

# Globalization and the Environment

Joseph S. Shapiro  
UC Berkeley and NBER

May 2024

# Globalization Important for the Environment

- **Important**

- Trade, foreign investment drive environmental outcomes
  - ▶ Climate change, species extinction, air/water pollution, groundwater exploitation
- International air/sea fastest growing broad sector for CO<sub>2</sub>
- Trade provides carrots and sticks

- **Policy debates**

- Carbon border adjustments
- Climate clubs
- Climate finance
- Trade policy for solar panels, electric vehicles, batteries, rare earth minerals
- Inflation Reduction Act / friendshoring

- **Research**

- Burgeoning combination of questions, policies, theory, methods, data

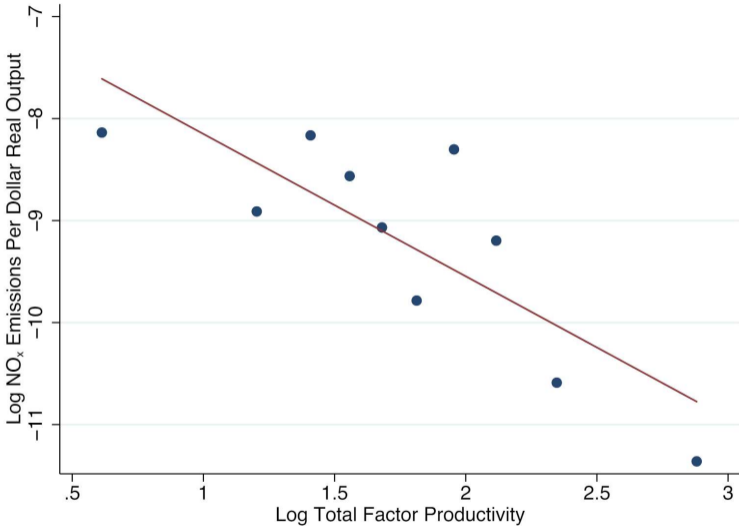
# Globalization and the Environment: Research Questions

- **How do globalization and international economic policy affect the environment?**
  - How do tariffs affect greenhouse gas emissions?
  - Does globalization cause a “race to the bottom” in environmental policy?
- **How do environmental goods and policies affect globalization?**
  - When does environmental policy constitute protectionism?
  - How do carbon border adjustments, climate clubs affect the economy?
- **Intellectual arbitrage between international and environmental economics?**
  - Can trade data/models/methods help measure marginal cost of abating pollution?
  - How do environmental goods affect comparative advantage?

# Agenda for Today

- **Stylized facts**
- Summarize the subfield
- Toy model
- Policy
- Conclusions

# Stylized Fact #1: Productive Firms Have Lower Pollution Intensity



Source: Shapiro and Walker, 2018, "Why is Pollution from US Manufacturing Declining?" *American Economic Review*

## Stylized Fact #2: Dirty Industries are More Exposed to Trade

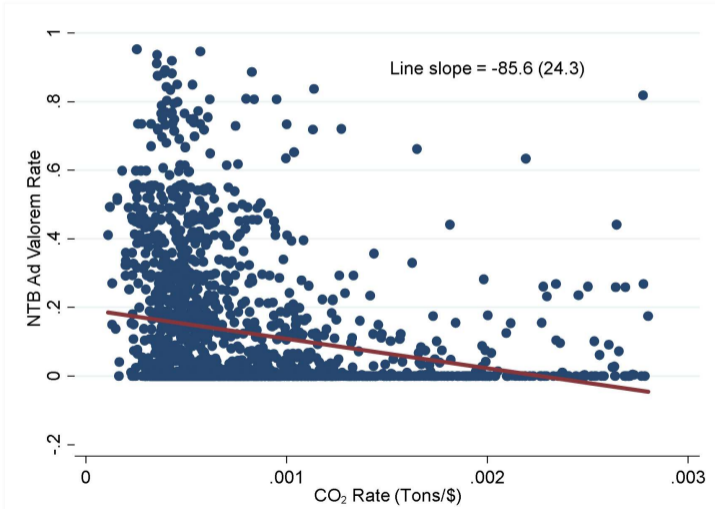
Table 1: Cleanest and Dirtiest Industries in Global Data

	Direct Emission Rate		Total Emission Rate		Total Output (\$trillion)	Output Traded (%)	Upstreamness
	CO <sub>2</sub>	NO <sub>x</sub>	CO <sub>2</sub>	NO <sub>x</sub>			
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)			
<i>Panel A. Cleanest industries</i>							
Real estate activities	8	0.0	84	0.3	\$7.9	0.6%	1.5
Financial intermediation	11	0.0	101	0.3	\$7.2	7.0%	2.3
Equipment & machine rentals	28	0.1	166	0.6	\$10.0	8.6%	2.7
Wholesale trade	25	0.1	201	0.8	\$5.9	7.9%	2.2
Retail fuel; vehicle repair, sales	34	0.1	186	0.6	\$1.2	1.2%	1.9
<i>Mean of cleanest 5 industries</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>0.1</i>	<i>148</i>	<i>0.5</i>	<i>\$6.4</i>	<i>5.1%</i>	<i>2.1</i>
<i>Panel B. Dirtiest industries</i>							
Coke, oil refining, nuclear fuel	359	0.5	984	2.4	\$2.5	22.9%	2.7
Air transport	1,227	4.8	1,613	6.0	\$0.6	31.0%	2.1
Water transport	1,147	12.7	1,681	16.0	\$0.6	40.6%	2.9
Other non-metallic mineral	1,332	4.0	2,291	6.4	\$1.3	11.2%	2.6
Electricity, gas, water supply	3,295	5.6	4,324	7.8	\$3.4	2.1%	2.8
<i>Mean of dirtiest 5 industries</i>	<i>1,472</i>	<i>5.5</i>	<i>2,179</i>	<i>7.7</i>	<i>\$1.7</i>	<i>21.5%</i>	<i>2.6</i>

Source: Copeland, Shapiro, and Taylor, 2022, "Globalization and the Environment," *Handbook of International Economics*

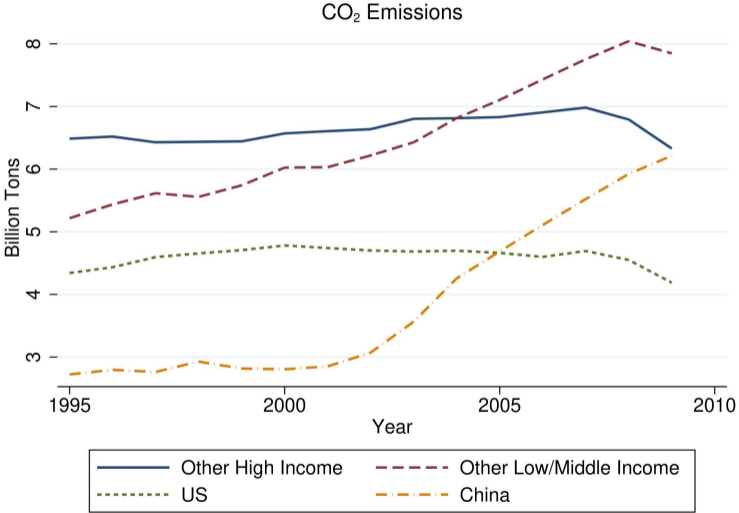
# Stylized Fact #3: Dirty Industries Face Lower Trade Protection

Panel E. Actual global non-tariff barriers



Source: Shapiro, 2021, "The Environmental Bias of Trade Policy," *Quarterly Journal of Economics*

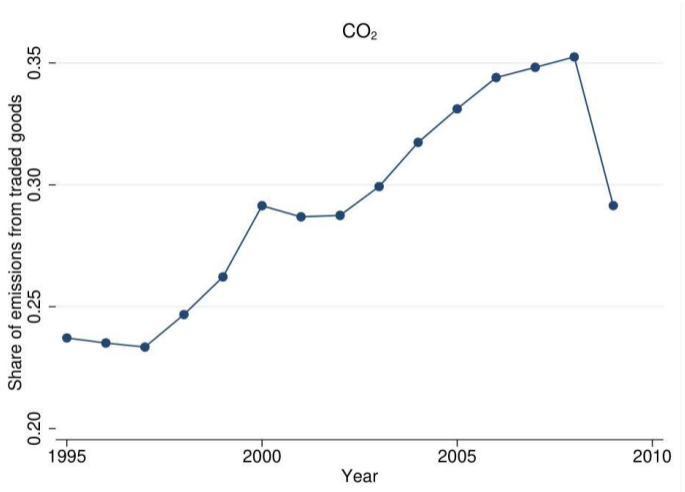
# Stylized Fact #4: Emissions Growth is from Non-Rich Countries



Source: Copeland, Shapiro, and Taylor, 2022, "Globalization and the Environment," *Handbook of International Economics*



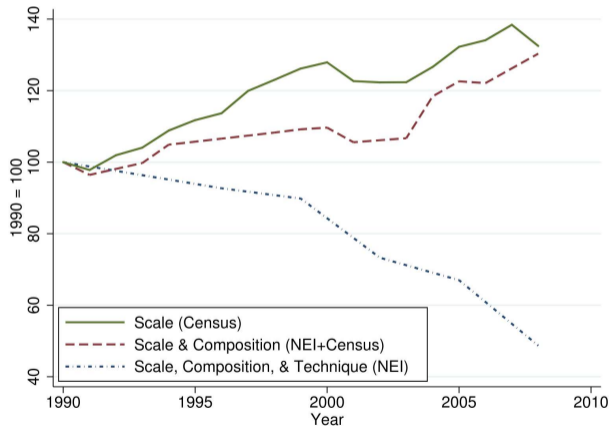
# Stylized Fact #5: Int'l Trade Accounts for Over a Fourth of Emissions



Source: Copeland, Shapiro, and Taylor, 2022, "Globalization and the Environment," *Handbook of International Economics*

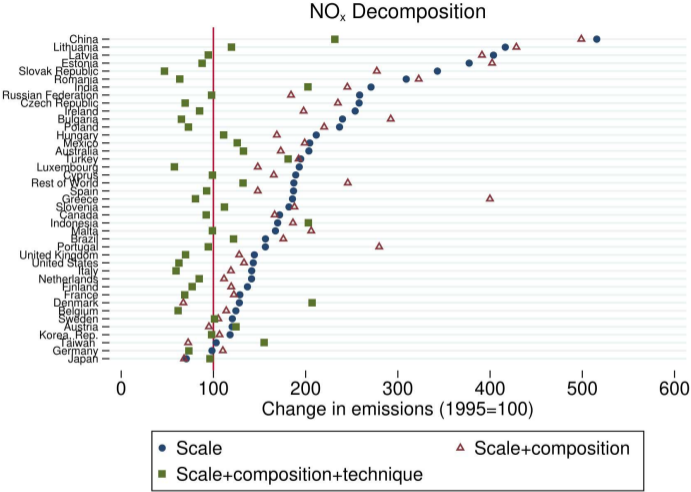
## Stylized Fact #6: Technique Exceeds Composition in Time Series (1/2)

Figure 3: Nitrogen Oxides Emissions From United States Manufacturing



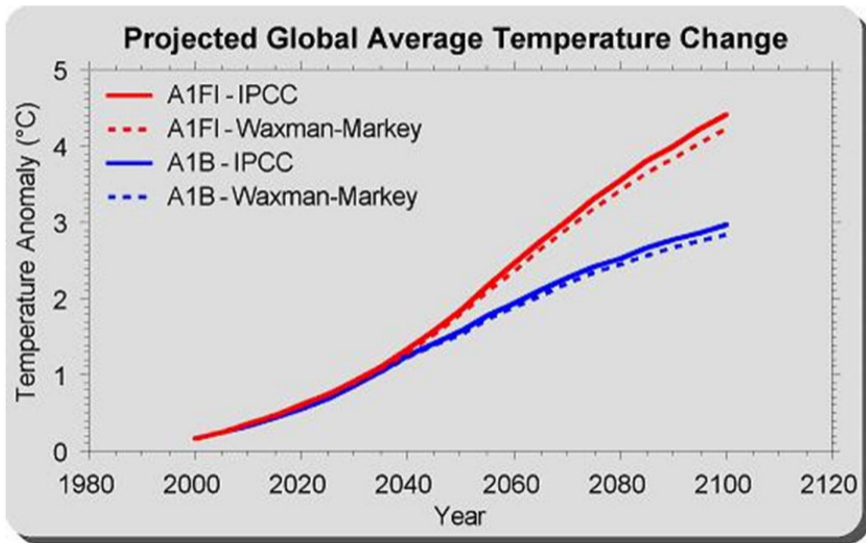
Source: Shapiro and Walker, 2018, "Why is Pollution from US Manufacturing Declining?" *American Economic Review*

# Stylized Fact #6: Technique Exceeds Composition in Time Series (2/2)



Source: Copeland, Shapiro, and Taylor, 2022, "Globalization and the Environment," *Handbook of International Economics*

## Stylized Fact #7: Global Problems Need Global Solutions



# Agenda for Today

- Stylized facts
- **Summarize the subfield**
- Toy Model
- Policy
- Conclusions

# Trade and Environment Research: Classic

- **1970s/80s: highly stylized—Pethig, Markusen**
- **1990s: NAFTA, Grossman and Krueger (QJE 1995)**
  - Environmental Kuznets Curve
  - Scale, composition, technique
- **1990s/2000s: Stylized Models, Reduced-form Regressions**
  - Copeland & Taylor (2005), *Trade and the Environment*
  - Frankel & Rose (*REStat* 2005), “Is trade good or bad for the environment”

# Globalization and Environment Research: Current (1/3)

## Organized by method, approach:

- **Quantitative trade models**

- Nordhaus (AER 2015), “Climate Clubs”
- Shapiro (AEJ:Policy 2016), “Trade Costs, CO<sub>2</sub>, and the Environment”
- Farrokhi & Lashkaripour (2024), “Can Trade Policy Mitigate Climate Change?”

- **Political economy, trade policy**

- Shapiro (2021), “The Environmental Bias of Trade Policy”
- Hsiao (2024) “Coordination and Commitment in International Climate Action”

- **Dynamic quantitative spatial equilibrium models**

- Balboni (2024), “In Harm’s Way?”
- Rossi-Hansberg et al. (2015, 2021, 2024, ...)

# Globalization and Environment Research: Current (2/3)

## Organized by method, approach:

- **Multinational production**

- Castro-Vincenzi (2024), "Climate Hazards and Resilience in the Global Car Industry"
- Garcia-Lembergman et al. (2024), "The Carbon Footprint of Multinational Production"

- **Agriculture**

- Costinot, Donaldson, and Smith (JPE 2016), "Evolving Comparative Advantage"
- Carleton, Crews, Nath (2024), "Agriculture, Trade, and Spatial Efficiency..."
- Farrokhi et al. (2024), "Deforestation: A Global and Dynamic Perspective"
- Dominguez-lino (2024), "Efficiency and Redistribution in Environmental Policy"

- **Industry studies**

- Arkolakis & Walsh (2024), "Clean Growth"
- Allcott, Shapiro, & Tintelnot (2024), "Buy American"



# Globalization and Environment Research: Current (3/3)

## Organized by question:

- **How can trade/investment policy support climate policy?**
  - Nordhaus (2015), Shapiro (2016, 2021), Garcia-Lembergman et al. (2024), Farrokhi & Lashkaripour (2024), Hsiao (2024)
- **What are spatial impacts of climate change, how should policy reflect them?**
  - Balboni (2024), Rossi-Hansberg et al. (2021, 2024, ...)
- **How does trade affect adaptation to climate change?**
  - Costinot, Donaldson, & Smith (2016),
- **How does trade, int'l policy affect other environmental goods?**
  - Carleton, Crews, Nath (2024), Dominguez-lino (2024), Farrokhi et al. (2024)

# Agenda for Today

- Stylized facts
- Summarize the subfield
- **Toy model**
- Policy
- Conclusions

# Toy Model (ACR)

**Preferences:**

$$U_j = \left[ \sum_{i=1}^n q_{ij}^{(\sigma-1)/\sigma} \right]^{\sigma/(\sigma-1)}$$

**Prices:**

$$P_j = \left[ \sum_{i=1}^n (w_i \tau_{ij})^{1-\sigma} \right]^{1/(1-\sigma)}$$

**Trade:**

$$X_{ij} = (w_i \tau_{ij} / P_j)^{1-\sigma} Y_j$$

**Equilibrium:**

$$Y_i = w_i L_i$$

**Welfare:**

$$\hat{W}_j = \hat{\lambda}_{jj}^{1/(1-\sigma)}$$

# Toy Model: Environmental Extensions

- **Industries**

- Dirty versus clean
- Input-output: energy goods upstream

- **Factors**

- Natural resources: energy, water, land
- Complementarity: dirty industries capital-intensive

- **Policy**

- Pollution taxes, standards
- Tariffs, NTBs, investment subsidies

- **Other assumptions**

- Trade imbalances: production v. consumption emissions
- Market structure: polluting industries concentrated
- Economic geography: spatially resolved environmental goods

# Agenda for Today

- Stylized facts
- Summarize the subfield
- Toy model
- **Policy**
- Conclusions

# Carbon Border Adjustments: Estimates With All Countries

Country	Non-Cooperative Border Taxes			Cooperative Carbon Taxes		
	$\Delta \text{CO}_2$	$\Delta V$	$\Delta W$	$\Delta \text{CO}_2$	$\Delta V$	$\Delta W$
EU	0.7%	-1.2%	-1.3%	-9.2%	0.0%	2.0%
BRA	-6.0%	-1.3%	-1.3%	-70.7%	-1.3%	-0.8%
CHN	3.0%	-1.0%	-1.0%	-69.3%	-1.3%	-0.9%
IND	1.1%	-4.4%	-4.4%	-76.0%	-2.6%	-2.1%
JPN	3.4%	-0.9%	-0.9%	-23.1%	-0.2%	1.5%
MEX	-1.6%	-3.2%	-3.2%	-79.5%	-0.6%	-0.4%
USA	1.3%	-1.7%	-1.7%	-48.2%	-0.3%	0.3%
<b>Global</b>	<b>-0.6%</b>	-1.7%	-1.7%	<b>-61.0%</b>	-0.6%	0.4%

Source: Farrokhi & Lashkaripour, 2022, "Can Trade Policy Mitigate Climate Change," Mimeo

# Carbon Border Adjustments: Estimates With OECD v. Brazilian Steel

**Table 2:** Emission and Welfare Effects from Environmental Trade Policies

	First Best	BCA	Voluntary Certification $f = 0$	$f = f^*$
<i>Welfare</i>				
Gains in M USD	1212	714	692	866
% of First Best Gains	100	58.9	58.4	71.5
<i>Emissions</i>				
Reduction in Mt	24.4	5.6	6.3	11.1

Note: All gains are calculated relative to a unilateral domestic carbon tax in the OECD without border adjustments. First best is a global carbon emissions tax.  $f$  is a tax on certification, with  $f^*$  denoting the optimum certification tax.

Source: Cicala, Hemous, Olsen, 2023, "Adverse Selection as a Policy Instrument," Mimeo

# Climate Clubs

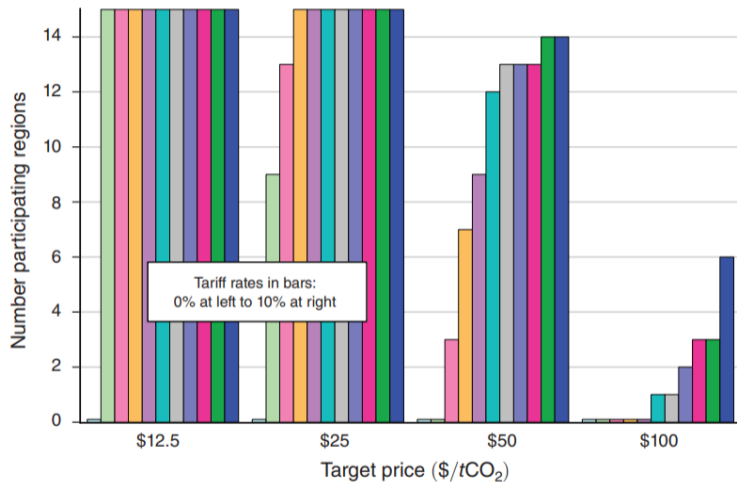
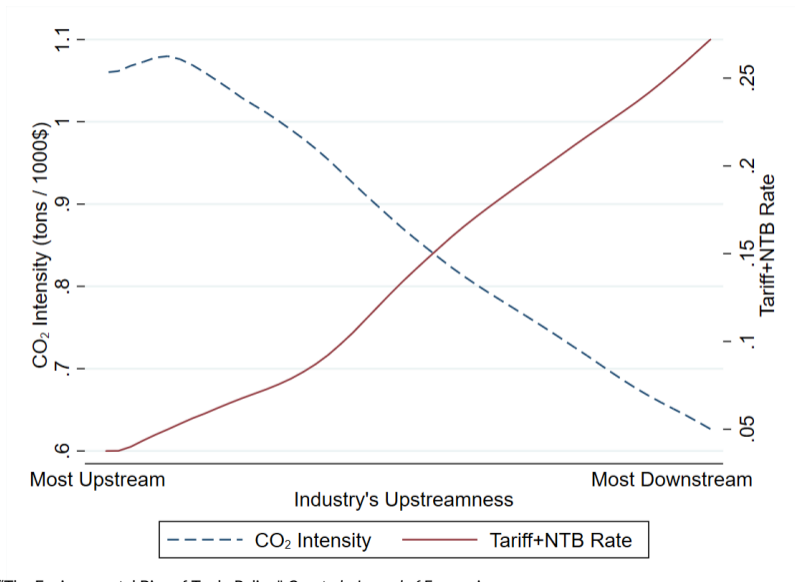


FIGURE 3. NUMBER OF PARTICIPATING REGIONS BY INTERNATIONAL TARGET CARBON PRICE AND TARIFF RATE

Source: Nordhaus, 2015, "Climate Clubs," *American Economic Review*

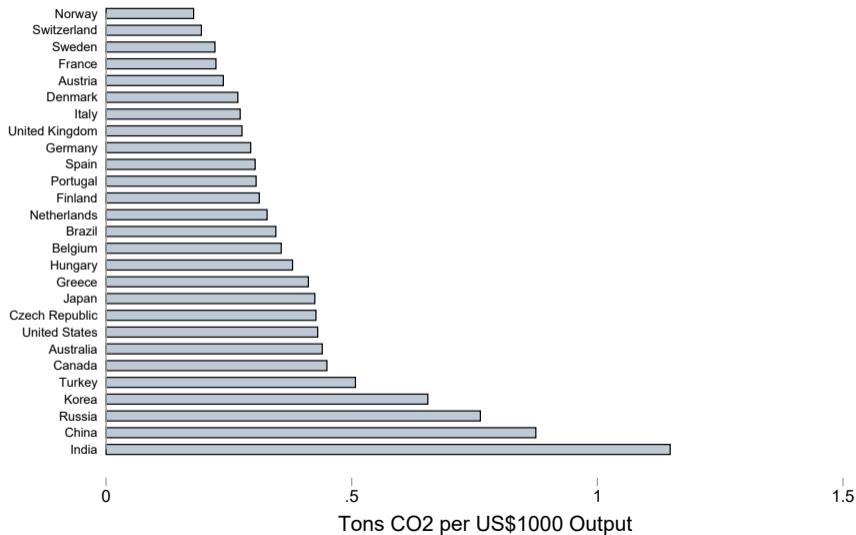


# Environmental Bias of Trade Policy



Source: Shapiro, 2021, "The Environmental Bias of Trade Policy," *Quarterly Journal of Economics*

# Multinational Production (MP)



# Multinational Production (MP)

Tenova (Italy): mini mill  
(electric arc furnace)



MP Italy->Vietnam



Kunming Iron & Steel (China): integrated  
mill (blast furnace)



MP China->Vietnam



Vietnam steel corporation (Vietnam)



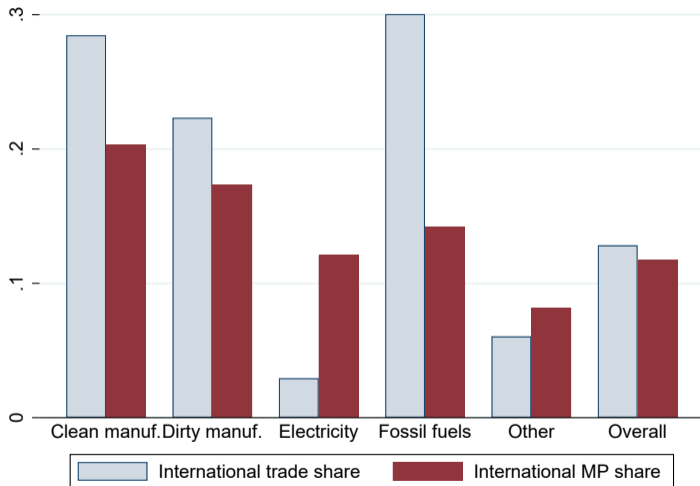
# MP: Cleaner Home Countries Have Cleaner Affiliates

Firm  $f$ , home country  $i$ , host country  $l$ , industry  $s$ .  $\mathcal{E}$  Emissions.  $Y$  Revenue

$$\log \left( \frac{\mathcal{E}_{fi,l,s}}{Y_{fi,l,s}} \right)^{CDP, Orbis} = \beta_1 \log \left( \frac{\mathcal{E}_i}{Y_i} \right)^{WIOD} + X'_{f,l} \gamma + \delta_{l,s} + \epsilon_{fi,l,s}$$

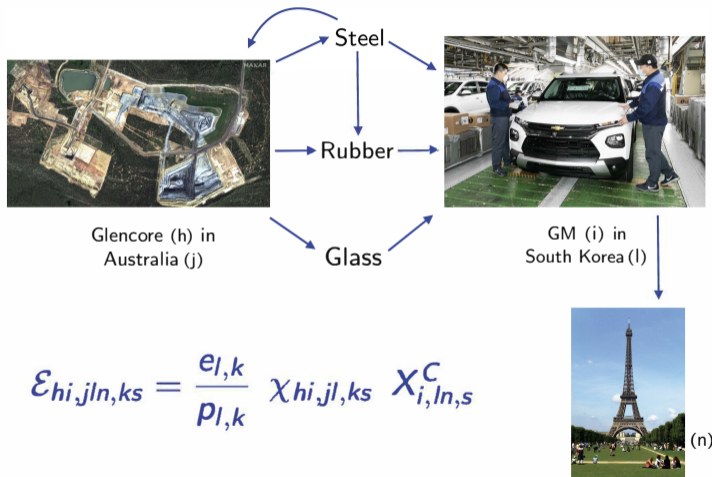
Dependent variable:	Log firm CO <sub>2</sub> rate					
Home log CO <sub>2</sub> rate	0.96*** (0.24)	1.07*** (0.22)	0.56* (0.30)	0.63** (0.25)	0.63** (0.23)	0.60** (0.29)
Host log CO <sub>2</sub> rate	0.89*** (0.09)	0.86*** (0.09)				
Firm log revenues						-0.48*** (0.08)
Observations	4,833	4,833	4,833	4,833	4,833	4,833
R-squared	0.05	0.24	0.28	0.48	0.63	0.70
# host countries	42	42	42	42	42	42
# home countries	32	32	32	32	32	32
Industry FE	no	yes	no	yes	-	-
Host country FE	no	no	yes	yes	-	-
Industry x host country FE	no	no	no	no	yes	yes

# Multinational Production and Trade Important for Dirty Industries



Source: Garcia-Lembergman, Ramondo, Rodriguez-Clare, Shapiro, 2023, "The Carbon Footprint of Multinational Production," Mimeo

# MP: Carbon Accounting with Multinational Production



$$\mathcal{E}_{hi,jln,ks} = \frac{e_{l,k}}{p_{l,k}} \chi_{hi,jl,ks} X_{i,ln,s}^C$$

Source: Garcia-Lembergman, Ramondo, Rodriguez-Clare, Shapiro, 2023, "The Carbon Footprint of Multinational Production," Mimeo

# MP: Carbon Accounting: Allocating Emissions

$$\mathcal{E}_l^P = \sum_{hi,jn,ks} \mathcal{E}_{hi,jln,ks} \quad \text{Production}$$

$$\mathcal{E}_n^C = \sum_{hi,jl,ks} \mathcal{E}_{hi,jln,ks} \quad \text{Consumption}$$

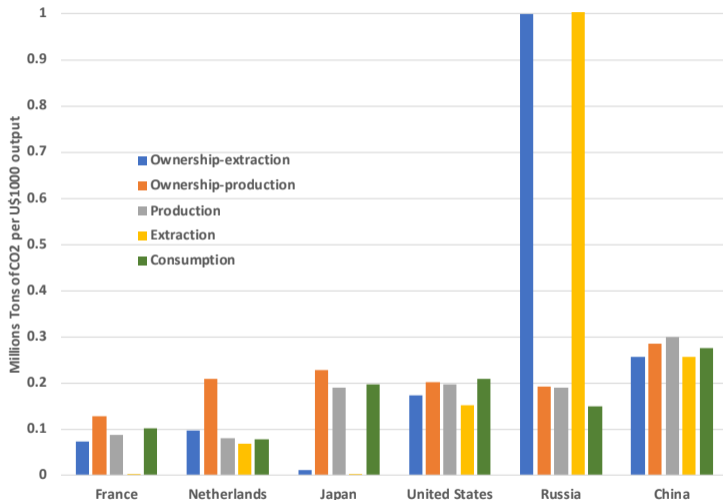
$$\mathcal{E}_j^M = \sum_{hi,ln,ks} \mathcal{E}_{hi,jln,ks} \quad \text{Mining}$$

$$\mathcal{E}_i^{O,P} = \sum_{h,jln,ks} \mathcal{E}_{hi,jln,ks} \quad \text{Ownership-Production}$$

$$\mathcal{E}_h^{O,M} = \sum_{i,jln,ks} \mathcal{E}_{hi,jln,ks} \quad \text{Ownership-Mining}$$

$h, i$  = Country of ownership for inputs, outputs;  $j, l$  = Country of production for inputs, outputs  
 $n$  = Country of consumption;  $k, s$  = Industry for inputs, outputs

# MP: Carbon Accounting, Selected Countries



Source: Garcia-Lembergman, Ramondo, Rodriguez-Clare, Shapiro, 2023, "The Carbon Footprint of Multinational Production," Mimeo



# Agenda for Today

- Stylized facts
- Summarize the subfield
- Toy model
- Policy
- **Conclusions**

# Conclusions

- Stylized facts, research frontier, adaptable models, policy impact
- Takeaways
  - Globalization important to environment
  - Environment important to globalization
  - Research important to policy