

**THE MR and its Revaluation as<br>
THE MR as a Resource Frootprint** as a Resource Frootprint

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**and development of the basic data.**

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![](_page_2_Picture_1625.jpeg)

## **Total Material Requirement (TMR)**

- **Definition**: TMR quantifies the total amount of materials extracted from nature to support an economy, including "hidden" material flows.
- **Purpose**: Developed to measure human reliance on natural resources and assess sustainability.

•**Developed in the 1990s**: Introduced as the "ecological rucksack" to represent the hidden environmental impacts of material extraction.

•**Goal**: Highlight the "invisible" resource usage and raise awareness of total environmental load.

•**Pioneer of Footprint Concepts**: Set the stage for various "footprint" metrics, focusing on resource dependency rather than direct environmental impact.

![](_page_4_Figure_0.jpeg)

### Evolution and Current Relevance of Total Material Requirement (TMR)

#### •**Legacy of the TMR Concept**

•Originated at Germany's Wuppertal Institute and further developed by researchers like Halada from NIMS.

•TMR values were quantified and included as a supplementary indicator in Japan's Basic Environmental Plan.

#### •**Shift in Focus from Environmental to Economic Factors**

•Discussions on resource use and recycling moved towards availability and efficient use within the human economy.

•TMR became seen as one environmental factor among others, not directly linked to toxicological impacts, which led to reduced emphasis on it in policy and academic debates.

#### •**Reduced Attention in the Era of Circular Economy**

•Despite the rising importance of material intensity in circular economy discussions, the TMR concept has largely faded from focus, except among a few dedicated researchers.

TMR remains a valuable concept for understanding resource impact, though it has been overshadowed by broader circular economy perspectives as the resource edge point.

### Positioning TMR in a Nature-Positive World

![](_page_6_Picture_1.jpeg)

•**Growing Importance of Nature-Positive Goals**: As nature-positive approaches gain prominence, it's essential to assess and manage our true impact on natural resources, namely **resource edge** approach..

•**TMR as a Comprehensive Metric**: TMR captures the total material dependency, including hidden flows, providing a fuller picture of resource use beyond direct emissions or waste.

•**Aligning TMR with Nature-Positive Actions**: By reducing TMR, we directly support biodiversity, reduce habitat destruction, and promote sustainable resource management.

•**Guiding Policy and Industry**: TMR offers data for policies and business practices that align with nature-positive strategies, ensuring resources are used responsibly for a balanced, sustainable future.

# Reasons Why TMR has been underutilized

•**Ambiguity as an Environmental Indicator**: TMR's role as an environmental load factor has been unclear, making it challenging to integrate into standard environmental impact assessments.

•**Complex Data Requirements**: Calculating TMR requires extensive data on hidden material flows, which was difficult to obtain and often incomplete.

•**Limited Awareness and Focus**: With more attention on metrics like carbon footprint, TMR was overshadowed and not widely adopted in sustainability practices.

•**Lack of Standardization**: Without standardized methods or frameworks, it was hard to apply TMR consistently across industries or regions.

•**Data Accessibility**: In the past, TMR calculations were reliant on limited data sources, but recent open data and AI advancements are changing this

#### Challenges in TMR Data Collection and the Role of **Generative AI**

- **Challenges in Widespread Adoption of TMR**
	- **Data Complexity**:.
	- **Boundary Data Limitations**:
- **The Game Changer: Emergence of Generative AI (Large Language Models)**
	- While often referred to as "generative," these AI systems fundamentally perform large-scale language processing grounded in extensive data mining.
	- Through careful prompting, these AI models can be guided to conduct targeted data mining, enabling access to previously inaccessible data, such as specific mining and waste management information on each specific site..

### • **New Potential with Data Mining AI**

- By leveraging data mining capabilities in generative AI, we can obtain essential data for TMR calculations that was previously out of reach.
- This approach, termed **Data Mining AI**, represents a powerful tool for advancing TMR research and improving resource efficiency assessments.

# Benefits of Using Generative AI for Data Mining in TMR

- **Main Advantages of Generative AI in Data Mining**
	- **Pattern and Trend Discovery**: Identifies hidden patterns and trends from large amounts of unstructured data, filling in details not covered by existing databases.
	- **Real-Time Analysis**: Processes global information in real-time, allowing rapid adaptation to new technologies and market shifts.
	- **Cost-Effective Data Collection**: Offers high-precision estimates even when field data collection is challenging, reducing costs and effort.

## • **Beyond Traditional Data Processing**

- Generative AI surpasses traditional data processing limitations, providing integrated insights into complex systems and detailed processes including process-solvents and waste management.
- In TMR assessments for products with advanced technologies, AI-driven estimates offer detailed understanding of environmental impacts across production stages until resource edges.

Considerations and Challenges of Using Generative AI in LCA Data Mining

#### **1. Accuracy of AI Predictions**

•Generative AI relies on past data to make predictions, but accuracy heavily depends on data quality.

•Process data required for LCA varies greatly by industry, and tracking latest technologies and operations can be difficult.

•Human expertise is essential to validate AI predictions to ensure reliability.

#### **2. Transparency and Interpretability**

•AI models often act as "black boxes," making it hard to understand their decision-making process.

•LCA requires transparency and reproducibility, and lack of clarity in AI's outputs can undermine result credibility.

#### **3. Potential for Bias**

•AI predictions depend on the datasets it learns from; if biased, AI results may be skewed.

•This can lead to unfair outcomes for certain countries or companies, or underestimations of true environmental impacts.

### Addressing Challenges in Using Generative AI for LCA Data Mining

#### •**Balancing Opportunities and Challenges**

•Using generative AI for LCA data mining presents new opportunities but also introduces challenges related to accuracy, transparency, and bias.

•It is crucial to understand AI's limitations and strengthen collaboration with human expertise to effectively address these challenges.

#### •**Strategies for Effective AI Utilization**

#### **1.Setting Data Ranges for Uncertainty**

•AI provides not only a single estimate but also upper and lower bounds.

•This allows LCA calculations to consider uncertainties, providing scenarios for both best and worst-case outcomes.

#### **2.Expert Validation of AI Estimates**

•Experts in LCA and production processes validate AI-derived data, discarding or adjusting any inappropriate results.

•Example: Specialists review AI's estimates for rare metal usage against historical data and current technology trends.

#### **3.Reducing Bias Through Prompt Engineering**

•The AI is fed diverse data sources to prevent reliance on a single viewpoint.

Enhancing Data Quality in LCA with Advanced Prompt Engineering for Generative AI

#### • **Prompt Engineering Strategies for Generative AI**

#### • **Specialist Perspective**

- Specified AI as a "resource and materials engineering expert familiar with LCA, industry practices, and patents."
- Limited search scope to high-quality, specialized information, reducing the influence of general blogs or non-expert articles.

#### • **Focusing on Established Industrial Methods**

- Added prompts specifying "common industrial methods for obtaining target material."
- Ensured focus on commercially viable, practical data, reducing the risk of including lab-scale or speculative research data.

#### • **Validation of Numerical Outputs**

- When AI's estimates diverged significantly from expert knowledge, prompted AI to generate reaction names or equations.
- This helped confirm data relevance, reducing the chance of unrelated information mixing into AI outputs.

### • **Outcome and Benefits**

- Combining generative AI's capabilities with expert input and diversified data sources ensures high-quality, reliable data for CFP analysis.
- This approach enhances the accuracy of LCA results by managing uncertainties and mitigating bias, making it a robust tool for assessing complex materials.

![](_page_13_Picture_0.jpeg)

Substance(s) input:.

- Natural Gas (Methane): Approximately 4.5 to 5.0 kg of methane is required.
- Water vapor  $(H_2O)$ : Requires about 9 kg of water (used as steam).

#### Type and amount of energy:.

. It is mainly supplied as thermal energy; it takes 7.2-10 kWh of energy to produce 1 kg of hydrogen. Natural gas itself is also used as an energy source, emitting about 9-11 kg of  $CO<sub>2</sub>$  as a byproduct.

#### Solvents and their recirculation rates

\* \*\* Water (steam)\*\* is used as a reactant, but the circulation rate is typically 0%. Water used in the reaction is consumed.

### rust inhibitor

![](_page_14_Picture_6.jpeg)

![](_page_14_Picture_7.jpeg)

![](_page_14_Picture_8.jpeg)

![](_page_15_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_16_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_17_Picture_8.jpeg)

The sheet consists of "element name J" and "configuration name K" and data from L to AH, where all elements forming the system are described.

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![](_page_18_Picture_0.jpeg)

餐 ホーム / ■ TMR and TCFP

**TMR and TCFP** 

TMR and TCFP

## https://lca.sdgoods.net/tmr-tcfp/

All data for calculation

#### Common Excel sheet for calculation

![](_page_18_Picture_50.jpeg)

![](_page_18_Picture_8.jpeg)

![](_page_18_Figure_9.jpeg)

scat123plus

![](_page_18_Figure_11.jpeg)

COATION

![](_page_19_Figure_0.jpeg)

Transition from CFP to TCFP for Comprehensive Resource Impact Analysis

### • **Why TCFP (Total Carbon Footprint) Instead of CFP**

- TCFP extends calculations to the resource extraction phase, avoiding arbitrary boundary settings and cut-offs used in traditional CFP.
- This broader approach yields higher values, providing a more accurate assessment and reducing confusion with conventional, limited-scope CFP metrics.
- Traditional CFP mostly covers Scope 1 and 2 emissions of energy; TCFP captures Scope 3 of energy by tracking resources to their resource edge.
- This comprehensive approach overcomes limitations of arbitrary "system boundaries," providing a more accurate footprint

**Footer:** TCFP offers a full-spectrum view of environmental impact by tracing resource use from origin to final application, enhancing transparency and accuracy in carbon assessments..

### •**Recalculated TMR**

•Collaboration between data-mining AI and engineering experts provided TMR values for all elements and accepted chemicals, with open data and calculation basis.

### •**Application to Total CFP**

•Expanded system boundary to resource origins at the Earthhuman economy interface, overcoming "system boundary" **limitations** 

- •Integrated process materials and waste treatment, often overlooked in traditional CFP.
- •Extended energy calculations beyond Scope 1, accounting for impacts up to resource origin.

### •**Outcome**

•Transformed footprint calculations into an open data discussion, engaging wider audiences beyond LCA specialists. • Thank you! and Please open https://lca.sdgoods.net/tmr-tcfp/

![](_page_22_Picture_1.jpeg)

**I introduce you to a Open-data and Open Discussion System for TMR and TCFP !**

## Recycling issue:  $\rightarrow$  exchange efference flow

プロセス3から出たリサイクル物がブロセス4を経て、プロセス5とともに プロセス3に循環する場合

- B=∑pi\*bi ← LCAの基本式
- $=$   $\pi$ pi\*bi+p3\*b3+n4\*Q'4\*b4+(n2-p4/Q4)\*Q5\*b5  $i=1,2$
- $=$  S2+  $p3*b3+p4*b4+(n2-m4)Q5*b5$
- $=$   $\sqrt{pi*}$ bi +(n2-m4)Q5 $*$ b5  $1=1,4$
- $=$ S4+p3(1/Q'3-m'4)Q5\*b5
- $=$  S4+p3(1/Q'3-r\*1\*Q'4/Q4)Q5\*b5

静脈側の4は、供給ではなく処理プロセスと して3からの発生物処理となる。

供給として3は4を要求しない

3の単位操作の要求構成5の量として、単位操 作時の5への要求量から4処理プロセスから(2 の単位操作で)供給される分を引く。

![](_page_24_Figure_11.jpeg)

# Recursion problem

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![](_page_25_Figure_1.jpeg)

Then, change recrded H2 into "rH2" as another materal

And, Manually enter the value of H2 into the rH2 unit.If this changes the footprint value of H2, enter the new value.

Repeat this process until the error range is within the acceptable range.