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FINANCE AND CARBON EMISSIONS

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FINANCE AND CARBON EMISSIONS

Abstract

We study the relation between financial structure and carbon emissions in a large panel of countries and industries. For given levels of economic and financial development, emissions per capita are lower in economies that are relatively more equity-funded. Industry-level analysis reveals two channels. First, deeper stock markets reallocate investment towards cleaner industries and, second, they allow carbon-intensive industries to produce green patents and reduce their energy intensity. Only one-tenth of these industry-level reductions in domestic emissions is offset by increased carbon embedded in imports. A firm-level analysis of an exogenous shock to the cost of equity in Belgium confirms our findings.

JEL Classification: G10, O4, Q5

Keywords: Financial Development, Financial structure, Carbon Emissions, Innovation

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Finance and Carbon Emissions*

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Abstract

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1 Introduction

The 2015 Paris Climate Conference (COP21) has put finance firmly at the heart of the debate on environmental degradation. The leaders of the G20 stated their intention to scale up so-called green-finance initiatives to fund low-carbon infrastructure and other climate solutions. A key example is the burgeoning market for green bonds. Other green-finance initiatives include the establishment of the British Green Investment Bank, which specializes in projects related to environmental preservation, and the creation of a green-credit department by the largest bank in the world—ICBC in China.

Somewhat paradoxically, the interest in green finance has also laid bare our limited understanding of the relation between regular finance and the environment. To date, no rigorous evidence exists on how finance affects industrial pollution as economies grow. Are expanding banking sectors and stock markets detrimental to the environment as they fuel economic growth and the concomitant emission of pollutants? Or can financial development steer economies towards sustainable growth by favoring “green” sectors over “brown” ones? Developing our understanding of the link between finance and pollution is important because most of the global transition to a low-carbon economy will need to be funded by the private financial sector if international climate goals are to be met on time (UNEP, 2011). Insights into how banks and stock markets affect carbon emissions can also help policy makers to benchmark the ability of special green-finance initiatives to cut emissions.

To analyze the channels that connect finance, industrial composition, and environmental degradation—as measured by the emission of CO₂—we exploit a 48-country, 16-industry, 24-year panel.¹ To preview our results, we first demonstrate that for given levels of economic and financial development, CO₂ emissions per capita are significantly lower in economies where equity financing is more important relative to bank lending. Subsequent analysis at the industry level shows that industries that pollute more for technological reasons, start to produce relatively less carbon dioxide where and when stock markets expand. Our analysis reveals two distinct channels that underpin these results. First—holding cross-industry differences in technology constant—stock markets tend to reallocate investment towards more

¹CO₂ emissions are the main source of global warming as they account for over half of all radiative forcing (net solar retention) by the earth (IPCC, 1990; 2007). The monitoring and regulation of anthropogenic CO₂ emissions is therefore at the core of international climate negotiations. CO₂ emissions also proxy for other air pollutants caused by fossil fuels such as methane, carbon monoxide, SO₂, and nitrous oxides.

carbon-efficient sectors. Second, stock markets facilitate the implementation of cleaner technologies in polluting industries. We show that deeper stock markets are associated with more green patenting in traditionally carbon-intensive industries. This effect is strongest for patented inventions to increase the energy efficiency of the production and processing of goods. In line with this positive association between deeper stock markets and green innovation, our industry-level data show that carbon emissions per unit of value added decline relatively more in carbon-intensive sectors, in countries where stock market funding accounts for an increasing share of overall funding.

In additional tests, we investigate *why* changes in a country's financial structure over time are strongly associated with the carbon intensity of relatively polluting industries. We show, first, that the reallocation of investment towards relatively energy-efficient sectors in countries with deepening stock markets can be explained as a side effect of these sectors also being more innovative and less rich in tangible assets. Second, the decline in carbon emissions per unit of value added in carbon-intensive sectors as stock markets develop can partly be explained by equity investors being concerned about litigation risk.

One may argue that the domestic green benefits of more developed stock markets may be offset by more pollution abroad, for instance because equity-funded firms offshore the most carbon-intensive parts of their production processes to foreign pollution havens. We show that the reduction in emissions by carbon-intensive sectors due to domestic stock market development is indeed accompanied by an increase in carbon embedded in imports of final and intermediary goods of the same sector. This effect is stronger for 'footloose' industries that can easily outsource part of their production structure abroad. However, the domestic-greening effect dominates the pollution-outsourcing effect by a factor of ten. This indicates that stock markets have a genuine cleansing effect on polluting industries and do not simply help such industries to shift carbon-intensive activities to pollution havens.

One concern in interpreting our industry-level panel evidence is the influence of omitted factors that could explain the observed relation between the relative importance of stock markets and the CO₂ emissions of relatively polluting sectors. We deal with this concern in three ways. First, we saturate our regressions with an exhaustive set of interactive fixed effects (country-industry fixed effects as well as unobservable country and industry trends) that control for a host of potential confounding factors, including general economic development and changes in environmental regulation.

Second, we employ policy shocks to equity markets, the capital account, and banking sectors as instruments for the size and structure of financial systems across countries and years. We find that, under the assumed exclusion restriction, the association between financial structure and CO₂ emissions by carbon-intense industries appears to result from exogenous variation in financial structure.

Third, we take advantage of the fact that one of the countries in our sample, Belgium, introduced a notional interest deduction (NID) for corporate equity in 2006. This policy shock provides an arguably exogenous source of variation to the cost of equity financing. Using firm-level data from Orbis and the European Emissions Trading System (ETS), we trace how the NID reform caused Belgian firms to increase their equity ratio (by about 5% of the sample mean) and to reduce the carbon intensity of their production. Importantly, these results also hold in a difference-in-differences setting where we compare the treated Belgian firms to a control group of firms in the Netherlands (a neighboring country that did not reform its corporate tax law but was exposed to similar economic shocks as Belgium over the time period considered). Moreover, the results also hold when we match the Belgian firms to observationally similar firms in the same 2-digit industry from a broader set of neighboring countries and again apply a difference-in-differences framework.

This paper contributes to (and connects) two strands of the literature. First, we inform the debate on economic growth and environmental pollution. This literature has focused on the environmental Kuznets hypothesis, according to which pollution increases at early development stages but declines once a country surpasses a certain income level. Two main mechanisms underlie this hypothesis. First, during the early stages of development, a move from agriculture to manufacturing and heavy industry is associated with both higher incomes and more pollution per capita. After some point, however, the structure of the economy moves towards light industry and services, and this shift goes hand-in-hand with a leveling off or even a reduction in pollution (Hettige, Lucas, and Wheeler, 1992 and Hettige, Mani, and Wheeler, 2000). Second, when economies develop, breakthroughs at the technological frontier (or the adoption of technologies from more advanced countries) may substitute clean for dirty technologies and reduce pollution per unit of value added (within a given sector).

While empirical work provides evidence for a Kuznets curve for a variety of pollutants, the evidence for CO₂ emissions is mixed.² Schmalensee, Stoker, and Judson (1998) find

²Grossman and Krueger (1995) find a Kuznets curve for the pollution of urban air and river basins. See

an inverse U-curve in the relationship between per capita GDP and CO₂ emissions while Holtz-Eakin and Selden (1995) show that CO₂ emissions increase with per capita GDP but merely stabilize when economies reach a certain income level.

Our contribution is to explore the role of finance in shaping the relation between economic growth and carbon emissions. In particular, we assess how a country’s financial structure—the relative importance of stock markets versus banks as corporate funding sources—affect the two main channels that underpin the Kuznets hypothesis: a shift towards less-polluting sectors and an innovation-driven reduction in pollution within sectors. A move towards greener technologies can require substantial investments and therefore be conditional on the availability of external finance. In line with this, Howell (2017) shows that firms that receive grant funding from the U.S. Small Business Innovation Research Program generate more revenue and patent more (compared with similar but unsuccessful applicants). These effects are largest for financially constrained firms and those in sectors related to clean energy and energy efficiency. Moreover, Schumpeterian growth models suggest that financial constraints may prevent firms in less-developed countries from exploiting R&D carried out in countries closer to the technological frontier (Aghion, Howitt, and Mayer-Foulkes, 2005). Financial development can then facilitate the absorption of state-of-the art technologies and help mitigate environmental pollution in poorer countries as well. Empirical evidence on the diffusion of low-carbon technologies is still lacking (Burke et al., 2016) and our findings shed light on the role of finance in this regard.

Second, our results contribute to the literature on the relation between financial structure and economic development. A substantial body of empirical evidence has by now established that growing financial systems contribute to economic growth in a causal sense.³ While earlier findings suggest that the structure of the financial system—bank-based or market-based—matters little for economic growth (Beck and Levine, 2002), more recent research qualifies this finding by showing that the impact of banking on growth declines (and the impact of stock markets increases) as national income rises (Demirgüç-Kunt, Feyen, and Levine, 2013; Gambacorta, Yang, and Tsatsaronis, 2014). Our contribution is to show that the structure of the financial system also matters for the degree of environmental degradation that accompanies the process of economic development.

Dasgupta, Laplante, Wang, and Wheeler (2002) for a literature review on the environmental Kuznets curve.

³For comprehensive surveys of this literature, see Levine (2005), Beck (2008), and Popov (2018).

This paper is structured as follows. Section 2 discusses the link between financial structure and carbon emissions. Sections 3 and 4 then describe our empirical methodology and data, respectively. Section 5 presents the empirical results and Section 6 concludes.

2 Stock Markets, Banks, and Carbon Emissions

Financial structure, here defined as the relative importance of equity versus credit markets, can have an environmental impact if different forms of finance affect industrial pollution to a different extent or through different channels. The existing literature suggests several reasons why banks and stock markets may differentially affect environmental pollution.

A first strand of the literature is critical about the ability of banks to finance innovative projects. If technological innovation is an important mechanism to contain environmental pollution, this literature therefore suggests that banks are relatively ineffective in reducing pollution. Several mechanisms can be at play. First, banks may be technologically conservative: they fear that funding new (and possibly cleaner) technologies erodes the value of collateral that underlies existing loans that represent older (dirtier) technologies (Minetti, 2011). Second, banks can hesitate to finance green technologies if these involve assets that are intangible and firm-specific (Hall and Lerner, 2010) and therefore difficult to collateralize (Carpenter and Petersen, 2002). Asset intangibility and uncertainty are indeed characteristic of many energy technology startups (Nanda, Younge, and Fleming, 2015). Third, banks may simply lack the skills to assess early-stage (green) technologies (Ueda, 2004).⁴ Fourth, banks may consider a shorter time horizon (the loan maturity) than equity investors and therefore be less invested in whether funded assets will become less valuable (or stranded) in the distant future. Ongena, Delis, and de Greiff (2018) show how banks only recently started to price the climate risk of lending to firms with large fossil fuel reserves.

Other contributions are more positive about the role of banks in limiting pollution. Levine, Lin, Wang, and Xi (2018) show how positive credit supply shocks in US counties, due to increased fracking of shale oil in other counties, reduce local air pollution. In a similar vein, Goetz (2019) finds that financially constrained firms reduced toxic emissions

⁴In line with this skeptical view of banks as financiers of innovative technologies, Hsu, Tian, and Xu (2014) provide cross-country evidence that industries that depend on external finance and are high-tech intensive are less likely to file patents in countries with more developed credit markets.

when their capital cost decreased as a result of the US Maturity Extension Program. Dasgupta, Laplante, Wang, and Wheeler (2002) show that banks may refuse to lend to a firm if they worry about environmental liability. Screening by banks can thus help to weed out the (visibly) most polluting enterprises. Anecdotal evidence (Zeller, 2010) suggests that banks have indeed started to scrutinize the dirtiest industries as they fear the financial and reputational impact, for instance due to depositor discipline (Homanen, 2019), of lending to such industries. Such a narrow focus on reputational risk and environmental liability would of course not preclude banks with a short-term horizon from lending to less visibly polluting industries, like those producing large amounts of greenhouse gases.

Compared to banks, stock markets may be better suited to finance (green) innovations that are characterized by both high risks and high potential returns.⁵ Equity investors may also care more about future pollution so that stock prices rationally discount cash flows of polluting industries.⁶ Empirical evidence shows that stock markets indeed punish firms that perform badly in environmental terms (such as after environmental accidents) (Salinger, 1992; Krueger, 2015) and reward those that do well (Klassen and McLaughlin, 1996; Ferrell, Lang, and Renneboog, 2016). More specifically related to carbon emissions, Ilhan, Sautner, and Vilkov (2019) show for a sample of S&P 500 companies that higher emissions increase downside risk, as measured by tail risk in put options, and that this effect is concentrated in high-emission industries. This suggests that stock market participants, in particular institutional investors⁷, take carbon emissions into account when assessing corporate risk. Trinks et al. (2017) show for a cross-country data set that low-emitting firms benefit from cheaper equity, especially in carbon-intensive industries.⁸ Hartzmark and Sussman (2019)

⁵Brown, Martinsson, and Petersen (2017) show that while credit markets mainly foster growth in industries that rely on external finance for physical capital accumulation, equity markets have a comparative advantage in financing technology-led growth. In line with this, Kim and Weisbach (2008) find that a majority of the funds that firms raise in public stock issues is invested in R&D.

⁶For instance, oil majors recently gave in to investor pressure to disclose the impact of climate policies on future activities (ExxonMobil) or to set carbon emissions targets (Royal Dutch Shell). Glencore, a large coal mining company, announced that in response to investor demands it would cap coal production (Financial Times, 2017; The Economist, 2018; Wall Street Journal, 2019).

⁷Gibson Brandon and Krueger (2018) find that especially institutional investors with a longer-term horizon hold equity portfolios with a better environmental footprint. Active institutional investors may submit shareholder proposals and vote against management in case they are concerned about environmental issues (Krueger, Sautner, and Starks, 2018). Dyck et al. (2019) show that institutional shareholder ownership is positively and causally related to firms' environmental and social performance, although there is strong heterogeneity depending on the country of origin of institutional investors.

⁸Cheng, Ioannou, and Serafeim (2014) confirm for a cross-country sample of listed firms that increased

show how a sudden increase in the transparency of U.S. mutual funds’ sustainability ratings led to substantial net inflows (outflows) into high-sustainability (low-sustainability) funds, suggesting that, across the board, U.S. mutual fund investors consider sustainability to be a positive fund attribute.

On the other hand, however, a stock-market listing may lead to short-termism and distorted investment decisions if firm managers believe that equity investors do not properly value long-term projects (Narayanan, 1985; Asker, Farre-Mensa, and Ljungqvist, 2015).⁹ Stock markets may then blunt managers’ incentives to reduce long-term environmental impacts.¹⁰ Hart and Zingales (2017) develop a model predicting that public firms, with their diffuse ownership and limited personal responsibility of each voting investor, display an ‘amoral drift’ away from pro-social decisions, in contrast to closely held private firms. In line with this prediction, Shive and Forster (2019) find that private firms in the U.S. emit fewer greenhouse gases as compared to otherwise similar public firms.

In sum, the existing work on banks versus stock markets as drivers of industrial pollution is fragmented and inconclusive. Whether banks or stock markets are better suited to reducing carbon emissions remains an important open question that can only be answered using comprehensive data over a long period of time and for a broad set of countries. The aim of this paper is therefore to provide robust empirical evidence—at the country, industry, and firm level—on the link between a country’s financial structure and the amount of carbon dioxide that firms emit.

environmental responsibility increases firms’ access to finance. Chava (2014) shows how the environmental profile of a firm affects both the cost of its equity and its debt capital, suggesting that both banks and equity investors take environmental concerns into account. Higher capital costs can be an important channel through which investor concerns affect firm behavior and their pollution intensity. If higher capital costs outweigh the cost of greening the production structure, firms will switch to a more expensive but less polluting technology (Heinkel, Kraus, and Zechner, 2001).

⁹Hong, Li, and Xu (2019) show, for instance, that stock markets do not anticipate the effects of predictably worsening droughts on agricultural firms until after such droughts have actually materialized.

¹⁰Bénabou and Tirole (2010) put forward three views as to why firms engage in environmentally sustainable behavior: (i) because it maximizes long-term shareholder value (‘doing well by doing good’); (ii) because stakeholders—including financiers—delegate philanthropic activities to firms (‘delegated philanthropy’) which may or may not enhance firm value; and (iii) because managers (over)invest in sustainability projects for self-serving reasons to the detriment of firm value (‘insider initiated philanthropy’).

3 Empirical Methodology and Identification

We first estimate a regression to map financial sector trends into carbon emissions and where countries are the unit of observation. In doing so, we distinguish between the size and the structure of the financial system. We define financial sector size (or *Financial Development*, FD) as the sum of private credit and stock market capitalization divided by the country’s gross domestic product:

$$FD_{c,t} = \frac{Credit_{c,t} + Stock_{c,t}}{GDP_{c,t}} \quad (1)$$

Next, we define *Financial Structure* (FS) as the share of stock market financing out of total financing through credit and stock markets:

$$FS_{c,t} = \frac{Stock_{c,t}}{Credit_{c,t} + Stock_{c,t}} \quad (2)$$

In both cases, $Credit$ is the sum of credit extended to the private sector by deposit money banks and other credit institutions while $Stock$ is the value of all publicly traded shares.

With these proxies at hand, we proceed to estimate the following specification:

$$\frac{CO_{2c,t}}{Population_{c,t}} = \beta_1 FD_{c,t-1} + \beta_2 FS_{c,t-1} + \beta_3 X_{c,t-1} + \varphi_c + \phi_t + \varepsilon_{c,t} \quad (3)$$

Here, $\frac{CO_{2c,t}}{Population_{c,t}}$ denotes total per capita emissions of carbon dioxide in country c during year t . Both *Financial Development* (FD) and *Financial Structure* (FS) are 1-period lagged. $X_{c,t-1}$ is a vector of time-varying country-specific variables, such as the state of environmental regulation, that can account for a sizeable portion of the variation in cross-country CO₂ emissions. Another important factor is economic development, the pollution impact of which can be positive at early stages of development as the economy utilizes the cheapest technologies available, and negative at later stages when the economy innovates to reduce pollution (one of the environmental Kuznets-curve arguments). We account for this by including the logarithm of per capita GDP, both on its own and squared. The phase of the business cycle can also have an impact on pollution. For example, the economy may cleanse itself from obsolete technologies during recessions. To account for this, we include a

dummy equal to 1 if the economy experiences negative growth.¹¹

φ_c is a vector of country dummies that net out the independent impact on carbon emissions of unobservable country-specific time-invariant influences, such as comparative advantage or voters' appetite for regulation. ϕ_t is a vector of year dummies that purge our estimates from the effect of unobservable global trends common to all countries, such as the "Great Moderation", the adoption of a new technology across countries around the same time, or a collapse in the demand for tradeables that reduces transportation intensity. Finally, $\varepsilon_{c,t}$ is an idiosyncratic error term. We cluster the standard errors by country to account for the possibility that they are correlated within a country over time.

Interpreting the results from Model (3) as causal assumes that financial development is unaffected by current or expected per capita carbon emissions, and that carbon intensity and financial development are not affected by a common factor. The latter assumption is questionable. For example, if global demand increases for products by carbon-intensive industries that rely on external finance, CO₂ emissions and *Financial Development* increase simultaneously without there necessarily being a causal link from finance to carbon emissions. Alternatively, a reduction in income taxes can result simultaneously in higher stock market investment and higher consumption, inducing a spurious positive correlation between *Financial Structure* and carbon emissions. We address this point through a Two-Stage Least Squares (2SLS) procedure in which policy changes induce exogenous shocks to financial system size and structure. The first instrument measures pro-competitive bank regulation, based on Abiad et al. (2008). It captures the degree to which domestic banking markets are open to entry by foreign banks; open to entry by new domestic banks; open to branching by existing banks; and open to the emergence of universal banks. The idea behind this

¹¹Caballero and Hammour (1994) provide a vintage model in which production units that embody the latest technology are continuously being produced as innovation proceeds. At the same time, outdated units with inferior technology are continuously being destroyed. During a recession, outdated units are most likely to turn unprofitable and to be scrapped. (A related idea is the "pit-stop" view of recessions, according to which recessions stimulate productivity-improving activities because of their temporarily low opportunity costs (Gali and Hammour, 1991)). We argue that recessions may also involve an environmental cleansing effect as inferior-technology companies are typically also the least energy efficient ones. A recession will then prune these companies and hence improve the energy efficiency of the average (surviving) firm. Any such positive effects may be partly counterbalanced, however, if renewable energy investments are put on hold, thus delaying the introduction of cleaner technologies. Indeed, Campello, Graham, and Harvey (2010) show that firms that were financially constrained during the global financial crisis cut spending on technology and capital investments and bypassed attractive investment opportunities.

instrument is that bank liberalization should increase the size but reduce the equity share of the financial system. The second instrument is the extent of capital account openness, from Quinn and Toyoda (2008), which should affect positively the flow of foreign finance into the domestic economy. The third instrument captures equity market liberalization (Bekaert et al., 2005) and is a dummy equal to one in the years after domestic equity markets open up to investment by foreign investors. The idea is that opening up to foreign portfolio investment should increase the equity share of the domestic financial system.

Next, in the main part of our analysis, we estimate the impact of *Financial Development* and *Financial Structure* on carbon emissions at the sector level. More specifically, we assess the relative role of within-country financial development and financial structure for different types of industries, depending on their technological propensity to emit carbon dioxide. The working hypothesis is that shocks to the size and structure of financial systems impact differentially per capita carbon emissions in carbon-intensive relative to carbon-light industries in one and the same country. To test this hypothesis, we employ the following cross-country, cross-industry regression framework:

$$\frac{CO_{2c,s,t}}{Population_{c,t}} = \beta_1 FD_{c,t-1} \times Carbon\ intensity_s + \beta_2 FS_{c,t-1} \times Carbon\ intensity_s \quad (4) \\ + \beta_3 X_{c,s,t-1} + \varphi_{c,s} + \phi_{c,t} + \theta_{s,t} + \varepsilon_{c,s,t}$$

Here, $\frac{CO_{2c,s,t}}{Population_{c,t}}$ denotes total per capita emissions of carbon dioxide by industry s in country c during year t .¹² As in Model (3), $FD_{c,t-1}$ is the sum of total bank credit to the private sector and the total value of all listed shares, normalized by GDP, in country c during year $t - 1$. $FS_{c,t-1}$ is the total value of all listed shares, divided by the sum of total credit to the private sector and the value of all listed shares, in country c during year $t - 1$. *Carbon intensity_s* is a time-invariant, sector-specific variable that measures the average carbon dioxide emissions of sector s per unit of value added, in the global sample during the sample period (see Table 1). The underlying assumption is that the global average of a sector's emissions per unit of value added captures the sector's inherent propensity to pollute. In robustness tests, we employ a proxy for *Carbon intensity_s* that captures average carbon dioxide emissions by the respective sector in the United States (over the sample period) and

¹²We express the industry-level carbon dioxide emissions in per capita terms to have uniform scaling across countries; make the coefficients comparable to those in the country-level regressions; and to allow the industry effects to sum up to aggregate effects.

another one based on the industry’s global average emissions in any given year.

In the most saturated version of Model (4), we control for $X_{c,s,t-1}$, a vector of interactions between the industry benchmark for carbon intensity and time-varying country-specific factors that capture economic development (GDP per capita), the size of the market (population), and the business cycle (whether the country is in a recession). This controls for the possibility that the association between financial development and carbon emissions is contaminated by concurrent developments in a country’s economy. Lastly, we saturate the empirical specification with interactions of country and sector dummies ($\varphi_{c,s}$), interactions of country and year dummies ($\phi_{c,t}$), and interactions of sector and year dummies ($\theta_{s,t}$). $\varphi_{c,s}$ nets out all variation that is specific to a sector in a country and does not change over time (e.g., the comparative advantage of agriculture in France). $\phi_{c,t}$ eliminates the impact of unobservable, time-varying factors that are common to all industries within a country (e.g., voters’ demand for environmental protection). $\theta_{s,t}$ controls for all variation coming from unobservable, time-varying factors that are specific to an industry and common to all countries (e.g., technological development in air transport).

In the next two steps, we test for the channels via which financial systems exert an impact on carbon emissions. The first channel is one whereby—holding technology constant—financial markets (or some types thereof) reallocate investment away from technologically carbon-intensive towards technologically ‘green’ industries. This channel manifests itself if energy-efficient sectors grow relatively faster in countries dominated by either banks or stock markets. The second channel is one whereby—holding the industrial structure constant—some forms of finance are better at improving the energy efficiency of technologically ‘dirty’ industries, bringing them closer to their technological frontier. This channel will result in carbon-intensive sectors becoming greener over time in countries dominated by either banks or stock markets.

We test for the presence of the first channel using the following regression model:

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta Value\ added_{c,s,t} = & \beta_1 FD_{c,t-1} \times Carbon\ intensity_s + \beta_2 FS_{c,t-1} \times Carbon\ intensity_s \\ & + \beta_3 X_{c,s,t-1} + \varphi_{c,s} + \phi_{c,t} + \theta_{s,t} + \varepsilon_{c,s,t} \end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

where relative to Model (4), the only change is that the dependent variable is now the percentage change in value added between year $t - 1$ and year t by industry s in country

c. The evolution of this variable over time measures the industry’s growth relative to other industries in the country. It can therefore capture the degree of reallocation that takes place in the economy from technologically carbon-intensive towards technologically green industries. Earlier work has shown how well-developed stock and credit markets make countries more responsive to global common shocks by allowing firms to better take advantage of time-varying sectoral growth opportunities (Fisman and Love, 2007). Evidence also suggests that financially developed countries increase investment more (less) in growing (declining) industries (Wurgler, 2000).

We test for the presence of the second mechanism using the following regression model:

$$\frac{CO_{2c,s,t}}{\text{Value added}_{c,s,t}} = \beta_1 FD_{c,t-1} \times \text{Carbon intensity}_s + \beta_2 FS_{c,t-1} \times \text{Carbon intensity}_s \quad (6) \\ + \beta_3 X_{c,s,t-1} + \varphi_{c,s} + \phi_{c,t} + \theta_{s,t} + \varepsilon_{c,s,t}$$

where relative to Model (4), the only change is that the dependent variable is now the total emissions of carbon dioxide by industry s in country c during year t , divided by the total value added of industry s in country c during year t . The evolution of this variable over time thus measures the change in an industry’s energy efficiency—that is, how dirty the production process is per unit of value added.

Lastly, to gauge whether improvements in carbon efficiency over time are due to own innovation (as opposed to technological adoption), we evaluate the following model:

$$\frac{\text{Patents}_{c,s,t}}{\text{Population}_{c,t}} = \beta_1 FD_{c,t-1} \times \text{Carbon intensity}_s + \beta_2 FS_{c,t-1} \times \text{Carbon intensity}_s \quad (7) \\ + \beta_3 X_{c,s,t-1} + \varphi_{c,s} + \phi_{c,t} + \theta_{s,t} + \varepsilon_{c,s,t}$$

The dependent variable is the number of patents, or alternatively a measure of the intensity of green patent production, in industry s in country c during year t , divided by the population in country c in year t . These variables capture the propensity of industries to engage in general and in green innovation. This propensity may be stronger in carbon-intensive industries as well as in countries with a more developed financial system or one dominated by a particular type of finance.

4 Data

This section introduces the four main data sources we use. We first describe the data on carbon dioxide emissions, then the industry-level data on value added and green patents, and finally the country-level data on financial development. We also discuss the matching of the industry-level data. Appendix Table A1 contains all variables definitions and data sources.

4.1 CO₂ emissions

We obtain data on CO₂ emissions from fuel combustion at the sectoral level from the International Energy Agency (IEA).¹³ The original data set contains information for 137 countries over the period 1974–2013. Information on CO₂ emissions is reported both at the aggregate level and for a total of 16 industrial sectors, which are based on NACE Rev. 1.1. These sectors encompass each country’s entire economy, and not just the manufacturing sector, which is important given that some of the main CO₂-polluting activities, such as energy supply and land transportation, are of a non-manufacturing nature. The 16 sectors are: (1) Agriculture, hunting, forestry, and fishing; (2) Mining and quarrying; (3) Food products, beverages, and tobacco; (4) Textiles, textile products, leather, and footwear; (5) Wood and products of wood and cork; (6) Pulp, paper, paper products, printing, and publishing; (7) Chemical, rubber, plastics, and fuel products; (8) Other non-metallic mineral products; (9) Basic metals; (10) Fabricated metal products, machinery, and equipment; (11) Transport equipment; (12) Electricity, gas, and water supply; (13) Construction; (14) Land transport – transport via pipelines; (15) Water transport; and (16) Air transport.

We next produce a data set of countries that each have a fair representation of industries with non-missing CO₂ data. We drop countries that have fewer than half of the sectors with at least 10 years of CO₂ emissions data. This results in a final data set of 48 countries with at least 8 sectors with at least 10 years of CO₂ emissions data. We combine the country-level and the industry-level data on CO₂ emissions with data on each country’s population, which allows us to construct the dependent variables in Models (3), (4), and (7).

¹³80% of anthropogenic CO₂ emissions are due to the combustion of fossil fuels (Pepper et al., 1992).

4.2 Industry value added

To calculate the dependent variables in Models (5) and (6), we need industry data on value added. We obtain these from two sources. The first one is the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) data set, which contains data on value added in manufacturing (21 industries) for all countries in the IEA data set. The second one is the OECD’s STAN Database for Structural Analysis which provides data on value added for all sectors in the economy, but it only covers the 28 OECD countries in our final data set. We can therefore calculate proxies for CO₂ emissions per unit of value added, for value added growth, and for each sector’s share of total output in the country, for two separate data sets. One contains all 48 countries with data on CO₂, as well as all manufacturing sectors, while the other comprises 28 of the 48 countries, as well as all sectors in the economy. The main tests in the paper are based on the former data set with a view to maximizing country coverage, but we also include tests based on the latter data set to maximize sector coverage. We winsorize the data on value added growth at a maximum of 100% growth and decline. To make value added by the same industry comparable across countries, we convert all nominal output into US\$ and then deflate it to create a time series of real industrial output.

4.3 Green patents

To evaluate Model (7), we use the largest international patent database—the Patent Statistical database (PATSTAT) of the European Patent Office (EPO)—to calculate the number of green patents across countries, sectors, and years. Because of an average delay in data processing in PATSTAT of 3.5 years, our patent data end in 2013. We follow the methodological guidelines of the OECD Patent Statistics Manual and take the year of application as the reference year unless a priority patent was submitted in another country. In that case, the reference year is the year of the priority filing. This ensures that we closely track the timing of inventive performance. We take the country of residence of the inventor as the reference country. If a patent has multiple inventors from different countries, we use fractional counts. Every patent indicator is based on data from a single patent office and we use the United States as the primary office.¹⁴

¹⁴In unreported robustness checks, we calculate patent indicators using the EPO as the primary office. The correlation coefficients between the US and European indicators range between 0.75 and 0.81.

PATSTAT classifies each patent according to the International Patent Classification (IPC). We round this classification to 4-character IPC codes and use the concordance table of Lybbert and Zolas (2014) to convert these codes into ISIC 2-digit sectors.¹⁵ We then use these data to construct four patenting variables. The first one, ‘Total patents’, measures all patents granted to a particular country, sector, and year, regardless of the patent’s underlying technological contribution. The second variable, ‘Green patents’, counts all patents that belong to the EPO Y02/Y04S climate change mitigation technology (CCMT) tagging scheme. CCMTs include all technological inventions to reduce the amount of greenhouse gas emitted when producing or consuming energy. The scheme is the most reliable method for identifying green patents and has become the standard in studies on green innovation (Popp, 2019). The third variable, ‘Green patents (excluding transportation and waste)’, counts all granted CCMT patents except for those with the tag Y02T (Climate change mitigation technologies related to transportation) or Y02W (Climate change mitigation technologies related to solid and liquid waste treatment). The fourth variable, ‘Green patents (industrial production)’, only counts CCMT patents that belong to the arguably most important category of patents (Y02P) for our purposes: patents related to inventions to increase the energy efficiency of the industrial production or processing of goods.

4.4 Country-level data

Our measures of financial system size and structure, FD and FS , are calculated using two country-specific data series. The first one is the value of total credit by financial intermediaries to the private sector (lines 22d and 42d in the IMF International Financial Statistics) normalized by GDP. These data exclude credit by central banks, credit to the public sector, and cross claims of one group of intermediaries on another. They count credit from all financial institutions rather than only deposit money banks. The data come from Beck et al. (2016) and are available for all countries in the data set.¹⁶ The second country-specific

¹⁵PATSTAT also classifies patents according to NACE 2. A drawback of this classification is that it only covers manufacturing. Given that our scope is broader, we do not use this as our baseline approach but only in robustness checks. To ensure comparability between both approaches, we convert NACE 2 into ISIC 3.1. The correlation coefficients between both indicator types vary between 0.93 and 0.98.

¹⁶In unreported tests, we document that the results of the paper go through (and are indeed statistically stronger) if we only use the corporate-lending segment of private credit, for those countries for which these data are available.

data series is the value of all stocks, normalized by GDP. This is a measure of the total value of traded stock, not of the intensity with which trading occurs. These data too come from Beck et al. (2016) and are available for all countries as well.

Chart 1 plots the annual sample average of FD and FS between 1974 and 2013. During these four decades, the overall size of financial systems more than tripled (relative to gross domestic product). Chart 1 also shows that the relative importance of stock markets more than doubled during this period. That is, stock markets tend to catch up with credit markets at later stages of development. One issue is that both data series are patchy before 1990, especially for Central and Eastern European countries. We therefore drop these observations so that our final data set comprises 48 countries observed between 1990 and 2013.¹⁷

We also use data on real per capita GDP, population, and recessions (defined as an instance of negative GDP growth) from the World Development Indicators. Lastly, we use the OECD Environmental Policy Stringency Index (EPS), a country-specific and internationally comparable measure of the stringency of environmental policy. It captures the degree to which environmental policies put an explicit or implicit price on polluting or environmentally harmful behavior and ranges between 0 (not stringent) and 6 (very stringent).¹⁸

4.5 Concordance and summary statistics

Our data are available in different industrial classifications. The original IEA data on carbon dioxide emissions are classified across 16 industrial sectors, using IEA’s classification. The UNIDO and STAN data on value added are classified in 2-digit industrial classes using the ISIC classification. This calls for a concordance procedure to match the disaggregated ISIC sectors with the broader IEA sectors. The matching results in a total of 16 industrial sectors with data on both carbon dioxide emissions and industrial output. While some sectors are uniquely matched between IEA and UNIDO/STAN, others result from the merging of ISIC classes. For example, ISIC 15 “Food products and beverages” and ISIC 16 “Tobacco products” are merged into ISIC 15–16 “Food products, beverages, and tobacco”, to be matched to the corresponding IEA industry class.

Appendix Table A2 summarizes the data. At the country level, we use aggregate CO₂ emissions (in tons), divided by population. The average country emits 6.91 metric tons of

¹⁷See Online Appendix Table OA1 for a list of these countries.

¹⁸See Botta and Kozluk (2014) for more details.

CO₂ per capita each year. The financial variables show that in the average country, the sum of private credit and stock market capitalization exceeds gross domestic product. However, there is a large dispersion, with *FD* as small as 0.03 in Azerbaijan in 1999, and as large as 4.16 in Switzerland in 2007. The same holds for *FS*: while the share of stock markets in the total financial system is on average 0.39, it is only one-tenth of a percent in Bulgaria in 1997, but 0.82 in Finland in 2000. The data on GDP per capita indicate that the data set contains a good mix of developing countries, emerging markets, and industrialized economies. The median country has a GDP per capita of \$13,033 and a population of 14.9 million. On average, a country is in a recession once every five years.

The industry-level data from UNIDO show that the median industry emits 0.07 metric tons of carbon dioxide per capita per year, and 0.004 metric ton per US\$ million of value added. Over the sample period, the median industry grows by 1% per year and makes up about 0.6% of total manufacturing. These values are relatively consistent across the UNIDO and STAN data sets. However, the median STAN industry records larger per capita emissions than the median UNIDO industry because the four heaviest polluters—ISIC 40 and 41 “Electricity, gas, and water supply,” ISIC 60 “Land transport – transport via pipelines,” ISIC 61 “Water transport,” and ISIC 62 “Air transport”—are not manufacturing industries. In terms of green patents, the average country-industry produces around 0.1 such patents per 1 million people in the global sample, and 0.16 per 1 million people in the OECD sample.

Table 1 presents the concordance key to map 62 ISIC classes into 16 IEA ones, including 9 manufacturing sectors. It also summarizes, by sector, our main industrial benchmark, ‘Carbon intensity’, calculated as the average emissions of carbon dioxide per unit of value added by all firms in the respective sector across the world and over the whole sample period.

5 Empirical Results

This section investigates the relation between finance and carbon emissions at the country level (Section 5.1), industry level (Section 5.2), and firm-level (Section 5.3). Section 5.4 presents robustness tests.

5.1 Finance and pollution: Aggregate results

Table 2 reports results, using aggregate data, on the link between finance and carbon emissions. We estimate three versions of Model (3). The first one is an OLS model on the full sample. The second one applies OLS to a sample of 28 OECD countries, so that we can control for environmental regulation. Third, we run a 2SLS model on the full and the OECD sample, using banking liberalization, capital-account openness, and equity-market liberalization events as instruments. This addresses concerns about omitted variable bias by inducing exogenous shocks to the size and structure of financial sectors. Because not all data are available for each country-year, the number of observations is reduced to at most 1,010 (out of a possible 1,152).

In column (1), we regress country-level per capita carbon emissions on FD and FS , the other country controls, and country and year dummies. The data fail to reject the null hypothesis that financial system size is uncorrelated with per capita carbon emissions. At the same time, the data indicate that, controlling for the size of financial systems, per capita carbon emissions are lower in countries where firms get more of their funding from stock markets. The point estimate is significant at the 1% level. Column (2) uses the sub-sample of 28 OECD countries, so that we can control for the stringency of environmental regulation. The same pattern as before obtains in the data. While the overall size of financial systems is not associated with carbon emissions, when we control for this size, more equity-based economies emit fewer carbon emissions per capita. The data also confirm that more stringent environmental regulation has a significant negative impact on aggregate per capita emissions, all else equal.

In both regressions, we account for the fact that financial development correlates with general economic development, and so the former may pick up the effect of higher incomes on the demand for pollution. We therefore add GDP per capita and the square thereof. In the full sample, the Kuznetz-curve effect survives controlling for financial system size and structure: per capita CO₂ emissions increase and then decrease with economic development. The specification indicates that carbon emissions start declining at an annual income of around \$44,606 which is the 85th percentile in our country-level income distribution. This is in line with earlier estimates by Holtz-Eakin and Selden (1995) who find a peak in CO₂ emissions at a per capita GDP of around \$35,000.

We include two other controls, both of which have the expected sign. First, more populous

countries emit fewer carbon emissions per capita, suggesting a negative pollution premium to market size. Second, recessions are associated with lower per capita CO₂ emissions. There are two explanations for this. First, output declines during a recession, reducing overall pollution too. Second, firms may use downturns to purge themselves from obsolete (and more carbon-intensive) technologies (Schumpeter, 1912; Caballero and Hammour, 1994).

We next move to our 2SLS results. Columns (3) and (4) report the first-stage. All three instruments are significantly correlated with financial sector size and structure. By making it easier for banks to enter and branch out, bank liberalization events increase the overall size of financial systems but reduce the share of equity financing. Capital account openness increases both the size and the equity share of domestic financial systems. Lastly, by allowing inward portfolio investment, equity market liberalization events increase the share of equity financing. The relation with the overall size of the financial system is negative, suggesting that equity liberalization tends to slow down banking sector growth (controlling for the strictness of bank regulation and for capital-account liberalization). The first-stage Wald statistics, reported as F -statistics, are consistent with the critical value for the IV regression to have no more than 10% of the bias of the OLS estimate (Stock and Yogo, 2005).

Columns (5) and (6) provide the second-stage 2SLS results. We find that even when inducing exogenous shocks to FD and FS , the earlier patterns hold. For one, financial development on its own has no impact on carbon emissions. But, importantly, for a given level of financial development, economic development, and environmental protection, a country's economy generates fewer carbon emissions per capita if it receives more of its funding from stock markets. The absolute value of the point estimate increases in the 2SLS model, which suggests that unobservable factors that correlate positively with the equity share of overall finance also do so with per capita carbon emissions.

Numerically, the point estimate based on the full sample (column (5)) suggests that increasing the share of equity financing by 1 percentage point, while holding the size of the financial system constant, reduces aggregate per capita carbon emissions by 0.024 metric tons. What are the aggregate implications of this? How much less emissions would there be right now if countries in our sample relied more on equity funding? We note that for several countries that are not financial centers and have large banking sectors, such as Australia, Canada, Finland, and the Netherlands, FS is approximately 0.5 throughout the sample period. Suppose that we take all countries below this threshold and lift them to $FS = 0.5$,

and we leave every country with $FS > 0.5$ unchanged. For about 80% of the countries in the data set, this would imply an average increase in FS of 0.2 (from an average of around 0.3). Doing so would reduce per capita pollution by around 0.8 metric tons. Given average per capita emissions of 6.9 (Appendix Table A2), this would reduce current aggregate per capita emissions by about 11.5%. This is around a quarter of the 40% reduction in emissions that countries committed to achieve by 2030 in the context of the Paris Agreement.

5.2 Finance and pollution: Industry-level results

5.2.1 Per capita carbon emissions

We next turn to sector-level data. We start by constructing a proxy for each industry’s natural propensity to pollute that is exogenous to pollution in each particular industry-country. Our main proxy is industry-specific average CO₂ emissions per unit of value added, calculated across all countries and years in the sample (Table 1). The assumption is that a long-term global average better reflects the technological capabilities of an industry than its performance in an individual country. In later robustness tests, we allow this benchmark to change over time to account for the possibility that the technological frontier evolves. We also take inspiration from Rajan and Zingales (1998) and calculate each industry’s average CO₂ emissions per unit of value added in the United States. The assumption in this case is that an industry’s pollution intensity in a country with few regulatory impediments and with deep and liquid financial markets reflects its inherent propensity to pollute.

In Table 3, we evaluate Model (4) to test whether the difference in carbon emissions by technologically more versus less carbon-intensive sectors becomes smaller in countries with financial systems that expand and/or become more skewed towards equity. Crucially, all regressions in Table 3 (and thereafter) are saturated with country-sector dummies, country-year dummies, and sector-year dummies. This ensures that the statistical associations we measure in the data are not contaminated by unobservable factors that are specific to a sector in a country and that do not change over time; by unobservable time-varying factors that are common to all industries within a country; and to unobservable, time-varying factors that are specific to an industry and common to all countries. We cluster standard errors at the country-sector level.

Table 3 confirms the findings from the aggregate tests in Table 2. Column (1) strongly

suggests that carbon-intensive sectors do not generate relatively higher CO₂ emissions per capita in countries with growing financial sectors. However, in column (2) we find that carbon-intensive sectors produce relatively fewer per capita CO₂ emissions in countries with relatively rapidly expanding stock markets. This effect is significant at the 5% statistical level. We also note that sectors that produce a larger share of overall value added, pollute more per capita than smaller sectors.

These patterns hold when we include *FD* and *FS* together in column (3). Overall financial sector size again does not matter for CO₂ emissions. Yet, controlling for financial development, an increase in the equity dependence of an economy generates a larger decline in CO₂ emissions in carbon-intensive industries. Column (4) reruns the specification in the preceding column while accounting for the potential endogeneity in financial sector size and structure. We again use the index of banking liberalization, the index of capital account openness, and equity market liberalization events to induce exogenous variation in the two main characteristics—size and structure—of the financial system.

The results in column (4) strongly suggests that our earlier findings are not driven by reverse causality whereby trends in carbon emissions increase an economy’s relative use of equity finance, or by omitted variable bias whereby an unobservable factor causes a simultaneous decline in carbon emissions and an increase in the equity reliance of the economy. We continue to find that in countries with expanding equity markets (relative to banking sectors) carbon-intensive sectors generate fewer carbon emissions per capita. This relationship is economically meaningful too. Take a country at the 25th percentile of *FS* (Germany) and one at the 75th percentile (Australia). The interaction coefficient of pollution intensity and *FS* in column (4) (−0.0895) means that giving Australia’s financial structure to Germany, while keeping the size of its financial system constant, would reduce CO₂ emissions by 0.14 metric tons in the most relative to the least polluting industry.¹⁹

5.2.2 Channels

Our main finding so far is that per capita carbon emissions decline—more so in technologically carbon-intensive sectors—as the relative importance of equity funding grows. This

¹⁹In Online Appendix Table OA4, we include both components of *FD*—the volume of bank credit and the value of traded stocks—separately in the regression. Column (1) suggests that an increase in credit (stock) market size has a significant positive (negative) effect on CO₂ emissions at the industry level.

raises the question via which channels equity translates into lower carbon emissions? There are two main potential channels. The first one is cross-industry reallocation whereby—holding technology constant—stock markets reallocate investment towards greener sectors. The second one is within-industry technological innovation whereby—holding industrial structure constant—industries develop and implement greener technologies when access to equity improves. We now test whether any of the two, or both, channels are operational.

Cross-industry reallocation. In Table 4, we test for the first channel using Model (5). The dependent variable is the growth in value added in an industry in a particular country and year. All regressions are again saturated with country-sector dummies, country-year dummies, and sector-year dummies. A negative coefficient on the interaction term of interest would imply that financial development reallocates investment away from carbon-intensive sectors. This test is conceptually similar to Wurgler (2000) who finds that in countries with deeper financial systems, investment is higher in booming than in declining sectors.

Column (1) shows that technologically carbon-intensive sectors do not grow at a different rate, relative to greener sectors, in countries with larger financial systems. In column (2), we find that carbon-intensive sectors grow more slowly (or, conversely, that green industries grow faster) in countries with expanding stock markets. This effect is significant at the 10% statistical level. We document the same patterns when we control for the size and structure of financial systems jointly (column (3)) and when using IV instead of OLS (column (4)). Financial system size does not correlate with relative industrial growth, but controlling for size, green sectors grow relatively faster in countries with deeper stock markets. The latter effect remains significant at the 10% level. According to all specifications, larger sectors grow more slowly, a result in line with theories of growth convergence.

We conclude that our evidence supports the conjecture that—holding cross-sector differences in technology constant—stock markets promote a reallocation of investment towards greener (in the carbon-emissions sense) sectors. This partially explains the negative association between financial structure and industry-level CO₂ emissions per capita (Table 3).

Within-industry efficiency improvement. In Table 5, we test the second channel by estimating Model (6). The dependent variable is sector-level annual CO₂ emissions per unit of value added and, once again, all regressions are saturated with country-sector dummies,

country-year dummies, and sector-year dummies. In this case, a negative coefficient on the interaction term of interest would imply that financial development results in a technological improvement within an environmentally dirty industry, regardless of its level of overall growth. Yet, column (1) returns no evidence that within-sector carbon efficiency is affected by changes in the size of the financial system. This aligns with our previous evidence where we found no statistical association between the size of a country’s financial system and per capita carbon emissions in relatively polluting versus green sectors.

We next look at the independent role of financial structure for carbon emissions per unit of value added. Column (2) suggests that stock market development plays an important role in within-sector efficiency. In particular, carbon emissions per unit of value added decline relatively more in carbon-intensive sectors, in countries where stock market funding accounts for an increasing share of overall funding (holding overall funding constant). This effect is significant at the 1% statistical level. The magnitude of the point estimates implies that CO₂ emissions per unit of value added would decrease significantly if a country was to convert some of its bank funding into equity financing. This pattern also obtains when we include the size and structure of financial systems simultaneously (column (3)) and when we account for the potential endogeneity in financial sector size and structure (column (4)). Indeed, the absolute value of the point estimate increases relative to the OLS case, indicating that unobservable factors that correlate positively with the equity share of overall finance also correlate positively with carbon intensity. More specifically, and going back to our earlier thought experiment, the interaction coefficient of pollution intensity and FS (-9.36) indicates that giving Germany (a country at the 25th percentile of FS) the financial structure of Australia (at the 75th percentile of FS), while keeping the size of its financial system constant, would reduce CO₂ emissions by 3.3 metric tons per US\$ 1 million of value added in the most, relative to the least, polluting industry.

Table 5 suggests that stock markets facilitate the development and/or adoption of greener technologies in carbon-intensive sectors. This evidence thus helps explain the role that stock markets play in reducing per capita carbon emissions over time, as documented in Table 3.

5.2.3 Finance and green innovation

We find that CO₂ emissions per unit of value added decline with stock market development, especially in carbon-intensive industries. An intuitive interpretation is that this reflects

the propensity of carbon-intensive industries to become more carbon-efficient in countries where more financing comes from equity markets. Such an effect could come from two directions: either companies adopt already existing green technology or they develop new green technologies from scratch. We now provide direct evidence for the latter conjecture by using our data on industrial patenting (see Section 4.3) to estimate Model (7). We report the results in Table 6 which again tests for the role of FD and FS jointly. The results indicate that carbon-intensive sectors do not have a different propensity to patent compared with greener sectors in countries with deepening financial systems. This is the case for total patents (column (1)) and for various green patent definitions (columns (2)–(4)).

Carbon-intensive sectors are also not more likely to generate more patents overall in economies where the relative importance of stock markets increases (column (1)). Yet, at the same time, the number of green patents increases faster in carbon-intensive sectors in countries with deepening stock markets (column (2)). We find the same when excluding green patents related to transportation and waste (column (3)). In both cases, the effect of stock markets on green innovation is significant at the 10% level. Strikingly, when we focus on the ‘greenest’ patents, those intended to increase energy efficiency in the production or processing of goods, we find that an increasing share of equity funding is strongly associated with an increase in these patents. This effect is significant at the 5% level (column (4)) and economically meaningful, too. The coefficient of 0.1801 in column (4) indicates that moving from the 25th to the 75th percentile of financial structure is associated with an increase in green patents generated by an industry at the 75th percentile of carbon intensity—relative to one at the 25th percentile of pollution intensity—of 0.0180 patents per million (45% of the sample mean). These results complement those of Hsu, Tian and Xu (2014), who show that industries relying on external finance and are high-tech intensive are more (less) likely to file patents in countries with deeper equity (credit) markets. We show that stock markets also play an important role in enabling carbon-intensive industries to make their production processes more energy efficient through green innovation.²⁰

²⁰Financial development could also affect industry-level pollution through within-industry shifts across products with different pollution intensities. Shapiro and Walker (2018) show that such within-industry reallocation has not been a significant driver of the sharp reduction in US manufacturing pollution since the 1990s. Instead, this reduction mainly reflects lower pollution per unit of value added within narrowly defined product categories. Our results are in line with this and highlight the role of stock markets in enabling green innovation.

5.2.4 OECD sample

One may query whether our results are driven by a particular sample choice. Our findings so far are based on the UNIDO sample which features more countries (48) but fewer sectors (9 manufacturing ones).²¹ The UNIDO sample contains many developing countries and emerging markets and may thus produce empirical regularities that are driven by the manufacturing industry in countries with relatively low economic and financial development.

We now replicate our main tests in the OECD sample, using data from STAN. This allows us to run our tests on a sample of fewer countries (28) but more sectors (16), encompassing the whole economy with the exception of services. This is potentially important because the heaviest polluters in terms of carbon emissions per unit of value added are not part of manufacturing (Table 1). Including them ensures that our results are not driven by a special relationship between finance and carbon emissions in the manufacturing sector.

With this strategy in hand, we replicate the most saturated versions of Models (4)–(6), the ones with country-sector dummies, country-year dummies, and sector-year dummies—in the OECD sample. Table 7 reports the results. We still find that deeper stock markets are associated with a reduction in per capita pollution levels (column (1)) and that this result is fully driven by an increase in within-industry efficiency (column (3)). We no longer find any differential impact of deeper stock markets on growth in carbon-intensive versus greener sectors (column (2)). Table 7 thus suggests that the negative relationship between stock market development and carbon emissions is by and large not a feature of a sample dominated by lower-income countries or by economies at early stages of financial development.

5.2.5 Underlying mechanisms

The results documented so far raise a natural question about the deeper mechanisms at play. They suggest that financial structure affects aggregate carbon emissions via two distinct channels. When financial systems become more skewed towards equity markets, green sectors grow relatively faster and, second, carbon-intensive sectors become more energy efficient, partly due to increased green innovation and patenting. What are the deeper economic forces underpinning these two channels? There is no ex-ante theory about why financial

²¹It is worth noting that together with primary industry, the manufacturing sector accounts for almost 40% of worldwide greenhouse gas emissions (Martin, de Preux, and Wagner, 2014).

systems—or segments thereof—should affect *directly* the relative performance of carbon-intensive sectors. At the same time, there are a number of theories that could explain our results even in the absence of such a direct effect.

One possibility is that carbon-intensive sectors are less innovation intensive than green sectors, and stock markets tend to be better at funding innovation than banks (Kim and Weisbach, 2008; Brown, Martinsson, and Petersen, 2017). For example, as discussed in Section 2, banks may lack the skills to evaluate early-stage technologies (Ueda, 2004) or operate with a time horizon that is incompatible with the funding of long-term R&D. If this is the case, then controlling for a sector’s propensity to innovate could explain away the statistical association between financial structure and a reallocation from carbon-intensive towards more energy-efficient sectors.

Another possibility is that carbon-intensive firms own more tangible assets while energy-efficient firms depend more on intangible assets. Banks may then refuse to finance green projects because they find the underlying intangible assets hard to collateralize (Carpenter and Petersen, 2002; Hall and Lerner, 2010). Equity markets, on the other hand, may be better suited to finance green firms with intangible assets. If this mechanism is driving our results, then the sector’s asset tangibility is another factor that can explain away the statistical association between financial structure and reallocation towards relatively energy-efficient sectors.

Third, it is possible that stock markets dominate banks in ways that are related more directly to climate risk. For example, environmental disasters expose firms to potential litigation costs, which is why stock markets tend to be more sensitive to the financing of firms that perform badly in environmental terms (Klassen and McLaughlin, 1996). Large-scale ecological accidents, such as the Bhopal disaster or the Exxon Valdez oil spill, are associated with severe litigation risk (Salinger, 1992). When it comes to future litigation risk, shareholders have skin in the game while creditors are exempt. As a consequence, equity investors may have an incentive to either stay away from carbon-intensive sectors or, conditional on investing in them, to push for a ‘greening’ of their production technologies in order to reduce future litigation risk. If this is the case, then controlling for the likelihood of future litigation could moot the association between financial structure and the energy-efficiency improvement in carbon-intensive sectors.

To test for whether these mechanisms are at play, we augment our principal regression

framework with the interaction of FD and FS with three alternative industry benchmarks. The first one is *R&D intensity*. In the spirit of Rajan and Zingales (1998), this proxy takes the industry-median value of R&D investment over total assets, for large mature companies in Compustat (data come from Laeven, Klapper, and Rajan, 2006). The second benchmark is *Asset tangibility*, measured as the ratio of an industry’s tangible assets to total assets (the data, also derived from large mature companies, come from Braun, 2003). The third benchmark is *Litigation risk*. This variable is constructed as the total environmental penalties and fines paid by a sector in the U.S. over the period 2000–2014 (following both administrative and judicial legal cases) divided by the sector’s value added over the same period. The penalty data come from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)’s Enforcement and Compliance History Online (ECHO) data set. Online Appendix Table A10 reports industry-level correlations between carbon intensity, R&D intensity, asset tangibility, and litigation risk (Table 1 provides sector averages). The statistics suggest that all of the mechanisms discussed above could be at play. Carbon-intensive sectors are less R&D-intensive (correlation of -0.37), more asset-tangible (0.40), and also more litigation-prone (0.75).

We investigate the empirical relevance of these mechanisms in Table 8 and do so separately for the two channels at play: between-sector reallocation and within-sector improvements in energy efficiency. In Panel A, we test for the possibility that the relative increase in green sectors in countries with deepening stock markets is explained by such sectors being more R&D-intensive, less asset-tangible, and less litigation-prone. To that end, we augment Model (5) with interactions of FD and FS with the three benchmarks just discussed, introducing them one by one. We do so both for the full sample and for the OECD sample, maximizing alternatively the country dimension and the sector dimension of our data.

We find that R&D-intensive sectors grow faster in countries with deepening stock markets (columns (1) and (2)). We also find that sectors rich in tangible assets expand faster in economies that rely more on bank financing (column (3)). These results are entirely in line with the intuition discussed. Importantly, in both cases the impact of financial structure on growth in green relative to carbon-intensive sectors goes away. This suggests that indeed, the reallocation of investment towards relatively energy-efficient sectors in countries with deepening stock markets can be entirely explained as a side effect of these sectors also being more innovative and less rich in tangible assets. At the same time, we find that litigation risk does not explain cross-sector reallocation (columns (5) and (6)).

In Panel B, we test whether carbon-intensive sectors also being less R&D-intensive, more asset-tangible, and more litigation-prone, explains the increase in energy efficiency in such sectors in countries with deepening stock markets. We find that carbon emissions per unit of value added decline relatively more in R&D-intensive sectors as stock markets develop (column (1)). At the same time, this effect does not explain away the decline in such emissions in carbon-intensive sectors. The same is true when we control for the possibility that equity-markets induce innovation in asset-intangible sectors (columns (3) and (4)).

Importantly, stock-market deepening also reduces carbon emissions per unit of value added in litigation-prone sectors in the OECD sample (column (6)). Moreover, this weakens the statistical association between financial structure and the reduction in the gap in energy efficiency between relatively polluting and relatively clean sectors. The technological ‘greening’ of carbon-intensive sectors as stock markets develop is therefore to some degree explained by equity investors being concerned about litigation risk. These results go in the same direction as a number of recent findings in the literature. In particular, Fernando, Sharfman, and Uysal (2017) find that institutional investors tend to avoid stocks with high environmental risk exposure, while Akey and Appel (2018) show that increased liability protection leads to higher toxic emissions as a result of lower investment in abatement technologies. At the same time, even in this regression, financial structure continues to exert a negative impact on carbon emissions per unit of value added in carbon-intensive sectors. We conclude that litigation risk cannot fully explain the results documented earlier in Table 5. Our results thus leave a role for alternative mechanisms that are difficult to test, such as individual investors having different social objectives than banks, for example.

5.2.6 Finance, imports, and carbon leakage

An important issue to address is that the decline in domestic carbon emissions due to stock market development might be offset by the outsourcing of carbon-intensive activities to other countries, including so-called pollution havens (Eskeland and Harrison, 2003). This would result in a concomitant increase in carbon embedded in imports of intermediate inputs or final consumer goods. Stock market funding is ultimately provided by investors with their own social objectives (Bolton, Li, Ravina, and Rosenthal, 2019) and investors may be more sensitive to firms that perform badly in environmental terms. One unintended consequence may be that firms close domestic operations, but open foreign ones, under the assumption

that poor environmental performance away from home is more acceptable (or less observable) to investors. If so, then the decline in pollution domestically would be neutralized by a proportionate increase in pollution elsewhere (carbon leakage), making for a null effect from a global point of view.

To test this hypothesis, we download detailed data from the World Input-Output Database on bilateral imports and exports. We then calculate the amount of carbon emissions embedded in the import of goods for each country-sector-year in the following way. First, we determine what shares of output in a country-sector-year is exported versus sold domestically, and we split the associated CO₂ proportionately. We then determine what share of total exports by a particular sector in country i was imported by country j , and we assign to country j a proportionate share of the overall CO₂ associated with these exports. Next, we sum over all WIOD countries i that export to country j to get the full amount of CO₂ associated with the import in country j of goods (of a particular sector) produced abroad.

We also determine the final user in country j of these imported goods, and assign each a proportionate share of the associated CO₂ emissions abroad. There are five final-user categories: households; the same sector; other sectors; gross fixed capital formation (GFCF); and the government. In the case of the same sector and other sectors, these are typically purchases of intermediate inputs—for instance, purchases of car parts produced in Indonesia for the production of cars in Germany. In the case of households and the government, these are typically purchases of final goods (e.g., cars). Lastly, in the case of GFCF, these are (for example) cars and car parts imported by German firms to be used as investment goods rather than intermediate inputs. For each of these categories, we calculate per capita carbon emissions, to make the analysis comparable to Table 3.

Previous evidence suggests that outsourcing to pollution havens may be particularly likely for ‘footloose’ sectors with a lower cost of relocating operations abroad (Ederington, Levinson, and Minier, 2005). This suggests that carbon emissions associated with the production of imported goods will be higher in such footloose sectors. We acquire data from Ederington, Levinson, and Minier (2005) on the costs of relocating production abroad, and aggregate it to match our sector classification.²² The combination of these new data allows us to test

²²We classify sectors by their product market transportation costs. Industries where such costs are high are less likely to relocate abroad because the distance between production and consumers is then too costly to overcome. The classification is based on industry fixed effect coefficients from a regression of transport costs on distance and distance squared. See Appendix A of Ederington et al. (2005) for details.

whether in countries with a growing share of equity financing, carbon embedded in imports increases in case of carbon-intensive sectors, especially if the industry can relatively easily outsource (parts of) its production.

Table 9 reports estimates from a modified Model (4) where the dependent variable is per capita CO₂ emissions associated with the production of imported goods (in total and for the five user categories). Column (1) shows that in countries where equity markets gain in relative importance, imports from carbon-intensive sectors go up. This means that part of the decline in domestic carbon emissions due to increased equity financing is neutralized by an increase in carbon emitted during the production of imports. However, the magnitude of the point estimate is one-half of the one in Table 3, column (3), and overall imports are only around one-fifth of domestic production. The increase in carbon emissions associated with the production of imported goods is therefore only around one-tenth of the reduction in domestic carbon emissions due to the relative growth of equity markets. The analysis across final users reveals further interesting patterns. Goods purchased by households account for around 5% of the overall increase in CO₂ embedded in imported goods (column (2)). Intermediate goods purchased by the same sector (column (3)) and by other sectors (column (4)) account for the remaining 95%, in a roughly equal proportion. There is no increase in carbon embedded in imports of either capital goods (GFCF) or government purchases.

In Online Appendix Table OA2, we distinguish between sectors for which production is difficult to outsource due to high transportation costs (Panel A) and sectors that can outsource more easily (Panel B). As expected, the overall effect on carbon emissions associated with the foreign production of imported goods is much stronger for footloose sectors (Panel B, column (1)) than for immobile ones (Panel A, column (1)). That is, when stock market development leads to a domestic reduction in per capita carbon emissions in a relatively polluting industry, then this greening effect is offset more (but still far from completely) in the case of sectors whose products can be easily sourced abroad.

Interestingly, the import of consumer goods and of intermediates play intuitively different roles. The relatively small contribution of households to the increase in carbon emissions abroad that we documented for the full sample in Table 9 is much stronger for relatively immobile industries (Panel A, column (2)). Instead, the contribution of outsourcing by domestic industrial sectors is much stronger in the case of relatively footloose industries (Panel B, columns (3) and (4)). These results are consistent with the idea that the more

footloose a sector is, the more it outsources the production of intermediary goods abroad. For immobile sectors we instead observe that a domestic greening is accompanied by an increase in households buying final consumer goods abroad (as well as some firms buying investment goods abroad, column (5) in Panel A).

Overall, our estimates indicate that the reduction in carbon emissions in carbon-intensive sectors due to domestic stock market development is accompanied by an increased reliance of these sectors on the production of intermediary goods abroad (and to a much smaller extent an increase in household consumption of imports). This holds in particular for more footloose sectors. Yet, in terms of magnitudes, the increase in carbon embedded in sectoral imports remains dominated by a greening of the domestic economy by a factor of ten. In all, our findings are therefore in line with Levinson (2009) and Shapiro and Walker (2018) who show that the cleanup of US manufacturing since the late 1980s mainly reflects technological progress and only to a very limited extent the shifting of polluting industries overseas.

5.3 Finance and pollution: Firm-level results

We have not yet documented the link between the type of finance used and environmental performance at the firm level. To support the evidence on the within-industry greening effect of stock markets, it must be the case that when firms move towards more equity financing, they tend to invest more in pollution-reducing technologies and generate fewer carbon emissions per unit of value added. Demonstrating this chain of events is difficult because firms' choice of funding sources is typically endogenous, making the causal link from equity to lower carbon emissions tenuous.

To address this issue, we use a new firm-level data set and a plausibly exogenous policy change that reduced the cost of equity funding to firms. Specifically, we exploit the 2006 introduction of a tax shield for equity in Belgium that allowed firms to deduct from their taxable income an interest calculated on the basis of their equity. This notional interest deduction (NID) or allowance for corporate equity (ACE) reduced the relative tax advantage of debt funding and made equity funding relatively cheaper for firms.²³ Existing evidence

²³The NID allows firms to deduct from their taxable income a notional charge that equals the product of the book value of equity and a benchmark interest rate (the 10-year government bond yield). The Belgian NID is “hard” in the sense that the allowance is calculated over the total book value of equity instead of newly issued equity only (as in a “soft” NID).

indicates that this policy change indeed significantly increased the share of equity in Belgian firms' funding structure (Schepens, 2016 and Hebous and Ruf, 2017).

We use a sample of Belgian non-financial corporations that we observe before and after the introduction of the NID. In particular, we collect information on all Belgian firms that report annual carbon emissions under the EU Emissions Trading System (ETS). From Orbis we obtain data to calculate annual equity ratios, defined as shareholder funds as a percentage of total current plus non-current liabilities. We have non-missing information on both emissions and financials for 159 Belgian firms.

We compare these Belgian firms to two control groups. First, we use 101 ETS-reporting Dutch corporations. The Netherlands is a neighboring country with a similar economy and history²⁴, but it did not introduce a tax shield on equity in 2006 or later. This control group helps ensure that we do not capture a global (or regional) move toward more equity funding unrelated to the Belgian reform.

Second, we use as a control group all ETS-reporting firms in the Netherlands, France, Germany and Luxembourg. These are all of Belgium's neighboring countries, closely economically integrated and sharing the same currency. This larger control group allows us to match each treated Belgian firm with a similar control firm before applying our difference-in-difference estimator (Heckman, Hidehiko, and Todd, 1997). We match strictly within 2-digit industries and further refine the match using nearest-neighbor propensity score matching. The following variables enter the propensity score model: tangibility (tangible assets/total assets); profitability (EBITDA/total assets); size (log of total assets); and a dummy for negative operating revenues. All firm characteristics refer to 2004, two years before the Belgian reform came into force.

With these data in hand, we can now answer two questions. First, did Belgian firms use more equity after the introduction of the NID in 2006? And second, did Belgian firms reduce their carbon emissions after 2006 and, if so, did they also do so relative to control firms in neighboring countries? To answer these questions, we first simply compare the panel of Belgian firms before and after the introduction of the NID. In a second step, we then compare their development with that of both control groups in a difference-in-differences framework. To mimic our previous analysis as closely as possible, we calculate sector-specific carbon intensities as the median carbon emissions by sales or by assets for all 33 countries

²⁴Both countries were part of the United Kingdom of the Netherlands until 1839.

for which firm-level CO₂ data are available from the ETS. We do this for all 24 sectors available in Orbis. The regressions include firm fixed effects, as well as year fixed effects where appropriate.

We report the results in Table 10. Column (1) of Panel A documents a significant increase in the share of equity funding after the introduction of the NID, confirming the existing literature.²⁵ On average, after 2006, Belgian firms used 0.64 percentage points more equity (an increase of 5% of the sample mean). This increase in the share of equity in firms' capital structure is significant at the 5% statistical level. Columns (2) and (3) further indicate that after 2006, Belgian firms in relatively polluting industries experienced a reduction in their carbon emissions per sales and per assets, respectively. Both effects are significant at the 1% statistical level, and represent a 20% reduction in the difference in carbon emissions between an industry at the 25th and one at the 75th percentile of emissions intensity.

Panel B provides difference-in-differences results using the Dutch ETS-reporting firms as controls. We find that as a result of the NID introduction, Belgian firms became less leveraged over time, also when compared to Dutch neighboring firms (column (1)). While the data indicate a downward trend in firm leverage in the Netherlands as well, the post-2006 drop in leverage among Belgian firms is about 60% larger. The results in columns (2) and (3) confirm that after 2006, Belgian firms in relatively polluting industries reduced their carbon emissions per sales and per assets, respectively, also when compared to Dutch firms.

Panel C reports difference-in-differences results using matched firms from neighboring countries as a control group. The results are striking in that they show how Belgian firms significantly increased their use of equity after 2006, also when compared to observationally similar firms in adjacent countries (column (1)). Moreover, while the carbon intensity of ETS firms in relatively polluting industries in these comparison countries increased post-2006, this increase is much smaller among the Belgian firms (columns (2)-(3)).²⁶

In short, the results in Table 10 confirm at the firm-level what we documented at the industry level: a higher reliance on equity funding, due to an exogenous shift in firms' incentives to fund themselves with equity, results in fewer carbon emissions, plausibly due to the implementation of greener technologies.

²⁵The observation period for columns (1) in all three panels is a symmetric window 1995–2018 around the 2006 NID introduction in Belgium. For columns (2)-(3) a shorter period is used (2005–2018) since ETS reporting on carbon emissions only started in 2005.

²⁶Results are robust to clustering the standard errors at either the firm or the country level.

5.4 Robustness tests

One potential concern with our empirical specification is that we assume that the impact of shocks to financial sector size and structure is relatively contemporaneous (1-year lag). Changes in overall financing and in the equity share thereof may nevertheless take more time to fully propagate through the economy. To account for this, we now impose a structure that aggregates the data over 5-year periods (1990–1993, 1994–1998, 1999–2003, 2004–2008, 2009–2013). We then test for the impact of shocks to financial sectors during one 5-year period on carbon emissions and sector growth during the next 5-year period. Online Appendix Table OA3 reports the estimates from these alternative tests. The specifications control for the time-varying size of each sector as a share of the economy and for country-sector dummies, country-period dummies, and sector-period dummies. We find strong support for the three facts that we already documented: in countries with deepening stock markets, and relative to technologically greener industries, carbon-intensive industries generate fewer carbon emissions per capita (column (1)), grow more slowly (column (2)), and generate fewer emissions per unit of value added (column (3)). These effects are statistically significant at least at the 10% level, and at least at the 5% level in two of the three tests.

In Online Appendix Table OA4 we include both components of FD —the volume of bank credit and the value of traded stocks—separately in the regression. Column (1) suggests that an increase in credit market size has a significant positive, and an increase in stock market size a significant negative, effect on CO_2 emissions at the industry level. The latter is driven by a reduction in relative growth rates in carbon-intensive sectors (column (2)) and by a reduction in carbon emissions per unit of value added in carbon-intensive sectors (column (3)), confirming the main results of the paper.

Next, our baseline results in Tables 3–5 are confirmed when we control for how dependent on external finance a sector is (Online Appendix Table OA5) and when we employ alternative benchmarks for carbon intensity, calculated using US data or contemporaneous sector-specific global averages (Online Appendix Table OA6). Furthermore, we document that our main results become stronger when we include the depth of corporate bond markets (Online Appendix Table OA7) or the size of private equity investment (Online Appendix Table OA8) in the calculation of FD and FS . The latter likely reflects that private equity, such as venture capital and angel investments, is often instrumental for generating early-stage innovation (Kortum and Lerner, 2000).

Lastly, the main results also survive when we control for country-industry-specific fuel subsidies (Online Appendix Table OA9). Fuel subsidies may blunt firms' incentives to make their production technology more energy efficient, even when firms can access stock markets to finance such green investments. Relatedly, Newell, Jaffe, and Stavins (1999) find that oil price increases stimulate innovation to make air conditioners more energy efficient, while Aghion, Dechezleprêtre, Hemous, Martin, and Van Reenen (2016) show how higher fuel prices redirect the car industry towards green innovation (electric and hybrid technologies) and away from brown technology (internal combustion engines).

6 Conclusions

The 2018 Sveriges Riksbank Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences was recently awarded to William Nordhaus for integrating climate change into long-run macroeconomic analysis. Economists, both theorists and empiricists, are increasingly analyzing the interdependent relationships between economic growth and global warming. As yet, many questions remain unanswered and economic research lags behind the proliferation of climate policies. The rapid growth of green finance initiatives is a case in point and contrasts sharply with the paucity of evidence on the link between conventional finance and carbon emissions.

To quantify this role, we study the relation between financial development and structure, on the one hand, and CO₂ emissions, on the other hand, in a large panel of countries and sectors over the period 1990–2013. We find that for a given level of economic development and environmental protection, financial sector size has no impact on CO₂ emissions, but that a financial structure tilted towards equity financing reduces per capita emissions significantly. When further analyzing the role of financial structure for sectors that generate more carbon emissions per unit of value added for intrinsic technological reasons, we find that such industries emit relatively less carbon in countries with deepening stock markets.

This first set of results can be interpreted in light of the Kuznets-curve argument that industrial pollution follows an inverse-U shape over the development cycle. Our empirical setting addresses this issue head on by juxtaposing the influence of banking sectors and stock markets. Our results imply that the pattern of per capita pollution over time is intimately related to the sequential development of different types of financial markets. As stock markets tend to develop at later stages of development than credit markets, our findings show that

the evolution of financial structure directly contributes to the concave relationship between economic development and environmental quality that has been documented in the literature (e.g. Grossman and Krueger, 1995).

We next study the channels that underpin these country- and sector-level results. We find strong evidence for the conjecture that stock markets facilitate the adoption of cleaner technologies in polluting industries. Further analysis of sectoral patenting data confirms that deeper stock markets are associated with more green innovation in carbon-intensive sectors. We also document weaker evidence that—holding cross-industry differences in technology constant—stock markets help reallocate investment towards more energy-efficient sectors. Crucially, these empirical regularities still obtain in the data when we use policy interventions in equity and credit markets to instrument for financial market size and structure. Moreover, we also show that the beneficial effect of stock market development in terms of lower carbon emissions is only to a very limited extent offset by higher imports of ‘dirty’ intermediate or final consumer goods. Lastly, we confirm our main results at the firm level by using data on carbon emissions from the European Emissions Trading System and by exploiting a Belgian policy shock that suddenly increased firms’ use of equity funding.

In sum, we show that stock-market based financial systems are tightly associated with fewer greenhouse gas emissions. Why is this? There is increasing evidence that investors value environmentally sustainable behavior by firms (for example, Hartzmark and Sussman (2019) and the literature cited in Section 2). Such investors can reduce their carbon footprint in two ways: by engaging with investee firms with the goal of reducing their carbon emissions and, second, by divesting from carbon-intensive stocks. The two channels that underpin our results (cross-sectoral reallocation and within-sector increases in energy efficiency) are in line with these active and passive roles of equity investors. Yet, our results on underlying mechanisms indicate that the reallocation of investment towards more energy-efficient sectors in countries with deepening stock markets is partly also a side effect of these sectors being more innovative and less reliant on tangible assets. That is, our findings do not necessarily reflect a preference of equity investors for energy-efficient sectors *per se*. Equity funding also gravitates towards greener projects because of a superior ability to finance new and innovative technologies whereas conservative banks prefer financing well-known technologies that are underpinned by tangible assets.

Overall, our findings indicate that countries with a bank-based financial system that aim

to green their economy, such as through the promotion of green bonds or other green-finance initiatives, could consider stimulating the development of conventional equity markets as well. This holds especially for middle-income countries where carbon dioxide emissions have increased more or less linearly during the development process. There, according to our findings, stock markets could play an important role in making future growth greener, in particular by stimulating innovation that leads to cleaner production processes within industries. An important way to facilitate the deepening of stock markets in such countries is to improve the legal protection of (minority) shareholders (Pagano and Volpin, 2006).

In parallel, countries can try to counterbalance the tendency of credit markets to finance relatively carbon-intensive industries. Examples include the green guidelines that China and Brazil recently introduced to encourage banks to improve their environmental performance and to lend more to firms that are part of the low-carbon economy. From an industry perspective, adherence to the so-called Carbon Principles, Climate Principles, and Equator Principles should also contribute to a greening of bank lending.²⁷ Strict adherence to these principles can also make governmental climate change policies more effective by accelerating capital reallocation and investment towards low-carbon technologies.

Lastly, countries that aim to limit the negative environmental externalities stemming from a financial system that is overly reliant on bank lending (and debt more generally) can reduce tax-code favoritism towards debt (such as the deductibility of interest payments and double taxation of dividends in the U.S.). An example is the notional interest deduction that Belgium introduced in 2006 and that we analyzed in Section 5.3. Similarly, as part of the European Commission's work on the Capital Markets Union, a common corporate tax base has been proposed to address the current debt bias in corporate taxation. A so-called Allowance for Growth and Investment will give firms equivalent tax benefits for equity and debt. Our results suggest that, to the extent that such policies indeed move economies towards more equity-funded investments, they will also have important environmental benefits by making low-carbon technologies easier to finance.

²⁷The Carbon Principles are guidelines to assess the climate change risks of financing electric power projects. The Climate Principles comprise a similar but broader framework. Lastly, the Equator Principles are a risk management framework to assess and manage environmental and social risk in large projects. Equator Principle banks commit not to lend to borrowers that do not comply with their environmental and social policies and procedures, and to require borrowers with greenhouse gas emissions above a certain threshold to implement measures to reduce such emissions.

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Table 1: Sectoral benchmarks

| ISIC code | Sector name | Carbon intensity | R&D intensity | Asset tangibility | Litigation risk |
|-----------|---|------------------|---------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| 01-05 | Agriculture, hunting, forestry, and fishing | 0.256 | 0.002 | 0.350 | 0.004 |
| 10-14 | Mining and quarrying | 0.125 | 0.000 | 0.350 | 0.044 |
| 15-16 | Food products, beverages, and tobacco | 0.186 | 0.009 | 0.329 | 0.032 |
| 17-19 | Textiles, textile products, leather, and footwear | 0.120 | 0.013 | 0.203 | 0.075 |
| 20 | Wood and products of wood and cork | 0.108 | 0.075 | 0.380 | 0.121 |
| 21-22 | Pulp, paper, paper products, printing, and publishing | 0.192 | 0.009 | 0.429 | 0.034 |
| 23-25 | Chemical, rubber, plastics, and fuel products | 0.498 | 0.010 | 0.304 | 0.062 |
| 26 | Other non-metallic mineral products | 1.101 | 0.013 | 0.275 | 0.192 |
| 27 | Basic metals | 1.730 | 0.012 | 0.421 | 0.147 |
| 28-33 | Fabricated metal products, machinery, and equipment | 0.037 | 0.103 | 0.207 | 0.015 |
| 34-35 | Transport equipment | 0.064 | 0.020 | 0.255 | 0.030 |
| 40-41 | Electricity, gas, and water supply | 8.230 | 0.000 | 0.350 | 0.000 |
| 45 | Construction | 0.035 | 0.000 | 0.124 | 0.001 |
| 60 | Land transport – transport via pipelines | 3.168 | 0.000 | 0.667 | 0.016 |
| 61 | Water transport | 7.879 | 0.000 | 0.758 | 0.002 |
| 62 | Air transport | 3.311 | 0.000 | 0.557 | 0.001 |

Notes: This table summarizes, by sector, the main benchmarks used in the paper. ‘Carbon intensity’ denotes the average value, over the entire sample period, of each sector’s annual CO₂ emissions per value added in the global sample. ‘R&D intensity’ denotes the industry-median value of R&D investment over total assets for mature listed firms, from Compustat North America. ‘Asset tangibility’ denotes the share of tangible assets out of total assets for mature listed firms, from Compustat North America. ‘Litigation risk’ denotes the total penalties paid by a sector in the U.S. over the period 2000-2014 (following both administrative and judicial legal cases) as a share of the sector’s value added over the same period, from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)’s Enforcement and Compliance History Online (ECHO) data set (data on penalties) and WIOD (data on value added).

Table 2: Financial development and aggregate pollution

| | OLS | | 2SLS | | | |
|---------------------------------|------------|------------|-------------|------------|--------------|-----------|
| | (1) | (2) | First stage | | Second stage | |
| | | | FD | FS | (5) | (6) |
| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| Pro-competitive bank regulation | | | 0.0387* | -0.0177* | | |
| | | | (0.0254) | (0.0107) | | |
| Capital account liberalization | | | 0.0023** | 0.0010** | | |
| | | | (0.0012) | (0.0005) | | |
| Equity market liberalization | | | -0.1419** | 0.0756*** | | |
| | | | (0.0625) | (0.0262) | | |
| FD | -0.0001 | -0.0001 | | | 0.0011 | -0.0029 |
| | (0.0001) | (0.0001) | | | (0.0007) | (0.0026) |
| FS | -0.0010*** | -0.0007** | | | -0.0024** | -0.0022** |
| | (0.0003) | (0.0004) | | | (0.0011) | (0.0012) |
| Log GDP per capita | 0.0088*** | 0.0049** | -4.8862*** | 0.1393 | 0.0038 | -0.0200 |
| | (0.0029) | (0.0024) | (0.8963) | (0.3760) | (0.0039) | (0.0167) |
| Log GDP per capita squared | -0.0003* | -0.0001 | 0.3274*** | 0.0083 | -0.0001 | 0.0013 |
| | (0.0002) | (0.0001) | (0.0485) | (0.0204) | (0.0003) | (0.0010) |
| Population | -0.0066*** | -0.0046** | 2.7571*** | -0.2228 | -0.0032 | 0.0076 |
| | (0.0018) | (0.0020) | (0.8887) | (0.3728) | (0.0021) | (0.0086) |
| Recession | -0.0002*** | -0.0002** | -0.0028 | -0.0403*** | -0.0002** | -0.0003** |
| | (0.0001) | (0.0001) | (0.0307) | (0.0129) | (0.0001) | (0.0001) |
| Environmental protection index | | -0.0003*** | | | | -0.0005* |
| | | (0.0001) | | | | (0.0003) |
| Country dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Year dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| F-statistics | | | 4.59 | 7.81 | | |
| Sargan J-statistic | | | | 3.25 | | |
| No. Observations | 1,010 | 608 | 548 | 548 | 548 | 384 |
| R-squared | 0.97 | 0.98 | 0.92 | 0.69 | 0.98 | 0.98 |

Notes: This table reports estimates from OLS (columns (1)-(2)) and 2SLS (columns (3)-(6)) regressions. The dependent variable in columns (1)-(2) and (5)-(6) is 'CO₂ emissions per capita' which denotes aggregate emissions of carbon dioxide, in kilograms, per capita. In columns (5) and (6), 'FD' and 'FS' are instrumented using equity market liberalization events from Bekaert et al. (2005), an index of capital account liberalization from Quinn and Toyoda (2008), and an index of pro-competitive banking regulation from Abiad et al. (2008). The sample period is 1990-2013. All regressions include fixed effects as specified. Robust standard errors are included in parentheses, where ***, **, and * indicate significance at the 1, 5, and 10 percent statistical level, respectively.

Table 3: Finance and sector-level carbon emissions per capita

| | CO ₂ emissions per capita | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| FD × Carbon intensity | 0.0274 (0.0305) | | 0.0283 (0.0296) | -0.0269 (0.0563) |
| FS × Carbon intensity | | -0.1273** (0.0663) | -0.1287** (0.0666) | -0.0895** (0.0421) |
| Sector share | 0.0059* (0.0037) | 0.0058* (0.0037) | 0.0057* (0.0036) | 0.0006*** (0.0002) |
| Country × Sector dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Country × Year dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Sector × Year dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| No. Observations | 6,167 | 6,167 | 6,167 | 3,807 |
| R-squared | 0.77 | 0.77 | 0.77 | 0.97 |

Notes: The table reports estimates from OLS (columns (1)-(3)) and IV (column (4)) regressions. The instruments used in column (4) are the same as in columns (3)-(4) of Table 2. The dependent variable is ‘CO₂ emissions per capita’ which denotes sector-specific annual emissions of carbon dioxide, in kilograms, per capita. ‘Sector share’ denotes the 1-period lagged share in value added of the sector out of the whole economy. Sector-specific data come from IEA and UNIDO. The sample period is 1990-2013. All regressions include fixed effects as specified. Standard errors clustered at the country-sector level are included in parentheses, where ***, **, and * indicate significance at the 1, 5, and 10 percent statistical level, respectively.

Table 4: Finance and cross-sector reallocation

| | Finance and growth in value added | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| FD \times Carbon intensity | -0.1593 (0.1459) | | -0.1567 (0.1447) | 2.1915 (1.1063) |
| FS \times Carbon intensity | | -0.6463* (0.4025) | -0.6420* (0.3935) | -1.6470* (0.9056) |
| Sector share | -0.1449*** (0.0232) | -0.1462*** (0.0231) | -0.1461*** (0.0230) | -0.1582*** (0.0311) |
| Country \times Sector dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Country \times Year dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Sector \times Year dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| No. Observations | 6,079 | 6,079 | 6,079 | 3,864 |
| R-squared | 0.56 | 0.56 | 0.56 | 0.51 |

Notes: The table reports estimates from OLS (columns (1)-(3)) and IV (column (4)) regressions. The instruments used in column (4) are the same as in columns (3)-(4) of Table 2. The dependent variable is ‘Growth in value added’ which denotes annual sector-specific growth in value added. ‘Sector share’ denotes the 1-period lagged share in value added of the sector out of the whole economy. Sector-specific data come from IEA and UNIDO. The sample period is 1990-2013. All regressions include fixed effects as specified. Standard errors clustered at the country-sector level are included in parentheses, where ***, **, and * indicate significance at the 1, 5, and 10 percent statistical level, respectively.

Table 5: Finance and sector-level carbon emissions per unit of output

| | CO ₂ emissions per value added | | | |
|--------------------------|---|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| FD × Carbon intensity | -0.1797 (0.4234) | | -0.1709 (0.3787) | 2.8492 (3.5890) |
| FS × Carbon intensity | | -4.3300*** (1.0531) | -4.3275*** (1.0493) | -9.3606*** (2.7586) |
| Sector share | 0.0048 (0.0142) | -0.0034 (0.0139) | -0.0033 (0.0141) | -0.0114* (0.0064) |
| Country × Sector dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Country × Year dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Sector × Year dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| No. Observations | 5,806 | 5,806 | 5,806 | 3,634 |
| R-squared | 0.83 | 0.83 | 0.83 | 0.92 |

Notes: The table reports estimates from OLS (columns (1)-(3)) and IV (column (4)) regressions. The instruments used in column (4) are the same as in columns (3)-(4) of Table 2. The dependent variable is ‘CO₂ emissions per value added’ which denotes sector-specific annual emissions of carbon dioxide, in kilograms, per unit of value added. ‘Sector share’ denotes the 1-period lagged share in value added of the sector out of the whole economy. Sector-specific data come from IEA and UNIDO. The sample period is 1990-2013. All regressions include fixed effects as specified. Standard errors clustered at the country-sector level are included in parentheses, where ***, **, and * indicate significance at the 1, 5, and 10 percent statistical level, respectively.

Table 6: Finance and green innovation

| | Total patents per capita | Green patents per capita | Green patents per capita (excl. transport and waste) | Green patents per capita (industrial production) |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---|---|
| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| FD × Carbon intensity | -0.0005 (0.0011) | -0.1698 (0.204) | -0.1842 (0.2003) | -0.0144 (0.0454) |
| FS × Carbon intensity | 0.0006 (0.003) | 0.5270* (0.3571) | 0.5297* (0.3476) | 0.1801** (0.0897) |
| Sector share | 0.0001 (0.0002) | -0.0048 (0.0081) | -0.0021 (0.0065) | -0.0021 (0.0019) |
| Country × Sector dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Country × Year dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Sector × Year dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| No. Observations | 6,471 | 6,471 | 6,471 | 6,471 |
| R-squared | 0.96 | 0.82 | 0.77 | 0.76 |

Notes: The table reports estimates from OLS regressions. The dependent variable is the number of total patents in a country-sector-year, per 1 mln. population (column (1)); the number of green patents in a country-sector-year, per 1 mln. population (column (2)); the number of patents in the most climate-change-intensive technologies in a country-sector-year, per 1 mln. population, excluding patents related to transportation and to wastewater treatment and waste management (column (3)); and the number of patents intended to increase the energy efficiency of industrial production processes in a country-sector-year, per 1 mln. population (column (4)). Sector-specific data come from IEA and UNIDO. The sample period is 1990-2013. All regressions include fixed effects as specified. Standard errors clustered at the country-sector level are included in parentheses, where ***, **, and * indicate significance at the 1, 5, and 10 percent statistical level, respectively.

Table 7: Finance and sector-level carbon emissions: OECD countries

| | CO ₂ emissions per capita | Growth in value added | CO ₂ emissions per value added |
|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|--|
| | (1) | (2) | (3) |
| FD × Carbon intensity | -0.0040 (0.0139) | -0.0472* (0.0241) | -0.0807 (0.0995) |
| FS × Carbon intensity | -0.0446* (0.0290) | 0.0584 (0.0806) | -0.5955** (0.2984) |
| Sector share | 0.0039 (0.0030) | -0.0301*** (0.0049) | -0.0141** (0.0065) |
| Country × Sector dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Country × Year dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Sector × Year dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| No. Observations | 6,807 | 6,810 | 6,596 |
| R-squared | 0.95 | 0.42 | 0.76 |

Notes: The table reports estimates from OLS regressions. The dependent variable is the sector's annual emissions of carbon dioxide, in kilograms, per capita (column (1)); the sector's annual growth in value added (column (2)); and the sector's annual emissions of carbon dioxide, in kilograms, per unit of value added (column (3)). Sector-specific data for 33 OECD countries come from IEA and STAN. The sample period is 1990-2013. All regressions include fixed effects as specified. Standard errors clustered at the country-sector level are included in parentheses, where ***, **, and * indicate significance at the 1, 5, and 10 percent statistical level, respectively.

Table 8: Finance and sector-level carbon emissions: Mechanisms

Panel A: Finance and cross-sector reallocation

| | Growth in value added | | | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | Full sample | OECD sample | Full sample | OECD sample | Full sample | OECD sample |
| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| FD × Carbon intensity | -0.1597 (0.1518) | -0.0497* (0.0254) | -0.0936 (0.1441) | -0.0467* (0.0240) | -0.0796 (0.2221) | -0.0482 (0.0357) |
| FS × Carbon intensity | -0.3879 (0.4065) | 0.0883 (0.0846) | -0.3916 (0.3848) | 0.0811 (0.0707) | -1.0539* (0.5837) | 0.1915 (0.1380) |
| FD × R&D intensity | 0.0008 (0.0029) | -0.0069 (0.0167) | | | | |
| FS × R&D intensity | 0.1511* (0.0911) | 0.0836* (0.0511) | | | | |
| FD × Asset tangibility | | | -0.0013 (0.0009) | -0.0001 (0.0003) | | |
| FS × Asset tangibility | | | -0.0054** (0.0027) | -0.0006 (0.0011) | | |
| FD × Litigation risk | | | | | -0.9804 (1.9111) | -0.1276 (0.7304) |
| FS × Litigation risk | | | | | 5.2840 (5.1708) | -0.1238 (2.4005) |
| Sector share | -0.1483*** (0.0229) | -0.0307*** (0.0050) | -0.1474*** (0.0226) | -0.0301*** (0.0049) | -0.1455*** (0.0231) | -0.0291*** (0.0048) |
| Country × Sector dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Country × Year dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Sector × Year dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| No. Observations | 6,079 | 6,810 | 6,079 | 6,810 | 6,079 | 6,810 |
| R-squared | 0.56 | 0.42 | 0.56 | 0.42 | 0.56 | 0.43 |

Panel B: Finance and within-sector efficiency

| | CO ₂ emissions per value added | | | | | |
|--------------------------|---|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| | Full sample | OECD sample | Full sample | OECD sample | Full sample | OECD sample |
| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| FD × Carbon intensity | -0.1777 (0.4047) | 0.0800 (0.1030) | -0.1865 (0.3552) | -0.0519 (0.0887) | -0.0174 (0.5898) | -0.1512 (0.1567) |
| FS × Carbon intensity | -4.5634*** (1.0937) | -0.5906** (0.3035) | -4.1349*** (1.0443) | -0.5885** (0.3024) | -4.6887*** (1.5134) | -0.7182* (0.4701) |
| FD × R&D intensity | -0.0046 (0.0233) | 0.0018 (0.0154) | | | | |
| FS × R&D intensity | -0.1404* (0.0783) | 0.0140 (0.0366) | | | | |
| FD × Asset tangibility | | | 0.0004 (0.0013) | -0.0007 (0.0011) | | |
| FS × Asset tangibility | | | -0.0043 (0.0047) | -0.0002 (0.0037) | | |
| FD × Litigation risk | | | | | -1.9402 (3.6235) | 0.5075 (1.0262) |
| FS × Litigation risk | | | | | 4.6165 (11.8254) | -5.4095** (2.8488) |
| Sector share | -0.0009 (0.0145) | -0.0142** (0.0066) | -0.0041 (0.0143) | -0.0141** (0.0066) | -0.0028 (0.0141) | -0.0106* (0.0060) |
| Country × Sector dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Country × Year dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Sector × Year dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| No. Observations | 5,806 | 6,596 | 5,806 | 6,596 | 5,806 | 6,596 |
| R-squared | 0.83 | 0.76 | 0.83 | 0.76 | 0.83 | 0.72 |

Notes: The table reports estimates from OLS regressions. The dependent variable is ‘Growth in value added’ which denotes annual sector-specific growth in value added (Panel A) and ‘CO₂ emissions per value added’ which denotes the sector’s annual emissions of carbon dioxide, in kilograms, per unit of value added (Panel B). ‘Sector share’ denotes the 1-period lagged share in value added of the sector out of the whole economy. In the even columns, sector-specific data are for 33 OECD countries and come from IEA and STAN (1990-2013). The odd columns are based on the country sample over the same time period (data from IEA and UNIDO). All regressions include fixed effects as specified. Standard errors clustered at the country-sector level are included in parentheses, where ***, **, and * indicate significance at the 1, 5, and 10 percent statistical level, respectively.

Table 9: Finance, imports, and carbon leakage

| | CO ₂ emissions per capita from imports | | | | | |
|--------------------------|---|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| | Total | Households | Sector, same | Sector, other | GFCF | Government |
| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| FD × Carbon intensity | 0.0083 (0.0151) | 0.0009 (0.0008) | 0.0069 (0.0125) | 0.0003 (0.003) | 0.0001 (0.0005) | 0.0000 (0.0000) |
| FS × Carbon intensity | 0.0613*** (0.0182) | 0.0029** (0.0015) | 0.0274*** (0.0108) | 0.0304*** (0.0087) | 0.0007 (0.0013) | 0.0000 (0.0000) |
| Sector share | 0.0009** (0.0005) | 0.0000 (0.0001) | 0.0007* (0.0004) | 0.0002 (0.0001) | 0.0001*** (0.0000) | 0.0000 (0.0000) |
| Country × Sector dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Country × Year dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Sector × Year dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| No. Observations | 3,167 | 3,167 | 3,167 | 3,167 | 3,167 | 3,167 |
| R-squared | 0.98 | 0.97 | 0.97 | 0.98 | 0.97 | 0.92 |

Notes: The table reports estimates from OLS regressions. The dependent variable is the total emissions of carbon dioxide associated with foreign-produced goods purchased by the total economy (column (1)), by households (column (2)), by the same industry (column (3)), by other industries (column (4)), purchased for gross fixed capital formation (column (5)), or purchased by the government (column (6)), in kilograms, per capita. Import data come from WIOD and sector-specific data from IEA and UNIDO. The sample includes all sectors and is for the period 1995-2009. All regressions include fixed effects as specified. Standard errors clustered at the country-sector level are included in parentheses, where ***, **, and * indicate significance at the 1, 5, and 10 percent statistical level, respectively.

Table 10: Finance and pollution: Firm-level evidence

| Panel A. Belgium | | | |
|--|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | Equity ratio | CO ₂ emissions per sales | CO ₂ emissions per assets |
| | (1) | (2) | (3) |
| Post 2006 | 0.0749*** (0.0088) | | |
| Post 2006 × Carbon intensity | | -0.0011*** (0.0002) | -0.0001*** (0.0000) |
| Firm fixed effects | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Year dummies | No | Yes | Yes |
| No. Observations | 1,947 | 1,773 | 1,821 |
| No. Firms | 159 | 159 | 159 |
| R-squared | 0.70 | 0.66 | 0.80 |
| Panel B. Difference-in-Differences (Belgium vs. the Netherlands) | | | |
| | Equity ratio | CO ₂ emissions per sales | CO ₂ emissions per assets |
| | (1) | (2) | (3) |
| Post 2006 | 0.0615*** (0.0084) | | |
| Post 2006 × Belgium | 0.0374*** (0.0103) | | |
| Post 2006 × Carbon intensity | | 0.0000 (0.0002) | -0.0001 (0.0001) |
| Post 2006 × Carbon intensity × Belgium | | -0.0011*** (0.0002) | -0.0001* (0.0000) |
| Firm fixed effects | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Country × Year dummies | No | Yes | Yes |
| No. Observations | 5,020 | 2,356 | 2,676 |
| No. Firms | 260 | 260 | 260 |
| R-squared | 0.56 | 0.66 | 0.83 |
| Panel C. Difference-in-Differences (Matched sample: Belgium, France, Germany, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands) | | | |
| | Equity ratio | CO ₂ emissions per sales | CO ₂ emissions per assets |
| | (1) | (2) | (3) |
| Post 2006 | 0.0061 (0.0066) | | |
| Post 2006 × Belgium | 0.0938*** (0.0090) | | |
| Post 2006 × Carbon intensity | | 0.1292*** (0.0460) | 0.1466*** (0.0336) |
| Post 2006 × Carbon intensity × Belgium | | -0.1093** (0.0515) | -0.1373*** (0.0429) |
| Firm fixed effects | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Country × Year dummies | No | Yes | Yes |
| No. Observations | 5,809 | 3,165 | 3,287 |
| No. Firms | 296 | 296 | 296 |
| R-squared | 0.58 | 0.93 | 0.93 |

Notes: This table reports estimates from OLS regressions (Panel A); difference-in-differences regressions (Panel B); and difference-in-differences regressions combined with nearest neighbor matching (Panel C). The dependent variables are the ratio of the firm's shareholder funds to total current plus non-current liabilities (column (1)); the firm's emissions of carbon dioxide, in kilograms, divided by total sales (column (2)); and the firm's emissions of carbon dioxide, in kilograms, divided by total assets (column (3)). Belgium introduced an allowance for corporate equity (ACE) in 2006. 'Post' is a dummy variable equal to one in 2007 and thereafter. 'Carbon intensity' denotes the sector average, over the entire period 2005-2018, of firms' CO₂ emissions per sales (column (2)) or per assets (column (3)), for the 33 countries for which firm-level CO₂ data are available from the ETS. Data on equity ratios, sales, and assets come from Orbis. The sample period is 1995–2018 (column (1)) and 2005–2018 (columns (2)-(3)). All regressions include fixed effects as specified. Standard errors are included in parentheses, where ***, **, and * indicate significance at the 1, 5, and 10 percent statistical level, respectively.

Appendix

Table A1: Variable definitions and sources

| Variable | Definition | Data source |
|---|--|-------------------------------|
| CO ₂ emissions per capita | Aggregate or sector-specific emissions of carbon dioxide, in tons, divided by the country's population. | UNIDO; OECD |
| Financial development (FD) | Sum of private-sector credit and value of all listed stocks, divided by the country's GDP, 1-period lagged. | IEA; UNIDO |
| FD with bonds | Sum of credit to the private sector, the value of all listed stocks, and the value of all issued private corporate bonds, divided by the country's GDP, 1-period lagged. | IEA; UNIDO |
| Financial structure (FS) | Value of all listed stocks, divided by the sum of credit to the private sector and the value of all listed stocks, 1-period lagged. | IEA; UNIDO |
| FS with bonds | Sum of the value of all listed stocks divided by the sum of credit to the private sector, the value of all listed stocks, and the value of all issued private corporate bonds 1-period lagged. | IEA; UNIDO |
| GDP per capita | Country's per capita GDP. | WDI |
| Population | Country's population, in billions of inhabitants. | WDI |
| Recession | Dummy variable equal to 1 if the country experiences negative GDP growth. | WDI |
| Environmental protection index | Index that measures the stringency of environmental protection taking values from 0 (not stringent) to 6 (very stringent). | OECD; Botta and Kozluk (2014) |
| Pro-competitive bank regulation | Index of how pro-bank entry regulation is. Values of 4 or 5 indicate fully liberalized; 3 indicates largely liberalized; 2 or 1 indicates partially repressed and 0 indicates fully repressed. | Abiad et al. (2008) |
| Capital account liberalization | Extent of capital account openness on a 0–100 scale. | Quinn and Toyoda (2008) |
| Equity market liberalization | Dummy variable equal to 1 if the country's stock market is open to foreign portfolio investment. | Bekaert et al. (2005) |
| Growth in value added | Sector-specific growth in value added. | UNIDO; OECD |
| CO ₂ emissions per value added | Aggregate or sector-specific emissions of carbon dioxide, in tons, divided by the sector's value added. | UNIDO; OECD |
| Imported CO ₂ emissions per capita | Sector-specific carbon dioxide embedded in imports, in tons, divided by the country's population. | WIOD |
| Total patents per capita | Number of total patents in a country-sector-year, per 1 million population. | UNIDO; OECD; PATSTAT |

Continued on next page.

Table A1 cont.: Variable definitions and sources

| Variable | Definition | Data source |
|--|--|-------------------------------|
| Green patents per capita | Number of green patents in a country-sector-year, per 1 million population. | UNIDO; OECD; PATSTAT |
| Green patents per capita (excl. transport and waste) | Number of patents in the most climate-change-intensive technologies in a country-sector-year, per 1 million population, excluding patents related to transportation and to waste water treatment and waste management. | UNIDO; OECD; PATSTAT |
| Green patents per capita (industrial production) | Number of patents related to inventions to increase the energy efficiency of industrial production or processing of goods in a country-sector-year, per 1 million population. | UNIDO; OECD; PATSTAT |
| Sector share | Share in value added of the sector out of the whole economy. | UNIDO; OECD |
| Carbon intensity | Average value, over the entire sample period, of a sector's CO ₂ emissions per value added in the global sample. | IEA; UNIDO; STAN |
| Carbon intensity (contemporaneous) | Average value, for each year, of each sector's CO ₂ emissions per value added, for all countries in the sample. | IEA; UNIDO; STAN |
| Carbon intensity (US) | Average value, over the entire sample period, of each sector's CO ₂ emissions per value added in the US. | IEA; UNIDO; STAN |
| R&D intensity | Industry-median value of R&D investment over total assets for mature listed firms, from Compustat North America. | Laeven et al. (2006) |
| Asset tangibility | Share of tangible assets out of total assets for mature listed firms, from Compustat North America. | Braun (2003) |
| Litigation risk | Total penalties paid by a sector in the U.S. during 2000-2014 (following both administrative and judicial legal cases) as a share of the sector's value added over the same period. | EPA and ECHO; WIOD |
| Stock/GDP | One-period lagged ratio of the value of all listed stocks to the country's GDP. | Beck et al. (2016) |
| Credit/GDP | One-period lagged ratio of credit to the private sector to the country's GDP. | Beck et al. (2016) |
| External dependence | Share of capital investment financed with sources other than retained earnings, for Compustat firms during 1990-2000. | Compustat |
| Fuel subsidies | Difference between the observed price of fuel and the benchmark price of fuel for a particular country-sector. | IMF Energy Subsidies Template |
| Equity ratio | Shareholder funds/current plus non-current liabilities (in %). | Orbis |
| CO ₂ emissions per sales | Firms' emissions of carbon dioxide, in kilograms, divided by total sales. | ETS; Orbis |
| CO ₂ emissions per assets | Firms' emissions of carbon dioxide, in kilograms, divided by total assets. | ETS; Orbis |

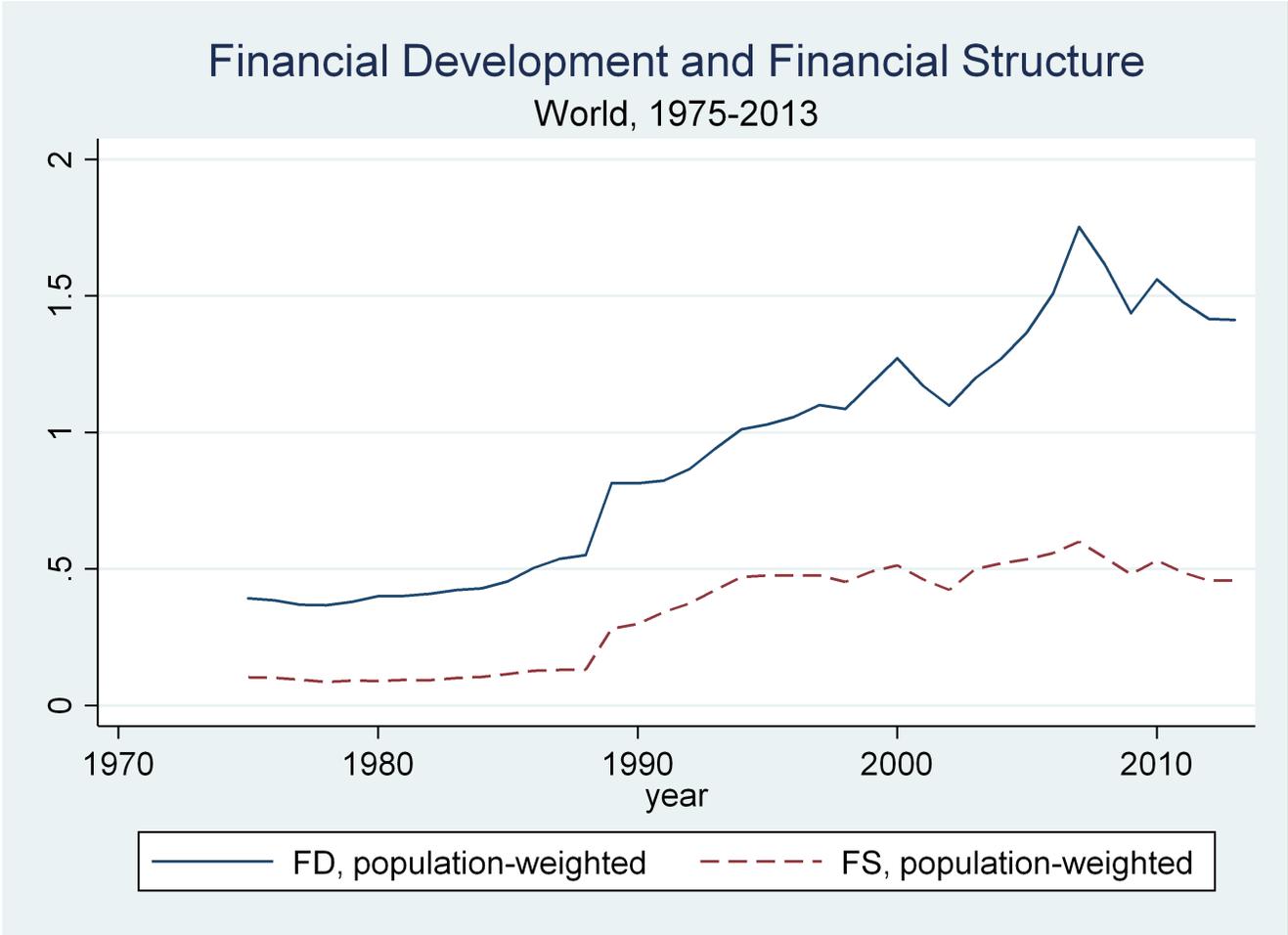
Notes: This table provides definitions and data sources for all variables used in the paper. UNIDO: United Nations Industrial Development Organization. OECD: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. WDI: World Development Indicators. IEA: International Energy Agency. PATSTAT: European Patent Office (EPO) Worldwide Patent Statistical Database. STAN: STAN Data set for Structural Analysis (OECD). EPA and ECHO: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)'s Enforcement and Compliance History Online (ECHO) data set. WIOD: World Input-Output Database. ETS: EU Emissions Trading System. Orbis: Orbis - Bureau van Dijk.

Table A2: Summary statistics

| Variable | Mean | Median | St. dev. | Min | Max |
|---|--------|--------|----------|--------|---------|
| <i>Country-level</i> | | | | | |
| CO ₂ per capita | 6.909 | 6.169 | 4.794 | 0.105 | 29.018 |
| Financial development (FD) | 1.222 | 1.089 | 0.815 | 0.028 | 4.159 |
| Financial structure (FS) | 0.389 | 0.392 | 0.163 | 0.001 | 0.823 |
| GDP per capita | 23,040 | 13,033 | 21,919 | 553 | 110,001 |
| Population | 0.082 | 0.015 | 0.228 | 0.001 | 1.357 |
| Recession | 0.216 | 0.000 | 0.412 | 0.000 | 1.000 |
| Environmental protection index | 1.631 | 1.500 | 0.930 | 0.210 | 4.130 |
| Pro-competitive bank regulation | 2.595 | 3.000 | 0.746 | 0.000 | 3.000 |
| Capital account liberalization | 76.93 | 87.50 | 24.23 | 12.50 | 100.00 |
| Equity market liberalization | 0.915 | 1.000 | 0.278 | 0.000 | 1.000 |
| <i>Sector-level (UNIDO)</i> | | | | | |
| CO ₂ emissions per capita | 0.448 | 0.073 | 1.176 | 0.000 | 15.479 |
| Growth in value added | -0.076 | 0.010 | 0.186 | -1.000 | 1.000 |
| CO ₂ emissions per value added | 0.002 | 0.004 | 0.004 | 0.000 | 0.073 |
| Total patents per capita | 2.320 | 0.000 | 13.900 | 0.000 | 275.901 |
| Green patents per capita | 0.126 | 0.000 | 0.750 | 0.000 | 21.131 |
| Green patents per capita (excl. transport and waste) | 0.096 | 0.000 | 0.632 | 0.000 | 20.850 |
| Green patents per capita (industrial production) | 0.039 | 0.000 | 0.212 | 0.000 | 6.253 |
| Sector share | 0.009 | 0.006 | 0.010 | 0.001 | 0.132 |
| <i>Sector-level (OECD)</i> | | | | | |
| CO ₂ emissions per capita | 0.579 | 0.112 | 1.378 | 0.000 | 15.479 |
| Growth in value added | 0.003 | 0.006 | 0.119 | -1.000 | 1.000 |
| CO ₂ emissions per value added | 0.002 | 0.002 | 0.005 | 0.000 | 0.217 |
| Total patents per capita | 3.991 | 0.000 | 18.201 | 0.000 | 275.901 |
| Green patents per capita | 0.216 | 0.000 | 0.978 | 0.000 | 21.131 |
| Green patents per capita (excl. transport and waste) | 0.165 | 0.000 | 0.825 | 0.000 | 20.850 |
| Green patents per capita (industrial production) | 0.066 | 0.000 | 0.275 | 0.000 | 6.253 |
| Sector share | 0.021 | 0.014 | 0.023 | 0.001 | 0.283 |
| <i>Firm-level (Orbis and ETS)</i> | | | | | |
| Equity ratio | 0.395 | 0.381 | 0.256 | 0.000 | 1.000 |
| CO ₂ emissions per sales | 0.009 | 0.007 | 0.013 | 0.000 | 0.129 |
| CO ₂ emissions per assets | 0.012 | 0.009 | 0.014 | 0.000 | 0.098 |

Notes: This table summarizes the data used in the paper. Appendix Table A1 contains all variable definitions.

Chart 1: Global financial development and financial structure over time



Notes: The chart plots population-weighted global 'Financial development' and 'Financial structure' between 1975 and 2013.

Online Appendix

Table OA1: Main variables by country (1990-2013 averages)

| Country | FD | FS | CO ₂ per capita |
|-----------------|-------|-------|----------------------------|
| Argentina | 0.246 | 0.339 | 3.541 |
| Australia | 1.451 | 0.508 | 15.682 |
| Austria | 0.986 | 0.144 | 7.535 |
| Azerbaijan | 0.028 | 0.023 | 3.812 |
| Belgium | 0.859 | 0.420 | 10.769 |
| Brazil | 0.736 | 0.407 | 1.468 |
| Bulgaria | 0.486 | 0.149 | 6.142 |
| Canada | 1.940 | 0.490 | 15.848 |
| Chile | 1.596 | 0.560 | 2.681 |
| China | 1.341 | 0.220 | 3.247 |
| Colombia | 0.565 | 0.412 | 1.309 |
| Costa Rica | 0.360 | 0.229 | 1.092 |
| Croatia | 0.761 | 0.344 | 3.946 |
| Czech Republic | 0.658 | 0.282 | 11.643 |
| Denmark | 1.134 | 0.344 | 10.396 |
| Estonia | 0.826 | 0.301 | 12.256 |
| Finland | 1.331 | 0.417 | 10.693 |
| France | 1.181 | 0.291 | 6.296 |
| Germany | 1.205 | 0.217 | 11.188 |
| Greece | 0.948 | 0.365 | 6.556 |
| Hungary | 0.583 | 0.307 | 6.104 |
| India | 0.761 | 0.547 | 0.734 |
| Ireland | 1.595 | 0.338 | 8.835 |
| Italy | 0.984 | 0.298 | 6.689 |
| Japan | 2.267 | 0.271 | 8.402 |
| Kazakhstan | 0.432 | 0.360 | 11.404 |
| Lithuania | 0.448 | 0.381 | 4.159 |
| Luxembourg | 1.924 | 0.468 | 25.911 |
| Mexico | 0.365 | 0.399 | 3.349 |
| Morocco | 0.789 | 0.387 | 0.954 |
| Netherlands | 1.432 | 0.369 | 9.950 |
| New Zealand | 1.287 | 0.328 | 6.638 |
| North Macedonia | 0.342 | 0.166 | 4.345 |
| Norway | 1.005 | 0.269 | 7.018 |
| Philippines | 0.808 | 0.573 | 0.740 |
| Poland | 0.495 | 0.337 | 9.292 |
| Portugal | 1.319 | 0.228 | 3.926 |
| Russia | 0.592 | 0.535 | 10.908 |
| Slovenia | 0.690 | 0.268 | 7.307 |
| Spain | 1.623 | 0.373 | 5.622 |
| Sweden | 1.524 | 0.338 | 6.072 |
| Switzerland | 2.795 | 0.455 | 5.889 |
| Thailand | 1.657 | 0.322 | 1.892 |
| Turkey | 0.431 | 0.482 | 2.582 |
| Ukraine | 0.543 | 0.327 | 7.237 |
| United Kingdom | 1.860 | 0.486 | 9.165 |
| United States | 2.155 | 0.370 | 19.189 |
| Zambia | 0.201 | 0.587 | 0.332 |

Table OA2: Finance, imports, and carbon leakage: Low versus high mobility sectors

| Panel A. Low-mobility (high-transport-cost) sectors | | | | | | |
|---|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| | CO ₂ emissions per capita from imports | | | | | |
| | Total | Households | Sector, same | Sector, other | GFCF | Government |
| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| FD × Carbon intensity | 0.0048 (0.0067) | 0.0013 (0.0021) | -0.0027 (0.0018) | 0.0061 (0.0043) | 0.0001 (0.0001) | 0.0000 (0.0000) |
| FS × Carbon intensity | 0.0316** (0.0147) | 0.0092*** (0.0037) | 0.0059 (0.0041) | 0.0159 (0.0106) | 0.0005** (0.0002) | 0.0000 (0.0000) |
| Sector share | 0.0005* (0.0003) | -0.0001 (0.0001) | 0.0001 (0.0001) | 0.0006** (0.0003) | 0.0001*** (0.0000) | 0.0000 (0.0000) |
| Country × Sector dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Country × Year dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Sector × Year dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| No. Observations | 1,624 | 1,624 | 1,624 | 1,624 | 1,624 | 1,624 |
| R-squared | 0.99 | 0.98 | 0.98 | 0.99 | 0.93 | 0.95 |
| Panel B. High-mobility (low-transport-cost) sectors | | | | | | |
| | CO ₂ emissions per capita from imports | | | | | |
| | Total | Households | Sector, same | Sector, other | GFCF | Government |
| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| FD × Carbon intensity | 0.0062 (0.0153) | 0.0003 (0.0006) | 0.0075 (0.0122) | -0.002 (0.0036) | 0.0003 (0.0004) | 0.0000** (0.0000) |
| FS × Carbon intensity | 0.0676*** (0.0216) | -0.0001 (0.0015) | 0.0324*** (0.0120) | 0.0350*** (0.0107) | 0.0003 (0.0014) | 0.0000 (0.0000) |
| Sector share | 0.0004 (0.0005) | 0.0000 (0.0001) | 0.0004 (0.0003) | -0.0001 (0.0002) | 0.0001** (0.0000) | 0.0000 (0.0000) |
| Country × Sector dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Country × Year dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Sector × Year dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| No. Observations | 1,540 | 1,540 | 1,540 | 1,540 | 1,540 | 1,540 |
| R-squared | 0.98 | 0.97 | 0.97 | 0.98 | 0.97 | 0.92 |

Notes: The table reports estimates from OLS regressions. The dependent variable is the total emissions of carbon dioxide associated with foreign-produced goods purchased by the total economy (column (1)), by households (column (2)), by the same industry (column (3)), by other industries (column (4)), purchased for gross fixed capital formation (column (5)), or purchased by the government (column (6)), in kilograms, per capita. Import data come from WIOD and sector-specific data from IEA and UNIDO. The sample period is 1995-2009. The sample includes sectors with above-median transport costs (low footloose sectors) (Panel A) and sectors with below-median transport costs (footloose sectors) (Panel B). All regressions include fixed effects as specified. Standard errors clustered at the country-sector level are included in parentheses, where ***, **, and * indicate significance at the 1, 5, and 10 percent statistical level, respectively.

Table OA3: Finance and sector-level carbon emissions: 5-year averages

| | CO ₂ emissions per capita | Growth in value added | CO ₂ emissions per value added |
|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|--|
| | (1) | (2) | (3) |
| FD × Carbon intensity | -0.0001 (0.0002) | -0.0001 (0.0002) | 0.0003 (0.0003) |
| FS × Carbon intensity | -0.0001* (0.0000) | -0.0010** (0.0005) | -0.0038*** (0.0015) |
| Sector share | 0.0025* (0.0014) | -0.0547*** (0.0117) | 0.0111 (0.0108) |
| Country × Sector dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Country × Period dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Sector × Period dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| No. Observations | 1,227 | 1,144 | 1,163 |
| R-squared | 0.90 | 0.71 | 0.93 |

Notes: The table reports estimates from OLS regressions. The dependent variable is the sector's annual emissions of carbon dioxide, in kilograms, per capita (column (1)); the sector's annual growth in value added (column (2)); and the sector's annual emissions of carbon dioxide, in kilograms, per unit of value added (column (3)). 'Sector share' denotes the 1-period lagged share in value added of the sector out of the whole economy. All variables are averages over non-overlapping 5-year intervals (1990-1993, 1994-1998, 1999-2003, 2004-2008, 2009-2013). Sector-specific data come from IEA and UNIDO. The sample period is 1990-2013. All regressions include fixed effects as specified. Standard errors clustered at the country-period level are included in parentheses, where ***, **, and * denote significance at the 1, 5, and 10 percent statistical level, respectively.

Table OA4: Credit markets, stock markets, and sector-level carbon emissions

| | CO ₂ emissions per capita | Growth in value added | CO ₂ emissions per value added |
|-------------------------------|---|--------------------------|--|
| | (1) | (2) | (3) |
| Credit/GDP × Carbon intensity | 0.1327* (0.0883) | 0.1117 (0.1777) | 0.5559 (0.5170) |
| Stocks/GDP × Carbon intensity | -0.0788* (0.0453) | -0.4432** (0.2052) | -0.9556*** (0.3847) |
| Sector share | 0.0054* (0.0034) | -0.1469*** (0.0231) | -0.0009 (0.0147) |
| Country × Sector dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Country × Year dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Sector × Year dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| No. Observations | 6,167 | 6,079 | 5,806 |
| R-squared | 0.77 | 0.56 | 0.83 |

Notes: The table reports estimates from OLS regressions. The dependent variable is the sector's annual emissions of carbon dioxide, in kilograms, per capita (column (1)); the sector's annual growth in value added (column (2)); and the sector's annual emissions of carbon dioxide, in kilograms, per unit of value added (column (3)). 'Sector share' denotes the 1-period lagged share in value added of the sector out of the whole economy. Sector-specific data come from IEA and UNIDO. The sample period is 1990-2013. All regressions include fixed effects as specified. Standard errors clustered at the country-sector level are included in parentheses, where ***, **, and * denote significance at the 1, 5, and 10 percent statistical level, respectively.

Table OA5: Finance and sector-level carbon emissions: External finance dependence

| | CO ₂ emissions per capita | Growth in value added | CO ₂ emissions per value added |
|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|--|
| | (1) | (2) | (3) |
| FD × Carbon intensity | 0.0401 (0.0362) | -0.1673 (0.1603) | -0.1260 (0.4314) |
| FS × Carbon intensity | -0.1655** (0.0832) | -0.7663* (0.4256) | -4.6079*** (1.1349) |
| FD × External dependence | 0.0652 (0.0684) | -0.0566 (0.2365) | 0.2576 (0.5111) |
| FS × External dependence | -0.2030 (0.1619) | 0.6953 (0.6480) | -1.5481 (1.8513) |
| Sector share | 0.0058* (0.0036) | -0.1458*** (0.0231) | -0.0027 (0.0141) |
| Country × Sector dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Country × Year dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Sector × Year dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| No. Observations | 6,167 | 6,079 | 5,806 |
| R-squared | 0.77 | 0.56 | 0.83 |

Notes: The table reports estimates from OLS regressions. The dependent variable is the sector's emissions of carbon dioxide, in kilograms, per capita (column (1)); the sector's annual growth in value added (column (2)); and the sector's emissions of carbon dioxide, in kilograms, per unit of value added (column (3)). 'Sector share' denotes the 1-period lagged share in value added of the sector out of the whole economy. Sector-specific data come from IEA and UNIDO. The sample period is 1990-2013. All regressions include fixed effects as specified. Standard errors clustered at the country-sector level are included in parentheses, where ***, **, and * indicate significance at the 1, 5, and 10 percent statistical level, respectively.

Table OA6: Alternative benchmarks for carbon intensity

| | CO ₂ emissions per capita | | Growth in value added | | CO ₂ emissions per value added | |
|---|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---|------------------------|
| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| FD × Carbon intensity (Contemporaneous) | -0.0004 (0.0013) | | 0.0029 (0.0073) | | 0.0243 (0.0161) | |
| FS × Carbon intensity (Contemporaneous) | -0.0092** (0.0049) | | -0.0492* (0.0264) | | -0.1749*** (0.0586) | |
| FD × Carbon intensity (US) | | 0.0347 (0.0362) | | -0.2263 (0.1902) | | -0.2706 (0.4918) |
| FS × Carbon intensity (US) | | -0.1615** (0.0810) | | -0.8103 (0.5073) | | -5.4780*** (1.3203) |
| Sector share | 0.0061* (0.0038) | 0.0060* (0.0038) | -0.1516*** (0.0245) | -0.1518*** (0.0242) | 0.0003 (0.0150) | -0.0039 (0.0146) |
| Country × Sector dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Country × Year dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Sector × Year dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| No. Observations | 5,980 | 5,980 | 5,918 | 5,918 | 5,645 | 5,645 |
| R-squared | 0.77 | 0.77 | 0.56 | 0.56 | 0.83 | 0.83 |

Notes: The table reports estimates from OLS regressions. The dependent variable is the sector's annual emissions of carbon dioxide, in kilograms, per capita (columns (1)-(2)); the sector's annual growth in value added (columns (3)-(4)); and the sector's annual emissions of carbon dioxide, in kilograms, per unit of value added (columns (5)-(6)). Sector-specific data come from IEA and UNIDO. The sample period is 1990-2013. All regressions include fixed effects as specified. Standard errors clustered at the country-sector level are included in parentheses, where ***, **, and * indicate significance at the 1, 5, and 10 percent statistical level, respectively.

Table OA7: Finance and sector-level carbon emissions: Including corporate bonds

Panel A. FS defined as ratio of equity finance to total finance

| | CO ₂ emissions per capita | Growth in value added | CO ₂ emissions per value added |
|----------------------------------|---|--------------------------|--|
| | (1) | (2) | (3) |
| FD with bonds × Carbon intensity | 0.0074 (0.0158) | -0.1608 (0.1026) | -0.0298 (0.1186) |
| FS with bonds × Carbon intensity | -0.1730* (0.0968) | -1.1391** (0.4560) | -2.8286*** (0.8607) |
| Sector share | 0.0024* (0.0014) | -0.1148*** (0.0187) | -0.0132 (0.0159) |
| Country × Sector dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Country × Year dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Sector × Year dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| No. Observations | 4,781 | 4,635 | 4,491 |
| R-squared | 0.87 | 0.60 | 0.83 |

Panel B. FS defined as ratio of market finance to total finance

| | CO ₂ emissions per capita | Growth in value added | CO ₂ emissions per value added |
|----------------------------------|---|--------------------------|--|
| | (1) | (2) | (3) |
| FD with bonds × Carbon intensity | 0.0109 (0.0168) | -0.1598 (0.1119) | -0.0560 (0.1176) |
| FS with bonds × Carbon intensity | -0.0168 (0.0597) | -1.2564*** (0.4969) | -4.4218*** (1.5509) |
| Sector share | 0.0026* (0.0015) | -0.1146*** (0.0189) | -0.0143 (0.0159) |
| Country × Sector dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Country × Year dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Sector × Year dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| No. Observations | 4,781 | 4,635 | 4,491 |
| R-squared | 0.87 | 0.60 | 0.83 |

Notes: The table reports estimates from OLS regressions. The dependent variable is the sector's annual emissions of carbon dioxide, in kilograms, per capita (column (1)); the sector's annual growth in value added (column (2)); and the sector's annual emissions of carbon dioxide, in kilograms, per unit of value added (column (3)). In Panel A, 'FS' denotes the sum of the value of all listed stocks divided by the sum of credit to the private sector, the value of all listed stocks, and the value of all issued private corporate bonds, 1-period lagged. In Panel B, 'FS' denotes the sum of the value of all listed stocks and the value of all issued private corporate bonds, divided by the sum of credit to the private sector, the value of all listed stocks, and the value of all issued private corporate bonds, 1-period lagged. 'Sector share' denotes the 1-period lagged share in value added of the sector out of the whole economy. Sector-specific data come from IEA and UNIDO and data on corporate bonds from Beck et al. (2016). The sample period is 1990-2013. All regressions include fixed effects as specified. Standard errors clustered at the country-year level are included in parentheses, where ***, **, and * denote significance at the 1, 5, and 10 percent statistical level, respectively.

Table OA8: Finance and sector-level carbon emissions: Including private equity

| | CO ₂ emissions per capita | Growth in value added | CO ₂ emissions per value added |
|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|--|
| | (1) | (2) | (3) |
| FD × Carbon intensity | 0.0497 (0.0427) | 0.0683 (0.1706) | -0.4538 (0.6537) |
| FS × Carbon intensity | -0.2033** (0.0918) | -0.2582 (0.5856) | -5.8792*** (1.7299) |
| Sector share | 0.0170* (0.0112) | -0.1265*** (0.0231) | 0.0011 (0.0189) |
| Country × Sector dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Country × Year dummies | Y | Yes | Yes |
| Sector × Year dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| No. Observations | 3,511 | 3,470 | 3,418 |
| R-squared | 0.76 | 0.57 | 0.78 |

Notes: The table reports estimates from OLS regressions. The dependent variable is the sector's annual emissions of carbon dioxide, in kilograms, per capita (column (1)); the sector's annual growth in value added (column (2)); and the sector's annual emissions of carbon dioxide, in kilograms, per unit of value added (column (3)). Sector-specific data come from IEA and UNIDO and data on private equity from the European Venture Capital Association. The sample period is 1990-2013. All regressions include fixed effects as specified. Standard errors clustered at the country-sector level are included in parentheses, where ***, **, and * indicate significance at the 1, 5, and 10 percent statistical level, respectively.

Table OA9: Finance and sector-level carbon emissions: Controlling for fuel subsidies

| | CO ₂ emissions per capita | Growth in value added | CO ₂ emissions per value added |
|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|--|
| | (1) | (2) | (3) |
| FD × Carbon intensity | 0.0265 (0.0293) | -0.1486 (0.1429) | -0.1627 (0.3835) |
| FS × Carbon intensity | -0.1439** (0.0736) | -0.5852 (0.4067) | -3.7514*** (1.0548) |
| FD × Fuel subsidies | 0.0006** (0.0003) | -0.0049 (0.0036) | -0.0006 (0.0085) |
| FS × Fuel subsidies | 0.0003 (0.0008) | 0.0032 (0.0074) | -0.0429 (0.0182) |
| Sector share | 0.0057* (0.0036) | -0.1462*** (0.0231) | -0.0007 (0.0134) |
| Country × Sector dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Country × Year dummies | Y | Yes | Yes |
| Sector × Year dummies | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| No. Observations | 6,167 | 6,079 | 5,806 |
| R-squared | 0.77 | 0.56 | 0.84 |

Notes: The table reports estimates from OLS regressions. The dependent variable is the sector's annual emissions of carbon dioxide, in kilograms, per capita (column (1)); the sector's annual growth in value added (column (2)); and the sector's annual emissions of carbon dioxide, in kilograms, per unit of value added (column (3)). Sector-specific data come from IEA, IMF, and UNIDO. The sample period is 1990-2013. All regressions include fixed effects as specified. Standard errors clustered at the country-year level are included in parentheses, where ***, **, and * indicate significance at the 1, 5, and 10 percent statistical level, respectively.

Table OA10: Sector benchmark correlations

| | Carbon intensity | R&D intensity | Asset tangibility | Litigation risk |
|-------------------|------------------|---------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Carbon intensity | 1.00 | | | |
| R&D intensity | -0.37 | 1.00 | | |
| Asset tangibility | 0.40 | -0.26 | 1.00 | |
| Litigation risk | 0.75 | -0.18 | 0.24 | 1.00 |

Notes: This table reports correlations between sector-level carbon intensity, R&D intensity, asset tangibility, and litigation risk.