



EHL CATHOL



## D6.1 Bibliographical study on EHL-derived fuel combustion properties – Revised version

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1.0	29/10/2021	Submitted	Frédérique Battin-Leclerc	Original, submitted version
1.1	29/11/2021	Revised version	Frédérique Battin-Leclerc	P. 5: the 2 <sup>nd</sup> paragraph was completed; p. 30-39: a new part 4 was added: "4. Description of the literature studies concerning the combustion kinetics of oxygenated aromatics, which are the main components of EHL-derived fuels" and includes 8 tables; P. 40: the 3 <sup>rd</sup> paragraph was added.

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## Notations

<b>EHL</b>	<b>Enzymatic Hydrolysis Lignin</b>
<b>MP</b>	Melting Point
<b>BP</b>	Boiling Point
<b>AL</b>	Alkaline lignin
<b>GC</b>	Gas Chromatography
<b>MS</b>	Mass Spectrometry
<b>PLO</b>	Pyrolytic Lignin Oil
<b>HDO</b>	Hydrodeoxygenation oil
<b>LRCR</b>	Lignin-Rich Corncob Residue
<b>MW</b>	Molecular Weight
<b>LHV</b>	Lower Heating Value
<b>RON</b>	Research Octane Number
<b>CN</b>	Cetane Number
<b>P<sub>vap</sub></b>	Vapor pressure
<b>T<sub>melt</sub></b>	Melting Temperature
<b>T<sub>boil</sub></b>	Boiling Temperature
<b>H<sub>vap</sub></b>	Enthalpy of vaporization

## Summary

Deliverable 6.1 is the first one in task 6.1, whose goal is to characterize the composition of the fuels derived from enzymatic hydrolysis lignin (EHL) and to define the associated molecular substitutes. The first step is to identify the most important chemical species that present in EHL-derived solvolysis oil through bibliographic study and by the experimental analysis using two-dimensional gas chromatography (GC-2D) of samples provided by the EHL CATHOL partners. The results of the characterization are of particular importance in the case of the biofuels in the EHL CATHOL project and will make it possible to define molecular substitutes, which represent the main families of chemical species (e.g. alcohols, ketones, esters, phenolic compounds and arenes) to study the combustion properties on solvolysis oil.

This report provides general information on the lignins including EHL-derived solvolysis oils. In a first part, a general introduction on biomass valorization is given. In a second part, a bibliographical review of the experimental studies on the valorization of lignin and EHL is presented. In the third part, a bibliographical study on EHL-derived fuels combustion properties (BP, MP, RON and CN...) is displayed. In a fourth part, a review on kinetic works related to the gas-phase reactions of the main oxygenated aromatics expected in the biofuel composition is presented.

# 1. Introduction

Population growth and industrial development are leading to a rapid increase in the consumption of traditional fossil fuels, which poses major energy problems. The processing technology of lignocellulosic materials is not yet fully established. Although much progress has been made, second generation biorefineries will have to face great challenges over the next decade to become a mature and competitive technology.

Biomass is mainly composed of three polymers: cellulose, hemicellulose and lignin (1). Figure 1 presents the structure of cellulose and hemicellulose (which are polysaccharides) as well as the aromatic monomers present in lignin.

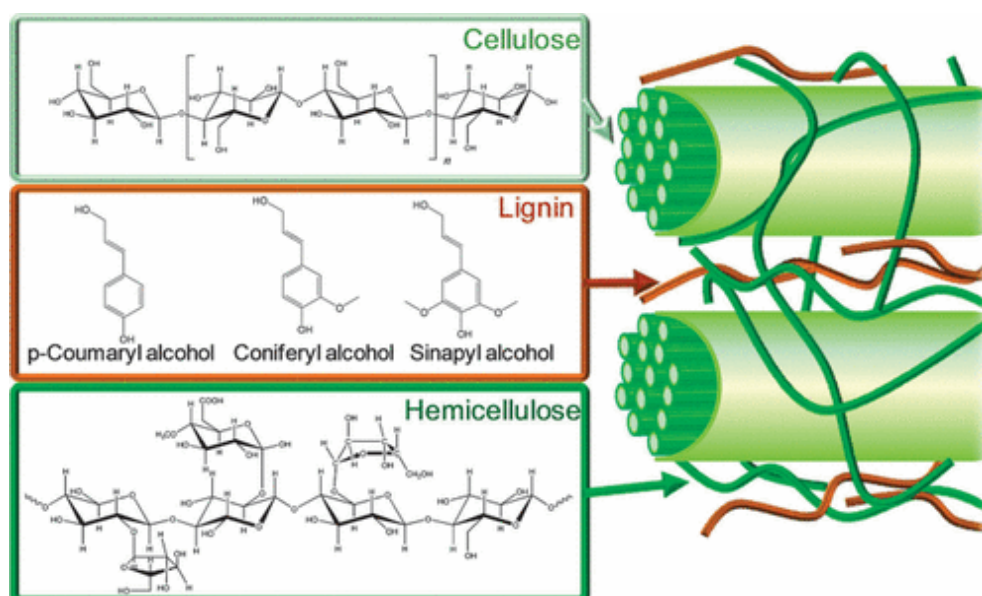


Figure 1: Components of lignocellulosic biomass (2).

## 1.1. Cellulose

Cellulose is composed of a linear polymer of glucose. It is the most abundant polysaccharide available on earth with a global stock of 100 billion tons. It is used in the paper/biorefinery industry and in the pharmaceutical field for additive synthesis.

## 1.2. Hemicellulose

Hemicellulose is composed of different monosaccharides such as hexoses and pentoses. The composition in hemicellulose is very variable depending on the sources of biomass. Figure 2 displays the main monosaccharides, which enters in the composition of hemicellulose (3).

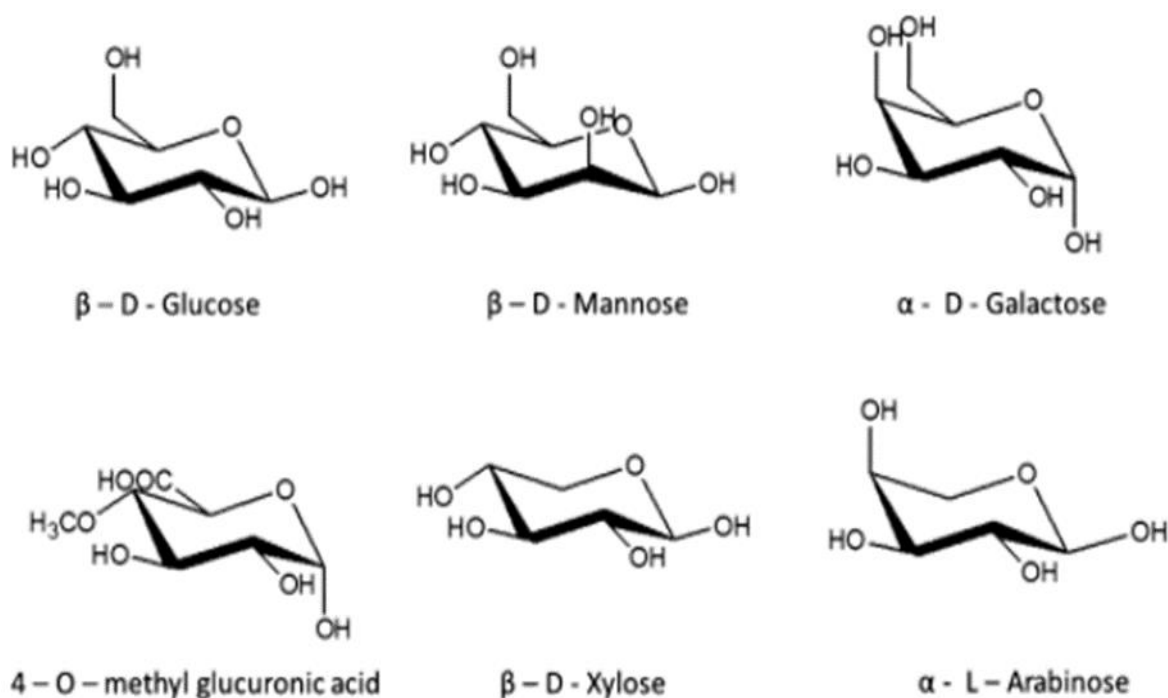


Figure 2: Representative monosaccharide molecules in hemicelluloses (3).

### 1.3. Lignin

Lignin is mainly found in the cell wall of woody plants and accounts for about 15–30% of the total lignocellulosic biomass. It is linked to hemicellulose, which confers mechanical strength to the cell wall and by extension the plant as a whole. It is the most abundant aromatic polymer in nature and is used for production of aromatic chemicals (4,5)

As shown in Figure 3 and 4 lignin is a complex and amorphous compound made up of phenolic units, such as hydroxyphenyl (H unit), guaiacyl (G unit) and syringyl (unit S), linked in various ways (6). The composition of lignin differs according to the type of wood. For conifers, lignin consists almost exclusively of guaiacyl (G) units, whereas for hardwoods, lignin is formed by a large number of syringyl units (S) (7).



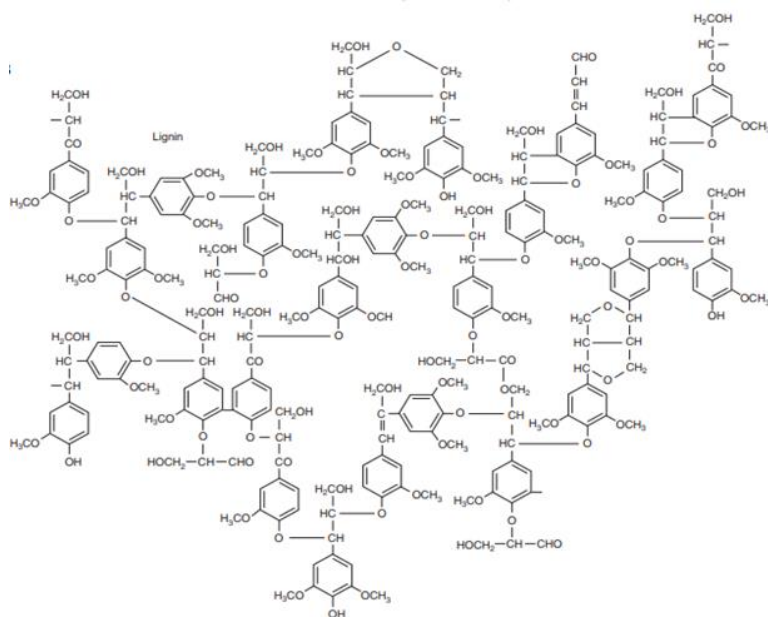


Figure 3: Example of the chemical structure of lignin (8).

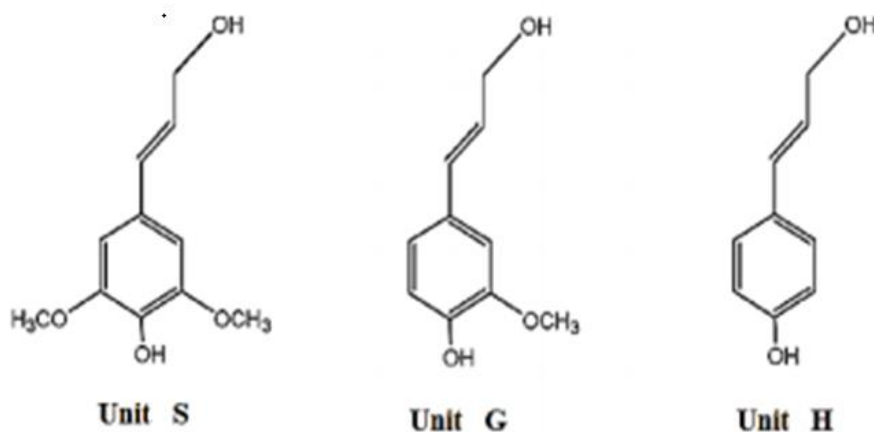


Figure 4 : Lignin structural units (9).

Indeed, the valuation of inedible lignocellulosic biomass has been the subject of great interest because of its potential to replace fossil resources for production of high added-value products. This biomass is also a source of lignocellulosic bioethanol because it contains glucose units that, once extracted, can be transformed into ethanol by fermentation.

The procedure of bioethanol production is mainly divided into four processes (see Figure 5):

- 1) Pretreatment, where the cellulose and hemicellulose of the biomass are made accessible
- 2) Enzymatic hydrolysis, where the biomass is converted into sugars
- 3) Fermentation, where the alcohol is produced from C<sub>5</sub> and C<sub>6</sub> monomers and, finally distillation to produce a purified liquid fuel.

The enzymatic hydrolysis or saccharification is one of the most critical factors in lignocellulosic biofuel production and represents one of the main technology development areas. However, enzymatic hydrolysis represents the second main operational cost, after the biomass production; in the second generation process (2G: the production of liquid biofuels from feedstocks not used for human consumption) it is ~25–30% of the operational costs, whereas in first generation process (1G) it is below 3%.

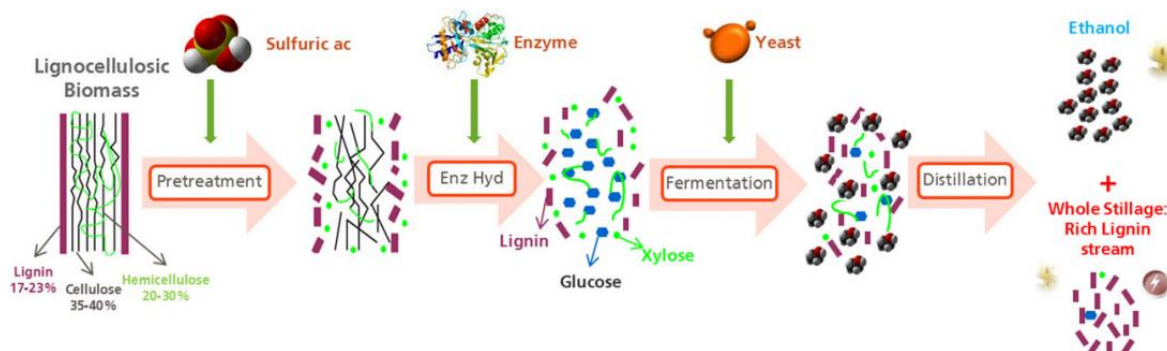


Figure 5: Lignocellulosic process converting the biomass into biofuels and coproducts. Process step for conversion of agricultural residues into ethanol. Source: (10).

## 1.4. Enzymatic hydrolysis lignin

Enzymatic hydrolysis lignin (EHL) is a by-product of the bioethanol production process (as described previously), which includes different steps (Figure 6). EHL has various active groups such as benzene rings, phenol hydroxyl and ether bonds (11).

EHL is insoluble in water at neutral pH, reducing its application in industry (12). In order to increase its possible use, studies have been carried out to improve its characteristics, and in particular its solubility in water (13).

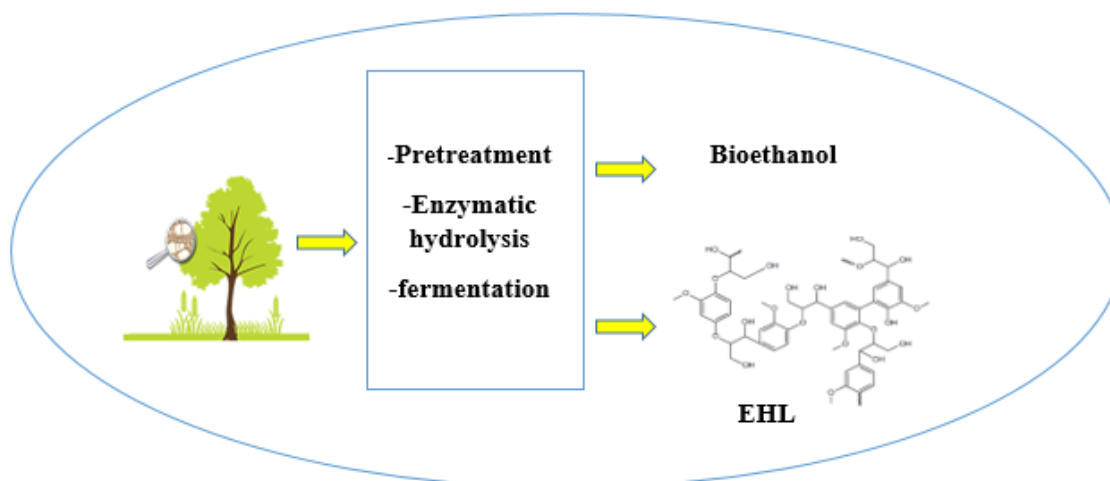


Figure 6: Schematic representation of the process of obtaining EHL

EHL is the byproduct of the 2G bioethanol process, either as the lignin fractionated during enzymatic hydrolysis or as the fermentation residue. The extraction of lignin is done without using harsh chemicals, thus makes it possible to better preserve the chemical structure of EHL than in alkaline lignin, Kraft lignin, lingsulfonate or organosolv lignin, which are obtained by pulping processes. Table 1 summarizes the different types of lignin samples and how they are obtained. Table 2 shows the property differences between EHL and the alkaline lignin (AL) derived from alkaline pulp manufacturing processes. Moreover, EHL allow much greater flexibility in optimizing its characteristics desirable for specific applications than traditional pulping processed lignin. Although Kraft pulp-derived lignin are now much closer to the market, the potential volume of biorefinery lignins like EHL is one to two orders of magnitude higher in the near future, if sugar/bioethanol biorefinery concepts are fully realized (13).

Table 1: Types of common lignin obtained from different process of biomass

Type of Lignin	Definition
<b>Kraft lignin</b>	Obtained from kraft pulp, which accounts for about 85% of the total lignin production in the world
<b>Organosolv lignin</b>	Extracted by Organosolv process, which uses numerous organic or aqueous solvent mixtures, such as methanol, ethanol, acetone, ethylene glycol
<b>Soda lignin</b>	Extracted from Bambusa Bambos using a Soda pulping process
<b>Alkaline lignin</b>	Derived from alkaline pulp manufacturing processes
<b>Enzymatic hydrolysis lignin (EHL)</b>	Lignin fractionated during enzymatic hydrolysis or as the fermentation residue of the 2G bioethanol process

Table 1: Property differences between EHL and AL

Property	EHL	AL
<b>Molecular weight</b>	Lower than AL (14)	Hundreds to millions (15)
<b>Actives groups</b>	Phenol hydroxyl, ether and ester bond, etc (11)	Phenolic hydroxyl, alcohol hydroxyl, carboxyl, ether bond, etc (16)
<b>Purity</b>	Relatively high (17)	Low (17)
<b>Non-saturation</b>	Relatively high (18)	Low (18)

To conclude, EHL is a specific type of lignin with particular properties, which relatively differs from other types of lignin. Its chemical structure is relatively preserved due to the mild reaction conditions used in the bio process and this has a great impact on the composition of the bio-oil, which is produced from EHL. Note that the lignin type is not the only factor affecting the composition of the bio-oil: the way the lignin is processed (catalyst, solvent and reaction conditions/atmosphere) has also a huge impact of the final composition of the bio-oil. These points are addressed in the next section of the deliverable.

## 2. Bibliographic review of experimental studies on the valorization of lignin and EHL to the production of bio-oils.

Lignin has received a lot of attention in recent years as a sustainable precursor because it is a large renewable source of aromatics, naphthenes and phenolic compounds. Compounds from the use of lignin and EHL can also reduce our dependence on fossil fuel feedstocks in the chemical industry.

The following section presents, literature studies on lignin upgrading and EHL to produce high performance fuel blends.

### 2.1. Lignin valorization to biofuels

The ability of lignin to break down into low molecular weight monomeric compounds has been studied extensively. The study of the different ways of exploiting lignin such as alkaline oxidation hydrolysis, alkaline fusion, alkaline demethylation, depolymerization, hydrogenolysis and pyrolysis, allows a better understanding of its use in the production of bio-oils.

De Wild et al. (19) reported a two-step process for the production of cycloalkanes and alkanes involving pyrolytic depolymerization of two types of lignin (GRANIT and Alcell lignin) followed by hydrotreatment on a Ru/C catalyst. Product analysis was performed by 2D-GC, GC-MS, and elemental analysis to obtain information on the effect of the hydrotreatment reaction on the molecular composition of the materials. The continuous pyrolysis of the two lignins resulted in a Pyrolytic Lignin Oil (PLO) and Hydrodeoxygenation oil (HDO). The compounds present in these bio-oils are summarized in Figure 7 that collected from ref. (19).


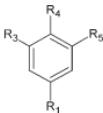
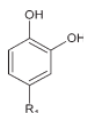
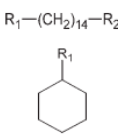
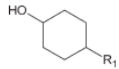
Class	Detected compounds	PLO	HDO oil	Structure
Phenolics	Phenol	0.49	0.00	
	3-methylphenol	0.69	0.00	
	2-methylphenol	2.03	0.00	
	3-ethylphenol	2.93	0.00	
	3-propylphenol	0.82	0.00	
Guaiacols	Guaiacol	1.66	0.00	
	2-Methoxy-5-methylphenol	2.62	0.00	
Syringols	2,6-dimethoxyphenol	3.28	0.00	
Methoxybenzenes	1,2,4-Trimethoxybenzene	4.43	0.00	
	Benzene, 1,2,3-trimethoxy-5-methyl-	1.25	0.00	
Catechols	Catechol	0.46	0.00	
	3-Methoxycatechol	2.24	0.00	
Alkanes	Hexadecane	0.04	1.93	
	Pentadecane	0.03	0.50	
	Methylcyclohexane	0.00	0.26	
Cyclohexanols	Cyclohexanol	0.00	2.79	
	Methylcyclohexanol	0.00	4.08	
	Ethylcyclohexanol	0.00	1.74	

Figure 7: Compounds, structures and percentage by weight detected in PLO and HDO oil (19).

Barta et al. (19) investigated the catalytic disassembly of an organosolv lignin using a Cu-doped porous metal oxide catalyst in supercritical methanol. The products obtained by this process are a complex mixture

composed mainly of monomeric substituted cyclohexyl derivatives with a significantly reduced oxygen content and a negligible aromatic compound one. These products can be further processed to produce liquid hydrocarbon fuels and additives.

Subsequently, the Weckhuysen group (21) and Jongerius *et al.* (22) reported on a two-step approach for the conversion of lignin into monomeric aromatic compounds. They demonstrated that the use of ethanol / water mixtures to dissolve the lignin significantly improved its solubility. They also observed that some of the monomers were ethoxylated and pointed out that this would reduce their tendency to repolymerize of formed monomers.

Following this work, Huang *et al.* (23) studied the use of ethanol to depolymerize alkaline lignin produced by an alkaline pulp process. They obtained a yield of 23% by weight of aromatics at 300 ° C under an N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere. Most of the aromatic products obtained are deoxygenated with various degrees of cyclic alkylation with methyl and / or ethyl groups. They also confirmed that a wide range of linear products (mainly alcohols and higher alkyl esters) can be formed in the presence of ethanol as a solvent, doing the same reaction without catalyst under similar conditions. The results of studying the effect of catalyst, solvent and reaction time are shown in Figure 8. CuMgAlO<sub>x</sub> catalyst exhibits excellent deoxygenation and low cycle hydrogenation activity.

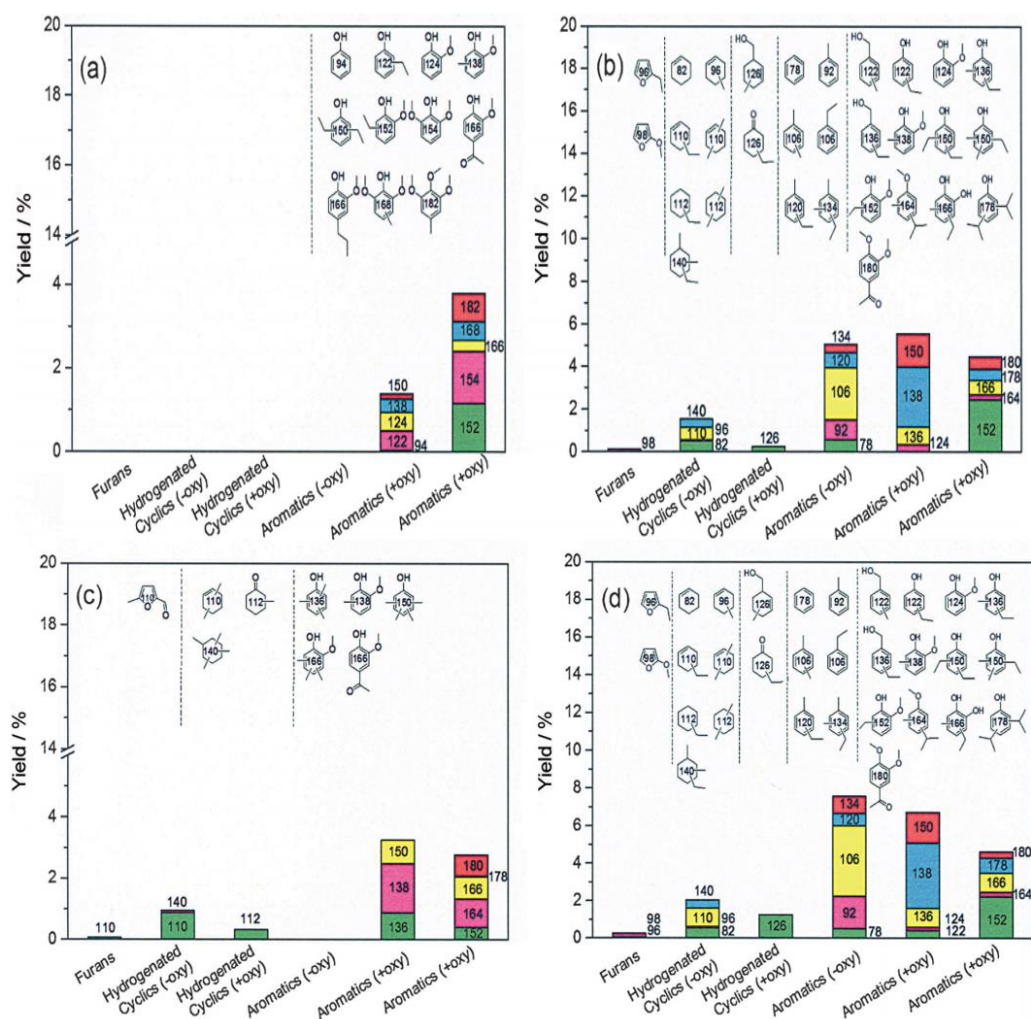


Figure 8: Distribution of the products for different reactions: (a) blank reaction at 300°C for 4 hours in ethanol, (b) CuMgAlOx at 300°C for 4 hours in ethanol, (c) CuMgAlOx at 300°C for 4 hours in methanol, (d) CuMgAlOx at 300°C for 8 hours in ethanol (24).

Li and coworkers (Ma et al. (22); Ma et al. (23); Chen et al. (26); Yan et al. (27), reported the depolymerization of Kraft lignin in ethanol with a number of Mo-based catalysts e.g., MoS<sub>2</sub>, Mo<sub>2</sub>C, NiMo/Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, MoC<sub>1-x</sub>/Cu-MgAlO<sub>2</sub> and Mo<sub>2</sub>N/Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>. Besides that, they confirmed that MoO<sub>3</sub> catalyst is highly selective for the cleavage of C-O bonds and possesses excellent regeneration property via calcination for removing deposited carbon on catalyst support compared to other Mo-based catalysts. The depolymerization of lignin, aims to give chemicals of high value of low molecular weight with a maximum overall yield of the most abundant liquid products. They confirmed that ethanol is an effective solvent for the reaction, which degrades the Kraft lignin into a mixture of small molecules and molecular fragments of intermediate size with molecular weights of around 700–1400. The reaction without hydrogen in the initial gas phase preceded much more efficiently than that with hydrogen, proving that it has a negative effect on the formation of low molecular weight products.

Figure 9 displayed the nature of species obtained from the ethanolysis of Kraft lignin in supercritical ethanol over different molybdenum oxide samples (26).

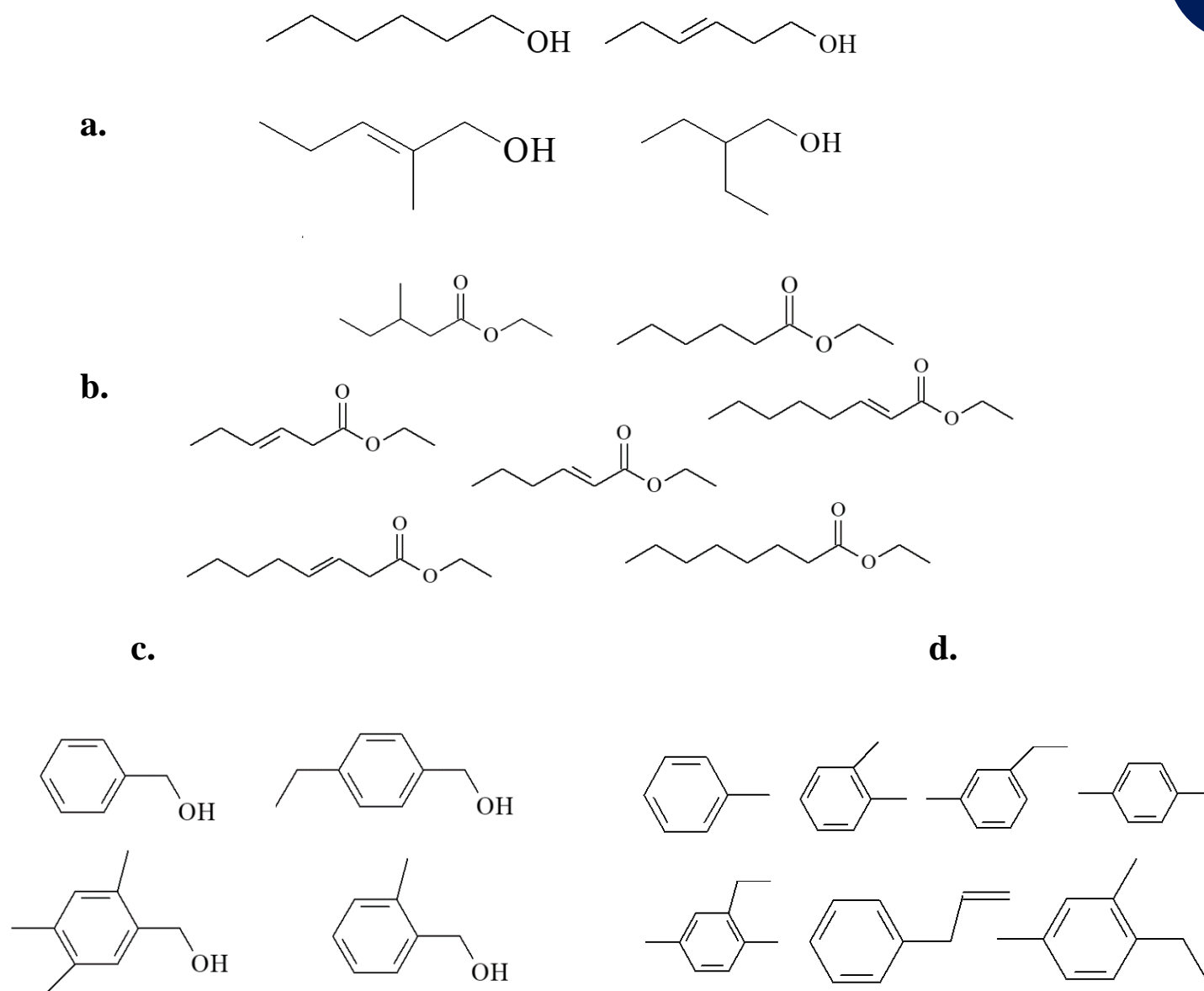


Figure 9: Summary of quantified products obtained from the ethanolysis of Kraft lignin in supercritical ethanol over different molybdenum oxide samples: a. C6 alcohols; b. C8 and C10 Esters; c. Benzyl alcohols and d. Arenes (26).

Huang et al. (27) investigated the role of Cu–Mg–Al mixed oxides in depolymerization of soda lignin in supercritical ethanol (Figure 10). This lignin is depolymerized and the products obtained are then converted by reactions of alkylation, hydrodeoxygenation and hydrogenation. To summarize, the proposed reaction network and the required active sites for lignin depolymerization in supercritical ethanol are shown schematically in Figure 10. The hydrogen produced by dehydrogenation reactions is involved in hydrogenolysis reactions of the chemical bonds in lignin and also to deoxygenate the monomeric and oligomeric products.



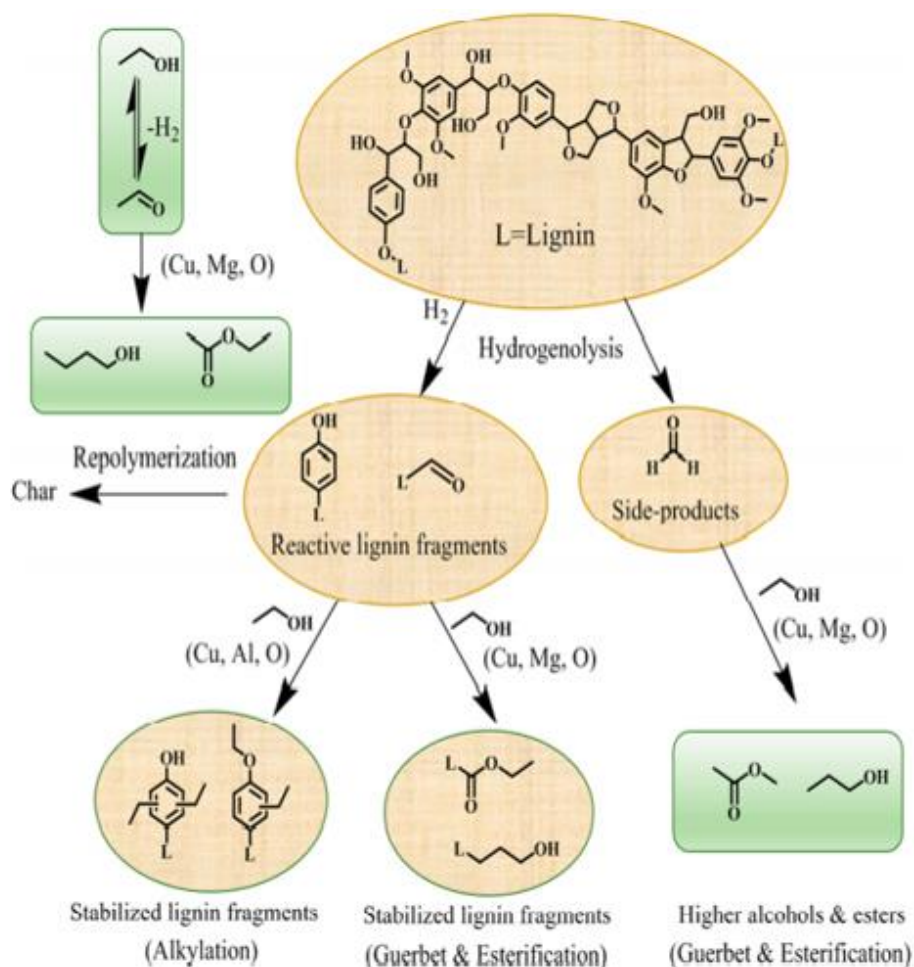


Figure 10: Proposed Reaction Network of Catalytic Depolymerization of Lignin in Ethanol over the CuMgAl( $\gamma$ ) Catalysts (26).

Chesi et al. (28) used Raney-Ni for the depolymerization of poplar lignin in isopropanol/H<sub>2</sub>O under an Ar atmosphere and obtained 12.9 wt % phenolic products and detected 0.8 wt % benzene ring saturated products.

Van den Bosch et al. (30) also investigated the activity of 21 wt % Ni/Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> for the depolymerization of birch wood lignin in methanol and found that the mass transport limitation of the support reduced the monomer yield. Figure 11 shows the proposed mechanism of cleavage of the solvolytic  $\beta$ -O-4 bond in methanol via an  $\alpha$ -methoxylated  $\beta$ -O-4 intermediate. The formation of units of coniferyl / sinapyl alcohol in the absence of Ni-Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> implies the presence of a non-catalytic reduction step, suggesting that methanol acts as a hydrogen donor. Finally, the catalytic hydrogenation of unsaturated intermediates is crucial to avoid repolymerization into a condensed lignin product.

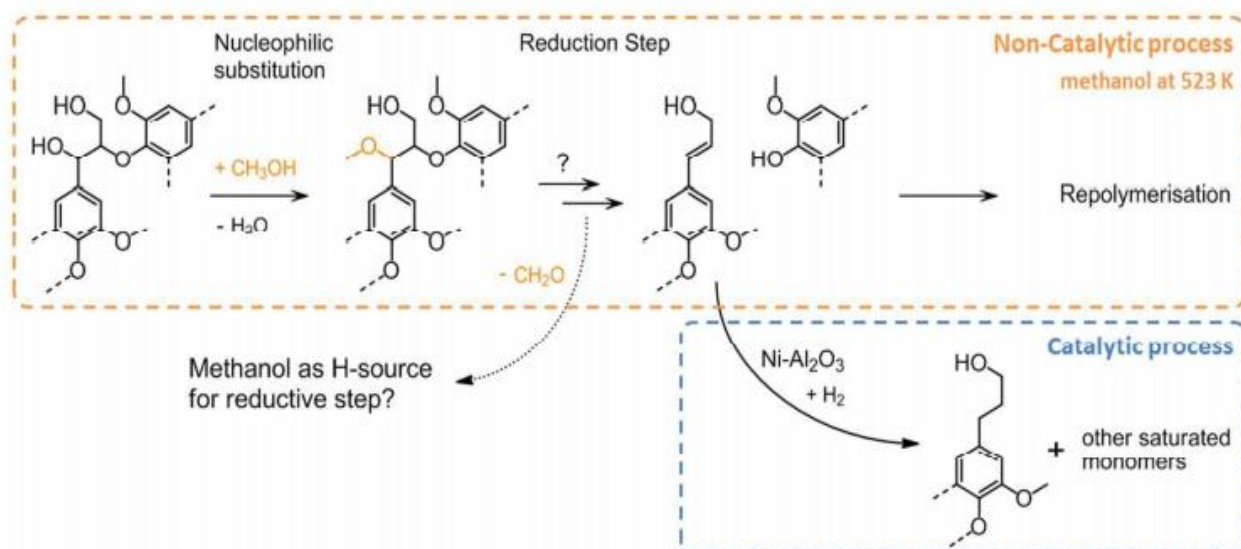


Figure 11: The mechanism of solvolytic  $\beta$ -O-4 bond cleavage in methanol through an  $\alpha$ -methoxylated  $\beta$ -O-4 intermediate (30).

Korányi et al. (31) reported for the first time a substantial synergy between CuMgAl-oxide catalyst and nickel (phosphide) catalysts in the depolymerization of lignin in supercritical ethanol under optimized conditions. They obtained the best overall performance by combining CuMgAlO<sub>x</sub> with Ni<sub>2</sub>P/SiO<sub>2</sub>, resulting in a yield of 53% by weight of lignin monomers. The most important aspect is that the Ni-based phases are involved in the hydrogenation of reactive intermediates released from lignin by the action of the CuMgAlO<sub>x</sub> catalyst. Such reactive intermediates contain aldehyde and olefinic groups, which are involved in condensation reactions that decrease the lignin monomer yield.

More recently, Tymchyshyn et al. (32) have prepared various catalysts supported on carbon and used them in the hydrotreatment of guaiacol as a model compound for lignin. The results indicated an improvement in the depolymerization of lignin, and the optimization study reveal that the initial temperature and pressure of hydrogen have a greater effect on the conversion of guaiacol than the reaction time.

In order to selectively convert lignin to alkanes, Qin et al. (33) thought of using a highly efficient catalytic process by introducing Pt and Ni based catalysts. However, the hydrodeoxygenation (HDO) of lignin to arenes or alkanes involves the depolymerization and hydrogenation of the aromatic polymer as well as the subsequent deoxygenation of the phenolic groups. For this, they developed a very efficient catalytic process for the conversion of an unprecedented high concentration of lignin to stable cyclic alkanes by introducing Pt/HAP into Ni/ASA catalyst in a dodecane media (Figure 12). It was found that Ni/ASA catalyst, reached a yield of ca. 40.4% by weight of C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>15</sub> liquid alkane for a conversion of 25 g/L lignin in a one-pot process.

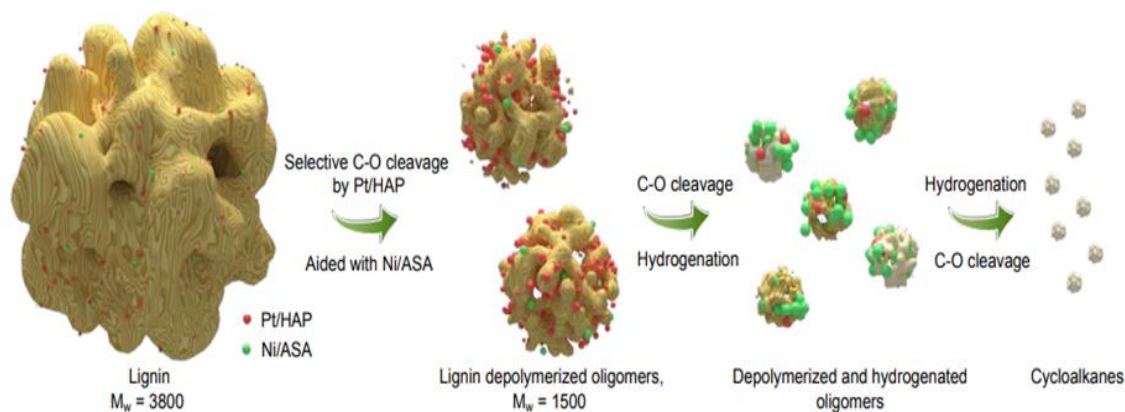


Figure 12: The strategy used for the conversion of high concentrated lignin to cyclic alkanes (33).

To summarize, lignin break-down into low molecular weight monomeric compounds has been intensively studied. The composition of bio-oils formed from lignin is highly dependent on the feedstock but also process conditions, in particular the catalyst type and the solvent. Several studies pointed out that the monomers could repolymerize and that upgrading (e.g., catalytic hydrogenation) could solve this problem. The major products obtained in the above-mentioned studies are presented in Table 3.

Table 2: The main products obtained in the reported lignin studies

Family	Compounds
Benzyl alcohols	Phenol , Guaiacol , Syringyl, Catechol , Cresol , Toluene
Alcohols	Methanol, Ethanol, Butanol, Benzyl alcohol
Esters	Methyl methacrylate , Dibutyl phthalate, Methylpyruvate
Arenes	Benzene and Alkyl-benzenes

## 2.2. Enzymatic hydrolysis lignin valorization to biofuels

In recent years, the growth of the bioethanol industry has made it possible to produce large quantities of EHL. But a large amount of this EHL is incinerated for on-site energy production.

The following section presents literature studies on the conversion of EHL to produce high performance fuel blends, i.e., high heating value jet-fuel, high octane number gasoline and high cetane number diesel fuels. The reaction time, the solvent, the temperature, and the initial hydrogen pressure are the parameters studied as they have significant effects on the products resulting from the valorization of EHL.

Wang *et al.* (34) studied the depolymerization of EHL in methanol at 240°C for 4 h with 3 MPa H<sub>2</sub> and they obtained an aromatic monomer yield of 12.1% by weight. They used for earth-abundant Ni catalyst supported on activated carbon (Ni/AC). The used catalyst is easily collected from the reaction solution by an external magnet and reused up to six times without loss of catalytic reactivity, which offers an alternative to develop very efficient heterogeneous product catalysts.

Bai *et al.* (35) investigated the depolymerization of lignin-rich corncob residue (LRCR, a kind of EHL) in supercritical ethanol on a NiMo alloy catalyst on a support of alumina (NiMo/Al). They examined the effect of reaction conditions on the depolymerization of LRCR, such as reaction temperature, initial hydrogen pressure, and solvent. They found that the highest overall aromatic yield, 255.4 mg/g of LRCR, is achieved at 320 °C for 7.5 h under 27.6 bar of hydrogen pressure in supercritical ethanol, and the LRCR was completely converted to aromatics efficiently without the formation of tar or char in the reactor and on the catalyst surface. Catalytic depolymerization of LRCR likely occurred as shown in Figure 13. A total of 17 aromatic compounds were identified and specified as the main products. The structures of these identified molecules are shown in Figure 14.

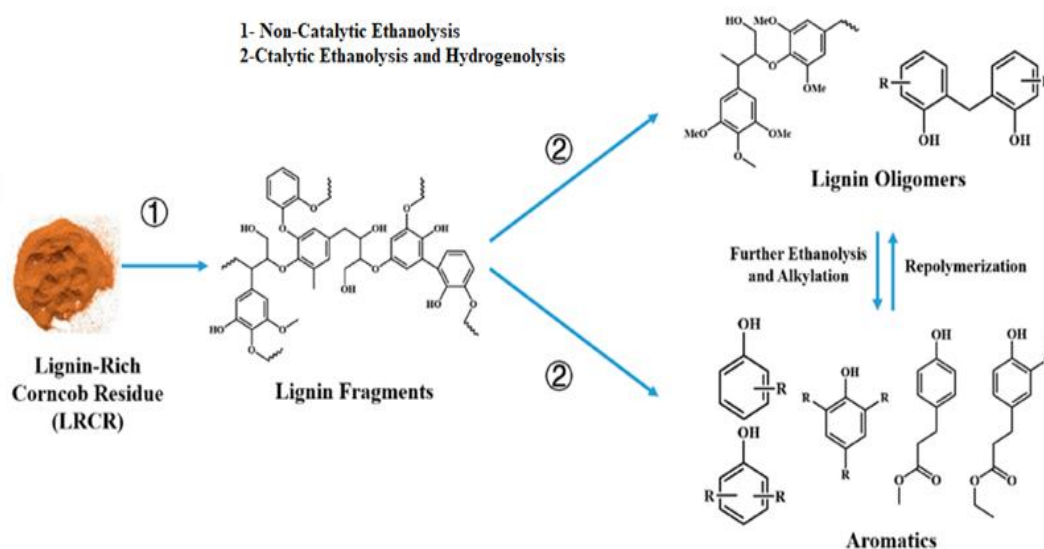


Figure 13: Possible Reaction Pathway for LRCR Depolymerization (35).

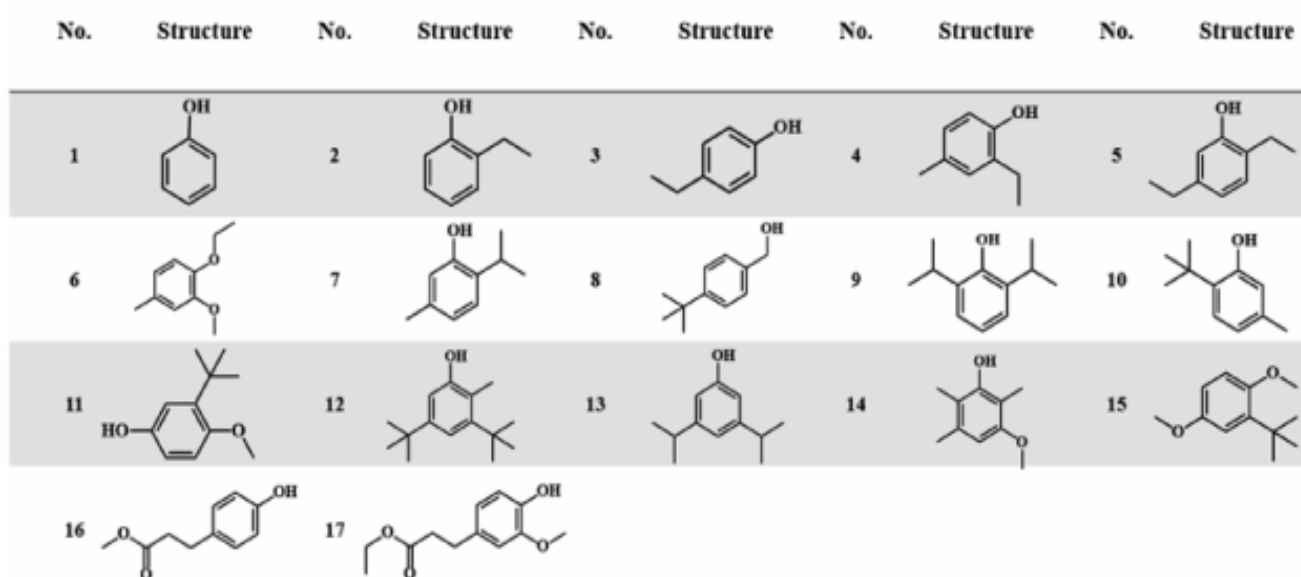


Figure 14: Identified molecular structures in liquid products from depolymerization of LRCR in supercritical ethanol (35).

After that, Mai *et al.*, (36) studied the conversion of EHL in supercritical ethanol over a  $\text{WO}_3/\gamma\text{-Al}_2\text{O}_3$  Catalyst, at 320 °C for 8 h. As shown in Figure 15, besides depolymerized EHL products, two aliphatic compounds such as aromatic ethers/esters and alkylphenols, propionic ether and 3-butenylethyl ether were formed, which were confirmed to be formed from ethanol by a blank reaction (without EHL)). They also studied the depolymerization of EHL in supercritical methanol and isopropanol, the results of which showed that ethanol was the most efficient solvent.



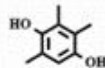

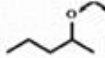

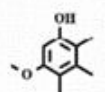



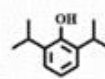
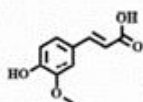


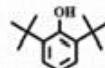

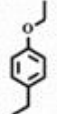
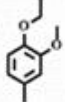
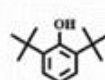

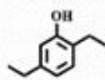
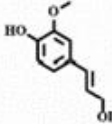
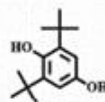
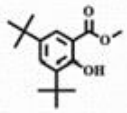
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2		8.2	8		6.5	14		89.3	20		12.7
3		-	9		13.0	15		11.6	21		5.7
4		4.9	10		7.7	16		10.3	22		13.0
5		13.8	11		13.7	17		4.6	23		26.3
6		6.6	12		9.3	18		15.3	24		37.6

Figure 15: Structures of identified molecules obtained from depolymerization of EHL over a  $\text{WO}_3/\gamma\text{-Al}_2\text{O}_3$  at  $320^\circ\text{C}$  (36)

More recently, Sang *et al.* (37) provided an effective new strategy for a better valorization of EHL, adjusting Ni microstructure to increase the number of active sites to improve its reactivity. Indeed, they prepared a number of unsupported nickel-based catalysts for the depolymerization of EHL in a batch reactor at  $280^\circ\text{C}$  for 6 h. They found that Ni (220H), which was prepared from the decomposition of nickel formate at  $220^\circ\text{C}$  in hydrogen, allowed the liquefaction of EHL and the highest monomer yield of 28.5%. This study showed that the different activities of the fabricated nickel-based catalysts on EHL can be caused by the different particle size of Ni, and the smaller the Ni particles, the higher the activity of the catalyst. Aromatic esters and para-propanol substituted phenols were the main detected products, as shown in Figure 16.


























No.	Structure	Yield (wt%)	No.	Structure	Yield (wt%)	No.	Structure	Yield (wt%)	No.	Structure	Yield (wt%)	No.	Structure	Yield (wt%)
1		0.26	8		2.41	14		0.13	19		4.01	23		2.22
2		0.13	9		0.22	15		0.16	20		5.05			
3		0.89	10		0.69	16		0.99	21		5.52			
4		0.15	11		0.46	17		0.69	22		0.48			
5		2.42	12		0.20	18		0.17						
6		0.68	13		0.30									
7		0.24												

Figure 16: Structures of identified molecules obtained from depolymerization of EHL over an unsupported Nickel catalyst at 280°C (36).

Later, Tymchyshyn et al. (38) investigated the reductive depolymerization of EHL in supercritical acetone and in the presence of a catalyst under a hydrogen atmosphere to obtain low molecular weight compounds. They chose acetone as the solvent because the aromatic components of EHL and the aliphatic compounds produced are expected to be soluble in acetone. The MoRu/AC catalyst produced a bio-oil at 320°C with a substantially increased H/C ratio and <2 wt % solid residue, suggesting an excellent hydrogenation/hydrodeoxygenation activity of the MoRu/AC. The results show that the phenolic compounds are the main component in bio-oils produced.

In the work planned by Aalto University and TU/e in the EHL CATHOL project in order to convert completely the enzymatic hydrolysis lignin (EHL) via catalytic solvolysis for making high-valued fuel commodities like gasoline, jet fuel and diesel range molecules, fuel compatible solvents such as lower chain alcohols (from C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>4</sub>) and/or C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkanes will be used. Moreover, highly efficient supported catalysts with low-cost non-noble metals like Ni, Mo, Fe and/or their alloys, will be utilized to enhance the molecules in gasoline, jet fuel and diesel ranges. The experiments will be performed in a ~50-100 mL batch reactor equipped with a magnetic stirrer, sampling lines, pressure gauge and heating mantle. The EHL experiments typically performed in presence of suitable solvents at the temperature range of 250-350°C with/without H<sub>2</sub>, N<sub>2</sub> or Ar (with initial pressure of 2-0-4.0 MPa) for 3-6 h. Here is a list of solvents, which might be envisaged:

- Water
- Methanol
- Ethanol
- 1-Propanol

- iso-Propanol
- 1-Butanol
- 2-Butanol
- iso-Butanol
- tert-Butanol
- Ethylene glycol
- Glycerol
- Acetone
- Methyl ethyl ketone
- Ethyl acetate
- 1,4-dioxane
- Tetrahydrofuran
- Diethyl ether
- Cyclohexane
- n-Hexane
- n-Dodecane

To summarize, the valorization of EHL through the formation of bio-oils has a great potential and benefits from the past researches on other types of lignins. The composition of EHL derived bio-oils is highly dependent on the process conditions like the catalyst, the solvent the temperature and reaction atmosphere. \_For instance, working under hydrogen atmosphere enables to increase the H/C ratio through hydrogenation and hydrodeoxygenation processes.

As far as the composition of the obtained biofuels is concerned, the **oxygenated aromatics** are always the most important fraction, but **arenes** should also be considered, as well as **the** remaining presence of the **used solvents** and **the compounds, which might be derived from those solvents** through the catalytic process (e.g., esters).



### 3. Bibliographical study on EHL-derived fuels and their combustion properties

This part covered the global properties of biofuel's potential components: mainly oxygenated aromatics, arenes, which are previously described as lignin catalytic solvolysis products.

The Molecular Weight (MV) and density are widely used in physics and chemistry; however, Lower Heating Value (LHV), Research Octane Number (RON) and Cetane Number (CN) are widely used in combustion characteristics:

- LHV: Thermal energy released during combustion considering all products in their gas state,
- RON: index characterizing self-ignition capacity of gasoline. Values are defined in respect of reference species: *n*-heptane (RON=0) and *iso*-octane (RON=100),
- CN: index characterizing self-ignition capacity of diesel. Values are defined in respect of reference species:  $\alpha$ -methylnaphthalene (RON=0) and *n*-cetane (RON=100).

These data of surrogates may be interpolated to predict fundamental biofuel properties. The data shown in Tables 4, 6, 8, 10 are global quantities deduced directly from the species known formulas (MW, density, LHV) or data taken from literature (RON, CN), which will be used as a data base to develop theoretical and numerical tools for properties prediction in WP6.2.

Phase change data (Tables 5, 7, 9, 11) are also needed to anticipate constraints during experiments, such vapor pressure ( $P_{\text{vap}}$ ) or the phase change state parameters at ambient temperature and pressure, boiling temperature ( $T_{\text{boil}}$ ), melting temperature ( $T_{\text{melt}}$ ) and the enthalpy of vaporization ( $H_{\text{vap}}$ ). Globally, these parameters will help us to choose the suitable experimental conditions and to adapt our facilities in WP6.3 and WP6.4.

Table 4: Global properties of oxygenated aromatics.

	MW g/mol		Density (25°C) kg/m <sup>3</sup>		LHV MJ/kg		RON		CN	
	Value	Ref	Value	Ref	Value	Ref	Value	Ref	Value	Ref
Guaiacol	124.1	(39,40)	1129	(41,42)	27.5	(41–44)			19	(41,42,45)
Anisole	108.1	(39,40)	980	(39,42,46)	33.7	(41–44,46–50)	114	(41,42,47,48,51)	6	(41,45,52)
Phenol	94.1	(39,40)	1065	(39,42)	31.3	(42)				
o-cresol	108.1	(39,40)	1028	(39)	32.7 <sup>1</sup>	(40,53)			75	(54)
p-cresol	108.1	(39,40)	1140	(39,42)	29.6	(42)	153	(42)	75	(54)
m-cresol	108.1	(39,40)	1030	(39)	32.8 <sup>1</sup>	(40,53)			75	(54)
Catechol	100.1	(39,40)	1344 <sup>2</sup>	(55)	27.7 <sup>3</sup>	calc.				
Benzyl alcohol	108.1	(38,39)	1041	(38)	34.55	(85)			29	(85)
2-phenyl ethanol	122.2	(39,41)	1017	(86)	35.0	(41,42,44,57,58)	116	(43,44,48,57)	8	(48,54)

<sup>1</sup> LHV calculated from enthalpy of combustion

<sup>2</sup> density at 20°C

<sup>3</sup> LHV calculated from enthalpy of formation (enthalpy of formation calculated with Joback's method (52))

Table 5: Phase change data of oxygenated aromatics.

	T <sub>boil</sub> (1atm) K		T <sub>melt</sub> (1 atm) K		P <sub>vap</sub> (25°C) bar		H <sub>vap</sub> (25°C) kJ/kg	
	Value	Ref	Value	Ref	Value	Ref	Value	Ref
Guaiacol	478	(41–44)	301	(40,42)	1.29 10 <sup>-4</sup>	(39)	494.4	(39)
Anisole	427	(39–42,44,48)	250	(40,42)	4.28 10 <sup>-3</sup>	(39)	425.9	(39,40,47–49)
Phenol	455	(39,40,42)	314	(40,42)	6.38 10 <sup>-4</sup>	(39)	583.7	(39)
o-cresol	464	(39,40)	304	(40)	4.88 10 <sup>-4</sup>	(39)	508.9	(39)
p-cresol	475	(39,40,42)	307	(40,42)	1.89 10 <sup>-4</sup>	(39)	548.8	(39)
m-cresol	475	(39,40)	284	(40)	2.74 10 <sup>-4</sup>	(39)	526.4	(39)
Catechol	519	(39,40)	377	(40)	3.57 10 <sup>-6</sup>	(39)	696.2	(39)
Benzyl alcohol	478	(38,39)	257	(39)	4.82 10 <sup>-5</sup>	(38)	610.6	(38)
2-phenyl ethanol	493	(39,57,58)	254	(39)	1.16 10 <sup>-6</sup>	(93)	562.9	(41,44,57)

Table 6: Global properties of arenes.

	MW g/mol		Density (25°C) kg/m <sup>3</sup>		LHV MJ/kg		RON		CN	
	Value	Ref	Value	Ref	Value	Ref	Value	Ref	Value	Ref
Toluene	92.1	(39,40,56,57)	862	(39,56)	40.9	(41,43,57–60)	116	(41,42,47,61–65)	6	(41,45,47,63,66)
p-xylene	106.2	(39,40,57)	849	(39,67)	41.5	(44,48,57–60)	121	(44,61,63,64)	6	(63,66)
m-xylene	106.2	(39,40)	855	(39,67)	41.4	(59,60)	122	(44,63,64)	7	(63,66)
o-xylene	106.2	(39,40)	870	(39,67)	41.4	(59,60)	113	(44,63,64)	8	(63,66)
Styrene	104.2	(39,40)	901	(39)	41.5	(60)				
Ethyl benzene	106.2	(39,40,57)	855	(39,67)	41.4	(57–60)	108	(41,57,58,61,63)	6	(63,66)
1,2,3-tri methyl benzene	120.2	(39,40)	891	(39,40)	41.2 <sup>1</sup>	(40)	110	(47,63,64)	10	(63,66)
1,2,4-tri methyl benzene	120.2	(39,40)	857	(39,40)	41.0	(59)	148	(64)	9	(47,63,66)
1,3,5-tri methyl benzene	120.2	(39,40)	842	(39,40)	41.2 <sup>1</sup>	(40)	138	(63,64)	8	(63,66)
1,2-ethyl toluene	120.2	(39,40)	877	(39,40)	41.3 <sup>1</sup>	(40)	101	(45,63)		
1,3-ethyl toluene	120.2	(39,40)	860	(39,40)	41.3 <sup>1</sup>	(40)	102	(63)		
1,4-ethyl toluene	120.2	(39,40)	857	(39,40)	41.3 <sup>1</sup>	(40)	102	(63)		
1,2-diethyl benzene	134.2	(39,40)	876	(39,40)	41.6 <sup>1</sup>	(40)				
1,3-diethyl benzene	134.2	(39,40)	860	(39,40)	41.6 <sup>1</sup>	(40)	103	(63)	5	(66)
1,4-diethyl benzene	134.2	(39,40)	875	(39,40)	41.6 <sup>1</sup>	(40)	103	(45,63)		
2-propenyl benzene	118.2	(40)	892	(40)	42.0 <sup>1</sup>	(40)				
2-ethyl 1,4-dimethyl benzene	134.2	(39,40)	873	(39,40)	41.5 <sup>1</sup>	(40)	104	(45,63)		
1-ethyl 2,4-dimethyl benzene	134.2	(39,40)	872	(39,40)	41.5 <sup>1</sup>	(40)	101	(63)		

<sup>1</sup> LHV calculated from enthalpy of combustion.

Table 7: Phase change data of arenes.

	T <sub>boil</sub> (1atm)		T <sub>melt</sub> (1 atm)		P <sub>vap</sub> (25°C)		H <sub>vap</sub> (25°C)	
	Value	Ref	Value	Ref	Value	Ref	Value	Ref
Toluene	383	(39–41,44)	178	(40)	3.73 10 <sup>-2</sup>	(39,40)	408.0	(39,40,57,58)
p-xylene	411	(39,40,48)	286	(40)	1.13 10 <sup>-2</sup>	(39,40)	396.9	(39,40,48,57,58)
m-xylene	412	(39,40)	225	(40)	1.07 10 <sup>-2</sup>	(39,40)	398.1	(39)
o-xylene	417	(39,40)	248	(40)	8.58 10 <sup>-3</sup>	(39,40)	403.6	(39)
Styrene	419	(39,40)	240	(40)	9.91 10 <sup>-3</sup>	(39)	403.5	(39)
Ethyl benzene	409	(39,40)	179	(40)	1.25 10 <sup>-2</sup>	(39)	413.2	(40,57,58)
1,2,3-tri methyl benzene	449	(39,40)	248	(40)	1.84 10 <sup>-3</sup>	(39)	404.0	(39)
1,2,4-tri methyl benzene	442	(39,40)	228	(40)	2.49 10 <sup>-3</sup>	(39)	395.4	(39)
1,3,5-tri methyl benzene	438	(39,40)	226	(40)	2.85 10 <sup>-3</sup>	(39)	394.1	(39)
1,2-ethyl toluene	438	(39,40)	190	(40)	2.38 10 <sup>-3</sup>	(39)	366.3	(39)
1,3-ethyl toluene	435	(39,40)	176	(40)	4.70 10 <sup>-3</sup>	(39)	379.8	(39)
1,4-ethyl toluene	435	(39,40)	210	(40)	4.45 10 <sup>-3</sup>	(39)	368.3	(39)
1,2-diethyl benzene	456	(39,40)	242	(40)	1.40 10 <sup>-3</sup>	(39)	355.3	(39)
1,3-diethyl benzene	454	(39,40)	189	(40)	1.51 10 <sup>-3</sup>	(39)	355.2	(39)
1,4-diethyl benzene	457	(39,40)	230	(40)	1.29 10 <sup>-3</sup>	(39)	369.9	(39)
2-propenyl benzene	429	(40)	233	(40)	4.76 10 <sup>-3</sup>	(68)	391.3	(68)
2-ethyl 1,4-dimethyl benzene	460	(39,40)	219	(40)	1.26 10 <sup>-3</sup>	(39)	376.1	(39)
1-ethyl 2,4-dimethyl benzene	462	(39,40)	210	(40)	1.19 10 <sup>-3</sup>	(39)	378.7	(39)

Table 8: Global properties of proposed solvents.

	MW		Density (25°C)			LHV	RON		CN	
	Value	Ref	Value	Ref	Value		Value	Ref	Value	Ref
Methanol	32.0	(39,40)	787	(39)	20.3	(47,59,60,69,70)	110	(44,45,47,71)	3	(66)
Ethanol	46.1	(39,40,49,50,57)	800	(39)	27.3	(41,47–50,57–60,69,70,72,73)	109	(41,44,45,47,49,49,57,58,63,71,72)	9	(50,66,70,74)
1-propanol	60.1	(39,40)	805	(39)	30.7	(47,73)	103	(45,47)	12	(66)
Iso-propanol	60.1	(39,40)	787	(39)	30.7	(47)	108	(45,47,75)	12	(76)
1-butanol	74.1	(39,40)	794	(39)	33.2	(47,70,77,78)	99	(45,47,71,75,77)	17	(45,47,66,70,76,77)
2-butanol	74.1	(39,40)	811	(39)	33.1	(47)	107	(45,47,71,75)	9	(45)
Iso-butanol	74.1	(39,40)	793	(39)	33.2	(47,77)	109	(45,47,75,77)	9	(45,47)
Tert-butanol	74.1	(39,40)	761	(39)	32.6	(77)	105	(45,77)		
Ethylene glycol	62.1	(39,40)	1110	(39)	19.2	(40)				
Acetone	58.1	(39,40)	785	(39)	28.9	(59,78,79)	108	(75)	53	(80)
Methyl ethyl ketone	72.1	(39,40)	795	(39)	31.4	(47,81)	109	(45,47,71,75)		
Ethyl acetate	88.1	(39,40)	895	(39)	23.8	(47,49)	118	(47,49,71)		
1,4-dioxane	88.1	(39,40)	1029	(39)	25.0 <sup>1</sup>	(40)				
Tetrahydrofuran	72.1	(39,40)	880	(39)	34.7	(40)	73	(45)	24	(45,82)
Diethyl ether	74.1	(39,40)	716	(39)	33.9	(70,83,84)			141	(66,70,74,83)
Cyclohexane	84.2	(39,40)	767	(39)	44.5	(60)	83	(45,47,63)	16	(45,47,63,66)
n-hexane	86.2	(39,40)	656	(39)	45.4	(60,72)	29	(45,47,72,75)	48	(45,47,63,66,85)
n-dodecane	170.3	(39,40)	750	(39)	44.6	(72)			79	(45,47,63,66,85,86)

<sup>1</sup> LHV calculated from enthalpy of combustion

Table 9: Phase change data of proposed solvents.

	<b>T<sub>boil</sub> (1atm)</b>		<b>T<sub>melt</sub> (1 atm)</b>		<b>P<sub>vap</sub> (25°C)</b>		<b>H<sub>vap</sub> (25°C)</b>	
	K		K		bar		kJ/kg	
	Value	Ref	Value	Ref	Value	Ref	Value	Ref
Methanol	338	(39,40)	176	(40)	1.69 10 <sup>-1</sup>	(39,40)	1193.3	(39,40,47)
Ethanol	352	(39,40,48,50)	159	(40)	7.69 10 <sup>-2</sup>	(39,40)	921.6	(39,40,47–49,57,58)
1-propanol	370	(39,40)	147	(40)	2.80 10 <sup>-2</sup>	(39,40)	774.3	(39,40,47)
Iso-propanol	355	(39,40)	186	(40)	5.80 10 <sup>-2</sup>	(39)	735.2	(39,40,47)
1-butanol	391	(39,40)	188	(40)	8.98 10 <sup>-3</sup>	(39,40)	682.9	(39,40,47)
2-butanol	372	(39,40)	158	(87,88)	2.33 10 <sup>-2</sup>	(39)	641.0	(39,40,47)
Iso-butanol	381	(39,40)	167	(40)	1.39 10 <sup>-2</sup>	(39)	660.0	(39,40,47)
Tert-butanol	356	(39,40)	298	(40)	5.60 10 <sup>-2</sup>	(39)	588.6	(39)
Ethylene glycol	470	(39,40)	261	(40)	2.87 10 <sup>-6</sup>	(39)	1302.0	(39)
Acetone	329	(39,40)	179	(40)	30.6 10 <sup>-1</sup>	(39,40)	538.4	(39)
Methyl ethyl ketone	353	(39,40)	186	(40)	1.23 10 <sup>-1</sup>	(39)	480.3	(39,40,47)
Ethyl acetate	350	(39,40)	190	(40)	1.26 10 <sup>-1</sup>	(39,40)	929.8	(39,40,47,49)
1,4-dioxane	374	(39,40)	285	(40)	4.91 10 <sup>-2</sup>	(39,40, 89)	433.3	(39,89)
Tetrahydrofuran	339	(39,40)	164	(40)	2.16 10 <sup>-1</sup>	(39,40)	439.1	(39,40)
Diethyl ether	308	(1,2)	154	(40)	6.90 10 <sup>-1</sup>	(39,40)	362.8	(39,40)
Cyclohexane	354	(39,40)	280	(40)	1.30 10 <sup>-1</sup>	(39,40)	387.9	(39,40)
n-hexane	342	(39,40)	178	(40)	2.00 10 <sup>-1</sup>	(39,40)	363.4	(39,40)
n-dodecane	489	(39,40)	264	(40)	1.70 10 <sup>-4</sup>	(39)	337.4	(39)

Table 10: Global properties of possible compounds deriving from the solvents after the catalytic process.

	<b>MW</b>		<b>Density (25°C)</b>		<b>LHV</b>		<b>RON</b>		<b>CN</b>	
	g/mol		kg/m <sup>3</sup>		MJ/kg					
	Value	Ref	Value	Ref	Value	Ref	Value	Ref	Value	Ref
Hexan-1-ol	102.2	(39,40)	816	(39)	39.0	(90)	69	(45)	23	(66)
2-ethyl butanol	102.2	(39,40)	829	(39)	36.0 <sup>3</sup>	calc.				
3-hexen-1-ol	100.2	(40)	817	(87)	34.5 <sup>3</sup>	calc.				
2-methyl-2-penten-1-ol	100.2	(40)			35.5 <sup>3</sup>	calc.				
2-methylphenyl methanol	122.2	(40)	1028	(87)	34.1 <sup>3</sup>	calc.				
4-ethyl phenyl methanol	136.2	(40)			35.1 <sup>3</sup>	calc.				
2,4,5-trimethyl phenyl methanol	150.2	(40)			35.7 <sup>3</sup>	calc.				
Ethyl heptanoate	158,2		870		32.9 <sup>3</sup>	calc.				

<sup>3</sup> LHV calculated from enthalpy of formation (enthalpy of formation calculated with Joback's method (52))

Table 11: Phase change data of possible compounds deriving from the solvents after the catalytic process.

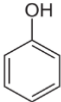
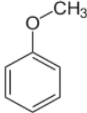
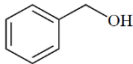
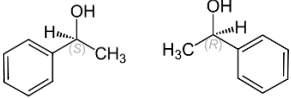

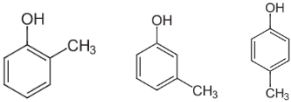
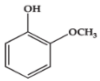
	<b>T<sub>boil</sub> (1atm)</b>		<b>T<sub>melt</sub> (1 atm)</b>		<b>P<sub>vap</sub> (25°C)</b>		<b>H<sub>vap</sub> (25°C)</b>	
	K		K		bar		kJ/kg	
	Value	Ref	Value	Ref	Value	Ref	Value	Ref
Hexan-1-ol	430	(39,40)	225	(40)	1.24 10 <sup>-3</sup>	(39)	552.1	(39,40)
2-ethyl butanol	421	(39,40)	258	(87)	2.04 10 <sup>-3</sup>	(39)	524.3	(39)
3-hexen-1-ol	430	(40)	213 <sup>4</sup>	(91)			455.0 <sup>4</sup>	(91)
2-methyl-2-penten-1-ol	441	(92)	199 <sup>4</sup>	(91)	7.44 10 <sup>-4</sup>	(93)	455.8 <sup>4</sup>	(91)
2-methylphenyl methanol	492	(92)	308	(88)			433.9 <sup>4</sup>	(91)
4-ethyl phenyl methanol	389	(40)	358	(87)			405.7 <sup>4</sup>	(91)
2,4,5-trimethyl phenyl methanol	562 <sup>4</sup>	(91)	327 <sup>4</sup>	(91)			391.5 <sup>4</sup>	(91)
Ethyl heptanoate	461	(39)	207	(39)	1.03 10 <sup>-1</sup> (20°C)	(96)	283.1 <sup>4</sup>	(89)

<sup>4</sup> calculated with Joback's method (91)

## 4. Description of the literature studies concerning the combustion kinetics of oxygenated aromatics, which are the main components of EHL-derived fuels

Oxygenated aromatics are an important fraction of the bio-oil composition. These typical alternative fuels are derived by from EHL by the Chemical transformation of enzymatic hydrolysis lignin with catalytic solvolysis under mild conditions. Table 12 presents the aromatic oxygenates, for which kinetic studies are available. In our analysis, only work performed after 1980 was comprehensively considered.

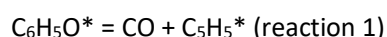
Table 12: Structure of aromatic oxygenates, for which kinetic studies are available.

Chemical name	The structure
Phenol	
Anisole	
benzyl alcohol	
1 phenyl ethanol, 2 phenyl ethanol	
Catechol	
o, m, p-cresol	
o-Guaiacol	

## 4.1. Phenol

Phenol is the lightest aromatic oxygenates. The kinetic studies related to its combustion are shown in Table 13. In 1988, He et al. (96) measured in a single-pulse shock tube the rate constants of the hydrogen atom and hydroxyl radical attack on phenol. Experiments were performed over a range of temperatures from 1000 to 1150 K and pressures from 2.5 to 5 atm. After that, Lovell et al. (97) studied the pyrolysis of phenol in the Princeton flow reactor at atmospheric pressure for temperature between 1064 and 1162 K. Using gas chromatography, they identified the main pyrolysis products, which are CO, cyclopentadiene and benzene.

Manion et al. (98) drew similar conclusions from their work on the phenol pyrolysis in H<sub>2</sub> also using a flow reactor over a temperature range (T = 922-1175 K). In line with their pyrolysis study, Brezinsky et al. (100) investigated the oxidation of phenol at atmospheric pressure near 1170 K over a range of equivalence ratios ( $\phi$ ), 0.64-1.73. They found that cyclopentadiene was the major reaction intermediate and proposed its formation to occur through that of cyclopentadienyl radical, which is produced via reaction (1).



Other observed major species included carbon monoxide carbon dioxide, acetylene, benzene, 1,3-butadiene, ethylene, and methane. Minor species were allene, methylacetylene, propene, ethane, methylcyclopentadiene, and naphthalene.

Horn et al. (99) studied the pyrolysis of phenol in a shock tube in a high temperature range from 1450 to 1650 K using atomic and molecular resonance absorption spectroscopy as diagnostics. They deduced from their results that the main initiation reaction is the elimination of CO after an internal rearrangement of phenol. No study on phenol flame could be found.

Table 13: Summary of the main experimental kinetic studies about phenol.

Instrument	Measured property	Experimental Conditions	Reference
Shock tube	Rate constant for H and OH H-abstraction	T=1000-1150 K; P=2.5-5 atm	He et al., 1988 (96)
Flow reactor	Species profiles	T=1064-1162 K; P=1 atm; $\Phi=\infty$	Lovell et <i>al.</i> ,1989 (97)
		T=922-1175 K; P=1 atm; $\Phi=\infty$	Manion et <i>al.</i> , 1989 (98)
Shock tube		T=1450-1650 K; P=2.5 atm; $\Phi=\infty$	Horn et <i>al.</i> , 1998 (99)
		T=1170 K; P=1 atm; $\Phi=\infty$ -0.64-1.73	Brezinsky et al., 1998 (100)

## 4.2. Anisole

Anisole is the aromatic oxygenate, whose combustion kinetics has been the mostly studied; as shown in Table 14. Its first pyrolysis study was performed in a stirred reactor by Mulcahy et al. (101) at low temperatures (453 and 539 K). In 1980, Schlosberg et al. (102) studied the pyrolysis of anisole in a batch reactor at a constant temperature of 723 K and at atmospheric pressure. Methane and CO were found to be the main products of this pyrolysis, the other detected products were H<sub>2</sub>, water, phenol. Lin and Lin (103) studied for the first time the thermal decomposition of anisole in a shock tube. Experiments were performed between 1000 and 1580 K. The CO formed in the reaction was monitored by resonance-absorption using a stabilized CW CO laser allowing to propose rate constants for related reactions, especially that of reaction (1) of phenol.

Concerning anisole pyrolysis studies in flow reactors. Mackie et al. (104) studied its pyrolysis in a perfectly stirred reactor at low pressures ( $P=0.015\text{--}0.12$  atm) and low temperatures ( $T=850\text{--}1000$  K). They observed CO, phenol and cresols as the most important products. In 2001, Platonov et al. (105) used a flow reactor with gas chromatography and showed that increasing the temperature decreased the formation of phenolic compounds and increased that of PAHs. Friderichsen et al. (107) also used a flow reactor, together with a hyperthermal nozzle; thanks to time-of-flight mass spectrometry and Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy, they identified free radicals and reaction intermediates and demonstrated the important role of phenoxy and cyclopentadienyl radicals in the formation of naphthalene. More recently, Pelucchi et al. (108) used a flow reactor to quantify products from anisole pyrolysis. The main stable products detected were CO, CH<sub>4</sub>, C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub>, benzene and benzofuran.

The oxidation of anisole has been less studied than its pyrolysis. In 1997, Pecullan et al. (109) were the first to study the pyrolysis and oxidation of anisole. The experiments were carried out at high temperatures ( $T = 999\text{--}1003$  K) and at atmospheric pressure in the Princeton flow reactor with gas chromatography analysis. Major products were phenol, cresols, methylcyclopentadiene, and CO; minor ones included benzene, cyclopentadiene, ethane, and methane.

More recently, the pyrolysis of anisole and its oxidation under stoichiometric oxidation were studied by Nowakowska et al. (110) in a jet-stirred reactor. The main reaction products were measured by gas chromatography versus temperature. Major products were methane, carbon monoxide, benzene, phenol and hydrogen; minor ones included benzofuran, xylenes, styrene, and naphthalene. Finally, Wagnon et al. (46) conducted an experimental study on the pyrolysis and the oxidation of anisole in a jet-stirred reactor in the temperature range 675–1275K, at 1 atm and at equivalence ratios of 0.5, 1 and 2. Major products were CO, 1,3-cyclopentadiene, benzene, cresols; minor ones included toluene, styrene, ethane, and methane.

A few studies in flame were made with anisole. The first laminar flame speed measurements of anisole were performed in 2017. Wu et al. (111) used OH chemiluminescence on a Bunsen burner for various equivalence ratios and different pressures. Wagnon et al. (46) also measured burning velocities thanks to the heat flux method on a flat flame burner at 358 K and ambient pressure. In 2019, Zare et al. (112) completed flame speed measurement with the bomb method at temperatures from 460 to 575K and pressures from 0.5 to 3 atm.

Concerning product measurements in anisole flames, in 2019, Bierkandt et al. (113) published flame structures at two equivalence ratios, 1.2 and 1.6. Products measurements were performed by photoionization mass spectrometry and photoelectron spectroscopy. In addition to CO and H<sub>2</sub>, the



intermediates produce in the highest amounts, with mole fractions on the order of  $10^{-3}$ – $10^{-2}$ , were methyl radical ( $\text{CH}_3$ ),  $\text{CH}_4$ ,  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2$ ,  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4$ ,  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_6$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{O}$ , cyclopentadienyl radical ( $\text{C}_5\text{H}_5$ ), cyclopentadiene ( $\text{C}_5\text{H}_6$ ), benzene ( $\text{C}_6\text{H}_6$ ), phenol ( $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{OH}$ ), and benzaldehyde ( $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{CHO}$ ).

Table 14: Summary of the main experimental studies about anisole.

Instrument	Measured property	Experimental Conditions	Reference
Batch reactor	Species profiles	T=723 K; P=1 atm; $\Phi=\infty$	Schlosberg et <i>al.</i> , 1983 (102)
Shock tube		T=1000-1580 K; P=0.4-0.9 atm; $\Phi=\infty$	Lin and Lin., 1986 (103)
Perfectly-stirred reactor		T=850-1000 K; P=0.015-0.12atm; $\Phi=\infty$	Mackie et <i>al.</i> , 1990 (104)
		T=673-1173 K; P=1 atm; $\Phi=\infty,1$	Nowakowska et <i>al</i> , (110)
		T=675-1275 K; P=1 atm; $\Phi=\infty, 0.5, 1$ and 2.	Wagnon et <i>al.</i> , 2018 (46)
Flow reactor		T=1023-1173 K; $\Phi=\infty$	Platonov et <i>al.</i> , 2001 (105)
		T=793-1020 K; P=1 atm; $\Phi=\infty$	Arends et al., 1993 (106)
		T=873-1373 K; P=1 atm; $\Phi=\infty$	Friderichsen et <i>al.</i> , 02001 (107)
		T= 525-675 K; P=1 atm; $\Phi=\infty$	Pelucchi et al. 2018 (108)
		T=999-1003 K; P=1 atm; $\Phi=\infty, 1.05, 0.62,1.71$	Pecullan et <i>al.</i> , 1997 (109)
Bunsen burner	Laminar flame speed	T=423 K; P=1-7.5 bar; $\Phi=0.75$ T=423 K; P=1 bar; $\Phi=0.6-1.3$	Wu et <i>al.</i> , 2017 (111)
Flat flame burner		T=358 K; P=1 atm; $\Phi=0.6-1.2$	Wagnon et <i>al.</i> , 2018 (46)
Constant Volume Chamber		T=460-575 K; P=1atm; $\Phi=0.8-1.4$ T=460-575 K; P=0.5-3 atm; $\Phi=1$	Zare et <i>al.</i> , 2019 (112)
Burner	Product and temperature flame structure	T=500 K; P=0.04 bar; $\Phi=1.2,1.6$	Bierkandt et <i>al.</i> , 2019 (113)

### 4.3. Benzyl alcohol

Only one kinetic study concerning benzyl alcohol was found. Zhou et al. (114) studied the oxidation of benzyl alcohol in an atmospheric jet-stirred reactor with gas chromatography analysis at equivalence

ratios, 0.4 and 2.0, at temperature between 700–1100 K; 19 species were detected, including fuel. Major products were benzene, benzaldehyde, and CO; minor ones included acetaldehyde, phenol, benzofuran, ethane, and methane. No study on benzyl alcohol flame could be found.

Table 15: Summary of the main experimental studies about benzyl alcohol.

Instrument	Measured property	Experimental conditions	Reference
Jet-stirred reactor	Species profiles	T=700–1100 K; P=1 atm; $\Phi$ =0.4, and 2.0.	Zhou et al., 2018 (114)

## 4.4. Phenyl-ethanols

Several gas-phase kinetic studies were recently performed with 2-phenyl-ethanol because of its strong ignition resistance and its high heating value compared to other oxygenated aromatics. The first kinetic experiments concerned its pyrolysis in a closed static reactor by Taylor et al. (115) in 1988 (T=720–767 K, P = 1 bar) and Chuchani et al. in 1999 (116) (T=743–1040 K, P=65–198 Torr). They both observed the same major produced species, styrene and toluene, and ethylbenzene as a minor one; Taylor also found traces of biphenyl, bibenzyl, 2-methoxyethylbenzene and 2-phenylethylether.

In 2017, Kiran et al. (118) pyrolyzed 2-phenyl-ethanol in a shock tube at pressures from 7 to 13 atm and for temperatures from 1011 to 1446 K. The main products were styrene, benzene and toluene, with ethylbenzene and phenylacetylene found in smaller quantities and benzaldehyde observed as traces.

In 2021, Brian et al. (117) measured the tendency of 1- and 2- phenyl-ethanol to produce soot during their oxidation in an isothermal flow reactor at temperatures from 800 to 1200 K and atmospheric pressure. Using gas chromatography, for the chosen rich mixture ( $\Phi$ =3), they found carbon monoxide, benzene, styrene, toluene and benzaldehyde to be the main products; the formation of acetophenone was also reported for 1-phenyl-ethanol and that of phenylacetaldehyde for 2-phenyl-ethanol.

In 2017, Shankar et al. (119) used a shock tube to measure the ignition delay times of 2-phenyl-ethanol at 10 and 20 bar, for two equivalence ratios (0.5 and 1) and for temperatures from 1050 to 1500 K. Fang et al. (120) also evaluated the ignition delay times of 2-phenyl-ethanol. They used a rapid compression machine at pressures from 10 to 40 bar, temperatures from 813 to 992 K and for equivalence ratios between 0.35 and 1.5.

No study on phenyl-ethanol flame could be found.

Table 16: Summary of the main experimental studies about phenyl-ethanol.

Instrument	Measured property	Experimental conditions	Reference
Closed vessel	Species profiles	T=720-767 K; P = 1 bar; $\Phi=\infty$	Taylor et al., 1988 (115)
		T=743-1040 K; P=0.086-0.263bar; $\Phi=\infty$	Chuchani et al., 1999 (116)
Plug Flow Reactor		T=800-1200 K; $\Phi=3$	Brian et al., 2021 (117)
Shock Tube		T= 1011-1446 K; P=7-13 atm; $\Phi=\infty$	Kiran et al., 2017 (2017)
	Ignition delay times	T=1050-1500 K; P=10 and 20 bar; $\Phi=0.5$ and 1	Shankar et al., 2017 (119)
Rapid Compression Machine		T=813-992 K; P=10-40 bar; $\Phi=0.35$ and 1.5	Fang et al., 2021 (120)

## 4.5. Catechol

Catechol is a phenol-type compound representative of the structural entities of biomass, charcoal and wood. Table 17 shows the main combustion kinetics studies related to catechol. In 2002, Wornat et al. (121) studied the pyrolysis of catechol in a flow reactor at a temperature of 1273 K, at atmospheric pressure. They used high pressure liquid chromatography with detection by UV-visible diode (UV) to identify 59 species. The same team (122) repeated the same study at lower temperature, from 973 K, with gas chromatography quantification. The main products obtained were CO, acetylene, 1,3-butadiene, phenol, cyclopentadiene, benzene and ethylene; minor products were methane, ethane, propyne, propadiene, and propylene.

Again, in the same team, Thomas et al. (123) investigated the gas-phase pyrolysis and oxidation of catechol with equivalence ratios ranging from  $\infty$  (pure pyrolysis) to 1.08 (near stoichiometric oxidation). Experiments were conducted over a temperature range of 500–1000 °C. Major products were CO, acetylene, phenol, benzene, vinylacetylene, ethylene, methane, cyclopentadiene, styrene, and phenylacetylene; minor ones included ethane, propyne, propadiene, propylene and toluene.

No study on catechol flame could be found.

Table 17: Summary of the main experimental studies about catechol.

Instrument	Measured property	Experimental Conditions	Reference
Flow reactor	Species profiles	T=973,15-1273 K; P=1 atm; $\Phi=\infty$	Wornat et al., 2002 (122)
		T=773-1273 K; P=1 atm; $\Phi=0-0.92$	Thomas et al., 2007 (123)

## 4.6. Cresols

No study could be found on cresol gas phase kinetics. The only cresol kinetic studies were performed by Martino et al. (124, 125) in supercritical water solution in a flow reactor. The oxidation of o-cresol was studied at pressures 200-300 atm, temperatures 623-773 K and lean equivalence ratios (0.0285-0.524) (124). Except carbon dioxide and carbon monoxide, the main products were phenol, 2-hydroxybenzaldehyde, benzodioxole and indanone. The same team (125) studied the thermal decomposition of o-, m- and p-cresols in supercritical water at 733 K and 250 atm. A very poor conversion was observed, with nevertheless the reported formation of phenol and of the corresponding o-, m- or p-hydroxybenzaldehydes.

## 4.7. Guaiacol

Guaiacol is a low molecular weight semi-volatile polar aromatic compound, and one of the main primary tars produced during lignin pyrolysis. Its combustion kinetics studies are presented in Table 18. Guaiacol reactions were first investigated in closed vessels. In 1963, Klein et al. (126) investigated its thermal decomposition at atmospheric pressure for temperatures ranging from 523 to 873 K. They detected at low conversion methane, carbon monoxide, pyrocatechol and phenol as the only products. In 1982, Ceylan et al. (127) studied the thermolysis of guaiacol in tetralin, at 578-618 K and mostly found the formation of phenol, o-cresol, methylcatechols, and methylguaiacols.

Concerning flowing experiments, Scheer et al. **Error! Reference source not found.** used a heated SiC micro tubular ( $\mu$ -tubular) reactor at low-pressure to investigate the pyrolysis of guaiacol at high temperature, up to 1575 K. The decomposition products were detected by both photoionization time-of-flight mass spectroscopy and infrared spectroscopy). They reported to formation of CO, phenol, cyclopentadione.

More recently, guaiacol pyrolysis and oxidation was studied by Nowakowska et al. (129) under stoichiometric conditions in a jet stirred reactor between 623 and 923 K for a residence time of 2 s. The main primary products were CO, acetylene, benzene, and phenolic molecules as pyrocatechol and methylcatechols; minor ones included ethane, propyne, propadiene, anisole and toluene.

No study on catechol flame could be found.

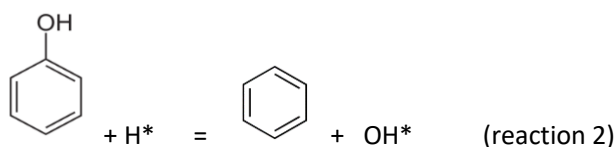
Table 18: Summary of the main experimental studies about guaiacol.

Instrument	Measured property	Experimental conditions	Reference
Closed vessel	Species profiles	T=623-923 K; P=1 atm; $\Phi=\infty$	Klein et al., 1963 (126)
		T=578-618 K; P=1atm	Ceylan et al., 1982 (127)
Jet-stirred reactor		T=623-923 K; P=1 atm; t=2s	Nowakowska et al., 2014 (129)

## 4.8. Summary of species produced during the oxidation of oxygenated aromatics

Table 19 summarizes the products which were reported during the kinetic investigations of the oxidation of the oxygenated aromatics listed in Table 12. As they are the products of the complete combustion, H<sub>2</sub>O and CO<sub>2</sub> are not specified in Table 19, their presence is implicit. No gas-phase study was found for cresol.

CO was reported as the major product from all the investigated reactants, with the kinetic importance of reaction (1) underlined in most the studies. A significant formation of benzene can also be noted due to the easy ipso-addition of H-atoms, see reaction (2) in the case of phenol:



Two usual soot precursors, naphthalene and 1,3-cyclopentadiene, are also often reported, it is also the case for acrolein, a toxic aldehyde.

Table 19: Products species of kinetics experiments in past oxidation studies.

	Major species (>10%)	Minor species (<10%)	
		Non-aromatic	Aromatic
<b>Phenol</b>	CO, 1,3-Cyclopentadiene, Benzene.	allene, methylacetylene, propene, ethane, methylcyclopentadiene.	Naphthalene.
<b>Anisole</b>	CO, Acetylene, Propene, Acetaldehyde, 1,3-Cyclopentadiene, Benzene, Cresols.	Methane, Ethylene, Allene, Propyne, 1-Butyne, Acrolein, 1,3-Pentadiene.	Fulvene, Toluene, Phenol, Styrene, Guaiacol Ethylbenzene, Indene, Benzofuran, Naphthalene, dihydronaphthalene,
<b>Benzyl alcohol</b>	CO, Methane, Ethylene, Benzene, Phenol, Benzaldehyde.	Ethane, Propylene, butane, Acetaldehyde, Acrolein.	Benzofuran, Benzyl formate, benzyl acetate and benzyl propionate
<b>Phenyl ethanols</b>	CO, Styrene, Benzene, Toluene		Ethylbenzene, Phenylacetylene, Benzaldehyde, acetophenone and phenyl-acetaldehyde.
<b>Catechol</b>	CO, Methane, Ethylene, Benzene.	Propene, Propadiene, Acetylene, Phenylacetylene, Vinylacetylene, 1,3-Cyclopentadiene,	Styrene, Toluene
<b>Guaiacol</b>	CO, Methane, Benzene, Phenol, Cresols, Pyrocatechol.	Acetylene, Ethylene, Ethane, Methanol, Acetaldehyde, Acrolein	Benzaldehyde, Anisole, 2-Hydroxybenzaldehyde.

## 4.9. Conclusion for this part

This bibliographic review showed that the literature is poor as far as phenolic compound gas phase oxidation is concerned. This is due to experimental difficulties in handling these species due to their low volatility. Most of them are even solid at room temperature. This is the case of phenol, the phenolic compound with the simplest structure (boiling point of 455 K at atmospheric pressure, see Table 5). As a matter of fact, studies mainly concern anisole and guaiacol, and there is clearly a need of new data sets for better understanding the oxidation chemistry of these species.

The analysis of oxidation reaction products (see Table 19 for a summary) shows that phenolic compounds, depending on conditions, may lead to the formation of aromatic and poly aromatic hydrocarbons, and to that of unsaturated hydrocarbons. But again, very little literature studies report comprehensive intermediate mole fraction data sets and sometimes only for a few operating conditions.

As far as global reactivity indicators are concerned, there is also a lack of data. Ignition delay times and laminar burning velocities have been measured for very few species only. Table 20 summarizes experimental data types available for the phenolic compounds. Thus, new sets of experimental data are highly needed to better characterize the reactivity of this class of compounds.

Table 20: Map of available experimental data types for phenolic compounds.

	Detailed speciation	Ignition delay times	Laminar burning velocities
Phenol	X	X	0
Anisole	X	0	X
Benzyl alcohol	X	0	0
Phenyl ethanols	X	X	0
Catechol	X	0	0
Cresols	0	0	0
Guaiacol	X	0	0

## 5. Conclusion

To understand the purpose of valuing EHL, a large number of studies have been carried out in recent years to produce high performance fuel blends, i.e., high heating value jet-fuel, from technical lignins including EHL. However, understating of EHL structure and its exploitation towards added-value products are still needed urgently. For this, the project EHL CATHOL aims at developing a novel technology that fully takes the advantage and utilizes the energy of the waste-EHL by transforming it to high quality applicable liquid fuels. Oxygenated aromatics and alcohols constitute an important fraction of the composition of bio-oils obtained by valorization of EHL; arenes or solvents-derived-molecules are also existed in EHL-derived biofuel.

About the combustion properties of surrogates and catalysis solvents, auto-ignition, phase change state global fuel parameters are presented. About characteristic fuel data:

- LHV of arenes is close to that of traditional gasoline ( $\approx 42$  MJ/kg). Concerning surrogate compounds and solvents, heating values are higher than that of ethanol ( $\approx 27$  MJ/kg) but lower than that of existing bio-diesels ( $\approx 37$  MJ/kg). So, at first sight, a biofuel composed of these species would have a LHV close to existing biofuels. A minimum value of 35 is needed in Europe for biodiesel (EN ISO 14214, (94)).
- Research Octane Numbers are, most of time, higher than the minimum value of 95 fixed by EN ISO 4259:2006 (95), so it is also expected for the final biofuel.
- Only a few of these molecules have higher Cetane Numbers than the minimum value of 51 fixed for biodiesel (EN ISO 14214 (94)) and diesel (EN ISO 4259:2006 (95)); therefore, at that moment, it might be difficult to use this kind of pure biofuel as biodiesel.

Kinetic studies on oxygenated aromatics expected in the composition of biofuels derived from lignin are also presented. Except for anisole, there is very little work on these species; this is mainly due to experimental difficulties related to the very low volatility of this class of compounds. Even if speciation data are available for some of them, it is only for a limited range of conditions. The lack of data is even more important for global reactivity indicators such as laminar burning velocities. Thus, new experimental studies are needed in order to better understand the combustion properties of these aromatic oxygenated fuels.

The objective is now to carry out additional studies on fuels resulting from the compounds of EHL solvolysis oil in order to better understand the specificities of this class of compounds (data speciation and laminar burning velocity measurements) and to develop a detailed kinetic model, permitting then the development of reliable bio-oil surrogates.



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