

Carbon efficiency estimation of residential products

SuxianZhang^{1,a}, XinyanLiu^{1,b}

¹School of Management, Xi'an university of architecture and technology, Xi'an 710055, China

^azsxzds@126.com, ^blxbybd830@163.com

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Abstract. Residential products impact on the ecological environment can not be ignored in the whole life cycle, although it creates significant value at the same time. In order to seek the purpose of "maximize the value, minimize the effect" of residential products, at first this paper need to balance the value creation and environmental impact, in the basis of the eco-efficiency theory puts forward the concept of life cycle carbon efficiency of residential product, it defined as the ratio of the value of the life cycle of residential products to carbon emissions. Then based on the theory of life cycle assessment, the lifecycle of residential product is divided into five stages: building materials production, construction, occupation, demolition and disposition of waste materials, the paper analyze the total carbon emissions of each phase make use of carbon emissions coefficient method, and established residential products carbon efficiency measurement model. Finally, propose the measures to improve the carbon efficiency of the residential product to realize the sustainable development.

1. Introduction

Residential products as a great demand for goods, the cumulative area of residential construction and completion accounted for the cumulative area of housing construction and completion more than 60% nearly ten years, while the proportion of energy consumption of residential products in various countries is basically maintained at around 1/3, and the carbon emissions associated with these energy consumption also occupy a larger share^[1]. Residential products have important value and the potential of energy saving and emission reduction, how to balance the relationship between the environmental impact and value creation of the residential products become a problem in our society.

2. Quantification of the carbon efficiency of residential products

2.1 Life cycle carbon efficiency of residential products

The most commonly used method of ecological efficiency calculating is the ratio of the impact method at home and abroad, that is eco-efficiency = the value of product or service / environmental impact^[2]. In this paper, according to the concept of ecological efficiency, life cycle carbon efficiency of residential product is defined as the ratio of the value of the life cycle and carbon emissions of residential products, which reflects the value of residential products produced by unit carbon dioxide emissions are as follows:

$$CE_{RB} = \frac{V_{RB}}{C_{RB}} \quad (1)$$

Among them, CE_{RB} is the life cycle carbon efficiency, C_{RB} and V_{RB} , respectively are the value of the life cycle and carbon emissions of the residential products.

2.2 Life cycle carbon emissions of residential products

The paper based on the theory of life cycle assessment, the lifecycle of residential product is divided into five stages: building materials production, construction, occupation, demolition and disposition of waste materials^[3]. Therefore, carbon emission of the total life cycle C_{RB} can be estimated as follows:

$$C_{RB} = C_M + C_C + C_O + C_D + C_R \quad (2)$$

Among them, C_M, C_O, C_C, C_D, C_R respectively represent building materials production, construction, occupation, demolition and disposition of waste materials.

(1) Building materials production stage of residential products

The paper used the carbon emissions coefficient method to calculate the carbon emissions of residential products. Carbon emission coefficient method is " $C=Q \times EF$ ", where C , Q and EF , respectively represent the behalf of carbon emissions, carbon emissions and carbon emissions coefficient^[4]. Building materials production Carbon emissions calculation method of building material production according to the formula (3), the carbon emission coefficient of common materials is also found in table 1.

$$C_M = \sum_{i=1}^n m_i \times EF_{m,i} \times (1 - S_{m,i}) \quad (3)$$

Among them, n is the total number of material, m_i is the consumption of i type materials, $EF_{m,i}$ is carbon emissions coefficient of the i type material, $S_{m,i}$ is recycling coefficient of the i type material, i is the type of material.

Table 1 Carbon emission coefficients value of commonly used materials

Building material	unit	$EF_{m,i}$	Building material	unit	$EF_{m,i}$
rebar	tCO ₂ /t	3.15	Plywood	tCO ₂ /m ³	0.27
cement	tCO ₂ /t	0.86	Glass	tCO ₂ /t	1.40
concrete	tCO ₂ /m ³	0.48	Architectural coating	tCO ₂ /t	2.60
cement mortar	tCO ₂ /m ³	0.40	Polystyrene board	tCO ₂ /t	3.10
clay brick	tCO ₂ /t	0.20	PVC tube	tCO ₂ /t	4.70

(2) Construction stage of residential products

Construction stage of carbon emissions including the carbon emissions of building materials transportation from the origin to the construction site and carbon emissions of residential construction. The carbon emissions generated by the transport process is seen in the formula (4):

$$C_{C,T} = \sum_{i=1}^n m_i \times S_i \times EF_{t,i} \quad (4)$$

Among them, $C_{C,T}$ is carbon emissions in the transport process, n is the total number of material, m_i is the quality of i type building materials, S_i is the transport distance of i materials, $EF_{t,i}$ is the carbon emissions coefficient of unit material transport unit distance.

Residential construction process, the use of a variety of construction equipment will consume electricity, diesel and other energy, thus produce carbon emission, the calculation of its carbon emissions can be seen formula (5), carbon emission coefficient of common construction machinery see table 2.

$$C_{C,M} = \sum_{i=1}^n (Q_{m,i} \times EF_{m,i}) \quad (5)$$

Among them, $C_{C,M}$ is the carbon emission of construction, n is the total number machinery, $Q_{m,i}$ is the i machine-working day consumption, $EF_{m,i}$ is i mechanical pump discharge coefficient.

Table 2 Carbon emission factors value of the common construction mechanical (8 h)

Construction machinery	Specifications	Diesel (kg)	Electricity (kW·h)	$EF_{m,i}$ (kg/machine-t eam)
crawler dozer	135kW	65.2	-	207.3
truck	6t	32.2	-	102.4
tower crane	2000KN·m	-	236.5	229.4
butt-welder	75kW	-	122.9	119.2
concrete batching plant	60m ³ /h	-	661.5	641.7
air compressor	-	-	215.0	208.6

(3) Occupation stage of residential products

After the completion of the residential products, the operation of the relevant equipment will produce carbon emission. Related equipment includes heating, refrigeration, lighting, hot water supply, household appliances, etc. The paper mainly consider the necessary type of construction equipment, its carbon emissions mainly through the use of electricity and natural gas.

$$C_o = (Q_e \times EF_e + Q_g \times EF_g) \times N \quad (6)$$

Among them, Q_e is the electricity consumption for per year, EF_e is the carbon emission coefficient of per unit electricity, Q_g is annual natural gas consumption, EF_g is the carbon emission coefficient of per unit natural gas.

(4) Demolition stage of residential products

The demolition stage is estimating the energy consumption of different construction processes by formula (7):

$$C_D = \sum_{i=1}^n (Q_{d,i} \times EF_{d,i}) \quad (7)$$

Where $Q_{d,i}$ is the energy consumption of the demolition of the sub activities, $EF_{d,i}$ is the carbon emission coefficient of energy consumption.

(5) Disposition of waste materials stage of residential products

The carbon emissions of disposition of waste materials stage is from the waste materials processing and recycling, the calculation is as follow:

$$C_R = \sum_{i=1}^n (m_{r,i} \times \eta_{r,i} \times EF_{r,i}) \quad (8)$$

Among them, $m_{r,i}$ is the quality of recycled material, $\eta_{r,i}$ is the recovery ratio of material, $EF_{r,i}$ is the carbon emission coefficient of recycled material.

2.3 Life cycle value of residential products

The main and ultimate purpose of residential products is to provide the space for human life in a certain life, so the paper select the use value of housing to characterize its life cycle value^[5]. The paper defines the use value of housing through the service life of residential products, building space. Therefore combined with the formula (1), the life cycle of residential products can be rewritten as the formula (9):

$$CE_{RB} = \frac{S_{RB} \times H_{RB} \times L_{RB}}{C_M + C_C + C_o + C_D + C_R} \quad (9)$$

Among them, CE_{RB} is life cycle carbon efficiency of residential product, S_{RB} is the construction area, H_{RB} is the floor height of residential building, L_{RB} is the service life of residential products, other symbols significance.

3. Calculation and analysis of residential products case

This paper selects a high-rise residential building in Xi'an as an example, the construction area is 11257.51m², the building structure is shear wall structure, ground 27, the building height is 78.70m, the building orientation is north and south, the life cycle is 50 years.

Building materials production stage, the top 4 of carbon emissions in building materials is rebar, concrete, cement, cement mortar, which accounts for 62.5% of all building materials carbon emissions. During the construction stage, the transportation distance is assumed to be 50km, and the carbon emissions of the transportation process is 131.48t. According to the project list of the mechanical equipment of the construction engineering, the use of electricity for 299 196.76kWh, with diesel fuel for 9 737.80kg, so the total carbon emission is 321.19t. Residential use phase, according to the statistics of the residential products for 50 years with the carbon emissions of 1 508.13t, with an electric carbon emissions of 8 794.60t. So the total carbon emissions of residential use stage is 10302.73t. The removal and disposal of waste materials are approximately estimating. Specific information are shown in table 3.

Life cycle stage	Carbon emission(t)	Proportion (%)
C_M	6528.35	37.1%
C_C	452.67	2.6%
C_o	10302.73	58.5%
C_R	273.01	0.3%
C_{RB}	17610.56	/

$$CE_{RB} = \frac{S_{RB} \times H_{RB} \times L_{RB}}{C_M + C_C + C_O + C_D + C_R} = \frac{11257.51 \times 3 \times 50}{17610.56} = 95.89 \text{m}^3 \cdot \text{a/t} \quad (10)$$

Can be seen from table 3, carbon emissions of occupation account for 58.5% of the total carbon emissions, the contribution is in the first place. Second, building materials production stage, the proportion of 37.1%, followed by construction stage 2.6%, demolition of 1.6%. Finally, as a waste processing stage of 0.3%. To sum up by formula (10), the residential product case this paper proposed, its life cycle carbon efficiency for $95.89 \text{m}^3 \cdot \text{a/t}$, can understand for per unit carbon dioxide emissions produce life cycle value of residential product is 95.89.

4. Summary

In this paper, the concept of the life cycle carbon efficiency of residential products is put forward, the case of a 27 story shear wall structure in Xi'an city is estimated. According to the calculation, the total carbon emissions of residential product life cycle is 17 610.56t, which the occupation stage is the first account for 58.5% of the total, second is building materials production stage, the proportion is 37.1%, followed by the construction stage 2.6%, the demolition stage 1.6%, the final waste treatment phase is 0.3%. In summary, the life cycle carbon efficiency of residential products is $95.89 \text{m}^3 \cdot \text{a/t}$.

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