

**Towards net-zero adsorbents: A multi-factor selection approach considering performance,
life cycle assessment, and end-of-life scenarios**

Gopa Nandikes¹, Anh H. Nguyen¹, Seungdae Oh^{1*}

¹ Department of Civil Engineering, College of Engineering, Kyung Hee University, Yongin-si,
Gyeonggi-do, Republic of Korea

* Author for correspondence

Mailing address: Department of Civil Engineering, College of Engineering, Kyung Hee University,
Yongin-si, Gyeonggi-do, Republic of Korea.

Phone: +82 (031) 201-3664.

E-mail: soh@khu.ac.kr

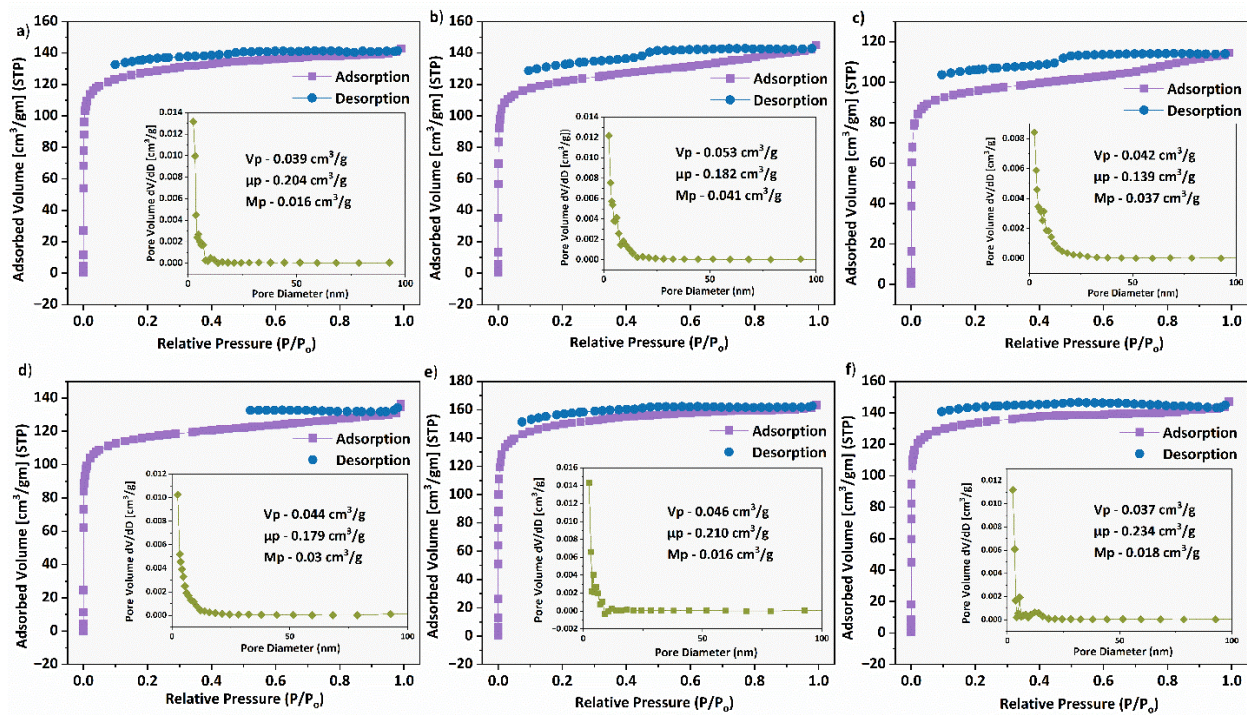


Fig. S1. N_2 adsorption desorption isotherm and pore size distribution with values of V_p (pore volume), μ_p (micropore volume) and M_p (mesopore volume) of (a) PB-N, (b) PB-H, (c) PB-NH, (d) PB-HN, (e) PB pristine and (f) PB-P.

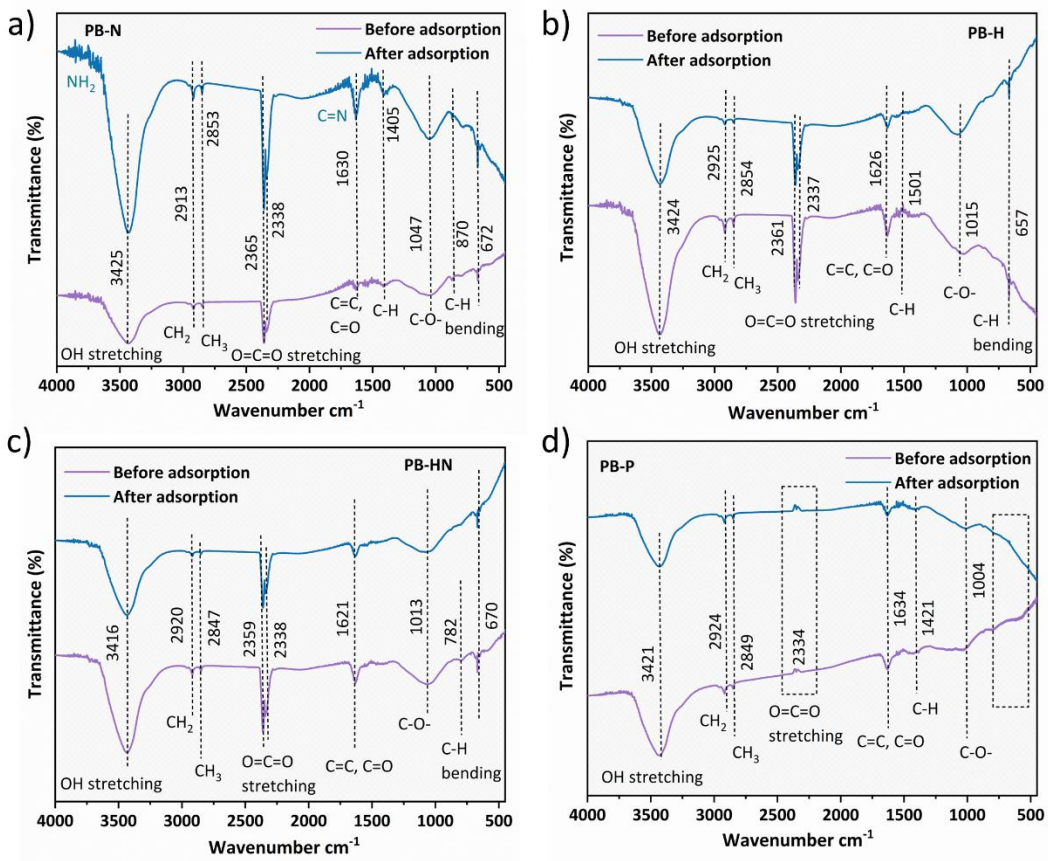


Fig. S2. FTIR analysis before and after adsorption for (a) PB-N, (b) PB-H, (c) PB-HN and (d) PB-P.

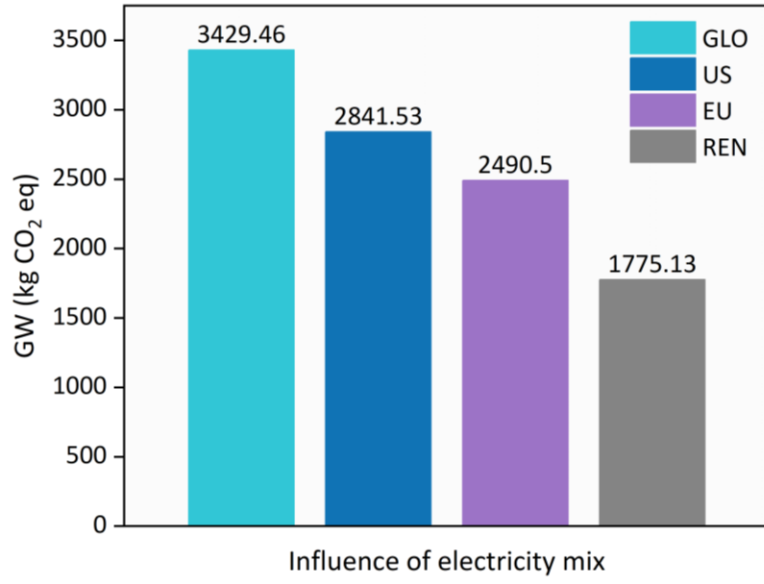


Fig S3. Influence of electricity mix on GW impact

Table S1. LCI consisting of inputs and outputs for the synthesis of PB-N, PB-H, PB-NH, PB-HN and PB-P.

Major Steps	Inputs	Outputs	Amount	Unit	Corresponding input from Ecoinvent	Comments
	Pine bark		2.4	kg	Bark {GLO} market for bark Cut-off, S	The amount of precursor material required for 1 kg of biochar was standardized based on the yield.
	DI water		4.92	L	Water, deionised {RoW} market for water, deionised Cut-off, S	
	Electricity (Oven, 6h, 120°)		9	kWh	Electricity, medium voltage {GLO} market group for electricity, medium voltage Cut-off, S	To remove moisture. DS-520M 1400-watt
Pretreatment		Wastewater	3.94	L	Wastewater, average {RoW} market for wastewater, average Cut-off, S	
Pyrolysis	Electricity (Tube Furnace)		10.2	kWh	Electricity, medium voltage {GLO} market group for electricity, medium voltage Cut-off, S	For pyrolysis at heating rate 5°C/min)OTF-1200X-UL furnace 3000-watt power.
	N2 gas (Flow rate – 70m ³ /h)		2.67	kg	Nitrogen, liquid {RoW} market for nitrogen, liquid Cut-off, S	As an inert gas for pyrolysis
		Released N ₂ gas	2.67	kg	Ecoinvent	Released from the tube furnace
		Syngas	0.36	kg	Pyrolysis fuel gas {GLO} market for pyrolysis fuel gas Cut-off, S	Syngas can be used as a combustion fuel and can be considered as avoided emission.
		Biochar	1	kg	Ecoinvent	Major precursor for the chemical activation
		Bio-oil	0.96	kg	Pyrolysis fuel oil {GLO} market for pyrolysis fuel oil Cut-off, S	Bio-oil is an avoided emission/product due to its versatile applications
Acid treatment	NaOH (PB-N)		0.5	kg	Neutralising agent, sodium hydroxide-equivalent {RER} sodium hydroxide to generic market for neutralising agent Cut-off, S	
	HCl (PB-H)		1.67	kg	Hydrochloric acid, without water, in 30% solution state {RoW} market for hydrochloric acid, without water.	
	NaOH + HCl (PB-NH)		0.5+1.67	kg	Neutralising agent, sodium hydroxide-equivalent {RER} sodium hydroxide to generic market for neutralising agent Cut-off, S	
	HCl + NaOH (PB-HN)		1.67+0.5	kg	Hydrochloric acid, without water, in 30% solution state {RoW} market for hydrochloric acid, without water	
	H ₂ O ₂ (PB-P)		1.6	kg	Hydrogen peroxide, without water, in 50% solution state {RoW} market for hydrogen peroxide, without water, in 50% solution state Cut-off, S	
	Electricity (magnetic stirrer, 3h& 6h)		0.4, 0.8	kWh	Electricity, medium voltage {GLO} market group for electricity, medium voltage Cut-off, S	MS-MP8 20-watt power hot plate
	DI water		24	L	Water, deionised {RoW} market for water, deionised Cut-off, S	For diluting and washing
		Wastewater	24.8	L	Wastewater, average {RoW} market for wastewater, average Cut-off, S	

Post activation drying	Electricity (Oven, 12 h)		18	kWh	Electricity, medium voltage {GLO} market group for electricity, medium voltage Cut-off, S	To remove the moisture content post washing. DS-520M 1400-watt
		PB adsorbent	1	kg		Measured dry weight
Adsorption	Electricity		1.12	kWh	Electricity, medium voltage {GLO} market group for electricity, medium voltage Cut-off, S	

Table S2. LCI of AR-KOH

Major Steps	Inputs	Outputs	Amount	Unit	Corresponding input from Ecoinvent	Comments
	Corn Straw		2.4	kg	Straw {RER} market for straw Cut-off, S	The amount of precursor material required for 1 kg of BC was standardized based on the yield.
	DI water		4.92	L	Water, deionised {RoW} market for water, deionised Cut-off, S	
	Electricity (Oven, 6h, 120°)		9	kWh	Electricity, medium voltage {GLO} market group for electricity, medium voltage Cut-off, S	To remove moisture. DS-520M 1400-watt
Pretreatment		Wastewater	3.94	L	Wastewater, average {RoW} market for wastewater, average Cut-off, S	
Pyrolysis	Electricity (Tube Furnace, 1 hr)		11.5	kWh	Electricity, medium voltage {GLO} market group for electricity, medium voltage Cut-off, S	For pyrolysis at heating rate 5°C/min)OTF-1200X-UL furnace 3000-watt power.
	N2 gas (Flow rate – 70m ³ /h)		2.67	kg	Nitrogen, liquid {RoW} market for nitrogen, liquid Cut-off, S	As an inert gas for pyrolysis
		Released N2 gas	2.67	kg	Ecoinvent	Released from the tube furnace
		Syngas	0.68	kg	Pyrolysis fuel gas {GLO} market for pyrolysis fuel gas Cut-off, S	Syngas can be used as a combustion fuel and can be considered as avoided emission.
		Biochar	0.56	kg	Ecoinvent	Major precursor for the chemical activation
		Bio-oil	1.13	kg	Pyrolysis fuel oil {GLO} market for pyrolysis fuel oil Cut-off, S	Bio-oil is an avoided emission/product due to its versatile applications
Acid treatment	KOH		0.84	kg	Potassium hydroxide {GLO} market for potassium hydroxide Cut-off, S	Chemical activation take 1:3 ratio with AC
	Electricity (magnetic stirrer, 3 h)		0.4	kWh	Electricity, medium voltage {GLO} market group for electricity, medium voltage Cut-off, S	MS-MP8 20-watt power hot plate
	DI water		24	L	Water, deionised {RoW} market for water, deionised Cut-off, S	For diluting H2O2 concentration and washing
		Wastewater	24.8	L	Wastewater, average {RoW} market for wastewater, average Cut-off, S	Wastewater with high levels of H2O2
Post activation drying	Electricity (Oven, 12 h)		18	kWh	Electricity, medium voltage {GLO} market group for electricity, medium voltage Cut-off, S	To remove the moisture content post washing. DS-520M 1400-watt
		PB adsorbent	1	kg		Measured dry weight
Adsorption	Electricity		1.12	kWh	Electricity, medium voltage {GLO} market group for electricity, medium voltage Cut-off, S	

Table S3. LCI of AR-H₃PO₄

Major Steps	Inputs	Outputs	Amount	Unit	Corresponding input from Ecoinvent	Comments
	Palm kernel shells		2.4	kg	Palm kernel {GLO} market for palm kernel meal Cut-off, S	The amount of precursor material required for 1 kg of BC was standardized based on the yield.
	DI water		4.92	L	Water, deionised {RoW} market for water, deionised Cut-off, S	
	Electricity (Oven, 6h, 120°)		9	kWh	Electricity, medium voltage {GLO} market group for electricity, medium voltage Cut-off, S	To remove moisture. DS-520M 1400-watt
Pretreatment		Wastewater	3.94	L	Wastewater, average {RoW} market for wastewater, average Cut-off, S	
Pyrolysis	Electricity (Tube Furnace, 3 hr)		10.4	kWh	Electricity, medium voltage {GLO} market group for electricity, medium voltage Cut-off, S	For pyrolysis at heating rate 10°C/min)OTF-1200X-UL furnace 3000-watt power.
	N ₂ gas (Flow rate – 70m ³ /h)		2.67	kg	Nitrogen, liquid {RoW} market for nitrogen, liquid Cut-off, S	As an inert gas for pyrolysis
		Released N ₂ gas	2.67	kg	Ecoinvent	Released from the tube furnace
		Syngas	0.77	kg	Pyrolysis fuel gas {GLO} market for pyrolysis fuel gas Cut-off, S	Syngas can be used as a combustion fuel and can be considered as avoided emission.
		Biochar	0.86	kg	Ecoinvent	Major precursor for the chemical activation
		Bio-oil	0.77	kg	Pyrolysis fuel oil {GLO} market for pyrolysis fuel oil Cut-off, S	Bio-oil is an avoided emission/product due to its versatile applications
Acid treatment	H ₃ PO ₄		1.68	kg	Phosphoric acid, industrial grade, without water, in 85% solution state {GLO} market for phosphoric acid, industrial grade, without water, in 85% solution state Cut-off, S	Chemical activation take 1:3 ratio with AC
	Electricity (magnetic stirrer, 3 h)		0.4	kWh	Electricity, medium voltage {GLO} market group for electricity, medium voltage Cut-off, S	MS-MP8 20-watt power hot plate
	DI water		24	L	Water, deionised {RoW} market for water, deionised Cut-off, S	For diluting H ₂ O ₂ concentration and washing
		Wastewater	26.8	L	Wastewater, average {RoW} market for wastewater, average Cut-off, S	Wastewater with high levels of H ₂ O ₂
Post activation drying	Electricity (Oven, 12 h)		18	kWh	Electricity, medium voltage {GLO} market group for electricity, medium voltage Cut-off, S	To remove the moisture content post washing. DS-520M 1400-watt
		PB adsorbent	1	kg		Measured dry weight
Adsorption	Electricity		1.12	kWh	Electricity, medium voltage {GLO} market group for electricity, medium voltage Cut-off, S	

Table S4. LCI of AR-Steam

Major Steps	Inputs	Outputs	Amt	Unit	Corresponding input from Ecoinvent	Comments
	Saw dust		2.4	kg	Sawdust, loose, wet, measured as dry mass {GLO} market for sawdust, loose, wet, measured as dry mass Cut-off, S	The amount of precursor material required for 1 kg of BC was standardized based on the yield.
	DI water		4.9 2	L	Water, deionised {RoW} market for water, deionised Cut-off, S	
	Electricity (Oven, 6h, 120°C)		9	kWh	Electricity, medium voltage {GLO} market group for electricity, medium voltage Cut-off, S	To remove moisture. DS-520M 1400-watt
Pretreatment		Wastewater	3.9 4	L	Wastewater, average {RoW} market for wastewater, average Cut-off, S	
Pyrolysis	Electricity (Tube Furnace, 2h,700°C)		12. 6	kWh	Electricity, medium voltage {GLO} market group for electricity, medium voltage Cut-off, S	For pyrolysis at heating rate 5°C/min)OTF-1200X-UL furnace 3000-watt power.
	N2 gas (Flow rate – 70m³/h)		2.6 7	kg	Nitrogen, liquid {RoW} market for nitrogen, liquid Cut-off, S	As an inert gas for pyrolysis
		Released N ₂ gas	2.6 7	kg	Ecoinvent	Released from the tube furnace
		Syngas	0.7 7	kg	Pyrolysis fuel gas {GLO} market for pyrolysis fuel gas Cut-off, S	Syngas can be used as a combustion fuel and can be considered as avoided emission.
		Biochar	0.5 7	kg	Ecoinvent	Major precursor for the chemical activation
		Bio-oil	1.0 5	kg	Pyrolysis fuel oil {GLO} market for pyrolysis fuel oil Cut-off, S	Bio-oil is an avoided emission/product due to its versatile applications
Acid treatment	Steam		0.3	kg	Steam, in chemical industry {RoW} market for steam, in chemical industry Cut-off, S	Chemical activation take 1:3 ratio with AC
	Electricity (activation, 1h, 700°C)		3	kWh	Electricity, medium voltage {GLO} market group for electricity, medium voltage Cut-off, S	For pyrolysis at heating rate 5°C/min)OTF-1200X-UL furnace 3000-watt power.
	DI water		24	L	Water, deionised {RoW} market for water, deionised Cut-off, S	For diluting H2O2 concentration and washing
		Wastewater	26. 8	L	Wastewater, average {RoW} market for wastewater, average Cut-off, S	Wastewater with high levels of H2O2
Adsorption	Electricity		1.1 2	kWh	Electricity, medium voltage {GLO} market group for electricity, medium voltage Cut-off, S	

Table S5. LCI of AR-CO₂

Major Steps	Inputs	Outputs	Amt	Unit	Corresponding input from Ecoinvent	Comments
	Barley malt bagasse		2.4	kg	Bagasse, from sugarcane {RoW} market for bagasse, from sugarcane Cut-off, S	The amount of precursor material required for 1 kg of BC was standardized based on the yield.
	DI water		4.92	L	Water, deionised {RoW} market for water, deionised Cut-off, S	
	Electricity (Oven, 6h, 120°C)		9	kWh	Electricity, medium voltage {GLO} market group for electricity, medium voltage Cut-off, S	To remove moisture. DS-520M 1400-watt
Pretreatment		Wastewater	3.94	L	Wastewater, average {RoW} market for wastewater, average Cut-off, S	
Pyrolysis	Electricity (Tube Furnace, 1h,800°C)		7.2	kWh	Electricity, medium voltage {GLO} market group for electricity, medium voltage Cut-off, S	For pyrolysis at heating rate 10°C/min) OTF-1200X-UL furnace 3000-watt power.
	N ₂ gas (Flow rate – 70m ³ /h)		2.67	kg	Nitrogen, liquid {RoW} market for nitrogen, liquid Cut-off, S	As an inert gas for pyrolysis
		Released N ₂ gas	2.67	kg	Ecoinvent	Released from the tube furnace
		Syngas	1.3	kg	Pyrolysis fuel gas {GLO} market for pyrolysis fuel gas Cut-off, S	Syngas can be used as a combustion fuel and can be considered as avoided emission.
		Biochar	0.6	kg	Ecoinvent	Major precursor for the chemical activation
		Bio-oil	0.5	kg	Pyrolysis fuel oil {GLO} market for pyrolysis fuel oil Cut-off, S	Bio-oil is an avoided emission/product due to its versatile applications
Acid treatment	CO ₂		9	kg	Carbon dioxide, liquid {RoW} market for carbon dioxide, liquid Cut-off, S	Chemical activation take 1:3 ratio with AC
	Electricity (activation, 1h, 900°C)		3.1	kWh	Electricity, medium voltage {GLO} market group for electricity, medium voltage Cut-off, S	For pyrolysis at heating rate of 5°C/min) OTF-1200X-UL furnace 3000-watt power.
	DI water		24	L	Water, deionised {RoW} market for water, deionised Cut-off, S	For diluting H ₂ O ₂ concentration and washing
		Wastewater	26.8	L	Wastewater, average {RoW} market for wastewater, average Cut-off, S	Wastewater with high levels of H ₂ O ₂
Adsorption	Electricity		1.12	kWh	Electricity, medium voltage {GLO} market group for electricity, medium voltage Cut-off, S	

Table S6. LCI inventory of IS-1000

SI No	Input values	Quantity	Unit
	Precursors/Solvents		
1	Pine bark	2400	kg
2	Activator (NaOH+HCl)	500+1600	kg
3	DI water (pretreatment)	4428	kg
4	DI water (activation)	21600	kg
5	Nitrogen gas	2016	kg
	Energy		
6	Grinding	18+12	kWh
7	Drying (pretreatment)	513	kWh
8	Drying (Post activation)	648	kWh
	Cp, liq	3149.8	Kg
	Mliq	787.2	Kg
	Tboil	80	°C
	T0	25	°C
	hdry	0.8	kJ/mol
	Evaporization enthalpy (delta)	40.65	kJ/kg
	Hvap	2260	Kg
	mvap	734.79	
	Qdry	2439233340	J
	$Q_{dry} = \frac{C_{p,liq} \times m_{liq} \times (T_{boil} - T_0) + \Delta H_{vap} \times m_{vap}}{h_{dry}}$		
9	Stirring	220+76	kWh
10	Pyrolysis		
	Heating rate	10	°C/min
	Cp (dry PB)	1.8	KJ/kg
	Mmix (dry biomass weight)	2500	
	Tr (pyrolysis temperature)	840	°C
	T0 (initial temperature)	25	°C
	Tout (outside temperature)	25	°C
	A (surface area of the pyrolysis reactor)	17.25	m2
	S	0.075	M
	Ka	0.16	W/mK
	A*ka/s	36.8	W/K
	T (time for energy)	4.04	min
	Efficiency of heating element	0.77	
	Qreact	947.7	kWh
	$Q_{react} = \frac{Q_{heat} + Q_{loss}}{h_{heat}} = \frac{C_p \times m_{mix} \times (T_r - T_0) + A \times \frac{k_a}{s} (T_r - T_{out}) \times t}{h_{heat}}$		
11	Filtration	5.54	kWh

12	Pumping (Pretreatment)	1.1	kWh
13	Pumping (activation)	1.6	kWh
14	Pumping (adsorption – tertiary treatment in WWTP)	2.7	kWh
15	Pumping (backwashing)	2.7	kWh
$E_{pump} = \frac{m \times g \times \Delta h}{\eta_{pump}}$			

Table S7. LCI inventory of EoL scenarios such as landfill, incineration and regeneration

Disposal method	Inventory	Unit	Quantity
Landfill	<i>Input</i>		
	Electricity	kWh	132.35
	<i>Output</i>		
	CH ₄	kg	31.1
	CO ₂	kg	0.058
	NO ₂	kg	69.8
Incineration	<i>Input</i>		
	Electricity	kWh	13.79
	Lime	kg	10.2
	NaOH	kg	1.96
	<i>Output</i>		
	Electricity	kWh	125.05
	CO ₂	kg	357.73
	CO	kg	0.4
	NO ₂	kg	1.6
	Flyash/bottom ash	kg	250
Steam regeneration	<i>Input</i>		
	Natural gas	m ³	216
	Electricity	kWh	452.2
	Water	kg	3045
	Steam	kg	720
	<i>Outputs</i>		
	CO ₂	kg	498.66
	CO	kg	0.39
	NO ₂	kg	1.47
	Regenerated AC	kg	864
Thermal regeneration	<i>Input</i>		
	Natural gas	m ³	314
	Electricity	kWh	196.62
	Water	kg	1047.3
	Ca (OH) ₂	kg	3.5
	NaOH	kg	3.5
	<i>Outputs</i>		
	CO ₂	kg	869.7
NO ₂	kg	3.02	
	SO ₂	kg	0.5
	Regenerated AC	kg	762.8
Chemical regeneration	<i>Input</i>		
	KOH	kg	250
	Electricity (stirring+filtration+drying)	kWh	729.54
	Water	kg	4400
	<i>Outputs</i>		
	CO ₂	kg	498.66
	CO	kg	0.39
	NO ₂	kg	1.47
	Regenerated AC	kg	800

Table S8. Kinetics and isotherm parameters of the PBAs

Kinetics							
		PB	PB-P	PB-N	PB-HN	PB-H	PB-NH
PFO	K1	0.0121	0.0126	0.0105	0.0147	0.0143	0.0134
	Qe (mg/g)	0.79373	0.64120	0.87985	1.86190	1.96108	2.11530
	R2	0.9885	0.9601	0.9733	0.9639	0.9882	0.9668
PSO	K2	0.01846	0.02206	0.02272	0.01078	0.00591	0.00593
	Qe (mg/g)	1.63612	0.70392	1.18161	0.98541	2.42600	2.46852
	R2	0.9862	0.9818	0.993	0.9815	0.9918	0.9957
Isotherm							
		PB	PB-P	PB-N	PB-HN	PB-H	PB-NH
Langmuir	KL	0.01756	0.01918	0.03558	0.01013	0.01210	0.00514
	Qmax	1.88964	3.63372	5.67536	6.69792	8	15.8478
	R2	0.9904	0.9927	0.9874	0.989	0.9946	0.9974
Freundlich	KF	0.17304	0.35519	1.07583	0.26767	0.48495	0.16342
	1/n	0.3887	0.3788	0.2704	0.5073	0.438	0.7411
	R2	0.9348	0.9587	0.944	0.9395	0.9269	0.9958

Table S9. Life cycle impacts of PBAs using ReCiPe Midpoint (H) method.

Impact category	Unit	PB-N	PB-H	PB-NH	PB-HN	PB-P
Global warming	kg CO2 eq	28.93984	30.17148	30.92121	30.92121	32.41225
Stratospheric ozone depletion	kg CFC11 eq	0.00001	0.00001	0.00001	0.00001	0.00001
Ionizing radiation	kBq Co-60 eq	3.46142	3.44485	3.59450	3.59450	3.47302
Ozone formation, Human health	kg NOx eq	0.06477	0.06767	0.06924	0.06924	0.07023
Fine particulate matter formation	kg PM2.5 eq	0.05797	0.06077	0.06194	0.06194	0.06161
Ozone formation, Terrestrial	kg NOx eq	0.06519	0.06819	0.06980	0.06980	0.07111
Terrestrial acidification	kg SO2 eq	0.09261	0.09856	0.10089	0.10089	0.09943
Freshwater eutrophication	kg P eq	0.01732	0.01782	0.01834	0.01834	0.01838
Marine eutrophication	kg N eq	0.00116	0.00119	0.00125	0.00125	0.00130
Terrestrial ecotoxicity	kg 1,4-DCB	69.50250	84.97747	90.46256	90.46256	86.81626
Freshwater ecotoxicity	kg 1,4-DCB	0.70012	0.81573	0.86206	0.86206	0.83361
Marine ecotoxicity	kg 1,4-DCB	0.99264	1.15291	1.21762	1.21762	1.18366
Human carcinogenic toxicity	kg 1,4-DCB	3.06448	3.30549	3.45936	3.45936	4.15534
Human non-carcinogenic toxicity	kg 1,4-DCB	26.17075	28.58951	29.65784	29.65784	29.20183
Land use	m2a crop eq	0.89038	0.91947	0.94354	0.94354	0.92751
Mineral resource scarcity	kg Cu eq	0.01942	0.02728	0.03005	0.03005	0.02534
Fossil resource scarcity	kg oil eq	5.53434	5.87188	6.06709	6.06709	6.55002
Water consumption	m3	0.21257	0.21725	0.22568	0.22568	0.31607

Table S10. Breakdown of impacts associated with PB-NH using the ReCiPe Midpoint (H) method.

Impact	Pine bark	DI water	E-Dryin g	E-Pyrol ysis	N2 gas	NaOH	HCl	E-Stirrin g	DI water	E-drying	E-adsorpti on	Synga s	Bio-oil
GW	0.019458	0.002537	6.672922	7.562645	1.227759	0.453159	1.689952	0.593149	0.012375	13.345843	0.830408	-0.408597	-1.089591
SOD	0.000000	0.000000	0.000002	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000001	0.000000	0.000000	0.000004	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000
IR	0.000992	0.000143	0.760849	0.862296	0.095742	0.115825	0.099549	0.067631	0.000696	1.521698	0.094683	-0.007078	-0.018874
OFHH	0.000104	0.000006	0.015104	0.017117	0.002896	0.000894	0.003808	0.001343	0.000029	0.030207	0.001880	-0.001137	-0.003033
FPM	0.000032	0.000006	0.013110	0.014858	0.002427	0.000579	0.003391	0.001165	0.000030	0.026220	0.001631	-0.000416	-0.001110
OFT E	0.000113	0.000006	0.015398	0.017451	0.002947	0.000927	0.003944	0.001369	0.000030	0.030796	0.001916	-0.001395	-0.003719
TA	0.000062	0.000016	0.021120	0.023936	0.003881	0.001394	0.007371	0.001877	0.000076	0.042241	0.002628	-0.001020	-0.002719
FE	0.000011	0.000001	0.003788	0.004293	0.000664	0.000355	0.000856	0.000337	0.000006	0.007575	0.000471	-0.000056	-0.000151
ME	0.000001	0.000000	0.000207	0.000235	0.000035	0.000044	0.000081	0.000018	0.000001	0.000414	0.000026	-0.000012	-0.000033
TT	0.321114	0.032553	18.023052	20.426125	3.464667	4.684064	20.225206	1.602049	0.158797	36.046103	2.242869	-4.627445	-12.339852
FT	0.000492	0.000363	0.153546	0.174018	0.026920	0.039503	0.155847	0.013649	0.001768	0.307091	0.019108	-0.008592	-0.022912
MT	0.000977	0.000488	0.221175	0.250665	0.039086	0.054871	0.216143	0.019660	0.002381	0.442350	0.027524	-0.016257	-0.043352
HCT	0.007289	0.000834	0.712127	0.807077	0.133754	0.122213	0.364922	0.063300	0.004068	1.424253	0.088620	-0.074812	-0.199498
HNCT	0.011406	0.007380	5.767605	6.536619	1.037381	0.812001	3.245756	0.512676	0.036001	11.535210	0.717746	-0.171630	-0.457679
LU	0.372751	0.000075	0.120887	0.137005	0.021619	0.018700	0.047937	0.010745	0.000364	0.241773	0.015044	-0.011887	-0.031700
MRS	0.000068	0.000029	0.004620	0.005236	0.000821	0.002567	0.010482	0.000411	0.000141	0.009241	0.000575	-0.001147	-0.003060
FRS	0.005460	0.000617	1.652537	1.872875	0.299730	0.121767	0.460555	0.146892	0.003009	3.305074	0.205649	-0.547903	-1.461074
WC	0.000094	0.005098	0.039928	0.045251	0.027695	0.006658	0.021695	0.003549	0.024870	0.079855	0.004969	-0.001100	-0.002934

Table S11. Comparison of PB-NH against AR-KOH, AR-H3PO4, AR-Steam and AR-CO2 using ReCiPe Midpoint (H) method.

Impact category	Unit	PB-NH	AR-KOH	AR-H3PO4	AR-Steam	AR-CO2
Global warming	kg CO2 eq	30.92121	59.22112	36.94127	32.24212	53.71393
Stratospheric ozone depletion	kg CFC11 eq	1.10E-05	2.30E-05	1.56E-05	1.06E-05	1.09E-05
Ionizing radiation	kBq Co-60 eq	3.594496	6.740093	4.025843	3.924466	3.502064
Ozone formation, Human health	kg NOx eq	0.069237	0.13471	0.084008	0.071229	0.07283
Fine particulate matter formation	kg PM2.5 eq	0.061936	0.118964	0.083715	0.066587	0.066173
Ozone formation, Terrestrial ecosystems	kg NOx eq	0.069805	0.13539	0.084754	0.070551	0.072657
Terrestrial acidification	kg SO2 eq	0.100889	0.194889	0.156938	0.10438	0.109283
Freshwater eutrophication	kg P eq	0.018341	0.034993	0.023317	0.019883	0.019456
Marine eutrophication	kg N eq	0.001247	0.004359	0.003198	0.001198	0.001811
Terrestrial ecotoxicity	kg 1,4-DCB	90.46256	170.3031	137.3322	57.41251	173.1221
Freshwater ecotoxicity	kg 1,4-DCB	0.862059	1.622419	1.679416	0.747735	1.235501
Marine ecotoxicity	kg 1,4-DCB	1.217616	2.291091	2.33425	1.04397	1.694082
Human carcinogenic toxicity	kg 1,4-DCB	3.459357	6.793855	11.98383	3.177006	4.407695
Human non-carcinogenic toxicity	kg 1,4-DCB	29.65784	56.70032	47.20618	29.42088	35.70874
Land use	m2a crop eq	0.943541	3.712039	2.061959	1.140501	0.792706
Mineral resource scarcity	kg Cu eq	0.030052	0.057711	0.152444	0.014983	0.056422
Fossil resource scarcity	kg oil eq	6.067091	10.70161	6.635112	4.023746	4.741609
Water consumption	m3	0.225681	0.464329	0.482095	0.265631	0.299274

Table S12. Breakdown of impacts associated with IS1000.

Cate gory	Total	PB	NaOH	HCl	DI water	N2 gas	E- Gri ndin g	E- Dryi ng (pre)	E- Dryi ng (post)	E- Stirr ing	E- Pyrol ysis	E- Filtr ation	E- Ads orpt ion	Syng as	Bio-oil
GW	3429.46	19.46	453.16	1689.95	13.42	927.03	22.24	380.36	480.45	219.46	702.66	4.11	6.01	-408.60	-1089.59
SOD	0.00	0.0001	0.00020	0.00146	0.00001	0.00026	0.00000	0.00012	0.00015	0.00007	0.00023	0.00000	0.00000	-0.00011	-0.0002
IR	470.79	0.99199	115.8254	99.54874	0.75517	72.29034	2.5361	43.36840	54.78114	25.0234	80.11742	0.4683	0.6847	-7.0777	-18.8740
OFH H	6.98	0.10448	0.89387	3.80825	0.03097	2.18640	0.05035	0.86090	1.08745	0.49674	1.59040	0.0093	0.0135	-1.1374	-3.0331
FPM	7.92	0.03152	0.57885	3.39080	0.03297	1.83247	0.0437	0.74726	0.94391	0.43117	1.38046	0.0080	0.0118	-0.4163	-1.1101
OFT E	6.34	0.11285	0.92718	3.94359	0.03200	2.22538	0.0513	0.87768	1.10865	0.50642	1.62140	0.0094	0.0138	-1.3947	-3.7191
TA	13.87	0.06228	1.39361	7.37071	0.08207	2.93037	0.0704	1.20386	1.52066	0.69462	2.22397	0.0130	0.0190	-1.0196	-2.7190
FE	2.75	0.01092	0.35487	0.85611	0.00687	0.50119	0.0126	0.21590	0.27271	0.12457	0.39884	0.0023	0.0034	-0.0564	-0.1505
ME	0.40	0.00093	0.04432	0.08055	0.00058	0.02624	0.0006	0.01181	0.01492	0.00681	0.02182	0.0001	0.0001	-0.0123	-0.0328
TT	16161	321	4684	20225	172	2616	60	1027	1298	593	1898	11	16	-4627	-12340
FT	229.63	0.49193	39.50318	155.84727	1.91789	20.32599	0.5118	8.75210	11.05529	5.04995	16.16836	0.0945	0.1381	-8.5920	-22.9119
MT	306.58	0.97740	54.87134	216.14302	2.58227	29.51226	0.7372	12.60698	15.92461	7.27420	23.28974	0.1361	0.1990	-16.2568	-43.3515
HCT	524.54	7.28875	122.2132	364.92190	4.41223	100.9914	2.3737	40.59122	51.27312	23.4210	74.98693	0.4383	0.6409	-74.8119	-199.4983
HNC T	5899.7	11.4	812.0	3245.8	39.0	783.3	19.2	328.8	415.3	189.7	607.3	3.6	5.2	-171.6	-457.7
LU	445.64	372.75	18.70046	47.93652	0.39515	16.32365	0.4029	6.89053	8.70383	3.97582	12.72936	0.0744	0.1088	-11.8874	-31.6997
MRS	11.01	0.06806	2.56695	10.48219	0.15263	0.62026	0.0154	0.26336	0.33266	0.15196	0.48652	0.0028	0.004	-1.1473	-3.0595
FRS	-740.13	5.46	121.77	460.56	3.26	226.31	5.51	94.19	118.98	54.35	174.01	1.02	1.49	-547.90	-1461.07
WC	52.70	0.09378	6.65773	21.69458	26.9717	20.91098	0.1330	2.27587	2.87478	1.31317	4.20437	0.0245	0.0359	-1.1002	-2.9338

Table S13. Breakdown of impacts associated with landfilling, incineration and steam regeneration.

Category	Landfilling			Incineration						Steam Regeneration						
	Total	Emissions	Electricity	Total	Emissions	Electricity	Lim e	Na OH	E-recovered	Total	Emissions	Natural gas	Electricity	Water	Steam	Recover ed adsorbent
GW	1217.9	1119.65	98.2773	277.325	357.730	10.2244	0.43	1.652	-92.71	-1773.05	498.6600	127.638	335.277	1.5701	226.85	-2963.0560
SO D	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	-0.0018	0.0000	0.0000	0.0001	0.0000	0.0000	-0.0019
IR	11.205	0.0000	11.2056	-9.0039	0.0000	1.1658	0.01	0.388	-10.57	-362.66	0.0000	1.0732	38.228	0.088	4.7049	-406.7610
OF HH	70.022	69.8000	0.2224	1.4182	1.6000	0.0231	0.00	0.003	-0.2099	-3.2193	1.4700	0.3040	0.7589	0.0036	0.2783	-6.0341
FP M	7.8711	7.6780	0.1931	0.0171	0.1760	0.0201	0.00	0.002	-0.1822	-5.8051	0.1617	0.0717	0.6587	0.0039	0.1419	-6.8430
OF TE	70.026	69.8000	0.2268	1.4147	1.6000	0.0236	0.00	0.003	-0.2139	-2.5360	1.4700	0.3873	0.7737	0.0037	0.3058	-5.4765
TA	25.439	25.1280	0.3111	0.3228	0.5760	0.0324	0.00	0.006	-0.2935	-9.8167	0.5292	0.1631	1.0612	0.0096	0.4058	-11.9857
FE	0.0558	0.0000	0.0558	-0.0454	0.0000	0.0058	0.00	0.001	-0.0526	-2.1452	0.0000	0.0093	0.1903	0.0008	0.0285	-2.3742
ME	0.0031	0.0000	0.0031	-0.0024	0.0000	0.0003	0.00	0.000	-0.0029	-0.3255	0.0000	0.0045	0.0104	0.0001	0.0035	-0.3439
TT	265.43	0.0000	265.439	-198.45	0.0000	27.6153	6.42	17.92	-250.42	-9702.48	0.0000	1581.10	905.55	20.147	1753.8	-13963.09
FT	2.2614	0.0000	2.2614	-1.6642	0.0000	0.2353	0.08	0.152	-2.1334	-187.709	0.0000	1.3121	7.7148	0.2244	1.4415	-198.4018
MT	3.2574	0.0000	3.2574	-2.4067	0.0000	0.3389	0.115	0.211	-3.0731	-246.266	0.0000	3.6130	11.1128	0.3021	3.5914	-264.8862
HC T	10.488	0.0000	10.4880	-8.2382	0.0000	1.0911	0.09	0.466	-9.8946	-380.168	0.0000	24.6468	35.78	0.5162	12.091	-453.2041
HN CT	84.944	0.0000	84.9440	-65.232	0.0000	8.8373	2.97	3.088	-80.137	-4731.46	0.0000	22.4044	289.79	4.5676	49.117	-5097.3415
LU	1.7804	0.0000	1.7804	-1.4012	0.0000	0.1852	0.01	0.076	-1.6797	-374.705	0.0000	1.7168	6.0739	0.0462	2.4889	-385.0313
MR S	0.0680	0.0000	0.0680	-0.0390	0.0000	0.0071	0.00	0.010	-0.0642	-8.8267	0.0000	0.3084	0.2321	0.0179	0.1264	-9.5116
FR S	24.338	0.0000	24.3382	-19.87	0.0000	2.5321	0.116	0.437	-22.961	1009.53	0.0000	212.712	83.03	0.3818	73.933	639.4726
WC	0.5880	0.0000	0.5880	-0.4531	0.0000	0.0612	0.01	0.030	-0.5548	-39.8595	0.0000	0.2424	2.0061	3.1554	0.2709	-45.5343

Table S14. Breakdown of impacts associated with thermal and chemical regeneration.

Category	Total	Unit	Thermal regeneration							Chemical regeneration					
			Emissions	Natural gas	Electricity	Water	Ca (OH) ₂	NaOH	Rec. adsor.	Total	Emissions	KOH	Electricity	Water	Rec. adsor.
GW	- 1455.57	kg CO2 eq	869.730	154.997	140.222	0.5072	3.3017	5.8073	- 2630.14	- 570.201	498.600	1167.19	520.283	2.1309	- 2758.41
SOD	- 0.0001	kg CFC-11	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	- 0.0001	- 0.0001	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	- 0.0001
TA	- 11.0047	kg SO2 eq	0.0000	0.2866	0.5265	0.0035	0.0032	0.0220	- 11.8465	- 4.7826	0.8232	4.8501	1.9535	0.0148	- 12.4242
FE	- 1.4961	kg P eq	0.0000	0.0101	0.0616	0.0002	0.0001	0.0017	- 1.5697	- 0.9451	0.0000	0.4717	0.2285	0.0009	- 1.6462
ME	- 0.7500	kg N eq	0.0000	0.0180	0.0270	0.0001	0.0001	0.0145	- 0.8097	- 0.4317	0.0573	0.2594	0.1003	0.0004	- 0.8492
HT	- 1639.97	kg 1,4-DB	0.0000	11.4424	47.0938	0.3944	0.1135	2.0266	- 1701.04	- 1115.3	0.0000	492.227	174.737	1.6570	- 1784.00
POF	- 0.5435	kg VOC	0.0000	1.3968	0.4137	0.0018	0.0051	0.0170	- 2.3779	- 4.5644	1.4878	4.0277	1.5350	0.0077	- 2.4939
PMF	- 6.4932	kg PM10	0.0000	0.1373	0.3372	0.0014	0.0016	0.0095	- 6.9802	- 3.0210	0.3234	2.7191	1.2512	0.0059	- 7.3206
TE	- 0.7161	kg 1,4-DB	0.0000	0.0348	0.0059	0.0001	0.0001	0.0015	- 0.7586	- 0.6180	0.0000	0.1554	0.0217	0.0005	- 0.7956
FE	- 101.352	kg 1,4-DB	0.0000	0.6506	1.6353	0.0421	0.0037	0.1974	- 103.881	- 65.5011	0.0000	37.2016	6.0678	0.1767	- 108.94
ME	- 86.8933	kg 1,4-DB	0.0000	0.6287	1.4953	0.0369	0.0042	0.1734	- 89.2319	- 55.0864	0.0000	32.7938	5.5482	0.1552	- 93.5835
IR	- 389.603	kBq U235	0.0000	1.9935	19.4075	0.0358	0.0197	0.2983	- 411.358	- 248.050	0.0000	111.2092	72.0096	0.1505	- 431.419
ALO	- 1006.07	m2a	0.0000	0.6445	3.6330	0.0164	0.0048	0.2170	- 1010.58	- 996.173	0.0000	50.1501	13.4800	0.0688	- 1059.8
ULO	- 39.3244	m2a	0.0000	0.6433	1.1327	0.0095	0.0135	0.0733	- 41.1966	- 17.1231	0.0000	21.8401	4.2027	0.0398	- 43.2057
NLT	0.2015	m2	0.0000	0.0682	0.0117	0.0001	0.0002	0.0006	0.1208	0.2253	0.0000	0.0548	0.0436	0.0002	0.1267
WD	- 347.351	m3	0.0000	- 240.248	- 11.642	1.0341	- 0.0116	- 0.7316	- 95.7509	- 236.60	0.0000	- 97.3306	- 43.199	4.3444	- 100.420
MD	- 150.321	kg Fe eq	0.0000	10.4785	1.9895	0.1039	0.0197	0.5469	- 163.460	- 71.7967	0.0000	91.8169	7.3819	0.4366	- 171.432
FD	- 461.960	kg oil eq	0.0000	2.9514	22.8532	0.0533	0.0261	0.5761	- 488.420	- 268.371	0.0000	158.8499	84.7945	0.2241	- 512.239

Table S15. Sensitivity analysis with $\pm 5\%$, $\pm 10\%$ and $\pm 15\%$ variation in yield, electricity and activation agent.

Category	Baseline	Yield						Electricity						Activation					
		5	10	20	-5	-10	-20	5	10	20	-5	-10	-20	5	10	20	-5	-10	-20
GW	342 9.4 63	325 7.9 90	308 6.5 17	274 3.5 70	360 0.9 36	377 2.4 09	411 5.3 56	352 0.2 22	361 0.9 89	379 2.5 14	333 8.6 96	324 7.9 37	306 6.4 12	389 9.6 70	400 6.8 26	422 1.1 37	332 2.3 08	321 5.1 52	300 0.8 41
SO D	0.0 02	0.0 02	0.0 02	0.0 02	0.0 02	0.0 02	0.0 03	0.0 02	0.0 02	0.0 02	0.0 02	0.0 02	0.0 02	0.0 02	0.0 03	0.0 03	0.0 02	0.0 02	0.0 02
IR	470 .78 8	447 .24 9	423 .70 9	376 .63 1	494 .32 8	517 .86 7	564 .94 6	481 .13 7	491 .48 6	512 .18 4	460 .43 9	450 .09 1	429 .39 3	522 .95 2	533 .72 1	555 .25 8	460 .02 0	449 .25 1	427 .71 3
OF HH	6.9 84	6.6 35	6.2 86	5.5 87	7.3 33	7.6 82	8.3 81	7.1 89	7.3 95	7.8 06	6.7 78	6.5 73	6.1 62	8.0 41	8.2 76	8.7 46	6.7 49	6.5 14	6.0 43
FP M	7.9 20	7.5 24	7.1 28	6.3 36	8.3 16	8.7 12	9.5 04	8.0 98	8.2 77	8.6 33	7.7 42	7.5 64	7.2 07	8.8 32	9.0 30	9.4 27	7.7 22	7.5 23	7.1 26
OF TE	6.3 39	6.0 22	5.7 05	5.0 71	6.6 55	6.9 72	7.6 06	6.5 48	6.7 57	7.1 76	6.1 29	5.9 20	5.5 01	7.4 20	7.6 63	8.1 50	6.0 95	5.8 51	5.3 64
TA	13. 872	13. 179	12. 485	11. 098	14. 566	15. 260	16. 647	14. 160	14. 447	15. 021	13. 585	13. 298	12. 723	15. 460	15. 898	16. 774	13. 434	12. 996	12. 119
FE	2.7 48	2.6 10	2.4 73	2.1 98	2.8 85	3.0 23	3.2 97	2.7 99	2.8 51	2.9 54	2.6 96	2.6 45	2.5 42	3.0 14	3.0 75	3.1 96	2.6 87	2.6 27	2.5 06
M E	0.3 98	0.3 78	0.3 58	0.3 18	0.4 18	0.4 38	0.4 78	0.4 01	0.4 04	0.4 09	0.3 95	0.3 92	0.3 87	0.4 16	0.4 22	0.4 34	0.3 92	0.3 86	0.3 73
TT	161 60. 985	153 52. 936	145 44. 887	129 28. 788	169 69. 034	177 77. 084	193 93. 182	164 06. 119	166 51. 272	171 41. 559	159 15. 832	156 70. 698	151 80. 411	183 87. 023	196 32. 486	221 23. 413	149 15. 522	136 70. 058	111 79. 131
FT	229 .63 2	218 .15 0	206 .66 9	183 .70 5	241 .11 3	252 .59 5	275 .55 8	231 .72 0	233 .80 9	237 .98 6	227 .54 3	225 .45 5	221 .27 8	247 .75 3	257 .52 1	277 .05 6	219 .86 4	210 .09 7	190 .56 2
M T	306 .58 1	291 .25 2	275 .92 3	245 .26 5	321 .91 0	337 .23 9	367 .89 8	309 .58 9	312 .59 8	318 .61 5	303 .57 3	300 .56 5	294 .54 8	332 .16 5	345 .71 6	372 .81 8	293 .03 1	279 .48 0	252 .37 8
HC T	524 .54 2	498 .31 5	472 .08 8	419 .63 3	550 .76 9	576 .99 6	629 .45 0	534 .22 8	543 .91 4	563 .28 6	514 .85 5	505 .17 0	485 .79 7	587 .64 3	612 .00 0	660 .71 3	500 .18 5	475 .82 8	427 .11 5
HN CT	589 9	560 4.	530 9	471 9	619 4	648 9	707 9	597 8	605 6	621 3	582 1	574 2	558 5	641 6	661 9	702 5	569 6	549 3	508 8
LU	445 .6	423 .3	401 .0	356 .5	467 .9	490 .2	534 .7	447 .2	448 .9	452 .2	443 .9	442 .3	439 .0	455 .5	458 .8	465 .5	442 .3	438 .9	432 .3
M RS	11. 009	10. 45	9.9 08	8.8 07	11. 559	12. 110	13. 211	11. 07	11. 134	11. 260	10. 94	10. 88	10. 75	11. 913	12. 56	13. 87	10. 35	9.7 04	8.3 99
FR S	- 740 .1	- 703 .1	- 666 .1	- 592 .1	- 777 .1	- 814 .1	- 888 .1	- 717 .6	- 695 .1	- 650 .2	- 762 .6	- 785 .0	- 830 .0	- 621 .1	- 591 .9	- 533 .7	- 769 .2	- 798 .3	- 856 .5