

# Temperature and Growth: A Panel Analysis of the United States

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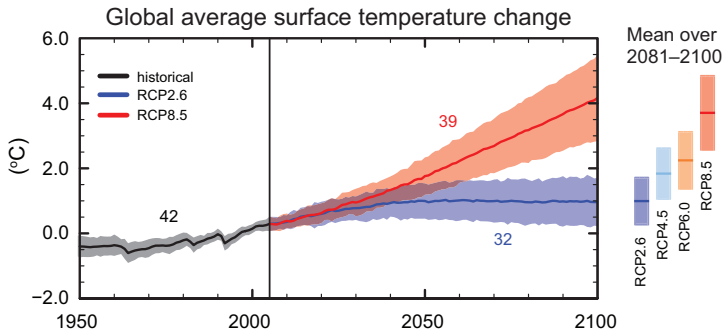
NORTHWESTERN  
UNIVERSITY

**Toan Phan**



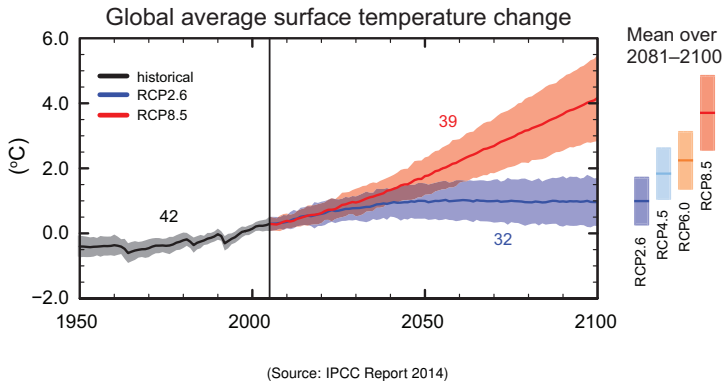
THE UNIVERSITY  
of NORTH CAROLINA  
at CHAPEL HILL

# Motivation



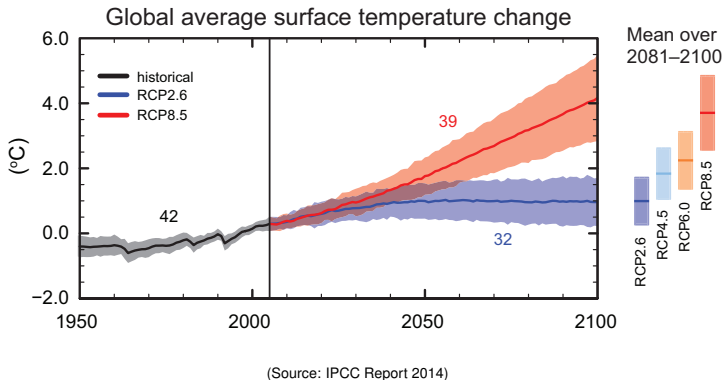
(Source: IPCC Report 2014)

# Motivation



- Temperatures are expected to go up as much  $4^{\circ}\text{C}$  over next century

# Motivation



- Temperatures are expected to go up as much 4°C over next century
- Is there a link between rising temperatures and economic growth?

# Existing literature

## Evidence for

- developing countries: Dell, Jones and Olken (2012, 2014), Hsiang Burke (2013), Barrios, Bertinelli and Strobl (2010)
- U.S. agricultural output: Fisher Hanemann Roberts Schlenker (2012), Lybbert Smith Sumner (2013), Deschenes and Greenstone (2012)
- U.S. labor supply: Zivin and Neidell (2014)

# This paper

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- Answers this question for the **United States'** GDP

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  - ➊ **large effects** of Summer (negative) and Fall (positive) temperatures on states' GDP growth



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  - 1 **large effects** of Summer (negative) and Fall (positive) temperatures on states' GDP growth
  - 2 negative effect of Summer temperature getting stronger over time

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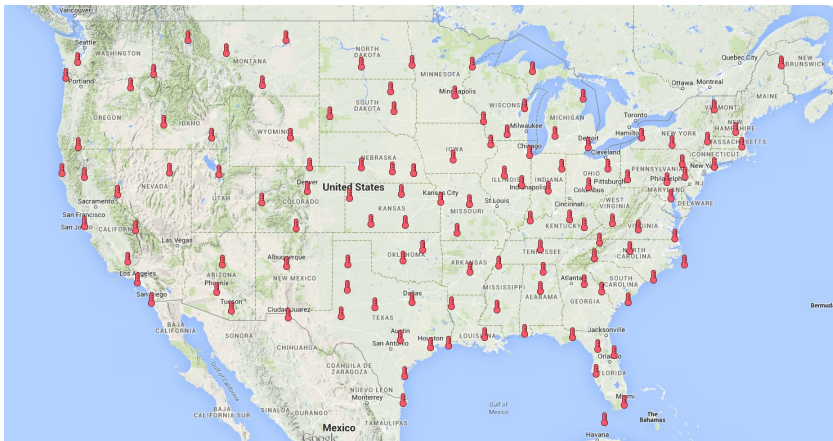
## This paper

- Answers this question for the **United States'** GDP
- Employs a panel of US states' weather and GSP data
- Finds:
  - 1 **large effects** of Summer (negative) and Fall (positive) temperatures on states' GDP growth
  - 2 negative effect of Summer temperature getting stronger over time
  - 3 in net, rising temperatures may decrease US growth by up to 1/3 over next century

# Roadmap

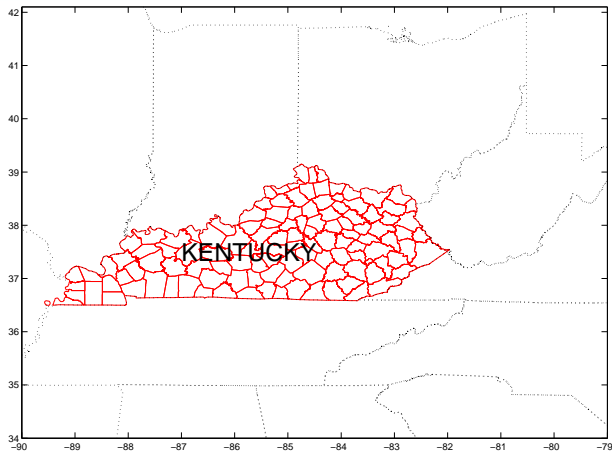
- 1 Data
- 2 Empirical Evidence
- 3 Interpretation
- 4 Welfare Analysis

# Weather Stations



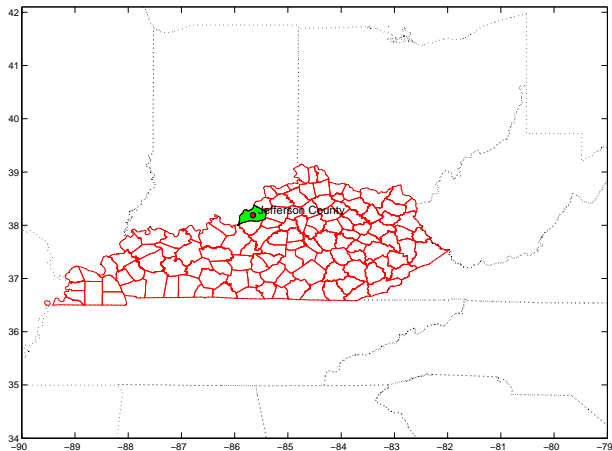
135 Weather Stations (Source: NOAA Northeast Regional Climate Center)

# Calculation of State Level Weather



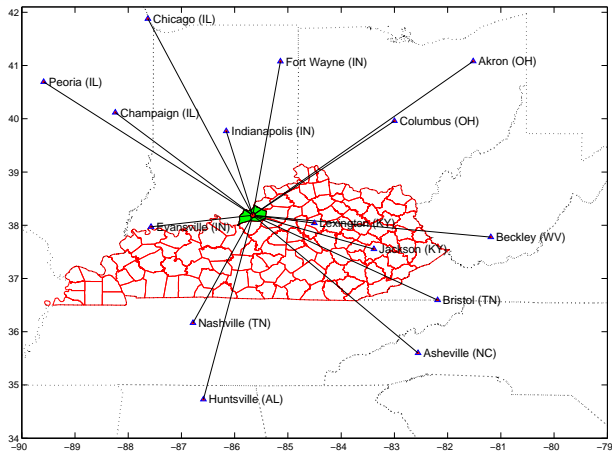
Kentucky has 120 Counties

# Calculation of State Level Weather



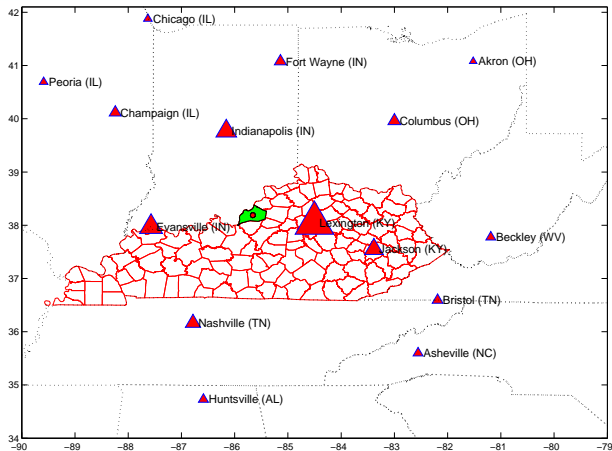
For each County we find the coordinates of the center

# Calculation of State Level Weather



We calculate the distance between County and Weather Stations

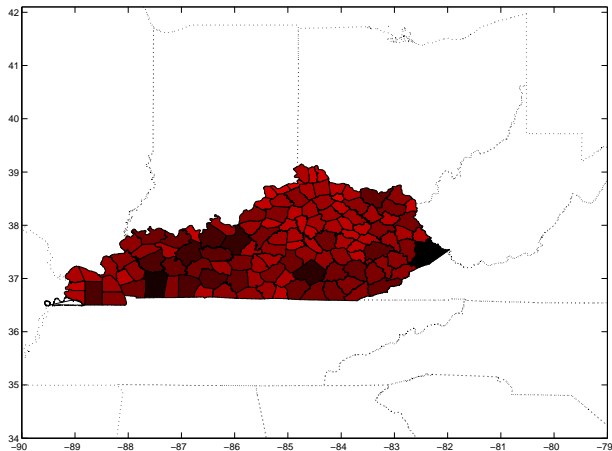
# Calculation of State Level Weather



We weight Weather Stations as an inverse function of their distance



# Calculation of State Level Weather



We aggregate to State level by weighting each county according to area or population

# Data sources

- Economic data: BEA, sample 1957-2012
- Population and Area: CENSUS
- Weather: NOAA

# Empirical Evidence

- Time series regression (US aggregate data)
- Panel regression
- Combine results with trends in temperature

# Time Series Regressions

Whole Year	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall
-0.396 (0.382)				

- Time series regressions with Annual Temperature: insignificant

# Time Series Regressions

<b>Whole Year</b>	<b>Winter</b>	<b>Spring</b>	<b>Summer</b>	<b>Fall</b>
-0.396	-0.071	-0.027	-0.414	0.042
(0.382)	(0.179)	(0.334)	(0.385)	(0.287)

- Time series regressions with Annual Temperature: insignificant
- Time series regressions with Seasonal Temperatures: insignificant

# Time Series Regressions

<b>Whole Year</b>	<b>Winter</b>	<b>Spring</b>	<b>Summer</b>	<b>Fall</b>
-0.396 (0.382)	-0.071 (0.179)	-0.027 (0.334)	-0.414 (0.385)	0.042 (0.287)

- Time series regressions with Annual Temperature: insignificant
- Time series regressions with Seasonal Temperatures: insignificant
- Annual coefficient similar to Summer coefficient

# Panel Regressions

	Whole Year	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall
Whole country					
North					
South					
Midwest					
West					

# Panel Regressions

	Whole Year	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall
<b>Whole country</b>	0.006 (0.111)				
<b>North</b>					
<b>South</b>					
<b>Midwest</b>					
<b>West</b>					

- Annual regressions are still inconclusive



# Panel Regressions

	Whole Year	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall
<b>Whole country</b>	0.006 (0.111)				
<b>North</b>	0.343 (0.339)				
<b>South</b>	0.283 (0.303)				
<b>Midwest</b>	-0.212 (0.235)				
<b>West</b>	-0.144 (0.203)				

- Annual regressions are still inconclusive
- Similar results for Regions

# Panel Regressions

	Whole Year	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall
<b>Whole country</b>	0.006 (0.111)	0.001 (0.049)	0.003 (0.065)	-0.154** (0.072)	0.102* (0.055)
<b>North</b>	0.343 (0.339)				
<b>South</b>	0.283 (0.303)				
<b>Midwest</b>	-0.212 (0.235)				
<b>West</b>	-0.144 (0.203)				

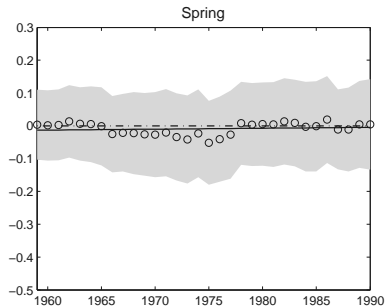
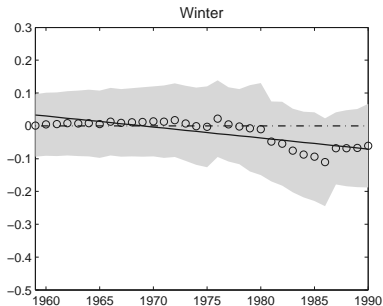
- Annual regressions are still inconclusive
- Similar results for Regions
- Summer and Fall temperatures affect economic growth
  - Rising Summer temperatures decrease growth
  - Rising Fall temperatures increase growth

# Panel Regressions

	Whole Year	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall
<b>Whole country</b>	0.006 (0.111)	0.001 (0.049)	0.003 (0.065)	-0.154** (0.072)	0.102* (0.055)
<b>North</b>	0.343 (0.339)	0.329* (0.173)	0.065 (0.296)	0.240 (0.257)	-0.255 (0.233)
<b>South</b>	0.283 (0.303)	-0.087 (0.167)	0.152 (0.159)	-0.326** (0.163)	0.571*** (0.194)
<b>Midwest</b>	-0.212 (0.235)	0.010 (0.089)	-0.158 (0.144)	0.043 (0.162)	-0.116 (0.128)
<b>West</b>	-0.144 (0.203)	-0.000 (0.096)	-0.155 (0.143)	0.028 (0.154)	-0.006 (0.167)

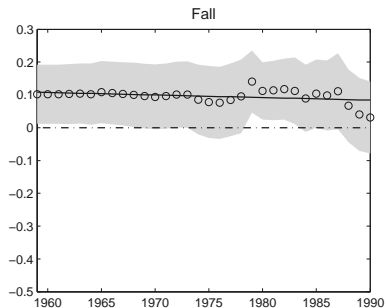
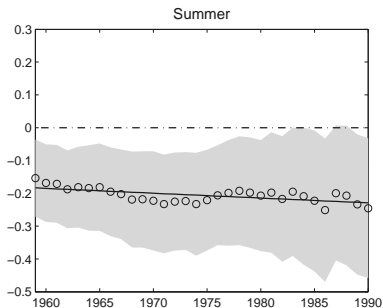
- Annual regressions are still inconclusive
- Similar results for Regions
- Summer and Fall temperatures affect economic growth
  - Rising Summer temperatures decrease growth
  - Rising Fall temperatures increase growth
- Results mostly driven by South

## How stable are the coefficients?

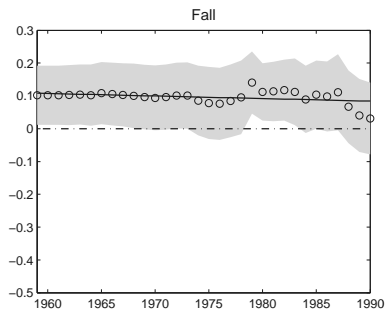
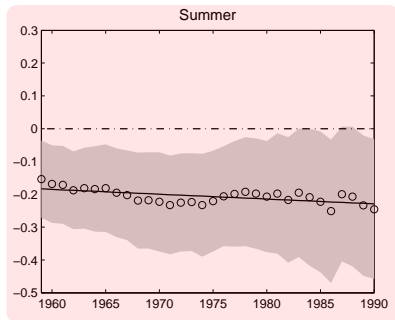


Effect of Winter and Spring temperatures very stable

# How stable are the coefficients?



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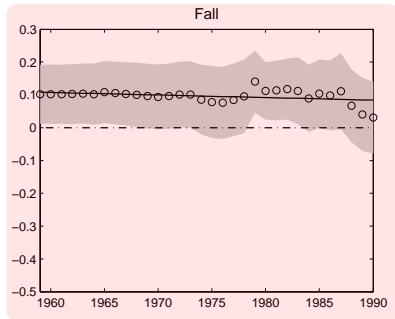
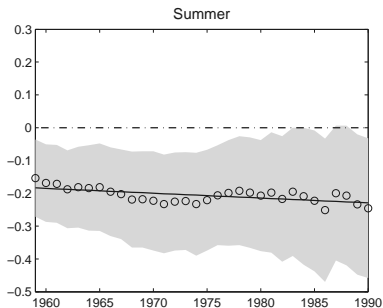


Summer effect is getting stronger over time

Full sample estimate  $-0.154$

1990-2012 estimate  $-0.245$

## How stable are the coefficients?



Fall effect is getting weaker over time

Full sample estimate 0.102

1990-2012 estimate 0.031

# How large are these numbers?



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- Year to year: net effect is small

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- Long Horizons?

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- Year to year: net effect is small
- Long Horizons?
  - It depends on relative trends in Summer and Fall temperatures

# Effect over Long Horizons

- Time trends in Seasonal temperatures

		<b>Whole Year</b>	<b>Winter</b>	<b>Spring</b>	<b>Summer</b>	<b>Fall</b>
<b>Country</b>	Trend	0.041*** (0.006)	0.071*** (0.015)	0.034*** (0.010)	0.036*** (0.008)	0.021** (0.009)
	AR(1)	0.077 (0.149)	-0.048 (0.146)	0.143 (0.143)	0.061 (0.141)	-0.212 (0.139)

## Effect over Long Horizons

- Time trends in Seasonal temperatures

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Country	Trend	0.041*** (0.006)	0.071*** (0.015)	0.034*** (0.010)	0.036*** (0.008)	0.021** (0.009)
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- Summer temperature is expected to rise twice as much as Fall temperature

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- Summer temperature is expected to rise twice as much as Fall temperature
- Impact over the next century

$$0.036 \times 100$$

Expected rise in  
Summer temperature

$$0.021 \times 100$$

Expected rise in  
Fall temperature

## Effect over Long Horizons

- Time trends in Seasonal temperatures

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- Summer temperature is expected to rise twice as much as Fall temperature
- Impact over the next century

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 \boxed{-0.154} & \times & \underbrace{0.036 \times 100} & + & \boxed{0.102} & \times & \underbrace{0.021 \times 100} = \\
 \text{Summer coef.} & & \text{Expected rise in} & & \text{Fall coef.} & & \text{Expected rise in} \\
 \text{(Full Sample)} & & \text{Summer temperature} & & \text{(Full Sample)} & & \text{Fall temperature}
 \end{array}$$

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- Time trends in Seasonal temperatures

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$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 \boxed{-0.154} & \times & \underbrace{0.036 \times 100} & + & \boxed{0.102} & \times & \underbrace{0.021 \times 100} = \boxed{-0.34\%} \\
 \text{Summer coef.} & & \text{Expected rise in} & & \text{Fall coef.} & & \text{Expected rise in} \\
 \text{(Full Sample)} & & \text{Summer temperature} & & \text{(Full Sample)} & & \text{Fall temperature}
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## Effect over Long Horizons

- Time trends in Seasonal temperatures

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- Summer temperature is expected to rise twice as much as Fall temperature
- Impact over the next century

$$\boxed{-0.245} \times \underbrace{0.036 \times 100}_{\text{Expected rise in Summer temperature}} + \boxed{0.031} \times \underbrace{0.021 \times 100}_{\text{Expected rise in Fall temperature}} = \boxed{-0.82\%}$$

Summer coef. (1990- Sample)      Fall coef. (1990- Sample)

## Take-away message

To capture the effect of rising temperature on US growth, we need to:

- 1 break down annual temperatures into seasonal temperatures
- 2 look at the differences in seasonal temperature trends

# Welfare Analysis

- Representative agent with Recursive Preferences

$$U_t = (1 - \delta) \log C_t + \frac{\delta}{1 - \gamma} \log E_t \exp \{ (1 - \gamma) U_{t+1} \}$$

# Welfare Analysis

- Representative agent with Recursive Preferences

$$U_t = (1 - \delta) \log C_t + \frac{\delta}{1 - \gamma} \log E_t \exp \{ (1 - \gamma) U_{t+1} \}$$

- Consumption dynamics [Business As Usual]

$$\Delta c_t = 0.02 - 0.154 \cdot temp_t^{sum} + 0.102 \cdot temp_t^{fall} + 0.02 \cdot \varepsilon_{c,t}$$

where

$$temp_t^{sum} = 0.036 \cdot t + 0.0078 \cdot \varepsilon_t^{summ}$$

$$temp_t^{fall} = 0.021 \cdot t + 0.0116 \cdot \varepsilon_t^{fall}$$

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- Consumption dynamics [Intervention]

$$\Delta c_t = 0.02 - 0.154 \cdot (1 - \Delta^\lambda) \cdot temp_t^{sum} + 0.102 \cdot (1 - \Delta^\lambda) \cdot temp_t^{fall} + 0.02 \cdot \epsilon_{c,t}$$

where

$$temp_t^{sum} = 0.036 \cdot t + 0.0078 \cdot \epsilon_t^{summ}$$

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- Welfare gains of

1 Adaptation ( $\Delta^\lambda$ )

2

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where

$$temp_t^{sum} = 0.036 \cdot (1 - \Delta^\beta) \cdot t + 0.0078 \cdot \epsilon_t^{summ}$$

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- Welfare gains of

1 Adaptation ( $\Delta^\lambda$ )

2 Mitigation ( $\Delta^\beta$ )

# Welfare Analysis

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- Welfare gains of

- 1 Adaptation ( $\Delta^\lambda$ )
- 2 Mitigation ( $\Delta^\beta$ )

## Welfare Analysis (cont'd)

Calculate the permanent changes in

- the level of consumption ( $\Delta_0$ )
- the growth rate of consumption ( $\Delta_1$ )

that make the agent indifferent between living in

- Business As Usual economy
- Intervention economy



# Welfare Analysis: Results

**Panel A: permanent reduction of the level ( $\Delta_0$ )**

		$\Delta^B$					
		0%	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
$\Delta^A$	0%	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2	-0.3
	20%	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2	-0.3
	40%	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.3
	60%	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.3	-0.3
	80%	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3
	100%	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3

**Panel B: permanent growth rate reduction ( $\Delta_1/\mu_c$ )**

		$\Delta^B$					
		0%	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
$\Delta^A$	0%	0.0	-2.8	-5.6	-8.4	-11.2	-14.0
	20%	-2.8	-5.0	-7.3	-9.5	-11.8	-14.0
	40%	-5.6	-7.3	-9.0	-10.6	-12.3	-14.0
	60%	-8.4	-9.5	-10.6	-11.8	-12.9	-14.0
	80%	-11.2	-11.8	-12.3	-12.9	-13.4	-14.0
	100%	-14.0	-14.0	-14.0	-14.0	-14.0	-14.0

# Welfare Analysis: Results

**Panel A: permanent reduction of the level ( $\Delta_0$ )**

		$\Delta^\beta$					
		0%	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
$\Delta^\lambda$	0%	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2	-0.3
	20%	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2	-0.3
	40%	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.3
	60%	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.3	-0.3
	80%	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3
	100%	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3

**Panel B: permanent growth rate reduction ( $\Delta_1/\mu_c$ )**

		$\Delta^\beta$					
		0%	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
$\Delta^\lambda$	0%	0.0	-2.8	-5.6	-8.4	-11.2	-14.0
	20%	-2.8	-5.0	-7.3	-9.5	-11.8	-14.0
	40%	-5.6	-7.3	-9.0	-10.6	-12.3	-14.0
	60%	-8.4	-9.5	-10.6	-11.8	-12.9	-14.0
	80%	-11.2	-11.8	-12.3	-12.9	-13.4	-14.0
	100%	-14.0	-14.0	-14.0	-14.0	-14.0	-14.0

$\Delta^\lambda$	20%	Adaptation	}
$\Delta^\beta$	00%	Mitigation	

# Welfare Analysis: Results

**Panel A: permanent reduction of the level ( $\Delta_0$ )**

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$\Delta^\lambda$	0%	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2	-0.3
	20%	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2	-0.3
	40%	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.3
	60%	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.3	-0.3
	80%	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3
	100%	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3

**Panel B: permanent growth rate reduction ( $\Delta_1/\mu_c$ )**

		$\Delta^\beta$					
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$\Delta^\lambda$	0%	0.0	-2.8	-5.6	-8.4	-11.2	-14.0
	20%	-2.8	-5.0	-7.3	-9.5	-11.8	-14.0
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	60%	-8.4	-9.5	-10.6	-11.8	-12.9	-14.0
	80%	-11.2	-11.8	-12.3	-12.9	-13.4	-14.0
	100%	-14.0	-14.0	-14.0	-14.0	-14.0	-14.0

Give up:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \boxed{\Delta^\lambda} \quad 20\% \quad \text{Adaptation} \\ \boxed{\Delta^\beta} \quad 00\% \quad \text{Mitigation} \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{l} 0.10\% \text{ of current consumption level} \\ 2.80\% \text{ of current consumption growth} \end{array}$$

# Welfare Analysis: Results

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$\Delta^\lambda$	0%	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2	-0.3
	20%	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2	-0.3
	40%	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.3
	60%	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.3	-0.3
	80%	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3
	100%	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3

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		$\Delta^\beta$					
		0%	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
$\Delta^\lambda$	0%	0.0	-2.8	-5.6	-8.4	-11.2	-14.0
	20%	-2.8	-5.0	-7.3	-9.5	-11.8	-14.0
	40%	-5.6	-7.3	-9.0	-10.6	-12.3	-14.0
	60%	-8.4	-9.5	-10.6	-11.8	-12.9	-14.0
	80%	-11.2	-11.8	-12.3	-12.9	-13.4	-14.0
	100%	-14.0	-14.0	-14.0	-14.0	-14.0	-14.0

Give up:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \boxed{\Delta^\lambda} \quad 60\% \text{ Adaptation} \\ \boxed{\Delta^\beta} \quad 60\% \text{ Mitigation} \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{l} 0.20\% \text{ of current consumption level} \\ 11.8\% \text{ of current consumption growth} \end{array}$$

# Robustness checks

Results are robust to:

- alternative weighting schemes
- controlling for precipitation
- controlling for temperature volatility

[► Details](#)[► Details](#)[► Details](#)

# Concluding Remarks



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- Provide evidence for impact of rising temperature on US economic growth

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- Provide evidence for impact of rising temperature on US economic growth
- Strong seasonal effect, especially Summer
- Analysis informative for Integrated Assessment Models

# Extra Slides

# Alternative weighting schemes ( [▶ Back](#) )

	<b>Whole Year</b>	<b>Winter</b>	<b>Spring</b>	<b>Summer</b>	<b>Fall</b>
<b>GSP (varying)</b>	0.010 (0.119)	0.008 (0.051)	-0.008 (0.067)	-0.148* (0.077)	0.105* (0.058)
<b>Area</b>	0.054 (0.123)	0.018 (0.062)	0.012 (0.074)	-0.098 (0.066)	0.079 (0.063)
<b>Population</b>	0.057 (0.123)	0.028 (0.053)	-0.025 (0.069)	-0.132* (0.071)	0.131** (0.061)

# Controlling for Precipitation ( [▶ Back](#) )

		Whole Year	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall
<b>USA</b>	Temp.	0.004 (0.113)	0.003 (0.047)	0.008 (0.069)	-0.169** (0.077)	0.093* (0.056)
	Prec.	-0.012 (0.056)	-0.050 (0.033)	-0.044 (0.032)	0.006 (0.032)	0.037 (0.028)
<b>North</b>	Temp.	0.366 (0.348)	0.333* (0.189)	0.103 (0.302)	0.122 (0.272)	-0.256 (0.263)
	Prec.	-0.063 (0.175)	-0.118 (0.106)	-0.098 (0.083)	0.061 (0.091)	0.161 (0.116)
<b>Midwest</b>	Temp.	-0.232 (0.239)	0.009 (0.091)	-0.164 (0.142)	-0.014 (0.168)	-0.112 (0.122)
	Prec.	-0.076 (0.117)	0.025 (0.064)	-0.047 (0.044)	-0.013 (0.059)	-0.015 (0.086)
<b>South</b>	Temp.	0.323 (0.325)	-0.091 (0.164)	0.214 (0.188)	-0.402** (0.162)	0.561*** (0.195)
	Prec.	0.056 (0.125)	0.019 (0.055)	-0.083* (0.049)	0.017 (0.061)	0.058 (0.056)
<b>West</b>	Temp.	-0.142 (0.204)	0.006 (0.095)	-0.124 (0.144)	0.045 (0.159)	-0.006 (0.170)
	Prec.	0.133* (0.072)	0.020 (0.041)	0.092 (0.082)	0.080* (0.045)	0.003 (0.033)

# Controlling for Temperature Volatility ( [▶ Back](#) )

		Whole Year	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall
<b>Whole country</b>	Mean	0.004 (0.111)	-0.009 (0.050)	-0.013 (0.062)	-0.138* (0.071)	0.106* (0.055)
	Vol	-0.002 (0.002)	0.002 (0.002)	-0.001 (0.001)	0.002 (0.002)	-0.000 (0.001)
<b>North</b>	Mean	0.324 (0.340)	0.363** (0.176)	0.113 (0.296)	0.189 (0.251)	-0.201 (0.214)
	Vol	-0.004 (0.006)	-0.004 (0.005)	0.001 (0.004)	-0.003 (0.004)	-0.003 (0.003)
<b>Midwest</b>	Mean	-0.212 (0.236)	0.009 (0.085)	-0.177 (0.149)	0.047 (0.154)	-0.117 (0.121)
	Vol	-0.001 (0.003)	0.004 (0.005)	0.002 (0.003)	0.003 (0.002)	-0.001 (0.002)
<b>South</b>	Mean	0.273 (0.299)	-0.121 (0.173)	0.135 (0.154)	-0.280* (0.154)	0.580*** (0.208)
	Vol	-0.005 (0.005)	0.002 (0.003)	0.006* (0.003)	0.003 (0.005)	-0.004 (0.003)
<b>West</b>	Mean	-0.146 (0.204)	-0.004 (0.099)	-0.148 (0.144)	0.040 (0.155)	-0.031 (0.181)
	Vol	-0.000 (0.003)	-0.001 (0.002)	-0.000 (0.002)	0.002 (0.003)	-0.001 (0.002)