FAA CENTER OF EXCELLENCE FOR ALTERNATIVE JET FUELS & ENVIRONMENT

#### **Regional Supply Chain Analysis for Alternative Jet Fuel Production in the Tropics**

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Opinions, findings, conclusions and recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of ASCENT sponsor organizations.



## **Overview**



- Introduction/motivation
- Objectives
- Selected results
- Summary

## **Overview**

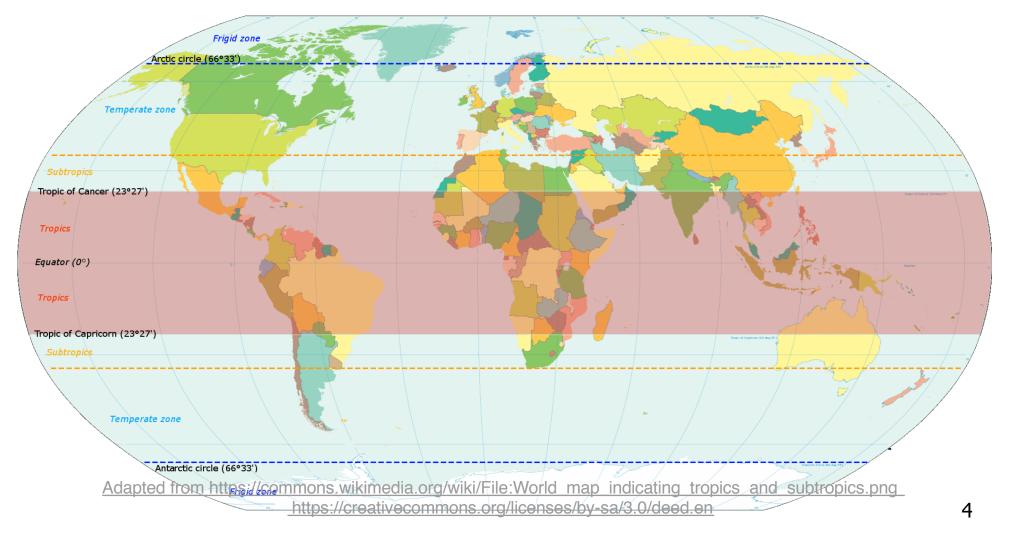


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### **Alternative Jet Fuel Supply Chain, Tropical Region Analysis -- Motivation**

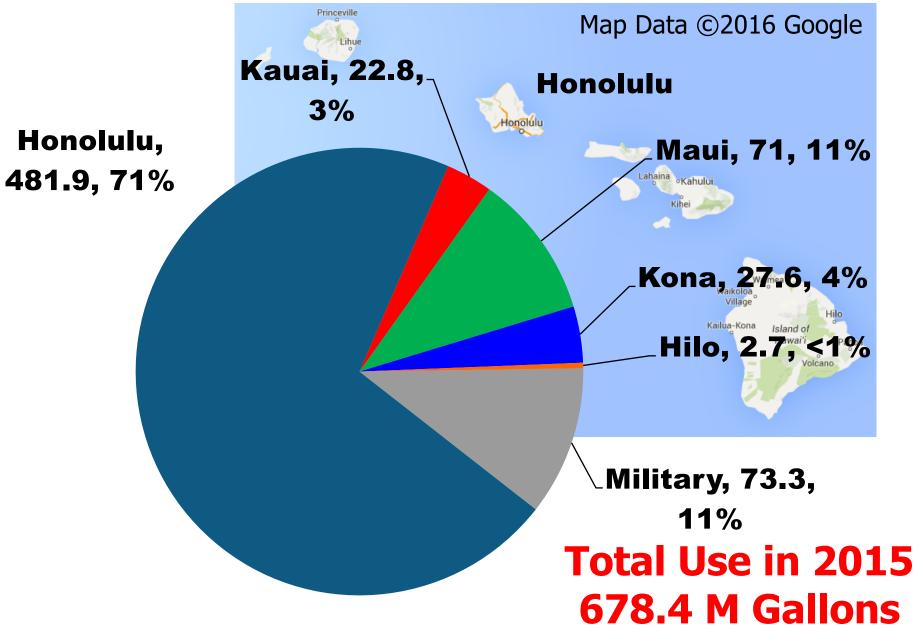


- The tropics account for 36% of the world's land mass
- Tropics are home to unique biomass materials, production practices/systems, and temporal availabilities



#### Jet Fuel Use in Hawaii, 2015 Commercial Airports and Military (million gallons)





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- Conduct literature review of tropical biomass feedstocks and data relevant to their behavior in conversion systems for AJF production
- Engage stakeholders to identify and prioritize general AJF supply chain barriers (e.g. access to capital, land availability, technology risk, etc.)
- Develop geographic information system (GIS) based technical production estimates of AJF in Hawaii
- Develop fundamental property data on biomass resources
- Develop and evaluate regional supply chain scenarios for AFJ production in Hawaii



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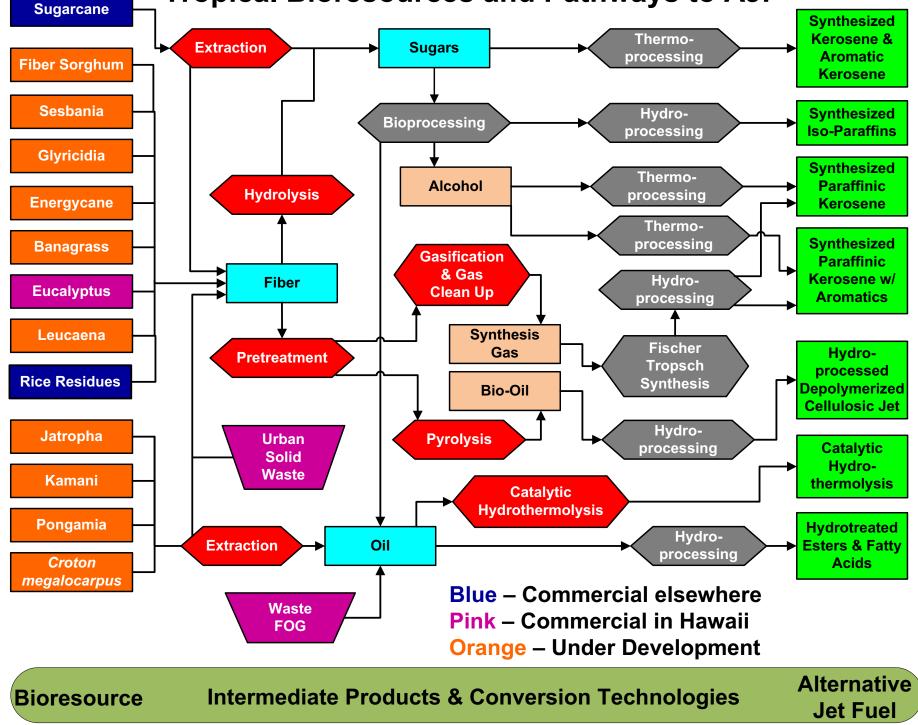
- Conduct literature review of tropical biomass feedstocks and data relevant to their behavior in conversion systems for AJF production (completed)
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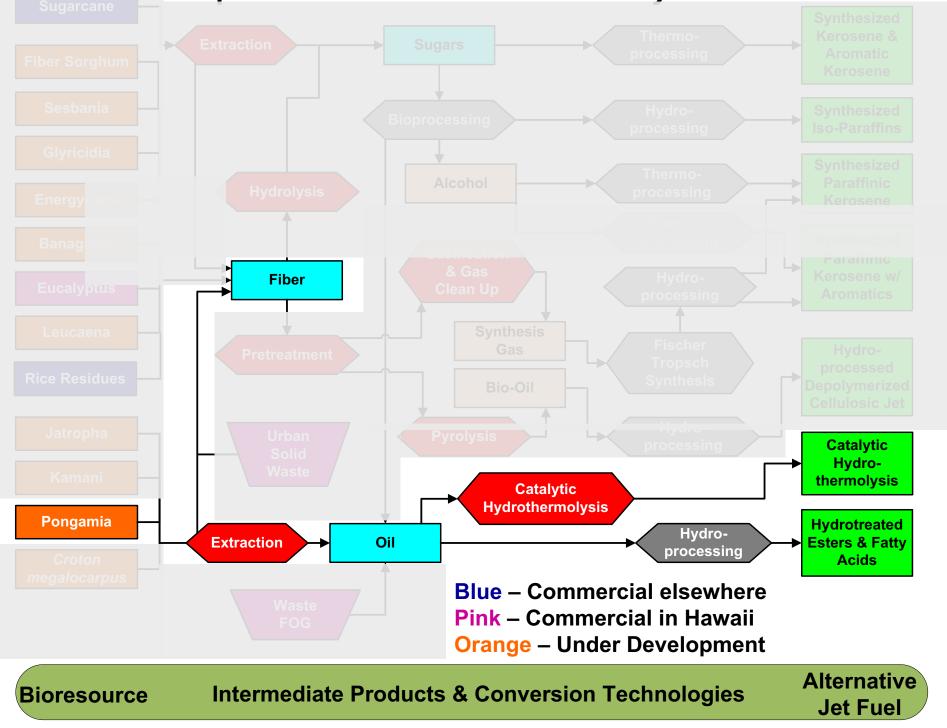


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#### **Tropical Bioresources and Pathways to AJF**



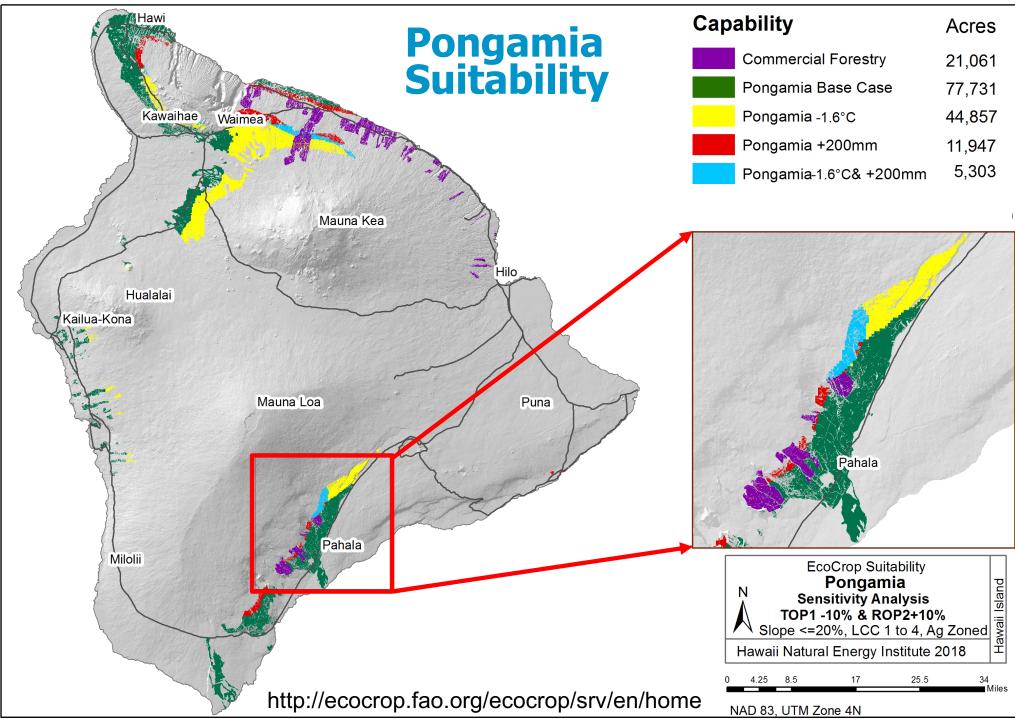
#### **Tropical Bioresources and Pathways to AJF**

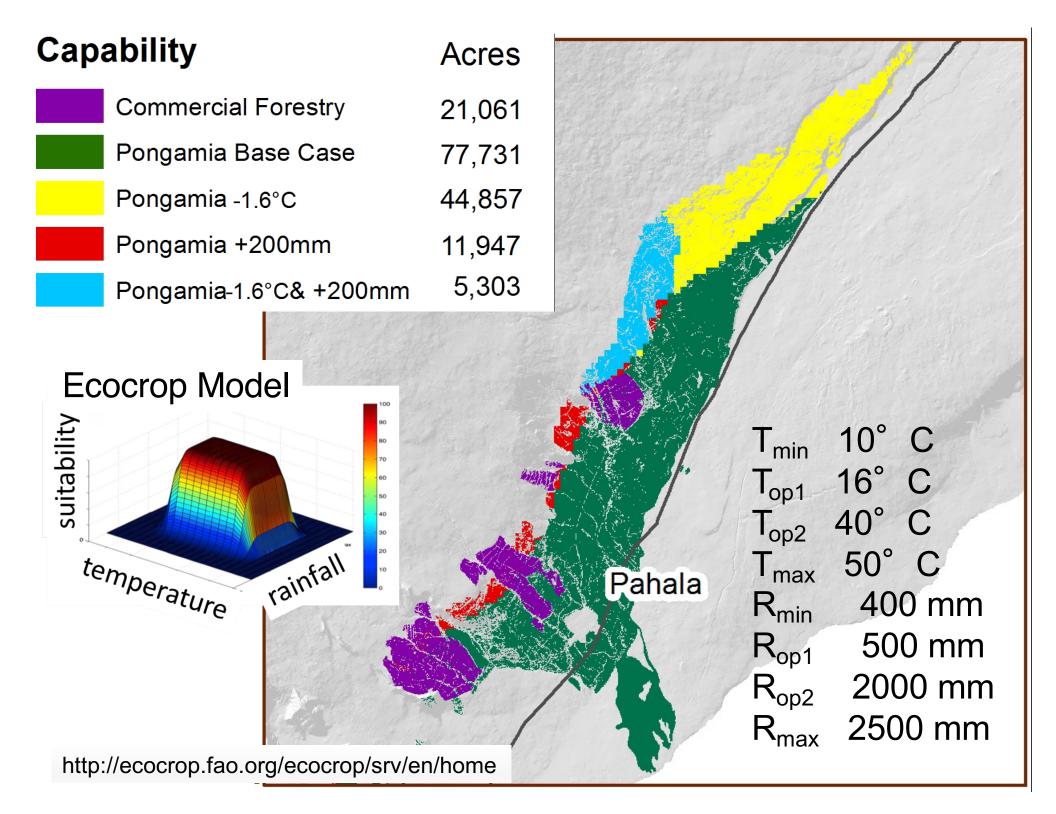


## Pongamia (Millettia pinnata)



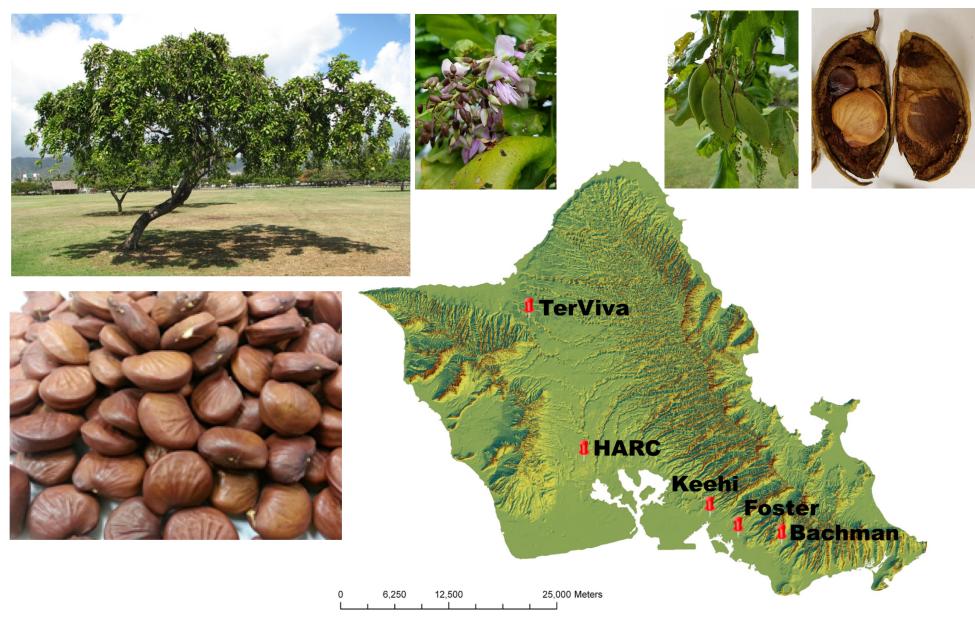
- Background
  - Leguminous oil seed tree with current productivity estimated ~5 Mg/ha/year
  - U.S. production potential in Hawaii, Florida, U.S. Trust Territories
  - *Terviva* start up company focused on providing pongamia germplasm for agricultural producers and value added processing
    - Acreage planted on Oahu and Maui and in Florida
- Research foci
  - GIS analysis of technical production potential in Hawaii
  - Invasiveness assessment based on plants established in Hawaii
  - Property data of pongamia oil, oil seed cake, seed pod material
  - Longer term goal -- energy input/output analysis production system and coproduct development





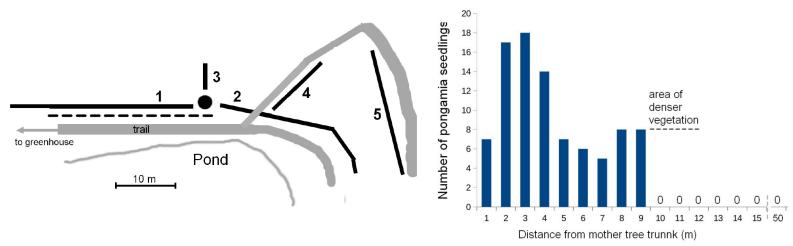
## Pongamia on O`ahu

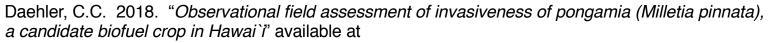




## **Pongamia Invasiveness Assessment**

- Hawaii-Pacific Weed Risk Assessment tool predicted
  pongamia had high risk of becoming invasive weed
- Field assessment of seven sites on Oahu with pongamia established in varied environments was conducted
- Seedlings were found; no evidence of effective seed dispersal
- Invasiveness can be mitigated by monitoring and targeted control and choice of planting locations





https://www.hnei.hawaii.edu/sites/www.hnei.hawaii.edu/files/

Observational%20Field%20Assessment%20of%20Invasiveness%20of%20Pongamia.pdf





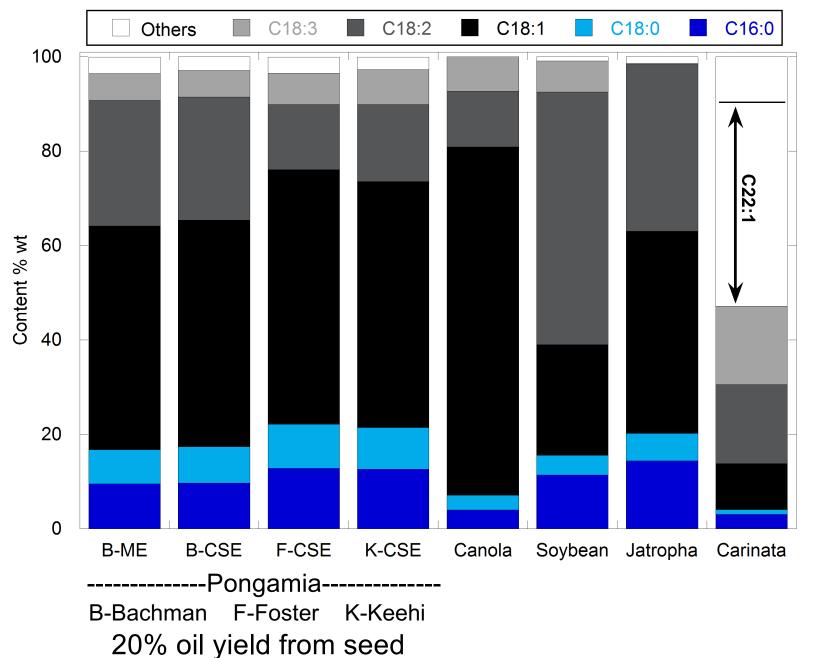
## **Pongamia Characterization**



- Oil properties
  - Viscosity, density, iodine number, free fatty acid content, fatty acid profile, flashpoint, phase transition temperatures
- Seed, oil, seed cake, pods
  - Ultimate analysis for major elements: C, H, O, N, S
  - Proximate analysis<sup>§</sup>: volatile matter, fixed carbon and ash
  - Major ash species: K, Cl, Na, P, Mg, Si, Fe, Ti, Al, and Ca
  - Minor ash species: Mn, Fe, Cu, Zn, Rb, and Sr
  - Moisture content
  - Energy content or heating value
- Properties needed for logistics: particle size distribution of materials, bulk densities, etc.

#### **Fatty Acid Profiles of Pongamia Oil from Trees at Three Locations**

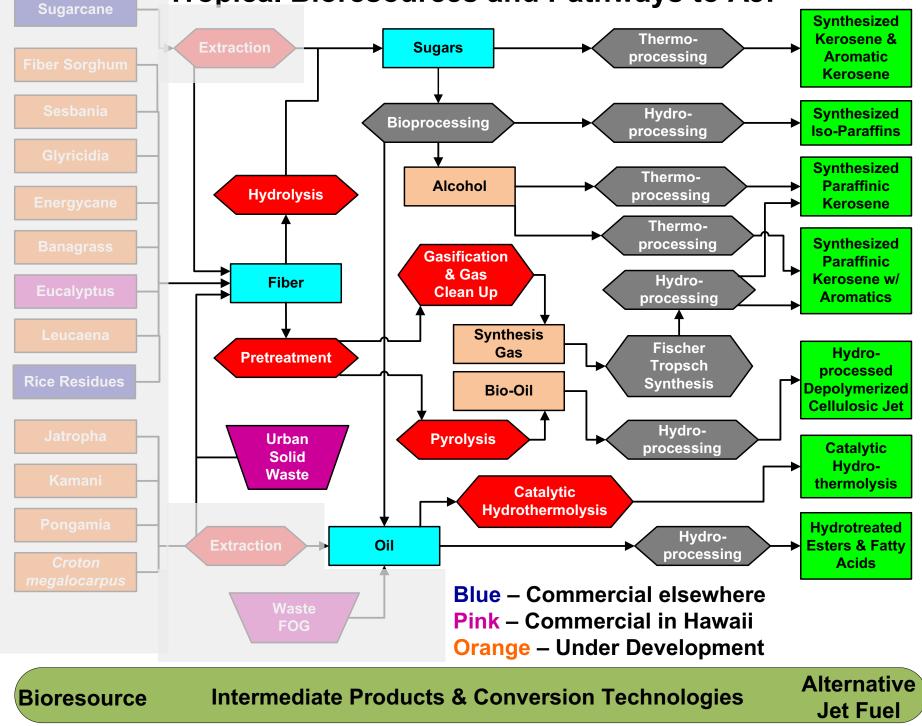




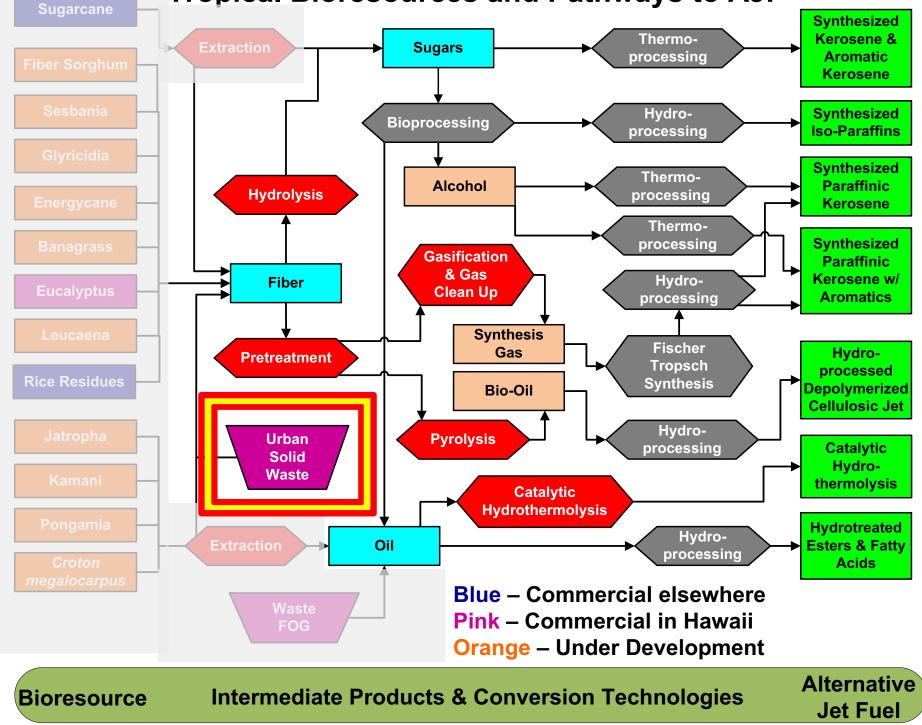


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#### **Tropical Bioresources and Pathways to AJF**



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# PVT Land Company Nānākuli, Hawaii http://www.pvtland.com



Map data ©2017 Google

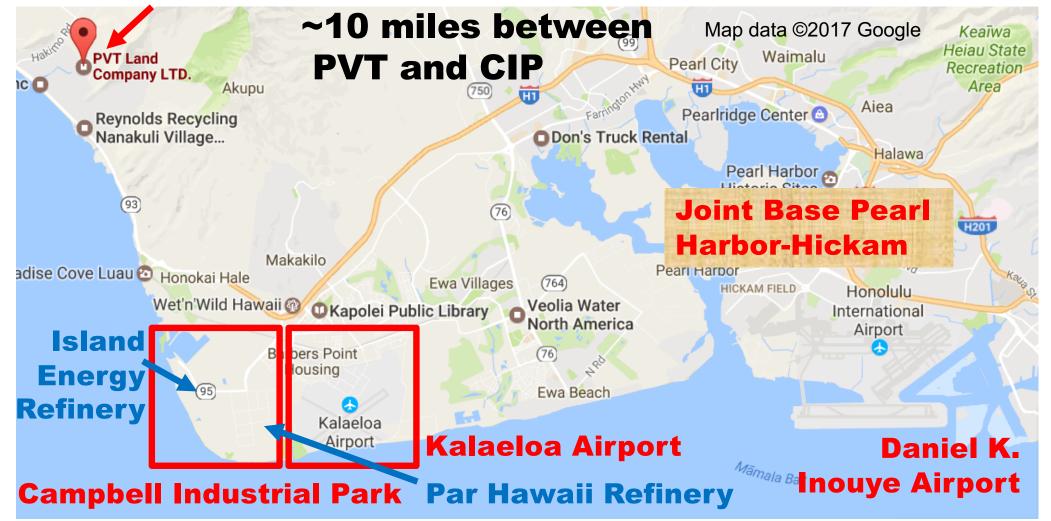
- PVT is the only construction & demolition landfill on Oahu
- Current intake 1,775 tons C&D waste per day
- ~50% of intake converted to feedstock, up to 900 tpd
- Waste-in-place also "mined" for additional "feedstock"
- Feedstock: wood, plastic, cloth, paper, and other organics
- Tipping fee \$50 per ton, or \$54 per ton for LEED certified

#### **Possible Locations of Value Chain Participants**





#### **PVT Land Company**



## **PVT Feedstock Characterization**



- Characterization of feedstock properties needed to inform conversion process design
  - Ultimate analysis for major elements: C, H, O, N, S
  - Proximate analysis: volatile matter, fixed carbon and ash
  - Major ash species: K, Cl, Na, P, Mg, Si, Fe, Ti, Al, and Ca
  - Minor ash species: Mn, Fe, Cu, Zn, Rb, and Sr
  - Moisture content
  - Energy content or heating value
- Characterization of feedstock properties needed for logistics particle size of materials, bulk densities, etc.
- Time series data to assess variability in supply

## **Characterization Challenges**





Processed Feedstock

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- Tropics provide unique biorenewable resources for AJF feedstocks
- >100,000 acres of land in Hawaii could support pongamia production
- Pongamia presents manageable invasiveness risk
- Fatty acid profiles were similar in pongamia oil extracted using mechanical and solvent methods
- Fatty acid profiles vary between trees at different locations, suggesting need for controlled GxE study
- C&D waste stream characterization and supply chain analysis ongoing



## **University of Hawaii Contributors**

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