



LCA of Li-ion batteries: current state and prospects

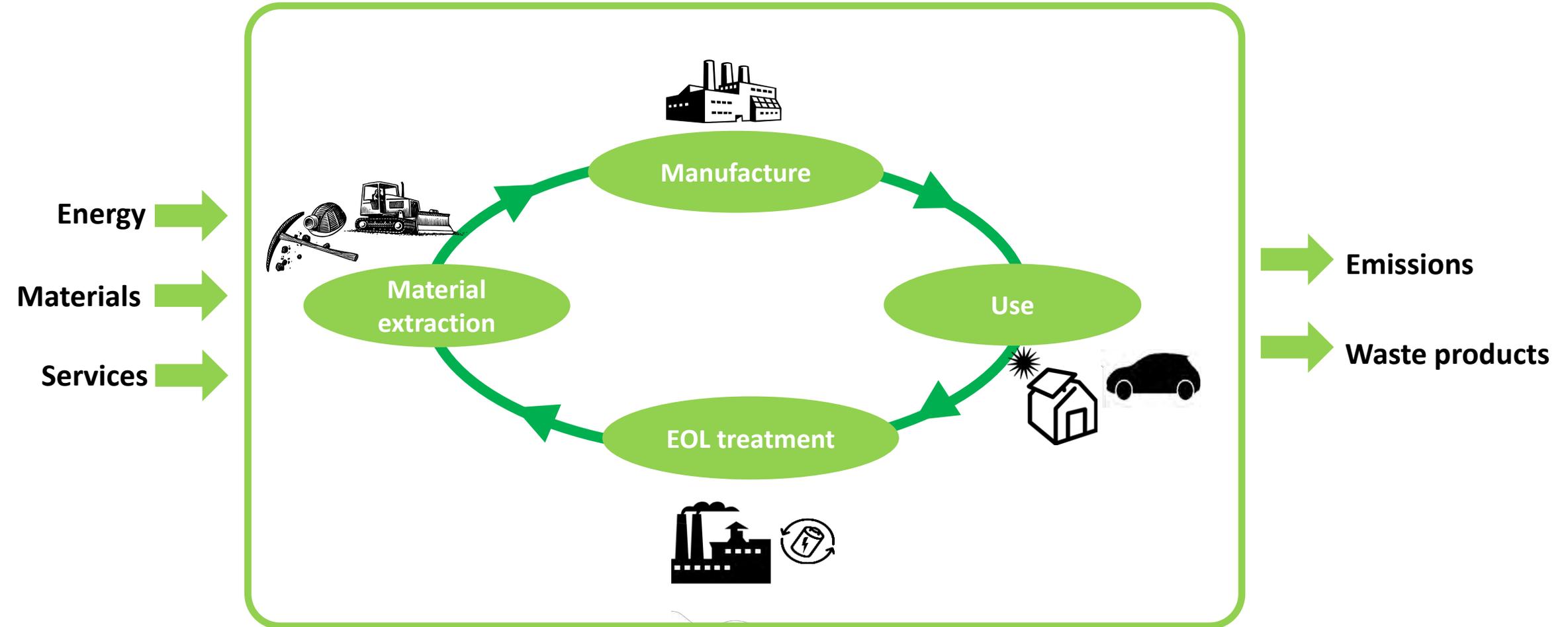
Linda Ager-Wick Ellingsen

Programme for Industrial Ecology, NTNU

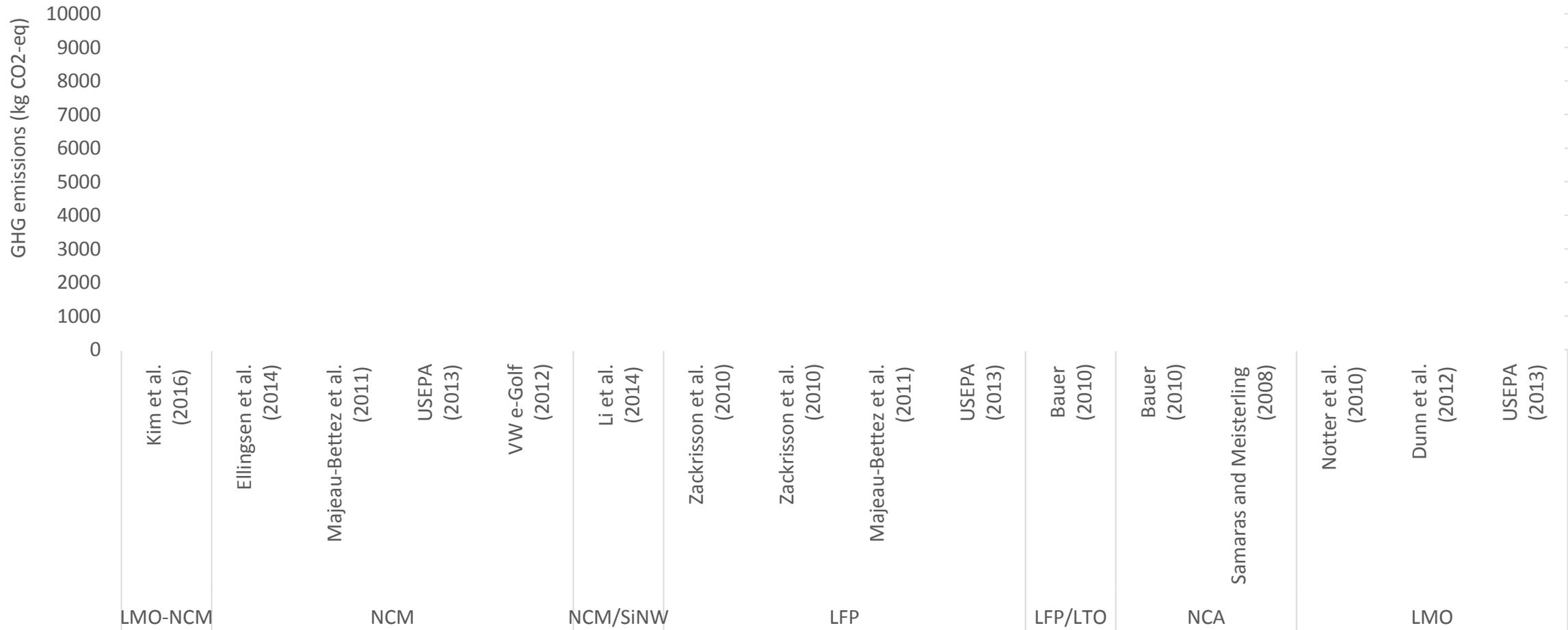
Presentation at the 68. LCA Forum 16. April 2018, ETH Zürich



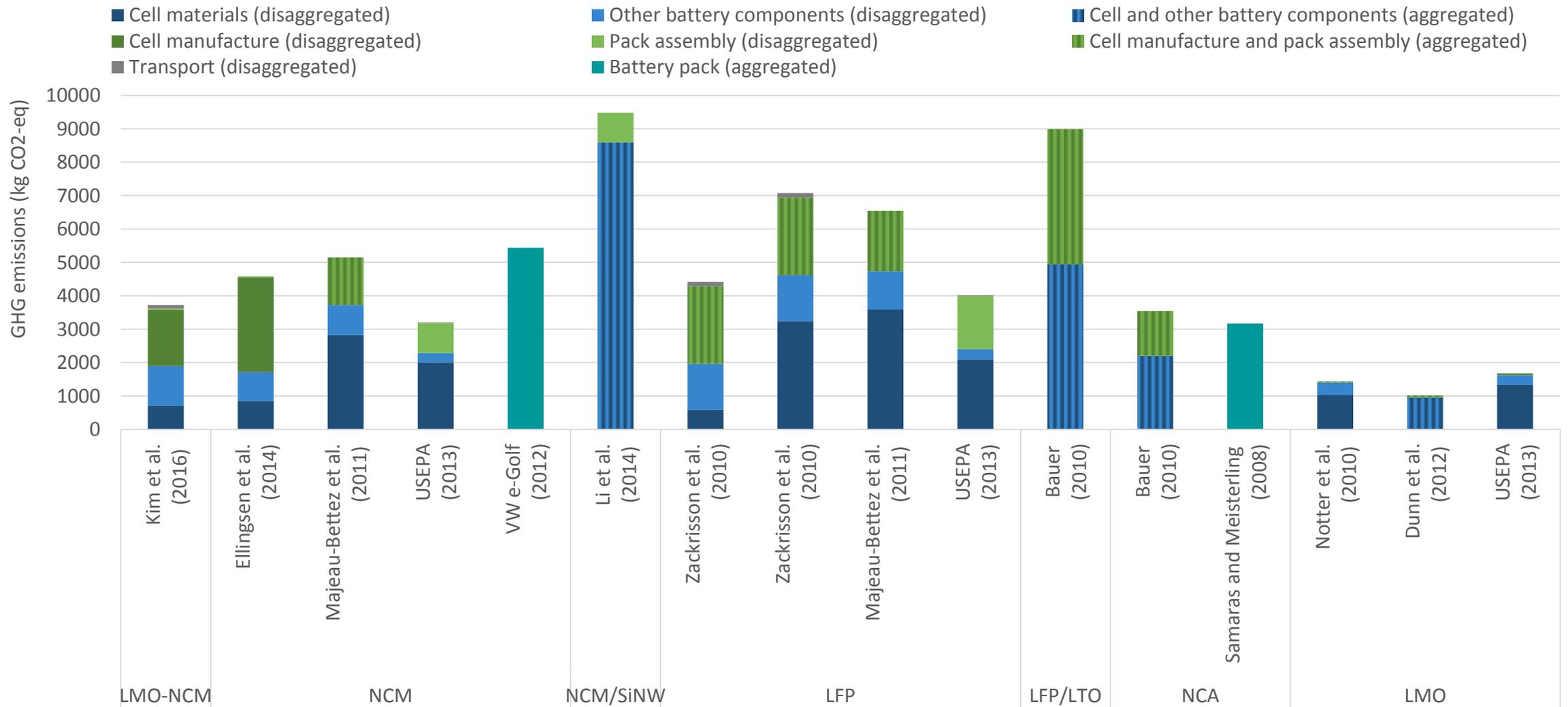
LCA of Li-ion batteries



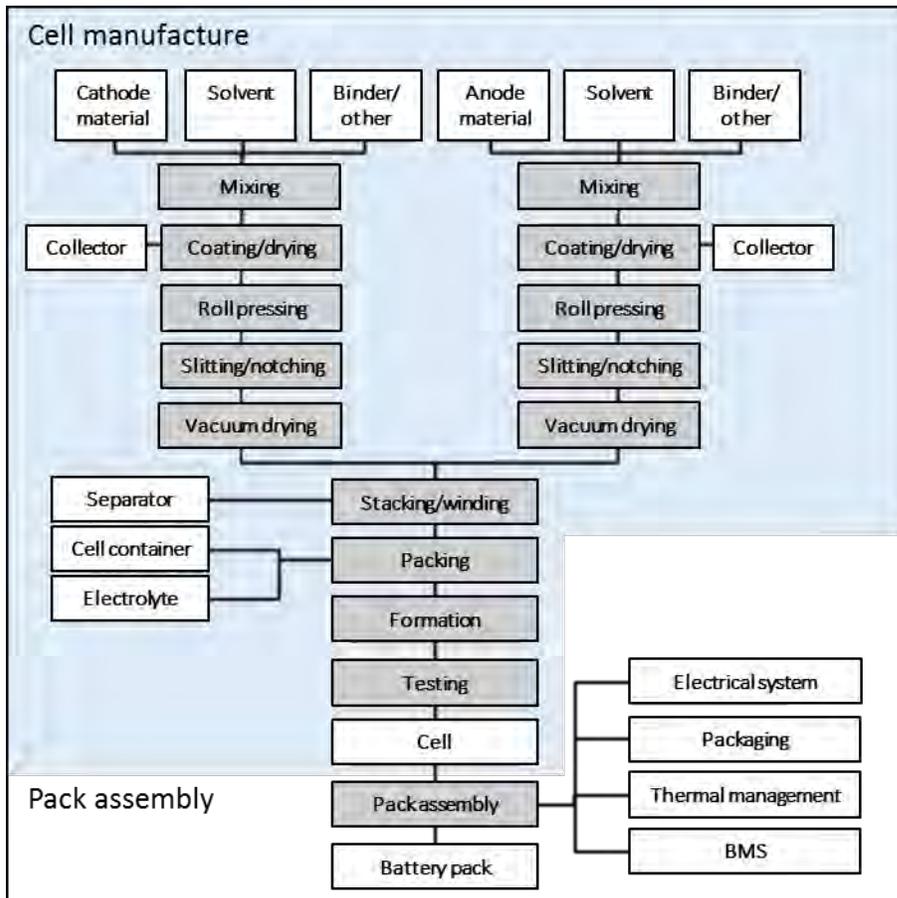
Cradle-to-gate GHG emissions of a 26.6 kWh Li-ion battery



Cradle-to-gate GHG emissions of a 26.6 kWh Li-ion battery



Battery production energy inputs

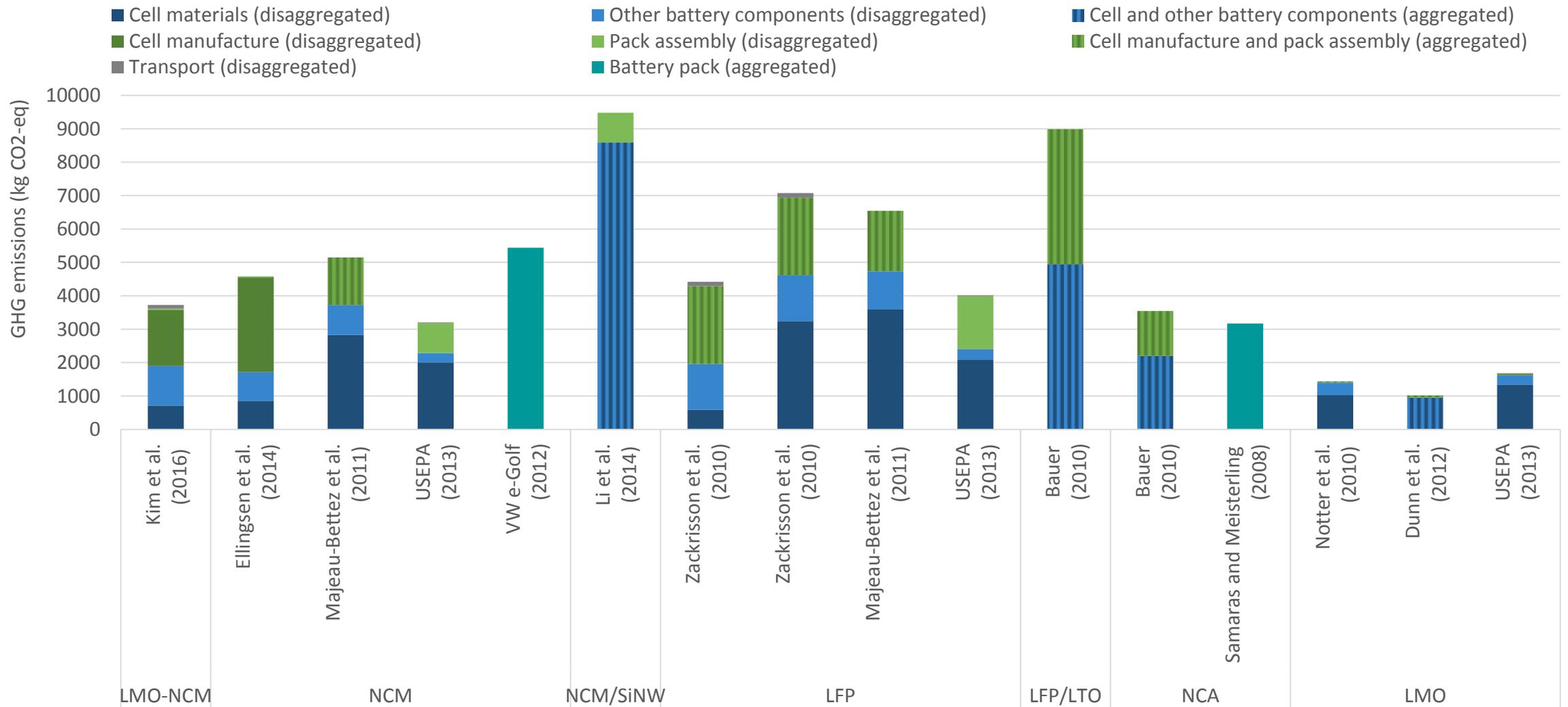


Study	Cell manufacture (MJ/kWh)	Pack assembly (MJ/kWh)	Cell manufacture and pack assembly (MJ/kWh)	Energy data sources
Kim et al. (2016)			530*	Primary data
Ellingsen et al (2014)	586	0.01	586	Primary data
Majeau-Bettez et al. (2011)			463-590*	Secondary data
USEPA (2013)	0-10	0-400	10-403	Majeau-Bettez et al. (2011), Notter et al. (2010), and primary data
Li et al. (2014)	0.36	0.41	0.77	Author estimates
Zackrisson et al. (2010)			450*	Secondary data
Bauer (2010)	326-1060	109-278	434-1338	Secondary data
Notter et al. (2010)	3.1	0.11	3.21	Author estimates
Dunn et al. (2012)	2.7	2.9	5.6	Author estimates

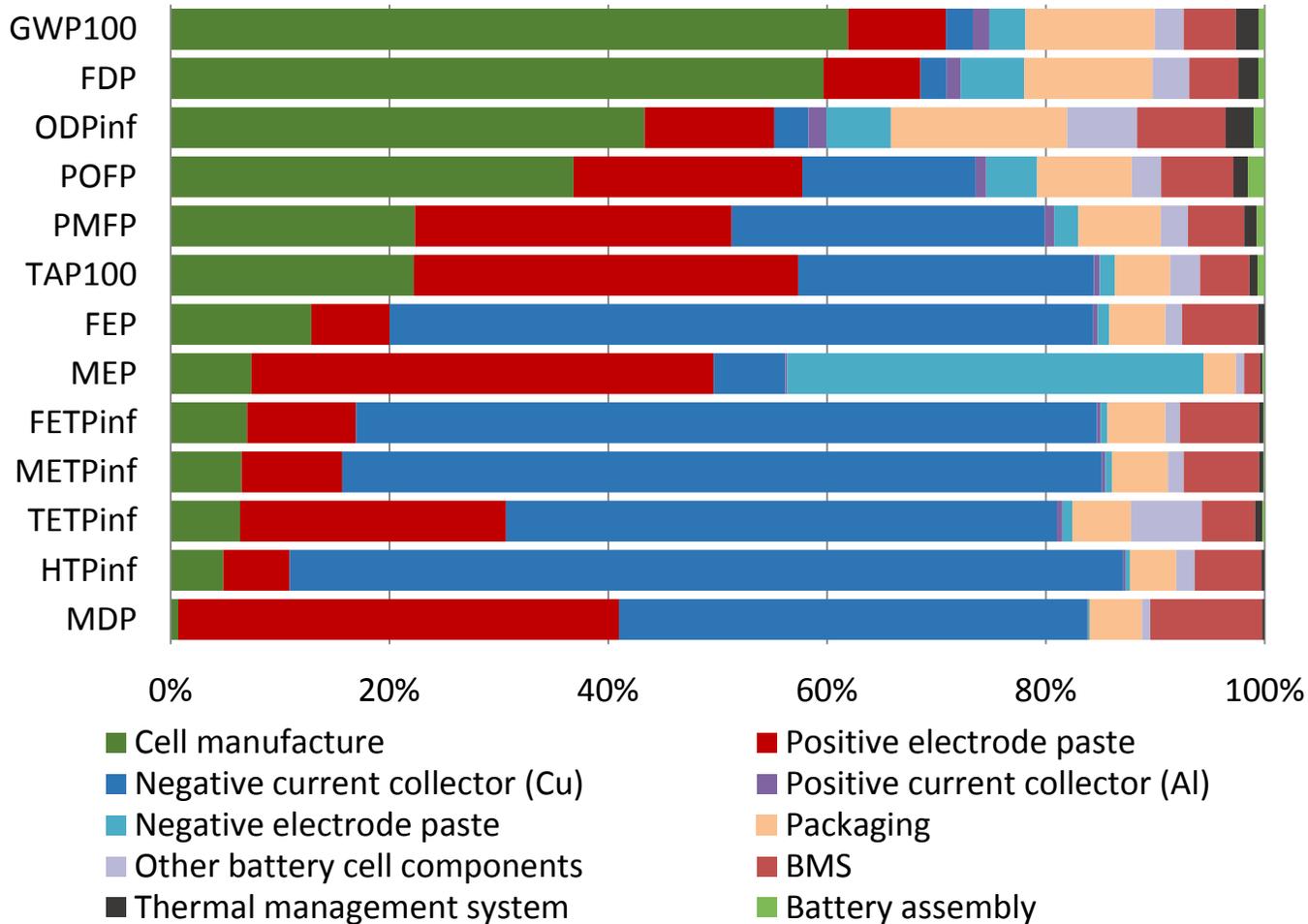
*Study only provides the combined energy demand for cell manufacture and pack assembly



Cradle-to-gate GHG emissions of a 26.6 kWh Li-ion battery



Cradle-to-gate impacts of a 26.6 kWh Li-ion battery



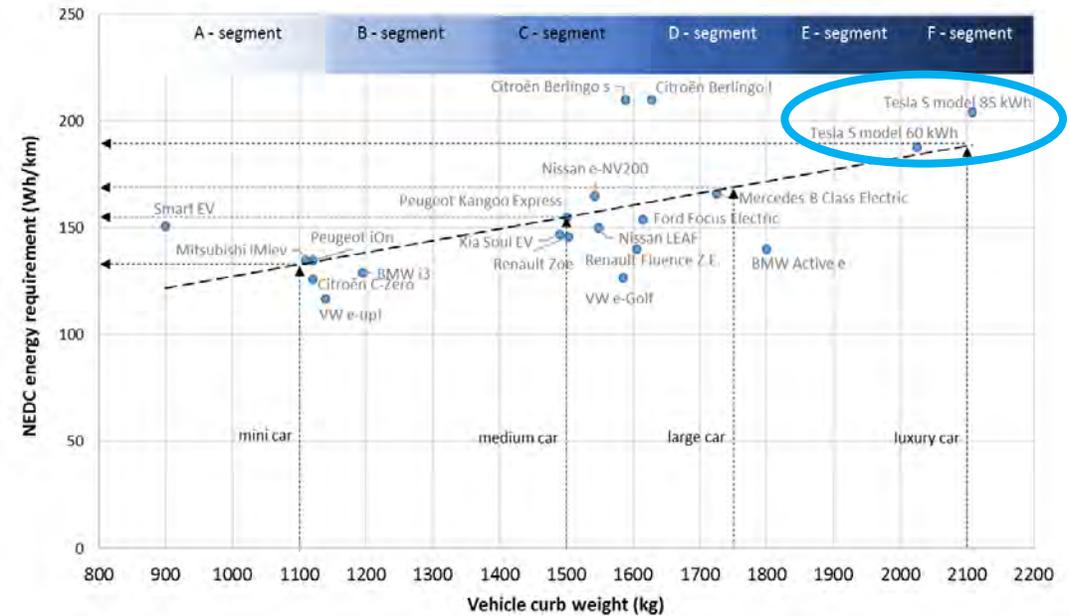
- Transferable to other Li-ion battery types and applications
- Some differences among the Li-ion battery types
- Use of renewable energy and recycled metals can reduce impact



Use phase

Three decisive factors for traction batteries:

- Energy conversion losses
- Energy required to transport the weight of the battery
- Environmental intensity of the electricity

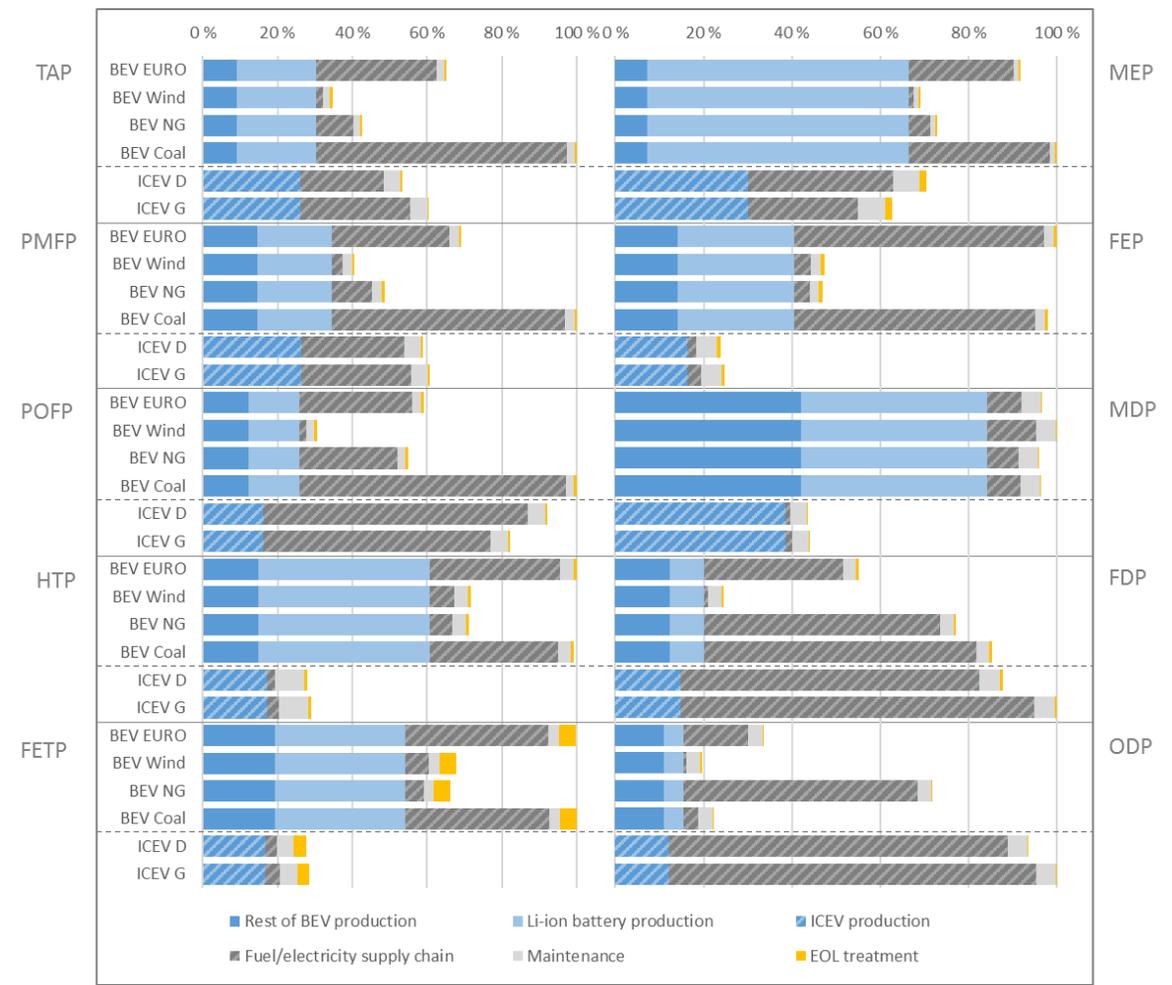
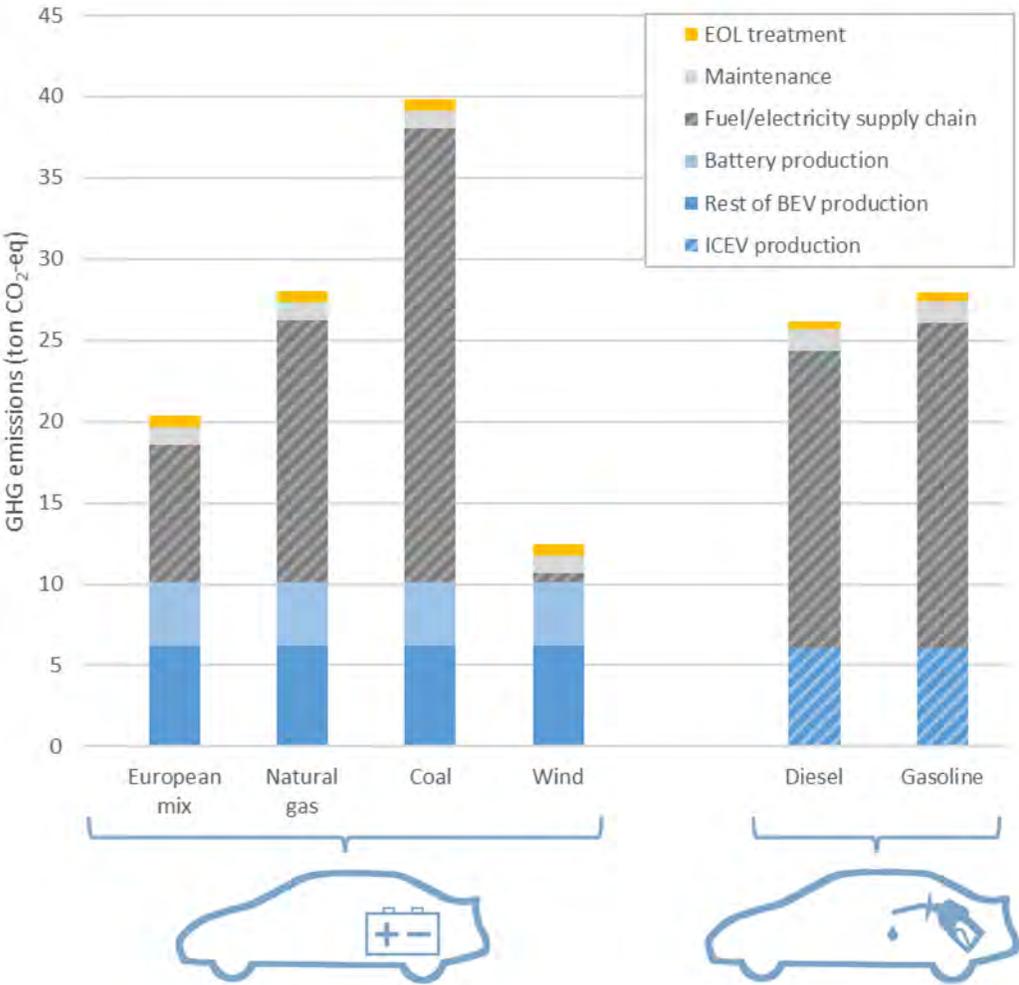


End-of-life treatment

- Variety of industrial recycling schemes
- Few LCA studies assess EOL and high uncertainty
- Two modelling approaches
 - Recycled content approach: 100 to 700 kg CO₂-eq per 26.6 kWh battery
 - End-of-life approach : -400 to -850 kg CO₂-eq per 26.6 kWh battery

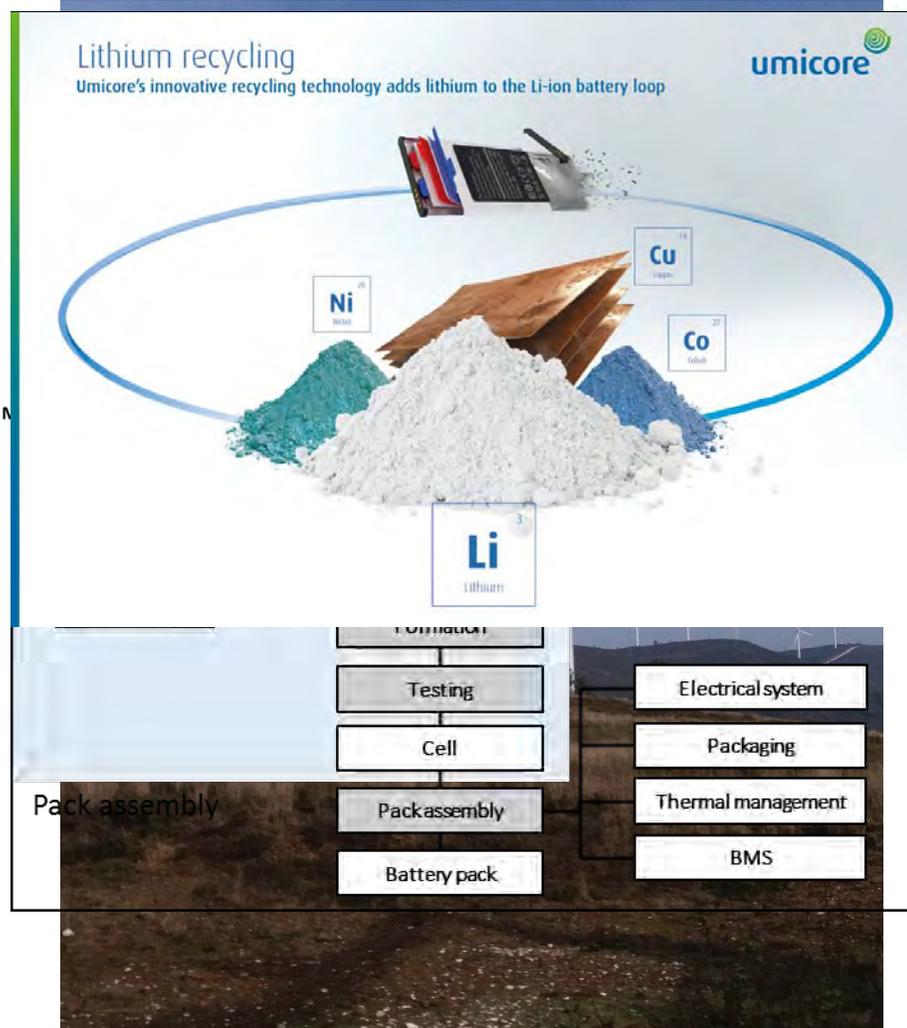


Environmental implications for electric vehicles



Terrestrial acidification potential (TAP), Particulate matter formation potential (PMFP), Photo oxidation formation potential (POFP), Human toxicity potential (HTP), Freshwater ecotoxicity potential (FETP), Marine eutrophication potential (MEP), Freshwater eutrophication potential (FEP), Metal depletion potential (MDP), Fossil depletion potential (FDP), Ozone depletion potential (ODP)

Current and future Li-ion battery developments



- More energy data on cell manufacture available
 - More process specific data still needed
- Higher specific energy – new electrode materials
 - Anode: introduction of silicon nanomaterial
 - Cathode: change in composition (e.g., NCM) and new materials (e.g., sulphur)
- Tesla Gigafactory 1
 - Renewable energy
- Li-ion battery recycling
 - Process data required!



Thank you!

References:

Picture opening slide <https://besthqwallpapers.com/>

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Lithium recycling. Umicore (2017).

