

Excess Heat-Driven Carbon Capture at an Integrated Steel Mill – Considerations for Capture Cost Optimization

Authors:

Maximilian Biermann ^{1*}

Hassan Ali ²

Maria Sundqvist ³

Mikael Larsson ^{3,4}

Fredrik Normann ¹

Filip Johnsson ¹

Affiliations:

¹ Chalmers University of Technology, SE-412 96 Gothenburg, Sweden

² University of South-Eastern Norway, N-3901 Porsgrunn, Norway

³ Swerim AB, Box 812, SE-971 25 Luleå, Sweden

⁴ Luleå University of Technology, SE- 971 87 Luleå, Sweden

*Corresponding Author: max.biermann@chalmers.se

Abstract:

Primary steelmaking in blast and basic oxygen furnaces is inherently carbon-intensive. Partial capture, i.e., capturing only a share of the CO₂, is discussed as an option to reduce the cost of carbon capture and storage (CCS) and to realize a near-term reduction in emissions from the steel industry. This work presents a techno-economic assessment of partial capture based on amine absorption of CO₂. The cost of steam from excess heat is assessed in detail. Using this steam to drive the capture process yields capture costs of 28 – 45 €/t CO₂. Capture of CO₂ from the blast furnace gas outperforms end-of-pipe capture from the combined-heat-and-power plant or hot stove flue gases onsite. The study shows that partial capture driven exclusively by excess

29 heat represents a higher value for a steel mill owner than full capture driven by the combustion
30 of extra fuel. In addition, the full-chain CCS cost (capture, transport and storage) for partial
31 capture is discussed in light of future carbon prices. We conclude that implementation of partial
32 capture in the steel industry in the 2020s is possible and economically viable if policymakers
33 ensure long-term regulation of carbon prices in line with agreed emission reduction targets
34 beyond Year 2030.

35 Keywords: MEA, steel making, partial capture, CCS, excess heat, cost estimation

Pre-print

36 1 Introduction

37
38 The iron and steel industry emits about 8% of the global direct CO₂ emissions. More than 70%
39 of the world's steel is produced in blast (BF) and basic oxygen (BOF) furnaces, which rely on
40 fossil fuels for energy and for reducing the iron ore¹. Based on a techno-economic assessment
41 it was recently concluded that amine absorption of CO₂ is at a technology readiness level of 9²,
42 i.e. considered to be commercially available. The technology has therefore been proposed as a
43 means for carbon capture and storage/utilization (CCS or CCU) for near-term reductions of
44 emission from the steel industry³⁻⁵. Carbon capture from the steel industry is low-cost
45 compared to other industrial sources like petroleum refining^{6,7} due to high concentrations of
46 CO₂ and large flows of off-gases emitted from integrated steel mills^{7,8}. A large-scale
47 demonstration plant with a capture capacity of 0.8 Mt CO₂ from steel mill gases is in operation
48 in Abu Dhabi for CCU (enhanced oil recovery, EOR)⁹.

49 The coal used in integrated steel mills (BF-BOF route) has multiple purposes, which make it a
50 challenge to achieve deep carbon reduction for carbon-neutral steelmaking. Thus, steel mills
51 have several emission points. Yet, partial capture of CO₂ from the major stacks, i.e. power plant,
52 hot stoves, coke ovens, sinter plant, and lime kiln, would reduce considerably the site emissions.
53 Studies of capture from these stacks applying 90% separation rate in the absorber with a
54 30 wt.% aqueous MEA solvent have estimated a mitigation potential of 50%–80% of all site
55 emissions at an avoidance cost of 60–100 €₂₀₁₅ per tonne CO₂, depending on how many stacks
56 are included and which assumptions are applied to the energy supply and cost parameters¹⁰⁻¹⁴.
57 The present work studies the most promising stacks and adapts the separation rate in the
58 absorber to match the available excess heat.

59 In steel mills, it may be beneficial to separate CO₂ from the process gases (prior to combustion),
60 although > 20% of the carbon is in the form of CO. These process gases include the blast furnace
61 gas (BFG), coke oven gas (COG), and basic oxygen furnace gas (BOFG), all of which are rich
62 in CO, H₂ and CO₂. Currently, these gases are combusted for heat generation in the power plant,
63 hot stoves, coke ovens, lime kilns, or in a walking beam furnace. Separation of CO₂ from these
64 process gases would increase the gas heating value, decrease the gas volume that needs to be
65 handled, and increase the reducing potential of the gas. BFG comprises around 70% of the CO₂
66 site emissions and is typically pressurized to around 2–3 bar; its relatively high CO₂ partial
67 pressure makes it especially suitable for carbon capture. Carbon capture from BFG using amine
68 absorption, without modifying the blast furnace to enable top gas recycling, has previously been

69 studied^{10,15}. These studies have generally concluded that capture from process gases has lower
70 specific capture cost but lower CO₂ reduction potential relative to capture from the stacks.
71 Dreillard et al.¹⁵ have shown that the co-absorption of CO by MEA is negligible and that the
72 CO₂/CO selectivity is high, with a CO₂ purity level of >99.5% being achieved. In the same
73 study, the absence of oxygen in the BFG was shown to reduce solvent degradation compared
74 to capture from the flue gases. Techno-economic studies of BFG capture with 30 wt.% MEA
75 have reported 19%–30% reduction in site emissions at an avoidance cost of 54–72 €₂₀₁₅ per
76 tonne CO₂^{10,15–17}.

77 All the studies discussed above have assumed a 90% separation rate in the absorber and have
78 sought to combine stacks or capture from the largest stacks to achieve an “as-high-as-possible”
79 reduction in emissions. Usually, it is proposed that heat be provided by additional fossil fuel
80 combustion, thereby incurring extra investment, operating costs, and CO₂ emissions. This
81 approach, which in our previous work on partial capture for process industry was defined as the
82 *full capture* approach, seeks to minimize the specific investment cost for carbon capture¹⁸. In
83 contrast, *partial capture* seeks to reduce the operating cost and, thereby, the overall capture
84 cost, by capturing only a share of the accessible CO₂ from a flue gas or process gas. The
85 magnitude of this share is governed by economic factors, such as energy prices and policy-
86 driven requirements. Situations that are potentially amenable to partial capture include, for
87 example, industrial sites that have available, low-value excess heat or have multiple stacks that
88 allow only the most suitable stacks to be targeted for capture. An integrated steel mill typically
89 meets both of these criteria.

90 A previous study by the authors¹⁹ examined how the excess energy from the steel mill in Luleå,
91 Sweden, that is currently used for district heating, process heat, and electricity production could
92 be extended to drive also partial capture. The heat sources, which ranged from power plant
93 steam (back-pressure operation) to the installation of excess heat recovery units, were mapped,
94 and they allowed for a reduction of up to 43% in site emissions. It was found that partial capture
95 from BFG gave a lower specific heat demand compared to end-of-pipe capture from the power
96 plant. Furthermore, the increase in the heating value of BFG due to CO₂ removal allowed for
97 re-allocation of the process gases in the steel mill, thereby releasing additional excess heat from
98 certain process units to the capture process.

99 The present work extends our previous study¹⁹ to a techno-economic assessment of partial
100 capture in the iron and steel industry through utilization of excess heat. The work illustrates
101 how the reduction in emissions (capture rate) and the corresponding capture cost are governed

102 by the CO₂ source and the level of available excess heat. The emphasis here is on the difference
103 in cost between steam from excess heat and additional combustion. Three suitable CO₂ sources,
104 hot stove flue gases, power plant flue gases, and BFG are analyzed for various capture rates and
105 levels of heat supply. Partial capture scenarios are defined and compared with full capture
106 benchmarks from the present study and from the literature. From this we discuss partial capture
107 as a near-term mean option for carbon mitigation for the iron and steel industry. In addition, the
108 time perspective and conditions in terms of carbon pricing for such near-term implementation
109 are presented.

110 The *Methods* section describes the capture scenarios, process modeling, and cost estimation
111 approaches. The *Results* section is divided into a technical section on capture performance and
112 a section on economics. The latter highlights the cost of steam and Capital Expenditure
113 (CAPEX) before aggregating both CAPEX and Operational Expenditure (OPEX) into a specific
114 capture cost for different capture rates from the three main CO₂ sources in the steel mill. A
115 sensitivity analysis highlights the main capture cost-driving parameters before the entire CCS
116 cost chain (capture, transport and storage cost) is discussed for three carbon price projections.
117 Finally, in the *Discussion* section, the findings are interpreted and compared to the results from
118 the literature.

119 2 Methods

120 Figure 1 shows the setup and scope of the techno-economic assessment of the MEA CO₂-
121 absorption unit integrated with an existing steel mill. Established modeling tools for the heat
122 and mass balances of the steel mill and the capture unit are used¹⁹. In brief, the steel mill model
123 determines the available excess heat and gas properties, which are used as inputs to the capture
124 model. The capture model determines the achievable level of CO₂ capture and the lean gas
125 compositions, which are used to iterate the flue gas flow and process gas composition to the
126 steel mill model. To benchmark against full capture, two scenarios include external heat supply
127 by an additional CHP plant fired with low-grade biomass are considered. The cost of erecting
128 and operating the capture unit covers the costs for capture, CO₂ compression, heat supply, and
129 the piping used to connect the CO₂-rich gases and steam to the designated capture site locations.

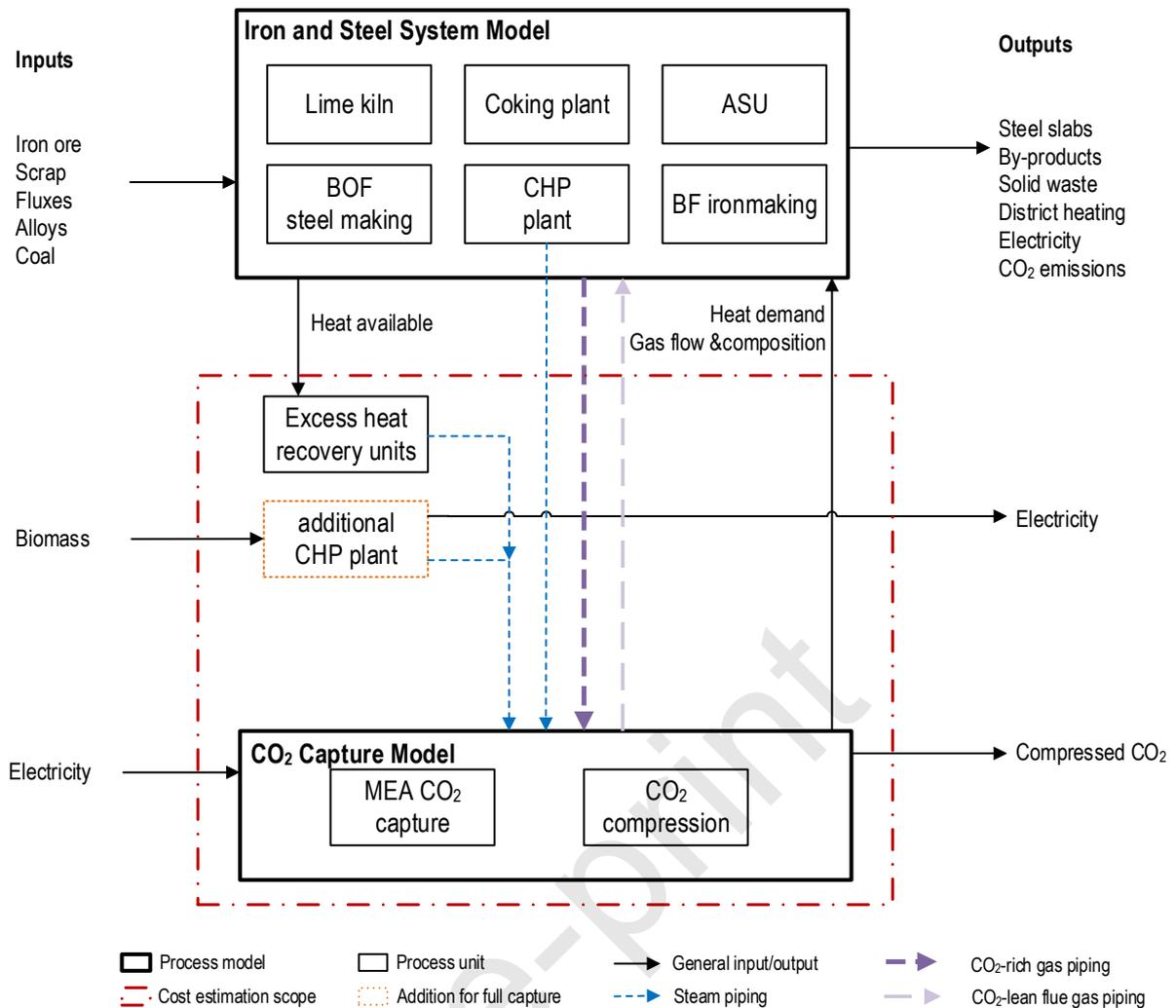


Figure 1: Overview of the methodology applied in the present work. Included are the scope of the steel mill model, the capture unit model, and the techno-economic assessment.

130

131 2.1 Capture scenarios studied

132 The SSAB site in Luleå has a production rate of around 2 Mtonne of primary slabs per year. In
 133 total, the plant site emits around 1.7 tonne CO₂/tonne steel slab produced. The major features
 134 of the SSAB plant that distinguish it from other integrated iron and steel plants are that: 1) the
 135 blast furnace is only charged with iron ore pellets (no sinter); and 2) downstream treatment of
 136 the steel slabs after casting does not take place onsite, but at a separate rolling mill and coating
 137 plant. Figure 2 shows the carbon balance of the Luleå site. Carbon is mainly expended for
 138 energy and iron ore reduction and only a small amount is found in the product, 98% of the
 139 carbon is emitted as CO₂. In line with the shown carbon balance, this work considers capture
 140 from the largest carbon sources, i.e., the blast furnace gas, CHP plant flue gases, and hot stove

141 flue gases. The gas properties of these three CO₂ sources are listed in Table 1. The possible heat
 142 sources for powering the regeneration of the solvent at 120°C are considered in the following
 143 order:

144 1) Recovery of excess heat for which no additional direct emissions from combustion arise, and
 145 for which only the collection and distribution costs are considered.

146 2) Additional capacity in the existing energy infrastructure, for which considered herein, this
 147 augmented boiler capacity is omitted, since the onsite boilers onsite already run at full load
 148 throughout the year.

149 3) Installation of an additional heat supply for which the emissions and costs for the extra
 150 primary energy consumption and the required investment are considered.

151 Table 2 lists five excess heat sources at the Luleå steel mill, as identified by the authors in
 152 previous work¹⁹. Moreover, Table 2 includes one additional external heat source in which the
 153 level of excess heat is insufficient to meet the capture target in the full capture scenarios. The
 154 values are given as yearly averages. The order, from top to bottom, represents increased
 155 technical implications/decreased accessibility for recovering heat in the form of saturated steam
 156 at 3 bar (~133°C). Note that the amount of assessed heat for each heat source in Table 2 is valid
 157 for the Luleå reference mill without CO₂ capture. Importantly, Table 2 also provides the
 158 definitions for heat levels 1–6 in the two columns to the right. Starting with the first heat source
 159 (HL1), each progressive heat level includes the preceding heat sources, such that the total
 160 amount of recovered heat is accumulated, e.g., HL6 implies the utilization of all six heat
 161 sources.

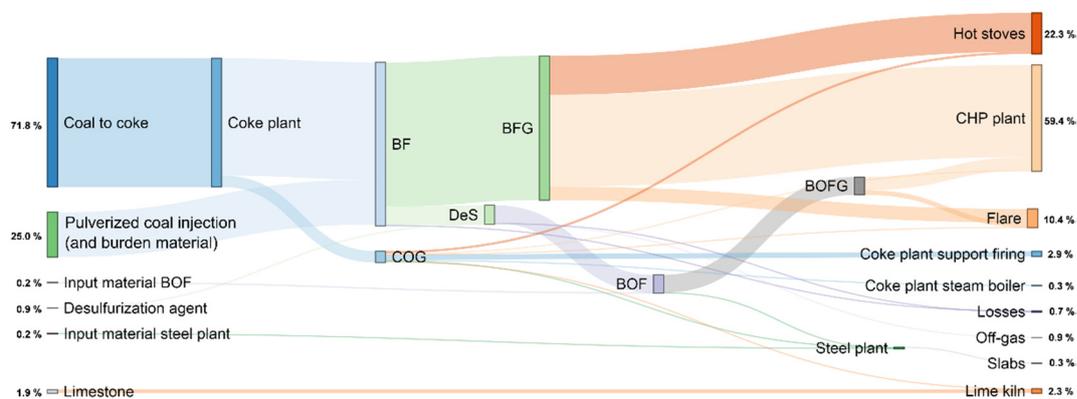


Figure 2: Carbon balance of the Luleå steel mill, as assessed with the iron and steel system model.

162

163 *Table 1: Gas properties for the considered CO₂ sources at the Luleå steel mill, i.e. in the case without CO₂*
 164 *capture.*

	Unit	Hot Stoves flue gas	BFG	CHP flue gas
CO ₂	mol.%	25.1	24.6	29.6
N ₂	mol.%	66.4	49.6	64.4
O ₂	mol.%	1.0	0.0	0.4
H ₂ O	mol.%	7.5	2.2	5.6
CO	mol.%	0.0	20.4	0.0
H ₂	mol.%	0.0	3.2	0.0
T	°C	269	29	120
p	kPa	105	181.3	105
Flow	kNm ³ /h	178.5	352.4	394.7

165

166 *Table 2: Heat sources for partial capture of CO₂ with suitable heat recovery technology, estimated heat recovery*
 167 *efficiency, and heat amount for the Luleå steel mill under reference conditions, i.e. without carbon capture.*
 168 *Adapted from* ¹⁹

Source	Recovery method	Recovery efficiency ¹	Heat (source) ² (GJ/h)	Accum. Heat (level) ³ (GJ/h)	Heat Level (HL) ⁴
CHP plant (excess heat)	Back-pressure operation	63%	228.1	228.1	1
Gas flaring (excess heat)	Steam boiler	93%	152.8	380.9	2
Hot stove flue gas (excess heat)	Heat recovery boiler	91%	32.9	413.8	3
Hot coke (excess heat)	Dry coke quenching + heat recovery boiler	67%	41.5	455.4	4
Hot slag (excess heat)	Dry slag granulation + moving bed heat exchanger +heat recovery boiler	65%	94.2	549.5	5
additional CHP plant (extra primary energy)	Biomass fired steam boiler + back-pressure steam turbine	85% ⁵	419.5	977.7	6

169

¹ Potential to convert the excess energy into steam.

170

² Accessible energy from specific source at the investigated plant site.

171

³ Accumulated accessible energy at the given HL at the investigated plant site.

172

⁴ Rating according to level of accessibility (i.e., technology readiness) of the excess energy.

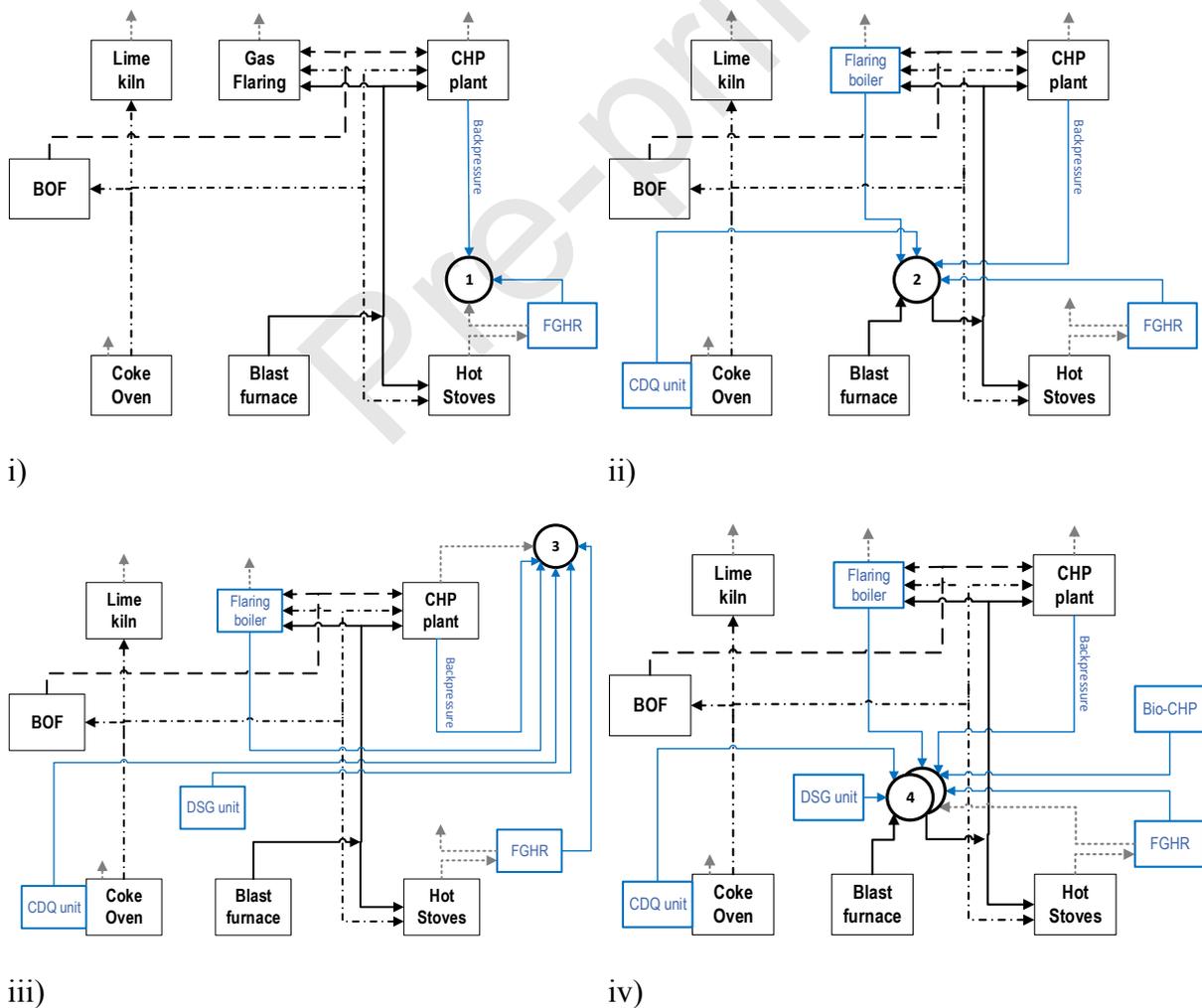
173

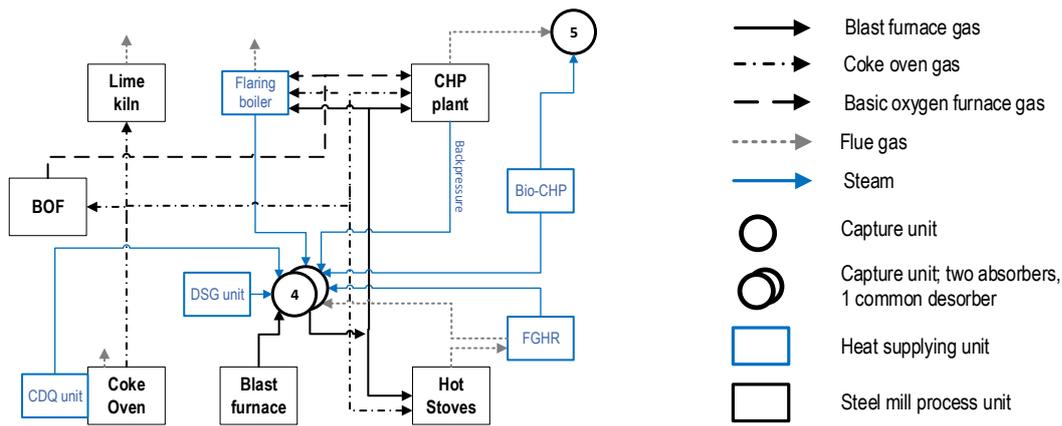
⁵ The total efficiency (steam and electricity) is 85% and the electrical efficiency is 22.7%

174

175 The present work considers five *capture scenarios*. Each capture scenario includes one or more
 176 of the CO₂ sources listed in Table 1 and one or more of the identified sources of excess heat or
 177 *heat levels (HL)* from Table 2. Figure 3 presents an overview of the capture scenarios, showing
 178 the integration of the capture units into the steel mill. The considered heat levels that deliver

179 steam to the capture site for each scenario are highlighted in blue. Capture scenarios S1–S3
 180 represent partial capture solely from the hot stove flue gas, BFG, and CHP flue gas,
 181 respectively. The heat supply level is based on the available excess heat, which sets the capture
 182 rate from the respective CO₂ source. The capture rate from a single CO₂ source is limited to
 183 90%, which resembles full capture and an associated minimum investment cost for enabling
 184 capture from that source. Scenarios S4 and S5 represent capture from more than one CO₂ source
 185 at capture rates of 90%. In S4 and S5, a biomass-fired CHP plant (Bio-CHP) powers the process
 186 in addition to the excess heat. The Bio-CHP plant is a back-pressure turbine that generates 3 bar
 187 of steam for the reboiler of the capture unit. No extra carbon emissions are allocated to the heat
 188 and power production from the Bio-CHP. Scenario S4 includes a capture unit with two
 189 absorbers and a common stripper, to avoid blending the BFG and hot stove flue gas. Scenario
 190 S5 includes a capture unit for the CHP plant flue gases in addition to the unit described in
 191 scenario S4. Thus, scenario S5 captures 90% of the CO₂ from all three sources and represents
 192 the full capture case in this work, i.e. similar to what was investigated by Ho et al. ¹⁰.





v)

Figure 3: Integration of the heat supplying units (blue) and gas system (black) of the steel mill with the capture unit in scenarios S1–S5. The scenarios consider capture from: i) hot stove off-gas (S1); ii) blast furnace gas (S2); iii) CHP plant flue gas (S3); iv) hot stoves flue gas plus blast furnace gas (S4); and v) hot stoves flue gas plus blast furnace gas plus CHP plant flue gas (S5). Circles denote capture units and type of design. Bio-CHP, biomass-fired CHP plant; BOF, basic oxygen furnace; CDQ, coke dry quenching; DSG, dry slag granulation; FGHR, flue gas heat recovery from hot stoves.

193

194 2.2 Process modeling

195 2.2.1 Iron and steel system model

196 The integrated iron and steel system is modeled using an in-house model of mass and energy
 197 balance over the production process and includes description of the blast furnace with
 198 accompanying hot stove and burden calculation. Each unit operation (see Figure 1) is described
 199 by theoretical correlations and empirical relations from industry data, as described in previous
 200 works^{19,20}. The model is calibrated against data from the SSAB steel mill in Luleå for the
 201 reference year 2006. The model has previously been used in similar studies¹¹.

202 2.2.2 CO₂ capture model

203 The capture process is assessed using an Aspen Plus model of a CO₂ absorption cycle with a
 204 30 wt.% aqueous MEA solvent, based on the work by Garðarsdóttir et al.²¹. The model uses
 205 rate-based mass transfer correlations and kinetics for MEA reactions. The absorption cycle is
 206 designed for partial capture, which means that depending on the flow and CO₂ concentration,
 207 the removal of CO₂ from the feed gas will be a function of the available heat (given as a
 208 boundary condition, derived from the integrated iron and steel system model). The absorption
 209 cycle is optimized to maximize the capture rate by varying the liquid-to-gas ratio (L/G) through
 210 manipulation of the solvent circulation rate. It has been shown that it is more beneficial for

211 partial capture to pass the entire process stream through the absorber rather than allow a split-
212 flow of the gas to enter the absorber^{18,22}.

213 Two process configurations, illustrated in Figure 4 are used in this work. A single absorber
214 configuration is applied in capture scenarios S1–S3. Due to the proximity of the blast furnace
215 and hot stoves, a double-absorber/common-stripper configuration is used for scenarios S4 and
216 S5. Having an absorber for each gas avoids blending the BFG with a flue gas. A common
217 stripper requires a lower level of investment. Both process configurations use intercooled
218 absorbers (ICA) to enhance absorption, as well as a rich-solvent split (RSS) to augment stripper
219 efficiency, as this has been shown to be beneficial^{18,23,24}. The modeling setup encompassing
220 rich-split, ICA, and the absorption cycle, together with its key design parameters is described
221 by Sundqvist et al.¹⁹.

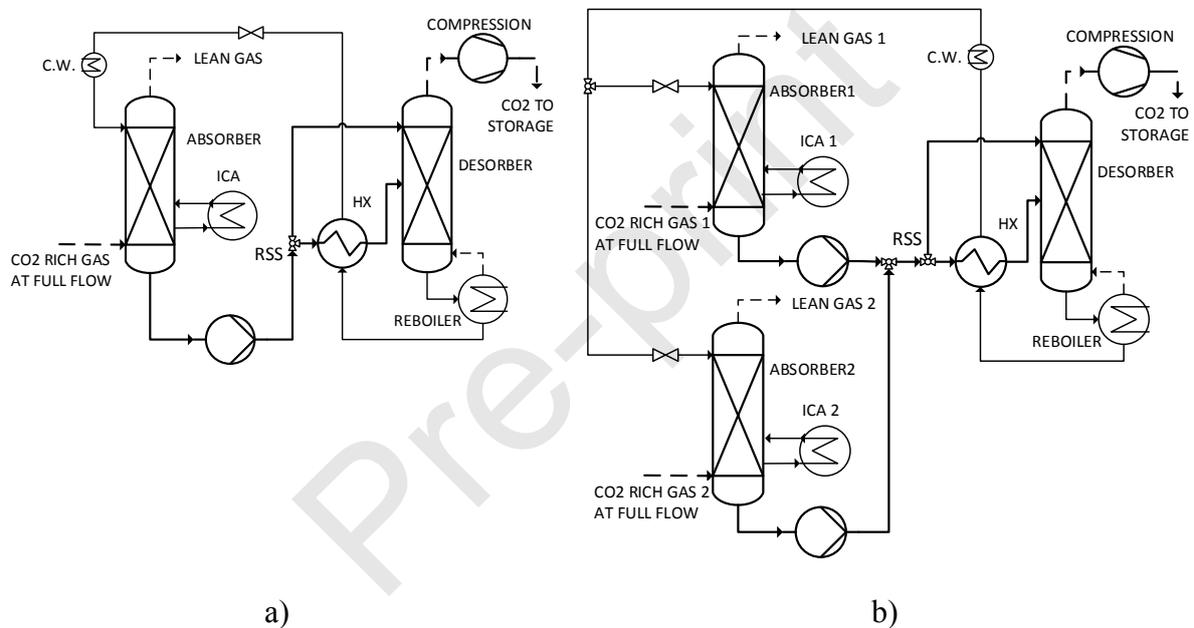


Figure 4: MEA absorption cycle configurations used for partial capture; a) Single absorber configuration. b) Double-absorber/common-stripper configuration;

222

223 2.3 Cost estimations

224 A detailed cost estimation is used to discuss the design of the partial capture system for retro-
225 fitting to the Luleå steel mill with the boundary of the cost estimation as shown previously in
226 Figure 1. The costs are aggregated on two levels:

- 227 1) the capture plant cost, i.e., the CAPEX of the capture plant including piping from the
228 CO₂ source and all the OPEX related to the capture plant (maintenance, labor, utilities
229 etc.), excluding the steam cost; and
230 2) the cost of steam, i.e., the CAPEX for piping system required for the steam supply and
231 for the heat recovery equipment, as well as the OPEX related to the equipment and, in
232 particular, any possible changes in power revenue due to excess heat recovery and
233 additional energy supply.

234 Finally, both the capture plant cost and steam cost are aggregated into an equivalent annualized
235 capture cost (EAC), given in € per captured tonne of CO₂ according to Eq. (1).

$$c_{\text{capture,EAC}} = \frac{(CAPEX + OPEX)_{\text{capture plant}} + m_{\text{steam}} \cdot c_{\text{steam,average}}}{m_{\text{CO}_2, \text{captured}}} \quad (1)$$

236 The cost estimation is made for high technology maturity and reflects the so-called “*n*th-of-
237 kind” (NOAK) approach. Using the Aspen In-Plant Cost Estimator, the investment cost for each
238 piece of equipment is estimated and multiplied by an individual installation factor that
239 represents equipment type and size. These installation factors are retrieved from an in-house
240 industry cost database^{18,25}. It is further assumed that all the equipment, except for major vessels
241 such as tanks and columns, is placed in non-insulated buildings. Not included are the cost for
242 purchase of land and piling and the costs for secondary buildings. This method of CAPEX
243 estimation normally constitutes an uncertainty of ± 40% (80% confidence interval). Some of
244 the equipment for heat supply could not be estimated by the individual installation factor
245 method, so cost information from both the academic and grey literature have been used instead,
246 as described in the Appendix in the section on steam cost A.1.2.

247 Table 3 summarizes the assumptions made regarding the cost estimations. The operational
248 hours represent an annual availability of 95% for the capture plant and heat recovery equipment,
249 which is motivated by high levels of availability of the blast furnace, hot stoves, and CHP plant.
250 The electricity price is oriented towards the Nordic spot-price market (Nord Pool AS), which
251 in the period 2013–2016 had an average electricity price of 29 €/MWh. Electricity
252 required/produced by process units is first balanced within the investigated system shown in
253 Figure 1 before there is purchasing from or selling to the grid. It is assumed that the personnel
254 members operate both the capture plant and the heat supply equipment. The currency
255 throughout this study is €₂₀₁₅; external input is converted to €₂₀₁₅ using Eurostat’s consumer
256 price index²⁶ and historical currency exchange rates.

257 The cost of steam, c_{steam} , for each recovery technology is determined by a bottom-up approach
 258 according to Eq.(2) and includes:

- 259 - CAPEX for the equipment that converts heat into steam and piping for delivering the
- 260 steam to the capture site or to connect to the existing network;
- 261 - OPEX including the costs for electricity, cooling water, and maintenance, as obtained
- 262 from mass and energy balances in Aspen Hysys;
- 263 - Revenue loss from electricity sales linked to steam supply from the steel mill CHP plant;
- 264 - Revenue gain from electricity sales linked to the additional biomass-fired CHP.

$$c_{\text{steam}} = \frac{(P_{\text{powerloss,CHP}} - P_{\text{powergain,BioCHP}}) * c_{\text{power}} + \text{CAPEX} + \text{OPEX}}{m_{\text{steam}}} \quad (2)$$

265 Details of the assumptions made regarding the equipment included to calculate c_{steam} for each
 266 heat level are described in Appendix A.1 in Section A.1.2. Appendix A.1 also describes the
 267 equipment included in the capture plant cost (A.1.1).

268 In order to investigate the conditions for economic viability of the capture scenarios studied,
 269 we calculate the *net abatement cost*, which is the full-chain CCS cost (capture, transport and
 270 storage) related to a carbon price, as calculated in Eq. (3). The net abatement cost represents
 271 the remaining cost for the plant owner after receiving credit for the captured carbon, either by
 272 capitalizing on not having to buy allowances, or by selling off free allocated allowances on the
 273 market. The transport and storage cost represent ship transport from the Bothnian Bay to a
 274 storage site in the Baltic Sea, and lie within 17 – 27 €/t CO₂ depending on scale according to
 275 Kjärstad et al.²⁷. Three carbon price projections are examined, as described in Appendix A.1.3.

$$c_{\text{NAC}} = c_{\text{capture,EAC}} + c_{\text{transport\&storage}} - c_{\text{carbon}} \quad [€/t_{\text{CO}_2}] \quad (3)$$

276

277 *Table 3: Economic parameters assumed in this study*

Cost year	-	Year 2015
Plant life time	Years	25
Construction	Years	2
Rate of return	%	7.5
Maintenance	% inst.cost/annum	4.0
Plant availability	h/annum	8,322
Electricity	€/kWh	0.030
Cooling	€/m ³	0.022

MEA	€/m ³	1,867
Sludge disposal	€/m ³	333.3
Biomass price	€/kWh	0.016
Labor		
One engineer	k€/annum	158
Six operators	k€/annum	111

Pre-print

279 **3 Results**

280 **3.1 Technical capture performance**

281 This section gives a brief overview of the technical performances of the capture units in the
 282 investigated scenarios. Figure 5 shows that the heat requirement for solvent regeneration is
 283 dependent upon the CO₂ source and achieved capture rate. A general increase in specific heat
 284 demand at a higher rate of CO₂ removal (lower partial pressure of CO₂ in the gas leaving the
 285 absorber) is evident. Using MEA absorption, the benefits in terms of heat demand of partial
 286 capture are limited to a saving of up to 10% in required heat per tonne of CO₂ captured. Of the
 287 three CO₂ sources examined, BFG shows the lowest specific heat demand due to its higher
 288 pressure, which results in improved CO₂ absorption. Capture from the flue gases of the hot
 289 stoves and CHP shows a similar heat demand. However, the lower CO₂ concentrations in hot
 290 stove flue gas lead to a slightly higher heat demand.

291

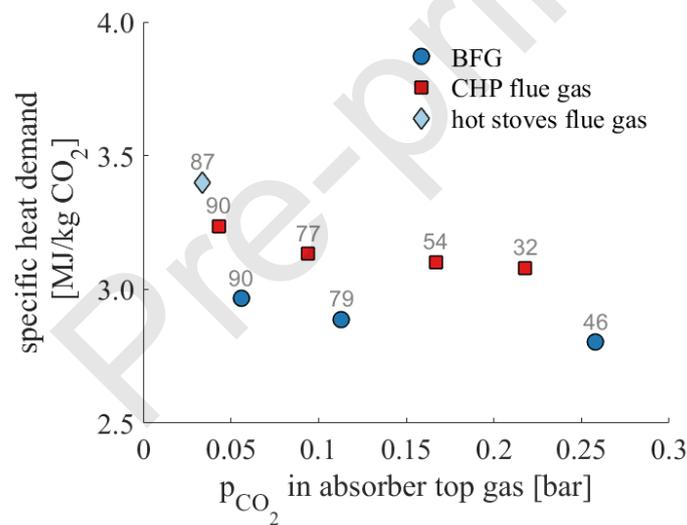


Figure 5: Heat requirement for CO₂ separation from BFG, CHP and hot stove flue gas plotted against partial CO₂ pressure in the absorber overhead gas. The numbers in grey show the achieved separation rate of CO₂ in the absorber in %; Note that ordinate does not start from zero.

292 The performance of the system is shown in Table 4 for the five capture scenarios S1–S5 – each
 293 at their maximum heat recovery level. The three CO₂ sources considered represent almost 85%
 294 of the total site emissions, and full capture from all three sources (S5) yields a total site emission
 295 reduction of 76.3%. Full capture from hot stoves alone can mitigate about half as much as full
 296 capture from BFG. Utilizing all the retrievable excess heat allows for partial capture of 76 %
 297 of the CO₂ in the CHP plant flue gases, which corresponds to about 51% of the total site
 298 emissions. The total energy input to the system increases, as compared to the reference without

capture, and the system becomes a net importer of electricity from the grid at capture rates >20–22 %. The increased electricity demand is predominantly due to the demand for power for CO₂ compression and the need to compensate for the loss of electricity production due to back-pressure operation. It is noteworthy that capturing from BFG (S2) increases the heating value of the BFG and allows for a process gas re-allocation, i.e. greater usage of BFG in the hot stoves and coke oven gas in the CHP ¹⁹, unlocking a potential of 2–3 MW of excess heat that can be used for carbon capture compared to the steel mill with no capture. This re-allocation of process gases decreases the energy demand and the system becomes more energy-efficient than the reference case without capture, albeit at the expense of power generation. The net power output improves in S4 and turns positive in S5 with additional fuel input in the form of biomass being supplied to the system.

Table 4: System performance in terms of reduced emissions reduction, power generation, and total energy input for each capture scenario (S1–S5), with the highest level of supplied heat (HL) tested. Ref, No capture; S1, hot stoves; S2, BFG; S3, CHP; S4, BFG + hot stoves; S5, BFG + hot stoves + CHP.

	unit	Ref	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5
Heat level (highest tested)		-	HL1m	HL4	HL5	HL6	HL6
Total site reduction	% CO ₂	0	19.0	38.8	43.2	51.0	76.3
Specific heat demand	MJ/kg CO ₂	0	3.40	2.90	3.12	3.04	3.15
Heat supplied to reboiler	GJ/h	0	262	457	549	629	978
Additional biomass input	GJ/h	0	0	0	0	113	674
Net power output	GJ/h	30	4	-30	-36	-25	62
Total energy input	TJ/h	6.26	6.26	6.17	6.29	6.28	6.88

313

3.2 Economic efficacy

First, the CAPEX and the cost of steam are presented separately. Thereafter, the total annualized cost for the Luleå plant case is discussed. The total annualized cost is then analyzed for sensitivity towards selected cost parameters.

3.2.1 Investment cost of the capture plant

The installed cost for a capture plant increases with the amount of CO₂ captured and, thus, the capture rate. However, due to economy of scale, the specific CAPEX for each tonne of CO₂ captured decreases with scale for the captured CO₂. Figure 6 shows the magnitudes of these effects on scenarios S1 HL1, S3 HL2 and S2 HL2. The cost break-down highlights the compressor, cross heat exchanger, reboiler, and gas piping as the most expensive items of equipment. The relative proportions of the cost categories vary with scale, CO₂ source and plant

325 design. For instance, the cost of the compressor is merely a function of scale, the gas piping
 326 depends highly on the CO₂ source, and the separation columns obviously account for a larger
 327 share of the cost in the cases designed to include two absorbers and one stripper.

328 Capture from BFG (S2 HL2) requires an investment that is lower by ca. 3 €/tonne CO₂ than
 329 capture from CHP plant flue gases (S3 HL2). The slightly higher pressure of the BFG allows
 330 for smaller diameters of the columns and piping compared with capture from CHP or HS flue
 331 gases and this yields a lower CAPEX. Capture from the hot stoves (S4 HL6) or the CHP (S5
 332 HL6) in combination with capture from the BFG is relatively inefficient, as BFG is the main
 333 fuel feed to the hot stoves and the CHP. The concentration of CO₂ drops from 25% and 30% to
 334 17% in the hot stoves and CHP flue gas, respectively, when 90% of the CO₂ in the BFG is
 335 captured. The lower inlet concentration increases solvent circulation and decreases CO₂
 336 loading, causing the equipment to be less cost-effective per tonne of CO₂.

337

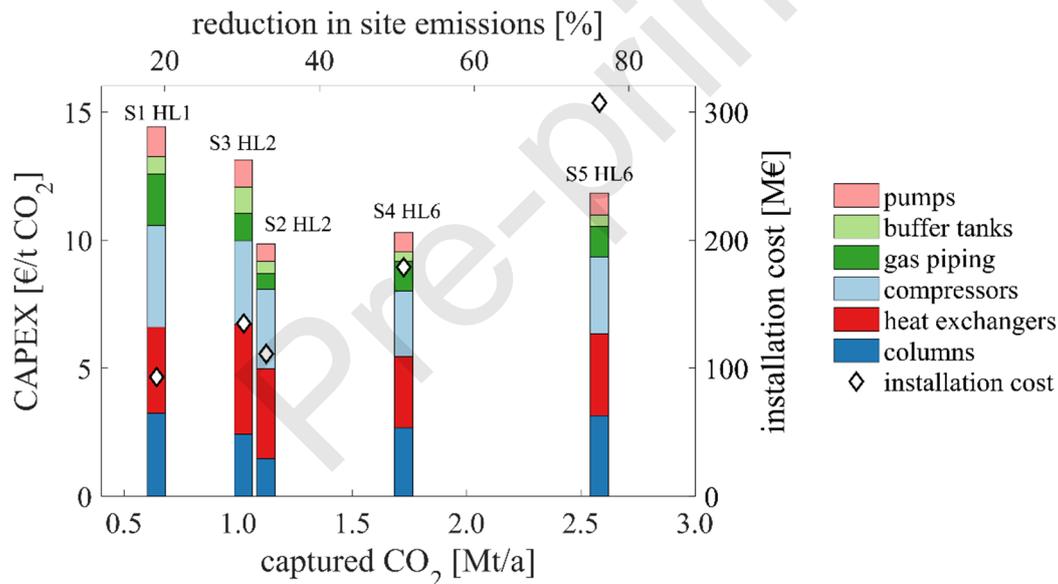


Figure 6: Installation cost (diamond) and specific CAPEX (bars with cost categories) versus captured CO₂ for selected capturescenarios

338

339 3.2.2 Cost of steam supply

340 Figure 7 shows the factors governing the cost of steam calculated according to Eq.(2). The cost
 341 is primarily determined by the type of heat-recovery technology used (cf. Table 2), the distance
 342 to the capture site, and the amount of retrievable steam. A substantial amount of steam, 220–
 343 228 GJ/h on average, may be obtained by operating in back-pressure mode for the entire

344 operational year at a cost <2 € per tonne of steam. The cost is dominated by the loss in power
345 revenues. The recovery of steam from flare gases generates a cost of 7 (± 2) €/tonne steam,
346 mainly due to the cost of the piping required to lead the flare gases to the additional steam
347 boiler. Heat recovery from hot stove flue gases supplies relatively low levels of steam (~32
348 GJ/h), although at a low cost of 2–4 €/tonne. The distinct difference in steam cost for FGHR
349 between capture from BFG (S2) and CHP flue gas (S3) is attributable to the longer piping
350 distance in the CHP scenario. Using coke dry quenching (CDQ) to generate low-pressure steam
351 comes at a relatively high costs of 45–55 €/tonne due to the large investment required. Here,
352 the BFG scenario (S2) is more expensive because the steam production is matched to the
353 capture rate cap of 90%, whereas more steam is recovered from excess heat in the CHP flue gas
354 scenario (S3), which captures 64% of the CO₂ at a similar capital expense. Dry slag granulation
355 (DSG) has a comparatively low cost for steam, ca. 5 €/tonne, and a higher capacity than CDQ.
356 However, the cost for DSG is uncertain, as it is not a commercial technology. Additional
357 primary energy supply in the form of a biomass-fired CHP plant can generate steam at a cost
358 of 28 (± 5.1) €/tonne and 18 (± 2.7) €/tonne for S4 and S5, respectively. The difference in cost
359 is due to economy of scale. In both scenarios, the costs are dominated by the cost of fuel,
360 although the produced electricity helps to reduce the steam cost by 5–6 €/tonne. This also
361 implies that an investment that is solely motivated by power revenues does not pay off. The
362 electricity price would have to be at least 102 €/MWh and 138 €/MWh for S5 and S4,
363 respectively, for the investment to break even.

364 Figure 8 shows the average steam costs for the successive deployment of the discussed heat
365 recovery technologies, with excess heat recovery being deployed before additional combustion.
366 The increments in steam cost represent the deployment of the next heat-supplying technology
367 with costs (CAPEX and OPEX) at the respective scale of heat supply (MW). The average steam
368 cost increases from 1 (± 0.05) €/tonne for utilizing only the heat available as back-pressure from
369 the existing steam cycle to 12 (± 2) €/tonne for full capture powered by the installation of an
370 additional steam cycle (Bio-CHP). Note that if all the steam were to be generated through a
371 biomass-fired steam boiler the cost of steam would be around 14–30 €/tonne. The average cost
372 of steam is similar for the three CO₂ sources in S1–S3, with the differences mainly seen for
373 back-pressure operation and gas flaring. The cost of supplying steam for BFG capture (S2) is
374 higher because the loss of power-related revenue is greater and increases beyond the first heat
375 recovery level (back-pressure). The more heat is retrieved, the more CO₂ can be captured and

376 the BFG is upgraded in terms of its heating value, allowing for extended use of BFG in other
 377 steel mill units at the expense of electricity generation in the CHP plant (cf. previous work¹⁹).

378

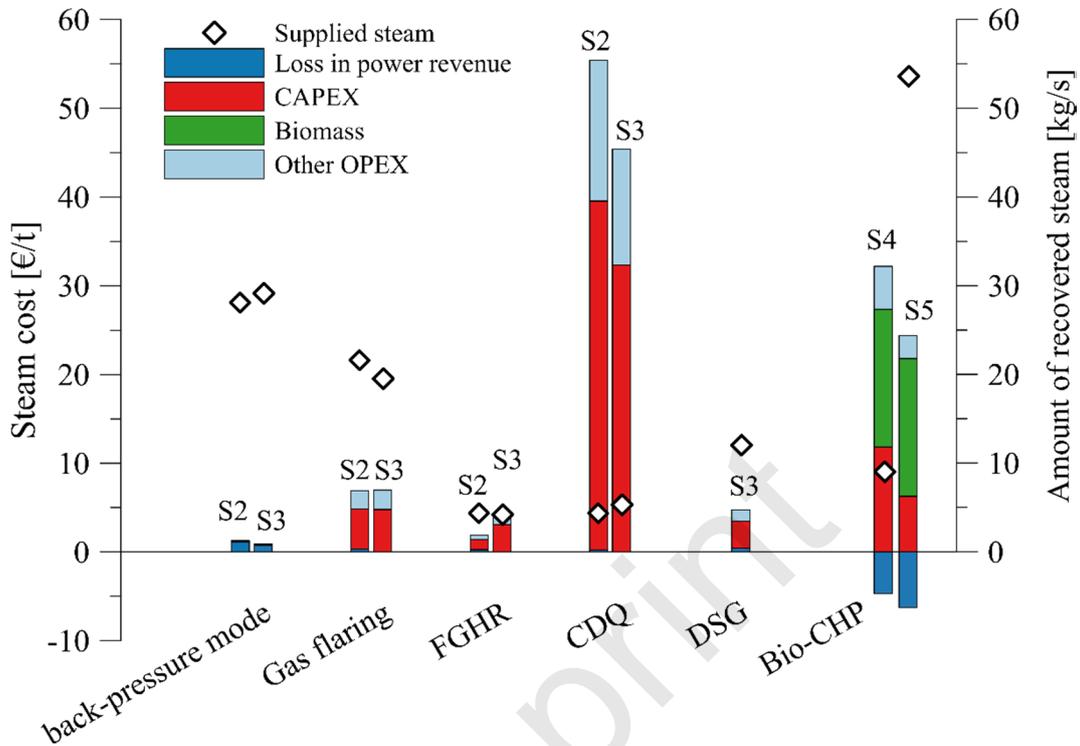


Figure 7: The costs of steam recovered in capture scenarios S2 and S3 via CHP back-pressure operation, gas flaring, flue gas heat recovery (FGHR), coke dry quenching (CDQ), and dry slag granulation (DSG), as compared to the costs of steam produced in additional biomass-fired CHP (Bio-CHP) in capture scenarios S4 and S5.

379

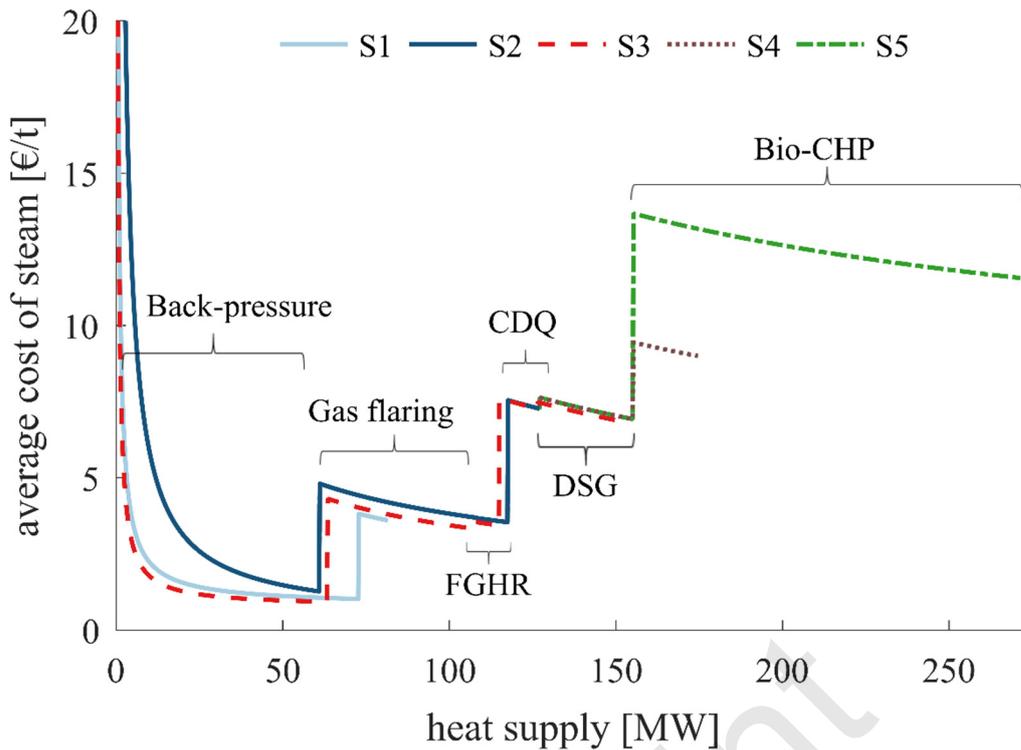


Figure 8: Average costs of steam for capture scenarios S1–S5 in relation to the amount of steam available for capture: FGHR, flue gas heat recovery; CDQ, coke dry quenching; DSG, dry slag granulation; Bio-CHP, biomass-fired CHP plant. The parenthesis in the figure represent the recovery technology being implemented successively with increasing steam amount.

380

381 3.2.3 Equivalent annualized capture cost

382 The equivalent annualized capture cost (EAC) is aggregated from the capture plant cost and
 383 steam cost according to Eq. (1). The annualized absolute cost including CAPEX and OPEX are
 384 in the range of 20.6 (± 4.1) M€ to 99.5 (± 12.1) M€ for the smallest and largest annual capture
 385 capacities of 0.64 Mt CO₂/annum and 2.58 Mt CO₂/annum, respectively. Figure 9 demonstrates
 386 that the capture costs for the studied scenarios vary within the range of 28–45 €/tonne CO₂-
 387 captured depending on the amount of CO₂ captured. A range of low-capture costs is observed
 388 for 0.7–1.2 MtCO₂/annum, corresponding to a 19 – 36 % reduction in site emissions, after
 389 which the capture cost increases with capture rate as more expensive heat recovery equipment
 390 is installed. The lowest capture cost of 28 (± 4) €/tonne CO₂-captured is observed in scenario
 391 S2 HL3, i.e., capture from BFG with heat supplied from back-pressure operation, gas flaring,
 392 and flue gas heat recovery (FGHR), – achieving a 36% (ca. 1.2 MtCO₂/annum) reduction in
 393 site emissions. The full capture scenario S5 HL6, i.e., 90% capture from BFG, hot stoves, and
 394 CHP plant flue gases, shows a rather high cost of 39 (± 5) €/tonne CO₂-captured, although it
 395 achieves a reduction in site emissions of 76% (ca. 2.6 MtCO₂/annum). Furthermore, it is clear

396 that capture from BFG is more economic by 3 € or 5 € per tonne CO₂ (on average) compared
 397 to capture from hot stove or CHP flue gases, respectively, which is within the margin of
 398 uncertainty for the cost estimation.

399 Figure 10 shows the cost breakdowns for the most cost-effective BFG capture scenario (S2
 400 HL3) and the full capture scenario S5, which have annual costs of 33.6 (±4.1) M€ and
 401 99.5 (±12.1) M€, respectively. In the partial capture scenario, CAPEX makes up one-third of
 402 the cost, followed by fixed OPEX (maintenance and labor), and the cost of steam recovered
 403 from excess heat. In the full capture scenario, steam generation from both excess heat and
 404 additional fuel input is the dominating cost with a share > 40%, followed by CAPEX at 22%.

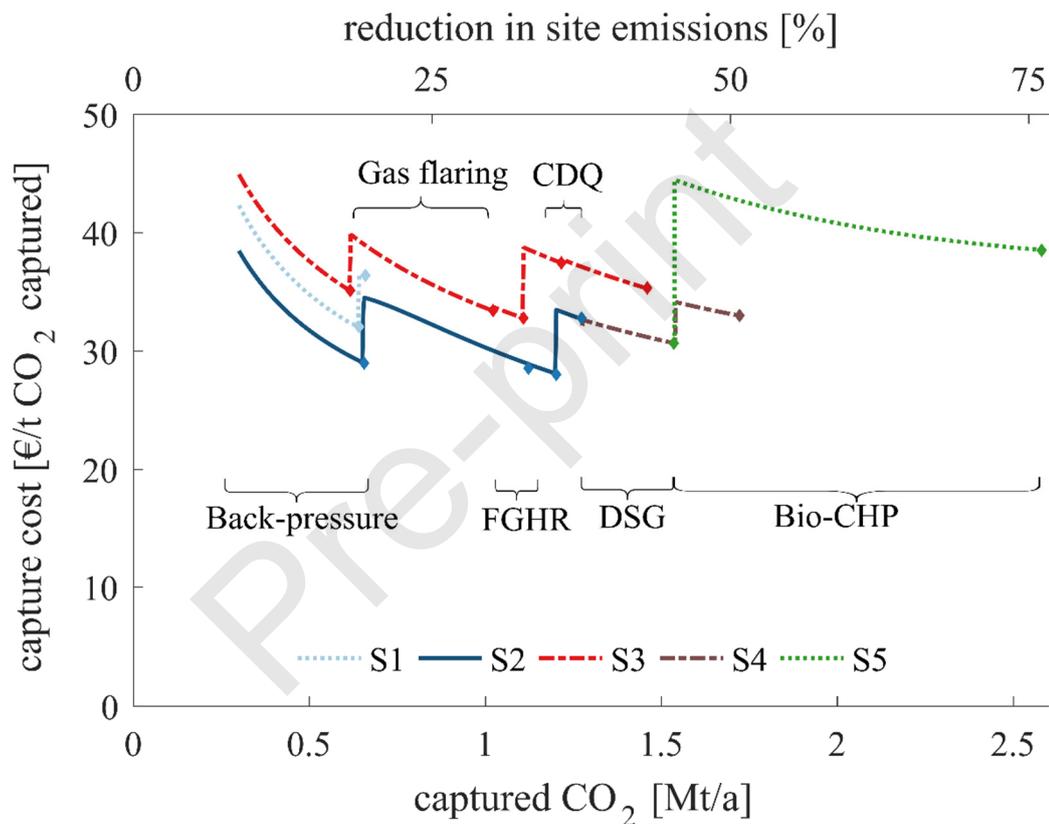


Figure 9: Capture costs for scenarios S1–S5 depending on annually captured CO₂. The parentheses and diamonds indicate the successive deployment of heat recovery technologies; FGHR, flue gas heat recovery; CDQ, coke dry quenching; DSG, dry slag granulation; Bio-CHP, biomass-fired CHP plant.

405

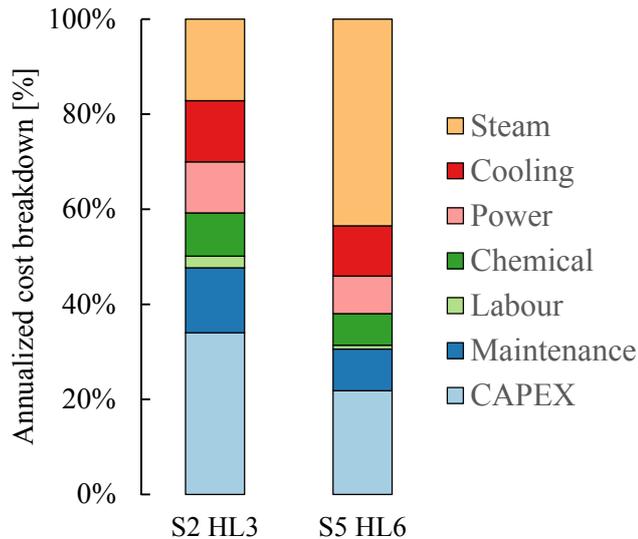


Figure 10: Comparison of the annualized cost breakdowns of the partial capture scenario (S2 HL3) and full capture scenario (S5 HL6).

406

407

408 3.2.4 Sensitivity analysis

409 The influences of underlying cost parameters (cf. Table 3) on annualized cost are illustrated in
 410 Figure 11 for the partial capture scenario S2 HL3 and the full capture scenario S5 HL6. The
 411 listed parameters are altered by $\pm 50\%$ one at a time. The figure reveals that operational hours,
 412 lifetime of the plant, rate of return and external energy (electricity and biomass) are the factors
 413 most sensitive to change. Maintenance rate, cooling water supply, and the assumed length of
 414 the gas and steam piping influence the cost by $< 8\%$. Overall, the partial capture scenario
 415 demonstrates a higher sensitivity than the full capture scenario, as its annual cost is more
 416 dependent upon the investment (cf. Figure 10). The exception to this is the cost for external
 417 energy, which is more sensitive in the full capture scenario because it relies not only on power
 418 imports but also on biomass supply. The electricity price and biomass price are treated as
 419 coupled parameters, which is likely to be the case for future electricity systems that rely on
 420 renewables with a significant share of biomass²⁸. Figure 12 shows the net abatement cost, i.e.,
 421 the full-chain cost for CCS (capture, transport and storage) minus the carbon price, for various
 422 carbon and electricity prices over a larger range, and couples the biomass price to the electricity
 423 price at a constant ratio for the full capture scenario. For electricity prices < 18 €/MWh and
 424 biomass prices < 10 €/MWh, the full capture case is more economic than the partial capture
 425 case, also due to scaling effects on the transport and storage costs. In all the other cases, partial
 426 capture is more cost-efficient and less-sensitive to variations in the price of the external energy

427 supply. In general, carbon prices of around 50–60 €/tonne CO₂ and 50–80 €/tonne CO₂ are
 428 required for the net abatement cost to become negative for the partial capture scenario and full
 429 capture scenario, respectively.

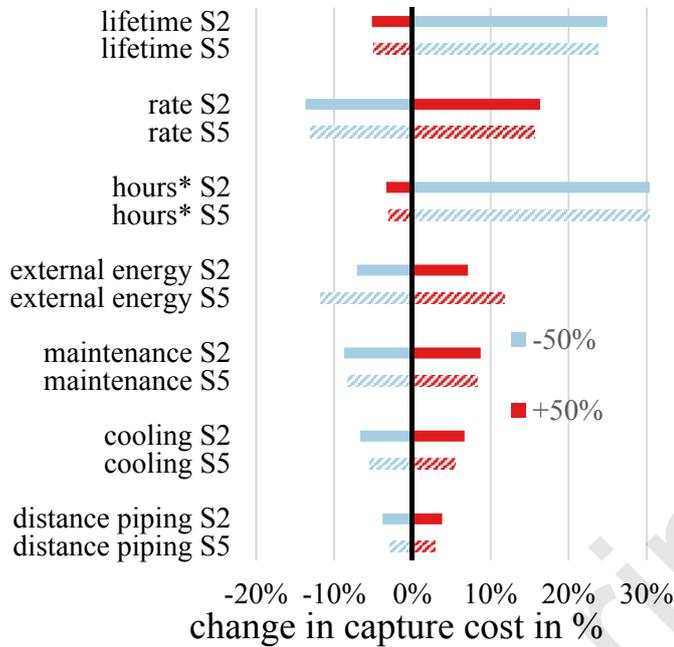


Figure 11: Sensitivity of the annualized capture cost with respect to the main cost parameters for a partial capture scenario (S2 HL3, full bar, base value 28€/tonne CO₂) and a full capture scenario (S5 HL6, striped bar, base value 38.5 €/tonne CO₂). * Increase in hours limited to 100% annual operation, the decrease in hours not shown fully due to scale: cost increase by 60% and 66% for partial and full capture scenario, respectively.

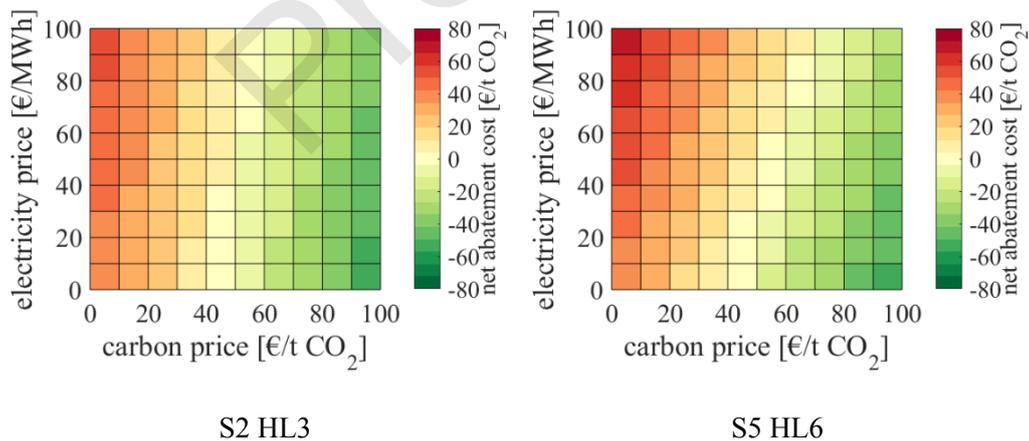


Figure 12: Sensitivity of the net abatement cost towards the electricity price and carbon price for partial capture (S2 HL3) and full capture (S5 HL6).

430

431 3.2.5 Time perspective on the abatement cost

432 Figure 13 shows the net abatement cost trajectories for partial capture from BFG for the period
433 2018–2040, based on three carbon-pricing projections. CO₂ prices for advanced economies in
434 line with IEA’s sustainable development scenario (WEO 2 °C) would make partial capture at
435 the Luleå steel mill economically viable in Year 2025. Less ambitious policy-driven carbon
436 pricing in the early 2020s will postpone this to Year 2029 (WEO&NEPP). Following the price
437 projection for the EU ETS by Refinitiv²⁹, a company providing financial market data, the
438 market does not foresee negative net abatement cost in either the 2020s or in the 2030s when
439 extrapolating the data to the 2030s (see Appendix Table A.3). It should be noted that the applied
440 EU ETS projection does not foresee the carbon price levels necessary to meet the sustainable
441 2°C target (WEO).

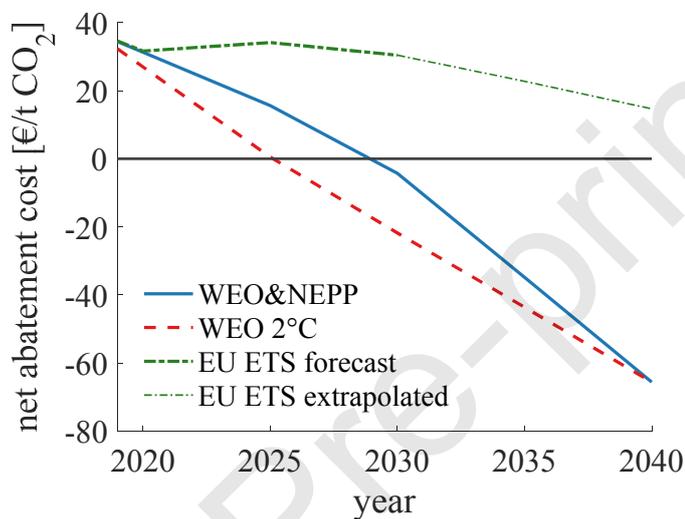


Figure 13: Net abatement costs for the steel industry based on partial capture of CO₂ from BFG (S2 HL3) with excess heat from back-pressure operation, flue gas heat recovery, flare gases, and three carbon price projections: sustainable development projection (WEO 2°C), moderate development projection (WEO & NEPP), and a carbon-market projection (EU ETS forecast). The carbon price for the EU ETS has been extrapolated for the period 2030–2040.

442

443 4 Discussion

444 This section is divided into three parts. First, the excess heat sources used for partial capture
445 and their limitations are discussed. Second, the full capture benchmark is compared to the data
446 in the literature and its external heat supply is debated. Third, near-term implementation of
447 partial capture in the iron and steel industry is explored.

448 4.1 Limitations on excess heat recovery for partial capture

449 The above given techno-economic assessment has found that partial capture with excess heat
450 can be more economic than full capture, provided that low-cost and mature heat recovery
451 technology is implementable. Such technologies include back-pressure operation and flue gas
452 heat recovery, either of which can use the existing infrastructure or relatively low-cost heat
453 recovery units. Flare gas utilization provides steam rather intermittently, and an extra buffer
454 tank may be required to allow continuous heat production, which was not taken into account in
455 the equipment cost. The increase in process complexity is reflected in a higher steam cost from
456 CDQ, though less so for DSG, due to uncertainties in how the costs will turn out once
457 commercialization is achieved.

458 In all, the excess heat from back-pressure operation and flue gas heat recovery will likely be
459 deployed first, followed by the installation of a new boiler fired by flare gases and additional
460 fuel, e.g., biomass or other. Since steam from CDQ is found to be more expensive than
461 additional combustion (cf. Figure 7), investment in CDQ cannot be motivated based on steam
462 production alone. It should be noted that the steam cost in the present study does not represent
463 secondary effects, such as efficiency gain by capturing from BFG (reduced fuel consumption
464 in the steel mill) or improved quality of the slag due to DSG or avoidance of water pollution
465 and reduction of water consumption due to CDQ. Note that carbon capture and the required
466 heat recovery units are operated continuously at constant load. Martinez Castilla et al.³⁰, (2019)
467 performed a dynamic modeling study of capture unit operation with seasonal and hourly
468 variations and they found that typical variations are manageable through the implementation of
469 an appropriate capture unit design and control scheme, and that a capture performance close to
470 constant load can be achieved.

471 4.2 The full capture benchmark and comparison with the literature

472 The comparability of the cost results within the literature is often low due to the high variability
473 of applied methods and scopes. From a literature review on capture cost from the steel industry
474 applying 30 wt.% aqueous MEA solvents, a cost range for capture from BFG was found to be

475 54–72 €/tonne CO₂, which is comparable with and even lower than the cost for end-of-pipe
476 capture, which is around 60–100 €/tonne CO₂ (see Table A 4 in the Appendix for a list of cost
477 data from the literature reviewed). The techno-economic assessment carried out in the present
478 study confirms that carbon capture from BFG is more cost-effective than end-of-pipe capture
479 from hot stoves or the CHP plant onsite. Compared to the literature, this study concludes that
480 there is a lower cost for full capture, i.e., separating 90% of the CO₂ from BFG, hot stove and
481 CHP plant flue gases, at 39 (±5) €/tonne CO₂ (cf. Figure 9). The reason for this is the use of
482 excess heat to cover 57% of the heat supply. The supply of heat exclusively from natural gas or
483 coal at a price of 20–22 €/tonne steam³¹ would entail a cost of 51–54 €/tonne CO₂-captured,
484 which is at the lower end of the cost range reported in the literature. Yet, such fossil fuel-based
485 heat supply would increase CO₂ emissions, which would also have to be taken into account.

486 The use of low-grade biomass to provide the remaining 43 % of the required heat for full capture
487 that is not supplied by excess heat, would require roughly 300,000 tonnes (dry) of biomass per
488 year, which is at the scale of the world's largest biomass pelletization plants currently in
489 operation³², so this might pose challenges in terms of production and supply of CO₂-neutral
490 biomass. Furthermore, the use of biomass to generate heat for CCS and some electricity may
491 not represent the 'best' option for using a limited resource. Other options even exist in the iron
492 and steel industry for a more-efficient use of biogenic carbon, e.g., as a bio-reductant fed
493 directly to the blast furnace via tuyère injection, thereby replacing pulverized coal injection
494 (PCI)^{33,34}.

495 4.3 Partial capture and conditions for near-term implementation

496 In anticipation of the Market Stability Reserve (MSR), the CO₂ price in the EU ETS has
497 increased to >20 €/tonne in 2018 after a period of low prices due to oversupply following the
498 financial crisis in Year 2008. The MSR will remove a large share of superfluous emission
499 certificates in the early 2020s, and thus, will likely maintain CO₂ price levels at >20 €/tonne²⁹.
500 Importantly, the capture cost found in this study for partial capture in the steel industry is close
501 to the expected carbon price levels in the near future²⁹, and thereby cover a large share of the
502 entire full-chain cost. The full-chain cost, including ship transport to the storage site in the
503 Baltic Sea minus a carbon price, i.e. the net abatement cost (cf. Eq. (3)), have been analyzed
504 for different carbon price projections (cf. Figure 13). The market-oriented projection, i.e., the
505 current EU ETS system, is unlikely to trigger the implementation of even a low degree of
506 capture before the Year 2030. Given the strict emission limits foreseen for Europe, partial
507 capture will not be sufficient for the period 2040–2050, and the economic lifetimes of the

508 capture units will be rather short if implemented in the 2030s or later. However, with policies
509 that assign a higher value to carbon (cf. Figure 13), the economic viability of partial capture
510 looks promising over the entire lifetime of ca. 25 years, starting from the 2020s.

511 Note that the applied transport and storage costs are quite high, as they account only for the
512 CO₂ emissions at a single and rather remote site. Prices closer to 10 €/tonne CO₂ or lower for
513 less-remote sites or sites connected to a transport hub allowing for pipeline transport ²⁷ could
514 result in lower full-chain cost, and, thus, an earlier implementation. It should be noted that the
515 net abatement cost uses electricity price estimates that are based on annual averages and do not
516 cover large price variations in the electricity system, which may be expected in future electricity
517 systems with a large share of renewables ²⁸.

518 In addition to the uncertainties surrounding economic viability, the long investment cycles in
519 the steel industry may be a decisive factor for the timing of implementation of partial capture.
520 For example, the refractory lining of a blast furnace lasts 15–20 years and it is highly likely that
521 the blast furnace will be used for the entire life time of the lining. Thus, investments made on
522 relining in the period 2020–2030 are likely to be continued until a time of strict carbon
523 constraints when alternative carbon-free production technologies (e.g. hydrogen reduction) may
524 be a competitive alternatives to the blast furnace route.

525 In summary, as a mature and low-cost technology, partial capture of CO₂ has a time-window
526 for implementation in the coming 10–15 years (or within one more investment cycle), after
527 which the lifetime of the capture unit will most likely be too short until policies will require
528 close to 100% decarbonization, which will favor other options for CO₂ mitigation from steel
529 manufacturing. However, partial capture could evolve towards full capture over time through
530 technology development onsite (e.g., solvent improvement, adding more capture units later on)
531 and in combination with other measures, such as biomass, electrified heating, and energy
532 efficiency ¹⁸ until other technologies to replace CCS are readily available and economically.
533 Early implementation of partial capture would initiate large-scale emissions reductions and
534 decrease the risk of other technologies failing to arrive on time and at scale to meet reductions
535 targets. This is an important argument in favor of partial capture since it is the accumulated CO₂
536 emissions which govern if the world will comply with the Paris agreement of staying well below
537 2 °C. Thus, unless there is full capture or other zero-emission steel making processes in the near
538 term, partial capture can constitute a first drastic cut of emissions contributing to significantly
539 lower the accumulated emissions.

540 5 Conclusions

541 A techno-economic assessment of partial capture in primary steelmaking is conducted at the
542 example of a Swedish steel mill. Excess heat from various sources in the steel mill, quantified
543 in a previous work¹⁹, is recovered in the form of low-pressure steam to drive a 30 wt.% amine-
544 based absorption process to separate CO₂ from the off-gases of the steel mill. An established
545 cost estimation method is applied together with literature sources to determine the CAPEX and
546 OPEX for the capture unit, the cost of the required gas and steam piping, and the cost for steam
547 production from excess heat.

548 This study finds that for the steel industry, partial capture of CO₂ with excess heat is more low-
549 cost in terms of both the absolute and specific cost per tonne CO₂ than full capture of CO₂. The
550 lowest capture cost of 28 (±4) € per tonne CO₂ is found for capture from blast furnace gas with
551 excess heat from the CHP, hot stove flue gas heat recovery and flare gas utilization. This
552 corresponds to a reduction of 36% in site emissions. The full capture benchmark, i.e., 90% CO₂
553 separation from three CO₂ sources, achieves a reduction of around 76% at a cost of 39 (±5) €
554 per tonne CO₂-captured. Full capture relies more heavily on the external energy supply making
555 OPEX the dominating cost factor. Partial capture powered by excess heat is dominated by
556 CAPEX and is less-sensitive to fluctuations in the price of external energy.

557 Capture from the BFG yields a cost which is 3–5 € per tonne CO₂ lower than end-of-pipe
558 capture from either CHP or hot stoves. This is due to the higher pressure in BFG, which reduces
559 the heat demand and allows for a more cost-efficient design.

560 The bottom-up method applied in this work finds that the cost of steam from excess heat
561 depends on the quantity involved and the recovery technology utilized. Back-pressure
562 operation, heat recovery from hot stove flue gases, and the utilization of flare gases for steam
563 production are available, and implementable heat supply options, with the steam costing <2 €,
564 2–4 €, and approximately 7 € per tonne of steam, respectively. Retrieving additional excess heat
565 via coke dry quenching or dry slag granulation becomes more expensive and complex. Instead,
566 further heat supply via combustion of additional fuel is likely to yield a lower cost of steam of
567 around 14–28 €/t.

568 An analysis relates the full-chain abatement cost for partial capture of CO₂ (capture, transport,
569 storage) to different carbon price projections. Early implementation of partial capture of CO₂
570 in the 2020s is possible and economically viable, if policymakers enact and enforce long-term
571 and predictable regulation of carbon prices beyond Year 2030. Over the lifetime of the capture

572 plant, carbon prices will have to be in the range of 40–60 €/tonne CO₂ on average to justify the
573 investment from the plant owner’s perspective.

574 Notes

575 The authors declare no competing financial interest.

576 Acknowledgments

577 The authors thank Ragnhild Skagestad of SINTEF Industry for her assistance with the cost
578 estimations and David Bellqvist at SSAB for fruitful discussions.

579 This work is part of the CO₂stCap project. The authors thank the research partners The
580 University of South-Eastern Norway, SINTEF Industry (formerly Tel Tek), RISE Bioeconomy,
581 and Swerim AB, as well as the industrial partners: SSAB, GCCSI, IEAGHG, Elkem AS,
582 Norcem Brevik AS, and AGA Gas AB. This work was funded by the Swedish Energy Agency,
583 Gassnova (CLIMIT project no. 248242) and industrial partners.

584 References

- 585 (1) World Steel Association. *Steel Statistical Yearbook 2017*; 2017.
- 586 (2) IChemE Energy Centre. *A Chemical Engineering Perspective on the Challenges and*
587 *Opportunities of Delivering Carbon Capture and Storage at Commercial Scale*; 2018.
- 588 (3) Wörtler, M.; Dahlmann, P.; Schuler, F.; Lungen, H. B.; Voigt, N.; Ghenda, J.; Schmidt,
589 T. Steel 's Contribution to a Low-Carbon Europe 2050 - Technical and Economic
590 Analysis of the Sector's CO₂ Abatement Potential. The Boston Consulting Group, Steel
591 Institute VDEh 2013.
- 592 (4) Fishedick, M.; Marzinkowski, J.; Winzer, P.; Weigel, M. Techno-Economic Evaluation
593 of Innovative Steel Production Technologies. *J. Clean. Prod.* **2014**, *84* (1), 563–580.
- 594 (5) Eurofer. A STEEL ROADMAP FOR A LOW CARBON EUROPE 2050. *Eurofer, Eur.*
595 *Steel Assoc.* **2013**.
- 596 (6) Bains, P.; Psarras, P.; Wilcox, J. CO₂ Capture from the Industry Sector. *Prog. Energy*
597 *Combust. Sci.* **2017**, *63*, 146–172.
- 598 (7) Leeson, D.; Fennell, P.; Shah, N.; Petit, C.; Mac Dowell, N. A Techno-Economic
599 Analysis and Systematic Review of Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) Applied to the
600 Iron and Steel, Cement, Oil Refining and Pulp and Paper Industries. *Int. J. Greenh. Gas*
601 *Control* **2017**, *In press*, 71–84.
- 602 (8) Ho, M. T.; Wiley, D. E. 28 – Liquid Absorbent-Based Post-Combustion CO₂ Capture in
603 Industrial Processes. In *Absorption-Based Post-combustion Capture of Carbon Dioxide*;
604 2016; pp 711–756.
- 605 (9) Birat, J. Global Technology Roadmap for CCS in Industry Steel Sectoral Report Steel
606 Sectoral Report Contribution to the UNIDO Roadmap on CCS 1 -Fifth Draft. **2010**.
- 607 (10) Ho, M. T.; Bustamante, A.; Wiley, D. E. Comparison of CO₂ Capture Economics for
608 Iron and Steel Mills. *Int. J. Greenh. Gas Control* **2013**, *19*, 145–159.
- 609 (11) International Energy Agency Environmental Projects (IEAGHG). Iron and Steel CCS
610 Study (Techno-Economics Integrated Steel Mill). **2013**, *53* (9), 1689–1699.
- 611 (12) Cormos, C.-C. Evaluation of Reactive Absorption and Adsorption Systems for Post-
612 Combustion CO₂ Capture Applied to Iron and Steel Industry. *Appl. Therm. Eng.* **2016**,
613 *105*, 56–64.
- 614 (13) Arasto, A.; Tsupari, E.; Kärki, J.; Pisilä, E.; Sorsamäki, L. Post-Combustion Capture of
615 CO₂ at an Integrated Steel Mill – Part I: Technical Concept Analysis. *Int. J. Greenh. Gas*
616 *Control* **2013**, *16*, 271–277.
- 617 (14) Tsupari, E.; Kärki, J.; Arasto, A.; Pisilä, E. Post-Combustion Capture of CO₂ at an
618 Integrated Steel Mill – Part II: Economic Feasibility. *Int. J. Greenh. Gas Control* **2013**,
619 *16*, 278–286.
- 620 (15) Dreillard, M.; Broutin, P.; Briot, P.; Huard, T.; Lettat, A. Application of the DMXTM
621 CO₂ Capture Process in Steel Industry. *Energy Procedia* **2017**, *114*, 2573–2589.
- 622 (16) Kim, H.; Lee, J.; Lee, S.; Lee, I.-B.; Park, J.; Han, J. Economic Process Design for
623 Separation of CO₂ from the Off-Gas in Ironmaking and Steelmaking Plants. *Energy*
624 **2015**, *88*, 756–764.
- 625 (17) Kuramochi, T.; Ramírez, A.; Turkenburg, W.; Faaij, A. Comparative Assessment of CO₂

- 626 Capture Technologies for Carbon-Intensive Industrial Processes. *Prog. Energy Combust.*
627 *Sci.* **2012**, 38 (1), 87–112.
- 628 (18) Biermann, M.; Normann, F.; Johnsson, F.; Skagestad, R. Partial Carbon Capture by
629 Absorption Cycle for Reduced Specific Capture Cost. *Ind. Eng. Chem. Res.* **2018**, 57
630 ((45)), acs.iecr.8b02074.
- 631 (19) Sundqvist, M.; Biermann, M.; Normann, F.; Larsson, M.; Nilsson, L. Evaluation of Low
632 and High Level Integration Options for Carbon Capture at an Integrated Iron and Steel
633 Mill. *Int. J. Greenh. Gas Control* **2018**.
- 634 (20) Hooey, P. L.; Bodén, A.; Wang, C.; Grip, C.-E.; Jansson, B. Design and Application of
635 a Spreadsheet-Based Model of the Blast Furnace Factory. *ISIJ Int.* **2010**, 50 (7), 924–
636 930.
- 637 (21) Garðarsdóttir, S. Ó. *Technical and Economic Conditions for Efficient Implementation of*
638 *CO₂ Capture - Process Design and Operational Strategies for Power Generation and*
639 *Process Industries*; Doktorsavhandlingar vid Chalmers Tekniska Högskola. Ny serie, no:
640 4318; Department of Space, Earth and Environment, Div. Energytechnology, Chalmers
641 University of Technology: Göteborg, 2017.
- 642 (22) Øi, L. E.; Sundbø, E.; Ali, H. Simulation and Economic Optimization of Vapour
643 Recompression Configuration for Partial CO₂ Capture. In *Proceedings of the 58th*
644 *Conference on Simulation and Modelling (SIMS 58) Reykjavik, Iceland, September 25th*
645 *- 27th, 2017*; Linköping University Electronic Press, Linköpings universitet: Department
646 of and Process, Energy and Environmental Technology, University College of Southeast,
647 Porsgrunn Norway, 2017; pp 298–303.
- 648 (23) Le Moullec, Y.; Neveux, T.; Al Azki, A.; Chikukwa, A.; Hoff, K. A. Process
649 Modifications for Solvent-Based Post-Combustion CO₂ Capture. *Int. J. Greenh. Gas*
650 *Control* **2014**, 31, 96–112.
- 651 (24) Gardarsdóttir, S. Ó.; Normann, F.; Andersson, K.; Johnsson, F. Postcombustion CO₂
652 Capture Using Monoethanolamine and Ammonia Solvents: The Influence of CO₂
653 Concentration on Technical Performance. *Ind. Eng. Chem. Res.* **2015**, 54 (2), 681–690.
- 654 (25) van der Spek, M.; Sanchez Fernandez, E.; Eldrup, N. H.; Skagestad, R.; Ramirez, A.;
655 Faaij, A. Unravelling Uncertainty and Variability in Early Stage Techno-Economic
656 Assessments of Carbon Capture Technologies. *Int. J. Greenh. Gas Control* **2017**, 56,
657 221–236.
- 658 (26) Eurostat. Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICP)
659 <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/hicp> (accessed Jan 28, 2019).
- 660 (27) Kjærstad, J.; Skagestad, R.; Eldrup, N. H.; Johnsson, F. Ship Transport—A Low Cost
661 and Low Risk CO₂ Transport Option in the Nordic Countries. *Int. J. Greenh. Gas*
662 *Control* **2016**, 54, 168–184.
- 663 (28) Johansson, V.; Lehtveer, M.; Göransson, L. Biomass in the Electricity System: A
664 Complement to Variable Renewables or a Source of Negative Emissions? *Energy* **2019**,
665 168, 532–541.
- 666 (29) Qin, Y. Carbon 2018 - A new story?
667 [http://www.utslappshandel.se/upload/utslappshandel/dokumentation/20181106/2-](http://www.utslappshandel.se/upload/utslappshandel/dokumentation/20181106/2-carbon-2018-a-new-story-refinitiv-20181106.pdf)
668 [carbon-2018-a-new-story-refinitiv-20181106.pdf](http://www.utslappshandel.se/upload/utslappshandel/dokumentation/20181106/2-carbon-2018-a-new-story-refinitiv-20181106.pdf) (accessed Feb 4, 2019).
- 669 (30) Martinez Castilla, G.; Biermann, M.; Montañés, R. M.; Normann, F.; Johnsson, F.
670 Integrating Carbon Capture into an Industrial Combined-Heat-and-Power Plant:

- 671 Performance with Hourly and Seasonal Load Changes. *Int. J. Greenh. Gas Control* **2019**,
672 82, 192–203.
- 673 (31) Ali, H.; Eldrup, N. H.; Normann, F.; Andersson, V.; Skagestad, R.; Mathisen, A.; Øi, L.
674 E. Cost Estimation of Heat Recovery Networks for Utilization of Industrial Excess Heat
675 for Carbon Dioxide Absorption. *Int. J. Greenh. Gas Control* **2018**, 74, 219–228.
- 676 (32) Kuparinen, K.; Heinimö, J.; Vakkilainen, E. World’s Largest Biofuel and Pellet Plants -
677 Geographic Distribution, Capacity Share, and Feedstock Supply. *Biofuels, Bioprod.*
678 *Biorefining* **2014**, 8 (6), 747–754.
- 679 (33) Mousa, E.; Wang, C.; Riesbeck, J.; Larsson, M. Biomass Applications in Iron and Steel
680 Industry: An Overview of Challenges and Opportunities. *Renew. Sustain. Energy Rev.*
681 **2016**, 65, 1247–1266.
- 682 (34) Wiklund, C. M.; Helle, M.; Kohl, T.; Järvinen, M.; Saxén, H. Feasibility Study of
683 Woody-Biomass Use in a Steel Plant through Process Integration. *J. Clean. Prod.* **2017**,
684 142, 4127–4141.
- 685 (35) Ali, H.; Eldrup, N. H.; Normann, F.; Andersson, V.; Skagestad, R.; Mathisen, A.; Øi, L.
686 E. Cost Estimation of Heat Recovery Networks for Utilization of Industrial Excess Heat
687 for CO₂ Absorption. *Submitt. Publ. Poster Present. @ TCCS-9* **2017**.
- 688 (36) SSAB EMEA AB. *Internal SSAB Report - Prövotids Utredning U6 Energiutredning*;
689 2012.
- 690 (37) Norgate, T. E.; Xie, D.; Jahanshahi, S. Technical and Economic Evaluation of Slag Dry
691 Granulation. In *AISTech - Iron and Steel Technology Conference Proceedings*; 2012; pp
692 35–46.
- 693 (38) U.S. DOE Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy. Combined Heat and Power
694 Technology Fact Sheet Series Steam Turbines. *DOE/EE-1334* **2016**, 1–4.
- 695 (39) Haaker, A. Smurfit Kappa Biofuel Boiler- Ökad Konkurrenskraft För Smurfit Med Ny
696 Panna. *Bioenergi i skogsindustrin*. Piteå 2007, pp 12–13.
- 697 (40) IEA. World Energy Outlook. 2018, pp 1–643.
- 698 (41) NEPP. North European Energy Perspectives Project - Resultat
699 <http://www.nepp.se/resultat.htm> (accessed Jan 30, 2019).
- 700 (42) Rydén, B.; Unger, T. Två NEPP Scenarier. 2018.

701

702

703

704

705

706

707

708

709 Appendix

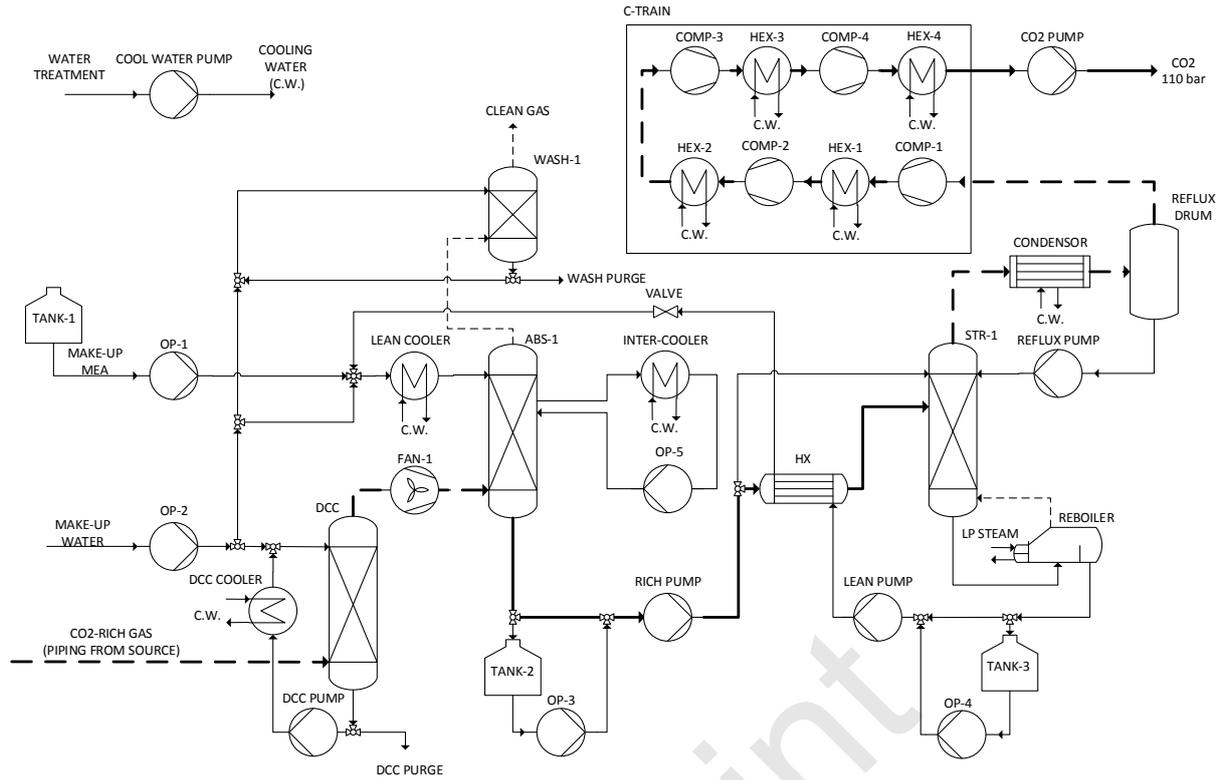
710 A.1 Detailed cost estimation

711 The following sections, which are an extension to Section 2.3, describe in detail the assumptions
712 made and the calculation of the capture plant cost, steam cost, and net abatement cost.

713 A.1.1 Capture plant cost

714 The individual installation factor method described in Section 2.3 is applied to estimate the
715 installation costs for the equipment of the MEA capture plant. Figure A.1 depicts the most
716 relevant items of equipment considered for a single-absorber configuration with gas treatment.
717 The double-absorber/common-stripper configuration (not shown) is identical but includes
718 additional gas treatment, an absorber and washer column, an intercooling arrangement, a rich
719 pump, and a lean cooler. Importantly, the direct contact cooler (DCC) is omitted for the blast
720 furnace gas, since its temperature is about 30 °C (De-SO_x/De-NO_x already in place at the site).

721 Note that gas piping from the CO₂ source to the capture plant is considered as item of
722 equipment. The cost of piping installation includes basic fittings, valves and insulation and is
723 based on the site-derived distances for the capture scenarios listed in Table A.1, the gas
724 properties and flow in Table 1Table A.1, an assumed gas velocity of 40 m/s, and the piping
725 material (SS-316L).



726

727 *Figure A.1: Major items of equipment included in the installation cost estimation for the capture plant. Shown is*
 728 *an exemplary flowsheet for a single-absorber design with gas piping and gas treatment (DCC) and CO*
 729 *compression to 110 bar.*

730

731 *Table A.1: Lengths of gas piping considered in capture scenarios S1–S5*

Capture scenario	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5
	HS	BFG	CHP	BFG+HS	BFG+HS+CHP
Length (m)	50	100	75	175	225

732

733 A.1.2 Cost parameters for heat recovery equipment

734 The items of equipment considered at each heat level are listed in Table A.2. Steam from
 735 turbine back-pressure operation does not require any recovery equipment. For gas flaring,
 736 FGHR, and DSG, the cost methodology for heat recovery networks described previously³⁵
 737 is followed. For gas flaring, additional gas piping is required to connect the flare gases to a
 738 new steam boiler site. The cost for CDQ and the additional CHP plant is based on external
 739 sources. The scaling factor to obtain adjusted installation costs with the power law is 0.65.
 740 For CDQ, the capacity was is to 80 tonnes of coke/h. For DSG, the annual slag production
 741 at the site from both the blast furnace and basic oxygen furnace is assumed to be 550,000

742 tonnes. For the Bio-CHP, the thermal capacity is set to match the amount of heat required
 743 to meet the full capture requirement in scenarios S4 and S5. If more than one heat recovery
 744 option is utilized, the steam cost is based on the average cost $c_{\text{steam,average}}$.

745 *Table A.2: Assumptions made regarding the cost parameters for the heat-supplying equipment.*

Heat source	Heat recovery					Extra energy
	Back-pressure operation	Gas flaring	FGHR from hot stoves	Coke dry quenching (CDQ)	Dry slag granulation (DSG)	Biomass-fired CHP (Bio-CHP)
First introduced in	HL1	HL2	HL3	HL4	HL5	HL6
Steam piping (m) velocity 30 m/s	50	100	700/50	3000	100	100
Equipment						
Steam boiler	-	✓	✓	n.a.	✓	n.a.
Condenser/cooler	-	✓	✓	n.a.	✓	n.a.
Condensate pump	-	✓	✓	n.a.	✓	n.a.
Condensate tank	-	✓	✓	n.a.	✓	n.a.
Air fan	-	✓	-	n.a.	-	n.a.
Flare gas piping (m)		200				
Special equipment	-	-	-	CDQ plant ¹	DSG plant ²	CHP plant ³
Scaling size	-	-	-	100	300	132
Unit				t coke/h	kt slag/yr	MWth
Cost (k€ ₂₀₁₅)	-	-	-	40,250	8,057	80,000
Reference	-	-	-	36	37,38	39

746 n.a., Does not apply/considered in special equipment.

747 ¹CDQ: cooling vessel, recovery boiler, gas circulation system, steam cycle.

748 ²DSG: dry granulator, moving bed heat exchanger, blower, off-gas system.

749 ³Bio-CHP plant: back-pressure turbine, steam cycle with biomass boiler.

750

751 A.1.3 Net abatement cost and carbon price projections

752 The net abatement cost is calculated (cf. Eq. (3)) for three carbon price projections for the period
 753 2020–2040: 1) a sustainable development scenario in line with the 2°C target (WEO 2°C); 2)
 754 an adapted moderate development scenario by NEPP (WEO & NEPP); and 3) a market-oriented

755 EUA forecast (EU ETS forecast). For the same time period, the electricity price projection for
 756 Sweden is taken from the latest results of the NEPP project. The underlying price assumptions
 757 are listed in Table A.3.

758 *Table A.3: Carbon prices (CO₂) and Swedish electricity price scenarios for the period 2020–2040*

Year	Carbon price € ₂₀₁₅ /t CO ₂			Electricity price € ₂₀₁₅ /MWh
	WEO & NEPP	WEO 2°C	EU ETS forecast	
2018	17.7	17.7	17.7	41.6
2020	24.1	28.4	23.7	42.4
2025	40.0	55.1	21.5	44.5
2030	60.0	77.5	25.3	45.6
2035	91.2	100.0	33.6 ¹	50.5
2040	122.4	122.4	42.2 ¹	54.2
source	40,41	40	29	42

759 ¹ Extrapolated values from estimated prices for period 2026–2030.

760

761 A.2 Comparison with data from the literature

 762 Table A 4: Comparison of the data in the literature for absorption of CO₂ using 30 wt.% aqueous MEA solvent.

Study		Arasto/Tsupari	IEAGHG		Cormos	Ho		Kuramochi	Kim	Dreillard
Site		Raahe Steel Mill, FI	conceptual western Europe			Ijmuiden, NL		n.a.	n.a., KR	IFPEN mini pilot, FR
Site characteristic		existing, district heating	greenfield, access to Rotterdam; no export of energy (no district heating)			integrated site; district heating		integrated	integrated	Arcelor Mittal data
CO ₂ source		HS + CHP	HS + CHP	HS + CHP + coke ovens	HS + CHP + coke ovens + lime kiln	HS + CHP + coke ovens + sinter	BFG	BFG	BFG	BFG
Capture rate (CO ₂ source)	%	90	90	90	90	90	90	n.a.	90	90
Capture rate (site)	%	50–75	50	60	50–60	80	30	19	n.a.	n.a.
Scale	Mtonne CO ₂ /a	2–3	5.0	6.1	5–6.5	8	3.2	1.3	0.7	n.a.
Heat source		power plant renewal; off-gases	CHP plant fired with NG, BFG, BOFG		NGCC power plant	CHP plant fired with NG, BFG, BOFG		n.a.	CHP fueled by off-gas only	external steam
Specific heat demand	MJ/kg CO ₂	3.40	3.03	3.03/3.18	2.95	n.a.	n.a.	4.40	n.a.	3.3–3.6
CO ₂ compression	bar	60	110	110	120	100	100	110	150	6
Cost year		2012	2010	2010	2016	2010	2010	2007	2011	2018
Rate of return	%	10	10	10	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	10	8	n.a.
Life time	years	20	25	25	n.a.	25	25	20	20	n.a.
Cost avoided	[currency]/tonne CO ₂	84–114 ¹ [EUR]	74 [USD]	81 [USD]	100–150 [EUR]	80 (75–96) [AUD]	76 [AUD]	64 [EUR]	71.7 [USD]	63.6 [EUR]
Cost avoided - leveled	€ 2015/tonne CO ₂ avoided	86–116 ¹	60	66	100–150	60 (56–72)	57	72	54	62
Reference		13,14	11		12	10		17	16	15

 763 ¹ includes transport and storage and carbon credit (EUA)

764 n.a., Not available

Pre-print