Estimation of demolition and new construction of housing in US counties until 2060

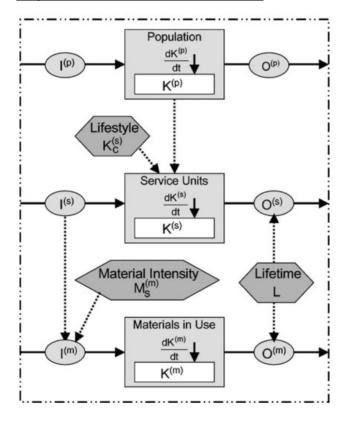
Implications for building material reuse potential

Peter Berrill ICWMT 15, June 30, 2020

Yale school of forestry & environmental studies

Dynamic Stock Models of Buildings

Dynamic Stock Model



Drivers (Inputs)

 $K_c^{(p)}(t)$ Population $K_c^{(s)}(t)$ Service stock per capita (lifestyle) L(t, t') Lifetime distribution $M_s^{(m)}(t)$ Material intensity per service unit.

Results, over time

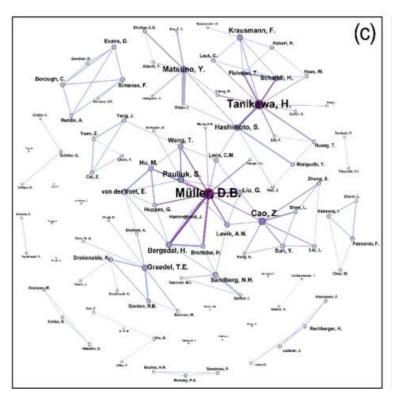
Inputs (construction)
Outputs (demolition)
Total Stock

Müller, D.B (2006), Ecol. Econ., 'Stock dynamics for forecasting material flows—Case study for housing in The Netherlands'

Dynamic Stock Models of Buildings



b) Tag cloud of the journal article authors



c) Network of coauthorship

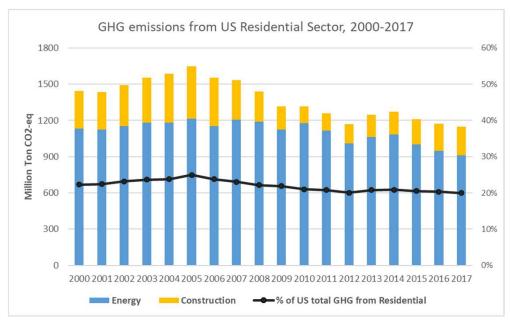
Lanau et al. (2019), Env. Sci. Tech., 'Taking Stock of Built Environment Stock Studies: Progress and Prospects', Fig. 2

Current research goals

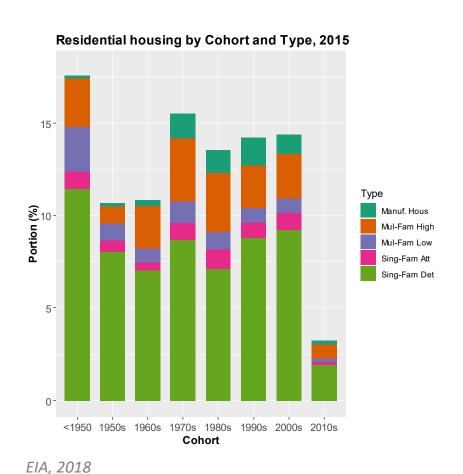
- Identify strategies for GHG reduction from US residential buildings, all life cycle stages
- Model and project results of
 - Energy demand
 - Construction material requirements and waste generation
 - Comprehensive GHG emissions from residential sector activities
- Data needs: housing stock by type, age, location

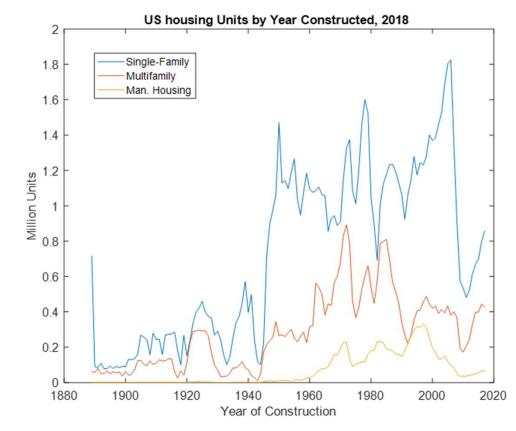
US residential sector in context global GHG emission

• In top 2 emitters of residential GHG emissions globally: ~ 1 Gt CO $_2$ from energy, 0.2Gt CO $_2$ from construction. Reducing by $\sim 1.5\%$ annually, due to low-C electricity



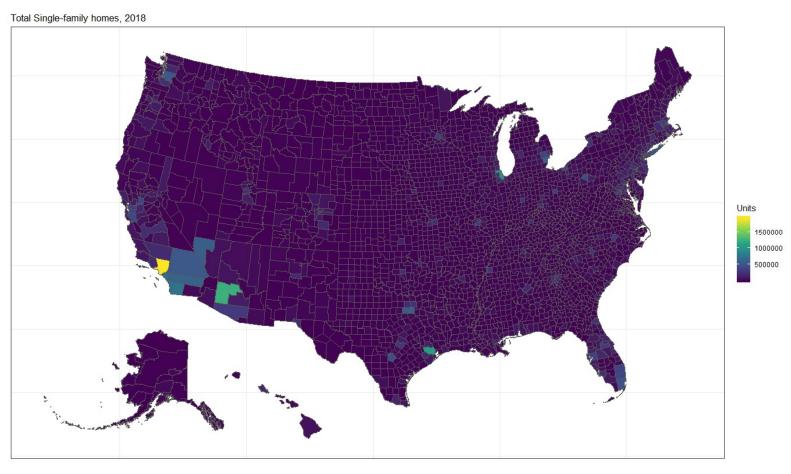
US housing mostly older & single-family



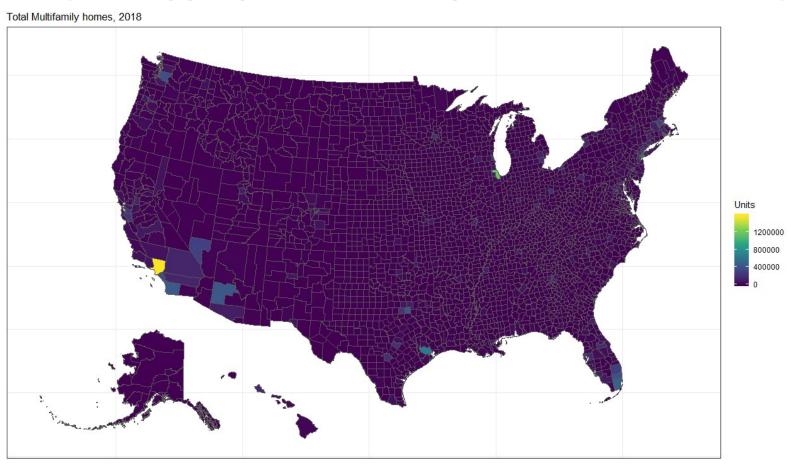


Own calculations, based on several sources

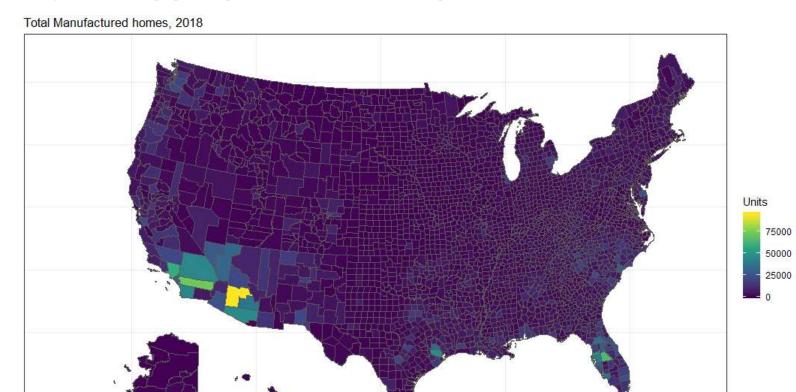
Spatially disaggregated housing stock – Single-family



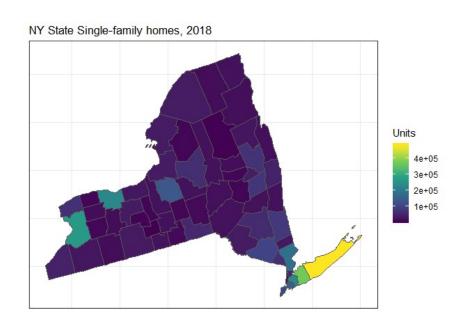
Spatially disaggregated housing stock – Multifamily

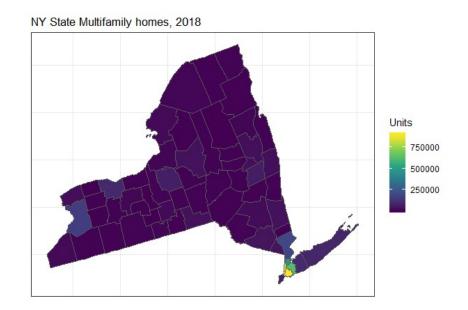


Spatially disaggregated housing stock – Manuf. Homes



Single-family and Multifamily homes, NY State



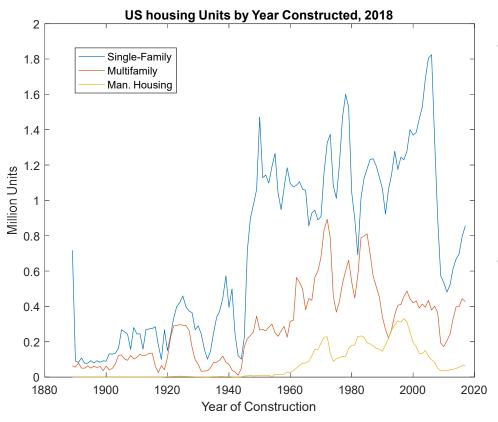


Basic stock model equations

•
$$C_{t+1} = (S_{t+1} - S_t) + D_{t+1}$$

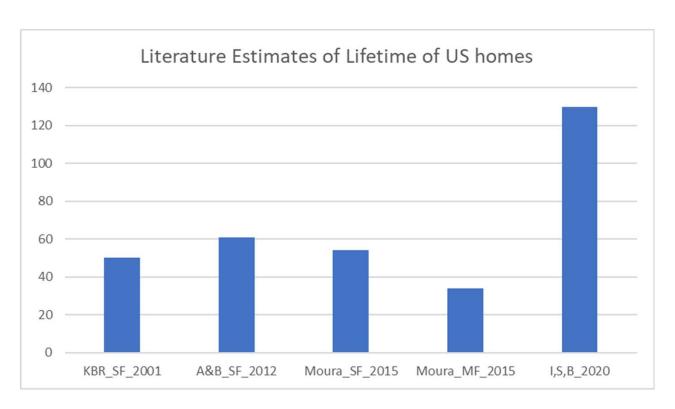
- C = new construction, D = demolition, S = stock = V*O
- V = vacancy ratio = total units/occupied units; O = occupied units
- New construction can results from $S_{t+1} > S_t$, from $D_{t+1} > 0$, or from $V_{t+1} > V_t$

Projections of demolition, based on lifetime distribution



- Year of construction (<1890 to 2017) based on decadal Censes, various survey data, and estimates by Moura et al (2015)
 - Lifetime distribution functions estimated per each decadal cohort (1940s, 1950s, etc.)

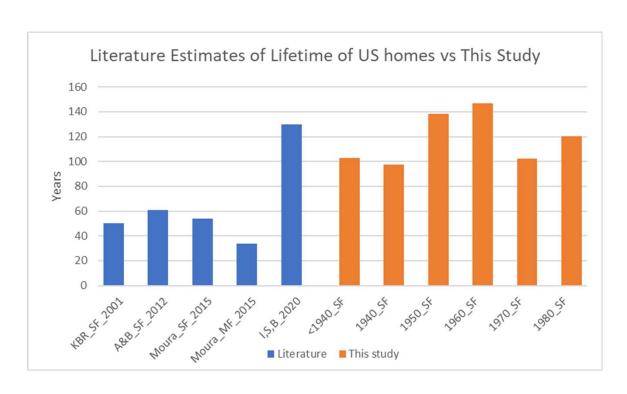
What is the lifetime of a house in the US?





Sources: Keolian et al (2001); Aktas & Bilec (2012); Moura et al (2015); Ianchenko et al (2020)

What is the lifetime of a house in the US?



Median lifetimes
 estimated based on
 Weibull lifetime
 distribution functions
 for different vintages

Sources: Keolian et al (2001); Aktas & Bilec (2012); Moura et al (2015); Ianchenko et al (2020). See also Miatto et al (2017)

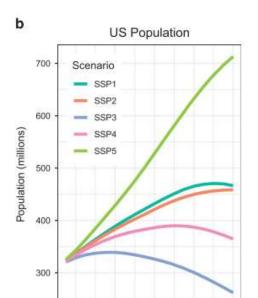
Method to project future demand for housing

•
$$C_{t+1} = (S_{t+1} - S_t) + D_{t+1}$$

- Estimate future stock of total housing per county based on three factors:
 - 1. Population by house type
 - 2. Household size by house type
 - 3. Vacancy rate by house type

1. Q: Who would estimate future population at local scale?

 A: Hauer (2019) scaled SSP population projections to 2100 to US county level

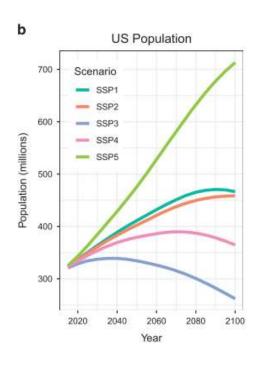


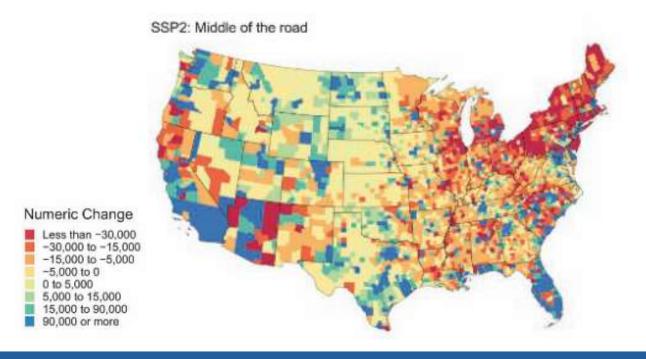
2080

Data Descriptor: Population projections for U.S. counties by age, sex, and race controlled to shared socioeconomic pathway

1. Q: Who would estimate future population at local scale?

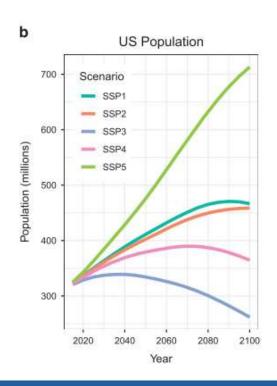
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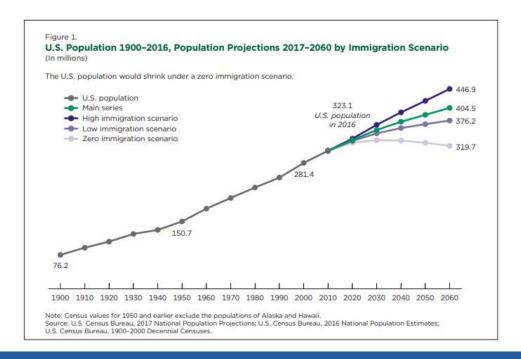




1. Implementation of Hauer Population Data

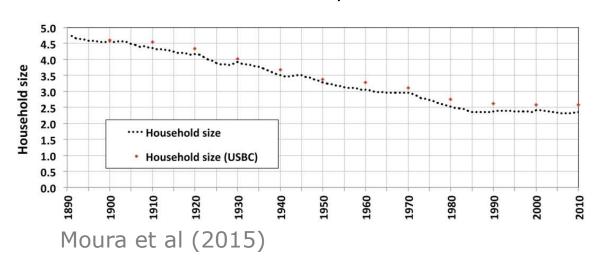
- Scaled SSP2 to match the main series from the USCB population projection
- Assumed no change in house type split of population per county, for now

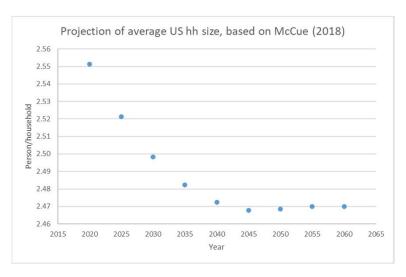




2. Projections of household size

Like most countries, US has seen notable decline in household size



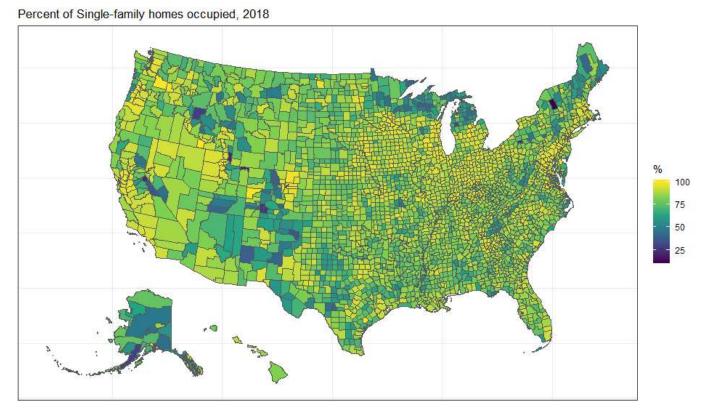


 I use data from McCue (2018) to project further modest reductions from 2020-2060, with the same average reduction applying evenly to different house types and counties

3. Occupancy/vacancy rates by county

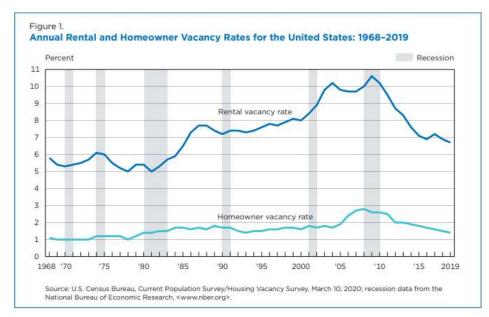
• 10% of SF homes are vacant. 15% for MF, 22% for MH. Lowest rates since

mid-1980s



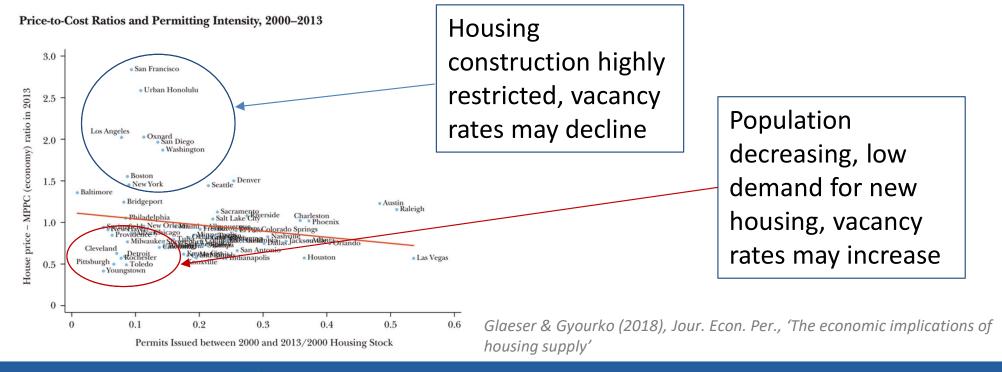
3. How will vacancy rates develop?

 On downward trend, construction is currently not keeping up with population growth, & large increase in demand for rental housing

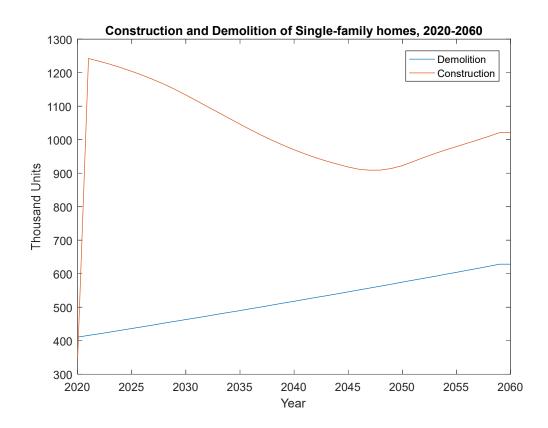


How will vacancy rates develop?

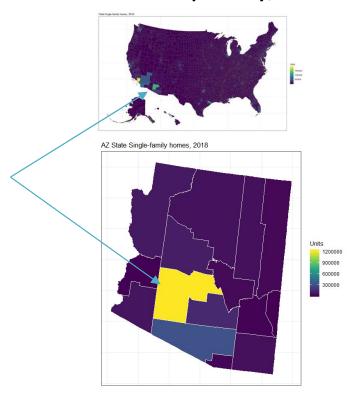
 Currently no modeled change in vacancy rates. Adapt -> reduce vacancy in growing/highly regulated counties. Increase vacancy in declining counties

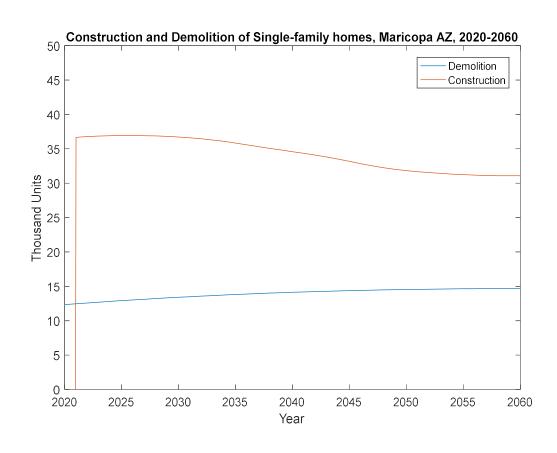


National total

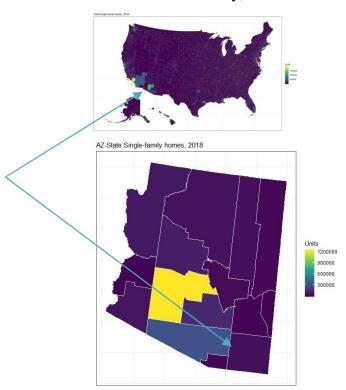


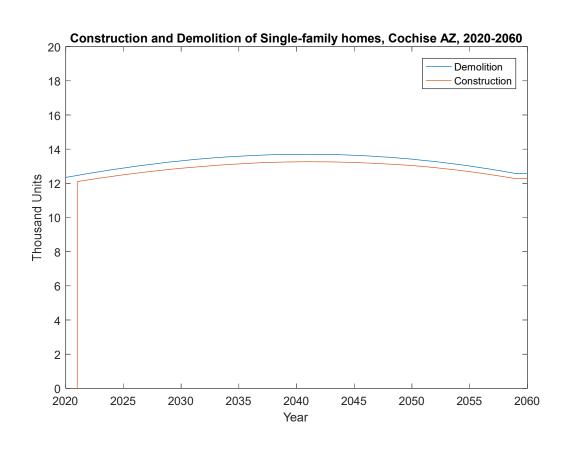
Maricopa Cty, AZ



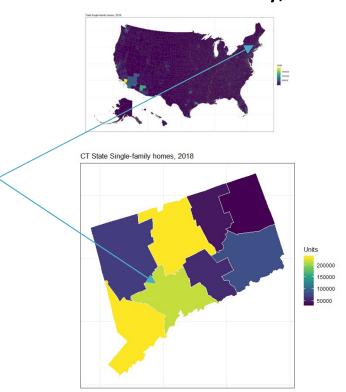


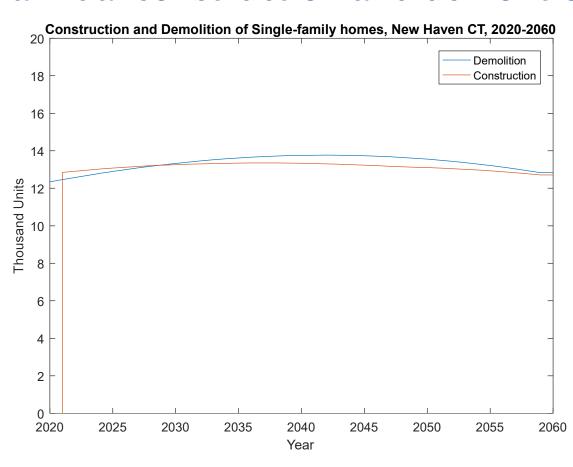
Cochise Cty, AZ





New Haven Cty, CT

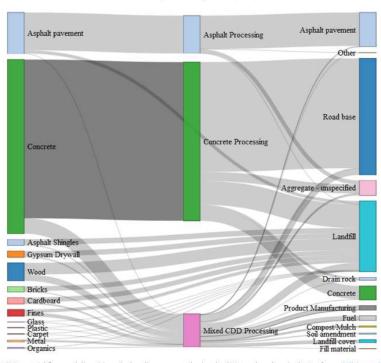




Implications for material reuse

- Circular economy potential may exist for bulk construction material in some counties
- With further refining of our model and investigating of local effects, we can find out which locations have highest/lowest potential for material reuse
- Currently only considering one sector residential buildings. Broadening scope to include non-residential buildings, roads, and other infrastructure can give more insights

Where does construction waste currently go?



 Most end-of-life concrete currently goes back into road bases, only a small part goes back into new concrete

Fig. 2. CDD material flows and dispositions. Sankey diagram created using the d3Network package in the R software (Allaire et al., 2017).

Townsend et al (2018), Waste Mgmt., 'CDDPath: A method for quantifying the loss and recovery of construction and demolition debris in the US'

Next steps

- Assumptions regarding vacancy rates
- Calculation of material intensity of housing, to estimate material flows
- Investigate environmental benefit of circular material flows
- Energy scenarios based on lifetime distribution, household size, housing type mix

Thank you!



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