

# BETO's Leveraging Existing Bioenergy Data Virtual Workshop

## Open Forum Presentations (3x5)

# ALSTON & BIRD



## Intellectual Property Types, Eligibility, and Protection

Charles A. Naggar

Alston & Bird, LLP

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212-210-1275

# Intellectual Property

- Intellectual Property refers to Creations of the Mind
- Bioenergy Data and Intellectual Property
  - Ideas or Concepts
  - Methods
  - Standard Operation Procedures
  - Materials
  - Raw Data
  - Analysis and Impressions
  - Ideas for further experiments
  - Devices, machines, processes, applications, etc.





## Trade Secrets

Information that can give an opportunity to obtain an economic advantage. Typically includes recipes, customer lists, methodologies, procedures, etc.



## Copyrights

Legal rights to a creative work. Includes article publications, books, presentations, and other media.



## Trademarks

Used to identify and distinguish the seller of goods or services. For example, brand name or logo.



## Patents

Must be a “new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter.”  
Requires disclosure of the invention to receive exclusivity.  
Laws of Nature, physical phenomena, and abstract ideas are not patentable.  
Examples include application or device, but not raw data or mathematical equation.



# Intellectual Property as an Asset

- IP can be a company's greatest asset
- As a type of property, or asset, intellectual property can be sold and traded.

Trade Secrets	Copyright	Trademarks	Patents
Protect a company's know-how	Protects written and published media, and other forms of media	Protects branding and logos	Protects Inventions
Requires information be kept secret	Requires fixation and modicum of creativity	Requires use or intent to use	Must be novel, non-obvious
Can be indefinite	Life of author + 70 years	10 year renewal	20 Years from filing
Careful use of non-disclosure agreements	Typically narrow in scope	Distinctiveness; likelihood of confusion	Requires full public disclosure in exchange for protection



# Thank You



## Charles Naggar

Intellectual Property Litigation Attorney

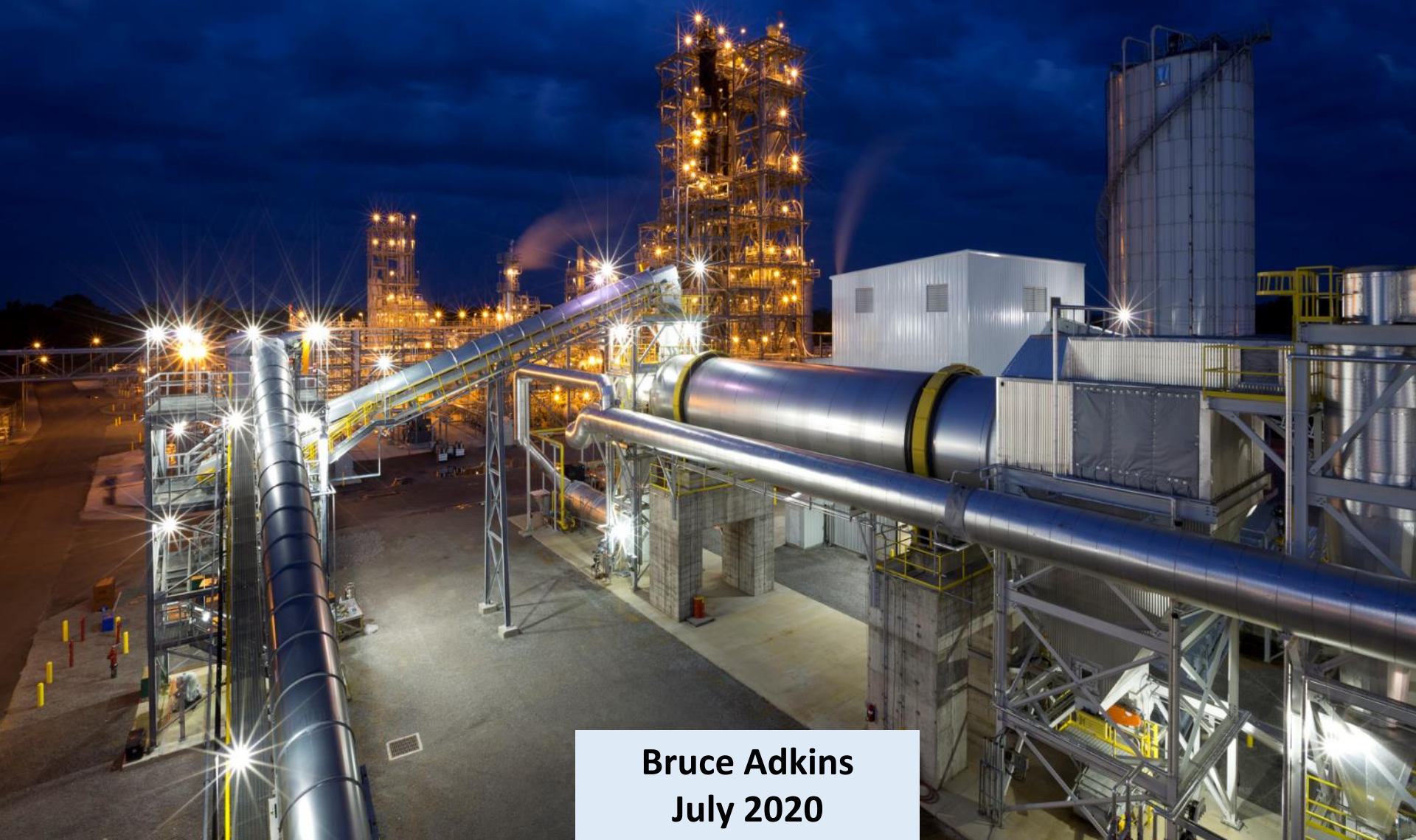
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[charles.naggar@alston.com](mailto:charles.naggar@alston.com)

212-210-1275

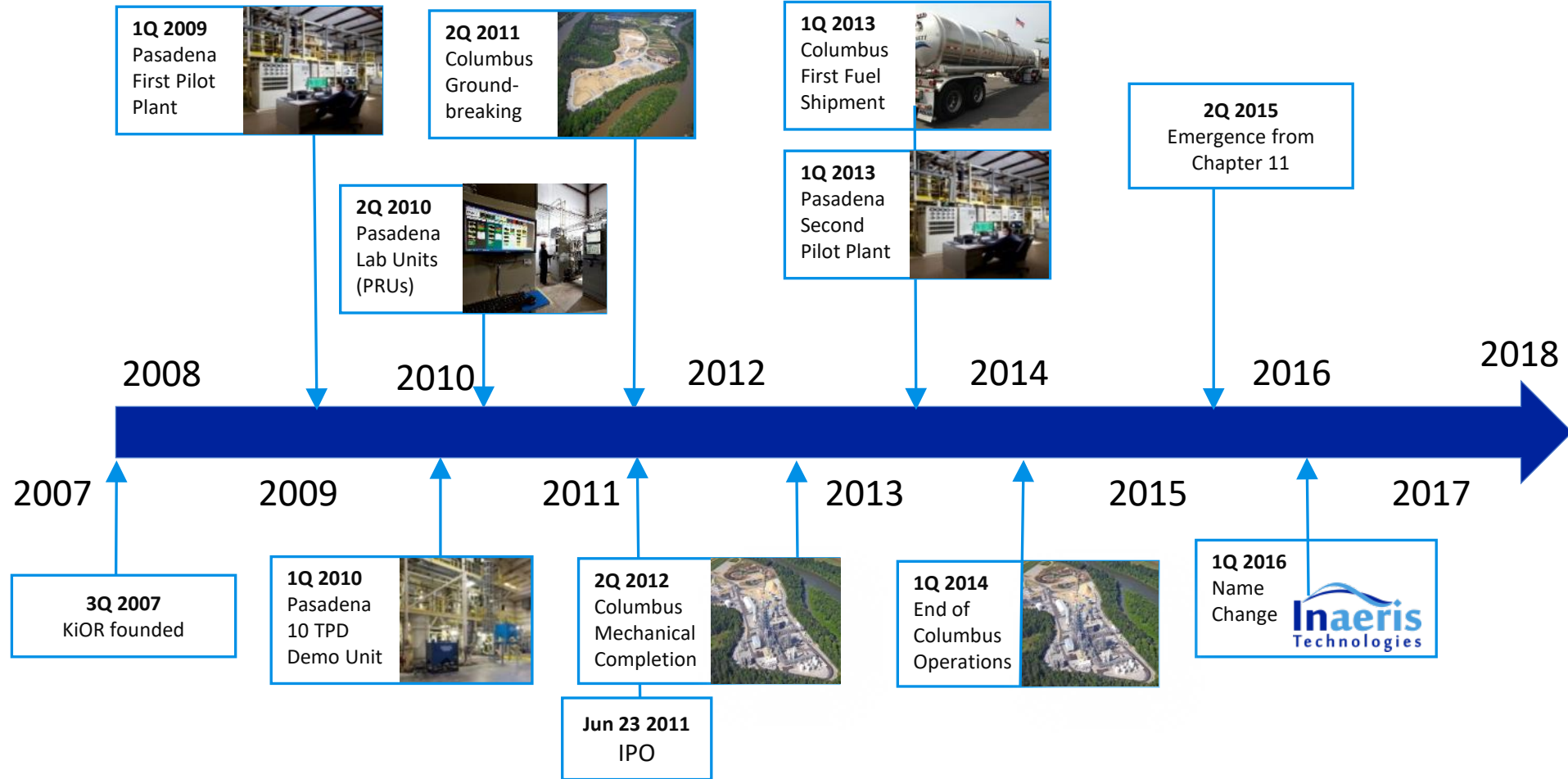


# Existing Data 3x5



**Bruce Adkins**  
**July 2020**

# Timeline



**Funding: All VC & IPO**





***Clockwise From Top Left***

**500 TPD Plant**

**2 KCR Pilot-Plants**

**10 TPD Demo Unit**

**3 PRU Batch Units**

***Two  
Hydrotreating  
Pilot-Plants (not  
shown)***



# Databases & IP

113 + Patents  
KiOR → Inaeris

PRU x 3  
2,500 Cats  
9,000 Tests

KCR x 2  
50,000 Hrs  
20,000 MBs  
7 Test  
Formats

Pilot  
H-treaters x  
2  
Hundreds of  
Tests

Analytical  
Catalysts  
Oils  
Biomass  
10 TPD  
Demo Unit  
18,000 Hrs

500 TPD  
Plant  
15 Months  
Analytical  
Catalysts  
Oils  
Biomass

# Scale-Up Data: A Hidden Asset

Joe Sagues, PhD

Assistant Professor

Biocarbon Utilization & Sequestration (BUS) Lab

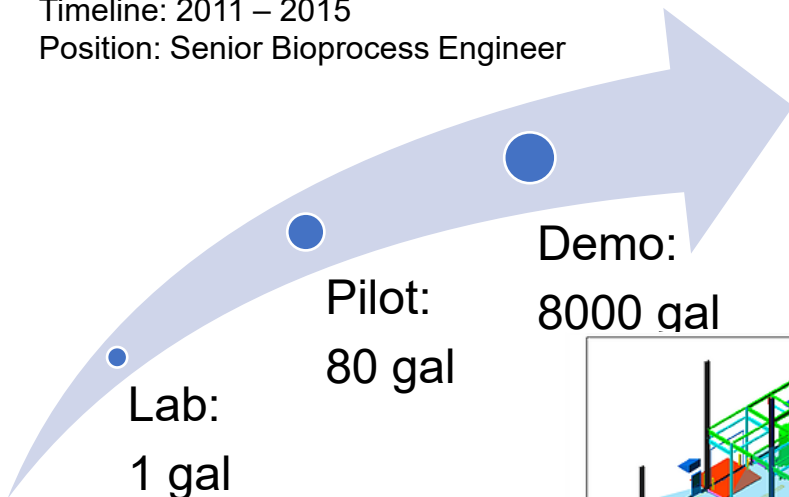
Biological & Agricultural Engineering

North Carolina State University

# Cellulosic Ethanol Scale-Up

Timeline: 2011 – 2015

Position: Senior Bioprocess Engineer



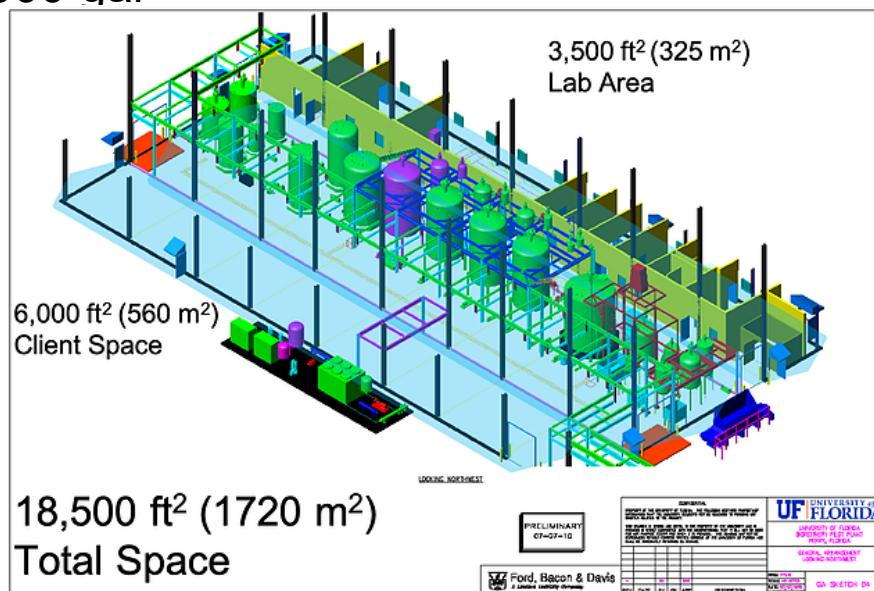
Lab:  
1 gal

Pilot:  
80 gal

Demo:  
8000 gal



Lonnie Ingram, PhD



# Scale-Up Data: A Hidden Asset

- One techno-economic assessment published
  - K. Gubicza, Z. Barta, I. U. Nieves, **W. J. Sagues**, K. T. Shanmugam, L. O. Ingram. 2016. “Techno-economic analysis of ethanol production from sugarcane bagasse using a Liquefaction plus Simultaneous Saccharification and Co-Fermentation process” *Bioresource Technology* (IF: 5.807), 208, 42-48  
[Link](#)
- Qualitative and quantitative process data not available to public
- Lessons learned from failed biorefineries – critical for the bioeconomy
- Academic journal, special edition focused on disseminating data from failed biorefinery deployments?

# Integrated Technology-to-Market Framework

## Fundamental Research

## Applied Research

## Techno-Economic Assessment

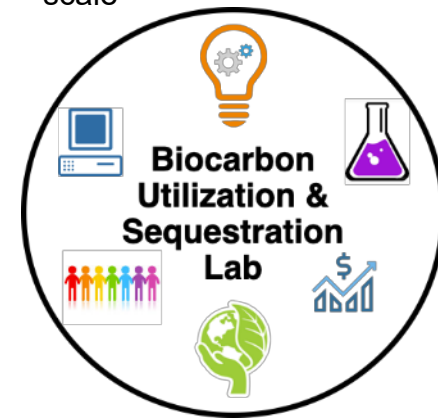
## Bio-Industrial System Modeling

## Bioproduct Life-Cycle Assessment

## Scale-Up Commercialization



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conversion pathway ✓</li> <li>• Thermodynamic limitations ✓</li> <li>• Catalyst design ✓</li> <li>• Product discovery ✓</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Process synthesis and modeling ✓</li> <li>• Reactor design ✓</li> <li>• Screening &amp; optimization ✓</li> <li>• Product development ✓</li> <li>• Nonideal scenario ✗</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capital costs ✓</li> <li>• Operating costs ✓</li> <li>• Comprehensive sensitivity &amp; uncertainty ✗</li> <li>• Technology readiness ✗</li> <li>• Coproduct validation ✗</li> <li>• Rate of return ✗</li> <li>• Policy incentives ✓</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Market analysis ✗</li> <li>• Competing technologies ✓</li> <li>• Geospatial analysis ✗</li> <li>• Policy uncertainty ✗</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Goal &amp; scope ✗</li> <li>• Inventory analysis ✗</li> <li>• Public health effects ✗</li> <li>• Environmental impact ✗</li> <li>• Public perception ✗</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pilot-scale ✓</li> <li>• Demo-scale ✓</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Product launch ✗</li> </ul>
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wjsagues@ncsu.edu

<https://www.sagueslab.com/>



# Knowledge Representation to Capture Lessons Learned in Bioprocessing

Deepti Tanjore

07/21/2020

# Knowledge Shared Early On

Responses are triggered by the system within minutes  
If there is input from the user, system will suggest conditions

## I. ORGANISM

- Host Species

## II. PROCESS CONDITIONS

- Temperature  °C
- Agitation
  - Fixed agitation (Setpoint)  RPM
  - Cascade mode (Min / Max)  /  RPM
- Aeration rate  LPM
- Dissolved oxygen (DO)  %
- Inoculum size  % (v/ v)
- pH
  - Setpoint
  - Controlled  (Y/ N)

*Did you mean - Aspergillus niger ? (5 entries available)  
- Aspergillus terreus ? (1 entry available)*



# Knowledge Shared Early On

**I. ORGANISM**

- Host Species

**II. PROCESS CONDITIONS**

- Temperature  °C
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Page 1

Responses are triggered by the system within minutes  
If there is input from the user, system will suggest conditions

*Did you mean - Aspergillus niger ? (5 entries available)  
- Aspergillus terreus ? (1 entry available)*

**Great choice!**: 4 out of 5 entries chose 30°C for *A. niger*  
Only 1 used 28 °C

→ learn more about each process

e.g. #1: Carried out by [Jon.doe@lbl.gov](mailto:Jon.doe@lbl.gov)  
[\[Link to profile\]](#)

**Warning (1):**

**4 % (v/v)** can result in long lag phase and contamination;  
→ 5% or higher inoculum size is recommended ([ABPDU study #4](#))

If **Yes**, recommendations for Acid/Base + Concentration

e.g. Two entries used 3.5 N H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and 5 N NaOH  
Three entries used 3.5 N H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and 3 N NH<sub>4</sub>OH

# Knowledge Shared Early On

## IV. FEED

- Feed

## IV. MICROBIOLOGY

- Expected By-Products
- Morphology
- Expected Growth rate
- Biomass Determination

## V. DOWNSTREAM PROCESSING

- |                               | Product | <input type="text" value="Protein"/> |
|-------------------------------|---------|--------------------------------------|
| • Product recovery desired    |         | <input type="text"/>                 |
| • Purity desired              |         | <input type="text"/>                 |
| • Exploitable Characteristics |         | <input type="text"/>                 |

Page 3

Responses are triggered by the system within minutes  
If there is input from the user, system will suggest conditions

### **Warning (5):**

**Ethanol** might serve as carbon source;

→ No DO spike after glucose depletion. Do not overfeed with glucose (“Crab-Tree Effect”)

→ Consider starvation strategy

→ Review [Wehrs et al., 2018](#) and “[Crab-Tree Effect](#)”

### **Warning (6):**

**Varied**: Pay close attention to preculture settings (shaking speed, working volumes) → preculture determines morphology

### **Warning (7): – Two Interacting Parameter Levels**

**Slow growth and Low Inoculum size**: High risk of contamination / Consider larger inoculation size

### **Warning (8) – Two Interacting Parameter Levels**

Gravimetric biomass determination: Difficult to take representative samples with *A. niger*!

If hydrolysate feed has any solid content; it may interfere with gravimetric biomass measurements

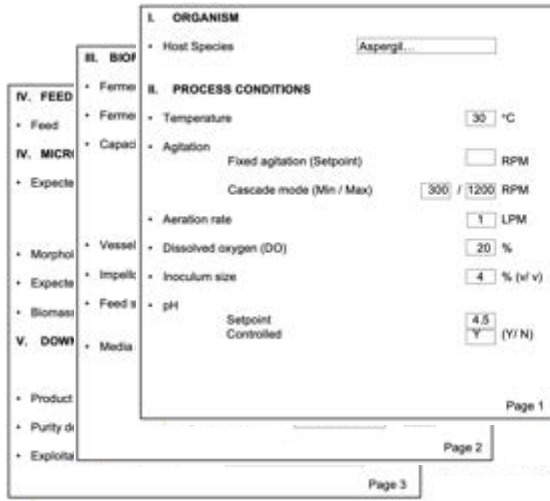
### **Warning (9):**

Protein titer may be compromised by degradation through proteases; ensure high glucose conc. throughout the run, to prevent protein losses

Recommendations for DSP techniques

(DSC, TFF with membrane size, that worked for *A. Niger*)

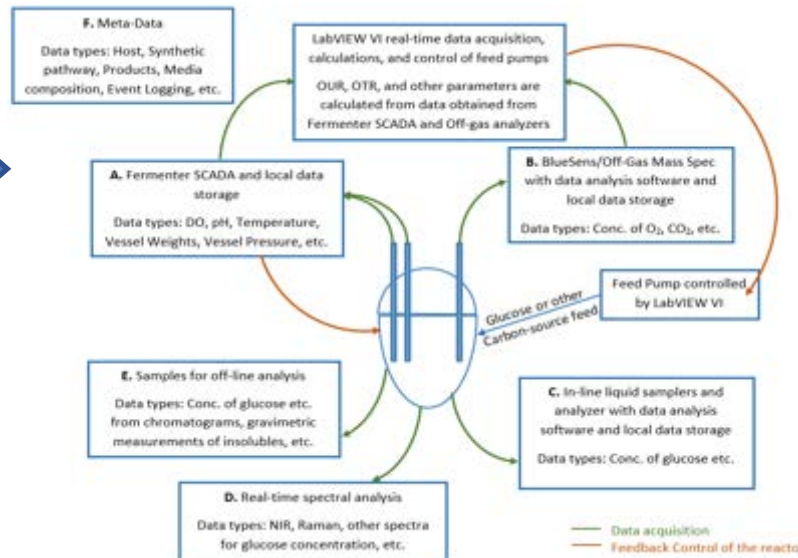
# Minimizing Repetition of “Failed” studies



Knowledge Representation to re-use acquired data



Identifying Experiment Process Conditions and Designing Good Studies



Data acquisition, including metadata and anecdotal information



# Beyond Designing Experiments

- Operational Lessons more difficult to Preserve – Cannot Publish
- No IP associated with them

ABPDU - Lawre...  
Deepti Tanjore

Threads  
Mentions & reactions  
Drafts  
Saved items  
Channel browser  
People  
Apps  
Files  
Show less

#ferm-projects ☆  
29 | Add a topic



June 4th, 2018



**anarani** 2:50 PM

Hi All, as you know seed2 (50L scale) for silver got contaminated on Friday. We speculated it could be because air got introduced into the reactor after SIP water was drained. Also, media was filter sterilized outside and then pumped into the reactor.

To resolve this issue second time round we made sterile connection going into metal container which was connected to sample port. After SIP with water, We left 8 kg water in the reactor drained rest into the sterile metal container. That way reactor was not exposed for a bit and then we added filter sterilized media to the reactor. No contamination second time round which was confirmed by microscope.

Lesson learned: don't drain tank completely after SIP, encourage clients to perform steam sterilization of media at 50L scale especially in the processes where there is no antibiotics.

# ***Data Qualification Framework***

**Leveraging Existing Bioenergy Data Workshop  
July 2020**

**Rachel Emerson - INL**

[www.inl.gov](http://www.inl.gov)



# Data Qualification System

## Background

- Originally developed as a data qualification system for the [Bioenergy Feedstock Library](#)
  - Provide data users a **means of assessing data quality** based on user driven quality metrics.
  - Give users information regarding **common data quality metrics** to determine and assess the data quality.

## Potential Use

- Same type of quality assessment framework could be potentially applied to other databases and/or datasets for common assessment.
- Provide metric for assessment of appropriateness of data for various uses.

## *Data Qualification Methodology*

- Seven data qualifier categories were developed and posed in a question format in order to generate a True/False response.
  - **Methodology:** Assessment of specific analytical methods used
  - **Standards:** Availability of standards or controls
  - **Replication:** Availability and representation of replicate data
  - **Specification:** Availability of method specific specification requirements
  - **Preparation:** Availability of information of samples meeting method specific preparation (physical formats)
  - **Sample History:** Historical metadata for sample origination
  - **Primary Qualification:** Data qualification provided by original researcher or group
- Provide data qualification justification along with True/False identifier for each qualified datapoint.

# Data Qualification Example

	<b>Sample 1</b>	<b>Justification</b>
Data Point	SiO <sub>2</sub> (% in Ash)	
Analytical Methodology	ASTM based	
Methodology	TRUE	Standard method
Standards	FALSE	Not available
Replication	FALSE	Not available
Specification	FALSE	Unknown
Preparation	TRUE	Samples in methodology specified format
History	TRUE	Ancestry and metadata available
Primary Qualifier	FALSE	Data collected at external lab





# Building Fungal and Algal Multi-omics

***Igor Grigoriev***

*Program Head, Fungal and Algal Genomics*  
US Department of Energy Joint Genome Institute,  
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

<[ivgrigoriev@lbl.gov](mailto:ivgrigoriev@lbl.gov)>

# 1500+ Fungal Genomes in MycoCosm



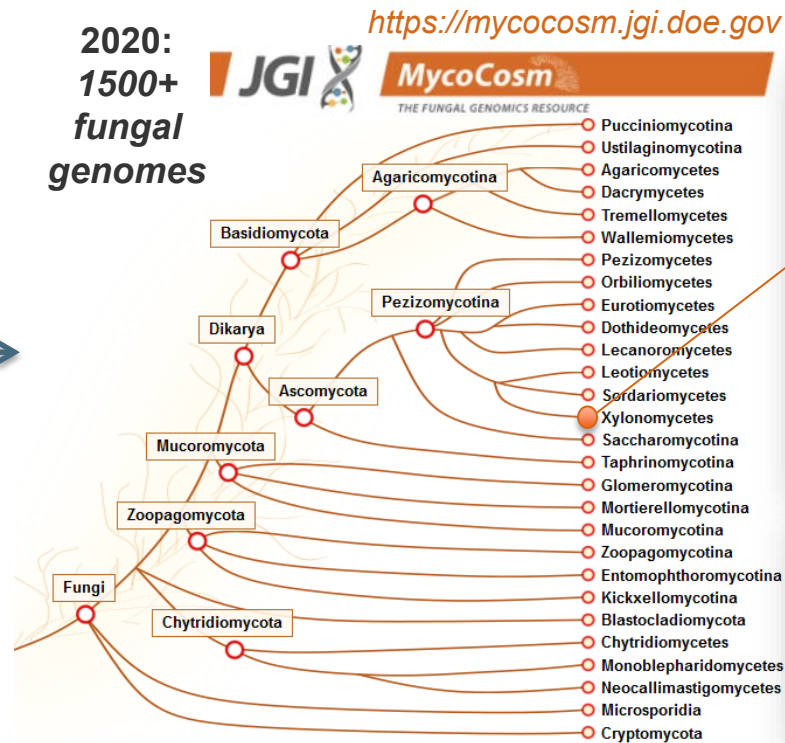
JGI provides users around the world with access, at no cost, to high-throughput capabilities including DNA sequencing, synthesis, metabolomics, and data analysis through Community Science Program (CSP) calls for proposals: <https://jgi.doe.gov/user-programs/program-info/how-to-propose-a-csp-project/>

2004:  
1<sup>st</sup> fungal genome  
published



White rot fungus  
*Phanerochaete chrysosporium*

2020:  
1500+  
fungal  
genomes



**Xylonomycetes (3 genomes)**

- Tree
- Search
- BLAST
- PFAM Domains
- Secondary Metabolism Clusters
- CAZymes
- Peptidases
- Transporters
- Transcription Factors
- MCL Clusters
- Download
- Nominate new Species
- Symbiotaphrina kochii v1.0
- Trinosporium guianense CBS132537 v1.0
- Xylona heveae TC161 v1.0

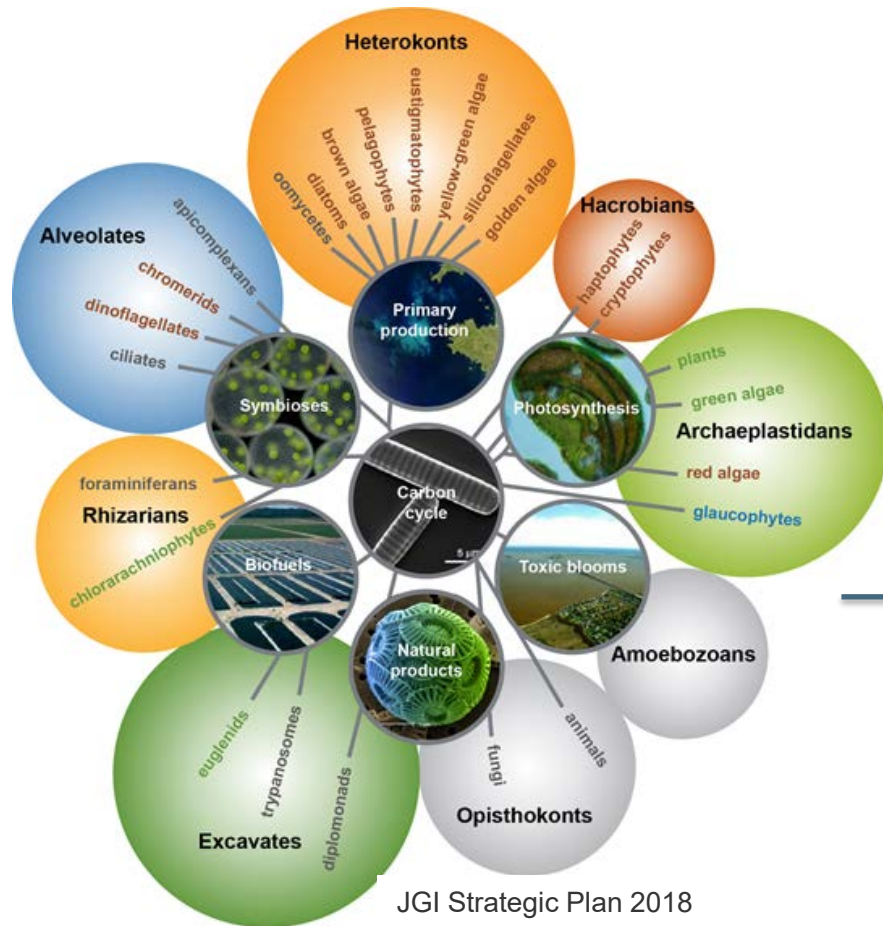
Nucleotide conservation with Trinosporium guianense CBS132537 v1.0

4: 6268 transcripts in catalog per Thu May 11 20:25:00 2023

Protein domain HMM alignments

nr\_fungi protein Blast alignment

# New Strategic Focus on Algal Genomics

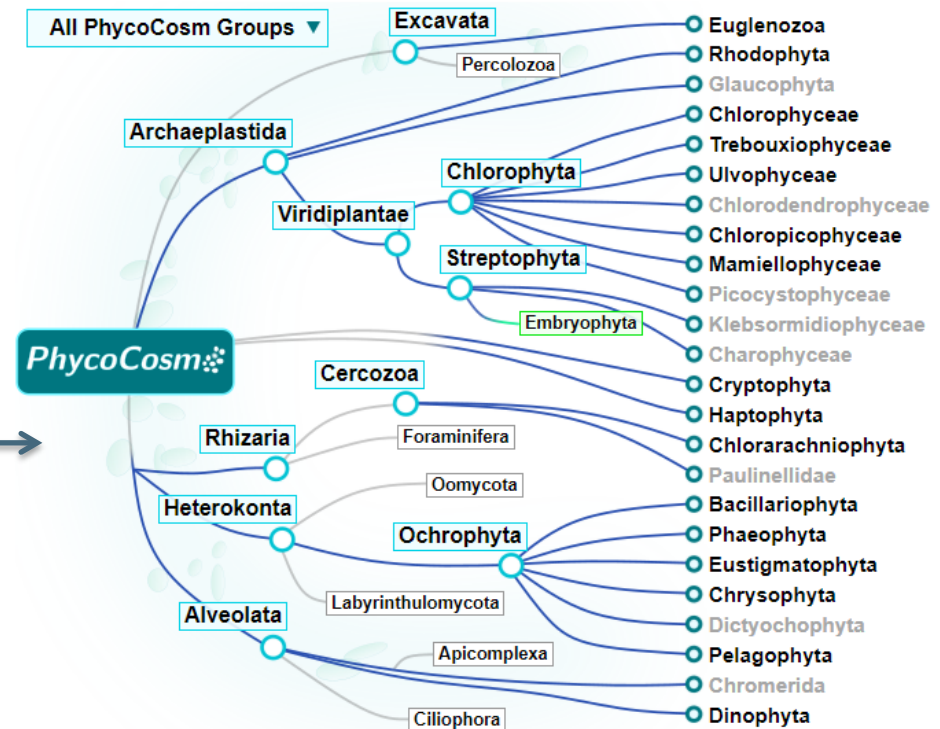


JGI Strategic Plan 2018

<https://phyocosm.jgi.doe.gov>

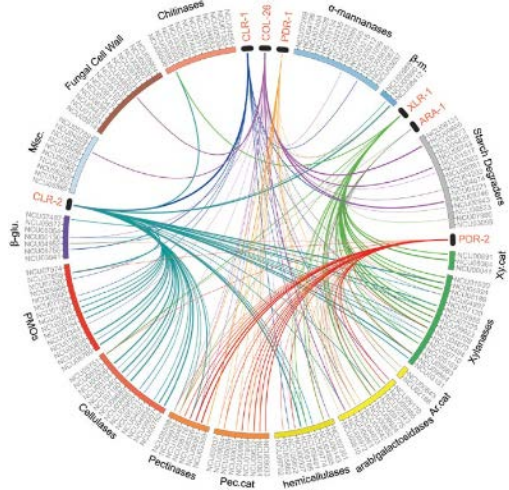
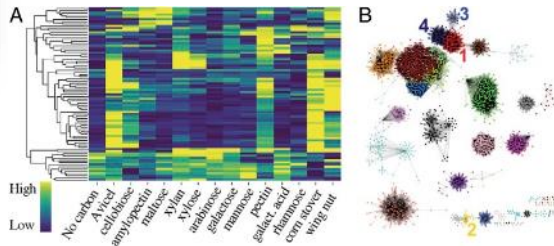
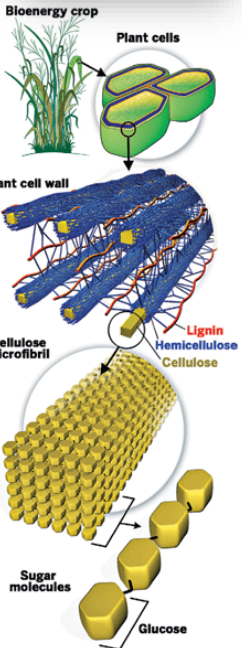


50+ algal genomes



# Towards Multi-omics and Predictive Modeling

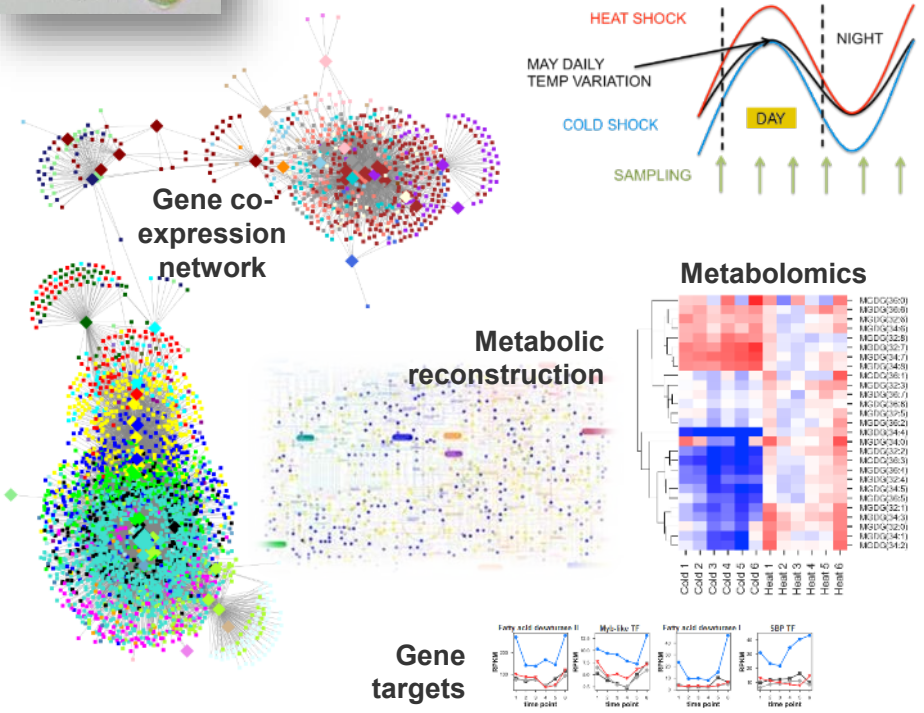
## Regulation of carbon metabolism in model fungus *Neurospora crassa* (KO, ChIP-Seq, RNA-Seq, DAP-Seq)



Wu et al, PNAS 2020



## Gene target identification for algal strain improvement using multi-omics data (genome, transcriptome, metabolome)



Calhoun et al, in preparation

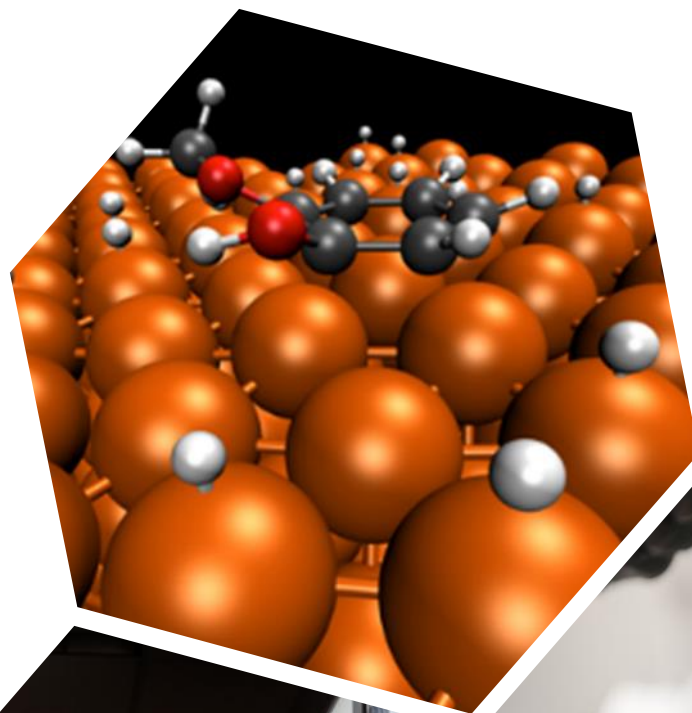


**ChemCatBio**  
Chemical Catalysis for Bioenergy

# Computational Catalyst Property Database and Catalyst Deactivation

## Leveraging Existing Bioenergy Data Workshop

Carrie Farberow, Kurt Van Allsburg, Nalinrat Guba, Nick Wunder, Matt Jankousky, Sean Tacey, Kris Munch, Josh Schaidle



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

Office of ENERGY EFFICIENCY  
& RENEWABLE ENERGY

BIOENERGY TECHNOLOGIES OFFICE

# Catalysis R&D to Enable Bioenergy

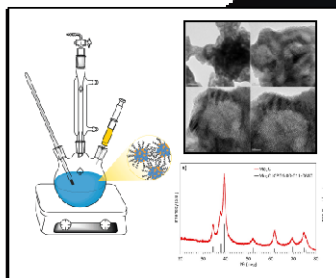
## Foundational Science

Enables hypothesis-driven catalyst design

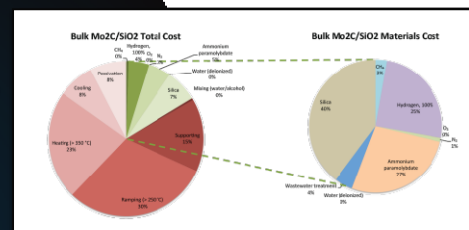
## Applied Engineering

Enables evaluation of key process metrics and deactivation

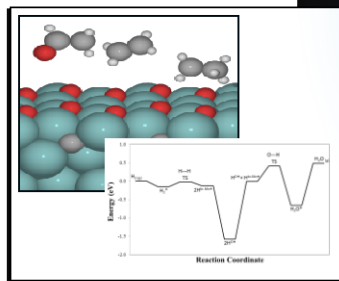
Advanced  
Synthesis and  
Characterization



Catalyst Cost Estimation (*CatCost*)  
Techno-economic Analysis



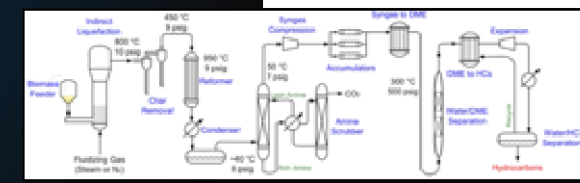
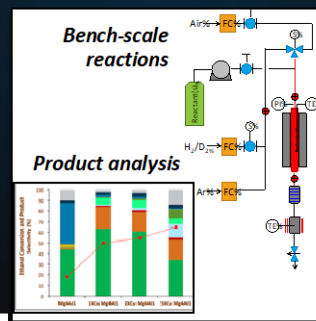
Theory



Computational Catalysis Data

- *Expensive*: Generated using high-performance computing resources
- *Redundant*: Typically recalculated by researchers for application of interest

Performance  
Evaluation



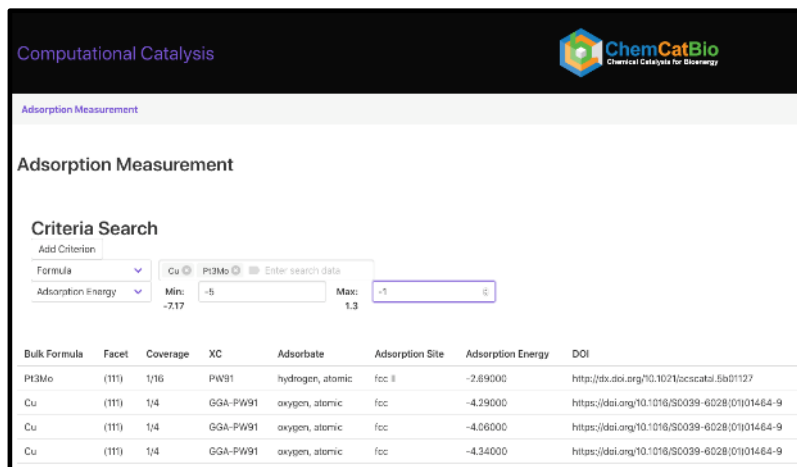
Catalyst Scaling and  
Integrated Testing

Evaluating Catalyst Deactivation

- *Relevance*: Catalyst deactivation limits biorefinery performance
- *Complexity*: Deactivation is a function of biomass composition and reaction conditions

# Database Data Acquisition

## Computational Catalyst Property Database Web Application



Computational Catalysis

ChemCatBio  
Chemical Catalysts for Bioenergy

Adsorption Measurement

Criteria Search

Formula: Cu Pt3Mo Enter search data

Adsorption Energy: Min: -7.17 Max: 1.3

Bulk Formula	Facet	Coverage	XC	Adsorbate	Adsorption Site	Adsorption Energy	DOI
Pt3Mo	(111)	1/16	PW91	hydrogen, atomic	fcc II	-2.69000	<a href="http://dx.doi.org/10.1021/bcscatal.5b01127">http://dx.doi.org/10.1021/bcscatal.5b01127</a>
Cu	(111)	1/4	GGA-PW91	oxygen, atomic	fcc	-4.29000	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/S0039-6028(01)01464-9">https://doi.org/10.1016/S0039-6028(01)01464-9</a>
Cu	(111)	1/4	GGA-PW91	oxygen, atomic	fcc	-4.06000	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/S0039-6028(01)01464-9">https://doi.org/10.1016/S0039-6028(01)01464-9</a>
Cu	(111)	1/4	GGA-PW91	oxygen, atomic	fcc	-4.34000	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/S0039-6028(01)01464-9">https://doi.org/10.1016/S0039-6028(01)01464-9</a>

## Existing Data Source:

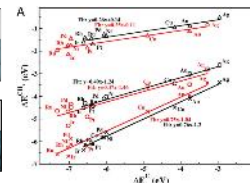
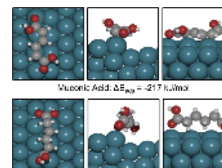
- Peer-reviewed scientific journal articles

### Tables

### Figures

### Plots

### Text



Ag(111),

tively on Pd(111) or

## Current/Future Data Source:

- Direct entry by researchers
- Extract and upload from calculation file output
- Automate for high-throughput calculations

## Data Acquisition Plans and Challenges

- Literature mining
  - Challenge: time-consuming, accuracy of interpretation
- Development of automated tools for extraction and upload
  - Challenge: variability in software/file types, variability in researcher workflows
- Engage data generators (i.e., researchers) to upload their data
  - Compensation in form of data visibility and citations
  - Challenges: buy-in, data quality

ACS Catal. (2013) 3, 1622; Joule (2019) 3, 2219; Phys. Rev. Lett. (2007) 99, 016105; J. Catal. (2019) 377, 577

# Evaluating Catalyst Deactivation

**Significance:** Catalyst deactivation is a cross-cutting challenge in bioenergy applications that hinders biorefinery performance (i.e., onstream time, operating capacity, and cost)

**ChemCatBio Goal:** Understand and address catalyst deactivation for biomass conversion to extend catalyst lifetime and limit process upsets

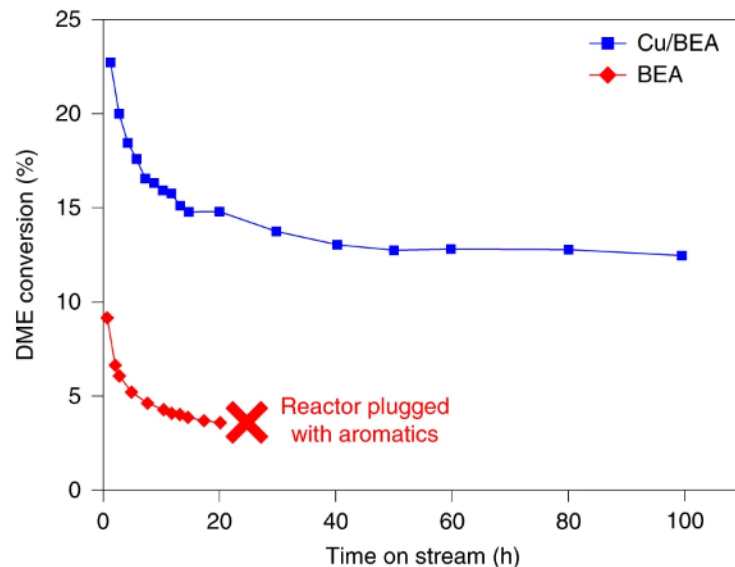
→ Develop mitigation strategies and regeneration protocols

**Challenge:** Multiple modes of catalyst deactivation exist, and they are a function of *feedstock properties, operating conditions, catalyst formulation, and time on stream*

→ Peer-reviewed publications often have limited focus on catalyst deactivation and do not typically run under realistic operating conditions over long time periods

**Key Question:** How could we collect datasets from the bioenergy industry regarding catalyst performance under realistic operating conditions to guide and inform our development of deactivation mitigation strategies and regeneration protocols?

## Example of Catalyst Deactivation





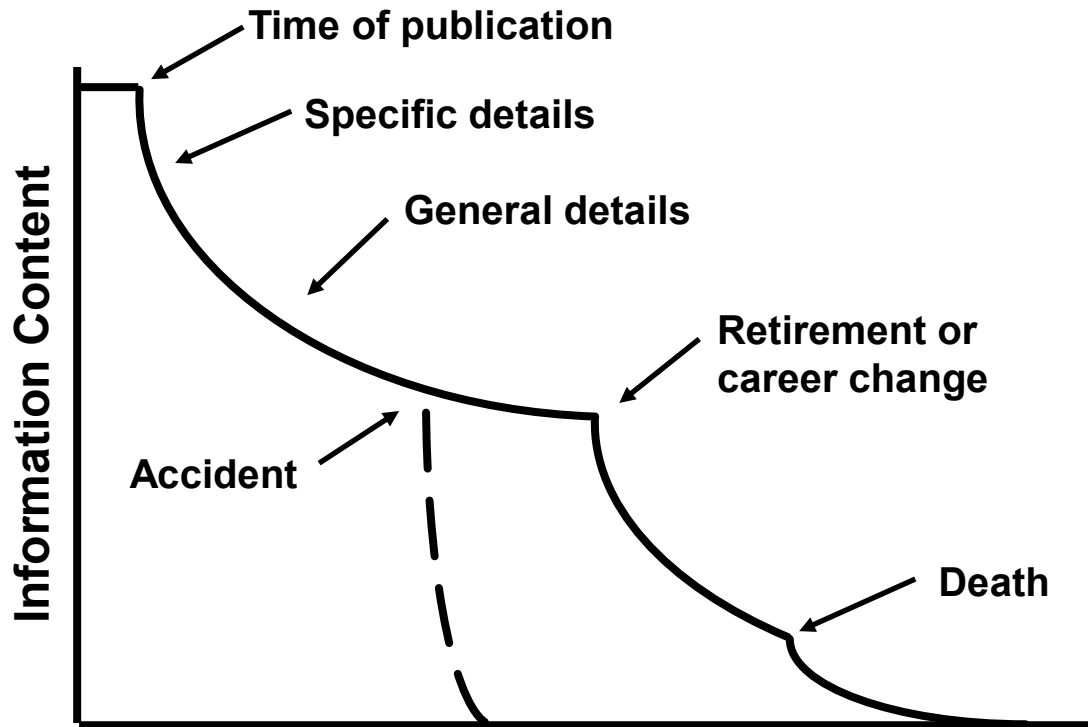
# Time and the Value of Data

Bruce E. Wilson  
Environmental Sciences Division

Leveraging Existing Bioenergy Data Workshop  
21 July 2020

ORNL is managed by UT-Battelle, LLC for the US Department of Energy

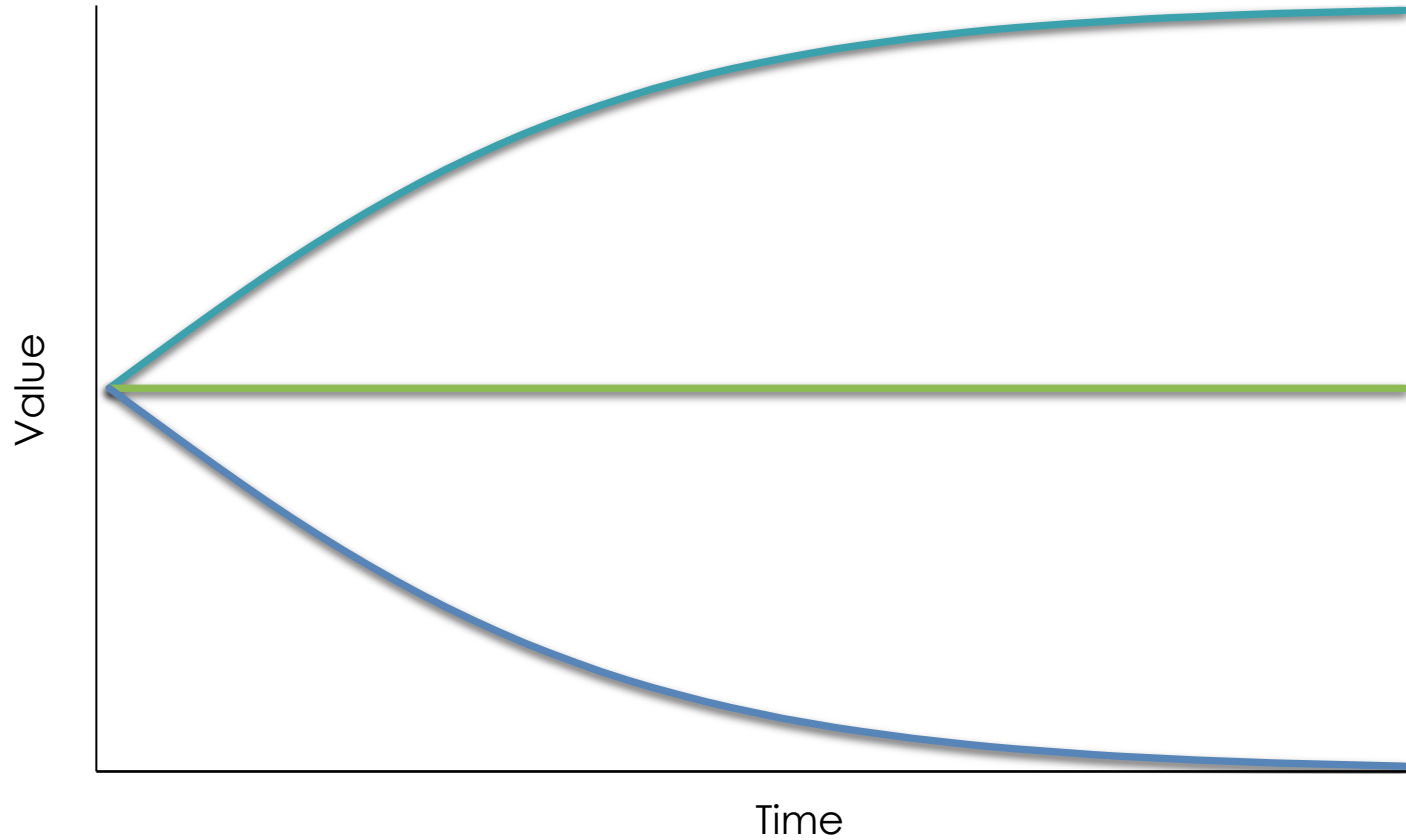
# How much of the possible value is available?



(Michener et al. 1997)

doi:10.1890/1051-0761(1997)007[0330:NMFES]2.0.CO;2

# How does value change over time?



# How does value change as the collection grows?



Image Credit: Wikimedia Commons user: Bourrichon  
Used under Creative Commons Share Alike 3.0



## Generating and Transferring Technology to Filling Knowledge Gaps

**Vijaya Gopal Kakani**  
**Warth Distinguished Professor**  
**Crops, Energy & Climate**  
**Oklahoma State University**  
**Stillwater, OK**

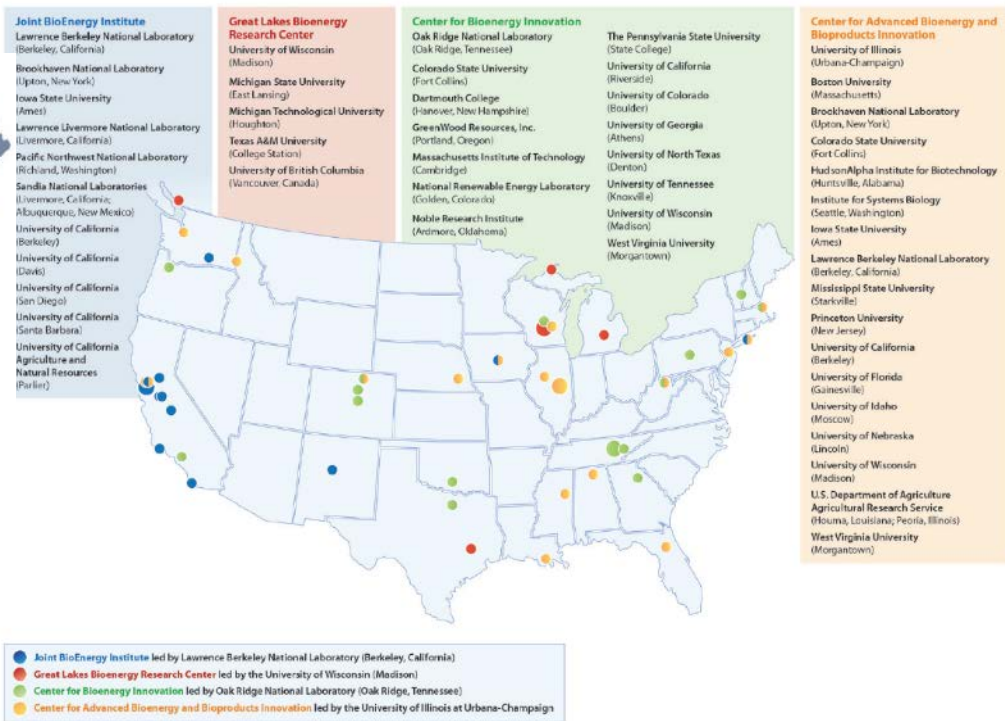




## Generating and Transferring Technology

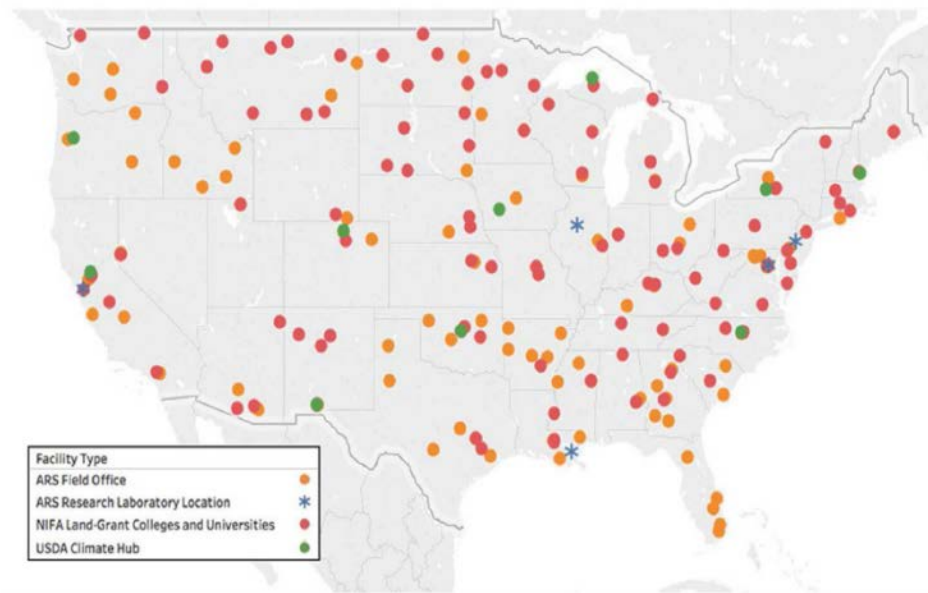
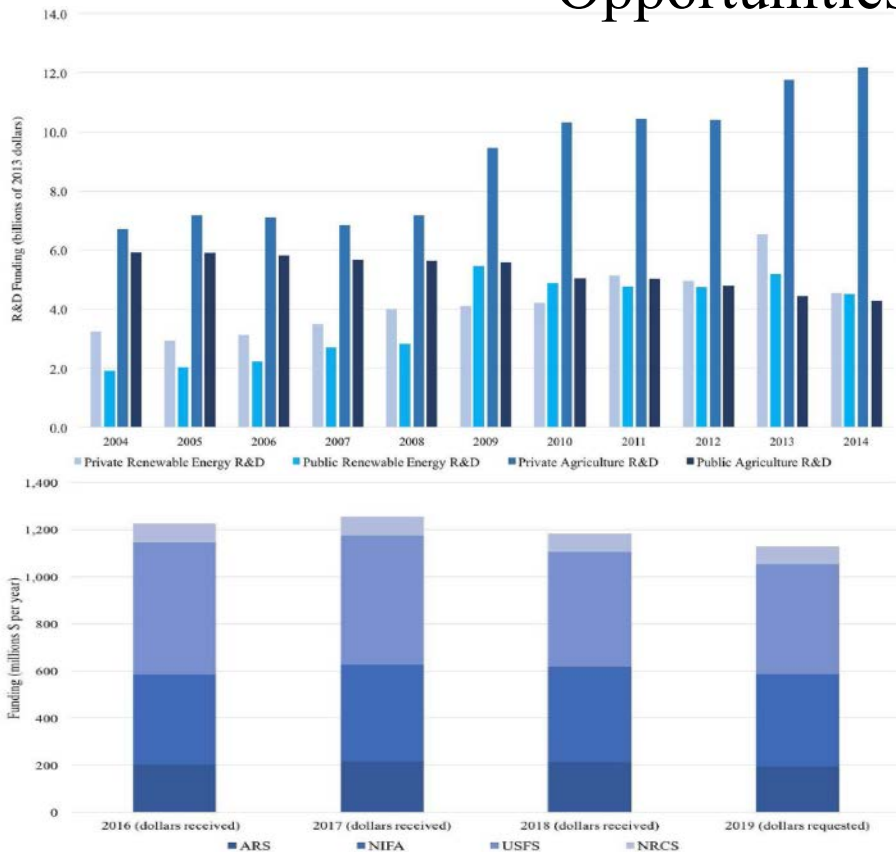
### DOE Bioenergy Research Centers and Partners

[genomicscience.energy.gov/biofuels/](http://genomicscience.energy.gov/biofuels/)





## Opportunities for Connections

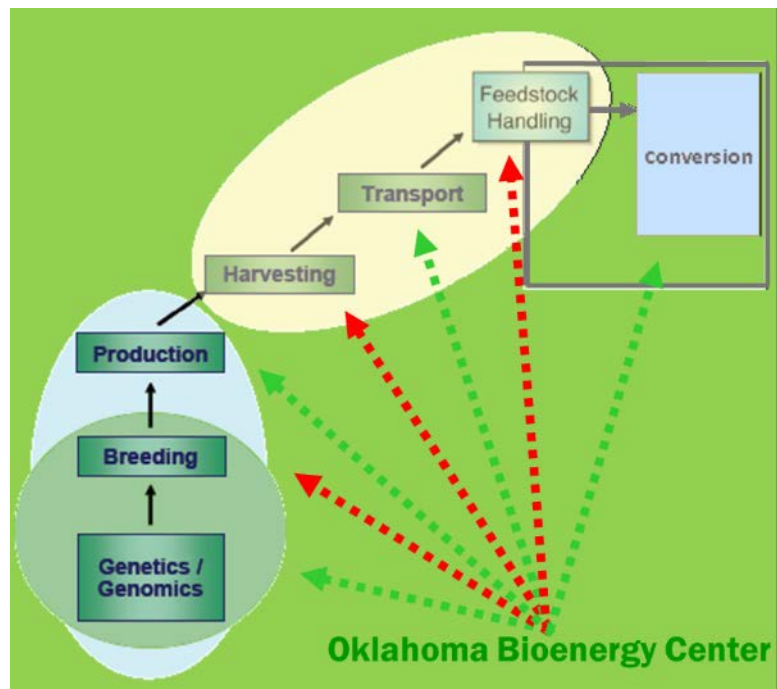


Jacobson R and Sanchez DL (2019) Opportunities for Carbon Dioxide Removal Within the United States Department of Agriculture. *Front. Clim.* 1:2. doi: 10.3389/fclim.2019.00002





## Filling Knowledge Gaps



- Research covers entire landscape – ecosystem responses still need to be worked out.
- Each institution has unique organism/process and the basic function and simple output is reported.
- External factors resulting in success or failure are often ignored.
- Potential issues in containment and disposal of the organisms developed.
- Potential environmental issues –e.g. contaminants from bioconversion technologies.
- Modeling framework based on AI/DL/ML.
- More data collected than reported in the literature.
- Failed experiments are not reported. Might impact industry decisions (e.g. days available for harvesting).
- Need mechanism to transfer current state of technology when an industry fails.