

# The Contribution of Advanced Renewable Transport Fuels to **Transport Decarbonisation** in 2030 and beyond

Electrofuels contribution

Dr Ilkka Hannula

# All products currently made from oil could also be made from CO<sub>2</sub> and hydrogen

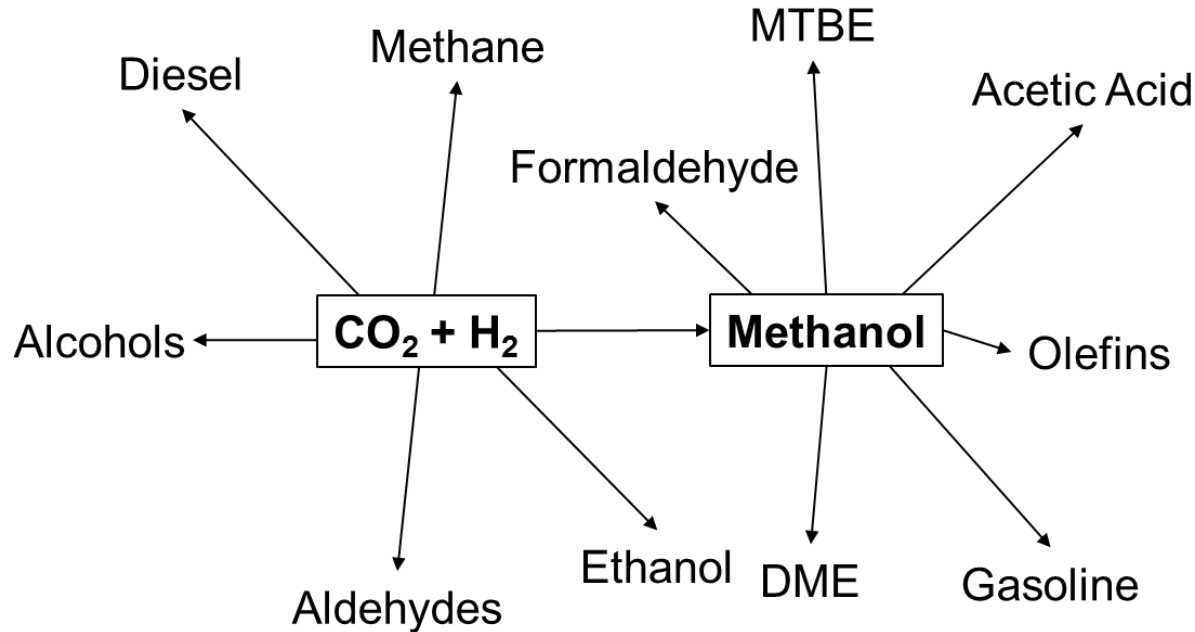


Figure modified from Spath & Dayton 2003, NREL/TP-510-34929

# Electrolysis of water

- Hydrogen ( $H_2$ ) can be produced by passing an electric current through two electrodes immersed in water.
- In the process, water molecules are split to produce oxygen and hydrogen.
- Presently electrolytic  $H_2$  is limited to small or special applications
- Larger quantities are produced by steam reforming of natural gas or other fossil fuels.

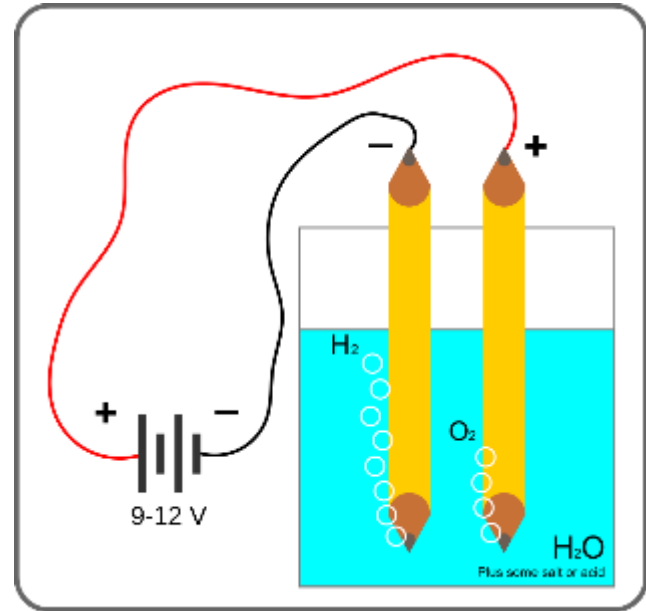
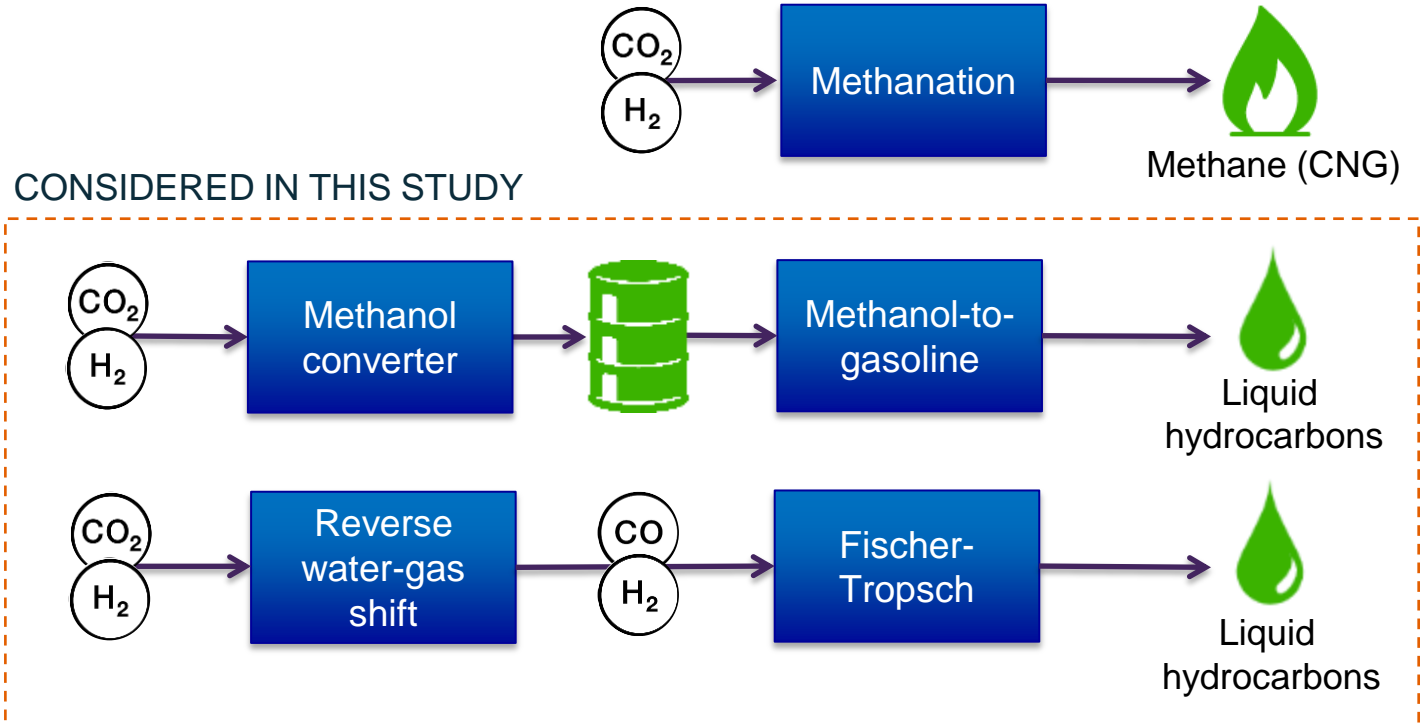


Figure by Nevit Dilmen, CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=10959462>

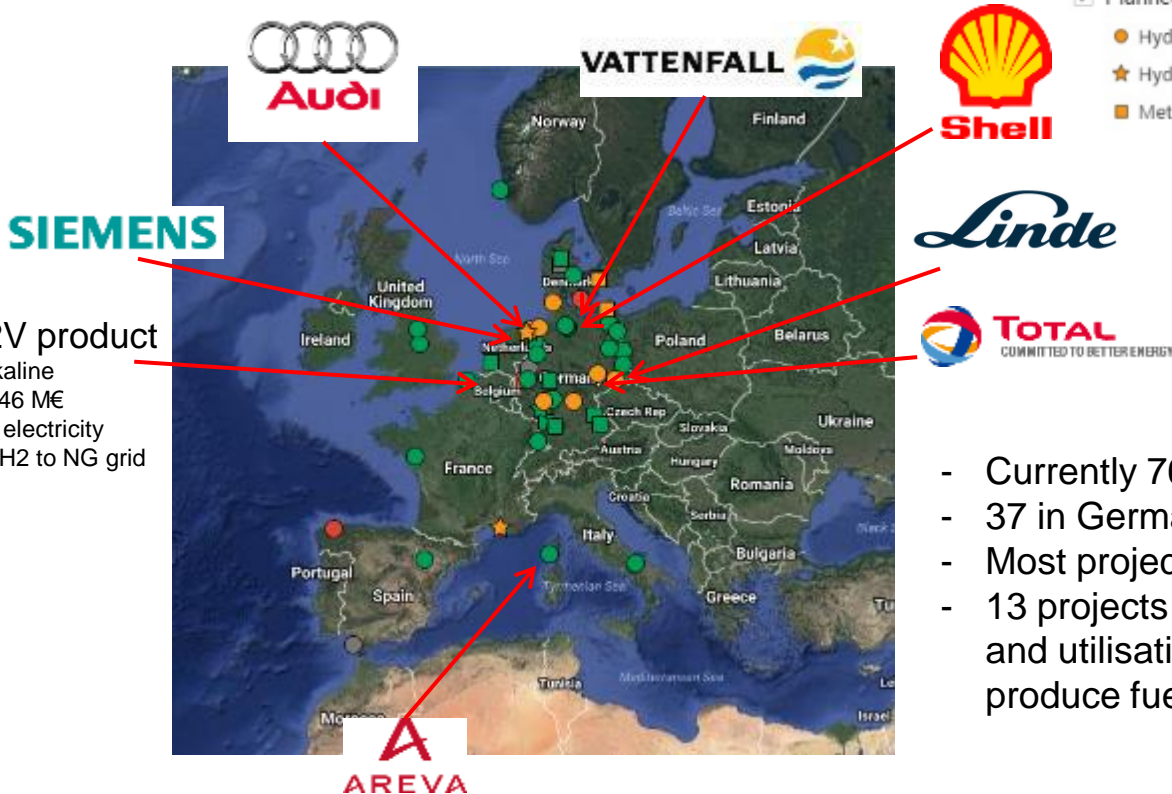
# Relevant routes for transport decarbonisation via electrofuels



# Power-to-X demonstration activities

- Operational
  - Hydrogen
  - Methane
  - ★ Hydrogen / Methane

- Planned
  - Hydrogen
  - ★ Hydrogen / Methane
  - Methane



Nel + H2V product  
 - 100 MW alkaline electrolyser, 46 M€  
 - Renewable electricity  
 - Injection of H2 to NG grid

- Currently 76 projects in Europe
- 37 in Germany
- Most projects H2 only
- 13 projects with CO2 capture and utilisation (CCU) to produce fuels.

# Audi E-gas Plant

Location: Werlte, Germany

Start-up: 2014

Electricity input: 6 MW

Methane output: 3.2 MW

Net efficiency: 54 % (LHV)

Investment: 20 M€



# CRI Georg Olah Renewable Methanol Plant

Location: Iceland

Commissioned: 2011

Upgraded: 2014-2015.

Electricity input: 5.7 MW  
(three alkaline electrolysers)

CO<sub>2</sub> source: geothermal

Methanol output: 4 000 t/yr

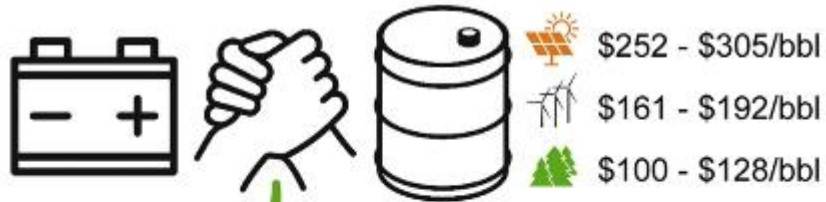




# "Apples-to-apples" comparison\* of road transport decarbonisation options

## Article

Near-Term Potential of Biofuels, Electrofuels, and Battery Electric Vehicles in Decarbonizing Road Transport



Link to the paper: <http://bit.ly/2mcUZsO>

- Sustainable fuels found competitive over long distances even as electric vehicles become cheaper
- Electrofuels remain expensive in the near term and are difficult to scale up in the longer term.
- Synthetic biofuels identified as being more competitive than electrofuels at the present time.
- At this state, we need a wide portfolio where we focus on learning-by-doing and economies of scale.

*\*) Hannula, I. and Reiner, D.M. The role of carbon-neutral synthetic fuels and battery electric vehicles in a sustainable transport system. Joule 2019;3. DOI: 10.1016/j.joule.2019.08.013.*



# Near-term production cost estimates for electrofuels at commercial scale

Plant configuration	Capacity factor	Energy cost <sup>(a)</sup> \$/MWh	BEOP <sup>(b)</sup> \$/bbl	Electricity gCO <sub>2</sub> /kWh <sup>(c)</sup>	End-product gCO <sub>2</sub> /MJ <sup>(d)</sup>	Emissions relative to fossil <sup>(e)</sup>
<b>Synthetic biofuels</b>	85%	8	100 - 128		5	7%
<b>Generator-connected electrofuels</b>						
<b>Solar PV - Utility scale</b>						
Crystalline	30%	46	269 - 325	18	13	16 %
Thin film	32%	43	252 - 305	18	13	16 %
<b>Wind</b>						
Onshore	55%	30	161 - 192	7	5	6 %
Offshore	50%	71	292 - 326	8	6	7 %
<b>Grid-connected electrofuels</b>						
<b>EU-28</b>	90%	126	423 - 442	447	310	410 %
<b>Germany</b>	90%	165	539 - 558	615	427	564 %
<b>France</b>	90%	99	340 - 359	105	73	96 %
<b>Sweden</b>	90%	73	263 - 282	47	33	43 %
<b>Norway</b>	90%	90	313 - 332	9	6	8 %

Source: Hannula, I. and Reiner, D.M. The role of carbon-neutral synthetic fuels and battery electric vehicles in a sustainable transport system. *Joule* 2019;3. DOI: 10.1016/j.joule.2019.08.013.

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<sup>b)</sup> Breakeven oil price (BEOP) is the price of crude oil at which the electrofuels production cost (on a \$/GJ LHV basis) equals the wholesale (refinery-gate) price of the equivalent petroleum-derived products.

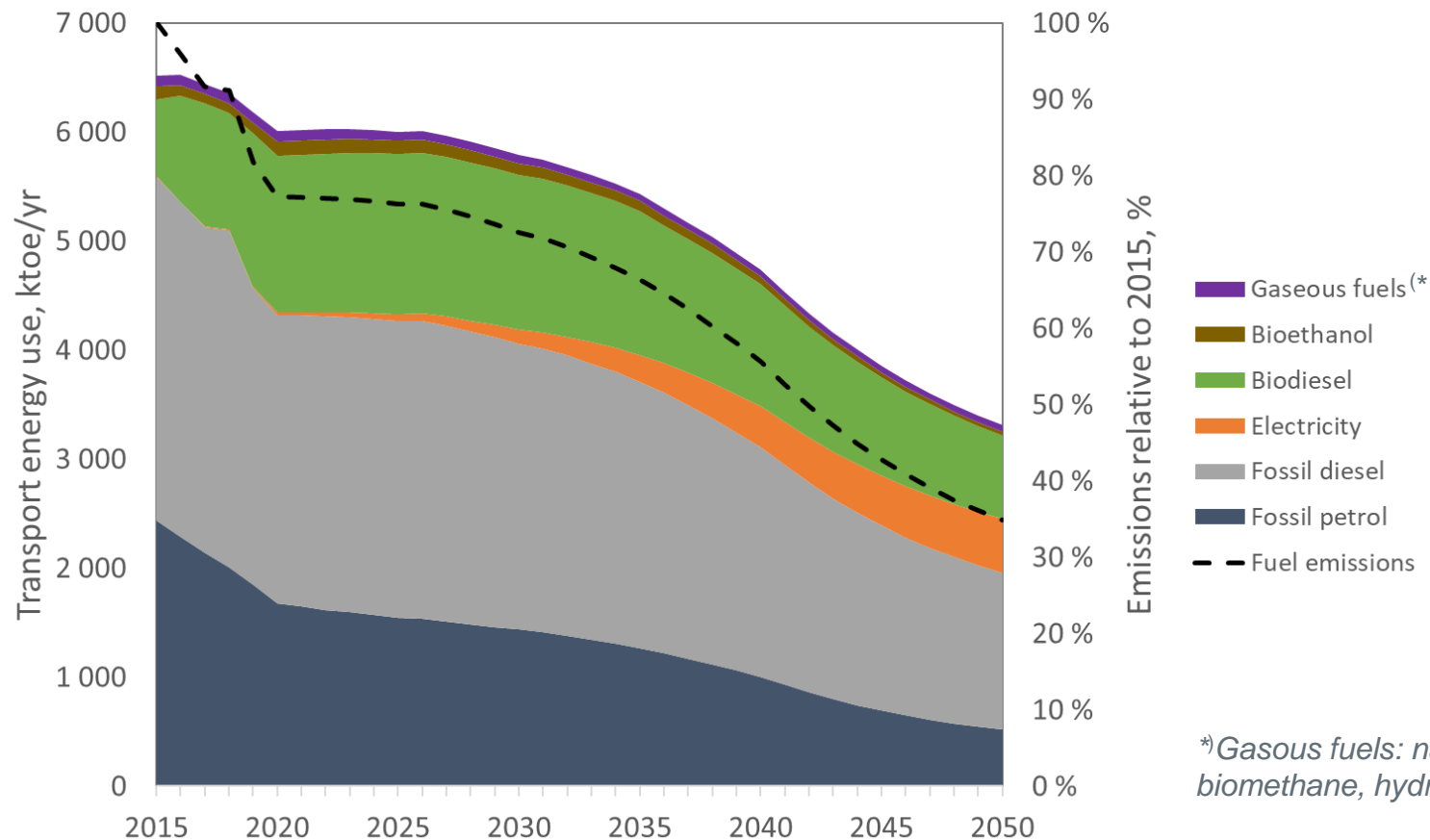
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A decorative pattern on the left side of the slide, composed of various shades of blue, green, and orange triangles arranged in a complex, overlapping geometric design.

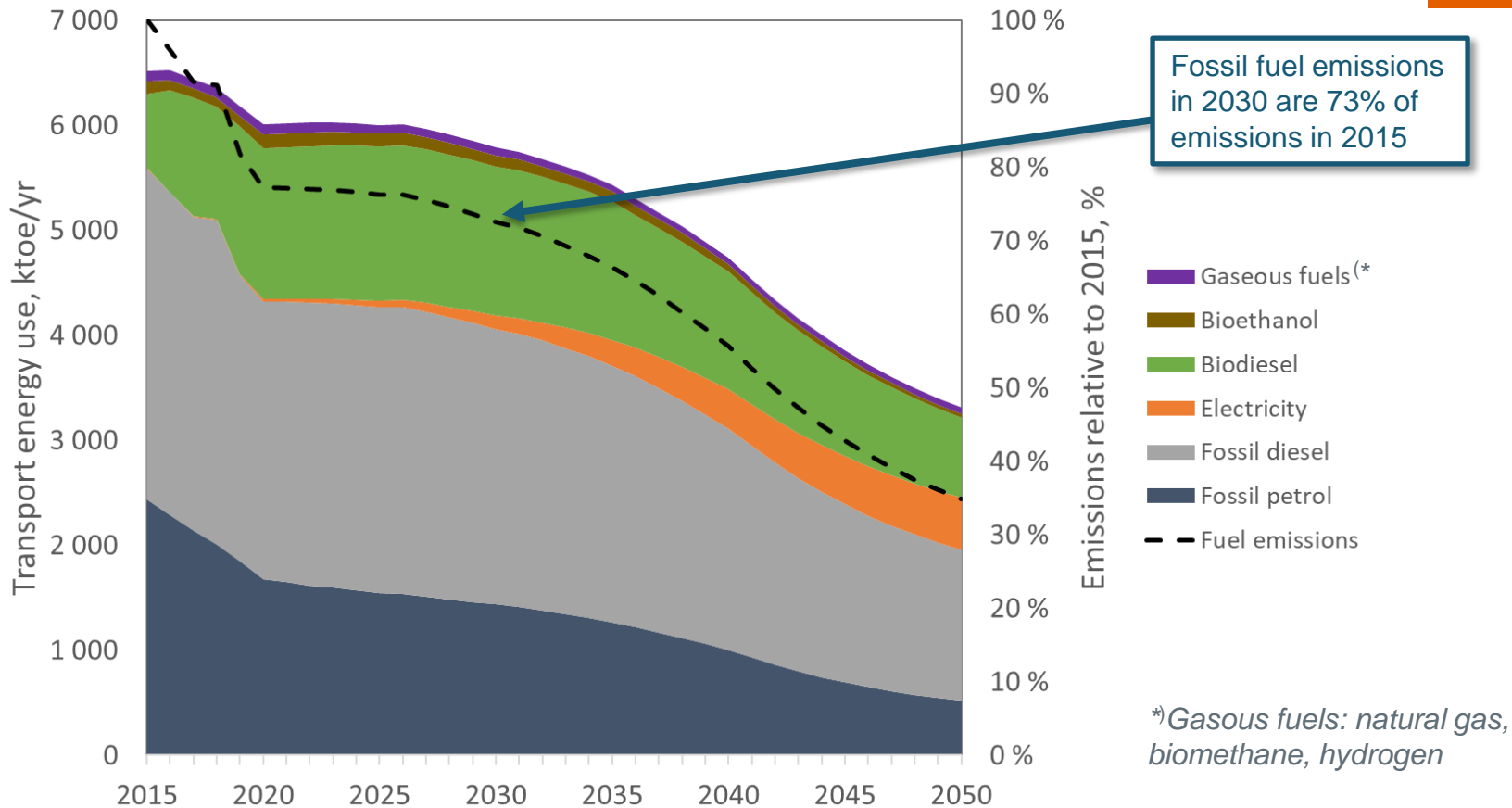
# Sweden

## Sweden, Stated Policies scenario

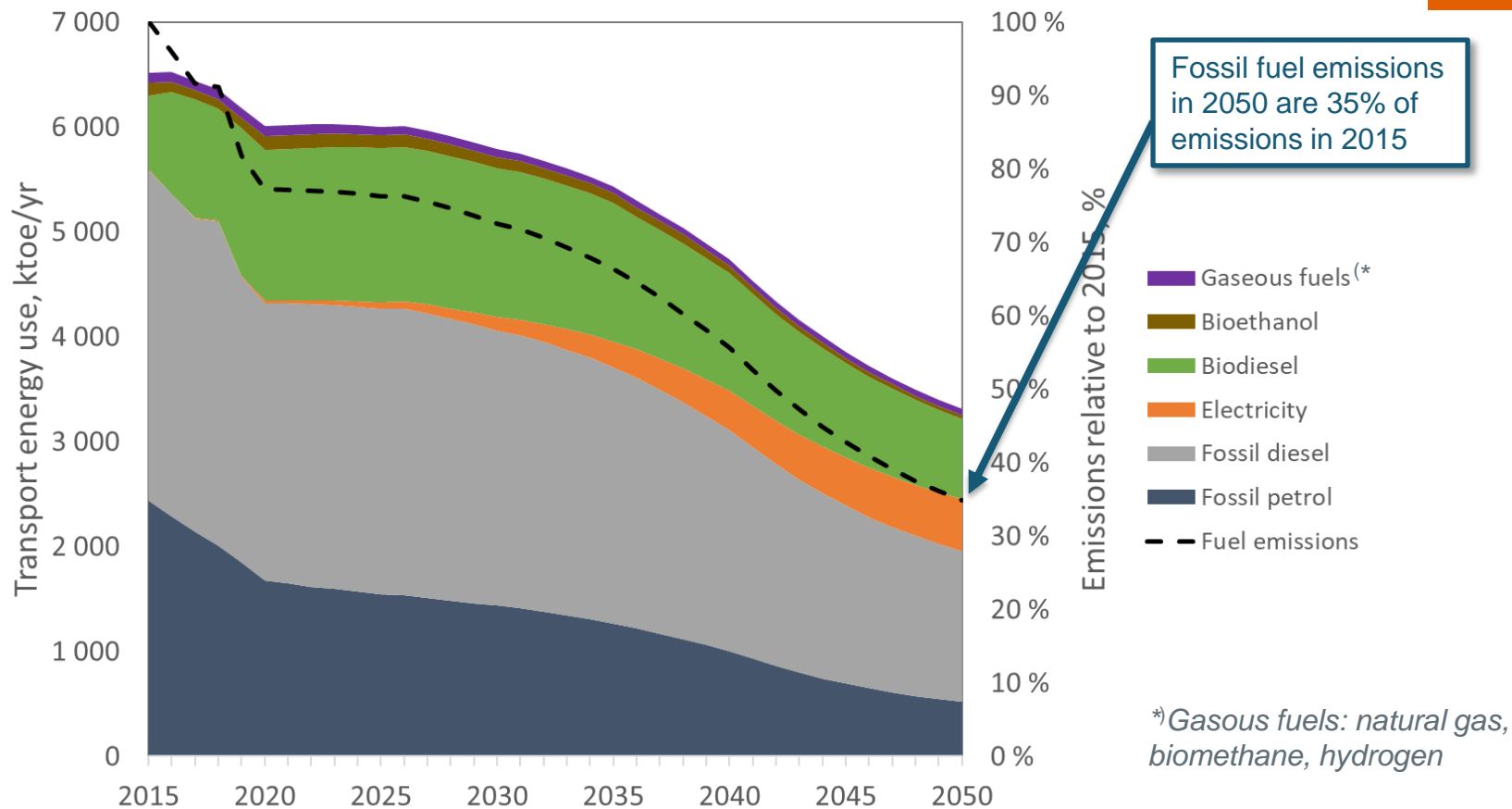


*\*) Gaseous fuels: natural gas, biomethane, hydrogen*

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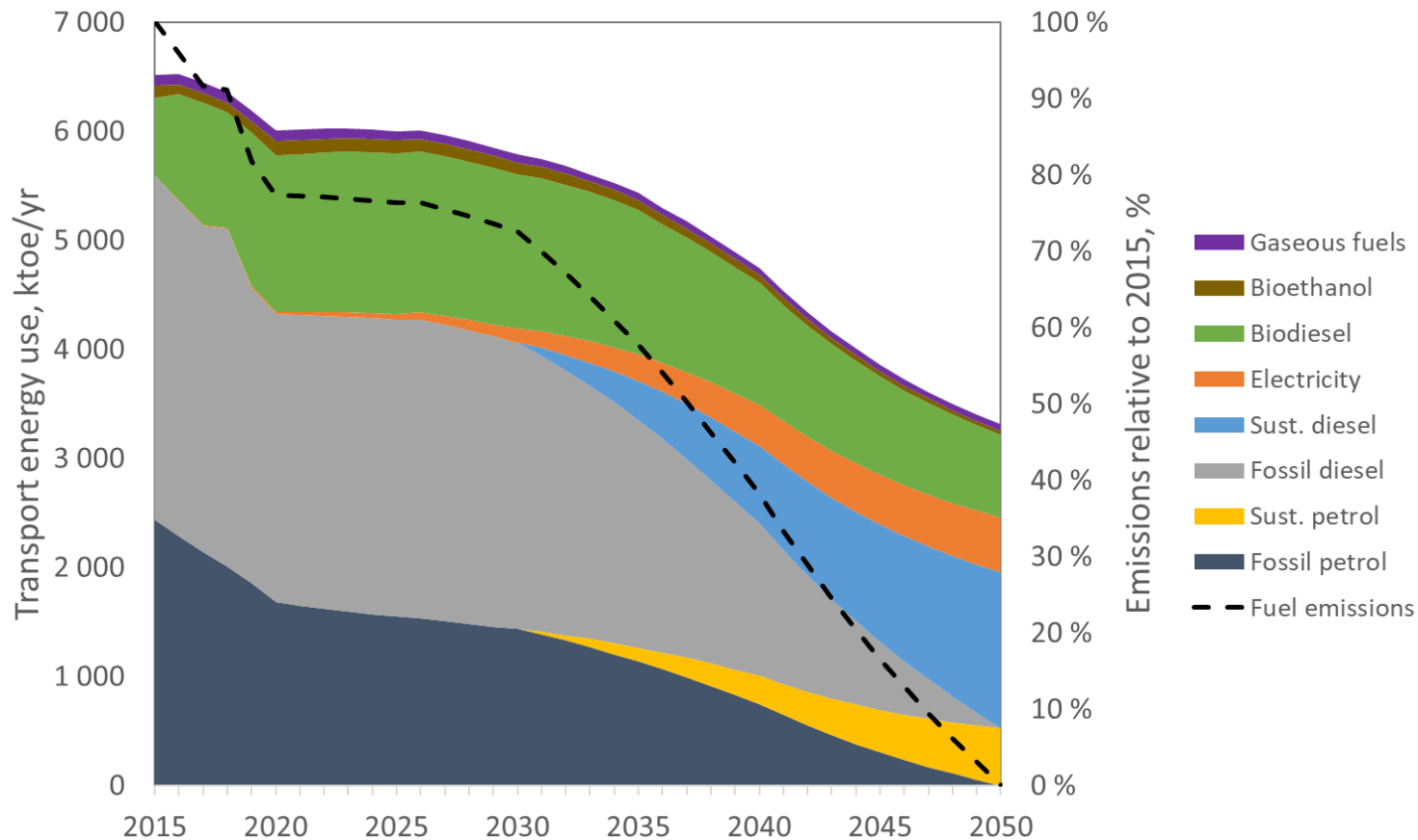


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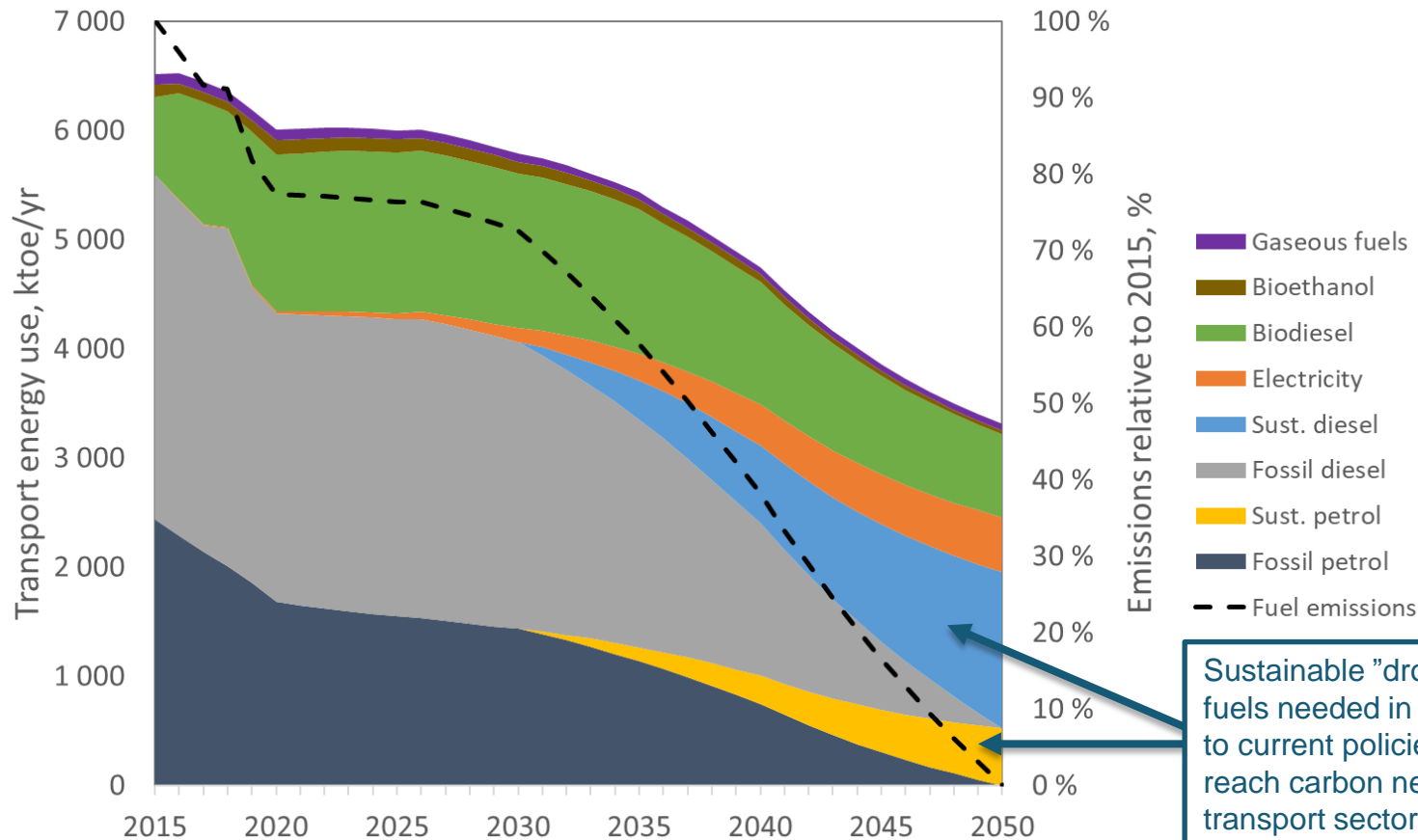




## Sweden, Fossil-free Transport scenario

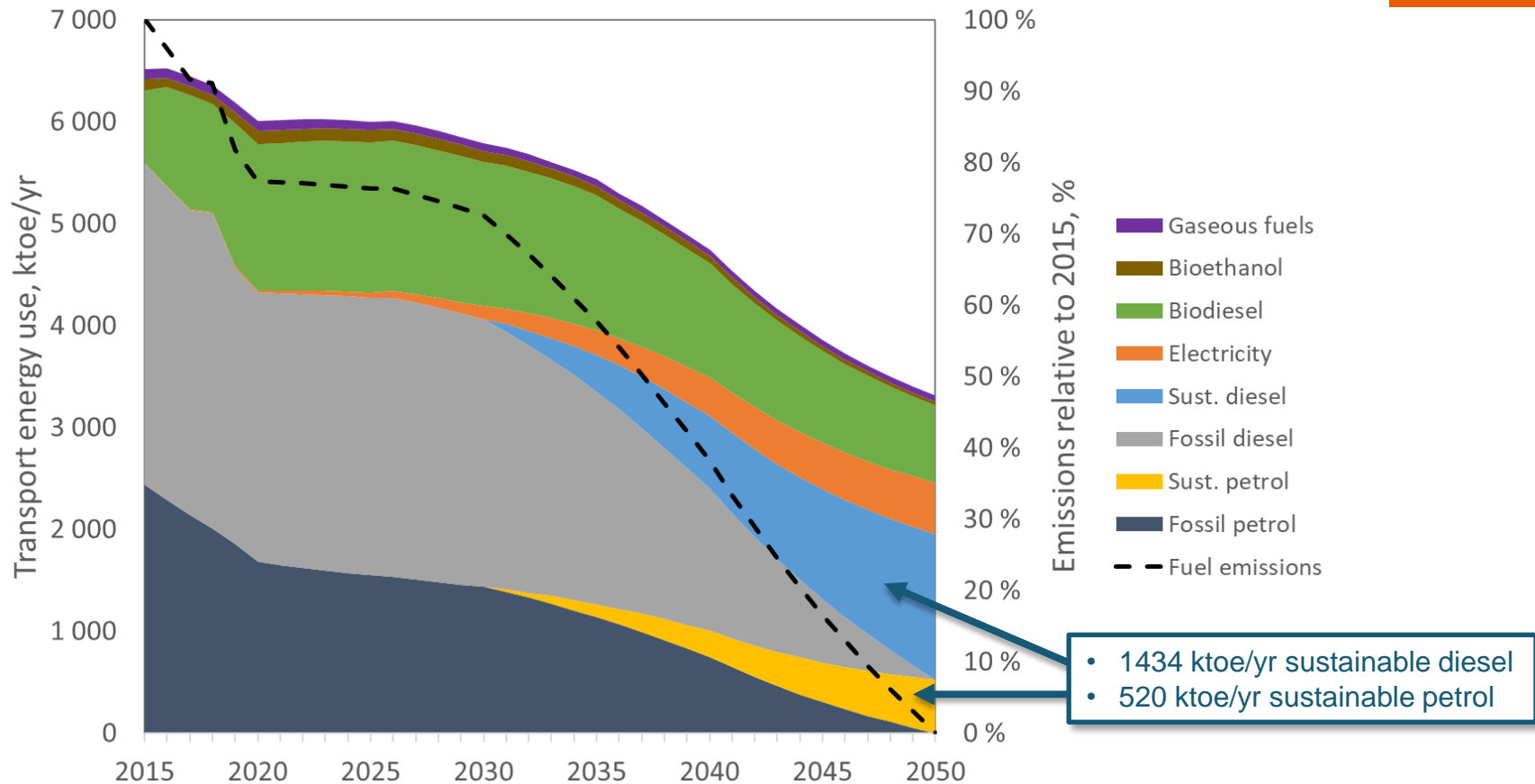


# Sweden, Fossil-free Transport scenario



Sustainable "drop-in" fuels needed in addition to current policies to reach carbon neutral transport sector by 2050

# Sweden, Fossil-free Transport scenario



# Results for Sweden

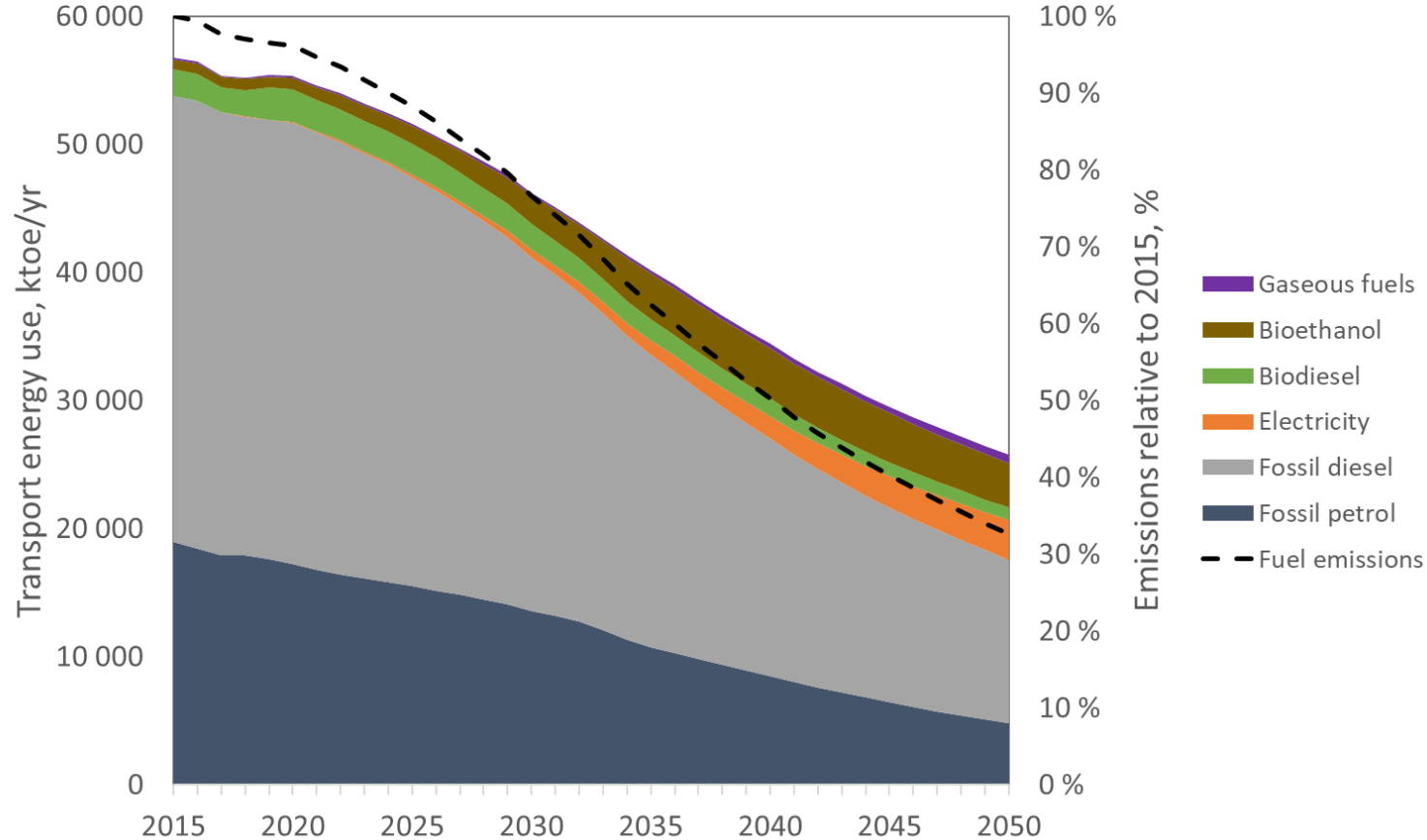
- Additional amount of sustainable fuels could come from a combination of domestically produced & imported advanced biofuels
- However, if supplied as electrofuels, it would require
  - 8 Mt of CO<sub>2</sub>/yr, ~19% of Sweden's industrial emissions (39 MtCO<sub>2</sub>)\*, and
  - 57 TWh/yr of electricity that is
    - **30%** of Sweden's current **total** power generation of 191 TWh/yr
    - **36%** of Sweden's current **low-carbon** power generation of 157 TWh/yr
    - **61%** of Sweden's current **renewables** generation of 94 TWh/yr

*\*)Hansson et al. The Potential for Electrofuels Production in Sweden Utilizing Fossil and Biogenic CO<sub>2</sub> Point Sources. Frontiers in Energy Research, 2017, 5.*

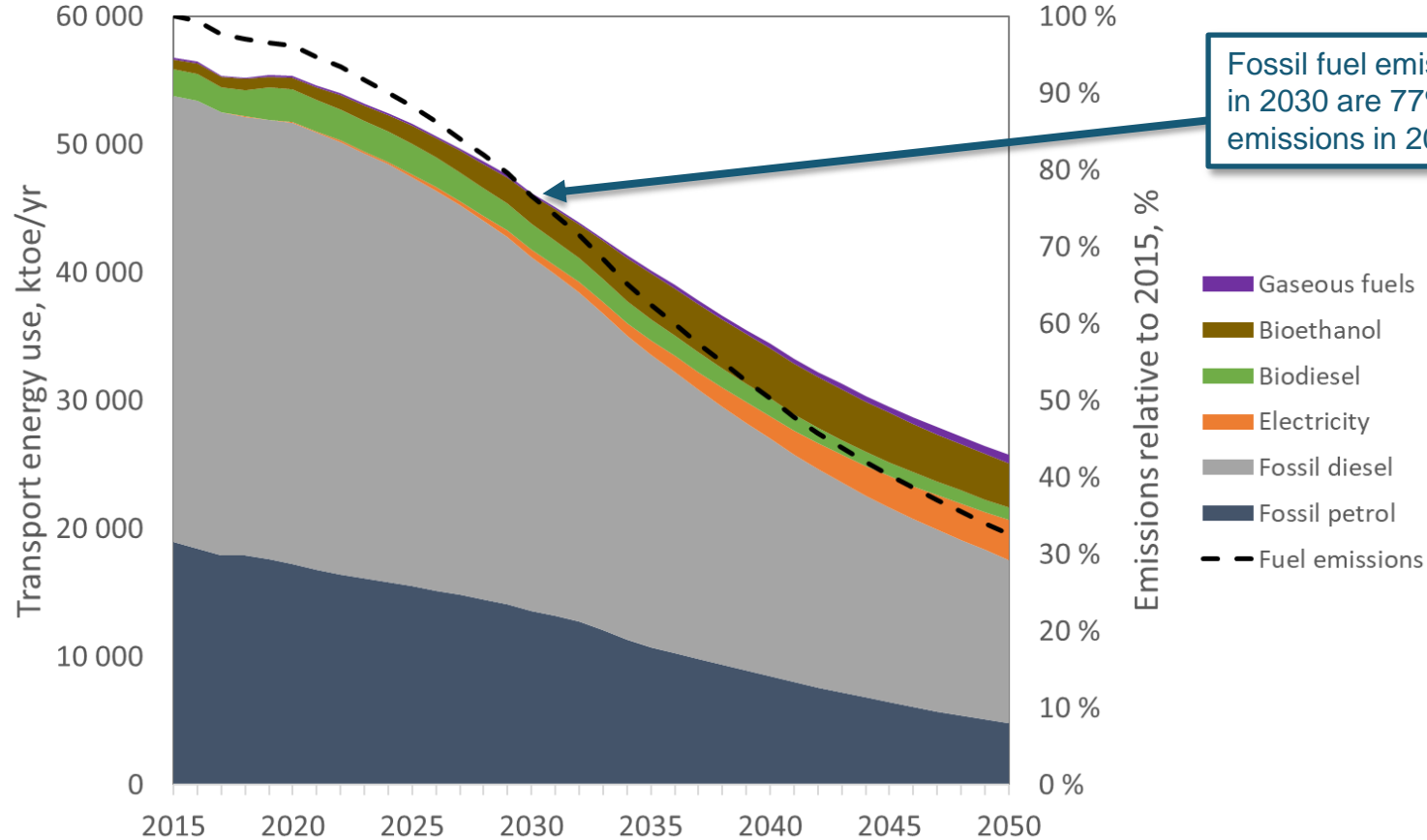
A decorative pattern on the left side of the slide, composed of a grid of triangles in various shades of blue, with some triangles highlighted in green and white to form a larger, faint geometric shape.

# Germany

## Germany, Stated Policies scenario

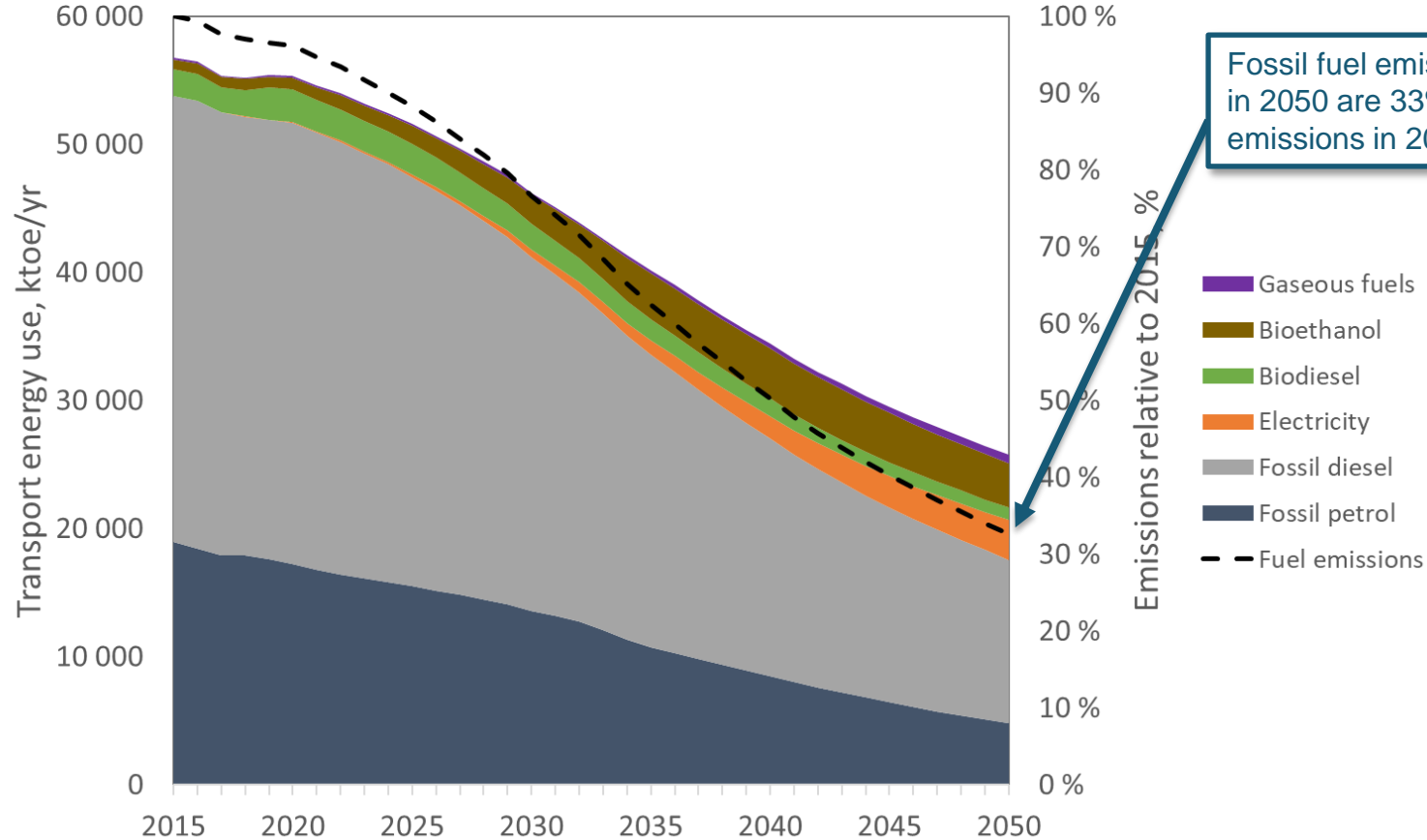


# Germany, Stated Policies scenario

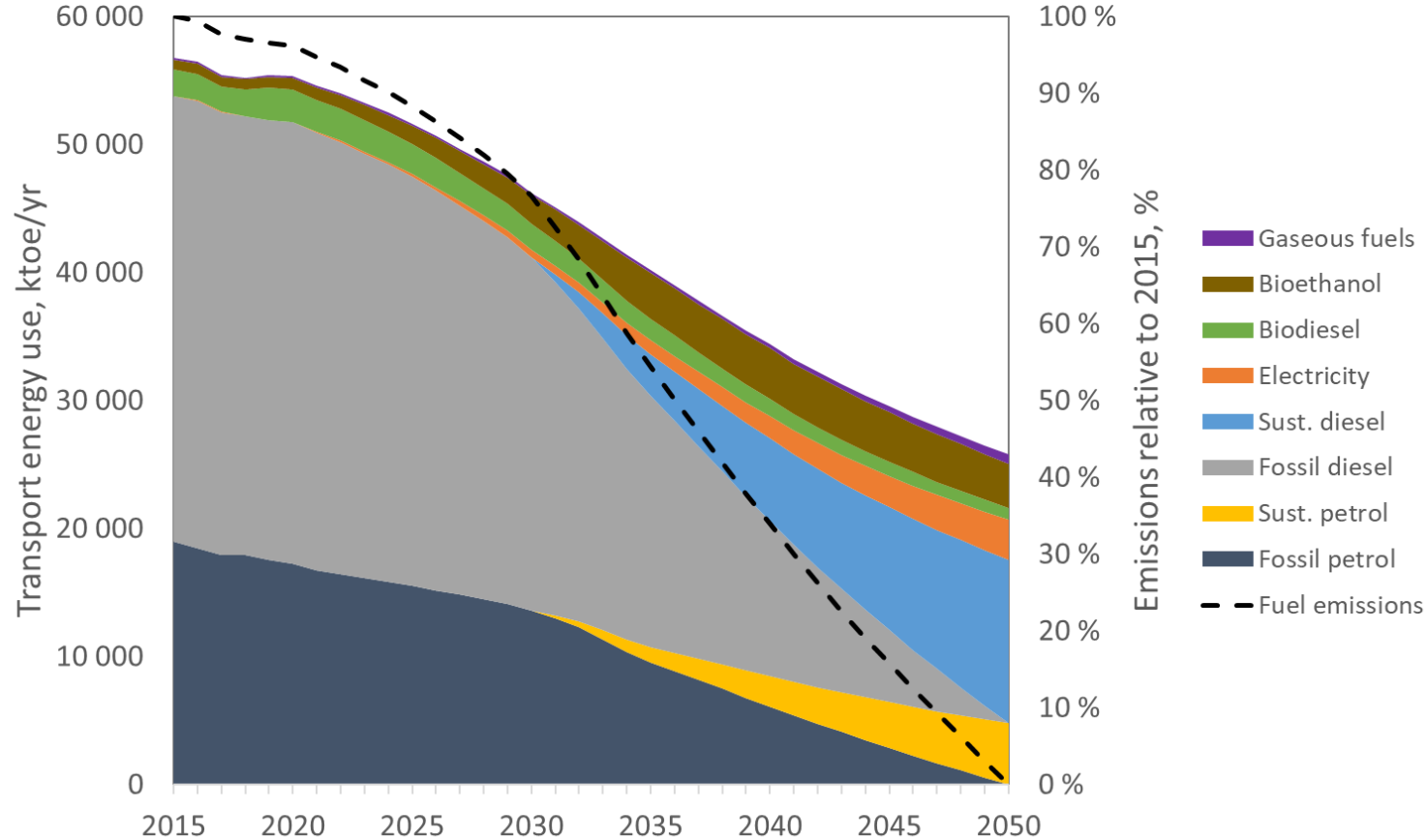




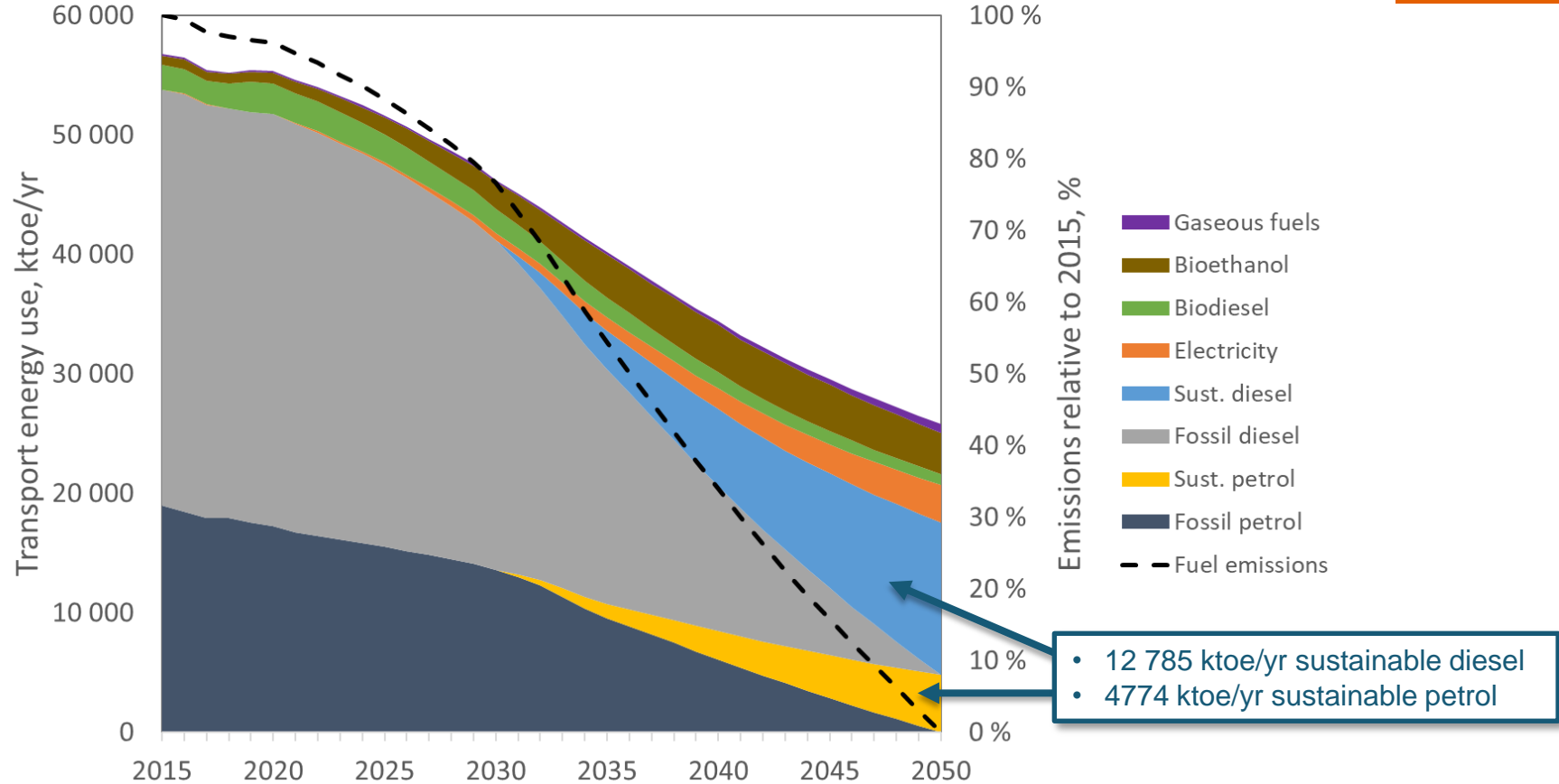
## Germany, Stated Policies scenario



# Germany, Fossil-free Transport scenario



# Germany, Fossil-free Transport scenario



- 12 785 ktOE/yr sustainable diesel
- 4774 ktOE/yr sustainable petrol

# Results for Germany

- Additional amount of sustainable fuels could come from a combination of domestically produced & imported advanced biofuels
  
- However, if supplied as electrofuels, it would require
  - 68 Mt of CO<sub>2</sub>/yr ~37% of Germany's industrial emissions (184 MtCO<sub>2</sub>)\*, and
  - 511 TWh/yr of electricity that is
    - **70%** of Germany's current **total** power generation of 729 TWh/yr
    - **169%** of Germany's current **low-carbon** power generation of 302 TWh/yr
    - **225%** of Germany's current **renewable** power generation of 226 TWh/yr

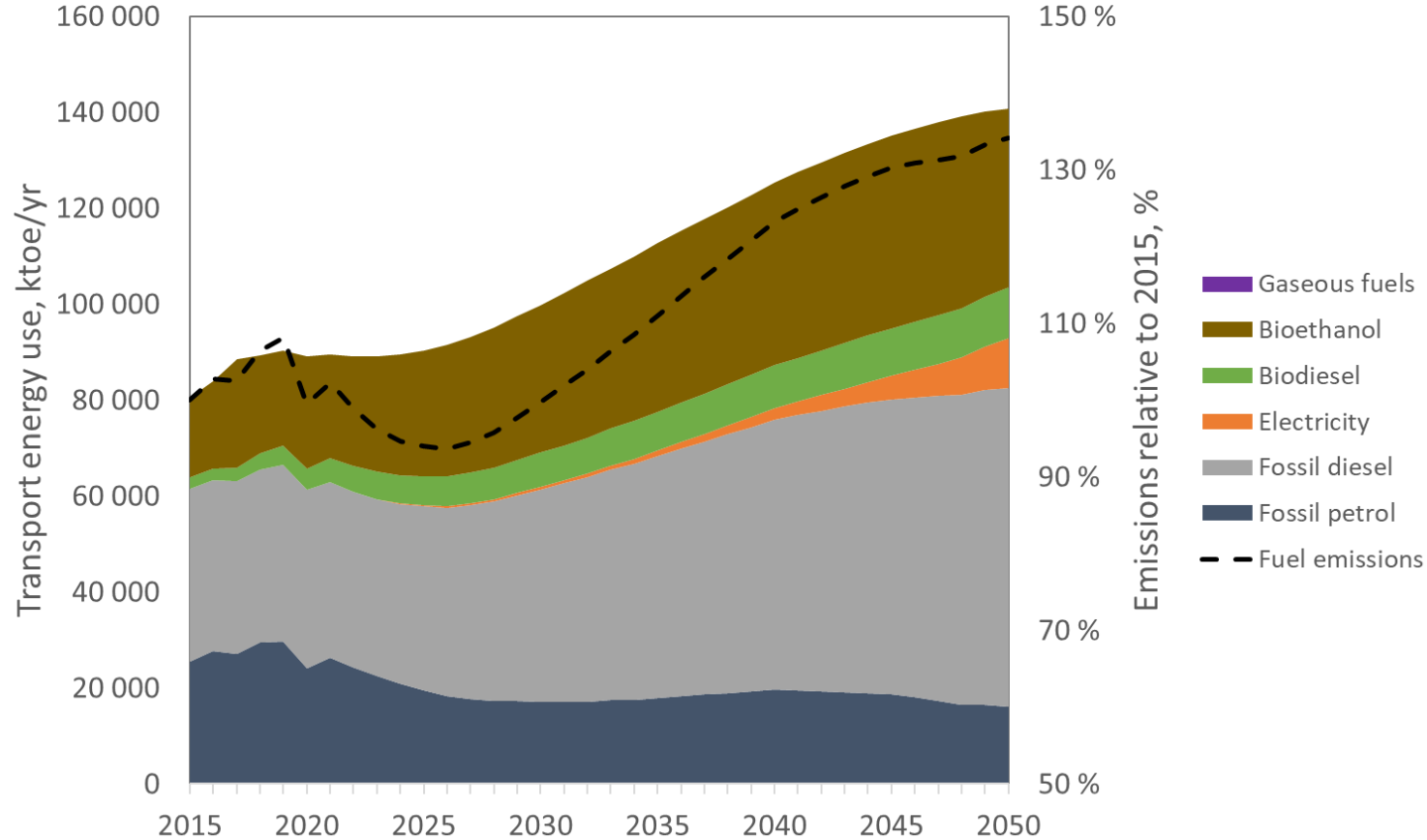
\*) <https://www.umweltbundesamt.de/en/indicator-greenhouse-gas-emissions-in-industry>

A large, abstract geometric pattern on the left side of the slide, composed of various shades of blue, green, and orange triangles arranged in a complex, repeating pattern.

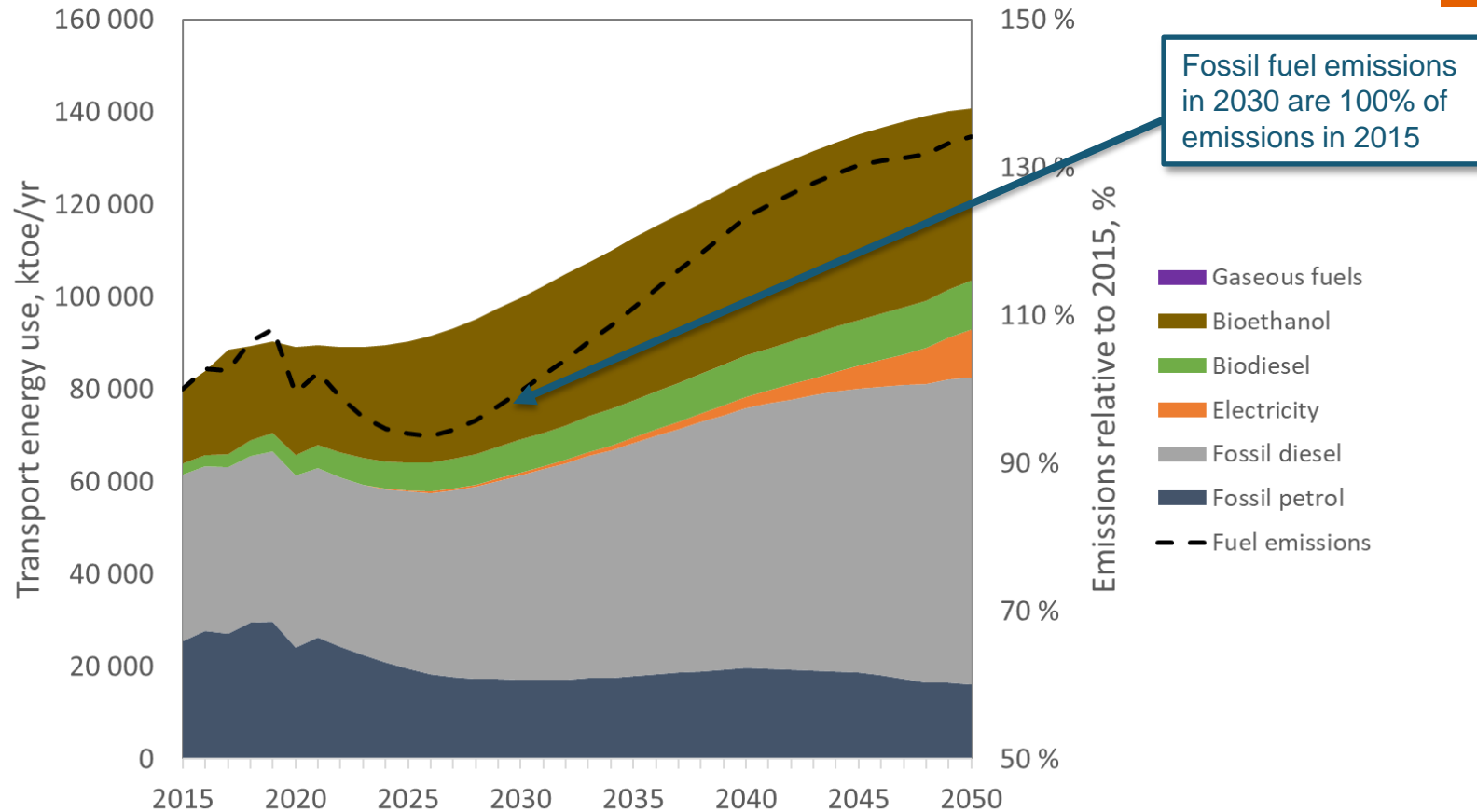
# Brazil

11/19/2019

## Brazil, Stated Policies scenario

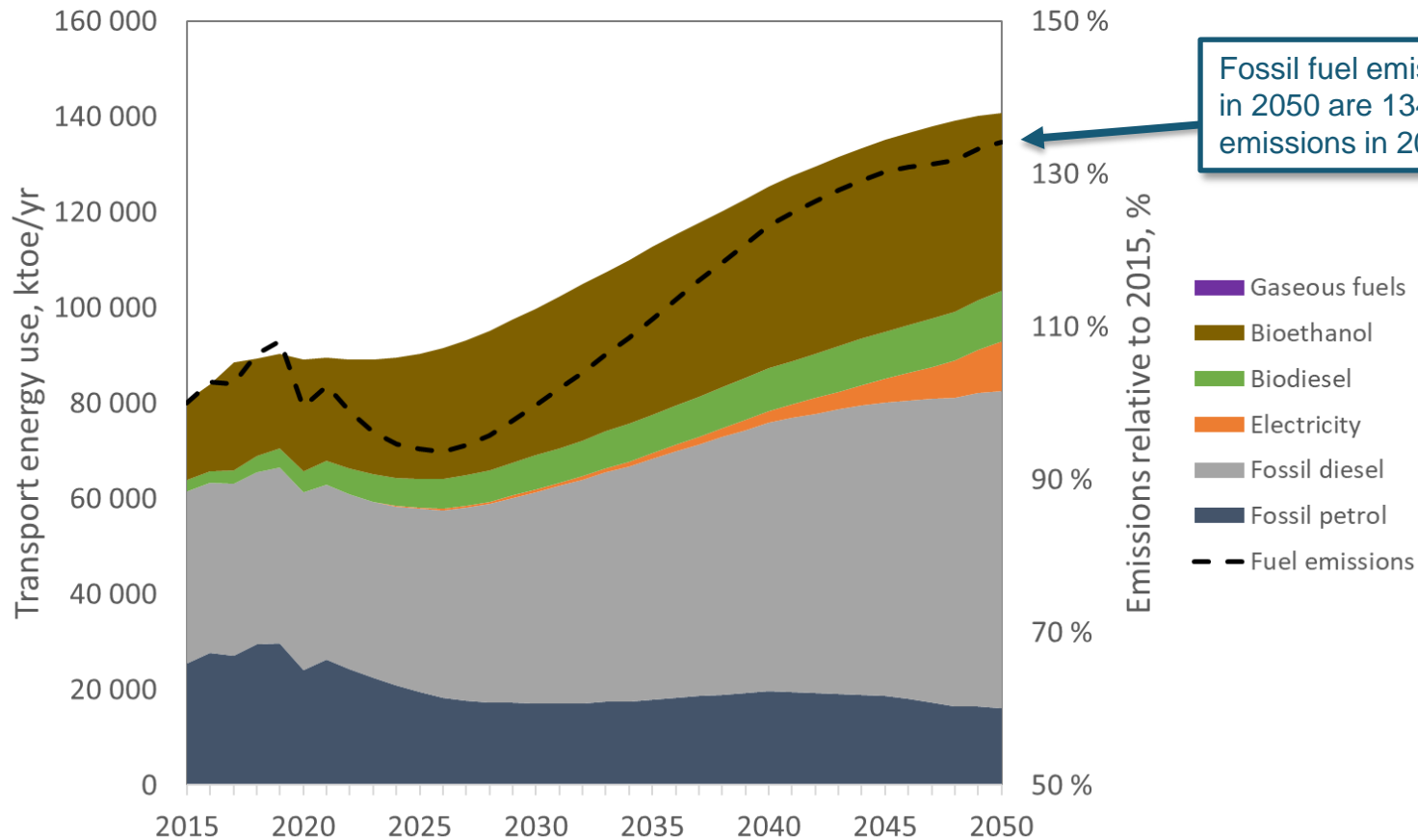


## Brazil, Stated Policies scenario

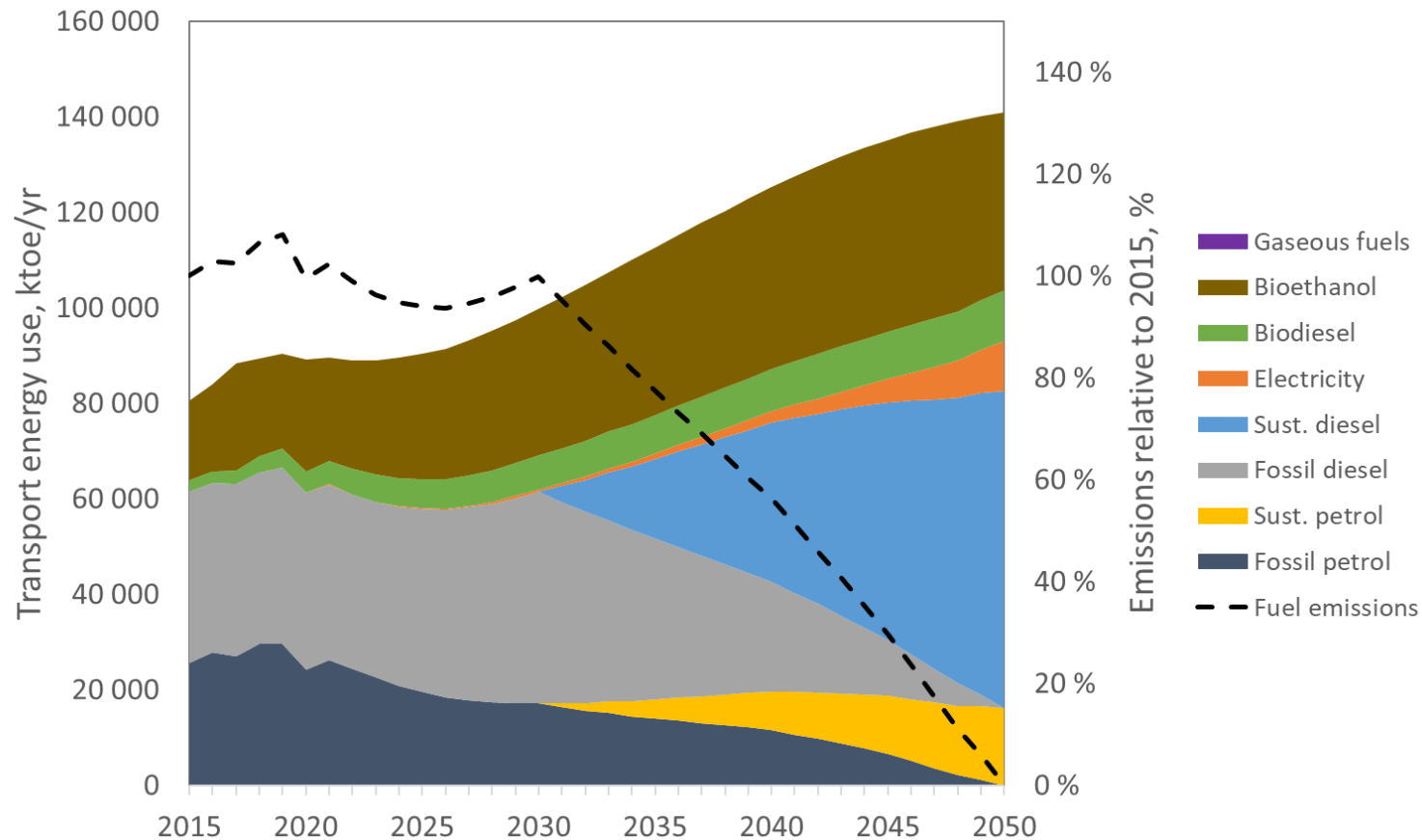




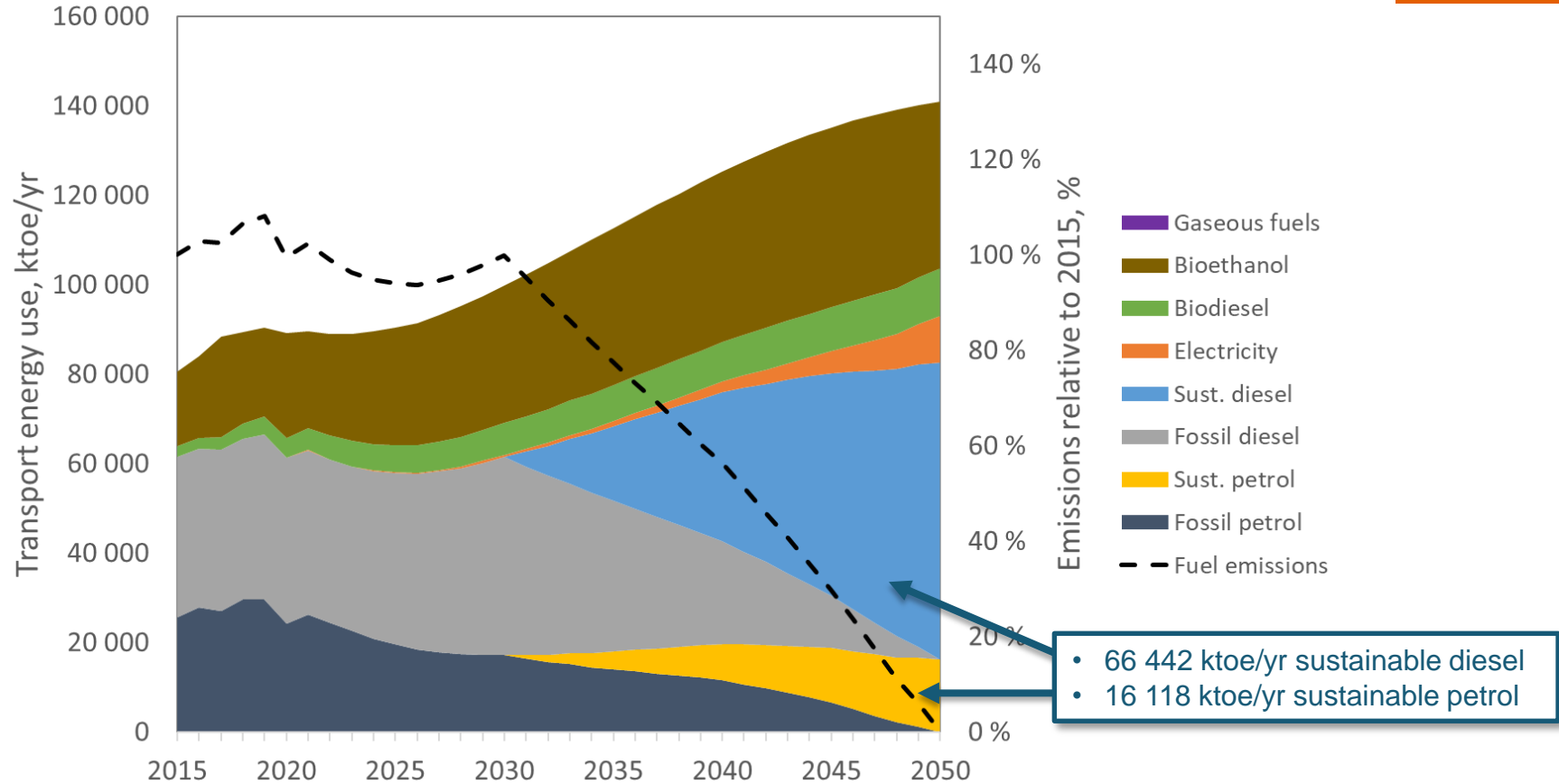
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# Results for Brazil

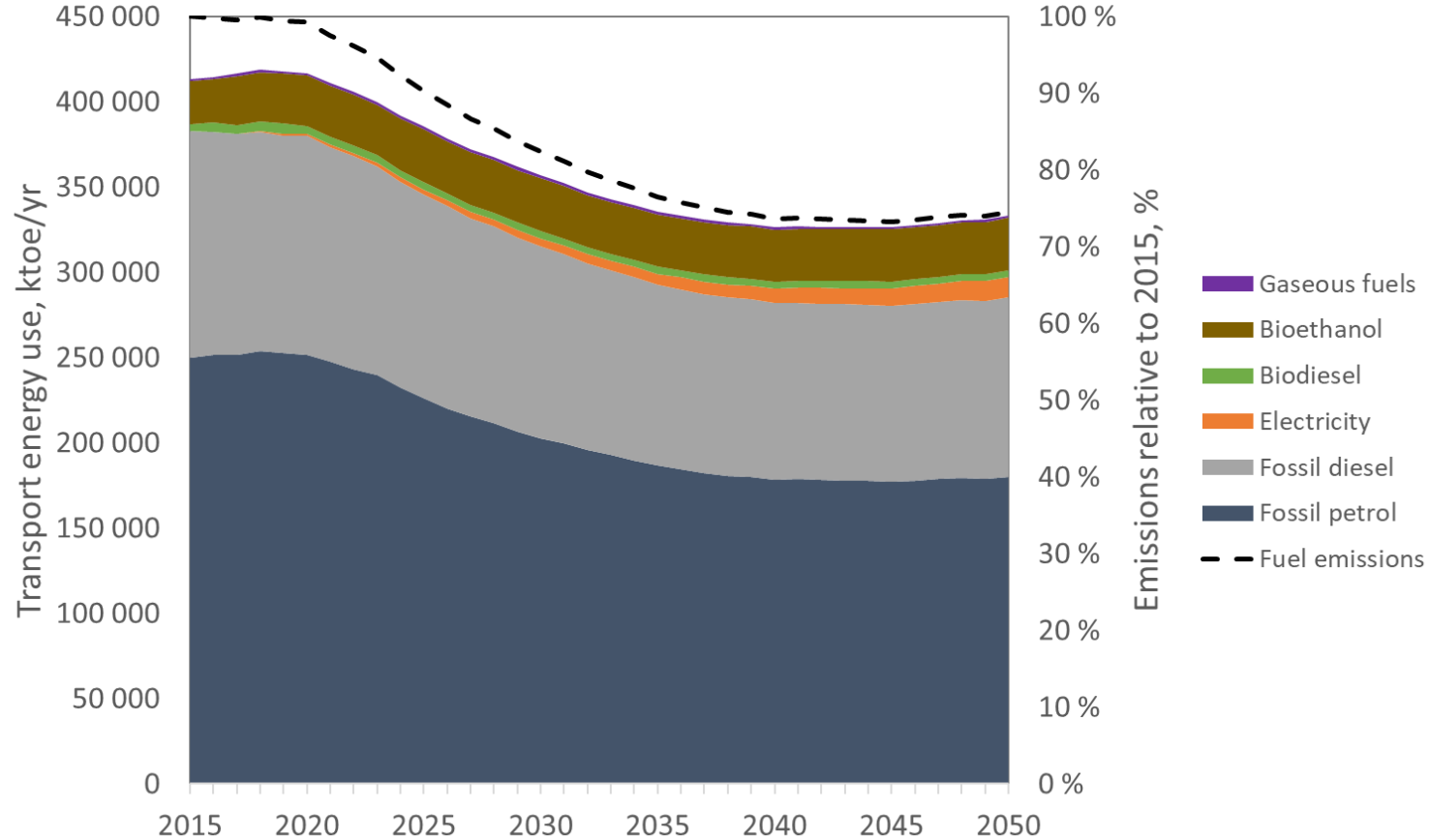
- Additional amount of sustainable fuels could come from a combination of domestically produced & imported advanced biofuels
- However, if supplied as electrofuels, it would require
  - 320 Mt of CO<sub>2</sub>/yr that is 242% of Brazil's industrial emissions (132 MtCO<sub>2</sub>)\*, and
  - 2400 TWh/yr of electricity
    - 462% of Brazil's current **total** power generation of 520 TWh/yr\*\*
    - 577% of Brazil's current **renewable** power generation of 416 TWh/yr\*\*

\*) <https://www.worldometers.info/co2-emissions/brazil-co2-emissions/>

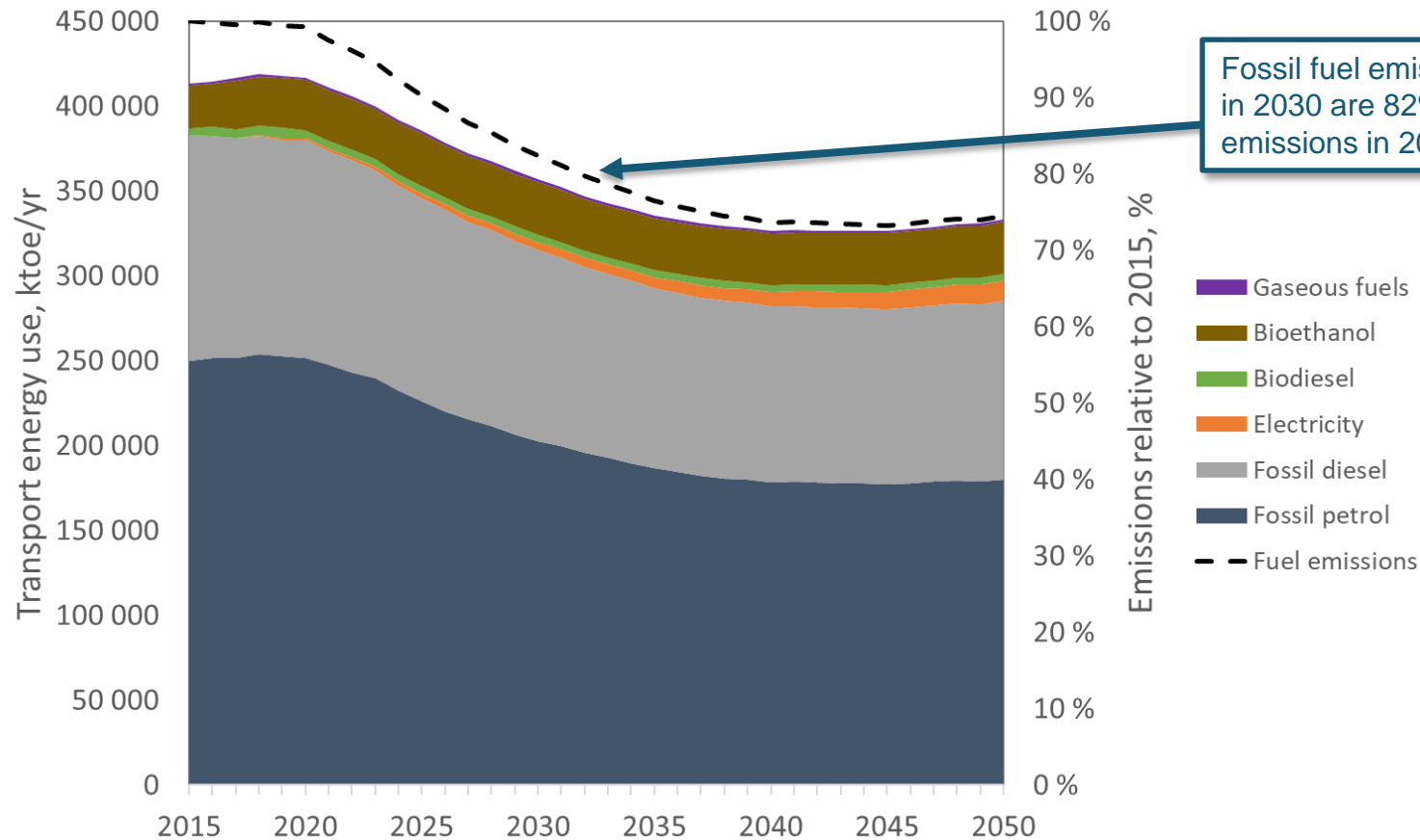
\*) <https://www.iea.org/countries/brazil/>

# USA

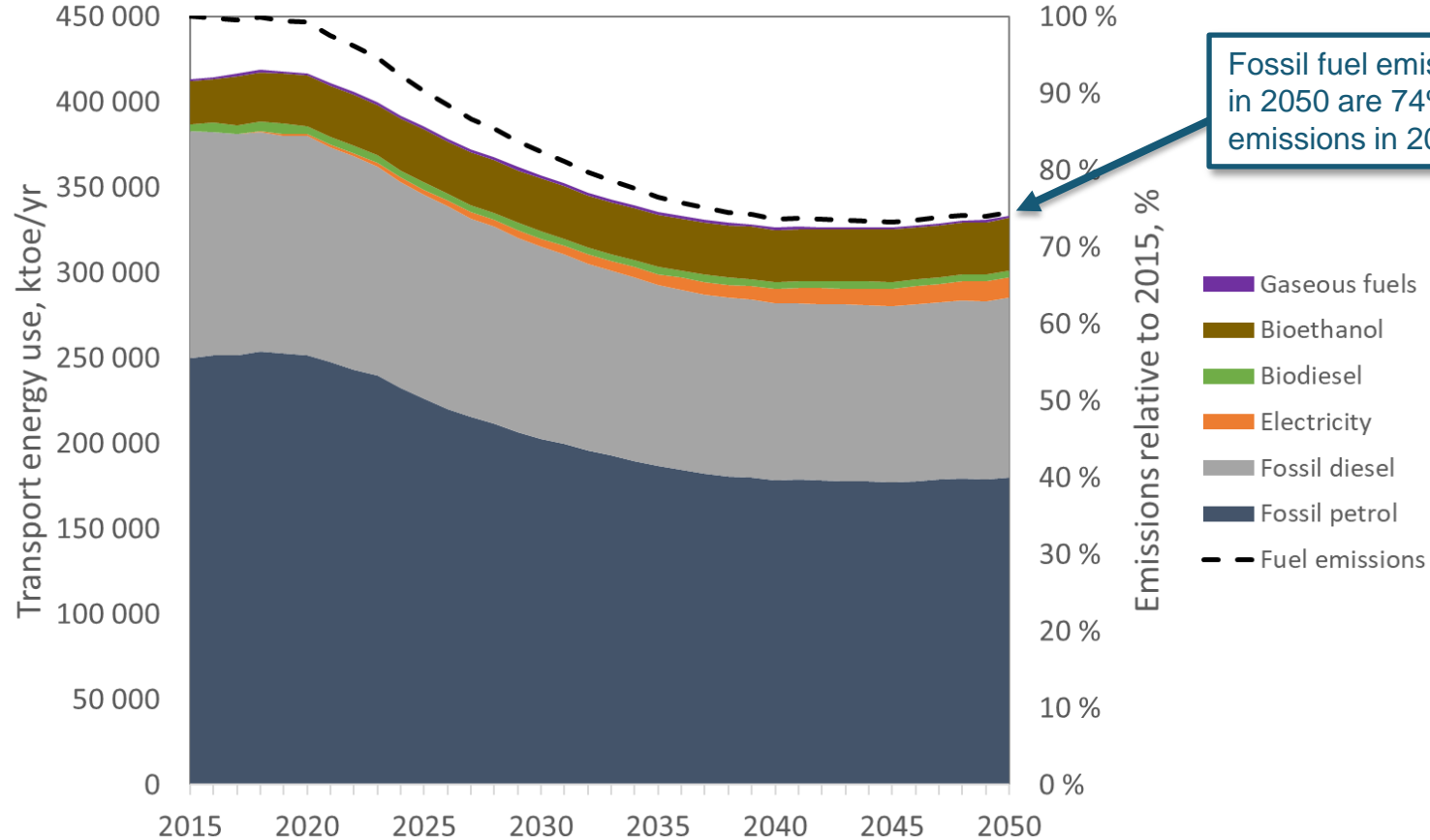
## USA, Stated Policies scenario



## USA, Stated Policies scenario

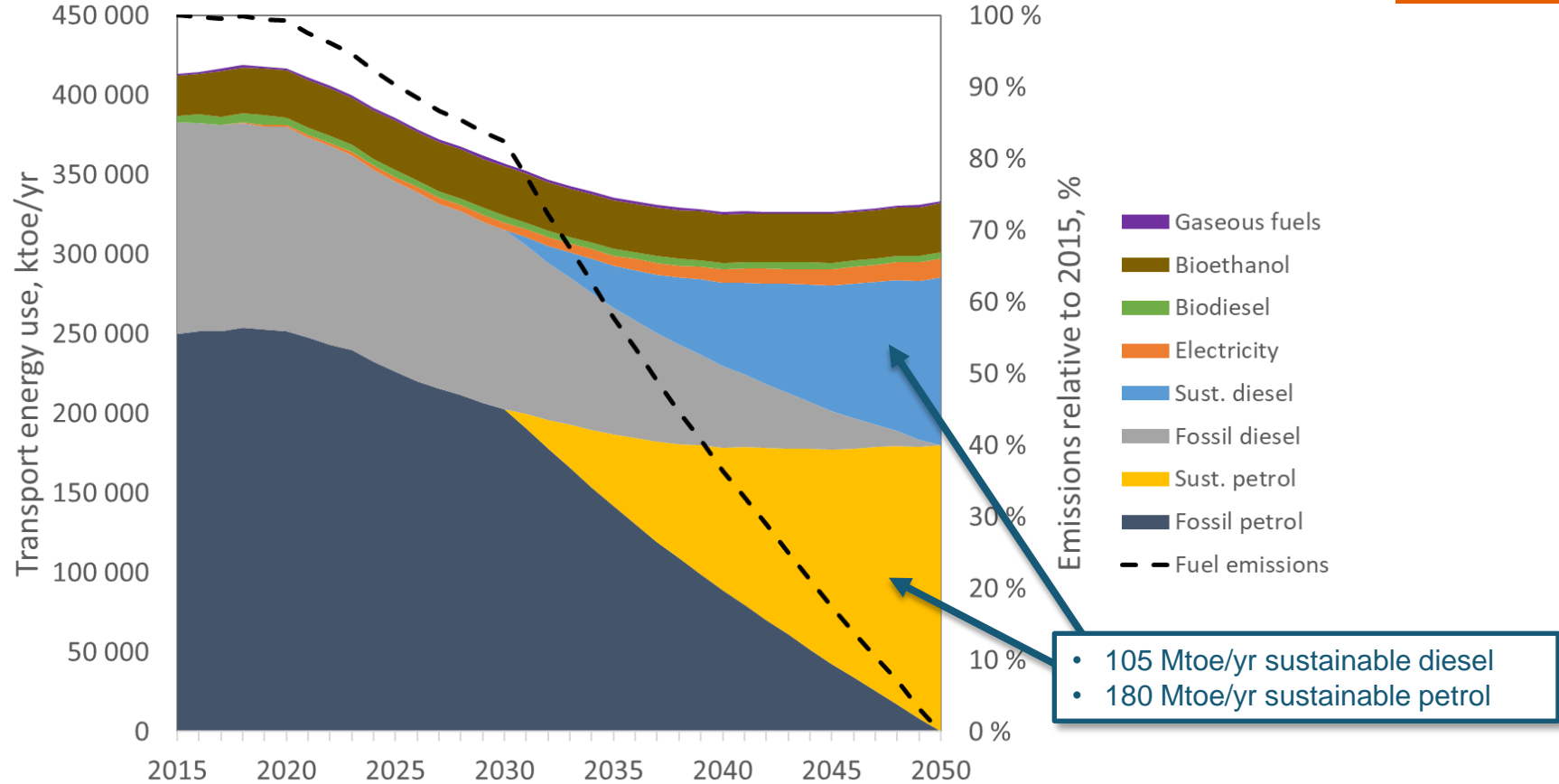


## USA, Stated Policies scenario





# USA, Fossil-free Transport scenario



# Results for the USA

- Additional amount of sustainable fuels could come from a combination of domestically produced & imported advanced biofuels
  
- However, if supplied as electrofuels, it would require
  - 1105 Mt of CO<sub>2</sub>/yr ~78% of USA's industrial emissions (1421 MtCO<sub>2</sub>)\*, and
  - 8288 TWh/yr of electricity that is
    - **198%** of USA's current **total** power generation of 4196 TWh/yr
    - **537%** of USA's current **low-carbon** power generation of 1543 TWh/yr
    - **1129%** of USA's current **renewable** power generation of 734 TWh/yr

\*) <https://www.epa.gov/ghgemissions/sources-greenhouse-gas-emissions>

# Results for the USA

Year	Power grid emissions, gCO <sub>2</sub> /kWh	Electrofuels emissions relative to fossils
2010	552	506%
2015	471	431%
2020	390	357%
2025	364	334%
2030	351	322%
2035	332	304%
2040	317	290%
2045	305	279%
2050	291	267%

# Summary of results

Country	Stated Policies emissions in 2050 relative to 2015	Fossil-free transport via E-fuels: Low-C power share*	Fossil-free transport via E-fuels: Industrial CO <sub>2</sub> demand
Sweden	35%	36%	19%
Germany	33%	169%	37%
Brazil	134%	577%	242%
USA	74%	537%	78%

*\*) Electricity need for electrofuels production divided by current electricity generation from non-fossil sources*

# The Contribution of Advanced Renewable Transport Fuels to Transport Decarbonisation in 2030 and beyond

More information: <https://iea-amf.org/content/news/TD-WS>

Contact: [dina.bacovsky@best-research.eu](mailto:dina.bacovsky@best-research.eu)