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IMAGINEERING  
NATURE



**BIO  
REFINERY**  
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# Entwicklung von Bioraffinerien mit Fokus auf stofflicher Nutzung von Lignin

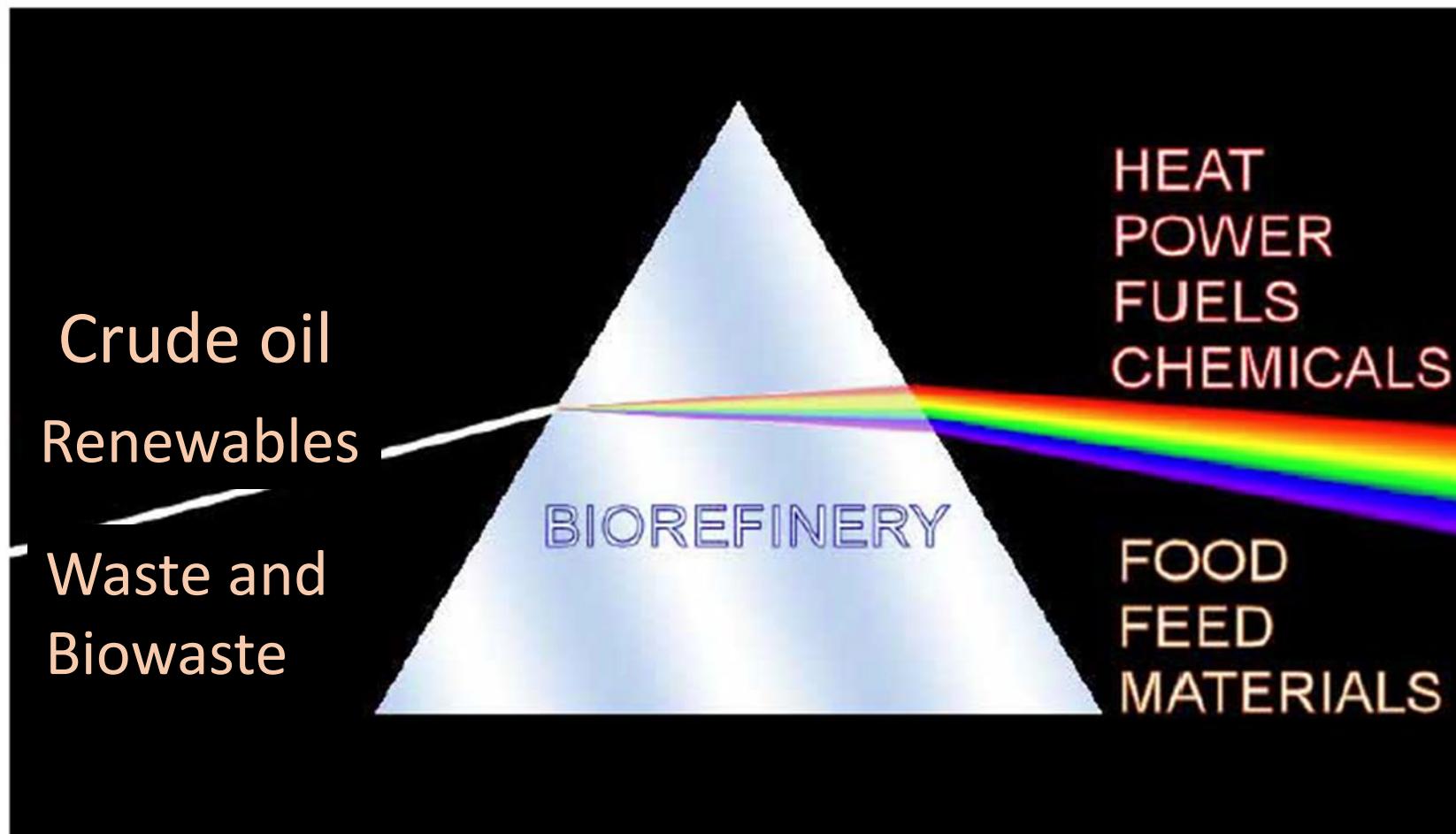
WKO – Wirtschaftskammer Österreich;  
Wiedner Hauptstraße 63, 1045 Vienna

**Anton Friedl & Martin Miltner**

Inspired by nature – Imagineering nature Industry 5.0™

**14.12.2020**

# From classical refinery to bio-refinery



Ref. adapted from: De Jong, E. & Jungmeier, G. 2015. Chapter 1 – Biorefinery Concepts in Comparison to Petrochemical Refineries

EC Roadmap for the Chemical Industry in Europe towards a Bioeconomy  
2019

EC Research Agenda – Horizon Europe Programme  
European Partnership for a circular bio-based Europe

Bioökonomie - Eine Strategie für Österreich 2019

Bundesministerium für Nachhaltigkeit und Tourismus ([www.bmnt.gv.at](http://www.bmnt.gv.at))

Bundesministerium für Bildung, Wissenschaft und Forschung ([bmbwf.gv.at](http://bmbwf.gv.at))

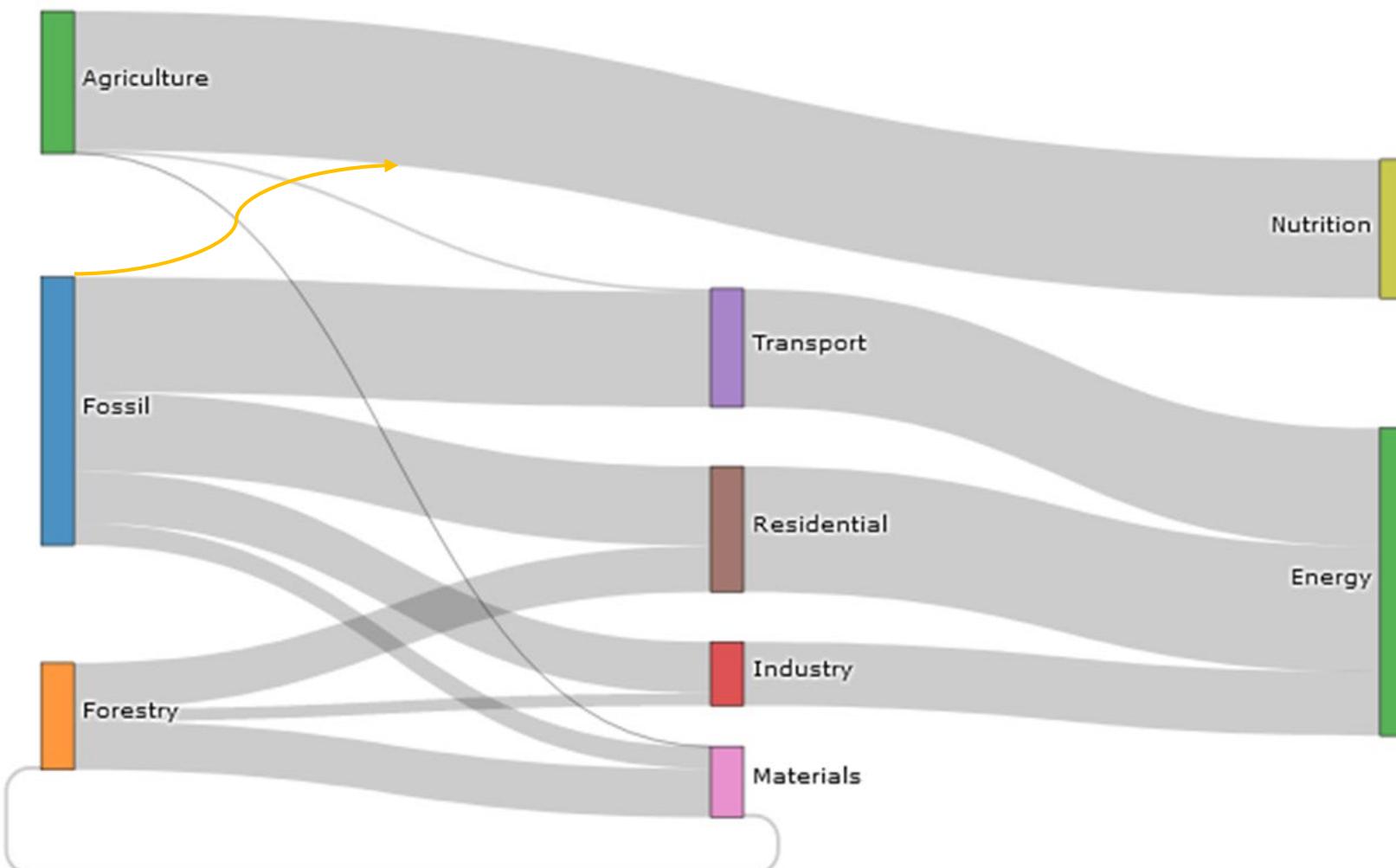
Bundesministerium für Verkehr, Innovation und Technologie ([www.bmvit.gv.at](http://www.bmvit.gv.at))

Bioraffinerien und Kreislaufwirtschaft – today

Ausschreibung „KEM Bioökonomie/Kreislaufwirtschaft“ - 15.2.2021

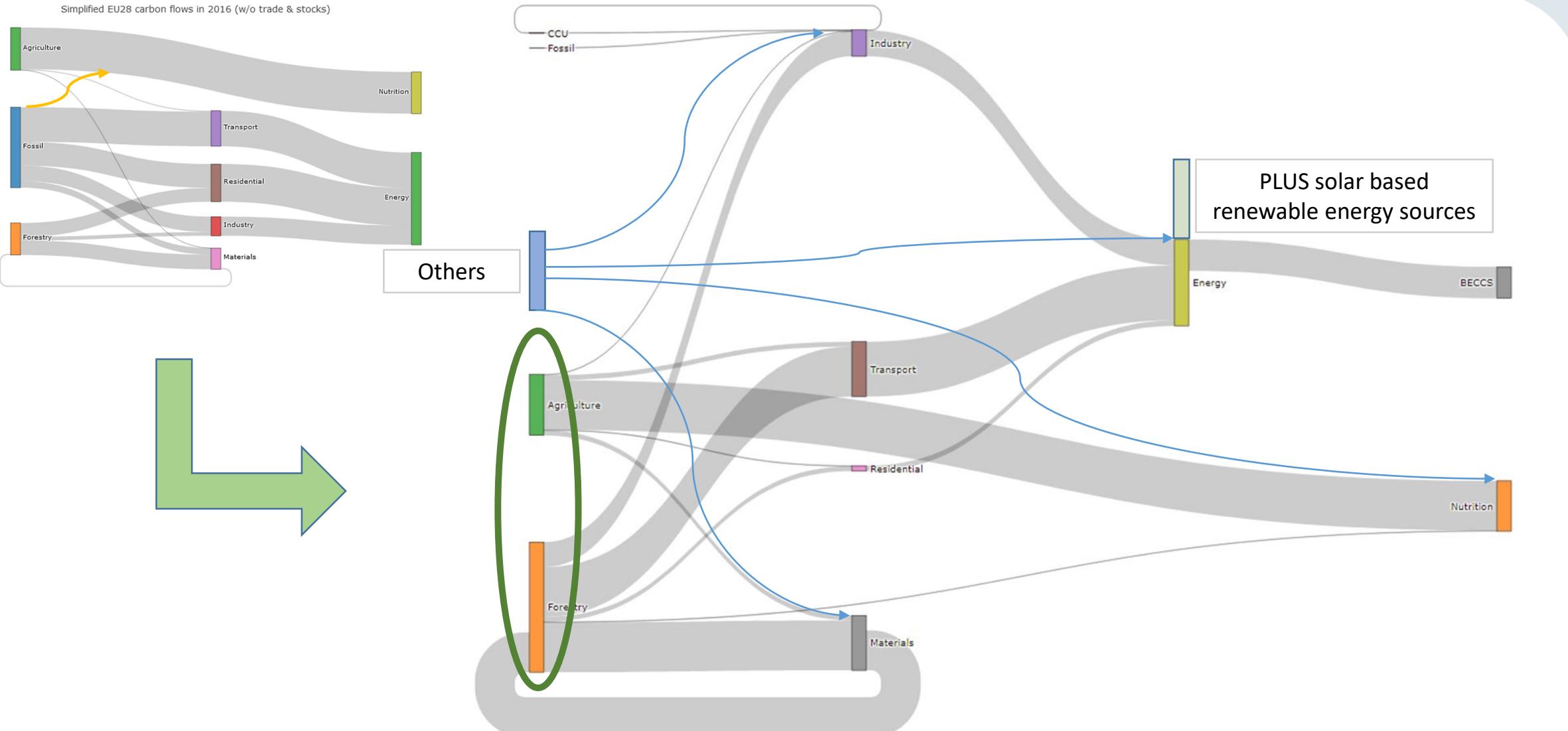
# Carbon management

Simplified EU28 carbon flows in 2016 (w/o trade & stocks)



Ref.: IEA Task40 Circular Bioeconomy Synergies (Fabian Schipfer et al. 03 Oct. 2020 work in progress) - adapted

# Biogenic carbon management

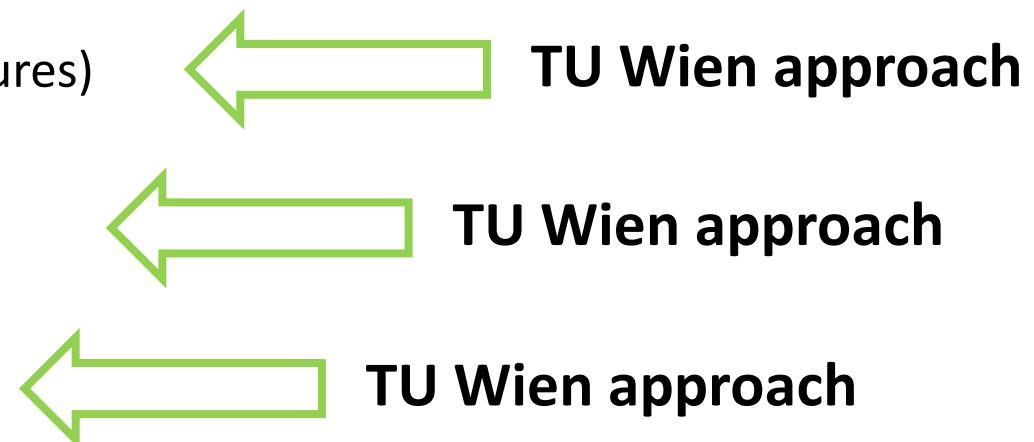


Ref.: IEA Task40 Circular Bioeconomy Synergies (Fabian Schipfer et al. 03 Oct. 2020 work in progress) - adapted

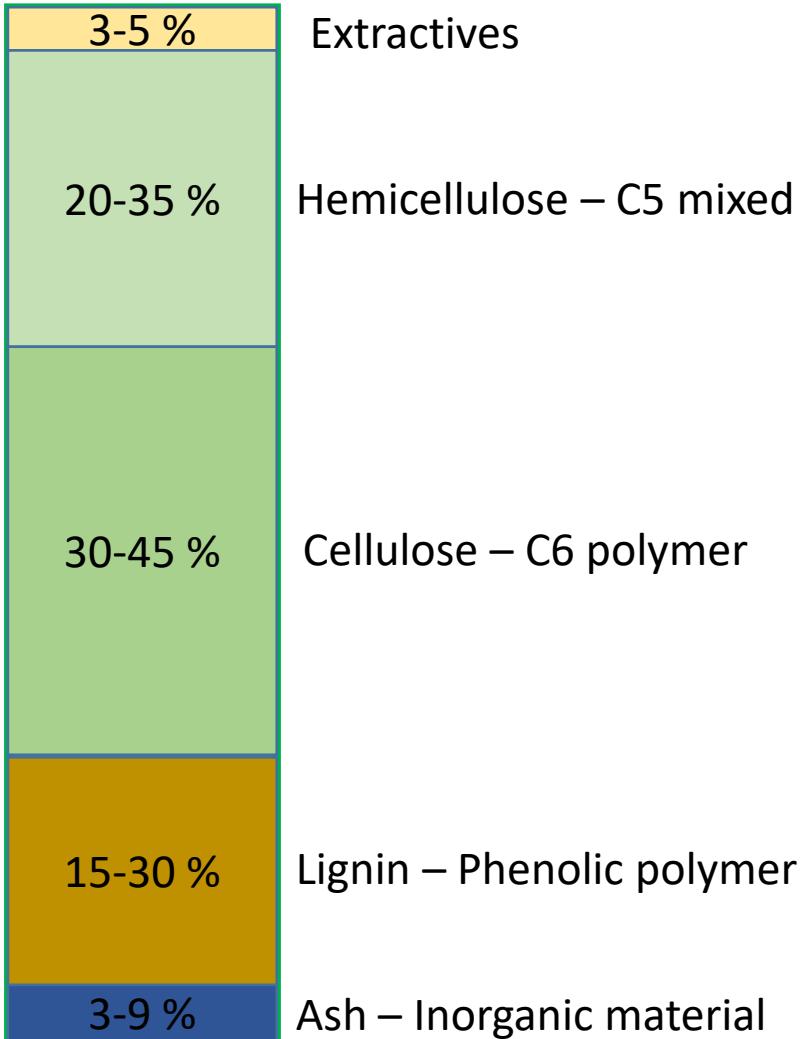
- Cellulose: Polymer von  $\beta$ -(1-4)-Glucose (C6)
- Hemicellulose: Polymer of various C5 and C6 sugars
- Lignin: Phenolic Polymer
- Acetic acid
- Extractives / Secondary plant compounds
- Ash (inorganic nutrients)



- Mechanical treatment (mechanical pulping)
- Chemical pretreatment (chemical pulping)
  - Sulfite (SPORL)- or Sulfate (Kraft)- cooking
  - Organosolv (Ethanol / Water mixtures)
- Biochemical conversion
- Thermochemical conversion

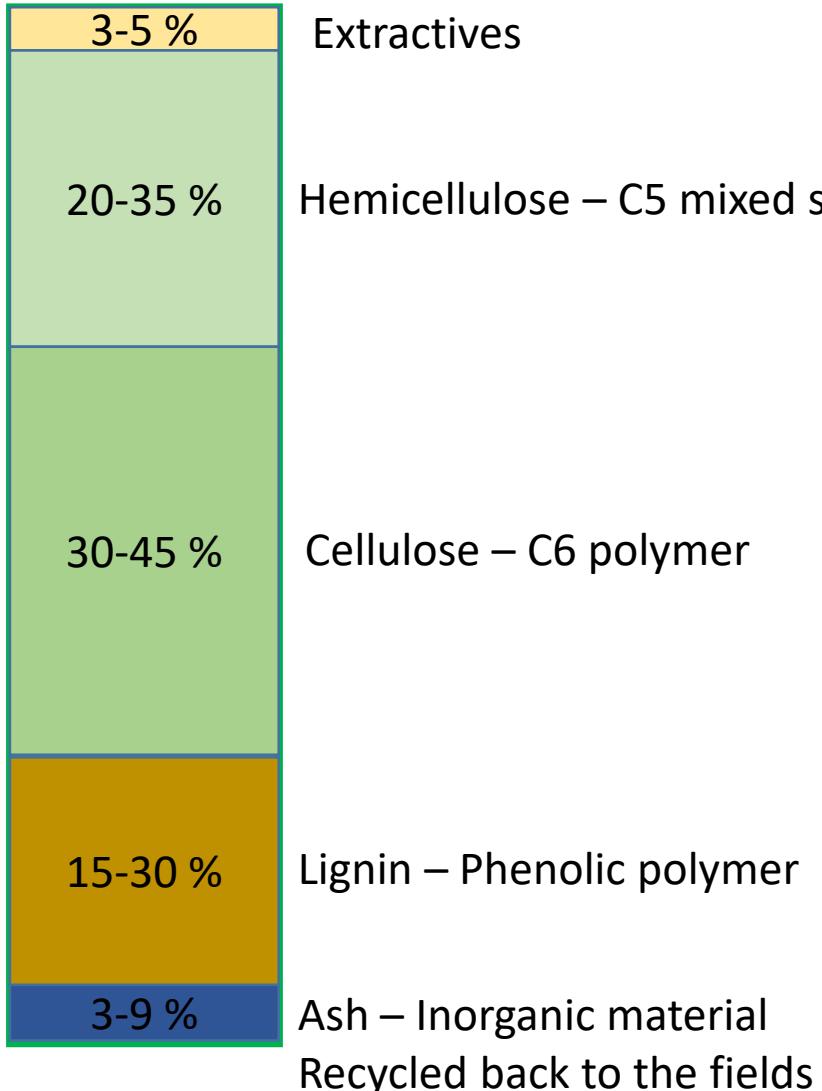


# Lignocellulose Biorefinery



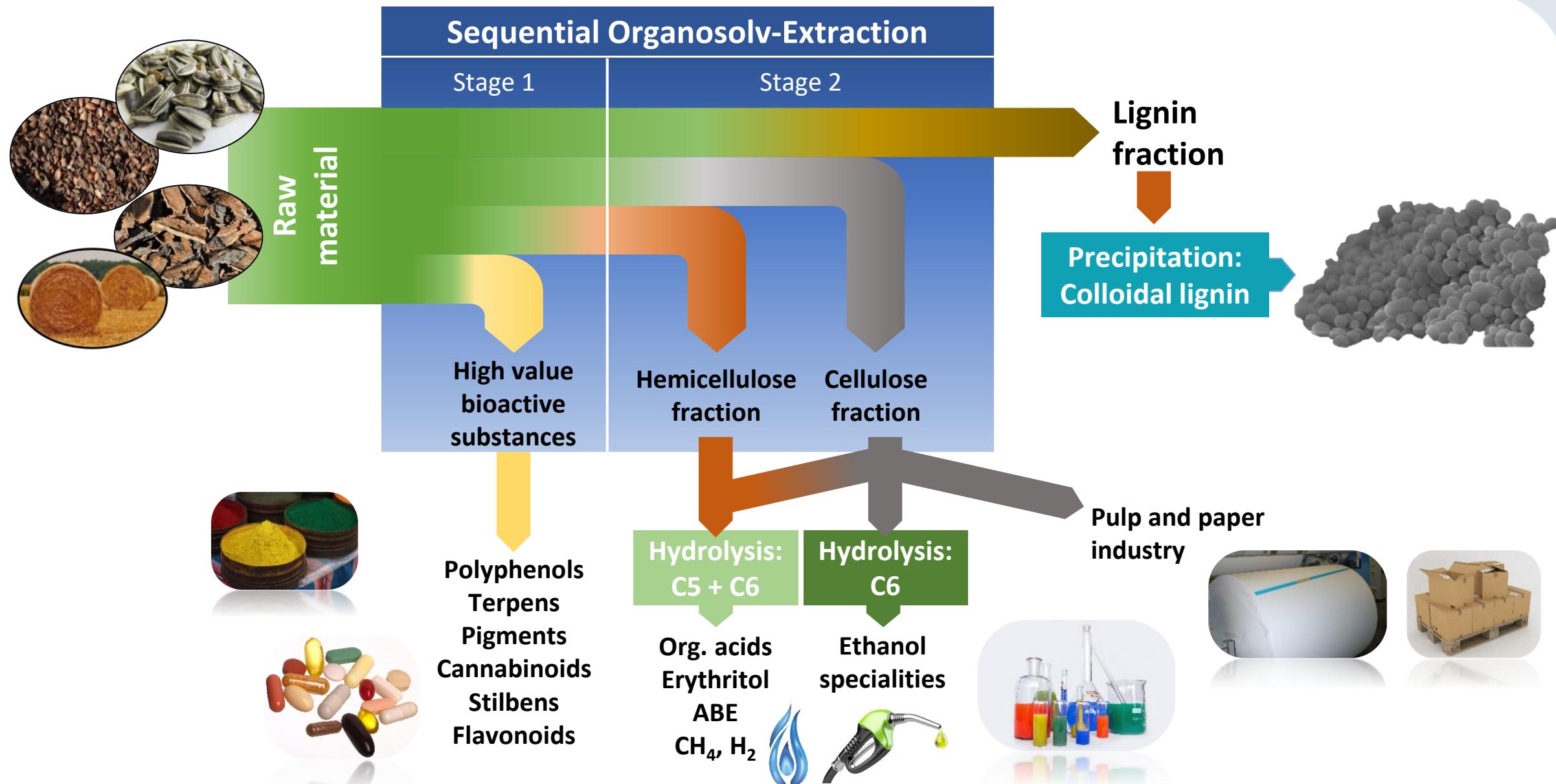
- Goal of pretreatment
  - Mobilisation of components
- Steps
  - Extractives
  - Hydrolysis of hemicellulose
  - Dissolution of lignin
  - Cellulose kept in good quality
- Targets
  - High quality products
  - 100% valorisation
  - Low energy demand
  - Low investment and running costs

# Lignocellulose Biorefinery



- Existing Market – e.g. Tall oil
  - Fermentation  
e.g. Products or Energy
  - Market development for special Fibers
  - **Lignin Products for Cosmetics and others**
    - Feedstock (approx. 100 €/t)
    - Lignin product 15 -100 €/kg
- Revenue min. 1500 €/t of Feedstock plus revenues from other fractions**

# Biorefinery @ TU Wien approach



# Biorefinery @ TU Wien approach



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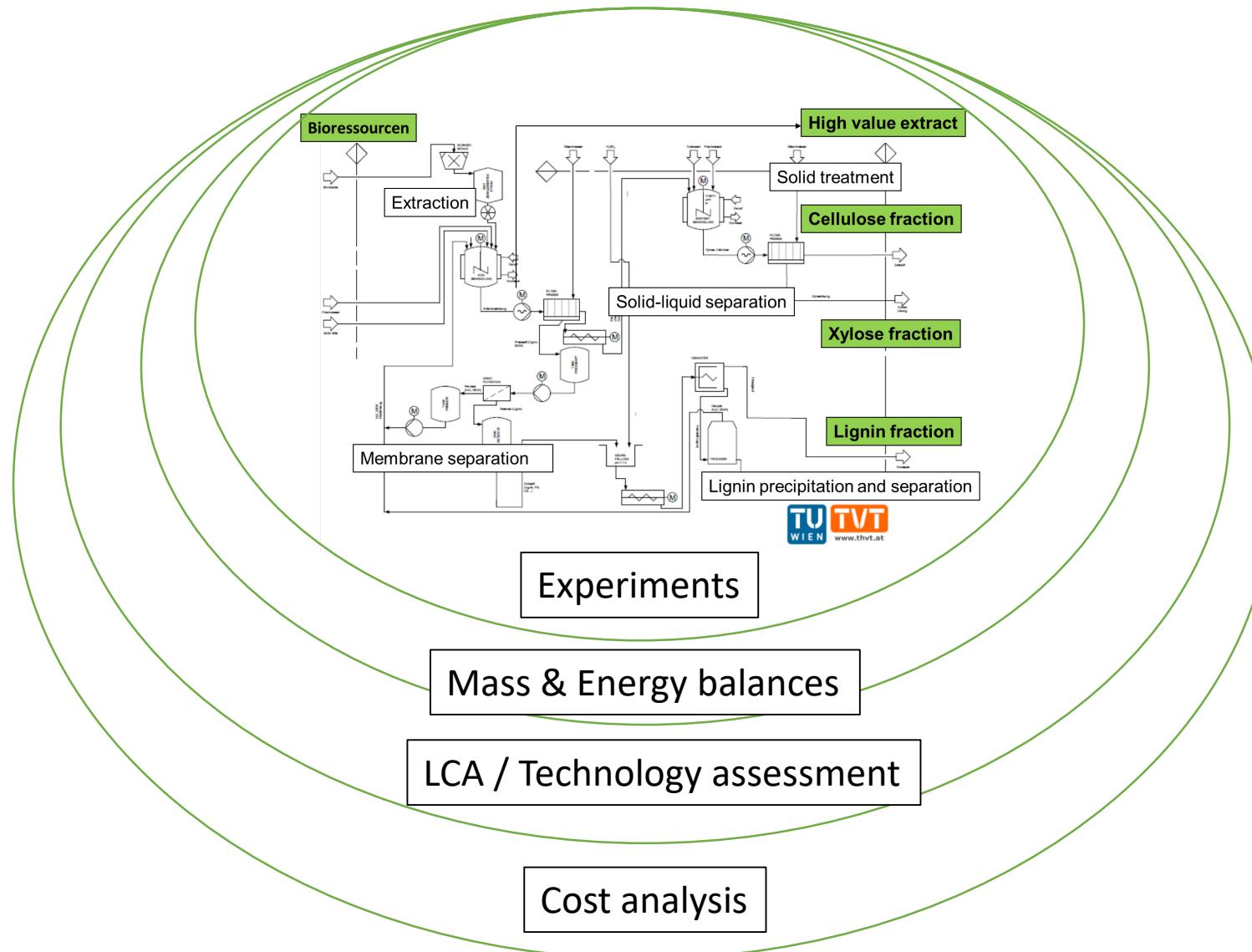


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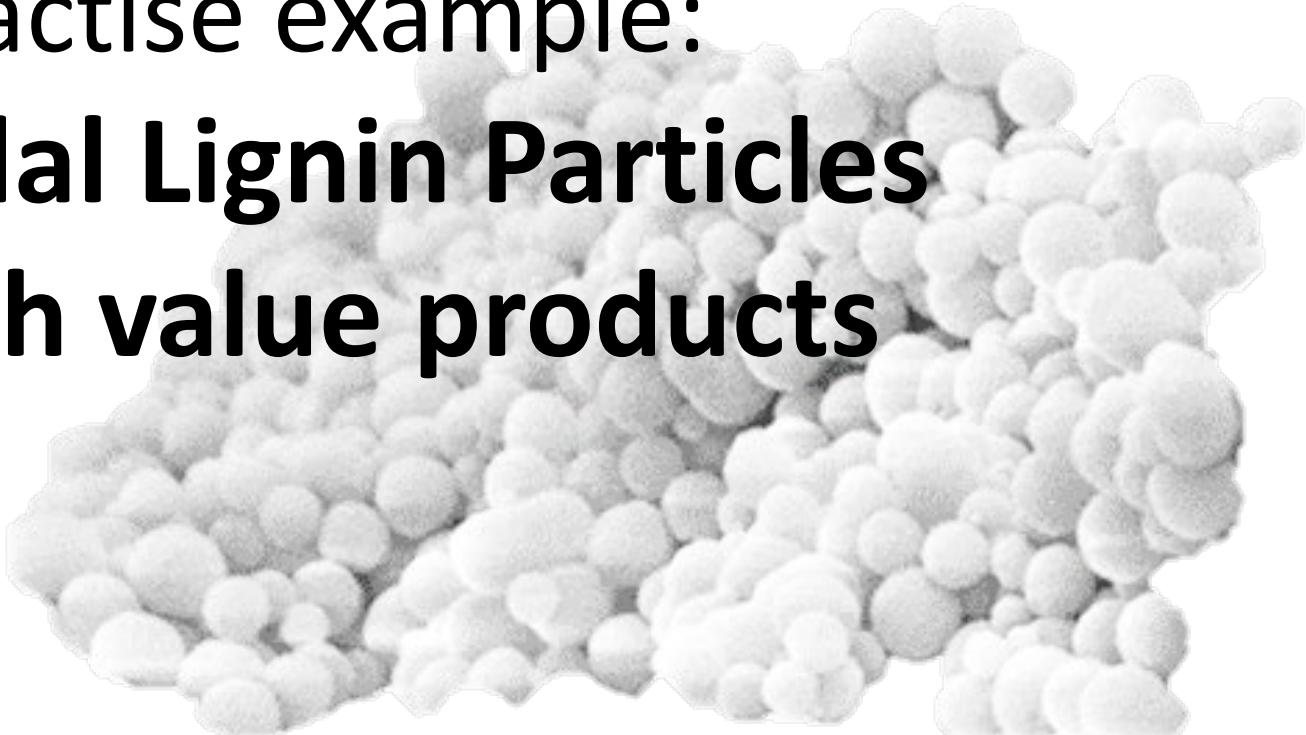
Ref.: custom-built by **Samtech Extraktionstechnik GmbH** - <https://samtech.at/de/>

- Extractor Volume 10 Liter
- 250 °C / 30 bar

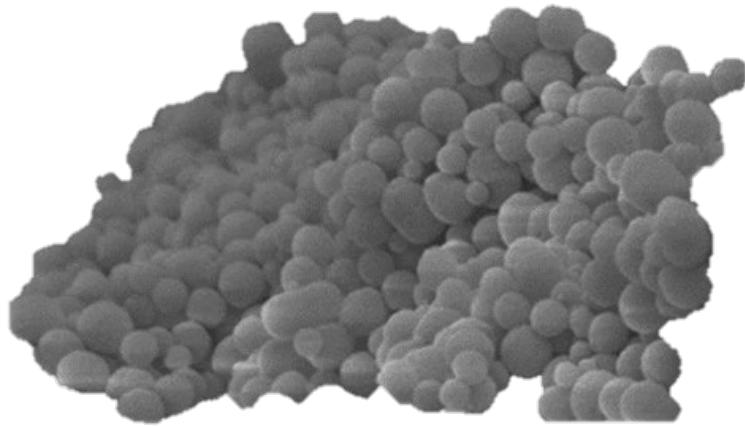
# Biorefinery @ TU Wien approach



Practise example:  
**Colloidal Lignin Particles**  
as high value products



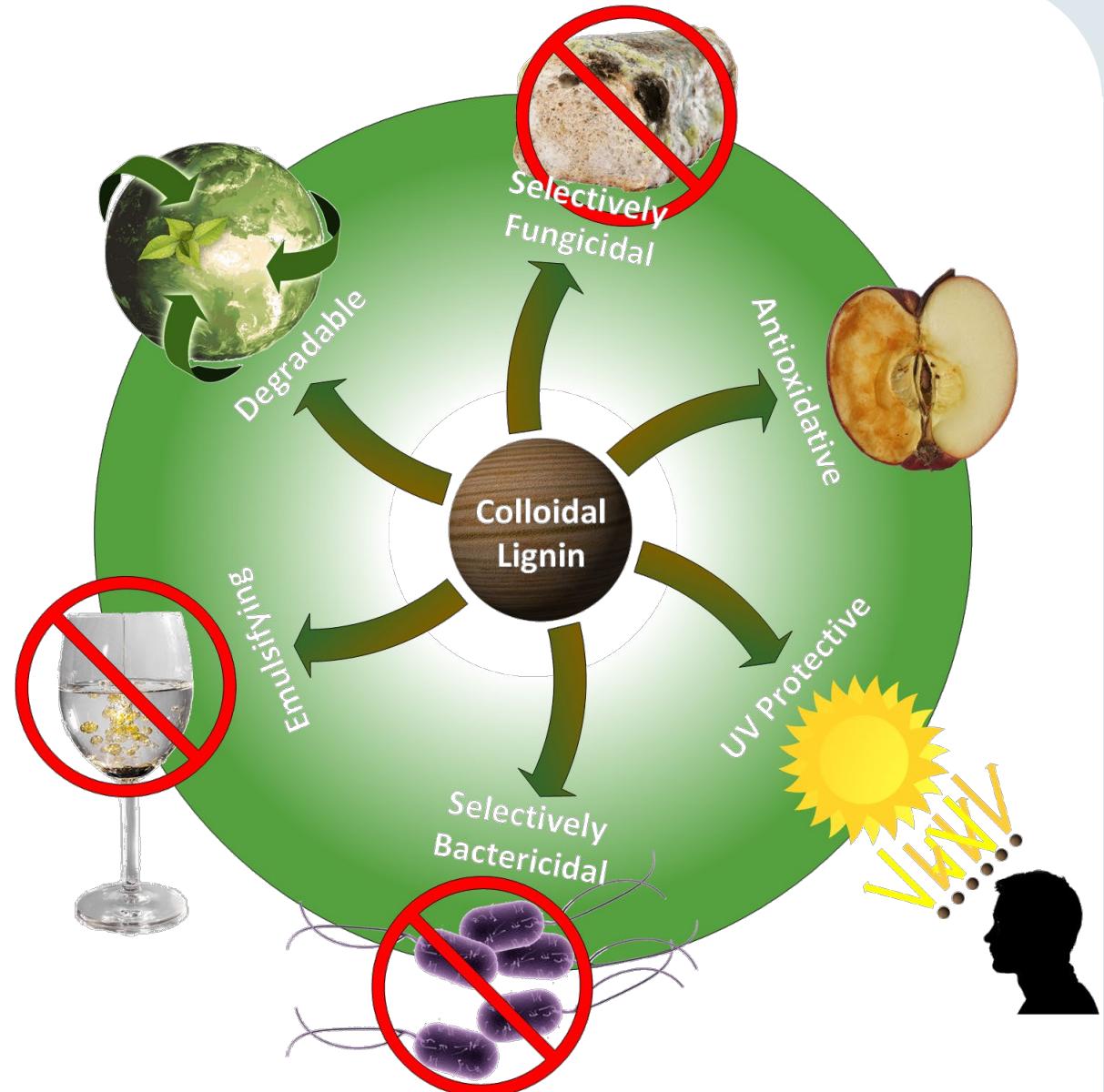
# Characteristics of (colloidal) lignin



- Highly increased surface area
- Intensified natural properties of lignin
- Improved dispersibility



Improved Applicability



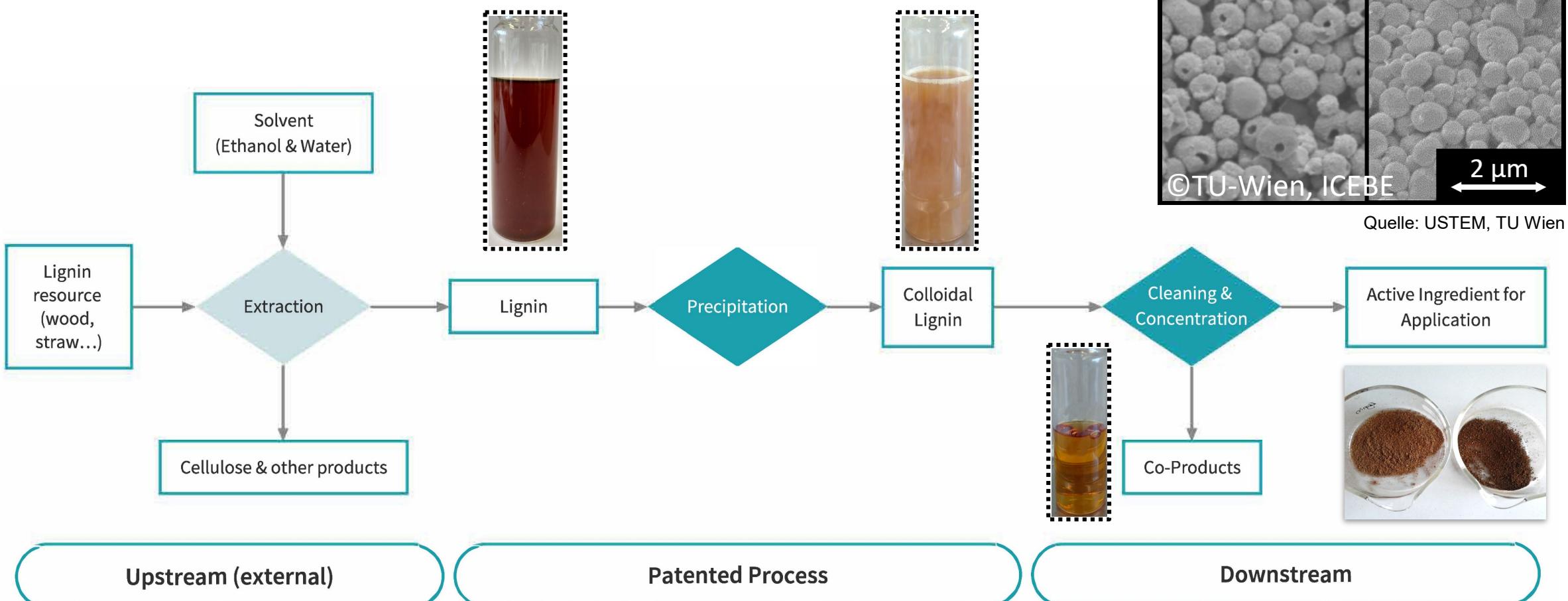
# Applications of colloidal lignin particles



- **Emulsifier in diverse applications**
- **UV-Absorber in cosmetics, paints, wood coatings, functional textiles etc.**
- **Antioxidant in cosmetics, food packing, food supplements etc.**
- **Pharmacological effects, drug carrier systems**

Added value

# Value creation process for Colloidal lignin



# Market size for selected active ingredients

**Market volume in billion USD:**

**1.1**

UV-Blockers (all applications)

**3.3**

Antioxidants (all applications)

**4.7**

Preservatives (cosmetics, food, wood)

**6.6**

Emulsifiers (all applications)

**Typical market prizes:**

Emulsifiers (Oleates, Glycerides, Sorbates)

**10 – 15 €/kg**

Inorganic UV filters (ZnO, TiO<sub>2</sub>)

**25 – 100 €/kg**

Organic UV absorbers (Benzophenone, Oxybenzene)

**20 – 100€/kg**

# Current status: Spin-off Fellowship NANOLIGNIN

- 100% funding by BMBWF via FFG, + training, networking...
  - Host TU-Wien: Prof. Anton Friedl
- Project start November 2019, duration 18 months
- Topics:
  - Scale-up of colloidal lignin production to pilot scale
  - Development of end user products containing colloidal lignin:
    - Sunscreen
    - Paints, coatings and wood preservative
  - Assessment of certification and accreditation efforts & timeline
  - Business development and preparation of company foundation



Bundesministerium  
Bildung, Wissenschaft  
und Forschung



austria wirtschaftsservice

# Exploitation concept and Business model



## LIGNOVATIONS



Martin Miltner



Angela Miltner



Stefan Beisl



Stephan Jung

**Company to be founded mid 2021**

**Commercial production ramp-up (100t/a) in 2023**



### Production of Colloidal Lignin

- Starting with bought raw lignin
- In future also starting with biomass and own extraction



### Development of tailor made Colloidal Lignin for Customers

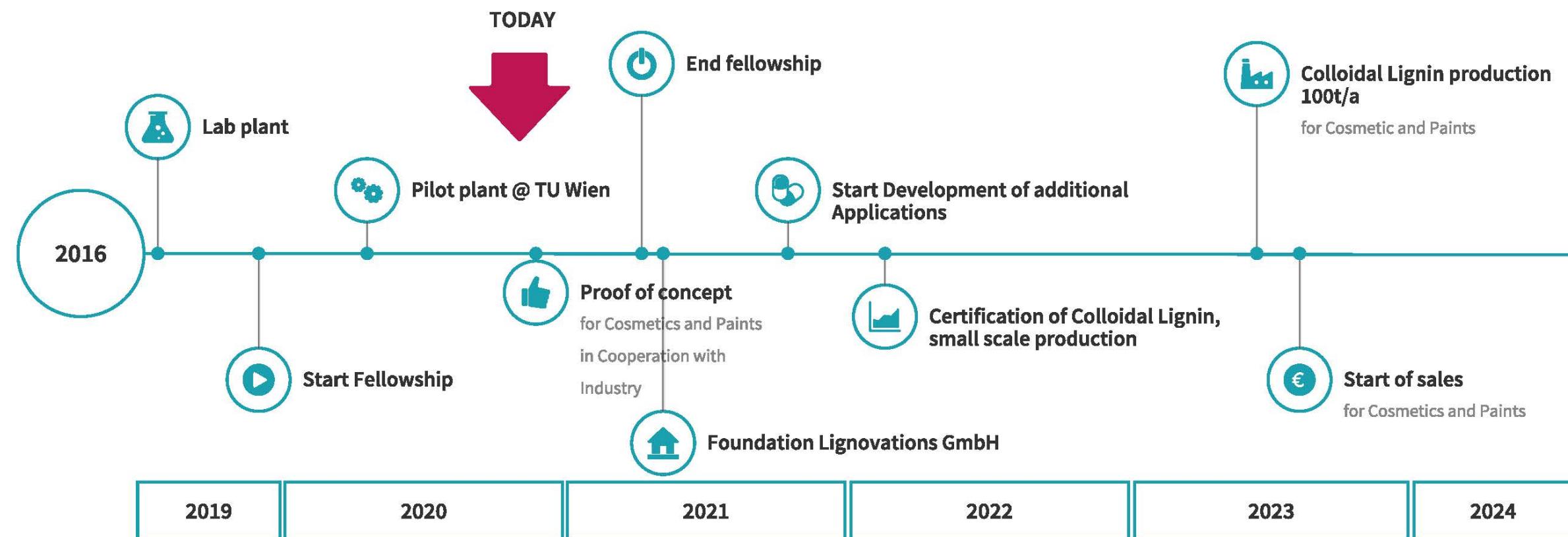


### Licensing and Engineering Services



### Analytical Services and Quality Control

# LIGNOVATIONS - Timeline to market



# Take home messages



Biorefineries need at least one high value product

- Lignin will be one of them!
- Extractives have also a market
- Cellulose – fibers
- Hemicellulose (mixed sugar fermentations – e.g. Erythritol and/or energy)
- Energy production from by-products to be at least energy self-sufficient



Biorefineries need to valorize the whole feedstock with closed cycles of process water and chemicals – environmental friendly production



Investigation of technological, environmental and social impact

# Thank you very much for your attention!



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Ref.: custom-built by **Samtech Extraktionstechnik GmbH** - <https://samtech.at/de/>