

Small Resource-Rich Economies and the Green Transition

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Big Picture

- (1) Almost every country has signalled or is actively pursuing Net-Zero status
 - ▶ Current policy or in law: 60% of countries
 - ▶ Proposed or pledged: 37% of countries
- (2) Prices of clean inputs are falling
- (3) Adoption of clean energy is increasing

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If these trends hold and the world reaches Net-Zero, what are the welfare implications in fossil-fuel producing economies?

Motivation

- ▶ Net-Zero Targets:
 - ▶ Large Economies: China (2060), Germany (2045), India (2070), Japan (2050), USA (2050)
 - ▶ Small Resource-Rich Economies: Australia (2050), Canada (2050), Nigeria (2070), Norway (2030)

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- ▶ Fossil fuel extraction (coal, oil, gas) accounts for:
 - ▶ Australia: 7.4% of GDP, 35% of value of goods exported
 - ▶ Canada: 3%, 26%
 - ▶ Nigeria: 6%, 90%
 - ▶ Norway: 26%, 67%

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 - ▶ Canada: 3%, 26%
 - ▶ Nigeria: 6%, 90%
 - ▶ Norway: 26%, 67%
- ▶ Little understanding of the welfare impacts of such a transition across households
 - ▶ Age cohorts vs wealth vs region

This Paper

- ▶ I develop a SOE model to study welfare impact of green transition in resource-rich economies

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 - ▶ Two domestic regions: Fossil producing and Clean producing
 - ▶ Demand side: Heterogeneous households
 - ▶ Supply side: 5 sectors (Final good, Non-Energy, Energy, Fossil, Clean)

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 - ▶ Supply side: 5 sectors (Final good, Non-Energy, Energy, Fossil, Clean)
- ▶ Model calibrated to Canadian data.
 - ▶ Given this context, “fossil” maps to “oil and gas”
 - ▶ “Fossil” region = Alberta, “Clean” region = BC, Ontario, Québec
 - ▶ Price of oil exogenous (hence “open” economy)

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 - ▶ Price of oil exogenous (hence “open” economy)
- ▶ Two quantitative exercises:
 - (1) How **did** the rise of oil prices from 1997-2020 affect welfare across households?
 - (2) How **will** a global green transition affect welfare across households?

Key Results: Oil price boom, 1997-2020

- ▶ Model is able to replicate several differences between regions along transition path
- ▶ 2000s oil price boom was welfare enhancing, impacts are heterogeneous:
 - ▶ Both regions benefited, but Fossil region (Alberta) welfare gains higher
 - ▶ Youngest workers at bottom of income distribution benefited the most

Key Results: Transition to Net-Zero 2050

- ▶ Modeled as a simultaneous boom in clean productivity and collapse in fossil demand
- ▶ Path to Net-Zero is welfare diminishing, but effects are heterogeneous
 - ▶ Fall in oil demand produces negative welfare effects
 - ▶ Magnitude depends on reduction targets (how much fossil demand declines by 2050)
 - ▶ Youngest workers at bottom of income distribution lose the most

Contribution

- ▶ Economics of the green transition
 - ▶ Acemoglu et al. (2016), Baldwin et al. (2020), Arkolakis and Walsh (2023), Besley and Persson (2023)
 - ▶ ***First paper to study welfare impacts of a clean energy transition across generations/regions/income***

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 - ▶ ***First paper to model regional energy production differences in small resource-rich countries***
- ▶ Extraction booms and the economy
 - ▶ Hassler and Sinn (2016), Leach (2022), Loertscher and Pujolas (2024)
 - ▶ ***First paper to measure the distributional welfare impacts of the resource boom across generations/regions/income***

Outline

1. Background
2. Model
3. Calibration
4. Validation
5. Oil Boom Transition
6. Net-Zero transition
7. Conclusion

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Background: Most of the world signalling/pursuing Net-Zero goals

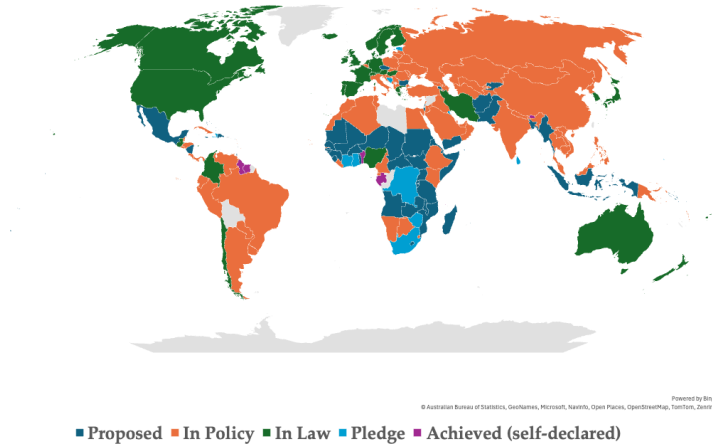


Figure 1: Source: Energy and Climate Intelligence Unit, Data-Driven EnviroLab, NewClimate Institute, Oxford Net Zero - Net Zero Tracker (2023)

Background: Price of clean inputs falling

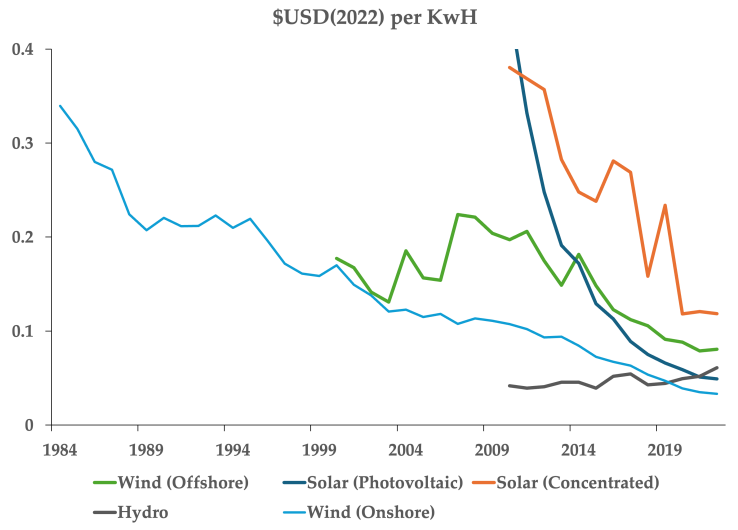


Figure 2: Source: International Renewable Energy Agency (2023)

Background: Adoption of clean energy rising

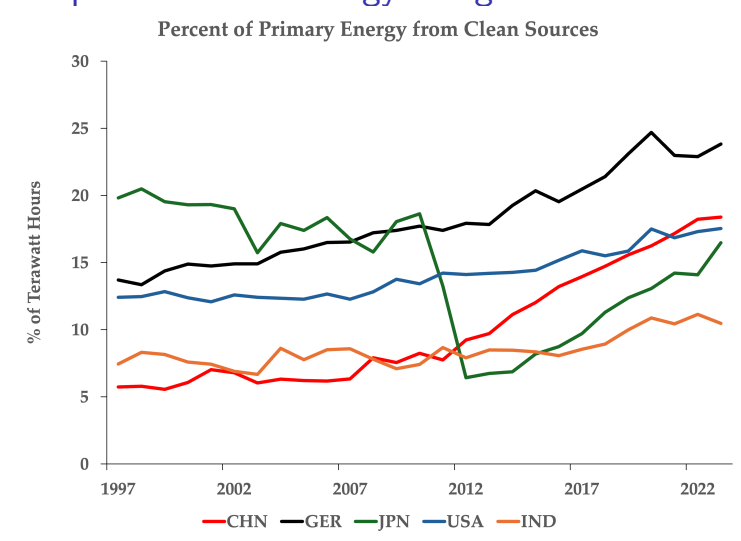


Figure 3: Source: Energy Institute - Statistical Review of World Energy (2024)

Takeaways

- ▶ (Nearly) every country is signalling Net-Zero as a target within the next 30-50 years
- ▶ Prices of clean energy sources are falling
- ▶ Adoption of clean energy is rising among main trading partners for resource-rich economies

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Model

I build a Small Open Economy multi-sector model

- ▶ 2 regions: One produces fossil inputs, one produces clean inputs
- ▶ Households: OLG, Heterogeneous Agent model à la Aiyagari (1994), Bewley (1977), Huggett (1993) and Imrohoroglu (1989)
- ▶ Production: Final good, Energy, Clean, Fossil, Non-Energy as in Fried et al. (2022)
- ▶ Price of fossil good (oil) assumed to be exogenous
 - ▶ Trade balances every period (international demand reflected in price)

Household Demographics

- ▶ Continuum of households, distributed uniformly over two regions
- ▶ Households can be of working age or retired, live for a max of J years
- ▶ Workers:
 - ▶ Idiosyncratic, stochastic ability
 - ▶ Supply labour inelastically, make savings decisions
 - ▶ Receive bequests and profits from Fossil or Clean sectors (depending on location)
- ▶ Retirees:
 - ▶ Forced retirement at age j_{ret}
 - ▶ Receive retirement benefits, bequests and profits
- ▶ All households face age specific probability of dying

Household Endowments

- ▶ Idiosyncratic productivity:
 - ▶ $\epsilon \in \{\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_N\}$
 - ▶ Follows AR(1) process with

$$\log \epsilon' = \rho_\epsilon \log \epsilon + e, \quad e \sim N(0, 1)$$

- ▶ Age specific productivity θ_j for $j \in \{1, \dots, j_{ret} - 1\}$
- ▶ Initial capital endowment: bequest
- ▶ Time endowments ℓ_s , depending on region $s \in \{A, B\}$

Household Problem

$$V(j, a, \epsilon, s) = \max_{a', q} \frac{q^{1-\sigma}}{1-\sigma} + \psi_j \beta \mathbb{E}_{\epsilon'|\epsilon} V(j+1, a', \epsilon', s)$$

subject to

$$(1 + \tau_{q,s})q + a' = \begin{cases} w_s \epsilon \theta_j \ell_s + (1+r)(a+b) + \pi_s - T(y) & \text{if } j < j_{ret} \\ ss + (1+r)(a+b) + \pi_s - T(y) & \text{if } j \geq j_{ret} \end{cases}$$
$$q, a' \geq 0$$

- ▶ (a, b, ϵ, j) : assets, accidental bequests, idiosyncratic productivity, age
- ▶ (θ_j, ψ_j) : age specific productivity and survival probability
- ▶ $\pi_s = \begin{cases} \pi_F & \text{if } s = A \\ \pi_C & \text{if } s = B \end{cases}$

Taxation

- ▶ Households pay region specific consumption taxes $\tau_{q,s}$ and progressive income taxes
- ▶ Income tax function

$$T(y) = y - \lambda y^{1-\tau_y}$$

where

$$y = \begin{cases} w_s \epsilon \theta_j \ell_s + (1+r)(a+b) + \pi_s & \text{if } j < j_{ret} \\ (1+r)(a+b) + \pi_s & \text{if } j \geq j_{ret} \end{cases}$$

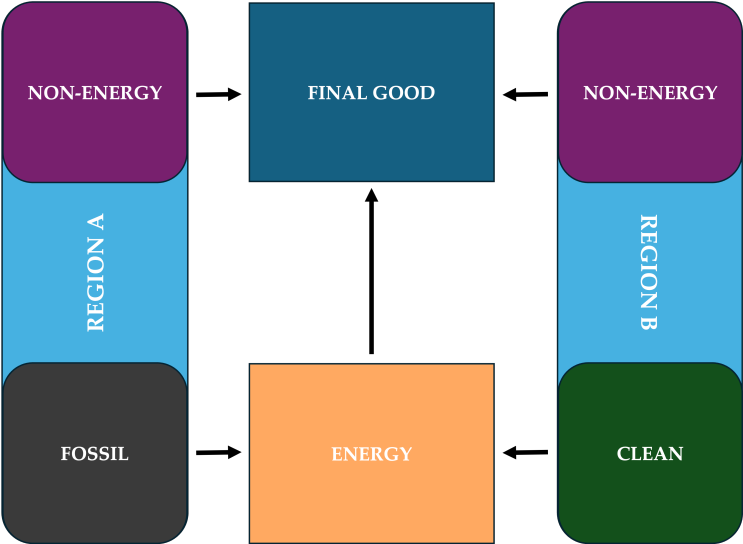
Production Geography

- ▶ Each region produces a specific non-energy intermediate and energy intermediate
- ▶ Energy Intermediates:
 - ▶ Region A: produces fossil input
 - ▶ Region B: produces clean input

Production Structure

- ▶ Final Good is produced from **Energy** and **Non-Energy** inputs
 - ▶ **Energy** input is produced using **Fossil** inputs from Region A and **Clean** inputs from Region B
 - ▶ **Non-Energy** input is produced using differentiated, region specific inputs from each region

Production Overview



Fossil Producers in Region A

- ▶ Fossil energy good Y_F produced using capital K_F , labour L_F , and fossil intermediate $x_{F,F}$ in Region A

$$\max_{K_F, L_F, x_{F,F}} p_F Y_F - (r + \delta) K_F - w_A L_F - p_F x_{F,F}$$

subject to

$$Y_F = \min\{Z_F(K_F^\gamma L_F^{1-\gamma})^{\nu_F}, \mu_F x_{F,F}\}$$
$$\nu_F \in (0, 1)$$

Clean Producers in Region B

- The clean energy good Y_C is produced using capital K_C and labour L_C in Region B

$$\max_{K_C, L_C} p_C Y_C - (r + \delta) K_C - w_B L_C$$

subject to

$$Y_C = Z_C (K_C^\eta L_C^{1-\eta})^{\nu_C}$$
$$\nu_C \in (0, 1)$$

Energy Producers

- ▶ The final energy good Y_E is produced using clean and fossil intermediates $x_{C,E}$, $x_{F,E}$

$$\max_{x_{C,E}, x_{F,E}} p_E Y_E - p_C x_{C,E} - p_F x_{F,E}$$

subject to

$$Y_E = \left(x_{C,E}^{\rho_E} + x_{F,E}^{\rho_E} \right)^{\frac{1}{\rho_E}}$$

Non-Energy Producers

- ▶ Non-Energy intermediates Y_s (for $s \in \{A, B\}$) is produced using capital K_s and labour L_s

$$\max_{K_s, L_s} p_s Y_s - (r + \delta)K_s - w_s L_s$$

subject to

$$Y_s = Z(K_s^\alpha L_s^{1-\alpha})$$

Final Good Producers

- ▶ Final good is produced using non-energy intermediates $x_{A,Y}$, $x_{B,Y}$ and an energy intermediate $x_{E,Y}$

$$\max_{x_{A,Y}, x_{B,Y}, x_{E,Y}} Y - p_A x_{A,Y} - p_B x_{B,Y} - p_E x_{E,Y}$$

subject to

$$Y = \min \left\{ (x_{A,Y}^{\rho_Y} + x_{B,Y}^{\rho_Y})^{1/\rho_Y}, \mu_Y x_{E,Y} \right\}$$

Government

- ▶ The government consumes the final good, and pays social security transfers.
- ▶ Government budget balances each period so that

$$SS + G = \tau_{q,A} Q_A + \tau_{q,B} Q_B + \int T(y) d\Omega$$

- ▶ $G = gY$, $g \in (0, 1)$
- ▶ Ω : distribution across types (j, a, ϵ, s)

Closing the model

- ▶ An equilibrium follows the usual definition of a stationary, recursive equilibrium
- ▶ Key equation: ***Trade balances every period so that***

$$(Y - Q_A - Q_B - I - G) + p_F(Y_F - x_{F,F} - x_{F,E}) = 0$$

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Calibration: Parametrization

A period corresponds to 4 years in the data

Parameter		Description	Value
σ	Risk Aversion	Standard	2
β	Discount factor	Annualized discount factor of 0.96	0.85
δ	Capital depreciation	Annualized depreciation of 0.05	0.19
ρ_E	Elasticity of sub. in Energy prod.	Papageorgiou et al. (2017)	0.66
ρ_Y	Elasticity of sub. in Non-Energy prod.	Albrecht and Tombe (2016)	0.80

Calibration: Externally Calibrated Parameters

	Parameter	Description	Value
	α	Capital share Non-Energy	Labour share
	ν_C	DRS parameter	profit-to-revenue ratio in Clean
	η	Capital share Clean	Labour share in Clean
	ν_F	DRS parameter	profit-to-revenue ratio in Oil
	γ	Capital share Oil	Labour share in Oil & Gas
	$\mu_{E,Y}$	Intermediate use of energy	I/O Table
	$\mu_{F,F}$	Intermediate use of oil	I/O Table
	$\tau_{q,A}$	Consumption tax rate in AB	StatsCan tables
	$\tau_{q,B}$	Consumption tax rate in ROC	StatsCan tables
	τ_y	Income Tax progressivity	StatsCan tables
	g	Government consumption	I/O Table
	ℓ_A	Hours worked per capita, AB	StatsCan tables
	$Z_{A,1997}, Z_{B,1997}$	TFP in non-energy	StatsCan tables
	$Z_{A,2020}, Z_{B,2020}$	TFP in non-energy	StatsCan tables
	$p_{F,1997}$	Real price of oil	FRED data
	$p_{F,2020}$	Real price of oil	FRED data
	θ_j	Age spec. productivity	GRID
	ψ_j	Age spec. survival probabilities	StatsCan tables
			Time Series
			Time Series

Calibration: Internally Calibrated Parameters

Determined outside of equilibrium

Parameter	Target	Source	Data	Model	Value
ρ_{ϵ}	ACF 1 period log res. earnings	GRID	0.74	0.74	0.75
σ_{ϵ}^2	SD 1 period Δ log res. earnings	GRID	0.53	0.53	0.21

Determined in equilibrium

Parameter	Target	Source	Data	Model	Value
Z_F^{1997}	K_F/\bar{K} in 1997	StatsCan	0.10	0.10	1.66
Z_F^{2020}	K_F/\bar{K} in 2022	StatsCan	0.22	0.22	1.46
Z_C^{1997}	Pct. clean in 1997	OWID	0.37	0.37	0.32
Z_C^{2020}	Pct. clean in 2022	OWID	0.36	0.36	0.29

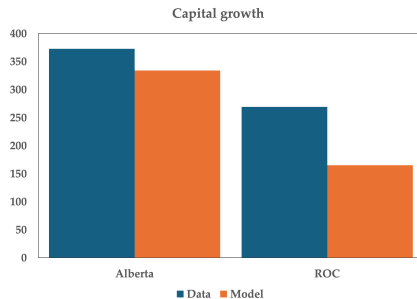
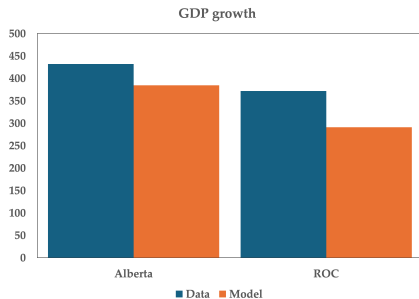
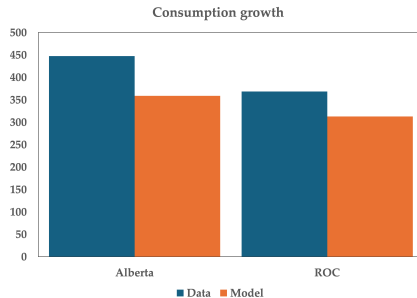
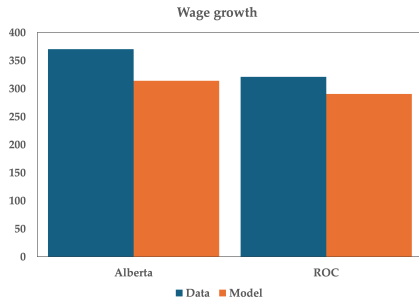
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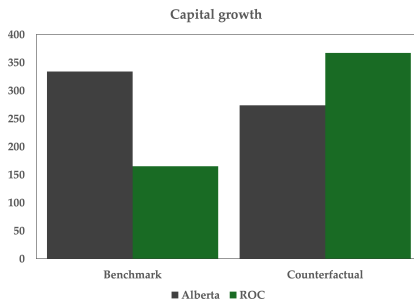
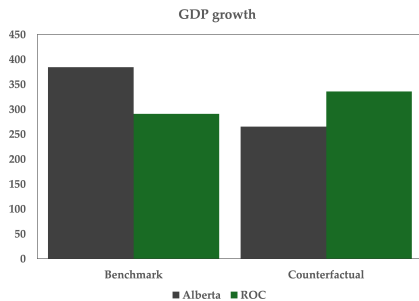
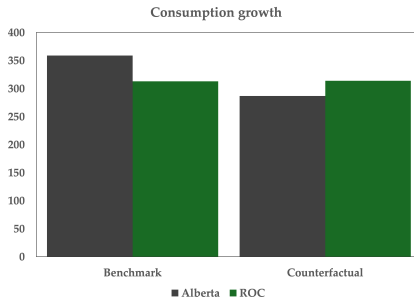
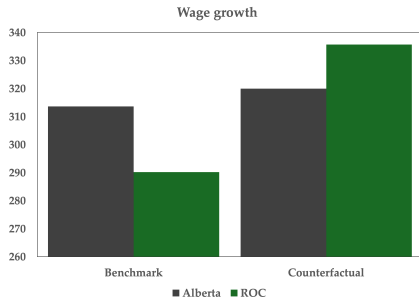
Model Validation

- ▶ I compare model to data on a number of untargeted moments across the two regions:
 - ▶ Wage growth
 - ▶ Consumption growth
 - ▶ GDP growth
 - ▶ Capital growth
- ▶ To validate the main mechanism, I compare these moments in the benchmark calibration against a counterfactual world where p_F stays at the 1997 level

Model Validation: Untargeted moments



Mechanism Validation



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Oil boom transition

- ▶ I evaluate the welfare impact of the rise in oil prices between 1997 and 2020 along the transition path
- ▶ I compare the benchmark transition to a counterfactual transition where p_F stayed at 1997 level

Welfare results

	p_F const
CEV, Aggregate	-10.41%
CEV, Region A	-11.65%
CEV, Region B	-8.60%

- ▶ Absence of oil price boom leads to average CEV that is 10% lower
- ▶ Loss of welfare in counterfactual world strongest in Fossil producing region

Welfare results: Age groups and Region

Age	p_F const	
	Region A	Region B
20-35	-13.18 %	-9.74 %
36-51	-11.53 %	-8.37 %
52-67	-9.12 %	-6.50 %
68-83	-7.08 %	-5.09 %
84-99	-7.44 %	-2.88 %

- ▶ Youngest cohort experience highest welfare losses from absence of boom
- ▶ Lowest losses experienced by retirees
- ▶ Region A households lose the most across all age groups

Welfare results: Age, Income, Region

Region A					
	First Quintile	Second Quintile	Third Quintile	Fourth Quintile	Fifth Quintile
20-34	-13.61%	-10.72%	-9.70%	-9.27%	-9.07%
35-49	-13.51%	-10.82%	-9.31%	-8.64%	-8.27%
50-64	-11.29%	-8.99%	-7.74%	-7.36%	-7.29%

Region B					
20-34	-9.96%	-8.80%	-8.59%	-8.90%	-8.97%
35-49	-9.14%	-8.09%	-8.11%	-8.14%	-8.25%
50-64	-6.30%	-6.38%	-6.61%	-6.87%	-7.29%

- Absence of boom produced highest welfare losses for youngest, lowest income groups

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Net-Zero transition

- ▶ I evaluate welfare impact of a transition to Net-Zero following International Energy Agency's roadmap:
 - ▶ Clean inputs account for 90% of domestic energy production by 2050
 - ▶ Fossil demand falls by 50%

Net-Zero transition

- ▶ I evaluate welfare impact of a transition to Net-Zero following International Energy Agency's roadmap:
 - ▶ Clean inputs account for 90% of domestic energy production by 2050
 - ▶ Fossil demand falls by 50%
- ▶ I evaluate the welfare impact this benchmark and compare it to:
 - (1) A counterfactual world where fossil prices remain at 2020 level
 - (2) A counterfactual world where fossil demand falls by 90%

Net-Zero transition

- ▶ I evaluate welfare impact of a transition to Net-Zero following International Energy Agency's roadmap:
 - ▶ Clean inputs account for 90% of domestic energy production by 2050
 - ▶ Fossil demand falls by 50%
- ▶ I evaluate the welfare impact this benchmark and compare it to:
 - (1) A counterfactual world where fossil prices remain at 2020 level
 - (2) A counterfactual world where fossil demand falls by 90%
- ▶ Main take away: transition to Net-Zero produces welfare losses, but scale of decline matters
 - ▶ IEA roadmap (50% decline in fossil production) carries welfare losses of $<1\%$ across all types
 - ▶ Across all scenarios, youngest and poorest households experience greatest losses

Benchmark: Fossil production falls by 50%

Region A					
	First Quintile	Second Quintile	Third Quintile	Fourth Quintile	Fifth Quintile
20-34	0.81%	0.65%	0.58%	0.55%	0.54%
35-49	0.77%	0.63%	0.55%	0.52%	0.50%
50-64	0.63%	0.53%	0.47%	0.45%	0.44%

Region B					
20-34	0.57%	0.49%	0.49%	0.49%	0.50%
35-49	0.52%	0.47%	0.46%	0.46%	0.47%
50-64	0.38%	0.37%	0.38%	0.39%	0.41%

- ▶ Absence of falling Fossil demand produces small welfare gains, $<1\%$ across all groups
- ▶ Largest gains are poorest, youngest in Region A

Counterfactual: Fossil demand falls by 90%

Region A					
	First Quintile	Second Quintile	Third Quintile	Fourth Quintile	Fifth Quintile
20-34	5.81%	4.56%	4.11%	3.90%	3.80%
35-49	5.52%	4.44%	3.88%	3.63%	3.51%
50-64	4.46%	3.74%	3.30%	3.13%	3.09%

Region B					
20-34	4.01%	3.50%	3.48%	3.49%	3.55%
35-49	3.68%	3.30%	3.23%	3.25%	3.31%
50-64	2.68%	2.63%	2.68%	2.77%	2.88%

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Conclusion

- ▶ I develop a comprehensive model to analyze the welfare impacts of changes in global demand for fossil fuels in a resource-rich economy
- ▶ Oil price boom period was most beneficial for young, lowest income households in fossil region
- ▶ Transition to Net-Zero produces heterogeneous welfare losses
 - ▶ Youngest cohorts, lowest income groups experience largest losses
 - ▶ Magnitude of losses depend strongly on size of decline in fossil production
 - ▶ Losses smaller than gains from boom period
- ▶ Areas for future research: role of policy to compensate losers, local labour market responses, effects on trade in other industries

Thank you

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Appendix

Equilibrium

- (1) Given prices, bequests, profits, tax policies and transfers, households maximize lifetime expected utility
- (2) Given prices and factor allocations, firms in each sector maximize profits
- (3) Markets clear (for Y_E , Y_C , capital and labour in each region)
- (4) Given tax rates and transfer policies, the government budget is balanced
- (5) Trade is balanced

$$(Y - Q_A - Q_B - I - G) + p_F(Y_F - x_{F,F} - x_{F,E}) = 0$$