



POTSDAM INSTITUTE FOR
CLIMATE IMPACT RESEARCH

The 1.5°C Transition: Challenges and Opportunities

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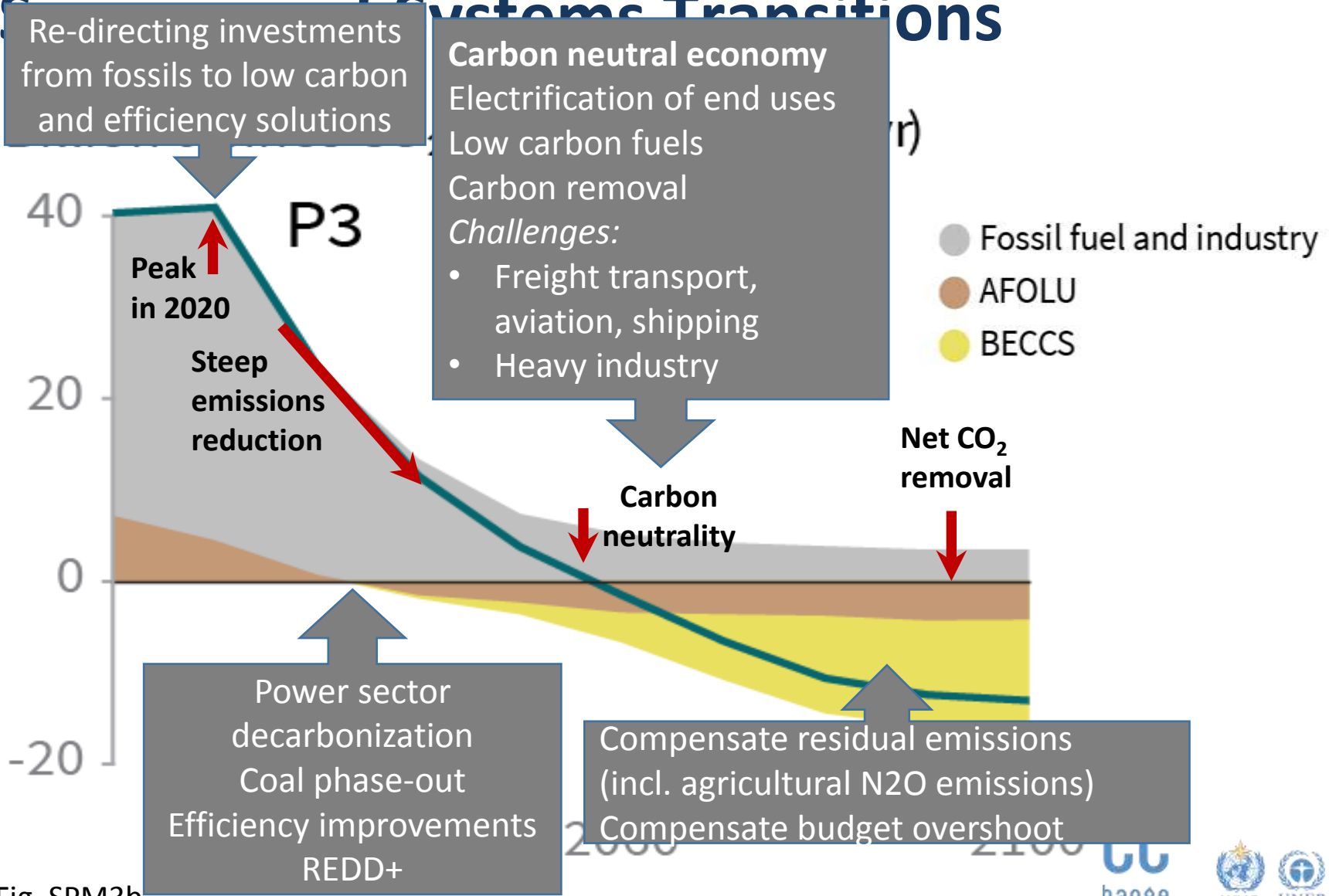
Systems transitions in 1.5°C pathways

Limiting warming to 1.5°C would require rapid, far-reaching changes on an unprecedented scale:

- Deep emissions cuts in all sectors and regions
- A range of low carbon technologies
- Behavioural changes
- Sustainable land management
- Carbon dioxide removal from the atmosphere
- Investment into system transitions & low carbon options

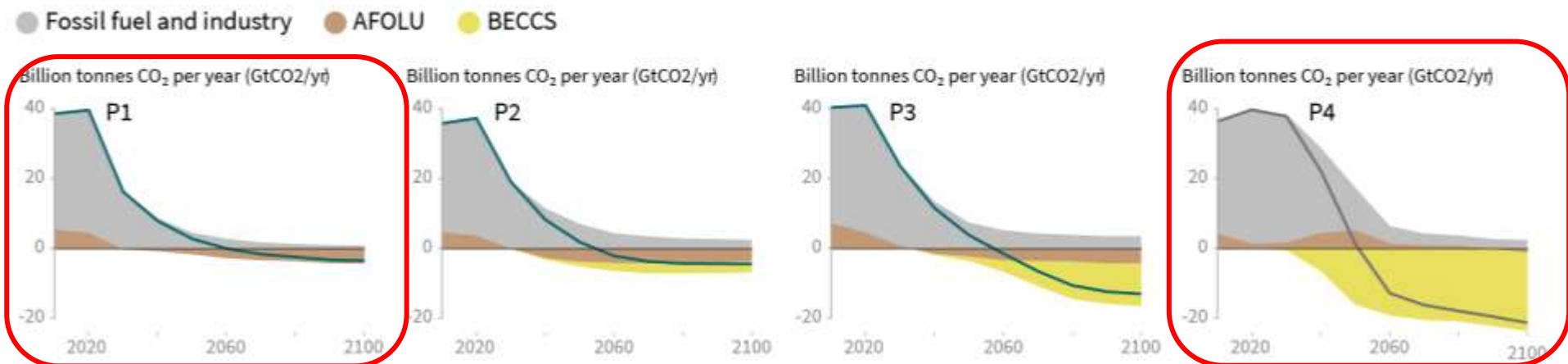
with a systems perspective and global coordination.

Systems Transitions



SR1.5 Fig. SPM3b

1.5°C pathways can put different emphasis on demand- vs. supply-side vs. CO2 removal

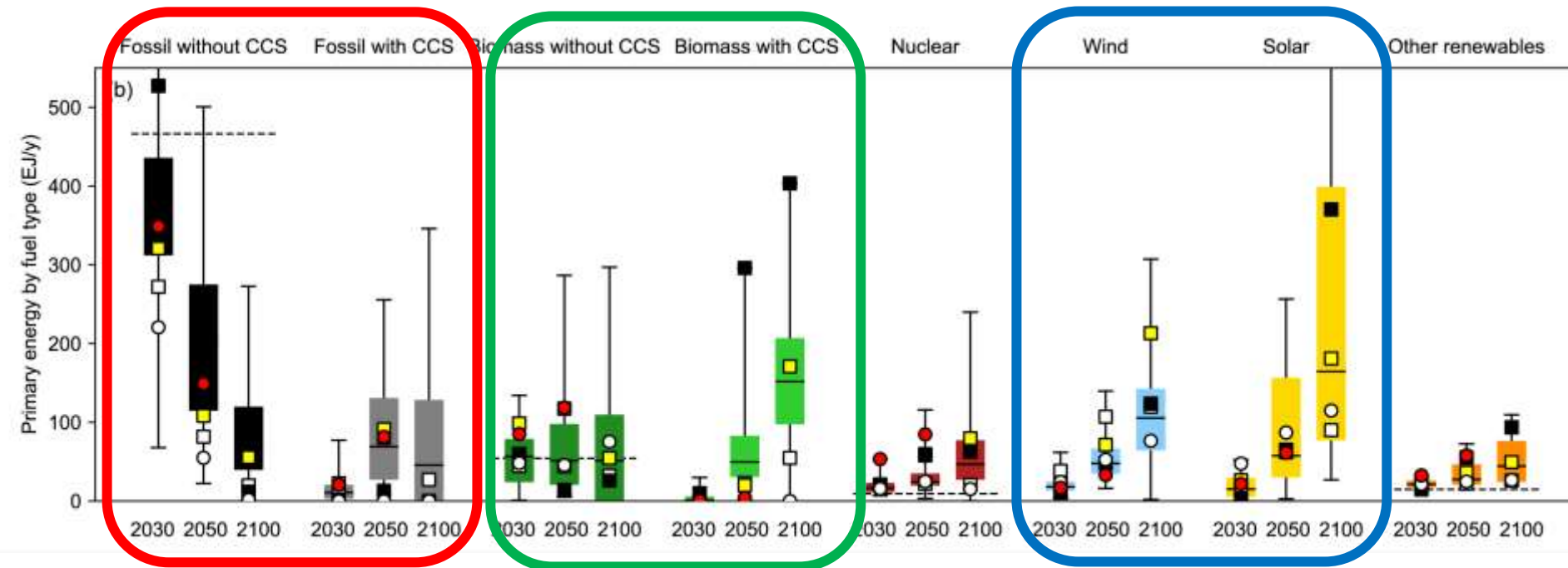


Global indicators	P1	P2	P3	P4	Interquartile range
Pathway classification	No or low overshoot	No or low overshoot	No or low overshoot	High overshoot	No or low overshoot
Final energy demand** in 2030 (% rel to 2010)	-15	-5	17	39	(-12, 7)
↳ in 2050 (% rel to 2010)	-32	2	21	44	(-11, 22)
Primary energy from coal in 2030 (% rel to 2010)	-78	-61	-75	-59	(-78, -59)
↳ in 2050 (% rel to 2010)	-97	-77	-73	-97	(-95, -74)
from biomass in 2030					(29,80)
↳ in 2050 (% rel to 2010)					(123,261)
Cumulative CCS until 2100					(550, 1017)
↳ of which BECCS					(364, 662)

Demand-side measures (energy intensity, diets) and early emissions reduction reduce need for carbon dioxide removal

Energy system transitions

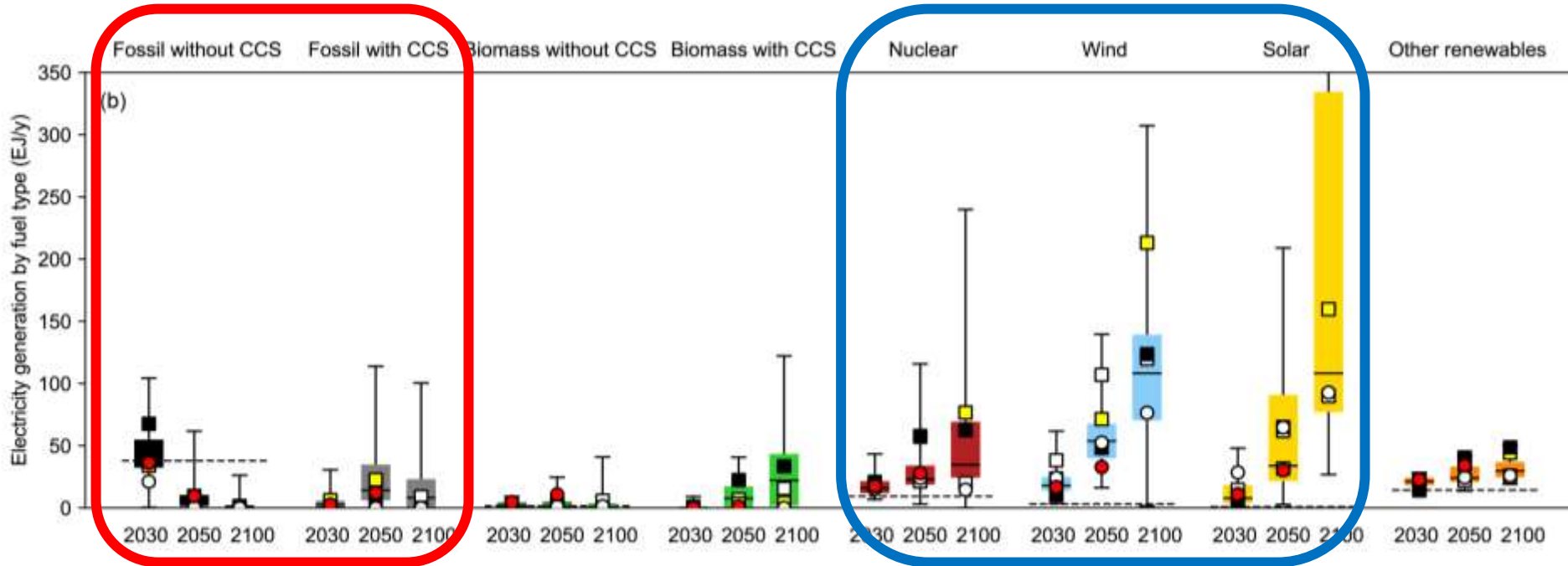
Global primary energy



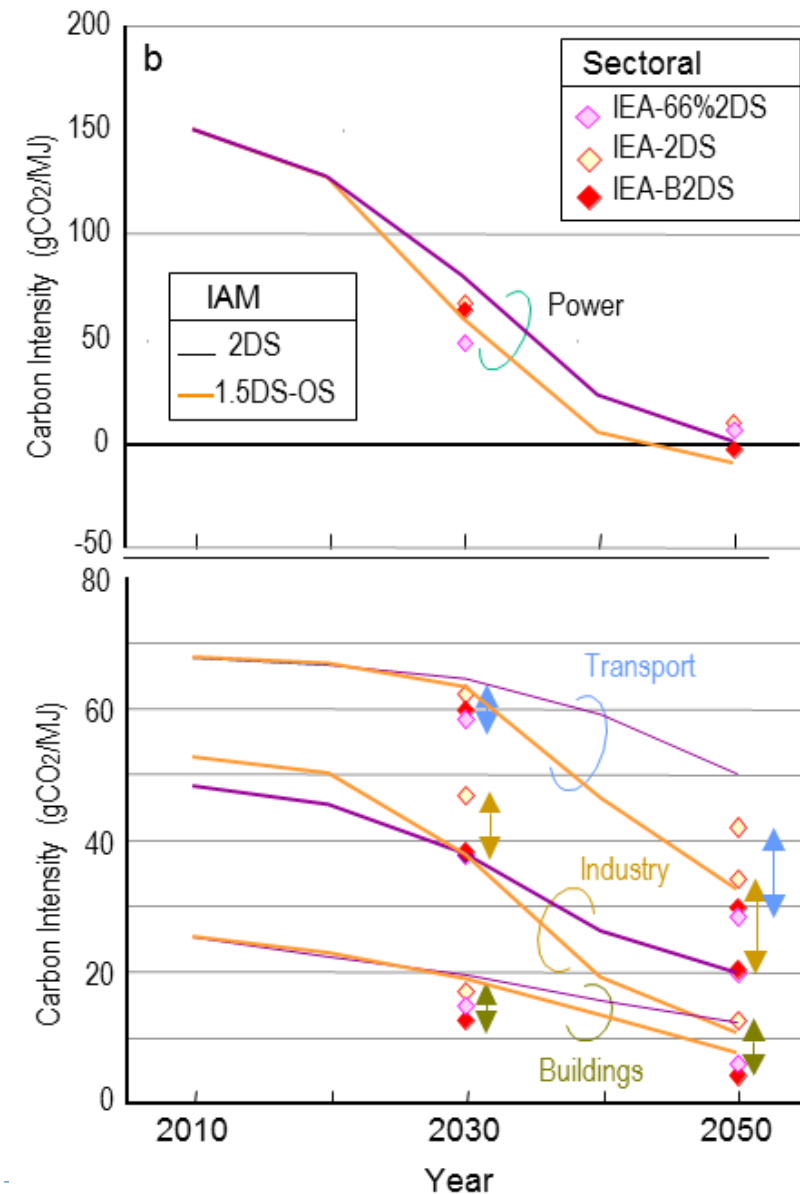
- Fossil fuel reductions vary with fuel type: coal the most, gas the least
- Limited amount of fossil CCS (predominantly gas)
- Solar, wind, biomass with CCS gain the most

Electricity system transitions

Full decarbonisation by mid-century



- Gas supplies 3-11% of electricity (depend. CCS)
- Coal is phased out as source for electricity (0-2%)
- Renewables supply 70-85% of electricity



Systems transitions: Energy use in industry, transport, buildings

CO₂ emissions from industry in 2050:

- 75-90% reduced from 2010 levels

↳ Compared to 50-80% for 2°C

Share of low-emission final energy in transport:

- 35-65% in 2050

↳ Compared to 25-45% for 2°C

Electricity share of final energy in buildings:

- 55-75% in 2050

↳ Compared to 50-70% for 2°C

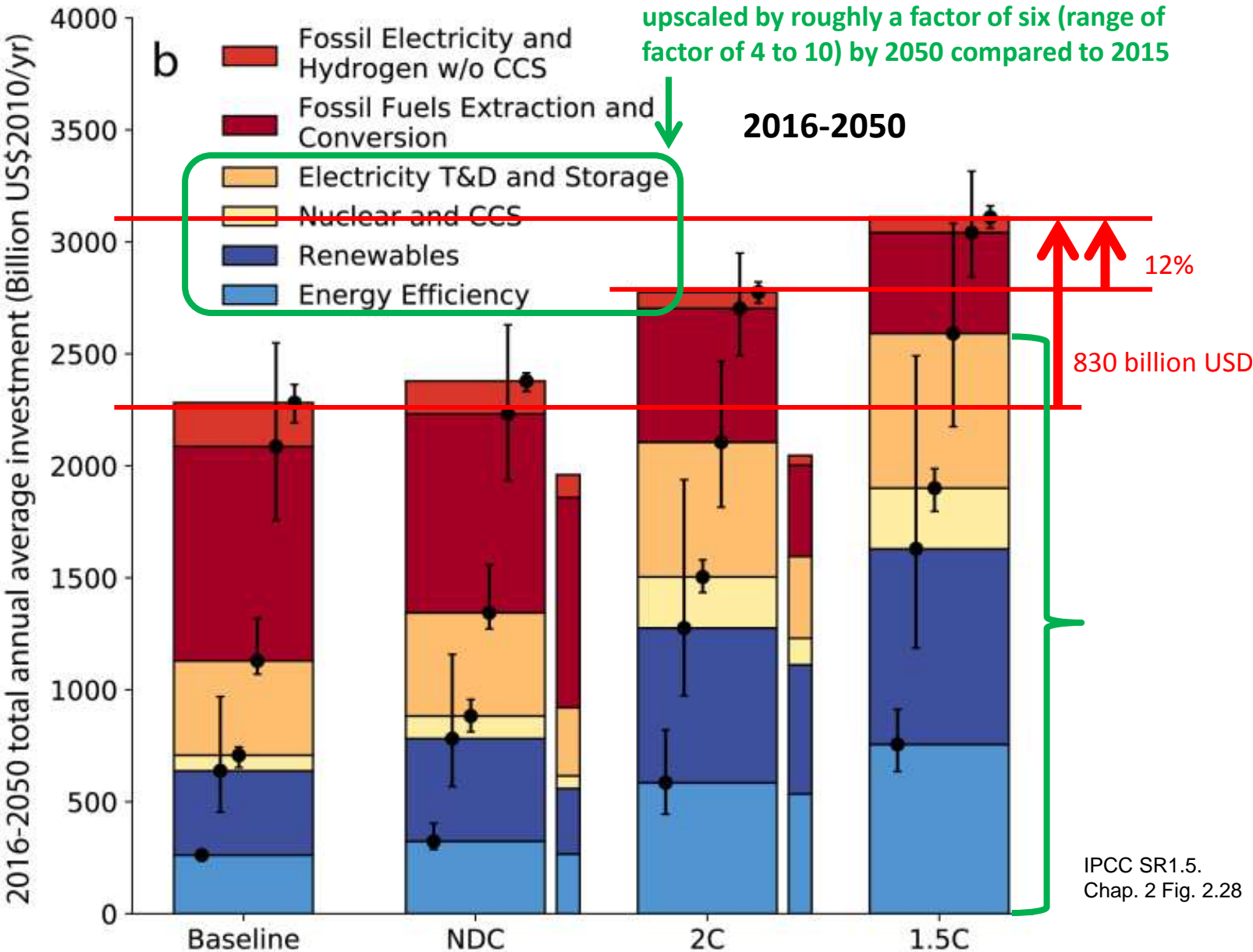
SR1.5 Chap. 2 Fig. 2.20

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INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON climate change



Energy investments needed in 1.5-2°C pathways





Systems transitions

Carbon Dioxide Removal (CDR)

All 1.5°C pathways use CDR in the range of 100-1000 GtCO₂ over the 21st century, to

- Compensate residual emissions of CO₂
- Achieve net negative CO₂ emissions for overshoot

BECCS and AFOLU CDR are predominant options in 1.5°C pathways

- **BECCS:** 0-1 GtCO₂/yr in 2030, 0-8 GtCO₂/yr in 2050
Assessed max. 2050 potential: 5 GtCO₂/yr
- **AFOLU:** 0-5 GtCO₂/yr in 2030, 1-11 GtCO₂/yr in 2050
Assessed max. 2050 potential: 3.6 GtCO₂/yr

Range of CDR measures

Portfolio of CDR measures would limit individual deployment and therefore sustainability issues for each single measure

- *Soil carbon enhancement, biochar and land restoration*
- **Afforestation**
- **BECCS using energy crops**
- *BECCS using algae*
- *Direct Air Capture + Geological storage (DACCS)*
- *Enhanced Weathering*
- *Artificial ocean alkalization*
- *Carbon capture and usage (e.g. carbon fiber / wood)*

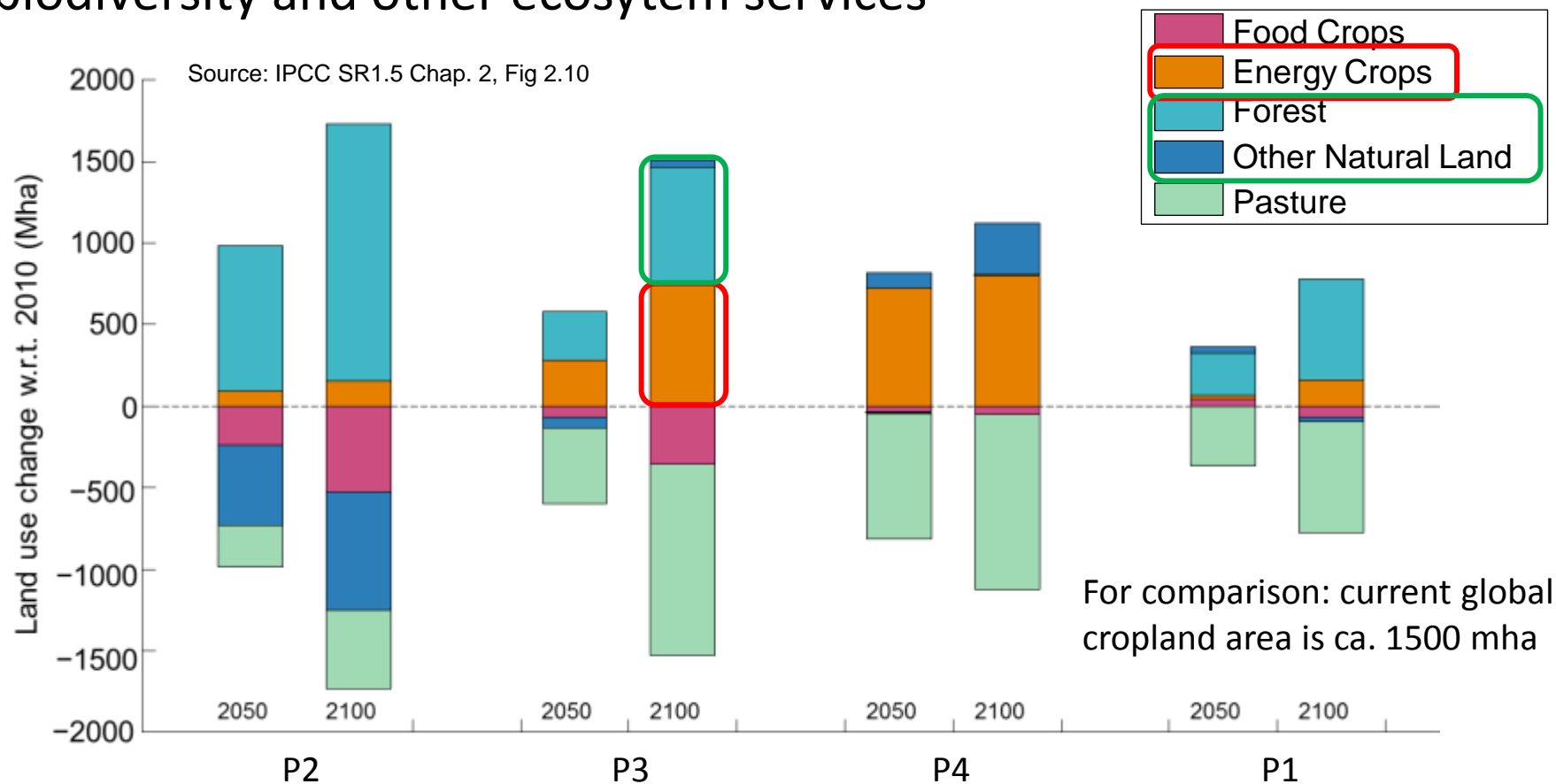
Terrestrial storage
Early deployment

Geological storage
Medium-Long term

Mineralisation
Medium-Long term

System transitions: Land-use changes

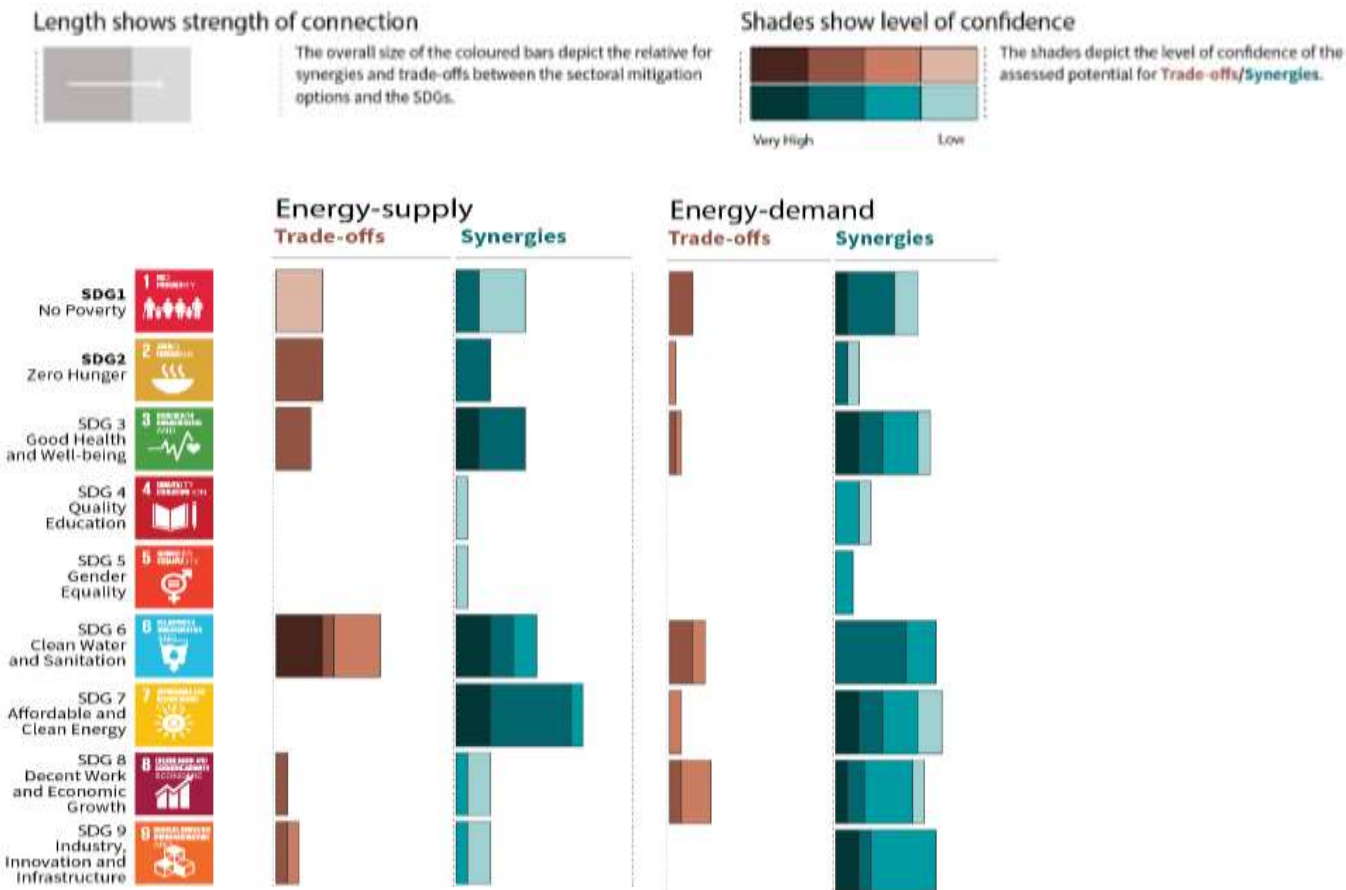
to provide food, feed, fibre, **bioenergy**, **carbon storage**, biodiversity and other ecosystem services

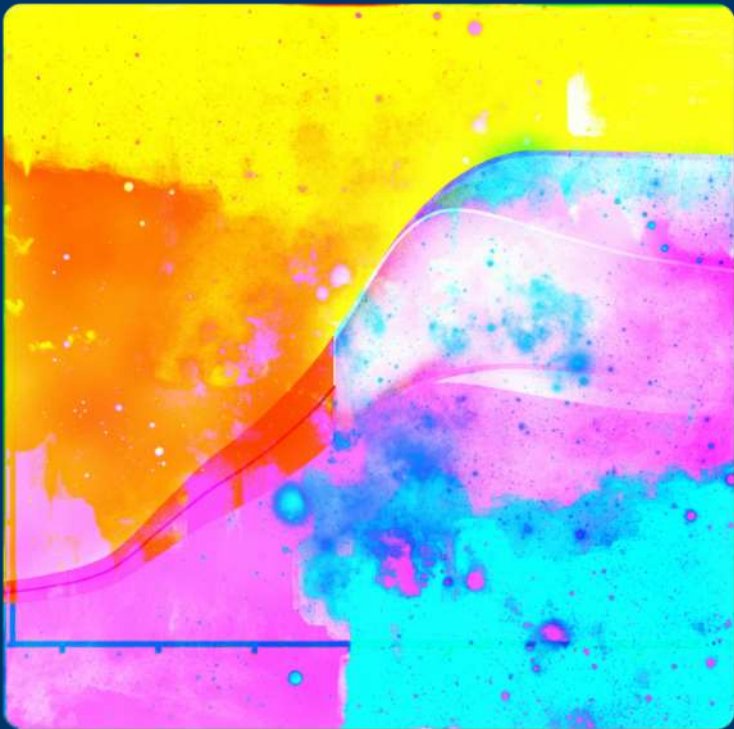


Need for sustainable land management in 1.5°C pathways

Linkages between 1.5°C pathways and sustainable development

(the linkages do not show costs and benefits of mitigation)





<https://data.ene.iiasa.ac.at/iamc-1.5c-explorer>



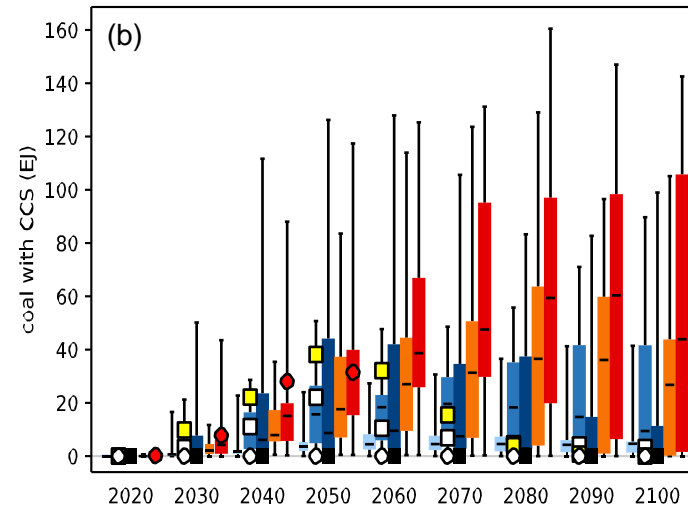
System transitions - general trends

- I. **Improve energy efficiency**
Limiting final energy demand in 2050
to +20 to -10% rel. to 2010 levels
 - II. **Decarbonize the power sector**
(carbon-intensity of electricity about 0 or negative in 2050)
 - III. **Electrify energy end use**
(mobility, buildings, industry)
 - IV. **Subs. residual fossil fuels with low-carbon options**
(e.g. gas for heating, petrol for driving with bio-based fuels)
- Different roles for different type of fuels

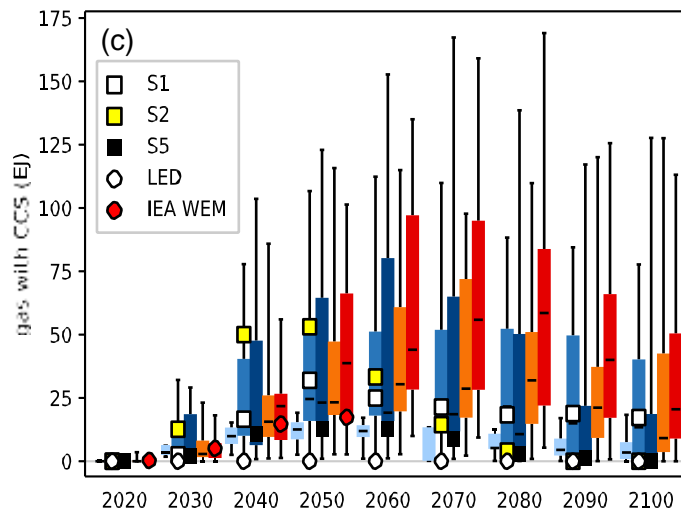
Wide range of CCS that is deployed across 1.5-2°C pathways: Fossil CCS

- **Smaller use of fossil CCS in energy supply systems in 1.5°C pathways compared to 2°C pathways**
- Illustrative pathways:
No coal, < 25 EJ gas
- Smaller use of fossil CCS in low overshoot pathways
- Declining use of CCS over time

Coal with CCS (EJ)

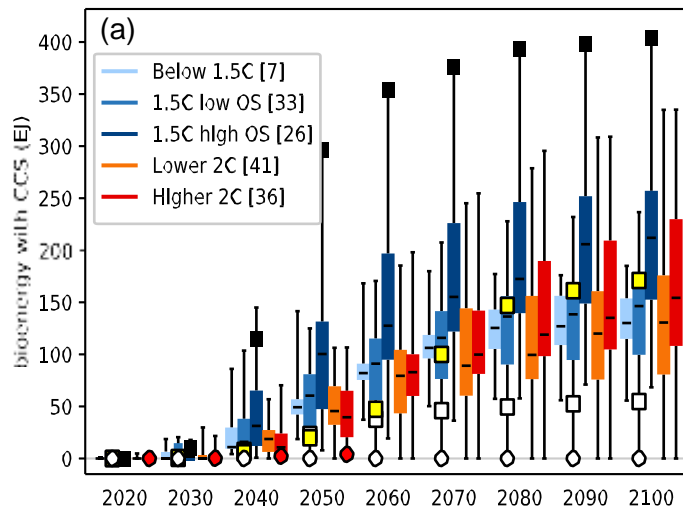


Gas with CCS (EJ)

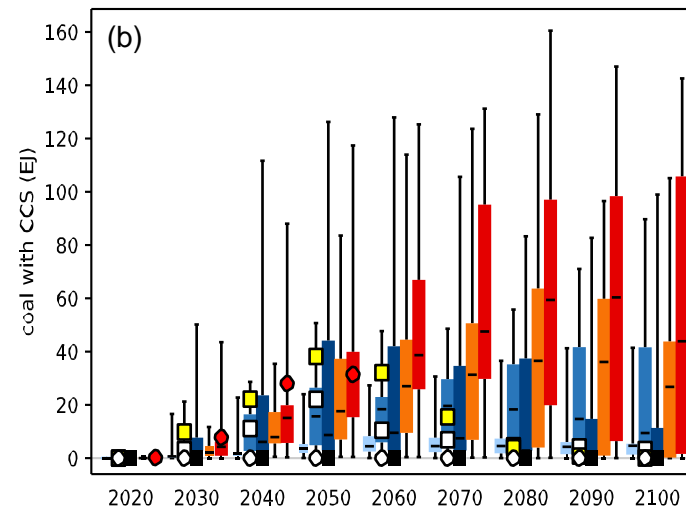


Wide range of CCS that is deployed across 1.5-2°C pathways: BECCS

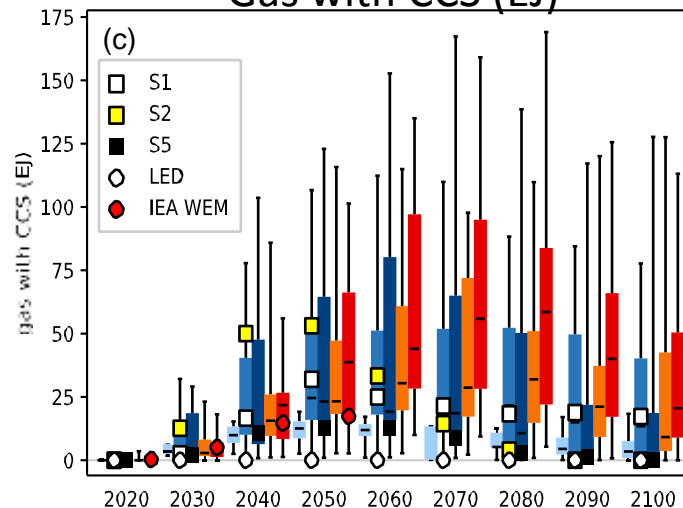
Bioenergy with CCS (EJ)



Coal with CCS (EJ)



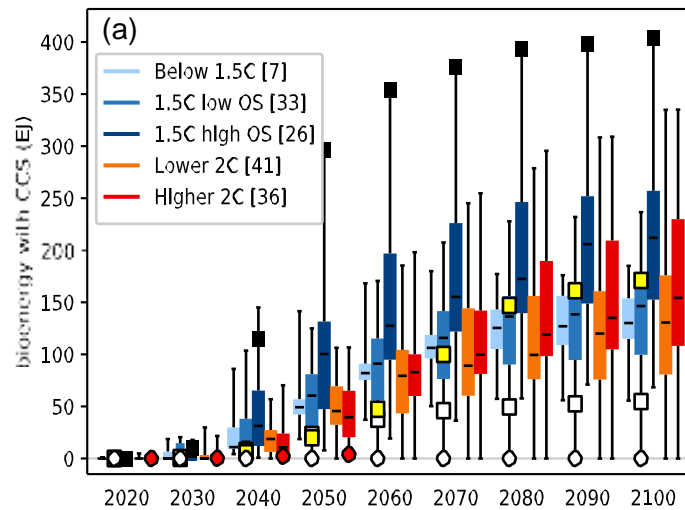
Gas with CCS (EJ)



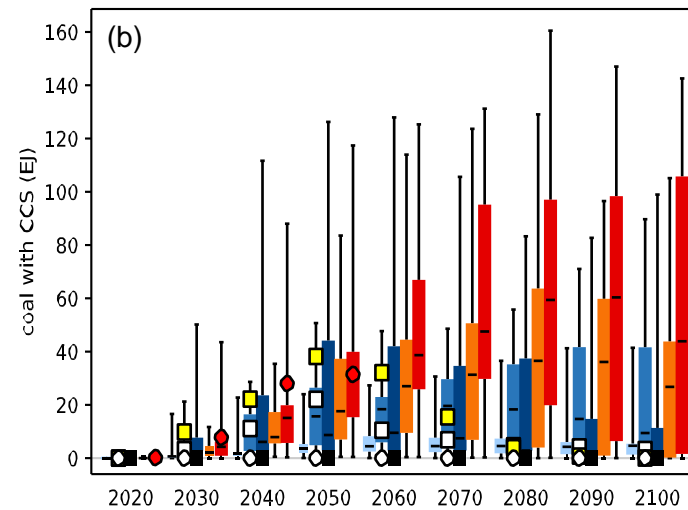
- **Dominant source of CCS in 1.5°C pathways**
- Larger use of BECCS in overshoot pathways
- Similar use of BECCS in low overshoot 1.5°C and lower 2°C pathways

Wide range of CCS that is deployed across 1.5-2°C pathways: Total CO₂ stored

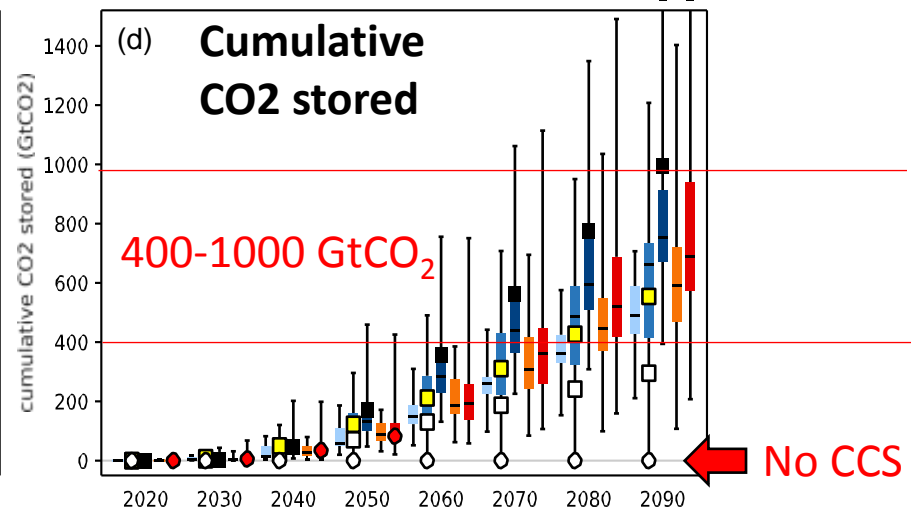
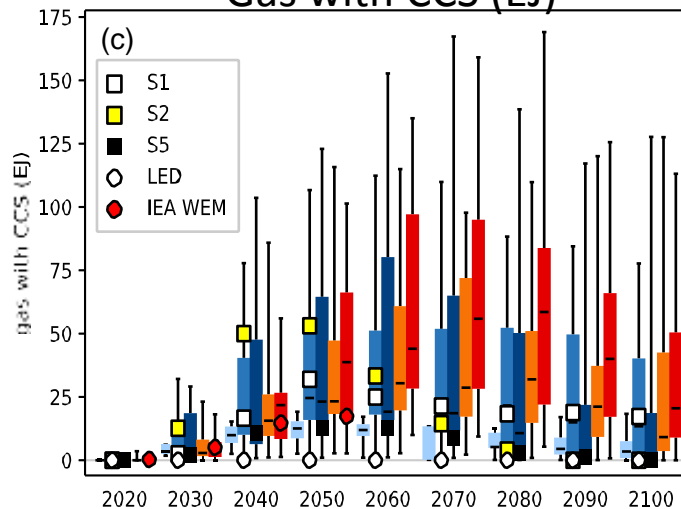
Bioenergy with CCS (EJ)



Coal with CCS (EJ)



Gas with CCS (EJ)



Marginal abatement cost in 1.5°C pathways

