#### **VEHICLE TECHNOLOGIES OFFICE**



Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy



**Overview of the VTO Fuel and Lubricant Technologies R&D** 

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#### **Fuels R&D**





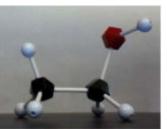
#### Expanding the use of alternative fuels and fuel-controlled combustion

# **Fuel and Lubricant Technologies**

## **Accomplishments**

- Demonstrated 2% fuel economy improvement with advanced additives, relative to SOA synthetic SAE 5W-20 (2015 goal)
- Demonstrated RCCI operating range of 75% of non-idling portions of the city (UDDS) and highway (HWFET) lightduty federal drive cycles
- Successful launch of U.S.
  DRIVE Fuels Working Group





Ethanol Puppy: Ball-and-Stick Model



#### **Future Directions**

- Maintain lubricant research activities
  - Develop retrofittable, low-friction lubes for use as drop-in replacement in existing vehicle engines
  - Expand to include gear oils
- Expand understanding and exploitation of fuel-controlled combustion
  - Investigate potential engine efficiency improvements from increased octane
  - Determine optimum set of fuel properties for low temperature combustion
- Continue fit-for-service evaluations of alternative fuels – with emphasis on candidate "drop-in" biofuels

#### FY 2020 Goals

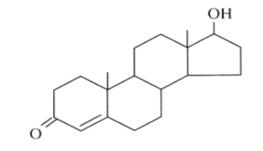
Demonstrate cost effective lubricant system with 4% fuel economy improvement relative to 2013 base fluids

Demonstrate expanded operational range of advanced combustion regimes to >95% of LD Federal Test Procedures

#### Status

 On-track to meet goals for both fuels and lubricants

# **Fuel and Lubricant Technologies**



Funding in millions			<b>FY 2016</b> Request
Fuel and Lubricant Technologies	\$15.5	\$20.0	\$37.0







## Early cars took advantage of the fuels that were available



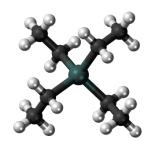
- 1908 1927
- Peak sales of 2M in 1923
- Early models allowed kerosene as well as gasoline – not well-defined difference
- Early fuels had AKI of 50-60

- 2.9 L engine
- 22 bhp @ 1600 rpm
- 83 ft.lbs peak torque
- 4 :1 Compression



### Market demand in the 20's brought on Anti-Knock additives

- Charles Kettering, electric starter (Delco)
  - Cars w/ starters happened to knock
  - Refining technology for +ON not deployed
  - Invests efforts in fuel & antiknock additives
- Thomas Midgley investigated over 33,000 compounds in 6 years
  - Several suitable compounds identified
  - Tetraethyllead (TEL) in fuel, 1922
    - U.S. Patent #1,592,955, "A Motor Fuel", 1926

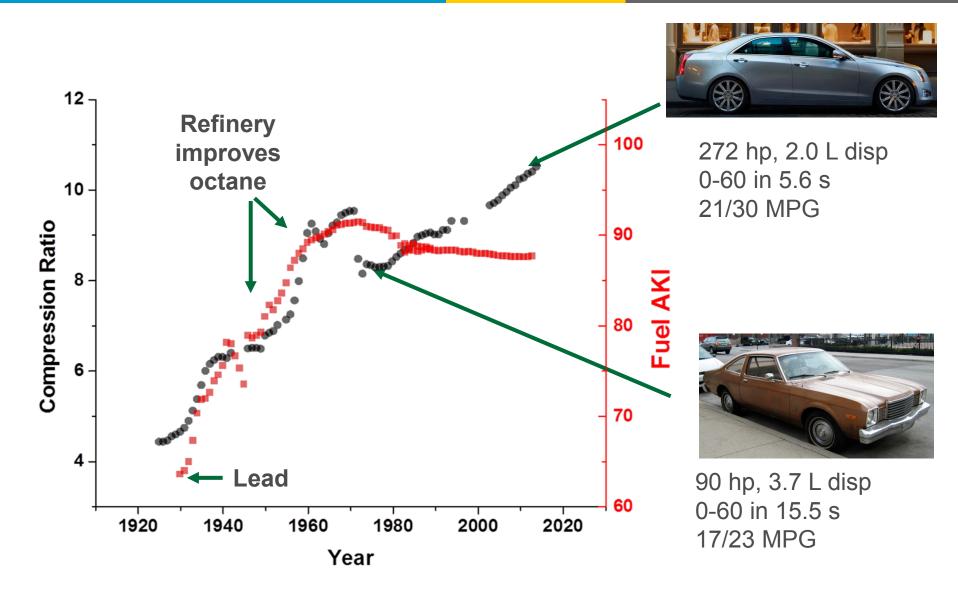


"the ear-splitting knock of their test engine turned to a smooth purr when only a small amount of the compound (tetraethyllead) was added to the fuel supply ... and all the men danced a non-scientific jig around the laboratory"

Desire to raise compression ratio above 4:1!



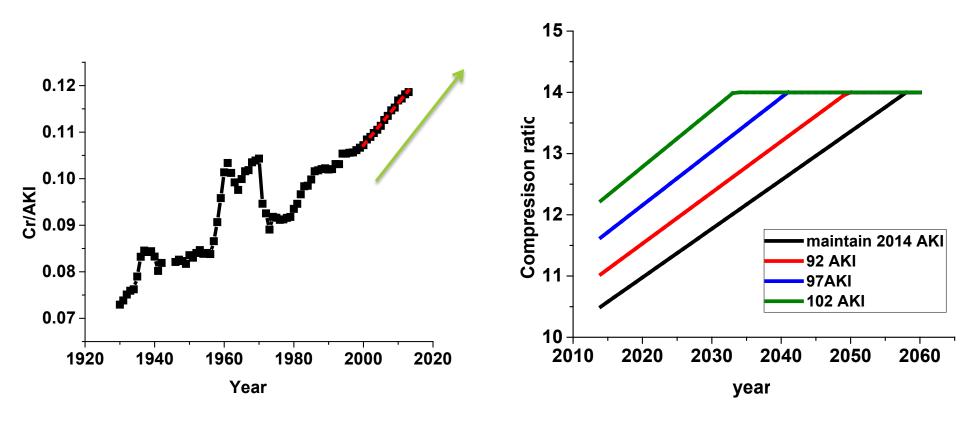
### Historically a tight coupling between engines and fuels Divergence begins ~1975





### Can we accelerate our current trajectory?

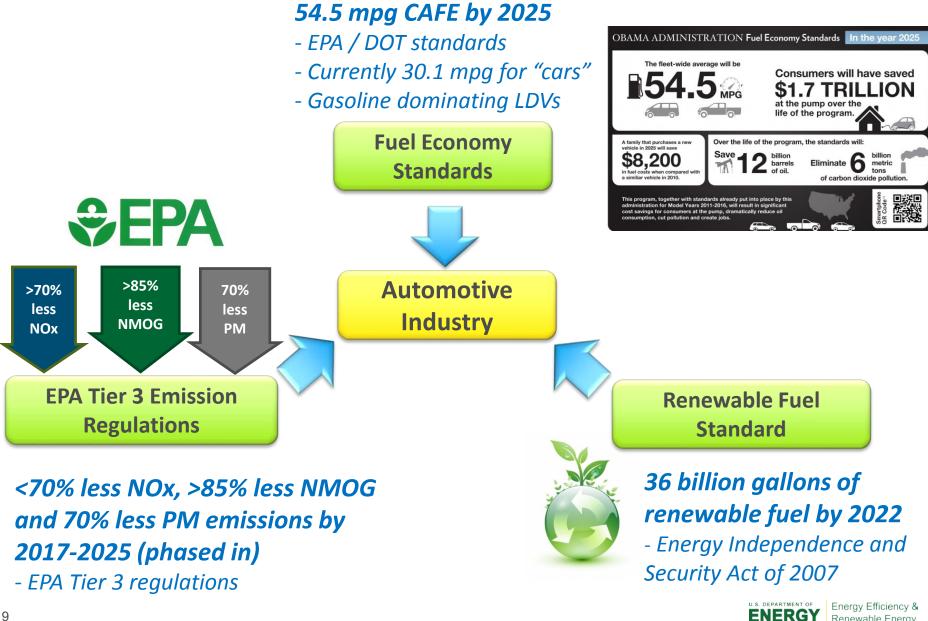
- Fuel caused a step change before Can it occur again? What is required?
- Assume max CR is 14:1
- If last 14 years' trend continues  $\rightarrow$  40 years to reach max CR
- Radical change today 102 AKI  $\rightarrow$  15 years to reach max CR





#### **Convergence of three automotive challenges underlines the**

importance of advanced research



Renewable Energy

# Likely near-term approach to increasing fuel economy

- Downsizing: reduced engine displacement
- Downspeeding: reduced engine speed
- These are limited by: knock, retaining acceptable power and torque
- Require improving the engine power density
  - Turbochargers, superchargers
- Power density is limited by available fuel octane rating

New reality: Fuel octane rating now influences fuel economy rather than just off-cycle engine power.

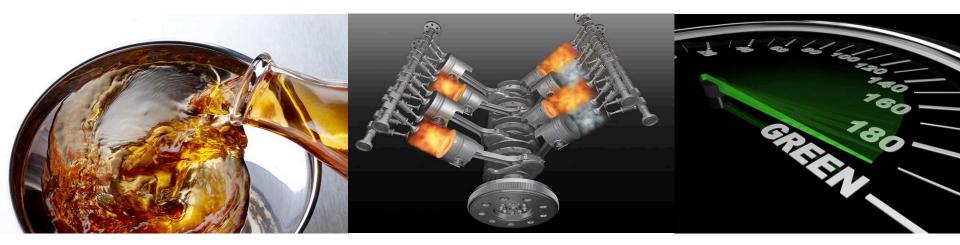


Ford Fusion: **1.6L Turbo 2.5L NA** 24/37 MPG 22/34 MPG 178 HP 175 HP



- Need better fuels and engines to meet goals
- Current fuels constrain engine design
- Co-optimization offers near and long-term fuel economy gains

#### Now is the time for low-carbon fuels!

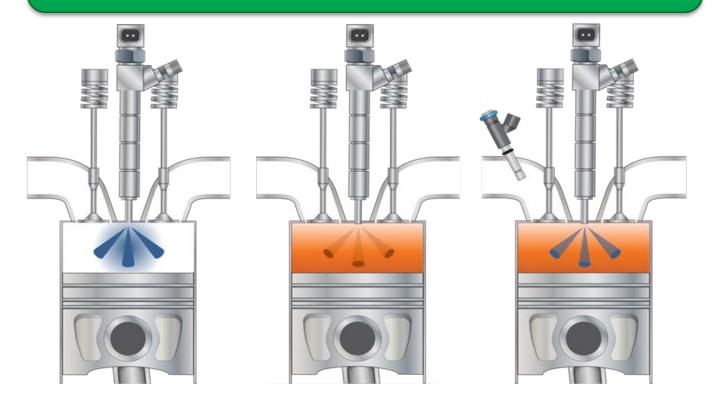


Convergence of alternative fuels and powertrain development



#### **Longer-term opportunities**

### **Kinetically-controlled combustion**

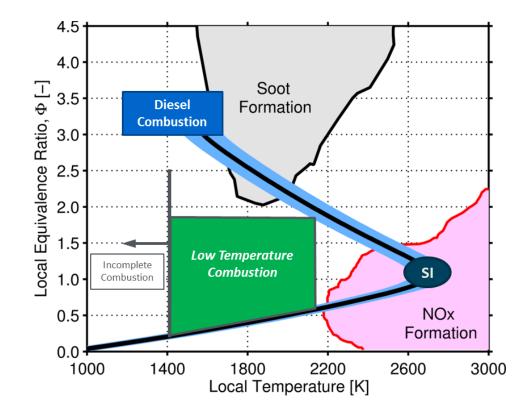


High Reactivity Fuel High Cetane Range of Fuel Properties TBD



### **Longer-term opportunities**

- Synergistic development of advanced CI combustion strategies and fuel properties for further reductions in GHG emissions
- Broad landscape of possibilities with different opportunities and challenges
- Builds upon significant fundamental and applied fuels/engines research across DOE

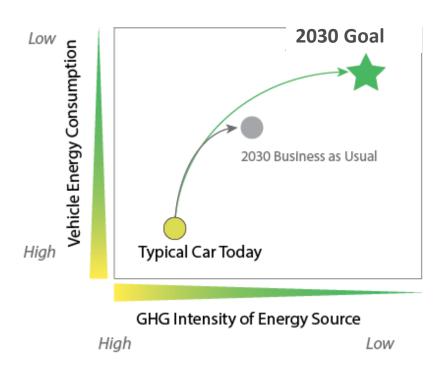


Advanced combustion + new fuel technologies: better navigation of combustion to minimize GHG and criteria pollutant emissions



# **Big Idea: Optima**

- Through co-optimization of fuels and engines, reduce per-vehicle petroleum consumption 30% vs. 2030 base case
  - Additional 7-15% reduction in engine fuel consumption
  - 20% reduction in fuel WTT emissions
  - GHG emissions reduction of the lightduty vehicle fleet by 10-15% relative to BAU within 10 years of market introduction
- Develop new fuels and vehicles with higher performance that can be produced affordably, sustainably, and at scale



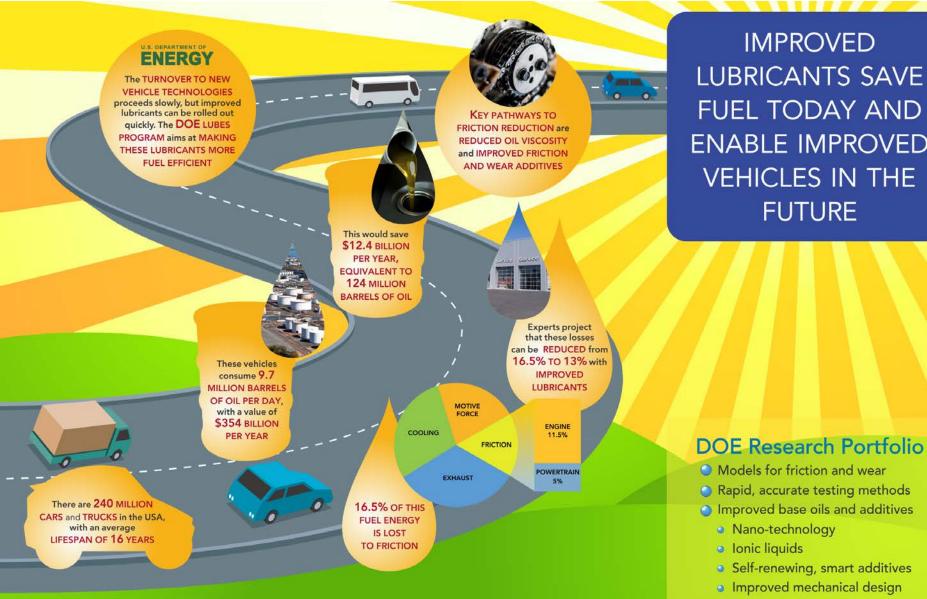


### **Lubrication Strategies/Activities**

- **1. Predictive modeling** Integration of (continuum) component parasitic friction loss models into subsystems and vehicle level packages – 'what if' parametric studies
- 2. Develop Science/Mechanistic Based Models of Parasitic Losses and Durability/Reliability and friction and wear
- **3.** Lubricant Technology Development Develop advanced lubricants (base fluids and additives) that reduce frictional losses while maintaining or exceeding other performance metrics (durability, reliability, corrosion, deposits, etc.)
- 4. Engineered Surface Technology Development Develop advanced engineered surfaces (textures, designs, materials and coatings) that mitigate parasitic losses from a systems approach. Go beyond current ferrous based tribological systems.
- 5. Validation of Modeling and Technologies Develop protocols to improve the fidelity of models and technologies. Improve correlation between lab-scale tests and engine/vehicle tests. Develop high fidelity databases for models and simulation of parasitic losses. Lab-Rig-Engine-Vehicle Validation Studies



15



FUEL TODAY AND ENABLE IMPROVED VEHICLES IN THE **FUTURE** 

#### **DOE Research Portfolio**

- Models for friction and wear
- Rapid, accurate testing methods
- Improved base oils and additives
  - Nano-technology

  - Self-renewing, smart additives
  - Improved mechanical design
- Validation and demonstration



### **VTO Fuels & Lubes Directions for FY 2016**

- High-performance, low-carbon fuels for high-efficiency engines
  - Optima initiative
  - Optimal biorefinery products for use in fueling infrastructure and vehicle (co- w/ BETO)
  - Refinery-based fuels and blendstocks
  - Co-optimization of fuel properties and combustion
- Next-Generation Lubricants
  - Evaluation methods development, correlation to end use
  - New base oils and VI behavior
  - New friction and wear reducing additives



### **Directions for FY 2016**

High performance, low carbon fuels for high efficiency engines
 → Optima Program

- Next-Generation Lubricants
  - Evaluation methods development, correlation to end use
  - New base oils and VI behavior
  - Friction and wear reducing additives
    - Liquid, solid, nano



## Summary

- Now is the time for beginning serious co-development of engines & fuels
  - Regulatory climate
  - The will to act
  - Octane may be a good starting point, advanced combustion a close second
- Lubricants provide a potential drop-in retrofit for existing vehicles in many cases (depends on vehicle class and part lubricated – e.g., engine oil, but perhaps not light-duty automatic transmission fluid)
  - Many Vehicles x Small per Vehicle Savings = Large Benefit
  - May be low-hanging fruit
  - May be necessary for meeting future CAFE
  - Opportunities for co-evolution of lubricant and engines/vehicles



#### Fuels

- Exhaust emissions will remain the key factor in fuel requirements
- Fuel chemistry can enable more efficient combustion modes
- Octane will play a role
- Ethanol and natural gas aren't used optimally with today's engines

#### Lubricants

- Lubricants have huge potential due to retrofit capacity
- High-VI base oil will help on cold starts
- Improved additives required for lower viscosity base oils
- Co-development of the engine and lubricant will yield the greatest benefit



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