

PAUL SCHERRER INSTITUT



Wir schaffen Wissen – heute für morgen

**Paul Scherrer Institut**

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**Towards integration of energy-economic modelling  
and life-cycle assessment**

- **Motivation**
- **Methodology**
  - Global MARKAL model (GMM)
  - Life-cycle assessment (LCA)
  - Idea and proposed methodology
- **Results**
  - Cost optimisation
  - CO<sub>2</sub> cost optimisation
  - CO<sub>2</sub> emission optimisation
- **Conclusions**
- **Next steps / Outlook**

- **The global energy system faces various challenges, e.g.**

- Climate change
- Resource depletion
- Energy access
- Security of supply



- **Tools to assess the development of the global energy system are e.g.**

- Climate models
- Energy-economic models
- Life-cycle assessments
- Risk assessments
- Surveys

- **Global**

- All energy sectors
- All energy resources

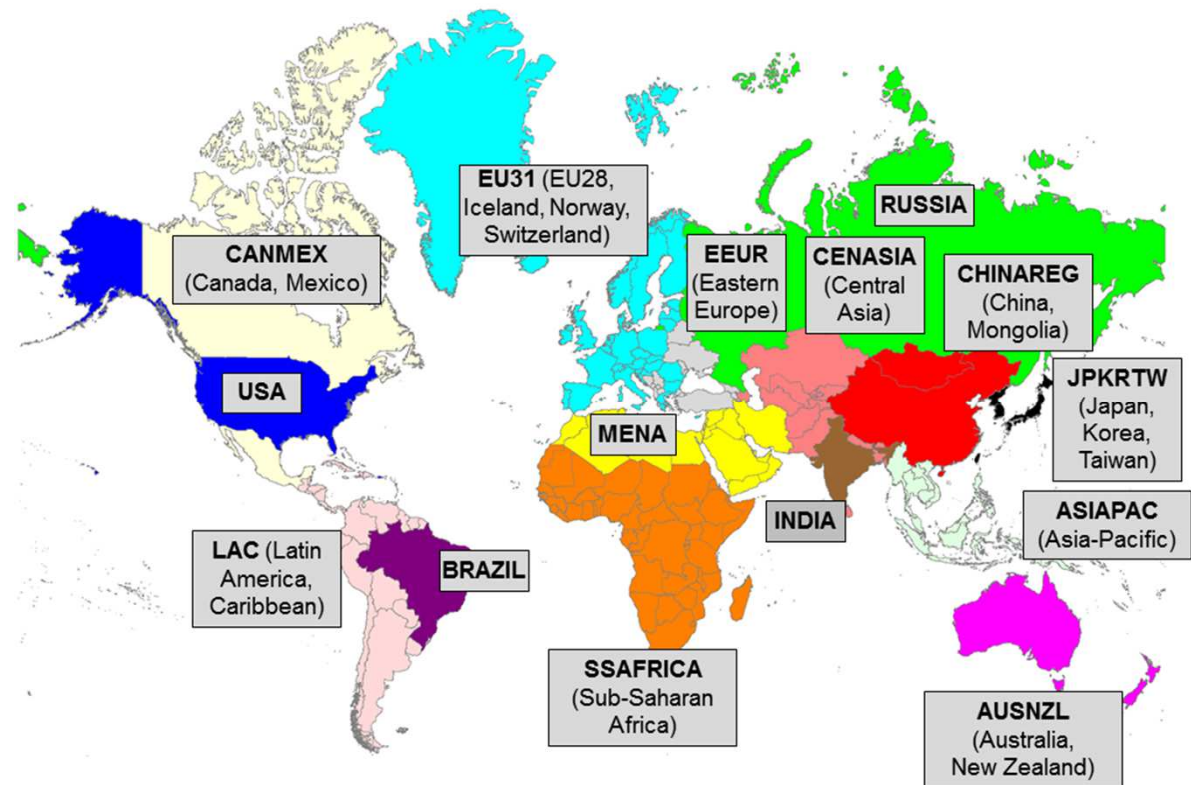
- **Multi-regional**

- 15 world regions
- Trade

- **MARKAL (MARKet-ALlocation)**

- Technology rich (> 400)
- Bottom-up
- Perfect-foresight (2010 - 2100)
- Partial-equilibrium (“Supply allocation”)
- Least cost optimization  
(Discounted total system costs)

- **Assessment of the global energy system**
- **Focus on the economic aspects**



## Some typical examples of LCA case studies

- **Functional unit, e.g.**
  - 1 vehicle-km in a car
  - 1 pair of dry hands
  - 1 kg of ready-to-eat tomatos
  - 1 kWh of electricity
  
- **Life-cycle indicators per functional unit, e.g.**
  - Ecosystem damages
  - Land use
  - Particulate matter emissions
  - Greenhouse gas emissions
  - Metal depletion



- **Assessment of single technologies or services**
- **Focus on environmental aspects**

Is there a possibility to combine different tools to gain a more comprehensive insight into the global energy system?



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➤ **Multi-objective optimisation**

## Steps towards multi-objective optimisation

### 1) Non-cost optimisation in GMM

- Change of the GMM objective function

### 2) Life-cycle impacts in GMM

- Life-cycle indicators are calculated for the energy technologies (e.g. coal power plant)
- *ex-post* analysis of the total environmental burden of the energy system

### 3) External cost in GMM

- External cost factors are attached to the life-cycle indicators
- *ex-post* or *ex-ante* analysis internalising the external costs of the energy system

### 4) Multi-objective optimisation in GMM

- Various indicators (environment, risk, society, ...) are defined for the energy technologies
- Analysis including different weights for the indicators

$$\min \text{cost} \rightarrow \min(w_1 * INDICATOR_1 + w_2 * INDICATOR_2 + \dots)$$

- **Case 1 (COST):**

- Cost minimisation
- CO<sub>2</sub> prices

*min cost (subject to system constraints) = z*

## Changes in the objective function of the model

- **Case 2 (CO<sub>2</sub>\_COST)**

- Direct CO<sub>2</sub> cost minimization
- CO<sub>2</sub> prices

*min CO<sub>2</sub> cost (subject to system constraints)*

- **Case 3 (CO<sub>2</sub>\_120)**

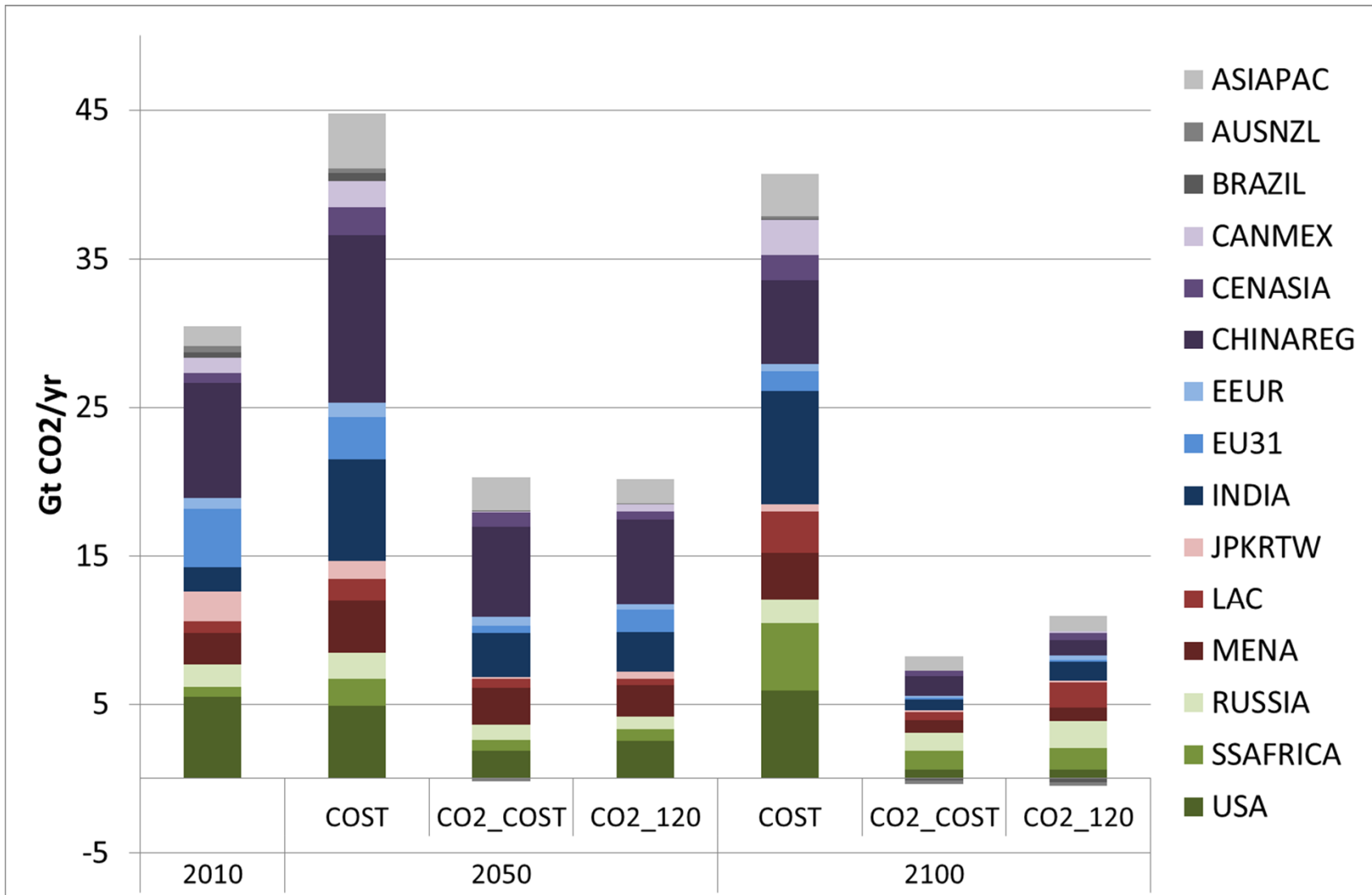
- Direct CO<sub>2</sub> amount minimisation
- No CO<sub>2</sub> prices
- Total discounted system cost limited to 120% of the one of the COST case

*min CO<sub>2</sub> amount (subject to system constraints, cost ≤ 120% \* z)*

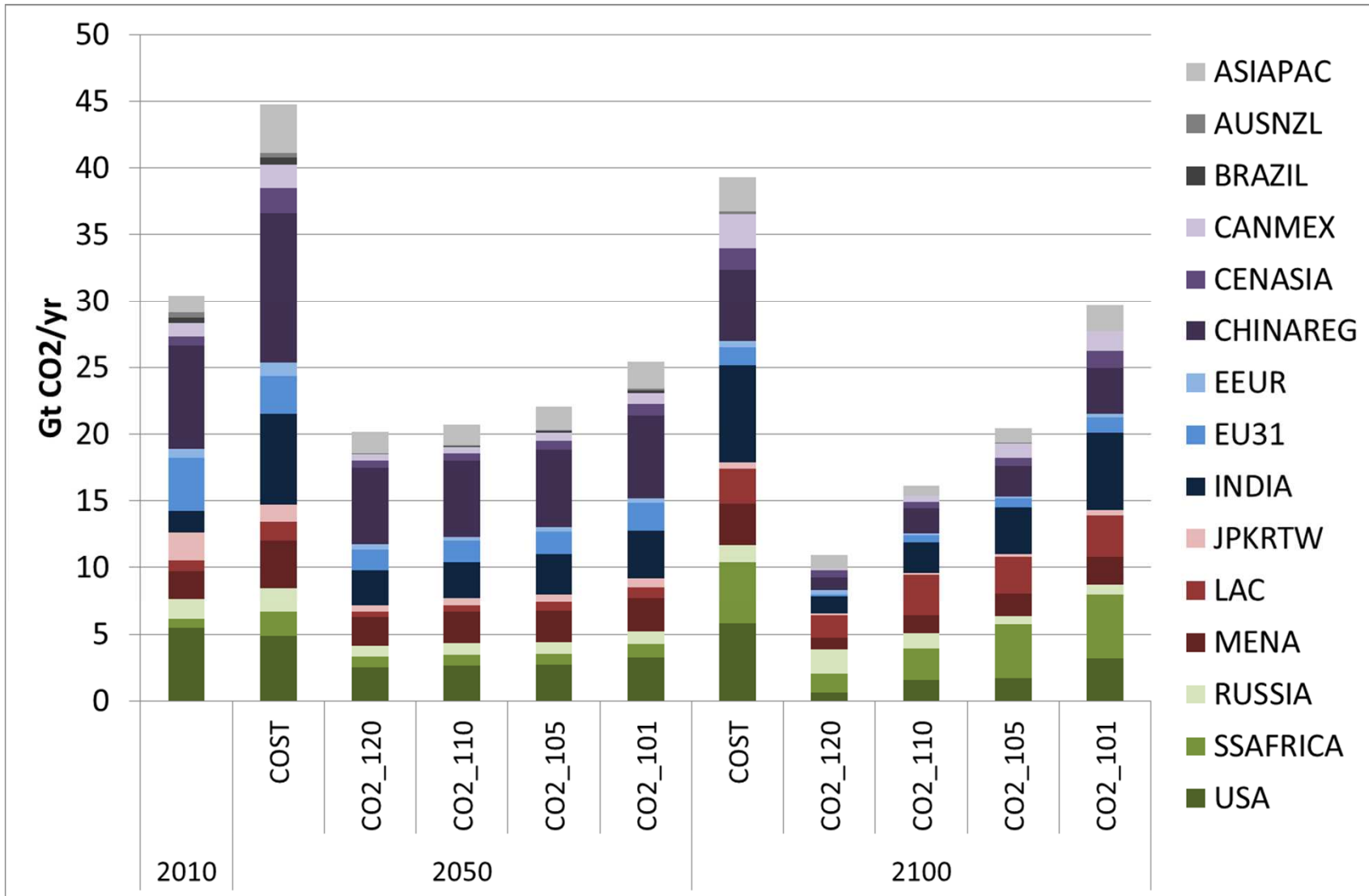
- **One “normal” energy-economic run**
- **Two runs with different optimisation goals**



## Direct CO<sub>2</sub> emissions



## Direct CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for different system cost caps



# Conclusions on the preliminary results

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- Strong decrease of the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the non-cost optimisation cases towards 2100  
*As expected*
- The lower the total system cost cap the higher the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of the energy system  
*But even with a stringent system cost cap, it is possible to maintain today's CO<sub>2</sub> emission level!*
- In the non-cost optimisation cases the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions do not go to zero  
*This needs to be further analysed!*

## 1) Non-cost optimisation

- Change of the objective function of the large-scale MARKAL model

## 2) Life-cycle impacts in GMM

- Life-cycle indicators are calculated for the energy technologies (e.g. coal power plant)
- *ex-post* analysis of the total environmental burden of the energy system

## 3) External cost in GMM

- External cost factors are attached to the life-cycle indicators
- *ex-post* or *ex-ante* analysis internalising the external costs of the energy system

## 4) Multi-objective optimisation in GMM

- Various indicators (environment, risk, society, ...) are defined for the energy technologies
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Thank you for the attention

Are there any questions?

