

Economic evaluation of bio-based supply chains with CO₂ capture and utilisation

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Abstract

Carbon capture and storage (CCS) and carbon capture and utilisation (CCU) are acknowledged as important R&D priorities to achieve environmental goals set for next decades. This work studies biomass-based energy supply chains with CO₂ capture and utilisation. The problem is formulated as a mixed-integer linear program. This study presents a flexible supply chain superstructure to answer issues on economic and environmental benefits achievable by integrating biomass-coal plants, CO₂ capture and utilisation plants; i.e. location of intermediate steps, fraction of CO₂ emissions captured per plant, CO₂ utilisation plants' size, among others. Moreover, eventual incentives and environmental revenues will be discussed to make an economically feasible project. A large-size case study located in Spain will be presented to highlight the proposed approach. Two key scenarios are envisaged: (i) Biomass, capture or utilisation of CO₂ are not contemplated; (ii) Biomass, capture and CO₂ utilisation are all considered. Finally, concluding remarks are drawn.

Keywords: Mathematical modelling, MILP, NPV, biomass co-combustion, coal power plants, bio-based CCU supply chain

Glossary

AWR Agricultural woody residues

BD Bulk density

CCS Carbon capture and storage

CCU Carbon capture and utilisation

CDU	Carbon dioxide utilisation
DM	Dry matter
EOR	Enhanced oil recovery
ETS	Emission's trading system
EU	European Union
FWR	Forest wood residues
GHG	Greenhouse gas
LHV	Lower heating value
MC	Moisture content
MEA	Monoethanolamine
MILP	Mixed Integer Linear Program
SC	Supply chain
UTM	Universal Transverse Mercator

1 Introduction

The CO₂ emissions from oil, natural gas and coal for any use have changed from 15 500 MtCO₂/y in 1973 to 32 200 MtCO₂/y in 2013 (IEA, 2015) In spite of advances in the use of energy sources, coal is still the main fossil fuel used worldwide (EC, 2014). The contribution of fossil fuels to the energy share in Europe will continue to be higher than renewable and nuclear power in the short and medium term (European Commission, 2011). Moreover, process industries like cement, iron and steel, aluminium, pulp and paper, and refineries, have inherent CO₂ emissions as a result of their raw material conversion. Beyond different alternatives, carbon capture is needed to lower CO₂ emissions.

According to the Energy Roadmap 2050 (European Commission, 2011), CCS will have to be present in 7-32 % of the fossil fuel energy generation share in 2050, depending on the modelling scenario considered, to meet a 80-95 % greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction by 2050 with 1990 as reference year. The 2030 Climate and Energy Policy Framework (General Secretariat of the Council, 2014) proposes a GHG reduction of at least 40 % of the 1990 level by 2030 in order to meet the 2050 objective. Carbon capture and storage (CCS) and carbon capture and utilisation (CCU) have been acknowledged as important research and development priorities of the European Energy Union if it is to reach its 2050 climate objectives in a cost-effective way (European Commission, 2015a). Moreover, CCS and CCU

are research priorities of the Strategic Energy Technologies (SET) Plan of the European Union (European Commission, 2015b). The new financing instrument of the Emissions Trading System from the European Union (EU ETS) is the Innovation Fund (¹). Among other characteristics, it dedicates EUR 400 million allowances to support innovation, plus EUR 50 million from the allowances that remain unused in 2013-2020 to remove a total of 450 million of CO₂ emissions from the current emission's share. The EU ETS is the EU carbon market and works on a cap and trade principle. From 2013, all power generators have to buy all their CO₂ allowances (²).

Carbon dioxide utilisation (CDU) processes are not only relevant to the energy generation or to the heavy industry sectors, but also in a number of other policy areas such as: GHG emissions, transport sector emissions, waste disposal, chemical industry and technological development. The capability of CDU as a CO₂ abatement option and as a competitive advantage for the chemical industry is acknowledged. Its potential has been estimated in about 10 % of today's global CO₂ emissions (Zimmermann and Kant, 2015). The major interest for CDU processes is on carbon footprint reduction if compared to the benchmark fossil fuel route, as well as in fossil fuel savings that are not used as raw material (von der Assen et al., 2013). The CO₂ stream for CDU processes may come from other sources rather than power plant flue gases; i.e. captured in heavy industry, produced as by-product, generated in the **natural gas** industry, or captured from the atmosphere. Therefore, different commercial synergies (as for captured CO₂ "management") may be possible to develop feasible business cases (Pérez-Fortes and Tzimas, 2016; Zimmermann and Kant, 2015).

Biomass can provide a larger energy share than the one that provides nowadays. At large scale, it can be properly co-used with fossil fuels, while at small scale 100 % biomass systems can be appropriate for residential uses and rural electrification (Puigjaner et al., 2015). Biomass alternative and renewable systems must be sustainable and provide a better CO₂ emissions balance than the reference situation with fossil fuels usage. A better CO₂ balance will result from (i) responsible resource exploitation by balancing source availability with the capacity of the plant that uses biomass, and from (ii) an efficient supply-distribution network. Biomass can be considered as carbon neutral if there exists the appropriate time delay between emissions and biomass growth (Zanchi et al., 2012). **This means that new biomass growth may offset CO₂ emissions caused by biomass consumption for energy purposes if the consumption rate is smaller than the harvesting rate.** CO₂ emissions from biomass can be even

¹ <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM:2015:337:REV1>

² http://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/ets/index_en.htm

negative in specific situations as demonstrated in Tilman et al. (Tilman et al., 2006) for the production of biofuels through high diversity grassland biomass. In biorefineries, the overall conversion of biomass can be increased if combined with CDU utilisation processes with a noticeable lower CO₂ emissions impact (Sharifzadeh et al., 2015). The use of woody biomass to replace fossil fuel in heat and power generation indicates better environmental performance. A lower environmental impact is reported if biofuels are the objective (Steubing et al., 2011). As well as with CDU processes, the consumption of less fossil fuel is an important added value of biomass processes.

The purpose of the paper is to identify the economic optimal supply chain (SC) configuration for a bio-based – CCU SC under an emissions abatement condition. Conventional coal power plants are to be adapted to decrease their overall emissions by (i) co-combustion of biomass and by (ii) carbon capture and utilisation in CO₂-based methanol plants. The article is organised as follows: after a brief overview, the mathematical model used for SC optimisation and the case study are described. The model considers SC long-term strategic decisions, such as selection of biomass sources, establishment of pre-treatment units and their location, disposition of distribution centres, coal power plants adapted with co-combustion and carbon capture, and coal power plants equipped with CO₂-based methanol plants. Therefore, the results of this exercise are the network structure design, the selection of the processes' location based on an exclusive list of candidates, the estimation of the needed investment and the monthly flows of mass and energy along the different sites.

2 Overview

The current energy sector needs to reduce its CO₂ emissions. The available options are more efficient conversion processes, renewable sources and smart grids, with the consequent change of business model. Customised and tailor-made solutions to the conditions of each particular site will allow the profitability and feasibility of the business case. As a transition solution towards carbon-free energy generation, biomass can be co-used with fossil fuels in already existing power plants. The use of biomass waste, which entails disposal problems, can be an alternative source of organic matter for power production. The alternatives to centralised and conventional sources of energy should be sustainable in the time, which implies responsible resource exploitation, by balancing source availability with electricity demand, and thus with the plant capacity. That is the reason why the SC optimisation is crucial towards a new energy sector (Puigjaner et al., 2015).

Any type of industry or process can take benefit of modelling and optimisation of SC's, where not only operations are considered, but also business functionalities or market/operation dynamics (Laínez-Aguirre and Puigjaner, 2012). Mathematical programming is an appropriate tool to assist in the quantitative evaluation of bio-based systems, where points of biomass generation may be far from consumption or demand points, local available biomass may not match the biomass demand, and different generation/pre-treatment technologies may be available. The biomass SC problem may be addressed using a wide range of decision-maker outlooks: economic (Bowling et al., 2011; Caputo et al., 2005), environmental (Damen and Faaij, 2006; Perry and Rosillo-Calle, 2008), or both (Ayoub et al., 2009; Bojarski et al., 2009; Mele et al., 2011). Other attempts have been recently done to add the social criterion to the economic and environmental points of view, as the creation of places of job (Pérez-Fortes et al., 2012; You et al., 2012). The optimisation of bio-based SCs under sustainability issues, encompasses many approaches, from the selection of raw material(s) (location, characteristics, and treatments) and/or products to be synthesised, to the selection of synthesis processes (Ba et al., 2016; Cambero and Sowlati, 2014).

The work by (Yue et al., 2014) reviews the major pathways for biomass to bioenergy and biofuel. Biorefineries and CCS and CDU processes are also included. The concept of superstructure is exploited for the selection of the best technologies in each echelon. A superstructure approach, for first and second biomass conversion technologies is also applied in the design of a bioethanol SC in (Miret et al., 2016). With regard to the SC of CO₂ emissions, once emissions are produced they are considered as a material and goes through four echelons/activities: carbon sourcing, capture, transport and storage or sequestration. CO₂ can be used to synthesise fuels, chemicals or materials. The captured CO₂ may be utilised and/or (permanently) stored in geological formations depending on the CO₂ flowrate and on the purpose of the overall SC. CO₂ sources and technological options for capture, transport by pipeline or ships, storage sites location and/or multiple CDU choices configures an interesting superstructure, and business model. To the best of our knowledge, several works have been devoted to the SC optimisation of CO₂ utilisation. In US, enhanced oil recovery (EOR) is the CO₂ utilisation option that has been in practice for many decades, with CO₂ from natural gas processing. A US SC is the subject of study in (Hasan et al., 2015, 2014), where a superstructure is considered for the economic optimisation of the whole country taking into account large CO₂ stationary sources, saline formations and non-mineable coal areas for CO₂ storage, and oil and gas reservoirs for EOR. In (Roh et al., 2016a, 2016b) the superstructure

approach aims at considering the most convenient conversion of CO₂ according to the demand to be supplied, CO₂ reduction and economic feasibilities.

The current paper studies the combination of co-combustion of biomass and coal with carbon capture for CO₂ utilisation in the synthesis of methanol. As for the carbon capture technology, it is a technology already used in industry segments such as natural gas processing, hydrogen production, and in a portion of flue gas from a power plant (Rubin et al., 2012). However, carbon capture at fully commercial scale for a power plant still remains opened: the only existing large scale CCS project is Boundary Dam in Canada which incorporates a coal power plant of 110 MW (MIT, 2016). Currently, the most effective and well-known method to capture CO₂ from flue gas is the chemical absorption with an aqueous MEA (monoethanolamine) solution in a post-combustion configuration. The use of CO₂ as raw material is seen in Europe as a factor of chemical industry rejuvenation (CEFIC, 2009). These processes are currently under different levels of development, ranging from the most basic research, up to first commercial plants, as for instance Carbon Recycling International (³). The CDU processes receive the attention of intermittent renewable plants (i.e. wind, solar), that see CO₂ conversion, and more specifically, the synthesis of H₂ via electrolysis, a way of electricity storage (Jallouli and Krichen, 2012; Jurgensen et al., 2014). It turns out that the conversion of H₂ into a liquid chemical through its combination of CO₂ is attracting the attention of companies that aim at the liquid storage of hydrogen carriers, instead of the high volume and relatively dangerous storage of gaseous H₂ (Dalebrook et al., 2013; Dutta, 2014). It has been recently demonstrated that, to represent net CO₂ emissions reduction if compared to the benchmark situation, CDU processes that consume H₂ produced ad hoc by an electrolyze, need renewable sources to power it (Pérez-Fortes and Tzimas, 2016). The current paper aims at connecting the renewable share of electricity production by biomass in a co-combustion configuration with partial CO₂ capture plants that send the CO₂ to inside CO₂-based methanol plants, in order to evaluate the potential benefit on the CO₂ emissions balance.

3 Problem statement

This paper deals with the strategic and tactical decisions associated with the optimal design and planning of bio-based SC network where co-combustion of biomass and coal is the main alternative technology to fulfil the market demand of electricity. One of the main

³ <http://carbonrecycling.is/>

decisions to evaluate is the inclusion of CCU, delivering CO₂ for the production of methanol (i.e. no other utilisation or storage option is considered), fed by the electricity produced by the portion of coal feedstock replaced by biomass (considered here as "zero" CO₂ emission source). It is assumed that incorporating CO₂ capture technologies causes a reduction in the efficiency of a co-combustion plant. In this paper, methanol production from carbon utilisation fulfils the required methanol demand. A process using **natural gas** as feedstock is the benchmark layout for methanol production.

The current approach has as starting points:

- The SC depicted in (Pérez-Fortes et al., 2014). The case study comprises coal power plants from the Spanish electricity system, and the local woody biomass waste available as assessed in (A Gómez et al., 2010) **through a square geographical discretisation**. The SC has been expanded to include CCU.
- The mass and energy balances and economic data from the CO₂-to-methanol process and evaluated in (Pérez-Fortes and Tzimas, 2016).
- A superstructure of biomass pre-treatment systems (Pérez-Fortes et al., 2014), and the investment and operating costs for coal power plant adaptation to co-combustion and CO₂ capture (European Commission, 2014a).

The optimisation problem is based on an economic criterion and has to meet (i) the electricity demand, (ii) the methanol demand and (iii) the required CO₂ emissions reduction. The emissions reduction and the economic criterion are relative towards a reference case which considers that no action to further decrease CO₂ emissions is taken.

In general, at the strategic level decisions include selecting the network nodes (suppliers, producers, storage locations) through which intermediates and final products are processed and distributed to finally reach the final consumer. Additionally, the strategic decisions include the selection of those technologies to deploy in the **different nodes** as well as their corresponding capacity. The most common approach is to formulate this problem as a large-scale Mixed Integer Linear Program (MILP) that captures the relevant fixed and variable operating costs for each location and each relevant product (Graves and Willems, 2003). The tactical decisions are related to the amount of the different materials and energy that flow along the network.

The considered SC network consists of a number of potential locations where either a processing site or distribution centre or both of them can be located, and suppliers at fixed locations which have available biomass waste with different characteristics. Energy can be generated at several plants located at different locations using the different biomass waste and

coal; while methanol can be produced using CO₂ captured at the co-combustion power plant. It is assumed that the CO₂ captured is used at the same site; thus, no CO₂ transport is needed. The characteristics of the biomass can be changed by using the pretreatment units (e.g., chipping and drying) so that the treated biomass (i) meets the characteristics required to be used in the coal power plant or (ii) increases bulk density to facilitate distribution. Materials flow between any pair of locations may appear if selecting such flow allows improving the performance of the SC.

A general schematic of the bio-based – CCU SC is shown in Figure 1. It is comprised by six main blocks: (i) sourcing, (ii) pre-treatment, (iii) biomass distribution, (iv) biomass storage, (v) energy generation in power plants and (vi) carbon capture and utilisation in the methanol plant. The sourcing block consists in collecting the different biomasses (BM) from different regions and suppliers. After BM being collected in residues piles, the model selects the appropriate location and size of the storage sites where moisture content is decreased due to natural effects. The pre-treatment block considers those activities that modify the quality (primarily moisture content) and/or shape of the biomass, i.e. chipping and drying. Biomass is then transported and stored in silos to be later delivered to their respective consumption points. These consumption points are represented by the generation block or power plants, which convert biomass and coal into electricity. The carbon capture and utilisation block integrates CO₂ capture to feed the CDU methanol plants. Location and quantity of CO₂ capture and CDU methanol plants are decided by the model which is driven by a target decrease of CO₂ emissions. For further details about the depicted superstructure, the reader is referred to (Pérez-Fortes et al., 2014).

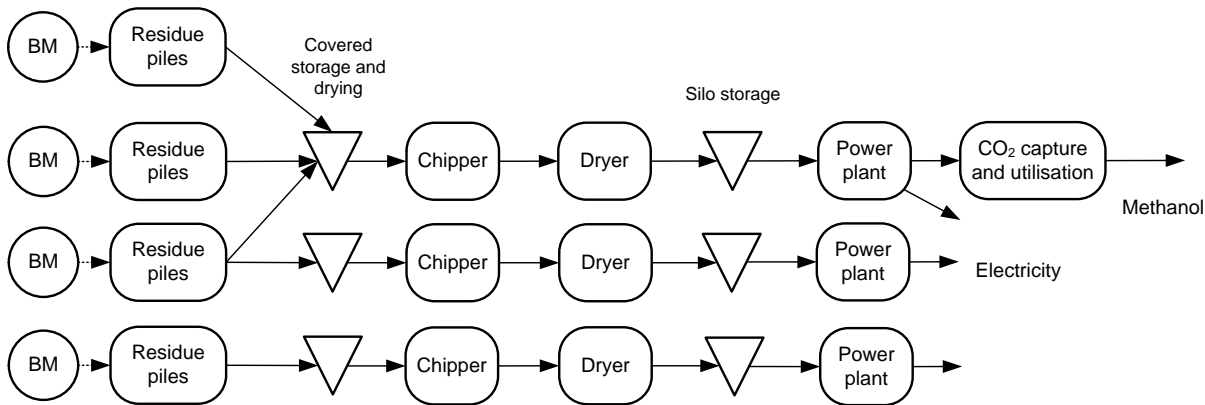


Figure 1 General scheme of the bio-based – CCU SC considered. **BM: Biomass.**

Given the following inputs:

1. Process data

- Biomass waste available for energy purposes: Lower heating value (LHV) and availability (i.e. seasonality).
- Superstructure of pre-treatment and conditions of shape and humidity to meet to enter the power plant.
- Characteristics of biomass storage installations and means of transport for raw biomass and pre-treated biomass.
- Activities efficiencies for the bio-based part: moisture content (MC), dry matter (DM), bulk density (BD), and LHV change into each block. Utilities consumption.
- Activity efficiency for the power plant with CCU: the capture plant has an efficiency penalisation with respect to the coal power plant without capture. Both, CO₂ capture and utilisation plants consumption of electricity.
- A set of matter states that quantifies MC, DM, BD and LHV for each flow of mass between the activities up to the power plant.
- A set of demands for (i) the energy required by the co-combustion power plants according to the electricity demand, (ii) the methanol needed.
- A set of biomass providers, intermediates and plants locations.
- CO₂ emissions associated to the use of coal and natural gas, and diesel as consumable for biomass transport. CO₂ emissions from the EU electricity network and from the CDU plant (direct CO₂ emissions).
- Time period, planning horizon, project lifetime and annual working hours.

2. Economic data

- Investment, fixed and variable operating costs for the technologies comprised into all the blocks.
- Unit transportation costs per km and volume of biomass that is moved.
- Base capacity size and associated economies of scale for pre-treatment, storage, co-combustion and utilisation plants. Capture power plant investment cost is lineal.
- Prices of raw biomass, coal, electricity, fuels needed for transport, water, methanol, oxygen and natural gas. Current market price also for the tonne of CO₂ in the EU ETS.

Determine:

- The biomass network structure: location, number and capacities of the pre-treatment units, size of the volume transported, storage sites and their corresponding dimensions, and connections among them.
- Percentage of coal replaced by biomass into each power plant.
- The number of CCU installations and the percentage of CO₂ captured into each power plant.
- Raw biomass utilisation and schedule, i.e. suppliers operation per month. Inventory levels per month.
- Breakdown of investment and operating costs.

Subject to:

- Electricity and methanol demand satisfaction.
- CO₂ emissions reduction.

Objective:

- Economic optimisation through the metric net present value (NPV).

3.1 Indicators

To evaluate the performance of the proposed network, the NPV is optimised. The CO₂ emissions reduction condition is driving the replacement of coal and the installation of CCU plants. It is important to point out that the NPV and the CO₂ emissions reduction compare the so-called base case with the researched optimum SC. The base case considers that (i) power plants are uniquely fed by coal, (ii) conventional synthesis of methanol (the benchmark synthesis process) is used to meet the market demand of methanol and (iii) biomass waste is burnt (biomass disposal in Figure 2). The two metrics, NPV and CO₂ emissions reduction, evaluate (i) incremental costs due to new units installed related to the base case, and (ii) emissions decrement due to the use of biomass and to the CO₂ capture, as well as the prevented natural gas and coal to produce methanol and electricity, respectively. Figure 2 depicts both cases.

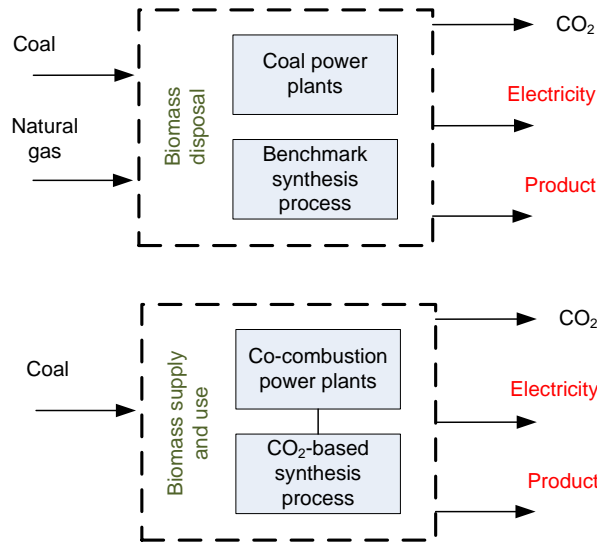


Figure 2 Boundaries for Case I - baseline case (top graph) and Case II - optimum SC configuration (bottom graph). Both of them produce the same amount of electricity and product (methanol). The main differences are: (i) consumption of natural gas (Case II does use CO₂ instead of natural gas to synthesise methanol), (ii) biomass final destination and (ii) use of and change on CO₂ emissions.

3.1.1 Net Present Value (NPV)

Here, in order to compute the NPV, operational costs include those associated with production, distribution and raw materials (i.e. coal, natural gas and biomass) acquisition. Revenue is obtained from the sales of methanol, oxygen (as byproduct of hydrolysis) and electricity. Investments on facilities and technologies are assumed to occur at the beginning of the project.

4 Mathematical model

The model is formulated using a multi objective MILP (moMILP) approach. The mathematical formulation is briefly described next. The interested reader is referred to Pérez-Fortes et al. (2014) for further details. The variables and constraints of the model can be roughly classified into three groups. The first one comprises the process operations constraints, while the second group deals with the environmental model. Finally, third group describes the equations required to evaluate the economic metric.

4.1 Design - Planning Model

The design-planning model is adapted from the work of Laínez et al. (2009). The model most important variable is $P_{diff,t}$; which represents the specific activity of task i performed

using technology j receiving input materials from site f and “delivering” output materials to site f' during period t . This variable is employed for both production and distribution activities. In order to model a production activity, it must receive and deliver material within the same site (P_{ijff}). In case of a distribution activity, facilities f and f' must be different. The model's equations are briefly described in the next paragraphs.

Materials mass balance must be satisfied at each one of the nodes (f). Equation (1) expresses the mass balance for each material (state in the STN formulation) s at each potential facility f in every time period t . Parameter α_{sij} represents the mass fraction of material s that is produced by task i performed using technology j and the set T_s refers to those tasks that have material s as output, while parameter $\bar{\alpha}_{sij}$ and set \bar{T}_s refers to tasks that consume material s .

$$S_{sft} - S_{sft-1} = \sum_{f'} \sum_{i \in T_s} \sum_{j \in (J_i \cap \bar{J}_{f'})} \alpha_{sij} P_{ijff} - \sum_{f'} \sum_{i \in \bar{T}_s} \sum_{j \in (J_i \cap \bar{J}_f)} \bar{\alpha}_{sij} P_{ijff} t$$

$$\forall s, f, t \quad (1)$$

The model assumes that process parameters are fixed (i.e. reactions conversion, separation factors and moisture characteristics). This assumption is acceptable for the majority of the activities: covered storage, chipping, drying, power plant conversion, CO₂ capture and CO₂ conversion. There are activities for which the model should suggest the mixture of inputs in order to achieve a given value for a specific biomass property (i.e., moisture content). For such activities the proportion of the different possible feedstock should be variable. In order to account for those activities, the mass balance shall be modified as shown in Equation (2).

$$S_{sft} - S_{sft-1} = \sum_{f'} \sum_{i \in T_s} \sum_{j \in (J_i \cap \bar{J}_{f'})} \alpha_{sij} P_{ijff} - \sum_{f'} \sum_{i \in \bar{T}_s} \sum_{j \in (J_i \cap \bar{J}_f)} \bar{\alpha}_{sij} P_{ijff} t$$

$$+ \sum_{i \in \bar{T}_s} \sum_{j \in (J_i \cap \bar{J}_{f'})} P_{V_{sijft}} - \sum_{i \in T_s} \sum_{j \in (J_i \cap \bar{J}_f)} P_{V_{sijft}}$$

$$\forall s, f, t \quad (2)$$

For these flexible activities, it is necessary to make sure that the energy balance is achieved. This is done by introducing Equation (3). Here, HV_{si} is the heating value for material s in activity i . Notice that heating values for feedstock are fixed and given.

$$\sum_{s \in S_i} HV_{si} P_{V_{sijft}} = \sum_{s \in S_i} HV_{si} P_{V_{sijft}}$$

$$\forall i \in \bar{T}, j, f, t \quad (3)$$

Let us consider that a flexible activity must accomplish total moisture content. In that case, constraint (4) must be satisfied. Parameters $Water_s$ and $Water^{max}_{ij}$ indicate the moisture content for material s and the maximum moisture content allowed for task i performed in equipment j . **Silo storage is a flexible activity in the current case study.**

$$\sum_{s \in S_i} Water_s P_{vijft} \leq Water_{ij}^{max} \sum_{s \in S_i} HV_{si} P_{vijft} \quad (4)$$

$$\forall i \in \bar{I}, j, f, t$$

Equation (5) models capacity expansions. The model is able to consider either a pure design or a retrofit of SCs. Equation (6) defines the total capacity (F_{jft}) accounting for the expansion during planning period t (FE_{jft}).

$$V_{jft} FE_{jft}^L \leq FE_{jft} \leq V_{jft} FE_{jft}^U \quad \forall f, j \in \tilde{J}_f, t \quad (5)$$

$$F_{jft} = F_{jft-1} + FE_{jft} \quad \forall f, j \in \tilde{J}_f, t \quad (6)$$

Equation (7) ensures that the total production rate in each plant is greater than a minimum desired production rate and lower than the available capacity. In this equation, parameter β_{jf} defines a minimum utilisation rate of technology j in site f , while $\theta_{ijf'}$ indicates the capacity utilisation rate of technology j .

$$\beta_{jf} F_{jft-1} \leq \sum_{f'} \sum_{i \in I_j} \theta_{ijf'} P_{ijf't} \leq F_{jft-1} \quad \forall f, j \in \tilde{J}_f, t \quad (7)$$

Equation (8) forces the amount of raw material s obtained from site f at each time period t to be lower than an upper bound given by physical limitations (A_{sft}). Also, the model assumes that part of the demand can actually be left unsatisfied because of limited production or supplier capacity. **Thus, Eq. (9) expresses that** the sales of s carried out in market f during time period t must be less than or equal to demand.

$$\sum_{f' \in \bar{I}_s} \sum_{i \in I_s} \sum_{j \in J_i} P_{ijf't} \leq A_{sft} \quad \forall s \in RM, f \in Sup, t \quad (8)$$

$$\sum_{f'} \sum_{i \in T_s} \sum_{j \in J_i} P_{ijft} \leq Dem_{sft} \quad \forall s \in FP, f \in Mkt, t \quad (9)$$

4.2 Environmental Model

The application of the LCA methodology to a SC includes four steps, namely (i) goal setting, (ii) life-cycle inventory (LCI), (iii) life-cycle impact assessment (LCIA), and (iv) results interpretation towards improvement.

Regarding goal setting, it is important to define the boundaries of the system under study, and the corresponding functional unit (FU). Commonly, a certain amount of production is considered as the FU. In this sense, it is advisable to compare different SCs in terms of the fulfilled amount of sales or portion of demand satisfied (Bojarski et al. 2009).

The LCI step requires the estimation of SC environmental interventions (emissions or natural raw material consumptions) which can be collected using LCI databases. Finally, the results of the LCI step can be interpreted by means of different environmental metrics. As aforementioned, we will focus on CO₂ emissions (i.e., climate change damage category) in this work.

The equations of the environmental model are briefly described next. Equation (10) evaluates IC_{aft} which represents the mid-point a environmental impact associated with site f in period t ; $\psi_{ijft'a}$ is the a environmental category impact CF for task i using technology j , receiving materials from node f and delivering them at node f' . Note that $\psi_{ijft'a}$ is a negative factor for those activities that “consume” CO₂ emissions.

$$IC_{aft} = \sum_{j \in J_f} \sum_{i \in T_j} \sum_{f'} \psi_{ijft'a} P_{ijft} \quad \forall a, f, t \quad (10)$$

It is **assumed** that $\psi_{ijft'a}$ is fixed and constant, provided that all environmental impacts are directly proportional to the activity performed in that node (P_{ijft}). This issue is common practice in LCA, where all direct environmental impacts are considered linear with respect to the FU (Heijungs and Suh 2002). In the case of distribution, the FU commonly considered is the amount of material shipped a given distance [kg·km]. Consequently, the value of $\psi_{ijft'a}$ can be calculated by Eq. (11) in the case of transportation, which considers the distance

between sites ($distance_{ff'}$) and where ψ_{ija}^T represents the a environmental category impact CF for the transportation of a mass unit of material over a length unit. It should be noted that environmental impacts associated with distribution activities are allocated to their source node.

$$\psi_{ijf'a} = \psi_{ija}^T distance_{ff'} \quad \forall i \in Tr, j \in J_i, a, f, f' \quad (11)$$

Equation (12) introduces $DamC_{gft}$ which is a weighted sum of all mid-point environmental interventions combined using g end-point damage factors ζ_{ag} and then further normalized with $NormF_g$ factors. Equation (13) is used to compute the g normalized end-point damage along the whole SC ($DamC_g^{SC}$). In this work, the set g is comprised of one single element: the climate change damage category.

$$DamC_{gft} = \sum_{a \in A_g} NormF_g \zeta_{ag} IC_{aft} \quad \forall g, f, t \quad (12)$$

$$DamC_g^{SC} = \sum_f \sum_t DamC_{gft} \quad \forall g \quad (13)$$

CO2 emissions that are prevented are computed as shown in Eqns. (14) and (15). The set ISV represents those activities which allow, by using biomass as energy source or CCU technologies, to avoid tasks that generated CO2 emissions (e.g., biomass sourcing vs. coal purchasing). Here $\bar{\psi}_{iff'a}$ is the a environmental category impact CF avoided by performing task i using technology j , receiving materials from node f and delivering them at node f' ; while, \bar{IC}_{aft} and \overline{DamC}_g^{SC} are the mid-point a environmental impact savings associated with site f in period t and the g normalized end-point damage savings along the whole SC, respectively.

$$\bar{IC}_{aft} = \sum_{j \in J_i} \sum_{i \in ISV} \sum_{f'} \bar{\psi}_{iff'a} P_{ijff't} \quad \forall a, f, t$$

(14)

$$\overline{DamC}_g^{SC} = \sum_{a \in A_g} \sum_f \sum_f NormF_g \zeta_{a_g} \overline{IC}_{aft} \quad \forall g$$

(15)

Equations (16) aggregate the environmental damage category results for the whole SC.

$$Impact = \sum_g \left(DamC_g^{SC} - \overline{DamC}_g^{SC} \right)$$

(16)

4.3 Economic Model

As previously stated, the NPV will be used for the economic evaluation. We are dealing with a network design problem. One of the characteristics of this type of problems is that they are capital intensive. Profit or cost do not take into account the capital needed for the investments associated with the new SC design or SC retrofit. However, NPV does and is commonly used to assess this kind of projects.

Operating revenue is calculated by means of net sales which are the income related to the normal SC activities. Thus, the total revenue incurred in any period t can be easily computed from sales executed in period t as shown in Eq. (17).

$$ESales_t = \sum_{s \in FP} \sum_{f \in Mkt} \sum_{f' \in (Mkt \cup Sup)} Sales_{sft} Price_{sft} \quad \forall t$$

(17)

In order to calculate overall operating cost an estimation of indirect costs and direct costs are required. The total fixed cost of operating a given SC network can be obtained using Eq. (18). $FCFJ_{jft}$ represents the fixed unitary capacity cost of using technology j at site f .

$$FCost_t = \sum_{f \in (Mkt \cup Sup)} \sum_{j \in J_f} FCFJ_{jft} F_{jft} \quad \forall t \quad (18)$$

The cost of purchases from supplier e , which is computed through Eq. (19), includes raw materials purchases, transport, production resources and cost avoidance due to the use of biomass as energy source or carbon capture and utilisation technologies.

$$EPurch_{et} = Purch_{et}^{rm} + Purch_{et}^{tr} + Purch_{et}^{prod} - Purch_{et}^{ISV} \quad \forall e, t \quad (19)$$

The purchases ($Purch_{et}^{rm}$) associated with raw materials from supplier e can be computed through Eq. (20). Parameter χ_{est} represents the cost associated with raw material s purchased from supplier e .

$$Purch_{et}^{rm} = \sum_{s \in RM} \sum_{f \in F_e} \sum_{i \in \bar{T}_s} \sum_{j \in J_i} P_{ijffit} \chi_{est} \quad \forall e \in E_{rm}, t \quad (20)$$

The costs of production and distribution are determined by Eqns. (21) and (22), respectively. Here, ρ_{effit}^{tr} denotes the e provider unitary cost associated with shipping materials from location f to location f' during period t . τ_{ijfet}^{ut1} represents the unitary production cost associated with task i using technology j , whereas τ_{sffet}^{ut2} represents the unitary inventory costs of material s stored at site f , both of them using provider e during period t .

$$Purch_{et}^{tr} = \sum_{i \in Tr} \sum_{j \in J_i \cap \bar{J}_e} \sum_f \sum_{f'} P_{ijffit} \rho_{effit}^{tr} \quad \forall e \in \bar{E}_{tr}, t \quad (21)$$

$$Purch_{et}^{prod} = \sum_f \sum_{i \in Tr} \sum_{j \in (J_i \cap \bar{J}_f)} P_{ijffit} \tau_{ijfet}^{ut1} + \sum_s \sum_{f \notin (Sup \cup Mkt)} S_{sfi} \tau_{sffet}^{ut2} \quad \forall e \in \tilde{E}_{prod}, t \quad (22)$$

The cost avoidance achieved by substituting some activities in the supply chain by biomass based energy generation and carbon capture and utilisation technologies is accounted in Eq. (23).

$$Purch_{et}^{ISV} = \sum_{j \in \bar{J}_i} \sum_{i \in ISV} \sum_{f'} P_{ijffit} \tau_{ijfet}^{ISV} \quad \forall e \in \tilde{E}_{ISV}, t \quad (23)$$

(23)

Finally, the total investment on fixed assets is computed through Eq. (24). This equation includes the investment made to expand the technology's capacity j in facility site f in period t ($Price_{jft}^{FJ} FE_{jft}$). A piece-wise linear function can be used to model economies of scale.

$$FAsset_t = \sum_f \sum_j Price_{jft}^J FE_{jft} + I_{ft}^J JB_{ft} \quad \forall t \quad (24)$$

Equation (25) is to evaluate the profits in period t . **It is assumed that the prices of raw materials, utilities, products and byproducts are constant along the selected time horizon.** To conclude, NPV is computed by means of Eq. (26).

$$Profit_t = ESales_t - (FCost_t + \sum_e EPurch_{et}) \quad \forall t \quad (25)$$

$$NPV = \sum_t \left(\frac{Profit_t - FAsset_t}{(1 + rate)^t} \right) \quad (26)$$

Finally, the SC network design-planning problem whose objective is to optimise the NPV can be mathematically posed as follows:

$$Max_{X,Y} NPV$$

subject to

$$\text{Eqns. (1) to (26)}$$

$$X \in \{0,1\}; Y \in \mathbb{R}^+$$

Here X denotes the binary variables set, while Y corresponds to the **continuous variables set**.

5 Case study: a bio-based – CCU SC located in Spain

The aim is to retrofit selected plants of the coal combustion plants in Spain with biomass co-use and CCU. Given a set of biomass collection sites and power plants, the SC model will

provide solutions for the location-allocation problem, flows of matter among sites and percentage of CO₂ captured per plant, by optimising an economic criterion under a restriction of CO₂ emissions.

- The coordinate system Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) is used. Linear distances among sites are calculated and corrected by a tortuosity factor of 1.4 (A. Gómez et al., 2010). The centre of the square areas for biomass sites and the specific power plant locations are considered.
- Boundaries are set from cradle-to-gate (see Figure 2). Distribution and use of electricity and methanol are outside the scope of this paper. The natural gas and coal cradle-to-gate emissions and LHV, and the emissions associated to the European electricity grid are from (European Commission, 2014b).
- The currency used is EUR₂₀₁₄. The Chemical Engineering Plant Cost Index CEPCI published monthly in the Chemical Engineering Magazine is used to actualise each unit purchase cost to 2014 (“Economic indicators,” 2014). European Power Plant Capital Cost Index (⁴) and the Dollar-EUR currency conversion are also taken into account (Eurostat, 2016).
- CO₂ equivalent emissions are taken into account.
- The average of working hours is 7 800 h/y for all the plants considered in the SC. The time horizon is 10 years.
- The interest rate is 5% (inferred from (Pérez-Fortes and Tzimas, 2016) and taking into account the interest rate tendency of Spain (⁵)), and the capital expenditure happen the first year.

We refer the reader to (Pérez-Fortes et al., 2014) for further details about the bio-based case study.

5.1 Raw materials and coal combustion plants

The types of biomass waste used are forest wood residues (FWR) and agricultural waste residues (AWR) from (A Gómez et al., 2010; A. Gómez et al., 2010). Only the areas (60 x 60 km for AWR, and 80 x 80 km for FWR) producing more than 50 t/y are considered in this case study. The candidate locations to place a pre-treatment unit are those where biomass average waste production is above 95 t/y. These thresholds have been established to take into account a 90% of the forest residue produced. These thresholds are also based on the fact that

⁴ <https://www.ihs.com/Info/cera/ihsindexes/index.html>

⁵ https://ycharts.com/indicators/spain_long_term_interest_rates

to benefit from economies of scale, is better to focus on those areas where biomass is more concentrated. The amount of available biomass (according to the criteria described in (A Gómez et al., 2010; A. Gómez et al., 2010)) is further reduced to take into account other potential users, and to only meet the needs from the combustion coal power plants. Figure 3 depicts the yearly energy profile of biomass supply and of the maximum demand of biomass energy from the selected coal power plants (15 % coal replacement, in LHV terms), based on the energy profile of 2014 in Spain (Red Eléctrica de España, 2015). On the one hand, the available biomass has been reduced to meet the needs: 15 PJ/y are provided by FWR and 13 PJ/y by AWR. The ten plants that provided most energy during year 2014, delivered 27 957 GWh. This amount is, taking into account a plant efficiency of 45 % (European Commission, 2014a) and a coal replacement of 10 % (as a problem condition), 23 PJ/y. The problem condition establishes that 10 % of the coal inlet energy has to be replaced by biomass, ranging from 0-15 % individually per plant. See in Table 5, Table 6 and Table 7 the detail of the monthly biomass provision and power plants energy demand.

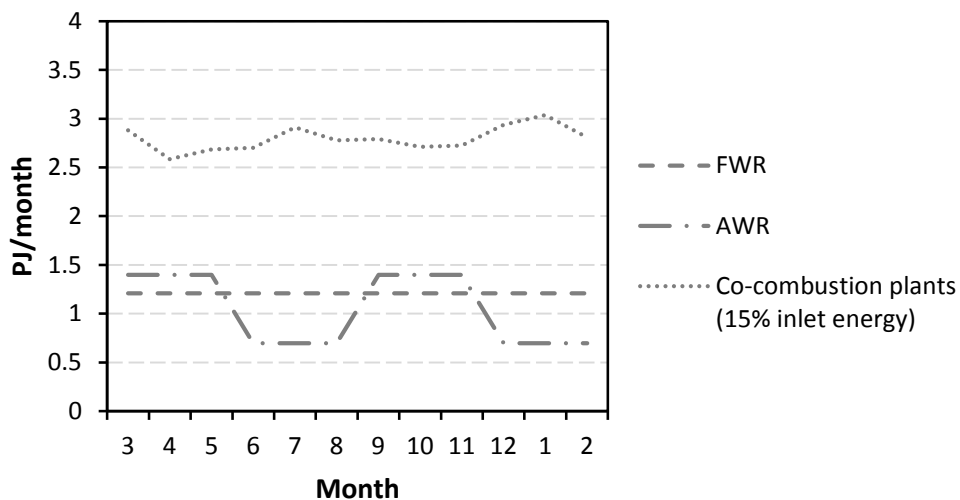


Figure 3 Biomass seasonal availability and seasonal power plants demand. The energy demand is calculated as a 15 % of the coal inlet thermal value (LHV), which is assumed to be replaced by biomass (Pérez-Fortes et al., 2014).

5.2 Biomass pre-treatment units, storage and transportation

Biomass storage is allowed after harvesting or collection and after the pre-treatment (before combustion plants). Open air covered storage is considered from raw material (for a maximum of two months) and storage of pre-treated biomass in silos. In the first case biomass properties could change and they were modelled as biomass states. In the second case, the activity was modelled as flexible (see (Pérez-Fortes et al., 2014) for further information). The

pre-treatment possibilities taken into account are chipping and drying. Firstly, biomass is converted into chips of 240 kg/m³. Secondly, its moisture content is reduced to 5 or 10 %. The chipper consumes electricity and the drier's energy is supplied by diesel. Transport by trucks also consume diesel.

5.3 Carbon capture and CO₂-based methanol plant

The most important parameters taken into account for the CCU modelling are summarised in Table 1 and Table 2. The economic data for input and output streams of the case studies are summarised in Table 8 and Table 9. **The case study takes into account that the electricity available for the CDU plant is limited to the amount of electricity equivalent to the coal replaced by biomass, so as to achieve the required condition of being powered by renewables and thus emit less than the benchmark process (Pérez-Fortes and Tzimas, 2016).** This electricity consumption directly determines **the size** of the CDU plant that can be installed in the specific co-combustion plant. At the same time, the size of the CDU plant determines the consumption of CO₂, thus, determines the fraction of CO₂ captured, in each specific co-combustion plant.

Table 1 Capture plant modelling (European Commission, 2014a)

Investment	941	EUR/kWe
Fixed cost	2.4%	of CAPEX
Production	840	t CO ₂ /kWe

Table 2 Methanol plant modelling (Pérez-Fortes and Tzimas, 2016)

Production	440 000	tMeOH/y
Investment (CAPEX)	565	MEUR
Fix cost	5.5%	of CAPEX
Scale factor	0.6	
<i>Utilities</i>		
Electricity consumed	12	MWh/tMeOH
<i>Inputs and outputs</i>		
CO ₂ consumed	1.46	t/tMeOH
Water consumed	1.99	t/tMeOH
Methanol produced	1	t/tMeOH
Oxygen produced	1.59	t/tMeOH

With regard to the environment, we will focus on a CO₂ emission trading scheme. Therefore, we compute the equivalent CO₂ amount associated with each optimal network configuration. However, it is used in the model as a constraint instead of an objective.

5.3.1 Reduction of CO₂ emissions

One important figure in the case study is the reduction of CO₂ emissions. This considers: the emissions prevented from coal and natural gas extraction, transport and consumption, the emissions captured and used, the emissions from biomass transport and pre-treatment and from the CDU process.

Two cases are presented next: the baseline and the carbon capture and utilisation case. They have been modelled in GAMS and solved using the CPLEX solver on an Intel Xenon at 2.3 GHz with 64 GB computer. The model consists of 5994112 continuous variables, 998 discrete variables and 66118 equations. The total CPU time using 20 threads in parallel with an optimality gap of 2.5% is 41957 s and 37308 s for Case I and Case II, respectively.

5.4 Case I: Baseline case

Firstly, the supply chain has been optimised with no consideration of carbon capture and utilisation. A schematic of the optimal network configuration is shown in Figure 4. The model proposes to activate 45 pre-treatment sites which are represented as black dots in Figure 4. All of these pre-treatment sites were provided chipping technology with a capacity between 10 and 15 t/h. However, dryers were installed in only seven pre-treatment sites where biomass is collected and dried. This allows taking advantage of dryer's capacity since such pre-treatment technology demands a significantly higher capital investment in comparison with chippers. All installed dryers have a capacity of 40 t/h. In this network, eight combustion plants receive biomass to cover their respective energy demand and are modified in order to co-fire coal and biomass. The total demand share that is satisfied by using biomass is 10%. The investment needed to deploy this network configuration is listed in Table 3.

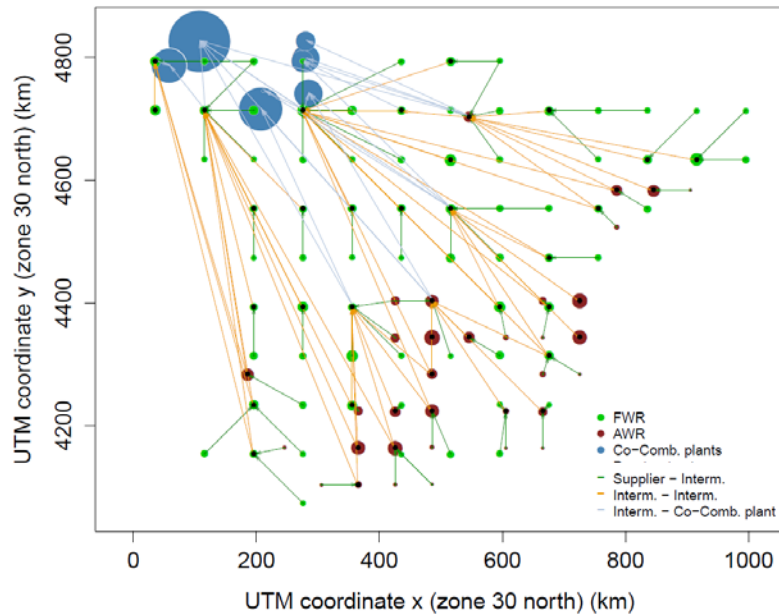


Figure 4 Optimal network configuration for the baseline case which does not consider CCU technology

Table 3 Investments for the baseline case

Equipment	Investment (M EUR ₂₀₁₄)
Chipping	7.7
Drying	26.7
Co-firing	173.5
Total	207.9

The baseline configuration results in a negative NPV equal to -353.8 M EUR, meaning that the incoming revenues do not offset the costs and investment needed using a 5% return rate, as detailed in the following lines. Every year, revenue due to biomass-based energy sales amounts to ~ 127.5M EUR, while the biomass purchases contribute 118.2 M EUR to the direct cost. Biomass transportation also represents a significant direct cost and results in approximately 57 M EUR per year. This case prevents the utilisation of approximately 1.4 Mt of coal. That means that for each t of coal that is saved, the project generates a loss of about 25 EUR under the hypothesis and assumptions of this case study.

As one can infer, biomass pre-treatment and co-firing technologies cost should decrease to make a project of this nature viable, which is only achievable (if possible) through more R&D and better integrated processes. Decentralised energy generation could also alleviate part of the distribution costs that are incurred to bring the biomass to centralised co-combustion plants. Yet another alternative is to look for other income sources to compensate

the relatively high investment and operating costs. In the next case, we explore carbon capture and its utilisation to produce methanol for this purpose.

5.5 Case II: Carbon capture and utilisation with additional energy requirements fulfilled using the European electricity grid

In this case, we consider the possibility of installing carbon capture technology in the co-combustion plants. The captured carbon could be then utilised to generate methanol. We assume that the overall extra requirement of energy due to the installation of these two technologies can be obtained from the European electricity grid. The network is constrained to mitigate at least 1% of the overall Greenhouse Emissions (GHG) generated by the traditional network and to cover at least 5% of the energy demand with renewable resources. In addition, a minimum methanol production of 100k t/y is imposed as minimum demand to be satisfied. The relative reduction in GHG is based on the CO₂ emissions generated to deliver 100% of the energy demand by using coal-based combustion and the methanol demand using natural gas as raw material.

The network configuration that results from the optimisation of this case is depicted in Figure 5. The solution activates the constraint that forces that at least 5% of the demand must be satisfied using biomass. This reduces the investment dedicated to biomass pre-treatment technologies and co-firing adaptation in the combustion plants. In this case, there are only four sites which have a dryer installed. Again, each of the dryers has a capacity of 40 t/h. Chippers are installed in the same number of locations compared with the baseline case. Similarly to the baseline, the investment associated with chippers installation is favoured over transportation of high volume biomass along the ten-year planning horizon. Co-firing adaptation is proposed to be carried out in three combustion plants. Table 4 summarises the investment associated with this configuration. This supply chain has a capture and utilisation capacity equivalent to 100 kt MeOH (i.e., 22.8 MW) which has been located next to plant “La Robla” (m9).

This configuration generates again a negative NPV of -1148.6 M EUR, thus obtaining an economically unfeasible case with revenues that can not offset the costs and investment required, as explained next. Annual revenue is equal to 113.2 M EUR. Note that this figure is lower than the one in the baseline. The revenue due to methanol and oxygen sales are just about 43.6 M EUR per year, however the considered methanol production technology requires about 12 MWh/t which causes an imbalance in the demand /supply that must be

compensated by using energy from the grid. This brings the total direct costs to 253.3 M EUR each year. In this network 3.5% of the total CO₂ emissions are recovered or saved by using biomass-based energy. Due to the CCU technology, the network can save around 231 kt CO₂/yr. Nevertheless, the extra energy requirement generates around 609.5 kt CO₂/yr. As the reader can see, in order to make carbon capture and its utilisation to produce methanol feasible under the assumptions of this case study, methanol technologies should benefit from being more energy efficient, and methanol prices that are higher than the ones currently in the market.

Table 4 Investments for the baseline case

Equipment	Investment (M EUR ₂₀₁₄)
Chipping	7.8
Drying	21.1
Co-firing	84.1
CCU	106.6
Total	219.6

Let us assume that the extra energy requirements can be obtained from a renewable source. This would reduce the footprint of the network in 609.5 kt CO₂/y. Assuming that the network could claim cost reductions by using the ETS and that the right to emit 1 annual t CO₂ is currently about 5.5 EUR, the optimal network can be configured such that resulting NPV value is -605.5 M EUR. Still, it does not make this type of project feasible. For the considered CCU technology to make this project viable, it should generate an annual inflow of about 74.5 M EUR. This may be achieved through a price increase or a cost reduction. Under this scenario, we are saving around 2.6 Mt CO₂/y. Assuming that this inflow results from the ETS, the right to emit 1 annual t CO₂ must be increased by around 27 EUR. Otherwise, if this inflow is to come from methanol sales this would mean an increase of 745 EUR/t (a 120% increase from its current price) since the network is producing 100 kt of methanol per year. On the other hand, in order to make the baseline case financially feasible an extra annual inflow of 44 M EUR is needed. This is an increase of ~ 31 EUR per t CO₂ emitted, provided that the baseline is saving only 1.4 Mt CO₂/y.

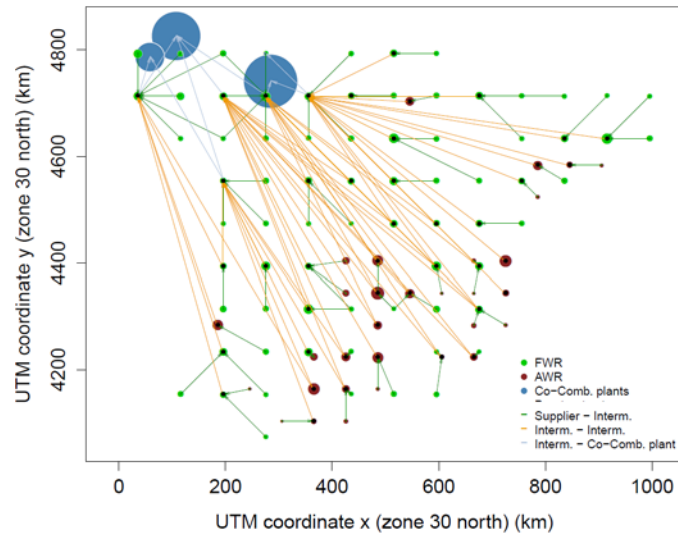


Figure 5 Optimal network configuration for Case II

6 Conclusions

In this work, we demonstrated how a generic supply chain design-planning formulation can be easily extended by adding new process blocks. In this particular case, a carbon capture and a utilisation block have been added. The utilisation part considers the production of methanol by having carbon dioxide and water as inputs. It has been highlighted how a model of this type can not only support decision-making about typical design questions such as the capacity and location of technology but also be exploited to address regulatory concerns. In the presented case study, it has been shown how this type of economic evaluation could suggest changes in the emission trade structure so as to induce the industrial changes needed to achieve regulatory expected goals.

With regard to the specific case study, the carbon capture technology analysed in this work, under the postulated assumptions, does not allow a biomass-based centralised energy supply chain to be viable or to improve from an economic standpoint. A block for the utilisation of CO₂ which is not energy intensive may be an alternative. Under the hypotheses of this study, promising methanol production technologies which are not based on hydrolysis, or cheaper hydrolysis, may create a financial feasible scenario. As for the condition imposed to the problem to mitigate at least 1% of the overall Greenhouse emissions, various tests were carried out to find a proportion that provided a feasible optimisation problem. This proportion could be escalated as technologies mature; however, under the current technologies and market conditions even with this low value significant challenges become apparent to make this type of projects financially viable as demonstrated in the case study.

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Appendix

A. Input data for the case study

A.1 Biomass supply

Table 5 Availability of FWR for a year (k_i)

Location/Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
e1	6.326	6.326	6.326	6.326	6.326	6.326	6.326	6.326	6.326	6.326	6.326	6.326
e2	5.371	5.371	5.371	5.371	5.371	5.371	5.371	5.371	5.371	5.371	5.371	5.371
e3	5.239	5.239	5.239	5.239	5.239	5.239	5.239	5.239	5.239	5.239	5.239	5.239
e4	5.083	5.083	5.083	5.083	5.083	5.083	5.083	5.083	5.083	5.083	5.083	5.083
e5	4.994	4.994	4.994	4.994	4.994	4.994	4.994	4.994	4.994	4.994	4.994	4.994
e6	4.581	4.581	4.581	4.581	4.581	4.581	4.581	4.581	4.581	4.581	4.581	4.581
e7	4.317	4.317	4.317	4.317	4.317	4.317	4.317	4.317	4.317	4.317	4.317	4.317
e8	4.298	4.298	4.298	4.298	4.298	4.298	4.298	4.298	4.298	4.298	4.298	4.298
e9	4.078	4.078	4.078	4.078	4.078	4.078	4.078	4.078	4.078	4.078	4.078	4.078
e10	4.026	4.026	4.026	4.026	4.026	4.026	4.026	4.026	4.026	4.026	4.026	4.026
e11	3.772	3.772	3.772	3.772	3.772	3.772	3.772	3.772	3.772	3.772	3.772	3.772
e12	3.588	3.588	3.588	3.588	3.588	3.588	3.588	3.588	3.588	3.588	3.588	3.588
e13	3.546	3.546	3.546	3.546	3.546	3.546	3.546	3.546	3.546	3.546	3.546	3.546
e14	3.533	3.533	3.533	3.533	3.533	3.533	3.533	3.533	3.533	3.533	3.533	3.533
e15	3.533	3.533	3.533	3.533	3.533	3.533	3.533	3.533	3.533	3.533	3.533	3.533
e16	3.517	3.517	3.517	3.517	3.517	3.517	3.517	3.517	3.517	3.517	3.517	3.517
e17	3.463	3.463	3.463	3.463	3.463	3.463	3.463	3.463	3.463	3.463	3.463	3.463
e18	3.411	3.411	3.411	3.411	3.411	3.411	3.411	3.411	3.411	3.411	3.411	3.411
e19	3.352	3.352	3.352	3.352	3.352	3.352	3.352	3.352	3.352	3.352	3.352	3.352
e20	3.330	3.330	3.330	3.330	3.330	3.330	3.330	3.330	3.330	3.330	3.330	3.330
e21	3.196	3.196	3.196	3.196	3.196	3.196	3.196	3.196	3.196	3.196	3.196	3.196
e22	2.986	2.986	2.986	2.986	2.986	2.986	2.986	2.986	2.986	2.986	2.986	2.986
e23	2.978	2.978	2.978	2.978	2.978	2.978	2.978	2.978	2.978	2.978	2.978	2.978
e24	2.968	2.968	2.968	2.968	2.968	2.968	2.968	2.968	2.968	2.968	2.968	2.968
e25	2.835	2.835	2.835	2.835	2.835	2.835	2.835	2.835	2.835	2.835	2.835	2.835
e26	2.807	2.807	2.807	2.807	2.807	2.807	2.807	2.807	2.807	2.807	2.807	2.807
e27	2.742	2.742	2.742	2.742	2.742	2.742	2.742	2.742	2.742	2.742	2.742	2.742
e28	2.694	2.694	2.694	2.694	2.694	2.694	2.694	2.694	2.694	2.694	2.694	2.694
e29	2.685	2.685	2.685	2.685	2.685	2.685	2.685	2.685	2.685	2.685	2.685	2.685
e30	2.604	2.604	2.604	2.604	2.604	2.604	2.604	2.604	2.604	2.604	2.604	2.604
e31	2.486	2.486	2.486	2.486	2.486	2.486	2.486	2.486	2.486	2.486	2.486	2.486
e32	2.476	2.476	2.476	2.476	2.476	2.476	2.476	2.476	2.476	2.476	2.476	2.476
e33	2.411	2.411	2.411	2.411	2.411	2.411	2.411	2.411	2.411	2.411	2.411	2.411
e34	2.382	2.382	2.382	2.382	2.382	2.382	2.382	2.382	2.382	2.382	2.382	2.382
e35	2.370	2.370	2.370	2.370	2.370	2.370	2.370	2.370	2.370	2.370	2.370	2.370
e36	2.333	2.333	2.333	2.333	2.333	2.333	2.333	2.333	2.333	2.333	2.333	2.333
e37	2.283	2.283	2.283	2.283	2.283	2.283	2.283	2.283	2.283	2.283	2.283	2.283
e38	2.277	2.277	2.277	2.277	2.277	2.277	2.277	2.277	2.277	2.277	2.277	2.277
e39	2.269	2.269	2.269	2.269	2.269	2.269	2.269	2.269	2.269	2.269	2.269	2.269
e40	2.245	2.245	2.245	2.245	2.245	2.245	2.245	2.245	2.245	2.245	2.245	2.245

<i>Location/Month</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>e41</i>	2.240	2.240	2.240	2.240	2.240	2.240	2.240	2.240	2.240	2.240	2.240	2.240
<i>e42</i>	2.221	2.221	2.221	2.221	2.221	2.221	2.221	2.221	2.221	2.221	2.221	2.221
<i>e43</i>	2.168	2.168	2.168	2.168	2.168	2.168	2.168	2.168	2.168	2.168	2.168	2.168
<i>e44</i>	2.158	2.158	2.158	2.158	2.158	2.158	2.158	2.158	2.158	2.158	2.158	2.158
<i>e45</i>	2.155	2.155	2.155	2.155	2.155	2.155	2.155	2.155	2.155	2.155	2.155	2.155
<i>e46</i>	2.150	2.150	2.150	2.150	2.150	2.150	2.150	2.150	2.150	2.150	2.150	2.150
<i>e47</i>	2.114	2.114	2.114	2.114	2.114	2.114	2.114	2.114	2.114	2.114	2.114	2.114
<i>e48</i>	2.046	2.046	2.046	2.046	2.046	2.046	2.046	2.046	2.046	2.046	2.046	2.046
<i>e49</i>	2.045	2.045	2.045	2.045	2.045	2.045	2.045	2.045	2.045	2.045	2.045	2.045
<i>e50</i>	2.020	2.020	2.020	2.020	2.020	2.020	2.020	2.020	2.020	2.020	2.020	2.020
<i>e51</i>	1.935	1.935	1.935	1.935	1.935	1.935	1.935	1.935	1.935	1.935	1.935	1.935
<i>e52</i>	1.912	1.912	1.912	1.912	1.912	1.912	1.912	1.912	1.912	1.912	1.912	1.912
<i>e53</i>	1.845	1.845	1.845	1.845	1.845	1.845	1.845	1.845	1.845	1.845	1.845	1.845
<i>e54</i>	1.845	1.845	1.845	1.845	1.845	1.845	1.845	1.845	1.845	1.845	1.845	1.845
<i>e55</i>	1.772	1.772	1.772	1.772	1.772	1.772	1.772	1.772	1.772	1.772	1.772	1.772
<i>e56</i>	1.754	1.754	1.754	1.754	1.754	1.754	1.754	1.754	1.754	1.754	1.754	1.754
<i>e57</i>	1.681	1.681	1.681	1.681	1.681	1.681	1.681	1.681	1.681	1.681	1.681	1.681
<i>e58</i>	1.675	1.675	1.675	1.675	1.675	1.675	1.675	1.675	1.675	1.675	1.675	1.675
<i>e59</i>	1.638	1.638	1.638	1.638	1.638	1.638	1.638	1.638	1.638	1.638	1.638	1.638
<i>e60</i>	1.634	1.634	1.634	1.634	1.634	1.634	1.634	1.634	1.634	1.634	1.634	1.634
<i>e61</i>	1.616	1.616	1.616	1.616	1.616	1.616	1.616	1.616	1.616	1.616	1.616	1.616
<i>e62</i>	1.595	1.595	1.595	1.595	1.595	1.595	1.595	1.595	1.595	1.595	1.595	1.595
<i>e63</i>	1.584	1.584	1.584	1.584	1.584	1.584	1.584	1.584	1.584	1.584	1.584	1.584
<i>e64</i>	1.568	1.568	1.568	1.568	1.568	1.568	1.568	1.568	1.568	1.568	1.568	1.568
<i>e65</i>	1.543	1.543	1.543	1.543	1.543	1.543	1.543	1.543	1.543	1.543	1.543	1.543
<i>e66</i>	1.518	1.518	1.518	1.518	1.518	1.518	1.518	1.518	1.518	1.518	1.518	1.518
<i>e67</i>	1.489	1.489	1.489	1.489	1.489	1.489	1.489	1.489	1.489	1.489	1.489	1.489
<i>e68</i>	1.455	1.455	1.455	1.455	1.455	1.455	1.455	1.455	1.455	1.455	1.455	1.455
<i>e69</i>	1.422	1.422	1.422	1.422	1.422	1.422	1.422	1.422	1.422	1.422	1.422	1.422
<i>e70</i>	1.408	1.408	1.408	1.408	1.408	1.408	1.408	1.408	1.408	1.408	1.408	1.408
<i>e71</i>	1.406	1.406	1.406	1.406	1.406	1.406	1.406	1.406	1.406	1.406	1.406	1.406
<i>e72</i>	1.355	1.355	1.355	1.355	1.355	1.355	1.355	1.355	1.355	1.355	1.355	1.355
<i>e73</i>	1.351	1.351	1.351	1.351	1.351	1.351	1.351	1.351	1.351	1.351	1.351	1.351

Table 6 Availability of AWR for a year (kt)

<i>Location/Month</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>e74</i>	6.559	6.559	6.559	3.280	3.280	3.280	6.559	6.559	6.559	3.280	3.280	3.280
<i>e75</i>	6.043	6.043	6.043	3.022	3.022	3.022	6.043	6.043	6.043	3.022	3.022	3.022
<i>e76</i>	6.043	6.043	6.043	3.022	3.022	3.022	6.043	6.043	6.043	3.022	3.022	3.022
<i>e77</i>	5.653	5.653	5.653	2.827	2.827	2.827	5.653	5.653	5.653	2.827	2.827	2.827
<i>e78</i>	5.172	5.172	5.172	2.586	2.586	2.586	5.172	5.172	5.172	2.586	2.586	2.586
<i>e79</i>	4.930	4.930	4.930	2.465	2.465	2.465	4.930	4.930	4.930	2.465	2.465	2.465
<i>e80</i>	4.775	4.775	4.775	2.387	2.387	2.387	4.775	4.775	4.775	2.387	2.387	2.387
<i>e81</i>	4.641	4.641	4.641	2.321	2.321	2.321	4.641	4.641	4.641	2.321	2.321	2.321
<i>e82</i>	4.351	4.351	4.351	2.175	2.175	2.175	4.351	4.351	4.351	2.175	2.175	2.175
<i>e83</i>	3.968	3.968	3.968	1.984	1.984	1.984	3.968	3.968	3.968	1.984	1.984	1.984
<i>e84</i>	3.809	3.809	3.809	1.904	1.904	1.904	3.809	3.809	3.809	1.904	1.904	1.904

<i>Location/Month</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>e85</i>	3.257	3.257	3.257	1.629	1.629	1.629	3.257	3.257	3.257	1.629	1.629	1.629
<i>e86</i>	3.234	3.234	3.234	1.617	1.617	1.617	3.234	3.234	3.234	1.617	1.617	1.617
<i>e87</i>	3.164	3.164	3.164	1.582	1.582	1.582	3.164	3.164	3.164	1.582	1.582	1.582
<i>e88</i>	2.978	2.978	2.978	1.489	1.489	1.489	2.978	2.978	2.978	1.489	1.489	1.489
<i>e89</i>	2.954	2.954	2.954	1.477	1.477	1.477	2.954	2.954	2.954	1.477	1.477	1.477
<i>e90</i>	2.907	2.907	2.907	1.454	1.454	1.454	2.907	2.907	2.907	1.454	1.454	1.454
<i>e91</i>	2.719	2.719	2.719	1.359	1.359	1.359	2.719	2.719	2.719	1.359	1.359	1.359
<i>e92</i>	2.467	2.467	2.467	1.234	1.234	1.234	2.467	2.467	2.467	1.234	1.234	1.234
<i>e93</i>	2.173	2.173	2.173	1.087	1.087	1.087	2.173	2.173	2.173	1.087	1.087	1.087
<i>e94</i>	2.172	2.172	2.172	1.086	1.086	1.086	2.172	2.172	2.172	1.086	1.086	1.086
<i>e95</i>	2.163	2.163	2.163	1.082	1.082	1.082	2.163	2.163	2.163	1.082	1.082	1.082
<i>e96</i>	2.156	2.156	2.156	1.078	1.078	1.078	2.156	2.156	2.156	1.078	1.078	1.078
<i>e97</i>	2.141	2.141	2.141	1.070	1.070	1.070	2.141	2.141	2.141	1.070	1.070	1.070
<i>e98</i>	2.108	2.108	2.108	1.054	1.054	1.054	2.108	2.108	2.108	1.054	1.054	1.054
<i>e99</i>	2.101	2.101	2.101	1.050	1.050	1.050	2.101	2.101	2.101	1.050	1.050	1.050
<i>e100</i>	2.068	2.068	2.068	1.034	1.034	1.034	2.068	2.068	2.068	1.034	1.034	1.034
<i>e101</i>	1.824	1.824	1.824	0.912	0.912	0.912	1.824	1.824	1.824	0.912	0.912	0.912
<i>e102</i>	1.787	1.787	1.787	0.893	0.893	0.893	1.787	1.787	1.787	0.893	0.893	0.893
<i>e103</i>	1.702	1.702	1.702	0.851	0.851	0.851	1.702	1.702	1.702	0.851	0.851	0.851
<i>e104</i>	1.538	1.538	1.538	0.769	0.769	0.769	1.538	1.538	1.538	0.769	0.769	0.769
<i>e105</i>	1.505	1.505	1.505	0.753	0.753	0.753	1.505	1.505	1.505	0.753	0.753	0.753
<i>e106</i>	1.406	1.406	1.406	0.703	0.703	0.703	1.406	1.406	1.406	0.703	0.703	0.703
<i>e107</i>	1.383	1.383	1.383	0.691	0.691	0.691	1.383	1.383	1.383	0.691	0.691	0.691

A.2 Coal power plants

Table 7. Energy demand for each combustion plant in a year (GWh)

Market Notation	Plant	Month											
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
m1	Puentes García Rodríguez	655.098	587.646	609.942	613.763	661.360	631.612	634.430	616.487	619.556	667.592	690.608	637.937
m2	Meirama	209.861	188.253	195.396	196.620	211.868	202.338	203.241	197.492	198.476	213.864	221.237	204.364
m3	Aboño	468.602	420.353	436.301	439.034	473.082	451.802	453.818	440.983	443.178	477.539	494.003	456.327
m4	Lada	121.123	108.652	112.775	113.481	122.281	116.781	117.302	113.985	114.552	123.434	127.689	117.951
m5	Soto de la Ribera	125.676	112.736	117.014	117.746	126.878	121.171	121.711	118.269	118.858	128.073	132.489	122.384
m6	Narcea	78.687	70.585	73.263	73.722	79.440	75.866	76.205	74.050	74.418	80.188	82.953	76.626
m7	Anllares	101.538	91.083	94.539	95.131	102.508	97.897	98.334	95.553	96.029	103.474	107.042	98.878
m8	Compostilla	389.743	349.613	362.878	365.151	393.469	375.770	377.447	366.772	368.597	397.176	410.869	379.533
m9	La Robla	143.888	129.073	133.970	134.809	145.263	138.729	139.348	135.407	136.081	146.632	151.687	140.119
m10	Guardo	107.379	96.323	99.977	100.604	108.406	103.529	103.991	101.050	101.553	109.427	113.200	104.566

A.3 Economic data

Table 8 Prices corresponding to input streams

Forest Wood Residues	61	EUR/ t	Actualisation from values in (Pérez-Fortes et al., 2014) (Pérez-Fortes et al., 2016) (International Energy Agency (IEA), 2014) (Ministerio de Industria, 2016)
Agricultural Food Residues	56	EUR/ t	
Water	1	EUR/ t	
Coal	92	EUR/ t	
Diesel	610	EUR/ t	

Table 9 Prices corresponding to output streams.

Methanol price	350	EUR/t	Based on (Pérez-Fortes et al., 2016) (Red Eléctrica de España, 2015) (EEX, 2016)
Oxygen price	54	EUR/t	
Electricity	0.0456	EUR/kWh	
EU ETS	5.5	EUR/t CO ₂	

B. Notation

Indices

e	suppliers
f, f'	facility locations
i	tasks
j	equipment technology
s	materials (states)
t, t'	planning periods
a	mid point environmental impact categories
g	end point environmental impact categories

Sets

A_g	set of midpoint environmental interventions that are combined into endpoint damage factors g
E_{rm}	set of suppliers e that provide raw materials
\hat{E}_{prod}	set of suppliers e that provide production services
\bar{E}_{tr}	set of suppliers e that provide transportation services
F_e	set of locations f where supplier e is placed
FP	set of materials s that are final products
I_j	set of tasks i that can be performed in technology j
\bar{J}_e	technology j that is available at supplier e
\tilde{J}_f	technology j that can be installed at location f
J_i	technologies that can perform task i
Mkt	set of market locations
RM	set of materials s that are raw materials
Sup	set of supplier locations
T_s	set of tasks producing material s
\bar{T}_s	set of tasks consuming material s
Tr	set of distribution tasks

Parameters

A_{sft}	maximum availability of raw material s in period t in location f
Dem_{sft}	demand of product s at market f in period t
$distance_{ff'}$	distance from location f to location f'

$FCFJ_{jft}$	fixed cost per unit of technology j capacity at location f in period t
I_{ft}^J	investment required to establish a processing facility in location f in period t
$NormF_g$	normalizing factor of damage category g
$Price_{sft}$	price of product s at market f in period t
$Price_{jft}^J$	investment required per unit of technology j capacity increased at facility f in period t
$rate$	discount rate
$Water_s$	moisture for material s
$Water_{ij}^{\max}$	maximum moisture for task i performed in equipment j
α_{sij}	mass fraction of task i for production of material s in equipment j
$\bar{\alpha}_{sij}$	mass fraction of task i for consumption of material s in equipment j
β_{jf}	minimum utilisation rate of technology j capacity that is allowed at location f
ζ_{ag}	g end-point damage characterization factor for environmental intervention a
$\theta_{ijff'}$	capacity utilisation rate of technology j by task i whose origin is location f and destination location f'
ρ_{efft}^{tr}	unitary transportation costs from location f to location f' during period t
τ_{ijfet}^{ut1}	unitary cost associated with task i performed in equipment j from location f and payable to external supplier e during period t
τ_{sfet}^{ut2}	unitary cost associated with handling the inventory of material s in location f and payable to external supplier e during period t
χ_{est}	unitary cost of raw material s offered by external supplier e in period t
$\Psi_{ijff'a}$	a environmental category impact CF for task i performed using technology j receiving materials from node f and delivering it at node f'
Ψ_{ija}^T	a environmental category impact CF for the transportation of a mass unit of material over a length unit

Binary variables

V_{jft}	1 if technology j is installed at location f in period t , 0 otherwise
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Continuous variables

$DamC_{gft}$	normalised endpoint damage g for location f in period t
$DamC_g^{SC}$	normalised endpoint damage g along the whole SC

$EPurch_{et}$	economic value of purchases executed in period t to supplier e
$ESales_t$	economic value of sales executed in period t
$FAsset_t$	investment on fixed assets in period t
$FCost_t$	fixed cost in period t
F_{jft}	total capacity of technology j during period t at location f
FE_{jft}	capacity increment of technology j at location f during period t
IC_{aft}	midpoint a environmental impact associated to site f which rises from activities in period t

Impact total environmental impact for the whole SC

LHV_{si} Lower heating value for material s in task i

NPV net present value

$P_{ijff't}$ activity magnitude of task i in equipment j in period t whose origin is location f and destination location f'

$Pv_{sijff't}$ amount of material s for flexible task i in equipment j in period t whose origin is location f and destination location f'

$Profit_t$ profit achieved in period t

$Purch_{et}^{pr}$ amount of money payable to supplier e in period t associated with production activities

$Purch_{et}^{rm}$ amount of money payable to supplier e in period t associated with consumption of raw materials

$Purch_{et}^{tr}$ amount of money payable to supplier e in period t associated with consumption of transport services

$Sales_{sff't}$ amount of product s sold from location f in market f' in period t

S_{sft} amount of stock of material s at location f in period t

Superscripts

L lower bound

U upper bound

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