#### Greendelta

sustainability consulting + software

# Addressing data quality challenges for Open Source LCA software developers

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#### **Content**

- "open source LCA" = openLCA
- Data quality: some notes
- How data quality is addressed in openLCA
- Outlook



### "open source LCA" = openLCA (for this presentation)



- openLCA: powerful, versatile, free and open source LCA and sustainability assessment software, developed by GreenDelta since 2007
- www.openLCA.org
- Most users worldwide of all LCA software systems (we think..), growing
- But of course:
  - "SimaPro is the leading LCA software solution" (<a href="https://simapro.com/about/">https://simapro.com/about/</a>)
  - "GaBi ist die meist verwendete Nachhaltigkeitssoftware für die Ökobilanzierung von Produkten"
    - (http://www.gabi-software.com/deutsch/software/gabi-software/)



### Data quality (some notes)

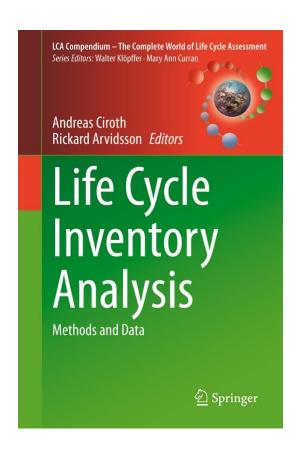
- ISO 14040: fit for purpose
- For datasets, two faces:
  - When creating the dataset
  - When using the dataset



#### (→ Janus face)

Ciroth, A.: Data Quality, ch. 5 in Life Cycle Inventory Analysis, Ciroth / Arvidsson (edts.), Springer, 2021

#### (data quality, some more details)

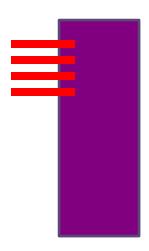


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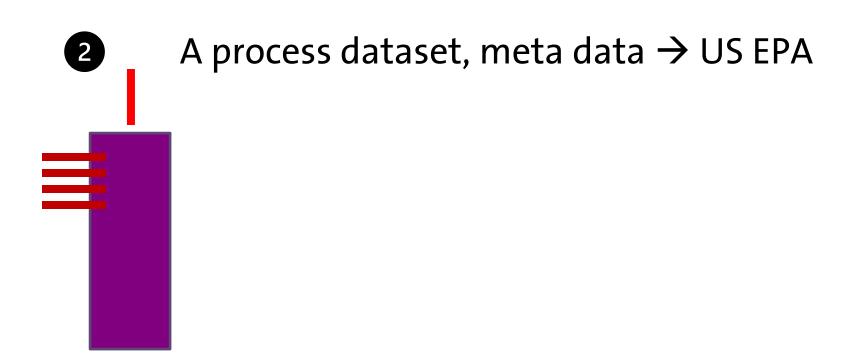
## Data quality indicators from the database are not the full picture

- Different application cases (different location, reference year, carbon accounting method, ...)
- Inter-dataset inconsistency cannot be documented per dataset
- E.g., ecoinvent: tyre wear emissions not provided for some street transport processes

◆ All the exchanges of a unit process → ecoinvent

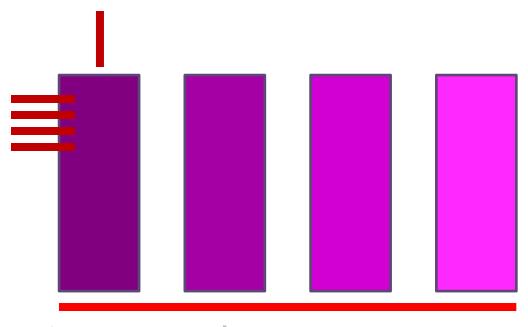


a unit process dataset



a unit process dataset

A process dataset against other process datasets
 (→ UN GLAD; underdeveloped)



unit process datasets

#### E.g., ecoinvent: tyre wear emissions not provided for some street transport processes

#### - Provided

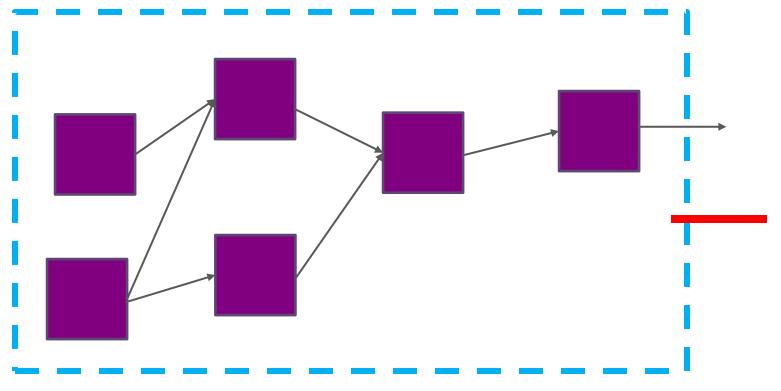
#### RESULTING / NAME 787cc269-d2 transport, freight, light commercial vehicle, EURO1 | transport, freight, light commercial vehicle, EURO1 | tyre wear emissions, lorry 0.000012 01ed5770-6e|transport, freight, light commercial vehicle, EURO2 | transport, freight, light commercial vehicle, EURO2 | tyre wear emissions, lorry 0.00012 0 0 00012 05610e24-bd transport, freight, light commercial vehicle, unregulated | transport, freight, light commercial vehicle, un tyre wear emissions, lorry 5f2a6b26-e6 transport, freight, lorry >32 metric ton, EURO1 | transport, freight, lorry >32 metric ton, EURO1 | APOS, U | tyre wear emissions, lorry 0 0.00015 701e35e4-cf (transport, freight, lorry >32 metric ton, EURO2 | transport, freight, lorry >32 metric ton, EURO2 | APOS, U | tyre wear emissions, lorry 0 0.00015 ce6e018b-7e transport, freight, lorry >32 metric ton, EURO3 | transport, freight, lorry >32 metric ton, EURO3 | APOS, U | tyre wear emissions, lorry 0.00017 e1221084-74 transport, freight, lorry >32 metric ton, EURO3 | transport, freight, lorry >32 metric ton, EURO3 | APOS, U | tyre wear emissions, lorry 0 0.00017 75d202a1-36 transport, freight, lorry >32 metric ton, EURO4 | transport, freight, lorry >32 metric ton, EURO4 | APOS, U | tyre wear emissions, lorry 0 0.00017 7da22b9f-1d transport, freight, lorry >32 metric ton, EURO4 | transport, freight, lorry >32 metric ton, EURO4 | APOS, U | tyre wear emissions, lorry 0.000017 3269857a-c4(transport, freight, lorry >32 metric ton, EURO5 | transport, freight, lorry >32 metric ton, EURO5 | APOS, U | tyre wear emissions, lorry c9fd3466-f9d transport, freight, lorry >32 metric ton, EURO5 | transport, freight, lorry >32 metric ton, EURO5 | APOS, U | tyre wear emissions, lorry 6b5a38b3-a2 transport, freight, lorry >32 metric ton, EURO6 | transport, freight, lorry >32 metric ton, EURO6 | APOS, U | tyre wear emissions, lorry 0 0.00017 75dc856f-77(transport, freight, lorry >32 metric ton, EURO6 | transport, freight, lorry >32 metric ton, EURO6 | APOS, U | tyre wear emissions, lorry bf5b888b-f3 (transport, freight, lorry >32 metric ton, unregulated | transport, freight, lorry >32 metric ton, unregulated | tyre wear emissions, lorry 0 0.00015 e957817b-07 transport, freight, lorry 16-32 metric ton, EURO1 | transport, freight, lorry 16-32 metric ton, EURO1 | APOS tyre wear emissions, lorry 0 0.00015 cf7a1c7c-86a transport, freight, lorry 16-32 metric ton, EURO2 | transport, freight, lorry 16-32 metric ton, EURO2 | APOS, tyre wear emissions, lorry 0 0.00015 b4694c1f-1e transport, freight, lorry 16-32 metric ton, EURO3 | transport, freight, lorry 16-32 metric ton, EURO3 | APOS tyre wear emissions, lorry 0 0.00022 f016da42-5a|transport, freight, lorry 16-32 metric ton, EURO3 | transport, freight, lorry 16-32 metric ton, EURO3 | APOS, tyre wear emissions, lorry 0 0.00022 bf581918-63 transport, freight, lorry 16-32 metric ton, EURO4 | transport, freight, lorry 16-32 metric ton, EURO4 | APOS tyre wear emissions, lorry 0 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0.00023 04275777-30 transport, freight, lorry 7.5-16 metric ton, EURO6 | transport, freight, lorry 7.5-16 metric ton, EURO6 | APO! tyre wear emissions, lorry 0 0.00023 5e477fc4-c9(transport, freight, lorry 7.5-16 metric ton, EURO6 | transport, freight, lorry 7.5-16 metric ton, EURO6 | APO(tyre wear emissions, lorry 5aa00730-41 transport, freight, lorry 7.5-16 metric ton, unregulated | transport, freight, lorry 7.5-16 metric ton, unregul tyre wear emissions, lorry 0 0.00015 6d57f164-feetransport, freight, lorry with refrigeration machine, 3.5-7.5 ton, EURO3, carbon dioxide, liquid refrigerant, tyre wear emissions, lorn 81ec65fc-97f transport, freight, lorry with refrigeration machine, 3.5-7.5 ton, EURO3, carbon dioxide, liquid refrigerant, tyre wear emissions, lorry 04d75b5a-73 transport, freight, lorry with refrigeration machine, 3.5-7.5 ton, EURO3, R134a refrigerant, cooling | transp tyre wear emissions, lorry 0 0.00041 8bddb73a-ditransport, freight, lorry with refrigeration machine, 3.5-7.5 ton, EURO3, R134a refrigerant, freezing | transityre wear emissions, lorry ee533d89-c9 transport, freight, lorry with refrigeration machine, 3.5-7.5 ton, EURO4, carbon dioxide, liquid refrigerant, tyre wear emissions, lorry 0 0.00041 bdafa55e-91 transport, freight, lorry with refrigeration machine, 3.5-7.5 ton, EURO4, carbon dioxide, liquid refrigerant, tyre wear emissions, lorry 0 0.00041 a39db7d2-52 transport, freight, lorry with refrigeration machine, 3.5-7.5 ton, EURO4, R134a refrigerant, cooling | transpityre wear emissions, lorry 0 0.00041 9fbefc3f-155 transport, freight, lorry with refrigeration machine, 3.5-7.5 ton, EURO4, R134a refrigerant, freezing | trans tyre wear emissions, lorry 0 0.00041 426e8a9f-ce transport, freight, lorry with refrigeration machine, 3.5-7.5 ton, EURO5, carbon dioxide, liquid refrigerant, tyre wear emissions, lorry 0.00041

#### not provided

PREF	PNAME
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d57266c2-1a	transport, freight, light commercial vehicle   transport, freight, light commercial vehicle   A
10138d21-da	transport, freight, light commercial vehicle   transport, freight, light commercial vehicle   A
ccc7ed67-e5a	transport, freight, lorry 28 metric ton, vegetable oil methyl ester 100%   transport, freight, l
584fc575-b19	transport, freight, lorry 28 metric ton, vegetable oil methyl ester 100%   transport, freight, l
4335ccbb-b1	transport, passenger coach   transport, passenger coach   APOS, U
ff5ef059-858	transport, passenger coach   transport, passenger coach   APOS, U
b7c613d6-f13	transport, passenger, bicycle   transport, passenger, bicycle   APOS, U
6faf8b3e-33a	transport, passenger, bicycle   transport, passenger, bicycle   APOS, U
ed88c010-f06	transport, passenger, electric bicycle   transport, passenger, electric bicycle   APOS, U
b8711445-b5	transport, passenger, electric bicycle   transport, passenger, electric bicycle   APOS, U
11f843b9-a6!	transport, passenger, electric bicycle, label-certified electricity   transport, passenger, elec
22394adf-444	transport, passenger, electric bicycle, label-certified electricity   transport, passenger, elec
d3429762-c2a	transport, passenger, motor scooter   transport, passenger, motor scooter   APOS, U
1bda45ac-30	transport, passenger, motor scooter   transport, passenger, motor scooter   APOS, U
07937a77-09	transport, regular bus   transport, regular bus   APOS, U
806c93a2-a9l	transport, regular bus   transport, regular bus   APOS, U
31554b6e-ae	transport, tractor and trailer, agricultural   transport, tractor and trailer, agricultural   APOS,
be69db3f-22	transport, tractor and trailer, agricultural   transport, tractor and trailer, agricultural   APOS,
90154a05-58	transport, trolleybus   transport, trolleybus   APOS, U
690b545e-4e	transport, trolleybus   transport, trolleybus   APOS, U



4 LC calculation result, system process





#### Addressing data quality in openLCA

#### • So far:

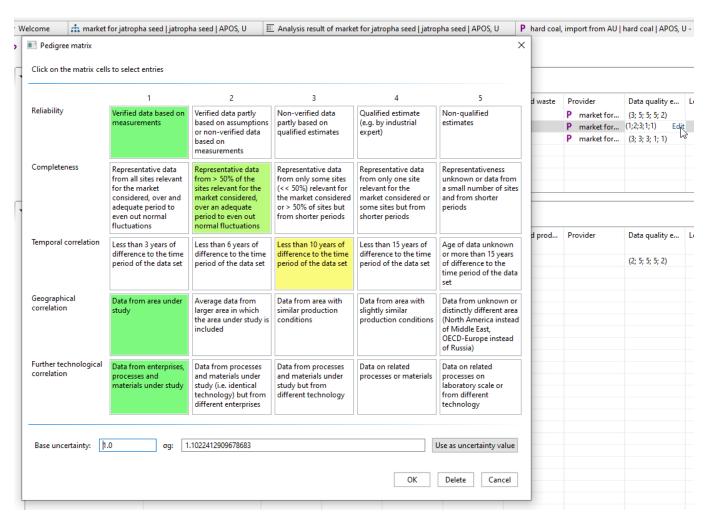
- Show data quality assessment done by data provider to user
- Enable users to define and set up own data quality systems
- Link data quality with uncertainty where needed
- Allow calculation of data quality over the life cycle
- Show in calculation result
- Find best suited processes (somehow)

# Show data quality assessment done by data provider to user

P Inputs/Outputs: hard coal, import from AU | hard coal | APOS, U - RLA

nputs										•
low	Category	Amount	Unit	Costs/Revenues	Uncertainty	Avoided waste	Provider	Data quality e	Location	Description
e hard coal	051:Mining of hard coal/0510:	1.00200	™ kg		lognormal: g		P market for	(3; 5; 5; 5; 3)		Compensatio
transport, freight train	491:Transport via railways/4912:	0.20000	□□ t*km		lognormal: g		P market for	(1; 2; 3; 1; 1)5		The weighted
e transport, freight, sea, bulk c	501:Sea and coastal water trans	15.00000	□□ t*km		lognormal: g		P market for	(3; 3; 3; 1; 1)		Rough estima
ıtputs										•
ow	Category	Amount	Unit	Costs/Revenues	Uncertainty	Avoided prod	Provider	Data quality e	Location	Description
e hard coal	051:Mining of hard coal/0510	1.00000	™ kg	0.03600 EUR	none					
Particulates, > 10 um	Emission to air/unspecified	0.00200	mm L		lognormal: g			(2; 5; 5; 5; 2)		For a lack of

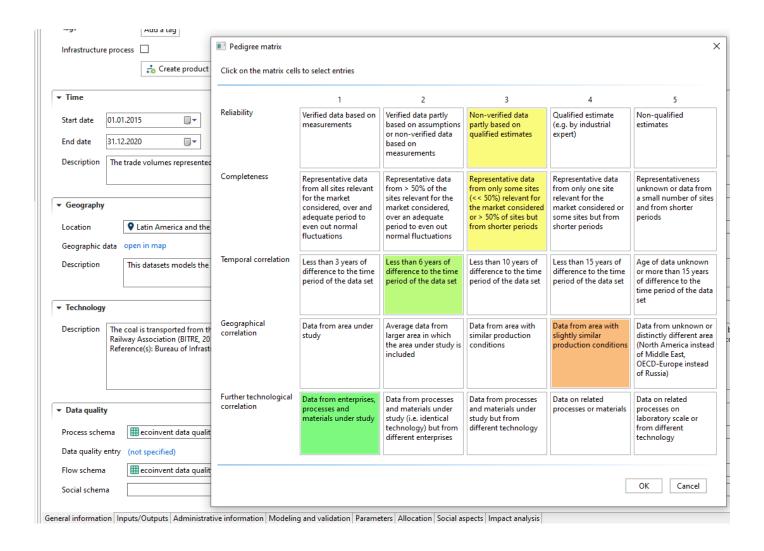
# Show data quality assessment done by data provider to user, editable



# Show data quality assessment done by data provider to user, editable

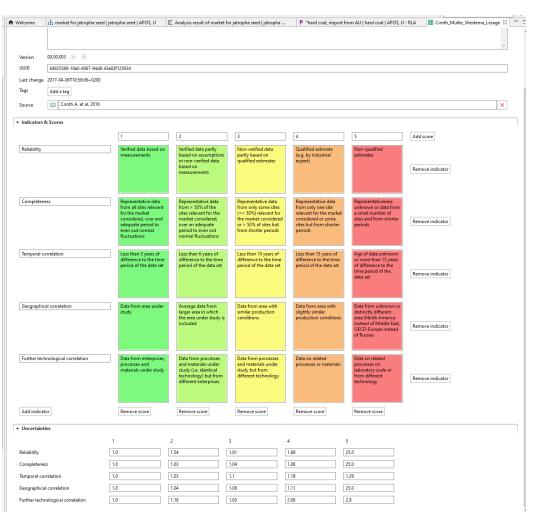
▼ Data quality	
Process schema	
Data quality entry	
Flow schema	ecoinvent data quality system
Social schema	III ILCD data quality system III PSILCA - Data quality system for social LCA data

# Show data quality assessment done by data provider to user, editable

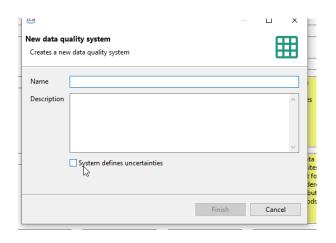


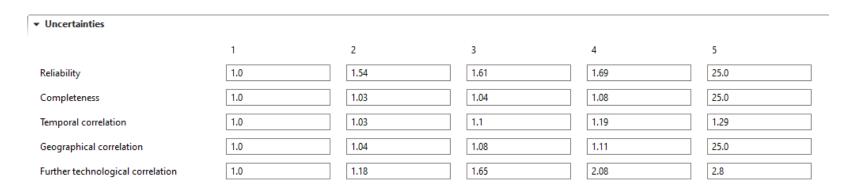
# Enable users to define and set up own data quality systems





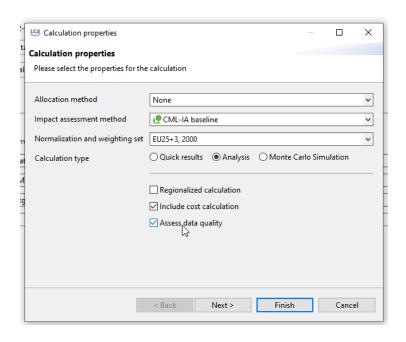
### Link data quality with uncertainty where needed

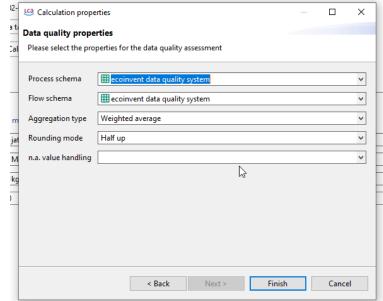




(of course, whether this linkage makes sense is a separate discussion)

# Allow calculation of data quality over the life cycle





market for jatropha seed | jatropha seed | APOS, U

▼ Inputs

Name	Category	Sub-category	Amount	Unit	R	С	T	G	F
> F₃ Aluminium, in ground	Resource	in ground	0.00059	kg	2	2	3	1	1
> F₃ Anhydrite, in ground	Resource	in ground	1.41165E-8	kg					
🦒 Antimony, in ground	Resource	in ground	2.40713E-9	kg	2	2	5	5	1
▶ F <sub>od</sub> Argon-40	Resource	in air	4.25638E-5	kg	1	1	5	1	1
🧎 Arsenic, in ground	Resource	in ground	6.07274E-8	kg	1	2	1	1	1
🦒 Barium, in ground	Resource	in ground	0.00040	kg	4	4	5	5	1
🕞 Basalt, in ground	Resource	in ground	0.00015	kg	3	4	5	4	3
🦒 Beryllium, in ground	Resource	in ground	9.92897E-10	kg	3	2	3	5	1
► 🦬 Borax, in ground	Resource	in ground	6.59611E-7	kg	4	3	5	4	5
🦒 Bromine, in water	Resource	in water	8.79379E-8	kg	4	5	3	4	1
😽 Cadmium, in ground	Resource	in ground	4.57994E-8	kg	1	3	3	1	1
► 🧑 Calcite, in ground	Resource	in ground	0.01680	kg	3	3	4	4	3
🕞 Calcium, in ground	Resource	in ground	5.22240E-5	kg	1	3	3	1	1
Fa Carbon dioxide, in air	Resource	in air	2.04857	kg	4	3	3	5	1
🅞 Carbon, organic, in soil or biomass stock	Resource	in ground	9.84245E-5	kg	2	2	4	2	1
F ← Carnallite	Resource	in water	9.20673E-7	kg	5	4	5	4	4

Name	Category	Sub-category	Amount	Unit	R	С	Т	G	F	
→ F <sub>M</sub> Aluminium, in ground	Resource	in ground	0.00059	kg	2	2	3	1	1	
P bauxite mine operation   bauxite   APOS, U - Gl	072:Mining of no	0729:Mining of other non	0.00056	kg	2	2	3	1	1	
P cobalt production   nickel, class 1   APOS, U - G	072:Mining of no	0729:Mining of other non	1.10321E-5	kg	1	2	1	1	1	
P cobalt production   sulfuric acid   APOS, U - GL	072:Mining of no	0729:Mining of other non	5.33297E-6	kg	1	2	1	1	1	
P cobalt production   copper concentrate, sulfide	072:Mining of no	0729:Mining of other non	2.86128E-6	kg	1	2	1	1	1	
P cobalt production   copper, anode   APOS, U -	072:Mining of no	0729:Mining of other non	2.59837E-6	kg	1	2	1	1	1	
P cobalt production   ferronickel   APOS, U - GLO	072:Mining of no	0729:Mining of other non	1.46648E-6	kg	1	2	1	1	1	
P zinc mine operation   zinc concentrate   APOS,	072:Mining of no	0729:Mining of other non	1.02078E-6	kg	1	3	3	1	1	
zeolite production, powder   zeolite, powder   A	202:Manufacture	2023:Manufacture of soap	7.02606E-7	kg						
P cobalt production   copper, cathode   APOS, U	072:Mining of no	0729:Mining of other non	6.50234E-7	kg	1	2	1	1	1	
P cobalt production   electrolyte, copper-rich   A	072:Mining of no	0729:Mining of other non	5.07718E-7	kg	1	2	1	1	1	
zeolite production, powder   zeolite, powder   A	202:Manufacture	2023:Manufacture of soap	3.46913E-7	kg						
P zinc mine operation   lead concentrate   APOS,	072:Mining of no	0729:Mining of other non	2.02837E-7	kg	1	3	3	1	1	
P cobalt production   nickel concentrate, 16% Ni	072:Mining of no	0729:Mining of other non	1.47542E-7	kg	1	2	1	1	1	
P zinc mine operation   copper concentrate, sulfi	072:Mining of no	0729:Mining of other non	1.28613E-7	kg	1	3	3	1	1	
P cobalt production   cobalt   APOS, U - GLO	072:Mining of no	0729:Mining of other non	1.26925E-7	kg	1	2	1	1	1	

Impact analysis: EF 3.0 Method (adapted)

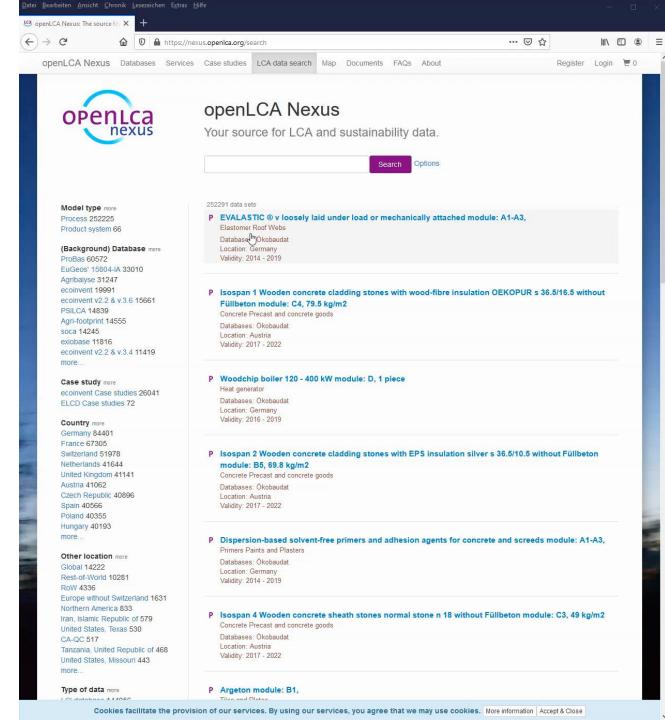
Name	Category	Inventory result	Impact factor	Impact result	Unit	R	С	Т	G	F
▶ 📘 lonising radiation				0.04134	kBq U-235 eq	1	1	5	2	1
Climate change				1.45100	kg CO2 eq	3	3	5	4	2
Resource use, minerals and metals				1.29883E-5	kg Sb eq	3	1	2	2	1
Human toxicity, cancer - inorganics				2.56851E-18	CTUh	2	3	1	4	3
Photochemical ozone formation				0.00406	kg NMVOC	2	3	5	3	2
Ecotoxicity, freshwater - inorganics				20.92396	CTUe	1	1	5	5	2
Eutrophication, marine				0.00641	kg N eq	2	3	5	3	2
Resource use, fossils				12.24467	MJ	2	2	5	3	2
				4.71327E-9	CTUh	2	2	5	4	2
Eutrophication, freshwater				0.00069	kg P eq	1	1	3	1	1
Human toxicity, cancer - metals				5.08230E-9	CTUh	4	5	5	5	5
E Climate change - Fossil				1.44824	kg CO2 eq	3	3	5	4	2
Human toxicity, non-cancer - metals				1.97186E-7	CTUh	4	5	5	5	5
Human toxicity, non-cancer				2.02688E-7	CTUh	4	5	5	5	5
■ Acidification				0.04672	mol H+ eq	3	3	5	3	2
Ecotoxicity, freshwater - organics				1.80870	CTUe	3	3	4	2	2
E Climate change - Biogenic				0.00126	kg CO2 eq	3	2	5	3	2
E Climate change - Land use and LU change				0.00151	kg CO2 eq	4	3	5	3	2
■ Ozone depletion				8.37845E-8	kg CFC11 eq	2	3	5	5	3
Human toxicity, non-cancer - organics				6.20786E-10	CTUh	3	2	5	4	3
Ecotoxicity, freshwater - metals				121.00749	CTUe	2	3	5	5	4
Human toxicity, cancer				5.61501E-9	CTUh	4	4	5	5	4
. ■ Water use				3.10997	m3 depriv.	3	3	4	3	2
Particulate matter				3.46113E-7	disease inc.	3	3	4	3	2
Ecotoxicity, freshwater				143.57039	CTUe	2	3	5	5	4
■ Human toxicity, cancer - organics				5.32712E-10	CTUh	1	1	5	1	1
E Land use				206.83832	Pt	1	1	3	1	1
Eutrophication, terrestrial				0.19726	mol N eq	2	3	5	3	1

▼ Impact analysis: EF 3.0 Method (adapted)

Subgroup by processes ☑ Don't show < 1 ♣ % Category Inventory result Impact factor Impact result Unit > != lonising radiation 0.04134 kBq U-235 eq 1 > E Climate change 1.45100 kg CO2 eq ▼ II Resource use, minerals and metals 1.29883E-5 kg Sb eg > P copper mine operation and beneficiation, sulfide ore | copper concei 072:Mining of non-ferrous metal ores / 0729:Mining of othe... 2.88545E-6 ka Sb ea ∨ P copper mine operation and beneficiation, sulfide ore | copper concel 072:Mining of non-ferrous metal ores / 0729:Mining of othe... 1.38280E-6 kg Sb eg 2,51991E-8 kg 40.70000 ka Sb ea/ka 1.02560E-6 ka Sb ea F Tellurium, in around Resource / in around F Copper, in ground 1.45828E-7 kg Sb eq Resource / in ground 0.00011 kg 0.00137 kg Sb eq/kg F Selenium, in ground Resource / in ground 3.75005E-7 kg 0.19400 kg Sb eq/kg 7.27509E-8 kg Sb eq F Gold, in ground Resource / in ground 1.01386E-9 kg 52.00000 kg Sb eg/kg 5.27209E-8 kg Sb eg F Silver, in ground 3.65436E-8 kg 1.18000 kg Sb eq/kg 4.31215E-8 kg Sb eq Resource / in ground F Molybdenum, in ground Resource / in ground 2.38921E-6 kg 0.01780 kg Sb eg/kg 4.25279E-8 kg Sb eg > P copper mine operation and beneficiation, sulfide ore | copper concei 072:Mining of non-ferrous metal ores / 0729:Mining of othe... 1.01177E-6 kg Sb eq v P gold mine operation and gold production, unrefined | gold, unrefine 072:Mining of non-ferrous metal ores / 0729:Mining of othe... 7.38046E-7 kg Sb eg F Gold, in around Resource / in around 1,41932E-8 kg 52,00000 ka Sb ea/ka 7,38046E-7 ka Sb ea > P zinc mine operation | zinc concentrate | APOS, U - GLO 072:Mining of non-ferrous metal ores / 0729:Mining of othe... 7.06708E-7 kg Sb eg 7.02794E-7 ka Sb ea P copper mine operation and beneficiation, sulfide ore | copper concer 072:Mining of non-ferrous metal ores / 0729:Mining of othe... > P copper mine operation and beneficiation, sulfide ore | copper concel 072:Mining of non-ferrous metal ores / 0729:Mining of othe... 5.43365E-7 kg Sb eg > P copper mine operation and beneficiation, sulfide ore | copper concei 072:Mining of non-ferrous metal ores / 0729:Mining of othe... 5.19641E-7 kg Sb eq > P copper mine operation and beneficiation, sulfide ore | copper concel 072:Mining of non-ferrous metal ores / 0729:Mining of othe... 5.06873E-7 kg Sb eg P copper mine operation and beneficiation, sulfide ore I copper concel 072:Mining of non-ferrous metal ores / 0729:Mining of othe... 4.32309E-7 kg Sb eq P copper mine operation and beneficiation, sulfide ore | copper concer 072: Mining of non-ferrous metal ores / 0729: Mining of othe... 4.14739E-7 kg Sb eg ▼ P silver-gold mine operation with refinery | gold | APOS, U - RoW 072:Mining of non-ferrous metal ores / 0729:Mining of othe... 4.04860E-7 ka Sb ea 52.00000 kg Sb eq/kg 2.18844E-7 kg Sb eg F Gold, in ground Resource / in ground 4.20854E-9 kg F Silver, in ground Resource / in around 1.57641E-7 kg 1.18000 ka Sb ea/ka 1.86016E-7 ka Sb ea > P copper mine operation and beneficiation, sulfide ore | copper concel 072:Mining of non-ferrous metal ores / 0729:Mining of othe... 3.51246E-7 kg Sb eg > P copper production, cathode, solvent extraction and electrowinning r 242:Manufacture of basic precious and other non-ferrous m... 2.18783E-7 kg Sb eq P phosphate rock beneficiation | phosphate rock, beneficiated | APOS, 089:Mining and guarrying n.e.c. / 0891:Mining of chemical a... 1.76761E-7 kg Sb eg > P silver mine operation with extraction | lead concentrate | APOS, U - P 072: Mining of non-ferrous metal ores / 0729: Mining of othe... 1.72006E-7 ka Sb ea > P gold production | gold | APOS, U - AU 072:Mining of non-ferrous metal ores / 0729:Mining of othe... 1.50958E-7 kg Sb eg > P gold-silver mine operation with refinery | gold | APOS, U - RoW 072:Mining of non-ferrous metal ores / 0729:Mining of othe... 1.48679E-7 ka Sb ea > P molybdenite mine operation | copper concentrate, sulfide ore | APOS 072:Mining of non-ferrous metal ores / 0729:Mining of othe... 1.44936E-7 kg Sb eg P zinc mine operation | lead concentrate | APOS, U - GLO 072:Mining of non-ferrous metal ores / 0729:Mining of othe... 1.40428E-7 ka Sb ea P chromite ore concentrate production | chromite ore concentrate | AF 072:Mining of non-ferrous metal ores / 0729:Mining of othe... 1.34081E-7 kg Sb eg > E Human toxicity, cancer - inorganics 2.56851E-18 CTUh > E Photochemical ozone formation 0.00406 kg NMVOC ... > != Ecotoxicity, freshwater - inorganics 20.92396 CTUe > != Eutrophication, marine 0.00641 kg N eg > != Resource use, fossils 12,24467 MJ > I Human toxicity, non-cancer - inorganics 4.71327E-9 CTUh > != Eutrophication, freshwater 0.00069 kg P eg > ! Human toxicity, cancer - metals 5.08230E-9 CTUh

 (e.g., Agribalyse, manually calculated estimate of data quality for assumed most relevant parts of a life cycle, in excel → not necessary)

Find best suited processes (somehow), via GLAD criteria in openLCA Nexus





#### Outlook: data quality in openLCA

- We are doing not so bad, but
  - Capacity building
  - User defined fitness for purpose
  - Real uncertainty
  - A challenge: full system compliance (EF, etc. -> cheat, "quality-washing", ..)

#### Greendelta

sustainability consulting + software

#### Thank you!

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