

CDR is a limited resource

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28 March 2025



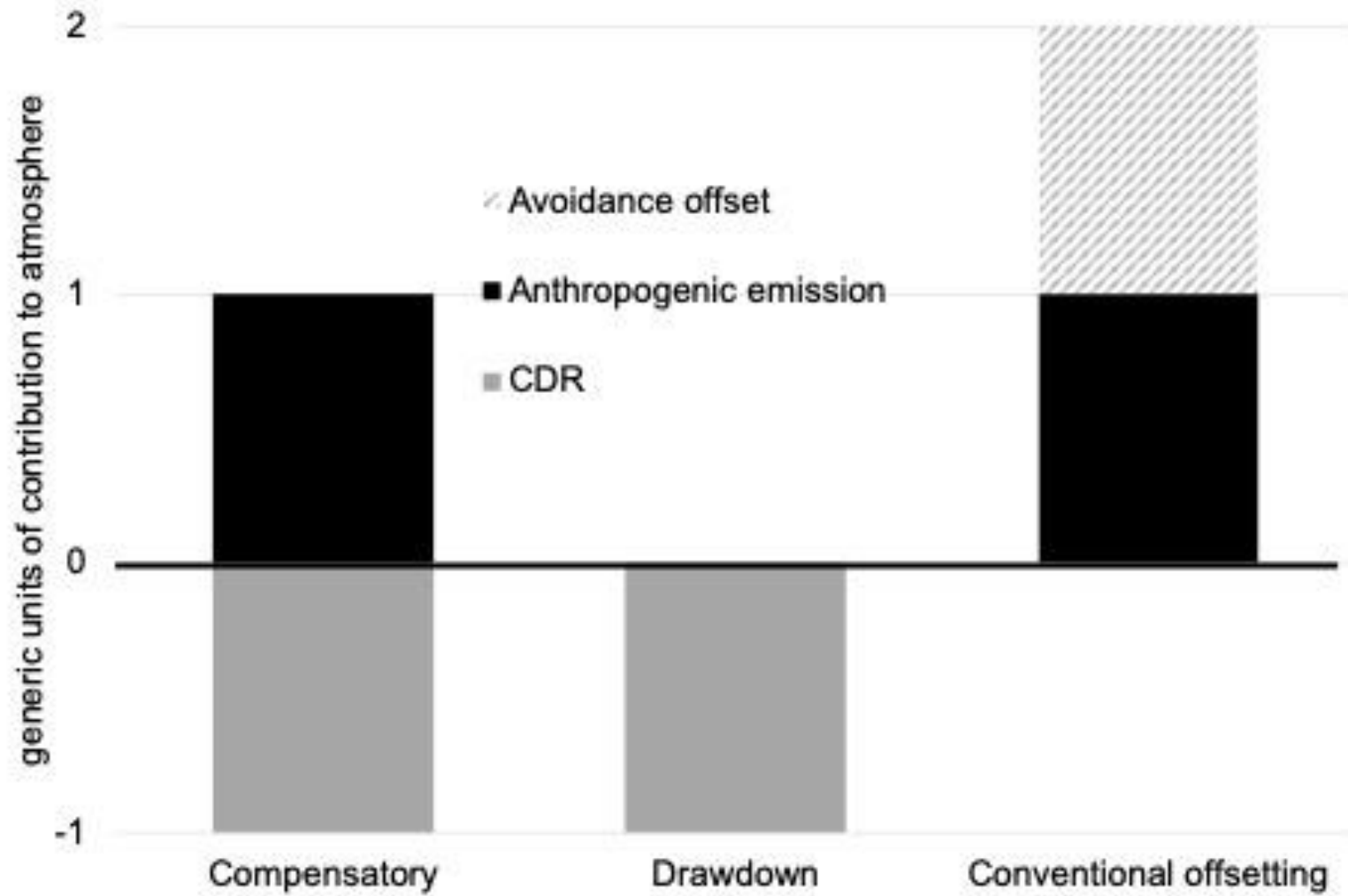
CDR has two major functions

Compensatory removal (offsets)

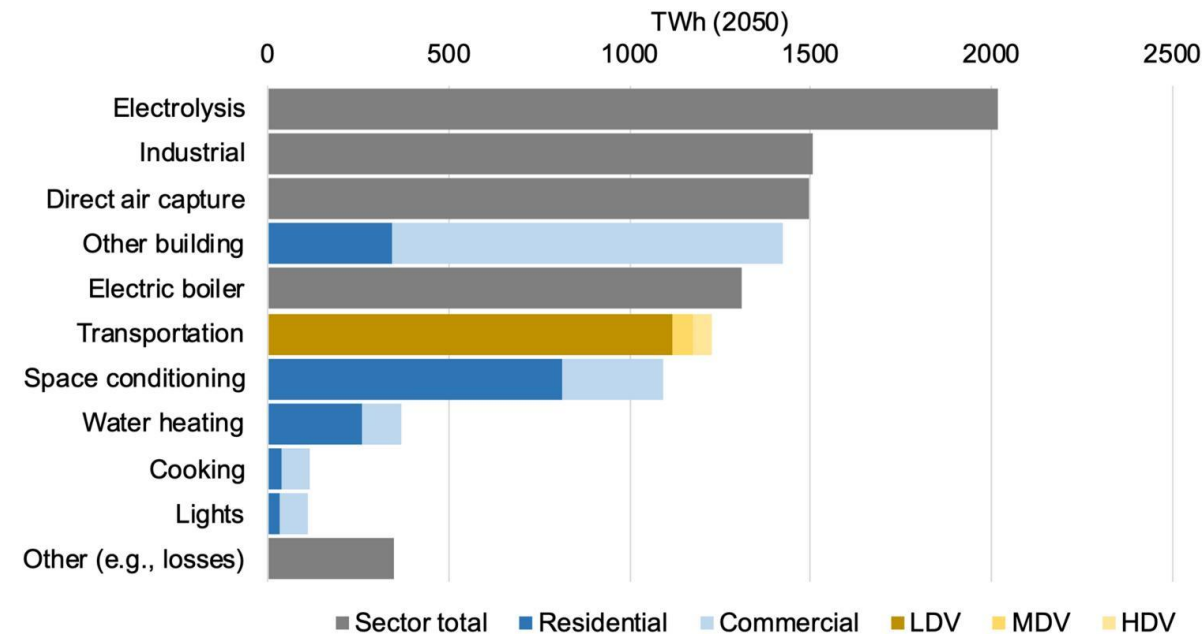
- Removing CO₂ to compensate for ongoing emissions
- “Luxury” removals (emission could have been eliminated)
- “Necessary” removals (emission could not have been eliminated)

Drawdown removal

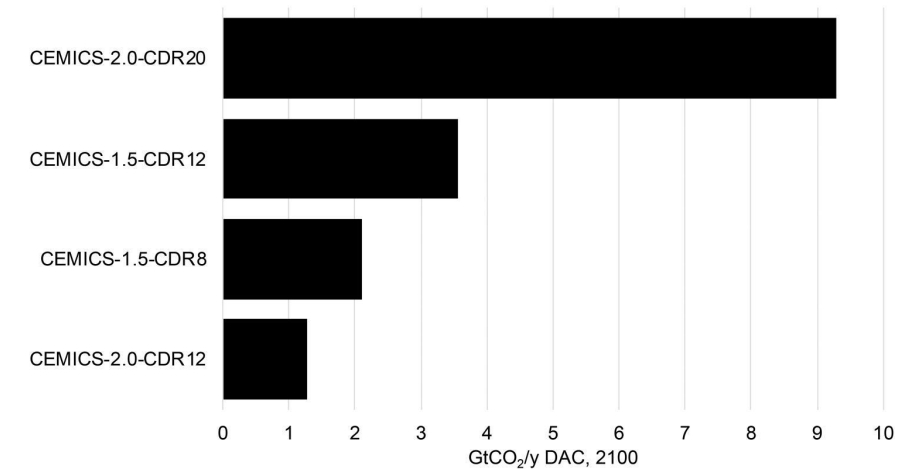
- “Net negative” emissions conditions
- Addressing legacy emissions
- Climate restoration



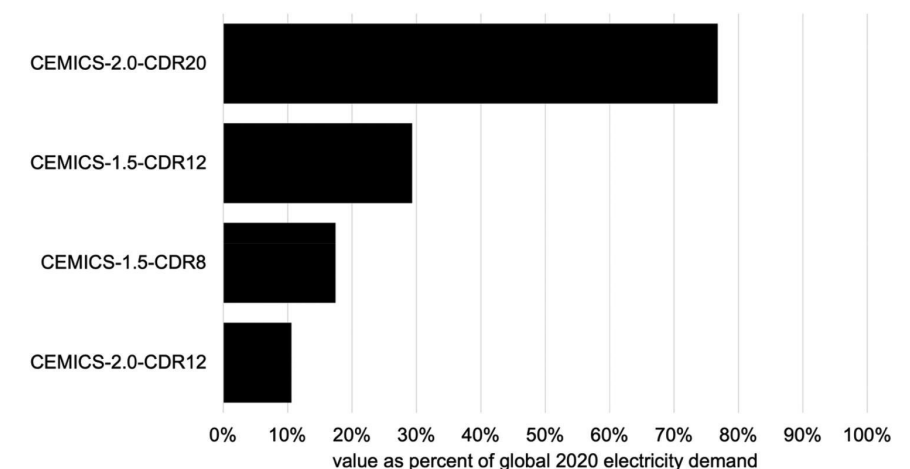
CDR is limited: as one example, it could be very energy intensive



4a. Gigatonnes per year of DAC deployed in 2100

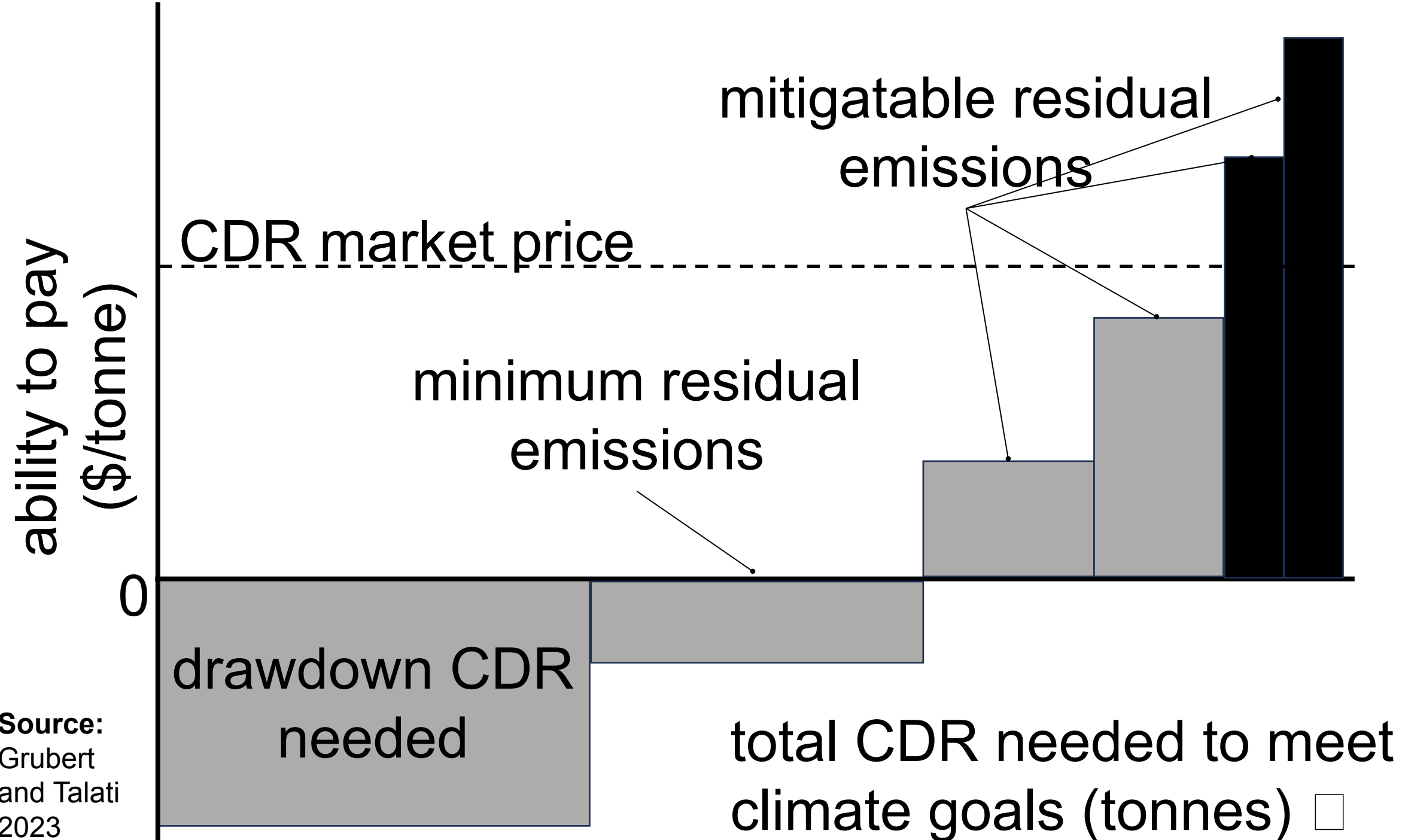


4b. DAC electricity demand in 2100 as percent of global 2020 electricity demand



Source: Grubert and Talati 2023

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and Talati
2023



Governance is a core issue for CDR

- Current US approaches incentivize maximizing CO₂ storage
- Marketized CDR encourages substitution of mitigation by compensatory removals, increasing the overall system scale
- Even small systems will be large: but it is not a foregone conclusion that “incumbent” fossil industry players must manage these systems

Carbon dioxide removal is a limited resource with a critical atmospheric function

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Photo: Grubert