

# DYNAMIC POLICY DESIGN FOR HIGH WELLBEING + LOW RESOURCE USE

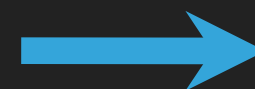
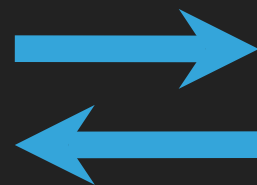
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March 2023



CLIMATE POLICY REQUIRES  
A COMPREHENSIVE,  
INCLUSIVE, AND  
DYNAMIC APPROACH TO  
STIMULATING INNOVATION AND  
ACCELERATING ADOPTION OF  
LOW CARBON TECHNOLOGIES.

# PUT DYNAMIC LOW-CARBON TECHNOLOGIES AT THE CENTER

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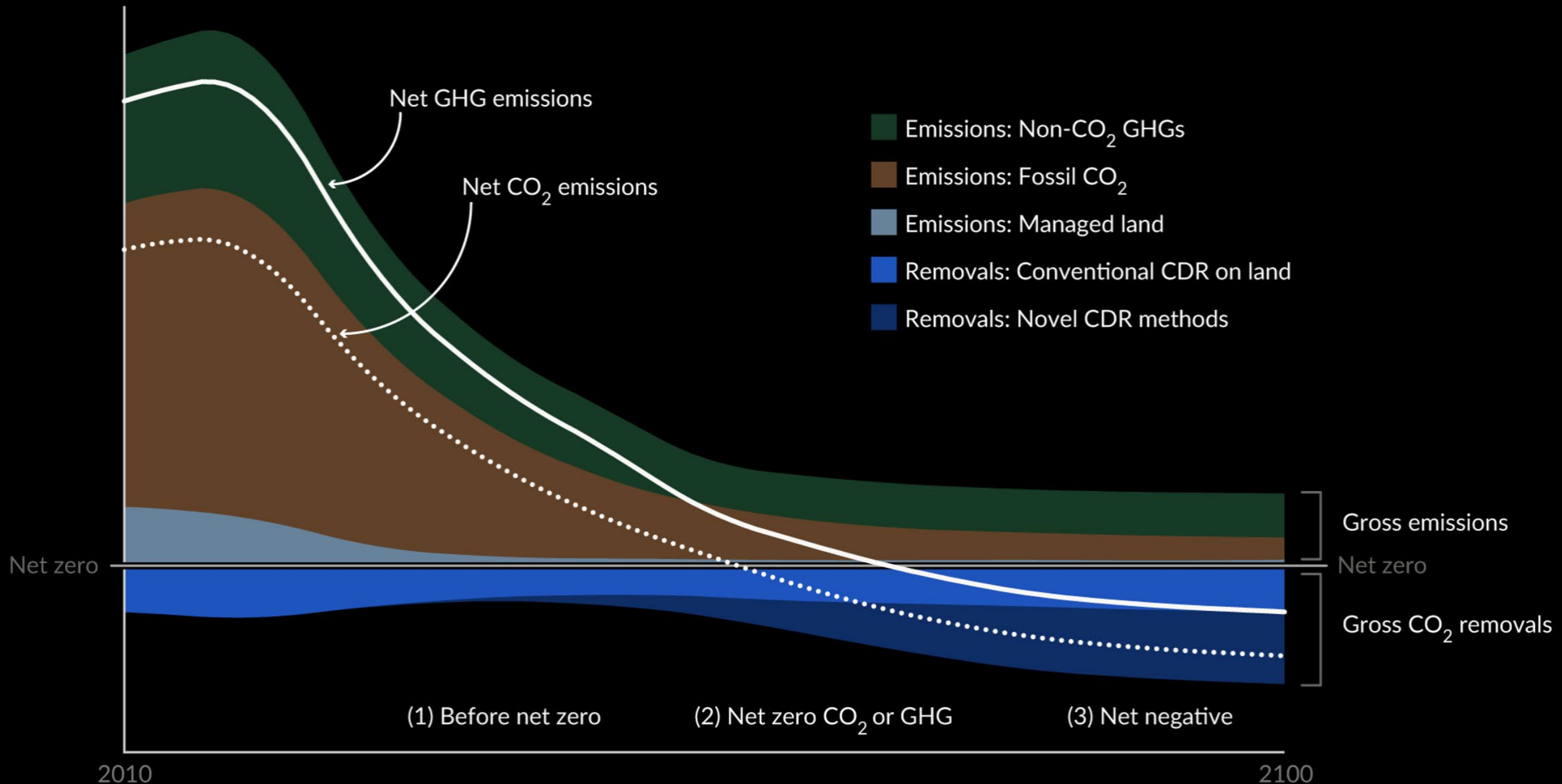
1. Major **progress** in low-c technologies + digitalization
2. Makes low-c transition **feasible and affordable**
3. **Need policy**: pollution, knowledge, systemic
4. **Design policy** with technology dynamics
5. **Comprehensive policy mix.**

1. urgency and acceleration as goals
2. multiple policies, strategic sequence
3. govt engages deeply in innovation
4. tech+ inclusivity, social acceptance
5. local learning and system integration
6. boost capacity in government
7. adaptive, learn from experiments

# <2C REQUIRES TRANSITION TO NET ZERO EMISSIONS ...SOON

5

Greenhouse gas emissions (stylised pathway)



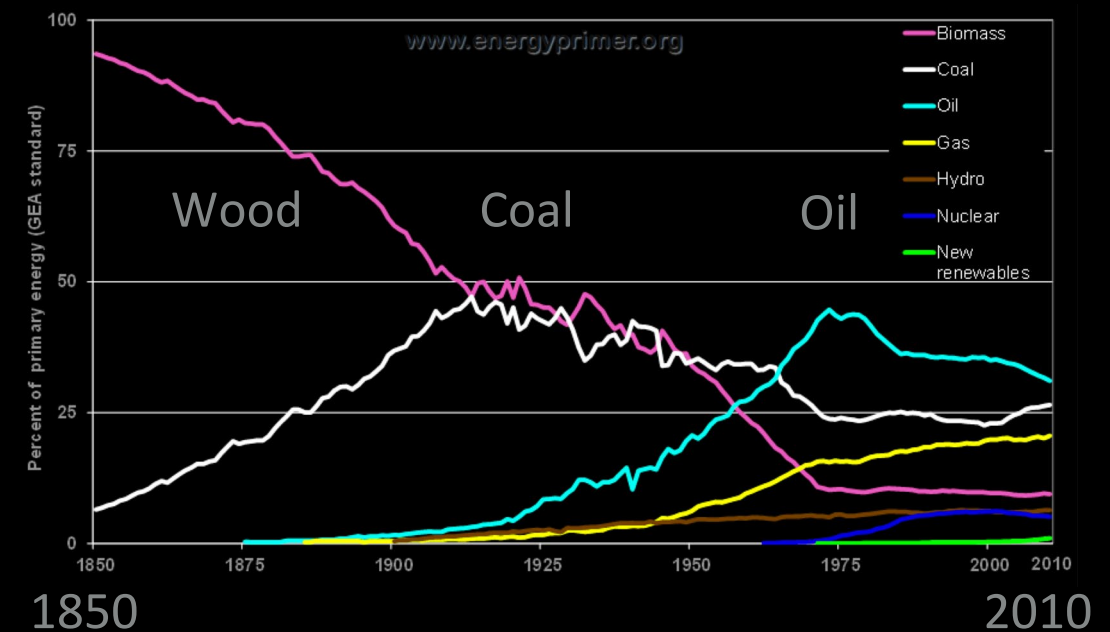
# ENERGY TRANSITIONS ARE HARD

6

1. Want CHEAP,  
CLEAN, RELIABLE



2. Past transitions  
took decades



3. CO<sub>2</sub> in atmosphere for  
>100 yrs



# REASONS FOR OPTIMISM

7

**1. technology is improving**

2. emerging **collective action**

3. learning from **policy experience**

4. success in **other areas**

5. **adaptation** incentives strong

6. **co-benefits**: local and immediate

7. **examples** of low-energy, high-HDI

8. **young adults**

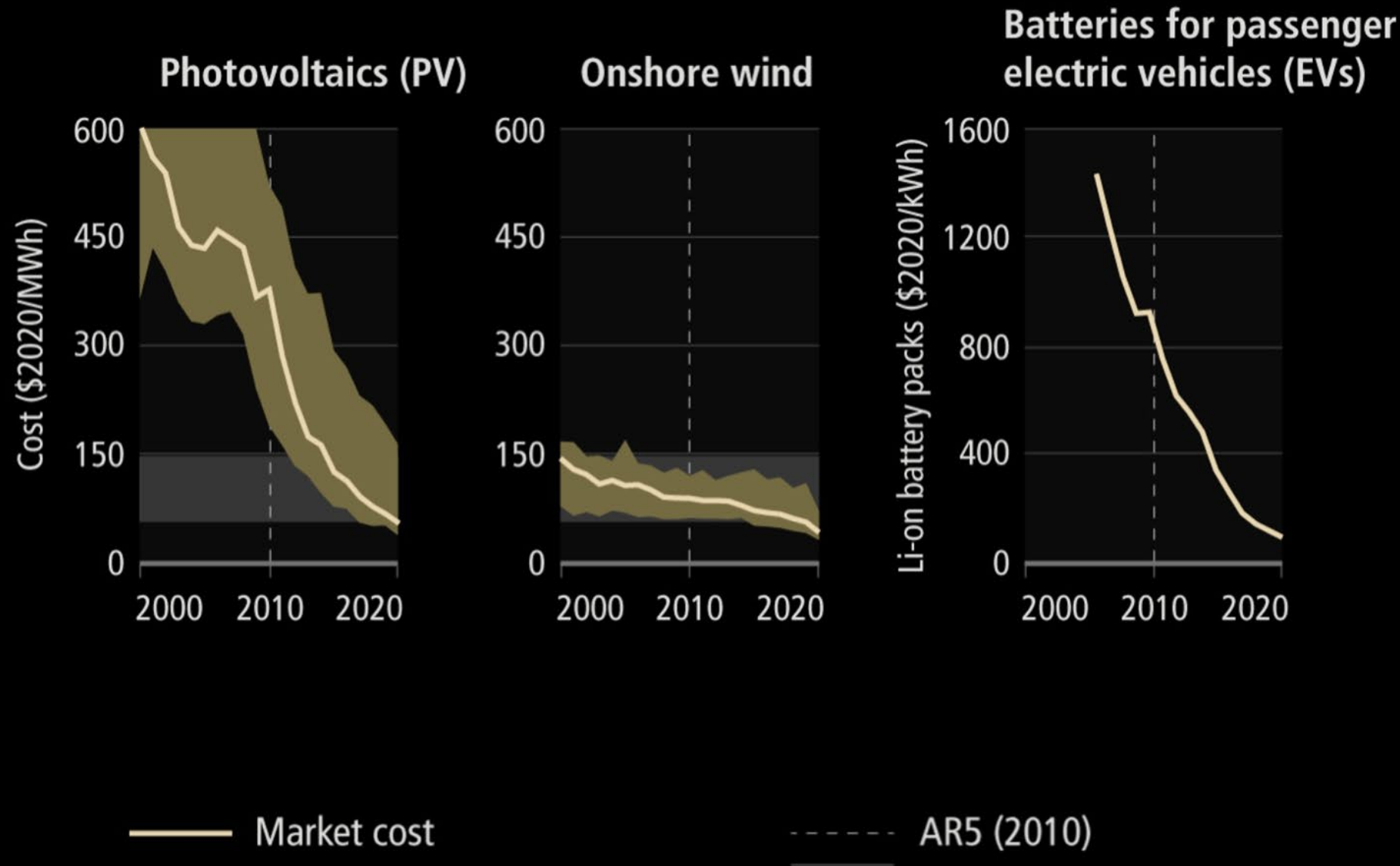


# COST REDUCTIONS

8

## Sixth Assessment Report

WORKING GROUP III – MITIGATION OF CLIMATE CHANGE



In some cases, costs for renewables have fallen below those of fossil fuels.

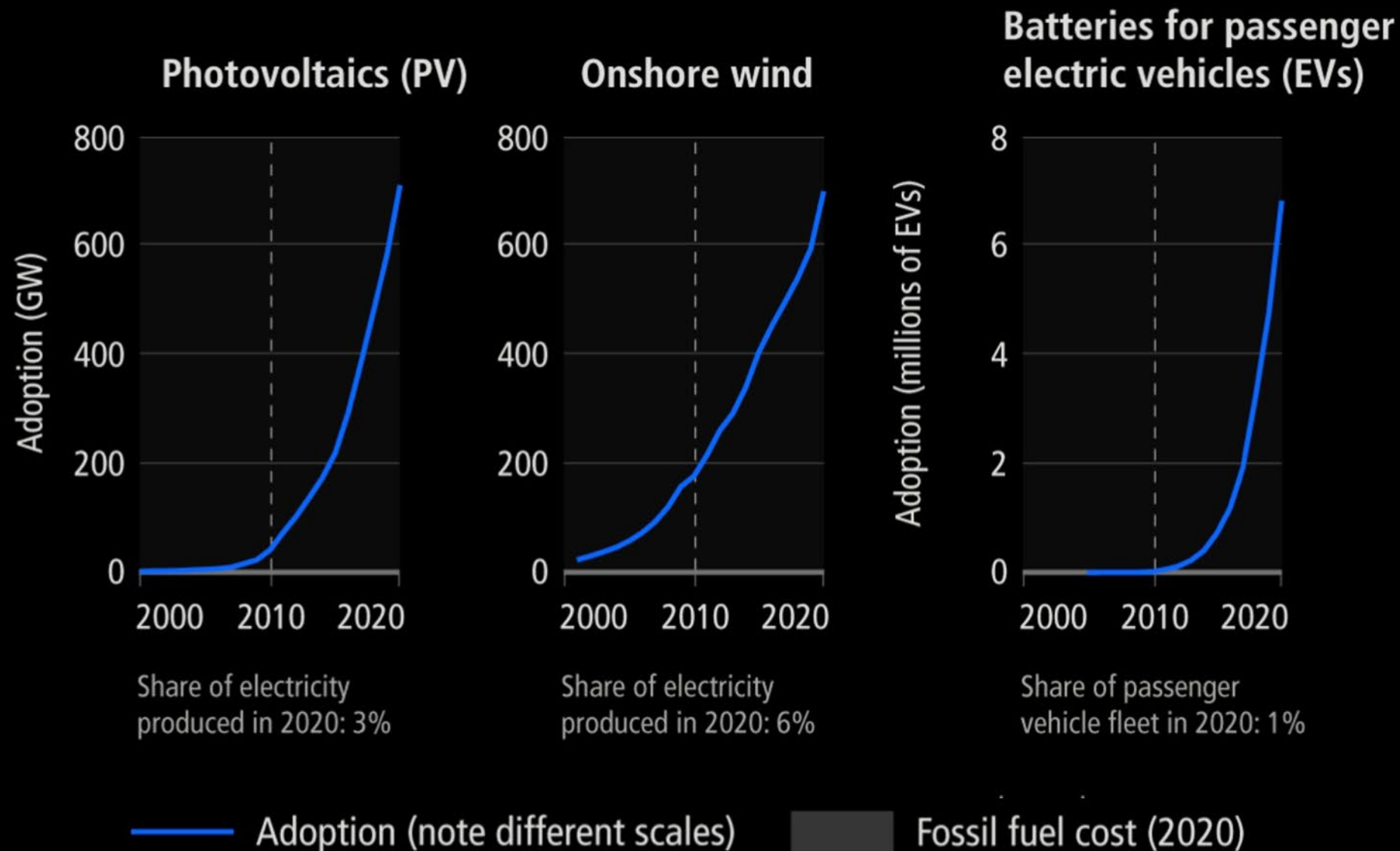


# RAPID ADOPTION

9

## Sixth Assessment Report

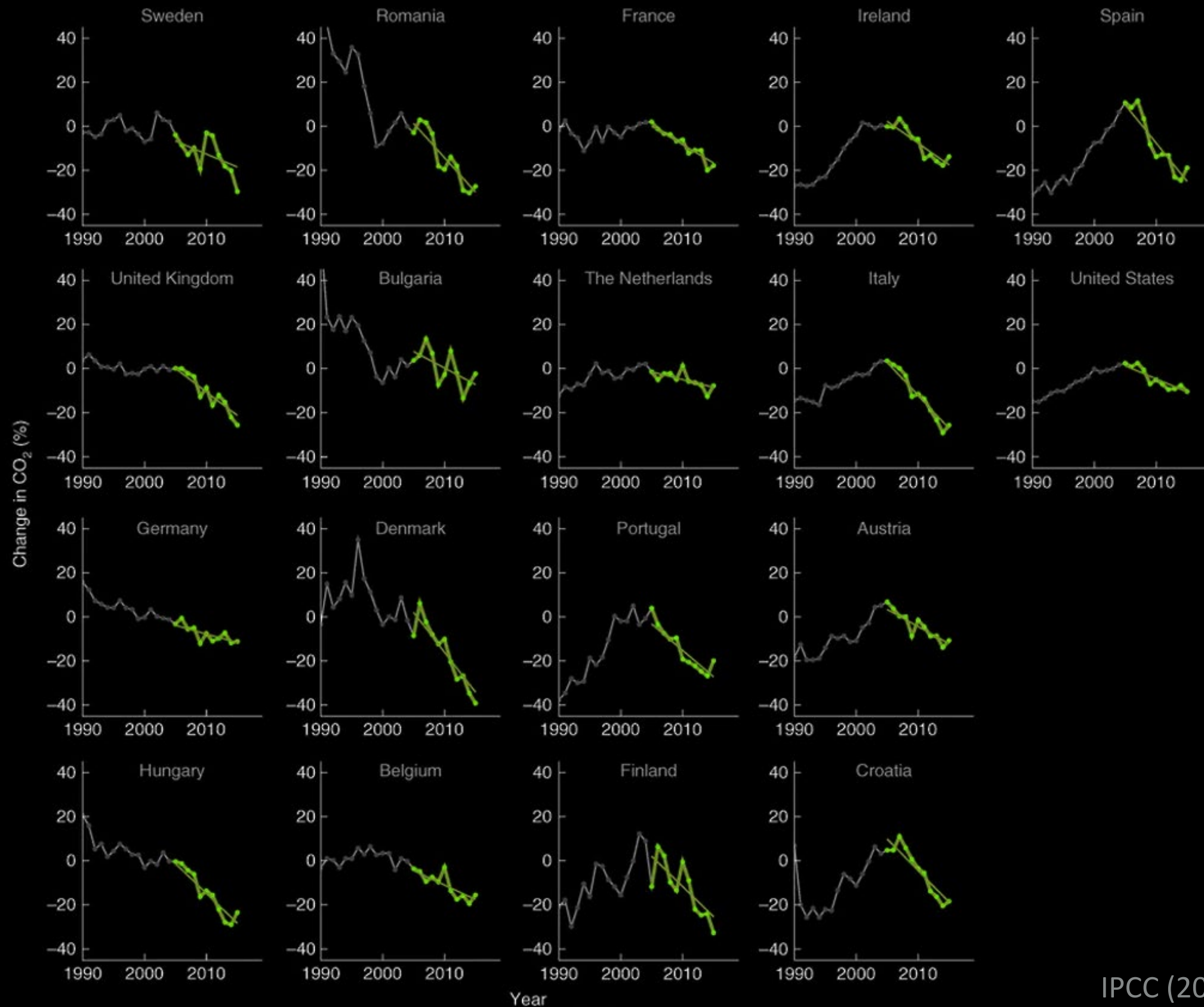
WORKING GROUP III – MITIGATION OF CLIMATE CHANGE



Electricity systems in some countries and regions are already predominantly powered by renewables.

# RAPID DECARBONIZATION NOW

10



IPCC (2022)

# STILL, WE NEED POLICY BECAUSE

- ▶ Pollution externality
- ▶ Knowledge spillovers
- ▶ Innovation system failures
- ▶ Inclusive well-being
- ▶ Speed of transition

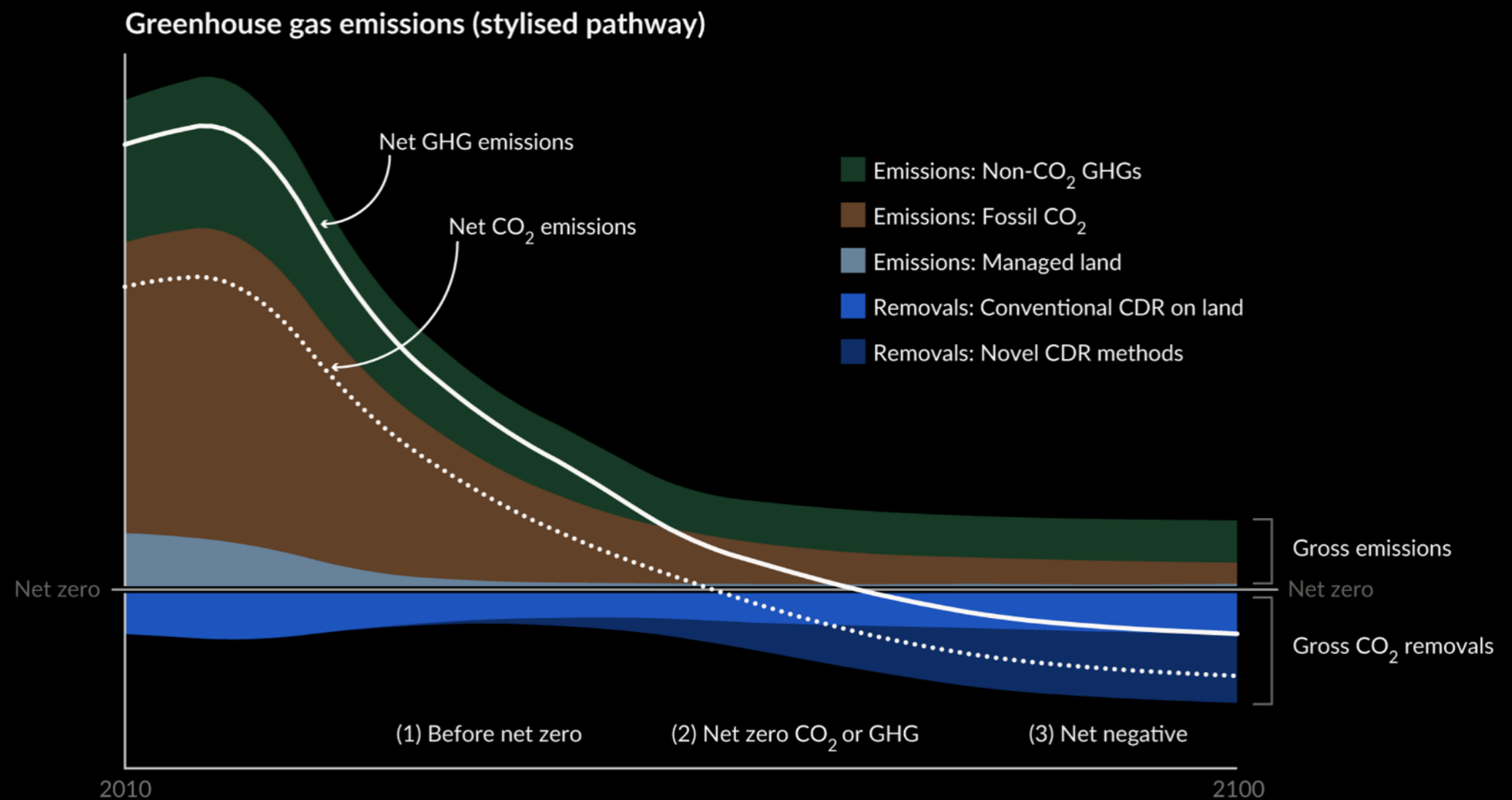


# TRENDS IN POLICY FOR CLIMATE

13

	1990s-	2000s-	2010s-	2020s
Approach	Environmental Policy	Endogenous technological change	Innovation systems	Green deal
Policy problem	Pollution	Pollution	Pollution	Equity
		Knowledge spillovers	Knowledge spillovers	Pollution
			Innovation sys. failure	Knowledge spillovers
				Innovation systems
				Speed
Policy solution	Carbon price	Carbon price	Tech Push	Social policy
		R&D	Meso	Tech Push
			Demand pull	Meso
			C px	Demand pull
				C px
Exemplar	Acid rain	Apollo	Solar PV	Net zero C

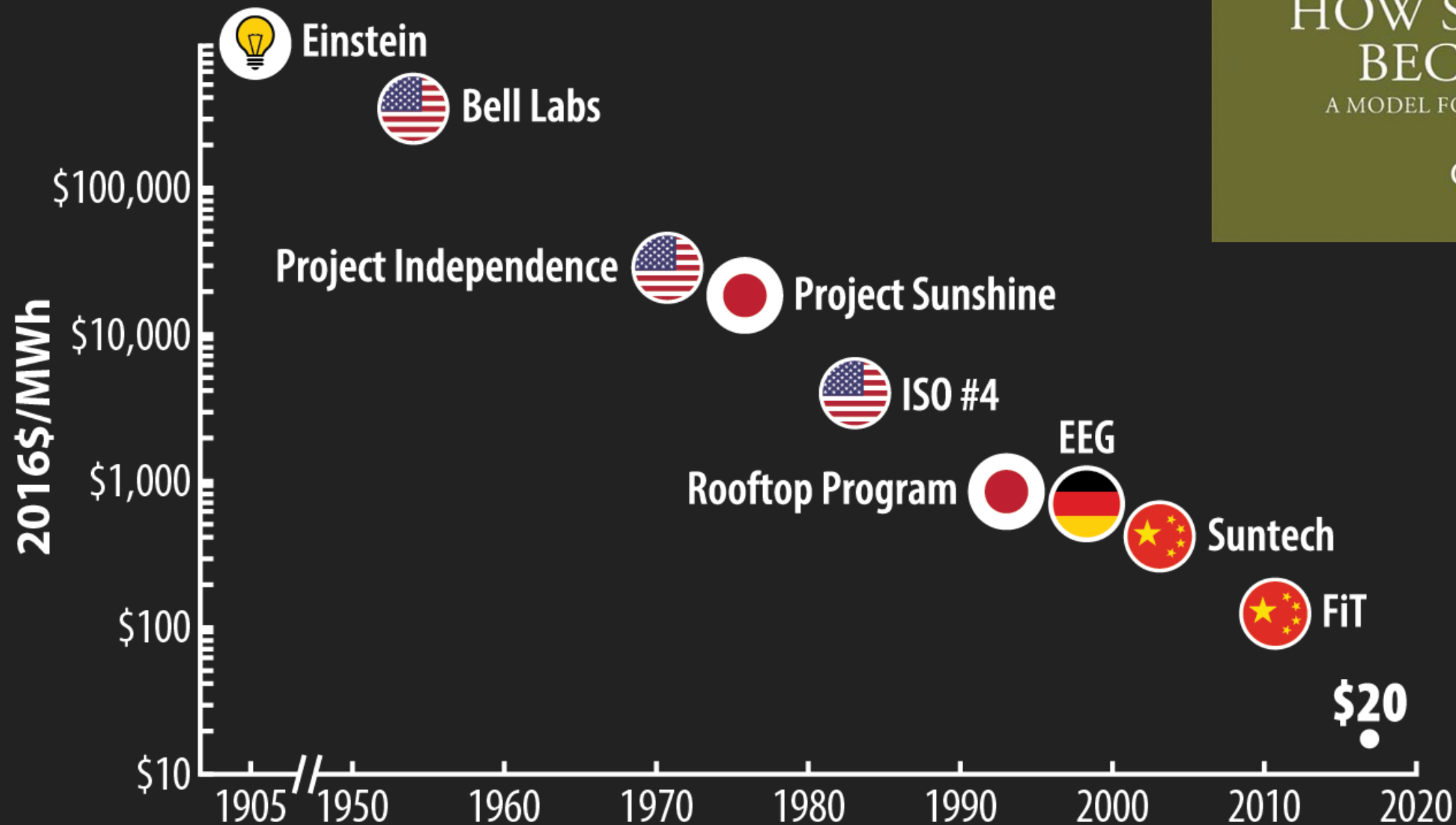
# EMPIRICAL RESULTS TO INFORM POLICY DESIGN FOR NET ZERO





# TECHNOLOGY IS IMPROVING

HERE IS HOW...



## HOW SOLAR ENERGY BECAME CHEAP

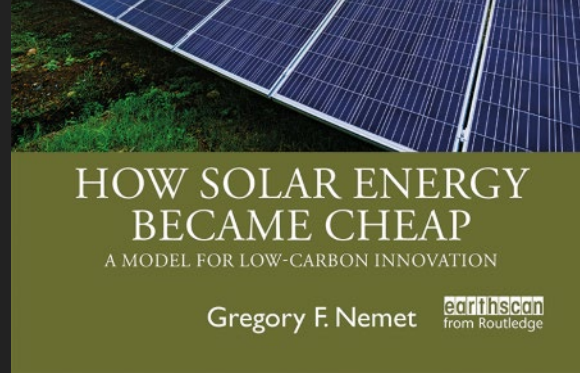
A MODEL FOR LOW-CARBON INNOVATION

Gregory F. Nemet

earthscan  
from Routledge

- ▶  $10^{-4}$
- ▶ Policy
- ▶ Global
- ▶ Small





Technology  
Push

1970

1980



Niche  
Markets

1990



Demand  
Pull

2000

2010



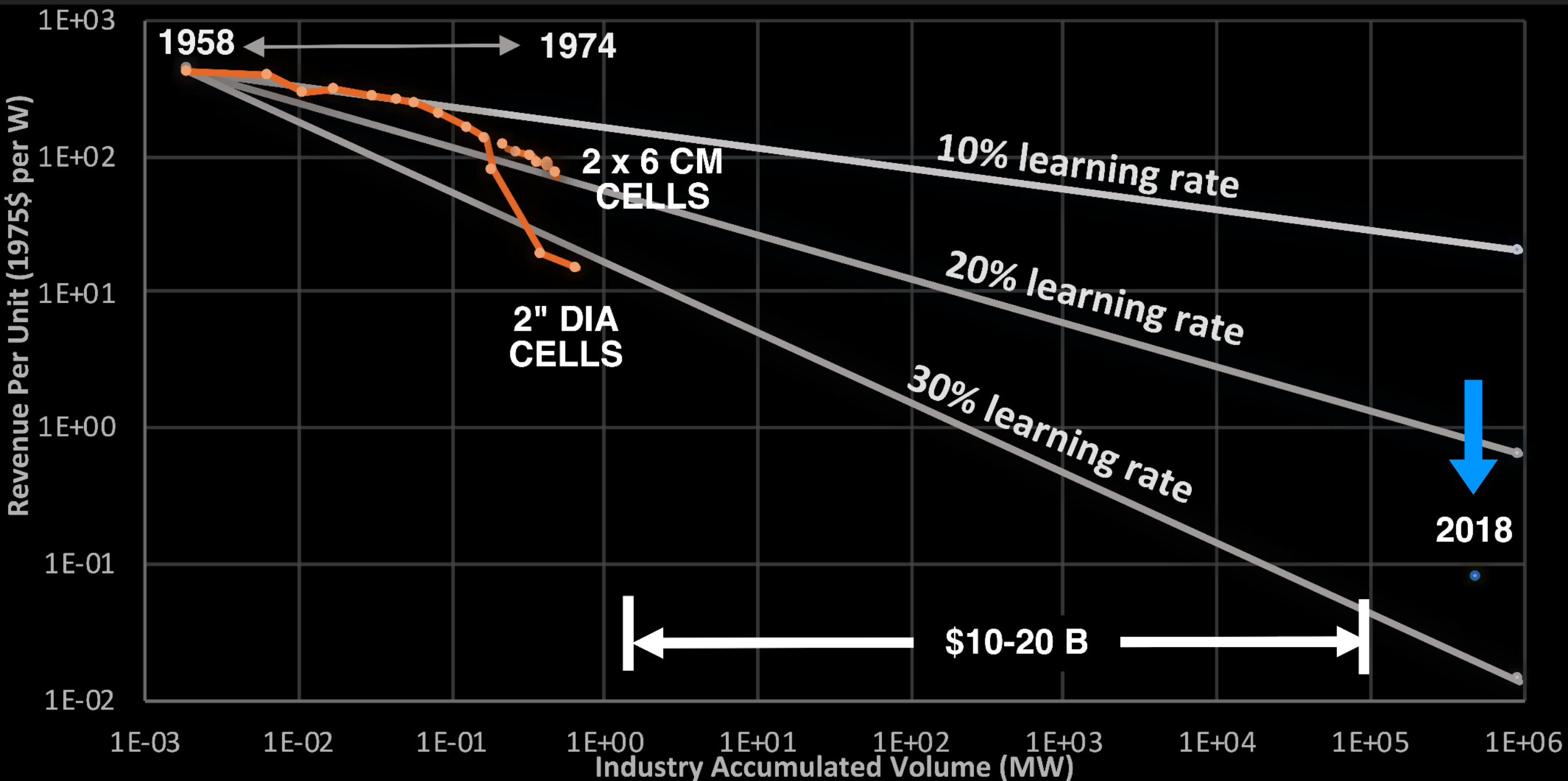
Scale  
up

2020

16

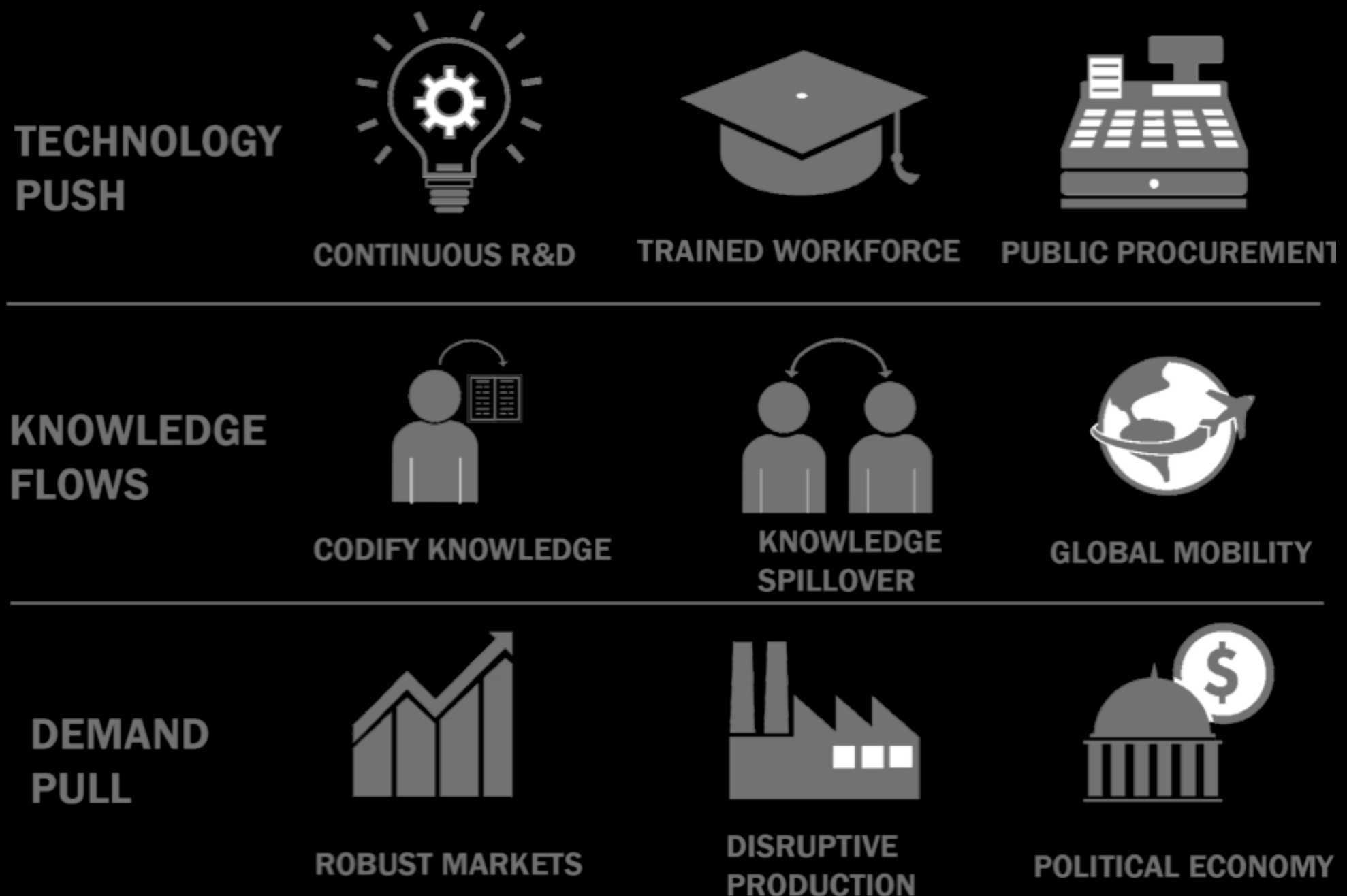
## PROJECT INDEPENDENCE

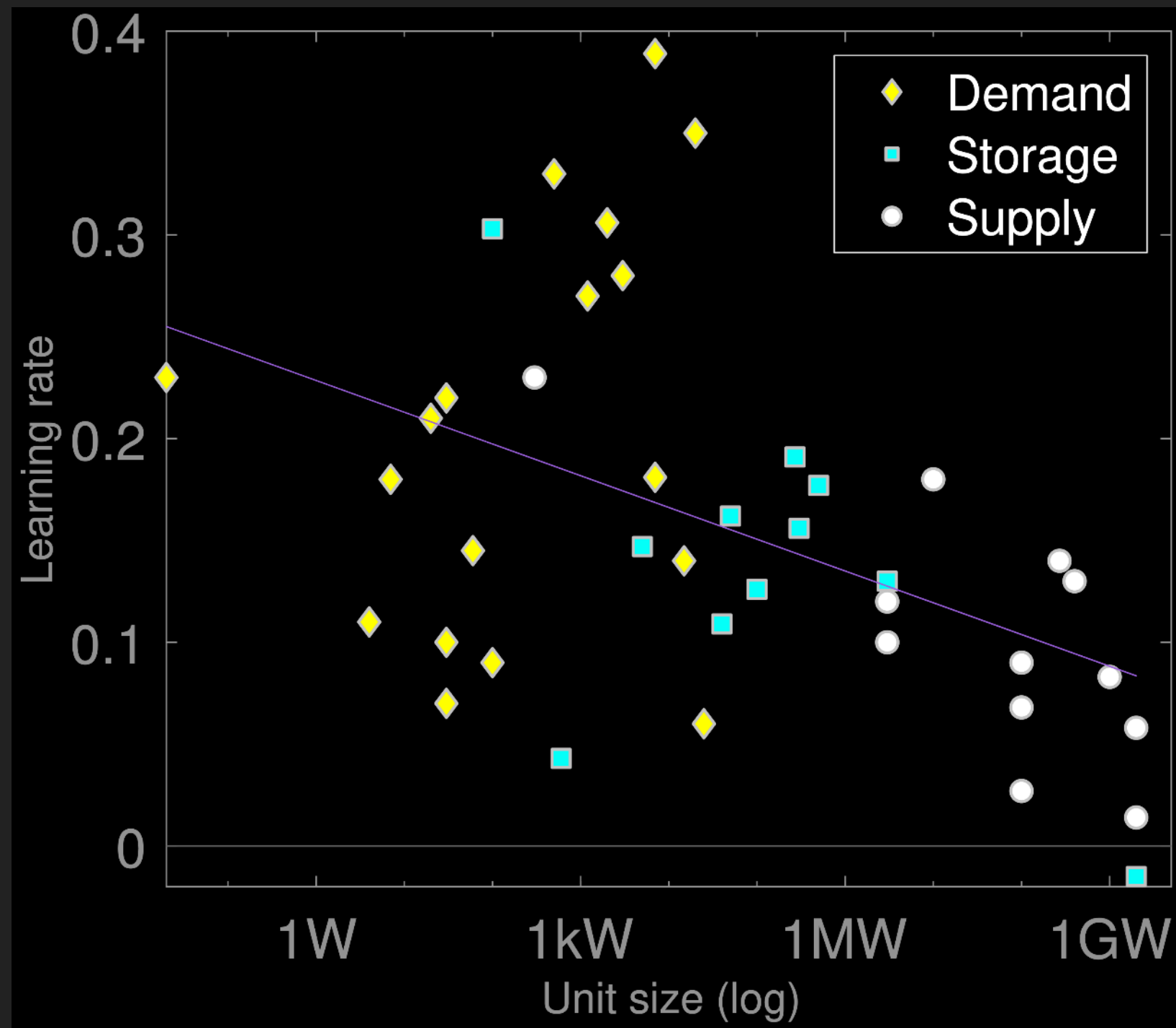
## 1ST PV LEARNING CURVE



# A NEW ROLE FOR PUBLIC POLICY

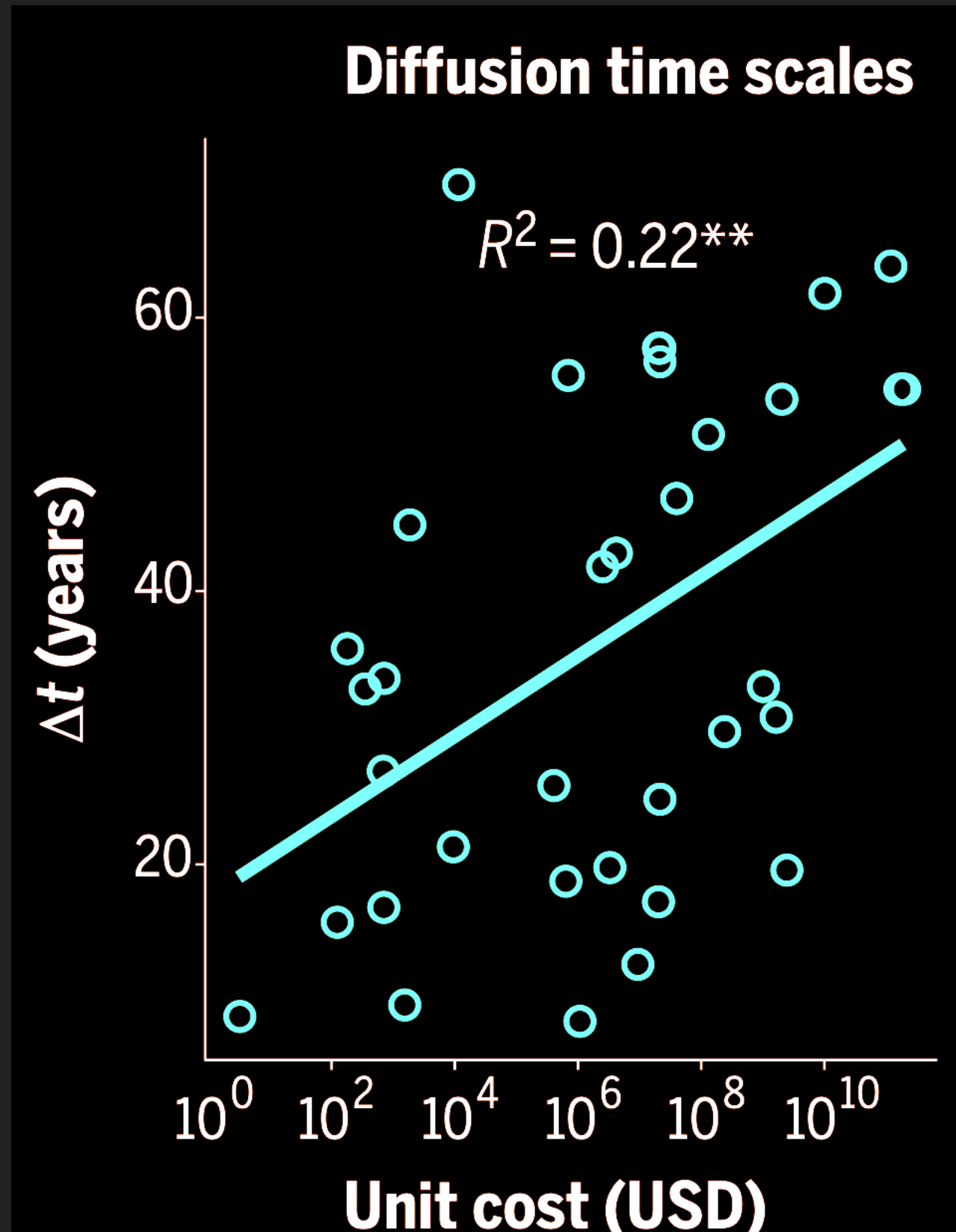
- ▶ Focus on dynamic technology...and acceleration
- ▶ More like industrial policy than environmental policy
- ▶ That demands a lot more capability in governments



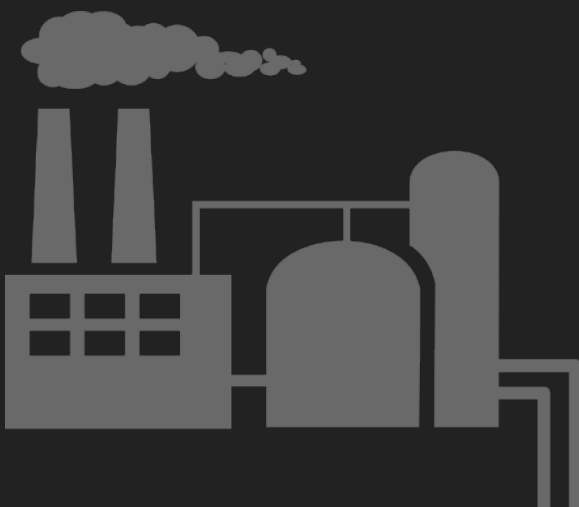
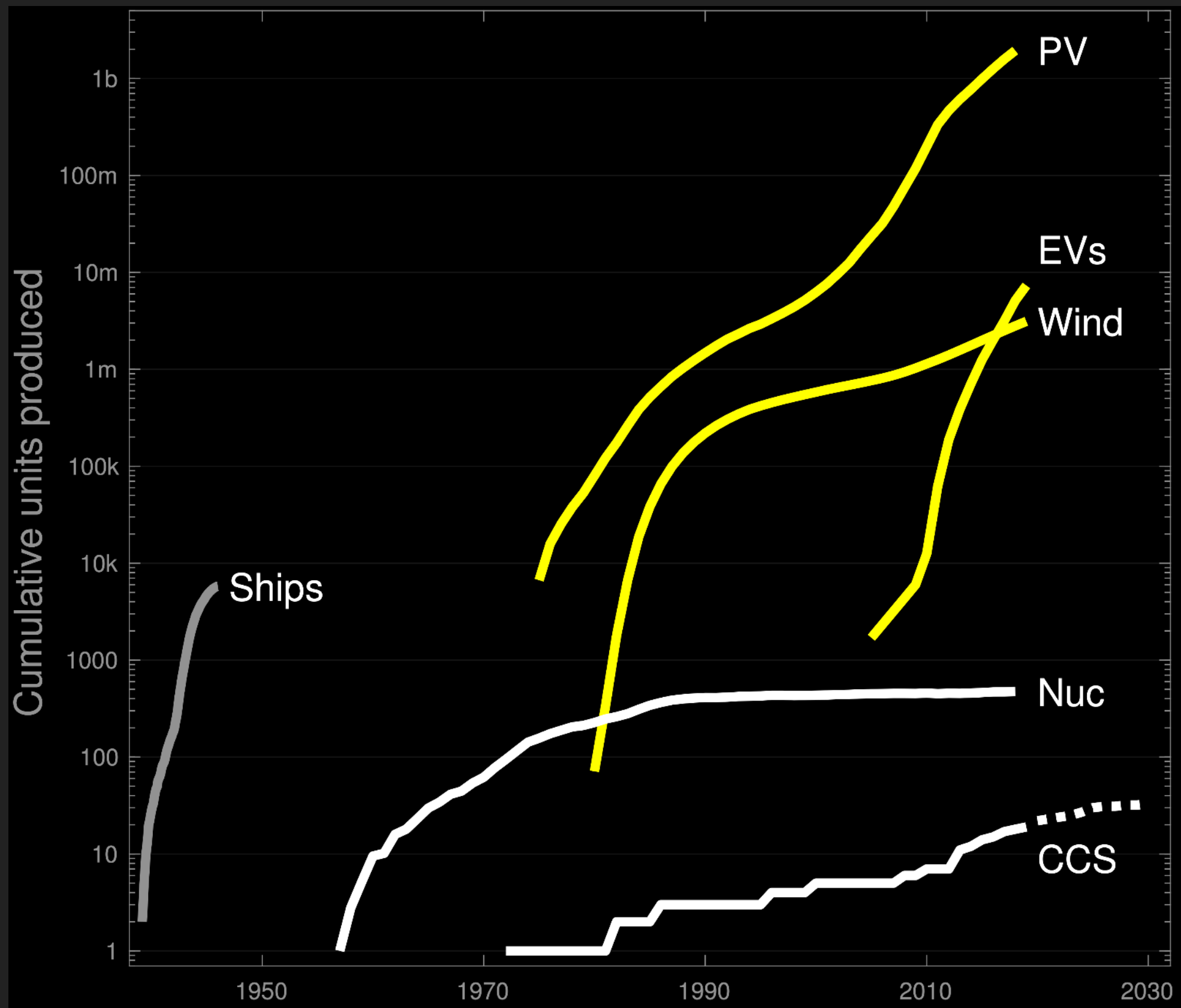


Sweerts et al. 2020





# SMALL TECH MEANS MORE ITERATIONS

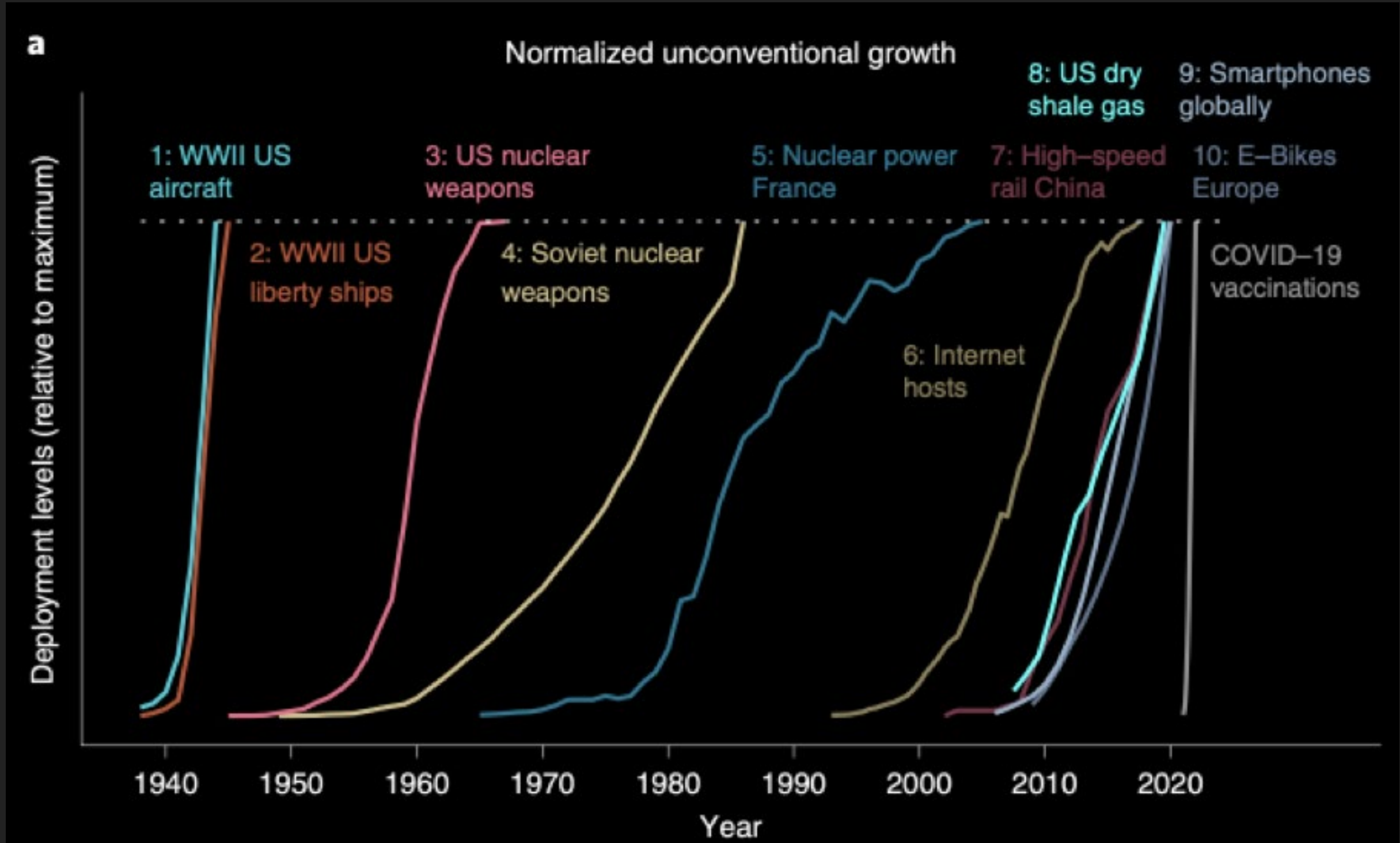


SMALL TECHNOLOGIES  
MAY TURN OUT TO BE  
MORE SCALABLE  
THAN LARGE ONES

...SPEED



# EXPANDING THE EVIDENCE BASE



Odenweller, A., Ueckerdt, F., Nemet, G.F., Jensterle, M., Luderer, G., 2022. Probabilistic feasibility space of scaling up green hydrogen supply. Nat Energy 1–12. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41560-022-01097-4>



# HISTORICAL TECHNOLOGY ADOPTION DATASET (HTAD)

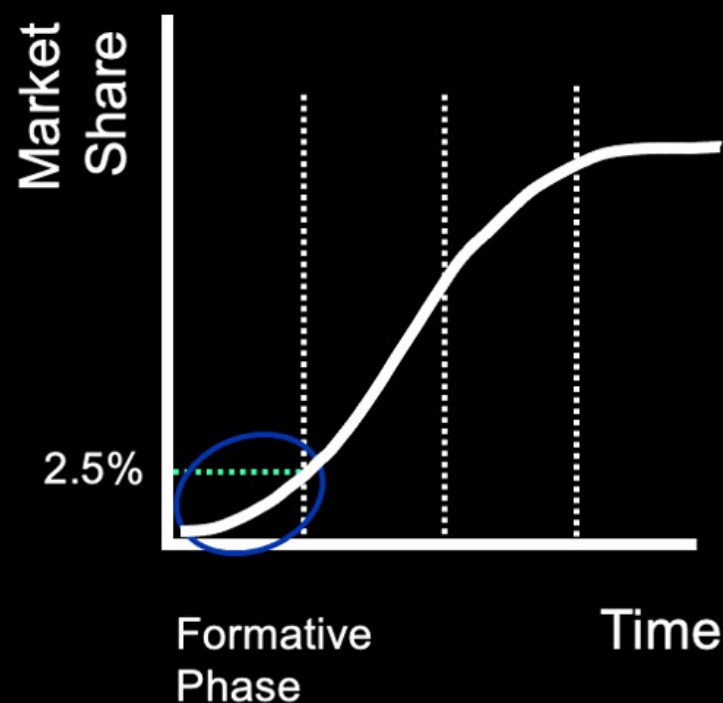
 <b>Infrastructure</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Electricity access</li> <li>• High speed rail</li> <li>• Natural gas pipelines</li> <li>• Oil pipelines</li> <li>• Oil production</li> <li>• Public roads</li> <li>• Railroads</li> </ul>	 <b>Food and Health</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• COVID vaccines</li> <li>• Hybrid corn</li> <li>• Herbicide-resistant soybeans</li> <li>• Herbicide-resistant cotton</li> <li>• Herbicide-resistant corn</li> <li>• Insect-resistant corn</li> <li>• Insect-resistant cotton</li> <li>• Nitrogen fertilizer</li> <li>• Potash fertilizer</li> <li>• Phosphate fertilizer</li> </ul>	 <b>Transportation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Automatic transmission</li> <li>• Bikes</li> <li>• Cars</li> <li>• Disc brakes</li> <li>• Electric bikes</li> <li>• Jets</li> <li>• Motorcycles</li> <li>• Power steering</li> <li>• Radial tires</li> <li>• Steam locomotives</li> <li>• Steamships</li> </ul>	 <b>Energy End-Use Technologies</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air conditioning</li> <li>• Air source heat pumps</li> <li>• CFLs</li> <li>• Electric vehicles</li> <li>• Ground source heat pumps</li> <li>• LEDs</li> </ul>
 <b>Space and Defense</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Liberty ships</li> <li>• Nuclear weapons</li> <li>• Satellite launches</li> </ul>	 <b>Sea and Water</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aquaculture production</li> <li>• Capture fisheries</li> <li>• Desalination plants</li> <li>• Oil and gas rigs</li> </ul>	 <b>Digitalization</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bits shipped</li> <li>• Cell phone subscriptions</li> <li>• Computing growth</li> <li>• Internet bandwidth</li> <li>• Internet data traffic</li> <li>• Internet hosts</li> <li>• Internet servers</li> <li>• Internet users</li> <li>• Magnetic data storage</li> <li>• Microprocessor clock speed</li> <li>• Processor performance</li> <li>• Random access memory</li> <li>• Social media share</li> <li>• Transistors per Microprocessor</li> </ul>	 <b>Energy Supply Technologies</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biofuel</li> <li>• Biogas</li> <li>• Carbon capture &amp; storage</li> <li>• Coal</li> <li>• Concentrated solar power</li> <li>• Flow battery</li> <li>• Hydroelectric power</li> <li>• Liquified natural gas</li> <li>• Natural gas</li> <li>• Nuclear</li> <li>• Offshore wind</li> <li>• Refineries</li> <li>• NOx pollution controls</li> <li>• Pumped Hydro</li> <li>• Shale production</li> <li>• Solar PV</li> <li>• Solar thermal</li> <li>• Solid biomass</li> <li>• Stationary Steam Engines</li> <li>• Wind</li> </ul>
 <b>Materials</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aluminum</li> <li>• Cadmium</li> <li>• Cement</li> <li>• Copper production</li> <li>• Copper mining</li> <li>• Copper refining</li> <li>• Iron ore</li> <li>• Lead</li> <li>• Nickel</li> <li>• Raw steel</li> <li>• Salt</li> <li>• Sand and gravel</li> </ul>	 <b>Household Appliances</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cellphones</li> <li>• Color TVs</li> <li>• Dishwashers</li> <li>• Dryers</li> <li>• Freezers</li> <li>• Landlines</li> <li>• Microwaves</li> <li>• Radios</li> <li>• Refrigerators</li> <li>• Toilets</li> <li>• Vacuums</li> <li>• Washers</li> </ul>	 <b>Storage Technologies</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Latent heat</li> <li>• Lead acid battery</li> <li>• Lithium-ion battery</li> <li>• Sensible Heat</li> <li>• Sodium Battery</li> </ul>	

Nemet,  
Greene et al.  
(2023)

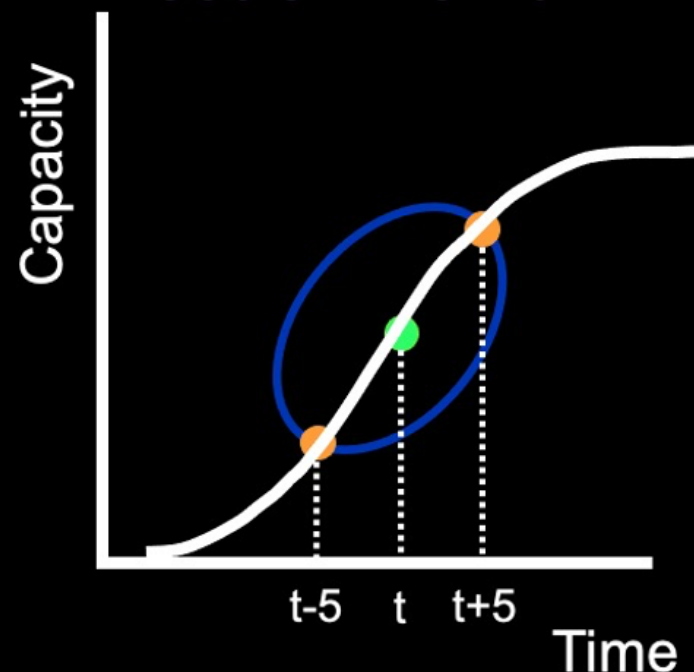
# FUNCTIONAL FORM

24

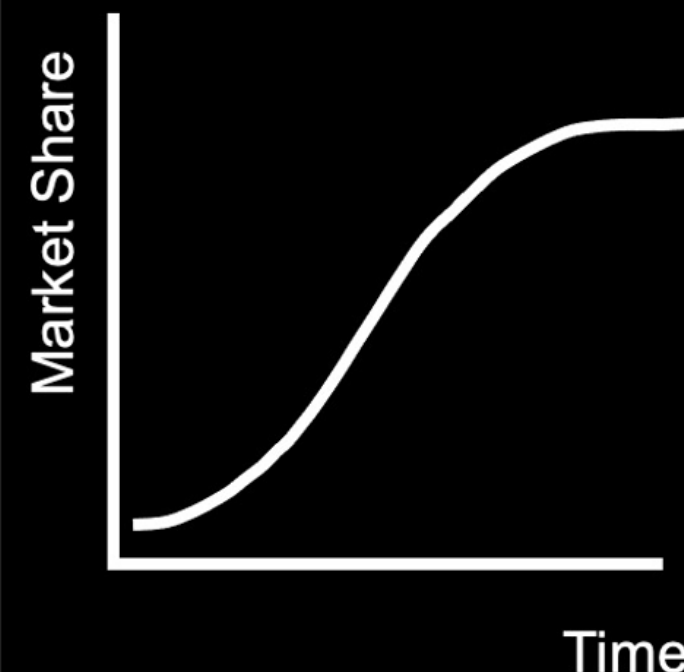
## Formative Phases



## Linear Growth around Inflection Point



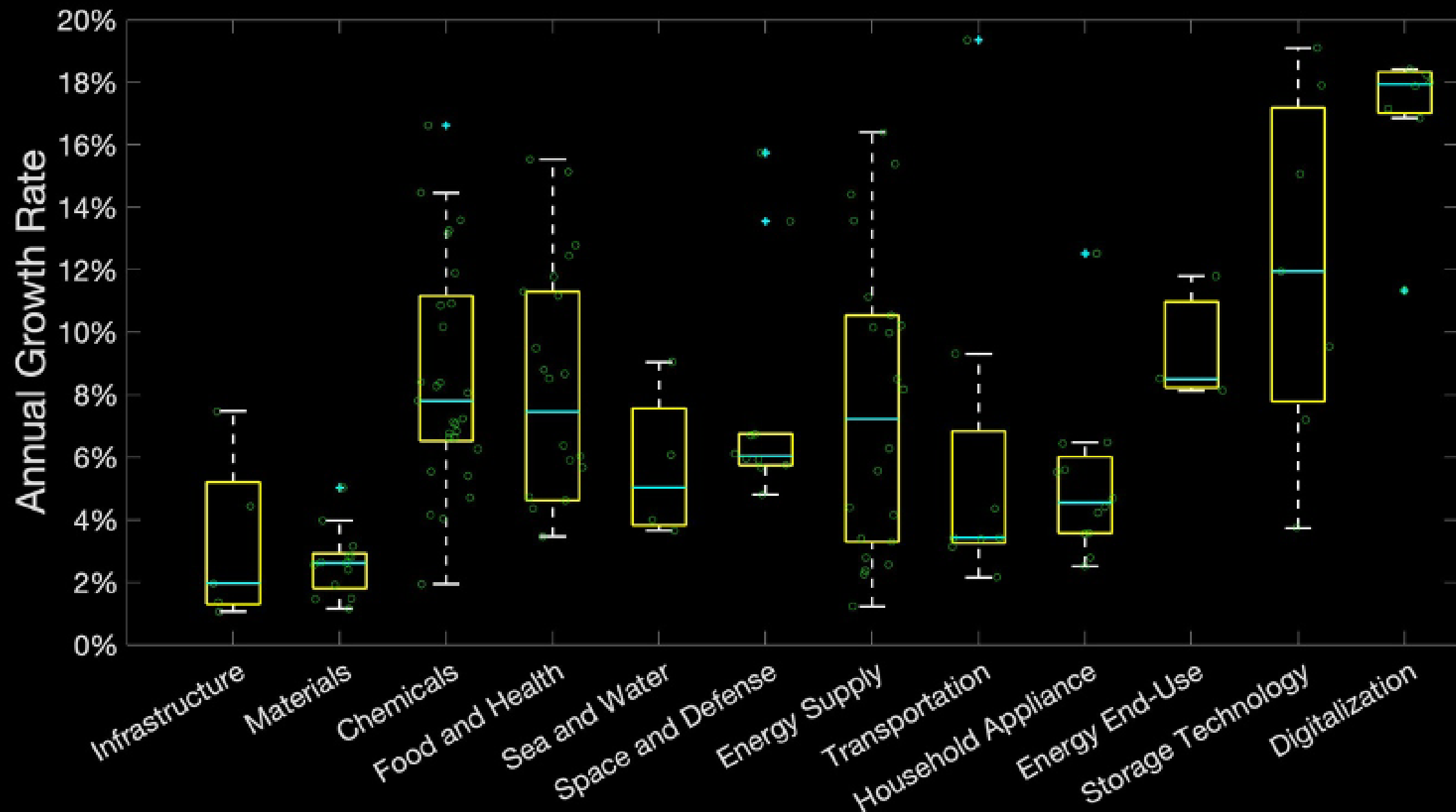
## Logistic



Nemet, Greene et al. (2023)

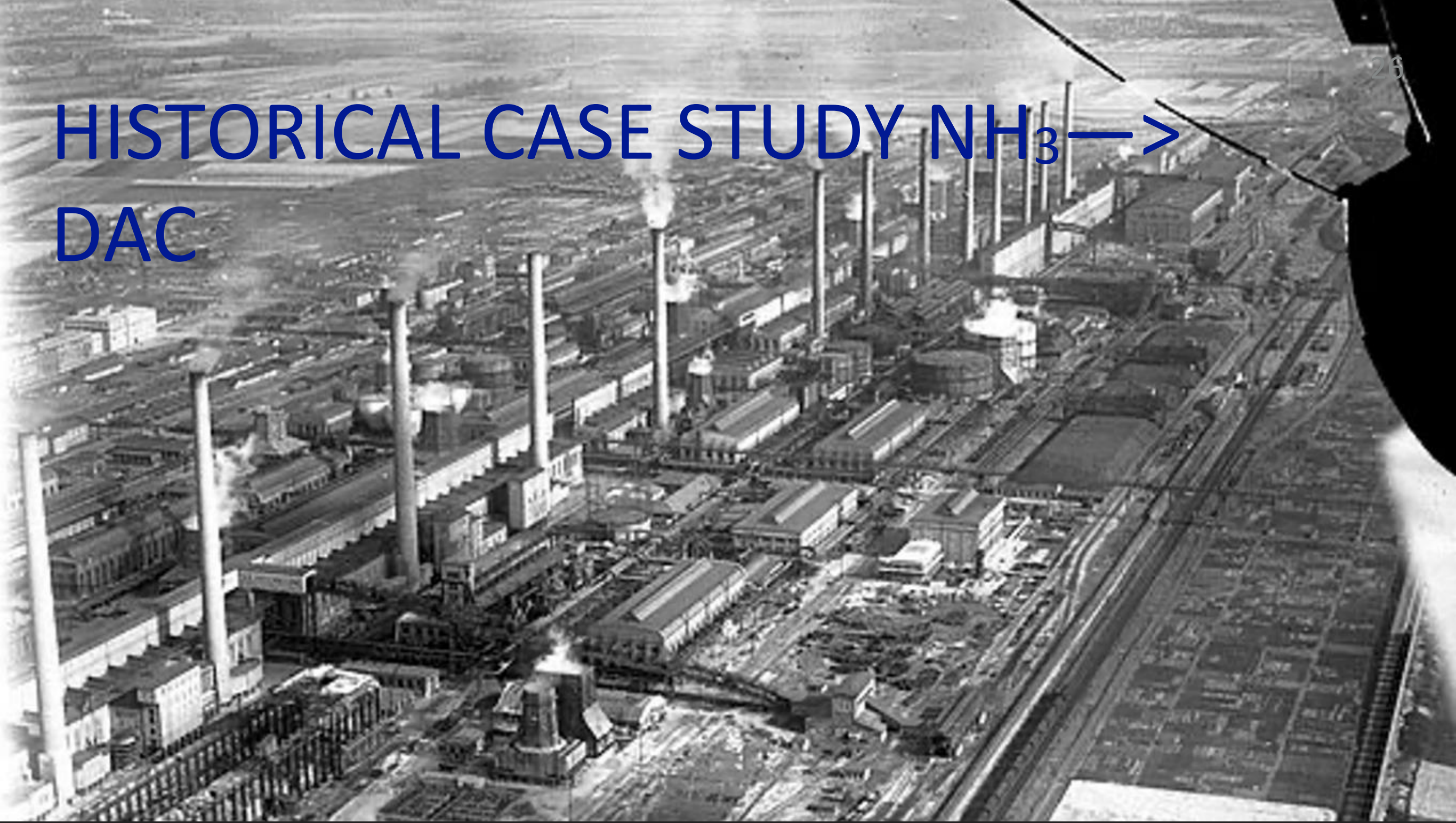
# HISTORICAL GROWTH RATES

25





# HISTORICAL CASE STUDY $\text{NH}_3 \rightarrow$ DAC



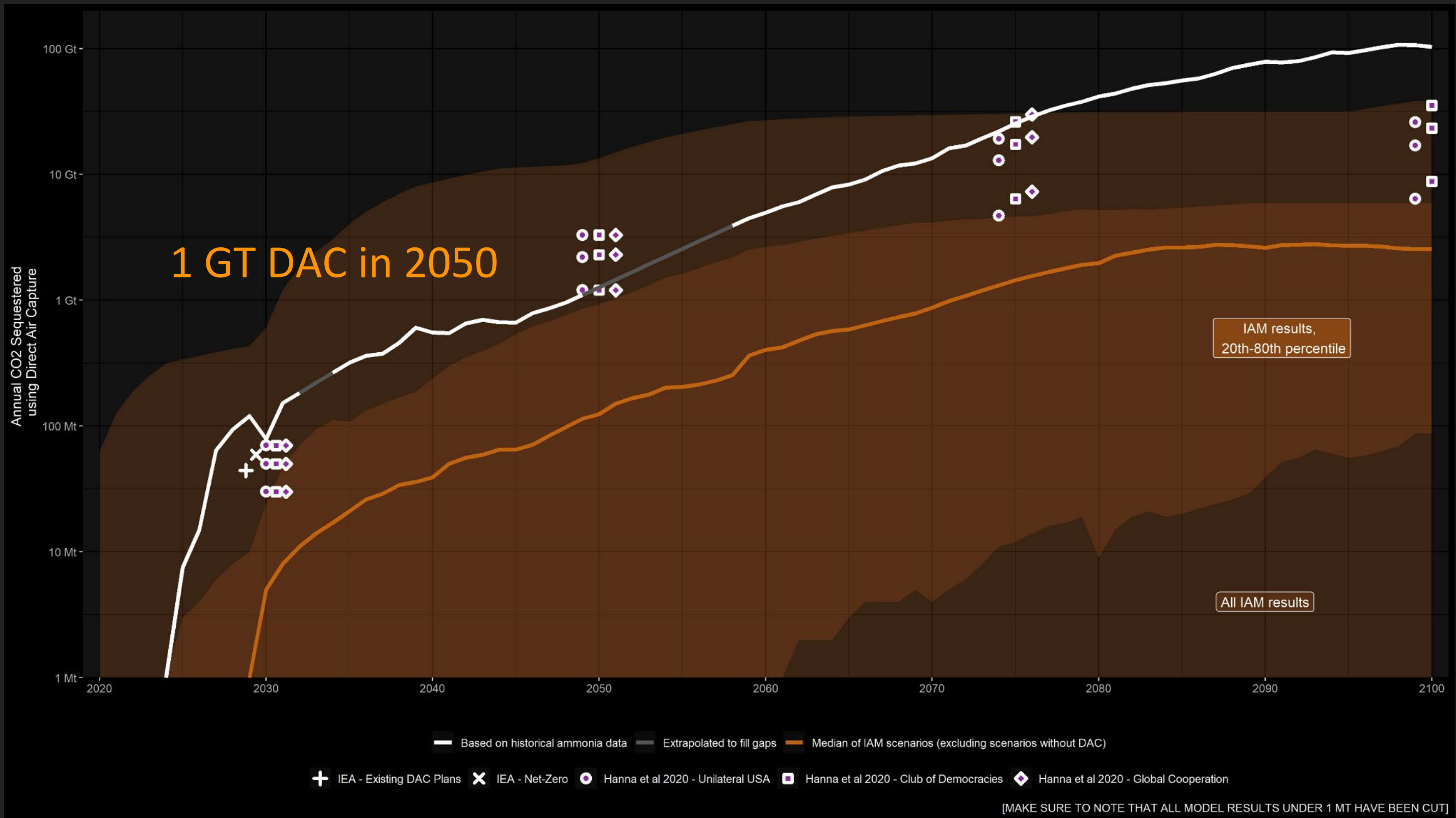
1. 1920s convergence on dominant design
2. Growth supported by major global events: 2 world wars, Green Revolution

Roberts and Nemet (2022)  
“SHARD”

Roberts and Nemet (2023)

# APPLYING NH<sub>3</sub> TO DAC

27



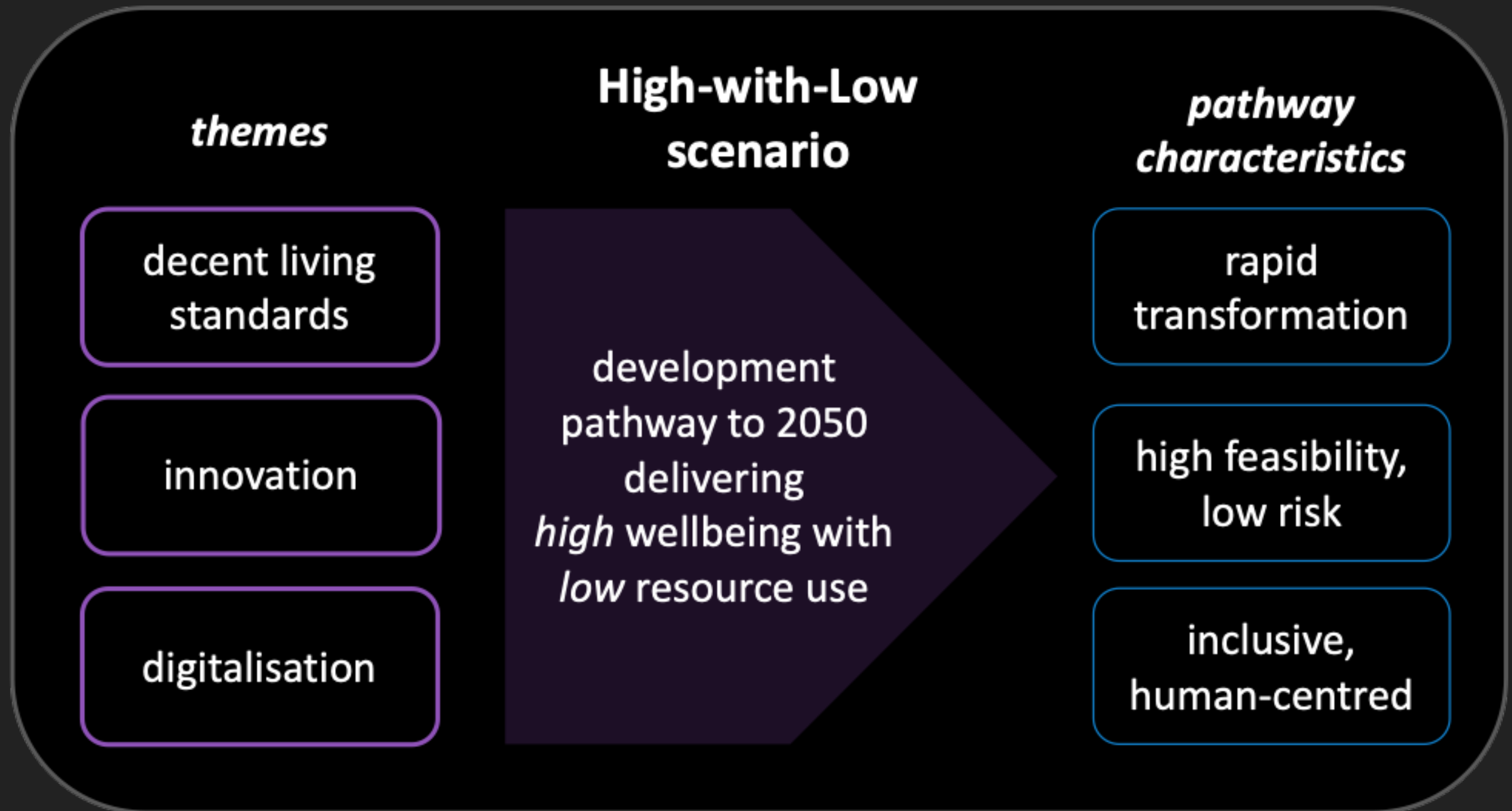
## FOCUS EFFORT ON:

- ▶ DYNAMIC TECHNOLOGIES
- ▶ SMALL UNIT SIZE
- ▶ ITERATIVE IMPROVEMENT
- ▶ INCLUSIVE WELL-BEING
- ▶ LOCAL SYSTEM INTEGRATION



# HIGH WELLBEING, LOW RESOURCE USE

29





# HIGH WITH LOW:

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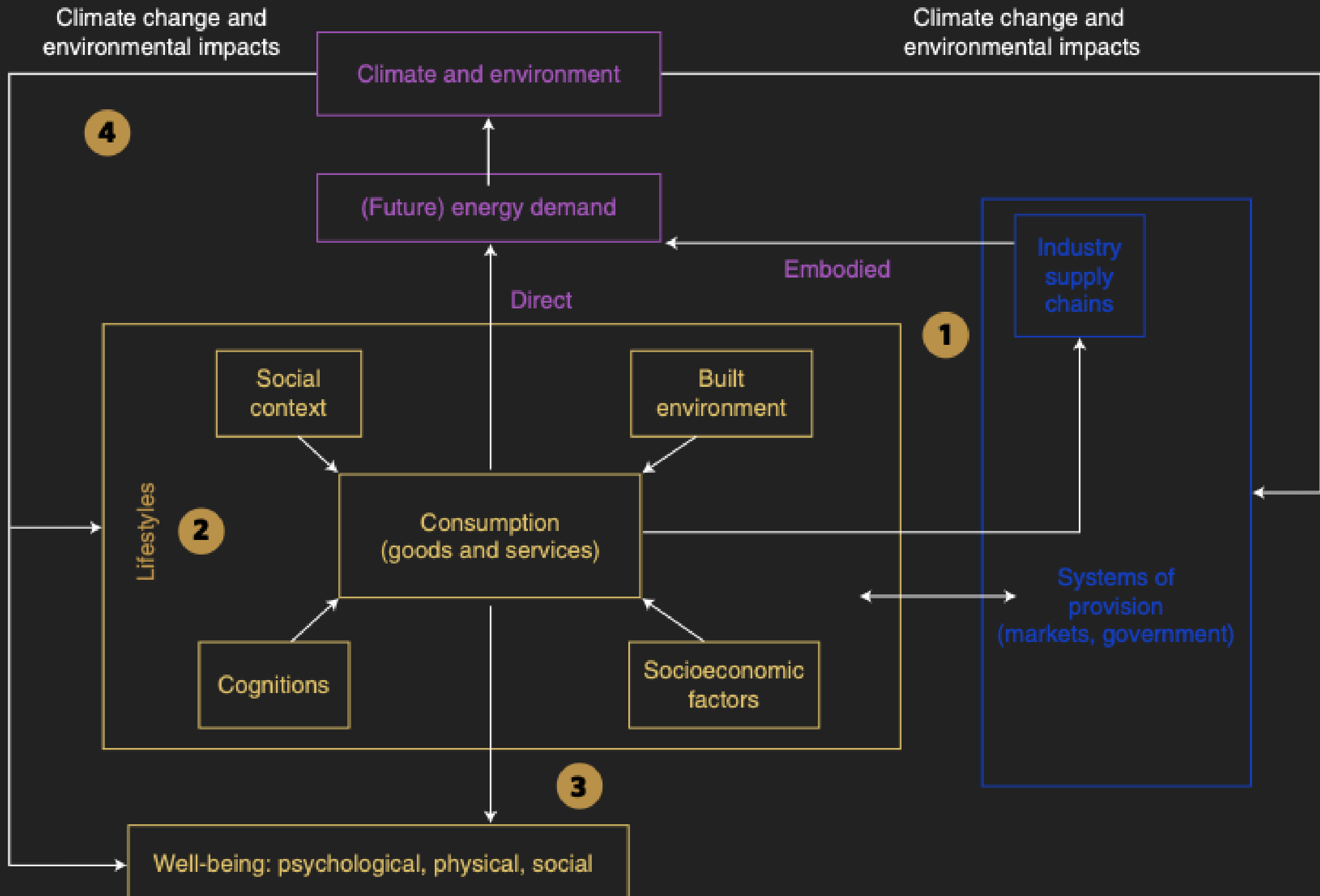
## CHARACTERISTICS

30

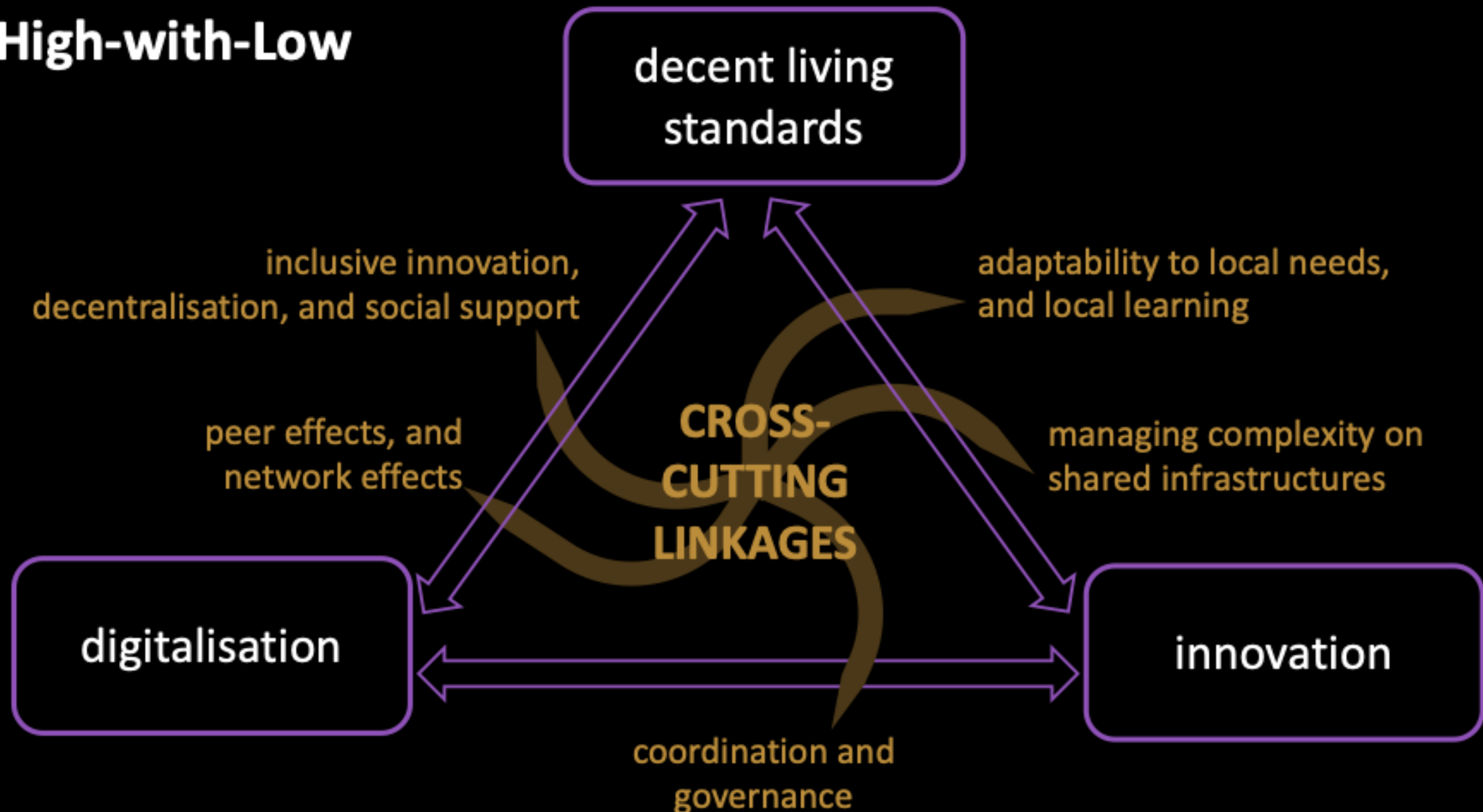
- 1. Multiple attributes and new services.*
- 2. Many heterogeneous adopters.*
- 3. Evolving social preferences.*
- 4. Peer and network effects.*
- 5. Small-scale, 'granularity'.*
- 6. Many iterations.*
- 7. Local system integration.*
- 8. Rebound effects.*

# HIGH WITH LOW: SYSTEM

31



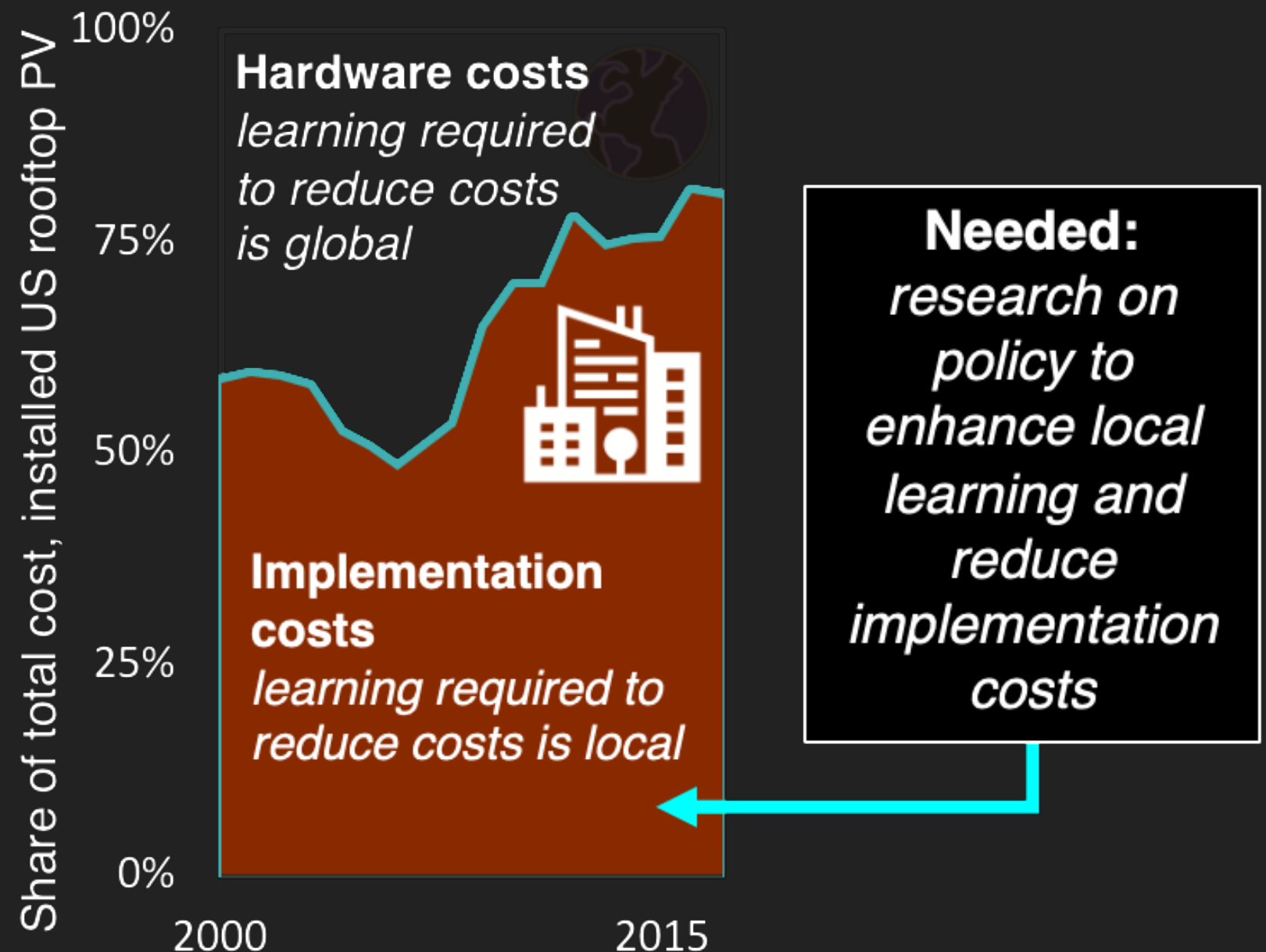
## High-with-Low



# LOCAL LEARNING

33

- Total costs have fallen
- Decarbonization requires even lower costs
- Implementation accounts for most of costs now
- Focus needed on implementation cost reductions



## 2.1 Policy goals

Generic policy

LED goals

## 2.2 Policy rationales

Neg. externality

Pos. externality.

Innovation systems

Others

## 3. LED-specific innovation characteristics

## 4. LED-specific policy rationales

## 5. Policy design Guidelines

Traditional efficiency policies

Dynamic technology

Systemic intervention

Policy diffusion

Inclusivity

Endogenous preferences

Local learning

Carbon pricing

Evaluation

# A DYNAMIC PUBLIC POLICY REGIME

