



Co-Optimization of
Fuels & Engines

better fuels | better vehicles | sooner

An Introduction to DOE's Co-Optima Initiative

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Sandia National Laboratories

International Workshop on Fuel &
Engine Interactions

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**Co-Optima Leadership Team:
John Farrell (NREL), John Holladay (PNNL),
Chris Moen (SNL), Robert Wagner (ORNL)**

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Energy Efficiency &
Renewable Energy

US Department of Energy (DOE) Bioenergy Technologies
Office Program Managers: Alicia Lindauer, Borka Kostova
US DOE Vehicle Technologies Office Program Managers:
Gurpreet Singh, Kevin Stork, Leo Breton & Michael Weismiller

Co-Optima Initiative



Started Oct 2016

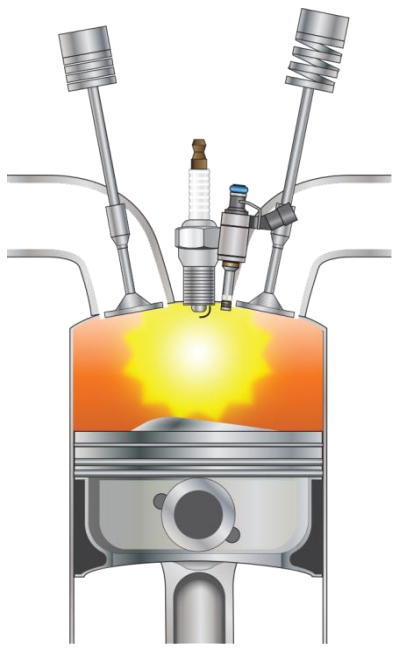
Team:

**9 national labs
13 universities**

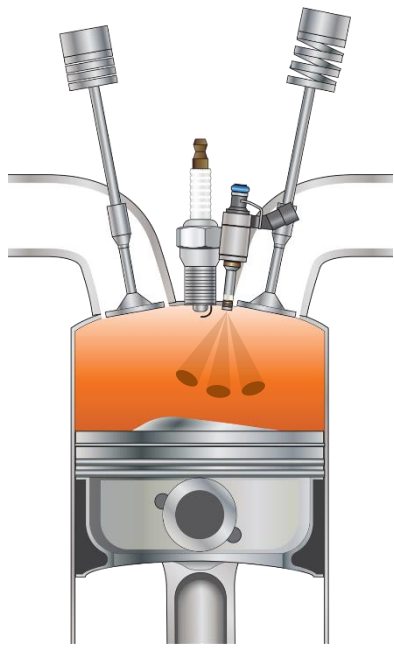
**Contributions from
numerous
researchers
acknowledged**

Engines: Light, Medium, and Heavy Duty

Light-Duty

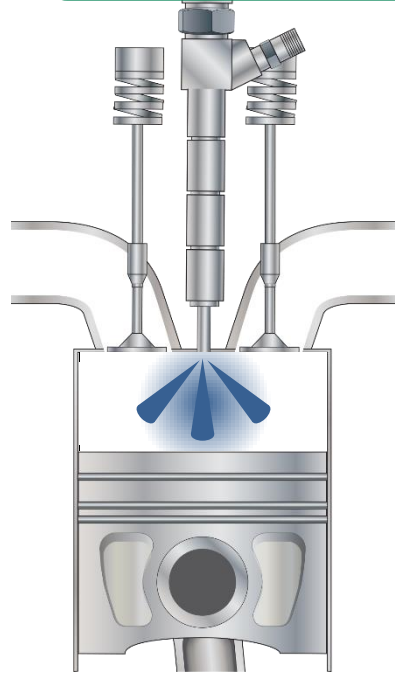


Boosted SI
Higher efficiency through downsizing
Near-term

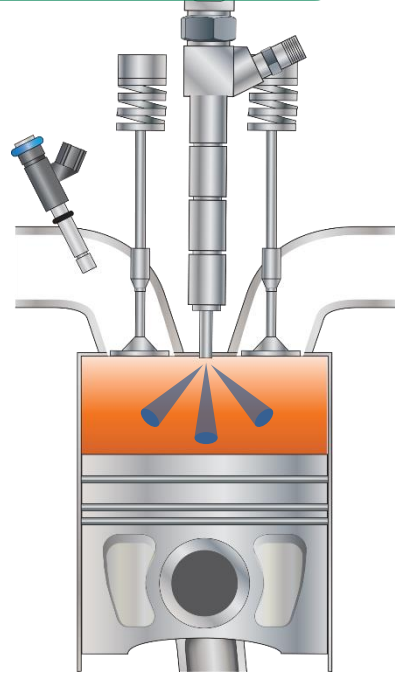


Multi-mode SI / ACI
Even higher efficiency over drive cycle
Mid-term

Medium and Heavy-Duty



Mixing Controlled
Improved engine emissions
Near-term



Kinetically Controlled
Highest efficiency and emissions performance
Longer-term



Central Engine Hypothesis

There are engine architectures and strategies that provide higher thermodynamic efficiencies than are available from modern internal combustion engines; new fuels are required to maximize efficiency and operability across a wide speed / load range



Central Fuel Hypothesis

If we identify target values for the critical fuel properties that maximize efficiency and emissions performance for a given engine architecture, then fuels that have properties with those values (regardless of chemical composition) will provide comparable performance

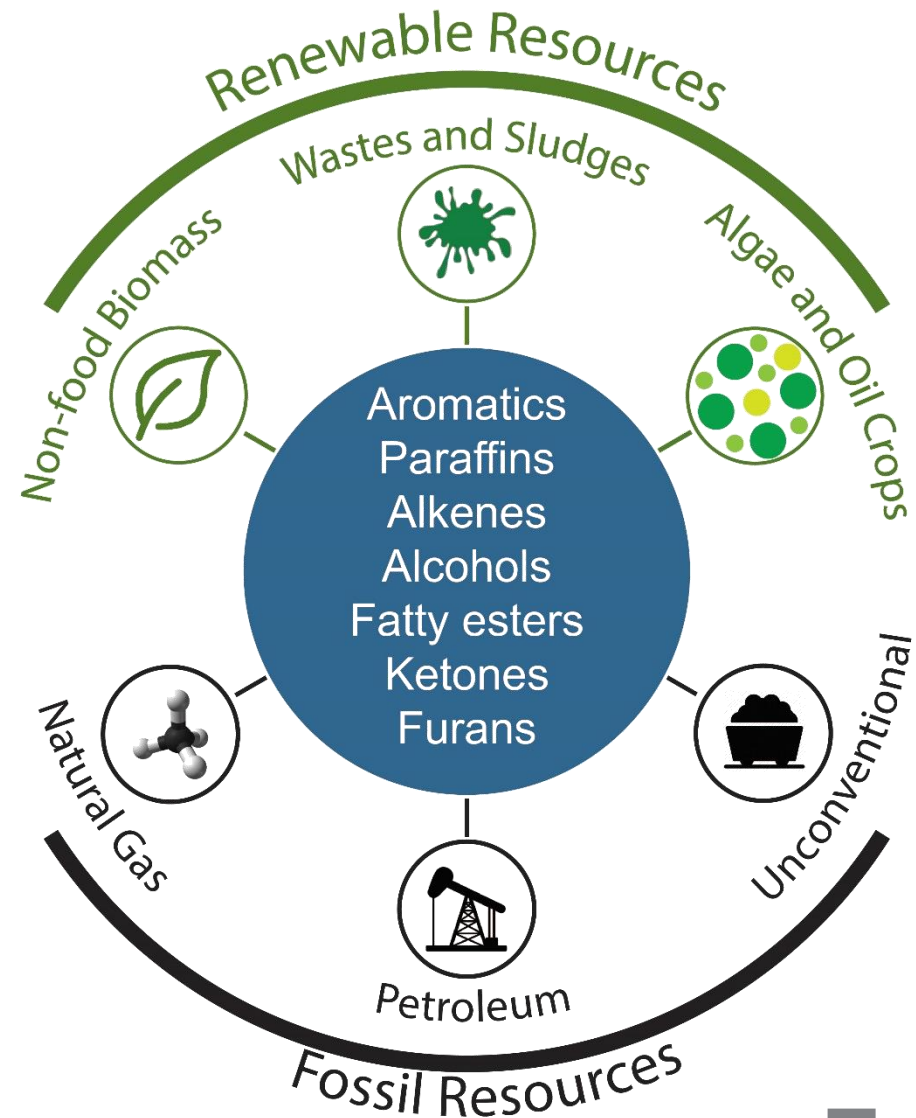


Approach: Fuel-Property Based, Composition-Agnostic

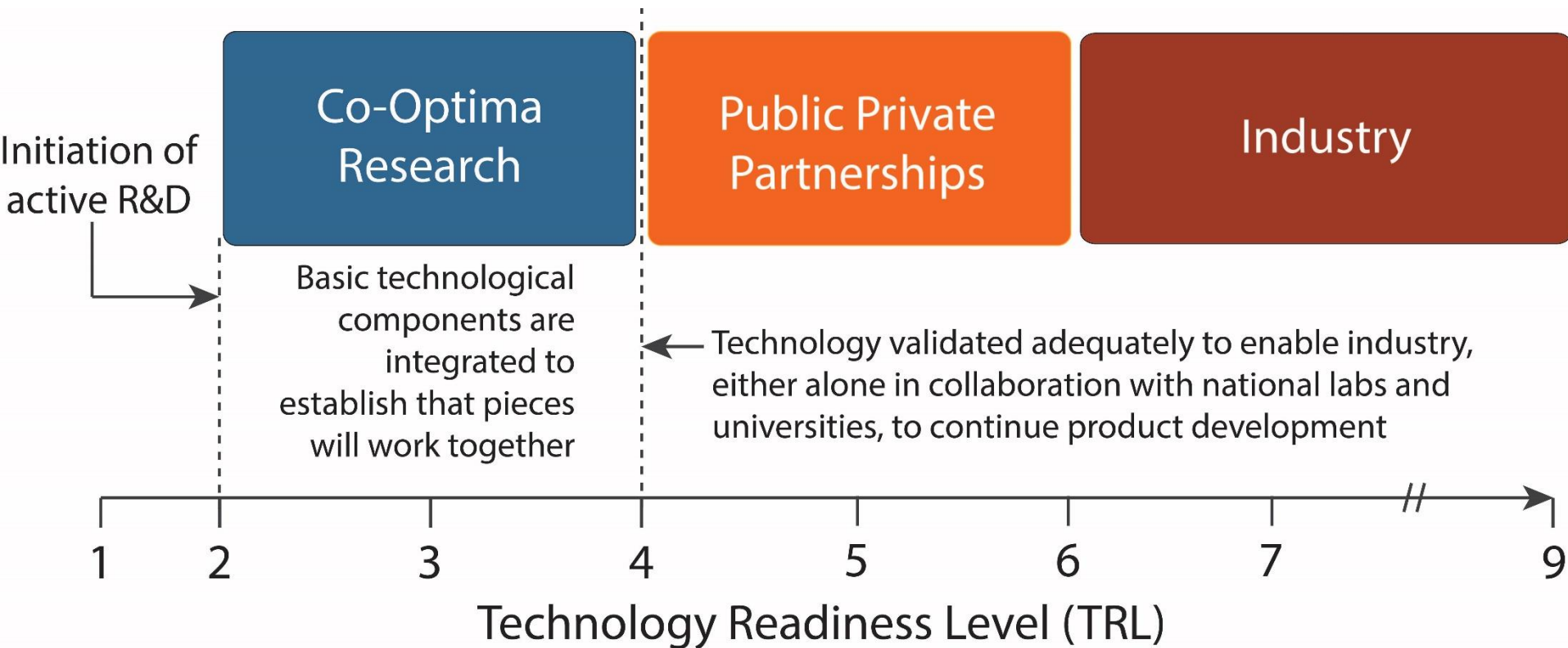


Objective: identify fuel properties that optimize engine performance, independent of composition,* allowing the market to define the best means to blend and provide these fuels

* We are not going to recommend that any specific blendstocks be included in future fuels



Integration with Industry



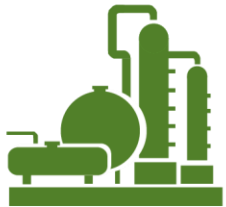
Introducing New Fuels and Engines Impacts a Large Body of Stakeholders



Energy Companies



Refiners



Biofuel Producers



Fuel Distribution



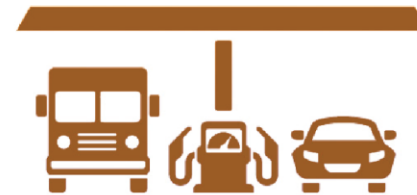
Government/
Regulatory Agencies



LD OEMs



HD OEMs



Retail



Consumer



Society

Understanding stakeholder value propositions is essential to Co-Optima



Achieving a win-win-win means (ideally) that all stakeholders make money



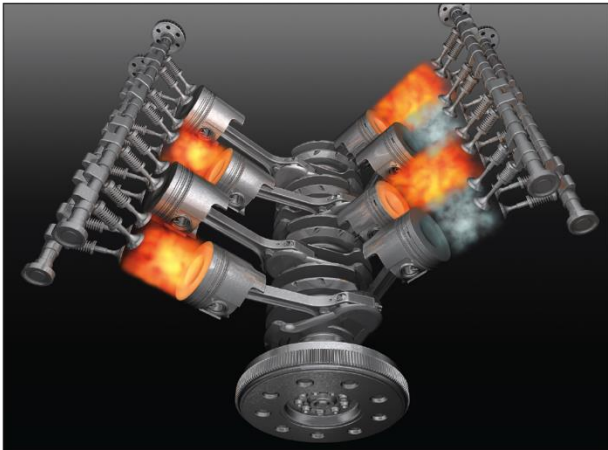
From a research perspective, this means that we're working on the right problems



Co-Optima Technical Challenges



What fuels do
engines
really want?



What fuels
should we make?



What will work
in the real world?



What Fuel Do SI Engines Really Want? More Than Octane



$$\begin{aligned} \text{Merit} = & \boxed{\alpha \cdot f(\text{RON})} + \boxed{\beta \cdot f(K, S)} + \boxed{\gamma \cdot f(\text{HOV})} \\ & + \boxed{\varepsilon \cdot f(S_L)} + \boxed{\zeta \cdot f(\text{PMI})} + \boxed{\eta \cdot f(T_{c,90,conv})} \end{aligned}$$

RON

Octane Sensitivity

Heat of Vaporization

Flame Speed

PM Emissions

Catalyst Light-off Temp (cold start)

• Merit function quantifies impact of fuel properties on engine efficiency

* Sensitivity = RON – MON; HOV = heat of vaporization

What Fuel Do SI Engines Really Want? More Than Octane



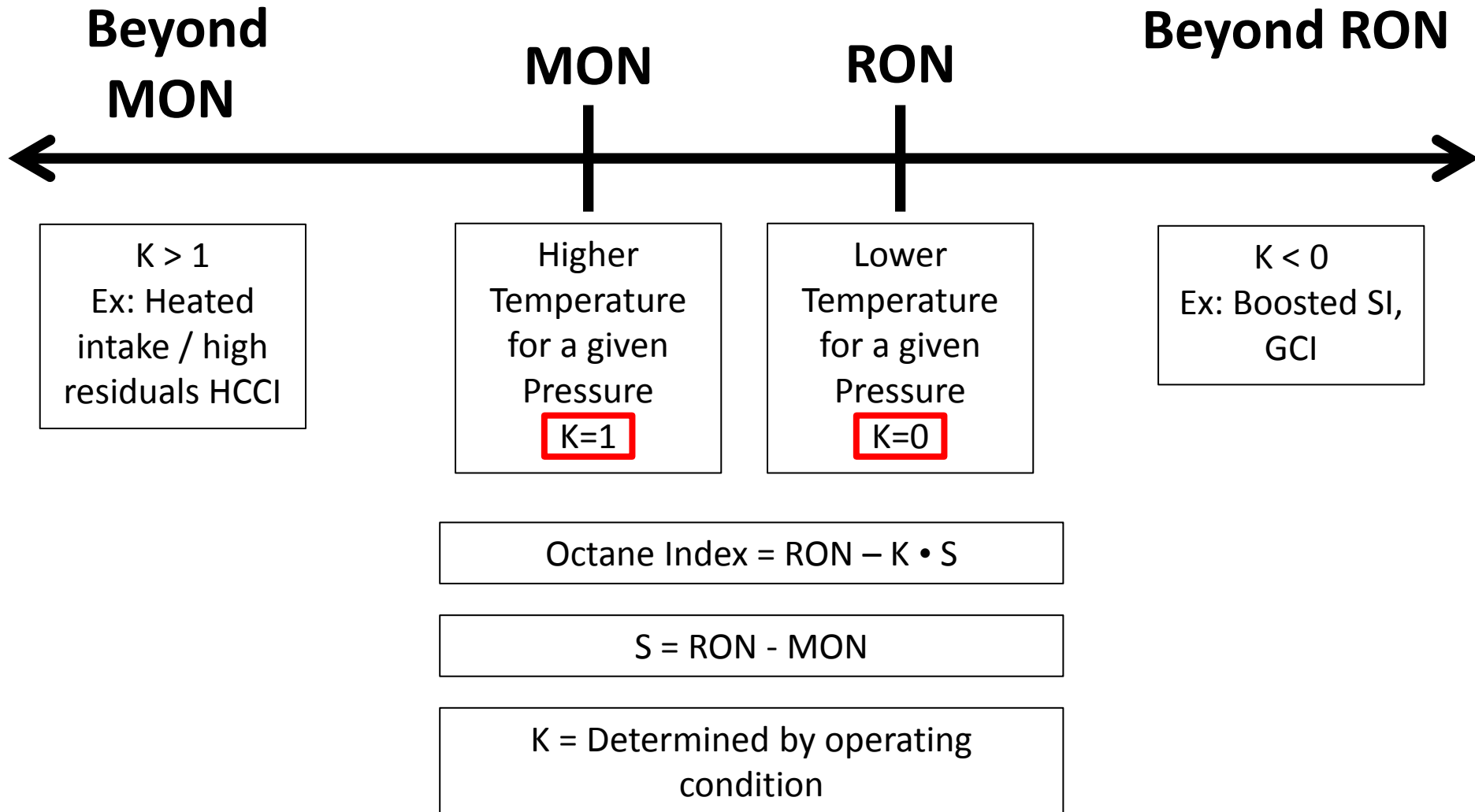
$$\begin{aligned} \text{Merit} = & \underbrace{\alpha \cdot f(\text{RON})}_{\text{RON}} + \underbrace{\beta \cdot f(K, S)}_{\text{Octane Sensitivity}} + \underbrace{\gamma \cdot f(\text{HOV})}_{\text{Heat of Vaporization}} \\ & + \underbrace{\varepsilon \cdot f(S_L)}_{\text{Flame Speed}} + \underbrace{\zeta \cdot f(\text{PMI})}_{\text{PM Emissions}} + \underbrace{\eta \cdot f(T_{c,90,conv})}_{\text{Catalyst Light-off Temp (cold start)}} \end{aligned}$$

Dilution Tolerance Emissions Penalties

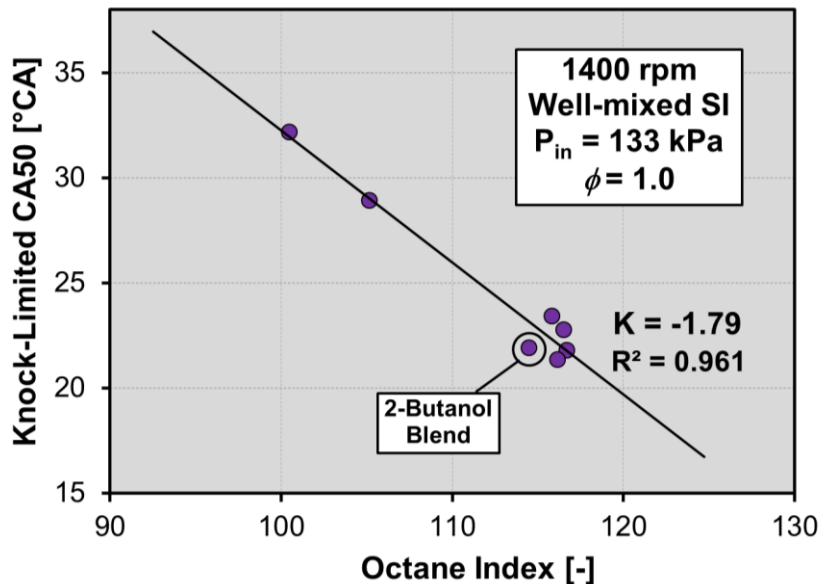
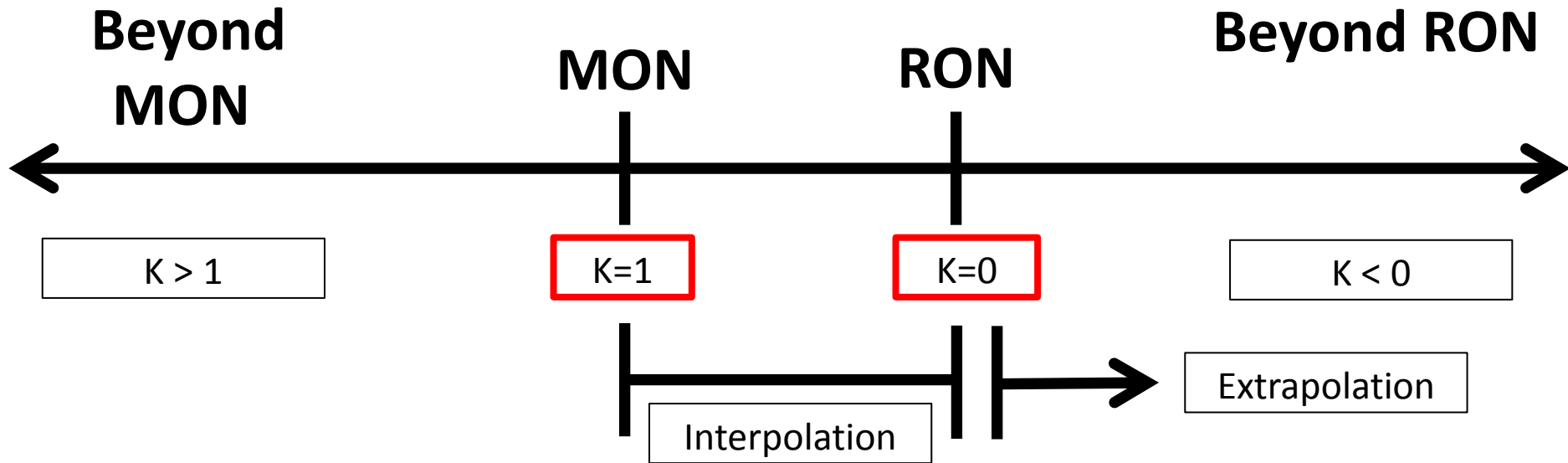
• Merit function quantifies impact of fuel properties on engine efficiency

* Sensitivity = RON – MON; HOV = heat of vaporization

Octane Index Framework



Octane Index Framework



Modern SI Engines

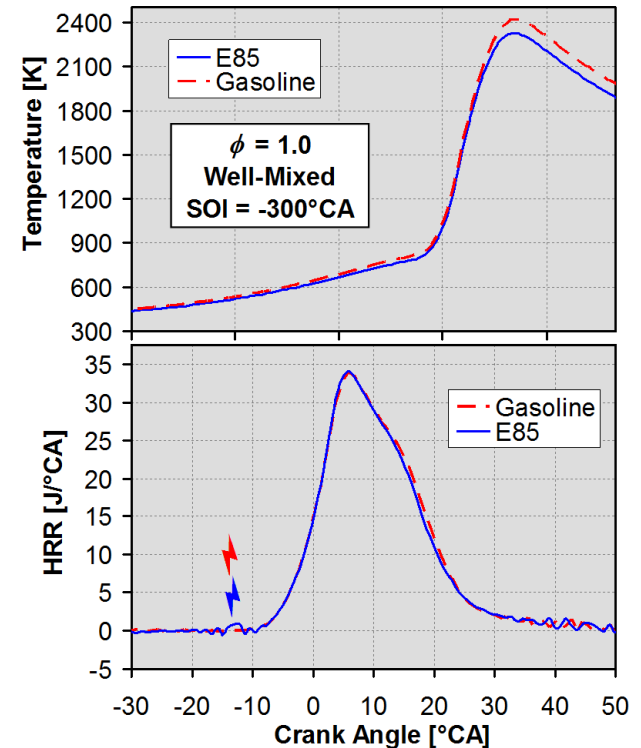
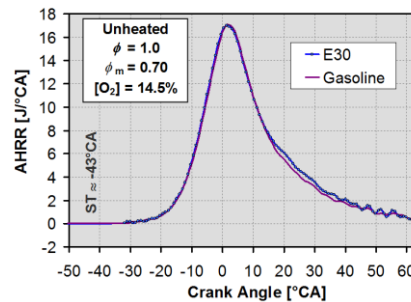
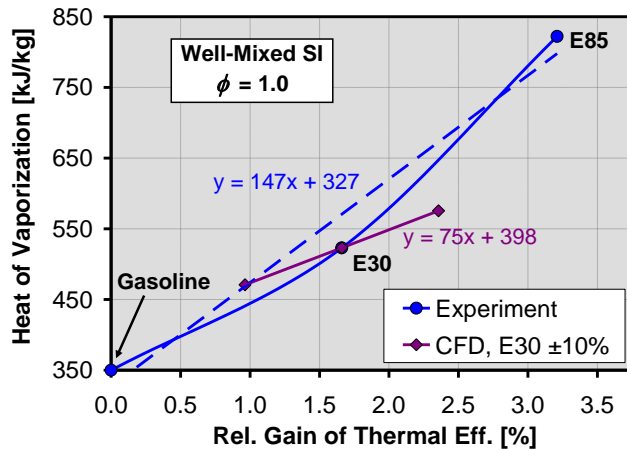
- 2-Butanol blend outperforms OI prediction.
- Moderate challenge to Central Fuels Hypothesis.

Merit Function Development

HoV Benefit



- Gasoline-ethanol blends are uniquely qualified for assessing direct gain of higher HoV on η_{th} for non-knock limited SI operation.
 - Inherent higher flame speed of ethanol compensates perfectly for lower charge temp. with higher HoV.
 - Examples for stoichiometric dilute and non-dilute operation.



- Available data support HoV benefits of originally proposed Merit Function.
- CFD results indicate that incremental benefit per [kJ/kg] of HoV is higher than what is realized across full E0 – E85 range.
 - Justifies further examination.

What Fuels Should We Make?

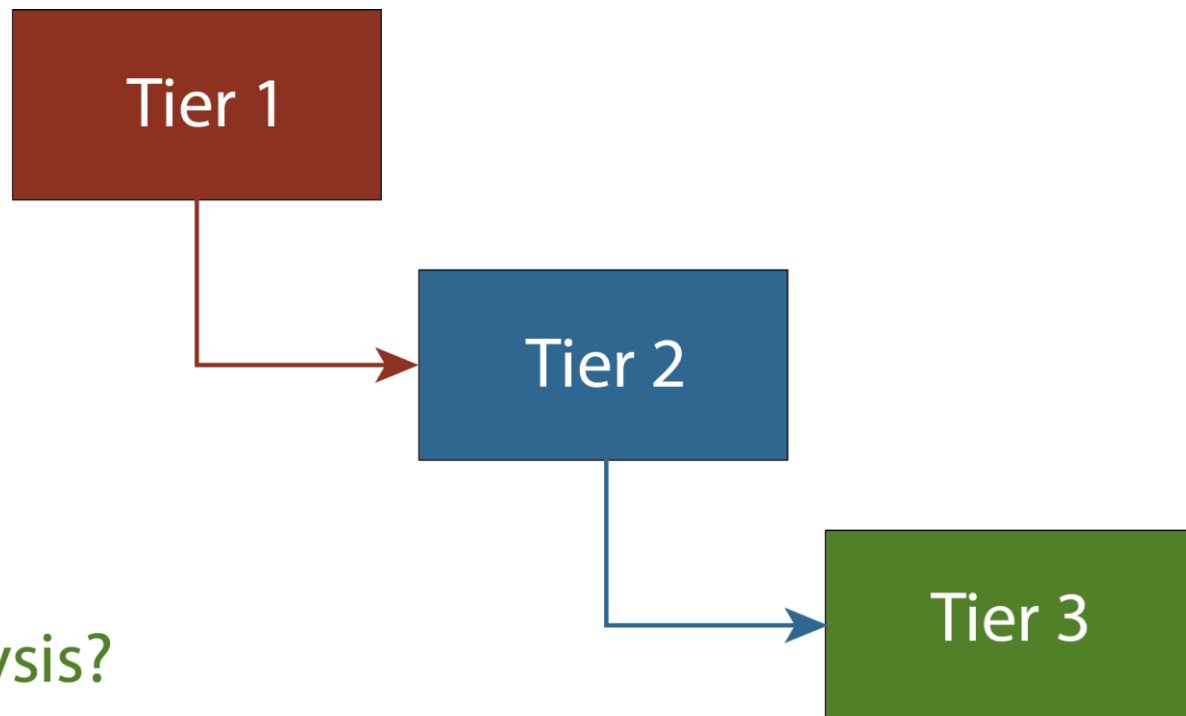
Comprehensive Blendstock Survey Completed



Can it be a fuel?

Does it provide
desired performance?

Does it merit focused
experiments and analysis?



blendstocks:

> 400

~ 40

< 10

Tiered Blendstock Identification



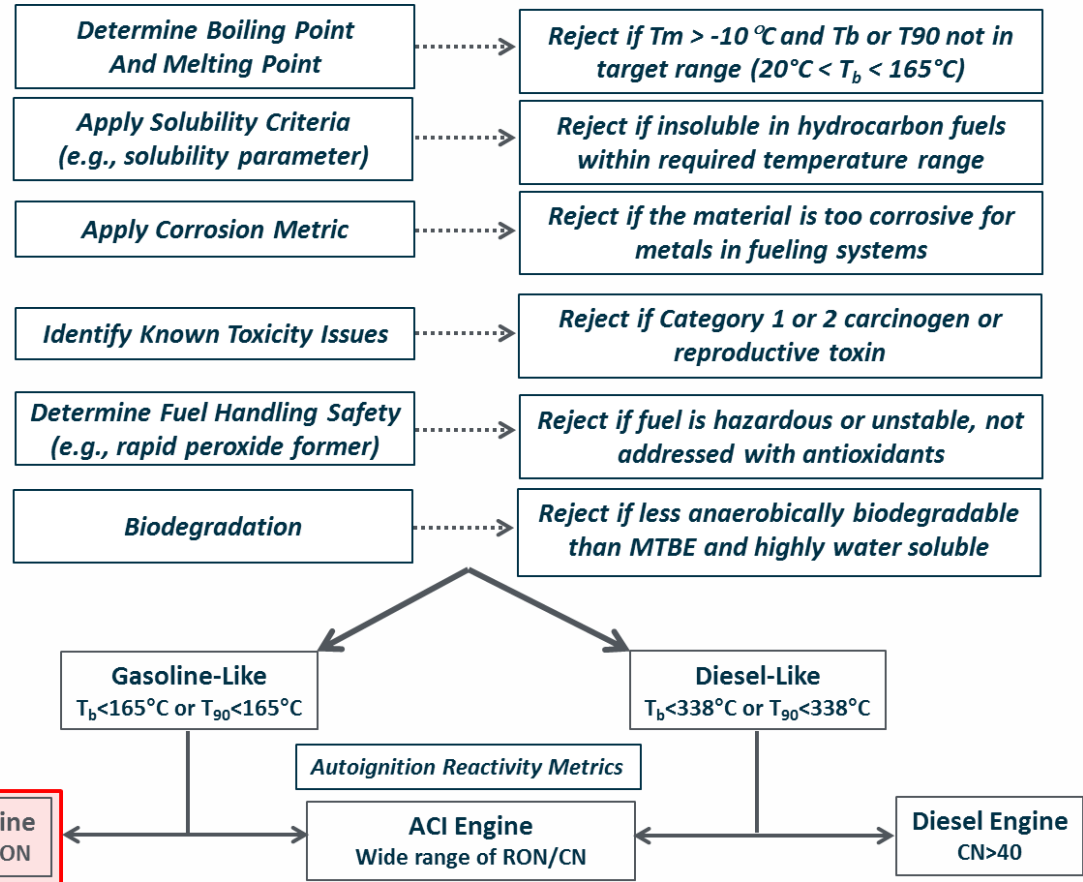
Tier 1

> 470 blendstocks

14 chemical families

Identify broad range of potential hydrocarbon and oxygenated blendstocks

Utilize property information on blendstocks from literature or estimates to identify Tier 2 blendstocks



Advanced SI Fuel Blendstocks

Boosted SI Tier 2 blendstocks



Alcohols (9)

- 1 Methanol
- 2 Ethanol
- 3 1-Propanol
- 4 Isopropanol
- 5 1-Butanol
- 6 2-Butanol
- 7 Isobutanol
- 8 2-Methylbutan-1-ol
- 9 2-Pentanol

Ethers

- 10 Anisole

Esters (13)

- 11 Methyl acetate
- 12 Methyl butanoate
- 13 Methyl pentanoate
- 14 Methyl isobutanoate
- 15 Methyl-2-methylbutanoate

Esters (13)

- 16 Ethyl acetate
- 17 Ethyl butanoate
- 18 Ethyl isobutanoate
- 19 Isopropyl acetate
- 20 Butyl acetate
- 21 2-Methylpropyl acetate
- 22 3-Methylpropyl acetate
- 23 mixed esters

Ketones (9)

- 24 2-Butanone
- 25 2-Pentanone
- 26 3-Pentanone
- 27 Cyclopentanone
- 28 3-Hexanone
- 29 4-Methyl-2-Pentanone
- 30 2,4-Dimethyl-3-Pentanone
- 31 3-Methyl-2-butanone
- 32 Ketone mixture

Furans

- 33 2,5-Dimethylfuran/2-methylfuran

Branched alkanes

- 34 2,2,3-Trimethylbutane

Alkenes

- 35 Diisobutylene

Multicomponent mixtures (6)

- 36 Methanol-to-gasoline
- 37 Ethanol-to-gasoline
- 38 Bioreformate via multistage pyrolysis
- 39 Bioreformate via catalytic conversion of sugar
- 40 Mixed aromatics via catalytic fast pyrolysis
- 41 Aromatics and olefins via pyrolysis-derived sugars

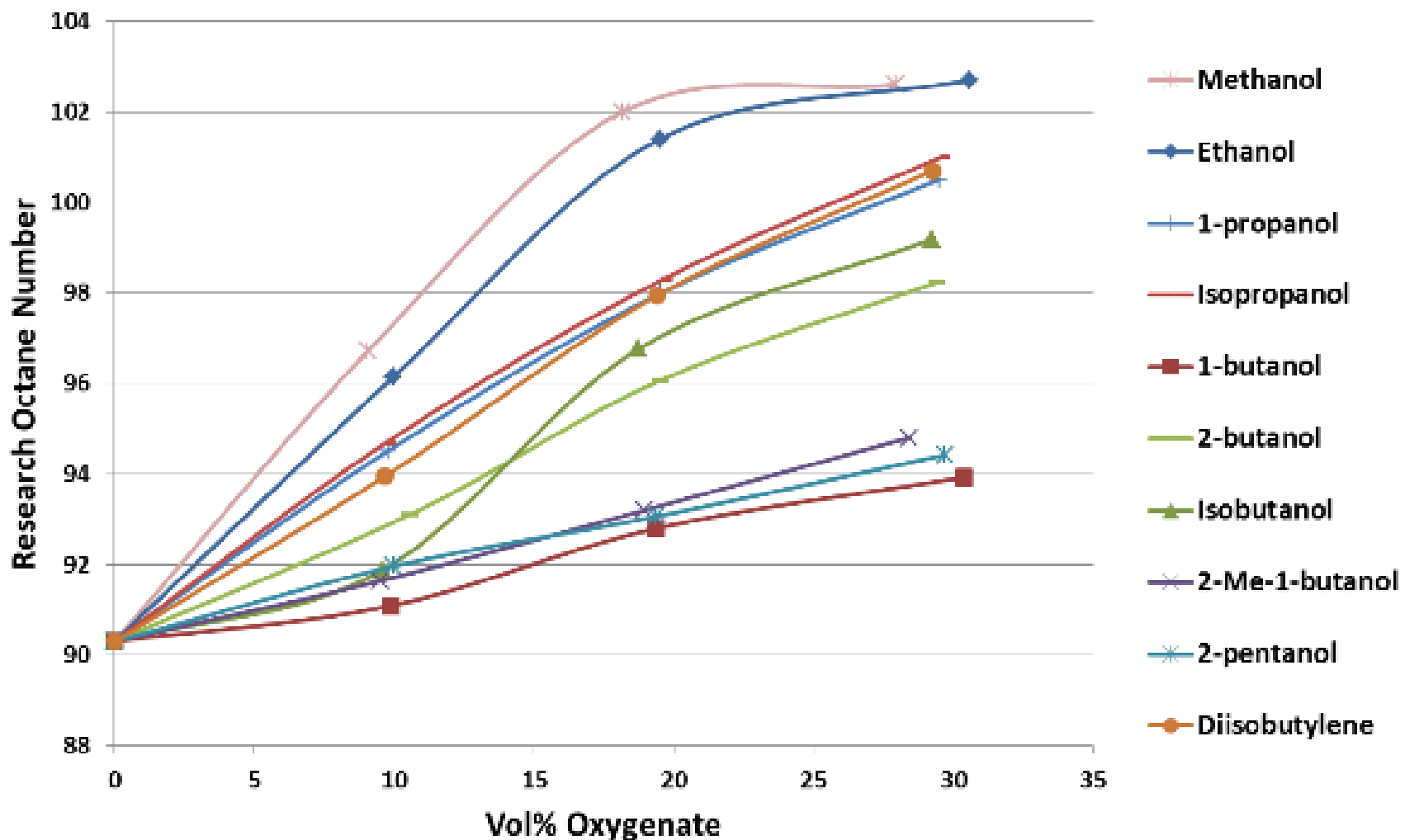
Merit Function



$$\begin{aligned} \text{Merit} = & \frac{(RON_{mix} - 91)}{1.6} - K \frac{(S_{mix} - 8)}{1.6} \\ & + \frac{0.085[ON / kJ / kg_{mix}] \cdot ((HoV_{fuel} / (AFR_{mix} + 1)) - (415[kJ / kg] / (14.0[-] + 1)))}{1.6} \\ & + \frac{((HoV_{mix} / (AFR_{mix} + 1)) - (415[kJ / kg] / (14.0[-] + 1)))}{15.2} + \frac{(S_{Lmix} - 46[cm / s])}{5.4} \\ & - H(PMI_{mix} - 1.6)[0.7 + 0.5(PMI_{mix} - 1.4)] + 0.008^{\circ}C^{-1}(T_{c,90,conv} - T_{c,90,mix}) \end{aligned}$$

- Major changes (March 2017 revision):
 - Updated coefficients for RON, S, HoV, S_L, and PMI
 - Deletion of term for low-speed pre-ignition (LSPI)
 - Addition of term to reflect cold start

Blending Octane Data



Merit Function Scores – modeled (K = - 1.25)



Blendstock	10%			20%			30%			10%			20%			30%			Green	Yellow
	cBOB	CARBOB	sBOB	cBOB	CARBOB	sBOB	cBOB	CARBOB	sBOB	F1 BOB	F2 BOB	F3 BOB	F1 BOB	F2 BOB	F3 BOB	F1 BOB	F2 BOB	F3 BOB		
Furan Mixture	8.6	1.9	5.1	12.8	6.8	9.6	12.9	7.7	10.2	1.1	5.1	9.0	6.1	9.6	13.1	7.1	10.2	13.2	14	2
Methanol	7.1	0.3	3.6	15.0	9.0	11.9	15.6	10.4	12.9	(0.4)	3.5	7.4	8.4	11.9	15.3	9.8	12.9	15.9	14	0
Ethanol	5.7	(1.1)	2.2	12.2	6.2	9.1	12.7	7.5	10.0	(1.8)	2.1	6.0	5.6	9.1	12.5	6.9	10.0	13.0	13	1
n-propanol	4.4	(2.3)	0.9	8.5	2.6	5.4	11.6	6.4	8.9	(3.0)	0.9	4.8	1.9	5.4	8.8	5.8	8.9	11.9	8	3
Diisobutylene	2.9	(3.8)	(0.6)	7.7	1.7	4.5	11.0	5.7	8.3	(4.5)	(0.6)	3.3	1.0	4.5	8.0	5.2	8.2	11.2	7	1
Isobutanol	1.0	(5.8)	(2.6)	7.3	1.3	4.2	10.2	4.9	7.4	(6.5)	(2.6)	1.3	0.6	4.1	7.6	4.4	7.4	10.4	6	1
Cyclopentanone	2.8	(3.9)	(0.7)	6.5	0.6	3.4	10.4	5.1	7.6	(4.6)	(0.7)	3.2	(0.1)	3.4	6.8	4.6	7.6	10.6	6	1
iso-propanol	4.0	(2.7)	0.5	7.2	1.2	4.1	9.8	4.6	7.1	(3.4)	0.5	4.4	0.6	4.1	7.5	4.0	7.1	10.1	6	0
2-butanol	2.2	(4.5)	(1.3)	5.4	(0.5)	2.3	7.5	2.3	4.8	(5.2)	(1.3)	2.6	(1.2)	2.3	5.7	1.7	4.8	7.8	3	3
Anisole	1.9	(4.8)	(2.6)	4.8	(1.2)	1.7	7.9	2.7	5.2	(5.6)	(1.6)	2.2	(1.8)	1.7	5.1	2.1	5.2	8.2	2	4
2-butanone (MEK)	1.1	(5.6)	(2.4)	4.0	(2.0)	0.9	6.0	0.8	3.3	(6.4)	(2.4)	1.4	(2.6)	0.9	4.3	0.2	3.3	6.3	2	0
Methyl acetate	0.8	(5.9)	(2.7)	3.7	(2.3)	0.6	6.2	1.0	3.5	(6.7)	(2.7)	1.1	(2.9)	0.6	4.0	0.4	3.5	6.5	2	0
Ethyl butanoate	0.8	(5.9)	(2.7)	2.7	(3.3)	(0.5)	5.5	0.2	2.8	(6.6)	(2.7)	1.2	(4.0)	(0.5)	3.0	(0.3)	2.7	5.8	1	1
2-Me-1-butanol	1.1	(5.6)	(2.4)	3.3	(2.7)	0.2	5.2	(0.1)	2.5	(6.3)	(2.4)	1.5	(3.4)	0.1	3.6	(0.6)	2.4	5.4	0	2
Ethyl acetate	0.5	(6.3)	(3.0)	2.9	(3.1)	(0.2)	4.9	(0.4)	2.1	(7.0)	(3.1)	0.8	(3.7)	(0.2)	3.2	(1.0)	2.1	5.1	0	2
1-butanol	(0.1)	(6.9)	(3.6)	3.4	(2.6)	0.3	4.6	(0.7)	1.9	(7.6)	(3.7)	0.2	(3.2)	0.3	3.7	(1.2)	1.8	4.8	0	1
3-Me-1-butanol	(0.0)	(6.7)	(3.5)	1.4	(4.6)	(1.7)	2.9	(2.4)	0.2	(7.5)	(3.5)	0.3	(5.2)	(1.7)	1.7	(2.9)	0.1	3.2	0	0
Butyl acetate	(0.2)	(6.9)	(3.7)	0.9	(5.1)	(2.2)	1.1	(4.2)	(1.6)	(7.7)	(3.7)	0.1	(5.7)	(2.2)	1.2	(4.7)	(1.7)	1.3	0	0
2,4 dimethyl-3- pentanone	(2.3)	(9.0)	(5.8)	(0.3)	(6.3)	(3.4)	0.7	(4.5)	(2.0)	(9.7)	(5.8)	(1.9)	(7.0)	(3.5)	(0.0)	(5.1)	(2.1)	1.0	0	0
2-pentanone	1.2	(5.5)	(2.3)	2.8	(3.1)	(0.3)	3.4	(1.8)	0.7	(6.2)	(2.3)	1.6	(3.8)	(0.3)	3.1	(2.4)	0.6	3.7	0	0
2-pentanol	1.3	(5.5)	(2.2)	1.9	(4.1)	(1.3)	3.1	(2.1)	0.4	(6.2)	(2.3)	1.6	(4.8)	(1.3)	2.2	(2.7)	0.4	3.4	0	0
Ketone Mixture	(0.9)	(7.6)	(4.4)	(1.2)	(7.2)	(4.4)	(0.7)	(6.0)	(3.4)	(8.3)	(4.4)	(0.5)	(7.9)	(4.4)	(0.9)	(6.5)	(3.5)	(0.5)	0	0
Triptane	(0.2)	(6.9)	(3.7)	(0.3)	(6.3)	(3.4)	2.1	(3.2)	(0.7)	(7.7)	(3.7)	0.2	(6.9)	(3.4)	0.0	(3.8)	(0.7)	2.3	0	0

cBOB: conventional blendstock for oxygenated blending (premium)

CARBOB: California Reformulated Gasoline BOB

sBOB: Summer BOB

F1 BOB: 86 RON (S = 2)

F2 BOB: 86 RON (S = 8)

F3 BOB: 86 RON (S = 13)

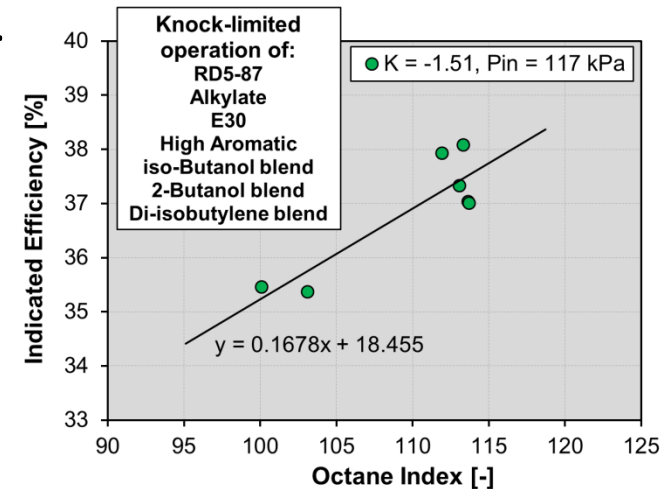
Deeper look at merit function scores



cBOB 30% blending

Blendstock	Total Merit	RON	S	HoV	(RON+S)/M F
Methanol	15.6	9.3	4.1	2.25	0.86
Furan Mixture	12.9	8.2	4.3	0.39	0.97
Ethanol	12.7	8.7	2.9	1.24	0.90
Diisobutylene	11.0	7.7	4.0	-0.73	1.1
Cyclopentanone	10.4	7.4	2.8	0.08	0.99
Isobutanol	10.2	6.7	3.0	0.43	0.96

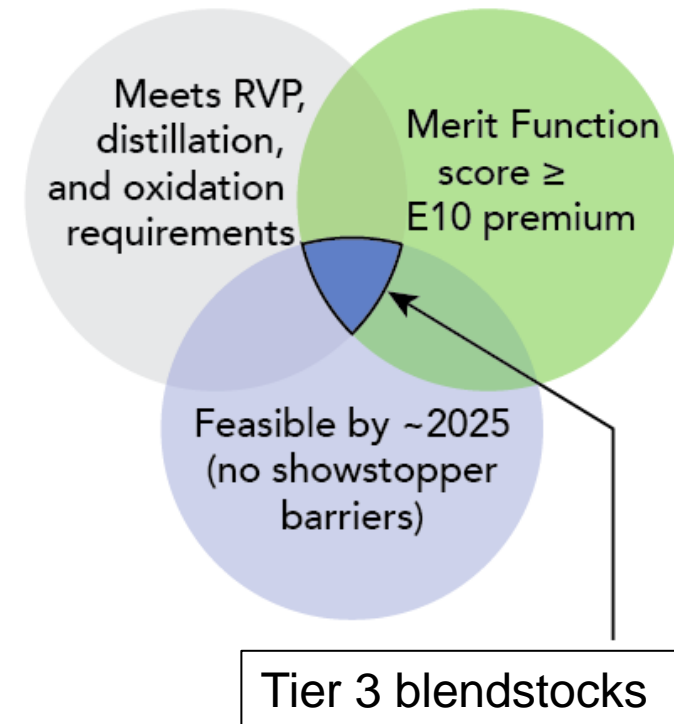
- RON and S contributions dominate merit function scores.
- BOB properties (e.g., S) can significantly impact scores.
- Need to account for uncertainty, both in merit function properties (RON, etc) as well as merit function itself.
- Need to explore impact of K



Tier 2 to Tier 3 transition criteria



1. Meet current critical fuel specs (RVP, distillation, oxidative stability, etc.) when blended in petroleum BOB*
2. Achieve merit function score \geq E10 premium when blended in petroleum BOB*
3. No “showstopper” barriers
 - Blendstocks must have viable path to potential market introduction by ~2025-2030



Tier 2 \rightarrow 3 transition allows focused effort on blendstocks with greatest potential to meet Co-Optima goals

* Evaluated at blend levels of 10, 20, and 30% by volume

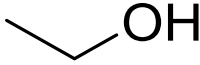
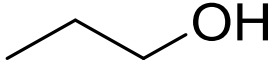
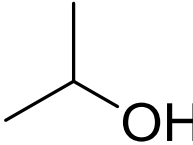
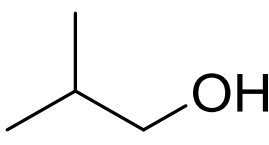
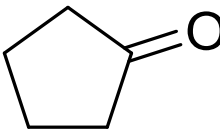
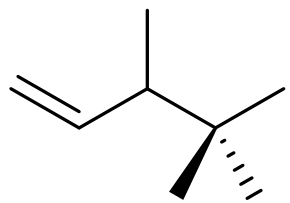
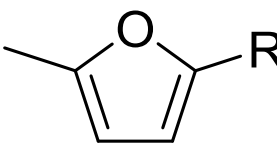
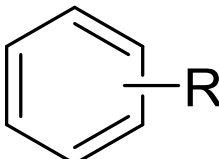
High performing boosted SI blendstocks identified



Properties provided by chemical families:

	RON	S	HOV	LFS
Alcohols	✓	✓	✓	✓
Furans	✓	✓		
Alkenes	✓	✓		
Aromatics	✓	✓		
Ketones	✓	✓		
Cycloalkanes	✓	✓		
Alkanes	✓			
Ethers	✓			
Esters	✓			

Representative Tier 3 blendstocks

 ethanol	 n-propanol
 isopropanol	 isobutanol
 cyclopentanone	 diisobutylene
 R = H, -CH ₃ furan mixture	 aromatics

What Will Work in the Real World?



Blendstocks with feasible pathways to large scale production by ~2025-2030 identified via integrated systems-level analyses



Technology Readiness

State of technology:
Fuel production
Conversion technology readiness level
Feedstock sensitivity
Process robustness
Feedstock quality
of viable pathways



Environmental

Carbon efficiency
Target yield
Life cycle greenhouse gas emissions
Life cycle water
Life cycle fossil energy use



Economics

Target cost
Needed cost reduction
Co-product economics
Feedstock cost
Alternative high-value use



Market

Uncertainty
Regulatory requirements
Geographic factors
Political factors
Vehicle compatibility
Infrastructure compatibility

Assessed only for blendstocks produced from biomass

Independent of blendstocks source

Documenting Key Findings for Stakeholders

Reports highlighting Co-Optima accomplishments:

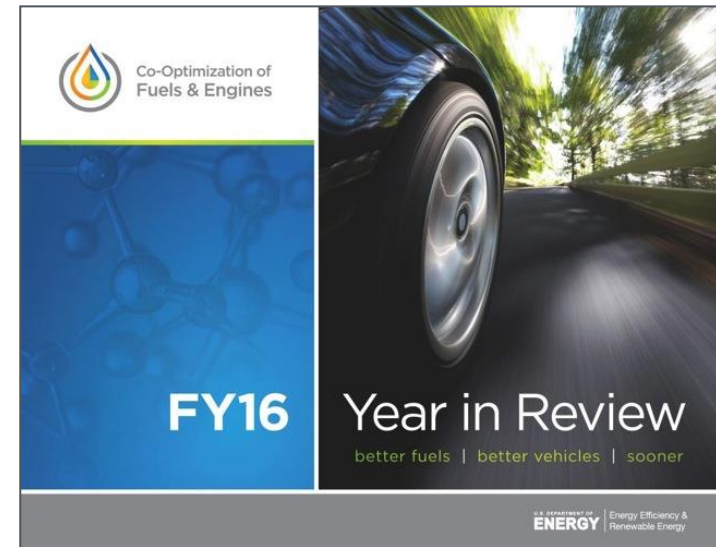
- FY16 Year in Review
- Fuel Blendstocks with the Potential to Optimize Boosted Spark-Ignition Engine Performance§

Reports being published examine issues relevant to new fuel/vehicle introductions:

- Fuel and vehicle introduction§
- Fuel and vehicle distribution§
- Lessons learned from first generation ethanol§
- Misfueling mitigation*

* <http://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy17osti/66918.pdf>

§ in press



Co-Optima Research Setting the Foundation for Creating a Win-Win-Win for Stakeholders



- Research guided by value propositions for all stakeholders key to accelerating introduction of new fuels and vehicles
- Co-Optima research is providing the data, tools, and knowledge to inform stakeholders and decision makers
- Fuel property focus and technology neutral approach allows for market-driven, industry-led solutions

Acknowledgement



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