

1 **Environmental and economic assessment of global and German**  
2 **production locations for CO<sub>2</sub>-based methanol and naphtha**

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**Supplementary Information**

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## 19 S1: Method and Database for the GIS Analysis

### 20 Step 1: Characterization of the regions

21 The Geoinformation System (GIS) analysis was conducted with the software *ArcGis, Version 10.6*. For  
22 the analysis, the different data layers described in Table 1 were combined in a GIS-model using  
23 Gauß-Krueger coordinates (WGS 1984). The different regions were delineated according to the  
24 watersheds described in Boulay et al. <sup>1</sup>. Since there is no varying of the AWARE factor within one  
25 watershed, a further differentiation was not possible. In case a raster point could not be  
26 unambiguously assigned to one region, it was completely assigned to the region in which the majority  
27 of its area is located. In the next step, the mean value, and the standard deviation for each capacity  
28 factor as well as the number of CO<sub>2</sub>-point sources were calculated for every region using the *zonal*  
29 *statistics* tool. The transport distance from each region to Germany was calculated using the Euclidean  
30 distance between the respective centroids. While the locations of waste incineration and cement  
31 plants could be directly extracted from the respective datasets, the locations of the steel plants were  
32 derived from company reports of the largest global steel producers and cross-checked with domestic  
33 production capacities.

34 *Table 1: Parameters and Data used in the location analysis (IEC = International Electrotechnical Commission).*

Resource	Parameter	Description	Resolution/ Nr. of plants	Data Source
Wind Energy	Capacity Factor	IEC Class I	9 " x 9 "	2
Solar Energy	Capacity Factor	kWh/kWp	9 " x 9 "	3
Water	AWARE (Available Water Remaining)	m <sup>3</sup> /m <sup>3</sup>	0.5 ° x 0.5 °	1
CO <sub>2</sub>	Number of industrial CO <sub>2</sub> Point sources	Waste Incineration Plants	177	4, 5
		Cement Plants	1561	6
		Steel Plants (Blast Furnace)	115	7, 8

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### 36 Step 2: Selection of representative examples

37 After the combination of the different data layers and the characterization of the different regions,  
38 best case examples for every system type and distance category were identified according to the  
39 decision procedure described in Figure 1. The selected regions were later used as representative  
40 locations in the environmental and economic assessments.

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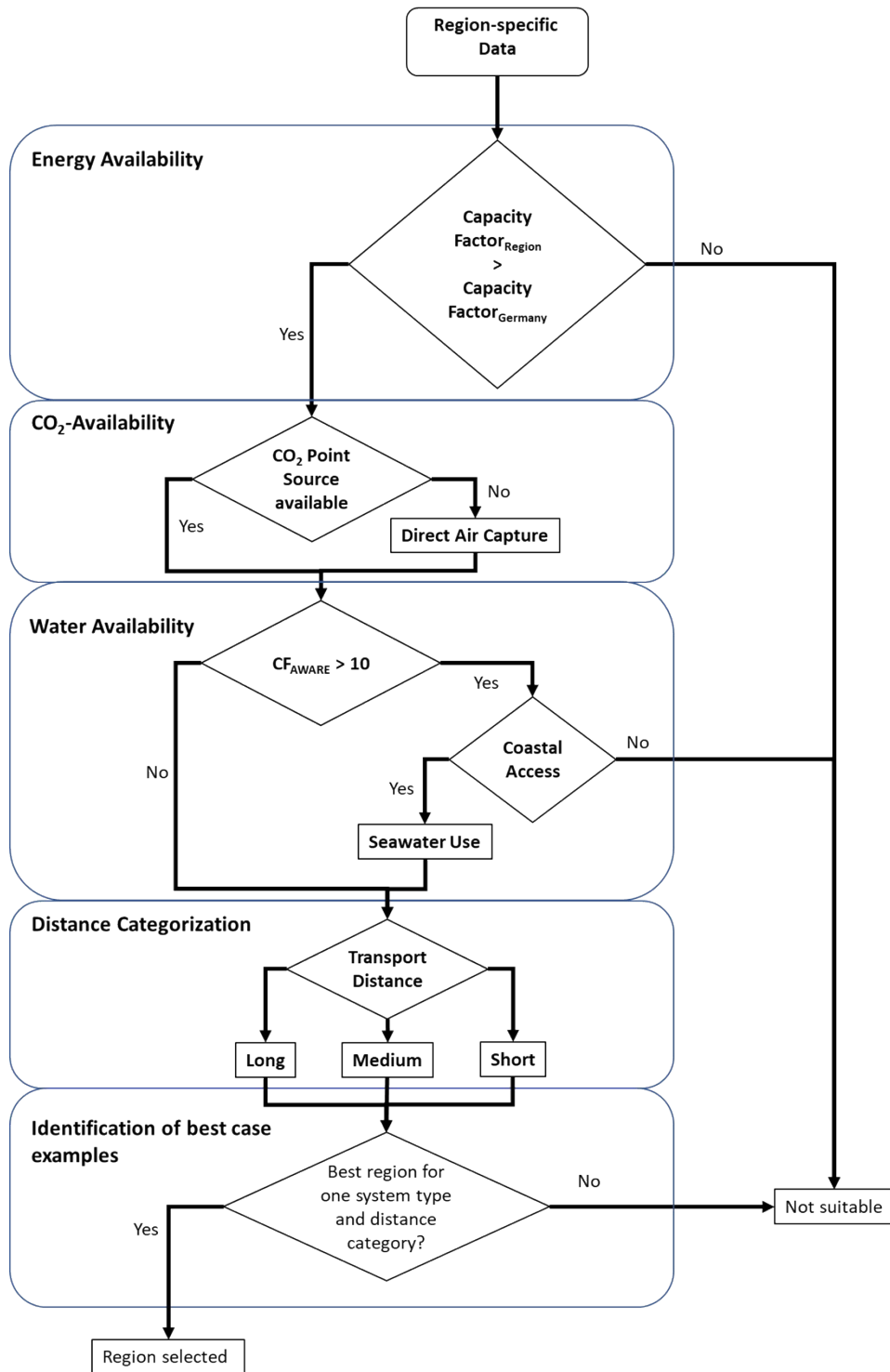


Figure 1: Selection procedure for the identification of best cases for the different system types.

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51 **S2: Calculation Formulars and Economic Parameters**

52 **S2-1: Levelized Cost of Energy (LCOE)**

$$LCOE_{ij} = \frac{\sum_{t=1}^n \frac{Capex_t + Opex_t}{(1 + r_i)^t}}{\sum_{t=1}^n \frac{E_t}{(1 + r_i)^t}} \quad [€/GJ]$$

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54  $t$ : Period

55  $i$ : Produced Chemical

56  $j$ : Location

57  $Capex_t$ : Capital Expenditures (Investment Costs)

58  $Opex_t$ : Operation Expenditures (Maintenance, Fuel and Personnel Costs)

59  $E_t$ : Cumulated Energy bound in the yearly production volume

60  $r$ : project specific interest rate/weighted average costs of capital

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62 **S2-2: Avoidance Costs (AC)**

$$AC_{ij} = \frac{LCOE_{ij} - MP_{fossil}}{GWI_{ij} - GWI_{fossil}} \left[ \frac{€}{t \text{ CO}_2 \text{ eq. avoided}} \right]$$

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64  $i$ : Produced Chemical

65  $j$ : Location

66  $LCOE_{ij}$ : Levelized Costs of Energy

67  $MP_{fossil}$ : Net market price for fossil fuels in the status quo

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69 **S2-3: Net Present Value (NPV)**

$$NPV_{ij} = - \sum_1^t \frac{Capex_t + Opex_t}{(1 + r_i)^t} + \sum_1^t \frac{(MP_{fossil} * (1 + \Delta PF_t)^t + CP_t * \Delta GWI) * PV_t}{(1 + r_i)^t} \quad [€]$$

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72  $t$ : Period

73  $i$ : Produced Chemical

74  $j$ : Location

$$75 \Delta GWI: \text{Avoided emissions} \left[ \frac{t \text{ CO}_2 \text{ eq. avoided}}{t \text{ Chemical}} \right]$$

76  $PV_t$ : Yearly production volume [t]

77  $CP_t$ : Carbon Price

78  $\Delta PF_t$ : Relative Price change for fossil fuels compared to the status quo

## 79 S2-4: Economic Parameters

80 Table 2: Description of Cost Parameters. (Sq = Status quo, Capex = Capital Expenditures, Opex = operational expenditures, PV  
 81 = Photovoltaic, FLH = Full load hours, PS = Point Source, DAC = Direct Air Capture, RSWO = Reverse Seawater Osmosis, WACC  
 82 = Weighted Average Costs of Capital).

Process	Parameter	Value Sq	References	Value 2030	References
<b>Onshore wind plant</b>	Capex [€/MW]	1,605,000	9	1,000,000	10
	Opex [% Capex]	2		2	
	Lifetime [years]	20		20	
<b>PV plant</b>	Capex [€/MW]	900,000.00	11	750,000	11
	Opex [% Capex]	1		1	
	Lifetime [years]	30		30	
<b>Electrolysis</b>	Capex [€/MW]	1,470,000	12	500,000	12,13
	Opex [% Capex]	1		1	
	Lifetime [FLH]	60,000		90,000	14
	Energy Requirement	55 kWh/kg H <sub>2</sub>	12	50 kWh/kg	12
<b>CO<sub>2</sub> Capture (PS)</b>	Capex [€] (Scaling Factor: 0.6)	26,680,367	15	18,676,256	16
	Opex [% Capex]	6	17	6	17
	Lifetime [years]	20		20	
	Heat Costs [€/kWh]	Country specific	18	Country specific	18
<b>CO<sub>2</sub> Capture (DAC)</b>	Capex [€/t CO <sub>2</sub> per year]	730.00	19	263.50	19
	Opex [% Capex]	4		4	
	Heat Costs [€/kWh]	Country specific	18	Country specific	18
	Lifetime [FLH]	105,120	20	105,120	20
<b>RSWO</b>	Capex [€/m <sup>3</sup> H <sub>2</sub> O per year]	2.25	21	2.25	21
	Opex [% Capex]	4	22	4	22
<b>Freshwater Production</b>	[€/m <sup>3</sup> ]	Region specific	23	Region specific	23
<b>Methanol Synthesis</b>	Capex [€/t MeOH per year]	200.00	24	200.00	24
	Opex [% Capex]	5		5	
	Lifetime [years]	20		20	
<b>FT-Synthesis</b>	Capex [€/t Naphtha per year]	300	24	300	24
	Opex [% Capex]	5		5	
	Lifetime	20		20	
<b>Transport Methanol</b>	[€/km * kg]	1.96 * 10 <sup>-6</sup>	25	1.96 * 10 <sup>-6</sup>	25
<b>Transport FT-</b>	[€/km * kg]	9.38 * 10 <sup>-7</sup>		9.38 * 10 <sup>-7</sup>	

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**Synthesis**

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**WACC** [%]Country Specific <sup>26</sup>Country Specific <sup>26</sup>

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### 84 S3: Location Specific Data

85 Due to the condition that the production locations must show a higher capacity factor than in Germany, it was not possible to identify regions with a point  
86 source and wind as energy for the distance categories short and medium. The identified location in Germany is used as a proxy for these distance categories.

87 Table 3: Specific Data for the analyzed locations. The basin number is taken from ref. <sup>1</sup>. (DAC = Direct Air Capture, PS = Point Source, PV = Photovoltaic, Wind = Onshore Wind).

Country	Basin Number	Energy Source	Capacity Factor	Aware Factor	CO <sub>2</sub> -Source	Transport Distance [km]	Installed Energy Capacity [MW]			Installed Electrolyzer Capacity [MW]		
							Methanol	Naphtha	Delta	Methanol	Naphtha	Delta
Argentina	10,967	Wind	72 %	1	DAC	13,613	221	316		172	272	
Argentina	10,851	Wind	64 %	17	PS	13,068	239	343		194	306	
Argentina	10,987	Wind	71 %	100	DAC	13,651	223	319		174	275	
Ireland	4,569	Wind	63 %	8	DAC	1,433	245	350		197	311	
Germany	4,583	Wind	58 %	1	PS	0	253	364		214	339	
Germany	4,650	Wind	52 %	4	DAC	0	293	418		238	376	
United Kingdom	4,073	Wind	62 %	11	DAC	1,310	248	354		198	314	
Venezuela	8,199	Wind	69 %	6	DAC	8,312	269	384		179	284	
Western Sahara	7,564	Wind	75 %	94	DAC	4,091	211	301		165	261	
Turkey	6,395	PV	19 %	1	PS	2,248	800	1,151		666	1,054	
Saudi Arabia	7,333	PV	21 %	9	PS	4,372	711	1,023	30 %	592	937	37 %
Bolivia	10,043	PV	24 %	4	PS	10,742	624	897		519	821	
Spain	6,353	PV	19 %	1	DAC	2,095	799	1,141		638	1,010	
China	6,914	PV	24 %	8	DAC	6,425	644	919		514	814	
Argentina	10,243	PV	27 %	1	DAC	11,266	564	805		450	713	
Morocco	6,530	PV	20 %	91	PS	2,221	728	1,048		606	959	
Saudi Arabia	7,119	PV	22 %	65	PS	3,342	671	965		558	883	
Chile	10,209	PV	25 %	100	PS	11,333	592	851		492	779	
Egypt	6,870	PV	20 %	59	DAC	2,583	757	1,081		605	957	
Namibia	10,295	PV	23 %	35	DAC	8,583	670	956		535	846	
Chile	10,138	PV	26 %	97	DAC	11,179	607	867		485	767	

## 89 S4: LCA Results

90 Table 4: LCA Results for the different impact categories. If water desalination was used as water source, a water incorporation of 0 was assumed. (GWI = Global Warming Impact, RMI = Raw  
91 Material Input, TMR = Total Material Requirement, M = Methanol, N = Naphtha).

Country	Basin Number	Energy Source	Capacity Factor	Aware Factor	Carbon Footprint				Material Footprint				Water Footprint				Land Footprint	
					GWI [kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq./MJ]		RMI [kg/kg]		TMR [kg/kg]		Incorporation [l/MJ]		Evaporation [l/MJ]		Occupation [m <sup>2</sup> *a]			
					M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N	M	N		
Argentina	10,851	Wind	64%	17	-0.049	-0.056	0.04	0.05	0.05	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.460	0.566	0.001	0.001		
Argentina	10,967	Wind	72%	1	-0.040	-0.042	0.04	0.06	0.06	0.08	0.92	0.98	0.644	0.714	0.001	0.001		
Argentina	10,987	Wind	71%	100	-0.040	-0.045	0.04	0.06	0.06	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.645	0.767	0.001	0.001		
Argentina	10,243	PV	27%	1	-0.022	-0.021	0.07	0.08	0.10	0.12	5.33	5.69	3.232	4.266	0.012	0.016		
Bolivia	10,043	PV	24%	4	-0.034	-0.034	0.05	0.07	0.07	0.10	0.22	0.23	3.102	4.188	0.012	0.017		
Chile	10,209	PV	25%	100	-0.035	-0.036	0.05	0.06	0.07	0.10	0.00	0.00	6.309	8.651	0.012	0.016		
Chile	10,138	PV	26%	97	-0.020	-0.019	0.07	0.09	0.10	0.13	0.00	0.00	3.452	4.547	0.012	0.017		
China	6,914	PV	24%	8	-0.019	-0.017	0.07	0.10	0.11	0.14	0.44	0.47	3.641	4.823	0.013	0.018		
Egypt	6,870	PV	20%	59	-0.015	-0.010	0.08	0.11	0.12	0.16	0.00	0.00	4.213	5.644	0.015	0.021		
Germany	4,583	Wind	58%	1	-0.050	-0.054	0.04	0.05	0.05	0.07	0.22	0.24	0.374	0.515	0.000	0.001		
Germany	4,650	Wind	52%	4	-0.034	-0.034	0.06	0.07	0.07	0.10	0.06	0.06	0.613	0.779	0.001	0.001		
Ireland	4,569	Wind	63%	8	-0.035	-0.035	0.05	0.06	0.06	0.09	0.42	0.45	0.551	0.693	0.001	0.001		
Morocco	6,530	PV	20%	91	-0.033	-0.031	0.06	0.08	0.08	0.12	0.00	0.00	3.554	4.880	0.014	0.020		
Namibia	10,295	PV	23%	35	-0.018	-0.015	0.08	0.10	0.11	0.14	0.00	0.00	5.096	6.812	0.014	0.019		
Saudi Arabia	7,119	PV	22%	65	-0.035	-0.033	0.05	0.07	0.08	0.11	0.00	0.00	3.265	4.493	0.013	0.018		
Saudi Arabia	7,333	PV	21%	9	-0.033	-0.028	0.05	0.07	0.08	0.11	0.05	0.06	3.475	4.743	0.014	0.019		
Spain	6,353	PV	19%	1	-0.006	0.002	0.09	0.12	0.13	0.17	0.04	0.05	4.373	5.809	0.016	0.022		
Turkey	6,395	PV	19%	1	-0.030	-0.027	0.06	0.08	0.09	0.13	0.49	0.52	3.891	5.341	0.016	0.022		
United Kingdom	4,073	Wind	62%	11	-0.035	-0.035	0.05	0.07	0.07	0.09	0.00	0.00	0.554	0.700	0.001	0.001		
Venezuela	8,199	Wind	69%	6	-0.040	-0.042	0.05	0.06	0.06	0.08	0.33	0.35	0.667	0.783	0.001	0.001		
Western Sahara	7,564	Wind	75%	94	-0.043	-0.044	0.04	0.05	0.05	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.571	0.696	0.001	0.001		
Fossil based Process		--			0.034	0.010	0.05	0.03	0.05	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.3697	0.3309	0.0003	0.0003		



93 **S5: Results of the contribution Analysis**

94 For the climate footprint, the heat demand of the CO<sub>2</sub>-capture process (36%) as well as the  
 95 energy (27%) and material supply (23%) of the supply chain are the main drivers. This is  
 96 especially the case for DAC production systems for which the contribution of the capture  
 97 process is on average about 13% higher (41% vs. 28%) than for systems based on point sources.  
 98 The product synthesis (7%) and the transport (6%) only have a minor impact. Hence, there is a  
 99 large potential for further optimization in case for scope 1 as well as for scope 3 emissions. The  
 100 resulting negative climate footprint could be twice as high if the whole supply chain and the  
 101 CO<sub>2</sub>-capture process would be defossilized.

102  
 103 In case of the material footprint, the demand for different metal ores (51 %) is the main driver  
 104 for environmental impacts related to the material requirement. More specifically, for wind-  
 105 based systems, copper and iron are the main drivers, while for PV-based systems copper,  
 106 aluminum as well as silver are the dominating metal flows. Those metals are important for the  
 107 construction processes of the respective energy plants. The fossil fuel supply within the supply  
 108 chain makes up to 26 % of the RMI. In case of minerals (23 %), construction materials like  
 109 cement are the main contributors. Hence, a higher secondary input rate for metals in  
 110 combination with a defossilization of the energy supply would be necessary to significantly  
 111 reduce the RMI of CO<sub>2</sub>-based chemicals and accommodate trade-offs between climate  
 112 footprint reduction and the material footprint.

113  
 114 The main drivers for water evaporation are manufacturing processes (42 %) with the  
 115 production of chemicals and base metals showing the highest contribution. Furthermore, the  
 116 energy supply has the second highest (39 %) impact, which is mostly related to fossil-based  
 117 power plants. The mining processes for fossil fuels (14 %) and metals (5 %) show a minor  
 118 impact. Therefore, an increased efficiency in water use in combination with a defossilization of  
 119 the energy supply are the most important measures to reduce the water footprint for CO<sub>2</sub>-  
 120 based chemicals.

122 **S5-1: Global Warming Impact**

123 *Table 5: Contribution to the climate footprint of CO<sub>2</sub>-based Methanol production.*

All Locations	Relative			Absolute [kg CO <sub>2</sub> equiv. /MJ]		
	Mean	Min	Max	Mean	Min	Max
<b>Scope 1 (Synthesis)</b>	7%	4%	12%	0.05	0.05	0.05
<b>Scope 2 (Capture)</b>	36%	23%	57%	0.26	0.11	0.46
<b>Scope 3 (Energy Supply)</b>	27%	15%	42%	0.22	0.06	0.41
<b>Scope 3 (Material Supply)</b>	23%	16%	37%	0.17	0.07	0.29
<b>Scope 3 (Transport)</b>	6%	3%	13%	0.05	0.01	0.08
<b>Total emissions</b>	100%	100%	100%	0.74	0.37	1.28
<b>Scope 1 (Sequestration)</b>	-211%	-385%	-110%	- 1.41	- 1.42	- 1.41
<b>Net emissions</b>	-111%	-285%	-10%	- 0.67	- 1.05	- 0.13

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129 **S5-2: Raw Material Input**

130 *Table 6: Contribution of different Raw Materials to the Raw Material Input.*

All Locations	Relative			Absolute [kg/kg]		
	Mean	Min	Max	Mean	Min	Max
<b>Fossil Fuels</b>	26%	18%	31%	0.32	0.14	0.61
<b>Metals</b>	51%	46%	58%	0.61	0.40	1.06
<b>Minerals</b>	23%	11%	32%	0.26	0.11	0.34

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132 **S5-3: Water Evaporation**

133 *Table 7: Contribution of different Raw Materials to Water Evaporation*

All Locations	Relative			Absolute [m <sup>3</sup> /MJ]		
	Mean	Min	Max	Mean	Min	Max
<b>Energy Supply</b>	39%	29%	55%	0.016	0.003	0.029
<b>Fossil Fuel Mining</b>	14%	9%	20%	0.005	0.001	0.010
<b>Manufacturing Processes</b>	42%	18%	60%	0.026	0.002	0.052
<b>Metals Mining</b>	5%	1%	15%	0.001	0.001	0.001

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135 **S6: Detailed Results of the economic assessment**

136 To enhance the validity of the economic assessment, the calculated results for the levelized costs of electricity were compared with existing studies which contain  
137 measured cost data and prognoses for renewable electricity generation <sup>10, 27, 28, 29</sup>. For wind energy, accurate data was available for every region. Therefore, the  
138 endogenously calculated LCOE were modified accordingly. In case a range was available in the literature, the minimum LCOE value was chosen since the input  
139 data for the capacity factor which serves as basis for the plant modelling depicts the technical potential (see SI-8). According to Fraunhofer ISE <sup>29</sup> a LCOE reduction  
140 of 7 % was assumed for wind electricity between 2020 and 2030.

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156 **S6-1: Methanol**

157 *Table 8: Calculated levelized production costs of the different process steps and years for CO<sub>2</sub>-based methanol. To calculate the CO<sub>2</sub>-avoidance costs for each location, different yearly changes in*  
 158 *the oil price were assumed (-1%; +2%; +4%). (WACC = Weighted average costs of capital; LCOH<sub>2</sub>/CO<sub>2</sub>/MeOH/Naphtha) = Levelized Costs of H<sub>2</sub>/CO<sub>2</sub>/Methanol/Naphtha production).<sup>26</sup>*

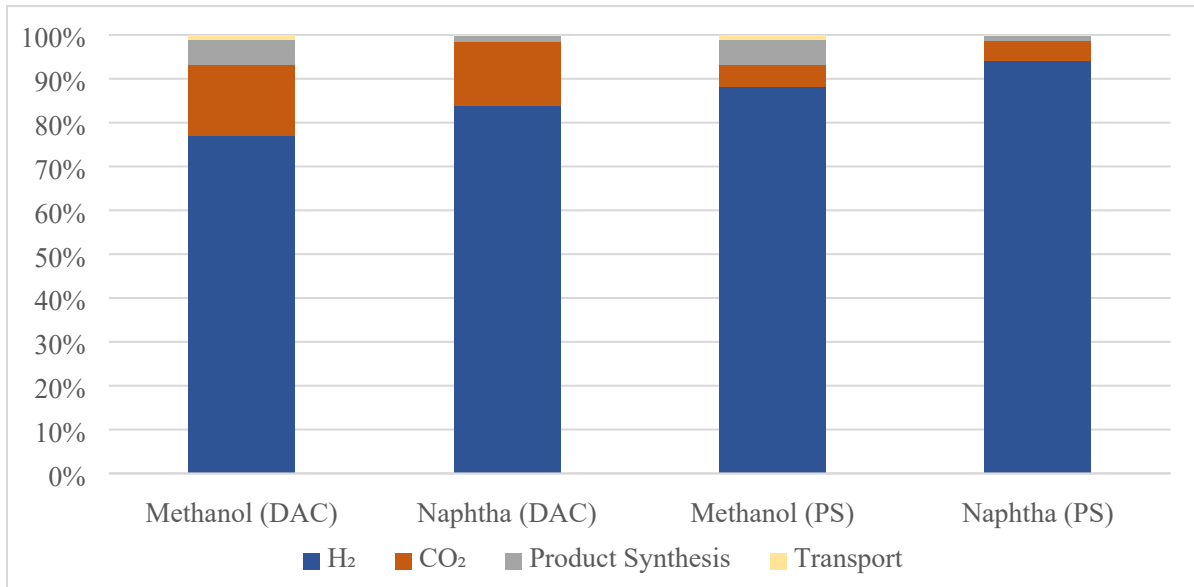
Location	WACC <sup>1</sup>	LCOH <sub>2</sub> [€/kg]		LCOCO <sub>2</sub> [€/kg]		LCONaphtha [€/t]		CO <sub>2</sub> -Avoidance Costs [€/t CO <sub>2</sub> ]						
		Status quo	Status quo	2030	Status quo	2030	Status quo	2030	Status quo			2030		
									-1%	2%	4%	-1%	2%	4%
<b>Argentina</b>	10.4%	6.9 €	3.0 €	143 €	68 €	1,666 €	773 €	1,167 €	1,102 €	1,076 €	429 €	270 €	194 €	
<b>Argentina</b>	10.4%	4.4 €	2.5 €	136 €	64 €	1,179 €	691 €	567 €	518 €	498 €	271 €	150 €	93 €	
<b>Argentina</b>	10.4%	4.4 €	2.5 €	136 €	64 €	1,181 €	691 €	568 €	519 €	499 €	271 €	150 €	93 €	
<b>Argentina</b>	10.4%	4.6 €	2.5 €	42 €	32 €	1,072 €	653 €	440 €	397 €	380 €	218 €	112 €	61 €	
<b>Bolivia</b>	7.4%	6.4 €	3.1 €	37 €	29 €	1,414 €	747 €	794 €	734 €	709 €	340 €	200 €	133 €	
<b>Chile</b>	4.9%	4.9 €	2.3 €	114 €	58 €	1,208 €	624 €	806 €	725 €	691 €	315 €	134 €	46 €	
<b>Chile</b>	4.9%	4.9 €	2.4 €	34 €	26 €	1,111 €	588 €	561 €	498 €	472 €	220 €	79 €	11 €	
<b>China</b>	7.4%	6.3 €	3.1 €	127 €	63 €	1,519 €	780 €	1,091 €	1,016 €	985 €	457 €	281 €	197 €	
<b>Egypt</b>	7.4%	7.4 €	3.6 €	130 €	65 €	1,742 €	889 €	1,396 €	1,315 €	1,281 €	599 €	410 €	318 €	
<b>Germany</b>	3.0%	4.0 €	2.4 €	143 €	93 €	1,072 €	673 €	542 €	473 €	444 €	284 €	136 €	63 €	
<b>Germany</b>	3.0%	4.0 €	2.4 €	52 €	45 €	933 €	602 €	364 €	308 €	284 €	191 €	71 €	11 €	
<b>Great Britain</b>	7.3%	4.2 €	2.3 €	149 €	86 €	1,112 €	659 €	560 €	502 €	478 €	268 €	133 €	68 €	
<b>Ireland</b>	8.4%	4.3 €	2.4 €	155 €	88 €	1,148 €	676 €	584 €	528 €	505 €	279 €	147 €	83 €	
<b>Morocco</b>	10.4%	5.0 €	3.0 €	136 €	64 €	1,284 €	784 €	609 €	562 €	543 €	317 €	202 €	147 €	
<b>Morocco</b>	7.4%	7.4 €	3.6 €	37 €	29 €	1,615 €	838 €	937 €	877 €	852 €	405 €	265 €	198 €	
<b>Namibia</b>	7.4%	6.6 €	3.2 €	128 €	64 €	1,576 €	810 €	1,177 €	1,100 €	1,068 €	499 €	318 €	231 €	
<b>Saudi Arabia</b>	4.2%	5.6 €	2.7 €	33 €	26 €	1,231 €	638 €	666 €	599 €	571 €	264 €	116 €	44 €	
<b>Saudi Arabia</b>	4.2%	5.3 €	2.5 €	33 €	26 €	1,163 €	602 €	600 €	535 €	508 €	232 €	89 €	18 €	
<b>Spain</b>	5%	6.7 €	3.2 €	180 €	123 €	1,661 €	888 €	1,619 €	1,512 €	1,467 €	735 €	495 €	377 €	
<b>Turkey</b>	5.4%	7.0 €	3.4 €	41 €	34 €	1,523 €	789 €	907 €	840 €	812 €	386 €	236 €	162 €	
<b>Venezuela</b>	10.4%	4.5 €	2.5 €	182 €	108 €	1,241 €	746 €	602 €	554 €	534 €	304 €	185 €	128 €	

159 **S6-2: Naphtha**

160 Table 9: Calculated levelized production costs of the different process steps and years for CO<sub>2</sub>-based naphtha. To calculate the CO<sub>2</sub>-avoidance costs for each location, different yearly changes in the  
 161 oil price were assumed (WACC = Weighted average costs of capital; LCOH<sub>2</sub>/CO<sub>2</sub>/Naphtha) = Levelized Costs of H<sub>2</sub>/CO<sub>2</sub>/Naphtha production).<sup>26</sup>

Location	WACC <sup>1</sup>	LCOH <sub>2</sub> [€/kg]		LCOCO <sub>2</sub> [€/kg]		LCONaphtha [€/t]		CO <sub>2</sub> -Avoidance Costs [€/t CO <sub>2</sub> ]					
	Status quo	Status quo	2030	Status quo	2030	Status quo	2030	Status quo			2030		
								-1%	2%	4%	-1%	2%	4%
<b>Argentina</b>	10.4%	6.8 €	3.4 €	163 €	84 €	4,911 €	2,465 €	3,307 €	3,235 €	3,207 €	1,548 €	1,372 €	1,289 €
<b>Argentina</b>	10.4%	4.4 €	2.9 €	159 €	79 €	3,398 €	2,198 €	1,307 €	1,265 €	1,248 €	803 €	699 €	650 €
<b>Argentina</b>	10.4%	4.4 €	2.5 €	159 €	79 €	3,400 €	1,914 €	1,241 €	1,200 €	1,184 €	645 €	546 €	499 €
<b>Argentina</b>	10.4%	4.6 €	2.5 €	49 €	38 €	3,109 €	1,801 €	938 €	905 €	891 €	501 €	418 €	379 €
<b>Bolivia</b>	7%	6.4 €	4.1 €	44 €	34 €	4,207 €	2,732 €	2,311 €	2,245 €	2,218 €	1,442 €	1,290 €	1,216 €
<b>Chile</b>	5%	4.9 €	2.3 €	124 €	66 €	3,527 €	1,749 €	2,509 €	2,415 €	2,375 €	1,122 €	912 €	809 €
<b>Chile</b>	5%	4.9 €	2.4 €	39 €	30 €	3,289 €	1,652 €	1,443 €	1,384 €	1,359 €	649 €	519 €	455 €
<b>China</b>	7.4%	6.3 €	4.0 €	143 €	76 €	4,498 €	2,844 €	3,498 €	3,406 €	3,368 €	2,125 €	1,910 €	1,807 €
<b>Egypt</b>	7%	7.4 €	3.6 €	148 €	80 €	5,205 €	2,591 €	5,392 €	5,271 €	5,220 €	2,511 €	2,229 €	2,093 €
<b>Germany</b>	3%	4.0 €	2.4 €	153 €	102 €	3,082 €	1,881 €	1,403 €	1,338 €	1,310 €	799 €	658 €	588 €
<b>Germany</b>	3%	4.0 €	2.3 €	55 €	47 €	2,723 €	1,687 €	836 €	791 €	772 €	480 €	383 €	335 €
<b>Great Britain</b>	7%	4.2 €	2.3 €	157 €	92 €	3,204 €	1,837 €	1,421 €	1,366 €	1,343 €	752 €	624 €	563 €
<b>Ireland</b>	8%	4.3 €	2.8 €	168 €	98 €	3,309 €	2,150 €	1,470 €	1,417 €	1,396 €	907 €	782 €	722 €
<b>Morocco</b>	10.4%	5.0 €	3.0 €	163 €	81 €	3,757 €	2,231 €	1,414 €	1,373 €	1,357 €	790 €	690 €	642 €
<b>Morocco</b>	7%	7.4 €	3.6 €	45 €	35 €	4,869 €	2,442 €	2,515 €	2,455 €	2,429 €	1,176 €	1,034 €	966 €
<b>Namibia</b>	7%	6.6 €	3.2 €	144 €	77 €	4,660 €	2,322 €	3,901 €	3,802 €	3,761 €	1,803 €	1,573 €	1,462 €
<b>Saudi Arabia</b>	4%	5.6 €	3.3 €	39 €	30 €	3,696 €	2,233 €	2,004 €	1,930 €	1,899 €	1,143 €	982 €	902 €
<b>Saudi Arabia</b>	4%	5.3 €	2.5 €	38 €	30 €	3,490 €	1,738 €	1,636 €	1,572 €	1,545 €	734 €	594 €	525 €
<b>Spain</b>	5%	6.7 €	4.1 €	186 €	125 €	4,873 €	3,046 €	13,200 €	12,857 €	12,713 €	7,943 €	7,175 €	6,801 €
<b>Turkey</b>	5%	7.0 €	4.3 €	47 €	38 €	4,588 €	2,863 €	2,580 €	2,509 €	2,479 €	1,546 €	1,386 €	1,308 €
<b>Venezuela</b>	10.4%	4.5 €	3.0 €	196 €	116 €	3,545 €	2,339 €	1,385 €	1,342 €	1,325 €	873 €	768 €	718 €

163 **S6-3: Cost Composition**



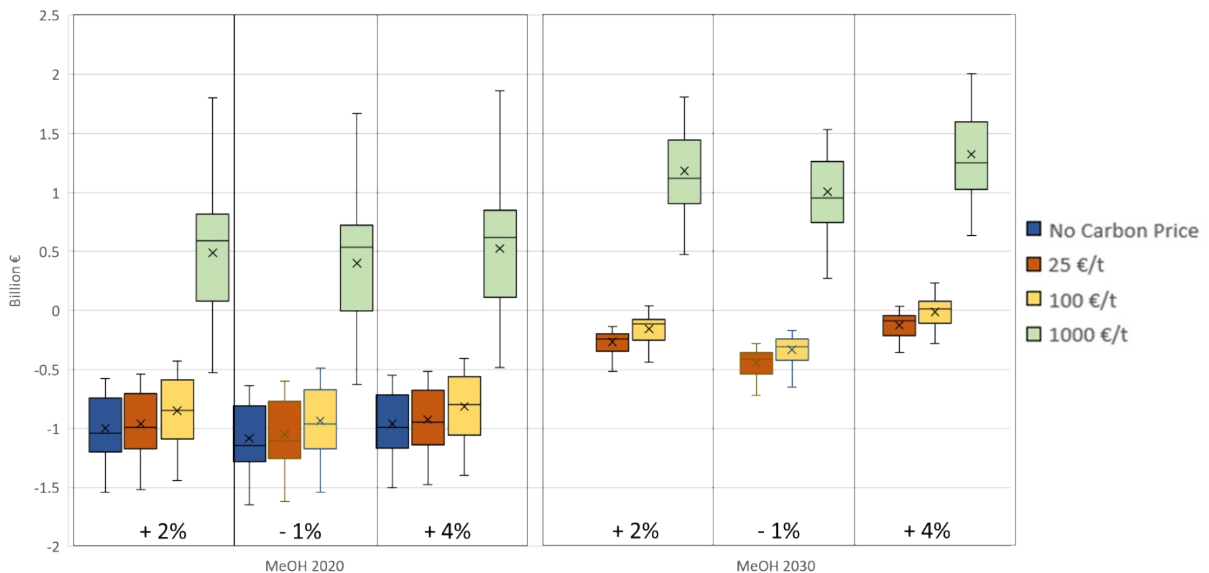
164

165 Figure 2: Average cost composition for the production and import of CO<sub>2</sub>-based methanol and naphtha using Direct Air  
 166 Capture (DAC) or a point source (PS) as CO<sub>2</sub> source.

167

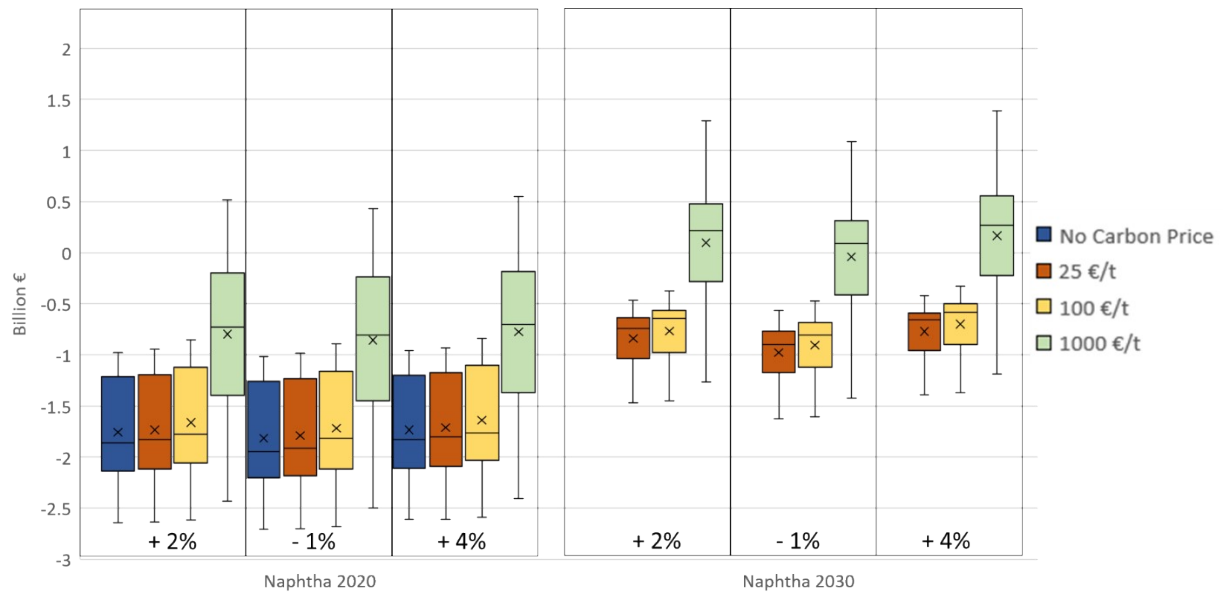
168 **S6-4: Net Present Value**

169 For the NPV calculation the following prices were assumed for the fossil methanol (2020: 322€/t,  
 170 2030: 292 up to 477 €/t) and naphtha production (2020: 414€/t, 2030: 374 €/t up to 616 €/t).



171

172 Figure 3: Results for the Net Present Value for CO<sub>2</sub>-based Methanol production, depending on the oil price development  
 173 (+4%, +2%, -1%) and the carbon price in € per ton CO<sub>2</sub> avoided.



174

175 Figure 4: Results for the Net Present Value for CO<sub>2</sub>-based Naphtha production, depending on the oil price development (+4%,  
 176 +2%, -1%) and the carbon price in € per ton CO<sub>2</sub> avoided.

177

178 **S7: Uncertainty Analysis**

179 **S7-1: Monte Carlo Analysis**

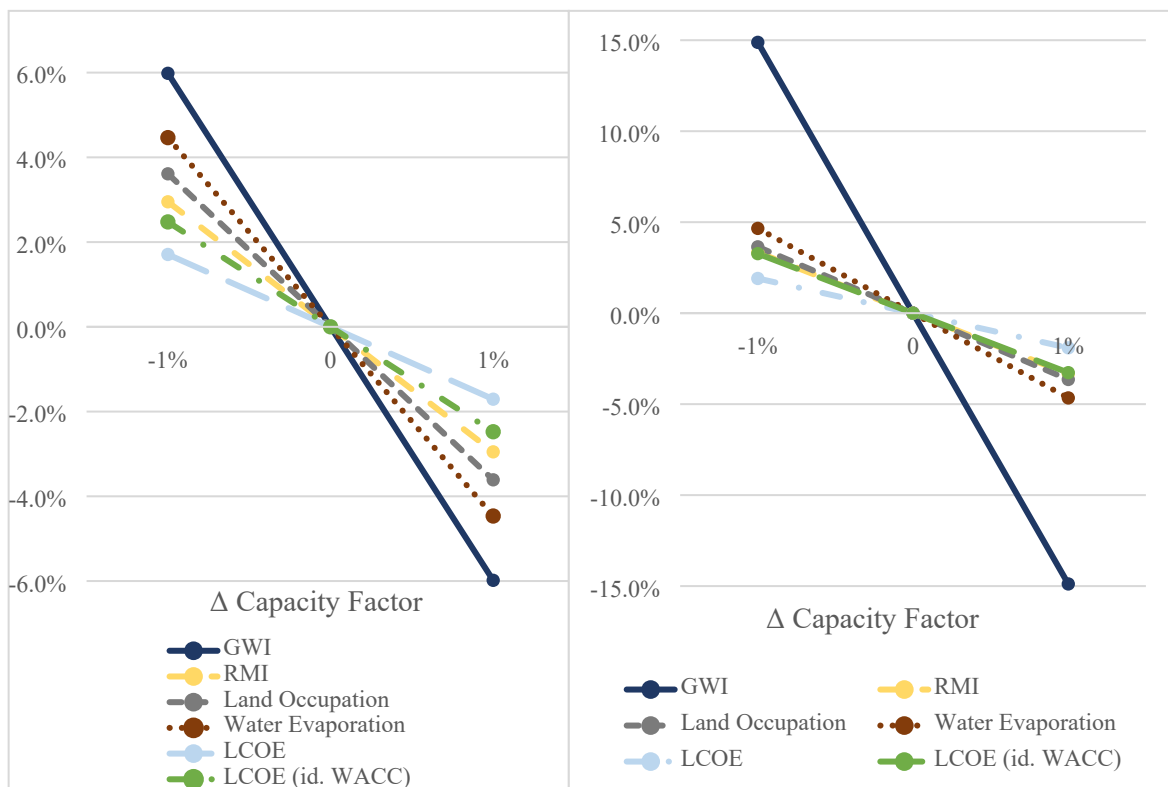
180 *Table 10: Results of the Monte Carlo Analysis for one onshore wind and one photovoltaic location for CO<sub>2</sub>-based Methanol.*  
 181 *(CF = Capacity Factor, GWI = Global Warming Impact, RMI = Raw Material Input, STD = Standard Deviation).*

Energy Source	Country (CF)	Indicator	Mean	Min	Max	STD
Wind	Argentina (71 %)	GW	-0.84	-0.95	-0.67	0.05
		RMI	0.95	0.75	1.24	0.07
Photovoltaic	Chile (26 %)	GW	-0.36	-0.55	-0.01	0.08
		RMI	1.52	1.2	2.06	0.16

182

183 **S7-2: Sensitivity Analysis**

184 In the sensitivity analysis, the influence of a capacity factor alteration on the ecological and economic  
 185 results was calculated for methanol and naphtha production, differentiated between the energy  
 186 sources. To exclude the influence of different CO<sub>2</sub> sources, the sensitivity analysis was conducted only  
 187 for systems using an identical CO<sub>2</sub> source. Because more results are available for systems using Direct  
 188 Air Capture, this system type was selected for the sensitivity analysis. The resulting sensitivities  
 189 correspond to the slope of the trend line calculated by linear regression analysis.

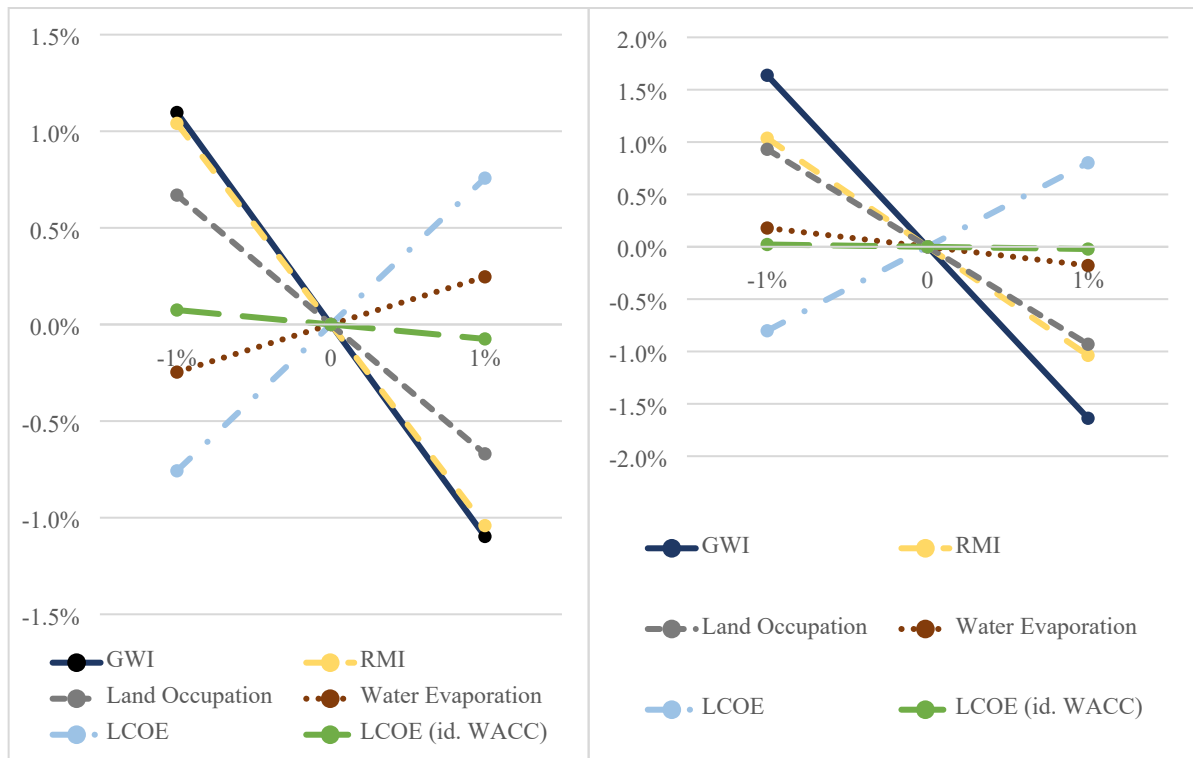


190

191 *Figure 5: Results of the sensitivity analysis for CO<sub>2</sub>-based methanol (left) and naphtha (right) production with photovoltaic*  
 192 *plants as electricity and DAC as CO<sub>2</sub> source (GWI = Global Warming Impact; RMI = Raw Material Input; LCOE = Levelized*  
 193 *Costs of Electricity; id. WACC = identical weighted average costs of capital of 5 % for all locations).*

194





195

196 Figure 6: Results of the sensitivity analysis for CO<sub>2</sub>-based methanol (left) and naphtha (right) production with onshore wind  
 197 plants as electricity and DAC as CO<sub>2</sub> source. (GWI = Global Warming Impact; RMI = Raw Material Input; LCOE = Levelized  
 198 Costs of Electricity; id. WACC = identical weighted average costs of capital of 5 % for all locations).

### 199 S7-3: Manova

200 A one-way Manova was conducted (n = 21) using the software SPSS Statistics, version 26. As  
 201 significance level, an alpha-value of 0.05 was assumed. The results of the multivariate analysis (Table  
 202 11) show the significant effect (p < 0.05) of the variables CO<sub>2</sub> and Energy source on the combined  
 203 dependent variables, while the Water Source and Transport Distance do not show a significant effect.

204 Table 11: Results of the multivariate test for the independent variables

Independent Variable	Test procedure	Value	Hypothesis df	Error df	F	Significance
Water Source	Wilks-Lambda	0.583	5	9	1,288	0.348
CO <sub>2</sub> Source	Wilks-Lambda	0.075	5	9	22,087	0.000
Energy Source	Wilks-Lambda	0.006	5	9	281,474	0.000
Transport Distance	Wilks-Lambda	0.004	5	9	126,939	0.063

205

206 The results of the post-hoc tests (Table 12) show if there are significant effects of the independent  
 207 variables Energy and CO<sub>2</sub> source on single dependent variables. While the values for the energy source  
 208 show a significant effect on all dependent variables, the CO<sub>2</sub> source only shows a significant effect on  
 209 the GWI and RMI.

210

211 *Table 12: Results of the post-hoc tests for those independent variables with a significant effect on the combined variable*  
 212 *(GWI = Global Warming Impact, RMI = Raw Material Input, Evaporation, LCO MeOH = Levelized Costs of Methanol*  
 213 *production)*

<b>Independet Variable</b>	<b>Dependent Variable</b>	<b>Typ III Sum of Squares</b>	<b>Mean of squares</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Significance</b>
<b>CO<sub>2</sub> Source</b>	GWI	0.352	0.352	46.343	0.000
	RMI	0.538	0.538	24.056	0.000
	Water Evaporation	2.962E-05	2.962E-05	0.108	0.747
	Land Occupation	6.816E-08	6.816E-08	0.034	0.856
	LCO MeOH	31473.052	31473.052	0.867	0.369
<b>Energy Source</b>	GWI	0.648	0.648	85.248	0.000
	RMI	0.910	0.910	40.704	0.000
	Water Evaporation	0.022	0.022	79.360	0.000
	Land Occupation	0.001	0.001	351.602	0.000
	LCO MeOH	538712.805	538712.805	17.961	0.001

214

215

216

## 217 **S8: Data Quality Assessment**

218 Within this study, different types of data sets were utilized. To assess the resource availability for  
 219 energy, water, and CO<sub>2</sub> datasets for their distribution on a global scale were applied. To be  
 220 independent of periodical fluctuations of the regional resource availability, only data sources which  
 221 depict long-term yearly averages were used. To enable a direct comparison between different  
 222 locations, the actuality, consistency, and completeness of the datasets are very important aspects.  
 223 Therefore, for energy and water availability state-of-the-art datasets were used which cover all global  
 224 regions instead of combining data from different regions, sources, and publication dates. Even though  
 225 site specific data might be more accurate, the use of several different datasets and sources would  
 226 involve consistency errors due to the use of different methods and premises. This procedure was  
 227 selected, because a valid comparability of the different locations was seen as a very important aspect  
 228 in our analysis. However, the capacity factors for energy generation used in the models depict the  
 229 technical optimum. Capacity factors reached in practice are typically lower but show a continuously  
 230 increasing trend over the last decade<sup>30</sup>. In consequence, the results in this study possibly  
 231 underestimate the actual absolute environmental impacts and production costs in the status quo,  
 232 nevertheless the relations between the different locations would be identical if lower values for the  
 233 capacity factors would have been used. In case of CO<sub>2</sub>, the point sources were identified using publicly  
 234 available information from industry reports, scientific studies, or company reports. However, the data  
 235 availability differed between different regions and sectors. For example, while for Europe and North  
 236 America detailed information about CO<sub>2</sub>-point sources was available, no, or only few data were  
 237 available for CO<sub>2</sub> point sources in China. Furthermore, the available data for cement and waste  
 238 incineration plants was very good, while the available information about steel plants using a blast  
 239 furnace only covers around 30 % of the global production capacity. Therefore, the completeness of the  
 240 data can be enhanced for certain regions and sectors. Nevertheless, significant deviations of the results  
 241 are not expected because of the number of already included point sources.

242 For life cycle modelling, process and cost data from the literature was combined with a state-of-the-art  
243 life cycle-database (ecoinvent 3.5). The process and cost data for the CO<sub>2</sub>-based production processes  
244 were derived from recent publications. According to the data quality assessment for life cycle data  
245 introduced by Weidema et al. <sup>31</sup> their overall reliability and temporal correlation can be assessed as  
246 good. Since the material requirement for the electrolyzer and sequestration plants were also  
247 considered in this study the completeness can be assessed as good, too. However, especially for the  
248 CO<sub>2</sub>-sequestration and electrolyzer plants only demonstration plants with smaller production volumes  
249 than considered in this study exist, wherefore the technological correlation is only sufficient. Energy  
250 and material requirements of production plants with the assumed production volume can only be  
251 estimated. To handle this aspect and shed light on the uncertainty and future values for the  
252 environmental impacts and LCOEs, value ranges were considered in combination with an MCA and  
253 scenario analysis, additional to the modelling with discrete values. Furthermore, the background data  
254 was extracted from the life-cycle database which was last actualized in 2018. Thus, the actuality of the  
255 database is good, nevertheless the specific actuality and technological correlation of the included  
256 processes differ. To increase the quality of the results important background processes, such as the  
257 construction of a wind power or solar power plant as well as RSWO were cross checked with literature  
258 data and actualized if more actual data was available.

259

260

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