



# Pyrolysis: A sustainable way from Waste to Energy

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# Outlines

- **Energy, Consumption of Fossil Fuels**
- **Environmental Effects of Fossil Fuel Consumption**
- **Renewable Energy**
- **Biomass, Types, Advantageous and Limitations**
- **Thermochemical Conversion Methods**
- **Pyrolysis**
- **Pyrolysis Parameters**
- **Bio-oil, Products from bio-oil**
- **Economic Aspects of bio-oil production**
- **Bio-char production**
- **Application of Bio-char**
- **The future**

# The situation of **ENERGY**



Demand for energy and its resources, is increasing continuously due to the rapid outgrowth of population and urbanization.

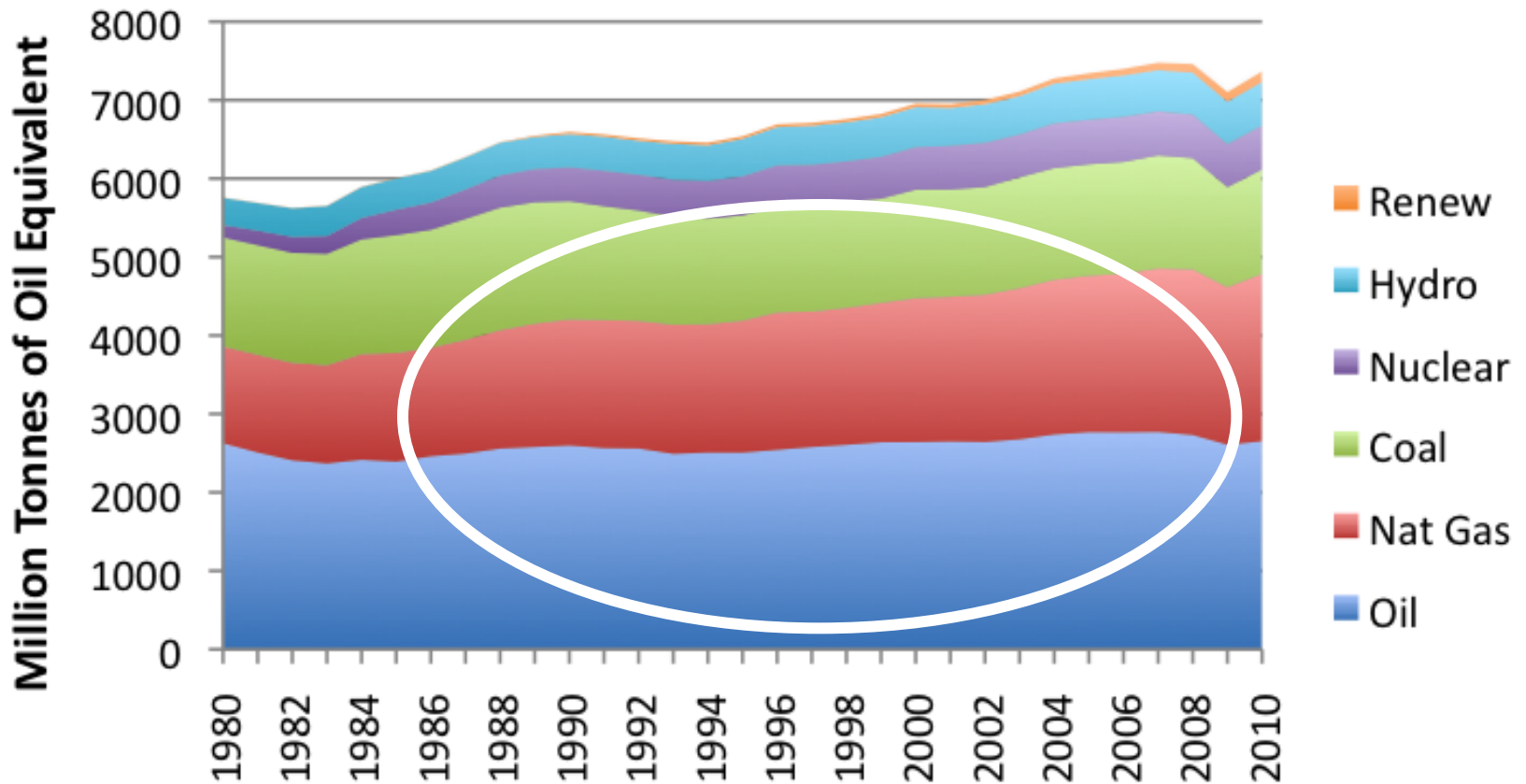
Present sources of energy are not sufficient to overcome the increasing needs.

The major energy demand is fulfilled from the conventional energy resources like coal, petroleum and natural gas.

The huge amount usage of fossil fuels creates environmental threads.

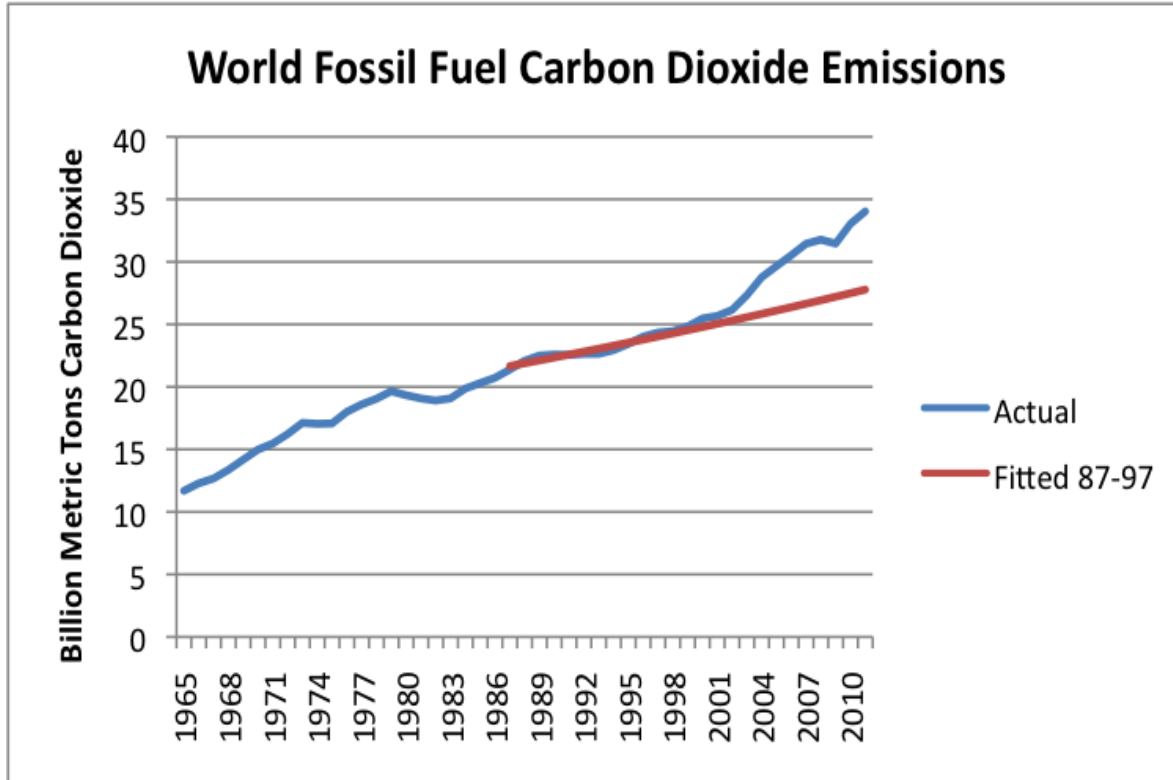


## Remainder of World Consumption by Fuel



**More than 85 % of energy demands are supplied by fossil fuels.**

# Effects of **Fossil Fuel Consumption**



Greenhouse Effect  
Global Warming  
Climate Change

Actual world carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuels, as shown in [BP's 2012 Statistical Review of World Energy](#). Fitted line is expected trend in emissions, based on actual trend in emissions from 1987-1997, equal to about 1.0% per year.

# Renewable Energy

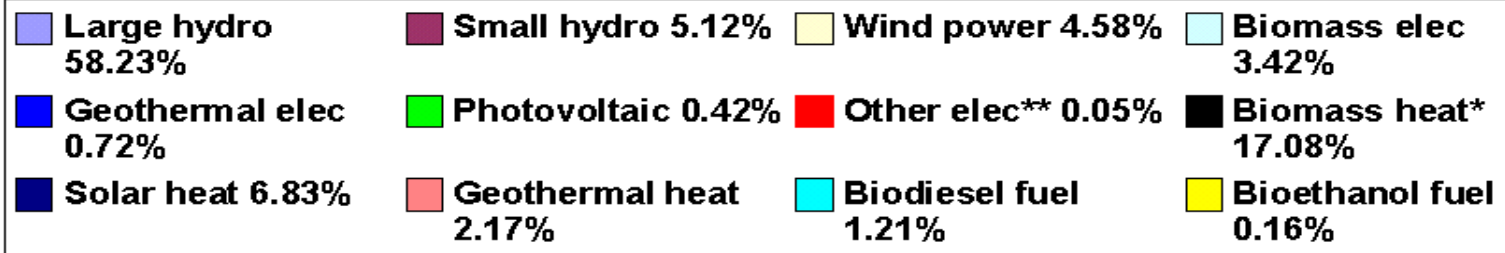
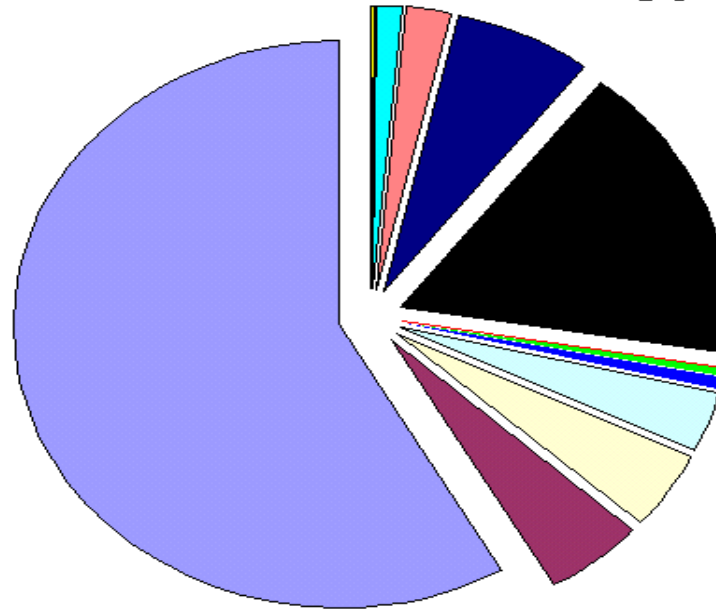
- BIOMASS
- GEO-ENERGY
- HYDROELECTRIC
- SOLAR
- WIND
- WAVE



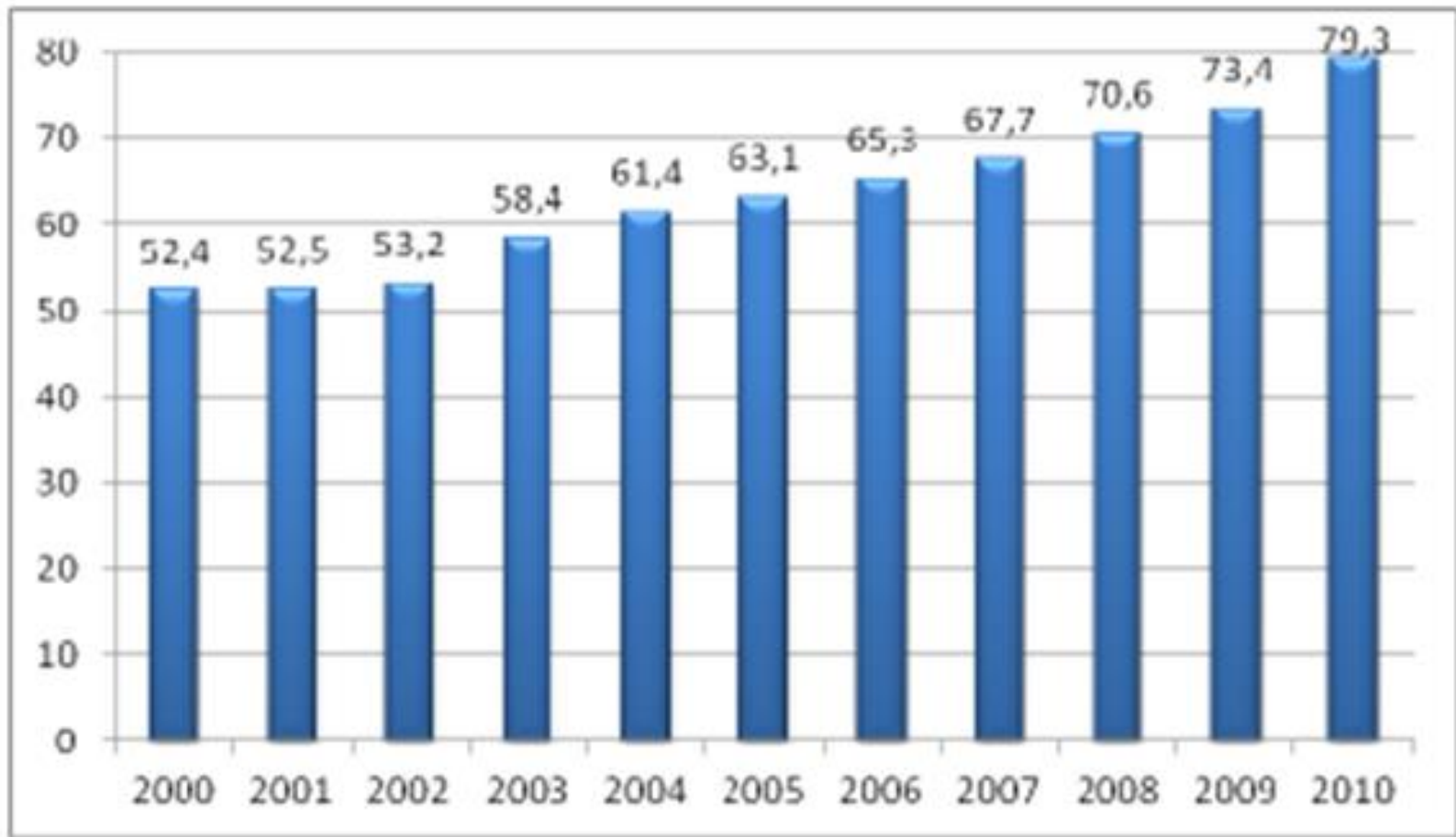
A renewable energy system converts the nature energy (sun, wind, wave etc.) into a form we can use, such as heat or electricity.

Using renewable sources of energy promotes sustainable living due to being pollution free and economically feasible.

# World Renewable Energy 2005

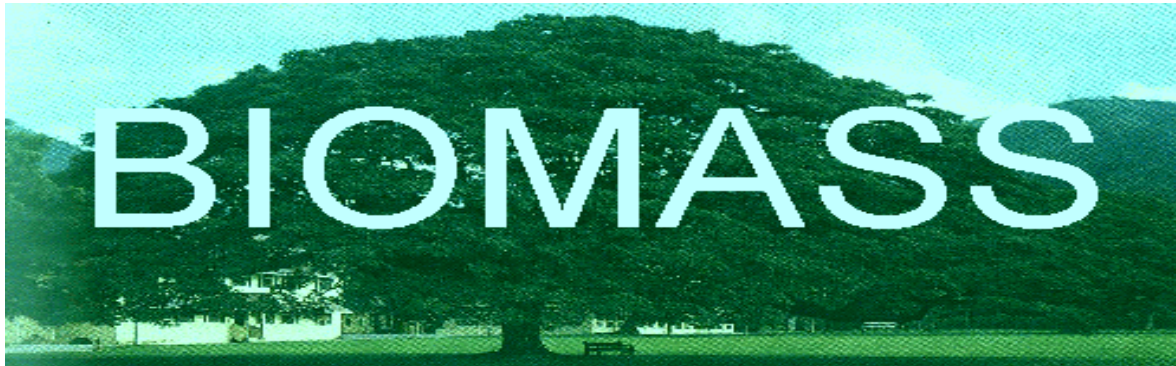


**Approximately, 23 % of energy needs are supplied by biomass.**



**Solid biomass primary energy** production for the EU since 2000 (in Mtoe)





### *What is biomass?*

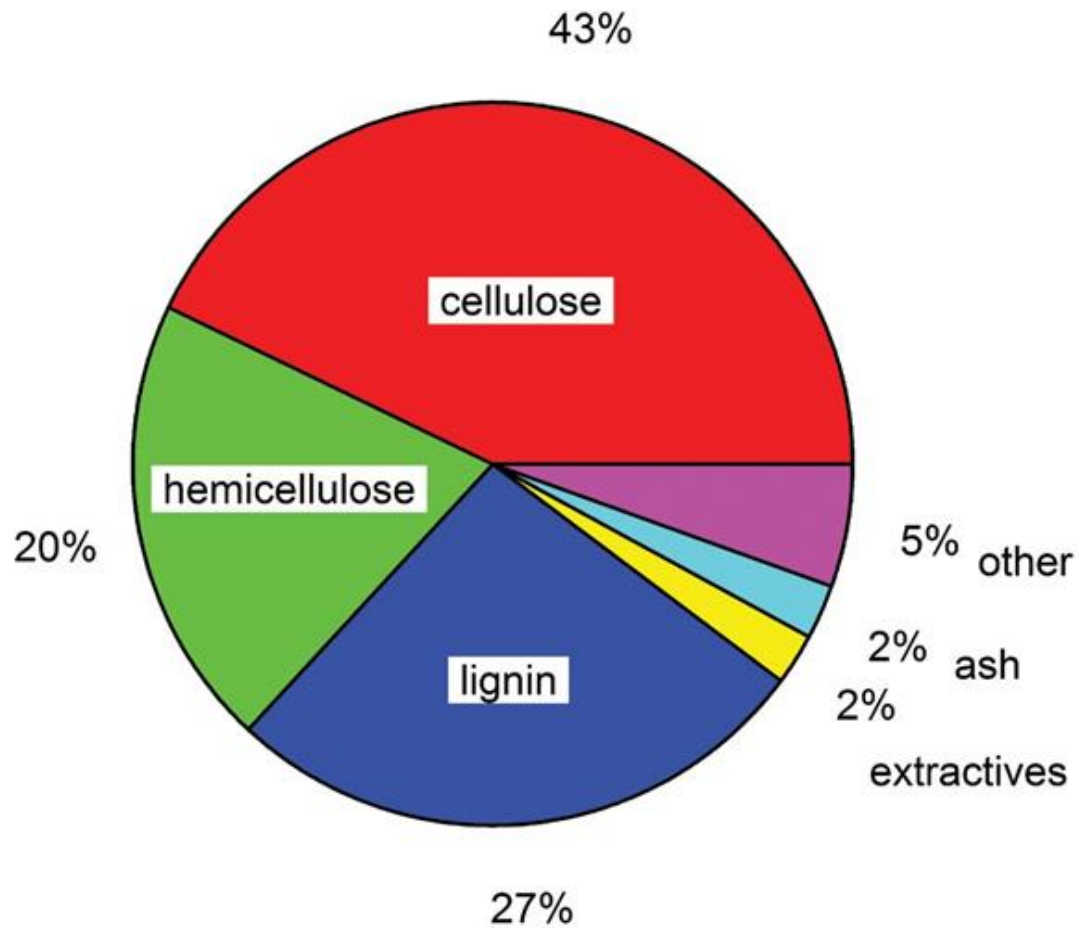
All organic material produced by plants or any conversion process involving life is called biomass.

Biomass, also known as biofuels or bioenergy, is obtained from organic matter either directly from plants or indirectly from industrial, commercial, domestic or agricultural products.

### *Why Biomass?*

Biomass is a green house gas emission neutral energy source!!

# Biomass Composition



# Types of Biomass

## *Forest Residues*

Tree branches, tops of trunks, stumps, branches, and Leaves

## *Agricultural Residues*

Primarily stalks and leaves, not harvested or removed from the fields, includes corn stover, wheat husk and rice straw

## *Industrial Waste*

Citrus peels, sugarcane bagasse, milling residues, olive husks

## *Energy Crops*

Switch grass, miscanthus, bamboo, sweet sorghum, tall fescue, kochia, wheatgrass, and others



# Conversion Methods

Biomass can be converted into heat and electricity in a number of ways. Depending on its source, these processes include: **combustion**, **pyrolysis**, **gasification**, liquefaction, **anaerobic digestion or fermentation**.

Thermo-chemical processes convert biomass into higher-value or more convenient products. The process releases **a gas** ( $\sim 6$  MJ/kg), **a liquid** ( $\sim 17$ - $22$  MJ/kg) and/or **a char** ( $\sim 18$  MJ/kg), and depending on the technology one of these is the final product.

# Thermochemical Methods



**Co-firing**



**Direct combustion**



**Gasification**

**Liquefaction**

**Pyrolysis**



# Pyrolysis

- Pyrolysis is a thermochemical decomposition of organic material at temperatures between 400 ° C and 900 ° C without the presence of oxygen or other reagents.
- The pyrolytic breakdown of wood produces a large number of chemical substances.
- Some of these chemicals can be used as substitutes for conventional fuels.
- The distribution of the products varies with the chemical composition of the biomass and the operating conditions.

## **Slow Pyrolysis : Primarily to produce Char through Carbonization**

Utilizes low temperatures around 400 °C over a long period of time to maximize char formation.

Product yields from slow pyrolysis are approximately

35% biochar,

30% bio-oil, and

35% gaseous products.

## **Rapid/Fast Pyrolysis : Primarily to produce Bio-Oil and Gas**

-Biomass is very rapidly heated ( $\sim 1000-10,000$  °C/s) to a temperature around  $650$  °C- $1,000$  °C depending if bio-oil or gas products are desired.

-Product gases are quickly removed and quenched ( $t < 2s$ )

Fast pyrolysis product yields are typically 50–70% bio-oil, 10–30% bio-char, and 15–20% syngas by mass.

Biomass must first be dried and ground to  $< 2$  mm particle size before entering a fast pyrolyzer.



# Pyrolysis Parameters

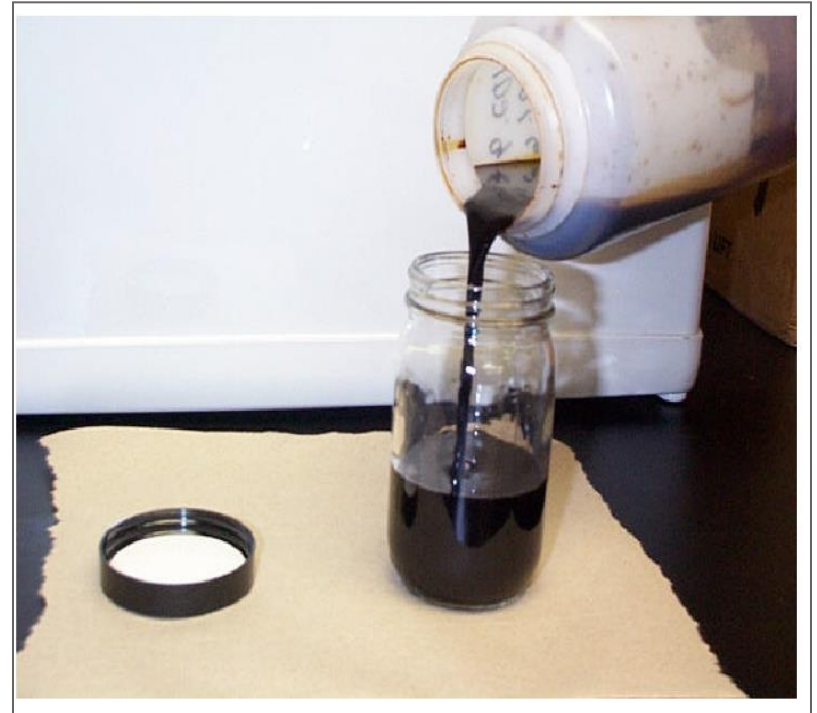
- Biomass type and preparation of feeding
- Pyrolysis temperature
- Catalyst
- Sweeping gas velocity
- Particle size
- Reactor geometry
- Heating rate

# Bio-Oil

**Bio-Oil** is not stable as conventional fuels.

- Highly oxygenated compounds
- High density
- High viscosity
- Low pH
- Low heating value
- CO<sub>2</sub> neutral
- No SO<sub>x</sub> and low NO<sub>x</sub>

Bio-Oil can be combusted directly in boilers, gas turbines and slow and medium speed diesels for heat and power applications.

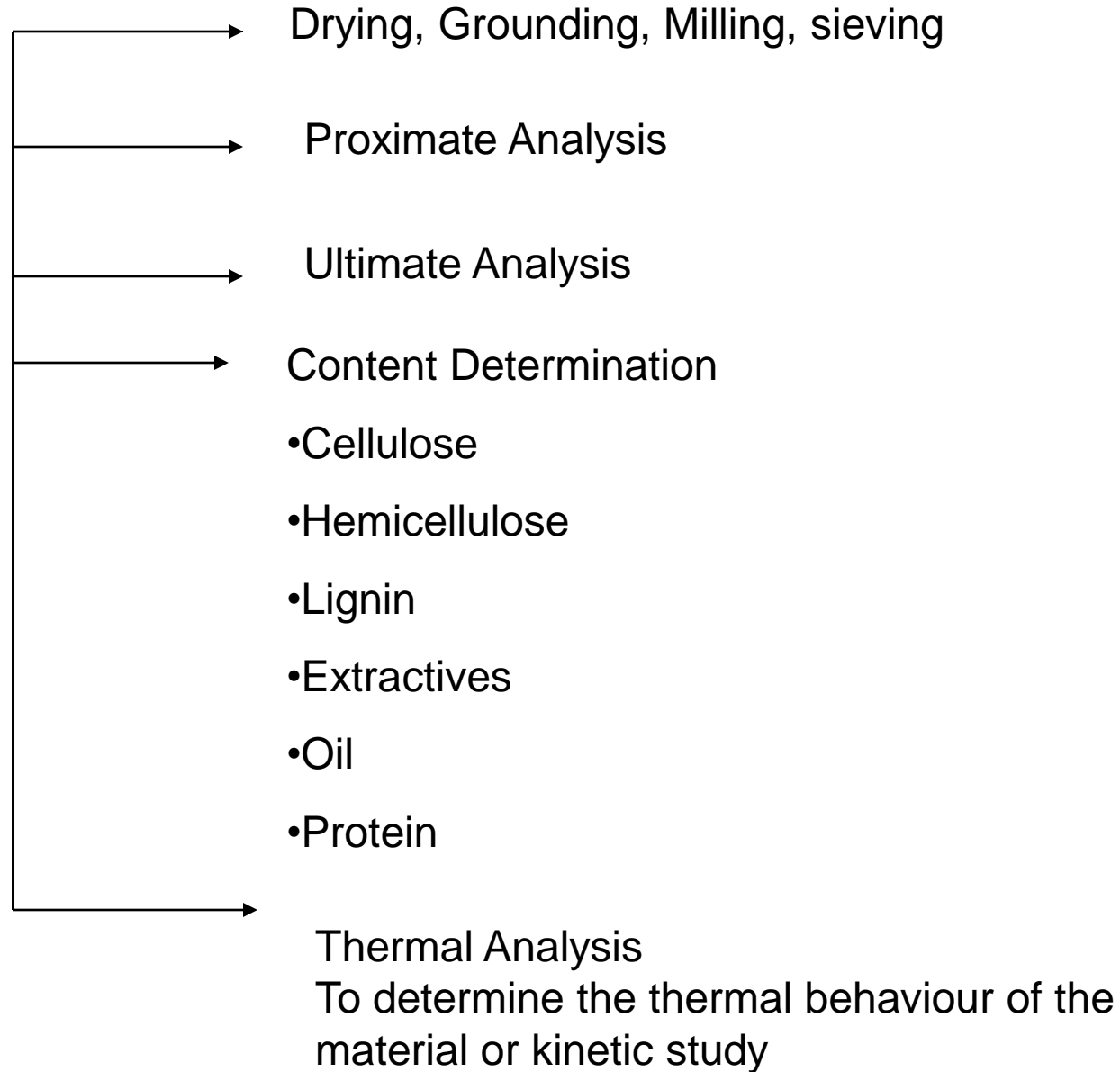


## Comparison of pyrolysis liquid and conventional fuel oil characteristics\*

	<b>Pyrolysis liquid</b>	<b>Diesel</b>	<b>Heavy fuel oil</b>
<b>Density kg/m<sup>3</sup> at 15°C</b>	<b>1220</b>	<b>854</b>	<b>963</b>
<b>Elemental Composition</b>			
<b>% C</b>	<b>48.5</b>	<b>86.3</b>	<b>86.1</b>
<b>% H</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>12.8</b>	<b>11.8</b>
<b>% O</b>	<b>42.5</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>---</b>
<b>% S</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>2.1</b>
<b>Viscosity cSt at 50°C</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>351</b>
<b>Flash point °C</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Pour point °C</b>	<b>-27</b>	<b>-20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Ashwt.%</b>	<b>0.13</b>	<b>0.01</b>	<b>0.03</b>
<b>Sulphur %wt</b>	<b>----</b>	<b>0.15</b>	<b>2.5</b>
<b>Water %wt</b>	<b>20.5</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.1</b>
<b>LHV(MJ/kg)</b>	<b>17.5</b>	<b>42.9</b>	<b>40.7</b>
<b>Acidity</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>---</b>	<b>----</b>

## APPLIED ANALYSES

Raw material



# Analyses Applied on Products

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graph TD; A[Analyses Applied on Products] --> B[Bio-oil]; A --> C[Bio-Char]; A --> D[Gaseous product];
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## Bio-oil

- \*Elemental analysis/  
Bomb Calorimetry
- \*FT-IR
- \*H-NMR
- \*GC-GC/MS
- \*Adsorption  
Chromatography
- \*Karl Fischer titration-  
water separation
- \*ICP

## Bio-Char

- \*Elemental Analysis/  
Bomb Calorimetry
- FT-IR
- BET
- SEM
- C<sup>13</sup>-NMR
- ICP

## Gaseous product

- \*Bomb Calorimetry
- \*GC

## Compositions of Products

### Contamination of bio-oil

Acids, Esters, Alcohols, Ketones, Aldehydes, Phenols, Alkenes, Aromatics, Nitrogen compounds, Furans, Syringols, Sugars, Miscellaneous oxygenates  
Inorganics such as Ca, Si, K, Fe, Al, Na etc.

### Composition of gaseous products

CO, CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>, propane, propylene, butane, butenes, C<sub>5</sub>, ethane, etc.

### Composition of Char

Char contains elemental carbon along with hydrogen and various inorganic species.

# BIO-CHAR

Biochar carbon-rich solid produced at low pyrolysis temperatures.

- process heat
- activated carbon
- ❖ soil amendment



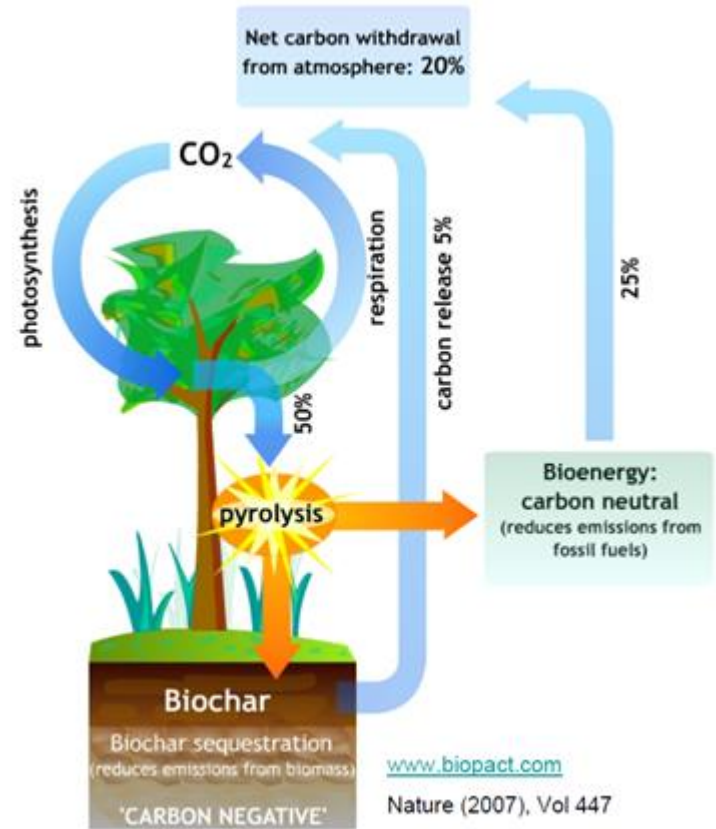
## Negative carbon cycle

When biochar is stored in soils to make them more fertile, the biofuels carbon cycle is negative.

Application to the soil, in conjunction with bioenergy generation, can result in carbon sequestration.

Biochar is relatively stable that can be used to increase the soil organic contents of eroded areas.

Adding these materials may make a longer term impact on the soil productivity.





# FUTURE

Pyrolysis is considered to be one of the sustainable solution that may be economically profitable in large scales and minimise environmental concerns especially in terms of

Waste minimization

Carbon sequestration

Soil amendment

Energy/heat supply

Value added chemicals

Development of rural areas

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