

Growth and climate change Stochastic IAMs in Dynare

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Introduction

In what follows:

- I Introduce the basic conclusions that we can take from [Nordhaus \(1992\)](#) from deterministic models:
 - Example of a deterministic/stochastic baby DICE
- Then I provide a short run perspective from [Sahuc et al. \(2025\)](#) in which stabilization policies are also affected by mitigation policy in the short term
 - Example of a New Keynesian model

Why macroeconomists should care

- Climate change reshapes macroeconomic dynamics: productivity, inflation, employment.
- Monetary and fiscal policies are impacted through:
 - *Climateflation*: Damages reduce productivity, raise prices.
 - *Greenflation*: Carbon taxes raise costs during the transition.
- Macroeconomic tools must adapt: from stable-steady-state thinking to structural transitions.
- Need for integrated models that capture both physical and nominal frictions.

What is an Integrated Assessment Model (IAM)?

- IAMs link **economic activity** and **climate dynamics** to assess the costs and benefits of climate policies.
- The **IPCC** relies on a large pool of IAMs to produce long-term climate scenarios.
- These models are **highly heterogeneous**: many do not include optimization, forward-looking behavior, microfoundations, or expectations.
- The traditional benchmark is **DICE** (Nordhaus, 1992):
 - Embeds climate science into a **Ramsey-type growth model**.
 - Delivers optimal carbon pricing paths based on welfare maximization.

Why Climate Economics Needs a Short-Term View

- Policy institutions - central banks, treasuries, regulators - increasingly face the need to assess:
 - **Climate shocks** (e.g. disasters, weather volatility),
 - **Transition dynamics** (e.g. carbon tax, green investment),
 - **Stability risks** (price, financial, macroeconomic).
- This calls for models that are not only long-term and normative, but also **short-term and dynamic**.
- Yet, our standard macro tools are not designed for this:
 - DSGE models often focus on stationary dynamics near a steady state,
 - IAMs neglect shocks, expectations, and nominal frictions.
- This creates a **methodological gap** when addressing climate change as both a long-term trend and a short-term source of instability.

Outline

1 Introduction

2 A Long Term View: The DICE Model

3 A short term view: the New Keynesian Climate Model

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- 2 A Long Term View: The DICE Model
- 3 A short term view: the New Keynesian Climate Model

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- DICE (Dynamic Integrated Climate-Economy model) was developed by Nordhaus (1992) and went through several (minor) updates up to the lastest 2023 snapshot;
- Simple but powerful model to provide fast estimates of the social cost of carbon and transition pathways for the world economy;
- It has become an intuitive benchmark.
- Back in the 90s, Bill Nordhaus's work on climate has never been published in top 5 journals (always rejected) but got published in Sciences, PNAS, etc.

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- The framework is old-fashion:
 - Solow growth model with climate externality;
 - Centralized equilibrium based on Ramsey allocations;
 - Purely deterministic setup;
- Physical capital, temperatures and carbon boxes are the main state variables that the planner uses to optimally maximize welfare.
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Carbon cycle

- Atmospheric loading of CO₂ is a system of differential equations:

$$M_t = \Phi_M M_{t-1} + \Xi_M E_t, \quad (1)$$

where $M_t = [M_t^{AT}, M_t^{UP}, M_t^{LO}]'$ comprises 3 layers of carbon: atmospheric, upper and lower ocean respectively.

- Matrices are determined by:

$$\Phi_M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 - \phi_{12} & \phi_{21} & 0 \\ \phi_{12} & 1 - \phi_{21} - \phi_{23} & \phi_{32} \\ 0 & \phi_{23} & 1 - \phi_{32} \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } \Xi_M = \begin{bmatrix} \xi_M \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Carbon emissions go into the atmosphere, before being captured by oceans through a long lasting process.

Temperatures

- Temperature anomalies $T_t = [T_t^{AT}, T_t^{OC}]$ of atmosphere and ocean respectively:

$$T_t = \Phi_T T_{t-1} + \Xi_T F_t, \quad (2)$$

- Matrices are given by:

$$\Phi_T = \begin{bmatrix} \varphi_{11} & \varphi_{12} \\ \varphi_{21} & \varphi_{22} \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } \Xi_T = \begin{bmatrix} \xi_T \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Cooling effects of oceans through φ_{12} , ξ_T is the heating sensitivity to radiative forcing F_t .

Radiative forcing

- Greenhouse effect via radiative forcing (W/m^2):

$$F_t = \eta \log \left(M_t^{AT} / M_{1750} \right) / \log(2) + F_t^{EX} \quad (3)$$

- Here, η denote the forcing (Wm^{-2}) of equilibrium CO₂ doubling ($M_t^{AT} = 2M_{1750}$).
- F_t^{EX} is an exogenous process tracking the contribution of other sources of GHG (i.e. methane) on F_t

Input structure

- World population (billion):

$$L_t = L_{t-1} (L_T/L_{t-1})^{\ell_g}, \quad (4)$$

$\ell_g \in [0, 1]$ convergence rate, $L_T \in [0, +\infty)$ long term population.

- Law of motion of capital:

$$K_t = (1 - \delta_K) K_{t-1} + I_t, \quad (5)$$

$\delta_K \in [0, 1]$ is the depreciation rate.

Production of goods and emissions

- Production is Cobb-Douglas:

$$Y_t = A_t K_{t-1}^\gamma L_t^{1-\gamma} \quad (6)$$

where $\gamma \in [0, 1]$ is capital intensity, exogenous TFP A_t , physical capital K_{t-1} .

- Emissions (GtCO₂):

$$E_t = \sigma_t (1 - \mu_t) Y_t + E_t^{\text{land}} \quad (7)$$

where σ_t decoupling rate, μ_t is abatement share, E_t^{land} is exogenous process of carbon emission from change in land use (i.e. deforestation).

- Resource constraint:

$$Y_t \left(1 - \theta_{1,t} \mu_t^{\theta_2}\right) \Omega(T_t) = C_t + I_t \quad (8)$$

LHS is output loss from abatement and damage, RHS is demand side.

- Damages are given by:

$$\Omega(T_t) = 1/(1 + aT_t^2) \quad (9)$$

This expression is subject to deep uncertainty, and should be taken as a normative measure of the social loss for the society of rising temperatures. Tipping points could be introduced [[Weitzman, 2012](#)].

Exogenous trends

Total factor productivity:

$$\Delta \log A_t = g_A - \delta_a \log (A_t/A_0)$$

Decoupling rate of carbon emission to GDP:

$$\Delta \log \sigma_t = g_\sigma - \delta_\sigma \log (\sigma_t/\sigma_0)$$

Cost of abating carbon emissions:

$$\theta_{1,t} = (1 - \delta_\theta) \theta_{1,t-1} \sigma_t / \sigma_{t-1}$$

Non-CO₂ forcing law of motion:

$$F_t^{EX} = \min \left(F_{t-1}^{EX} + \Delta_F, F_{CAP} \right)$$

Land-use law of motion:

$$E_t^{\text{land}} = (1 - \delta_e) E_{t-1}^{\text{land}}$$

World population dynamic:

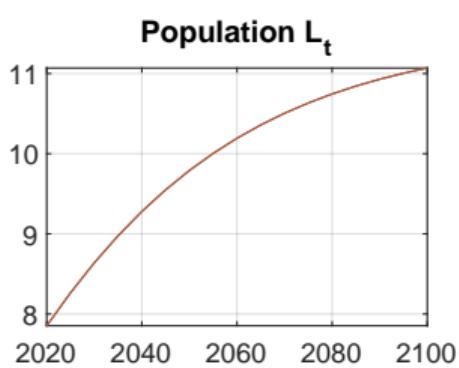
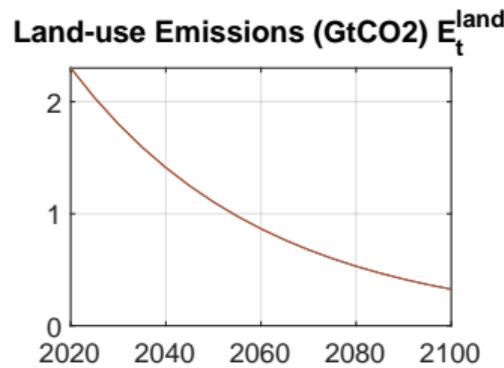
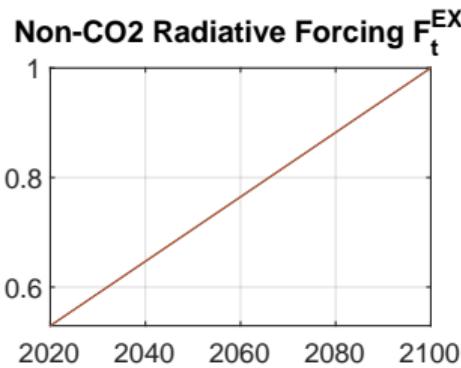
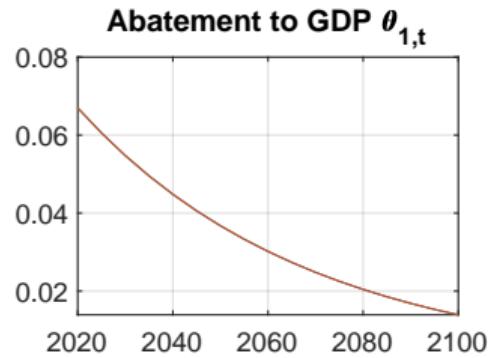
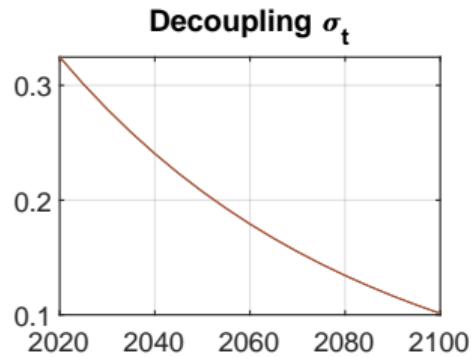
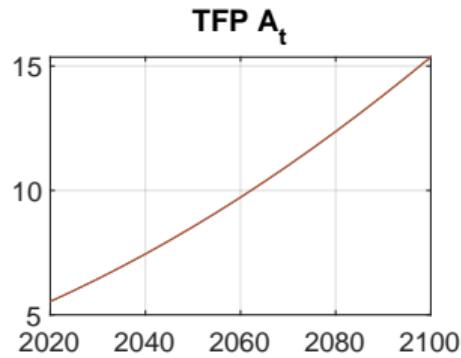


Figure. Exogenous variables

Introducing a saving rate

- How should we determine optimally C and I ?
- Could use decentralized decision problem, or use old-fashion centralized equation following Ramsey allocation;
- Introduce optimal saving rate S , consumption and investment becomes:

$$C_t = (1 - S_t) \times Y_t \left(1 - \theta_{1,t} \mu_t^{\theta_2}\right) \Omega(T_t) \quad (10)$$

$$I_t = S_t \times Y_t \left(1 - \theta_{1,t} \mu_t^{\theta_2}\right) \Omega(T_t) \quad (11)$$

→ implicitly assuming that income spent between C_t and I_t .

Introducing a saving rate

- The planner maximizes the social welfare:

$$\max_{\{S_t, \mu_t\}} \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \beta^t L_t \left(c_t^{1-\alpha} - 1 \right) (1-\alpha)^{-1} \quad (12)$$

where $c_t = C_t/L_t$ is the per capita consumption, utility function concave.

The Ramsey (1927) problem:

$$\begin{aligned} & \max_{\{c_t, Y_t, K_t, T_t, M_t, \mu_t, S_t\}} \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \beta^t L_t \left(c_t^{1-\alpha} - 1 \right) (1-\alpha)^{-1} \\ & + \beta^t \lambda_{1,t} \left[(1 - S_t) Y_t \left(1 - \theta_{1,t} \mu_t^{\theta_2} \right) \Omega(T_t) - L_t c_t \right] \\ & + \beta^t \lambda_{2,t} \left[K_t - (1 - \delta_K) K_{t-1} - S_t Y_t \left(1 - \theta_{1,t} \mu_t^{\theta_2} \right) \Omega(T_t) \right] \\ & + \beta^t \lambda_{3,t} \left[Y_t - A_t K_{t-1}^{\gamma} L_t^{1-\gamma} \right] \\ & + \beta^t \lambda_{4,t} \left[T_t - \Phi_T T_{t-1} - \Xi_T \left(\eta \log \left(M_t^{AT} / M_{1750} \right) / \log(2) + F_t^{EX} \right) \right] \\ & + \beta^t \lambda_{5,t} \left[M_t - \Phi_M M_{t-1} - \Xi_M \left(\sigma_t (1 - \mu_t) Y_t + E_t^{\text{land}} \right) \right] \end{aligned}$$

Summary: optimal control problem with 7 control variables, 5 constraints \rightarrow 12 variables/equations.

(note that climate variables include more equations + Lagrangian multipliers)

Model summary:

- 6 exogenous variables $\{A_t, \sigma_t, \theta_{1,t}, F_t^{EX}, E_t^{\text{land}}, L_t\}$ and 6 exogenous processes;
- 5 core equations (from initial model) and 7 first order conditions (from Ramsey problem);
- There are 7 core endogenous variables $\{c_t, Y_t, K_t, T_t, M_t, \mu_t, S_t\}$ and 5 Lagrangian multipliers (from Ramsey) $\{\lambda_{1,t}, \dots, \lambda_{5,t}\}$;
- **In sum:** 18 equations and variables.
- **Next step:** get numerical simulations from the model.

- $\Delta t = 5$ years, $t = \{t_0, t_1, \dots, T\}$, with $t_0 = 2015$ and $T = 2600$;
- Consider two policies:

The mitigation policy:

$$\max_{\{c_t, Y_t, K_t, T_t, M_t, \mu_t, S_t\}} \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \beta^t L_t \left(c_t^{1-\alpha} - 1 \right) (1-\alpha)^{-1}$$

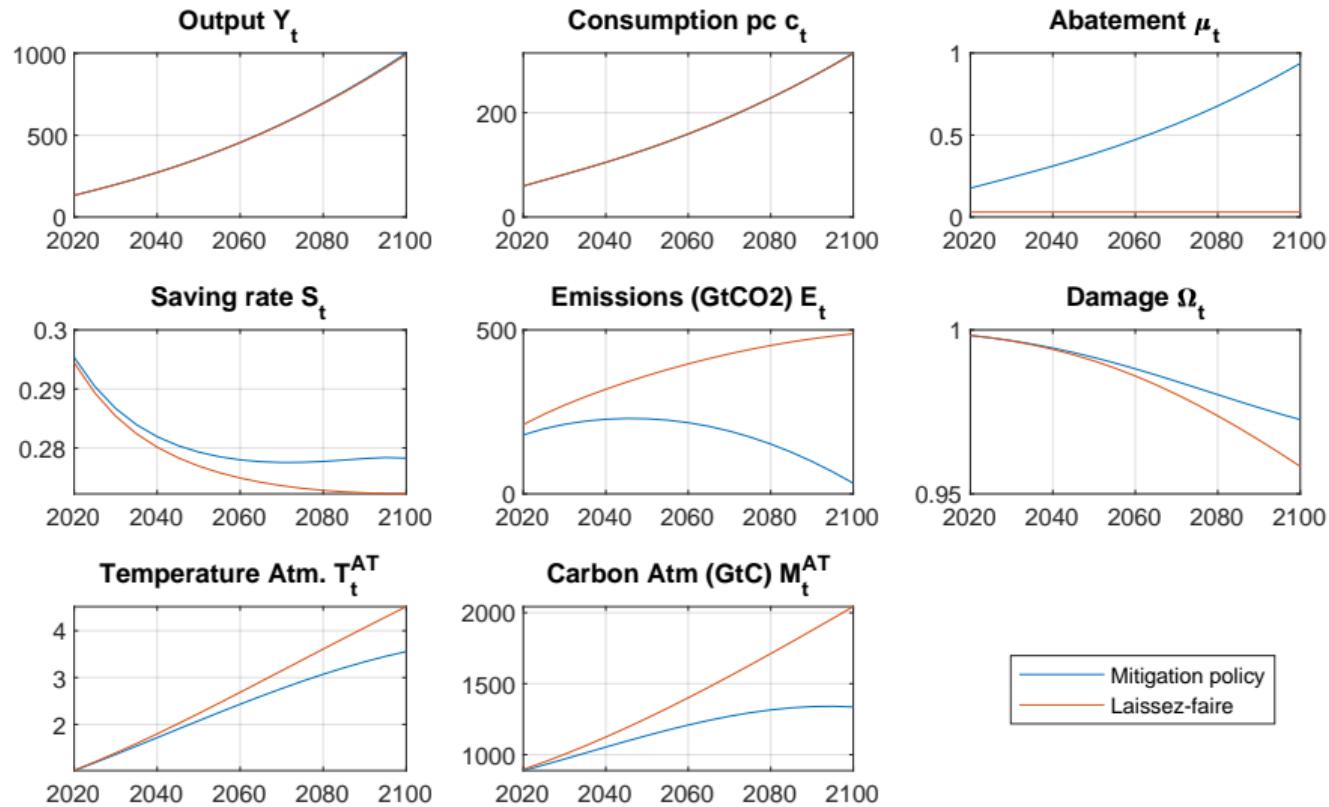
s.t. (1) – (5)

The *laissez-faire* / Business As Usual (BAU) policy:

$$\max_{\{c_t, Y_t, K_t, T_t, M_t, S_t\}} \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \beta^t L_t \left(c_t^{1-\alpha} - 1 \right) (1-\alpha)^{-1}$$

s.t. (1) – (5)

s.t. $\mu_t = 0.03$



Some striking but controversial results from DICE:

- “Optimal” to warm the planet up to $3.5^{\circ}C$;
- Mitigation policy saves about 2% of climate damage;
- Net zero emission optimal by 2100, 50 years later than in Paris-Agreement;
- Main critic from DICE’s policy output: those results have scientifically grounded climate inaction in policy circles...
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Social cost of carbon

- Why is it optimal to warm so much the planet according to DICE?
- An optimal carbon tax = how much the society is willing to pay to reduce emissions (\$ per ton of carbon).
- This is usually referred to as the Social Cost of Carbon (SCC) in literature.
- SCC reflects the society's gains and losses from implementing the carbon tax.
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- Get back to FOCs of the Ramsey-planner:

$$M_t^{AT} : \lambda_{5,t}^{AT} = \beta \Phi_M \lambda_{5,t+1}^{AT} + \lambda_{4,t}^{AT} F' (M_t)$$

$$T_t^{AT} : \lambda_{4,t}^{AT} = \beta \Phi_T \lambda_{4,t+1}^{AT} + \lambda_{2,t}^{AT} S_t Y_t \left(1 - \theta_{1,t} \mu_t^{\theta_2}\right) \Omega' (T_t)$$

$\lambda_{5,t}^{AT}$ ($\lambda_{4,t}^{AT}$) is the marginal loss from carbon (temperature) increase.

- SCC expresses the social loss into numeraire equivalents (here consumption):

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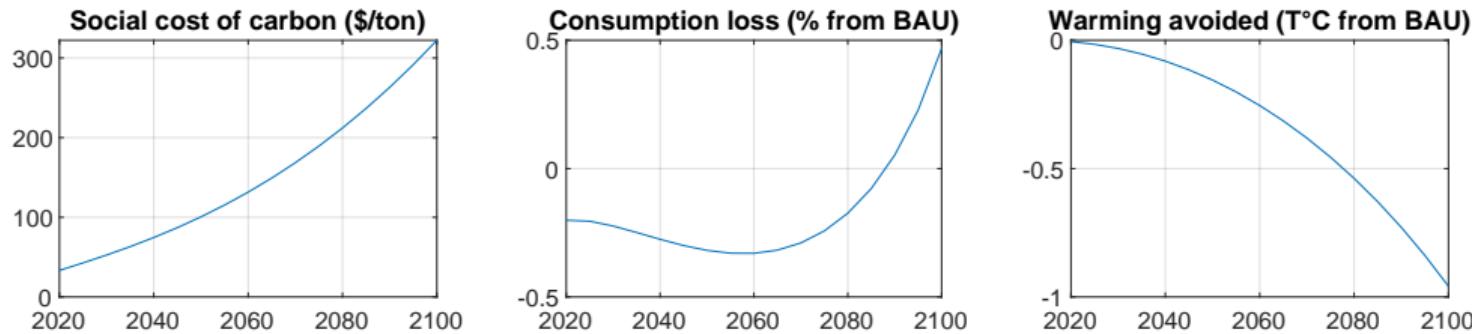


Figure. Social cost of carbon

- SCC reflect the planner's relative gains in terms of welfare from controlling M_t against its consumption losses C_t from such action;
- Optimal to cut consumption now by 0.5% in order to avoid 1°C of warming in 2100;
- As well off between scenarios by 2090 on current consumption grounds (but not in welfare terms).

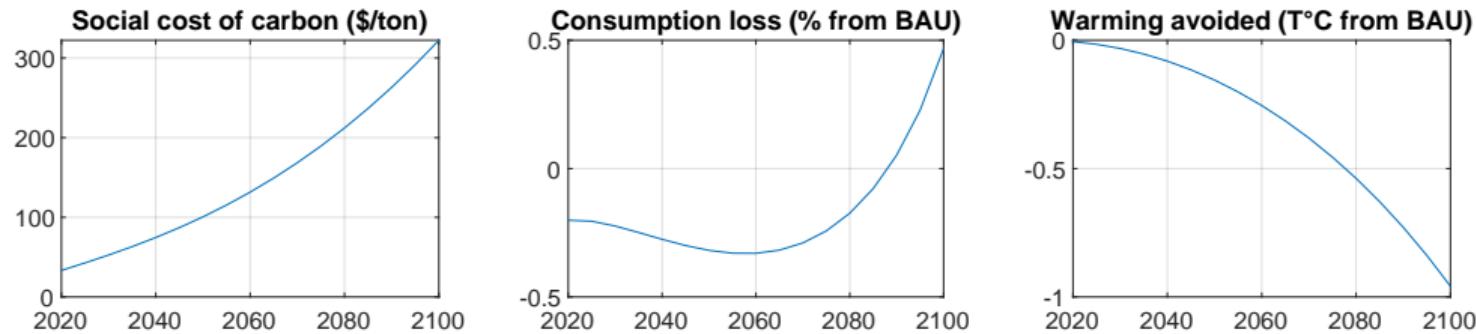


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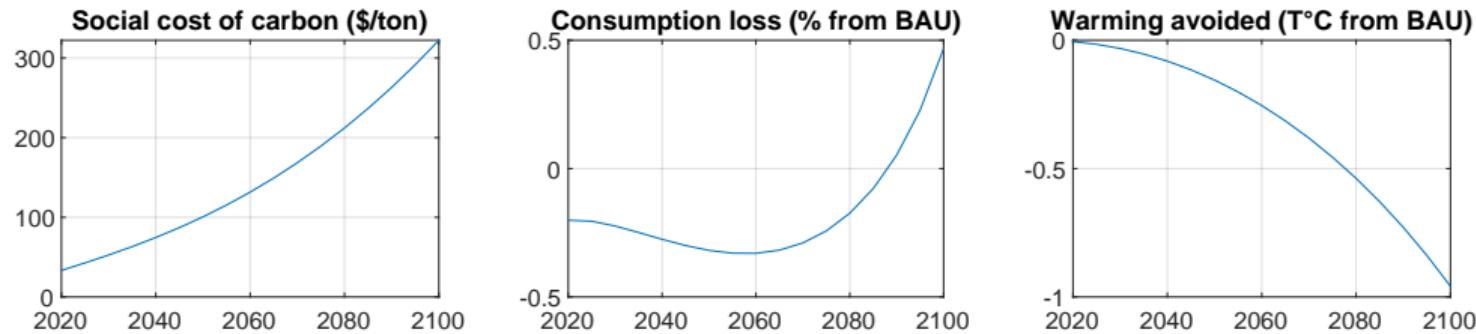


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→ Let's work on the exercise 1 & 2 of PC2
and baby_rbc1.mlx, baby_rbc2.mlx, baby_rbc3.mlx

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 - On the one hand, a warming planet causes damages that will make resources scarcer & prices higher → climateflation.
 - On the other hand, the fight against climate change through increasing carbon taxes will increase production costs → greenflation.
- How should the central bank conduct monetary policy in this new landscape?
- Answering this question requires a new class of IAM with New Keynesian ingredients to capture inflation dynamics.
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- This paper develops The New Keynesian Climate (NKC) model by:
 - * extending with a carbon accumulation constraint and a mitigation policy from the Integrated Assessment Model (IAM) [Barrage and Nordhaus 2023];
 - * estimating NKC for the world economy with techniques that take into account nonlinearities resulting from climate change;
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 - extending with a **carbon accumulation** constraint and a **mitigation policy** from the Integrated Assessment Model (IAM) [Barrage and Nordhaus 2023];
 - estimating NKC for the world economy with techniques that take into account nonlinearities resulting from climate change;
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Methodological breakthrough

- Standard view: stable propagation mechanism with fluctuations naturally decaying over time back to a steady state [Smets and Wouters 2007].
- Climate problem: Cumulative emissions permanently alter the propagation mechanism → no steady state.
- Why? Cumulative carbon induces permanent shifts in productivity, structurally similar to an endogenous (de-)growth model.
- Climate damages $\Omega(M)$ in production ($Y = \Phi(M) \cdot L$) does not scale proportionally with economic growth, violating the homogeneity assumption required for Solow's detrending techniques.
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Our paper is connected to three literatures:

- **Long-term climate analysis:** IAMs analyze the long-term effect of carbon accumulation [Nordhaus 1992; Dietz and Venmans 2019; Barrage and Nordhaus 2023; Folini et al. 2024] & IPCC models, but ignore fluctuations and/or price rigidity.
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The New Keynesian Climate Model

Carbon accumulation and its damages:

IS:
$$\left(\frac{\tilde{y}_t x_t - \omega d}{1-\omega}\right)^{-\sigma_c} = \beta \mathbb{E}_t \frac{\varepsilon_{b,t+1}}{\varepsilon_{b,t}} \frac{r_t}{\pi_{t+1}} \left((1-\omega) \left(\frac{x_{t+1} \tilde{y}_{t+1} - \omega d}{1-\omega}\right)^{-\sigma_c} + \omega d^{-\sigma_c} \right)$$
$$x_t = 1 - (1-\vartheta)0.5\kappa (\pi_t - \pi_t^*)^2 - \vartheta(1 - \varepsilon_{p,t} m c_t)$$

PC:
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Anthropogenic carbon stock

The New Keynesian Climate Model

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Anthropogenic carbon stock

Deterministic TEP trend

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Anthropogenic carbon stock

Deterministic
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MP:
$$r_t = r_{t-1}^\rho \left[r_r (\pi_t^*/\pi) (\pi_t/\pi_t^*)^{\phi_\pi} (\tilde{y}_t/\tilde{y}_t^n)^{\phi_y} \right]^{1-\rho} \varepsilon_{r,t}$$

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Mitigation policies as function of exogenous carbon tax $\tilde{\tau}_t$:

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The New Keynesian Climate Model

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MP: $r_t = r_{t-1}^\rho \left[r_r (\pi_t^*/\pi) (\pi_t/\pi_t^*)^{\phi_\pi} (\tilde{y}_t/\tilde{y}_t^n)^{\phi_y} \right]^{1-\rho} \varepsilon_{r,t}$	
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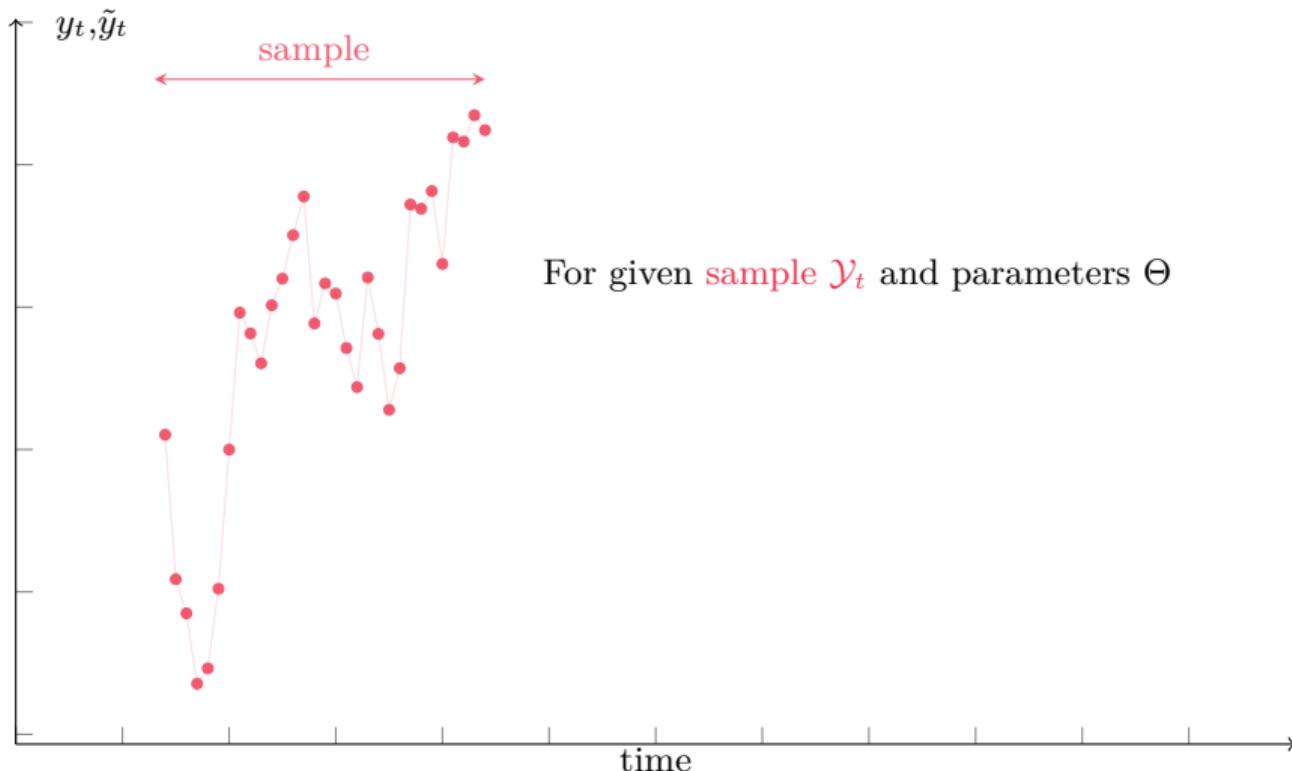
Estimation

- Estimation on world data from 1985Q1 to 2023Q3 (sources: World Bank, OECD and OurWorldInData).
- There are four observable variables:

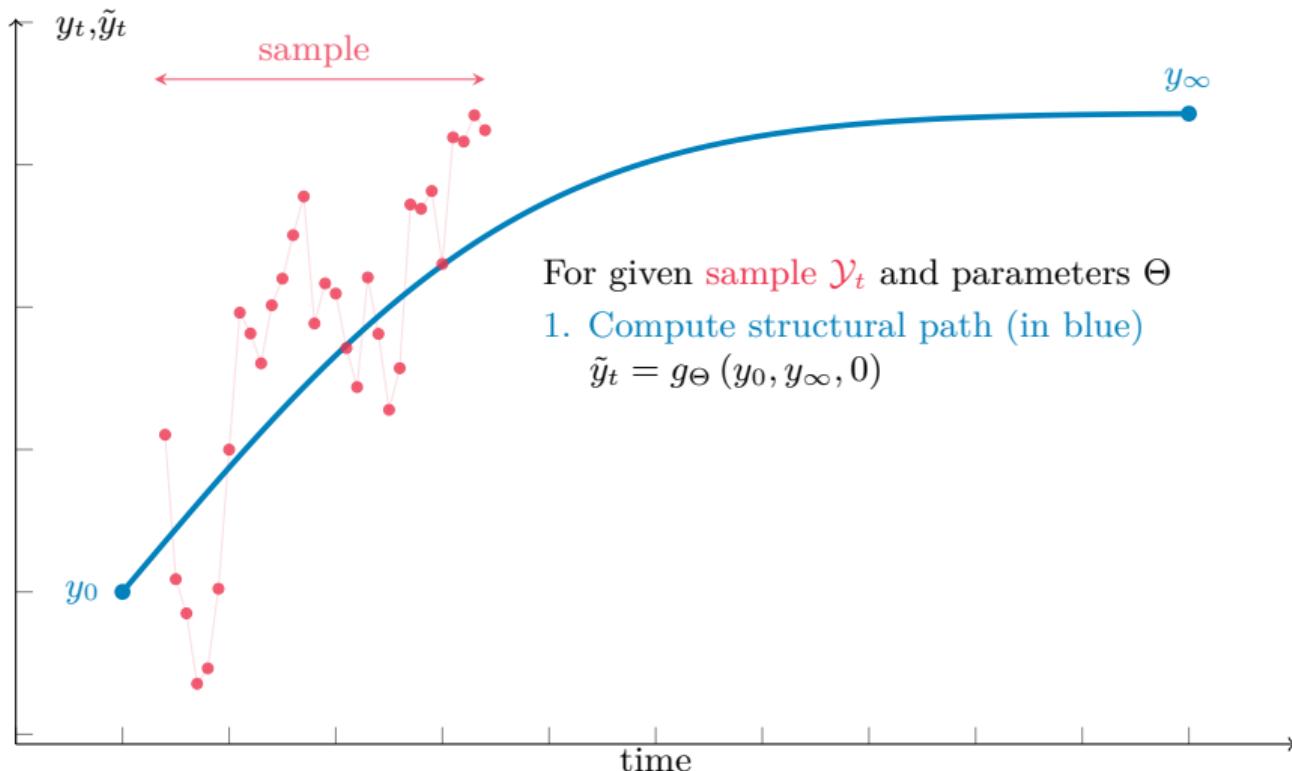
$$\begin{bmatrix} \text{Real output growth rate} \\ \text{Inflation rate} \\ \text{Short-term interest rate} \\ \text{CO}_2 \text{ emissions growth rate} \end{bmatrix} = 100 \times \begin{bmatrix} \Delta \log(y_t) \\ \pi_t - 1 \\ r_t - 1 \\ \Delta \log(e_t) \end{bmatrix}$$

- Solution & filtering methods from [Fair and Taylor \(1983\)](#): fully nonlinear, MIT shocks and no aggregate uncertainty.

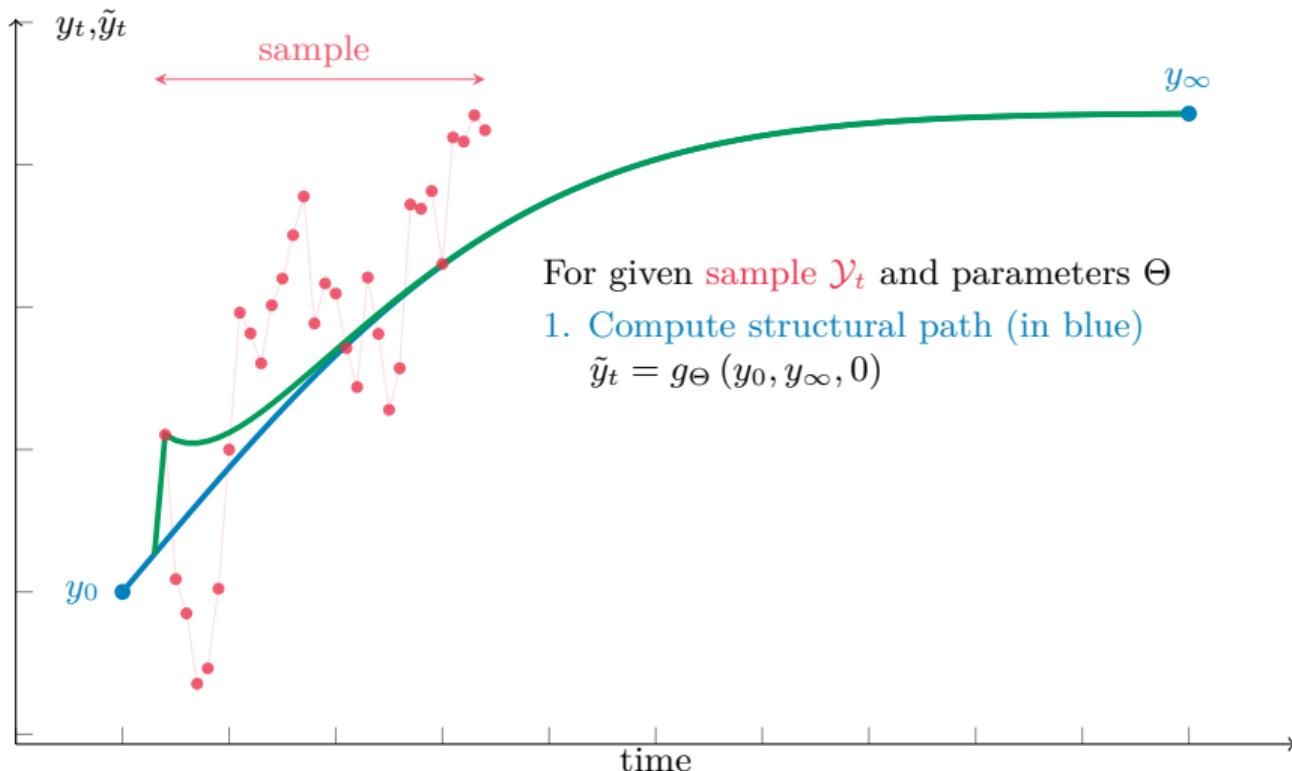
Estimation



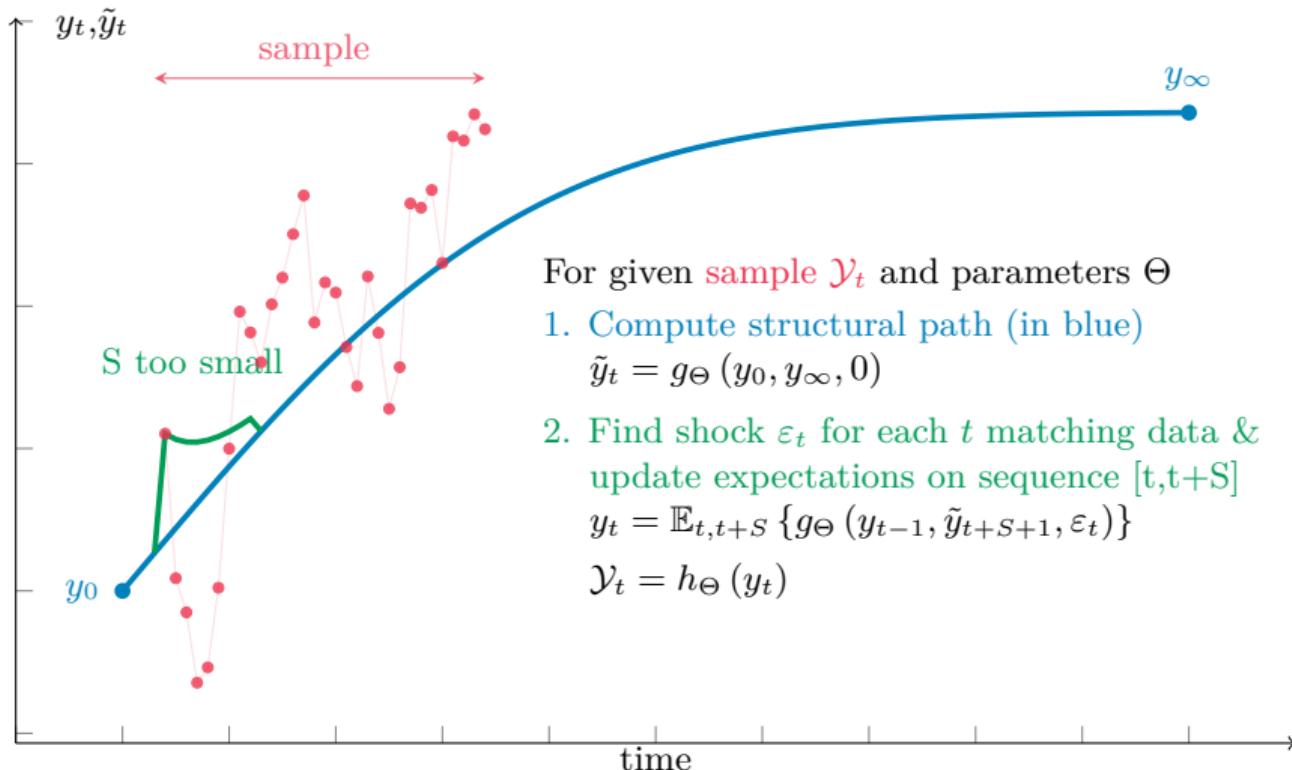
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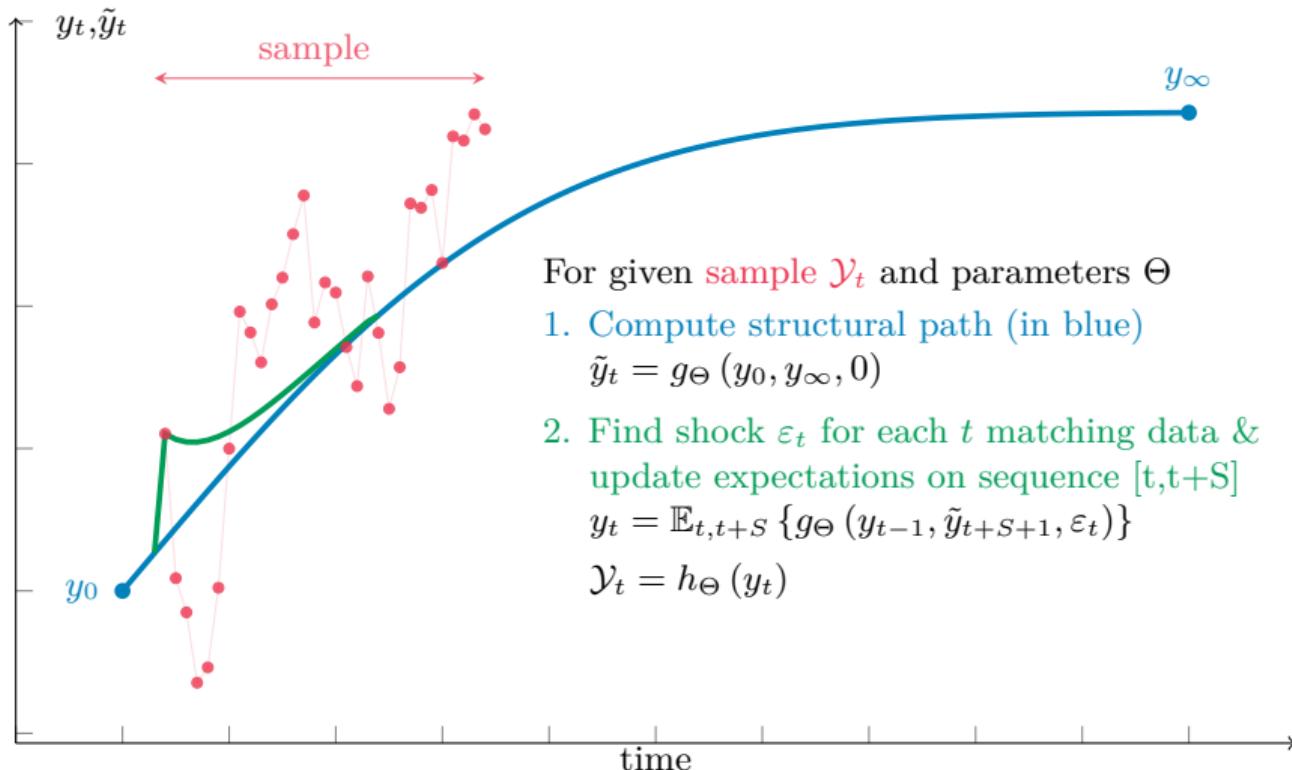
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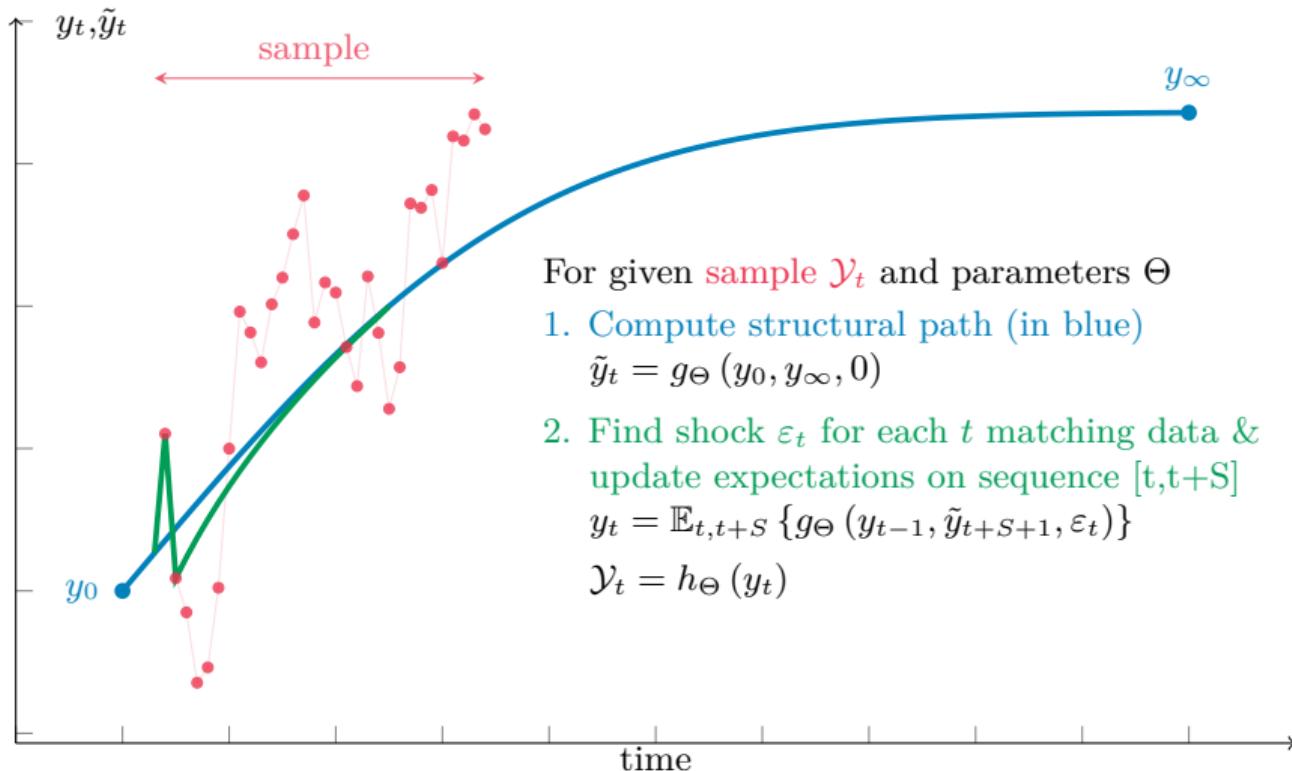
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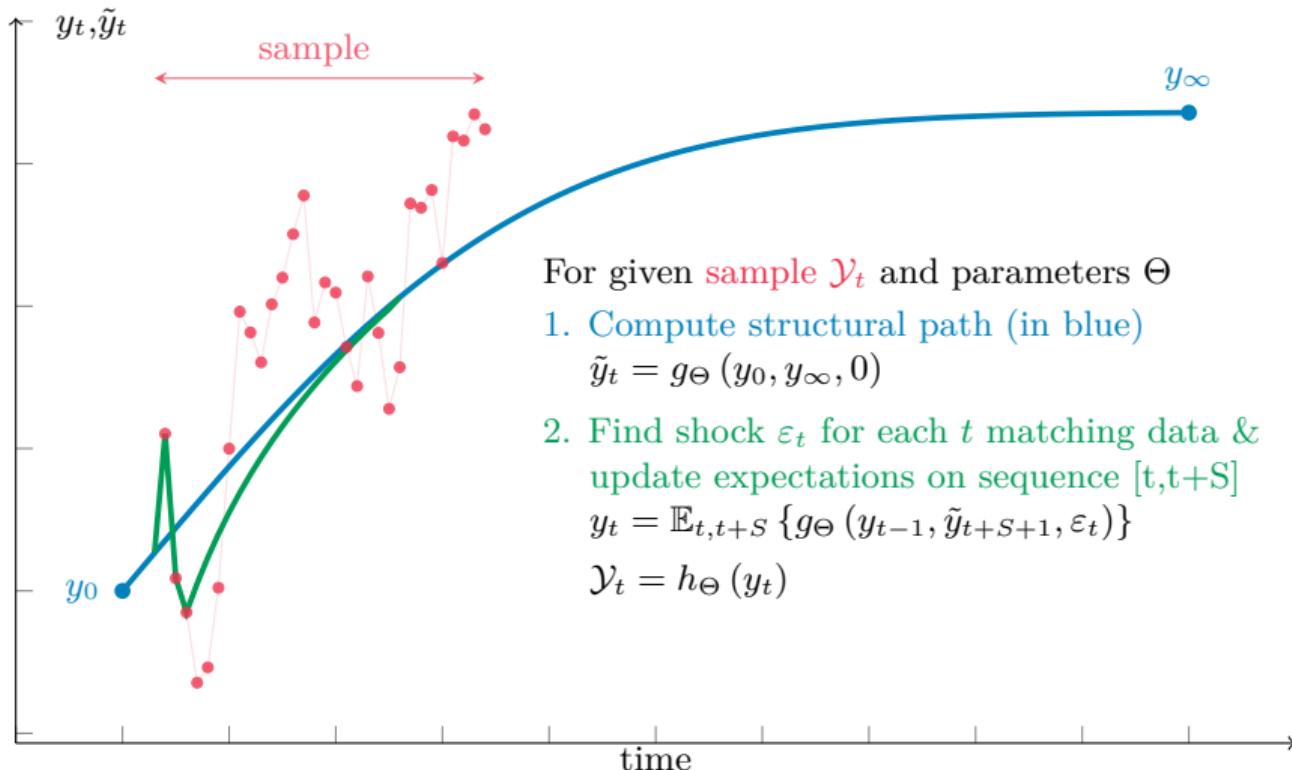
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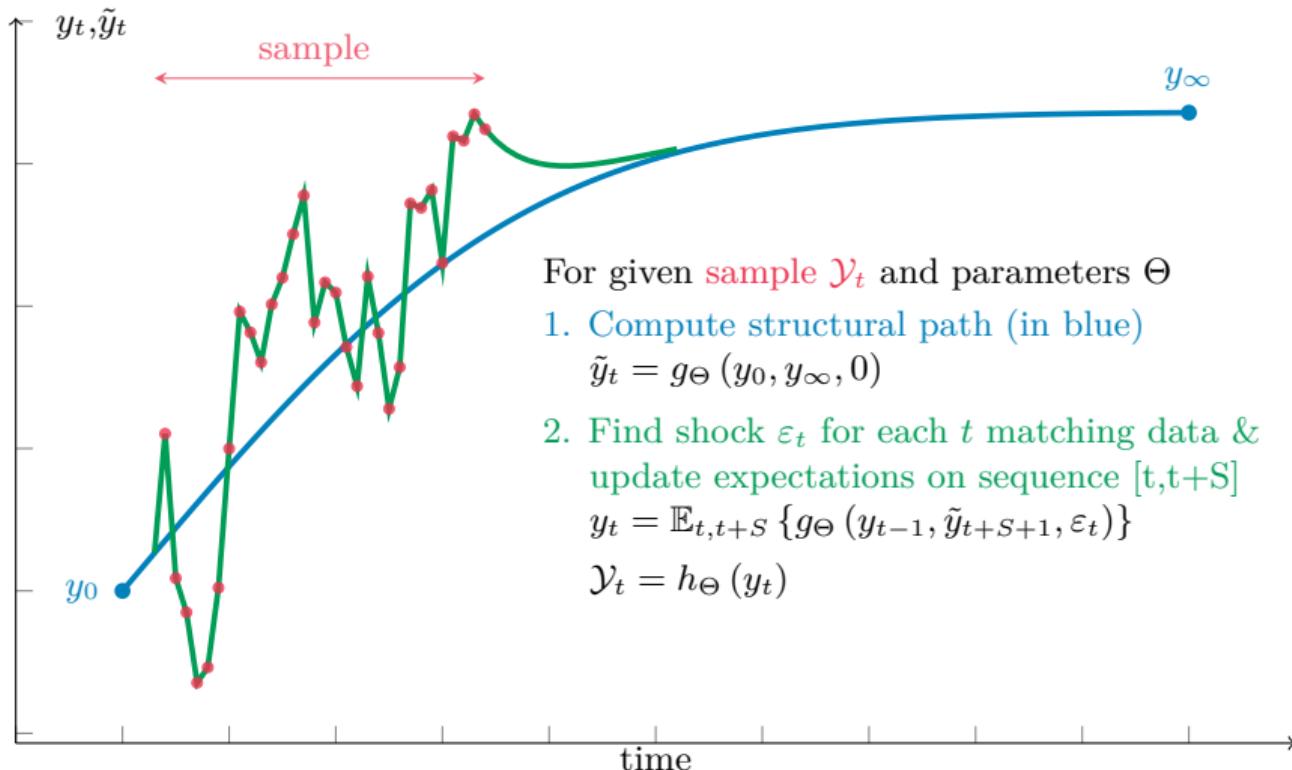
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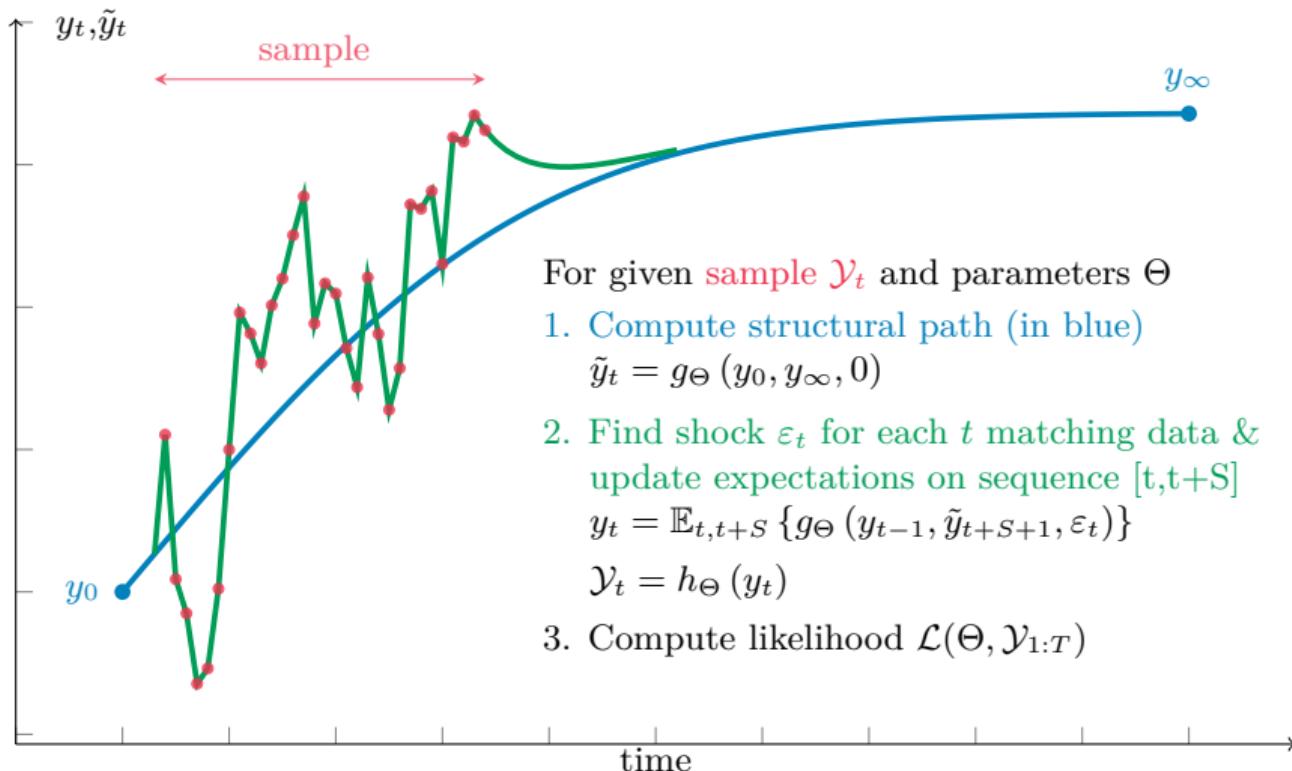
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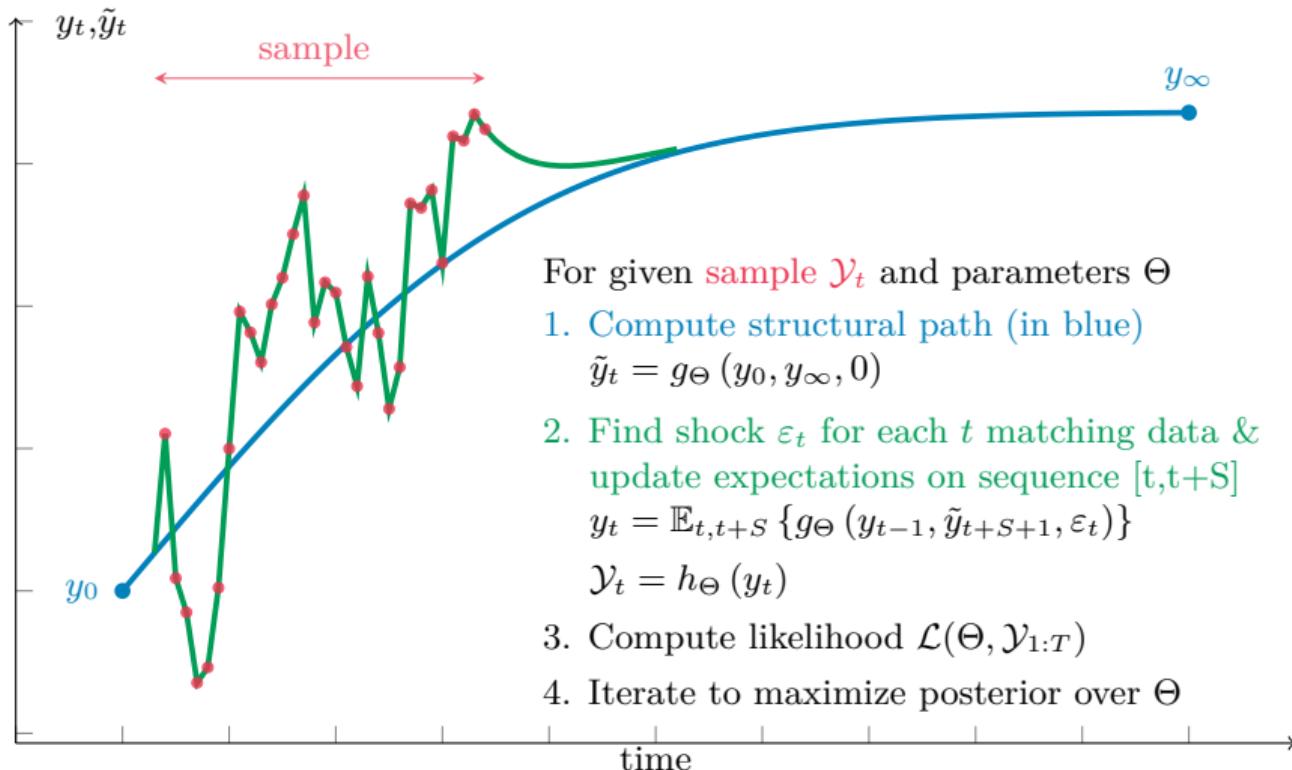
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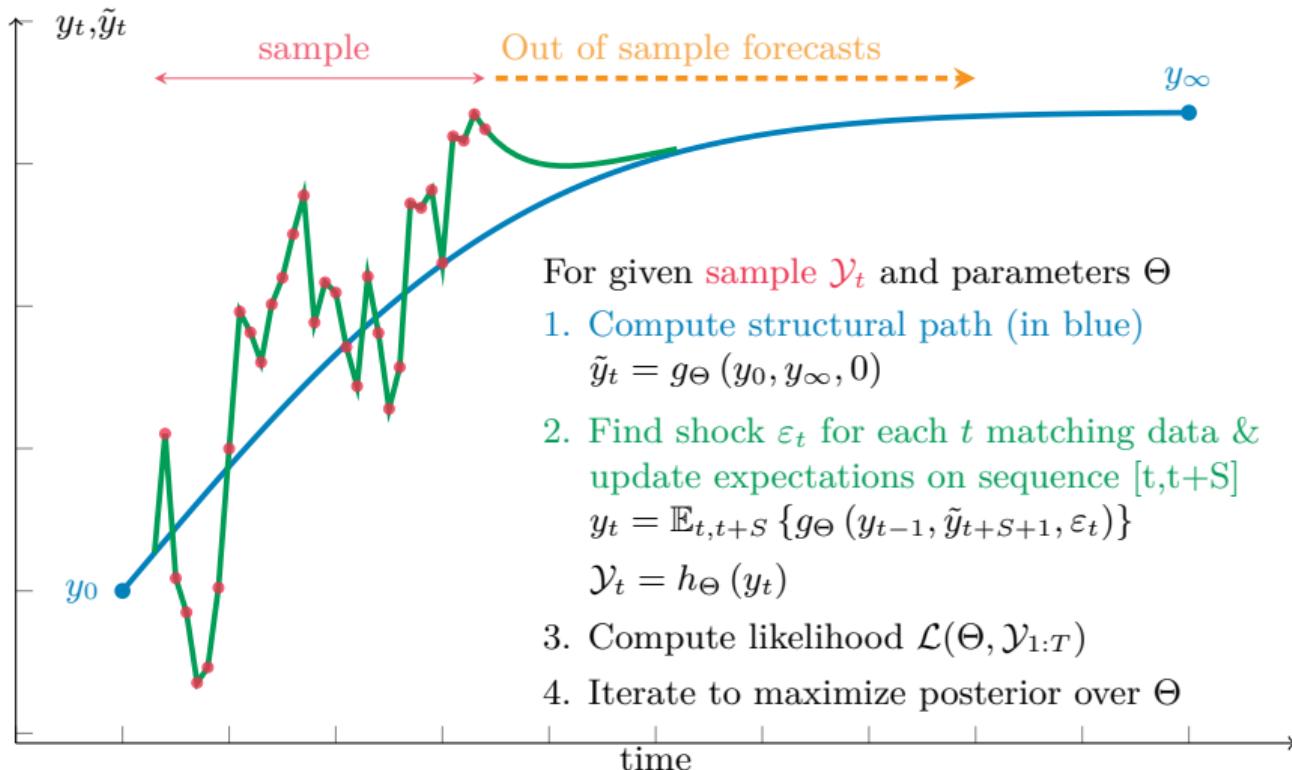
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Estimation



Estimation

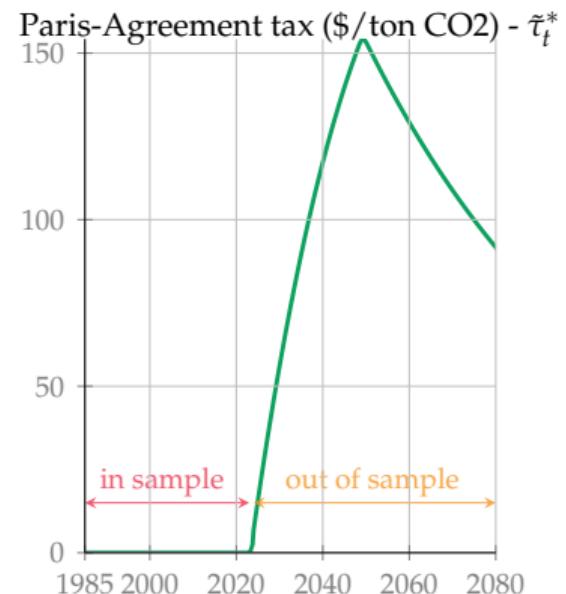


Estimation

- Large uncertainty about future carbon tax: implications for estimation in particular at the end of the sample
- Let $\tilde{\tau}_t^*$ denote the Paris-Agreement tax, with linear decrease in carbon emissions up to 2050
- We let the data inform about future carbon mitigation policies:

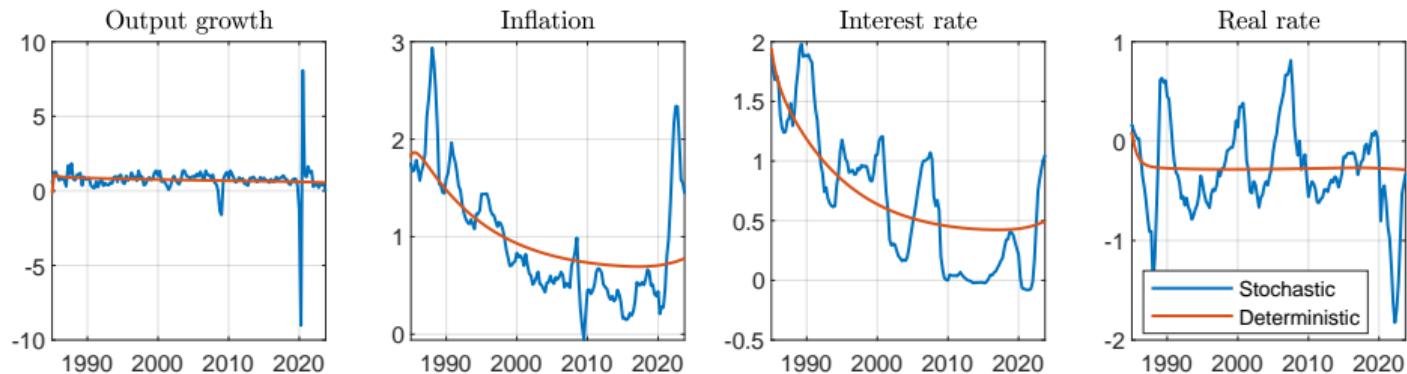
$$\mathbb{E}_t\{\tilde{\tau}_t\} = \varphi \tilde{\tau}_t^*$$

where $\varphi \in [0, 1]$ is the fraction of believers (or expected intensity) of Paris-Agreement



Stochastic and deterministic paths

Figure 1: Implied deterministic and stochastic paths

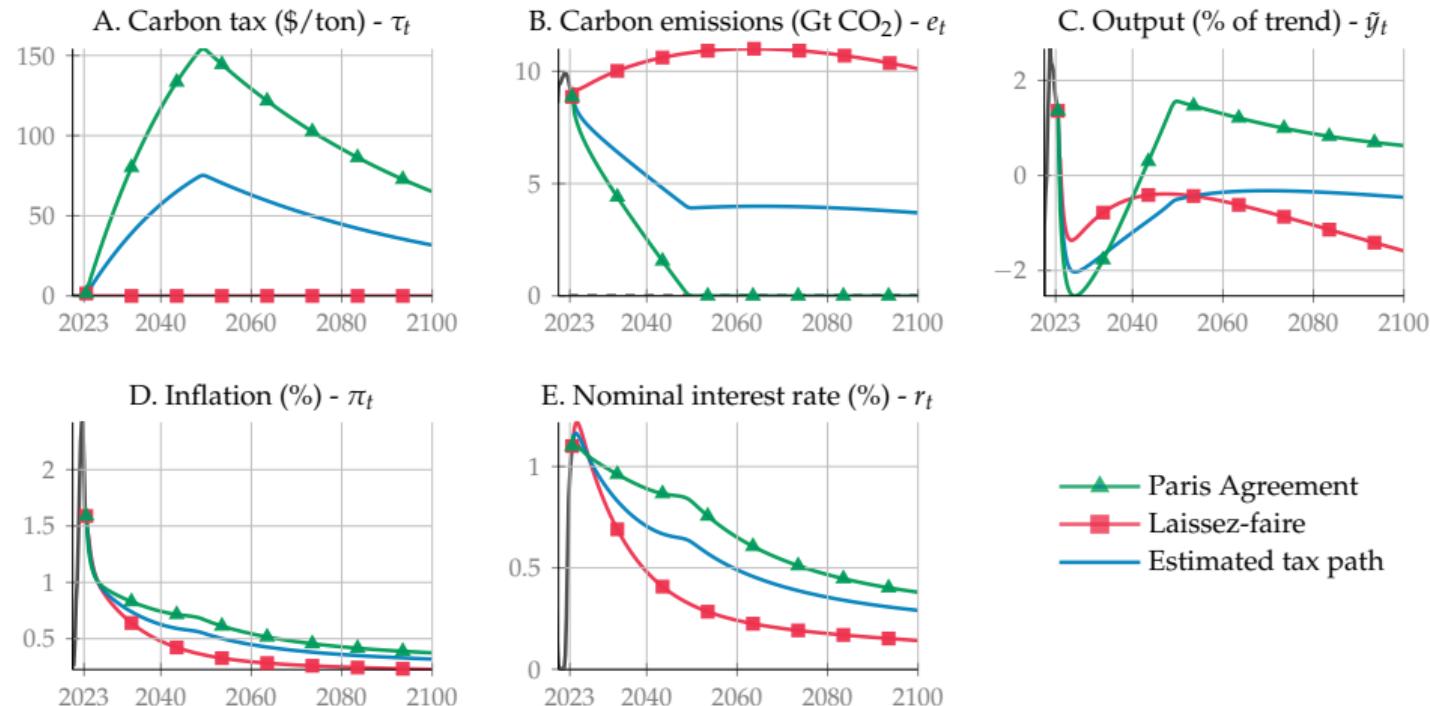


The Anatomy of Green/Climatefation

- What is the future macroeconomic landscape by the end of the century?
- We consider three alternative scenarios based on the realization of the carbon tax $\varphi \tilde{\tau}_t^*$:
 - Paris-Agreement with $\varphi = 1$
 - Estimated carbon path with $\varphi = 0.53$
 - Laissez-faire with $\varphi = 0$

Three Transitions

Figure 2: Model-implied projections based on alternative control rates of emissions



Dissecting the PC curve

- Stabilization objective of a central bank: important to understand how climate affects inflation.
- One can split the marginal cost into three term:

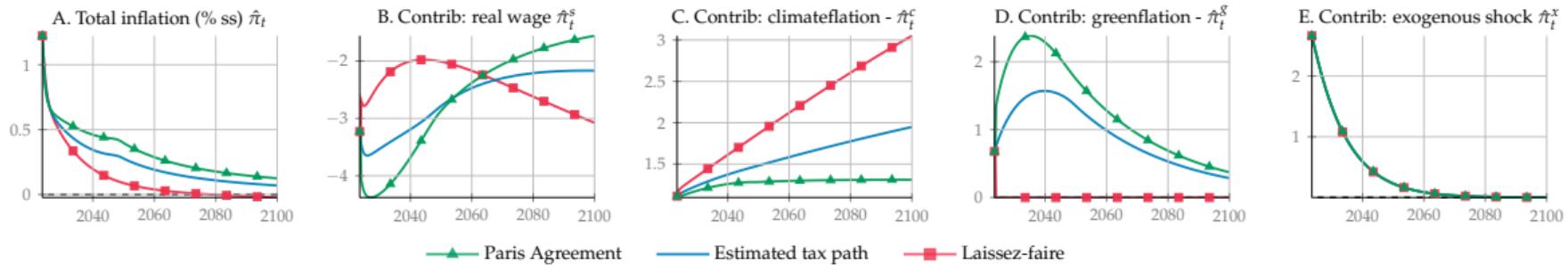
$$mc_t = \underbrace{\tilde{w}_t}_{\text{real wage}} / \underbrace{\Phi(m_t)}_{\text{climateflation}} + \underbrace{\theta_{1,t} \mu_t^{\theta_2} + \tau_{e,t} \sigma_t (1 - \mu_t) \varepsilon_{e,t}}_{\text{greenflation}}, \quad (13)$$

which allows to break down inflation into 4 different forces:

$$\hat{\pi}_t \simeq \underbrace{\hat{\pi}_t^s}_{\text{wage term}} + \underbrace{\hat{\pi}_t^c}_{\text{climateflation}} + \underbrace{\hat{\pi}_t^g}_{\text{greenflation}} + \underbrace{\hat{\pi}_t^x}_{\text{exogenous shocks}} \quad (14)$$

with $\hat{\pi}_t = \pi_t - \pi_t^*$

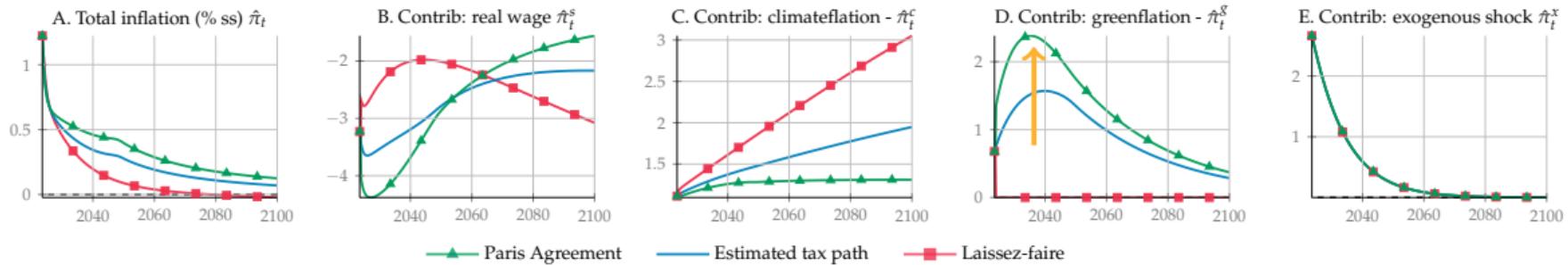
Dissecting the PC curve



- Under Paris Agreement:

- The immediate increase in carbon tax fuels inflation
- General equilibrium effect: increasing abatement expenditures reduces both consumption and in turn the wealth effect on the labor supply
- Net zero stabilizes damages, and hence climateflation

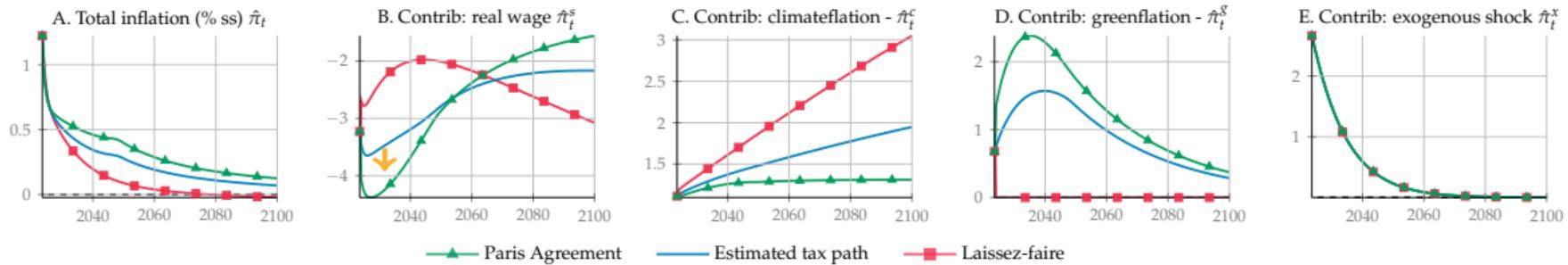
Dissecting the PC curve



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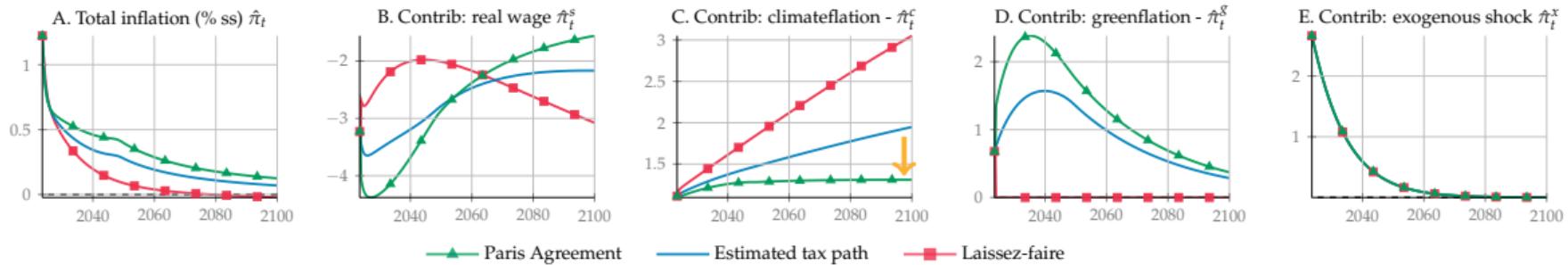
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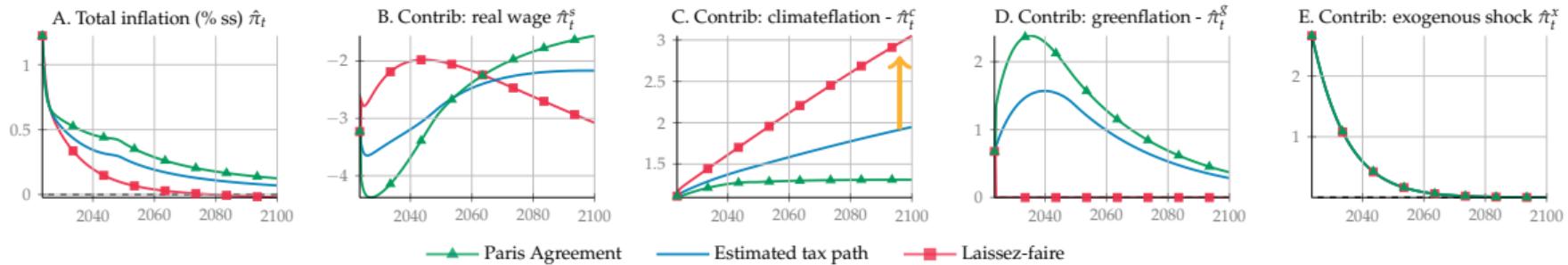
Dissecting the PC curve



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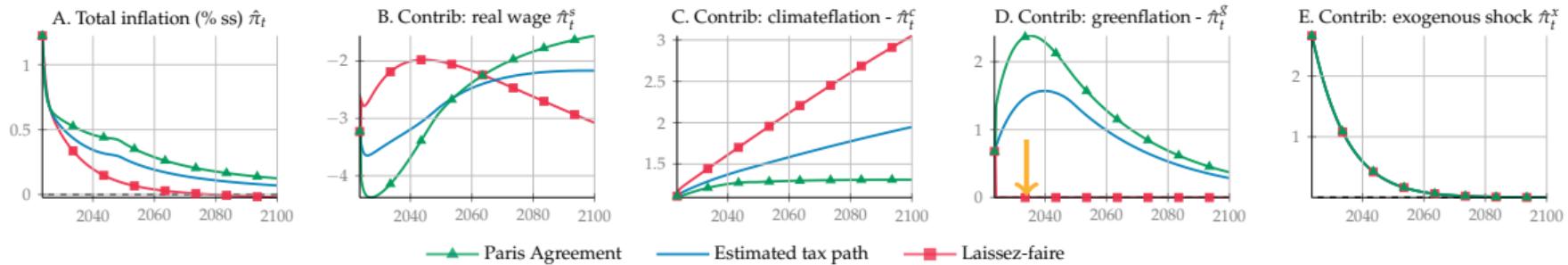
Dissecting the PC curve



- Under Laissez-faire:

- The rising damage makes resources scarcer: ever growing inflation as long as planet warms
- Disengagement from carbon policy makes carbon price to be zero
- General equilibrium effect: real wages fall as climate decreases productivity

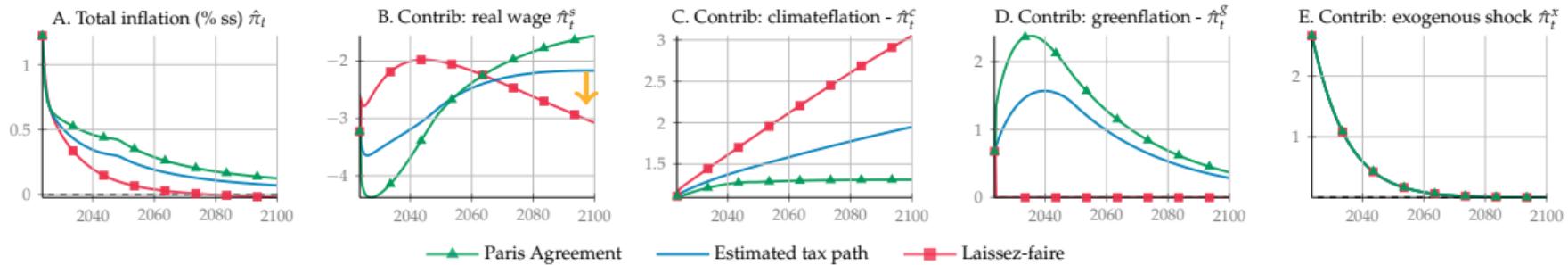
Dissecting the PC curve



- Under **Laissez-faire**:

- The rising damage makes resources scarcer: ever growing inflation as long as planet warms
- **Disengagement from carbon policy makes carbon price to be zero**
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Dissecting the PC curve



- Under Laissez-faire:
 - The rising damage makes resources scarcer: ever growing inflation as long as planet warms
 - Disengagement from carbon policy makes carbon price to be zero
 - General equilibrium effect: real wages fall as climate decreases productivity

→ Let's work on /Codes2/C_NK/Notebook_NK.mlx

Thank you for your attention

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