



POTSDAM INSTITUTE FOR
CLIMATE IMPACT RESEARCH

Correlations between Human Development and CO₂ emissions: projections and implications

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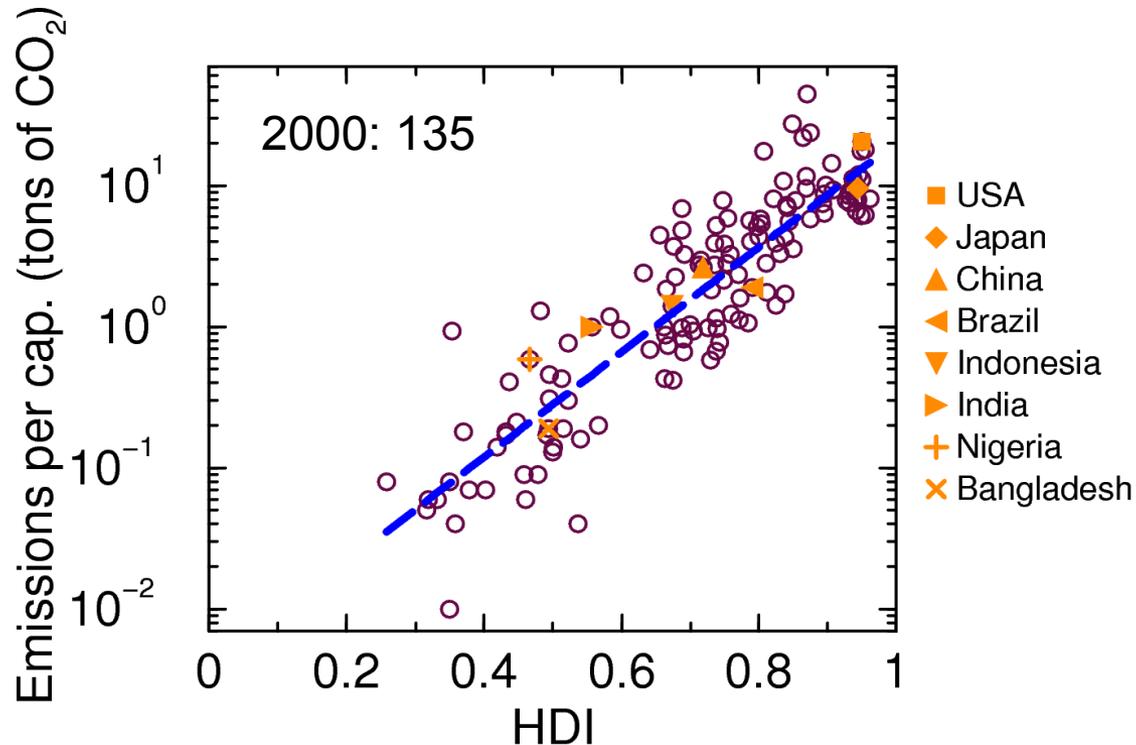
SOE 17.2

DPG Frühjahrstagung 2011

Dresden, GÖR 226

16.3.2011 – 17:30

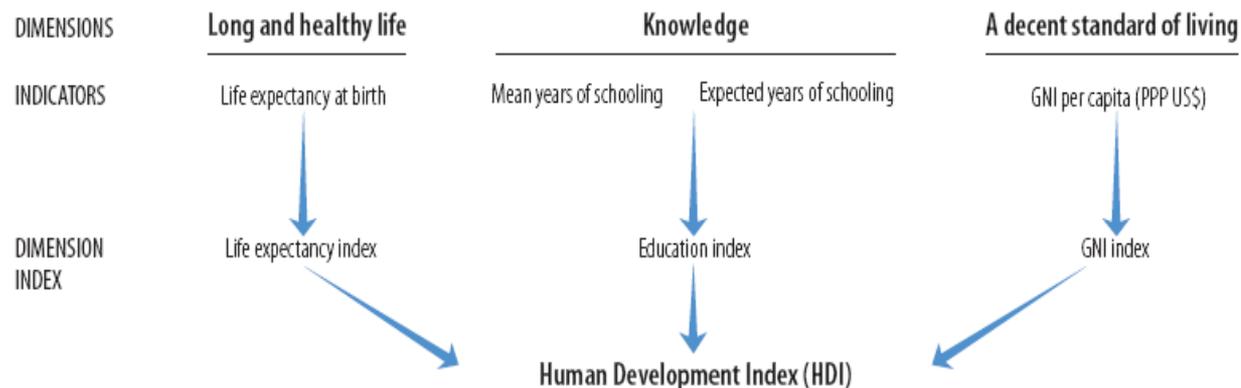
Correlations between HDI and CO₂/cap



- HDI from HDR2009
- correlation coefficient: 0.9
- statistically CO₂ emissions per capita increase exponentially with HDI
- how can these correlations be used to project CO₂ emissions?

Human Development Index

Human Development Index (HDI)



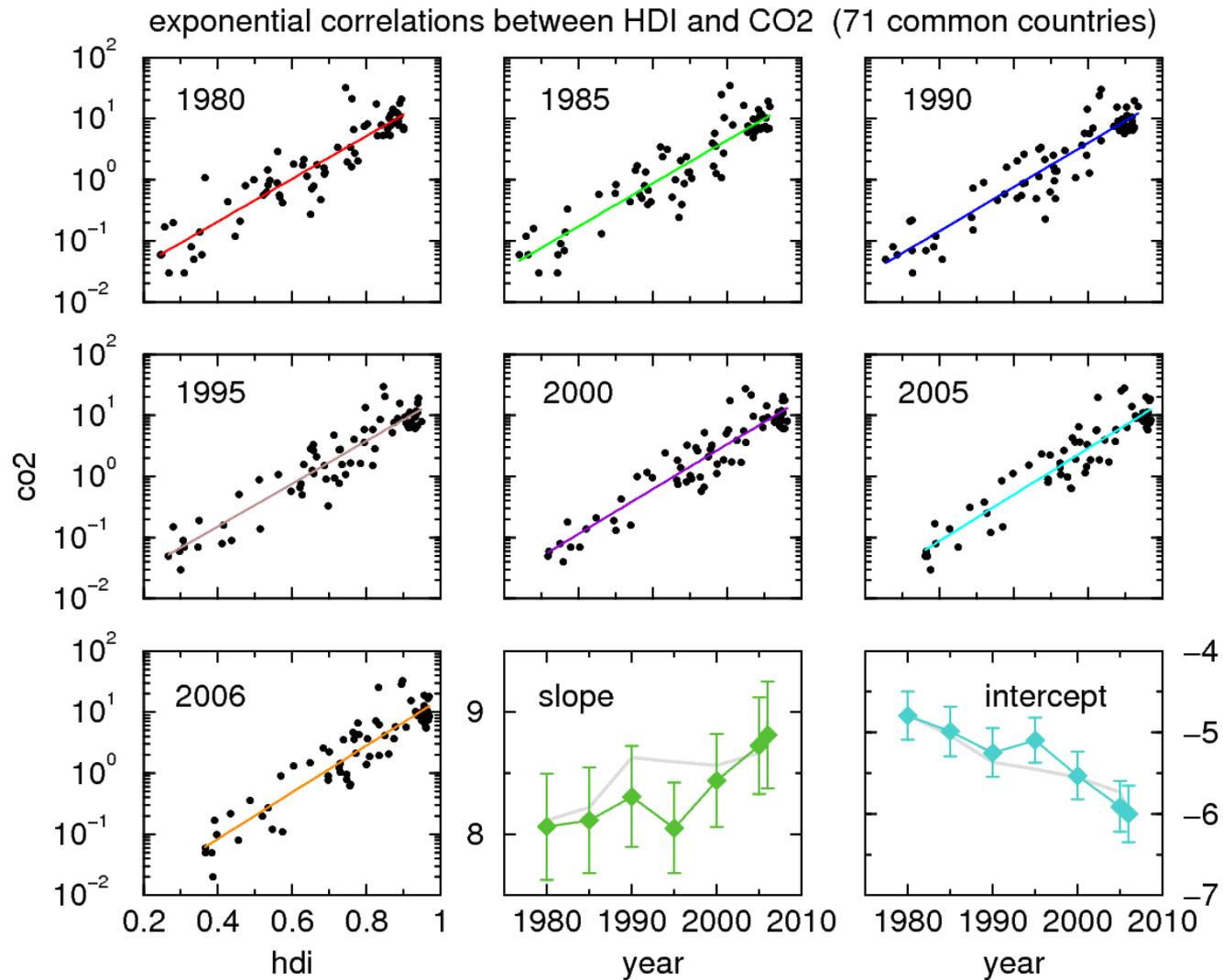
Goalposts for the Human Development Index in this Report

Dimension	Observed maximum	Minimum
Life expectancy	83.2 (Japan, 2010)	20.0
Mean years of schooling	13.2 (United States, 2000)	0
Expected years of schooling	20.6 (Australia, 2002)	0
Combined education index	0.951 (New Zealand, 2010)	0
Per capita income (PPP \$)	108,211 (United Arab Emirates, 1980)	163 (Zimbabwe, 2008)

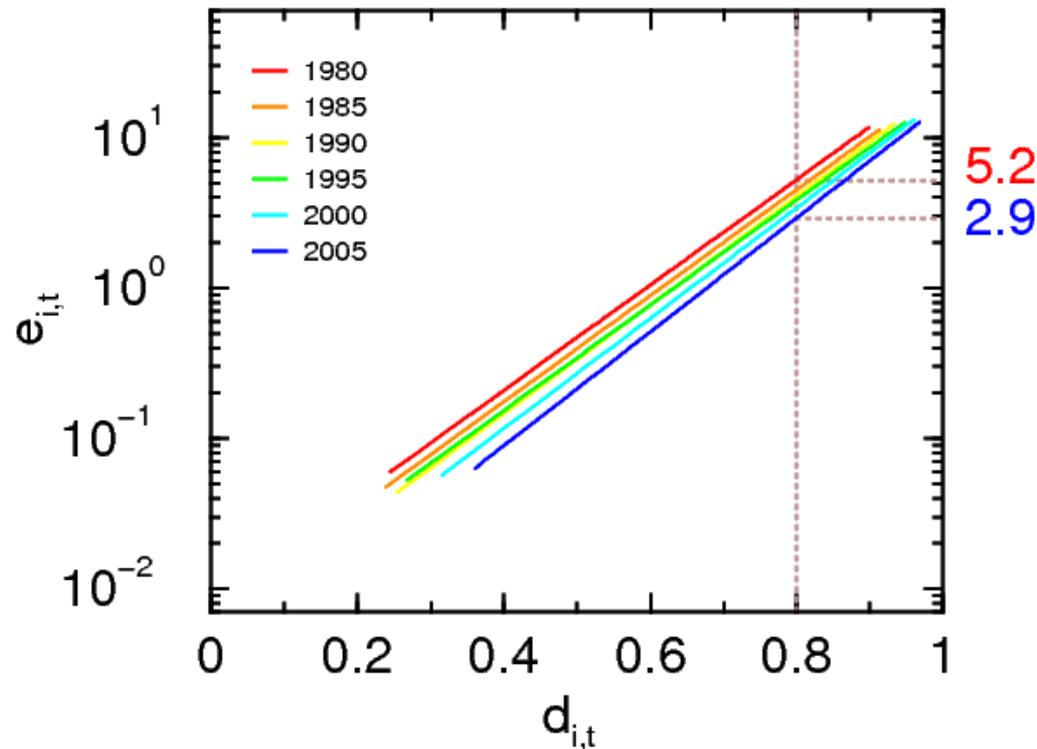
UNDP - 2010

http://hdr.undp.org/en/media/HDR_2010_EN_TechNotes.pdf

Time dependence



Time dependence 3



- same HDI (here 0.8)
- but less emissions per capita (in average)
- => increase of efficiency
but small compared to variability!

Estimating future CO2 emissions

$$\hat{e}_{i,t}^{(c)} = e^{h_t d_{i,t} + g_t}$$

fit to correlated data

parameter
HDI
parameter
CO2 emission
per capita & year

country i
year t

- data provided by World Resources Institute (WRI)
- CO2 emissions from fossil fuel combustion
- includes CO2 due to cement production
- not included: CO2 due to land use change
- unit: tons of CO2 per year

Estimating future CO2 emissions

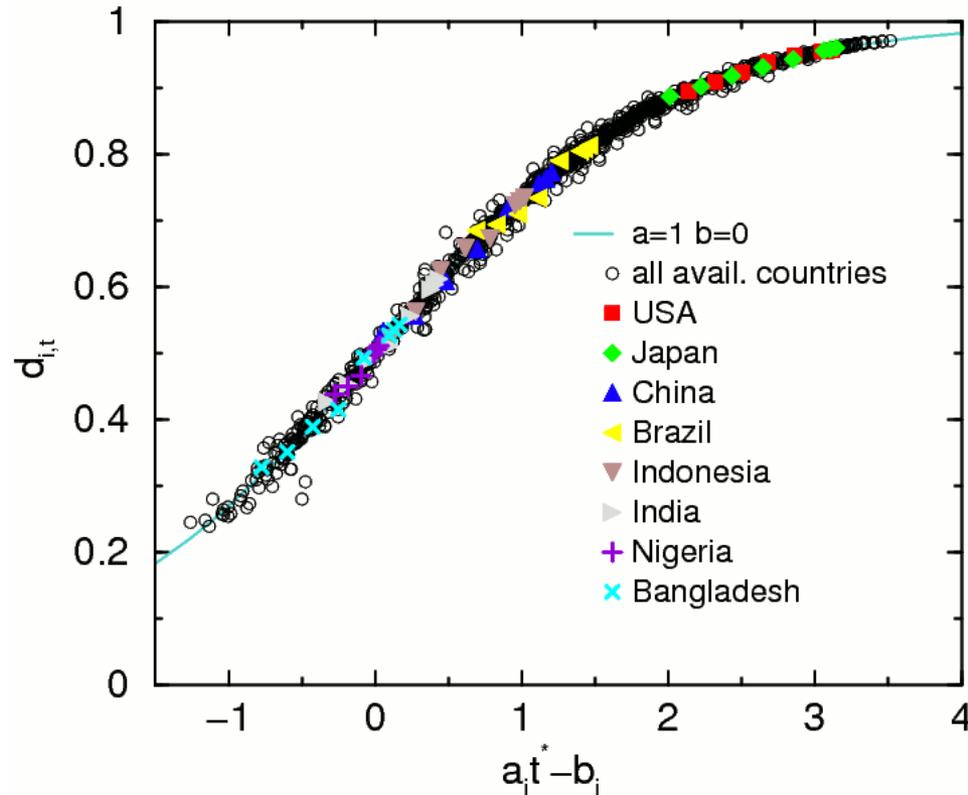
assumptions:

1. HDI in time follows
logistic regression

$$\tilde{d}_{i,t} = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-a_i t + b_i}}$$

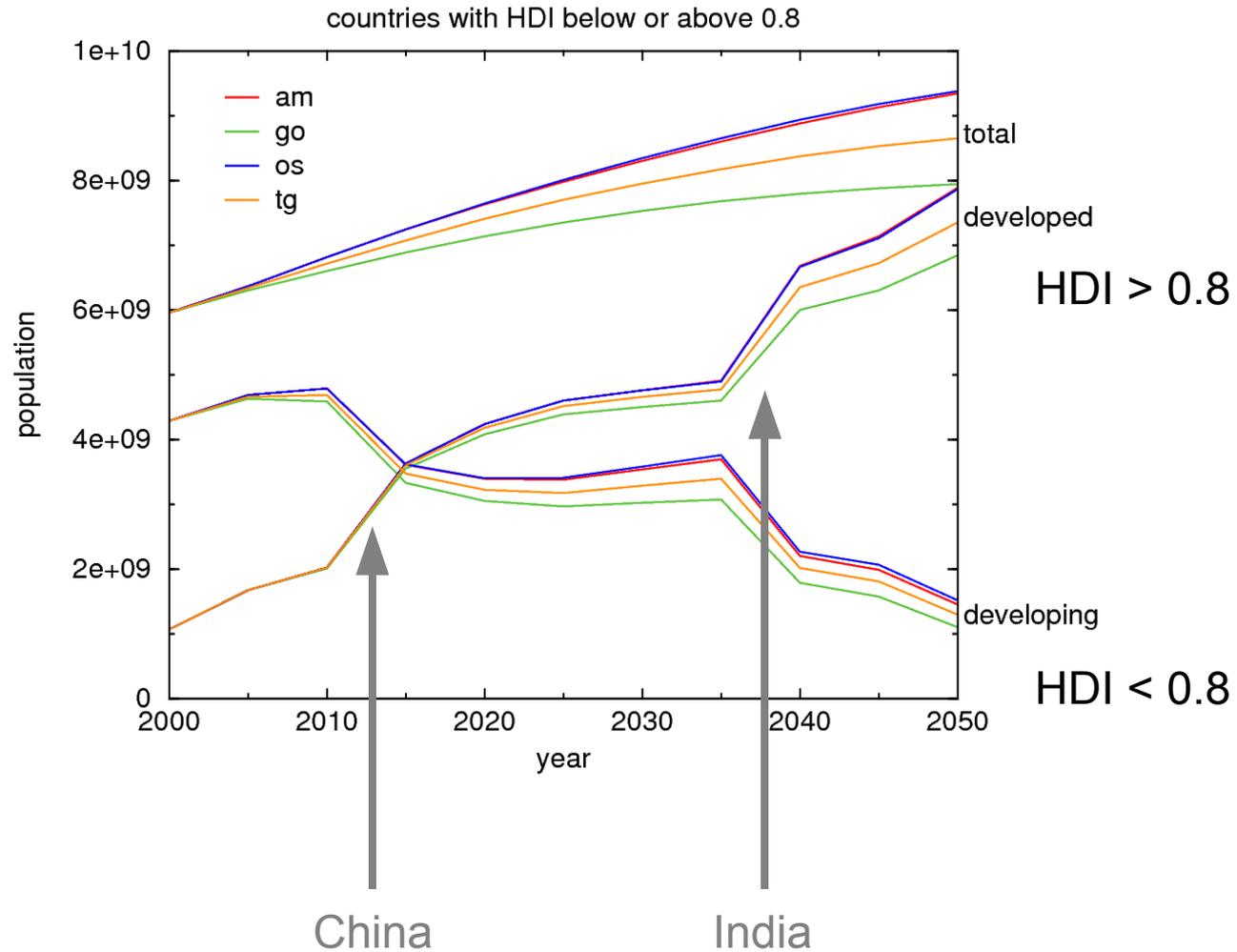
- sigmoid function
- originally used to analyze of discrete dependent variables
- but same functional form as Fermi-Dirac distribution
- characteristics (for $a=1$, $b=0$)
- how to fit?

Logistic regression to HDI

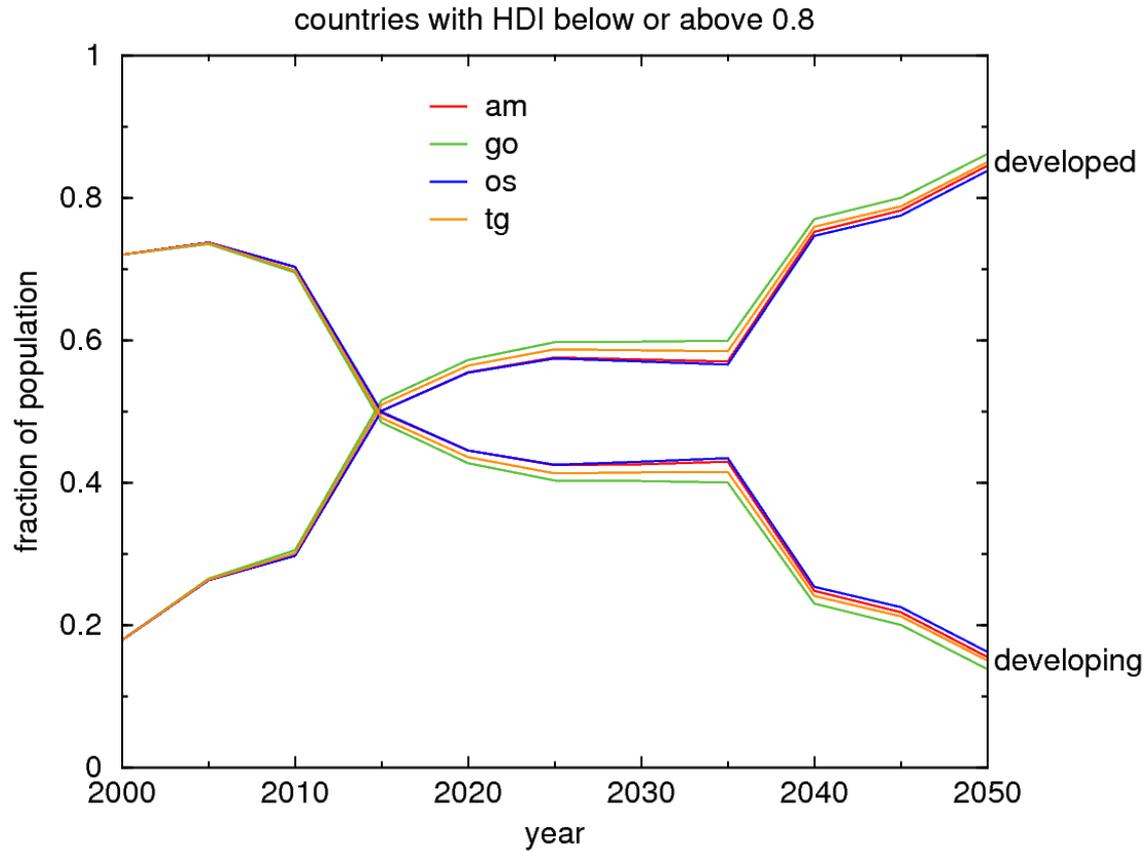


- using the country fitted parameters
the HDI parameters collapse onto one curve
- no proof of validity of logistic regression

Implications



Implications



- after 2015 half of world population developed
- 85% of world population developed

Estimating future CO2 emissions

assumptions:

1. HDI in time follows logistic regression

$$\tilde{d}_{i,t} = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-a_i t + b_i}}$$

2. HDI and logarithm of CO2/cap are linearly correlated

ensemble:

$$\hat{e}_{i,t}^{(c)} = e^{h_t d_{i,t} + g_t}$$

individual:

$$\tilde{e}_{i,t}^{(c)} = e^{h_i d_{i,t} + g_i}$$

Estimating future CO2 emissions

assumptions:

1. HDI in time follows logistic regression

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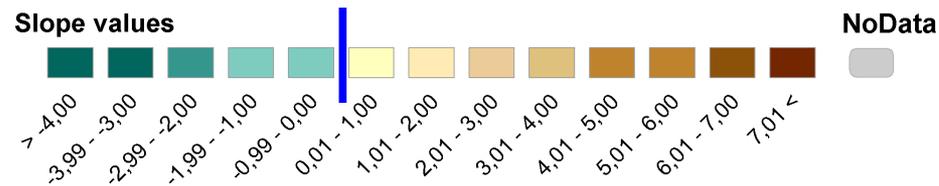
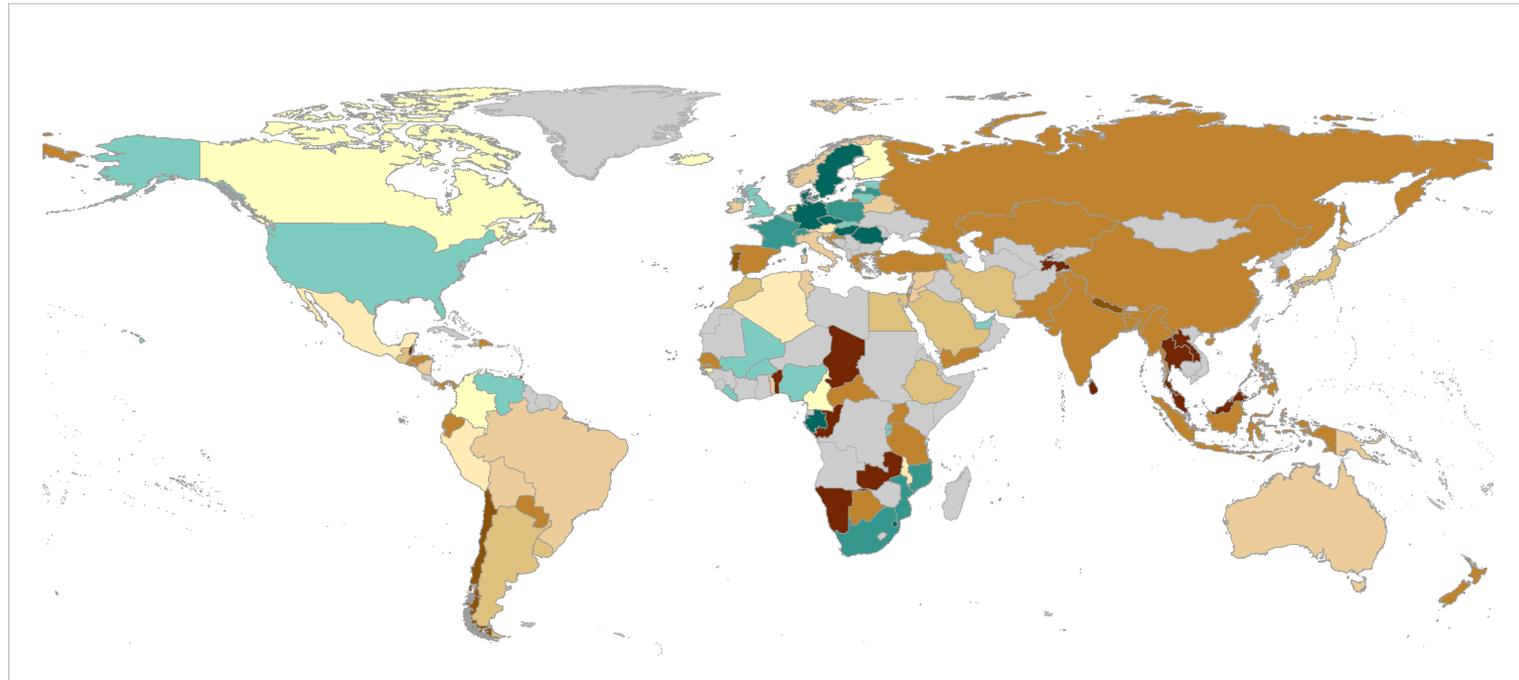
individual:

$$\tilde{e}_{i,t}^{(c)} = e^{h_i d_{i,t} + g_i}$$

(some countries have $h < 0$)

Individual correlations

Slope of the regression between HDI and CO2 per capita



decreasing per cap emissions
with increasing HDI

increasing per cap emissions
with increasing HDI

Estimating future CO2 emissions

assumptions:

1. HDI in time follows logistic regression

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2. HDI and logarithm of CO2/cap are linearly correlated

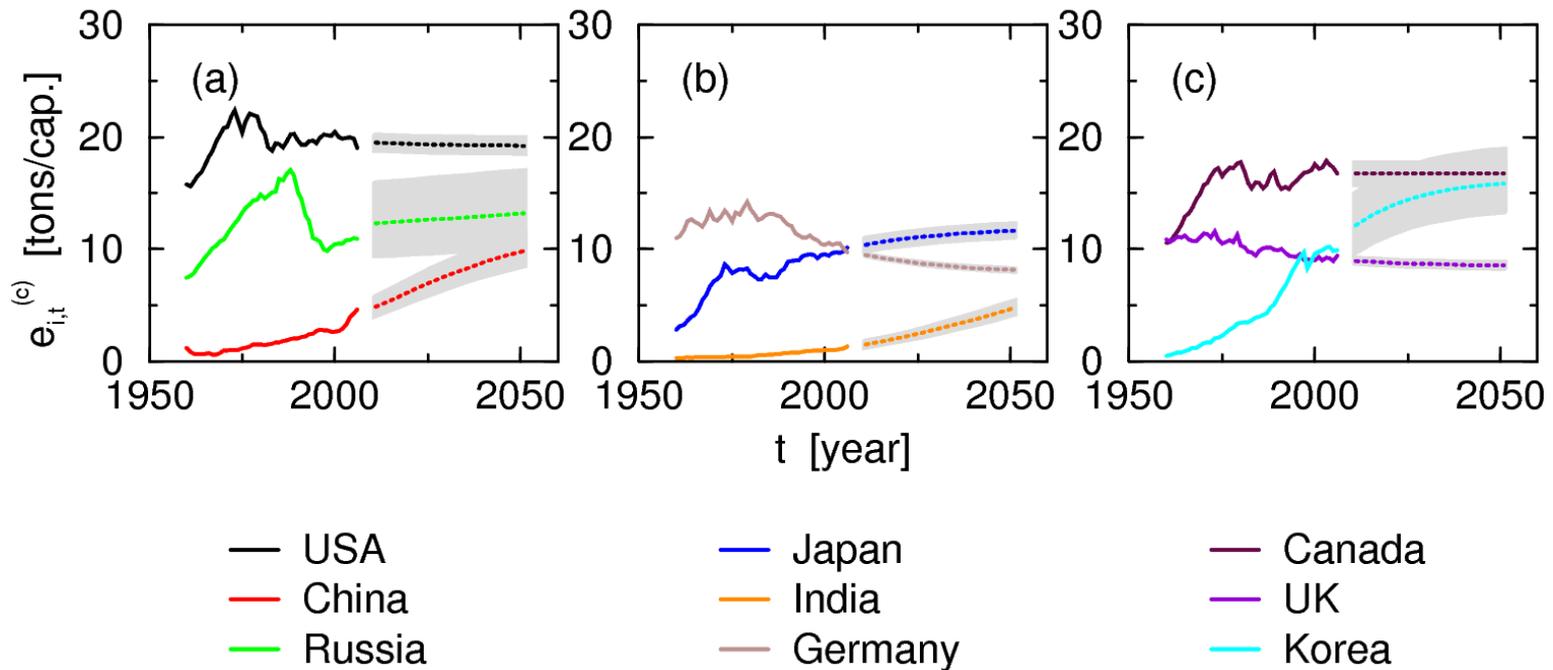
$$\tilde{e}_{i,t}^{(c)} = e^{h_i d_{i,t} + g_i}$$

3. Changes in both quantities are correlated between the countries

$$c_{i,j}(\Delta d) = \frac{(\delta d_i - \langle \delta d \rangle)(\delta d_j - \langle \delta d \rangle)}{\sigma_{\delta d}^2}$$

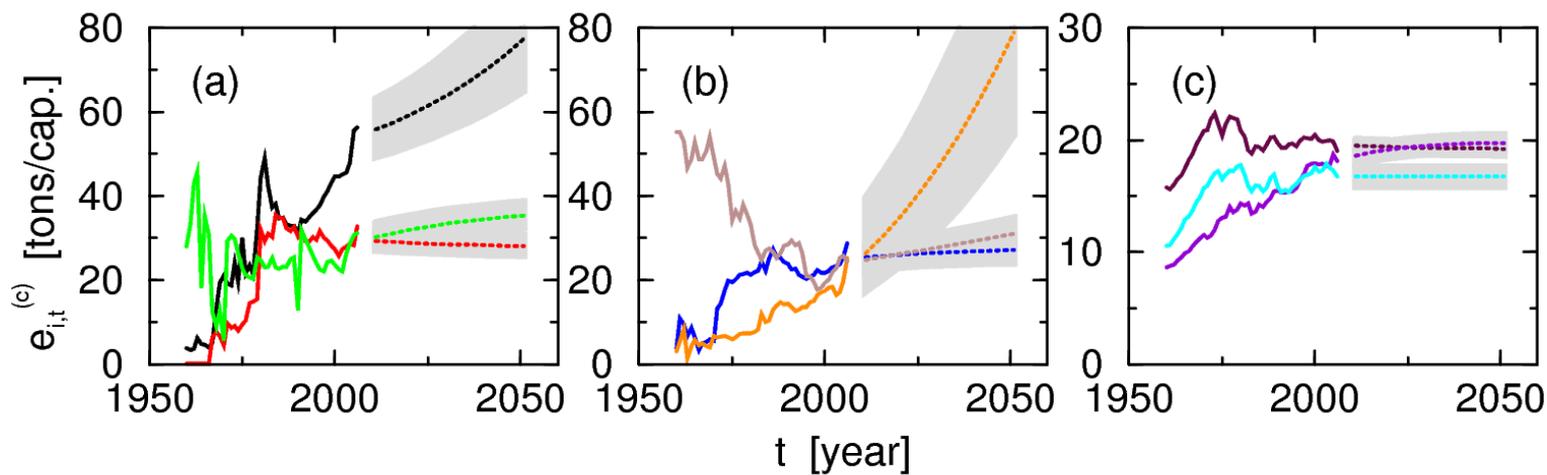
- analogous for emissions
- used for countries with missing data

Examples 1



- large uncertainty is due to poor correlations
- high HDI countries comprise small changes
- per capita emissions in China will double by 2050
- per capita emissions in India will triple

Examples 2

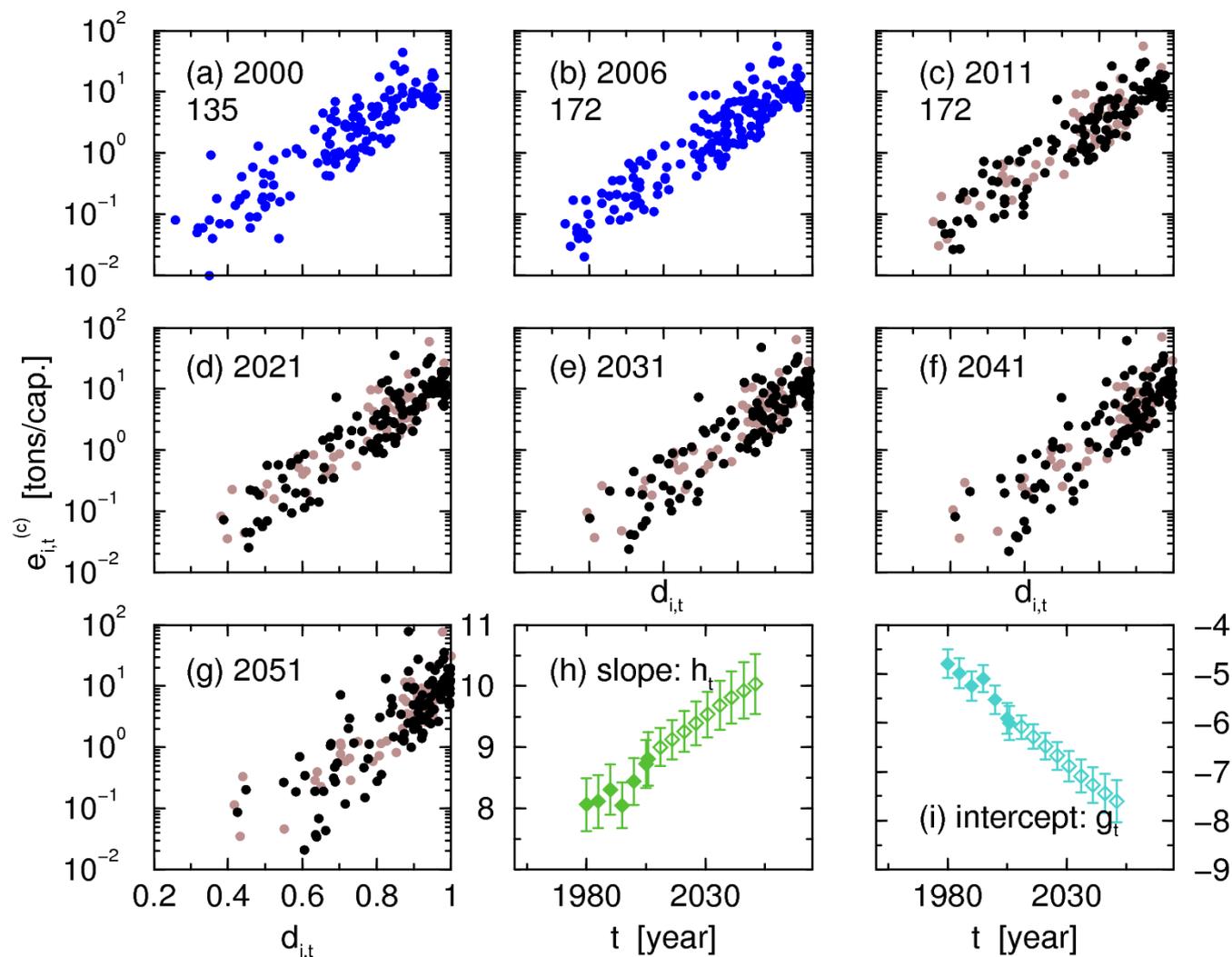


— Qatar
— Emirates
— Kuwait

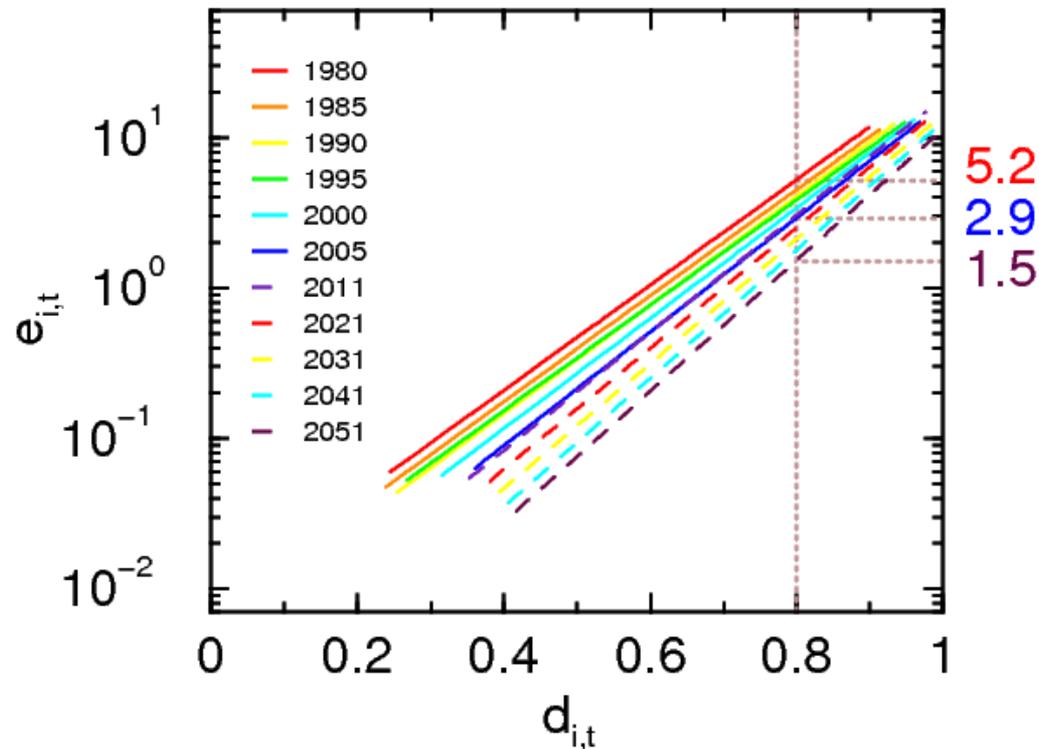
— Bahrain
— Trinidad&Tobago
— Luxembourg

— USA
— Australia
— Canada

Projected per capita emissions



Projected per capita emissions



- expected per capita emissions of HDI 0.8 countries in 2050: 1.5t/y
- less than 1/3 of the 1980 value

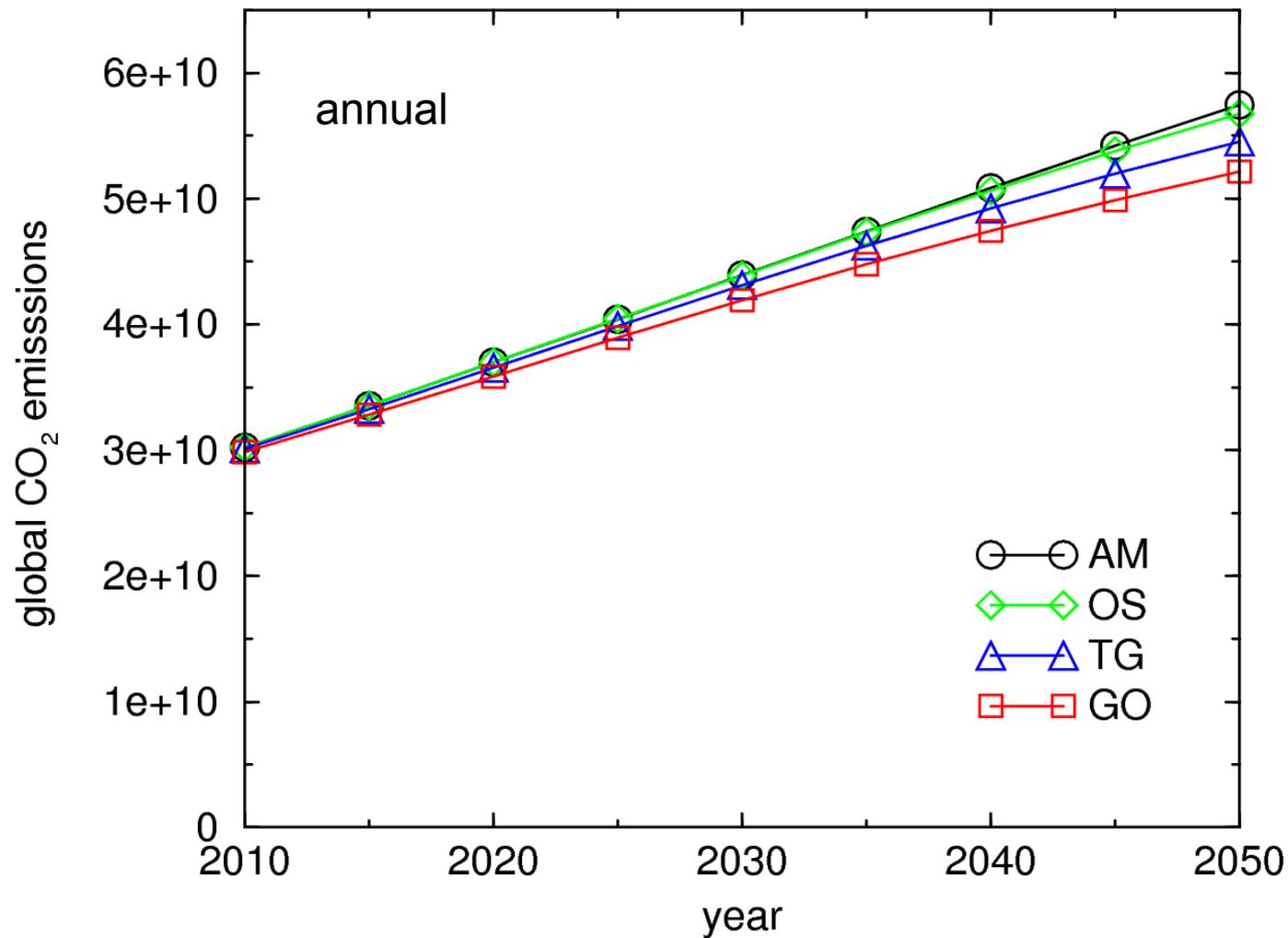
Projected cumulative emissions

so far: “reasonable” projected per capita CO₂ emissions
(majority of countries)

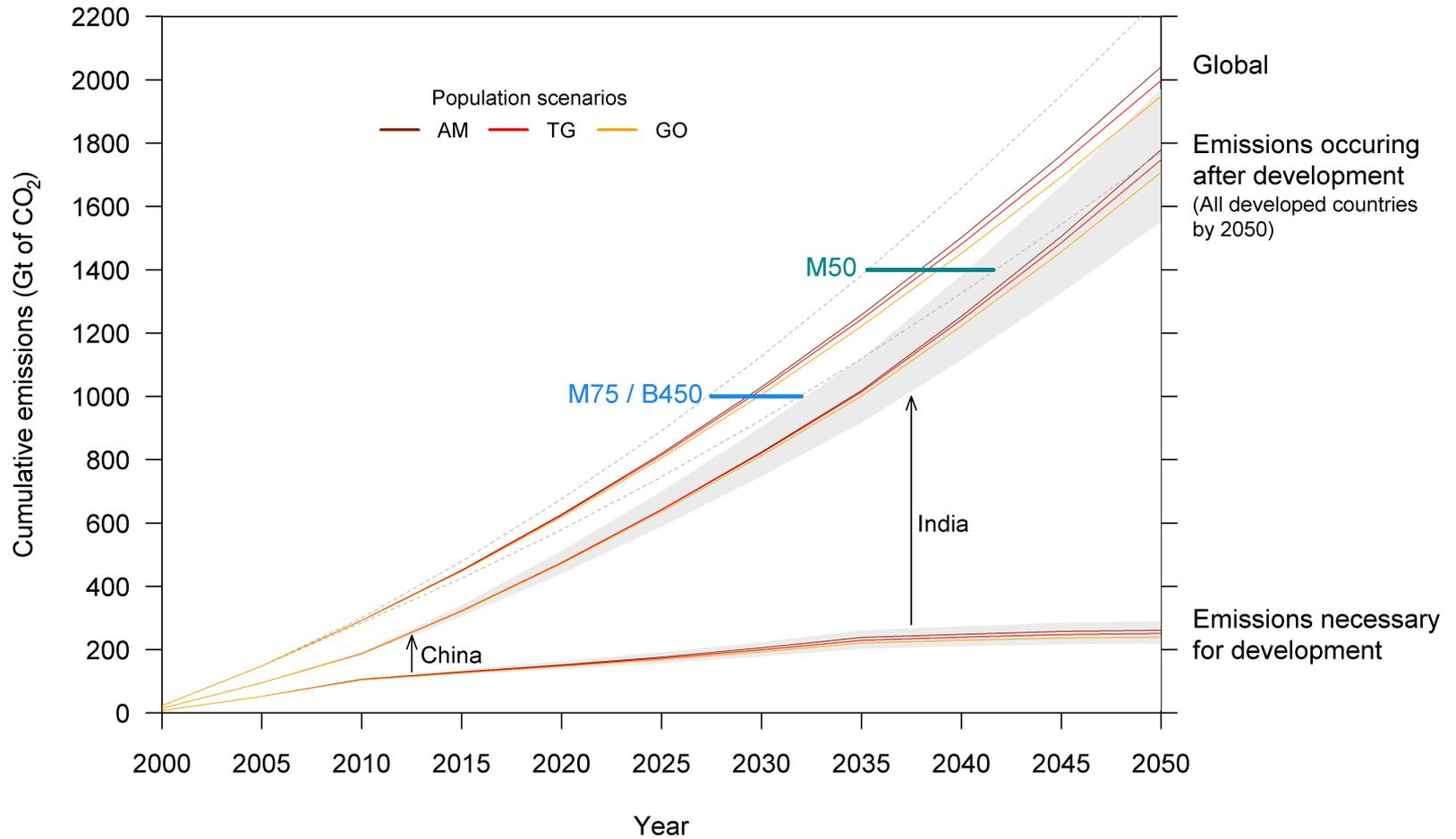
we want:

- total annual emissions for countries
- cumulative emissions

Projected cumulative emissions



finally ...



Outlook

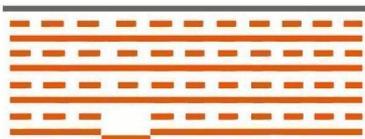
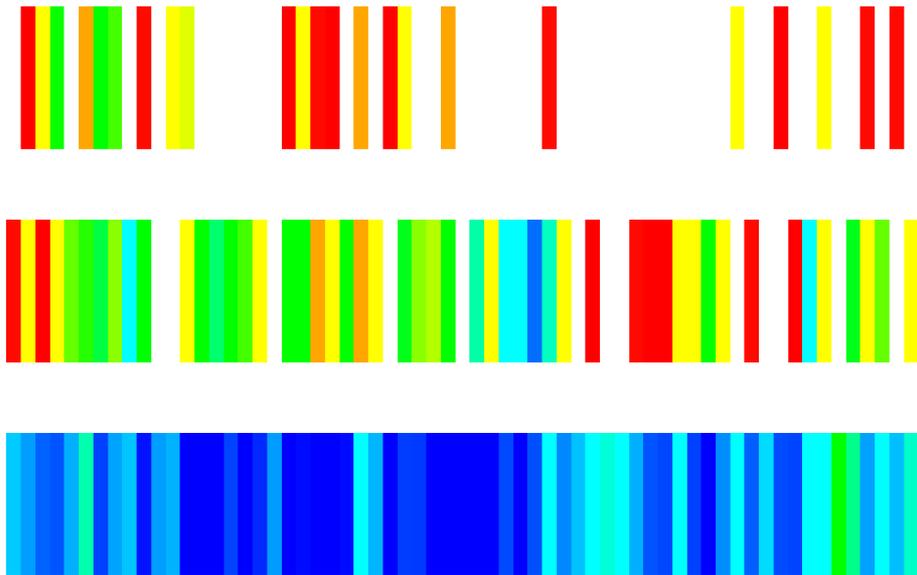
How could an allocation/reduction scheme look like?

paper:

L. Costa, D. Rybski, J.P. Kropp et al., submitted 2011.

see also: <http://arxiv.org/abs/1010.3837>

Thank you for your attention.



<http://www.rybski.de/diego/>

<http://www.pik-potsdam.de/members/rybski/>