

# Bio-fuels, e-fuels and their role in the future energy mix

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# What we see in the press

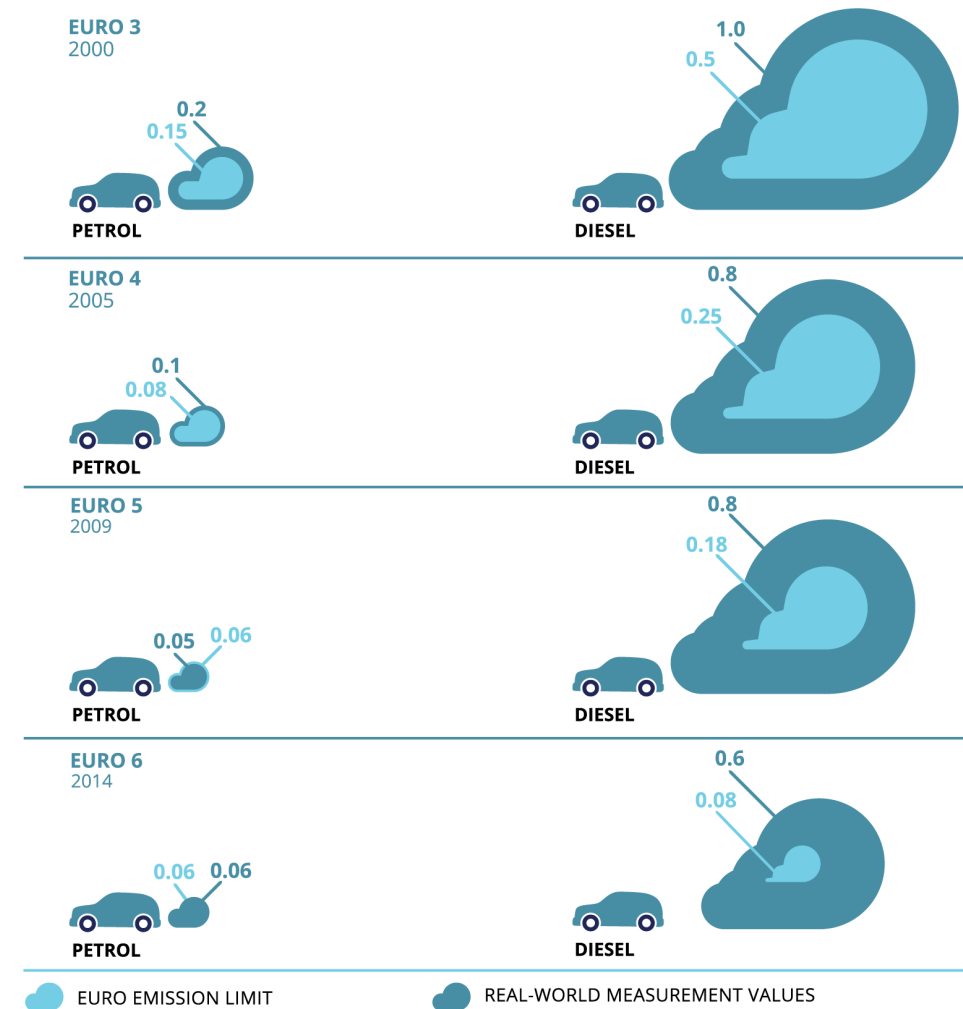
- ▶ “The EU plans to ban sales of new ICE powered vehicles in 2035”
- ▶ “Britain, Israel and Singapore plan to ban the sales of new vehicles with IC engines in 2030”
- ▶ “Internal combustion engines are hindering the clean energy future”



# It's not the engine, it's the fuel

- ▶ Harmful ICE emissions have been considerably reduced
  - ▶ Vast improvements in after treatment technologies
  - ▶ Global regulation became stricter and will continue to
- ▶ CO2 emissions are a result of the fuel used and not a inherent to engine technology
  - ▶  $C_8H_{18} + 12.5 O_2 \rightarrow 8 CO_2 + 9H_2O$
  - ▶  $CH_3OH + 1.5 O_2 \rightarrow CO_2 + 2H_2O$
  - ▶  $H_2 + 0.5 O_2 \rightarrow H_2O$
- ▶ Carbon emissions can be reduced by:
  - ▶ using fuels with less carbon or no carbon
  - ▶ Producing synthetic fuels with use of carbon originating from waste or the atmosphere

Comparison of NO<sub>x</sub> emission standards for different Euro classes



# Alternative fuels driving decarbonization

- ▶ Reduction in carbon emissions can begin **right now**
  - ▶ Effective for the existing ICE based transportation fleet
  - ▶ Using the existing distribution, re-fueling and storage infrastructure
  - ▶ Effective for sectors where an ICE will continue to be dominant (shipping, aircraft, off-grid power generation etc.)
  - ▶ Effective for other types of fuel burning machines (industrial steam boilers etc.)
- ▶ “Drop in” capability with existing engines
  - ▶ little to no changes required (depending on fuel)
  - ▶ Possibility for blending with existing fuels(E5, E10 etc.)
  - ▶ Flexible fueling for the same machine (eg. E85/gasoline flex fuel system)
- ▶ Energy storage for the future distributed renewable energy system
  - ▶ Power to Gas/ Power to Liquid
  - ▶ Better than other storage methods in energy density and storage capacity

# Combustion of hydrogen in ICE

- ▶ Hydrogen has many advantages as a fuel for ICE
  - ▶ Very wide flammability limits
    - ▶ The engine is able to operate at ultra-lean conditions
  - ▶ No carbon emissions directly from fuel
  - ▶ The most common element in nature
    - ▶ Has a well established production method
    - ▶ Renewable energy can be used to produce it
- ▶ This however, comes with several challenges:
  - ▶ Low energy density as a gas (at room temperature)
  - ▶ High pressure compression and liquification possible but complex
    - ▶ 700 BAR tanks have been developed for various applications
    - ▶ liquid hydrogen tanks (at -253°C) have also been developed and are under testing
    - ▶ Both methods suffer from leakage issues and are energy intensive
  - ▶ Increase in NOx emissions
  - ▶ Effect of hydrogen embrittlement on engine materials lifetime
  - ▶ Re-fueling infrastructure is currently not wide spread
  - ▶ Safety considerations
    - ▶ Very easily ignitable during unplanned leakage
    - ▶ Failure of High pressure or very low temperature storage devices



# Combustion of hydrogen in ICE

Currently in the R&D phase, with Toyota leading the effort for ICE and fuel cell vehicles

・Fun to drive な内燃機関を将来に残したい

ORC ROOKIE GR Corolla H2 concept

MIRAI



水素エンジン

床下水素タンク



レース&今までの経験を活かした「実証実験車」  
20社の企業様に御協力頂き車両製作

！車両の注目Point！

① 5人乗れて、荷室も確保

② ガソリンエンジンからの  
変更箇所を最小限に



エンジン本体はS耐で鍛えた  
車列3気筒ターボ、そのままを使用

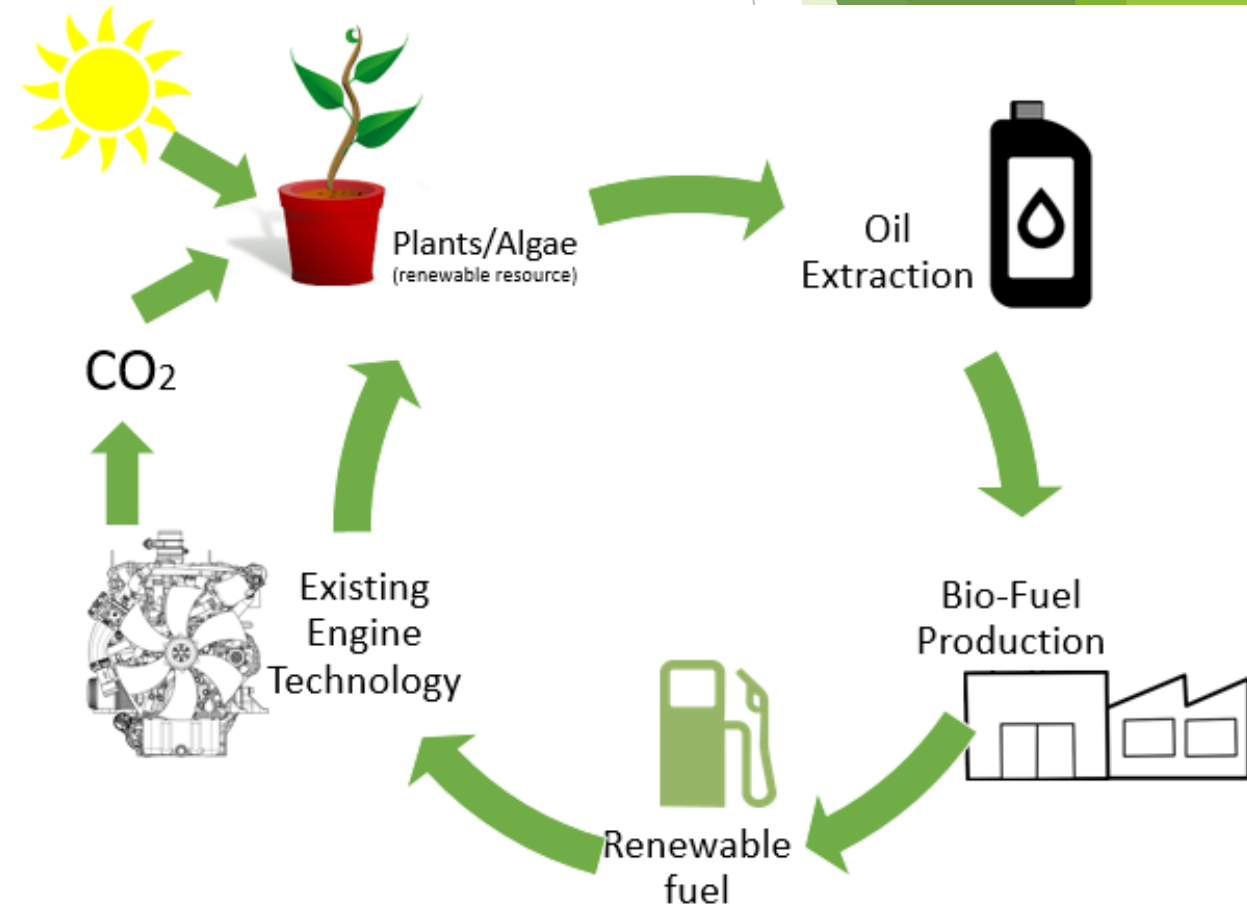
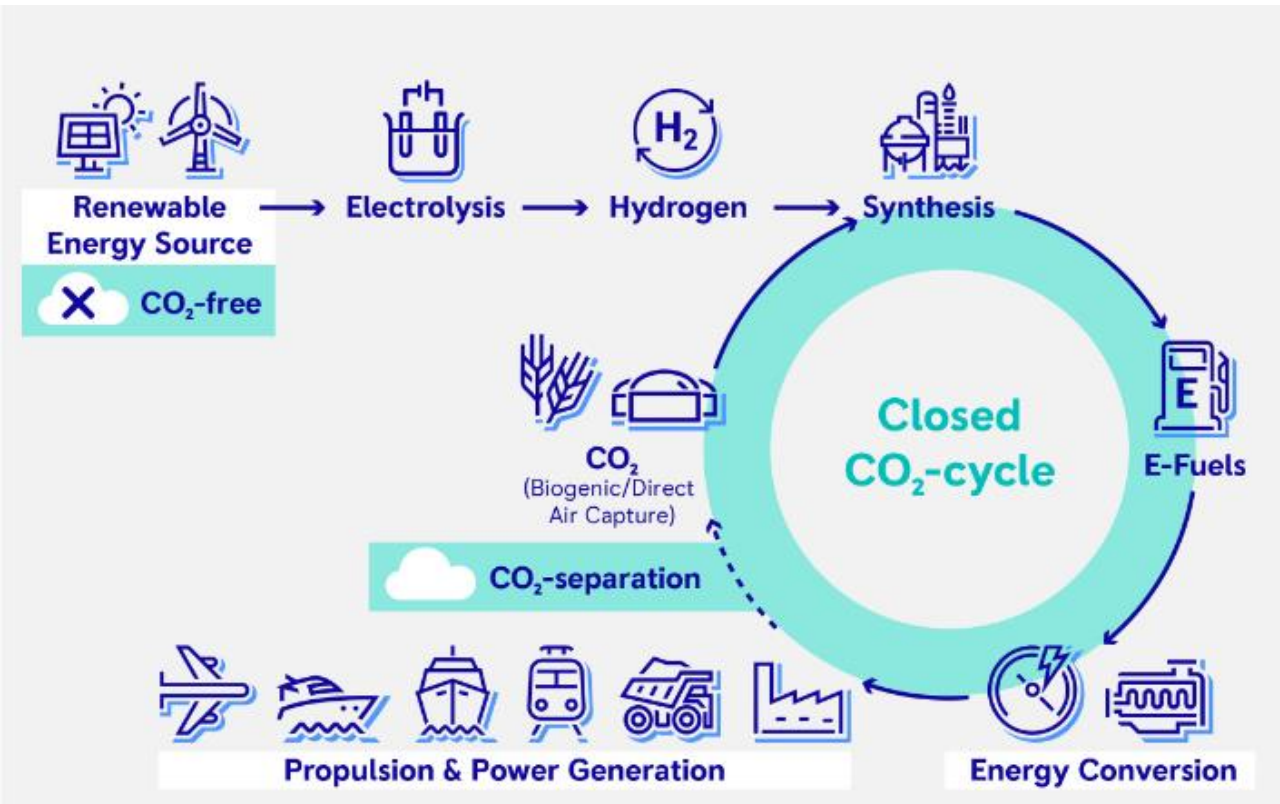




# The Closed CO<sub>2</sub> cycle of the two liquid fuel alternatives

e-fuels

bio-fuels

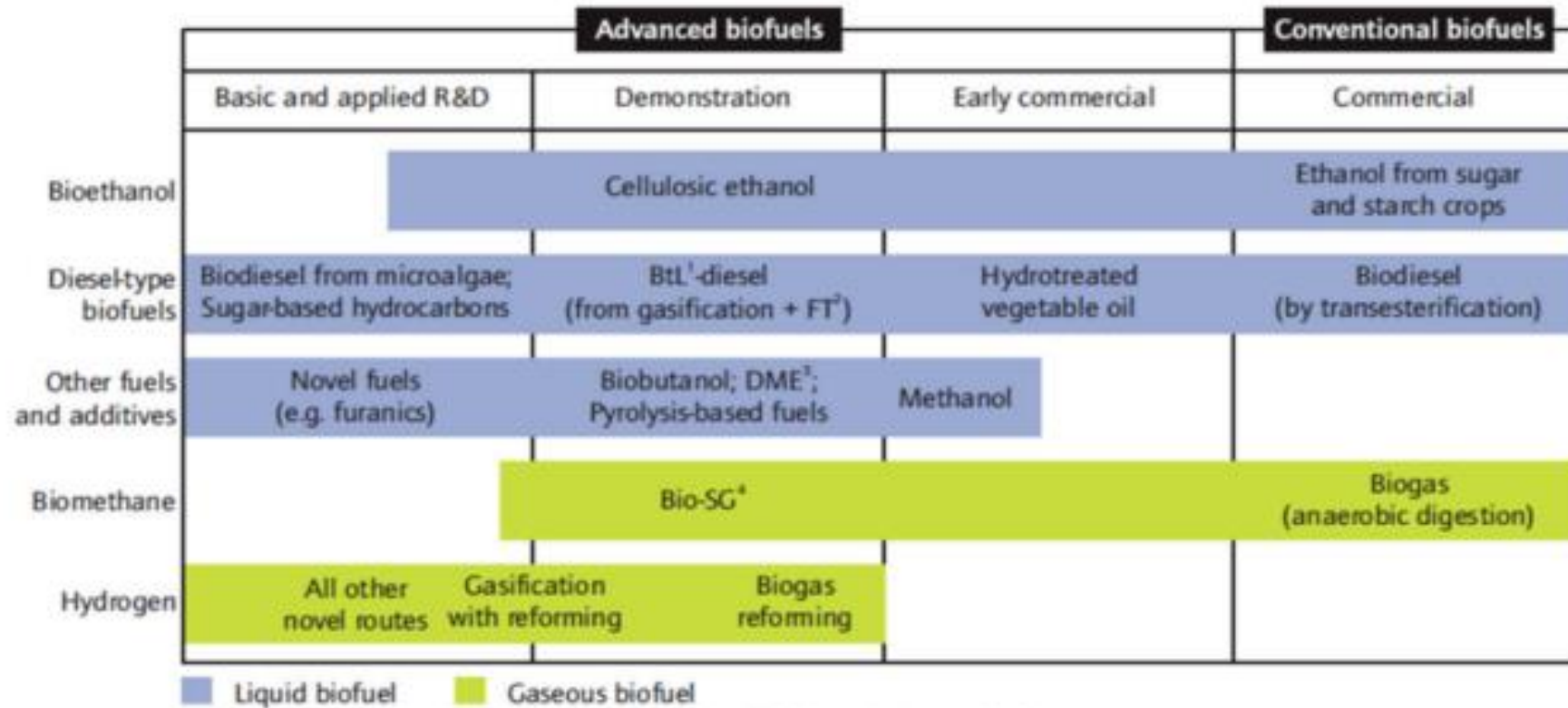


# Bio fuels

- ▶ Bio fuels can be made from various plant-based materials
  - ▶ Straw, manure, wood waste, sugarcane, waste vegetable oils etc.
- ▶ production methods are divided to generations:
  - ▶ First generation Bio-fuels
    - ▶ Fermentation of simple sugars (e.g. ethanol sugar cane)
    - ▶ transesterification of vegetable oils and animal fats (e.g. alkyl ester “biodiesel” from vegetable oil)
  - ▶ second generation Bio-fuels
    - ▶ Thermochemical conversion of carbon based materials (e.g. organic waste gasification to produce syngas. The syngas can be turned into various fuels via a Fischer-Tropsch process)
    - ▶ Biochemical conversion through enzymatic-hydrolysis of cellulose resulting in sugars fermented into alcohol (using plant based waste)
  - ▶ Third generation bio-fuels
    - ▶ Derived from algae that produce an oil that can be easily refined into diesel
    - ▶ The algae can also be genetically manipulated to produce other types of fuels



# Bio fuels, continued



1. Biomass-to-liquids; 2. Fischer-Tropsch; 3. Dimethylether; 4. Bio-synthetic gas.

# Bio fuels, continued

- ▶ The most common bio fuels in use are ethanol (for SI engines) and biodiesel (for CI engines)
- ▶ These fuels are suitable for use in current engines with little modification
  - ▶ Changes to the fuel supply system for correct flow and resistance to corrosion
  - ▶ In cold climates cold start aids need to be installed (glow plugs etc.)
- ▶ Blends are being used with no modification to hardware
  - ▶ E5 and E10
  - ▶ B20
- ▶ The trend is to move away from bio fuels made from growing crops on land and focus on more renewable and energy efficient sources (waste, algae).

# e-fuels

- ▶ e-fuels (power-to-liquid) are considered the “fourth generation” bio-fuel
- ▶ Production:
  - ▶ Electrolysis of water to produce Hydrogen
  - ▶ Separation of CO<sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere or other sources (water, biomass, flue gas)
  - ▶ Chemical synthesis of the desired fuel
  - ▶ the process can be carbon-free if renewable or excess energy is used
- ▶ Many types of fuels can be synthesized:
  - ▶ e-methanol, e-methane, dimethyl ether (E-DME), e-ammonia, e-diesel...
- ▶ The ones considered most energy efficient
  - ▶ e-Methanol (typically for SI engines)
  - ▶ e-DME (typically for CI engines)
- ▶ P-to-L can also be used to store off-peak excess energy with high density

# e-fuels

	Theoretical Conversion Efficiency from Hydrogen	Typical Plant Conversion Efficiency from Hydrogen	Thermophysical Conversion for Storage [kWh/kg]	Typical Overall PtX Efficiency	E-Fuel Transportation to Final User [kWh/kWh <sub>fuel</sub> ]	WTT Efficiency
E-Hydrogen (700 bar)	-	-	5.5	0.60	0.09	0.55
E-Hydrogen (liquid)	-	-	11	0.54	0.1	0.49
E-Methanol	0.886	0.797	-	0.53	0.07	0.49
E-Diesel	0.834	0.693	-	0.46	0.05	0.44
E-Ammonia	0.870	0.783	-	0.52	0.07	0.48
E-DME	0.915	0.824	-	0.55	0.07	0.51
E-Methane (220 bar)	0.825	0.743	0.15	0.50	0.07	0.47
E-Methane (liquid)	0.825	0.743	0.5	0.49	0.07	0.46

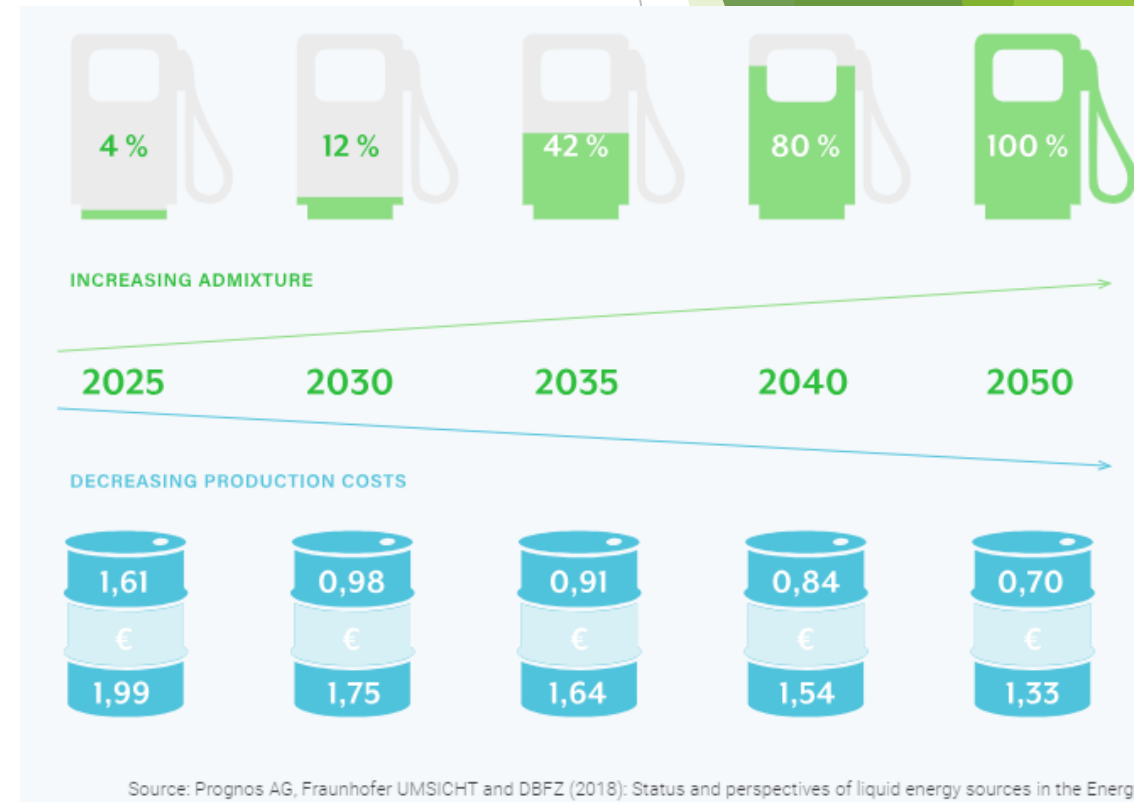


# e-fuels, continued

- ▶ e-Methanol  $\text{CO}_2 + 3\text{H}_2 \rightarrow \text{CH}_3\text{OH} + \text{H}_2\text{O}$ 
  - ▶ Can be easily used in SI engines
    - ▶ High RON, high HOV, high flame speed, high energy per unit of fuel-air mixture
  - ▶ Energy density ~1/2 of gasoline
  - ▶ To produce 1 kg of methanol, 1.37 kg of CO<sub>2</sub> and 0.19 kg of H<sub>2</sub> are required.
  - ▶ Other possibilities in ICE
    - ▶ On-board reforming to hydrogen using exhaust gas heat
    - ▶ Dual-fuel operation of CI engines with variable energy substitution rates
- ▶ e-DME  $2\text{CO} + 4\text{H}_2 \rightarrow \text{CH}_3\text{OCH}_3 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$ 
  - ▶ The carbon source for production is CO, converted from CO<sub>2</sub>. can also be produced from methanol
  - ▶ A suitable fuel for CI engines
    - ▶ high cetane number, low ignition temperature, and high speed of vaporisation
  - ▶ Energy density ~60% of diesel
  - ▶ No C-to-C bonds- large reduction in particulate emissions (negating DPF)
  - ▶ Currently in the research stage

# Challenges to e-fuel adoption

- ▶ Energy requirements of current technology
  - ▶ Electricity consumption, only for the reactants needed to synthesize 1 kg of e-methanol, is about 10 kWh for H<sub>2</sub> and up to 2 kWh for CO<sub>2</sub>
  - ▶ Hurts WTT efficiency
- ▶ Availability of “green energy”
  - ▶ Relying only on excess energy will limit production capability
- ▶ The price
  - ▶ Current offerings (Porsche) cost 10 euro/liter- X5 of gasoline
  - ▶ Price is expected to decrease with larger scale production
- ▶ The regulatory environment
  - ▶ EU delayed LDV ICE ban, but the politics are still in favor
  - ▶ Government incentives could speed up adoption



# Dor Group Methanol initiatives

- ▶ During the last decade, DOR Group (Via its innovation arm Dor-Motors) has put forward an intensive R&D effort to expand the use methanol as a clean, competitive alternative fuel. Among the developments:
  - ▶ Internal Combustion Engine conversions to operate with Methanol
    - ▶ (M100 engine technology)
  - ▶ Development and Production of Low-Carbon Methanol based fuel (“DOR-Mix”)
    - ▶ reducing up to 15% CO2 emissions compared to diesel.
  - ▶ Launched the first in the world Medium Duty Vehicle operated with Methanol
  - ▶ Design of a conversion KIT - upgrading existing diesel gensets for hybrid methanol - diesel use.
- ▶ Replacing diesel fuel with alcohols in relevant applications has both environmental and economical benefit:
  - ▶ Reduction (dual fuel) or elimination of particle emissions (soot)
  - ▶ Reduction in NOx emissions
  - ▶ e-fuels
  - ▶ Diesel fuel is subject to high tax policies that are expected to continue increasing



# Dor Motors



- ▶ Dor-Motors current initiatives are:
  - ▶ Diesel genset dual-fuel conversion kits:
    - ▶ Self-tuning ability for various fuels (Methanol, Ethanol, Hydrogen etc.)
    - ▶ Implementation at customer sites ( Ashdod port, etc.)
  - ▶ M100 genset conversions offered to customers via “energy as a service”
  - ▶ Conversions of oil burners for direct combustion of alternative fuels and fuel blends
  - ▶ Hydrogen energy initiatives
    - ✓ Production and storage methods
    - ✓ Fueling infrastructure and usage in HFC industrial vehicles (forklifts, trucks etc)
- ▶ Looking for collaboration with interested parties





# References

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<https://mdpi.com/2313-0105/9/2/135>

The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of green, ranging from light lime to dark forest green. These shapes are primarily located on the left and right sides of the frame, leaving a large white central area. The shapes are composed of triangles and polygons, some of which are semi-transparent, creating a layered effect.

Questions?