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Assessing the Speed of the Green Transition: Directed Technical Change Towards Decarbonization

Oriol Vallès Codina

University College London Institute for Innovation and Public Purpose
London ; New School for Social Research. New York City

Willi Semmler

New School for Social Research. New York City; University of Bielefeld.
Universit, Bielefeld

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Oriol Vallès Codina^{a,b,*}, Willi Semmler^{b,c}

^a*University College London Institute for Innovation and Public Purpose. 11 Montague St,
London WC1B 5BP, UK*

^b*New School for Social Research. 6 E 16th St, New York City, NY 10003, USA*

^c*University of Bielefeld. Universitätsstraße 25, Bielefeld D-33615, Germany*

*Corresponding author. No competing interests to declare.

Email addresses: oriol.vallescodina@ucl.ac.uk (Oriol Vallès Codina),
semmlerw@newschool.edu (Willi Semmler)

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Abstract

This paper employs a dynamic multi-sectoral growth model with changing technology to study the technical substitution of carbon sectors by green sectors, that is, the Green Transition. The framing of this transition is based on the Flaschel-Semmler dynamic cross-dual adjustment between prices and quantities in the form of a law of excess demand and a law of excess profitability, which produces a complex pattern of oscillations around their equilibrium values. The adjustment coefficients of the model are empirically estimated for six countries using a mixed-effects varying-slopes model on EU KLEMS and WIOD data. The speed of green substitution that allows decarbonization to meet the targets of the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change is evaluated analytically and computationally with respect to four varying parameters: relative cost efficiency, carbon tax and green subsidy rates, and initial investment ratio. Carbon taxes have the highest impact on the speed of decarbonization, followed by green subsidies; relative cost efficiency has a negligible impact on speed within realistic time frames. Directed technical change is enforced by a revenue-neutral, pro-active fiscal policy of a tax-subsidy form, which has the effect to greatly accelerate the phase-out of the carbon sector and the phase-in of green energy. Without fiscal policy, this substitution process will be too slow to reach the IPCC targets on time. **JEL Codes** C63, O25, O41, Q55

Keywords: environmental economics, decarbonization, complex dynamical systems, structural change, fiscal policy

1 Highlights

- 2 • The Flaschel-Semmler dynamical model of multi-sectoral growth is em-
3 ployed to study the speed of substitution of carbon sectors by green sectors
4 under directed technical change.
- 5 • The adjustment coefficients of the model are empirically estimated for six
6 countries using a mixed-effects varying-slopes model on EU KLEMS and
7 WIOD data.
- 8 • The speed of green substitution is evaluated analytically and computa-
9 tionally with respect to four varying parameters: relative cost efficiency,
10 carbon tax and green subsidy rates, and initial investment ratio.
- 11 • Carbon taxes have the highest impact on the speed of decarbonization,
12 followed by green subsidies; relative cost efficiency has a negligible impact
13 within realistic time frames.
- 14 • Fiscal policy has the effect to greatly accelerate the phase-out of the car-
15 bon sector and the phase-in of green energy. Without fiscal policy, the
16 substitution process will be too slow to reach the IPCC targets on time.

17 1. Introduction

18 The climate crisis is one of the defining issues of our time. According to a
19 recent landmark report by the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
20 (IPCC), 16 years are left for a rapid structural change of the economy towards
21 decarbonization in order to avoid climate catastrophe by keeping world temper-
22 atures below the 1.5-Celsius-degree target. Consensus among economists views
23 climate change as a negative externality that can be corrected by a Pigou-
24 vian tax on carbon internalized by polluting firms, which may be further used
25 to subsidize and direct structural technical change towards green technology.
26 Recently, most economic analysis on climate change policies operates in the
27 tradition of computational general equilibrium and new growth theory, which

28 endogenizes innovation (Goulder & Schneider, 1999; Nordhaus & Boyer, 2000;
29 Nordhaus, 2002; Jaffe et al., 2002; Goulder & Parry, 2008; Gillingham et al.,
30 2009; Acemoglu et al., 2012; Gans, 2012; Golosov et al., 2014; Acemoglu et al.,
31 2016). These contributions envision optimal taxation based on the fundamental
32 neoclassical trade-off between consumption today and consumption in the fu-
33 ture, leading to the design of damage functions that relate climate change with
34 losses in economic output (Keen, 2020). More recent studies study the crucial
35 role of public finance and the financial market, for example in the form of green
36 bonds, in promoting the green transition (Heine et al., 2019; Deleidi et al., 2020;
37 Semmler et al., 2021).

38 In particular, Acemoglu et al. (Acemoglu et al., 2012, 2016) posit two press-
39 ing questions: (1) how much time the structural transition from carbon to
40 renewable energy may take, and (2) to what extent fiscal policy of the tax-
41 subsidy kind can accelerate such a process under directed technical change. Our
42 contribution addresses these two questions using an extension of the Flaschel-
43 Semmler dynamical model of multi-sector growth that incorporates technolog-
44 ical dynamics in the form of process innovation and extinction (Flaschel &
45 Semmler, 1987, 1992). In contrast to the contributions based on new growth
46 theory, the multi-sectoral character of the model allows to explicitly explore the
47 effect of input-output linkages in production in the context of directed technical
48 change. Within the broader literature on competitive dynamical adjustments
49 in prices and quantities (Jorgenson, 1960; Hahn, 1970; Morishima, 1981; Mas-
50 Colell, 1986; Duménil & Lévy, 1987; Flaschel & Semmler, 1987; Fisher, 1989a;
51 Flaschel, 1990; Duménil & Lévy, 1993), the Flaschel-Semmler model theoret-
52 ically relies on the laws of excess demand and excess profitability, which im-
53 ply cross-dual linear adjustments in prices with respect to imbalances between
54 supply and demand and in quantities with respect to deviations from normal
55 profitability.

56 Using a mixed-effects model with varying slopes on EU KLEMS data, the
57 model is calibrated by estimating empirically the linear adjustment coefficients
58 for six developed economies (Germany, France, Japan, Italy, Netherlands, and

59 the US). Input-output WIOD data is employed to set the technology structure.
60 The empirical adjustment coefficients and initial conditions, extracted from EU
61 KLEMS, are then used to compute simulations of the dynamic substitution of
62 two carbon-based sectors of economic production by green, carbon-free synthetic
63 equivalents: in particular, “Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply”
64 (D) and “Manufacture of coke and refined petroleum products” (C19). The
65 theoretical model can be thus conceived as a machine learning algorithm that
66 uses the WIOD and EU KLEMS datasets as training data.

67 Finally, the speed of decarbonization is evaluated analytically and computa-
68 tionally with respect to a variety of production and fiscal-policy parameters: the
69 relative efficiency in production of the green sector with respect to the carbon
70 sector (i.e. capital intensity, which can also be understood as a nominal carbon-
71 pricing tax), the (real) carbon tax rate, the green subsidy rate, and the initial
72 output ratio or investment. For a synthetic dataset of 14,250 simulations, the
73 dependence of decarbonization speed on all these parameters is highly signifi-
74 cant, with varying degrees of intensity: technical efficiency has the lowest impact
75 and a carbon tax on profits has the highest impact. In absence of fiscal policy,
76 efficiency in production, is, as expected, the critical parameter that regulates
77 the speed of the green transition, by imposing sustained profit and growth rate
78 differentials between the carbon and the green sector. However, lower costs in
79 production alone induce too slow of an adjustment speed in the phase-in of the
80 green energy sector to fall within IPCC targets or any reasonable time horizon,
81 even when starting many magnitudes above its current levels of output relative
82 to the carbon sector.

83 The findings of the paper show to what extent fiscal policy that taxes car-
84 bon output to subsidize green output is indispensable to expand the profit and
85 growth rate differentials enough to meet the IPCC targets for decarbonization
86 in time. Without fiscal policy, it is not possible for any economy to reach the
87 IPCC targets on time. Furthermore, tax-subsidy policy shows its greatest effect
88 at the earliest stages of the green transition, suggesting that public investment
89 is necessary to kickstart and mobilize private funds into moving on green tech-

90 nologies over carbon ones (Acemoglu et al., 2016; Heine et al., 2019; Deleidi
91 et al., 2020; Semmler et al., 2021). The paper finally suggests appropriate fiscal
92 policy mixes to accelerate the green transition within IPCC targets.

93 2. A multi-sector growth model of the green transition

94 2.1. Dual and Cross-dual Adjustment Models

95 Starting in the 1960s and 1970s, models of dual and cross-dual adjustment in
96 prices and quantities have a long history in economics (Jorgenson, 1960; Hahn,
97 1970; Burmeister et al., 1973; Morishima, 1981; Mas-Colell, 1986; Duménil &
98 Lévy, 1987; Flaschel & Semmler, 1987; Fisher, 1989a; Flaschel, 1990; Flaschel
99 & Semmler, 1992; Duménil & Lévy, 1993). In such models, dynamic stability
100 is studied by considering specific adjustment processes in the form of stylized
101 facts as laws. Inspired by the short-run Walrasian process of price groping or
102 tâtonnement, within the neoclassical analysis of temporary general equilibrium
103 the so-called “law of demand and supply” became the most popular form of
104 adjustment process, where excess demand triggers a change in prices.

105 However, Hahn noted that the study of Walrasian groping has not been very
106 fruitful (Hahn, 1970). Subsequent investigations within the context of neoclassi-
107 cal growth models with heterogeneous capital goods have generally revealed the
108 possibility of a saddlepoint behavior of their dynamics, where asymptotic stabil-
109 ity to equilibrium is not guaranteed (Burmeister et al., 1973). In the context of
110 input-output analysis, Jorgenson contributed his famous dual (in)stability theo-
111 rem, where if the output system is stable, the price system is unstable, and vice
112 versa (Jorgenson, 1960). As Morishima noted, Jorgenson’s adjustment processes
113 were of the dual form only, with uncoupled dynamic adjustment in prices and
114 quantities (Morishima, 1981). Further, prices and quantity adjustments could
115 be made stable by removing two implicit assumptions in Jorgenson’s model,
116 namely the full utilization of capital and perfect-foresight price expectations
117 (Fukuda, 1975).

118 Morishima showed that equilibrium could be asymptotically stable following
119 a cross-dual formulation, where the Walrasian law of excess demand was to be
120 supplemented by a rule describing how quantities are adjusted, in particular in
121 the form of a “law of excess profitability”, and the analysis is restricted to the
122 goods market and long-run equilibrium positions, i.e. without considering short-
123 run temporary equilibria (Morishima, 1981). Contributions in a more classical
124 perspective, where stability is understood not in asymptotic terms but as a
125 self-restricted, gravitational movement of quantities, prices, and profitability
126 differentials around their equilibrium values, feature the work of Steedman,
127 Nikaido or Duménil and Lévy (Steedman, 1984; Nikaido, 1985; Duménil & Lévy,
128 1987, 1993). In addition, more recent contributions in neoclassical theory have
129 also formulated similar laws of profitability, where an excess of prices over costs
130 triggers supply responses of firms (Mas-Colell, 1986).

131 In the Flaschel-Semmler model (Flaschel & Semmler, 1987), a deviation of
132 quantities from equilibrium will trigger a response in prices (law of excess de-
133 mand), while a deviation of unit profits from equilibrium will induce a response
134 in quantities (law of excess profitability). The dynamic process of the free mo-
135 bility of profit-seeking capital among sectors of production induces fluctuations
136 in outputs: if an industry earns higher-than-average profits, capital will move
137 there raising output. Since market prices react positively to excess demand and
138 negatively to excess supply by the law of demand, the increase in supply caused
139 by capital inflows will eventually drive prices down, reducing industry profitabil-
140 ity and eventually forcing capital to flow out to other sectors of production with
141 higher returns on capital, and in the process reducing industry output. Market
142 prices and relative quantities gravitate around their equilibrium values, which
143 are ultimately determined by the technological structure in line with the von
144 Neumann-Sraffa input-output model (Von Neumann, 1945; Sraffa, 1960). This
145 is the basic structure of market dynamics in the theoretical model.

146 *2.2. Constant-Technology Dynamics*

147 The Flaschel-Semmler model of multi-sector growth with circulating capital
 148 and constant technology describes price and quantity oscillations over time
 149 around the equilibrium values of N prices p (a row vector) and N quantities x (a
 150 column vector) of the Sraffa-von Neumann system (Von Neumann, 1945; Sraffa,
 151 1960). These price and quantity oscillations are of a Lotka-Volterra form, fol-
 152 lowing a dynamical cross-dual adjustment in a linear model of production with
 153 matrix A as inputs and matrix B as outputs¹, which take real positive values.
 154 By the Perron-Frobenius theorem, unique positive equilibrium values p^* and x^*
 155 solve for the positive gross rate of return or expansion rate $R > 1$, in matricial
 156 notation:

$$157 \quad Bx^* = RAx^* \quad \text{supply equals demand} \quad (1)$$

$$158 \quad p^*B = Rp^*A \quad \text{profit rates are uniform across sectors} \quad (2)$$

160 where p^*B is the equilibrium unit revenue and Rp^*A is the equilibrium unit
 161 cost in relation to the expansion rate R . In scalar notation,

$$162 \quad \sum_j b_{ij}x_j^* = R \sum_j a_{ij}x_j^* \quad i = 1, \dots, N \quad (3)$$

$$163 \quad \sum_i p_i^*b_{ij} = R \sum_i p_i^*a_{ij} \quad j = 1, \dots, N \quad (4)$$

165 The expansion rate R is the inverse of the unique largest positive real eigenvalue
 166 of the input-output matrix A/B , equilibrium prices p^* are its associated positive
 167 row eigenvector, and equilibrium output x^* its the associated positive column
 168 eigenvector. The second largest eigenvalue of the input-output matrix A/B
 169 determines the speed of convergence to equilibrium (Bródy, 1997). R thus can be
 170 considered the “maximum expansion rate” (Shaikh, 2016), which is associated
 171 to the aggregate profit rate when wages are zero and there is no capitalist

¹These matrices are “augmented” in the sense that they also incorporate labor supply and its price, the wage rate. This contribution emphasizes issues of multi-sector growth and technical change over distribution.

172 consumption, that is, all capitalist profit is re-invested:

$$173 \quad 1 + r = R = \frac{pBx}{pAx} \quad (5)$$

174 When the system is in maximum expanded reproduction, the demand for final
 175 goods will be proportional to the total output vector (Shaikh, 2016). The em-
 176 pirical statistical analysis of the input-output matrix for the US between 1967
 177 and 2007 shows a remarkably persistent exponential distribution for the distri-
 178 bution of its (moduli) eigenvalues, which cluster around zero in the complex
 179 plane (Torres-González & Yang, 2019). From a dynamical-systems perspective,
 180 this suggests a very complex pattern of oscillations operating at different speeds
 181 of adjustment, which the Flaschel-Semmler model attempts to capture by ap-
 182 pealing to two abstract laws: the law of excess demand and the law of excess
 183 profitability.

184 Cross-duality in its simplest form gives rise to stability, but not to asymptotic
 185 stability for the equilibrium assumed, but rather ceaseless over- and undershoot-
 186 ing of prices, quantities, and profit rates around their natural values as centers
 187 of gravity (Flaschel & Semmler, 1987; Shaikh, 2016), see figure 1.

188 Following the law of excess demand, market prices p will decline (rise) if
 189 supply Bx is greater (smaller) than demand:

$$190 \quad \left(\frac{\dot{p}}{p}\right)^T = -\delta_p[B - RA]x = \delta_p[\underbrace{RAx}_{\text{demand}} - \underbrace{Bx}_{\text{supply}}] \quad (6)$$

191 Following the law of excess profitability, quantity x_i will rise (decline) if unit
 192 revenues pB are greater (smaller) than unit costs times R , RpA , since capital
 193 will flow out of the sectors with below-normal profitability into the sectors with
 194 above-normal profitability:

$$195 \quad \frac{\dot{x}}{x} = +\delta_x[B - RA]^T p^T = \delta_x[\underbrace{B^T p^T}_{\text{revenue}} - \underbrace{RA^T p^T}_{\text{cost}}] \quad (7)$$

196 where $\frac{\dot{x}}{x}$ is the column vector of the growth rates in relative quantities, $\frac{\dot{p}}{p}$ is
 197 the row vector of the growth rates in relative prices, and δ_p and δ_x are diagonal
 198 matrices with N positive adjustment coefficients (so they can also be understood
 199 as vectors).

200 In discrete-time, scalar form,

$$201 \quad \frac{p_{t+1}^i}{p_t^i} - 1 = -\delta_p^i \sum_j (b_{ij} - Ra_{ij}) x_t^j \quad i = 1, \dots, N \quad (8)$$

$$202 \quad \frac{x_{t+1}^i}{x_t^i} - 1 = +\delta_x^i \sum_j p_t^j (b_{ji} - Ra_{ji}) \quad i = 1, \dots, N \quad (9)$$

204 In order to retrieve dynamic convergence to equilibrium, Flaschel and Semmler
 205 add an adjustment, with parameter $\gamma > 0$, where capitalists also take account
 206 of the sign of change of extra profits (or losses) when moving their capitals be-
 207 tween sectors, so the law of excess profitability is modified (Flaschel & Semmler,
 208 1987):

$$209 \quad \frac{\dot{x}}{x} = +\delta_x [B - RA]^T (p^T + \gamma p^T) \quad (10)$$

210 This modified cross-dual adjustment process is proven to be globally asymptot-
 211 ically stable as a special case of what Hahn and Fisher (Hahn, 1982; Fisher,
 212 1989b) call quasi-global stability (Flaschel & Semmler, 1987, p.26).

213 2.3. Technical change with process innovation and extinction

214 In a subsequent contribution (Flaschel & Semmler, 1992), Flaschel and
 215 Semmler propose a generalization based on their classical competitive process of
 216 dynamical adjustment of the model of technical change presented in Silverberg
 217 (Silverberg, 1984), which is based on the Goodwin model of class struggle and
 218 capital accumulation (Goodwin, 1982). The Goodwin model assumes neutral,
 219 exponential, disembodied technical progress, under fixed coefficients production,
 220 with fluctuating unemployment regulating changes in the level of real wages. In-
 221 stead of disembodied technical progress, the contribution by Silverberg presents
 222 an economy with a fixed production process and then proceeds by examin-
 223 ing the stability of the resulting equilibrium state when a second production
 224 process embodied in a new capital good with different technical coefficients is
 225 introduced.

226 The Flaschel-Semmler model of technical change allows the input-output
 227 A, B to be $K \times N$ rectangular and evolve over time, with $i = 1, \dots, K$ commodities

228 (corresponding to rows) and $j = 1, \dots, N$ processes (corresponding columns).
 229 Hence, the j th column of A corresponding to the j th process indicates the
 230 input requirements of commodities $i = 1, \dots, N$. Now the quantity vector is of
 231 dimension K for each process (as adjustment parameter vector δ_x), while the
 232 price vector has dimension N for each commodity (as adjustment parameter
 233 vector δ_p). The output matrix B has the same dimensions than the input
 234 matrix A . If the system is single-product, the $K \times N$ output matrix is composed
 235 exclusively by 0 and 1s, that is, b_{ij} is 1 if the j th process produces commodity
 236 i and 0 if not. For joint-product systems, b_{ij} can take any real number between
 237 0 and 1.

238 In particular, the model considers material (or wage) saving innovations
 239 (i.e. capital- or labor-saving), substitution effects where a more efficient process
 240 competes to take over a less efficient process, and innovation in a joint-product
 241 system. If a new process is introduced, a square $K \times K$ A matrix at time t is
 242 replaced at time $t+1$ by a rectangular $K \times N$ A matrix where now $N = K+1$. A
 243 newer, more efficient process j' emerges to compete with an older, less efficient
 244 process j : formally, $a_{ij'} \leq a_{ij} \quad \forall i = 1, \dots, K$ commodities. In their contribution,
 245 Flaschel and Semmler examine the three scenarios separately (material/wage-
 246 saving innovations, substitution effects, and joint-product innovation), but the
 247 three cases can be simulated altogether to model innovation in more general
 248 terms.

249 3. Model Calibration

250 3.1. Simple Example with Synthetic Data

251 As a first example, constant-technology dynamics are simulated for the 2003
 252 US direct requirements matrix, disaggregated into 7 industries (table 1) (Miller
 253 & Blair, 2009, p.29) in figure 1. The equilibrium values for prices, quantities,
 254 and the expansion rate are:

$$255 \quad p^* = (0.550, 0.287, 0.381, 0.509, 0.220, 0.280, 0.290) \quad (11)$$

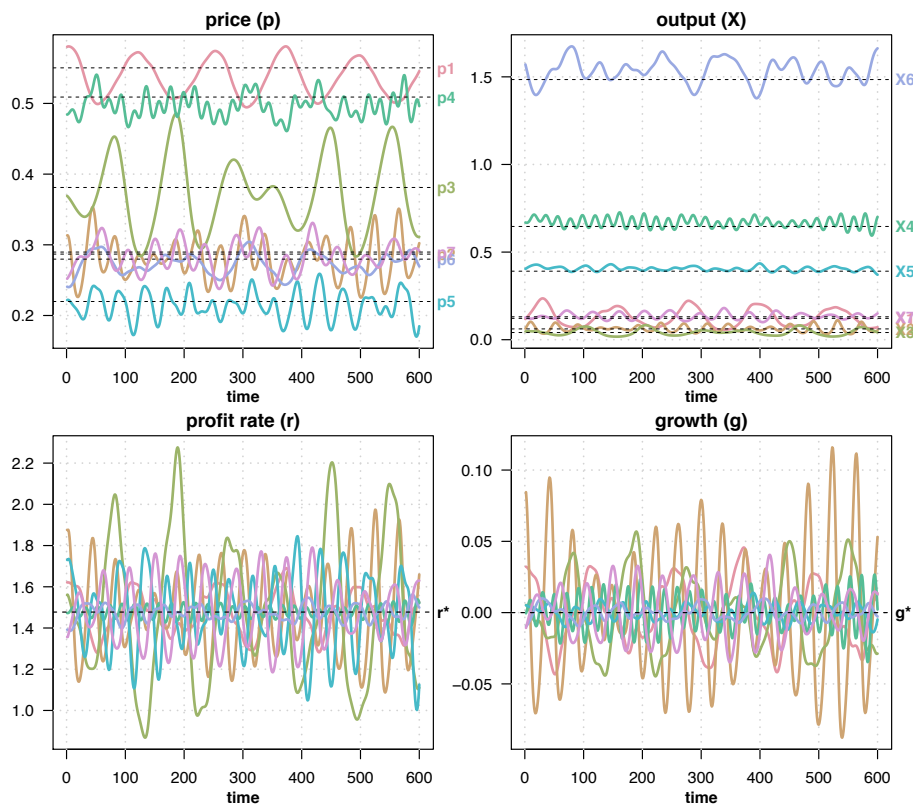


Figure 1: **Flaschel-Semmler Constant-Technology Dynamics for the 2003 US Direct Requirements Matrix** Dashed horizontal lines indicate equilibrium values for the profit rate r^* , prices p^* , quantities x^* , and aggregate growth $g^* = 0$.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1 Agriculture	.2008	.0000	.0011	.0338	.0001	.0018	.0009
2 Mining	.0010	.0658	.0035	.0219	.0151	.0001	.0026
3 Construction	.0034	.0002	.0012	.0021	.0035	.0071	.0214
4 Manufacturing	.1247	.0684	.1801	.2319	.0339	.0414	.0726
5 TTU	.0855	.0529	.0914	.0952	.0645	.0315	.0528
6 Services	.0897	.1668	.1332	.1255	.1647	.2712	.1873
7 Other	.0093	.0129	.0095	.0197	.0190	.0184	.0228

^a TTU: Trade, Transportation, and Utilities

Table 1: **2003 US Direct Requirements Matrix**

256

257
258

$$x^* = (0.0727, 0.0367, 0.0244, 0.3854, 0.2331, 0.8853, 0.0780) \quad (12)$$

259

$$R = 2.477343 \quad (13)$$

260

261

262

263

The resulting simulations produce a complex pattern of deterministic coupled cyclic oscillations in the price and quantity vector around its equilibrium values. Oscillations vary in amplitude and frequency depending on the adjustment parameters chosen, in this case:

264
265

$$\delta_p = (0.1, 1, 0.5, 0.5, 1, 0.1, 0.5) \quad (14)$$

266
267

$$\delta_x = (1, 2, 0.5, 2, 0.25, 1, 1) \quad (15)$$

268

$$\gamma = 1 \quad (16)$$

269

270

271

The N adjustment parameters for prices $\delta_{p,i}$ [equation 8] can be estimated from the simulation data over time interval Δt with an ordinary linear regression without intercept for each industry i :

272

$$y_{i,t} = \alpha_i x_{i,t} + \epsilon_{i,t} \quad i = 1, \dots, N; t \in \Delta t \quad (17)$$

273

274

where the dependent variable is the growth rate of prices, the independent variable is excess demand, and the linear slopes α_i correspond to the adjustment

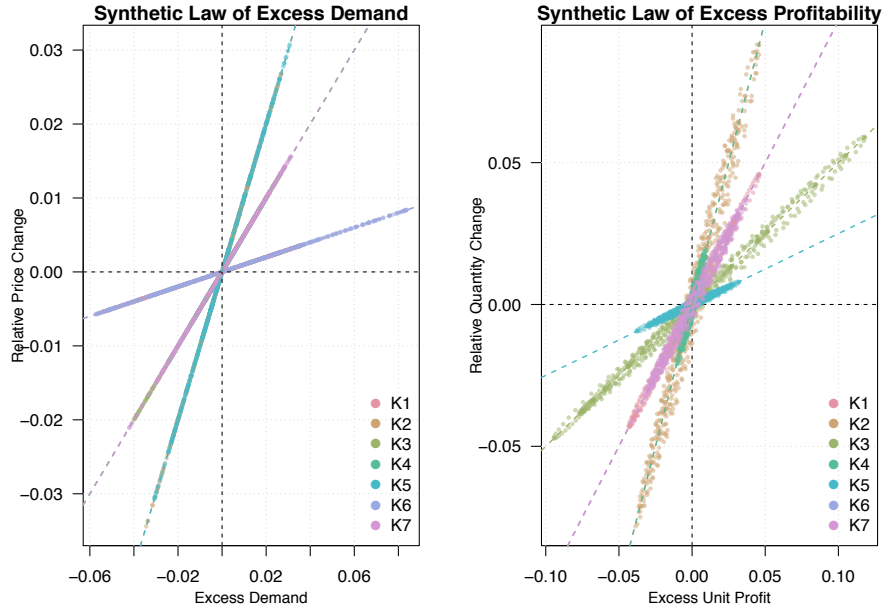


Figure 2: **Relative price and quantity changes with respect to excess demand and excess unit profit** The linear slopes correspond to the adjustment parameters δ_p and δ_x . The synthetic law of excess profitability shows a slight departure from strict linearity due to the stability adjustment γ . Dashed horizontal lines indicate equilibrium values r , x^* , p^* , and $g^* = 0$. Dashed color lines indicate the linear regressions for each sector.

275 parameters $\delta_{p,i}$ for each industry i . Likewise, the N adjustment parameters for
 276 quantities $\delta_{x,i}$ [equation 9] can be estimated with a linear regression:

$$277 \quad y_{i,t} = \alpha_{1i}x_{i,t} + \alpha_{2i}x_{2,i,t} + \epsilon_{i,t} \quad i = 1, \dots, N \quad (18)$$

278 where the dependent variable is the growth rate of quantities, the independent
 279 variable is the excess unit profit, and the linear slopes α_{1i} are the adjustment
 280 parameters $\delta_{x,i}$, while $\alpha_{2i} = \gamma\delta_{x,i}$.

281 The OLS regression suffices to find the parameters with p -values of 0, which is
 282 expected since it is synthetic data. Maximum-entropy linear regression obtained
 283 the same results. For the estimations using real data, the profit sign $x_{2,i,t}$ is
 284 dropped and excess unit profit is used as single regressor as in the first linear
 285 regression.

sector	$\delta_{p,i}$	p.val	$\delta_{x,i}$	$\gamma\delta_{x,i}$	p.val1	p.val2
1	0.1	0	1.00	1.00	0	0
2	1.0	0	2.00	2.00	0	0
3	0.5	0	0.50	0.50	0	0
4	0.5	0	2.00	2.00	0	0
5	1.0	0	0.25	0.25	0	0
6	0.1	0	1.00	1.00	0	0
7	0.5	0	1.00	1.00	0	0

Table 2: OLS for adjustment parameters $\delta_{p,i}$, $\delta_{x,i}$, and γ

286 *3.2. Estimation using real training data*

287 The real dataset employed to estimate the adjustment coefficients of the
 288 model covers 36 industries in six developed economies (Germany, France, Italy,
 289 Japan, Netherlands, and the US) in the EU KLEMS database for an annual
 290 interval of 23 years between 1995 and 2017. The growth rates of prices and
 291 quantities can be directly computed from the time series of its indices, subtract-
 292 ing by their average so that they are relative to the average growth rate as in
 293 the Flaschel-Semmler model [figures 4 and 3 for Germany].

294 For each country and year, the general expansion factor R is computed,
 295 following its definition, as the ratio between the total monetary value of gross
 296 output over the total monetary value of the circulating capital (labor compensa-
 297 tion plus intermediate goods). Normal profitability is just $R - 1$. The expansion
 298 factor acts as the average benchmark of the model, from which to compute the
 299 imbalances between supply and demand and the deviations from normal prof-
 300 itability. Sector imbalances in supply and demand are obtained from the ratio
 301 of gross output (i.e. supply) to intermediates (i.e. demand) in quantity terms²

²This method of calculating excess demand may be problematic: in national income ac-
 counts, the discrepancy between demand and supply is added to one side so that the two
 sides balance. This discrepancy can be captured by measuring unintended inventory change



Figure 3: **Growth rates in industry prices, Germany** Source: EU KLEMS

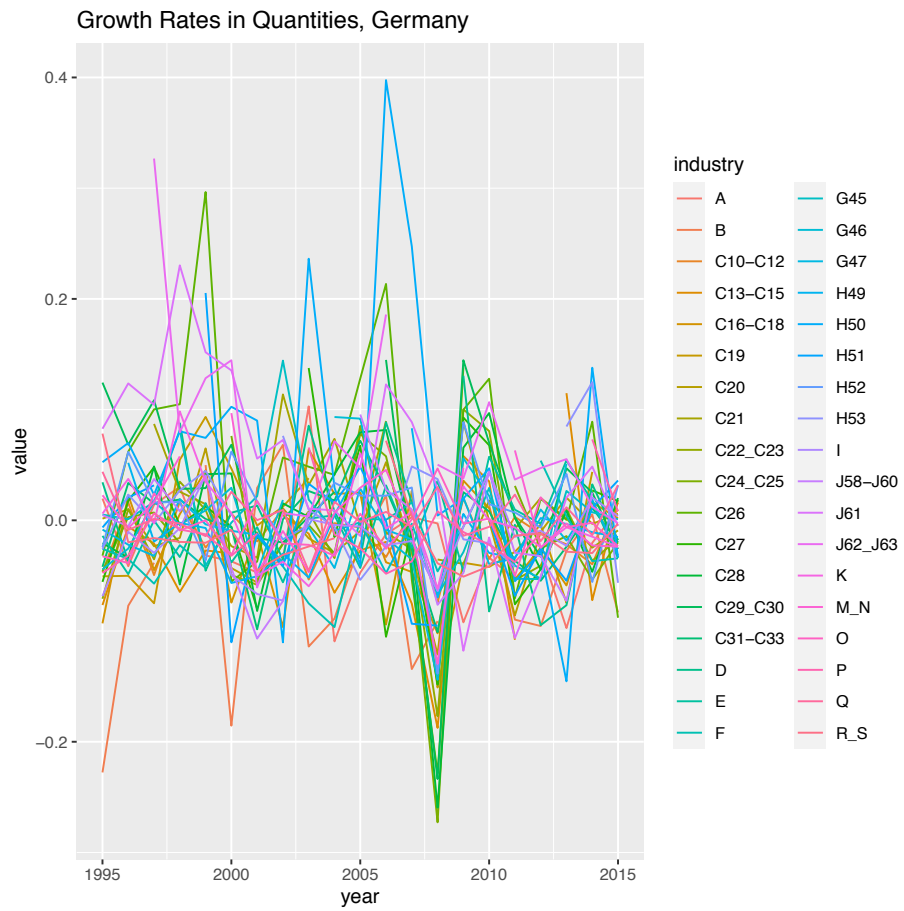


Figure 4: **Growth rates in industry quantities, Germany** Source: EU KLEMS

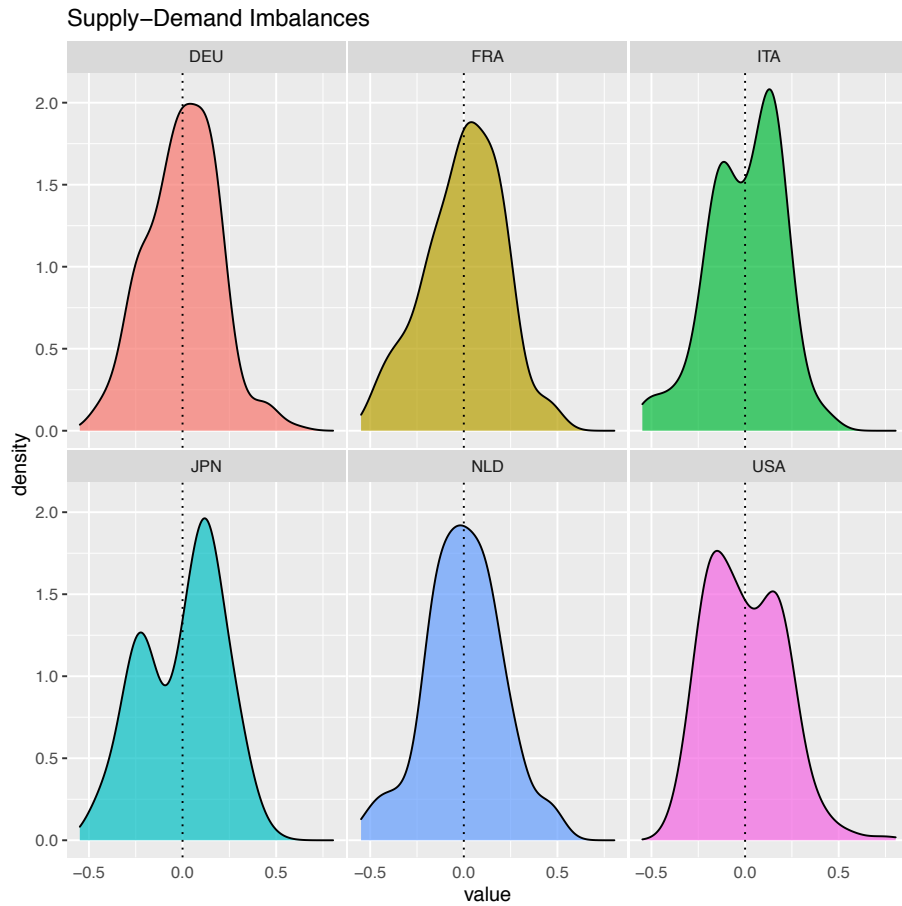


Figure 5: **Distributions of supply-demand sector imbalances for six developing economies** Source: Computed from EU KLEMS

302 [figure 5]. Industry deviations from normal profitability are obtained from the
 303 industry ratios of monetary value of output over the monetary value of circulat-
 304 ing capital, which refer to sector-specific expansion factors for each industry 6.
 305 Imbalances are computed as “unit imbalances” in relative terms to the gross
 306 output, either in quantity or monetary terms.

307 For real training data, a more convenient method of estimation of the linear

(Shaikh) 2016 pp.120-128).

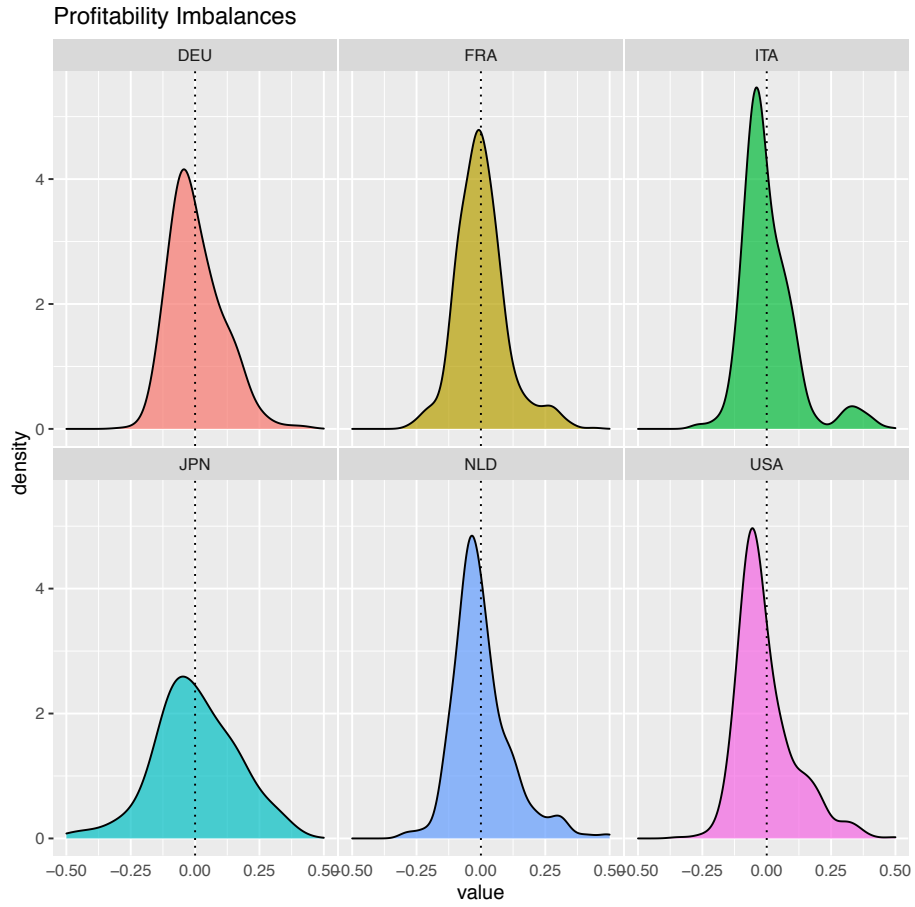


Figure 6: **Distributions of industry deviations from normal profitability for six developing economies** Source: Computed from EU KLEMS

308 industry adjustment coefficients employs a mixed-effects model with varying
 309 slopes and no intercept:

$$310 \quad y_i = \beta_{j[i]}x_i + \epsilon_i \quad (19)$$

311 where the varying slopes $\beta_{j[i]}$ correspond directly to the industry adjustment
 312 coefficients δ_j in the Flaschel-Semmler model. In this mixed-effects model, ob-
 313 servations i are grouped by the 36 industries of each of the six countries, so that
 314 there are $36 \times 6 = 216$ groups of observations. In distribution notation,

$$315 \quad y_i \sim N(\beta_{j[i]}x_i, \sigma_y^2) \beta_j \sim N(\mu_\beta, \sigma_\beta^2) \quad (20)$$

316 Figures 7 and 8 show the distributions of industry adjustment coefficients in
 317 prices and quantities for each country, respectively.

318 **4. Directed Technical Change Towards Decarbonization: The Green** 319 **Transition**

320 Once the linear adjustment coefficients are estimated for both the law of
 321 excess demand and the law of excess profitability, simulations of the dynamical
 322 process of technical substitution of specific industries with high carbon content,
 323 employing the Flaschel-Semmler model of multi-sector growth with technologi-
 324 cal dynamics, are implemented. The input-output tables are extracted from the
 325 World Input-Output Database. The specific industries studied for substitution
 326 are “Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply” (D) and “Manufacture
 327 of coke and refined petroleum products” (C19). In the simulations, they are
 328 replaced by equivalent “green” sectors with the same input-output linkages and
 329 proportional coefficients.

330 In this section, the speed of decarbonization is evaluated, first analytically
 331 for the sake of clarity and then computationally, with respect to four regulating
 332 policy parameters: the relative technical efficiency in production θ , the carbon
 333 tax τ on real output, the green subsidy τ' , and the initial investment ratio σ_0
 334 (i.e. the initial ratio of green output over carbon output). First, the scenario
 335 with no policy ($\tau = \tau' = 0$) is investigated. Then, a fiscal policy in the form of a

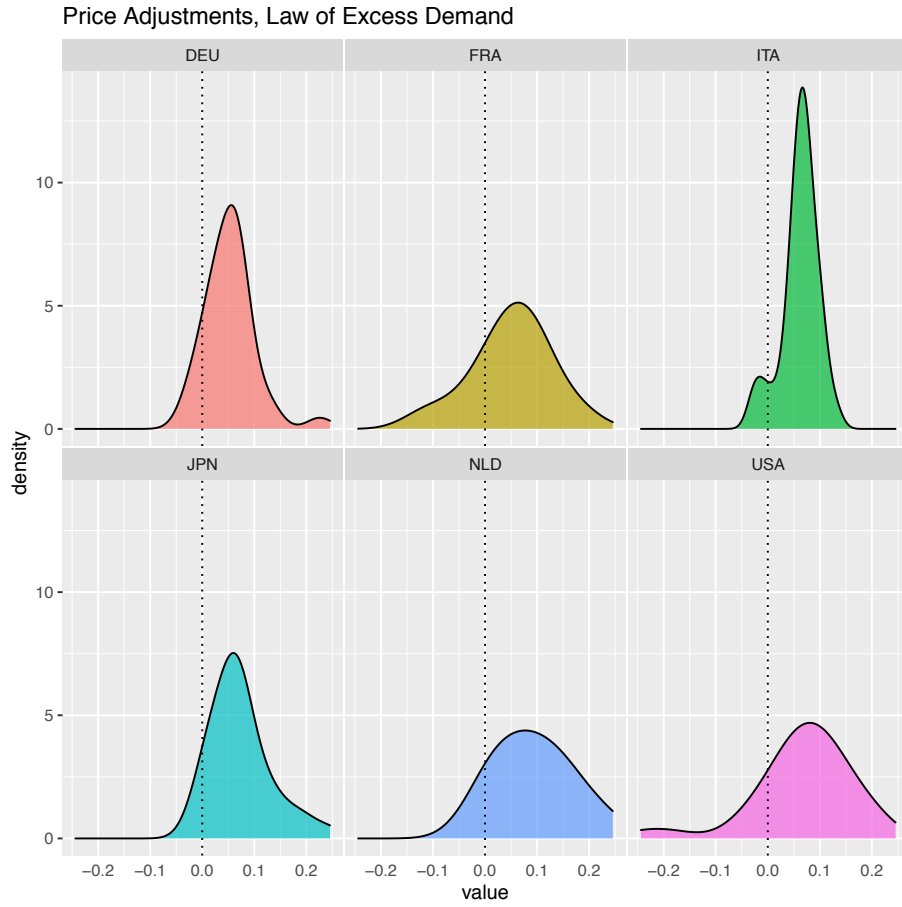


Figure 7: **Law of Excess Demand** Distributions of sector adjustment coefficients in prices for six developing economies

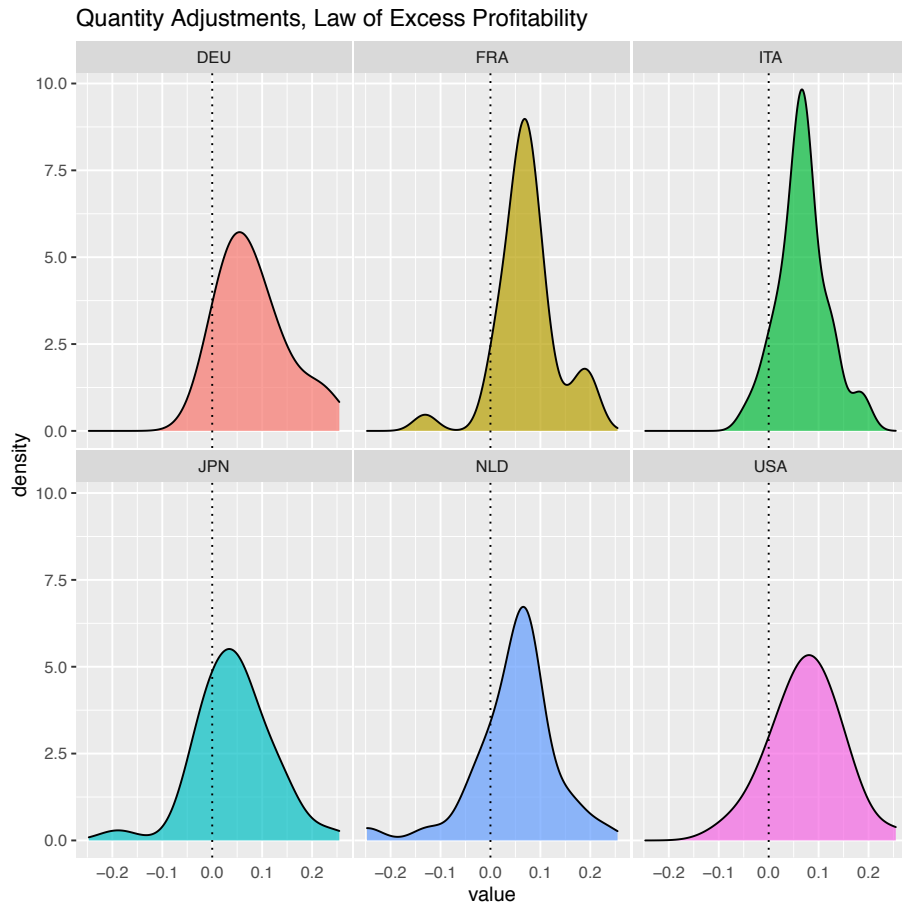


Figure 8: **Law of Excess Demand** Distributions of sector adjustment coefficients in quantities for six developing economies

336 tax-subsidy mix is introduced, where a share τ of carbon output is taxed in the
 337 form of a carbon tax and a share τ' of the carbon tax revenue is re-invested in
 338 green output in the form of a green subsidy. In this context, fiscal policy has the
 339 important effect of expanding the existing profitability and growth differentials
 340 induced by differences in production costs, that is, directing technical change
 341 towards decarbonization. Finally, the simulations allow to explore the impact
 342 of each regulating parameter on the speed of decarbonization.

343 4.1. Comparative Statics

For simplicity, input-output coefficients of the green sector g are defined as
 constant over time and proportional to the carbon sector c ,

$$\theta = \frac{a_{ig}}{a_{ic}} \quad \forall i = 1, \dots, N$$

344 so their unit costs are also proportional over time (labeled with superindices c
 345 and g),

$$346 \quad \theta = \frac{\kappa_t^g}{\kappa_t^c} = \frac{\sum_i p_t^i a_{ig}}{\sum_i p_t^i a_{ic}} = \frac{\sum_i p_t^i \theta a_{ic}}{\sum_i p_t^i a_{ic}} \quad (21)$$

347 In the absence of fiscal policy, the relative efficiency in production θ is the main
 348 parameter regulating the speed of substitution, due to its effect on profitability
 349 differentials. In this context, parameter θ can also be understood as a nominal
 350 carbon-pricing tax that is internalized by the firms in the carbon sector. In
 351 the Flaschel-Semmler model, the green and carbon sectors produce the same
 352 output so that they share a common price $p_t^c = p_t^g$. Hence, relative efficiency
 353 in production θ , the proportion of the capital/output ratio of the green sector
 354 with respect to the carbon sector, is the only parameter regulating their profit
 355 rate differentials,

$$356 \quad 1 + r_t^c = \frac{p_t^c x_t^c}{\kappa_t^c x_t^c} = \frac{p_t^c}{\kappa_t^c} \quad (22)$$

$$357 \quad 358 \quad 1 + r_t^g = \frac{p_t^c}{\theta \kappa_t^c} = \frac{1 + r_t^c}{\theta} \quad (23)$$

359 In short, capital will flow into and expand output faster of the green sector only
 360 if it is more cost-effective than the carbon sector. The growth rate differential
 361 between the carbon and green sector is thus dependent on parameter θ , as well

362 as the adjustment parameters δ_x^g, δ_x^c that relate the change in quantities with
 363 deviations from the equilibrium unit profit:

$$364 \quad \frac{1 + g_t^c}{1 + g_t^g} = \frac{1 + \delta_x^c(p_t^c - R\kappa_t^c)}{1 + \delta_x^g(p_t^c - R\theta\kappa_t^c)} \quad (24)$$

365 Lower-cost green technology ($\theta < 1$) will thus ensure a greater profit rate ($r_t^g >$
 366 r_t^c) and growth rate ($g_t^g > g_t^c$): therefore, lower costs in production alone will
 367 inevitably induce the phase-out of the carbon sector by its equivalent green one.
 368 However, there is no guarantee that, with the current differentials in production
 369 costs ($\theta \sim 0.7 - 1.1$), the speed of decarbonization will be fast enough to fall
 370 within UN IPCC time targets.

371 In order to keep track of the phase-in dynamics of the green sector with
 372 respect to the carbon sector, it is convenient to define the output ratio

$$373 \quad \sigma_t = \frac{x_t^g}{x_t^c} \quad (25)$$

374 which has evolution rule

$$375 \quad \sigma_{t+1} = \frac{x_{t+1}^g}{x_{t+1}^c} = \sigma_t \frac{1 + \delta_x^c(p_t^c - R\kappa_t^c)}{1 + \delta_x^g(p_t^c - R\theta\kappa_t^c)} = \sigma_t \frac{1 + g_t^g}{1 + g_t^c} = \sigma_0 \prod_{t=1}^{t+1} \frac{1 + g_t^g}{1 + g_t^c} \quad (26)$$

376 The Green Transition can be considered to be “successful” when the output
 377 ratio σ_t reaches and surpasses a critical value $\hat{\sigma}$ above 1, where green output
 378 is larger than carbon output. In the simulations, $\hat{\sigma} = 10$, which implies that
 379 decarbonization is achieved when green output is 10 times carbon output. The
 380 success of the Green Transition without fiscal policy not only depends on the
 381 growth rate differential regulated by the relative efficiency parameter θ , but also
 382 the initial output ratio σ_0 , which corresponds to the initial investment in green
 383 technology. There is a minimum time period $t^* > 0$, that is, the duration of the
 384 Green Transition, when the output ratio reaches its target value $\hat{\sigma}$:

$$385 \quad \hat{\sigma} = \frac{x_{t^*}^g}{x_{t^*}^c} = \sigma_0 \prod_{t=1}^{t^*} \frac{1 + g_t^g}{1 + g_t^c} = \sigma_0 \prod_{t=1}^{t^*} \frac{1 + \delta_x^c(p_t^c - R\kappa_t^c)}{1 + \delta_x^g(p_t^c - R\theta\kappa_t^c)} \quad (27)$$

The welfare problem that the central planner faces consists of employing three
 policy variables, tax rate τ , subsidy rate τ' and initial investment σ_0 , in order

to expand the profitability and growth differentials between green and carbon output to bring the duration of the Green Transition t^* within the UN IPCC targets. The central planner introduces a tax $0 < \tau < 1$ on real carbon output τx_c after production, which is used to finance a subsidy of value $\tau' \tau x_c$ to the green sector (i.e. a subsidy rate of τ'). The outputs using the tax-subsidy mix (where the hat notation distinguishes the variable with and without policy) thus become:

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{x}_t^c &= x_t^c - \tau x_t^c = x_t^c(1 - \tau) \\ \hat{x}_t^g &= x_t^g + \tau' \tau x_t^c = x_t^c(\sigma_t + \tau \tau')\end{aligned}$$

386 Output proportion with policy τ, τ' becomes:

$$387 \quad \hat{\sigma}_t = \frac{\hat{x}_t^g}{\hat{x}_t^c} = \frac{\sigma_t + \tau \tau'}{1 - \tau} \quad (28)$$

388 The profit rates for the carbon and green sectors internalize the tax-subsidy
389 policy:

$$390 \quad 1 + \hat{r}_t^c = \frac{p_t^c x_t^c (1 - \tau)}{\kappa_t^c x_t^c} = (1 + r_t^c)(1 - \tau) \quad (29)$$

$$392 \quad 1 + \hat{r}_t^g = \frac{p_t^c x_t^c (\sigma_t + \tau \tau')}{\theta \kappa_t^c x_t^c \sigma_t} = (1 + r_t^c) \frac{1 + \frac{\tau \tau'}{\sigma_t}}{\theta} \quad (30)$$

393 While the negative contribution of tax τ is linear on the carbon sector, its
394 positive effects on green profitability depend on the fraction $\frac{\tau \tau'}{\sigma_t}$, i.e. they are
395 the largest when carbon output is much larger than green output ($\sigma_t \sim 0$), that
396 is, at the beginning of the introduction of the policy, and they are multiplied by
397 capital efficiency θ .

398 The profitability differential once the policy is introduced can be then com-
399 puted in terms of capital efficiency θ , output proportion σ_t , and tax rate τ :

$$400 \quad \frac{1 + \hat{r}_t^c}{1 + \hat{r}_t^g} = \frac{\sigma_t \theta (1 - \tau)}{\sigma_t + \tau \tau'} = \frac{\theta (1 - \tau)}{1 + \frac{\tau \tau'}{\sigma_t}} \quad (31)$$

401 which shows how a tax-subsidy policy can reinforce cost-induced differentials
402 (when $\theta < 1$) or even offset them (when $\theta > 1$). Higher policy-induced green
403 profitability will make capital flow out of the carbon sector to the green sector
404 faster than without policy. The growth rates with and without policy can be

405 computed for the carbon and green sectors, so the growth rate differential with
 406 policy τ, τ' can be compared with the growth rate differential without policy:

$$407 \quad \frac{1 + \hat{g}_t^g}{1 + \hat{g}_t^c} = \left[\frac{1 + g_t^g}{1 + g_t^c} + \frac{\tau\tau'}{\sigma_t} \right] \frac{1}{1 - \tau} \quad (32)$$

408 Once again, the additive presence of the ratio $\frac{\tau\tau'}{\sigma_t}$ shows that the policy to direct
 409 technical change towards decarbonization is the most effective at the earliest
 410 stages of the phase-in (i.e. $\sigma_t \sim 0$) when the subsidy rate is nonzero. This result
 411 shows the relevance of green subsidies ($\tau' > 0$) in kickstarting and mobilizing
 412 private funds for decarbonizing the economy, in line with recent studies (Heine
 413 et al., 2019; Deleidi et al., 2020; Semmler et al., 2021). However, a tax rate τ
 414 on real output alone can already accelerate substantially the phase-out of the
 415 carbon sector without any green subsidies $\tau' = 0$, even if green capital efficiency
 416 is lower ($\theta > 1$). Numerical simulations may be more convenient to elucidate
 417 the actual differential impact of the regulating policy parameters on the speed
 418 of decarbonization.

419 4.2. Simulations

420 4.2.1. Specific Scenarios: Without policy and with policy

421 The simulations target two of the economic sectors with highest carbon con-
 422 tent, “Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply” (D) and “Manufacture
 423 of coke and refined petroleum products” (C19), and study their phase-out by
 424 time t^* by equivalent green sectors with relative efficiency in production θ under
 425 a carbon tax rate τ , a green subsidy rate τ' and initial output ratio σ_0 .

426 The IPCC imposes many duration targets for the Green Transition (Haus-
 427 father, 2018):

- 428 • 16 years for a 66% chance of avoiding a temperature increase of 1.5 degrees
 429 Celsius,
- 430 • 23 years for a 50% chance of avoiding a temperature increase of 1.5 degrees
 431 Celsius,

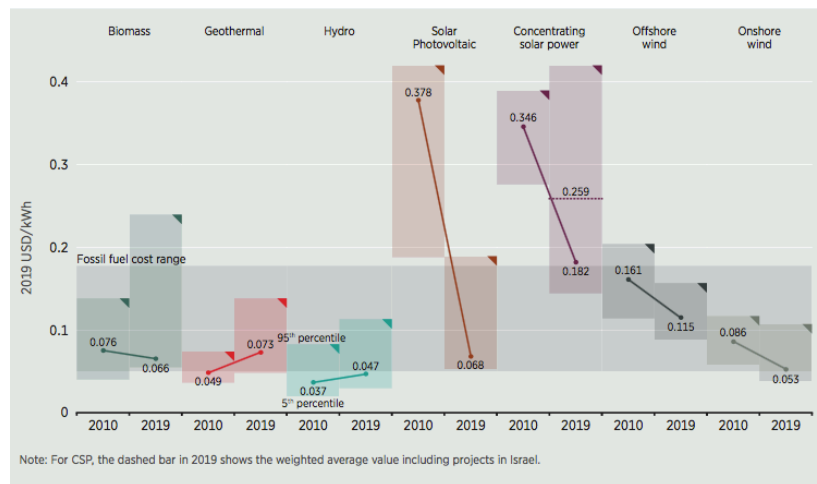


Figure 9: **Global weighted average levelised cost of electricity from utility-scale renewable power generation technologies, 2010 and 2019** Fossil fuel cost range is depicted in gray (IRENA, 2020).

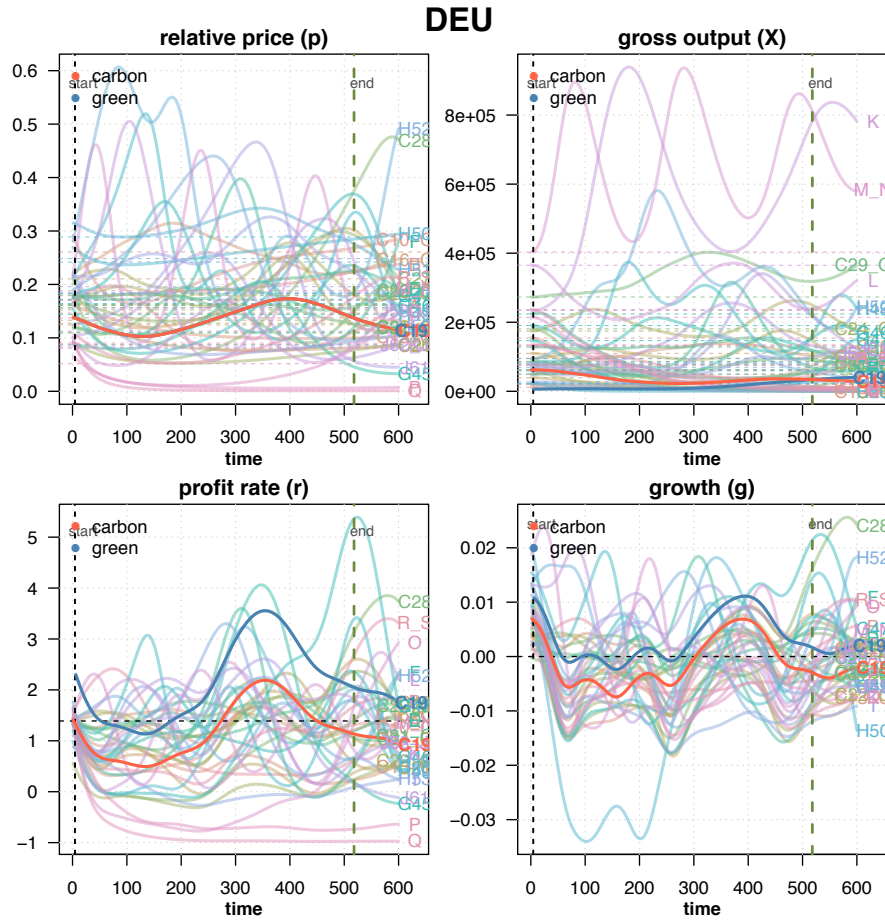


Figure 10: **Simulation of the Green Transition of sector C19 for Germany, with $\theta = 0.7$, $\sigma_0 = 0.1$, and no fiscal policy ($\tau = 0$)** Without fiscal policy, it takes more than $t^* \sim 500$ timesteps for the green sector to take over the carbon sector.

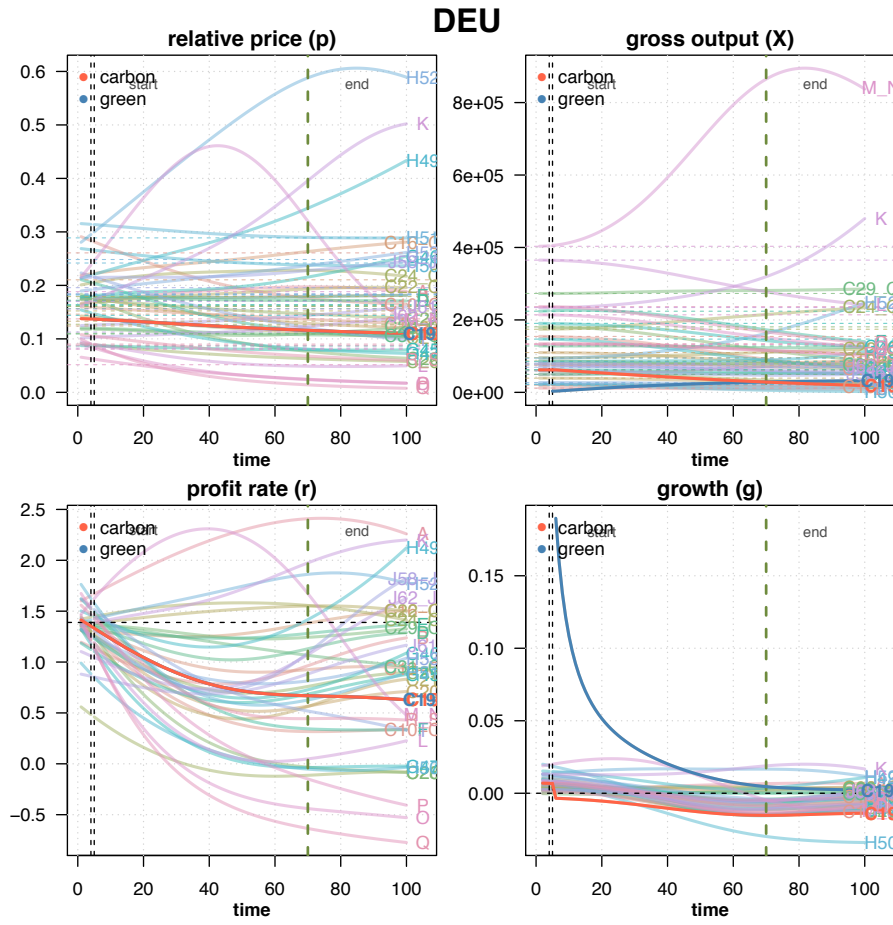


Figure 11: Simulation of the Green Transition of sector C19 for Germany, with $\theta = 1$, $\sigma_0 = 0.055$, with fiscal policy ($\tau = 0.01$) Despite the carbon sector being as cost efficient as the green sector, a tax rate of 1% greatly reduces the duration of the Green Transition to $t^* \sim 70$ timesteps.

- 432 • 51 years for a 66% chance of avoiding a temperature increase of 2 degrees
433 Celsius, and
- 434 • 65 years for a 50% chance of avoiding a temperature increase of 2 degrees
435 Celsius

436 At the current moment, green energy is increasingly outcompeting carbon
437 energy: the cost of green energy can be considered to be between 0.7 and 1.1
438 times the cost of carbon energy – this the range of values chosen for θ [figure 9].
439 For OECD economies, the current share of final energy consumption in renew-
440 able sources over carbon sources is around 5% (Upadhyaya, 2010), which is the
441 benchmark value that is taken for the initial output ratio σ_0 in the simulations.

442 Figures 10 and 11 show specific simulations of the Green Transition without
443 and with fiscal policy for the C19 sector and the economy of Germany. Each
444 timestep can be considered as one year, given the time dimension included in
445 the adjustment coefficients, which were computed from yearly data. Figure 10
446 simulates decarbonization without fiscal policy of the most cost-efficient green
447 sectors ($\theta = 0.7$) starting at an initial investment that is twice as the current
448 one ($\sigma_0 = 0.1$). In spite of such advantageous situation for green technology to
449 overtake carbon technology, decarbonization actually takes more than 500 years
450 to occur because profitability and growth differentials are not large enough as
451 induced by lower production costs alone. Instead, figure 11 simulates decar-
452 bonization when both technologies are equally cost-effective ($\theta = 1$), at the
453 current initial investment ratio $\sigma_0 = 0.055$, with a minimal carbon tax rate
454 $\tau = 0.01$ and a green subsidy rate that re-invests all revenues, $\tau' = 1$. In this
455 scenario, even where there is no technical advantage, decarbonization only takes
456 around 70 years. This result shows to what extent a small tax rate can greatly
457 accelerate decarbonization. Finally, when the green sector is more cost efficient,
458 the acceleration of decarbonization also implies a faster reduction in the relative
459 price of the targeted sector and thus a general increase in economic efficiency.

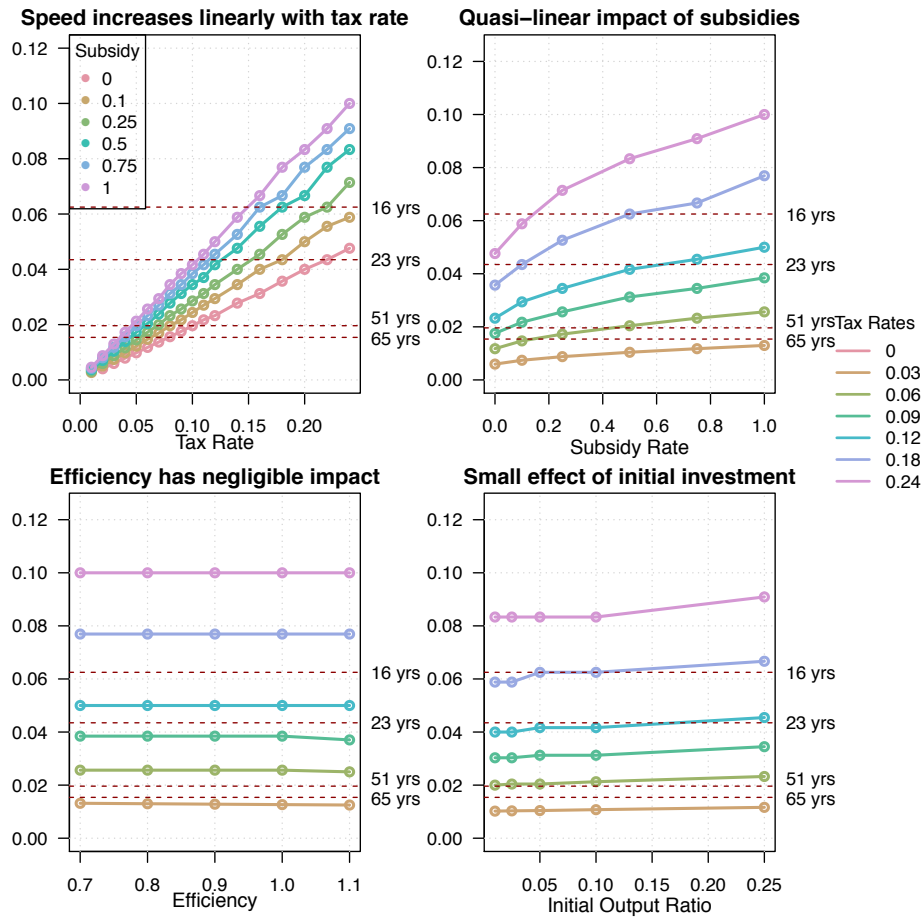


Figure 12: Impact of Parameters on Decarbonization Speed for sector C19, Germany, for many values of the tax rate. When the tax rate is the dependent variable, the different lines correspond to different values of the subsidy rate. Horizontal dashed lines correspond to the necessary speed to meet the IPCC targets.

460 *4.2.2. Impact of Policy Parameters on Decarbonization Speed*

461 In this section, 14,250 simulations are computed for specific ranges of the
462 four policy parameters at stake in order to investigate how the duration of de-
463 carbonization t^* depends on them: the range for relative efficiency θ is (0.7, 1.1),
464 the range for the carbon tax rate τ is (0, 0.24) (i.e. the share of carbon output
465 that is taxed), the range for the green subsidy rate τ' is (0, 1), and the range for
466 the initial output ratio is (0.1, 0.25). For the sake of clarity, figure [12](#) shows the
467 dependence of decarbonization speed $1/t^*$ (i.e. the inverse of the duration of de-
468 carbonization time) for sector C19 in Germany with respect to each parameter,
469 for different values of the tax rate.

470 For instance, the top-left panel shows that, for an efficiency $\theta = 0.8$ and an
471 initial output ratio of $\sigma_0 = 0.05$, a tax rate of $\tau = 0.22 = 22\%$ decarbonizes
472 sector C19 within an IPCC target of 23 years for any subsidy rate, including
473 zero green subsidies. If all carbon tax revenues are re-invested as green subsidies
474 ($\tau' = 1$), then decarbonization within 23 years can already be achieved with half
475 a tax rate, $\tau = 0.11$. For any subsidy rate from 0 to 100 %, a tax rate of $\tau = 0.05$
476 decarbonizes sector C19 within a substantially higher IPCC target time of 51
477 years. Many current state policy guidelines aim at decarbonizing by 2050; this
478 would require a tax rate between 0.06 and 0.16, depending on the subsidy rate.

479 Further, these preliminary results show a very robust linear dependence of
480 decarbonization speed on the tax rate and a very negligible impact for relative
481 efficiency. The relationship between speed and subsidy rate is more complex:
482 linear at low tax rates and logarithmic at high tax rates, showing that green
483 subsidies are most effective when carbon taxes are the highest.

484 Table [3](#) shows the regression results of a simple OLS regression of the de-
485 pendence of decarbonization speed on the four policy parameters as regressors,
486 which is highly significant for all of them and with a very high R^2 value. All six
487 developed economies are studied. The number of observations is lower than the
488 number of simulations because for some values (for instance with a zero tax rate)
489 decarbonization is not attained within the maximum time of 100 timesteps. The

Table 3: OLS regression results for decarbonization speed with respect to four policy parameters, for six developed economies

<i>Dependent variable:</i>	
	speed
initial.output.ratio σ_0	0.028*** (0.001)
efficiency θ	-0.002*** (0.0003)
tax τ	0.322*** (0.001)
subsidy τ'	0.023*** (0.0001)
Constant	-0.011*** (0.0003)
Observations	13,341
R ²	0.945
Adjusted R ²	0.945
Residual Std. Error	0.006 (df = 13336)
F Statistic	57,437.620*** (df = 4; 13336)
<i>Note:</i>	*p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01

490 slopes correspond to the magnitude of their impact on decarbonization speed,
491 which confirms the preliminary results of figure 12. The impact of relative effi-
492 ciency, akin to a nominal carbon pricing strategy, is negative (as expected, due
493 to its definition) but almost negligible. The most effective fiscal strategy focuses
494 on the carbon tax rate on real output, while the initial investment ratio and
495 the subsidy rate have effects of similar size. It must be noted that subsidy rate
496 and the initial output ratio have very different domains, respectively $(0, 1)$ and
497 $(0.01, 0.25)$, and thus different effects on the speed of decarbonization.

498 5. Conclusions

499 The climate crisis is one of the defining issues of our time. Many voices
500 are increasingly noting the existential urge to decarbonize the economy in less
501 than 30 years, as well as the insufficiency of current economic policies to achieve
502 those ambitious goals in time. While some influential voices indicate that carbon
503 pricing strategies may be enough (Nordhaus, 1993), authors such as Mazzucato
504 (Heine et al., 2019; Deleidi et al., 2020; Semmler et al., 2021; Schoder, 2021)
505 emphasize the need of public investment to step in first in order to kickstart and
506 mobilize massive private funds to move into green technology (that is, crowd-in
507 instead of crowd-out by de-risking and thus facilitating private investment).

508 This paper examines these questions by studying the speed of substitution of
509 a carbon-based energy sector by a renewable-energy sector under directed tech-
510 nical change. Fiscal policy raises taxes on carbon output and uses the revenues
511 to subsidize green output, in the form of a tax-subsidy mix in the direction
512 of Acemoglu (Acemoglu et al., 2012, 2016). The paper employs simulations of
513 the Flaschel-Semmler dynamical model of multi-sector growth with technolog-
514 ical dynamics as a machine-learning algorithm within the broad literature of
515 cross-dual adjustment processes in economic dynamics. This theoretical model
516 of linear production features a complex pattern of oscillations of prices and
517 outputs of a Lotka-Volterra form around equilibrium values as determined by
518 the technology structure, augmented to include the wage rate as a distribu-

519 tional variable (Von Neumann, 1945; Sraffa, 1960). The dynamical model of
520 multi-sector growth relies on a linear form of cross-dual dynamic adjustment as
521 established by two abstract laws, the law of excess demand and the law of excess
522 profitability. The linear adjustment coefficients are empirically calibrated for six
523 countries using a hierarchical mixed-effects linear model with varying slopes on
524 EU KLEMS datasets.

525 The speed of substitution of specific carbon-based energy sectors by a green-
526 energy sector is then evaluated analytically and computationally for the six se-
527 lected countries with respect to the relative cost efficiency between the carbon
528 and green sectors, the initial output ratio, the tax rate, and the subsidy rate. In
529 order to find the dependence of the speed of decarbonization on these param-
530 eters, a standard OLS regression is performed on synthetic data produced by
531 simulating the dynamic process of technical substitution for specific meaningful
532 ranges of these parameters. The findings highlight the relevance of tax-subsidy
533 policy mixes in regulating multi-sector growth and directing technical change in
534 order to accommodate the needs of society, when those cannot be achieved by
535 purely market-based solutions (that is, Pigouvian externalities). Relative cost
536 efficiency, which can be also construed as a form of nominal carbon pricing, has
537 a negligible impact on the speed of decarbonization within realistic time frames.
538 By using policy to expand the existing profitability differentials and thus growth
539 differentials of specific industries, fiscal policy has the effect to greatly acceler-
540 ate the phase-out of the carbon sector, in particular at its earliest stages, in
541 line with recent contributions (Acemoglu et al., 2012, 2016; Deleidi et al., 2020;
542 Semmler et al., 2021).

543 An interesting next step in the research is to use environmentally-extended
544 input-output tables such as EORA, which feature the carbon content of each
545 industry. Instead of scalars addressing specific industries, vectors of subsidy-
546 tax rates to decarbonize the whole economy can be studied. Further, there are
547 some problems in the econometric estimation of the linear adjustment coeffi-
548 cients. Further, EU KLEMS and WIOD do not have data to estimate specific
549 adjustment coefficients for the carbon and green versions of the industries stud-

550 ied, so at the current state of simulations they had to be assumed as identical.
551 There may be also issues with the datasets that could be solved by relying
552 on more precise databases for specific countries rather than international ones,
553 where data has a higher frequency than yearly.

554 In the specific context of energy investments, the assumption of circulating
555 capital is substantially stringent; the existence of fixed capital and depreciation
556 may impact the econometric estimation and simulations. Flaschel and Semmler
557 address this very issue in a contribution of theirs that builds on the work of
558 Bródy (Bródy, 1974; Flaschel & Semmler, 1986). Secondly, other functional
559 forms of adjustment could be tested, for instance where the regressions could
560 be logistic instead of linear, retrieving a logistic kind of dynamic adjustment
561 process,

$$562 \quad y_{i,t} = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-\beta_i x_{i,t})} \quad (33)$$

563 which is very interesting to explore numerically stability-wise as an extension
564 of the Flaschel-Semmler model. Yet, the theoretical model already works as a
565 form of supervised machine learning using linear regressions on training data.

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674 **7. Appendix 1: Technical change with process innovation and extinc-** 675 **tion**

676 In discrete time, the simulations for a $K \times N$ rectangular system proceed
677 in the following way, where commodity 1 is produced by two competing sectors

678 (Flaschel & Semmler, 1992):

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1^1 \\ x_1^2 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix}_{t+1} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1^1 \\ x_1^2 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix}_t + \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} d_{x_1^1} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & d_{x_1^2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & d_{x_2} \end{pmatrix}}_{\langle d_x \rangle} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} x_1^1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & x_1^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & x_2 \end{pmatrix}}_{\langle x \rangle} [B - RA]^T \begin{pmatrix} p_1 \\ p_2 \end{pmatrix}_t \quad (34)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} p_1 \\ p_2 \end{pmatrix}_{t+1} = \begin{pmatrix} p_1 \\ p_2 \end{pmatrix}_t - \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} d_{p_1} & 0 \\ 0 & d_{p_2} \end{pmatrix}}_{\langle d_p \rangle} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} p_1 & 0 \\ 0 & p_2 \end{pmatrix}}_{\langle p \rangle} [B - RA] \begin{pmatrix} x_1^1 \\ x_1^2 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix}_t \quad (35)$$

682 where in a single-product scenario

$$B - RA = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}}_B - R \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} a_{11}^1 & a_{11}^2 & a_{12} \\ a_{21}^1 & a_{21}^2 & a_{22} \end{pmatrix}}_A \quad (36)$$

684 As in the square $N \times N$ case with constant technology, an additional investment
685 criterion of firms is included via the $N \times N$ term $S(p_t)$:

$$\frac{S(p_t)}{p_t} = -(B - RA)^T \delta_p (B - RA) \quad (37)$$

687 so that the new discrete system becomes:

$$\frac{x_{t+1}}{x_t} = 1 + \delta_x [(B - RA)^T p_t + \gamma S(p_t)] \quad (38)$$

$$\frac{p_{t+1}}{p_t} = 1 - \delta_p (B - RA) x_t \quad (39)$$

691 In their contribution, material-saving innovation is explored with an input ma-
692 trix A that evolves over time featuring 2 commodities and 3 processes with the
693 following coefficients:

$$A(t) = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 0.4 & 0.6 \\ 0.3 & 0.5 \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{before innovation}} \rightarrow \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 0.4 & 0.2 & 0.6 \\ 0.3 & 0.15 & 0.5 \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{during innovation}} \rightarrow \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 0.2 & 0.6 \\ 0.15 & 0.5 \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{after innovation}} \quad (40)$$

695 Initially, there are two processes producing commodity 1 and 2 with input co-
696 efficients $(a_{11}, a_{21}) = (0.4, 0.3)$ and $(a_{12}, a_{22}) = (0.6, 0.5)$. A material-saving

697 innovation takes place with the introduction of a newer, more efficient process
698 producing commodity 1 (a'_{11}, a'_{21}) = (0.2, 0.15) which are half of the older pro-
699 cess. Eventually, the more efficient process drives out the older process, yielding
700 another square matrix with smaller coefficients.

701 Substitution effects are computed by the following evolving matrix A :

$$702 \quad A(t) = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 0.4 & 0.2 & 0.6 \\ 0.3 & 0.15 & 0.5 \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{before innovation}} \rightarrow \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 0.15 & 0.2 & 0.6 \\ 0.1 & 0.15 & 0.5 \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{after innovation}} \quad (41)$$

703 Initially, the more efficient process is (0.2, 0.15), which has an absolute-cost
704 advantage over (0.4, 0.3): the former process produces the same output twice
705 more efficiently than the latter, that is, it requires half the circulating capital to
706 produce one unit of output. The one-off innovation turns the tables by making
707 the latter more efficient, with coefficients (0.15, 0.1).

708 8. Appendix 2: Further Computation of Differentials in Profitability 709 and Growth Rates

710 The growth rates for the carbon and green sectors can be then calculated
711 re-writing the laws of excess demand and profitability in discrete-time, scalar
712 form:

$$713 \quad \frac{p_{t+1}^i}{p_t^i} = 1 - \delta_p^i \sum_j (b_{ij} - Ra_{ij}) x_t^j \quad (42)$$

$$714 \quad \frac{x_{t+1}^i}{x_t^i} = 1 + \delta_x^i \sum_j p_t^j (b_{ji} - Ra_{ji}) \quad (43)$$

716 The time rule for unit costs is:

$$717 \quad \kappa_{t+1}^i = \sum_j p_{t+1}^j a_{ji} = \sum_j p_t^j a_{ji} [1 - \delta_p^j \sum_k (b_{jk} - Ra_{jk}) x_t^k] \quad (44)$$

$$718 \quad \kappa_{t+1}^i = \kappa_t^i - \sum_j p_t^j a_{ji} \delta_p^j \sum_k (b_{jk} - Ra_{jk}) x_t^k \quad (45)$$

720 in order to compute

$$721 \quad 1 + g_t^c = \frac{\kappa_{t+1}^c}{\kappa_t^c} \frac{x_{t+1}^c}{x_t^c} = \left[1 - \frac{\sum_i p_t^i a_{ic} \delta_p^i \sum_j (b_{ij} - Ra_{ij}) x_j}{\sum_i p_t^i a_{ic}} \right] [1 + \delta_x^c (p_t^c - R\kappa_t^c)] \quad (46)$$

722

$$1 + g_t^g = \frac{\theta \kappa_{t+1}^c}{\theta \kappa_t^c} \frac{x_{t+1}^g}{x_t^g} = \left[1 - \frac{\sum_i p_t^i a_{ic} \delta_p^i \sum_j (b_{ij} - R a_{ij}) x_j}{\sum_i p_t^i a_{ic}} \right] [1 + \delta_x^g (p_t^c - R \theta \kappa_t^c)]$$

723

724 so that the growth rate differential between the carbon and green sector is once
 725 again dependent on parameter θ , as well as the adjustment parameters δ_x^g , δ_x^c
 726 that relate the change in quantities with deviations from the equilibrium unit
 727 profit:

$$\frac{1 + g_t^c}{1 + g_t^g} = \frac{1 + \delta_x^c (p_t^c - R \kappa_t^c)}{1 + \delta_x^g (p_t^c - R \theta \kappa_t^c)}$$

728