



# Micronized Wood Milling for Biofuels and Biochemical Production

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# MILLED WOOD COLLABORATORS



Brief Review of Forest Residuals to Alternative Jet Fuel

Background of Feedstock Sourcing and Depot Strategies

Pros & Cons of Mechanical Strategies in Depots

Fundamentals of Micronized Milling for Saccharification

Staged Milling Performance

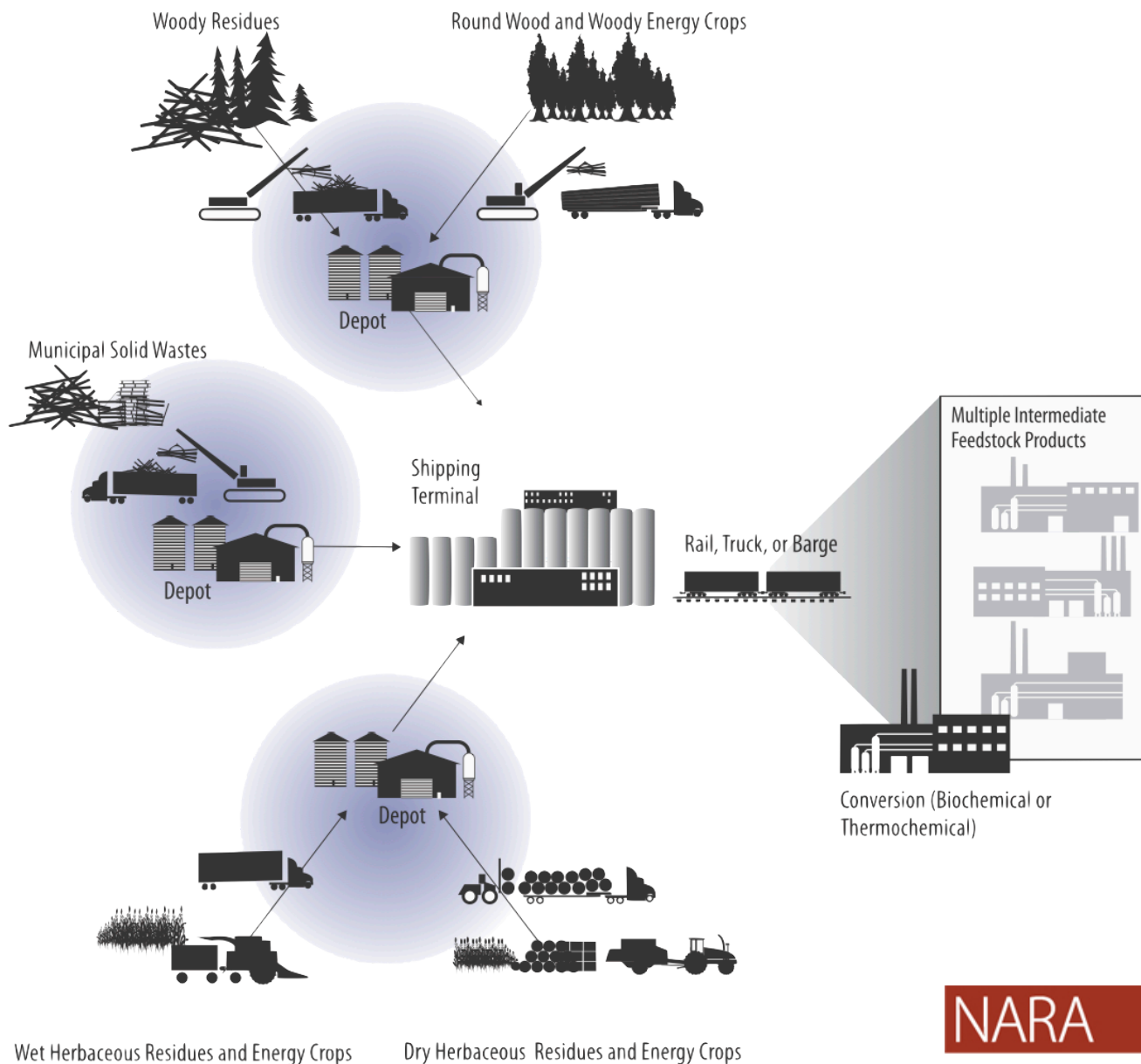
Additional Related Efforts

## TODAY'S OBJECTIVES



# Idaho National Lab Depot Concept

2015 Annual Meeting  
Spokane, WA



Wet Herbaceous Residues and Energy Crops

Dry Herbaceous Residues and Energy Crops

NARA





## PROS

Low Environmental Burdens

*Benefits in Air Emissions & Water Quantity/Quality*

*Environmental Permitting*

*Ex: Wood Composites, Dry Milled Corn Ethanol*

Energy Densification

*Transportation Logistics*

Utilize Existing Infrastructure

*Sawmills, Wood Composites, Pellet Plants*

## CONS

Known Since 1950's

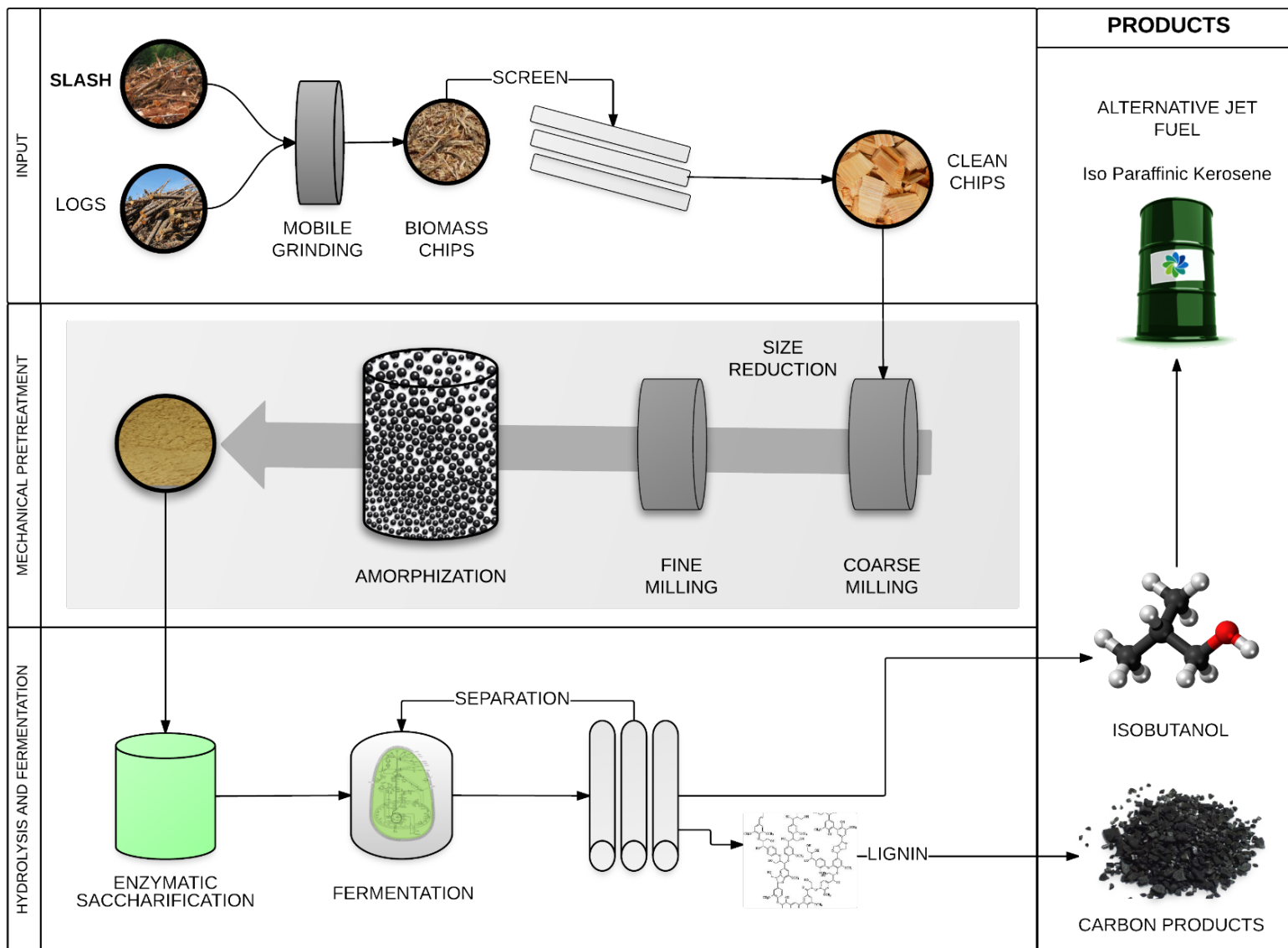
Energy Intensive

# PROS & CONS – DRY MECHANICAL PROCESSES



# • Milled Wood Depot - Conceptual Process Flow

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Spokane, WA





- Staged Milling Strategy

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Spokane, WA

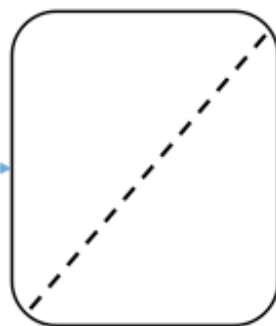


**Efficiency Through Optimized Unit Operations**



# • Clean Sugars and Lignin Rich Residuals

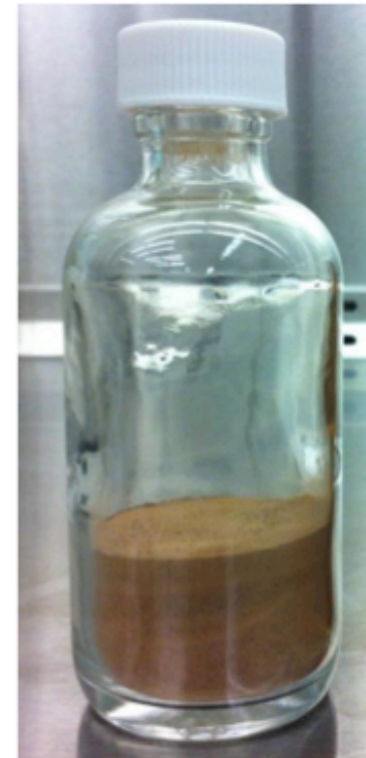
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Separation



+



Wood + Enzymes + Water, 48 hours

Sugars in Water

Lignin Residue

Johnway Gao - Weyerhaeuser



# Milling Stage Concepts

## Sugar and Lignin Production

## Particle Characteristics

*Particle Size Distributions*

*Particle Morphology*

*Crystallinity*

*Ultrastructural Changes*

*Nanoscale Porosity Changes*

# FUNDAMENTALS





# • Micronizing by Ball Milling

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hammermill



40-min



60-min



80-min



80-min  
intermittent



120-min  
intermittent

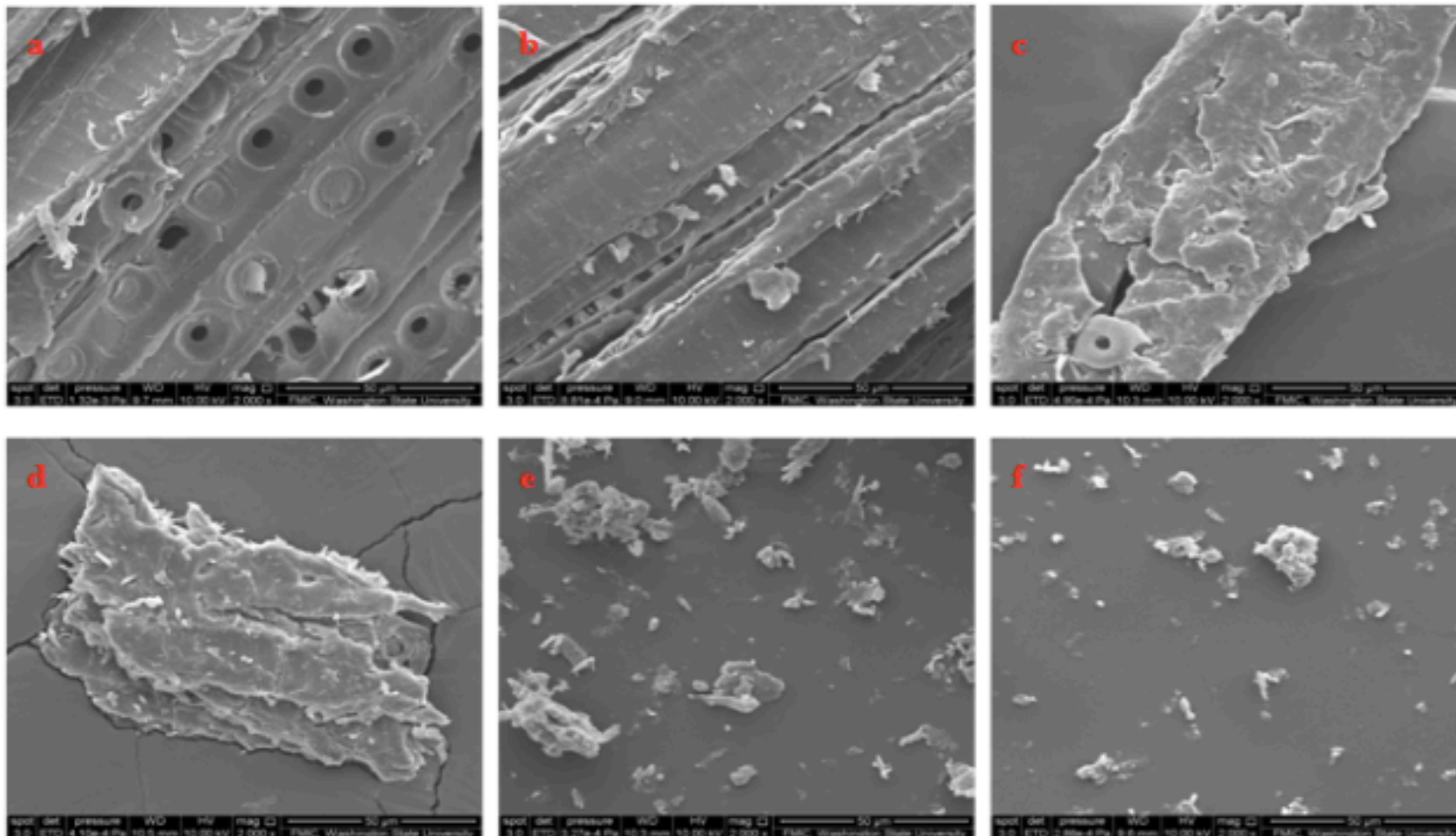


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# • Disrupt Cell and Cell Wall Morphology

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a: 0 min, b: 10 min, c: 20 min, d: 30 min, e: 60 min, and f: 90 min    ×2000

Xiaxing Zhu – Beijing Forestry University & WSU

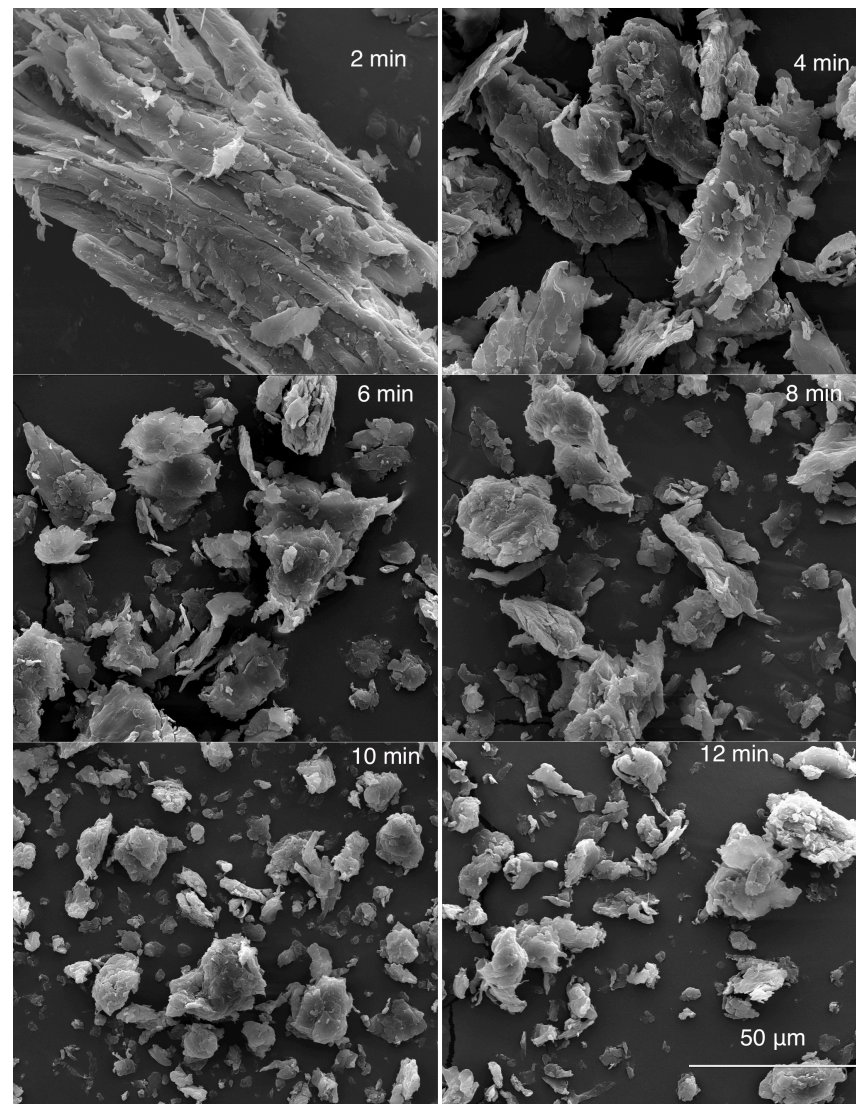
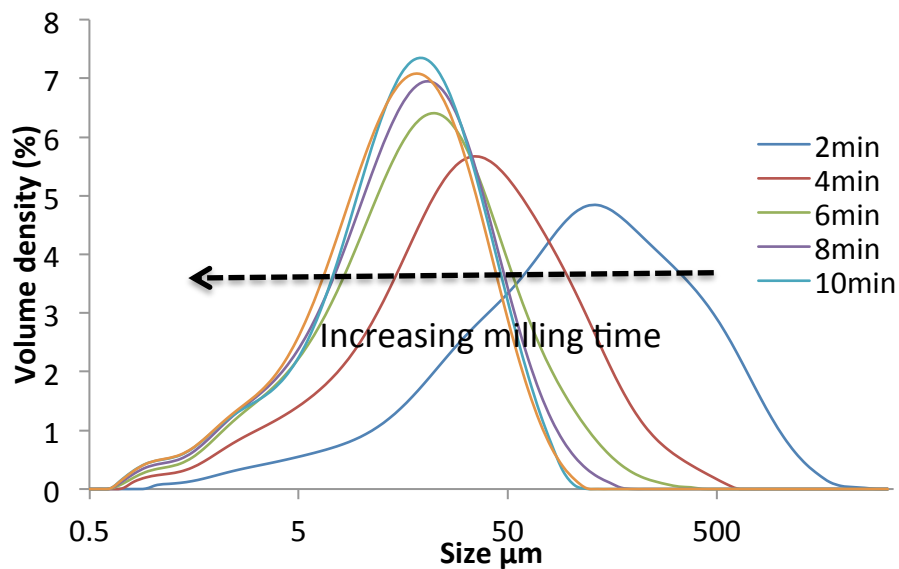




# • Particle Size – Ring and Puck Mill

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Volume based particle size distribution



Jinxue Jiang - WSU



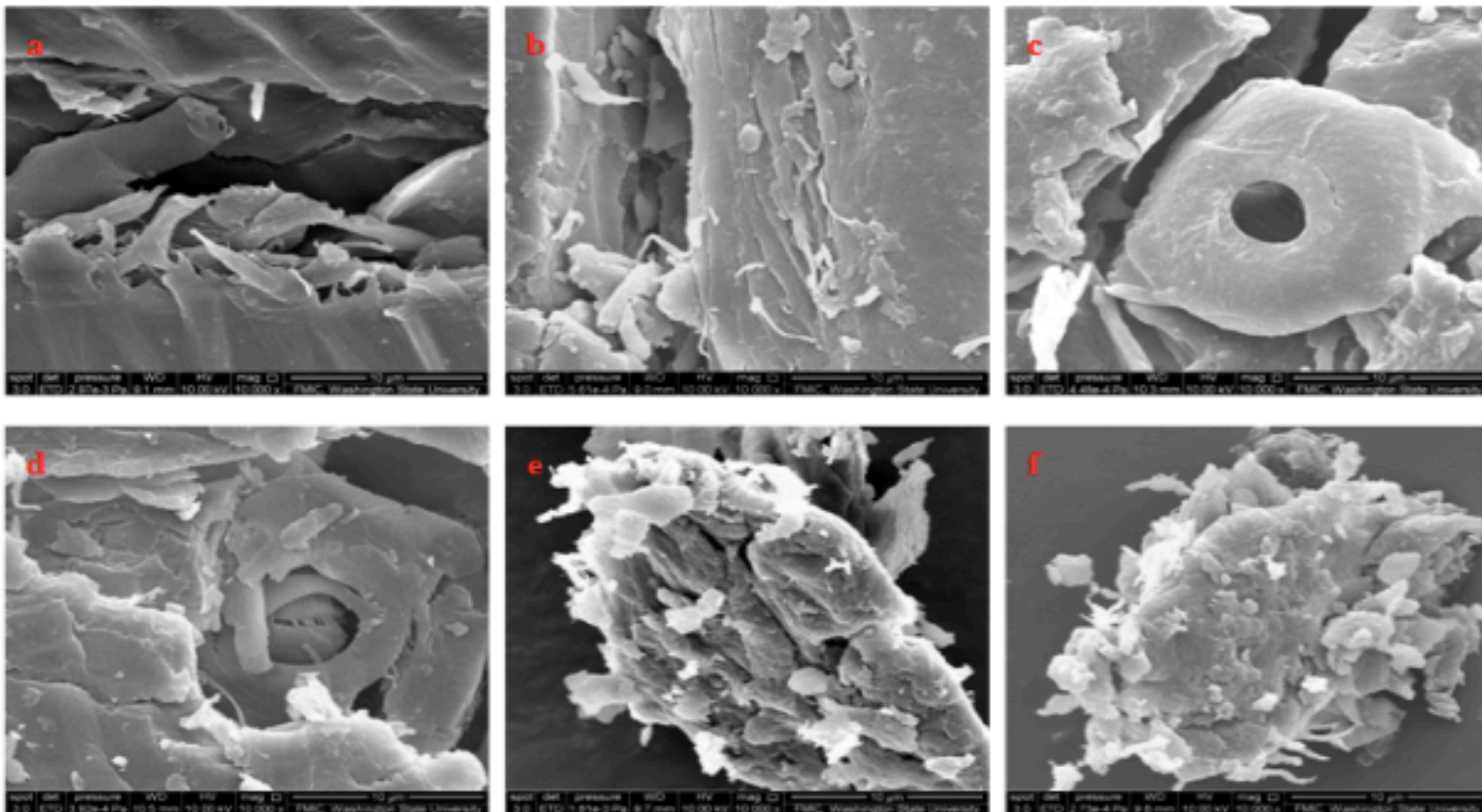
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# • Disrupt Cell and Cell Wall Morphology

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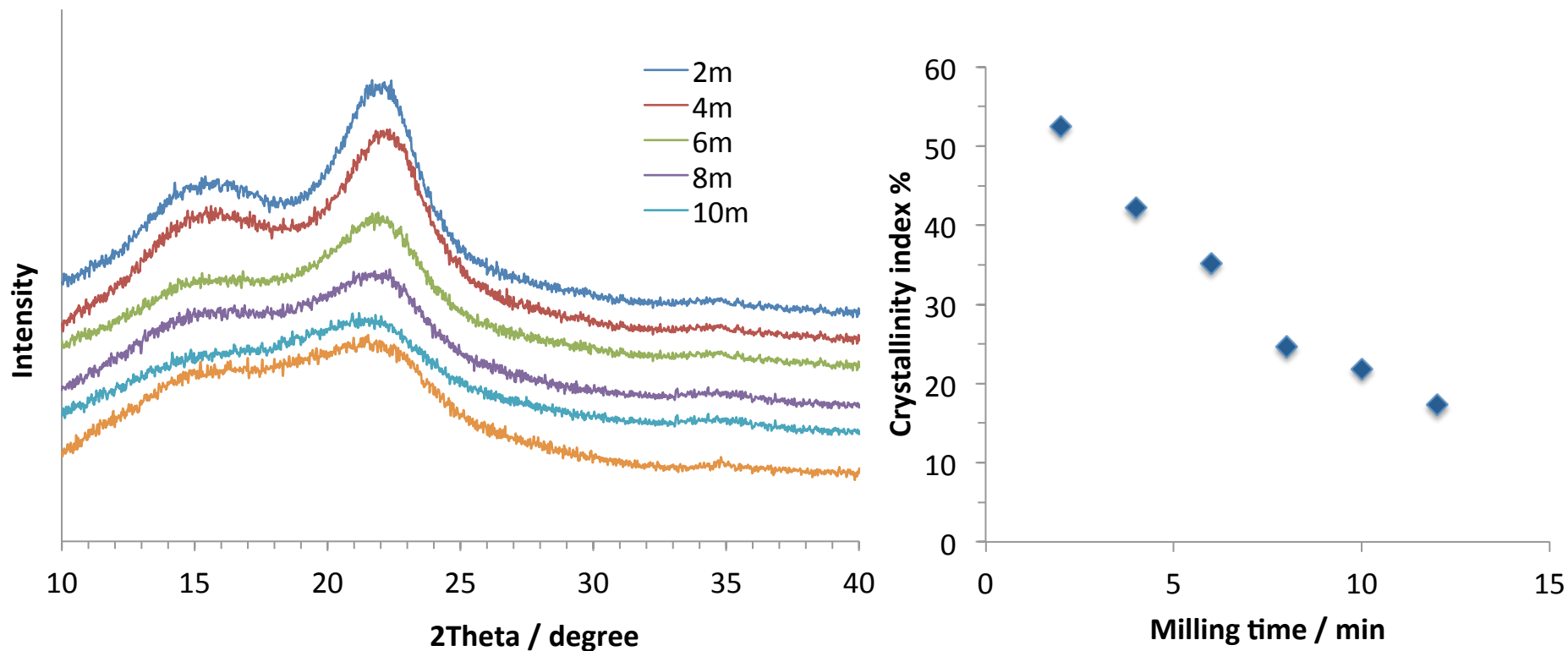
Xiaxing Zhu – Beijing Forestry University & WSU



# • Crystallinity Index – Ring and Puck Mill

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## X-Ray Diffraction

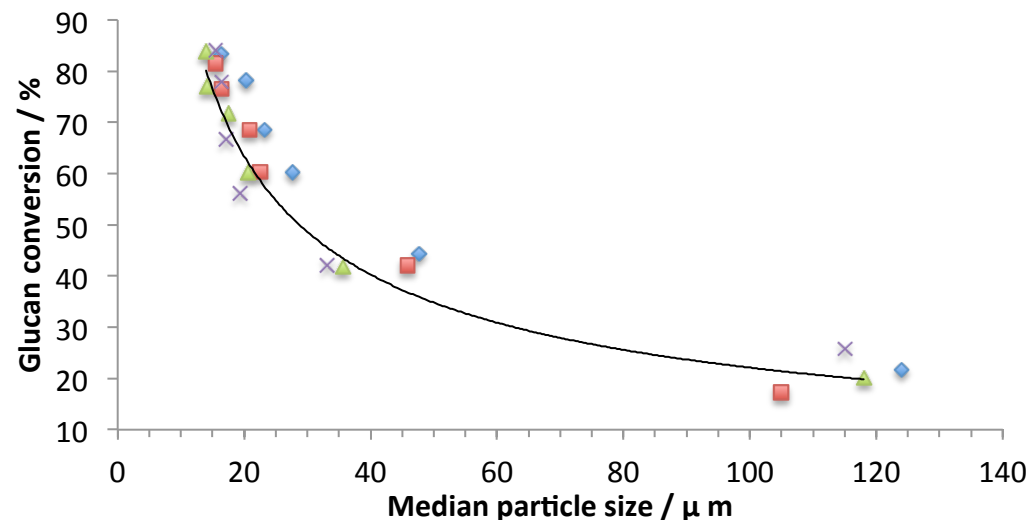


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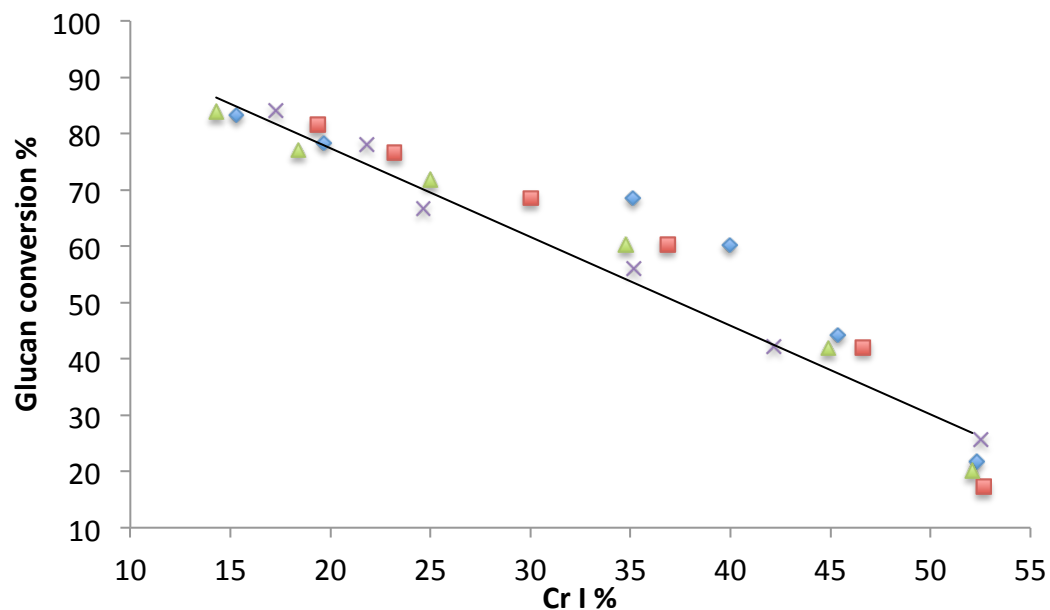
# • Factors Influencing Sugar Conversion

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**Sugar Yield Increases**

Decreased Particle  
Size



Decreased  
Crystallinity Index



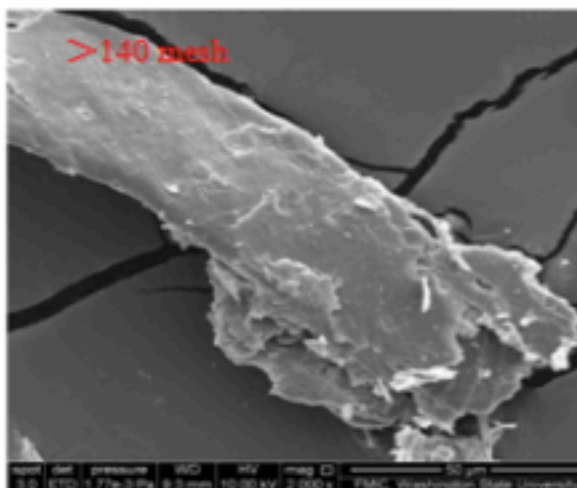
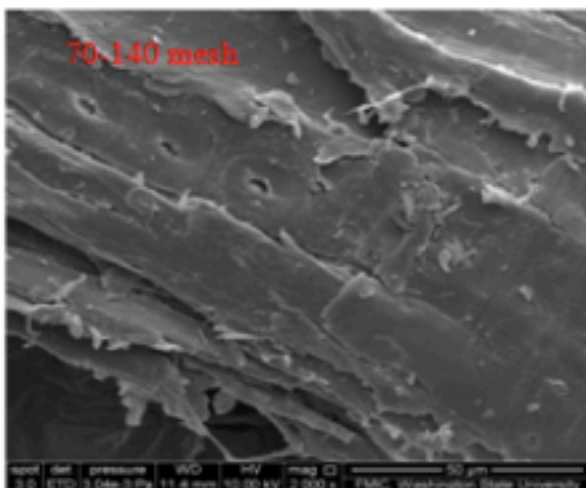
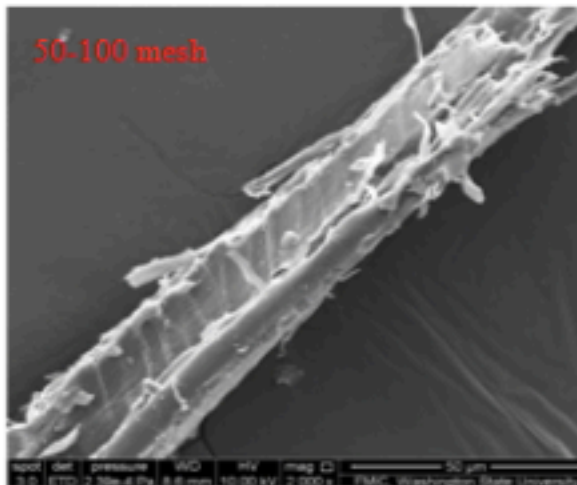
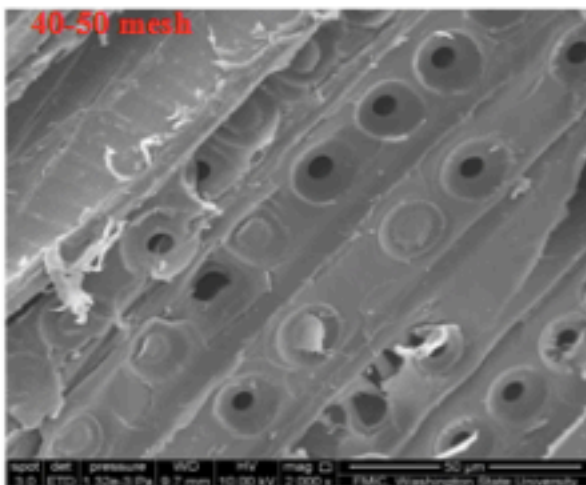
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# • Hammer Milled Particle Morphology

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×2000

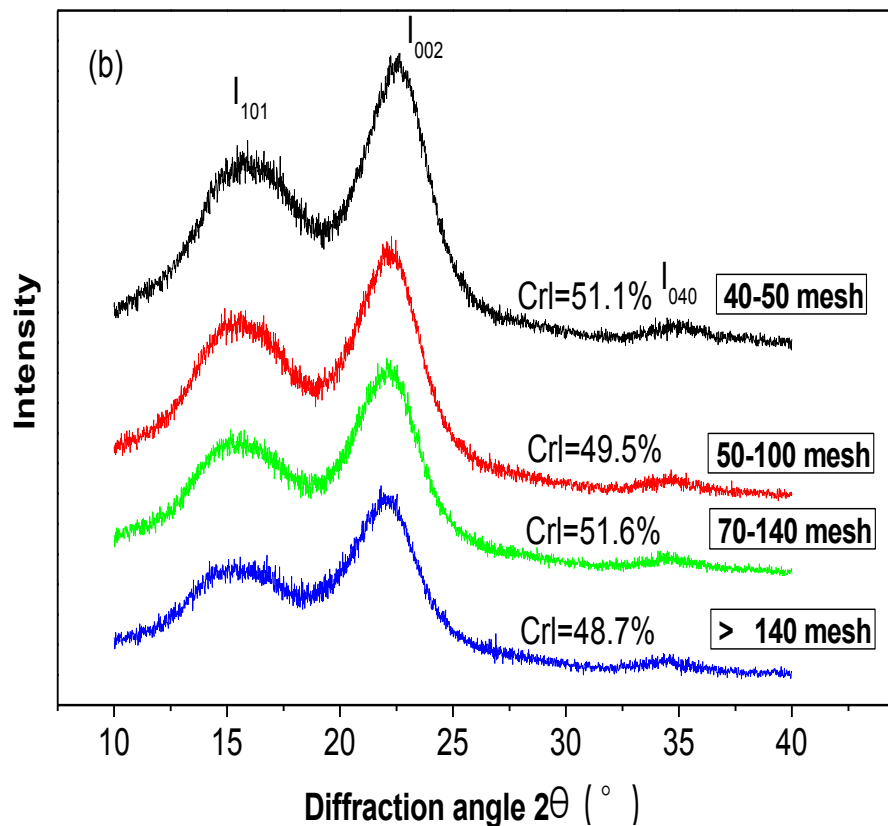
Xiaxing Zhu – Beijing Forestry University & WSU



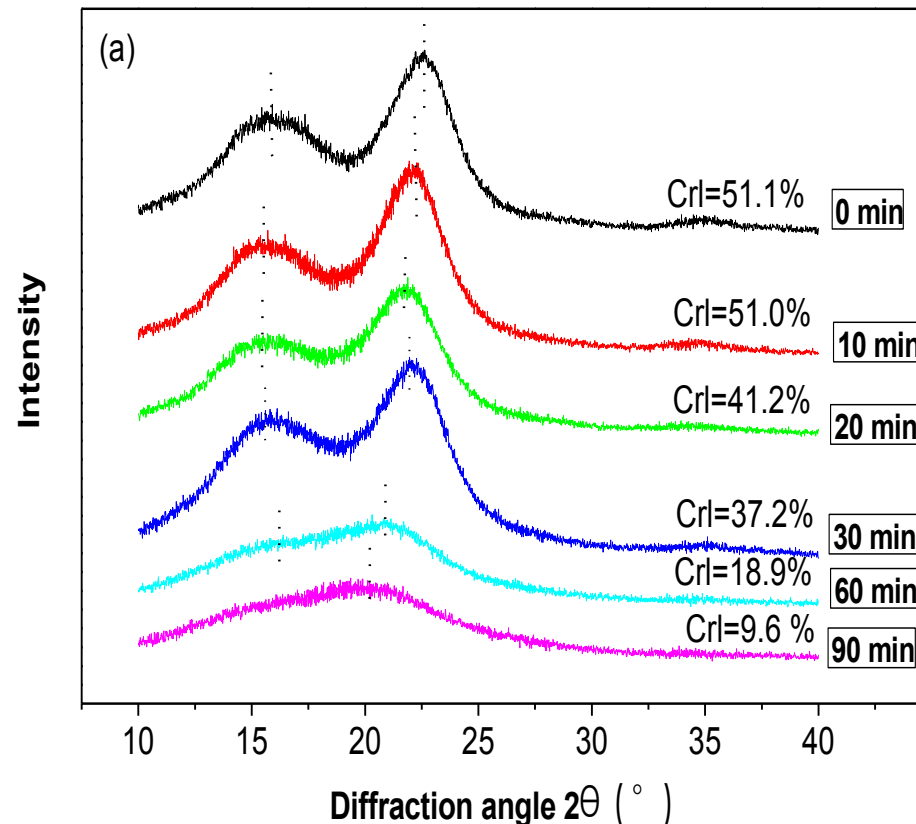
# • Hammer Milled vs Media Milled

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## Hammer Milled Fractions



## Media Milling Times





Coarse Milling - Conventional

Fine Milling

Energy Performance in Staged Milling

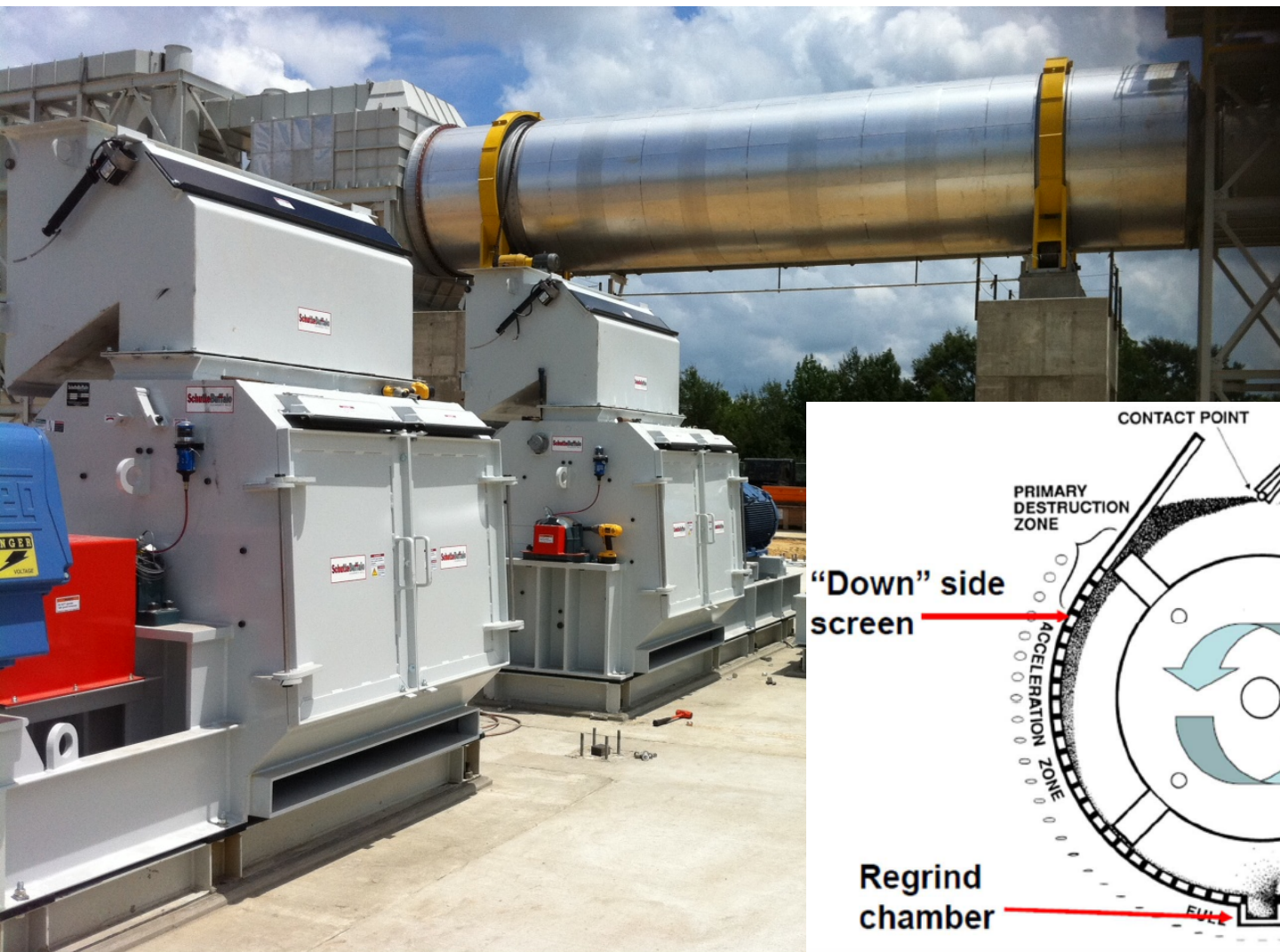
# STAGED MILLING STRATEGIES





# • Coarse Grinding - Conventional

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Source: Anderson

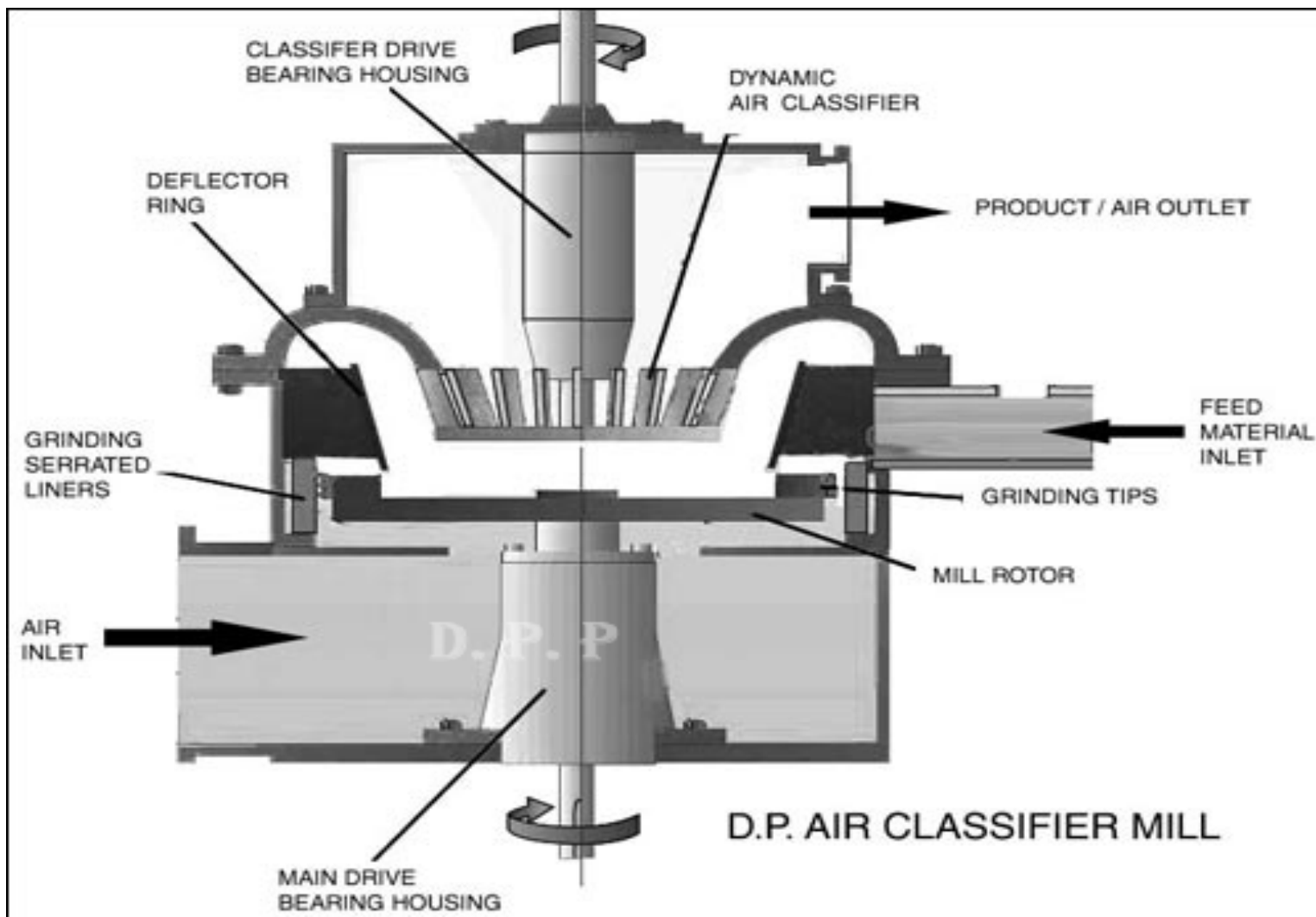
Kior, Columbia MS





# • Fine Grinding – Air Classifier Mill

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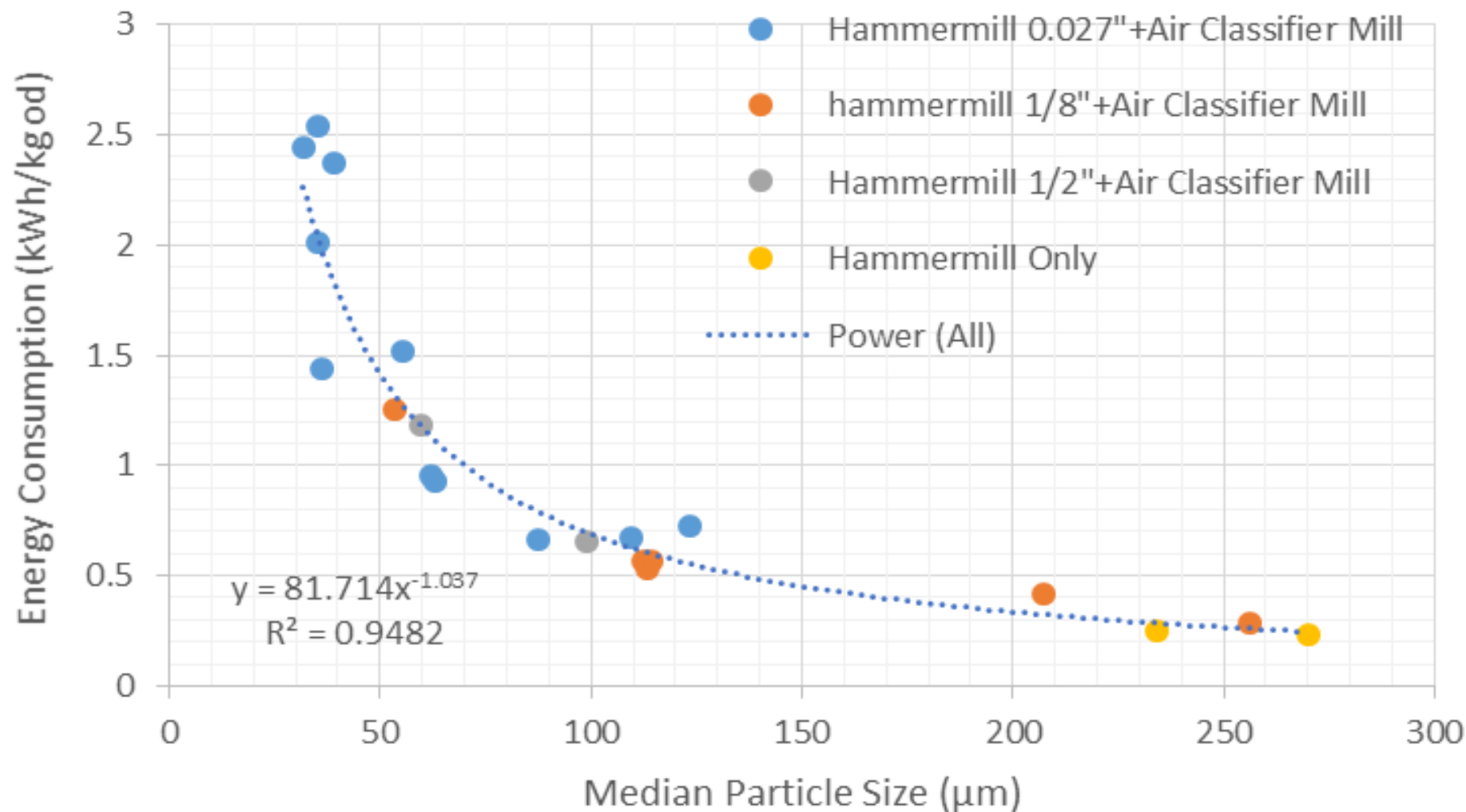






# • Two-Stage Milling - Energy

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# • Survey of Media Milling Types

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Motion	Medium	Material	Scale	Energy	Application
<b>Planetary</b>	Balls, Cylinders	Tungsten carbide, Steel, zirconia, Alumina, Agate	Lab	High	Brittle and ductile materials
<b>Rotary</b>	Balls, rods		Commercialized	Low	Brittle materials
<b>Vibratory</b> -Circle -Elliptical -linear	Balls, rods, cylinders, puck and/or rings		Commercialized	High	Brittle and ductile materials
<b>Agitated mill</b>	Balls, rods		Commercialized	Medium	Wet milling



## Saccharification Residuals

*Isolation of Cellulose Nanofibrils*

*Production of Organic Acids from Lignin Residuals*

*Solid Energy Performance*

Influence of Micronized Milling on Chemical  
Pretreatments

Facility Techno Economic Analysis (TEA)

# ADDITIONAL EFFORTS



# THANK YOU

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