

# What are current research questions for the further development of LCA to assess future systems?

Hybrid, 14 March 2024

TOPGEAR Workshop: "Challenges and good practices for carbon footprint identification in very early development stages (R&D) of automotive products (electromobility)"

Élise Monnier - CEA



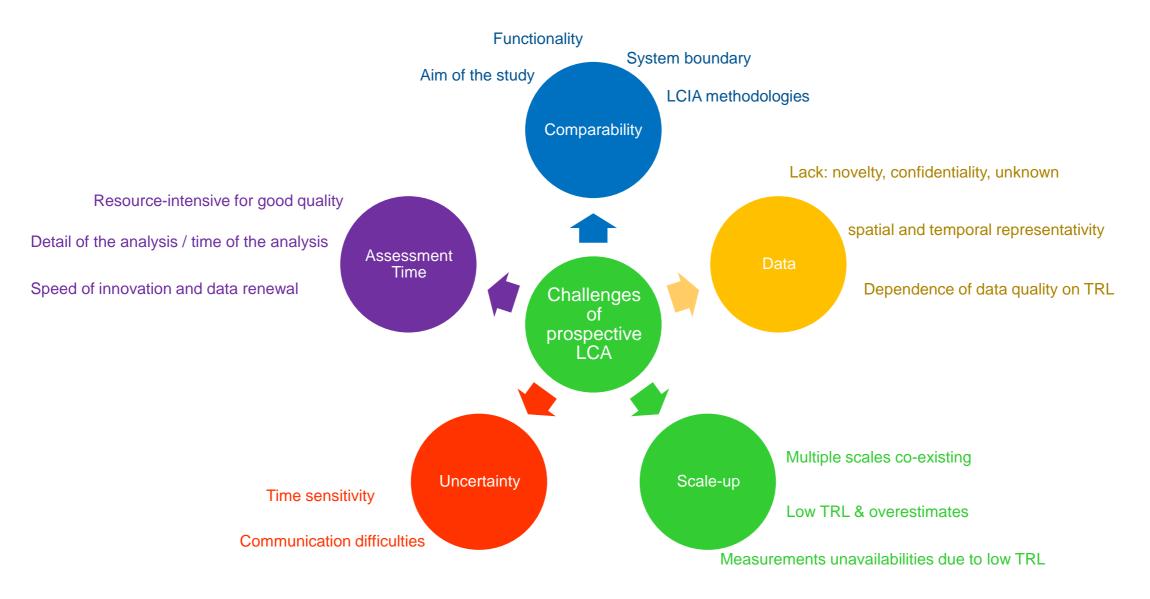
On behalf of TransensusLCA project





## Main challenges of prospective LCA





Inspired from (sources to be edited later): <a href="https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/jiec.12964">https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/jiec.12964</a>, <a href="https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/jiec.12954">https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/jiec.12964</a>, <a href="https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/jiec.12954">https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/jiec.12954</a>, <a href="https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/jiec.12954">https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/1

### **TransensusLCA**



# The Coordinated and Support Action (CSA) TranSensus LCA





EU Funding ~3,7M€



30 Months Started in January 2023



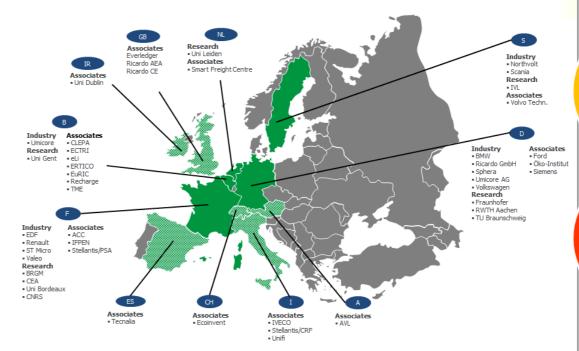
20 Beneficiaries11 Industrial Partners9 Research Partners

**24** Associated Partners

4 Wider consultation groups

## Commonly accepted and applied single LCA approach for zero-emission road transport

- Conceptualize and demonstrate a single, European-wide real-data LCA approach for zero-emission road transport
- Harmonization of methodologies, tools and datasets
- Elaborate an ontology and framework for a European-wide LCI database
- Conceptualize LCI data management and update along the life cycle and along the supply chain
- Paving the way for LCA-based product and business development
- Consensus building across all stakeholders



Comparability

Data

Uncertainty

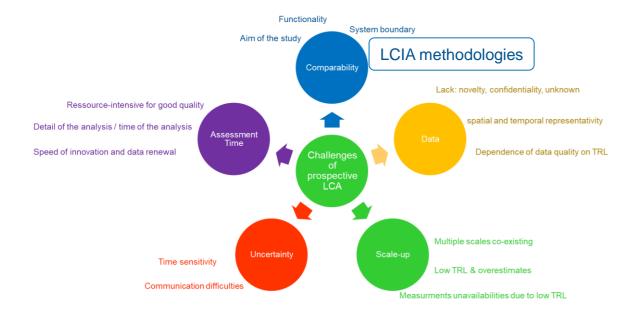
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GA # 101056715

## Some research questions for LCA development



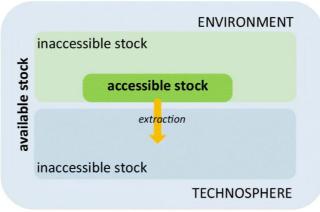


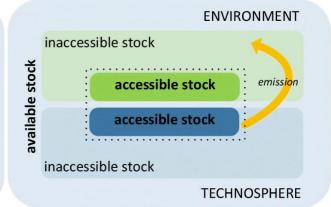
## Example of research question explored in



How to assess environmental impacts related to resources with LCA in our modern economy shifting toward circularity?

From: Top-down characterization of resource use in LCA: from problem definition of resource use to operational characterization factors for dissipation of elements to the environment



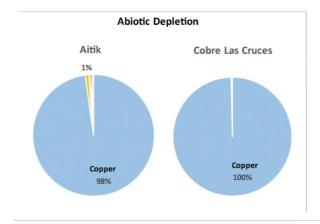


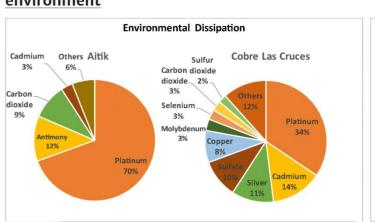
System model for abiotic depletion of elements

System model for environmental dissipation of elements

System model for abiotic depletion and environmental dissipation of elements

#### environment





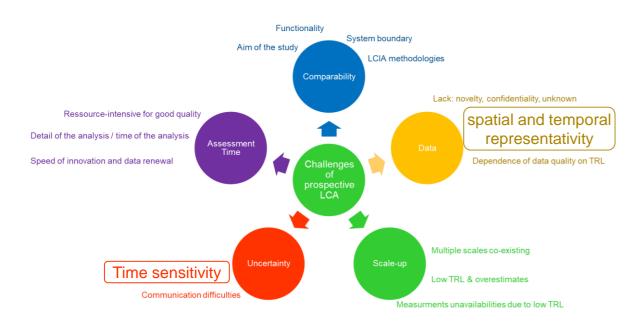
Breakdown of the impact on environmental dissipation (ED) and abiotic depletion (AD) for copper production by Aitik and CLC

https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11367-020-01819-4

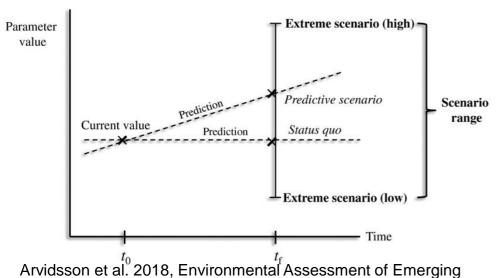
TopGear – GA No 101033989 4 14/03/2024 / Élise MONNIER

## Some research questions for LCA development





#### Schematic illustration of different scenario types in prospective LCA



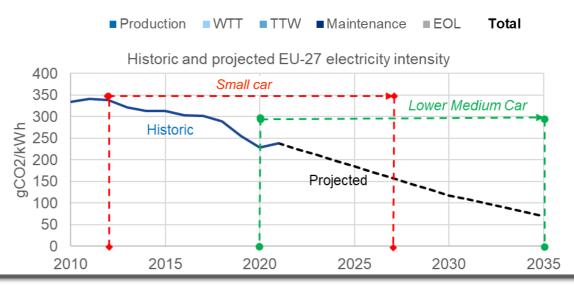
Technologies: Recommendations for Prospective LCA, 10.1111/jiec.12690

#### **Example of research question explored in**



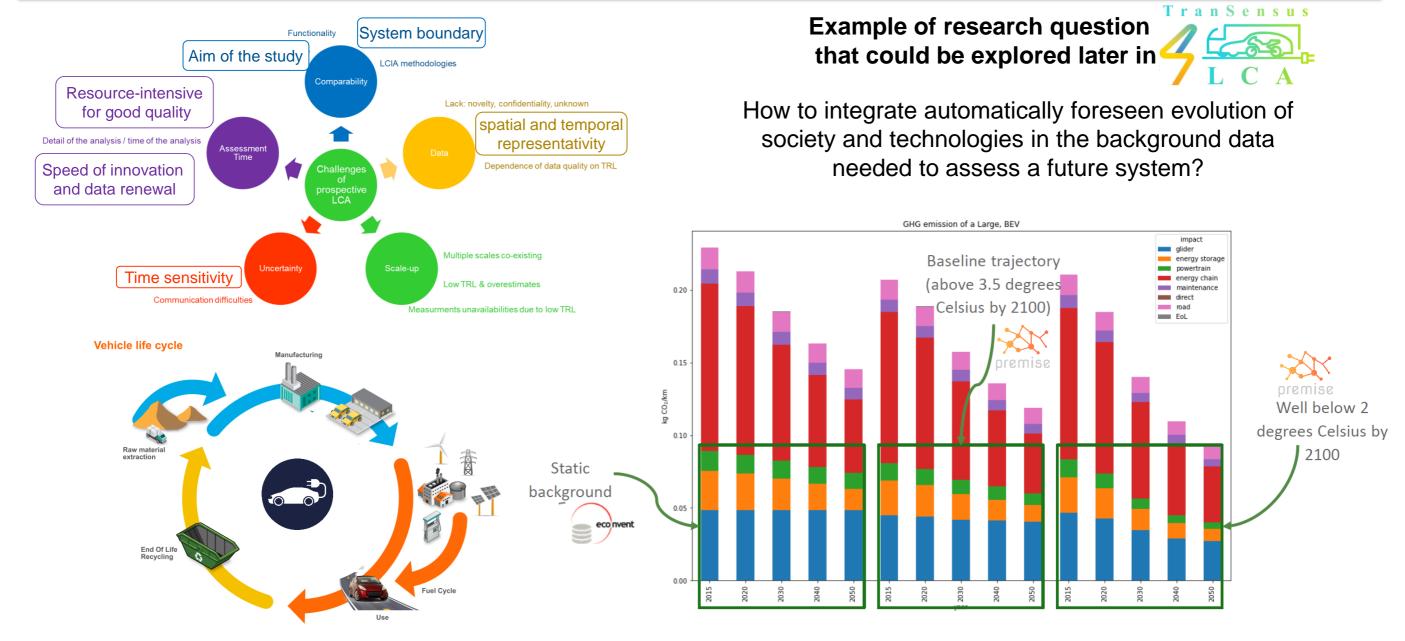
How to model electricity consumed by a system produced today in a representative way when the use phase did not happened yet?





## Some research questions for LCA development





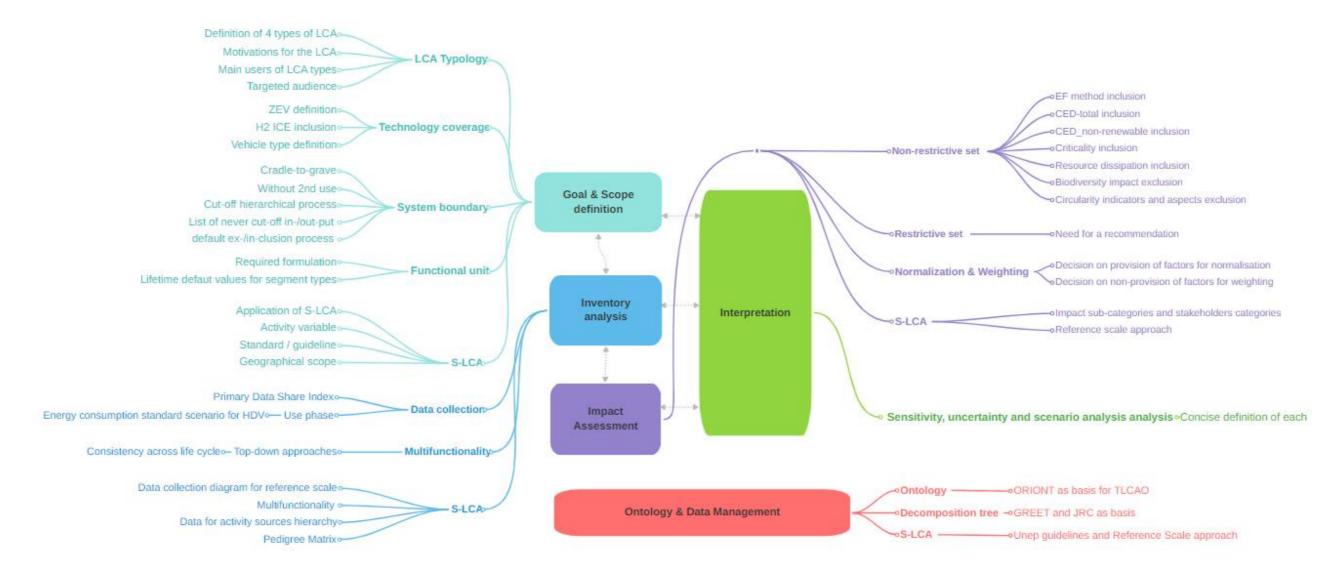
Steubing B., Sacchi R., Innovative LCA tools: Exploring Premise, Activity Browser and Brightway, March 2023, Swedish Life Cycle Center invited talk

### Overview of 2023 TransensusLCA results





Focus of 2023: harmonization of ZEV retrospective LCA, more to come on this type of LCA and also on prospective LCA in 2024



Please visite our website for the latest results and to subscribe to our newsletter to join consultations: <a href="https://www.lca4transport.eu">www.lca4transport.eu</a>



## Thank you for your attention!

www.topgear-project.eu













