

The role of CO₂-EOR in ongoing and future IEA analysis

Sean McCoy

IEA – OPEC CO₂-EOR Kuwait Workshop

Kuwait City, Kuwait

7 February, 2012

Outcomes of CO₂-EOR analysis

1. A clear understanding of the global potential for CO₂-EOR to contribute to emissions reductions
2. Identification of unique considerations that need to be addressed to achieve emissions reductions
3. Identification and understanding of gaps and barriers that prevent development of projects
4. Sound recommendations for member countries to enable CO₂-EOR as climate policy option

This is work in progress. Your thoughts and suggestions are welcome.



Emissions from CO₂-EOR by parts

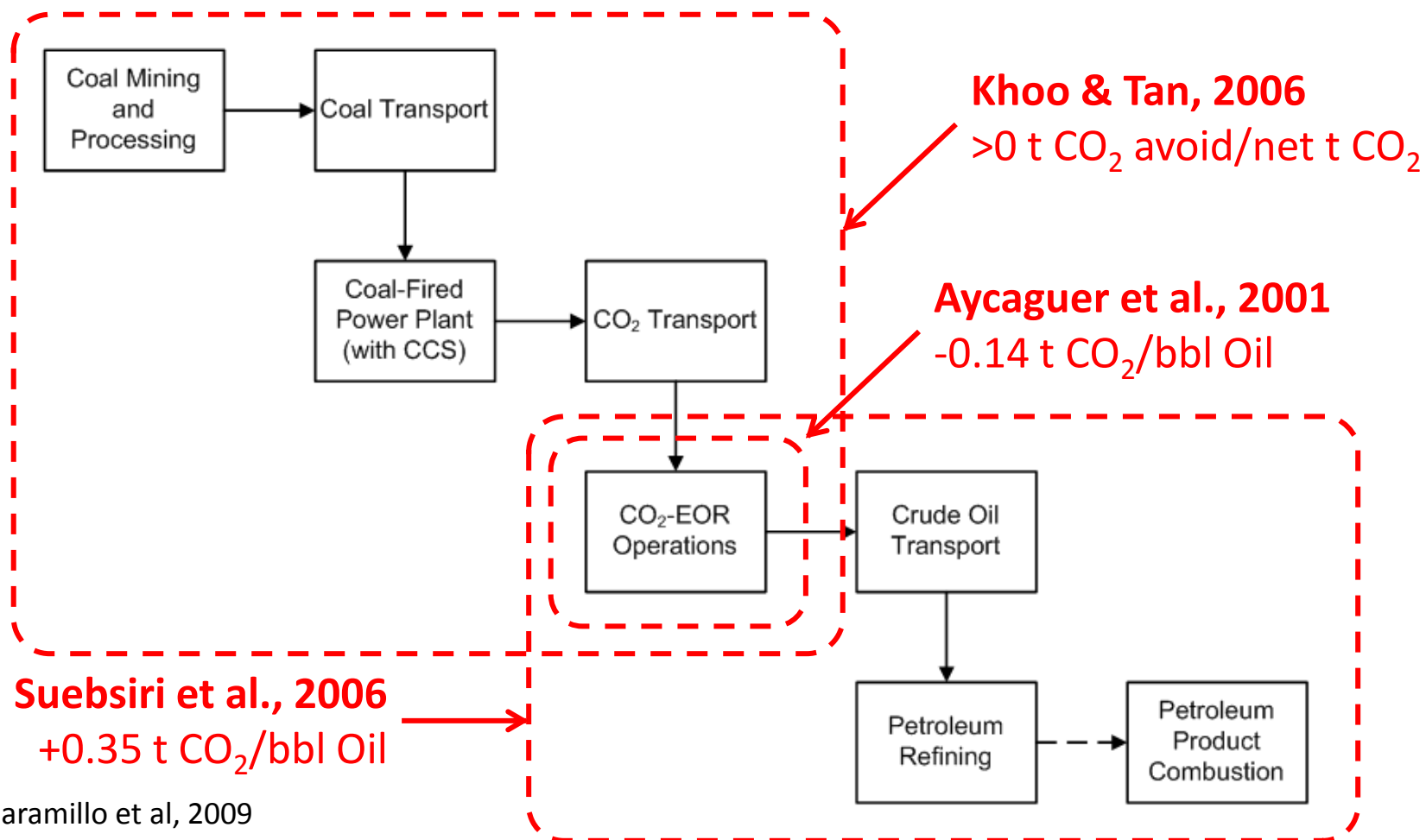
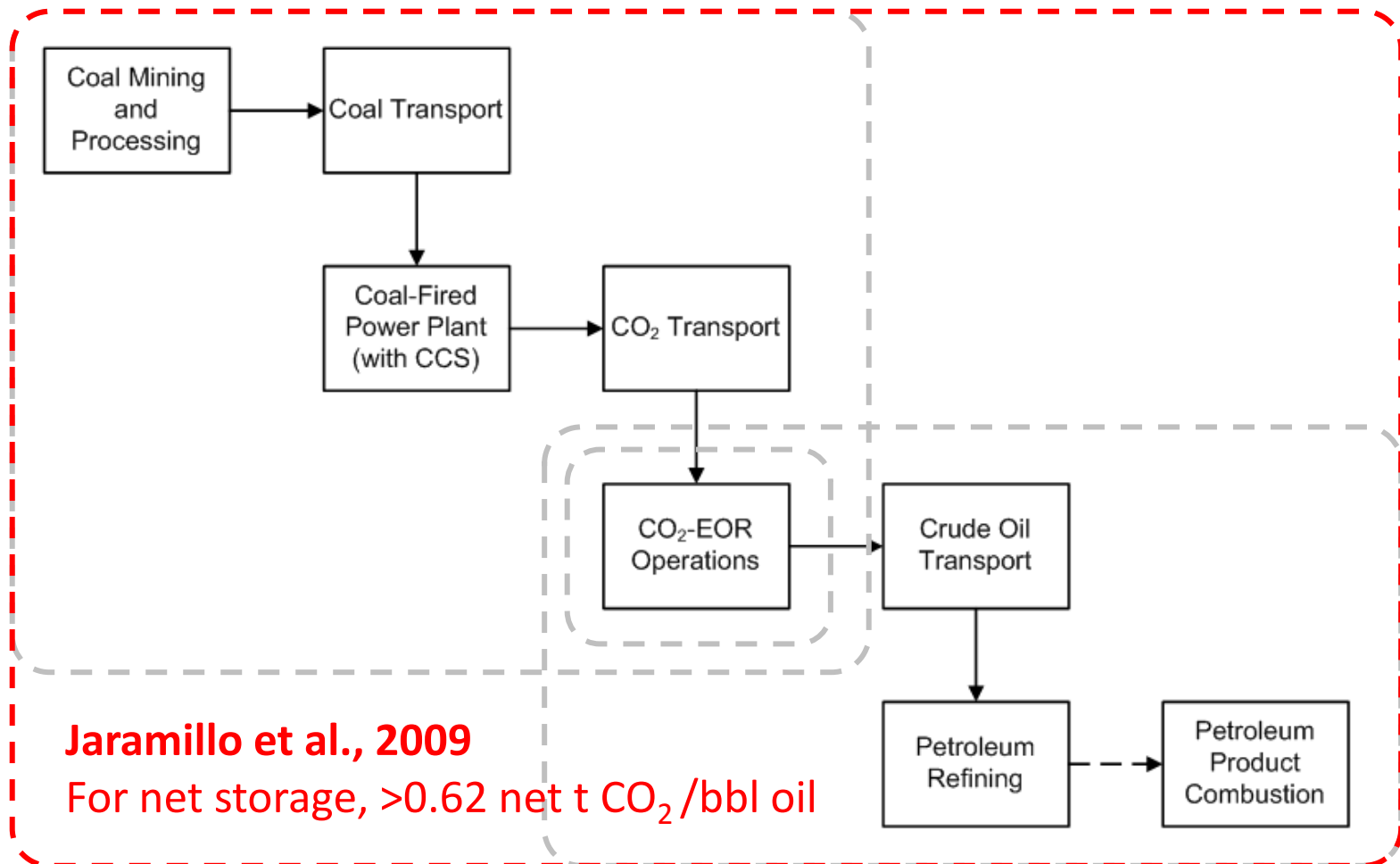


Figure: Jaramillo et al, 2009



Cradle-to-grave emissions from CO₂-EOR





Emissions reductions through displacement

Marginal Barrel Displaced (kg CO ₂ e/bbl)	Marginal Generation Displaced (kg CO ₂ e/MWh)	Emissions Reduction Efficiency			
		Project 1	Project 2	Project 3	Project 4
Current Average Consumption-USA (529)	Current Average Generation-USA (652)	71%	68%	70%	73%
Canadian In-Situ SCO (600)	Uncontrolled IGCC (894)	140%	128%	137%	145%
	NGCC (425)	87%	75%	83%	92%
Saudi Arabian Light (521)	Uncontrolled IGCC (894)	94%	92%	93%	95%
	NGCC (425)	41%	38%	40%	42%
	Carbon-free Electricity (0)	-8%	-10%	-8%	-7%



Important observations from past life-cycle assessment research

1. Emissions **depend on boundaries**:
 - a) Including emissions from oil production makes business-as-usual (BAU) CO₂-EOR a net emitter
 - b) Changes to design and operation of BAU CO₂-EOR could decrease the CO₂ footprint
2. If energy-related emissions that **would otherwise be produced** from an equivalent system are displaced, CO₂-EOR reduces emissions
3. Emissions reduction efficiency is **a function of energy displacement and CO₂ utilization**
 - a) Displacement of CO₂-intensive power and oil results in a larger emissions reduction than would otherwise occur

Attributes of CO₂-EOR operations necessary for qualification as storage

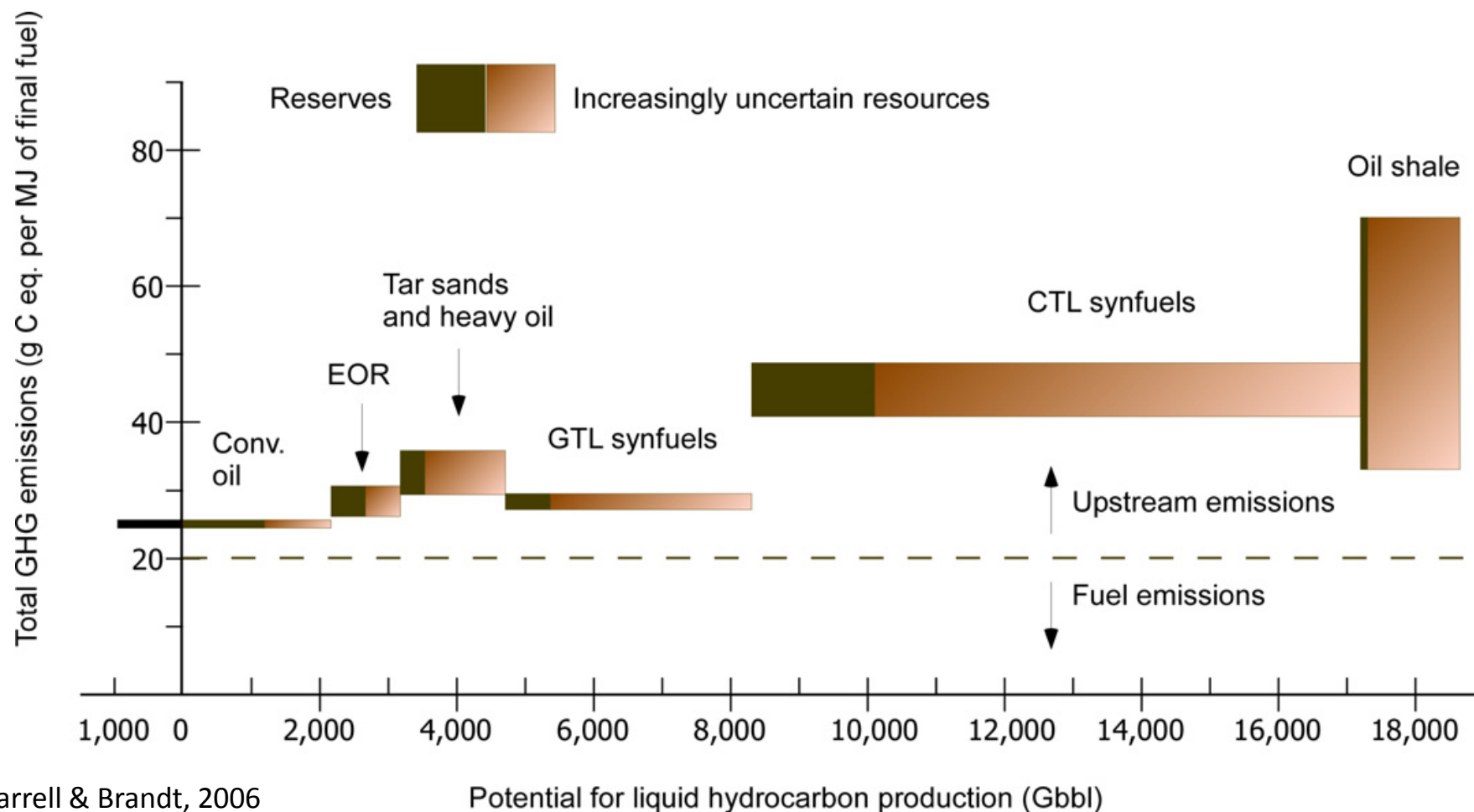
Technical Modifications	Energy Policy	Climate Policy
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increase net CO₂ utilization through changes to design and operation (?)• Monitoring, measurement, and verification of similar stringency to that applied to saline aquifers• Abandonment to ensure long-term retention of stored CO₂	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Law and regulation to enable CO₂-EOR as a oil recovery process• Regulation to ensure that CO₂-EOR is undertaken safely for humans and the environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Measurable emissions reduction goals and accompanying policy• Laws and regulation enabling CO₂-EOR as climate change mitigation option• Accounting rules that accurately award credit for emissions avoided



Unique policy considerations for CO₂-EOR

- Without the right energy and climate policies, displaced emissions may not remain displaced
- Large-scale uptake will link oil and carbon markets in a new way. Could changes in CO₂ supply impact oil prices?
- Under certain combinations of climate policy, CO₂-EOR could shift emissions from power to transport
- Increasing supplies of conventional oil in the near- to medium-term could prevent a move up the carbon supply curve in the long-term

The carbon supply curve and its implications



Barriers to private investment in CO₂-EOR

BAU CO₂-EOR

- Low valued investment option in IOC portfolios
- Lack of low cost CO₂ for injection in many places
- Competition with other EOR processes
- Mismatch in business cases for capture versus injection

CO₂-EOR for Climate Change Mitigation

- Those for BAU CO₂-EOR, PLUS:
- No return on additional cost for storage
- Cost for monitoring, measurement, and verification
- Cost for ensuring long-term containment

*Can incentive policies address these issues?
If so, how?*

Funding mechanism for CO₂-EOR as climate change?

- Under the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) difficult issues have to be addressed relating to life-cycle emissions:
 - Baseline
 - Additionality
 - Project boundaries
- How will EOR figure into post-Kyoto mechanisms: e.g., NAMAs
- Technology specific multilateral funding vehicles: e.g., ADB-World Bank fund.

From issues to actions at the IEA: possible next steps

