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ABPDU, LBNL

**Advancing the Bioeconomy: From Waste to  
Conversion-Ready Feedstocks Workshop**

**02/20/2020**

# Landfill-designated waste streams: organics and post-consumer absorbent hygiene products (AHPs)

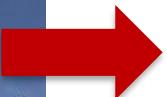
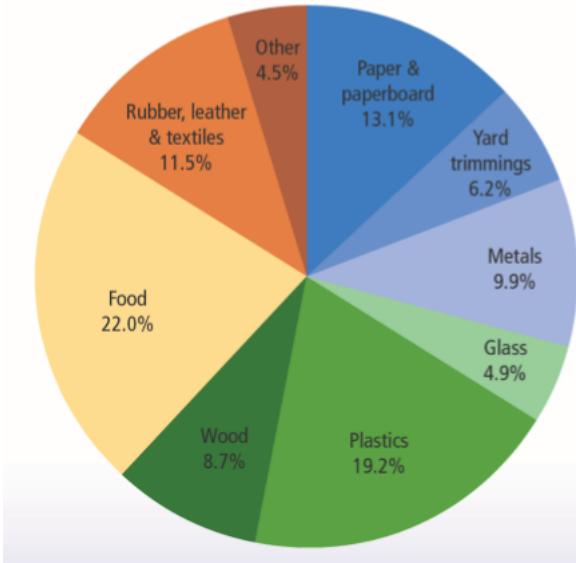


Figure 8. Total MSW Landfilled (by material), 2017  
139.6 Million Tons



Organics: ~ 30-50%

AHPs

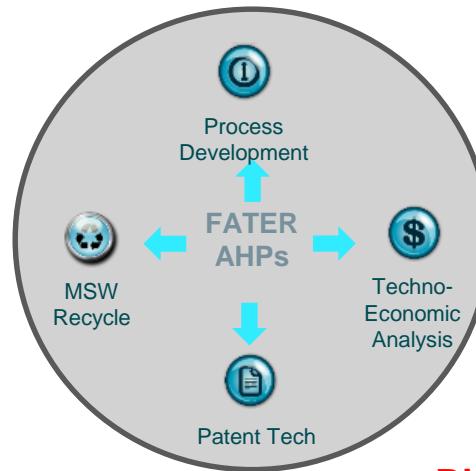


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# Upgrading and conversion of post-consumer AHPs



AHPs Collection  
↓  
Transport  
↓  
Sterilization  
↓  
Plastic Separation  
↓  
Mechanical Processing



## Mechanical processing

## Biological conversion



Liang et al. 2018, ACS Sustainable Chem. Eng. 6, 3589-3595.

Li et al. 2017, European Union Patent No. Patent Application# PCT/US2016/042863.

Thanks to the innovative technology – the first in the world – created by Fater, a single plant may now process about 10,000 metric tons of absorbent hygiene products per year, equal to waste produced by 1 million people. On October 25th 2017, at the company Contarina, in Treviso, we have launched the first-ever plant in the world able to recycle 100% of used absorbent hygiene products.

[VIRTUAL TOUR OF THE PLANT](#)

[OPEN THE INTERACTIVE MAP](#)



**"Once a challenge,  
now reality"**

**MARCELLO SOMMA**  
Head of R&D and Business Development

FaterSMART

## A PLANT, 100% RECYCLING

The first industrial plant in the world for 100% recycling of used absorbent hygiene products. The solution to the diaper end-of-life issue is now reality.

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Energy Efficiency &  
Renewable Energy

# Characterization and conversion of landfill-designated organic waste streams



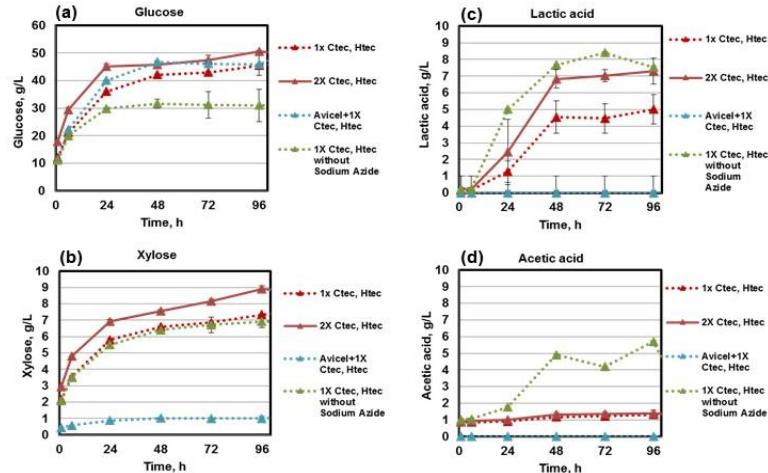
Food Waste



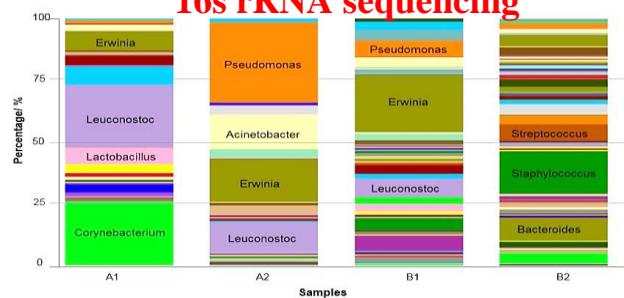
Paper Waste



biocatalysts



## 16s rRNA sequencing



## Major chemical composition of the sorted MSW streams

Sample	Moisture (%)	Glucan (%)	Xylan (%)	Lignin (%)	Ash (%)	Starch (%)	Others*
Paper-rich MSW	22.8	41.2	5.2	7.2	8.6	2.6	12.2
Food-rich MSW	63.2	7.8	0	5.5	6.8	4.1	10.4

Liang et al. manuscript submitted

Liang et al. U.S. Patent Application 62/578,248

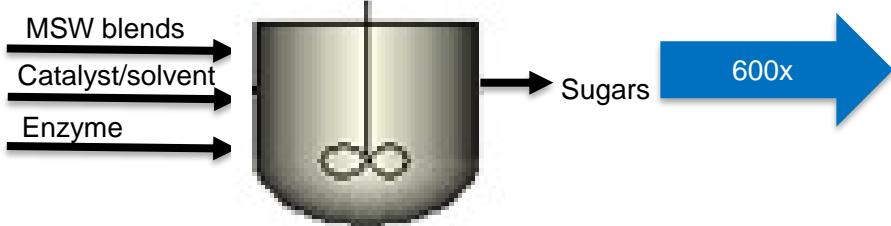


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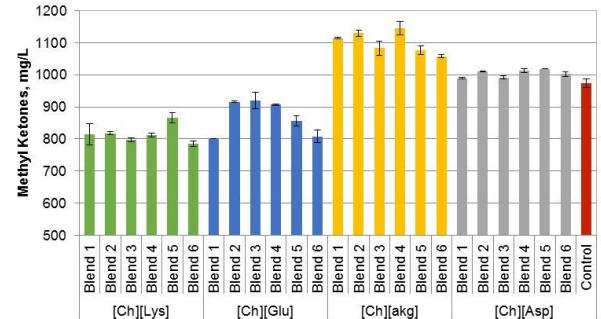
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# Municipal solid waste (MSW)+ lignocellulosic biomass blends conversion

INL: MSW blends



ABPDU: Deconstruction scale-up & Fermentation



SNL: Deconstruction

- The waste stream did not inhibit the conversion process compared to the regular lignocellulosic feedstocks

1) Sun et al, 2015, Bioresource Technology, 200. 2) Liang et al, 2017, RSC Advances, 36585.  
3) Li et al, 2017, Biotech. Biofuel. 2017, 10, 13. 4) Yan et al, 2019, ChemSusChem.



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