

# Upstream v. Downstream CO<sub>2</sub> Trading in Electricity Markets: *What is the Cheapest Way to Sustainability?*

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EEM '10, Madrid, June 2010

*Thanks to EPSRC FlexNet, US NSF, & CAISO for funding,  
and to Jim Bushnell (Iowa State U.), Frank Wolak (Stanford U.),  
Yihsu Chen (U. Calif.-Merced), & Andrew Liu (Purdue U.) for their collaboration*



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## Outline

1. Who should be responsible for reducing carbon emissions?
  - *Three proposals for carbon markets*
  - *Which is cheaper? Provides more incentive for conservation?*
2. Method: Equilibrium models of electricity & carbon markets
3. Analytical results
4. Examples
  - *Simple*
  - *Western US*

# 1. Who should be responsible for reducing CO<sub>2</sub>?



## Fuel extractors?

Oil producers/importers (US Waxman-Markey bill)



## Power plants?

Power plants (EU Emissions Trading System)

US: Title IV SO<sub>2</sub>; State greenhouse gas initiatives (RGGI)



## Transmission grid/system operator?

In a single-buyer "POOLCO"-type power market



## Retail suppliers/Load serving entities?

California, Western US "Load-Based" proposals

GEAC (Gillenwater & Breidenich 2009), CO<sub>2</sub>RC (Michel & Nielson 2008)



## Consumers?

Tradable Quotas, Personal Carbon Allowances (Fleming, 1997)



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## Example: The California Debate

### California AB32:

- CO<sub>2</sub> to be reduced to 1990 levels by 2020

### Debate: "Point of Compliance" for CO<sub>2</sub>

- I.e., Who's responsible for "cap & trade"?

- Power plants (sources)?
- Load serving entities (LSEs) (for consumers)?

- Elsewhere, source-based dominates

- Allocate allowances to power plants, & trade
  - Total emissions  $\leq$  cap

- Load-based proposed for California

- Mean emissions of LSE power purchases  $\leq$  cap
- Cheaper (Synapse Energy, 2007)?
- Motivates more energy conservation (NRDC)?
- Result in less CO<sub>2</sub> "leakage"?

- Concerns over effects on power trade motivated GEAC, CO<sub>2</sub>RC

- **Generation Emission Attribute Certificates**: Power plants sell power and emissions attributes separately to LSEs
- **CO<sub>2</sub>Reduction Credits**: LSEs pay power plants to reduce emissions



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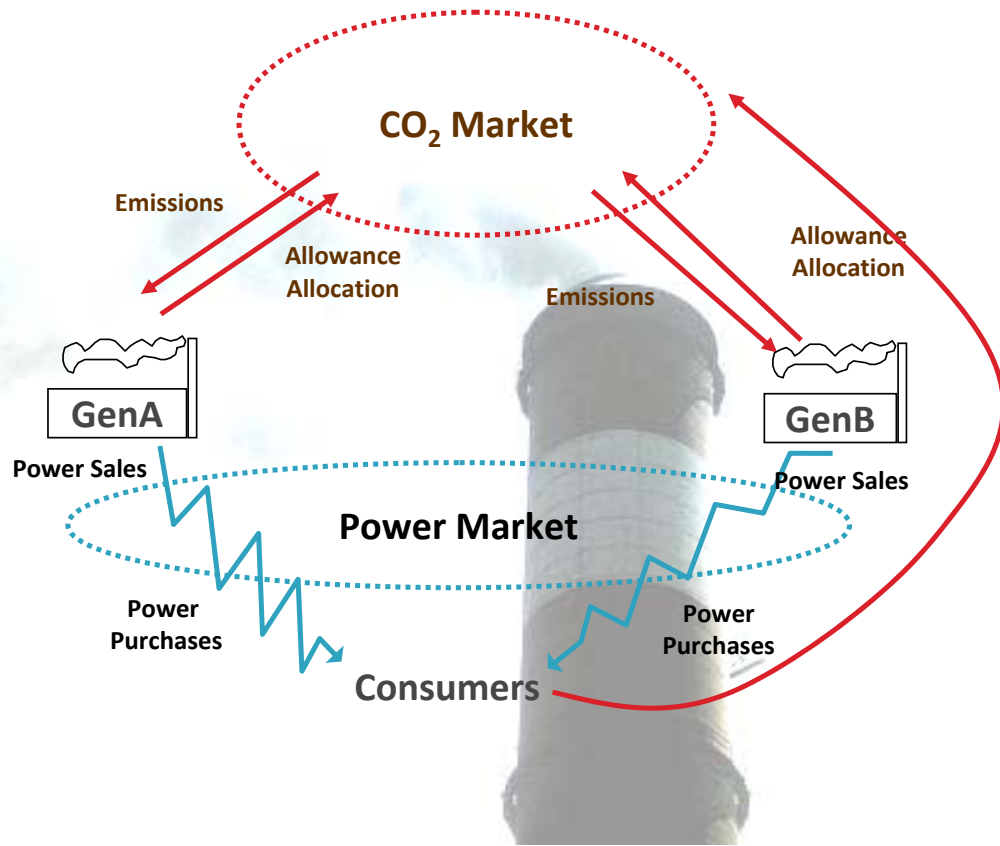
Gov. Schwarzenegger is joined by international leaders with a consistent record of addressing the global threat of climate change, New York Governor George Pataki and other environmental and industry leaders at a bill signing for AB 32 on Treasure Island in San Francisco on Tuesday, September 27, 2006.



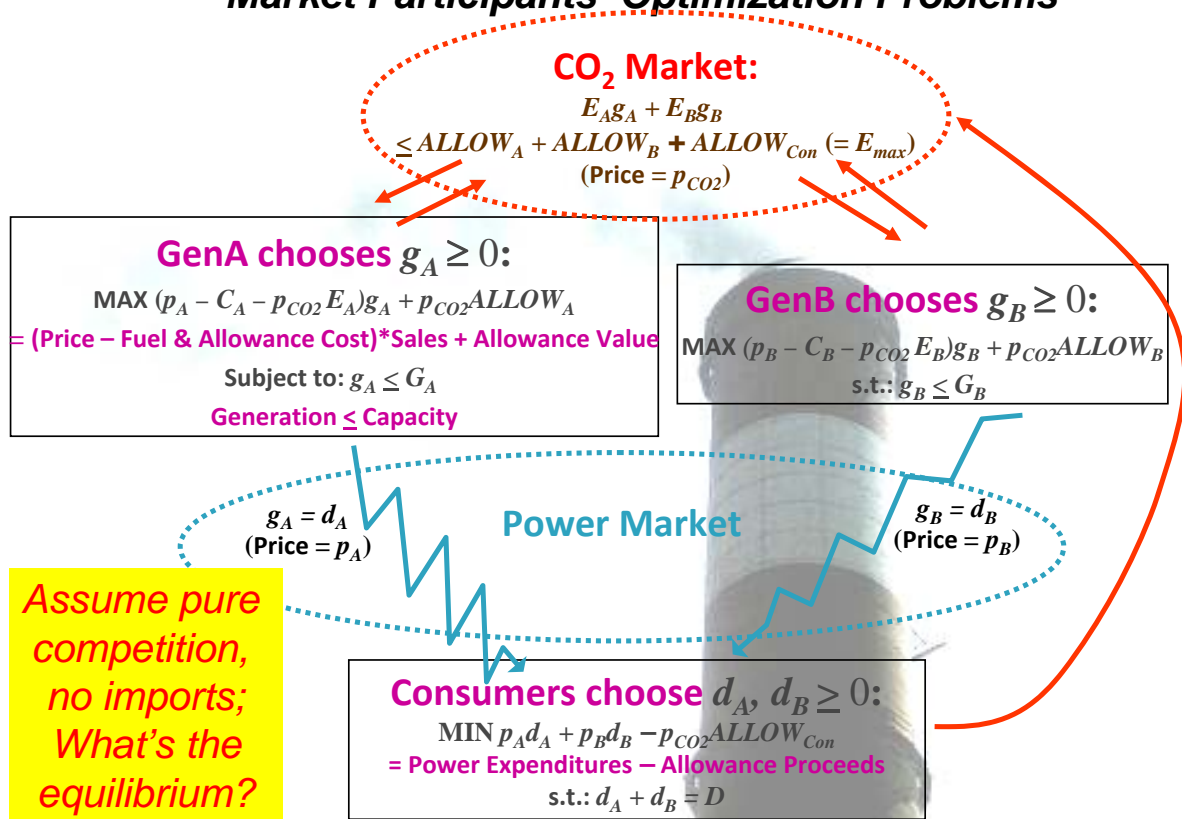
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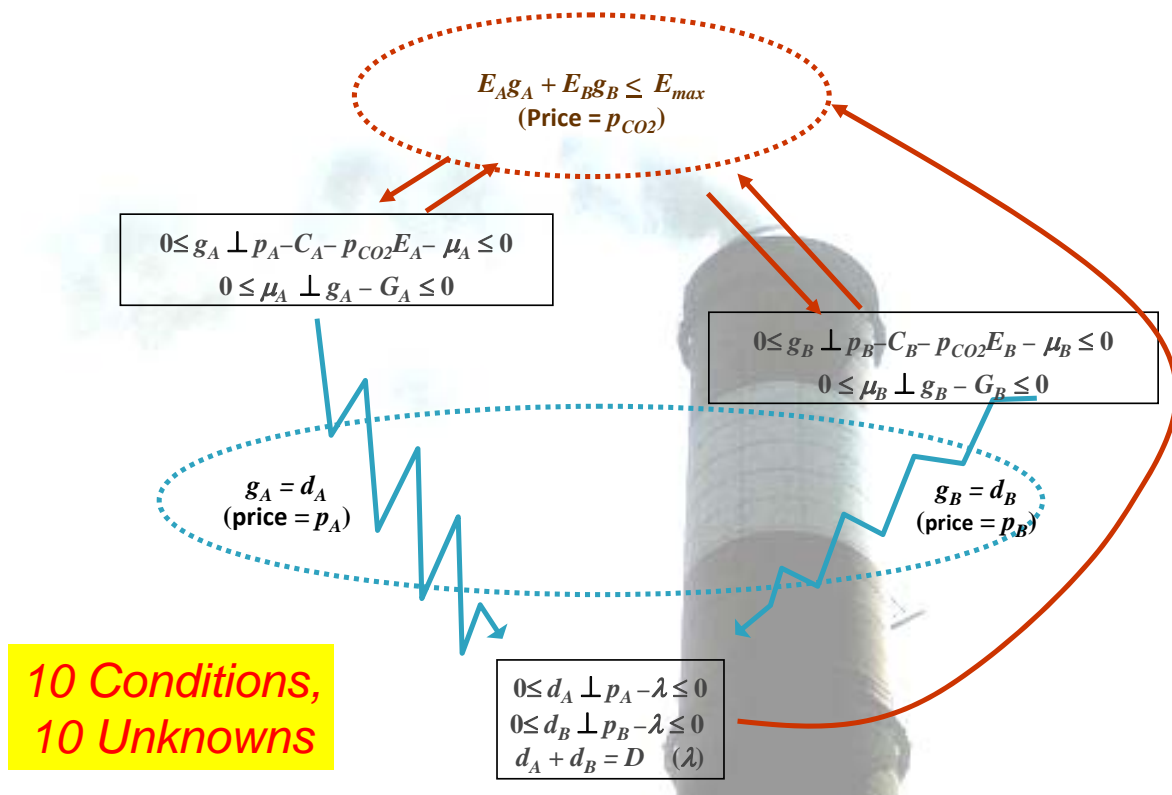
# Source-Based Market Schematic



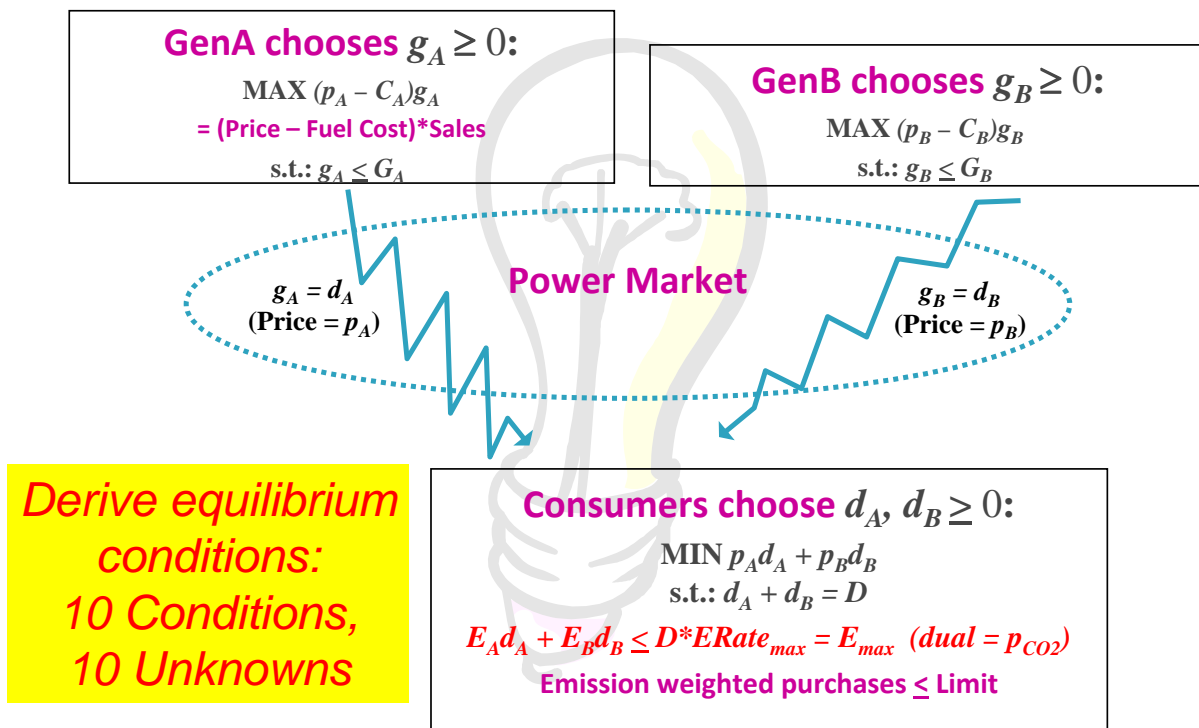
## Source-Based (Competitive) Market: Market Participants' Optimization Problems



## Source-Based Market Equilibrium Problem: Find $\{p_A, p_B, p_{CO2}; g_A, \mu_A; g_B, \mu_B; d_A, d_B, \lambda\}$ satisfying:



## Load-Based Market: Market Participant Optimization Problems



# Analytical Conclusions

(B. Hobbs, J. Bushnell, & F. Wolak, *Energy Policy*, in press)

## Power prices:

- **Uniform in source-based system:  $p_A = p_B$**
- **Differentiated in load-based system**
  - Higher for cleaner generation
  - $p_i = p_0 - p_{CO2} * E_i$   
where  $p_0$  = market price of zero-emissions power
- **Differentiation endangers efficiencies of PJM-like spot markets**
  - Single price markets chase clean power out to bilateral markets
  - Attract only dirty power, possibly a risk to reliability

## All other variables identical:

- **Primal quantities (MWh, tons)**
- **Source-based  $p_{CO2}$  = LSE's shadow price of emissions**

## Proof:

- **Source based  $\{p_0 - p_{CO2} * E_i, p_{CO2}, g_A, \mu_A, g_B, \mu_B, d_A, d_B, \lambda\}$  satisfy equilibrium conditions of source-based (and vice versa)**



# Analytical Conclusions

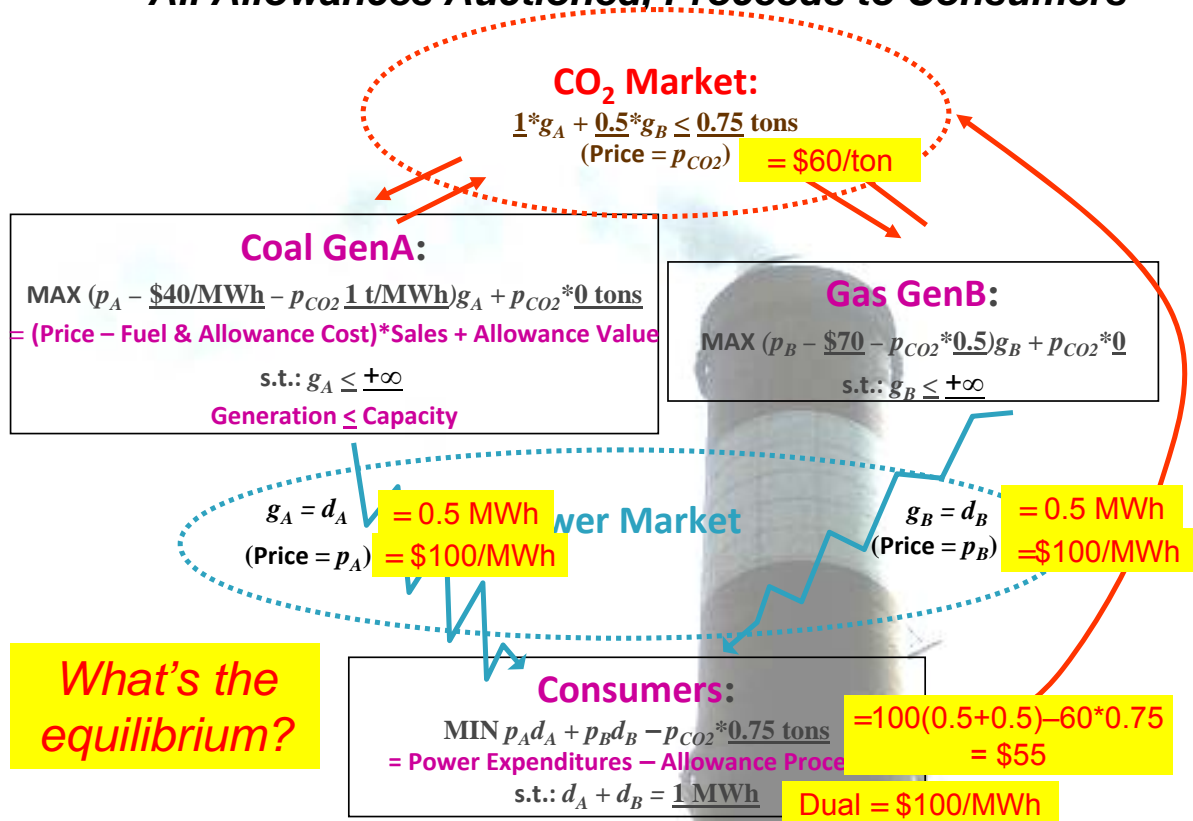
- ~~“Load side carbon cap is likely to cost California consumers significantly less than supply side cap--Potentially billions of \$/yr.”~~  
(“Exploration of Costs for Load Side and Supply Side Carbon Caps for California,” P. Biewald, Synapse Energy, Inc., Aug. 2007)
  - ~~By discriminating among suppliers and paying less for dirty power, LSEs can expropriate all profit increases due to emissions trading~~
  - **Contrary to speculation, generator profits & net costs to consumers same**
    - ... **If allowances are auctioned to generators ( $Allow_A = Allow_B = 0$ ), and consumers get proceeds ( $Allow_{Con} = E_{max}$ )**
    - ...and **if no damage to spot markets**
- **Two sources of emissions trading profits**
  1. Emissions allowance rent =  $E_{max} * P_{CO2}$
  2. Rents to clean generation occur if regulation increases gross margin on sales:

$$(p - C_i - p_{CO2}E_i) > (p^{NoReg} - C_i)$$

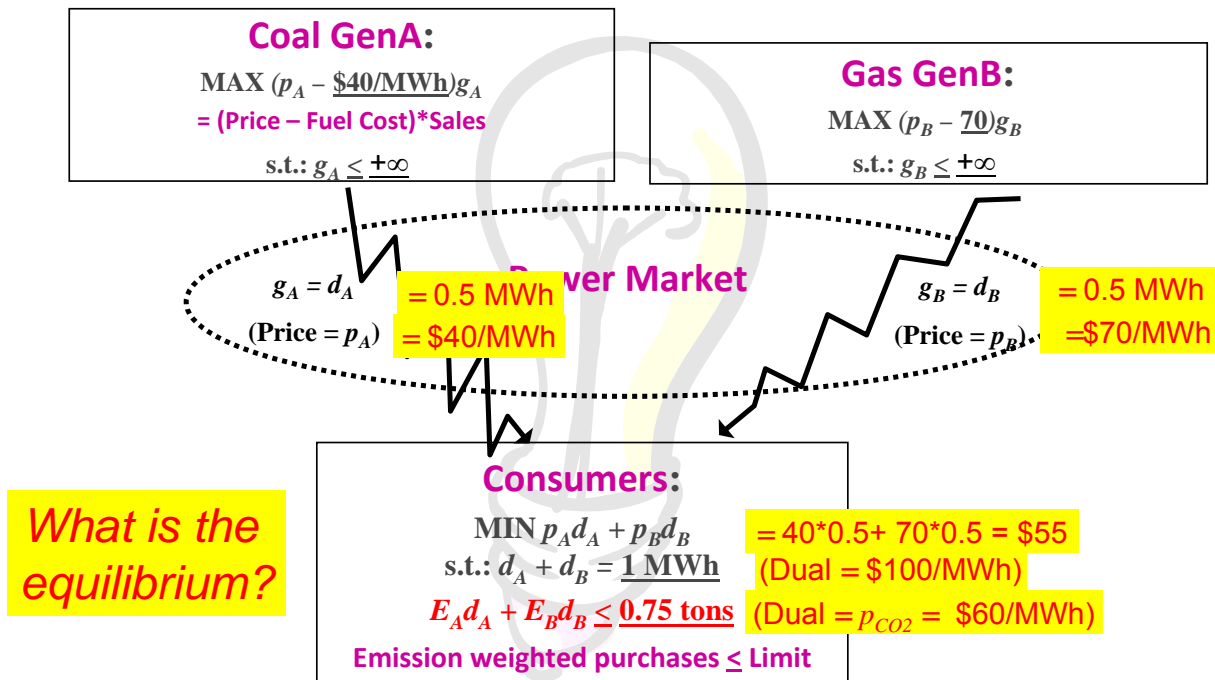
**Load-based only transfers the first to consumers**



## Example: Source-Based (Competitive) Market: All Allowances Auctioned, Proceeds to Consumers



## Load-Based Market: Example



## Incentives for Energy Efficiency

- Does Load-Based Trading give greater incentives for conserving energy?
  - “Paint target on LSE’s back”
- Not in California
  - Utilities required to invest in energy efficiency if:
    - Energy Efficiency Investment Cost*
    - $< \text{Avoided Cost of Energy} * \text{Energy Savings}$
  - In both load- and source-based systems, the “avoided cost of energy” (dual variable to the load constraint) is the same
    - $= p_0$  in the load-based case = \$100/MWh
- But if conservation also tightens LSE emissions constraint
  - $E_A d_A + E_B d_B \leq D * E_{Ratemax}$  then Load-Based *weakens* incentive
    - LSE saves \$100/MWh in energy costs, but pays \$60 more in CO<sub>2</sub> control costs
      - Conservation saves just \$40/MWh

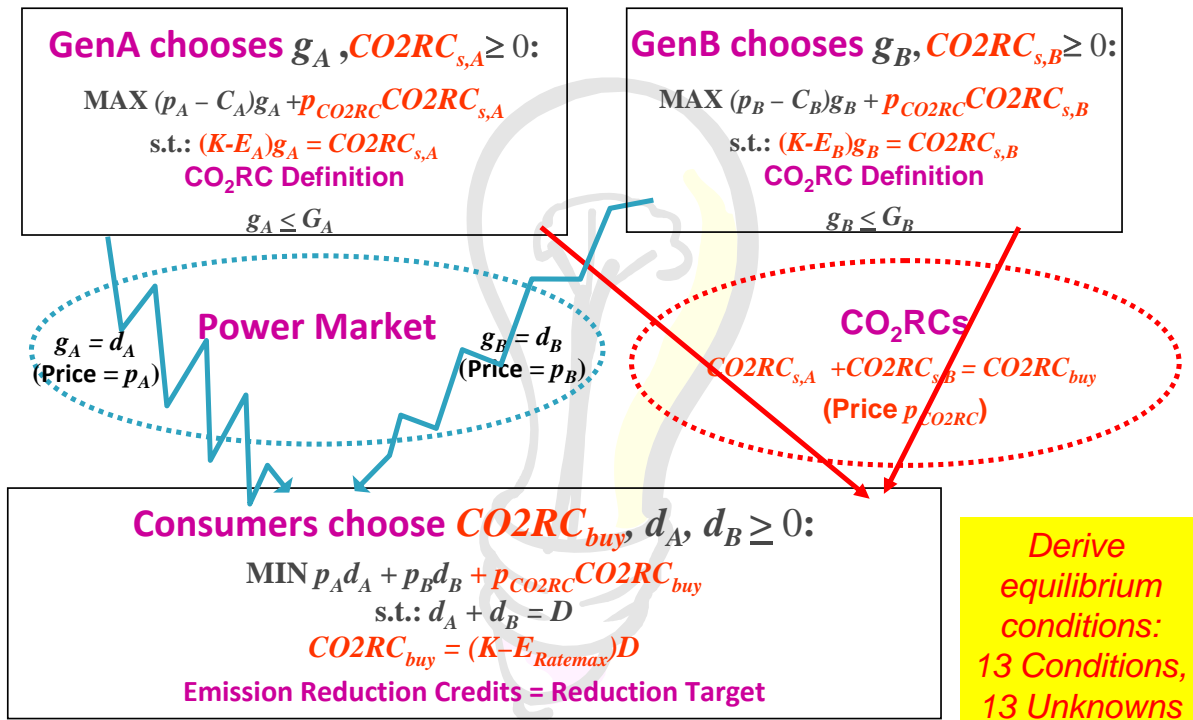


## Decoupling Proposal: CO<sub>2</sub> Reduction Credits

- Concern with differentiating power by emissions
  - *Harms spot-market type power market*
  - CO<sub>2</sub>RCs and GEACs proposals to have consumers buy power & emissions separately
- CO<sub>2</sub>RCs: Plants sell 2 commodities to consumers:
  - *Power* is metered
  - *CO<sub>2</sub>RCs* are generated by power plants based on monitored emissions
    - Plant  $i$  generates  $(K - E_i)g_i$
    - $K$  is a high “default” emissions rate
    - LSEs/consumers must buy  $(K - E_{ratemax})D$  CO<sub>2</sub>RCs
- Variant: GEACs (sell MWh denominated GEACs, differentiated by emissions rate)



# Generators Sell Power & CO<sub>2</sub>RCs Separately



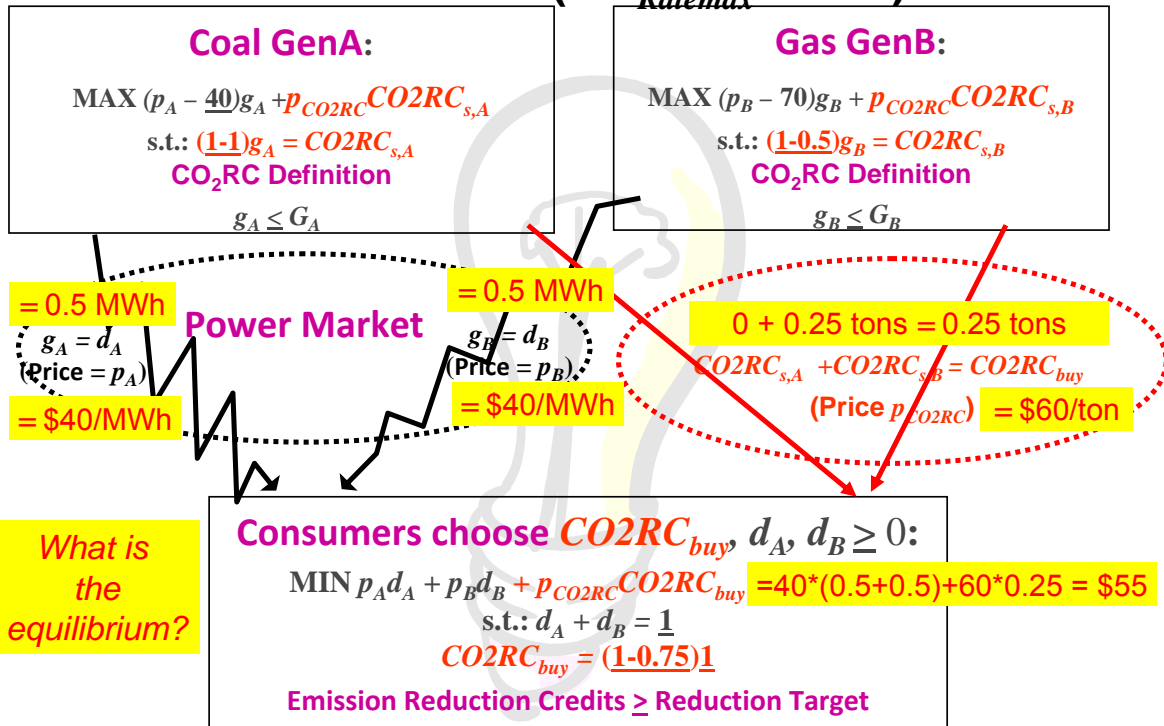
## Analytical Conclusions: CO<sub>2</sub>RC

- CO<sub>2</sub>RC is economically equivalent to source-based trading with the following (sometimes odd!) characteristics:
  - **Uniform power price for all producers:  $p_A = p_B$**
  - **Producer output is subsidized:**
    - For each MWh generated, get  $K$  free allowances
    - $K$  is a high “default” emission rate  $> E_{ratemax}$
    - Decreases MC of power production, causing price of power to fall
  - **Too many allowances:  $\sum_i K g_i > \sum_i E_{ratemax} g_i = E_{ratemax} D$** 
    - $\therefore$  Consumers must pay generators for excess allowances, & “retire” them
    - Consumers pay generators  $(K - E_{ratemax}) p_{CO2} D$
  - **Profits, Total consumer payments, amounts generated the same as original Source-Based**
    - Independent of default  $K$
    - If zero price elasticity
- Basic source-based trading simpler – avoid LSE transaction costs



## CO<sub>2</sub>RCs Example:

$$K = 1 \text{ ton/MWh} (> E_{\text{Ratemax}} = 0.75)$$



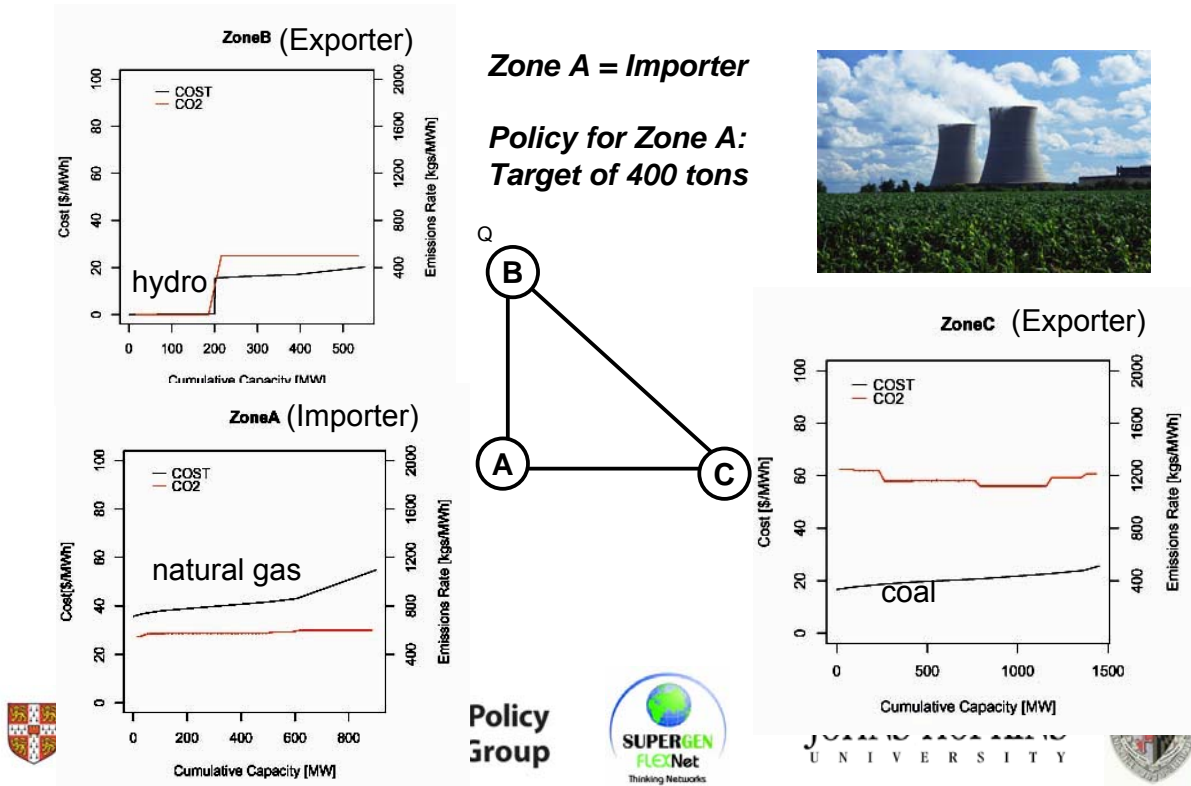
## Numerical Simulation with Power Imports

Y.Chen, A. Liu, and B. Hobbs, "Economic & Emissions Implications of Load-based, Source-based and First-seller Emissions Trading Programs under AB32", *Operations Research*, in review)

- California imports 20% of power...and 50% of its power-based CO<sub>2</sub> emissions
- 3 California proposals (load, source, "first-seller"):
  - Do they lead to different emissions permits and whole electricity prices?
  - Do they yield different generator profits and consumer costs?
  - How do they compare in terms of contract-shuffling and CO<sub>2</sub> leakage?
- Method: Mixed complementarity model of equilibria in energy, transmission, emissions markets

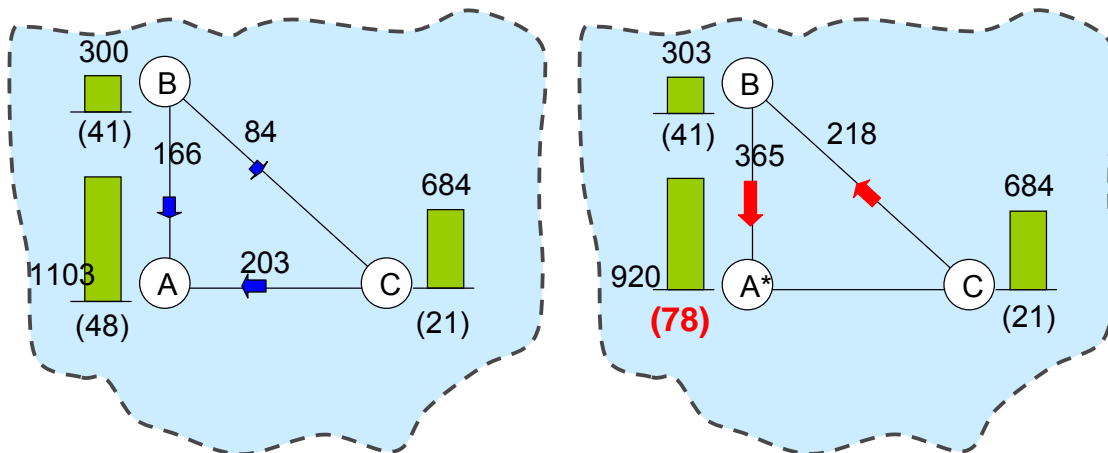


# Example: Network, Gen Mix and CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions

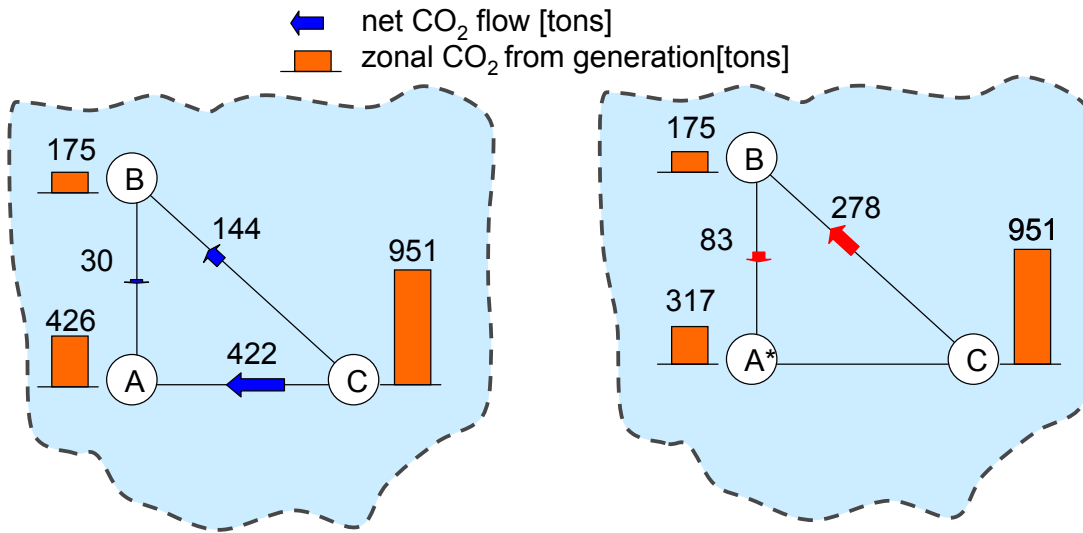


## Results: Electricity Sales

- net sales [MWh]
- zonal sales [MWh]
- ( ) electricity price [\$/MWh]



# Results: CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions



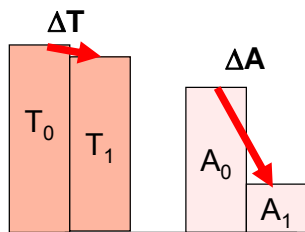
No-cap

All Three Policies



# Results: CO<sub>2</sub> Leakage

CO<sub>2</sub> leakage: % of credited CO<sub>2</sub> reductions that are not real



T<sub>0</sub>: total emissions | no cap

T<sub>1</sub>: total emissions | policy

A<sub>0</sub>: A's "credited" emissions | no cap

A<sub>1</sub>: A's "credited" emissions | policy

$$\% \text{leakage} = 100\% (1 - \Delta T / \Delta A)$$

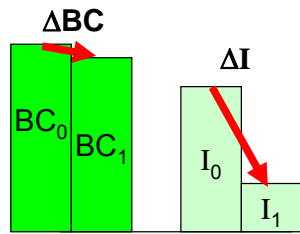
	3 Approaches
%Leakage	85%

Occurs because "contract shuffling" results in large apparent reductions in import-associated emissions that are not real



# Results: Contract-shuffling

**Contract shuffling:** re-arrangement of electricity imports contracts results in *apparent*, but not *real* emissions reductions



$BC_0$ : emissions of B & C | *no cap*  
 $BC_1$ : emissions of B & C | *policy*

$I_0$ : emissions import to A | *no cap*  
 $I_1$ : emissions import to A | *policy*

$$\%shuffling = 100\%(1 - \Delta BC / \Delta I)$$

	3 Approaches
%Shuffling	100%

**All emissions “reductions” associated with imports are imaginary**



## Conclusion: Comparison of Systems

- ***If economic rent of allowances is retained by consumers, three proposals are economically equivalent (nodal prices, consumer costs, social welfare, etc)***
  - E.g., auction allowances in Source-based system, proceeds go to consumers
  - Load-based more complex, can endanger spot power markets
- ***All proposals subject to CO<sub>2</sub> leakage & contract shuffling***
- ***US Federal Legislation needed!***

