Internal Carbon Markets

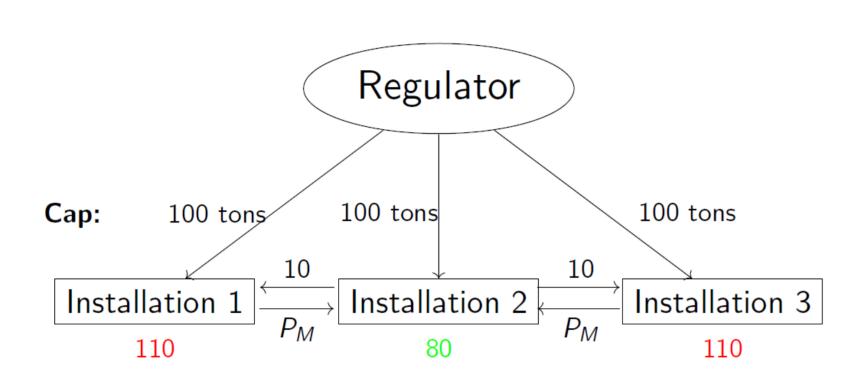
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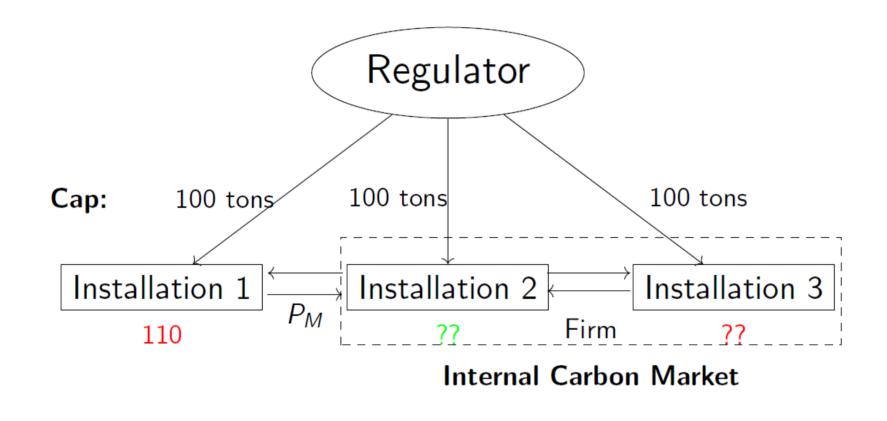


Emissions Trading Systems

Simple graphical example of an ETS:



What happens if..



Research Questions

Novel Idea: Internal Carbon Markets (ICO₂Ms)

- Are ICO₂Ms actively used?
- What is the effect of ICO₂Ms on firms?

I answer these questions using data from world's largest carbon trading system, the **EU ETS**.

Examples of Internal Carbon Market Transactions

Registry	Transferring Account Holder	<u>Acquiring</u> <u>Registry</u>	Acquiring Account Holder	units
Spain	Iberdrola Clientes España, S.A.U.	Spain	ENERGYWORKS VIT-VALL, S.L.	136766
Italy	ILV INDUSTRIA LATERIZI VOGHERESE S.r.I.	Italy	i.CA.S.CO. S.p.A	14000
Spain	Iberdrola Clientes España, S.A.U.	Spain	Iberdrola Generación Térmica, S.L.	1117083
Estonia	Strolia Arturas	Slovenia	BELEKTRON EKOTRADING d.o.o.	5000
Spain	Iberdrola Clientes España, S.A.U.	Spain	Iberdrola Generación Térmica, S.L.	196066
Spain	Iberdrola Clientes España, S.A.U.	Spain	Iberdrola Generación Térmica, S.L.	347602
Spain	Iberdrola Clientes España, S.A.U.	Spain	Iberdrola Generación Térmica, S.L.	584118
Spain	Iberdrola Clientes España, S.A.U.	Spain	Energyworks Monzón, S.L.	58128
Spain	Iberdrola Clientes España, S.A.U.	Spain	Iberdrola Generación Térmica, S.L.	141282
Belgium	Exxonmobil Petroleum & Chemical	France	ESSO RAFFINAGE	88000

Empirical Evidence of Internal Carbon Markets (1)

Dep. Variable:	TRFICM (Transfer of Carbon Allowances as a %-age of yearly Emissions)						
Panel A: Absolute Relocation of Allowances Intern							
$OEMIT_D$	-0.016***	-0.015***	-0.015***	-0.027***			
	(-3.890)	(-3.412)	(-3.042)	(-3.448)			
	P	anel B: R	telative Relocat	ion of Allowances Internally			
$OEMIT_D$	-0.019***	-0.019**	-0.020**	-0.042***			
	(-2.755)	(-2.419)	(-2.420)	(-3.280)			
	For Both Panels						
Observations	15641	15444	12721	8984			
$\operatorname{Sub-FE}$	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			
Parent Firm FE	No	Yes	Yes	No			
$Country \times Ind FE$	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			
Parent Firm×Year FE	No	No	No	Yes			
Year FE	Yes	Yes	Yes	No			

• Subsidiaries emitting above their initial limit, **receive** carbon allowances equivalent to 2.7% of their yearly emissions from other subsidiaries of the same parent firm

Empirical Evidence of Internal Carbon Markets (2)

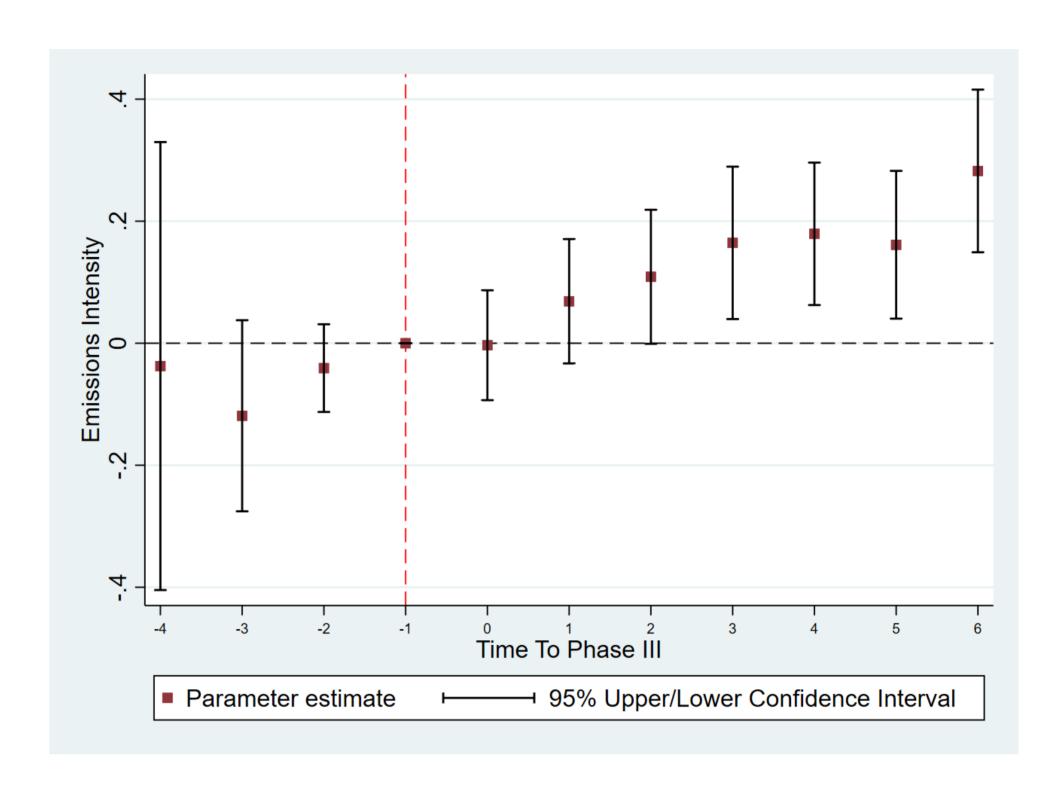
Dep. Variable:	Transfer of Carbon Allowances as a %-age of:					
	Yearly Emissions	External Transfers	Yearly Emissions	External Transfer		
CLEAK	-0.040	-0.000				
	(-0.224)	(-0.002)				
$CLEAK \times POST$	0.082***	0.061**				
	(3.741)	(2.466)				
ELECT			0.041	-0.048		
			(1.441)	(-1.434)		
$ELECT \times POST$			-0.055*	-0.006		
			(-1.752)	(-0.158)		

- POST = 1 for 2013-2017 and zero for 2008-2012
- From 2013, CLEAK firms received more generous allowances and ELECT firms received NO free allowances
- CLEAK firms transferred 8.2% of their yearly emissions to other group firms
- ELECT firms **received** 5.5% of their yearly emissions *from* other group firms

Is there an Active Internal Carbon Market?

- 1. Yes!
- 2. Resource-constrained subsidiaries are supported by other divisions
- 3. Works in a similar way to the internal capital markets!

Effect of Internal Carbon Markets



• ICO_2M firms become 19% more emission intensive after a policy change reducing the supply of carbon allowances

Why do Managers Expect Lower Transfer Price?

- Evidence consistent with internal transfer price of carbon allowances being **lower** than the external market price.
- → WHAT frictions drive expectations of LOWER transfer price?
- HQs favoring connected divisions (Duchin and Sosyura, 2012) AND/OR
- Resource shifting by the HQs in order to maintain equal profitability across divisions (Rajan, Servaes, and Zingales, 2000)

Policy Implication

- One simple policy implication
- Ensure internal transfer price to be equal to the market price