

# ONSHORE-TO-ONBOARD DECARBONIZATION

TARGETTING EMISSIONS  
REDUCTIONS IN CONVENTIONAL  
MARINE SYSTEM

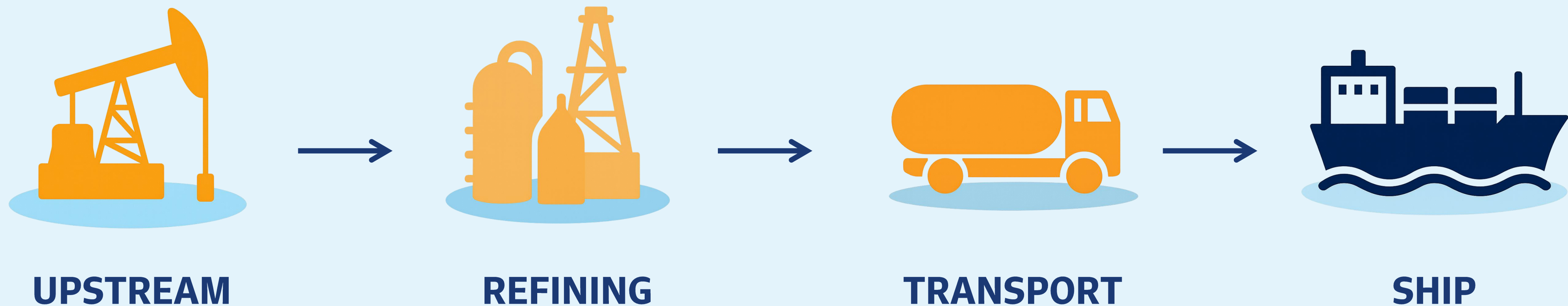


Dr. Hassan El-Houjeiri  
Principal Fellow

Technical Seminar on OCCS  
IMO Headquater, 11 September 2025

# BUNKER FUEL SUPPLY CHAIN

- Bunker fuel used by ships sourced from crude oil via several upstream sources
- Upstream operations include extraction, separation, and transport
- Refineries process crude oil into various petroleum products, including bunker fuel
- Fuel transported to ports for storage and eventual refueling of vessels

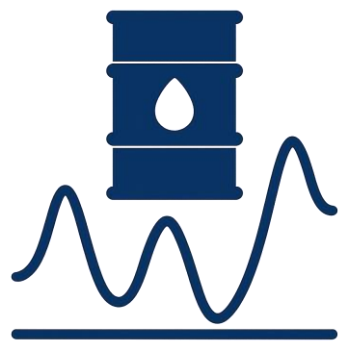
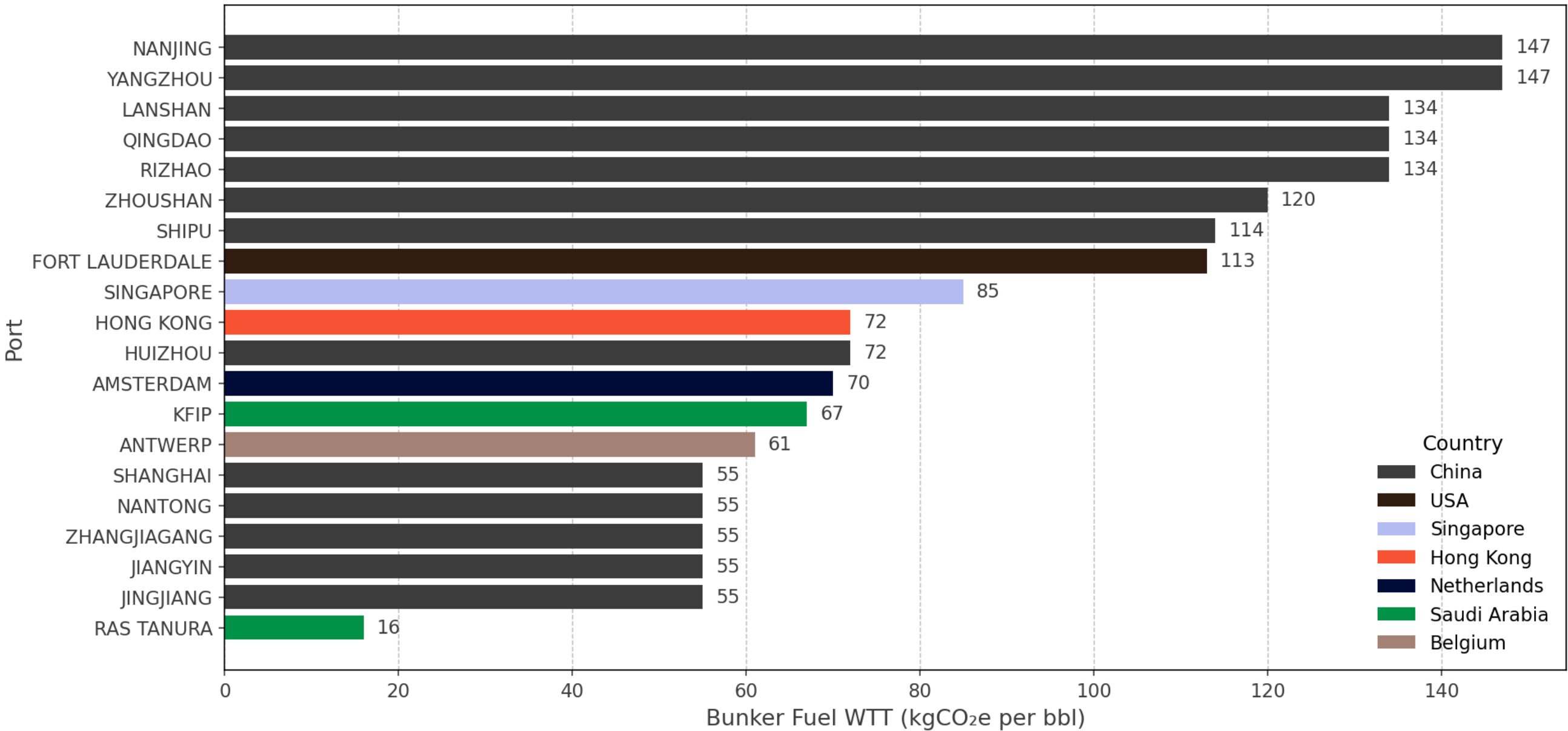


# GLOBAL VARIABILITY IN BUNKER FUEL CARBON INTENSITY

- **Wide spread in WtT CI** across ports: ~16 to ~147 kgCO<sub>2</sub>e/bbl (~4 to 26% of WtW CI)
- **Drivers of upstream variability** (flaring, venting, extraction methods)
- **Refinery configurations** (energy intensity, hydrogen use)
- **Blendstock components** (fuel oil vs distillates)

- **Implication:** OCC operates on top of highly uneven upstream carbon baselines
- **Technology:** Meaningful decarbonization requires progress in both upstream supply chains and onboard operations
- **Policy:** WtT variability should be reflected in assessments to ensure fair and impact-based comparisons

WTT Carbon Intensity Across the World's Busiest Ports  
Saudi ports included for comparison only

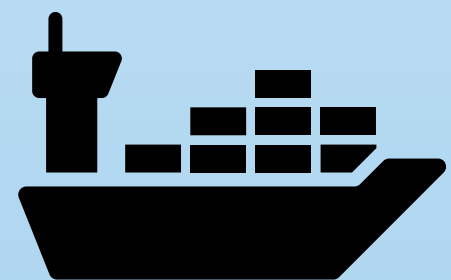


**~9x difference**

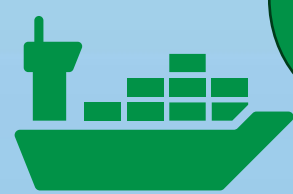
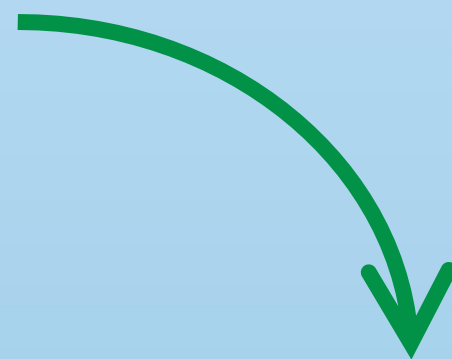
Ras Tanura vs Nanjing illustrates  
why supply chain decarbonization is  
crucial

(1) Refinery level CI data source: The Archie Initiative ([www.archieinitiative.org](http://www.archieinitiative.org))

# WHY ROUTE-SPECIFIC OCC ANALYSIS?

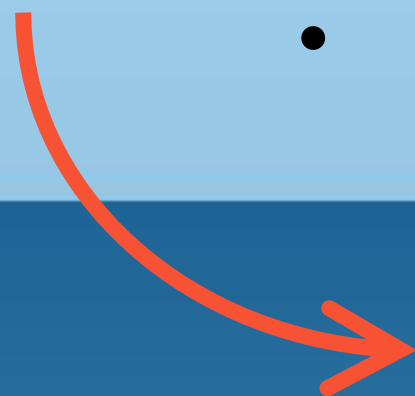


Bulk carriers



**KSA→Asia**

- Medium haul
- 96 voyages



**China→AMS**

- Long haul
- 57 voyages

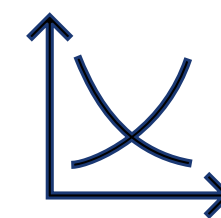


more routes



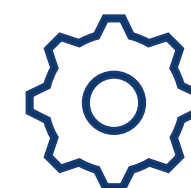
## **Voyage profiles differ**

ballast/loading distances, CO<sub>2</sub> baselines, cargo



## **Freight economics**

drive break-even feasibility



## **Engineering footprint**

(tanks/modules) depends on route



# OCC MODEL & SCENARIO DESIGN

## Datasets(1)



- **Vessel name/ID**
- Vessel type
- Ports
- **Cargo**
- **DWT**(2)
- **Ballast/loaded** distances
- **Estimated CO2** emissions (per leg)
- **Voyage duration**—derived (12 knots average speed)

(1) Source: kpler

(2) DWT = Dead Weight Tonnage

## Costs



- **Cargo penalty**—derived
- **CAPEX** (6.85 M\$, 2.3 tph, CCF(3)=0.094)
- **Nonfuel OPEX** 19.6 and 38.2 \$/t and **offloading** 15 and 34.5 \$/t at a capture rate of 1.0 and 2.3 tph, respectively
- **Total cost** = cargo penalty + CAPEX + OPEX + offloading

(3) CCF = Capital Charge Factor

## Scenarios



- **Capture rate  $\eta$**  (0.5-0.9)
- **Fuel penalty  $f$**  (0.015-0.15)
- **Penalty exhaust  $\phi$**  (bypass vs integrated)
- Full vs loaded-leg penalty
- **Freight rate** \$/t cargo (25-50)
- **Mass-balance mode** (captured vs net)
- **Sizing policy** (per-voyage vs per-vessel peak)



## 5 Charts per Scenario

- Cargo penalty vs Capture rate
- BE (cargo) vs Freight
- BE (total cost) vs Freight
- Technology cost breakdown
- Tank/Modules vs Capture rate

# TARGET SCENARIO ( $\phi=1$ , $f=0.015$ , $\eta=0.9$ )

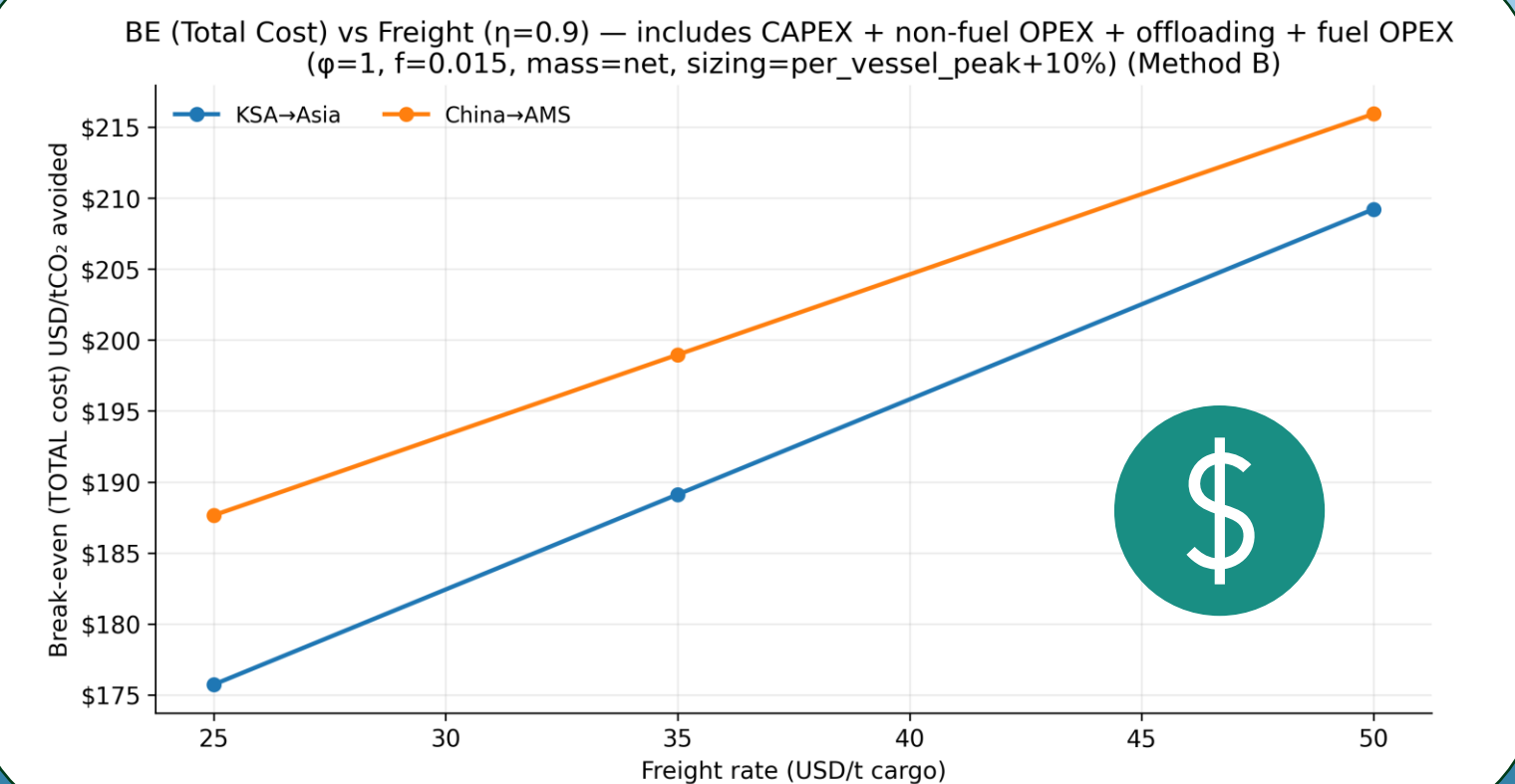
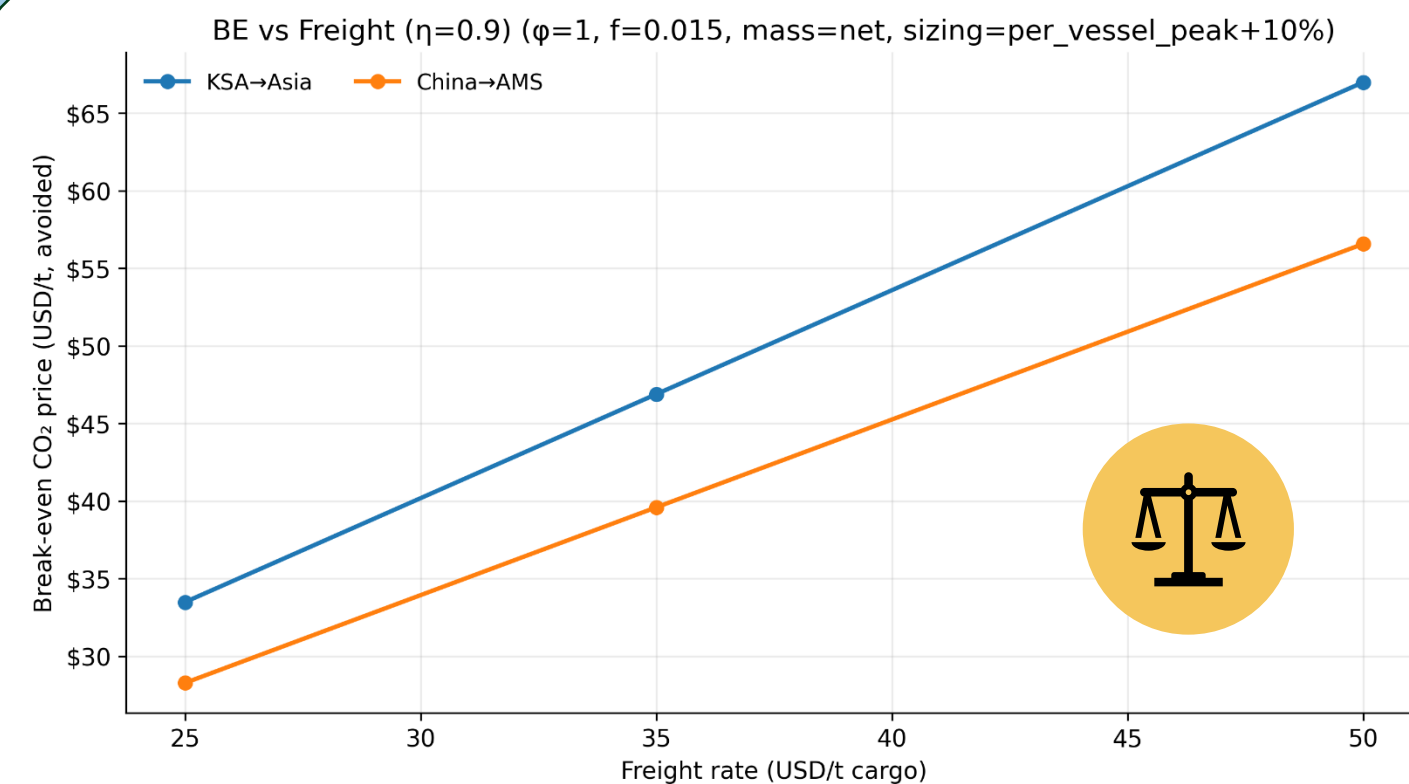
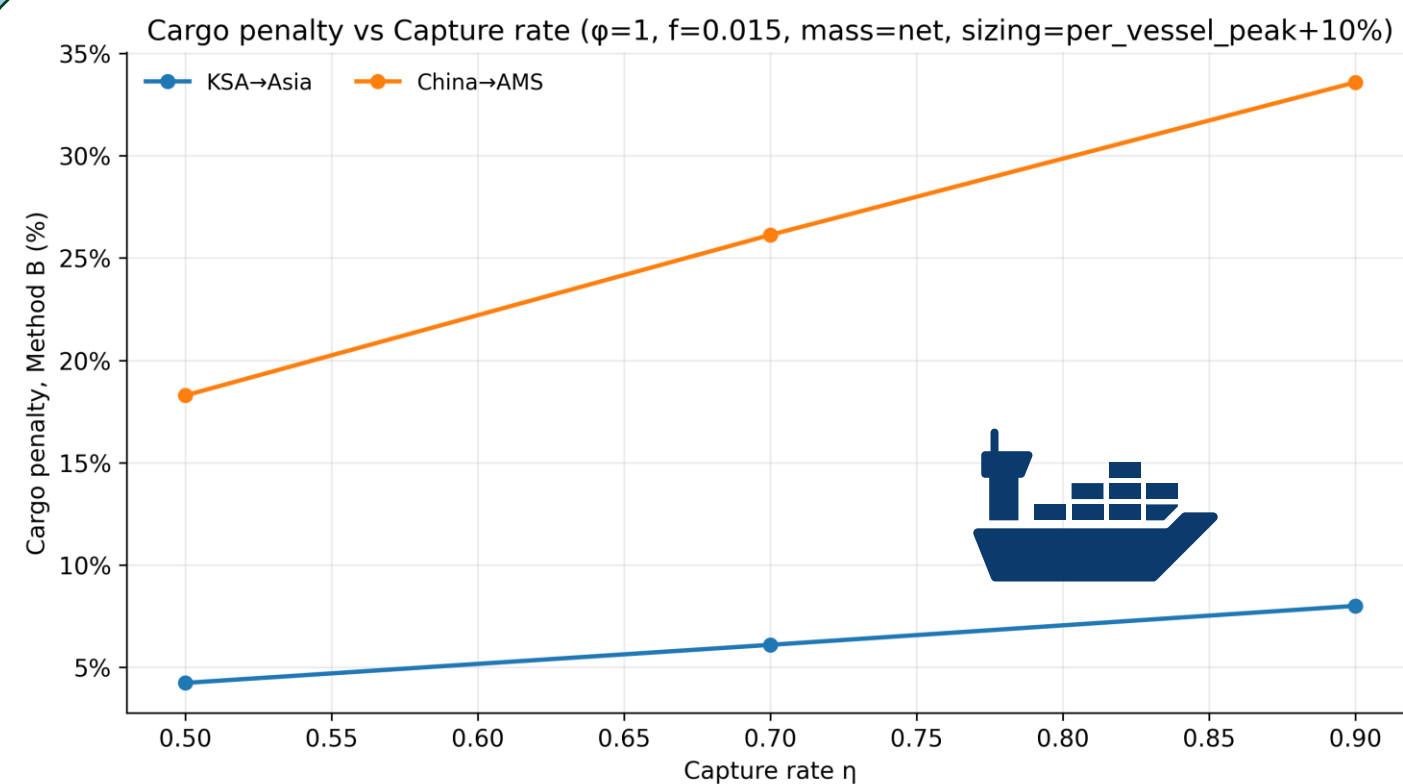


- **Cargo penalty** rises steadily with capture rate
- China→AMS (long-haul) shows a **much steeper curve** than KSA→Asia
- At  $\eta=0.9$  the loss is ~**34%** for China→AMS vs ~**8%** for KSA→Asia



- Break-even CO<sub>2</sub> price rises with freight rate
- **China→AMS shows lower BE than KSA→Asia**, despite higher cargo penalty, because **CO<sub>2</sub> avoided per voyage is larger**

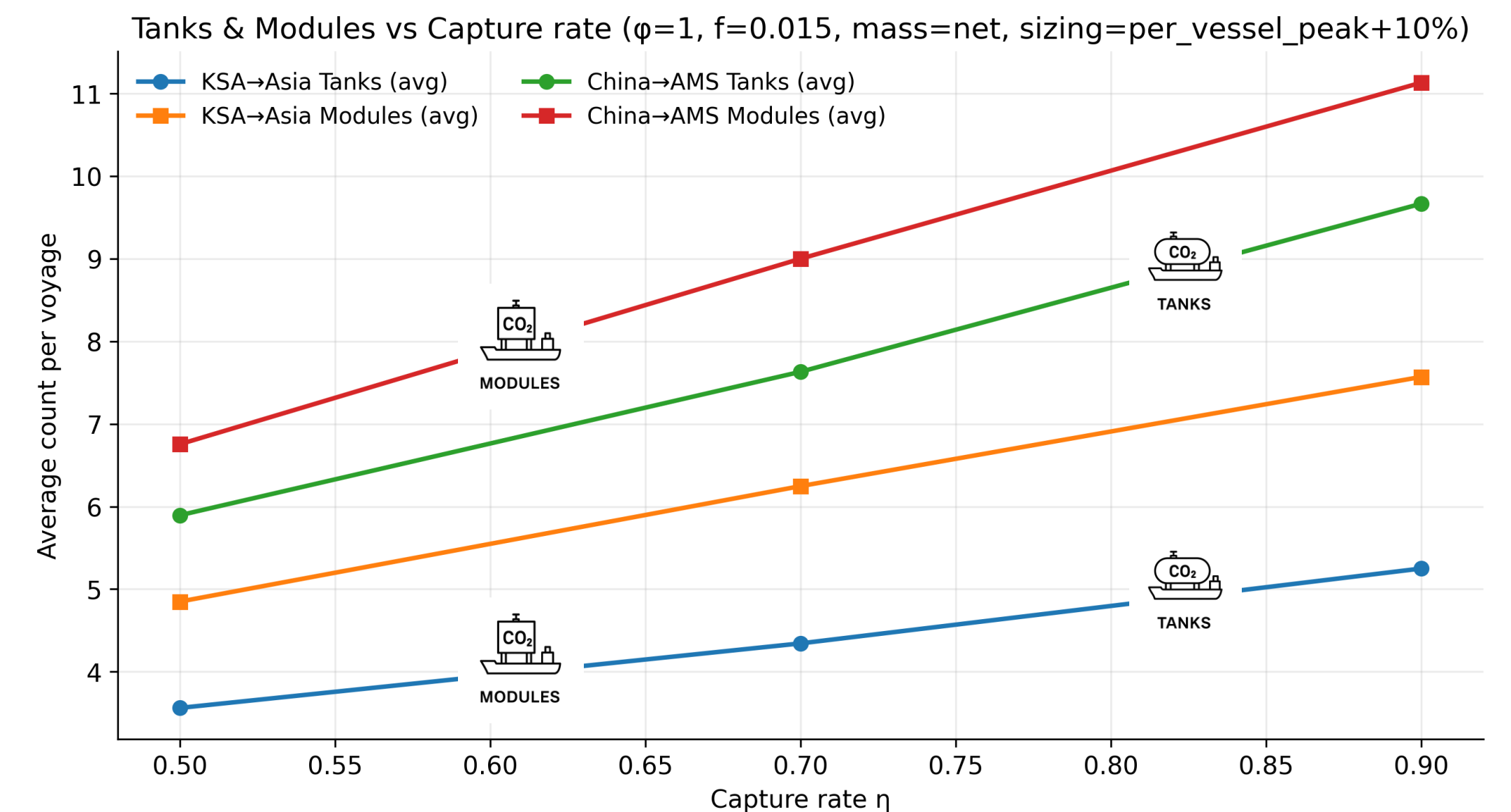
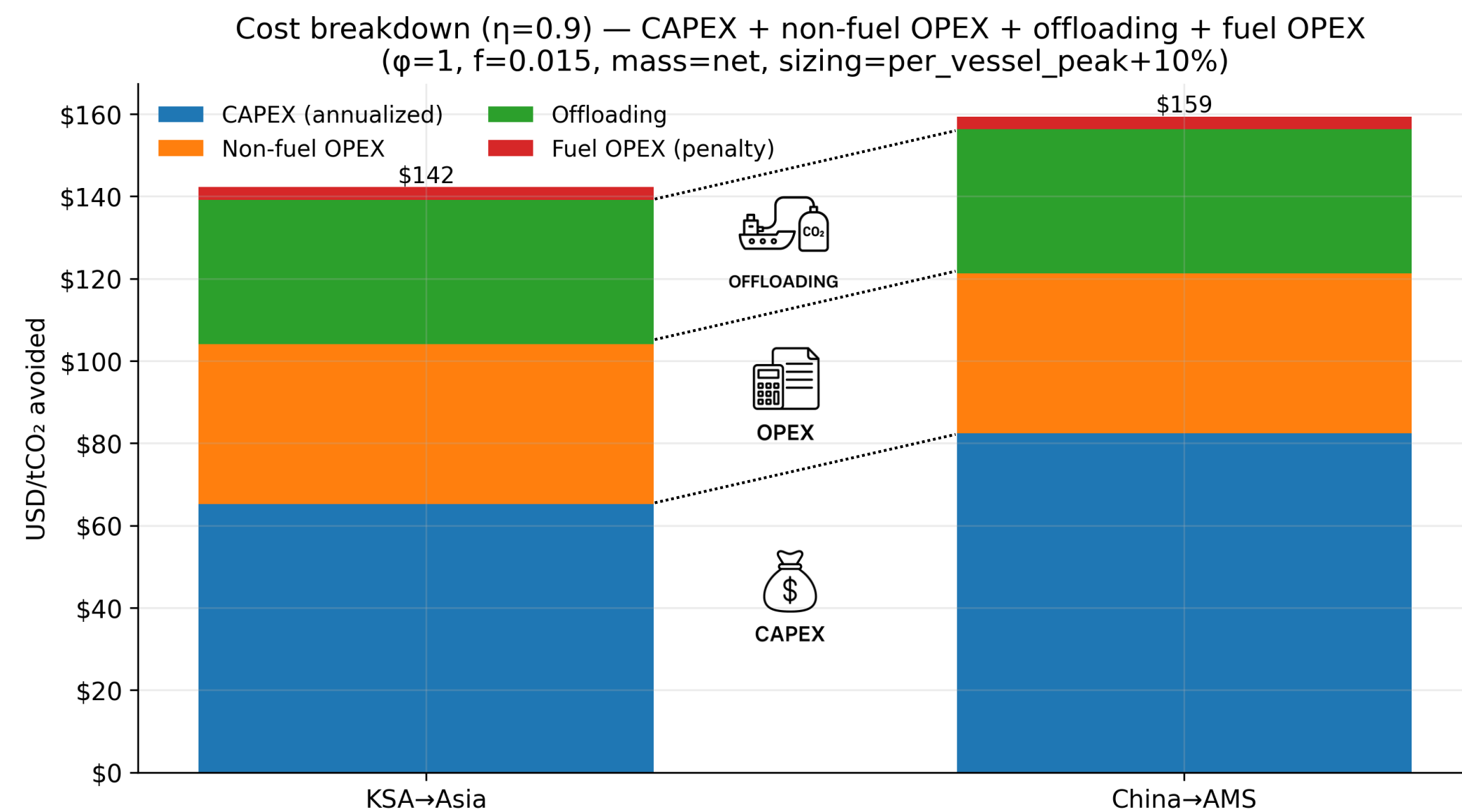
- **Break-even CO<sub>2</sub> price climb** once CAPEX and OPEX are included
- **Long-haul China→AMS** needs highest CO<sub>2</sub> price, driven by OCC scale
- **Medium-haul KSA→Asia** more viable short term, as shorter voyages spread cost more effectively



# COST BREAKDOWN & SIZING

- **CAPEX dominates the route gap:** ~\$82/t China→AMS vs ~\$65/t KSA→Asia (per tCO<sub>2</sub> avoided)
- **Non-fuel OPEX and offloading match** (~\$39/t and ~\$35/t each): rate-based from MARAD, normalized per avoided
- **Target offloading cost cuts by increasing transfer rates** (bigger/faster arms, parallel manifolds) so **berth time** drop

- **Long haul installs more equipment at every  $\eta$**  ( $\eta=0.9$  averages): **modules ~11 vs 8, tanks ~10 vs 5** (China→AMS vs KSA→Asia). This drives the **higher CAPEX per tCO<sub>2</sub> avoided** on the long route
- **Gap widens with higher  $\eta$ :** more capture → more throughput → more module/tank replications on long-haul



# COMPARATIVE INSIGHTS & TAKEAWAYS

## KSA→Asia



**Cargo penalty**  
lower (~4-8%)



**CAPEX + Offloading**  
**dominate**



**Smaller tank/module**  
**sizing**



## China→AMS



**Cargo penalty**  
higher (~18-34%)



**CAPEX (higher)**  
**dominates**



**Larger tank/module**  
**sizing**

### Policy levers:



**CAPEX support**  
(carbon pricing/  
crediting, CfD(1))



**Standardized**  
**offloading**  
**frameworks**



**Designate more voyages**  
**to OCC-equipped vessels**  
**(like HOV lanes)**



**Deployment scale**  
**and standardization**

(1) CfD = Contract for Differences (a tool to de-risk investments by setting a floor price for carbon)

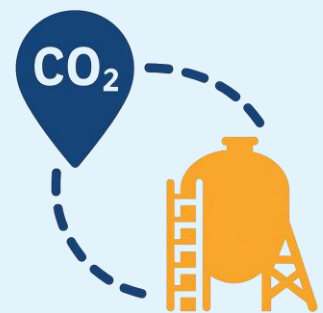


# NEXT STEPS IN OUR STUDY



## Global Expansion of Model Application

Extend OCC cost model to cover all primary bulk carrier routes worldwide. Incorporate container ships and other major ship classes.



## CCS Hubs Integration

Connecting ports with major CO2 storage sites to create a scalable, efficient, and cost reducing pathway that transforms OCC into part of a coordinated global decarbonization system.



## Development of OCC Suitability Index

Create Vessel-Route OCC suitability index at a global scale. Publish results with cost scenarios in a peer-reviewed journal.



## KAPSARC Well-to-Wake Model

Interactive public tool for onshore & onboard emissions baselining. Enable comparative decarbonization analysis, including OCC.