

AGRIPHOTOVOLTAICS IN AN URBAN AREA – AN ECONOMIC ANALYSIS CONSIDERING LOCAL CLIMATE CHANGE RISKS

ICAE 2024

Shenzhen, China

27.01.2025

CHANTAL KIERDORF

FLORIAN SIEKMANN

DR. HOLGER SCHLÖR

DR. MATTHIAS MEIER-GRÜLL

PROF. DR. SANDRA VENGAUS

FORSCHUNGSZENTRUM JÜLICH

- JÜLICH SYSTEM ANALYSIS (JSA)
- PLANT SCIENCES (IBG-2)

RWTH AACHEN UNIVERSITY

- DECISION ANALYSIS AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC ASSESSMENT



© Forschungszentrum Jülich/ Sascha Kreklau

PRACTICAL RELEVANCE



Source: <https://www.bmel.de/DE/themen/landwirtschaft/flaechennutzung-und-bodenmarkt/flaechenverluste-landwirtschaft.html>

Agricultural
area loss [1]

Energy
transition
[2]



Source: https://www.bmbf.de/bmbf/de/forschung/energiewende-und-nachhaltiges-wirtschaften/energiewende/energiewende_node.html

Coal
phase
out [3]

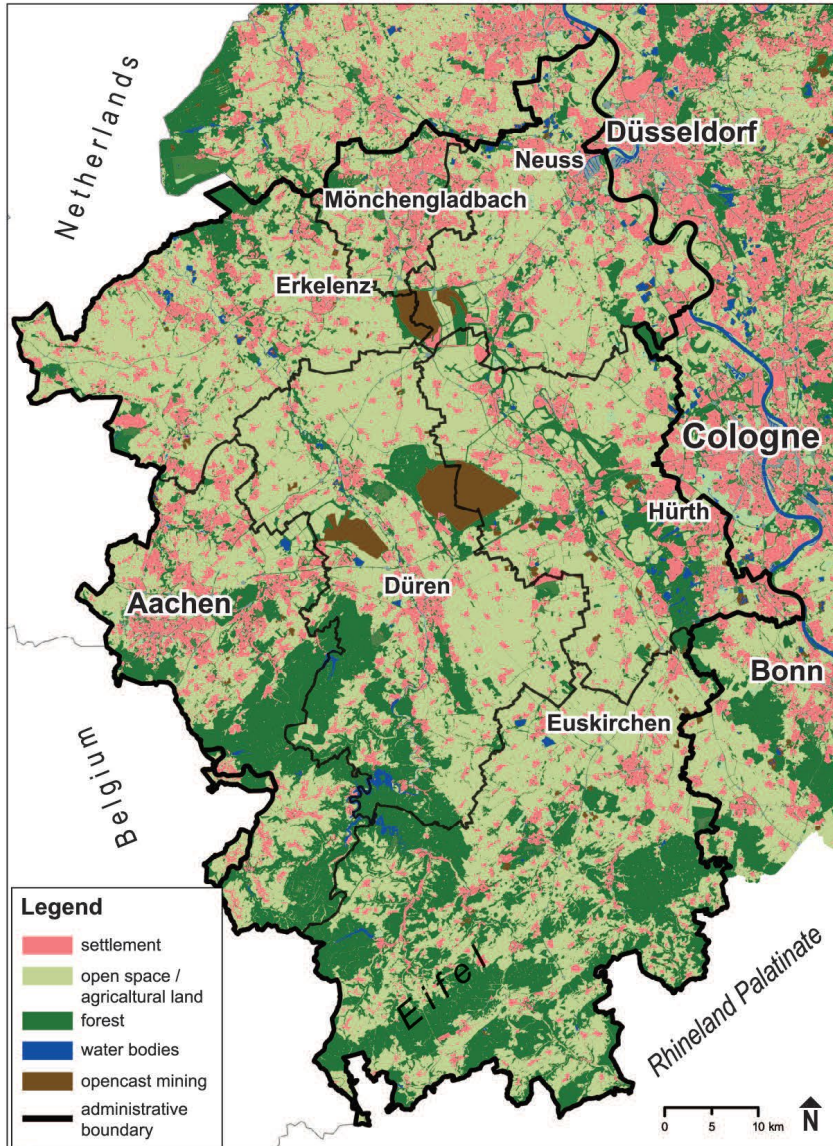
Regional
structural
change [4]



Source: <https://taz.de/Kohleausstieg-in-Europa/!5379460/>

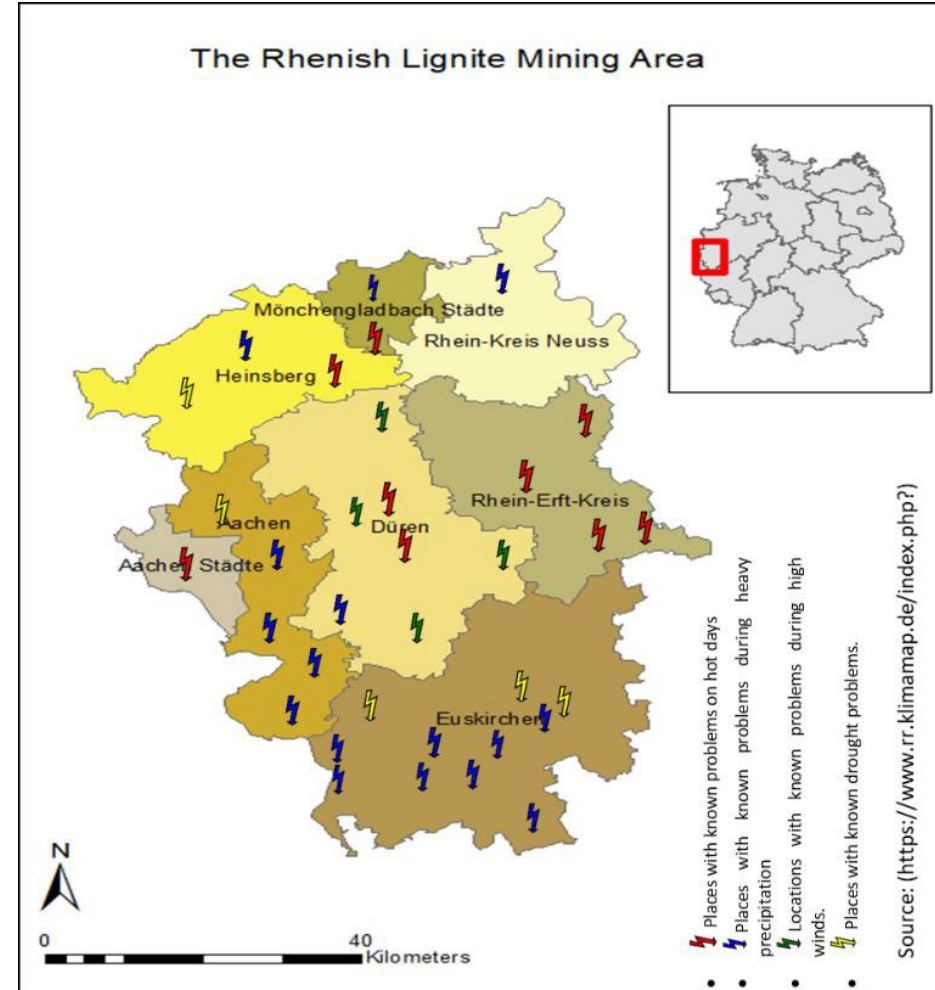


PRACTICAL RELEVANCE



Becker, Othmer, & Greiving (2022)

Mitglied der Helmholtz-Gemeinschaft



Source: own graphic adapted from © Bioökonomierevier; geo data derived from DIVA

STUDY APPROACH - A regional feasibility study on potential Agri-PV systems in arable farming in the Rhenish Lignite Mining area

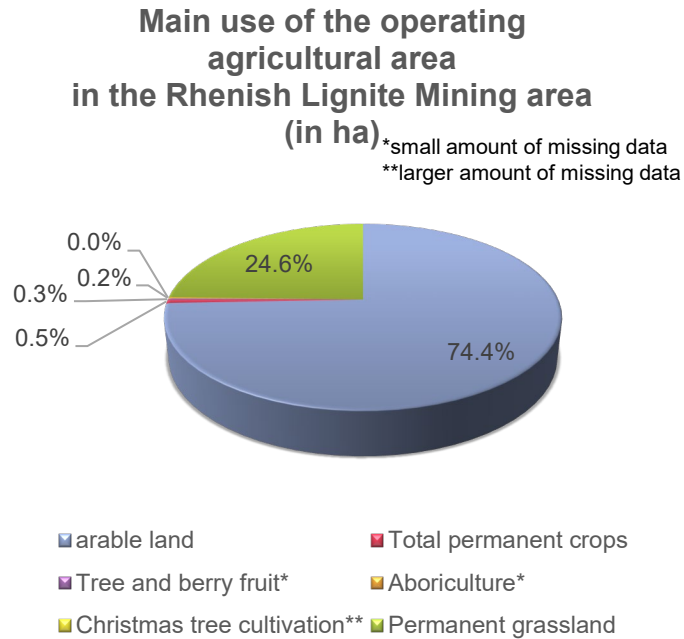
To what extent are Agri-PV systems economically attractive for farmers in the Rhenish region and under which conditions would the economic attractiveness increase?

- considering the current economic situation of Agri-PV-systems owned by farmers
- adopting the economic baseline to include the full potential of Agri-PV in the feasibility and to generate potential profitable scenarios
- to determine the current situation of Agri-PV as a business model by calculating the economic viability of small area Agri-PV systems of 2 ha owned by the farmers



STUDY FRAME

The Rhenish Lignite Mining area - Agricultural structure and suitable APV designs



Source: data from the chamber of Agriculture NRW 2020

- The agricultural sector is dominated by arable farming with crop rotation
- Vertical systems are one suitable desings with regard to the biggest area potential [21]
- An area of 2 ha was considered
- Farmer as owner: „all in one hand“ business model



© Next2Sun Technology GmbH

METHODOLOGY – DATA COLLECTION

Cost assumptions for vertical systems

Parameter PV	Vertical	Unit
Capacity	700	kWp/ 2ha
Annual electricity production	999,8	kWh/kWp
Investment costs (CAPEX I)	700	€/kWp
Capital Costs (CAPEX II)	204,033.99	€
Total Investment Costs (CAPEX I & II)	694,033.99	€/ 2 ha
Annual operational costs	5,390	€/ 2 ha

- Cost estimations are difficult to obtain as most estimations are based on research plants

CONSIDERED PAYMENT STRUCTURES

01

Governmental fed-in tariff
in Germany according to
EEG

Fix price for 20 years

0.07€/kWh

02

Representative **payment
structure outside EEG** in
accordance to exchange
price

fluctuations between
0.03-0.21€/kWh from 2020 to
2023

0,09ct/kWh average in 2023

03

Sensitivity analysis
concerning payment
quantum

0.07 – 0.28€/kWh

04

Subsidy for CAPEX

25% of initial investment
costs

TIME PREFERENCE – DISCOUNTING THE FUTURE

- Positive time preference: preference to consume certain goods rather today than in the future
- Negative time preference: preference to postpone consumption into the future
- Time preference of 0: equal valuation of presence and future

$$A \succ B \Leftrightarrow U(A) = \sum_{t=0}^T w_t \cdot U(a_t) > U(B) = \sum_{t=0}^T w_t \cdot U(B_t)$$

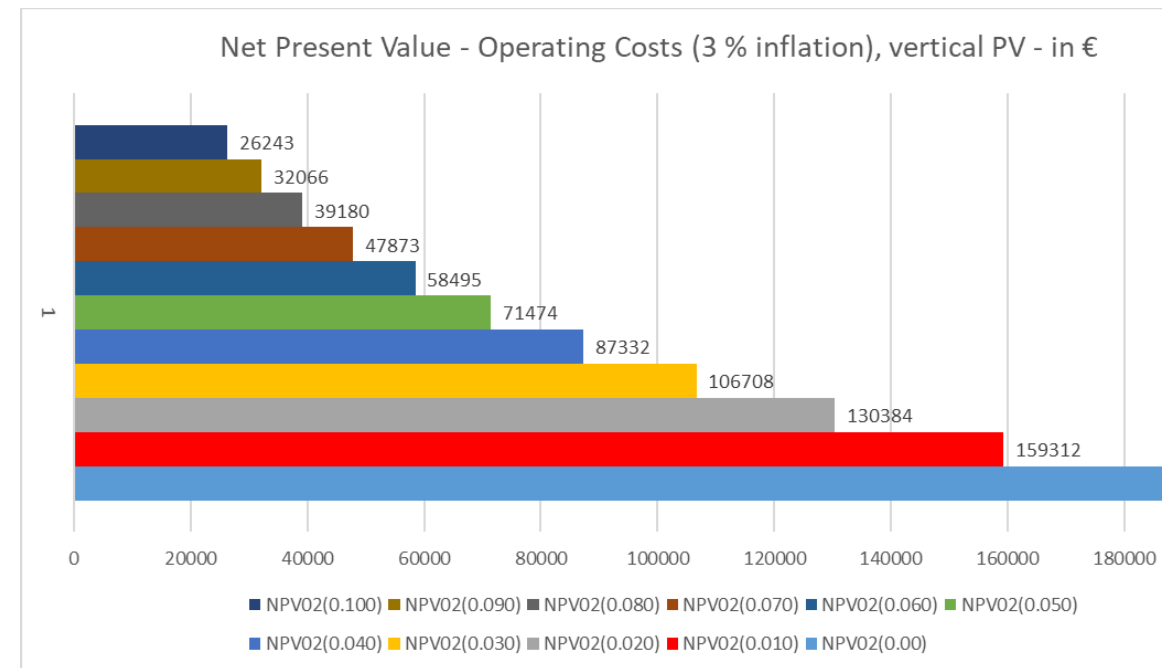
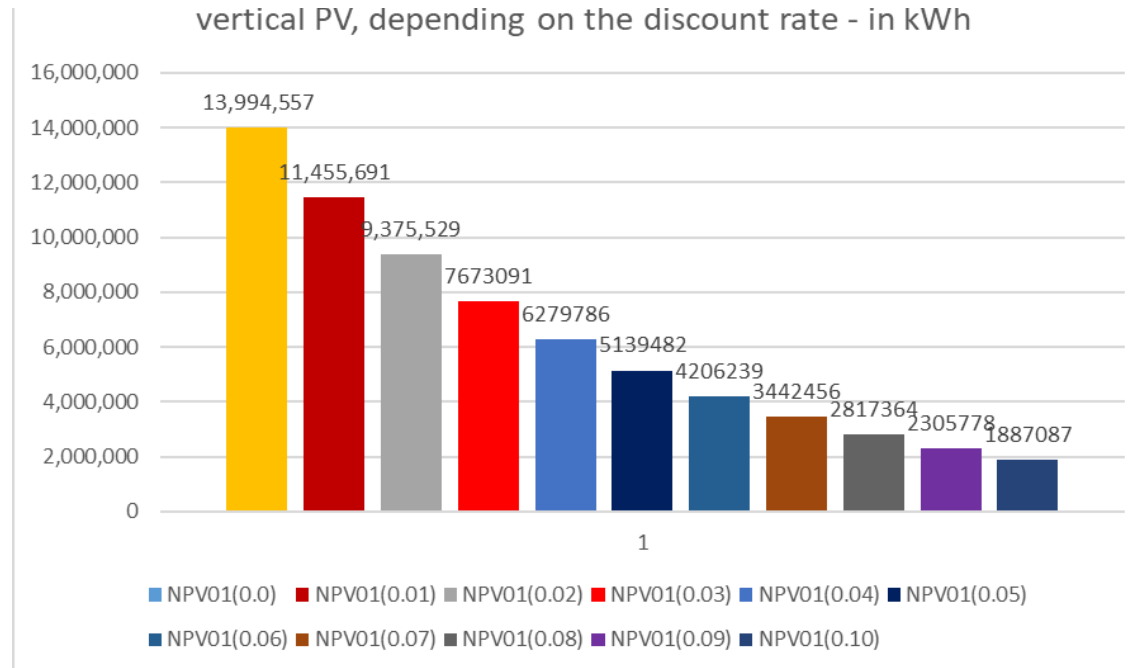
- Standard discounted utility model:

$$U(A) = \sum_{t=0}^T \frac{U(A)}{(1+i)^t}$$

- positive time preference: ($i > 0$) , negative preference ($i < 0$) , or an indifferent time preference ($i = 0$) .
- Applied discount rate: range between **0-10%** to reflect different assumptions regarding the risk of climate change affecting agricultural yields

RESULTS – VERTICAL SYSTEMS

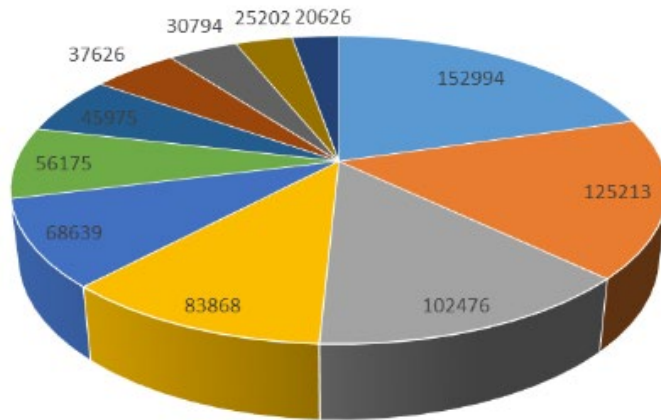
NPVs



RESULTS – VERTICAL SYSTEMS

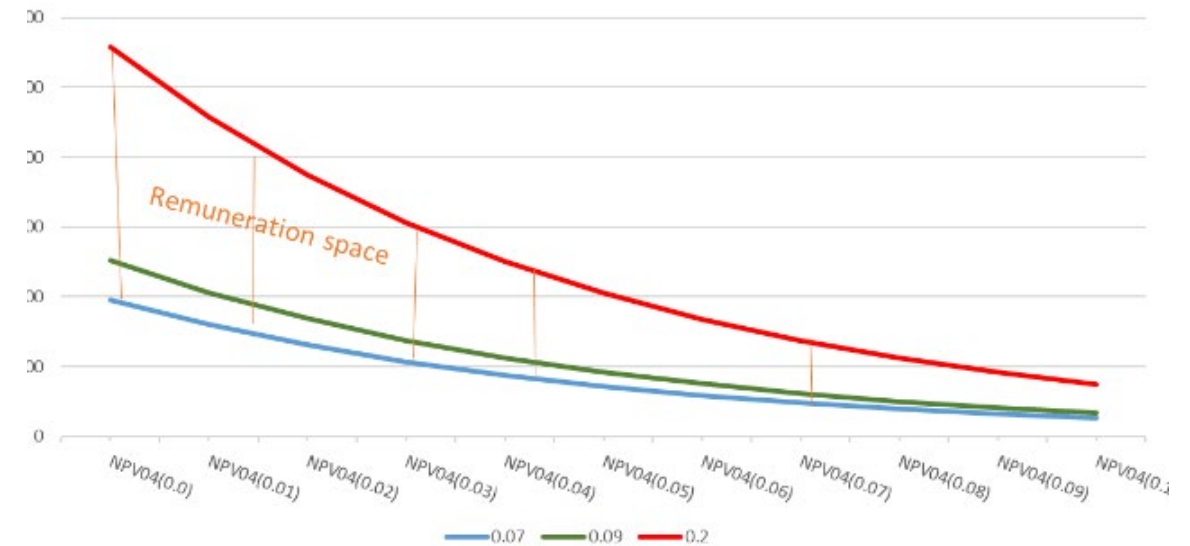
NPVs

NPV of interest costs vertical PV, in €



■ NPV03(0.0) ■ NPV03(0.01) ■ NPV03(0.02) ■ NPV03(0.03) ■ NPV03(0.04) ■ NPV03(0.05)
 ■ NPV03(0.06) ■ NPV03(0.07) ■ NPV03(0.08) ■ NPV03(0.09) ■ NPV03(0.1)

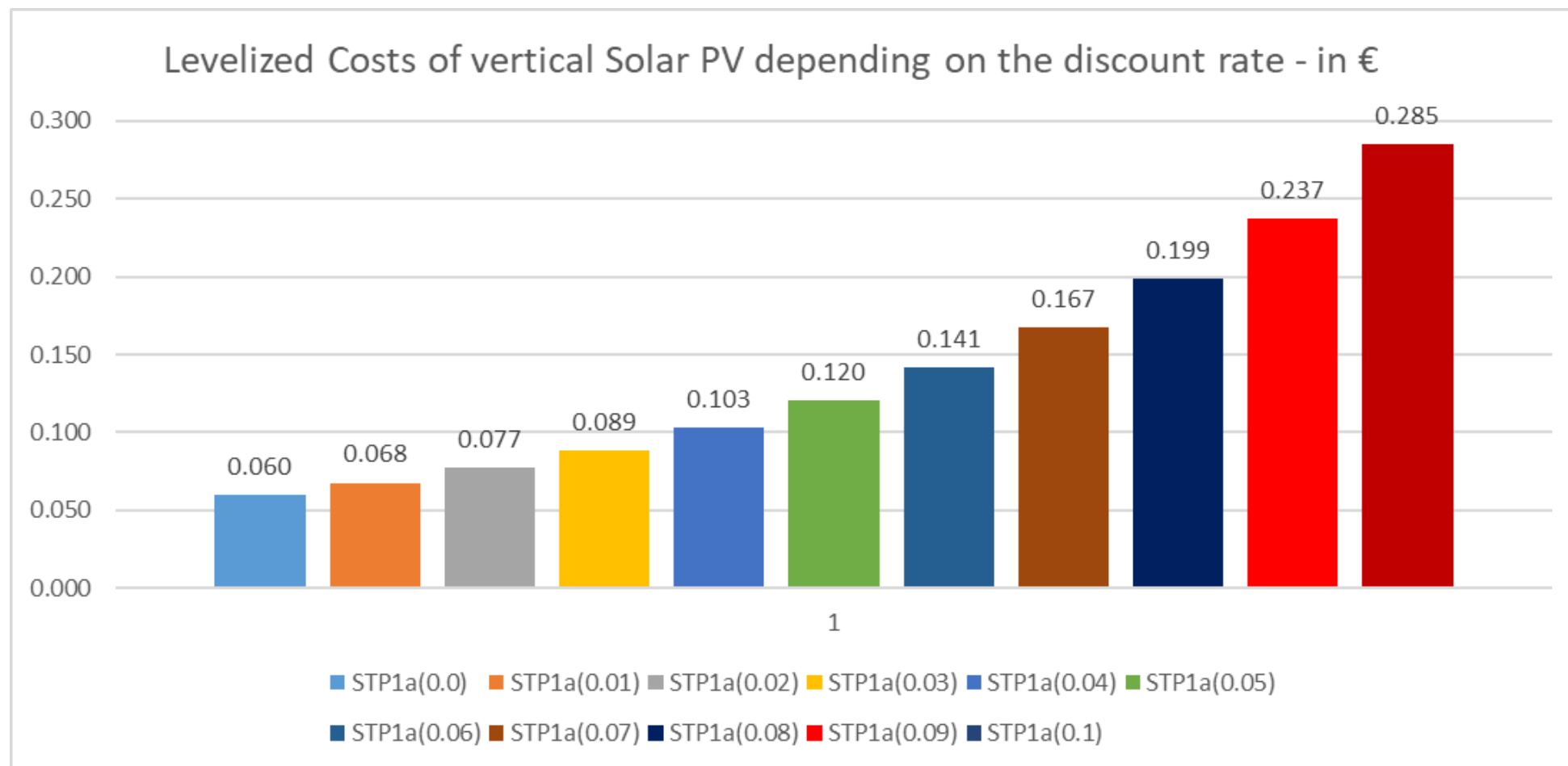
Remuneration space of vertical Agri-PV depending on discount rate and exchange price - in €



FEASIBILITY RESULTS – VERTICAL SYSTEMS

LCOE

$$LCOE_{AgroPV} = \frac{CAPEX I + NPV CAPEX II + NPEV OPEX}{NPV \text{ Solar Energy Production}}$$



RESULTS

Profit Margin

Profit margin depending on electricity price and discount rate

	PM (0.07€/kWh)	PM (0.09€/kWh)	PM (0.20€/kWh)	PM (0.2848€/kWh)
DB(0.0)	141966	421857	1961200	3148000
DB(0.01)	27211	256279	1516100	2487000
DB(0.02)	-66705	120767	1151800	1946000
DB(0.03)	-143568	9862	853733	1504000
DB(0.04)	-206474	-80904	609733	1142100
DB(0.05)	-257958	-155189	410040	845781
DB(0.06)	-300092	-215985	246608	603226
DB(0.07)	-334576	-265741	112852	404714
DB(0.08)	-362799	-306463	3384	242249
DB(0.09)	-385896	-339790	-86205	109285
DB(0.1)	-404800	-367065	-159527	465

Source: Own calculation, 2023

IEK-STE 2023

RESEARCH OUTLOOK

Same calculations for high-mounted systems

Agricultural yield scenarios will be added

Validation of the model by exert interviews



https://hofgemeinschaft-heggelbach.de/wp-content/plugins/simple-lightbox/themes/black/images/nav_next.png