

***Topical Seminar  
Bioderived Jet Fuels***



***Carli Kovel  
6-14-2022***

# ***From Fuels to Batteries: Distinctions Between Powering Automobiles and Aircrafts***

## ***Automobiles***



### ***Gasoline***

*12 gallons, \$5.72/gallon NJ = \$68.64*

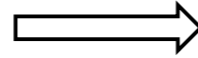
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*394 kWh, \$0.14 / kWh = \$55.16*

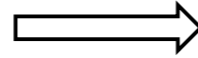
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*High energy content per volume*

*Challenges: fossil-fuel derived and emissions*

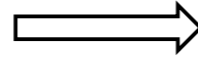
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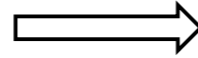
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***Next Steps: Sustainable Fuels as Drop-In Replacement for Jet Fuel***

# *Current Production of Jet Fuel*

1



## **Desalting**

removes H<sub>2</sub>O and salts from crude oil

# Current Production of Jet Fuel

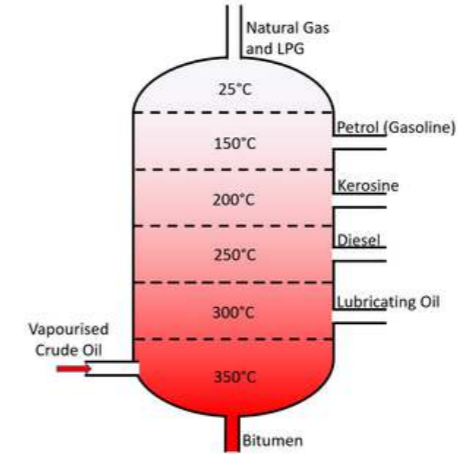
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## Distillation

Kerosene 175-270 °C



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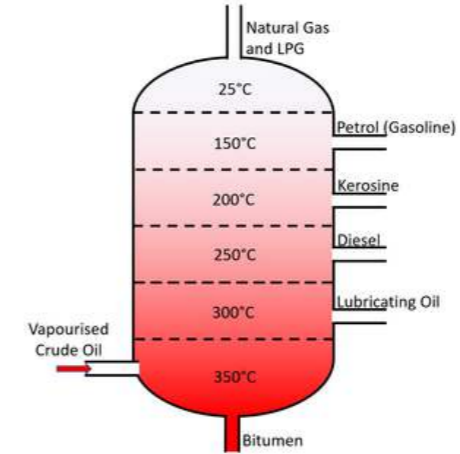
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## Processing

Removal of acids, sulphurs,  
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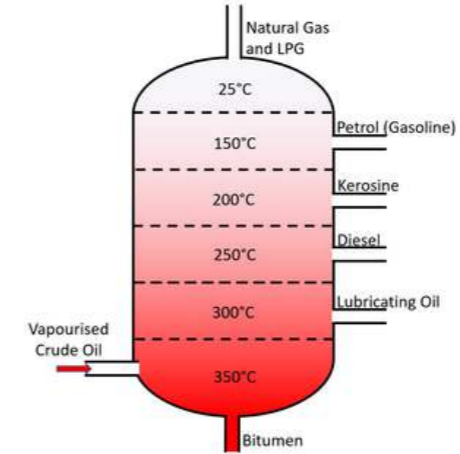
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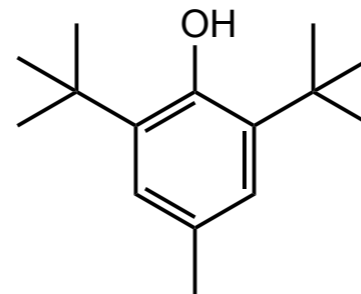
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## Processing

Removal of acids, sulphurs,  
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## Additives

Improve fuel performance  
and stability

# Current Production of Jet Fuel

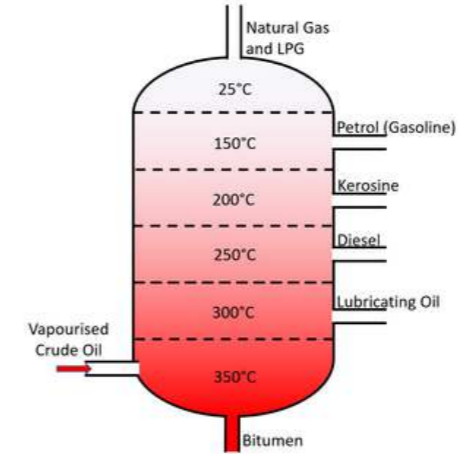
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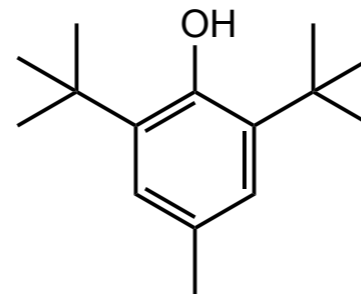
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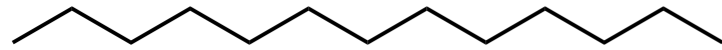
5



**Fuel Delivered to Airplane**

# ***Petroleum-Derived Jet Fuels***

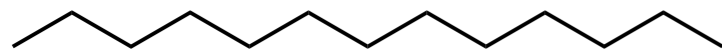
## ***Alkanes***



■ Short Ignition Delays

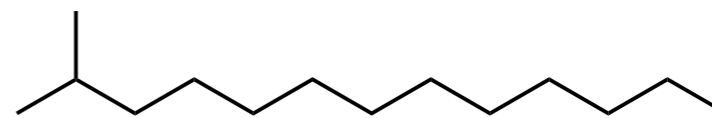
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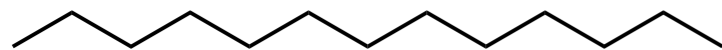
## Isoalkanes



■ Lower freezing point of fuel

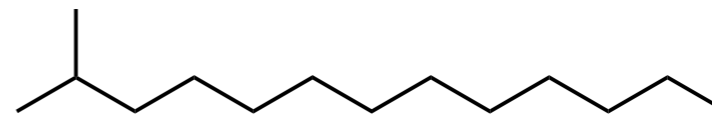
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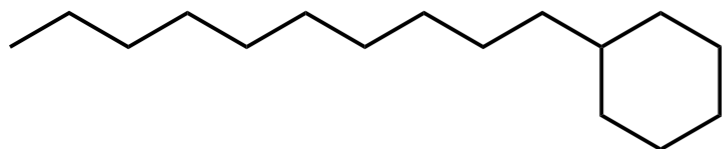
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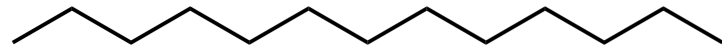
## Cycloalkanes



- Increased fuel density compared to acyclic alkanes

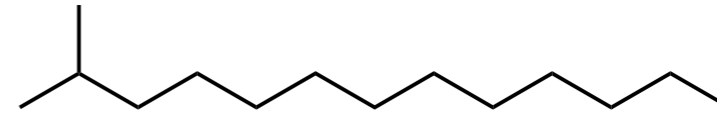
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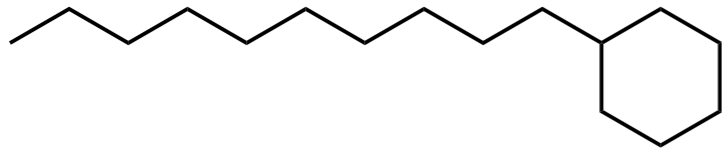
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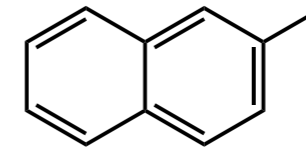
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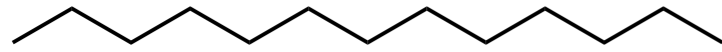
## Aromatic Compounds



- Increased fuel density
- Promote O-ring swelling
- Poor combustion properties - result in particulates

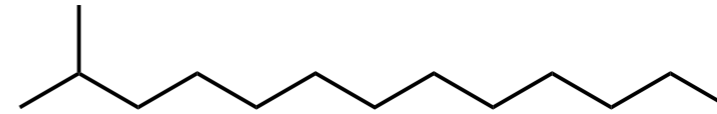
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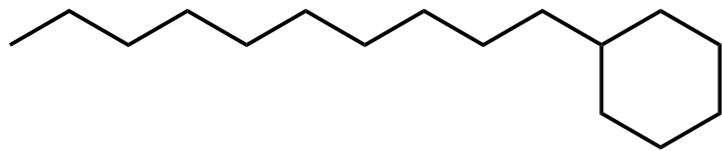
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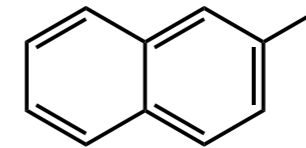
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**4 Classes of Carbon Atoms: C<sub>9</sub>-C<sub>16</sub>**



# ***Current State of Aviation Fuel: Kerosene Jet Fuel***

## **Jet A - Civil Aviation Fuel**

# Current State of Aviation Fuel: Kerosene Jet Fuel

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**n-parraffins**

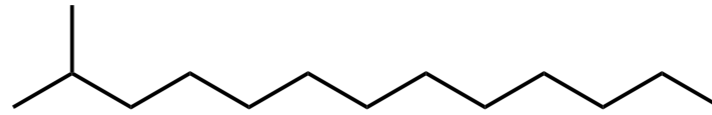
26.8 mass %



C9-C16

**iso-parraffins**

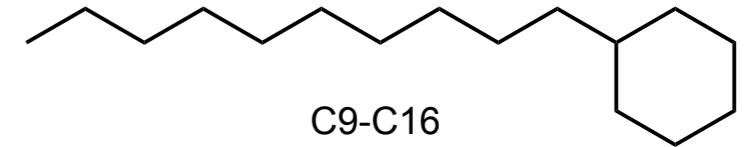
39.7 mass %



C9-C16

**cycloparraffins**

20.1 mass %



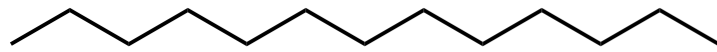
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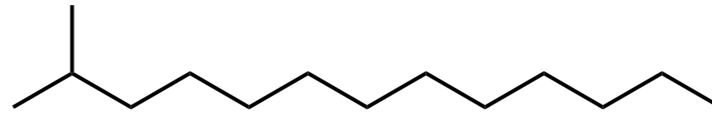
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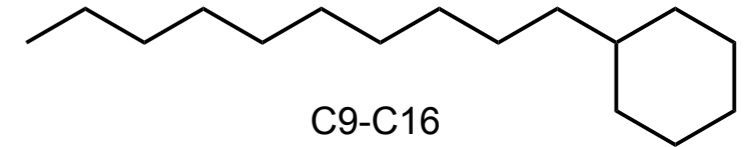
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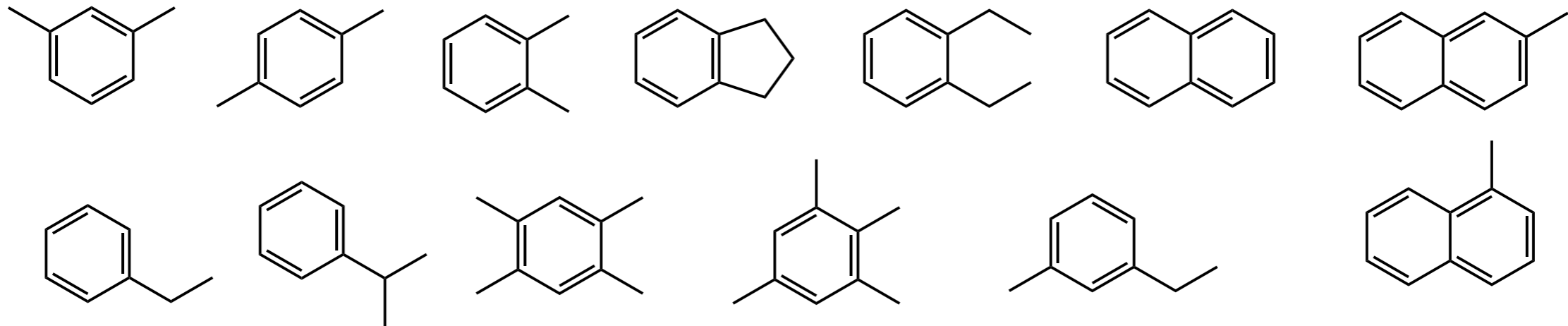
20.1 mass %



C9-C16

### aromatics

13.4 mass %



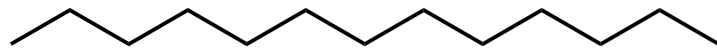
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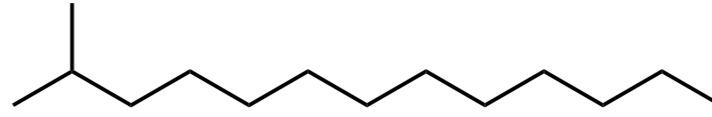
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C9-C16

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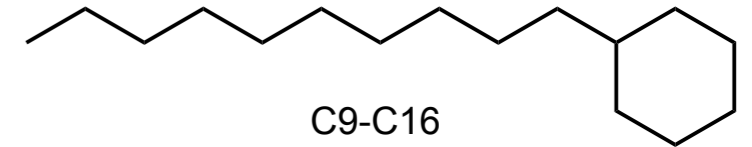
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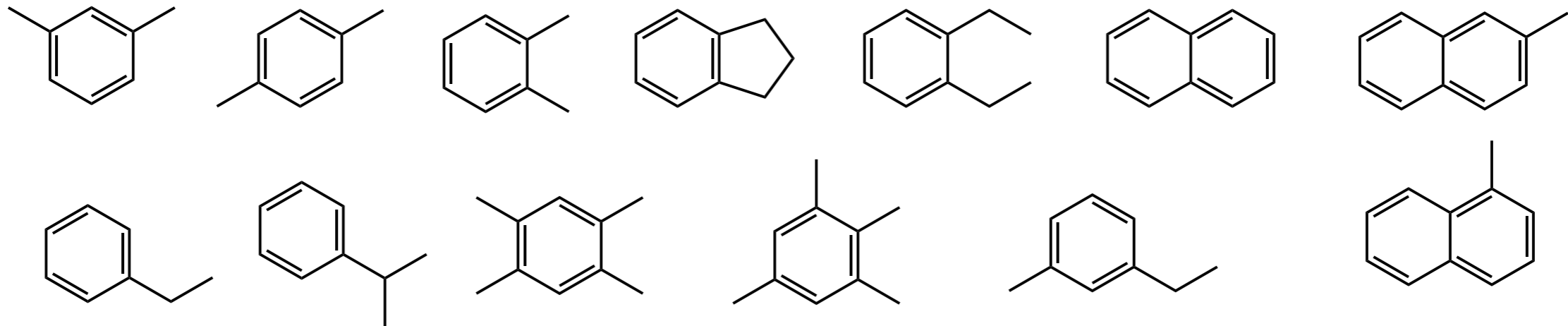
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C9-C16

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13.4 mass %



+ more aromatics

## Jet A Requirements

**Density:**  $\geq 0.775$  (15 °C)

**NHOC:**  $\geq 42.8$  MJ/kg

**Kinematic Viscosity:**  $\leq 8.0$  (-20 °C)  
mm<sup>2</sup>/s

**Freezing Point:**  $\leq -40$  °C

# Jet Fuel Requirements

## Density

- Jet fuels are filled by volume
- Important for determining aircraft load

Density: acyclic alkanes > isoalkanes > cyclic alkanes > aromatics

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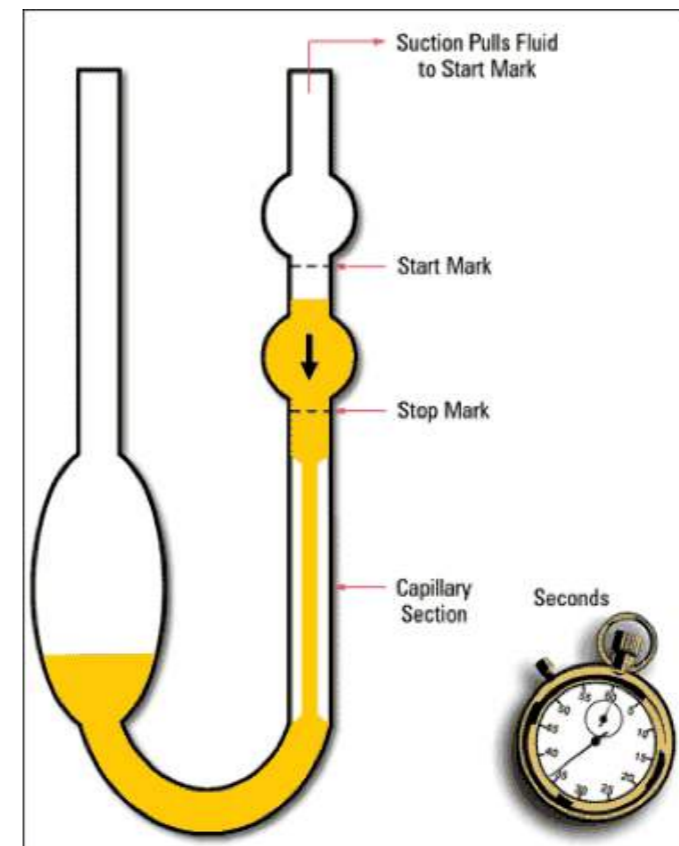
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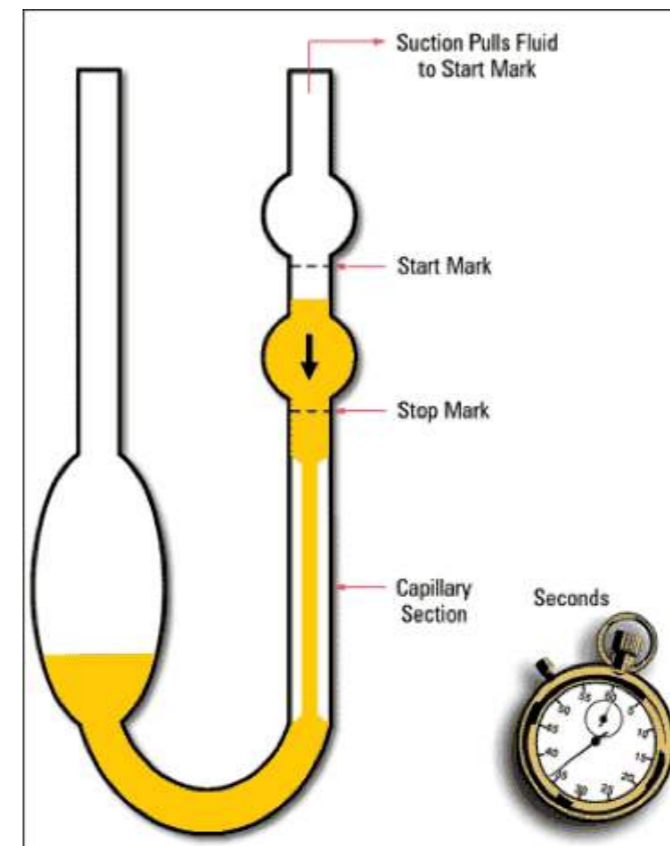
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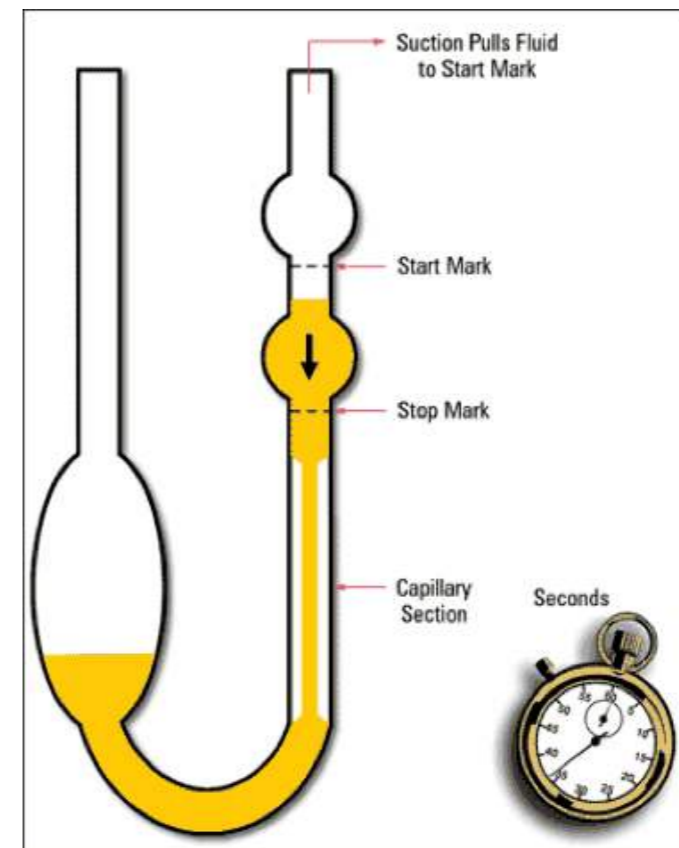
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## Freezing Point

- As planes reach higher altitudes temperatures decrease

# ***Synthetic Paraffinic Kerosenes (SPKs)***

*Renewable substrates*



*Acyclic SPKs*

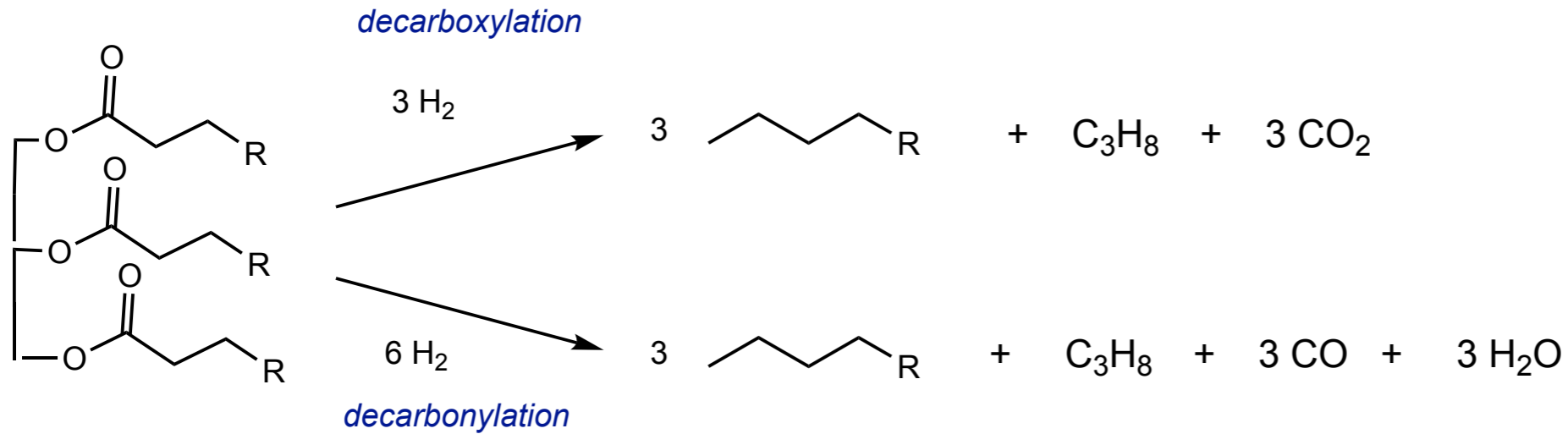
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Acyclic SPKs

## “Oil to Jet” Approach: Hydrotreatment of Esters and Fatty Acids (HEFA)



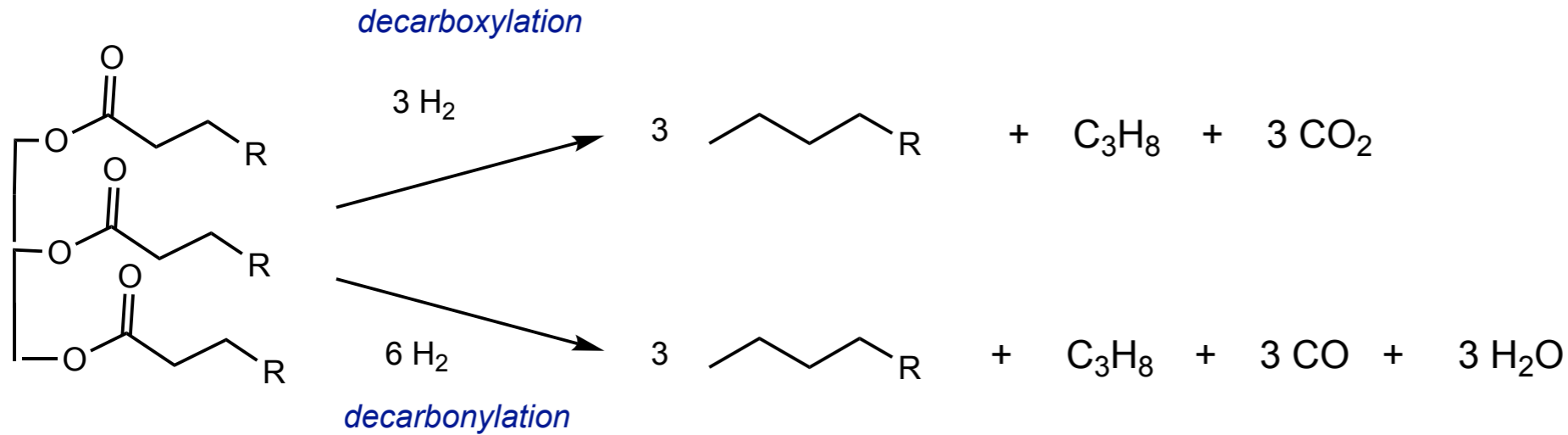
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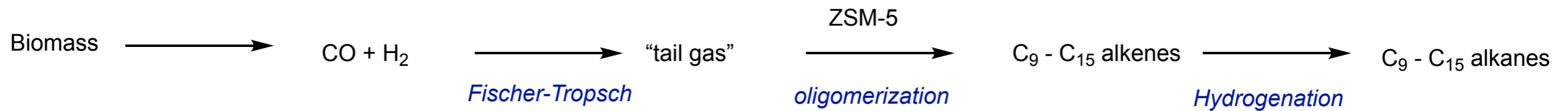


Acyclic SPKs

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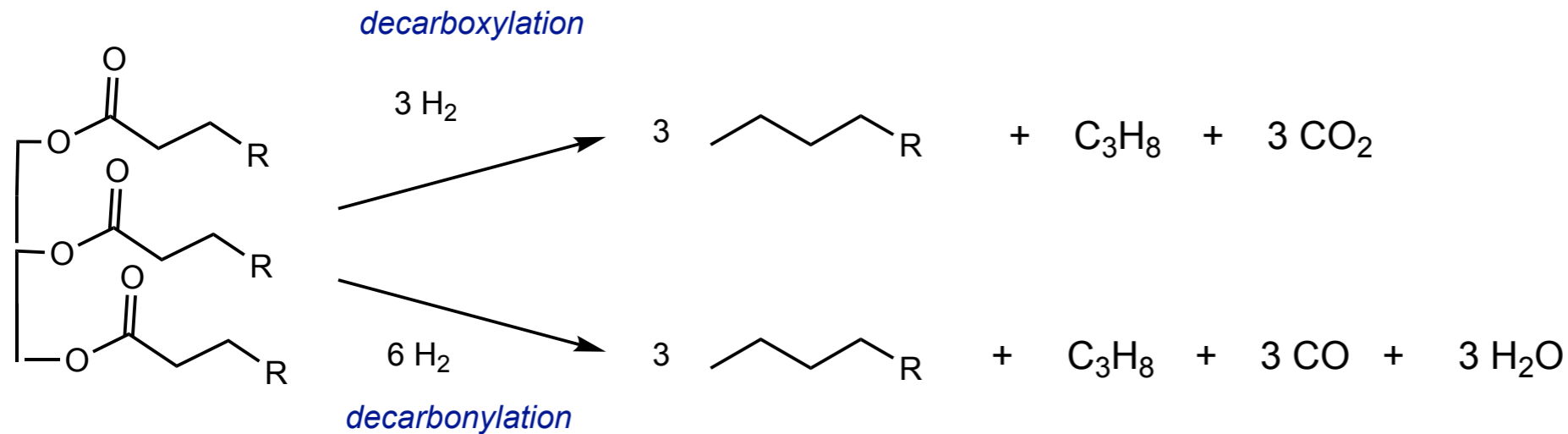
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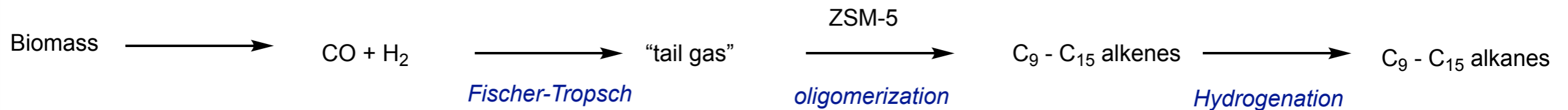


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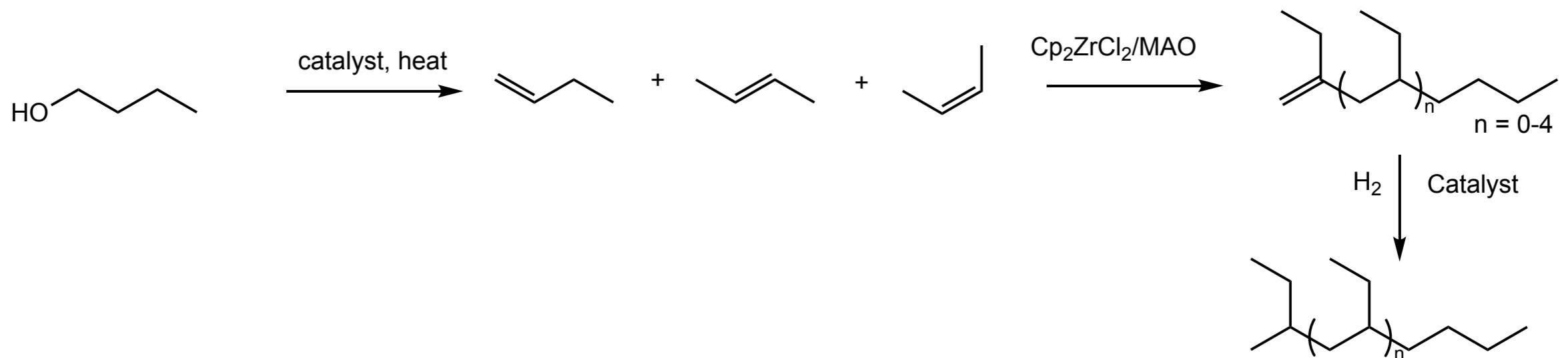
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## “Gas to Jet” Approach



## “Alcohol to Jet” Approach: Conversion of Bio-based alcohols to alkenes



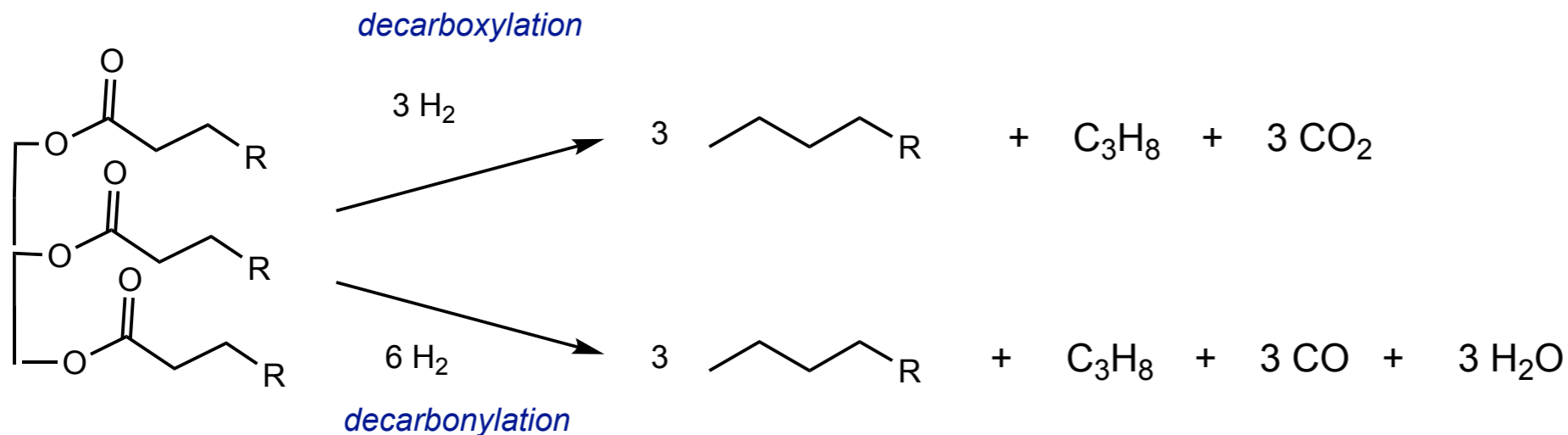
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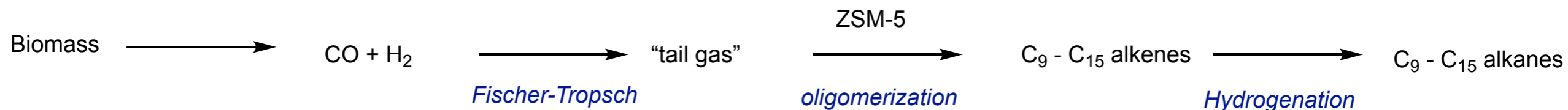


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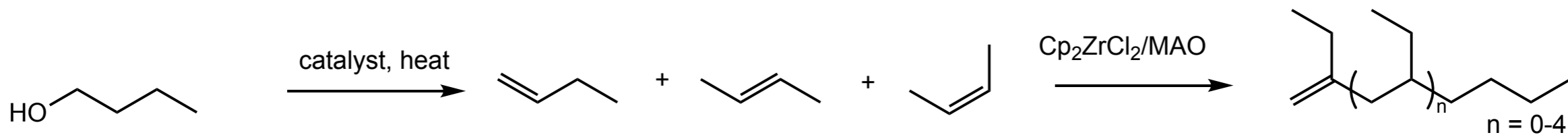
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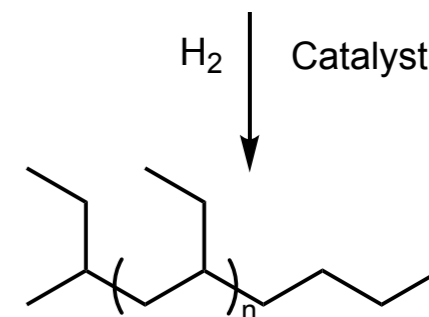
## “Gas to Jet” Approach



## “Alcohol to Jet” Approach: Conversion of Bio-based alcohols to alkenes



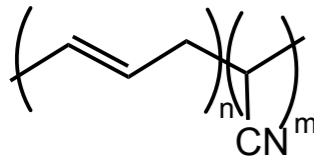
Acyclic jet fuels have low densities and heats of combustions and poor o-ring swelling



# Current Focus of Bioderived Fuel Synthesis: Synthesis of Cycloalkanes

## O-Ring Swelling

### Aromatics



O-ring material:  
butadiene-nitrile rubber

- Swelling of nitrile rubber increases with polarity and H-bonding character of aromatics
- Disrupt interactions between cyano-groups by promoting cyano-aromatic interactions

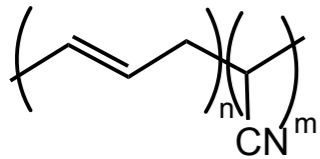




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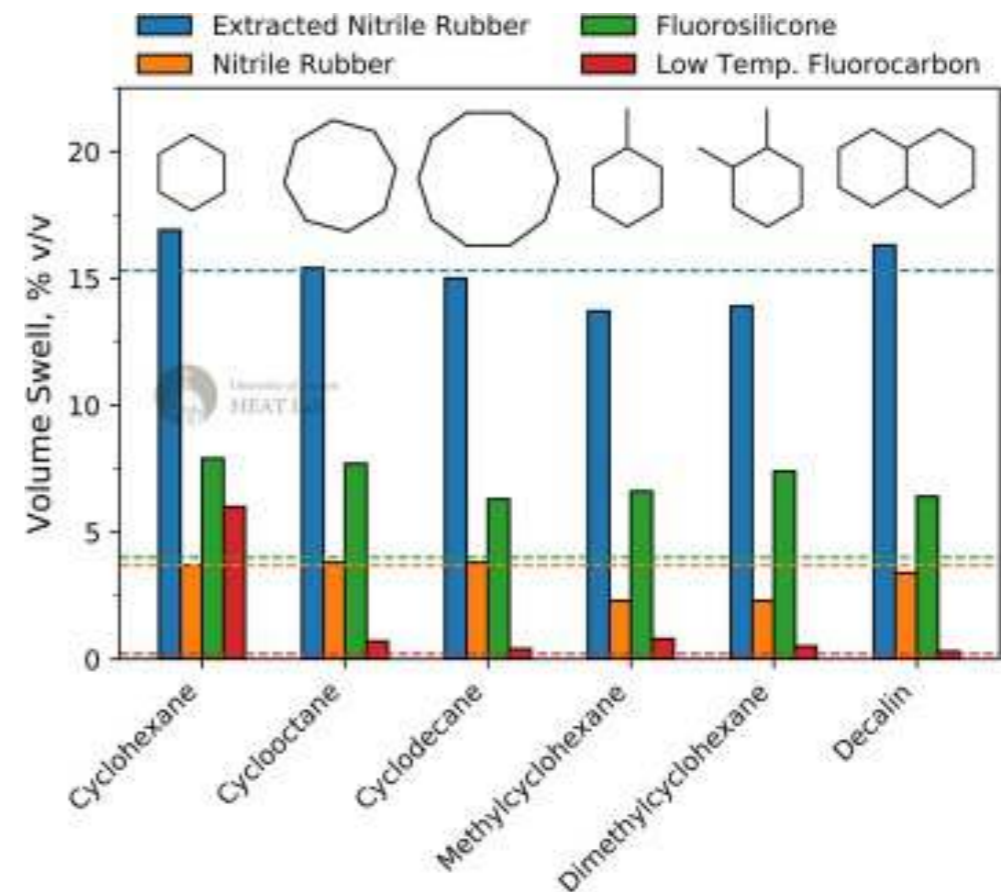


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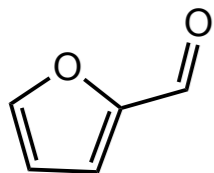
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### Cycloalkanes

- Experimental and computational studies indicate cycloalkanes promote O-ring swelling more than isoalkanes and acyclic alkanes



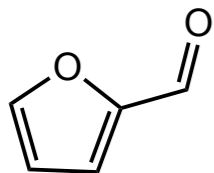
# “Bioderived Toolbox”



furfural

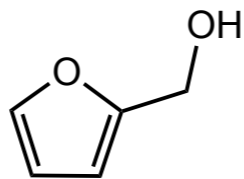
from hemicellulose and polysaccharides

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furfural

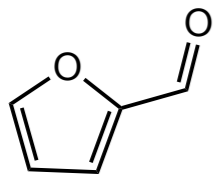
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furfural alcohol

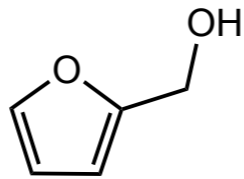
from hydrogenation of furfural

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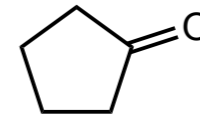
furfural

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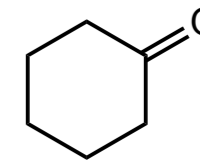


furfural alcohol

from hydrogenation of furfural



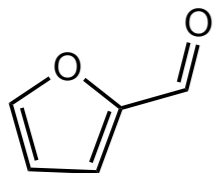
cyclopentanone



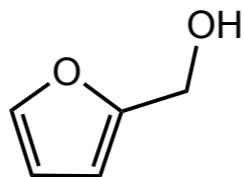
cyclohexanone

from lignocellulose

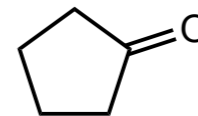
# “Bioderived Toolbox”



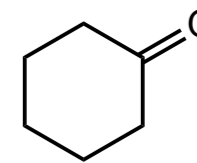
furfural



furfural alcohol



cyclopentanone

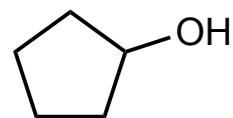


cyclohexanone

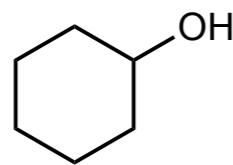
from hemicellulose and polysaccharides

from hydrogenation of furfural

from lignocellulose



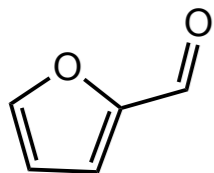
cyclopentanol



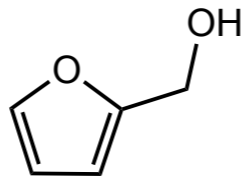
cyclohexanol

from hydrogenation of furfurals

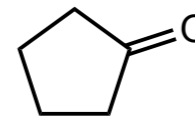
# “Bioderived Toolbox”



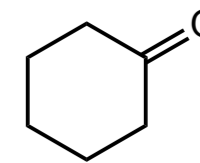
furfural



furfural alcohol



cyclopentanone

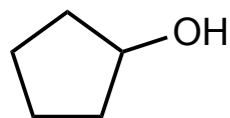


cyclohexanone

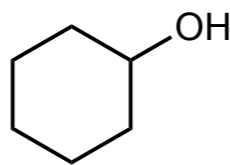
from hemicellulose and polysaccharides

from hydrogenation of furfural

from lignocellulose

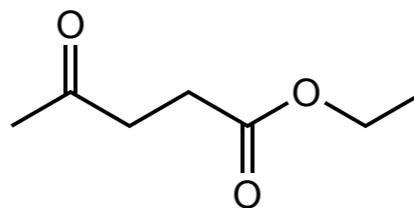


cyclopentanol



cyclohexanol

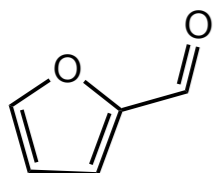
from hydrogenation of furfurals



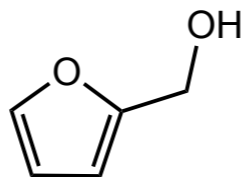
ethyl levulinate

from levulinic acid

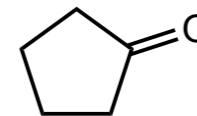
# “Bioderived Toolbox”



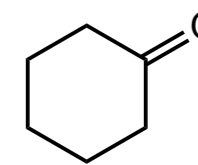
furfural



furfural alcohol



cyclopentanone

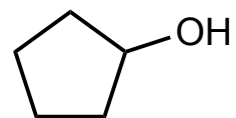


cyclohexanone

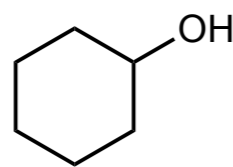
from hemicellulose and polysaccharides

from hydrogenation of furfural

from lignocellulose

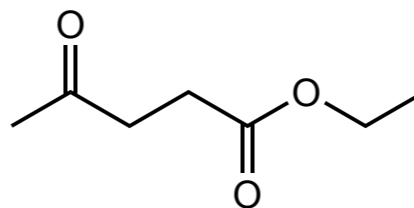


cyclopentanol



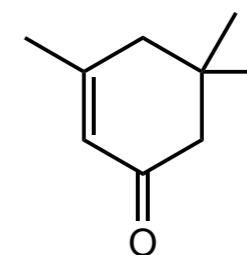
cyclohexanol

from hydrogenation of furfurals



ethyl levulinate

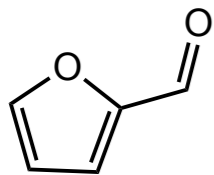
from levulinic acid



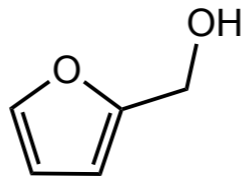
isophorone

condensation of bioderived acetone

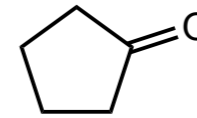
# “Bioderived Toolbox”



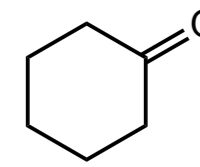
furfural



furfural alcohol



cyclopentanone

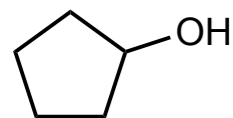


cyclohexanone

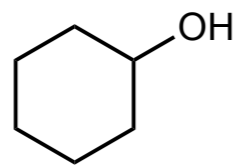
from hemicellulose and polysaccharides

from hydrogenation of furfural

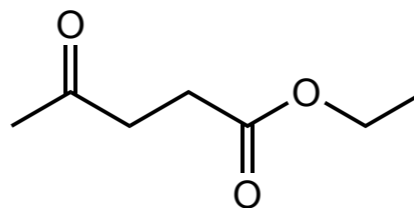
from lignocellulose



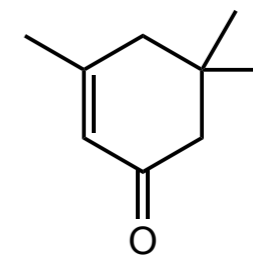
cyclopentanol



cyclohexanol



ethyl levulinate



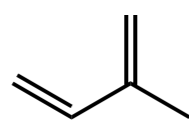
isophorone

from hydrogenation of furfurals

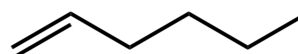
from levulinic acid

condensation of bioderived acetone

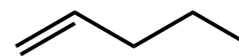
## Bio Based: Alkenes



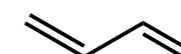
isoprene



1-hexene



1-pentene

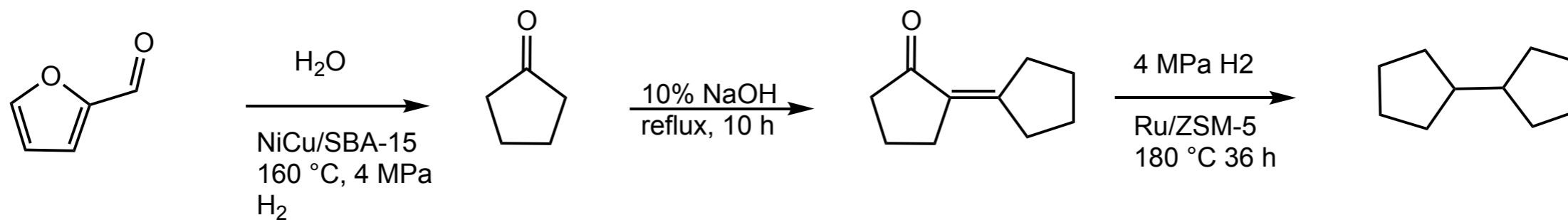


butadiene

*readily derived from biomass*

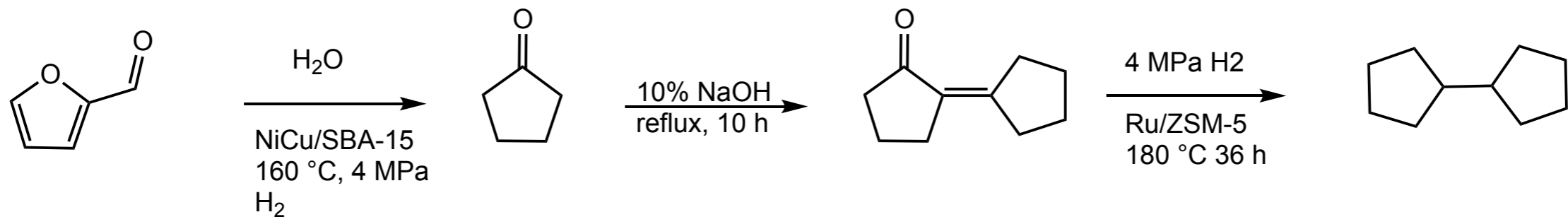


# Synthesis of Cycloalkane Fuels from Furfural

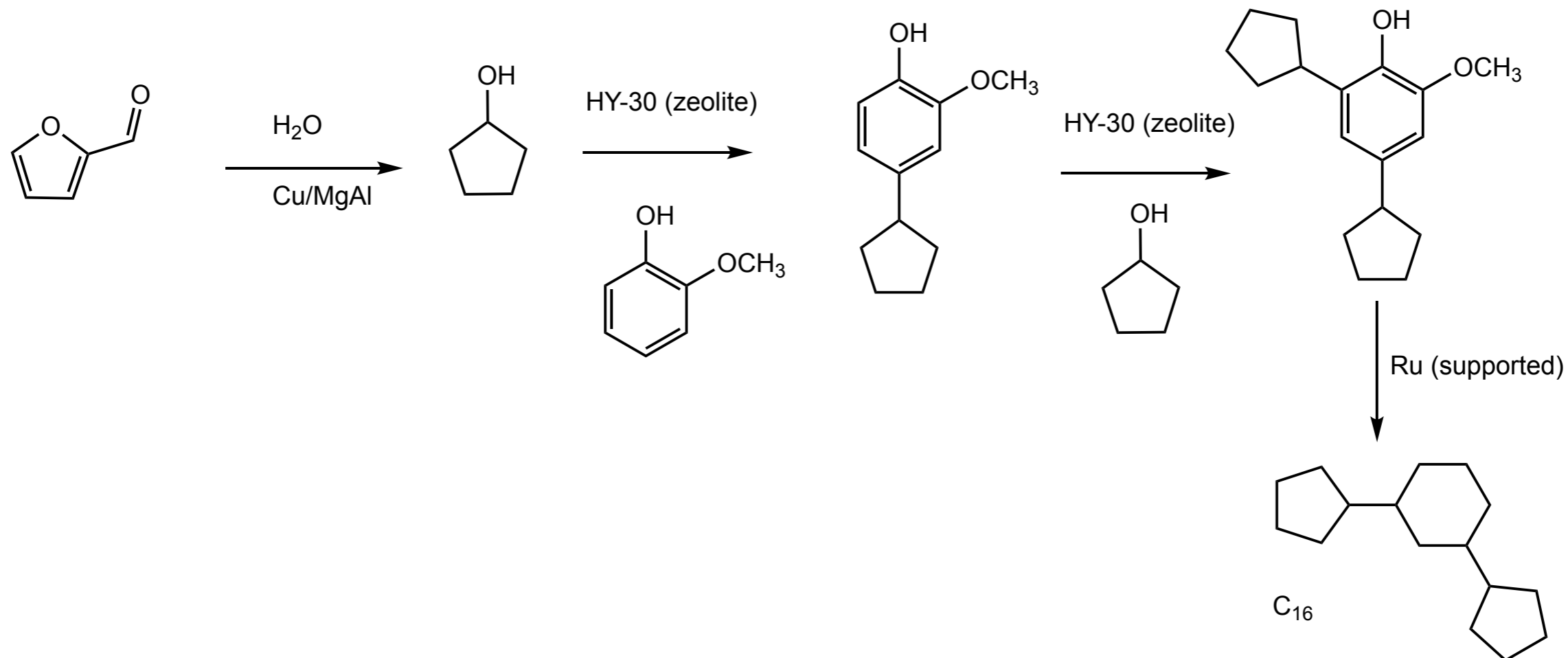


**NHOC BCP:** 42.53 MJ/kg  
**NHOC Requirement:**  $\geq 42.8$  MJ/kg

# Synthesis of Cycloalkane Fuels from Furfural

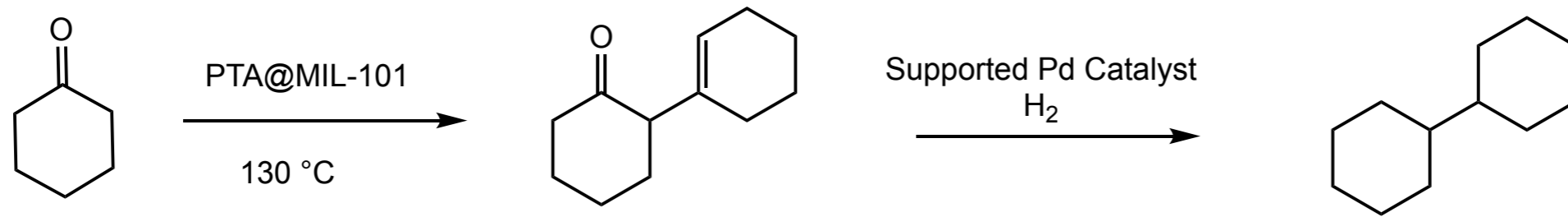


**NHOC BCP:** 42.53 MJ/kg  
**NHOC Requirement:**  $\geq 42.8\text{ MJ/kg}$



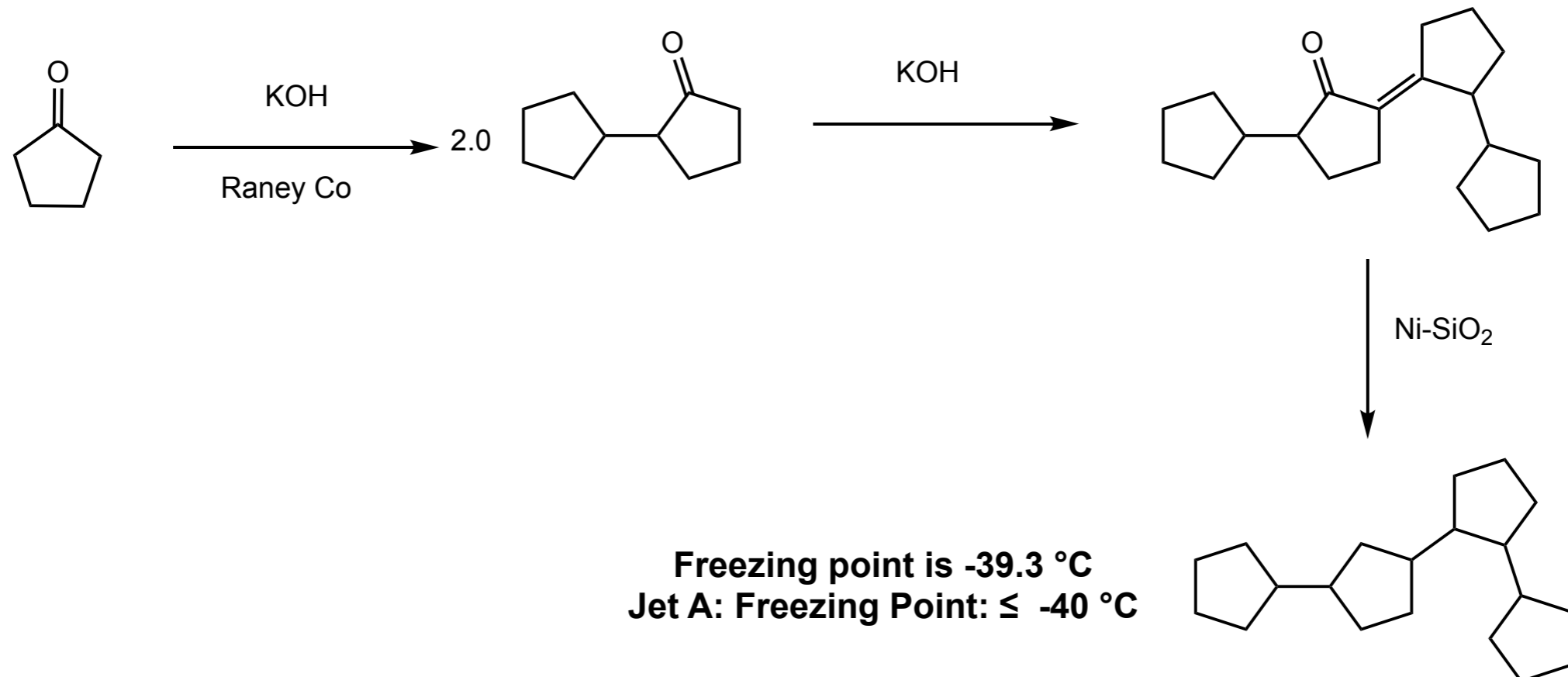
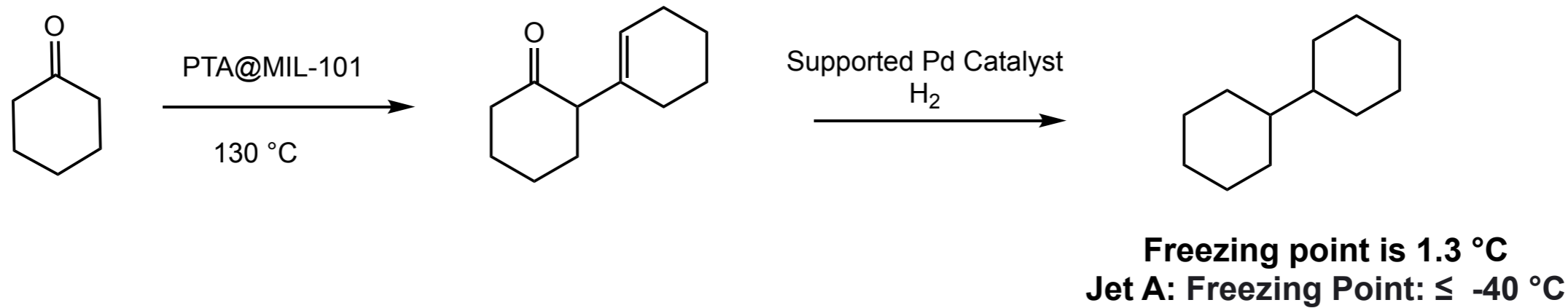
*Met Jet A requirements*

# Synthesis of Fuels from Aldol-Self Condensation of Cyclic Ketones

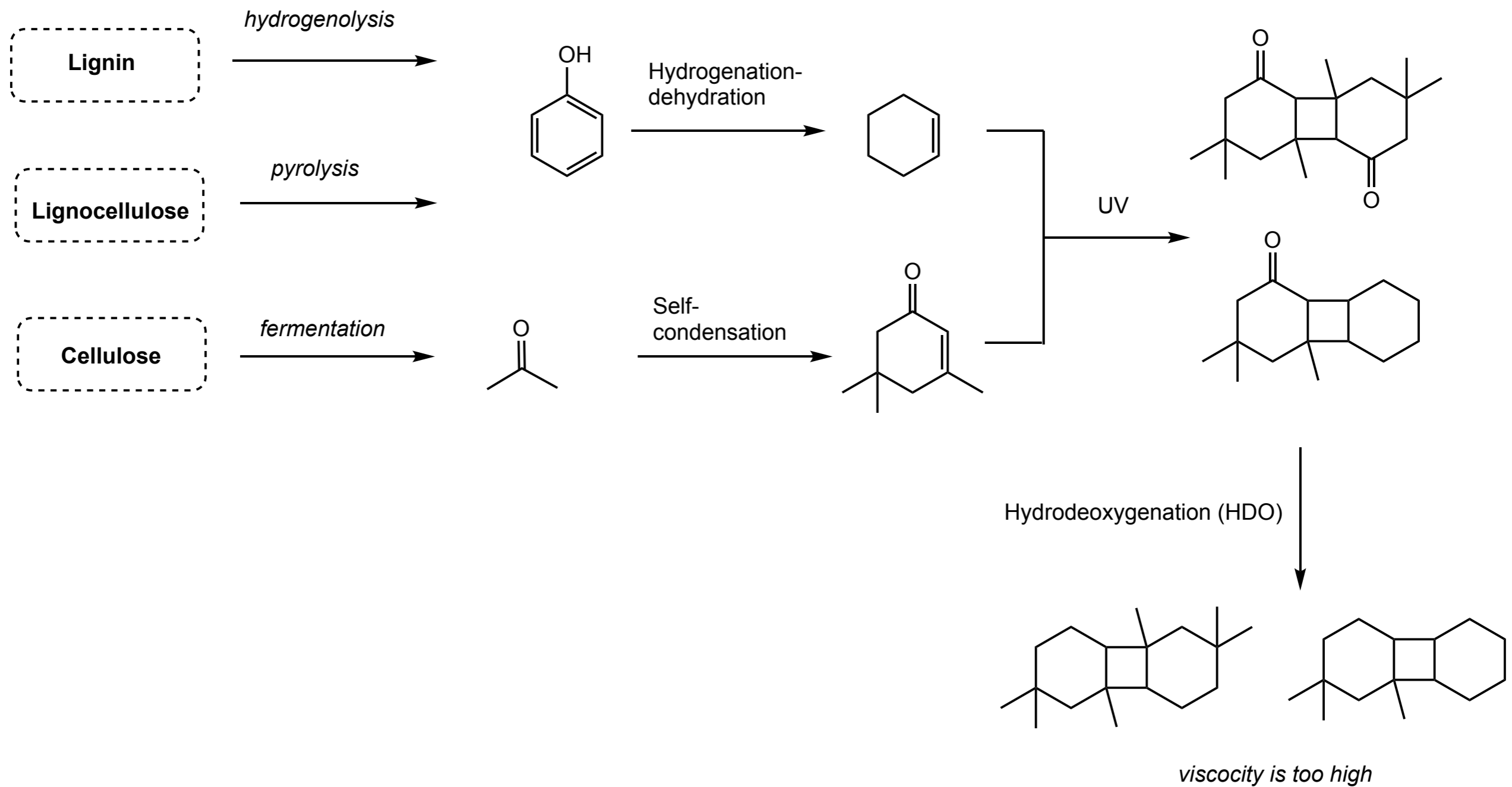


Freezing point is 1.3 °C  
Jet A: Freezing Point: ≤ -40 °C

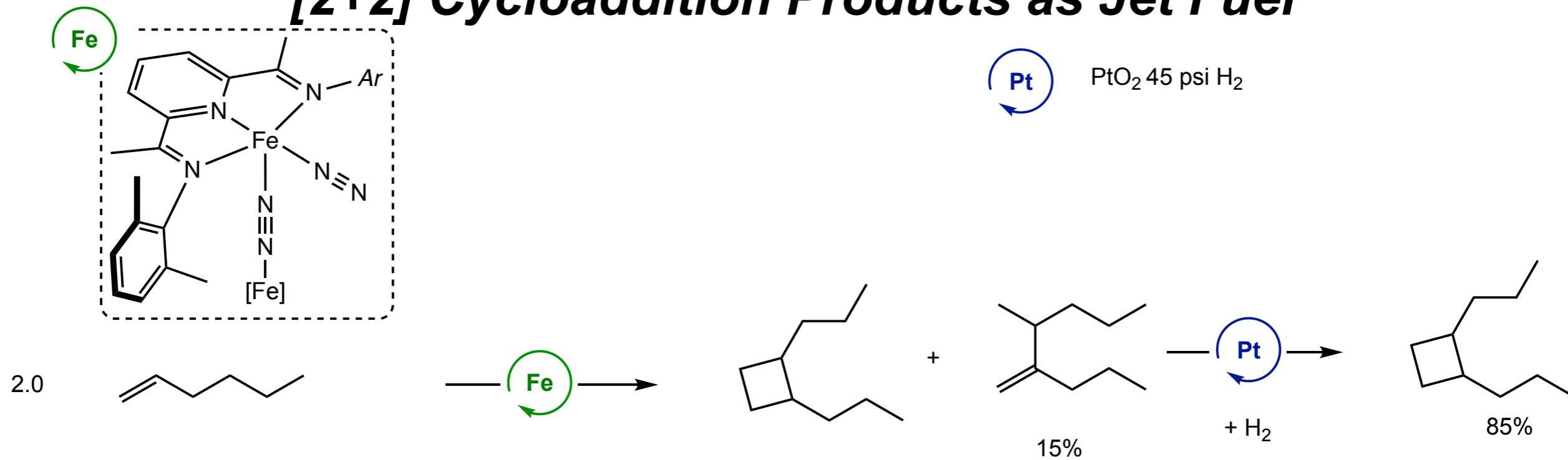
# Synthesis of Fuels from Aldol-Self Condensation of Cyclic Ketones



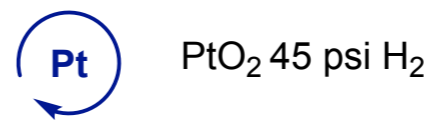
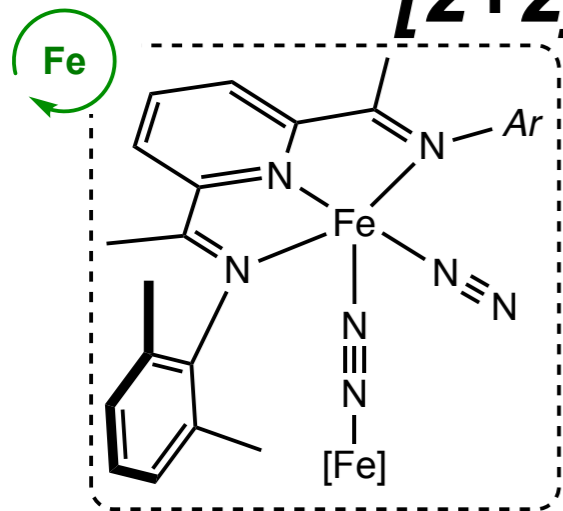
# [2+2] Cycloaddition Products as Bioderived Fuels



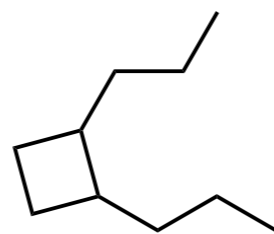
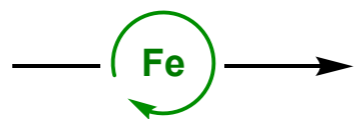
# [2+2] Cycloaddition Products as Jet Fuel



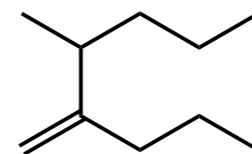
# [2+2] Cycloaddition Products as Jet Fuel



2.0



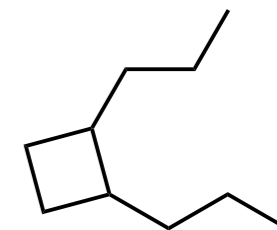
+



15%

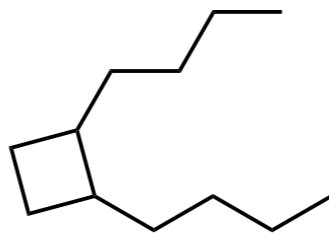
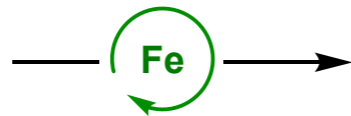
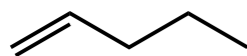


+ H<sub>2</sub>

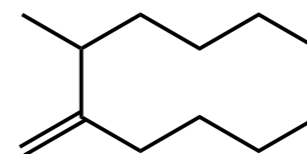


85%

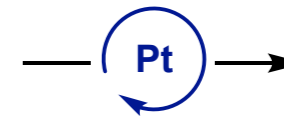
2.0



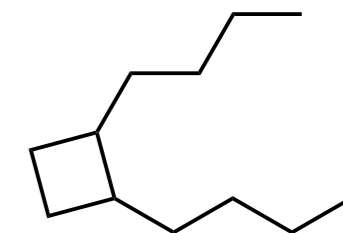
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15%

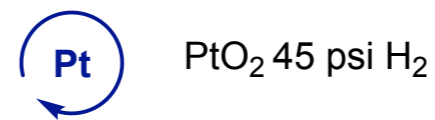
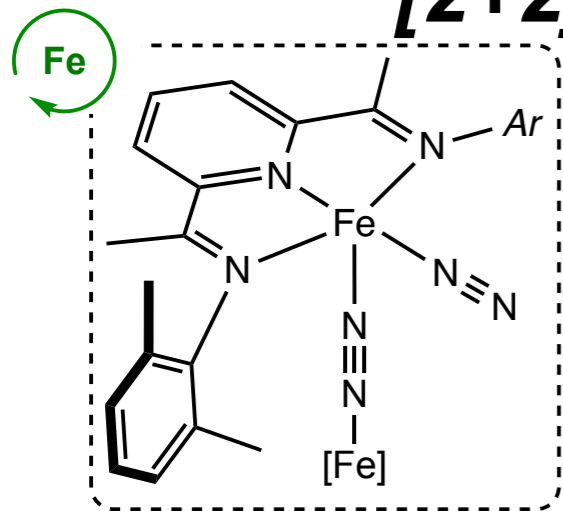


+ H<sub>2</sub>

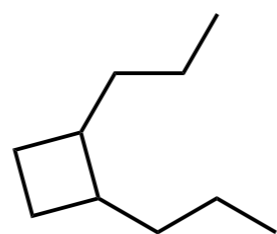
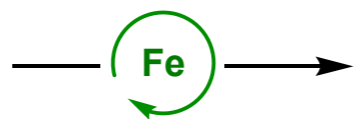


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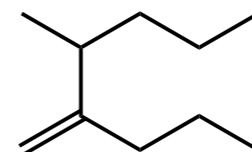
# [2+2] Cycloaddition Products as Jet Fuel



2.0



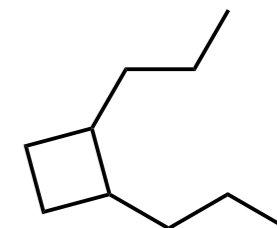
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15%

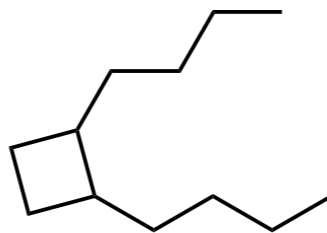
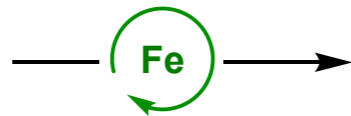
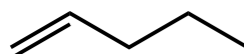


+ H<sub>2</sub>

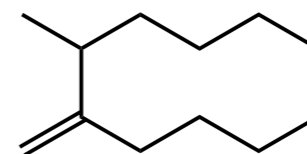


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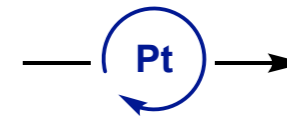
2.0



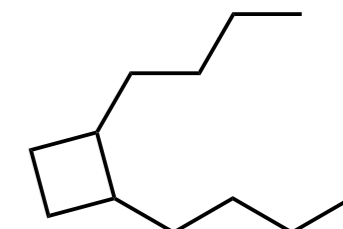
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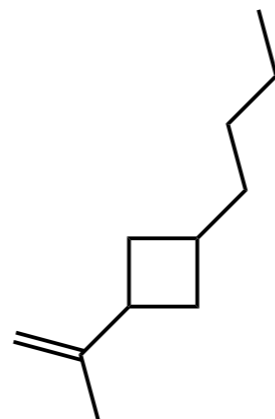
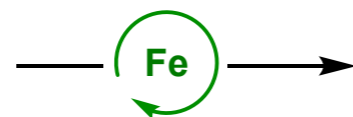
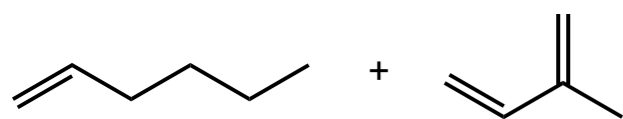
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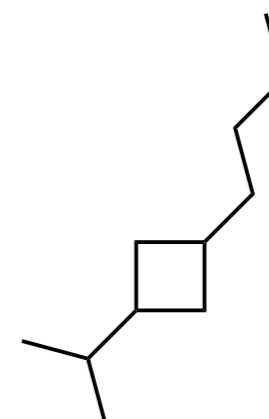
+ H<sub>2</sub>



85%

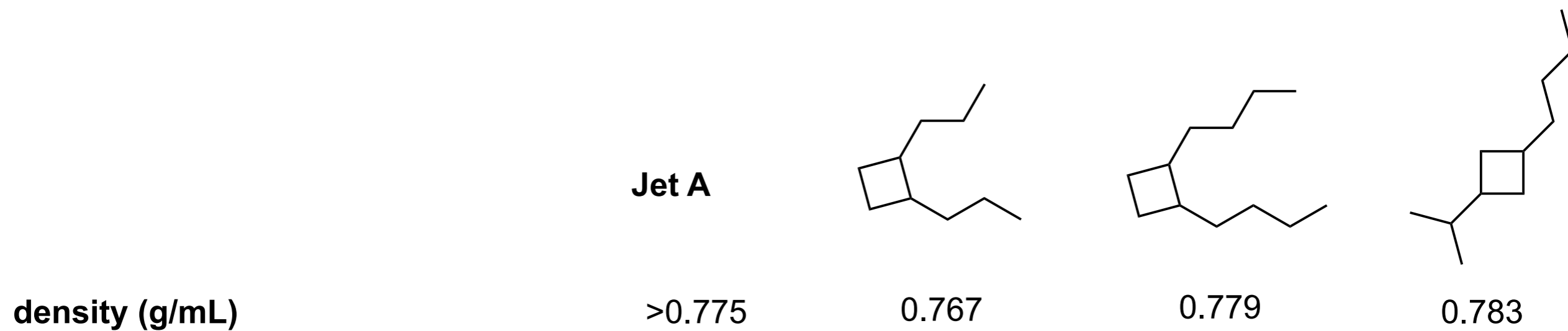


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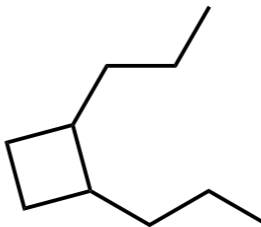
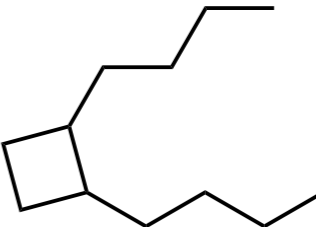
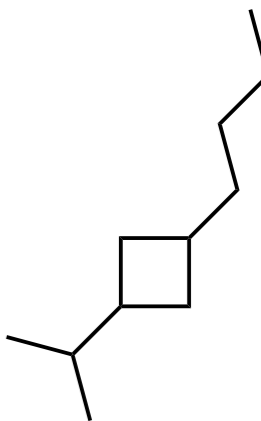




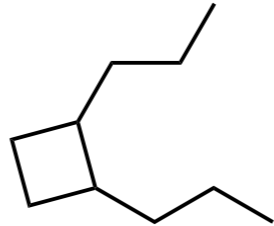
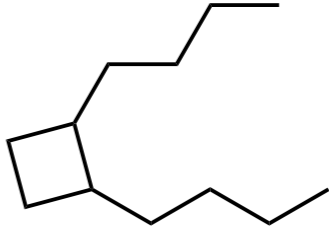
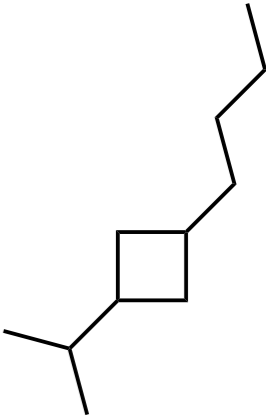
# ***[2+2] Cycloaddition Products as Jet Fuel: Comparison of Properties***



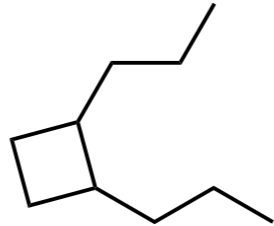
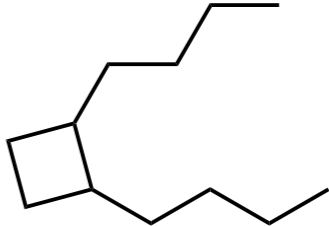
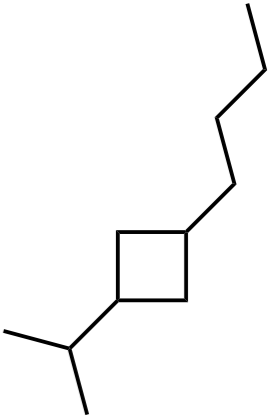
# ***[2+2] Cycloaddition Products as Jet Fuel: Comparison of Properties***

	<b>Jet A</b>			
<b>density (g/mL)</b>	>0.775	0.767	0.779	0.783
<b>NHOC (MJ/kg)</b>	>42.8	43.8	43.1	42.9

# ***[2+2] Cycloaddition Products as Jet Fuel: Comparison of Properties***

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# ***[2+2] Cycloaddition Products as Jet Fuel: Comparison of Properties***

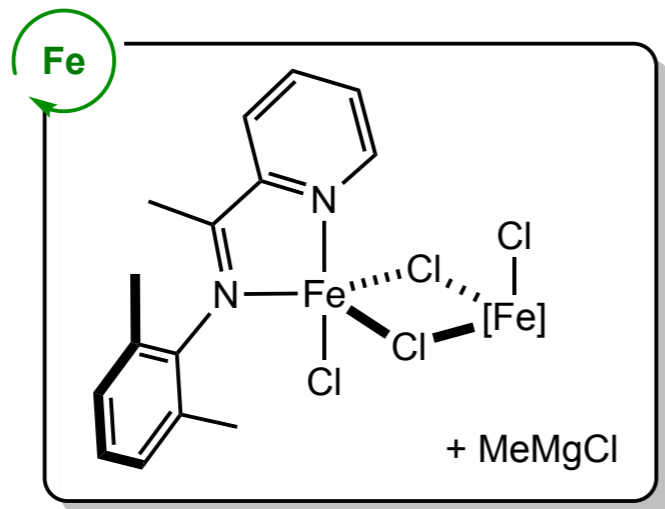
	<b>Jet A</b>			
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***Freezing points below 80 °C***

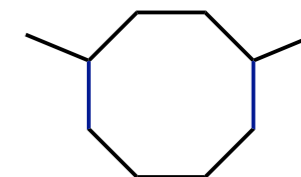
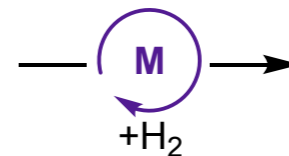
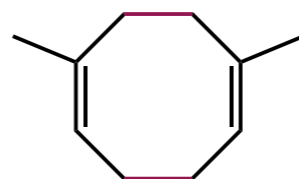
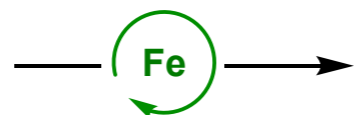
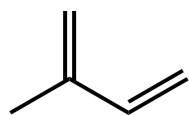
***Fuels Meet Jet A Requirements***

***Challenges: Need a more active 2+2 Catalyst [TON ~ 40]***

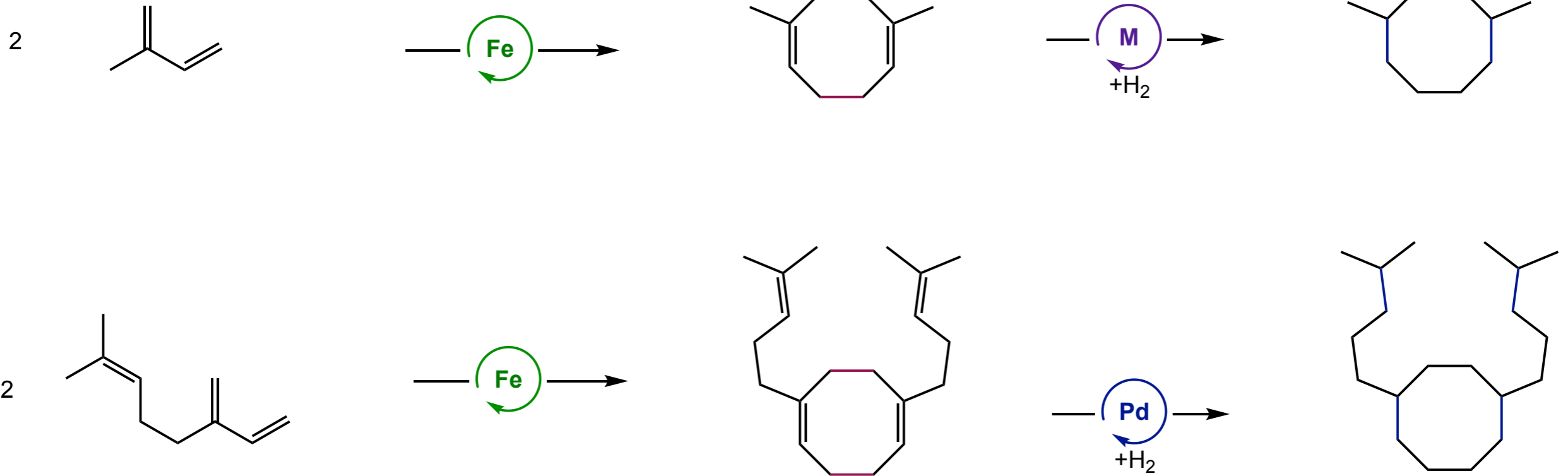
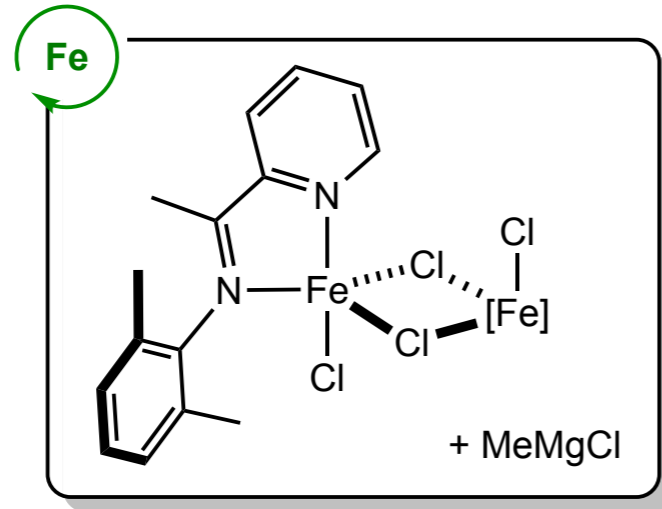
# Bioderived Jet Fuels from [4+4] Cycloaddition Products



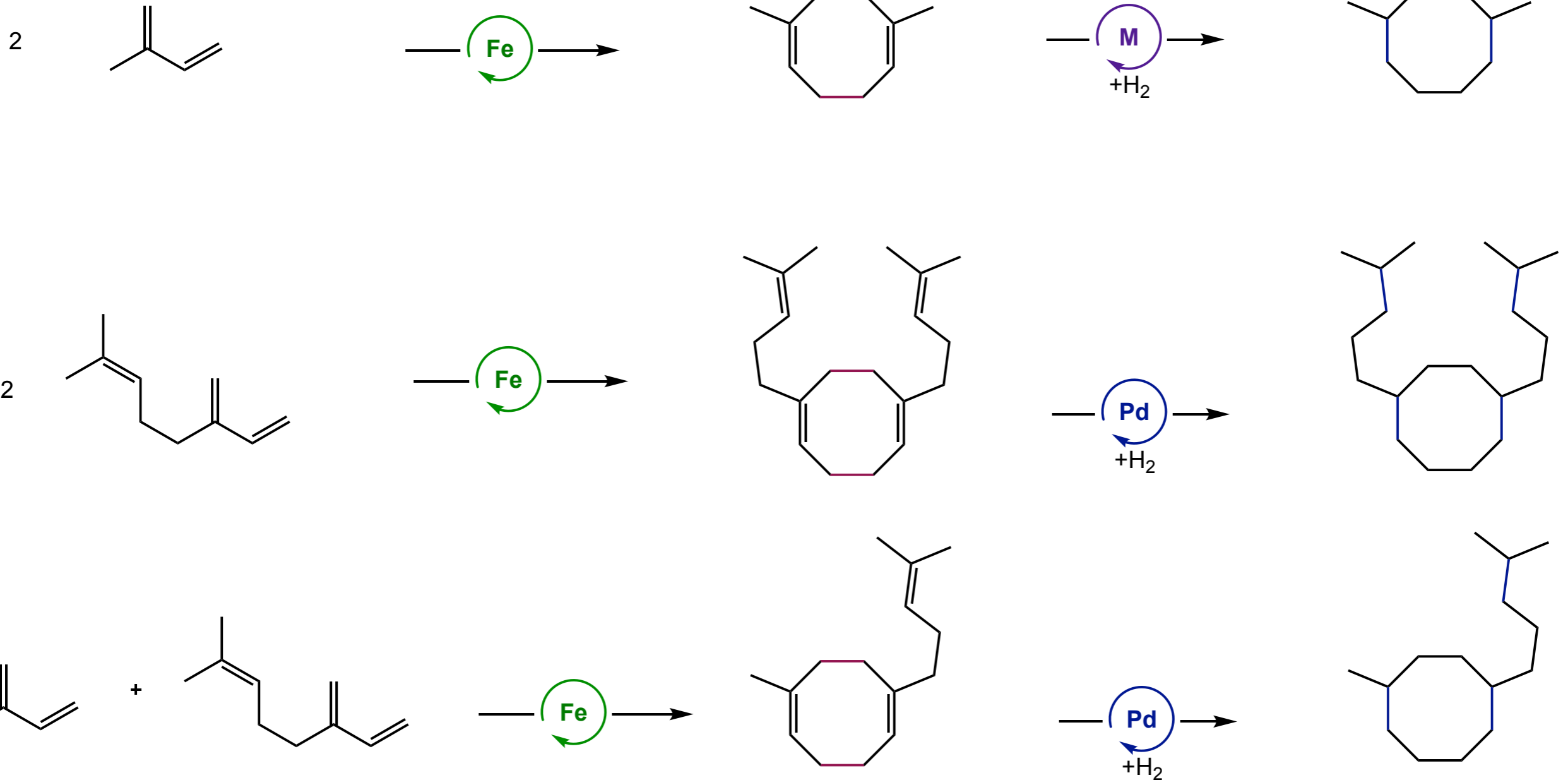
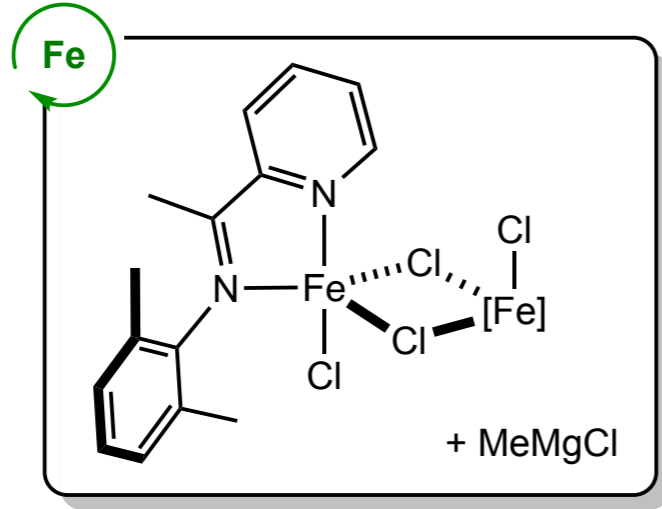
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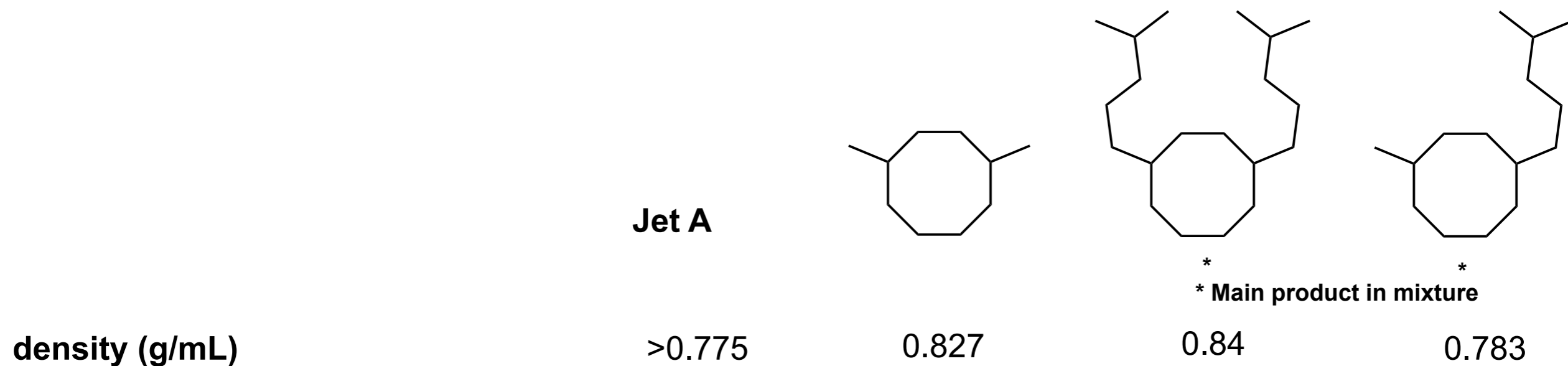
# Bioderived Jet Fuels from [4+4] Cycloaddition Products



# Bioderived Jet Fuels from [4+4] Cycloaddition Products

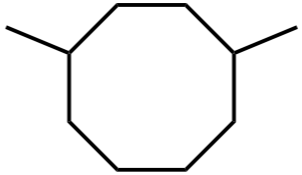
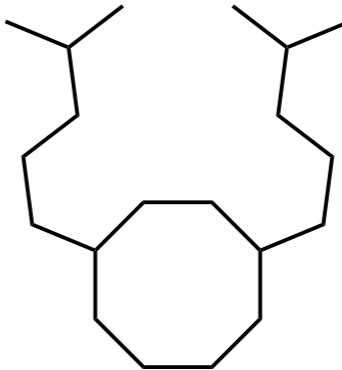
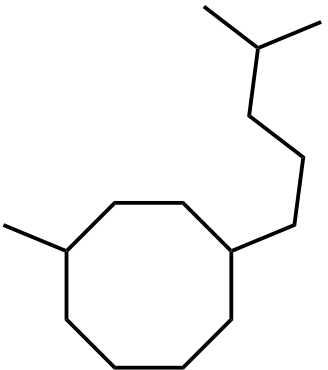


# ***[4+4] Cycloaddition Products in Bioderived Fuels***

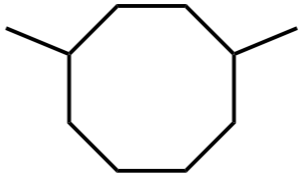
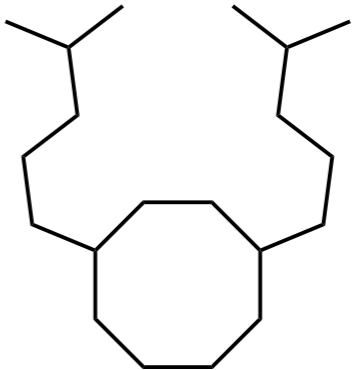
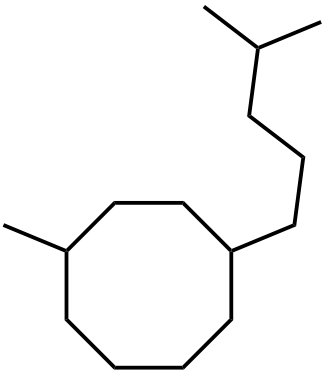




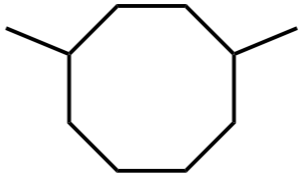
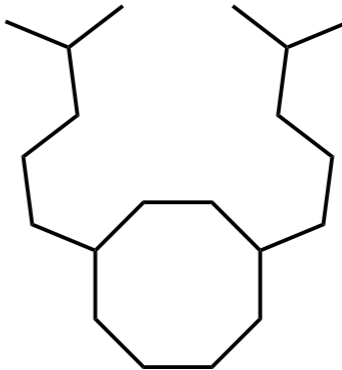
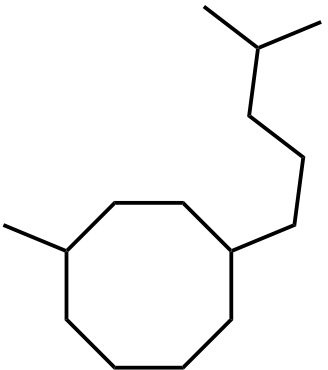
# [4+4] Cycloaddition Products in Bioderived Fuels

	Jet A			
			*	*
			* Main product in mixture	
density (g/mL)	>0.775	0.827	0.84	0.783
NHOC (MJ/kg)	>42.8	43.82	43.63	43.68

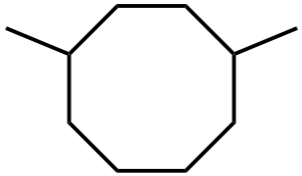
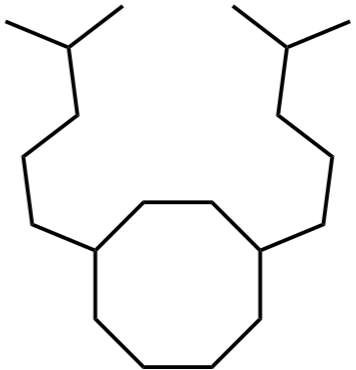
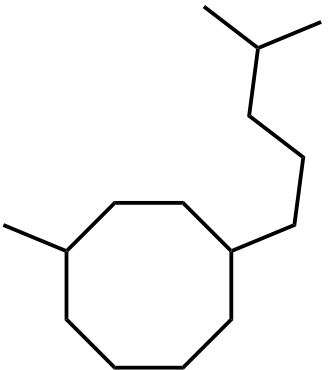
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Kinematic Viscosity (mm <sup>2</sup> /s)	<8	4.17	10.8	3.8

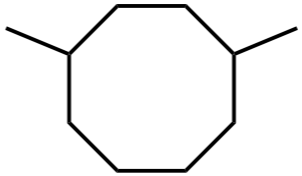
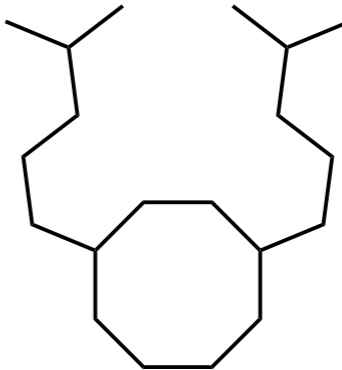
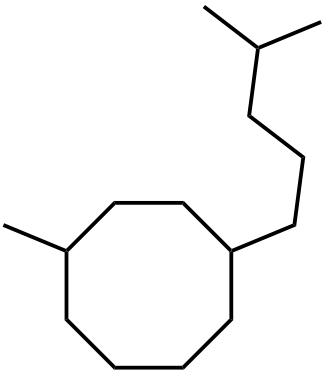
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<b>Freezing Point (°C)</b>	<-40	<-78	—	—

# [4+4] Cycloaddition Products in Bioderived Fuels

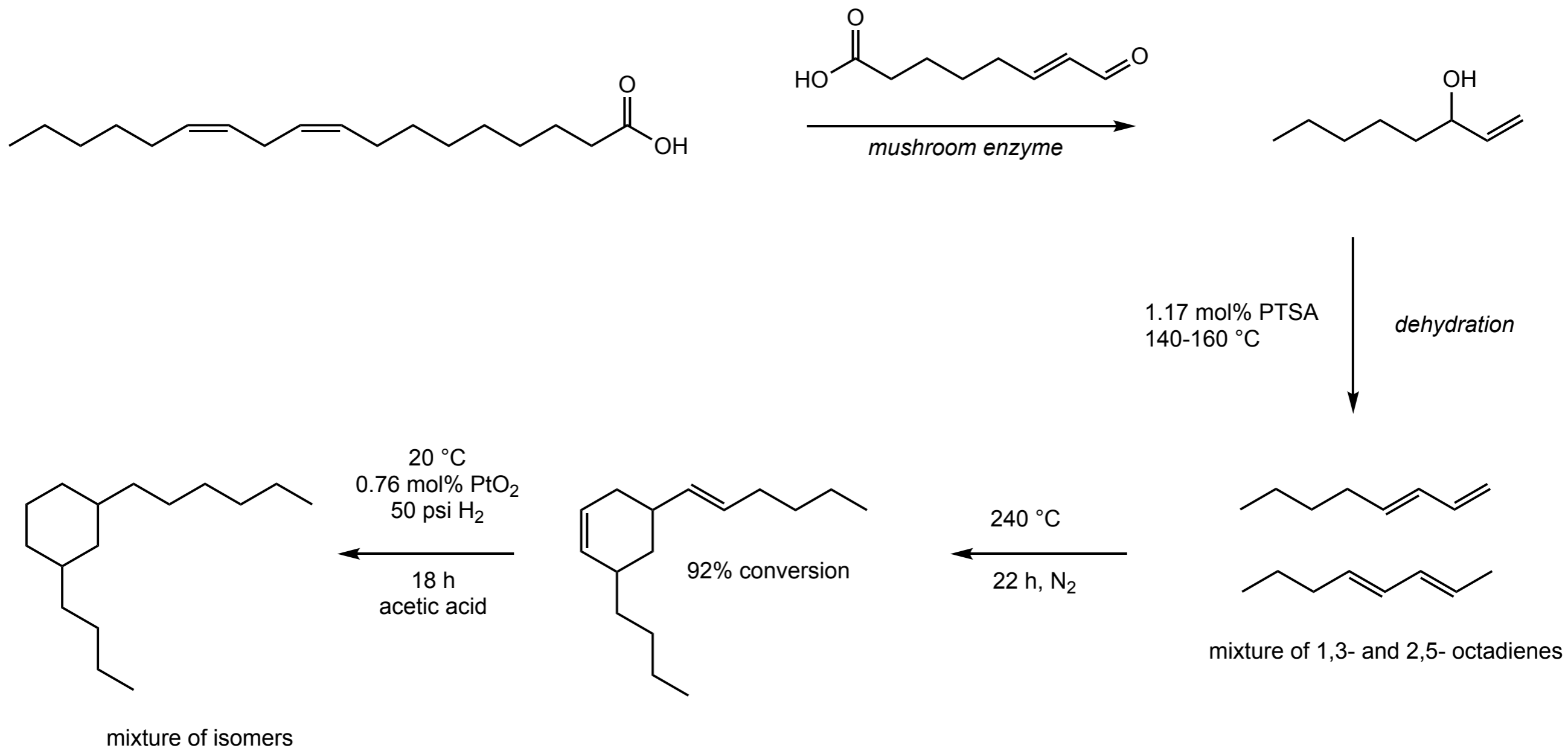
	Jet A			
			* * Main product in mixture	*
density (g/mL)	>0.775	0.827	0.84	0.783
NHOC (MJ/kg)	>42.8	43.82	43.63	43.68
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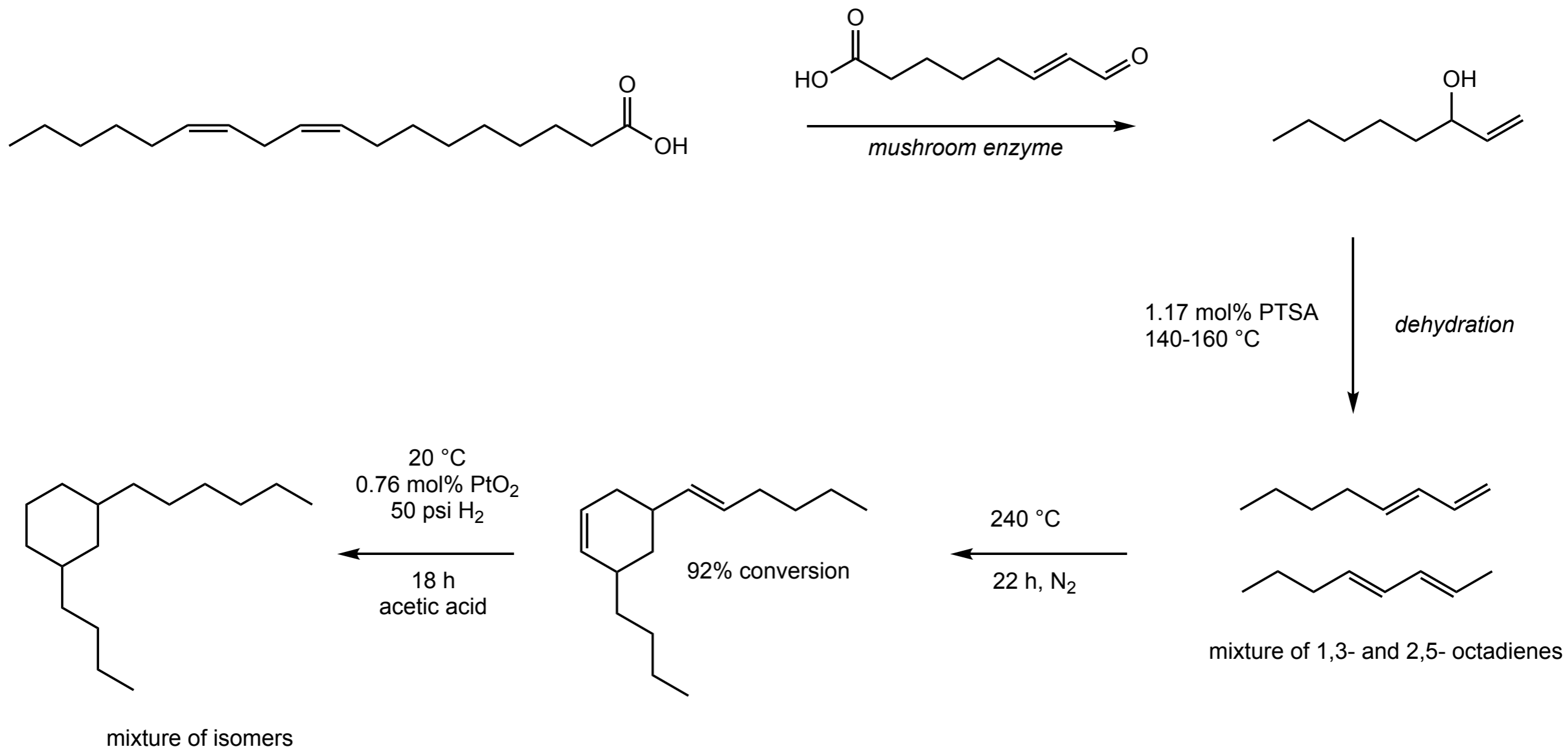
***Fuels Exhibit Optimal Properties when Blended***

# Hydrogenated Octadiene Dimers Derived from Linoleic Acid



**Density:** 0.835 g/mL ( $15 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ ) - too high

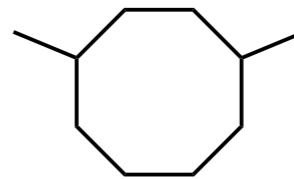
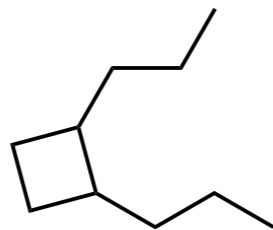
# Hydrogenated Octadiene Dimers Derived from Linoleic Acid



**Density:** 0.835 g/mL (15 °C) - too high

***Do less strained cycloalkanes make less optimal fuels?***

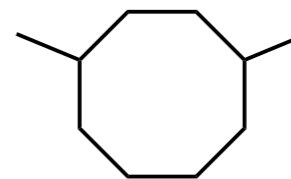
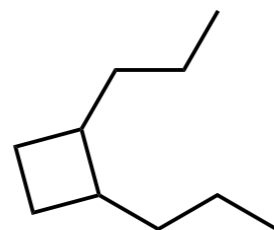
# Conclusions and Outlooks



*[2+2] and [4+4] products made from bio-based alkenes had properties competitive with or better than Jet-A*



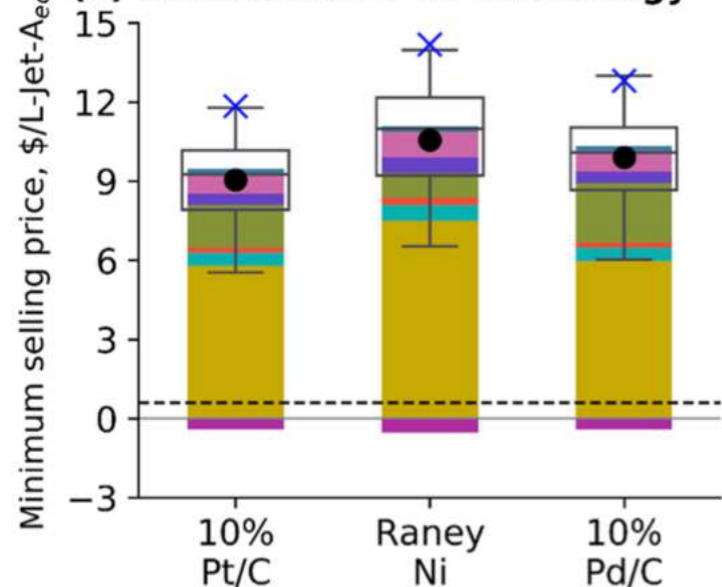
# Conclusions and Outlooks



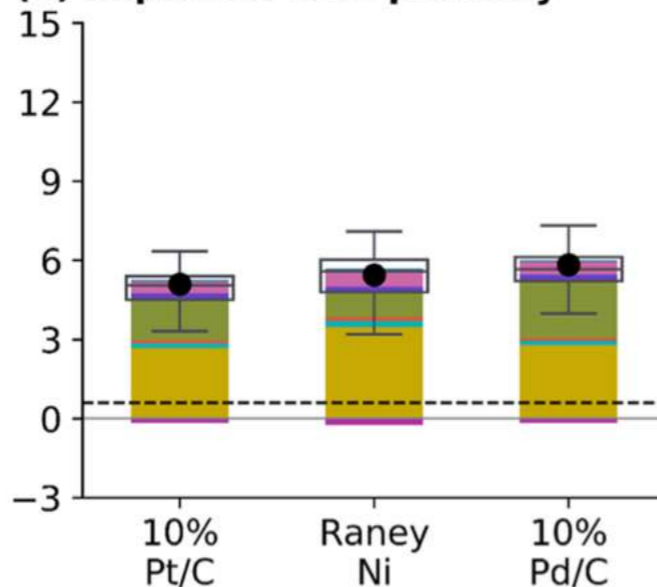
*[2+2] and [4+4] products made from bio-based alkenes had properties competitive with or better than Jet-A*

## Challenge: Hydrogenation

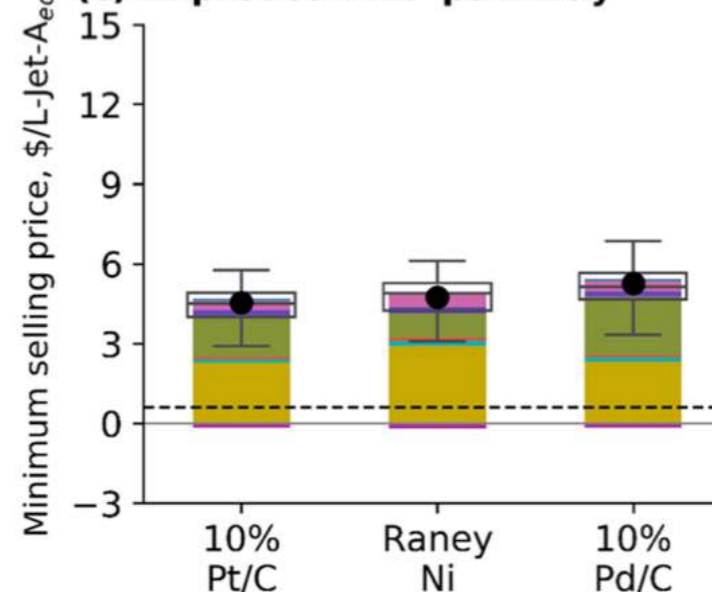
(a) Current state of technology



(b) Improved MVA pathway



(c) Improved MEP pathway



(d) Optimal future case

