



# Stock-Flow Consistent Modeling in Ecological Economics

Giuliano Yajima<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> *Levy Economics Institute*

EVEAAL School 2025 - UNAM Class # 3, June 7, 2025

LEVY ECONOMICS INSTITUTE  
of Bard College A nonprofit, nonpartisan public policy think tank.



# Table of Contents

## 1 SFC-Ecological Economics

► SFC-Ecological Economics

► ELR and GND

► The Model

► Results

► Discussion







# Simulation results

## 1 SFC-Ecological Economics

Model	Authors	Biophysical constraints							Model of the economy						
		Av. NRE	Energy Av. RE	EROI	Materials Av.	Env. EI	Biodiv.	Waste Poll.	GHG	CD	Eq. mechanism Demand-driven	Gov.	Sectors included CB	RoW	Multi-sect
n/a	Barth and Richters (2019)	x	x	✓	x	x	x	x	✓	x	✓	✓	x	x	x
n/a	Berg et al. (2015)	x	x	✓	x	x	x	x	✓	x	✓	✓	x	x	x
GEMMES	Bovari et al. (2018a)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	x	x	x	x
GEMMES	Bovari et al. (2018b)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	x	x	x	x
GEMMES	Bovari et al. (2020)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	x	x	x	x
n/a	Carnevali et al. (2021)	✓	✓	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
n/a	Dafermos et al. (2017)	x	x	x	✓	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	x	x	x	x
DEFINE	Dafermos et al. (2018)	✓	x	x	✓	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	x
Eurogreen	D'Alessandro et al. (2020)	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	x
n/a	Deleidi et al. (2019)	✓	✓	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
n/a	Gonzalez-Redin et al. (2018)	x	✓	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	x	x	x
LowGrow	Jackson and Victor (2020)	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
TransSim	Jackson and Jackson (2021)	x	x	✓	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	x	x	✓	✓
HARMONEY	King (2020, 2021)	✓	✓	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	x	x	x
n/a	Najari (2015)	✓	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	x	x	x
n/a	Naqvi and Stockhammer (2018)	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	x	x
SFCIO-IAM	Sers (2021)	x	x	✓	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
TEMPLE	This paper	x	✓	✓	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	x	x	✓

Identified biophysical SFC models. A check in a column means that the model is taking into consideration the biophysical constraint to growth or is including the sector in its stock-flow consistent description of the economy. "Av. NRE"=Availability of Non-Renewable Energy. "Av. RE"=Availability of Renewable Energy. "Av."=Availability [of materials]. "EI"=Energy Intensity. "Biodiv."=Biodiversity loss. "Poll."=Pollutants directly affecting human health (e.g. fine particles). GHG=Greenhouse Gases emissions. "CD"=Climate Damage through feedback loop. "Gov."=Government. "CB" =Central Bank. "RoW"=Rest of the World (multi-regional model). "Multi-sect"=Multi-sectorial model.

Based on Jacques, P., Delannoy, L., Andrieu, B., Yilmaz, D., Jeanmart, H., & Godin, A. (2022).



# Table of Contents

## 2 ELR and GND

► SFC-Ecological Economics

► ELR and GND

► The Model

► Results

► Discussion



To illustrate this point, we develop a Stock-Flow Consistent (SFC) model based on Godin (2014) and Sawyer and Passarella (2021) in order to study the long run effect of the implementation of a Job Guarantee program.



- The current health and economic crisis has revived the interest on policies that target employment directly instead of trying to achieve it via a general “demand push”. One of these proposals is the *Job Guarantee (JG) or Employer of last resort policy (ELR)*.
- This proposal was developed by Minsky (1965, 1968, 1994), which saw it as a necessary counterpart of the Fed role as “Lender of last Resort” (LLR) in financial markets in order to “*Stabilize an Unstable Economy*”, subject to cyclical fluctuations due to the decisions and expectations of the private sector, seldom driven by rational decisions (Minsky 2008).







1. The impact on both the government budget and debt (Aspromourgos 2000; Sawyer 2003);
2. The prevailing full-employment equilibrium wage rate once the program is implemented (Seccareccia 2004);
3. The implication on the external balances (current and trade account), especially when this policy is implemented in a small, open economy (Epstein 2019; Vernengo and Perez Caldentey 2020).



1. It is hard to imagine an enhancement of productivity of the labour force similar to education;
2. The negative consequences from the reduction of a component of aggregate demand would still affect the economy;
3. Absence of “rebounding” effects (increase in energy consumption following the improvement in energy efficiency)



# Table of Contents

## 3 The Model

- ▶ SFC-Ecological Economics
- ▶ ELR and GND
- ▶ The Model
- ▶ Results
- ▶ Discussion



### 3 The Model

- a productive sector, composed by the consumption goods firms, investment firms and energy firms;
- a banking sector;
- a government;
- a central bank;
- a foreign sector;
- an households sector, composed by rentiers and workers.

1. a more complex financial structure;
2. an explicit distinction between the government and the CB;
3. a simplified foreign sector.










$$y_e = c_c + c_k + c_{q,e} + c_e \quad (4)$$
$$c_x = \frac{y_x}{pre}, \forall x \in \{c, k\} \quad (5)$$
$$c_e = \sigma_3 * (c_{-1}) \quad (6)$$











Private wage income is the sum of wages across all production sectors (20).

The propensity to consume from income ( $\alpha_1$ ) is endogenized based on policy rate and unemployment (21).

◀ ◻ ▶ ◀ ◻ ▶ ◀ ≡ ▶ ◀ ≡ ▶ ≡



- Previous net wealth,
- Current disposable income,
- Capital gains on equities (23),
- Minus consumption.

$$vh = nvh_{-1} + yd + cg - c \quad (22)$$


$$cg = \sum_{x=1}^n esr_{x,-1} * (pe_x - pe_{x,-1}), \forall x \in \{c, k, e\} \quad (23)$$
$$\Omega = \frac{(wb + wbg)}{y} \quad (24)$$











- An autonomous component, and
- A counter-cyclical component that increases with unemployment (35).

$$tax = \tau_0 + \tau_1 * wb + \tau_2 * (rm_{-1} * m2h_{-1} + rb_{-1} * bh_{-1} + fdf + fb) + \tau_3 * vh_{-1} \quad (34)$$

$$tr = \tau_4 + \tau_5 * un_{-1} \quad (35)$$

Government consumption is fully induced and pro-cyclical, depending on the previous period's sectoral outputs (37-39):

$$gov = c_{g,c} + c_{g,k} + c_{g,e} \quad (36)$$

$$c_{g,k} = \sigma_1 * (y_{k,-1}) \quad (37)$$

$$c_{g,c} = \sigma_0 * (y_{c,-1}) \quad (38)$$

$$c_{g,e} = \sigma_2 * (y_{e,-1}) \quad (39)$$

The government deficit (40) includes:

- Government spending on goods and services (**gov**),
- Transfers to households (**tr**),
- Interest payments on public debt,
- Minus taxes and central bank profits.

It is financed through the issuance of new government bills (41).

$$def = gov + tr + rb_{-1} * bs_{-1} - tax - fcb + wbg - cgov \quad (40)$$

$$bs = bs_{-1} + def \quad (41)$$



# Portfolio Decisions

## 3 The Model

Households allocate their wealth across financial assets according to Tobinesque principles. Their portfolios include:

- Shares (equity),
- Government bills,
- Checking and saving deposits.

Shares are supplied on demand by firms and expressed in real terms:



# Portfolio Decisions

## 3 The Model

$$esr = \sum_{x=1}^n esr_x, \forall x \in \{c, k, e\} \quad (42)$$

$$ehr = \sum_{x=1}^n ehr_x, \forall x \in \{c, k, e\} \quad (43)$$

$$ehr_x = esr_x, \forall x \in \{c, k, e\} \quad (44)$$

$$eh = \sum_{x=1}^n eh_x, \forall x \in \{c, k, e\} \quad (45)$$

$$eh_x = ehr_x * pe_x, \forall x \in \{c, k, e\} \quad (46)$$



Asset demand follows a Tobinesque allocation rule, incorporating:

- Wealth effects,
- Relative returns (interest and equity yields),
- Disposable income (transaction motive).

$$\begin{bmatrix} bh \\ m1h \\ pe_c \cdot ehr_c \\ pe_k \cdot ehr_k \\ pe_e \cdot ehr_e \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_{10} \\ \lambda_{20} \\ \lambda_{30} \\ \lambda_{40} \\ \lambda_{50} \end{bmatrix} \cdot vh_{-1} + \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_{11} & \lambda_{12} & \lambda_{14} & \lambda_{15} & \lambda_{16} \\ \lambda_{21} & \lambda_{22} & \lambda_{24} & \lambda_{25} & \lambda_{26} \\ \lambda_{31} & \lambda_{32} & \lambda_{34} & \lambda_{35} & \lambda_{36} \\ \lambda_{41} & \lambda_{42} & \lambda_{44} & \lambda_{45} & \lambda_{46} \\ \lambda_{51} & \lambda_{52} & \lambda_{54} & \lambda_{55} & \lambda_{56} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} rb_{-1} \\ rm_{-1} \\ re_{c,-1} \\ re_{k,-1} \\ re_{e,-1} \end{bmatrix} \cdot vh_{-1} + \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_{13} \\ \lambda_{23} \\ \lambda_{33} \\ \lambda_{43} \\ \lambda_{53} \end{bmatrix} \cdot yd_{-1} \quad (47)$$



# Portfolio Decisions

## 3 The Model

Households also hold cash for transactions, and saving deposits adjust residually:

$$hh = \lambda_c \cdot c \cdot \frac{ep}{p} \quad (48)$$

$$m2h = vh - hh - m1h - bh - eh \quad (49)$$



# Central bank

## 3 The Model

The Central Bank commits to purchase all the bills left unsubscribed, in accordance with its function as LLR (50). Cash matches the bills purchased by the monetary authority plus advances minus reserves (both standard and extra, 51-55-56). Advances (52) are supplied on demand by the Central Bank, whilst reserves depend on the legal requirements imposed to banks' deposits (54). Central Bank profits are entirely transferred to government (53).

$$bcb = bs - bh - bb \quad (50)$$

$$hs = bcb + as - (hbs + hbs^*) + hf \quad (51)$$

$$as = ad \quad (52)$$



$$hbd = \rho 1 * m1s_{-1} + \rho 2 * m2s_{-1} \quad (54)$$

$$hbs = hbd \quad (55)$$

$$hbs^{\star} = hbd^{\star} \quad (56)$$

# Quantitative easing

## 3 The Model

When the monetary authority conducts OTM with the private sector, it targets a certain share of the existing stock of bills issued (57). This share is a function of an exogenous target minus the policy rate (58). As rates approach the zero lower bound, the QE share increases.

$$bcb = bs_{-1} * vareps \quad (57)$$

$$vareps = vareps_0 - vareps_1 * r^* \quad (58)$$



# Quantitative easing

## 3 The Model

As QE is implemented, Central Bank purchases bills directly from households. This affects cash holdings (59-60) and bill demand (61). These equations replace the standard cash and bill equations (50-51).

$$hh = hh + bh - (bs - bb - bcb) \quad (59)$$

$$hs = hh \quad (60)$$

$$bh = bs - bb - bcb \quad (61)$$



# Interest rates

## 3 The Model

The yields in the financial sector are mostly set by the policy rate defined by the Central Bank, plus exogenous mark-ups (63-67). Only the yield on corporate securities is determined endogenously via dividends and equity holdings (62).

$$re_x = \frac{f df_x}{eh_{x,-1}}, \forall x \in \{c, k, e\} \quad (62)$$

$$rb = r^* + mub \quad (63)$$

$$rl_x = r^* + mul_x, \forall x \in \{c, k, e\} \quad (64)$$

$$rm = r^* + mum \quad (65)$$

$$ra = r^* + mua \quad (66)$$

The only endogenous mark-up is on bills. It adjusts inversely to changes in the share of bills purchased by the private sector (68-69).

$$mub = mub_0 - mub_1 * (bpr - bpr_{-1}) \quad (68)$$

$$bpr = \frac{(bh + bb)}{bs} \quad (69)$$



# Labour market

## 3 The Model

Labour demand for each sector is simply defined as the ratio between the demand and the labour productivity minus tariffs (71). The workforce grows at an exogenous growth rate but it endogenously adjusts to labour demand in the private sector (72). Nominal wages (74-75-76) in each sector depend upon both real wages and the adjustment of the actual to the non-inflationary rate of unemployment, which is set to zero.

$$wb_x = w * nd_x, \forall x \in \{c, k, e\} \quad (70)$$

$$nd_x = \frac{(y_x - cgov)}{prf_x}, \forall x \in \{c, k, e\} \quad (71)$$

$$ns = ns_{-1} * (1 + gl) + nu * (nd_{-1} - ns_{-1}) \quad (72)$$

# Labour market

## 3 The Model

$$w_e = (1 - \omega_1 * (un_{-1} - nun)) * ep * \frac{w_{e,-1}}{p_{-1}} \quad (74)$$

$$w_c = (1 - \omega_2 * (un_{-1} - nun)) * ep * \frac{w_{c,-1}}{p_{-1}} \quad (75)$$

$$w_k = (1 - \omega_3 * (un_{-1} - nun)) * ep * \frac{w_{k,-1}}{p_{-1}} \quad (76)$$

$$w = \frac{(w_c + w_e + w_k)}{3} \quad (77)$$

$$prf = \frac{(prf_c + prf_e + prf_k)}{3} \quad (78)$$

# Prices and expectations

## 3 The Model

Prices in the private sector are determined as a simple mark up over unit labour costs (79). The general level of prices (81) includes the costs of public goods and their production costs, given by the labour force in the JG sector (80, more on this in Section 4). Inflation expectations are assumed to be adaptive (83-83).

$$pf = \left(\frac{w}{prf}\right) * (1 + mup) \quad (79)$$

$$pg = \frac{cgov}{(prg * ng)} \quad (80)$$

$$p = pf * \left(1 - \left(\frac{cgov_{-1}}{y_{-1}}\right)\right) + pg * \left(\frac{cgov_{-1}}{y_{-1}}\right) \quad (81)$$



## Prices and expectations

$$\pi = \left(\frac{p}{p-1}\right) - 1 \quad (82)$$

$$epi = epi_{-1} + \psi_1 + \psi_2 * (\pi_{-1} - epi_{-1}) \quad (83)$$

$$ep = p_{-1} * (1 + epi) \quad (84)$$



### 3 The Model

$$ex = \xi_0 + \xi_1 \cdot \log(xr_{-1}) + \xi_2 \cdot \log(y_{f,-1}) + \xi_3 \cdot \log(p_{-1}) \quad (85)$$

Foreign output grows at an exogenous rate  $g_f$ :

# Foreign sector and Redundant equation

## 3 The Model

The nominal exchange rate is fixed. Any trade surplus or deficit is reflected in changes in foreign reserves:

$$hf = hf_{-1} + tb \quad (88)$$

where the trade balance is defined as exports minus imports:

$$tb = ex - im \quad (89)$$

The model closes with the redundant equation equating cash demand and supply by households:

$$hh = hs \quad (90)$$

# Feature of the model and experiments

## 3 The Model

Several modifications to the original Godin (2014) and Sawyer and Passarella (2021) models were introduced such as:

- i. *A JG with exogenous  $wg/w$  and exogenous employees and complete absorption of unemployed (Scenario 2);*
- ii. *A JG that improves the energy productivity alongside the reduction in energy demand (Scenario 4);*
- iii. *The reduction in the parameters of energy consumption is driven by how many public resources are committed (Scenarios 4 and 5);*



### 3 The Model

- iv. *Two scenarios with government expenditure is introduced in order to provide a comparison either with the normal JG and with the green JG (Scenarios 3 and 5);*
- v. *The endogenous component of government transfers is set to 0 ( $\tau_5$ ) ;*
- vi. *Endogenous government expenditure in the productive sectors is redistributed away from sector  $e$  and injected into sector  $k$  (Scenario 6);*
- vii. *The CB is always eager to support the government action via QE policies;*
- viii. *Adaptive expectations are assumed .*



Hence, the new scenarios are the following (Scenario 1 is the baseline):

- **Scenario 2:** Minsky-like JG;
- **Scenario 3:** Government transfers to unemployed;
- **Scenario 4:** Green JG (Scenario 2 with Godin-like energy transition) ;
- **Scenario 5:** Government transfers to unemployed (as Scenario 3) with reduction in energy consumption and increase in energy productivity similar to Scenario 4 ;
- **Scenario 6:** Scenario 4 but with redistribution of government expenditure.

Recall that all the experiments are introduced as shocks to the baseline model at time 60 (out of 100 periods).



# Table of Contents

## 4 Results

► SFC-Ecological Economics

► ELR and GND

► The Model

► Results

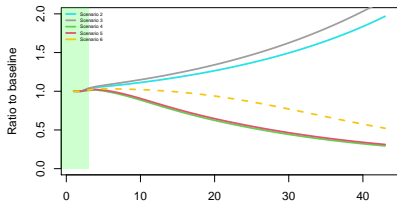
► Discussion



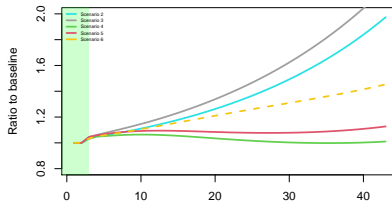
# Results

## 4 Results

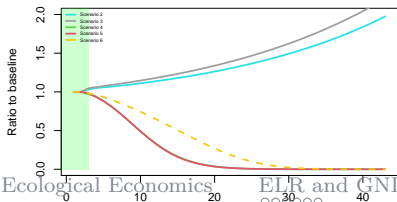
v) Output E sector under alternative scenarios



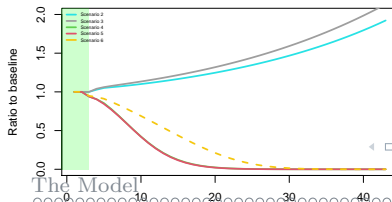
vi) Consumption under alternative scenarios



vii) Consumption Energy (Households)



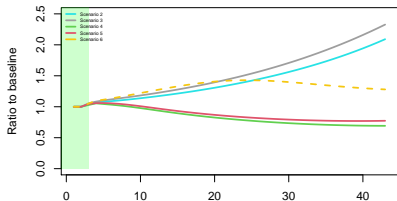
viii) Consumption Energy (Government) under alternative scenarios



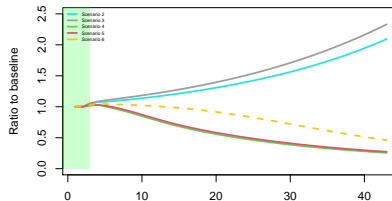
# Results

## 4 Results

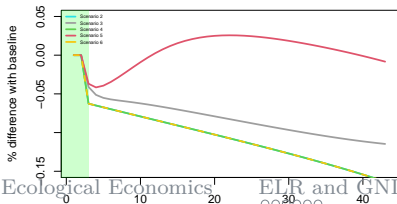
ix) Investment under alternative scenarios



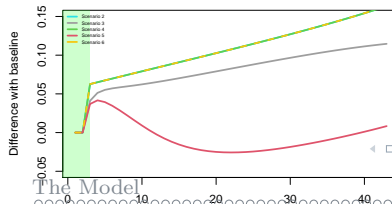
x) Energy Investment under alternative scenarios



xi) Unemployment rate under alternative scenarios



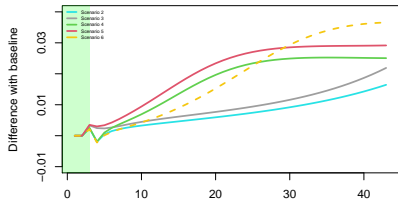
xii) Employment rate under alternative scenarios



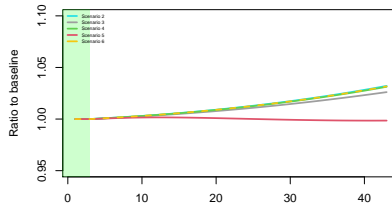
# Results

## 4 Results

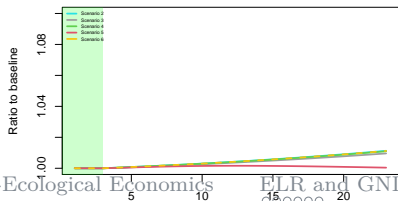
xiii) Deficit to GDP ratio under alternative scenarios



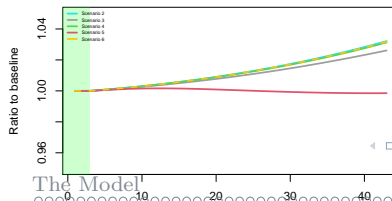
xiv) Price of private goods under alternative scenarios (long run)



xv) Prices of private goods under alternative scenarios (short run)



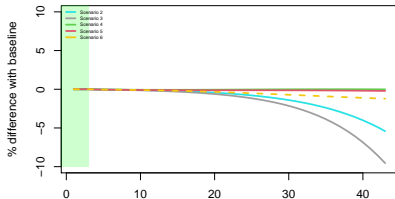
xvi) Average Nominal Wage in all the productive sectors



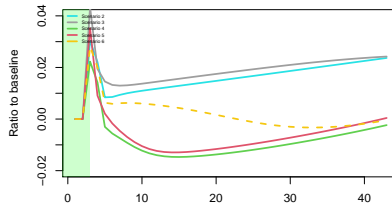
# Results

## 4 Results

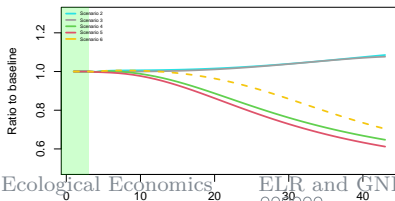
xvii) Trade Balance under alternative scenarios



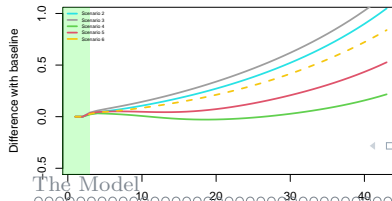
xviii) Output growth under alternative scenarios



xix) Bills held by CB under alternative scenarios



xx) Debt to GDP ratio under alternative scenarios





# Table of Contents

## 5 Discussion

- ▶ SFC-Ecological Economics
- ▶ ELR and GND
- ▶ The Model
- ▶ Results
- ▶ Discussion





- ◀ ◻ ▶ ◀ ◻ ▶ ◀ ≡ ▶ ◀ ≡ ▶ ≡ 🔍 ↺



- ◀ ◻ ▶ ◀ ◻ ▶ ◀ ≡ ▶ ◀ ≡ ▶ ≡






$$\tau_4 = nn * \text{ } wg \quad (96)$$

$$\tau_5 = 0 \tag{97}$$


$$\sigma_2 = (1 - wbg * \zeta) * \sigma_2 \quad (98)$$

$$\sigma_3 = (1 - wbg * \zeta) * \sigma_3 \quad (99)$$

$$pre = (1 + wbg * \zeta) * pre \quad (100)$$



$$\sigma_3 = (1 - \tau_4 * \zeta) * \sigma_3 \quad (102)$$

$$pre = (1 + \tau_4 * \zeta) * pre \quad (103)$$


$$c_q k = \sigma_1 * (y_{k,-1}) + (0.1 - \sigma_2) * (y_{e,-1}) \quad (104)$$





# Q&A



[gyajima@levy.org](mailto:gyajima@levy.org)