

# Utilizing 1<sup>st</sup> Generation Biofuel Production Facilities to Develop Enabling Biorefinery Technology

#### **Biorefinery Vision**





#### **New Process Technology Reality**

Center for Biorenewable Chemicals



## **Process Leveraging Opportunities**



- Process improvements
  - Microbe design for water utilization
- Technology integration demonstration
  - Furfural using γ-valerolactone solvent
- Product demonstration
  - Muconic acid as a bioprivileged molecules

#### **Process Improvements**



- High water use rate
  - Estimated minimum of 2.85 gal water/gal ethanol\*
- Areas of water usage
  - Cooling
  - Limited water recycling
- Microbial metabolic engineering targeted at water utilization
  - Higher temperature fermentation
  - Biogenic impurity tolerance

#### **GVL Solvent Pretreatment - Biofuels**





TOL: toluene, GVL: y-valerolactone

Won, Motagamwala, Dumesic, Maravelias, React. Chem. Eng. 2: 397-405 (2017)

#### **GVL Solvent Utilization**





#### **C5 Dehydration in GVL**





Dehydration of (A) xylose and (B) arabinose at 160°C using 0.05 M sulfuric acid and GVL containing 10 wt% water as solvent



#### **Product Demonstration**



**Bioprivileged molecules** are defined as biology-derived chemical species that can be <u>readily</u> converted to a diversity of chemical products including both <u>novel molecules and</u> <u>drop-in replacements</u>.



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PERSPECTIVE Brent H. Shanks and Peter L. Keeling Bioprivileged molecules: creating value from biomass

## **Muconic Acid Platform**





## **Bioadvantaged Nylon**





The mechanical properties of conventional Nylon 6,6 drop by 40% with the absorption of 2% moisture

## **Halide Resistance Test**



**Conventional Nylon** 



#### **Bioadvantaged Nylon**



Tessonnier/Cochran groups

## Leveraging 1<sup>st</sup> Bioethanol Production



• Envision path to future biorefineries

• Establish commercial relevant steps (staged introduction)

• Target ongoing value creation!



# Thank You