# The Oil Saving Efficiency of Recycling Technology for Waste Plastics ${ }^{1}$ 

By<br>Toyoaki Washida*


#### Abstract

After the first oil crisis many companies in Japan started on projects to recycle waste plastics by transforming them into oil. These projects, however, were disrupted after the fall of oil price in the successive periods of the oil crisis. This disruption was mainly caused by inefficiency of the recycling technology in those days. Recently a new technology for recycling, which uses artificial zeolite as catalyst, has been developed and an experimental plant has been constructed. Although the technology has high efficiency in transforming waste plastics into oil, it cannot produce value added. However we have to understand the difference between the efficiency for value and for material. In this paper, we investigated the oil efficiency of the technology. The oil efficiency was measured by the quantity of oil which was directly and indirectly necessary to produce one unit of oil by recycling waste plastics. We use the 1985 Input-Output Table and a linear programming model is constructed. Since waste plastics are produced as joint products, we cannot avoid to use linear programming models. The result showed that recycling technology had high efficiency in saving oil. If the total of the waste plastics generated in Japan would be processed by this technology, the amount of oil savings would be 7.57 million $K l$ which would be just $4 \%$ of the total amount of oil used in 1985.


## 1. Introduction

The total waste plastics discharged by households and by industries in 1988 is $8 \times 10^{6} t$ in Japan ${ }^{2}$. Since plastics support our materialistic life from every aspect, we do not expect this amount to decrease substantially. On the one hand it is clearly wasteful to discharge the plastics which contains energy with high density. On the other hand when waste plastics is discharged as solid materials, they take up much space and accelerate the use of land fills. To burn them in facilities which can generate electricity is an effective way to save energy. It releases, however, some types of pollutants in the air. Especially if the waste plastics include chlorine (Cl) they possibly generate hazardous organic chlorine compounds depending upon the conditions of burning. Moreover the release of carbon dioxide $\left(\mathrm{CO}_{2}\right)$ is unavoidable. Thus we have to seek alternative ways to deal with them ${ }^{3}$.

The way which has the strongest potential is to transform them into oil which is the original resource of plastics. After the first oil crisis in 1973 many companies in Japan started on projects to recycle waste plastics to reproduce oil. These projects, however, were disrupted after the fall of oil price in the successive years. This disruption was mainly caused by inefficiency

[^0]of the recycling technology in those days. Recently a new technology for recycling, which uses artificial zeolite as catalyst, has been developed and an experimental plant has been constructed.

Although the technology has high efficiency in transforming waste plastics into oil, it cannot produce value added in the progress. We have to pay attention to the difference between the efficiency for value and for material. We shall investigate in this paper, the oil efficiency of this technology. The oil efficiency is measured by the quantity of oil which is directly and indirectly necessary to produce one unit of oil from recycling waste plastics. We use data from the 1985 Input-Output Table and a linear programming model is constructed. Since the waste plastics are produced as joint products, we cannot avoid the use of linear programming model.

## 2. Theoretical Framework of Technology Assessment

Since we use the input-output table, every quantity is basically measured in monetary unit, unless it is specifically mentioned that other unit is used. Let the number of sectors be $n$ and the number of goods be $m$. In this stage they do not include waste plastics and their recycling sector. Let $A=\left(a_{i j}\right)$ be a $m \times n$ input coefficients matrix. We do not necessarily presume $m=n . a_{i j}$ means the amount of the $i$ th products required to operate the $j$ th industry for one unit of activity. We assume that $a_{i j}$ includes the service by fixed capital equipment and it does not include imported products. Let $B=\left(a_{i j}\right)$ be the $m \times n$ output matrix and $b_{i j}$ denotes the amount of the $i$ th products produced by the $j$ th industry for one unit of activity. In our analysis, since we deal with joint production this matrix cannot be a diagonal one. We cannot avoid using joint production model to analyze the efficiency of recycling technology, as waste materials are inevitably produced as joint products. Let $g=\left(g_{j}\right)$ be a $n$ dimension row vector of import coefficients. The $g_{j}$ means the amount of imported products required for one unit of activity of the $j$ th industry. The import of materials requires the same amount of exports measured in monetary unit, and we assume that exports and imports are in balance. Let a vector $e$ be a basket which expresses the composition of products exported in 1985. It is a $m$ dimension column vector and it is normalized as $|e|=1$. It shows that one unit export has to be performed with a distributed form $e$. Let $d$ be a $m$ dimension vector expressing the final demand for domestic products, and $d_{m+1}$ be the amount of final demand for imported products. Let $c^{\prime}=\left(c_{j}^{\prime}\right)$ be a $n$ dimension row vector expressing the amount of imported crude oil required by one unit of activity for each industry ${ }^{4}$. Moreover we use a slightly different $c=\left(c_{j}\right)$ vector. Let the $k$ th industry produces crude oil. Then the difference between $c^{\prime}$ and $c$ is only in the $k$ th element, that is, $c_{k}=c_{k}^{\prime}+1$ and $c_{j}=c_{j}^{\prime}, j \neq k$.

First let us specify the primary problem which does not include the recycling industry of waste plastics. The problem is to minimize input crude oil required to produce final demand. The problem is as follows.

$$
\text { Minimize } \quad c^{\prime} x+x_{k}=c x
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { s.t. } \\
& \qquad \begin{aligned}
(B-A) x-e x_{n+1} & \geq d \\
-g x \quad+x_{n+1} & \geq d_{m+1} \\
x \geq 0, \quad x_{n+1} & \geq 0,
\end{aligned}
\end{aligned}
$$

where $x$ is an activity vector and $x_{n+1}$ is the amount of export. The objective function expresses the total of imported and domestically produced crude oil. Since one unit of crude oil means that at least one unit of crude oil has to be extracted from the external of this economy (= natural environment), the objective function expresses the total crude oil resources exploited for sustaining the final demand $d$ and $d_{m+1}$.

[^1]The first equation of the constraint conditions shows that the demand for domestic products have to be less than that of supply. This is a $m$ dimension vector equation. The second equation shows that the total import has to be less than total export. The last equation is the nonnegativity conditions for variables.

Since the system is specified by a linear programming problem, the output configuration has normative characteristics and we cannot say that the actual output configuration tends to converge on the configuration given by this problem as an optimal solution. However the objective of this analysis is not to show how the actual configuration is given, but to show the criterion of technology assessment. In other words, our methods are to show whether the recycling technology of resources is effective under an optimal condition.

Next, the dual system of the problem is as follows.

$$
\begin{array}{ccc} 
& \text { Maximize } & v d+v_{m+1} d_{m+1} \\
\text { s.t. } & \\
& v(B-A) & -v_{m+1} g \leq c \\
-v e & +v_{m+1} \leq 0 \\
& v \geq 0, & v_{m+1} \geq 0,
\end{array}
$$

where $v$ is a value vector measured in crude oil and $v_{m+1}$ shows the oil value of imported products. The objective of this problem is to maximize the total oil value of the final demand vector. The first vector equation shows that the output products for each industry cannot fix the oil value more than the total oil value of input materials and services. This is an equation for the conservation of the value.

It is unnecessary to show whether both problems have optimal solutions, for our analysis is not theoretical but empirical. Owing to the duality theorem, if both problems have solutions the maximum of the former problem coincides with the minimum of the latter problem ${ }^{5}$. Although both solutions are closely related we mainly pay attention to the solution of the dual problem, for the value vector can evaluate the basket of products from the viewpoint of macroscopic oil efficiency. $v_{i}$ can be interpreted as the amount of crude oil which is directly and indirectly required by additional one unit increase of the final demand for the products ${ }^{6}$, that is,

$$
v_{i}=\frac{\Delta c x}{\Delta d_{i}} .
$$

Now let $a_{n+2}$ be the input vector required to produce one unit of oil by recycling. Then $v a_{n+2}$ shows the amount of oil charged by using this recycling technology. If the oil value of waste plastics is zero and $1>v a_{n+2}$ holds, then it means that the oil produced by the recycling technology is greater than the oil necessary for recycling. Thus $v$ functions as a fundamental criterion to measure the efficiency of recycling technology. We shall investigate this point again after the specification of the problems which directly include the recycling sector of waste plastics.

Let $a_{n+2}$ be the input vector of the recycling sector used above, and $x_{n+2}$ be the working level of the sector. $x_{n+2}$ is measured by the amount of oil recycled by the sector. Let $p$ be the $n$ dimension row vector which elements show the amount of waste plastics jointly produced by each industry and $p_{n+2}$ be the amount of the waste plastics required for one unit production of oil. Let $d_{m+3}$ be the amount of waste plastics discharged by the household. Finally let $N$ be the amount of input crude oil outside the economy. Then the problem is specified as follows.

[^2]\[

$$
\begin{array}{rlrl}
\text { s.t. } & & \\
\begin{array}{rrr}
(B-A) x & -e x_{n+1} & -a_{n+2} x_{n+2} \\
-g x & +x_{n+1} & \\
-c x & & \geq d \\
p x & & x_{n+2} \quad+N \\
& \geq p_{n+2} x_{n+2} & \geq-d_{m+3} \\
x \geq 0, \quad x_{n+1} \geq 0, \quad x_{n+2} & \geq 0
\end{array}
\end{array}
$$
\]

The objective is to minimize the input crude oil. The first equation shows the supply and demand balance for domestic products. The second shows the trade balance. The third equation shows that the crude oil cannot be saved more than the amount recycled. Here we assume that the recycled oil is completely substitutable for crude oil. The fourth equation shows the supply and demand condition for waste plastics.

Then we can specify the dual problem as follows.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { Maximize } \quad v d+v_{m+1} d_{m+1}-v_{m+3} d_{m+3} \\
& \text { s.t. } \\
& \begin{array}{llllll}
v(B-A) & -v_{m+1} g & -v_{m+2} c & +v_{m+3} p & \leq \phi \\
-v e & +v_{m+1} & & & \leq \\
-v a_{n+2} & & +v_{m+2} & -v_{m+3} p_{n+2} & \leq & \leq \\
& & v_{m+2} & & \leq & 1
\end{array} \\
& v \geq 0, \quad v_{m+1} \geq 0, \quad v_{m+2} \geq 0, \quad v_{m+3} \geq 0,
\end{aligned}
$$

where $v_{m+2}, v_{m+3}$ are the value of oil and waste plastics, respectively. $\phi$ is the $m$ dimension vector composed only by 0 elements. Since it is impossible for the economy to be sustained without input of crude oil the minimized $N$ has to be positive. Owing to the duality theorem the last equation in the dual problem holds the strict equality in the optimal solution. This means $v_{m+2}=1$, that is, the oil value of the oil itself is 1 .

As mentioned above let us examine how the value system $v$ and $v_{m+1}$ in the model without the recycling sector works for the evaluation of the recycling technology. Now let us assume the following equation.

$$
\begin{equation*}
v a_{n+2} \geq 1 \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

In other words, the total oil value of the input factors to produce one unit oil in the recycling sector is greater than 1 . Let $v^{*}$ and $v_{m+i}^{*}(\mathrm{i}=1,2,3)$ be the optimal solution in the dual problem inclusive of the recycling sector. Then we can easily show that the following equation can never be satisfied.

$$
\begin{equation*}
v^{*} d+v_{m+1}^{*} d_{m+1}-v_{m+3}^{*} d_{m+3}<v d+v_{m+1} d_{m+1} \tag{2}
\end{equation*}
$$

The proof is as follows. Now assume $v_{m+2}=1, v_{m+3}=0$ and let us consider $v, v_{m+i}(\mathrm{i}=1,2,3)$. If ( 1 ) is satisfied then $v, v_{m+i}(\mathrm{i}=1,2,3)$ has to be a feasible solution of the dual problem inclusive of the recycling sector. Moreover if (2) is satisfied the problem has the feasible solution which value of the objective function is greater than the optimal solution. This is a contradiction. Therefore (2) can never be satisfied.

The right hand side of (2) expresses the oil necessary without the recycling sector and the left hand side expresses that with the recycling sector. Therefore the fact that the above equation is not satisfied means that we cannot save the oil input by introducing the recycling technology from a macroscopic view.

Thus the following equation has to be satisfied so that the recycling sector saves the macro input of crude oil.

$$
\begin{equation*}
v a_{n+2}<1 \tag{3}
\end{equation*}
$$

Table 1: Product and Input Flow

| Waste Plastics |  | 1 | $t$ |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Sorting, washing, crushing | Electricity | 1,100 | Kwh |
|  | Other Costs | 14,000 | $¥$ |
| Recycling Plant | Fuel Oil | 200 | Kg |
|  | Electricity | 400 | Kwh |
|  | Zeolite | 2,000 | $¥$ |
|  | Other Costs | 2,000 | $¥$ |
| Product | Recycled oil | 800 | Kg |

Although (3) is a necessary condition, it is not a sufficient condition. In other words, even if (3) holds, we cannot exclude the case that the oil necessary with the recycling sector is not different from that without the sector. However, we can say that the case is quite rare as we have investigated in the previous part of this section. Therefore (3) can be the important criterion for assessing new technologies.

It is true that we can directly judge the recycling efficiency by solving the problem inclusive of the recycling sector. Yet to use the criterion (3) has some advantages. For example, let us consider the case that we have some alternative technologies for recycling. If we use (3) as the criterion it is not necessary to solve each problem for each technology. Since we already have the vector $v$ by solving the linear programming problem without the recycling sector, we simply need to calculate the total value the input coefficient and to compare the value with 1 . Moreover we can extend the methods into the assessment of more general technologies. In other words not only for recycling technologies we can assess whether a new technology has oil saving efficiency or not by the same procedure as described above.

## 3. Specification of the Recycling Technology

First let us simply describe the recycling technology of waste plastics which is working as an experimental plant in Japan. The kinds of waste plastics which can be processed by the plant are polyethylene, polypropylene and polystyreen. The four major plastics include, in addition, polyvinyl chloride, which in this stage of technology cannot be processed, for the plant cannot absorb chlorine gas without damage to the plant. However we assume that the recycling plant can process the waste plastics of polyvinyl chloride with minor change that cannot affect the estimation of the technology. These raw materials have to be broken into pieces before they are taken into the plant. The materials are heated up to about 400 centigrade and transformed into gas, which passes through artificial zeolite as catalyst and is finally transformed into oil. The ratio of the materials and the product is $10: 8$ measured by weight. The ingredients of the product are gasoline $50 \%$, kerosene $25 \%$ and light oil $25 \%$.

Next we shall estimate the input coefficients of the recycling technology except for fixed facilities of the plant. Table 1 shows the components of input and output flow of the technology per $1 t$ of waste plastics to be processed by the plant. We assume that the fuel oil 200 kg is substitutable by the same amount of recycled oil. Then the recycled oil valued by the price in 1985 amounts to $¥ 32,755$. The total cost of electricity amount to $¥ 36,534$.

Then we have to match these components to the classification of the 1985 Input-Output Table in Japan. Since the electricity is treated as an independent product in the Input-Output Table, we can make it correspond to the product in the table as a cost directly. We make the artificial zeolite correspond to the sector of the other industrial inorganic chemicals in the input-output table. The other costs are distributed among elements using the input vector of the sector of
the petrochemical basic products in the Input-Output Table which is normalized to make the sum equal to 1 . Before making the normalized vector, we eliminate the elements for the other industrial inorganic chemicals, oil products, products related to petrochemical basic products and electricity from the vector, for these elements are already included. The configuration is listed in the first column of the table in Appendix A. We finally have the input coefficient vector, i.e. $a_{n+2}$, vector by these elements divided by the nominal value of recycled oil.

Finally we have to estimate the coefficients related to the supply and demand of waste plastics. Since waste plastics does not have stable evaluation by markets we have to deal with the quantity of waste plastics in physical term. The amount of waste plastics required to produce one unit of recycled oil can easily be calculated by the relationship in Table 1. The amount of waste plastics discharged by each industry is estimated as follows. As mentioned in the first section, total industrial waste plastics amounts to $282 \times 10^{6} t$ in 1985 . However we do not have information about how much of the amount is partly attributed to each industry. Therefore we assume that each industry discharged waste plastics in proportion to the input of plastics. We distribute the total $282 \times 10^{6} t$ to each industry in proportion to the input of plastics. The output coefficient is obtained by dividing it by the activity level of the industry. We assume that waste plastics discharged by households amount to $10 \%$ of the total waste materials of $4,344.9965 \times 10^{6} t$ in 1985.

## 4. Processing of the Input-Output Table

We use the 1985 Input-Output Table of Japan, where one unit is treated as 100 million yen. Although our analysis is primarily based on the 183 sectors integrated table, we utilize the data from the $529 \times 408$ basic table, when necessary.

The integrated table includes the products, iron scrap and non-ferrous metal scrap, which are not produced as main products by any sector. We assume that these products are produced as joint products by industries. Clearly all sectors have the potential to produce these products.

Since we pay attention to the flow of crude oil in this analysis, we should avoid treating petroleum refinery products as a single kind of products. We assume that the petroleum sector jointly produces gasoline, jet fuel oil, kerosene, light oil, heavy oil A, heavy oil B and C, naphtha, LPG, and other petroleum refinery products. These data are listed in the basic table. Thus the total sector number is 181, and the total product number is 191 in our model.

Except for the petroleum refinery sector, the working level of each sector is measured by the amount of main product. The working level of the petroleum refinery sector is measured by the amount of gasoline produced.

Now let us show how to construct matrices and vectors from the input-output table. First, the input coefficient matrix $A$ is the sum of an intermediate input coefficient matrix $A^{\prime}$ and a capital service coefficient matrix $C$, that is, $A=A^{\prime}+C$. The matrix $A$ is obtained by dividing the input elements by the activity level of each sector. To make the $C$ matrix, we distribute the depreciation of fixed capital by normalized vector which is obtained by the fixed capital formation matrix in 1985. In the fixed capital formation matrix, products are classified into the basic classification employed by the basic table and sectors are classified by an 84 sectors table. It is easy to integrate the basic classification into ours. To disintegrate the sector classification, we assume that similar sectors, which are treated as same sectors when the 183 table is integrated into the 84 table, have the same proportion of various fixed capital. Then we divide the elements by the activity level of each sector.

The column vector of the output coefficient matrix for each sector includes the element 1 for the main products of the sector and non-zero elements for the iron scrap and non-ferrous metal scrap which are joint products divided by the amount of the main product, and all the other elements are zero. As stated above, since the activity level of the petroleum refinery sector is
measured by the production level of gasoline, the element for the gasoline is 1 and the other elements of joint products are proportional to this level.

The import row vector $g$ is the sum of the column elements of the import matrix for each sector divided by the activity level. The export column vector $e$ is constructed by normalization of the export vector in the final demand part of the integrated table. The row vector $c$ of crude oil input coefficient is constructed by dividing the crude oil input for each sector by the activity level and by making the element of domestic crude oil sector 1 . Moreover, as an exception, the crude oil input is measured by the physical term, Kilo liter Kl. Finally the final demand vector for domestic products $d$ can be obtained directly from the table and the final demand for imported products $d_{m+1}$ is the sum of imported products.

## 5. Solution without the Recycling Sector

First we solved the problem in which the recycling sector of waste plastics was not implemented. As discussed in the theoretical analysis, we can evaluate the recycling technology with the value vector of crude oil which can be obtained from the model without the recycling technology.

The calculation was performed by the revised simplex method of linear programming. The value of the objective function in the optimal solution amounts $195,695 \times 10^{3} \mathrm{Kl}$. This means that in order to produce the final demand basket in 1985, this amount of crude oil has to be input to the economy at the minimum. On the other hand, the actual amount of crude oil input to the Japanese economy in this year is about $219,300 \times 10^{3} \mathrm{Kl}$. The difference between the two numbers suggests that the Japanese economy have the potential to save crude oil input.

Let us investigate the optimal solution vectors. The table in Appendix B shows the structure of the solution. The first column shows the optimal production configuration. The second column shows the amount of excessive production for each sector in the optimal solution. The third column shows the dual solution vector, which its elements of measure the crude oil value for each products and they are measured in physical term Kl.

In the table we can confirm that the values of the products excessively supplied are zero. This fact is derived from the duality theorem of linear programming. Actually among the products jointly produced by the petroleum refinery sector, all values of the products except for naphtha are zero because of excessive production. This means that naphtha is the most scarce product among the petroleum refinery products for the Japanese economy in 1985. Of course, for the actual production, since these joint products are slightly substitutable, the economy can avoid this rigid situation.

The other excessive production appears for the sector of two wheel motor vehicle and the sector of watches and clocks. This result is related to the joint production of scrap. The sector of two wheel motor vehicle produces iron scrap with high proportion, on the other hand; the sector of watches and clocks produces non-ferrous scrap with high proportion too. Since the scarcity of these kinds of scrap is rather high for the production of the final demand, these sectors are actually transformed into those of the scrap production as main products in our model. This shows the inefficiency of the actual economy from the view point of the saving of crude oil.

Now let us evaluate the recycling technology by means of the dual solution as theoretically examined in the previous section. We employ the following notations.
$s:$ Recycled oil per ton of waste plastics
$r$ : Intermediate input vector per ton of waste plastics
$t$ : Depreciation of fixed capital per ton of waste plastics
$k$ : Proportion vector of fixed capital, normalized as $|k|=1$
$v$ : Crude oil value vector

Table 2: Summary of calculation
$\left.\begin{array}{rrrrr}\hline \hline \text { Depreciation } & \text { Input of crude oil } \\ ¥ 10^{3} \mathrm{Kl}\end{array} \begin{array}{r}\text { Rate of saving } \\ \%\end{array} \begin{array}{r}\text { Activity level of } \\ \text { recycling sector } 10^{6} ¥\end{array} \begin{array}{r}\text { Value of wasted } \\ \text { plastics } K l / t\end{array}\right]$
$s, r$, and $k$ are already given in the section for technology specification. $v$ is gven as the dual solution of the model without the recycling technology. However $p$ is not specified explicitly yet. First let us investigate the $t$ which satisfies the following equation.

$$
\begin{equation*}
s=r v+t k v \tag{4}
\end{equation*}
$$

Let $t^{*}$ be $t$ which satisfies the above equation ${ }^{7}$. This equation means that the amount of produced recycled oil is just equal to the total crude oil value of the technology which can produce it. As suggested in the theoretical part, in this case the recycling technology can save the input of crude oil as the total of society. On the other hand, if the depreciation of fixed capital of this technology is less than $t^{*}$, the technology is efficient, for it can save the input of crude oil. We can easily calculate $t^{*}$ and,

$$
t^{*}=735,939
$$

In other words, if the depreciation of fixed capital for recycling $1 t$ of waste plastics is less than $¥ 735,939$, then the technology is efficient. The rational depreciation is now estimated to be about $¥ 20,000$ for $1 t$ of waste plastics, and this $t^{*}$ is very large. Therefore, we can expect high level of saving efficiency of crude oil by this technology.

## 6. Estimation of the Oil Saving Efficiency

Let us investigate how much we can save crude oil with the recycling technology for waste plastics. Although we have to make the model include the recycling technology, we have not specified the depreciation of fixed capital for the technology which is denoted as $t$ in the previous chapter. We try to catch how the efficiency of the technology would change by making the depreciation shift to different levels. The alternatives of the depreciation are $0,20,000,100,000$, $300,000,500,000,700,000$, and 800,000 per $1 t$ of waste plastics. The summary of calculation is shown in Table- 2. We can confirm that the depreciation exceeding the critical level $t^{*}=735,939$ make it impossible to save crude oil. Since the normally expected level of the depreciation is 20,000 , at that level the amount of saving of crude oil is about $7.569 \times 10^{6} \mathrm{Kl}^{8}$, which is $3.9 \%$ for the total input of crude oil to the Japanese economy.

In the case of the $¥ 20,000 / t$ depreciation, the activity level of the recycling sector for waste plastics is $¥ 379,193 \times 10^{6}$, which equivalents to $8.683 \times 10^{6} \mathrm{Kl}$ in terms of crude oil. This means that if the depreciation could possibly be zero, then we could save $8.683 \times 10^{6} \mathrm{Kl}$. However,

[^3]in actual we can only save $7.569 \times 10^{6} \mathrm{Kl}$. The difference $1.114 \times 10^{6} \mathrm{Kl}$ is consumed directly or indirectly by the recycling process of waste plastics. The difference is unexpectedly small.

The activity level of the recycling sector for waste plastics increases as the depreciation increases. This means that the increase in depreciation causes the increase in activity levels of the other sectors and the increase in waste plastics jointly produced. Therefore the recycling sector has to increase the activity level to recover from technological inefficiency as much as it can.

Finally, the value of waste plastics decreases as the depreciation increases. This shows directly the deterioration of the technology. At the point of zero activity level of recycling sector, since waste plastics is excessively produced, the value of waste plastics becomes zero too.

## 7. Concluding Remarks

Our empirical study for the recycling technology for waste plastics shows that this technology has high efficiency in saving the total input of crude oil for the Japanese economy. On the other hand, the technology still does not have the ability to produce value added. In this stage of progress, the technology has to be in the area of increasing returns to scale. Therefore economic policies to promote the use of recycling technology for waste plastics in many fields of the economy are required.

## Appendix A

The list is for the products which are input to the recycling sector as intermediate products or fixed capital.

| Intermediate | Proportion of | Dual <br> Input | Fixed Capital |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | :--- |
| Solution |  |  |  |
| 44.937 | 0.00000 | 0.6186 | Coal and Lignite |
| 63.773 | 0.00000 | 0.4576 | Natural gas |
| 0.000 | 0.00013 | 1.4515 | Other textile products |
| 5.436 | 0.00000 | 0.7985 | Wearing apparel |
| 1.399 | 0.00000 | 0.6433 | Apparel accessories |
| 25.832 | 0.00576 | 1.0041 | Wooden furniture and accessories |
| 87.399 | 0.00000 | 0.4443 | Printing and publishing |
| 112.101 | 0.00000 | 0.9358 | Industrial soda chemical |
| 2000.000 | 0.00000 | 2.5515 | Other industrial inorganic Chemicals |
| 436.080 | 0.00000 | 0.9597 | Coal products |
| 57.746 | 0.00000 | 1.9325 | Other rubber products |
| 7.534 | 0.00000 | 0.7022 | Leather footwear |
| 0.054 | 0.00000 | 1.0091 | Miscellaneous leather products |
| 0.538 | 0.00000 | 0.5212 | Other glass products |
| 4.844 | 0.00000 | 0.6495 | Ceramic, stone and clay products |
| 0.000 | 0.00012 | 1.9539 | Metal products for construction |
| 0.000 | 0.00077 | 1.2116 | Heating and cooking apparatus |
| 13.723 | 0.00000 | 0.0841 | Other metal products |
| 0.000 | 0.01598 | 1.2493 | Engine and boilers |
| 0.000 | 0.00391 | 1.3060 | Conveyors |
| 0.000 | 0.00291 | 2.0079 | Refrigerators and air conditioning |
| 0.000 | 0.01021 | 1.1483 | Other general industrial machinery |
| 0.000 | 0.00007 | 0.9604 | Mining and construction machinery |
| 0.000 | 0.41238 | 0.9363 | Chemical machinery |
| 0.000 | 0.00058 | 0.7810 | Industrial robots |
| 0.000 | 0.06844 | 0.8210 | Other special industrial machinery |
| 0.000 | 0.00345 | 1.5670 | Other general machines and parts |
| 819.581 | 0.00000 | 0.6166 | Repair of general machinery |
| 0.000 | 0.00220 | 0.4704 | Office machines |
| 0.000 | 0.00217 | 1.4154 | Household electric appliance |
| 0.000 | 0.02398 | 0.9737 | Computer and accessory device |
| 0.000 | 0.00444 | 1.1231 | Communication equipment |
| 0.000 | 0.00094 | 0.8910 | Applied electronic equipment |
| 0.000 | 0.02449 | 1.5684 | Heavy electrical equipment |
| 0.000 | 0.04219 | 1.5007 | Other electrical equipment |
| 204.882 | 0.00000 | 0.7129 | Repair of electric machinery |
| 0.000 | 0.00396 | 1.2514 | Passenger cars |
| 0.000 | 0.00365 | 1.4267 | Trucks, buses and other cars |
|  |  |  |  |


| 0.000 | 0.00451 | 1.5267 | Other trans. equipment and repair |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | :--- |
| 1.023 | 0.00000 | 0.0000 | Watches and clocks |
| 0.753 | 0.04265 | 1.1878 | Other precision instruments |
| 0.000 | 0.15855 | 0.8119 | New residential construction |
| 312.785 | 0.00000 | 0.6298 | Repair of construction |
| 0.000 | 0.06794 | 0.9734 | Other civil engineering |
| 36534.000 | 0.00000 | 1.8287 | Electric power |
| 9.956 | 0.00000 | 2.1624 | Gas supply |
| 306.919 | 0.00000 | 0.8347 | Water supply |
| 238.356 | 0.00000 | 0.1900 | Other sanitary services |
| 955.308 | 0.08389 | 0.1862 | Wholesale trade |
| 27.770 | 0.00148 | 0.2192 | Retail trade |
| 6507.731 | 0.00000 | 0.1244 | Financial service |
| 141.055 | 0.00000 | 0.1542 | Insurance |
| 858.814 | 0.00000 | 0.1390 | Real estate agencies and rent |
| 42.677 | 0.00003 | 0.5459 | National railway transport 1 |
| 2.099 | 0.00000 | 0.4726 | National railway transport 2 |
| 23.518 | 0.00000 | 0.3621 | Local railway and tramway |
| 69.316 | 0.00000 | 0.1856 | Road passengers transport |
| 458.038 | 0.00720 | 0.1768 | Road freight transport |
| 104.298 | 0.00000 | 0.3377 | Private self-passenger transport |
| 65.980 | 0.00000 | 0.3524 | Private self-freight transport |
| 168.340 | 0.00010 | 0.3562 | Coastal and inland water transport |
| 12.055 | 0.00016 | 0.1793 | Transport service in harbor |
| 116.837 | 0.00002 | 0.4752 | Air transport |
| 71.577 | 0.00056 | 0.3102 | Storage facility service |
| 6.512 | 0.00000 | 0.4012 | Packing |
| 41.009 | 0.00000 | 0.1199 | Postal service |
| 104.997 | 0.00000 | 0.3979 | Telecommunication |
| 0.269 | 0.00000 | 0.1809 | School education and research |
| 7.158 | 0.00000 | 0.5163 | Self-education |
| 44.130 | 0.00000 | 0.2484 | Social and other education |
| 155.962 | 0.00000 | 0.2807 | Research institute |
| 809.302 | 0.00000 | 0.8206 | Self-research |
| 431.936 | 0.00000 | 0.2018 | Other public service |
| 25.025 | 0.00000 | 0.3284 | Advertising agency |
| 167.371 | 0.00000 | 0.1767 | Information services |
| 100.530 | 0.00000 | 0.5359 | Office machines renting and leasing |
| 631.975 | 0.00000 | 0.2012 | Other business services |
| 11.894 | 0.00000 | 0.9299 | Office supply |
| 1080.864 | 0.00000 | 1.3633 | Activities not elsewhere classified |
|  |  |  |  |

## Appendix B

| Optimal Output <br> Configuration $\times 10^{4}$ | Excess <br> Supply | Dual <br> Solution | Sector |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | :--- |
| 436.945 | - | 0.4566 | Cereals |
| 35.865 | - | 0.5730 | Potatoes and pulses |
| 220.520 | - | 0.4553 | Vegetables |
| 105.641 | - | 0.3797 | Fruits |
| 28.925 | - | 0.6396 | Other edible crops |
| 118.961 | - | 0.5987 | Inedible crops |
| 384.329 | - | 0.6856 | Livestock-raising |
| 25.028 | - | 0.7735 | Sericulture |
| 61.807 | - | 0.5046 | Agricultural services |
| 86.061 | - | 0.2864 | Silviculture |
| 125.262 | - | 0.2270 | Logs |
| 24.801 | - | 0.3425 | Minor forest products |
| 303.891 | - | 0.3843 | Maine fisheries |
| 19.083 | - | 0.6704 | Inland water fisheries |
| 0.467 | - | 0.6668 | Iron and ore mining |
| 22.169 | - | 0.4988 | Non-ferrous metal ores |
| 37.912 | - | 0.5037 | Material ceramics |
| 180.447 | - | 0.3435 | Gravel and quarry |
| 2.221 | - | 0.5476 | Other non-metal ores |
| 49.808 | - | 0.6186 | Coal and lignite |
| 9.760 | - | 23.3240 | Crude petroleum |
| 18.432 | - | 0.4576 | Natural gas |
| 220.480 | - | 0.6411 | Slaughtering and meat processing |
| 275.838 | - | 0.7170 | Meat foods |
| 480.083 | - | 0.5945 | Sea foods |
| 466.677 | - | 0.5816 | Grain milling |
| 686.315 | - | 0.6502 | Vegetable and fruit products |
| 618.279 | - | 0.5801 | Other foods |
| 388.994 | - | 0.3137 | Liquor |
| 268.161 | - | 0.5720 | Other beverages |
| 174.761 | - | 0.9719 | Feeds and organic fertilizer |
| 271.852 | - | 0.2523 | Tobacco |
| 213.883 | - | 1.7753 | Raw silk and fiber yarns |
| 449.212 | - | 1.4256 | Fabrics |
| 160.217 | - | 0.9872 | Knit fabrics |
| 177.173 | - | 0.8298 | Yarn and fabric dyeing |
| 186.654 | - | 1.4515 | Other fabricated textile |
| 508.258 | - | 0.7985 | Wearing apparel |
| 26.918 | - | 0.6433 | Apparel accessories |
| 104.678 | - | 0.8375 | Other ready-made textile products |
| 455.028 | - | 0.7631 | Timber, plywood and wooden chips |
|  |  |  |  |


| 184.898 | - | 0.6139 | Other wooden products |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | :--- |
| 512.405 | - | 1.0041 | Furniture and accessory |
| 157.246 | - | 0.8595 | Pulp |
| 364.928 | - | 0.9766 | Foreign and Japanese paper |
| 374.392 | - | 0.7571 | Other paper |
| 383.280 | - | 0.6855 | Paper container |
| 185.042 | - | 0.9466 | Other converted paper products |
| 1398.771 | - | 0.4443 | Printing and publishing |
| 82.257 | - | 3.1711 | Chemical fertilizer |
| 99.506 | - | 0.9358 | Industrial soda chemicals |
| 303.529 | - | 2.5515 | Other industrial inorganic products |
| 479.170 | - | 50.2104 | Petrochemical basic products |
| 601.509 | - | 20.8996 | Organic chemical intermediate |
| 110.670 | - | 16.6761 | Synthetic rubber |
| 292.766 | - | 4.4318 | other organic chemical products |
| 728.954 | - | 15.7629 | Resin |
| 186.461 | - | 6.9272 | Chemical fiber |
| 425.787 | - | 0.9948 | Medicaments |
| 220.246 | - | 1.7649 | Soap, synthetic detergent |
| 296.401 | - | 7.1465 | Paint varnish and printing ink |
| 144.108 | - | 1.1782 | Photographic sensitive materials |
| 319.180 | - | 3.9673 | Other final chemical products |
| 1007.096 | 438.375 | 0.0000 | Gasoline |
|  | 5.493 | 0.0000 | Jet fuel oil |
|  | 101.860 | 0.0000 | Kerosene |
|  | 128.204 | 0.0000 | Light oil |
|  | 65.630 | 0.0000 | Heavy oil A |
|  | 85.552 | 0.0000 | Heavy oil B and C |
|  | - | 203.0812 | Naphtha |
| 485.183 | 64.673 | - | 0.00000 | LPG | Other petroleum refinery products |
| :--- |
| 1924.153 |


| 203.952 | - | 0.5489 | Cement products |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| 157.121 | - | 0.4132 | Pottery, China and earthenware |
| 402.770 | - | 0.6495 | Ceramic, stone and clay products |
| 2054.164 | - | 10.5713 | Pig iron and crude stone |
|  | - | 185.3276 | Iron scrap |
| 1898.799 | - | 5.7606 | Hot rolled steel |
| 395.481 | - | 2.3157 | Steel pipes and tubes |
| 1304.684 | - | 1.4882 | Cold-finished and coated steel |
| 1112.768 | - | 9.0666 | Cast, fogged and other steel |
| 508.952 | - | 7.0315 | Non-ferrous metals |
|  | - | 141.6316 | Non-ferrous metal scrap |
| 288.127 | - | 7.1367 | Electric wires and cables |
| 1025.639 | - | 13.5915 | Other non-ferrous metal products |
| 390.046 | - | 1.9539 | Metal products for construction |
| 334.120 | - | 3.2396 | Metal products for architecture |
| 154.089 | - | 1.2116 | Heating and cooking apparatus |
| 1466.635 | - | 0.0841 | Other metal products |
| 354.187 | - | 1.2493 | Engines and boilers |
| 292.100 | - | 1.3060 | Conveyors |
| 163.791 | - | 2.0079 | Refrigerators and air-conditioners |
| 999.088 | - | 1.1483 | Other general industrial machines |
| 469.248 | - | 0.9604 | Mining and construction machinery |
| 267.290 | - | 0.9363 | Chemical machinery |
| 81.915 | - | 0.7810 | Industrial robots |
| 856.168 | - | 0.5149 | Metal processing machinery |
| 741.744 | - | 0.8210 | other special industrial machinery |
| 971.922 | - | 1.5670 | Other general machines and parts |
| 627.658 | - | 0.6166 | Repair of general machine |
| 501.835 | - | 0.4704 | Official machines |
| 115.127 | - | 1.0019 | Machinery for service industry |
| 1882.719 | - | 1.4154 | Household electric machinery |
| 1053.280 | - | 0.9737 | Computer and accessory device |
| 514.697 | - | 1.1231 | Communication equipment |
| 369.260 | - | 0.8910 | Applied electronic equipment |
| 1285.511 | - | 0.9213 | Semiconductor and IC |
| 1064.891 | - | 1.5684 | Heavy electrical equipment |
| 1479.873 | - | 1.5007 | Other electrical equipment |
| 1900.266 | - | 1.0195 | Parts and accessory of electrical |
| 266.573 | - | 0.7129 | Repair of electric machinery |
| 1645.065 | - | 1.2514 | Passenger cars |
| 907.248 | - | 1.4267 | Trucks, buses and other cars |
| 3436.517 | 3301.457 | 0.0000 | Two wheel motor vehicle |
|  |  |  |  |


| 5297.700 | - | 1.6537 | Parts of motor vehicle |
| ---: | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 592.044 | - | 0.9633 | Repair of motor vehicle |
| 627.373 | - | 1.2382 | Ships and its repair |
| 141.776 | - | 0.5507 | Railway cars and its repair |
| 110.699 | - | 1.1997 | Aircraft and its repair |
| 248.494 | - | 1.5267 | Other transportation equipment |
| 269.605 | - | 0.9337 | Optical instruments |
| 11229.882 | 8534.679 | 0.0000 | Watches and clocks |
| 463.756 | - | 1.1878 | Other precision instruments |
| 156.438 | - | 1.4621 | Toy and sporting goods |
| 878.634 | - | 1.2412 | Other manufacturing products |
| 2261.725 | - | 0.7761 | New residential construction |
| 2928.321 | - | 0.8119 | New non-residential construction |
| 748.234 | - | 0.6298 | Repair of construction |
| 1375.572 | - | 0.6179 | Public utility construction |
| 1493.425 | - | 0.9734 | Other civil engineering |
| 2383.849 | - | 1.8287 | Electric power |
| 224.605 | - | 2.1624 | Gas supply |
| 5.355 | - | 0.8587 | Steam and hot water supply |
| 354.368 | - | 0.8347 | Water supply |
| 298.525 | - | 0.1900 | Other sanitary service |
| 6299.191 | - | 0.1862 | Wholesale trade |
| 3169.599 | - | 0.2192 | Retail trade |
| 3370.751 | - | 0.1244 | Financial service |
| 844.244 | - | 0.1542 | Insurance |
| 1396.257 | - | 0.1390 | Real estate agencies and rent |
| 2733.049 | - | 0.3075 | House rent |
| 367.861 | - | 0.5459 | National railway transport 1 |
| 73.738 | - | 0.4726 | National railway transport 2 |
| 226.003 | - | 0.3621 | Local railway transport |
| 534.862 | - | 0.1856 | Road passenger transport |
| 1313.971 | - | 0.1768 | Road freight transport |
| 577.131 | - | 0.3377 | Self-passenger transport |
| 604.554 | - | 0.3524 | Self-freight transport |
| 695.555 | - | 0.9607 | Ocean transport |
| 168.800 | - | 0.3562 | Coastal transport |
| 251.819 | - | 0.1793 | Transport service in harbor |
| 277.670 | - | 0.4752 | Air transport |
| 168.887 | - | 0.3102 | Storage facility service |
| 340.639 | - | 0.4012 | Packing |
|  |  |  |  |


| 419.218 | - | 0.2378 | Other transport service |
| ---: | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 195.731 | - | 0.1199 | Postal service |
| 796.163 | - | 0.3979 | Telecommunication |
| 10.318 | - | 0.3473 | Other services for communication |
| 216.876 | - | 0.2786 | Broadcasting |
| 628.336 | - | 0.3622 | Public administration (central) |
| 1113.921 | - | 0.1481 | Public administration (local) |
| 1306.440 | - | 0.1809 | School education and research |
| 49.140 | - | 0.5163 | Self education |
| 190.276 | - | 0.2484 | Social and other education |
| 168.491 | - | 0.2807 | Research institute |
| 731.037 | - | 0.8206 | Self-research |
| 1922.764 | - | 0.4199 | Medical service |
| 261.313 | - | 0.2873 | Social insurance |
| 691.255 | - | 0.2018 | Other public service |
| 589.809 | - | 0.3284 | Advertising agencies |
| 714.650 | - | 0.1767 | Information service |
| 258.461 | - | 0.5359 | Office machines renting |
| 47.269 | - | 0.4185 | Car renting |
| 1889.949 | - | 0.2012 | Other business service |
| 959.084 | - | 0.2852 | Amusement service |
| 1526.646 | - | 0.3151 | Eating and drinking places |
| 401.720 | - | 0.3404 | Hotel and other lodging places |
| 695.456 | - | 0.2712 | Other personal service |
| 280.885 | - | 0.9299 | Office supplies |
| 1339.841 | - | 1.3633 | Activities not classified |
| 7325.840 | - | 1.7589 | Export |

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    * Faculty of Economics, Wakayama University
    ${ }^{1}$ This paper was presented in the 10 th International Conference on Input-Output Techniques, Seville, Spain, 1993. I thank the anonymous referee for helpful comments.
    ${ }^{2} t$ means metric ton ( $=$ tonne) throughout this paper.
    ${ }^{3}$ See Pearce(1990) and Washida(1992).

[^1]:    ${ }^{4}$ The amount of crude oil is measured by physical terms throughout this paper.

[^2]:    ${ }^{5}$ See Gale(1960)
    ${ }^{6}$ See Dorfman, Samuelson and Sollow(1958)

[^3]:    ${ }^{7}$ The variables can be related to the input coefficient vector $a_{n+1}$, i.e., $r+t k=a_{n+2} / p_{n+2}$ and also $s=$ $1 / p_{n+2}$. Since we need the variable $t$ the new notations are introduced.
    ${ }^{8}$ The amount is derived by $195,695-188,126$.

