

# Supporting Information

## The carbon footprint of the carbon feedstock CO<sub>2</sub>

Leonard Jan Müller, Arne Kätelhön, Stefan Bringezu, Sean McCoy, Sangwon Suh, Robert Edwards, Volker Sick, Simon Kaiser, Rosa Cuéllar-Franca, Aïcha El Khamlichi, Jay H. Lee, Niklas von der Assen, André Bardow

### Table of contents

S 1.	Literature review current practice “the carbon footprint of the carbon feedstock CO <sub>2</sub> ” .....	2
S 2.	Detailed description of calculation in section 3.1 .....	8
S 2.1	Ammonia plant.....	9
S 2.2	Fermentation plant .....	9
S 2.3	Direct air capture .....	10
S 3.	CO <sub>2</sub> supply .....	11
S 3.1	Supply of biogas in a low-carbon economy.....	11
S 3.2	Steel and iron mills .....	14
S 3.3	Cement plants .....	15
S 3.4	Pulp and paper mills.....	15
S 4.	Total energy demand to capture CO <sub>2</sub> demand in a low-carbon economy.....	16
S 5.	References .....	19

## SI 1. Literature review current practice “the carbon footprint of the carbon feedstock CO<sub>2</sub>”

Author	Year	System boundaries for CO <sub>2</sub> source	Method to solve multifunctionality	Carbon footprint of captured CO <sub>2</sub>	Reference
Aresta	1999	CO <sub>2</sub> source included; CO <sub>2</sub> is supplied from natural gas upgrading, ammonia plant, and fossil fuel-fired power plants; Energy demand and MEA loss is identical for all sources;	Allocation based on other relationship (mass and price as criterion) is applied	Not reported/ no calculation possible based on data; According to author: CFP of CO <sub>2</sub> > 0 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e per kg CO <sub>2</sub>	1
Aresta	2002	System boundaries are unclear; CO <sub>2</sub> is supplied from a fossil-fired thermal power plant;	No method to solve multifunctionality is reported	Not reported / no calculation possible based on data;	2
Clarens	2008	CO <sub>2</sub> source included; CO <sub>2</sub> is supplied from an ammonia synthesis plant; Entire ammonia plant is within system boundaries	Allocation based on other relationship (price as criterion) is applied	CFP of CO <sub>2</sub> > 0.06 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e per kg CO <sub>2</sub>	3
Falter	2015	CO <sub>2</sub> source included; CO <sub>2</sub> is supplied from direct air capture	No method to solve multifunctionality needed	Not reported/ no calculation possible based on data; According to the author: CFP of CO <sub>2</sub> < 0 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e per kg CO <sub>2</sub>	4
Garcia-Herrero	2016	CO <sub>2</sub> source included; CO <sub>2</sub> is captured from a coal power plant with MEA	Substitution is applied	CFP of CO <sub>2</sub> = -0.86 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e per kg CO <sub>2</sub>	5

Giesen	2014	CO <sub>2</sub> source included; CO <sub>2</sub> is captured from a coal power plant fired with natural gas or biomass or from ambient air using a direct air capture process;	Multifunctionality does not occur since the entire electricity from the CO <sub>2</sub> source is used for conversion	Not reported/ no calculation possible based on data; CFP of CO <sub>2</sub> : For fossil: > 0 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e per kg CO <sub>2</sub> For biogenic and direct air capture: < 0 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e per kg CO <sub>2</sub>	6
Hoppe	2016	CO <sub>2</sub> source included; CO <sub>2</sub> is captured from a biogas purification; CO <sub>2</sub> is separated in biogas purification step and thus, CO <sub>2</sub> capture is not considered as part of the CO <sub>2</sub> based production life cycle	Substitution is applied	CFP of CO <sub>2</sub> = -0.97 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e per kg CO <sub>2</sub>	7
Al-Kalbani	2016	CO <sub>2</sub> source is excluded; Flue gas from coal power plant enters the system, is purified and serves as CO <sub>2</sub> source;	No multifunctionality problem since power plant is excluded from system boundaries	Not reported/ no calculation possible based on data; Consuming CO <sub>2</sub> lead to negative emissions according to authors; CFP of CO <sub>2</sub> < 0 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e per kg CO <sub>2</sub>	8
Kim	2000	CO <sub>2</sub> source included; CO <sub>2</sub> is captured from an ammonia plant	Allocation based on other relationship is applied (mass and energy as criteria) at different aggregation level, i.e. a sub-division is applied as far as possible followed by an allocation	CFP of CO <sub>2</sub> ≈ 0.03 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e per kg CO <sub>2</sub> (obtained from Fig. 3)	9
Kim	2011	CO <sub>2</sub> source is excluded; An excess amount of pure CO <sub>2</sub> is assumed	No method to solve multifunctionality needed	Not reported/ no calculation possible based on data; Consuming CO <sub>2</sub> leads to negative emissions according to authors: CFP of CO <sub>2</sub> < 0 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e per kg CO <sub>2</sub>	10
Kongpanna	2014	CO <sub>2</sub> source is excluded; An excess amount of pure CO <sub>2</sub> is assumed	No method to solve multifunctionality needed	CFP of CO <sub>2</sub> = -0.03 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e per kg CO <sub>2</sub>	11

Luu	2015	CO <sub>2</sub> source is excluded; An excess amount of pure CO <sub>2</sub> is assumed	No method to solve multifunctionality needed;	CFP of CO <sub>2</sub> = -1 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e per kg CO <sub>2</sub>	12
Matzen	2016	CO <sub>2</sub> source included; CO <sub>2</sub> is supplied from biomass fermentation	Allocation based on other relationship (economic value as criterion) is applied	CFP of CO <sub>2</sub> = 0.08 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e per kg CO <sub>2</sub>	13
Overcash	2007	CO <sub>2</sub> sources included; CO <sub>2</sub> is supplied from: 1) ammonia plants 2) Hydrogen plants (SMR) 3) Natural deposits 4) Fossil fuel combustion	Allocation based on other relationship (mass as criterion) is applied	Not reported/ no calculation possible based on data; Only allocated life cycle inventories are reported;	14
Parra	2017	CO <sub>2</sub> sources included; 1) Direct air capture (included in system boundaries) 2) Biogas upgrading (supplies waste CO <sub>2</sub> )	No method to solve multifunctionality needed for direct air capture; For biogas upgrading, CO <sub>2</sub> is considered as waste with no burdens associated	1) According Fig. 9: CFP of CO <sub>2</sub> > 0 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e per kg CO <sub>2</sub> 2) CFP of CO <sub>2</sub> = 0 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e per kg CO <sub>2</sub>	15
Pérez-Fortes	2016	CO <sub>2</sub> source is excluded; Concentrated CO <sub>2</sub> , but unpressurized enters system boundaries;	No method to solve multifunctionality needed; Credit is given for avoided emissions + capture emissions	1) CFP of CO <sub>2</sub> = -1 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e per kg CO <sub>2</sub> + emission related to compression	16

Reiter	2015	CO <sub>2</sub> sources included; CO <sub>2</sub> is supplied from fossil sources, e.g. fossil fired power plants; Source of CO <sub>2</sub> is excluded from system boundaries; Purification is either part of system boundaries or not	Three cases are distinguished: 1) CO <sub>2</sub> has biogenic origin or is a waste product and would be emitted nearly at reaction conditions → CO <sub>2</sub> is considered to be neutral 2) CO <sub>2</sub> has biogenic origin or is a waste product, but has an additional energy demand for separation → CO <sub>2</sub> carries the burden of separation 3) CO <sub>2</sub> has a fossil origin and would otherwise be stored, utilized in other processes or company would have to pay for emission allowances → allocation is needed	1) CFP of CO <sub>2</sub> = 0 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e per kg CO <sub>2</sub> 2) CFP of CO <sub>2</sub> = 0 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e per kg CO <sub>2</sub> + emissions of separation/compression 3) CFP of CO <sub>2</sub> > 0 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e per kg CO <sub>2</sub>	17
Schäffner	2014	System boundaries are gate-to-gate Flue gas enters the system and a pure CO <sub>2</sub> stream is obtained ; CO <sub>2</sub> source is excluded from system boundaries	No method to solve multifunctionality needed; Credit is given for avoided emissions + capture emissions	Not reported/ no calculation possible based on data; Consuming CO <sub>2</sub> lead to negative emissions according to authors; CFP of CO <sub>2</sub> < 0 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e per kg CO <sub>2</sub>	18
Schakel	2016	CO <sub>2</sub> source included; Steam methane reforming as CO <sub>2</sub> source; CO <sub>2</sub> capture, CO <sub>2</sub> compression train is modeled	System expansion applied to include both hydrogen and DME	Not reported/ no calculation possible based on data;	19
Souza	2013	CO <sub>2</sub> source is excluded; An excess amount of pure CO <sub>2</sub> is assumed	No method to solve multifunctionality needed; Credit is given for avoided emissions	CFP of CO <sub>2</sub> = -1 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e per kg CO <sub>2</sub>	20
Supekar	2014	CO <sub>2</sub> source included; Various CO <sub>2</sub> sources in the U.S. are considered	Allocation by distinguishing between determining and dependent products according to Weideman	Between 0.13 and 2.42 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e per kg CO <sub>2</sub>	21

Uusitalo	2017	CO <sub>2</sub> source is excluded; CO <sub>2</sub> purification and compression is in system boundaries;	No method to solve multifunctionality needed; However, credit is avoided emissions is given+ capture emissions	Not reported/ no calculation possible based on data; Consuming CO <sub>2</sub> lead to negative emissions according to authors; → CFP of CO <sub>2</sub> < 0 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e per kg CO <sub>2</sub>	22
Van-Dal	2013	CO <sub>2</sub> source is excluded; CO <sub>2</sub> is captured from a coal power plant; CO <sub>2</sub> purification and compression is in system boundaries; CO <sub>2</sub> balance only covers methanol synthesis (gate-to-gate analysis)	No method to solve multifunctionality needed; However, credit is avoided emissions is given+ capture emissions	Not reported/ no calculation possible based on data; Consuming CO <sub>2</sub> lead to negative emissions according to authors; → CFP of CO <sub>2</sub> > 0 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e per kg CO <sub>2</sub>	23
Walker	2017	CO <sub>2</sub> source is excluded; CO <sub>2</sub> is taken from biogas plant; CO <sub>2</sub> purification and compression is within system boundaries; CO <sub>2</sub> is used to boost methane production	No method to solve multifunctionality needed;	Not reported/ no calculation possible based on data;	24
Zhang	2017	Two different system boundaries are applied: 1) From cradle-to-gate including CO <sub>2</sub> source (fossil power plant + cement) 2) Gate-to-gate excluding CO <sub>2</sub> source	1) System expansion is applied (FU = km driven + electricity/cement) 2) Allocation using underlying physical relationship (mass as criterion) (FU = km driven)	Not reported/ no calculation possible based on data; CFP of CO <sub>2</sub> > 0 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e per kg CO <sub>2</sub> (Fig. 5)	25
Von der Assen	2014	System boundaries are cradle-to-gate; CO <sub>2</sub> is taken from a coal power plant	1) System expansion is applied (FU = 1 kg Polyol + 0.36 kWh electricity) 2) Sensitivity analysis for solving multifunctionality (100% allocation to CCU system, substitution)	CFP of CO <sub>2</sub> = 0.2 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e per kg CO <sub>2</sub> (worst case allocation) CFP of CO <sub>2</sub> = -0.8 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e per kg CO <sub>2</sub> (substitution) CFP of CO <sub>2</sub> = -1 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e per kg CO <sub>2</sub> (substitution with ideal CO <sub>2</sub> source)	

Sternberg	2015	CO <sub>2</sub> source included; CO <sub>2</sub> sources are 1) Ideal CO <sub>2</sub> source 2) Coal power plant 3) CO <sub>2</sub> is used that would otherwise be stored	Substitution is applied	1) CFP of CO <sub>2</sub> = -1 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e per kg CO <sub>2</sub> 2) CFP of CO <sub>2</sub> = -0.67 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e per kg CO <sub>2</sub> 3) CFP of CO <sub>2</sub> = 0 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e per kg CO <sub>2</sub>
-----------	------	--	-------------------------	--

26

Thonemann	2019	CO <sub>2</sub> source included; System boundaries are cradle-to-gate Various CO <sub>2</sub> sources are considered	Substitution is applied	1) CFP of CO <sub>2</sub> = -0.8 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e per kg CO <sub>2</sub> (near term marginal mix) 1) CFP of CO <sub>2</sub> = -0.34 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e per kg CO <sub>2</sub> (long term marginal mix)
-----------	------	--	-------------------------	---

27

## SI 2. Detailed description of calculation in section 3.1

The carbon footprint (CFP) for CO<sub>2</sub> source with capture can be calculated from the carbon footprint without capture by subtracting the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> that is captured ( $m_{captured\ CO_2}$ ) and adding the indirect emission ( $GW_{indirect,capture}$ ) for capture (Figure 1):

$$CFP_{CO_2-source+CO_2\ supply} = CFP_{CO_2-source} - m_{captured\ CO_2} + GW_{indirect,capture}$$

a) Without capture

b) With capture

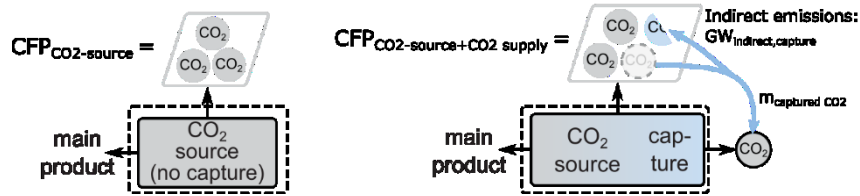


Figure 1: The carbon footprint of a generic CO<sub>2</sub> source with and without capture

In our examples, we only account for greenhouse gas emissions related to energy demand. In practice, however, other indirect emissions may also be relevant, e.g. emissions caused by the construction of the capture units. The indirect emissions for the supply of energy to drive the capture process are calculated from the energy demands per kg of CO<sub>2</sub> captured (Thermal energy  $q_{th}$ , electricity  $W_{el}$  and combustion of natural gas  $q_{natural\ gas}$ ), the corresponding emission factors per MJ of energy (Thermal energy  $GW_{th}$ , electricity  $GW_{el}$  and combustion of natural gas  $GW_{natural\ gas}$ ) and the amount of captured CO<sub>2</sub> ( $m_{captured\ CO_2}$ )

$$GW_{indirect,capture} = (q_{th} \cdot GW_{th} + W_{el} \cdot GW_{el} + q_{natural\ gas} \cdot GW_{natural\ gas}) \cdot m_{captured\ CO_2}$$

For our calculation, we use the emission factors provided in Table 1.

Table 1: Emission factors of required energy. The emission factor of natural gas includes the combustion<sup>32</sup>

$GW_{th}$	$0.057 \frac{kg\ CO_2\ eq}{MJ_{th}}$
$GW_{el}$	$0.1325 \frac{kg\ CO_2\ eq}{MJ_{el}}$
$GW_{natural\ gas}$	$0.0678 \frac{kg\ CO_2\ eq}{MJ_{natural\ gas}}$



## SI 2.1 Ammonia plant

According to the Ecoinvent dataset "RoW: ammonia production, steam reforming, liquid ecoinvent 3.3" 1.85 kg CO<sub>2</sub> eq per kg of ammonia (= CFP<sub>ammonia</sub>) are emitted. An average amount of 1.26 kg CO<sub>2</sub> per kg ammonia is formed and available for capture.<sup>28-31</sup> Consequently, to supply 1 kg as feedstock, 0.8 kg of ammonia is produced. The CO<sub>2</sub> capture is related to 0.401 MJ of electricity and 0.0754 MJ of heat per kg of CO<sub>2</sub>. The carbon footprint per 1 kg of CO<sub>2</sub> as feedstock and 0.8 kg ammonia (CFP<sub>ammonia+CO2 supply</sub>) is then the sum of the CFP<sub>ammonia</sub> for 0.8 kg of ammonia and the indirect emissions caused by CO<sub>2</sub> capture minus the amount CO<sub>2</sub> that is captured:

$$CFP_{\text{ammonia+CO2 supply}} = CFP_{\text{ammonia}} - m_{\text{captured CO2}} + GW_{\text{indirect,capture}}$$

The carbon footprint 0.8 kg ammonia and 1 kg of CO<sub>2</sub> ( $GW_{\text{ammonia+CO2 supply}}$ ) are then calculated to:

$$\begin{aligned} CFP_{\text{ammonia+CO2 supply}} &= 1.85 \frac{\text{kg CO}_2 \text{ eq}}{\text{kg ammonia}} \cdot 0.8 \text{ kg ammonia} - 1 \text{ kg CO}_2 \\ &+ \left( 0.401 \frac{\text{MJ}_{\text{el}}}{\text{kg CO}_2} \cdot 0.1325 \frac{\text{kg CO}_2 \text{ e}}{\text{MJ}_{\text{el}}} + 0.008 \frac{\text{MJ}_{\text{heat}}}{\text{kg CO}_2} \cdot 0.0754 \frac{\text{kg CO}_2 \text{ eq}}{\text{MJ}_{\text{heat}}} \right) \cdot 1 \text{ kg CO}_2 \\ CFP_{\text{ammonia+CO2 supply}} &= 0.525 \frac{\text{kg CO}_2 \text{ eq}}{0.8 \text{ kg ammonia} + 1 \text{ kg CO}_2} \end{aligned}$$

## SI 2.2 Fermentation plant

According to Kaliyan, 56.4 g CO<sub>2</sub> eq per MJ of ethanol from cradle-to-gate corn is emitted.<sup>33</sup> The lower heating of ethanol is reported to be 21.5 MJ per dm<sup>-3</sup>.<sup>33</sup> The density of ethanol is 0.789 kg per dm<sup>-3</sup>. The CO<sub>2</sub> emission per kg of ethanol calculate as follows:

$$CFP_{\text{ethanol}} = 56.4 \frac{\text{g CO}_2 \text{ eq}}{\text{MJ}_{\text{ethanol}}} = 56.4 \frac{\text{g CO}_2 \text{ eq}}{\text{MJ}_{\text{ethanol}}} \cdot \frac{21.5 \frac{\text{MJ}_{\text{ethanol}}}{\text{dm}^3_{\text{ethanol}}}}{0.789 \frac{\text{kg}_{\text{ethanol}}}{\text{dm}^3_{\text{ethanol}}}} = 1,54 \frac{\text{kg CO}_2 \text{ eq}}{\text{kg}_{\text{ethanol}}}$$

In contrast Kaliyan et al., we include the carbon uptake of plants for the production of ethanol. For each molecule of ethanol, two molecules of carbon dioxide are absorbed from the atmosphere. Consequently, the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> that is absorbed per kg of ethanol calculated as follows:

$$m_{\text{ethanol,CO2 absorbed}} = \frac{m_{\text{ethanol}}}{M_{\text{ethanol}}} \cdot 2 M_{\text{CO}_2} = \frac{1 \text{ kg}_{\text{ethanol}}}{46 \frac{\text{g}_{\text{ethanol}}}{\text{mol}}} \cdot 2 \cdot 44 \frac{\text{g}_{\text{CO}_2}}{\text{mol}} = 1.913 \frac{\text{kg CO}_2 \text{ absorbed}}{\text{kg}_{\text{ethanol}}}$$

The carbon footprint per kg of ethanol including carbon uptake calculates then to:

$$CFP_{\text{ethanol, incl. biogenic}} = 1.54 \frac{\text{kg CO}_2\text{e}}{\text{kg ethanol}} - 1.913 \frac{\text{kg CO}_2 \text{ absorbed}}{\text{kg ethanol}} = -0.373 \frac{\text{kg CO}_2\text{e}}{\text{kg ethanol}}$$

The ethanol plant produces approximately 0.96 kg of CO<sub>2</sub> per kg ethanol. The CO<sub>2</sub> capture is related to 0.432 MJ of electricity and 0.1325 MJ of heat per kg of CO<sub>2</sub>. The total CFP for producing 1 kg of CO<sub>2</sub> and  $\frac{1 \text{ kg ethanol}}{0.96 \text{ kg CO}_2} =$

$1.04 \frac{\text{kg ethanol}}{\text{kg CO}_2}$  calculates to:

$$CFP_{\text{ethanol+CO}_2\text{supply, incl. biogenic}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= -0.373 \frac{\text{kg CO}_2\text{e}}{\text{kg ethanol}} \cdot 1.04 \frac{\text{kg ethanol}}{\text{kg CO}_2} - 1 \text{ kg CO}_2 \\ &+ \left( 0.432 \frac{\text{MJ}_{\text{el}}}{\text{kg CO}_2} \cdot 0.1325 \frac{\text{kg CO}_2\text{e}}{\text{MJ}_{\text{el}}} + 0.057 \text{ MJ}_{\text{heat}} \cdot 0.0754 \frac{\text{kg CO}_2\text{e}}{\text{kg CO}_2} \right) \cdot 1 \text{ kg CO}_2 \\ &- 1 \text{ kg CO}_2 \end{aligned}$$

$$e_{\text{ethanol+CO}_2\text{supply, incl. biogenic}} = -1.336 \frac{\text{kg CO}_2\text{e}}{(1 \text{ kg CO}_2 + 1,04 \text{ kg ethanol})}$$

### SI 2.3 Direct air capture

The Direct air capture process only provides CO<sub>2</sub>. The process consumes 1.013 MJ electricity and 4.038 MJ of natural gas per captured kg of CO<sub>2</sub>. The carbon footprint for capture CO<sub>2</sub> CFP<sub>DAC,CO<sub>2</sub> supply</sub> for direct air capture is then calculated:

$$CFP_{\text{DAC,CO}_2 \text{ supply}} = -m_{\text{captured CO}_2} + GW_{\text{indirect, capture}}$$

$$CFP_{\text{DAC,CO}_2 \text{ supply}} = -1 \text{ kg CO}_2$$

$$+ \left( 1.013 \frac{\text{MJ}_{\text{el}}}{\text{kg CO}_2} \cdot 0.0678 \frac{\text{kg CO}_2 \text{ eq}}{\text{MJ}_{\text{el}}} + 4.038 \frac{\text{MJ}_{\text{natural gas}}}{\text{kg CO}_2} \cdot 0.0678 \frac{\text{kg CO}_2 \text{ eq}}{\text{MJ}_{\text{natural gas}}} \right) \cdot 1 \text{ kg CO}_2$$

$$CFP_{\text{DAC,CO}_2 \text{ supply}} = -0.592 \frac{\text{kg CO}_2\text{e}}{\text{kg CO}_2}$$

## SI 3. CO<sub>2</sub> supply

### SI 3.1 Supply of biogas in a low-carbon economy

Name	Capacity TWh ( $E_{total}$ )	Potential CO <sub>2</sub> Supply	Comment	Reference
<b>AEBIOM Technical potential</b>	779	273.2	5% of arable land in EU, Maize monoculture, not environmentally acceptable	34
<b>EEA - Environmentally acceptable potential</b>	622	218.2		35
<b>Projection 2020 AEBIOM</b>	465	163.1		34
<b>IEA - Energy Technology Perspectives 2017</b>	393	137.8	Biogas generation in 2060 in Europe	36
<b>Projection Agriculture 2020 AEBIOM</b>	364	127.6		34
<b>Biogas beyond 2020, CE Delft</b>	360	126.1	Accelerated 2030 scenario	37
<b>ICCT Projection</b>	324	113.6	Selected has upper bound.	38
<b>Projection 2020 EU</b>	320	112.1		39
<b>EEA - Resource efficient scenario</b>	233	81.8	Biogas from manure and straw Selected has lower bound.	40
<b>Biogas production in 2015 (Eurostat)</b>	229	80.2	Biogas supply of today	41
<b>Average</b>	<b>409</b>	<b>143.4</b>		

The potential supply of CO<sub>2</sub> from biogas in a low-carbon economy is separated into the anaerobic digesters and the biogas power plant. After biogas formation in the anaerobic digester, we assume that all biogas is upgraded, i.e. the separation of methane and carbon dioxide. Subsequently, methane is fed to the natural gas grid and combusted in power plants. Therefore, the total CO<sub>2</sub> supply from biogas  $m_{supply,biogas}$  is:

$$m_{CO_2 supply,biogas} = m_{CO_2 supply,upgrading} + m_{CO_2 supply,combustion}$$

The amount of CO<sub>2</sub> from upgrading at the digesters is calculated as follows: According to AEBIOM, one cubic meter of biogas contains 0.6 m<sup>3</sup> biomethane and the remaining volume is filled with CO<sub>2</sub>, the lower heating value of upgraded biomethane  $LHV_{biomethane}$  is 46.8 MJ per kg and the densities of biomethane  $\rho_{biomethane}$  and CO<sub>2</sub>  $\rho_{CO_2}$  is 0.73 kg respectively 1.98 kg per norm cubic meter. Therefore, the available mass CO<sub>2</sub> from biomethane upgrading  $m_{CO_2 supply,upgrading}$  can be calculated from the potential total energy as follow:

$$m_{CO_2 supply,upgrading} = V_{CO_2 supply,upgrading} \cdot \rho_{CO_2}$$

$$V_{CO_2 supply,upgrading} = V_{biogas} \cdot (1 - 0.6) \frac{m_{CO_2}^3}{m_{biogas}^3}$$

$$V_{biogas} = \frac{V_{biomethane}}{0.6 \frac{m_{Biomethane}^3}{m_{biogas}^3}}$$

$$V_{biomethane} = \frac{m_{biomethane}}{\rho_{biomethane}}$$

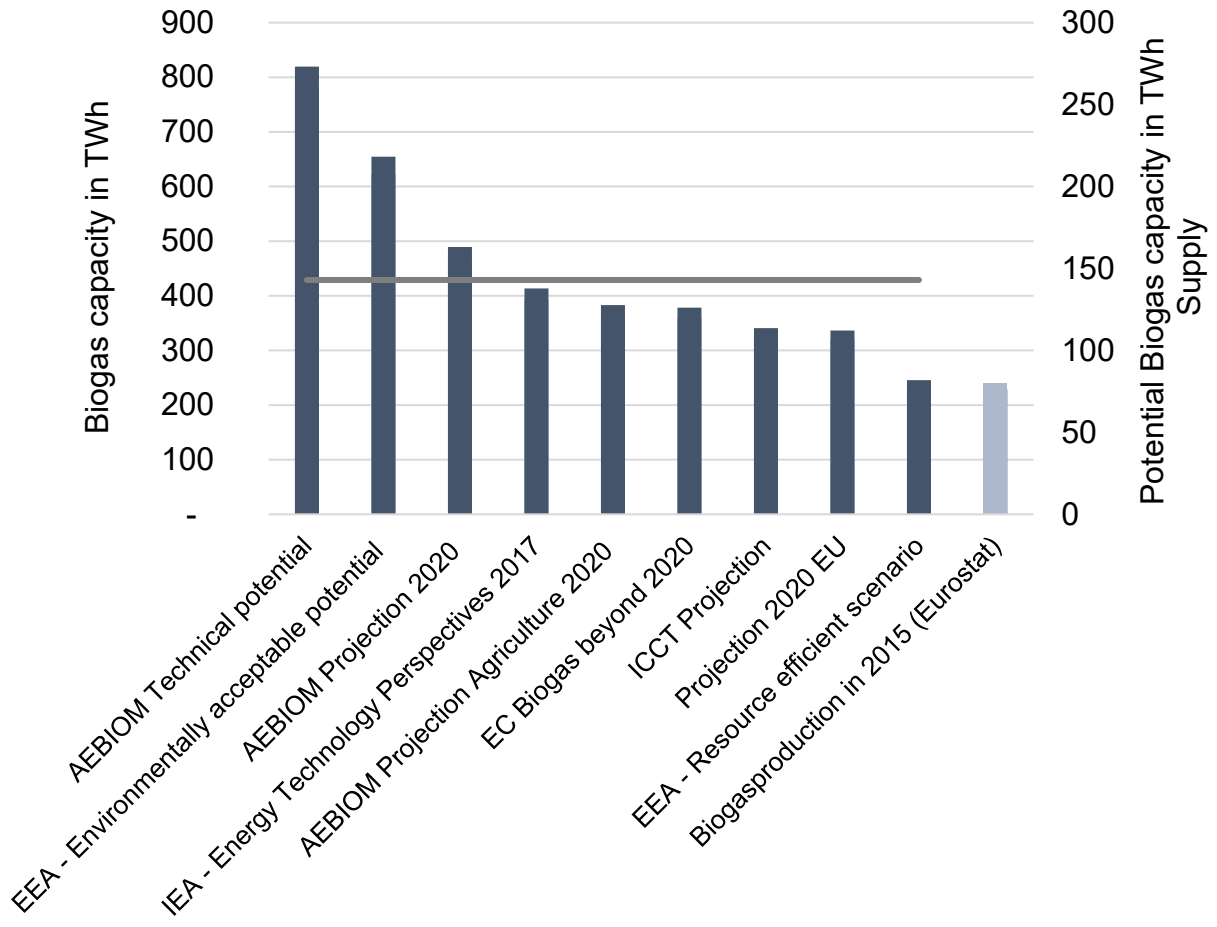
$$m_{biomethane} = \frac{E_{total}}{LHV_{biomethane}}$$

$$\Rightarrow m_{CO_2 supply,upgrading} = \frac{E_{total}}{LHV_{biomethane}} \cdot \frac{(1 - 0.6) \frac{m_{CO_2}^3}{m_{biogas}^3}}{0.6 \frac{m_{CH_4}^3}{m_{biogas}^3}} \cdot \frac{\rho_{CO_2}}{\rho_{biomethane}}$$

At the power plants, the available mass of CO<sub>2</sub> from the combustion of biomethane  $m_{CO_2 supply,combustion}$  assumes that 2.75 kg CO<sub>2</sub> is formed per kg of biomethane. Then, the potential CO<sub>2</sub> supply can be calculated from the potential total energy supply by:

$$m_{CO_2 supply,combustion} = m_{biomethane} \cdot 2.75 \frac{kg_{CO_2}}{kg_{biomethane}}$$

$$m_{CO_2 \text{ supply, combustion}} = \frac{E_{total}}{LHV_{biomethane}} \cdot 2.75 \frac{kg_{CO_2}}{kg_{biomethane}}$$



## SI 3.2 Steel and iron mills

Table 2: Process energy demand for iron and steel making

Process	Blast furnace oven	Blast oxygen furnace	Direct Reduction of Iron Ore with hydrogen from electrolysis	Advanced electric arc furnace
Product	Pig Iron	Pig iron to crude steel	Sponge iron	Sponge iron to crude steel
<b>Source</b>	42	42	43	43
	[GJ per tonne]		[GJ per tonne]	[GJ per tonne]
<b>Coke</b>	10.30	7.26		
<b>Coal dust</b>	4.67	4.39		
<b>Net power demand</b>	0.20		10.13	1.26
<b>Power demand N2 and O2</b>	0.12	1.07		
<b>Natural Gas</b>	0.21	3.59	5.62	0
<b>Coke oven gas</b>	0.28			
<b>Oxygen steel furnace gas</b>	0.17			
<b>Export of blast furnace gas</b>	4.72	1.69		
<b>Net Energy demand</b>	11.24	14.62		
	[kg per tonne]		[kg per tonne]	[kg per tonne]
<b>Use of hydrogen</b>			58.17	

Table 3: Applied GHG emissions for energy sources and efficiency for converting water electrolysis and methanation (Taken from Otto et al. Table 1)<sup>42</sup>

<b>GW<sub>el,fossil</sub></b>	160	kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq/GJ
<b>GW<sub>el,renew</sub></b>	0	kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq/GJ
<b>GW<sub>NG</sub></b>	56	kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq/GJ
<b>GW<sub>Coke</sub></b>	105	kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq/GJ
<b>GW<sub>Hardcoal</sub></b>	94.2	kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq/GJ
<b>GW<sub>H2,SMR</sub></b>	66.64	kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq/GJ
<b>GW<sub>CH4,synthetic,p2g</sub></b>	0	kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq/GJ
<b>GW<sub>cokeovengas</sub></b>	40	kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq/GJ
<b>GW<sub>BOFgas</sub></b>	257.8	kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq/GJ
<b>Efficiency water electrolysis</b>	0.7	kWh hydrogen per kWh electricity
<b>Efficiency methanation</b>	0.84	kWh methane per kWh hydrogen

Table 4: CO<sub>2</sub> supply in a low carbon economy (own calculation using production volumes of Steel Statistical Yearbook 2013)<sup>44</sup>

<b>Total Capacity iron and steel making</b>	169	Mt per year
<b>Direct Reduction of Iron Ore with hydrogen from electrolysis</b>	99	Mt per year
<b>Electrical Arc oven</b>	70	Mt per year
<b>Total GHG Emissions</b>	46	Mt CO <sub>2</sub> eq per year
<b>Total GHG emissions no primary route</b>	14.5	Mt CO <sub>2</sub> eq per year

### SI 3.3 Cement plants

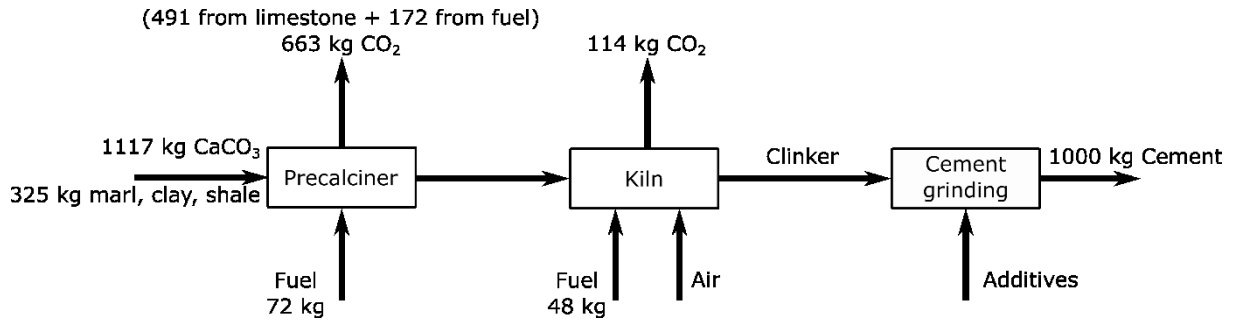


Fig. 1: Carbon flows as reported by Rodriguez et al. <sup>46</sup>

The emissions of the reference related to fuel combustion are  $172 \text{ kg CO}_2 + 114 \text{ kg CO}_2 = 286 \text{ kg CO}_2$ . Rodriguez et al. report a lower heating value of 25 MJ per kg of fuel.<sup>46</sup> The carbon content is 65 % since 172 kg CO<sub>2</sub> are emitted from 72 kg of fuel.<sup>46,47</sup> Methane has a lower heating value of 50 MJ per kg of methane and a carbon content of 75 %.

The CO<sub>2</sub> formation of using methane instead of the reported fuel calculated after the following equation:

$$e_{CO_2, \text{methane}} = (72 + 48) \frac{\text{kg}_{\text{fuel}}}{\text{t}_{\text{Cement}}} \cdot \frac{25 \frac{\text{MJ}}{\text{kg}_{\text{fuel}}}}{50 \frac{\text{MJ}}{\text{kg}_{\text{Methane}}}} \cdot 0.75 \frac{\text{kg}_c}{\text{kg}_{\text{Methane}}} \cdot \frac{44 \frac{\text{kg}_{CO_2}}{\text{mol}}}{12 \frac{\text{kg}_c}{\text{mol}}}$$

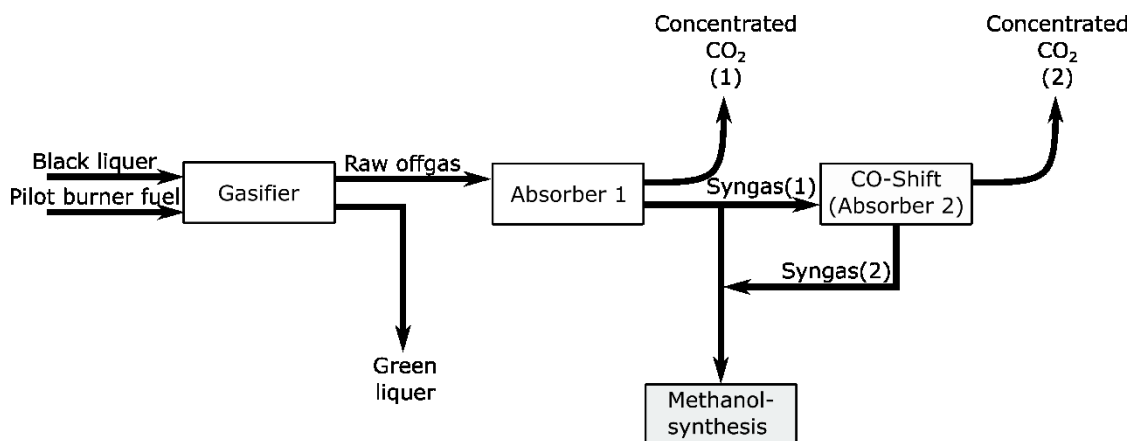
$$e_{CO_2, \text{methane}} = 165 \frac{\text{kg}_{CO_2}}{\text{t}_{\text{Cement}}}$$

Therefore, greenhouse gas emissions from fuel combustion are reduced by 16% by switching from the reported fuel to methane:

$$\text{relative reduction} = \frac{e_{\text{total, methane}}}{e_{\text{total, fuel}}} = \frac{(165 + 491) \cdot \frac{\text{kg}_{CO_2e}}{\text{t}_{\text{Cement}}}}{(286 + 491) \cdot \frac{\text{kg}_{CO_2e}}{\text{t}_{\text{Cement}}}} \approx 84\%$$

### SI 3.4 Pulp and paper mills

All data is based on Ekbohm et al. <sup>45</sup>



Process unit	Input	Output				
		t/d	CO <sub>2</sub> [t/d]	CH <sub>4</sub> [t/d]	CO <sub>2</sub> [t/d]	t/d
<b>Gasifier</b>	Black Liquor	3,420				Green Liquor
	Pilot burner fuel					Raw Gas 1,275
<b>Absorber 1</b>	Raw Gas	3,164	1,275			CO <sub>2</sub> (1) 1,261
						Syngas (1) 14
<b>Absorber 2</b>	CO Shift Gas	396	1,025			CO <sub>2</sub> (2) 987
						Syngas (2) 38
<b>Methanol synthese</b>	Syngas	1,240	53	33		Methanol 1,183
						Combustible gases

Greenhouse gas emissions (own Calculations)			
	4477	t CO <sub>2</sub> eq/d	Reference system
	2337	t CO <sub>2</sub> eq/d	With methanol production
	52 %	CO <sub>2</sub> for capturing in comparison to reference system	

#### SI 4. Total energy demand to capture CO<sub>2</sub> demand in a low-carbon economy

The total energy demand to supply the projected CO<sub>2</sub> demand for chemicals (255 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>), fuels (415 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>), and chemicals and fuels (670 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>) is calculated from the projected supply of each CO<sub>2</sub> source and the corresponding energy demand (see Table 5 for results). In our calculation, we first select the CO<sub>2</sub> source with the



lowest carbon footprint of feedstock CO<sub>2</sub> until the CO<sub>2</sub> supply capacity is fully exhausted. Then the next CO<sub>2</sub> source with the lowest carbon footprint is exhausted until the projected CO<sub>2</sub> demand is satisfied.

The total energy demand  $W_{total}$  is the sum over the energy that is consumed by the CO<sub>2</sub> source  $i$ :

$$W_{total} = \sum_i \left( (q_{th,i} + w_{el,i} + q_{natural\ gas,i}) \cdot m_{CO_2\ supplied,i} \right)$$

In a low-carbon economy, we assume that thermal energy ( $q_{th,i}$ ) is provided by electrode vessel and natural gas ( $q_{natural\ gas,i}$ ) is substituted by synthetic natural gas. Consequently, both the thermal energy and the natural gas demand can be expressed through a demand for electricity. For thermal energy, we assume an energy efficiency of 0.99 ( $\eta_{electrode\ vessel}$ ). Synthetic natural gas is produced from hydrogen, which is produced via electrolysis. We assume an efficiency for electrolysis of  $\eta_{electrolysis} = 0.7$  and for the subsequent methanation step  $\eta_{methanation} = 0.8$ :

$$w_{el,th,i} = \frac{q_{th,i}}{\eta_{electrode\ vessel}} = \frac{q_{th,i}}{0.99}$$

$$w_{el,sng,i} = \frac{q_{natural\ gas,i}}{\eta_{electrolysis} \cdot \eta_{methanation}} = \frac{q_{natural\ gas,i}}{0.7 \cdot 0.8}$$

Consequently, the total energy demand is then calculated to

$$W_{total} = \sum_i \left( \left( w_{el,i} + \frac{q_{th,i}}{0.99} + \frac{q_{natural\ gas,i}}{0.7 \cdot 0.8} \right) \cdot m_{CO_2\ supplied,i} \right)$$

Table 5: Total energy demand to supply sufficient CO<sub>2</sub> for chemicals (255 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>), fuels (415 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>), and chemicals and fuels (670 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>)

CO <sub>2</sub> source	Chemicals			Fuels			Chemicals + Fuels		
	CO <sub>2</sub> supplied [Mt CO <sub>2</sub> ]	Energy demand [TWh]	Carbon footprint in [MT CO <sub>2</sub> eq]	CO <sub>2</sub> supplied [Mt CO <sub>2</sub> ]	Energy demand [TWh]	Carbon footprint in [MT CO <sub>2</sub> eq]	CO <sub>2</sub> supplied [Mt CO <sub>2</sub> ]	Energy demand [TWh]	Carbon footprint in [MT CO <sub>2</sub> eq]
Biogas upgrading	39	5	-39	39	5	-39	39	5	-39
Fermentation to Ethanol	7	1	-7	7	1	-7	7	1	-7
Biogas combustion	59	38	-59	59	38	-59	59	38	-59
Integrated pulp and paper mill	37	24	-30	30	24	-30	30	24	-30
Waste Incineration	41	13	-41	41	13	-41	41	13	-41
Steel and Iron	40	20	-40	40	20	-40	40	20	-40
Cement	32	54	-32	123	207	-122	123	207	-122
Direct Air Capture	0	0	0	69	158	-68	334	740	-320
<b>Total</b>		156	-254		467	-413		1050	-665
<b>Total for direct air capture</b>		583	-252		948	-410		1531	-662
<b>Relative difference</b>		<b>73 %</b>	<b>0.8 %</b>		<b>51 %</b>	<b>0.6 %</b>		<b>31 %</b>	<b>0.4 %</b>

## SI 5. References

- 1 M. Aresta and M. Galatola, *Journal of Cleaner Production*, 1999, **7**, 181–193.
- 2 M. Aresta, *Carbon dioxide as chemical feedstock*, Wiley-VCH, Weinheim, 2010.
- 3 A. F. Clarens, J. B. Zimmerman, G. A. Keoleian, K. F. Hayes and S. J. Skerlos, *Environ. Sci. Technol.*, 2008, **42**, 8534–8540.
- 4 C. Falter, V. Batteiger and A. Sizmann, *Environ. Sci. Technol.*, 2016, **50**, 470–477.
- 5 I. Garcia-Herrero, R. M. Cuellar-Franca, V. M. Enriquez-Gutierrez, M. Alvarez-Guerra, A. Irabien and A. Azapagic, *ACS Sustainable Chem. Eng.*, 2016, **4**, 2088–2097.
- 6 C. van der Giesen, R. Kleijn and G. J. Kramer, *Environ. Sci. Technol.*, 2014, **48**, 7111–7121.
- 7 W. Hoppe, S. Bringezu and N. Thonemann, *Journal of Cleaner Production*, 2016, **121**, 231–237.
- 8 H. Al-Kalbani, J. Xuan, S. García and H. Wang, *Applied Energy*, 2016, **165**, 1–13.
- 9 S. Kim and M. Overcash, *Int J Life Cycle Assess*, 2000, **5**, 221–228.
- 10 J. Kim, C. A. Henao, T. A. Johnson, D. E. Dedrick, J. E. Miller, E. B. Stechel and C. T. Maravelias, *Energy Environ. Sci.*, 2011, **4**, 3122.
- 11 P. Kongpanna, V. Pavarajarn, R. Gani and S. Assabumrungrat, *Chemical Engineering Research and Design*, 2015, **93**, 496–510.
- 12 M. T. Luu, D. Milani, A. Bahadori and A. Abbas, *Journal of CO2 Utilization*, 2015, **12**, 62–76.
- 13 M. Matzen and Y. Demirel, *Journal of Cleaner Production*, 2016, **139**, 1068–1077.
- 14 M. Overcash, Y. Li, E. Griffing and G. Rice, *J. Chem. Technol. Biotechnol.*, 2007, **82**, 1023–1038.
- 15 D. Parra, X. Zhang, C. Bauer and M. K. Patel, *Applied Energy*, 2017, **193**, 440–454.
- 16 M. Pérez-Fortes, J. C. Schöneberger, A. Boulamanti, G. Harrison and E. Tzimas, *International Journal of Hydrogen Energy*, 2016, **41**, 16444–16462.
- 17 G. Reiter and J. Lindorfer, *Int J Life Cycle Assess*, 2015, **20**, 477–489.

- 18 B. Schäffner, M. Blug, D. Kruse, M. Polyakov, A. Köckritz, A. Martin, P. Rajagopalan, U. Bentrup, A. Brückner, S. Jung, D. Agar, B. Rüngeler, A. Pfennig, K. Müller, W. Arlt, B. Woldt, M. Grass and S. Buchholz, *ChemSusChem*, 2014, **7**, 1133–1139.
- 19 W. Schakel, G. Oreggioni, B. Singh, A. Strømman and A. Ramírez, *Journal of CO2 Utilization*, 2016, **16**, 138–149.
- 20 L. F. S. Souza, P. R. R. Ferreira, J. L. de Medeiros, R. M. B. Alves and O. Q. F. Araújo, *ACS Sustainable Chem. Eng.*, 2014, **2**, 62–69.
- 21 S. D. Supekar and S. J. Skerlos, *Environ. Sci. Technol.*, 2014, **48**, 14615–14623.
- 22 V. Uusitalo, S. Väisänen, E. Inkeri and R. Soukka, *Energy Conversion and Management*, 2017, **134**, 125–134.
- 23 É. S. Van-Dal and C. Bouallou, *Journal of Cleaner Production*, 2013, **57**, 38–45.
- 24 S. B. Walker, D. van Lanen, U. Mukherjee and M. Fowler, *Sustainable Energy Technologies and Assessments*, 2017, **20**, 25–32.
- 25 X. Zhang, C. Bauer, C. L. Mutel and K. Volkart, *Applied Energy*, 2017, **190**, 326–338.
- 26 A. Sternberg and A. Bardow, *Energy Environ. Sci.*, 2015, **8**, 389–400.
- 27 N. Thonemann and M. Pizzol, *Energy Environ. Sci.*, 2019, **12**, 2253–2263.
- 28 J. C.M. Farla, C. A. Hendriks and K. Blok, *Energy Conversion and Management*, 1995, **36**, 827–830.
- 29 F. Ullmann, *Ullmann's encyclopedia of industrial chemistry*, Wiley, Chichester, 7th edn., 2010.
- 30 M. Weiss, M. Neelis and M. Patel, *Non-energy use and related CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in Germany: a carbon flow analysis with the NEAT model for the period of 1990-2003*, Utrecht University, Copernicus Institute, Utrecht, 2007.
- 31 European Commission - Integrated pollution prevention and control, *Reference Document on best Available Techniques for the Manufacture of large Volume Inorganic Chemicals - Ammonia, Acids and Fertilisers*, available at: <http://eippcb.jrc.ec.europa.eu/reference/lvic-aaf.html>.
- 32 thinkstep AG, *GaBi Software-System and Database for Life Cycle Engineering*, thinkstep AG, Leinfelden-Echterdingen, 1992-2016.

- 33 N. Kaliyan, R. V. Morey and D. G. Tiffany, *Biomass and Bioenergy*, 2011, **35**, 1103–1113.
- 34 The European biomass association, *A biogas road map for europe*, Brussels, 2009.
- 35 EEA, *How much bioenergy can Europe produce without harming the environment?*, No 7/2006, Copenhagen, 2006.
- 36 IEA, *Energy Technology Perspectives 2017*, Paris, 2017.
- 37 European Commission, *Optimal use of biogas from waste streams. An assessment of the potential of biogas from digestion in the EU beyond 2020*, 2016.
- 38 ICCT, *What is the role for renewable methane in European decarbonization?*, Beijing, 2018.
- 39 F. van Foreest, *Perspectives for biogas in Europe*, The Oxford Institute for Energy Studies, 2012, NG 70.
- 40 European Environmental Agency, *EU bioenergy potential from a resource-efficiency perspective. EEA Report No.6/2013*, 2013.
- 41 Eurostat, the Statistical Office of the European Union, *Energy statistics - supply, transformation and consumption (nrg\_10). Primary production nrg\_109a*, 2017.
- 42 A. Otto, T. Grube, S. Schiebahn and D. Stolten, *Energy Environ. Sci.*, 2015, **8**, 3283–3297.
- 43 K. Schumacher and R. D. Sands, *Energy Economics*, 2007, **29**, 799–825.
- 44 worldsteel association, *Steel Statistical Yearbook 2013*.
- 45 T. Ekbom, M. Lindblom, N. Berglin and P. Ahlvik, *Technical and Commercial Feasibility Study of Black Liquor Gasification with Methanol/DME Production as Motor Fuels for Automotive Uses - BLGMF*, Nykomb Synergetics AB, Stockholm, 2003.
- 46 N. Rodríguez, M. Alonso, G. Grasa and J. C. Abanades, *Environ. Sci. Technol.*, 2008, **42**, 6980–6984.
- 47 M. Bui, C. S. Adjiman, A. Bardow, E. J. Anthony, A. Boston, S. Brown, P. S. Fennell, S. Fuss, A. Galindo, L. A. Hackett, J. P. Hallett, H. J. Herzog, G. Jackson, J. Kemper, S. Krevor, G. C. Maitland, M. Matuszewski, I. S. Metcalfe, C. Petit, G. Puxty, J. Reimer, D. M. Reiner, E. S. Rubin, S. A. Scott, N. Shah, B. Smit, J. P. M. Trusler, P. Webley, J. Wilcox and N. Mac Dowell, *Energy Environ. Sci.*, 2018, **11**, 1062–1176.

