Drivers of CO2 emissions from electricity generation in the European Union 2000-2015 - Appendix

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Abstract

Carbon emissions from electricity generation in the EU have dropped from 1198 MtCO2 in 2000 to 970 MtCO2 in 2015, after an initial increase to 1304 MtCO2 in 2007. This pattern reversal is not only explained by socioeconomic drivers (namely an initial period of robust economic growth and a later period of weak growth) but by profound shifts in the energy system. This study quantitatively evaluates the drivers of carbon emissions from EU electricity generation during two subperiods, 2000-2007 and 2007-2015. We find that in 2000-2007 the main drivers of the decrease in carbon emissions were changes in the fossil fuel mix (replacement of coal by gas) and improvements the efficiency of electricity use. In 2007-2015 the main drivers of the decrease in carbon emissions were the expansion of renewable electricity, improvements in the efficiency of fossil electricity production and improvements the efficiency of electricity use. We also found that there is significant variation in the drivers of change among countries. We expect the continued expansion of renewables to balance faster economic growth in the future.

KEYWORDS: Electricity sector; Carbon emissions; Decomposition analysis; EU countries

Appendix

Appendix A: Procedure for five renewables

In structural decomposition analysis (SDA) there are n! permutations (Dietzenbacher and Los,1998). De Boer (2009) showed that the (unweighted) arithmetic average, by collecting duplicates, can be reduced to the computation of the weighted average of 2^{n-1} combinations. De Boer and Rodrigues (2019) discussed multiplicative and additive decomposition methods and applied them to the decomposition of carbon dioxide emissions in the Netherlands into five driving factors. The so-called Bennet SDA method is comparable to the procedure we used in this paper to assess the contribution of each of the five renewables.
In this appendix we show that the unweighted arithmetic average of all 5! = 120 permutations (equation 8) is equivalent to the weighted average of 2^4 = 16 combinations (see the Table below.) The five renewables are denoted by the letters A, B, C, D, E and the fossil factor by the letter F. The common logarithmic mean of all permutations is denoted by LMEAN (see equation 5). Without loss of generality we consider renewable A. In a particular permutation we have in the denominator at position 1 always F and A at respectively, the positions 2 up to and including 6.

A at position 2. For positions 3,..., 6 there are 4! = 24 permutations of B through E.
In comparison and base period we have:
$F^1/(F^1+A^1)$ and $F^0/(F^0+A^0)$ and LMEAN* log $\{F^1/(F^1+A^1)/ F^0/(F^0+A^0)$.
It is an additive decomposition so that only this term matters. The weight of this term in the average is 24/120 = 1/5.
In the sequel we use the superscript t which is 1 in comparison and 0 in base period. Moreover, we omit the pertinent definition of LMEAN.
A at position 3. There are four possibilities for position 2: B, C, D or E. For the positions 4- 6 there are 3! = 6 permutations for the three remaining letters. We have:
$(F^t+B^t)/(F^t+B^t+A^t)$ $(F^t+C^t)/(F^t+C^t+A^t)$ $(F^t+D^t)/(F^t+D^t+A^t)$ $(F^t+E^t)/(F^t+E^t+A^t)$
Each one has weight 6/120 = 1/20.
A position 4. For positions 2 and 3 we have 6 possibilities:
$(F^t+B^t+C^t)/(F^t+B^t+C^t+A^t)$ $(F^t+B^t+D^{t)}/(F^t+B^t+D^t+A^t)$ $(F^t+B^t+E^t)$ $/(F^t+B^t+E^t+A^t)$
$(F^t+C^t+D^t)/(F^t+C^t+D^t+A^t)$ $(F^t+C^t+E^t)/(F^t+C^t+E^t+A^t)$ $(F^t+D^t+E^t)/(F^t+D^t+E^t+A^t)$
Each one occurs 4 times, so that each weight is 1/30.
From equation 7 we derive for the final two positions:
A at position 6 as the mirror of 'A at position 2', i.e.
$(TOT^t-A^t)/TOT^t$ with weight 1/5, and
A at position 5 as the mirror of 'A at position 3':
$(TOT^t-B^t-A^t)/TOT^t$ $(TOT^t-C^t-A^t)/TOT^t$ $(TOT^t-D^t-A^t)/TOT^t$ $(TOT^t-E^t-A^t)/TOT^t$
For each one the weight is 1/20.

Summarizing Table with position of A^t (t = 0, 1) and corresponding weight

Posi-tion					Weigh t
2	$F^t/(F^t+A^t)$				1/5
3	$(F^t+B^t)/$ $(F^t+B^t+A^t)$	$(F^t+C^t)/(F^t+C^t+A^t)$	$(F^t+D^t)/$ $(F^t+D^t+A^t)$	$(F^t+E^t)/$ $(F^t+E^t+A^t)$	1/20
4	$(F^t+B^t+C^t)/$ $(F^t+B^t+C^t+A^t)$	$(F^t+B^t+D^t)/$ $(F^t+B^t+D^t+A^t)$	$(F^t+B^t+E^t)/$ $(F^t+B^t+E^t+A^t)$		1/30
4	$(F^t+C^t+D^t)/$ $(F^t+C^t+D^t+A^t)$	$(F^t+C^t+E^t)/$ $(F^t+C^t+E^t+A^t)$	$(F^t+D^t+E^t)/$ $(F^t+D^t+E^t+A^t)$		1/30
5	$(TOT^t-B^t-A^t)/$ TOT^t	$(TOT^t-C^t-A^t)/$ TOT^t	$(TOT^t-D^t-A^t)/$ TOT^t	$(TOT^t-E^t-A^t)/$ TOT^t	1/20

6	$(TOT^t\text{-}A^t)/TOT^t$	1/5

The impact of renewable A on emissions from fossil sources (F) is equal to:
LMEAN x [(1/5) x $A_{2,6}$ + (1/20) x $A_{3,5}$ + (1/30) x A_4]
with:
$A_{2,6} = \log\{(F^1/(F^1+A^1)/F^0/(F^0+A^0)\} + \log\{(TOT^1\text{-}A^1)/TOT^1/(TOT^0\text{-}A^0)/TOT^0\}$
$A_{3,5} = \log\{(F^1+B^1)/(F^1+B^1+A^1)/\ (F^0+B^o)/(F^0+B^0+A^0)\} + ... +$
$\log\{(F^1+E^1)/(F^1+E^1+A^1)/\ (F^0+E^o)/(F^0+E^0+A^0)\} +$
$\log\{(TOT^1\text{-}B^1 - A^1)/TOT^1\ /(TOT^0\text{-}B^0 - A^0)/TOT^0\} + ... +$
$\log\{(TOT^1\text{-}E^1 - A^1)/TOT^1\}\ /(TOT^0\text{-}E^0 - A^0)/TOT^0\}$
$A_4 = \log\{(F^1+B^1+C^1)/(F^1+B^1+C^1+A^1)\}/\ (F^0+B^0+C^0)/(F^0+B^0+C^0+A^0)\} + \dots +$
$\log\{(F^1+D^1+E^1)/(F^1+D^1+E^1+A^1)\}/\ (F^0+D^0+E^0)/(F^0+D^0+E^0+A^0)\}$

References

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Appendix B: Proof of the international trade share formula

The starting data are the reported international trade data without reallocation of reexports, matrix **Z**, and final use of electricity, vector **y**. From these, total output of electricity is obtained as

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{Z}\ \mathbf{i} + \mathbf{y} + \mathbf{exp} \qquad \text{Eq. B1}$$

and domestic production of electricity is calculated as:

$$\mathbf{v}' = \mathbf{x}' - \mathbf{i}'\ \mathbf{Z} - \mathbf{imp}' \qquad \text{Eq. B2}$$

Our assumption is that each unit of electricity delivered by a country (whether for exports or for final use) is generated using the same mix of domestically produced electricity and imports. That is, for country j to deliver one unit of output of electricity it imports from country i a flow of electricity $A_{ij} = Z_{ij} / x_j$, from its domestic production $b_j = v_j / x_j$, and from imports $c_j = imp_j / x_j$. Using the definition of A_{ij} Eq. B1 can be rewritten as:

$$\mathbf{Z} + \mathbf{y} + \mathbf{exp} = \mathbf{x} \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{A}\ \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y} + \mathbf{exp} = \mathbf{x} \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{y} + \mathbf{exp} = \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{A}\ \mathbf{x} \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{y} + \mathbf{exp} = (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})\ \mathbf{x} \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{x} = (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})^{-1}\ (\mathbf{y} + \mathbf{exp}) \qquad \text{Eq. B3}$$

We can now separate the total electricity production into a domestic and export component (appended with superscripts *dom* and *exp*):

$$\mathbf{x}^{dom} = (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})^{-1}\ \mathbf{y} \text{ and } \mathbf{x}^{exp} = (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})^{-1}\ \mathbf{exp} \qquad \text{Eq. B4}$$

We have identified the total electricity output that is generated by final demand in each member state. However, we are not interested in obtaining a vector $\mathbf{x}^{dom}$ (which combines the total electricity output of country i that results from the final demand of all countries), but a matrix $\mathbf{X}^{dom}$ (which identifies the total electricity output in country i that results from final demand in country j), so we diagonalize the demand vector:

$$\mathbf{X}^{dom} = (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})^{-1} \operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{y}) \qquad \text{Eq. B5}$$

Finally, we are interested in obtaining the domestically produced electricity output, which can be obtained by appending the diagonal of vector $\mathbf{b}$ to $\mathbf{X}^{dom}$:

$$\mathbf{R} = \operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{b})\, \mathbf{X}^{dom} = \operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{b})\, (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})^{-1} \operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{y}) \qquad \text{Eq. B6}$$

Entry R_{ij} indicates the electricity domestically produced in country i to satisfy final use in country j. We can also define the vectors of domestic production to satisfy exports, $\mathbf{r}^{exp}$, and imports to satisfy domestic consumption, $\mathbf{r}^{imp}$:

$$\mathbf{r}^{exp} = \operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{b})\, \mathbf{x}^{exp} = \operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{b})\, (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})^{-1}\mathbf{exp} \text{ and } (\mathbf{r}^{imp})' = \mathbf{c}'\, \mathbf{X}^{dom} = \mathbf{c}'\, (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})^{-1} \operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{y}) \qquad \text{Eq. B7}$$

Note that the column sum of $\mathbf{R}$ plus $(\mathbf{r}^{imp})'$ is identical to $\mathbf{y}'$ (the production for final demand in j over all countries and imports matches total final demand of j) and the row sum of $\mathbf{R}$ plus $\mathbf{r}^{exp}$ is identical to $\mathbf{v}$ (the domestic production in i is exhaustively split over the final use of all countries and exports).

That is, we first want to prove that $\mathbf{i}'\, \mathbf{R} + (\mathbf{r}^{imp})' = \mathbf{y}'$:

$$\mathbf{i}'\, \mathbf{R} + (\mathbf{r}^{imp})' = (\mathbf{i}' \operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{b}) + \mathbf{c}')(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})^{-1} \operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{y}) = (\mathbf{b}' + \mathbf{c}')(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})^{-1} \operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{y}' \operatorname{diag}((\mathbf{b}' + \mathbf{c}')\, (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})^{-1})$$

So now we need to prove that $\operatorname{diag}((\mathbf{b}' + \mathbf{c}')\, (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})^{-1}) = \mathbf{I}$

$$\operatorname{diag}((\mathbf{b}' + \mathbf{c}')\, (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})^{-1}) = \mathbf{I} \Leftrightarrow (\mathbf{b}' + \mathbf{c}')\, (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})^{-1} = \mathbf{i}' \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{b}' + \mathbf{c}' = \mathbf{i}'\, (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A}) \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{b}' + \mathbf{c}' + \mathbf{i}'\, \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{i}'$$
$$\Leftrightarrow (\mathbf{v}' + \mathbf{imp}' + \mathbf{i}'\, \mathbf{Z}) \operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{x})^{-1} = \mathbf{i}' \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{v}' + \mathbf{imp}' + \mathbf{i}'\, \mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{i}' \operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{x}) \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{x}'$$

The proof is concluded.

Then we want to prove that $\mathbf{R}\, \mathbf{i} + \mathbf{r}^{exp} = \mathbf{v}$:

$$\mathbf{R}\, \mathbf{i} + \mathbf{r}^{exp} = \operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{b})\, (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})^{-1} \operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{y})\, \mathbf{i} + \mathbf{r}^{exp} =$$

$$\operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{b})\, (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})^{-1}(\mathbf{y} + \mathbf{exp}) = \operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{b})\, \mathbf{x} = \operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{v}) \operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{x})^{-1}\, \mathbf{x} = \operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{x}) \operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{x})^{-1}\, \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}$$

The proof is concluded.