



Laboratory for Aviation and the Environment

Massachusetts Institute of Technology



LCA of Current & Future GHG Emissions from Petroleum Jet Fuel

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Background

- Globally, aviation is projected to grow by $\sim 5\%$ per year [Mahabashde et al, 2011]
- IEA forecasts petroleum to remain a significant primary energy source out to 2040 [IEA WEO, 2015]
- Understanding petroleum's complete environmental impact is important
 - Well-to-pump emissions constitute $\sim 20\%$ of petroleum jet fuel lifecycle emissions
 - LCA of conventional fuels is needed to compare alternative fuels



LCA Model – Emissions Sources



1. Extraction

- Drilling**
 - Prime movers
- Artificial Lift**
 - Rod pumps
 - Gas lift
- Surface Processing**
 - Heater/treater
 - Crude stabilizer
 - Wastewater treatment
 - Water re-injection
 - Flaring, venting, fugitive
- Enhanced Oil Recovery**
 - CO₂ flooding
 - Steam injection
 - Gas injection
- Unconventional Oils**
 - Canadian oil sands
 - Tight oil
- Land-Use Change**
 - Vegetation
 - Soil carbon

2. Crude Movement

- Fuel Consumption**
 - Tankers
 - Pipeline
 - Rail
 - Trucks
 - Barge
- VOC Emission**
 - Loading
 - Transit
 - Ballasting

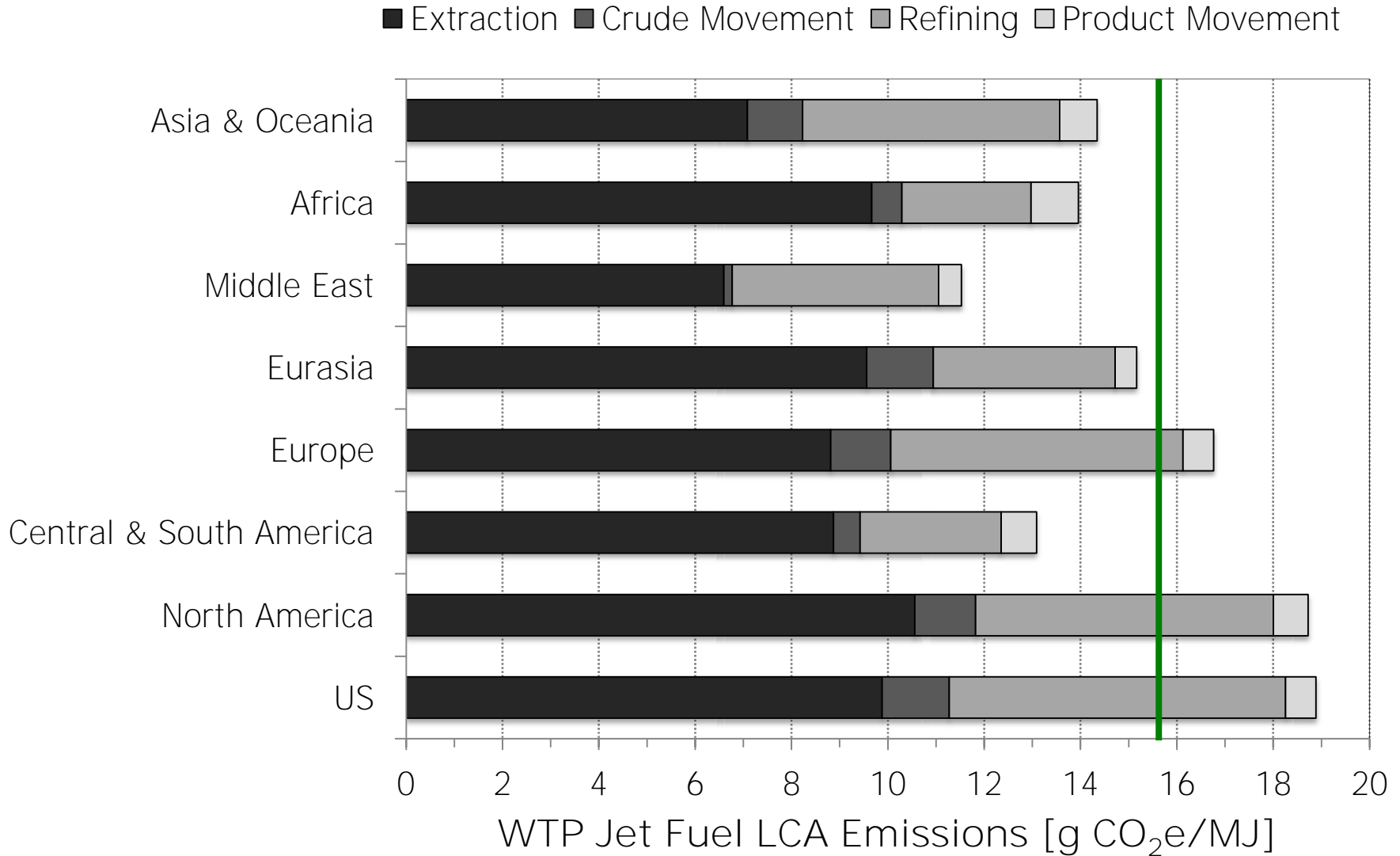
3. Refining

- Distillation**
 - Atmospheric
 - Vacuum
- Reforming**
- Hydrotreating**
 - Naphtha
 - Gasoline
 - Diesel
 - Kerosene
 - Gas oil
- Catalytic Cracking**
 - FCC
 - Hydrocracking
- Thermal Cracking**
 - Vis breaking
 - Coking
- Alkylation**
- Isomerization**
- Cogeneration**
- Flaring & Fugitive**

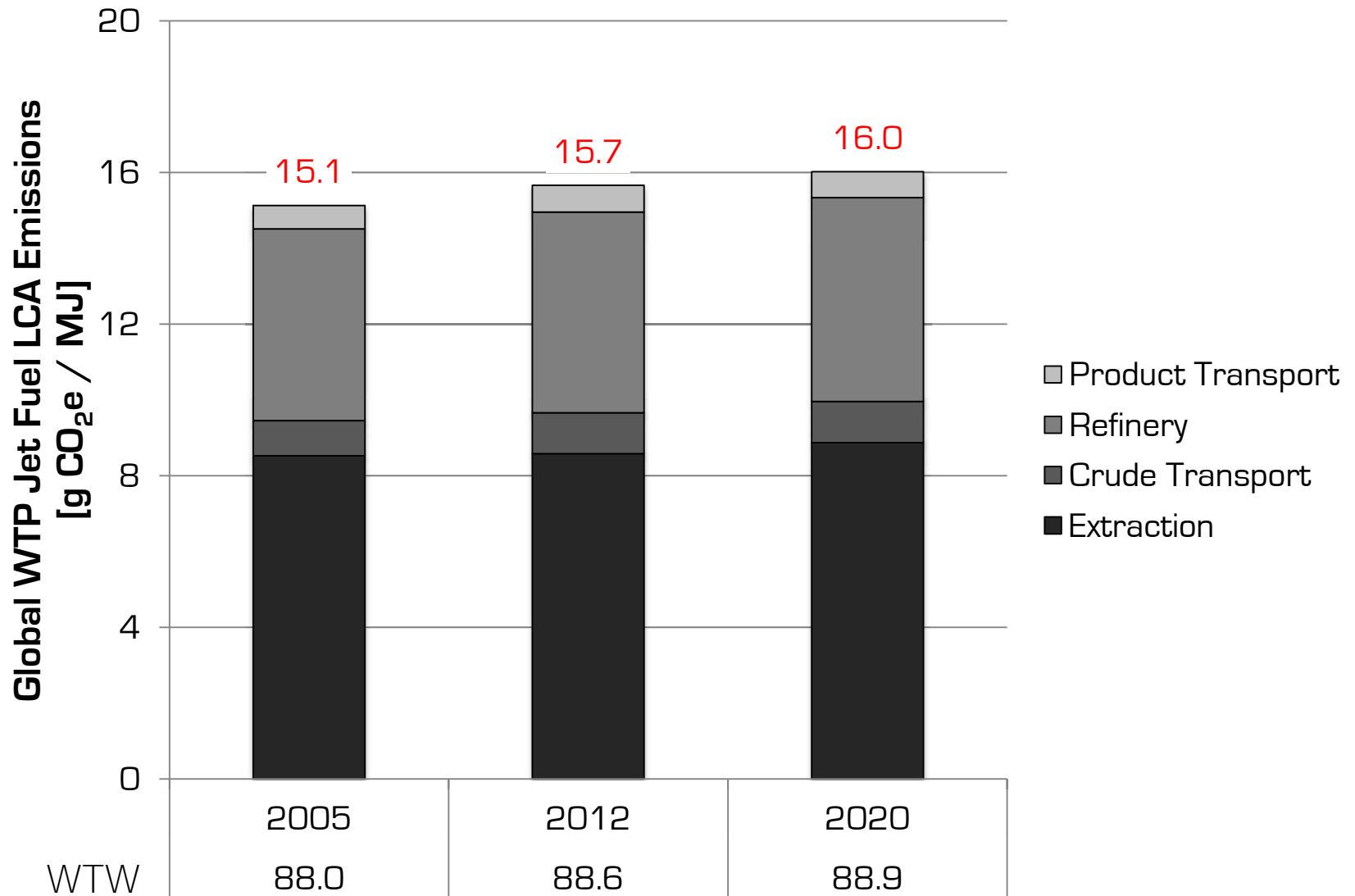
4. Product Movement

- Fuel Consumption**
 - Tankers
 - Pipeline
 - Rail
 - Trucks
 - Barge
- VOC Emission**
 - Loading
 - Transit
 - Ballasting

Regional Variation of WTP Emissions



Past and Near Future



2050 Approach

Identify key drivers of emissions
over petroleum lifecycle

Survey literature for projections on
how these factors may change by
2050

Create scenarios to represent
different coherent futures using
various factors

Calculate emissions using LCA
Model

Iterate

Scenario Descriptions

- Different futures are conceptualized, with policies used to reflect the approach taken towards environmental issues

Current Policies

- Use of unconventional resources unrestricted
- Electricity & hydrogen production remain carbonized
- Demand for petroleum products unabated

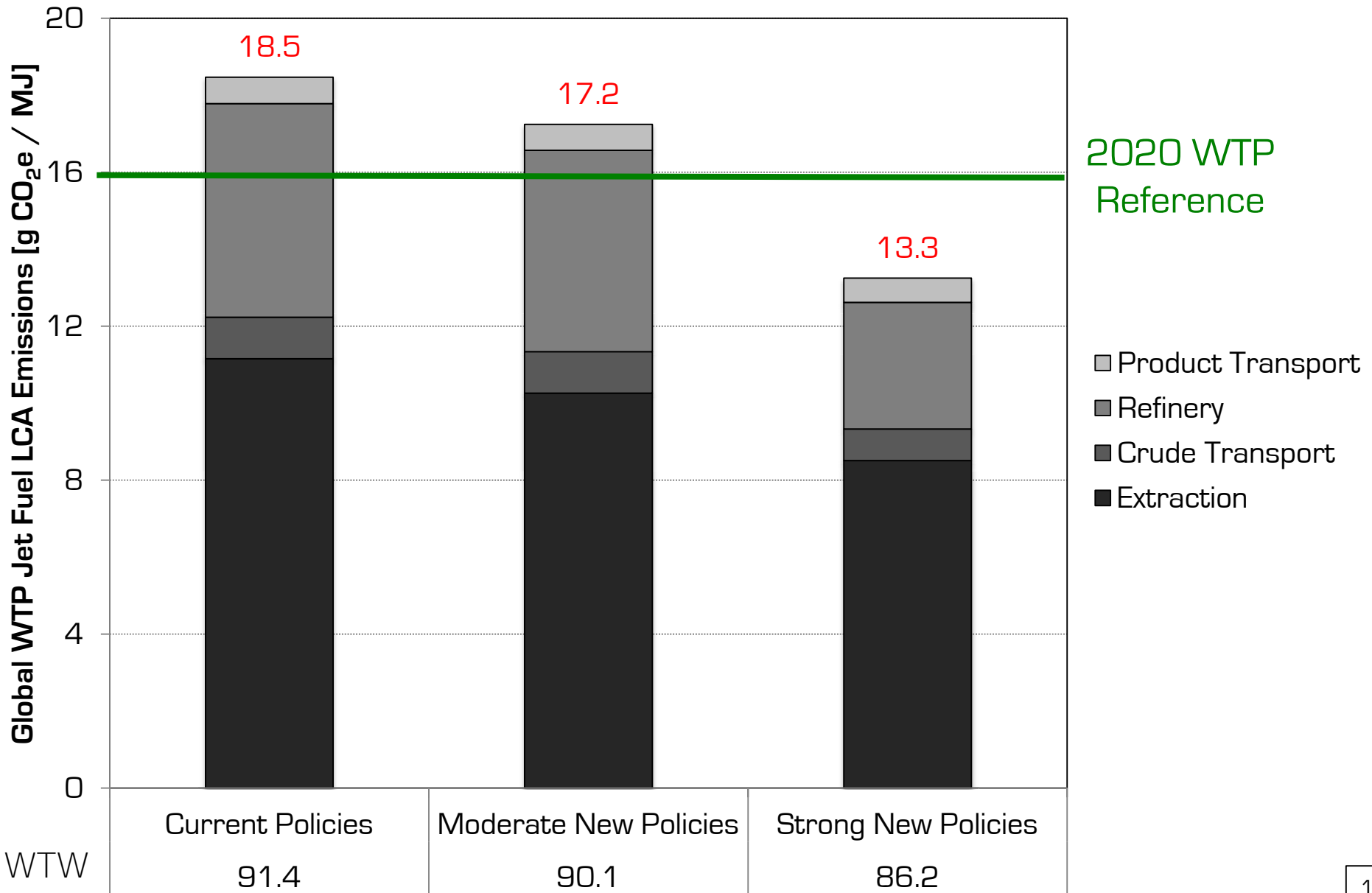
Moderate New Policies

- Use of unconventional resources moderately restricted
- Electricity & hydrogen production moderately decarbonized
- Diesel demand is reduced at a faster pace than jet fuel

Strong New Policies

- Use of unconventional resources strongly restricted and emissions reduced
- Electricity & hydrogen production heavily decarbonized
- Demand for all petroleum products strongly reduced

Results: 2050 Scenarios



Conclusions

- WTP emissions contribute ~20% of WTW emissions for petroleum-derived jet fuel
- This work informed ICAO CAEP in its adoption of the reference value for international jet fuel (89 g CO₂/MJ)
- Long-term future emissions are largely dependent on policies (within and beyond petroleum industry)
 - With current policies, operations are on track to increase WTP emissions by **2.5 g CO₂e/MJ above 2012 levels**
 - Adoption of de-carbonization measures may help to reduce 2050 WTP emission by **2.4 g CO₂e/MJ below 2012 levels**
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