Simulated CO2 pipeline networks for CCS in France.

Guillaume Calas, Jeff M. Bielicki, Minh Ha-Duong, Richard S. Middleton.

Simulated CO$_2$ pipeline networks for CCS in France

Calas G.[a], Bielicki J. M.[b], Ha-Duong M.[a], and Middleton R. S.[c]

[a] Centre International de Recherche sur l'Environnement et le Développement (CIRED–CNRS), 45 bis avenue de la belle Gabrielle, 94736 Nogent sur Marne CEDEX, France
[b] Humphrey School of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota, 130 Humphrey Center, 301 19th Ave. S, Minneapolis, MN 5545, USA
[c] Earth & Environmental Sciences Division, Los Alamos National Laboratory, P.O. Box 1663, Los Alamos, NM 87545, USA

The study

France has practically no CO$_2$ pipeline infrastructure today. Using *SimCCS*, a CO$_2$ system model developed by Middleton and Bielicki (2009), we asked:

- Considering a couple of plausible scenarios for the future of the technology in the country, do we find any **common pipeline corridors** to all solutions?
- How does an optimal network changes when **doubling the storage** goals?

Simulations consider storage goals varying from 10 to 60 MtCO$_2$/yr, include the forty largest CO$_2$ sources in France, which together emit 80 MtCO$_2$/yr, and contrast two storage policies:

- An "onshore scenario", where storage is permitted only in the Paris basin aquifers;
- An "offshore scenario" exports CO$_2$ towards the North sea through Normandy and toward an hypothetical storage option reachable off the Mediterranean shore.

Summary of results

The model builds about 2 500 km of pipelines for the 60 MtCO$_2$/yr target. Reaching this number in 30 years would require about 83 km of new pipeline per year. We found that the average system cost in the "onshore scenario" is about 52 \$/tCO$_2$.

The qualitative optimal strategy is to call the sources in the order of increasing capture cost, and connect those to the available sinks. This is because capture costs represent 70% to 90% of capture costs.

Three pipeline corridors are common in all cases if CCS is deployed in France. Small-scale network layouts are compatible with larger-scale ones, altough the capacities (i.e. pipeline diameters) differ: it may be socially interesting to oversize some corridors at the early stages.

Figure 1 compares the two scenarios for a common 30 MtCO$_2$/yr target, while Figure 2 compares two targets (30 MtCO$_2$/yr and 60 MtCO$_2$/yr) for the same "onshore scenario" (left on Figure 1). Three segments of network are always apparent: one is in the East of France (Lorraine region – **A** on figure 1), another one is in the North of France (Nord–Pas de Calais region – **B**). Also, scenarios with targets over 20 MtCO$_2$/yr use a corridor along the Seine river between Paris and Le Havre (**C**).
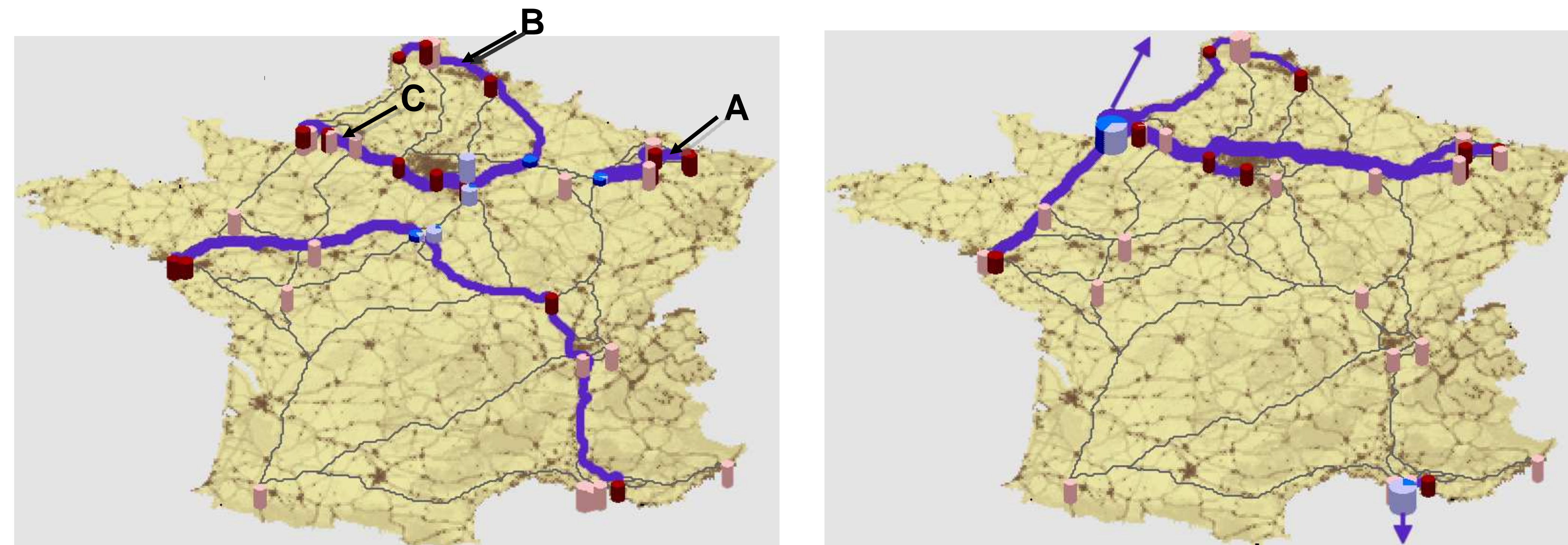

Figure 1. Optimal CCS network for 30 MtCO$_2$/yr in France for the "onshore scenario" (left) and the "offshore scenario" (right). Captured sources are in red, non-captured sources in pink, sinks in blue, unused sinks in light blue. The network is in purple. Purple arrows symbolise pipelines linking a hub to an hypothetical offshore reservoir.
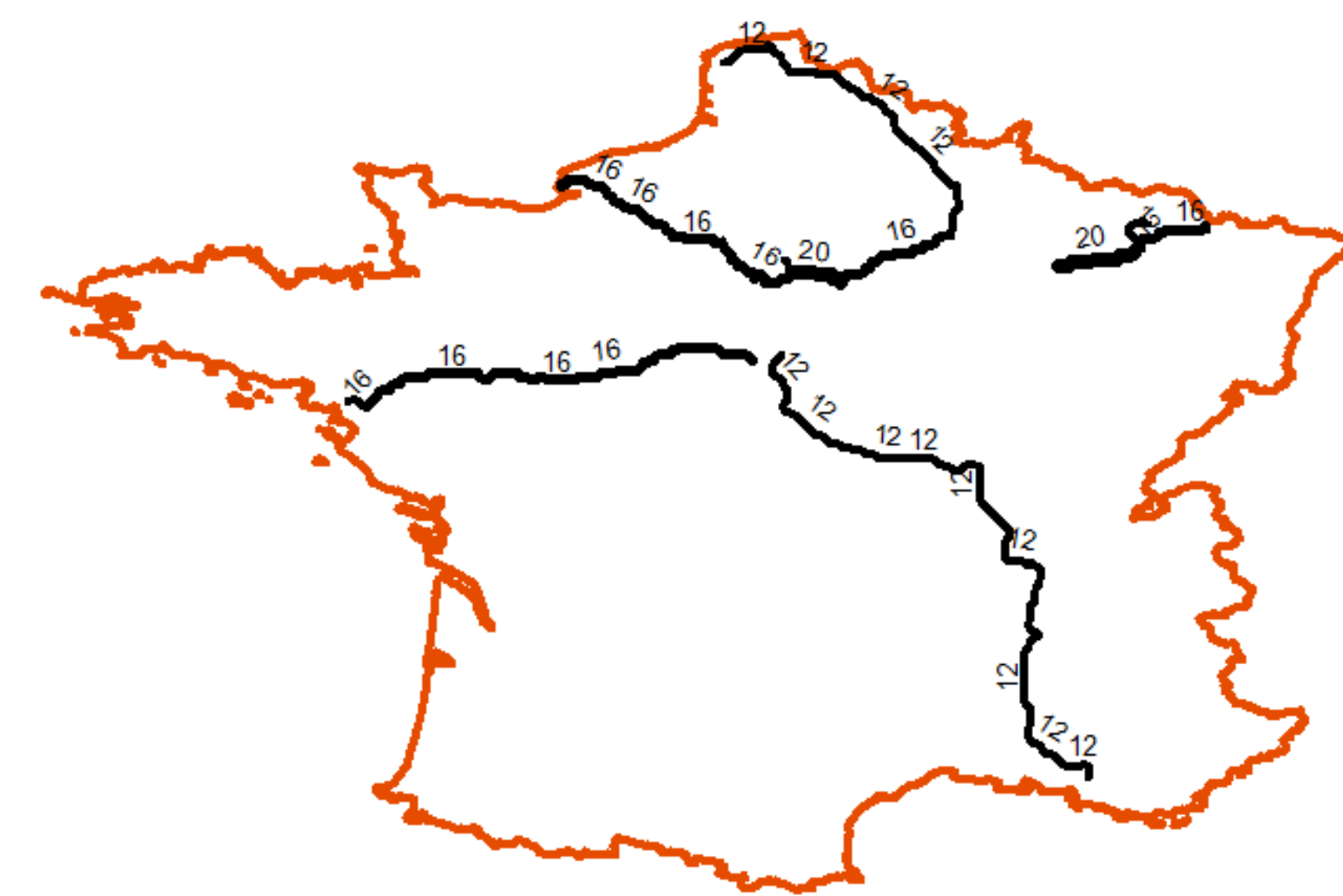

Figure 2. CCS pipeline for the "onshore scenario" for two different CO$_2$ targets: 30 MtCO$_2$/yr (above) and 60 MtCO$_2$/yr (below). Numbers: pipeline diameters in inches.
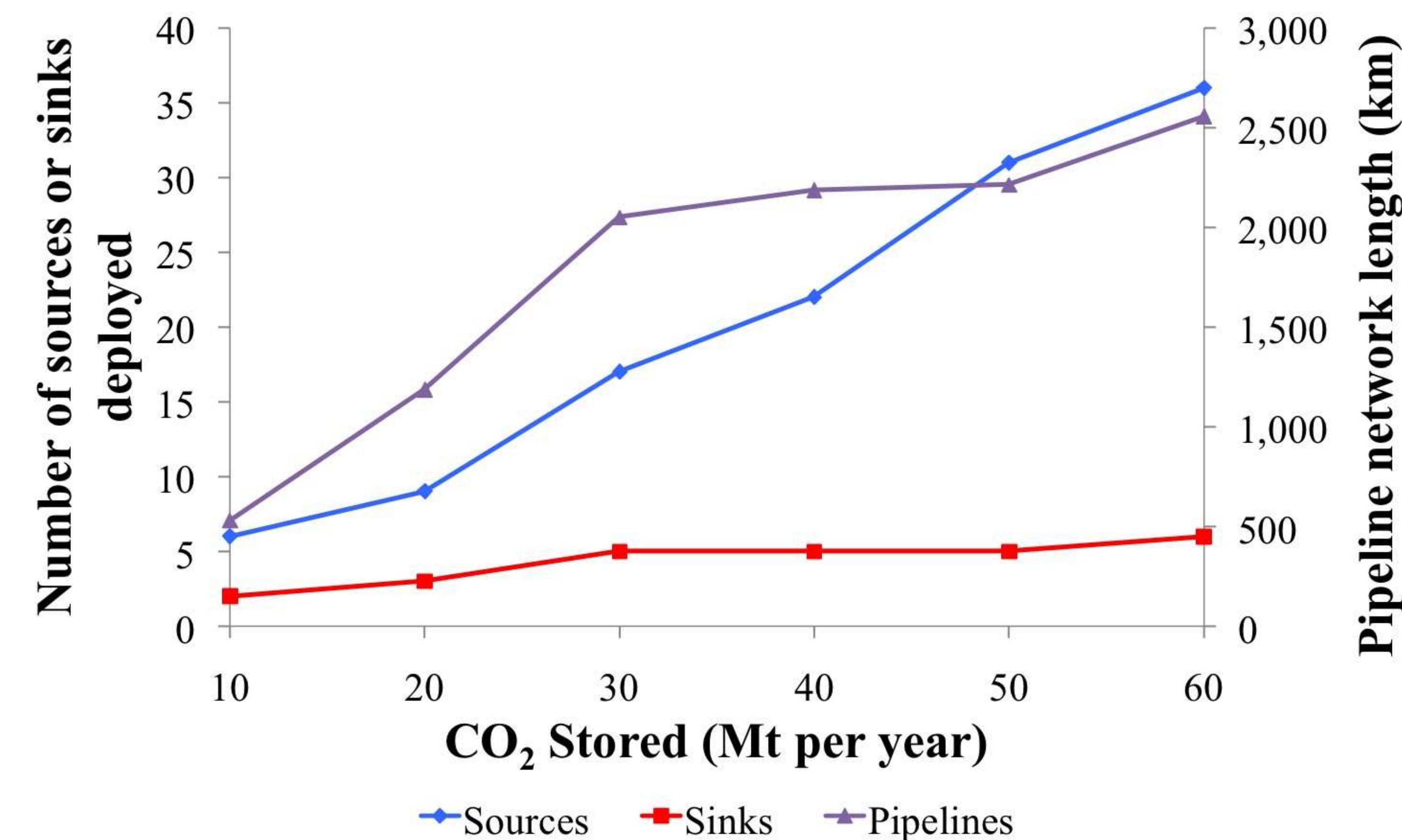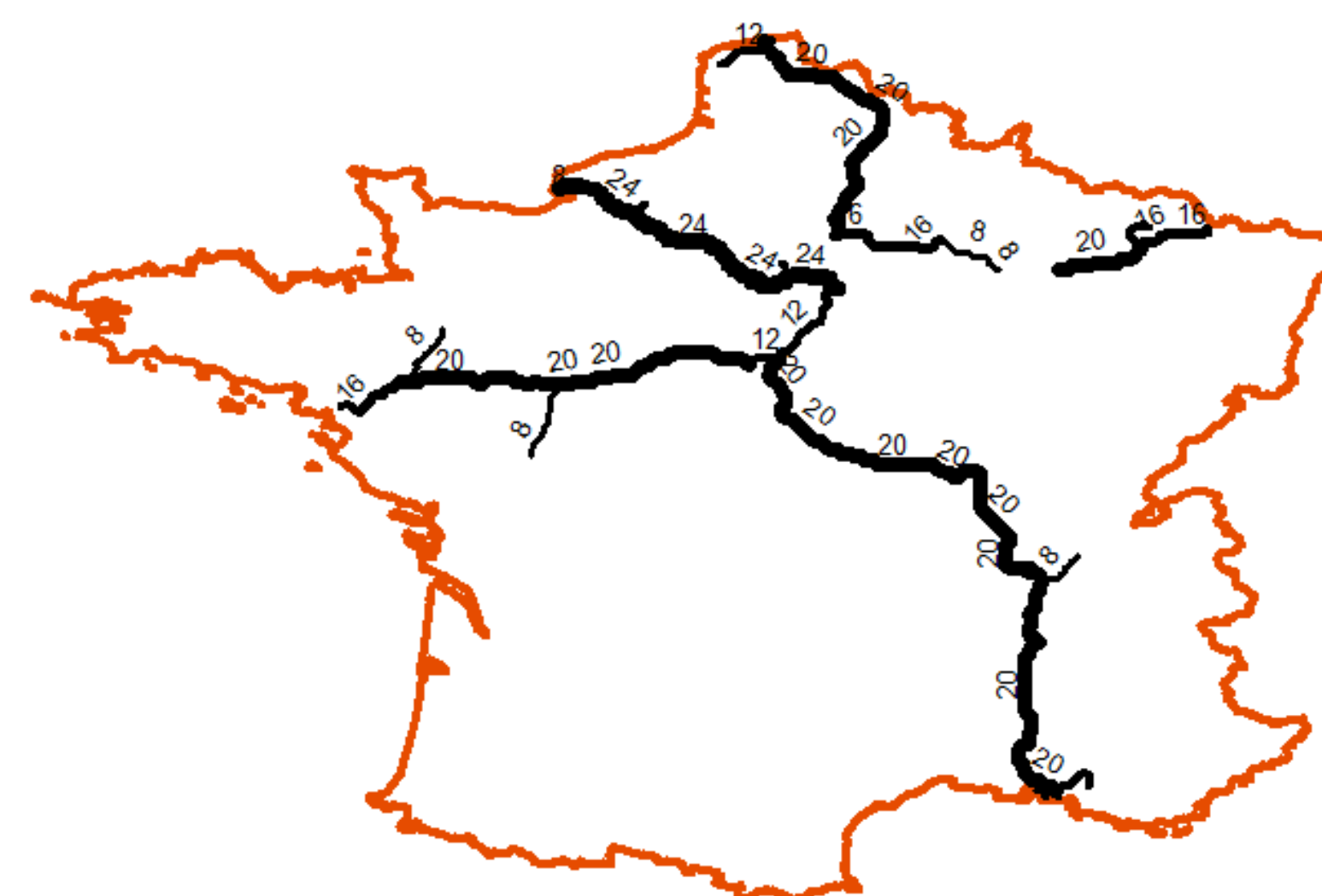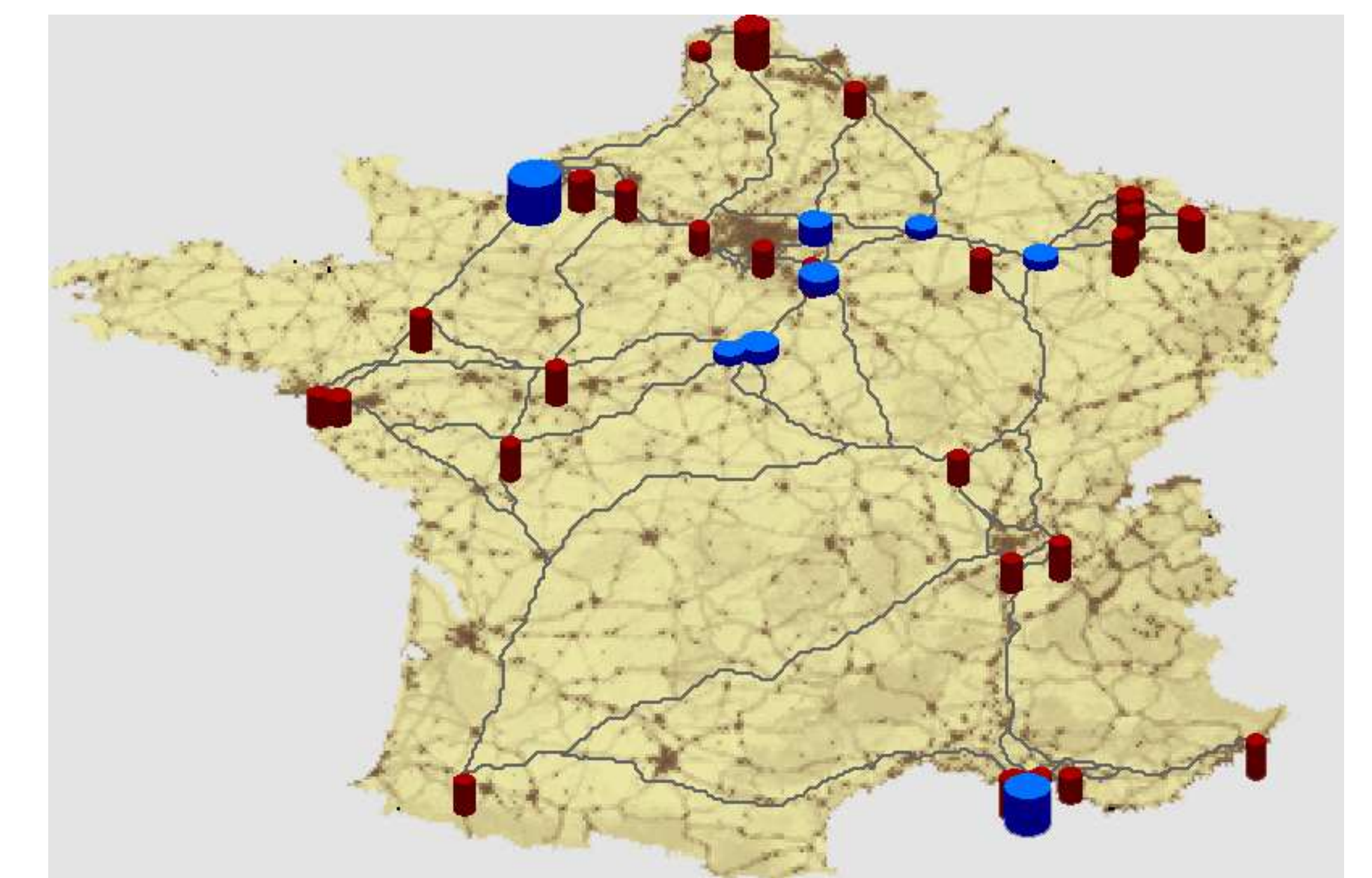

Figure 3. Comparing networks for various storage targets, from 10 to 60 MtCO$_2$/yr. Comparing 10 to 30 MtCO$_2$/yr, the bigger network is extended in length to reach more sources. Comparing 30 MtCO$_2$/yr to 50 MtCO$_2$/yr, the network extends in capacity, subnetworks merge, CO$_2$ flows are aggregated into 20–24 inches trunklines. Connecting additional sources appear required to go from 50 to 60 MtCO$_2$/yr.

About the SimCCS model

A cost surface, i.e. a raster grid of the cost to lay a pipeline across each grid cell, was estimated using geographical datasets including protected areas, existing gas pipelines, rivers, railroads, highways, land cover, and population densities. Given the location of sources and reservoirs as network nodes, the model generated a set of potential routes between all possible close node pairs (**Figure 4**). Based on these potential routes, given the costs of capture, building and operating pipeline, storing and exporting CO$_2$, the model minimized the total cost to meet a given target quantity of CO$_2$ stored.

Figure 4. Potential pipeline routes (grey) between CO$_2$ sources (red) and sinks (blue).

References

BRGM (2009). SOCECO2 - Évaluation technico- économique et environnementale de la filière captage, transport, stockage du CO2 à l'horizon 2050 en France. Rapport final.

Calas G. (2010), Le transport de dioxyde de carbone par canalisation en France : Modalités de développement et modélisation des réseaux de transport dans le cadre du captage et stockage de CO$_2$, *Master thesis* (Link).

Middleton, R.S., and J.M. Bielicki (2009). A scalable infrastructure model for carbon capture and storage: SimCCS. *Energy Policy 37*(3), 1052-1060

LA-UR-11-10248