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Estimation from a damage function

Reduced-form estimation

Introductory thoughts

- ▶ The impact of CO₂ on impacts has a much shorter half-life than of CO₂ in the atmosphere because of adaptation—but we know exactly how long that timescale is: a Bartlett kernel-weighted 30 years.
- ► The impact of a step change in temperature produces a short-term effect, in the immediate year, and a long-term effect, 30 years later.
- The damage function we estimate for IAMs should incorporate this transition, both in its estimation and in the information we provide to IAMs.

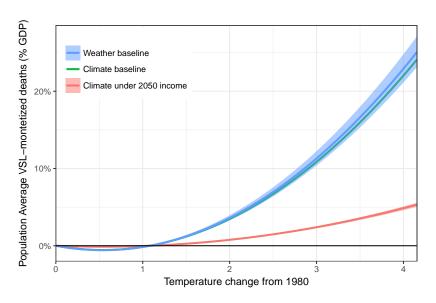
A model of impacts

Changes in CO₂ leads to changes in temperature according to a scientifically assumed transfer function, $p_t = (1 - e^{-t/2.8})e^{-t/400}$: $T_t = C_t * p_t$. (Throughout, * is the convolution operator.) Assume that impacts are generated by

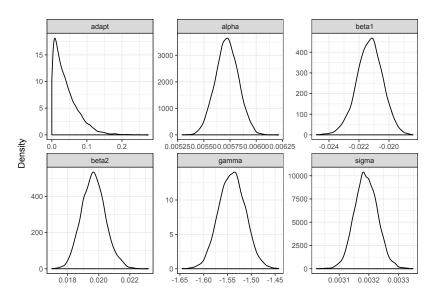
$$y = [f(T_t) - a(f(T_t) * b_t)] (\mathsf{GDPpc})^{\gamma}$$

- ▶ $f(T_t)$ is an instantaneous damage function, generally of the form $\beta_1 T_t + \beta_2 T_t^2$.
- b_t is the Bartlett kernel, and a is the degree of temperature-driven adaptation.
- ► The last term provides a measure of elasticity of damages with income.

Estimated damage function



Bayesian fitted parameters

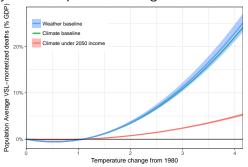


Results

| RCP | SSP | Monetization | 0 | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.03 | 0.04 | 0.05 | 0.06 | 0.07 |
|-----|------|-----------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 4.5 | SSP4 | VSL ag02 popavg | 49.765215 | 20.090173 | 11.188628 | 7.319126 | 5.2335889 | 3.9565314 | 3.1067942 | 2.5073709 |
| 4.5 | SSP4 | VSLY popavg | 27.076281 | 11.585834 | 6.923858 | 4.851441 | 3.7002694 | 2.9724734 | 2.4727046 | 2.1093082 |
| 4.5 | SSP4 | VSLY scaled | 4.846833 | 2.353378 | 1.527805 | 1.128928 | 0.8938308 | 0.7389402 | 0.6293463 | 0.5477955 |
| 4.5 | SSP4 | VSL ag02 scaled | 10.848195 | 5.175614 | 3.320996 | 2.429363 | 1.9066906 | 1.5647519 | 1.3247003 | 1.1474737 |
| 4.5 | SSP5 | VSL ag02 popavg | 22.639750 | 12.790459 | 9.110520 | 7.113661 | 5.8206464 | 4.9042500 | 4.2186996 | 3.6866908 |
| 4.5 | SSP5 | VSLY popavg | 11.801313 | 7.208263 | 5.423449 | 4.413440 | 3.7358821 | 3.2413275 | 2.8619107 | 2.5608733 |
| 4.5 | SSP5 | VSLY scaled | 3.848509 | 2.133306 | 1.521382 | 1.197915 | 0.9917263 | 0.8470242 | 0.7393777 | 0.6560325 |
| 4.5 | SSP5 | VSL ag02 scaled | 11.471691 | 5.608791 | 3.721099 | 2.799517 | 2.2450104 | 1.8726067 | 1.6050818 | 1.4037624 |
| 8.5 | SSP4 | VSL ag02 popavg | 112.962731 | 41.333858 | 21.802857 | 13.955777 | 9.9695436 | 7.6319429 | 6.1235417 | 5.0814877 |
| 8.5 | SSP4 | VSLY popavg | 54.144549 | 20.820391 | 11.622419 | 7.842783 | 5.8696309 | 4.6790999 | 3.8891723 | 3.3288767 |
| 8.5 | SSP4 | VSLY scaled | 10.365246 | 4.535453 | 2.715188 | 1.892462 | 1.4381250 | 1.1560006 | 0.9663930 | 0.8312908 |
| 8.5 | SSP4 | VSL ag02 scaled | 22.627928 | 10.012589 | 5.961467 | 4.101235 | 3.0711859 | 2.4350453 | 2.0115973 | 1.7132506 |
| 8.5 | SSP5 | VSL ag02 popavg | 43.699053 | 21.802650 | 14.734155 | 11.293759 | 9.2161600 | 7.8077671 | 6.7840025 | 6.0041636 |
| 8.5 | SSP5 | VSLY popavg | 20.489387 | 11.096381 | 7.938798 | 6.331466 | 5.3222833 | 4.6156765 | 4.0879440 | 3.6765711 |
| 8.5 | SSP5 | VSLY scaled | 6.789311 | 3.387298 | 2.244069 | 1.682805 | 1.3488154 | 1.1277918 | 0.9711668 | 0.8546137 |
| 8.5 | SSP5 | VSL ag02 scaled | 19.423931 | 8.974785 | 5.584819 | 3.984682 | 3.0697847 | 2.4871389 | 2.0886172 | 1.8013216 |

Calculating an SCC (one slide for MG)

1. We estimate a global damage function: total monetized costs as they vary with temperature change from the baseline.



- 2. The damage function includes the effect of temperature adaptation (minor here) and income adaptation (huge).
- 3. We calculate (A) costs for each year according to an RCP scenario, and (B) costs for a 1 tonne boost in 2017 above that scenario.
- 4. The SCC is the present discounted value of (B) (A).

Calculating an SCC

Let x_t be a stream of CO₂ emissions and y_t be the stream of impacts.

Let f(t) be an impulse response function which describes how a single GT jump in CO₂ produces a stream of impacts. Then, $y_t = x_t * f(T)$, the result of a convolution.

- 1. We assume that each unit increase in CO2 has an impact that starts near 0, rises rapidly, and slowly decays. It also varies with average global temperature \mathcal{T} .
- The entire stream of impacts from CO2 is the just the sum of scaled and translated copies of this impulse response.
- We calculate the coefficients that define that impulse response.
- 4. We calculate the NPV of the impulse response.

A proposed structural form

Suppose that $f(T) = \sum_{k=0}^{K} (\beta_{k0} + \beta_{k1}T) t^k e^{-t/\tau}$, where τ is the residence time of CO₂ in the atmosphere, 400 yr under IPCC or 77 yr under DICE. Then,

$$y_{t} = \alpha + \sum_{s=0}^{\infty} x_{t-s} \sum_{k=0}^{K} (\beta_{k0} + \beta_{k1} T_{t-s}) s^{k} e^{-s/\tau} + \epsilon_{t}$$

$$= \alpha + \sum_{k=0}^{K} \beta_{k0} \sum_{s=0}^{\infty} x_{t-s} s^{k} e^{-s/\tau} + \sum_{k=0}^{K} \beta_{k1} \sum_{s=0}^{\infty} x_{t-s} T_{t-s} s^{k} e^{-s/\tau} + \epsilon_{t}$$

This is just a weighted sum of recent CO_2 emissions as the predictors for a regression.

Calculating an SCC

We are interested in the discounted sum of impacts. This can be calculated as,

$$SCC_{t} = \sum_{u=0}^{\infty} e^{-\delta u} y_{u}(\delta_{u})$$

$$= \sum_{u=0}^{\infty} e^{-\delta u} \left[\sum_{k=0}^{K} \beta_{k0} \sum_{s=0}^{\infty} \mathbf{1} \{ u - s = 0 \} s^{k} e^{-s/\tau} + \sum_{k=0}^{K} \beta_{k1} \sum_{s=0}^{\infty} \mathbf{1} \{ u - s = 0 \} T_{u-s} s^{k} e^{-s/\tau} \right]$$

$$= \sum_{u=0}^{\infty} e^{-\delta u} \left[\sum_{k=0}^{K} \beta_{k0} u^{k} e^{-u/\tau} + \sum_{k=0}^{K} \beta_{k1} T_{t} u^{k} e^{-u/\tau} \right]$$