

# The CAST Proposal

Renewable Synthetic Liquid Fuels for  
Compatible Affordable Sustainable Transportation

Gordon Taylor, G T Systems  
and  
Richard Pearson, Lotus Engineering

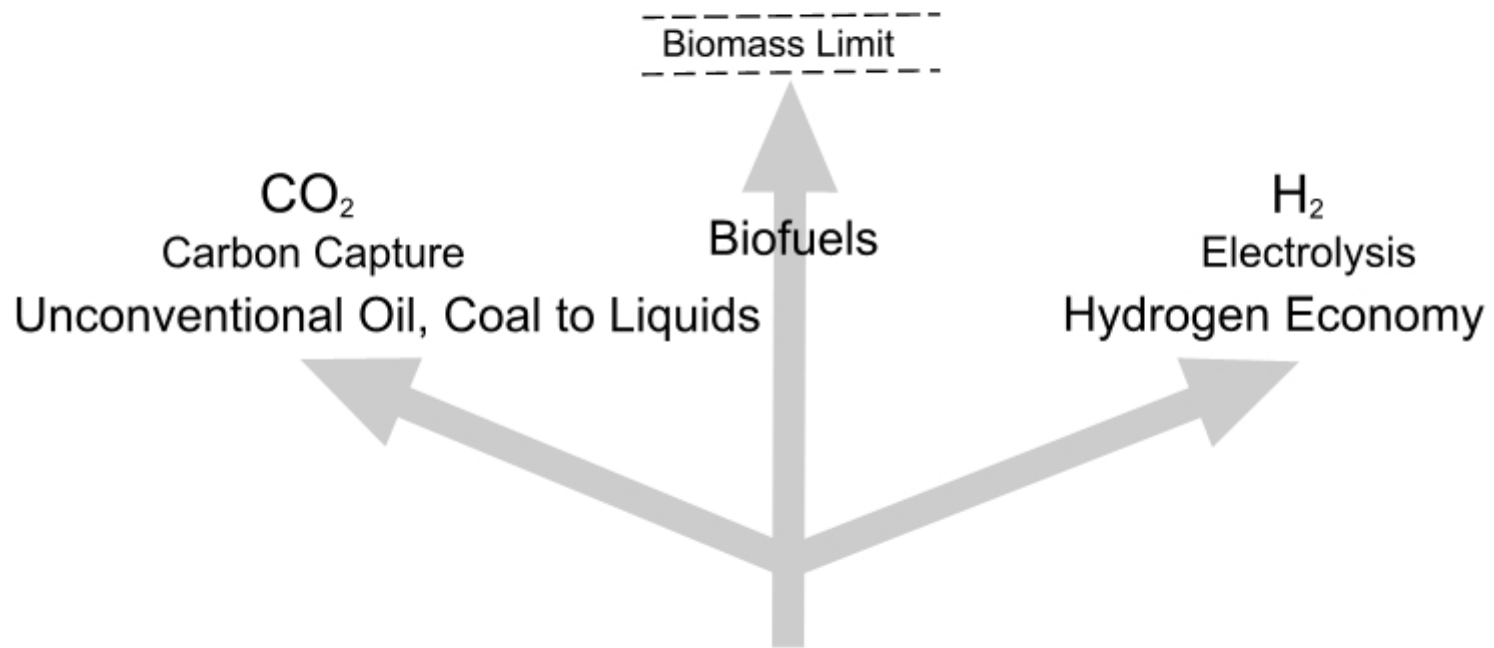


# Outline

- Renewable energy is needed for deep cuts in CO<sub>2</sub>
- Vehicle makers and buyers could not afford Battery Electric Vehicles or Fuel Cell Vehicles
- Fuel companies could afford to produce renewable synthetic liquid fuels
- These would provide Compatible Affordable Sustainable Transportation



# Sustainable Transportation ?



The World at the Crossroads



# Transport Options

- Unconventional Oil & Coal to Liquids would increase GHG emissions and not be sustainable
- H<sub>2</sub> would be incompatible for all, unaffordable for cars & very difficult for trucks, ships and planes
- Biofuels are subject to the Biomass Limit (~10-30% of transport fuel for developed countries)



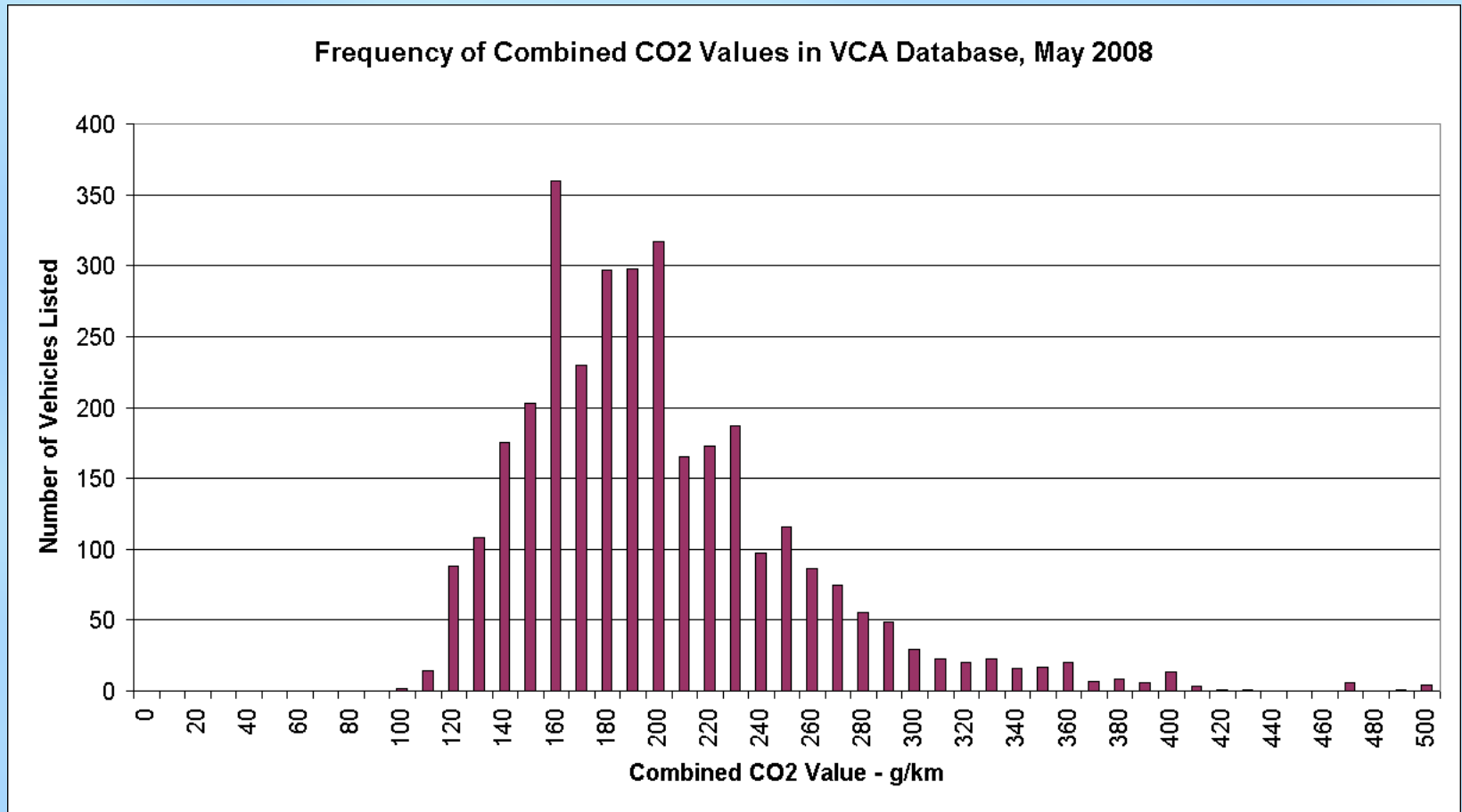
# Transport Vehicles and Fuels

Aircraft, ships, trains and trucks require high energy hydrocarbon fuels to achieve their design payloads and ranges, and account for about 50%

Cars are less demanding in payloads and ranges, and account for the remaining 50%



# CO<sub>2</sub> Values for Cars Available in the UK



With oil-based fuels, less than 100 gCO<sub>2</sub>/km is costly and less than 130 fleet average would be even more costly



# Renewable Sources for Transport

## Biomass

Renewable electricity from the following:

- Hydro and geothermal - limited to certain sites
- Marine current and wave power - not yet shipping
- Wind turbines and photovoltaics, of which the former give much lower cost electricity



# Sustainable Energy/Fuel Options for Cars

Renewable electricity stored in batteries, driving electric motors - BEVs

Renewable electrolytic hydrogen, stored at high pressure, converted in fuel cells to electricity, driving electric motors - FCVs

Renewable electrolytic hydrogen, combined with captured CO<sub>2</sub> to produce synthetic fuels such as methanol, used in internal combustion engines - ICEVs



# Operating Criteria - BEVs

Compared with hydrocarbon fuels, batteries have energy densities lower by about 100 x

This limits the vehicle range, especially in 'real world' usage

Yet the recharge time is not minutes but hours

Hence Plug-In Hybrid EVs and Extended Range EVs, with ICEs and powerful generators



# Operating Criteria - FCVs

Compared with hydrocarbon fuels, hydrogen at 700 bar has a volumetric energy density lower by 5 x

This limits the vehicle range, especially in 'real world' usage

Hence Fuel Cell Vehicles are usually hybrids, with high-power batteries, for regenerative braking

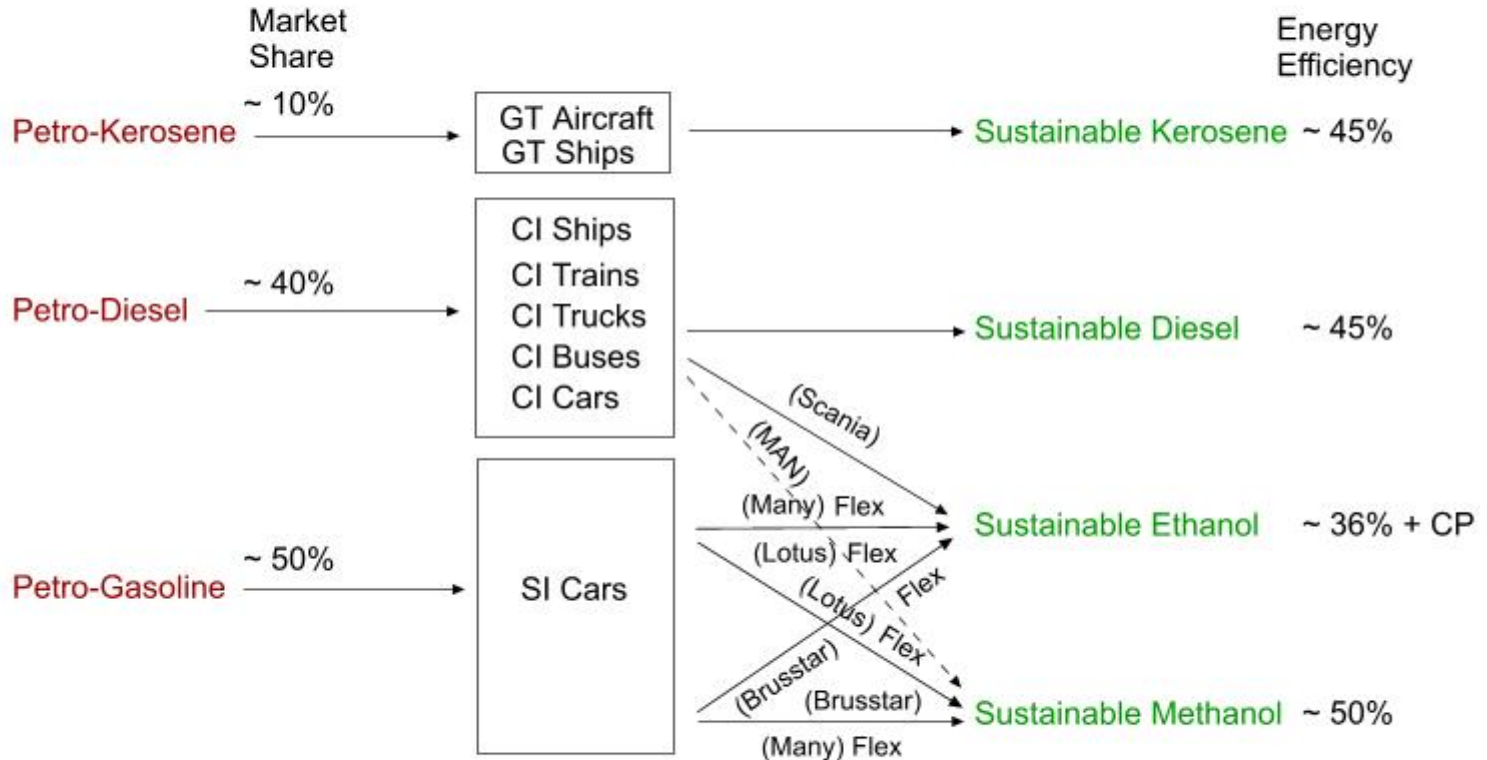


# Compatible Affordable Sustainable Transportation

## Present Fuels

## Engines Vehicles

## Sustainable Fuels



GT = Gas Turbine, CI = Compression Ignition, SI = Spark Ignition, CP = Co-Products



# Compatible Affordable Sustainable Transportation

## Engines Vehicles

CI Ships  
CI Trains  
CI Trucks  
CI Buses  
CI Cars

SI Cars

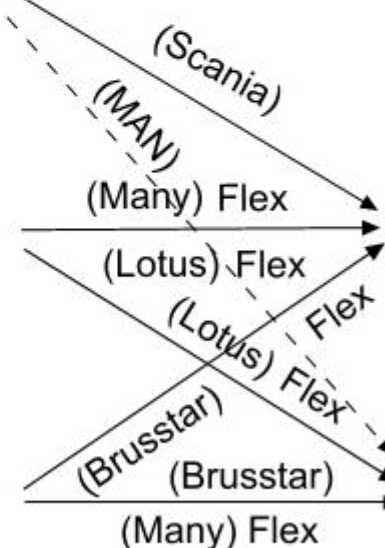
## Sustainable Fuels

Energy  
Efficiency

Sustainable Diesel ~ 45%

Sustainable Ethanol ~ 36% + CP

Sustainable Methanol ~ 50%





# Compatible 1: Keep ICEs

- Piston-type for most surface vehicles
- Gas Turbines for most aircraft
- They are easy to produce, have high specific outputs and still have considerable potential
- They contain few scarce materials, so have low energy and money costs
- Replacement of the existing vehicle plants and fleets would be hugely costly and leave vast 'stranded assets'



# Compatible 2: Keep liquid fuels

- CHO liquids are easy to produce, have high energy densities & alcohols can mix with gasoline
- They can be stored in low cost tanks
- They can be transported by pipelines and by sea and road tankers
- They can be dispensed by self-service
- Replacement of the existing fuel plants would be hugely costly and leave vast 'stranded assets'



# Choice of Sustainable Fuels

- Kerosene and FT Diesel have feedstock and energy efficiencies 1.2 – 1.4 x lower than Methanol, but are needed for aircraft and ships
- Ethanol and Methanol are well suited to road transport, both light duty vehicles (cars) and heavy duty vehicles (buses & trucks)
- E100 from sugar cane etc. is the most likely fuel for developing countries and M100 from biomass and captured CO<sub>2</sub> for developed countries



## Vehicles for developing economies

---

- The number of vehicles on the road is expected to increase dramatically.
- The increase will be driven by increasing prosperity in the developing world and by the production of ultra-cheap cars such as the \$2500 Tata Nano
- These cars will use cheap powertrains and cheap fuel systems



**The Tata Nano**





# Affordable Vehicles because:

- Dedicated and FFVs for sustainable fuels must sell sufficiently fast for...
- Such vehicles to gain 100% market shares for...
- A fast and complete transition to increased fuel security and reduced GHG emissions

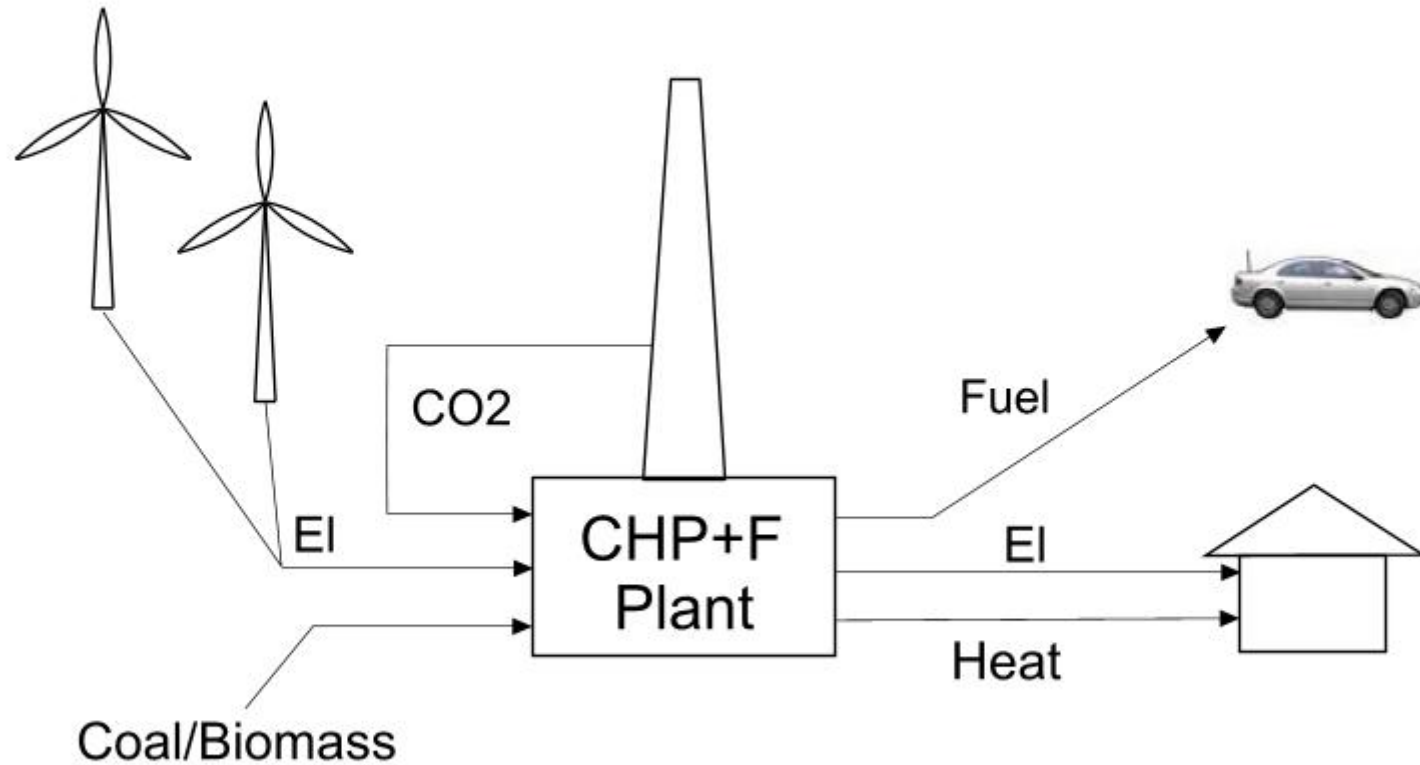


# Affordable Fuel and Vehicles

- Fuel companies are professionals and closer to the resource depletion and climate change challenges
- Fuel plants are bought by corporates, using low-cost capital, and run up to 95% of the time
- Most light duty vehicles are bought by individuals, using higher-cost capital, and run ~ 5% of the time
- So fuel companies are best placed to deliver most of the sustainable transportation solution



# Combined Production of Heat, Power and Fuel



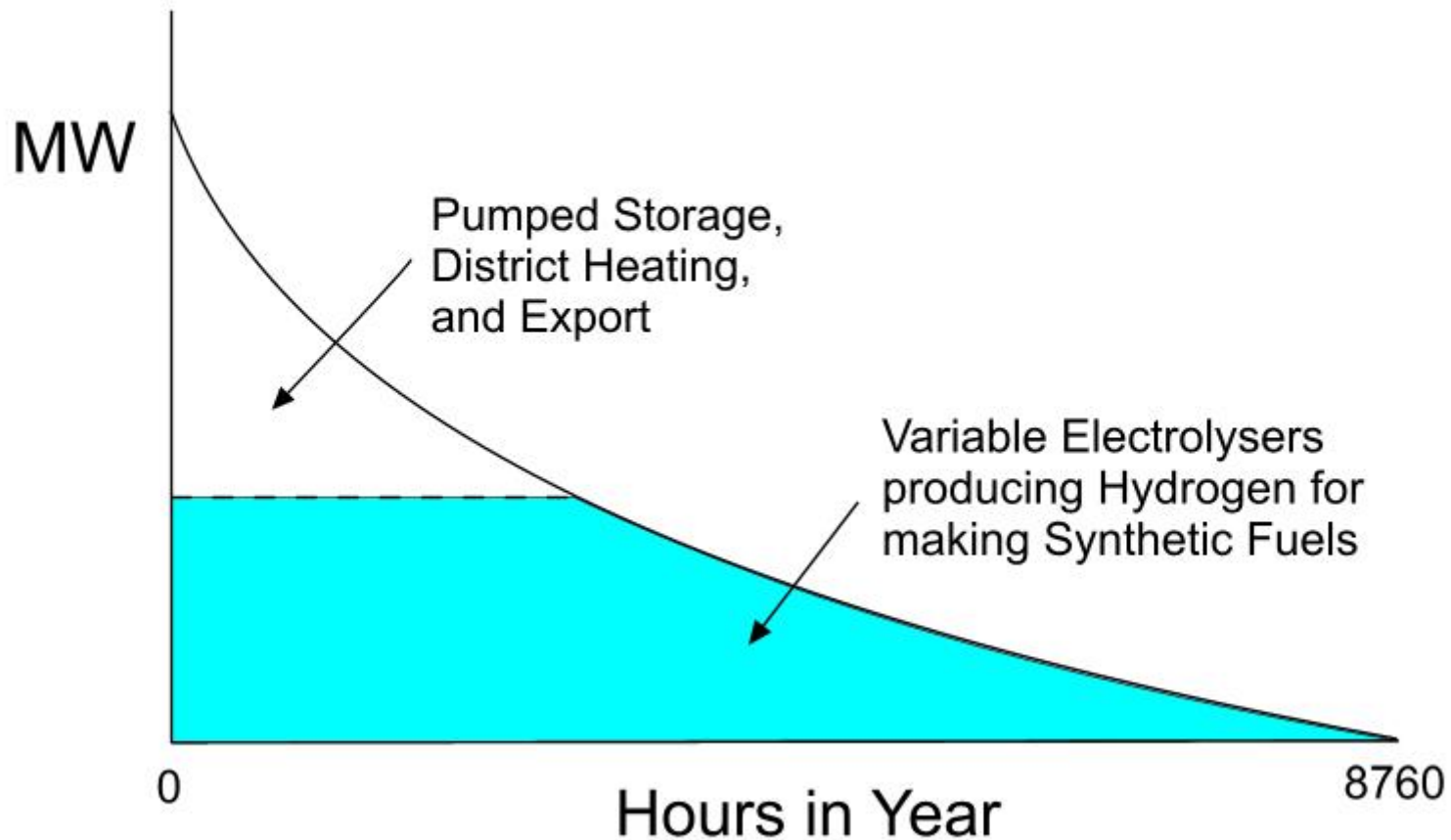


# Carbon Sources for Fuels

- Biomass, but this is often limited by land, water and nutrients to only 10-30% of fuel demand
- CO<sub>2</sub> from power station fluegas, but this will decline as fossil fuels are phased out, leaving that from those burning biomass and waste
- CO<sub>2</sub> from the air. This is essentially unlimited and will be needed for 70-90% of fuel demand



# Wind Power Production and Use



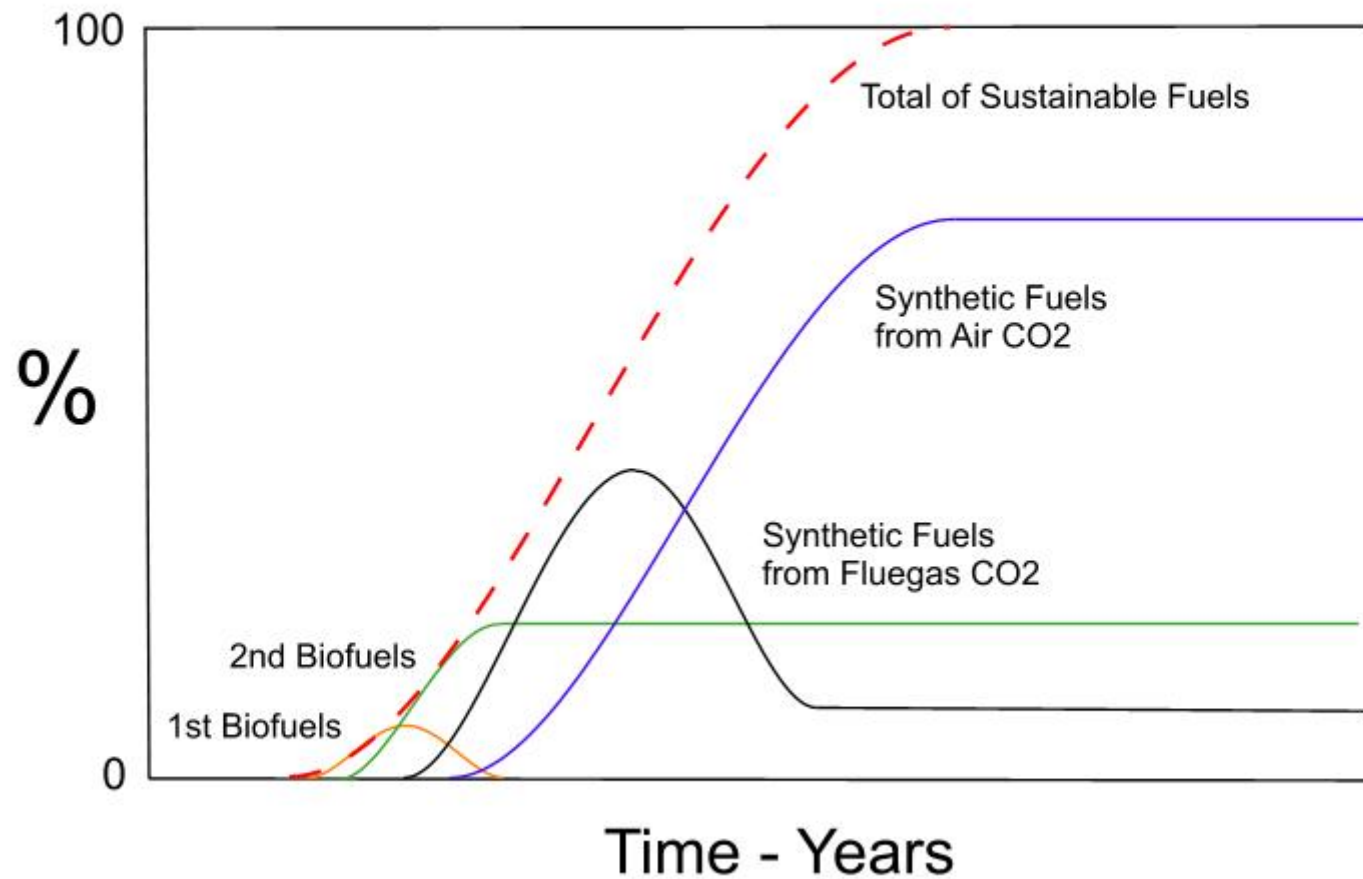


# Hydrogen for Synthetic Fuels

- Produced by electrolysis with renewable electricity - mainly from wind turbines
- Present world transport fuel demand is  $\sim 3$  TW
- Assuming a fuel synthesis efficiency of 50%, the required energy input is  $\sim 6$  TW
- Global wind power ( $\geq 6.9$  m/s at 80m) is  $\sim 72$  TW, plenty for this and other uses and for growth



# Transition to Sustainable Fuels





# Transition to Sustainable Fuels

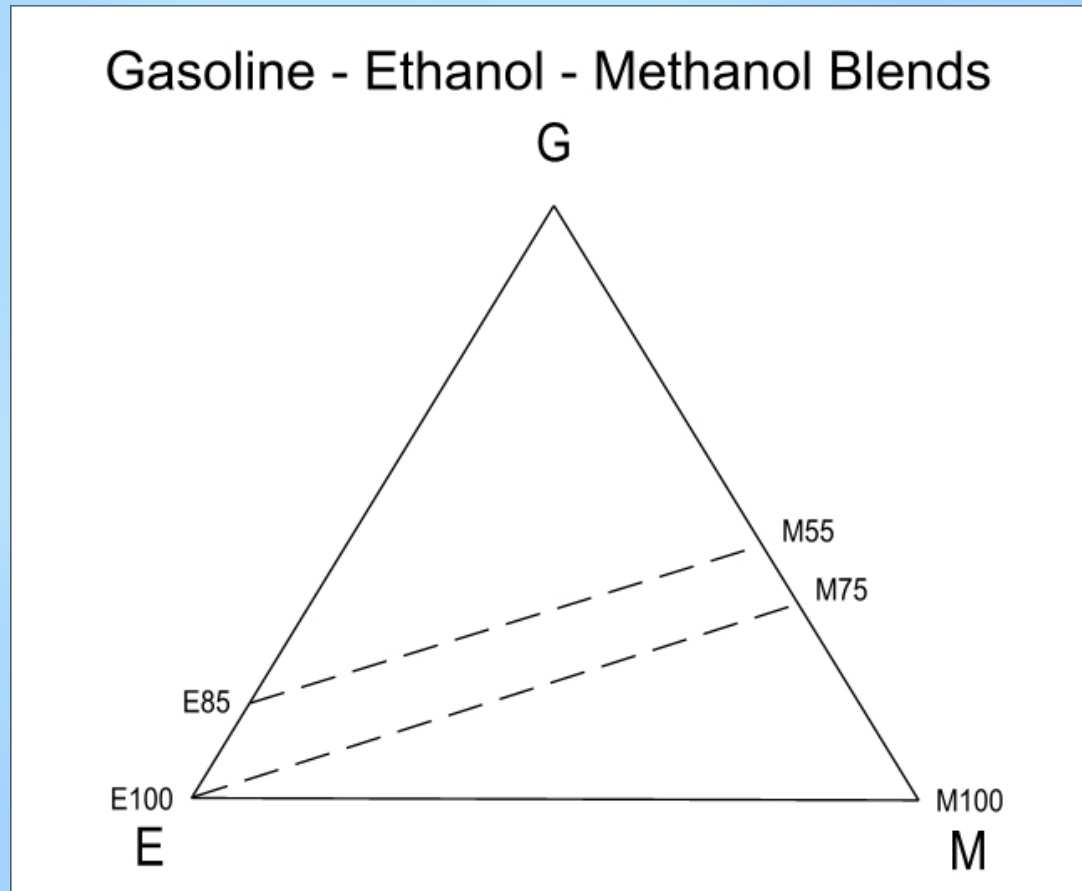
Gasoline could be replaced in developed countries by synthetic methanol, and in developing countries by bio-ethanol

Flex-Fuel, Total-Flex and Tri-Flex Vehicles require only enhanced maps for the ECU and sometimes a fuel sensor for about \$ 200

Tri-Flex vehicles could be developed and produced to a single specification for sale and use worldwide



# Vehicle Fuel Requirements



3 Grades: E85-M55, E100-M75, M100



# Transition to Sustainable Fuels

For existing standard vehicles, methanol and ethanol may be used in low-blends – up to e.g. 17 to 23%

For existing E85 Flex-Fuel Vehicles, methanol may also be used – up to e.g. M55

For existing E100 Total-Flex Vehicles, methanol may also be used – up to e.g. M75



Lotus has developed SI engines using  
E0-100 (flex-fuel) and E/M 0-100 (tri-flex)

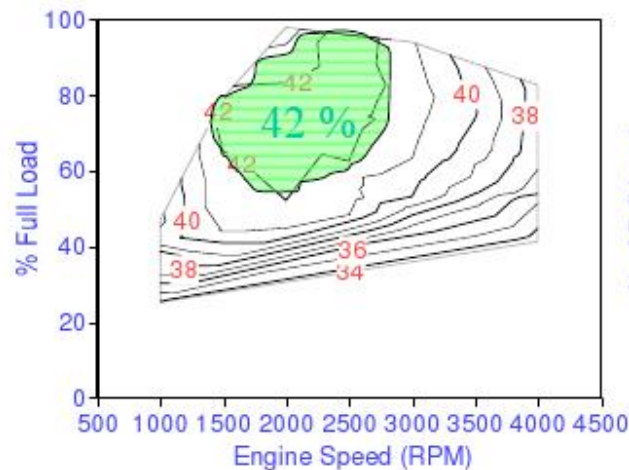




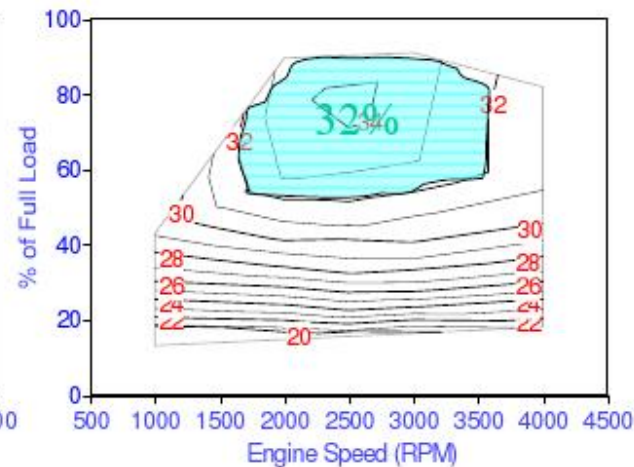
# Brusstar (EPA) has developed high efficiency SI engines using E/M100 and E10-100 (flex-fuel)



## Efficiency: Methanol



**Methanol**



**Gasoline**

33% higher efficiency with methanol  
Broad region of high efficiency

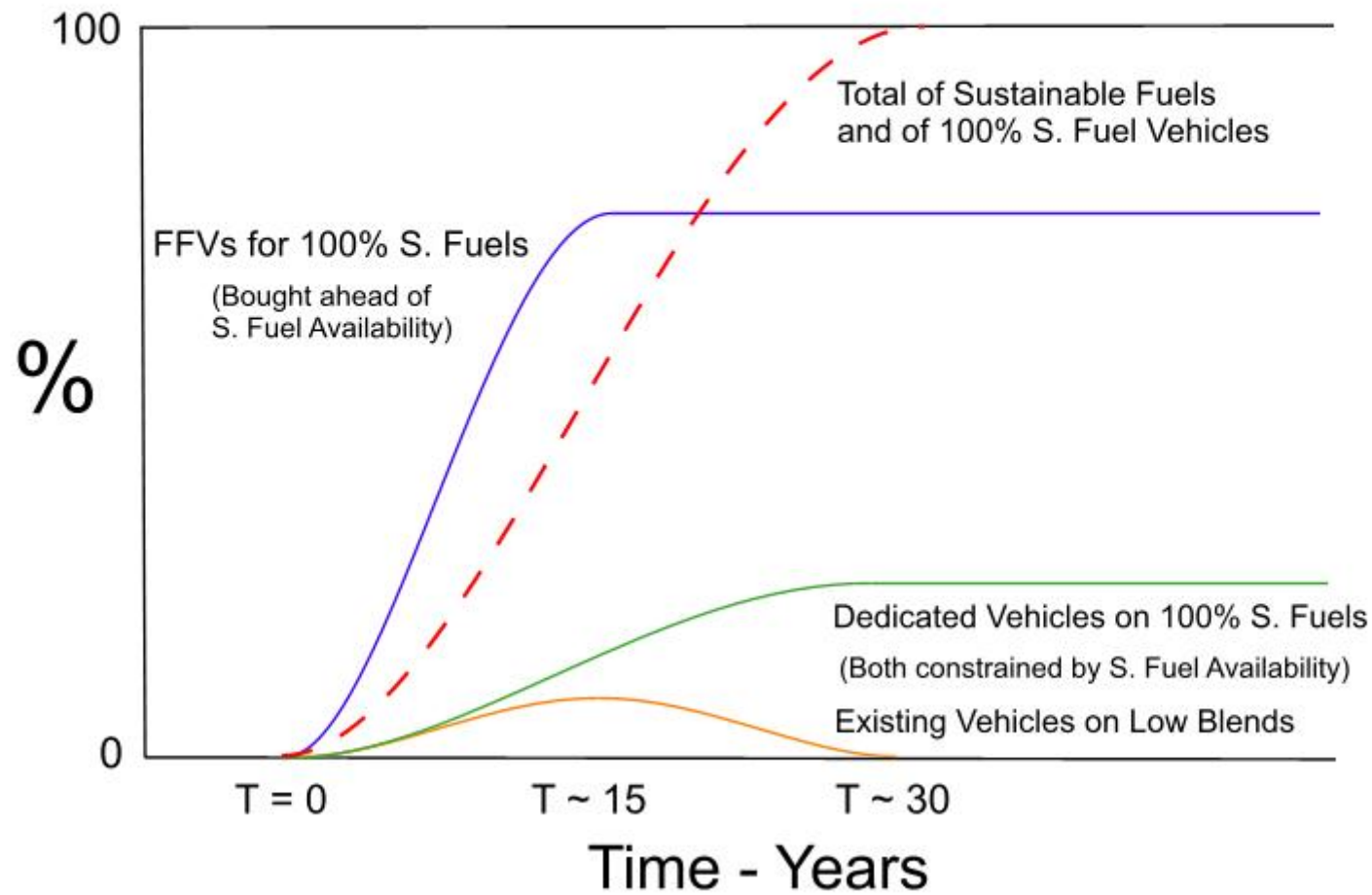


# Transition to Sustainable Vehicles

- TotalFlex cars in Brazil can already use E22-100
- Lotus have demonstrated E/M0-100 (Tri-Fuel)
- M100 gave 33% higher efficiency in EPA project
- M85 was used by Ford and GM FFVs in the 1980s
- M100 was used by MAN and GM buses in the 1980s



# Transition of Vehicle Fleet





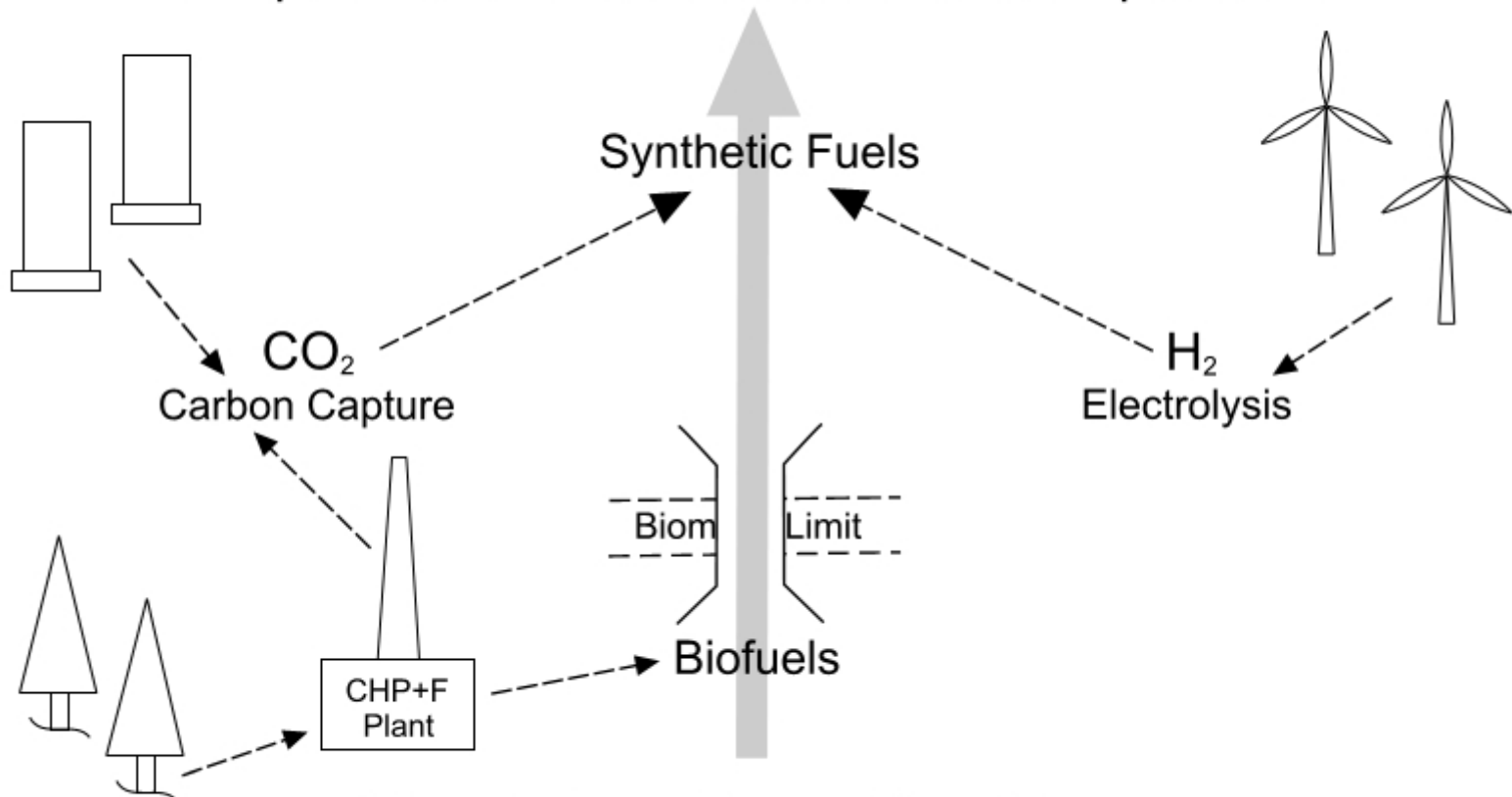
# Transition Times

- LDVs could be replaced with FFVs in  $\sim 15$  y
- HDVs could be replaced with E/M100 Vs in  $\sim 30$  y
- To avoid 'stranded assets' the sustainable vehicle transition time should be at least  $\sim 30$  y
- This is independent of the fuel and vehicle options



# CAST

**C**ompatible **A**ffordable **S**ustainable **T**ransportation



The Way Ahead Is Clear



# Compatible Affordable Sustainable Transportation

- **Compatible** with the world's transport fuel infrastructure and vehicle plants and fleets
- **Affordable** by fuel suppliers, vehicle makers and vehicle buyers
- **Sustainable Transportation**, all fuelled from renewable sources
- Hence the fastest transition to maximum fuel security and minimum GHG emissions



# Delivering CAST

The major investments would be made – as now - by fuel suppliers – to maintain and increase production

Oil would require recurrent and ever-increasing sums, whereas – once the demand capacity had been met – synthetic fuels from renewable electricity would not

Instead they would enable CO<sub>2</sub> targets to be met with the existing vehicle fleets and their production plants



The CAST Proposal document  
– on which this presentation is based –  
may be obtained via:

<http://www.energypolicy.co.uk>