

Short- and long-term global alternative jet fuel production and associated GHG emissions benefits

Project 1

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Motivation



- Global air traffic is projected to grow substantially in the next decades (btw. 3-4% p.a.)
- ICAO has an aspirational goal of “carbon-neutral growth” from 2020 onward
- In order to achieve this goal, ICAO and ICAO member states are working on a “basket of measures” to address CO₂ emissions
- One element of that basket is alternative jet fuels (AJF)

ICAO-CAEP created the Alternative Fuels Task Force (AFTF) for two purposes:

1. To determine the potential contribution of AJF towards achieving the goal of carbon neutral growth in the near- and long-term
2. Develop a methodology for how to appropriately credit the use of AJF under a global market-based measure (GMBM) to mitigate aviation CO₂ emissions

This work was carried out primarily by researchers at MIT, but reflects the contributions of >80 technical experts

- Significant input from Volpe, Argonne National Lab, Purdue U, EU Joint Research Council

AJF production potential analysis scope



Temporal: Near-term - 2020
Long-term - 2050

Geographical: Global

Emissions: Lifecycle GHG emissions

Feedstocks:

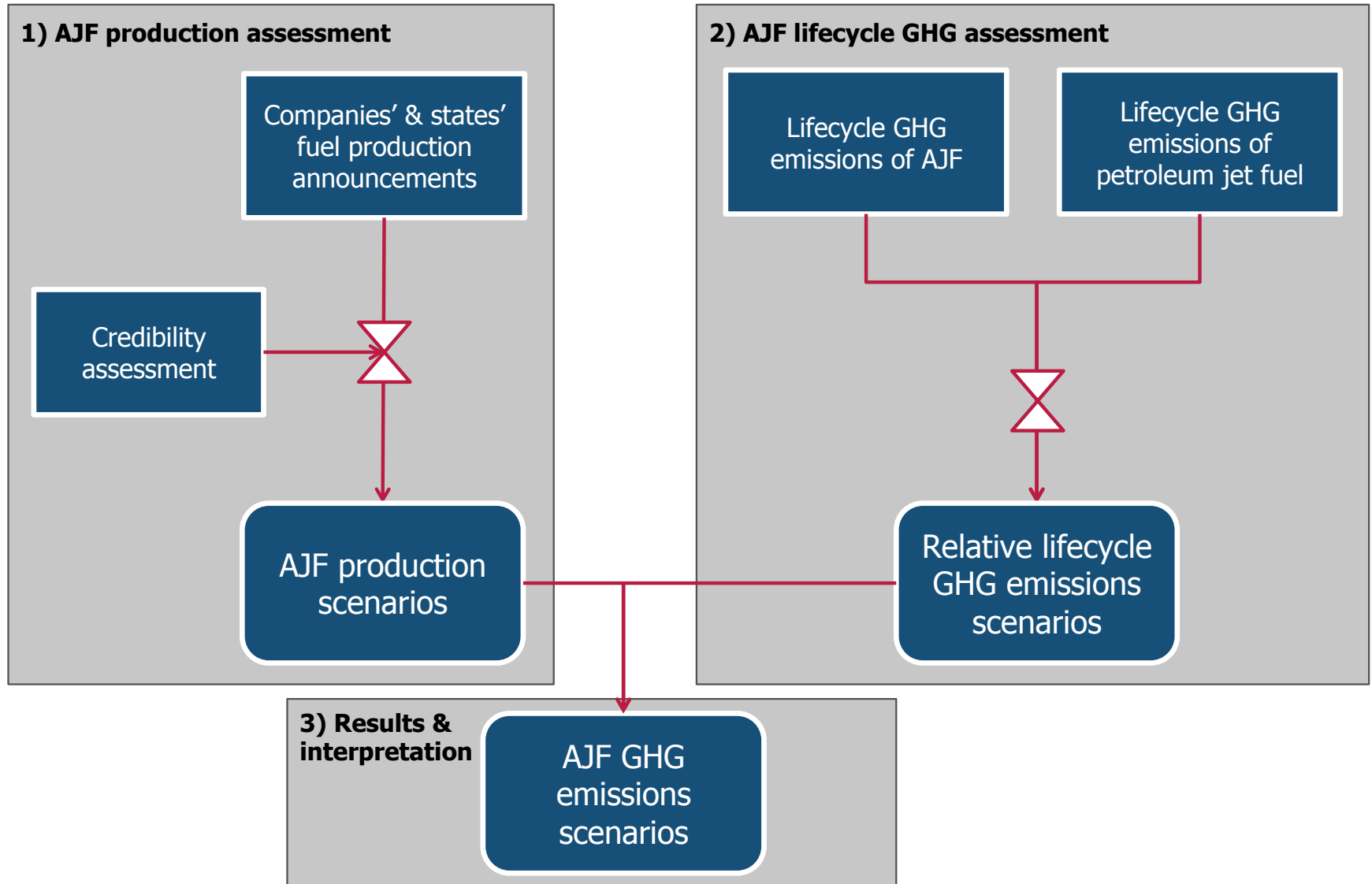
Feedstock group	Feedstock sub-group
Crops	Vegetable oil crops
	Starchy crops
	Sugary crops
	Lignocellulosic energy crops
Wood	Wood fuel & roundwood
Residues	Agricultural residues
	Forestry residues
Wastes	Waste fats, oils and greases (FOG)
	Municipal solid waste (MSW)
	Waste gases
Algae	Microalgae

AJF production technologies: Approved or under consideration for ASTM certification (HEFA, FT, SIP, ATJ)

Created and used modelling capabilities:

- for quantification of **global AJF production scenarios** in 2020 and 2050, broken out by feedstock-group, feedstock location, and land types used
- for estimation of **AJF lifecycle GHG intensity**, broken out by feedstock-group and conversion technology, relative to petroleum-derived jet fuel
- for estimation of **global scenarios of aviation GHG emissions reductions** through the use of AJF, including emissions from direct land-use change

2020 analysis components

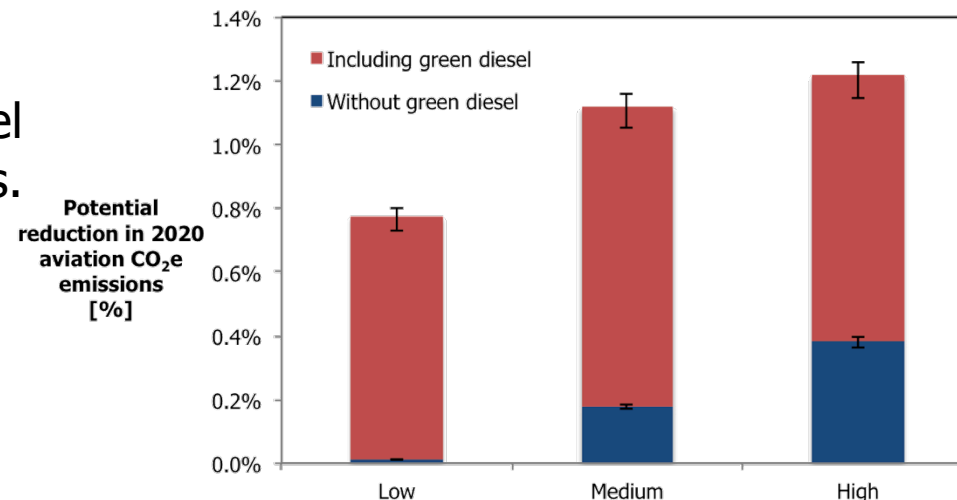
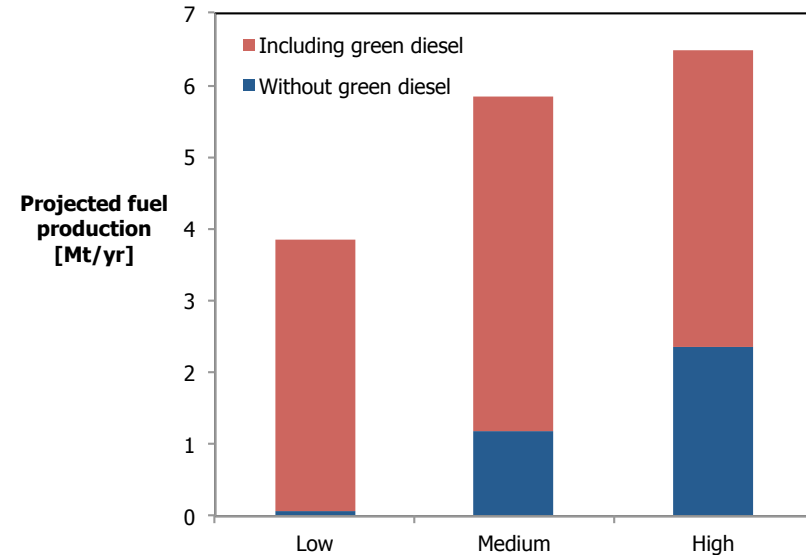


Results: 2020 AJF production scenarios

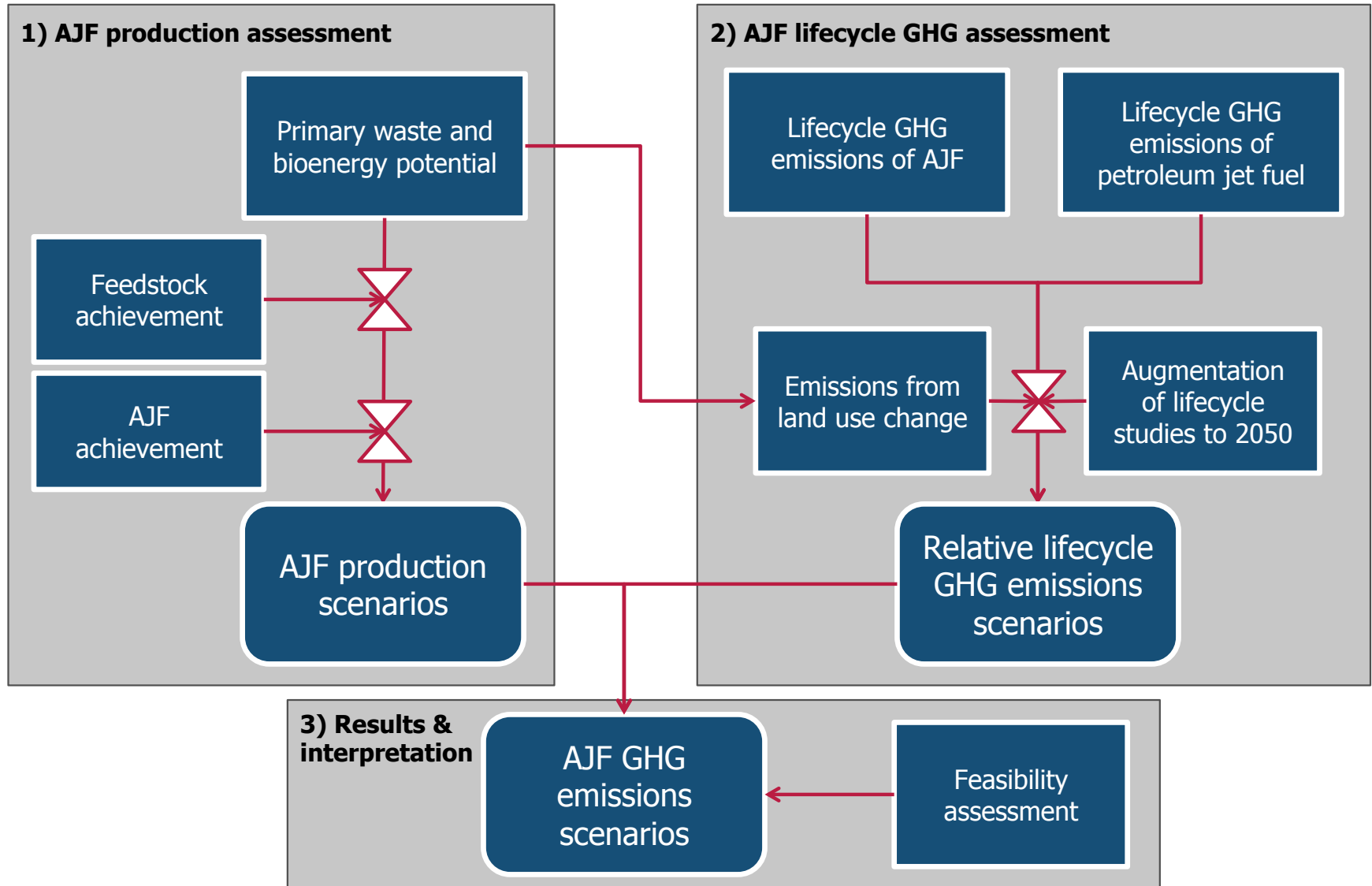
AJF production scenarios range from **0-2% (0-150,000 bpd)** of projected global jet fuel demand in 2020

This results in a lifecycle GHG emissions reduction of **0-1.3%** GHG emissions reduction compared to petroleum-derived jet fuel use, only

High-end only achievable if green diesel blends are approved for jet engines. Without green diesel max. GHG emissions' reductions are approx. **0.4%**

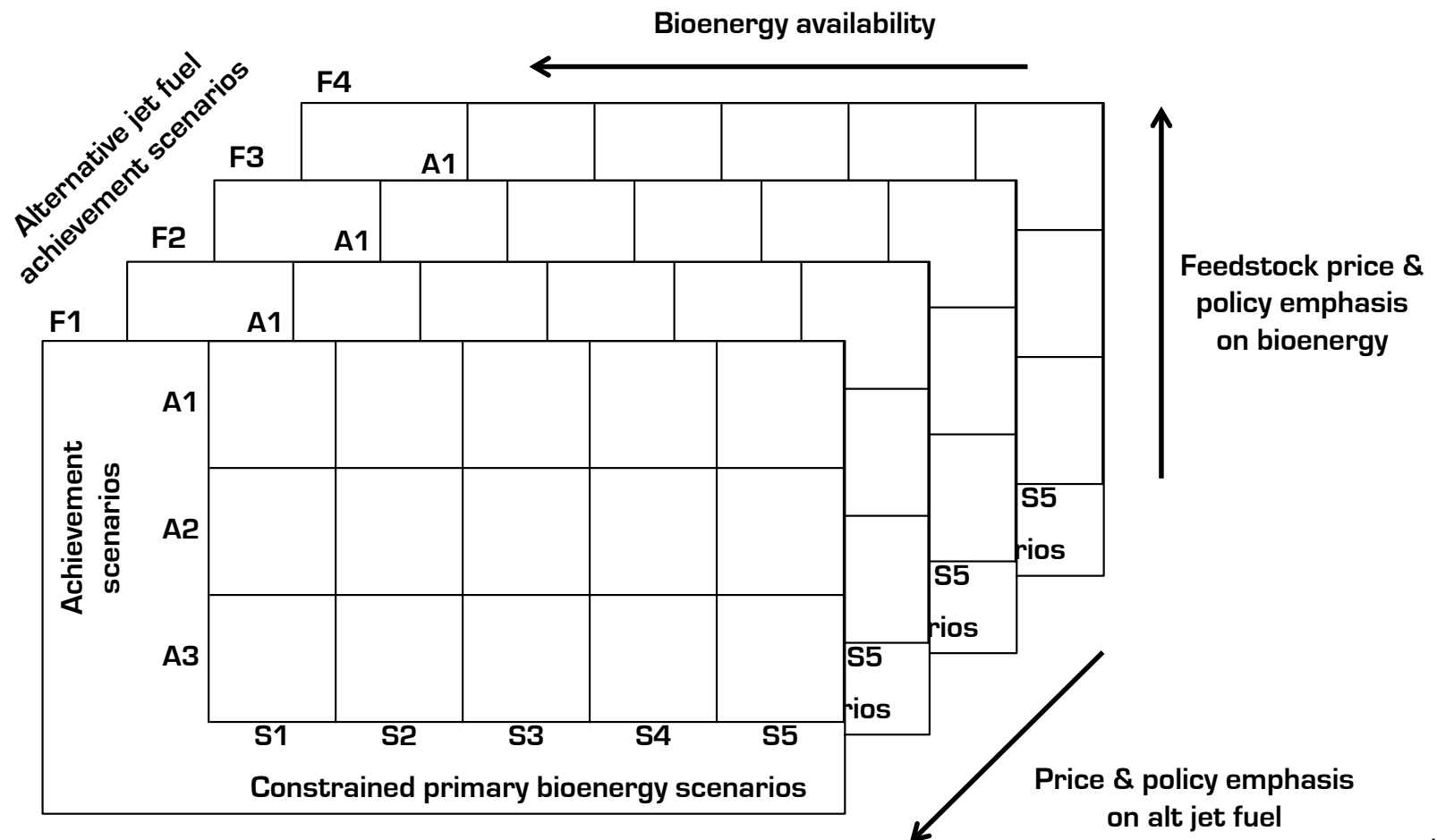


2050 analysis components



2050 AJF production scenario definition

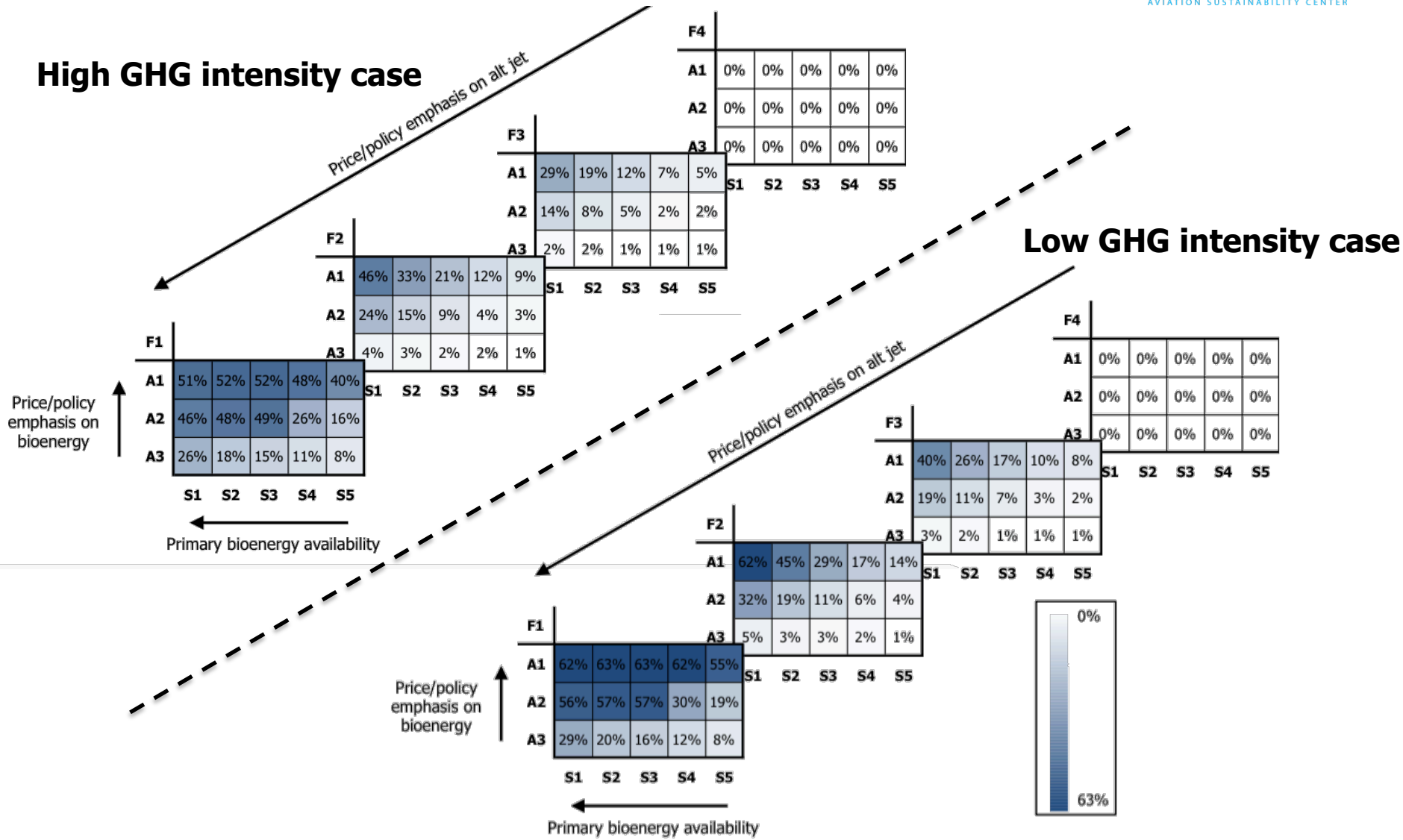
Scenarios defined at each step of the analysis to capture a wide range of potential outcomes



Results: 2050 GHG emissions reduction from AJF scenarios



High GHG intensity case



Emissions reduction ranges from **0-63%**, compared to petroleum-derived jet fuel usage only.

Results: 2050 feasibility assessment



Aviation GHG emissions reduction	Required alternative jet fuel production volume in 2050 (Mt/yr)	Number of new biorefineries/yr	Capital investment/yr
2%	30	10	\$1B - \$3B
10%	130	40	\$3B - \$14B
17%	220	70	\$6B - \$25B
40%	570	170	\$15B - \$60B
63%	870	260	\$20B - \$90B

Average historical global ethanol and biodiesel production	Total annual volumes (Mt/yr)	10 (years 1975 - 2000) to 45 (2001 - 2011)
	Number of new biorefineries/yr	5 (years 1975 - 2000) to 60 (2001 - 2011)
Projection for average annual investment in petroleum refining in 2035		\$55B

Preliminary results - do not cite or quote.

Results: 2050 feasibility assessment



Growth in AJF production needs to be on the order of recently observed growth of 5-15 Mt/yr (**100k-300k bpd**) in global biofuel production capacity to **achieve between 10% and 20%** emissions reduction by 2050

Growth needs to **significantly exceed** historical global biofuel production growth rates for total GHG emission reductions **of greater than 20%.**

Summary of findings

For 2020: AJF production scenarios of **0-2% (0-0.15 Mbpd)** of projected global fuel demand in 2020, and GHG emissions reductions of **0-1.3%** compared to petroleum-derived jet fuel.

- High-end only achievable if green diesel blends are approved for jet engines

For 2050: AJF production could range from **0 to 4.6 Mt (0-100 Mbpd)**, offsetting between **0-100%** of the projected petroleum-derived jet fuel demand.

- Production range translates into a **reduction** of total lifecycle **GHG emissions** from aviation between **0-63%**
- GHG reductions < fuel replacement because AJF in the different scenarios is associated with **lifecycle GHG emissions** of **31-64%** of those of petroleum-derived jet fuel, on average

Summary of findings

For 2050 (cont'd): Highest modeled GHG emission reductions require:

- **Optimistic assumptions** on increases in agricultural productivity, land availability, sustainable residue removal rates, conversion efficiency improvements, reductions in GHG emissions of utilities
- construction of **>200 large biorefineries** per year, every year between 2020 and 2050, at an annual capital investment of **\$20-\$90 bn.**
- **strong** market or policy **emphasis** on AJF, which would entail **large shares** of the available bioenergy pool be **devoted to producing AFJ.**

Emission reductions on the order of **10-20%** (approx. **3-6 Mbpd**) in 2050 require annual growth in AJF production capacity to 2050 similar to growth in conventional biorefining capacity in the years 2000-2010 (**50-100** new large biorefineries per year).

This work is documented in Information Paper CAEP/2016-IP/01, and the final results were presented to CAEP in February 2016.

During CAEP/11 (beginning June 2016), AFTF scope of work is to enable inclusion of AJF under GMBM by:

- Calculating default LCA values for AJF that are feedstock, fuel conversion technology, and regionally specific, in accordance with the AFTF methodology
- Calculating ILUC factors for relevant AJF pathways
- Definition of non-GHG environmental feedstock sustainability criteria
- Exploration of policy options to enable AJF uptake under GMBM

Acknowledgements



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Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the FAA or other ASCENT Sponsors.

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