

## **The environmental impact and economic feasibility assessment of composite calcium alginate bioplastics derived from *Sargassum***

Akeem Mohammed<sup>a</sup>, Keeran Ward<sup>\*b</sup>, Koon-Yang Lee<sup>\*c</sup>, Valerie Dupont<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Department of Chemical Engineering, University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad, WI.

<sup>b</sup>School of Chemical and Process Engineering (SCAPE), University of Leeds, Leeds, LS2 9JT, U.K.

<sup>c</sup>Department of Aeronautics and Institute for Molecular Science and Engineering, Imperial College London, South Kensington Campus, SW7 2AZ, London, U.K.

\*Corresponding authors; Email: [k.r.ward@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:k.r.ward@leeds.ac.uk); [koonyang.lee@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:koonyang.lee@imperial.ac.uk).

### **Appendix A- Supplementary data**

#### **1. Economic assessment**

## 1.1 Total capital expenditure (CAPEX)

The allocation of the costing factors for the estimation of the FCI are given in **Table S1**. The fixed capital cost of the plant as a function of the total purchased equipment was estimated using the following Factorial Method of Cost Estimation<sup>1</sup> in equation (S1);

$$C = \sum_{i=1}^{i=M} C_e [(1 + f_p) + (f_{er} + f_{el} + f_i + f_c + f_s + f_l)/f_m] \quad \text{Equation S1}$$

Where C is the total plant cost,  $C_e$  is the total delivered cost of the major equipment items, f is an installation factor and M is the total number of pieces of equipment.

**Table S1** Installation factors for process plant equipment

Item	Costing Factor
$f_{er}$ , Equipment erection	0.5
$f_p$ , Piping	0.6
$f_i$ , Instrumentation and control	0.3
$f_{el}$ , Electrical	0.2
$f_c$ , Civil	0.3
$f_s$ , Structures and building	0.2
$f_l$ , Lagging and paint	0.1
$f_{m,ss}$ , stainless steel	1.3
$f_{m,cs}$ , carbon steel	1
Offsites (OS)	0.4
Design and Eng (D&E)	0.25
Contingency (X)	0.1

FCI was then calculated using the summation of the equipment cost, offsites, design and engineering and contingency<sup>1</sup> given in equation (S2).

$$FCI = C(1 + OS)(1 + DE + X) \quad \text{Equation S2}$$

Purchased equipment costs were determined using equipment costs for existing plant equipment, adjusted to the present value and capacity using the six-tenths rule and Chemical Engineering Plant Cost Indices (CEPCI) as well as the correlations given in equation (S3).<sup>1</sup>

$$C_e = a + bS^n \quad \text{Equation S3}$$

Where  $C_e$  = purchased equipment cost, January 2006 (CE index = 478.6), a and b are cost constants, S is the sizing parameter and n is the exponent for that type of equipment. The six-tenths rule is given in equation (S4) followed by the CEPCI method to scale prices to the cost year 2019 given in equation (S5).

$$C_2 = C_1 \left( \frac{S_2}{S_1} \right)^n \quad \text{Equation S4}$$

Where  $C_2$  is the capital cost of the equipment with capacity  $S_2$  and  $C_1$  is the capital cost of the equipment with capacity  $S_1$ . For the six-tenths rule, n is taken as 0.6 where data is not available.

$$\text{Cost in 2019} = \text{Cost in year } X \times \frac{\text{Cost index in 2019 (619.2)}}{\text{Cost index in Year } X} \quad \text{Equation S5}$$

**Table S2** gives information as to the sizing parameters used for the different pieces of equipment. S refers to the equipment specific sizing parameter needed to determine the cost.<sup>2-5</sup>

**Table S2.** Design parameters for process equipment.

Equipment	S		Unit	a	b	n
<sup>a</sup> Washing/ holding tanks	Volume	88-1170	m <sup>3</sup>	-	-	0.58
Grinders	Grinding rate	3571- 1000	kg/h	3000	390	0.5
<sup>a</sup> Hoppers	Volume	473-688	m <sup>3</sup>	-	-	0.65
<sup>b</sup> Rotary dryer	Water removal rate	28571	kg/h	-	-	0.6
Exchangers	Surface area	0.5- 184	m <sup>2</sup>	10000	88	1

<sup>b</sup> Reactors	Volume	10- 351	m <sup>3</sup>	-	-	0.6
<sup>a</sup> Centrifuges	Diameter	69-171	m <sup>2</sup>	-	-	1
<sup>a</sup> Spray dryer	Water removal rate	2	kg/s	-	-	0.42
<sup>a</sup> Mixer	Volume	35	m <sup>3</sup>	-	-	0.53
<sup>a</sup> Tape Caster	Area	20	m <sup>2</sup>	-	-	1. 04

*Note:* <sup>a</sup>Cost were calculated using historic cost data with equipment specific n parameters, <sup>b</sup>Cost were calculated using the six-tenths rule.

## 1.2 Operating expenditure (OPEX)

Operating costs were calculated using the cost of operating labour, utility, waste treatment and raw material costs. Utility, waste treatment and raw material costs were calculated directly from the mass and energy balances used to design the process. The operating labor was derived from key unit operations according to equation (S6) and (S7):<sup>6</sup>

$$\text{No of operators/shift} = [6.29 + (\text{No of key steps} \times 0.23)]^{0.5} \quad \text{Equation S6}$$

$$\text{Labour costs, } C_{OL} = (\text{Approx \# of operators} \times 4) \times 66910 \quad \text{Equation S7}$$

The total operating cost was determined by equation (S8)<sup>6</sup> which took into consideration direct manufacturing costs, fixed manufacturing costs and general expenses.

$$OPEX = 0.280FCI + 2.73C_{OL} + 1.23(C_{UT} + C_{WT} + C_{RM}) \quad \text{Equation S8}$$

Where  $C_{UT}$ ,  $C_{WT}$  and  $C_{RM}$  are the cost of the utilities, waste materials and raw materials respectively.

## 1.3 Total annualized cost (TAC)

The TAC was calculated using equation (S9)<sup>1</sup> which considered both the annual capital and operating cost per kg of calcium alginate produced.

$$TAC = OPEX + \frac{[i(1+i)^n]}{[(1+i)^n - 1]} \times FCI \quad \text{Equation S9}$$

Where  $i$  is the calculated interest rate = 15%<sup>7</sup> and  $n$  is the estimated investment lifetime taken as 10 years.

## 2. Life cycle assessment

### 2.1 Functional unit derivation

In selecting a functional unit for our study, the most promising intrinsic property of the Ca(Alg)<sub>2</sub> bioplastic composite was selected- ultra low oxygen barrier. Oxygen barrier<sup>8-11</sup>, a well-established terminology in plastics technology, is the ability to retard the movement of oxygen across a boundary layer when different oxygen partial pressures exist on either side of boundary layers. Good oxygen barriers<sup>12</sup> have values  $< 10 \text{ cm}^3 \mu\text{m m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1} \text{ kPa}^{-1}$  while poor oxygen barriers  $> 100 \text{ cm}^3 \mu\text{m m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1} \text{ kPa}^{-1}$ .

The oxygen transfer rate,  $OTR_i$ , was calculated using equation (S10), in accordance with our previous work<sup>13</sup>:

$$OTR_i \left( \frac{\text{cm}^3}{\text{m}^2 \text{ d hPa}} \right) = \frac{P_{O_2} \times V_{cell}}{P_{standard} \times A \times \Delta P_{O_2}} \times \frac{T_{standard}}{T_{measurement}} \quad \text{Equation S10}$$

Where:

$P_{O_2}$ - Increase in oxygen partial pressure in upper test chamber (hPa d<sup>-1</sup>)

$V_{cell}$  – Volume of the upper test chamber (116 cm<sup>3</sup>)

$P_{standard}$  – Standard pressure (1013 hPa)

$A$  – Permeation area (0.0068 m<sup>2</sup>)

It should be noted that testing conditions such as pressure, temperature and cross-sectional area were maintained throughout measuring the oxygen barrier for all materials. The measured

thickness,  $l_i$  and oxygen transfer rate,  $OTR_i$ , of each material,  $i$ , was recorded and used to calculate the oxygen barrier,  $B_i$ ,<sup>8</sup> according to equation (S11):

$$OTR_i l_i = B_i \quad \text{Equation S11}$$

For a given plastic barrier,  $B_{plastic}$  the required thickness  $l_{plastic}$  is calculated to maintain the same OTR as that of our  $\text{Ca}(\text{Alg})_2$  bioplastic composite,  $OTR_{bioplastic}$ , according to equation (S12):

$$l_{plastic} = \frac{B_{plastic}}{OTR_{bioplastic}} \quad \text{Equation S12}$$

Thus, the mass of plastic material required,  $m_{plastic}$ , is calculated for a given material density,  $\rho_{plastic}$  and set film area,  $A$ , according to equation (S13):

$$m_{plastic} = l_{plastic} \rho_{plastic} A \quad \text{Equation S13}$$

Lastly, the normalized plastic material required to achieve the same oxygen barrier, for a set film area, is given according to Equation (S14):

$$\frac{m_{plastic}}{m_{bioplastic}} = \frac{l_{plastic} \rho_{plastic} A}{l_{bioplastic} \rho_{bioplastic} A} = \frac{B_{plastic} \rho_{plastic}}{B_{bioplastic} \rho_{bioplastic}} \quad \text{Equation S14}$$

## 2.2 Life cycle inventories (LCI)

The following inventories (Table S3) were retrieved from Ecoinvent and utilized in the life cycle impact assessment (LCIA) stage at the midpoint, using the ReCiPe (H) 2006 model within SimaPro. LCI for biomass-derived sorbitol was obtained accordingly<sup>14</sup> while E-MeOH was adapted accordingly.<sup>15</sup>

**Table S3.** Ecoinvent inventories used for each scenario-specific system boundary.

Flow	System boundary	Ecoinvent Entries
Formaldehyde	$\text{Ca}(\text{Alg})_2$ Bioplastic	Formaldehyde, oxidation of methanol {RoW}

Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	Ca(Alg) <sub>2</sub> Bioplastic	Soda ash, dense {GLO} modified Solvay process, Hou's process
H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	Ca(Alg) <sub>2</sub> Bioplastic	Sulfuric acid {RoW} market for sulfuric acid
NaClO	Ca(Alg) <sub>2</sub> Bioplastic	Sodium hypochlorite, without water, in 15% solution state {RoW}
Fossil based MeOH	Ca(Alg) <sub>2</sub> Bioplastic	Methanol {GLO}   production   APOS, U
Water	Ca(Alg) <sub>2</sub> Bioplastic	Tap water {RoW}   market for
Starch	Ca(Alg) <sub>2</sub> Bioplastic	Maize starch {GLO} market for
CMC	Ca(Alg) <sub>2</sub> Bioplastic	Carboxymethyl cellulose, powder {GLO}   market
PEG-200 <sup>a</sup>	Ca(Alg) <sub>2</sub> Bioplastic	Ethylene glycol {GLO}   market
CaCl <sub>2</sub>	Ca(Alg) <sub>2</sub> Bioplastic	Calcium chloride {RoW}   market for calcium chloride
Fossil-based heating	Ca(Alg) <sub>2</sub> Bioplastic	Heat, central or small-scale, natural gas {RoW} market for
Electricity	Ca(Alg) <sub>2</sub> Bioplastic	Electricity, high voltage {RoW} electricity production, natural gas, conventional power
Biomass by-product	Ca(Alg) <sub>2</sub> Bioplastic	Compost {GLO}   market for
Wastewater	Ca(Alg) <sub>2</sub> Bioplastic	Wastewater, average {RoW} market for wastewater
Bioenergy	Ca(Alg) <sub>2</sub> Bioplastic	Heat, district or industrial, other than natural gas {RoW} heat production, hardwood chips from forest, at furnace 1000kW
PET monomer	PET plastic	Polyethylene terephthalate, granulate, amorphous {GLO} market
PLA monomer	Bio-based PLA	Poly lactide, granulate {GLO} production
PET, PLA Plastic film production	PET, PLA,	Extrusion, plastic film {GLO} market

## 2.3 LCIA

Tables S4-S8 gives an overview of the normalized impacts of the LCIA phase for each case-specific system boundary. Function unit = 1kg plastic/bioplastic produced.

**Table S4.** LCIA results for bio-based PLA films.

Impact category	Unit	Total	Biogenic CO <sub>2</sub> removal	PLA monomer	Film Production
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Global warming	kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq	1.38E-00	-2.26E-00	3.07E-00	5.69E-01
Stratospheric ozone depletion	kg CFC11 eq	1.12E-05		1.10E-05	2.18E-07
Ionizing radiation	kBq Co-60 eq	2.95E-01		1.93E-01	1.02E-01
Ozone formation, Human health	kg NO <sub>x</sub> eq	8.87E-03		7.65E-03	1.23E-03
Fine particulate matter formation	kg PM <sub>2.5</sub> eq	6.33E-03		5.23E-03	1.09E-03
Ozone formation, Terrestrial ecosystems	kg NO <sub>x</sub> eq	9.28E-03		8.03E-03	1.25E-03
Terrestrial acidification	kg SO <sub>2</sub> eq	1.51E-02		1.32E-02	1.88E-03
Freshwater eutrophication	kg P eq	1.44E-03		1.17E-03	2.69E-04
Marine eutrophication	kg N eq	1.40E-03		1.35E-03	5.63E-05
Terrestrial ecotoxicity	kg 1,4-DCB	4.51E-00		3.81E-00	6.99E-01
Freshwater ecotoxicity	kg 1,4-DCB	1.67E-01		1.47E-01	1.99E-02
Marine ecotoxicity	kg 1,4-DCB	2.06E-01		1.79E-01	2.69E-02
Human carcinogenic toxicity	kg 1,4-DCB	2.08E-01		1.68E-01	3.96E-02
Human non-carcinogenic toxicity	kg 1,4-DCB	2.86E-00		2.26E-00	6.06E-01
Land use	m <sup>2</sup> a crop eq	9.02E-01		6.83E-01	2.20E-01
Mineral resource scarcity	kg Cu eq	9.05E-03		7.99E-03	1.05E-03
Fossil resource scarcity	kg oil eq	9.62E-01		8.14E-01	1.48E-01
Water consumption	m <sup>3</sup>	1.52E-01		1.29E-01	2.31E-02

**Table S5.** LCIA results for plastic PET films.



<b>Impact category</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>PET monomer</b>	<b>Film Production</b>
Global warming	kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq	3.77E-00	3.21E-00	5.69E-01
Stratospheric ozone depletion	kg CFC11 eq	2.02E-05	2.00E-05	2.18E-07
Ionizing radiation	kBq Co-60 eq	2.22E-01	1.20E-01	1.02E-01
Ozone formation, Human health	kg NO <sub>x</sub> eq	8.06E-03	6.83E-03	1.23E-03
Fine particulate matter formation	kg PM2.5 eq	5.01E-03	3.91E-03	1.09E-03
Ozone formation, Terrestrial ecosystems	kg NO <sub>x</sub> eq	8.40E-03	7.15E-03	1.25E-03
Terrestrial acidification	kg SO <sub>2</sub> eq	1.08E-02	8.96E-03	1.88E-03
Freshwater eutrophication	kg P eq	9.19E-04	6.50E-04	2.69E-04
Marine eutrophication	kg N eq	1.44E-04	8.80E-05	5.63E-05
Terrestrial ecotoxicity	kg 1,4-DCB	8.94E-00	8.24E-00	6.99E-01
Freshwater ecotoxicity	kg 1,4-DCB	1.37E-01	1.17E-01	1.99E-02
Marine ecotoxicity	kg 1,4-DCB	1.81E-01	1.54E-01	2.69E-02
Human carcinogenic toxicity	kg 1,4-DCB	2.39E-01	1.99E-01	3.96E-02
Human non-carcinogenic toxicity	kg 1,4-DCB	2.90E-00	2.29E-00	6.06E-01
Land use	m <sup>2</sup> a crop eq	3.56E-01	1.36E-01	2.20E-01
Mineral resource scarcity	kg Cu eq	1.19E-02	1.08E-02	1.05E-03
Fossil resource scarcity	kg oil eq	1.75E-00	1.60E-00	1.48E-01
Water consumption	m <sup>3</sup>	6.23E-02	3.92E-02	2.31E-02

**Table S6.** LCIA For Ca(Alg)<sub>2</sub> bioplastics with fossil-based MeOH and Energy.

Impact category	Unit	Total	Process Emissions	Biogenic CO <sub>2</sub>	Formaldehyde	Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	NaClO	MeOH	Water	Starch	CMC	Sorbitol	PEG-200	CaCl <sub>2</sub>	Heating	Electricity	Biomass by-product	Wastewater
Global warming	kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq	1.01E+01	3.86E-01	-3.31E+00	6.54E-01	1.63E+00	4.87E-01	1.83E+00	1.11E+00	3.11E-01	1.90E-02	1.18E-01	5.56E-02	2.69E-02	3.73E-01	6.21E+00	1.73E-01	-1.56E-01	1.58E-01
Stratospheric ozone depletion	kg CFC11 eq	5.39E-06			2.98E-07	4.09E-07	2.54E-07	1.81E-06	5.88E-07	2.68E-07	1.29E-07	5.74E-08	2.50E-07	5.52E-09	1.13E-07	1.73E-06	4.58E-08	-9.75E-07	4.05E-07
Ionizing radiation	kBq Co-60 eq	4.25E-01			1.76E-02	7.80E-02	3.49E-02	1.72E-01	1.76E-02	3.83E-02	8.32E-04	9.16E-03	1.68E-03	1.28E-03	1.35E-02	3.12E-02	2.56E-04	1.66E-03	7.01E-03
Ozone formation, Human health	kg NO <sub>x</sub> eq	2.00E-02			1.47E-03	2.75E-03	2.48E-03	4.64E-03	1.89E-03	6.94E-04	4.50E-05	2.88E-04	9.96E-05	5.80E-05	1.14E-03	4.04E-03	1.50E-04	-3.25E-04	5.83E-04
Fine particulate matter formation	kg PM <sub>2.5</sub> eq	1.71E-02			7.22E-04	2.14E-03	5.40E-03	3.93E-03	9.51E-04	6.96E-04	4.47E-05	2.26E-04	9.10E-05	3.70E-05	9.45E-04	1.66E-03	2.62E-05	-2.03E-04	4.38E-04
Ozone formation, Terrestrial ecosystems	kg NO <sub>x</sub> eq	2.06E-02			1.54E-03	2.81E-03	2.53E-03	4.68E-03	2.05E-03	7.09E-04	4.58E-05	2.93E-04	1.02E-04	6.08E-05	1.15E-03	4.24E-03	1.53E-04	-3.35E-04	5.91E-04
Terrestrial acidification	kg SO <sub>2</sub> eq	4.31E-02			1.73E-03	4.84E-03	1.75E-02	6.61E-03	2.60E-03	1.03E-03	2.18E-04	4.35E-04	4.31E-04	7.45E-05	3.03E-03	4.00E-03	6.80E-05	-4.78E-04	1.08E-03
Freshwater eutrophication	kg P eq	2.93E-03			1.16E-04	5.05E-04	5.00E-04	8.67E-04	9.77E-05	1.64E-04	5.93E-06	4.23E-05	1.16E-05	7.47E-06	1.63E-04	1.84E-04	1.95E-06	-4.36E-05	3.11E-04
Marine eutrophication	kg N eq	3.10E-03			8.89E-06	1.19E-03	1.99E-05	8.95E-05	9.52E-06	1.74E-05	2.99E-05	3.66E-06	5.70E-05	5.24E-07	1.21E-05	1.65E-05	2.56E-07	-7.33E-06	1.66E-03
Terrestrial ecotoxicity	kg 1,4-DCB	2.24E+01			6.98E-01	3.37E+00	1.18E+01	3.36E+00	3.36E-01	5.32E-01	5.81E-02	1.96E-01	1.14E-01	2.69E-02	1.21E+00	6.26E-01	1.06E-02	-4.29E-01	5.35E-01
Freshwater ecotoxicity	kg 1,4-DCB	7.18E-01			2.74E-02	9.59E-02	3.60E-01	1.12E-01	1.58E-02	1.38E-02	1.25E-03	4.35E-03	2.45E-03	1.04E-03	3.87E-02	3.64E-02	5.81E-04	-4.83E-03	1.34E-02
Marine ecotoxicity	kg 1,4-DCB	9.34E-01			3.55E-02	1.23E-01	4.63E-01	1.46E-01	2.14E-02	1.86E-02	1.47E-03	5.74E-03	2.89E-03	1.35E-03	5.01E-02	5.39E-02	7.61E-04	-6.37E-03	1.78E-02
Human carcinogenic toxicity	kg 1,4-DCB	8.77E-01			4.25E-02	1.29E-01	1.06E-01	1.64E-01	3.70E-02	1.55E-01	1.61E-03	7.31E-03	3.34E-03	1.59E-03	4.73E-02	1.18E-01	1.76E-03	-3.97E-03	6.68E-02
Human non-carcinogenic toxicity	kg 1,4-DCB	1.34E+01			4.49E-01	1.69E+00	6.26E+00	2.26E+00	2.95E-01	3.15E-01	-1.20E-02	1.03E-01	-2.16E-02	2.02E-02	7.42E-01	5.36E-01	8.51E-03	-1.22E-01	8.49E-01
Land use	m <sup>2</sup> a crop eq	5.56E-01			2.25E-02	9.87E-02	6.55E-02	1.26E-01	9.79E-03	1.19E-02	1.72E-02	9.25E-02	3.28E-02	1.08E-03	5.00E-02	2.42E-02	3.84E-04	-7.86E-03	1.13E-02
Mineral resource scarcity	kg Cu eq	4.79E-02			2.12E-03	6.96E-03	2.13E-02	6.92E-03	1.39E-03	2.38E-03	1.06E-04	2.54E-04	2.08E-04	6.90E-05	2.82E-03	2.53E-03	5.53E-05	-1.75E-03	2.52E-03
Fossil resource scarcity	kg oil eq	5.45E+00			5.50E-01	4.02E-01	2.93E-01	4.53E-01	1.26E+00	7.98E-02	4.56E-03	3.48E-02	1.71E-02	1.42E-02	7.85E-02	2.19E+00	7.36E-02	-4.12E-02	3.45E-02
Water consumption	m <sup>3</sup>	1.82E-01			3.89E-03	3.05E-02	4.50E-02	4.38E-02	6.97E-03	2.88E-01	2.09E-04	1.67E-03	5.45E-04	3.49E-04	1.24E-02	3.43E-03	3.19E-04	-2.86E-03	-2.52E-01

**Table S7.** LCIA For Ca(Alg)<sub>2</sub> bioplastics with fossil-based MeOH and bioenergy.

Impact category	Unit	Total	Process Emissions	Biogenic CO2	Formaldehyde	Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	NaClO	MeOH	Water	Starch	CMC	Sorbitol	PEG-200	CaCl <sub>2</sub>	Heating	Electricity	Biomass by-product	Wastewater
Global warming	kg CO2 eq	4.61E+00	3.86E-01	-3.31E+00	6.54E-01	1.63E+00	4.87E-01	1.83E+00	1.11E+00	3.11E-01	1.90E-02	1.18E-01	5.56E-02	2.69E-02	3.73E-01	7.37E-01	1.73E-01	-1.56E-01	1.58E-01
Stratospheric ozone depletion	kg CFC11 eq	6.63E-06			2.98E-07	4.09E-07	2.54E-07	1.81E-06	5.88E-07	2.68E-07	1.29E-07	5.74E-08	2.50E-07	5.52E-09	1.13E-07	2.97E-06	4.58E-08	-9.75E-07	4.05E-07
Ionizing radiation	kBq Co-60 eq	4.41E-01			1.76E-02	7.80E-02	3.49E-02	1.72E-01	1.76E-02	3.83E-02	8.32E-04	9.16E-03	1.68E-03	1.28E-03	1.35E-02	4.75E-02	2.56E-04	1.66E-03	7.01E-03
Ozone formation, Human health	kg NOx eq	3.75E-02			1.47E-03	2.75E-03	2.48E-03	4.64E-03	1.89E-03	6.94E-04	4.50E-05	2.88E-04	9.96E-05	5.80E-05	1.14E-03	2.15E-02	1.50E-04	-3.25E-04	5.83E-04
Fine particulate matter formation	kg PM2.5 eq	2.36E-02			7.22E-04	2.14E-03	5.40E-03	3.93E-03	9.51E-04	6.96E-04	4.47E-05	2.26E-04	9.10E-05	3.70E-05	9.45E-04	8.14E-03	2.62E-05	-2.03E-04	4.38E-04
Ozone formation, Terrestrial ecosystems	kg NOx eq	3.81E-02			1.54E-03	2.81E-03	2.53E-03	4.68E-03	2.05E-03	7.09E-04	4.58E-05	2.93E-04	1.02E-04	6.08E-05	1.15E-03	2.17E-02	1.53E-04	-3.35E-04	5.91E-04
Terrestrial acidification	kg SO2 eq	4.88E-02			1.73E-03	4.84E-03	1.75E-02	6.61E-03	2.60E-03	1.03E-03	2.18E-04	4.35E-04	4.31E-04	7.45E-05	3.03E-03	9.71E-03	6.80E-05	-4.78E-04	1.08E-03
Freshwater eutrophication	kg P eq	3.01E-03			1.16E-04	5.05E-04	5.00E-04	8.67E-04	9.77E-05	1.64E-04	5.93E-06	4.23E-05	1.16E-05	7.47E-06	1.63E-04	2.59E-04	1.95E-06	-4.36E-05	3.11E-04
Marine eutrophication	kg N eq	3.11E-03			8.89E-06	1.19E-03	1.99E-05	8.95E-05	9.52E-06	1.74E-05	2.99E-05	3.66E-06	5.70E-05	5.24E-07	1.21E-05	2.29E-05	2.56E-07	-7.33E-06	1.66E-03
Terrestrial ecotoxicity	kg 1,4-DCB	3.17E+01			6.98E-01	3.37E+00	1.18E+01	3.36E+00	3.36E-01	5.32E-01	5.81E-02	1.96E-01	1.14E-01	2.69E-02	1.21E+00	9.92E+00	1.06E-02	-4.29E-01	5.35E-01
Freshwater ecotoxicity	kg 1,4-DCB	7.23E-01			2.74E-02	9.59E-02	3.60E-01	1.12E-01	1.58E-02	1.38E-02	1.25E-03	4.35E-03	2.45E-03	1.04E-03	3.87E-02	4.15E-02	5.81E-04	-4.83E-03	1.34E-02
Marine ecotoxicity	kg 1,4-DCB	9.41E-01			3.55E-02	1.23E-01	4.63E-01	1.46E-01	2.14E-02	1.86E-02	1.47E-03	5.74E-03	2.89E-03	1.35E-03	5.01E-02	6.02E-02	7.61E-04	-6.37E-03	1.78E-02
Human carcinogenic toxicity	kg 1,4-DCB	9.05E-01			4.25E-02	1.29E-01	1.06E-01	1.64E-01	3.70E-02	1.55E-01	1.61E-03	7.31E-03	3.34E-03	1.59E-03	4.73E-02	1.47E-01	1.76E-03	-3.97E-03	6.68E-02
Human non-carcinogenic toxicity	kg 1,4-DCB	1.54E+01			4.49E-01	1.69E+00	6.26E+00	2.26E+00	2.95E-01	3.15E-01	-1.20E-02	1.03E-01	-2.16E-02	2.02E-02	7.42E-01	2.53E+00	8.51E-03	-1.22E-01	8.49E-01
Land use	m <sup>2</sup> a crop eq	5.45E+00			2.25E-02	9.87E-02	6.55E-02	1.26E-01	9.79E-03	1.19E-02	1.72E-02	9.25E-02	3.28E-02	1.08E-03	5.00E-02	4.92E+00	3.84E-04	-7.86E-03	1.13E-02
Mineral resource scarcity	kg Cu eq	4.75E-02			2.12E-03	6.96E-03	2.13E-02	6.92E-03	1.39E-03	2.38E-03	1.06E-04	2.54E-04	2.08E-04	6.90E-05	2.82E-03	2.09E-03	5.53E-05	-1.75E-03	2.52E-03
Fossil resource scarcity	kg oil eq	3.44E+00			5.50E-01	4.02E-01	2.93E-01	4.53E-01	1.26E+00	7.98E-02	4.56E-03	3.48E-02	1.71E-02	1.42E-02	7.85E-02	1.84E-01	7.36E-02	-4.12E-02	3.45E-02
Water consumption	m <sup>3</sup>	1.83E-01			3.89E-03	3.05E-02	4.50E-02	4.38E-02	6.97E-03	2.88E-01	2.09E-04	1.67E-03	5.45E-04	3.49E-04	1.24E-02	4.07E-03	3.19E-04	-2.86E-03	-2.52E-01

**Table S8.** LCIA For Ca(Alg)<sub>2</sub> bioplastics with E-MeOH and bioenergy.

Impact category	Unit	Total	Process Emissions	Biogenic CO2	Formaldehyde	Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	NaClO	MeOH	Water	Starch	CMC	Sorbitol	PEG-200	CaCl <sub>2</sub>	Heating	Electricity	Biomass by-product	Wastewater
Global warming	kg CO2 eq	2.12E+00	3.86E-01	-3.31E+00	-9.11E-02	1.63E+00	4.87E-01	1.83E+00	-6.40E-01	3.11E-01	1.90E-02	1.18E-01	5.56E-02	2.69E-02	3.73E-01	7.37E-01	1.73E-01	-1.56E-01	1.58E-01
Stratospheric ozone depletion	kg CFC11 eq	6.35E-06			2.08E-07	4.09E-07	2.54E-07	1.81E-06	4.00E-07	2.68E-07	1.29E-07	5.74E-08	2.50E-07	5.52E-09	1.13E-07	2.97E-06	4.58E-08	-9.75E-07	4.05E-07
Ionizing radiation	kBq Co-60 eq	4.44E-01			1.80E-02	7.80E-02	3.49E-02	1.72E-01	1.98E-02	3.83E-02	8.32E-04	9.16E-03	1.68E-03	1.28E-03	1.35E-02	4.75E-02	2.56E-04	1.66E-03	7.01E-03
Ozone formation, Human health	kg NOx eq	4.50E-02			3.51E-03	2.75E-03	2.48E-03	4.64E-03	7.34E-03	6.94E-04	4.50E-05	2.88E-04	9.96E-05	5.80E-05	1.14E-03	2.15E-02	1.50E-04	-3.25E-04	5.83E-04
Fine particulate matter formation	kg PM2.5 eq	2.56E-02			1.26E-03	2.14E-03	5.40E-03	3.93E-03	2.41E-03	6.96E-04	4.47E-05	2.26E-04	9.10E-05	3.70E-05	9.45E-04	8.14E-03	2.62E-05	-2.03E-04	4.38E-04
Ozone formation, Terrestrial ecosystems	kg NOx eq	4.58E-02			3.62E-03	2.81E-03	2.53E-03	4.68E-03	7.61E-03	7.09E-04	4.58E-05	2.93E-04	1.02E-04	6.08E-05	1.15E-03	2.17E-02	1.53E-04	-3.35E-04	5.91E-04
Terrestrial acidification	kg SO2 eq	5.53E-02			3.46E-03	4.84E-03	1.75E-02	6.61E-03	7.26E-03	1.03E-03	2.18E-04	4.35E-04	4.31E-04	7.45E-05	3.03E-03	9.71E-03	6.80E-05	-4.78E-04	1.08E-03
Freshwater eutrophication	kg P eq	3.06E-03			1.23E-04	5.05E-04	5.00E-04	8.67E-04	1.39E-04	1.64E-04	5.93E-06	4.23E-05	1.16E-05	7.47E-06	1.63E-04	2.59E-04	1.95E-06	-4.36E-05	3.11E-04
Marine eutrophication	kg N eq	3.26E-03			5.13E-05	1.19E-03	1.99E-05	8.95E-05	1.15E-04	1.74E-05	2.99E-05	3.66E-06	5.70E-05	5.24E-07	1.21E-05	2.29E-05	2.56E-07	-7.33E-06	1.66E-03
Terrestrial ecotoxicity	kg 1,4-DCB	3.37E+01			1.10E+00	3.37E+00	1.18E+01	3.36E+00	1.82E+00	5.32E-01	5.81E-02	1.96E-01	1.14E-01	2.69E-02	1.21E+00	9.92E+00	1.06E-02	-4.29E-01	5.35E-01
Freshwater ecotoxicity	kg 1,4-DCB	8.15E-01			5.34E-02	9.59E-02	3.60E-01	1.12E-01	8.08E-02	1.38E-02	1.25E-03	4.35E-03	2.45E-03	1.04E-03	3.87E-02	4.15E-02	5.81E-04	-4.83E-03	1.34E-02
Marine ecotoxicity	kg 1,4-DCB	1.05E+00			6.74E-02	1.23E-01	4.63E-01	1.46E-01	1.02E-01	1.86E-02	1.47E-03	5.74E-03	2.89E-03	1.35E-03	5.01E-02	6.02E-02	7.61E-04	-6.37E-03	1.78E-02
Human carcinogenic toxicity	kg 1,4-DCB	1.32E+00			1.60E-01	1.29E-01	1.06E-01	1.64E-01	3.30E-01	1.55E-01	1.61E-03	7.31E-03	3.34E-03	1.59E-03	4.73E-02	1.47E-01	1.76E-03	-3.97E-03	6.68E-02
Human non-carcinogenic toxicity	kg 1,4-DCB	1.60E+01			6.06E-01	1.69E+00	6.26E+00	2.26E+00	7.35E-01	3.15E-01	-1.20E-02	1.03E-01	-2.16E-02	2.02E-02	7.42E-01	2.53E+00	8.51E-03	-1.22E-01	8.49E-01
Land use	m2a crop eq	5.47E+00			2.70E-02	9.87E-02	6.55E-02	1.26E-01	2.40E-02	1.19E-02	1.72E-02	9.25E-02	3.28E-02	1.08E-03	5.00E-02	4.92E+00	3.84E-04	-7.86E-03	1.13E-02
Mineral resource scarcity	kg Cu eq	5.79E-02			5.10E-03	6.96E-03	2.13E-02	6.92E-03	8.84E-03	2.38E-03	1.06E-04	2.54E-04	2.08E-04	6.90E-05	2.82E-03	2.09E-03	5.53E-05	-1.75E-03	2.52E-03
Fossil resource scarcity	kg oil eq	3.02E+00			4.24E-01	4.02E-01	2.93E-01	4.53E-01	9.70E-01	7.98E-02	4.56E-03	3.48E-02	1.71E-02	1.42E-02	7.85E-02	1.84E-01	7.36E-02	-4.12E-02	3.45E-02
Water consumption	m3	1.80E-01			2.95E-03	3.05E-02	4.50E-02	4.38E-02	4.84E-03	2.88E-01	2.09E-04	1.67E-03	5.45E-04	3.49E-04	1.24E-02	4.07E-03	3.19E-04	-2.86E-03	-2.52E-01

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