

An innovative approach: LCI, LCA and I/OA data for SRI

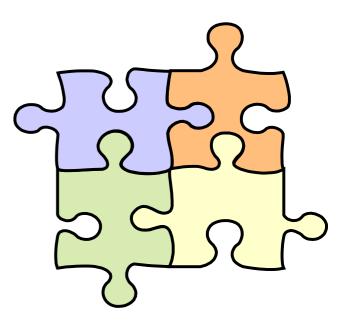
Programme: LCA Forum, EPFL

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- A new approach
- I. Introduction
- II. Methodology
 - **1. Functional Unit**
 - 2. Monetary
 - 3. Purpose
- III. Conclusion





Introduction: information sources

- 1. Input/Output Analyis (I/OA) data for 481 sectors (Standard Industrial Classification of the DoC)
- 2. LCO data from ecoinvent.ch on numerous materials and processes
- 3. LCA studies of different products such as: cars, PC, tyres, monitors, etc.

Include these data for the environmental analysis of companies



Introduction: classic and new approach (1)

Classic approach:

•Analysis of what companies say

•Analysis of:

- Transparency (env reports)
- Environmental policy
- Environmental mgt system
- Data on production
- Environmental impact of products/services

Many criteria !

New approach:

•Analysis of what companies really do

•Analysis of:

Environmental impact of products/services
(during the whole life)



Less criteria but more relevant !



Introduction: classic and new approach (2) Classic approach New approach

Example:

Example:

Porsche has a very good env mgt system and a very good env policy: good company (even if cars are very polluting)

Renault sells the cars with the lowest CO2 emission per car: best company



Methodology: two steps

- We first rate the subindustries: for example, in the Industry Group «Energy», we have two subindustries:
 - Integrated Oil & Gas: better rating
 - Coal and Consumable Fuels: worse rating rating for the subindustry
- 2. We then rate the companies within the subindustry: for example, in the Subindustry «Integrated Oil & Gas», companies with a high stake of gas (British Gas) have a better rating than companies that do not market gas (and have no renewable energies) rating of the company





- 1. Functional unit, if available
- 2. Monetary approach, if no FU
- 3. Purpose approach, for indirect impacts
- We analyse the impact of the products/services of a subindustry during the whole product life





Functional unit:

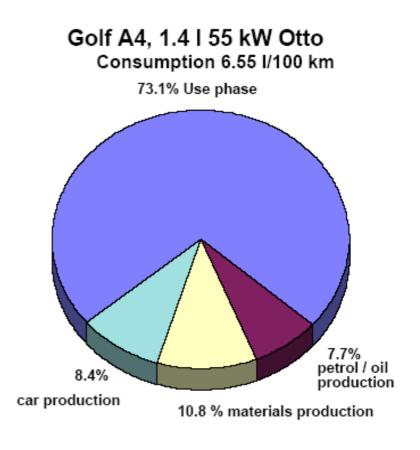
- Car Industry: g CO2 per km per car
- Oil & Gas Industry: g CO2/GJ energy
- Air/Marine/Road Transportation: g CO2/passenger or ton transported x km





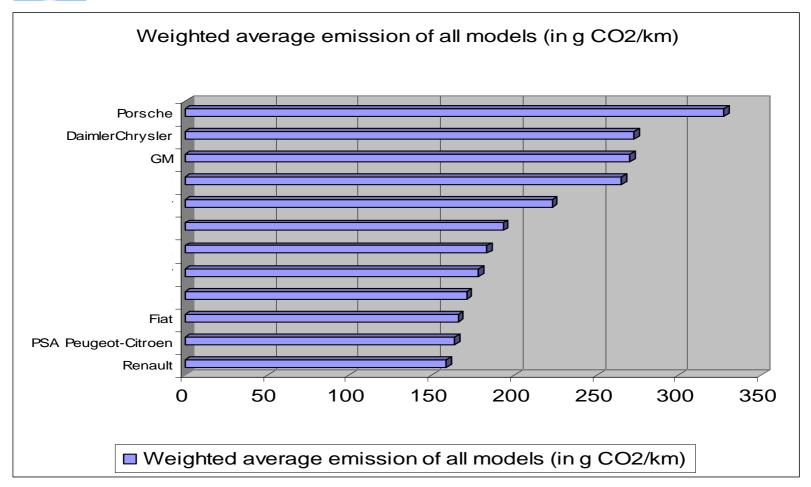
LCA of a Golf A4 (Schwein et al.): 73% of the energy use dur the use phase.

LCA allow us to focus only the most important phase (the use phase) and rank companies accordingly.









Source: Study of car manufacturers, Centre Info SA, February 2005.





How to rate companies with the monetary approach?

We compare the env impact of making \$1 million by selling apparel with the env impact of making \$1 million by selling books

Economic I/O data from Green Design Initiative of the Carnegie Mellon University



Rating companies according to the monetary approach

Example: Subindustry Specialty Stores

What do they sell?

- apparel (640 t CO2/1 million USD turnover),
- toys (564 t CO2),
- wood furniture (531 to CO2),
- perfumes (449 t CO2),
- periodicals and newpapers (average of 377 t CO2),
- jewelry (366 t CO2),
- books (277 t CO2).
- All companies have a mix of these products. We rank companies according to their mix of products.





- We rank companies according to the purpose their products are used (we assess the indirect environmental impact of products)
- Example: Construction companies: building a road is not the same as building a railway. Because rail is a better transportation mode than road.
- Example: Insurance companies: insuring an aircraft is not the same as insuring insuring people's life.





It is time for SRI to benefit from LCI, LCA and I/OA data !

Strengths :

- 1. Analyse what companies really do
- 2. Less indicators for more relevance
- 3. Methodology based on LCI, LCA and I/OA philosophy
- 4. Move the industry to a sustainable way





End

Thank you for your attention !

