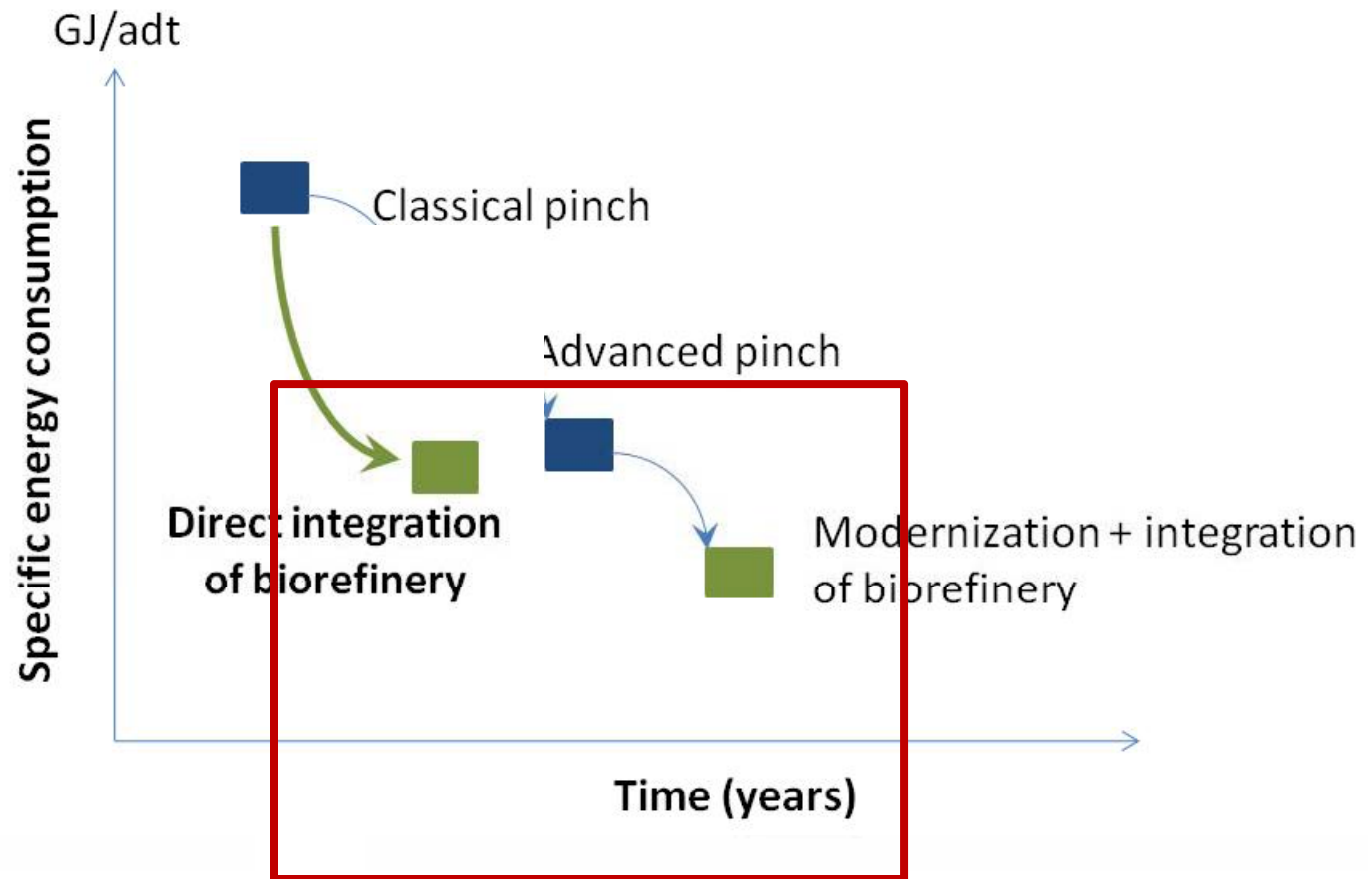
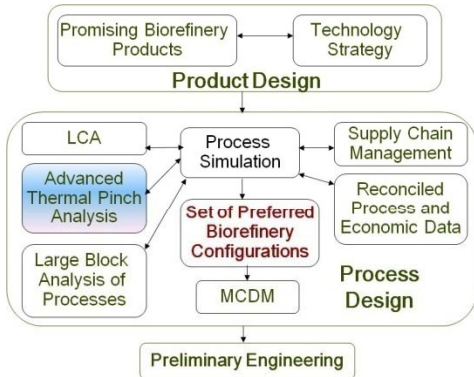
# Energy Planning for the Biorefinery



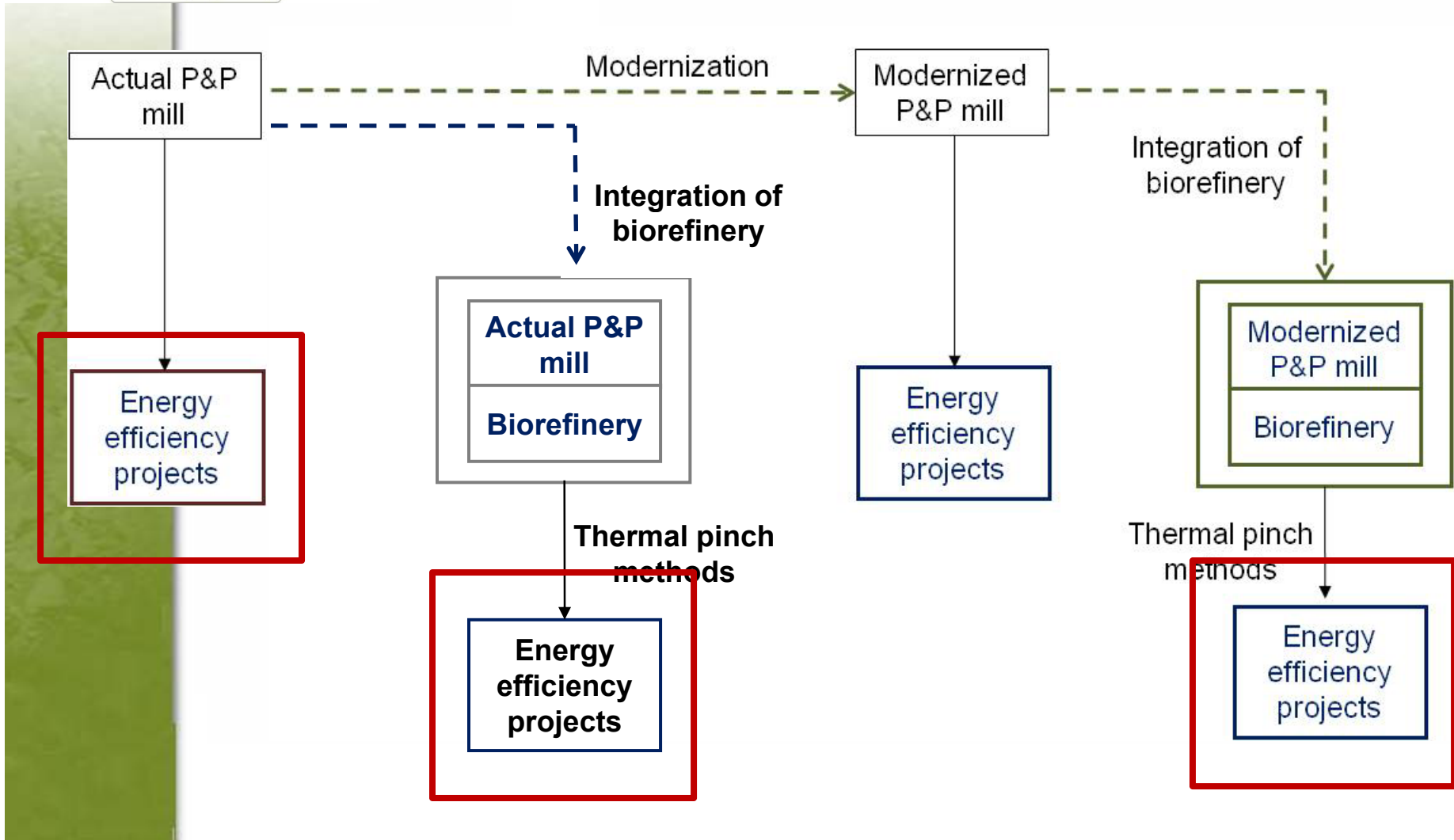
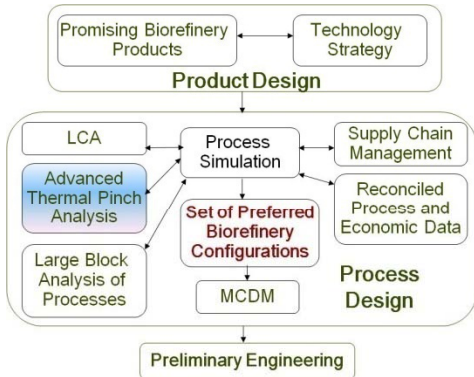
Market → product → process →  
Mass and energy balances for the targeted  
biorefinery processes



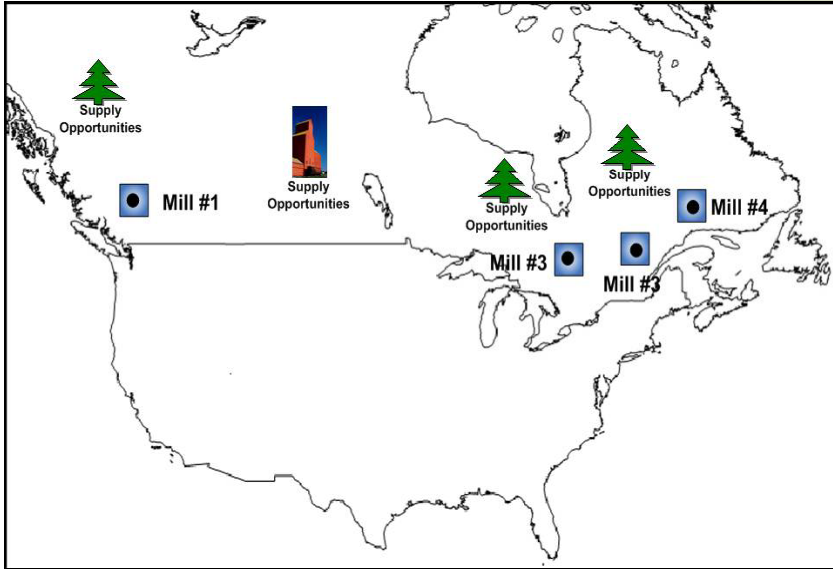
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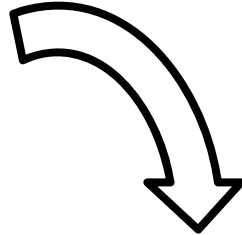
# Energy Planning for the Biorefinery



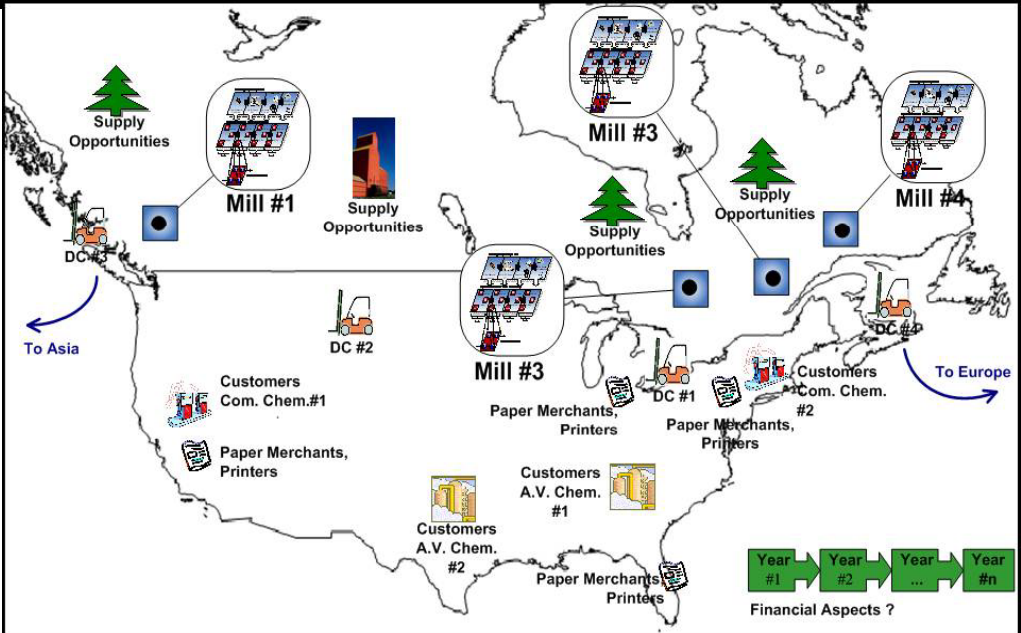
# The Biorefinery Supply Chain will be Significantly More Complex



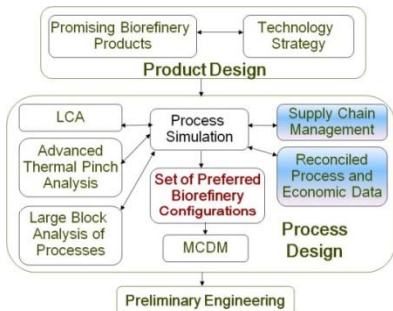
Existing SC



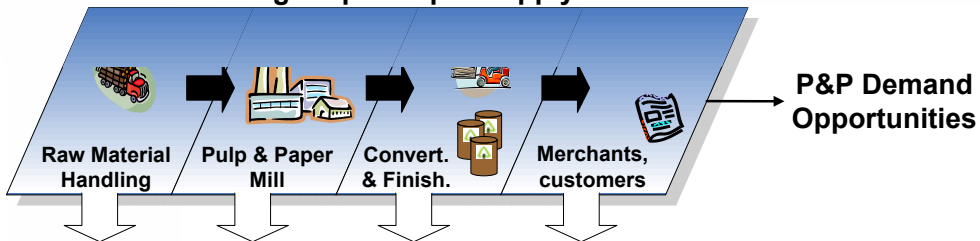
Biorefinery SC



# The Unique Biorefinery Supply Chain

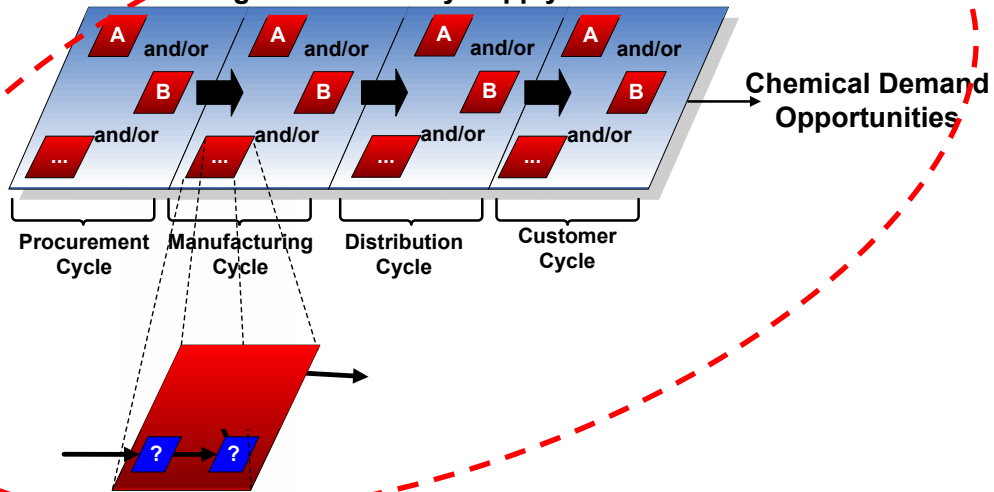


Existing Pulp & Paper Supply Chain



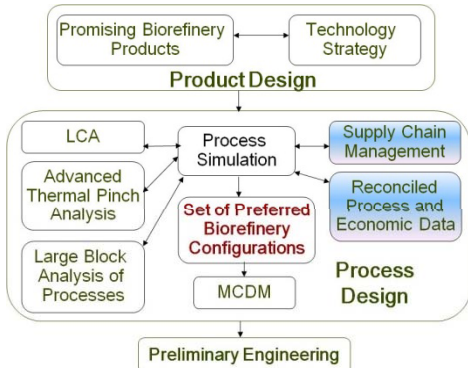
## SC Research for the FBR

Design of Biorefinery Supply Chain



For competitive reasons, the FBR SC should be unique to the company implementing it.

# Biorefinery Supply Chain: Key Issues



## ♻️ *Product Strategy*

- o Product versus product family versus product portfolio...
- o What are the SC synergies for different product scenarios?

## ♻️ *Supply Chain Design*

- o What are the opportunities for improved SC design for different biorefinery product opportunities?
- o What are the impact of strategic SC design on tactical/operational planning

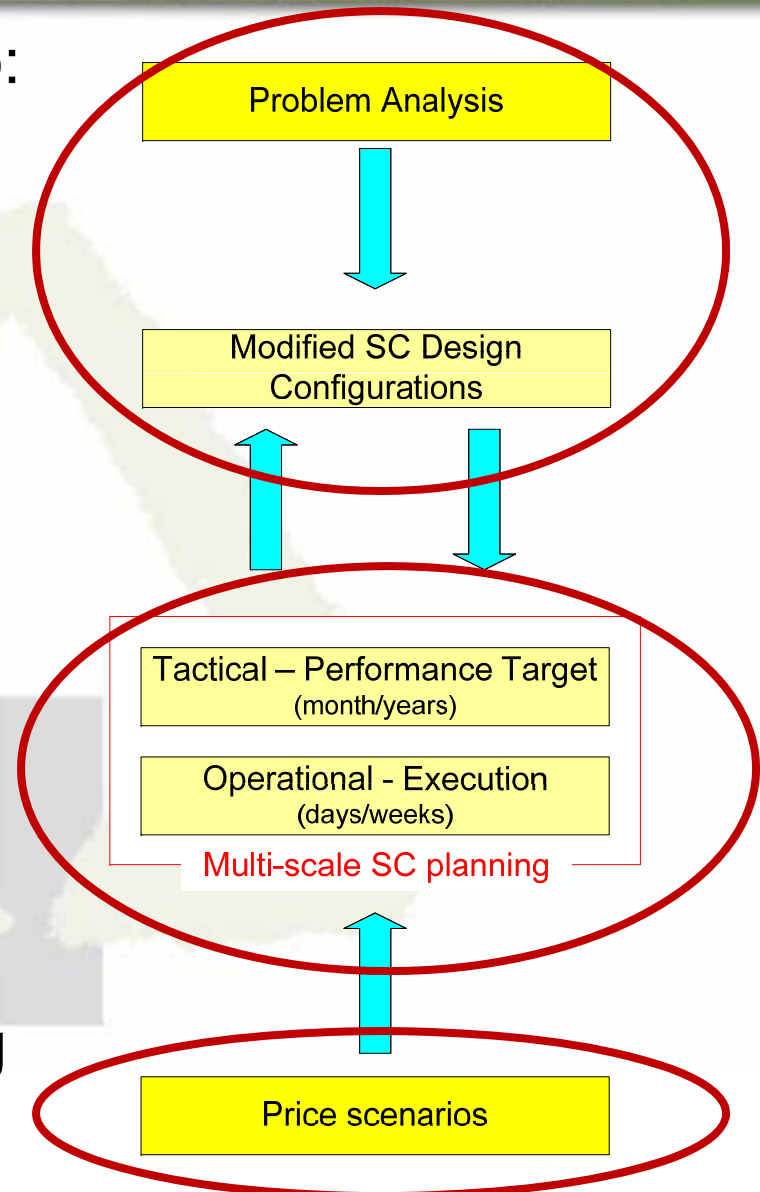
## ♻️ *Supply Chain Planning*

- o How can we best manage the complexity of this new SC?
- o How can manufacturing flexibility be best exploited at the SC level so as to mitigate against price volatility?

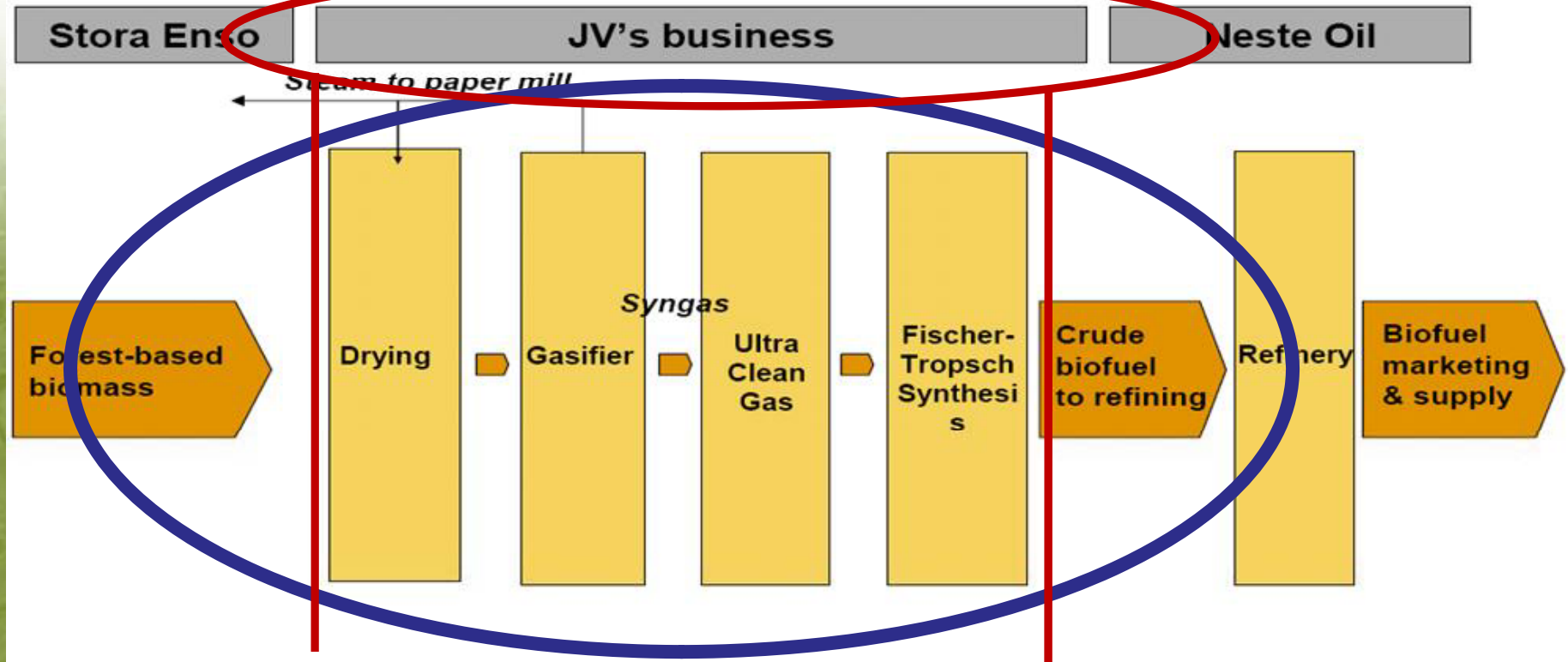


# Exploring the Biorefinery SC Design and Management

- △ For a given product portfolio:
  - Fixed number of SC design configurations based on system analysis
  - Explore the margins-based SC management strategy: this implies a significant transformation...
  - Explore the impact of key factors on profit – especially price scenarios based on possible market conditions
  - Designing for manufacturing flexibility...



# Managing the Biorefinery SC: Manufacturing Flexibility

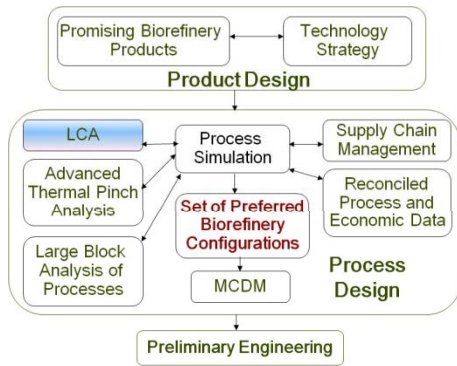


STORAENSO





Expand the JV in order to have better flexibility?



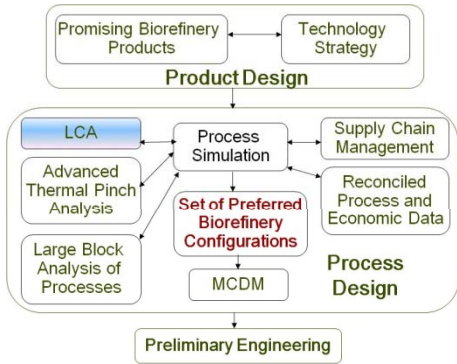
NESTE OIL



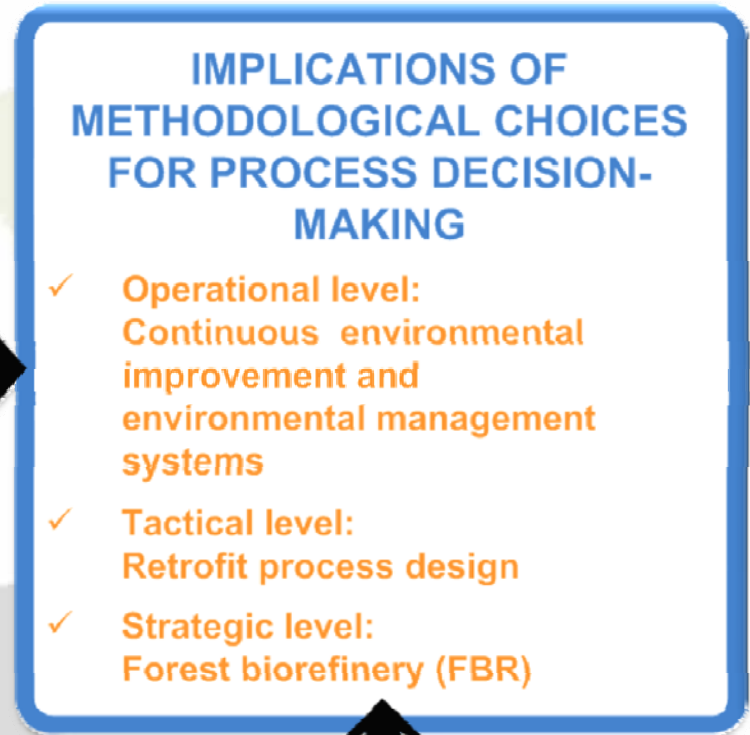
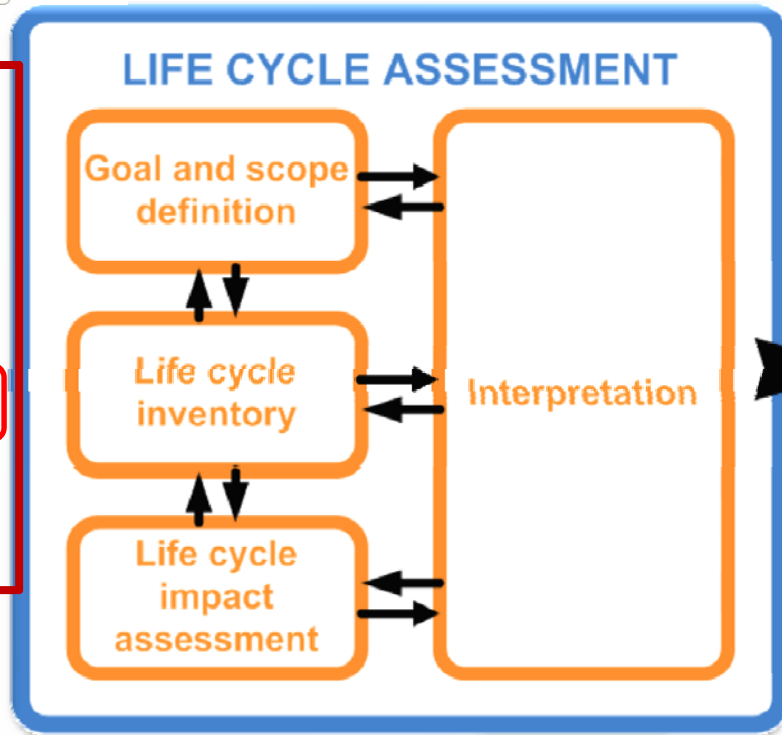
# Biorefinery Environmental Impact: Key Questions

- 
 What is the environmental performance of the **cradle-to-grave product chain** for the new biorefinery products?
- 
 How does this environmental performance compare with the **traditional product chain**?
- 
 What methodology should we use to make this comparison at the **product portfolio level**?
- 
 How should **trade-offs** be considered between different environmental criteria?

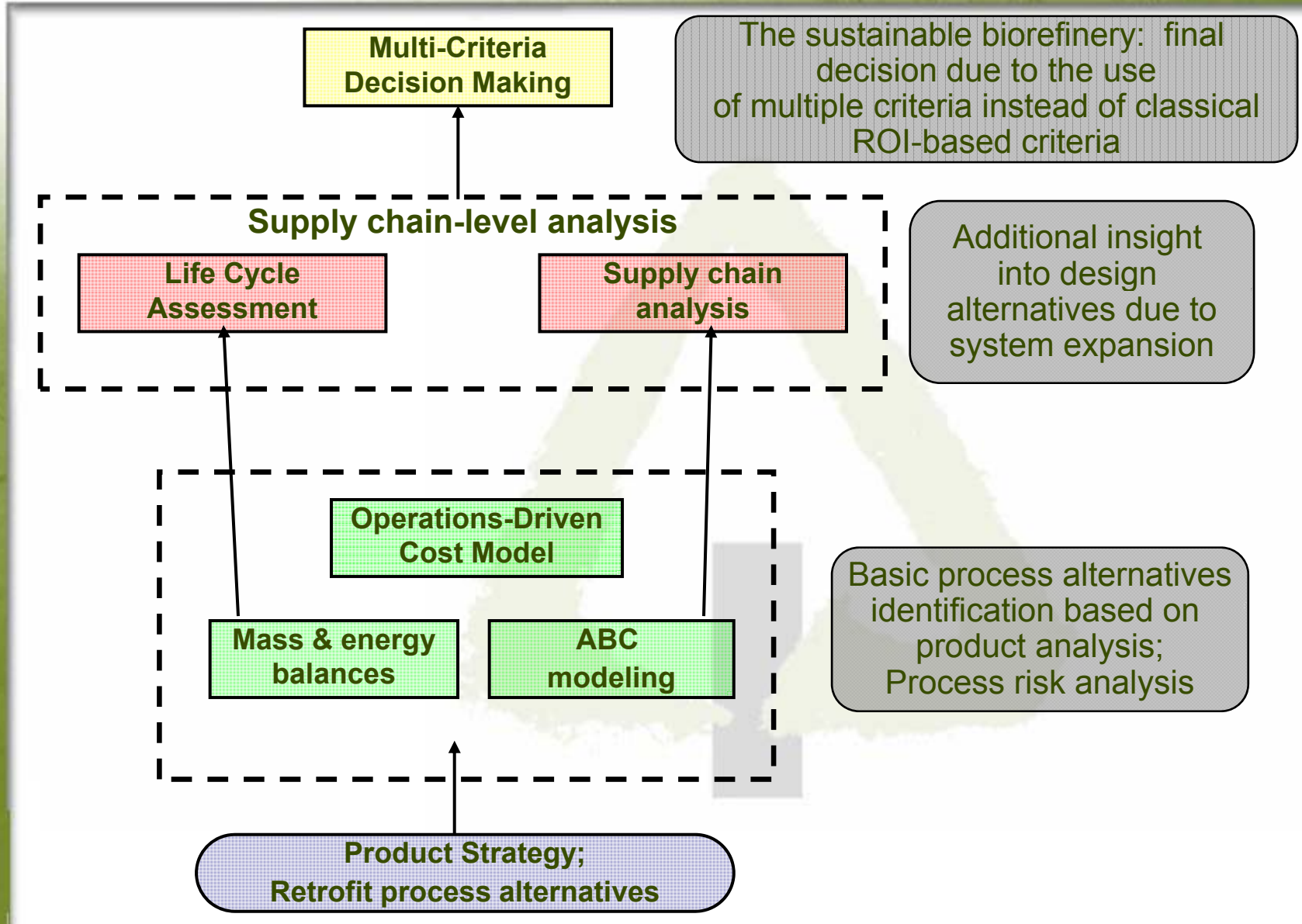
# Biorefinery Environmental Impact: Life Cycle Thinking



- Boundaries
- Allocation
- Indicators
- Normalization
- Weighting



# Biorefinery Decision-Making: MCDM for Evaluating Sustainability...





# Conclusions

- ♻️ **Risk mitigation** associated with the implementation of the biorefinery can be achieved through careful strategic planning, and by employing systematic product and process design methodologies:
  - Starting with **market-based product portfolio design**
  - **Partner selection and partnership model** are critical in determining the company's unique biorefinery supply chain
  - **Enterprise transformation** is implicated - SC design and management must be examined, incorporating issues of manufacturing flexibility...
- ♻️ The **industrial context** is critical to the PSE approach we use – the industrial context is complex, subtle, and changes with time...
- ♻️ **Exciting point:** this business-driven biorefinery strategy is generally consistent with Dr. Sirola's analysis using the perspective of sustainability...

# PASI 2008

Pan American Advanced Studies Institute Program on Emerging Trends in Process Systems Engineering

## **Case Study:** **Product and Process System Design** **Methodologies for Engineering the Forest** **Biorefinery**

### **Thank you!**



Cristina Kirchner,  
President of Argentina,  
with Luiz Inacio Lula  
da Silva, President of  
Brazil.

