

Decarbonisation: How to do everything everywhere all at once

Presented by Lorraine Ferris Henry Royce Institute, University of Manchester to TFI Network+ Conference 6 December 2023





UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres in response to IPCC report March 23

"In short, our world needs climate action on all fronts -everything, everywhere, all at once.....

We have never been better equipped to solve the climate challenge – but we must move into **warp speed climate action** now."



An alternative explanation for the title?

- A 2022 American independent film which incorporates elements from a number of genres and film mediums, including absurdist fiction, comedydrama, surreal comedy, science fiction, fantasy, martial arts films, immigrant narrative, and animation.
- Michelle Yeoh stars as Evelyn Quan Wang, a Chinese-American immigrant who, while audited by the IRS, discovers that she must connect with parallel universe versions of herself to prevent a powerful being from destroying the multiverse.





Contents

- Introduction to Economiser
- Industry needs potential solutions
- Industry needs the complexity of delivery
- Warp speed climate action?
 - Some ideas
 - What could we do as Network+?



The EconoMISER project

Economic Material Innovation for Sustainable and Efficient use of Resources

AIM: To address Foundation Industry innovation challenges to achieve sustainability and net zero objectives.

The first project of the Foundation Industry Sustainability Consortium (FISC).

The FISC partners collaborate on several cross sector research themes, with the aim of accelerating industry led innovation.





Who are the Foundation Industry Sustainability Consortium?

FISC is a partnership between five research and technology centres who have agreed to collaborate.

The aim being to solve industry innovation challenges to achieve sustainability and net zero objectives by working together and cross-sectorally.

- Centre for Process Innovation
- Glass Futures
- Henry Royce Institute
- Lucideon
- Materials Processing Institute



Cpi 🖉

Glass Futures





Henry Royce Institute

A national research institute, hosted at the University of Manchester established to

- develop and capitalise on the UK's world-leading excellence in advanced materials research.
- support and grow world-recognised excellence in UK materials research, accelerating commercial exploitation, and delivering positive economic and societal impact for the UK.







Foundation Industries Sustainability Consortium The EconoMISER project is structured to drive the delivery of these **themes that are critical to** the creation of a **zero carbon** resource efficient sustainable foundation industry in the UK.





Sustainability

Consortium

EconoMISER Project Lifecycle

Connect

TFI Fellows will engage with companies and RTOs to landscape the national research & innovation challenges faced by the foundation industries and identify project partnerships for EconoMISER. This connection will **establish cross sector links** throughout

technology and manufacturing readiness levels to initiate projects that will extend beyond the lifecycle of EconoMISER.

Collaborate

EconoMISER Application Scientists will work alongside two or more members of FISC and external project partners to deliver R&D solutions for the Foundation Industries.

FISC is comprised of five research facilities who can offer a wide range test facilities and expertise to help **identify solutions to research and innovation challenges** faced by the foundation industries.

Innovate

The **EconoMISER team** and **project partners** will develop identified solutions through the network of scale-up centres established by FISC and roll out technology and manufacturing solutions into the Foundation Industries.

EconoMISER is organised around five research themes and will use FISC facilities to **scale-up research through technology and manufacturing readiness levels**

Impact

EconoMISER projects will support the decarbonisation and sustainability needs of the **Foundation Industries** through improved resource efficiency, sustainable products and Industry 4.0 solutions.

Outcomes will add security to raw materials supply chains, improve cost competitiveness, accelerate digitisation, and advance skills & diversity within the workforce.





Industrial decarbonisation : Public R&D funding landscape

Transfire

How the foundations industries can develop innovative solutions to reduce energy and resource use. Part of TFI challenge

TFI Network+

Co-create with the Foundation Industries new science and technology that can transform their sustainability Part of TFI challenge

IDRIC

co-creating whole-system, multidisciplinary solutions that are accelerating the green futures of our industries Part of Industrial Decarbonisation Challenge

Economiser

Address Foundation Industry innovation Challenges to achieve sustainability / NZ Part of TFI challenge









Innovate UK



Industry needs – Potential solutions



Multiple sites, multiple industries, multiple challenges





Multiple sites, multiple industries, multiple challenges





Consortium

Foundation Industry GHG emissions sources





Is hydrogen or electrification the answer?

Hydrogen

fuel

Infrastructure? Timescales? Capacity of supply? Grid upgrades as late as 2037? Awareness of options?

Products



Process

Energy



Feed-

stocks

Electrify

heat







Is Resource efficiency the answer?



Note: In report to Climate Change Committee, Resource Efficiencies were assumed to contribute c.33% reduction to C emissions by 2050 <u>DEEP DECARBONISATION PATHWAYS FOR UK INDUSTRY</u> (theccc.org.uk)

UK government assume resource efficiency will bring about 15% of energy demand reduction from buildings & industry by 2030 Powering up Britain - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) Scope 1&2

Timescale Can't totally decarbonise Scope 1&2 - still need alternative fuel or CCUS

Products

Reduce: Energy

use; Costs; C

footprint.



Sustainability Consortium

Overall, the answer is?

Everything, everywhere all at once but phased .

Sites must **create a plan**, starting with Resource Efficiencies

Many technologies are available but most **need development or improvement**



Figure courtesy of Energy Systems Catapult © 2023 Energy Systems Catapult

How is Economiser helping address the challenges?

- Studies of alternative fuels use
- Development of new materials for furnace environments
- Modelling of plasma for next-generation furnaces
- Bringing together academia, suppliers and FI industry to explore feasibility on electrical heating / heat batteries
- Analysis of life-cycle assessments to substantiate sustainability claims
- Pilot processes for glass and carbon fibre composites recycling
- Exploration of chemical recycling processes for polymers
- Application of digital technologies to process improvement / energy reduction in boilers & driers
- & others

FISC



Industry Needs : Complexity of Delivery



Infrastructure, integration and shared services are critical





Critical Infrastructure: Electrical





Critical Infrastructure: Waste heat?





Critical Infrastructure: CCS and / or hydrogen





Add shared services for a circular economy:



Warp speed climate action?

Some suggestions.....



Industry needs action on:

- Infrastructure delivery
- Developing resource efficiencies through process improvement / digitisation
- Developing systems for recovery and use of waste heat (& how to share heat)
- Developing awareness of heat options; electrify or alternative fuels?
- Developing novel heat batteries & thermochemical batteries
- Understanding how to use alternative fuel in specific process
- Materials for alt fuel uses e.g. in next gen furnaces, hydrogen combustion
- Less energy intensive CCUS & hydrogen source for CCU
- Better recycling; technical, sorting, systems & policy
- Policy influence policies to incentivise not penalise (would result in offshoring)
- And many, many more.....



Sustainability Consortium

Rapid development routes needed







Foundation Industries Sustainability Consortium

ow to deliver innovation within complexity?





One possible solution?

Connect with parallel universe versions of ourselves.

Probably not.....





Industrial decarbonisation : Public R&D funding landscape

 Transfire

 How the foundations industries can developt innovative solutions to reduce energy and resource use.

 TFI Network+

 Co-create with the Foundation

 Industries new science and technology that can transform their sustainability





Accelerated utilisation of research outputs is needed to make impact





ccelerated transfer, scale up & commercialisation





Contact Us

If you would like to discuss a decarbonisation or sustainability issue faced in your industry, please get in touch with me:

Dr Lorraine Ferris

Royce Fellow | Henry Royce Institute <u>lorraine.ferris@manchester.ac.uk</u>



