

Session 10: The low-carbon energy transition

Rafael de Azevedo Ramires Leao and Lena Faucher

4:00pm-5:30pm, Conference Room B

From rates to renewables: A macroeconomic model with bottom-up energy sector

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From rates to renewables

First macroeconomic model with bottom-up electricity sector allowing to represent interest rate impacts

E3ME-FTT model

E3ME

Macro model

Impact interest rates on demand

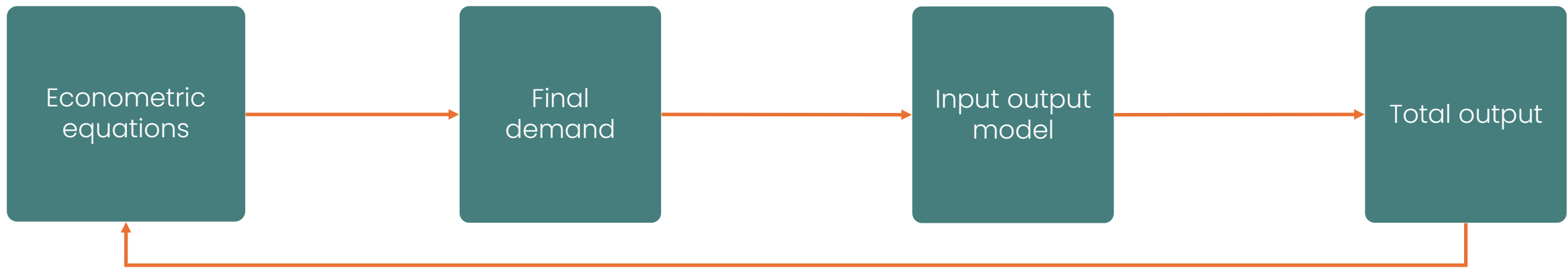
FTT

Technology diffusion model

Interest rates impact on technology preference

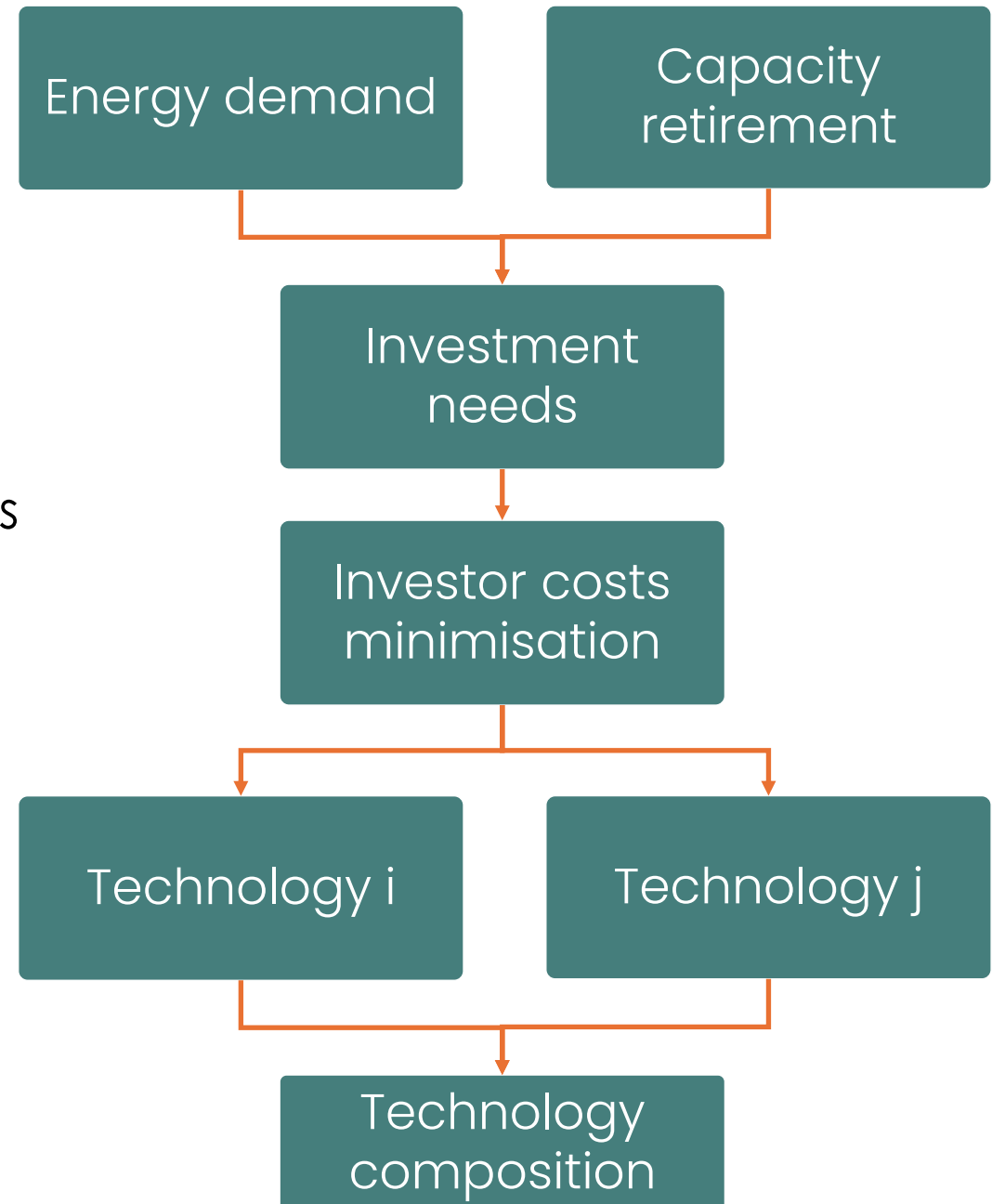
The E3ME model

- . Econometric model
- . Based on Post-keynesian theory

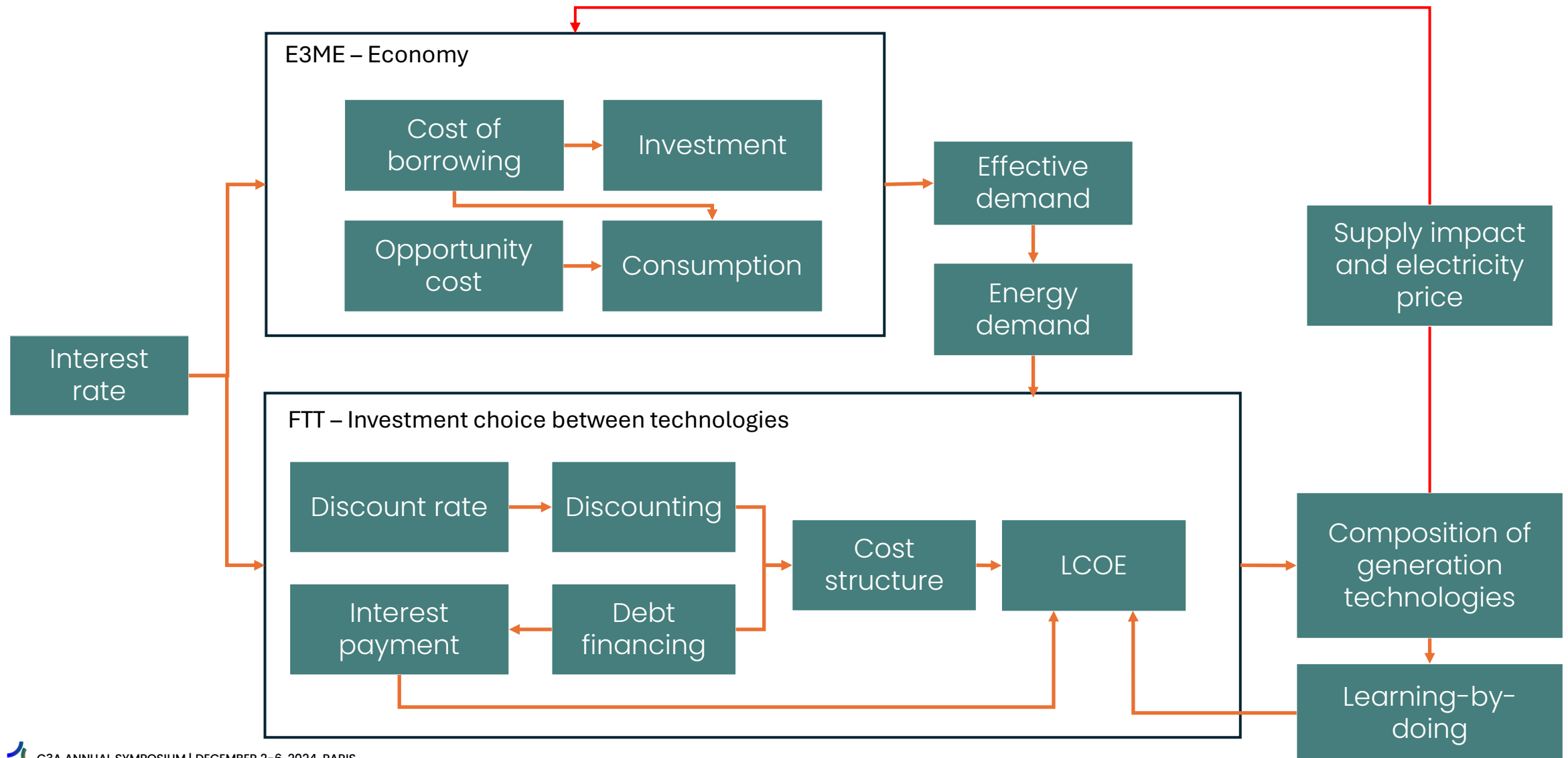


The FTT:Power model

- Bottom-up technology model
- Allowing for price and quantity-based policies
- Investment in technologies based on
 - Discrete choice theory
 - Diffusion dynamics



The interest rates effect in E3ME-FTT



The cost equation in FTT:Power

Break-even

$$\frac{\text{Price} \cdot \text{Lifetime Electricity Production}}{\text{Discount Rate}} = \frac{\text{Lifetime Costs}}{\text{Discount Rate}}$$

Isolating the price (LCOE)

$$\text{Price} = \frac{\frac{\text{Lifetime Cost}}{\text{Discount Rate}}}{\frac{\text{Lifetime Electricity Production}}{\text{Discount Rate}}} = \frac{\text{Cost per unit}}{\frac{1}{\text{Discount Rate}}}$$

With

$$\text{Cost per Unit} = \sum_{t=0}^{BT} (IT) + \sum_{BT}^{BT+LT} (OM + FC + CO2C)$$

and

$$IT = \left(\frac{IC}{BT \cdot CF \cdot 8766} \right)$$

Build time (BT)	CAPEX factor (\$/kW) (IC)
Lifetime (LT)	Upfront investment component (IT)
Fuel costs (FC)	Overhead and maintenance costs (OM)
Capacity factor (CF)	Number of hours in a year (8766)
Emission costs (CO2C)	

The impact of interests on costs

- Discounting
 - Δ interest rate \rightarrow Δ discount rate
 - Dependent timing of costs
- Debt
 - Changes occurrence of cost
 - Δ interest rate \rightarrow Δ debt cost

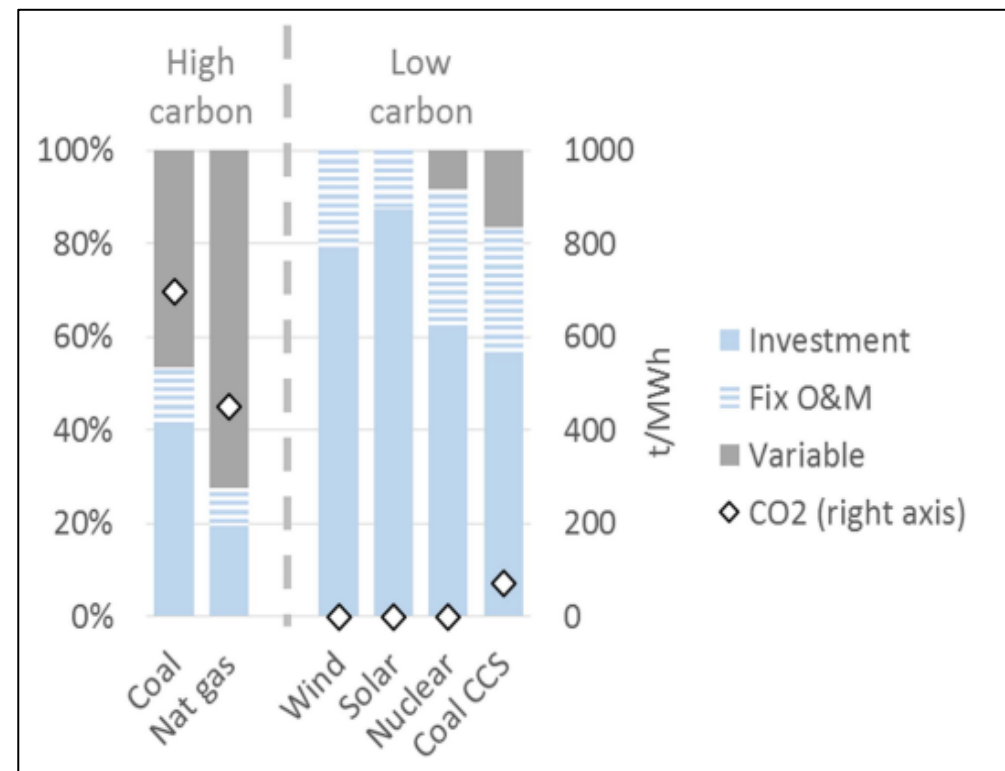


Figure 1: cost profile of energy technology projects (Hirth & Steckel, 2016)

Adjusted cost equation

LCOE with debt financing and interest rate changes adjusting discount rate and debt cost

$$LCOE = \frac{\sum_{t=0}^{BT} (IT \cdot (1 - DR)) + \sum_{BT}^{BT+LT} (OM + FC + CO2C) + \sum_{t=0}^n DRP}{\sum_{t=0}^{BT+LT} (1 + WACC)^t}$$
$$\frac{1}{\sum_{t=0}^{BT+LT} (1 + WACC)^t}$$

Interest rate (i)
Loan period (n)
Cost of debt (CoD)
Debt repayment (DRP)

With

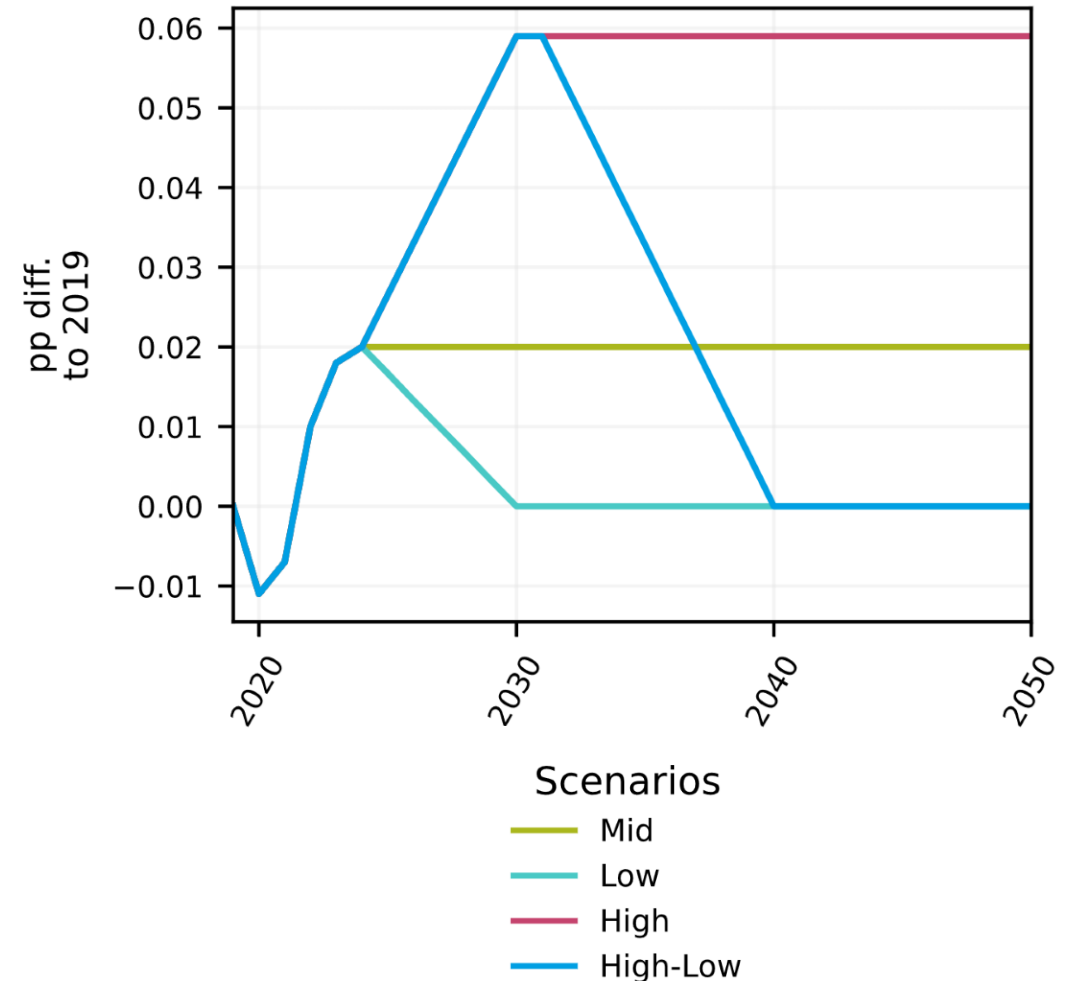
$$DRP = \left(\frac{IC}{CF \cdot 8766} \right) \cdot DR \cdot \left(\frac{(1+CoD)^t}{(1+CoD)^{t-1}} \right) \quad \text{and} \quad WACC_t = i_t + \text{Fixed Risk Premium}$$

Assuming time independent risk premium

$$WACC_t = WACC_t + (i_t - i_0)$$

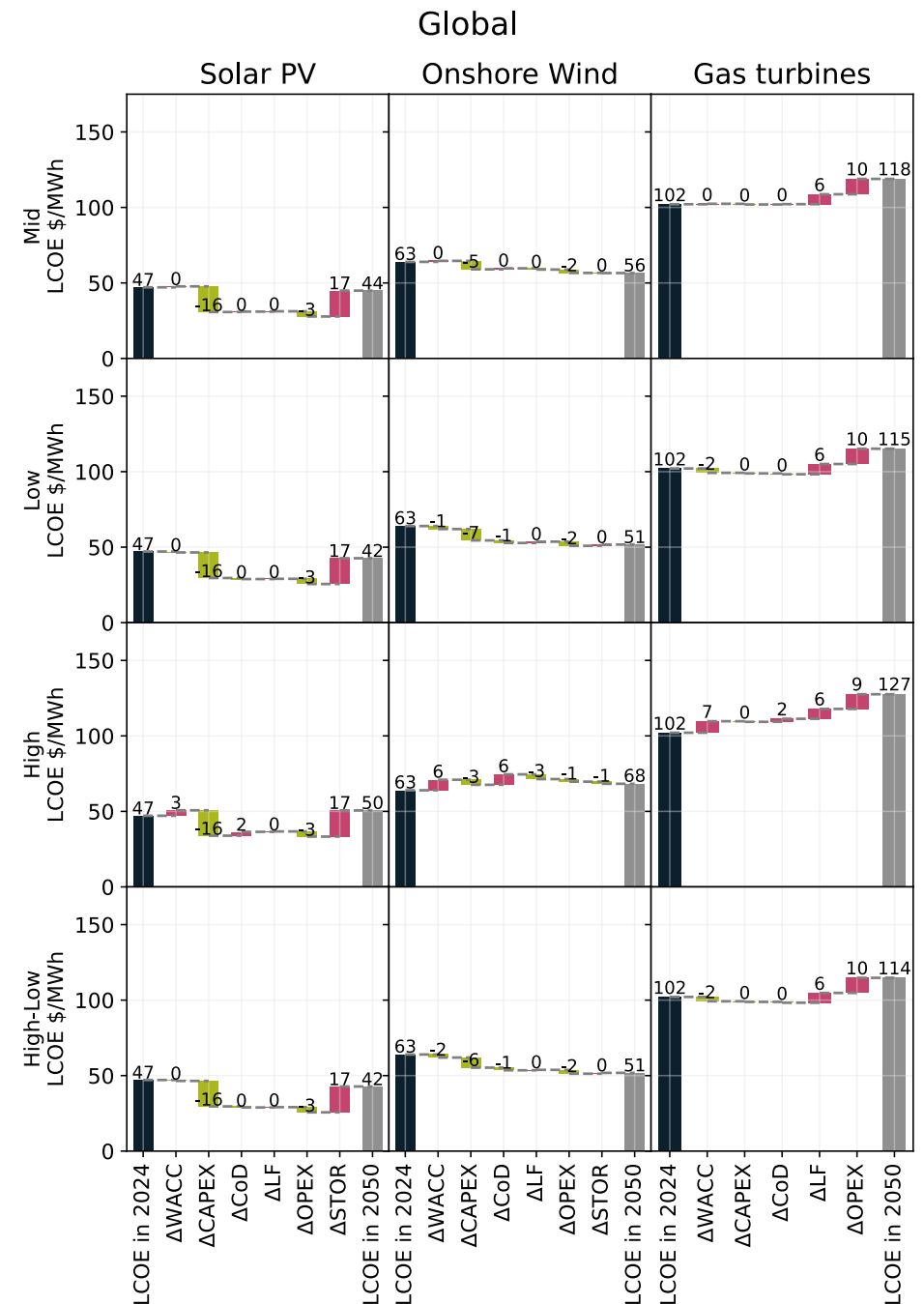
Interest rate scenarios

- **Mid:** Follow recent US trend up to 2024; static thereafter (reference scenario)
- **Low:** Follow recent US trend up to 2024 and after 2024 a return to 2019 values
- **High:** Follow recent US trend up to 2024 and after 2024 interest rates continue to increase until 2030; static thereafter
- **High-low:** Follow recent US trend up to 2024 and after 2024 interest rates continue to increase until 2030; followed by a decline to 2019 values by 2040; static thereafter

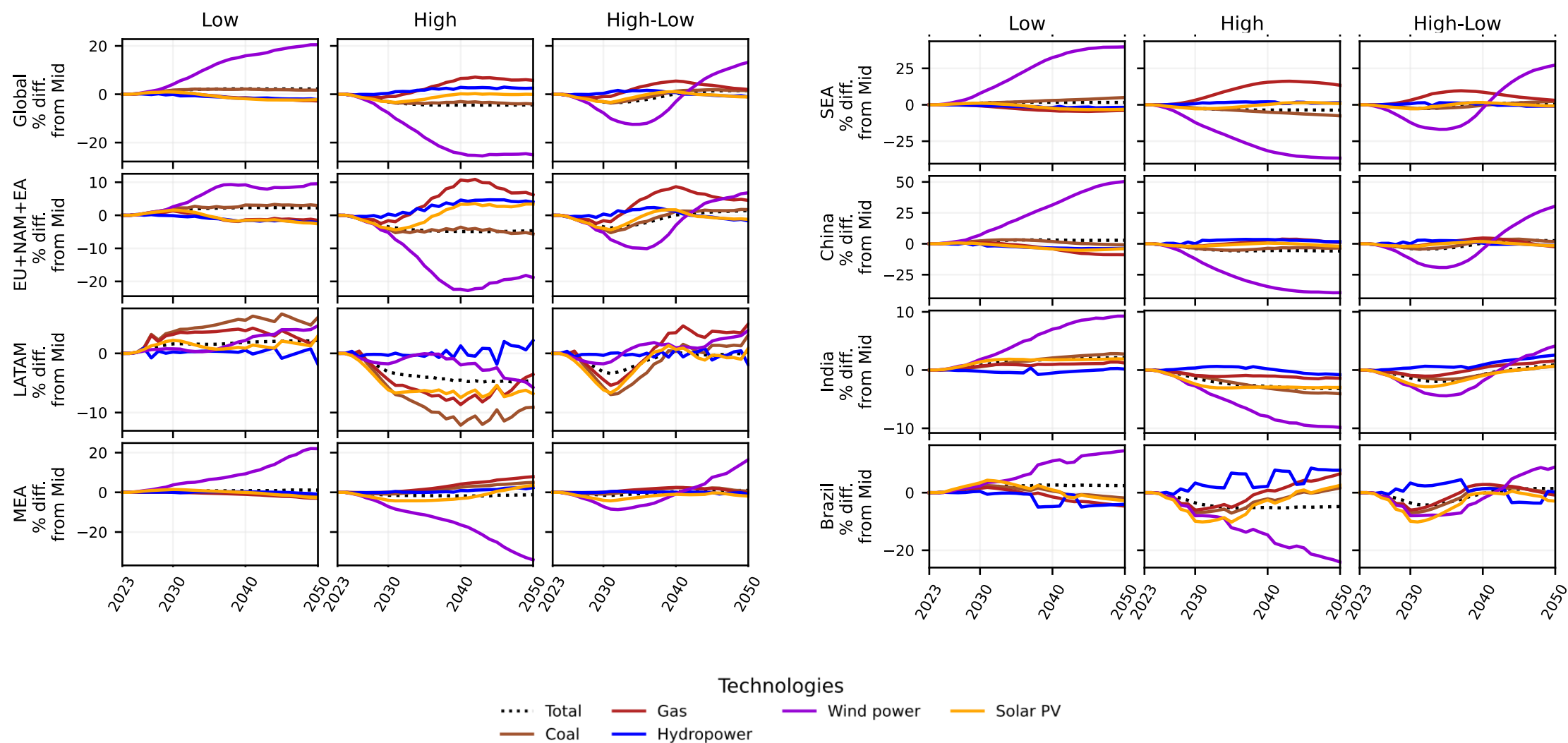


LCOE components

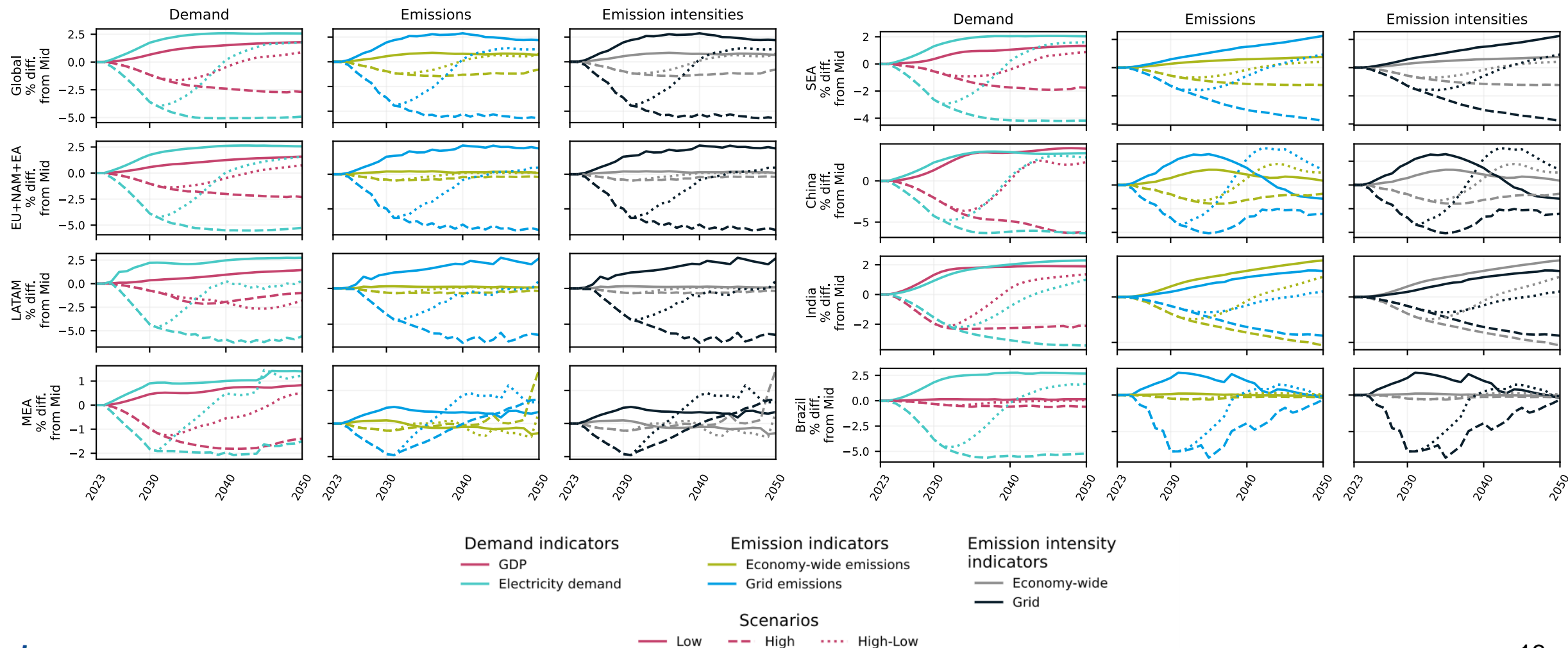
- WACC
 - CAPEX/OPEX ratio; Response to interest rates
- Debt repayment
 - Debt rate (CAPEX factor and load factor);
 - Response to interest rates
- CAPEX
 - LBD dependent on maturity of technology
- Storage
 - Share VRE but complementarity effects for Wind power
- OPEX
 - LBD; fuel prices; ETS prices



Technology composition



Demand and emissions



Limitations

- Interest rates don't affect electrification process
- Cost-based investor decisions
- No exchange rate effect
- WACC data assumed to represent a reproducible financing condition
- Missing dynamics in discount rate
- Grid costs not included
- Missing new policies



Thank you
Discussion by Frédéric Gheresi

Paper outline

- Section 1 introduces to the research question: how do interest rates impact on the transition/on the deployment of transition capital in the power generation sector
- Section 2 presents the modelling implemented to address the question
 - The E3ME model and the FTT-Power technology-rich model coupled to it, in broad terms
 - The investment decision in FTT-Power based on the LCOE of competing technologies and how the interest rate influences the LCOE (is this original modelling development?)
- Section 3 presents modelling results for 4 scenarios of investment rate fluctuations
 - LCOEs, generation mix, electricity prices, 'price level' (CPI?), GDP and components, emissions (?)
- Section 4 concludes on 5 main findings and 4 limitations

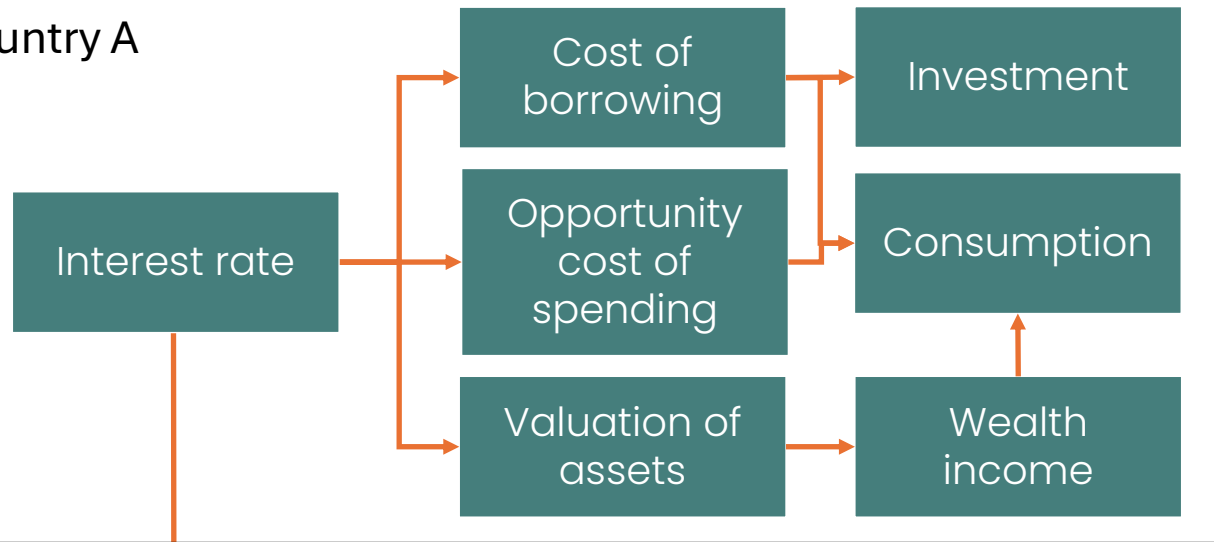


Comments and questions

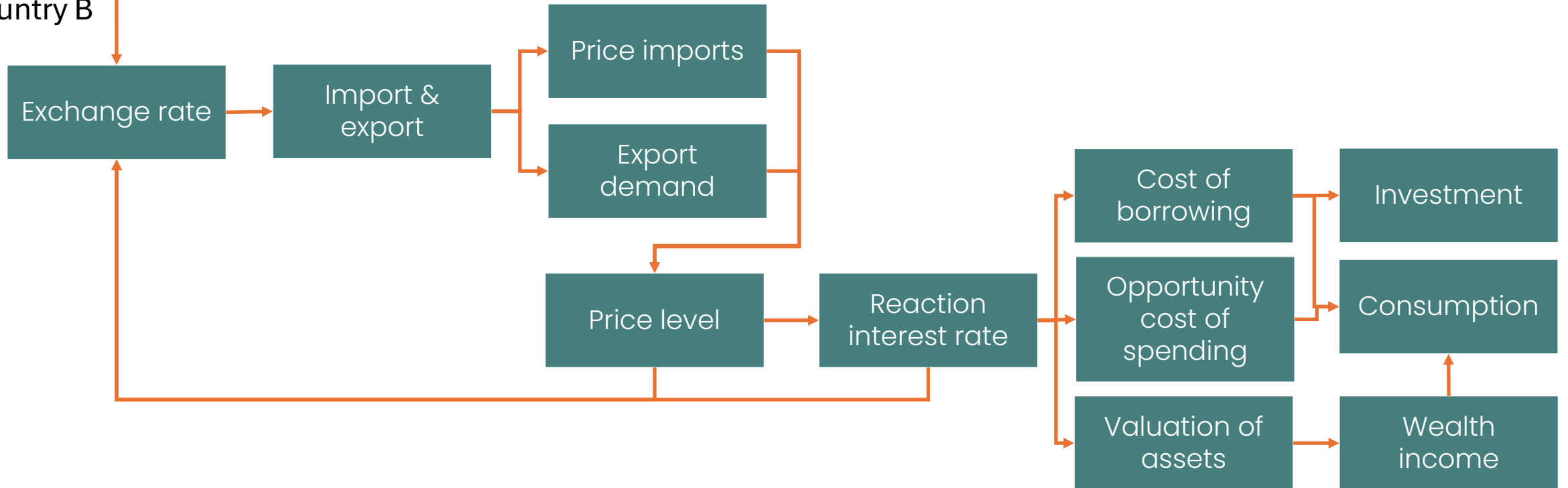
1. The research question may need clarifications: seems to be changes of interest rates of power generation investments only but then the introduction comes in potentially misleading too-broad terms
2. Or could the analysis be extended to adjustments of all (?) interest rates in E3ME?
3. Results appear descriptive, any normative conclusion from them that could find its way into the paper?
4. Fig. 6 reports impressive dominance of solar PV across global regions! Any insight on the supply chains backing that? Localisation? Required resources?
5. Finding 1 on how LBD dominates interest rate increase surely conditional to LBD, what are the rates? Those on solar PV based on past trends i.e. more cost reductions to come?
6. Limit 1 on the absence of feedback on exchange rates, how are these settled in E3ME? Would they not be impacted by changes of E3ME interest rates (link to question 2)?
7. One technical comment on Fig. 9: GDP disaggregation probably rest on valuation at calibration year prices, i.e. unchained Laspeyres price indexes; would be interesting to compare some variations with those obtained with chained Laspeyres or Fisher indexes

Appendix

Country A



Country B



Background FTT

1. The share equations
2. LCOE
3. Learning-by-doing
4. Cost-Supply curve
5. Residual load duration curve
6. Capacity factor change

1. The share equations

Lotka-Volterra equations

= which share of technology i goes to technology j, given the original shares (S), build time (BT), lifetime (LT) and comparison of the costs (F)

$$\Delta S_{j \rightarrow i} \propto \frac{S_i}{BT_i} \cdot \frac{S_j}{LT_j} \cdot F_{ij} \cdot \Delta t$$

$$\Delta S_{i \rightarrow j} \propto \frac{S_j}{BT_j} \cdot \frac{S_i}{LT_i} \cdot F_{ji} \cdot \Delta t$$

Replicator function

= the change in the share of each technology derived from Lotka-Volterra equations

$$\Delta S_i = \sum_{j=1}^N S_i S_j [A_{ij} F_{ij} - A_{ji} F_{ji}] \Delta t$$

with $A_{ij} = \frac{K}{LT_j BT_i}$

Preference matrix

= comparison of cost (LCOE) distributions in binary logit

$$F_{ij} = \frac{1}{1 + \exp\left(\frac{C_j - C_i}{\sigma_{ji}}\right)}$$

$$\sigma_{ji} = \sqrt{\sigma_i^2 + \sigma_j^2}$$

$$F_{ij} + F_{ji} = 1$$

2. LCOE (1/2)

- 1. $Cost\ per\ Unit = IT + OM + FC + CO2C$ where

$$IT = \left(\frac{IC}{BT \cdot CF \cdot 8766} \right)$$

Investment cost (IT)

Overhead and maintenance costs (OM)

Fuel costs (FC)

Emission costs (CO2C)

Number of hours in a year (8766)

Capacity factor: actual electrical energy output over a given period of time to the theoretical maximum electrical energy

3. Learning-by-doing

Experience curve

$$C_i(t) = C_{0,i} \left(\frac{W_i(t)}{W_{0,i}} \right)^{-b_i}$$

implicit $C_{0,i}$ and $W_{0,i}$

$$\Delta C_i = -b_i \frac{C_i}{W_i} \Delta W_i$$

Learning spillover

$$W_i(t) = \sum_j B_{ij} \begin{cases} \int_0^t \left(\frac{dU_j(t)}{dt} + \delta_j U_j(t) \right) dt & \frac{dU_j(t)}{dt} > 0 \\ \int_0^t \delta_j U_j(t) dt & \frac{dU_j(t)}{dt} \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

W_i number of units sold since first one came out of factory
U capacity in GW

4. Cost-Supply curves (1/2)

= Cost of extraction as function of cumulative amount of that have been extracted

Different impacts on different types of generation

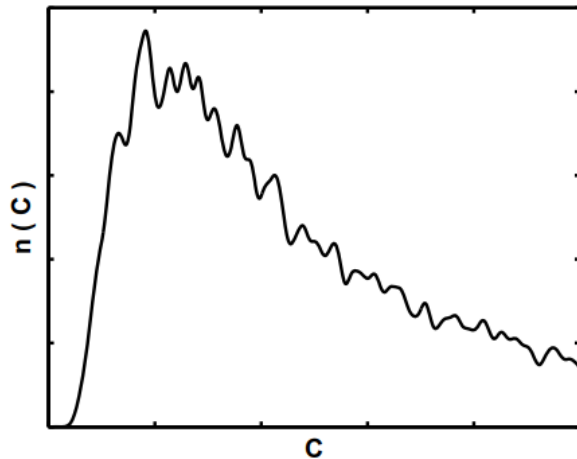
Non-renewable → fuel prices

Wind and solar → capacity factor

Hydro and geothermal → investment factors

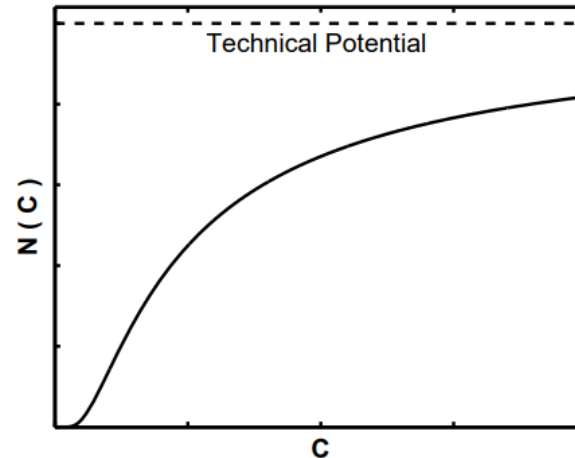
4. Cost-Supply curves (2/2)

Histogram of energy units as function of cost of extraction



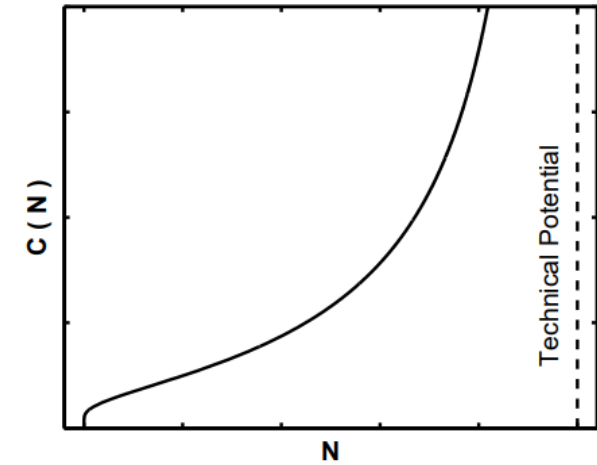
$$n(C) = \frac{AB}{C^2} e^{-\frac{B}{C-C_0}}$$

Cumulative distribution of energy units



$$N(C) = A e^{-\frac{B}{C-C_0}}$$

Cost of extraction as function cumulative amount of units extracted



$$C(N) = \frac{B}{\ln\left(\frac{N}{A}\right)} + C_0$$

A: technical potential, the point where additional supply of energy leas cost to go hyperbolic

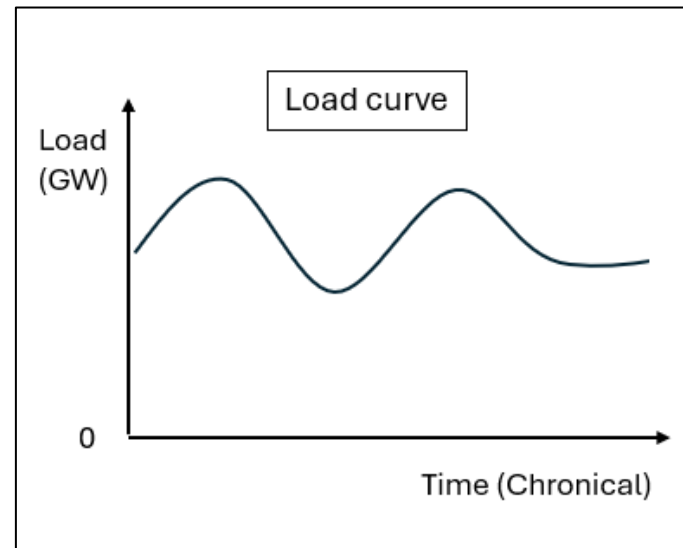
B: scales the cost supply curve

C_0 : the initial cost

Assumption: perfect ordering in natural resource use and depletion

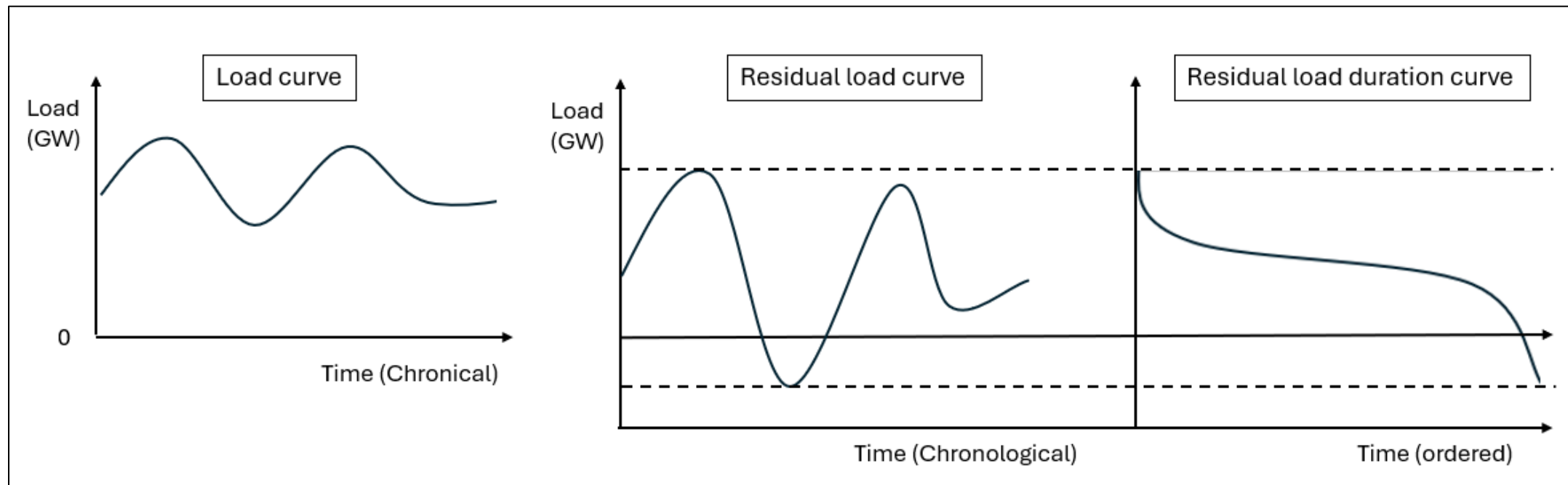
5. Capacity to generation (1/4)

- When does capacity needs to be utilised to meet load demand?
- Answered by using Residual Load Duration Curve (RLDC)
- RLDC is constructed starting from load curve:



5. Capacity to generation (2/4)

Constructing RLDC

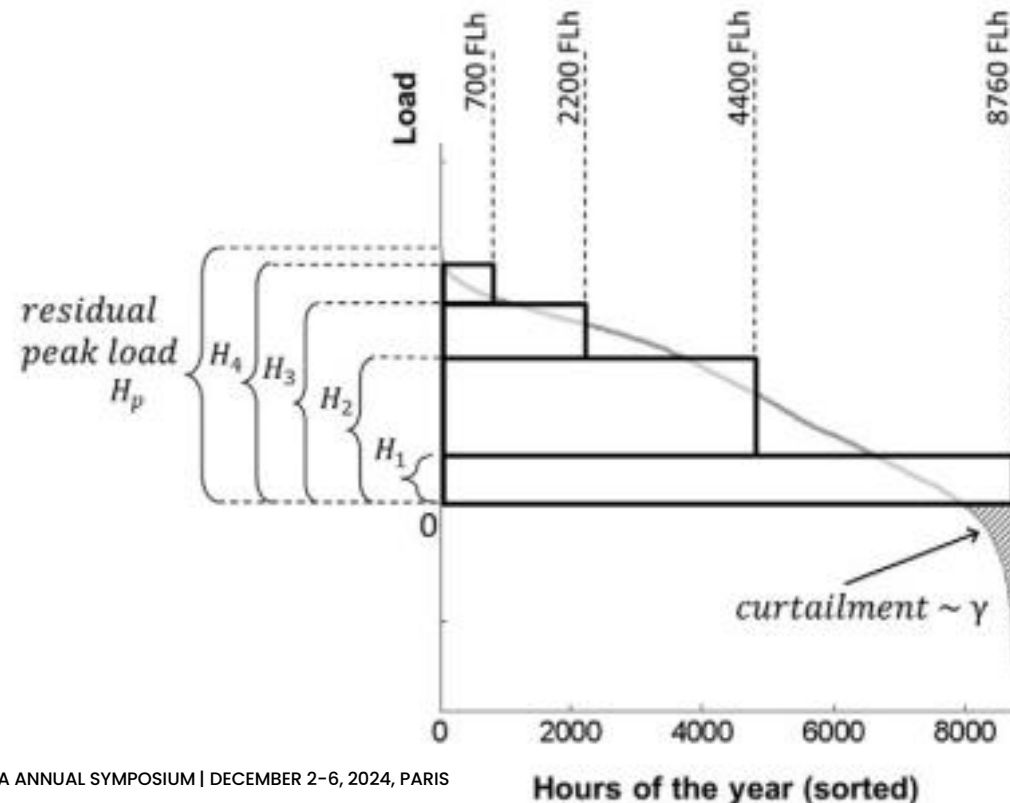


- Residual load curve = load curve – solar and wind generation
- Residual load duration curve: order load from high to low

5. Capacity to generation (3/4)

- From RLDC a third-degree polynomial is constructed
- Inputs: share of wind and solar in gross generation

$$f(\alpha, \beta) = a_{00} + a_{10}\alpha + a_{01}\beta + a_{20}\alpha^2 + a_{02}\beta^2 + a_{11}\alpha\beta + a_{21}\alpha^2\beta + a_{12}\alpha\beta^2 + a_{30}\alpha^3 + a_{03}\beta^3$$



Returns: 1) curtailment rates, 2) short-term storage capacity, 3) short-term storage costs, 4) peak load band, 5) lower-mid load band, 6) mid load band, 7) upper-mid load band, and 8) base load band

5. Capacity to generation (4/4)

Gale-Shapley algorithm:

Mimic dispatching routine of grid operators who match supply and demand

Load bands from RLDC are matched to capacity market shares based on technology's suitability for load band and marginal cost

Long term storage: non-variable capacity – residual peak demand



6. Capacity factor change

For non-renewables

Matching capacity to load demand leads to capacity factor
Technical: RLDC and Gale-Shapley algorithm

For variable renewables

Next unit probably build in less sunny or windy place
Inverse cost-supply curve gives capacity of new plant

For base load

More fixed but like non-renewables
Technical: RLDC and Gale-Shapley algorithm

Macroeconomic challenges of energy transitions The case of Algeria

Frederic Gherzi (CIRED, CNRS)

Saloua Chaouche (ENSSEA, LEQAD), Hadjer Haned, (ENSSEA, LEQAD), Bruno Michoud,
(CIRED, SMASH)

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Table of contents

1. Context and objective
2. Methods
3. Scenario description
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5. Conclusion

1

Algeria on a fossil-based development path

Algeria on a fossil-based development path

Dependency on fossil fuels

Oil and gas sector 21% of GDP over 2018-2021
Oil and gas 96% of exports over 2018-2021
Oil and gas 99% of domestic primary energy consumption in 2021

An economic model at risk

Depletion of conventional resources, mature wells
Increasing domestic energy demand, low energy efficiency
Short-term benefit from unstable geopolitics, but climate risk

Macroeconomic context

Growing at 3.6% with trade surplus at 11.3% GDP but
Unemployment 11.6% in 2022 (among youth at around 60%)
Without oil and gas trade deficit of 12.4% GDP

Yet, with strong potential for an energy transition

Renewable energy sources (RES) and energy efficiency (EE)

Solar, wind, biomass, geothermal resources abundant and economically viable
Significant energy efficiency opportunities in the energy, building, industry and waste management sectors



Reinforced legislation and regulation, national energy plan

Market and non-market mechanisms: financial support, tax incentives, FIT, auctions, etc.
Energy Transition Plan: 30% RES in power generation by 2030; 10% annual energy efficiency improvements (industry, housing); 25 GWh of power from blue and green hydrogen by 2050

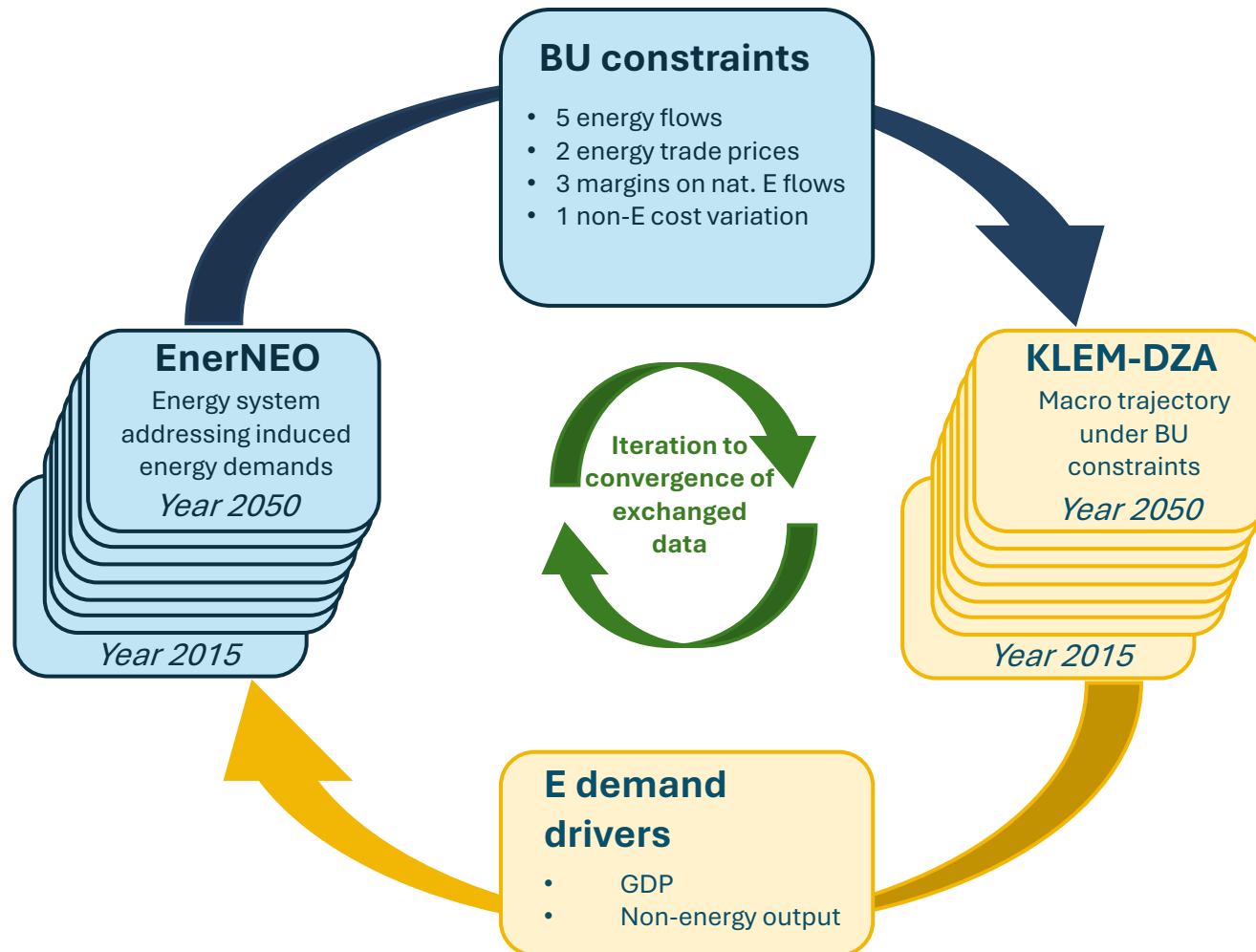


Objective: assess macroeconomic implications of energy systems evolution

2

Methods

Method: Hard-coupling bottom-up & top-down modelling



EnerNEO

- Dynamic recursive BU energy model
- 15 end-use demands for 9 energy vectors
- Exogenous fossil production
- Detailed description of power generation and hydrogen production

KLEM-DZA

- Dynamic recursive TD macroeconomic model, 2 factors K & L, 2 sectors E & 'M'
- Exogenous E supply and demand
- Neo-Keynesian version with rigid wages, exogenous investment and trade balance (endogenous domestic savings)
- 'Dynamic calibration' to observed GDP, unemployment and REER 2016-2022

Prerequisite: hybrid IOT at calibration year 2015

Billion DZD	Non-E	E	C	G	I	X	Uses
Non-E	6 303	361	7 100	4 362	7 159	1 483	26 768
E	283	402	302	-	-	2 905	3 891
L	4 696	127					The hybridisation process reconciles national accounting, energy balance and energy price statistics
T1	552	496					
K	6 044	440					
R	1 708	1 820					
M	6 332	180					
SM Non-E	-	-89					It allows coupling to EnerNEO through the exchange of explicit toe flows, DA/toe prices
SM E	-	-834					
SM C	-	-87					
SM X	-	1 010					
T2	851	65					It requires defining user-specific margins on energy sales , to capture the difference between observed prices and prices built on average producer price
Resources	26 768	3 891					

3

Scenario description

Main assumptions and scenario description

Common to 4 scenarios

Potential growth from IPCC SSP2 GDP (REMIND) and active (20-69) population growth

Investment effort 31.1% of GDP (2022-2050)

Trade balance soft landing from +11.3% in 2022 to equilibrium from 2030 on

Successful diversification modelled as stabilisation of the unemployment rate from 11.6% in 2020 to 5% from

2030 through **positive non-price**

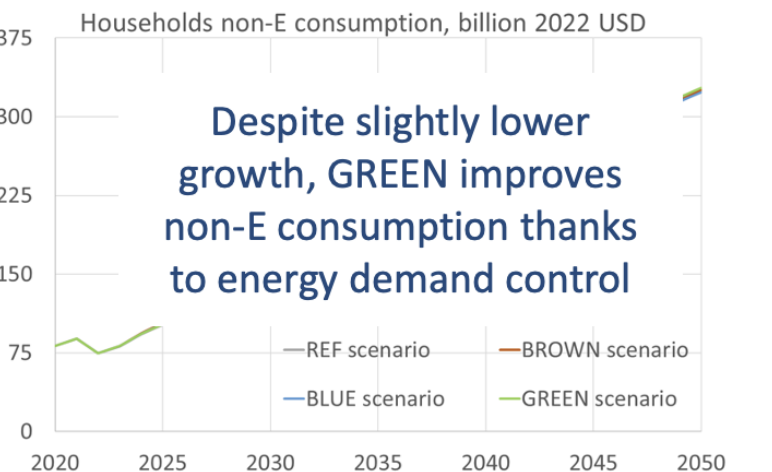
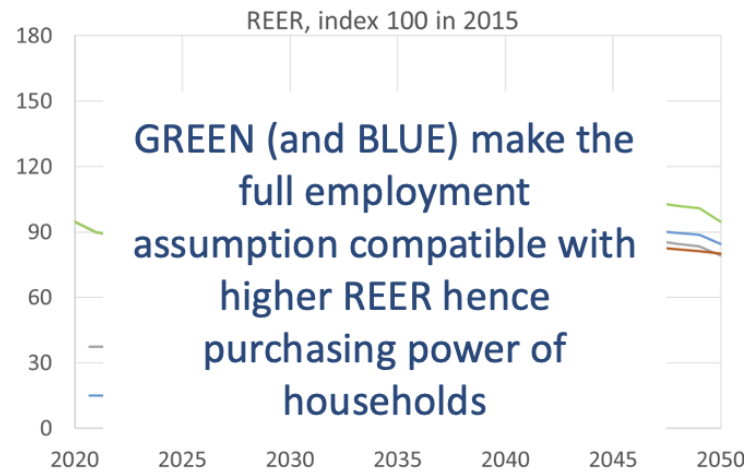
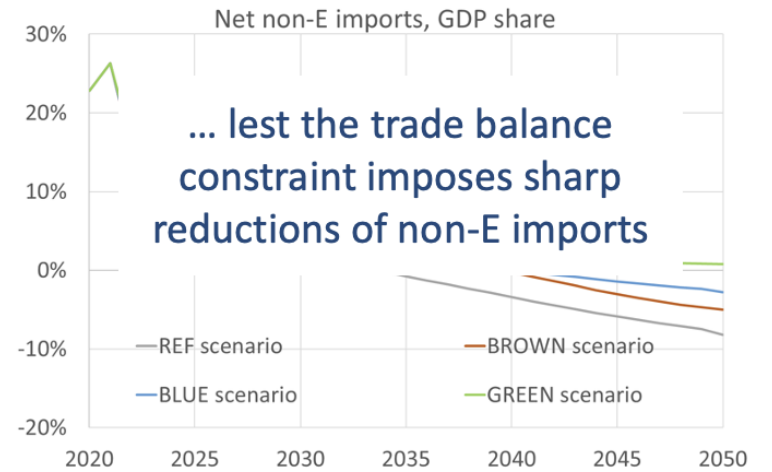
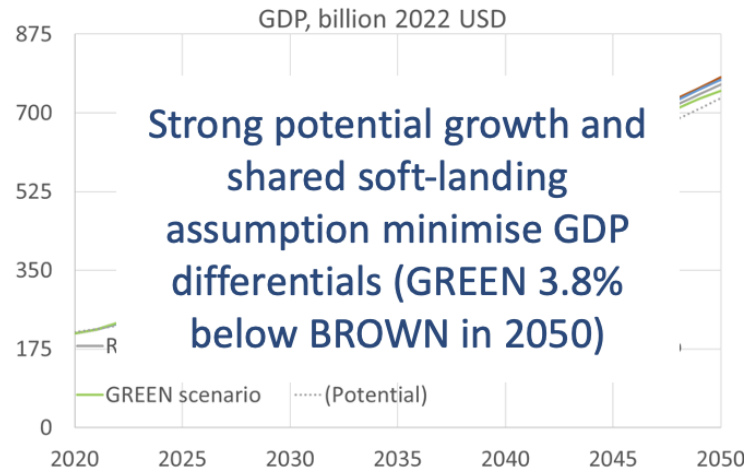
Four evolutions of the energy sector



4

Results

Results under successful economic transformation



5

Conclusion

Conclusion

Inability to shape scenarios that would leave the oil & gas rent in the ground!

- With successful economic transformation, the macroeconomic benefits of the energy transition (weaker BLUE or stronger GREEN forms) are clear compared to the extension of past trends (REFERENCE)
 - Energy demand control allows reaping more rent on international markets rather than losing it on domestic markets with administered prices close to costs
 - Delayed pressure on the current account buys time for the unescapable diversification (import substitution) policies: 9 to 12 years under current assumptions, probably more in updated runs with differentiation of rent from hydrogen exports
- Less clear benefits when compared with BROWN unconventional hydrocarbon exploitation scenario
 - Short-term import substitution more demanding in BLUE and esp. GREEN than in BROWN
 - Tipping point in 2045 when BROWN exports run down, BLUE and esp. GREEN start dominating
 - Environmental performance! 2050 CO₂ emissions 33%/66% below BROWN scenario in BLUE/GREEN scenario

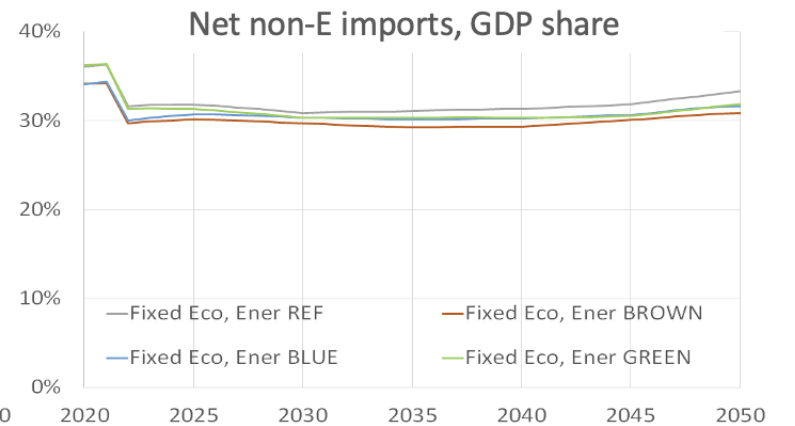
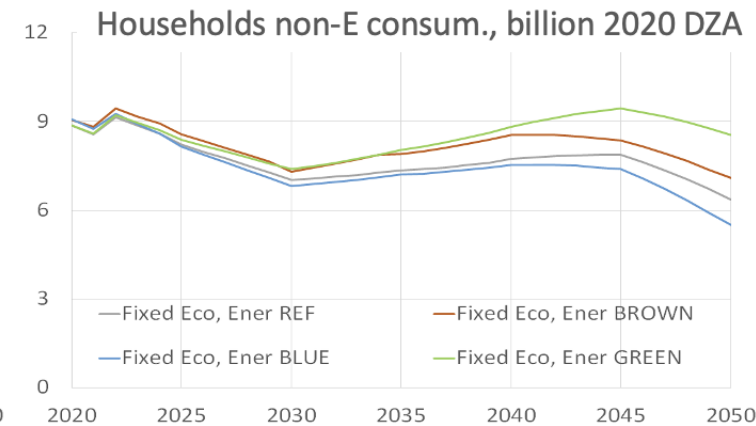
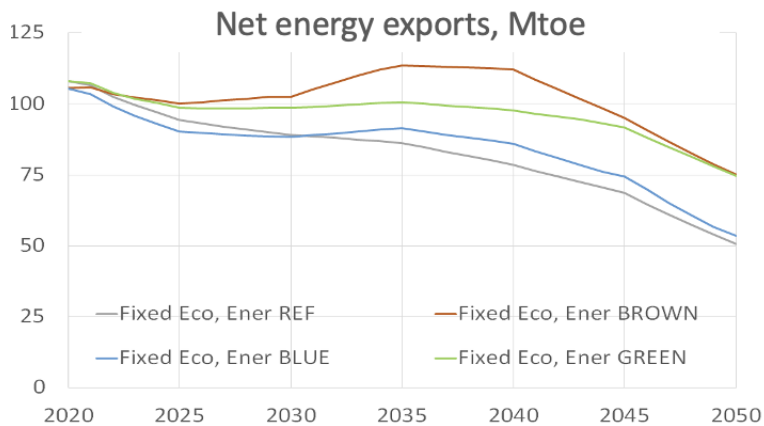
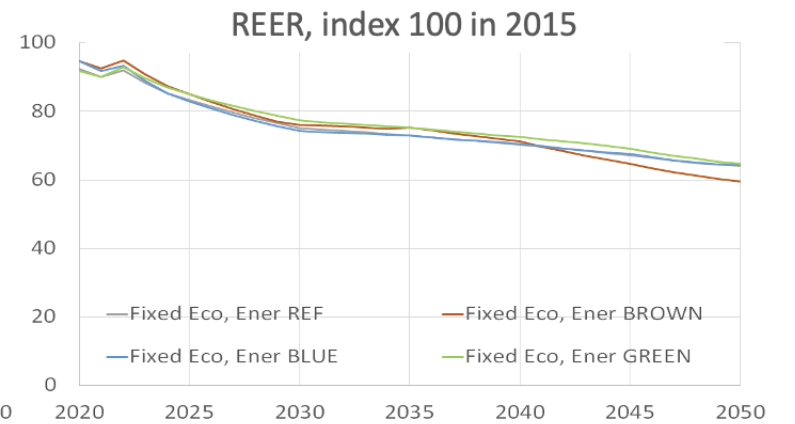
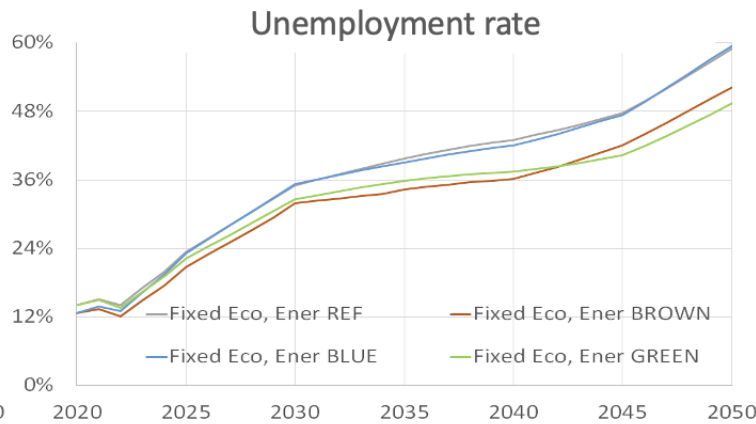
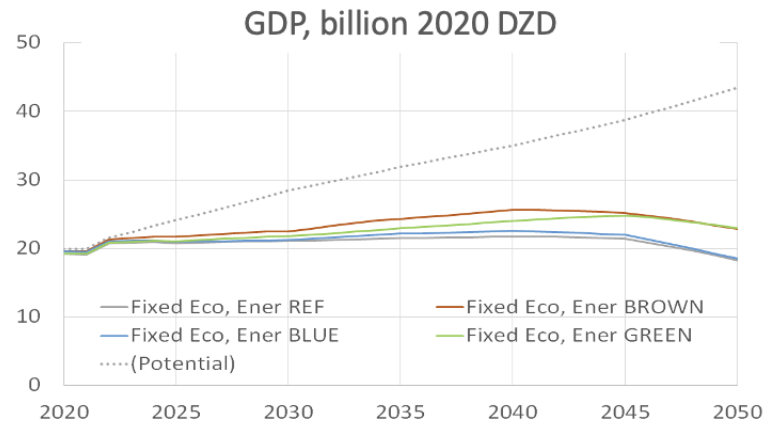


Thank you for your attention

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Results under inertia of the economic system



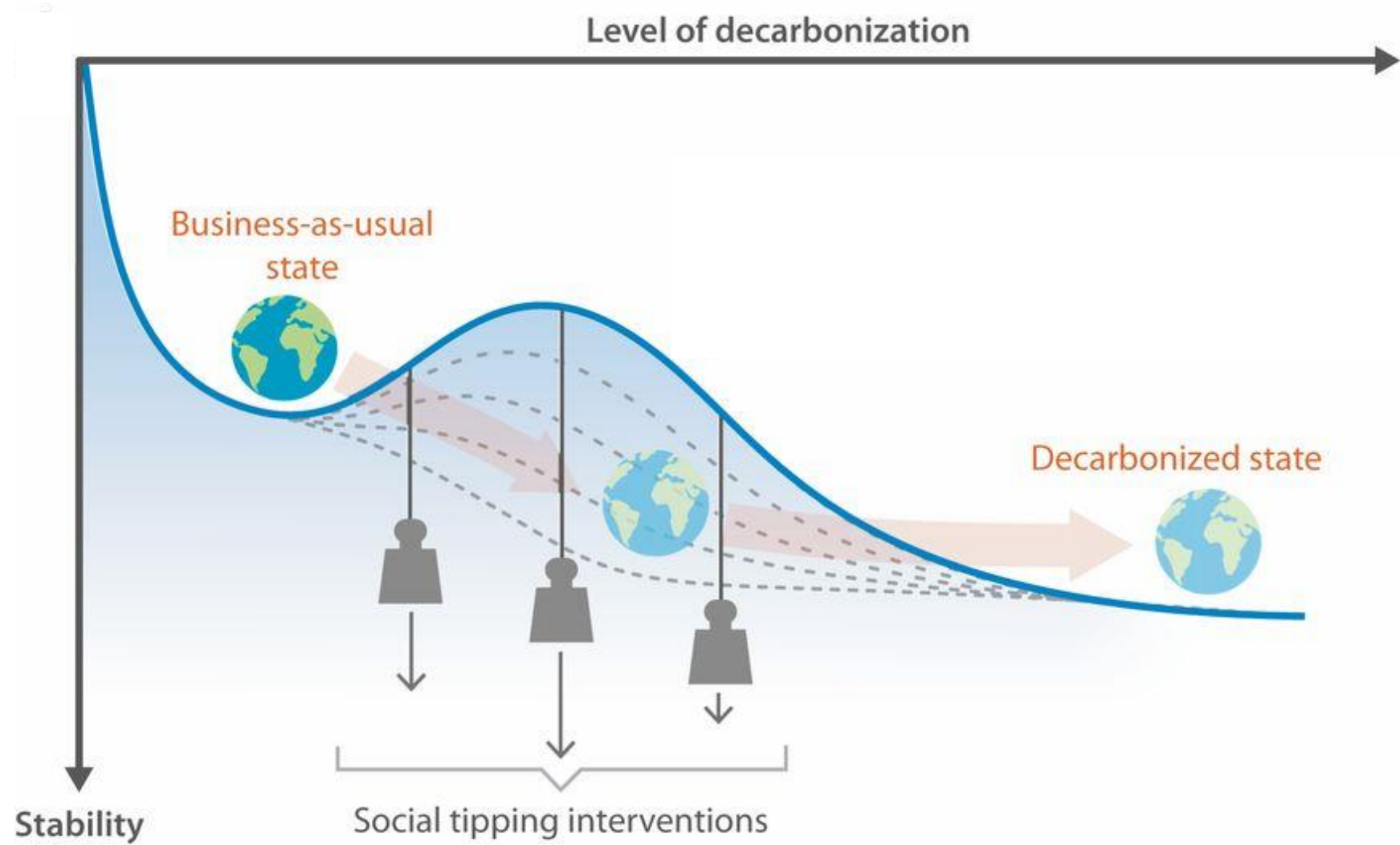


Thank you
Discussion by Charl Fooste

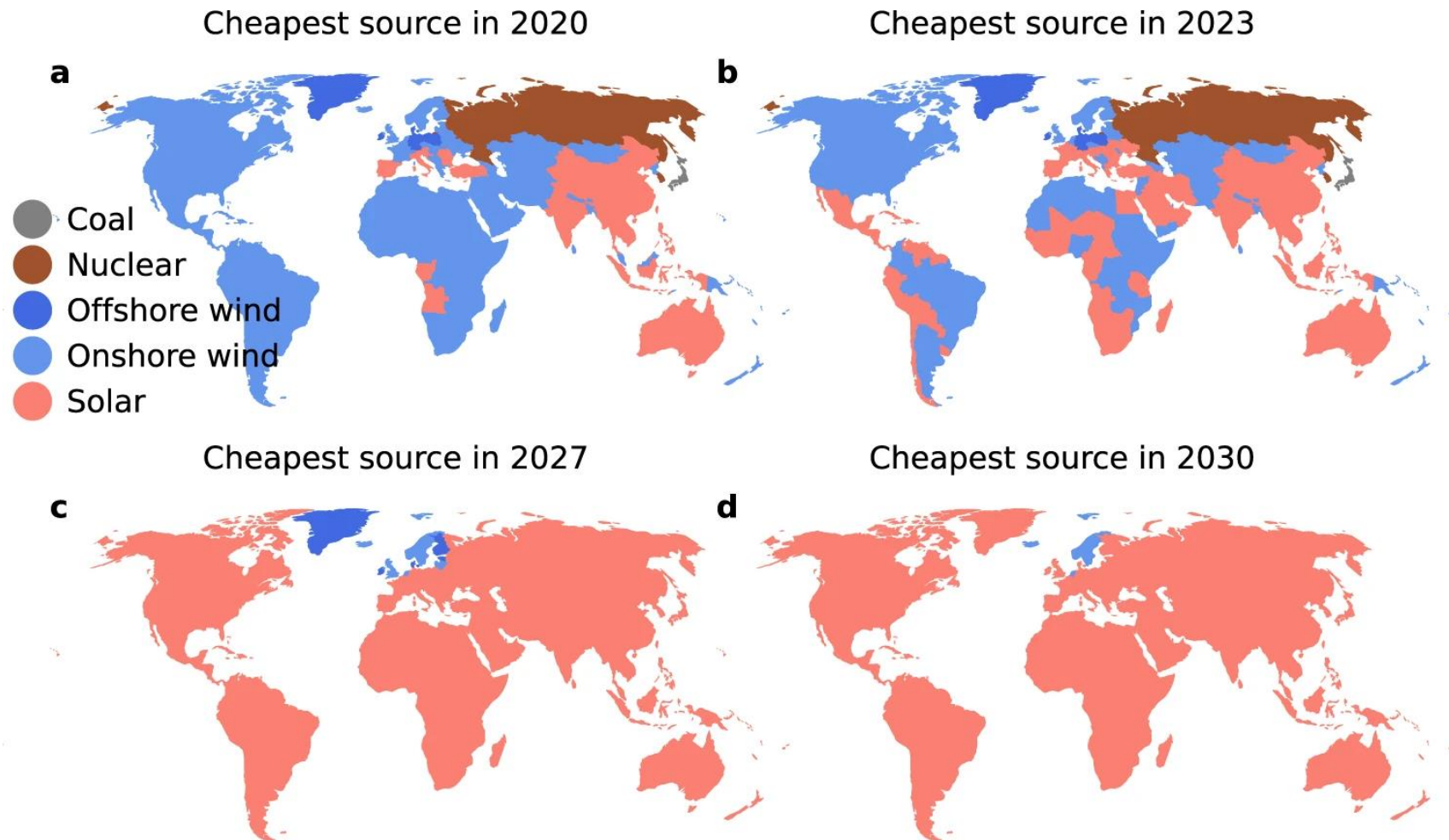
A positive tipping cascade in power, transport and heating

Femke Nijse, Simon Sharpe, Rishi Sahastrabuddhe, [Tim Lenton](#)

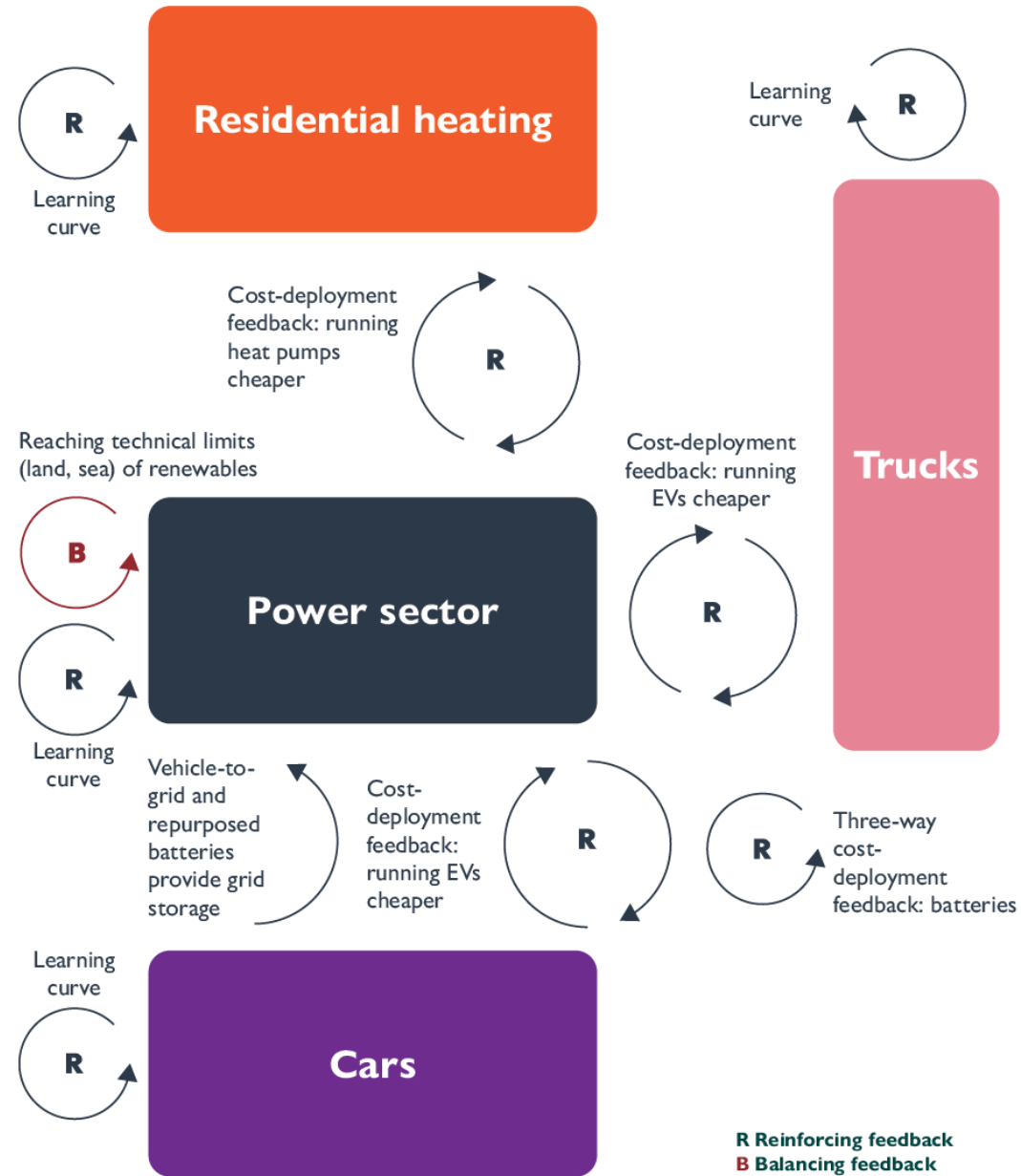
Contact: t.m.lenton@exeter.ac.uk



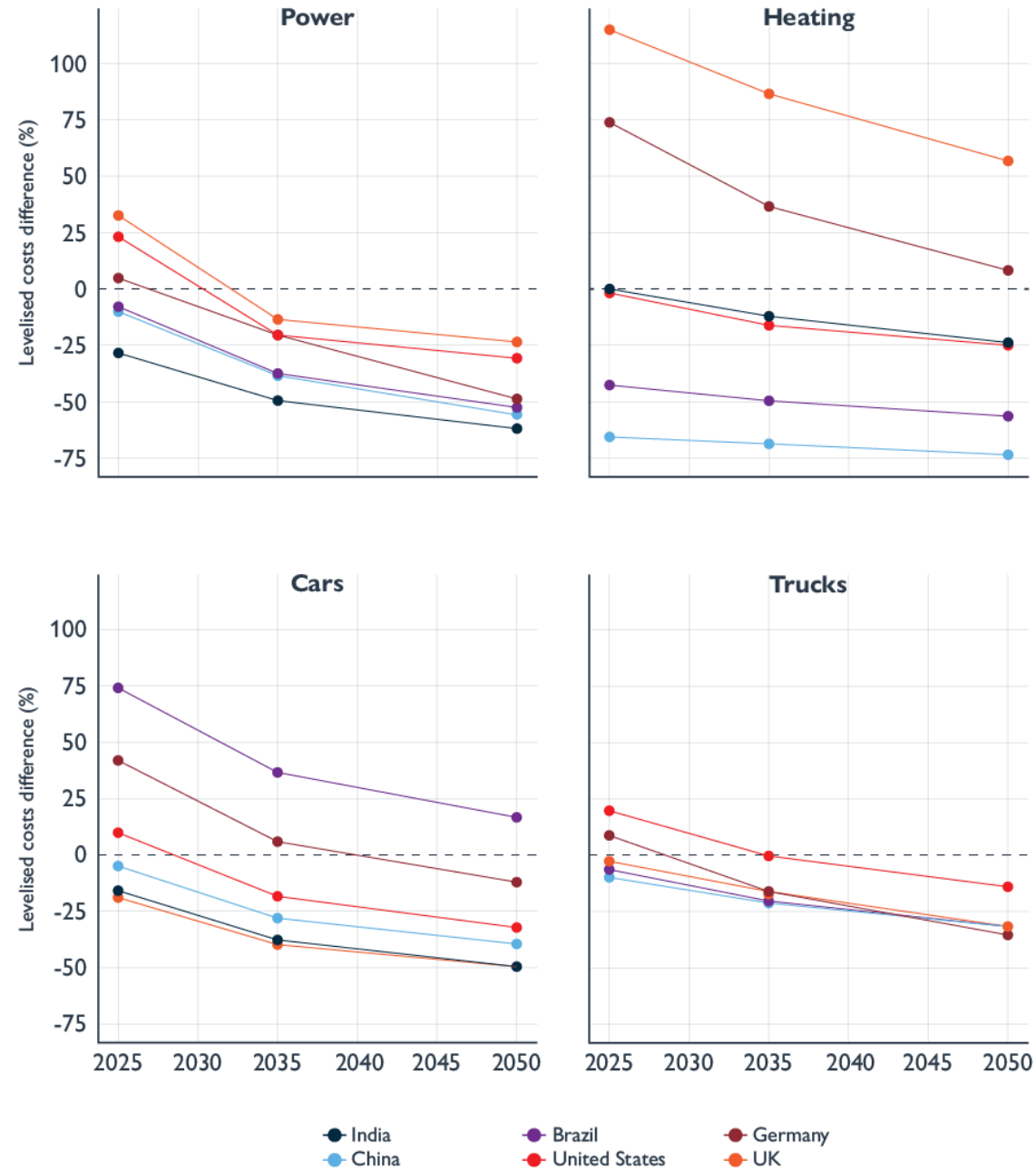
Levelized cost of electricity



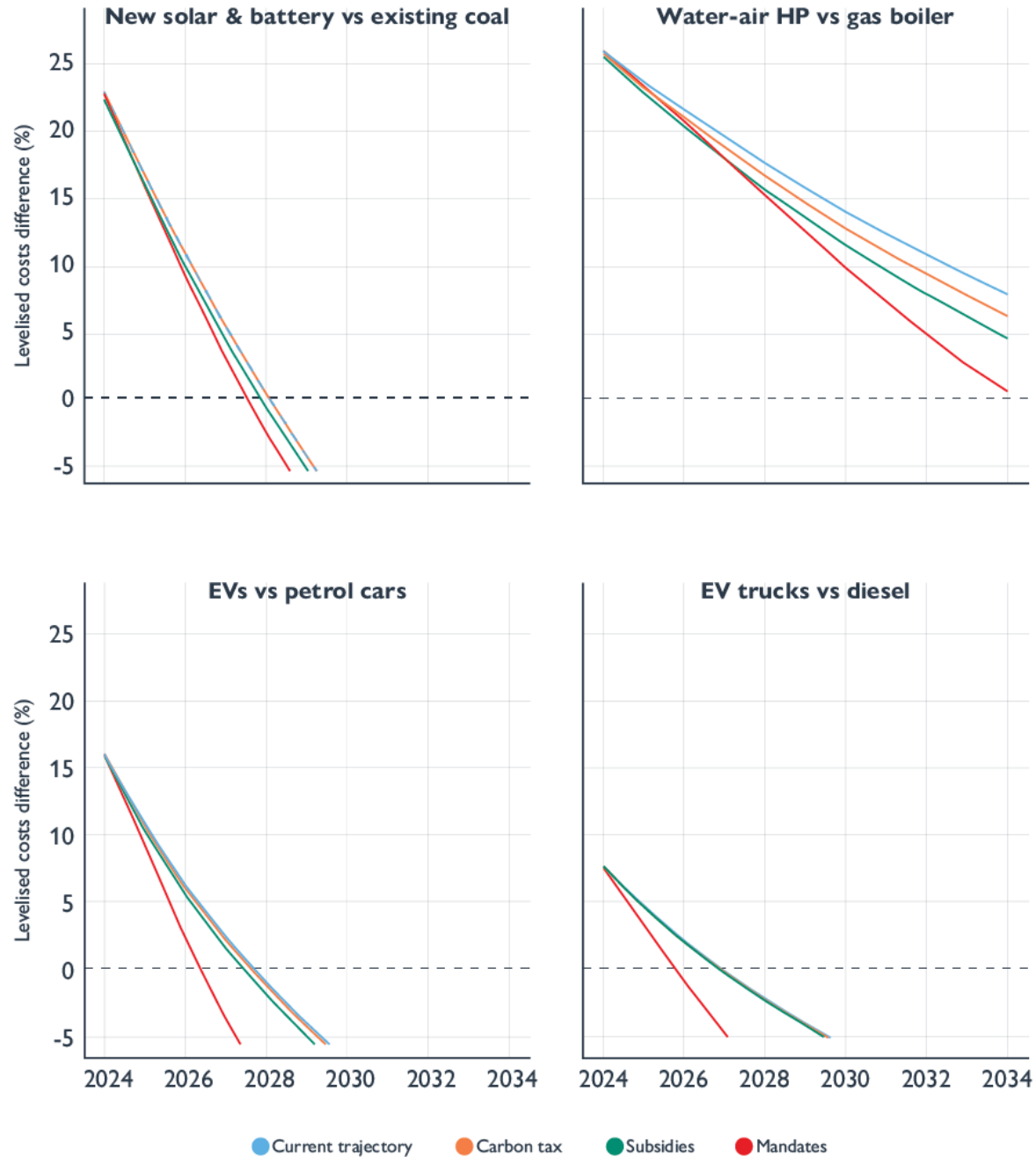
Sectoral coupling

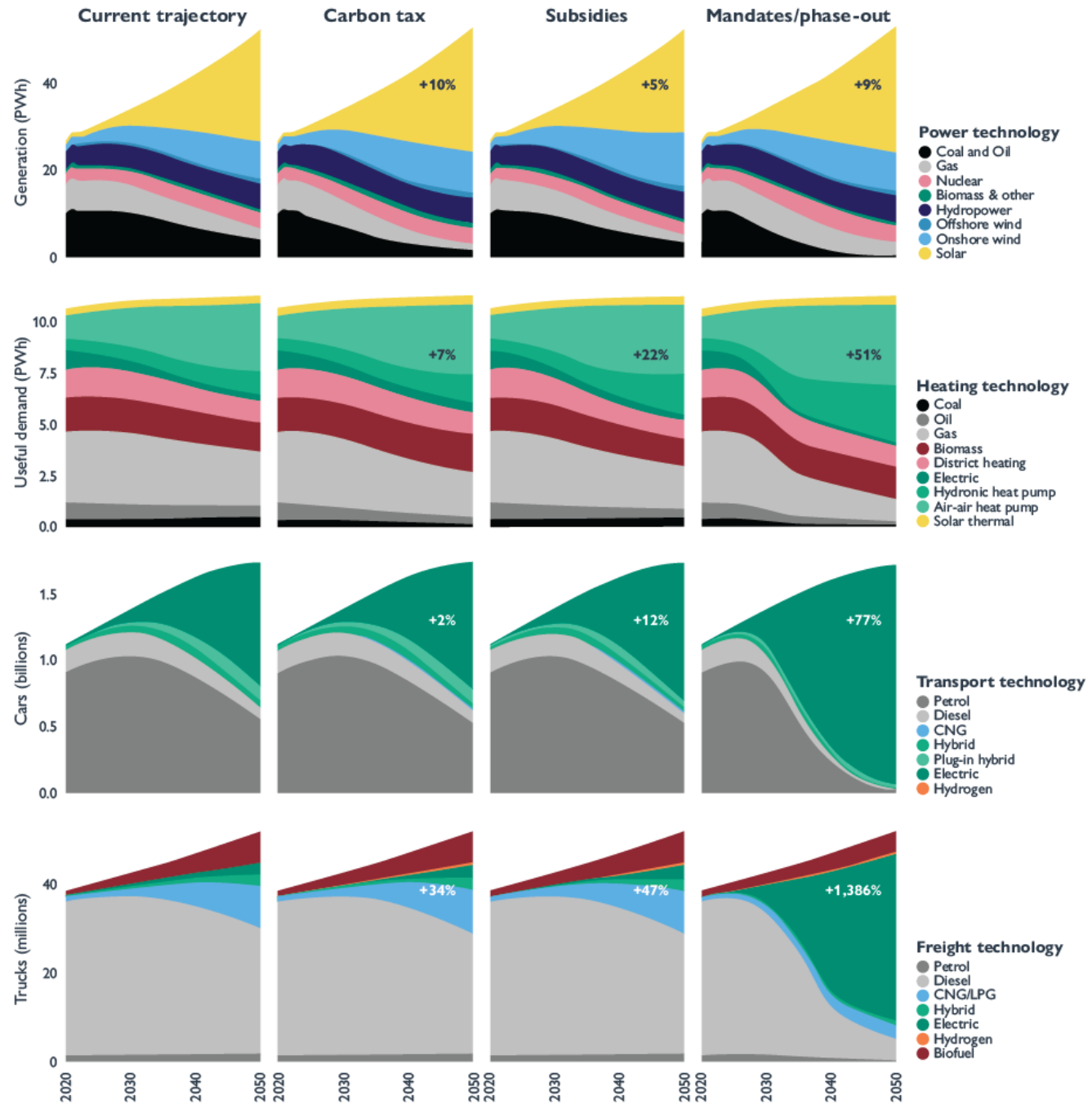


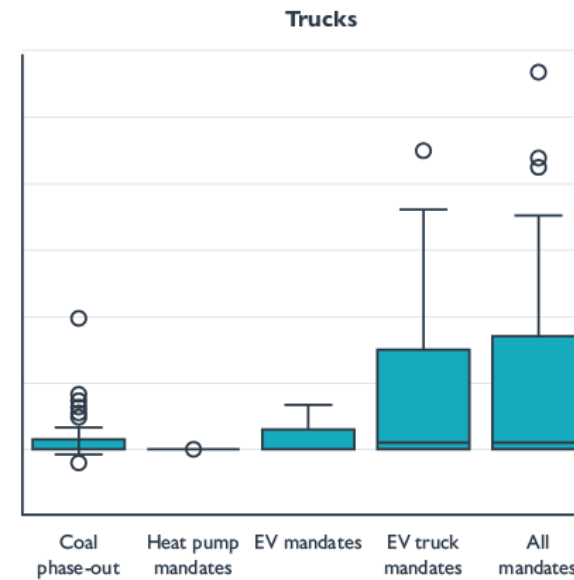
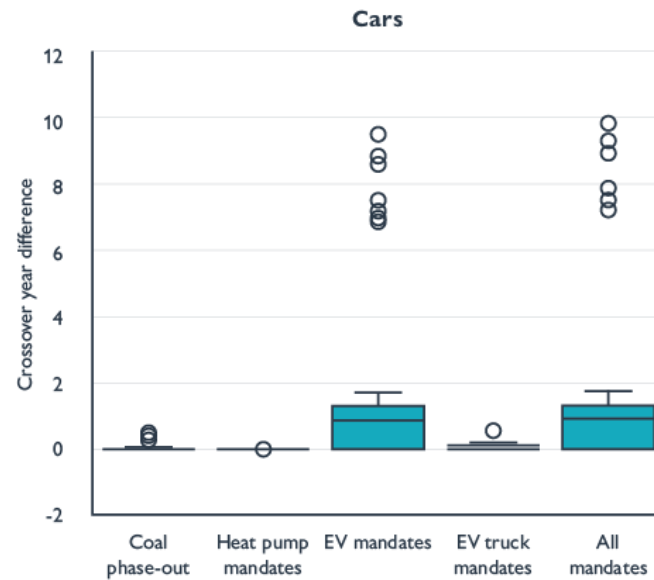
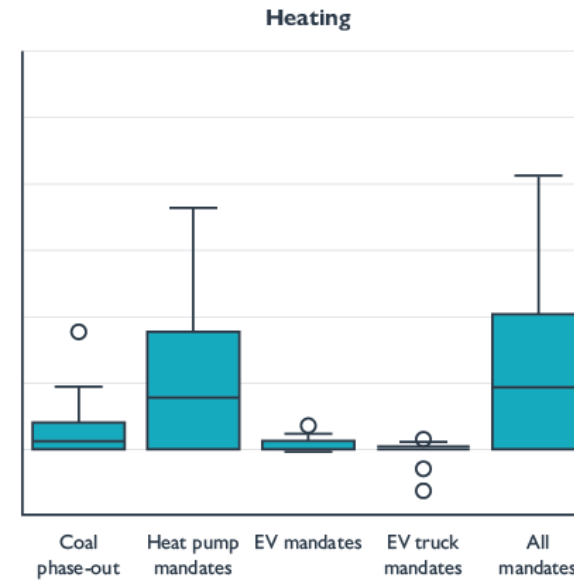
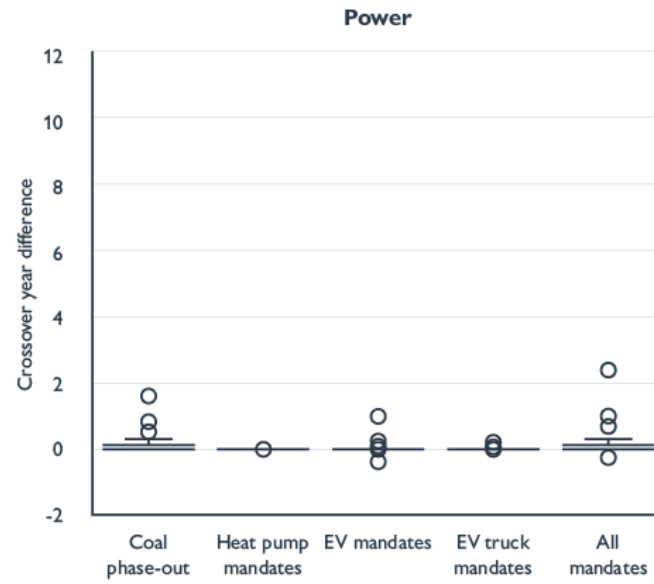
Effect of current policies



Effect of extra policies

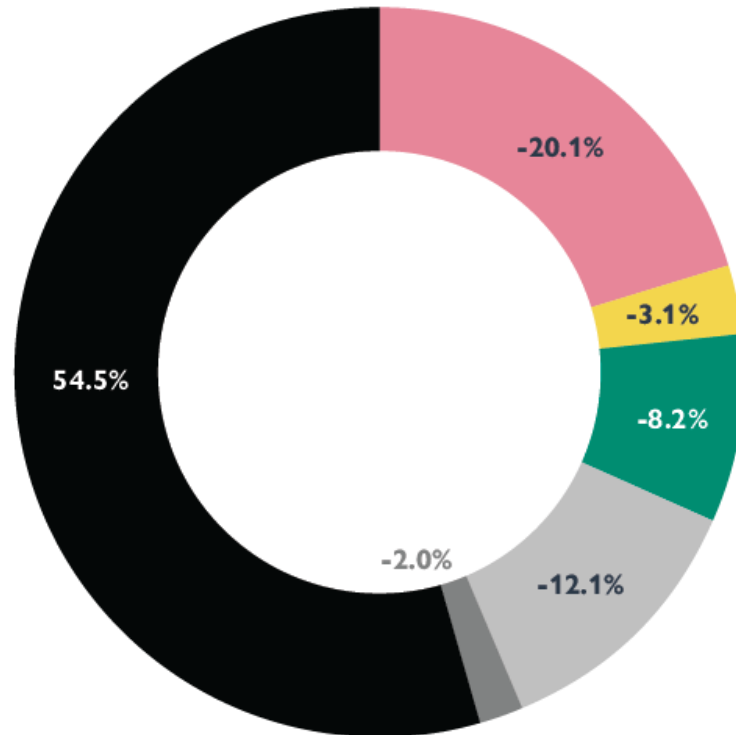




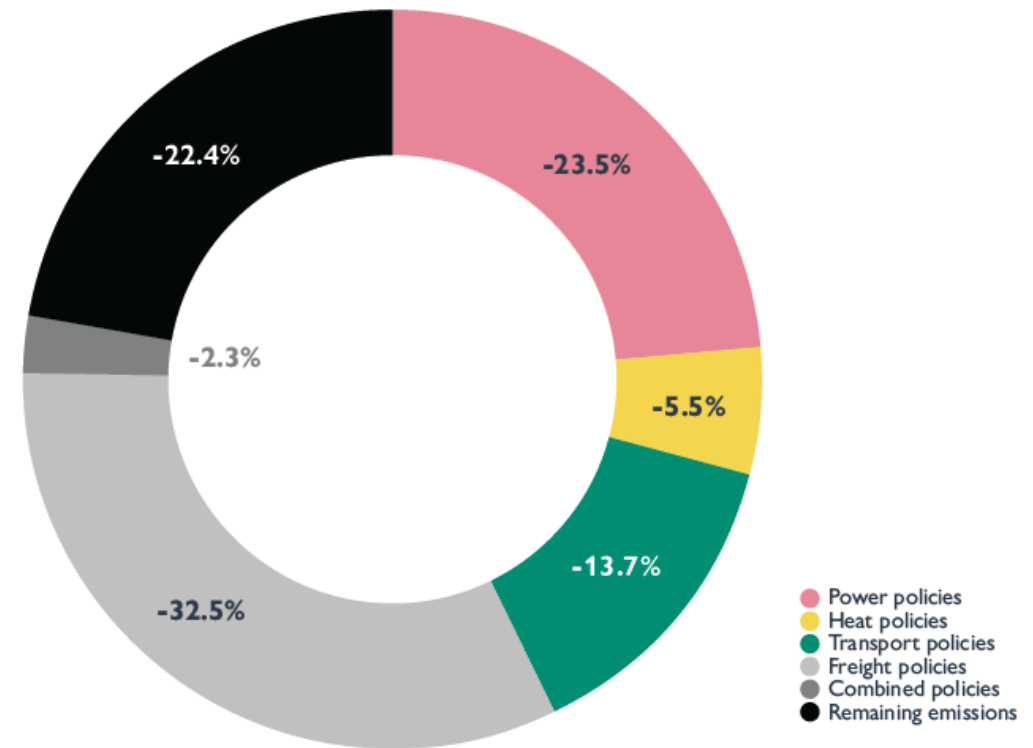


Effect on emissions

Global Cumulative Emissions 2025-2050

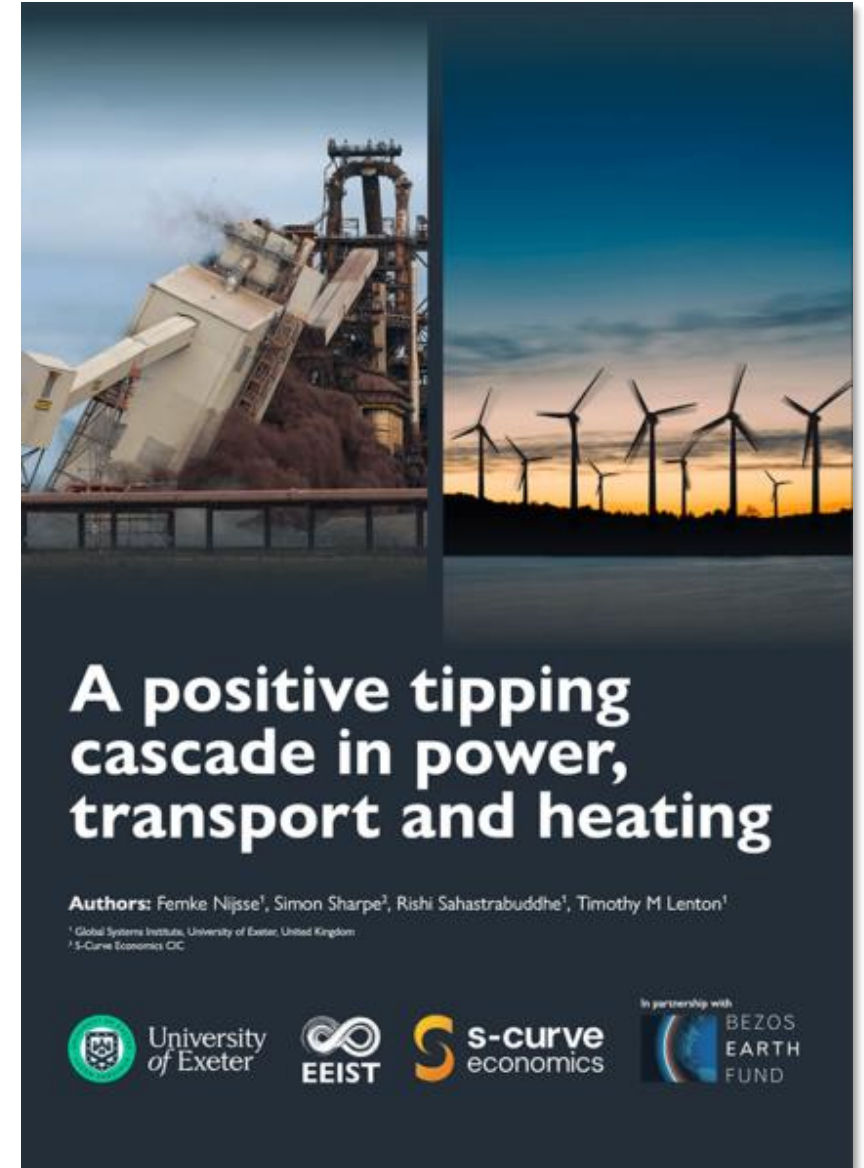


Emissions 2050



Key messages

- Regulatory mandates are the most powerful policies for bringing forward positive tipping points.
- Mandates can bring forward tipping points in the power, transport and heating sectors by up to 3 years globally, significantly more than carbon prices or subsidies.
- Policies to advance the transition in one sector also tend to bring forward positive tipping points in other sectors.
- A coal phaseout policy brings forward positive tipping points in the heating and heavy road transport sectors by up to 4 years in some countries.
- A zero-emission vehicle mandate in light road transport brings forward the positive tipping points in heavy road transport by nearly 2 years in some countries, and up to a year for power and heating.





Thank you
Discussion by Dries Dumortier

Mandates & bottlenecks

How are bottlenecks represented when mandates are implemented?

FTT models accounts for growth constraints by

- Incumbency advantage → Prevailing capacity share (S_i^{t-1})
- Speed of capacity replacement → Diffusion rate ($A_{i,j}$)

Investors minimise costs

For FTT:Power model

Cost minimisation \neq profit maximisation

Renewable energy farm characteristics	↔	Wholesale spot market characteristics
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Nearly zero marginal cost- High debt requirement- Uncertain generation levels- Lower generation costs		<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Marginal pricing- Price volatility- Day-ahead market- Who profits?

Table 1: Misalignments between characteristics of renewables and wholesale spot market

Climate policy support

Potential risk:

Mandates could undermine public support for climate policies

Clarification:

Mandates for producers or also for consumers?

Electricity Transition in MFMod: A Methodological Note

Presenter: Charl Jooste A. Haider, F. Mclsaac

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- **Objectives:** Explore methodologies to integrate energy transitions into macrostructural models.
- **Challenges:** Representing deep system transformations in standard macroeconomic setups.
- **Contribution:** Methodologies to enhance MFMod for energy transitions, applied to Mauritania and South Africa.

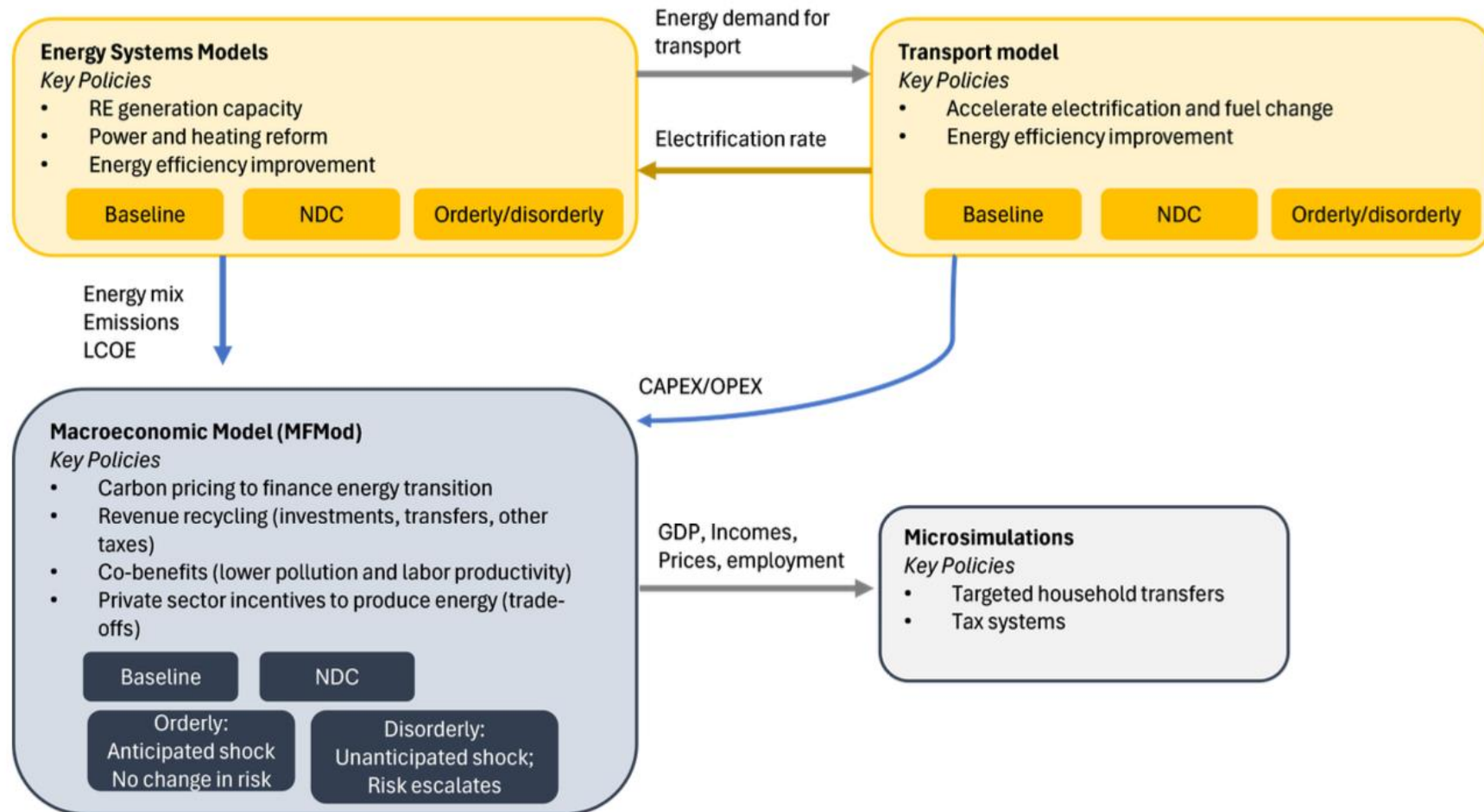
- MFMod: A macrostructural model with New-Keynesian features.
- Core Features: Long-run neoclassical growth, sectoral production functions, and nominal rigidities.
- Relevance: Used for policy analysis, including carbon taxation and energy transitions.

- **Challenge:** Limited sectoral representation in macrostructural models.
- **Solution 1:** Endogenizing energy into the production function.
- **Solution 2:** Soft-linking with electricity planning models (EPM/MESSAGE).

- Energy Dynamics: Modeled as part of the production process.
- Production Function: CES for capital and electricity, Cobb-Douglas for energy and labor.
- Impact: Captures the role of electricity supply in production constraints.

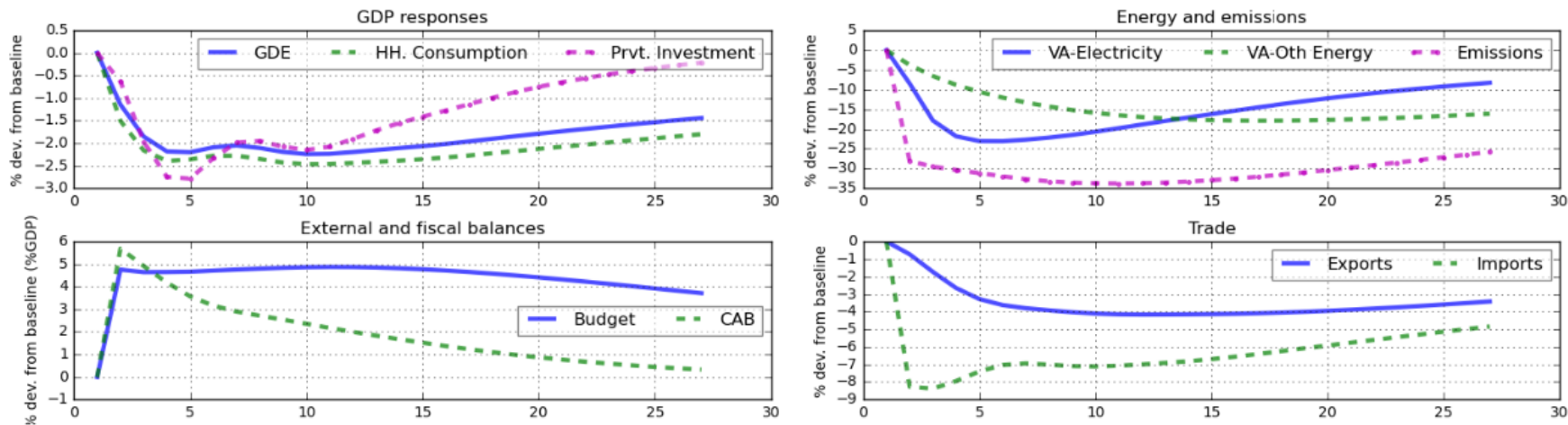
- Process: Linking MFMod to energy planning models for better technical detail.
- Inputs: Energy mix, CAPEX, OPEX, and emissions.
- Benefits: Realistic representation of energy transitions and stranded assets.

Softlinking framework

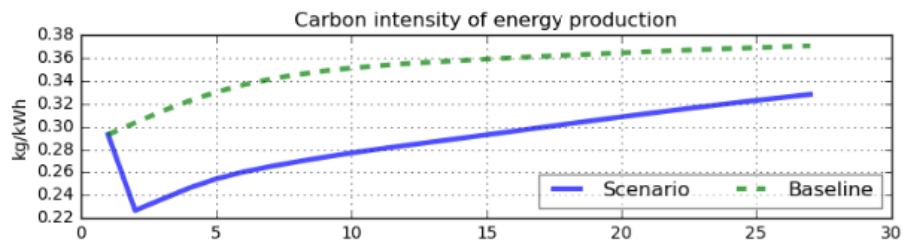
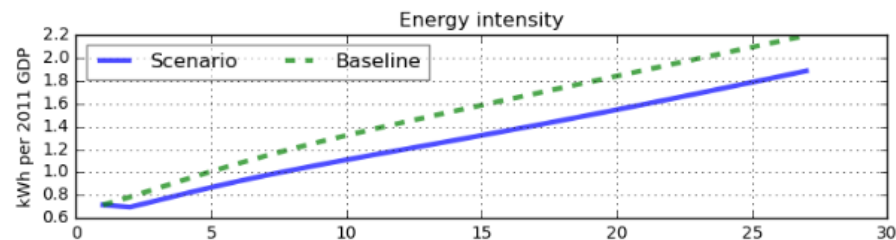
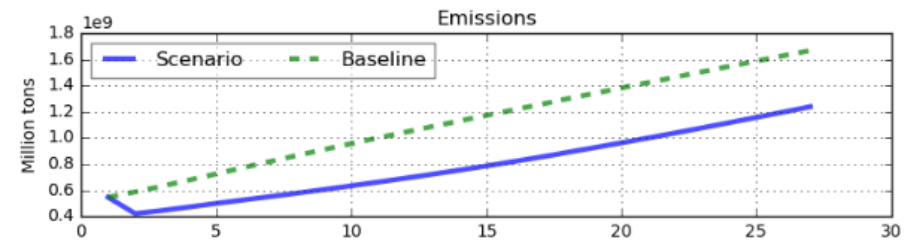
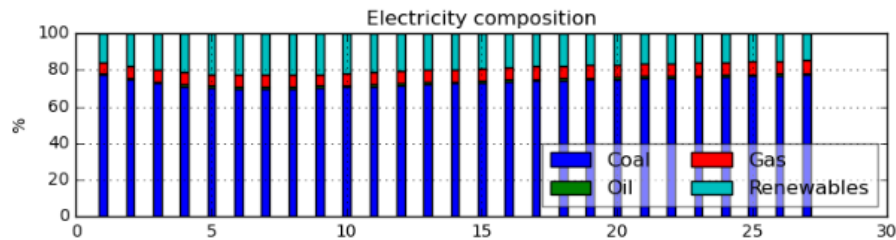


- **Objective:** Align emissions trajectories with carbon taxation scenarios.
- **Methodology:** Iterative goal-seeking approach to match emissions with policy targets.
- **Result:** Enhanced modeling of decarbonization pathways.

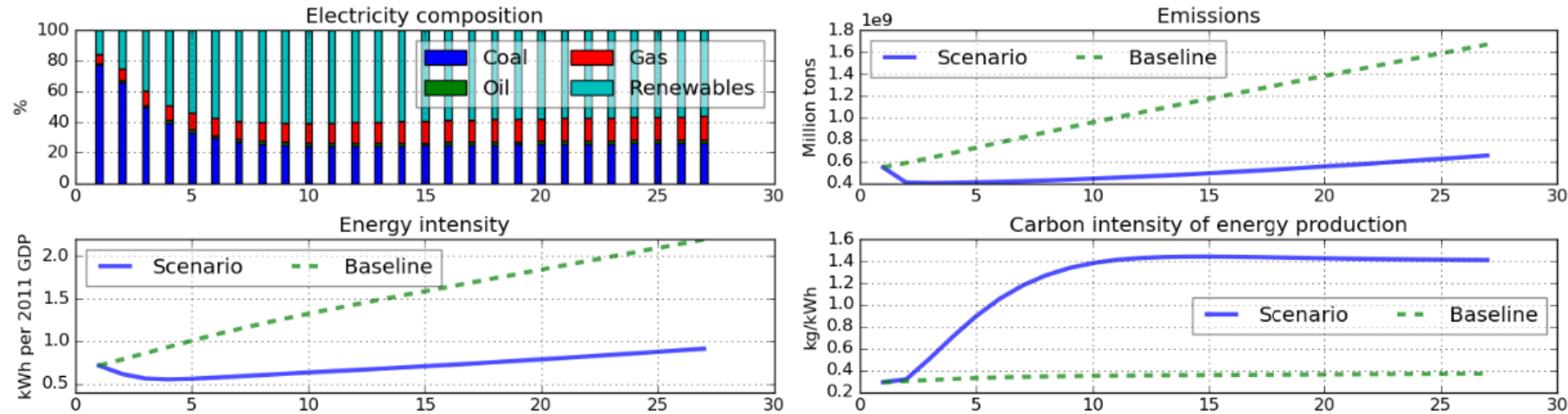
- Scenario: USD 20/ton carbon tax without renewable investments.
- Key Assumptions: Pass-through to end-users, revenue neutral or savings options.
- Impact: Changes in consumption, investment, imports, and emissions.



- Without recycling and inelastic demand for fossil fuels we get a sharp reduction in output.
- Significant gains to revenue - tax base does not shrink.
- Opportunity cost implies that other goods demanded falls.



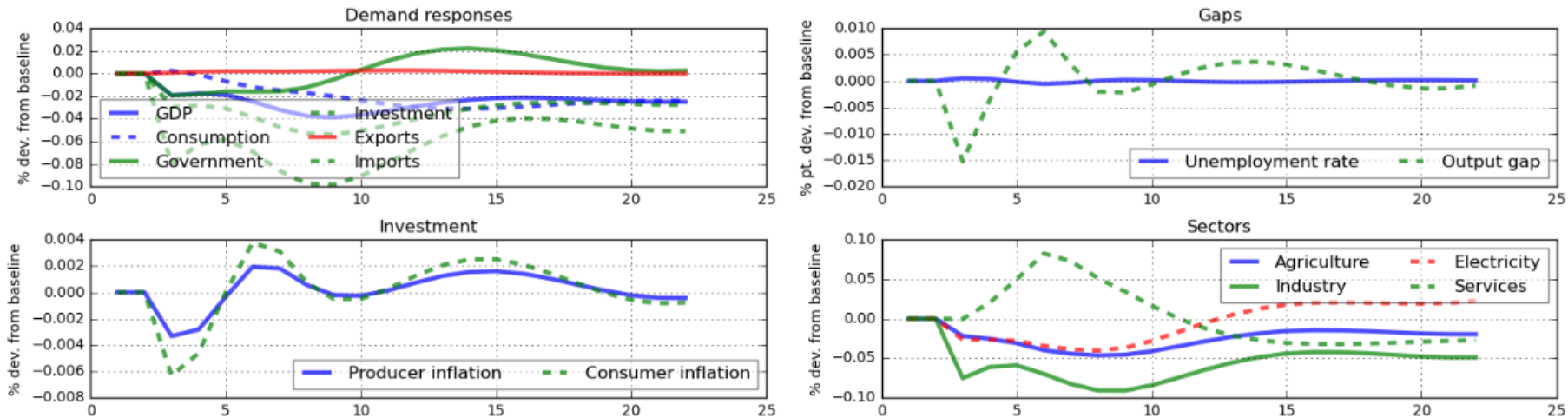
- Total emissions fall.
- But this is only because demand is contracting.
- Electricity composition stays the same.



- Scenario: Higher elasticity of substitution ($\sigma = 5$).
- Impact: Faster energy transition and increased renewable share.
- Insights: **Cannot just tax fossil fuels without providing alternative renewables.**

- Scenario: Sahel electricity integration with emissions reduction.
- Inputs: Energy mix assumptions and CAPEX/OPEX projections.
- Role of Government: Financing grid integration and renewable transitions.





- Decrease in CAPEX relative to baseline.
- Changes in consumption, investment, and sectoral outputs.
- Implications for energy reliability and productivity.

- Summary: Enhanced methodologies for energy integration in MFMod.
- Findings: Carbon tax and soft-linking approaches provide insights into energy transitions.
- Contribution: Blueprint for macroeconomic modeling of low-carbon transitions.

- Opportunities: Iterative integration with techno-economic models.
- Extensions: Sector-specific labor adjustments and stranded asset modeling.
- Policy Relevance: Improved tools for decarbonization policy simulations.





Thank you
Discussion by Timothy Lenton