



Using Energy-Economic Models for Climate-Related Financial Impact Analysis



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The Challenge

Many world regions face *increasing pressures* from *global* and *regional* changes in climate, population growth, urban-area expansion, and the *socio-economic* and *environmental* impacts of fossil-based development



Climate change imposes “*physical*” and “*transition*” risks that *affect all* sectors of economic activity

The Response – The MIT Joint Program

Advancing a sustainable, prosperous world.

Our global and regional change projections provide a scientific foundation for strategic investment, policymaking and other decisions that promote sustainable development. [Learn more](#)

Our Global Change Outlook

2021 GLOBAL CHANGE OUTLOOK

Why the Earth needs a course correction now

We envision a world in which community, government and industry leaders have the insight they need to make environmentally and economically sound choices

Team of *natural* and *social* scientists to provide:

- scientific research that integrates *risk management* with *policy* and *industrial strategies*
- *communication* and *interaction* with *decision-makers*, media outlets, government and nongovernmental organizations, schools and communities
- *education* of the *next generation* with the skills to tackle *complex* global and regional *challenges*

Climate-Related Financial Risks

Physical risks



Flooding



Drought



Sea level rise



Heat stress



Wind



Extreme weather

Air Pollution
Human Health



Transition risks

Policy

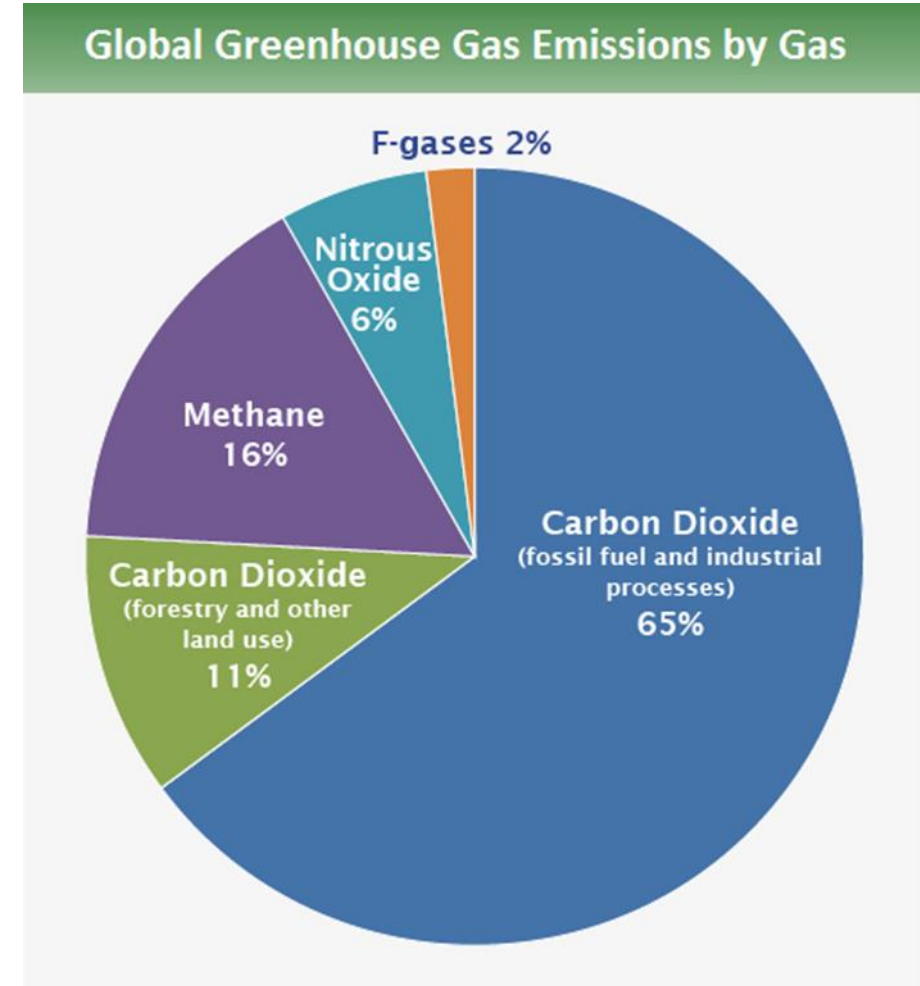
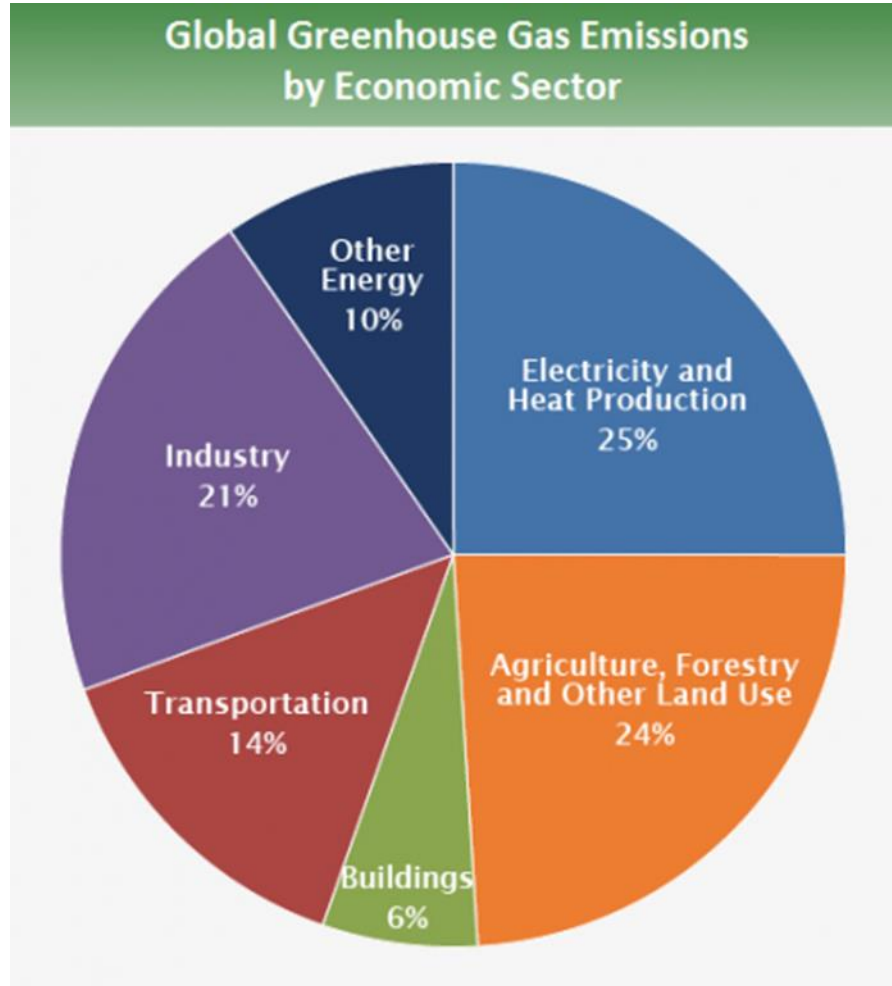
Economy

Technology

Society



Scaling up Transition to Zero-Carbon Economy: Energy Plays a Major Role



Source: IPCC (2014)

Economic and Financial Impacts

Numerous Impacts:

Changes in **Input Prices**

Access to **Capital**

Availability of **Inputs**

Impacts on **Supply Chains**

Border Adjustments

Imposition of **Standards and Regulations**

Changes in **Demand** for Products and Services

Changes in **Preferences**

Shifts in **Geopolitics**



Different Scales:

Company

Industry

Region

Country

Global


Incentives to change a behavior:

Relative impacts need to be **quantified**

***How?* Scenario Analysis**

Example: Bank of Canada (2020)

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Scenario Analysis and the Economic and Financial Risks from Climate Change

Staff Discussion Paper 2020-3 (English)

Erik Ens, Craig Johnston

May 2020



Example: Bank of Canada (2020)



Scenario analysis in this study

This paper adapts climate-economy models that have been applied in other contexts for use in climate-related scenario analysis. We consider illustrative scenarios for the global economy that could generate economic and financial risks (**Table 1**). We do this by varying assumptions on key variables such as climate policy in plausible ways. We then use a computable general equilibrium (CGE) model—the MIT Economic Projection and Policy Analysis (EPPA) model—to assess the economic impacts of these scenarios; this also provides insights into potential financial system risks. We use the results from both a Dynamic Integrated Economy Climate (DICE) model (an integrated assessment model) and the broader literature to inform physical risks.

Table 1: Overview of scenarios

Scenario	Description
Business as usual	No further action is taken to limit global warming. Rising emissions cause a substantial rise in average global temperatures.
Nationally determined contributions (NDCs)	Beginning in 2020, countries act according to their pledges under the Paris Agreement. They reduce global warming, but their actions are not enough to limit warming to an additional 2°C above pre-industrial levels by 2100.
2°C (consistent)	Countries act to limit global warming to 2°C by 2100.
2°C (delayed action)	Countries act to limit global warming to 2°C by 2100, but the action does not begin until 2030.



For several scenarios, multiple regions, multiple sectors:

Direct emissions costs = carbon price x sectoral GHG emissions;

Indirect costs = price of non primary energy input x non primary energy input;

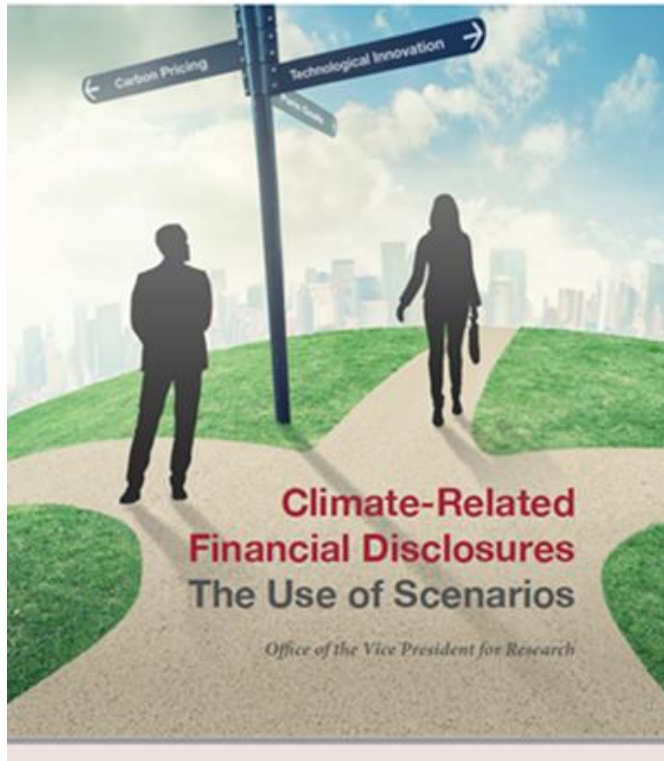
Revenue = output price x production;

Capital expenditure = price of new capital x new capital (does not include value of vintaged capital in a period);

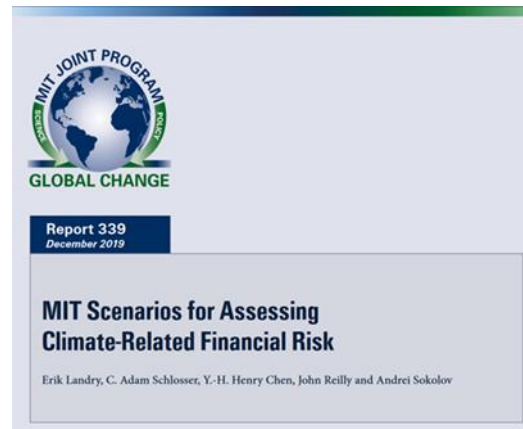
This is further converted into *Value at Risk*

Other applications

use of our scenarios for climate-related financial disclosures



use of our scenarios for assessing transition risk



use of our carbon price projections for assessing company's long-term profit margins and stock returns

Morgan Stanley

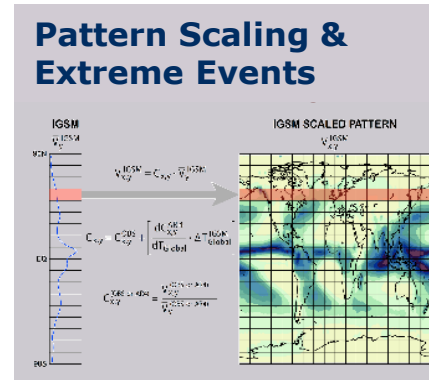
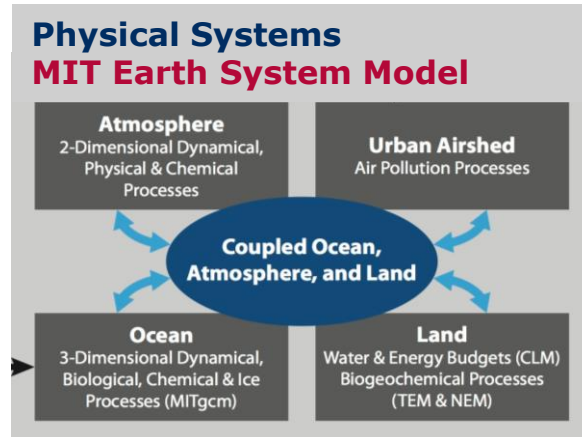
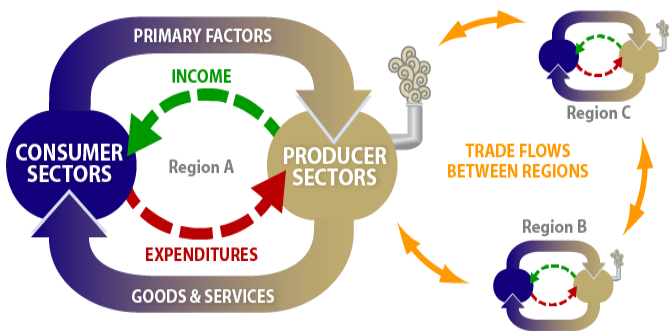
INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

Counterpoint Global Insights

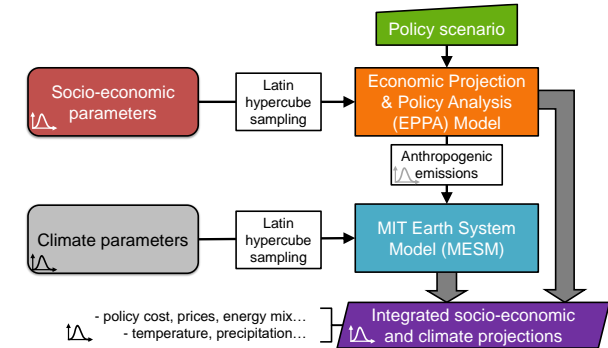


Integrated Modeling across Systems, Sectors and Scales

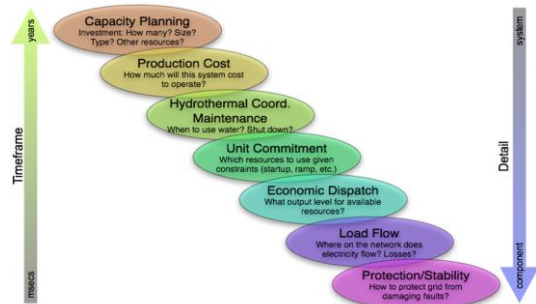
Economic Markets: Trade, Energy, Agriculture, Transport, Industry, Land-Use Change, Population Dynamics, Infrastructure, Natural Resources (Global to Regional Scale)



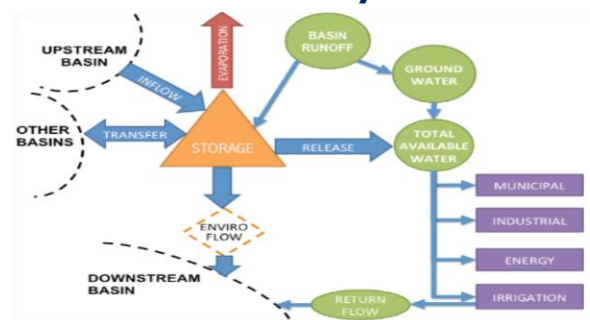
Probabilistic Ensembles & Integrated Projections



Detailed Electricity Models



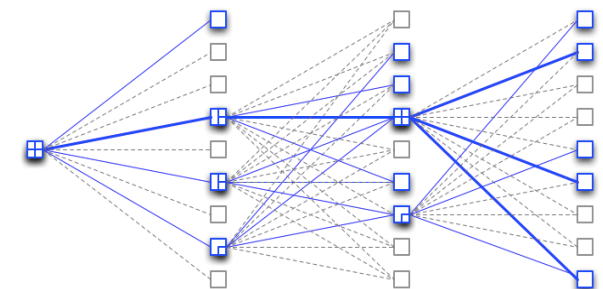
Water Resource System Model



CAM3 & WRF



Decision-Making Frameworks



Integrated complex systems and their potential evolution



Recent applications of the Joint Program tools show wide variety of research efforts

Projecting Energy and Climate

Paltsev (2020) Economics of Energy and Env Policy, 9(1), 43-62.

Geopolitics of Renewables

Paltsev (2016) Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists, 72(6), 390-395.

Health Co-Benefits of Renewables

Dimanchev et al (2019) Environmental Research Letters, 14(8).

Climate Change Effects on Agriculture

Gurgel et al (2021) Climatic Change, 166(29).

Covid-19 Effects on the Paris Agreement

Chen et al (2021) Humanities and Soc Sci Comm, 8(16).

Decarbonizing Hard-to-Abate Sectors

Paltsev et al (2021) Applied Energy, 300, 117322.

Global Electrification of Light-Duty Vehicles

Ghandi and Paltsev et al (2020) Transportation Research D, 87, 102524.

Economics of Bioenergy with CCS (BECCS)

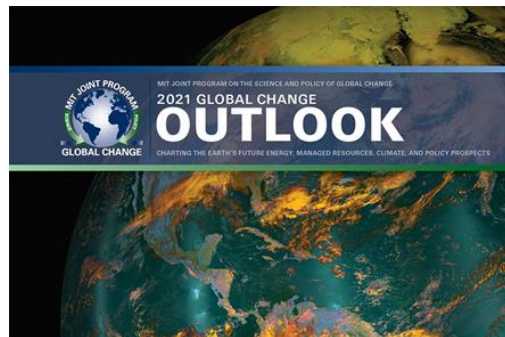
Fajardy et al (2021) Global Environ Change, 68, 102262.

Global CCS Scenarios

Morris et al (2021) Climate Change Economics, 12, 215001.

Cost of Low-Carbon Power Generation

Morris et al (2019) Int J GHG Control, 87, 170-187.



MIT 2021 Global Change Outlook

Charting the Earth's Future Energy, Managed Resources, Climate, and Policy Prospects

<https://globalchange.mit.edu>

The current path is not consistent with stabilizing at 1.5°C or 2°C

MIT Joint Program Outlook Dashboard



Select Scenario to Plot

Paris Forever

Current (as of March 2021) Paris Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) targets are met by all countries by 2030 and retained thereafter

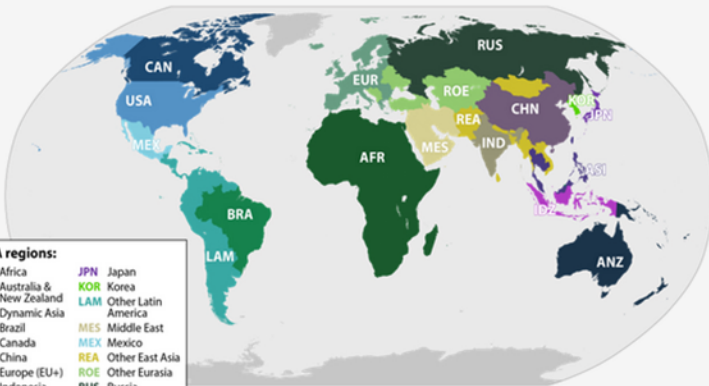
Data Type

- Emissions and Climate
- Energy and Economics

Select Data to Plot

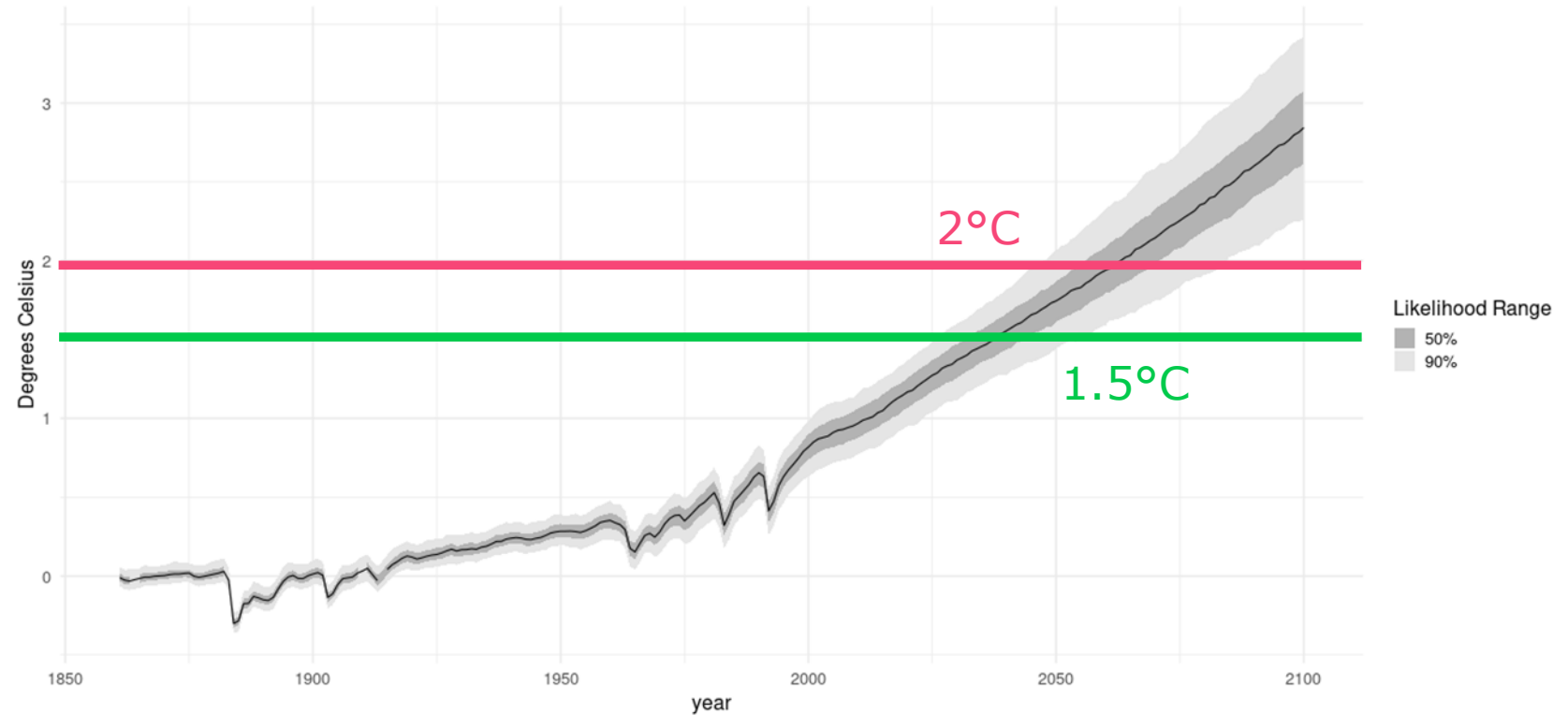
Temperature--Global

Plot Difference vs Another Scenario



[Download the full Outlook report](#)

Temperature--Global

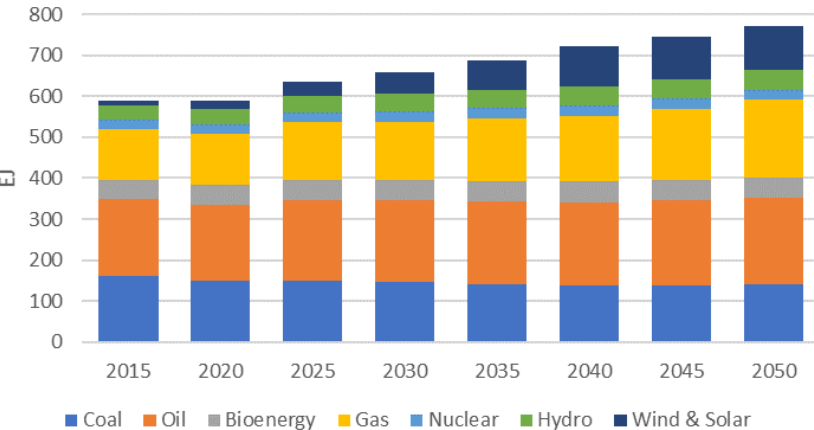


Change in global average surface air temperature relative to pre-industrial (1861-1880) levels. The thick black line is the median, the 50% likelihood range reflects the 25th to 75th percentiles, and the 90% likelihood range reflects the 5th to 95th percentiles. Likelihood ranges in historical years reflect measurements errors.

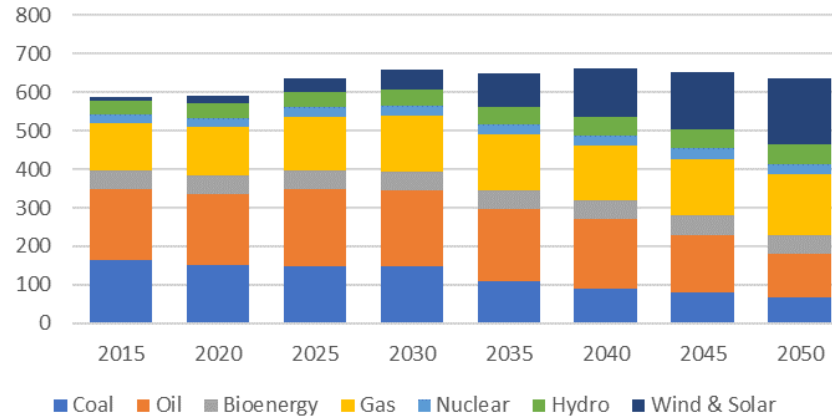


Global Primary Energy

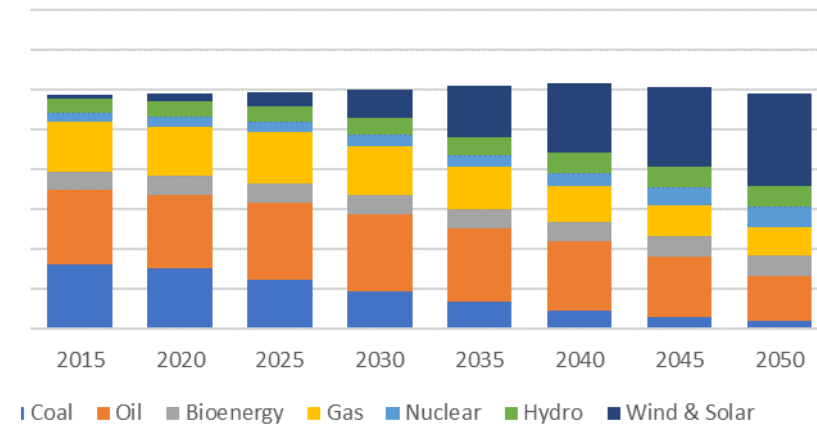
ParisForever



Paris2C



Accelerated Actions



Global primary energy use in the *Paris Forever scenario* grows to about 770 exajoules (EJ) by 2050, up by 31% from about 590 EJ in 2020. The share of fossil fuels drops from the current 80% to **70%** in 2050. Wind and solar – **6**-fold increase.

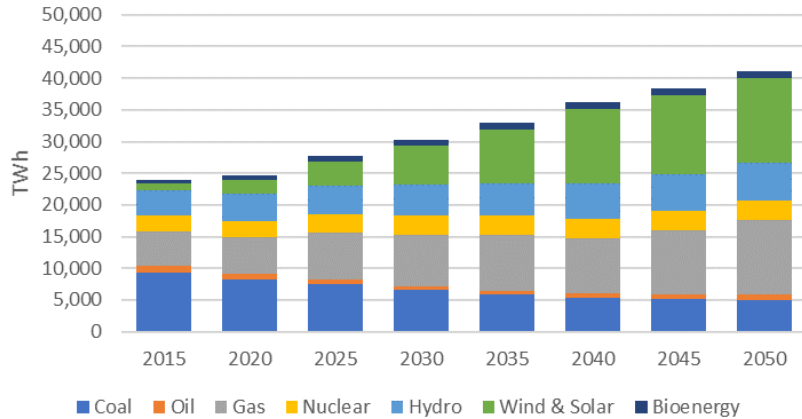
In the *Paris 2°C scenario*, the fossil fuel share drops to about **50%** in 2050, wind and solar energy grow almost **9** times from 2020 to 2050.

In the *Accelerated Actions scenario*, the fossil fuel share drops to about **34%**, wind and solar energy grow almost **13** times from 2020 to 2050.

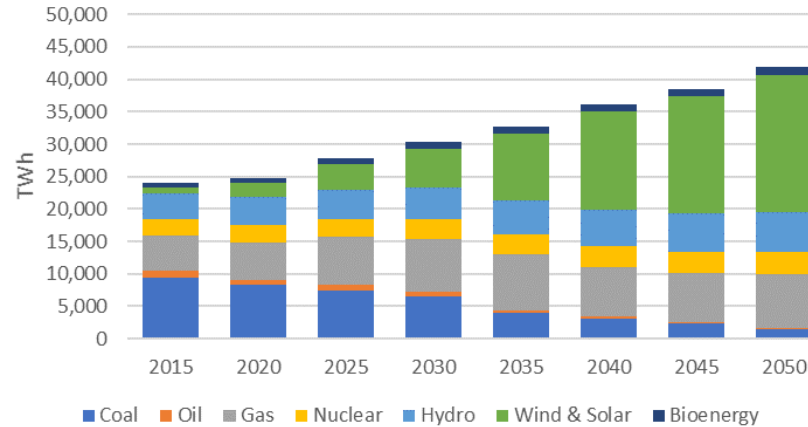


Global Electricity Production

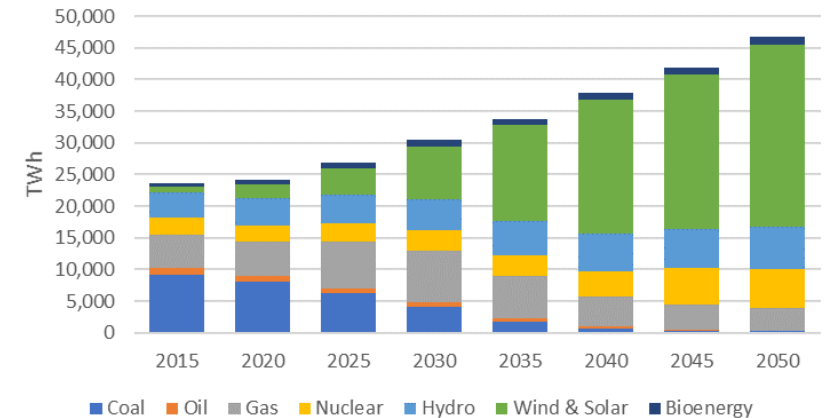
ParisForever



Paris2C



Accelerated Actions

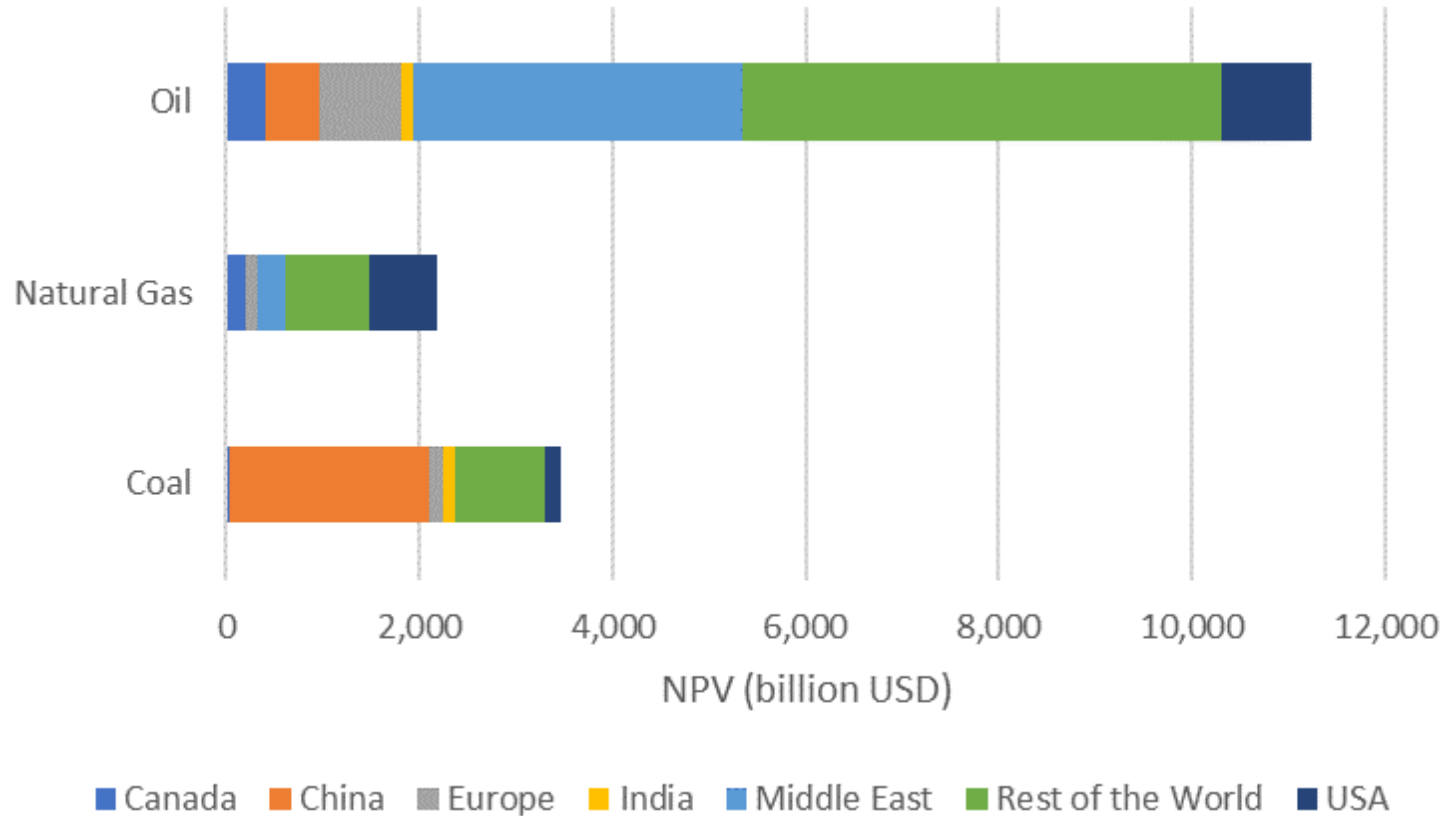


In the *Paris Forever* scenario, global electricity production (and use) grows by 67% from 2020 to 2050. In comparison to primary energy growth of 31% over the same period, electricity grows about twice as fast, resulting in a continuing electrification of the global economy.

Electricity generation from renewable sources becomes a dominant source of power by 2050 in all scenarios, providing 70-80% of global power generation by midcentury in the climate stabilization scenarios



Fossil Fuels: Stranded Value



Earnings from fossil fuel assets and resources are reduced due to lower prices, more fuels are left in the ground, and restrictions are imposed on certain types of power plants (e.g., coal-based).

\$17 trillion in stranded assets—more than the current GDP of China and slightly less than the U.S. GDP.

Note: the value is measured as a difference between scenarios. Forward-looking behavior can reduce losses.

Net present value (NPV) of economic output lost from fossil fuels not produced in the *Paris 2°C* scenario.



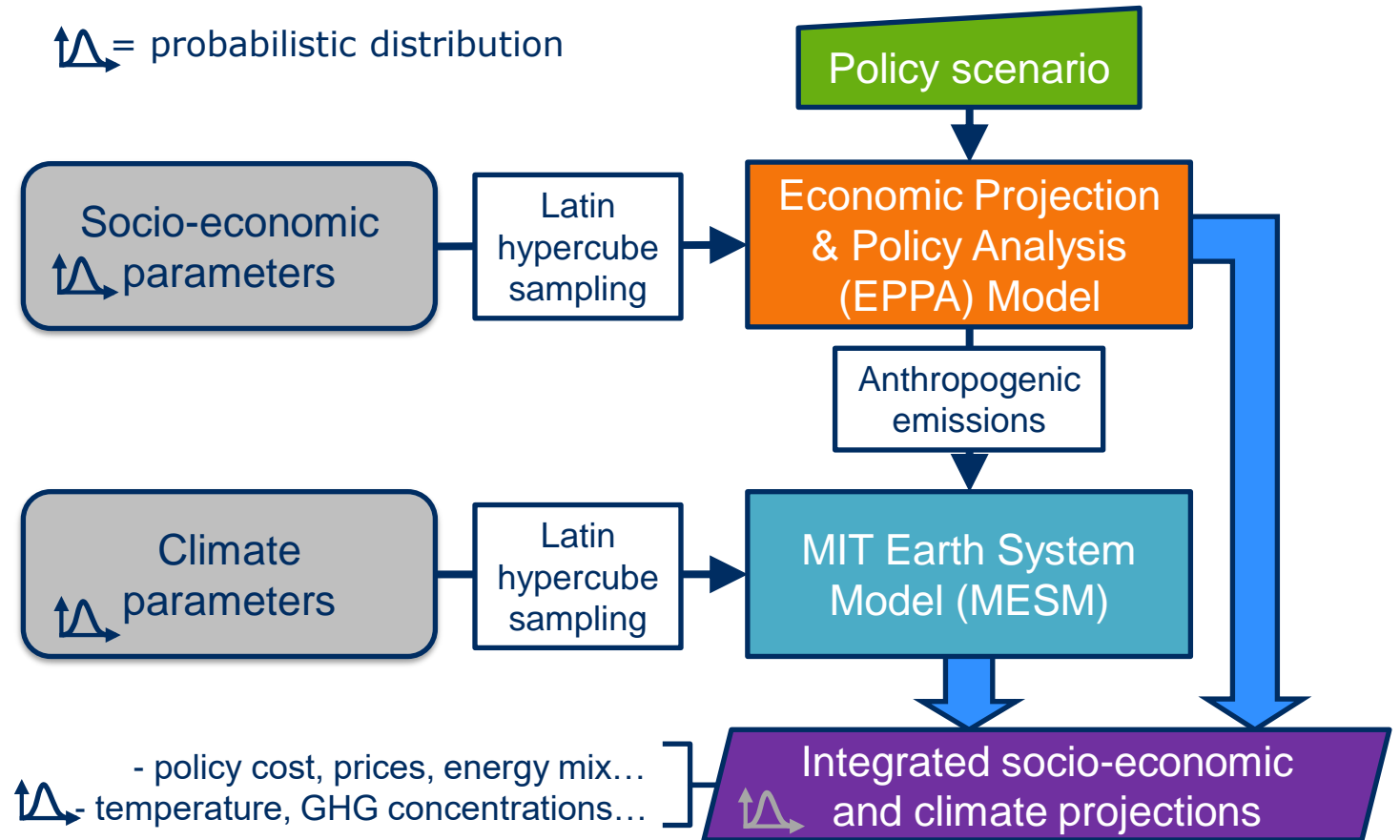
Advantage of MIT Approach - Integrated Risk Assessment

■ Socio-Economic Uncertainties

- Population growth
- GDP growth
- Technology costs
- Energy efficiency trends
- Fossil fuel resource availability
- Urban pollutants
- Rate of technology penetration

■ Climate Uncertainties

- Climate sensitivity
- Ocean heat uptake
- Aerosol forcing



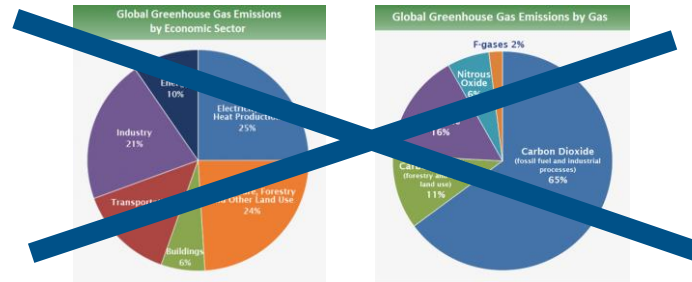
Advantages of MIT Approach

- Integration across physical and transition risks
- Mapping of scenarios to economic sectors
- Downscaling transition pathways to countries
- Consistency and comparability of human and climate pathways
- Systematic approach to quantifying uncertainty
- Experience with identifying physical risk (multi-stressor risk triage)



How do we get to net-zero emissions? How quickly?

A proliferating number of **pledges** by numerous governments and companies to reach **net-zero** greenhouse gas (**GHG**) emissions



Opportunities and challenges for **scalable** low-carbon energy options

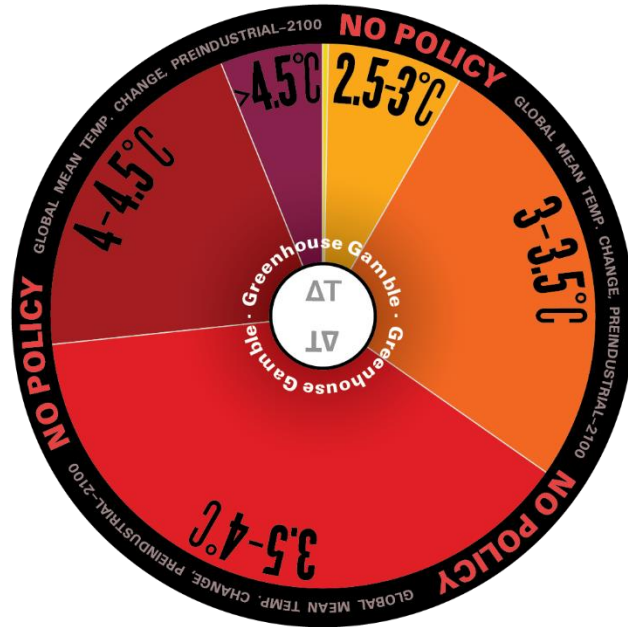
Economic: Do we have technologies? Are they economically competitive? Do we have policies to support them? Lifestyle changes?

Geopolitical: Impacts of de-carbonization on other goals? COVID implications for a rise of protectionism? Stability of energy exporters?

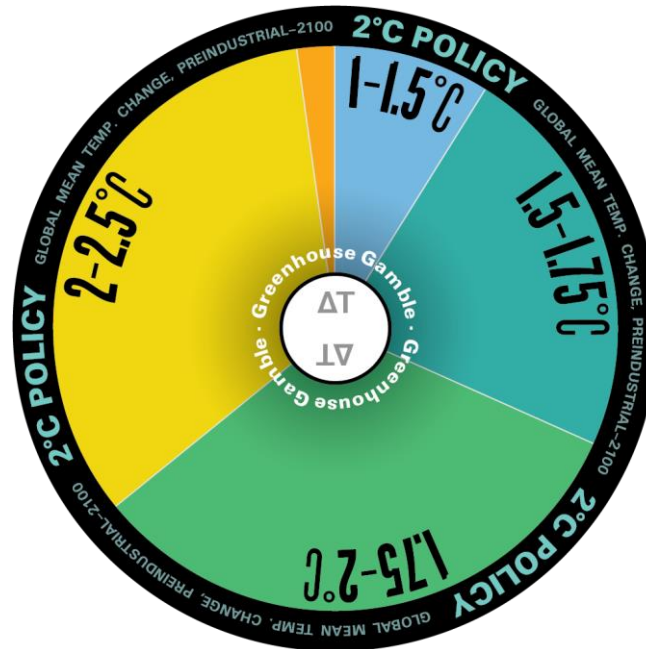
Environmental: Physical risks from climate change will be there regardless of emission reduction. Impacts from low-carbon options (e.g., car battery recycling). Air pollution impacts (lockdown evidence with some surprises).

Greenhouse Gamble Wheels

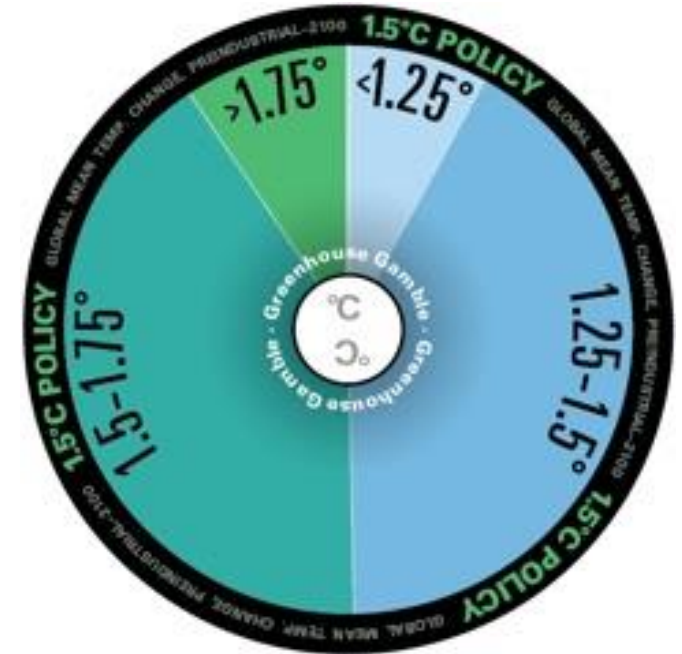
REF



2°C



1.5°C



Which wheel would you rather spin?

Thank you

Questions or comments?

Please contact Sergey Paltsev at paltsev@mit.edu

