

# **Kinks Know More:**

**Policy Evaluation Beyond Bunching with an Application to Solar Subsidies**

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## Imagine you are a policymaker...



- ▶ **Policy goal:** Aggregate capacity of solar panel installations in your country.
- ▶ **Policy tool:** Subsidy for rooftop solar panels to households and firms.
- ▶ **Problem:**  $\approx$  1% of German government spending; benefits the wealthy.
- ▶ **Attempted solution:** Nonlinear subsidy with several kink points.

# Research Questions and Challenge

## Research Questions

- ▶ *Is the nonlinear subsidy in Germany effective at reducing costs?*
- ▶ *What is the most cost-efficient nonlinear subsidy scheme?*

## Challenge:

- ▶ Adopters react at the participation and the intensive margin simultaneously.
- ▶ The literature (Saez, 2010) exploits kinks to estimate intensive margin.

# Contributions of this Paper

## Methodological Contribution:

- ▶ Exploit kinks to **estimate intensive** and **participation** margin **simultaneously**.
- ▶ **Semi-nonparametric** estimator with **data-driven** specification.
- ▶ **Ignoring participation**  $\Rightarrow$  **downward bias** in intensive margin estimate.

## Applied Contribution:

- ▶ Evaluation of German subsidy programme.

# Adopters' Behavior Details

- ▶ Heterogeneous, profit maximizing adopters  $i$ .

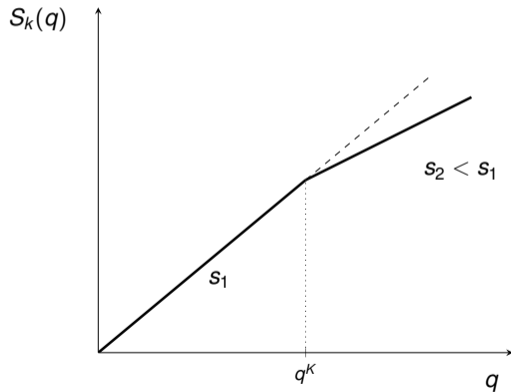
$$\pi^i = \max_q S(q) - c_v^i(q) - c_f^i$$

participate if  $\pi^i \geq 0$

- ▶ Choose capacity  $q$  and participation.
- ▶  $S(q) :=$  subsidy
- ▶  $c_v^i(q) :=$  all variable economic and non-economic costs
- ▶  $c_f^i :=$  all fixed economic and non-economic costs

# Empirical Strategy: Exploit Kink

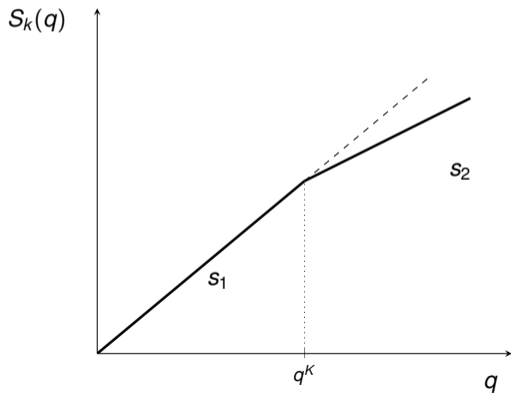
The Kinked Subsidy-Function



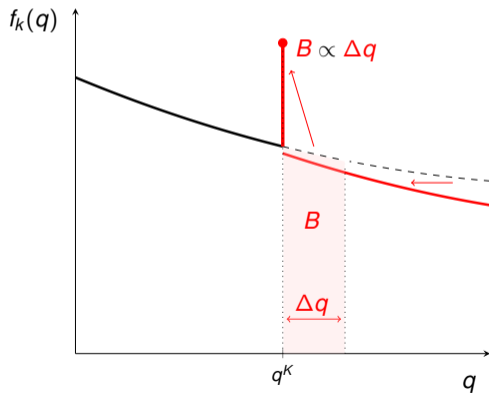
# Theoretical Effect of Kink: Intensive Margin Details

$s_2 < s_1 \Rightarrow$  left shift  $\Delta q$  above kink point  $q^K$ .

**The Kinked Subsidy**



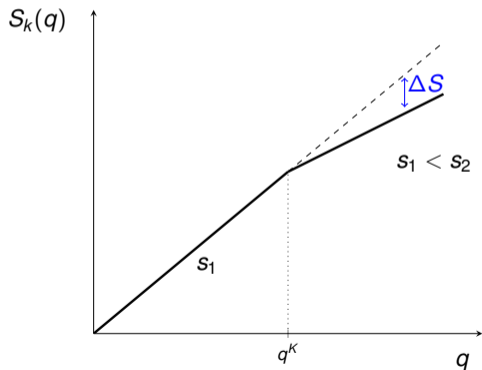
**Distribution of Adoptions**



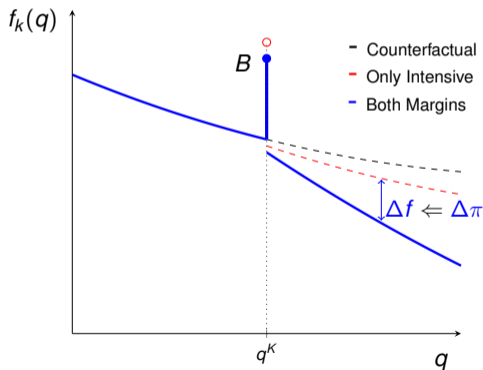
# Theoretical Effect of Kink: Intensive & Participation Margin Details

Loss in subsidy  $\Delta S \Rightarrow$  loss in profit  $\Delta \pi \Rightarrow$  loss in participation  $\Delta f$ .

### The Kinked Subsidy

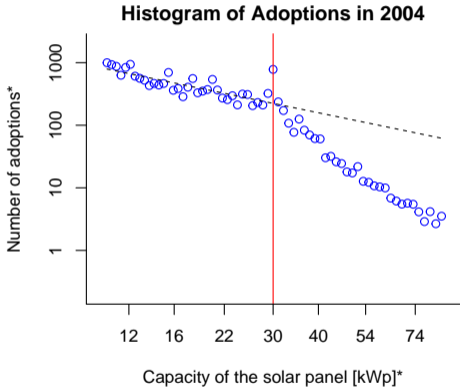


### Distribution of Adoptions





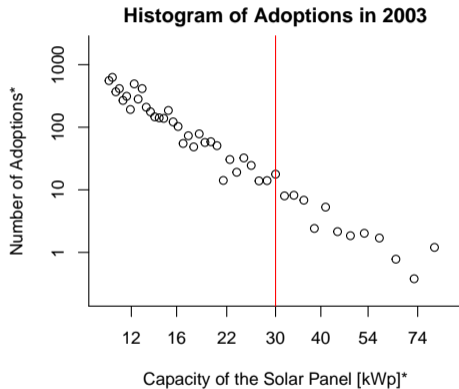
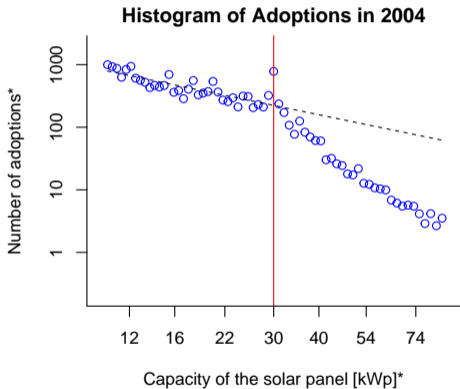
# The Effect in the Data



\*Logarithmic Scales

# The Effect in the Data

Graphs



\*Logarithmic Scales

## Assumptions

- ▶ *The intensive and participation margin elasticity are locally constant.*
- ▶ *The counterfactual distribution  $f_I(\cdot)$  is locally representable by a convergent power series (i.e., is real analytic):*

$$\ln f_I(q|\gamma) = \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} \gamma_p \left( \ln \frac{q}{q^K} \right)^p \quad \forall q \in (\underline{q}, \bar{q}).$$

Unknowns:  $f_i(\cdot|\gamma)$  := counterfactual;  $\epsilon$  := intensive elasticity;  $\eta$  := participation elasticity.

## Proposition

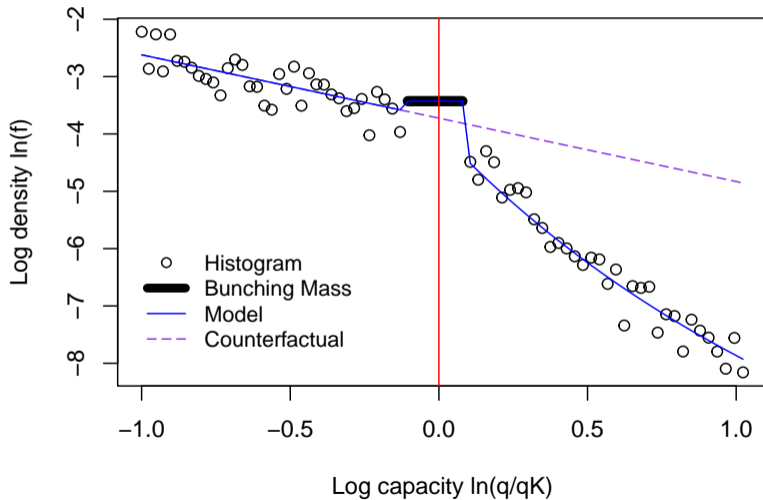
The distribution  $f_k$  and the bunching mass  $B$  under the kinked subsidy  $S_k$  is:

$$f_k(q) = f_i(q|\gamma), \quad \text{for } q < q^K; \quad (1)$$

$$B = \int_{q^K}^{q^K r^{-\epsilon}} R(q_l)^\eta f_i(q_l|\gamma) dq_l, \quad \text{at } q = q^K; \quad (2)$$

$$f_k(q) = f_i(qr^{-\epsilon}|\gamma) r^{-\epsilon} R(qr^{-\epsilon})^\eta, \quad \text{for } q > q^K. \quad (3)$$

Known:  $r$  := relative change in marginal subsidy;  $R(\cdot)$  := relative change in profit.



- ▶ Local nonlinear least square:

$$\min_{\widehat{\epsilon}, \widehat{\eta}, \widehat{\gamma}_P} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N \left( \widehat{\ln f(q_j)} - \ln f_k(q_j | \widehat{\epsilon}, \widehat{\eta}, \widehat{\gamma}_P) \right)^2.$$

- ▶ Semi-nonparametric Sieve Estimator (Chen 2007):

$$\ln f_l(q) = \sum_{p=0}^P \gamma_p \left( \ln \frac{q}{q^K} \right)^p$$

$P \rightarrow \infty$  for sample size  $\rightarrow \infty$ .

- ▶ Minimize estimate of mean squared error to select bandwidth and  $P$ .
- ▶ Standard errors: nonparametric bootstrap.

# Comparison to classic estimators

Details Biases

Conclusion

Classic bunching estimator (Chetty et al., 2011):

- ▶ Ignores participation margin: 12 % downward bias in intensive margin.
- ▶ Implicitly relies on parametric functional form assumption on counterfactual distribution (Blomquist and Newey 2017): 11 % downward bias.
- ▶ Selection of specification is not based on MSE: 18 times larger standard error.

Regression kink design:

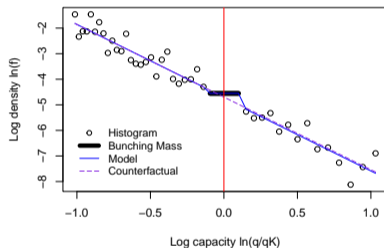
- ▶ Ignoring intensive margin: 5% upward bias in participation margin.
- ▶  $\Rightarrow$  RKD is not applicable. Simultaneous estimation is necessary.

# Robustness to Smoothness Assumption

Bias

Conclusion

- ▶ Placebo test on untreated data:



- ▶ Estimator of specification bias using untreated data. No evidence of specification bias.



## Results Years 2004-2008 Plots

Capacity	Epsilon (SD)	Kappa (SD)
30 kWp	4.37 (0.13)	2.31 (0.06)
100 kWp	4.63 (0.84)	0.00 (0.02)

Epsilon := intensive elasticity; Kappa:= participation semi-elasticity; SD:= standard errors.

- ▶ Isoelastic intensive margin response.
- ▶ Participation margin semi-elasticity decreases in capacity.

## Advantages

- ▶ Identification relies on quasi-experimental variation created by kink.
- ▶ No need for additional exogenous variation, instruments, control variables, panel data, covariates.
- ▶ Estimation only uses easily observable distribution of adopters.

## Potential Disadvantage

- ▶ Local estimates. *Solution*: estimates from more than one kink point.

## 4 Counterfactual Exercises:

1. Optimal linear subsidy: current subsidy is 0.14 % less costly.
2. Optimal nonlinear subsidy: saves 3 times more (0.45 %  $\sim$  45 mil. € per year).
3. Thought experiment, no participation: 8 % cost reduction.
4. Wrongly ignore participation: 3 % cost increase.

## Take away:

- ▶ Government's strategy reduces costs, but can be improved.
- ▶ Due to participation, only moderate cost reduction; no silver bullet.
- ▶ Considering both margins crucial when designing optimal policy.

# Literature

## Methodology: Bunching Estimator, Regression Kink Design, Sieve Estimation

- ▶ Ando (2017); Bachas, Soto (2018); Beffy, Blundell, Bozio, Laroque, To (2019); Bertanha, Caetano, Jales, Seegert (2023); Bertanha, McCallum, Seegert (2019); Blomquist, Newey, Kumar, Liang (2021 and 2024); Caetano, Caetano, Nielsen (2020); Card, Lee, Pei, Weber (2015); Chetty, Friedman, Olsen, Pistaferri (2011); Chen (2007); Cox, Liu, Morrison (2020); Ganong, Jaeger (2018); Gautier, Galliac (2021); Gelber, Jones, Sacks, Song (2017); Goff (2022); Iaria, Wang (2022); Kleven (2016); Kleven, Landais, Saez, Schultz (2013); Kleven, Waseem (2013); Kopczuk, Munroe (2015); Marx (2019); Moore (2021); Myhre (2022); Nielsen, Sorensen, Taber (2010); Ruh, Staubli (2019); Saez (2010), Slemrod, Weber, Shan (2017).
- ▶ **Contribution: simultaneous estimation of both margins; semi-nonparametric estimator.**

## Application: Solar Subsidies, 2nd degree price discrimination

- ▶ Burr (2016); De Groot, Verboven (2019); Feger, Pavanini, Radulescu (2020); Gerarden (2018); Germeshausen (2018); Hughes, Podolefsky (2015); Jacquet, Lehmann, Van Der Linden (2013); Kraft, Bollinger, Gillingham, Lamp (2018); Rochet, Stole (2002); Saez (2002); Srivastav (2022).
- ▶ **Contribution: evaluation of nonlinear solar subsidies.**

# Conclusion

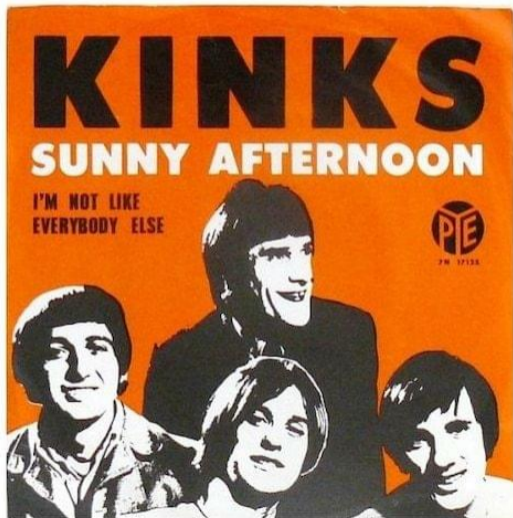
## Summary:

- ▶ Methodology to simultaneously estimate intensive and participation margin using kinks in an incentive scheme.
- ▶ Evaluation of the German subsidy for solar panels.

## Methodology More Generally Applicable:

- ▶ Generalizable to discontinuities.
- ▶ Kinks/discontinuities + intensive & participation margin are widespread.
- ▶ Similar problems: taxation, subsidies and transfers, product pricing.
- ▶ Costly deployment subsidies have moved to the forefront of climate action.

Thank you!



# Appendix

# German Subsidy for Solar Panels

Assumptions

- ▶ Subsidy for rooftop solar panels for households and firms.
- ▶ From 2000 to 2003 net present value of subsidy linear in capacity.
- ▶ From 2004 net present value piecewise linear in capacity.
- ▶ Kink points: 30 kWp (5% drop in marginal rate) and 100 kWp (1% drop).

30 kWp



100 kWp



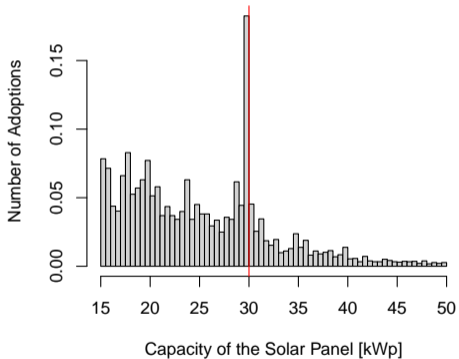


# Histogram of Adoptions

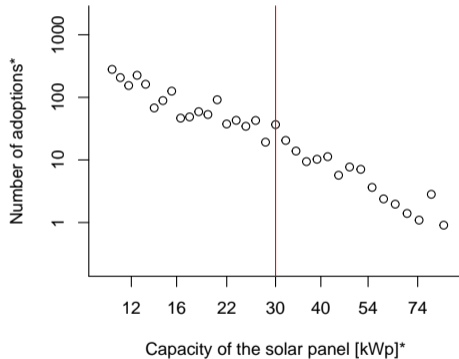
Assumptions

Estimation

### Histogram of Adoptions in 2004

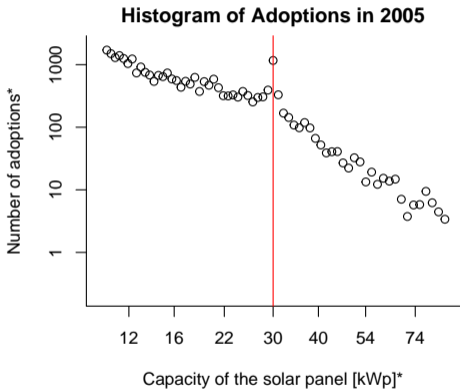


### Histogram of Adoptions in 2000–2002



# Histograms of Adoptions 2005

Assumptions



\*Logarithmic Scales

- ▶ Administrative data from transmission system operators.
- ▶ Contains all solar panel installations in Germany.
- ▶ Installation date, capacity, subsidy payment.
- ▶ I use years 2000-2008.

## Distribution Aggregate Capacity

Interval	Relative Capacity
< 10 kWp	30 %
10 to 30 kWp	40 %
30 to 100 kWp	20 %
>100kWp	10 %

## Adopters' Behaviour: Extensions [Back](#)

- ▶ Heterogeneous, profit maximizing adopters  $i$ .

$$\pi^i = \max_q \beta^i S(q) - c_v^i(q)$$

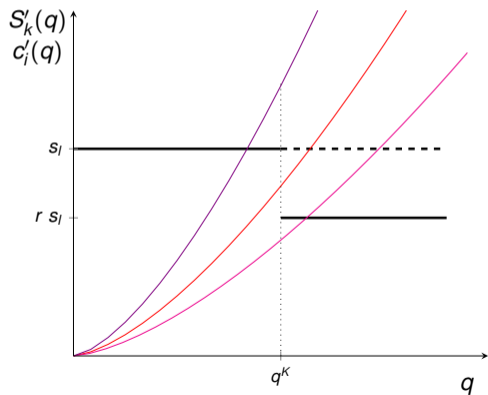
participate if  $\pi^i \geq c_f^i$

$\beta^i$  := individual specific discounting and productivity.

- ▶ The variable cost is convex because:
  - ▶ Opportunity and aesthetic cost of space on the roof are convex.
  - ▶ Price of solar panels is convex in their efficiency, i.e., their capacity per area.
- ▶ Fixed cost  $c_f^i$  contains opportunity cost of adopting in a different period.

# Illustration, Optimization Problem [Back](#)

## Marginal Subsidy and Marginal Cost Curves

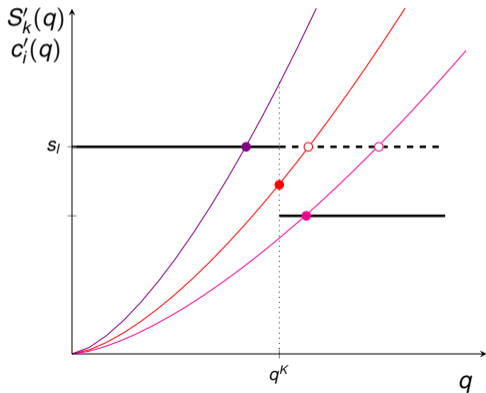


$$\text{FOC: } \underbrace{S'(q)}_{\text{marginal subsidy}} - \underbrace{c'_i(q)}_{\text{marginal cost}} = 0$$

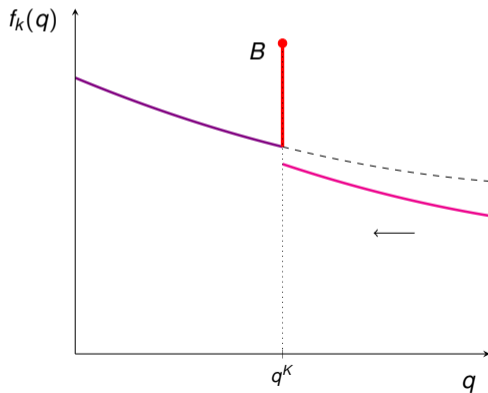
# Mechanism Only Intensive Margin [Back](#)

Marginal cost equal marginal subsidy (FOC)  $\Rightarrow$  bunching & left shift in distribution.

Optimal Choices



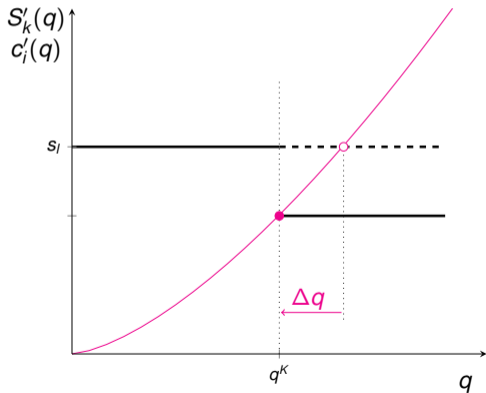
Distribution, Only Intensive Margin



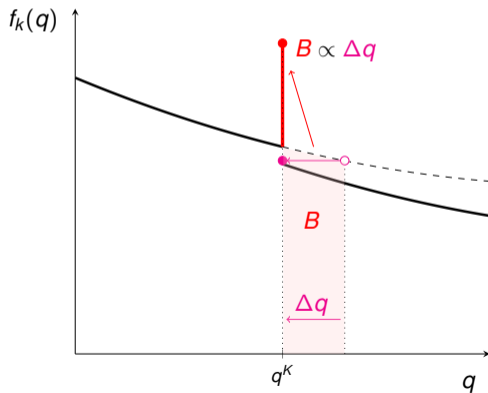
# Identification Only Intensive Margin [Back](#)

Bunching mass  $B$  proportional to left shift  $\Delta q$  of marginal buncher.

The Marginal Buncher



Distribution, Only Intensive

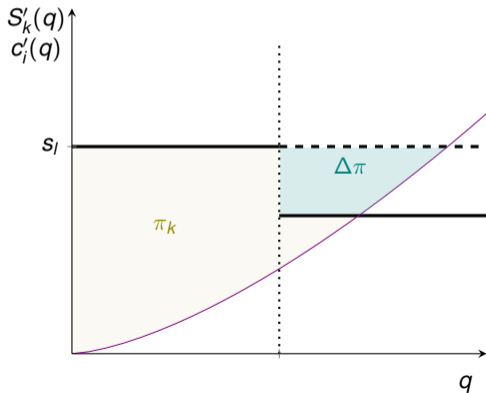




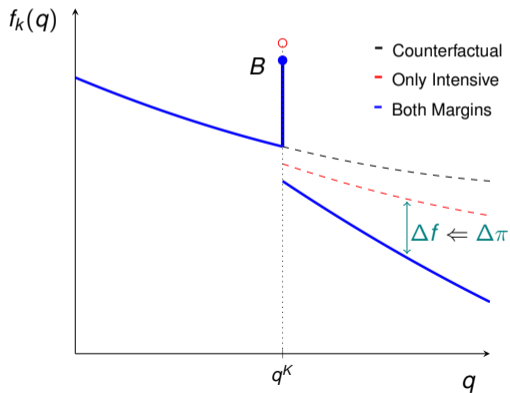
# Mechanism Both Margins [Back](#)

Profit loss  $\Delta\pi$  causes drop in participation  $\Delta f$ .

### Profit Loss



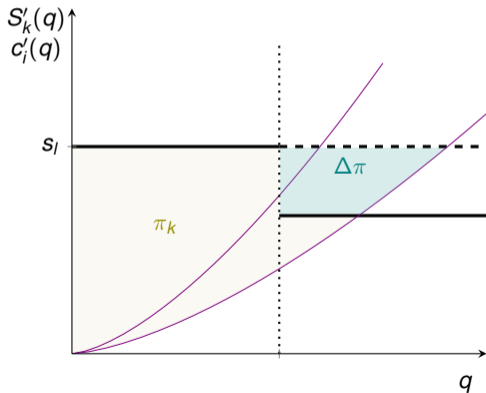
### Distribution, Both Margins



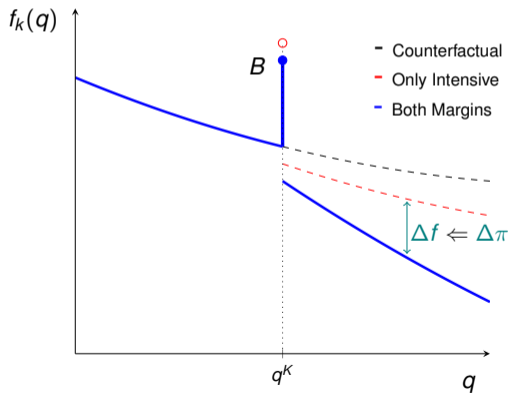
# Mechanism Both Margins [Back](#)

Profit loss  $\Delta\pi$  causes drop in participation  $\Delta f$ .

### Profit Loss



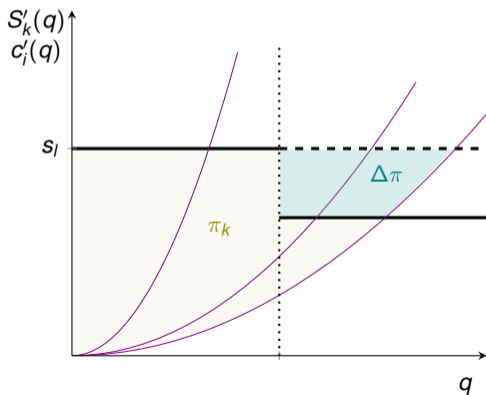
### Distribution, Both Margins



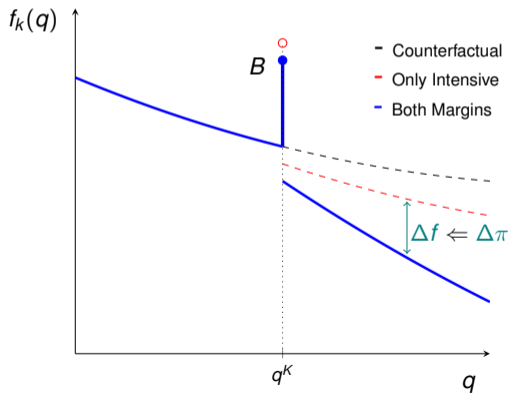
# Mechanism Both Margins Back

Profit loss  $\Delta\pi$  and participation loss  $\Delta f$  increase in capacity.

### Profit Loss



### Distribution, Both Margins



## Assumptions Details: Intensive Margin [Back](#)

### Assumption (Locally isoelastic cost function)

For agents and quantities close to the kink point the cost function is isoelastic:

$$c_i(q) = \theta(i)q^{1+\frac{1}{\epsilon}} + c_f(i). \quad (4)$$

$(\theta, c_f) :=$  (variable cost type, fixed cost type);  $\epsilon :=$  intensive elasticity.

For all firms  $i$ , define  $q_l(i), c_t(i) :=$  choice and total cost under counterfactual.

$$\Rightarrow \theta(i) = \frac{s_l}{q_l(i)^{\frac{1}{\epsilon}}} \frac{\epsilon}{1+\epsilon} \text{ and } c_f(i) = c_t(i) - q_l(i) \frac{\epsilon s_l}{1+\epsilon}. \quad (5)$$

$\Rightarrow$  alternative type parameters  $(q_l, c_t)$  with direct economic meaning.

## Assumption (Locally isoelastic and smooth type-distribution)

1. *The conditional CDF of the total cost  $c_t$  is locally isoelastic:*

$$F_t(c_t|q_l) = (c_t)^\eta g(q_l). \quad (6)$$

$\eta :=$  participation margin elasticity;  $g(q_l) :=$  normalization term.

2. *For an interval  $[q, \bar{q}]$  around the kink point the counterfactual density  $f_l(q_l)$  is representable by a convergent power series (analytic):*

$$\ln f_l(q) = \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} \gamma_p \left( \ln \frac{q}{q^k} \right)^p.$$

*Definition  $f_l(q_l) := f(q_l|c_t \leq s_l q_l)$ .*

## Alternative Smoothness Assumption [Back](#)

### Assumption (Smoothness)

The transformation of the counterfactual measure  $f_l(\cdot)$  is infinitely differentiable on  $(\underline{q}, \bar{q})$  and the derivatives are bounded by

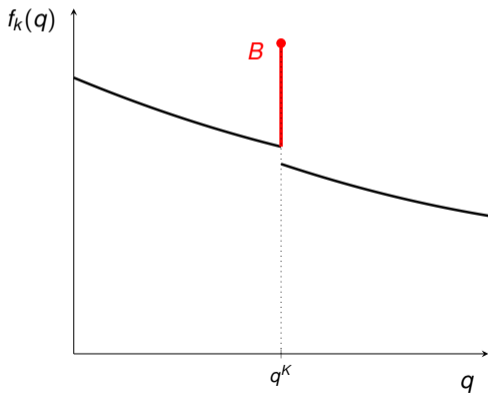
$$\left| \frac{d^{(p)} \ln(f_l(q_l))}{d \ln(q_l)^{(p)}} \right| \leq M \frac{p!}{(\ln(\bar{q}) - \ln(q^K))^p}, \quad (7)$$

where the bound  $M > 0$  denotes a large real number.

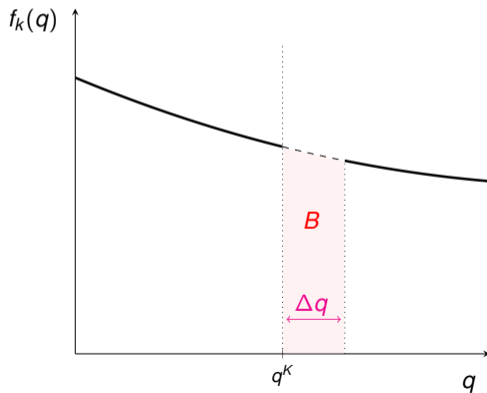
# Intuition Assumptions [Back](#)

Smoothness assumption identifies counterfactual distribution of bunching mass.

**Observable Distribution**



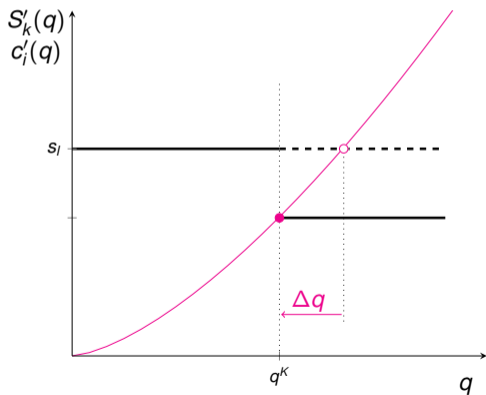
**Identification  $\Delta q$**



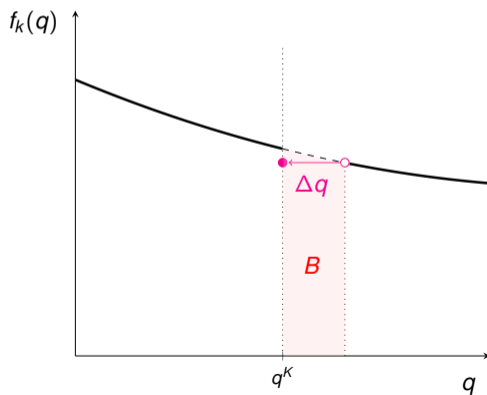
# Intuition Assumptions [Back](#)

The shift  $\Delta q$  identifies the elasticity of the marginal buncher.

### The Marginal Buncher



### Identification $\Delta q$





## Population Criterion

$$Q(\epsilon, \eta, \gamma) = \int_{\underline{b}}^{\bar{b}} (\ln f_k^o(\mathbf{q}) - \ln f_k(\mathbf{q} | \epsilon, \eta, \gamma))^2 dF^w. \quad (8)$$

- ▶  $f_l(\cdot)$  real analyticity  $\Rightarrow$  parameter space is  $(\epsilon, \eta, \gamma) \in \mathbb{R}^\infty$ .
- ▶ True  $(\epsilon^o, \eta^o, \gamma^o)$  is the unique minimum of  $Q(\cdot)$ .
- ▶ Parameter space is compact;  $Q(\cdot)$  is continuous.

## The Relative Net Change in Subsidy Payment $R(\cdot)$ [Back](#)

Define the function  $R(q_I)$  as the net subsidy of firm  $q_I$  under the kinked scheme as a fraction of the subsidy under the linear scheme:

$$R(q_I) = \frac{S_k(q_k(q_I)) - \Delta c(q_I)}{S_l(q_I)}. \quad (9)$$

The function  $R(q_I)$  is:

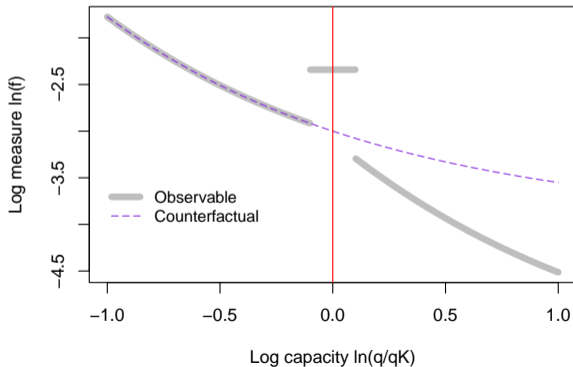
$$R(q_I) = 1, \quad \text{for } q_I < q^K; \quad (10)$$

$$R(q_I) = \frac{q^K}{q_I} + \frac{\epsilon}{1 + \epsilon} \left( 1 - \left( \frac{q^K}{q_I} \right)^{\frac{1+\epsilon}{\epsilon}} \right), \quad \text{for } q_I \in [q^K, q^K r^{-\epsilon}]; \quad (11)$$

$$R(q_I) = (1 - r) \frac{q^K}{q_I} + \frac{\epsilon}{1 + \epsilon} \left( 1 + \frac{r^{\epsilon+1}}{\epsilon} \right), \quad \text{for } q_I > q^K r^{-\epsilon}. \quad (12)$$

# Simulation Exponential Counterfactual [Back](#)

$$\ln f_l^o(q) = \lambda_0 + e^{-\lambda_1 \ln(q/q^K)}.$$



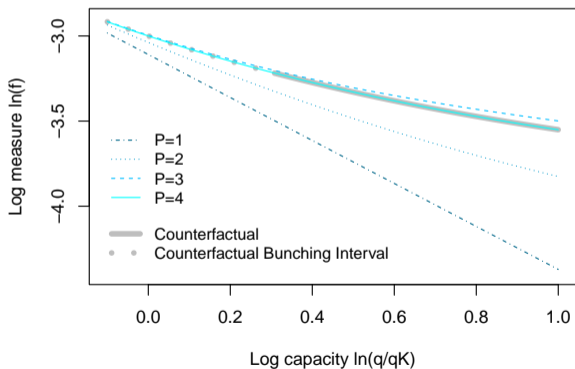
# Simulation Exponential Counterfactual [Back](#)

**Table:** Inferred parameters exponential  $\ln f_l^o(\cdot)$

	Epsilon	Bias Epsilon [%]	Eta	Bias Eta [%]
True Value	0.30000	0.000	3.0000	0.000
P=1	0.36239	20.795	0.3976	-86.747
P=2	0.32369	7.895	2.1423	-28.591
P=3	0.29792	-0.694	3.1557	5.190
P=4	0.30000	0.000	2.9996	-0.012

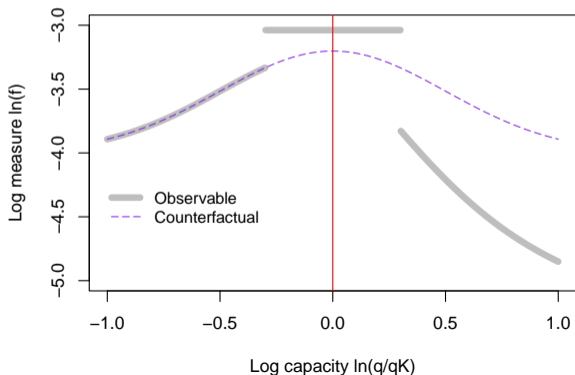
# Simulation Exponential Counterfactual [Back](#)

**Figure:** True and inferred counterfactual, exponential  $\ln f_l(\cdot)$ .



# Simulation Normal Counterfactual [Back](#)

$$\ln f_i^o(q) = \lambda_0 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\lambda_1}} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\ln(q/q^K)}{\lambda_1} \right)^2}.$$



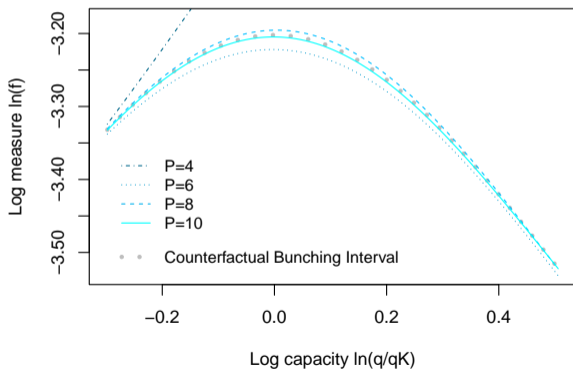
# Simulation Normal Counterfactual [Back](#)

**Table:** Inferred parameters, normal  $\ln f_j$

	Epsilon	Bias Epsilon [%]	Eta	Bias Eta [%]
True Value	0.30000	0.000	3.0000	0.000
P=4	0.19170	-36.101	9.1228	204.093
P=6	0.31168	3.893	2.9096	-3.013
P=8	0.29439	-1.869	2.9933	-0.223
P=10	0.30248	0.827	3.0015	0.050

# Simulation Normal Counterfactual [Back](#)

**Figure:** True and inferred counterfactual, normal  $\ln f_j$ .





**Rank Condition:** Equation (4) and (5) have a unique intercept in  $(\epsilon, \eta)$ .

Holds generically. Moreover, each of the following is sufficient:

1. If  $\frac{d \ln f_l(q)}{d \ln q} < -1$ .
2. If  $f_l(q)$  or  $\ln f_l(q)$  is real analytic on the interval  $[0, \bar{q})$
3. If order of series expansion  $P$  is finite.
4. If  $f_l(\cdot)$  is real analytic on  $(0, \bar{q})$  and there exists a  $P$  such that  $\lim_{q \downarrow 0} \frac{d^P f_l^o(q)}{dq^P} \neq 0$  or  $\pm \infty$ .
5. If  $\eta^o$  is known; in particular  $\eta^o = 0$ .

# Nonparametric Specification Back

- ▶ Mean squared error:  $\mathbb{E}(\hat{\eta}(P, n) - \eta)^2 = \underbrace{\mathbb{E}(\hat{\eta}(P, n) - \tilde{\eta}(P))^2}_{\text{Variance}} + \underbrace{(\tilde{\eta}(P) - \eta)^2}_{\text{Bias}^2}$ .  
 $\eta :=$  parameter;  $n :=$  sample size;  $P :=$  order of series;  $\tilde{\eta}(P) :=$  biased value.

- ▶ Estimate of Variance  $\Rightarrow$  bootstrap
- ▶ Estimate of Bias  $\Rightarrow$  untreated data.



$$\tilde{\eta} - \eta = \frac{\sum_{\rho=P}^{\infty} \gamma_{\rho} \frac{1}{\rho!} (\ln(\rho^{-\epsilon}))^{\rho}}{\ln R(q^K \rho^{-\epsilon}, \epsilon)} \quad (13)$$

- ▶ Intuition: On untreated data, any effect  $\hat{\eta}_{nt}(P)$  estimates bias from specification.
- ▶ The bias in  $\eta$  depends only on  $\epsilon$  and on the un-estimated rest of the parameter  $(\gamma_{P+1}, \gamma_{P+2}, \dots)$ .

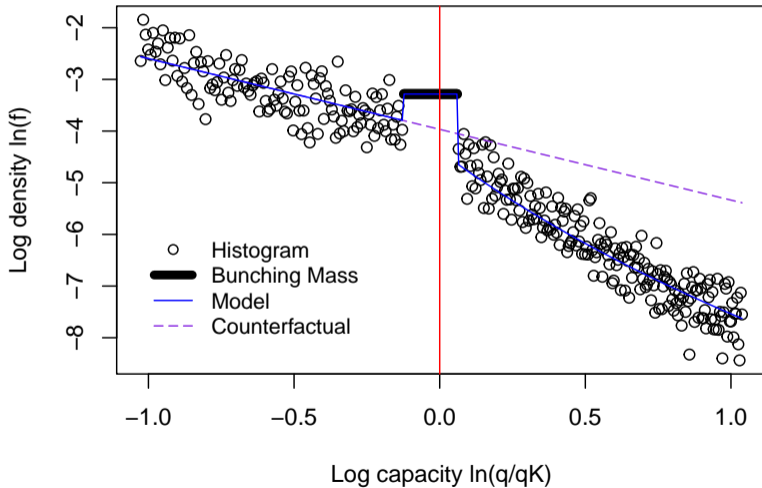
## Specification Bias [Back](#)

- ▶ Assume  $\hat{\epsilon} \approx \epsilon^o$  and  $\ln f_l(\cdot)$  is  $P$  times differentiable.
- ▶ Analytic expression of specification bias:

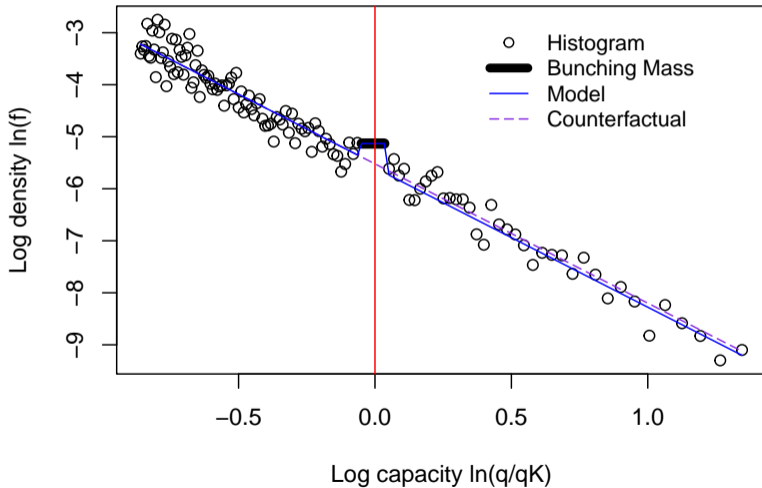
$$\mathbb{E}[\hat{\eta} - \eta^o] = \frac{h(q^K \rho^{-\epsilon^o}) \left( \ln \left( \frac{q^K \rho^{-\epsilon^o}}{q^K} \right) \right)^P}{\ln R(q^K \rho^{-\epsilon^o}, \epsilon^o)}, \quad (14)$$

- ▶ Numerator is the rest of P-th order Taylor approximation.
- ▶ Assume it is the same in the treated and untreated data.
- ▶ Simulate intensive margin in untreated data using  $\hat{\epsilon}$ .  $\hat{\eta}$  is estimate of bias.
- ▶ Small and statistically insignificant specification bias.

# Estimation 2004-08 at 30 kWp [Back](#)

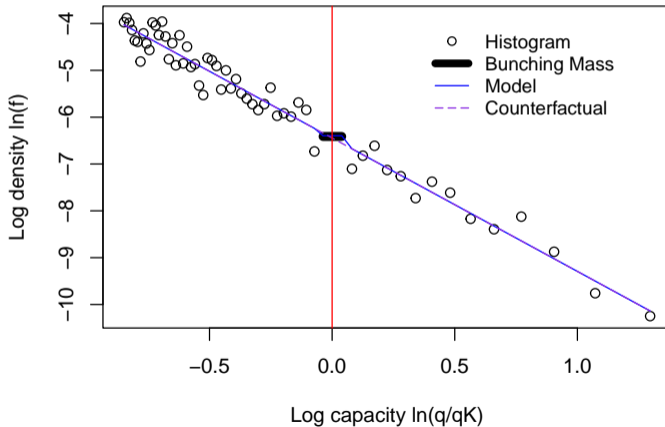


# Estimation 2004-08 at 100 kWp [Back](#)



# Robustness 100 kWp [Back](#)

Both parameters are insignificant.



## Comparison classic estimates: details

[Summary](#)

Parameter	Unbiased Estimate	Biased Estimate	Relative Difference in %
$\tilde{\epsilon}_1$	4.37	3.39	-23
$\tilde{\epsilon}_2$	4.37	3.87	-12
$\tilde{\kappa}$	2.31	2.43	5

Parameter	Optimal Estimate	P=7
$\epsilon$	4.37 (0.13)	3.78 (0.39)
$\kappa$	2.31 (0.06)	3.25 (1.02)

# The Government's Objective [Back](#)

Achieve a certain capacity goal at minimal public costs:

$$\min_S \int S(q)f(q)dq \quad \text{such that} \quad Q \geq Q^T;$$

$Q$  := aggregate capacity,  $Q^T$  := capacity goal.

- ▶ Zero welfare weight for rents paid to adopters.
- ▶ Special case of more general welfare criterion.



### Utility function of adopter:

$$U(S(q) - c(q, \theta_q) + y - T(y) - e(y, \theta_y)) \quad (15)$$

$c(.)$  := cost of producing capacity  $q$ ,  $y$  := other income,  $T(.)$  := income tax,  
 $e(.)$  := effort cost to produce other income,  $\theta = (\theta_q, \theta_y)$  type parameters.

### General Welfare Function:

$$\max \int_{\Theta} G[S(q) - c(q, \theta_q) + y - T(y) - e(y, \theta_y)] f(\theta) d\theta + V(Q) \quad (16)$$

$$\text{s.t. } \int_{\Theta} T(y) - S(q) f(\theta) d\theta = R \text{ and } Q = \int_{\Theta} q f(\theta) d\theta \quad (17)$$

$G(.)$  := redistributive preferences;  $V(.)$  := valuation of aggregate capacity.

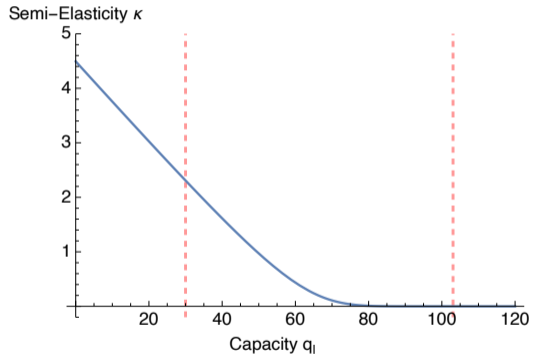
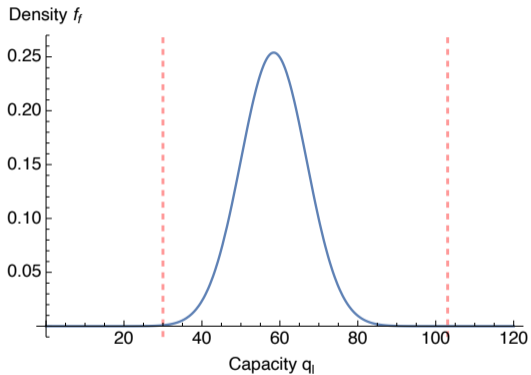
## Assumption (Global Assumptions)

1. *The cost function is isoelastic.*
2. *The fixed cost follows an independent, Normal distribution.*

## Solution Method:

- ▶ Mechanism design approach following Rochet and Stole (2002).

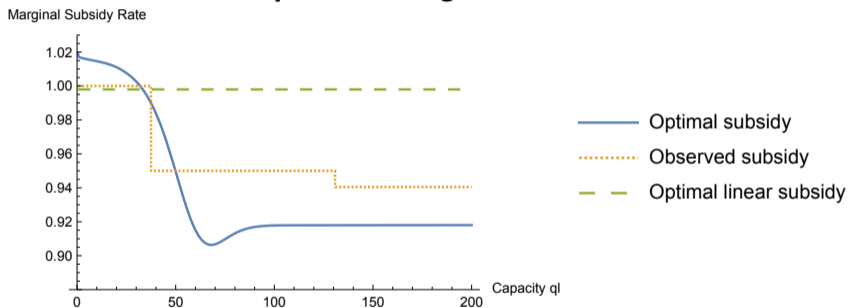
# Normal Distribution of Fixed Costs & Implied Semi-Elasticity [Back](#)



The x-axis shows variable profit under the counterfactual subsidy as a function of capacity  $q_l$ .

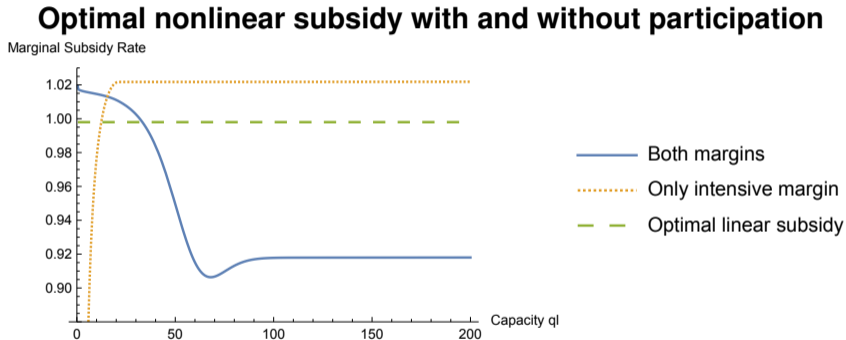
# Counterfactual: The Optimal Marginal Subsidy [Back](#)

## Comparison Marginal Subsidies



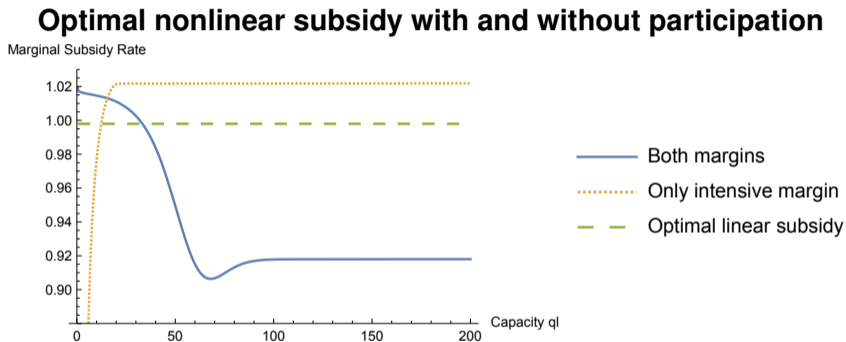
- ▶ Actual subsidy is 0.14 % less costly than optimal linear subsidy.
- ▶ Optimal nonlinear saves 3 times more (0.45 % ~ 45 mil. € per year).

# Thought Experiment: No Participation [Back](#)



- ▶ Without participation margin  $\Rightarrow$  Cost savings are 9% (900 mil. € per year).

# Counterfactual: Wrongly Ignoring Participation [Back](#)



Suppose policymaker wrongly ignores participation:

- ▶ Cost increase of 3 % instead of cost decrease.
- ▶ Taking participation into account is key.

## Details Optimal Subsidies [Back](#)

- ▶ Denote a subsidy in place by  $S(q)$ .
- ▶ Change the marginal subsidy at point  $q$  by  $dS'(q)$ :  $\hat{S}'(q) = S'(q) + dS'(q)$ .

Change in principal's payoff, only intensive margin:

$$(V'(Q) - S'(q)) \frac{dq(\epsilon)}{dS'(q)} f(q) - \int_q^\infty f(\tilde{q}) d\tilde{q}$$

Both margins:

$$(V'(Q) - S'(q)) \frac{dq(\epsilon)}{dS'(q)} f(q) + \int_q^\infty (V'(Q)\tilde{q} - S(\tilde{q})) \frac{\eta(\tilde{q})}{S(\tilde{q})} f(\tilde{q}) d\tilde{q} - \int_q^\infty f(\tilde{q}) d\tilde{q}$$

In the optimum the above expressions are zero for all  $q$ .

